

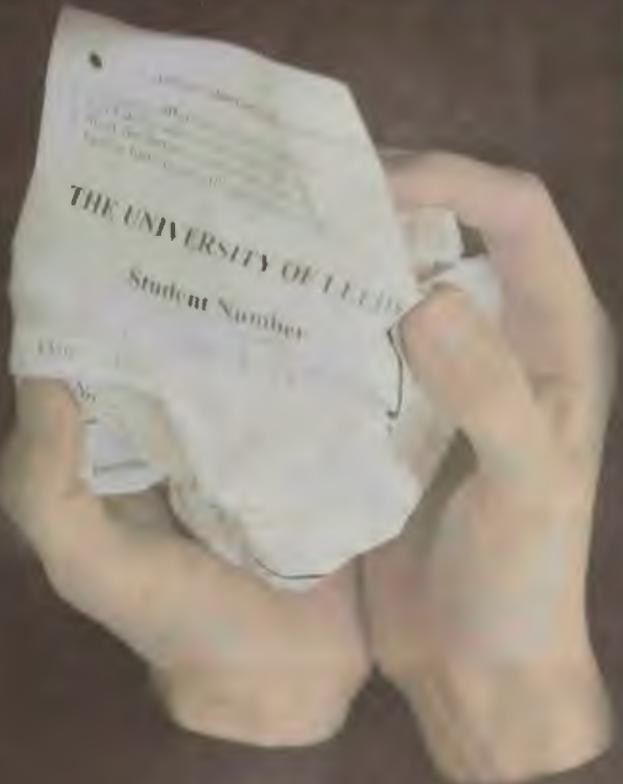
Leeds Student

Friday December 3 2004

Britain's biggest and best student paper

Vol 35: Issue 11

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LEEDS STUDENT MEETINGS

Arts: Mon 5.30
News: Mon 5 & Fri 4.30
Sport: Mon 1.15
Music: Mon 6
Comment: Mon 4
Global: Tues 3.30
Politics: Mon 4.15

ALL MEETINGS WILL CONVENE IN OUR FIRST FLOOR

LUU OFFICE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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Photos: Mon 5
Books: Mon 5.15
Clubs: Mon 5.30
Features: Mon 5
Style: Wed 5
TV: Mon 4.30
Fashion: Wed 5pm



Sketch

By ALI BEACH

With his perpetually befuddled demeanour and frantically darting eyes, big Dave Blunkett seems as bemused as the rest of us. That this outrageously hirsute authoritarian managed to maintain a three-year dalliance with the publisher of the Spectator is an impressive feat.

No wonder he always looked so chirpy during Prime Minister's Questions. As the

PM was grilled week in week out over Iraq, healthcare and the rest, dirty Dave no doubt had his mind on other things. "I can't believe my luck," he must have been thinking. "I must have been thinking. I've been so bloody lucky."

It seems that power really is the greatest aphrodisiac. That at least would give some kind of explanation to the civil liberties groups who have expressed outrage over the Home Secretary's uncompromising political agenda. Perhaps he reasoned that Kimberly would lose interest if she thought he was getting soft on crime.

It's a triumph for logical manoeuvring: power-hungry policy equals trial without jury equals a guaranteed lay.

And dirty Dave was certainly no flash in the pan. The history of British politics is positively chock-full with tales of salacious liaisons and seedy goings-on.

The John Major bombshell is the most recent example. When Edwina Currie stunned the nation by revealing that she and the ex-PM had been indulging in a bit of extramarital how's-your-father, people were understandably gobsmacked.

When countless millions expend valuable time and energy trying for a bit of care-free copulation, only to find out that the dullest occupant of No 10 ever is guilty of being less than a right honourable gentleman, it is hard not to feel depressed.

But that's nothing compared to the surge of utter disbelief which accompanied revelations that Robin Cook had been playing away from home. It's not being unkind to say that randy Robin is not a physiognomic masterpiece. If he was a work of art, he'd most likely be a Pollock: a bit a mess, with absolutely no sense of form or

structure. But even so, whatever he had, it was enough to ensnare his secretary at the time.

There is a lesson to be found amidst this sweaty, pulsating history of backdoor political affairs. That is, if you want to get laid, get into politics. Forget the cheesy chat-up lines as you desperately struggle to prop yourself up against the bar. An explication of Labour's five economic tests for Euro-zone membership should suffice.

Of course, those students seeking political goals in the Union do so with the noblest of intentions, but no doubt the attraction of the mega-sex appeal which results from high office is an added attraction.

However, that isn't to say that our elected reps require this kind of boost. They are, on the whole, a spectacularly attractive bunch, and we can be proud that our Union boasts such a beautiful visage.

BURNING

BLAZING INFERNO: The Headingley fire trap

DOWN THE HOUSE

UNLUCKY tenants were left with their fingers burnt after suffering two house fires in just six weeks.

The odd series of events began in August, when their boiler needed repairing. While using his blowtorch to fix the heater under the stairs, the plumber accidentally set the staircase on fire.

Nobody was home at the time so neighbours called the Fire

Brigade after being alerted by smoke alarms.

When fire crews arrived at the house they broke down the door and quickly doused the inferno.

At the same time they damaged some wiring which would later cause a second blaze.

Fire number two started at approximately nine o'clock in

the morning, after water from a shower leaked through to exposed electrical circuitry.

The fire had engulfed the side door of the house, which the tenants used to enter and exit, and the keys for the front door were out of reach in the kitchen.

Tenant Steve Stokes, a philosophy finalist at the University of Leeds said: "We all had to get out of bed at nine in the morning. They had replaced the front door

after the first fire and we didn't have a key so I had to jump out of the window."

Sally-Ann Heron, of Central Properties, which is responsible for the house on 40 Grove Lane, Headingley said: "Our tenants' safety is our priority. I helped them move into temporary housing because they were basically homeless."

The students are due to move back in this weekend.

BRETTON BOY ON HIS BYKE

A BRETTON acting grad has celebrated his first foray into TV drama playing a scoundrel in kid's tele's *Byker Grove*.

Playing Conor, the long lost son of do-gooder Lou in the gritty CBBC hit, John Carter was the token bad guy. In the series, Conor duped his mum into taking him and his 12-year-old son in and then stole the family silver.

Carter, 29, said: "The audience slowly realises I'm a shyster and on the last episode Lou springs me stealing from her."

"In the last scene I wanted a long dramatic monologue, but Lou says 'I can't

By BEN SCHOFIELD

believe you've done this to me. Get out.' And I just say 'OK' and walk out."

Byker has just finished its sixteenth series and Carter's last episode went out two weeks ago. Since filming finished he's moved to Kendal in Cumbria to start a panto.

"I've been stopped in the street," he said. "Being a baddie they hold me up and say 'you know, you're horrible!'"

Carter left Bretton in 1997 after doing a BA in Theatre Arts and said it'll be missed in the arts industry.

"Bretton has a great reputation, not just for teaching people"

but for training good actors.

"The new course [at Leeds] will produce good dramaturgs, but there's enough of those already."

They're taking away the practical side—it'll be like doing a singing degree without doing any singing."

He's done panto for the past five years and some TV ads for people such as the Irish health board and Spanish brand of shampoo.

In a commercial for Strongbow he asked Jerry Hall if she wanted a drink and was then dumbfounded when

turned out to be Johnny Vaughan in drag, after a pint of the cider.

"Johnny Vaughan's very funny—he said I reminded him of a bloke he was in jail with. I went off home after and Jerry Hall went to Elton John's birthday party; we're poles apart," he said.

Carter reckons there's no easy route into show business and warns hopefuls off competitions.

"The X-factor and Pop Idol just encourage idiots to go into show-business. There are no shortcuts,

"Don't put your faith in competitions and it doesn't matter if you've been to drama school or not, either is fine. Make sure you love the work and appreciate what comes up."

BAD BOY: (Clockwise from above) Carter stars as Conor in *Byker Grove*; in *Strongbow* adverey with Jerry Hall; with screen mom, far left with screen mum lovely Lou

C.V.

- * Bretton Hall College 1984-1997

- * Pantomime for last 5 years

- * In advert with Jerry Hall & Johnny Vaughan

- * Conor in *Byker Grove*

- * Starring in *'Aladdin'* in Kendal, Cumbria from Dec 8



DOC SOC'S DEGREE

BRAZILIAN football legend Socrates graced the grounds of Leeds Metropolitan University last Friday to receive an honorary degree.

The international star, who debuted for Garforth Town last week in the 74th minute, was struggling to acclimatise to Yorkshire's weather from his native São Paulo.

Fighting off the cold, he said: "I'm very happy to be here in Leeds apart from the cold."

"I'm very honoured to receive a degree."

After the ceremony, he met eight of the Met's footballers on their astro turf pitches, who were

By ED SALTER

very impressed with Socrates' fancy footwork.

"He's one of the big legends," said Met captain Joe Rossiter.

"People from older generations were jealous when I told them I'd be meeting him. It's like meeting Ronaldo in twenty years."

The skipper felt the visit was a great credit to Leeds Metropolitan, and the University's Director of Sport, Malcolm Brown, agreed.

"It's a fantastic and fortunate opportunity for us. Especially for a University with a great tradition in sport," said Brown.

Mr Brown pointed to the Met's close links with clubs such as the Leeds Rhinos and the employment of full-time coaches for some of their teams as examples of the continuing progress in sport at the University.

Rossiter and his team mates asked Socrates to sign two Brazilian football shirts for a charity raffle and presented him with one of their own purple football shirts.

The raffle for the signed yellow shirts will take place at the Met during the run up to Christmas. The proceeds will go to a charity of the winner's choice.



BOY FROM BRAZIL: Socrates celebrates in style

Abbey dash raises cash

4,000 COMPETITORS dashed around Kirkstall Abbey on Sunday to raise money for pensioners, writes David Nelson.

The course looped 10 kilometres along Kirkstall road, around the abbey and finished in front of Leeds Town Hall.

James Walsh, 23, studying a masters in Bio-diversity Conservation at the University of Leeds, finished tenth. He said: "I was really surprised with my time. I did this event two years ago and I was two minutes quicker this year."

Walsh thanked those who cheered him on. He said: "Lots of members of the cross country club came along and supported me. I am very appreciative of that."

The dash raised an estimated £35,000 for Help the Aged.

'EXAMINE THIS!' CAMPAIGN

'EXAMS ARE'



By BECKY BARNICOAT, HARRIET ALEXANDER-ORR, TOM PHILLIPS & BEN SCHOFIELD

THIS year's graduates have the dubious privilege of being the most examined year ever to have gone through the education system.

After SATs, mock and real GCSEs, AS-Levels and then A2-levels, all before sitting their modular exams, the class of 2005 have been put into the exam ring on more occasions than any of their predecessors. Being marched into the assessment hall semester after semester there is little time to take a step back and put the exam system in the hot seat.

Tens of thousands of students across Leeds will sit exams in January. These will determine a large proportion of students' module grades. But according to a poll conducted by Leeds Student, it is unlikely that they will get feedback on how they performed. There is also no mechanism to standardise marks if a student had a bad day in one particular exam.

Academics are complaining about the system also. They say they're being pushed towards using exams against their will. The flaws in the system go further than the usual student gripes about exams.

UNRELIABILITY

"The opportunity for students to simply learn other people's ideas and regurgitate them in exams is a serious concern, and that's why I think they are

inappropriate at upper level," says Steven French, a professor of Philosophy at the University of Leeds.

Matthew Caygill, course leader of History and Politics at Leeds Metropolitan University, agrees: "As an academic, I'm wary of them, but there are useful aspects. They are a means of getting students to present arguments in peculiar circumstances."

"End of term exams are very much 'on the day' and depend on the one question you answer," Chris Isherwood, 21, who studies German, said. "It's luck of the draw. They don't give a true representation."

But regardless of these flaws, some subjects cannot get away from using exams to assess students. As Director for Undergraduate studies in Maths at Leeds Uni Alan Slomson explains, science subjects find that exams are the only way to assess certain skills.

Slomson said: "In maths, traditional exams are the best way to assess students."

"If you want to know how a student copes with a calculus problem, you have to sit them down in front of some problems."

NO FEEDBACK

Regardless of what type of subject they do, 70 per cent of students won't ask for their exam scripts back after January. Responding to our survey, most students didn't know if it was even possible to get their exam work back. Even academics are confused about the system.

"I mean, what is the purpose of marking?" says Jeremy Toner, a lecturer in Economics at the Institute for Transport Studies. "Where coursework is a cen-

- No feedback for 70 per cent of students
- Exams shouldn't be the 'only weapon'
- Academics under pressure to set more exams

trial part of a module, you need to provide a summative assessment and offer formative feedback. In exams, you're not looking to do that. They are anonymous for a start, and there is no mechanism of giving feedback."

In some departments at the Met, students can ask for a meeting with their tutor to discuss the exams.

Caygill explains: "It is harder to give feedback on exams, but in the School of Cultural Studies we offer a tutorial feedback. The marker will write a comment sheet and it will be given to the personal tutor, who can meet and discuss it."

Modules at every undergraduate level continue to rely on exams as their sole means of

assessment. Academics, students and welfare practitioners agree that this practice should cease.

"I think exams are fine, but only as one form of assessment," Toner said. "I think it's important to assess candidates via coursework and exams."

"Exams aren't fundamentally flawed, but they shouldn't be the only weapon in your armoury."

COUNSELLING

Each January and May student support services experience a massive peak in demand. Although stress at these times isn't solely to do with exams, assessment pressures tip many students over their

Sam Keyes



I was lucky when I was at school. I had a good short term memory and could just whack out what the examiners wanted to hear.

But if you haven't got that kind of mind you're sidelined by a dogmatic system.

At uni, not enough weight is given to other types of assessment such as class presentations — and maybe departments should think about letting students choose how

assessment is weighted, to let students play to their strengths.

The system also lets you slack off too much in your first two years and so when it gets to level three, students are totally unprepared. This means third years can get bogged down with all the stress.

To combat this, the Uni needs to make levels one and two more challenging while also improving its methods of giving feedback and support.

