AT THE THROAT OF PRESS FREEDOM

Home Affairs "requests" copies of Wits Student

(not for their enlightenment - we don't think)
Afrikaans students split

The Afrikaanse Studentebond (ASB), until last year the country’s largest Afrikaans student body, is expected to be dissolved at an extraordinary congress to be held in Johannesburg on 3 October. At a recent congress of the ASB, which only five delegates attended, a dissolution motion was proposed. Three delegates voted in favour of it and two against, and the two thirds majority required was therefore not obtained.

A member of the ASB Steering Committee, Mr Fritz Brand, said that the dissolution motion is expected to be passed with the two thirds majority required.

At last year’s annual congress in Potchefstroom, divisions between the centre and right wing students came to a head. Brand said these divisions reflected the split between the NP and the right wing.

The ASB represents about 300 students, who are members of the association at Potchefstroom, Stellenbosch, and Port Elizabeth campuses.

Since the split the ASB found it “impossible to discuss political matters and found we were only able to make policy decisions on purely student affairs” Brand said.

Steve Kromberg, President of Nusas, which has five affiliated campuses, said: “The dissolution of the ASB is a mere formality.

“The organisation collapsed years ago.”

Thanks to The Star

YCS members killed

Three members of Young Christian Students (YCS) were killed in a car accident near Wynberg, on Monday, 14 September.

Ann Briggs (YCS Co-ordinator of UCT), Sindile Sigunya (YCS Co-ordinator at UWC) and Kenny Mfeketi (YSC Co-ordinator in Nyanga and Guguletu) were killed on their way home from a YCS National Executive meeting in Johannesburg.

The other two occupants of the car survived, including Lizo Kalipha, the YCS National President, who escaped unhurt.

Kenny Mfeketi’s mother was in detention at the time of the accident. She was released for his funeral.

Luke Connell of the YCS National Executive, says: “All three were committed to struggling for a non-racial and democratic future in South Africa. Their determination and commitment lives in all democratic organisations opposed to apartheid. We won’t forget them.

“YCS members countrywide and especially in the Western Cape, are determined not to allow the deaths to demoralise them, but commit themselves to working even harder to win the freedom our friends will never see.”

Popular Pmb student dies

LARRY Anderson, an SRC member and extremely popular student at Pietermaritzburg University, was killed when his car collided with a truck during the vacation.

Larry was the Rag chair during 1986/7 and introduced a new sub-committee to Pietermaritzburg during his term of office. The Project Foundation was introduced to make “better use of Rag allocations, bringing them more in line with the needs of the oppressed communities,” according to an SRC member at the university.

Larry Anderson took fourth place in the recent SRC elections and was an active member of Nusas Pro-Committee, which successfully opposed the attempt to disaffiliate the Maritzburg SRC from Nusas last term.

Old school friends from CBC Boksburg also spoke admiringly of him, remembering how, on his return to school during their matric year, he was made a prefect almost immediately.

A well-attended memorial service was held on Pietermaritzburg campus on Monday, 14 September.

Spies wanted

Since elections, four new Durban SRC members have been approached by the National Intelligence Service (NIS) to spy for them, one of them twice.

One was offered up to R800,00 a month to provide information on decisions and initiatives taken by the SRC. An SRC member at Pietermaritzburg has had the same experience.

A mysterious pamphlet has also appeared on Durban Campus. Super-imposed on a cartoon of schoolchildren in a classroom, is the face of an SRC member, with the caption: “Sergeant”, and then his name. “Is this man a spy?”

The SRC member also works on the student newspaper, DOME, where he writes a satirical column about a brigadier, Sjambok Van Mossieekak, whose duty it is to penetrate each of the cliques, splinter groups, movements, clubs, gambling schools, amorphous conglomerates, beer clubs, revolutionary committees and drug syndicates that were the natural divisions of the student body. Of course, he would eventually have to penetrate that hub of communist inspired activity, the SRC.

Meanwhile, the Security Police have placed ads in the classified section of the local newspaper, inviting matriculants to earn extra cash.

RAU ed fired

The editor of the Rand Afrikaans University student newspaper, Andre Vaughan, has been “given the chance to resign” by the SRC, following a report in Die Heraut that questioned the desirability of the recent prisoner swap involving Major Wynnand du Toit.

“Klaas de Jonge could have furthered the struggle in SA with great success, while a defeated soldier could achieve little, even if he is working for Pretoria again”, the column said.

RAU students claimed that the offending edition had been censored by the SRC before being published. They said: “The forced resignation of Andre shows there is no press freedom at RAU and no freedom of speech. The only option for students is to start an alternative newspaper.”

At the end of last year, the editor of Die Heraut Herman Steyn, resigned without giving any apparent reason, and in 1980, the editor was asked to resign. The RAU SRC claims to be apolitical.

Cameron Dugmore, popular SRC leader

Students fined for mediating

Past UCT President, Carla Sutherland, and Cameron Dugmore, popular SRC candidate in the recent elections, were both fined R50,00 for attending an illegal gathering.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor James Leatt, said in mitigation of the two that they had both played an important role in containing the violence at the demonstration. “Miss Sutherland is a person of great personal courage. I saw her intervene physically between students who were very angry indeed and she managed to avoid a confrontation” he said.

Of Cameron Dugmore, he went on to say “During the period of confrontation, I witnessed his attempts to calm students and deal with the university administration in a rational way.”

Cameron Dugmore, having topped the poll by more than 400 votes in a 25% poll, is tipped to become the new SRC President. During the election campaign, Angus Peasey, who stood on an intervarsity ticket, was a victim of a smear campaign. Posters were distributed all over campus that read: Vote dummies, sexism, alcoholism and violence, vote for Angus Peasey. He was elected.

Meanwhile, the first UCT public violence charge defendant, Sally Andrew, has had the public violence and illegal gathering charges dropped, and was fined R25,00 for interfering with police officers line of duty. Her friend was being arrested at the time.
Thackwray, says attendance in her class has dropped markedly since Many of the students fled in tears, and the drama co-ordinator, Kim assault students the incident.

At STEP (Students Teaching and Education Programme) drama students at Spring Day at the Boz. As part of the festivities, about 18 students involved in the drama classes at STEP presented a play. As the STEP students approached the stage, students in the crowd began laughing and jeering at them. Several insulting, racist and sexist comments were made. The students had barely started with their presentation, when they were assaulted with empty beer cans thrown at them. They were forced to leave the platform without completing their presentation.

The Spring Day was a SRC, VOW, Rag and Bozzoli Committee initiative. They approached the SRC to organise publicity and arrange some cultural activities. The SRC sent a letter to clubs and societies asking if they would like to participate. The STEP pupils responded with enthusiasm and prepared a presentation especially for the event. Berenice Garb, SRC Secretary, said "The aim was to make culture accessible to students. It was intended as a means of uniting all sectors of students on campus."

The students were very disillusioned by the incident. One student said: "It made us feel stupid. Nothing else but liquor made them do this." Another student said: "Even when people are drunk, they still know what's right and what's wrong. The incident was political."

Another student commented: "I didn't expect this from Wits students. I had no idea they would feel this way about us." When asked if they would perform again, most of the students felt that they would rather not, whether the detainee has been told the reasons for his/her detention (as is his or her right) or that he/she can make representations and that these will be put before the review board.

Following the denial to Tsietsi to be represented at the review board on the grounds that the board had already been advised on the merits of the case by a policeman, Satchwell made a Supreme Court application for Tsietsi's release on the grounds that his detention was not lawful.

On the day the police had to respond to Satchwell's application Tsietsi was released. The reason that he was detained, according to the police, was for harbouring "an ANC terrorist". This is a serious offence under South African law, yet on his release Tsietsi was not charged with anything. Tsietsi was a member of the Azaso (now Sansco) executive in 1984/85. Last year he worked as the alternative press

The SRC passed a motion condemning "the racist and sexist remarks made by certain members of the university community. The SRC opposes such activity and conveys an apology for these insults."

Berenice Garb also attended the STEP General Meeting to apologise to the students. A committee has been set up by the SRC to investigate the incident. As part of the cultural events organised, the Fine Arts Students Union (FSU) put on display student's paintings. The display was vandalised and some of the paintings were defaced. Fine Arts Students said they felt disillusioned and most of them would not be prepared to display their work on campus again.

Wits Student submits

Wits Student is required to submit a copy of all its editions published after 11 September 1987 to the Ministry of Home Affairs in Pretoria, within three days of publication. The order has been made in terms of the proclamation on 28 August 1987 which is aimed at clamping down on the alternative press.

Wits Student must continue to submit its editions until 11 June 1988. If found to be "undesirable" it can be suspended for up to three months. Wits Student was contacted by the Ministry on Wednesday 23 September and was asked why we had not submitted our publication for inspection. There has not been an edition since 11 September.

Jan van Eck, independent MP for Claremont said that these repressive steps were "the actions of a scared government, which is desperately trying to hide from and protect' the white electorate from the harsh and frequently ugly realities of South Africa, as reflected in the alternative press."

While it was disclosed that Dr de Vries is to serve on the 'censorship board', Staffel Botha has refused to reveal the names of the 'other experts', since it would be 'counter-productive' and he did not want to subject them to 'possible harassment'.

Restricted in terms of the emergency regulations

and his fate has been decided on by a secret tribunal which make their decisions without any legal representation by the detainee. There are about 81 other detainees who have been held for longer than six months in terms of the same legislation, the infamous section 29 of the Internal Security Act. They will all have their cases reviewed in the same manner.

Thanks to the Weekly Mail
Wits security and SAP—
is there a connection?

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) has sent Ian Crowther, Deputy Registrar of Industrial Relations a letter alleging that Chief of Security, Cliff Hearst is not conducting his job properly.

The major complaint is that Hearst does not follow the correct procedure when disciplining his staff.

According to Nehawu, Crowther’s response was a letter in which he “refused to discuss the matter”. The shop steward said, “This university is not prepared to do anything about Hearst.” Nehawu has still to decide on an official response.

Hearst’s behaviour is not the only complaint which Nehawu has taken to Admin. Robert Mkhize, President of Nehawu, appealed unsuccessfully against a decision against him by the Wits Disciplinary Commission. He received a written warning for once refusing to leave Hearst’s office. This means that he will be fired next time he contravenes the rules. “We must do something but we’re not sure what,” said Nehawu stewards.

The most alarming issue raised in Nehawu’s letter were allegations of Wits Security co-operating with the South African Police. The letter sent to Ian Crowther alleges that there is a radio base on campus which only the white security staff are allowed to use.

Nehawu alleged that when a political meeting was held on campus on 5 May Security alerted the police. Neither Hearst nor Crowther were available for comment.

Rhodes gets unionised

Black workers at Rhodes University have joined the Cosatu affiliated Transport and General Workers Union, after the University Council agreed to recognise the union.

Vice-Principal of Rhodes, Roux van der Merwe, a recognised industrial relations expert, said the council has approved recognition of the union in principle. He went on to say that the council had agreed that the union could have access to Rhodes workers, and could now deduct money from the union in principle. He went on to say that the council had agreed that the union could have access to Rhodes workers, and could now deduct money from the union in principle. He went on to say that the council had agreed that the union could have access to Rhodes workers, and could now deduct money from the union in principle. He went on to say that the council had agreed that the union could have access to Rhodes workers, and could now deduct money from the union in principle. He went on to say that the council had agreed that the union could have access to Rhodes workers, and could now deduct money from the union in principle.

The next step in the relationship is to get a recognition agreement, of which a draft proposal had been submitted to the university.

This breakthrough follows a period in which much antagonism existed between the university and its workers.

