

LEEDS STUDENT OUTRAGE

PREGNANT STUDENT FORCED TO DRIVE FIVE HUNDRED MILES AFTER UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE REFUSES TO SIGN ABORTION FORM

A pregnant student seeking an abortion was forced to drive to London while suffering from morning sickness. She undertook the journey to get her home GP's consent to the termination after Leeds University Health Service turned her away. And the angry student has now slammed the insensitivity of the doctors concerned.

The woman, who wishes to remain anonymous, had arranged an abortion with a Leeds doctor. However, it is mandatory for two doctors to sign a consent form, known as the blue form, for the abortion to be legal.

The student approached the

Health Service for consultation. "They wished me luck and assured me that they did not have to sign anything," she said. "They even advised me to come back to discuss contraception."

The woman went to a private hospital in Ilkley. The abortionist there provided one signature on the form, but she needed a second from her GP.

She went to the Health Service, seeking the second signature but was treated by the receptionist with: "about as much subtlety and sympathy as a sledge hammer."

The receptionist contacted a succession of doctors, all of whom refused to sign the form.

By Rosa Prince
& Tim Gallagher

Two female doctors declined on moral grounds, while another refused because he did not wish to: "tarnish his reputation."

The student, who was seven weeks pregnant, was told by the receptionist that they could not guarantee the form would be signed by the date of the abortion.

The student was forced to drive to London to get her home GP's signature. She said: "I was in no condition to travel 500 miles. I was throwing up from morning sickness all the way down the M1."

Dr Ian Fraser, spokesperson for the Health Service said: "Every doctor has their own policy on this, and is allowed to refuse a termination."

Fraser explained that abortion is not available on demand in Britain, and that Leeds in particular had a problem with supplying abortions. Only 17% of women in Leeds who requested a termination received it on the NHS last year. Most students who approach the Health Service are told this, and referred to a private clinic, usually the Mary Stopes clinic in Leeds.

"The Mary Stopes clinic has two doctors in residence who will sign the forms, and we

never have to deal with them," Fraser said. "We are not used to signing these forms ourselves."

This came as little consolation to the student: "I don't care what the usual policy is, it's no justification for the inconsiderate way in which I was treated."

Liz Rouse, Women's Officer at LUU deplored the Health Service's lack of tact and support. She said: "It's absolutely outrageous. They're supposed to support students. Women in this situation don't need such ham-fisted indelicate treatment."

The Union cannot force the Health Service to abide by its pro-choice policy as it does not

come under Union authority. However they can lobby them to change their approach.

The woman continues to be outraged at her treatment. "I feel belittled. I was treated with no sympathy and made to feel like I was in the wrong for something that wasn't my fault."

She feels that doctors in a university practice should appreciate the special needs of students. "The University Health Service should come out of the dark ages and take more care and concern of their patients," she said.

She added: "If it wasn't for support of my boyfriend and my family, I don't know how I would have got through this."

Government cuts student grant by 10 per-cent

The Government dealt students yet another blow this week with the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, announcing a cut in the student maintenance grant. The 10 per cent cut to the grant, announced in Tuesday's Budget, will be repeated over the next three years, with an equivalent rise in student loans to compensate.

The student community in Leeds has reacted angrily to the move which they believe will increase student hardship and will deter students from entering higher education.

Bill Howe, Welfare Co-

By Helen Crossley

ordinator at LMUSU, said that he was absolutely appalled at the news and that he envisages a two tier system of those who can finance themselves and those who cannot.

Ceri Nursaw, LUU Welfare Officer, described Kenneth Clarke's Budget as: "crap" and envisaged a situation of greater student hardship. Already she sees many students who are forced to drop out simply because they can't afford to carry on and she believes this number will rise.

She said: "Students are being forced to take out student loans so that they are even more in debt when they leave university and can't get a job."

Lorna Fitzsimons, NUS President, said: "Students simply cannot afford to bear any more debt. The acceleration in the decline of the grant and the growth of the student loan will only increase student debt and hardship. Forcing Government sponsored debt on to students already experiencing financial difficulties is a travesty."

Statistics show that more than a third of students are

having to defer loan repayments to the government-owned company, a reflection of the increasing problem of graduate unemployment. John Patten, the Education Secretary, described the Government's wish to distribute the cost of higher education more fairly and reduce the burden on the taxpayer, yet in fact, the Students Loan Company has admitted that the scheme is unlikely to break even this century and has so far cost the taxpayer more than £500 million.

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Kenneth Clarke

"Govt are purposely targeting students": Full report on page 3



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Dancing banned at LUU

By Alan Gardner

Members of the Music Society at the University of Leeds were frustrated when they turned up at a disco in the Union building only to find that dancing had been banned for the night.

The event had been organised on a Sunday evening rather than the usual Saturday because of difficulties with booking. However, when students arrived they were told they

could enjoy themselves as much as they liked as long as they didn't dance.

Society President Katherine Rushby said that no one had realised this before the event.

She said: "We assumed a party on Sunday night would be the same as Saturday, but when our Social Secretary went to book a DJ she was told she couldn't have one because

dancing wasn't allowed.

"I just told everyone we weren't allowed to dance and they were very good, but I don't know what I would have done if people had started to dance," she continued.

Union Ents manager Bill Marshall said: "We do not have a general entertainments licence for a Sunday evening so it does not cover dancing. Basically we do not usually book anything for a Sunday night."

Doing the country proud

A third year economics student at Leeds University has been selected to play hockey for Great Britain, writes Gemma Wallace.

Squad selectors were impressed by Simon Mason's goalkeeping performances during this summer's Junior World Cup, and his seven year devotion to the game in Britain's National Leagues.

Simon modestly says that he never expected to be picked for the Great Britain squad and admitted to leaping around the room when he first heard the news.

He said: "I still feel completely elated, I haven't stopped grinning yet."

Simon has been playing hockey since he was twelve and is no stranger to national and international games, having travelled the world with the many junior league squads he has played for.

His first international tournament with his new team comes in early 1994 when the British team will set out for Spain. This will be followed by a tour of Pakistan.

To prepare for the tours



Simon Mason

Plc: Ed Crispen

Simon will attend vigorous training days all over Britain with his teammates. In the meantime daily training and fitness sessions will keep him busy. In between he will try to squeeze in some work for his finals and catch up with the

many other sports he enjoys.

Having reached the pinnacle of his sporting career so far, Simon's future plans involve helping his new team qualify for the Olympic Games where he will no doubt enjoy even more success.

Disabled lift out of order

By Charlotte Lomas

The lift for disabled students at Leeds University Union has been in full working order for less than a week in total since its installation over a year ago.

The University's Disability Advisor, Terry Morton, claimed he had advised the union against the particular make of lift after a similar lift in another area of the campus

proved to be highly unreliable.

"I don't want to criticise anybody, but when they installed it I advised against it. It's the Union's responsibility to get it repaired. It should be in somebody's job description to

check the lift regularly."

Although there have been huge improvements in facilities for disabled students in the past five years, areas of the campus are still inaccessible to many students.

Welfare Secretary Ceri Nursaw said: "Basically I know that the lift is crap, but it was installed before I took up my year in office."

Massive demand for safety alarms

The demand for personal safety alarms at Leeds University Union has outstripped supply this year, and it is unclear where the money to fund more is to come from, writes Alison Wragg.

The Union have had to order 2,000 extra alarms on top of the 3,500 already distributed to first year female students.

Having distributed alarms to

every female student last year, it was expected that only new students would require them this time. However after problems with last year's alarms many second and third year students have been requesting the new "fault free" brand the union now stocks.

The University paid half of the £7,000 needed for the initial batch, and have again offered to

pay half. However, Women's Officer Liz Rouse says this is not enough: "Negotiations are currently taking place between myself and the University concerning further funding for the alarms. They are being very co-operative and understanding."

Rouse added: "I cannot turn students away just because they are not first years. Every student has a right to these alarms."

Exhibition success

Eleven Leeds Metropolitan University graduates last week displayed their talents at the Victoria Quarter Shopping Arcade in a futuristic Design exhibition, writes Nicola Woolcock. The innovative environment conscious projects were brought together by former student Jenny Hillier, under the heading: 'Convert: A Return to a Future Condition.' Bob Peacock, Subject Leader for Interior Design at LMU, praised the students: "The exhibition was very successful. A wide range of work was shown, including furniture, landscape, architecture and interior design projects."

Waite visit

Terry Waite was at Leeds University this week to give a public lecture and answer questions about his time in captivity, writes James Miller. Austicks Bookshops organised the event and sold signed copies of Waite's book, "Taken on Trust", which recounts his experience as a hostage in the Middle East. Waite gave a personal and moving account of the trials of his imprisonment to the audience in the Conference Auditorium.

Auditions

The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain are coming to Leeds to hold their annual auditions. The auditions will take place at the Yorkshire Playhouse in February, and all budding actors are invited. Applicants should write by Jan 31st with a SAE and a cheque for £6 to: Company Manager/National Youth Theatre of Great Britain, 443/445 Holloway RD, London.

Vinyl is dead

The record library at Leeds University Union needs help in blowing £1,000 on new compact disks, writes Nick Curtis-Raleigh. Tucked away above the Exec offices in the Union, the library opens every weekday lunchtime, and has stocks of pop, rock, jazz and classical - "Music to suit all tastes".

As the library has only a handful of CDs - and no tapes - the Union has donated a thousand pounds to buy more, and members are invited to suggest which classic tunes they can't do without. Recent acquisitions include Velvet Underground, M People, Meatloaf and The Wedding Present as well as Carcass and Take That. Membership of the record library costs £12 plus a £15 deposit, and entitles members to a discount at Way Ahead records.

All change at Refec

The Refectory in Leeds University Union looks set for a face-lift next summer, writes Helen Crossley. The current kitchen area of the refectory will be made into a servery with five or six different sections, offering a wider variety of food.

John Rose, LUU General Secretary, said: "There will be different modules offering a choice of foods, such as chinese food, pizzas and pasta, and vegetarian food will be available within all these categories. We hope this will provide students with a quicker service and a greater choice than is currently on offer."

The refurbishment will also incorporate a larger fast food section which will face onto the main hall. The hall itself will be split up into smaller areas by moveable barriers which can be removed to cater for concerts and other events. Designs are expected to be finalised within the next few weeks and work would be carried out through the summer.

Good vibration

Women who ordered goodies from Leeds University Union's recent Ann Summers party can now pick up their purchases, writes Rob Murphy.

Despite a high turnout at the party, only a few orders were placed. Even the confidential Argos-style catalogue ordering did not inspire many of the party-goers to partake.

"Some of the lingerie looked a bit painful, it seemed to disappear up every possible orifice," said Sara, a second year LUU student. The 20 per cent deposit may have been more of a repellent however.

Ceri Nursaw, Welfare Officer, said it was a shame that so few orders were placed. "10 per cent of the profits went to the Terence Higgins Trust and Leeds Daybreak," she said.

If you are one of the 15, your orders are ready to be picked up from Nursaw in Union Exec.

Right - On Xmas

An alternative Christmas fair will be held next Thursday, 9th December, at Leeds University Union. The fair will sell cruelty-free, fairly traded and ecology-friendly goods. Information will also be given about the issues behind each sale. The fair will be held from 10am to 4pm in Committee Rooms A and B in the Union.

Government cut in grant slammed

In the future, the British higher education system may be based on ability to pay, rather than on any academic abilities. In addition to fiddling around with economic terminology and figures in his Budget, Kenneth Clarke is also making changes which will affect people's lives on a daily basis. While the Chancellor of the Exchequer with his £65,000 salary revels in his latest pay rise, he is in a fine position to cut students' meagre income of £2,200 by 10%.

Elliot Reuben, Financial

Affairs Secretary at LUU, said: "When you consider that 10% of the student grant - around £220 - is approximately 20 weeks food money for the average student, you get some idea of the effect this cut will have in practical terms."

Both Leeds Student Unions are including the issue in their December 8th demo against student union reform.

The Welfare Co-ordinator at LMUSU, Bill Howe, is very concerned about the future of higher education under a Conservative Government. He explains: "I am very concerned

By Helen Crossley

that we are going to see no working class students at all in a few years time."

He added: "The Government are purposely targeting students. Students are already living below the poverty line and it is just not going to be possible for them to live without massive support from parents, increased debt or part-time work"

Dani Sayers, Second year LUU Communication Studies student, is just one of many

who will find their degree course increasingly difficult following the Government's latest attack on students. Dani, a mature student, is classed as having independent status, receiving no financial aid from her divorced parents, and gets a full grant.

Having left school at 16 and attended art college, Dani worked for five years before studying for an access course and entering university in a bid to further her career opportunities. She has calculated that by the time she graduates she will have debts

of over £2,000 and already these figures are affecting her future. She said: "I was hoping to travel after my degree course but now there is no chance of that. I will be forced straight into work to pay off my debts. I would love to do an MA, but without funding I just won't be able to afford it."

Dani, who is forced to take out a student loan each year, works eight hours a week and will have to stay in Leeds working throughout the holidays to supplement her grant.

But although it is sometimes

difficult to manage, Dani has never considered dropping out. She said: "I have fought so hard to get here, I'll complete my degree no matter what." She expressed concern that while the number of places in higher education is expanding, the number of people the places are open to is shrinking.

Dani added: "It is hard enough studying for a degree as it is, without having to think about money all the time. Being hard up makes you depressed and the announcement of the reduced grant certainly hasn't helped."

Bugger off chaps

A gay couple who were dancing together at the Leeds University Union Ballroom Dancing Society event last week were asked to leave by the instructor, writes Sam Rose

The instructor ordered them out, stopped the music and told them in front of 450 people: "This is not a Gay society. I refuse to continue with you in the room". The incident occurred during the University's Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week.

Robin Johns, secretary of the Ballroom Society, has since made excuses for the outburst: "The two men involved were drunk and lessening the enjoyment of others. The instructor was angry about this and he made the remark without really thinking about what he was saying".

Social Services Officer, Tim Goodall said: "The Ballroom Society should not be a straight or a gay society. It should include everyone and they should be able to dance with whoever they wish. There are many lesbians, gays and bisexuals in the society and they are not particularly happy about it."

Fuel demo fails to ignite

By Gareth Hughes

Students and pensioners joined forces last Tuesday to protest outside the Tory Headquarters in Leeds against the proposed VAT tax on fuel.

But the protest flopped as just five pensioners turned out. A handful of demonstrators from the Socialist Workers Party attended, with a couple of students amongst their ranks.

At first the protests were rather muted, with one elderly lady asking whether they had possibly come to the wrong place. But a few of the Socialist Workers protestors soon livened things up, with cheerful renditions of "We are the Tory Haters".

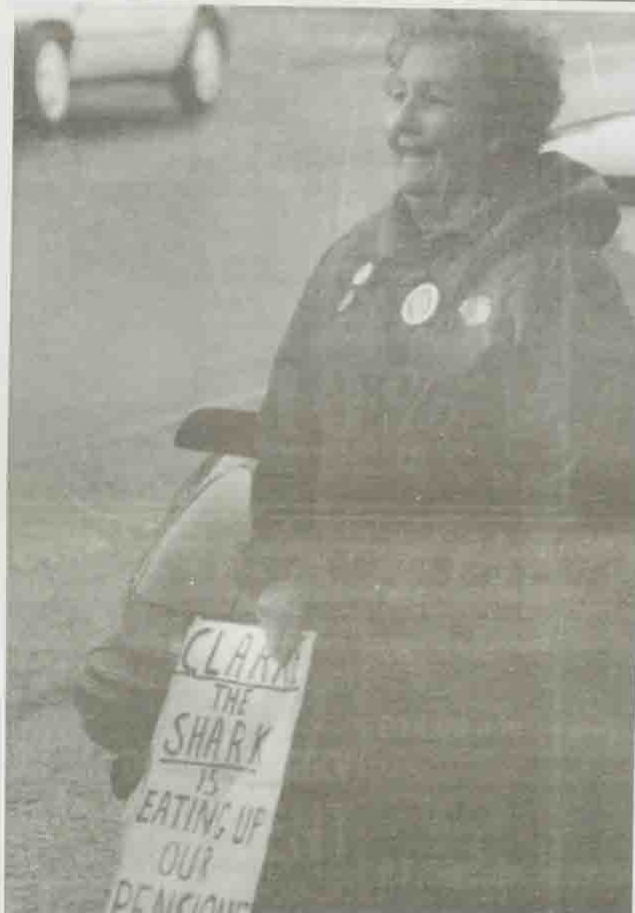
However, not all were so enthusiastic. One commented: "I really can't be arsed. I just want to go for a pint."

The whole event descended even further into tragedy-comedy when two large police vans turned up to quell the anticipated riot, and the bemused policewoman had to cancel a third one that was on its way.

George Stavro, a member of the Socialist Workers Party, admitted that the turnout by students was poor and said that he was disappointed because the proposed Bill affects students so directly.

"At the beginning of the 1980s, students used to get a half-decent grant, benefits in the holidays, and less crowded conditions," he said.

"Recently the government have taken away our benefits, made us borrow heavily to sustain our studies, and now they are taxing us more by putting VAT on our fuel bills. Students are already heavily in debt, and this is just going to make it worse."



A pensioner at the sparsely attended demo

Pic: Andy Riek

Abducted for cash

By Al Gardner

Two men who bundled a Leeds student into a car and forced him to hand over his bank card and PIN number before releasing him are being hunted by Police this week.

The 19-year old student was abducted as he walked along Shire Road, Headingley, and driven into Leeds city centre where he was forced to withdraw cash from his bank. He was then driven back to the Headingley area and made to surrender his card and PIN number before he was released near his home.

Police confirmed that several withdrawals were later made from the student's bank account after the incident late on Sunday night. They are looking for two white men in their early 20s, one with a thin moustache and the other with short dark hair.

Two female Leeds University students were attacked and mugged on Woodhouse Moor after leaving the Union Building on Sunday. The attackers were described as around 16, three were male, two female.

Rag gives Pugsy a helping hand

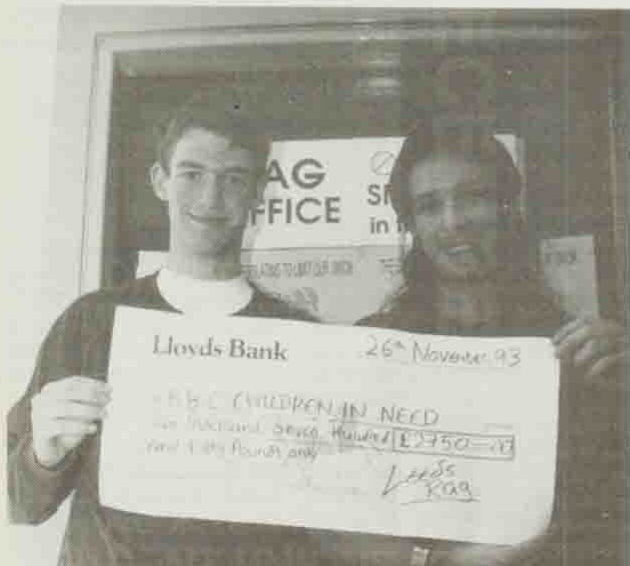
By Matt Roper

Leeds University Rag invaded Leeds town centre last Friday as they collected a record amount for Children in Need.

Fifteen students dressed as Robin the Boy Wonder, Minnie Mouse and clowns raised over £2,750 for the lucky kiddies.

The Rag crew presented their cheque to Children in Need just before the BBC broadcast at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, and were mentioned on TV by presenter Harry Gration.

Graham Buchanan Rag Raid Organiser said that the event had gone brilliantly: "The response from students was great, they gave the most money."



Rag brandish their cheque

Pic: Harriet Walker

Security patrols for Leeds 6

By Amelia Hill

A student at LMU is planning to organise a security group to patrol the area around Leeds 6. Fitzroy Jarman, who has worked for security groups in the past, sought support from the Leeds University Union Council and LMUSU Exec last week for the scheme.

He claimed that the scheme will go further than just a neighbourhood crime watch. Each household will pay a termly fee and areas will then be zoned off and patrolled for the most dangerous hours every night.

There will be three full-time employees and one part-time employee who will work a 42 hour week from 8pm to 2am every night of the week.

The employees will be trained professionals. "I don't believe in untrained vigilante groups," Jarman says. "Innocent people can get hurt in those sorts of situations." Although it is to be entirely funded by the students who take advantage of it, the scheme will be directly answerable to the local student unions.

As yet, the proposal put forward is still a rough framework, and more research is needed. Jarman admits he had decided that 8pm to 2am were the hours when most break-ins occurred only on the strength of speaking to a few people.

Chris Westwood, Admin Secretary at LUU, said: "I'm not sure whether 8pm to 2am are the most dangerous times for burglary. I've been burgled twice this term already and each time it happened at around 4 or 5 in the morning."

Aiming to improve his research, Jarman will circulate questionnaires around Leeds University and LMU before the end of term. He hopes these will reflect student opinion, and says that if students decide they need 24 hour protection, he will provide it.

One of the most important things to be decided is the cost of the proposal. As yet Jarman can only say that the scheme will be "budgeted towards students".

OFF CAMPUS

Evening Post

IFT

Trekies return

Prepare for blast off! Star Trek will be beaming into Leeds in the new year when the city hosts a sci-fi convention in honour of the timeless classic. But don't get your hopes up if you want to go, tickets for the event between January 28-30 have already sold out. There will be showings of the 60s show, and its spin-offs The Next Generation and Deep Space Nine, but the highlight of the convention is the fancy dress competition. So, if you see any Klingons on the starboard bow, never fear a Captain Kirk is sure to be close behind.

Cow and calf

A pregnant cow got into trouble when it decided to take a night-time dip in the outdoor swimming pool of a luxury home in the valley below the famous Ilkley Moor Cow and Calf landmark. The fire brigade were called in to act as pool lifesavers as the old cow struggled to keep her head above water. Using heavy ropes the fire officers managed to drag the cow out. A vet gave it the once over and it lived happily ever after in the field next door.

Crack police

A crack police squad making a swoop on a gang of suspected drug dealers had to be rescued by firemen when they got stuck in a lift. The six officers were armed with sledge hammers, rams and hydraulic door openers, but the lift was just too tough for them. And there they remained helpless.

Burglar benefit

A burglar felt sorry for a victim when he saw a bank statement which showed an £80 overdraft, so he left a pile of money and a note which said "Don't worry it's not my money anyway!" Now, if only the burglars in Leeds 6 were as generous as this, student life would be a breeze.

Granny grabber

Lincoln has been struck by a bizarre spate of bank robberies recently, carried out by a gang of senior citizens. Over £50,000 has been stolen so far by the geriatric gangsters. Police are baffled as to their identity. But all clues lead to the old folks home. One observer said: "It's because the pension just isn't enough to live on."

Compiled by Darren Behar

Counselling 'underfunded'

By Gareth Hughes

Staff and students have reacted with concern to claims this week that Leeds University Counselling Service, known as Mind Yourself, is underfunded and cannot cope with ever-increasing numbers of students at the University.

The current waiting time for anyone seeking help from Mind Yourself is two weeks, except in the most urgent cases.

And staff fear that this waiting time can prove a

deterrent to some students who might otherwise use the service.

However, Keith Bramall, Project Manager for Mind Yourself, rejected claims that the service cannot cope:

"We would like to see everyone immediately, and we're trying to reduce waiting times. We have done our best to get it down to two weeks, but can't employ any more counsellors without more money, so we are

constrained."

Bramall also pointed out that in the last academic year the waiting list rose in February to six weeks.

That time the University did eventually provide some more money. However Bramall claims that the same situation is likely to recur unless additional funds are made available now.

Mind Yourself is funded

directly by the University, and the Deputy Bursar, Mr. Burchill, admitted that they are concerned: "If funding stays at its present level, the waiting list is likely to get considerably longer. The people from Mind Yourself have been to see us about this, and it is something that we are looking into."

