

# grassroots

THE PAPER ABOUT YOU Vol. 9 No.5 August 1988 FREE

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Families forced to live in zinc shacks



Mrs du Preez of Manenberg . . .Cannot pay rent



Mr. B. Jenneker: "The people of Manenberg are suffering. We must stand together"

As rents continue to rise, the call becomes louder and louder . . .

## 'STOP THESE INCREASES'

ANGER and frustration over regular rent increases is beginning to spill over throughout Cape Town and in recent months there have been demonstrations at several rent offices.

THE protests and demonstrations have taken the form of numerous petitions, letters and meetings with council on the one hand. On the other, there have been sit-ins at local rent offices, public meetings and marches.

IN many areas Civic organisations have taken up ongoing campaigns to stop all rent increases. There is particular concern at the New Rent Formula as it will mean further increases.

The civic organisations have rallied around the call: "Let the people decide. We will pay rents we can afford". Thousands of people in areas such as Belhar, Hanover Park, Manenberg and Elsies River are refusing to pay the recently increased rents.

Mr. A. Antha, of the Avondale Residents Association in Elsies River told Grassroots: "We must do everything to stop these increases. Mrs M. Fortuin, and Elsies River pensioner said: "We cannot keep our heads above

water. Our children are going hungry.

Mrs. E. Du Preez of Manenberg said she stopped paying rent in December. She now only pays the 50c she can afford. "Maar die council het nog steeds my rent opgesit", she said. "Ek is in arrears en unemployed en weet nie hoe ek die rent gaan betaal nie".

Mr. B. Jenniker told Grassroots: "I am the only breadwinner in the house. Last year my rent went up twice. The people of Manenberg are suffering. We must stand together".

Mrs. Le Roux, also of Manenberg, complained that the council houses are infested with bugs.

"Yet they still demand high rents. They don't treat us like human beings.



Mrs. M. Fortuin of Elsies River: "after paying rent and electricity there is nothing left"

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## Detainees released but still prisoners in their homes

THERE is much joy at the release of UDF and CAYCO executive members Trevor Manuel, Ebrahim Rasool and Whitey Jacobs.

Despite this, though, we think of the conditions under which they are released. Their release comes at a time when countless are still in detention, on trial or restricted.

Those placed under restriction represent a large sector of the democratic movement in the Western Cape. They are: Trevor Manuel, Ebrahim Rasool, Joseph Marks (senior), Joey Marks (junior), Zoli Malindi, Christmas Tinto, Hilda Ndude, Rose Sonto, Whitey Jacobs, Dorothy Zihlangu and William Thomas.

Those detained since last year November are: Sedina

Wilson, Mark Splinter, Magboel Moos, Walter Scuting, Willie Hofmeyer, Gloria Veal, William Thomas, Neville Naidoo, Errol April, Sicelo Nkosi, Mcibise Sikwatsha, Nokwanda Cokana, Nosipho Ntwanambi, Thembekile Plaatjies, Wellington Sulani, Mike Ndimba and Mcibise Dyasi.

They are being held under emergency regulations. Held under Section 29 are Phumzile Simelela, Tony Gocini and Eliot Myandaba.

Recently released were Notobeko Zihlangu, Ronald Dukengeni, Peter Hendriks and Dumisane Lupungela.

While people are still being detained for their political ideals; the demand for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political detainees will continue.

# As National Womens Day approaches . . .

## UWCO pays tribute to our women



MANY people know of August 9 as the day when 20 000 women from all over the country marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria, or simply know it as National Women's Day.

But on August the ninth when women's organisations celebrate much more than this event. What we celebrate is the long and militant role that women have played in this country's history and the resistance that women have often led.

We also celebrate the lessons and experiences of women's organisations in the 1950's, and we honour

and salute the women who were leaders and participants then, many of who are still active in taking forward women's organisations today.

The Federation of South African Women is the organisation in which we have our roots. It is the organisation which established the tradition of women's organisation in the struggle for a free and democratic South Africa, which has given us experience and pride as women in that struggle. 9 August, National Women's Day was achieved for us by the women of the

federation.

The Federation of South African Women (FSAW) was launched on 17 April 1954 in Johannesburg, and the Women's Charter was adopted.

The Federation was spearheaded by the ANC Women's League. It was mass based and drew on women across racial boundaries.

From 1950, the Federation jointly took up the anti-pass campaign with other organisations. This campaign was the main national activity of the Federation.

One of the major organised events was the march on the Union

Buildings in Pretoria of 20 000 women to protest against the pass laws.

A woman who was involved remembers: "All over South Africa we collected petitions against pass laws. I'm not sure anymore how many signatures there were. But 20 000 women led by Ms. Ngoyi and Helen Joseph marched on the

Union Buildings. They sang 'Strydom you have tampered with the women, You have hit against a rock. But Strydom wouldn't talk, he hid himself -the women threw the petitions into his office and left.

In the 1960's and 1970's women withdrew from active participation in resistance, and the Federation

though not banned, became inactive. This was largely due to the state repression that hit all organisations in the early 1960's - banings, shootings, treason trials.

But from the early 1980's women's organisations have again

been mobilising women and took the lead in forming UDF structures in many parts of the country. On 29 August 1987 the Western Cape region of the Federation was launched.

Over the next few weeks, we will be paying special tribute to those women who built our history, and to those who have continued.

We also think of those women who are currently in jail; either as emergency detainees, awaiting trial prisoners or serving sentences. We think especially of Thandi Modise, the first woman Umkhonto We Sizwe soldier to serve a prison sentence, who will be released in November.

The United Women's Congress salutes its members and other women in prison; Nosipho Ntwanambe, Whitey Pokwana, Caroline

Makasi, Mary Ngenmtu, Jenny Schreiner, Lumka Nyamza, Yasmina Pandey, Colleen Lombard, Zurya Abbas, Farieda Khan and the many unknown women serving long sentences for public violence.



Part of the crowd that celebrated the 4th anniversary of the UDF

## UDF - 5 fighting years

ON the 20th August 1983 the United Democratic Front was launched in Rocklands Civic centre in Cape Town. More than 15000 people attended the big-gest rally in the history of our struggle.

They spoke in one voice: NO TO THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSTITUTIONAL AND KOORNHOF BILLS. NO TO APARTHEID. Together they pledged to fight side by side for freedom in our life time.

Today UDF is five years. Organisations will celebrate UDF's fifth anniversary within a few weeks. Since its formation in 1983 UDF affiliated organisations were knocking on people's doors collecting signatures against moving to Khayelitsha, Koornhof Bills and explaining to people about the dangers of voting in puppet elections.

But despite the state attacks on the organisations the UDF is alive and well. UDF has been under attack

since it was launched five years ago. Many of its members have been charged with treason, thousands have been detained and many have been assassinated.

Many attempts were made to destroy the UDF and portray it as a violent organisation but the UDF has gained the respect of thousands of South Africans. It is determined to fight for a free non-racial and democratic South Africa.

## CULTURAL WORKERS DRIVEN OUT OF RURAL TOWN

A workshop in Oudtshoorn came to a sudden halt after police gave Cape Town cultural workers four hours to leave the town.

The planned four-day cultural workshop at the beginning of June had proceeded for just over a day when police stepped in.

They raided the venue, ordered the 90 South Cape delegates and their visitors into the local cinema and searched the premises.

A cultural worker from the Cape Town based Cultural workers committee explains.

"The police found freshly made posters on the premises. They demanded the names and addresses of the Cape Town group. They then ordered the entire Cape Town delegation of 53 people to either leave Oudtshoorn by 8pm or risk being detained under the new emergency

regulations".

After hasty legal consultation, the workshop participants decided to reconvene the entire workshop in Cape Town. Overnight transport was organised and both delegations left Oudtshoorn early the next day.

The workshop continued unhindered. The Cape Town Cultural Committee had been invited to Oudtshoorn by the Manchester Soccer Club.

They had requested a workshop at which theatre, visual arts, dance and music would be looked at and discussed

The main focus of the workshop was:

- to introduce skills in the various cultural fields;
- to lay the basis towards an understanding of people's culture;
- to encourage participants to begin organising culturally in their own communities.

# Wie saboteur die telefone?

TELEFOONLYNE van Anti-Apartheid aktiviste in Oudtshoorn is die afgelope sewe maande al onderworpe aan hinderlike krapgeluide wat die oorsaak kon ween van die elektroniese apparaat van 'n onbekende afliuisteraar.

Volgens inwoners van die dorp het van die eerste telefoonsteurings laat in Januarie plaasgevind. Die eerste ongelukkige slagoffer van mnr. Derrick Jackson organiseerder

van die plaaslike nusbld SAAMSTAAN. Mnr. Jackson is ook volgens die noodregulasies ingeperk. Na Mnr. Jackson het ander aktiviste in Oudtshoorn aan die beurt gekom.

Volgens die slagoffers raak die situasie by die dag al hoe slegter. Soos byvoorbeeld waar slegs die hooflyn oproepe, veral die na Kaapstad, onder die steurings deurgeloop het, is alle oproepe tussen

aktiviste nou onderworpe aan die steurings.

Persone soos Biskop Edward Adams, mev. Knaap - 'n maatskaplike werkster, Oudtshoorn Resource and Advice Centre, en andere is baie onsteld oor die steurings op hul lyne.

Mnr. David Piedt, 'n KPO organiseerder, sê dat die steurings baie ontwrigting veroorsaak, want hy is afhanklik van die telefoon om gedurig-

deur in kontak te bly met die hoofkantoor in die Kaap.