Shopping mall for arcade

The Student Union Arcade is to be altered to accommodate three extra shops, possibly a hairdresser and an enlarged games room, following the results of a recent SRC Student Services survey.

The changes will facilitate access to campus health for disabled students, Sasts and the sports shop may be moved downstairs. Soundproofing is also being considered to make the arcade a new venue for jobs.

Nikki Howard, who holds the SRC Student Services portfolio, says “It was clear from the SRC survey that students wanted additional facilities on campus. I think it is an exciting project that will add vibe and a sense

Tober retires

In a circular distributed on Monday 14 September 1987, Professor Karl Tober, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University, announced his retirement with effect from 31 December 1988.

“I am obliged to take this step on medical grounds,” said Tober when asked for a reason.

He received similar advice last year and informed Dr N. Stutteheim, Chairman of Council, on 1 April 1986 of his decision to retire in January 1988. In the interim, his condition improved and he reversed his decision at the request of the Council of the University and accepted the position until 31 December 1993.

Council elections

The election of two new members to the Convocation division of the Council of the university are at present taking place. Alumni (past students) of the university are eligible to stand and vote for the Convocation.

Once a member is elected, the term of office lasts for four years. This year the two vacant positions are being contested by three candidates: Professor David Harris, Sidney Kentridge and Dr Ntatho Motlana.

Professor Harris is a Director of Altron, Altech, Powertech and Fitech, and has held positions of Professor and Honorary Professor. Sidney Kentridge is an advocate who was a member of the Board of the Law Faculty.

Dr Motlana is a general medical practitioner, chairperson of the Soweto Civic Association and consultant to the university and the black community.

Each candidate must be nomi-
Black student elected onto LSC

A black student, Zarina Jeena, has been elected onto the Law Students Council. Standing as an "independent candidate", she contradicted BSS's established policy of non-participation. In a letter to students, BSS appealed to students - as the recognised representatives of black students - not to be led into indiscipline by her "divisive" behaviour.

Jeena was voted onto the LSC in fifth place. The election for ten places was contested by fourteen candidates.

In her manifesto she said the LSC should not be "elitist, ineffectual or redundant". "I believe that more effective and dynamic student participation can occur on the LSC regardless of race, sex and religion," she stated.

Her record of achievement listed her activities as a class rep for six legal courses since 1984, and membership of Wits Student in 1984, and Law Directive.

BSS's policy of non-participation precludes black students from standing for class reps. Jeena said "I don't see why I should be an active member of BSS."

Recently BSS achieved representation on the Faculty Board in the school of Law. There are now two black students representing the specific needs of black students in the Law School. "Action such as Zarina's underlines the need for skilled, united and mandated action such as this", remarked a BSS member. A past Wits Student member described an incident where Jeena started speaking in a class, and was hissed by a member of BSS. A personal altercation followed, and white students in the class twice applauded Jeena for asserting that she "was not standing as a black student, but as a law student".

A BSS member studying law commented, "She seems shy of her cultural back-ground," to which Jeena responded "That's absolutely ridiculous", and described the comment as "infantile".

BSS responded to Jeena's independent standing for the election which became a controversial issue among law students by issuing a letter to students. In this, they set out their reasons and their policy of non-participation, and noted the presence of an "arrogant dissenter" on campus.

"Participation at certain levels on campus would reflect a false image that things are fine in South Africa", the letter read. It noted that the number of blacks who can attend university is totally disproportionate to the number of whites, vis-a-vis the ratio of blacks to whites in South Africa.

"We know that our people are denied the right to participate in the major decision making processes in this country. As members of this community, it is a task entrusted to us by history not to advance positions not reflective of that reality", the letter read. At this stage it is felt that conditions are such that black South Africans cannot offer an alternative to universities where admission is controlled by "exhorbitant fees" - an unfair rating system which takes little or no account of vast discrepancies in South Africans' access to wealth and education.

Nonetheless, BSS recognizes that it "must move from a position of non-participation to a participation which will materially and decisively influence the direction of this university". This must be done in consultation with all black students on campus, and not on individual initiatives.

Jeena holds the position of the editor of De Minimus, the Law Students' Council publication.

ECC results

For five weekdays until Tuesday 22 September, ECC held a referendum on campus to find out if students supported the right of South Africans to question the laws regarding conscription. One of the aims of the referendum was to gauge if it was viable for ECC to take up issues regarding conscription on campus. They also planned to approach the University Senate on the basis of the referendum results in the hope that the University would help students who have conscription problems while they are studying.

About 2800 people voted, with over 90% voting "Yes". ECC had hoped to glean more votes but felt the result "wasn't too bad."

ECC believed they could have more effect on campus with a referendum. "The ECC did not run for the SRC this year because when we did last year we had very little effect in terms of popularising the ECC," said John Turnbull, an ECC member. "Nonetheless a lot of people voted because the question was not too politically orientated."

The use of roving polls allowed ECC members to discuss the issue with individual students, although at times this actually slowed down the voting procedure. Many students canvassed chose not to vote because they feared anything which might link them to opposition to the government.

90% of students support the right to question the laws regarding conscription.

One original excuse for not voting was that the ECC was a front for the British colonialist system. Had this person been to an AWB rally recently? No one else in South Africa has that type of imagination.

The referendum was supported by many organisations, including Christian groupings, STEP, ERC, the SRC, Wits Student and others. A surprising supporter was the SMA. "It is merely an attempt by the SMA to gain a liberal, more popular image on campus," says Turnbull.

The referendum result lends support to the ECC's role as an organisation which questions the issue of conscription.

Suttner honoured

Raymond Suttner, a senior law lecturer at Wits, is the only white person currently in detention. He has been inside since June last year and because there are no other white detainees, he is kept in solitary confinement.

Transvaal UDF Education Officer, Raymond was honoured at the recent law dinner organized by the Law Students' Council. Law lecturer, Cathy Albertyn, a friend of Raymond's received the "Law Students' Council's Special Award" on his behalf.

Grant Gordon, outgoing LSC president, says the award was created this year, "Law students have been deprived of Raymond's guidance and teachings for over 450 days. This award shows that we remember him".

Jackie Cock, a member of the Advisory Group on Detentions, which is made up of academic staff, said: "There has been no protest about the detention of members of the Wits community apart from that convened by academics and friends who protested on Raymond's birthday."

According to government figures, 16 282 people have been held in detention for 30 days or more under Emergency regulations implemented in June last year. One of these is Chris Ngcobo, former BSS president who graduated in absentia.

So far, Chris has been in detention for 482 days.
SMA travels to Tuks to heckle Nusas president

The National Union of South African Students (Nusas) has recently been denied the right to establish a local committee at Pretoria University.

The Tukkies SRC turned down the Nusas application on the basis that the motives of the Nusas launching committee were ‘suspect’ and that Nusas is antithetical to the ‘Afrikaans nature’ of Pretoria University.

In response to this, Nusas challenged the SRC to debate the issue under the topic “Wie en wat is Nusas?”. The SRC declined this and instead invited the National Students Federation (NSF) to take their place.

The platform was shared by Nusas President, Steve Kromberg and Phillip Verster of Nusas Stellenbosch, versus the NSF President, Phillip Powell and Nicholas Myburgh of the Stellenbosch NSF.

The debate was characterised by a vocal contingent of the Student Moderate Alliance (SMA), Wits affiliate to the NSF, who heckled continuously as Kromberg and Verster spoke.

Although the NSF claimed not to support the banning of Nusas at Tukkies, “the half-truths and slander” on the nature of Nusas simply reinforced the SRC’s decision”, said Kromberg.

The NSF also attacked the Nusas/Sansco non-racial alliance, Powell claiming Sansco described itself as “the internal wing of the ANC and that a vote for Sansco is a vote for Oliver Tambo and the ANC”.

Nicholas Myburgh conspiratorially alluded to a “private side” of Nusas, revealed only to a select few, but failed to elaborate on the content of this “private side”.

When challenged on freedom of speech, vociferous heckling prompted Kromberg to respond “What you have here is a speaker being disrupted.”

New bills threaten STEP

The government has put forward an Education Laws Amendment Bill which if passed will bring all black education under the control of the Department of Education and give the Minister of Education new powers of control over admissions to schools, closing of schools and the firing of teachers.

The path of the Bill itself has been lined with confusion and irony. The National Education Crisis Committee was asked by parliament to comment on the Bill while the DET has said they know of no such submission to the NECC.

Apparently the Bill was sent to the NECC, a UDF affiliate, on the recommendation of the PFP in a committee where the DET was present. Most of the NECC executive are in detention at the moment. The decision to submit the Bill to the NECC is also unexpected in the light of the accusation last year by a member of parliament that it was carrying out the aims and policies of the African National Congress.

The somewhat humorous side of the Bill’s progress does not detract from its sinister implications.

The Bill, which only applies to black education, redefines a “school” as any institution that offers black education. This includes pre-school and post-school education encompassing anything from nursery schools to technikons. It also covers all informal education and tutoring schemes. The Student Teachers Education Program (STEP), run by Wits students as well as any adult education, colleges or union education programs would be redefined as a “school” and would be bound by all the regulations governing schools.

The regulations also extend the powers of the Minister of Education over schools. In terms of the Bills the Minister has the power to close schools and to suspend students, teachers and principals without prior consultation with the principals or local authorities.

A further clause prohibits the entrance of students to school premises for any activity besides “school events”, defined as school instruction, sports gatherings and other events that have the principal’s sanction. This is seen as an attempt to prevent schools becoming community meeting places and to hamper student organisation in schools.

Teachers absent for more than 14 days can automatically be fired, and school attendance will be compulsory.

A further clause provides for the supply of free textbooks. The Bill also mentions the alternative syllabi drawn up by the NECC and makes it clear that the only acceptable syllabus is that of the DET.

This Bill comes in the wake of de Klerk’s bill on universities, designed to stifle campus protest, and is seen by the NECC as “further entrenching apartheid education.”

The NECC called a national consultative conference to discuss the Bill. They noted that the Bill “does not address the continuing crisis in our schools which is due to apartheid education” and therefore resolved to “reject the Education and Training Amendment Act in total and call for the withdrawal of this Act.”

Eight past SRC Presidents came to a cocktail party celebrating SRC Administrator Jocelyn Cairns’ decade of working for the SRC. From left: Lloyd Vogelman (1982/3); Claire Wright (1985/6); Brendan Barry (1983/4); Etienne Marais (1986/7); Rose Hunter (1987/8); Norman Manoim (1979/80); Jeremy Clarke (1981/2); Jocelyn Cairns.

They also resolved to consult nationally with mass democratic organisations with a view to launching regional and national campaigns to show their rejection of the Bill.

The Bill has definite implications for Wits students. If the Bill were to be passed, a tutoring scheme for black students, would fall under the control of the DET.

Ian Michelow, one of the two STEP co-ordinators, said that if this were to happen STEP would have seriously to consider the effects this would have on its teaching role. Under the new powers that the Minister of Education would have it would also be possible for him to close STEP at any time.
Q: How is Wits Student run and how does one become involved?
A: Wits Student is an SRC Sub-Committee, open to any student on campus. Most people join during Orientation Week, but anyone can come up to the offices during the year and become a member.
Wits Student produces the newspaper from start to finish: story writing, photography, designing, etc. Everybody in the organisation has a say in the running of Wits Student, each portfolio on the collective, e.g.

We produce the paper from start to finish

News Editor, Arts Editor, Features Editor, etc., is elected by every staff member. The Editor has then to be ratified by the SRC.

Q: The last three editors have been women; are there any special reasons for this?
A: Wits Student supports feminism and encourages everyone to participate fully. The number of women editors reflects the fact that women are able to participate and assert themselves in Wits Student. There are equal numbers of men and women on the collective.

