

STLEEDSST STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

HUNDREDS CONNED BY HOAX PARTY

Kate Connolly

Hundreds of freshers were ripped off by conmen this week when they splashed out on tickets for a hoax party.

Unsuspecting students were sold tickets for a "Freshers Nightclub Party" at Ritzy, Merrion Centre, for £5. However, when they arrived at the club last Tuesday evening they found the doors barred.

Security guards at Ritzy's turned away hundreds of students when no organisers for the event turned up.

Phil Bebbington, senior assistant manager of Ritzy's said:

"We received a phone-call from Surrey a few months ago for a party booking. About three weeks ago we received a £10 postal order deposit from him, and we didn't hear from him again."

A man with shoulder length curly hair, a girl with short brown hair and others with Australian, American and Canadian accents sold tickets to students at Bodington, Tetley, Oxley, Lupton, Charles Morris and Cromer Terrace residences, as well as on the University Union steps.

First year Engineer from Charles Morris, Chris Yates, bought his ticket with three friends from a girl outside the University Union.

"We headed off for the party at about 10 o'clock, but as soon as we were in the Merrion Centre there was no sound from the club at all. There were three hand written notices from the management saying the event had been cancelled. It would have been better if we had lost the tickets on the street, than to have been conned like this."

Karl Machin, a first year Biologist said: "If somebody had got me in the street I wouldn't have bought it. It was because I was in the University."

Ritzy's were eager to quash rumours they were responsible for the scandal, and attacked the swindlers. Mr Bebbington defended the club's decision to

remain closed on Tuesday evening. "It costs us at least £500 to open the club and we couldn't even guarantee that people would come."

On Wednesday, Ritzy's received "dozens" of calls of complaint from disappointed students. "A lot of people were threatening us and shouting down the phone," explained Mr Bebbington. "We don't want to have Ritzy's name associated with letting people down because we didn't let people down."

Mr Bebbington said he could not reveal the name the booking was made under, but said he would discuss the situation with general manager, Will Sherwin, on Monday.

He said the next step would "certainly" be to give the name to police.

Police were unaware of the incident on Wednesday but a spokesperson said they were willing to investigate the case further.

Meanwhile, University freshers have put this one down to experience. Stuart Hill said: "What I paid for that ticket was like half a week's food rations for me - It's five pints anyway."

LUU Welfare Secretary, Amanda Goldman, said a warning about such rip-offs would be included in next year's intro week packs.

Thugs attack Poly bop

David Walmsley

A first year Polytechnic student faces being thrown off his course after being charged with assault and breaking and entering following an incident at last Saturday's Poly bop.

During the evening a member of LPSU security had his elbow broken and received a gash to the head. The student charged with assault is to be interviewed by the Polytechnic Director, Chris Price, about his conduct. Two other first year students have been charged with breaking and entering.

The maximum penalties that can be enforced include being thrown off their course, fined #100 and forced to pay compensation to the injured party.

According to a member of LPSU security, who wishes to remain anonymous, a group of students who were refused entry because the Poly bop was full were later spotted smashing their way past two rear fire doors with scaffolding poles,

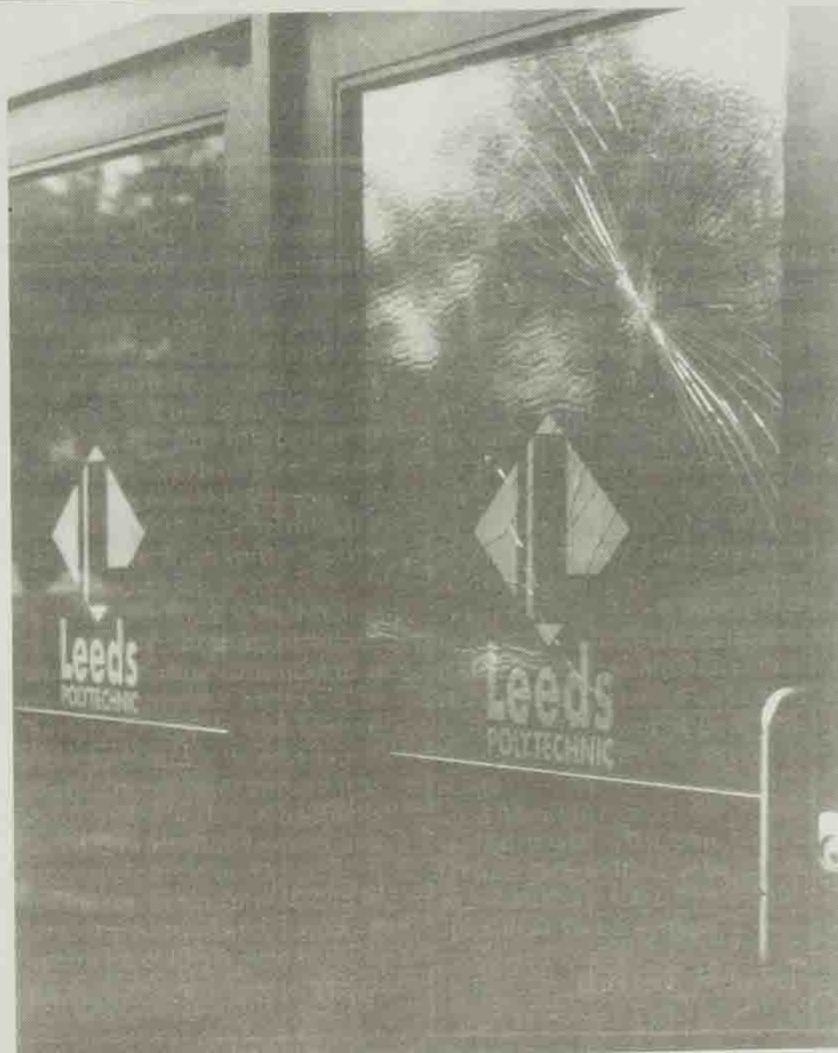
ladders and other building materials.

Two security members were forced to retreat as three of the group forced their way in past the outer fire doors. "One of the group then put his fist through the wired-mesh glass of one of the inner fire doors," the security guard said.

As soon as more security had arrived, they gave chase until a group of 10 students were fighting to get away from the security guards. It was during this fight that the security guard had his right elbow broken.

A colleague described what he saw: "He came back holding his elbow obviously in severe pain. He was just saying 'go and get the rest of them' and then he sank to the floor."

LPSU President, Gary Alderson, condemned the assailants. "We are pursuing the matter vigorously in the hope of identifying the rest of the gang. The two students we have identified are to have all possible Polytechnic disciplinary procedures invoked against them."



Leeds Polytechnic counts the damage

Cathy Bryan

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PLUS

DOUBLE PAGE
GUIDE TO THE
LEEDS FIFTH FILM
FESTIVAL

NEW CLASSICAL
MUSIC PAGE

Better deal for Disabled

Judith Doney and Nicki Richardson

Leeds University has begun the new year with a concerted attempt to improve existing facilities for disabled students. Many of the University Halls and flats have been updated to take in to consideration the special needs of disabled students.

Mrs Griffiths of the University Accommodation Office illustrated the changes that are occurring around University owned buildings. The Montague Burton flats now provide two separate flat units, which are completely accessible to wheelchairs, while Tetley Hall has a new bungalow being built on its grounds for a severely disabled student.

The forthcoming Old Bar renovations are also to take into consideration the problem of wheelchair access.

Emma Perkin, co-ordinator of the LUU Action group is pleased with this progress and said that "action had partially been a result of the Disability Awareness Weeks held over the last two years." She also highlighted the work of the Disabled Action Group who work towards improvements and help to co-ordinate policy within the University.

Mrs Moreton, secretary to the Adviser for the Disabled said the University was very good at providing what it was asked for, especially by ensuring improvements are carried out when and where they are needed. Although she agreed the Roger Stevens building is difficult for

access, she believed students are accommodated as much as possible in the Rupert Beckett, the Playhouse and Crabtree lecture theatres.

She also stated that "visually impaired students are attracted to Leeds" with the facilities that the University can offer.

Fears still remain about fire exits from the Union for wheelchair-bound students in times of emergency. At present there still remains the situation where students in wheelchairs would have to be carried out in the event of a fire.

LUU General Secretary, Enda McCarthy, accepted this point but said the Union was hoping to improve the situation. Card key access which enables disabled students to use lifts in the Union is also being upgraded.

Thomas Whitwell

Tonight the new-look Doubles Bar opens for business with the first Cocktail Bar on the University Campus. The £22,000 refit has replaced the clusters of dingy green chairs with a bright, fresh '50's style interior: red and blue stools and sofas, steel and chrome fittings, neon signs and a huge psychedelic Wurlitzer jukebox loaded up with CD's of '50's music.

LUU Financial Affairs Secretary, Permjet Valia, said the change was needed because the Old Bar was often packed whilst the Doubles Bar was rarely used. Valia said the cocktails would be reasonably priced and will be served by waiters and waitresses dressed in '50's gear. In addition to cocktails, there is also a normal bar and food outlet.

Briefly

Abortion fund

Leeds University Union Council agreed unanimously on Monday to approve the setting up of an abortion fund in the Union. After some discussion about the legal aspect of such a proposal it was ultimately decided such a fund would fall within the remit of LUU which maintains a charitable status.

Old Bar

While LUU and the University discuss long-term plans for the re-development of the Union building, the long-awaited extension to the Old Bar looks as if it might go ahead next year. Alan Coy, University Director of Works and Services revealed that work will be done next year, although it is not yet clear exactly how the changes will be made.

All change

From April 1993, Leeds Polytechnic will change its status to a University. A name has not yet been decided.

No-Parking please

Catherine Mckenna

The allocation of parking permits for the use of the student car-park at the University was denounced as "indiscriminate" and "unfair" by a number of students this week.

The 300 permits went on sale at 8.30am on Monday at the University travel agency but Ultra claimed that "the last place was sold at 9.09am by our clock."

A postgraduate student said: "By selling the permits so early its more convenient for those living close by." He added that permit allocations should be considered in advance and addresses should be one of the factors taken into consideration.

Holger Igel, a Russian student said the system left him "fuming". He travels from Longwood, about 20 miles from the University, which takes three hours on public transport. He said applications should be vetted so that people from within walking distance who did not really need a permit, did not get one.

Joyce Dyas, an Applied Zoology student living at Rodley, six miles from the University, said she felt "extremely annoyed" that the system took no consideration of the distance to travel.

Financial Affairs Secretary, Permjet Valia, defending the system, said: "I am positive that it doesn't discriminate against people." He added that if anyone felt they were going to have problems getting a permit they should have seen him before they went on sale. He said a range of factors, not just distance, had to be considered if permits were to be allocated beforehand. These included people with disabilities and single parents, who often live close to the University.

Degree swap-shop

Hal Weitzman

Students who begin their studies at Leeds from 1993, may find themselves graduating at a university hundreds of miles away. This radical proposal is part of a new programme by Leeds University along with 34 universities to change the structure of their degree courses. Once they have completed a study module they will be given a record of achievement, showing what level they have reached and will be able to move to a different institution and course carrying over the points they have achieved. To pass successfully in one academic year a student must gain 120 points, while a degree can only be awarded on reaching a minimum of 360 points.

Rag rides again

Kathryn Edwards

Leeds Student Rag plans to have a much higher profile this year, forging further links between students and the community through local charities including Meanwood Urban Farm and LGI Special Baby Unit.

National charities such as Mencap will also benefit.

Danielle Hainauer, Rag Coordinator, who is on the committee of the National Rag Association, assures that: "Leeds Rag will be well promoted, and Radio 1 will provide national coverage as they did last year on Steve Wright's afternoon show."

She hopes last year's £30,000 total, for which Rag won the British Institute for Brain Injured Children's award will be doubled.

Over 65 events are planned, including Rag Week, the Paris Hitch and a Ball. Anyone wanting to get involved, including local sixth formers, should contact the Rag office.



Ketil O'Hara

The rising cost of theft

Steve Lappin

Endsleigh Insurance, who for decades have been the official student insurers, have this year been forced to increase their fees in some areas by over 40%. The new policy only allows students living in Leeds 6 to take out insurance covering a maximum value of £1000 for a much increased premium of £99.

Rowena Cutchie of the Endsleigh branch on Fenton Street said the change in policy was due to the cost of the huge claims made to the company during the last five years. Between 1990-1991 one in four students claimed an average

£1000. Cutchie said the new policy was supposed to be a "compromise" but advised students to shop around. Students who take out this new policy will not be able to claim for any clothes stolen or destroyed as a result of a burglary on a 'new for old' basis according to a member of the Fenton Street branch because the new policy will only replace clothes on a second-hand price scheme.

The Guardian Royal Exchange currently offers students living in Leeds 6 a premium payment of £45 which covers possessions up to a value of £1750. However, Cutchie suspects their premiums will also rise once they begin receiving a number of large claims.

"Please feed," students cry

Sam Greenhill

Leeds University Union is joining forces with five other northern universities in a campaign to bring back the students' entitlement to holiday social security payments.

The campaign has many strands, including lobbying MPs, demonstrations and LUU's "Student: Do Not Feed" t-shirts which have already sold out of the Union stationary shop.

LUU General Secretary, Enda McCarthy said: "To all intents and purposes this matter is just a simple case of economics. The government has made the mistake of taking away something that many students rely on and to reverse that action is not only necessary: it is easy."

News writers are always welcome to join the team. Remember commissioning at the Uni Union Monday 10am, Poly Union City Site Monday 12pm.

£70 million to upgrade Poly

Catherine Mckenna

Plans for a £70 million accommodation strategy for Leeds Polytechnic including plans to house 50% of the first year intake at Beckett Park, have been approved by the Board of Governors this week.

Work will be concentrated around the city centre and the Beckett Park site in a "dual focus approach," which means that Halls of Residence at Beckett Park will be converted to new teaching and office space.

Gary Alderson, President of the Polytechnic Students Union, assured that the Beckett Park accommodation would not be closed until replacement beds had been found. This will mean the Polytechnic building, buying or renting more houses and flats in conjunction with Unipol, Leeds City Council and Leeds Development Association.

Alderson explained that the first batch of bed spaces should be ready by September 1992, allowing the closure of two halls and conversions to teaching space.

However, the Board of Governors have not yet decided on the phasing of the accommodation strategy which will be a 10 year scheme.

Alderson commented: "the strategy is a very important measure in plotting out the future of the Polytechnic. I am pleased that the management are taking a very careful, well-researched and systematic approach to its development within the constraints imposed by Central Government. It should result in a vastly improved working environment."

The scheme meets Government requirements where Polytechnics have to agree on an accommodation strategy with the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council.

Orphanage becomes student flats

Justine Smith

Plans to turn a former Leeds children's home into student flats look set to go ahead.

Leeds City Council is currently discussing proposals to develop a 50 acre site at Adel into student flats, rooms and bedsits in an effort to curb the growing shortage of housing for the city's 30,000 students.

Former residents of the Eastwood community home have been moved but several families living in staff housing may be evicted to make way for the scheme.

LUU Welfare Secretary, Amanda Goldman, welcomed the move: "We need more and better student accommodation. In the past we have had portacabins and caravans on the campus because housing is so scarce. About 60 % of those who come to see me have housing or landlord complaints. They often find private accommodation more expensive, the average cost is £32.60 plus bills per week, and this leads to debts," she said.

She would like to see more student accommodation made available for second and third years.

Unpopular political societies

Kate Connolly

Political societies in the University and Polytechnic are suffering from lack of student interest.

Nick Hewitt, Polytechnic Communications Officer said: "I think there's been a change in attitudes and political interest of students within the Poly. They feel they're here to fulfil their courses and they're not that politically minded."

The Labour Party has folded this year, and the Conservative Party have not been on the

Health scare at 'Mr Fresh'



Closed 'Mr Fresh' shop in the Merrion Centre

Michael Page

Daniele Hordley

Students have been warned about the risk of salmonella poisoning after the Environmental Health Department closed the 'Mr Fresh' cold meats shop in the Merrion Centre on Saturday following a number of outbreaks of salmonella traced to meats purchased from the shop.

Chief Environmental Health Officer, Mr M J Gittins said the shop's entire stock of meats was destroyed on Saturday and the surfaces cleaned. New swabbed samples were taken on Monday

societies list for the past few years.

The group attracting most attention seems to be the Liberal Democrats who have set up for the first time this year with about 30 prospective members and hope to form a recognised society within the union by next year according to Wyn Evans, Polytechnic organiser.

There has been a sharp increase in Polytechnic society

for analysis and clear results will mean 'Mr Fresh' can open without any further inspection.

Mr Taylor, the Manager of the 'Mr Fresh' shop declined to comment on the closure of the shop but he said other 'Mr Fresh' shops in Leeds were "completely unaffected." He confirmed that the shop will be training staff in basic food hygiene.

Gittins explained about the closure of the shop: "We are very careful not to do anything which jeopardises businesses..we had to do the right thing in the public interest."

membership as a whole, due to the Union's publicity campaign to attract first year students.

Nick Hewitt, said: "There was a notable increase in the numbers attending the Freshers' Fair, maybe it was to do with our well planned publicity campaign."

According to Hewitt, sports clubs, particularly the ski-club, and religious societies have seen an encouraging membership increase.

Computerized scheme to combat stress

Suzannah Husey

Stressed students at Leeds will soon be able to tap into a computerized data base, currently being developed at Bath University, which will offer confidential advice.

Mike Ratcliffe, University Education Secretary, explained the system at Leeds for anyone having problems with their course: "Students can look for advice within the departmental system; and at the moment the

only option seems to be to reschedule timetables or possibly take a year out."

Amanda Goldman, University Welfare Secretary, highlighted isolation and loneliness as common problems. She said: "University can be a very lonely and alienating experience since students are thrown into an environment with thousands of people with whom you haven't got anything in common."

The scheme, which was prompted by the suicide of

Hilary Page, a Bristol student, who had no one to turn to when she tried to reconcile the demands of her medicine course to her strong Christian faith, has no equivalent at Leeds.

Call the news team on: 314251

Off Campus

Catherine Gammon

Jimmys in the red

St James' hospital's health chiefs are facing a £1m deficit crisis. The hospital, which acquired trust status in April, may have to extend waiting lists in order to clear the debt. £800,000 of the deficit is a debt outstanding before the trust was established. £200,000 has been run up due to increased wages for junior doctors, the high cost of drugs and administrative changes under the Government's NHS reform package.

Student assault

A 19 year old student was sexually assaulted after she disturbed a man in her room at the Macmillan Hall of Residence on the Bradford and Ilkley Community College Campus. The attack happened at about 6.15am on Sunday October 6. The student suffered minor injuries but has been unable to describe the attacker because it was too dark at the time.

Leeds goes European

European style cafes are planned for the Victoria quarter in Leeds city centre. Queen Victoria Street will be one of the only places in Yorkshire to boast licensed pavement restaurants. Official approval has been given to the developers who plan to open three restaurants. One may open before Christmas.

