

National service for all urged in report

By PATRICK CULL
Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — A controversial President's Council report has recommended that national service or similar training be extended to all races, and that what is described as "rehabilitation centres" be established for young "political criminals".

The committee for Social Affairs report, under the chairmanship of Mr Nic Treurnicht, on "The Youth of South Africa" was tabled yesterday.

It was not signed by the Progressive Federal Party member of the committee, Mr Robin Carlisle.

The report, which is likely to have far-reaching repercussions, covers political, economic and social aspects of the problem.

Among the committee's recommendations are:

■ A tightening of censorship to counter the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and "satanism" as presented by the mass media, including television and particularly videos.

■ The establishment of "training and rehabilitation centres" for intimidators and "politically motivated juvenile delinquents" to foster in them "meaningful ideals" and also to protect peace-loving members of the community.

■ The establishment of an education and training programme with an "anti-communist drift" to inform young people of the opportunities in business and industry.

■ The setting up of "community schools" for early school leavers where "strict discipline, in-service training and the involvement of young people in the development of the community are emphasised".

■ The creation of a youth council to co-ordinate youth activities and a youth strategy and youth trust.

The committee, which has been working on the project since February last year, pointed out that 55,6% of South Africa's population is under the age of 24.

Among other comments and findings made by the committee were:

■ The demand for better

education and training by Africans had reached a stage where it was now impossible to meet the demand adequately.

■ The migrant labour system had led to the disintegration of the family.

■ Dissatisfaction among blacks could to a large extent be ascribed to the fact that they were not accommodated in the decision-making process.

■ The politicisation of young Africans was taking on frightening proportions.

■ The present unrest was "largely a manifestation of a lack of discipline in young people".

■ The success achieved by the End Conscription Campaign should not be underestimated.

■ The perception among young blacks that the Government placed them in an inferior and disadvantaged position in society, was to a large extent due to "faulty communication".

On the issue of military training for all people, the report stated that evidence received from Brigadier

Service for all urged

From Page 1

S F Mulder of the SADF was that requests had been made for the extension of national service to all population groups.

It pointed out that the committee is of the opinion that the intake of young people into the military from the "developing groups" should be extended "so that the disciplinary influence of this training can be felt in the various communities".

It added that the "wide influence" the security forces currently have should be extended even further.

On the question of the politicisation of blacks, the report stated that it is estimated that as many as 20% of the black community are actively involved in unrest, acts of violence and boycotts.

Commenting last night on the recommendation that military service be extended to blacks, Miss Cate Turner, spokesman in Port Elizabeth for the End Conscription Campaign, said:

"We see this as a direct attempt by the Government to exacerbate so-called black-on-black violence in the townships."

The step would lead to white troops being pulled out of the townships and replaced by blacks, thereby "dividing the community further".

On a claim in the report that military service had a "wholesome" effect on conscripts, Miss Turner said: "We don't see it that way at all. It has the most incredible psychological effects on people."

She also denied an allegation in the report that the ECC "discouraged" people from doing national service, thereby undermining authority. The ECC, she said, worked within the law which, since 1974, made it illegal to campaign against conscription.

"Our main aim is to bring about a change in the law regarding compulsory military service in South Africa. We believe people should be given the right to choose how they serve their country."

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Uppies go political

A POLITICAL forum with representatives from campus orientated political organisations was presented by the SRC on Thursday 21 April in the UPE auditorium. The forum, under the chairmanship of professor Van Loggerenberg of the Law Faculty, was well attended by students who were able to question the representatives of the various political movements on their policies and ideologies.

The format of the meeting was that each representative was allocated a certain period of time during which the audience could ask him or her questions. After all the movements had had their turn the meeting was thrown open so that anybody could be asked questions.

Mr Ernst van Biljon of Youth for South Africa was the first to be questioned. He said that YSA is a movement which is for moderate young South Africans who want better relationships with other moderate South Africans. YSA receives its funding from private enterprise, especially from Gencor, Nedbank and Unisys. Mr Van Biljon said that YSA differs from organisations like the now defunct ASB and NUSAS because it is not just a student organisation. The ASB was a cultural organisation, which YSA is not. A difference between YSA and NUSAS is that the former started out predominantly among Afrikaner youth, although this has now changed.

Miss Toni Petra of the Progressive Federal Party said that despite the 1987 election setback the PFP is still in business with the same policy. She added that despite some prominent members leaving the PFP is not dead, but she said in answer to another question that the left does have a problem with disunity. The PFP-NRP election alliance was an example of an attempt at unity and reconstruction attempts are continuing. In answer to a later question about the possibly excessive

from the community, it feels that Apartheid must go and that South Africa should be a unitary state with justice and human rights for a 11. In answer to a later question Miss van Greunen emphasized that the CSG was not affiliated with any other movement, although she did say that the CSG had received assistance from NUSAS and IDASA. She added that NUSAS did not need the CSG to be a front for it. According to her politics at university is important because at the university there are intelligent people who are preparing themselves for life.

Mr Willem Wagner of the Positive Students Organisation strongly denied claims that the National Student Federation, to which the PSO is affiliated, was ever funded by the National Party. According to him the PSO is not affiliated to any party and members can belong to any party they wish to join. He said that the PSO is involved in a fight against communism and socialism and is also involved in discussion with people like Mr Tom Linda who according to Mr Wagner has a huge following. In answer to another question Mr Wagner said that the PSO does not agree with detention without trial.

They do not wish to make an issue of it because they do not believe in terrorism either. At one stage during the open time things became rather heated as Mr Wagner called one of his questioners a liar and told another questioner that he could not prove the allegations he was making about some of the NSF's overseas friends.



'n Politieke gebeurtenis van 'n ander soort wat minstens deur die betrokkenes as belangrik beskou word, is Veritas se republiekwording. Hier verskyn die staatshoof en haar kabinet op die groot dag.

Foto: CHRIS MANCE (VOORSITTING)

funding, but there are people within the country who are sympathetic to IDASA and IDASA will find a way to cope with the cut-off of foreign funds. He said that because IDASA is democratic it will talk to anybody who is interested in solving the problems of South Africa even if it is the Conservative Party. According to him the anti democratic image of the ANC which many people appear to have is a result of government propaganda. Those who have talked to the ANC say otherwise. Many South Africans also do not know their country. There was an amusing moment when Mr Mamase was asked a question in Afrikaans. He replied in Xhosa, explaining that he was

produced while suitable leaders are being identified for the National Statutory Council. There is no chance of a fourth chamber in Parliament for blacks because there are too many ethnic groups. To another questioner he said that facilities like Kings Beach would not be opened to all races just for the sake of opening them; space and facilities were necessary. Mr

Van Pletzen was also asked whether the NP youth concerns itself with local youth groups, for example the South African Youth Congress. He said that the NP youth is involved in party politics and tries to increase membership of the National Party. It is not there to build bridges.

Mr Howard Carney of the End To Page 3

"Symphony of success"

THE symphony concert recently held in the UPE auditorium was a success according to those who went. This is how Jacques van Rensburg at the art and entertainment page saw it.