Q: Some students believe that Wits Student is dominated by politics, and that campus issues are ignored. Do you agree?
A: Wits Student has always asserted that it is a campus newspaper, and I think our articles reflect this. The last edition had a campus feature, and in this edition the vast majority of news, arts and sports stories are campus oriented. This is also evident in our other editions. This is not to say that we do not attach importance to national issues,

The SMA wants to discredit us

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The Bureau wanted a subscription to Wits Student

especially those relevant to students.

Q: The SMA claims Wits Student fakes its own letters. Does it?
A: No. Wits Student publishes every letter it gets unless it contravenes the emergency regulations or our editorial policy - so letters cannot be racist or sexist. Obviously, potentially defamatory letters are checked by lawyers and may be censored.

We accept letters from students writing under pseudonyms but we prefer students to leave their names and student numbers.
The letters which the SMA claimed Wits Student wrote were in fact letters received by us and printed in good faith. We do not have access to university computers to verify the names given in letters, and have no idea how the SMA came to know that the names given were not those of registered students.

Let me explain what brought about the SMA's claims. One of our reporters was allegedly assaulted by SMA Vice-Chair Gareth Evans and we covered the story.
The University refused to press charges, despite eye-witness accounts from security. So the SMA claimed we'd written the letters to discredit them because we were dissatisfied with the University's decision. As I have already explained, this is completely untrue.

Because of the interdict the SMA obtained from the Witswatersrand Supreme Court, our lawyers advised us to hold back on comment about the SMA's allegations in case they brought further legal action against us.

But we do feel that students may be concerned about the SMA's claims although it is interesting

Wits Student does not write its own letters

that the SMA often uses negative publicity to discredit Wits Student like it did in this case, but seldom has substantial facts to back its argument up.

Q: Is Wits Student censored in any other way?

Smart Alex

Law student Alex Kuhn is the new editor, and she will divide her time (disproportionately) between an LLB and Wits Student. Students on campus asked her some questions, but forgot to ask when she is going to replace her school satchel, is she in love with Nurden, and what does she do with the fifteen cutting knives she carries around with her constantly?

We know Wits Student is weak in Sports

The Bureau of Information requested a subscription to Wits Student, and with the latest clampdown on the alternative press Wits Student is required to send every edition to the Censorship Board in Pretoria within three days of publication.

Q: Some students have said they are sceptical about what is printed in Wits Student. Do you think all students are?
A: Not all students are sceptical about Wits Student. We distribute about 8 000 copies of each edition on East and West campus and at Medical School. Within an hour of distribution all copies are usually gone.

Because our approach is not that of the commercial press - we analyse as well as describe events - I think some students are unused to it and maybe a degree of scepticism accompanies this initial response. We would like Wits Student to challenge, rather than intimidate its readers.

I dated Nurden once...

Q: Why will this year's Wits Student be different from all the others?
A: The staff on Wits Student are more enthusiastic and dedicated than I've ever known them to be. Each collective member is committed to improving his or her portfolio. We've also worked hard (and are working hard) to set up strong communication networks from the 11th Floor to the Boz.

Students must make suggestions to us

This means that campus news should be more reliable, varied and newsworthy, and Wits Student is also the only publication where you can get campus news.

We also know that in areas like Sport and Arts we are particularly weak, and we are attempting to improve here.

Students must feel free to criticise and make suggestions to Wits Student.

Q: Is it true you're having an affair with Nurden?
A: Well, I've dated him a couple of times, but he's too intellectual.
Pamphlet challenges SRC

Once again, an unknown group has put out a pamphlet condemning the continued existence of the SRC. The group, calling itself “Concerned Students”, challenges the SRC to justify their low mandate or resign.

Unlike Shat (Students Humping Against Tyranny), the Concerned Students pamphlet is not obscene. It is professionally laid out and its criticisms are valid.

Commenting on the pamphlet, Michael Avidan, who holds the Scag (Social Community Action Group) portfolio on the SRC, said: “We agree 100% that we have to justify the results and our course of action. This course of action was drawn up after discussions and surveys with student leadership and the general student body.”

Concerned Students do not offer any real suggestions for improving the existing SRC or for an alternative structure. They are anonymous. This has caused some concern.

Mike Avidan commented: “To print so many pamphlets of this quality would cost about R200 a time. I wonder if a group of students would be prepared to spend so much money. My feeling is that it is much more likely to be an organisation which has access to considerable funding.”

Never on a Sunday

The Wartenweiler Overnight Library is no longer open on Sunday afternoons. For the past 18 months, it was open between 14h00 and 18h00 but very few students used the facility. The decision to discontinue the service was made on financial grounds. The Wartenweiler Main Library has extended its hours. It is now open until 23h00 from Monday to Thursday, on Saturday mornings from 08h30 to 12h30 and on Sunday afternoons from 14h00 until 18h00.

The hours at other libraries are:

- William Cullen: Mon - Thurs: 08h30 - 17h00
  Fri: 08h30 - 16h00
  Sat: 08h30 - 12h30
  Sun: Closed

- Educom: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 08h30 - 21h00
  Wed: 09h30 - 21h00
  Fri: 08h30 - 17h00
  Sat: 08h30 - 12h30
  Sun: Closed

- Biological & Physical Sciences
  Mon, Tues, Thurs: 08h30 - 20h00
  Wed: 09h30 - 20h00
  Fri: 08h30 - 18h00
  Sat: 08h30 - 12h30
  Sun: Closed

Food may sometimes be lousy value for money in res, but the Biology Department has assured students that grubs have plenty of nutritional value and they’re free.

Increased fees, stolen cars, bad food, insensitive Admin

Res students revolt

Residence fees have increased dramatically over the past few years, going up from R2 200 in 1984 to R2 500 in 1985, R2 800 in 1986 and R3 200 this year. The proposed residence increase is rumoured to be substantially higher that the inflation rate and House Committee representatives are known to be extremely dissatisfied for the Administration’s reasons for this.

Most students interviewed feel that fees are already too high. A student at Sunnyside commented: “We pay R40 a year for parking and all we get are stolen cars. Wits Security is almost non-existent.” Students at Barnato and Jubilee echoed this concern.

A large proportion of students were dissatisfied with meals and many complained about the lack of consideration for vegetarians. Another common complaint was about the fact that students pay for more meals than they actually eat.

“We should pay for what we eat. As far as we are concerned we are subsidising the canteen every time we don’t take a meal there,” said RMc Intosh of Men’s Res.

Students aren’t as much dissatisfied with quality of food as with the prices that they pay for that quality and would be prepared to eat res food without complaining at a lower price.

Many res students feel that they put time and effort into supporting the University and that they provide spirit and backup at social and sporting events. “Administration thanks reses for the support with an insensitive attitude,” said a Men’s Res student.

“People on the 11th floor are completely out of touch with the way res students feel.”

A Sunnyside resident said, “The actions of Admin seem to indicate that they are more concerned with financial success than the well-being of the students.”

“The Administration is extremely unwilling to take up res grievances in a meaningful way, they just don’t seem to care,” added a Jubilee student. House Committees responded to the proposed res increases by rejecting them completely. SRC President Rose Hunter pledged 100% support for the res House Committees.

At informal House Assemblies students voted unanimously in favour of definite protest action against the increase with 900 students signing a protest petition.

A General Residents Assembly was called for Monday 28 to discuss grievances and to show a united rejection of Admin proposals.

A spokesperson for the House Committees noted that the warden were sympathetic towards the students’ activities and this was to be welcomed. This was an indication that the proposals put forward by student representatives were reasonable and practical and that the Administration should view them in this light.

The general feeling amongst res students was that most of them simply couldn’t afford to pay more for fees for res. Many senior students would have to move out and it is predicted that the reses would lose cohesion and spirit.

It is also feared that the substantial increases will create a situation where only the privileged elite would be able to afford res fees and where underprivileged students would be denied university accommodation.
Thirty people are currently on death row in South Africa for politically-related crimes. These people have been sentenced to death for the elimination of people who they perceive as collaborators, ie councillors, informers and (black) police.

The government refers to the thirty as common criminals and murderers. Sayco (South African Youth Congress) looks at the motives for their “crimes” and regards them as patriots. They say that many of the thirty on death row faced very specific and politically frustrating circumstances. This caused them to resort to “socially unacceptable” ways to vent their frustrations.

Two of the original 32 accused were detained at the beginning of September, despite local and international pressure for clemency. The execution of Moses Jantjies and Wellington Mielies for necrofagia Kwa Nobuhle town councillor Thamsanqa Kinikini sparked off further violence in black communities.

Kinikini was a particularly hated community councillor. He and his sons allegedly killed by fear and were said to have travelled in hinos pointing people out to police. He was allegedly the only community councillor who refused to resign after the Uitenhage massacre of 1985.

The debate around the “Save the 32” campaign is whether or not the action was politically motivated. Although some of the prisoners on death row may be politically aware, this was definitely not the case with Jantjies and Mielies.

Moses Jantjies was an illiterate epileptic. He worked as a casual labourer for a short while before finding himself unemployed.

Rape crisis centres, including People Opposing Women Abuse (Powa) in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Maritzburg and Grahamstown held a national 48 hour phone-in on 23 August to gather information and statistics about the violence and abuse experienced by South African women. The call-in also aimed to offer support and counselling.

Close on a hundred and fifty women phoned in to describe their experiences or to seek support. The response to the phone-in was steady but less than anticipated.

For many women this was the first time that they had spoken about their experiences of past or present abuse. For example, of those women who were sexually assaulted as children, only 35% had ever spoken to anybody about it.

“Sexual abuse remains largely a hidden crime in our society. One that is difficult to acknowledge and talk about”, a Powa member said.

Only a small percentage of cases are reflected in official statistics because they are not reported.

Important to note is the high proportion of incest and childhood sexual abuse calls received. This may be the result of increased public attention focused on it during the past few months, rather than an increase in its occurrence.

Powa believes that it is important to expose the extent and nature of the violence being perpetrated against women.

Powa thanks all the women who phoned in, as well as all the people and organizations who helped to organize the phone-in.

Anyone needing support or information regarding the rape and battery of women can phone 642-4345 between 5:30-10:30 weekdays, or 339-1020 for 24 hours over weekends.

At other times during the day messages may be left on the phone.

When you next nonchalantly spill coffee and eat a jam doughnut over your copy of Wits Student, remember it is a rare piece of alternative press you are desecrating.

At a recent gathering of the South African Students’ Press Union (Saspu), the problems experienced by both the commercial and alternative press were examined. Tony Heard, editor, and Tony Weaver, deputy sub-editor of the Cape Times, recently acquired on the Commercial Press, shared the platform with Kate Philip, past Nasas President.

The most recent gazetted press curbs are aimed directly at the alternative press and Wits Student has been ordered to submit each edition to the Ministry of Home Affairs for approval. The government recently acquitted the reporter not ever experiencing the “socially unacceptable” uncle and their children. Like Janjies, Mielies never joined any political organisation and his political knowledge was scanty.

Archbishop Tutu sent a last minute plea to the South African government, asking that politically inspired criminals be spared the death penalty. At a prayer meeting for Janjies and Mielies, the Reverend Frank Chitlane said that they had chosen violence and that the “institutionalised violence of the apartheid regime” had caused them to do so.

The common feature in the lives of these two men was their experience of poverty and hardship. They were not so much acting against apartheid as a political system, but against the suffering they were experiencing.

That suffering is the reality of apartheid.

Certain prisoners on death row as well as some organisations (including the ANC) are claiming protection under the Geneva Convention. The Convention relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts. Under this Convention, if a combatant is captured (s)he is to be given prisoner of war status.

The 30 on death row would then not be treated as mere “common criminals”.