Die plaaslike poskantoor is al genader oor die probleem, sonder dat daar enige verandering gekom het. 'n Tegnikus wat die telefoonlyne ondersoek het, kon ook geen lig daarop werp nie.

Hy het slegs iets gemompel van 'n "komma-vyf-steuring" op die lyn. Die "komma-vyf-steuring" is van so 'n aard dat die hele

gesprek afsny of heeltemal onhoorbaar maak vir die ontvanger. Verder veroorsaak dit in jou oor 'n krapgeluid soortgelyk aan die wat gemaak word deur 'n publieke telefoon as jy te min muntstukke in gegooi het.

Een inwoner het gesê dat hy dit oorweeg om sy telefoon te verwyder, want dit dien nou slegs as ornament in sy sitkamer. Hy sê dit is vir hom veiliger en geriefliker om

van 'n publieke telefoon af te skakel.

Oor wat en wie die oorsaak van die hinderlike krapgeluide is kon, of wou niemand sê nie. Patrick Nyuka, 'n SAAMSTAAN werker, is doodseker dat die fout nie by die poskantoor lê nie. By wie wou hy egter nie sê nie . . .

Mnr. D. Jackson sê hy het al herhaaldelik die saak onder die aandag van die poskantoor sowel

as die streeksdirekteur in Port Elizabeth, Mnr. P.J. Mulder, gebring. Niks is not egter aan die saak gedoen nie.

Grassroots het probeer om mnr. P.J. Mulder telefonies te nader vir kommentaar, maar hy was ongelukkig nie beskikbaar nie. Ten einde laaste is die Oudtshoorn polisie bevelvoerder genader, ongelukkig was hy ook nie beskikbaar nie.

# THE SUFFERING WILL CONTINUE UNDER NEW SQUATTING LAWS

THE spectre of Forced Removals once again haunts millions of South Africans who face being evicted from their homes in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Bill tabled in parliament last month.

The bill gives authorities the power to evict anyone termed a 'squatter' and to demolish such a person's home. Only landowners are safe from eviction.

A squatter is defined as anyone who unlawfully occupies land or buildings, even if he/she has the owner's permission to live there. Squatters face a fine of up to R2000 and/or 12 months in prison. Once a court has convicted someone of squatting, the court is forced to order the demolition of the squatter's home.

Squatters are denied the right to seek protection from the courts, unless they can prove that the authorities acted in bad faith. This means that legal barriers to forced removals have been removed.

Landowners who permit squatting face severe penalties. They can be fined up to R10 000 or sentenced to 5 years in goal.

Whereas in the past the State President could order the removal of any group, this power is now given to

magistrates in urban areas and to ad-hoc committees in rural areas.

If local authorities do not act against squatters, the state has the right to intervene. If a committee orders the removal of a labourer's family, not even the farmer can prevent this.

In addition to criminalising squatters and providing for forced removals, the bill also gives the authorities control over squatter settlements which are allowed to continue. Such areas can be declared 'designated areas'. They then fall under the control of the authorities and can be upgraded to the status of informal and then formal towns.

The bill, together with the new Slum Bill and the amendments to the Group Areas Act, forms part of a triumvirate of housing laws introduced by the government in an attempt to maintain control of housing and urbanisation. The bill reveals a contradiction between the state's desire to restrain black urbanisation while simultaneously it is forced to recognise the reality and economic desirability of such urbanisation.

For the millions whom the state has failed to provide with houses or land, the bill unleashes a new nightmare.



New squatter laws can only bring misery and hardship for squatters

## Rent campaign in Belhar

IN Belhar members of the Chester Flats committee have been busy with a protest campaign against the rent increase since early May.

They've marched to the local rent office at least four times in anger against the increase. At one time the rent office was brought to a standstill when Flats comm. members and residents demanded an explanation of the New Rent Formula. The Housing Manager was unable to tell them what it meant.

After this the Flats comm., realising that the

increase affected the entire area, formed a similar committee in EXT 13.

Attempts are also being made to start one in the Labour Party-initiated self-help scheme.

At a mass meeting on June 16 in Belhar; the Belhar committees together with Elsie's River, Kraaifontein and Uitsig launched an anti-rent increase campaign. The demands are that:

- the New Rent Formula be explained to the people
- the once-time choice be scrapped
- the joint-payment strategy be scrapped

- rent not be increased; but decreased
- rent arrears should be scrapped
- a New Rent Formula must be worked out with the people

These demands are presented in the form of a petition and already over a thousand signatures have been collected in Belhar.

The Belhar committees then met with DIVCO who sent them back to the House of Representatives. According to them they are 'just agents of the government' and therefore the problem of rents

was not theirs, but the government's.

Within the next month another mass meeting will be held at the Minor Hall, EXT.13 in Belhar. The meeting aims at drawing in more support for the

campaign and hopes to start the process of building of stronger civic in the area.

## RENT INCREASES:- MANENBERG HITS BACK

MANY people are only now getting wind of what the New Rent Formula and rent increase mean for them. In a few areas though, attempts have already been made to fight against both.

When the government decided in July 1987 to implement the New Rent Formula, Manenberg residents immediately launched a three-week campaign. 6 000 signed an anti-rent increase petition and a mass meeting or residents decided not to pay the new rent increase.

Residents adopted the Joint Payment strategy. An entire court would pay the rent they could afford on the same day. In this way, if one could only pay R1,00 or R2,00 there would be at least sixty others paying similar amounts at the same time. This strategy has been very successful so far.

A further action was to send a 15-person delegation with a memorandum to the council. The memorandum included the rejection of the New Rent Formula as well as demands for a living wage, jobs for all and maintenance of houses and facilities. Council's reply to the memorandum was very negative although the people won the right to use community halls at ten cents a time.

A more militant example of the anger of Manenberg residents was seen when Mrs. Karelse had no house. Residents saw an empty house in the area. They took all Mrs. Karelse's furniture, dumped it in the rent office and demanded that she be given the empty house. Mrs. Karelse got the house.

Shortly after, the Manenberg Civic Association was launched. Since the beginning of 1988 the Manenberg Civic Association (MCA) has been discussing the New Rent Formula, the July 1988 rent increase and the coming October municipal elections. Out of these discussions, residents decided on collective action.

Almost every week residents marched to the rent office. Late in March residents burnt up to 200 'geelbriewe' in front of the rent office.

They have also informed the council that:

- they would not pay rent increases
- arrears should be scrapped
- they expect maintenance of houses and facilities
- evictions should be stopped immediately

On the last demand workers at

the rent office itself have refused to carry out evictions.

On the New Rent Formula in particular, the Manenberg Civic Association's main concern is that people are not properly informed of what it means. People are told they have a choice between the Old and New Rent Formula. In countless cases though, when residents are sent information about the New Rent Formula - the new rent increase is also given! This shows that in practice people are just put on the New Rent Formula without a real choice.

The MCA is suspicious of council's reasons for the rent increases. They feel that the money made in raising rents and rates would go towards paying for and maintaining the RSC's and PLA's after the October municipal elections.

Mr Jacobs, a Manenberg resident commented: "You know our people are very wise to the government's tricks. We know that we are being squeezed dry to maintain a puppet government. But we are not

taking it lying down. People are swarming to the civic and taking control of their own lives. I think a lot of us have reached the stage where we realise our full power.

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## grassroots comment

# POLITICAL PRISONERS THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

ON July 18 the whole world joined our struggle. From Washington to Moscow; from London to Lusaka the cry was the same: "We want Mandela!"

The boers made themselves mad chasing balloons and birthday cakes, but they could not stop our people from celebrating.

Mandela's birthday was more than a celebration. it

Mandela's birthday was more than a celebration. It was a demand for Mandela's release. But Mandela's release alone will not satisfy us, or him;

• We want the release of all political prisoners, detainees and trialists.

Some, like Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, Andrew Mlangeni and Wilton Mkwayi have sat in jail with Mandela.

Others, like UDF leaders Trevor Lekota, Popo Molefe, Murphy Morobe, Muhammad Vallie and Raymond Suttner have been taken from us by the State of Emergency and apartheid trials.

• We want the unbanning of organisations.

We believe this government has no right to ban the ANC and restrict the UDF. We will not rest until we can join the organisation of our choice!

• We want an end to the State of Emergency.

We demand the right to organise, speak and publish freely.

• The people Shall Govern.

The release of Mandela and all prisoners, the unbanning of the ANC, and the lifting of the Emergency are steps along the road.

Our goal is freedom for all of us - and end to the vicious apartheid system.

Botha knows he has no political solution. Until he is ready to negotiate the transfer of power with our leaders, the struggle will continue.

# RENT MADNESS MUST STOP

THE tenants are confused. Regional Services Council officials are confused. No-one knows what the new rent formula is all about.

Thousands of tenants in the Western Cape were sent letters explaining the new rent formula, drawn up by the Minister of Local government in the house of Representatives, Mr David Curry.

Like everything else Curry and the puppets in the tricameral parliament have been involved in, the formula is a fiasco. Tenants were told they have to choose between the new formula and the old.

The new one is definitely no improvement on the old. It is the residents, in the end, who will have to fork out their hard-earned cash to the RSC.

The formula does not take into account the fact that thousands of people are unemployed.

It does not take into account that thousands are paid starvation wages.

It does not take into account that people are entitled to houses security and comfort.

It does not give the tenants any choice at all.

All it proves is that David Curry has not improved the lives of the people by taking part in dummy structures. Curry and his colleagues have not lived up to their election promises.

We were not fooled then and we are not fooled now, by Curry and his cronies.

