

LEEDS

STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY, JAN 22, 1988



● Special flame proof issue.

University department destroyed by massive explosion £1 MILLION BILL AS BLAZE GUTS CIVIL ENGINEERING

A final bill of £1m is expected as a consequence of the fire in the civil engineering building in the University at the end of last term.

Professor Cousins, Head of the Civil Engineering Department said that most of the equipment in the public health engineering labs had been lost, and he explained that the cost of this would be in the region of £280,000. "Repairs to correct the damage to the foundations will cost another £150,000, and then there is the damage to windows to take into account," he added.

Unfortunately, damage also spread to the mechanical engineering building, which adjoins civil engineering, and water damage there has resulted in the loss of work of some research students. Education Secretary, Rob Murray, said that although no students had come forward, he fully expected them to do so.

A spokesperson for Crash Records, situated opposite civil engineering and directly in the path of the explosion, explained that besides the window being blown out, damage was also done to the carpet and many records.

As for the consequences for the civil engineering department, Professor Cousins explained that it was now a case of "business as usual" and that the insurance company had been very helpful, and had even agreed to pay for portakabins for research students and lecturers who lost their rooms in the fire.

The blaze started when a lab technician was operating an atomic absorption spectrometer in an experiment on the fourth floor. The instrument is used to find trace metals inside samples of water and other substances, and operates on a mixture of gases and oxide. The nitrous oxide is used to generate the intense heat needed - something in the region of 1800 degrees.

When the oxide was added, the spectrometer exploded and set the laboratory alight.

The fire brigade arrived within ten minutes, and just as they did so, the second and bigger explosion occurred when the fire reacted with a cylinder of gas. This explosion was said to be heard in Adel some four miles away, and caused brick walls to crumble inside the building.

John Rigby



● The charred remains of the fire ravaged civil engineering building.

Photo: Kieron Dodd

300 clear out in fire scare

Three hundred staff and students were evacuated from Leeds University's earth sciences department in a fire scare on Wednesday lunchtime.

The roof of the building burst into flames after a tar bucket used by repairmen was fanned by a nearby air vent, and spilled onto roofing felt.

Firemen put out the blaze, which was clearly visible from the Union building, minutes after arriving. There were no injuries.

And West Yorks fire brigade's officer in charge at the scene praised the department's fire procedure.

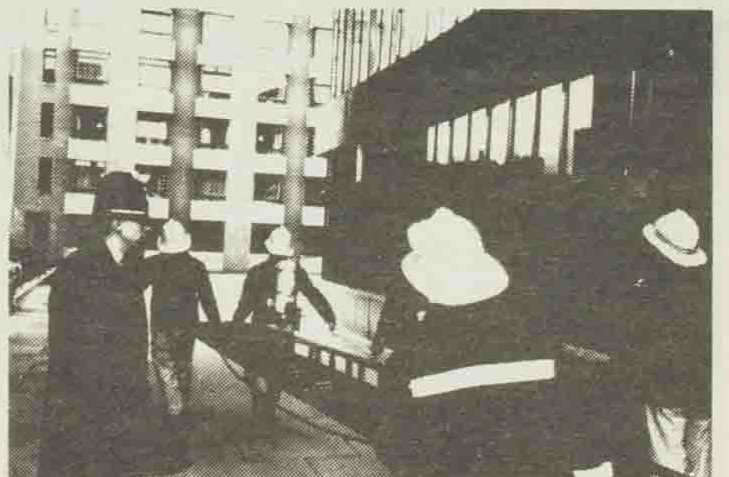
"The building was evacuated quickly and efficiently," Station Officer Burns told Leeds Stu-

dent, "and while there was no real danger to life or property from such a small fire, it is always better to be safe than sorry."

The earth sciences blaze is the University's third serious fire incident in 12 months.

Last year the chemistry department was gutted and at the end of December, the civil engineering building suffered £1m of damage and three injuries when an outbreak of fire caused massive explosions.

Andrew Harrison



● Firemen rush to the scene.

Photo: Jay Rayner

INSIDE

ON THE ROAD
with
Jane Austen
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NEWS



Poly lecturers pay deal a 'mystery'

Mystery still surrounds a proposed pay deal that could bring the long-running dispute over lecturers wages to an end.

Lecturers at Leeds Poly are still in the dark, as Mark Shields of the Leeds branch of The National Association of Teachers in Further & Higher Education pointed out.

"The only thing we've heard so far is what we've seen in the media," he said.

The deal has been reported to give lecturers an extra 16.9 per cent, some of which is a back-dated pay rise.

As NATFHE's central office has given no official news of the pay deal, voting will continue to take place concerning the latest stepping up of the Union's action in a dispute which has now been running for more than 18 months.

This is sanctioning of examinations which will involve lecturers marking exam papers but now revealing the re-

sults to anybody.

NATFHE intend to consult with student unions to ensure the least amount of disruption as possible to students progress.

"There has hardly been any disruption to students work so far," said LPSU President Ed Gamble, "and we are confident it will remain like that. We fully support NATFHE in their action."

Mark Shields was also confident that there wouldn't be a split between lecturers and students.

"Although we represent different interests I think the Poly Union agree that this isn't just a pay dispute but a general attack on education," he said.

Although this present pay dispute may shortly come to an end Mark Shields was pessimistic for future pay deals. "Even if we win this battle, anyone who thinks we have won the war is deluding themselves," he said.

Robin Perrie

Sight for sore eyes

The University Union now has another service on offer to students. University Vision Ltd has opened a new practice in the basement of the Union building opposite Lloyds Bank. It is part of a very successful company of ophthalmic opticians which originates from London and now has practices across the country.

"We fit all types of contact lens and prices are up to one-third cheaper than in high street opticians," explained Neil Hershman the Managing Director of University Vision.

And he went on to say that even if the government Bill goes through to scrap eye tests on the NHS, at University Vision they would continue to offer free eye tests.

There are special introductory promotions, so drop in and make an appointment between 9am-5.30pm or phone 424684.

Jo Braggs



Photo: Pete Emsay

● LUU Gen Sec Germaine Varney takes an eye test.

Saved by the hand of GOD

A Leeds graduate, and former LUU Christian Union activist was among 135 people forced to take to their lifeboats when their missionary ship foundered on rocks off Cape Horn two weeks ago.

Dr Andrea Lewis, the ship's Medical Officer, joined the MV Logos last summer after finishing at Leeds University medical school in 1983. During her time at Leeds she was a highly involved member of the Christian Union. On leaving Leeds she joined Cookridge Hospital rising to senior houseman.

The Logos was owned by Operation Mobilisation, a movement offering short time missionary experience. Andrea Lewis was like the rest of the crew, an unpaid volunteer.

After her ordeal she said: "There was no panic, though the lifeboats were cleared with great difficulty because the ship was listing badly.

"Once out of danger we were taken aboard a Chilean naval vessel which was standing by."

She was in no doubt as to who was responsible for their miraculous escape. She put her faith in the Almighty.

"I see God's protection in the fact that all 135 were put ashore without injury despite storm conditions."

Lawrence Pusey

It's a funny old world!

A windfall of old 78 gramophone records is the latest weapon in West Yorkshire Police's fight against accidents on the roads.

They hope that the records which include Wilfred Pickles and others singing road safety songs such as 'Don't get in a flurry, Florrie' will get road safety across to the more elderly members of our community.

Said Superintendent Peter Westwood, "The elderly are very vulnerable and it's often very difficult to find the right ways to get safety advice across to them. We hope these records will strike a chord in their memories and get the message home."

To which one can only remark it's a funny old world. . .



Cartoon: Martin Ross

JANUARY

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NEWS

Fight for Gay Rights

Two campaigns have been set up in Leeds recently to fight an amendment which has been termed as "the biggest legal attack made on the civil rights of lesbians and gays this century."

'Stop Clause 28' and 'Woman Against Clause 28' are protesting against an amendment made by Jill Knight MP, to the Local Government Finance Bill, currently going through the House of Lords. David Crellin, Chair of LUU Lesbian and Gay Society claims that the clause will effectively drive the movement out of public life. He hopes to affiliate LUU to the campaigns in a motion to next week's OGM.

The clause states that local authorities "shall not promote homosexuality or the teaching in any maintained school, of the acceptability of homosexuality by the publication of material or otherwise." It also aims to prevent financial assistance being given for these purposes. The controversy surrounds the wording of the clause, and in particular the use of the word 'promote'. Opponents claim

that in effect, it means the end of financial support for any gay and lesbian groups putting many counselling and helpline services (including those on AIDS) in severe jeopardy. The clause may also mean the end of any information on homosexuality in schools and libraries.

This rebuke has been denied by the government, who claim that the clause is aimed at

stamping out certain 'extreme' actions by a few local authorities. These alleged actions include directives issued to teachers in schools that forbid the wearing of wedding rings, and the availability of homosexual publication such as 'Jenny lives with Eric and Martin' and 'Young, Gay and Proud' to young children.

It is an issue that has already attracted national attention. On January 9, 12,000 marched through London in protest (an event that even merited attention from the heady world of TV soap opera). Similar protests are being planned by 'Stop Clause 28' for Manchester and Leeds.

Neil Amos

Poly Directors Back GERBILL

LPSU President Ed Gamble has hit out at a decision by the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics to welcome many of the proposals outlined in the Education Reform Bill.

Dr Ray Rickett, Chairman of the Committee, has said, "We asked the government to accept several amendments, and most of these have now been agreed. Our suggestions support the government's own object in giving the polytechnics freedom to manage their own affairs."

But Gamble claims that the directors will have no more control over their own affairs than before the Act.

"A lot of polytechnics have previously been squeezed by local councils," he said. "They are desperate for more funds. The directors of polytechnics have always been very much at the whim of local councils. Most major decisions will ultimately be made by the Polytechnic and Colleges Funding Council if the proposals go ahead." (Which is controlled by central government). Polytechnics are currently

funded by local councils.

Furthermore Ed Gamble pointed out that "many polytechnics have a good relationship with the council. If the local council loses financial control in these cases, the polytechnic loses out." He sees the relationship between Leeds Polytechnic and the local council as being very advantageous to the Poly.

In the event of the Bill becoming law, polytechnics will also be forced to rely more heavily on private funding from business and industry, which will inevitably restrict courses to those useful to investors, and lower staff/student ratios and amenities.

The Polytechnic's role as a local college to serve all groups of the community could be threatened when courses could be maintained only at the whim of the city.

"I don't think the directors realise just how much money will be needed from the city," he said.

Rachel Brewster

Heavies Injure Hunt Sab

A violent clash with hunt 'heavies' before Christmas led to one Leeds University hunt saboteur receiving five stitches to a head wound.

The incident occurred at Bramham Moor after the hunt sabs had successfully called the hounds to them.

Retaliation came in the form of a rock through the window of one of the sab's vans, shattering glass over the occupants and hitting one student on the eyebrow.

The sabs also reported the theft of a hand-held CB radio to the police during the hunt, but were told that the theft would not be investigated until the following day, despite the fact that the thief was present all day at the hunt.

Both incidents were reported to Weetwood Police Station.

The LUU and LPSU hunt sabs hope that the Union Anti-Blood Sports Policy will lead to financial aid for the replacement of the van windows.

S.C. ● Smashed SAB van window



Disability Week

The Poly's Disability awareness campaign held last week was described by the Deputy President, Alison Walker, as a great success. It marked the beginning of a fight to increase awareness of the rights of disabled students, including those with hidden disabilities, like epilepsy.

The campaign was to a large extent motivated by disabled students who contributed ideas and helped in its organisation. As a result of the Awareness Week meetings are being set up with the Student Services Committee to discuss improved facilities and opportunities for disabled students. The Poly is hoping to prioritise disability awareness at the NUS Easter Conference.

Events have included two speakers, an exhibition at Beckett's Park, and a workshop, which was cancelled, but is rescheduled for later this term.

Philippa Shann

Comic Relief Group

February 5, more popularly known as 'Comic Relief Day' 1988, is a date to watch for, when 500 people, clad in red noses and exposing their underwear to Yorkshire, will be pulling a giant marrow through Leeds City centre, all for famine relief.

And what's more is that the 'Marrow Crusade' will come to a climactic ending at Leeds Poly, where it is due to burst in upon a benefit gig, involving Ghostdance, Salvation, Drug Free America, and the Psycho Surgeons.

Brian Borrowman from the Bad Clothes shop in New Station Street, Leeds, has spent the last two weeks organising the sponsored marrow pull, which will begin at 7pm outside the Art Gallery. Pink Peg Slax, The Prowlers, Wedding Present, and many other local bands have offered their services for this historic northern feat.

Anyone wanting to join in, can get a sponsor form from the shop or by phoning 449260, but be warned, Brian "is aiming to

raise two billion pounds, so red noses and displayed undies are obligatory. As much attention as possible must be drawn to the event, and it is Comic Relief."

The University seems to have been left stumbling quietly behind all this in a rather apathetic haze.

The all-to-obvious lack of enthusiasm to back-up the Poly's efforts is looming embarrassingly high in Executive quarters. Neither General Secretary, Germaine Varney nor Finance Officer, Tony Austen seemed to have any idea of any arrangements for Comic Relief. Tony Austen said "All the rooms in the Union have already been booked up that day."

But do not despair... Leeds Student won't let you down. We've organised a cheap evening out at Pastificio in Leeds, tickets on sale at the Leeds Student office, price £3.75 each, 50p of which will go to Famine Relief.

Emma Brown

Ents gig threat over changing room row

Negotiations are continuing this week between the Union and the University which could threaten reformatory gigs by The Pogues, T'pau, Aswad and Hawkwind this year.

The row centres around funding for new changing rooms needed urgently in the reformatory. Despite University assurances last term that they would foot the bill, it now seems unclear who is to pay for the proposed facilities.

But Ents Secretary, Sally Miles is pessimistic about any solution in the foreseeable future.

"We are still unsure whether the new facilities will be built at all," she told Leeds Student on Wednesday, prior to a meeting on the subject with Finance Secretary, Tony Austen.

Austen met with the Bursar last Tuesday to try to resolve the problem which seems unlikely to be solved in the near future.

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NEWS



Chunder down under

Two members of Leeds University Union Debating Society have just returned from Australia, where they represented Leeds in the 1988 World Debating Championships.

Chris Jagusz and Patrick Eraut spent one week at Sydney University speaking against some of the world's finest debating teams.

The event was truly international, with representatives from the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Scotland, Ireland and even Greece. Leeds was only one of three English universities participating; the other two were Oxford and Birmingham. As well as a personal contribution, Patrick and Chris' flight to Australia was funded equally by the Union and the Vice Chancellor.

