

The Star

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WOMAN of the YEAR
woman of the year

Programme

Woman of the Year 1987

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Wednesday, September 9, 1987
Johannesburg Sun Hotel

11.30 am: arrival of guests

Pre lunch drinks in Excelsior Room

12.00: begin lunch in Cullinan Room

12.15 pm: one-woman show IRENE STEPHANOU

12.45 pm: main course

Dessert.

**1.40 pm: MARIKA SBOROS, Women's Page Editor, The Star announces
the Rising Star 1987.**

**1.45 pm: HARVEY TYSON, Editor, The Star announces the Woman of
the Year 1987.**

Coffee.

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The Star's Woman of the Year Award 1987



“The full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields.”

— UN declaration, 1979.



Each year, since 1971, The Star has conducted a search for a Woman of the Year to highlight the achievements of women of all races and in a diversity of fields, ranging from science, literature and art to politics, sport and social welfare.

Our reason for the 17-year search has not been simply to find a winner, for all our candidates over the years have been winners in their fields, but to have the privilege and pleasure of bringing together this country's many outstanding women.

Hopefully their vigorous examples will create a momentum that will sweep up others in its path.

We are proud to be part of that process.

There are many who believe that women are more empathic, more sensitive to human relationships than men and are uniquely placed to build bridges and bring about meaningful change in our polarised, strife-torn South Africa.

There are also many, both male and female, who believe that despite the obstacles placed in the way of women's advancement by a patriarchal society, women themselves do not always take advantage of opportunities. That may be as much due to a lack of confidence, as obstruction from a hostile, male-orientated environment.

We are pleased to see growing evidence of changing attitudes.

As it becomes more socially acceptable for women to focus single-mindedly on careers, many are doing just that. What were previously considered male qualities — goal-orientation, competitiveness, assertion — are now commonplace in women on the move.

That's not to say we dismiss the essential contribution made by women who prefer to work in the home, maintaining that 24-hour, seven-day contribution that is the lot of the housewife and mother.

The Women of the Year award is our way of echoing all these sentiments and reminding women of what they can achieve, not only for themselves, but for the rest of society.

In our birthday year, as we celebrate 100 years of The Star, we wish the women of South Africa well and will continue to publicise their achievements as they reach for the skies. □

H W Tyson
Editor, The Star



Rising Star 1987

For the first time The Star's Woman of the Year award features the special category of Rising Stars — for the many young South African women aged between 18 and 29 who have already distinguished themselves in their chosen fields.

We are pleased to acknowledge the achievements of this country's energetic and dynamic young women in the hope that this recognition spurs them on to face what could prove to be a daunting future.

They have benefitted from the groundwork done by feminist predecessors who, through dedicated action and a belief in themselves, have fought for and won much of the equality women now value.

They can now draw on the confidence which years of effort have helped produce and pursue their professional as well as their nurturing and mothering roles, with joy and self-esteem.

They have been given a rich and enlightened legacy which teaches that women possess the intellectual ability and option to extend their horizons beyond traditional roles to encompass a vision of a new, more balanced world.

But the fight for equal rights is far from over and young women now face a different set of problems from that confronting their predecessors.

Theirs is the responsibility of continuing to educate themselves as well as their brothers, husbands and sons to work towards a society where the needs can be met and the potential realised of people of all races and both sexes.

In addition, they must learn to combine the multiple roles thrust upon women without succumbing to the pressure of the superwoman syndrome.

In identifying only some of the many high achievers throughout South Africa, we have not sought only to find a winner — all these young women have shown they have what it takes to be a winner — but to choose those who can serve as examples to others.

We salute all this country's young Rising Stars. □

Marika Sboros
Women's Page Editor



Past winners



ESTHER FRANKS
1971



ANNA SCHEEPERS
1972



HELEN SUZMAN
1973



SHEILA SUTTNER
1974



JEAN SINCLAIR
1975



CLAIRE IRWIN
1976



**BRIDGET
OPPENHEIMER**
1977



CECILE CILLIERS
1977



FREDA VAN ROOYEN
1977



PHYLLIS KNOCKER
1978



LUCY MVUBELO
1979



DONNA WURZEL-DOIG
1980



GLORIA MCDUGALL
1981



ELISABETH VRBA
1982



MAMPHELA RAMPHELE
1983



ERIKA SUTTER
1984



WENDY ORR
1985

Candidates for The Star's Woman of the Year 1987 award



JANICE ASHBY: owner of a design partnership. Ms Ashby has the knack of finding "the right people" to work with her.



