1993: The campus

1. Uni Tauru; 5 February 1993: This was my first cartoon for Uni Tauru. It expresses the never-ending accommodation problem at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) and the difficult situation with which students are forced to try to cope. I drew the cartoon on a Macintyre postage instead of my usual pen and ink style.
1. *Uni Tavur, 5 February 1993*: This was my first cartoon for *Uni Tavur*. It expresses the never-ending accommodation problem at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) and the difficult situation with which students are forced to try to cope. I drew the cartoon on a Macdraw program instead of my usual pen and ink style.
2. This cartoon was originally drawn for *Uni Tavur*, 24 March 1993. It depicted the mood and impatience of students awaiting their long overdue pocket allowance (subsequently abolished by the Government in 1996 anyway). But this cartoon wasn't published because the allowance was finally paid on the day *Uni Tavur* went to press.
3. *Uni Tavur*, 23 April 1993: Students were led by the Student Representative Council (SRC) in a controversial protest campaign against the UPNG administration for alleged mismanagement and incompetence in running the institution. The students warned the administration to get its act together, or face massive overhaul (which eventually happened with the sacking of Vice-Chancellor Joe Sukwianomb and the phasing out of contracts of two other senior administrators early in 1995).
4. Uni Tavur, 7 May 1993: The University of PNG took a major step forward this month by integrating the Allied Health Science Faculty at Taurama. My cartoon summed up the optimistic mood behind this amalgamation.
5. Uni Tavur, 21 May 1993: My final comment before the mid-year exams. While I tried to parody how the education system operates, hoping to stimulate students to work harder in their studies, the cartoon also highlighted the flaws of the much criticised UPNG administration.
6. Uni Tavur, 16 July 1993: I began to look wider for my cartoon ideas. Until now I'd usually commented on issues affecting the university. This was my first cartoon on Papua New Guinean politics. I illustrated the confusion, betrayal and mistrust that was causing the deaths of so many innocent people in the Bougainville conflict which began in 1989. Tragically they have been caught in the middle of the civil war between the PNG Defence Force and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.
7. Uni Tavur, 30 July 1993: After many years of neglect by the University of PNG, the Journalism Department began looking outside the institution for assistance. (Originally it was set up in 1975 with New Zealand Government funding). The PNG Post-Courier was among the first organisations to support the school and help it modernise with desktop publishing facilities. As a *Uni Tavur* editorial notes: ‘The development of the once “Cinderella” section has been largely thanks to the generosity of outside benefactors.’
8. Uni Tavur, 13 August 1993: Another big step taken by UPNG was the moving of the Education Department from the Waigani main campus to Goroka in the Eastern Highlands. The move stirred controversy and in-fighting among lecturers, students and the administration.
9. Uni Tavur, 26 August 1993: I believe this is where we stand today in the crossfire between protecting our environment and habitat, and cargo development. We're under tremendous pressure from outsiders who are very persuasive with tempting offers, thus putting us in a difficult situation over making a choice.
10. *Uni Tavur*, 26 August 1993: A front page cartoon for the Waigani Seminar organised at the university to follow up on the Rio Earth Summit. Meg Taylor, then PNG's Ambassador to the US, appealed to Papua New Guineans to take constructive measures' for the benefit of future generations.
11. *Uni Tavur, 15 September 1993*: PNG's National Parliament passed the Internal Security Act amid widespread criticism — some critics claiming that it would lead to dictatorship. Law lecturer Powes Parkop warned that the act and other legislation were too hasty: 'These measures won’t address the security and law and order for ordinary people. The daily concerns of having a job, whether my children will go to school safely and whether my wife will go to the shops without fear of harassment are not guaranteed.' My theme here was how absurdly inconvenient, expensive and impractical the law would be for internal movement around the country.
Uni Tavur, 29 September 1993: University students have led many demonstrations to Parliament demanding accountability and honesty among the political leaders. This month students once again staged a march, this time protesting against Prime Minister Piais Wingti's infamous 'four minute reelection' — later found unconstitutional by the courts — and demanding Speaker Bill Skate to step down.
3. *Uni Tavur, 15 October 1993:* A move by the University of PNG administration to cut the number of students and rerune some degree programs to ease the accommodation crisis angered the campus. The announcement drew an outcry from many students who claimed that they were being victimised by the administration.