The only way we can solve our problems with apartheid, the housing crisis, unemployment and low wages is to decide for ourselves. We have to decide what rents we can afford. We have to decide who will represent us in parliament.

ONLY WE CAN DECIDE!

# Pensioners want payout point

WE would like to express our disgust at the contemptuous way in which the Regional Director of the General Post Office has treated our Pensioners.

On the 29 March 1988 a delegation met with Mr De Villiers, Regional Director of the Post Office to request a pension payout point in Parkwood. At the meeting the request was granted and confirmed in writing, in a letter dated 31 March '88. On

the 14 April 1988 pensioners, disability and maintenance receivers filled out over 300 Transfer forms to the new payout point. Arrangements

were made by the Post Office with the City Council for a venue, which was prepared for the pension date - 18 May 1988.

On the 10 May 1988 a representative of the Post Office informed a delegation of pensioners and ourselves that the pension

Payout point in Parkwood would no longer be "a viable proposition" for the Post Office.

Our Pensioners have a legitimate demand for a payout point in Parkwood Estate. The reasons were clearly outlined in a memorandum submitted to the Regional Director, Mr de Villiers. These reasons are as follows:

• A distance of at least 2km to the nearest Post Office, across a large and

dangerous field;

• This distance has usually to be walked through rainy weather which adds to our pensioner's already deteriorating health conditions;

• Because of a lack of public transport, our pensioners are often charged exorbitant private transport costs.

In conclusion, we believe that pensioners are the most hard-pressed members of our community. Since their pensions

do not adequately cover the bare essentials of life, we urge that the General Post Office urgently address the need for a Payout Point in Parkwood Estate. This will certainly diminish the health risk forced by severe weather conditions. Added transport costs and ultimately the threat to their lives.

Yours sincerely

PARKWOOD AD HOC COMMITTEE

SEND ALL LETTERS TO GRASSROOTS PUBLICATIONS, P.O. BOX 1161, CAPE TOWN 8000

# Workers fight for their jobs

FOLLOWING the June 6, 7 and 8 protest action, 227 workers from the Townhouse and Vineyard Hotels, Navaho and Red Arrow Spurs, and Cape Gas were dismissed. These workers are still fighting to get their jobs back.

After being dismissed, the Townhouse and Vineyard workers pamphleteered the hotels, with pamphlets aimed both at guests and at scabs who had taken their jobs. The bosses immediately applied for, and won, a court interdict to prevent the workers and the Unemployed Workers Movement (which had been assisting them) from going anywhere near the hotels.

COSATU has been mobilising solidarity action to pressurise the bosses into re-instating the workers. This has included putting pressure on the managements of all COSATU-organised work

places, sending letters to the managements of the dismissed workers, as well as blacking action by those workplaces directly supplying, servicing or receiving from these companies. The management of Townhouse and Vineyard have now agreed to arbitration.

COSATU sees the dismissals as an attack on all organised workers and on the democratic movement as a whole. It is therefore linking ongoing protest against the Labour Bill to the demand for re-instatement. This will include reviving lunch-time demonstrations in all COSATU-organised workplaces on Tuesdays.

The workers from Townhouse and Vineyard are meeting every day at Community House. Their spirit and determination is still strong, but is has now been more than five weeks since they were dismissed. They need the support of all progressive



Dismissed workers meet at Community House

organisations in their fight for re-instatement. There have also been mass dismissals in the Southern Cape as a result of stayaways. After stay-

ing away on June 6, 7 and 8, 120 workers at the Karos Hotel in Wilderness were dismissed. Another 20 workers have been dismissed from the Bea-

con Isle (a Southern Sun hotel) in Plettenberg Bay, as well as 9 workers at the Fairy Knowe hotel in Knysna, in both cases for staying away on June 16.

# SACP turns 67

JULY 30 marked the 67th birthday of apartheid's most hated enemy - the South African Communist Party. Born in Cape Town in 1921, the Party continues to play a leading role in the liberation struggle, according to observers.

The SACP has a formal alliance with the ANC. The Communists see the national liberation struggle and Freedom Charter as the most important first steps on the road to socialism in South Africa.

Ultimately, they would like to see South African transformed into a social-

ist country, where the wealth is in the hands of the working people.

The Communist Party dissolved itself after its banning in 1950, but three years later it re-formed as an underground party.

Today the SACP is led by its chairman, Dan Tloome, and its General Secretary, Joe Slovo. The Pretoria Regime has called on the ANC to abandon its alliance with the SACP. But the ANC has refused to do this, because they say the Communist Party has proved itself as a trusted and dedicated ally in the struggle for liberation.

# Trouble for Pretoria in Angolan bush

A correspondent makes a few predictions on Angola and Namibia's future

PRETORIA has run into deep trouble in the Angolan bush. The Angolan and Cuban forces have turned the tables on them. Once boasting of itself as the most powerful army in Africa, the SADF is now pinned down and taking heavy losses. It has failed to impose its will on Angola.

The recent defeats, have meant heavy casualties. The SADF has only reported the death of about 50 white soldiers. They have kept quiet about how many black SADF soldiers have died there. Western intelligence agencies suggest that it is more

than 200.

South Africa can no longer win in Angola. The Government is under pressure to find a way out. Even the NG Kerk now says there is not justification for South African troops to be in Angola.

Pretoria has been forced to go and negotiate with the Angolans and Cubans. The Angolans are also desperate to reach a solution, because their economy is in a crisis. The Angolan people can no longer afford the cost of war.

The Angolans have made it clear that Namibia's indepen-

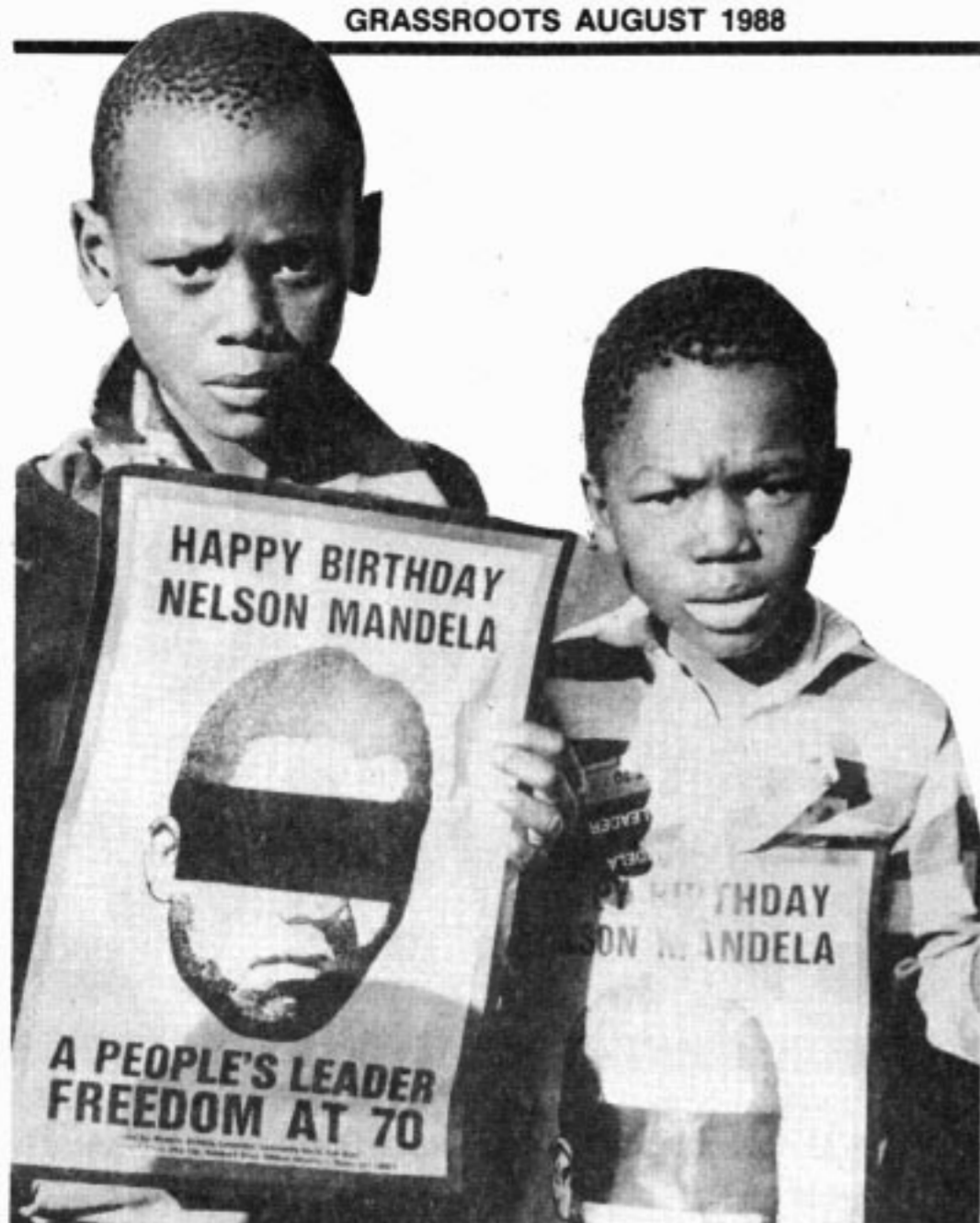
dence is the most important issue to negotiate. "Namibia is the main issue", says Angolan President Dos Santos, "because Namibia is the base for aggression against Angola. Our main aim to remove that base". The Angolans are prepared to send home Cuban troops only when South Africa ends its illegal occupation of Namibia.