JO BEALL: lecturer in comparative African studies at Natal University: "I have confidence in South African women."



MOIPONE BUDA: social worker working to combat child abuse. "Sexual abuse should not be ignored simply because there are often no visible scars."



DIANNE CASE: award-winning author. She writes to "bridge gaps and reveal and share cultures".



SAIRA ESSE: actress/writer/producer/director. She uses theatre to politicise and "make people take the future into their own hands".



DESIRE DU PLESSIS: Springbok high jumper, ranked in top 10 in the world. She has brought distinction to South African athletes.



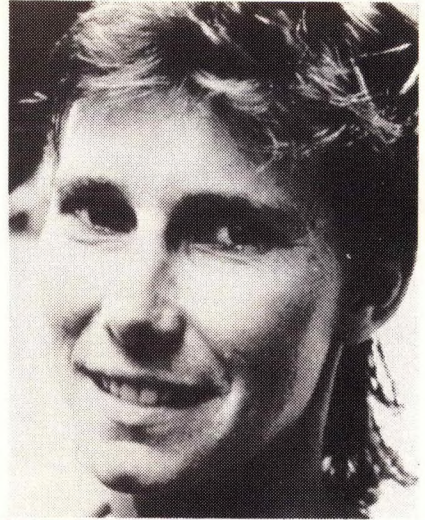
VIRGINIA GCABASHE: senior vice-president of the South African Council of Churches and a community worker: "Women bring special insight to problems."



PAULA JANEKE: consulting economist and chairperson of the Johannesburg region of the Women's Bureau: "Women have to raise the future generation and have to be informed enough to do it well."



GAYE LE ROUX: professor and national president of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors: "Staying power is my most important asset."



COLLEEN LINDEQUE: Natal Sports Star of the Year and most improved road runner in South Africa. She surpasses even her own expectations.



LENTE-LOUISE LOUW: clinical psychologist and national director of Protec. "We must stop expecting to solve problems in old ways."



ROZENA MAART: community worker and founder of Women Against Repression (WAR): "For years I thought of whites as the enemy — but contact has made me amend my views."



ISOLDE MELLET: founder of the Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW). She has nursed 45 000 injured animals back to health.



GCINA MHLOPHE: actress and director. She's been called South Africa's answer to Whoopi Goldberg and is now achieving international success.



VIOLET MOTLASEDI: president of the 50 000-strong South African Domestic Workers' Union (Sadwu). Housewives in the neighbourhood come to her for help.



REINGARD NETHERSOLE: professor and head of comparative and African literature at Wits University is on her way to Harvard, "an intellectual chocolate factory where I can gobble up ideas".



ANURADHA NURSINGH: senior medical superintendent of Clairwood hospital, Durban. "I still operate. You lose touch with reality if confined to an office."



SOPHIA NYATHI: an award-winning former domestic worker is now concentrating on improving work conditions for other domestics.



ADELAIDE PASSOS: tax consultant. "I am only one of many women working hard at my profession — I hate to be singled out from others in my field."



LIZ PRETORIUS: national executive director of Sanca, who launched the "Say no; say yes to life" campaign. "My work's my hobby."



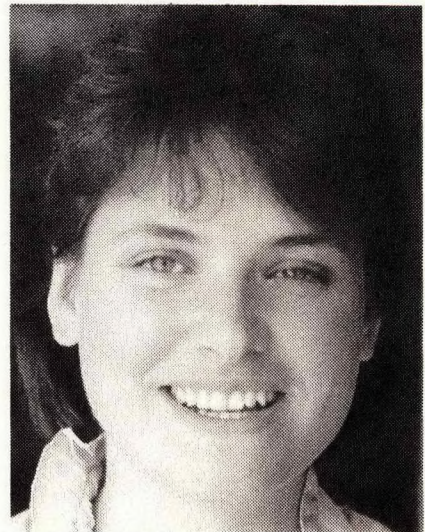
JOYCE SEROKE: Black rights campaigner and film-maker, national general secretary of the YWCA organisation. "Women have to realise their power and use it."



ALINA SEROTE: retired matron of Hillbrow Hospital and co-chairperson of Women for Peace. "Contact, communication and understanding are needed."



MARGO STEELE: professor and head of the accounting department at Wits University. She cheerfully admits to being a workaholic.



PATIENCE STEVENS: producer of Graffiti, a popular bilingual magazine programme. "It helps to blend cultures."