Leeds put up a strong fight in the nine rounds of the championships, speaking on issues as

diverse as 'History will absolve us', 'The user should pay', 'The new right is the old wrong' and 'He who rules the presses rules the world'. Chris and Patrick were ranked individually just below the top one-third of speakers, whilst as a team they came just below half way. The eventual winner of the championships was the Oxford Union.

The two speakers are committee members of the debating society: Patrick (Social Secretary) is a second year politics and parliamentary studies student, whilst Chris (Secretary) is in the fourth year of an electrical and electronic engineering degree.

Next year's world debating championships is to be held at Princeton University in the USA. LUU Debating Society hopes to send a team along so that it can capitalise on this year's success.

BINGO!

Good times are ahead for students, according to a survey recently released by a PA Consulting Group, with graduate employment on the rise again after a near-crisis period in the early 80s.

The survey anticipates the recruitment of six per cent more graduates in 1988 than 1987, with starting salaries having risen by an average of eight per cent since 1981.

David Cooper, one of Leeds University's Career Advisers, said that over the past four years demand has been steadily increasing.

He told *Leeds Student*, "Although we are not yet back to the position of 20 years ago, when there were jobs for the asking, among our students things are definitely looking more hopeful."

Martin Ziegler

IN BRIEF

Rawk n' Rawll will be going cheap at LUU from now on. All gigs organised by Events, who handle the smaller gigs at the Union will cost only £1.50.

Events Sec Alistair Mavin, Mav to his mates, told *Leeds Student* that the cheap door price was due to an increase in his grant from the Union.

"Now there's more cash I'm able to subsidise these smaller gigs," he said.

"Actually breaking even on a gig in the Tartan bar is very difficult anyway, with a capacity of 450. Now we don't even have to try."

It is no secret that Events have always made a reasonable profit on that old favourite the weekly Thursday bop. This has often been used to offset losses in the past.

At going to press the first Events gig scheduled is Faith No More in the Tartan bar on Monday, February 1.

So scrape your pennies together and get on down.

Romantic British Rail are cutting fares throughout February so that you can surprise a distant loved one on Valentine's Day.

Regular Saver fares of £25 or less come down to £5 with a Railcard, and others will be £10.

"With February being the month of St Valentine, this is a good chance for young romantics to visit their loved ones and deliver their wishes in person," said Ross Furby, Director of BR's Passenger Marketing Services. (But not for much longer with comments like that, we suspect).

The 'Fantastic February Fares' (sic) are available for outward travel during February and return on the same day or within a month of issue. They are not valid on Friday trains, or services arriving in London on or before 10am on weekdays. Avanti!

Fancy a tippie? The LUU Wine Society is looking for enthusiastic members to volunteer to take part in the 1988 Peter Dominic Inter-University Wine Tasting Competition.

The competition will be held in February and takes the form of a blind tasting with each team of students asked to identify six wines.

Any interested members, preferably with a good knowledge of wine or a strong will to learn, should consult the Wine Society noticeboard as soon as possible for details of practise tastings.

Chris Smith

A 'Candlelight Procession of Remembrance and Action', for AIDS and human rights takes place this Sunday (24) in London.

The procession has been organised by UK AIDS Vigil to coincide with next week's World Health Ministers' summit on AIDS. It aims to draw attention to discrimination and media prejudice against people with AIDS/HIV, and, as part of a five-part strategy, calls for more medical/research funds; support for poorer countries and a reversal of governments' 'regressive policies' and legislation that threatens the civil liberties and human rights of AIDS/HIV sufferers.

Leeds 'Action on AIDS' group, supported by LUU and LPSU, is organising transport to the procession. Coaches will leave the Parkinson steps on Sunday at 10.30am, and tickets are available from Germaine Varney at LUU Exec.

Karen Thornton

Prisoner of Conscience

This Monday saw the beginning of legal action brought against the Kenyan Government by the husband of Leeds University student and detained lawyer, WAHYIRI KIHORO. Since his arrest, under the Public Safety Act in July 1986, he has been detained without any criminal charges being brought against him.

Consequently Kihoro is suing the Kenyan regime for illegal enforcement and torture.

Ever since his student days at Nairobi University, Kihoro has maintained critical opposition to corruption and unethical political practices in the Kenyan Government.

His production of the play 'The Trial of Dedan Kimathi' proved so politically embarrassing in drawing international attention to the situation in



● Wanyiri Kihoro

Kenya that the regime tried unsuccessfully to have its performances in Britain banned.

Forced to return from Britain to Kenya on account of the deteriorating health of his two children, Kihoro was duly arrested by the authorities, presumably because of his unre-

lenting criticism. During his 18 month detention, he has only been allowed two family visits and correspondence with his wife has been infrequent; she has only received two of 11 letters he has written and has not heard from him since July 4, 1987.

Kihoro's case is one of the campaigns being pursued by LUU Amnesty International. On Monday, January 25, his wife will be talking in the R.H. Evans lounge at 1pm and petitioning will take place throughout the following weeks Friday 19 and Saturday, February 20. February will see benefits for the WANYIRI KIHORO LEGAL FUND, featuring the New World Steel Band. Profits will help finance his lawsuit against the Kenyan Government.

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SQUARE ONE

Page of comment and discussion

Leeds University English Professor, Park Honan describes how the scribings of the Beats influenced his writing of a Biography of Jane Austen.



with

JANE AUSTEN

It is an odd experience to spend six years writing a book, and much odder if one's book is a biography. Yet as I found after **Jane Austen: Her Life** was published last October, the oddest part may occur once the book is done, with facts checked for the umpteenth time, proofs corrected, index made, and when the finished thing appears. Then one wakes up to realise how much one owes to all the people who have helped one's work and tolerated eccentricities while the writing was in progress. A biographer is someone who depends excessively on other people. Still, if I exploited others, I had felt amused and fascinated by my subject and devoted to Jane Austen – but had I known one twinge of guilt: at one point I had dropped my Jane Austen project to work on something else.

Infidelity? A betrayal? I had taken a month's holiday from biographical work to read and re-read the novels of Jack Kerouac, the American 'Beat' writer. He seemed to have no relation to Jane Austen and Regency Bath. The fact is that I felt nostalgic about Kerouac; he had written about the American West, and though I never met him, my brother and I as university students had bought old cars and gone 'on the road' in the US in summer holidays, taking farm jobs and now and then leaving a car to ride in freight trains; we came to know the sort of people Kerouac writes about in **Dharma Bums** and **On the Road**. So when a publisher asked me to edit a selection of the 'Beats', I returned to Kerouac and the others. When my book **The Beats: An Anthology of 'Beat' Writing** appeared, a friend wrote to me, "I couldn't believe my eyes! Aren't you supposed to be writing about Jane Austen and not slumming with the American Beats?"

Despite the mock wonder of that question, I thought about it. What has Jack Kerouac taught us? His most famous novel **On the Road**, of 1957, concerns only movement. It is about a wild and pointless car ride between six cities – a swing between New York and New Orleans, Mexico City, Denver, San Francisco, and back east to Chicago and New York with Sal Paradise clinging to Dean Moriarty, a car thief, and crying 'Yes, he's mad' or 'Yes, he's my brother' as they tear along or stop briefly to get money, hear music, or love and leave their girl friends. How



diferent from the order and purpose of **Pride and Prejudice!**

But Kerouac's prose, in its immediacy, had influenced journalism; reporters of the war in Vietnam had stopped writing in a pat, summary way about its horror and had sent back graphic reports about the **experience** of a day there. Journalism is (or can be) serious; it records history of the present. Vietnam reporters learned from Kerouac's prose, and have not historians and biographers learned too? More and more often, in recent years, we have tried to be honest and truly factual about past lives. Instead of using a retrospective prose, and treating history as a thrusting influence upon a life, we have seen the need to reconstruct the ongoing 'presentness' of the past; we begin to see that no one has ever lived quite

outside public events. No one lives in a political or cultural vacuum. Each individual has an awareness of a contemporary age, and that ongoing awareness belongs in a biography.

Most accounts of Jane Austen's life had excluded her from contemporary history; the biographer portrays her as 'at ease in the world she was born into', ignorant, wholly happy except for the odd tear, and sheltered and secluded in Hampshire, that 'pleasing and reassuring region, with its green smiling landscape'. These accounts show little of her awareness of France, her England, politics, economics, or the naval war, for example. (Even the latter has a bearing on her characters in **Mansfield Park** and **Persuasion**.)

Austen biographers had shunned manuscripts. But, early in the 1980s, her brothers' descendants turned over to me a wide variety of pertinent MS materials – letters by five of Jane's brothers, by her mother, family diaries and the like. I used much of it to help depict Jane Austen's 'historical present' so far as we can know it now. By doing enough research to write a connected, continuous narrative set in the Austens' present, I was able to use documents to show more about her own development and novel writing – why she felt as she did about Bath, how the Regency relates to **Pride and Prejudice**, why French events meant something to her, or how her knowledge of Kent relates to **Mansfield Park** for example.

Of course, there is a wide gap between history and biography on the one hand, and the experiments of Kerouac or William Burroughs on the other. As a biographer, I haven't been instructed by either of them at least not in any direct way that I know. But I think Kerouac, especially, began to affect many kinds of writing soon after his time; some historians and biographers learned from him directly, and others have learned from a new attitude we have towards life in the past. People in the past did not need BBC tv to be aware of more than the back garden; they had ongoing, changing awareness, and did not experience history only as an occasional burst or thrust into their lives. We ought to write about those people not in pat, neat, retrospective summaries, but take pains to show the immediacy and wide contexts of their lives in connected accounts of the 'present' they knew. All in all, I was glad to re-discover Jack Kerouac's work. As I returned to biographical research, he seemed to me a congenial and honest spirit, not so far from Bath as I'd believed.

ON THE ROAD

Letters



When Parliament promotes a bigoted backlash

Dear Editor,

I would like to draw your attention to the inclusion in the Local Government Finance Bill currently before Parliament of an amendment banning the 'promotion of homosexuality' by a local authority, council publications and authority funded groups and activities, or in schools. Since 'promotion' is a rather vague term for a piece of potential legislation, Dame Jill Knight the proposer of the amendment was asked what she meant by it. Her reply: "You know what I mean."

Unfortunately we do. Jill Knight and other Right Wing extremists of her ilk, mean to bring about the biggest attack in the country on the civil rights of lesbians and gay men since the 19th century. This legislative attack will be accompanied by an immense backlash of bigotry, prejudice and violence, as we have already seen with the arson attack on the offices of *Capital Gay* newspaper during the week the clause was being debated in the House of Commons.

This amendment would not only lead to more intolerance and suppression of truth in the classroom - where the one teenager in ten who is lesbian or gay will not change, just be made more isolated. It would also prevent local authorities

from carrying out their responsibilities to lesbian and gay people who pay rates in their areas and would threaten all authority financed voluntary organisations with equal opportunities policies. Books would be withdrawn from libraries (why don't they burn them as well?); lesbians and gay men would have no rights to assembly; there would be no council aided helplines or advice centres and no lesbian or gay initiatives on AIDS; students who openly campaign on lesbian and gay issues might have their LEA grants withheld.

It is therefore quite clear to us in the two campaigns set up in Leeds to fight this amendment 'Women against clause 28' and 'Stop clause 28' that what Jill Knight means by the word 'promotion' is in fact 'expression'. This should worry all those who value human rights and detest censorship and prejudice. It is freedom of expression which every individual in this country, whether or not they are a member of a minority group, should stand up and actively defend. It's us they're attacking now, but it might be you next.

Please support our campaigns and attend next week's OGM where a motion opposing clause 28 will be put forward.

Thanks.

Katie Grant

The Cyprus problem

Dear Editor,

In July 1974 Turkey invaded Cyprus - a former British colony and since 1960 an independent republic within the Commonwealth - occupied a large part of its territory in the north, terrorised the Greek Cypriot population away from the land in which they and their ancestors had lived since time immemorial, and collected together the Turkish Cypriot minority from other parts of the island behind what is in effect an iron curtain.

A series of United Nations resolutions calling for the departure of all foreign troops from the island and the return of refugees to their homes and properties remained unheeded. Indeed in November 1983 the Turkish Cypriots shielded behind Turkey's armed might proceeded to a unilateral and illegal declaration of the so-called 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus', which Great Britain along with all other countries except Turkey, refused to recognise.

Despite protracted negotiations under the auspices of the UN secretary general for a just, peaceful and durable settlement, Cyprus has remained a divided and part-occupied is-

land 1/3 of whose population lives as refugees in their own country or in other countries, including Britain. Britain which maintains important military bases in Cyprus and is a guarantor of the island's independence and territorial integrity, has tried to express its responsibilities through giving support to Perez de Cuellar's initiative.

The Greek and Cypriot students in Leeds, in an effort to contribute to a wider understanding of the Cyprus problem, are organising a public discussion on the subject of Cyprus: In search of a just solution, by a panel of distinguished speakers including Christopher Price, former MP and current Director of Leeds Poly, Andrew Siantonas, member of Leeds District Council and the Press Councillor of the Cyprus High Commission in London.

Everybody is invited to this event and the reception which will follow it. The meeting will be held on Friday, January 29 at 6pm in the Brunswick building exhibition area of the Polytechnic, opposite the northern side of the Merrion Centre.

Yours faithfully

Nikos Giannakis

LUU and LPSU Hellenic Society

THE FIFTH COLUMN

As Oscar Wilde might have said "To have one fire is unfortunate, to have two is sheer carelessness!" Indeed the last 12 months have seen not one but three fires at Leeds University, only the last of which on Monday being small enough not to cause major damage.

The most frightening aspect of the fire in the civil engineering building was the speed with which it escalated into a major conflagration, causing an explosion that blew in shop windows.

How many more unsafe gas cylinders are there around this University? How many pieces of ancient apparatus, unchecked and potentially fatal, just waiting like time bombs to go off?

In the wake of the Kings Cross disaster, hysteria if not justified is certainly understandable. Leeds University has miles of corridors and scores of dark corners.

With the events of recent weeks in mind we ask **JUST HOW SAFE IS LEEDS UNIVERSITY?**

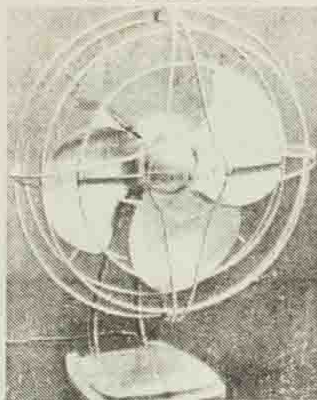
We demand to know. Your *Leeds Student* will bring you the facts next week.

MAKE THIS PAGE YOURS!