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Miss Darelle van Greunen represented the concerned Student Group. She said that the CSG is a local body to make students more aware of politics, educate them and to create a better climate for a future South Africa. She said that the CSG had not yet formulated a policy on all subjects, for example the freemarket system, but the CSG is concerned about people like the person who asked her what the CSG is concerned about. The CSG does not isolate itself

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Mr Max Mamase of IDASA was asked what the connection was between IDASA and the ANC. He answered that IDASA is non-aligned and outside party politics, but he added that all South Africans have a role to play, even those outside the country's borders and that the problems of South Africa cannot be solved without the ANC. In answer to a question about IDASA's funding Mr Mamase said that IDASA does have a problem in that it is dependant on foreign



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Foto: Chris Mance (uusster)

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Mr Pieter van Pletzen of the National Party said that his party does not talk to those who commit violence. He said that SADF operations in Angola are justified because they are directed at those who want to undermine South Africa. When he was asked to explain how the government plans to reform Mr Van Pletzen said that a new constitution is being

produced while suitable leaders are being identified for the National Statutory Council. There is no chance of a fourth chamber in Parliament for blacks because there are too many ethnic groups. To another questioner he said that facilities like Kings Beach would not be opened to all races just for the sake of opening them; space and facilities were necessary. Mr

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THE symphony concert recently held in the UPE auditorium was a success according to those who went. This is how Jacques van Rensburg at the art and entertainment page saw it.

As I came into the auditorium I gave a sigh of relief when I saw I wasn't the only student coming to the symphony concert. My relief changed to astonishment as more and more students came in to experience a UPE first — and it was an experience!

When the first chords were struck I felt a tingle down my spine and my last prejudice fled from the auditorium. It is very hard to describe what happened to me that night.

I am not a lover of classical music. I am the first one to turn down the sound if an opera singer appears, but believe you me, my

whole perception changed after only five minutes.

The Eastern Province Symphony Orchestra gave a superb performance and it is difficult to find a fault with the way they handled the very enjoyable repertoire.

At first as Louise Allen, the soprano, came on to the stage I was a bit apprehensive, feeling sure that this was the part I wouldn't like. As soon as she started to sing, all that changed. It was obvious, even to me, that they didn't call her the second Mimi Coertze for nothing.

As the evening drew to a close it was a reluctant group of students that went back to res. UPE Cultura, do it again. The students who were there the first time will be there again. This was not an occasion to miss.



Drive drunk and you will get hurt. See page 2.



Die KP sien dr. Treurnicht as Staatspresident. sien bladsy 7.



Waveski results at Noordhoek. See page 12.

Sociologists in Ciskei Two level SRC

FIRST year sociology students under the leadership of professor H.L. Crause visited the Ciskei on the weekend of the 18th to the 20th of March. According to mr Frederik Stroebel the students met with a delegation of Ciskeien Youths and held discussions under the topic of "How to build bridges of goodwill between white and black."

During a meeting at Kambashe (The Great Place) discussion groups were held on education, sport, religion and economics. An important point, which was also stated by a UPE student in an interview with the Ciskeien Broadcasting Corporation was that students believed that all white schools should be opened to all races. This will enable socialization to occur at an early stage in the lives of black and white children, which will teach them to accept one another and to get to know each others culture.

Education stood out as a prime area for change from the existing order. Should education be opened to all it would have a great effect on other areas, for example problems with integrated sport would fall away because all races would be representing the same institutions. It was even proposed that a new sport should be introduced to South Africa. This would not be seen as a "black" or a "white" sport, but will be new for all groups. There is also a perception among blacks that

"white" sport gets more and larger sponsorships.

In discussions on religion it was clear that the perception existed among black youth that the doors of white churches were still closed to them. It was strongly stated that no discrimination should exist in religion.

The group discussing economics discussed the free market system, encouragement to small business and measures to limit unemployment. In all the discussions it was clear that young Ciskeiens still see themselves as part of larger South Africa.

According to mr Stroebel the students also visited the house of parliament, the Ciskei National Shrine at Ntaba Ka Ndoda and an agricultural centre at Keiskammahoek.

Mr Stroebel noted that the Republic of the Ciskei with it's 1,5 million people received R300 million in budgetary aid from South Africa last year, more than double the amount handed over for the 1983 - 84 financial year. With added amounts for the customs union, tax compensation

and other amounts the total amount of money coming to the Ciskei from South Africa is R554,5 million. Ciskei also has R188 million in overdraft facilities.

Mr Stroebel said that the 1986 - 87 SRC of UPE held discussions with the youth of Ciskei on pertinent socio-economic issues. The so-called abhorrent system of Apartheid was discussed at length and it was unanimously noted that Apartheid was the causal factor in the racial conflict in Southern Africa. A resolution was passed which called for a system of government which would recognize the rights of all the people in the country, also political rights.

In an opening speech to the discussions at Kambashe mr Stroebel emphasized the importance of bridges that are built and said that these should be used in a meaningful way. He also pointed out that the roads which led to the bridges must be in the right state before the bridges can serve as links and goodwill can be established.

THE UPE SRC will be operating at two levels this year according to Mr Reg Marais. On the one hand they will be running the day by day activities of the students, while on the other hand they will be working on the formation of new structures, namely the Department of Student Relations and the Department of Cultural Development.

On the first level student leadership camps and fund-raising activities have been presented. A Ladies Week and a Political Forum has also been held. Mr Marais stressed the SRC leadership development projects, because it is important for UPE to build up the widest possible leadership base for the future.

The Actuality portfolio has organised several speakers who will address students on the campus in the next three weeks. On Monday the 9th of May Dr Andries Treurnicht will be speaking. The next Monday, the 16th of May, Dr Jan du Plessis, a sovietologist at the Institute of Strategic Studies will be speaking. Colin Eglin will speak on Monday the 23rd of May.

Mr Marais stressed the need for both a positive attitude and for effective two-way communication between the students and the SRC. He said that the SRC would seriously consider all criticism and suggestions.

From page 1 Political

Conscription Campaign said that the ECC believes in a volunteer army and that people will fight if the cause is good. He compared the restrictions on politics at the UPE campus to those in the banana republics and the Soviet Union. In answer to another question he said that the ECC is not against conscription because it's members are scared, in fact many of the members of the ECC have already done their military service. The ECC is against Apartheid, which it feels is kept going by the SADF. The ECC wants to

stay out of the civil war situation in the townships and would prefer to do non-military service. When confronted with what were alleged to be ANC statements on the ECC Mr Carney said that those statements had been found false and that the newspaper in which they had appeared had been found guilty of lying. Despite this the PSO continues to use these statements in it's smear campaigns.

Students who attended the forum described it as a big success. It was felt that another should be held, as this one had to be stopped due to lack of time.

Damesblad



Face to face with Margaret

THE thought of interviewing Margaret was exciting, yet nerve-racking. Would such an important person want to chat to an ordinary old student? Would she answer my questions? These were some of the many questions going through my mind at the time. What a surprise was awaiting me when I realised that she does not bite and also, like you and me she also has her on and off days.

I asked Margaret how she enjoyed her university life in America and how the other students there treated her, as a celebrity or just another ordinary student? She said that because she left school and started modelling at such an early age, she never had the time to experience the life of a normal

I wanted to know from her how she copes with married life and being away from home so often. She quite honestly admitted that she is a terrible housewife and unless reminded by her husband, often forgets to buy the groceries. Not being at home often is inconvenient and she misses André very much, but when she returns "it is like honeymoon all over again."

At the age of sixteen Margaret was discovered by an international photographer and from then on her photo's regularly appeared in top magazines such as Vogue and Elle. I asked her if, when she was small, did she realize that she had the potential to become a beauty queen. She laughingly joked that "I was never small. Only

Debs en Meesters op US dink groot

WILMA VAN DER MERWE, 'n debutante van Stellenbosch, dink groot. 'n Mikpunt om R25 000 in te samel is vir haar glad nie vergesog nie. Ook nie om 'n reuse modeparade te reël met prof. Chris en Karen Barnard as eregaste nie.