But, it is not likely that the South Africans will keep their word. They know that SWAPO will win any free election in Namibia, and they are not prepared to tolerate this. It is likely

that they will sign an agreement, but then drag their feet to a standstill on implementing it.

While Botha's government has suffered a major setback, the struggle for Namibia's independence is not yet over.

International pressure is forcing the South Africans to sign such an agreement. They will agree to United Nations Resolution 435 for Namibia - this document calls for South African withdrawal, and free and fair elections to decide on a government for independent Namibia.



Children at the service in Langa on Mandela's birthday display posters of their leader.



Comrades at the party held at Community House on Mandela's birthday.

## The order from the top was . . . STOP THAT BIRTHDAY!



Robbie Jansen playing at the concert at UCT which was stopped by the police.

THE birthday of the world's most famous political prisoner, Nelson Mandela has come and gone.

It is a birthday which will be imprinted in millions of freedom-loving people's hearts and minds. But none more so than in the 'hearts and minds' of Big Brother Botha and his Border Boeties. Although it is unlikely that a few dents were made in their stone-hearts; they certainly had their minds stretched to think of creative ways to stop Mandela birthday celebrations.

I mean if it took courage for the Cape Town Mandela Birthday Com-

mittee (MBC) to pull off the activities it did (without resources nogal); the state and co. was even more stretched.

You see, I've got this little theory: If you've been taught that braai-vleis and buffels are national symbols, it's a bit much to expect you to be brainy as well. So, I certainly have my sympathy with these okes' way of thinking if not necessarily with their actions.

Imagine you found yourself in a certain Major Odendaal's shoes with orders from 'higher up' to stop all activities related to a certain political prisoner's birthday!

I did and imagined that this was probably what I'd think . . . Here goes:

Right, so here we have a couple of clever agitators who want to make a big scene out of one political prisoner's birthday. It is not enough for them that those donnerse Anti-Apartheid (shudder) groups overseas are going tekere about bloody Mandela? NO - just because the man is lying in Pollsmoor, these Commie Capetonians suddenly demand that they have more 'right' than anyone else to organise a party. Then when our gracious government decides that Mandela's family (Transkeians, Ciskeians - die hele bleddie lot!) can visit him for 6 hours; he turns

down . . . turns it down!!

Whew - that was a bit heavy - but I promise you, after such thinking anything is possible. At least it goes some way towards explaining why balloons, joggers and 12 year old soccer players were suddenly regarded as a 'threat to law and order'.

The rumour goes that a special task force of kits-konstabels are combing the W.C. searching for bits of balloons to use as evidence in the next treason trial. Furthermore jogging might very probably be the next activity placed under restriction . . . And all 12 year old players must from now on register with the Security Soccer board stating name, occupation and political allegiance.

Apparently the Security forces are quite pissed off because they have'n't been trained to take crack shots at helium balloons. Probably because targets are usually live! Experts are now being brought from America, Britain and West Germany to train them in the subtle art of balloon-bursting.

It's clear that although the security forces strongly believe in "maintaining law and order," they have no legal idea of how to.

I mean, one was embarrassed to the point of laughter to witness the major legal blunders

made by Major O . . .

Firstly, upon being questioned as to why freedom runners were arrested and NY 49 stadium sealed off by the army on Sat. 16 July - this major mumbled something about regulations 2.

Which very simply means that the security forces can be present at any activity which their information shows 'was going to agitate and lead to violence. So fine if they want to watch a Saturday morning jog and some soccer matches - but what legal rights to arrest?!

Next day (Sunday, 17 July), cultural concert at UCT . . . and the BOERS are there. They state it's an activity organised by the Cape Town MBC and therefore illegal.

When it's pointed out to them that at that very moment the MBC is in court trying to get its cultural concert at UWC unbanned (it does get a bietjie complicated) and that this one at UCT is being organised by cultural groups, the response is: "I see lots of Mandela banners and T. shirts - so this concert is now banned. You have ten minutes to pack up and leave! 'I'm telling you even the lawyers were a bit baffled by that one. SO MUCH FOR BRAAIVLEIS, BUFFELS AND . . . BIRTHDAYS!!!



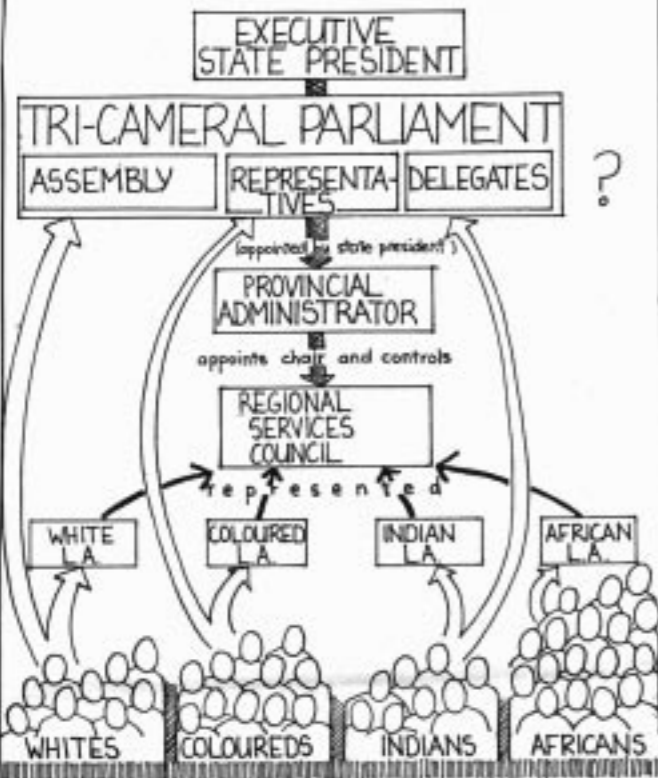
Marathon runners started running from Tokai to Guguletu but were arrested 5km after the start.

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But if one looks at how representation is going to work it becomes clear that it is unfair and undemocratic.

People WILL be able to vote for councillors on the new P.L.A.'s. But not everyone has the same vote. Tenants have one vote, homeowners have two votes and people who own businesses get an extra vote for each business they own. So voting is biased in favour of the wealthy.

Also, African people who are migrants or 'Bantu' do not get a vote on their own local authorities at all - so some 70% of Cape

Town's African population will have no vote. Finally, the vote which people are being 'given back' is a very inferior vote. It is a vote on small, weak local authorities which have only a few, less important functions. It is by no means the same as being given a vote on the large and powerful City Council.

The first point is that there is no DIRECT ELECTION on the RSC. People will therefore have no DIRECT CONTROL over the RSC and all its important functions.

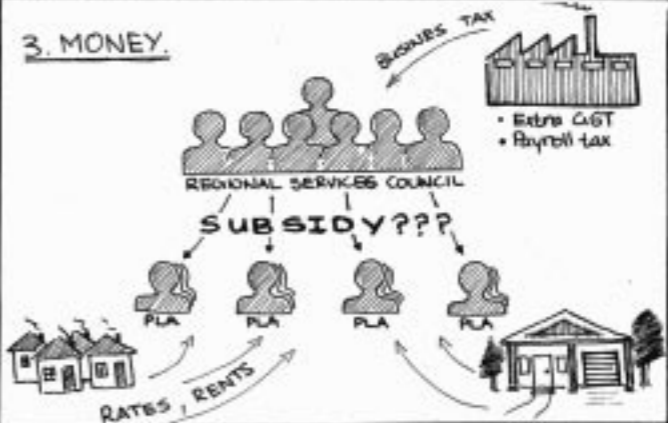
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pays on the services which the RSC delivers (e.g. electricity, water, rubbish removal etc.). And since poorer areas spend less on these services than rich areas, it means that the suburban areas and the white areas in the city almost certainly have greater voting power, a RSC.

Further, the chairman of the RSC is to be APPOINTED by the Provincial Administrator. The Chairman of the Cape Town RSC has recently been appointed. He is Mr Peter Laubsen who for many years was a Nationalist Party representative on the Provincial Administration. He is known as a close follower of PW Botha.

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THE RSC will get its money from a new tax (the RSC tax) which will be levied on all businesses in the Cape Town RSC area. The RSC is supposed to use this money to run its various services and to subsidise poorer P.L.A.'s.

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The services given to the P.L.A.'s have been called 'community facilities' services by the government. They are called this because the government is worried that these services can give rise to conflict (especially housing). That is probably why housing is given to the lowest government level i.e. P.L.A.'s because they hope to avoid trouble.

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It means, for example, that the main responsibility for P.L.A. functions in the coloured areas will rest with the House of Representatives and the Labour Party.

These two taxes will have some very significant effects especially as regards the state's new system of influx control. This is shown by a President's Council report which suggests that life should become so expensive both for people and businesses in the urban areas that they would rather move out to the rural areas and homelands.

The effect of this tax will therefore either be that:  
 • businesses move out to points where it is cheaper thereby causing greater unemployment in the urban areas  
 • businesses will stay in the city and simply replace workers with machines, thereby also causing unemployment  
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The last effect could be particularly bad. If a product has to pass through three or four stages of production in different factories, then the RSC tax has to be paid by each factory.

So the same product could get taxed three or four times before it even reaches the consumer (who pays another 12% GST) - and in all these taxes could be passed on to the firms of higher prices.

The RSC tax could therefore affect people either through higher prices for goods or through unemployment and it will appear that these are the fault of businessmen and the economy, not the government.

If people have to move out of the cities into the rural areas because they can't afford to live in the city, it will appear to be the fault of business, not the government. Through the RSC tax the government can implement influx control and take more money from the people - but it will be difficult for people to see that it is the government which is causing these things to happen.