Education Officer, Leeds University Union

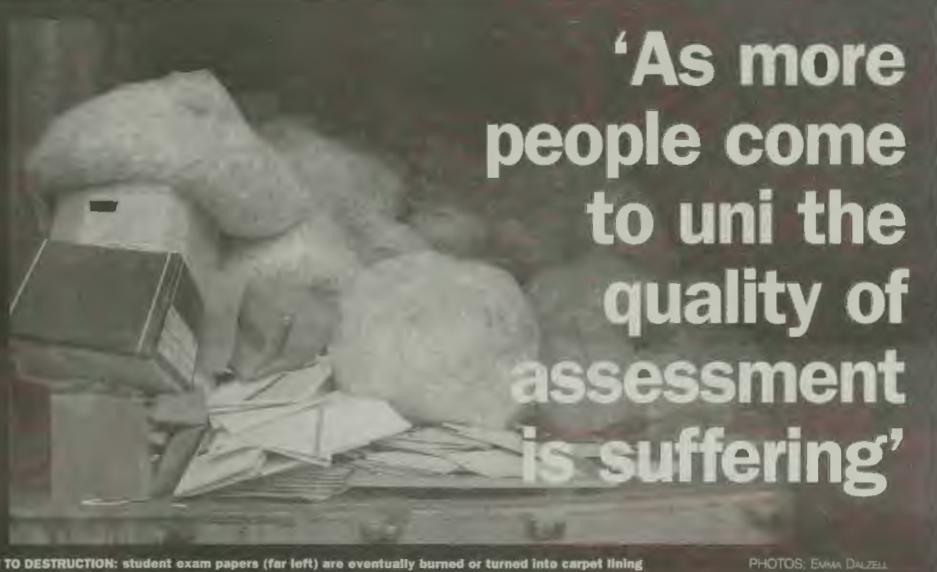
Inadequate staff office hours — some staff have just one hour a week and you have to make an appointment — are crazy and mean you can hardly build a relationship with them.

Unfortunately, exams are just about jumping through hoops. But if you find you're struggling, you can make an appointment with me to get some advice, or with a uni counsellor to talk things over.

'EXAMINE THIS!' CAMPAIGN

MADNESS'

'As more people come to uni the quality of assessment is suffering'



PATH TO DESTRUCTION: student exam papers (far left) are eventually burned or turned into carpet lining

PHOTOS: EMMA DALZELL

threshold.

According to Dr Rob Waller, a lecturer in Psychiatry, a favourable mix of exams and coursework would reduce stress.

Waller said: "In this system, five or more modules, who don't talk to each other, may decide they're going to have assessments at the same time. It might be better to spread assessment out over a whole course.

"It would be better to add some formative assessment earlier on which would guide students' learning, and also bring some marks forward to ease the pressure off the end of the course."

Exam anxiety is known to cause depression for some students.

Steven French



Senior research fellow, School of Philosophy, Leeds Uni

Exams are a mad way of assessing students. There's definitely a risk that as more and more people come into higher education, the quality of assessment is suffering.

I want more people to be able to go to university, but how are we supposed to manage that quantity of students?

When you had only 12 or so

students, it was possible to give

enough time to assessment. But nowadays, when you might have between 50 and 60 students, it's impossible.

Lecturers are too busy, and so it's very easy to slip into straightforward methods of assessment. There are so many pressures on us to move towards exams.

I would favour more creative means of examination, like marked presentations in class. Some people say that

oral examination isn't fair to the shy students, but then traditional exams aren't fair to those who aren't psychologically at their best in that situation.

Also, the opportunity for undergraduates to simply learn other people's ideas and regurgitate them in exams is a serious concern. By level three, students should be developing their own insights, so coursework is much more suitable.

more mental health problems with the new types of student.

"That's not to say they're not as clever, but they're more likely to end up in stressful situations because of their background.

"Student services are being used more since we started widening participation, but this increase is disproportionate to the increase in student numbers."

But more students will mean more exams, according to academics. They say they're being driven into setting exams because they don't have the time to mark other types of assessment.

French said: "There are just so many pressures on us to move towards exams. Not from anyone specifically – all of us in the philosophy department prefer coursework – but as the numbers of students increase, the case of exams becomes more appealing."

"There's definitely a risk that as more and more people come into higher education, the quality of assessment is suffering."

NECESSARY EVIL

There are more creative and inclusive ways of assessing ability and knowledge. Class presentations, field work and interview style oral exams have all been proposed, but French says even though the majority disagrees with them, exams are here to stay.

"I think exams are a necessary evil."

"Personally I've always felt that exams are not the best way to see if someone's learnt from a course. But issues of plagiarism, time and workload means we have to rely on them."

From despair to where?

• An informal biography of exam scripts

Many miles away, in dark and distant lands, (mainly owned by International Paper Ltd) sway extensive forests of lobolly pines, writes Becky Barnicoat.

The trees are expertly tampered with using the latest methods of genetic modification. They grow 25-30 per cent faster than "regular trees". This allows a quick turnaround and competitive production rates.

After refiling, hapless logs are shipped across the world and turned into pulp. A company called Arjo Wiggins — conveniently located in France — then transforms the pulp into coated paper, which is then sold to Linney Print in Nottingham.

Incredible, isn't it?

Linney's teams of paper wizards then proceed to create exam scripts, which are sold in bulk to the University of Leeds. There, they are distributed twice annually to hordes of confused harassed and ill-informed students who scribble the contents of their woolly brains onto the pages.

After marking — expertly carried out by departmental members — the story of the script becomes somewhat hazy. Bureaucratic slaves across the university doggedly refuse to divulge their whereabouts, although it was revealed that scripts are stored for up to five years after a student graduates.

Once the department feels the time has come, the scripts are bundled into green plastic bags, and labelled as confidential waste. This is then dumped in a large yellow skip somewhere near the EC Stoner building (shown left).

After about a month M & B Waste Management collect an average of 25 tonnes of brain power, take it back to their factory and pulp it. It is then reformed, as anything from more paper to cardboard rolls for winding wood around.

The sorry end of Leeds Met exam scripts is somewhat more dubious. According to portering coordinator Brian Belton, the Met's confidential waste is removed by a company who then transform it into the cardboards underside of floor covering.

So next time you knock your stagnant beer over, or stub a cig out at a party, take a moment to think about the hours of intellectual agony, and moments of genius which may well infuse the very fibres of carpets across Leeds. Ah well, roll on January.

*The Leeds Student Exam Poll
250 Met and Uni students were interviewed*

• Do you think exams are the most effective form of assessment?
Yes: 67.8 per cent
No: 32.2 per cent

• Do you think you would perform better if your assessment was not timed?
Yes: 41.5 per cent
No: 58.5 per cent

• Do you ask for your scripts back?
Yes: 29.3 per cent
No: 70.7 per cent

Does continual assessment place you under more stress than end of term exams?
Yes: 53.9 per cent
No: 46.1 per cent

The inside story: My exam nightmare

I put off going to uni for three years because I was terrified of exams

Charlie Peach, a first year Construction Management student at Leeds Metropolitan University, talks about his personal trauma with exams.

I don't like exams, no one does. They are a tried and tested form of testing, but they definitely don't work for everyone.

Dyslexic students, like me, should get more coursework because then we can operate at our own pace, rather than in the terrifying conditions that exams present. It all depends on how you cope with pressure: I don't cope very well.

I did three A levels: for Design Technology it was a two hour exam, for Biology and Geography there were coursework elements, but five other exams. I failed all the exams, but in the coursework I did much better. Those exams really put me off coming to uni. I was terrified of taking any more.

I changed my mind after three years because I needed to do something, and

By HARRIET
ALEXANDER-ORR

get another qualification. But it was only with the certain level of confidence that I had acquired by taking the gap years. I was interested in going into the housing industry. I didn't look at the exam to coursework ratio involved in the course, I just decided to face my fears and come.

But the exams still do worry me, I can't shake that feeling of failure. This year I've got two lots of three hour exams. With help from the dyslexia support I can have a crack at revision, but as yet the LEA haven't provided me with a laptop to help my studies.

I think it boils down to the fact that marking exams is cheaper than making lecturers mark coursework because it takes less time. But this

means students like me are losing out.

The university should try to get the balance right.



SCARED: Charlie Peach frets about his next exam

OPEN TO STUDENTS & NON STUDENTS

legends of the dark black

10 IN TERM SPECIAL... END OF TERM SPECIAL... END OF TERM SPECIAL...

MIXOLOGISTS TWISTED INDIVIDUAL LOXY B2B INK RUCKSPIN MC'S FOXY JUNIOR RED / GUSTO / JILA

DNB SET

EXAM STRESS: HOW TO COPE

By HARRIET
ALEXANDER-ORR

THE EXAM system leaves students stressed, isolated and "under immense mental pressure" according to student support services.

Nightline co-ordinator Roshan Pitteaa and Leeds University Union's Welfare Officer Vicki Luverseed agreed exams place students under great stress and noted that students often felt alone.

Calls to Nightline listening service peak dramatically in January and May, when exams are held.

Pitteaa said: "Nightline is even more important at this time, because students may not feel able to discuss their worries with other sources of support.

"It's easy to think that, as everyone else is going through the same thing, their own worries aren't important. Students may feel that they have to compare themselves to others, and are unable to discuss their concerns with friends because everyone is in the same boat."

"Nightline is really valuable because it is staffed by students who can empathise with their worries and provide peer support, which is not necessarily the case with other counselling services like the Samaritans."

Pitteaa added Nightline advisors frequently dealt with students whose family or

social problems were exacerbated by exam stress, or who simply needed to get their concerns off their chest.

Welfare Officer Vicki Luverseed agreed that exam worries can leave students feeling isolated and alone.

Luverseed criticised the intense mental pressure heaped upon students, calling the situation "unhealthy".

"Particularly at this university, it seems that learning is very much centred on the individual learner. People are encouraged to study in an isolated way with less emphasis on group work, which places real pressure on the individual," she said.

Student mental health researcher and lecturer in Psychiatry at Leeds Uni, Dr Rob Waller, said when it comes to exam stress, staying calm means maintaining a balance between the amount of work you take on and what you can cope with.

Waller said: "It's like a see-saw. Stress happens when demands outweigh resources. To get rid of stress try to readjust the balance."

• Where to get help

Nightline: 0113 380 1382
Leeds Met mental health support: 0113 283 3115

www.helpzone.leedsmet.ac.uk

www.leeds.ac.uk/ahead 4health

Holistic ways of combating exam stress are becoming increasingly popular among students, writes Jack Sharples.

Because of the demand placed on students by the exam system, many are increasingly willing to turn to alternative therapies in pursuit of an easier and calmer approach to life and exams.

The website www.holisticmed.com recommends yoga, meditation, tai-chi and bioenergetics classes (therapy for combining the body and the mind) as ways of regularly combating stress and tension. It also recommends dancing, so perhaps that night out in Halo could do the trick after all.

The most effective ways of practising these methods are regular teacher-led classes, although more intensive treatments include a holistic retreat, a holiday or a massage.

Simple therapies recommended are to walk, work and eat at a relaxed pace, to focus on your own breathing, and to take regular exercise.

Zoe Adams, second year psychology student, who practices yoga, said: "Yoga is a great way to unwind after a stressful day; I would recommend it to anyone."

English Student Ajay Kidaambi, 19, was more sceptical. He said: "Meditation may work depending on what mental state is achieved. For me, I find herbal tea and a bike ride more effective."

10 PM - 3 AM. TICKETS £7.50 ADVANCE.
(more on the door) from: Leeds University Union C.A.T.S. Jumbo, Crash, credit card: Way Ahead 01132 444600, www.leedstickets.com, www.ticketline.co.uk, over 18's, ID may be required. ROAR.

KICKING OUT COKE

A CONTROVERSIAL attempt to shake-up NUS policy could result in an unprecedented backlash.

Leeds University Union council this week voted to demand an end to Coca-Cola's exclusive contract with the national student body.

Student representatives supported a motion demanding that the Union lobby NUS in a bid to end exclusivity with Coca-Cola in LUU outlets.

NUSSL, the NUS buying consortium, supplies only Coca-Cola branded drinks to

By PETE NEWLANDS

student unions around the country, but in light of recent allegations that Coke are indirectly involved in the repression of trade unionists in Columbia, many higher education institutes are considering whether such a deal is appropriate.

The motion contains a resolution that states if NUS does not end the contracts there will be a referendum to decide upon whether LUU should remain affiliated to the national student

organisation.

Andrew Avery, Union Council Vice-chairperson, said: "It is highly likely the NUS won't act on our wishes."

In regards to how LUU could replace popular NUS services like student discounts he said: "We're working on those plans."

NUS is currently in the dogs house with members of the decision making body.

Union council member Mike O'Carroll said: "The NUS should represent its members. It's very undemocratic."



BUDWEISER

The charge: Animal rights groups are up in arms over the fact that Budweiser's parent company, Anheuser-Busch, owns marine parks which keep whales in captivity.

What they say: Daniel Turner is a spokesperson for Cetacean Defence, a group which has worked to publicise the plight of captive orca whales. He says: "We supported a boycott called 'Badou' to highlight the issue."

"It is important to get publicity. The orca is the largest dolphin species and should not be kept in captivity."

What Budweiser say: "It is our opinion that displaying animals like killer whales and dolphins creates a deeper understanding and respect for these animals among our guests. "We recognise that there are people who disagree with us on this issue and we respect their right to express their opinion."



BACARDI

The charge: It is claimed that since 1960 Bacardi has covertly financed plots to overthrow Fidel Castro, despite relying on it's Cuban heritage when promoting the drink.

What they say: The Revolutionary Communist Group are behind a campaign called Rock Around the Blockade. Their website says: "In August 1999, RATB launched the Boycott Bacardi Campaign by closing down the corporation's British headquarters for a day. Bacardi backs the US blockade of Cuba and funds the right-wing Miami which has committed repeated acts of terrorism against Cuba."

What Bacardi say: "This is not a new issue for us."

How clean is your conscience?

Leeds Student examines the other side of products sold in our Unions

By ALI BEACH

COLGATE

The charge: Animal welfare groups have voiced concerns that Colgate-Palmolive continues to use animal testing for some of its products.

What they say: The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV) is an organisation working to bring an end to animal testing. Their website says: "The truth is if [companies] really cared about ending animal suffering, they could stop it today by only using ingredients that have already been accepted as safe for use. Wash your hands of animal cruelty by boycotting these brands."

What Colgate say: "Currently, more than 99 percent of internal requests for safety assessment of our products are addressed by using available databases and non-animal alternatives, thus avoiding the need for testing finished products on animals. "We also continue to be strong advocates for supporting alternative testing with worldwide regulatory agencies, urging them to

examine how non-animal tests can be incorporated into their safety requirements for consumer products."

STARBUCKS

The charge: Campaigners claim that Starbucks refuses to guarantee that products sold in the company's stores are free of genetically engineered ingredients, including recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBST). The hormone is banned in every industrialised nation besides the US, is known to cause health problems in dairy cows, and has been linked to a higher risk of cancer in humans.

