

From Boesak, the call goes out...

"BOYCOTT!"



There is some excitement in the white community for the municipal elections which started on Monday 10 October. Posters adorn the poles, candidates distribute pamphlets and hold public meetings to get people to vote for them.

Outside of the white areas, its a completely different story. There are no posters, no pamphlets, no public meetings. Candidates are not even known to the people.

It was only in the week before the start of the election that leaflets were distributed, with pictures of candidates and a call for the

public to vote for them.

Most candidates, it seems realise the strength of organisations such as the UDF, and therefore do not even try to make personal contact with the community.

A local candidate, Mr Shuraiz Ally recently admitted that many people were opposed to the elections. He agreed that the new local authorities entrenched the system of apartheid.

His shocking admission that he did not know how the new local authorities would work have made many people question the suitability of the candidates.

In several townships countrywide, there will be no election. There are not enough candidates and those that are standing will simply be elected unopposed.

This applies to as many as 25 of the 50 Eastern Cape townships, as well as Bhongolethu township in Oudtshoorn, Lawaakamp and Sandkraal.

In Cradock and Motherwell there is not a single candidate.

Nationally, more than 11000 people are standing for election

Of these, more than 6000 are from the white com-

munity while close to 5 000 are from the Coloured, Indian and African communities.

Unlike the 1984 elections for the tricameral parliament, individuals and organisations cannot call for an election boycott.

But, in an amazing show of defiance, the church has come out strongly to call on people not to vote in the elections.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Allan Boesak and the South African Council of Churches have come out against participation.

The boycott call has been taken to hundreds of con-

gregations countrywide.

In a strange move, the Government earlier this month announced that it would not take action against the two church ministers.

It did not explain why it has detained more than 300 people for allegedly working for an election boycott, while not acting against Dr Boesak and Archbishop Tutu..

Muslim leaders countrywide have also condemned the elections, calling on people not to participate in enforcing thier own oppression

The first two days of these unusually drawn out elections, saw election points virtually deserted.

At the Wittebome Civic Centre, there were an equal amount of candidates and policemen at the hall during the first day.

One or two candidates came along with some pensioners whom they had presumably fetched from their homes to come and vote for them.

Gawu wins wage victory

THOUSANDS of Cape workers will receive larger pay packets from December this year, following an agreement reached last week between clothing and knitting bosses and the Garment and Allied

Workers Union (Gawu). Gawu won a minimum increase of R20 a week. This means that starting wage goes up from R76 to R97,40.

In terms of the agreement; workers get June 16 as a paid holiday, shift allow-

ance is increased by 2,5% and workers will get six months maternity leave The agreement was closed after intense negotiations between bosses and a Gawu team consisting mainly of workers. Workers de-

scribed the negotiations as "hard bargaining".

The agreement was endorsed by about 6000 workers who attended Gawu's living wage mass rally at UWC on Sunday 9 October.

General Secretary Desmond Sampson said there was a new militancy among workers where "a giant had awoken".

At the rally workers resolved to continue to fight for a living wage.

Grassroots reporter detained

GRASSROOTS journalist Veliswa Mhlawuli was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act on 5 October.

On August 19 Veliswa narrowly escaped death and lost an eye when an unknown gunman shot at her near her home in Gugulethu. She has suffered enormous physical and emotional trauma and still needs medical and psychiatric care.

Section 29 allows for indefinite detention and interrogation in solitary confinement. When it is used against a person who has been physically

and psychologically scarred following an assassination attempt, it can only be described as barbaric.

Grassroots, Save the Press and UWCO, of which Veliswa is a member, have expressed fears for her safety, saying she must not be kept alone in her condition, and strongly condemning her detention.

After the shooting, Veliswa, a single parent, said her biggest fear was that she would be unable to care for her sons, Phillip (11) and Brian (15). Now that she is in detention, her worst fears are a reality.

Crowds pack the courtroom as ANC member gives evidence

FAMILIES and friends of the 14 young men facing charges of terrorism in the Supreme Court travel to town faithfully every morning to attend the hearing.

Since Ashley Forbes began giving evidence last month, the public gallery has been packed to capacity as people came to hear the events which motivated Ashley to join the ANC in November 1985.

Mothers, fathers, students, colleagues, community and religious leaders and even parliamentarians have come to hear Ashley speak.

Imam Solomons, who recently visited Cape Town after leaving at the height of events in Athlone in 1985, was there to hear the Judge convict the 14 of terrorism,

assisting terrorists and furthering the aims of the African National Congress.

Independent MP for Claremont Jan van Eck was there the day Ashley told the court that MP's were legitimate targets for ANC attacks, excluding PFP MP's and Mr van Eck himself.

Ashley explained to the court what motivated him to join the ANC. The events of 1985 were a "watershed" in Ashley's political career. The death of Matthew Goniwe and others and the massacre at Langa, Uitenhage, outraged him.

With the declaration of the state of emergency in Cape Town, the legal avenues for protest began to close. "The declaration of the state of

emergency was a declaration of war," Ashley said.

The march to Pollsmoor brought the uprising to Cape Town. Ashley saw nuns and priests being beaten by the police. "After the march the people went absolutely crazy. Athlone became a war zone and there were open attacks on the police.

"The idea of the ANC took on a different dimension. People were asking, where is the ANC, why are they not here to defend us. The presence of the ANC was felt by the people who started to talk more about the ANC and the Freedom Charter," Ashley continued.

The Trojan Horse incident, where two boys and a young man were killed in an ambush

"The declaration of the State of Emergency was a declaration of war"
- Ashley Forbes

was a "military tactic used by the army against defenceless civilians," Ashley said.

Barricades and petrol bombs became the order of the day, where the youth took to the streets to keep the police out.

"During 1980 to 1985, I was involved in legal organisation and was able to express myself through those avenues.

"When those avenues changed after the emergency was declared I had no choice. I joined the ANC"

He said the ANC stood for the same things he believes in: a united, non-racial, democratic South Africa based on the demands of the Freedom Charter"

During tea and lunch breaks between the court proceedings the 14 trialists are given

the opportunity to talk with the people in the gallery.