The P.L.A.'s will get their income from rates and rents in their area. The poorer P.L.A.'s will never be able to raise enough in rates and rents to cover their costs. At the moment all the coloured and Indian areas are subsidised by the wealthier white areas and the African areas under the Western Cape Administration Board are 36 million in debt.

It is very likely that under the new system the RSC will be constantly short of funds, and therefore there will be pressure on the local authorities to demand as little subsidy from the RSC as possible. Local authorities may increase their rates and rents to cover their own costs.

## Advice office forum says

MR Kevin Paul, spokesperson for the Advice Office Forum: "Those who vote in the October Municipal elections will be voting for further poverty and misery and no future for their children."

"We can expect the cost of living to rise tremendously. After October, we will have to pay for the houses, offices, cars and other allowances of the more than 6 000 people who are going to stand for election."

After October the new rent formula will be used and people will have to pay more. Rent will be worked out on the basis of the husband and wife's income and not just on the breadwinner's income.

Most factories will be part of white local authorities. The wealth which workers produce will be ploughed into white areas.

The income of areas such as Maitland, Bonteheuwel, Gugulethu and Mitchell's Plain will come from rents, electricity, and water accounts as well as from the small shops which will be taxed.

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The government will ensure that the apartheid system remains. Direct control on local Government will occur through the Provincial Administrator (who is appointed by the Government) who in turn will appoint the chairman of the RSC's, will make the regulations governing the RSC's and will decide which bodies are represented on the RSC's.

The most important direct controls are occurring through bodies which are

called Joint Management Councils or JMC's. It is clear that the JMC's and RSC's will work alongside each other to ensure effective control over all aspects of our lives.

In 1972, the Government set up a State Security Council to advise the government on national security policy and intelligence.

The state security council is made up of politicians, officials, the military and police, and if necessary, the chief Ministers of the Coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament. This council considers political, economic, military, scientific, religious, manpower, resources, community services and telecommunications.

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Each large city in the country has a sub-JMC attached to it, and these may be up to 10 cities in South Africa which are now under a sub-JMC. The sub-JMC will probably cover the same area as the RSC and will work parallel with the RSC. Local areas in a city and townships, each have a mini-JMC. These will cover the same areas as the P.L.A.'s and will work parallel with them.

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In 1966 they changed the Group Areas Act so as to take away the municipal vote from coloured people and to set up separate bodies to represent coloured people. They set up the management committees and said that these would grow and develop into full municipalities.

But things did not work out the way they wanted. Few people voted for the management committees, and the areas they represent were too poor ever to become full municipalities like the City Council. Then came the crisis of 1976 and the 1980's. The government found

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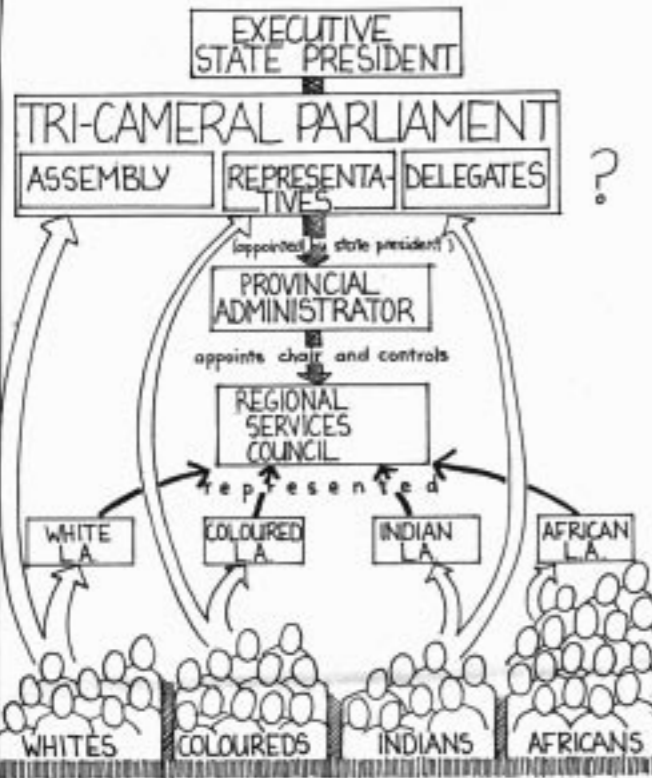
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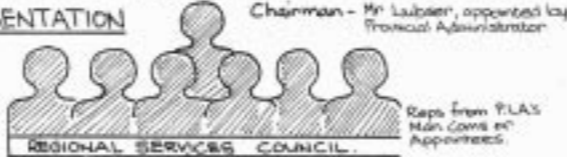
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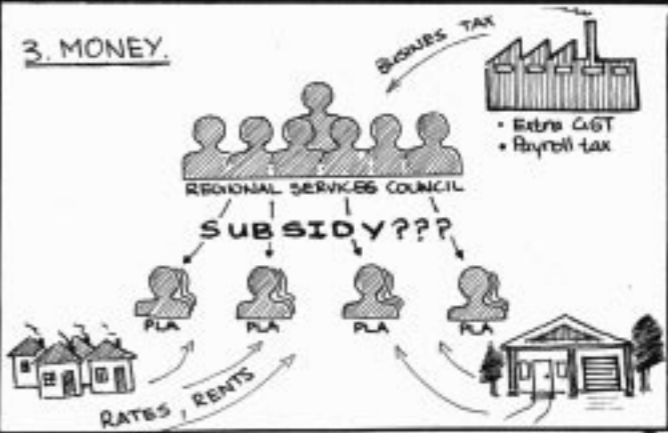
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**We, the undersigned members of anti-apartheid solidarity groups and organisations in the Federal Republic of Germany,**

*- wholeheartedly support the campaign -*

**SAVE THE PRESS!**

*- futhermore, pledge:*

*to mobilize and intensify pressure against further attempts to muzzle Weekly Mail, Grassroots, Saamstaan, New Era, Work in Progress, New Nation, South and The Sowetan;*

**STOP STOFFEL!**

*to intensify pressure on the Kohl government to implement mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against the Botha regime;*

South African Scholarship Fund, Tuebingen

Pro Oikumene, Stuttgart

Anti-Apartheid Movement in FRG and Berlin (West), Bonn

Medico International, Frankfurt

Action Group: Free Nelson Mandela, Stuttgart

Women against Apartheid, Bremen

Women and Men against Apartheid, Bielefeld

Women for South Africa, Wuerttemberg

South Africa Support Group - Protestant Women's Federation in the FRG, Frankfurt

South African Action Group in Westphalia, Bielefeld

Self-tax Movement, Stuttgart

The Covenant Project - Coordination, Hamburg

Covenant Project, Bremen

Covenant: Wuerttemberg-Driefontein

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Covenant: Luebeck-Rooigrond

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### BIRTHDAY BANNINGS

"CELEBRATING a birthday is a human event that is very basic to human life. Sharing in that event is equally basic", Archbishop Stephen Naidoo said in a statement.

"With the banning of some of the planned activities for the 70th birthday of Nelson Mandela, the South African authorities are making themselves look quite ridiculous.

People have a right to celebrate a birthday. This particular birthday is that of a man who is widely respected not only within South Africa but also abroad. Banning festivities for this occasion will not make it go away.

Rather it raises the awful question: What will they ban next?

We find these bannings quite unacceptable and raise the strongest objections against them.

We pray that after 25 years in jail Nelson Mandela will be released unconditionally and restored to his family and society so that he can be part of the building of a new and just South Africa.

### Cultural workers unite

THE Western Cape Cultural Workers Congress was launched over the weekend of July 30th to 31st at UCT.

Involving 150 delegates, 60 from rural areas as far off as Oudtshoorn and Beaufort West, the congress agreed on a broad programme:

- to organise cultural workers in the Western Cape
- to forge a closer alliance between cultural workers and community organisations
- to present workshops on culture
- to create a magazine for cultural workers
- to examine and monitor the cultural boycott.

An executive committee was elected which would be responsible for convening a similar workshop within the next 3 months.

### Law students boycott

LAW students at UWC are into their second week of class boycotts. This is in solidarity with Constitutional Law students who have been out since May.

A SRC spokesperson said that first-year Constitutional Law students' main grievance was about a lecturer. Mr. Fredericks, the lecturer, appears to be too advanced for the first-year students who've been unable to understand and come to grips with his course.

Law students reject the Law faculty's suggestion that a commission of inquiry be set up to investigate the accusations.

Rather they are prepared to boycott classes until Mr. Fredericks is appointed as a lecturer of second-year students and above or first-year students be allowed to attend part-time classes presented by other lecturers.

### Ashley Kriel

COMMUNITY organisations in Bonteheuwel recently held a week of activities to commemorate the death of ANC guerilla, Ashley Kriel.

The activities were marked by heavy "system" presence at most of the events. Despite this, a church service, attended by 800 people; heard teachers and students pay tribute to one of the finest sons of Africa.

Other events included a candle light vigil, the inauguration of the renaming of the main hall in Community House, awareness programmes on 'The life and times of Ashley Kriel' and a visit to his graveside.