What they say: The Organic Consumer's Association campaigns for wider use of non-rBST products. Their website says: "Most Starbucks outlets are still using milk coming from controversial recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone. "We would like Starbucks to publicly state that they will stop buying milk from dairies using rBST. Starbucks should also label their bottled drinks and ice cream products as being rBST-free. There are ample supplies of rBST-free milk available in the US, at competitive prices."

HAIR DYE HORROR

BEFORE



AFTER



A FINALIST is recovering after suffering a severe reaction to a hair product, writes Mary Irsh.

Third year English literature student Rahena Ali was admitted to hospital after a Garnier hair dye triggered an anaphylactic reaction on her scalp.

She said: "It's affected my studies immensely. I have to take fourteen tablets a day including antibiotics and steroids".

Collette Kochevar, the deputy head of the Laboratoire Garnier consumer advisory department said: "Allergic reactions are rare. There are warnings on all packages saying that an allergic reaction is possible."

Love in the fast lane

SPEEDY suitors tried to woo prospective partners in under three minutes at a RAG fundraiser.

Bar Poda in Leeds University Union played host to the charity pull-a-bonk on Thursday evening in order to raise funds for LUU's official fundraiser.

The function which was organised by Mark Boothroyd, a Politics Freshers at the University of Leeds, raised £250.

Robot wars

ROBOT-LOVING schoolchildren have teamed up with post graduate engineers in a robotics competition.

On Wednesday, around 50 local 11 to 16-year-olds took part in the 2004 First Lego League, jointly co-ordinated with University of Leeds' School of Electronics and Electrical Engineering.

Yannis Gatsous, a final year Mechatronics PhD student and leading mentor said: "It's been really exciting and fulfilling and I'd love to do it again."

The winning team now travel to London for the national finals of the competition.

Conviction for cop killer

A FORMER US marine has been convicted of the murder of Leeds police man Ian Broadhurst.

David Beiber gunned down Broadhurst, 34, and his two colleagues in Leeds on Boxing Day last year.

He was arrested in a Gateshead hotel five days after the shooting.

Handing down a life sentence, Judge Mr Justice Moses said Beiber, 38, showed "no remorse" for his crimes.



What Starbucks say: "Starbucks Coffee Company (UK) Ltd sources high quality milk from British dairies. rBST is banned within the European Union and therefore does not impact on UK milk supplies. In addition to skimmed and whole milk, Starbucks UK offers soy milk as an alternative in UK stores."

STA TRAVEL



The charge: STA travel is a subsidiary of the Swiss business giant Diethelm Keller, a company which has been accused of promoting tourism to Burma. This has caused controversy amongst activists who highlight the appalling record of the country's ruling military junta.

What they say: Workers for the 'Burma Campaign' monitor the country. Mark Farmer, the group's campaigns officer, says: "During the mid-1990s, the Burmese dictatorship identified tourism as an economic opportunity. They began cleansing people from their towns and using slave labour to build up the country's infrastructure."

"We boycott STA travel to have an effect on its parent company."

What STA say: "STA Travel does not promote in any way, travel to or through Burma."

"Flights to Burma are available through any travel agent via the airline global distribution systems. STA Travel does not promote in any way, travel to or through Burma."

VOICE OF THE Leeds Student

leaders@leedsstudent.org.uk

Examine this

Come January tens of thousands of students across the city will be sitting exams in Leeds. But this week *Leeds Student* turned the tables on the examiners, putting exams in the spot light.

Speak to most lecturers across Leeds' various campuses and you'll find that fundamental grievances about the exam system exist right across the board. These concerns - according to *Leeds Student's* research - focus on four key issues: pitiful levels of feedback, modules based purely on examinations, stress levels and, finally, the fact that increasing student numbers are pushing academics into setting more and more exams.

Perhaps most startling in the research was the finding that 70 per cent of all students receive no feedback whatsoever from their department after taking an exam. Inevitably department heads will argue that their doors are always open to students. But the perceived lack of feedback is shocking in itself, raising wider questions about teacher/student relationships.

Are we here to engage with and learn from our academics or merely to be herded through exam halls? On the basis of this research, Leeds' universities need to take a long hard look at this question.

Equally disturbing was the finding that increasing weight is now being put on exams. As more and more students pour into Higher Education it is becoming increasingly difficult for cash-strapped departments to cope. According to some academics the result, however inadvertent, is that students are now being actively pushed into exams due to time restrictions. It is, after all, quicker and easier to push students en masse into a sports hall than to chum through pile after pile of coursework.

Predictably the University of Leeds was reluctant to comment this week. At least one department said that university warned its staff not to comment. If their mentality is 'if it ain't broke don't fix it' then this research should be a wake up call. The exam system does in fact require urgent attention.

Exams have always been demonised; for decades students have called for them to be scrapped. But with the launch of *Leeds Student's* new 'Examine This!' campaign, we ask Leeds' universities not to abolish the exams but to urgently review the current system.

We ask every university department to consider whether their system is working in the best interests of both staff and students.

Fight the fat cats

In our unashamedly consumeristic age, not a day goes by when we are not grappled by the all-encompassing tentacles of multinational corporations. Sometimes it is hard to say afloat in this sea of brands and franchises.

Students are no exception. The full-frontal bombardment doled out by companies on a daily basis is extremely hard to withstand and the disposable nature of undergraduate income makes us attractive prey for conglomerates in thrall to profit.

In partaking in this spendthrift society we must never forget to lift the veil on those who seek to tighten our wallets.

Whilst it would be wrong to suggest that behind every branded product lies a culture of injustice, there is no doubt that the faceless nature of globalised trade lends itself to recklessness and greed.

When it comes to consumer ethics, it is easy to fall victim to hypocrisy: many of those who bemoan the evils of capitalism are happy to fund the abuses of Columbian coke traffickers. And yet that is not to say that we should not be wary.

We should help the victims of unchecked capitalism, and hinder the people who practice it.

What's up doc?

Socrates was very proud to get a degree from Leeds Met this week, and so he should be. Right now he's probably reeling with laughter, wondering how he got it. What did he do for academic study? Sweet F.A.

Are the new words on the street in São Paulo 'Leeds Met'? They probably are now; apparently all you have to do to get a sought after British degree is to kick a ball and travel to Leeds.

Honorary degrees? They're not worth the paper they're written on.

The birth of Europe

As yet more water slides between Europe and Bush's America, the time is ripe for us to assert our alternative to the American dream



CHRIS GOURLAY

Sinking disappointment though President Bush's re-election is for progressive forces in Europe and the rest of the world, there may be some good that can come of it. For us Europeans, the George W. Bush years could be just what is needed to put an end to our long running EU-wide crisis of confidence.

Seen by the world as a fractious, divided and strangely arrogant continent, we are too incoherent as a power to be effective at promoting our own ideas, too yielding to the US to shout loudly when the world needs us to. And we, the people, have never felt more disillusioned with our government than we do now. We feel newly remote from our leaders and their foreign policy decisions and as a result, the ideas in which most of us believe, continue to linger outside the public realm, suppressed - for now - by men in power.

But for all our political divisions, we are actually a continent broadly united on some of the key issues: environment, free trade, welfare and more contentiously, the war in Iraq. On this latter subject, despite the political veneer of a great schism, the people of Europe displayed unanimity. And yet our leaders misrepresent us. In an age where politicians continuously lament the lack of ownership people feel over the European project, this seems a foolishly squandered opportunity which could have demonstrated just how much we really do have in common with each other.

The vision of a post-Bush world in 2008 is an exciting one for Europe

The problem and the solution I believe, is America. The last four years under Bush has certainly been bad news for progressive politics and serious damage has been done by the neo-conservatives in Washington, though things have yet to become truly intolerable for us Europeans. But what about eight years down the line? A new, popular perspective on America is likely to be cemented in place by then and, with such a sustained assault on the broad values of Europeans by the alternatives espoused in Washington, we will surely be fed up to our back teeth.

In the same way that America's national identity apparently depends on evil enemies against which Americans can make self-gratifying comparisons, Europe will become

defined in negatives against American values so distinct from ours that we are awakened to our own blatant bonds. Then, scepticism about the European project might just fade a little under the imperative of stemming the flow of harm being done by America. Spurred into action, Europe may at last have the strength of mind to cast aside the ill-fitting American dream which has never suited our continent and replace it with our own.

Under this grim White House, the world needs a strong Europe more than ever

But we need not wait that long. Europeans can already start being proud of what we have accomplished. Starting with the Great War that we commemorated last month, Europe, with the help of American largesse, achieved a formidable transformation from the battlefield of warring nation states to the peaceful, democratic and largely borderless European Union we have today. Today, its members are discussing a new constitution that will make it at once more governable and more democratic - the stuff of dreams just two years ago. Its new currency is strong against the dollar, it is acquiring the embryo of its own security blanket, independent from NATO, it is a fast-developing positive and progressive force with its own distinct destiny, a unique amalgamation of nations with shared interests and minds.

The change has been extraordinary. Most of the countries sitting together in the same parliament building today have been at war with each other in living memory, and repeatedly in the preceding century. A big chunk of our members were hostile satellites of the Soviet Union just a generation ago, denied rights of expression and national self determination. Four were fascist dictatorships in our parent's youth and one was ruled by a military junta.

Now we buzz around the continent as if it were our own country, travelling or doing business with an ease that would have been regarded with envy by our predecessors. And by working together, we have achieved so much. The EU has been transformed into a major actor in global trade negotiations, we advocate successful multilateral partnerships in place of Bush's unilateralism, we have pioneered our model for the environment, demonstrating by way of example that a healthy environment need not be sacrificed on the altar of capitalism and we are capable too, of showing how the riches of success can be spread a little more fairly.

The vision of a post-Bush world in 2008 is an exciting one for Europe. But why should we wait that long to realise our strengths? While the rest of the world languishes in dire straits, vulnerable to the grim policies of this White House, we battle needlessly with our own fear and anxiety of the

European project. What myths have we yet to dispel before we can make progress? Is it perhaps, the fearsome imperial measurement-hating Eurocopa, soon to be terrorising a market near you? Or maybe the sweeping harmonisations, ruthlessly standardising everything from the head on your pint to the type of grass you grow on your front lawn. Or possibly it's the menacing regulations which ban old ladies from baking tasty cakes and hugging their grandchildren that really gets our goat.

The Europe of the future is certainly a fearsome place if you describe it in such Orwellian terms. Sadly the media has, until now, been guilty of inscribing just such fantasies into the popular mind at the expense of a more balanced view of Europe, warts and all.

Come 2008, we will, of course, be powerless to influence the choice of the American people in their presidential vote. We can, however work hard now to foster an audible alternative to Bush's brutish, bullying White House. But to lead by example we must first choose leaders who have the courage to stand up for this alternative. In the UK, that means getting rid of impediments like Tony Blair as soon as the opportunity arises and replacing him with someone who believes in a strong, truly independent Europe that can offer the world something better. The time has never been riper to offer it.



WORLD AIDS DAY

**By LUCY MARPOLIS
CHIEF REPORTER**

TOP AIDS specialists have called for better education and more cash to help combat the virus.

They say it's vital that more people discuss the condition to dispel myth and tackle stigma.

Speaking on World AIDS Day on Wednesday, the professionals – all of whom work closely with the Leeds student community – explained the phenomenal pressures on students living with HIV, which gradually destroys the immune system, leaving a person unprotected against infection.

Martin Takwira, a clinical nurse specialist in HIV and AIDS at Leeds General Infirmary, said: "I see students who really find it difficult to talk about it [HIV]. Their friends today can be enemies tomorrow. A young girl who was recently diagnosed doesn't trust friends enough to talk about it. She's feeling very isolated."

Mr Takwira, who's worked with sufferers for 15 years, underlined the alarming spread of HIV. He said: "There have been improvements in treatment, but to some extent it's becoming a chronic illness, like dia-

betes."

He urged students to consider testing: "People should be encouraged to have an HIV test if they have unpro-

er in Yorkshire for the Terrence Higgins Trust, Europe's largest HIV/AIDS charity, also spoke of Leeds' students living with HIV.

schools [in the UK] is probably the worst in Europe.

"What is needed is a massive cash investment. We need the basics of good sex education and better access to sexual health clinics. Although gay men remain the most affected in the UK, primarily through unprotected sex, there has been a huge increase in the last three years among the heterosexual community."

But Men's officer of the University of Leeds Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Society, John K, highlighted the difficulties for students wanting testing. He said: "At the moment in Leeds, you have to wait around four weeks for an HIV test. That's ridiculous."

Vicky Womack, a sexual health promotions specialist for Leeds NHS, who works mainly alongside international students, said: "If people don't come forward for testing, HIV can be spread further. We need to accept that HIV is in Leeds, and that it can be spread through sex."

At Leeds Uni, around 400 people turned out on Wednesday for the Red or Dead night in Stylus, which raised £1500 for World AIDS Day President of the Stop Aids society and one of the organisers, Mark Winton, said: "It was an incredibly successful night with a good turnout. Altogether during the week we raised about £2000, which we're very happy with."

Gay speed dating comes to Leeds

GAY speed dating hit Leeds for the first time last night to raise money for Aids awareness.

The night, called Speed Mating, was held at Fibre to mark World AIDS Day and raise cash for the Terrence Higgins Trust.

Hosted by Peaches, queen of Mission's Homo night, the organisers expected to raise over £500.

Organiser Mercedes Rutter said: "Leeds has such a vibrant gay scene, we thought it was a brilliant opportunity to host a speed dating night, which straight people have been doing for ages."

Prizes from a fund-raising raffle included a stay in the Plaza hotel and meals for two.

Fibre was decorated with posters to raise awareness about HIV and Aids.

Rutter said: "The charity is very close to the gay community's heart because a lot of them know someone who has HIV or Aids."

"Over 50,000 people in the UK have HIV and yet only a third know it.

"We really need to raise awareness, especially in the gay community, because a larger percent of gay men have the virus."



RED OR DEAD: Stylus hosting a night to raise money and awareness for AIDS

He said: "I can think of a group of around 100 people, a number of African and young gay men. Stigma and discrimination are a huge problem. Sexual health education in

David Greenway, regional manager.