Counsel for the prisoners is currently arguing that South Africa, although not a signatory of the Convention, is bound by it. The reasoning behind this is that international armed conflicts are defined as armed conflicts in which “peoples are fighting against racist regimes in the exercise of their right to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations”. As South Africa is a signatory to the Charter, it should subscribe to its principles.

“Save the 30” is endorsed by the UDF, Cosatu, and the various church organisations. It demands an end to the hanging of all political prisoners, that South Africa becomes a signatory to the Geneva Convention and that the imprisoned activists be given that is difficult to acknowledge and talk about”, a Powa member said.

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Commercial cornflake journalism

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Faculty councils
The good, the bad and the ugly

Contrary to popular belief the SEC does not spend all its time in the engineers' bar.

Students in the Engineering and Law faculties know what it is to have hard working, successful faculty councils which get things done. Most Arts and Science students have never experienced this. *Wits Student* focuses on three faculties - Arts, Engineering and Law - to find out: their ways of operating, their problems and their plans. In short, what it takes to make a faculty council work!

Faculty board meeting we were invited to stay for the whole meeting. The staff trust us as they support our views and ideas. This is invaluable if we are to represent students.

Roald however does not believe that the SEC can challenge course content much: "the Profs. know their stuff and must say what is to be taught."

Can engineering students get by without their faculty council Roald has no doubts here: "There are no ways students would achieve half of what they do, without us. No fun, no book shops...it's the same with the SRC, you can't do without it.

Perhaps the most successful faculty council over the past year has been the Law Students Council. Outgoing president Grant Gordon elaborates on the reasons for its success and gives his views on faculty councils in general.

"One word" says Grant - "Chutzpa! Seriously, we achieved things because we had the respect of students and lecturers."

The LSC introduced a book loan scheme which will be expanded next year in conjunction with the faculty. The LSC has participated in the restructuring of the entire LAB with the Faculty Board. In conjunction with the Academic Staff Development Centre it has formulated a comprehensive lecturer evaluation questionnaire.

"The questionnaires are administered by class reps and students take them seriously because they get results," says Grant. According to Grant, the LSC doesn't concentrate on any specific area, but tries to cover all things affecting students. "In our year, I suppose the emphasis was on the quality of education. In faculties which are against students 'interfering' in education the faculty councils should make the faculty understand students have a legitimate right to have a say in their education - how, why and what."

Grant believes faculty councils definitely have a "political role". Furthermore he suggests the SRC should run more of its programmes through faculties.

This year's Arts Students Council was "elected" unopposed. The lack of interest shown by Arts students could be an indication that they feel faculty councils and the class rep system do not benefit them. Surely if students saw the faculty council working for them, they would support it? We posed this question to Lalage Hunter - the new ASC president. We also wondered if this ASC is any different from the Arts Students Councils we had previously experienced.

"The big problem is no one's ever taken the effort to make the ASC work," says Lalage emphatically.

"Not much has been done for Arts students recently and we haven't been given much reason to support the council."

This year, Lalage is adamant, will be different. "We have ten people on the ASC and there is a lot of excitement and new ideas."

*Wits Student* was still sceptical, why bother at all?

"Because", says Lalage, "there are a lot of real changes that can be made, hundreds of Arts students have very real grievances."

She listed a few that were very close to home: Freezing exam venues; bad lectures; the perennial library problem; racial and sexual discrimination. One of the first things the new ASC has begun investigating are the changes being made to timetables which will affect students who chose their majors on the basis of previous timetables.

"Students don't often question their relative powerlessness because all their lives they've been used to sitting back and having "Education" given to them," she says. "We have voting rights on the Faculty Boards - a committee made up of heads of departments and other lecturers which decides on faculty issues ranging from admission to restricted courses to the restructuring of degrees. We are able to bring up any matter affecting students and have the ability to make students problems known and to affect real changes." Lalage stressed however, that changes could only be made if the ASC wasn't working "in its own hand."

"If we have the backing of students we'll have the respect of the staff," she said.

The ASC plans to run class rep elections instead of leaving it to the lecturers. This, we hope, will ensure students have committed class reps, says Lalage.

"The class reps will also be pivotal in the lecturer evaluation system, whereby students can collect lecture notes etc. for classmates in detention."

Looking around the ASC office, a hive of enthusiasm, *Wits Student* believes the ASC might get it right this time.

The Students' Engineering Council (SEC) was elected to office in a 40% poll, only 0.2% down on last year. The sixteen members obviously have the support of many Engineers, and their new office adjoins that of the Engineering Supply Association (EBSA) - which is always inhabited by handfuls of students. The centrality of the SEC offices must certainly boost their popularity. Also, over the years the SEC has achieved a number of things: EBSA, the creation of the SEC, sells equipment required by engineers - cheap. It also has a book-binding service. EBSA is now open to all students.

Roald Kvevili the SEC president lists a few of its long term achievements: "Besides EBSA, we run the engineers school for Std.9's and matrices, giving them a general overview of engineering. We organise the Wits pedal car race; we send students overseas for vac jobs and arrange jobs for foreign students here. We also hold the annual engineers ball."

This year's SEC plans to get even more students involved in its functions. "Our sports day is not always great and the fault starts here - you have to have a motivated council. Our Rag float flopped because the person who held that rep. right up to the Dean and then onto us if necessary, it would have been sorted out properly."

The SEC seems to have a very good relationship with the engineering staff. "At the last
At the Saujs election circus Rael Lissoos’ quotable quote was: “Everyone’s bobba should vote in Saujs elections!” Some say he thinks with his fists, not with his brain; some say he’s a Meir Kehane supporter. Well, he’s the new Saujs Chair and one Friday, he and Wits Student, had a (close) encounter of the debatable kind...

Like most interviews, this got interesting only after I put down my pen and said: “Okay, off the record, let’s talk!” Still, there were interesting trends and debates which came up during the “on record” interview...

On the question of a fractious committee and the controversy surrounding the original choice of Ilan Zimerman as Chair, Rael was boringly diplomatic: “There are no differences in terms of Jewish awareness, we just needed a week to get to know one another.”

While the major focus of Saujs will continue to be fighting anti-semitism and promoting a Jewish identity, Rael talks about a “new direction” for Saujs: “Carl Linde’s committee was out of touch with important campus organisations like the SRC and BSS and because of a lack of communication, Saujs alienated itself,” he said.

Rael admitted that Saujs is often out of touch with what is happening politically in South Africa and agreed that Saujs’s political campaigns are sometimes off the mark and a trifle “awkward”. Apparently, the new committee is trying to bring South Africanism “closer to home.”

"We've set up three new portfolios on the committee: South Africa, Community Service and SRC Liaison," Rael said.

I complimented Rael on the sentiment but asked what it actually meant.

"We recognise the need to educate ourselves and our members on a range of topical issues. Also, Saujs can play a part in educating the broader Jewish community about South Africa." he replied.

"Discussion groups with different sectors of campus are in the pipeline. We really need education within Saujs. We need to have discussions with people from the SRC and BSS about the South African political situation and Campus, and Israel and the West Bank."

Mentioning Israel and the West Bank set us off for hours! Unfortunately the interesting bits were all "off the record".

Speaking about the legacy of "campus jihads", Rael said: "There is a lack of understanding of each other's views and feelings on both sides. We've got to get the ball rolling. I'm going to do my best to try and see that these two societies (MSA and Saujs) stop antagonising each other. There are ideological differences but this mustn't become antagonistic. We must use verbal and written responses before long."

Wits Student: Rael, you haven't exactly got a reputation for calm rationality.
Rael: Well...

Wits Student: ... and what about the Meir Kehane affair? There are people who see you as a supporter of his extreme right wing views.
Rael: Ja, I know, ... you see ... look... what happened was that we went along to hear him and I wrote about it. Getting to know him turned me off him. I don't agree with what he stands for. (Arabs being expelled from Israel)
Wits Student: RaeI, how do you feel about being identified with him?
Rael: I'm really sad about it. (sits back) You've no idea what problems that article caused for me... I wish I had never written it.

From here things became more serious.

"For example, we, as the committee, cannot condemn Israeli actions. What we do is to host discussion forums on interesting social or political and religious issues - we try to cater for different views."
In February 1984, the people of Magopa were forcibly removed from their land near Ventersdorp, which they had owned as freehold since 1911, by a police special task force.

In September 1987, members of the community faced the Minister of Development - Dr Gerrit Viljoen - in an unprecedented meeting in which the government undertook to purchase the land where the people eventually chose to settle, preventing its incorporation into a homeland and allowing the community freehold rights.

The community has been temporarily accommodated on the farm Ondentepoort, 12 kilometres South of Sun City, where the government has provided tents and erected corrugated iron dwellings. Why this apparent about face on the part of the government?

The Mogopa people have been living in desperate conditions for three years in Bethanie (Bophuthatswana), split up into three groups and without running water, adequate grazing or arable land. They had made it plain, they were planning to return to their land.

Then in early September according to Lukas Kgatitsoe, the community spokesperson: "The minister telephoned our lawyer and said "Can we meet?"

Perhaps the story begins in 1975 when the government announced it could remove all black communities living in "blackspots" within the RSA. Commumism such as Mogopa.

In 1981, the government discussed the intended removal with Jacob More, the headman. Later that year he was deposed by the people because of misuse of tribal funds. The government continued to negotiate with him, and it was he who agreed that the community should move to Pachsdraai in Bophuthatswana. During 1983, bulldozers began to demolish the village and the bus service to the area was terminated. The people of Magopa failed to get a court interdict to prevent the removals.

On the 14th February 1984, in the darkness of pre-dawn, the village was surrounded by army and policemen - the area having been declared an "operational zone" - and the removals began. Three-thousand people were trucked 280 kilometres to Pachsdraai.

Kgatitsoe remembers: "We were physically chucked into trucks. People lost livestock and the police showed no respect for personal property. And then we were driven to Pachsdraai where we were dumped."

People interviewed by Wits Student at the time said: "Pachsdraai has no water, no clinics, no work. What must we do?"

They resolved to go to their original tribal land at Bethanie. Life in arid Bethanie has been a grinding struggle for the previously self-sufficient community. People would queue for up to three hours to get water. Some women managed to earn some R3 a day - by clearing stones from farmers fields.

Hopes were raised when the Appeal Court overturned a Supreme Court decision which had vindicated the removal on the basis of 1927 legislation which gave the President power - as paramount chief - to remove his subjects. In the meantime, however, the government had formally expropriated Magopa preventing the return people had hoped for.

This year plans were being made to share with other victims of forced removals the farm Holgat which had been purchased by a church trust. Here the soil is good and the people - whose livelihood is dependent largely on pastoral activities - were beginning to look forward to a return to days of plenty enjoyed in Magopa.

"At Holgat the plots are smaller so everyone was going to plough for the community" an old farmer said. Income from the farm was to be divided equally and surplus products were to be saved for future investments.

Then in July, days before the transfer papers were to be signed, Holgat was expropriated by the government - it was needed for an agricultural college. The land intended for the communal farm is not on the part of the farm where the college is to be situated, and the farm had been up for sale several years before the government stepped in.

"We decided to go it alone and return home, although we knew it would lead to conflict with the government", explains Kgatitsoe. At this stage, Viljoen's office made the historical approach to consult the dispossessed community.
Wits Student visits Onderstepoort, near Sun City. "We're not interested in the people who go to Sun City. We are used to stock farming and planting", they say.

Travelling towards Sun City, turning off just beyond The Sandowm Ranch, Wits Student approached a carefully laid out settlement glistening fiercely in the mid-morning sun. Amongst the scrub and thorn trees at the foot of a kopjie was the most recent home of the people of Magopa - a hive of activity as they set about making their temporary residence home.

