A look at township unrest
**CONTENTS**

**STREETS OF FIRE:**
Violent clashes between police, army and the people are becoming a way of life. Wits Student looks at the background to the unrest p9-12

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD:**
May 1, is International Labour Day. For the history of this celebration see p20

**AIR YOUR VIEWS:**
What’s on your mind? Campus speaks out on p13-14

**SPEAKING OF SPORT:**
Rugby, Golf, Basketball and a vac round-up feature on p18-19

**WHAT’S IN THE NEWS:**
Campus round-up and other news p2-6

**COVER:**
Main pic: Katlehong Squatters. Violence results when the avenues of peaceful protest are closed.

Top left: Violence is nothing new. Here Gary van Staden, a reporter on the Star, gets beaten up during the Indian tri-cameral elections last year.

Top right: Militance and Anger. Wokers from the Eastern Cape, scene of much of the recent unrest.

**CONTRIBUTORS**
This edition of Wits Student was put together by: Paul Jammy, Orenna Krut, Erica Elk, Sheila Drew, Liz Walker, Steve West, Simon Hayes, David Bruce, Sandy Smit, Linda Berkwitz, Paula McCormack, Lea Gratch, Denise Dreyer, Robert Muirhead, Alex Kuhn, Patrick Lawlor, Tania Levy, Kendell Geers, Clifford Elk, Lauren Segal, Nicholas Kane, Robert Grieve, Jonathan Dickman, ERC, ASC, Women’s Movement.

**NEWS**

**COMMENT:**

ON SATURDAY morning, SASPU NATIONAL was banned for all future editions ... for the third time.

SASPU NATIONAL is one of the foremost newspapers amongst the progressive press. It covers developments in the townships and factories of South Africa, looks at progressive organisations, and keeps its readership up to date with P.W.’s latest initiatives.

At the time of going to print, the SASPU NATIONAL staff were in the dark about reasons for the banning. But they were clear on their response: an immediate appeal against the banning. On two previous occasions, SASPU NATIONAL has appealed against identical banning orders, and won.

This banning order suggests that the government is clamping down not only on popular leaders — such as members of the UDF - but also on the flow of all information dealing with the broad progressive movement.

Banning apart — there are over 100 laws restricting information which can be printed by the press. These include the Police Act, the Prisons Act, the Hospitals Act and the Defence Act.

- Police Act: No information concerning the South African Police may be printed unless certain 'reasonable steps' are taken to ensure the accuracy of the report. 'Reasonable steps' are defined as verifying information with the police.
- Prisons Act: No information may be printed about conditions in South African prisons, without permission from the Prisons Department itself.
- Defence Act: The Minister of Defence has the right to define which SADF activities may be reported on. In addition, the SADF may by law not be shown in a bad light.

The banning of SASPU NATIONAL represents a further clampdown on freedom of speech and of the press in South Africa. The information flow is being deliberately halted apparently to ensure state security.

In the light of the closure of the Star, Rand Daily Mail the amount and type of news available to the public is narrowing at a frightening pace.

**Catering survey yields results**

THE SRC, having been approached on numerous occasions by students, ran a successful survey on student opinion of Wits catering and canteen food last term. The survey was supported by a broad range of major clubs and societies, faculty councils and all the residences. It was conducted over a period of four days and more than 3 000 computer cards were filled in.

In an interview Colin Coleman said that the SRC felt that the catering division have however not been met favourably, especially the health food. It is also quite likely that the SRC will be introduced in the near future.

Some other short term proposals included extension of hours during exams and Coffee Shop open at night. This would increase labour costs but these could be covered by the profit generated through pub lunches.

Some of the suggestions made by the SRC to admin. and the catering division have however not been met favourably, especially the long term demands which include general revamping of the lower canteen. Colin pointed out however, that the administration will have to take the demands seriously because of the strong support for the survey by the students.

**Make games not war**

ONE OF the highpoints of the wargaming calendar is the Transvaal Wargames Association Open Championships held over the second weekend of April.

The finest players in the province, and from as far afield as the Eastern Transvaal and Natal gathered in the Student Union Arcade to fight it out. After two gruelling days of wargaming two players remained to fight it out in the finals, both of them Witsies. Ilan Rabiner, a second year medical student, eventually won the day against Richard Gordon, doing his first year BA, to take home the coveted President’s Trophy.

Despite the very stiff competition, other Wits players also did well, with Craig Taylor reaching the quarter-finals. Players who had cruised through to at least the quarter-finals in previous years were seen to be sweating profusely, battling to win even in the first round this year. The increase in competitiveness is the Transvaal is in large measure owing to the high standard set by Wits players. Ilan’s victory makes it three in a row for Wits who won with Craig Nevin in 1983, and Tom Malnati in 1982.
The SRC has revealed its budget, which has been generally positive. Each year, the SRC is allocated a certain amount of money from the University Council. This money comes mainly from the University's revenue through running the sports shops, games machines and other fund raising activities. The SRC is allocated money to clubs and societies according to need, and ability to fund raise. We feel it is a generous and fair budget.

The response from heads of organisations and faculty councils. We allocated the money according to the education, through their concerns as a body, to their contact within the profession. A new energy and direction has been formulated and unprecedented dynamics are being initiated on campus. Watch this space for a more detailed elaboration of the effects reactions and results achieved in the school, which are becoming evident now!

**SRC blows its bucks**

**Colin Coleman**

FOLLOWING the heels of Barend du Plessis, the SRC has revealed its budget. Each year, the SRC is allocated a certain amount of money from the University Council. This money comes mainly from the University's revenue through running the sports shops, games machines and other fund raising activities. The SRC is allocated money to clubs and societies according to need, and ability to fund raise. We feel it is a generous and fair budget.

The SRC launched a low budget, running on a low budget, Nusas (National Union of South African Students) provides students with national contact, media such as class reps, a whole range of services such as Swift Lift, and runs campaigns and conferences for student benefit, such as Faculty Council conferences. Wits SRC contribution to Nusas in 1985 was R12,000. Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,300, R300 more than in 1984. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295. Faculty Councils have been on the ball and have raised more funds and run more efficiently than before. This possibly accounts for the fact that they requested less money than last year. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295.

Running on a low budget, Nusas (National Union of South African Students) provides students with national contact, media such as class reps, a whole range of services such as Swift Lift, and runs campaigns and conferences for student benefit, such as Faculty Council conferences. Wits SRC contribution to Nusas in 1985 was R12,000. Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,300, R300 more than in 1984. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295. Faculty Councils have been on the ball and have raised more funds and run more efficiently than before. This possibly accounts for the fact that they requested less money than last year. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295.

**Architects gather**

THE INHERENT apathy of the Wits Architectural School, a microcosm of the university, has been rocked by the contact achieved through the other schools as a result of the Cape Town Congress. A national body was founded, which has begun investigating exciting issues, ranging from the role played by the students in their education, through their concerns as a body, to their contact within the profession. A new energy and direction has been formulated and unprecedented dynamics are being initiated on campus. Watch this space for a more detailed elaboration of the effects reactions and results achieved in the school, which are becoming evident now!

**Rally launches Tvl IYY**

INTERNATIONAL Youth Year's (IYY) Transvaal launch was stopped by the police and the SADF on Sunday 21 April at Tembisa. The SADF, complete with R1 rifles and dogs, set up road blocks and surrounded the hall where the launch was to take place.

Thousands of people were stranded at Tembisa without transport. Some Witsies and a few Wits Student reporters were amongst those turned away.

The launch was moved to an alternative venue in Diepkloof, that afternoon. Amongst the organisations there were: Nusas students, the Saulsville/Aetteridgeville Youth Organisation (SAYO), Soweto Youth Congress (SOYCO), Riverlea Youth Congress (RYCO), Alexandra Youth Congress (AYCO), Congress of South African Students (COSAS), Lenasia Youth League (LYL), Duduzu Youth Congress (DUYCO) and many others. A variety of speeches were interspersed with gum-boot dancing, singing, plays, traditional dancing and poetry. One speaker highlighted the point that white South African youth should be made aware of what conscription by the SADF means. Youth should be made aware, said the speaker, that SADF troops are commonly called upon to defend apartheid, and to turn their rifles against fellow South Africans. This needed no further explanation.

The “Kick the Habit” course will run for a period of six weeks, from R25,973 in 1985. Money allocated to the SRC sub-committees also increased from R14,752 in 1984 to R19,735 in 1985. The amount allocated to the SRC sub-committees also increased from R14,752 in 1984 to R19,735 in 1985.

Faculty Councils have been on the ball and have raised more funds and run more efficiently than before. This possibly accounts for the fact that they requested less money than last year. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295.

Running on a low budget, Nusas (National Union of South African Students) provides students with national contact, media such as class reps, a whole range of services such as Swift Lift, and runs campaigns and conferences for student benefit, such as Faculty Council conferences. Wits SRC contribution to Nusas in 1985 was R12,000. Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,300, R300 more than in 1984. The amount allocated to Faculty Councils in 1985 is R12,600, compared to the 1984 figure of R13,295.

**Into the smokeless zone**

FOLLOWING on their recent move to curtail smoking in public areas the Campus Health Clinic has decided to run a new “stop smoking” course. The “Kick the Habit” course will run for a period of six weeks, with one lecture per week on Monday afternoons beginning on 6 May 1985.