Silence of the limbs

A boy's artificial arm was stolen earlier this week after he left it attached to his bicycle handlebars while he went to the cinema at Tamworth, Staffordshire. Stephen Hollis, 13, was cycling to the cinema when the battery in his arm ran out. He could not loosen the hand grip, so he took off the arm and left it. His mother said: "He really didn't know whether to laugh or cry. It's of no use to anyone else."

Fatchett's children

David Walmsley speaks to the Leeds 6 MP

Earlier this week I met the Labour party spokesperson on education. A lecturer in industrial relations at Leeds University for 12 years until becoming MP for Leeds Central in 1983, Derek Fatchett has continued his involvement with students and their problems since being appointed to the education portfolio in 1988. He was addressing a meeting of the Union's Labour club when I caught up with him. He was explaining, not to everyone's satisfaction why Labour were going to win the next election. Having brushed off the four members of Militant with statements such as "I'll put it as gently as possible and say you are completely ignorant of the facts," Fatchett showed his ability to annoy, irk and inform all in one breath. In short, the stereotypical politician.

Talking after the meeting, Fatchett came across as a congenial, sincere man. He genuinely believes in Labour's cause and seems convinced of Labour's realistic chance of being returned to Downing Street whenever the election is called.

"I believe most people have already made their minds up. What I think was crucial was the Monmouth bye-election. I knew from fairly early on the result would be good. As we canvassed constituents one man came up and said 'people have had enough. It's time for a change.' From that moment on I was sure of the outcome. And that really is it, you know. People talked about the publicity campaigns but while our 1987 election campaign was highly praised I honestly think it was only worth about 2% to the party. People are simply ready for a change."

If Labour are to win the election they will need to secure the greatest swing of Parliamentary seats since 1945. Asked about the realities of such a possibility, Fatchett sees the enormous task as a surmountable obstacle. "I don't overworry about this swing. While the professionals may disagree with me I think we are moving away from the traditional election-night swings of maybe 4-5%. I think the last couple of elections have provided quite interesting results. I do not see this swing as being beyond our grasp."

As the Labour party's spokesperson on education and an MP with a large student representation, Fatchett has perhaps more of an interest than some when it comes to the question of student funding and government assistance. "If a Labour government is returned to



"Gizza job"

Matt Hinton

power we will replace the student loan scheme with a means-tested grant. I am aware that this will cause some problems to those who rely on, but do not receive, any parental contribution but for the vast majority of students their financial position will be greatly improved.

"I remember well the occasion in the House of Commons immediately after the introduction of the loan legislation. We were filing out of the chamber when one Tory member said to one of his colleagues: 'Well, we've kept them for the last 18 years, it's about time they stood on their own two feet.' And this was coming from a man who is rolling in it."

Moving away from the debate concerning student finances we turned next to the less widely debated but equally controversial subject of student deportations. Fatchett has been heavily involved in attempting to represent overseas students studying at Leeds who have been threatened with deportation by the Home Office. This practice came under the spotlight earlier in the year after a number of students, particularly Iraqis, were faced with deportation during the Gulf war.

"We have the most restrictive and racist government in this country's history. It really is awful. I wholeheartedly believe this country has forcibly repatriated people to countries where they will face great personal danger. We need a more open approach to the individual's right for political asylum. If we don't do that we are in danger of pandering to the growth of the far-right as we have seen in the last few weeks in Germany."

Derek Fatchett has now been an MP for eight years. He stood originally because he saw politics as a type of drug. "I drifted towards it, and I didn't like politics

at the University. Academic politics tends to be much more personal and I did not like that. Who knows though? If I was offered a chair at a major industrial firm I may be tempted, or if I was asked to take the job of Director at a Polytechnic or Vice-Chancellor at a University I would think about it. It would be a nice semi-retirement job to do after all this." The twinkle in his eye, however, suggests otherwise. Also does his past political life. During his two terms in Parliament he has been a Labour whip, the party's spokesperson on education and for several years has been involved in twice weekly meetings with Neil Kinnock discussing and deciding the format of Kinnock's questions to the Prime Minister. Fatchett is one of the newer Labour MPs and a man who could well be representing students at the Polytechnic and the University for many years to come. The enthusiasm and interest he showed in the interview concerning student issues certainly suggests a man more likely to be a friend to the average student than to be an enemy.

£1,500 stolen from student

Third year university student, Matthew Taylor, returned from holiday this summer to find £1,500 had been stolen from his bank account. Taylor explained: "I checked my bank balance and found I was £500 overdrawn when I should have been in credit. I phoned my bank and they said there had been lots of withdrawals in the Leeds area using my Switch card." Taylor reported the crime to the police. A man is helping police with their enquiries.

Twigg on to voting

Stephanie Rigby speaks to the NUS President

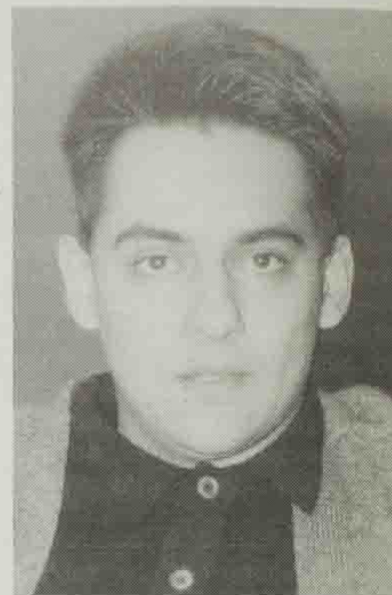
Stephen Twigg visited Leeds last week to welcome freshers to their chosen place of study and more importantly, to welcome them to the NUS, their Union which operates to help them during their time in Further Education.

In this his second year of office Twigg continues his self-appointed task of encouraging student participation in the traditionally left-wing Union to protest against the present Government's onslaught on student finance, at a time when the majority remain apathetic towards student politics.

"We have to look at ways to get people involved in student politics. The problem is the specific culture that surrounds meetings. At the moment they are usually so bureaucratic that they put the average student off. I feel it is the responsibility of people already active to tell others what is going on and how to get involved rather than putting them off."

Twigg hopes this year's NUS priority campaign 'Target 70' will be an effective way for students to make the Government and future governments listen to their specific needs and problems. The idea is for students to target their votes in the coming General Election in 70 pre-chosen marginal constituencies, where student numbers are higher than the present MPs' majority.

Twigg explained that most students do not know they can register to vote in both their constituencies at home and at college, and then choose which



"No"

one to vote in.

"The Target 70 campaign will be aiming to inform students of this so that we can hopefully make a real impression as a viable pressure group in this General Election."

"Obviously we will still be concentrating on the traditional style campaign, with demonstrations, petitions and media stunts, such as our fortnight of action in the last week in October and the first in November, but a large section of students do not get involved. Target 70 should allow everyone to act and cast their vote tactically."

Twigg comes back against the Conservative collegiate forum claim of a biased campaign with the defence that the chosen 70 constituencies reflect present parliamentary divisions. He challenges them to get involved with the NUS rather than criticise and make their union work for them by changing it from within.

Poly creche set up

Michael Holloway

A partnership has been set up between Leeds Polytechnic and the City Council that will link a network of childminders to the Polytechnic in order to provide a childcare service for students and staff.

The scheme, now in operation, has progressed on a limited basis only, due to the fact that a permanent full-time co-ordinator has not yet been found.

Despite this, the scheme has been popular, Margaret Rowbotham, Under Fives Officer at Leeds City Council said: "The childminding scheme is limited at the moment but a lot of interest has been shown."

Childminders will be recruited and registered by the Council across the city. On going training, advice and support will be given. Those interested should contact Molly Temple on 832600 ext.3016/7.

Comment & Analysis

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LEEDS STUDENT INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Over the last few years, Leeds has grown in to a city with one of the largest student populations in Britain. Well over 20,000 people make their home Leeds, usually for three years, but often for much longer.

It was revealed this week that Leeds Polytechnic is the most rapidly expanding Polytechnic in Britain, with a rise in admissions of some 15% this year.

The government's further

education policies continue to ensure institutions increase their annual intake, often by ludicrous proportions.

No-one denies that a large student community creates a vibrant atmosphere, and Leeds is surely partly so popular with students because of its unique status of being a student city within a city.

However, with continual

demands being made on further education establishments to be more accessible to a greater number, the financial bubble must surely be close to bursting.

Government must think just as hard about providing extra cash, equipment and facilities as it did about its original expansion plans for further education.

The plight of the individual student who has been taken out of the benefits system has been well chronicled both in this paper and in the national press.

It is, however, now a problem of such magnitude that the story will not go away.

Virtually no student embarking on a course will graduate without being in some

form of debt. While one would be hard pushed to claim students were ever 'rolling in it' it is surely the case that today's students will be among the poorest upon graduating. A recession has gripped the economy resulting in an enormous down turn in not only full time jobs but also for the first time the once abundant summer jobs students have always used to supplement their incomes.

The position of individual students compared to unions as a whole, has undertaken something of a role reversal. While in the late 1970s and early to mid 1980s it was universities and unions who were being financially squeezed, it has

changed so it is the student who cannot now afford an upkeep.

Leeds University Union seems at the minute to be remarkably well funded. While it remains a matter of sheer conjecture as to what shape the re-development of the Old Bar will take, what is crystal clear is the Union has a fund of some £350,000 to spend.

How is it the policy makers have managed to change the tables to such an extent that unions now choose to spend vast sums of money on old, overused buildings that do not need to be fed rather than on its ever increasing membership that is to all intents and purposes destitute.

Letters

Religious excuses against women

Dear Editor,

There are several points that need to be made about the cover story last week concerning attacks made upon the Unions abortion fund.

The people making the attacks on a woman's right to abortion come from groups generally regarded with suspicion by most ordinary students. Very few people take seriously the Christian Unions claim that "God is the creator of life from the moment a child is conceived."

Most people understand that it is in fact the level of development of society which determines the process of conception. Most people wish that society would develop methods by which people have greater and greater control over the well understood, biological process of conception. It is a fact that society at present allows women only very limited and inefficient ways of controlling their fertility and in such a society it is absolutely vital that women have an absolute right to free abortion on demand.

What is alarming is that today in all areas of society irrational ideas, such as "conception is conled by God", are being promoted much more aggressively by the establishment and the force of the right. Such ideas are being promoted in order to suggest that rational progress is impossible. These kind of arguments are simply poor excuses for denying women's rights.

Yours,
Steve Bremner RCS

League for Life

Dear Editor,

We were outraged to read "Pro-Life" described as "supporting pregnant women" in Leeds Student. "Pro-Life" are dedicated to outlawing a woman's right to choose whether or not to have safe and legal abortions and intimidating women going into abortion clinics.

The fight for and defence of women's abortion rights has been long and hard. What has sustained this struggle is the knowledge that without the right to safe legal abortions women would be returned to the terror of the backstreet abortionists. The fact that we need an abortion fund at the Uni

at all is an indication of how far reaching cuts in the NHS have been. "Pro-Life" never mentions these appalling conditions and would be happy to see backstreet abortion become one of the highest causes of death among women as it is in Latin America.

There is no democracy without choice, and women students who have been forced into appalling housing with starvation grants have no choice. This is why we should support Fiona McGee's actions and begin to fight for abortion on demand and women's rights.

Yours,
Katie Weeks, Ann Brown,
Paula Champion.

A fight for wealth

Dear Editor,

In reference to the letter concerning International Socialism I must disagree fundamentally with most of its naive views.

To begin with, the advent of democracy in the Soviet Union along with the destruction of Communism doesn't mark a new surge for socialism in the world. Quite the reverse.

It is a recognition of the desire of the Soviet people to embrace a market economy and to reap the benefits of a capitalist society. Realistically it is not socialist policies they fight for but the dream that one day they might possess a large house, have good food on the table, expensive clothes and a beautiful western car. After all ask a Russian which country he would like to live in and he would say America, Capitalist America.

And you cannot blame entirely the West the problems of famine in America without taking into consideration the destructive powers of nature or the civil wars which have been going on for years, in that country.

Predictably Socialists always blame the problems of the World of Capitalism and Western leaders like Bush but it is not true that the great butcher of the twentieth century, Adolf Hitler rose to power on the left wing i.e. the National Socialist Party.

Yours faithfully,
Mark Newhill

Letters should be no more than 300 words.

Please address all correspondence to Leeds Student Newspaper, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1HU

I believe...

Fiona McGee explains the thinking behind today's demonstration at the visit to the University by Judge James Pickles

On Friday lunchtime, when Judge James Pickles gives a speech in the Emmanuel Institute, there will hopefully be a crowd of people protesting outside. Not because he is proposing the legalisation of certain drugs, but because of his previous infamous statements concerning women. According to Judge Pickles, a woman does not always mena no when she says no. He believes that "contributory negligence" is an element which should be taken into account when considering cases of assault or rape. In other words, he endorses that well known like that a woman might have been "asking for it". Sad thought it is, he is not the only person to uphold these bizarre sentiments.

What it is important to realize is that sexual harassment, assault or rape is NEVER the fault of the recipient and ALWAYS that of the harasser/attacker. No other woman should ever be made to feel guilty or in some way responsible for being attacked. Yet whilst the sentiments expressed by Judge Pickles remain prevalent, women will continue to be too afraid to report attacks, and the perpetrators will get away with it; effectively condoned by a system that continues to fail women.

Judge Pickles in his attitudes epitomizes what is wrong with our judicial system in respect to women. That is why we will be there to shout at him.

Free speech

WIRED

- for Intro week survivors

I am

Earth's arteries sucking infinity;

a satellite messenger from a dead star.

I am light,

a pin-point of moon pulling to center.

I am stell,

a razor edge to slice unweiling night.

I am iron coil wired to the mains;

cauterized,

umbilical

a tense nerve

torn from the flesh of insomnia.

6 Comment & Analysis

National view

J.L. Ridgeway discusses the role of the nuclear disarmament debate in the forthcoming General Election.

As the battle lines are being drawn up for next years general election, the crucial debate regarding unilateral nuclear disarmament has been driven out of the picture. Labours new consumer image, courtesy of Saatchi and Saatchi, does not permit such a seak and unpatriotic policy. Nuclear warheads are viewed buy the heads of all major political parties as 'necessary' for the defense of our nation, and their unconditional removal is deemed 'unacceptable'.

An important implication from this is that CND and other peace movements have become largely alienated from national politics. The principles of Michael

Foot and Tony Benn, reliable or not, at least provided a focus for humane improvements to the atavistic notion that 'anything' can be justified in the name of national security. Those who support the retention of nuclear arms, the use of which would end millions of innocent human lives, cause unimaginable suffering, and inflict drastic and potentially irrevocable damage to our environment and its capacity for sustaining life, are both fools and bigots. National disputes are in reality disputes between governments - the average working citizen has little say in such matters - and so it hardly seems excusable for them to enage weapons of mass destruction

killing millions of civilians.

Of course we cannot disinvent nuclear arms; they will always exist, potentially if not practically, but even so what's wrong with a government which recognises that they are inhuman and wrong. Michael Foot said that he would never press the button, no matter what, and in doing so showed how civilized and progressive a country could be if it could be kept out of the hands of warlike reactionaries like Thatcher/Major and Reagan/Bush.

Tony Benn pointed out that if Labour can change its policies to gain power, it can just as soon change them back again once elected. This is true of course, but I doubt that they would bother. This is the age of materialism and any unorthodox politician unwilling to sell out his principles will quickly get pushed to the fringes of any party and be labelled an electoral liability. We must halt this political regression now. A change is due. We're not quite as doomed yet as we all soon to think

Leeds spirit lives on

Daniele Hordley responds to an article in last Friday's Daily Mail dealing with a waning enthusiasm for life among students

"The greatest advantage that university life gives to an intelligent young person is the chance to live among other intelligent young people," according to Ross Clark of the Daily Mail.

He was a student at Cambridge bitterly disappointed by the "well-behaved, serious-minded" undergraduate he encountered there, but that's obviously because he made the wrong choice on his UCCA form!

Using the recently published Gallup Poll of 14-16 year olds which finds exams too be foremost on the mind of the average teenager as proof he describes the present generation of students

nationwide as "a community of several thousand trainee lawyers, trainee accountants, trainee bankers...." who have forgotten how to enjoy themselves.

I don't think so Ross! If our enthusiasm for life were dampened it certainly wouldn't be a lack of spirit more likely the effects of the abject poverty endemic amongst students these days. As for "salaries and company cars" or accumulating "more domestic wares than the average couple are presented with at a wedding reception," is this the average student in Leeds. Nope!

What can have prompted this unrestrained denegration of character? Is it because fewer students are risking prosecution by a police force tired of returning park benches or traffic cones to their place of origin? Is it because Ross Clark hasn't been to Leeds recently to witness the Otley Run,

Diary

The Societies Bazaar, (note the spelling please, numerous publicity secretaires), is a mistifying event indeed. It is amazing how successful a carefully prepared sign and a bit of bullshit can be at persuading first years to join a society. Stallholders churning out a well-rehearsed spiel promising laughs, love and lodes more friends than your room-mate's got, kept a fixed smile around their molars, a gaze on the cheque books and fingers crossed behind their backs.

Also of interest in the marketing approach of many of the more worldly wise of societies seems to be putting their most attractive members in the front line of Mission Recruitment. It certainly seems to reap rewards. One female fresher was spotted anxiously hiding her nail varnish and six layers of jewellery as she signed up at the expeditions society stall giggling exuberantly about the prospect of cold winter nights in a mountain hut with the woolly jumpered hunk behind the desk. This rogueish method of luring unsuspecting and experimenting first years may or may not account for what appears to be a further loss in membership this year for the more political and radical student societies.

Registration has to be the highlight of the past couple of weeks. It appears the powers that be have devised a wondrous new process which means that registration will be so much more speedy and stress free. However one is forced into wondering where precisely the revolution has occurred. Apart from saddling students with the crushing responsibility of looking after their own registration documents for a couple of days, making the cards red and making the booklet

twice as big and three times incomprehensible; there really seems to be little else difference. There is still the odd "Marshall" who gazes vacantly over the sports hall balcony and whose ability to deal with the perpetual



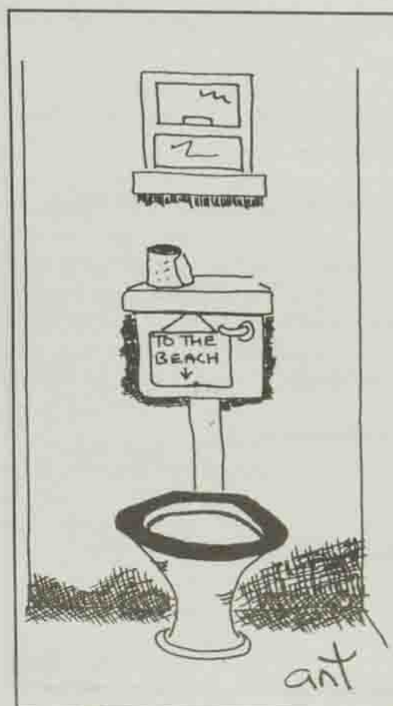
scene of crisis is to mumble, "two queues her please, two queues". Regardless of a query be it location of the toilets or the likelihood of being able to take a Russian subside with Astrophysics, it remains, "two queues here, please, two queues".