"Here in Onderstepoort the living is alright - but not to live permanently. Magopa is still home" Agnes More was the first person we met: "This is much better than Bethanie. We have running water here", she told us; pointing to the few taps appearing at intervals along the stony "road". "In Bethanie we had to pay money for the water - 50 cents a day. The people were also rude to us. They had no understanding of how to live with other people. This is much better than there, but not to live." Looking around the dry bushland, we wondered what Bethanie was like?

Agnes then introduced us to an old woman whose daughter's cattle had died the day before. When the community was moved, they were forced to sell their cattle for crippling low prices. One man sold 23 head of cattle for R500. "Each one of them was worth at least that amount".

They arrived at Onderstepoort with only 40 head of cattle left and four had already died.

"Perhaps it is the grazing, but we're not sure because we haven't experienced this place. When you get to a new place, your cattle often get sick."

While we were there, the owner of the farm appeared - a Mr Van der Walt - who had come to attend to an ailing ox. Flourishing a bottle of dip ("wat R45 gekos het"), he claimed to have been over every day to assist. The Mogopa residents refuted this. The Community Committee (elected to represent the community when dealing with lawyers, police etc.) confirmed this: "We haven't seen him around much. The government, in any case, has said he is interfering. They also haven't sent us the vet they said one old man who had never before had any cordial dealings with a representative (or benefactor) of the system."

The government has provided a bus for the high school children to travel to Bethanie every day where they are still studying. "School is alright, but the education is bad" said David - a standard eight pupil who enjoys music and wants to study engineering to become a mechanic.

A bus is also provided to take people to Phokeng, the nearest centre. "There is a big OK there, but we haven't got money to buy anything" an elderly lady told us. Several pensioners added that they had stopped receiving pension in 1984 - since they were removed. The community once self-promised to.

For a pastoral people whose livelihood is derived from from livestock, the loss of their cattle will render them absolutely destitute.

"He is a gentleman and will take our case to the government"

Nevertheless, many of the residents we spoke to have faith in Dr Viljoen: "He is a gentleman and will take our case to parliament", sufficient is now reliant on remittances from men-folk at work in Johannesburg.

The government is supplying people with meal soup and milk. This is all they eat, and the service is irregular. Peter, who had arrived five days before we spoke to him had only received his share twice.

"There are three families in my household and the mielie-meal lasts two days. We don't eat enough". His household shares a government-erected tin hut and tent.

Nonetheless, Peter believes "This is much better than Bethanie, but we don't need this place. If the government agrees or not we'll go back because at Mogapa we can plough."

"We were self sufficient. We buy our own school, clinic, church and boreholes... All you can do here is sit in the shade."

Until 1983, each family in Magopa had access to land, there were several hundred head of cattle and 200 tons of maize were sold each year to the Ventersdorp Co-op. The land had mineral deposits.

Lucas Kgatisoe remembers "Magopa was a peaceful community which developed gradually to a time when we could do all we wanted. The quality of life was much better than in the homelands."

"We won't be incorporated into a homeland. If we stay there we won't have any job opportunities" says Lucas Kgatisoe. "Bop is not really independent."

"Dr Viljoen said he understood our problems" Lukas continues. "He said he had two places earmarked for us: Boshoek and Swartkops. We said no way because those lands are bordering on Bop and we could easily find ourselves incorporated in the homeland one day."

"We want security of tenure and we don't want to lose South African citizenship. Magopa is first on our list," he said. They are, however, prepared to accept a compromise if the land is as good as at Magopa.

The demand of the people to return to Magopa is backed up by the Appeal Court decision which two years ago found the presidential order enforcing the removal was defective and invalid in law.

These people are fiercely determined not to become marginalised as millions of rural South Africans have since the 1930 Land Act deprived blacks of all but 13 per cent of the land, homelands where life is unbearable.

Young Jordan Rampou has the last word: "Hier is hietjie mooi - baie water, en daar is buur. Maar Viljoen moet ons laat teruggaan, hy moet. Die mense huil vir Magopa."
Shocked at SRC in action

I'm shocked. I can't believe that at last an SRC has actually shown it is interested in students after all. I was in a lecture and walked an SRC member - and it wasn't even SRC election time! The surveys have got this SRC, which has got now to prove itself, off to a good start... let's hope that things are carried through and we get to see some more results. We need a real SRC at Wits - don't let it fizzle out again.

Quite Impressed

Insipid elections

I was shocked and most dispirited by the insipid nature of the recent SRC elections. What was most alarming, was the absolute lack of interest in (and understanding of the necessity of), having a strong representative body.

It is despicable that the majority of students should take their education so much for granted, and that they should display such an ignorance of the nature of that education. While the proposed De Klerk Bills are perhaps the most obvious examples of State attempts to control the direction and content of University education, this campaign has a long and intense history. The student body has frequently been at the forefront of the struggle to resist this control - whether in the form of protests against racial quotas, or by actively challenging lecturers and staff, as regards course content. If the De Klerk Bills are implemented, there is a very real threat that South African degrees will not be recognised internationally.

This measure, will accurately reflect the impoverishment of South African education, if these bills are implemented.

It is most saddening therefore, to see that students are so disinterested in the nature of their education, or have become so accustomed to accepting everything handed to them, that they could not even campaign for themselves.

If students were dissatisfied with the candidates presented, then it is their responsibility to ensure that more 'capable' candidates are running. Even if the candidates themselves were guilty, in that they may not have campaigned vigorously enough, the student body itself can only be condemned for its lack of interest, and lack of action.

BA II

Non-descript LSC candidates

I am a disappointed law student. I have never seen so many apathetic, non-descript tickets as those in the recent LSC elections.

A student, standing on a "Unity" ticket, asked to explain what "Unity" meant, replied that it entailed uniting Italians with other Law students at Law School. Surely, it is the huge disparities in wealth, education and political participation in South Africa that polarise and isolate Law students from each other and it should be these gross disparities that are addressed by the LSC.

A candidate who (fortuitously) did not make it onto the council, stated that she "could understand why the government had imposed the state of emergency..." Another patronisingly told Law Students that we should "learn how our black brothers (sic) live." Still more candidates assured us they would install more coffee machines and provide law students with more comforts and services.

How many of these candidates and the Law Students who voted for them have given any thought to the role that lawyers can play in making sure they serve the people of this country who need them most, and in doing so, contribute to building a society based on justice and democracy?

LLB II

Remove soggy rubbish


Special thanks: CPU, Vasu, Ellie, Saspu News Service, Weekly Mail, Afrapix, our patient lawyers, Frank Meintjies, Russell for pics, TRAC and the people of Magopa. Thanks to Scott and Philip without whom this edition would be handwritten.

clearing the rubbish bins - I'm talking about that area near the hole in the wall at Yale Road.

Ever since Rag, there have been piles of crumpled paper, various cardboard boxes, tins and other indistinguishable bits of junk. Rain made everything soggy and smelly, but no one has done anything about it.

I know things take time, but surely six months is a bit much.

Susie Ba III

Towards a peoples rhyme

This letter is a critique of a "nursery rhyme" often quoted by an SRC member of diminutive stature. Since the author of the "rhyme" is male I may occasionally use the false generics; those who emphasise the need for non-sexism will understand that this contradiction arises from the process of mythification by which the author intends to incorporate this "rhyme" into the ideological forms of the superstructure.

The "rhyme" is as follows:

Hitty-pity in the wall
If you touch the wall
Hitty-pity will bite you.

By a process of deconstruction I hope to show the essential bourgeois nature of the "rhyme" and, by implication, that the author is an enemy of true socialism.

First consider the very modality in which the "nursery rhyme." This modality of writing is used to disguise the class origin of the writing by claiming that it is democratic people's rhyme. Let us now see its origins.

Firstly I analyse the role of the "wall". Notice that the wall is to be under Hitty-pitty's jurisdiction, and indeed that he has the right to discipline people for even touching it. There is no implication that Hitty-pitty has a mandate from the people to perform such action. Hence not only is the concept of democracy undermined, but the idea of private (or perhaps more dangerously corporate) property is advanced.

Now consider the role of Hitty-pitty. Hitty-pitty is the entity possessing the wall. In order to continue his domination of the wall he is prepared to use blatant aggression, and this is even justified by the "rhyme". The analogies with the present state are obvious. Also Hitty-pitty is considered to be omnipresent, both in and out of the wall, thus there is no escape from the defenders of private-property.

obvious that the "rhyme" is a bourgeois construction used to justify the oppression of the people. It's range of meanings include, domination, aggression, exploitation, hierarchical structures, and fear of the implementation of "justice."

By this analysis of a single instance I hope to inspire the people to a thorough revolutionary examination of all such rhymes. Only thus can young people be free of the influence of revolutionary elements. However there is much work to be done. The fact that such an element has incorporated himself into the SRC is a cause for alarm. Enemies of the people must be rooted out.

Aluta continua.
Thank you very much.

Brain chilling plot uncovered

I am writing to expose a plot which I have uncovered. Originating in Western Europe and sweeping the rest of the world, it is attempting to turn the entire world autistic.

Under the auspise of a fairly innocuous name: "High Energy" it has now reared its ugly head in South Africa. If you step into any night club or razzle, you will immediately notice the first symptoms of those who are succumbing to this brain-chilling phenomenon. Namely, bright neon clothes. They can be detected by their manner of speech: "Jis, but this is a lekker job, ek se? I sommer but smaek this music my broe!"

The final symptom is their repetitive dance movements and the mooting of meaningless drives, like: "Strip for me, baba, strap for you." Stand up against this horrid threat. If you see a high energy record, break it. If you hear high energy, plug your ears.

J. Morrison
B. Mus. III
Chair-SPTTRRI
(Society For The Right To Remain Intelligent)

Solidarity with library

I would like to express my solidarity with the staff in the Overnight library. Students on campus have taken for granted their privileged position and the extensive resources at their disposal. I regularly hear students

Wits libraries, forgetting that if they were less selfish about using and returning material, drastic measures would not have to be taken.

In reply to Library Nightmare, Wits Student, August '87, I would say yes, gone are the days when one could simply stroll into the overnight and copy the relevant chapters, but gone too are the days when one could simply stroll into the library, glue a book under a table in the Reading Room and return after 5pm to remove it.

Picted Off with unprogressive book borrowing

BAIL

Plastic plants

Plastic people

Just yesterday I walked into Senate House to buy my staple diet - a Yogi Sip. They were sold out.

I am not panicking, I strolled over to West Campus, and there I bought my Yogi Sip.

Nice place, I thought, as I settled down for a break. I looked at the people, the decor and as I ashed cigarettes into a pot plant, I noticed the plants were plastic. Then I looked more closely at the people. Oh, my God.

Sincerely Yours

Witsies abuse STEP students

It could be argued that perhaps a Bozzoli Spring Day such as the one held on September 4 is not the appropriate place to attempt the promotion of cultural activities, as the STEP production. This is not the viewpoint taken, in retrospect, by all guilty-minded students who created the condition which made it impossible for the production to proceed for more than a few minutes.

These kids, who had commuted from Soweto, and their township came to perform at what was intended to be a Cultural Festival liberal university. They were finally kept by students not provided with adequate conditions for performance and were, furthermore, assailed by thrown beer cans and shouts of comments from students, who were apparently more interested in the beer than in any cultural activity.

Silence was asked for, several times and attention was drawn to the impending performance. The kids with their STEP's educational programme are not habitual performers and it was to be expected that such condition were severely disconcerting to their performance.

After several attempts at getting the production off the ground, it was eminently evident that the crowd was opposed to the cause of STEP and indeed, towards the goals of attaining the equal opportunities that this varis is known to stand for.

