

WITS *Reporter*

AFRIKAANS & NEDERLANDS

A newsletter for the staff of the University of the Witwatersrand

Thought provoking

THE Wits theatre is ten years old this year and its anniversary comes at a crucial time for South African theatre generally. There is talk of a crisis in the industry: that the public has lost interest in theatre and that the theatrical community has yet to produce work which replaces the clichés of the past with today's realities.

Mannie Manim, Director of the Wits Performing Arts Administration (PAA), is determined to rise to the challenges.

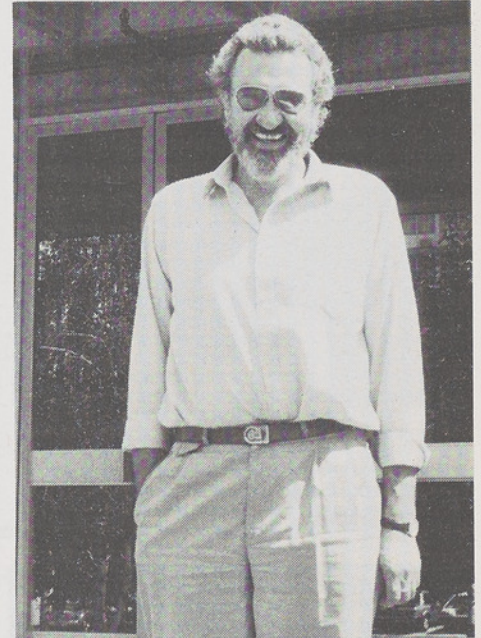
When he took over the reins just over two years ago he resolved to get the word out that the theatres on campus are first class production venues. A small marketing team was set up to encourage more people to support the Wits theatres. The effort paid off and the fact that 1992's audience percentages were up 15 percent on 1991's proves it.

The Homosexuals (Out in Africa) recently completed a two-week run to capacity audiences. The Main Theatre is booked for

all but four weeks of this year and the diaries for the Amphitheatre and the Downstairs theatre are just as crowded. The Wits Theatre is already the leading venue in Johannesburg for contemporary dance.

The resurrection of the Nunnery is especially exciting. It will be used as a laboratory for the student directing course this year and a number of productions are scheduled to be staged there, too. Mannie loves working with students. They are young people on the brink of adulthood, he says, and their work offers a glimpse of the future.

Nevertheless, there is still work to be done. "We want to encourage even more people to support the Wits theatres. And we want to focus our attention on the University community especially. Our theatres are conveniently placed for many people and it is essential to encourage students — people who will comprise much



Mannie Manim: surviving and thriving

of the theatre-going community of the future — to enjoy theatre now. We have much to offer staff and alumni, too."

Mannie says the theatre community has to look long and hard at itself if it wants

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Hearts and flowers

IT WAS the first day of term — Joseph Mpye was held up by mile-long traffic queues, and he arrived at work late and grumpy.

The mood in the Financial Aid Office was unusually subdued. Joseph is the only man working with 14 women and is normally greeted with merry chatter and cheerful banter.

"When I walked into the office I was irate, but as I walked to my locker I noticed there was a funny silence," said Joseph.

"The hellos were not as loud as usual. Then I noticed my messy desk had been tidied up. It was covered in presents."

Joseph's co-workers had banded together to make his Valentine's Day — although a day late — one he wouldn't forget.

His desk was strewn with heart-shaped cakes, chocolates, flowers and — his personal favourite — a miniature leg



Joseph Mpye: Valentine surprise

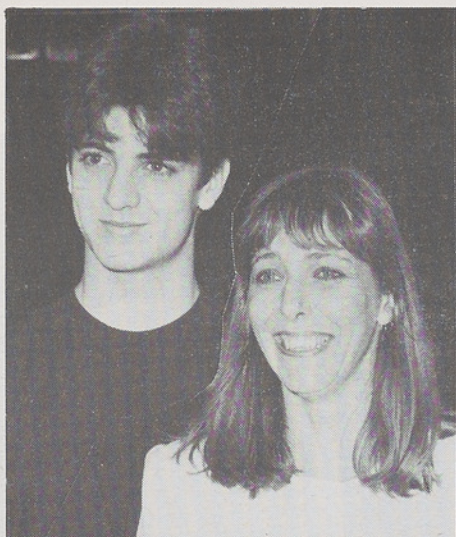
complete with garter.