MIND YOUR HEAD

A WEEK OF EVENTS TO GET YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING

TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 7PM IN THE 75 ANNUITION WIND LUXURY THEATRE A TALK ON STRESS AND MENTAL HEALTH: A DREAM OF RELAXATION

WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 7PM IN THE 75 ANNUITION A PRESENTATION BY THE ONE IN FOUR THEATRE CO FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION FORUM EXPLORING THE ISSUES SURROUNDING SELF-HARM

THURSDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 7PM ONWARDS IN THE OLD HALL A DAY DEDICATED TO Raising AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH, STIMULATING AND RELAXATION WITH PRACTICAL WORK ON MENTAL WELLBEING



CHECK OUT WWW.LUUONLINE.COM/CAMPAIGNS FOR MORE INFO

Letters to the Editor

Leeds Student is your newspaper and we welcome your views. Please try to keep letters to a maximum of 250 words. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for legal reasons. Write to: Letters to the Editor, Leeds Student, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, LEEDS, LS1 1UH. Alternatively, email: letters@leedsstudent.org.uk
All letters must include an email address. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper.

Gambling thrills

I am writing to disagree with Victoria Cohen's article on the Gambling Bill, November 19.

The new super casinos will create jobs and enhance the local economies of the locations in which they are built. Many people are focusing on how this will cause more problem gamblers; this argument will be combating by the removal of slot machines from unlicensed premises in the UK.

The availability of fruit machines in places such as takeaways, especially to those underage is a concern and for many problem gamblers it's the first step on the way to their addiction.

Gamblers Anonymous estimates 33% of their members are addicted to fruit machines; the removal of these 6,000 machines will alleviate this problem.

Gambling is big business in Britain as people spend more and more of their hard earned cash on leisure activities and for the vast majority of well adjusted individuals, that's all gambling is a harmless leisure activity.

The former gambling addict Leeds Student interviewed was not a fair reflection of the many millions who enjoy a casino's atmosphere or the thrill of a win on the go sees, his addiction to not only gambling, but heavy drug and alcohol use show how clouded his judgement must have been to run up such debts.

When you gamble it is essential to be disciplined. The use of drugs and alcohol clearly deluded this person. If I

want to waste my money in a casino, please let me

Ben Cotton
Leeds Metropolitan University

Taxi karma

In response to the 'fare-dodgers' article, I believe that taxi drivers were not fairly portrayed.

They were presented as being 'victims' of crime, when I think, and am sure many others will agree is not entirely true.

Taxis are one of a students main modes of transport on a night out, and is the time when they are mostly overcharged.

During freshers week, taxi drivers were charging extortionate amounts to get to and from Headingley, up to £15 a journey!

They thought that as many people were new to the area, and weren't aware of what a 'standard' price was, that they could charge whatever they wanted to make a bit of extra money for themselves, and in most cases it worked.

I work in a city centre bar and the majority of the times I have ordered a taxi home: drivers have been rude, demanded money upfront and when the fare has been questioned have become quite aggressive. To handle the situation I have had to pay the amount which is generally much more than it should be.

If a complaint has been made to the office, staff have been rude and not taken it seriously.

In reality, we as students are the 'victims' of crime. We are the people who are struggling with money, and having

to pay a small fortune to ensure we can get home safely is ridiculous.

Although 'fare dodging' is illegal, the drivers are probably only losing someone off cur.

If taxi firms charged reasonable prices in the first place, the problem would occur less often, as there would be no need to 'do a runner' from a taxi.

Yours faithfully,
Katy Rushworth
Leeds Met

Not such a great divide

It's an absolute sham that the hunting bill has wasted so much time and money.

However, I feel that I ought to bring to your readership's attention that not everyone who supports hunting is in a class above the hooligan ridden football watching masses.

There are plenty of "commoners" who support the issue. Unfortunately, I feel that Peregrine's letter of last week

may have done nothing but embellish the perception that this is a riffs v commoners issue isn't it.

Everyone has their own ideas for me it is suberbantes getting involved in matters that they just don't understand

Jane Staveley
University of Leeds

New housing plans

The Queen gave her Royal Assent to the new Housing Act on November 19. When it comes into effect next year, the

Act will have major implications for student housing.

Part 2 of the Act gives a new definition of HMO - this will now include almost all shared student houses. Local authorities, like Leeds City Council, will be required to license all the larger HMOs. Landlords will have to show that they are fit and proper persons, and that their properties are sound. But this applies to only a fifth of HMOs, so many houses won't be covered.

But local authorities will also have the additional power to license all HMOs if they wish. However, they will have to apply to the government to do so.

Licensing will be good for tenants, good for good landlords, and good for neighbours. Leeds HMO therefore has begun lobbying Leeds City Council to apply for additional licensing. We have spoken to the Council, we are speaking to the universities and we urge LUU and LMUSU to put their weight behind our campaign to 'License the Lot!'

Richard Tyler, Leeds HMO Lobby

For the record

* THE Leeds Student tries to correct errors and clear up confusion as soon as possible. Readers should email feedback@leedsstudent.org.uk or write to: Readers' Editor, Leeds Student, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH. Leeds Student adheres to a complaints procedure. If you have a complaint about something which has been printed in Leeds Student, email full details of the complaint to feedback@leedsstudent.org.uk. Leeds Student adheres to the Press Complaints Commission's new Code of Practice introduced in June 2004. Information on the PCC's Code of Practice can be found on their website www.pcc.org.uk

Letter of the week

Smoking ambiguity



OPPOSITES DIVIDE: Is ample space provided for smokers and non-smokers?

As a regular Refectory customer of over six years, I was disappointed to find the enjoyment of my lunch ruined today by a completely unnecessary display of bad manners.

Unfortunately, it's that old complaint again - smoking but today the arguments were more unpleasant than the actual lighting up itself.

When a Refectory gig is being prepared, space is at a premium and tables are squeezed and shuffled to make room.

Today when the usual smoking tables were simply shifted down, past the floor sign and into the usual non-smoking area, my friends had unknowingly chosen a table directly adjacent to two tables of smokers one seating catering staff and the other, student nurses. Far from the usual boundary that kept our warring factions apart, it didn't occur to any of us that our food would be tainted by the taste of

tobacco. When the smell eventually drifted over, a couple of my friends were understandably annoyed.

Heated discussions of what indicated a smoking area - the sign, or the presence of ash trays seemed fair enough, but when one of the arguing tables contained staff, the situation was far more awkward.

Throughout the discussion, both groups continued to smoke regardless. One nurse-in-training

Leeds Student is offering the writer of the letter of the week two free cinema tickets to see a film of their choice. To claim your prize come to the Leeds Student offices on the first floor of Leeds University Union.

even lit up in defiance. It's this kind of unpleasant behaviour that ruins a meal far more than the smoky atmosphere.

Unclear rules may be unfair on smokers, but it's far worse for non-smokers when we are no longer in any position to justifiably complain at our lunch being ruined, not only by tobacco, but by rude behaviour too. The Refectory must rule one way or the other - a complete smoking ban or proper signposting of the rules in every situation.

Craig Lucas
University of Leeds

VUE
cinemas
Free cinema ticket enjoy the vee

Textual harassment...

My Old Dear had a saying: Every cloud has a silver lining. She was right - Bretton closes; Exec Simon Young has job ned. Or was it: What goes around comes around?

"A marathon debate...lasted one and half hours" p. 9 Next week in Leeds Student: Lectures keep impatient

reporter fit and healthy anon

* All big companies r guilty of sh!t, part of the capitalist worldy friends. so stop trying 2han coke. Its delicious and full of lovely caffeine yay!

* Anyone else worried about Jack Scully's dancing addiction? Tw

Leeds student wil only b like a tabloid when they put in a crossword easy one mind so us lazy students can do it -anon

* Why give cooper a column every week when he's got nothing interesting to say? Obituaries of footballers he never saw, political middle ground

on zim. saysomethingnew - anon

* I've learned sweet F. Asince i've been here. Mlm! I'm gonna fail! Weee! -Rob

* Simon hughes looks like heis a big fuüfie pep per spray nightmares

* £487 on tobacoper person per year? I can do better than that in one night! Love Smokey McCancer xx

* Those who havent learned anything have nobody to blame but themselves...ignorance is bliss. C

* I remember when believing in something

meant sacrifice. Why do those for the ban need an alternative at all? Noone makes you buy coca. Tom

* What the hell is the big hair thing all about? Young lads all looking like limahas they pile out of tiger tiger with their yahyah girl-friends- anon

* Im proper fed up with leeds. ive been robbed 5 times in under a year! Pisses me right off, damn

* More uni sports coverage. Less boringstuff that we can read in the national papers. Oh and acknowledge netball N

Improve your text life

Are exams failing students? Do they have any academic merit? Do they help you progress in your degree? Text in and we'll print the best ones.

* Texts published do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper.

Jimmy Smallwood



IF YOU HAD A COLUMN HE'D READ IT

EXAM FATIGUE

DAD THIS
SURVEY SAYS
TOO MUCH STUDY
IS BAD FOR
YOU.



OVER-EXAMINED? Is the exam system flawed?

It is quiet on the exam front. Yet as we ready ourselves for our yearly deluge of competitive exams, and prepare to regurgitate the verbiage we have 'learnt' from an impersonal lecturer at the front of an even more impersonal lecture room, consternation strikes.

As we plan our revision schedules and disrupt all the Christmas cheer, we steady ourselves for that proverbial, panoramic look around the exam room to see all those glum faces perusing the thicket of interrogatives on that rubric: "you must write in black ball-point men", you must, you must. Let's stop and ask one simple question why the sweat why the tears?

And look at the hoopla in schools. This month the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority have been publishing a series of damning reports into the state of the examination system. Its series of "recommendations" says more about the sad state of our schools' efforts to reach the nirvana of 95 per cent A-C pass rates than any politician or journalist could. With a reluctant but refreshingly frank air, it casts a stony eye over school examinations in this country, and it likes not what it sees.

Teachers are to be told to stop drilling their pupils to learn pieces of writing to be rehashed in exams. This supposed coaching of children is apparently not something new, but that should not dilute the seriousness of it. This has, in part, led to the stony silences we find in our weekly seminars where a tacit pat on the back meets the

first to open their reluctant mouths. Just as in schools, so in universities. Any gauge of a pupil's capabilities is rendered dead and laughable when all the natural weapons in their examination armoury are cleared away and replaced with a piece of Steinbeck prose and a Wildean proverb. This leaves them impeded and vulnerable in the exam hall, but the teachers have covered their backs and the schools and unis get that budget increase it's been banking on.

It's an Orwellian system where pupils have numbers, courses have codes and the net result is points

The examination system in this country has descended into a mish-mashed mockery. It can no longer claim to truly represent the capabilities of its candidates. It is an Orwellian model where the pupils have Candidate Numbers, the courses have Codes, and the net result is Points and Placements. Universities and schools get funding based upon specialising, and the League Tables display statistics in garish black and white. And the children are almost entirely forgotten

fcs4jjs@leeds.ac.uk



Sophie Hammer

There are many unjust acts of barbarism in the world, yet perhaps none are quite so devastating as the West's savage assault on Christmas cheer. Upon annual instruction from HQ that the last Easter egg has been sold, chirping robin are muted, muffled wine split, and faux-Dickensian snowy elegance pissed on as the growing tackfest that is the British Christmas Experience rolls into town. With the nation caught up watching assorted England sportsmen loose over the summer, city councils quietly re-attach the neon snowmen to their streetlamps and a fading soap star turns on the lights (and little else) in a swinsuit mid-August. Before you know it it's the first week of December and you're stuck in the bleak midwinter limbo, caught between the depression of 3 hour daylight and the ever-decreas-

ing window of joy that is Christmas Day.

Completing our Christmas list takes on the same suspense as post-election Ukraine

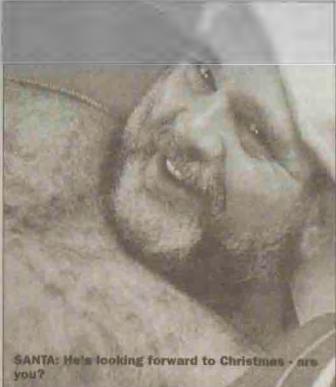
It's a sorry affair as we endure the elongated run up to the only kind of Christmas that the enforced merriment of novelty reindeer antlers can inspire. The abject misery of trailing round the shops on a weekday is unrivalled, the vacuous glad tidings of 'Merry Xmas' that adorn their windows conditional upon spending an hour queuing for overpriced unwelcome

Pizza Hut takes a relentless battering us armies of stony faced consumers re-fuel for the ritual torture of retrieving the Lord of the Rings: Two Towers 4 disc collectors edition from a packed out HMV. Indeed, completing Britain's collective Christmas list takes on the same sense of suspense and civil unrest as post-election Ukraine: gripped by the sheer terror of an out-of-stock iPod crowds of shoppers engulf the Argos despatch desk while a harassed assistant wearing bauble earrings checks delivery schedules.

The resultant post-traumatic stress is simply coal in the stocking for Scrooge-esque cynicism though, which has already been established at the exact age that playback of the household festive music compilation becomes a humourless routine. Gone is the

cheery optimism of youth embodied in the Wizard Kids; all that's left is desperate anticipation of the one day of the year when it would be acceptable to drink alcohol before breakfast. It's a truth universally acknowledged that the point at which you demand that the Libertines album accompany the carving of the turkey is the point your heart officially turns to ice.

Yet such a non seasonal spirit emancipated from the potential stress and disappointment of Christmas; instead of bankrupting us we have a wealth of better things to do. We must be grateful for freedom and say a little prayer for those less fortunate. After all in season of good will to all men feasting in Dixons at 6pm on Christmas Eve, the very least you can do is thank God it's them instead of you.



SANTA: He's looking forward to Christmas - are you?

What more is there to say about 76-year-old Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Noam Chomsky? The author of over 70 books (many of them seminal works) and the subject of countless others, he is, quite simply, a global phenomenon. Deified and reviled across the world in equal measure, he remains, in the words of *The New York Times* "arguably the most important intellectual alive."

By the age of 40 Chomsky was widely credited with having completely rewritten the academic discipline of linguistics. He single-handedly dismantled the prevailing behaviourist model (the theory that language is learned by experience after birth) and replaced it with what is called "generative grammar" (the theory that all humans have an innate grammar wired into their brain). This so-called "Chomskyan revolution" had immeasurable reverberations around the cognitive sciences and most of the humanities.

Chomsky evades simple definition. A formidable polymath, he is able to talk at length and with bewildering detail about economics, philosophy, politics and media studies to name but a few. Basically you name it, he can talk about it for days. Chomsky, in fact, ranks with Marx, Shakespeare and the Bible as one of the 10 most quoted sources in the history of the world (above Plato) - and is the only writer among them still alive.