Find Out:
- What keeps you smoking
- How to minimise withdrawal symptoms
- How to deal with stress

The programme has been set up by Ian Friedman, an MA student in Psychology, working in conjunction with Dr Borkon of Campus Health Clinic and Mr Baird from the council of Smoking and Health.

The latest psychological techniques for quitting smoking have been utilized and, while helping people to stop smoking, the course also deals with problems such as weight control and coping with stress (and lifestyle balancing). The number of participants for this course will be limited so it is essential to register early. For further details regarding registration contact Campus Health Clinic or leave your name and phone number on the list outside the Psychology secretary's office, 2nd floor, SS, before 3 May 1985.
Once upon a time

AND SO we have a saga to the ever-expanding SRC societies in the form of SAGA (the Swiss Austrian German Association).

This association offers an alternative viewpoint for German and non-German speakers and makes a bid to unite the two.

Entertainment wise it includes cheese fondues, beerfests, musical evenings, films, videos and — wait for it — even an alternative library. As long as their good support continues, they hope to be able to arrange employment in German, Swiss or Austrian firms, overseas au-pair jobs, student exchanges and even reduced fares to these countries. SAGA promises to be a success so why not join (you may even learn German!).

High pitched voice

VOICE OF Wits is moving up in the world. Up two stories, to be precise.

You will have noticed a large gap in your life recently, a gap where the V.O.W. studio used to be. But before you get all nostalgic about the golden days of V.O.W. Rest assured — the voice of the world. Up two stories. To be fair, they worked hard at it. During the vac DJ’s, newsreaders and co. were seen leaving their mixes behind and denning overalls, painting, sticking tiles and laying carpets.

This is not the first time that V.O.W. has tried to raise their status. In May last year they had just completed their upstairs move when the fire wiped out the entire floor of the building, taking all their records and studio equipment with it. Undeterred by superstition, V.O.W. have tried again a year later. Let’s hope they have better luck.

Sasts seminar

FOREIGN CURRENCIES, youth hostels, travelling round South Africa, student participation, car hire, ... these are just a few of the topics discussed at the annual SASTS seminar held recently in Johannesburg.

Attended by 12 of SASTS’ 15 staff members, the seminar provided an opportunity both to assess the previous year and plan for the coming one.

SASTS staff expressed their disappointment with student participation and the fact that the SRC members appointed to serve either on the SRC board or as its members, did not fulfill their obligations. However, feedback from student clients was positive and reflected the increasing efficiency of SASTS and its widening scope of service.

The major problem in 1984 was the weak rand which caused prices throughout the travel industry to rise but SASTS remains confident that its emphasis, and indeed specialisation, on low budget travel will be of even greater benefit to the university community.

Another problem area has been that of car hire to students. SASTS clients have tended to write off cars with unfailling regularity, as well as to change the mileage meters, vomit over the seats and abandon the vehicles in distant parts. The result is that car rental companies are now refusing to rent cars to SASTS clients. This means that students wishing to hire cars must go directly to the rental companies, to whom they must present references and pay large deposits. Although SASTS are still renting cars, it is on a much reduced basis.

SASTS has also introduced some unique new products for travellers. These include supplementary discount schemes for holders of the International Student Identity Card, an excellent and cheap map of Europe showing train times and frequencies and a discount card for travelling by bus through Britain.

SASTS also welcomes two new staff members from Rhodes. The Rhodes office has bee expanded to full time this year thanks to the excellent work done by Ashley le Grange last year.

Most of the seminar was taken up with administrative and accounting procedures in an attempt to continually upgrade the quality of SASTS service. The computerisation of the accounting system in Head Office should also go a long way to speed up collection and payment of money.

Overall the seminar was highly productive and sets SASTS on a strong footing for 1985. Look out for the new SASTS booklet; it is a comprehensive guide to planning a trip overseas, from getting a passport to what to take. It will be free to SASTS clients, and on sale to anyone else.

SASTS HEAD OFFICE Tel: 339-3616 contact person: Sarah

VC lunch date

Dear Prof Saunders

We (the SRC) invite you (the vice-chancellor) to join us and the student body in the canteen for lunch. There’s only one snag. You may only spend R1.00.

In an effort to show the high cost of student living, the Cape Town University SRC recently made this offer to their vice-chancellor.

But when the VC arrived, he found that he could buy a pie but couldn’t afford a cold drink as well if he was to stay within his budget.
A sign of the times

IT'S GREAT that Wits Administration has finally woken up to the fact that on a campus as disorganised and cluttered as Wits' the time has come to give us some direction in our lives. The murals, direction boards, now evident all over campus will undoubtedly be a boon to all confused students and visitors. Welcome to the twentieth century, Wits!

LSC won't avoid politics

"THE LAW Students Council is far from being a political body: it offers a vast amount of student services. Moreover, the LSC takes a firm anti-Apartheid policy, which we believe Law Students are prepared to support" — said Danny Berger, President of the Law Students Council.

On the 21st February, this year, the LSC passed two motions:

- This LSC is only prepared to have contact with any other LSC which issues a statement unconditionally supporting this.

Following this, two law students approached the LSC objecting to these motions, saying that the LSC was out of touch with the views of its average law student. Danny Berger challenged these students to a debate on the two motions.

The debate took place on the 2nd of April. Only law students were allowed into the meeting. SS1 was filled with students interested in the outcome of the debate.

Those people participating in the debate were Danny Berger (in support of the motions) and David Wilson, secretary of the LSC (against the motions). The meeting was chaired by Brian McCarthy.

At the end of the debate a vote was taken on the two motions.

On the 1st motion:

- 65% voted in favour
- 27% voted against
- 8% abstained

On the 2nd motion:

- 71% voted in favour
- 19% voted against
- 10% abstained

"It is clear that the LSC is not alone in this," said Danny Berger.

The shape of social pressure

'THE MEDIA plays an important role in creating an image of women which most women cannot hope to live up to,' said Wits Psycho-Honours student Susan Levy. Speaking to 300 students at the Wits Women's Movement, she emphasised that that was just one of the social pressures which acted to coerce women to conform to an 'ideal type'.

'The image of women which one finds in the media present an ideal not only as to appearance, but also with regard to social roles like motherhood and the role which women play in the home. Most women either consciously or subconsciously evaluate themselves in relation to this ideal,' she said.

At the meeting, held in SS1 last Wednesday, Gail Simon of the Anorexia Support Group said that anorexia, which involves self-starvation, had to be distinguished from bulimia, which involves food binges followed by purging, either through the use of laxatives or induced vomiting. She said that most anorexics and bulimics had feelings of inadequacy about their bodies. Other inadequacies would contribute to the intensity of the sickness.

Other inadequacies would contribute to the intensity of the sickness. Obsessiveness about food was related to a fear of losing control of oneself, she pointed out.

Dr. Norris, Head Psychiatrist at Tara Hospital gave a medical account of the symptoms and varied manifestations of anorexia and bulimia. She noted that both sicknesses are mainly confined to middle-class Western women.

The focus also included a seminar entitled 'Fat is a Feminist Issue.' At the seminar clinical psychologist Melvyn Freeman introduced a discussion on anorexia, which also provided an opportunity for students to talk about their own experiences and views.

The Women's Movement will continue to take up the issue of anorexia in reading and discussion groups.

The distribution mystery

WITS MEDICAL students this week expressed concern to WITS STUDENT about a new development on their campus.

The student who distributed the second last edition of FORUM on the medical campus, on the 18th February, was the same one who was seen distributing the SMA pamphlet on the Uitenhage massacre.

Medical students were enquiring whether there are any formal links between the Debating Society and the SMA. However, WITS STUDENT knows nothing about this.

Forum is the official publication of the Wits Debate Society. Forum is well known for its consistent criticism of the SRC, and of a number of anti-apartheid organisations and individuals on Wits campus.

Drama as blacks are left out

A NUMBER of black students registered for Film and Drama I were unable to see the film set for an essay question last term.

The film, "Places in the Heart," was not showing at any Soweto cinema.

Blacks are not allowed into cinethrough Ster Kinckor is trying to get permission to open their cinemas to all race groups.

The School of Dramatic Art arranged a screening of "Days of Heaven" at Wits for the students involved.
A busy vac

WHILE ALL of you pleasure loving people were soaking up the sun on the coast of our country your hard working national union was out there, representing, uniting, and er, well not nationalising but certainly no longer disuniting.

At Nusas National Council, held at Rhodes, Wits was represented by SRC President Grant Rex, Projects Officer Claire Wright, plus nine others. National Council is a decision-making structure which offers a valuable opportunity to exchange information and receive updates on campaigns on other campuses.

A number of new campaigns for the coming term were highlighted, most important being a focus on Republic Day.

Reports back to campus were seen as another important priority for student government.

The Faculty Council Conference, held at Pietermaritzburg was attended by Faculty reps and was aimed at determining what affect students academically.

Some of the items on the agenda were the class rep system, the restricted student agenda at faculty board meetings, the confidentiality rulings which prevent effective reportback, and the desire for improved representation at faculty board and Senate level. A number of changes in those areas can therefore be expected.