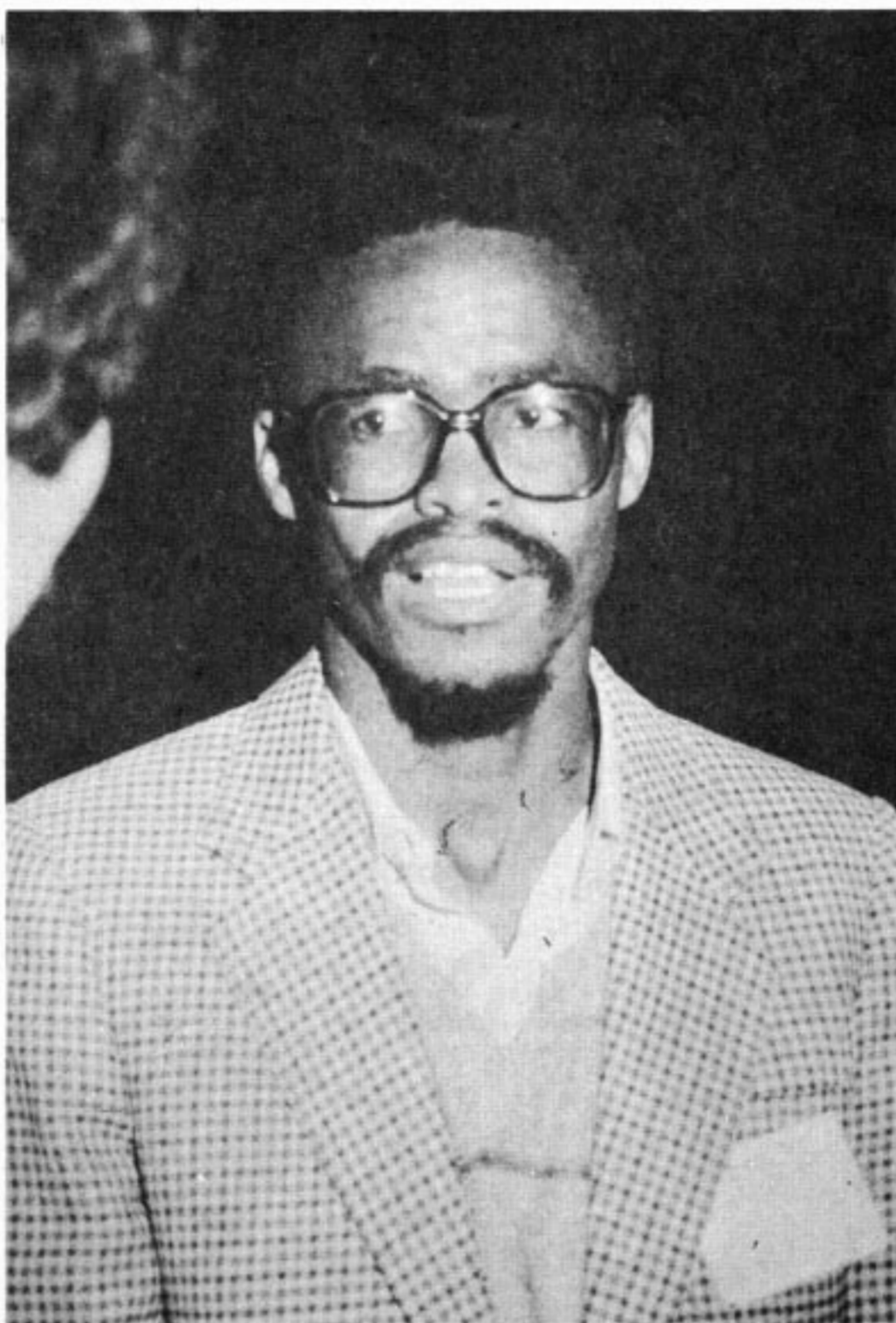
A student rally at Ashley Kriel High to mark the end of the week "could not happen". During the course of the week several students were arrested for questioning and later released.

### CIVIC FORMED IN SURREY ESTATE

THE Surrey Estate and District Civic Association was launched on Wednesday 20 July in the Methodist Church in Surrey Estate.

The Civic Association will cover Greenhaven, Primrose Park and Surrey Estate areas.

Serving as its President is Mr. Essa Moosa, a prominent Cape Town lawyer. Chairperson of the civic is pharmacist, Mr. Jimmy Matsimella. Commenting on the reasons for the formation of the civic, he said: 'We feel there are a lot of issues facing our community and we need a structure which can take up all these campaigns. We have few facilities in the area, the pension scheme fund is a real problem and then there are the coming municipal elections'.



Matthew Goniwe - his death still mourned

# GONIWE KILLERS NOT FOUND

ON Saturday July 20, 1985, more than 60 000 people converged on the tiny township of Lingelihle in Cradock for the funeral of four UDF leaders.

Mathew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkhonto and Siculo Mhlauli had gone missing on June 29- three weeks earlier. The car in which they had been travelling was found burnt out on the road between Port Elizabeth and Cradock. A few days later, their badly mutilated bodies were found in a field.

Siculo Mhlauli was a popular Oudtshoorn principal at the time of his death. Goniwe, Calata and Mkhonto were all members of the Cradock Residents Ass.

The questions surrounding their deaths still remain. Shortly after their deaths numerous academics put up a massive reward to find the killers of the UDF leaders.

Despite this, no-one was arrested. Today, three years later, the killers of Goniwe, Mhlauli, Mkhonto and Calata are still at large.

The inquest into the deaths have started but the case was recently postponed for a few months.

The four men were held in high esteem, not only by the people of Cradock, but by a broad cross-section of South Africans.

This was clear at their funeral on June 20, 1985 when tens of thousands paid their final respects to four true patriots.

## "How long will we be kept out in the rain?"

PARENTS of the eleven treason trialists awaiting trial in the Supreme Court are upset at not being allowed to attend court hearings.

The eleven are: Mr. Tony Yengeni, Jenny Schreiner, Lumka Nyamza, Mr Michael Mzimkhulu Lumbambo, Mr Mbutu Richmond Nduku Mr Wellington Mongamele Nkwandla, Mr Mheteleli Titana, Mr Gary Kruser, Mr Christopher Giffard, Mr Sitlabocha Charles Mohale and Mr Alpheus Nkwanda Ndude.

During the last appearance family and friends of the trialists were forced to wait in the rain outside the Wynberg Magistrate's Court.

The magistrate, Mr A.S. McCarthy, ruled at the previous hearing that the parents were restricted from attending the court proceedings because of "disruptions".

The parents had sung Nkosi Sikileli Afrika with the trialists.

"When our people appear in court it is the only opportunity we have to make physical contact with them", said a spokesperson for the parents' support committee.

"At Pollsmoor we can only speak to them through the glass windows - we aren't allowed to touch them".

At the last hearing Mr Mc Carthy allowed three relatives into court and

said only they could be present on the next appearance as they were 'obviously able to behave'

### "Courts are supposed to be open to the public"

He refused an application by the trialists for the setting aside of his order preventing the relatives from being in court.

"We are very upset at this. Courts are supposed to be open to the public. How long will we be kept out in the rain?" asked the support committee spokesperson.

She said that although parents were not able to attend the trial, the morale of the trialists was very high.

"They won most of the demands of their hunger strike last month", she said.

"They were in isolation since they first appeared but are now being held three to one cell".

The trialists are still not satisfied with their conditions at Pollsmoor.

They have been promised that their complaints will be passed on to the chief magistrate in Wynberg, who will hear their grievances.

The parents are also concerned at the delay in bringing the trial to the

Supreme Court. "Our people have been in detention for long enough, now they are still languishing in prison while they wait for a Supreme Court date", said the family's spokesperson.

"Some of us think it will be better if the trial was held in another town, even if it means that we have to travel every day.

"But then at least the trial would have started".

At the last hearing the lawyers for the trialists objected to the delay. They said it left their clients with "little comfort as to when this matter will be finalised".

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# GOVERNMENT BACKTRACKS ON REGISTRATION ISSUE

GOVERNMENT attempts to further control the media suffered a setback when immense pressure resulted in the suspension of the registration deadline.

Minister of Home Affairs Stoffel Botha announced that the July 31 deadline would be "suspended indefinitely".

The announcement was made on July 28 - the same day on which more than 20 journalists picketed throughout the peninsula against the forced registration of journalists.

The picket had been organised by the Western Cape Region of the Save the Press Campaign.

The registration regulations had been imposed with the latest state of emergency. It required news agencies to register with the Director General.

In terms of the regulations, news agencies would have been required to supply the name and address of every journalist, commentator, news correspondent or photographer on their staff.

The Minister would have been entitled to order

any news agency to supply his office with each piece of news material they produce.

The Save the Press Campaign said in a statement: "This is a small but significant victory for those who strive for press freedom."

The Save the Press Campaign will continue to rally support against the

blatant attack on the right of all South Africans to be informed."

Pressure on the issue had also come from the mainstream press who believed they too were affected by the regulations.

Mr Botha had earlier said that this was not the case. It is clear that the regulations are aimed at the alternative media.