After the proceedings draw to a close at the end of the day, the families rush downstairs to get a glimpse of the 14 as they are led into the prison truck to be taken back to Pollsmoor.

Policemen then seal off the street outside the court and kitskonstabels and unrest-unit policemen stand guard in the street.

The trialists are usually singing and shouting slogans as they are led into the waiting truck. The truck begins its route to Pollsmoor escorted by police and traffic officials with their sirens wailing.

A mini-magsvertoning indeed!

Namibians wait for peace

The people of Namibia, battered by 22 years of war and over 100 years of colonial rule are cynical about the latest round of peace talks. Quite simply, they do not trust the South African government.

This mistrust seems to be well founded, because while all the talk continues about peace, General Magnus Malan and the South African Defence Force are still talking war.

When in late September, the Angolans launched a major offensive against the Unita bandits, reclaiming three key towns in the the east, the SADF warned that this offensive could ruin the peace talks.

Angola responded by saying that they have every right to defend their country and that the attacks have no bearing on the peace talks.

While Namibians are cynical about South Africa's intentions, Swapo and its allies in the progressive movement are making low-key preparations, just in case national elections do happen. Exile leaders are said to be preparing to return home should the process of independence - through United Nations Resolution 435 - begin in earnest.

Meanwhile, South African aggression against the Namibian people still continues.

In the month following the signing of the first cease fire, South African forces killed 22 people, claiming they were guerillas.

Civilians in the north of the country continue to suffer heavily from the war.

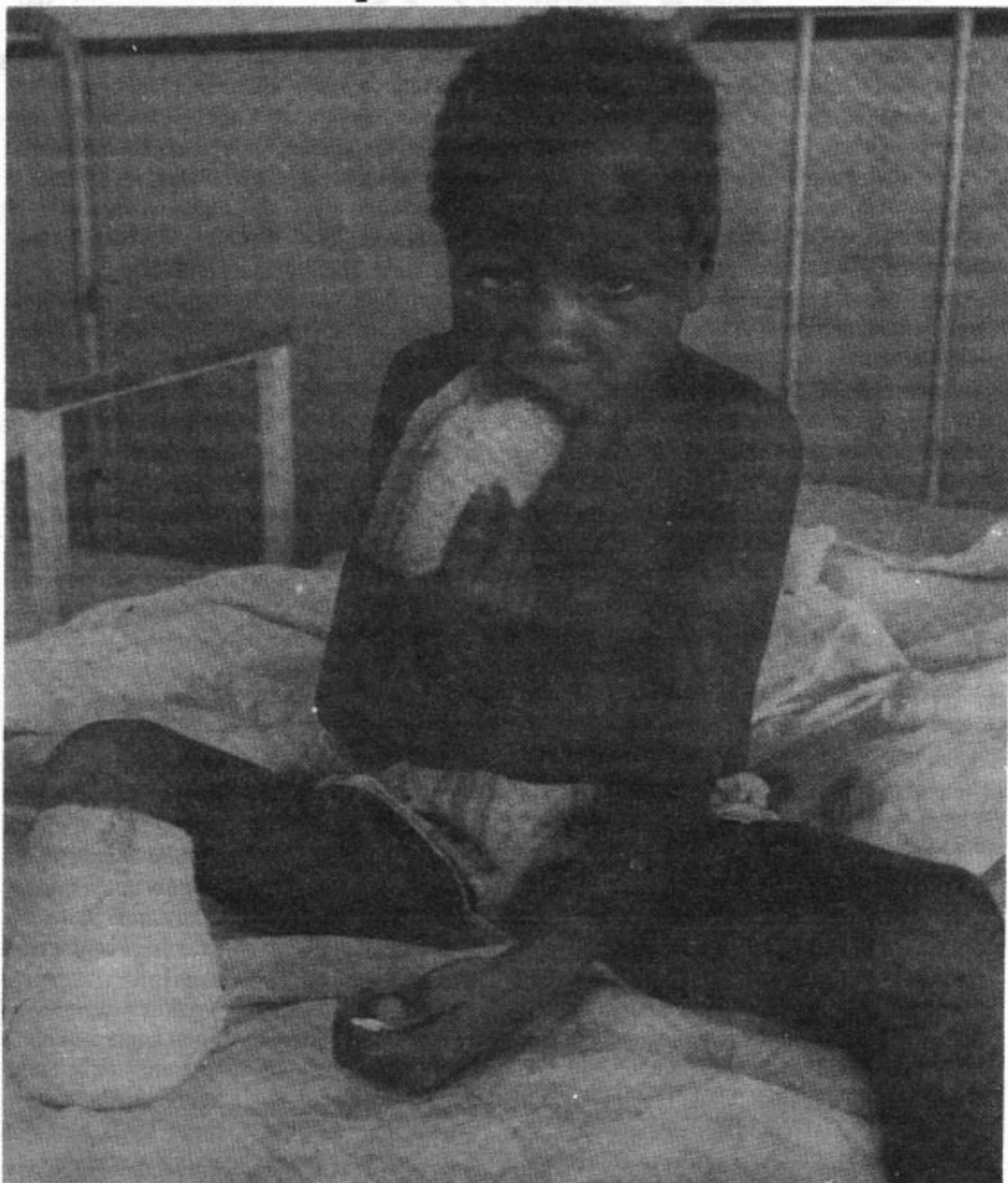
They live under a sunset to sunrise curfew. On a recent tour of the area, a Grassroots reporter

spoke to several residents who had had family members killed when South African forces opened fire on their vehicles after sunset.

And despite the possibility of the war ending, atrocities by the members of the South African and Namibian forces are reported almost daily.

Most common are reports of rapes, torture and assaults. Oshakati State Hospital treats between 10 and 15 women a month who have allegedly been raped by members of the South African and Namibian Defence forces.

So while there are moves towards freedom, Namibians are justifiably cynical about South Africa's intentions. As one politician put it, "I will bring out the champagne when the last South African casspir crosses the Orange River.