And finally there was Kaiberg.

This conference, held in the Kaiberg mountains in the Eastern Cape, was designed mainly to introduce new Nusas members to those from other campuses and other organizations, as well as to Nusas head office.

A full agenda of seminars and discussion groups kept everyone busy (not too busy to jol, though) and everyone had a fantastic time.

Delegates discussed how students could play a part in working for change in South Africa.

Beating the high cost of student life

Are you losing out financially at Wits because you are not aware of all the discounts available to you, or how to obtain them?

One of the biggest savings students can make is with doctors bills. Qualified doctors are available for free consultations every day at Campus Health Service. This is situated on the side of the Students Union facing the Social Sciences block.

Contrary to popular belief, students are not used as guinea pigs in the Dental Hospital for inexperienced 2nd year students.

Consultations and check-up are again free and appointments can be made at the desk on the left as you enter the Dental Hospital.

If you need fillings, then you can expect to pay about R3 each. This includes the x-rays and all the materials. These are performed mainly by 5th year students, and are checked by the dentists in charge. Wisdom teeth extractions are apparently a specialty, but cost more.

NUSAS discount booklets are available at the SRC reception desk on the 2nd floor of the Students Union.

The SRC shop. The price is expected to increase soon.

A small student discount is available at most driving schools, with Academy Driving School being the cheapest at R50 per hour.

As well as a discount on films, certain theatres offer quite good student discounts. It is best to phone the theatre yourself as the discount is usually not available through Computicket.

If you keep your eyes open and ask for student discounts you will be surprised how many businesses readily reduce their prices for students, especially in Braamfontein.

Wits Student Page 6
King inspires anti-apartheid protest

AMERICAN students are on the move again.

A national student day of protest which took place last Thursday saw 90 United States campuses coming out in protest.

The most militant protests have been at the University of Columbia, New York. Here students blockaded the front entrance of the undergraduate college administration building, Hamilton Hall. The blockade, which began on April 4, the 17th anniversary of the assassination of American civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, ended last week on Thursday.

A week before the Hamilton Hall blockade, 10 “Coalition For A Free South Africa” students started a 14 day hunger-strike in protest against the university’s investments in South Africa. The number of students engaged in the blockade has varied. Up to 200 or 300 students were involved during the day, while at night numbers dwindled.

Hamilton Hall, was occupied by students in 1968 as part of protests against university policies and US intervention in the Vietnam War. This episode was described in the film “The Strawberry Statement”. As part of the protest a rally was held, and attended by between 1500 and 2000 students. The rally was addressed by Jesse Jackson, folk singer Pete Seeger, and Bono, the leader of rock band U2.

Sympathetic academics were also drawn into the protests with the holding of a teach-in on South Africa. A teach-in is a student gathering where academics and student leaders present talks on relevant issues. The students called on the university to sell its investments in corporations doing business in South Africa. Lawyers representing the student leaders met with the university administration and university president Michael Gover. The board of trustees will meet during the 4 month summer vacation to decide on student demands.

Protest Groups

Similar demands were made at Cornell University, also in New York. About 100 students sat in at the administration building as others began building a cardboard and tin shanty town symbolising the housing conditions of many South African blacks.

On the national day of protest 7000 students attended a protest meeting in the gymnasium of the University of California at Berkeley. Berkeley was the home of the anti-war movement in the 1960’s. Students at the University of California’s Santa Barbara campus ceremoniously renamed their main administration building “Nelson Mandela University”.

Protests have taken place at other California and New York campuses as well as at campuses in Massachusetts, Iowa and New Jersey. Protests of this nature have however not taken place on American campuses since the Vietnam War ten years ago.

Disinvestment Campaign

The campaign for disinvestment dates back to the late 70’s in America. It has been revived over the last few years with the recession highlighting South Africa’s dependence on foreign sources of technology and capital. Reagan’s pro-South Africa government policies have rekindled debate on South Africa.

Last year the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Michigan, as well as the cities of Washington DC, Philadelphia, and New York enacted some form of legislation regarding disinvestment. Typical bills barred municipal or state pension funds from investing in stocks or bonds of companies doing business in South Africa. The New York City action alone affected more than 650 million dollars in investments.

At the Congressional level there have also been a variety of bills aimed at stopping the sale of Kruger rands in the US, requiring US companies to adhere to the Sullivan Code on employment practices, preventing new investments in South Africa and stopping bank loans to the South African government. Most of the moves have been passed by the House of Representatives but defeated by the Republican Party dominated Senate. Total US investments are believed to total 14 billion dollars.

Similar Demands

The protests at the University of Columbia on the anniversary of Martin Luther King’s death were part of a day of remembrance which was observed by groups throughout the US. Outside the South African Embassy in Washington, where daily demonstrations had been continuing for 19 weeks, a crowd of 4000 people gathered. In many other parts of the country the anniversary was also linked to anti-apartheid protests.

Groups involved in organising the protests include the American Committee on Africa which sponsored a conference attended by anti-apartheid activists from universities across the USA. TransAfrica, which has played an important part in organising the demonstrations outside South African embassies and the Washington Office on Africa.

Washington DC, Philadelphia, and New York enacted some form of legislation regarding disinvestment.

Typical bills barred municipal or state pension funds from investing in stocks or bonds of companies doing business in South Africa. The New York City action alone affected more than 650 million dollars in investments.

At the Congressional level there have also been a variety of bills aimed at stopping the sale of Kruger rands in the US, requiring US companies to adhere to the Sullivan Code on employment practices, preventing new investments in South Africa and stopping bank loans to the South African government. Most of the moves have been passed by the House of Representatives but defeated by the Republican Party dominated Senate. Total US investments are believed to total 14 billion dollars.

Similar Demands

The protests at the University of Columbia on the anniversary of Martin Luther King’s death were part of a day of remembrance which was observed by groups throughout the US. Outside the South African Embassy in Washington, where daily demonstrations had been continuing for 19 weeks, a crowd of 4000 people gathered. In many other parts of the country the anniversary was also linked to anti-apartheid protests.

Groups involved in organising the protests include the American Committee on Africa which sponsored a conference attended by anti-apartheid activists from universities across the USA. TransAfrica, which has played an important part in organising the demonstrations outside South African embassies and the Washington Office on Africa.

The campaign for disinvestment dates back to the late 70’s in America. It has been revived over the last few years with the recession highlighting South Africa’s dependence on foreign sources of technology and capital. Reagan’s pro-South Africa government policies have rekindled debate on South Africa.

Last year the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Michigan, as well as the cities of Washington DC, Philadelphia, and New York enacted some form of legislation regarding disinvestment.

Typical bills barred municipal or state pension funds from investing in stocks or bonds of companies doing business in South Africa. The New York City action alone affected more than 650 million dollars in investments.

At the Congressional level there have also been a variety of bills aimed at stopping the sale of Kruger rands in the US, requiring US companies to adhere to the Sullivan Code on employment practices, preventing new investments in South Africa and stopping bank loans to the South African government. Most of the moves have been passed by the House of Representatives but defeated by the Republican Party dominated Senate. Total US investments are believed to total 14 billion dollars.

Similar Demands

The protests at the University of Columbia on the anniversary of Martin Luther King’s death were part of a day of remembrance which was observed by groups throughout the US. Outside the South African Embassy in Washington, where daily demonstrations had been continuing for 19 weeks, a crowd of 4000 people gathered. In many other parts of the country the anniversary was also linked to anti-apartheid protests.

Groups involved in organising the protests include the American Committee on Africa which sponsored a conference attended by anti-apartheid activists from universities across the USA. TransAfrica, which has played an important part in organising the demonstrations outside South African embassies and the Washington Office on Africa.

The Phantom Typewriter

Phantom Typewriter has discovered ancient Wits dress codes. The discovery came to light after 3 women students were brought in front of a disciplinary committee for wearing jeans. Written in hieroglyphics, the code states that women may wear pants, men cannot wear shorts and no students may wear sandals. The code was believed to have been carved onto stone in 1965.

Wits Student goes big

Wits Student has announced plans for the future. In the absence of the Rand Daily Mail, the paper plans to go daily, distribute 90 000 and cover the greater Johannesburg area. Any students willing to help with distribution should contact the editorial collective.

Go learn in the traffic

The campus move has finally happened. Accoring to the sign outside the Oppenheimer Science Building, Central Block has moved to the middle of Jan Smuts Ave, the Education building has become the Physics block and the Chemistry building no longer exists.

A lighter shade of black

The HNP and the Conservative Party have finally buried the hatchet and come together to fight the latest threat. To any Right-minded conservative idea of black and white mixing, sexually or otherwise is untenable. So in response to the scrapping of petty apartheid, the leaders of the two parties pledged their forces to fight the new danger — the grey gevaar.
**Classified Information**

**Typing done:**
Typing/word processing. Sylvia Brett 802-4342 (w) 53-5566 (h).
Typing done professionally on IBM golf-ball. R1 per double spaced page — you supply the paper. Phone Mrs. Baker 648-2729.

Typing — neat and punctual Phone Sue. 724-2485

R1.50 per page. Phone 640-5081 ask for Dispensary. — Mrs. MacIntosh.