Last year, four per cent of Leeds University students received help from Mind Yourself, which contrasts with an average of six per cent of students that used

similar services at other universities nationwide.

James Benfield, a Second Year at Leeds University, said that he believed the waiting list was too long: "A counselling service should provide counselling when students need it, and not a few weeks later. That might be okay for those with long-term problems, but students who suffer from stress or depression should be helped right away, before the problem gets more serious."

Leeds Rag run riot in Gay Paris

Leeds Rag hitch-hikers hit the bright lights of Paris in style this week as more than 200 students invaded the French capital - and all in the name of charity.

Hitch Coordinator Rachel Flower said: "This has been the best hitch ever. I can't believe how many people made it to Paris. There were only a few places left on the coaches back."

However one group had to contend with more than the perils of the French weather when they were caught up in violent clashes between riot police and striking transport workers. Hitcher Sam Cox described the riot at the railway station Gare de Nord: "The whole station was lit up with red flares and there was loads of screaming and shouting."



12.10am: The adventurers set out on their intrepid excursion.

Pic: Ed

Two women harassed on Rag Paris hitch

The Leeds University Paris Hitch turned sour last week for two female students when they were harassed by a pair of French lorry drivers, writes Matthew Roper.

Cheren Patel and Lenn Carr, both first years at Leeds University, were hitching on the M4 trying to reach Dover, when they were approached by a driver.

Carr said: "At first we couldn't believe our luck, because had been trying to get

a lift for almost four hours. The guy offered to take us to Ramsgate and we were just happy to get out of the service station."

"At first everything was fine. But then he started talking on the radio to his friend. Our lorry driver seemed alright but some of his friend's comments were a bit dodgy."

"He kept on going on about how they had picked up a couple of 'crackers' and that he would show us a good time.

They said they would take us to France for free, put us up for free. Then he said that any money they spent on us they would get back tenfold."

"After he said that, I just wanted to get out of the cab straight away. At first I thought he wasn't going to stop, but then I said that we had to check in with the police in Dover and he let us out."

The girls admit that they had ignored Rag instructions not to hitch in an all-female

pair. They still resent the fact that because there were no emergency Rag contacts to talk to they did not get adequate advice or support after the incident.

However, Rag Officer Myles Bremner said: "It's an unfortunate incident. But we wrote to each hitcher twice, instructing them to hitch in a mixed pair. All the other Rag organisers are volunteers and it simply is not practical to have a 24 hour helpline in Leeds."

Crush Increases

The government has reached its target of one in three young people entering higher education - six years early, writes Nicholas Vysny.

The planned growth of 11 per cent in student numbers wasn't expected until the end of the century, making more acute the inherent problems of overcrowding in bars, sports facilities, teaching space and libraries.

Furthermore, the Treasury had only counted on a 7.3 per cent rise this year, and before this week's budget it had been made clear that funding for further growth is not a priority. Sixth formers applying for entry in September 1994 will face tougher competition for places as universities clamp down on intakes to cut costs.

Other measures the government will take to reduce expenditure include closer control over the amounts universities receive for each student, and limits imposed on fees.

The squeeze on government funding of higher education is further expected to increase pressure to charge students.

Tapping off at the Warehouse

Management at a popular Leeds night club were left fuming this week as a bizarre new trend among students - stealing beer taps - began to escalate, writes Sam Mountford. The practice is part of a craze spreading through Leeds' beer-addicted student population. However management at the Warehouse have decided that enough is enough.

A spokesman for the Warehouse said: "We ignored it the first time but it's become quite trendy. If they refuse to

pay for the damage we're definitely going to prosecute."

Current policy is to confiscate the culprits' union cards and pass them on to Leeds University's Security. However, the Warehouse management say that if the culprits then fail to pay the £30 cost for the beer tap, the matter will be passed on to the police. A spokesperson for University security said that it was a private matter between the club and the individuals concerned: "We don't really want to be seen to be taking sides."

The Funny Side



Vomit provokes attack

Three students from Leeds University claimed this week that they were physically threatened by four men with hockey sticks after they failed to pay their taxi fare, writes David Smith.

The first years, who wish to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals, claim that they were saved only by the police from "an absolute battering".

"I puked up in the taxi, and the driver said you've got to pay a £35 fine," said one student, who had got in the cab with his girlfriend and another male friend outside

the Music Factory. "We told him that we didn't have that kind of money, so he took us back to his depot."

"I tried to get out and the driver said 'Where the fuck do you think you're going?' and slammed the car door on my legs. He pushed a car jack in my face, then pushed me to the ground and tried to get my watch off."

"Three or four guys came out with baseball bats and hockey sticks and threatened to do us in. Luckily, the police just happened to come up on a routine patrol."

REFORM OF NUS



As Leeds reacts to the announcement of student union reform, Conservative MP's and former ministers have spoken of their opposition to John Patten's plans. **Sam Greenhill** describes the LUU fire alarm stunt last week, **Paul Greenough & Toby Wakely** look at the reaction nationally, **Gareth Hughes** outlines next week's demo and **Simon Greenhalsh** looks at criticism of the NUS campaign.

The much criticised NUS reform plans have met with opposition from MPs. Some even number from among the ranks of the Conservatives. Writing in the *Times Higher Education Supplement* Robert Jackson,

Tory MP for Wantage spoke out against the reforms. In the article he claimed that they were inconsistent with the Tory's own commitment to deregulation. "They are against freedom of expression," he said. Another Conservative,

Nigel Forman MP, a former junior minister for higher education questioned why the government had not followed the advice of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals. A consultation document was published in July, but

ministers would appear to have ignored the ensuing debate.

If the law is passed, Jackson believes that complicated legislation will ensue over what constitutes the core and non core activities of Student Unions.

He says the proposal that candidates for election to posts as Campus Union Officials should not stand on political platforms is wrong. "This attacks fundamental human rights, namely freedom of expression. In any case the

government appears to have overstepped the line in interfering with University matters.

He criticised the reforms as being: "fundamentally inconsistent with the idea of University independence"

The gospel according to Saint Elliot

A booming voice from above gave 1,000 disgruntled students an explanation for their chips getting cold.

As the bewildered masses gathered outside Leeds University Union, driven from the building by an arranged fire alarm, Elliot Reuben, Financial Affairs Secretary at Leeds University Union, emerged on the St. Peter's balcony. To the captive audience, he gave his papal address.

"We are sorry that your chips are getting cold," he began, "but there is a good reason. Last Tuesday the government published the Education Bill and the new rules will mean that things like RAG, Action and Leeds Student will have to close.

"RAG looks as though it will raise £70,000 for charity this year and Action has 40 worthwhile projects that we will lose.

"It will also mean an end to subsidised beer," he added. He said everyone should write to their MPs to protest, and then, responding to a shout from someone at the front of the



Pope Elliot Reuben addresses the masses at Leeds University Union, or is it St Peter's Square? Picture: Sam Greenhill

crowd, he digressed: "You will get back to your laundry in a minute. My chips are in there too."

Reuben talked for 10 minutes, then unfurled a banner that read: "Leeds University Union. Closed by Order HM Government." The

crowd, moaning "we're cold", stayed for the whole show, anxious to get back to their pints of beer and Refec food before anyone else did.

Reuben said later the stunt had received surprisingly good reactions. "I was expecting to get complaints but in fact the

only feedback I've had has been people asking 'What can I do to help?' I am amazed. Perhaps at last students are realising this is something we did for their benefit."

He urged everyone to attend the rally on Woodhouse Moor next Wednesday at 2pm.

NUS slammed by LUU

A motion proposing that Leeds University Union funds are: "better spent on our own interests" and resolving to withhold the next installment of affiliation fees to the NUS, was dropped from the OGM on Tuesday.

The proposer, Elliot Reuben, LUU Financial Secretary, claimed that NUS has failed to defend 'individual' Student Unions. However he withdrew the motion, after national press enquiries, because he believed that the proposal might be 'misinterpreted', and that the

'timing' of the motion was wrong.

Mark Hinman, chair of the Labour club, was more forthright in his criticism, believing it to be a "disgrace that the NUS executive has not responded to Government attacks".

Earlier in the inquest meeting, he had successfully gained the approval of the OGM for a demonstration march and rally through the centre of Leeds. However the proposal has to be ratified by Union Council, before it becomes union policy.

Leeds protest demo

In response to government plans to reform the NUS, West Yorkshire NUS has organised a march and rally.

The march, under the slogan: "Act Now or You Never Will Again", will take place from 2pm, and will be between Woodhouse Moor and LMU.

The march will be followed by a rally in the Ent's Hall of LMU. The organisers are hoping to attract thousands of students to the protest, and to encourage

more support there will also be live music, off-beat performers, and a guest appearance from the Grim Reaper.

Warwick Taylor, LMU President said that the aim will be: "to show a massive body of opposition to all government proposals concerning students."

Louise Brooks, an organiser said: "It's a direct response to attacks on student unions. It will be a big event. Bradford alone are sending 12 coaches."

Red balloons for AIDS

By Mark Lupton

To mark World AIDS day on Wednesday, students from Leeds University released hundreds of balloons. They aimed to raise awareness and serve as a reminder of the human cost of AIDS.

Although nearby trees and the need to inform air traffic control interfered with the flight, the release went largely to plan.

Each balloon released represented one of the 887 people who have died of AIDS in Britain the last year. The balloon launch was just one

aspect of an active campaign by LUU to keep students informed of the risks they face. Free condoms and red ribbons to show AIDS awareness were handed out to passing students.

Andy Copper, a Union representative, highlighted the need for more education: "AIDS is an issue which affects everyone. Some people mistakenly believe that it's just a gay issue, it's not. I want to draw attention to what is

fundamentally a universal problem.

The organisers were keen to point out that preaching to students is not the answer.

Safe sex, not celibacy, was the message from Copper: "Having unprotected casual sex with anyone makes as much sense as skipping blindfold through a well stocked minefield."

The two Leeds Universities managed to raise over £500 between them for AIDS charities Day Break and The Terrence Higgins Trust.



887 red balloons tralala

Pic: Ed Crispin

There are people who are proud to be British ?

Is it my imagination or is England a dirty, overcrowded, cold, class-ridden, screwed-up nation full of miserable uptight bastards?

Time and time again in the street, in pubs, around campus, you are greeted by some poofed individual on a mission to be maudlin.

They shift uneasily in their seats, they rarely look you in the eye and the lack of expression on their faces tells you they are indifferent

to what anyone is saying anyway.

And they are always busy. They have places to go and petty mindless things to do which they create to give an impression of having a full life.

I've been to Italy twice and Spain once. What strikes me about the people from both these countries is that they know how to live.

Our European friends have learnt that most of life's amusement and pleasure

Rupert Hamer on Friday



comes from our fellow human beings. And consequently they show a lively interest in everything that is human.

They make the British, with their aloofness, stiff upper lips, hang-ups about

sex and relationships and their rigid workman-like attitudes to life, look ridiculous.

The British will talk about anything - the weather, shopping, cars - as long as it is

not important or interesting.

We spend a good 70 years making polite conversation with each other before heading off to make more boring small talk with the big "G" and his harem of goody goody angels.

But perhaps this affliction we suffer from is not surprising. For years we have had to live with an absurd class system designed to make anyone who doesn't have a solid middle-class job and background feel

inferior.

We still have archaic institutions such as public schools, hell-bent on churning out stuck-up middle class nightmares.

And this obsession with wealth and status is just another way of expressing our lack of social skills.

There are people who are proud to be British. They are the proud members of the British National Party. Case closed.

No sex please we're Barbier

Dear Editor,

Your article "No porn at Bodington" was of interest to me for certain inaccuracies.

The satellite TV system mentioned is also owned by the adjoining House Barbier. The President of Mortain decided to get all channels, including the porn channel, which was requested by many of the males in her house.

Most Barbier residents were against the porn channel for several reasons. Many said they would be offended by the channel, particularly because their money would fund it. Secondly, it was thought that it would only be watched by a few "sexually frustrated people who had been to a club and failed to pull" and since the novelty of watching it after a drunken evening would wear off it would not be worth the money. There was also the fear that undesirables from the community at Bodington would

try to get into the house to ogle over the programmes shown.

In a joint House meeting a vote was taken. Five of Mortain and all but one of Barbier were against the porn channel, the rest were for it. However the claim in your article that a decision to subscribe was made in a full House meeting was most untrue. Approximately thirty people from Mortain turned up, half of which initially said they didn't care either way, whereas 50 Barbier residents voted against the proposal.

A resident of Barbier afterwards described Mortain as "sexually frustrated voyeurs who couldn't meet a temporary companion in massage parlour", and added that "Mortain men must be so unsuccessful in finding female companions that they need other forms of sexual release".

This aside, it's not a matter of a "self appointed moral guardian," but of democratic

rights. Well, where is the democracy when Mortain House went ahead and tried to get the channel despite the overall majority of all the owners of the satellite system being against its acquisition?

Yours less frustratedly,
A concerned male resident of
Barbier House.

Editors reply: Our reporting of the story was accurate, and I reject your criticism. As for your remark about other forms of sexual release, the saying "99% of men are wankers and the other 1% liars" springs to mind.

Dear Editor,

Having read the article "No porn at Bodington" in last week's Leeds Student, I was both surprised and amused. It would appear that although students in Bodington are old enough to vote and decide the future of the country, they are not old enough

to what is good or bad for their own futures.

Having been a student at Bodington for a number of years the situation that has arisen is surprising, considering that many of the students take part in consenting sex on a regular basis. Most parents are not that naive that they do not know or at least guess what their children get up to.

The "self-appointed moral guardians" of Bodington are objecting to the Adult Channel when channels such as The Movie Channel (which they are allowed) show films like 'Basic Instinct' and 'Henry and June'. If anyone has seen the latter they will see why I am puzzled as to why the authorities in Bodington have a problem. It would seem yet again that the university is taking the politically correct view.

Whatever happened to freedom of their choice to the adult community in this country?

Yours,
Julian Osborne.

The rights of the hunter- a student speaks out

Dear Editor

As a student hunt supporter I was delighted to hear of the oncoming Criminal Justice Bill.

At last, good news for

hunters! Contrary to the evident opinion of many people today, there is still a large and very active group of people who support "blood sports".

We choose to call them

"field sports". This use of language demonstrates not our ignorance, but our intentions. We are there to enjoy the countryside which, otherwise, may not be open to us.

We are also not all Lord, Lady, Sir or Major. Many of us are ordinary working or middle class people. We are intelligent and caring, not bloodthirsty and brain-dead as the hunt sabs would have you believe.

As for the hunt sabs who claim to be there to prevent cruelty to animals I have one thing to say: Rubbish! Close friends of mine have seen such sabs calling hounds on to a busy main road in order to get them run over. An exercise that proved to be fatally successful. Very humane - I think not.

Obviously the sabs will not disappear, but I am glad that we hunters are not about to be banished into the history books.

Yours sincerely,

First year
Leeds University student.

DEMONSTRATION AND RALLY

OTHER ATTRACTIONS:

COMEDIAN
LIVE MUSIC
THE GRIM REAPER
SPEAKERS
OFFBEAT PERFORMERS
HOT SOUP
JUGGLERS
AND MORE BESIDES...

YOUR STUDENT UNION IS...

UNDER
THREAT

WEST YORKSHIRE AREA N.U.S. MEET 2PM, WOODHOUSE MOOR
SAVE OUR STUDENT UNIONS MARCH TO LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNI.

LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

THE DIARY

To Leeds University Union, last Friday lunchtime - where LUU Exec locked out over a thousand students - in order for Elliot Reuben to address the masses. Intrigued by this novel stunt, the *Diary* attempted to find LUU's leader John 'aren't I beautiful' Rose. However, rather like the generals in the First World War, John was in fact in Edinburgh. Having ordered his troops to march onwards, John made a swift exit to a very important UAU meeting - along with his girlfriend 'Fluffy'.

To the Riley Smith Hall, where Theatre Group has been busy preparing for their latest production, *Wiz*. As well as managing to put on the production, Theatre Group also managed to find a use for feedback, Leeds University Unions weekly freesheet. Unable to persuade anyone to pick the freesheet up, Mark Walton Communications Sec at LUU, decided to put the thousand of surplus copies to good use - as paper mashie for the productions set.

To LUU executive offices where exec have just awarded themselves a "small" Christmas bonus. Whilst most members are saving their

"small" bonus for a rainy day, Elliot Reuben, Financial Affairs Sec, is wasting no time in spending his. His off to Amsterdam this weekend. Apparently his bonus is paying for his first smoke.

To the Brotherton library where a regular informant for the *Diary* spots a rather stressed young fellow playing with himself. Concerned he approaches a librarian, who seems completely unruffled. Apparently she tells him "it is not uncommon and as exam time gets ever nearer, more and more male students seek a release to the ever mounting pressures."



Isn't she a stunner

The *Diary* was surprised to see Lorna Fitzsimons looking so smart on her many TV appearances last Tuesday. But then apparently she is sponsored by Next - life's nice for some hey.

The Editor
Leeds Student
Leeds University Union
P.O Box 157
Leeds LS1 1UH

Letters should be addressed to the Editor and clearly marked for publication. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters, which should be no longer than 300 words. The deadline for letters is the Tuesday preceding publication.

The Govt's ever more depressing education policies

The cutting of the student grant by 10 per cent in last Tuesday's Budget will have a huge impact on all prospective students, as well as the current population nationwide.

Not content with freezing the grant since 1990, and the introduction of student loans, the Government's abandonment of free education threatens the very existence of the meritocratic academic system.

Up until now students have been able to go to University because they were

academically able, regardless of their social background. Although social class and wealth have never been replaced as the prime determinants of University entry, those from less advantaged backgrounds have been offered at least a chance of further study by the student grant.

Now with the new Tory cuts, this opportunity for an equal chance has been removed. Only people who can afford to go to University will go, and they will cease to be centres of learning, becoming just another stage in life for the 'haves' in this world.

LEEDS STUDENT

Wealth will ultimately become the main determinant of entry, as universities become full of rich but unintelligent people.

The losers must be the children of the working-class. Even if they get to university, their studies will inevitably be hit by poverty. Lacking the security that a well-off parent waiting to bail them out,

provides and being forced into part time jobs.

Of course the Government says that it will increase student loans to make up for the shortfall in the grant. But even now, with a barely adequate grant, the average student finishes their studies with a debt running into thousands.

With the current economic situation, this debt is far more

critical as students can no longer just walk into jobs. Many who would have applied before, will now be more reluctant, being unwilling to saddle themselves with this debt.

For existing students, the grant as it stands is not enough, and with its decrease will lead to a decline in living conditions, which are already pretty bad for a substantial minority. This will be reflected in their academic work. Many more will have to drop out of their courses.

All this of course conflicts with John Major's vision of a

classless Britain. What it will do is increase the social divide further, by cutting off one of the few places through which people may advance their social position.

This, together with the plans for NUS reform, must make every person with the academic ability, and not just the financial clout, to get to university despair at the policies of the present Government.

These are indeed depressing days for those of us in Higher Education.

Freedom of choice?

SPOTLIGHT

After a Leeds University student was this week refused an abortion, David Smith looks at the Union's effort to give back women's right to choose.

"Guilt, fear, resentment, frustration, a feeling of oppression from the family and a sense of being let down," are the emotions Reverend Dr Simon Robinson, Senior Anglican Chaplain at Leeds University, identifies in the pregnant students who come to him for counselling.

The decision to abort a pregnancy is one of the most difficult and soul searching a woman will ever have to make. For students living in poor accommodation with growing problems of debt, the dilemma can become genuinely traumatic.

While academics and professionals debate the moral issues behind the abortion question, society in general, and the National Health Service in particular, are guilty of failing the increasing number of female students who face this situation.

In Leeds this year just 260 women will be allowed to have an abortion on the NHS, less than a fifth of those in need of treatment.

"The NHS waiting lists are appallingly long," says Liz Rouse, Leeds University Union Women's Officer. "I believe that abortion should be available on demand. It's part of individual freedom."

Not only are waiting lists

longer than ever, but doctors often prove unwilling to agree to give permission for the operation - as has been highlighted this week.

Reverend Robinson is critical of the NHS: "Women are quickly made to feel powerless. The NHS is very mechanical, simply pushing them through the process, failing to encourage counselling of any kind."

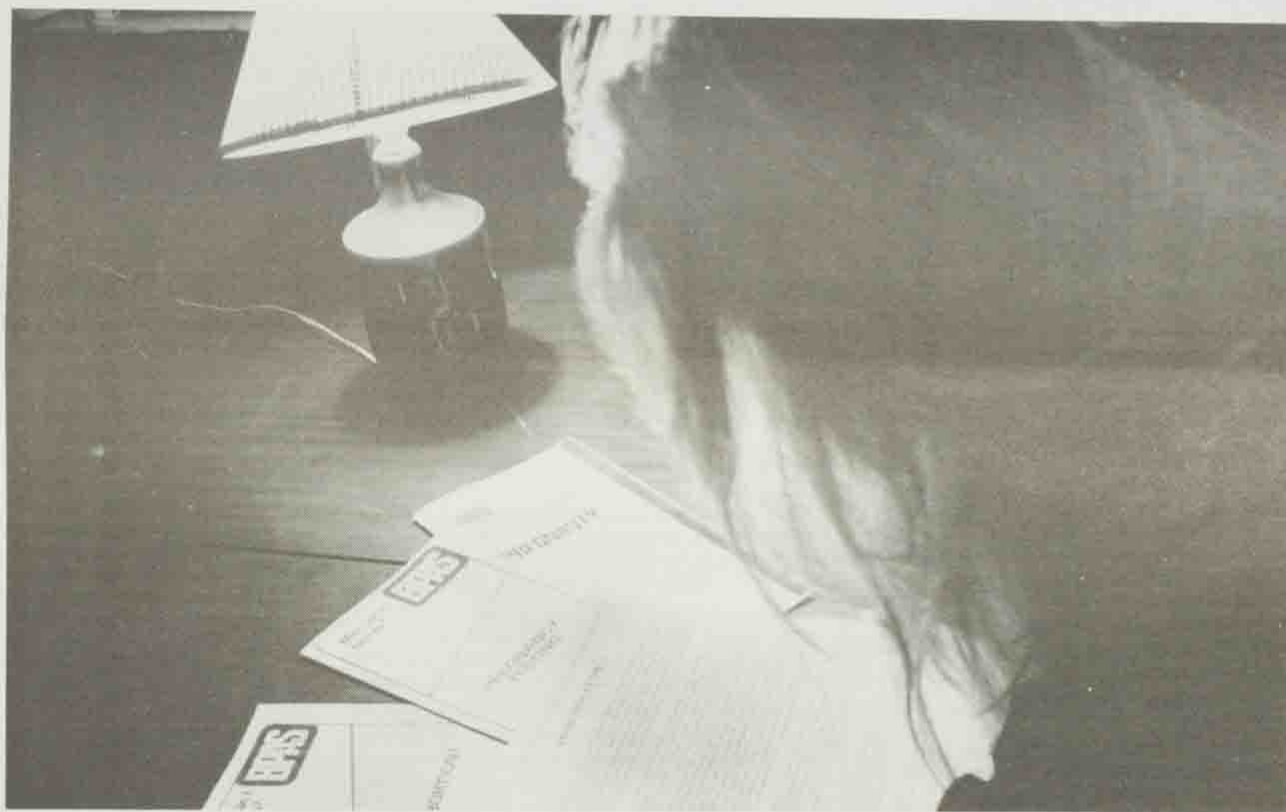
Some 83 per cent of women in the city are forced to take the only alternative - private health care - which at a cost of at least £195 is often beyond the means of most students.

To combat the problem, Leeds University Union offers a free service for students experiencing pregnancy. Liz Rouse says: "I'm here to be the first port of call. People can come to me and talk through the options that are open to them."

"Obviously people are going to be scared to come forward and speak to a stranger. But I'm an ex-student myself, and I'm certainly not here to pass judgement on people."