As for the actual nature of these queues which provide an annual get together for the entire univeristy, well they are very much the same, that is they are the same queues as last year, with a few emaciated looking freshers from 1988 nearing the front now. As I made my way along the queue, after being admitted half way by a friend whose selfless act of generosity will deserve a lifetimes repayment I became quite concerned about my fellow students as one after another suffered a dizzy fit and had to rush to the front of the queue and inside the sports hall for relief.

All in all it provided an hour and half close up examination of the building work on the new food science building. It's nice, but not that nice. J.H.



I'D GIVEN UP TV ANYWAY



LEEDS STUDENT INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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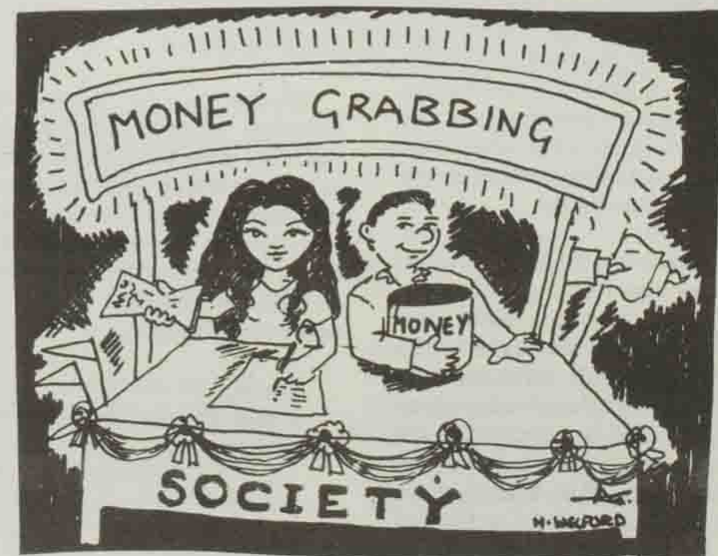
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Music

7

She stoops to compost

La Finta Giardiniera The Grand

A woman is stabbed by her jealous lover, who, believing her dead, runs away. However, rather than dying, she disguises herself as a gardener. She and her former lover then meet, go mad and then become sane again. Then, at the end, everybody gets married. Not the most plausible of plots, but who cares? This is opera.

The original score for the fuller Italian version of 'La Finta Giardiniera' remained lost until 1978, the same year that Opera North was founded, and it is appropriate that the two should come together in 1991, the 200th

anniversary of Mozart's death.

Tim Albery's production represents everything that drama giocoso should be, mixing the unashamedly frivolous with some shrewd insight into the nature of human relationships, in a riotous example of the genre. The new English translation owed slightly more to twentieth century sarcasm, than the original, but this was a good idea as it kept the audience awake during the prolonged bouts of dry recitative.

The cast were well balanced, Paul Nilon's entertaining portrayal of Belfiore, was well contrasted with the depth of Lynne Dawson's Sandrina. Luretta Bybee was in fine voice as the spurned Don Ramiro, and her aria in the second act was very well received. Most of the obvious laughs came from the servants, Richard Jackson as the

lovesick Nardo, and the superb Janis Kelly as the wise-cracking Serpetta. The slightly surreal set appeared tacky, but dismantling it to represent the mental state of the two main characters, was an idea that worked very well.

'La Finta Giardiniera' was written when Mozart was eighteen, and in some ways it shows. It does not possess the depth of 'Don Giovanni' or the humour of 'The Marriage of Figaro', and the music lacks the stamp of greatness so apparent in his later works. Very few people would have left the theatre whistling an aria from 'La Finta Giardiniera', but even fewer would have felt that they hadn't been entertained.

Rick Rogers



So which contact lens is it you have lost?

Czech Philharmonic/ Belohlavek Leeds Town Hall

It is unfortunate for lovers of Dvorak's music, that whenever there is an anniversary of his birth (in 1841), it is invariably overshadowed by the celebrations commemorating Mozart's death, (in 1791). The Czech Philharmonic, and their conductor Jiri Belohlavek, are attempting to redress the balance.

The pieces chosen for this concert demonstrate the many facets of Dvorak's music, from the nationalistic 'Homeland' overture, through the overtly romantic Violin Concerto in A minor, to the slightly classical 9th Symphony. The first half of the concert was certainly interesting, but never quite gripping.

The overture set the scene nicely, and Belohlavek, who bears more than a passing resemblance to Gary Glitter, presided over the proceedings with typically Slavonic sang froid.

The concerto represented the best and the worst of the concert. After an exposed high note failed to come out properly, Miriam Fried recovered to show what a fine violinist she is. She displayed a great feel for the darker moments of the Adagio, and the way her personality lifted the rondo was a positive revelation.

For the symphony, Belohlavek's conducting changed from the competent to the masterly. Discarding the score, he displayed a supreme knowledge of every nuance of the piece, from the imagery of the first movement, the playfulness of the scherzo, and the sheer power and drama of the finale. The Largo, however, was painfully slow. This is, of course,

the fault of the composer, but even so it would be refreshing to find a conductor willing to speed it up a little. It's connection with brown bread doesn't help matters.

The choice of two Slavonic dances as an encore, is an indication that the Czech Philharmonic came to this country, not to extoll the intellectual virtues of Dvorak, but simply to demonstrate how easy his music is to listen to. It's nice to know that one doesn't need a spikey haircut or a phoney Cockney accent to bring serious music to the masses, isn't it monster?

Rick Rogers

If anyone is interested in reviewing Classical or Jazz concerts, could they contact Rick Rogers at the Leeds Student Office

Hope Augustus & Tok Toki West Yorkshire Playhouse

The Playhouse's Huntsman's Bar is an odd place for a gig; it's lofty and bright, not dingy and atmospheric; it has blue designer chairs and the toilets are not life threatening. Thirty minutes into Tok Toki's set and none of this mattered, as the room was filled with an irresistible up-beat mix of Latin Salsa Jazz. Lots of normally shy people started shouting "whoop" and pretended that there knees were bongos.

The band seemed chuffed to be there, smiling away, laughing at the odd slip-up, but there was quite a bit of magic when it all came together. It was a mini carnival, with the beautifully hatted people swaying stylishly in time. After an hour, plus an encore, we were beaming into our beers.

Then Hope Augustus came on, wearing the brightest smile

I've ever seen and a dress like a spacesuit. The first part of her set was her new collection of smooth dancey soul numbers; good songs, but not as radical as I had expected. She sang to a backing tape, which, as she said later, didn't help her connect with the audience. The rigid CD sound and absence of musicians undermined much of the appeal of hearing music performed live.

Then, the tape went off and she adjusted her timing and create the mood which the first part lacked. The songs got stronger, more soulful, and people didn't reach for their drinks as often. She sent out melodies full of humour, feeling and personal appeal, and although it didn't seem to please the P.A. system, it certainly captivated us.

My responses were skillfully manipulated; high, then low, laughing, and then maybe a little haunted. She finished with 'Every Time You Say Goodbye' and even the 'Serious Hat Posse' stopped still to savour every note. Whoop!

Richard Knight

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Visions of Gerard



Flying high

Matt Ryder

The Blue Aeroplanes Warehouse

Yet again the Music Press impose feature after feature on us innocent pop fans containing an endless stream of mediocrity. The Frank and Walters are a perfect example of this disturbing trend. The usual Neds/MC4 etc. three chord thrash with silly trousers and daft behaviour thrown in for bad measure, you know the sort of thing (Like Neds, Carter and all that rabble rousing tedium) that shouldn't go beyond the tennis racquet and bedroom mirror. Next please!

The Aeroplanes can't fail when following such an obviously fledgling bunch. They arrive to the sound of swooping aircrafts and line up at the front of stage in a confrontational and cool display of arrogance. The music, great big guitar pop with jangle is punctuated by Gerard Langley's lay preaching of catchphrases, scene setting and sloganeering. In "Yr own World" he takes you on a Kerouacian trip across the States catching that yankee balance between cool and kitsch; "Drive me down to Each West Coast /if you can read this you're too close". Dontcha just love the literary?

The music and movement on stage is angular and erratic; four separate guitars knock out melodic tangents while Langley's delivery

and sheer style makes for a confusing and mesmerising show. But wait, they can write great pop tunes too. Mighty midget Rodney Allen takes the mike for "Fun" which is surely an attempt to prove the Aero's could write those singles if they wanted to, but they won't release it, that would be too obvious.

The set, mostly from their new LP "Beatsongs" is typically entertaining in the Aeroplanes' own Indie-Cabaret way, and with that LP and this live show they have finally become the sort of band they always promised to be, larger than life, effortlessly cool but sill almost a cult. So as Langley sings in "Jacket Hangs"; "Did they pass the test, I think they passed".

Tim Vigon

Beats International University Refectory

Beats International are still working hard for a follow-up to THAT number one. Led by Norman Cook, who tonight had traded in his usual tracksuit and turntables for a guitar and woolley hat, they played a set of bright and boppy multi-racial pop that was always pleasant but never very special.

Throwing in elements of reggae, funk, soul etc. (and hampered by occasional

bursts of ghastly rock guitar histrionics), they never really managed to add anything that was their own. They are thieving bastards in the nicest possible way, musical magpies who bung together incongruous ingredients into the same song (like The Clash and The Gap Band, for instance) in a bid for originality. Seguing together bits of Simon and Garfunkel, The Specials, and Madonna or covering 'In The Ghetto' in a reggae stylee seemed like ways of making up for a lack of their own decent songs.

There were some fine pop moments; 'For Spacious

Lies' and 'Won't Talk About It'(co-written and originally sung by Billy Bragg) were both memorable, but there was too much lilting, characterless filler to let it all really take off. Lindy Layton has gone and the two current vocalists are very good but it doesn't look like more hits will be forthcoming. I still can't help, though, admiring people who can get away with saying, 'tank fly boss walk jam nitty gritty'. That must take some guts.

Steven Lowe

Saint Etienne

Foxbase Alpha
(Heavenly)

It opens with a brilliant Gallic flourish. A sampled snippet of a French sports programme is cut off, with beautiful timing, exactly as the name of the football team Saint Etienne is excitedly mentioned, and immediately we're into the cavernous dub piano of "Only Love Can Break Your Heart". As introductions go, it just beats "Hello we're the Wedding Present". It is clear that Saint Etienne, in the true spirit of French soccer, are not short of ideas. It's like they're three up after ten minutes and running away with it.

However, a mood of relaxed mellifluousness permeates the bulk of "Foxbase Alpha". So relaxed, in fact, that this listener almost fell asleep to it. "Spring", "She's The One" and "Carn't Sleep" are particularly narcotic and in the same tasteful territory as Sade. Not my cup of coffee.

Narcotic? Perhaps that description should apply instead to "Stoned To Say The Least", a meandering instrumental extremely uncaptivating to sober ears. More beguiling "experimental" pieces are "Wilson" and "Etienne Gonna Die", being sampled dialogue set to a tune-free soundscape.

Saint Etienne come closer to goal on the sweetly cascading "London Belongs To Me", which delightfully namechecks World Of Twist (see this week's singles) and "Like The Swallow", which is very strange until it mutates into a military beat to welcome in the girl's cool tones. Then there's the cinematic "Nothing Can Stop Us", a song for nostalgic rainy afternoons.

Saint Etienne have a playful lightness of touch and aren't afraid to try a bit of the fancy stuff. "Foxbase Alpha", at the end of the day, steals a narrow victory. They'll lull you into confused dreams

Phil Scowen

Claim

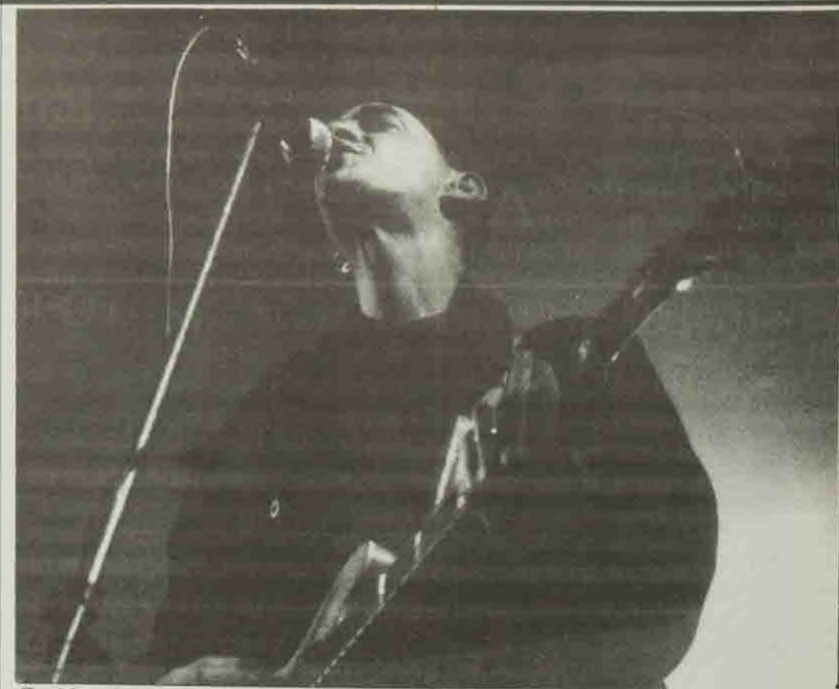
A sane man asserts that, in this, the decayed decadent deadened deformed depraved Year Of Our Lord 1991, the Claim are the only worthwhile white guitar group left on the planet. As the bloated hippy excess of the new prog rock takes hold, and the hoards of new mediocrity, the vile beshorted MegaCarterNeds fans spread even further, rock is dead. Stiffed. Ready to be buried. These are savage, sick times.

The Claim are our last heroes. As everyone else succumbs to this strange mixture of yobbishness and gross pomp (even Costello has fallen) the Claim pursue a lonely path. Perhaps too lonely, as their search for decent, original non-rockist places to play becomes more desperate, and enlightened

audiences rarer, the Claim find themselves without a record contract. There is no justice in this world, but this is taking it too far. Capitalism is killing music, the bare truth exposed.

So, who are these men, these last anti-rock warriors? The Claim belong to a secret mod tradition, one that has nothing to do with parkas and much to do with precious lost groups like the Creation and the Subway Sect. The Claim deal in pop songs, pop songs that are sharp and concise, razor cross sections of the barren urban landscape. They are getting harder, which is the only way to cope, and even dancier, but no one could be further from the grim gormlessness of baggy. "The Birth of a Teenager" manages more melody and passion in three minutes than the whole of this year's indie chart.

Jon Alfasud



Cooking up a storm

Michael Page

Music

9

Black to the future

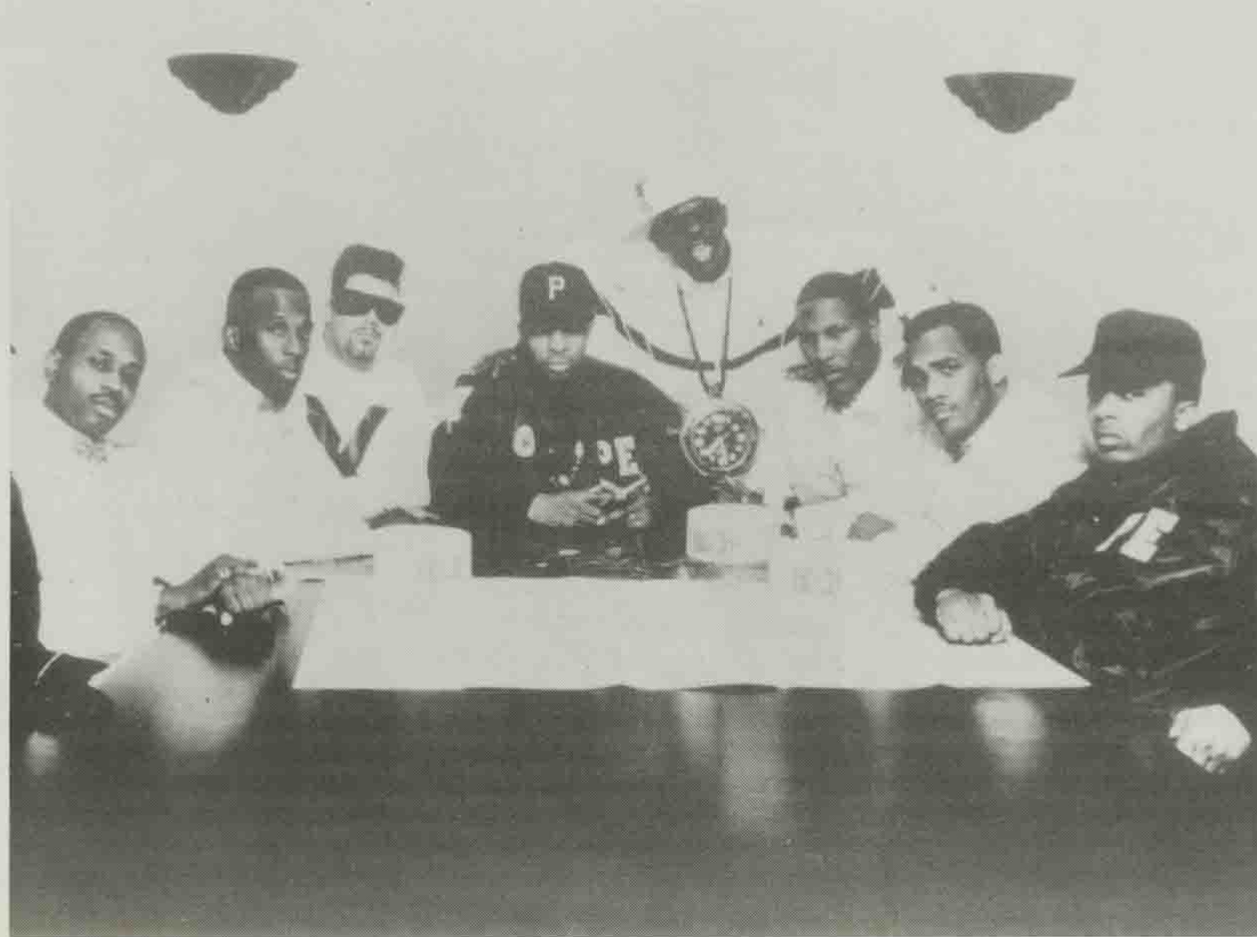
Public Enemy

Apocalypse '91...
(Def Jam)

A typically modest title from the self-proclaimed Prophets of Rage: every Public Enemy album comes with a huge portentous supremely paranoid title, like nothing else in the world matters as much as Chuck D's latest manifesto. And unlike almost any other politically extreme pop group P.E. sound like the Revolution: angry, loud, violent and very confused. Screaming noise interference, babbling voices- no one knows what's going on but but whatever it is, it's damn urgent.

"Apocalypse '91...The Enemy Strikes Black" sounds much like, well, Public Enemy. They want to shove the message down your throat until it sticks, until you finally submit. The targets have been widened: "By the time I get to Arizona" nails that state's governor in an evil '70's funk landscape. "1 Million Bottlebags" extends their anti-drug campaign to booze and flings up a conspiracy theory about advertising. A soundbite has a "KKK" man laughing over the way blacks are destroying themselves and making the racist's life easy, at least P.E. aren't racially smug.