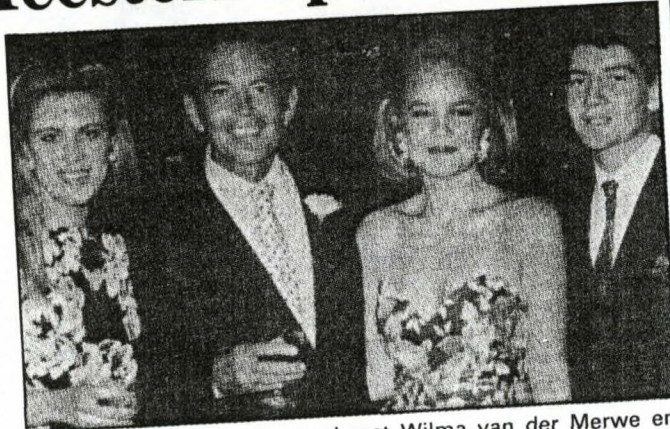
Wilma is een van 190 studente wat vanjaar ingeskryf het vir die debutante en karnavalmeesters-kompetisie. Dit is omtrent tien keer meer as by UPE! Hulle saamtel geld in vir Uskor. (Universiteit van Stellenbosch se klinieke organisasie).

Dit is vanjaar reeds die vierde keer dat Wilma aan die kompetisie deelneem. Met haar eerste poging het sy 'n motor gewen! Die het sy egter verruil vir 'n vakansie op die Griekse eilande.

Haar grootste projek tot dusver die jaar was 'n modeparade wat sy, in samewerking met die Handelaarsvereniging van die Tygervalleisentrum, daar aangebied het. Prof. Chris en Karen Barnard was die eregaste.

Modelle van die Petrusa Rood agentskap het veertien van die sentrum se klerewinkels se winterklere gemodelleer. Skakerings van swart, rooi, grys en kameelbruin is vanjaar se winterkleure met rokke kort en lank. Elegante aanddrag en slenterdrag is vertoon.

Mej. Matieland en ses van haar prinsesse het ook modelleer. Die modeparade is afgesluit op maat van Dirty Dancing... toe baljaar die mense.



Prof. Chris en Karen Barnard met Wilma van der Merwe en Albert Keevy.

In sy toespraak het prof. Barnard sy waardering uitgespreek vir die studente se werk vir Uskor en vertel dat sy dogter, Deidre, ook eens op 'n tyd as debutant 'n motor gewen het. Sy het egter nie so hard soos Wilma gewerk nie, sê hy.

Wilma van der Merwe was verheug oor die verloop van die aand. "Prof. Chris en Karen is sulke spontane mense. Ek waardeer dit regtig dat hulle moeite gedoen het om te kom. Hulle het net pas teruggekeer van hul plaas in Richmond," het sy gesê.

Wilma het ook 'n première van 'Fiela se Kind' op kampus gereël.

Miki Redelinghuys berig dat daar vanjaar 190 debutantes en karnavalmeesters ingeskryf het op Stellenbosch in vergelyking met 1987 se 140. Met nog net drie maande oor voor die afsluiting

van die kompetisie, is daar reeds R30 000 ingesamel. Sommige vra vir donasies, maar daar is tog ander, nes Wilma, wat meer inisiatief aan die dag lê. Albert Keevy, verlede jaar se wenner, het 'n R100 000 kontant kompetisie geloods, Cilliers Viljoen het 'n motorkompetisie uitgeskryf en Carin-Marie la Cock het skilderye opgeveel. 'n Volkswagen Fox wag vir die persoon wat die meeste geld insamel. Die tweede prys is 'n reis na Mauritius met ander pryse 'n mikrogolfoond, R1 000 studiebeurs en klerewinkels. Vir 'n fenomenale insameling van R70 000 kan 'n BMW gewen word.

As aansporing mag jy sekere funksies bywoon. Om die eerste debsfunksie van 5 Maart te kon bywoon moes 'n Deb R150 ingesamel het. Die volgende kontroles vind op 19, 20 en 21 April plaas.

'ECC Moet praat,' sê Matie leiers

VIER politieke kampus-leiers, insluitende die KP-voorsitter, het verlede kwartaal in 'n Saak-debat oor vryheid van spraak vir die wettiging van die End Conscription Campaign (ECC) op kampus gepleit. Dit was in reaksie op die Rektor se verbod op 'n beplande toespraak deur 'n ECC-lid.

Die KP-voorsitter, Emile Wesels, is as wenner van die debat aangewys. Hy het teen die naaswenner en OSB-voorsitter Robert Bricout, die voorsitters van Nusas en Jeugkrag, en 'n NP-verteenvoordiger te staan gekom. Hulle het voor 'n volgepakte saal hulle organisasies se beleid oor vryheid van spraak gedebateer.

Net die NP-verteenvoordiger was gekant teen die wettiging van die ECC wat in 1986 op Stellenbosch verbied is om op Kampus te funksioneer.

Die verbod op die funksionering van die ECC het onlangs weer opspraak verwek toe die SR die gewetensbeswaarde, dr. Ivan Toms, verbied het om op 'n Nusas-platform op Stellenbosch te praat.

Die beoordelaars van die debat, prof. Laurie Ackerman, prof. Hennie Kotzé en Me. Gagiano, het slegs op debatsgronde beoordeel. Volgens prof. Kotzé het "persoonlike sieninge nie die uit-spraak beïnvloed nie".

Die KP-voorsitter het gesê "vryheid van spraak hang nou saam met demokratiese beginsels. In die lig hiervan behoort die ECC op kampus te funksioneer. Debatsvoering is die beste manier, om opposisie te neutraliseer."

"Die verbod op die Toms-vergadering was 'n fout van die universiteit. Vraagstelling en debat voorkom desinformasie," het hy gesê.

Hy het sy opponente gevra of hulle net so ontsteld sou wees oor 'n verbod op 'n AWB-vergadering. "Mens moet," het hy gesê, "nie toelaat dat persoonlike standpunte inmeng met die vryheid van spraak nie."

Volgens OSB-voorsitter het die

sas, Mark Behr, het die ECC 'n reg om op Stellenbosch te funksioneer "omdat dié organisasie volgens wetgewing nie verban is nie".

Hy het beklemtoon dat dr. Toms "nooit van plan was om enige mense se persoonlike regte te skend nie. Hy het nog nooit kritiek oor dienspligtiges gelewer nie. Die ECC wil mense nie oortuig om diensplig te ontwyk nie, maar vra net dat 'n opsie van alternatiewe vorme van diensplig daargestel moet word".

Die voorsitter van Jeugkrag, Hermann Thiel, het gesê. "daar bestaan geen belofte om méér beperkings as die regering in te stel nie". Volgens hom behoort die ECC 'n plek op US te kry.

Die verteenwoordiger van die NP, Anton Schoombee, het die Universiteitsraad se verbod op die ECC en die SR-verbod op Ivan Toms ten volle gesteun, omdat "hulle 'n direkte aanslag op die SAW maak".

Volgens hom beywer die ECC hom vir "die verswakking van ons weermag. In die revolusionêre oorlog waarin ons gewikkel is, beteken dit dat dit in die hande speel van diegene wat die land met geweld wil oorneem".