LUU's Abortion Fund seeks to arrange appointments at private clinics. A woman's case is presented to an independent panel which decides whether to loan or grant money, according to her situation.

But at Leeds Metropolitan



Abortion, a difficult and lonely choice

Pic: Ed Crispen

University there is no similar provision. "It would be nice to have our own fund, but it is very difficult in the present financial situation," says Sally Barnett, the Women's Officer. "The problem has not arisen as far as I am aware, but if a student did come to us we would try to find the money from somewhere."

The financial cost to Leeds University Union is unclear. Liz Rouse is unwilling to disclose how many students have used the Fund, although in the space of just one term last year more than £1,200 was used to pay for private abortions.

Putting such a service into practise has not been free of difficulties. In March 1992 an

Executive officer revealed the identity of one female student, despite LUU's promise of anonymity. The then Financial Affairs Secretary, Permjit Valia, guessed the identity of the woman, whom he knew, and informed one of her friends.

An expression of no confidence was duly moved against Valia, and LUU's procedures have since been changed.

Controversy also surrounded the creation of the Abortion Fund itself in 1991. Initially put forward by Exec only, an outcry forced the proposal to be debated at an OGM, where it was defeated. But then, in an unprecedented constitutional twist, more

than one thousand students overturned the decision at a Special General Meeting.

LUU Christian Union, traditionally pro-life, objected to the existence of that Fund without an equivalent one for students who decide to go through with childbirth. "We made a fuss at the time," says Carol Rennie, a member of the society, "it's not fair to have one without the other."

In response the New Baby Fund, set up soon after to lend vital equipment such as prams and cots, means that the Union does not influence a woman's decision either way.

LUU makes no bones about its pro-choice policy, "strongly in favour of a woman's right to choose about

her own body."

Liz Rouse is quick to point out that the decision to have an abortion should be very much down to the individual.

To facilitate this the Union aims to provide as much assistance as possible so that women may make an informed choice.

Reverend Simon Robinson agrees: "I as a counsellor would never attempt to persuade a pregnant woman not to have an abortion. It is not my task to be judgemental or to try and manipulate anybody. The crucial thing for me and my colleagues is to determine what's best for the person and for the foetus, to empower the woman to choose."

Familiar faces

The Man Without a Face

Odeon Cinema

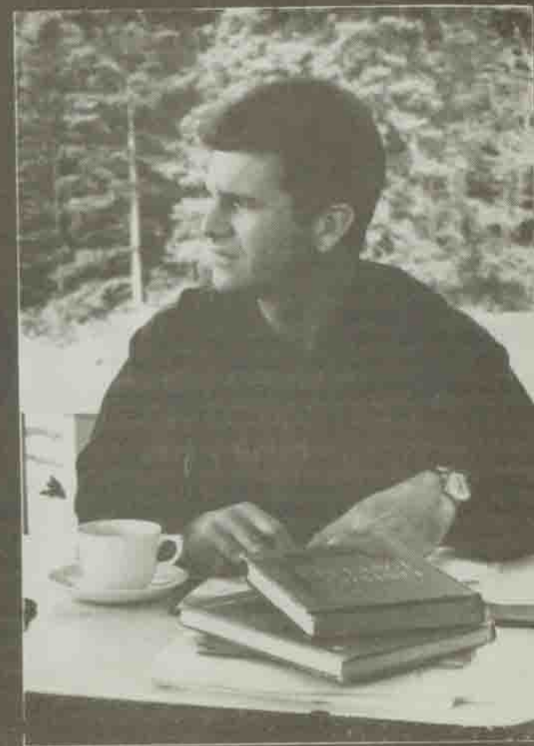
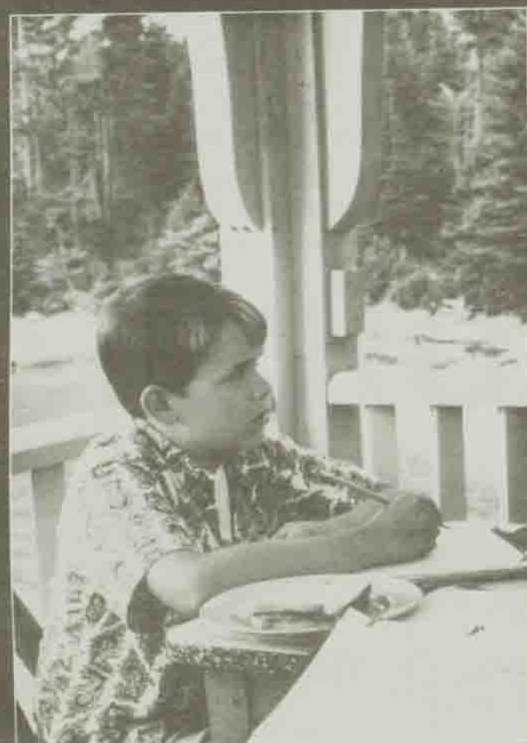
The Man Without A Face is a story about families in small town America. It's a story about love, friendship but ultimately misunderstanding. Heard this before? I have. In *Dead Poet's Society*, in *Fields Of Dreams*: in countless other touching pictures of 'real' Americana.

But, don't reach for the sick bag quite yet. We mustn't forget that this kind of film can be done well, not trading solely in clichés. Mel Gibson (the film's director and star) shows us a tale of a young boy, Charles, trapped in an uncomfortable family life and ill at ease himself: so desperate to escape his existence is he that he befriends the town freak (enter Mel) for tutoring. He plans to enroll in an exclusive boarding school as a means to freedom.

What ensues is the mutual enlightenment of two very jaded individuals; as they spend more time together they become close friends, each understanding the pitfalls of the others existence. Mel, the facially challenged town outcast is actually a tender artistic man, not the 'hamburger head' oddball the town has him made out to be, and Charles is - of course - an intelligent, vibrant boy, not just a detached and rather vacant youngster.

It does all sound rather barf-worthy, but actually *The Man Without A Face* is a surprisingly good film. It doesn't tackle all the issues it raises head on (Mel, for example, still exudes box office sex appeal, and Charles (Nick Stahl) can, at times, appear unbearably cute) but there is an essential class to the execution of this movie. Gibson's directorial debut is a convincing success, turning out, from the well-worn 'feel good' genre, a touching film of honesty and apparent innocence.

Martin Cole



Naked

Odeon Cinema

This is a painful and a difficult film to watch. Not because it is bad cinema - on the contrary, along with *The Piano* it's the film of the year - but because it's depiction of everyday banality alongside the brutality of everynight homelessness in 90s London makes a discomforting viewing experience.

Unusually, in a film directed by Mike Leigh, one character dominates the narrative: David Thewlis's brilliantly sustained Johnny, a Mancunian drifter and cod-philosopher, who arrives at the dingy London flat of ex-girlfriend Louise and her doped-out flatmate Sophie. Johnny's passion is to peddle his shallow views on the meaning of life to anyone foolish or bored enough to listen. And when they happen to be women, Johnny capitalises on his peculiarly attractive blend of cynical guile and little-boy-lost scruffiness to get his kicks in brutal, violent sex.

In between such encounters, Johnny wanders among the homeless and dispossessed of King's Cross. His meetings with the Glaswegian runaway Archie are truly hilarious, but troubling. Are we laughing at the absurd scenario, the bitter sarcasm of the dialogue, or merely Archie's pronounced nervous tic? This is a familiar technique in Leigh's screenplay. The humour is so black, so deeply ironic, profound and yet pathetic, it is impossible to laugh without either feeling guilty, or unconsciously replicating the mind-fucked egoism of the characters.

Naked is darker both thematically and visually than Leigh's last, *Life Is Sweet*: shot in a murky blue-grey haze, it reflects the seedy subterranean world inhabited by many of the characters. Only the yuppie landlord Jeremy has the money and power to opt out of this squalor; but he shares Johnny's sadistic tastes, leaving Sophie a carefully calculated £380 for her (considerable) pains. The parallels between

Johnny and Jeremy look like a conscious effort by Leigh to resist the charge that his films sentimentalise their working-class characters. All *Naked*'s characters are victims, in one way or another, but it's hard to sympathise with any of them. Sophie is in love with her oppression; Louise is blind enough to fall for Johnny's deceptions again and again; even Brian, the night-watchman who humanely allows Johnny to spend the night in the empty office block he guards is a deluded voyeur.

Naked is full of people searching for something. But any prospect of establishing meaning or making sense of the world collapses into grim humour. Throughout the film, depth is invariably parodied; meaning is continually undermined. It becomes apparent that Leigh's characters are in fact running away from meaning. Provoking and brilliant.

Tim Burke

Herbert Read

Leeds City Art Gallery

"Sir Herbert Read? Never heard of him. Is he a painter or sculptor?" These were my first thoughts after being told to check out a new exhibition. I was later rather shamefacedly to learn from an encyclopedia that the man to whom this exhibition is dedicated never put brush to canvas, nor indeed chisel to rock in his life. His connection to the art world is, as the catalogue put it, as the man who brought British artistic thinking into the twentieth century.

The Yorkshire born poet, critic and educationalist has been seen as transforming the world of art both in Britain and worldwide. He wrote from a personal philosophy of anarchism, and his popular appeal was largely due to the fact that he was able to make people understand the art of this century, its relevance to a world reeling under fascism and communism, and recovering after two world wars. He brought art and culture to the masses

- apparently a kind of former day Nigel Kennedy.

He helped to nurture a new generation of British artists and sculptors, such as Henry Moore and Paul Nash, while bringing already famous Europeans like Picasso and Miro to light for an artistically undereducated British public.

His eclectic approach is also reflected in this celebration of his life. The exhibition contains paintings from around the world, and from a variety of different cultures and eras. Ancient Chinese pottery sits alongside avant garde industrial designs, while surrealist nightmares rub shoulders with scenes of idyllic bliss, and they complement each other brilliantly.

The beauty of this kind of exhibition is that there is never enough of any one particular artist or style to get bored of. If you don't like it, there is plenty to move on to. Even a philistine like myself found something to enjoy. The only connection is that all the art on show represents events in the outside world that influenced Britain and her foremost art critic.

Whether you like your art post modernist or surrealist, or don't give a toss so long as it looks pretty, there's something here for everyone. If you've never been to the art gallery before, this is as good an opportunity as any to get yourself acquainted, and to view an exhibition which charts a twentieth century vision of world art, through the eyes and ideas of one of its most influential writers and commentators. Well, that's what the catalogue said.

David Litterick

Tinted Dreams

Hyde Park Picture House

Part of the Slovakian festival, this initially seems like a 1970's revamp of *Romeo And Juliet*. It tells the story of two lovers: Lolan is a young gypsy woman and Jacob, a white post

boy who are torn apart by racial difference.

It is not a film embarrassed by romantic sentimentalism. The scenes of the lovers are overloaded with nauseatingly corny music and soft focus shots. Neither is *Tinted Dreams* interested in subtlety: the predictable and persistent freedom metaphor of the birds, the crumbling wall, symbolising corroding cultural boundaries and the 'eggs' of regeneration are all but rammed down our throats. However despite this, it is a striking study of relationships in the community.

Without any constant mood it ranges from the slapstick comedy of Jacob's aunt and uncle who quarrel and hide from each other by sitting up trees, to the magic and enchantment of the gypsy attitude to love. Lolan's blind Grandmother has the ability to see into the future and create potions with which Lolan can seduce her lover. Against this fairy story vision is contrasted the reality of life: the horror of the annual baby bearing of the gypsy women, the poverty and the destroyed ambition.

Beneath this seethes the violence and racism of two opposed factions of the community who attempt to control the lovers, forcing them to flee into the city. Unlike *Romeo and Juliet*, the lovers do not die, but Lolan is forced into pragmatic marriage to a gypsy man, yet retains her love for Jacob. This is the reality, in which the racial tension leads to an abandoned lover and misery.

Yet the film concludes in a magical dream vision of love, in which all members of the community, regardless of age and race are united in the fields of the village beneath the blossom. It is a pessimistic ending which makes clear the seeming disjointedness of the film revealing a world in which relationships are determined by circumstance and authority, in which people are forced to coexist, despite each other, yet for everyone there exists an idealized vision of love as it should be.

Zoe James

Unconsciousnes

The Concierge
Odeon Cinema

A concierge, for those who don't know, is an indispensable, smiling, black-tied member of hotel staff who discreetly organises other peoples lives. Michael J Fox is Doug Arnold, one such concierge at the Bradbury - a high-class establishment where middle-aged couples try to revitalise sagging marriages and gorgeous young models further their careers by sleeping with the boss. Sex is naturally tied up with money and the concierge lives by the fifty-dollar handshake - a fact that is deeply resented by the inland revenue.

Romance enters in the form of Andie (Gabrielle Anwar), a beautiful would-be night-club singer who appears to be interested in money and sex but - naturally - is really after a good man. Her cold hearted



(married) lover is engaged in helping our hero achieve his dream of opening his own hotel. The whole situation is further complicated by the fact that this slimy character requires that Doug babysit Andie as

she obviously needs entertaining whilst he is with his wife. Loyalties are tested and morals questioned all round when the inevitable attraction springs up between the intrepid pair. Needless to say, love wins through in the end after many a humorous misunderstanding.

This gently predictable film is quite funny in places. The rest of the hotel staff are cliched in the extreme - the ancient porter who insists on stacking thirty pieces of luggage on one trolley, the large motherly woman on the book stall who sells romances, the uptight, useless foreign manager, and Michael J Fox is still managing to look 18 - for those who like that sort of thing.

Estelle Whitfield

cogito

Hot off the literary catwalk, William Shakespeare is causing a storm amongst contemporary critics. His face is found on every scroll. Hailed 'super-novel' of the year, and receiver of this year's 'ye olde booke prize', Leedes Student meets the man in question and has a chat about his new play, and life's little tragedies....

Joining the man himself in the orchard of his weekend home in Stratford, I was surprised by this hailed bard's modest attire and gentle nature. Often reported to be a 'well shaped man' and 'verie good company', I found this description most fitting as there was not a whisker out of place. Talented in the fields of acting and directing, he admits to be more than prone to a bit of scribing too. And indeed, his latest success is currently being hailed as 'a drama from which one derives vast amounts of pleasure and which allows thee to have a merrie olde time!' *Dallie Rag*

Others, however have slammed it to the ground, accusing it of being 'an excuse for a bit of bawdiness and a vessel for the luste of societe today.' (ruddy cheeked peasant off the street). But his critics cannot deny that this man is a force to be reckoned with, already a favourite of Elizabeths, and constantly rubbing lapels with the likes of Ben Jonson, Drayton and Spenser. It may be a wild guess, but I'd go as far as to say that Shakespeare is destined for success.

He speaks fondly of his childhood, recounting 'happie times jesting with my father, John, or darning my stockings by my mother's side.' He was modestly educated at the free grammar school in Stratford. He jestingly recalls his student days when he experienced 'a thing unlike povertie, where I n'er had a ducat to my name!'

He married Anne Hathaway in his eighteenth year, as she became the envy of millions of women. She is not the first female to be 'immortalised' in a sonnet or two. But the couple declare that they have a 'full open marriage', in which jugs of mead with the lads and a bawdy night in for the girls, is an 'agreement of which there is no need to utter one solitary word'. Shakespeare says he draws most of his material from personal experience and an olde bloke called Ovid.

When I apprehensively asked him how he was taking the vicious rumours that were spreading like 'faggots on fire' (to use his own words), he calmly denied that Francis Bacon had any part in his previous work.

Comfortably refreshed on 'olde ale', and surprisingly relaxed in the company of this promising talent, we continued to chat about the declining state of London Town, the troublesome plague and the deterioration of our meadows green. I thanked him for his time, and commended him on his taste in tights at which point he chortled happily into his mead.

Sara Buys

Commuters

Hyde Park Picture House

The Hyde Park Cinema's recent screenings - notably *House of Angels/Wedding Banquet* - continue to justify its reputation for carrying forward the mantle of progressive world cinema. However, judging the paltry audience that arrived to watch *Commuters*, the appeal of the "Slovak Film Festival" was slightly overestimated, prompting the assumption that outside of Eurovision song contests the student populace harbour little interest for Eastern European culture.

On the evidence of *Commuters* their scepticism was not unfounded; the film is a gentle and undemanding "rites of passage" exploration. Set in a small Czechoslovakian town, the story assesses the trials of adolescence through the eyes of Voyto, a young boy at the offset of his teenage years.

We witness Voyto's yearning for his sweetheart, the precocious Kayka, his passion for her only being rivalled by the desire to persuade his father to permit him to ride his painstakingly restored moped. To compound all these frustrations, Voyto's mother lies seriously ill in hospital afflicted by a conveniently mysterious disease which apparently is potentially fatal, this predicament causes relations within his immediate family to be fraught with anxiety and latent tensions.

Often simplistic to a fault, *Commuters* constantly betrays its origins as a TV-movie, primarily through the artificial manner in which it intervenes the various plots. Hence, we are confronted by a mass of stereotypical characters, who unsurprisingly do not allow the audience little possibility of empathising with the developments portrayed on the screen.

Consequently, the dominant themes of adolescent uncertainty and the pressures

thrown upon a family coping without an absent member remain worthy but mishandled.

Commuters was an extremely tedious movie which exhibited precious few redeeming factors. This is certainly not a choice to be recommended to any intelligent post-pubescent human being, especially if the person has any affection towards good cinema.

Akin Ojumu

Parcel

West Yorkshire Playhouse

Parcel - Penny lets a parrot and a voice out of a parcel, gives her make-up bag to the parrot as a weapon, and the three set out to save Mythology - the puppets' homeland besieged by a ruthless dragon. On the way they have to coax the less courageous inhabitants, the weasels, the unicorns and some puppets resembling ripe bananas, to stand up for their home.

I'm not too sure who this was aimed at: the really young kids cried, the older ones found it hard to follow over the noise and without sensitive enough ears to cope with Slovakian English, and the adults possibly found the message unsubtle. The storyline aside, the puppets were vibrant and entertaining and occasionally witty if you could catch it and their mobility was ingeniously achieved. The centre piece prop enlarged on a Punch and Judy box transforming it beyond recognition to three exotic lands and a sailship.

The Theatre PRAK are a fairly well established company founded in 1986 in Bratislava, composed of graduates of the Prague Academy of Theatre Arts. Unfortunately, as part of the Slovakian Film Festival they failed to provide a taste of East European culture by attempting to make the performance as accessible as possible to an

English-speaking audience - wasted on the screaming kids.

Natalie Brightbard

Draupadi

St. George's Hall

Dubbed, 'An Image of Woman's Eternal Strength', *Draupadi* is a story of good against evil, and, ironically, also of one woman's struggle against the oppressive men who try to rob her of her honour, dignity and clothes. However, as you've probably already guessed, in the end good triumphs over evil and the world is set aright.

Draupadi is not a modern feminist piece, but in fact an adaptation of part of the ancient Hindu holy epic, the *Mahabharat*. *Draupadi*, a royal demigoddess, is put through all sorts of tortures which she uses merely to show her superiority. Advertised as a 'ballet', the production is more like a play with interludes of music and dance.

Actors mime to a pre-recorded soundtrack. Apart from a few re-caps in English, the action of *Draupadi* takes place entirely in Hindi and Sanskrit so unless you're well-versed in these languages you'll probably be pretty lost as to what's going on.

Despite the language barrier though it's worth seeing for some spectacular dance routines and creative special effects (including a strobe and a smoke machine which pumps out at regular intervals to choke the audience).

The sets are little more than basic, but costumes are lavish - plenty of sequins and gold trimmings flying around. The production is put on entirely by amateurs, many of whom have never acted before and amazingly was put together in the space of just eight weeks. But with a budget of £25,000 that's hardly surprising.

Chris Williams

HIP HOP HURRAY



"We hope you find our presentation precise, bass heavy and just right" so announces the seductive female voice that is the Midnight Marauders Tour Guide, at the beginning of this album. With this cheekily portentous opening the Tribe present their "difficult" third album to the public.

Their debut release "People's Instinctive Travels And The Path Of Rhythm" represented, alongside De La Soul and the Jungle Brothers a new direction for Hip-Hop. Renouncing the machismo and more specifically, the confrontational slanted lyrics inherent in the music of their peers. The Tribe produced a mellower, jazz tinged sound that was equally accessible to the restless feet and the

A Tribe Called Quest Midnight Marauders (Jive)

fervent minds of their listeners, who were accustomed to rap lyrics that were becoming increasingly socially aware.

The Tribe remain among the most enlightened of rappers on the evidence of their latest collection. Despite the fact that fourteen songs have been stretched to create a dubious "double album" there is just enough depth and vision to justify their record company's extravagance.

True to form, booming bass lines slide over sharp

drum patterns, overlapped by inventive sampling. Combining the finer elements of modern jazz grooves and contemporary dance music during their best moments. The Tribe have created a virtually irresistible amalgam, which illustrates rap music at its most subtle.

Proving that they are not averse to a spot of token chest beating, TCQ parade their prowess on the anthemic "We can get down". Elsewhere, although less overtly political than contemporaries like the stentorian Public Enemy, their music is still founded upon African-American urban realities. Perhaps, hip-hop is no longer on the cutting edge of dance music, but the Tribe have struck a small blow for the underdog. Hip-Hop Hurray!

Akin Ojumu

Satisfied Mind

The Walkabouts (Sub Pop)

Somewhere along the lines The Walkabouts had a good idea - to make an album. However, they then spoiled this initially challenging concept by deciding to make an album of covers (sad self indulgence), inviting some vaguely famous people to play on it (instant relegation to the minor leagues for trying to achieve super group status) and doing it all in their own inimitable Country and Western style (need I say more?). To say that the project had grown a beard before it had even left the ground would be an understatement, we are talking full on Santa facial hair here. The famous people who forgot to shave during this recording are Iran Kral (Patti Smith group), Mark Lanegan (Screaming Trees) and Peter Buck from REM, who here trades his guitar for the "electric bouzouki" and the "black mountain dulcimer". Hmmmmmm.

Most of the songs on the album are pretty obscure covers, no doubt a gratuitous manifesto to show off the bands oh-so-clever and in-depth music taste (honest) which is basically 'nice' (I use the term loosely) but cheesy and boring country music. The only song which really works is "Free Money" by Patti Smith. It is menacing, brooding and intense, just as it should be, but only because it manages to shake off the stifling folk collar which strangles the rest of the songs.

Pleasant enough for a few minutes, but essentially pretty boring and self indulgent. Ten out of ten for beards, though.

Nick Moffatt

Monsterland

Destroy What You Love (bleed)

Familiarity breeds contempt. Monsterland sound like no other American band I know, however they sound exactly like every sub-standard British 'indie' band we've been subjected to for the last five years. Back when I was sixteen I would have loved it. I would've taken great pride in scrawling their name on my pencil case just to prove I was on the cutting edge.

Monsterland nestle nicely in the camp already inhabited by the likes of Mega City Four, Senseless Things etc. Lyrically its another of those "Oh no, my girlfriends left me" records, if bands insist on continuing down this well-trodden path then they will not only lose their beaus but their fans as well. To be fair, there are some stand out tracks. The opening track and recent single 'Insulation' on its own is great but the rest of the songs seem to be just a variation on this brilliant opener. It was the singles that provided the band with critical acclaim but like so many bands they falter when it comes to a long player. The band seem to want to finish every song as soon as they start, this leaves the album sounding rushed and the listener flustered.

'Destroy what you Love' is essentially fast, funny, punky, and virulic and will be enjoyed but it is disappointing. The argument of whether pop is dead, alive or merely resting is not only boring but irrelevant as long as Take That exist, the only casualty of recent years is 'indie' music. It died when the shoegazers discovered tunes and Bjork bought

a sequencer, why then must bands such as Monsterland insist on desecrating its grave. Unoriginality isn't a crime but an annoyance, please stop.