The implications implicit is: that is cultural activities are shunted at a festival intended to provide the opportunity for their propagation, then are there any aspects within a educational structure which these students would consider relevant?

Handi Roussow
BAFA II

VOW and Student

Wits MARANTZ DRAW

with BRIGHT BLUE SIMBA MORRI

PRE-EXAM JOL

Friday 9 Oct

at The Boz

Plastic people

Plastic plants

One day in the near future an abundance of plastic plants will be in every student's room:

Plastic people

Silence, security, security, silence.

Plastic people

Plastic plants

Plastic plants

Plastic people

Plastic plants

Plastic people

Plastic plants

Plastic plants

Plastic plants

Plastic plants
Problems, politics and pimples

Nurden faces them all

So the November exams are almost upon us and you think that you've got problems? You're failing two subjects and you haven't thought about the four projects due for Monday. You have to fast on Saturday, your car was stolen and you think you've got problems. But why this sudden obsession with things unpleasant? Why focus on problems which have faced students from time immemorial? Simply because they pale into insignificance when compared with the crisis currently afflicting Nurden A Scamota.

Before him lay a political career in ruins and behind him, only misery. All around him his peers were cutting inroads into their professions. One is a twelfth of a doctor, another is an eighth of an engineer, whilst still another, who chose the army, is not half a man.

He could have been the Big Boss, the Chief Medicine Person, 11 Duce of the SRC, but for a brief localised failure of reality in his time-space continuum.

A vision of "Nurden The Great" flashed into his swampy mind and a smile oozed over his face. He would have ruled magnanimously from the President's throne. The death sentence for parking violators would have been reduced to 20 years hard labour. Slap chips would've been sent to obedience training and a cable car from the library lawns to the Boz would've been built...But alas it was not to be!

Suddenly, his grasshoppers ground to a halt, sending Nurden face first into an Abandon Moral. A vision of "Nurden The Great" hovered close to the eleventh hour, luring him towards the voting table is no mean feat, but making him vote four times is a great tribute to the strength of a liberal, academic upbringing.

"At least its was Multiple Choice," commented Nurden later to his Grandfather Ambivalence Scamota, who was staffing a battery of red telephones connected directly to the capital cities of the world.

Every hour, on the half hour, he would emit a terse series of classified facts and figures. "Paris, rain, 12 degrees; London, snow, four degrees; Kabul bombs, fairly warm; Everton 2, Arsenal 0; Diddley pooh; Diddley pooh."

The old boy had vowed not to leave his bed until the sun shone on all of Africa, with the possible exception of Potchefstroom.

Meanwhile, back at University, all four Senate House lifts were operating on time-space continuum.

Dragging a reluctant Scamota to the voting table is no mean feat, but making him vote four times is a great tribute to the strength of a liberal, academic upbringing.

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She had just addressed a "Discrimination Against Women On Campus" meeting and had said ...

"Wot" said Nurden, as a suspiciously medical-looking creature interrupted his steam-train of thought. Comrade Avid Mikidanski fluttered an SRC Survey into his lap. "We're coming down to students," he boomed, "We want your miserable ideas, NOW!"

Nurden balked at the order and meekly sharpened his finger and filled in the form.

"All these questions and answers," Nurden muttered. This seemingly innocuous statement set off a spontaneous word-association reaction which went something like: question/answer - green tomatoes - Athena's knee - textbook - Grandfather - Ambivalence - Exams - pimples - "Exams!" yelled Nurden. The suddenness of his outcry sent Avid Mikidanski scuttling into the safety of the Students' Union, as well as causing ten library lawn pigeons to lose all their feathers. But Nurden wasn't around to see this - he was somewhere deep within the Wartenweiler Library.

NEXT WEEK:

* What happened to the original storyline of this saga?
* Why is the author of Nurden allowed to walk about freely?
* Why are Security Policemen so ugly?
* Will Nurden incur the wrath of Staff-All Botha's Censorship Board?
* Will next week's episode be the last?

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EACH TABLET CONTAINS: Caffeine C/T 90mg Caffeine A/K g0mg Mag Sillcate 3mg Tartrazine trace.

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 get-up-and-go and keeps you going. At chemists everywhere.

LERT KEEP-AWAKE TABLETS

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A mental asylum with an entrance exam

Bruce Saunders is the new station manager at Voice of Wits. He sees the university as a mental asylum with an entrance exam and when he’s not in the VOW offices, can usually be found, firmly attached to a beer bottle, at Jameson’s.

Wits Student interviewed him about VOW and its role on campus.

Q: What are your aims as a station director?
A: To replenish the station as I found it - in a quasi stable state; any slight movement could send it crashing into the abyss of quasi chaos.

Q: What are your ambitions?
A: To get another room, to get a larger SRC grant (look out Bereneic). Also to broaden listenership.

Q: Are you going to make any changes to station policy?
A: Not enormous ones. I’d like to create more of an awareness among our listeners of what kind of music is played on the station and when. We have many specialist shows - from Classical to Heavy Metal, which should be advertised.

Q: How is VOW funded?
A: VOW funds itself. It is one of the only self-sufficient societies on campus. Money is generated through advertising and concerts.

Q: How does VOW spend its money?
A: PARTIES! No, seriously, we spend a fortune on records. At about R30,000 an album, this adds up to a lot - there are about 2,500 records in our collection. The rest goes on equipment which is incredibly expensive and on general running costs - so we still need that grant!

Q: What is your role on campus?
A: Communication, education and entertainment. We are not a commercial station. We are a radio station in our own right, with our own style of music. We aim at introducing students to a wide range of music, including the very latest. VOW reaches more students on a daily basis than any other existing structure on campus. (Except the grapevine, with which we have strong ties!)

We supply invaluable equipment for mass meetings and cultural events on campus.

We have our own magazine, Vox which has a wide range of appeal. VOW has introduced a number of new, live music venues, such as Top of The Town, as well as maintaining traditional ones. We have hosted the campus tours of artists such as Hotline, Mango Groove, Sipho Hotstix Mabuse and Zia, at the Flower Hall on West Campus.

In this way VOW promotes South African music - especially up and coming talent. Listen out for the demo tapes we play. Look at practically any entertainment on campus and you’ll find VOW!

Q: Does VOW aim to be apolitical?
A: We are as apolitical as it is possible to be in South Africa and as far as it does not interfere with our social consciences, we have to maintain a degree of media objectivity. We are an ECC affiliate.

Q: Can you comment on the Cosro “Right To Be Heard” campaign and would you “go pirate” if it should fail?
A: Mmmmm ...... We need a little support we can get for this campaign. If it fails, we will be forced to consider other alternatives ...

A rare moment. Bruce sans beer bottle

Split looms in student radio

President of Cosro and UCT Station Director, Ian Koenigfest, said that there was a “split on linguistic grounds.” Cosro has 11 offices from English and Afrikaans campuses. The liberal campuses and the University of the Western Cape are moving at a faster pace than the Afrikaans universities, especially Potch,” Koenigfest said. Cosro has been criticized because of its links with Afrikaans universities, he added, but felt that Stellenbosch and RAU held a “more progressive line.”

A motion proposing a code of conduct for all Cosro (Co-ordinating Student Radio Organisation) affiliates, was recently blocked at the National Cosro Conference.

The code of conduct supported the principles of non-racism, non-sexism, non-militarism and non-homophobia. A motion supporting the right of all affiliates to adopt these principles, was unanimously accepted.

The University of the Orange Free State, had accepted the principle of non-militarism. There is a military school on their campus, and many students are members of a military commando.

If their radio station was seen to be political, they would lose their funding and their staff would be harassed, they alleged.

Members of the RAU delegation commented that currently their fight is to have more English on the radio and for black students to have access to the radio station.

UCT’s station has recently had its rights turned down. In 1986, after two applications had been refused “in the interests of State security”, UCT penned for five months, until a radio ham complained about frequency interferences. The procedure to obtain broadcasting rights is “extremely cumbersome”, says Koenigfest. “The licencing procedure involves 11 departments.”

In a surprise move, Vaal Triangle Technikon, a campus with less than 400 students and a radio station that hasn’t started operating yet, has been granted broadcasting rights. It is alleged that the reason is that FW de Klerk is an old pupil of the school.

Koenigfest said that UCT radio aims to be accountable to the community it serves and strives to include educational programmes and alternative news.

At the same conference, Cosro unanimously supported a motion rejecting, in the circumstances, the move to delete a word in South Africa, which has been a mental asylum-with the university as a mental asylum — with an entrance exam. Money is generated through advertising and concerts. The station has been a self-sufficient society with a wide range of music, including the very latest.

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A rare moment. Bruce sans beer bottle
Clickety clack clack ... The Phantom's Back

George Matanzima, brother of the once infamous render unto Kaizer Matanzima, is now in political exile in Port Elizabeth. The Phantom was (none too reliably) informed by the Transkei Defence Force Chief, Major Holomisa, that ex-Prime Minister Matanzima was "on sick leave."

Although Peeka-Bootha, our very own Minister of Foreign Affairs (Lady Di and her chauffeur Ronald Ray-gun and his horse etc.) did note with a touch of worry in his voice that "As far as the South African government is concerned, nothing has happened to affect our bilateral relations."

Phantom believes this must be taken with a truckload of salt. As far as the South African government is concerned, nothing has happened since Jan Van Riebeek set up his vegetable store in 1652. The Five Freedoms Forum recently held a conference on "Whites in a Changing South Africa". Phantom always with joy how much things have changed.

While back the black maids tending the Creche at Wits during the conference, would have been tending a creche in Houghton while their employers discussed the relative merits of Perth, Toronto or Tel-Aviv. Some whites sure are moving.

The media restrictions are closing in on the Phantom. The Department of Rather Stay At Home Affairs phoned recently and asked why copies of this very paper had not been sent.

The Phantom was loathe to point out that publications can only be sent once they've actually been written, for fear of embarrassing the voice on the other end of the phone.

The Phantom said that everything would be done as legally required. The disembodied voice (the Phantom is trying not to even imagine a body corresponding to that voice!) said in its silky, fascist-in-a-velvet-face-clothtone: "I hope you don't really believe I wouldn't want to bother you again." The Phantom has reliably learnt that the SMA supports the ECC Referendum on the right to question the laws regarding conscription. The big-noise-boy, Philth Pow-all, firmly believes that the laws should be changed so that all those who don't want to go into the army should be locked away for good.

In other words, they do believe "there are certain institutions which are part of the infrastructure of the country ... (which) are really for the benefit of all which look like these, who needs enemies?"

The same SMA held a meeting last term inviting a "Young Conservative" from Britain, whom even Maggie Thatcher can't stomach. The meeting was well attended - SAUJS and BSS bringing at least 100 people with them. Pity that nobody was inside.

Wait a minute - a Newsflash - has just come in - apparently the Phantom is mistaken. There were at least two or three people inside the venue. They were heard to mutter, "Those SAUJS guys are even bigger than the SANSO Hugo."

Finally, the SRC President is no long a short man, she is now a tall woman. Phantom asked Rose Hunter the thorny question: Is this what feminism is about? She didn't comment, saying only that she would go a long way for students. Hope this isn't another tall story.

Or why it should have been his first.

At the premiere of Ludwig von Beethoven's fifth symphony, everyone knew he had a smash hit. Who no one realised however, was that dear old Ludi was a terrible organiser and all his previous symphonies, in his frenetic excitement had become a disorderly mess. Until one day he took "note" of some "sound" advice and decided to have his fifth symphony bound at the local bookstore. The rest is history. A "classic" example of why you should use Bind-It.