Op die vraag uit die gehoor oor hoekom die ECC op die kampus verbied is, hoewel dit 'n wettige organisasie is, het mnr. Schoombee gesê hy kan nie alles van die regering goedpraat nie. "Hoekom die regering nie die ECC verbied nie, weet ek nie."

Die beoordelaars het al vyf sprekers gekritiseer dat hulle nie op 'n meer filosofiese vlak gedebateer het nie.

Prof. Ackerman het by navraag gesê die fundamentele beginsels van vryheid van spraak, soos die mens se basiese regte en die soek na waarheid, is nie deeglik deur die sprekers ondersoek nie. Sake wat ook op die debat bespreek is, is die onlangse inperking op die UDF en sestien ander organisasies, en die O'Brian-geval op die UK verlede jaar.

In 'n verklaring wat deur die

Wits SRC President detained

THE SRC president of the University of the Witwatersrand, Ms Rosemary Hunter, has been detained in terms of the emergency regulations.

90% of the students who voted were in favour of and supported the current SRC. Only 9% of the students on Campus voted in the previous SRC elections.

The Treasurer of the SRC,

Several SRC members and Nusas head-office personnel paid a visit to John Vorster Square in the hopes of delivering a bunch of roses to Miss Hunter. They were told by police on duty that John Vorster Square was a police sta-

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THE SRC president of the University of the Witwatersrand, Ms Rosemary Hunter, has been detained in terms of the emergency regulations.

Ms Hunter was taken from her home at 6.30am on Monday 21 March. She was instructed by security police to take enough clothes for a week.

The chairman of Wits Black Students Society, Tigo Mosekene, was detained by the police at the same time.

Wits' Vice-chancellor, Professor Robert Charlton said that the university regarded the matter "with the utmost concern" and added that Wits' attorneys had been instructed to take immediate action.

According to Erica Elk, a fellow SRC member, Ms Hunter has not previously been detained. Neither could she suggest a valid reason why Ms Hunter's present detention has taken place.

"The SRC has been extremely busy during the past few weeks organising a referendum on campus to gauge student support for the present SRC." She added that

90% of the students who voted were in favour of and supported the current SRC. Only 9% of the students on Campus voted in the previous SRC elections.

The Treasurer of the SRC, Tom Plewman, also said concerning Ms Hunter's detention that considering the fact that Wits would be commemorating Sharpville-day, Ms Hunter's detention and arrest was originally regarded as intimidation.

The SRC chairman of the UCT, Cameron Dudmore, condemned Ms Hunter's detention.

Various protests have taken place, on and off campus condemning Ms Hunter's detention. A meeting was held rejecting the governments right to hold people in detention without giving them a fair trial.

Prof. Hunter (Rosemary's father), Winnie Mandela, Sister Bernard and the president of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Frank Chikane, addressed the meeting. A 200 strong crowd protested against Miss Hunter's detention off the campus.

Attention

THIS is an urgent request to the person who borrowed a duvet after everything-that-floats to please return it to the reg office at the soonest possible opportunity. The owner of the duvet would like it back as soon as possible please as she has been waiting for you to return it for nearly two months now. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

AWB wil op Potch funksioneer

AWB-JEUGLEDE wil aansoek doen om as 'n vereniging op die kampus van die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike Hoër Opvoeding te funksioneer.

Volgens die AWB se pers- sekretaris, mnr. P.W. Bingle, tref AWB-jeugleiers vir 'n geruime tyd al "reëlings" op verskeie kampusse, maar hulle gaan net by Potchefstroom aansoek doen vir erkenning.

Wits student Miss Portugal

DURING the last week of March, a Wits student Miss Isabel da Costa was chosen in Lisbon as Miss Portugal. The previous week 21 year old Miss da Costa was still a law student in Johannesburg. She will now be living permanently in Portugal.

The fact that she is a Portuguese citizen makes it possible for her to take part in the Miss Universe competition later this year. South Africa is forbidden to enter beauty queens in this competi- tion.

Several SRC members and Nusas head-office personnel paid a visit to John Vorster Square in the hopes of delivering a bunch of roses to Miss Hunter. They were told by police on duty that John Vorster Square was a police station and not a hospital. She was allowed a visit from her parents and attorney on the Friday afternoon.

Although she has not been formally charged police revealed that a dossier regarding Ms Hunter's political activities had been opened.

Nusas chairman at Stellenbosch expressed his strongest condemnation regarding the detention. He added that it was "absolutely shocking especially in the light of Wits' Prof. Raymond Hunter's arrest some three months ago.

Ms Hunter's brother Roland, is currently serving a five year sentence after being charged with high treason three years ago. Mr Hunter had exposed South African support regarding logistics and training of Renamo rebels in Mozambique to the international press.

deur. Volgens prof. Kooze "persoonlike sieninge nie die uit- spraak beïnvloed nie".
Die KP-voorsitter het gesê "vryheid van spraak hang nou saam met demokratiese beginsels. In die lig hiervan behoort die ECC op kampus te funksioneer. Debatsvoering is die beste manier om opposisie te neutraliseer."
"Die verbod op die Toms-vergadering was 'n fout van die universiteit. Vraagstelling en debat voorkom desinformasie," het hy gesê.
Hy het sy opponente gevra of hulle net so ontsteld sou wees oor 'n verbod op 'n AWB-vergadering. "Mens moet," het hy gesê, "nie toelaat dat persoonlike standpunte inmeng met die vryheid van spraak nie."
Volgens OSB-voorsitter het die SR hulle onderskei as "leidende figure in die verkragting van die basiese beginsels van vryheid van spraak met die verbod op die ECC en dr. Toms."
Deur dié reg te beperk, kan 'n samelewing nie op rasionele beginsels gebaseer word nie. Dit moet 'n tirannie van onkunde vervang. Die belangrikste menslike aktiwiteit is kommunikasie en die soek na waarheid, het hy gesê.
Volgens die voorsitter van Nu-

Academic's daughter accused of high treason

JENNY SCHREINER, the daughter of the vice-chancellor of the University of Natal, was recently accused of high treason in the Wynberg District Court in Cape Town.

Miss Schreiner and ten other supposed ANC members or supporters were not asked to plead.

Miss Schreiner's father, prof. Denys Schreiner was at the court to support his daughter.

According to the charge sheet Miss Schreiner had set two toilet mines in two different toilets in the ladies rest rooms at D.F. Malan Airport.

One of the bombs exploded but no-one was injured in the blast.

Miss Schreiner, according to the evidence, had sent a letter to the press where-in she revealed her reasons for planting the bombs.

hoekom die ECC op 'n vryheid is, hoewel dit 'n v organisasie is, het mnr. Sch bee gesê hy kan nie alles v regering goedpraat nie. "H die regering nie die ECC v nie, weet ek nie."

Die beoordelaars het u sprekers gekritiseer dat hu op 'n meer filosofiese vl debateer het nie.

Prof. Ackerman het by n gesê die fundamentele be van vryheid van spraak, s mens se basiese regte en d na waarheid, is nie deegli die sprekers ondersoek ni wat ook op die debat bespi is die onlangse inperking UDF en sestien ander or sies, en die O'Brian-geval UK verlede jaar.

In 'n verklaring wat d ECC van Stellenbosch u is, hoop die organisasie da punte wat tydens die deb per is, aktief deur al die o sies verder geneem sal v

Hulle hoop dat die vier siasies wat laat blyk het d 'n veldtog vir die wettig die ECC op kampus sal steun, daadwerklike | daarvoor sal aanwend, verklaring.