Andreas Kalimba (10) whose leg was shot off in the crossfire of a Koevoet operation; will the negotiations end this kind of suffering?

Mbeki speaks...

GOVAN Mbeki re-affirmed his membership of the ANC and South African Communist Party after his release last November. Since then, the Government has silenced Mbeki with a restriction order. Mbeki has broken his silence, in an application to overturn his restrictions. Included in the papers before the court is a speech that Mbeki would have given in Port Elizabeth.

Reflecting on his 23 years in prison, Mbeki wrote: "Through all the physical hardships, the deprivations of food and comfort and the estrangement from loving family and friends, there was the fulfilment of knowing that I was expressing loyalty to an ideal which has ennobled the condition of man from time immemorial".

"On many a night during the years of my incarceration I wondered how different things would be when I was released. I read much and I thought much, but there was always the nagging uncertainty about whether what I would find outside would accord with my perceptions and my readings.

"I need not have worried. The youth of Africa are indeed strong, sensitive and alive. The spirit which has moved the African people in striving for a non-racial, democratic South Africa beats strongly through every alley and street of every township," he planned to tell the rally.

"My incarceration and my release would be of little meaning if this long nightmare of apartheid and injustice were allowed to perpetuate itself. I therefore humbly ask you to express your love and affection for me in the manner which will give me the greatest joy.

"That is dedication to creating a democratic, non-racial and unfragmented South Africa for which many have suffered and died, and for which so many have yearned and grieved", he concluded.

In court, Mbeki is challenging the reason given by the Police for his restrictions - his ANC membership. In an affidavit, Mbeki told the court that when Government officials interviewed him before his release, he told them that his views had not changed and that he would continue to express them. Yet, the Government still released him unconditionally.

Thousands of Western Cape residents say...

"We won't pay"

THOUSANDS of Western Cape residents have resolved not to pay the rent increases in terms of the controversial new government formula.

The 15 percent rent increase announced by the council and effective from August has been rejected, at meetings of community organisations.

Civic Associations in Elsies River, Ravensmead, Belhar, Bellville South, Kraaifontein, Kuils River, Strand and Macassar held a public meeting where the new formula was rejected "in the strongest possible terms".

Enquiries directed to the council have not been answered to the satisfaction of tenants, who have questioned: who is responsible for the increase, why the unemployed have had their rents increased, what will happen to tenants whose rents are far in arrears.

The Elsies River Civic has found, during meetings on the new rent formula, that while unemployment is



This woman clearly expressed the feelings of Cape Town residents on the new rent formula at a recent CAHAC meeting

the biggest problem in the area, council houses and flats are in bad condition and increasing electricity charges have become a nightmare for tenants.

Ravensmead and Uitsig Civic has been supporting tenants threatened with eviction. They drew up a memo detailing the grievances of tenants, and met with housing officials. Belhar Civic has come up with a proposal to address the problem which includes an analysis of how the authorities arrived at the

amounts people have to pay, a list of people they still intend evicting and a list of the people still waiting for houses.

The proposal also include the scrapping of rent arrears an end to the 10% surcharge on water and a solution to the housing problem. They have also demanded the recognition of the Belhar Civic as the representatives of residents and noted that the Belhar Management Committee does not represent anyone.

LABOUR NEWS LABOUR NEWS LABOUR NEWS LABOUR

Sea Point workers join national Karos strike

One hundred workers from the Arthur's Seat Hotel in Sea Point have joined a national strike at hotels owned by Karos Hotels. This is the first

legal national strike in the hotel industry and affects eight hotels.

The strike is around three issues: wages, dismissals and disciplinary ac-

tion. According to CCAWUSA, Karos Hotels dismissed 125 workers for commemorating June 16.

43 Workers were

arrested after picketing in front of the hotel.

After appearing in court they were released and warned to appear again on the 2 November.

The latest development has been an application by management for a court interdict preventing

workers from handing out pamphlets and picketing on, or near the hotel premises.

CCAWUSA believes that the bosses harsh action is aimed at breaking the union, but the workers know their strength and are ready to fight.

Sarhwu forces bosses to negotiate

THE strike by more than 10 000 South African Transport Services workers at Durban docks ended in an historic worker victory.

SATS agreed to discuss recognition with the South African Railway and Harbour Workers Union (Sarhwu). This is the first time that SATS has agreed to negotiate with an independent black trade union.

The workers went on strike in mid-September to demand the reinstatement of a colleague suspended after allegedly assaulting a white SATS employee.

The strike soon became a battle for higher wages. While the cost of living sky-rocketed, the workers had

not received an increase for three years. They demanded that their wages be raised by 30 percent.

SATS management got a court interdict to prevent the workers from meeting on SATS premises. Despite intimidation, the strike continued.

The strike spread to other parts of Natal. Sarhwu members were on standby throughout the country in case SATS went ahead with its threats to dismiss the workers.

Last year there was a marathon strike by SATS workers. it went on for 12 weeks and cost SATS R50 million. In the course of the strike 11 workers died. Mass dismissals took place. The Supreme court later rein-

stated 16 000 dismissed workers.

SATS feared a repetition of last year, so it agreed to talk to the union which represents over half of all black SATS workers.

SATS agreed to allow workers to meet on the premises after-hours to hold union meetings.

SATS has offered Sarhwu a wage increase which is much higher than what it gave the white workers' union earlier this month.

The strike has shown that SATS is afraid of organised workers, and strengthened Sarhwu's campaign for a living wage.

PEOPLE'S HISTORY OPEN DAY

* * * * *

Programme includes:

- * Workshops
- * Videos
- * Talks * Stalls
- * Cultural Programme

Date: Saturday, 15 October

Venue: UWC

Time: 9.00am. - 5.00pm.

grassroots comment

Election sham

It is only through the trickery and intimidation of the racists that some will be participating in the sham elections during October.

There is no doubt that these elections can never be in the interest of our people. It is further clear to us that those who are standing in these elections are doing so for none other than selfish reasons.

The so-called changes which these elections will bring fall far short of our people's demands. Demands for which many are prepared to spend long periods in prison and even to give their lives.