WRITE TO:

Leeds Student Letters
Leeds University Union
PO Box 157
Leeds LS1 1OH

THE



FAN

Hello, and as you join us here at Leeds conditions are heavy underfoot for this year's annual sabbatical position derby. **The Fan** can promise you a fine month or so's backstabbing and mud-wrestling as the career-minded jobsworths of LUU try desperately to make themselves some beds that they'd dearly love to lie in.

However **The Fan** must point out that these here 'predictions' are based upon hearsay. None of the below-mentioned individuals have yet flung their hats, Chairman Mao caps, medical hairnets or kapels into the ring and if they had, well, we wouldn't be able to do this, as once nominations are 'on the go' (so to 'speak') the *Stude* is

GAGGED by the LUU Constitution from telling the voter what s/he already knows (ie that they're all out for themselves and about as trustworthy as Ronnie Biggs).

With that disclaimer in mind, avanti!

FIRST UP is of course the illustrious position of general secretary, well suited to those with severe ego-containment probs.

Bizarre fate has decreed that for two years now victory has fallen to a possessor of one of those ridiculous little John Lennon caps; step forward **'Reg' Varney** and your predecessor **Paulie Waulie Brannen**.

So could 88-89 be the year for incredibly badly dressed **Dave Hampson**, also proud owner of said tifter? Dave was the mastermind behind last year's Eritrean Tent Campaign but when he's not 'making tents' he's fond of the odd biscuit - as **The Fan** exclusively revealed. If your conscience can stand voting for a man who'll spend a year pouring guilt onto it, then so be it.

There's always alternatives. And what an alternative... **The Fan** hears that unknown terror **Vaughan Allen** is to stand against him on a platform of anti-vivisection, compulsory

occult practice in the Union and donating the MJ as worldwide HQ for the Worldwide Church Ov Psychick Youth. Bravo, sir!

And making up the three-some is chunky but funky **Dave 'Wallbanger' Harvey**, UC and CND stalwart. And, er, that's it.

THERE'S ANOTHER three-way tussle in the 'offing' for the admin secretary post. **The Fan** understands that top nit-picker **Ron Strong**, last-man-in-the-Liberal-Party **Mike Green** and Toooory-toppling Militant mayhem merchant **Julie 'Time To Get' Till** will be at each other's throats for the role of LUU's 'Mr (or Ms) Fixit'. The smart money is split between **Ron 'n' Mikey** but it's been wrong before.

LEAVING ASIDE the fact that financial wiz **'Ard Vile Shit** (anag) will bounce into the finance chair with ease, we come to perhaps the only seat in the big exec office that's worth a carrot: **WELFARE**.

Arguing your 'case' for missing grabst and all that gubbins next year could be one-time *Leeds Student* **Caitlin Ferris**, shady medic **Will Wood** and political hopscotch merchant **Frankie Blagden**.

Frankie 'Blag'den kicked off as a wild-eyed apostle of

the SDP until she was 'persuaded' (fnur) that The Party With All The Answers was a haven for the guilty middle-classes - the RCP. Scribble scribble went **Frankie's** signature on the RCP entry form.

Then up came the job of women's officer (as was) and - hey presto! - **Frankie Blagden** (Labour Club candidate)

was born. Now she's back from a course sojourn in the USA and can be safely said to be of 'no fixed political abode'.

Sir William Wood, however, wears an appalling huge earring and should by rights have turned into a bush by now (read into that what you will). Alas, alack.

THE FAN'S PATENT CUT OUT 'N' KEEP ELECTION FORM GUIDE

VAUGHAN ALLEN: Makes Andrew Eldritch look like Anrika Rice. (Evens)

FRANKIE BLAGDEN: Political nomad of indeterminate origin and 'iffy' form over heavy ground. (12-1)

MIKE FENWICK: Out of Ginger McCain's stable... hence the hair! (4-1)

CAITLIN FERRIS: Dark horse, should keep close to the rails. (No idea)

MIKE GREEN: Impressive over the soft ground but wears an NUS badge, for God's sake. (7-4 joint favourite)

DAVE HAMPSON: Heavily favoured after romping home at Newmarket despite a large sack of grain on his back. (4-1)

DAVE HARVEY: May well come from behind because of solid grounding in CND. (3-1)

DAR SHIVTIEL: Will walk the Finance Secretary Handicap or **The Fan** will eat its deerstalker and probably its shooting stick too. (Three million to one on)

RON STRONG: Diminutive whizz-kid given to acts of madness in the last furlong. (8-1)

TERRY STYANT: Heavily fancied (fnur! fnur!) southerner with good form. (7-4 joint favourite)

JULIE TILL: NO! CUTS! IN! JOBS! AND! SERVICES! (30,000 Liverpool City Council redundancies to one against)

WILL WOOD: Well, he would, wouldn't he? Amiable sawbones sure to get the bog-wreckers' vote. (3-1)

THE FAN accepts no responsibility for changes in the list of runners, late odds adjustments, surprise declarations, candidates being kidnapped by the IRA for a ransom and then being turned into glue or anything at all ever.

ARTS



BACK TO THE KITCHEN SINK

The truly awful is a rare beast. Often a celluloid effort which shows all the potential for being a true turkey is relegated to the merely 'boring and predictable' pile, when the collected wit of the film makers responsible fails to follow the complete crassness of an inept idea through to its illogical and dreadful end.

Near Dark (Cannon, Vicar Lane) however does not once falter in its nose dive to turkeydom. Not only does it possess a ridiculous plot, appalling script, and inconceivably ham performances, but it has that extra element of bad taste as well. Crap like this really is an achievement.

Near Dark is the everyday tale of happy go lucky vampires touring the good ole US of A in a mobile home, looking for a quick feed on the nearest full bloodied American and content in the knowledge that they are going to live forever.

Once the basic idea has been set up, it's down hill all the way. Hero, Caleb (Adrian Pasdar) gets the bite from sultry vamp Mae (Jenny Wright) and finds himself one of the blood sucking gang, who can do anything they like for the rest of time, as long as they kill once a night and are in bed by 6am.

Being vampires exposure to sunlight makes them burst into flames, which despite their claim of immortality seems for some unexplained reason to wipe them off the face of the earth, and gloriously out of the film forever.

It does however open the way for the immortal line 'Aaargh, Daylight!', which puts a whole new perspective on washing up liquid adverts. These vampires are not normal people. We know that because one afeared onlooker tells us so.

"They're not normal," he says.

"Normal people don't spit back bullets when you shoot them." It's observations like this that make going to the pictures worthwhile.

When Director Kathryn Bigelow (who must also take some of the blame for the screenplay) runs out of ideas, she just layers on massive amounts of gore and smoke.

Indeed Bigelow must now be eligible for at least a nomination for the 'Steven Spielberg outrageous abuse of smoke machine award.' Well if you had one on long term hire, wouldn't you try to get a reasonable amount of use out of it? The stuff billows from practically every frame, and where there isn't smoke there's blood. But this film is at its happiest when there is both, and there's lots of that.

Be not deceived, this is not a film with its tongue in its cheek. A corpse strewn nightmare which is described in the production notes as a 'romantic thriller', obviously thought it knew what it was doing.

In fact if you can bare the gore Near Dark is so bad it is probably worth seeing, if only to see exactly what it did do.

Jay Rayner



● The face she falls for: the Father of Lynda's child

WISH YOU WERE HERE

Odeon

The broad colour sweep of David Leeland's new film, *Wish You Were Here*, separates this earthy, very English, social drama from its forebears - the monochrome 'kitchen sink' dramas of the late 50s and 60s.

Where film versions of plays like 'A Taste of Honey' and 'Look Back In Anger' used black and white to convey the grey monotony of 'real' peoples' lives, *Wish You Were Here* uses colour to proclaim the very vitality of life itself.

But in doing so the film loses that raw cutting edge that earlier British social dramas had. The story of a young bored adolescent girl growing up in a post-war British seaside resort and trying to express her own sexuality as a means to break away from her uncaring father, sometimes appears rather sentimental, even gauche at times.

How can this portrait of sleepy south coast England, accommodate the thrashings of a young tearaway without leaving the viewer split right down the middle? In many ways it can't.

FATAL ATTRACTION

Cannon

Fatal Attraction is a good thriller; nice photography, a bit of Puccini and a lot of edge of seat editing. Unfortunately, it begins by pretending it's not a thriller at all and that it's really going to have a stab at the one about why it is that executives have one night stands and make themselves, and everyone else, miserable.

Dan Gallagher (Michael Douglas) comes even better when Alex (Glenn Close) is just the spurned 'other woman' - a deft 'you know the rules' should sort her out, thinks Dan - but when we discover she's actually a psychopath we know we're going to be gripped rather than

enlightened and Dan's going to get twitchy. Before Alex turns up on the family doorstep loitering with plenty of intent, Dan's family life is just too peachy with not a cross word between him and his wife Beth (Anne Archer) and they have a suitably executive child to play with. Oh, and Alex tells Dan she's now pregnant but, because she's one brick short of a load, anything she has to say about her rights and his responsibilities is skilfully devalued - she might not even be pregnant!

'Hell hath no fury...' etc. Directed by Adrian Lyne, late of *Flashdance* and *9½ Weeks* - which should give you some idea...

Ian Connaughton

superb performances from a tightly knit cast.

Emily Lloyd as burdgeoning Lynda has already received much praise for this her first performance, including one best actress award from a group of American critics. It remains to be seen however whether she is capable of producing anything more. Whatever, the early praise is going to mean that *Wish You Were Here* is now going to hang like a millstone around her young neck for a very long time.

Jay Rayner



A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

Fishnet Balloon was set up in the summer of 86, primarily as a theatre society aiming to address what are commonly termed as women's and ethnic issues, but which we perceive as being everyone's issues. One of the ways in which we do this is to find an issue we are interested in or concerned about and to discuss this through the medium of theatre in an entertaining and

informative way. Anything, however, is possible which allows us to put on films, poetry evenings and cabarets, if and when we want to. Last term performances were very much a mixture of ideas and feelings, not concentrating on any one single issue, whereas last year for example, two hard hitting plays were performed which dealt with rape and pornography.

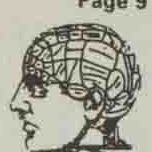
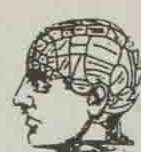
We hold a weekly workshop in which basic dramatic techniques are explored. Much of our self written material has grown out of work done in these workshops. Many of us who had no previous performing or acting experience found them to be confidence building and mind expanding.

This term we are presenting a play about incest and next

week (Jan 28-30) 'Bazaar and Rummage', a hilarious Sue Townsend comedy will be performed for our consumption and digestion.

We are always in need of back stage crew, performers and helpers; anyone interested should come to our Wednesday 1pm meetings in the OSA lounge.

Lucy Prince



ARIAS FOR DARK NIGHTS

DAVID CRELLIN ON OPERA NORTH'S WINTER SEASON

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HOURS

Welcome home culture-slugs and as we lie in the toothless jaws of this mild winter, aesthetic gratification beckons from all directions. Leeds is the place for dipping a toe into the placid mainstream: **Richard Attenborough's** latest clumsy exercise in modern myth-making **Cry Freedom**, plays at the Cannon. Sophisticates might quibble with the analysis, but the choice of a tear jerking blockbuster as the vehicle is as astute a move as you'll see. Meanwhile the **Playhouse** bring out their production of Shaw's classic undermining of English social mores - **Mrs Warren's Profession**. Full review next week.

For more exquisite pleasures head for **Bradford Film Theatre** on Friday night. First up is **The Night Is Young** (6.00). Directed by **Leos Carax** who last year gave us the sumptuously photographed **Boy Meets Girl**. This genre-hopping romantic thriller with an AIDS-era theme is his first colour venture so it should at least provide a fine spectacle. At 8.30 there's **River's Edge**, a blackly comic tale of peer group machinations, as a group of teenagers shelter a murderer. Shot in semi documentary style, it features another of **Dennis Hopper's** crazed cameos. Carrying on where he left off in **Blue Velvet**, he's a deranged one legged ex-biker in this little foot tapper. On Saturday night the NMP invites you to enter the **Cabinet Of Doctor Caligari**, with live music, long shadows and those spiky sets, it should give you your most arty nightmares in months.



● Cynthia Buchan: a flawed Carmen?

CARMEN

Opera North's 'Carmen' ought to have been very good, but turned out to be rather disappointing. With a new production, an interesting design team and a potentially strong cast, this should have been a major success to follow up on the achievements of the 1987 autumn season. Somehow it all didn't all quite add up.

The first disappointment was Cynthia Buchan's Carmen. Carmen is a role whose vocal range lies in an intermediate area between the provinces of soprano and mezzo-soprano, and it has been sung equally well by both types of singer. Buchan, who normally sings mezzo roles, has a lower register, but there is a painful gap between this and the higher notes demanded of her in much of Carmen's music. Her singing of the First Act Habanera was atrocious, and overshadowed the partial recovery made later on in the evening.

Where she could not be faulted was in dramatic commitment to the role. Here, though, unfortunately, she was matched with a José in Dennis O'Neill who, although he sang his role well, showed not the slightest awareness of the characters obsessive attraction towards Carmen.

Neither of them were helped by a production which showed evidence of interesting ideas but lacked unity. Touches such as the partly raised metal screen at the beginning of Act I, which allowed the audience to see only the feet of the passers-by on stage, might have been fun, but didn't seem to have much to do with the story of the opera. I did like what I took as references to the architectural imag-

ery of Italian fascism in the serried ranks of staring windows of Acts I and IV which could be tied to the production's setting in a vaguely 1940s Spain. The cigarette factory girls pulling up the blinds in their tower in Act I was also an enjoyable coup de théâtre.

Nevertheless, one was left with a sense that something was missing. The 'something' was *Spanishness*. There wasn't much evidence of it in the staging, until the costumes for Act IV, which jarred stylistically with the rest of the production.

Yes, I know that Carmen can be naff, and I also know that you can interpret the story as a universal myth and lift it out of the historical context which is given it; but I would have thought if a production's costumes are in a 1940s style and the story is set in Spain, then we might have seen some attempt to mention Franco and a certain World War going on at the time? This is what Opera North did a few years ago in their 'Trovatore', and I would have thought that 'Carmen' might have been a rather more suitable vehicle for this kind of treatment.

'Carmen' is returning to the Grand Theatre in Opera North's Summer Season.

THE MERRY WIDOW

This was the most enjoyable of the three productions Opera North has introduced this Christmas. The staging was attractive, the singing good and the acting as credible as can reasonably be expected in this trivial, though pleasant work.