"I just turned to everyone and said 'this takes the cake', and they all burst out laughing," said a still visibly stunned

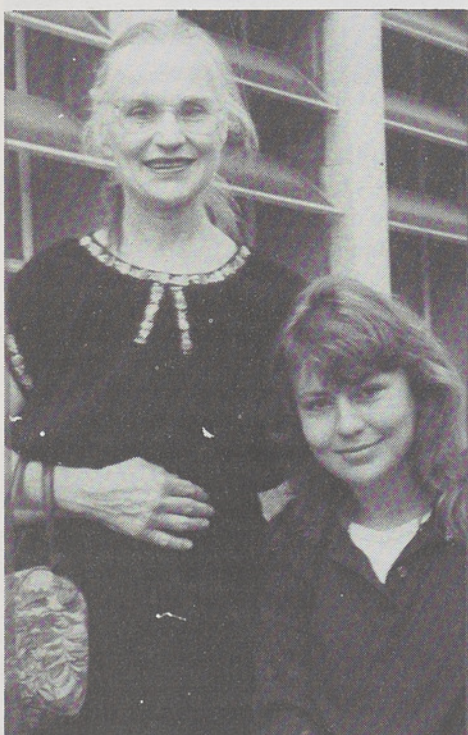
Joseph.

"It really was the most amazing and touching thing. I want to thank everyone — it meant so much to me." □

Welcome



Seen at 'Welcome Day' were (above) Di Lathan, Alumni Affairs, with her son Zac, and (below), Sarah York, Community Dentistry, with her daughter Sarah.



Burnout

THE fire which raged through the first floor of Campus Books in the early hours of Saturday, February 20 was deliberately started and caused substantial damage, according to Assistant Manager Chris Reinders.

He showed the Wits Reporter the window facing onto busy Bertha Street,

which the arsonists had broken to get into the shop.

The fire was lit at the top of the stairs close to a counter and cash register which was reduced to a "blob of plastic". Many of the medical text books were destroyed; those which could be salvaged were sold at a discount.

Although fire fighters were summoned in time to limit the fire to the first floor, the ground floor did not escape smoke, water and soot damage.

Staff worked all weekend to clean the store and, besides an acrid smell which hung in the air, mounds of charred paper on the first floor and piles of damaged books on the ground floor, it was business as usual on Monday morning.

"I am not only a book seller," said Mr Reinders. "I am a book lover, too."

"And I, along with many of my colleagues, am saddened by what has happened here. The books in this shop are books of learning and this churlish, senseless act will achieve nothing but hinder people in the pursuit of knowledge." □

Cricket

IN THE final match in the Transvaal Premier League, Wits will meet current log-leaders Pirates.

As Wits is currently lying second in this competition with a game in hand, the outcome of this clash at Wits on March 13 and 14 will decide which of these two teams goes on to the national club championships in September.

The University Cricket Club's First XI will meet the RAU First XI in the final of the Causeway Communications 55-over League at 9.30am on Sunday, March 21. The venue has yet to be announced.

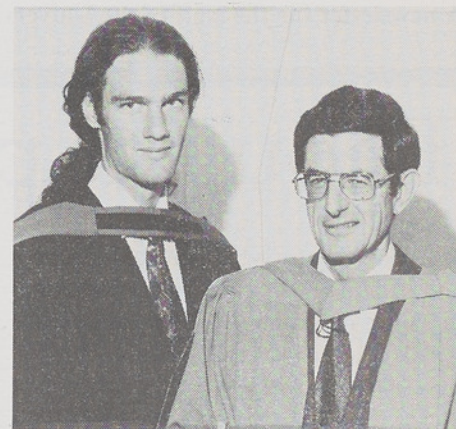
The University's Second XI is currently top of the log in the Transvaal Reserve League.

The Club's remaining five teams are under increasing pressure — not from their opponents, but from the hordes of new members whose imaginations have been sparked by recent international competitions and who are clamouring for selection.

It therefore seems likely that next season will see additional Wits teams entered in league competitions to accommodate these players.