In no way will these sham elections throw our people off the course on which they have set out. To fight for the total democratisation of all structures in our country. To democratised all those structures which govern their lives.

Through our struggles of the last few years we have exposed the bankruptcy of our racist management committees and bantustan councils. In fact, these structures have been smashed and rendered totally ineffective.

It is only when our people finally win the right to govern themselves that they shall participate in any elections.

It is only then that we shall go out to the houses within our areas, to all the streets within our communities, in fact to all corners of our country and encourage our people to choose those who shall govern.

Until such time we shall refuse to participate in any make-believe system which claims to transfer power to the people when in fact power will remain safely in the hands of the racists.

That the racists have completely lost the strategic initiative is clear for all to see. That they will attempt to use these deceptions to detract us from our set goal is understandable.

Through our years of sacrifice and struggle we have not only rendered Apartheid completely unworkable, but succeeded in winning the support of the majority of freedom loving people all across the world.

As a result of this, victory for our people is definitely assured.

Lavender Hill Youth Movement

BAZAAR

Date: 22 October
Time: 9.00am - 5.00pm
Venue: New World Foundation (in Lavender Hill)

CULTURAL EVENING

Featuring:

Raak Wys * MAPP *

Action Workshop

Time: 7.30pm till late

Entrance R 5.00

The writing is on the wall

WHILE its squirrels have been working overtime on TV, the Government doesn't seem to have persuaded Elsies River residents to vote in the elections.

That was the finding of a snap Grassroots street survey conducted in the area. Of the 51 people we polled, only 4 indicated that they would vote in October.

The 47 who said they would not vote, offered a wide range of reasons.

A handful were ignorant of the elections, and therefore disinterested. Most, however, had heard of the election, and were either cynical of voting, or expressed political opposition.

A recurring response was that residents had never heard of the candidates, and questioned their motives. These included

- "Ons het niemand om vir to vote nie"
- "I don't know any of these monkeys"
- "As hulle in is, vergeet hulle van ons"
- "Hulle doen niks vir ons nie"



- "It is based on greed". One respondent did know some candidates, and he was not too impressed with them: "Hulle is %#@ kruiers," he said. Others doubted whether voting could change anything, and gave

reasons like:

- "Daar was geen verandering sedert die vorige elections"
- "Mens vote maar mens kry niks reg nie"
- "I never did vote"
- "Dis niks werd"

- "Its not real elections." Political reasons for not voting centered mainly on the fact, as one resident put it, that "its for apartheid".

Others mentioned repression, and that "the Government want

to trick the people". Despite the SABC's efforts to present these as democratic elections, Elsies residents still seem to regard them as linked to apartheid. "I'm not part or parcel of Government", was one resident's

reason for not voting.

When we asked those who said that they won't vote what they believe would solve South Africa's problems, the most common response was that "everyone must stand together and unite", and that "apartheid must go". Others mentioned "equal rights", "een mens een stem", "die blanke sal sy magsposisie moet prysgee", "unban the ANC" and "talk to the real leaders".

A number had less political responses: "first seek God", "ek se niks want dis te veel problems" and "nothing can solve South Africa's problems".

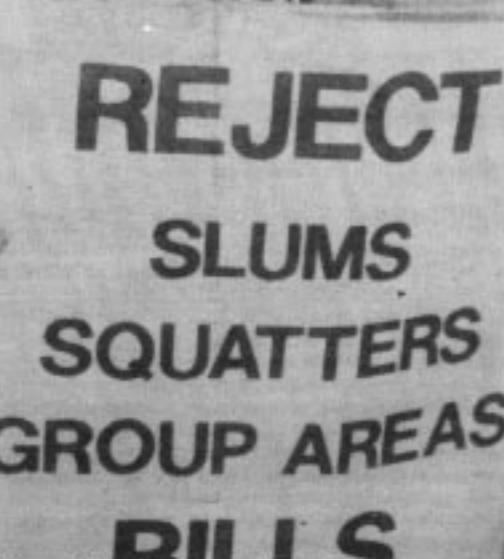
Of the four who said they would vote, one said he did not know the reason, and the other three all said they were voting because they believed they had to if they wanted houses.

Despite a R4-million Government propaganda campaign, it appears that old-fashioned blackmail is still the most effective vote-getter in these elections.

Even then, 4 out of 51 is only 8%.

"Leave us in peace"

say Woodstock residents



None of the election candidates have given concrete proposals on getting rid of the Group Areas Act. Here a Black Sash member pickets against the new Bills

MANY 'coloured' residents in Woodstock live in fear that they will be moved to areas like Mitchell's Plain - far from their schools and places of work.

One such resident is Rosie Geldebloem, who will be deprived of her income if she buckles under police pressure and leaves the area. Rosie runs a small sewing business.

"I did not come here to be among whites," she says. "I came here because I was given enough space to work. Since I came here I have been getting more and more business."

"Then recently I began getting regular visits from the police, wanting to know if I was living here," Rosie said. They phoned one day and said they would be coming to see me at 7.30pm. I waited until 9pm, all on my nerves, but they never came."

The following day Rosie received another phone call. She was told to come to Woodstock police station to see a certain constable. She was there early the next morning, the policeman wasn't.

"This whole thing has affected me very badly," Rosie said. "I have lots of customers but I can't work because of the fear I feel. I have had sleepless nights and since the harassment started I haven't been eating properly."

Rosie does not have anywhere else to go if she is forced to leave Woodstock. The move will hurt her economically as she will be forced to sell her machines if she cannot find a landlord who is prepared to give her enough space to work.

"This makes me feel very bitter. Why can't they just leave me in peace?" she said.



Councillors will afford to live in mansions on the salaries they earn, while millions of South Africans are homeless, facing threats of eviction or live in slum conditions

Money for nothing!

"IN for a penny, in for a pound," as the saying goes...

The candidates, or rather the councillors who will eventually be elected on October 26 stand to gain far more than a penny or a pound.

Like their forerunners,

these new councillors will reap the benefits of participating in government structures at their communities' expense.