But the inevitable has to happen. "A Letter to the New York Post" skewers the white lib critic like a Saturday night kebab. Flavor Flav manages to be homophobic and a confessed wife-beater in the space



"We hope it's chips"

of a few lines. Does the fact that the man is a dodgy fuckwit invalidate that fact that this is an important record? Hell, I'm still not sure.

"...the Enemy Strikes Black" slots in as another chapter in Public Enemy's battle against white supremacy, rather than anything fresh. It is the same relentless fury, the same scary power, and the same dubious attitudes. They ain't going away.

Jon Alfasud

Headtime

Tartan Bar

When Headtime supported Sonic Boom at The Warehouse, except for a few isolated moments and the fact that they had expensive equipment, they came across as your average "not very together" student band.

Now that they've played a few more gigs and had their first EP - "Have You Heard" - released, their confidence has grown significantly and their set has become much tighter....Headtime have got a lot right so far and have a hell of a lot more potential.

The first song - the one they always seem to start with - was brilliant; built around an extremely intense and fast three chord riff, it exuded the sort of energy normally associated with the Pixies. The last song, "Need To Be", was even more perfect - one of the most

exhilarating and overpowering songs I've heard in a long time. This was Headtime at their best; waves of loud, shimmering, exploding guitars - escalating to an awesome climax. These two songs were clearly the highlight of the gig, set apart from the rest by their energy and style...and hopefully the direction in which Headtime will be moving.

"Born In The Day" was a close third, but was spoilt by the fact that it never really "happened." - I was really enjoying it, expecting the song to rise to a shattering crescendo, when it just...finished!

It is early days yet for Headtime; they've shown that they're capable of great stuff, but they are going to have to be very careful not to degenerate into A N Other indie-pop guitar band or be compared to the likes of Ride and all the rest that go with them. Anything could happen...Maybe it'll all change when they graduate!!

Simon Barker

Ukrainians

Riley Smith Hall

In collaboration with producer Steve Albini The Wedding Present have lost the humour which characterised their early indie recordings without trace. To his credit guitarist Pete Solowka decided that his time was better spent getting a new band together with his old mate Len Liggins and play a bit of Ukrainian folk music. Unfortunately their first live appearance in Leeds did not prove to be the occasion that it should have been for the former Leeds 6 inhabitants.

Most of the crowd were bemused by the brisk set that The Ukrainians played. It was unfortunate that they could not create a bigger impact on the crowd because they proved that they are not simply a novelty act. The heavy bass line and drums

are very effective and makes the sort of music that would go down a storm at any drunken revels from here to the soviet union. The violin, accordion, acoustic guitar and mandolin add brisk added brisk and varied melodies. In the half-filled hall with no bar the band hardly spoke and so failed to break the barriers between them and the audience.

Musically The Ukrainians have managed to emulate The Pogues without covering ground that has been covered before. It is not quality of the music that will prevent a repeat of their commercial success but the fact that The Ukrainians have no charismatic singer. The thing about Pete Solowka- and I know without ever having met him- is that he's just such a nice bloke. He still smiles affably throughout gigs as he did for so long with the Weddoes. They might not sell many records but The Ukrainians are always going to have fun.

Euan McGrory

Spirea X

Trades Club

This was something of a disappointing attempt at an indie rave, the slight drawback being that the turn out was virtually non-existent. When Spirea X finally emerged onstage, everyone was more relieved than excited by the sight of ex-Primal Scream man Jim

Beattie. But Spirea X did play some very good songs: the very catchy "Jet Pilot" and the surreal 'Chlorine ream', which had some sound distorted guitars. With the addition of Judith there were shades of the Valentines, but with tamer guitars. Apart from getting lost in the smoke on stage Spirea X played really well, but maybe next time a bit of publicity and an audience might help.

Jo O'Farrell

SINGLES

Digested by Mr. Scowen

World Of Twist
"Sweets" (Circa)

What a blessed relief to hear this single. It's got a hummable, instantly recognisable melody! It's sung with precision, clarity and feeling! Parents all over the land will be telling their kids that once all music used to be this way. There's something irredeemably kitsch about World Of Twist- check their record covers, typography or stage set - but this absolute gem of a single should be all it takes to translate their appeal from 'cult' to 'mass'. Single of the week, the other contenders nowhere in sight. I'm so grateful for this I could cry.

Consolidated
"This is Fascism" (Nettwerk)

A sticker on the sleeve proclaims "This is an anti-Fascist statement". This swaggering, menacing rumble cuts a furious dash and the girl's voice is very Grace Jones. Not much peace in the soul here, which makes this an ironically refreshing change to the hippy-dippy rubbish being spouted all over the charts these days. Not for nothing are these Americans being touted as a white Public Enemy.

Curve
"Clipped" (Anxious)

A slight disappointment. Curve's new EP does not take them anywhere new. If you know their stuff, you'll know the formula: icy vocals and wall-of-distortion guitars against a brittle beatbox. It's only their third record, but it's all beginning to sound a little tired. This lacks the otherness that made "Coast is Clear" so crystalline.

Intastella
"Century" (MCA)

A surprise, but not a particularly pleasant one. Stella's voice sounds like Toni out of Curve, and the whole scuffed-up funky workout is a lot less appealing than their superior previous effort "Dream Some Paradise". Records like this do nothing to justify music press hyperbole, and Intastella have received more than their fair share.

Dannii
"Baby Love" (MCA)

Resplendent in a pink woolly jumper, Ms Minogue smiles enigmatically at the way her name is written on the sleeve. The song yawned and went to bed early.

black GOLD

A Rage In Harlem

Odeon Cinema

Take a tap dancing comedian, a typecast idiot, and the wife of a boxer, and make yet another comedy drama romp. O.K., so it doesn't sound too promising so far. Yet this is what Bill Duke did, and he has directed what could well become a classic movie. What endears this film to me particularly is that it just stays within the bounds of probability whilst still allowing the audience scope for a little romantic fantasy.

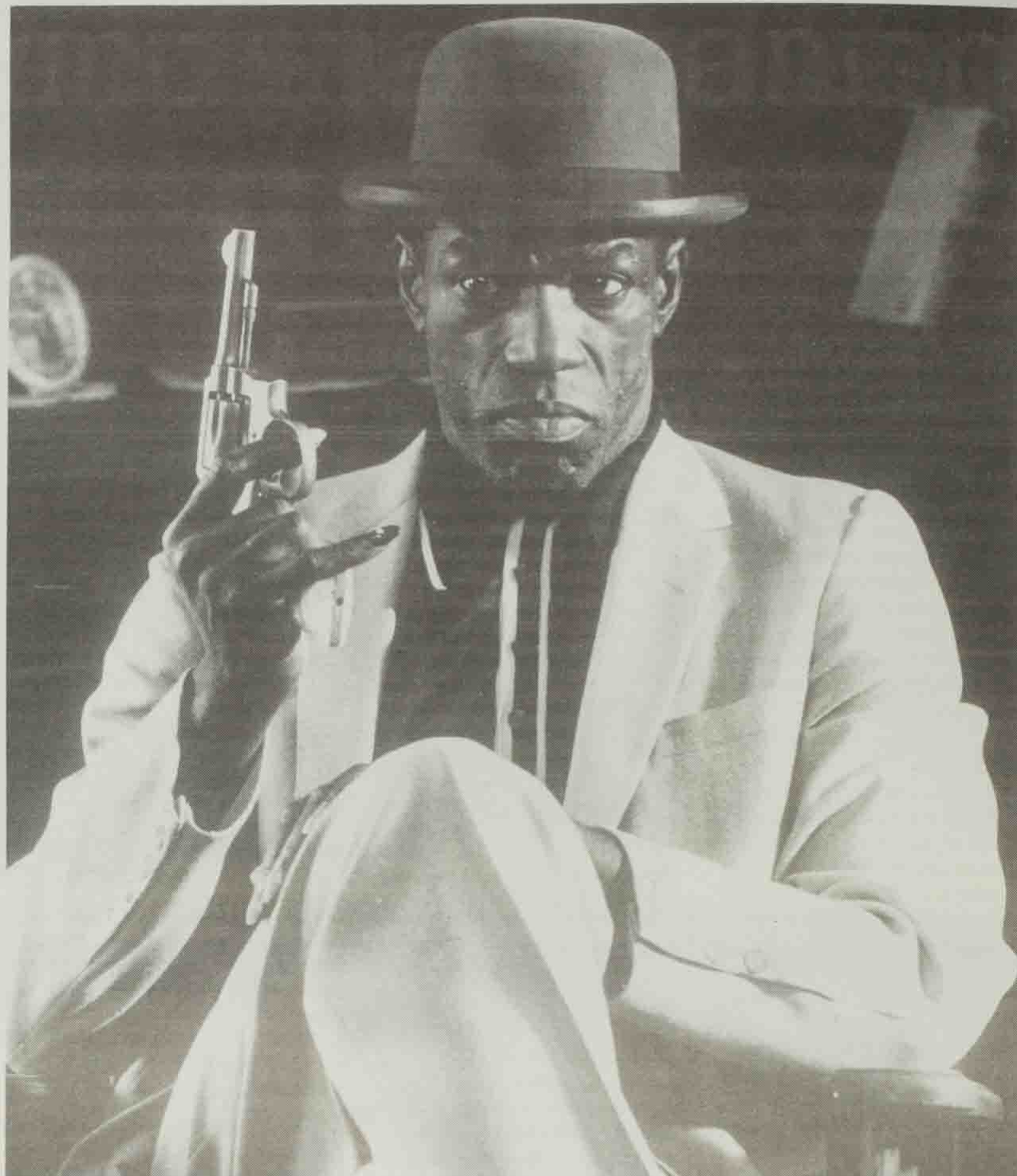
The film is basically a story of good versus evil set against a backdrop of seedy lowlife in Harlem. The main protagonists are Jackson (Forest Whitaker), an unfeasibly goody-goody Christian, his seemingly bad, but really good half-brother Goldie (Gregory Hines) and the very scary, incredibly bad, super mean bank robber, Slim (Badja Djola). The catalyst is provided by a large trunk of gold and Slim's girlfriend Immabelle, played with great style by Robin Givens. It's good that she has been able to move on to better things after being beaten up by Mike Tyson - after all, the only thing Frank

Bruno could get after his meeting with Tyson was pantomime.

American film producers, particularly of this genre, tend to have one eye on the censor, and the violence is presented as something that happens to bad people, and therefore is alright. Thankfully in this film the violence actually looks like violence - it's realistic, and very frightening. The sex scene was a little less revealing, but, perhaps, that was no bad thing.

Having heard so much about how this film would do a great deal for the black community, I half expected to find something that I couldn't relate to, a story by black people for black people, a sort of polemic about inequality. However, I came to realise that the most important aspect of this film, is not that the director or the actors are black, but that they are very, very talented.

Rick Rogers



Would you introduce this man to your grandmother?

Truly, Madly, Deeply

Bradford Film Theatre

"A story about loss, love, rats and Bach's music". Thus states the press release for 'Truly, Madly, Deeply', a film produced by the BBC and only released now to cash in on Alan Rickman's superb performance as The Sheriff of Nottingham in 'Prince of Thieves'. Hardly the most inspiring of credentials for a PG love story.

Don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with a PG love story per se - some are moving, some are funny, and some genuinely make you feel that life is okay after all. However, some are also self-indulgent, some are turgid and some are so sentimental that schmaltzy no longer seems an adequate description. 'Truly, Madly, Deeply' possesses all the latter qualities, with virtually none of the redeeming qualities of the former.

Juliet Stevenson (a classic 'well-known face but I can't quite

place it' actress) plays Nina, a language teacher unable to come to terms with the death of her boyfriend. So obsessed is she that she quite happily holds conversations with him, in the full knowledge that he is not there, until suddenly he is, in the shape of the aforementioned Mr Rickman.

If the obvious 'Ghost'-like influences are ignored, this all seems fine, and the performances are more than adequate, particularly that of Juliet Stevenson. In fact, had Anthony Minghella (the director) not chosen to turn his masterpiece into a marathon of endurance and concentration, I would quite happily have given the thumbs-up and advised you all to see it without delay. As it is, what we have is a perfectly good 80 minute movie, turned into a 120 minute one, doing a damned good impression of a film at least twice that length.

Wait until 'Green Card' comes to The Hyde Park Cinema again if you really want to see a love story. Infinitely better and 2 hours shorter.

Nick Meikle

Under the Screaming Chestnut Tree

Raven Theatre

Theatre as pure experience; sheer unadulterated anarchic fun! Is there meaning to life? death? Is there an afterlife, and if so, what is it? Who cares anyway! Serious questions are explored in a brilliantly performed play, in which the only certainty is that the answers are irrelevant.

The plot is as complex as the ideas involved. A writer becomes part of his own creation: a Satan worshipping poet who is flung into limbo where he is helped and befriended by a gun-wielding girl, on an astral plane where 'Transcendental Terrorists' inflict unimaginable horrors on the pair. The only escape is to keep moving, or find the way to the 'Truth', or to be reincarnated by a blue-skinned goddess. The audience is drawn in from beginning to end; the

characters are not the only ones inescapably bound.

An enthralling atmosphere is created with a loud, throbbing soundtrack, a spectacular light show and fast action. Youthful energy pervades every move as characters explode into life. The theatre becomes a psychedelic cosmos - boundaries between fantasy and reality, the audience and what they observe or actually experience are unmistakably shaken.

Not just surreal comedy, this play is a standard-bearer for free imaginative creation. Arrogant, exuberant and proof that young people can take theatre, re-define it, and make it their own.

Sarah Corbett

Berlin Changed

Wakefield Arts Centre

With a full year now passed since unification it is hopefully possible to reflect on the recent events in Germany without the media hysteria which accompanied the recent

momentous events. The work of the four photographers in this exhibition offer a social perspective which has tended to be passed over.

Berlin's people are the subject of many of these images. Here are displayed the school room, supermarket and fairground where the latest attraction is a vehicle for tobacco adverts. The struggle that life has become for many of the new free Germany's citizens is as clearly portrayed in the photos as in the photographer Mark Weigers' insistence that freedom is not measured by the variety of brands of toilet roll on sale in the shops.

The photos leave an overriding impression of profound change. Weigers' before and after shots of the Berlin Wall is among the most effective. Today's Berlin remarkably shows few signs of being a place where history was made. In one shot restoration work is under way on the Brandenburg Gate. Visible signs of the past will soon disappear, but this exhibition shows that Germany's problems will remain.

Euan McGrory

First of the Luke Warm Plays

Last of the Red Hot Lovers

West Yorkshire Playhouse

It's difficult to know what to say about this really. The preferred suggestion was to deconstruct the play to its basic elements; in which case the review would consist of three paragraphs (there were three acts), the first of which would go: "Boring, boring, boring..." repeat until end of paragraph, the second would be pretty similar and the third would read: "Boring, boring, hang on- what's this? oh- that...boring, boring" repeat till end etc.

The problem is that "Last of the Red Hot Lovers" is a sitcom in which the situations are both hackneyed and unfunny. Yes, it must have been awful to have been middle-aged whilst the sixties swung but how much sympathy are a generation of theatre-goers who have been spoonfed Aids parables since their taste in literature expanded

beyond "The Magic Faraway Tree" actually going to feel?

Barney Cashman is an aging fish-restaurateur (lots of scope for smelly finger jokes) who feels that life has not so much passed him by as gone out of its way to ignore him completely. He takes his cue from the sexual revolution going on around him and decides that the road to enlightenment goes via getting laid. Three unsuccessful seduction scenes follow: the last one also comprising the moral. This would have been OK except that in between each act there was an interval and two intervals-worth of being non-plussed is just too long. Also, when the moral finally came around I (and probably the rest of the audience) had had one too many interval drinks to be able to remember what it was later.



Not really very red hot at all, honest

Good things about this include Suzy Aitchison and Susan Bovell as Bobbi and Jeanette respectively, the programme for its social analysis of what happened in the sixties and the set which was papered with photocopies of Warhol's disposable art(!). But three beans

don't make a banana and despite the sympathetic giggles of the aging fish-restaurateurs around me by the end I was quietly relieved that I hadn't paid for my ticket.

Emma Hartley

Lady Windemere's Fan

Raven Theatre

This gentle comedy of manners and upper-class 19th century society revolves around Lord and Lady Windemere - his innocent involvement with Mrs Erlynne and her temptation to find satisfaction with Lord Darlington. Basically, a play of romance, misunderstanding and a fan!!

Seldom do amateur productions of Oscar Wilde's melodramas bode well, for few Am Dram companies can master his fine subtleties and his ridicule of the so-called ruling classes. The first scene inspired little hope for the rest of the play, as the actors appeared to have been cast for their looks rather than their ability. However, this was a judgment I swiftly revised as the action progressed.

The Duchess of Berwick (Amber Wilkinson) bustled onto the stage in a blaze of talent, a superior characterisation in the mould of Dame Edna. From here on the play began to settle down and Matthew Pateman as Lord Windemere, although initially unconvincing, developed into a Lord of restrained unsentimental seriousness. Lady Windemere (Alex Burton) was a refined fragile beauty who shone serenely throughout. The rest of the cast were a perfectly worthy mob of

performers, playing their characters sensitively and with obvious enjoyment.

Among the two actors whom I most enjoyed was the absolutely convincing Tim Burt playing Lord Augustus Lorton, an amazingly upper-class pretentious twit. The other was Emma Hartley. Her more than convincing portrayal of Mrs Erlynne (Lady Windemere's long lost, and presumed dead, mother) demonstrated much talent and captivated me right through to the end of the play, with a portrayal of an overly ambitious, but eventually repentant social climber.

Theatre Group must be congratulated for this production; the combination of personalities and abilities managed to pull off what can be a difficult play with great dignity and subtlety. The stage crew must also be mentioned for the set, lighting and costumes, which (although minimalist) were excellent and contained all of the elements necessary for an effective presentation of a noble household such as the Windemere's.

All in all this was a magnificent production. It held the audience throughout and put across a message which is unfamiliar and out of place in our society. If all of Theatre Group's subsequent productions are of an equivocal standard, then I heartily recommend going to see them.

Adriaen De Montfort

Pictures from the Kingdom

(Mimeistry International)
Leeds University Conference Centre

Despite the best efforts of the preacher at the end, I was not saved by this presentation of "Pictures from the Kingdom". I was, however, very very impressed. Their message is Christian, their source the Bible, their inspiration God, their intent conversion and their product magnificent. You don't have to be a Marxist to enjoy Brecht. If you want theatre that entertains, provokes and moves then you couldn't ask for more than Mimeistry International. Their fusion of mime, dance and music is technically excellent and visually stunning. One piece in particular, "Floating", a secular set-piece performed by Marilyn Farley using just her body and an umbrella proved especially effective. She managed to create an image of weightlessness that would have made a butterfly swoon.