Matt Ball

Underworld/ Derrick May

The Orbit, Morley

Sometimes it isn't enough to be merely quite good. There's a huge gulf between mere talent and brilliance, and it's only when you've seen the genius that it all falls into perspective. The genius here in question is, of course, Derrick May, and to be fair to Underworld even Sven Vath would have paled a little playing next to the original godfather of techno.

Underworld put on a worthwhile rather than mind-blowing PA consisting of an hour of mid-tempo trance - organic, echoing and not too hard. Distorted vocals, harmonica and guitar produced some excellent effects but after a while the sameness began to drag and the impact had been lost. By the time they were rounding it all off with the warm spiralling of 'Rez' and the rasping 'Cowgirl' we were desperate for something different. At half past one, though, we were unlikely to get it - or were we? Derrick May took the decks and suddenly something clicked.

God only knows how he did it, but bits of 5 year old US house records, Detroit techno and even Irresistible Force's 'Spiritual High' were coalescing into an intriguing and seriously funky whole which took the club by storm. It was just as incredible to watch May's mixing -

impossibly fast scratching with every beat and sample perfectly judged, whilst he was looking the other way to find the next record. In 45 minutes, Derrick May proved he could piss over almost any other DJ in the world, and we left with the feeling that music would not seem quite the same for a very long time.

Claire Rowland

CRASH!

Top ten CD Reissues

Compiled by Matty and Steve at Crash

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Led Zeppelin | 10 CD Box Set |
| 2 Steely Dan | The Remasters |
| 3 The Equals | Best of the Equals |
| 4 The Fall | Grotesque |
| 5 The Faces | Oooh la la |
| 6 David Ackles | American gothic |
| 7 Tom Rush | The circle game |
| 8 Felt | Absolute classic masterpieces |
| 9 The Stooges | Fun house |
| 10 Man | Winos, rinos and lunatics |

Thanks to Crash for being devastatingly knowledgeable on all things musical.



never mind the bolognaise

The Spaghetti Incident

Guns 'n' Roses (Geffen)

An album consisting entirely of covers of obscure punk records - what exactly are Guns 'n' Roses playing at? Are they paying a genuine tribute to the late and great pioneers of rock over the past twenty years, or are their record company cashing in on the fact that absolutely anything recorded by these utter rock gods will sell by the van load?

Cover versions of songs are rarely a good idea, as they are only worthwhile if the song is improved at all by the interpreter. The chances of Axl & co. getting it right twelve times over are to say the least, slim. There's a certain amount of 'let's show everyone what a wide variety of taste in music we have' because most of the covers were originally by 'seminal' punk bands - New York Dolls, The Stooges, and The Fear, among others. I must confess that some of these songs were unknown to me, but I think it's safe to say that they have been given the usual G'n'R treatment; Axl shrieks and swears a lot, and Slash plays his long and fiddly guitar solos all over the place.

It only works with relatively few of the tracks (mainly the single 'Ain't it Fun' and about 4 others) because effectively, most of the album is simple self-glorification by Messrs. Rose and Slash, almost laughable in places. Axl's attempt at an English accent in 'Down on the Farm' is about as successful as Keanu Reeves' effort in 'Dracula'. G'n'R are NOT an English punk band, they are an American rock group, and most of the covers sound as if they are covered more in admiration of the song than the ability to add anything creative to it.

The fans will love 'Spaghetti Incident' but anyone who's heard the originals will view this with deep suspicion and contempt. Genuine tribute or cash in? Probably both.

Sara McDonnell



Various

Version 1.1. (Novamute)

It takes the conviction of one such as the Novamute/Tresor label to persist in creating such pure techno. While others run to progressive house to humour those too embarrassed to admit to liking a bit of techno they shamelessly produce a double album in silver vinyl of all their releases of the last year. At its most imaginative we get the dull techno workout with the simple yet effective message, 'Drugs Work' by System 01.

But hearing 'Rota' by Phase vs Pulse would educate even the most hardened System 01 aficionado to the developments that have been made in techno since the last decade. It isn't bandwagon jumping to improve over time, now is it? To those that care many of the tracks will be instantly recognisable, the Angle Delight mix of the Scubadevils 'Celestial Symphony' with its Dub Federation involvement reworks a massive moment. 'The Age of Love Suite' with its floaty female vocal begins the shift towards a housier vein. An unexpected move from the earlier compilations like 'Der Klang der Familie'. For house darlings everywhere infinitely more pleasing than the harder edge of Circuit Breaker's, 'Overkill'.

The slicker tones prompted by this fusion peak with Spirit Feel's 'Positive Vibration'. Tribal chants, dubby bass, rawk guitar solos, Indian accapella and a peach of a funky guitar riff stand in this cosmopolitan hot pot that shines all the more richly for its inclusion on this otherwise purist album. Hybridity is always more interesting than creating and remaining within a genre and here Novamute have included a record entirely dissimilar yet infinitely more handsome than the rest of the collection.

Alex Sanders

Dorado Records Night

Dig, Ricky's

In an underpopulated 'Dig', small record label Dorado show us that there is more to the Jazz end of the club spectrum than the usual Talkin' Loud/ Acid Jazz fodder. Outside's brand of soul-funk kicks off; a five-piece, they rely on upfront rhythm and keyboards to make their sound hit home. Mid-set forays into reggae and dub motifs were encouraging, if a little unsuited to a Dig crowd who are more accustomed to the no-nonsense Latin and Funk grooves that preceded Outside's entry. In addition it seemed that the band depended too much on the standard funky Hammond organ flourishes without bringing in any clarity or originality to the overall sound.

Given that three of Outside comprise the eight of D-Note (jazz people like to keep it in the family), this second band make a much more direct and in your face sound to which in turn the Dig masses are more receptive. D-Note take their cue from soulful, hip-hoppish roots and augment it with a saxophonist, 'Pascal's bongo massive' and a D.J. all play their part in contributing to what becomes an enticing, emphatic whirl of sound. Numbers such as 'Your Mind, Your Garden' and re-released single 'Now is the Time', where the singer plays off the rapper and vice versa, get the crowd moving, even tempting your faithful scribe to shake a leg or two. D-Note's impact was clearly felt throughout the club by the time the single's extended groove ran out.

Two more reasons then why we should continue to check the street jazz underground. With labels like Dorado, Mo'wax and Major Force coming through, and clubs like Dig - the scene is still creative and vibrant.

Murray Withers

Various

Feed Your Head (Planet Dog)

London's celebrated Club Dog posse consolidate their in house record label with this, a 2 LP compilation of ambient sounds, showcasing their 2 main acts EAT STATIC (Ozric's dance offshoot) and Banco de Gaia (from Beyond's Essential Ambient Dub series) along with various other mutants, all exploring the...um more sedentary side of dance music.

The rise of Ambient music seems closely connected with the post club come down that hits many people each weekend, but is it just a soundtrack to drug taking or does it have it's own musical raison d'être?

The answer predictably enough is both, if you don't listen the album passes by in a warm hazy wash of sound but if you actually listen closely the tracks gradually separate themselves to reveal surprisingly individual styles. In some cases this does no-one any favours, the highly rated Drum Club's 'Furry Meadows' consists of a couple of synth chords over a birdsong, which for two expunks is frighteningly close to Pink Floyd's most indulgent moments.

Eat Static excell on the digderidoo led 'Kothlwawa' and Astralasia's 'Twilight World' is an exotic blend of eastern percussion and symphonic flourishes but for the most part the rest of 'Feed Your Head' dissolves back into elegiac melodious (not melodic) sound. Pressure of Speech's 'Surveillance' is the only glimpse into darker edgier territories with cut up samples detailing eavesdropping technology over a cold, minimal backing. Taken in one sitting 'Feed Your Head' threatens to dissolve into aural candyfloss disguising the fact that some tracks when taken on their own are virtual masterpieces.

James Muir



Fawning over the singles this week are Johnny Davis and Alex Sanders.

PET SHOP BOYS

I wouldn't normally do this kind of thing (Parlaphone)

They might have filched virtually any of the 'Very' songs, and this'll do grandly. It's absolutely marvellous of course, added calories come courtesy of The Beatmasters who miraculously manage to



improve the original. Neil feels like taking all his clothes off and dancing to the rite of spring and frankly who can blame him.

U2

Stay (Faraway, so close?) (Island)

A surprisingly melancholy number with which to attack that fat Christmas market. But who cares because we only bought it for the Perfecto mix which is as lush and layered as a kid could ask for and Take That are going to walk that Crimble number one spot anyway.

RIGHT SAID FRED

Hands up (4 Lovers) (Tug)

Last year the music press worldwide declared it Okay To Like The Fred. The kids loved 'em, BBC 1 loved 'em, your Mum loved 'em and you were without doubt Mr. Sourpuss Grumpyboots if you couldn't muster a chirpy grin and a jig to 'I'm too sexy'. Now the slaphead funsters are back and everybody's peculiarly indifferent. 'Hands up for lovers/ Feeling good beneath the covers', I ask you.

ENGINE ALLEY

Switch (Mother)

Writing songs about radios, eh? An assured ticket straight into Chartland; 'Radio GaGa', 'I Love my radio', 'Video killed the radio star' and, um 'Radio' all magically have a special place in our hearts and on daytime F.M. Well sadly this one won't be joining them because it's shit.

THE DISCO EVANGELISTS

A New Dawn (Positiva)

From the label that can do no wrong comes the follow up to DeNiro, and blow me if its not every bit as good. With more music than you could shake a long stick at this sneaky one has value positively oozing out of every groove.

Glorious Hudd

Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 1993



Henryk Gorecki

The main problem with Huddersfield is that when it's all over you still want more. So why is it, I wonder, that contemporary music is seen as box office plague when Huddersfield were packing them in, not just at the evening Gorecki dos, but on weekday afternoons for 'difficult' music? My theory is that thousands of people in British concert halls silently (yet with unerring consistency) overdose on the Bach-Beethoven-Brahms scenario and spend the rest of the year muttering and kicking the cat, waiting for November to roll around when they flock rather speedily to Yorkshire for an intensive new music fix. Perhaps 8 out of 10 cats would prefer if it more contemporary music were programmed throughout the year? Mm.

My first visit this year was to a solo viola recital given by Arditti Quartet player, Garth Knox. The opening bars of the Berio viola Sequenza silenced any potential viola joke crusties, and the arena-like atmosphere in St Paul's, due in part to its steeply banked seats, seemed only to drive Knox's playing, which was sheer electricity. To counter any possible claims of soulless technical wizardry, Knox followed the Berio with James Dillon's 'Siorram' (Gaelic: "in an enchanted sleep"), which left me floating about a metre above my seat. Two Ligeti movements from an unfinished four movement sonata saw me firmly back down to earth, as did Xenakis' 'Embellie' - enough said. The evening ended with Feldman's delicate masterpiece 'The Viola in My Life', which was just heaven, and completed a tough act for the rest of the festival to follow.

I managed to squeeze myself into the Gorecki adulation meeting that weekend, in the company of the man himself (plus Yan Pascal Tortelier and groupies going by the name of the BBC Phil), but decided that should either his 'Beatus Vir' or 'Concerto-Cantata' clash with

the EastEnders omnibus, I'm afraid Mark and Shelly would win hands down. However, all was not lost as Lutoslawski's 'Concerto for Orchestra', at the top of the bill, saved the day in magnificent style.

I returned to a transformed Town Hall on Tuesday for a production of Philip Glass' opera 'The Fall of the House of Usher'. Anyone who knows the film (or, indeed, the Poe story itself) would have appreciated the way Music Theatre Wales made their production ooze with eeriness at every level; Julian Pike, as Roderick Usher, was nothing short of demented, whilst William (Gwion Thomas) visably twisted as the plot unfolded. The Glass score, which seemed to work on the almost subliminal level of film music, perfectly complemented the clever, compact set. My only complaint, from the front row, was that the dry ice for the audience may have been a tad generous, but it was a small price to pay for being so thoroughly entertained.

My final train ride to Huddersfield was for the Kronos Quartet, who rounded the festival off with one of the best performances I've heard in years. Kronos, should you be unaware, have acquired pop star status in new music circles and are generally known for mixing their styles - as an example, on Sunday they treated us with everything from the world premiere of Gambia musician Foday Musa Suso's 'Kufu Jolo', through Louis Andriessen's 'Facing Death' (complete with Charlie Parker quotes, pairing the seemingly disparate bebop and strings), and the beauty of Lois Vierk's 'River Beneath the River' to their encore of Raymond Scott's 'Dinner Party for a Pack of Hungry Animals'. Actually, enough summing up. They were absolutely brilliant, so go and see them for yourself. As for Hudd, it'll be back this time next year, so in the meantime be kind to your cat.

Fiona Goh



Philip Glass (top), composer of 'The Fall of the House of Usher' and Louis Andriessen, composer of 'Hadewijch' and 'Facing Death'

Allegri String Quartet Beethoven: 3 String Quartets Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall

The Radcliffe and Edward Boyle Memorial Trusts are "celebrating" the 40th Anniversary of the Allegri String Quartet by having them perform the complete Beethoven cycle of string quartets for their current season. If the turnout last week at the Clothworkers

Concert Hall and the Quartet's apparent enthusiasm are anything to go by, this is proving to be a rather good idea.

The Allegri String Quartet are nearly a very high calibre outfit - nearly, but not quite. They go about their business with a peculiarly diligent vigour, they are doubtless all accomplished musicians and they are capable of producing moments of consummate musical grandeur. Nevertheless, sections of the three Beethoven quartets they performed last week exposed some embarrassingly obvious shortcomings in the quality of their delivery as strident phrases fled shrieking into the night in desperate quests for dissipation.

Not only are Beethoven's string quartets as remarkably various in character and as consistently uplifting as his symphonic works, they also contain a great host of

exquisitely conceived and enchantingly lucid melodies that call for absolute musical precision. For the Allegri Quartet it became painfully clear that the blacker the musical notation on their pages, the more this precision was to elude them.

The programme notes' suggestion that the "fast moving quavers" of the Presto movement to No 3 in D major (op 18) "may not be appreciated by the first violin" should, in Peter Carter's case, have read "may be depreciated by the first violin". Yet the Andante was given a beautifully sensitive reading, full of sadness and yearning. This kind of disparity unfortunately set the general trend for all three quartets.

The Allegri played with an irrepressible zeal that never showed any sign of letting up. However, their tremendous

energy sometimes had the effect of giving the Beethoven a little too much vehemence, occasionally to the detriment of the music's subtler technical dimensions. This excessive ardour thankfully never impinged on the programme's more melancholic moments, such as the Molto Adagio to No 2 in E minor (op 59), which was played superbly.

Most importantly, though, the Allegri String Quartet could never be accused of being slouches and, as last week's concert consistently demonstrated (with its commendable displays of eloquent interaction), they function very smoothly as a team. With this much to recommend I see no reason why they shouldn't still be knocking around another 40 years from now.

Mark Funnell

TV Heaven

On Television: Criticism from the Observer

Clive James (Picador £15.99)

He obviously wasn't from down our way. Only now do I realise how far he travelled to be with us - Clive James is from the 70's. In an era where orange and deep brown smother fashion and *Towering Inferno* was the height of artistic integrity, even a matured stilton could produce a few decent satirical quips.

Whilst James's claims to dairy produce-hood are dubious, he has a satire gland which needs planning permission. Throughout the book's introduction, he strenuously denies that what follows is a tour de force elevating the merely laughable to an hysterical emblem of a world that takes itself far too seriously. Never trust an Australian.

What does he want to achieve if not the reducing of ten years of human creativity to farce? James wanted to ask the question 'Is TV really the incitement to cultural suicide that the pundits said it is?' Well, maybe I am confusing the means with the end, but such classic one liners - as when he enthuses over the pronunciation of Abba's Eurovision winner in Korea: 'Watelroo' - smack far more of immediate humour dialysis than of some higher societal significance. With Star Trek's

'It may seem unbelievable Jim, but my instruments indicate that this man has... two hearts' a great lineage of unspeakable clichés is born, not media analysis.

This is not to say that his approach is trivial. When required to apply his vast IQ to a matter of any weight, such as the mutations of televised Shakespeare, or the enduring popularity of an ex-Nazi, the waves of understanding, intensity and clarity are overwhelming. This man's vocabulary is the OED, although I'm not sure that they would support his use of the phrase "stupendous norks" as a euphemism for one actress's chest.

There is a definite progression evident in the book. It's an evolution of cynicism. The successive reports become more and more biting. It's possible that this is simply because one becomes more adept at spotting all the witty things that James says, but it's also possible that watching so much television leads to a realisation that life is, after all, a pretty futile thing. So, in a sense, old CJ does answer the question he posed in his introduction.

The inclusion of an index allows me to reveal two points. Terry Wogan is ripped

soldiers, should alert us to the fact that Kelly is inevitably an interested party. Rarely does a page go by without a can of all-American Coke being cracked open, or a Marlboro cigarette smoked.

Yet it is not so much Kelly's American-ness as his male-ness that distorts this account of the macho theatre of war: every woman in the book is assessed by the length of her skirt or the merits of her figure. In a scenario so resolutely heterosexual and so implicitly homoerotic, it's unsurprising to discover that American pilots were made to watch hardcore pornography before missions.

Martyrs' Day is a discomforting book in many ways. It is an often admirable, but often fraught, and ultimately flawed attempt to capture the pity and horror of war in its everyday lived experience. Nevertheless, the final score is Kelly 1, Baudrillard 0.

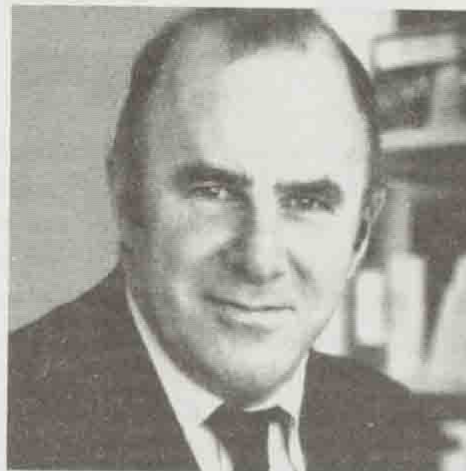
Tim Burke

The Rules of Seduction

Daniel L. Magida (Picador £5.99)

The troubles of wealthy and beautiful people do not usually arouse my sympathy. Jack Newland, the hero of this New York novel of manners, is one of these people. A rich, brilliant magazine columnist, lusted after by both men and women, his life is only troubled by a nagging guilt about the death of his parents. This has led to an exaggerated fear of hurting others, coupled with a belief that it was somehow his love which destroyed his parents. This however, is only the beginning of Daniel Magida's *Bright Lights, Big City* for the dysfunctional nineties.

On his twenty-eighth birthday, Jack comes into the trust fund set up by his parents. At the same time, the social persona that he has allowed unconsciously to be built up around



How many TV dinners has this man eaten?

to shreds on at least eight occasions amongst these 700 pages. Second, the index transforms this book into a 'tome', a crucial textbook of the detritus of television and of the critical heights attainable. The halcyon pieces are those that warp institutions like Eurovision or the Miss World contest. If these are the TV Heaven of the '70s and early '80s, Clive James is the Angel of Death.

Phil Weinberg

him begins to crack under the pressure of his own awakening desires.

With his perfect WASP fiancée Kate away in Europe, he is forced to re-evaluate his life by his young friend Timothy, and his sister, Ellen. As he falls increasingly in love with Ellen, the rule of seduction by which he has come to live by - never make the first move - is put under increasing pressure. To marry Kate would be to play by the rules, to suppress his own desires and act as everyone wants him to. His love for Ellen, complicated by his guilt about his parents, is haunted by the fear that he will somehow destroy her.

Magida has written a book about love, a thing that few serious novelists would dare to do, and handles his potentially cliché ridden subject with subtle skill. His control of the narrative, developing Jack's self awareness through the effective use of a series of extended flashbacks, is remarkable in a first novel, as is his perfectly rendered dialogue, full of the evasions and inconsistencies of real life. Indeed, at times there are flashes of greatness in *The Rules of Seduction*, when Magida is able to raise general questions about the nature of sexuality and love, bringing in Plato, Schiller and John Donne along the way. Jack's sexual passivity is exposed as a sublimation of his (misplaced) guilt about murdering his parents, and Magida works towards a complicated vision of love as a selfish yet at the same time deeply insecure state.

Magida has taken the old problem of whether to follow the head or the heart and revitalised it through the figure of Jack, trapped by the weight of history and social convention, yet aware of the real root to happiness. For all his wealth and intelligence, I still found myself drawn to him and felt involved in his crisis, which held me enthralled literally to the last sentence. After such an unexpectedly compelling and intricately wrought debut, I can only look forward eagerly to his next work.

Steven Ranger

Not like a Virgin

Constancia and Other Stories for Virgins

Carlos Fuentes (Picador £5.99)

Take it from me; this book will blow your mind. When I read the first of these short stories on the train home last weekend, my eyes were in serious danger of popping out of my head as I gasped and wept my way through it (probably why I was getting such funny looks).

Definitely a collection to be devoured in the deepest seclusion, this gem of a book is guaranteed to send your mind reeling far beyond the drab, slushy streets of Leeds 6; enter Fuentes' surreal world where wooden dummies whisper their erotic desires to you, where headless giants burst out of wardrobes to smear your lover with shit, where you suddenly realise that the red in the red-tiled floor is dried blood (or is it?) and reality will never look the same again.

Each tale is an enraptured male eulogy addressed to a virginal female figure: the shop-dummy bride, the frozen icon of the Catholic church, the bent old crone who experiences the virgin birth. Rest assured then that the book doesn't actually require pure readers (hope not, anyway!) although the very definition of what it means to be 'pure' is constantly called into question anyway, as many of these women are anything but.

Amidst florid descriptions of frenetic sexual activity, both men and women fantasise about virgins and their religious, erotic and historical baggage. The virgins in response make outrageous demands on the imagination and intellect of both reader and narrator, whispering "How would you like to die? Do you see yourself crucified?" while receding behind a veneer of purity that only increases their erotic appeal.

And yet so-called 'reality' is rarely absent even in such a climate of sustained surrealism (making things even more weird). Widely travelled, and possessed of a profound insight into the culture clash in which we struggle to survive, Fuentes uses his morose narrators to explore the ravages of time and history. The war between lush fairy-tale and gritty realism blends into the war between opposing cultures, between discordant time-sequences, where one can die over and over again and still live to tell the tale.

Poignantly reminiscent of the writing of fellow South American Gabriel García Márquez, though more evocative in his prose rhythms - Fuentes' sentences stream on for pages - the author ensures that death lurks in every paragraph and under every guise. This meshes together images of raging bulls, Goya's canvas and estranged silent lovers in a thrilling examination of our cultural and erotic desires.

It is impossible to convey the sheer imaginative brilliance this book displays, or to hope to get to grips with its intellectual and emotional intensity. Shut yourself away in your room for the weekend and revel in the heady dreamscapes of these heart-rending tales of lust and dust and betrayal. Just don't read it on an Inter-City 125.

Emma Liggins

Martyrs' Day: Chronicle of a Small War

Michael Kelly (Macmillan £16.99)

This book seems to have been written as a counter to wacky French philosopher Jean Baudrillard's assertion that the Gulf War did not take place, except as a media spectacle. Kelly documents the conflict as a "chronicle of a small war", an intensely personal record of his 1991 tour of the Middle East. Kelly's book records the all-too-real experiences of the ordinary non-combatants from Cairo to Kurdistan whose everyday lives are profoundly affected by the turmoil of conflict.

Kelly ignores the political and military manoeuvres of Bush and Saddam in favour of a 'micro' history of the conflict. Small-scale events - such as a religious sermon delivered in Jordan or an anecdote overheard in a Tel-Aviv nightclub - are considered as significant and revealing as transcriptions of diplomatic meetings or assessments of military strategy.