Not only will the new system of PLA's milk the community of money for services, but will also use some of the money for

their perks and "expenses".

Take Athlone, for example. The area has 18 vacant seats in the election. Councillors will receive an allowance of R800 a month and the chairperson will receive R2 400.

In addition, the PLA representative will get R220 for each RSC meeting attended.

So, the people elected on October 26, who are there to represent "our interests" will have their interests looked after by the people they "serve".

"We know what we want" - Dullah Omar, Cosatu

Cosatu

We know what our problems are and what we need. We know these things because we have been struggling for them for many years. We need an end to the oppression and exploitation that we suffer under every day of our lives.

It is clear that these elections will not solve our problems. After October 26 we will still have housing problems, unemployment, low wages, poverty, high rents and high prices.

The government tells us that this is democracy. We as workers in COSATU know what democracy is. We know democracy because we work to build it everyday in the factories where we are organised. We know that the bosses and the government do not want democracy.

We will not be fooled by them. We have learnt that our strength as the working class lies in our organisation and our unity, and we will not allow ourselves to be divided. Our struggle will continue until all our needs have been met and all our demands have been won. Our struggle will continue until we have won democratic control over our lives.

Dullah Omar

Those who remain in one place and do have the benefit of communication between different areas often complain that "things are quiet" or "nothing is happening" - how wrong they are! The remarkable thing is that in hundreds of local areas and regions resistance to apartheid and apartheid institutions remains very much alive. Everywhere people remember the battles of 1983 - 1984.

The boycott of the 1984 elections united our people as never before. The democratic movement in the 1980's won the battle for the hearts and minds of our people.

We think "nothing is happening" because of the enforced silence imposed by the State of Emergency. Don't let the State of Emergency deceive us into silence and passivity.

In every area we need to build the people's organisations. Take up the day to day struggle of our people in your area.

Let us not be diverted by apartheid elections! Nothing has changed in the apartheid system. Let us not dirty our hands by participating in the apartheid institutions.

Let us help to build a single, undivided, non-racial democratic South Africa which will be free from oppression and exploitation.

(Dullah Omar is the current chairperson of the United Democratic Front (UDF) for the Western Cape Region and the President of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (W.Cape region). Because of the Emergency restrictions imposed on the UDF, he has issued this message in his personal capacity.)

"We cannot fight an apartheid constitution in 1984 and then go and vote for one in 1988" - Allan Boesak

grassroots comment

Election sham

It is only through the trickery and intimidation of the racists that some will be participating in the sham elections during October.

There is no doubt that these elections can never be in the interest of our people. It is further clear to us that those who are standing in these elections are doing so for none other than selfish reasons.

The so-called changes which these elections will bring fall far short of our people's demands. Demands for which many are prepared to spend long periods in prison and even to give their lives.

In no way will these sham elections throw our people off the course on which they have set out. To fight for the total democratisation of all structures in our country. To democratised all those structures which govern their lives.

Through our struggles of the last few years we have exposed the bankruptcy of our racist management committees and bantu councils. In fact, these structures have been smashed and rendered totally ineffective.

It is only when our people finally win the right to govern themselves that they shall participate in any elections.

It is only then that we shall go out to the houses within our areas, to all the streets within our communities, in fact to all corners of our country and encourage our people to choose those who shall govern.

Until such time we shall refuse to participate in any make-believe system which claims to transfer power to the people when in fact power will remain safely in the hands of the racists.

That the racists have completely lost the strategic initiative is clear for all to see. That they will attempt to use these deceptions to detract us from our set goal is understandable.

Through our years of sacrifice and struggle we have not only rendered Apartheid completely unworkable, but succeeded in winning the support of the majority of freedom loving people all across the world.

As a result of this, victory for our people is definitely assured.

Lavender Hill Youth Movement

BAZAAR

Date: 22 October
Time: 9.00am - 5.00pm
Venue: New World Foundation (in Lavender Hill)

CULTURAL EVENING

Featuring:

Raak Wys * MAPP *

Action Workshop

Time: 7.30pm till late
Entrance R 5.00

The writing is on the wall

WHILE its squirrels have been working overtime on TV, the Government doesn't seem to have persuaded Elsies River residents to vote in the elections.

That was the finding of a snap Grassroots street survey conducted in the area. Of the 51 people we polled, only 4 indicated that they would vote in October.

The 47 who said they would not vote, offered a wide range of reasons.

A handful were ignorant of the elections, and therefore disinterested. Most, however, had heard of the election, and were either cynical of voting, or expressed political opposition.

A recurring response was that residents had never heard of the candidates, and questioned their motives. These included

- "Ons het niemand om vir to vote nie"
- "I don't know any of these monkeys"
- "As hulle in is, vergeet hulle van ons"
- "Hulle doen niks vir ons nie"



- "It is based on greed". One respondent did know some candidates, and he was not too impressed with them: "Hulle is %#@ kruiers," he said. Others doubted whether voting could change anything, and gave

reasons like:

- "Daar was geen verandering sedert die vorige elections"
- "Mens vote maar mens kry niks reg nie"
- "I never did vote"
- "Dis niks werd"

- "Its not real elections." Political reasons for not voting centered mainly on the fact, as one resident put it, that "its for apartheid".

Others mentioned repression, and that "the Government want

to trick the people". Despite the SABC's efforts to present these as democratic elections, Elsies residents still seem to regard them as linked to apartheid. "I'm not part or parcel of Government", was one resident's

reason for not voting.

When we asked those who said that they won't vote what they believe would solve South Africa's problems, the most common response was that "everyone must stand together and unite", and that "apartheid must go". Others mentioned "equal rights", "een mens een stem", "die blanke sal sy magposisie moet prysgee", "unban the ANC" and "talk to the real leaders".

A number had less political responses: "first seek God", "ek se niks want dis te veel problems" and "nothing can solve South Africa's problems".