The Christian message was pitched at a very human level which allowed for both great humour and wrenching pity. A weak Moses, clinging desperately to his imaginary staff, was summoned by a laconic, singing

God to throw it down. Moses clung, twirled, coveted, stroked and finally released his invisible (but under Todd Farley's immaculate control, very real) staff which turned into a snake. A less than happy Moses - clad in black and white hooped shirt, black trousers, white gloves and clown's face - performed a comic shock-horror routine which had the crowd in stitches.

The idea of the human Jesus, God-made man as Mary's child, was beautifully performed by Todd and Marilyn. With the addition of a red shawl over her black and white costume, a wonderfully poignant song emphasising that Mary had to endure all that Jesus suffered simple but frighteningly effective use of red and blue lighting, and the amazing body control of both performers, the tragic grief of a mother for her son was shockingly realised.

When theatre can inspire you this much, who needs religion?

Matthew Winston Pateman

New arts writers still needed by almost human arts editor.

Interested? Then, get yourself (and a 250 word test piece) down to the Leeds Student Poly Office at 1.15 on a Tuesday.

The wonderful world of student freebies awaits you. You have nothing to lose, but your sanity!

ALTER EGO

Fourteen weeks! Fourteen overlong, drawn out, excruciatingly painful weeks since Brian Adam's "Everything I Do (I Do It For You)" bludgeoned its dismal way to the top of the charts. Fourteen weeks of being forced to suffer Bri's agonised warblings belting out of every car radio, walkman and portable stereo in the land. Fourteen weeks of Mark Goodyear desperately trying to work some drama into his increasingly pathetic recitation of "And at Number One for yet another week it's...." Fourteen weeks of writhing in tedium when yet another clip from "Prince of Thieves" finagled itself onto MTV and "The Chart Show". Fourteen weeks of....but you get the picture, don't you.

My parents are able to claim that they remember the day Kennedy was shot, and my grandparents fondly recall the days before the Second World War, but when I am old and grey I will be able to sit my infant descendants upon my zimmer frame and tell them of the days before Brian became number one.

In those long distant future days when the chart show is renamed "The Top Thirty-nine" and bands vie energetically for the number two slot, I will be able to spin tales of Jason Donovan's "Any Dream Will Do" or the legendary "Shoop Shoop Song" by Cher, and those other tracks which preceded Adams at number one much as John the Baptist preceded Christ. Adams will be long dead, but, because his hell-spawned single will still be selling great truckloads of sorry brainwashed drones, he will by the time of my decrepitude be elevated to near godhood.

(As I write this, another arts reviewer, who shall remain nameless, is sitting at the word processor next to me joyously intoning "Fourteen weeks at number one! Isn't it great" - she may be being ironic but I have my doubts).

Act now. Go out to your local record shop and rip out the intestines of any pitiful drongo misguided enough to even look askance at a copy of "Everything I do". Club them to the ground and kick them repeatedly, screaming abuse, until they leave or buy something else instead. Do it now. Do it while you can still save the world from a future too horrible for any person without a season ticket for Cloud Cuckoo Land to contemplate.

Ceri Thomas

Lights, Cam

The fifth Leeds International film festival starts off today - a for the old and the slightly bizarre. *Ceri Thomas* takes a look at wh



Drop Dead Fred

Trouble in Mind

Madness at the cinema is a vein that has been richly mined in the century or so that moving pictures have flickered across the silver screens of a waiting world. From Norman Bates strange brand of plumbing to the cookery courses of Hannibal Lecter, the darker sides of the human psyche have been big cinematic business. And none bigger than "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" which goes on at the Hyde Park Cinema.

"I wanna see the damn world series!" Big, bad, mad Jack - the screen's premier psycho - in arguably his greatest role. Sieze the chance to see

this on the large screen, the opportunity may not come around again soon.

"Whatever happened to Baby Jane?" doesn't crop up at the pictures too often either. Bette Davis and Joan Crawford at their collosally bitchy best, as aging sisters more than a few yuppies short of a full wine bar, to say the least.

No madness based season could possibly leave out Hitchcock. they don't show "Psycho", but "Vertigo" does get an airing. It's more than a tad strange, even for alfred, but well worth watching just for James Stewart's guilt-ridden 'tec with a fear of heights.

Intro-week has come and gone, the horror that is registration is but a fading memory, and slowly but surely term grinds into motion. After a long summer of fun and frolic the harsh realities of tutorials, lectures and essays come crashing home - life is bleak and a long winter of even more unremitting bleakness can be seen stretching off into infinity.

But there is one brightish star on the horizon, in the form of the magnificent, the splendid, the simply bloody amazing (am I going just a wee bit over the top here? Possibly? Perhaps, but who cares really?) ... drumroll, please ... Fifth Leeds International Film Festival.

You're not impressed? Your little hearts are

On The Town

Strange title really, since all this is just the brand spanking new films section and some damn fine brand-spanking new films they have too. Most of the mammoth "Terminator II" style blockbusters have been and gone over the summer, but the festival does have the pick of the rest of what's new.

The whole thing kicks off with a showing of the new Patrick Swayze film 'Point Break' tonight at the Odeon - a tale of theft, Zen surfing(?) and the FBI. Now, although I enjoyed 'Ghost', I'm still not convinced that our Pat could act his way out of a paper bag. Still, it's supposed to have an excellent trailer and does have Keanu Reeves, of "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure" fame in it, which could make for interesting viewing.

A couple of promising comedies get a first showing too. Rik Mayall tries to win over US audiences in "Drop Dead Fred", as Phoebe Cates' imaginary friend, while in "What About Bob?" Bill Murray and Richard Dreyfuss team up as patient and psychologist. Mayall's film bombed in the states, but what do Americans know, eh? The Murray/Dreyfuss epic should be seen even if it turns out to be complete dross as it was directed by Frank Oz and the man who gave us the voice of Kermit the Frog deserves as much money as we can shovel upon him.

Of the other new stuff, Derek Jarman's "Edward II" should be, at the very least, interesting, as should John ("Manchurian Candidate") Frankenheimer's latest political thriller, "Year of the Gun". Oh, look out for "The Five Heartbeats" as it was directed by and stars a bloke called Robert Townsend. I don't know what he's done since, but about three years ago he made "Hollywood Shuffle" which is just about the best satire on American film making that I've ever seen. If this new one is half as good, then it could be excellent.



Point Break

not pounding fiercely with breathless anticipation start? Why ever not, pray. It's no Cannes, but with w mention numerous worksh exhibits being put on in so venues scattered across the Leeds and its immediate complain too hard about t and topless starlets.

In the five years s never to be repeated one y the event has blossomed in most successful film festiv the fact that the first ever

Virtually

No matter what the festi Nexuse for this section it's an exploration of "the between humans and their some such bollocks), its qu the real reason has a lot m screen loads of stomping S fairy abstract theory of cir

"Terminator", "I and "Robocop" get wheele imitated, but never surpas cinema cyberpunk, "Blade making its annual appear Arthur C. Clarke should b cheque from the festival, a and "2010" goes on at the actually understands every these two, then I've yet to

The Sci-Fi section Apart from paying for Cla festival also lumps togethe Friend" with the excellent both deal with killer robot latter featuring Yul Brynn cowboy, spoofing his "Mag

The best double b pairing of "The Day The E "Forbidden Planet" - two e Age of serious sci-fi. Betwe world peace, Shakespeare' Trek" prototype, big robot id - a veritable feast of fun

First Dir

Okay, so every year the fi work of a new director a through the films of the anim All well and good, we shoul makers of the world and all t will be no great cinematic gi where will we all be? It's a p and they should keep it up, b a millstone around my neck, can say about Joanna Woodv her before and I've not seen being shown.

Go and see them any tenyears time I'll no doubt be copy about her magnificent c come toTHE END.

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taken on a Leeds' bridge in 1888 by a chap called Le Prince by showing a stunning selection of oldies. It was literally possible to see a film at virtually any time of the day or night. While never quite ascending these Olympian heights again, the festival is still a fortnight of more films than you can sweep under the carpet and ignore without tripping over the extremely large bump that they'd make.

This year, the main program of films breaks down into 6 sections - On The Town, Virtually Human, Altered States, Trouble in Mind, Cult of the Body, and First Directions. Full details of times, places, prices and other mundane stuff like that can be found in the festival's own programme (available from almost everywhere by now) and in our very own GOOD LIFE pages, but for now let me take you by the hand and lead you through a quick survey of the films in each section that caught my eye.

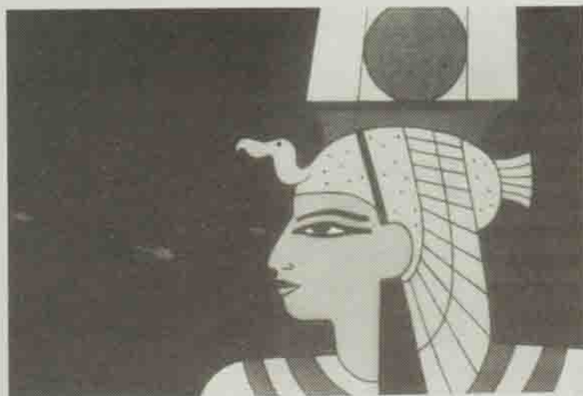
Cult of the Body

The film Festival is obviously into snappy titles this year. In their press handouts, they describe this segment as exploring "the ways that the human body is presented on screen", which basically provides a great chance for questioning the norms of physical appearance promoted by mainstream cinema, a chance which the festival exploits quite handily, thank you very much.

They get to put on "My Left Foot". Christy Brown's life story scooped up an Oscar for Brenda Fricker's portrayal of Brown's mother and another for Daniel Day Lewis as Brown himself, and is well worth seeing.

Less well known are "Les Yeux sans Visage" and "The Spiral Staircase", which make up a double bill starting at midnight at the Civic on Saturday. The former is a French horror film concerned with the hunt for willing (and unwilling) donors for bits and pieces a crazed plastic surgeon can use to repair the face of his hideously injured daughter. "The Spiral Staircase", by comparison, seems almost normal, with its tale of the attempts of a psychopath to kill a deaf mute in a small New England town. Sounds to me as if a lot of jumpy people are going to be walking home from the Civic in the early hours of that Sunday morning.

The unmissable highlight of this section has to be the double bill of "Roxanne" and "Cyrano De Bergerac" at the Cannon. Steve Martin's modern day retelling of the story may cop out of the original tragic ending, but what it loses out to Rappeneau's version in terms of sheer spectacle and for not having Gerard Depardieu, it makes up for with Steve Martin's ever so slightly individualistic style of comedy. Very possibly the one absolutely essential piece of cinema at the festival.



Ra - Path of the Sun God



Les Yeux sans Visage

Altered states

Bit of a subtle pun in the title there, I feel, as this section looks at the films of Czechoslovakia. By this point in the paragraph I'll probably have hardly anybody left reading this bit. After all, who wants to go and see films from a small eastern european country whose people don't even have the decency to speak English? Not too many people queue around the block to see the latest release from Prague, now do they?

Well, maybe they should. The standard of Czech films is surprisingly high, or maybe not so surprisingly since among the ranks of arty Czech

people are the likes of Milos Forman, Milan Kundera and Jiri Menzel.

Menzel featured in last year's festival with the excellent "Lark on a String" and this year is back with his latest film, an adaptation of John Gay's "The Beggar's Opera" written by Czech president and part-time playwright, Václav Havel. Menzel's clean and assured directorial style and sly sense of humour is at least a match for the visual pyrotechnics of many of the hollywood whizzkids whose wares trudge across western cinema screens.

This section has humour, tragedy, social comment and an animated film called "Ra: Path of the Sun God" - all human life is here.

Sight and Sound

Film is the world's most popular art form yet it remains largely inaccessible to the visually handicapped. *Ceri Thomas* looks at the attempts being made to rectify this.

Every year the Leeds Film Festival presents the Le Prince Award for Innovation in cinema to an individual who has contributed significantly to the development of the art form. In previous years the award has gone to such notables as Terry Gilliam and Derek Jarman, but this year it goes not to a famous director but to the brother of a famous director.

August Coppola, brother of Francis, is Dean of the School of Creative Arts at San Francisco State University and the man responsible for the development of what is known as "audiovision" - the technique by which an on screen image is described for the benefit of the visually impaired. His institute pioneered the development of headsets through which can be heard not only the normal soundtrack (characters' voices, music, etc), but also a descriptive soundtrack detailing set, costumes, where characters are standing, what they are doing, in short everything needed to as closely describe in words what a fully sighted audience member would see.

Audio described stage plays have been put on since the early eighties, and thousands of theatres across the world now offer the service. This season the West Yorkshire Playhouse have started to operate the policy, and two performances of each show in the Courtyard Theatre will be audio described, just as the dialogue of two shows will be given in sign

Anna, a wheel-chair bound student, talks to Leanne Buckle about her experiences with the arts venues in the city.

The theatres and cinemas of Leeds range from modern constructions, like the West Yorkshire Playhouse, which boast the latest in facilities for the disabled, to 19th century monoliths where a flight of stairs needs to be conquered before even reaching the front door.

However Anna found accessibility was restricted just as much by the attitudes of the employees and public as the physical limitations of each building.

She has not yet been to the Playhouse as its distance outside the city centre means incurring a high taxi fare, but frequently visits the Civic Theatre with her husband, Pete, who is also a post-graduate student.



Testing an audio descriptive headset at the West Yorkshire Playhouse

language. When Coppola's group staged a screening of "Tucker - the Man and his Dream" in 1988, they followed a procedure identical to that used in the theatre. A describer sat in the cinema describing the events on screen live over the audience's headsets. It worked, but robbed the visually impaired of the benefits of the most important difference between theatre and film, namely that a film is always the same no matter where or when it is seen, while theatre is a live art and the performances of a play differ from night to night in small, but often significant ways. A person seeing "Casablanca" in the Forties

would enjoy exactly the same experience as someone watching it on a video tape in the Nineties. Live audio description denies the visually impaired this ability to exactly repeat the experience of cinema going time and time again.

Coppola realised this and developed a way by which a pre-recorded audio descriptive soundtrack can be added to the print of a film, alongside the ordinary soundtrack and then broadcast on infra-red into the head sets. The use of infra-red to broadcast the signals is itself significant, as it does not then interfere with the standard induction loops that most modern

cinemas now have for the use of those with hearing aids, meaning that anyone with a sight and hearing disability will be able to use both systems.

When every cinema has adopted Coppola's system, then film will truly be as accessible and exciting for the visually impaired as it is for the fully sighted and one more barrier of subtle social discrimination will have come down.

An Audio Described Performance of "Casablanca" will be shown at the West Yorkshire Playhouse on Sunday, 13 Oct at 7.30pm - ring 442111 for further details.

"We go to the Civic quite a lot. There's a ramp at the side and a disabled toilet that's actually usable - quite frequently they're not." She said.

She also reports that Dr Moreton, the University's Advisor for Physically Handicapped Students, has been to both the Playhouse and the Theatre Grand and found them very good.

Cinemas in Leeds offer poorer facilities, of which Anna finds the Odeon the most accessible.

"The Odeon is OK, the people are very accommodating - they always seem embarrassed about their distinct lack of facilities. We generally wait for films to come downstairs to the smaller screens, though they will carry me up the stairs." She said, adding that another bonus is their policy of free entry to wheelchair users.

However Anna questions the wisdom of their fire safety rules which dictate that she sit in an

Odeon seat and not her wheelchair. In the event of a fire, she argues, were she in her wheelchair already she would be the first out of the building, whereas if her wheelchair were folded at her side, or left at the back of the auditorium she would prove a hindrance to everyone else.

"Pete would either have to unfold my chair and lift me into it, or try to fetch it from the back of the room. In the panic of a fire, not only would I be trapped, but so would everyone sitting in the same row until I got out" she reasoned.

Despite the apparent inaccessibility of the Hyde Park Picture House, Anna finds the staff very helpful and entry relatively easy through a side door. However, the stalls and the toilets are out of bounds because of the stairs.

Although the Cannon claims to have facilities for the disabled, Anna and Pete refuse to use it as they've previously found the employees unhelpful.

She said: "We don't go to the Cannon. We've boycotted it because of the way they treated me. We turned up on spec one day and Pete went to buy the tickets. The receptionist realised one was for me and called the manager. He refused to speak or look at me - probably in case I dribbled or did anything embarrassing. He asked us whether we'd made any prior arrangements; which we didn't realise were necessary, and eventually said 'You can't come in'."

She concedes she would have to be accompanied when going to any of the venues, but states: "What I'm outraged at is not that I'm dependent on other people, but that other people are so ignorant of the needs of disabled people and limited in what they expect of them. A lot of people seem to think being physically disabled means being mentally disabled, that's where a lot of the condescension and ignorance stems from."

How the venues compare.

Julian Thorne examines how the various Film Festival venues treat their wheelchair bound customers

The accessibility of Leeds Film Festival venues to wheelchair owners varies considerably.

The three year old West Yorkshire Playhouse has the considerable benefit of being designed to cater for the needs of people with disabilities and is perhaps the model to be aspired to. Similarly, the modern Showcase Cinema Centre has excellent facilities although its location beside the M62 dictates against those with out cars.

Older venues have to overcome inherent structural problems such as steep stairs and an absence of lifts in order to accommodate wheelchair users. Alan Thornton, manager of The Odeon, regards the stairs leading to Odeons 1 and 5 as "a bit of a challenge which we always get over." Thornton said: "We would never turn anyone away, that would be criminal. We do everything in our power to help disabled people. It is a subject I feel very strongly about." Thornton and his staff are more than willing to carry those with wheelchairs to the screens as part of the Odeon's policy of actively encouraging wheelchair owners to visit the cinema although in the strictest sense this does not constitute genuine accessibility as a wheelchair user can not visit independently. The Odeon admits wheelchair users free of charge.

The Cannon Cinema, due to a rigid adherence to safety regulations admits wheelchair owners only into Cannon 3 and then on the condition they are accompanied by an able-bodied person. Those with wheelchairs who wish to visit the Hyde Park Picture House will find their access limited to the stalls and no adequate toilet facilities.

The Leeds City Art Gallery has lifts and ramps which give those in wheelchairs access to 95% of the gallery. Restaurant tables are also set at a convenient height and lecture theatre seating can be moved to accommodate wheelchairs. The gallery is actively seeking to further improve its facilities and has developed close ties with disabled groups.

The Civic theatre also has ramp access and separate toilets for those with disabilities. The front three rows of its seating can be removed to cater for wheelchair owners although it is advisable to book before hand.

Studying the Spanish ways

Spending time at a Spanish university can be an eye-opening experience as *Elaine Carlton* has discovered.

Life is somewhat bewildering for Leeds University language students sent to Granada in Southern Spain for their term abroad! These unguided months are often viewed with a mixture of fearful delight as if they were a combination of a prison sentence and a holiday.

Suddenly you feel removed from your familiar life in a student house - all those everyday occurrences are now very far away. Spanish society contains a new culture and a very different group of people, unlike anything you have ever encountered. Spanish life, especially student life, has very few similarities with that of its English counterpart and on arrival I felt as if I was in the centre of a whirlwind. After the principal shock this town of Granada has so far proved the site for a precious lifetime experience.