Kelly's travels throw up, by chance, some profound insights into the deep-rooted historical tensions that exist in this volatile region. He interviews a market-trader in Amman in supposedly neutral Jordan who, within a fortnight of the first scud assault on Israel, had sold two thousand lapel-badges depicting a scud hitting a skullcap above the legend "East or West, SCUD is best". Later, the horrors perpetrated during the seven-month occupation of Kuwait City are described in sickeningly graphic detail: the account of (an alleged) rape of a toddler is the most harrowing of all.

Kelly is largely sympathetic with the plight of the reluctant Iraqi conscripts, and wisely refuses to make moral judgements. But his very selection of anecdotal evidence - none of which are condemnatory of American

Meet Act

What is the most exciting thing you've done at university? Joined a sports club, or a rivetting cultural society? Immersed yourself in cut-throat union politics? Handed an essay in daringly late? A Leeds University second-year has done all this and much more. One cold night last February, when most of us were staggering home drunk, Gerard Edwards-Webb was dangling off a freezing mountain in Scotland, trying to reach a wounded climber. The week after, he was back as DJ in the Tartan Bar. As if that wasn't enough, he does Action as well. As John Revill discovers, there's no apathy here. Main photograph by Sam Greenhill.

"As we absailed down we had to keep shouting to each other, visibility was so poor. We found him suspended in mid-space, hanging upside down, with one of his knees bent forward. He was lucky in a way that this happened because this was all that kept him in his harness. There was loads of blood and he was mumbling something, and slipping in and out of consciousness."

Incidents like this are more common than people think. Mountains are dangerous places and serious accidents can and do happen. People are frequently killed in pursuit of the ultimate adrenaline buzz.

Thankfully, there are people there who make it just a little safer for those brave - or crazy - enough to take part. These are the mountain rescue teams that operate throughout the country and save countless lives.

Gerard Edwards-Webb, a second year Physiology student at Leeds University, has been on both sides of mountain rescue: he has saved lives and been rescued himself. A qualified British Mountaineering Council instructor and climber for nine years, Gerard found his skills in urgent need when some other climbers got into trouble earlier this year.

The incident happened at Ben Nevis in February.

"A friend, Dave, and I were climbing Green Gully, a route that has got a bit of a reputation. It took us all day and there were some beautiful views. When we had finished, it clouded over very quickly and began fluttering with snow. We were

clearing up our gear and looked across to Tower Ridge, another part of Ben Nevis. We saw two climbers at Tower Gap, at the top of the extremely dangerous Hadrian's Wall route. This section of the route is very narrow indeed, about six inches wide."

As we watched, a most amazing thing happened. One of the guys tripped over his rope and fell down Hadrian's Wall, which is a 1,000 foot sheer drop. The two were attached together with a long rope so his friend had to jump off the other side to counteract his fall. We could see the guy who had jumped fall cleanly and swing into the rock face. He bounced about for a bit, but we couldn't see the first guy at all."

Our immediate reaction was 'Oh fuck!' We got our kit straight away and began to ski up hill to Tower Ridge. On our way up we met some hill walkers and told them to get mountain rescue, fast. We had to do what we could ourselves because the nearest phone was nearly two

hours walk away. It was getting very dark and snowy now and we had to ski and reverse (climb backwards) down Tower Ridge. We eventually got to Tower Gap and found the rope dangling off either side.

We just went into auto-pilot. We didn't stop to think about the whys and whats of it all. The one who had fallen was making a noise, and one thing you learn when rescuing people is that if someone is making a noise then they are in better shape than someone who is not. The guy who had jumped, however, was silent. Dave banged two pegs into the ridge and absailed down 80 feet to try and find him.

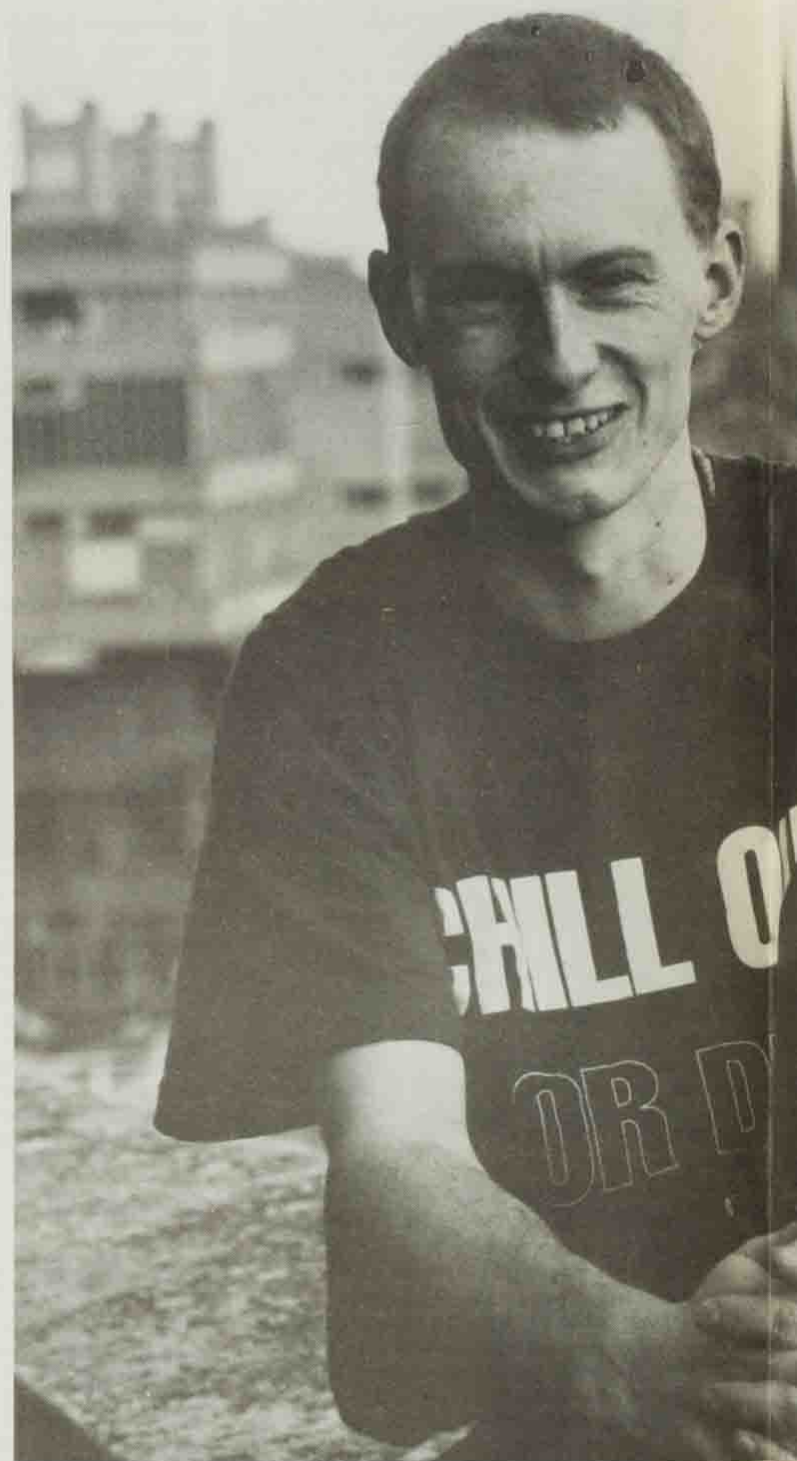
By now it was so dark and snowy that you could not see your hand in front of your face.

I waited for twenty minutes.

Eventually, Dave came back and said that the guy was dead, and that we should look for the other. We both had to absail off a knife blade peg, a very thin peg banged in only an inch into the rock, because the ridge was so thin. As we absailed down we had to keep shouting to each other because visibility was so poor. We found him suspended in mid-space, hanging upside down, with one of his knees bent forward. He was lucky in a way that this happened as this was all that kept him in his harness. There was loads of blood and he was mumbling something and slipping in and out of consciousness.

We discovered later that the blood came from a wound caused by an ice axe. When he fell he had bounced on his rope and then crashed into the rock. He had ice axes on leashes on his wrists and one of them went straight into his stomach.

By now it was a complete white out, we couldn't see a thing. We lost sense of what was up and what was down. We put a sling around his shoulders, made his legs more comfortable, and kept bandaging and wrapping him up. Eventually he regained consciousness and asked about his friend and complained about the cold. We had to lie to him and say his friend was fine. We stayed like this, suspended in mid-air, for about three hours talking to him. It was all very uncomfortable.



Action Man Gerard Edwards-Webb, known to his friends as 'Ges'. Look, he's even got a t-shirt.

We were beginning to get really scared. It was cold and dark and felt like being trapped in a huge cold duvet.

We soon heard Scottish voices above us and we could see light coming from their Halogen torches. There was no helicopter because of the snow. The rescue team all absailed down and bounced off each other like bumper cars. They took

over looking after the casualty and took him up, leaving us behind. We jammed (winched) ourselves up. This was very scary because although they were only five metres above us, we couldn't see anything.

To keep going, Dave and I had a silly and inane conversation. The Mountain Rescue team were incredible. It needed



tion Man



t Eagle Eyes

knackered.

The next day, Dave and I sat in a park in Fort William. One of the guys from the Mountain Rescue came and told us that the bloke that we had kept alive had died on his way to hospital. Dave was really upset and I was upset and really angry. It seemed so unfair, after spending hours keeping him alive for him to die at the last hurdle. Even worse was two weeks later when we both received letters of thanks from the families of both deceased men, as well as invites to the funeral. I just didn't want to know that they had left families behind, it was so upsetting. We decided not to go to the funeral.

Gerard became involved in mountaineering through his outdoor centre at home in Reading.

"I went on some a few training courses and ended up teaching canoeing and climbing. There were loads of first aid and mountaineering-safety aspects. Later on I went and did a course with the Keswick Mountain Rescue team.

I personally consider myself to be a very safe climber, I always wear a helmet and constantly check things. The accident on Ben Nevis didn't put me off, and I went climbing again the day after I found out the man we'd 'saved' had died. It's like when you have a car accident, the best thing you can do is drive again as soon as possible.

It makes me very wary of other people climbing - people can take a fall at any time. Climbers who put themselves at risk for fun are selfish because they expect others to help them when they get into trouble.

During summer, I was in the French Alps, climbing the Ecrans Massif which is the highest mountain completely in France (Monts Blancs is half in Italy). We had to set off climbing around 1.30 in the morning because the midday sun causes the snow to melt and avalanche and rock falls to occur. But my friend's watch was an hour slow and we set off on the route at 2.30 in the morning.

As we climbed, it was getting warmer and warmer as the sun began to rise. Suddenly, before we were even half way up, a huge rock, the size of a wardrobe, came tumbling down and just missed us. Then, when the sun was directly above us, there was a small rock-fall, and we were hit. The ice also started to 'dinnerplate' - that is fracture all over - and hard to get a proper purchase (make the ice axes stay firm).

When we were three quarters of the way up the whole ridge started coming away, towards us. We had about 30 seconds to crab across the face (move horizontally) and we were 3,000 feet up on a 70 degree incline. We had to make it to a rock rib and shelter under it. I managed it, but Dave got a lot of the avalanche directly on him. Then the whole ridge started to move. We thought we are dead. We

couldn't do anything but stay put and stay suspended from our ropes hammered into the headwall.

We could have had to wait there all night until the ice froze again, but we didn't have enough emergency clothing as it was only supposed to be a lightweight outing. So we set off flares and waited for a helicopter. Each time we set one off, we caused a small avalanche.

Eventually a helicopter arrived, and took us off. It was then that we found out that French Mountain rescue isn't free. As soon as we touched down on the glacier,

we had to give our names and addresses and two weeks later, when we were back in England, we received a bill for £3,500. Luckily were let off later because they said we were well equipped but just unlucky."

But Gerard is reticent that he will continue to climb: "It's like a fix really. You get an adrenaline buzz from it and it is like nothing else. It is pleasurable, exciting, and mentally and physically challenging.

I have been unlucky with all these things happening to me. There are lots of simple accidents which can happen. The seriousness of these accidents can only be

reduced by knowledge and knowing how to climb. The only way to learn is to get out there.

If I ever live in a place where I can be a permanent member of a mountain rescue team, then I will.

Climbers who haven't seen a major accident can consider themselves lucky. Next time it might be them. People have got to be careful, and you can still be caught out no matter how experienced you are. Even the great Chris Bonnington has lost 14 of his friends and his son in Nepal while climbing.



ACTION DJ

When he's not scaling snowy peaks, Gerard helps out with Leeds Community Action, the part of LUU that aims to 'put something back into the community'.

John Revill asks: Is there nothing this man does not do?

"I have been a member of Action since I first came to university. I have been involved in the Outdoor Mix project where we take (underprivileged) kids out for the weekend two or three times per term. I taught them how to canoe, mountaineer and climb.

It is definitely worthwhile. Most of the kids that we take out wouldn't normally get the opportunity to do things. It is only fair that everyone should have the same chance to do some of these things that I have been lucky enough to have. Everyone in Action works bloody hard. Not enough people do it really though. It is also under threat with all the government proposals about voluntary membership. Everyone should support it. Now, I only drive for them, taking the kids and volunteers to places because it is getting harder to fit things in.

It was through Action that Gerard got into DJ-ing. "I was DJ-ing at an Action event when I noticed Chaz Jenkins, the Ents Secretary. I asked him how you could get to work

for Ents, and he hired me. I had to do three trials. It was all a case of being in the right place at the right time. Gerard now handles the music at University Ents events like Cyclone and the Thursday Bop, as well as numerous society discos. "I got involved because music is my other passion in life. I really enjoy going to concerts and playing records. Music really is a very powerful medium. I have been DJ-ing since I was 16.

"While I have been DJing a few funny things have happened. Once a girl offered to give me a blow job after I had played a Rolling Stones song. I declined because I was DJ-ing, it was a public place and she was very ugly." (In that order?) "Ents is a good fun society, but you have to be committed to make it work for you and others. It's like all things really, you get out of it what you put in, which I suppose is my motto really."

And with that, Gerard walked off into the sunset, about to save the entire planet. Probably.

Crowd Control

In the aftermath of the great age of rave that has dominated the British club scene since the late eighties, crowds are seeking new highs. *Juliette Garside and Lisa Plasco talk to local DJs about the changing face of Leeds clubland.*

With the death of rave, promoters have had to address the question of what makes a successful club. The idea is a paradox: hard sell promoting, packed venues and huge bar takings have never been compatible with the underground intimacy that club goers look for. When the profits start rolling in, clubs soon lose their atmosphere and appeal, and a 'scene' becomes a stage on which nights fold and unfold in endless flash-in-the-pan succession. However, with the advent of Vague, Dig and the newborn H.a.p.p.y!, there seems to have been an evolution of thought in Leeds which bridges the gap between the crowd, the DJ and the promoter. Organising these nights are musicians who are DJs, DJs who are promoters and promoters who are also central attractions in the crowd. There's been a blurring of boundaries which has meant more control over the night as a whole, and this in turn seems to have led to a greater self-awareness on the Leeds club scene.

Nobody, after all, could be more self-aware than TWA and the camp crew of fancy dressers that run Vague. They promote themselves and their ideas loudly and uncompromisingly, and make a point of controlling every aspect of the club. Paul and Nick, as DJ trannies, provide visual and social as well as musical entertainment, and the night I visited the club they were launching their latest compilation, 'Disco Biscuit', which they recorded on their own label. Everyone who enters the club is given a short, sharp screening at the door by the ever extravagantly attired Madam Jo Jo. Suzy Mason, Vague promoter and TWA manager, interviews all the members personally, issues them with proper passes and keeps files on them. She insists on doing everything herself "If I handed things out I wouldn't know what was going on, and I have to know what's going on because the club's my baby".

This might at first appear a tad overprotective, especially when Suzy refers to Vague as "my baby". However, with her six inch heels keeping her firmly on the ground, Suzy is acutely aware of how vulnerable the atmosphere they've created inside the club is: "Vague is set up as a safe space, for gay people and straight people, for black people and women, so that they can come to a club, enjoy themselves and not feel threatened in any way." In an age where the dangers of society have promoted a hip concern for 'safety', Suzy's 'safe-clubbing' ethos seems particularly appropriate. Jo Jo's door policy works on the premise that "When she gives people a hard time, ... if they get aggressive with her, she doesn't want them in the club". They shrugged off the suggestion that this was creating one form of intimidation out of trying to dispel another. However, it's understandable in the light of recent attacks on the Northern Star offices.

As well as contributing generously to repairs, Vague have realised the potential for educating people within a club environment. Suzy insists that "straight men don't know what it's like to feel threatened, not to feel free. You've got to be really vocal about that, you've got to educate people". Their messages aren't just aimed at straight white men. As Suzy explains "When we first started it up there'd never been a purpose built big night in Leeds, so everyone was vying for territory - gay people, straight people, everyone wanted it to be their space. But now even gay people are starting to understand that they don't have to be segregated, they can dance alongside a straight person, and they can both be human beings and get on. It's alright having a gay club but that's just like apartheid, it's not the way forward." Even though Suzy may get a little misty-eyed, as a female promoter in male dominated clubland she's needed a few ideals to keep her going.

Vague is a personal thing for those who run it, and they're determined to keep it in the family. As Suzy puts it, "I've got 300 members and I know them all. I know their faces and I know who their friends are. It's to keep it all really tight and let the club expand and grow through the right people. People who come to the club feel it's their club. I try and empower them and say 'this is your club, if you want it to be a certain way you tell me what you want and we'll try and provide it'."

With rallying cry of 'give the clubs back to the people', Tony and Steve Walker DJs / promoters at the fortnightly H.a.p.p.y! down at the Music Factory take a similar line. As Tony says "that's more the way it's going to go, looking at what the crowd wants. Everybody in H.a.p.p.y! is a VIP." In order to get feedback, they push the club's membership policy as much as possible, and have acquired 500 members over just three events.



photos: Lisa Plasco

They send out a newsletter before each event, and encourage direct response from their members. They organised a 'Blow your horn and fiddle with your maracas' night on November 23rd, when members were asked to bring their own instruments and take part in a collective cacophony, alongside professional congas players and live dancers. When they say they're "putting the party back into going out", it's no idle threat.

With substantial experience under their belts - Tony was a DJ at the Leeds University, does a slot on Dream FM, has done Ark, and is a resident at the Gallery; Steve was a resident at Venus in Nottingham, and has shared the Dream FM slot with Tony for about a year - they've had plenty of opportunity to see what doesn't work in clubs. "We knew what we wanted, what was wrong with clubs", as Tony explains "a lot of clubs are run

by people who aren't DJs. Promoters pack as many people in as possible and the atmosphere just gets ruined. They don't care about what the crowd wants." He feels that too many promoters are "people who see money in the market whose heart isn't in the market". Steve and Tony may not have had any choice but to do it all themselves. As Suzy points out, for her and TWA it was all or nothing "We're all basically unemployable, so we have to do our own thing". This total commitment has meant big personal investment for both groups in their clubs - the night I went to H.a.p.p.y! Steve was proudly filming the event on a camcorder. This kind of enthusiasm always communicates itself to the club, and when I asked Nick of TWA how long he thought Vague would last, he said "As long as we're interested and care about it enough".

As DJs, Tony and Steve are also, to a certain extent, performers. As TWA go to show, DJs aren't just nameless faces who play other people's music. With the pioneering work of artists like The Orb and Sven Vath, and the growing popularity of DJs like Sasha, there's been a blurring of the boundaries between DJs and musicians. Tim of the Utah Saints was a DJ before he joined the band, and still does nights like V2. Carl Puttman of CUD also dabbles in DJing, doing upstairs at Vague and before that the Kit Kat club. Tony and Steve are no exception. Not only do they promote new music on their Dream FM slot, they will be recording the best of this as well as their own music on their Urban Rhythms label.

A concern with the complete club package has revealed, perhaps not surprisingly, a desire to control the music even at production level. As Carl Puttman reminisced, while DJing at the Kit Kat Club he was even able to change people's musical tastes so that eventually "they were dancing to the most stupid things". The art of mixing has also evolved way beyond slapping records on one after the other; it now requires so much skill that DJs often find themselves playing for each other, showing off their technical abilities. However, as Steve points out "The best DJs play to the crowd, not to other DJs". As performers, they have to be more in touch with what the crowd wants. Nick and Paul have attracted a lot of attention by pinpointing and helping to develop a new style of dance music, which they call Tesko. A compound of Techno and Techno, and describes the mix of music that they play at Vague. Suzy explains that "the club's been a massive influence on them, and Tesko was born out of Vague." The club has influenced their music, and their music has influenced the club "It's like the chicken and egg".

For Gip, Eric and Chico, the promoters and DJs at Dig, Jazz is not just a weekly club night but a way of life. Chico plays in a band, Pa'Lante, and is in the process of recording a track with Eric. Gip is "a restaurateur who likes Jazz". He manages and cooks at Salvo's, and is by his own admission "probably the best chef in the North of England". "I'm into the quality way of life", and it was his love of good music that led him to put on live bands at Arcadia in 1985 when he used to own the club. "I started putting on jazz because I didn't think anyone else was doing it." When the three joined forces in 1987, very few people were playing jazz any more in clubs. Between them they have built an institution - Dig in its present form has been running for two years, which is a pretty phenomenal time for any club. They also feel that they've gathered a crowd that shares their musical interests. According to Eric "The crowd here is quite sophisticated. We feel we can drop anything on them".

Chico explained that "Because we know the music, we can take risks. We like to put on things that nobody's ever heard, and because of the Dig reputation we know we can get away with it. If we do it well, promote it well, which we generally do, we do alright. We want people to come away saying 'I don't know what that was, but I loved it'." According to Eric "Dig and Vague are the only clubs that will take risks with DJs", and indeed two of Leeds very few female DJs, Daisy and Havoc of Northern Star and Dream FM, have a slot at Vague. Chico feels that the success of Dig rests on the fact that Jazz has proved timeless.

In minimising the number of people controlling the club whilst maximising communication with the crowd, Leeds promoters / DJs may have found an answer to resisting the impermanence of the scene. With even Take That wearing skirts these days, how long will it be before the boys and get bored of dressing up?

Herbal Remedies

Irish eyes will be smiling this week as The Pogues hit Leeds University on Saturday



Music

The Pogues
Leeds University
Chumbawumba

Leeds Metropolitan University

Herb', their eighth LP which'll be at the forefront of Saturday's gig, including the recent

single 'Tuesday morning'. Tickets cost £10, but that's not too much to ask for an excellent night's music to finish off the term.

Before that, however, and for nearly half the price, you can catch Leeds lovelies Chumbawumba at the Metropolitan University on Tuesday 7th December. Their earthy rhythmic sounds should be enough to set even the most frost-bitten feet twitching, including the new single 'Jesus H Christ' reviewed last week.

Two great gigs in the last fortnight of the year - makes you wish you'd saved a bit of cash from the first 8 weeks, doesn't it...

Since their first single 'Dark Streets Of London' came out in 1984, the Pogues have amassed a brilliant and varied catalogue of albums, drawing on a heady brew of musical ideas. Many children of the eighties may remember staggering drunkenly around to 'Fairytale of New York' during Christmas 1989, but for the more up to date, it'll be the material from 'Waiting For

single 'Tuesday morning'. Tickets cost £10, but that's not too much to ask for an excellent night's music to finish off the term.



What The Dickens?



Stage

A Christmas Carol
Northern Ballet Theatre
Alhambra Theatre

You've read the book. You've seen the stage play. And the musical. And if you're really unlucky, the pantomime as well. You've even seen it done by the Muppets, so what else is there to do with Dickens' masterful Christmas ghost story 'A Christmas Carol'?