Chomsky ranks alongside Marx, Shakespeare and the bible as one of the most quoted sources

But what has really cemented his reputation are his iconoclastic political beliefs. U2 frontman Bono calls him a "rebel without a pause"; Radiohead's Thom Yorke, "a hero". Not to mention Pearl Jam and the now disbanded Rage Against the Machine who have both read out Chomsky's work on stage during live performances.

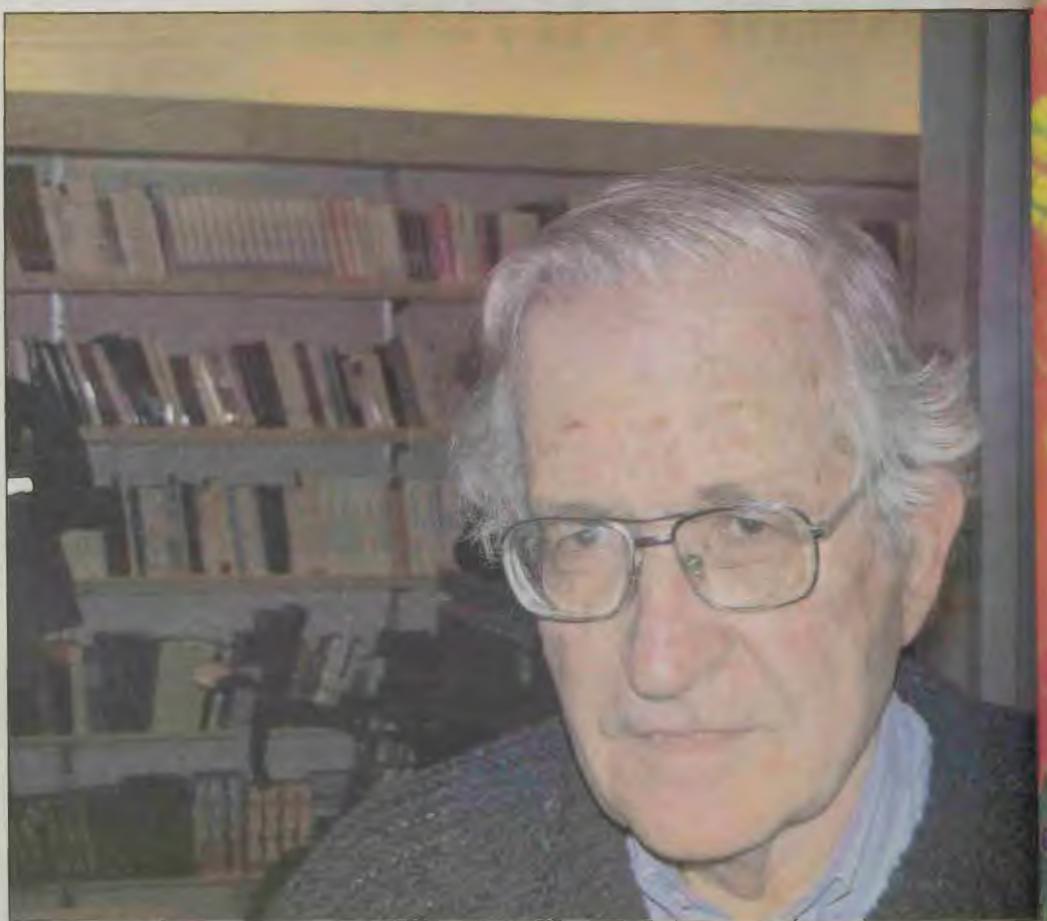
He wrote his first political article at the age of 10 about the Spanish civil war in the early 1930s and the spread of fascism throughout Europe. This was the genesis of a life of political dissent during which time he has wielded his pen consistently against the lies and deception of the powerful elites in the West. His outspoken and assiduous critiques of American foreign policy from the Vietnam war through the Cold War, right up to the current "war on terror" have earned him his position as the most feared gadfly of uncountable power on the planet.

And then there is me. After a swiftly smoked box of Marlboro Reds there I was sitting opposite one of the most important intellectuals of the past century. As can be imagined, it is an intensely strange feeling playing interlocutor with someone you have seen probed by such heavy-weights as Jeremy Paxman and even the late Michel Foucault. How do I fit into that lineage?

Waiting in the corridor outside, I was reminded of that scene in the Matrix where Neo goes to see the Oracle. I half expected to walk into his office and hear a preoccupied Chomsky say, "don't worry about the vase" before turning round to knock off some ornament. Still, despite these day-dreams, I felt surprisingly confident. I had managed to make it through the new state-of-the-art linguistics and philosophy department at MIT to its endearingly simple and smallish office without fainting. Told to go in by his amiable secretary, Bev Stohl, I sat down, shook his hand and managed to spit out my first question without biting my tongue.

Necessary

Noam Chomsky's political career started aged 10. N Chomsky remains as controversial and outspoken as enjoys a rare interview with 'the most important inte



To what extent do you think an American Empire exists today? A disdainful look sideways (I'm sure paranoia is a common plague among all Chomsky interviewers) and then: "The term Empire is so vague and used in so many different ways that I don't think the question can be answered." Okay, maybe not a good start. Then the gravelly but mellifluous voice starts again and I'm saved. "There are various power systems in the world. There are obviously tremendous inequities of power. The US is far and away the most powerful component of the world system in terms of

military force. In terms of economic force it is basically one among three. That's been true for a long time and is even more so today with North East Asia a very dynamic area and Europe roughly on a par with the US economically. If you want to call it Empire okay, if not, okay, word doesn't mean much."

Maybe I should rephrase the question. How much is there a conscious pursuit of domination by the US? "It controls policy all the time. I mean the US is unusual in that it has a very free society so we have quite good access to internal records - much bet-

ter than any country I know of. There's rational planning going on all the time and it's about domination and control. What would you expect it to be about? If you got the records of a corporation, you'd find internal planning about increasing profits and market share. If it's a state you find planning about how to control and dominate [and make sure] that others act in accord of your interests."

But surely the Bush administration's pursuit of domination to prop up the insatiable US business elite is an aberration that contradicts American values?

"It goes back to the revolutionary period. Then they had much less ambitious plans. But the Founding Fathers, so called, talked pretty openly, in fact, about what they called the 'rising American Empire'. They didn't mean Empire in the sense that it later came to mean in the late 19th century. This was a century earlier. But they had plans to expand to the Pacific, to conquer Canada. They were blocked by British force. Britain was a deterrent. They intended to take over the Spanish parts of the continental territory, Cuba and go on to the south as they could. The US didn't become



Season's eatings: Nell Frizzell and Hayley Broad sample the best and the worst of Christmas foods

Centre 12 - 13

Front Page Story

You may or may not have noticed that the front covers of *Juice* tend to change quite dramatically from week to week. From pint glasses with angel wings to aliens with scary bogey steering sticks, we are trying to make the most of this precious colour page by offering any budding artists out there the chance to design a front page themselves.

If you're feeling artistic and wanna have a go at designing a cover, come and see us at the Leeds Student office or email juicefeeds@hotmail.com for more details.

THIS WEEK'S JUICE COVER WAS DESIGNED AND THEN EATEN BY NELL FRIZZELL

Last Orders

After being embarrassed many times over, Red Top, Polly and Grapevine decided to leave *I'm A Student*, *Get Me Out of Here*. Since then, Polly has graced the cover of *Heal* and has even been invited to talk at the Oxford Student Union about the 'Benefits of Drinking Too Much'. However, their brief brush with fame has left Red Top and Grapevine totally unchanged:

Red Top: Dom Pengnon please, bar-keep. Make it the '66 Grapevine. You damn fool. It's got to be the '67 I wouldn't even wash my dog with the '66.

Polly (panic struck) How can you be wasting time arguing over the best year for champagne when we have all those horrible exams looming?

Grapevine: We have exams?

Red Top: Relax Poll. They don't even start till January and we're only first years. No one expects us to make any effort or show any kind of academic prowess until third year.

Polly: But aren't you worried that three months of drinking will have destroyed any brain cells we might have had

to start with?

Grapevine: Chill out, darling. Have another drink. Poll: Oh well... it ain't hurt, right? The damage is done, already. Plus... have my brilliant exam plan to fall back on. Red Top: (reaching for a pen and paper) And what's that then?

Polly: Well, instead of stressing about trying to finish 100% of each exam paper, I'm going to concentrate all my effort on completing 40% of each question really well. That's all you need after all. It's foolproof.

Grapevine: No Poll. It's proof of a fool but definitely not foolproof! You make me laugh sometimes with your schemes, you dappy bint.

Shady Lady: Did I hear someone wanting to buy exam papers? There's some really heavy shit here – Philosophy, Medicine, Sports Science, I've got it all!

Red Top: No thanks. We're alright.

[**Shady Lady** sinks off into the shadows]

Grapevine: Let's not talk about exams. This is the last

Clubs 4 - 5



Technique, Bukem, Green Velvet + Sounding Out

Books 8 - 9



Naked City, The Prince of Deadly Weapons + PowerPoint

TV 14 - 22



Rainbow Brite, LSTV Awards of the Year+ 7 day listings

Plus: Cinemas on page 23

time we'll be seeing each other for a while. Got any plans for Christmas?

Polly: I'm going to do a month's detoxing.

Grapevine + Red Top: (stunned silence)

Polly: I'm just yanking our chains, guys. I'm going to do what every good citizen should at Christmas – get shit-faced and painfully stuffed with food. Last year, I got so pissed that I spent a night doing bad Darth Vader impressions. What about you two?

Grapevine: More of the same really except I always do Yoda. Anyway, we should probably head off now. Anything over 11 weeks in one pub is a bit too much.

Red Top: Same place again next semester?

Grapevine: Of course. Have a good Christmas.

With great effort, our three regulars finally leave the pub. And all that's left to show of their near-constant semester-long presence are three well-worn arse ruts.

"HOLIDAY TIME GENTLEMEN PLEASE"

Arts 6 - 7



Winter Previews, School for Seduction + Artsparkle '04

MUSIC 10 - 11



Bare-naked Ladies, Albums of the Year + Xmas previews

** LOWDOWN with Nell Frizzell

I may be churlish, I may be pathologically unfestive, I may wish to strangle all the sparkly top-hatted members of Slade with my bare hands just so I never have to hear the words "It's Christmaaaaaaa!" blaring out of a Christmas superstore ever again, but I wish you all, from the bottom of my stony heart, a very Happy Christmas (and those of you who are not of the Christian persuasion may I wish you a very happy holiday). I hope you all snog someone chronically embarrassing under the mistletoe. I hope you are given seventeen pairs of nylon socks by your grandmother. I hope you cry at the end of *The Snowman*. But most of all, I hope you remember what Christmas is really all about - a piece of earth and good will to all men. And remember, don't sell your soul to Santa. (P.S. It's my birthday on Sunday. I shall be twenty so send me a card.)



Quote of the week

"Yeah, I had sex with a boxing glove" Fair enough, but will it still love you in the morning?

Nastyfest II

What: New Wave Festival
When: Saturday December 11, 12pm - 3am
Where: The Faversham
How Much: £8.50 in advance, £10 on the door

Not all sequels are a crushing disappointment. *Tremors II* was undeniably a far richer source of cut-price gore and Hollywood schmaltz than its forebearer *Tremors*. So fear ye not, I am sure that Bad Sneakers' Nastyfest II shall do justice to the hype the last New Wave festival created. During the day, the Faversham are playing a marathon of horror films on three different screens, whilst food will be available until 7.30pm. However, things will really get kicked off at midnight as the mini-festival is opened by The Culls, one of Leeds' premier local bands. There shall then follow sets by Zombina and The Skeletons, Komakino, Hot Chips and Romp With Blonde, to name but a few. Then, just when you think that, like a guest at the embassy of Ferenc Rochet, you have been well and truly spoilt they shall bring on the DJ sets. Discs are billed to be spun by these fellas from PIGS, Liars Club, Longgun and Art Goes Pop. These names may not all mean that much to you now but, believe me, they will.



Brand New Second Hand

A little bird (specifically a Jewish bird with peroxide hair and great legs) tells me that a new second-hand shop is opening up on Hyde Park corner. Does this hail the dawn of a massive turf war between 'The Final Curtain', 'Sugar Shack' and the new kids on the block, 'Ambience'? Will there be shiny seventies Adidas tracksuits being fired across the Otley Road with no concern for the safety of innocent citizens? Shall corsets be used to catapult retro sunglasses at the windows of rival shops in order to beat them into submission? Will the owners of 'Ambience' wake up with the decapitated head of a pantomime horse costume lying on their pillow? Probably not, but just in case, I suggest that you go along and arm yourself with vintage gear while you can, if nothing else it will provide useful ammunition when the Leeds second-hand civil war breaks out.



Why I Love Pantos

There are few things quite so glorious as a third rate ex-Gladiator dressed in tights, punning like billy-o, wearing a terrible wig and making hundreds of 'it's behind you!' jokes in a desperate attempt to salvage his career and bring in the pennies so his family can have coal for Christmas. Actually, when you put it like that there are quite a few things better than pantomime but for sheer yuletide kitsch, you can't really go wrong with this British institution.

Pantomimes are as British as 'Are You Being Served?' and about as camp. Where else in the whole spectrum of British culture are we treated to the vision of an ex-game show host mincing around the stage dressed as a semi-mythical old queen called, devilishly, 'Widow Twankey'? When else are you allowed to scream

abuse at those on stage? When else are foxy soap starlettes dressed up as boys and told to slap their thigh compulsively?

Not to mention the Dali-esque surrealism of the Pantomime Horse. There is something about a man with his head nestled up against a friend's arse in the name of equine comedy that just tickles me.



Britpopular choice

Who: The Bluetones
Where: The Cockpit
When: Sunday December 5

The Bluetones are one of those amazing bands who have managed to escape the consumerist temptations of the music business; obtaining a credible position within the industry without 'selling out'. As you may remember, The Bluetones were a key component in the mid 90s Britpop showdown, providing such delectable hits as the infectious 'Slight Return', the riff-tastic 'Solomon Bites the Worm', and the anthemic 'I...', to name but a few. Sadly,

the sun went down on Britpop at the close of the decade, and since then the band has never really regained the same level of success yielded by the likes of 'Marblehead Johnson'. However, the boys are back for another bash, and their appearance at The Cockpit is but the second date in a festive tour of intimate venues across the UK. They're the sweetest looking indie-pop rockers you'll ever come across, and their tunes are massive! Besides, how else are you going to spend your Sunday evening? Working? I didn't think so.