Bind-It has perfected the art of covering, providing the professional finish that's sure to impress. From symphonies to stories, correspondence to quotations, presentations to proposals, Bind-It holds from 3 to 250 pages, takes less than one minute and costs as little as R3.00. You can win two overseas air tickets from S.A. Student Travel Services, R500.00 spending money from Bind-It, delicious meals from Pizzaland. Go to your nearest Bind-It stockist for details.

*Stockists: West Campus Bookshop, University of the Witwatersrand Campus Bookshop, Braamfontein. Medicine Book Supplies, Braamfontein.
The second phase of the Radio 5/Standard Bank Radio show, in conjunction with Voice of Wits, got underway at the Flower Hall on Saturday 26 September.

Sipho "Hotstix" Mabuto and Zia played to about 150 people - the turnout being as dismal as the weather. However, the low turnout cannot be ascribed entirely to the weather: "They upped the price from R2 to R8, which is exhorbitant. You can pay R4 to see the Cherry Faced Lurchers at Jamesons," a Voice of Wits member said. The few people that were there weren't going to leave after having forked out R8, so they made the most of the occasion.

Zia, the first billed act were good but not great. They displayed one of the weaknesses of many local bands - too small a repertoire. The songs that were good were very good, but unfortunately, the rest fell by the way-side of mediocrity. Nevertheless, they had their redeeming moments: "This song is for the children, and for all those that cannot be here tonight" sang Cindy Alter. Suddenly everyone was rocking.

Three backing vocalists suddenly emerged as warriors - with shields and spears - only to be "gunned" down by Andre Fourie's guitar. His staccato guitar having died out, the warriors rose from the dead to overwhelm him: A graphic portrayal of troops in the township.

Next up was Sipho "Hotstix" Mabuto. A very slick act indeed. It started off a little slowly - with a band of dedicated followers calling continuously for Burnout. It finally came, with saxophonist McCoy MuBatha playing brilliantly. Sipho's voice came through surprisingly strongly for a live concert.

While Sipho could certainly jive Wits at R8 a head - this type of exhorbitant pricing is defeating the very object of the Road Shows i.e. that of promoting South African music.

Has Sipho price burnt him out?

Not your average Saturday Night joll

This movie is a competent and highly authentic version of the play written by Paul Slabolebsky and Bill Flynn. Slabolebsky and Flynn star alongside John Kani in this depiction of personal conflict and tragedy in today's South Africa.

The film traces the pathways of the different characters as they move towards their inevitable confrontations at the roadhouse.

Slabolebsky (Vince) and Flynn (Fossie) portray two white okes in constant bickering conflict, but drawn into a strange bond by their loneliness, their needs and insecurities.

Vince is outwardly tough, macho and confident, while nursing deep frustrations at his own failures. Fossie is an acerbic, snide, self-centred, and unassertive friend of Vince.

Fossie and Vince are depicted in stark contrast to the black "boss-boy" waiter (September) - played by John Kani. Fine camera work follows September from his squalid township hostel into crowded suburbia, revealing his joy at the prospect of being with his family after a two year separation.

The movie goes deeper than just contrasting different characters in what is authentically portrayed as the South Africa of Lion matches, Putco buses and beer brawls that the audience knows so well.

It focuses on the sad and often ugly social settings which overlie these beatings - and eventually a staggering of Old Spice and Clint Eastwood, sentimentalities of pink panties, speeding motorbikes and leather jackets, the film depicts disappointments and tensions. These culminates in aggression and violence, and games of power struggles between friends, potential lovers, and masters and servants.

Shallow relationships, racial hatred, sexual insecurity and conquest, ambition and the frustrations of trying to find a meaningful way of earning a living are all interwoven into the fabric of Vince's personality.

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Not your average Saturday Night joll
Composers on campus

Wits Music Society (Musoc) held a 'Composers on Campus' series recently. Any Musoc member may present his or her compositions. The first concert was held on 28 August.

Robert Evans (B.Mus. 3) entitled his two 'songs' "Blossoms Bloom in Belly-buttons" and "The Plea". The two works were original in conception and colourful in instrumentation. The blend of diverse elements came across quite well, despite the words being obscured partially by the instrumentalists.

Tamra Wilson (B.Mus. 4) captured the essence of dialectic in her "Conflict and Negotiation", a dialogue between clarinet and saxophone.

Martin Scherzing's (B.Mus. 1) offering, "No-one Receiving" was intriguing in its utilisation of the harmonic and technical resources of six pianists with the added dimensions of two vocalists.

Hendrik van Rietek (B. Mus. 1) provided us with an interesting work entitled, "Decomposition", a contrapuntal discussion between two flutes and piano.

Waldo Malan (M.Mus.) showed his experience in a miniature song-cycle of nine brief, yet lyrical settings of Afrikaans love poems.

The second concert followed on 4 September.

The programme began with an interesting poem setting Livio Ventura (M.Mus.). The work, entitled, "Behind the Passage", made innovative use of lighting and echo effects. It was scored for narrator, voice and percussion.

In his three "Jazz Songs", David Honigberg (B. Mus. 4) exploited the rich, harmonic and melodic resources of jazz, as he dealt with the three stages of a relationship doomed to eventual failure.

Colin Kropman's (B. Mus. 4) four "Miniatures" for born and piano were discursive in nature; there was more contradictory dialogue than blend.

Helen Ringwood (B. Mus. 3), alternated speed and rhythm in her "Sonatina" for cello and saxophone, and the mood changed from sensitive to lively, correspondingly.

Finally, Margolis Hamman (B. Mus. 1), provided a short work for piano duet, in which she captured the sounds and rhythms of Spain with a vivacious charm.

Musoc will be holding its final concert this year in early October. Admission is by donation. The Voice of Wits and Musoc will be presenting another concert at their new, on-campus venue for live music, "The Top of the Town".

The recent "censoring" of the tunnel leading to West Campus has left many students feeling deprived of cultural stimulation. The humdrum of West Campus can be quite overbearing, and students often feel the need to escape into more relaxing environments.

However, hope is at hand: it turns out that the igloo between the Law Library and Commerce Building is not an igloo after all. It is in fact the Rembrandt Art Gallery and from October 7th students will be able to see an exhibition of prints by Beverley Marks-Paton submitted towards her Masters Degree in Fine Arts.

The prints are a result of Beverley's developing interest in mythological themes, particularly those dealing with the role of the feminine in mythological narratives. Her topic includes mythological images in contemporary South Africa.

She has used a wide range of sources, including medieval tapestry, classical myths of Ovid, San (Bushman) mythology and even contemporary fashion.

Two primary mythical characters are depicted: the classical Lamia - a representation of the terrible mother as a fisherwoman or serpentwoman; and Daphne, who was transformed into a laurel tree to save her from the pursuing Apollo.

The artist has explored the use of colour in her prints - producing a most exciting effect. Her application of hand coloured areas is a particular example of this.

The works will be on display between 7 and 20 October.
Prejudice at the Market

Newspapers and magazines have been flooded with reviews and articles about Janet Suzman’s production of Othello, currently showing with massive success at the Market Theatre.

It is a play which explores the power of language in determining authority, prejudice, the strength of evil and the passion of love. Othello (John Kani), a black Moorish soldier marries the beautiful Desdemona (Joanna Weinberg). Most prejudice against Othello is overlooked for the sake of his military prowess.

Iago (Richard Haines) who regresses to epitomize evil, and is fuelled by prejudice and jealousy, systematically plots to destroy Othello through turning Othello’s passion into Desdemona into vicious jealousy.

One cannot see the play without being impressed by the excellence of Iago (Richard Haines). He not only entertains the audience with his additions of humour into the play, but he also shocks them into an awareness that they are enjoying evil.

He carries out completely the more difficult theme of fiction and storytelling, like a malicious author. Iago organizes the characters in the play to fit his own plot, gradually reducing their authority over themselves.

John Kani perhaps does not meet the needs of a militaristic and dominating character as Othello demands in the first half of the play. Yet his ability to show confusion, fear and heartbreak cannot be disputed.

To South Africans, he is well known for his work in protest theatre. When asked if he felt doing Shakespeare was a departure from that, he answered, “It is a necessity for an actor of any repertory to do as many diverse pieces of drama as possible.” (Star Weekend 12/8/87)

Joanna Weinberg offers a strong, fragile and virtuous Desdemona, and portrays the woman who is continually victimized by the demands and plotting of the men. Her love for Othello stands out as his for her.

The prejudice against Othello’s blackness does not seem strongly portrayed in the production; yet it is maybe experienced by some of the audience, who, for perhaps the first time, give a glimpse of physical and emotional affinity between black and white.

The overall impression of the play is that it gave a traditional and classical interpretation. It is a change from what is expected in a theatrical climate of politically provocative and experimental plays. Yet the dynamics of producing it are made obvious by Kani in an interview (Star Weekend 12/8/87).

He explains how he coped with the role: “Bantu Education does not go deep into Shakespeare. It only touches the surface of it… Othello is a black man. Shakespeare himself said this. The black man is always thrown in at the deep end, either to drown or to learn very quickly how to swim.”

Kani comments on working with Janet Suzman: “She’s an outstanding actress, and as a director understands exactly what you, as an actor, are going through when she gives direction.” Yet there is another dimension, which perhaps explains the strength of women in the play: “The only difficulty I have with her is that I am an African man, and as such I find it hard to take orders from a white woman.”

The question of Suzman breaking the cultural boycott has been raised. Kani was asked how he felt about helping her breaking it: “Although Janet lives in London she is a South African. I am in total support of the cultural boycott against this country. I see it as being part of the mainstream of the liberation of this country.”

“I was sad when Equity lifted the cultural ban against this country because things haven’t changed. Why they lifted the ban is surprising. So I was very happy when the decision was reversed.”

So says Frederico A. Freschi, one of the three winners of the Martienssen Prize Student Exhibition. His winning triptych displays the strongly-defined male nude, “a dialectic between extreme irony and celebration…an expression of high camp.”

“I am very reticent to talk about the award and my painting. I'm not sure myself about what the whole thing means,” comments Anja Fritchen, also a winner with her painting which she describes as “open-ended”. Edoard Overbeek, the third winner, describes his paintings as a display of his concern for social injustice and the mechanization of society.

The Martienssen Prize is the only award made to Fine Arts Students during the year and started as a tribute to Heather Martinssen. The prize consists of money donated by various companies.

Some controversy surrounds the exhibition. It is compulsory for third and fourth year Fine Arts students to enter, and submission of a work counts as a DP requirement. Other Fine Arts students can choose to enter. The purpose of the competition is for the students to produce one independent work.

Students object to the fact that they are forced to publicly exhibit their work. The Fine Arts Department introduced the exhibition to replace the end of year exam in which a private work must be done under exam conditions.

Students are given technical but not aesthetic assistance from the Fine Arts Department.

Professor Crump, Head of the Department, comments that the exhibition, for which students have more time and flexibility, is far better than the system of exams.

When asked about the fact that students object to displaying their work, he said: “They can't have their cake and eat it. In any case, I am very happy with the standard of work, and the response from professional artists.”

Some students take the exhibition very seriously and get quite caught up in its competitive nature. “It's a good thing,” said a student. “After all, competition is essential; we're going to have to face it in any field after we leave university.”

Other students, however, resent the concept of awards. Two such students swapped their work in the display, another framed a jig-saw puzzle and, in a comment about the competition, plastered a big, red rose-tte claiming First Prize on it.

The exhibition is displayed in the Gertrude Posel Gallery in Senate House, and is open until Wednesday 7 October.
Getting pissed with style

A funny thing happened to Nigel Redman at the Tassenberg National Winetasting Intervarsity - he won!