Ballet might not be the readily obvious answer to the above question, but that's exactly what the Northern Ballet Theatre have done, dancing the tale of Scrooge and his three spirited encounters to rapturous receptions on their current BT-sponsored tour. The Times called it "enjoyable humbug", the Sunday Telegraph "unassailable magic", and even the Guardian grudgingly admitted that the "NBT has a box office hit on its hands" but whatever the papers say, go and see it for yourself; 60,000 people (so far) can't be wrong.

The show is not strictly a traditional ballet. World renowned composer Carl Davis has written a score which combines classical music with all the favourite Christmas Carols, and these are sung by the company and chorus. And far from being an evening of flying tights, designer Lez Brotherstone has created an incredible variety of rich costumes and ingenious sets to conjure up the atmosphere of Dicken's London and the spirit of Christmas.

Pictured here is Royce Neagle as the Ghost Of Christmas Present, draped in a holly-adorned cloak, which might explain

the rather bizarre posture.

The production team for 'A Christmas Carol' is the same one which created the NBT's last great success 'Romeo And Juliet', so if you saw that, you can expect some more of the same original and exciting choreography (although how they dance wearing things like this is beyond me).

And in the unlikely event of the visuals failing to please you, you could simply sit back and enjoy the sound of the Northern Ballet Theatre Orchestra under the baton of John Pryce-Jones. It certainly seems possible that you will "discover the true meaning of Christmas with Northern Ballet Theatre" as the publicity boldly boasts.

The show runs at the Bradford Alhambra from Tuesday 7th to Saturday 11th December, with each evening performance starting at 7.30pm. You'd better get your Christmas shopping done before you ponder a purchase of a ticket, 'cos they're a bit pricey. The best seats in the house cost £19, but places are available from £7, and students get a 20% discount.

Also, if you want to chance your luck, standby tickets are available for £5, but my guess is you'd be better booking in advance. If you want to avoid the

evening crush, there are a couple of matinee performances on Thursday 9th at 2pm, and Saturday 11th at 2.30pm.

So, as you slowly open the doors on your ASDA chocolate advent calendar, anticipating the wondrous arrival of Santa and his large sack, why not make one of the evenings pass a little quicker with old uncle Ebenezer and crew? Come along now, don't be miserly. After all, you don't want a certain trio to pay you a visit



Previews In Brief

Bradford University Theatre Group present 'The Hired Man', Theatre In The Mill, Bradford, Weds 8th to Sat 11th December.

Following the sell-out success of last year's end of term musical 'Chicago', BUTG close this season with a production of The Great British Musical 'The Hired Man'. Adapted from Melvyn Bragg's novel, this is a tempestuous tale of love, adultery and passion set in the turbulent years before and after the Great War, celebrating the lives of thousands of ordinary people. Performances start at 7.30pm, and tickets cost £3.

Leeds Arts Centre present 'Ideal Gnome Expedition', Civic Theatre, Weds 8th to Friday 10th December.

From the tempestuous to the totally ludicrous, this week sees the 'Ideal Gnome Expedition' at the Civic Theatre. Aimed at kids, and relished by adults (it says here), this is a musical fantasy involving the audience, with friendly Garden Gnomes, loveable cats, and Whacker, the bumbling road-mending machine. I don't believe I just wrote that.

Sinfonia Of Leeds, Clothworker's Concert Hall, Sunday 5th December, 7.30pm.

Returning to Planet Art, we have a highly recommendable concert coming up this Sunday from the Sinfonia Of Leeds, and the great thing is, it's on the University campus. Debussy's 'Prelude a l'Après Midi d'un Faune', Ravel's 'Pavane pour une Infante Defunte' and Schumann's Symphony No.1 "Spring" are all on the programme, and while you might question the seasonal timing of the latter piece, you shouldn't question the £3 ticket price for an evening of excellent classical music.

The Houghton Weavers, City Varieties, Sunday 5th December, 7.30pm.

Questions may be asked about my sanity after previewing this lot, but I have my reasons. My one claim to fame is that I was taught guitar by the cheeky lady-killer Jeff Hill, who I am now ashamed to see is sporting a Santa Claus outfit and looking a bit of a prat to be honest. Musical integrity? Large raspberries to that. "Back Again By Popular Demand" it claims here, but it says that every time for "Britain's favourite comedy / folk quartet". And there we once were, plucking out "Stairway To Heaven" together. Still, if it keeps his cats fed...

Thornton Vocal Union, St George's Concert Hall, Sunday 5th December.

Christmas leaps out and mugs the citizens of Bradford this Sunday with this Annual Seasonal Music Concert. Music is provided by the BNFL band, so they should get some glowing reviews. Ah ha ha ha.

Val Doonican, St George's Concert Hall, Friday 10th December, 7.30pm.

Oh dear. It must be the season of goodwill to all men & women, otherwise he surely couldn't get away with this. Could he? Not content with TV Xmas specials, Val has clearly decided to unleash his gentle ballads and gentle Irish humour live on stage. This is a gentle hint ... DON'T GO.

Confettis, at Ritzy's, Tuesday 7th December.

Starring Angie Brown (Bizarre Inc.), in association with Glamourpusy.

FRIDAY



Clubs

UPPER RONSON at MUSIC FACTORY - Dance & garage, £6 NUS, 9.30pm to 3am.
DOWNBEAT at THE MUSIC FACTORY - Hip-hop and acid jazz, £3.50 NUS, 9.30pm to 3am, £1 a pint.
TRIBE at RICKY'S - Acid Jazz, Punk & Dance.
LOVE TRAIN at TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB - 70's, £4.50.
ANYTHING GOES at THE WAREHOUSE - Dance. Student night - £1 with flyer, cheap drinks.
V2 at THE GALLERY - Dance night, £5.
THE ARCADIA at THE GALLERY - 9pm to 2am, £3.50 / £4, pils £1 a bottle.
STOMP at LEEDS METRO UNI - £2.50 adv, indie, grunge.
PARTY ON at LEEDS UNI - £2.50 adv.
INCARCERATED at SCRUMPY'S - Indie night - £2.50 / £3.
TIME TUNNEL at RIFFS - 60's night, £2.50 / £3.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE tel: 442111
QUARRY THEATRE
Gypsy - 7.30pm, from £4
COURTYARD THEATRE
Burning Everest - 7.45pm, from £4.
CIVIC THEATRE tel: 476 962/455 505
Proscenium Players present 'Quaker Girl' - 7.15pm, £5
CITY VARIETIES tel: 430808
Andrew Newton, hypnotist - 8.00pm, £5.50
STUDIO THEATRE LNU tel: 833 134
Revolver Theatre Company present Three One Act Plays - 7.30pm, £4.50 / £3.
RAVEN THEATRE LNU
Pelicans present 'Had A Nice Day' plus 'A Secret Cabaret' - 7.00pm, £1 / 50p.
RILEY SMITH HALL, LNU
Music Theatre present 'The Wiz' - 7.30pm, £3 / £2.
ALHAMBRA tel: 0274 752 000
Sooty's World Cruise - 5pm.
THEATRE IN THE MILL tel: 0274 383 185
BUTG present 'Ubu Roi' - 7.30pm, £3 / £2.
HARROGATE THEATRE tel: 0423 502 116
Wings - 7.45pm, from £5.50.
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM
Arcadia by Tom Stoppard - 7.45pm.

Music

THE DUCHESS
Orphans featuring Kevin McDermott Orchestra
THE GROVE INN
Folk Club present Twofold



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM, Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, Cottage Road Cinema and Hyde Park Picture House, see Sunday.
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA tel: 0274 732277
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
IMAX tel: 0274 732277
Titanica - 8.00pm
BFI 1 tel: 0274 820666
Le Samourai - 6.00pm
Naked - 8.15pm
BFI 2
One False Move - 8.00pm
LUU SCI-FI FANTASY & HORROR SOC. RBLT
Top Secret - 7.00pm, £2 / £1.



SATURDAY

Clubs

THE COOKER at ARCADIA - Jazz / soul / funk, featuring DJ EZ.
BACK TO BASICS at THE MUSIC FACTORY - Dance.
THE LIZARD CLUB at RICKY'S - Best of Rock, £3 / £3.50, 10pm to 2am.
THE POWER HOUSE at THE GALLERY - 9pm to 2am, £4 / £7, casual dress.
ALTERNATIVE / INDIE at SCRUMPY'S - 12-6pm, all afternoon.
VAGUE at THE WAREHOUSE - £5, cross-dressing, TWA.
SATURDAY BOP at LEEDS METRO UNI - £2 / £4 guest.
CYCLONE at LEEDS UNI - £2.50, indie/alternative.
ARK at LEEDS UNI - 5pm till 2am, £14.
SERIOUS PLEASURE at RITZY'S - Dance.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE tel: 442111
QUARRY THEATRE
Gypsy - 3.00pm & 8.00pm, from £4.
COURTYARD THEATRE
Burning Everest - 7.45pm, last performance.
CIVIC THEATRE tel: 476 962 / 455 505
Quaker Girl - 2.15pm & 7.15pm - £5
CITY VARIETIES tel: 430 808
Andrew Newton, hypnotist - 8.00pm, £7
RAVEN THEATRE, LNU - as Friday
RILEY SMITH HALL, LNU - as Friday
ALHAMBRA - as Friday
THEATRE IN THE MILL - as Friday
HARROGATE THEATRE - as Friday
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM
Arcadia - 2.00pm & 7.45pm.



Music

THE DUCHESS
The Tanyads plus Loved Ones
THE GROVE INN
Double Trouble
LEEDS TOWN HALL
English Northern Philharmonia play Sibelius, Beethoven & Walton - 7.30pm, from £4
ST GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL
Bradford Festival Choral Society present Handel's 'Messiah' - 7.30pm, from £5.50.



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM, Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, Cottage Road Cinema and Hyde Park Picture House, see Sunday.
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
IMAX
Rolling Stones 'At The Max' - 8.00pm
BFI 1
Le Samourai - 6.00pm
Naked - 8.15pm
BFI 2
One False Move - 5.45pm & 8.00pm.



Telly

'Performance' (BBC2, 8.15pm) - 'The Entertainer'



SUNDAY

Stage

ALHAMBRA STUDIO tel: 0274 752000
Jenny Eclair, comedy night - 8.00pm, £6 / £3.
THE DUCHESS
Leeds Alternative Cabaret present Henry Normal and Caroline Ahearn.



Music

CLOTHWORKER'S CONCERT HALL, LEEDS UNIVERSITY
Sinfonia Of Leeds play Respighi, Debussy, Ravel & Schumann - 7.30pm, £5 / £3.
CITY VARIETIES
The Houghton Weavers - 7.30pm, from £6.
THE GROVE INN
The Paul Buckley Band (lunchtime).



Film

SHOWCASE
27 Gelderd Road, Hirstall. Tel: 0924 420071.
Tickets £4.25 / £3.00 NUS
Aladdin
The Hawk
The Fugitive
Hocus Pocus
Jurassic Park
Demolition Man
Sleepless In Seattle
Dave
The Secret Garden
In The Line Of Fire
Hard Target
The Piano
Benefit of the Doubt
I Married An Axe Murderer
Tina
Man Without A Face
COTTAGE ROAD CINEMA
Cottage Road, Far Headingley. Tel: 751606
Much Ado About Nothing - 5.40, 8.20, Sunday at 5.20, 7.50
Thelma and Louise - Friday and Saturday, 11pm
LOUNGE CINEMA
North Lane, Headingley. Tel: 751061
Aladdin - 6.00, 8.20, Saturday and Sunday 2.00, 4.00 as well.
Sunday matinee 11.00.

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE
Brudenell Road, Leeds 6. Tel: 752045
The Cement Garden - 6.15
Naked - 8.45
Late show Fri & Sat - Wings of Desire - 11.00pm.

PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
IMAX
Titanica - 8.00pm
BFI 1
Naked - 6.00pm & 8.15pm
BFI 2
One False Move - 5.45pm & 8.00pm
MGM MOVIE HOUSE
Vicar Lane, LS1. Tel: 451031
Demolition Man - 12.55, 3.20, 5.45, 8.20
Hard Target - 1.00, 3.15, 5.45, 8.35
The Fugitive - 1.15, 5.15, 8.05 (except Sunday)
Star Trek 1-6 - Sunday only, 1.00 to 10.40
ODEON
The Headrow. Tel: 430031
Aladdin - 1.40, 4.15, 6.40, 8.40 (Sat only at 12.00, 2.25, 4.30, 6.40, 8.50)
Dennis - 1.05
Man Without A Face - 3.20, 5.50, 8.20
I Married An Axe Murderer - 1.15, 3.45, 6.00, 8.30
Hocus Pocus - 1.10
The Hawk - 3.30, 6.05, 8.40
Jurassic Park - 1.40, 5.15
True Romance - 8.15

MONDAY



Clubs

PHUX at MISTER CRAIG'S - Student night, £1.50 / £2.
THE WORLD at RITZY'S - Student night, £1 a pint.
UP THE JUNCTION at THE GALLERY - Student night, 50p a pint / double spirits, £2.50 NUS, 9pm to 2am.
CLUB CRACKERJACK at THE MUSIC FACTORY
80's & 90's House - £2.50 / £3.00.
THE SUB CLUB at ARCADIA - £1 a pint, 9.30pm doors.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE - tel: 442111
QUARRY THEATRE
Gypsy - 7.30pm, from £4
ST GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL
Newman & Baddiel - 8pm, £10
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM
Royal Shakespeare Company present Two Gentlemen Of Verona - 7.45pm.



Music

THE DUCHESS
Rubicon plus Wishplants
LEEDS TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB
Aire FM present The Wedding Present - £7.50, a gig in aid of Leeds Rag.
BEJUSHS
West Martini



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, Cottage Road Cinema and Hyde Park Picture House, see Sunday.
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
BFI 1
Naked - 6.00pm
The Hawk - 8.15pm.



Telly

There's some really good telly on Sunday so I'll tell you about that first...
'Smash Hits Poll Winner's Party' (BBC1, 3.00pm) - Pretend you're 14 again and throw your underwear at Take That. Which is what I'll be doing. If I've not done my laundry.
'Ski Sunday' (BBC2, 4.35pm) - I turn off after the theme music, apparently, about 120 people hurtle down a mountain at breakneck speed, and the British come last. Bit predictable really.
'Equinox' (Channel 4, 7.00pm) - The impact of CD in the video game world. Basically, it means Sonic now goes up to level 12,500.
Okay, now it's time for tonight's telly...
'Wish You Were Here...' (ITV, 7.00pm) - Grenada and Spain. Been there, done that, tried it last summer, doing it this year. Uh.
'Mama's Back!' (BBC1, 8.30pm) - One-off comedy from Ruby Wax, starring Joan Collins and Michael Gambon.
'The Wonder Years' (Channel 4, 6.30pm) - Kevin tries to rekindle a summer romance, fails abysmally, but still manages to find a heart-warming, life-affirming meaning to it all.
'Young Jazz Player Of The Year' (ITV, 10.40pm) - Jazz stars of tomorrow from the Yorkshire and Tyne Tees regions, listed especially for Mark Funnell, our Classical / Jazz editor.

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WEST YORKSHIRE AREA N.U.S. MEET 2PM, WOODHOUSE MOOR
SAVE OUR STUDENT UNIONS MARCH TO LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNI.

LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

TUESDAY



Clubs

BEAT SURRENDER at THE MUSIC FACTORY - 80's to 90's, £2.50 on door, £1 a pint.
THE LOVE BUTTON at ARCADIA - Dance, guests TWA.
GORGEOUS at LEEDS UNI - Acid Jazz / Funk, £1 / £1 adv.
BUG at THE GALLERY / RICKY'S - £2, £1 a pint, 10pm to 2am.
STAND at BECKETT PARK - Acid Jazz / Funk / hip-hop / soul, 8-12, £1 on door, no adm after 10pm.
H.A.P.P.Y. at THE MUSIC FACTORY - 2 floors of pure party, funk, crumbos, bush! - £3 members, £4 non-members.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE tel. 442111
ALHAMBRA tel. 0274 752000
Northern Ballet Theatre present 'A Christmas Carol', a new ballet - 7.30pm, from £7.
ST GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL - as Monday
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM - as Monday



Music

THE DUCHESS
Jan Cytka
THE IRISH CENTRE
Buffalo Tom - £5 adv.
LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
Chumbawamba - £5.50 adv.
LEEDS TOWN HALL
Luncheon Organ Music - 1.15pm, free.
THE GROVE INN
Jam Session



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, Cottage Road Cinema and Hyde Park Picture House, see Sunday.
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
BFI1
Naked - 6.00pm
The Hawk - 8.15pm
BFI2
Who's Who - 6.15pm & 8.00pm



Telly

'Food and Drink' (BBC2, 8.30pm) - Did you tape last week's programme like I told you? Good, 'cos tonight Michael Barry swaps his birds and bastes up a tasty old goose. Apple desserts also feature heavily.
'Wild Palms' (BBC2, 9.00pm) - Last episode of Oliver Stone's drama, so watch this and pretend you managed to sit through the whole series.
'In The Wild' (ITV, 8.30pm) - Anthony Hopkins goes to Africa to meet some lions face to face. And scares the s**t out of them.
'The Curse Of Mr Bean' (ITV, 9.30pm) - Rowan, please please make some new shows of this.
'The Talking Show' (Channel 4, 8.00pm) - Sandi Toksvig and sundry experts assess the oratory styles of some of today's politicians.
'The Secret Cabaret' (Channel 4, 10.00pm) - I have tea late on Tuesday, and this never fails to make me really bring it back up.

WEDNESDAY



Clubs

DIG at THE GALLERY / ARCADIA - see Music
CIRCUS CIRCUS at THE MUSIC FACTORY - 3 floors of pop, 60's to 90's, £1 a pint.
ALPHABET STREET at LEEDS METRO UNI - 80's night, £2 on door, £1 a pint.
MENAGERIE at RICKY'S - £2.00 entry, £1, a pint, hip-hop/rocking grunge-core, 10pm to 2am.
70'S NIGHT at YEL.
NEW ROMANTICS at THE EXCHANGE - Free, ends 12am.
POGO-A-GO-GO at SCRUMPY'S - Punk / 70's - £2.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE tel. 442111
QUARRY THEATRE
'Gypsy' - 2.00pm & 7.30pm, from £4.
CIVIC THEATRE tel. 476962 / 455505
Leeds Arts Centre present 'Ideal Gnome Expedition' - 7.00pm, £4 / £3.
RAYN THEATRE LUN
LUU Theatre Group present 'Games' & 'After Liverpool' by James Saunders - 7.00pm, £2.50 / £2.00.
THEATRE IN THE MILL
BUG present 'The Hired Man' - 7.30pm, £2 / £2.
ALHAMBRA - as Tuesday
SHEFFIELD CRUCIBLE
'Oliver' - 2.30pm & 7.30pm
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM - as Monday



Music

THE DUCHESS
Big Sky plus Mother
THE IRISH CENTRE
The Hamsters - £6 adv.
ALHAMBRA STUDIO
Lunchtime Music Recital from Thomas Alexander - 1.05pm, free.
LEEDS TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB
The Damned - 7.00pm, £8.50 adv.
BRADFORD UNIVERSITY
Therapy, Cop Shoot Cop, and Undermind - 6.50 adv.
THE GROVE INN
Chucklin' Doug
DIG AT THE GALLERY



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, Cottage Road Cinema and Hyde Park Picture House, see Sunday.
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
IMAX
Titanica - 8.00pm
BFI1
Naked - 6.00pm
The Hawk - 8.15pm
BFI2
Who's Who - 6.15pm & 8.00pm



Telly

'Stark' (BBC2, 9.25pm) - Ben Elton's dramatisation of Ben Elton's novel, starring Ben Elton. Eco-hippies versus the world's powerful magnates. Hurrah for hippies.

THURSDAY



Clubs

LOADED & JUICE at THE MUSIC FACTORY - Indie / Dance / Dub / Hip-hop / Psychodelia, £2 / £2.50.
ROCK NIGHT at THE WAREHOUSE - £1 B4 11pm.
THE MILE HIGH CLUB at THE GALLERY
THE THURSDAY ALTERNATIVE at LEEDS UNI - Nothing more mainstream than the Pixies. Nothing more obscure than Alice Donut - £1.50, 9pm till 12am.
STUDENT NIGHT at STOOGY'S - Free before 11pm, £1 after, 10pm to 2am.



Stage

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE tel. 442111
QUARRY THEATRE - as Monday
CIVIC THEATRE - as Wednesday
STUDIO THEATRE LMU tel. 835134
Clay Sweatshop present 'Stupid Cupid' - 7.30pm, £4.50 / £3.
RAVEN THEATRE LUN - as Wednesday
THEATRE IN THE MILL - as Wednesday
ALHAMBRA tel. 0274 752000
'A Christmas Carol' - 2.30pm & 7.30pm
SHEFFIELD CRUCIBLE - as Wednesday
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM
'Two Gentlemen Of Verona' - 2.00pm & 7.45pm



Music

THE DUCHESS
Jacob's Mouse plus Zoopista
ST GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL
Daniel O'Donnell - 7.30pm, £10.
LEEDS TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB
The Saw Doctors - 7.00pm, £5 adv.



Film

For full programme details for The Odeon, MGM Movie House, Showcase Cinema, Lounge Cinema, and Cottage Road Cinema, see Sunday.
HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE
PICTUREVILLE CINEMA
The Piano - 5.45pm & 8.15pm
IMAX
Grand Canyon / Shards - 8.00pm
BFI1
The Hawk - 6.00pm
Naked - 8.15pm
BFI2
My Own Private Idaho - 8.00pm



Telly

'Life In The Freezer' (BBC1, 8.00pm) - 4 Courting albatrosses, 3 young penguins, 2 seal pups, and a piece of Black Forest Gateau which has been there for a couple of days now, and it no-one claims it pretty soon...
'Hollywood Women' (ITV, 9.00pm) - Roseanne Arnold, Jane Seymour, and Lauren Bacall discuss whether it pays to go all the way. What a frightening prospect.
'Wildshots' (Channel 4, 8.30pm) - Chris Packham on the trail of plants and insects. Brave man.
'The Plague' (Channel 4, 9.00pm) - As it's AIDS week, another recommendation for this rather fascinating programme. Tonight, the response of politicians, drug companies and health agencies to demands for action.
'Trash Talk' (Channel 4, 6.00pm) - Dallas versus Trish & Tess.

TV FILMS

Friday 3rd December ->

'The Presidio' (BBC1, 9.30pm) - Sean Connery stars as the 'Provost Marshall' of a San Francisco army base, working with young cop Mark Harmon on a murder case. Meg Ryan is there too, along with slick chases and fights, and lamentable Vietnam reminiscences.

'Static' (Channel 4, 12.20am) - Stay up late for this religious satire starring quirky Keith Gordon. By day he works in a factory making crucifixes, by night he perfects a TV which can be tuned to Heaven.

Saturday 4th December ->

'Birdman Of Alcatraz' (BBC2, 3.20pm) - Burt Lancaster. Says it all, I think.

'They Shoot Horses, Don't They?' (BBC2, 10.45pm) - Dance marathon in depression hit 1930's.

'The Producers' (Channel 4, 10.45pm) - Gene Wilder & Zero Mostel produce 'Springtime For Hitler'. Top quality bad taste.

'Ladyhawke' (ITV, 11.40pm) - Rutger Hauer & Michelle Pfeiffer live under an evil bishop's curse, and Matthew Broderick and Leo McKern help to get it reversed.

Sunday 5th December ->

'Stand By Me' (Channel 4, 10.00pm) - River Phoenix leads a bunch of kids into the wilderness in the hope of finding a dead body.

'Shane' (BBC2, 10.00pm) - Classic Western, starring Alan Ladd and Jack Palance.

Monday 6th December ->

'Road To Utopia' (BBC2, 10.30am) - Set the video for Bing Crosby & Bob Hope road movie, heading for Alaska and singing 'Put It There, Pal'.

'Trouble In Paradise' (BBC2, 8.30pm) - Castaway comedy with Raquel Welch.