PS. Congratulations to Physiotherapy student Richard Snell whose performance against Pakistan on February 21 more than justified his re-inclusion in the national cricket squad. □

Doing it by degrees



The family of Dr Brian Addis and his son Philip (above) felt justifiably proud when father and son graduated together last year from the Department of Civil Engineering. Dr Addis received a PhD and Philip a BSc in Civil Engineering.

Let there be light

WHEN Pat Trouw switched on the light to view the new ceiling in the Department of Modern Languages common room she was met with total darkness.

Perhaps there was something wrong with the switch or maybe the fluorescent tubes needed replacing?

But through small cracks in the white spanking new ceiling Pat, a departmental secretary, could see flickers of light — and that was her clue.

Workers called in to replace the shabby old black ceiling had ignored the existing light fittings and gone ahead with putting the new ceiling in over them.

The cracks she could see came from the lights straining to be seen from underneath the new ceiling. They were working perfectly but uselessly.

"I couldn't believe it," said Pat. "The mistake is being put right, but what a strange thing to have happened." □

Obituary

FOR over 30 years the name of Tom Geary, who died last month after a long illness, was synonymous with the Wits Planetarium.

Mr Geary, who was 60, joined the Planetarium in 1960 as a technician and was appointed director in 1967.

In 1990 he was given one of the University's highest accolades when he received an honorary masters.

His colleagues say Mr Geary, who leaves a wife, Eliza, two sons and a daughter, will be sadly missed. □

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to entice people to productions -- and keep them coming back. "Ultimately it is the final product that counts. If you stage good productions, you will get good audiences."

The clichés of the past no longer work. People are hungry for new material -- material which is not only entertaining, but which is thought provoking, too. Theatre must reflect the changing nature of South Africa and raise issues which audiences grapple with in everyday life.

"We are determined at Wits to meet the challenges South African theatre faces. If South African theatre is to survive and thrive it has to develop along with the dynamics which are taking place beyond the stage.

"A new breed of play must emerge to deal with the changing nature of this country. The fact that a play like *Siswe Banzi Is Dead* did exactly this, made it a success in its time. Theatre in general is entering a new phase of experimentation and germination. We at Wits Performing Arts want to be part of it." □

Apology

PROFESSOR Geoff Blight, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering points out that we omitted to mention (The Reporter, February 8), that several degrees in the Faculty of Engineering, other than those mentioned, enjoy recognition outside the borders of South Africa.

In particular, he says, the degree of BSc (Eng) in Civil Engineering is recognised in the UK and, through an international agreement known as the Washington Accord, in the European Economic Community, the United States of America, Australasia and India.

The Department of Chemical Engineering is also officially recognised overseas, while Mining Engineering graduates are exempted from statutory examinations in most English-speaking mining countries.

We apologise for this omission. □

Robbery

AT 9.20am on Thursday February 18 four armed men robbed the SRC administration office of over R44 000 in the form of cheques and cash. Two staff members and one student were assaulted, but no-one was seriously hurt. □

Creative Collection



Gallery Assistant Sipho Ndabambi hanging a group of oils by third year student Katie Bristow

THE annual students' art exhibition, a selection of the best works by students during the previous year, was held at the Gertrude Posel Gallery in February/March.

Works on display included everything from miniatures to huge 2m x 3m works in oils, sculptures, graphics, drawings and photographs. □

Race and gender in education



Shirley Sebakwane: Researching the experiences of men and women in education

PIONEERING research into how race and gender affect career opportunities in education is currently being carried out at Wits.

Dr Shirley Sebakwane, who started at the University in September last year, previously studied and compared the experiences of black women teachers in rural and urban areas.

With her latest research, Dr Sebakwane is taking her work one step further to discover how a person's sex and colour can help or hinder attempts to climb the career ladder.

"My research is looking into the experiences of both men and women in education management," said Dr Sebakwane, "and how they differ.

"In general terms, my previous research has indicated that class, race and gender all play a part in how teachers are perceived.

"This study will show if and how various prejudices affect teachers as they move towards management -- as heads of department or head teachers."

Dr Sebakwane returned from Cambridge University last year, where she spent over three years. □

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

10-20 Mar 8pm The Downstairs Theatre. School of Dramatic Art presents **The Blinkards**. Enq: 716 4422.