LOUISE TAGER: Professor of law and executive officer of the Law Review Project. "My work is my contribution to peace."



DELENE VISSER: Dr Visser a senior psychology lecturer at Unisa. She runs a maths-anxiety clinic for children.



LOUWINE VAN MEURS: graduated with a PhD in sea law. She is a grandmother with a difference, being a sought-after world expert in this little-known area.

Candidates for The Star's Rising Star 1987 award



BARBARA ADAIR: law student and POWA support worker.



PIPPA BARROW: avante-garde jewellery designer.



HAJIRA BODIAT: B Sc honours student in genetics at the University of the Witwatersrand.



ZAHIERA BODIAT: final-year medical student at the University of the Witwatersrand.



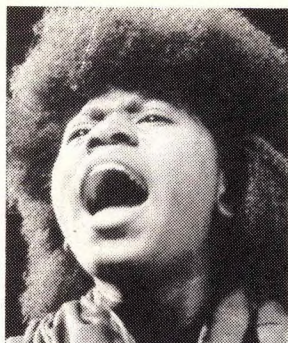
SHANI BOERSTRA: creative fashion designer.



THANDI BREWER: writer, director, singer.



JACQUI CANN: process technologist and chemical engineer.



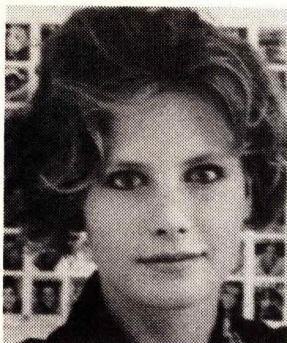
BABY CELE: singer/actress in 'Sarafina'.



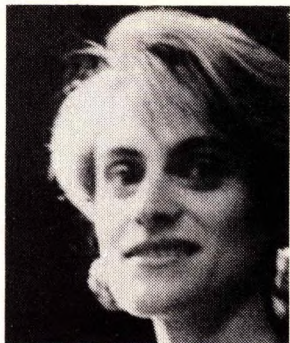
YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA: internationally recognised singer.



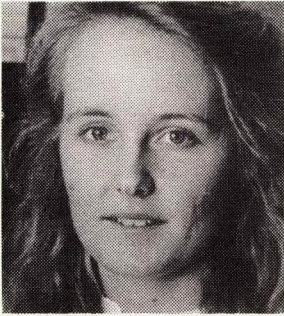
JANET CHERRY: chairperson, End Conscription Campaign, PE.



BERNICE DU PLESSIS: model agency boss.



MARIE DU PLESSIS: artist and fashion designer.



DEBBIE EVANS: outstanding B Sc graduate at the University of the Witwatersrand.



LANA GREEN: concert pianist, choreographer/tap dancing champion and teacher.



MOJANKUNYANE GUMBI: qualified attorney working in civil rights field.



KAREN HENDRIKZ: award-winning Pact ballerina with an extensive repertoire.



LAURA JEANNES: award-winning photographer.



ELGONDA LA GRANGE: top student engineer.



PIPPA LEA: award-winning artist and sculptor.



CELESTE LITKIE: actress, cabaret artist and director.



LISA LOEB: artists' agent handling top names.



LEE-ANN LOUVERDIS: economist, beauty queen.



NONKULULEKO—MADALANI: paralegal and community worker.



LAURETTE MARITZ: outstanding international professional golfer.



THEMBI MASUKU: award-winning TV presenter.



VUVU MATSHEKE: guidance teacher at the Soweto College of Education.



NOMSA MKHIZE: counseling psychologist.



INNOCENTIA MOEPHULI: Supermodel of the year.



NOZIPHO MKHONZA: financial director of a publishing company.



DOREEN MORRIS: TV presenter, and publicity and Press officer.



PINDILE NDLAZI: masters student in clinical psychology at the University of the Witwatersrand.



SHARON ROSTORF: award-winning opera singer, B Mus student.



LINDI SHANGASE: ball-room dance champion.



PENNY STEIN: markets and promotes records.



CARLA SUTHERLAND: UCT SRC president and a Masters in politics student.



WILMA VAN DER BIJL: Miss South Africa and pharmacy graduate.



Menu

Smoked chicken and fresh pineapple with
mild curry mayonnaise

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Poached kingklip with green peppercorn sauce
Potatoes and a selection of fresh vegetables

★ ★ ★ ★

Cherries jubilee

★ ★ ★ ★

Coffee and friandises

★ ★ ★ ★

Nederburg Paarl Riesling
Nederburg Stein



The young achievers to watch out for...