For typing and bookkeeping services phone 788-6967.

**TYPING done quickly, neatly and efficiently. A professional typing service is offered for theses, dissertations, reports, scientific and medical papers, essays, etc. using an I.B.M. Golfball.**

Presentation is important! Service will also include photocopies, if required. Very reasonable rates. Tel: Sylvia Brett 802-4342 (office) or 53-5566 (evenings and weekends)

**FOR SALE:**

Yamaha XT500 R1 200 Gareth 782-4531

Kawasaki KH 125 1980 R400 Rose: 726-1686

Suzuki GS 450 R950 Gerard 788-7079

**Panelbeating and spraypainting. Top quality workmanship and perfect colour matching offered at 30% less than quoted price Tel: Stuart at 788-4332.**

Bookcase/room divider. Holds lots of books. Approx. 2m wide and 1m in height. Black veneer. R49 cash. Please phone 640-1507 or X2414 at Wits. (Jeanette Kruger).

**Alfa Romeo 1600 GT junior. 1976 model — perfect condition, sun roof. Engine sound. R4 500 ono. Phone Mike 825-5669 after 6 pm.**

**Motorcycle for sale:**
Kawasaki LTD 4402 R1 000 or swap for a 250cc or thereabouts, scrambler in same excellent condition. Phone: Sean at 56-7164 after 7 pm.

**Racing Bicycle, 58 cm. Professional quality, R550 ono. Phone: Peter 716-2744(w) or 708-1419(h)**

**Guitar — Yamaha 5-50-A. 6 String and plastic cover R65.00 Phone Sue 646-1847**

**BERMINA Supermatic sewing machine for sale. R500 — phone 837-5135.**

**RIDING boots (2nd hand) size 5, leather, short — R20. Rubber riding boots size 3, long, R10. Wits hockey skirt, small, shirt size 34, and socks — R20 Phone Sheila — 339 6913. (office hours)**

**1 Pair ‘Reference III 4-Way loudspeakers. Adjusted Steel Stands. Phone Leon 782-2997.**

**For Sale: Mazda (1979) 323-1300 Good engine, new tyres. Pioneer car radio/cassette plus 3-way speakers: pair of 20-watt Kenwood car speakers. R100 the lot. Also digital clock radio R40, complete weight set including bench and squat rack R150. Phone Steve 706-3162.**

**Italian Suede Jacket — with luxurious sheepskin collar. Chocolate brown, ladies medium (34-36) R70.00. Phone Sue 646-1847.**

**Wanted - Double Canoe. K2 or similar. Phone Damon or Ruth. 680-8623.**

**Computer Apple R1 500 phone Bruce 724-2780 for details.**

**Extremely competitive rates!! for all your photographic requirements; portraits, advertising, weddings, barmitzvahs; contact Gideon Friedland at 728-1788 or 728-6089.**

**Students needed to sell luminous house numbers that glow in the dark. Excellent commission paid. Phone Colin Chodos (w) 331-1981 (h) 726-7481.**

**Approximately 30 people needed to sort out photographs in June. (1-30th). Salary negotiable. Phone Andy 728-5466 or Mrs. Ginsberg 728-1695.**

**Learn German. Contact Sylvia 788-8634.**

**Zulu I notes — apply 405 Highway Mansions, Jorrissen St. (opp. Varsity Sports) R15.00**

**Wanted: 6 motivated, enthusiastic money earners to promote and sell car-theft deterrent. Approved by the A.A. Inexpensive. Ideal for students. Easy seller. Contact Mrs. Livingstone: 331-3746(w) 643-4924 x 1403(h) French private lessons. An level. Also translations. Phone Anne: 648-4658 evenings.**

**WANTED: Old newspapers of interest. Please phone Mr. Brown at 618-2210 782-8891**

**ACCOMMODATION**

Phone: Francine 728-7530 (business hours)

Bachelor flat, furnished, renewed. 2 blocks to Wits. Available 1 June R175 pm. Lyndale Wardley. 339-8180 or Agents Gradwells 724-1741. (Ask to see 305 Jormelle.)

Digs: Two vacancies - student digs out of town in beautiful surroundings. Daily lift club to Wits. Petrol expenses approximately R100, petrol inclusive. Pets welcome. Contact Debbie Osberg, Hutchinson Lab., Bology Building. (1st floor)

Sandra Steenkamp 6'73-9926, 2nd Second Street, Albertskroon.

To share: large room in a house (Bellevue) Vegetarian (not strict) 1 May R200 rent, R60 food. Phone: 648-3563 after hours.

---

**Classifieds are back in Wits Student — FREE! If you’ve something to sell or want to send someone a message, this is the place to do it. Send your ads to WITS STUDENT c/o SRC, or bring them to our office on the 2nd floor of the Students Union building.**

---

**Each tablet contains: Magnesium 90mg. Caffeine 75mg. Alkaline base 90mg Magnesium Carbonate 15mg.**

**STAY WIDE AWAKE WITH LERT**

**Students: night workers, drivers, miners. You’re not night owls, yet you have to stay awake at night. LERT is a quick acting tablet that gives you extra energy and keeps you going. At chemists everywhere.**

**KEEP AWAKE TABLETS**

---

**Stay wide awake with LERT.**

---

**Wants:**

- **Computer Apple R1 500 phone Bruce 724-2780 for details.**
- **Wanted: 6 motivated, enthusiastic money earners to promote and sell car-theft deterrent. Approved by the A.A. Inexpensive. Ideal for students. Easy seller. Contact Mrs. Livingstone: 331-3746(w) 643-4924 x 1403(h).**
- **French private lessons. An level. Also translations. Phone Anne: 648-4658 evenings.**
- **WANTED: Old newspapers of interest. Please phone Mr. Brown at 618-2210 782-8891.**

---

**Accommodation:**

- **One bedroom flat extremely large. Can accommodate 2 people comfortably. With balcony. Hillbrow. R275 negotiable. Phone: Francine 728-7530 (business hours).**
- **Bachelor flat, furnished, renewed. 2 blocks to Wits. Available 1 June R175 pm. Lyndale Wardley. 339-8180 or Agents Gradwells 724-1741. (Ask to see 305 Jormelle.)**
- **Digs: Two vacancies - student digs out of town in beautiful surroundings. Daily lift club to Wits. Petrol expenses approximately R100, petrol inclusive. Pets welcome. Contact Debbie Osberg, Hutchinson Lab., Biology Building. (1st floor).**
- **Sandra Steenkamp 6'73-9926, 2nd Second Street, Albertskroon.**
- **To share: large room in a house (Bellevue) Vegetarian (not strict) 1 May R200 rent, R60 food. Phone: 648-3563 after hours.**
Apartheid is a violent system

"SENSELESS rioting claims 2 lives, causes damage."

This headline reminds us of dozens of others which we have seen. This one appeared in the Star. In the article which follows a police report is quoted as saying:

"In most of these attacks of arson and stone-throwing, these institutions which are there for the benefit of the black inhabitants of the towns, such as shops, removal vehicles, buses and also the SAP who are there to maintain law and order, are the targets for these radicals, who strangely enough claim they are doing these things for the benefit of all."

On the surface, on television, on the front page of the Star, what we see is clearly "senseless". Without looking any further it becomes easy to dismiss the unrest as the work of "radicals" and "agitators." Most of these sources however, fail to ask some very basic questions:

- Why has peoples’ anger reached these levels?
- Why is it that they express their anger in this form?

Apartheid is a violent system: it was established by force, and it is maintained by force. Black people only began to work on the white farms and mines after they had been forced off their land by white settlers. Without their land they had no choice but to go to the cities as migrant workers.

The Oxford Dictionary defines "violence" as "the unlawful exercise of physical force". If we use this definition then we will understand violence as firstly something engaged in by people other than those carrying out the direct functions of government, and secondly, as something which involves the direct use of physical force.

**A violent system**

But behind the violence in the townships, behind the police claims to be upholding "law and order", behind the blame directed at "radicals" and "agitators" a different picture of violence emerges. A picture of a system of violence which is built into the very laws and institutions of this country, a system of violence that extends into the daily lives of the vast majority of this country’s people.

Much of apartheid's violence never necessitates the use of direct physical force. It is committed through the threat of force, through the erosion of fear: the fear which keeps millions of blacks on the homelands, in the townships, in conditions of poverty and starvation. Conditions like those in the Transkei where over 40% of children die before they reach the age of two, where diseases of poverty and malnutrition are widespread and health and other facilities few and far between.

Violence also extends through the system of influx control and the Group Areas Act. Take the case of Thabo Mhlaba.

**Forty Rand**

Thabo Mhlaba is an ordinary South African. Reference Book no. 012 470617 003 31. Every morning he leaves home at 5.00am to reach work at 7.00am. He works an eight hour day, plus two hours of compulsory overtime (the company will not employ people who don't work overtime). He is involved in producing shoes, hundreds every day. At the end of the week he gets a pay cheque for R40.

Out of his salary Thabo has to pay for his food, clothes and rent. It is difficult to pay for these things on R40.00 - transport costs and rent are increasing and recently the government added a further two percent General Sales Tax. Thabo only spends two weeks and maybe a few weekends a year with his family. They are forced to stay in Bophutatswana where they have no land, no work, and often no food.