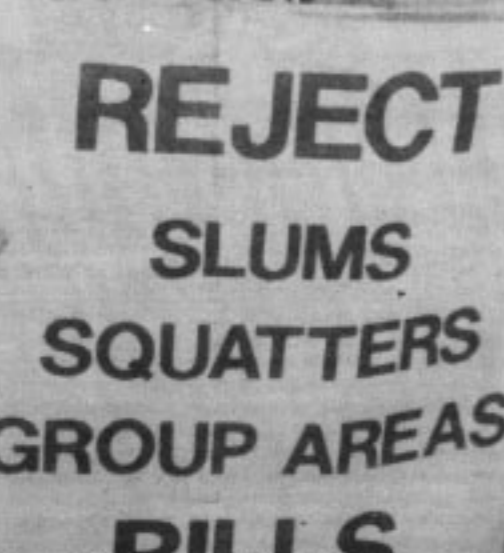
Of the four who said they would vote, one said he did not know the reason, and the other three all said they were voting because they believed they had to if they wanted houses.

Despite a R4-million Government propaganda campaign, it appears that old-fashioned blackmail is still the most effective vote-getter in these elections.

Even then, 4 out of 51 is only 8%.

"Leave us in peace"

say Woodstock residents



None of the election candidates have given concrete proposals on getting rid of the Group Areas Act. Here a Black Sash member pickets against the new Bills

MANY 'coloured' residents in Woodstock live in fear that they will be moved to areas like Mitchell's Plain - far from their schools and places of work.

One such resident is Rosie Geldebloem, who will be deprived of her income if she buckles under police pressure and leaves the area. Rosie runs a small sewing business.

"I did not come here to be among whites," she says. "I came here because I was given enough space to work. Since I came here I have been getting more and more business."

"Then recently I began getting regular visits from the police, wanting to know if I was living here," Rosie said. They phoned one day and said they would be coming to see me at 7.30pm. I waited until 9pm, all on my nerves, but they never came."

The following day Rosie received another phone call. She was told to come to Woodstock police station to see a certain constable. She was there early the next morning, the policeman wasn't.

"This whole thing has affected me very badly," Rosie said. "I have lots of customers but I can't work because of the fear I feel. I have had sleepless nights and since the harassment started I haven't been eating properly."

Rosie does not have anywhere else to go if she is forced to leave Woodstock. The move will hurt her economically as she will be forced to sell her machines if she cannot find a landlord who is prepared to give her enough space to work.

"This makes me feel very bitter. Why can't they just leave me in peace?" she said.



Councillors will afford to live in mansions on the salaries they earn, while millions of South Africans are homeless, facing threats of eviction or live in slum conditions

Money for nothing!

"IN for a penny, in for a pound," as the saying goes...

The candidates, or rather the councillors who will eventually be elected on October 26 stand to gain far more than a penny or a pound.

Like their forerunners,

these new councillors will reap the benefits of participating in government structures at their communities' expense.

Not only will the new system of PLA's milk the community of money for services, but will also use some of the money for

their perks and "expenses".

Take Athlone, for example. The area has 18 vacant seats in the election. Councillors will receive an allowance of R800 a month and the chairperson will receive R2 400.

In addition, the PLA representative will get R220 for each RSC meeting attended.

So, the people elected on October 26, who are there to represent "our interests" will have their interests looked after by the people they "serve".

"We know what we want" - Dullah Omar, Cosatu

Cosatu

We know what our problems are and what we need. We know these things because we have been struggling for them for many years. We need an end to the oppression and exploitation that we suffer under every day of our lives.

It is clear that these elections will not solve our problems. After October 26 we will still have housing problems, unemployment, low wages, poverty, high rents and high prices.

The government tells us that this is democracy. We as workers in COSATU know what democracy is. We know democracy because we work to build it everyday in the factories where we are organised. We know that the bosses and the government do not want democracy.

We will not be fooled by them. We have learnt that our strength as the working class lies in our organisation and our unity, and we will not allow ourselves to be divided. Our struggle will continue until all our needs have been met and all our demands have been won. Our struggle will continue until we have won democratic control over our lives.

Dullah Omar

Those who remain in one place and do have the benefit of communication between different areas often complain that "things are quiet" or "nothing is happening" - how wrong they are! The remarkable thing is that in hundreds of local areas and regions resistance to apartheid and apartheid institutions remains very much alive. Everywhere people remember the battles of 1983 - 1984.

The boycott of the 1984 elections united our people as never before. The democratic movement in the 1980's won the battle for the hearts and minds of our people.

We think "nothing is happening" because of the enforced silence imposed by the State of Emergency. Don't let the State of Emergency deceive us into silence and passivity.

In every area we need to build the people's organisations. Take up the day to day struggle of our people in your area.

Let us not be diverted by apartheid elections! Nothing has changed in the apartheid system. Let us not dirty our hands by participating in the apartheid institutions.

Let us help to build a single, undivided, non-racial democratic South Africa which will be free from oppression and exploitation.

(Dullah Omar is the current chairperson of the United Democratic Front (UDF) for the Western Cape Region and the President of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (W.Cape region). Because of the Emergency restrictions imposed on the UDF, he has issued this message in his personal capacity.)

"We cannot fight an apartheid constitution in 1984 and then go and vote for one in 1988" - Allan Boesak

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Previous municipal elections
in apartheid South Africa
have been boycotted
following a call by the mass
democratic movement

WHAT HAS CHANGED?



LOTA (Lagere Overheden Tegen Apartheid - Dutch Local Authorities Against Apartheid)
The municipalities of Wormer, Purmerend and Nymegen
AABN (Anti-Apartheid Beweging Nederland)
Werkgroep Kairos
KZA (Komitee Zuidelijk Afrika)

Botha uses terror tactics to protect the October elections



From left: Rev. Colin Jones, Allan Boesak, Mr Marks and Advocate Dullah Omar of UDF, and Elijah Baraji of Cosatu at a press conference after the banning.

Anger at UWC budget cuts

THE government's cut of UWC's subsidy for 1989 by 40 million is angering students and staff.

UWC's budget for next year is R102 million, to which the government should contribute R80 million. However, the government says it will now only give R40,9 million.