## Who's in the campaign

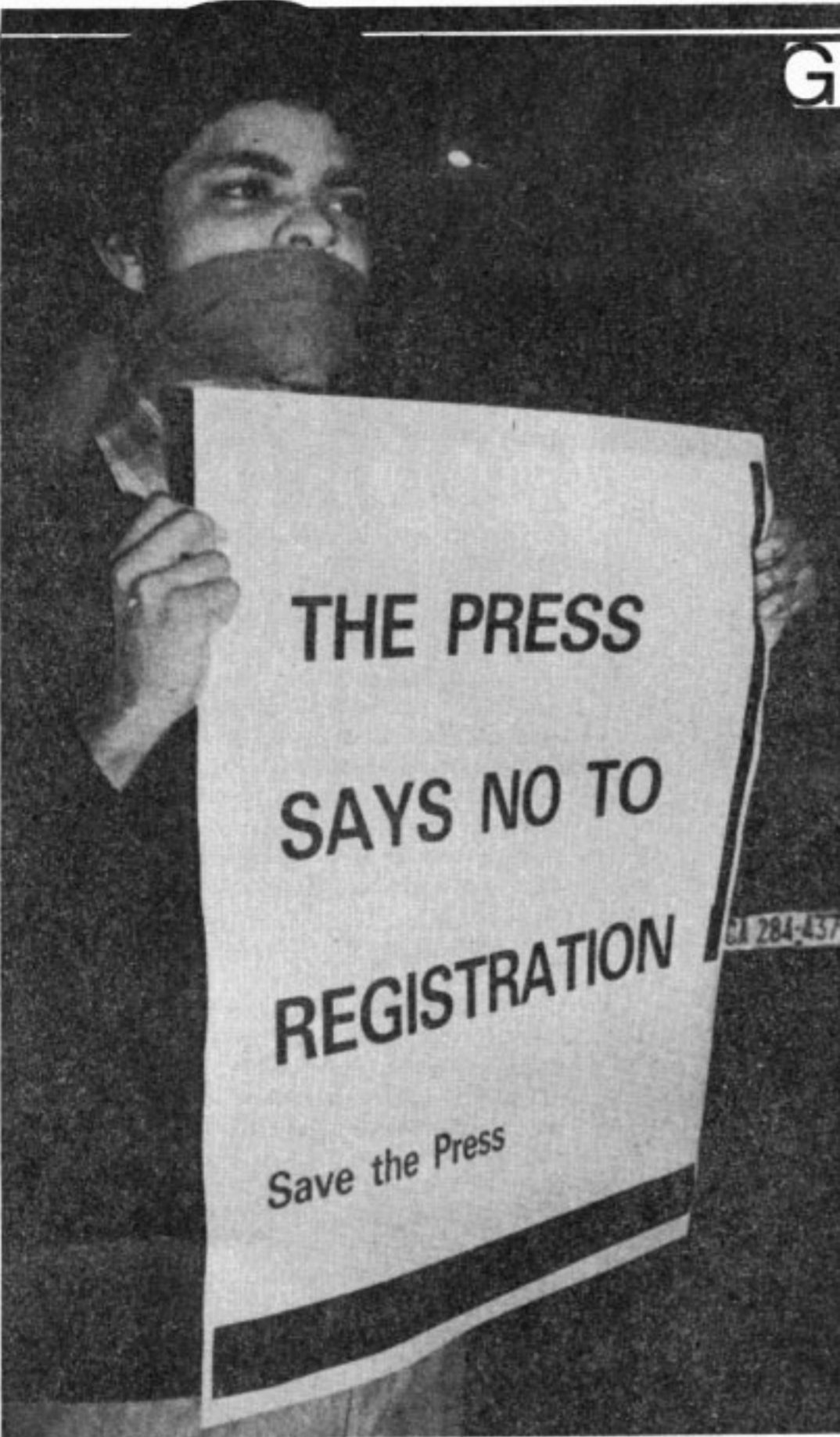
THE Save the Press Campaign (Western Cape) has brought together a very large number of media groups in Cape Town and as far afield as Oudtshoorn and Saldanha.

More than 40 groups are presently involved in the campaign. These include publications under threat such as Grassroots, South, Weekly Mail, Out of Step and Saamstaan, religious publications such as the Western Province Council of Churches' Crisis News, Muslim Views and Al-Qalam as well as Alternatief, the publication of the West Coast Council of Churches; student publications such as Varsity, UCT SRC News, the Southern African Society of Journalists (SASJ), the Media Workers Association of South Africa (Mwasa), journalist students at Peninsula Technikon and Stellenbosch University, Cape Town Book Publishers

(consisting of David Phillip Publishers, Ravan Press, Camelion Press and Ilrig, Youth Publications Upbeat, Learning Roots and Molo Songololo, trade union media such as Sadwu News (South African Do-mestic Workers Union, Cosatu News and Clothes Line (Garment and Allied Workers Union).

Media Committees and media coordinators of organisations are also represented on the campaign structures. These include groups such as the Cape Youth Congress, Idasa (Institute for Democratic Alternatives in South Africa), the Western Cape Students Congress and the Western Province Tertiary Students Representatives Council (WPT SRC). Others who are working actively in the campaign are Solidarity, Allies Press, UWC News, Anti-Censorship Action Group (ACAG), UCT Radio and the South African Students Press Union (Saspu).

This journalist (left) was one of more than 20 journalist who picketed July 27



Robbie Jansen thrilling the capacity crowd with his magical Saxophone at Westridge City last month



Jazz lovers displayed their excitement at the Mitchells Plain Freedom Concert

## FREEDOM CONCERT

CITY jazz lovers rocked up en masse at the Mitchell's Plain Crisis Committee's Freedom Concert at Westridge City on Sunday 31st July.

A 'Concert with a Conscience' it clearly was as Westridge City's walls vibrated with 'Free our children' and 'Viva Mandela's' throughout the ten-hour musical blast.

The cultural bill featured Cape Town's best: Robbie Jansen and co., Sapphire, T's Choice, Raak Wys, Airborne, Venom. . .

And if those attending thought it was going to be all jazz and jive they were wonderfully enlightened by the District Six cast.

Individual members of District Six certainly lived up to their much-celebrated name. Keeping the audience on its feet with fast-forward singing acts the one moment, they had them clenching hands and fists with freedom fervour the next.

All this highlighted by a heartrending performance of the now famous 'My broerjie, my bra' and the 'Seven Steps of Stone'.

In short - the show was a stupendous success! For its remarkable organisers, the Mitchell's Plain Crisis Committee; its thought-provoking performance and its warm socially conscious audience . . . VIVA MITCHELL'S PLAIN CRISIS COMMITTEE VIVA!

## GRASSROOTS ADVICE

# Contraception: Women must have the right to choose

CONTRACEPTION, Family Planning and Birth Control affect many people (men and women) at some time in their lives. Some people see contraception as a private or individual matter.

But when we realise that it affects many people, who face the same problems, it becomes a problem with broader social and political dimensions.

Family planning has brought both benefits and problems to women.

Large numbers of women have been freed from unwanted pregnancies. Women can also now control their own fertility.

While contraception can be used to expand our personal freedom, there are definite limits.

This is so because only a few have the knowledge, information and skills and many women don't know they have a choice regarding the type of Family Planning methods they want to use.

Many women find themselves in situations where they are given an injection after birth not knowing that it is a contraceptive method. She is not given a chance to decide whether she wants to use family planning, and then she is given an injection and in most cases it is Depo Provera.

I have spoken to some women and they told me their experiences about contraceptive methods. This is one of the many stories I listened to:

Ms Colleen Jacobs gave birth to



a pretty little baby and the day she was discharged from hospital, the sister in charge told her that she has to get an injection to stop the bleeding.

Colleen didn't know what this was all about and took the injection. Then Colleen started feeling miserable.

She complained of constant headaches and dizziness and the bleeding never stopped. She only found out later after she had gone

to see her doctor that she was on Depo Provera. This is not the first time that something like this hap-

pened.

Lots of women can tell you how they were given Depo or other family planning without choice.

DEPO PROVERA is a contraceptive injection which prevents pregnancies for at least three months in the following ways:

1. it prevents ovulation to take place, ie. the monthly release of an egg.
2. by creating a mucous barrier at the entrance of the womb, so that sperm do not enter easily.

There are many different opin-

ions about Depo Provera. Depo Provera is often accompanied by many side effects.

- The injection often changes women's periods, causing heavy bleeding or else bleeding many times a month. Sometimes there is no bleeding at all.

- Depo Provera goes on working for longer than it should and some women are unable to fall pregnant for up to two years after having the injection.

- Depo Provera causes women to put on weight. Some women also experience headaches, dizziness,

loss of hair, pains in the back, legs and breasts. Women can lose desire for sex. Some people fear that the drug might cause cancer of the womb and breasts.

Because Depo Provera wasn't proven absolutely safe, it is not used freely in Britain, U.S.A. and other countries. Now recently it has been banned in Zimbabwe. Look at what is happening in South Africa. We looked at the annual reports of the medical officers of the City Council and the Divisional Council. They reported that 63 600 people make use of City Council clinics and 31 000 make use of Divisional Council clinics.

52% of African women are given Depo Provera compared with only 7% of white women. 92% of white women choose the pill.

We can ask the question, WHY? Is it to assist the government to control the population or is it what some family planning sisters say everyday, that the Africans and the coloured working class is not educated enough to use the pill.

We say that information skills and knowledge must be shared with the people. Women would then be able to make decisions regarding family planning.

If you are being told that Depo might have all these effects on you, will you continue to use it?

Remember you have a choice as to which contraceptive method you want to use. Don't let anybody force you or give you an injection under false pretences.

World focus on Sharpeville 6, but . . .

## HANGINGS OCCUR EACH WEEK

THE Sharpeville Six will not hang - for the moment. The Six have been granted a stay of execution while the court decides whether they have grounds to have their trial re-opened, just days before they were to go to the gallows.

The minister of justice Kobie Coetzee has agreed that the Six who were found guilty of common purpose in the murder of a Soweto Community Councillor should not hang until every legal avenue has been exhausted.

The appeal court has not yet decided whether the trial should be re-opened. Two of the state witnesses have admitted that they lied in the original trial.

But, at the world watches and insists for the outcome of the Sharpeville Six case, a person is hanged at Pretoria Central Prison almost every second day.