Thabo arrives home at the men's single sex hostel at 8.00pm. He cooks food for himself and then goes straight to sleep in order to wake the next morning at 5.00am to catch an overcrowded train on his way to work.

Many friends of Thabo's have been arrested for not having passports.

Continued on pg 10
continued from pg 9

ses. When arrested their experiences at the hands of the police have often been very unpleasant. Thabo also came into contact with the police when, in his previous job, he and other workers at the factory went on strike, protesting that they could not live on their wages.

They were immediately fired and a group of unemployed workers brought in to replace them. When the fired workers met outside the factory the police broke up their meeting with batons and many of his co-workers were arrested. Most of them were “endorsed out” and forced to try to survive in the homelands.

**Luckless**

In some ways Thabo is lucky. Millions of others do not even have jobs. In the township where Thabo lives it is dangerous to go out at night. If he does, he will be in danger of being attacked and even killed by people trying to steal the little money that he has.

Many of the people are desperate and have to steal if they are to survive. With no jobs, crime is their only source of income.

It is the children of people like Thabo who are involved in the unrest. With a little thought we can understand why they see no future for themselves in this system.

It is inevitable that a system of this nature should need the combined might of the South African Police, the South African Defence Force, the Security Police, the Internal Security Act, the Police Act and the system of detention without trial, to maintain itself.

“**You could be called sell-outs and stooges. They’ll kill you, they’ll bomb you and they’ll curse you.**”

What is it about the community councils that prompted the Reverend Sam Buti to issue this grim warning to his colleagues on the Alexandra Town Councils?

What aspect of the councils would cause residents to take to the street armed with stones and petrol bombs, to kill community councillors and to destroy their property?

The past year has seen the Community Council system become the target of black anger and frustration. The violence involved has been horrifying.

In a morbid sense, this means the councils are working. They were set up by the government to deflect resistance to the conditions of township life.

“The councils must defuse pent-up frustration and grievances against the administration from Pretoria,” said an Administration Board official.

**Admin boards**

The councils replaced the white-run Admin boards as bodies of control over the townships.

Set up by the government in the late 60’s, the boards were responsible for pass-laws enforcement, influx control and residence in the townships. This involved splitting up families, forcibly removing people to bantustans and raising rents frequently, without providing services to the communities.

Municipal-run beerhalls enjoyed a monopoly in the townships, forcing independents out of business. Yet none of the profits generated were fed back into communities in the form of increased services or lower rent.

Rejection of the Admin board was illustrated in the militance of 1976-77, during which R30-

worth of Admin. board property was destroyed. Despite this the West Rand Administration Board announced an 80% increase in so-called rents in 1977, a move accepted by Soweto’s Urban Bantu Council. The campaign launched by the Soweto SRC against rent increases eventually led to the resignation of the UBC.

Faced with violent rejection of the Admin. boards, the government was forced to come up with a new strategy.

This took the form of the Koorhols Bills, introduced as part of the National Party’s New Deal.

**Local Authorities Bill**

Among these was the Local Authorities Bill, which was passed in Parliament in 1983.

The new act provided for the establishment of town councils, to be elected by permanent (legal) urban residents.

The duties of the councils were defined as:

1. the allocation and management of housing
2. the demolition of ‘illegal’ structures and slums
3. the provision and maintenance of services, eg. electricity, sewerage, water and refuse removal
4. the establishment of community guards

The new councils were to be self-financed, raising their revenue from residents. But revenue could not go to improving facilities, it had to pay off debts previously incurred by the Admin. boards.

In Soweto’s case this included a R200 million loan for electrification of the area. The money was paid back by the residents in the form of a R20 levy, regardless of whether residents had electricity in their homes or not.

People soon recognised the councils for what they were - puppet bodies of the new Development Boards without enough power to do any good, but enough to do quite a lot of harm.

**Community organisations**

Communities organized boycotts of Council election and formed their own progressive community organizations and Civic organizations.

These bodies organized people around democratic demands for improved facilities, and arranged alternative services such as burial societies.

The attitudes of the people were reflected in the election polls. These were often below 10% and in Rathanda, Edendale and Sowbuquerque, no-one is prepared to come forward for election to the council.

Community organization grew in response to the councils’ ineffectiveness, even in areas where it had not existed before. They organized around rents, eviction, lack of maintenance, sewerage, water and electricity supplies as well as influx control, demolitions and removals.

A rubber bullet - an enduring reminder of the realities of crowd control. When fired, the bullet often penetrates the skin and has been known to kill.
Anger against the people's councilors.

Councillors

The role played by the community councilors became deplorable. Taking the law into their own hands, councillors tried to rule the townships.

Insensitive to drastic housing shortages, they organised demolitions of shacks and of temporary extensions to houses. The mayor of Soweto, E. Tshabalala, was allocated enough land for 51 houses. Yet the Soweto housing shortage stands at around 40,000 houses.

Cost of Living

Rent increases also provoked conflict. Councils increased rents by as much as 40-50% without consulting people in the townships. They also increased service charges and rates, often for services that did not exist.

As organizations grew, the pressure for councillors to resign increased. Since September 147 councillors have resigned, among them 30 mayors.

In cases where councillors put up rents arbitrarily, refused to resign and continued to use force, the people met violence with violence.

Protests

The results are sobering. 109 Councillors were attacked and five were killed. 60 Houses were burnt down and many businesses were destroyed. Having protested against the community councilors to no avail, the residents set out to destroy them - by whatever means were necessary.

Councillors who recognized the people's demands and resigned, were welcomed into the communities as friends and were able to live without fear.

Over 300 dead

As people take their protests to the street, conflict with the police becomes common. Police shootings are followed by funeral marches in which more shootings occur. Over 300 people have been killed so far this year.

Victims

It was one such funeral march that saw the police open fire on a crowd at Langa. Reliable sources quote the death toll at 40. South Africa was shocked at this figure. What few people realize is that only a week before this, 17 people had been shot at Crossroads and seven had died a few days before the Langa shootings.

Horrific stories have emerged about people who have attempted to dig bullets out of their bodies rather than report to local hospitals where they are handed over to the police and arrested for public violence. Some of these people too, have died.

The mass media's view is that of one-sided violence. Nothing could be further from the truth. Violence is abhorrent under any conditions. But what must be understood is that people are desperate, that all other avenues of protest have been closed to them, and that often their violence comes in response to the violence of the apartheid system.
The search for peace in South Africa is a search for an alternative society, an end to apartheid and an end to injustice. It requires tangible democracy and real freedom.

Avenues for peaceful protest are increasingly being closed. Since the Sharpeville incident in 1960, where people were protesting against carrying passes, peaceful demonstrations have been countered with violence. Sharpeville, a peaceful protest, resulted in the death of 61 people.

An incident that most of us recall is the 1976 education unrest. The event that sparked off months of violence was initially peaceful, demanding the abolition of Afrikaans as a teaching medium.

Last year education and rent demands were met with bombings, detentions and violence. In 1984 alone, over 1030 people were detained without trial.

None of the aspects of this society which people have challenged, through peaceful protest, have changed. Instead, legitimate grievances have been suppressed. The government attempts to institute reforms which do not address the fundamental grievances of the people. The presence of the SADF in the townships is not going to alleviate the effects of high rents and unequal education on peoples' lives.

People are demanding:
- Decent living wages, recognition of their legitimate trade unions, reasonable working hours and conditions and adequate jobs.
- Affordable rents, better housing and community services.
- Equal education, adequate education facilities and democratically elected SRC's.
- An end to influx controls and pass laws, an end to ethnic divisiveness.

The presence of the ANC in the townships is not going to make things better. They are demanding full and equal political rights in a united South Africa.

The search for peace in South Africa is not going to be brought about by repression of demands of the people, or by offering sham reforms. As long as the problems of conflict are forcibly suppressed and not addressed, peace will be false.

In order for peace to be realised, the majority of South Africans must be included in decision making. It is only in this way that the problems of the schools, communities and factories will be solved.

As white, educated students we are in a position to ensure that our knowledge is not used to perpetuate the injustices of apartheid but to ensure that it is used in the creation of a peaceful future. As NUSAS president Brendan Barry said, "If peace is to become a reality, rather than a distant hope and dream, then we have to fight for it, by fighting for a free South Africa. The NUSAS theme for 1985 is 'Student Action for Peace'. There can be no peace under Apartheid'.

Increasingly the line is being drawn. Either we support apartheid, or we don't. Our struggle is non-racial. We are not fighting blacks or whites: rather we are fighting those who support apartheid. People in townships have been hard hit by the recent recession. People rejected the councils but the state did not listen. People protested peacefully through organizations at all levels. People began to turn attention to problems facing students, rent-payers, workers and the youth. From this emerged stronger, more progressive organizations.

Focus in 1978 and '79 was on labour issues. But at the same time a vision of a better society was being formed and youth, organized under COSAS, were going door to door in the communities, strengthening collective organization.

These organizations tuned their focus to the Community services etc. They realized that a rent struggle was useless without a struggle for better wages for transport and organizations began working together. Out of this united action the United Democratic Front was launched.