Kathryn Harries sings notes like 'The Ring's' Sieghilde for the Welsh National Opera, and her voice, although very attrac-

tive, is perhaps rather too heavy for the part of Hannah Glawari. She certainly doesn't have the sparkle and lightness of Elizabeth Schwarzkopf in the role.

In the more lyrical moments, though, she was superb; and with her tall elegant figure (nicely overshadowing the tenor Paul Nilon, who played Camille) and dashing manner, she was visually exactly what the Merry Widow ought to be.

Peter Savidge as Danito, her reluctant suitor, matched her both vocally and dramatically. It was nice to see a cast enjoying themselves so much, in moments like the men's comic chorus in Act II (encored for an enthusiastic first-night audience) and Andrea Bolton's Valenciennne's performance as a 'grissette' near the end of the operetta.

Nice, too, to see details such as the contrast between the Parisian women's up-to-the-minute, Poirer-influenced couture gowns and Hannah's rather old fashioned Ponderedrian costumes; also, the *art nouveau* flourish of Bob Ringwood's attractive sets.

The last performance of 'The Merry Widow' at the Grand Theatre is tonight at 7.15 pm.

REBECCA

Wilfred Josephs' 'Rebecca' is the first work commissioned by Opera North. They put it on first in 1983 and, I suppose, they feel they've got to have another go at it to justify their investment.

I was actually surprised by the music, I went to the Grand Theatre expecting sub-Puccini and instead I got sub-Strauss with a good deal of Freud thrown in. I don't want to be

unfair - it was very well done; the singing was excellent (top marks, everyone, for battling against an over-loud orchestra) and the spectacular revolving set, with its massive staircase was worth seeing for its own sake.

Unfortunately, though, the evening lacked one necessary ingredient. Brilliantly packaged as it was, the product provided for Opera North by Josephs failed to be a real opera and only managed to attain the status of bad kitsch. If Opera North are going to provide their audience with kitsch, can't they at least do good quality stuff? Given the talents of the two main women singers in 'Rebecca', Anne Williams-King and Ann Howard, I spent most of the evening wishing I was at a production of 'Electra'.

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LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**2-15pm Thursday 4th February, 1988
in the University Refectory**

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS should be handed to the Administration Secretary before 5pm on Friday 22nd January 1988. ALL OTHER BUSINESS must be handed in by 5pm on Thursday 28th January 1988.

Divided we stand

That bi-annual orgy of bitching, back-biting and policy passing, the NUS conference took place last December in Blackpool. Our man on conference floor Robin Perrie brings back the abuse.

Last years NUS winter conference was, so I am told, the lowest of the low when it comes to bungling bureaucracy puking in the face of constructive debate. Its greatest achievement was the production of hundreds of examples of living proof that you can't die of boredom.

As a result the expectations for this years conference were rather low. Anything better than last years would be a success.

Dismissed by a large number of students as irrelevant and unimportant the bi-annual conference is the sovereign body where policy is passed (or not as the case may be), and the National Executive are held accountable for their cock-ups.

In her relatively creditable though predictable opening presidential address, Vicky Phillips drew attention to NUS' influence which will be exploited to the full in future months to fight various pieces of government legislation.

Anything that Vicky Phillips promised to do however must be placed in the context of her subsequent LUU proposed censure, that conference passed for her failure to follow a policy mandate concerning Soviet Jewry.

Along with National Secretary Adrian Long, Vicky Phillips failed to meet any refuseniks when they visited the USSR in October.

Conference was in a determined mood. This was one foul-up they weren't going to get away with.

The first main debate of the conference on Friday night was concerned with the forthcoming Great Educational Reform Bill. You could be forgiven for thinking that, apart from the obvious blind defence of the Bill, the whole motion condemning it would be whisked through. Well it just wasn't to be.

The first few amendments to the main motion were clearly passed, including one proposed by LUU's Racheal Taylor, which highlighted the special problems that

different groups will face under GERBIL.

The bickering started when the debate turned to a discussion of tactics. The numerous different factions that exist loosely congregated behind either the positions of the National Organisation of Labour Students (NOLS) or Socialist Students in NOLS (SSiN).

Eventually, after much of the factional fighting, which is an axiomatic facet of the conference, had finished the SSiN position on tactics was passed. Draw whatever conclusion that you will, but at the end of it all, it was difficult to believe that the different sides held any similar condemnation of the Bill at all.

A similar situation occurred during the debate on the poll tax. Everybody agreed in an incredibly nice manner that the poll tax is a horrid and unfair idea, apart from the light spattering of Conservative delegates of course who, by this time you begin to think aren't taking the conference very seriously and are having an internal competition to see who can get the loudest 'sit down ya dickhead' off conference.

Once again the disagreements stemmed from the discussion on tactics, and whether the best course of action is the passive individualistic approach or a more direct approach involving trade unions, tenants associations and Labour councils.

The Leeds delegation had two speakers involved in this debate. Michael Green spoke in the 'nice' part of the debate with an acceptable run of the mill speech. Simon Buckby had no such luck however, his speech formed

part of the controversial section where backbiting and heckling were rife.

Eventually both forms of protest were passed, the latter by only five votes, leaving NUS with a double-barrelled strategy. Only time will tell if the two are compatible, or if one will end up being prioritised at the expense of the other.

Will success come through a mass letter writing campaign or will we have to burn the house down?

Surprisingly perhaps, the debate on the Alton Bill was the only one where the conference was as near as it would ever get to being unified.

Amendment after amendment was passed or defeated according to a general pro-abortion line and there was none of the emotive slanging matches that characterised the OGM's last term.

Numerous speakers, including Racheal Taylor of LUU reminded conference that it was a debate about the rights of women and not rights of the unborn child.

And NUS conference had finally taken time off from the relentless careerism to discover the meaning of the word 'unity'. Well sort of.

During the weekend the date was announced for a national demonstration by NUS in London to protest at the Education Bill. February 27 is the date when the NEC hope 100,000 students, approximately ten per cent

of NUS, will descend on London to prove to the government that there is a nation-wide objection to the Bill.

Pat Younge, the Education Officer on the NEC, was adamant that anything less than a ten per cent turnout would be a failure. What he didn't highlight as another possible cause of failure however, is the zillions of different political factions niggling over the best way to conduct the protest.

If NUS provides a solid and unified voice of protest it will be the largest opposition on to the Bill that the government has encountered, and one that it will find it hard to ignore, although it probably will.

Alternatively, the different factions could hijack the demo because they all know best and nothing will be achieved, leaving the government with a huge smile on its face. A split opposition is no opposition.

It's always difficult to tell if anything worthwhile has been decided at conference or if it has been yet another weekend of expensive self-publicity.

Apart from the ridiculous result of the Israel-Palestine debate and the motion on student financial support not being discussed due to lack of time, three valuable motions were passed, even if the debates did, at times, descend into tortuous boredom. Oh well, at least it was better than last years.

Palestine-Israel Debate

This debate was prioritised as the main one for the conference but the result did little more than disillusion the LUU delegation, split the LPSU

delegation and expose the anti-semitism and general discrimination that was undoubtedly in existence at the conference.

The first amendment to the main motion was the SSiN position and one delegate proposing it warned that to vote in favour of the main motion (generally in contradiction with amendments one and two) would push Jewish students out of NUS, whilst this amendment promotes self-determination of both Israelis and Palestinians.

A speaker against the first amendment however claimed that it didn't sufficiently deal with Palestinian rights.

The first was eventually defeated by an extremely close card vote. A Palestinian student told *Leeds Student* that he was delighted with the result, "We have been represented truly by NUS this time," he said. Predictably however there was no such joy in the Jewish camp.

The whole situation was reversed however when the second amendment, the official Union of Jewish Students position, was passed. This was in complete contradiction to the first vote.

As a result the second amendment because the main motion and was defeated by just under 17,000 voted which left NUS with no policy. LPSU delegate Johnny Adler described this as "Tragic."

So NUS doesn't have a policy on Israel-Palestine, a ridiculous position but one which serves to highlight the seemingly irreconcilable situation. However with events in the West Bank taking a violent turn for the worse of late it is vital that some sort of peaceful solution is achieved on all levels, from national governments down. And that includes NUS.

General Summary

GERBIL

- NUS are to organise a national demo in London on February 27.
- Joint campaigns are to be mounted with trade

unions, Community groups and LEA's which will also include liberation campaigns.

- NUS will support any student taking direct action against the Bill.

ALTON BILL/ REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

- NUS will continue to work with and support FAB and NAC.
- Support will be given to women in Ireland (North and South).
- Campaigns will be mounted to combat

discrimination in the NHS to ensure every women has the chance of a free abortion.

POLL TAX

- NUS will campaign against the poll tax and argue for a new form of local government that would involve financial

support based on ability to pay.

- A campaign of civil disobedience will be encouraged, ie refusal to pay.
- NUS will provide legal and financial backing to students who are prosecuted for refusing to pay.

Not Just a Game Out with the Officer Training

Popular misconceptions exist in all walks of life, and are perhaps even more prevalent amongst students whose experiences are inevitably limited.

The main cause of such preconceived ideas is ignorance, be it social, political, racial or religious, and the result is a closed mind which refuses to see someone else's point of view.

The Officers Training Corps which exists in some 40 universities throughout the UK is probably the subject of more ill-informed opinions than any other extra-curricular activity available to students. It is simultaneously regarded as a thinly-disguised recruitment programme, an excuse to indulge one's violent tendencies, or an 'action man' style set up for 'playing' at soldiers. The truth, for those willing to find out, is that it is none of these, and whatever one's own personal views may be, the only way to really find out what the OTC does is to speak to those students who belong to it.

Brian Armstrong, a second year mechanical engineering student at the University admitted that he had no interest in the regular army whatsoever, but had joined in order to give himself something challenging to do away from the academic environment. "I find that I meet a wide range of students from many different colleges, all studying different subjects, and yet it's refreshing to hear people talking about something other than work for a change."

The official line on the role of the OTC is that it should foster an interest in, and an understanding of the army and its role within the country as a whole. It undoubtedly provides suitable training for those who do wish to pursue a career in either the Regular or Territorial Army, and yet statistically this forms a very small proportion of those who join. For the remainder, its role is seen as providing a means for

developing individual potential and leadership qualities for later life. If all of this sounds like a propaganda exercise it is interesting to find that for most of the students who have no desire to make the army a career this is almost exactly what they find they do get out of it. Many join on the recommendation of others and see it as an opportunity to develop both self-confidence and self-discipline. Susan Rayner, a second year Zoology student, and one of a sizeable female contingent within the OTC was adamant that she was not just "playing soldier."

"Primarily you learn a lot about yourself and your ability to get on with others. The training inevitably revolves around military skills, but at the same time it develops your sense of responsibility and powers of leadership."

From watching those involved in the OTC both at work and at 'play', on the assault course and in the bar, it was obvious that team spirit and friendship abound. Within such an environment one's ability to get on with others from many different social backgrounds becomes very important, as it is within any work environment. As another cadet pointed out, "Barrack rooms and wild moors are great social levellers."

So, what of the hordes of student 'RAMBOS' roaming the Yorkshire countryside? The truth, self-evident from even a short visit to the winter camp at Warcop is that they plainly don't exist. The training is certainly based around a military framework, the cadets learn to fire semi-automatic weapons and are taught elementary battlecraft, but the mud-splattered figures one encounters crawling over an assault course are no more trained killing machines than



The Officers Training Corps or OTC conjours up a wide range of images amongst students – some of them true, many of them not. In an attempt to find out the truth behind the conflicting views Leeds Student travelled to Warcop army base to visit the annual OTC camp and to see at first hand exactly what goes on.

Words and Pictures: Chris Donkin.



Time of Soldiers!

g Corps



you or I. The vast majority of them see the OTC as a well organised and well disciplined outdoor 'club'. It provides the opportunity for adventurous training in the form of canoeing, rock climbing and other outdoor pursuits within an organised structure which promotes individual responsibility and teamwork. There is a financial side to the OTC – cadets are paid between £350 and £450 per year according to the amount of time they put in – but very few join purely for the money, and those who do rarely stay.

However, for many it represents a useful incentive, and gives the OTC a higher standing in their list of priorities than other clubs and societies.

For many, the social side of the OTC is just as important as the more strenuous outdoor side. Many events are organised each year, ranging from the big Annual Dinner to less formal parties. However, some cadets did express concern at the apparent paradox of strenuous exercise and an emphasis on fitness during the day, and the social pressure towards heavy

alcohol consumption during the evenings.

The social side combined with the part-time nature of the OTC can also cause disciplinary problems for the officers in charge who wish to promote a friendly and relaxed atmosphere when socialising whilst maintaining discipline. Some admitted that there were times when they found it frustrating, but all attested to the degree of responsibility shown by the vast majority of students who joined the OTC. One officer said that "discipline and orders are to some extent ignored in the bar, but once the cadets are involved in the training side of things the organisational structure works very well, and on the whole there are very few disciplinary problems."

The major problem that many OTC students face is a lack of understanding over what they actually do. For Sati Dhillon, a second year student at the University and the only Sikh within the Leeds OTC, abuse from other students is a problem he treats philosophically. "I have always had to put up with other people's ignorance over my

religion, and so the sort of comments I get about belonging to the OTC don't really bother me. Abusive attitudes inevitably spring from ignorance and the kind of people who call me a 'fascist' because I belong to the OTC are just as ignorant as those who call me a 'paki' because I wore a turban. Neither really understands and so they resort to abuse."

The OTC is not just playing at soldiers any more than it is a factory for the regular army. Those students who join are adamant that they get far more out of it than a basic grounding in military skills. It is easy to smile and regard comments about self-confidence, team spirit and leadership qualities as a glib regurgitation of the recruiting pamphlets, but the fact is that many more students apply to join that there are places available, and very few leave because they don't enjoy it. The OTC is not the regular army, nor is it just another university club, but somewhere between the two it provides a challenging environment in which those who choose to join find a great deal of satisfaction.