Laura Coffey



Wet Your Whistle

What: Drink the Pub Dry
When: Thursday December 9, 7pm til late
Where: The Bricklayers, St Marks Rd
How Much: As much as it costs to get you well and truly plastered

Those lovely fellows from R.A.G are putting on one hell of a night to raise money for a Ugandan school building project. The scheme, that is its second year, involves Leeds Uni volunteers in the building of local schools in Uganda in order to provide greater access to education. And what better way is there to raise awareness for the need of educational premises in Africa than to get completely shit-faced with all your mates? Expect drinking games, cheap drinks (to make those games even more fun), prizes and for those of you who are of a bearded, folk-singing disposition there will be an array of real ales. Hurrah!



Hell On Toast

What: A Play and Club all rolled into one
Where: The Faversham
When: Tuesday 7 December, 7.30 for 'No Way Out'

and 9.30 for 'Hell Is Other People'

How Much: £3.50 (includes free entry to 'Hell Is Other People') How often am I left on a Tuesday evening wishing I could go to a play written by one of the great existential philosophers followed by a night of rock and roll dancing. If you, like me, find yourself in such a position then worry not, for the Faversham has come to your aid. The *With Your Left Hand* theatre company are performing Jean Paul Sartre's play 'No Way Out', which is about three apparently strangers who have been thrown together in hell and spend the play trying to decide why they must spend the rest of eternity together (sounds like a seminar I once had). After the play you are warmly invited to the aptly named 'Hell Is Other People' rock and roll dance club, where I shall be in truly hellish fashion doing the twist like my uncle Dick.



She truly is hellish

If you want to write a review of a new restaurant, play, club-night, shop, or a preview for a film, band, comedy gig, book signing, fundraiser, sheep dog trial, or whatever, then e-mail it to nell_lowdown@hotmail.com with your name and contact details and I'll try to include it. Any comments or suggestions are also very welcome

What Sonya Divine is loving and loathing this week...

What's Hot



Cuddle Parties

A new craze sweeping America - cuddling complete strangers in a non-sexual way just to be close to someone. A naive idea in theory

Elephant Bookshop

Just off Hyde Park Terrace, this little independent bookstore is so nice. Run by a guy with the sort of passion you just wouldn't find in Borders. Go and support him

Plastic Christmas Trees

They don't drop needles, and your cat won't attack them. You can even get fibregoptic ones - kitsch or what??

Topshop Couture

Topshop without looking the same as everyone else! Super!

Tepid

Xmas Temp Jobs

You get to work at the most pressured and hectic time of year. You never get out of being the 'new kid' and you get fired after Christmas

End Of The OC Series

Feels like it started only a moment ago - my Sundays loom ahead more desolate than a Siberian Kwickspan. Bring on the new series asap!

Boring Lecture Doodles

If you are going to distract me at least make it worthwhile. I don't care how bored you are - entertain me!

Black Ice

The silent killer, on the roads and the pavement. To avoid embarrassment and accidents, be ultra vigilant at all times

Couples In The Morning

Ok - so you spent the night together - great. Must you thrust it in my grumpy sleepy face when I stumble into uni



What's Not

LOGICAL PROGRESSION

When the most innovative member of the dnb society came to Stylus last Wednesday, Clara Spencer-Phillips and photographer Rufus Hall were there to see what madness would unfold

The pioneer of atmospheric, rule bending, genre slashing dnb in England and the creator of Good Looking Entertainment in London, Bukem, showed his fine, if slightly unanimated face at Stylus last Wednesday. Warmed up by Ruckspin, Hoppa and local hero Marcus Prestige, Stylus was fuller than I have seen it for a long time.

'Bukem is pure progression, saying he is breaking all the rules with what he is doing is something of an understatement'

Bukem's partner-in-crime MC Conrad was there and in spite of the fact his files were completely undone for the entire show, he had a sly grin slapped across his face, laying down some sweet, unobtrusive rhymes that just wet your

appetite for Bukem to drop a huge bass line which then came correct with some jazzy, break beat, electro, house, mashed up sounds of rigorous, high-end bounce, that left the crowd all eyes rolling and tongue wagging! He pulled out some old school tunes and played with the crowd, pushed it up and let off some fine soul stretching bass lines and then bent it back down to add a couple of dark and dubby sounds to the overall effect, with the classic *Good 'o' Love*.

Bukem is pure progression, saying he is breaking all the rules with what he is doing is something of an understatement, with his eclectic synthesis of tumbling, sweeping noises,



Bukem: Stalwart

other dnb acts should take note and shrug off the rules that they make their music to.

He deserves more props than an under-funded amateur theatre.

Progression Session vol.10 is out soon much to my delight, keep up the good work boys.

* The next joint to be taken from the now classic Sunburst Band album will be the Thin Air. The track has been given a subtle re-working by Joey Negro. Also featured on the 12" will be the Fanatix remix of Everyday.

* Ceremony Record's second release sees Estonian Sten Saluveer debut with the track Big Fun. The song also gets the remix treatment from Soulmagic and fellow Estonian Dave Storm.

* DJ MFR and Vincent Kwok have joined forces again for another 4 track EP, this time on Transport. The Back 2 Back EP is released in December and should have enough variation in the mixes to suit most.

* The next release on Compost sees Alex Attias head down the single route with the opening track from his long player Back Home. Help Me has already gained support from leading players such as Gilles Peterson and Patrick Forge.

* Basic's fave Fred Everything returns with another solid deep house in called From the Vault. The track is due to hit stores in late December. Also out of Canada, watch out for Dave Alif's *Got My Music* EP. The EP features samples from artists as diverse as Marvin Gaye and Björk.

* Two releases from the Waako camp to labels to report. The first is on Media Services NYC and sees West Coast producer Mephisto Odyssey take the controls. The second features some fine Chicago deepness on the Young Future EP.

* After the success of their debut, producers UPR return on Soul Steel with two more disco influenced cuts. Their last outing was supported by the likes of Danny Rampling and CJ Macintosh and the guys will be hoping to replicate that success.

* Finally look out for one of the Derby house mafia, Andy Holder making an appearance on Soulfuric offshoot Device. The track, Nothing Like Jazz, features a flurry of jazz influences and some very solid production.

Until next week, keep your house safe!

Something for the weekend?

(The essential packet of 3 for the days ahead)

- 1) Kings of Tomorrow : So Alive (Purple)
- 2) Paper Street Soap Co. : Bill's Land (Brickhouse)
- 3) Dean Facey : Don't Understand (CWMS)

Curtis is an ex-Leeds met student who currently writes for Blues & Soul magazine in the UK and DJ Times magazine in the US. For info, music and much more visit www.curtiszack.com



DON'T YOU KNOW I'M LOCO?

When long-standing house night Basics announced that Green Velvet was going to be joining in their 13th Birthday celebrations, Christina Morris and Patrick McClinton weren't gonna miss it for the world

It was certainly a 'lucky 13' for Dave Beer as Back to Basics celebrated its birthday with a red and black casino theme on Saturday. With a line up headlined by Cajmere (a.k.a. Green Velvet) of 'La La Land' fame and supported by MTV's Cuban Brothers in Room 2, demand was high and before the pubs had even closed, entry was restricted to guest list and ticket-holders only.

With the theme of 'Lucky 13', the already glamorous Basics was transformed into a Bond-style casino for the night. Roulette wheels and Black Jack tables offered winnings of a year's free entry for two. The dress code reflected the theme: red and black and an assortment of gangster-style suits and tiny dresses were on display. The show was undoubtedly stolen by Dave Beer's scandalous red suit, a rare look in house music circles.

Preceding Mr Velvet in the main room were Leeds' own live funksters the 20:20 sound system. Anyone who caught Tom Middleton's old band The Bays at the Wardrobe last year would have been impressed with 20:20 who even managed to pull off a live medley of 'You've got the Love' and 'Voodoo Ray', the highlight of the night for many.

Cajmere started his set whilst the 20:20 sound system packed away, where his Velvet persona would have sported the latest in span-

dex and outlandish green hairpieces Cajmere looked decidedly 'cajual'. The billing of 'Cajmere AKA Green Velvet' meant that many people were unsure of which persona to expect.

Appearing as Cajmere rather than Green Velvet meant a distinct absence of techno and electro for much of the DJ's set, in favour of house. In place of dark twisted weirdness the spandex master's mix kicked off with sweet



syrupy grooves. Kenny Dope's mix of Jill Scott's 'Golden' surprised the excited revellers.

In stark contrast to Cajmere's subdued opening, Room Two played host to thong-clad madness in the form of The Cuban Brothers. Entertainers rather than DJs, the Brothers harnessed the animated party spirit, transforming grey, industrial Leeds into a Club Ritz-style cabaret involving stripteases, Lionel Ritchie sing-a-longs and hernia-inducing break dancing. With shouts of 'Love Your Mum' the Brothers left the stage, hopefully feeling very ashamed.

Back down in Room One, Cajmere's set was getting into raw, minimal territory. Those who like their house old-school and brutally lo-fi would not have been disappointed. Despite generally avoiding the obvious, Cajmere couldn't resist dropping a jacking' version of Kraftwerk's robo-classic 'Numbers' and the drugs-education stammer 'La La Land' by every one's favourite green-haired techno alien.

Set of the night had to go to Basics supremo Paul Woolford, after all this night was always going to be about Basics rather than a headline DJ. Playing a set of classics from thirteen years of Back To Basics, Woolford ensured dance floor gridlock until six-thirty, when the party had to move on to Stinky's Peephouse for further messiness with house-nut Justin Long.



Tis some reasons to be jolly

Fa la la la la, la la la la! It's that time of the year when we all sit around and get fatter and happier than Santa himself. So, if you're going to be stuffing your gob, you might as well do it in front of one of these great Xmas shows:

1 CHURCHILL: THE HOLLYWOOD YEARS

This glamour-makeover retelling of the good old story of our Winston. American movie execs arrive in the UK to produce a WW2 film; when they see that their lead is a bumbling old fool they recast a younger, more virile Slater to jazz up the action and sleep his way around Britain (Out in cinemas on December 3)

4 THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Aslan, the Ice Queen, Mr Turnus, The Otters – need we say more? If you see one Christmas show, make sure it's this. West Yorkshire Playhouse (until Feb 5). Tickets = £5 for under 25s if you book one week in advance. Call the box office on 0113 213 7700 or go to www.wyplayhouse.com

2 VAPOLUXTHIRTY



3 LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

Christmas cheer takes a holiday as Jim Carrey stars in this comedy about a trio of kids whose parents get killed, leaving them in the care of a distant relative who plots to steal their inheritance (Out in cinemas on December 17).



5 IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The ultimate Christmas film. No question about it. Guaranteed to imbue even the worst Grinch with a sack full of festive cheer. If you don't shed a tear when the bells ring at the end, you must have a heart of pure stone (Showing at the Hyde Park Picture House from December 10).

7 THE AVIATOR



8 NATIONAL TREASURE

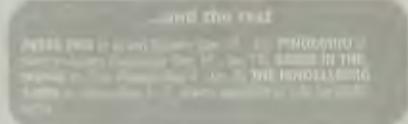
Silly actioner starring Nicolas Cage as a treasure seeker who has to steal the original Declaration of Independence. Why? For the treasure map on the back of course! Guaranteed inane antics and many one-liners galore. (Out in cinemas on December 24)

9 ALADDIN

PANTO! If you're a lover of twanky widows or great dames, this Chrimbo offering from City Varieties should definitely rub your lamp up the right way. Come boo at the evil Vizier and mourn the fact that Robin Williams won't be playing the genie. At City Varieties (Dec 8 – Jan 9). Tickets from £8.45

10 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

Prepare to be blown away by breathtaking visuals and stunning martial arts sequences as Zhang Yimou's spectacular follow up to *Hero* finally gets a release after wowing audiences at the Leeds Film Festival (Out in cinemas on December 24)



6 BLUES IN THE NIGHT

This rather unlikely at the moment musical based on a novel by James Baldwin has been given a new lease of life. The music was composed by the late John Kander and Fred Ebb, and the book by the late Tennessee Williams. The cast includes the likes of Whoopi Goldberg, Phylicia Rashad, and Phylicia Rashad, and the production is directed by the late Tennessee Williams.

2



4



7



5

Exhibition of the Week

Artsparkle 04

Innovative exhibition of local artists' work showing until Jan 9 (more information available at www.vitrine.org.uk)

This Christmas, you might spot some surprising things in Leeds' shop windows.

Despite the growth of boutiques and chain stores in Leeds, growth in cultural space for areas such as contemporary art exhibitions is severely deficient. Vitrine's project Artsparkle '04, created by Pippa Hale and Kerry Harker, aims to combat this in an unconventional manner. Rather than creating another gallery space separate from the consumer world, they have taken art into the shopping space. Exhibition windows are scattered throughout the city centre, featuring multiples, which are on sale, by a wide range of artists.

"It is hoped it will attract people culturally aware and but they are not the only people we want to reach. We want it to disrupt the shopping experience," asserts Hale. The artworks on first



glance appear to be shop window displays, some more blatantly than others. George Helop's 'Ten Tins Series One: Great Artists' a stack of paint tins which are matched to each of 10 Great Artists to recall the brightly-coloured artwork of the 1960s magazine of the same name. Situated in a window from Wilkinson's, without the exhibition guide most shoppers would just pass by it unaware. Similarly Deborah Willmington's luminous window of red shower gels outside Riley's hotel hall could be mistaken for a Superdrug window display. Whether to the culturally aware viewer this may pose interesting questions about exhibition space and art itself, whether it has the power to disrupt a focused Christmas shopper is debatable. Each window has information on the exhibition and a few have an angle on art and consumerism by Jake Arnott, inviting the shopper to establish a link between the worlds of culture and trade. Some



windows seem more likely to succeed in this than others. Dave Ronald's 'Moby Dick Netsuke' and Emma Bolland's 'Kinderfotzen', both particularly stunning exhibits, are located outside The Queens Hotel. Not only are they under scaffolding but the viewer runs the risk of being floored by swarms of commuters, if even trying to glance at them, let alone read anything.

Vitrine's bid to bring contemporary art into the consumer space is refreshing and an original attempt to make culture more accessible in Leeds. It features high-profile artists with thought-provoking works made more so by their unique exhibit space. To those with an interest in art looking for an extra original Christmas present—though most are not in the student budget—although it is highly recommendable. However, I did not observe any evidence that it was disrupting shopping as they passed by what remained to them just another window in the ever-growing shopping mecca of Leeds. (8) *Nicole Le Marie*

School for Seduction

Director: Sue Heel
Starring: Kelly Brook, Emily Woolf, Tim Healy + Dervla Kirwan

Lightweight British comedy fails to pack a punch

Sue Heel's directorial debut works on the template provided by previous British comedies but unfortunately fails to reach their heights. The film presents a group of Northern girls who escape their mundane lives by enrolling in seduction classes held by the mysterious and beautiful Sophia Rosellini (Brook). Of course, operating in the shadows of films such as *The Full Monty* and *Brassed Off* instantly gives any new British comedy an almost insurmountable task, but *School for Seduction* nowhere near reaches the standard set by its predecessors. The direction is averagely at best and the inferior script really lets the film down.