Why has violence become a reality recently?
Violence today is inevitable. People in townships have been hard hit by the recent recession. People rejected the councils but the state did not listen. People protested peacefully through organizations at all levels. Struggles took place in 80% of communities with different effects. Sometimes councillors resigned but the system and hardship remained.

The response to peaceful organization was to ban organizations and people, and to detain leaders. Because of this, people took the protests to the street, where they clashed with police. The police provoked the violence, they are the instigators.

If the target is apartheid, why are blacks killing blacks?
Our struggle is non-racial. We are not fighting blacks or whites: rather we are fighting those who support apartheid. People are demanding that the government not collaborate with apartheid. People can take action against injustices in society through joining NUSAS organisations.

In organisations our contribution to change is far more effective than as isolated, well-intentioned individuals.

INTERVIEW:

In an effort to get close to an understanding of what is going on in the townships, Wits student spoke to an active member of a political organization in Pretoria. For reasons of security we cannot publish his name.

Can you tell us about political organization in the townships?

Opposition to apartheid is nothing new. But in the period of the 1976 organizations opposing apartheid were weak. Where organizations existed it was dominated by the Black Consciousness ideology. We saw our goal as the destruction of apartheid but our political direction was unclear.

But the level of political awareness was conducive to building progressive organizations. The 1976 uprising, trying initially to address the problems of Bantu Education, but where students tackled issues such as the call for the resignation of the Urban Bantu Councils, they won support from other members of the community.

People began to turn attention to problems facing students, rent-payers, workers and the youth. From this emerged stronger, more progressive organizations.

Focus in 1978 and '79 was on labour issues. But at the same time a vision of a better society was being formed and youth, organized under COSAS, were going door to door in the communities, strengthening collective organization.

These organizations tuned their focus to the Community services etc. They realized that a rent struggle was useless without a struggle for better wages for transport and organizations began working together. Out of this united action the United Democratic Front was launched.

Why has violence become a reality recently?
Violence today is inevitable. People in townships have been hard hit by the recent recession. People rejected the councils but the state did not listen. People protested peacefully through organizations at all levels. Struggles took place in 80% of communities with different effects. Sometimes councillors resigned but the system and hardship remained.

The response to peaceful organization was to ban organizations and people, and to detain leaders. Because of this, people took the protests to the street, where they clashed with police. The police provoked the violence, they are the instigators.

BUT The government has instituted so-called reforms in the formation of the tripartite parliament and a proposed fourth chamber. Because of the fact that this is not equal representation and because it does not give people a real say in running their own lives, this has only served to heighten opposition to apartheid.

Peace in South Africa is not going to be brought about by repression but the legitimate demands of the people, or by offering sham reforms. As long as the problem of conflict is forcibly suppressed and not addressed then any "peace" is false.

In order for real peace to be realised, the majority of South Africans must be included in decision making. It is only in this way that the problems of the schools, communities and factories will be solved.

As white, educated students we are in a position to ensure that our knowledge is not used to perpetuate the injustices of apartheid but to ensure that it is used in the creation of a peaceful future. As NUSAS president Brendan Barry said, "If peace is to become a reality, rather than a distant hope and dream, then we have to fight for it, by fighting for a free South Africa. The NUSAS theme for 1985 is 'Student Action for Peace'. There can be no peace under Apartheid'.

Increasingly the line is being drawn. Either we support apartheid, or we don't. One avenue through which students can take action against injustices in society is through joining NUSAS organisations.

In organisations our contribution to change is far more effective than as isolated, well-intentioned individuals.

TAKING IT TO THE STREET:

In an effort to get close to an understanding of what is going on in the townships, Wits student spoke to an active member of a political organization in Pretoria. For reasons of security we cannot publish his name.

Can you tell us about political organization in the townships?

Opposition to apartheid is nothing new. But in the period before the 1976 organizations opposing apartheid were weak. Where organizations existed it was dominated by the Black Consciousness ideology. We saw our goal as the destruction of apartheid but our political direction was unclear.

But the level of political awareness was conducive to building progressive organizations. The 1976 uprising, trying initially to address the problems of Bantu Education, but where students tackled issues such as the call for the resignation of the Urban Bantu Councils, they won support from other members of the community.

People began to turn attention to problems facing students, rent-payers, workers and the youth. From this emerged stronger, more progressive organizations.

Focus in 1978 and '79 was on labour issues. But at the same time a vision of a better society was being formed and youth, organized under COSAS, were going door to door in the communities, strengthening collective organization.

These organizations tuned their focus to the Community services etc. They realized that a rent struggle was useless without a struggle for better wages for transport and organizations began working together. Out of this united action the United Democratic Front was launched.

Why has violence become a reality recently?
Violence today is inevitable. People in townships have been hard hit by the recent recession. People rejected the councils but the state did not listen. People protested peacefully through organizations at all levels. Struggles took place in 80% of communities with different effects. Sometimes councillors resigned but the system and hardship remained.

The response to peaceful organization was to ban organizations and people, and to detain leaders. Because of this, people took the protests to the street, where they clashed with police. The police provoked the violence, they are the instigators.

If the target is apartheid, why are blacks killing blacks?
Our struggle is non-racial. We are not fighting blacks or whites: rather we are fighting those who support apartheid. People are demanding that the government not collaborate with apartheid. People can take action against injustices in society through joining NUSAS organisations.

In organisations our contribution to change is far more effective than as isolated, well-intentioned individuals.
FOLLOWING a pattern that has become so familiar the government recently used a vicious attack on the United Democratic Front as an excuse to detain three key UDF leaders. The state president said that the UDF was an organization committed to mindless destruction and violence, and implied that it was an internal wing of the ANC.

Not one bit of evidence supporting these claims has ever been produced. The UDF remains a front of organizations working peacefully for change within South Africa. As the state continues to harass the UDF by banning its meetings and arresting its leaders, and continues to ignore the demands of the people, so violence becomes inevitable. Violence is not an easy option. It is the last resort of desperate people who have tried all forms of peaceful protest. The avenues that have been closed to them have left them with no choice.

AS MANY others have done we also welcome the lifting of the Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act. We, however do not believe that these laws were repealed through any particular benevolence on the government’s part. We would suggest that the repeal of the laws was one based on political convenience and a desire to win international credibility.

Underlying the repeal is combination of international pressure and the ongoing struggle of the people of this country against laws which restrict and oppress them. The laws and institutions which are fundamental to the oppression of South Africa’s people still remain and still continue to function with the systematic ruthlessness for which they are known. Until all of these laws and institutions are removed the struggle will continue.

DURING a time of unprecedented political activity in South Africa the administration of Wits, a university known for its opposition to apartheid, has been surprisingly reticent. As Jack Bloom pointed out at an SRC meeting: “The administration on Uitenhage was so wishy-washy it could have been issued by the government.”

Admin saw fit to fly its flags at half-mast on the day of the funeral of the Westdene bus disaster victims. While not wanting to undermine this tragedy in any way, we must ask why the massacre of 43 people at Uitenhage did not provoke the same response.

To claim opposition to apartheid means nothing. Either admin must illustrate this opposition or they must reveal their true colours. To not condemn is to condone.

Dear Wits Student

Being committed Zionists and members of a Jewish Zionist Youth Movement (Habonim), we looked forward to celebrating Yom Ha’atzmaut and therefore attended the SAUJS Yom Ha’atzmaut and therefore attended the SAUJS Yom Ha’atzmaut Dynamics at the Pool (25/4/85). After forty minutes a few of us left in disgust. We know that Simon and Garfunkel were born Diaspora Jews and visited Israel two years ago (not during Yom Ha’atzmaut) but we left doubting the contribution made by “The Boxer” to Israeli culture.

The Rag Dynamics formula of popular songs, sexist and racist jokes do nothing to enhance the celebration of Jewish independence. As a people whose history is riddled with oppression and persecution, we abhor jokes likening a leader of the Palestinian people to a ‘doo’ and Syrian father to incestuous rapists. The effective use of the loud public address system provided an opportunity for everyone in the vicinity to enjoy this “tasteful” humour.

Although as Zionists we identify strongly with Israel, we disassociate ourselves completely from this particular SAUJS function. Jokes like those mentioned above only add fuel to the existing tension between Muslim and Jewish students on campus. The use of sexist and racist stereotypes severely damage the image of an official organisation that claims to represent all Jews on campus.

Mark Jankelowitz, Gaby Roff, Gadi Rome, Michael Schur, Pete Schur.
(Memebets of Habonim — Dror, South Africa)

Handle with care

Persons using the Wits Canteen facilities may well be interested (disgusted) to learn that canteen staff do not wear any form of catering gloves. So what?

So today I witnessed a number of not-too-delightful incidents. Inch-by-inch filled rolls are put together entirely by un gloved hands. Shredded chicken for example is first jumbled by hand to distribute a sprinkling of salt and then delicately stuffed with bare fingers into the bread roll.

Cornish pastries, pies, sausage rolls are all slapped into greaseproof bags by staff using bare hands (before being placed into the incubators) — (the pies not the staff). On the one occasion that I ordered a hamburger, it was handled by three different staff members before being passed across the counter.

Toasted sandwiches are
made-up, filled and presented by ungloved staff hands.