This is the first year that The Star has instituted the Rising Star award to acknowledge the achievements of the many dynamic young South African women who are making great strides in a chosen field. Here in alphabetical order are the other nominees for the title of Rising Star 1987:

Barbara Adair
Pippa Barrow
Hajira Bodiat

Zahiera Bodiat
Shani Boerstra
Thandi Brewer
Baby Cele
Yvonne Chaka Chaka
Janet Cherry
Bernice du Plessis
Marie du Plessis
Debbie Evans
Lana Green
Mojankunyane Gumbi
Karen Hendrikz
Laura Jeannes
Elgonda La Grange
Pippa Lea
Celeste Litkie

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Lisa Loeb
Lee-Anne Louverdis
Nonkululeko Madalani
Laurette Maritz
Thembi Masuku
Vuvu Matsheke
Nomsa Mkhize
Nozipho Mkhonza
Innocentia Moephuli
Doreen Morris
Pindile Ndlazi
Sharon Rostorf
Lindi Shangase
Penny Stein
Carla Sutherland
Wilma van der Bijl

"The Problem with the General Election is that we don't know which General we're Electing".

This graffiti slogan, painted on a wall in Johannesburg, captures some of the irony in holding an all-white election for one chamber of a minority parliament, at a time when the de facto rulers of our country are those who wear the uniforms - men and women who are not subject to the sanction of the ballot box.

What is sometimes interpreted as white apathy may in fact have more to do with a realisation that the May 6 election will not bring us much closer to peace - whatever one's decision on voting. It is therefore hardly surprising that in many constituencies candidates are struggling to pull in the crowds. In stark contrast End Conscription Campaign public meetings over the last year have drawn up to 4 000 people, and despite the severe effects of the State of Emergency ECC continues to grow at a pace which is alarming both to the government and to the organisation itself.

The reason for this is simple: conscription is the one aspect of National Party rule that is a real imposition on a major portion of the white community - and the more the conflict in our country intensifies the greater the cost to the conscript, his family and friends. The issue of compulsory military service has become one of paramount concern to all white people and has provoked a life crisis for thousands of those who have received their call-up papers.

Some regard the total of four years of military discipline as a "complete waste of time". More seriously it often turns out to be a psychologically disturbing experience - which is why it comes as no surprise that the number of attempted suicides among National Servicemen increased by 40 percent last year.

But for many conscripts there is an added moral and political dilemma about being part of South Africa's war machine. When I did my national service in the late seventies I spent much of my two years as part of South Africa's colonial occupation force in Namibia - something I did not always feel comfortable about. But today the conscripts' dilemma is far more acute. He is likely to be called up to the black townships where the "enemy" he'll face will be a black South African of his own age.

As a result of this situation an increasing proportion of young people opposed to apartheid automatically oppose conscription, though it is also true that many others are turned into hardened racists by the experience.

The government projects military service as the conscript's patriotic duty, but the fact remains that it is compulsory and not voluntary. The psychological, material and moral problems associated with it have caused widespread dissatisfaction among conscripts and their families and have laid the basis for ECC's emergence as a mass movement.

In its three-and-a-half years of existence ECC has grown into the largest-ever anti-apartheid extra-parliamentary group working in the white community in South Africa. Today it is a movement with 52 affiliate organisations and thousands of activists and supporters in nine branches around the country.

Since the Emergency was declared in June last year about 70 ECC members have been detained and 25 issued with restriction orders. Public meetings and other ECC activities have been banned, the scope of ECC's activity has been restricted by the Regulations and members' houses and vehicles have been vandalised by right wing elements. Both inside and outside of the SADF there has been a systematic government attempt to discredit ECC, and more ominously a spate of anonymous defamatory anti-ECC pamphlets and posters have been appearing.

The effect of this anti-ECC effort has been to reduce the movement's profile and, at times, to make open and democratic functioning more difficult to coordinate. While it may have slowed the pace of ECC's growth and scared some people off, it has also strengthened the resolve of many new members. ECC is certainly a stronger and larger movement than it was 10 months ago when the Emergency was declared.

One reason for this ability to adapt to Emergency conditions has been the development of a political style that captured the breadth of opposition to conscription, as well as the high level of energy and creativity that has characterised the movement's campaigns. Traditional events like public meetings and seminars have been complemented by innovative actions like fun runs, fairs, art exhibitions, film festivals and building sand castles. These activities have contributed to the development of an anti-war culture and have extended ECC's appeal to areas never touched by traditional "radical" politics.