As for the actors, the pretty much unknown cast do their job well with par-

ticular mention to the relative newcomer Jessica Johnson who revels in her role as a slutty Geordie checkout girl. Men's mag favourite Brook handles her sultry part well although her Italian accent leaves little to be desired. It was a pleasant surprise that a woman famed for her stupidity and bra size delivered a performance as good as her seasoned counterparts. If anything, perhaps it is a shame her role was limited to relatively modest moments of emotional tenderness as she seems to have the ability to tackle a more challenging part.

The casting highlight for me was TV star Tim Healy who is perhaps most notably known for his role in hit comedy series *Audrey Hepburn's Pet*. As an accomplished situation comedian, his presence on the big screen as chipper house Derek was a refreshing break from a female dominated cast.

If you do go and see this film, it is important to be aware that the theme of female empowerment is crucial and instantly makes this film more suited to women rather than men. From a masculine point of view, although it gives you an insight into how the other half operates, it leaves one feeling a little detached with Brook's stunning looks as the only solace.

Overall, it had a premise which promised much but unfortunately fell way short of delivering, despite some enjoyable moments. (5) *David Needham*



Even the coffee shops in Amsterdam drew crowds to their windows

Goldfish Memory

Director: Liz Gill
Starring: Sean Campion, Fiona Glasscott + Fiona O'Shaughnessy

A genial but forgettable look at the turbulent nature of love and sex in contemporary Dublin

Based on the 50's classic 'La Ronde', this tale of the trials and tribulations of love in the Dublin dating game is lacking in the style and artistry of the original. It follows an ensemble of metrosexual Dubliners through intertwined relationships, as some look for love while others are happy to settle for more brief encounters.

Tom is a philandering university lecturer, who lures in his female students with bad poetry and worse one-liners. We also meet Red, a bike courier who is intent on not settling down, until he meets David; who is of course, involved with a woman.

SHOWING AT HYDE PARK PICTURES
HOUSES ON SAT + SUN

Hannah + Hanna

Director: John Retallack
Starring: Louise Fitzgerald + Beth Cooper

A simple but gripping tale of two strikingly different sixteen year olds

Their lives begin acres apart. Hannah (Fitzgerald) is a shop worker in Aldi, who performs late 90s classics on the beach to her friends. She hates her job, hates Margate, and most of all, she hates immigrants. Hanna, played by Cooper, has recently arrived in Margate, and finds both the relief from racial oppression, and the opportunity to begin again, truly exhilarating. The disparity in their lives is harrowingly depicted through their simultaneous address to the audience, standing side by side (apparently oblivious of each other), showing pictures of their recent experiences. Hannah fondly remembers her summer holiday, whereas Hanna remembers being crammed in a dark van with a hole in the floor for a toilet.

The play explores the gradual convergence of the two girls' lives as they discover their shared interests: singing and dancing to pop music being the first instance of familiarity. However, it also shows the detrimental effect their friendship brings to Hannah's freedom within her community. Isolation and self-incarceration, imposed by the oppressive attitude of British anti-immigration mentality, is a major theme of this play, as it progresses from alienation to recognition.

The quality of acting is absolutely fantastic - along with evoking comically precise depictions of their principle characters, Fitzgerald and Cooper perform multiple minor roles, ranging from domineering brothers to politically active Grandmothers.

The soundtrack is really effective too. Steps' classics aren't exactly Bacharach, but they bring back fond memories of covert underage boogies in the cheesiest nightclubs. The volume of the music is often pushed to the extreme, which, while possibly putting the fear of anarchy up the older members of the audience, really creates a sense of frustration with the state of society, and depicts the girls' powerful desire for liberty. (8) *Rachael Wake*

HANNAH + HANNA WAS SHOWING AT WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE LAST WEEK



bookmark



**Daljit Nagra
Poet**

Daljit Nagra's first poetry pamphlet, *Oh My Rubi*, was a Smith/Doorstop competition winner, The Poetry Society's first ever CHOICE, and was The Guardian's Pamphlet of the Year in 2003. In 2004 he won the Forward Prize for Best Individual Poem with *Look, We Have Coming To Dover!*

What are you reading at the moment?

Fasting, Feasting by Anita Desai
What is your favourite book?

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison.

What do you wish you had written?

The Tempest

What book have you read most often?

James Fenton's poetry

What books are on your bedside table?

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison and Seamus Heaney's *Collected Poems*.

If your life were a book what would it be called?

Who Am I?

Who would write it?

A chameleon.

What is your favourite poem?

Paradise Lost by John Milton.

What is your favourite literary quotation?

'Man is in love, and loves what he has not got.' - W. B. Yeats.

Who is your favourite literary character?

Iago.

Which fictional character do you most identify with?

Ralph Ellison's unnamed speaker in the second half of *Invisible Man*

Which new book are you most excited about?

August Kleinzahler's latest book of poems

Which books are you most embarrassed to have read?

The Fog by James Herbert.

Have you ever quit a book half way through?

All the time!

Hardback or paperback?

Paperback.

Where is the best place to read?

When you can put your feet up, and where your mind is free of distractions.

And the worst place?

In the dark.

80 goodbye and Merry Christmas from your Books Editors! The first books meeting after Christmas will be Monday January 12 at 5.15pm outside the Leeds Student office.

We will have a whole new pile of books for the new year so we hope to see you there! We know it's a bit weird but you have to think of the free things in life! Any problems get in touch at:

katie.kirsty@le.ac.uk

Ho, ho, ho!

Katie, Kirsty & Hayley



poetry

Powerpoint

Aisle 16

Aisle16.co.uk £5

Aisle 16 lift you up, bring you back down, and make you question everything you've ever known

From its spangly, holographic, CD cover to the menacing business figure creeping across the CD cover, *Powerpoint* threatens disquiet. A collection by what could be labelled the "angry young men" of our times, this CD of performed poetry takes the listener on a roller coaster ride of emotion. It is a culmination of dry and acerbic wit, pioneered by Luke Wright with Tom Sutherland's more unconventional questioning of the nature of art and David Brent-style office conventions, Chris Hicks' sense of impending catastrophe, and Ross Sutherland's achingly tragic exploration of love in our times.

The interweaving of these different poetic personae creates a context where the consumer is constantly on edge. *You Gotta Fight For Your Right to Laite*, by Wright, pulls the reader into

believing this is a collection based upon intelligent and wry parody, until Ross Sutherland kicks in with his unbelievably poignant *Things to Do Before Leaving Town*. "Take everything you've ever known", commands Sutherland, "Rock it, stack it, and thermoplast it! Cut off the phone/Bleed the radiator/Give back the stolen hanging baske... Come midnight/Throw a glow-in-the-dark frisbee off the highest point in town". It is this repeated simple beauty and conciseness of observation that serves to make the collection so

impressive.

At first, I was sceptical about the use of music in the background to the poetry, but it soon became clear that this served to enhance, rather than make up for, meaning. In *Powerpoint*, combined with Hicks' delivery, creates a sense of unavoidable uneasiness, while *True Type* by Sutherland - a poem which mounts in pace and tone until it reaches breaking point is echoed in the repetition of a simple backing, but with mounting speed.

fiction

Looking for Mr Nobody

Sue Rann

No Exit £6.99

A fusion of chick-lit and conspiracy theory thriller. Strength lies in characters rather than plot

Looking for Mr Nobody marks the literary debut of Stafford-born Sue Rann. Scouring the less glamourous elements of Amsterdam society, the novel follows two disparate figures - Robin Carlson, a tough 30-something American, and an amnesiac vagrant, living under the alias Jan Wolf. Their stories collide when Robin's PI partner goes missing, forcing her to finish his investigation into the mysterious project Nemesis, who's founder may be responsible for Wolf's memory loss. Should Robin trust old friends or mysterious new acquaintances? Can Jan trust the authorities? And (more importantly) will they ever trust each other enough to help one another?

Looking for Mr Nobody suffers from something of an identity crisis. One is unsure whether it is supposed to be a serious conspiracy theory thriller or an action packed chick-lit novel. This book doesn't entirely convince on either level. It is impossible to take *Looking for Mr Nobody* seriously because it is just too damn unrealistic. In what parallel universe would a supermodel hacker a pyromaniac beggar and a public-school detective contest a designer-military-drug plot with a helpful dose of telepathy?

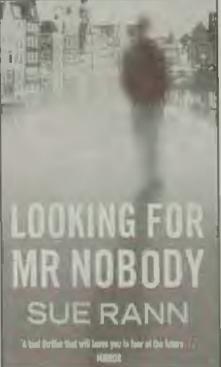
Apparently this one if *Looking for Mr Nobody* is to be taken in earnest Nor does it fully satisfy as women's literature. The self-deprecating humour, so often used in chick-lit is surprisingly funny but it doesn't always compliment the action. Getting hit with a

stun gun does not usually inspire the reaction, I bet Lara Croft never gets headaches'

However, *Looking for Mr Nobody's* principal characters help compensate for the incongruity of plot. Robin Carlson inspires empathy, flitting between military stoicism and nervous wreckage, doing kung-fu one minute and breaking down in tears at the demise of her goldfish the next. Jan Wolf is also engaging. It is easy to become involved in the hero's attempt to trace his memory especially when mysterious men in black coats are pursuing him. This relationship between hunter and hunted is the closest Sue Rann's novel gets to being chilling.

Looking for Mr Nobody was probably intended as a taut, gritty, real tale of underdogs fighting a conspiracy. But if you approach it expecting this, you will be disappointed as it is simply too silly. However, anyone who is prepared to read this novel with their tongue (firmly) in their cheek may find it an exciting, enjoyable way to kill a few hours. (4)

Julia Wray



Gaps in musical background in Tom Sutton's work seemingly serve to highlight art in everyday, seemingly unimportant communications, while the emphasis of poetic beat created by the background music in *The Love Conspiracy* heightens suggestions of helplessness in the face of the inevitable ending.

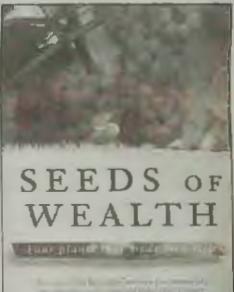
Subject matter is diverse - business conventions, high society, love, the true nature and meaning of art, meat, TV culture - but well handled. "It's a Hawaiian shirt, a funeral blown kazoo/ Sweet and bitter and guilty to chew", Hicks says of meat in his poem *To All the Cows*. Perhaps meat seems an odd subject for the poem, but the guilty pleasure Hicks describes becomes an echo of a disturbing part of our everyday existence - he presents normality in aconcerting way. Sutherland's observations are simultaneously recognisable and unique. "We were everywhere cos we were nowhere and in the end the public dismissed it! Our love was a conspiracy, so powerful it never could have existed", while Luke Wright - who'll have you laughing out loud - provides a sense of questioning comedy which only serves to highlight the disruption inherent within this collection. (10) Hayley Broad

Seeds Of Wealth: Four Plants That Made Men Rich

Henry Hobhouse

MacMillan £20

An informative yet uninteresting look at the plants that made the country great. No, really



Seeds Of Wealth: Four Plants That Made Men Rich is Henry Hobhouse's sequel to *Seeds of Change*. The novel delves into the world of plant history, arguing it has been plants not people that are the motivating force of economic history and trade culture. The novel charts history not from the usual perspective of significant people but through four plants: Grapes, Tobacco, Rubber and Timber and argues that it was these that changed the course of history.

I don't doubt that these plants are important to our economic history. Judging on the amount of cigarette butts decorating the pavements of Leeds, it really is not surprising tobacco did make some people very rich. Yet, if you find Hobhouse's highly detailed account of plant history interesting I think you will be in the minority.

Although it could be said that Hobhouse is throwing enlightenment on aspects of history usually marginalized, perhaps there is a reason why no one has written much on this topic - because it is incredibly dull. Hobhouse magnifies the insignificant in the extreme every small detail, name and place is mentioned which makes for time consuming and dedicated reading. It seems a mistake to put the rubber and timber sections first, they do not exactly encourage the reader to finish

this book. When reading the tobacco and wine section, there is at least the hope you may be able to use the information at some point to look clever about wine as I'm not sure many will appreciate your in-depth knowledge of wood. In its favour the book does include lots of anecdotes and has quite a chatty style which does brighten up the dry subject matter. However there seems to have been plenty more opportunity for humour in the novel then are taken advantage of.

If you are immensely interested in plants or history of the less eventful kind, you may find this book fascinating. If, like me your knowledge of wine extends to wish I hadn't drunk so much last night, cigarettes are what you announce you are going to quit at the end of every packet, rubber is what you say is made of and wood is well... wood basically, then I doubt you'll find this book that stimulating. Everything Hobhouse says is well researched and perceptive but not the sort of information that will enrich your life greatly, except for the chance that the useless sort of information revealed may come up in a pub quiz or game show. (3) Nicole Le Marie

Naked City

Edited by Ian Daley

Route 15 £8.95

A thought-provoking and sharply observed collection of short stories about the city

It is, I'd imagine, quite unusual to find, at the centre of a collection of short stories, a photo of two completely naked men passing on a staircase in the Corn Exchange. It is as much of a pleasant surprise to find an assortment of tales which offer such a tantalisingly real glimpse into the lives of modern city-dwellers.

Appealing to the voyeur in us all, a selection of talented writers have laid bare the lifestyles, dreams and dramas that go on every day in the modern city, with many of the stories taking place in the contemporary Leeds which all of us are familiar with. There are three sections to the book: *Naked City* itself, which looks to capture the spirit of the city and the intricate web of relationships being spun within it, *Naked City Photographs*, a



tastefully naughty collection of pictures shot by Kevin Reynolds, of people going about their daily city lives in the buff, and *This Could Be Anywhere* - more short stories about family and single life. The photographs, as well as being a bit of a giggle, are appropriate to the book as a whole in that each

20 something - the Ultimate Survival Guide

Hannah Adcock

Discover Press £9.99

An essential guide to surviving the post-university years

'If you so much as sneeze as a student you can find a self-help book to get you over it, but when it comes to 20 something debt, unemployment, confusion, success and crap jobs, then surprisingly...nothing.' Yes, fellow students, it's all downhill from here. It's a good job, then, that Hannah Adcock decided to fill the niche for 20 something survival guides with her (shockingly titled) debut *20 something: The Ultimate Survival Guide*.