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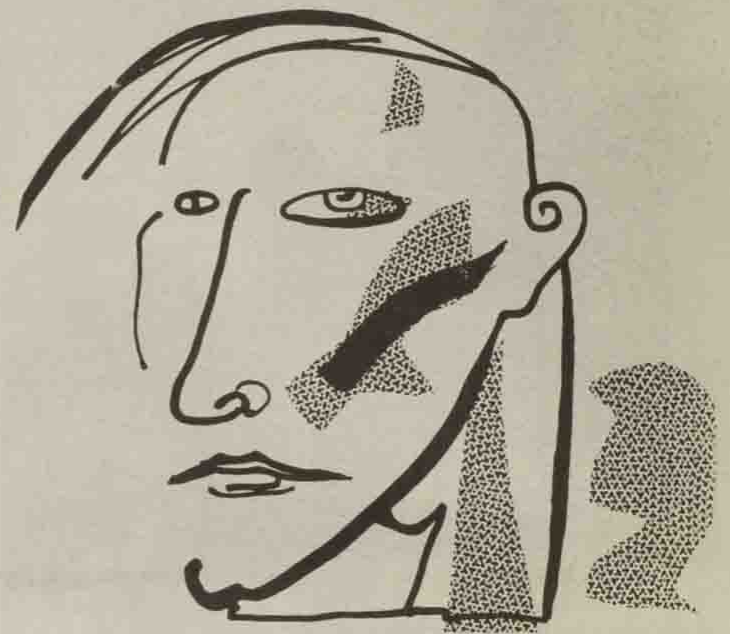
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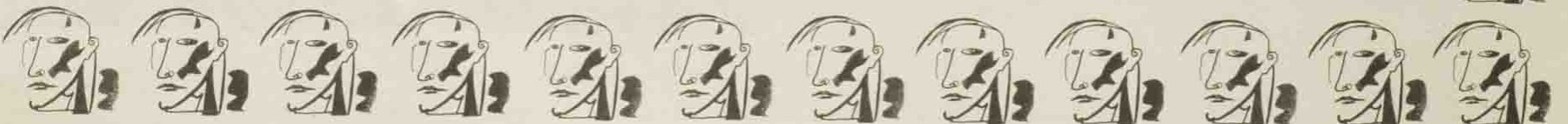


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MUSIC



So what was last year's best album? 'Sign O the Times' wasn't at all bad (or good?), with the exception of the odd dodgy ballad; 'Strangeways . . . ' proved to be a wheezing, last-gasp, dying breath; and 'The Joshua Tree', despite being a big fave in the chart stakes, overdid the drama into snoozesville. Sonic Youth's 'Sister' hit the top for credibility, and 'George Best' would have been first but for That Petrol Emotion and 'Babble'. None of this would have mattered if Shirley Bassey had released a solo album.

'Babble' now sounds slightly outdated since TPE keep updating their music, favouring the pumped up appeal of heavy hip-hop on their independent basics. 'Babble' is

basically a variation on the Bogshed/Big Flame/Stump type sound, but with a much better grip on keeping a tune and none of the irritating disjointedness of those bands. Also Roli Mosimann, producing, puts his Swan experience to good use in providing the volume. 'Big Decision' should have been massive (well as massive as seven inches gets), and 'Creeping to the Cross' would have been the disco equal of 'Stayin' Alive' but for an effortless promo campaign by Polydor (ie they didn't put any effort in).

Tip for the top in 88 . . . Eartha Kitt's version of Tom Jones' interpretation of Age of Chance's sonic attack on Prince's 'Kiss'.

Maillard Browning

DAMN

THE DAMNED
The Light at the end of the Tunnel
(MCA Video)

Twelve years on and The Damned approach the light at the end of their tunnel! At the one, now far distant end, early punk thrash ('New Rose', 'Plan 9 Channel 7', 'Smash It Up'), and at the other, the Madness-like pop stomp of the 1985/6 Phantasmagoria-and-after period - hardly a vintage ('Grimly Fiendish', 'Is it a Dream', 'Gigolo', etc).

Either The Damned fought shy of the cameras for five or six years, or this video is designed to highlight the punk/pop contrast.

This contrast is unfortunate since the three early numbers leave the latter ones looking about as exciting as Robert MacLennan. 'Light . . . ' moves directly from the crash and batter noise and brash colour effects of a rough encounter at the wrong end of a dalek's probosis, to smooth production and curtain rail swish direction.

What 'Light . . . ' demonstrates most is that Captain Sensible was too angelic looking to be a punk and David Vanian can either be strikingly handsome, or bear a resemblance to a ferret in the terminal stages of the Cambridge Diet. Any why, just because videos are about images, are their covers always so dull?

Roger Lakin

DAFT

I' LUDICROUS
'It's Like Everything Else'
(Kaleidoscope Sound)

Newsreaders can seem comical in their seriousness but objects of ridicule are all around us. You do not need to be a comedian to see them in their essence. So this does not seem so silly - a record full of ridiculous stories. I, Ludicrous, at base two blokes called William Hung and John Proctor, have, however, chosen well.

As guitars ease into rhythmic patterns any possible boredom, derived from pretentious or banal lyrics, is spirited away. I, Ludicrous are satirists and humorists. Yet one wonders about their strange utterances: Was it so naive of former Transport Minister Linda Chalker to have backed Clive Sinclair? Why are James Burke, Jonathan Miller and Scottish goalkeepers so painful is 'ludicrous' really the new, up-and-coming yuppie word? Are they serious? 'Electric drums and a Woolworth's guitar/What a ridiculous band we are'.

These blokes have insight without any effort of seeing. And yet, over guitar-laden beats, and in Mark E Smith or Hugh Cornwall monotones, they also say nothing. It is the non-method of Jilted John. A prime example can be where they tell of the actual cottage standing in one corner of Craven Cottage football ground, from 'an age before the violence, before the air was full of vile oaths'. Yet the club's beer is good . . .

No need to look too hard. These songs might only be doodlings from 'a pair of singalong, knees-up pub entertainers'. And like when listening to a Monty Python LP it does not take long to remember what's said here. Play this and tell everyone to listen.

Martin Baker

FANZINES

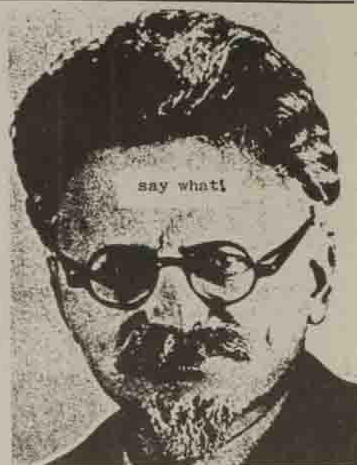
If you ever wondered about the Fields of the Nephilim's origins as the only remaining supernatural giants from the angel-people in the sky (shrunk in the wash), or what kind of hairspray Mary (Gaye Bykers On Acid)'s auntie is alleged to have used, I'd advise you to get hold of some fanzines-often low budget and scrappy productions, run at a loss by eccentric individuals of music. The areas covered are usually those ignored by the music press, whose stagnant imaginations rarely cross the boundaries out of London, and when they do it's only to create trends that weren't ever there . . .

FAT & SWEATY

Is just what it says it is, millions and billions of pages from Newport, the capital of noise. Number 5 features lots of interviews with people like the 'Bomb Party', 'Big Black', 'Sonic Youth', 'The Ex', 'Butthole Surfers', 'Hunters Club', 'Swans' and more. Definitely brilliant and worth sending 50p to Hamish, 20 Aqualate Close, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7TF.

ROX!

Your official noise bible, always brilliant and now in its 28th volume. The 'pop noise for president' issue features 'Sonic Youth', 'The Wedding Present', 'Big Flame'; actually this is a lie, but it does include something about the 'Membranes' . . . buy this or get no 29 the minute it comes out (40p from 87 Anchorsholme Lane, Blackpool, Lancs).



A TALKING TURKEY IN A BUTCHERED LAND

Issue 3 includes a 'F*** City Shitters' interview, ace cartoons and articles on the decline of the British football chant and inequality on British Rail, amongst other things. Well worth 25p from 108 South Grove Road, Sheffield 10.

ABLAZE

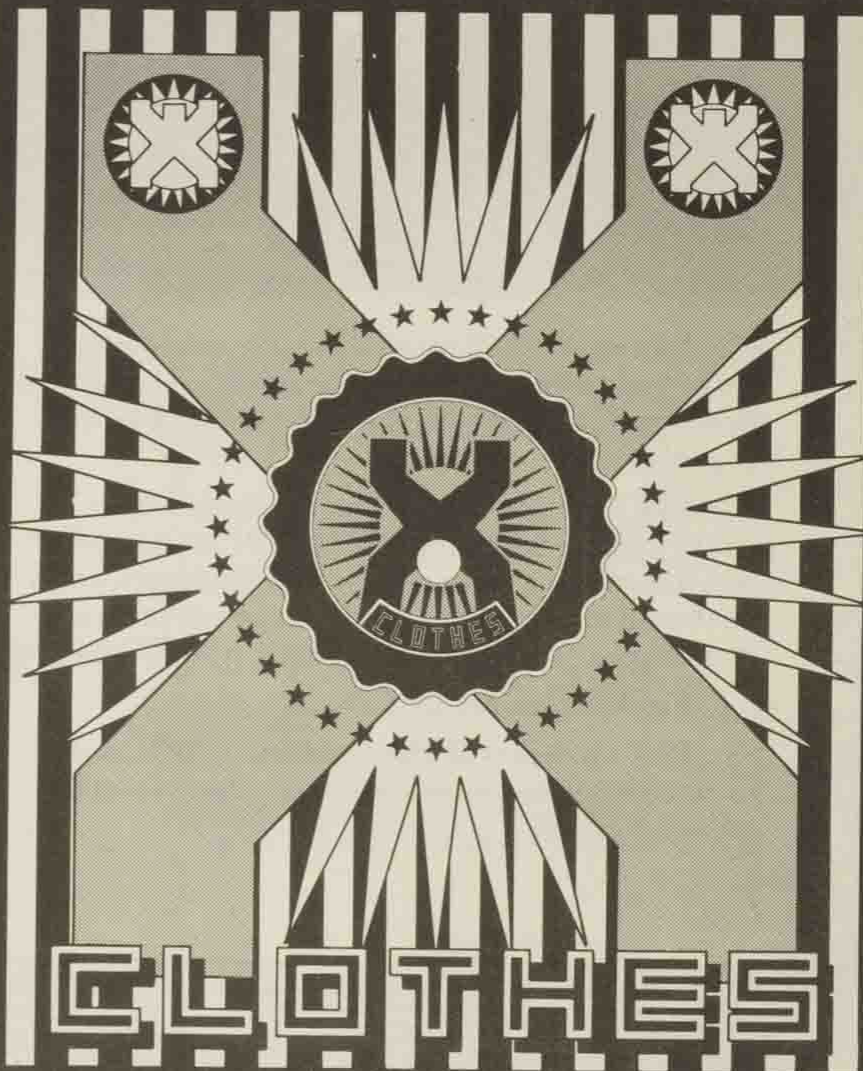
One of the best around, this issue luxuriously printed in gorgeous multicolour. Packed with interviews with 'Gaye Bykers on Acid', 'The Janitors' and 'Happy Mondays' and 'Membranes', 'Pop Will Eat Itself', 'Dog Faced Hermans' etc and gig reviews. 15p from 34 Fulmar Drive, Sale, Manchester M33 4NH.

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EYES WIDE OPEN

Distinctive sonic disco ecstatically uncovered by Paul Spence, whilst remaining coy about the neumatic.

Oh damn. It's the most obvious question and yet I always forget to ask; how did the band get their name? MDMA; does it indicate super efficient musical technocracy or a tendency towards severe sloganism? Who will ever know.

But whatever the answer, one thing's clear, MDMA means DANCE. Add to that recipe an odd slab of neatly chopped NOISE, seasoned with the strong smell of spiralling *electropop* and you have the taste on the tip of your tongue, definitely an aural delicacy for the future. And now?.. well now's not so good, the delights of MDMA, CASSANDRA COMPLEX and the ROUSKA label's colourful coterie being shamelessly shunned on native soil, whereas in Germany and Belgium, maybe even HOLLAND, there's a drastically different story to tell. KEITH tells it how it is.

"Without demeaning people here, audiences tend to be more open-minded in Germany... it's harder work here."

This, he explains, is because there's a strong post-KRAFTWERK/DAF tradition to build onto - just take a look at ex-LEEDS BAND CASSANDRA COMPLEX, who while maintaining a strong continental stronghold, are totally ignored in their home town. MDMA are well aware of the limitations imposed upon the 'electro-dance' style, but are determined to break free, and certainly seem likely to put a large dent in some people's prejudices.

"We're not a Euro-band, we refuse to be labelled. If you're labelled 'electro dance noise' it's really restrictive." Oops!

"I know it might sound pretentious, but we think we just sound like MDMA."

Actually it sounds like a lot of sense to me; they certainly are NOT pretentious, rather sincere, open and sober with a solid understanding of the music business to affix to that list of attributes. And despite their insight into the greedy games of Top of the Pops land, their feet stay firmly rooted to their origins; in the unlikely event of them becoming top rung pop stars, it will be on their terms, not the record company's.

"The charts are full of these throwaway 12-minute versions of sampled mediocrity, it's so formularised and dull. We're using similar equipment to Madonna, Rick Astley

etc. . . and it would be quite easy for us to go for the top 20 sound. We use sequencers etc, but we use them in a different way, we try and bring out life in electronics, whereas most people just produce something danceable and it doesn't last the test of time."

Despite deflecting the accusation that they're hardened muso's, "we're fairly serious but we're not obsessed," JEZ, who alternates between keyboards, bass and vocals, and KEITH, who does just the same, are keen to emphasise MDMA's solid, patient longevity of growth.

"We spent a long time planning this band before we started - three years. I spent a year sussing out how a band works, a year sorting out how the legalities work, and then a year sussing out performance. Now MDMA's moving fast."

Their second 12in single, 'Eyes Wide Open', which is just out on EDIESTA records, is, they feel, closer than the first single to emulating their on-stage exuberance and energy. As they immodestly point out, they're the kind of live band who make a small stage seem like a telephone box, four front men fixed in frantic, erratic motion.

They painstakingly distance themselves however from the myths of rock 'n' roll; their support slot with the SWANS last year contrasted the differences between MDMA and most other bands.

"I actually like a lot of what the SWANS say, but it struck me that their singer egomaniacs a lot. We're friends, whereas their band struck me more as musicians playing together very precariously because they don't really know each other. We definitely DON'T want to split, so we worked out all the personal things first."

I look at the time; it's time for the last question. Is there room for MDMA's hybrid form in the Monday Club of music?

"Yes! Yes! Yes!" they shriek back enthusiastically. The matter rests in the wheels of time. Anyway they evidently enjoy the band and people enjoy them, so who the hell cares?

"It's like people on the stock exchange would say they do it for financial remuneration, but in fact they do it for the kick, because it's so exciting. Like us, except I suppose that's a bit of an extreme example to choose, 'cos as yuppies they're rakin' in 20, 30, 40 thousand a year, whereas we're doing it. . ." Because you want to lose 20, 20, 40 thousand a year?!! "Quite. . . but that's not part of our long term plan."