Professor Ampie Coetzee, head of the Afrikaans Department, says the subsidy cut is deliberately unfair treatment of the UWC. "We have the least staff in the biggest Afrikaans department in the country. By supporting universities such as UCT and Wits, the state and big business are perpetuating Bantu Education."

Student leaders say the university needs to fight back. "It will be our duty to make sure the students are aware of this new attack," said the SRC president. A leader of one of the big student organisations at UWC added that they were determined to struggle against the cut. "We will be prepared to face the consequences of that struggle."

Many staff are uncertain how

to stop the cut in funds, but fell something has to be done. In a letter to staff, the rector, Professor Gerwel points out that UWC had prepared for this kind of government attack. But still, UWC will have to make a strong effort to survive.

The commitment to continue, to democratize and transform UWC into a People's university is there among many people. Ms Edith de Vries, a senior lecturer says clearly, "This university must survive. There is no way that the tasks it has set for itself can be held back by lack of funds." The government's cut in funds to universities shows its economic problems and bankruptcy. But it also shows its political priorities. Funds needed for education are instead used for puppet parliaments and municipalities; and for wars against our neighbours.

The fact that UWC as the biggest cut in funds however, also means it is being singled out for special attack by the state. It will be important for our communities to fight off this latest attack.

REPRESSION has increased dramatically in the past few weeks and is likely to get worse in the days leading up to the municipal elections. The state is determined to see the elections succeed and will go to any lengths to suppress opposition.

They have detained and restricted community leaders and threatened and harassed activists, around the country, banned the Cosatu-organised Anti-Apartheid Conference and threatened further severe restrictions.

In the three days leading up to the conference, which was to have been held at UCT, 28 people were detained and three restricted.

Among those detained are activists from rural areas and organisations which cover the whole spectrum of democratic groups from

church and youth to civics.

Hundreds of delegates trying to get to Cape Town for the conference reported harassment while many were unable to leave their home towns because of threats by police.

A combi carrying delegates from Pietermaritzburg to Cape Town was burnt in Colesberg, where the delegates stopped overnight.

Cosatu officials in the Eastern Cape were warned not to leave the region.

Switchboard staff at UCT were phoned repeatedly with the warning that if the conference took place there would be bombs on campus.

Police raided the offices of community organisations and lawyers repeatedly and at one stage surrounded Community House for several hours.

Roadblocks were set up on

every road coming into Cape Town and cars were searched.

On the day the conference was to be held, police sealed off UCT and members of the AWB went up to the campus to make sure the conference was no taking place.

One of the most distressing actions of the state has been its refusal to allow the mother of long-term Johannesburg detainee Raymond Suttner, who was released recently in bad health, to come to this country to see him.

Suttner was placed under severe restrictions orders which place him under house arrest and prevent him from continuing his work as a lecturer at Wits University.

He said after the State of Emergency was declared in

Save the Press makes gains in Stellenbosch

MOST South Africans were now effectively blindfolded and gagged through the Press restrictions imposed by the state, PFP MP for Groote Schuur Mr Jan van Gend told a meeting of the Save the Press Campaign in Stellenbosch recently.

Other speakers at the meeting, attended by about 500 people, were civil rights lawyer Essa Moosa (who spoke for Dr Allan Boesak who was unable to attend), Jan van Eck (independent MP for Claremont), Ms Dene Smuts (former editor of Fair Lady magazine) and Wynand Malan (leader of the National Democratic Movement).

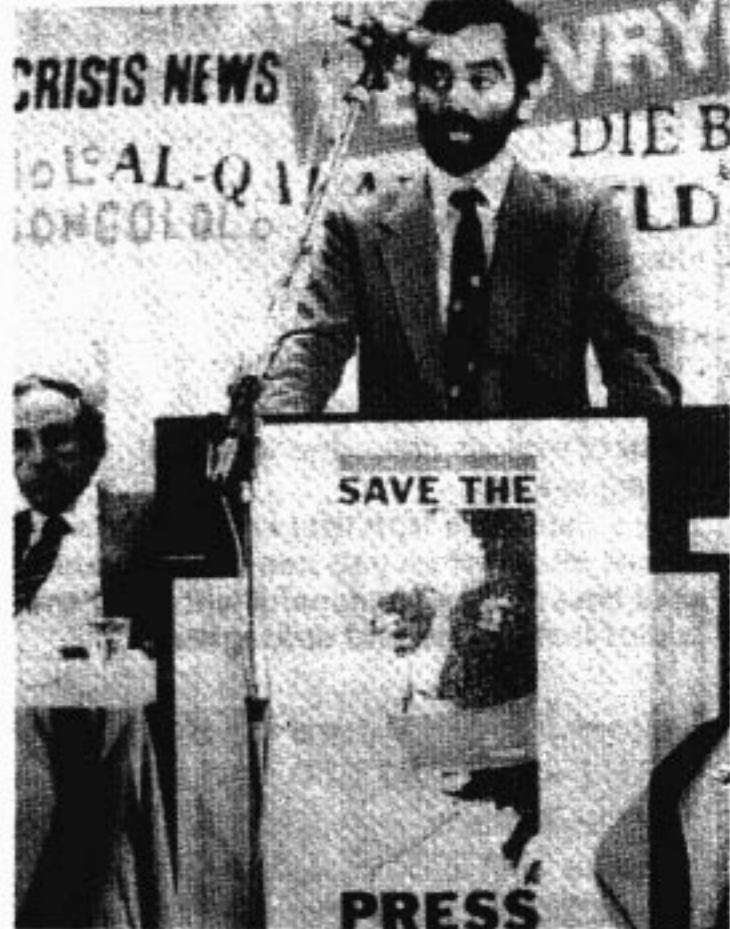
Mr Van Gend said white South Africans were "apathetic and ignorant" and seldom exposed personally to the repression of the State.

In justifying its actions against the press the government said the Press had to report responsibly. "Responsible reporting" meant toeing the official line and "subversive activity" meant effective opposition to apartheid, Mr Van Gend said.