Readers may be as concerned as the health authorities undoubtedly would be, to learn of such exploits.

Yours uncharmed,
J. White (BA III)

Feather’s feathers fly

The anniversary of the Pretoria bomb blast. A meeting favouring disinvestment is taking place. Outside a group resplendent in leather regalia, complete with the triple seven insignia, chant. Bly Blank. My volk. Wit baasmanskap uber alles. With the triple seven insignia, everything is taking place. Outside Pretoria bomb blast. A lady national director (BA III)

O A woman SAUJS Wits chairperson

O A lemale UCT chairperson

O A female Rhodes vice-chairperson

O A female Wits Tech chairperson

O A lady national director

O A woman SAUJS Wits Orientation Committee chairperson

O A female chairperson of the student holocaust interview programme

A 50% female contribution to Start Magazine

8 women serve on the Wits SAUJS Committee and

Regular articles on feminism in Start Magazine exploring divergent opinions.

The list I am proud to say is endless. However, it grieves me to be forced by Mr Burt’s blatant lie to classify individuals as female rather than as just competent persons.

In future, Mr Burt, if you wish to indulge in the writing of drivel, please spare Wits Student of your trash. Maybe Peter Kidson will print your letters in future.

Yours in sincere disgust
Paul Klenstein

There shall be bubbly for all

Why is it that the average Wits student is invited to help Rag by selling Rag Mags, donating blood, building floats etc, yet tickets to the champagne breakfast are only made available to the Rag Committee and selected friends?

N Redman BA II
C Thompson BCOM II

Forum fails first year maths

Letter to Dana Kastner —
Editor of Forum

In your Forum publication No 7 you speak of an SRC legitimacy crisis. The paragraph I’ll be commenting on reads:

“Although the origins of this pamphlet are unclear, what is clear is that it is part of the wider thought control program designed to undermine popular opposition to dictatorial SRC policies”.

If opposition to the SRC is so popular, how can this popularity be undermined by a thought control system? People can only be persuaded into a viewpoint if they have not already made up their minds about the issues at stake. How can it be said of people who have not made up their minds, that they oppose a certain system? They give no indication of whether they oppose or support any system (yours or the SRC’s) at all.

The only people who indicated that they were interested in the issues you were those who voted in the SRC elections. As you know, there was a 32% poll. Of this 32% the present SRC received 23% of these votes in their favour. This is a 71% majority (never mind the cautious two-thirds majority the SRC claims!)

If opposition to the SRC is so popular, why is it necessary to inform campus of this fact? A statement of that kind is, at best, inane.

You refer to SRC members and their sympathizers as “activists”. perhaps if you could form this abundant “popular opposition” to the SRC into something active, the situation on campus would change.

Contrary to your supposition, the SRC’s “crimes” are not clear to me at all. What is clear to me however, is that you have no notion of the way democracy functions.

M M Tee
BA III

Immorality a white elephant

Dear Wits Student

The repealing of certain sections of the Immorality Act raises some interesting questions around the effects this is likely to have on those people who are going to take advantage (excuse the pun) of this.

If I may sketch a scenario: a black woman falls in love with a white man. They get married. The man will then be reclassified black. Their children will be black. However, although the man will legally be black, he won’t look it. So, while he will have to carry a pass, it is unlikely that he will be called upon to produce it in the street, or be deported to a homeland, or be thrown out of all-white restaurants or cinemas.

His family life will be really weird. His children would be forced if they grew up quite confused: imagine — they’d be grey; the product of an alliance between black and white, (sorry, black).

It seems to me that one of the bastions, pillars, (call it what you like) of apartheid is not being removed, but rather that it has turned into a big white (you can be reclassified if you want to) elephant.

Little Grey Man, BSC III

PULLOUT (SPORT)

WATCH OUT FOR THE SPORT SPECIAL COMING OUT IN THE 4TH WEEK OF TERM. ANYBODY INTERESTED IN WRITING ARTICLES OR TAKING PHOTO-GRAPHS CONTACT: LIZ WALKER AT THE WITS STUDENT OFFICE.

EQUINOXE DANCE THEATRE will be performing at the Space Frame Theatre (Johannesburg College of Education) from the 1st to the 11th of May! Come and watch innovative dance!

Law Directive & Culture Comm

BIKO INQUEST

video and speakers

2nd MAY 8:00 pm
SHB 4 R100

SAUJS women take the lead

Dear Mr Burt

I would like to congratulate you on your accurate implication that SAUJS is a sexist organisation. Your letter is obviously well researched and you would not doubt therefore know that in the past year, SAUJS has had:

• A female Wits chairperson
• A female UCT chairperson
• A female Rhodes vice-chairperson
• A female Wits Tech chairperson
• A lady national director
• A woman SAUJS Wits Orientation Committee chairperson
• A female chairperson of
THERE THEY were, old and young side by side, a few old-timers on their Saturday-night out even shouted and clapped and danced as if returned to happier days.

Jameson's, recently refurbished, is one of Johannesburg's original bars and it is fitting indeed that its re-entry to the world of revelry should be accompanied by the rowdy strains of the Cherry Faced Lurchers.

These boys fall about the stage making an incredible noise, breaking guitar strings and drum vellums in a most delinquent way, but it all sounds so good! This is anarchy handled in a sensitive way. There are no three-chord punk bashers and within that barrage of sound are some spine-chillingly beautiful melodies, rich harmonies, varied and surprisingly complex song structures.

Other than this, their music defies a description which would do it justice. It is rich, it is inspired, it grabs you right in the stomach, which is definitely where the soul is! For a moment you are transported to an absurd world, soothed and screamed at, then dropped, re-awakened by the "pling" of another breaking string, left weak but oh so happy.

For all their indiscipline, the Lurchers are stumbling upon permutations of rock music which do not slobber in their own majesty. Some of their songs are admittedly weak (those patent-blues set-fillers for instance), but some are filled...
THINGS ARE just not the same anymore. Take, for example, the new Smiths album, "Meat is Murder". It isn't often that I wax lyrical about anything except those gaudy plastic necklaces you sometimes find in lucky-packets, but this record is so beautifully understated that I feel justified in openly liking it.

I don't think I liked it when I first heard it, though. I can't be sure because didn't really notice it. EVERYTHING on this L.P. seems to be in the background, and it thus works on an almost sub-sensory level. The music does not immediately captivate, but pervades one with its subtle insistence. "William, It was really nothing" was the title of a recent single and like Wordsworth's, (note clever association har, har, plop) there is a half-abstracted, half-obscured sublimity to their art; a sense of "something far more deeply infused" (for the dubious benefit of those few English III students who managed to get to at least two Wordsworth lectures). This is largely owing to the production-mixing in which the sound is "distanced" through reverb, thinned out, and returned to the foreground. Indeed the record often has a tinny sound as though it were being played on an old gramaphone.

Its sublime feeling is, of course, completely subverted by the deadly mundane observations of Morrissey, whose bateful voice is as distinctive as it is unchanging. Some people have called him a morose, manically-depressed whinger, but, then again, some people have never heard of irony. Others need anthem-like declarations and cannot appreciate understatement or non-belief. I think Morrissey is taking the piss out of everything: "Scratch my name in your arm with a fountain-pen. This means you love me".

Over the past two-and-a-half years the Smiths have been both prolific and boring, but "Meat is Murder" pulls them out of a traditional repetitiveness. Everything downplayed, the listener is left to make his or her own discoveries and will no doubt find at the heart of this record more powerful intensity than ever before consistently achieved by the Smiths.
The Story of an Aphasic
Women’s Slow Process of Recovery hardly seems like a subject fit
for the stage. Yet Wings is one of the most highly theatrical 4th
Year productions I’ve seen so far.
The subject is handled with a
great deal of insight and sensitivity. Gilda Blacher is outstanding
as Lucy, an acrobat, who loses
her ability to communicate as a
result of a stroke. The opening
scene is excellent. With the use
of very effective lighting and
sound effects it presents the
experiences she went through
while having a stroke.
The well designed set com-
prises almost entirely of mirrors.
This idea of “reflections” high-
lights the psychological issues
the play explores: Lucy’s inner
turmoil and the struggle to com-
municate with the people around
her.
A play about communication
— and it communicates very
well. Don’t miss this perform-
ance.
The play is directed by Andrew
Donald and designed by Simon
Chislett.
Performances Downstairs at the Wits Theatre
from 9 - 11 May at 20h00, 12h30
on 9 May and 14h30 on 11 May.