Prof. Denys Schrei

According to the cha Miss Schreiner also set mine and a "gas bottl which exploded outside flats in Tennant Stre Town. None of the SA bers or their families there were injured in t

upen

WOENSDAG, 4 MEI 1988

Politieke Forum val onder die soeklig

MET al my komplimente aan die SR en in besonder, mnr. Fred Brown, wat die Aktualiteit Portefeulje behartig wil ek dit waag om die forum as 'n groot sukses te beskryf. Vir die eerste keer by UPE het studente die voorreg gehad om sekerheid te kry t.o.v. die aard van politieke organisasie wat die student as teikengroep beskou.

Tog was daar egter probleme wat opgeduik het tydens die forum waaraan daar beslis aandag gegee moet word. 'n Probleem wat pertinent na vore getree het was die formaat van die vergadering. Die kritiek is ontvang dat indien wel geleentheid geskep is om 'n kort toespraak van elke spreker aan te hoor, elke organisasie miskien 'n gelyke geleentheid sou gehad het.

Verdere kritiek t.o.v. die vyandiggesindheid wat ontstaan het tussen die sprekers en die gehoor het ingestroom en dit het 'n suur smaak in die mond gelaat. Dit het in elk geval bewys dat indien enige jeugorganisasie enige ondersteuning van studente verwag, daardie organisasie (of party?) wel die belange asook die sentimente van die studente op die hart moet dra. Erkenning moet beslis gegee word aan die student se integriteit en dus moet die ou politieke truuk van geplante vrae asook drukgroepe in so 'n vergadering beveg word. Om die vryheid van politieke organisasies op kampus te bewerkstellig moet oor en weer gesmeedery stopgesit word en alle aandag by die kwesies van belang bepaal word.

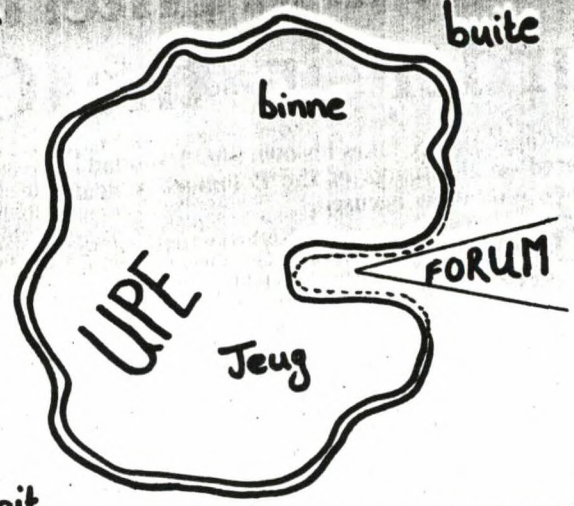
Joolvoorsitter 1989

WEER EENS is dit daardie tyd van die jaar waar die vakature van joolvoorsitter geadverteer word. Voor JY dus aansoek doen vir hierdie vakature, neem eers 5 min. en gaan dink oor hierdie besluit.

Moenie vergeet van die ure wat jy moet insit, of die plesiertjies wat jy moet prysgee nie, of die nagte wat jy moet deurwerk nie, of die verantwoordelikheid wat jy moet aanvaar as studente die see invaar nie en as jy...

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Politiek



Realiteit

Kan die SR-Forum die eerste stap wees na 'n verhoging in politieke bewustheid onder die studente?

Politieke organisasies op kampus 'n móét!

FRED BROWN, Studenteraadslid vir Aktualiteit, lug sy mening oor die geweldige gebrek aan politieke bewustheid onder studente en die gevolglike noodsaaklikheid daarvan dat politieke organisasies op kampus toegelaat word.

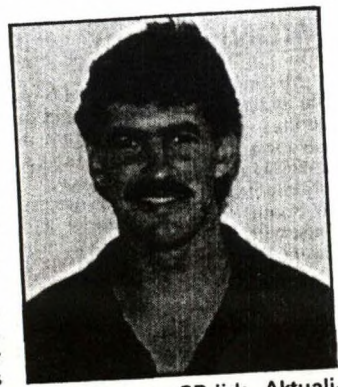
Politiek is so belangrik dat dit 'n invloed het op die lewe van elke mens in Suid-Afrika en die hele samelewing. Nooit tevore was politiek vir elke Suid-Afrikanner so belangrik soos juis nou dat Suid-Afrika besig is ingrypende veranderinge te ondergaan nie. Politiek is ingeweef in elke aspek van ons lewe.

Dit is noodsaaklik dat ons nie maar staan en toekyk nie, maar dat ons eerder betrokke raak by die uitwerk van ons toekoms. Blankes is geneig om baie minder politieke bewus te wees as anderskleuriges, waarskynlik omdat hulle vir geruime tyd in 'n gunstiger posisie was as anderskleuriges en omdat hulle meer geïsoleerd was van ons land se probleme.

nicht lewer op 9 Mei 'n toespraak in die auditorium. Hierdie soort geleenthede bereik egter slegs 'n beperkte aantal studente en slegs diegene met 'n spesifieke belangstelling daarin steur hulle daaraan. Die meerderheid word glad nie bereik nie.

Ek voel dat die Raad politieke organisasies op kampus moet toelaat. Dit sal méér studente méér bewus maak van politiek. Daar is verskeie organisasies wat graag op kampus wil werk en wat hulle bes sal doen om studente betrokke te kry. Op die oomblik moet hierdie organisasie van buite die kampus af werk en gevolglik sukkel hulle om die studentege-meenskap te bereik.

Die huidige reëls skep baie probleme vir sulke organisasies. Hul- beste kantore in



Fred Brown, SR-lid: Aktualiteitskring.

en betrokke wees by die werksaamhede van 'n tak van 'n politieke party.

Omstandighede vereis dat die reëls moet verander om politieke organisasies op kampus toe te laat. Dit is belangrik dat 'n sog-

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Moenie vergeet van die ure wat jy moet insit, of die plesiertjies wat jy moet prysgee nie, of die nagte wat jy moet deurwerk nie, of die verantwoordelikheid wat jy moet aanvaar as studente die see invaar nie en as jy nog bereid is om aansoek te doen, dink aan die graad waarmee jy nou besig is.

Tog is daar persone wat dit wel doen. Persone wat dit wil doen, nie om op die SR te dien nie of om joolvoorsitter te wees nie, maar omdat dit 'n liefdesdiens is.

Open-redaksie

Hoofredakteur: Chris Theron 321333

Tegniese Redakteur: Pieter van Vuuren 5311442

Nuusredaksie

Nuusredakteur: Barry de Klerk 5311526

Verslaggewers: Meiké Wetsch, Paul Siëberhagen, Cari Cillie, Dennis Stead, Craig Stidworthy, Bernie Bekker.

Sportredaksie

Sportredakteur: Michael Brown 5311426

Verslaggewers: Dominique de la Croix, Nathalie Heynderickx, David Shields, Harold Burgess.

Interuniversitêre Redaksie

Redakteur: Michelle Vernon 5311464

Aktuele Redaksie

Aktuele Redakteur: Francois le Roux 5311427

Verslaggewer: Casper Lötter

Sosiale Redaksie

Redakteur: Annemarie Wentzel 5311464

Verslaggewers: Hesterki Fourie, Louis van der Vyfer

Kunsredaksie

Kunsredakteur: Jeni Hall 5311416

Verslaggewers: Natania Kleinhans, Jacques van Rensburg

Damesbladredaksie

Redakteur: Valerie Gowar 5311464

Verslaggewer: Linda Jordaan

Spotprente

Retha Muller

Fotografie

Stephan le Roux, Tim Botha, Dominique de la Croix

Dit is noodsaaklik dat ons nie maar staan en toekyk nie, maar dat ons eerder betrokke raak by die uitwerk van ons toekoms. Blankes is geneig om baie minder politieke bewus te wees as anderskleuriges, waarskynlik omdat hulle vir geruime tyd in 'n gunstiger posisie was as anderskleuriges en omdat hulle meer geïsoleerd was van ons land se probleme.