Until 31 Mar 7pm Dorothy Susskind Auditorium. **Italian Film Festival**. Enq: 716 3418.

Until 5 Apr Planetarium. **The Mars Show**. Fri 8pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, Sun 4pm. English only. Enq: 716 3199. Book at Computicket.

17 - 20 Mar 8pm The Wits Theatre. School of Dramatic Art presents **Borrowed Life + And Then It Rained**. Enq: 716 4422.

Every Wed 1:05pm Wits Great Hall. **Free lunch hour concerts** presented by the School of Music.

LECTURES & MEETINGS

9 Mar 12:50 - 2pm rm 2B20, Medical School. **Anatomy & Human Biology Luncheon Club & Research Forum. Fossil Woods & Palaeo-climates**. Dr Marion Bamford. Enq: M Talbot 647 2405.

9 Mar Dept Zoology Seminar. **Protein Engineering Through DNA - A New Technology?** Sir Aaron Klug. Enq: 716 2318.

10 Mar 10:15am Schonland Auditorium. **Schonland Colloquium. From Botswana to Mozambique - Isotopes Have Tales To Tell**. Prof B Verhagen. Enq: Dr T Derry 716 3143.

10 Mar Dept Zoology Seminar. **Proteins Designed for the Recognition of DNA and the Regulation of Gene Expression**. Sir Aaron Klug. Enq: 716 2318.

11 Mar 4:30pm rm G101, Geology Bldg. Dept Geology Research Colloquium. **Diamond Exploration in East Africa**. T G Molyneux.

16 Mar 12:50 - 2pm Anatomy & Human Biology Luncheon Club & Research Forum. **Neurotrophic Factors in the Rodent and Primate Brain**. Dr James Fallon. Enq: M Talbot 647 2405.

17 Mar 10:15am Schonland Auditorium. **Schonland Colloquium. Excited States of the Vacancy in Diamond**. Prof J E Lowther. Enq: Dr T Derry 716 3143.

18 Mar 4:30pm G101, Geology Bldg. Dept Geology Research Colloquium. **New Insights Into the Southern African Lithosphere - Evidence From Kimberlites**. C B

Smith.

19 Mar 7:30am Sunnyside Park Hotel. **WBS Breakfast: Creating Organisational Success**. Dr Cheryl Duval. Enq: 643 6641.

22 Mar 1:10 - 2pm rm 14, Biology Bldg. Dept Zoology Seminar. **Chemosensory Communication in Honeybees**. Prof Wayne Getz. Enq: 716 2318.

COURSES

22 & 29 Mar 6pm - 8:30pm CCE Bldg, W Campus. **Goal Setting - Workshop**. Lynette Douglas. Enq: CCE 716 5509/10/8026.

23 Mar 9am - 5pm Wits Club, W Campus. **Affirmative Action in the Workplace - Workshop**. Jonathan van Niekerk. Enq: CCE 716 5509/10/8026.

FOR SALE

LOUNGE suite and floral curtains, R1 000. Tel Marion 716 2497 or 646 9805 (eve).

MATTRESS and base, 183 x 183 cm, in reasonable condition, R300. Tel 788 9417.

FIAT 131 Supermirafiori 1982, automatic, only 80 000km. Body & engine in immaculate condition. R5 000. Tel Rosa 716 3860(am); 882 8627(pm).

PALE green Dralon 2 x 2 seater settees and 2 chair lounge suite, reduced due to slight heater burn on back of 1 settee, to R900. One dual 8mm/Super 8 cine projector, also viewer, R85. Tel Mrs J Anderson 642 4283.

OFFICE desk - 5 drawer, R800. XT PC & Printer R1 000. Leather lounge suite - like new, Bress design, blue-grey colour, 3,2 and 1 seater valued at R8 000, asking R5 000. Tel Andi 643 6641 (w); 614 3787 (h).

FOR sale: Dark oak extension table with 6 chairs recently upholstered in white stretchback fabric, R1 500 o.n.c.o. Tel 646 8251.

TRIUMPH Bonneville 750, 1977. Newly rebuilt engine. Tel Chris 804 3794 or 802 7989.

