

# Irate students repulse city askaris

By OBI OKEIGA

A recent attempt by Nairobi City Council askaris to flatten kiosks along Mamlaka road, next to the Prefabs at the University of Nairobi, was thwarted by irate students.

The askaris, who arrived in three trucks and a bulldozer in the evening, attempted to demolish the kiosks most of which are owned by students.

"They thought the students were out for classes at that hour. But when we raised the alarm, some of the students who were in the halls of residence, the ADD (Architecture Design and Development) building rushed to our rescue," Peter Mang'ui, one of the kiosk owners, told *The Anvil*.

Nairobi has of late seen menacing

City askaris assisted by armed Administration Police flatten kiosks and arrest hawkers in an effort to end hawking within the Central Business District.

There is doubt whether demolition of these kiosks at the University can be accomplished. "We will not move from this site. We feed majority of the University population," said Maina Kang'ethe, who is employed by one of the students. "Students will not allow that to happen. The askaris had to drive off today as students threatened to burn their vehicles," he added.

*The Anvil* established that some students run these kiosks in partnership with outsiders in an effort to make ends meet. Most of the students who spoke to the reporters agreed that running the kiosks has helped them meet their fee payments and day to day expenses.

"I educate my wife, brother and sister from the income," argued Moses Ng'ang'a who was armed with stones. The student confided in *The Anvil* that they were keenly monitoring the situation and had immediately appointed guards



Food preparation in a kiosk: University authorities say such cooking is unhygienic amongst themselves to keep watch in turns in case of a night raid by the police and askaris. This standoff between students and those bent to have their way is bound to have serious implications

## Prof. J. Musuva back to teaching



Prof. Jeremiah Musuva

By ONAYA-ODECK

The former embattled Executive Chairman of Kenya Railways, Professor Jeremiah K. Musuva, has returned to his lecturing job at the University of Nairobi.

Sources at the University indicate that Prof. Musuva wrote a letter to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Gichaga, requesting to be allowed to resume lecturing at the University.

Professor Musuva was on leave of absence from the university during his tenure at the railways. The Vice Chancellor has accepted Prof. Musuva's request and a letter to this effect issued by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration and Finance, *The Anvil* established.

Prof. Musuva's return was well received in the department of Mechanical Engineering, and the Faculty as a whole. He was once the head of department rising to be Dean Faculty of Engineering.

The current Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. Stephen Mutuli, said, "Prof. Musuva's return will strengthen the Applied Mechanics Unit which has suffered shortage of staff as some have left for greener pastures. The Master of Science programme which is worst hit will benefit immediately. Prof. Musuva could not be reached for comment as he has been granted permission to proceed on leave, accumulated since 1989, before he went to Kenya Railways.

# Kikuyu campus water problems now solved

By PATRICK KAMANDA

Kikuyu Campus of the University of Nairobi, has solved its water problems once and for all following the sinking of a borehole recently at a cost of Ksh 2 million. It is capable of producing enough water for the institution's population of over 2000 students and members of staff.

The College Principal, Professor Lucia Omondi, thanked the University administration for undertaking the project which was commissioned by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Francis Gichaga, on April 6. Speaking to *The Anvil* Prof. Omondi said, "Money saved from this venture will be used to finance other projects at the college."

According to the Acting College Registrar, Ms Joyce Mang'oka, the campus was previously being supplied with water by the Ministry of Water



Prof. Lucia Omondi

Development from a borehole at Ondiri at a cost of over Ksh 500,000 per month.

The University has been experiencing severe water shortages annually, especially during the dry spell. "But despite the serious drought that was experienced in this country last year, the main campus always had water.

## College starts new programme

By KEMUNTO OIRURIA AND REBECCA GIKURU

of the modalities. "Classes should have been on as from July this year, but it has not been possible due to logistical constraints," the programme coordinator, Dr. Wainaina Gituro added. He, however, assured *The Anvil* that the programme will take off in September, this year, as there is only course description to be done.

"Classes are scheduled for 5.30 p.m to 9.00 p.m. during weekdays, and full day on Saturdays. The

maximum duration for the course will be five years, and the minimum will be two years," Dr. Gituro said.

The faculty normally offers the academic MBA course for full time students. To accommodate part-time students, the programme has now been modified and a new curriculum made. The central administration promised to facilitate the initial stages of the programme.

Asked about eligibility, Dr Gituro said holders of a bachelor's degree are admissible. We would want 75 per cent of the entrants to be from industry", the coordinator noted.

to the students. They claimed that although the kiosk owners exploit them by charging exorbitantly for items on sale, university meals were more expensive.

The university authorities have time and again pointed out that the food sold is unhygienic. This concern has been refuted by students who argue that the authorities are bent on forcing them to take university meals that are expensive. *The Anvil* spoke to Mamlaka kitchen supervisors asserted that university subsidised meals are cheaper. The hostel janitors said cooking in students' residential rooms could lead to unhygienic since food remains block sinks when students clean their utensils, leading to spewing of dirty water all over the hostels.

As can be detected there is a conflict of interest here. The university authorities are expected to back the Government crackdown on hawking within the university confines. The students on the other hand look set to hold out on such attempts.

## Germans sponsor lecturer

By JEMOSBEY MISOI

A lecturer at the School of Journalism, Mr Edwin Nyutho, has been offered a four week scholarship to attend a radio production seminar at *Radio Deutsche Welle*, Germany.

The Training of Trainers Seminar, sponsored by the German Government, is scheduled to take place between June 28 and July 27. It is the first of a number of seminars scheduled to take place annually until all the staff at the school are trained.

The sponsorship is a result of Kenya-German cooperation which has existed for a long time, and a meeting between Mr. Christian Rumplecker, the Cultural Attache at the German Embassy and the Acting Director of the School of Journalism, Mr Zeke Waweru.

Early this year, Mr Rumplecker presented the school with radio and television training materials on behalf of Radio Deutsche Welle. He lauded the cordial relationship between the school and his government and promised to consider the number of students who undertake educational tour of Germany every year.