The lack of a Student Union as a central meeting place means that Spanish students have a lot less social contact with others compared to the constant activity we encounter in Leeds. The cafeteria is the focal point. More importantly, it is no illusion that Spanish students are a great deal more studious than the English. They only go out on Friday and Saturday night. Week day nights the bars are empty, and the students hard at work at their desks. By contrast at the weekend they will spend all night partying. Spanish students really know how to enjoy life, and discos and parties continue until around six or seven am with plenty of cheap Spanish beer, and often very traditional "Sevillana" dancing as entertainment. The place to find the actions is on one main street, whose pavements are lined with bar after bar, full to the brim every Friday and Saturday night. Of course, everyone pretends they hate this crowded 'hangout', the trendy people and their smart clothes, but somehow find themselves there anyway just to see if there is anyone they know.

It is no illusion that Spanish students are a great deal more studious than the English.

This crazy all night partying is a violent reaction to the serious studying that the week day nights

provide. Unlike in Britain between eighty and ninety per cent of eighteen year olds are accepted to University which are therefore 'supermasificadas' - greatly overpopulated. This problem puts a constant pressure on the students to prove themselves among the masses. Due to the easy availability of a degree, it has become very little guarantee of a job which has caused an enormous

that everyone considers antiquated and unnecessary.

Religion is another aspect of Spanish life which this new generation of students who have never experienced Franco's repression believe to be outdated. However what remains is an idea of what is 'malvisto' - frowned upon by society. Students seem to have a much higher morality level than in Leeds. It is not acceptable for male and female students to share a house and most halls of residence, (although there are very few) are single sex. There are no houses in Granada and therefore everyone lives in flats which are usually cleaner, brighter and of a



feeling of depression and apathy among Spanish students. Many of them are prepared to stay at university to study for a Masters rather than face the dread of unemployment. This sad reality is not the slightest bit amusing when you meet students of thirty one years of age still at university

because they had no security of a job if they should leave. Boys of 18 plus have the added responsibility of the obligatory one year military service either before or after university. This may mean job rejections if they had not completed 'la mili' before their applications forcing them to postpone their career plans for a year in order to carry out a service

better standard than those you encounter back home. They are also much cheaper due to poorer standard of living in Spain. The hot water is heated by gas cylinders which manage to run out as you are poised delicately in the shower, thus leaving you to douse yourself in a torrent of icy water to remove the shower gel.

It is extremely difficult to get used to the Spanish people. You cannot sit in the student cafeteria with the hope of being left in peace to read the paper or finish an important letter. You will not be there five minutes when a cheerful contemporary will attempt to engage you in conversation. As a foreigner this is even more likely as the Spanish treat foreigners with an unbelievable respectful admiration and prefer nothing more than to enquire as to their reasons for being in the city and await expectantly the inevitable

praise of Granada's many attributes.

Every student and many lecturers, some of whom appear ancient, possess scooters on which they roar down the tiny narrow cobbled streets trying to intimidate or run down as many pedestrians as possible. The Spanish certainly do not know how to drive and their relaxed attitude suddenly and

curiously disappears when it results in their having to wait at traffic lights. In addition to the terrifying fear of being

bulldozed by a crazy driver, the female pedestrian has the

primary preoccupation of being accosted while taking even a short walk.

Women walk alone at night and if you ask anyone, they will tell you the town is quite safe and there is nothing to fear. Their assurances of safety did not prevent on Leeds student being approached and grabbed at

between the legs by a revolting drunk with his trousers around his ankles and she wasn't even alone!

Meanwhile Spain is still currently coming to terms with the recent illegalisation of drugs. The new legislation does not however really seem to have prevented anyone from smoking drugs in public as the police are not even vaguely interested in controlling their consumption.

Due to the easy availability of a degree here, it has become little guarantee of a job which has caused an enormous feeling of depression and apathy among students.

Granada is an extremely old and beautiful city. The city and its people all combine to create an atmosphere of a relaxed, intimate and happy

environment, conducive to making my term here one of the most exciting periods of my life.

If you have anything you would like to write about a foreign country bring your ideas along to the Leeds Student office

Q. What do Students do on a Saturday night in Leeds.

A. THE POLY BOP, on Saturday 8-1.30,

THE Wednesday BOP

CITY SITE 9 - 1.30

Trebles + mixer - £1.40

before 10.00

Blitter, cider, and McEwans lager 80p a pint all night.

FREE BUSES BACK TO HEADINGLEY

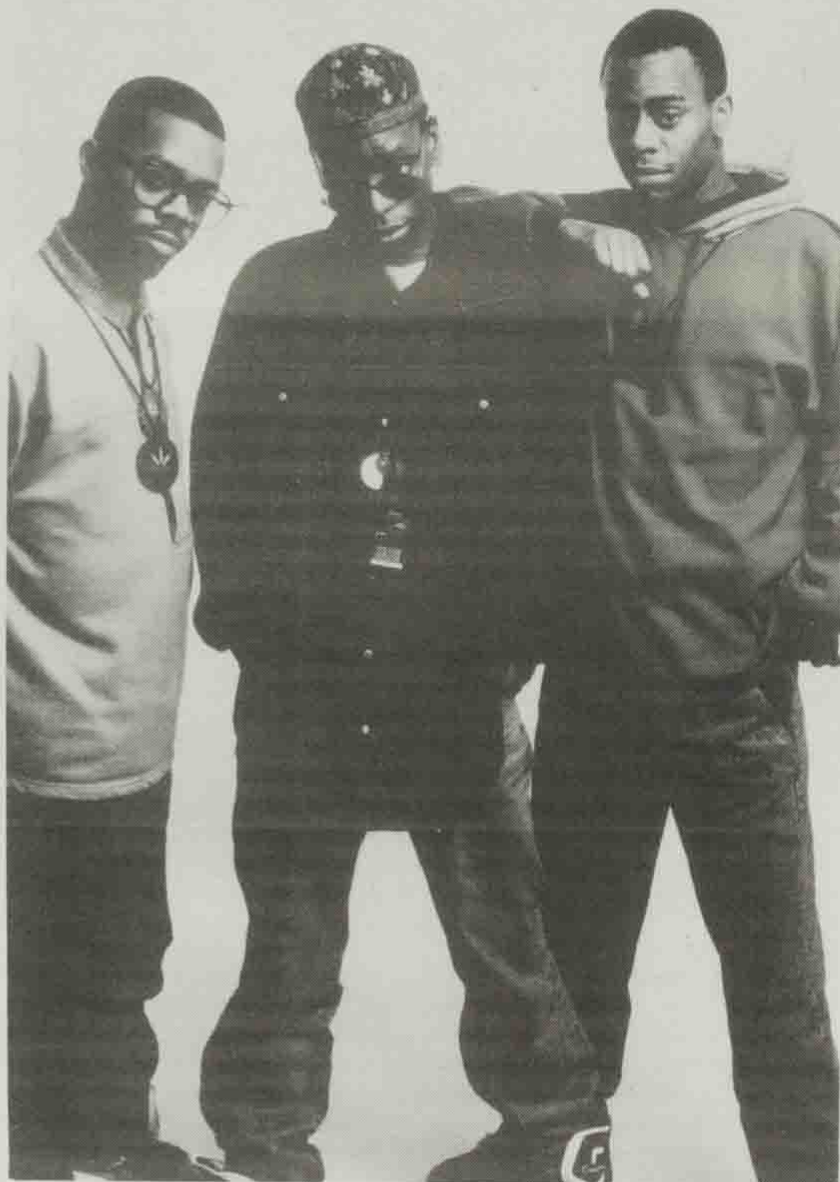
GOOD *Life*

THE GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

While all music press, the national press, the record companies and everyone else was wasting their time with Madchester, somewhere across the city a bunch of rappers were creating something sharper, harder flare-free and more worthwhile.

The Ruthless Rap Assassins are part of the generally undervalued, and generally basically ignored British hip-hop movement. How many people out there have time for MC Buzz B, Overlord X, Krispy 3 or even the dead commercial Kiss Amc? Taking in rap styles from PE-style hardcore to the very mellow, the Ruthless Rap Assassins were responsible for "And it wasn't a Dream", one of the finest explorations of the disillusioning Black experience in this country. It would be nice to think that their lack of major success was due to some white racist conspiracy, but probably people can't be bothered. The Assassins play the Tartan Bar on Tuesday, October 15, and it's a gig you shouldn't miss. Wake up Leeds, yr dead.

Jon Alfasud



CLUBS

POLYTECHNIC

tel:430171
Weds - BOP 8pm to 1.30am Tickets £1.50
Sat - BOP 8pm to 1.30am Tickets £2

MR.CRAIG'S

54 New Briggate St LS1
tel:422224
Mon - student night 9pm until 2pm admission free before 11pm with student card, £1 after pints £1
Thurs - Rave night FEVER (ex_CHAOS of Ritzy's) £4 entry

RICKY'S

9 Merrion St LS1
tel:455718
Mon - ARMAGEDDON admission £4 with student card
10p per pint 50p Cider £1 triples 9.30pm until 2am
Tues - The Gallery ELECTRIC BLUE Indie Rave £2 with Student card
Tues - THE KALEIDOSCOPE POP 10pm until 2am £2 £1.50 before



VAUXHALL

Once driven, forever smitten

GIGS

DUCHESS OF YORK

tel:453929
11th October DOCTOR AND THE MEDICS + BAGMAN
12th October LEROE + THE JUVIES
13th October THE PATRON SAINTS OF IMPERFECTION featuring Eddi Reader and Adrian Legg of Fairground Attraction
14th October HOLY ROLLERS + GOD'S LITTLE MONKEYS + SLUM TURKEYS
15th October KING MAKER + FUZZY LOGIC + SENSITIZED
16th October WENCH + THE MARYS
17th October BRILLIANT CORNERS + EDDIE BARTON
All gigs start at 7.30pm with tickets around £3

THE EAGLE TAVERN

tel:457146
11th October STILL JUMPIN'
12th October KING'S SNAKES
13th October ROBIN GREATHEAD
17th October AIKEN'S DRUM free admission to all gigs

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

tel:439071
12th October STIFF LITTLE FINGERS 8.30pm Tickets #8.50
12th October - Tartan 12 hour Rock Concert from Midday to Midnight featuring Day of the Dead Pt2 and others Tickets £5
15th October RUTHLESS RAP ASSASINS Tickets £4.50
17th October THOMAS LANG

11pm
Weds - The Gallery
DESTINATION OUT live Jazz and Latin 9pm until 2am
£2.50/#2
Thurs - THE MILE HIGH CLUB 9pm until 2am
£2 before 10.30pm with student card £2.50 after
Fri - The Gallery BLISS featuring DJ Tim(Utah Saints)
£3.50 before 10pm £4.50 after
Fri - PARADISE CITY glam/rock/alternative £2 everyone

LE PHONOGRAPHIQUE

Merrion Centre LS2
tel:433688
Tues - PURE admission £2/#1.50

DIGBY'S

20 York Place LS1
tel:443590
Mon - CONFUSION Indie Alternative 10.30pm £2 admission

FUNHOUSE

Tickets £5

LEEDS POLYTECHNIC UNION

tel:430171
City Site
17th October PLANET GONG + HERE AND NOW
Tickets £5 in advance

ST.GEORGES HALL

Bradford
tel:(0274) 752000
13th October THE FUREYS + DAVE ARTHUR 7.30pm
Tickets £9.50 to £7.50
15th October LEVEL 42 7.30pm
Tickets £13.50

LEEDS INTERNATIONALCONCERT SEASON

LEEDS TOWN HALL
tel:476962/455505
12th October POLISH NATIONAL RADIO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Antonio Wit - Conductor
Yonnty Solomon - Piano
Moniuszo - OVERTURE PARIS
Prokofiev - PIANO CONCERTO NO.3
Strauss - ALPINE SYMPHONY 7.30pm

Lunchtime Music 1.05pm admission free
15th October YORKSHIRE THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL CONCERT featuring the choirs of Leeds Parish Church, Ripon Cathedral and Wakefield Cathedral

LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY

Lunchtime Chamber Music 1.05pm admission free
16th October Janet Shell - Soprano
John Flinders - Piano

Above Rockshots Lower Briggate LS2

Thurs - Funk,House,Garage,70's etc...

£2 admission £1 with flyer
Doors open 10.30pm

LEEDS TRADES HALL

Savile Mount LS7
Fri - SUBWAY "Bringing the House Vibration to the Party Generation"
Doors open 10pm Tickets £5 on the door

MADISON'S

tel:442221
Weds - Student night doors open 9pm £1 admission with student card £1 for pints and selected spirits

RIFFS

North St LS2
Mon and Weds - REGGAE
BONANZA admission £1.50
Sat - THE LIZARD CLUB classic early 70's rock

FILM

CANNON CINEMA - Vicar Lane, LS1 tel: 451013, tickets £3.30/£1.90 Mon-Fri with union card before 6.00
1 ROBIN HOOD - 1.45, 4.55, 7.55
2 HARLEY DAVIDSON AND THE MARLBORO MAN - 1.10, 3.30, 6.00, 8.40
3 STEPPING OUT - 12.50, 3.10, 5.30

ODEON CINEMA - The Headrow tel: 430031
Tickets £3.35/£2.30. Student reduction available
Fri. 11th Oct. - TOY SOLDIERS - 12.35 3.05 5.35 8.20
THE COMMITMENTS - 2.00 5.25 8.15
TERMINATOR 2 - 1.40 5.00 8.00
JACOB'S LADDER - 12.40 3.05 8.15
MEETING VENUS - 5.35
Sat/Sun 12th/13th Oct - TOY SOLDIERS - 12.35 3.05 5.35 8.20
THE COMMITMENTS - 2.00 5.25 8.15
EDWARD SCISSORHANDS - 1.00
TRUE IDENTITY - 3.20 5.35
TERMINATOR 2 - 1.40 5.00 8.00
NINJA TURTLES 2 - 1.05
JACOB'S LADDER - 3.05 8.15
MEETING VENUS - 5.35
Mon/Thurs 14th/18th Oct - TOY SOLDIERS - 12.35 3.05 5.35 8.20
THE COMMITMENTS - 2.00 5.25 8.15
TRUE IDENTITY - 1.10 3.20 5.35
TERMINATOR 2 - 1.40 5.00 8.00

JACOB'S LADDER - 12.40 3.05 8.15

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE - Brudenell Rd., LS6 tel: 752045

See Film Festival Listings

COTTAGE ROAD CINEMA - Far Headingley tel: 751606

Tickets £1.80 Mon/Tues with union card, otherwise £2.20/£2.50
TRULY, MADLY, DEEPLY - 6.15 8.30
Late show Fri/Sat - GOODFELLOWS - 10.45

THE LOUNGE CINEMA - Headingley tel: 751061
Tickets £1.80 Mon/Tues with union card, otherwise £2.20/£3
STEPPING OUT - 5.50 8.20
late show Fri/Sat - CYRANO DE BERGERAC - 11.00

SHOWCASE, 27 Gelderd Rd, Birstall tel: (0924) 420071
tickets are £3.60, with a reduction for students, or for weekday showings before 6.00. Ring for times of showings
TRUE IDENTITY / TERMINATOR 2 / ROBIN HOOD/TEENAGENT/REGARDING HENRY/SILENCE OF THE LAMBS/BACKDRAFT/TOY SOLDIERS/STEPPING OUT/HARLEY DAVIDSON AND THE MARLBORO MAN/JACOB'S LADDER/A RAGE IN HARLEM/OUT FOR JUSTICE/THE COMMITMENTS

Weds. 16th Oct. - THE PLEASURE DOME - Hits of the 80's at the Warehouse. 10pm-2am. #1.50 before 10.30pm

Wed 16th Oct. RAG FAHION SHOW. 1st meeting for anyone interested in any aspect. 1.30 Committee Room A

Thurs. 17th Oct. - SCRIPTS MEET SCREEN: The Northern School of Film and Television. The screening of the first set of graduate films to emerge from the recently established twin MA Courses in Script Writing and Production run by the Northern School of Film and Television. Leeds City Art Gallery - 7.30pm

Fri. 18th Oct. REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL at Leeds Poly. Tickets £3.50. Leeds' biggest indie event.

FILM FEST

Fri. 11th Oct.
POINT BREAK (preview) - Odeon Cinema 3 at 8pm
TRUST (preview) - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm

Sat 12th Oct.
THE FOUNTAIN - Cannon 3 at 8pm
FLIRTING (preview) - Odeon 3 at 8pm
EDWARD II (preview) - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm
Double bill - PUMPING IRON and PUMPING IRON II: THE WOMEN - Hyde Park Picture House at 11.00pm

EATS

PASTA RATATOUILLE

Just in case you really haven't been eating this week as you don't like to ask how to turn the oven on, here's an easy, cheap recipe that even your Mum would be proud of.

Ingredients

(Serves 1)
1 small onion, sliced
1 courgette, sliced
1/2 green pepper, sliced
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon oil
8oz (250g) can tomatoes, drained
Italian seasoning
3oz (75g) pasta shapes, cooked
1 1/2 (40g) cheese, grated

Method

Fry the vegetables and garlic in the oil until they begin to soften. Add the tomatoes and seasoning. Cook over a low heat for 15 mins. Mix the sauce and pre-cooked pasta together. put in a flame-proof dish and cover with cheese. Place under the grill until the cheese bubbles. Serve with rolls, pitta or garlic bread

Leeds Student Independent Newspaper

4 October 1991

Double bill - THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE and LES YEUX SANS VISAGE - Civic Theatre at midnight

Sun 13th Oct.
YOUNG SOUL REBELS - Odeon 3 at 8pm
THE BEGGAR'S OPERA (U.K. preview) - Cannon 3 at 8pm
AUNT JULIA AND THE SCRIPTWRITER (preview) - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm
ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST - Hyde Park Picture House at 11.00pm

Mon 14th Oct.
OUTSIDE IN - Art Gallery at 7.30pm
TIME OF THE SERVANTS - Cannon 3 at 8pm
SCORCHERS (preview) - Odeon 3 at 8pm
SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm

Tues 15th Oct
STRIP JACK NAKED - Art

Gallery at 7.30pm
SUGARBABY - Odeon 3 at 8pm
THE YEAR OF THE GUN (preview) - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm
ALL GOOD FELLOW COUNTRYMEN - Cannon 3 at 8pm

Weds 16th Oct
SIGNS OF THE TIMES-SCREENING 1 - Art Gallery at 7.30pm
OBJECT OF BEAUTY - Odeon 3 at 8pm
MY LEFT FOOT - Cannon 3 at 8pm
Double bill - SPELLBOUND and VERTIGO - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm

Thurs. 17th Oct.
CACTUS - Cannon 3 at 8pm
THE FIVE HEARTBEATS (preview) - Odeon 3 at 8pm
THE THREE FACES OF EVE - Hyde Park Picture House at 8pm
SCANNERS - Hyde Park Picture House - 11.00pm

MISC

Sat. 12th Oct. FIRST RAG RAID to London. See Rag for details

Sat. 12th Oct. WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY?. Dayschool at Leeds City Art Gallery which explores the representation of disability on screen. Discussion will be attended by T.V. presenters, film-makers and writers. Starts at 10am - Tickets #4 with student card.