Tuesday 7th December ->

'Starstruck' (BBC2, 12.10am) - Off-beat spoof on the music business.

Wednesday 8th December ->

'Back To School' (BBC1, 7.00pm) - Rodney Dangerfield plays a dad who goes back to school to make sure his son sticks to his books, but soon becomes the life and soul of the campus.

'Who Dares Wins' (ITV, 10.40pm) - SAS undercover story, inspired (if that's the right word) by the Iranian embassy siege.

Thursday 9th December ->

'Kung Fu' (BBC2, 6.00pm) - David Carradine in pilot for the 70's TV show.

'Trust' (Channel 4, 10.00pm) - Weird black comedy set in an anonymous suburb.

'My First Wife' (BBC2, 12.10am) - Searing look at marriage break-up.

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS

December 1st - Edzy (ex Unique 3)
December 15th Xmas Special
Two rooms of music -
E.A.S.E (Nightmares on Wax - Guest DJ)
Gangsta Bitchz (Hip Hop, Soul & Swing)
Appearing in the Cafe Bar

LMUSU City Site, Music 9pm til 2am, Bitter,
Lager & Cider £1. £2 Admission. NUS Guests &
Guests Only. Free Coaches back to halls

ALPHABET ST.

EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY
SEPT 29, OCT 13, 27, NOV 10, 24, DEC 8
LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
Students who do 'College Street' after 2.30pm on 24th Sept, Free Bus back to Piccadilly

EVERY FRIDAY

STOMP

9pm-2am
Times only £2.50 admission
LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
INDIE • GRUNGE • GEEKY
Student Union, City Site, Leeds. Advance tickets available from Poly, Uni, Jumbo and Crash. All over 18's welcome

Cupid Stunt

Stage

Stupid Cupid
Studio Theatre, LMU

"Love, love changes everything" runs the line, and however hard you fight it, when Cupid bows one right through your mushy red beating thing, the world goes twirly. Especially if you're a teenager in the 50's about to discover your sexuality.

Gay Sweatshop arrive at the Studio Theatre this Thursday with their outrageously happy musical 'Stupid Cupid', which has been touring the country with great success. Britain's most popular gay theatre company have produced a brilliant, exuberant, queer show about falling in love in the post war era, when lesbians and gays were looked on a morally wrong or even mentally ill.

The story concerns two hip teenagers, Johnny and Jasmine, who're into Connie Francis, Judy Garland and Elvis Presley. Their lives are turned upside down though when Johnny meets Hamish and Jasmine meets Aggie, and Cupid flies them through an evening of sex, love and rock 'n' roll! Enormous fun, this show promises an evening of great dancing and hip-swinging tunes for you to twitch to in your seats. Shows are at 7.30pm next Thursday & Friday, tickets cost £4.50 / £3.00

Stage

'Games' & 'After Liverpool'
Raven Theatre, LUU

On December Theatre Group will be performing two one act plays by James Saunders, with which they propose to first make you laugh at your own relationships by watching the misfortunes of others, and then make you question and laugh at all. Unsettling? You'll be left gibbering.

In an effort to find out how she plans to disturb her audience, The Guide talks to Clare Jones, a third year who's making her directing at Leeds after a successful trip to Edinburgh last year with the cast of Tess.

"The first play, 'After Liverpool', is about three couples in a variety of relationships. Two of the couples are having affairs with the other couple, one couple is in a boring relationship, another in quite a happy one, a third's is violent." Saunders brings them together in memorable scenes that are both funny and shaded with tragedy. Clare sees it as "a cycle idea of the way people end up repeating the same things in every relationship. It's quite amusing, it makes you look at your own relationships."

The second play, 'The Game', is a play within a play. It's about a group of actors performing a play on the Vietnam war

based on a Reuters report. The plot breaks back and forth between serious details about the War to the thespian life behind the scenes. "It takes the piss out of theatre people and the way they construct theatre". Because it's a play that questions the nature of acting, Clare sees it as reflecting back on 'After Liverpool'. "Games' makes fun of virtually everything that's happened in the first play". The audience, which has placed enough belief in the actors to compare the characters to their real lives, is then made to see how they've been manipulated by the performance.

The comparisons between the plays are all the more inescapable because of four the actors from the first play are also in the second.

Clare feels that by using the same actors she is not only reinforcing the link between the two plays, but demonstrating the versatility of Theatre Group actors. The decision to perform the plays together also demonstrates the playwright's versatility. "Although they're both by the same director, and have similar styles of writing, they're both about very different topics and it's quite interesting to see the way one style can deal with different topics."

It should be interesting to see how one audience with two forms of self-mockery.

Juliette Garside

Hallelujah!

Music

Handel's Messiah
St George's Concert Hall
English Northern Philharmonia
Leeds Town Hall

Okay, we've already mentioned Christmas once this issue on page 17, but when Handel's 'Messiah' is being performed all over Yorkshire, it's a subtle hint that the festive season is just round the corner. This masterpiece can be heard in Sheffield and Middlesbrough in the next week, but closest to home is the concert in Bradford on Saturday 4th December.

The Bradford Festival Choral Society will be teaming up with the Northern Sinfonia to give a traditionally rousing performance of a traditional event in the Bradford Music Season. With everything under the assured direction of David Lloyd-Jones, this will be a 'purists' version of the piece, sticking to the original intentions of the composer, which can only be a good thing. Tickets start at £5.50, and there's a pre-concert talk in the Terrace Gallery at 6.40pm.

Alternatively, for a completely non-festive programme of excellent music, the English Northern Philharmonia are at Leeds Town Hall tomorrow. Sibelius' 'En Saga', Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.3 and Walton's Symphony No.1 make up the concert, which features the first ever winner of Leeds Piano Competition, Michael Roll. Tickets from £4.

NEWS

FLASH

GRANTS SLASHED BY 10%

The Government have announced that they are going to SLASH the STUDENT GRANT BY 10%.

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LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

Present For Rag Only Half The Experience?

Music

The Wedding Present
Town & Country Club
The Damned
The Saw Doctors
Town & Country Club

There's an early Christmas present coming to Leeds Rag this week, courtesy of the Town And Country Club. Monday night sees a benefit gig for the Spastics Society and the Off The Streets Fund in conjunction with Radio Aire FM headlined by the one and only Wedding Present.

It looks like everyone's coming home for Christmas, with Chumbawumba playing the Metropolitan University (see

page 17) and David Gedge spanking his plank on Monday 6th December. Supporting the Wedding Present will be Boys Against Girls and Bivouac, so for the meagre entrance fee of £7.50, you get a triple-header's worth of entertainment.

Tickets should be selling out quickly, so if you want to be part of the crowd raising an estimated £7000 for the charities named above, get yours quickly.

The T&C's going to be a fairly hectic place next week, with visits scheduled from The Damned and The Saw Doctors as well as the Wedding Present. The Damned will be bringing their inimitable "Grimly Fiendish" style to bear on Wednesday 8th - tickets for the concert cost £10 - and The Saw Doctors will be rocking the joint the following night for a slightly smaller £8.

All in all, a flourish of top talent to torment you at the end of term.

Swing Into Christmas

Kick off the festive season next Saturday 11th, with 'Swing' at Beckett's Park Student Union, a fine blend of soul, swing, ragga & hip-hop to celebrate the end of term. Headlining are "Manchester's liveliest soul sound" from Love Energy 99.65 FM, M.U.D.'s, who'll be spinning some serious underground dance tracks, and are promising 100% dance coverage!

Add to that the live acts, some of the best PA's in the North West, and free give-

aways from Bankrupt Clothing Company and Berkley's Wines, and you've got the makings of a truly momentous celebration.

Tickets are £2.50 in advance and £3 on the door, and are only available to NUS card-holders and their guests. Get there early, 'cos apart from the fact it's going to be incredibly popular, there's no admission after 11pm. The evening jumps and jives from 9pm to 1am - enjoy.



Newman & Baddiel
St George's Concert Hall
Jenny Eclair
Alhambra Studio

See this space, this is The Guide this is, The Guide trying to find a witty way of introducing Newman and Baddiel on tour in Bradford. These familiar student-household names are arriving at St George's concert hall on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th December. Their current national tour, 'Live and in Pieces' promises more of the duo's familiar comedy style (all too familiar to those of us weary of certain 'witty' scenes being improvised down the pub). This

new tour has been better acclaimed than previous tours with the Mary Whitehouse Experience, who didn't come across as well in front of live audiences. As seen on T.V. their new act is more satirical, relying less on clever camera angles and silly scenes to forcefully have us all chuckling in agreement at their joyfully cynical look at life. Their experiments with their acts on the T.V. before going live mean that we can all have a free taster before going to see them live; tickets are £10.

At the Alhambra Studio Theatre the comedy season continues with flashes of wit from Jenny Eclair. She'll performing her very own brand of uncompromising comedy on Sunday the 5th December.

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FRIDAY

BBC 1

6.00 News and Weather
6.30 Look North
7.00 Tomorrow's World -3D- Scientific gadgets don't work in 3D either.
7.30 Doctor Who and the Daleks Look escaping from the Daleks in the jungle isn't exactly tough, all that shrubbery.
8.00 Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game
9.00 News and Weather
9.30 Film The Presidio Sean Connery, please be my dad.
11.05 Film Countess Dracula Emma.
12.35 Film Voodoo Woman Hartley.
1.55 Weather

BBC 2

6.00 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons
6.25 The Man From U.N.C.L.E. United Beat Complete Losers Everton. Sorry about the 'N'.
7.15 The Living Soap Matt Roper really wants to shag Spider.
7.45 What the Papers Say
8.00 Public Eye
8.30 The Wartime Kitchen & Garden and Giggles scores with a terrifying left foot volley.
9.00 Bottom
9.30 The Team
10.00 Have I Got News For You? This week featuring Nursery Grower Man.
10.30 Newsnight
11.15 The Larry Sanders Show

ITV

6.30 Calendar Fashion
7.00 Family Fortunes We asked our survey if they remembered Dustin Gee.
7.30 Coronation Street
8.00 Beadle's About To make me sick if I see any more of him on T.V.
8.30 Second Thoughts
9.00 All or Nothing At All
10.00 News and Weather
10.40 Married With... Children John Patten is Al Bundy.
11.10 Film When Angels Fly Story of Giggles left wing exploits.
1.05a.m Whale On with James Whale.
2.05a.m The Big E

CH 4

6.00 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper Surely a Cooper is a barrel maker so what does he know about the wallpaper business.
6.30 Happy Days
7.00 Channel 4 News
7.50 First Reaction The Big Bang theory?
8.00 Short Stories: Sheriff Street Kids Bit like Bash Street Kids but this lot rob and murder.
8.30 Brookside
9.00 Plant Life
9.30 Cheers
10.00 Nurses
10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back On his delightful C.B. radio, breaker one, nine, come in rubber duck.
11.10 The Word

SATURDAY

BBC 1

6.15 Dad's Army If you're Darren Ferguson then it's the Premier League Champions.
6.45 Noels House Party Little and Large, Rosemary Ford, Mr. Blobby, be still my beating heart.
7.45 Big Break
8.15 Casualty It's winter it's been snowing, maybe people with hypothermia. I'm guessing of course.
9.05 Harry
9.55 News and Weather
10.15 Match of the Day Alan Hansen, please be my Dad.
11.30 Young Billy Young as he amkes a lunge seems to puncture his lung but he's still well hung. Eh.
1.50 Weather

BBC 2

6.25 News and Weather
6.40 Snooker
7.20 The Great Depression Look there's nothing "great" about depression it's bloody miserable.
8.15 Performance: The Entertainer Da, da, da, da, da, d... da, da, d... errr?
10.15 Have I Got News For You
10.45 They Shoot Horses, Don't They ...so why don't they shoot Bonnie Langford?
12.40 Lonely Hearts

ITV

5.45 Gladiators I wonder if Gary Mabbutt's watching
6.45 Blind Date
7.45 Murder, She Wrote
8.40 News and Weather
9.00 The Bill Loxton is "shadowed" by a Hollywood actor.
9.30 The Rookie This is uncanny Clint Eastwood is a cop "shadowed" by a young Hollywood actor.
11.40 Lady Hawke Dated fantasy movie but you can't go far wrong with Michelle Pfeiffer.
1.55 Coach and horses?

CH 4

6.30 Right to Reply
7.00 A Week in Politics Clarke is a bastard.
8.00 Four-Matons U.K.: Secret Passions Kenneth Clarke realises the cut in student grants will be balanced by the lack of V.A.T. on beer.
8.30 Whose Line is it Anyway?
9.00 The Brides of Christ Could be any of our stalwartly chaste news team. Helen sage is the most likely candidate?
10.05 Rory Bremner-Who Else? Having forced his naked body on the nation can't he be just a little bit funny?
10.45 The Producers Springtime for Hitler need I say more?
12.15 Late Licence Jo Brand and Julian Clary.

SUNDAY

BBC 1

6.10 News and weather
6.25 Songs of Praise Rupert, Rupert Hamer, everyone knows his name...
7.00 A Ghost in Monte Carlo
9.00 To Play the King Absolutely brilliant piece of telly why can't we have more like this?
9.55 News and Weather
10.10 Legendary Trails This week featuring the Otley Run.
11.05 Do You Remember Love? The nightmare of waking up in a strange bed next to the person on your course that you swore you would never ever get off with.
12.40 Weather

BBC 2

6.10 One Man and His Dog
7.00 The Money Programme Just how are you going to get on with 10% less next year?
7.40 Theatre School
8.10 Locomotion Thomas the Tank Engine pulled into the station...
9.00 Notes and Queries with Clive Anderson Where's your championship now Leeds?
9.35 Human Rights, Human Wrongs
9.50 Filmworks
10.00 Shane The gritty tale of a man, a loner who tested himself against the best duellists in the west, using only his arsenal of spin bowling techniques.

ITV

6.20 News and Weather
6.30 SeaQuest DSV Captain Bridger and his crew explore the depths of pulp T.V.
7.30 Heartbeat The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown of all the trees in all the woods the holly wears the crown...holly, berries, Nick Berry.
8.30 You've Been Framed I wonder how Jeremy copes with not being able to make proper snowballs. The cripple.
9.00 London's Burning
10.00 Spitting Image
10.30 News and weather
10.45 South Bank Show Comedy Special 2
11.45 Beverly Hills, 90210 starring Leo Sayer, David Silver and Color Me Badd, but not Leo Sayer.

CH 4

6.00 Moviewatch Still not as dreadful as Movies, Games and Videos.
6.30 The Cosby Show
7.00 Equinox
8.00 The Great Commanders Sir Matt Busby, Alex Ferguson and Peter Swales.
8.45 The Rape of Tutankhamun
10.00 Stand By Me River Phoenix is dead please make this crap movie go away.
11.40 Four-Matons U.K.
12.10 Sarrounia Chance for pseuds to pretend that they know loads about continental cinema.

By the one and only Stuart Davies



CROSSWORD

Across :-

1. (& 3D & 5A) - Play with no plot, perhaps? (4,3,5,7)
5. See 1A
9. Get out of the way if you don't want to be judged. (7)
10. Put a learner in a mess to do with mating. (7)
11. Almost weightless piece from the 'Firebird' (5,2,1,7)
12. Pays and becomes a candidate. (6)
14. Little French I put on written application. (8)
17. Flattered spread. (8)
18. Sit around the top and don't carry on. (4,2)
21. Do as promised when working for mail-order catalogue? (7,3,5)
24. Maybe give Ste a trace. (7)
25. As long as you like being out of work. (3,4)
26. Big ship has generosity. (7)
27. Penny's greed turns and makes harbour deeper (7)

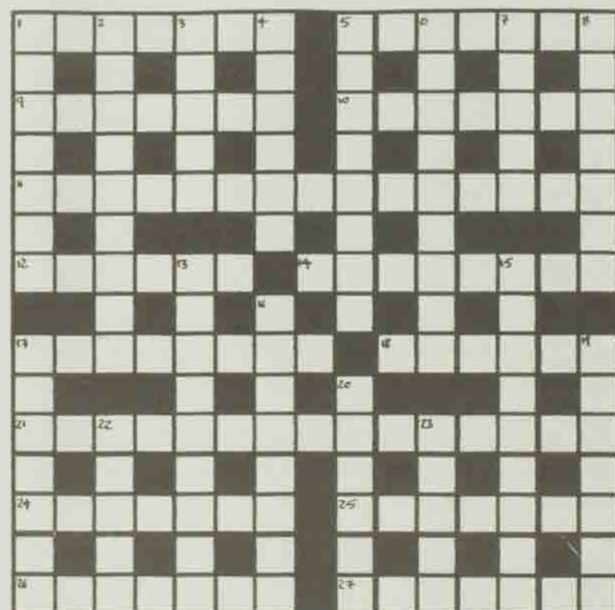
Down :-

1. South East's uptake of pulverised meals first leads to disease. (7)
2. Turn your termly cheque into money, or exchange bloke for some? (4,5)
3. See 1A
4. Stole about five hundred ... years? Most timely! (6)
5. 3 yards from Long John Silver and his crew of four. (4,4)
6. Strangely hedges a spirit to move. (9)
7. (& 16D) - Stir her ire, sir, give me some rough red-brown dogs. (5,8)
8. After two successful blockbusters, do this to claim prize. (4,3)
13. Profound speaker gives good bass. (4,5)
15. One vase including copper is bursting inwards. (9)
17. See 7D
17. Throw into confusion by going to live it up

- under bed. (7)
19. They always eat first. (7)
20. Overdose and rush around to cover. (6)
22. The vanquished left Rose about to go under. (5)
23. Kind General. A) left, almost. (5)

Last Week's Answers :-

- Across :-
1. Polemic 5. Respect 9. Play along 10. Ad hoc
11. Laid 12. Isothermal 14. Ogrish 15. On and on
17. Tractor 19. Optics 21. Wading bird 22. Blob
25. Rondo 26. Cabin crew 27. Spartan 28. Erected
Down :-
1. Pupil 2. Loading 3. Meat 4. Cross the Rubicon
5. Right Honourable 6. Spare parts 7. Exhumed 8. Tickling 13. Hitting out 16. Stewards 18. Addenda 20. Culprit 23. Bowed 24. Ante
£5 book token winner :- M Watton



The first correct answer drawn from the hat will win a £5 Waterstones book voucher. Send your answers to Crossword Competition, Leeds Student Newspaper, Leeds University Union, P.O Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH. Answers must arrive by Wednesday the 8th of December.
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West end Boys

video

Wild West - Juliette Garside
Jack The Bear - Kate Rowlinson
Get Your Hankies Out - Juliette Garside

review

Director David Atwood's whimsical comedy **Wild West** stars the delectable Naveen Andrews, who can be drooled over at the moment in Channel 4's *Buddah of Suburbia*, and Sarita Choudhuri of *Mississippi Massala*. Andrews plays Zaf, a suburbia bound misfit whose not living up to the expectations of his Pakistani community. He escapes from the monstrous banality of his London suburb with his dreams of achieving Country and Western stardom with the band he and his brothers have formed.

He enlists the help of the lovely Rifat (Choudhuri), but things get complicated when her husband and his menacing, minicab driving mates turn up, and Zaf's faith is sorely tested. The film will also test your ability to suspend disbelief, but then what do you expect from a funny, crazy, heart-warming escapist fantasy?

Made back in the 70s, **Get Your Hankies Out** is worth watching if you're interested in seeing Gerard Depardieu still without the charismatic weight of the great jowls he sports today. A bizarre and cynical

comment on the 60s Nouvelle Vague films, which were themselves an ironical look at a corny industry. The film opens with young Depardieu sitting in a Bistro with his long faced wife. Frustrated about his inability to make her happy, he goes up to a complete stranger and says he'll lend her to him if only he'll put a smile on her face.

The wide eyed and silent Carole Laure (who bears a striking resemblance to Maggie of *Northern Exposure*) is passed from lover to lover - in an effort to cheer her up and make her pregnant with the baby the men have decided she so wants - until she shacks up with a thirteen year old with an IQ of 158. It could only happen in French cinema! At times hilarious, at others unwatchable, disturbing, outrageous, I defy you to make sense of it - I couldn't.

Infrequently does a movie which is simply and unsentimentally moving come out of Hollywood that can also entice a tear from the dry-eyed English. Well, **Jack The Bear** just happens to be one of those infrequent films. Set in small town American suburbia,



the film enters into the tragic lives of the Leary family. John Leary (Danny DeVito), the father of two young sons, Jack and Dylan, has recently lost his wife; he likes a drink and has a somewhat unusual occupation as "monster of ceremonies" on a late night TV show. His job forces him to spend time away from the children, much to his regret, and we experience the film through the eyes of Jack, a troubled but enduring adolescent, who is engaged in the traumatic process of trying to rationalise the tragic circumstances of his short life.

Employing a common plot device in American film, the quiet, suburban street in "Jack The Bear", is suddenly subverted and becomes a threatening, dangerous place, throwing into further disharmony the lives of the Learys.

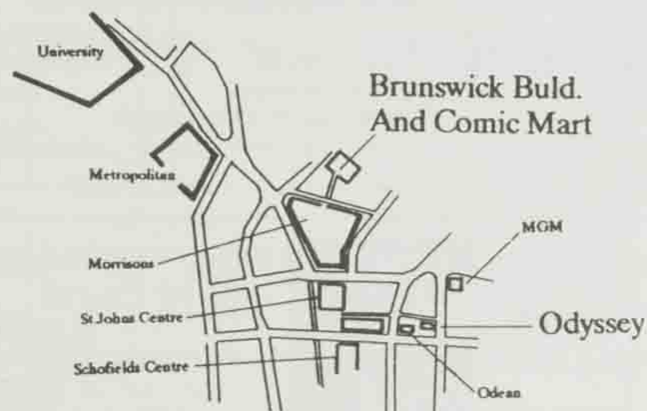
This is an engaging and emotive cinematic experience, bolstered by an unusual (for Hollywood) brevity. The adolescent perspective is extremely well handled and DeVito and Robert J Steinmiller Jr., who plays Jack, both deliver quality performances. It would be a shame to miss this one.

Videos courtesy of Village Video, Cardigan Road, Headingley

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Lost: one black shaggy mongrel dog. Barks a lot and answers to the name of Karl. If found return to 23 Keko Road!!

F.A.R. present Mike Willoughby, ex-punk folk singer, at "THE PACKHORSE", Sunday 5th December.

BUNAC - LEEDS METRO Work USA/Canada

Orientation on Wed. 19th Jan. at 6.30pm (Lecture Theatre 'B', James Graham Building, B' Park).
Witman. Woooooman. Wooooohuuuuuuman!

Do you take Matthew 7.13-14 seriously? Then come to Christian Student Action, Thurs, 6-8pm, Room D.

Mr Pearce and team, how's it going?

You, didn't want to kneel that table, did you?

Oy, chip pan head, teach me to swing my buttocks.

Slapper - chapper - thanks for everything. See you next week.
LOST: MW IN LS6...

Thanks to Tess, Paul and Lisa for Picture - MZ

S.A.B. (W.O.) Can I please have my pants repaired and returned, and in future keep your teeth well away! - K.Y.Lxx

Ang, Hello and well done, your flapjacks are amazing. Luv Giles

B.M. - Thanks for looking after me - I LOVE YOU x.

We're cold

PENDANT: sentimental value. Lost Mon 29th between Packhorse and Girls High School. If found please ring 757929. Reward offered.

Steve Massey, leave yer socks on for a side SPLITTING time

A big thank you to the beer-guzzling, shower-singing, coffee-swilling, mad woman (non-smoker) who, at the only joint in town where the bastards punish you for making you wait three hours, paid for us all. Very kind.

Leeds University Chorus singing Brahms: A German Requiem. Saturday 4th December, 7.30pm. Parkinson Court.

10 per minute, that's 600 an hour, 14,400 a day, and 100,800 since the personals last week. Hell, Wuhuhuhuhuuuuman, that's a lot of Maltezers.

