

The good, the bad

Transvaal: dry and difficult year

SO YOU'VE heard of Pretoria/Tshwane/ePitoli, but have you heard of KwaMhlanga, Bosplaas, Majaneng and Wit Rivier? For those who might think the PWV is a single conglomeration of concrete called "the Transvaal", think again! The designation "Transvaal" forms an unwieldy umbrella for six homelands (two of which are "independent"), the PWV, and the vast tracts of land predictably called the Eastern, Northern and Western Transvaal.

What processes have coalesced, tugged and jostled to give the Transvaal its distinctive character in 1992? In terms of regional political dynamics, the area is largely an ANC stronghold for Africans, with Indians, "coloureds" and whites dallying between the National and Democratic Parties, and some confused whites giving up hope of finding a political home altogether.



The violence has been confined largely to the PWV area, and while some Local Dispute Resolution Committees have made progress, others lack credibility.

Local level governing processes have met with mixed success. While the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber continues, its work moves forward slowly. Greater Pretoria has seen its attempts at a single governing struc-

ture flounder a second and third time as it fails to pull the full political spectrum into discussion.

What are the things that made us laugh and cry in our region? The

ANC converged peacefully on Pretoria. The Pietersburg constituency returned the only "no" in the referendum, and Lebowa and KwaNdebele were publicly disgraced by the findings of the De Meyer and Parsons Commissions

All in all an eventful year for both citizens and chroniclers of history.

E Cape values its fragile peace

THE EASTERN CAPE jealously protects its most valuable asset - peace. One or two taxi dust-ups aside, the region's only tendency to violence in 1992 was in the shadowy underworld of "third force" activity.

Farmer Andre de Villiers was shot dead outside his home - hours after he had made

have dominated township politics since 1983 when the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (Pebco) coined the "one-city, one-municipality" slogan. In 1992, civic organisations assumed their rightful place alongside the major players in discussions.

On the labour front, strikes were less evi-

Vryst

DIE VRYST

watiewe ha
Hierdie
dat die pr
pliseerd is,

In vergel
met sekere
lik vreedsa

Die polit
is waarsky
uitslag van
51 persent
op die mas
oor nasion
aanduiding
sin vir vera
ansie.

Dit is eg
die politie

Bord

1992 HAS
Border reg
known for
dangerous

The ANC
after the fa
enthusiasm
notion that

The Cist
revived the
ished in 19
larly in th
Resolution
up local s
thwarted b

ugly of 1992

in gesprek

thede vir besluitnemers skep. Die goeie vordering wat daar op streeksvlak gemaak is met gesprekke oor toekomstige streeks- en plaaslike regeringsopsies is bevestiging hiervan.

Organisasies met uiteenlopende politieke agtergronde kon daarin slaag om gesamentlik na 'n oplossing te soek, en die OVS het op dié manier stil-stil die voortou begin neem in die daarstelling van 'n raamwerk vir onderhandelings oor plaaslike regering. Dit spreek vanself dat in 'n gebied soos die OVS, grond nog lank 'n belangrike saak sal wees op die agenda van enige toekomstige nasionale en streeksbedeling. Dit was daarom verblydend om hierdie jaar waar te neem dat daar al meer rede en minder emosie in die debat begin kom.

ar of upheaval

marches ended peacefully in talks between Pik Botha and Chris Hani. This did nothing to stop the momentum of the mass action and the last two marches consisted of 60 000 to 85 000 marchers.

The last march, held on September 7, now known as the Bisho massacre, had a tragic outcome of 29 deaths. All that one can say is that the bloody outcome could have been averted.

Since that event, the region has not been the same. The Joint Operations Force which was set up thereafter has not been seen to help, but has led to more unrest and loss of hope.

The Transkei, with its climate of free political

Natal: violence not the whole story

WHEN people think of Natal, they think only of the grim catalogue of violence. But there's more to the region than killings and massacres.

On the labour front, the lengthy Toyota strike involved close to 5 000 workers, with management threatening to replace the workers with robots.

Mass action arrived in the streets of Durban on June 16 when a crowd of more than 10 000 took over the city for more than 5 hours. There were no violent incidents.

On the campuses, an application by the South African Democratic Students Movement to affiliate to the University of Durban-Westville Students Representative Council was rejected



CAPETONIANS...beware, the Vaalies and other *Uitlanders* are coming! No, this is not an anti-tourist lament. Given that the other major holidaymakers' attraction, the Natal coast, is plagued by violence, it is merely a way of making the point that the Western Cape seems to have escaped the upheavals which have permeated the rest of the country.

The fairest Cape squares up

because of in April, and the U istration v law stude said risi

The dea known to porters of He was g birth, "Hi wound, R negotiatio

At his f Mandela, Zulus, Kir the peace

Sickene of IFP lea launched Campaign group of activities of 240 cor IFP leader

obvious di ences of o ion. E more enc aging was decision t explore o metropolit This d