DESK - pine-stained small/medium size with chair + 3 drawers, perfect condition, R250. Tel 716 5301 (w); 646 1158 (eve).

BOOKSHELVES - metal stands with wooden shelves, 2 sets R50 ea. Tel 646 1158 (eve); 716 5301 (mornings).

WORD Perfect presentations. As new, just out of the box R1 100. Tel Mark 787 4147.

CASHEW nuts imported from

Mocambique and vacuum-packed in bottles of 220g and 360g for sale. Tel Mrs Cassim 716 5546.

WANTED

SCUBA equipment: small and/or medium small BC including pressure inflator hose. Tel Laurel (CALS) 716 8002(w); 788 3488 (h).

TWIN tub washing machine, R350. Tel 716 3432.

PROPERTY

TO LET: Garden bedsitter avail. March, near Wits. Suit single person. Tel 716 2726(w); 646 4816 (h).

FOR SALE: Immaculate house, very big, in Diepkloof. Reasonable price. Tel 837 6798 (a/h).

WANTED: Room for matric student who is willing to work in lieu of rent. Tel Laurel (CALS) 716 8002(w); 788 3488 (h).

TO LET: Room in private house, eat with family, on bus route to Wits; suit student. R500 p/m. Tel 716 5461(w); 640 1050(h).

WANTED: visiting professor requires furnished single flat or garden cottage near Wits or on bus route for period 1 July - 30 Sept. Tel Mrs Nagy 716 3399 or Prof Wright 716 3250.

TO LET: Victory Park (from late June to end August). Large furnished house with dog. Easy access to Wits. Rental and arrangements re telephone etc. negotiable. Tel 716 2668(w).

WANTED: Canadian couple with 2 small children need furnished and fully-equipped house from 1 May. Willing to pay rent, look after animals, maintain garden, etc. References available. Tel Judy or Edan Puritt 788 3071.

TO LET: Cottage, Natal South Coast. Available in Easter holiday. R175 per day. Tel 787 4147.

FOR SALE: Norwood - house; private sale. Fully carpeted and tiled, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (main en suite), open-plan kitchen, lounge, playroom, dining room, garden, fully walled, servant's suite, tandem garage, alarm system R210 000. Tel 716 3306 (w) or 885 2558/2178.

FOR SALE: Bassonia - house, private sale. Excellent alarm system, electronic gates and garage doors, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (mes), lounge, dining room, TV room and large kitchen. Tiled garage with entrance into house. Swimming pool in established walled garden. Tel 716 2137 (until 12 noon); 432 1657 (a/h).

TO LET: Greenside - garden cottage

from 1 April. 1-bed, furnished, opp. busstop. Not big enough for 2. R800 incl electricity and laundry. Tel Helen 716 2033.

WANTED: Accommodation for visiting professor from Austria from 1 August - 31 October. Tel Dr Reimold, 716 2946 or 837 1398 (after hours).

FOR SALE/rent: Kagiso - 3 bedrooomed, 2 bathrooomed house with study, lounge, dining room and fully fitted kitchen, R75 000. Tel 716 3432.

TO LET: garden cottage, Illovo. 1 bedroom en suite, kitchenette, lounge, private patio. Own entrance. R1 200 per month incl water and electricity. From March. Tel 788 2318.

TO LET: Trafalgar Beach, Natal South coast. Near beach, sleeps six. Avail April school holidays, R150 per day. Tel Jenny 463 3872.

GENERAL

PHOTOGRAPHER: Extensive experience in wedding photography giving tremendous results. Unbelievably good rates. Tel Bruce 706 4776 (a/h).

DOMESTIC service: experienced, reliable domestic worker seeks part-time/daily employment. Skills include child-care and cooking. Tel Mary Mokone 936 5325 (eve) or Zwi residence 883 5299 for references and information.

ADVERTISING IN THE REPORTER

Advertisements in the Wits Reporter are free of charge for members of staff, and should be submitted in writing to the **Media & Publications Office, Room 5027, Senate House**. No telephone requests will be considered.

No commercial advertising will be accepted, although advertisements that will be of benefit to staff or students such as those offering typing services or accommodation will be considered.

Campus Craft Shop

Looking for gifts or greetings cards? Think of the Campus Craft Shop, on the ground floor of Senate House.