“Studente aan UPE word egter tot 'n groot mate verhinder om by politiek betrokke te raak...”

Politiek vorm net so 'n belangrike deel van die student se lewe. 'n Mens se studentejare bied 'n ideale geleentheid om betrokke te raak by politiek sodat 'n mens minstens 'n basiese kennis het van wat om jou aangaan wanneer jy eendag in die wêreld uitgaan. Op universiteit is die student in 'n posisie om sy eie menings te vorm en kom hy in aanraking met baie ander mense met 'n wye verskeidenheid van menings en agtergronde. Dit is des te meer waar van die tweetalige Universiteit van Port Elizabeth. Dit bied 'n uitstekende geleentheid vir opbouende gesprekvoering en politieke bewuswording.

Studente aan UPE word egter in 'n groot mate verhinder om by politiek betrokke te raak en hulle kennis te verbreed deur die reëls wat deur die Raad van die Universiteit neergelê is. Deurdadige politieke organisasies op kampus verbode is, word 'n kritieke deel van studente se ontwikkeling onmoontlik gemaak. Slegs diegene wat bereid is om uit hulle pad te gaan, kom met politiek in aanraking en hulle is maar dun gesaai.

“Die huidige reëls skep baie probleme vir organisasies”

Die doel van my portefeulje, Aktualiteit, is om studente politieke bewus te maak, maar my hande is gebind. Ek kan slegs 'n poging aanwend deur lesings, forums en skolingskampe aan te bied. Forums is op 3 Maart en 21 April gehou en dr. A.P. Treur-

...n die auditorium. Hierdie soort geleenthede bereik egter slegs 'n beperkte aantal studente en slegs diegene met 'n spesifieke belangstelling daarin steur hulle daaraan. Die meerderheid word glad nie bereik nie.

Ek voel dat die Raad politieke organisasies op kampus moet toelaat. Dit sal méér studente méér bewus maak van politiek. Daar is verskeie organisasies wat graag op kampus wil werk en wat hulle bes sal doen om studente betrokke te kry. Op die oomblik moet hierdie organisasie van buite die kampus af werk en gevolglik sukkel hulle om die studentegemeenskap te bereik.

Die huidige reëls skep baie probleme vir sulke organisasies. Hulle moet teen hoë koste kantore in die stad huur en onderhou. Omdat pamflette nie op kampus versprei mag word nie, moet dit op straat uitgedeel word. Organisasies mag ook nie hulself gedurende oriënteringsweek bekendstel nie. Hulle mag nêrens op kampus hulle aktiwiteite adverteer nie. Al hulle publikasies moet teen hoë koste per pos aan studente gestuur word. Debatte, toesprake en vergaderings op kampus is verbode — dit alles terwyl hierdie organisasies 'n positiewe rol kan speel in die politieke bewusmaking van ons studente.

“Omstandighede vereis dat die reëls moet verander...”

Die Studenteraad het hierdie jaar 'n politieke kennisgewingbord aangevra waarop politieke funksies en aktiwiteite geadverteer sou word. 'n Standaard formaat sou vir kennisgewings gebruik word. 'n Studenteraadslid sou toesig hou oor die bord en slagspreuke sou nie toegelaat word nie. So 'n kennisgewingbord sou op 'n sentrale plek op kampus geplaas word. Slegs hierdie geringe verbetering is deur die Raad afgekeur.

Die reëls stipuleer op die oomblik dat behalwe vir sover geboue en geriewe op aansoek beskikbaar is aan politieke partye wat in die parlement verteenwoordig is, daar 'nie enige geriewe aan organisasies met politieke konnotasies of oënsynlik politieke doelwitte beskikbaar gestel word nie.” Die stigting van “kampustakke” van politieke partye word ook verbied. Studente mag wel aansluit



Fred Brown, SR-lid: Aktualiteitskring.

en betrokke wees by die werksaamhede van 'n tak van 'n politieke party.

Omstandighede vereis dat die reëls moet verander om politieke organisasies op kampus toe te laat. Dit is belangrik dat 'n sogenaamde “politieke mandaat” nie verlang word nie. Dit is ongewens dat die Studenteraad op 'n politieke grondslag gekies word en geaffilieer is by 'n politieke organisasie, soos die geval is op die meeste engelstalige kampusse.

“Ek wil 'n beroep doen op studente om die geleentheid wat wel bestaan, aan te gryp”

Dit is te betwyfel of die situasie sal ontaard soos op sommige engelstalige kampusse gebeur het. Die studente van UPE is oor die algemeen redelik gematig. Daarby twyfel ek nie daaraan dat die Raad bereid is en in staat is om die situasie onder beheer te hou nie. Riglyne sal neergelê word wat organisasies se optrede sal reguleer. Die Raad sal die bevoegdheid hê om te besluit watter organisasies op kampus toegelaat sal word. Dit is in elk geval beter dat ons enige probleme wat mag ontstaan sal hanteer eerder as dat studente langer politieke onaktief en onbetrokke gehou sal word.

Ek wil 'n beroep doen op studente om die geleentheid wat wel bestaan, aan te gryp. Lees die publikasies wat deur organisasies versprei word. Woon funksies van politieke aard by. Die Aktualiteitskomitee doen sy bes om sprekers van die hoogste gehalte te kry om op kampus op te tree en ek verseker julle dat hierdie geleentheid baie interessant is.

Ek hoop dat ek met hierdie artikel 'n positiewe reaksie sal uitlok, beide van ons studentegemeenskap en van die persone wat hieroor moet besluit.

Janet Cherry C106
65.6

She's happy but we can't tell you why



Miss Janet Cherry, leader of the End Conscription Campaign in the Eastern Cape, was celebrating last night. Why she was celebrating the Herald is not at liberty to disclose. *FL4 1/8/87*

B D 7/87 □

ECC Port Elizabeth leader Janet Cherry was released from nearly a year's detention under the emergency regulations last week. She was immediately served with an order preventing her taking part in ECC activities in the eastern Cape or in the Eastern Cape Adult Learning Project, where she has been employed since 1984.

□ □ □

Janet Cherry released from detention

By CLARE HARPER

A LEADING End Conscription Campaign (ECC) member and University of Cape Town student, Ms Janet Cherry, has been released from emergency detention after spending 11 months and eight days in Port Elizabeth's North End Prison.

This was confirmed yesterday by her mother, Mrs Helen Cherry, who said she was "thrilled" Janet had been released at 9.30 on Thursday night.

And the 1985 SRC president of the University of the Western Cape, Mr Russell MacGregor, was released on Thursday afternoon after spending 13½ months in detention.

Ms Cherry's detention prompted Amnesty International to adopt her as a prisoner of conscience and several prominent Americans — including Senator Edward Kennedy, Bishop John Walker of Washington DC and Bishop Paul Moore of New York — wrote to President P W Botha expressing concern about her continued detention.

Ms Cherry, 25, spent three weeks of her detention in solitary confinement.

An application for her release was dismissed with costs by the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court in June.