The latest DURUTTI COLUMN release, rather tellingly entitled 'The Guitar & Other Machines' (Factory), looks an enticing item and certainly supplies enough roughage for repeated listening. The melancholy frailty of Vini Reilly's chords is still prevalent and here we're given a harder edge than before, a stronger sound, diverse instrumentation and even sequencing. The result is predictably still an easy listen, one that makes for a variety in his music rather than a radical departure though. If you're familiar with the past ('LC', 'Another Setting' etc) you'll know what to expect, if not, 'Guitar' is as good a place to start as any.

For something quite different, WIM MERTENS is your man. A Belgian prodigy of disgustingly immense talent, he was previously with a group of musicians called Soft Verdict. Nowadays as a solo writer, his music is based around piano, but on 'Educes Me' (Factory) he verges more into vocal pieces, harp and electronics. Revolving around melody and repetition, his pieces are never as clinical or monotonous as some systems musicians ('Glass, etc). He blends voices with instruments to create flowing semi-operatic beauties; occasionally setting one against the other with a shock of wailing and volume, as in 'No Plans, No Projects'.

Where this release fails is in the title track, an overlong solo harp piece that snoozes halfway across a side, upsetting the balance by being too minimal to contend with the rest. Mertens is an original musician deserving of attention: Educes Me is good, but not as impressive as his previous 'A Man of No Fortune'.

ECM'S New Series have released two LPs of, on the whole, not so new material. THOMAS TALLIS was a 16th century English composer and the Hilliard Ensemble have interpreted his works on 'The Lamentations of Jeremiah'. Consisting of pieces for five voices it's an extremely serene recording of enormous depth. It's intentional sparsity allows space for reflection and the spirituality of the whole surges through. The recent works of ARVO PART are strangely similar and the fact that 'Lamentations' was recorded in a church adds a solemnity to it.



THOMAS DEMENGA on the other hand is very much alive and his release on ECM is centred on works by J.S. Bach and Heinz Holliger. As a cello player he is no doubt competent and Bach's Suite number 4 is beautifully lush and peaceful. For anyone with an understanding of classical works this is an exceptional recording. What, however, makes it more interesting is the juxtaposition of Bach with the modern composer Holliger. His seemingly formless compositions counter-balance the platitudes of the ancients in a sort of de-mented linkage. There is little connection between the instruments and the desire to push aside time barriers and cross-breed these two ends of classical music. And this would seem to be the idea behind ECM's decision to release more along these lines: an historic prospect.

Finally, deserved mentions to two new releases. The latest MUSLIMGAUZE LP 'Abu Nidal' (Limited) uses rhythm as trance-like repetition with an underlying menace and snatches of middle-eastern vocals. TIM STORY'S 'Glass Green' (Windham Hill) is yet another mellow recording of electronic/piano pieces that leisurely weaves soft images. Not to be confused with New Age though.

A. Hulme

CHARTS

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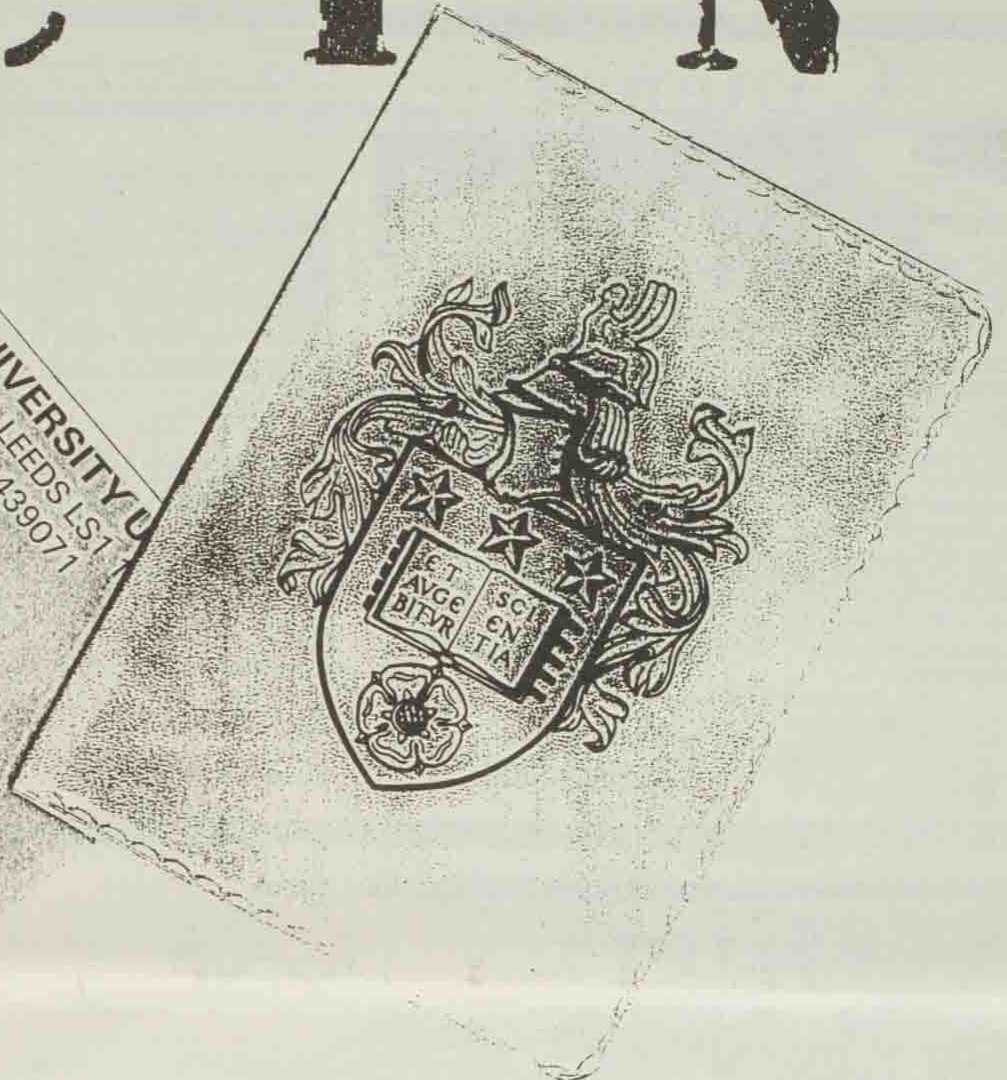
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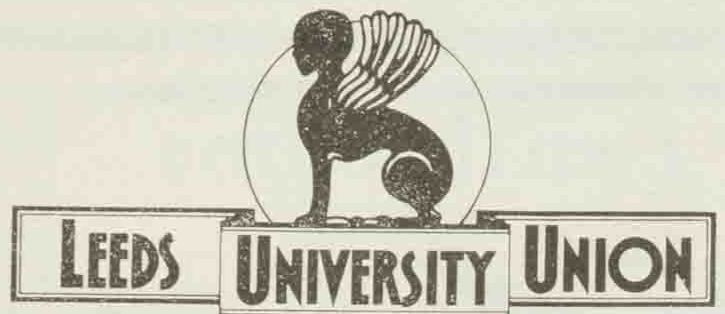
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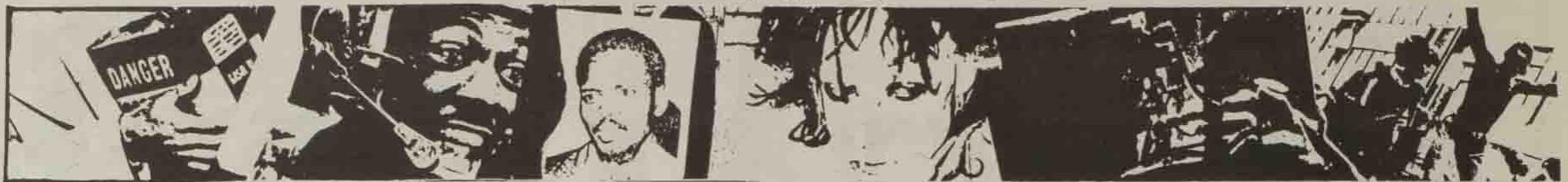
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Miscellaneous



MARXISM FOR STUDENTS - a weekend of meetings, debates and discussion based on '1968-88 - Twenty years of Rebellion - its lessons for the Left'. Speakers include Paul Foot, Tariq Ali, Tony Cliff, Sheila McGregor. University of London Union, February 12-14. £10, free accommodation. All welcome.

J-SOC - Shabbat comes in at 4pm. Friday night service at Hill-el Flat, 6pm. Shabbat morning at 10am. Shabbatical salutations!

LUU CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS - Residential task at Treswell Woods, Nottinghamshire. Friday, Jan 29-Sun 31. Sign up at our noticeboard.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

LUU FOLK SOC - Tony Wilson at the Packhorse, Woodhouse Lane. 8.30pm. 80p members, £1.20 non members.

HIKING SOC - Walk - Ayesgarth. 8.30am, Parkinson Steps. £2.

ANGLICAN-METHODIST SOC - Rev David Mann - 'Fruit of the Spirit'. 4pm, at Oxford Place Methodist Church (on Headrow). Everyone welcome.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

MUNSTER CLUB DISCO - Doubles Bar, 8.30pm. 50p/£1.

KENYAN POLITICAL PRISONERS - a talk by Wanjuri Kihoro. RH Evans Lounge at 1pm. Free.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT - Rev Ndwandwe (Chaplain of University of Zululand, South Africa). Catholic Chaplaincy, 8pm.

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION - Speaker Rachael Venables. Committee Room B, 1pm.

A speaker from the GUPS and NUS National Speaker Tour will be speaking in the Poly Ent's Hall.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

LPSU ECOLOGY SOC - Look after your Earth. We have meetings every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Conference room/Union bar.

THE TORIES AND THE IRISH WAR - Speaker, Organiser, National Irish Freedom Movement. LUU Committee Rooms A & B, 7.30pm.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

ANGLICAN-METHODIST SOC - 1.10pm. Emmanuel Church (opposite University main entrance). Communion, followed by ploughmans lunch.

STUDENT INDUSTRIAL SOC - Welcome Foundation Presentation at 7pm in LG17. Free buffet, free entrance. Everyone welcome.

HIKING SOC - Wasdale Weekend. Friday, Feb 5-Sun 7, £12. Sign up at Ploughmans on Weds 27.

FISHNET BALLOON - meeting and workshop. OSA Lounge, 1-2pm.

CANALS SOC - weekly meeting, Victoria Hotel, 9pm.

LESBIAN AND GAY SOC - meeting 7.30pm, OSA Lounge. Video on Clause 28. Speaker - Ray Gaston (Leeds City Council AIDS advisor).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

CND - Comedy Campaigning Video. 1pm, OSA Lounge. All welcome.

STUDENT INDUSTRIAL SOC - Coopers and Lybrand talk on 'Why Accountancy?' Meet 6pm, Parkinson Steps. Free, all welcome. Sign up on notice board.

FISHNET BALLOON - 'Bazaar and Rummage' - a hilarious Sue Townsend comedy. Raven Theatre, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 7pm. £1/£1.20.

MATURE STUDENTS SOC - Cheese and wine in RH Evans at 12 noon. All welcome.

SWSS - meeting. 'Gay and Lesbian Liberation and the Struggle for Socialism'. Committee Rooms A & B, 1pm.

Gigs



DUCHESS OF YORK (453929)

23 - Drug Free America
24 - Pole Divers
25 - Zoot and the Roots
26 - Marauders
27 - Late Night Cruisers
28 - In - D&C

THE IRISH CENTRE (480887)

January 27 - Ali Baine

WAKEFIELD SPORTS CLUB, COLLEGE GROVE, EASTMOOR ROAD

22 - Konnie Ross

RICKY'S

26 - My Bloody Valentine

ROYAL PARK

23 - Lizzie Wouldn't Like It

CIVIC THEATRE, COOKRIDGE STREET

24 - Ronnie Scott Quintet

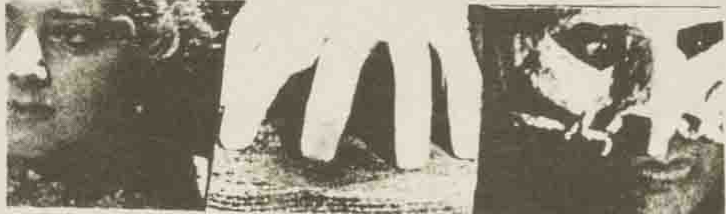
COCONUT GROVE (455718)

27 - Coconut Grove All Stars

ASTORIA (490014)

22 - Desmond Dekker and The Little Chiefs
28 - The Three Johns and The Membranes and Carlton B. Morgan

Theatre



BRADFORD PLAYHOUSE

Mon 25-Sat 30 at 7.30pm MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

LEEDS GRAND THEATRE

Jan 22 at 7.15pm, LAST NIGHT OF THE MERRY WIDOW

THEATRE IN THE MILL off Shearbridge Road

Jan 23 at 7.30pm - HOGWASH in WILLPOWER AND WALLPAPER, Jan 24 at 7.30pm OUI 3 CABARET and at 10.30pm CAROLINE WEAVER in ONE WOMAN TWO ACTS; Jan 27 at 7.30pm LEEDS PLAYHOUSE TIE in WHO KILLED NED LUDDY?

CIVIC THEATRE

Fri 22-Sat 23 ALADDIN at 7pm; 27-30 at 7.30pm HINDLE WAKES by Stanley Houghton.

Exhibitions



ST PAULS GALLERY (456421)

'CRUMP' - an exhibition of the xerox collages of Simon Crump, until February 13. "Things seem to have got a bit out of hand..." (S. Crump).

ART SPACE GALLERY

An exhibition of CHRIS TAYLOR'S work during his residency in Leeds Poly printmaking department. Until February 6.

CITY ART GALLERY (462495)

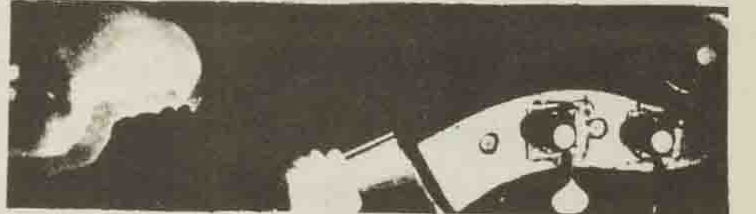
The exhibition of the work of the battle artist LADY ELIZABETH BUTLER continues until February 14.

NMP, BRADFORD (0274 727488)

HENRY PEACH ROBINSON'S pictorial photographs, made up from several negatives, and the photography of LEWIS CARROLL - both exhibitions end on January 31.

The work of HUMPHREY SPENDER, photographer for the Daily Mirror, Picture Post and Mass Observation, and HUMPHREY JENNINGS, a founder of British Surrealism and Mass Observation. Both exhibitions until February 14.