ECC is a single-issue campaign whose primary objective is to put pressure on the government from within the white community in order to bring about a change in the law regarding compulsory military service. To achieve the maximum unity ECC avoids taking policy on other dimensions of National Party rule. It does not, for example, have policy on how people should be opposing apartheid - whether from inside or outside of parliament.

One question we are sometimes asked is why we don't affiliate to the UDF and ally ourselves more directly with the mainstream of the democratic movement. One answer is that we are a single-issue coalition which includes supporters of the PFP, Azapo the UDF and a wide range of political, religious and cultural interests. ECC's strength is in this breadth of support.

We are also sometimes asked why we don't take a principled non-violence stand and unequivocally condemn anti-government violence. Our response to this is that firstly our campaign is one against compulsory military service and not against all violence per se. Within ECC we have both pacifists and non-pacifists. Secondly, we believe the primary cause of violence in our society is apartheid and our opposition to conscription therefore focuses on the SADF's role in maintaining and defending apartheid.

Despite the wide range of political viewpoints within ECC it has succeeded in functioning smoothly without major conflict because no one perspective or organisation has attempted to assert its control over the campaign, and because of the strict emphasis on democracy and accountable leadership.

This has also meant that ECC has been an adaptable movement with its collective ear close to the ground. Two years ago, for example, when conscripts were first drawn to the campaign in large numbers, ECC realised that in some of its media and arguments for the withdrawal of troops from the townships it had tended to portray the individual soldier as "the enemy". This was completely insensitive to the dilemma of conscripts who opposed conscription and township duty, but for whom the alternatives of jail or exile were unrealistic options. Since then ECC has attempted to project itself clearly as opposing conscription not conscripts. It was with and behalf of conscripts that the campaign was conducted.

Partly as a result of this shift in emphasis two of the major areas of growth over the last year have been in its work among those still doing their National Service or camps, and in the Afrikaans community generally. End Conscription Campaign/Aksie Teen Konksripsie branches were launched in both Stellenbosch and Pretoria last year with great success.

It is difficult to quantify the precise extent of war resistance in South Africa, but a few figures provide useful barometers:

- * Before October 1984, according to government statistics, an average of 1 500 men failed to report for duty at each call-up. In the first call-up after troops were used in the townships this number rose by 500 percent. The Minister of Defence has since refused to release these figures, claiming that in the past ECC had "misused" them.
- * Court cases and sources within the SADF indicate that attendance at army camps is often less than 60 percent.
- * Over the past five years the number of South Africans emigrating has grown from 6 832 a year to 13 711 a year. Ecc believes that military conscription is one of the key reasons why people emigrate.
- * Between January 1984 and August 1986 a total of 1 059 people applied to the Board for Religious Objection to become religious objectors. The number granted full objector status grew from 155 in 1984 to 266 in 1985 to 342 in 1986.
- * There are currently an estimated 7 000 SA war resisters in Europe and the United States.

What these figures point to is the existence of significant dissent within the ranks, but this in itself is not an argument against compulsory military service.

In arguing the case against conscription it must be stressed that while a system of compulsory military service may succeed in prolonging the life of an unpopular government, it cannot in itself bring about peace and stability. It is possible to end conscription without this causing the downfall of a government. Britain, the United States and Zimbabwe achieved this without negative results, and even the Philippines, which faces internal conflict at least as intense as that in South Africa, manages without conscription.

In South Africa however, there is no doubt that the SADF is reliant on conscription. The 1986 Defence White Paper, for example, stated that conscription provided 70 percent of the SADF's manpower and was absolutely necessary for the army to continue playing its current role.

The point is then, what role is the army playing? Magnus Malan provided the answer seven years ago: "The Defence Force supports government policy ... This policy is the same as that laid down by H F Verwoerd, namely multi-nationalism and self-determination of nations", HE SAID.

In other words the role of the SADF is the maintenance and defence of apartheid and the conscript is forced to play a role in ensuring the survival of an undemocratic minority government. This is why in 1985 over 35 000 troops were deployed in 96 black townships, or why between 1983 and 1984 43 000 troops were used in "ordinary police work". In short apartheid and the National Party government could not survive without the SADF. We believe that to the extent that conscription assists this process it also assists in staving off pressures for the government to make its way to the negotiating table.

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END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

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