The Civil Rights League yesterday welcomed the news of her release, but expressed concern for her cellmate, Grahamstown rural worker Ms Sue Lund, who might now be in solitary confinement.

The league also called on the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to release the estimated 3 000 other emergency detainees — including possibly 600 children — "as a means towards enabling negotiations for peace in South Africa" to take place.

In a joint statement, the UCT branch of the ECC and the SRC said they were "extremely happy to note the release of Janet Cherry".

The statement said: "We are outraged that she was held for nearly a year without being charged."

The ECC and the SRC called for the release of "all other detainees, especially Sue Lund, the remaining ECC member in detention, and Vusi Khanyile, the UCT principal's special assistant".

Ms Cherry's father, Professor Robin Cherry, professor of physics at UCT, is at present in Monaco.



Ms Cherry



Mr MacGregor

women in the struggle



A tribute to two South African women who have paid a higher price than most.

Janet Cherry, 26, Port Elizabeth Black Sash member, Eastern Cape Adult Learning Project co-ordinator and End Conscription Campaign leader, spent most of the past year in detention.

Janet comes from a family committed to social justice. Both her father, Robin, who is the Dean of Science at the University of Cape Town, and her mother, Helen, have played an active role in opposing apartheid. While at school at Rustenburg Girls' High in Rondebosch, Janet first became aware of the injustices in South Africa and was a strong supporter of the PFP.

After matriculating with distinction in 1979 Janet began a degree in Economic History and Industrial Sociology at UCT. Through her concern for the need for a living wage she joined and later co-ordinated the Wages Commission. She also served as a voluntary worker for the General Workers' Union and assisted with its worker advice office. She played a central role on the support committees of the 1980 Meat Workers' strike and the 1981 Wilson Rowntrees strike.

In 1980 she began working as a volunteer literacy teacher for the Adult Learning Project. Through this work, most of it involving evening classes in Crossroads, she not only learnt to speak Xhosa fluently but also had first-hand experience of the needs and desires of black workers.

Janet has always believed in the importance of working for change within her own community and of winning over as many whites as possible to the cause of democracy. For this reason she became actively involved in student politics. In 1980 she was elected to the Arts Students' Council and in 1981 was one of the poll-toppers in the SRC election. She served as SRC Media Officer, and

janet cherry

Gavin Evans

On 30 July, Janet Cherry was released after 342 days in detention. That simple fact bears testimony to the price she and hundreds of others have paid for their political commitment.

She has received numerous death threats and has been assaulted by white thugs.

through this work developed contacts with youth and civic groups throughout the Western Cape. After graduating in 1982 she was elected Secretary-General of the National Union of South African Students and worked full-time for NUSAS in 1983.

Rather than returning to the relatively secure environment of Cape Town, Janet took up the challenge of moving to Port Elizabeth, where there was a pressing need for her skills as a literacy teacher. In 1984 she set up the Eastern Cape Adult Learning Project, and began her work teaching literacy skills to trade union members.

In 1986, when the repression in the area made it difficult for her to fulfil her role as a literacy co-ordinator, she transformed her offices into a community and detentions advice centre. A prime focus of her work was always on training others to impart skills. This has meant that her work has been able to continue despite her detention.

In 1984 Janet joined the Black Sash and has played an active role in the organisation ever since. She developed a close friendship with Molly Blackburn, and together they worked tirelessly in showing the white community the realities of life under apartheid.

One of Janet's first efforts in winning support for the democratic movement within the white community was in setting up the Million Signatures Campaign in 1984. Over 1 000 signatures were collected from Port Elizabeth's white suburbs, and in August 1984 the Walmer town hall was packed for the launch of the Port Elizabeth UDF Area Committee. Janet was elected its first chairperson.

In July 1985 all meetings of the UDF PE Area Committee were banned, and the ban has since been renewed. During this period Janet also served on the UDF regional and national General Councils and on several UDF subcommittees.

In December 1984 Janet and Molly Blackburn formed the Port Elizabeth branch of the End Conscription Campaign and Janet was elected its chairperson. She has also served on the ECC National Committee, has addressed ECC meetings throughout the country and has represented the ECC overseas.

In addition to her political involvement Janet has maintained her academic interest and is currently completing an honours degree in Economic History. She is a keen tennis player, an accomplished artist and singer and a former champion show jumper.

Over the past four years, she has faced constant repression and harassment from the security police and from 'right wing' elements. In 1981 she was detained for a day after taking part in a protest for the rights of meat workers. In August 1984 she was again briefly detained on the eve of the coloured and

Indian elections. In July 1985 she was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act and held in solitary confinement for three weeks without charge, and last year she was detained for the fourth time. In all she has spent over a year of her life in detention without having been charged with any offence.

In March last year Janet, a fluent French speaker, was chosen to represent the ECC at an SOS Racisme conference in France. Hours before her departure she was arrested on a 'drugs' charge despite never having touched drugs in her life. After two days she was released when police could find no evidence against her. She immediately left for France and was able to address the conference.

Since arriving in Port Elizabeth she has faced a series of mysterious attacks which appear to have had the purpose of intimidating her to leave Port Elizabeth. On at least ten occasions her car tyres have been slashed. One tyre was dangerously over-inflated while her car was parked outside her house. Her car has twice been firebombed while parked outside her house or office. In July 1984 she was hospitalised after a rock was thrown through her windscreen while she was driving. She has received numerous death threats and has been assaulted by white thugs.

Janet's home and office have also frequently been raided by the security police. In June last year her office was broken into and all her literacy files were removed.

On 22 August last year Janet was detained by the security police while visiting Cape Town. She was transferred to Port Elizabeth and was held in the North End Prison there. She was held in solitary confinement for over two months, but later shared a cell with Sue Lund, the Grahamstown Rural Committee co-ordinator, who was detained on 22 November.

The only visitors Janet was allowed were her family, who all live in Cape Town and found it difficult to travel to Port Elizabeth regularly. She was allowed no letters other than those from her family.

During her detention Janet received significant local and international support. In November last year she was adopted as Prisoner of the Month by Amnesty International. The ECC has also received over 500 overseas letters of support for Janet from church groups, peace organisations and individuals from four continents. Senator Edward Kennedy, Bishop John Walker of Washington DC, Bishop Paul Moore of New York and numerous other prominent individuals and groups wrote to President Botha calling for her release.

An application for Janet's release was rejected by the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court in June. □

A moral and legal outrage

Peter Moll

Janet Cherry was in detention for nearly a year in a Port Elizabeth prison. In June her application for release was dismissed with costs.

According to the Cape Times report on the judgment (June 18), the major accusations against her by the police were that she 'taught Marxist doctrines' and was in 'constant contact' with the ANC. The judge ruled that to these 'factual allegations' (a contradiction in terms!) Cherry had merely offered denials, and so dismissed the application.

In any case, teaching Marxism is not illegal. Marxist thought forms an integral part of economics, sociology, politics and history courses in all universities in the Western world — as it must, because it is part of our intellectual heritage. One might equally lock up anyone who dares teach Adam Smith or Malthus! So why the hullabaloo?

The other accusation is equally ridiculous: That she was in 'constant contact' with the ANC. It is not illegal to contact the ANC — even prominent NP members have done so. Gavin Relly and Tony Bloom not only contacted and visited the ANC in Lusaka — they even discussed the management of the

country under an imagined future ANC government. So why not round up these personalities?

Ah — the answer will no doubt be given — because all this Marxism, this constant contact, suggests illegal activity.