More than 70 people have been executed already this year, and a 'record' 164 people were hanged last year giving South Africa one of the highest world figures for capital punishment.

As the international outcry grows over the case of the Sharpeville Six, foreign governments have threatened to close South African Embassies, refuse landing rights to South

African planes and visas to South African tourists.

The South African Youth Congress (SAYCO) campaign to "Save the Patriots on Death Row" has identified 32 comrades sentenced to die

for their belief in a free, non-racial SA.

## Mr Gija turns 100

FOUR years ago the President of the Ciskei bantustan, Lennox Sebe, had a dream. In his dream he saw a young man and an old man. The young man sent the old man to jail. Because he did not respect his elders the young man suffered a lot of bad luck.

When Sebe awoke the next morning he felt bad. He could not forget his dream and he became worried. Then he remembered a little place called Mgwali.

His policemen had gone there and arrested a number of people, including a man of 95 called Herman Gija. Sebe decided to release Mr Gija in the hope of avoiding bad luck prophesised in his dream. When Mr Gija was told he was free to go he refused to leave the prison. He said that he would only return to Mgwali if another old man, Mr Dyani, was also released. Sebe decided to allow both of them to go home.

from the Grahamstown Rural Committee newsletter

Today, four years later, the people of Mgwali still tell this story. Mr Dyani has passed away by Herman Gija is still strong. On 30th June this year he turned 100.

He was born in Mgwali and has lived there for most of his life. When he was 25 he left for Johannesburg to work for the Benoni municipality. But, says Mr Gija, "my heart was still in Mgwali and I decided to return in 1932 to work in the fields".

Since returning to Mgwali Mr Gija has been working in the fields. He also built a shop which his family ran, but it was burnt down in an arson attack in 1985. He wants to

Today Herman Gija is a remarkable 100 year old. He reads the newspapers daily without glasses, leads his family in prayer, and his mind is as clear as that of a man much, much younger. He talks about his experience as if they occurred yesterday.

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# grassroots SPORT



Carl Lewis (387) wins by a head

## Olympic fever

ALL over the world, excitement is mounting. Will it be Ben Johnson or Carl Lewis in the mens 100m? Will Heike Dreschler beat Florence Joyner in the womens 100m? And will Said Aouita make the 1500m crown his own?

In a few weeks, a runner will enter Seoul's Olympic Stadium bearing a torch. He will light the Olympic Flames, to open the 1988 Olympic games held in South Korea.

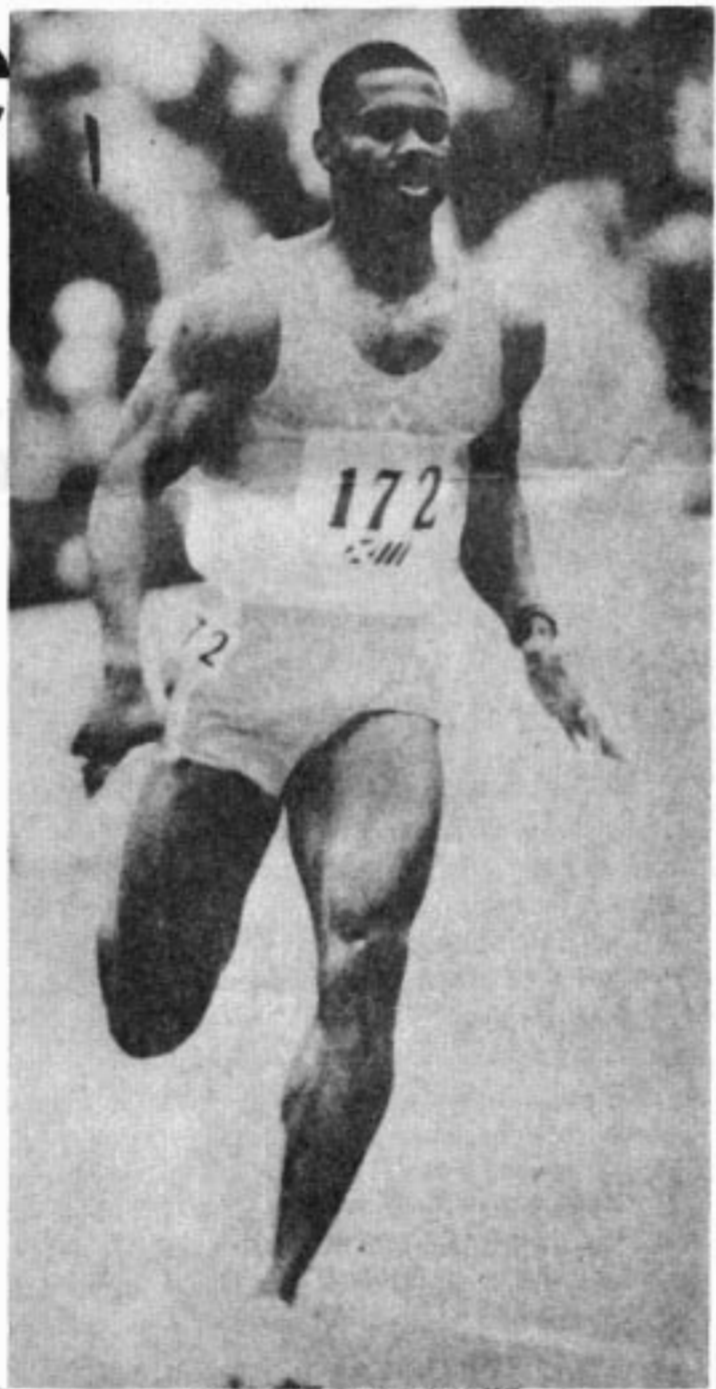
Because of apartheid, South Africa was banned from participating in the games from 1964.

So, Pretoria got the TV right to make South Africans forget they were excluded. From 1980, South Africa has been banned from receiving satellite TV coverage of the games.

A few rich whites still got on a plane and went to watch the 1984 Los Angeles games live. This year, South Africans are banned from even buying tickets and watching the games.

The world has made its revulsion against apartheid known. The Olympic Games stand for human brotherhood, friendship and respect. While apartheid remains in force, South Africa has no place there.

But not all South Africans are banned from the Games. The exiled South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC), which stand with the liberation movement, is accorded almost the full status of a national Olympic Committee. This is clear recognition that the world is not anti-South African, but simply anti-apartheid.



Ben Johnson in Action

## Manyano calls for help

SOCCKER enthusiasts in the Cape Youth Congress, Western Cape Civic Association and several other organisations in Tambo square had at the beginning of the year formed Manyano (Unity) Soccer Club.

The soccer club, committed to non-racial sport, wrote a letter to Grassroots requesting sponsorship of soccer jerseys, boots and tracksuits.

They further requested

that the jerseys and tracksuits be in black, green and gold as well as carry the Cape Youth Congress (CAYCO) logo.

Grassroots would like to, on behalf of Manyano soccer club, make an appeal on the community to support them in raising money for their soccer-kit.

Contributions can be sent to the Grassroots offices, Cine 400 Building, Rylands Estate. Phone: 637-1321/637-1332.



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# NERVOUS FOOTBALL TENSIONS

THE excitement and nervous football tension is now starting to build up amongst the remaining 32 teams of the 4th round of the Western Province Football Boards's (WPFB) Prestige Virginia Challenge Cup Competition.

Matroosfontein, the holders of this arousing trophy is going through a lean period and are experiencing a bad patch in the league competition this season.

The defending champions suffered a severe blow last week when their star provincial player, John Johnson was sidelined by a torn ligament injury which will keep him out for the rest of the season. Matroosfontein is known to be an unpredictable side, especially in knockout competitions. Therefore it would be wrong to underestimate their ability as they can still come back.

But the team that is tipped by many soccer followers to reign supreme is the Bonteheuvel's heroes Blugum Wizards, who after their fine performance when they bet the high-riding Battswood in

their last game, will now meet Factreton United in the 4th round.

Norway Parks, WPFA Premier Division Champions meet Saxon Rovers, last year's Challenge Cup finalists in another tough battle.

Peninsula United who has an outside chance and also winners of this trophy in 1984, take on Wolves from Cape Town District whilst Everton (Cape Flats) meets Young Spurs (Central) in the 4th round.

Selwyn Parks (WPFA) and Southampton (District), the two dark horses in the competition, after victories over Premier Division Teams, Liverpool and Silvertown Swifts face another gruelling battle against Clover United and Kuilsriver in the 4th round respectively.

All games of the next round will be played at Athlone Stadium.

• Western Province will be travelling to Durban on Sunday where they will be meeting Southern Natal Kwazulu in a SASF Inter-provincial game.

## "Wise Guys" riding high

THE red, white and blue colours of "Wise Guys" as Bluegum Wizards are affectionately referred to by their fans has recently knocked Battswood out of the Western Province Football Boards Virginia Challenge Cup.

Their victory over the mighty Battswood has made them one of the favourites to win WPEB's "FA cup". The ball wizardry and slick passing of the talented Wizards team has made them one of the most exciting and respected teams on the soccer field.

During this season they lost to Sea Point Swifts in the Challenge Cup Final. They returned to Metropolitan the following year and has been the premier league champions for the past two years.

Metropolitan Football Association, currently the WPFB Inter-Union Champions, has five Bluegum players in their squad. In addition to this the Wizards star player coach, Michael Klein-smith is one of two Mets Players in the Provincial team.

In 1982 they decided to move to the Cape Flats

Football Association because Metropolitan withdrew from the WPFB.

The Bluegum Wizards boys are determined to clinch it this time.

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