...IRON IN THE FACE?...

LUU MS Brass Band Concert, Clothworkers Hall at 7.30pm on 6th December. ADMISSION FREE!

not a small bank of union hacks surely?...about a little issue. If you want your life to be as fulfilling as it is now, do something about it.
Ang. I love you, but you knew that already. Rog.

Mork + Mindy. Shagging frantically we do know.

Norwich mother of 3 seen naked outside Barbier.

Dear Claire, I feel I must write to apologise for the dreadful behaviour of the midget whom it might have seemed I was associated with. We have tried everything to change her but her blatant cheek knows no bounds. We know you are not normally an incredibly noisy and vociferous woman at all, in fact we think you are as quiet as a mouse. (With a megaphone).

Yvonne *22* Two words: THIS WEEKEND. Another two words: YES PLEASE!! L&J

MACAULEY - You sad Bastards! ...WHAT COLOUR WAS THE CAT?...

You'll get back to your washing eventually. My chips are in there.

Blind bat: how's your knee?

If I put enough personals in for you this year, will you fiddle my accounts for the tax man when we all get jobs out there?

Let me get your shorts whiter than white C.A.B. Lurve your top floor play thing.

BUNAC - Leeds Metro. Work USA/Canada Orientation on Wed. 19th January, 6.30pm at Lecture Theatre B, James Graham Building, Beckett Park.

Motown Jo: I let you win!

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Service presents Dr. Michael Kerfoot of the Dept. of Psychiatry. University of Manchester discussing "A Career in Psychiatric Social Work" on Tuesday, 7th December, 1pm - 2pm in The Seminar Room, University of Leeds Careers Service. Everyone welcome.

Don't touch CB girls. From the poor bastards at the STD clinic.

Fluent French speakers wanted to help on campsite in central France in summer 94. Write with personal details and give term time & home address and tel. to Camping de la Filture, 03450 Ebreuil, France or fax (0133) 70907948. Interviews will be held in January.

As of now, this Union is closed, by order HM Govt for how long?

The debating society presents: "This House would cancel Christmas", December 9th, 7.30pm, Council Chambers, Parkinson Building.

...CHICKEN!...

SOUL SOCIETY HOUSE PARTY, Thursday 9th Dec at 44 Brudenell Mount. 10 til then. 50p Members, £1.50 Non-members. Bring a bottle. Join at the door. R.O.A.R.

Celestial Meals Inc. That was certainly NOT the worstest, yukky, rotten grub I've ever tasted. When's the next one? Book us in now! (Don't worry, I'll gag her next time)

Leeds University Chorus singing Brahms: A German Requiem. Saturday 4th December, 7.30pm, Parkinson Court.

No Nathaniel, shouts Sue Mitchell of Mortain

Going bald? Know the feeling, right Mark?

Taff the centre-satirist: look below SNOWY - see you at the Ball, Prince Charming(NOT!)

Fish pate queen pulled more than just praise for her delicious creation. But why was he snoring? Guess you must have worn him out...

Calm down Cilla, wash out those dead smelly butt-checks.

Sorry if your chips got cold

Hold the front page: Rosa's nail is bust. George + the basketball player from hell (ie Ian) its official

Sarah: if I can't find tht ther sheet do you want to keep the one about cars? I can write some more about aeroplanes too if you like?...

LUU MS Brass Band Concert, Clothworkers Hall at 7.30pm on 6th December. ADMISSION FREE!

If I win, this country is in a sorry state. And 'Bubble & Ma'am' is not a registered charity.

Clare - share your armpits (Or is that shave? Bad handwriting)

Chuck us a knife, Mark.

If you don't go you can't sink? Is that it? You wimp.

Katherine, you've given me crabs. Teddy.

If number 24 still contains chocolate by the 24th then you are not a true bubble.

A big hello to Vicky and Graham. the videos on the way I promise.

Francis Fletcher: A personal at last, alright Broth. looking forward to seeing you soon.

You will require, lots and lots of warm clothing, a hat, gloves and a good pair of walking boots. In return I promise you a whole day of my undivided attention. No interruptions, no phones and definitely no paper.

The penultimate edition this term and so many people to thank. Sam cheers mate I owe you one, John Mc when am I going to visit Old Trafford, Stu thanks for the TV. John R thanks for doing the Tuesday late shift, Matt for talking me round, Helen for last minute interviews, Helen C - I apologise, I promise to sort it out, I was completely out of order - do you forgive me? Mark F, Liz for putting up with a smelly editor. Alex and Johnny thanks for being you. Steve you need a break mate, Juliette for investigating Leeds nightlife - its a hard job but someone has to do it. The new subs David Smith and Ed Crispin, anyone else I've forgotten..... and of course Rosa (I bet you thought I'd left you out) thanks for putting up with me, keeping me on the straight and narrow and producing the some of th best newspaper we've seen for ages - headline of the year included. Thanks to you all, I know I'm rude and arrogant but I do appreciate you, your all great and without you none of this would ever be produced. Are you alright folks?

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- 5..TAKE TWO BITES
- 6..THROW AWAY !

What do you think of the Video information service in the Old Bar? If you'd like the opportunity to give us your feedback then pick up

FEEDBACK
on Monday
and fill in the questionnaire.

Everyone who fills the survey in will be entered in a cash prize draw

To place information in FEEDBACK, the What's On board or on the Video submit it to Mark Walton Communications Sec by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to the event.



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LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

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LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

Arkwright for England

The Football Association are set to shock the soccer world by appointing G. Arkwright manager, Millthorpe Town's legendary one-eyed footballer as the next England manager.

The man who has single handedly turned around football fashion is ready to try his hand at a job many believe he is 'Taylor' made for.

Arkwright for England has exploded on to the football scene like a burst sofa overwhelming the Hyde Park. Headquarters in Leeds, where he is coordinating his campaign, the F.A. see Arkwright as the man to re-establish their flagging punter popularity.

Arkwright sportswear are the biggest supplier of the old

fashioned phenomena that is seeping the country.

The Leeds based firm's vision and commitment to quality has Europe's major kit suppliers falling over themselves in an attempt to arrest their marketing myopia.

Arkwright saw the gap after some disastrous on-field displays during the 1990 World Cup and Millthorpe Town's one-eyed maestro, has literally weaved his way through Europe's tightest corporate defence's, to secure deals for some of football's most treasured memorabilia.

F.I.F.A, the games governing body, has just granted sole permission to reproduce exact replica's of those unforgettable official World Cup posters in

full colour T-Shirt form.

This will mean a roaring return for World Cup Willie, England's popular World Cup winning lion, along with the stars of some of football's greatest adventures.

It's unprecedented for F.I.F.A. to put their faith in someone such as Mr G. Arkwright of Millthorpe Town, and such high praise hasn't gone unnoticed in the corridors of power at Lancaster Gate.

From the lips of football's most prominent figures have come the words, 'you can put your shirt on this man'.

And how England's present crop of misfits could do with some inspiration from the days of Matthew, Moors and Medonald (that's Malcom not

Ronald).

"When I was a lad, Stanley Matthews and all that" commented Arkwright yesterday "We would play with three broken legs. Players were proud to pull on their national colours, some were prepared to die for the jersey, now they just want to dye the jersey."

"You want to be playing in my Jersey's", continued the one-eyed wonder "My tops are tops."

G. Arkwright has already proved his worth in the England colours and might just have what it takes to succeed as England's next manager. While the tabloids fret over successors, it will be 'Arkwright for England' - put your shirt on it! No on second thoughts don't bother!

Win a World Cup T-Shirt

Win one of Five Limited Edition World Cup T-Shirts
Cut out and keep your 10% Arkwrights Discount Voucher

Question: Who did World Cup Willie inspire to a World Cup Final winning hatrick in 1966, was it:

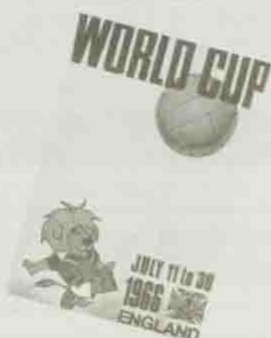
- a) Pele
 - b) Jimmy Hill
 - c) Geoff Hurst
 - d) Bobby Charlton
 - e) Gary Lineker
 - f) Pope John Paul II
- (you can change the question if you want)

Answers on a postcard to
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Arkwright
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Name: _____
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I, of sound mind and body agree that G. Arkwright, Millthorpe Town's legendary one eyed footballer is Taylor made for the England job. This opinion has in no way been influenced by the fact that this coupon also entitles me to **10%** off any Arkwrights product valid 31 December 1993



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LEEDS, 8TH DECEMBER, 1993

Leeds University Union ENTERTAINMENTS

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sat 4th Dec | ark Rocky & Diesel and DREAM FREQUENCY | £14.00 adv |
| Mon 6th Dec | WEDDING PRESENT + Boys Against Girls & Bivouac @ The Leeds Town & Country Club | £7.50 adv |
| Sat 11th Dec | Pogues | £10.00 adv |
| Tue 14th Dec | Gorgeous the strictest of grooves | £2.00 adv from the union |
| Fri 17th Dec | skank | £3.00 adv from the union |
| Fri 17th Dec | ASYLUM | £3.00 adv |

(MORE EVENTS TBC)

ALL TICKETS from LUU CTS shop, LMU, Jumbo, Crash, Cavendish Travel C/C line (0532) 442 999
LUU ENTS 93

Alive and kicking

Tae Kwon Do

National English Championships

At a recent Martial Arts Tournament held in Bristol at the Centre. It was the National English Championships in the fascinating kicking style of Taekwondo (TAGB).

Attending this tournament were two LMU first year student brothers Zammoord and Waheed Sabar, who are studying Chemistry with Business.

Zammoord was competing in

the mens Green-Belt lightweight division and Waheed in the mens blue belt lightweight division. The competition was tough and the sparring was rough but never the less due to their rigorous training and complete determination the two brothers kicked their way to the top resulting in them both winning gold. Over their two and a half year participation of this martial art together they hold 2 British (gold) championships, 4 English (gold) championships, 4 Northern England (gold) Titles, 2 Welsh (Gold) Championships and 1 Scottish (gold) Championship.



Zammoord Sabar and Sabar Waheed in training

Ultimate Highland fling

Ultimate Frisbee

Edinburgh Indoor Tournament

By Paolo Nistri

Despite events that conspired to keep Leeds from sending a team, a core of six players made the trip to one of student Ultimate's better-known tournaments.

With optimism running high, it became clear on Saturday that Leeds had a chance of doing very well.

Only an unforeseen tie with Edinburgh '2' marred 'Catch 22' otherwise perfect day, that ended with Leeds being seeded third by virtue of points difference.

Steamrolling through the second day, Leeds defeated St Andrews, Edinburgh '1' and Stirling by a combined total of 25-10, as they made their way to the semi-finals and a meeting with a Keele University team that had sneaked into the semis.

With the score tied at 3-3, Leeds made some defensive

adjustments to counter Keele's vertical passing game, and reeled off 7 of the last 8 points winning 10-4 and setting up a meeting with Edinburgh '3'.

The coaches game that preceded the final provided the spectators with an opportunity to see Ultimate played at a high level, but the final was no less exiting.

In the final 'Catch 22' burst into a 4-0 lead only to be hauled back by Edinburgh who tied the game at 6-6. A shortened second half saw the

two teams exchange the lead numerous times, until Edinburgh scored with 20 seconds to go.

A last gasp, desperation pass fell incomplete and Edinburgh held on for an 11-10 victory, after what had been a thoroughly entertaining game.

All six Leeds players played well and the result confirms Leeds 6 status as one of the top student teams, and gives optimism as next terms' National Student Indoors approach.

Like ducks to water

Swimming

LMUSU 134 Bradford 92

By Team Reporter

At the beginning of November, the LMU swim team visited Bradford University for their first friendly gala of the year. Also visiting was Liverpool University. Once arrived at Bradford's Sports centre they

found a decent 25 metre, 5 lane pool.

Once having organised who was swimming in what the racing got underway. All events were 50 metre sprints plus a 4 x 25 freestyle relay for men and women. Most of the swimmers in LMU's large team had the chance of a swim and showed a very high standard of performance. LMU swam very well in all races, especially in the relays, although Bradford and Liverpool had some good

individual swimmers.

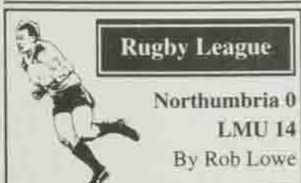
In the end LMU won quite significantly with 54 points, with Bradford 40 points and Liverpool 32 points. After the racing was quickly over Bradford set up some games of water polo. Unfortunately for LMU.

Bradford and Liverpool both had very good water polo teams. However LMU's swim team put up a good fight gaining a few goals but in the end inevitably losing both

womens and mens games.

Last week, the return fixture Bradford visited LMU's pool at Beckett Park. There was some excellent swimming from all of the LMU team, with some very close, exiting races, especially the relays at the end. The final points were LMU 134, Bradford 92.

All this is good preparation for LMU who are travelling to Wolverhampton next weekend for the Student National Championships.



Rugby League

Northumbria 0 LMU 14

By Rob Lowe

In a pulsating game full of end to end rugby Leeds were edged out 34-26 by Northumbria. Both sides showed some good early touches but then Northumbria struck a double blow. First a flowing move down the right resulted in

a try then from the ensuing kick off the Northumbria full back went virtually the length of the field to score. Leeds replied with a try in the corner to Danny Doughty. However Northumbria added two more tries before half time to lead 20-4.

As in the Chester match Leeds reserved their best play for the opening of the second half. Steve Hammell broke from half way and fed Doughty who beat off three defenders to score. This was followed by a superb seventy yard solo effort from

Owen Hollyman. At just 20-16 down LUU began to dominate but after a try was disallowed for a forward pass, Northumbria broke out to score another long range try.

Leeds seemed to be out of the game when Northumbria scored again to make it 28-16 but came back when speedy wingman Hill went over unfortunately Hammell could not convert from the touch line leaving Leeds requiring two scores. Northumbria sealed the match and their place in the hat for the

draw for the next round with a try from a blindside move at a scrum. There was just time for LUU to grab another try as good support work put Hill over for a second try. Man of the Match for Leeds was Danny Doughty who caused untold problems for the opposition both on attack and defence.

The second team won 52-16 also against Northumbria with Jason Wragg (3 tries) and John Duckles (try and 8 goals) leading the way in an impressive win.

Canoe Polo

After coming fifth two weeks ago, Leeds University men's canoe polo first team improved their improved their position in the Yorkshire and Humberside Division 3 league coming third last Saturday at the Leeds International Pool. After winning their first two matches, the team lost narrowly to more experienced teams. The goal scorers Phil Monk (captain) and Micheal Zatman were backed up by a strong defense and midfield, Rob Saunders, Jim Foster and Gavin McLaren with an impressive performance in front of the net by both Rob Tarran and Dave Simpson. With improving teamwork the chances of promotion next season should not be ruled out.

Tenpin Bowling

The Tenpin bowling team travelled to Hartlepool on Saturday to face the might of Teeside University. Defending a four wins out of four record, the University team made it five in a row with a 10-0 demolition job. 18 year old Matt Smith showed experience beyond his years with a 544 series for the 'a' team, while captain Mark Metcalf chipped in with a 546 series for the 'B' team, that included a sterling 206 game. The team are now assured a place in the UCTBA playoffs (national) in the New Year after finishing top of the Northeastern region, with one game still to go. The Ladies team and 'C' team whitewashed their opponents to round off a rewarding day.

Six a side Cricket

Despite some solid bowling and flashes of expectational fielding, inadequate batting matched by abysmal running between the wickets ensured defeat in both qualifying matches against Durham and Northumbria. The day had started well for Leeds restricting Durham to 131 all out of 12 overs, a modest score by their standards, a shock result seemed possible when Leeds had Durham reeling at 100 - 5 after star player Scarfe was run out brianly by Hobbas and Greenup the chance slipped by however as county player richards reestablished Durhams authority with an excellent 51. An anxious Durham side bowled and fielded particularly well restricting Leeds to under 100. In the second fixture against a weak Northumbria side Leeds started badly and could only restrict the Northumbria team to 140. The game seemed lost after a catalogue of suicidal runouts left Leeds at 97-5 until debutant Hobbes crafted a composed 52 to leave Leeds needing 2 runs off the final over. Hobbes could not manage this, scoring no runs as the pressure mounted.

Rowing

A hatrick of event successes was completed on Saturday the 27th by LUBC. After excellent shows at Durham and York in the two preceding weeks, the club travelled further North to Tyneside and the Rutherford head of the river race. Again the womens squad led the way and in its vanguard the impressive first four of Cuffing, Pearsons, Mitchel and Ford, cox McDermot. A fineblend of discipline and pure guts drew their boat away from a field of the strongest womens crews. To win the ladies fours event. The novice womens four emulated their more senior squad mates by powering to victory in the afternoon. The crew of Jones, Gould, Elkin and Dydra, cox Li-Yan-Hui rode with maturity beyond their experience to take the novice pennant with fine style. Other notable performances of the day were the determined paddles of the two mens novice fours. Moreover the strong rows of the womens novice eight and the womens first eight the former in its first ever race, certainly bode well for the future.

Sport reports should be submitted, to either our LUU or LMUSU office, by 5pm the Monday preceding publication. If you have any queries please contact Richard Fletcher on 434727 or 314251.

SPORT STUDENT

Beating the best

Tae Kwon Do

British GTI
Championship, Leeds
By Tim

Sunday the 21st of November saw some of the best Tae-kwon-do and free style fighters in the world gathered at Leeds University. tae Kwon do club and their instructor Mr Kieth stones hosted the 1993 GTI British Open championships. Open to any graded martial artist the competition attracted fighters of all standards, from those who had never competed before to top internationals and twice World Lightweight champion Mark Weir.

Fight divisions are divided up by both weight and grade, with light middle and heavy weights for the coloured belt divisions and an extra two weights, welter and lighthheavy weight for black belts. Leeds University hot from their success at the English championships in september. Entered a team to compete at all levels for both men and

women.

the first adult divisions of the day were the ladies divisions and the standard to be followed was set immediately by Terry Bailey. As the most junior member of the womens team she stunned all with her precision points sapring as she demolished all opposition to win gold in the Ladies heavyweight yellow belt sparring. Following on were the combination of skill and sheer determination Sarah Wardsdel and nicky barlow, took silver medals in the middle weight ladies sparring at green and blue belts respectively. Marcelle Leigh in her first ever competition took bronze in the ladies lightweight bluebelt sparring.

Next on were the mens tea, with hard fought battles and casualties at all levels.

In the red belt division neil ogden took silver at heavyweight in a violent and exciting final clash. Being beaten on points at the end of extra time. At blue belt, Dave Wise won Bronze at middleweight. Paul Landreth-Smith, having dropped his first



Members of the Leeds University team

opponent to the mat with a jump spinning kick to the head in the opening few seconds of the fight, continued to the final and won silver again at middleweight. At lightweight Tim Jones went onto win Bronze after having to knockout his teammate in a hrad fought second round clash which went through extra time and a sudden death finish. In

the green belt, Steven Derrig and Richard Mutton won Gold medals in the light and middleweight divisions, with Steven beating fellow leads fighter Lee Evans, in the final. Giving Lee the silver medal. At yellow belt the newest members of the team fought superbly with Kamiar Mireskandai and Paul Dawson winning Bronze and Bafokeng

Thokoa winning Silver in the lighthouse division. ben goggin took Silver in the heavyweights and Ohene Blake fighting his best ever won Gold at middleweight. Kamiar also won the Silver in the yellow belt pattern competition. It was a great day for Leeds University Tae Kwon Do club both as a fighting team and as a host of a great championship.



THE FINAL WHISTLE

In the Central American and Carribean Games in Puerto Rico Cuban athletes are making quite a name for themselves. Not only have they won 136 of the Games' 213 Gold medals so far, but also 34 of them have defected. Even the Chief of Security who's job it was to prevent such desertion himself defected.

The team was also considered to be one of the best of Castro's years which will only serve to undermine the ailing leader more. Lino Elias Ocan and Emilio Lara Roriguez destroyed several weightlifting records. Conrad Cabrera and Noel de la Cruz won Gold and Silver medals in the 4000 metre cycle race and became national heroes. Odaly Hernandez pitched the soft ball team to victory, walked off the field and into a car waiting to whisk her to a new life. All have been lured away by the promise of higher salaries and American citizenship.

To counter this the Cuban officials are now allowing Javier Sotomayor to keep a third of his \$38000 prize money and the Mercedes sports car he won which would usually have gone to the officials themselves.

The Cubans now hold a head count every night and competitors must ask for permission to see relatives and friends 24 hours in advance. Cuba's Foreign Minister has said that the real message is that so many have stayed and that they should be 'congratulated for their dignity and valour'. Maybe so but the athletes are now having to live in a very unnatural environment and the fact that so many have left must indicate that the treatment they recieve is quite bad. They are a revered group of people in that country and one can only wonderat what the rest of the citizens have to put up with.

R.Domeneghetti

Leeds smash the Geordies



Rugby Union

Leeds Uni 15
Newcastle 9
By Team Reporter

Last Wednesday Leeds 1st LXV finally realised their considerable potential defeating a highly committed and more fancied Newcastle Uni side 15-9 in a thrilling game at Weetwood.

Leeds exploded out of the blocks and were 10 points up after only 10 minutes. A well struck penalty from captain Dan Sparks was followed immediately by a period of sustained pressure close to the Newcastle line. The pack surging upfield before releasing quality possession

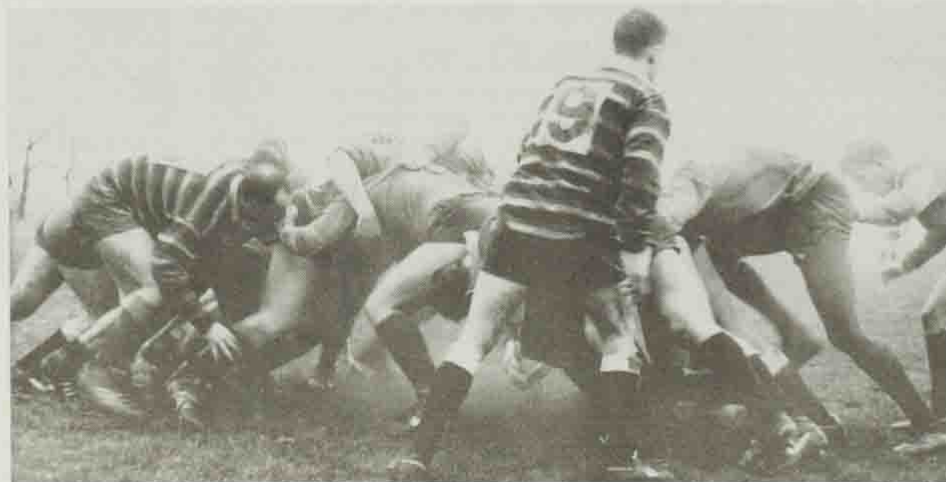
allowing the backs to release full back Matt Coly who swept through a static Newcastle defense for the first try of the game.

Jez Rowe added the conversion. Leeds dominated possession for the remainder of the half but were denied further points by an improving Newcastle defence.

After the interval a rejuvenated Newcastle forced Leeds to concede 3 early penalties all of which were converted by Wicox.

With the score at 10-9 and the game slipping away the Leeds side came alive and rediscovered their early form.

A mis-struck Newcastle kickfell to right wing Joel Saunders who launched a counter attack with forwards and backs combining brilliantly to move the ball



Leeds University Union in action earlier this year

rapidly upfield. The forwards driving play created the overlap and swift handling in the backs gave Saunders the opportunity

to score in the corner for a fine team try.

With only 10 minutes remaining Newcastle now

needed a converted try to win. They attacked ferociously but Leeds were able to hold on for a fine victory.