Here, precisely, is the rub. These fatuous phrases and insinuations are being used to mislead the public into thinking that Janet Cherry is guilty of something — which she is not until proven so. If she has been involved in 'illegal activity' then she should be tried in open court.

The accusations against her are anything but factual. If the police had amassed evidence which they thought would stick they would have charged her long ago. The very fact that she was detained for so long suggests that the police have no case against her. They do not even have 'factual allegations' as the judge avers.

All they have is a mishmash of hearsay and idiotic claims which amount to guilt by association.

The detention of Janet Cherry was a moral and legal outrage. (*Originally in a letter to the Cape Times*)

the
black sash
statement

The Black Sash again condemns the system of detention without due process. We believe that thousands of people are currently being held.

Several of our members have spent periods in detention during the State of Emergency, including Janet Cherry, who was in detention for over 11 months. During this period she lost an application for her release in the Supreme Court.

On her release, she was served with restriction orders, severely limiting her political work.

We know that Janet has acted effectively against apartheid. We believe her political activity has been perfectly legal and accept her denial of allegations made against her. We also reject any attempt to smear her with false assumptions based on inaccurate information. We demand the lifting of her restriction orders.

We also protest against the continuing detention of Sue Lund of Grahams-town, Nomaindia Mfeketho of Cape Town and Sister Bernard Ncube, President of the Federation of Transvaal Women, three women we know and respect for their unflinching opposition to apartheid.

We will not be silent until they and all other detainees are released and South Africa is governed by the Rule of Just Law.

When Janet Cherry is asked how she coped with nearly a year in detention, she grins and quotes a security policeman, "human beings is a miracle ; they can adapt to anything."

As the weeks and months dragged by in prison, Janet often remembered Major Roelofse's comment. "He was right", she says, "one can adapt to so many things. One can adapt to life in detention and to the uncertainty of not knowing how long you will be in for."

A week after her release from North End Prison in Port Elizabeth. Janet is in Cape Town with her family and friends. She is fit and healthy. In fact everyone who sees her remarks on how well she looks. She plans to take it easy for a while but is already talking about her political involvement next year. As we walk up towards the forest, she cannot get over how beautiful Table Mountain is. The space, colours, wind and movement are still new experiences.

Until June last year Janet was the chairperson of the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) in Port Elizabeth and a literacy teacher with the Adult Learning Project. When the State of Emergency was imposed on June 12 she went into hiding in Cape Town to avoid detention. The security police caught up with her 5 weeks later - "there was that awful 5 o'clock knock on the door," she recalls. "The police were fairly polite and said, 'have some tea, get your things together, we're detaining you under the Emergency.' I felt no panic. Just resignation. The inevitable was happening."

Later that day the police drove Janet to 'Louis le Grange', security police headquarters in Port Elizabeth, where she spent three weeks in solitary confinement. She was then moved to North End Prison and held with three other white women detainees from Grahamstown until their release in October. She was alone again for three weeks before Sue Lund, a Grahamstown Rural Committee field-worker, was detained and put in her cell. Janet was released in August after 11 months in detention.

She only had contact with the security police during the first month. The detention was purely 'preventative': "the police didn't ask me about anything I was involved in. They simply did not want me to play a political role in PE." Even during the initial period in 'Louis le Grange' she was "not interrogated as much as insulted" by security police. On one occasion Major Roelofse accused her of setting up street committees in PE "but he had no facts to back this up. It was a ridiculous allegation."

Life in North End Prison was bleak. It is a very old prison and not meant for long term prisoners. There are no recreational or sports facilities, and no movies or radios as in other prisons. Detainees are not allowed to interact with non-political prisoners and so can not work in the kitchen ~~and~~ laundry; or keep busy with other prison work. They may not even eat with the other prisoners. For most of the day the detainees are confined to their cells. Within that limited space there is an immense amount of time.

The day began at 5:45 when the warders switched on the lights and woke the detainees. Forty-five minutes later they returned to ask if there were any 'klagtes' (complaints). The detainees were supposed to be standing at attention next to their beds, "but after a while we lost interest in those militaristic actions," Janet laughs. "We remained sitting on our beds and sometimes slept through the process!"

After 'klagtes' the outside grill was unlocked and the detainees could use the bathroom. Breakfast was at 7:30 in the corridor outside the cell - mieliepap with powdered milk, bread and jam, tea or coffee. The detainees were locked back in their cells for an hour after breakfast and then released into the courtyard for an hours exercise. The courtyard is about the size of a small living room.

Lunch was at 11 o'clock. The soya soup and mielie rice were inedible. Then the cycle was repeated: confined to the cells till 2:00, another hours exercise and supper at 3pm. Supper consisted of samp, dehydrated mixed vegetables and, on different days of the week, fish, meat, soya, chicken and eggs. Only the egg and fish were bearable.

At 4:00 the warders locked all the doors and went home, leaving a skeleton staff on duty. It was a bad moment for the detainees. "There's this whole process of about 5 people with 8 bunches of keys closing up. They say goodnight and you hear them going down the passage, slamming all the doors and locking them. That's the part, every day, when you feel 'I'm locked in for another night. I'm not going to get out of here tonight.' Another day gone."

The long uninterrupted stretch of time in the cells from then until the next morning was the most difficult period of the day. The detainees read, knitted, had political seminars and taught each other songs and Xhosa. They painted, did endless crosswords and puzzles, and wrote the two letters they were allowed to send their families each week. "When there were four of us we would even have fun. But there is always a pervasive sense of frustration, of not having control over your life and not knowing when you will be released."

In October the Grahamstown detainees were released and Janet was on her own for three weeks. "That was when I took the most strain, being alone suddenly after having lots of support and stimulation. I never knew how long I'd remain in solitary. I had novels but they weren't enough. You can be escapist to a certain extent but after a while all novels seem very similar."

The period of solitary ended when Sue Lund was detained. For 9 months they were in the same cell, with no privacy and no means of getting away from each other, "yet in many ways it was a fascinating experience. We were lucky to get on so well. We settled into a very disciplined routine, doing exercise at certain times every day and studying at others." Janet had won permission to do an Honours course in Economic History at the University of Cape Town.

A crucial source of strength through the detention was the knowledge that many local and international groups were campaigning for her release. The letters of support from overseas, the fortnightly visits from her family and the messages they brought from friends gave her determination. "I thought, 'if this is what people feel about me, I'm bloody well going to live up to it.' I wasn't going to let them down."

There was also strength in knowing that black detainees were coping with conditions far worse than hers - "prisons and police stations are probably the most racist institutions in the whole apartheid structure." Black detainees at North End Prison are crowded in their cells, in some cases 10-15 people per cell. They sleep on mats on the floor and not on beds with sheets, and generally do not eat as well as white detainees. Many are physically assaulted; some are tortured.

"What really shocked me though was that I was treated with kid gloves when it came to medical treatment, but Mrs. Bani, a black detainee in the same building, died while I was there. She was a diabetic and should have been getting specialist treatment. She shouldn't have been in a cell with other people. She wasn't even in the prison hospital. And she died."

Talking about Mrs. Bani is the only time Janet expresses anger about detention. She is stoic about her own imprisonment. "Detention is an inevitable part of one's life as an activist now. A lot more of us are going to be detained, we have to accept that. Coping with that experience is one of our roles in the struggle." She insists that other activists should know that they will cope. "Everyone that was detained with me has come out asking 'how soon can I get started again?'" Her final words, before she heads off to have supper with her brother who has just arrived in Cape Town to see her, are predictable: "Human beings is a miracle; they can adapt to anything".

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