The reason why it is funny, is that the win was totally unexpected. According to Jocelyn Cairns, the SRC Administrator, "Because Cape Town is so far away and because it costs so much to get there, Nigel was not even sure they should go. He said they didn't have a hope of winning. I had to encourage them to go!"

Redman was competing on behalf of the Wits Winetasting Society and was one of two winners in the "Best Individual Taster" category.

Two members from each Wits winetasting Society on eleven campuses took part. The competition was divided into two sections:

1. Award for the best university tasting team.
2. Award for the best individual student taster.

1. All teams, i.e. two reps from each club, took part in a blind tasting of eight wines: four white and four reds.

Participants were asked to indentify the cultivars, and in the case of the reds, vintages as well. The team with the highest score won.

2. Judging by the individual scores in the first section, the best taster in each team qualified to take part in round two, which was a further blind tasting of four whites and two reds. The winner was the best individual taster.

According to the organisers, this intervaristy: "is no haphazard student binge, but part of a long standing involvement between producer and consumer."

They say that the aim of the intervaristy is: "Not to produce student inebriation, but rather appreciation and awareness of wine in its socio-cultural context.

Wits soccer rules the roost

We did it! Witsies finally put one over the forces which defend. After being knocked out of the Transvaal Football League First Division match last Tuesday night wrapped up a fine season for Wits. They now stand a good chance of taking the league title as second placed Jeppe have to win both their remaining fixtures to overtake them.

The first of these games is, ironically, against Defence. At the time of going to print the result was unknown but Defence left it in no doubt which way they thought the match with Jeppe would go.

Disgruntled after losing to Wits, they said they would simply "lie down against Jeppe" according to Wits manager Jimmy Bakos. There always seems to be some animosity in games between Wits and Defence because of the way both sides see each other.

Bakos says: "This sort of thing is not new." In the Currie Cup, Defence had to beat Northern Transvaal by a massive 7-0 to pip Southern Transvaal and with rumours and accusations abounding they managed to do just that!

Defence are lying in mid-table but, says Bakos "they're a fair side, they won't get stuck 7 or 8 - 0. If they peg you up, they won't have it easy." Even if Defence do get "stuck" Wits could still take the title, because Jeppe's final game is away to on-song Zoo Lake, undefeated in their last fourteen matches.

"After losing our first match to Brothers, last years champs, we got things going, and have had a really good season," says Bakos. "If we hadn't thrown silly points away to weaker sides, the championship would be wrapped up by now. Also we've had terrible injury problems, seven or eight players being unavailable each week."

Bakos is full of praise for the students who have come up from the Reserves and Colts sides and done well in the First Division when called upon.

When thinking back over the successful season Bakos is loath to single out individuals, praising instead the "great teamwork" and "commitment" of the players. "Seven or eight members of the first team are usually students," he says. "Being students, they are committed to Wits."

The teams success can be put down to a number of other influences as well: coach Mike Kenning, who once played in the English first division; students such as Gianfranco Monzeglia (player of the year) and Bruce Boake (runner up), both of whom represented South African Universities, along with Robbie Kosseff, Danny Dada and Mark Van Rensburg; and the important influence of ex Wits professional players like Bryan Pomroy and Martin Glouber.

Perhaps the biggest pat on the back should go to Jimmy Bakos himself. He joined Wits in 1981 to train the intervarsity side. That side won the intervarsity, beginning a run of six intervarsity titles in the last seven years. Bakos took that first side to greater things in the TFL Second Division which they won in 1983. Since then they have been gracing the First. Ray Batchelor of Sports Admin says: "I've always looked on Jimmy Bakos as a man who'll do anything for Wits soccer. He was never a Witsie, but is very dedicated to Wits."

The success of Wits First Team is rooted in their youth policy. They have successful teams beginning at under-6 level, progressing through to the Colts and Reserves. (This incidently, when added to the numerous faculty and society teams, makes Wits the biggest football club in the world.)

Derek Blankensee, who coaches the Colts, sees this policy as the main reason - along with "good facilities" and "good people" - for the continued success of Wits soccer. The success of his Colts has meant the promotion of most of them to the Reserve side. "Many players play two games a weekend because of this," he says.

A tribute to these players is their involvement in two cup finals over the weekend. On Saturday the reserves took part in their cup final having already taken the Reserve league title for the third year running.

The Colts won their league for the second successive year by two points from Jeppe Highlands with a side made up of students and scholars.

"It was one of those leagues where the top teams dominate so much you can't drop many points," says Blankensee. As it was we only lost once, to Jeppe Highlands."

The Colts kicked off the season by winning the "Top Eight" in February.

On Sunday they went for the treble taking on arch rivals Jeppe in what was for many a second cup final in 24 hours.

Unfortunately the football Club was unable to make the cup final results available at the time of going to print.

Another successful season is drawing to a close for the soccer club which has produced an Australian international (Miranda), an English international (Gary Bailey), and a Scottish international (Richard Gough).
Cycling is a great way to relax. It is also a fun way to exercise your cardio-vascular system - one of the basic requirements of fitness. This is what every member of the Wits cycling club will tell you. The fledgling club (it began this year, recruiting 90 members in Orientation Week) has a nucleus of about ten serious riders who enter competitive events. It also attracts riders who participate only in Sunday morning fun rides or club rides.

This Sunday, however, the club took part in much more than a pleasant, healthy Sunday morning jaunt into the countryside.

The Star Hundred Kilometer Marathon is being seen as a rival to the Cape Argus Tour. One hundred kilometers around the outskirts of Johannesburg and Sandton is grueling stuff. The race was marred by very bad weather. According to club member Gerry Cominnos there were about 5000 entrants but there only seemed to be about 500 competitors. Ten Witsies entered. Only five finished, the others being forced out by hail and punctures.

Club members say anyone is welcome to join the club. Club Rides happen on the Sundays when there are no organised events and are open to all. "No-one who participates feels intimidated," says Gerry Cominnos "one of the regulars always sticks with the slower riders."

Club treasurer Glen Lazarus says there are categories for speed and distance riders and for slower riders. "Some women joined in the other day as we were riding along. We have a small women's membership and we want it to grow next year," he says.

"Afer rides we always get together for a beer and maybe a braai" says Gary who is at pains to stress the social side of the club.

Recreational cycling is very new but members of the club claim it is "the fastest growing sport in South Africa. "It will soon overtake running," says Glen. "Cycling is a dynamic flowing exercise, it is not hard on the joints like running." Says club president Farrell Helig, a medical student. "Many cyclists are the same runners who converted for medical reasons."

But what about the cost? A cycling kit as much as a car and an expensive pair of running shoes. One can afford the initial outlay. "does seem a more worthwhile exercise." You can always get your gear over time" says Farrell. Glen. Most serious riders in the club have expensive ultra-light bikes worth about R3000 but Gary is under the impression that "a lot of it is in the legs. A rider on a heavy 2000 bike can win past you if he is fit enough. I've seen it happen."

The point is, people with adequate racing bikes can participate in many of the activities of the cycling club. Besides the social side are the facilities available for parking one's bike on the campus space for equipment and the BZ-shower. Experienced club members are always willing to help with technical advice as well.

The club hopes to expand this year. The plans include a Cape Town to Joburg ride for charity during the first term. "A dozen to twelve riders will take part in the relay and trials will take place before the event" says Glen. "But importantly the riders will need a back-up group of about 40; to help with technical advice as well."

The charity is as yet undecided but the aim of the ride will be to promote an awareness of cycling amongst motorists.

People interested in being part of the promising Wits Cycling Club are either serious competitors or as social riders those who simply want to come up with the occasional ride should contact Farrell Helig, 440-5687 or Gary, 442-9164.

Diners Club sponsors yachtie

The Wits Yacht Club, sponsored by Diners Club International, finished ninth in South Africa's most prestigious yachting regatta, the Lipton Challenge. The Yacht Club has competed for the last two years for the trophy, which is insured for R250 000.

The team consisted of Patrick Harris (skipper), Andrew de Villers, Neville Whitehead, Bobbi Latham-Lowe, Chris Strewer (owner) and Ruth Stone (team manager).

The club was only established in 1979 but is emerging as one of the top clubs in the country since the influx of young canoeists in the past few years. This year has been a great social year as well for the canoeists, who managed to include a tour of the Zambezi.

The Lipton Challenge was held in Cape Town and lasted for five days. Wits did not start well on the first day, in a wind of 20 to 25 knots, and recovered only to make further mistakes, dropping to 15th position. In the second leg they recovered again, taking advantage of the lessening wind, and finished fourth, 30 seconds behind second-placed yacht.

On the second day, Wits recalled after jumping the gun, and had a similar score to the previous day. They finished ninth. After two races, Wits was lying 12th overall, with only one boat, De Vries, having beaten them in both races. The fourth day saw Wits place first, halfway up the first leg, and then on the wind slackened and the yachts went to eighteenth.

Joko won the regatta for the second time, with Wits gaining ninth place overall.
SRC Exec aims to strike a balance between representation and politics

Five of the six SRC Exec members: Erica Elk, Claire Joyce, Rose Hunter, Tom Plewman and Bernice Garb. Steve Silver is missing.

This year's SRC was elected by less than 10% of students on campus, and, as the SRC admits: "This is not a satisfactory mandate".

There are six SRC members on the Exec: Rose Hunter (President), Erica Elk (Vice-President), Steve Silver (Deputy Vice-President and Academic Freedom), Claire Joyce (Further Deputy Vice-President), Bernice Garb (Secretary, Free People's and Culture Comm), Tom Plewman (Law Rep, Treasurer and Constitutions).

Wits Student went down to the SRC offices and spoke to the Exec about the problems facing the SRC and what they intend doing about these.

WS: How do you feel about the terribly low poll?
Exec: (Erica) We have come up with a number of short term proposals: We've just been given one of the glass-fronted offices on the ground floor of the DJ du Plessis building, This will be staffed and open everyday.

On East Campus the office is always open but we are going to staff tables around campus on certain days. When important events are happening we will go from class to class making announcements and initiating discussion. We feel that it is time that SRC members become recognizable and approachable.

WS: Does the low poll mean it's time the SRC stopped its political involvement?
Exec: (Rose) The survey shows that students do not want us to stop being political. What they want is a better balance of student affairs and politics.

WS: What is the relationship between the SRC and the BSS?
Exec: The actions of all clubs and societies are under the jurisdiction of the SRC, but they are not the SRC. The BSS has specifically said that it wants to speak for itself on the actions of its members.

If any people want to discuss any issue such as policy on reses, sport, elections etc..., then the SRC would facilitate these discussions.

WS: A number of pamphlets smear the SRC and its members were issued by a group called SHAT. What do you think about this?
Exec: (Rose) If they had the guts to say who they are publicly they'd be worth responding to. We think most students were disgusted by the stickers. If SHAT had proper support they would not resort to obscene filth.

WS: And what about the jorls?
Exec: (Bernice) We are informally restructuring the SRC into a number of collectives so that responsibility for vital SRC services does not rest on one person. These collectives are culture, education, student services and media.

WS: How will you deal with possible criticism levelled against the SRC about the low poll?
Exec: (Berenice) To resign would give us individual credibility but it would not give student government credibility. We are committed to student government.

WS: How do you feel about the SRC about the low poll?
Exec: (Bernice) To resign would give us individual credibility but it would not give student government credibility. We are committed to student government.

WS: And what about the jorls?
Exec: (Bernice) At the moment we are organising a "design-i-d" Wits-T-shirt" competition. The jorls are other vibrant things in the pipeline. There are rumours of dance marathon...

WS: (Erica) We haven't had any fun yet!

WS: (Rose) Speak for yourself! I we to the Engineers ball and it was really amazing. We wish clubs at societies would invite us to more of their jorls.