Mr Van Eck said the recent restrictions on 19 organisations and the Press, as well as the detention of leaders, were aimed at creating a vacuum that could be filled by pro-govern-

ment leaders in the October election.

Mr Moosa said the government had instituted even harsher restrictions on the Press recently because it wanted to see the October election - "which is based on racial lines" - succeed.



Mr Moegsien Williams speaks at the Stellenbosch meeting

TOPS FOR QUALITY

Al-Amien Halaal



TOPS FOR TASTE

MANUFACTURERS OF
QUALITY COLD MEATS

• POLONIES • SPICED BEEF • BURGER PATTIES
• FRANKFURTERS • VIENNAS • MEAT SPREADS
• SAUSAGES • RUSSIANS

Tel: 637-8155/6

P.O. BOX 162, GATESVILLE
MASLOMONEY RD. OFF EBRAHIM WAY, ATHLONE IND 2

WESTDENE BOOKSHOP

FOR PROGRESSIVE
BOOKS & LITERATURE

18 Main Road,
RONDEBOSCH

Tel.: (021) 689-4112



**ALLCAPE
PROPERTIES**
Tel: 47-0171/2



The homes and business people"

- Property sales
- Property development
- Property repair and maintenance
- Property finance
- Property management
- Insurance

76 Victoria Road, Woodstock, 7925
F.A. Onla, M.S. Jackson, Dr. A. Pillay

grassroots SPORT

Lotus River students run in twenty-four hour...

Marathon effort



Above: The Team: Back row: from left; Kenneth Frank, Zane Ajamdien, Bernard Heradien, Riyaan Adams, Mr Ajam (principal), Faizel Smit, Desmond Cerff, Alexander Davids, Middle row: Reginald Frank, William du Plessis, Aslam Gallie, Front row: Cedric Frank, Steven Sass, John Lethling, Brian Lashmar, Grant Genneker
Right: To strong applause from onlookers, the tired but triumphant runners finally cross the finishing line after running for 24 hours



FOURTEEN young runners, all students at Lotus Senior Secondary, were given a rousing reception by fellow-students and parents as they completed a 24-hour marathon last month.

The marathon was run on a relay basis. It began at 2pm on Friday 23 September. The weary but obviously jubilant

runners completed the last lap around the school grounds at 2pm on Saturday afternoon.

The runners had been sponsored by various shops in the area and raised thousands of rands for their school.

The marathon was part of a fete which took place at the school that weekend.

Running took place in the vi-

cinity of the school, and throughout the night, several teachers virtually set up camp at the school to give moral support to the runners.

The athletes built up a tremendous camaraderie, with one commenting afterwards;

"Ek is gevaarlik moeg en seer maar die experience sal

ek nooit vergeet nie."

The week before the marathon a mini-olympics took place on an inter-class basis.

This consisted of cultural events such as plays, songs, story telling etc. and sporting events including soccer, volleyball, netball, etc.

The events were planned to highlight the importance of

education outside the classroom and to involve the surrounding community directly in the school's activities.

One major achievement of the week was that the school managed to win over the gangsters in the area by involving them directly in the events.

Do you have study problems?

A complete guide on HOW TO STUDY is now available to students. (Stds. 6-10, universites, technikons and colleges) The guide deals with:

- Study techniques
- Improving memorization
- Time management
- Improving reading speed
- Increasing comprehension
- Improving recall
- Vocabulary building
- Note-taking techniques
- How to express ideas and write well
- Exam strategy

Why waste time with trial and error methods of study when you can be motivated, save time and be successful with tried and tested techniques and strategies?

Invest in your future for only R8.93 + tax = R10.00 And study without tears. Phone **SUCCESSFUL STUDY** at 47-8224 ext.5 (all hours), or complete the coupon below for a *life long investment*

To **SUCCESSFUL STUDY**, PO Box 400 Salt River, 7925

I hereby include R10.00 (ten rand) per postal order or per crossed cheque for the above mentioned study manual so that it can be posted to me within two days

Name.....

Address.....

Code.....

Tel:.....

Primary schools sports bonanza

The Mitchells Plain Primary Schools Sports Union, the largest affiliate of the Western Province Primary Schools Board, is currently celebrating its 10th anniversary.

The highlight of these celebrations occurred this week when they hosted the Boland and South Western Districts Sports Board mini-tournament.

The tournament

was opened in classic Olympic style. Torch-bearers ran through the streets of Mitchells Plain and entered the stadium to enthusiastic applause from a small but appreciative crowd.

In his opening address the chairperson commented on the difficulties the union experienced in obtaining sponsorship for the tournament.

"We approached a

well-known bank, notorious for sponsoring rebel tours to this country, however they were not prepared to invest in our children.

Nevertheless, the community rallied to our aid as well as Metropolitan Life and Real Security."

The highlight of the week was Thursday 29 September when a Tournament Invitation sides took on the rest of the Western Province

sides. Mitchells Plain, although a sub-unit, held their own against the two provincial units. They dominated soccer, netball and table-tennis but they learnt somewhat from their visitors in rugby.

Full results:
Soccer : M.P. 3 - Boland 0;
M.P. 10 - SWD 0;
SWD 0 - Boland 5;
WP 1 - Tournament Invitation 0

Rugby : Boland 28 - M.P. 0;
M.P. 4 - SWD 14;
Boland 4 - SWD 4;
WP 0 - Tournament Invitation 14

Netball : Boland 24 - M.P. 26;
SWD 18 - Boland 28;
M.P. 24 - SWD 12;
WP 22 - Tournament Invitation 26

Players, teachers and the visitors were unanimous in the fact that they had a most enjoyable time.

PRINCESS WHOLESALE
WHOLESALE
COME IN AND COMPARE OUR PRICES
RETREAT RD • RETREAT •
PO BOX 79, TOKAI • TEL 72 3084, 72 3742

DRAGON GAS

2 VENTURA MATROOSFONTEIN
STOCKISTS OF LP GAS
FOR REFILLS
ELECTRICAL HARDWARE
GAS SPARE
PHONE: 932-1950
(EASI GAS)