Sun 13th Oct. THE THIRTY NINE STEPS-BARRIERS TO ACCESS. Film Festivals debate about access to cinemas for deaf and disabled people. Art Gallery 2.00pm.

THE PHOENIX NIGHTSPOT

"COSMOS"

The Peoples Club

Featuring Great sounds; Wednesday to Saturday

Student 20% discount

Doors 9pm - 2am

Dress Casual but smart

Coming shortly the great 'BEN E KING' 14th November; 'Stand By Me'.

Tickets available from; Phoenix Nightspot, Jumbo Records and A & O Hyman Jewellers
Tickets £9.00. Coming soon Martha Reeves and the Vandellas also Percy Sledge

LOCAL TAXI'S - 487777 - Intime, 622622 - Quickline, 490099 - Star



Anybody with an interest in dance will doubtless appreciate the significance of a visit to Leeds of the by the award winning Diversions Dance founded in 1983 the company has quickly gained a reputation for its imaginative and innovative work. This was confirmed when the company undertook an international tour at the request of the British council.

The company's latest pieces have been specially commissioned

from the worlds leading choreographers and range from reworkings of Greek myths to satire and "outrageous humour".

Whatever your taste the variety of content and style will surely provide an excellent evening of contemporary dance.

Divergence Dance Company are appearing at the Dome Theatre, 98 Chapeltown Road at 7.30pm on Saturday 12th October. To reserve tickets or for further information call Sue Logan on (0532) 625359

If you fancy helping to compile the Good Life listings section pop into one of the Leeds Student offices and ask for Jo or Jon.

GOOD *Life* cont.

STAGE

concessions not available

THE GRAND THEATRE
46 New Briggate St LS1
Tel: 459351

11th October LA FINTA
GLADINIERA - opera by Mozart
7.15pm

Tickets £28 to £6 students half price

12th October THE JEWEL BOX -
opera 7.15pm Tickets £24 to £6
students half price

15th to 17th October ANNIE - the
musical presented by the Leeds
Thespians

7.15pm Tickets £2 to £7.50

WEST YORKSHIRE
PLAYHOUSE
Quarry Hill Mount LS9
tel: 442111

Quarry theatre 11th to 12th
October PRATT OF THE ARGUS
Fri 7.30pm Sat 8pm tickets £5.50
to £8

13th October TERRY
LIGHTFOOT music 8pm

14th to 17th October PRATT OF
THE ARGUS 7.30 pm as above
Courtyard theatre 11th to 17th
October THE LAST OF THE
RED HOT LOVERS 7.45pm
Tickets £5 to £9.50

CIVIC THEATRE

Cookridge St LS2 tel: 476962

11th to 12th October THE JEW
OF MALTA presented by The
Leeds Arts Centre 7.30pm Tickets
£3.50 concessions £2.50

15th to 17th October PORTRAIT
OF PAVLOVA celebration of
Ballet 7.30pm

Tickets £7 to £5 concessions £1
off

LEEDS POLYTECHNIC

Studio theatre

11th October FINAL CARGO
presented by the Major Road
Theatre Company 7.30pm

Tickets £3.50 concessions £2

15th to 17th October BOUNCERS
presented by the Revolver Theatre
Company 7.30pm Tickets £3.50
concessions £2

ALMAMBRA THEATRE

Bradford tel: 0274 752000

11th to 12th October TOVARICH
with Robert Powell

7.30pm Sat matinee 2.30pm

Tickets Sat matinee £9.50 to £3.50

Tues to Sat £15.75 to £5.50
concessions available

14th to 17th October RICHARD
III with Ian McKellen 7.15pm

Tickets First night £9.50 to £3.50

Tues to Sat £15.75 to £5.50
concessions available

ALHAMBRA STUDIO

11th to 12th October DIDO AND
AENEAS opera by Henry Purcell
8pm

Tickets £6 concessions £4.50

CITY VARIETIES

The Headrow LS1 tel: 430808

THE GOOD OLD DAYS season
11th to 12th October ANITA
HARRIS

17th October BARBARA
WINDSOR Sat matinee 2.30pm
Thurs, Fri and Sat 7.30pm

Tickets Thurs and Fri £7 and £6
Sat eve £8.70 and £7.70 Sat
matinee £4

14th October SEAN HUGHES
(star of The Commitments)
7.30pm

Tickets £5 and £4.50

RADIO

Ever wondered what your
parents used to get up to on a
Saturday night? Radio 2 (of all
people) have a new four-part
"musical journey" into the '50's,
starting on Sat. 12th Oct. at 4pm.
called "Teenagers in Love" and
which takes a look at how Britain's
teenagers fell in love. Could be
good for laughs this. Continuing
on the comic theme, turn to Radio
4 at 11.30pm, (also on the 12th) for
"Mary Whitehouse's Best

Experiences". If you enjoyed
Radio 1's Sony award winning
comedy series of much the same
name then here's a chance to re-
live some of the funniest moments
all over again.

Just to prove that they are in
fact in touch with the real world,
Radio 1 are staging a Student
Loans Phone-In at 9pm on Mon.
14th Oct. Entitled "Right On or
Rip off", this apparently is a
chance to air your opinions or
questions on the Loans Scheme a
year after it began and to debate
with other students, parents and
university vice-chancellors. This
might be worth a listen merely to
find out how much (or little) is
achieved.

Radio 4 have a new series of
programmes starting at 7.20pm on
Tues. 15th called "File on Four".
This week deals with an
investigation into evidence of
radiation damage to hundreds of
patients at Britain's biggest cancer
centre - the Christie Hospital in
Manchester. Staying with Radio 4,
why not try a new series called
"Dear Diary" (Fri. 18th at 10am.
FM only) in which diaries of the
famous and not-so-famous are
explored. This edition sees John
Evelyn (diarist) airing his views on
"foul and undecent women" (!),
David Hockney is "assessed", plus
extracts from diaries of "ordinary"
people kept during the Second
World War.

THE WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE

CHEAPER THAN A ROUND OF DRINKS

SAFER THAN SEX

PLAYHOUSE STUDENT STANDBYS ONLY £3

Sit anywhere, see anything - Monday to Wednesday and
Saturday Matinees. Show your student card at the Box Office,
pay just £3 and enjoy pure, unadulterated entertainment.

COMEDY DOUBLE!

LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS

Until 9 November (Courtyard Theatre)

It's the sixties, everybody is swinging - except Barney Cashman. He meets Elaine, a married
man eater with an insatiable appetite for sex and cigarettes. She goes away empty-handed. But
what about Bobbi (a paranoid night-club singer) and Jeanette (Barney's wife's best friend)?!

Classic comedy from Neil Simon.

Pratt of the Argus

Until 16 November (Quarry Theatre)

Sponsored by You'll never meet a prat quite like this one. Trainee reporter Henry Pratt is desperate
to succeed both in love and his career. He can't believe his luck when he falls in love
and uncovers the story of a lifetime. But Henry lives up to his name as only he can...



Yorkshire
Electricity

Hilarious exploits adapted by Michael Birch from the novel by David Nobbs, creator
of Reggie Perrin and A Bit of a Do.

NB: Subject to availability. Tickets cannot be reserved but must be bought in person.

TICKET SALES ☎ (0532) 442111
QUARRY HILL MOUNT, LEEDS LS9 8AW

CUSTOM
SCREEN PRINTING

Silver Screen
GRAPHICS
T-SHIRT PRINTERS

★Printing 1-6 Colours

★Complete Artwork Service

★All Kinds of Garments Printed
-From Swimming Caps to Overalls

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STUDENT DISCOUNT

LEEDS POLYTECHNIC S.U. - GIGS AUTUMN '91

THURS 17 OCT **PLANET GONG & HERE AND NOW** £5.00ADV

SUN 20 OCT **THE LEVELLERS** £5.50ADV

TUES 22 OCT **BLUR** £6.50ADV

FRI 25 OCT **CUD** £6.00ADV

NOW

Monday 28th October

IAN McNABB £5.00ADV

THURS 31 OCT **NEW F.A.D.S** £5.00ADV

THURS 7 NOV **WORLD OF TWIST** £5.50ADV

THURS 14 NOV **STEVE PUNT & HUGH DENNIS** £3.50ADV
FROM BBC'S "CANNED CARROTT"
& "THE MARY WHITEHOUSE EXPERIENCE"

TUES 3 DEC **CURVE** £5.50ADV

MON 9 DEC **THE DAMNED** £6.50ADV

PLUS OTHERS TO BE ARRANGED... WATCH FOR DETAILS
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM POLY, JUMBO AND CRASH RECORDS

Dixon Bate

Prints/Posters
Artists Cards/Postcards
Limited Editions/Originals/Art Gallery
Clipframes/Take-away Frames
Full Custom Framing Service

one of the biggest and cheapest selections
in town - plus **10% student discount** on
all purchases (excluding sale stock)

Dixon Bate

Victoria Qtr, 34-36 Queen Victoria Street
Leeds. Tel: (0532) 445822
(Between Briggate and Vicar Lane)

cut price courses for students...

* keyboarding * word processing

Tuesdays 4.00 - 6.00pm

Learn how to

- * Touch-type on a computer
- * Word process using WORDPERFECT
- * spare places on courses available to students at reduced rate.
- * Type your own theses, essays, documents, etc
- * Earn money as an office worker in vacations

Word Processing

20 hours tuition for £30

Ten two-hour sessions on Tuesdays
at 4.00pm starts 21 Jan 1992 and
finishes 24 March. All training on
IBM compatible machines

Keyboarding

14 hours tuition for £25
Seven two-hour sessions on
Tuesdays at 4.00pm starts 29 Oct
and finishes 10 Dec.

Want to type letters, CVs, reports?
Use our fully-serviced workshop facility for only
£3.00 per hour

INTERESTED?

phone Dorothy Child on 355540 or Frances Rubio
on 355541
alternatively call in to Floor 3 Park Lane College
Courses offered at a reduced rate - no other concessions

PARK LANE COLLEGE

Park Lane
Leeds LS3 1AA
(15 minutes walk from University and Poly)

WHERE TO GET YOUR BOOKS

1 AUSTICKS CITY BOOKSHOP
91 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 6LJ
Telephones: (0532) 439607 (General);
433099 (Music); 445335 (Academic)

4 AUSTICKS HMSO BOOKSHOP
53 Great George Street, Leeds LS1 3BQ
Telephone: (0532) 452623

2 AUSTICKS MAPS & TRAVEL
BOOKSHOP
64 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 8EH
Telephones: (0532) 452326;
460483 (Ordnance Survey)

5 MR MILES ANTIQUARIAN &
SECONDHAND BOOKSHOP
12 Great George Street, Leeds LS1 3DW
Telephone: (0532) 455327

3 AUSTICKS MEDICAL & LEGAL
BOOKSHOPS
55-57 Great George Street, Leeds LS1 3BN
Telephone: (0532) 438762

6 AUSTICKS BUSINESS
BOOKSHOP
44a Woodhouse Lane, Merrion Centre,
Leeds LS2 8LN Telephone: (0532) 342243

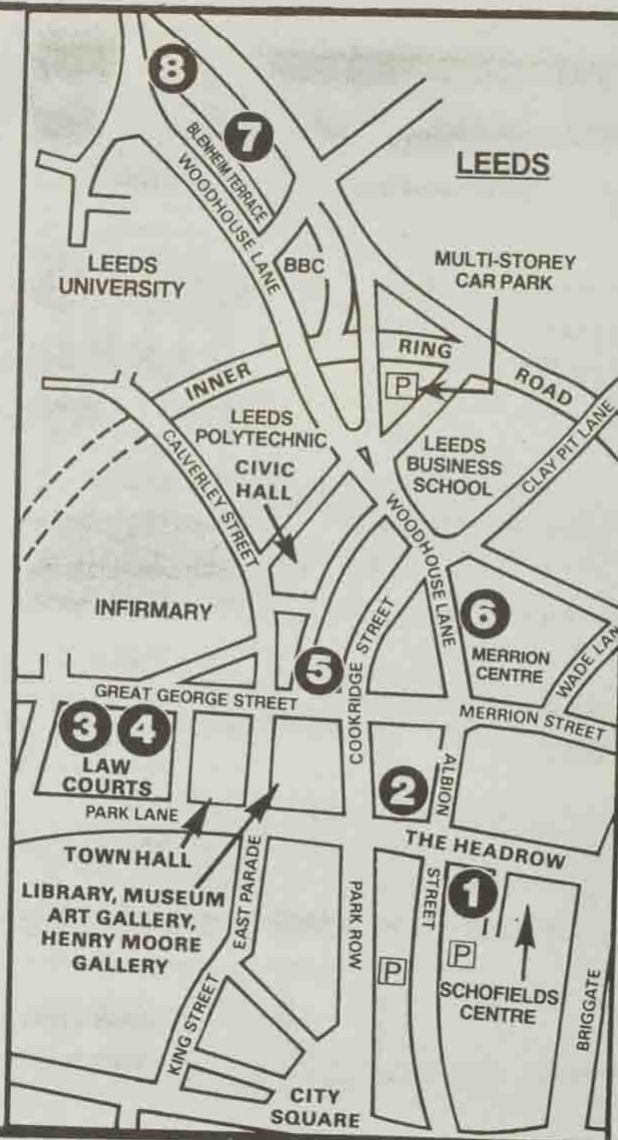
and just opposite
the main University entrance
AUSTICKS UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

7 21 Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane,
Leeds LS2 9HJ Telephone: (0532) 432446

**Austicks
BOOKSHOPS**

8 STUDENTS STATIONERS
172 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9HB
Telephone: (0532) 456550

and



Classified

21

PERSONALS

C Glimmer is FAB!

To Tim and the rest of the Introweek posse, it was great fun; easy to say now it's all over. Introweek is dead, long live Introweek. Jim xxx

Happy birthday Nigey Wigey - I think you're fantastic, especially your squidgey widgey. C

Friday 18th October, Leeds biggest Indie event. "Reasons to be cheerful" £3.50 a dv. at the Poly.

"Reasons to be cheerful" at the Poly with DJs from Bug, Monkey House, Pure and Ricky's.

"Reasons to be cheerful" at the Poly. "The Indie Event." Tickets £3.50 adv, from the Poly, Crash and Jumbo. Available now!

Been to Spain recently Bev?

Congratulations Fretmelt and Abby-Animal

Lots of love Michelle from Billy Belly xxxooo

"LIVING WRECK" require a replacement singer. We have a

demo to listen to and will resume gigging when you are ready. Phone Simon or Rob on 426307.

Glim glam birthday

RAG-RAG-RAG
Publicity and Hall Reps meeting
Tuesday 15th October
7pm, Doubles Bar, University.

HAPPY 21st NIGEL REED!

German Society presents
"STAMMTISCH"
Tuesday 15th October
Original Oak - 8p.m.
Be there.

To ANITA INGRAM. Told you I could get your name in print. Happy Birthday!

S.O.S. HAMSTER!
Ignacio's owner has not reclaimed him/her.
Please phone 759253

Catherine and Lady Nicola - my heart swells with love for you, from your appreciative housemate, Em xx

A married woman, I'm shocked.....

How old, and a kid, OH my god.

We've got a lovely new office, thanks a lot. Shame about the new machines though. I would sing you a song, but you'd probably scream. Anyway cheers for the comp any folks. See you next week.

How do you make an Essex girl smile on Monday?
Tell her a joke on Friday!

To the wimmin at no.18 - see you upstairs in the kitchen!

Hi to all the lads at no.11.

The Introweek '91 posse would lurve to thank all the stewards, group leaders, En tstech, crew, security, porters, Ally Fraggie Drivers, Nigel and the bar, Tony, Trevor, Verdie and Aoren in Print Shop, Stu, the Stude, Andy and Fiona. Thank you from all of us. Tim, Kirsti, Susannah, Jim, Ed, Tim, Claire, Fran, Helen, Paola, Sally, Shanks, oh and Morag Too!

Leeds Greenpeace support group meetings every 1st and 3rd Thursday, The Vic, George Street, 7:30; The Rising Sun, Kirkstall Road, 7:30 respectively.

NIGEL

GAY? LESBIAN? BISEXUAL? Feeling confused or isolated? Would you like to talk others who feel the same, in a friendly informal atmosphere? If so, ring Nighttime and ask about ICEBREAKERS. Icebreakers is discreet and confidential.

CATS! CLASSIC OPENING LINES OF OUR TIME NO.7:- "D'you wanna shag?"

RESPECT (What? to everyone who helped make Introweek such an undisputed abcess: especially to Kirsty, Susannah, Jim, Ed, Tim A, Claire, Paola, Sally, Helen, Fran, Morag, and Shanks. Never will such a band of nutters, reprobates and all-round GOOD EGGS grace the name of Introweek again. Big cheers also to Stu, Crew, Entstech too, stewards, bibble, glub. Make mine a lemon lozenge. Tim.

Alex you're wonderful! Come back soon. Love Jo and Carrie.

Hits of the 1980's comes to the Warehouse. Wednesday 16th October. 10p.m.- 2a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOVERBOY - Fancy a bit of Ostrich hunting this weekend?

Smile Amanda

Anyone who lost a purse on the Settle/Carlisle railway please goto Exec

Sorry Enda lost the message

It seems that we have actually completed a second week - much against my better judgement well we have made it to Thursday morning, beyond that it is out of my control. Thanks to the night owls, Dave and Steph, Kate for a bit of Roger Cook reporting, Daniel machine whizz-kid, Cath again for her thousand stories, Ceri, and Neil, what happened to it? I don't know, do you think anyone will notice. Roll on nervous collapse..

Any more Essex jokes and you will return to half a page of Sport

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Super Stude

This week Richard Fletcher packed up his clubs and took off for a round of golf.

After last weeks exploits exploring the world of Go Karting, I decided it was time for Superstude to try something a little more relaxing, so when the opportunity for a round of golf came up I grabbed at it. Equipped with Barbour jacket and hipflask I set off for Temple Newsam Golf course on the edge of Leeds, an easy bus ride from studentville. I arrived in high spirits, happy to be missing out on an hours torture with the most boring lecturer in Leeds. I made my first mistake as soon as I teed off, as my ball landed only halfway down the green in a clump of trees. As I strolled off looking for the ball

taking a swig of whisky from my hipflask, I decided it was time to take some advice from my companion. Using a 'wedge' I finally managed to 'move' my ball onto the green, by which time I was already four strokes behind my companion.

Now, putting looks pretty easy when you are watching someone else do it, but as I learnt to my cost it requires skill, patience, and a light but strong touch.

On arrival at the second hole, I was already seven strokes behind. I teed off a little more skillfully and managed to get my ball a third of the way down the fairway. After a few more strokes I even managed to make a half decent putt. I was beginning to pick up the tricks of the sport - keeping my eye on the ball, knees bent, keeping the left arm straight, then a flick of the wrist as the clubhead makes contact with the ball - all this and still the ball went hurtling off to my left.