Classical



For all Classical concerts contact the City Centre Box Office for details; Civic Theatre, Cookridge Street, L2. (462453).

LEEDS TOWN HALL

Saturday 23 at 7.30pm. The English Northern Philharmonica perform Schumann and Mahler. £2.50.

Tuesday 26 at 1.05pm - organ recital by Alan Thurlow of Chichester Cathedral. Free.

LEEDS INSTITUTE GALLERY (CIVIC THEATRE)

Wednesday 27 at 7.30pm, piano recital by John McCabe, including Hadyn, Ravel and McCabe's own compositions.

CLOTHWORKERS CONCERT HALL

Thursday 28 at 1.10pm - piano duet recital of Bizet, Schubert and Stravinsky. Free.

What's on



Personal



REFLEX DISCOS for private parties, societies etc. Leeds 468170.

Come clubbin' at the MUNSTER CLUB DISCO on Monday, January 25, in the Doubles Bar. 8.30pm. Be there!

Kush - thanks for an ORGANIC evening - Audrey 11.

Be Merry, My Friends, Be Merry.

EMILY NUTTALL KISSES POLICEMEN - SHOCKING!

REFLEX DISCOS - reasonable rates, all music catered for. Leeds 468170.

Wanted: Nicki, Diane and Angie for Trivial Pursuits! Love: The terrible twins.

GABI - Guess What You're Getting For Yer Cotton-Pickin' Burfday?

HEY! IT'S NEW, IT'S EXCITING! SOUL INSIGHT PRESENT THE WAREHOUSE EXPERIENCE. IT'S A ONE OFF SO DON'T MISS IT. NEXT THURSDAY, JANUARY 28.

Sod off, I won't wear a tie! But Happy Birthday anyway.

Whatever happened to the likely lads? Happy Birthday Dung, Dung, now you are legal.

Single Room, Bodington Hall. Going Now. Contact the Warden, Woodsley House. 671150.

Wanted for Dev Summer Ball - 10 female partners for Dev Exec. Written applications only.

Ladies, beware the lurking lawyer in the loos.

Nightclub

FRIDAY
The in Scene at Ritzy (£1)
Friday Bop at Beckett Park
Alternative Night at The Warehouse (free)
Student Night at The Phono
Mile High Club at Ricky's (£1.25)
Heavy Rock Night at Central Park (£1)
The Soul Pit at Ricky's (£1.50)
Refectory Bop (£2/£2.50)
Speedy Banana Club in Coconut Grove

SATURDAYS
Funk/House/Soul at the Warehouse (£2.50)
Downbeat at Bali Hi (£1.50)
The Buzz at Ritzy
Megabop in Tartan Bar (75p/£1)
Poly Disco in City Site (£1)

SUNDAYS
Alternative Night at Ritzy

MONDAYS
Music Review at Ritzy (£1.25)
The Mix at Ricky's (£1)
Lesbian & Gay at Rockshack

TUESDAYS
Kaleidoscope Pop at Ricky's (£1.50)

WEDNESDAYS
Poly Disco in City Site (50p)
Live Jazz at Coconut Grove (£1.50)
Student Night at The News (£1)

THURSDAYS
Thursday Bop in LUU (70p)

THE LAWNMOWER - MARQUEE CHA-CHA - YO!

Thanks to all who came on the FAB lobby.

21 foul hamburgling years - no sleep til Downhollow - centre of the Pool gyak gyak - from yer comrades, Petal xx.

M62 - ROAD TO THE MARQUEE CHA-CHA.

Classified

THE MILE-HIGH CLUB

NOW AT RICKYS
COCONUT GROVE
70S. FUNK AND SOUL. ELECTRO. PILS 90p
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FRIDAY 10-30

Classified

SOUL SOC

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BAR EXTENSION, ETC...
WHAT THE HELL YOU'VE BEEN THERE BEFORE, YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S ABOUT.
SO BE THERE TOMORROW!!!

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ring Leeds 439459 to book in

WHAT'S ON THANKS TO ME, SALLY AND JAY FOR HIS MORAL SUPPORT

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WAREHOUSE EXPERIENCE
ADMIN £1.50
THURSDAY 28 JANUARY

FRI 29
REFEK DO - DO COME
EXTENSION/PROMO TICKETS £1.50
FROM UNION FOYER LOVE, THE CRICKET CLUB

THE LEEDS STUDENT PARTY

PASTIFICIO

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in aid of **Comic Relief**
Wednesday, February 3

TICKET INCLUDES:
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Jazz Band

Spaghetti Eating Competition

Chance To Win Lots Of Great Prizes!

ALSO ON THE NIGHT:

OFFICIAL RED NOSES 50p (to Comic Relief) BUDWEISER 70p a bottle (normally £1.15)

1/2 CARAFE OF WINE £2.50 (normally £3.20)

COME AND HAVE A GREAT NIGHT OUT AND HELP RAISE LOTS OF MONEY TOO! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW??!!?

£3.75

(50p to Comic Relief)
(includes 1/2 price vouchers for haircut at Hairworks, Miss Selfridge)

The event has been kindly sponsored by:

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HAIRWORKS, MISS SELFRIDGE
LEEDS PLAYHOUSE
LUU BOOKSHOP
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OASIS HAIR SALON
FLICKS
JAMIES HAIR EXPERIENCE

OTHER CLOTHES
CRASH RECORDS
THE GRAND THEATRE
BUZZ GALLERY
THE ALE HOUSE
JOHN'S RECORDS
JEAN CROWTHER FLOWER SHOP

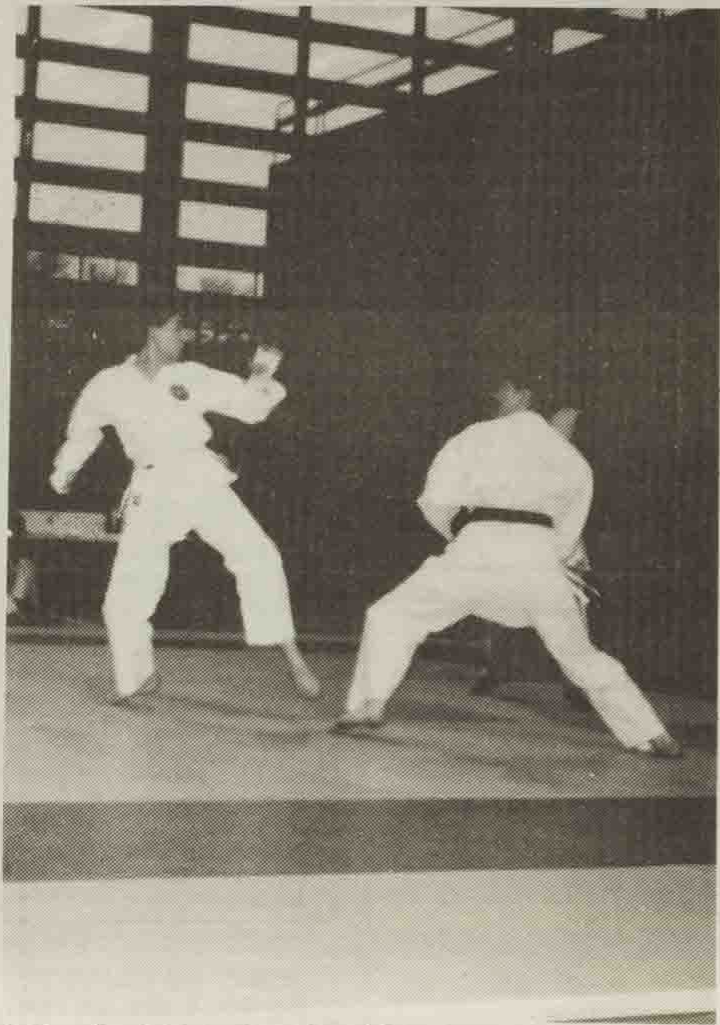
OTHER PRIZES
Include records, clothes, wine, theatre tickets, haircuts and much more!

See Gulam Uddin, 'Leeds Student' Office between 1-2pm

SPORTS



POLY STRIKE SILVER



● Simon Greenhalgh in action at Crystal Palace

On Sunday, December 6 a 12 man squad from Leeds Poly travelled to London to compete in the National Student Karate Championships, held at Crystal Palace. The competition was made up of 34 teams from polytechnics and universities from around the country. After a long and hard day's fighting, the Poly A team were rewarded with a place in the men's team

fight final, to be held that night. Three convincing wins over Southampton Uni, Middlesex Poly and Birmingham Uni were enough to put Leeds into the semis. This was a desperately hard match and Greenhalgh and Hong Lee produced two vital wins to secure the place in the final. The climax of the day was the men's final, held at 11pm, between the Poly and

Manchester Poly. Leeds fought well but went down 3-1 to Manchester's experienced team, which included two members of the national U21 squad. The team manager was particularly pleased with the club's success because the squad had only been training together for six weeks.

Simon Greenhalgh



● Back row: Simon Crowther, Hong Lee, C. Taylor, Adrian Dews, Frank Skierezynski (team manager), Peter Zammett.
Front row: Francis O'Gorman, Jerry Hipshon, John Philips, John Grant, Simon Greenhalgh.

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Dried Apricots	35p 1/4	Tropical Mix	34p 1/4
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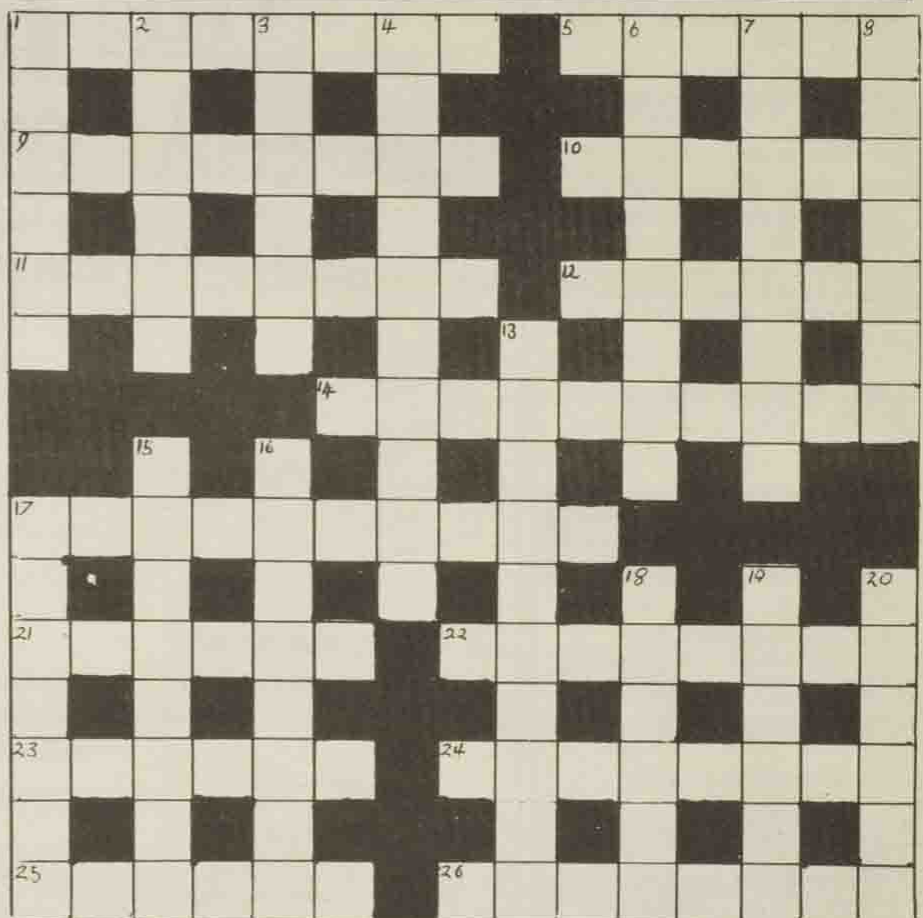


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CROSSWORD



CRYPTIC CLUES

- Across**
1. Concern during winter interest. (8)
 - 5 & 12. They are falling in love? (2, 4&6)
 9. Store on a boat. (8)
 10. Pat's it, colloquially, in EastEnders. (4, 2)
 11. Students or drinkers? (8)
 14. This band aped around in the 60s. (3, 7)
 17. Shared word, gramatically speaking. (6, 4)
 21. Birds two under par? (6)
 22. Goldie embraces thunder-gold in rose bush. (8)
 23. It's any muddled state of mind. (6)
 24. The headless West gets a chance. (8)
 25. Promise for certain. (6)
 26. Incombustible cloth gives best SOS. (8)
- Down**
1. Persist in pressing for reversal. (6)
 2. Award for Whitbread bitter. (6)
 3. Confused, Ella separates railway it's true. (6)
 4. Mischevious sailor boys? (3, 7)
 6. Performing cat gets caught in heedless engine. (8)
 7. State of Communist bank account. (2, 3, 3)
 8. Sea creature plays eighth musical work. (7)
 13. These may be required at a 24 across. (8)
 15. John Lennon dreams. (8)
 16. Nottingham supporter. (8)
 17. Lace she made in SW3. (7)
 18. Saints on horse back take long steps. (6)
 19. Directions for the young man. (2, 4)
 20. It joins part of the sun. (6)



FOREMAN CALLS THE SHOTS

In the face of the experience of Paul Futcher and the youthful enthusiasm of Darren Foreman an unimaginative Leeds side crumbled to a Barnsley team who played with a confidence unrepresentative of their place in the table.

Leeds were constantly forced to defend relying on the occasional counter attack to get a sniff of the winning form which had catapulted them back into the reckoning during the last month of 1987.

Three minutes later it was a 30 yard free kick from Agnew that made Day make a superb save by his left post. Leeds looked sluggish in reply obviously surprised by the energy of this young Barnsley team. The 19-year-old Darren Foreman was outshining the much vaunted Sheridan whose frustration was beginning to show itself in the form of some abra-

sive challenges.

It was almost a surprise that Barnsley had to wait until the 37th minute for a break in the deadlock when Foreman neatly lobbed in a ball from Lowndes after Futcher had floated it into the box from a free kick.

The second half began with Barnsley again looking the more dangerous side, Broddle just beaten by Swan in the United area. Leeds had to content themselves with the occasional foray into the United half, but Futcher's experience led to a tight defence that Davison seldom looked like piercing.

Foreman effectively killed the game dead with a scrappy headed goal off a Steve Lowndes corner. From that point on the United players' heads were down relying more on cynical tackles than constructive play to get back into the game. This short-tempered scrapping came

to a head when Agnew was carried off having been scythed down from behind by Sheridan. In the final minute Davison was through with his only tangible chance of the game, fittingly Baker did well to block his shot.