The Dynamics
Object

IF YOU are an avid fan of real
indigenous music, and if you fre-
quent places like King of Clubs,
The Bozolli, etc... then you will
have noticed the absence of one
of SA’s (Johannesburg?) more
exciting bands — the Dynamics.
In November 1984, The
Dynamics — Steve, Harvey,
Jimmy, Winston and Kevin —
disbanded, left for greener pas-
tures?, disappeared (so the
rumours go.)
The truth is now out. Or at least
the band publicly stated their
reasons for leaving SA in the
Objector — Vol. 3 No. 1 (The
Objector Support Group.)
On October 11th last year, in
terms of the Citizenship Amend-
ment Act, three of the band’s
members automatically became
South African citizens.
This meant that the three —
Steve Howells, Kevin Solan and
Jimmy Florence — were now
obliged to serve in the SADF.
The band decided unanimously
to escape the drawbacks of
South Africa. These being
1. The fact that every one of
them opposed the ideals of the
SADF and its supporters.
2. That their saxophonist,
Winston Nyaunda, being offi-
cially a Tswana, is forced to suf-
f er the humiliation of himself
and his family being confined by
law to living in Bophutatswana,
although he was born in Johan-
nesburg.
3. The real limitations with
which his children are faced in
Apartheid South Africa in terms
of safety, security, education
and equal opportunities.
On the basis of the above the
band decided to leave South
Africa.
Apartheid bureaucrats it
seems, are not so easy to escap-
ese - they followed The
Dynamics to the UK.
Winston was refused entry on
the grounds that his travel docu-
ments described his nationalitv
as ‘stateless’. Winston was
deported and told to replace his’passport’ with the real thing.
There’s no doubt that the ore-
sence of the Dynamics is sor-
relv missed. Many people, howev-
er, support and admire the courage-
ous steps they have taken owing
to their beliefs and desire for a
non-racial, democratic South
Africa.
Interfaculty Rugby plays on

IT LOOKS as though Interfaculty Rugby will continue to grow from strength to strength during the course of the 1985 season. The 1984 season closed with the EOH squad defeating surprise finalists Law, and JCE convincingly trounced Men's Res in the play-off for third place. This year the league gets under way on Wednesday 1st May with a series of fixtures that should provide a clear indication of which teams will be doing some serious trophy hunting.

Once again Interfaculty Rugby at Wits is being generously sponsored by Sharp Electronics, whose enthusiasm and support is one of the major factors behind its recent success. This will go down in the record books as being the inaugural year of an intervarsity match between Koshuis League teams of Wits and Rau respectively. This innovation, once again sponsored by Sharp Electronics, means that Witsies will at last be exposed to some much-needed intervarsity contact. In addition, it will provide an incentive for every player, no matter how indifferent the team he plays for, to gain individual recognition. The first match will be held at Wits on Wednesday 14th August at 7:00pm and will include all the normal aspects of a first-class intervarsity match, (ox-braai, beer-fest, drummies etc).

Apart from the added attraction of the intervarsity match, it looks as though the Interval League is going to produce some exciting, hard running, aggressive rugby. In a series of cross-league friendly fixtures played on 3rd April, some of the more fancied teams were forced to work hard against lesser-known opponents. In the early fixture EOH B repeated their 1984 result and narrowly defeated a surprisingly sober Commerce side. Some hard running and quick thinking on the part of the Builders team pushed EOH A on the defensive, who only managed to rally in the second half to certain Builders’ forward. (best he remains nameless) had managed to hold on to the ball while crossing the try-line, the result might have been different. A new look Law XV gave Men’s Res A a jolt by leading 13-3 at half-time, but a younger and definitely fitter Men’s Res team fought back hard in the second half to eventually win 14-13.

It looks as if both players and spectators can look forward to an exciting season in 1985.

First XV unbeaten

The Wits Senior Rugby section is having an outstanding season and the lads have already clearly shown that they can be rated as one of the top two or three clubs in the Transvaal.

The 1st XV are unbeaten in the President’s League having easily accounted for West Rand, Boksburg and Kempton Park.

In addition they played against Trek League side, Diggers, and won 18-13 – an excellent achievement when one considers that two key players, Norman Bayvel and Harry Roberts, were on duty for Transvaal.

The Second and Third fifteens both have good records whilst the Fourths are, as usual, annihilating all opposition.

The Under 20A’s beat Diggers 23-20 in a close encounter and can look forward to a great season, highlighted by the intervarsity at Stellenbosch in July.

A number of individuals in the club have done well in earning representative honours and these include Norman Bayvel, Bakkies Lourens, Ashley Shafto, Harry Roberts and Ian Hume.

WATCH OUT FOR THE SPORT SPECIAL IN WEEK 4
WITS BASKETBALL is continuing to make impressive progress and the new interfaculty league is further bolstering the ranks of the club. Teams play on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes at the outdoor court in the area below the swimming pool...

Results to date are as follows:

- Arts/Science beat Portuguese 38-32
- Engineers beat Law 58-54
- Hellenic heat Men's Residence 30-28

The league involves men's, women's and mixed teams and the "contact" people are:

- Engineers — Martin 783-9543 (h)
- Arts — Fiona 782-1394 (h)
- Science — Dave 782-9694 (h)
- Law — Janet 706-6955
- Portuguese — Marina 683-9139 (h)
- Hellenic — Jimmy 837-1630 (h)
- Italian — Vicky (h)
- Men's Residence — Peter Potaminos 339-3321 (h)
- JCE — Sue Ellis-Cole 642-7373 (h)
- EOH — Vaughn Richardson 642-3115 (h)

The overall organizer of interfaculty basketball is James Martin and messages for him may be left at the Old Mutual Sports Hall or by phone (716-3043).

Future fixtures are:
- Thursday, 2 May: Men's Residence versus Science
- Tuesday, 7 May: JCE versus Italians
- Thursday, 9 May: Hellenic A versus Arts
- Tuesday, 14 May: Hellenic B versus EOH

The Women's A beat APE 152-4 and Corinthians 67-41. The Men's A lost to Uniao 93-81 and Converse All-Stars 76-66. The Women's B team are unbeaten and at present top of their league.

GYMNASTICS:

- Steven Flaks represented South Africa in two tests against a very strong Swiss gymnastic team.

- The Swiss team, who gained a credible fifth place at the Olympics, proved too strong for the Springboks. However, the experience gained by our gymnasts was of much greater significance.

- Steven did well in both tests, and his routines were fairly consistent.

- The gymnastic ability of the Swiss was an inspiration to the Springboks and their improvement within one week was noticeable.

- This is an indication that international competition definitely raises the standard of participation.

- Steven has been selected for the Springbok team, for the sixth time in two years, to participate in a tour overseas.

Easy does it! Steven Flaks on the parallel bars
SINCE 1982 Worker Day has once more become a feature of the South African Labour Movement. Although in the past, in South Africa, it was largely white workers who celebrated May Day, today the "emerging" black unions are seeing May Day as an important day to acknowledge. What has remained the same, however, is the nature of the demands which surround May Day.

Here the ECONOMIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE looks at May Day in a South African context.

THE FIRST of May is "Workers Day". Since as early as 1856 when Australian workers struck in favour of an eight hour working day, workers throughout the world have been adopting the first day of spring as an occasion on which to manifest workers' demands and to strengthen links with other workers on a global basis.

Central to early May Day protest was the demand for an eight hour day, 35 000 workers downed tools in America in 1856 in what was generally a successful demonstration although afterward the leaders were tried and four of them executed on conspiracy charges which had been faked.

Worker demands

European workers were also being active. In 1889 the members of the Second International, meeting in Paris, called for a united working class and for large demonstrations of solidarity in 1890.

Demands centering around the eight hour day, a minimum wage level, the abolition of child labour and a general improvement of working conditions were put forward.

Since employers did not recognise workers rights to a May Day holiday, workers had to strike to win their right, many seeing this as a build-up to a general strike which would overthrow what were very conservative and often corrupt governments.

South Africa

Workers Day was first celebrated in South Africa in 1904 with a meeting in Market Square, Johannesburg, where mainly immigrant workers held a procession and called for the destruction of the then already existing harsh social conditions. 1910 saw a demonstration on May Day against the new Riotous Assemblies Act, but these early demonstrations were characterised by a predominance of white workers, black workers only participating after 1917, often on a separate basis.

Harassment

Police harassment was also a problem, and after the defeat of the 1922 strike there was a decline in celebrations until 1950.

Notable exceptions were, however, recorded. Workers Day 1931 saw a level of militancy in central Johannesburg rarely seen, when 3 500 black and white workers marched in solidarity from the City Hall to the Carlton Hotel and then the Rand Club, shouting "We want work, we want bread."

A fight with the police ensued at the Rand Club where the doors were broken in, which alarmed the mine owners and resulted in the speeding up of the creation of jobs for poor whites in order to prevent more displays of inter-racial solidarity.

Another major win for the workers, this time the militant and multiracial Garment Workers Union was the acquisition of Workers Day as a holiday in the 1940's, something they still hold today.

May 1950 saw the re-emergence of a more general celebration of Workers Day, now also known as "Freedom Day", in response to the passing of the "Suppression of Communism Act", which used very loose definitions of communism in order to specifically weaken trade unions by banning their leaders.

Freedom Day

Strikes and stayaways were met with violent reactions from the police and army, to such a large extent that the 26th June was set aside as a Day of Mourning. This day has since become known as Freedom Day.

After the widespread repression of 1961, during which the government acted against Workers Day by enforcing laws preventing wage demonstrations and industrial courts agreements, there was a gap in celebrations once more from 1965 until 1982, but since then Workers Day has once more been a feature of workers struggle in South Africa.

Backed by the power of the emerging new labour movement more and more workers are winning rights and taking forward the struggle for democracy.

Arise! You prisoners of starvation
Arise! You wretched of the earth for justice thunders condemnation

A better world in birth

(with acknowledgements to SALB 9.6 and 10.6)