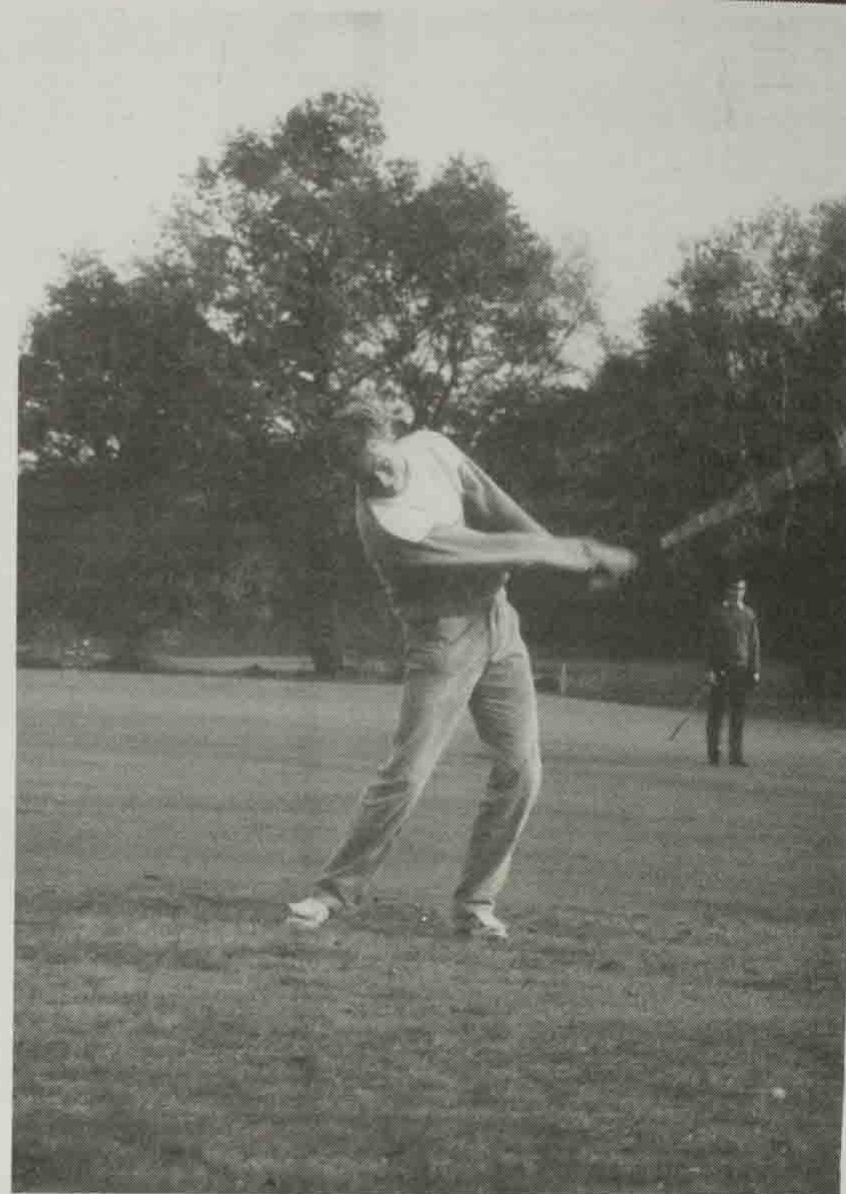
Its not that I am lazy, but it seems to me that golf does involve a huge amount of walking, not only this but you also have to drag a set of clubs about with you. Describing golf as an interrupted hike seems a fairly accurate assessment, though I do now understand why presidents rush around in golf buggys.

The first few holes proved to be the easiest of the whole course, and after a while I found myself standing at the bottom of a rather steep hill, faced with the task of getting the ball up the hill and over to the left. After a quick burst of good fortune I found another shot landing me in a bunker. I never really liked sandpits as a child,

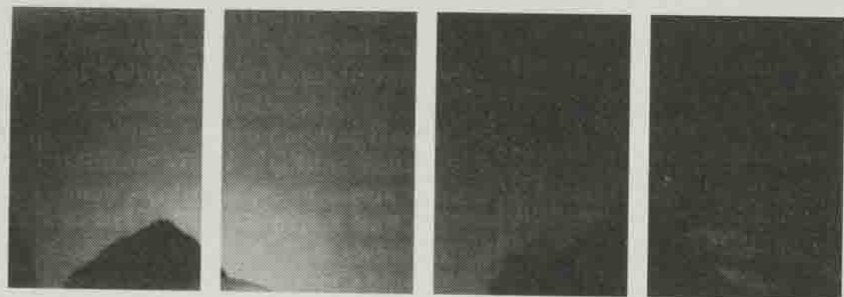
and I definitely don't like sandbunkers as an adult. After some rather strong expletives and a 'few' strokes I finally managed to get the ball back on the green.

Golf seems often to be connected either with rich company bosses landing a few deals on the course on a Saturday morning, or with mega stars such as Terry Wogan, Jimmy Tarbuck and the like. However, golf is a popular sport among students, and the cost to play not as extortionate as one might fear. The Polytechnic has its own golf club, and there are many private and municipal courses in and around Leeds, always eager to welcome new players. If however you don't actually want to join a club but just fancy knocking a ball around, they can generally hire equipment required by a first-timer on the course like me, for a pretty reasonable sum. Certainly all that trekking around after the ball and swiping at a sand pit must be a good way to keep fit.

Now for those of you who have never played golf before, a round of golf can last up to four hours, and golf courses can also be bloody cold, so go well prepared with lots of spare clothing. With a bit of effort you never know, you too may end up getting quite a liking for thrashing a tiny ball round an enormous field in the perishing cold.



Teeing off a treat



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KPMG Peat Marwick

In Brief

Underdogs
bite backLeeds Utd 4 Sheffield
Utd 3

It all seemed so easy in the first half as goals by Steve Hodge and then Mel Sterland left it at 3-0 at half-time. When Hodge added another, two minutes into the second half the result seemed cut and dried.

However in the second half Leeds seemed to take a collective break from concentration.

Sheffield must have thought they had a chance when Hoyland rose unchallenged to head in Whitehouse's cross. They must have thought that chance had grown when Shutt attempted a forty-yard back pass which Agana intercepted and finished off easily. With seven minutes left the panic finally reached Leeds keeper Lukic as he punched a clearance, which was never his, and the ball fell to Bradshaw who shot into the now unguarded net.

The final seven minutes saw Sheffield continue to press forward but Leeds managed to hang on for the points. Sheffield United are not a good team at all and have been played off the park by a number of teams this year, but it was Leeds who were the more relieved when the game finished. Leeds had problems in the second half just to get the ball out of their penalty area; it was not the stuff of champions. The return of Gordon Strachan from injury cannot come soon enough.

Sports Injury
Clinic

The Polytechnic sports injury clinic is now open Tuesdays to Thursdays, in the main site gym. If you have any incurred any injury while taking part in sport come along and see the Doctor. To make an appointment phone 430171. A £2 charge is made to cover bandages etc.

Football
Crazy

The Polytechnic Womens Football Team are currently on the lookout for new players. If you're interested in getting involved call Claire on 754271.

Riding the rapids

Spending the summer canoeing down previously uncharted water, in temperatures just above freezing, may not appeal to everyone. But for Paul Mackenzie a member of Leeds Polytechnic Canoe Club, it was the climax of months of preparations.

"It was back in February 1991 that I was invited to join a four man British team on a major Kayaking expedition in the Indian Himalayas. The main aim of the expedition was to evaluate the commercial rafting potential for the Indian Governments Tourists Department.

In the following months much research was undertaken to find out as much as possible about the area. Including water levels, day and night temperatures and rainfall. Other tasks included obtaining all the necessary equipment to tackle the rivers and then arranging transportation of it to India (this included the 3.5 metre Kayaks).

The planned descent was of the Tsarap River and then the Zanskar Gorge, in the Ladakh Region. The journey had never been attempted before so exactly what lay in store was unknown. Few inhabitants were expected along the length of the river so we had to be completely self sufficient. Each Kayak had to be packed with sleeping bag, small tent, dehydrated food, warm clothing and a proportion of the communal equipment such as, stove, fuel and cooking pots etc.

After five days of travelling and acclimatisation we arrived at the river's source. Before us lay 250 miles of unknown white water. Equipped with wet suits and special Sub zero thermal clothing the group set off for the first day canoeing. Each kayak weighed 60 kg when fully loaded, and such weight made them difficult to paddle and manoeuvre. The river was icy cold and dropped steeply and continuously. Our progress was slow as the lack of oxygen in the air made every stroke an extreme effort. After two hours we came to an ominous looking constriction. The 30 feet wide river was forced



On the crest of the waves

around a corner and through a 10 foot wide vertical sided canyon. Two of the team with rock climbing skills, climbed up the gorge wall and decided that from what they could see, it would be okay, although they could not see the end of the canyon. Once committed the only way down was the river. We all paddled cautiously, and fortunately after a few miles the sides opened up again allowing us to stop and make camp for the night on a shingle bank.

The barren landscape supported little vegetation so cooking on wood fires was not possible. A basic meal of rice and tuna fish was on the menu the first night. A slight variation was to substitute corned beef for the tuna. On the third day we came to a very

small settlement where all the inhabitants were working in the well irrigated fields, harvesting their crops. On our arrival they stopped working and invited us in to their two storey mud and straw hut for salt tea - we supplied the biscuits. After a short time we left them to get back to the harvesting, with only an incredibly short summer, no time could be wasted.

By the fourth day we had dropped sufficient altitude to make breathing easier, we had also become used to

paddling the boats. A routine of how best to pack and unpack the kayaks had been established so that all the equipment would stay dry and the boat would be balanced.

Each day we paddled for between three and five hours. Although this is a relatively short time it required immense concentration and was physically demanding.

On the fifth day we came to a recent landslide, where the cliff and valley side had fallen into the water making it impassable. Our only option was to carry the fully laden kayaks about 150 metres up the side of the valley on very loose scree and rock slopes at about 60 degrees-very steep. Once we had hauled the boats up with the aid of ropes we had a narrow animal trail to follow along the river before

we could lower the boats back down to the water side. This took a lot of effort and time. Eventually back on the water below the land slide we moved off once more it had taken 24 hours to carry the kayaks a few kilometres.

Several tributaries had been joining the river and the volume had now doubled. This meant the flow was faster and the rapids were also bigger. It took seven days for us to reach the halfway stage, a village called Padum. We stopped here for two rest days and to resupply on

food and fuel. The river from Padum downwards was called the Zanskar gorge. We had successfully completed the first 100 miles, that had previously been uncanoeed, with 150 miles ahead of us. The next stage had been canoed and rafted on several occasions before, with varying degrees of success and failure. A raft had flipped, lost all their equipment and the occupants were rescued days later by helicopter. Our questions were was the water level different for them? Would it be easier or harder for us?

The next six days proved that Guy Baker was right when he described it as "Amongst the hardest white water in the world". The excitement continued for the full distance of the river, the rapids where long and at times frightening. Waves where up to four meters high, choosing the route down the river could only be done from the peaks of the waves, as in the troughs the only thing that could be seen was a vertical wall of water in front of you. Our group although close together, were unable to keep an eye on each other as they were rarely in sight, it was every man for himself.

When we arrived at the confluence of the river Indus our descent was completed. A few days paddling on the River Indus to mark the end of our trip. Then it was time to hit civilisation again, we hitched to a town called Leh, where we celebrated with a few beers and then the luxury of a hotel bed.

Our progress was slow as lack of oxygen in the air made every stroke an extreme effort.

Aerobics classes squeezed out

Richard Fletcher

The problem of limited space at the Polytechnic's City Site health and fitness suite was highlighted last week, when over 40 students were turned away from an evening aerobics class.

Vicky Malone, one of the students turned away said; "I've paid six pounds for a sports pass, why can't I use the facilities?". Ed White sports and recreation co-ordinator at the union, felt the problems experienced last Tuesday "may lead to some people ropping

out of the aerobics classes". Although the Polytechnic has adequate resources overall, the pressure of nearly 4000 extra students since 1986, has meant that problems often occur at City Site, particularly at peak times such as early evenings and lunch

times. One suggestion to relieve the pressure on the health and fitness suite has been that the Polytechnic's city site Ents hall could be used for recreational and club use. However this would involve the purchase of exercise mats, more cleaning and a great deal of organisation working around other events in the hall.

SPORT STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

FLYING START FOR LEEDS

Rugby League

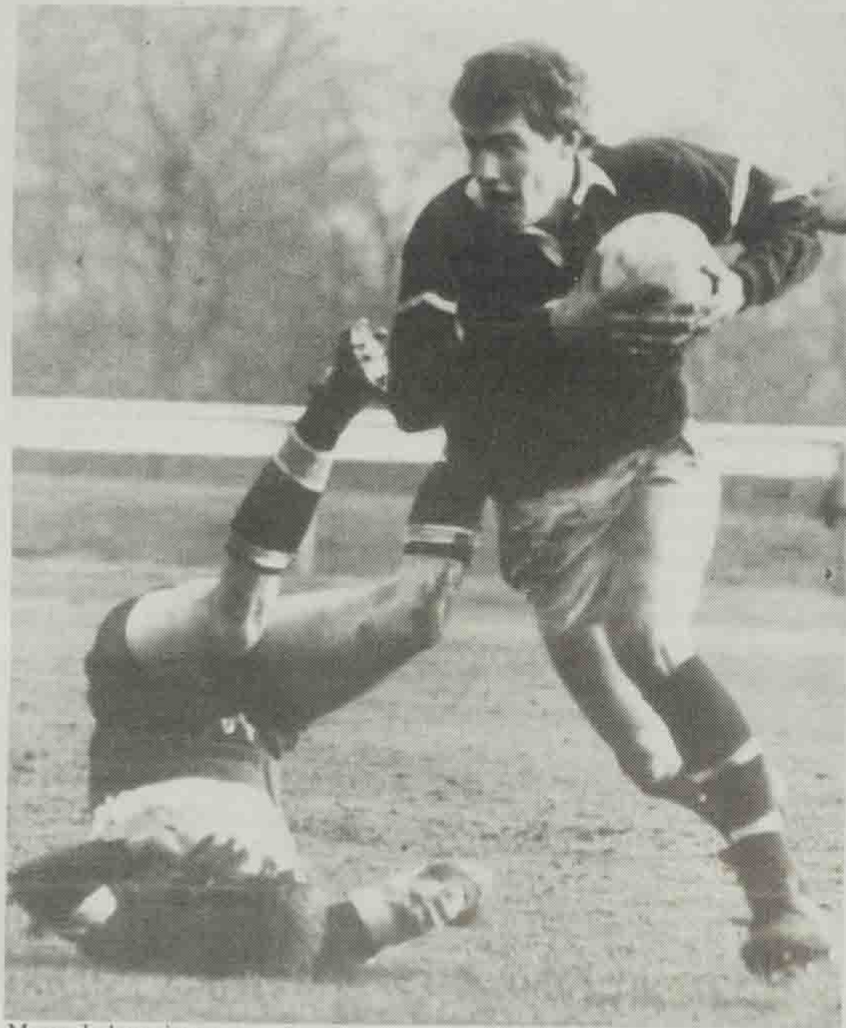
Andy Hinchcliffe

Leeds Polytechnic Rugby League Club started the season well with a promising first match against York University in the student merit league, last Sunday.

After a rather hesitant opening ten minutes the cogs of the Leeds Polytechnic machine rattled into motion. Knobi, one of nine Poly debutants, opened the scoring by sneaking in at the corner. The try was successfully converted by Angie.

Strong running by the centres led to tries for Hinchcliffe and Parry, whilst the packs superior speed, strength and vision overwhelmed the tiring, downhearted York forwards.

With a half-time score of 16-0, an incisive Leeds team seemed to be guaranteed a hatfull of tries. However an early penalty to York enabled them to work a converted try down the blindside.



Mercy dash to victory

Such slack defending did not please the Leeds captain Andy Hinchcliffe, who motivated his team to a rousing final thirty minutes.

Parry finished off an excellent try, after the ball had been passed through the whole team by stretching the York defence in every direction. The superb finishing and teamwork involved made this a contender for try of the season.

Smith, the acting half back scored another try after breaking through the weak University defence, followed by Cipriano, and Skordi.

There was accurate goal scoring by Angie converting 5 of the 7 tries, though he may have a problem with fitness, and at his present level, looks unlikely to last the season without injury.

After the match Leeds Poly veteran Jamie Hassard said, "It's a promising start to the season". Club Captain, Andy Hinchcliffe said he now believed Leeds Polytechnic did have a good chance of winning the league this year.

The final score at the end of the day was Leeds Polytechnic 38 York University 6.



The defeat of Wales at the hands of Western Samoa was the unhappy and brutal climax of three years of decline in the standards of Welsh rugby. Sundays game contrasted deeply with the atmosphere at Cardiff Arms Park in the 1970s when the Welsh had dominated the southern hemisphere winning three grand slams and five triple crowns, the Welsh could quite rightly be the proudest rugby nation in the world.

As any Welshman will tell you more was at stake on Sunday than the rugby world cup. A front page leader column in Wales on Sunday claimed that 15 men "carry the hopes of a nation today" and continued "first Neil Kinnock was derided for being Welsh. Enough is enough, it is time we replied in the way we know best - on the rugby field."

In my opinion Wales was extremely unlucky. Not only did they lose May half way through the first half, but they were also on the wrong end of a rather dubious decision by referee Patrick Robin when he awarded a try to Samoa shortly into the second half.

Before we ring the final toll for Welsh rugby, lets take a look at the opposition the Welsh faced. Not only have Western Samoa maintained an unbeaten record since 1989, but 12 of yesterdays team were trained in New Zealand, leading to claims that the All Blacks have two teams in this world cup, one wearing the blue of Western Samoa.

Although I can't see Wales walking off with this years Grand Slam it is still a bit premature to start writing the epitaph of Welsh rugby.

Richard Fletcher

SHAMEN...CURE..HAPPYMONDAYS..DYLANS...KLF.

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Union Extension or upstairs in the Polytechnic
Union and have a chat with Richard and Chris.

DICKS TIPS

Not only did Generous defeat Non Sunday teach a large number of punters, that there is no such thing as a dead cert, it also gave British punters an insight into what Sunday racing would be like. Although the bookies were not allowed to open, British punters were able to sit in front of the box..

However before The Terrible Tipster raises your hopes I must remind you that with a large contingent of half dead bishops still residing in the House of Lords the necessary legislation is still a long way off.

All this talk of bishops reminds me of an incident last year when William Hill opened a book on who would replace Robert Runcie as Archbishop of Canterbury. At first the book

went well with a reasonable level of bets on the favourites. However a few hours before the announcement was to be made, there was a huge rush of extremely large bets on the outsider George Carey, who was backed down from 20-1 too 2-1 favourite. The next day the papers were full of stories of betting bishops and new steeplejacks in the Diocese of Bath, although Carey insisted that he and his family hadn't leaked the news.

Rumour has it that it was not in fact "betting bishops" who had made a killing, but a large number of hacks. The Church of England had sent an embargoed press release hours before the announcement was made, and a number of hacks rushed down to the bookies and placed their bets on Carey.

This weeks tip runs at 2.45 at York on Saturday. Virkon Venture looks like a good bet.

Richard Fletcher & Nick Horn

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