So once again Leeds are back to the reality of squandered home points and a goal drought that the faithful will be hoping is nothing more than a hiccup in the ascent back to Division One.

Adam Batstone

SPORTS HALL DELAY

Following plans announced last December for a Sports Council, Polytechnic and city council joint scheme to replace the existing sports halls at Carnegie College problems have predictably arisen over the funding of the venture. The building was to have been built at an estimated cost of £528,000 with Leeds City Council and the sports council joining together in the funding of the project.

Cyril Villiers, the Sports Council Regional Administrator claimed this was to have been the biggest grant ever awarded for an individual project. But now the whole policy is in doubt as Council Chairman

George Mudie has delayed the agreement over the council's involvement. Cynics claim he wants to put the project off until the council is no longer responsible for Polytechnic funding. The reason being he feels that South Leeds is more deserving of this sort of facility.

So just as it appeared that all sides had agreed and that building work could begin again the Poly will have to make do with the existing ramshackle sports hall. This building receives monthly visits from council engineers who estimate that one sizeable snowfall will render the building unusable owing to its fast deteriorating condition.

WET WET WET

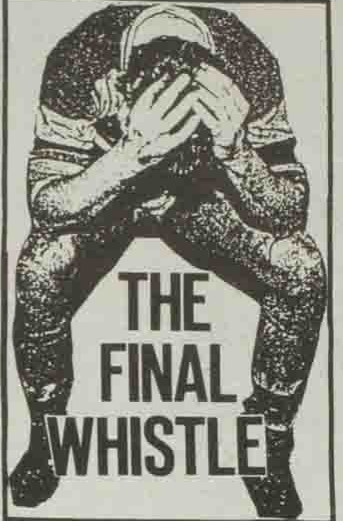
The question as to who will foot the bill for exclusive damage to the Polytechnic's new fitness suite is being asked by both LPSU and Kitson College Photographic Department.

The trouble stems from faulty plumbing in the photo labs directly above the main recreation room. These rooms are leased by the Poly to Kitson College and as a result there is controversy as to who is held responsible for the damage.

Poly Union Sports Administrator, Ross Anderson, claimed that on six different occasions since last September water has gushed through the ceiling causing extensive damage to both decor and facilities. Mats stored in the room costing approximately £40 each have been turned into unusable

sponges and sadly the carefully painted action murals done by the Poly Ju Jitsu Club have become abstract smudges on the once-gleaming walls seemingly owing more to Mark Rothko than Bruce Lee.

Poly President Ed Gamble said he was sick and tired of being summoned from his office to help clear up floods of standing water. Kitson College have meanwhile blamed poor workmanship as the cause of the trouble and refuse to take responsibility. Mr Anderson put a brave face on the situation quipping "this was one swimming pool the Poly could do without." Meanwhile it appears that it is the city council, through one means or another, who will wind up with a large claim for the damages.



Some time tonight if you believe what the pundits say a middle aged man will heave his bloated body into a boxing ring and, after the formality of his defeat at the fists of his younger, stronger opponent, will walk away content that any damage sustained to body or pride will be more than compensated for by the monstrous cheque he stands to collect merely for having turned up.

It is perhaps easy to see tonight's contest between Larry Holmes and Mike Tyson in such glib terms, but to do so is to misunderstand both the character of Holmes and the wider significance of the fight.

The unnatural courage that drives fighters half-naked into the ring to face humiliation and even mortal injury inevitably engenders an unnatural pride and it is this rather than some more rational desire for material reward, that motivates Holmes.

And with some reason, for he - the last undisputed ruler of a division that has in recent times rivalled the medieval papacy in its proliferation of contenders - has seen adulation heaped on an undoubtedly formidable though raw and technically limited boxer: the kind of recognition that was constantly denied Holmes throughout his career.

Holmes cannot seriously be expected to beat Tyson, though at the height of his career he would have been justifiably the favourite, but this is a contest with significance extending beyond its result.

The history of the heavyweight division is littered with similar matches between fallen greats and ascendant champions: Joe Louis' doomed comeback against an explosive young Rocky Marciano and Holmes' own battering of a cruelly exposed Muhammed Ali stand out in boxing's collective memory.

At this level, Holmes is fulfilling a kind of destiny; his own symbolic death enacted in the ring re-establishes the continuity of the heavyweight title, maintaining the illusion of an unbroken chain extending back to the days of John L. Sullivan.

Holmes is carrying out the last tragically ambiguous duty of an ailing monarch, that in his demise he must ensure the continuation of the dynasty.

The king is dead, long live the king.

Tim Wheleman

WIDNES BEATEN

LEEDS RLFC 26
WIDNES 21

An important, tense and exciting game at Headingley ended with Leeds just about deserving their 26-21 win. Widnes opened the scoring with a Myler drop-goal, but Leeds quickly responded when Maskill spotted a gap and scored. A superb attack was rounded off a few minutes later by Stephenson, Leeds' new centre.

Leeds made it 16-1 when a strong run from Medley was followed by sharp interpassing by the backs, and Jackson was able to put Schofield over for a brilliant try.

Widnes hit back quickly when a complacent Jackson's kick was charged down, and Eyres scored easily. Leeds' casual tackling was then exploited by Eyres again, and he scored to make it 18-13 at half-time.

Four minutes after the restart, an enterprising Leeds move broke down, and the ball ran loose, and was kicked on for Shearer to score a remarkable 60 yard try. With Eyres lucky to be only sin-binned for throwing three punches, Leeds failed to exploit the situation and squandered several good chances.

A tense and testing period, ended when Schofield crossed the line for his second try, which Stephenson converted. Having scored a penalty previously, Widnes attacked strongly to make up the 24-21 deficit but Leeds were able to hold on, and later secure their win with a penalty.

Leeds' sixth successive win and Widnes' second defeat, featured seven outstanding tries, with Powell and Australians Garr and Jackson contributing fine performances.

David Fisher

SPORTS DIARY

MEN'S FOOTBALL

Saturday, January 23

LUU v Durham U, home

YOBS v County Hall, home

Wednesday, January 27

LUU 1st XI v Surrey (UAU), home

LUU 2nd XI v Lancaster (UAU), home

Wednesday, January 27

LUU v UCL, away

RUFC

Wednesday, January 27

LUU v Hull U, home

MEN'S HOCKEY

Saturday, January 23

LUU 1st XI v Chapelton, home

LUU 2nd XI & 4th XI v Harrogate, home

LUU 3rd XI v Grimsby, away

BPSA QUARTER FINALS

Wednesday, January 27

SOCCER

1st XI v Wolverhampton/

Liverpool

2nd XI v Liverpool

3rd XI v Coventry

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Saturday, January 23

LUU v Liverpool U, away

Wednesday, January 27

LUU 1st XI v E. Anglia, away

LUU 2nd XI v Manchester, away

HOCKEY (WOMEN'S)

1st XI v N. Staffs

2nd XI v N. Staffs

NETBALL

Leeds v Wolverhampton

MEN'S LACROSSE

Saturday, January 23

LUU v Poynton A, home

RUGBY UNION

2nd XV v Coventry

3rd XV v Coventry

NETBALL

Saturday, January 23

LUU v Manchester U, home

TABLE TENNIS

Leeds Men v Leicester

Leeds Women v Wolverhampton

DIALOGUE '88
DIALOGUE '88
DIALOGUE '88

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BRUNSWICK
TERRACE

FEBRUARY 9, 10, 11th

LEEDS

STUDENT

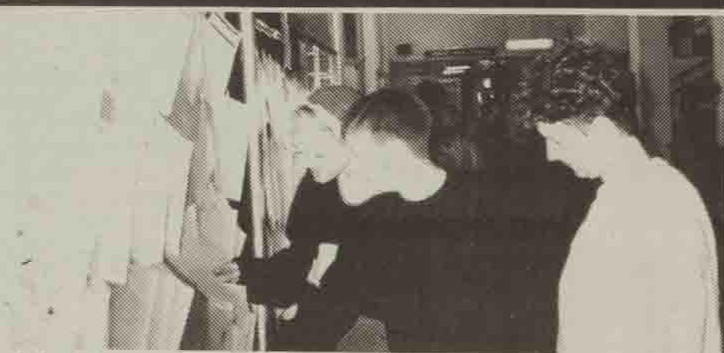
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

FAB's Fight Continues

Over 2,000 people marched through Leeds city centre last week, demonstrating against the Alton Bill, which reaches its second reading today. They included members of FABSOC, women's groups, trade unions and many students from both Leeds University and Poly.

At the Town Hall they heard speakers tell of the misery that would entail if the Bill were passed, forcing women to return to backstreets to undergo illegal abortions. A small number of 'LIFE' members demonstrated quietly at the side of the hall, but were ignored by the marchers.

"The protest was peaceful, with no arrests," said a police spokeswoman, who quoted the number of demonstrators as 300. Vanessa Jones, LUU Womens Officer, was more enthusiastic. "The turnout has been much better than I expected. It's been great. I hope Thursday will be as successful." Germaine Varney, also at the demonstration, reiterated what she thought most people there



● Germaine Varney, Venessa Jones and Katie Grant of LUU FAB inspect MPs letters.

thought - that it was up to women to decide.

Jones and Varney were part of the campaign, run in conjunction with FABSOC, last term, that wrote to all MPs, stating the University's current position on abortion rights, and asking them which way they would be voting at the second reading of the Bill. Out of 650 letters sent out, over 120 MPs have replied, male and female, from all political parties, some of them ex-students of the University.

Varney said the replies that had been received were "very interesting" especially from those who were personally opposed to abortion but would support a woman's right to decide.

"Many have read our letters and replied personally," she said, "and whilst many were encouraging, some were quite offensive. One male actually implied that women weren't fit to make these decisions."

Sarah Mann

MEGA GIG FOR SSAF

LUU is all set for a 12 hour musical extravaganza in aid of the South African Scholarship Fund.

Tony Austin, Finance Secretary and chief organiser of the event is planning for a record number of 120 bands to play around five different venues in the Union.

The date is set for March 19, and hopes are high that the musical marathon will find a place in history in the Guinness Book of Records.

Some, as yet undisclosed, big name bands have been contacted to play for a minimum charge in the Refectory.

A charge of £2 per head will be levied to those entering the Union on the day, and a higher price is to be expected for those going to the Refec gigs.

Any more aspiring bands who wish to play should contact Tony Austin, or wait until the publicity comes out at the beginning of February.

Sue Cocker

THE POLY THAT LEEDS FORGOT

"Bloody typical," was the reaction of Polytechnic Student Union President, Ed Gamble, after their first two weeks of term were widely overlooked.

Although Poly students have been back since January 4, it is only now that the first Leeds Student has come out.

"It is pretty demoralising not to have any coverage here when the University isn't back," said an angry Ed Gamble.

Jay Rayner, Editor of Leeds Student, responded to this criticism: "We're sorry we couldn't provide a proper service to the Poly but most of our staff are Uni students. It was unavoidable," he said.

Gamble is also angry about the actions of Yorkshire Rider. The 95 bus service which runs from the Poly up the Otley Road, only started last Monday (18th) when the Uni term began, even though the service is advertised as for both 'University and Polytechnic terms'.

However Uni students did work(?) a week later at Christmas, and events at the Polytechnic do not seem to have been affected much.

"Twice as many people attended the Wednesday disco on January 13 as this time last year, when both the University and the Polytechnic were back," said Gamble.

Simon Rigg

Phew - what a close 'un!

A nightmare dance of death flight from Rome ended in tears of joy on Sunday when seven traumatised Art History and Fine Art students returned from a week's field trip, lucky to have escaped with their lives.

After taking off from Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Airport on DC9, many of the passengers heard a distinct grinding sound originating in the engines, followed by a high pitched hum, which continued for half an hour. When queried an air hostess assured the passengers that the noise was merely an alarm to register that the rear door was not properly closed.

The next stage in the catastrophe was signalled by the captain shakily announcing that "Due to technical problems we will be landing at Milan Airport shortly."

Hooligans 'wreck' LUU

Drunken revellers caused an estimated £1,300 of damage to LUU's bars on the last day of term before Christmas.

They rampaged through the Union's three bars, ripping seats, tearing panels from the ceiling, and covering walls, floors and innocent drinkers with eggs, flour, beer and shaving foam. A member of staff had to go home after slipping on shaving foam and falling.

Among the expenses was an industrial cleaner valued at £350 which came to a premature end trying to clean up the mess, and in the future a replacement carpet for the Old

"I was ready to die quietly," said Georgina Whitfield, a third year fine artist, but after more grinding the Alitalia jet landed safely.

Following an hour's delay the passengers boarded another DC9 and everything seemed normal - until disaster struck again.

Near Gatwick Airport, the captain announced that Gatwick was too busy to land, so after a further delay of half an hour the jet approached the runway.

Bar, will be needed.

Finance Officer, Tony Austin says that next Christmas, the Union bars may have to be kept shut. End of term high spirits were expected, he said but certainly not to such an extent. He added that the bar takings were actually down on previous years, proving, perhaps, that "many people only went to wreck the place."

Opinions on the mayhem vary greatly; one of those present emphasised the overwhelmingly friendly and happy atmosphere - "some people may have got carried away, but generally we were just having

At an altitude of no more than 500ft the plane ascended again with a stomach churning, bowel disorientating lurch and remained in the air for another half hour, apparently due to fog on the runway, before finally landing two hours late.

"It was horrible," squeaked Sarah Dewe, 22. "I had to pinch myself to make sure I wasn't dreaming."

"I saw my entire life flash in front of me, and somebody elses," said Robert Bottomley, a visibly shaken second year art historian.

"Rome was really nice, especially the Coliseum, but it was smaller than I expected," remarked Damian Earle, a fellow traveller.

alot of fun," she said.

General Secretary of the Union, Germaine Varney, commented: "These people don't seem to realise that they own the Union and consequently they are the ones who have to pay for it later." She added that cleaning costs for each lunchtime session usually amount to just £10.

Indeed, one student made a particularly poignant point when he remarked that many of those who caused the damage, were the same ones who took part in the occupation, just weeks earlier, to protest about government funding cuts.

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WEATHER FORECAST

Valid 1200 hours Friday.

Friday: Sleet will turn to rain, but it will stay cold with temperatures no higher than 3°C. Dry weather with clearing skies will give a slight frost overnight.

Saturday: Starting fairly fine, but wet weather with fresh winds and some further sleet and snow on higher ground is likely later in the day.

Sunday/Monday: Will remain unsettled and further rain is likely at times, producing a little further snow fall on high ground.

Supplied by LEEDS WEATHER CENTRE.

NEXT WEEK - OPERA & SKI-ING