

A colleague remembered

THIS edition of *Review* is dedicated to Calvin Thusago, a television reporter for the SABC, who was murdered by youths in Sharpeville on April 23 in the exercise of his duties.

Thusago's killers have short memories. The irony of this latest attack, however, was not lost on media colleagues who organised a protest march through the township to remind residents that it was journalists who, 33 years earlier, had alerted the world to the massacre in which 67 members of the Pan-Africanist Congress were shot dead by police in Sharpeville while protesting against the pass laws.

Intimidation and the growing number of attacks on journalists bodes ill for the future. No democracy can blossom in the dark. Those who attack and intimidate journalists must remember that the quickest route to a totalitarian society and their own enslavement is simply to switch off the lights.

Serving the future

INCREASINGLY journalists are being asked to help build a new society and to promote the emerging values that will have to underpin it. But in wanting to play a constructive developmental role, journalists must beware that they do not surrender their independence or draw their own teeth.

South African journalists can best serve the new society by maintaining their vigilance and by studiously protecting their independence.

The journalists' job is not to cosy up to politicians

and bureaucrats or to promote their shifting interests. Their role is to see that these servants of the tax-paying public serve the taxpayers and not themselves.

Equally, their job is not to dream up or promote schemes for social advancement, it is to ensure that any social engineering is rooted in the common good, and that money spent on development is fully accounted for.

From small acorns

THIS is my last edition as editor of the *Rhodes Journalism Review* and I wish to thank everyone who had a hand in it, from the the writers, photographers and artists who have contributed without payment, to the advertisers, many of whom came on board sight-unseen, and the subscribers. Thanks also to the repro house and printer who gave us 90 days on trust when we launched. All have shown faith in an idea and this review belongs to them all.

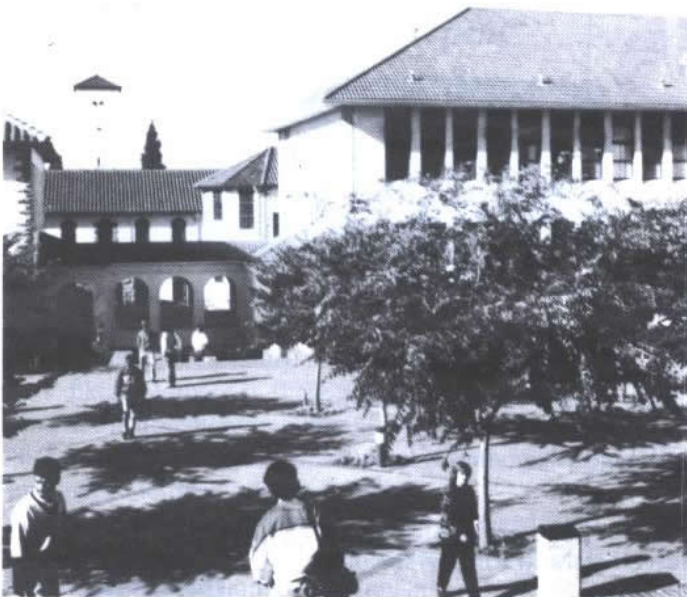
From small acorns, they say, great oaks can grow and I trust this review develops from these humble beginnings into a journal reaching journalists, media workers and academics throughout our region, providing a platform for the important ethical and political debates that attach to media, but also as a vehicle for journalistic excellence.

I hope too that this review will never surrender its editorial independence nor settle for subsidy, and that it will always have the freedom and the courage to confront those who would capture media for narrow political, ideological or commercial interests. A window is open, let's keep it that way. ● — *Kerry Swift*

editorial



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