So is 20 something worth its price tag?

Resoundingly YES. Adcock speaks from experience, having missed her 20s failing to establish a jewellery-making career. She has also done her research. Along with her own nuggets of wisdom there are contributions from no less than 45 other 20 somethings. While some contributions are simply disheartening, others are informative, imparting knowledge ranging from the glaringly obvious, 'don't end up stuck in a job that makes you unhappy' to the slightly bizarre, 'without style, we'd all be like Oxo cubes'. In contrast to the reminiscing of Adcock's friends are more practical bits of info. There are appropriate books, websites and addresses listed at the end of each chapter. Useful, for instance if you desire a mannequin, or (more conventionally) wish to get a visa or advice for debt.

Self-help books risk being both patronising and deeply dull. Adcock avoids the first pitfall by plugging her work as a 'mine of subjective thoughts and recommended information' rather than a didactic life-style guide. *20 something* also has enough charm to prevent it from becoming tedious. Much of this charm derives from numerous little touches that can only be described as cute. Random quotes from the good (Oscar Wilde) the bad (Macbeth) and the ugly (Homer Simpson)



are peppered throughout, and each chapter heading is accompanied by a relevant song, book and film. The simple yet jaded Molly and Josh cartoons by Knife&Packer are also particularly effective. But the real star of *20 something* is Adcock herself. You know you are on to a good thing when your author writes one letter for you and another (sugar-coated) version for your parents.

Indeed, the only flaws in this comprehensive and entertaining book are the celebrity contributions. They are not necessarily bad, just a slight let down. Any puppet willing to rush out and buy something on the strength of a Jamie Cullum interview should bear in mind that only 6 out of 201 pages of *20 something* are devoted to the wit and wisdom of the rich and famous. Much more useful are the *Voice of Experience* sections concluding each chapter in which experts, varying from the BBC Head of Recruitment to the Chief Executive of the Samaritans give advice on job-hunting, relationships and finance.

If you nurture the hope of going on to do ANYTHING after degree level then I strongly recommend reading this book because there is something in there that applies to everyone. Of course *20 something* does not promise a silky-smooth decade. But it imparts enough information to help the reader negotiate the first years of what Adcock terms the 'real' world, with success. (9) Julia Wray

Your handy guide to literary goings-on in and around Leeds

On Tuesday December 12, Luke Wright will be performing from his latest poetry collection *Wicked Words* at the Old Police Station, Harrogate Road, Chapel Allerton. This event will start at 8pm and tickets cost £3 (£2 conc). Look to your left for the review of his new CD.

What's in your stocking?

We know this is the time of year when everyone is gravitationally pulled towards crappy celebrity autobiographies, but trust us - these are far better Christmas gifts for your nearest and dearest than David Beckham's *My Side*. Here is the best of the best from the first semester of *Leeds Student*.

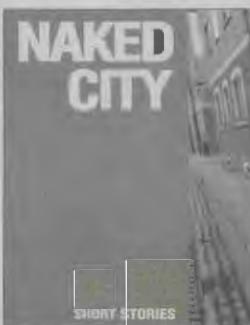
Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* has been around for a while but is still defi-

nately worth a look. For all you not so fresh freshers get to know your new home in *Naked City* (reviewed above). *The Fabulous Girl's Guide to Decorum Kim Izzo & Cari Marsh* is perfect for anyone resolving to be fabulous in 2005. *Alan Bennett's* play, *The History Boys*, set in a state school in good ol' Leeds and *Daughters* by Paule Marshall also come highly recommended by our trusty reviewers.

No need to buy your Dad yet another pair of 'hilarious' comedy socks this

one to yourself).

So, if you want to get to the bottom of the issues affecting urbanites everywhere, keep abreast of current reflections on social and sexual change and expose yourself to some top-quality storytelling. This is the book for you. (9) Katie Jenkins

**The Prince of Deadly Weapons**

Boston Teran

MacMillan £12.99

An underwhelmingly average thriller which, unfortunately, contains no thrills



Call me a snob, but I've never really been a 'thriller' sort of girl. Murder, money, secrets, car chases, not really my cup of tea. So I have to admit that I probably didn't start reading this with an open mind, but I did try. And as much as I'd love to say that this novel, feted as a highly crafted and intriguing literary thriller (by none other than its publicist), changed my mind, I'd be lying if I did.

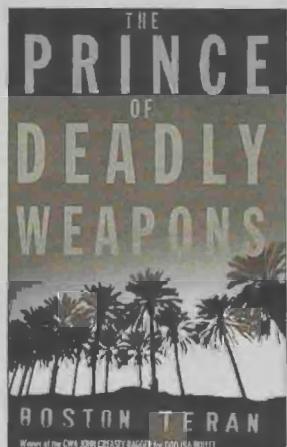
Let me give you a quick run down of the facts. Dame Rudd comes to Rio Vista for a memorial for a man he has never met. The link: this man, Taylor Greene, has donated his fortunes, which have enabled Dame to see again after he was nearly blinded in an accident. Oh, and he may or may not have been murdered. Dame somehow manages to ingratiate himself with the family, the girlfriend, the locals, and discover money laundering, diamonds, and murder, all with the slick arrogance of a troubled, but good-hearted youth with an obligatory shabby past.

If that sounds complicated, then you should try reading it. The narrative jumps about very confusingly, from character to character, from situation to situation, from bad to worse. There are too many characters introduced right at the beginning and none of

them are developed beyond anything more than a trite stereotype; the local heavies, the tart with a heart, the charming, but dishonest, head of the community and, (surprise, surprise) an angst-ridden female, who is saved by the arrival of our protagonist. Apparently the plot is driven by the quest to find out whether or not Taylor Greene was murdered, and, if so, who murdered him? If only to discover the answers to these questions, I plodded on to the end of this novel. And I still couldn't work out who killed Taylor Greene or why.

There was something about money laundering

and his father being involved, which meant that the girlfriend was implicated, a federal agent was shot and somebody stole some diamonds. Anyway, either I misunderstood it, or it wasn't explained clearly enough and actually, I'm not sure I really care. I probably haven't read enough thrillers to be able to offer an expert opinion as to why this one didn't work, but it didn't, and I don't think I've ever been less thrilled by anything in my life. (3) Jenny Glencross



Christmas, as Michael Palin's *Himalaya* has hit the bookshelves and for the nerd in your life with aspirations towards lycra-related world-saving activities, the *DC Comic Book Encyclopedia* is bound to float their boat. You see? No need to buy anything 'written' by Jordan or the Beckhams.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

(KJ, & KB)



BARENAKED LADIES:
No I'm stripping off first

It's nearly Christmas, so with the festive season in view, Adam Z. Robinson went to have a word with Barenaked Ladies' two frontmen, Stephen Page and Ed Robertson, to talk about, well Christmas of course.

First off, one thing that you guys can never be accused of being is predictable and I think that is evident in your new record

Barenaked For The Holidays: So, why a Christmas Album?

Ed: I think two years ago we would

BARE NAKED for the ho-ho-ho-LADIES

have said the world doesn't need another Christmas album but then we wrote a bunch of songs, seven original songs which were the backbone to a really nice record. The intention was sort of creative but utilitarian too. It's also our first indie record for a few years.

Do you have advent calendars?

E: My household does. I have three young kids and we rock the advent calendars. Last year we had a Playmobil advent calendar where every day it was a new toy.

Stephen: I've seen Lego one's. See I'm Jewish so I always wanted the advent calendars but that was like a line my parents wouldn't let me cross.

Did you choose Michael Buble to appear on 'Elf's Lament' from the new album because he looks like an unhappy Elf?

E: (Laughs) Well the thing is with Michael he is a little man. A little compact little man.

S: He is a little Elf...

E: But, ya know, he represents the concerns of the workers.

The album was recorded in May of this year and we all know that singing Christmas songs before December is bad luck. Have you guys experienced any?

E: Spooky things did happen because of it, uh, a giant turtle appeared in the pond. Like, bigger than any species found in Southern Ontario. So, I think it may have mutated because of our singing of untimely Christmas songs.

Why on earth didn't you cover Cliff's 'Millennium Prayer'?

S: (Laughs) Wasn't that a Christmas number two?

Do you think after 'Millennium Prayer' Cliff should be boiled with his own pudding and buried with a steak of holly through his heart?

S: (Laughs) Yeah, sure!
E: I'll bring the matches.

'I was hanging out bare-naked for the holidays and I did a little run and some flips in the snow'

Christmas shows and albums are not really things that are done by modern rock bands anymore. What has the reaction been like so far?

S: Well it's still November so it feels a little odd doing this. I think the problem is that audiences tend to second guess stuff more than they should. Their initial thought is always "What are they trying to sell us?" instead of just having fun.

E: We're also trying to bring a contemporary sense to the season because it is always the Cliff Richards, the Barry Manilows of the industry that do Christmas shows.

Do you hope one day novelty Christmas cards will play 'Green Christmas' or 'Snowman' when you open them?

E: You know what, honestly, as soon as Green Christmas was written, all I wanted was for Willie Nelson to cover it. Seriously, I could die happy if he covered any of our songs.

Who is your favourite reindeer? And you can't say Rudolph, that's cheating.

E: He's not my favourite anyway. I like Donner because wasn't he the grumpy teacher in Rudolph's Slamy Christmas? He was the one who was like "Hey, freak, get out of here, you don't belong here!" I think that was Donner. I'm gonna go Donner.
S: Comet. No, maybe Donner actually.

Do you plan on being individually bare-naked for the holidays?

E: Actually, I have spent a few Christmases at this Cabin my wife and I have by the lake and a couple of years ago I was hanging out bare-naked for the holidays and I did a little run and some flips in the snow and I made a movie of it and emailed it to all my friends on Christmas morning. Holiday lovin', there's nothing like it



Shift! No-one knows any of our songs

Our Top Five Albums of 2004

Tom Goodhand's Picks

Being 747 - Fun & Games (Wrath Records)

Art pop may be such an 'in' genre right now that even your Grandad thinks them Franz-wotsits aren't that bad (but are perhaps a bit noisy), but if you want to escape from the overly glossy/crack-addled *NME* faves, then local boys Being 747 are your band. There's tunes aplenty, witty lyrics, plenty of 'ahahahaas' and 'oohs', and most essentially some great songs.

The Cribs - The Cribs (Wichita Recordings)

If the Libertines were actually half as good at song writing as the hype suggests, then they would probably sound like these Wakey-lads The Cribs. You can hear some of the influence of the current garage rock crop, but underneath the whole thing is a pop sensibility that should see The Cribs becoming everyone's favourite indie-kids in 2005.

Graham Coxon - Happiness In Magazines (Transcopic)

In which Coxon makes the record Blur always threatened to make. Finally, we have a record full of the huge tunes that Blur could occasionally manage with perfection (see 'For Tomorrow' and 'Freakin' Out'), the heartfelt ballads (see 'This Is A Low' and 'Ribbons and Leaves'), but without the occasional crap (see 'Country House'). It's all tied together with Coxon's explosive guitarizing and distinctive voice.

The Futureheads - The Futureheads (679)

Before The Futureheads came along, I'd wager that no-one ever thought that jitter punk and barbershop-style vocals would be a good combination. The Futureheads of course proved everyone wrong. Whether it's the short sci-fi blast of 'Robot' or the ridiculously catchy reinterpretation of Kate Bush's 'Hounds of Love' the whole thing is so energetic and infectious that it's impossible not to try and sing every vocal line at once.

TV On The Radio - Desperate Youth, Bloodthirsty Babes (4AD)

If anyone tells you that one of the guys behind this is also a producer for the Yeah, Yeah, Yeahs, you must forget that. Do not expect this album to be like the Yeah, Yeah, Yeahs. On DY,BB, you will not find quick, sexy rock thrills, but dark, slow burning post-rock soundscapes. If the idea of a mixture of barber shops, electronica and reggae sounds like a bad one, then it probably is. But somehow, this all works.

Runners up:

Mike Skinner's tales of chav-dom over his beats made 'The Streets' A Grand Don't Come Home (679) one of the few albums of this year that could genuinely be called original. If it had actually been properly released, the operatic genius track of 'The Scaramanga Six's Cabin Fever' (Wrath Records) would be challenging for the number one spot. The Lost Riots (Sony) by Hope of the States was packed full of energy, passion and grandeur. It was the album Radiohead have always threatened to make.

Bob Henderson's Picks

Felix da Housecat - Devin Dazzle and the Neon Never Emperor Norton

Electroclash died an undignified quiet death, but Felix pioneered it and thankfully outlived it, creating this punky dance pop record, practically a singles collection. Be grateful that 'Rocket Rider' isn't the under-ground 7" (gutter vinyl only available in Japan) release that it sounds like. There are so many ace tracks on here, but highlight has to be 'Watching Cam on TV' featuring a female DJ who voices over a guitar beat, drawing about prostitution. Amazing

The Hidden Cameras - Mississippi Goldmin (Bough Trade)

Folky church music that you can play to your mum without her realising just how filthy the lyrics are (although the emphatic 'Want Another Enema' might just give the game away). The album takes all the beauty that Belle and Sebastian fans will appreciate and injects them with a subversive snarliness that makes them so thinking, like a dirty secret you want simultaneously to keep to yourself and tell the whole world.

Le Tigre - This Island (Universe)

Only angry housewives were given Le Tigre records to sort them out. They specialize in an empowering mix of feminist

film and rock electra. The album skips from lyrics about Earth's viability, anti-war songs, to a camp rock no cover of 'I'm So Excited'. Le Tigre can be heard on practically every not-for-profit dance floor in Leeds, and the band provides a handy catalogue to such nights out.

Les Georges Leningrad - Sur Les Traces de Black Eskimo (Alien8 Recordings)

Okay, maybe you could own this album claim its 'atmospheric' soundtracks, but when they crank up the sum and bitter their dance kits with these frantic discs, you will find it hard not to shake it and fall in love. Don't understand it with their lead singer sings, but she does it with such passion, and it's so distorted it like a percussive guitar solo anyway, you'll be giving yourself Les Georges Leningrad style koff scar, and before you know

Scream Club - Don't Bite Your Sister (Tiny Sensational)

The title is a simple call out for and respect each other, appealing as they say to 'Not Just Ladies' (as there's two males and one male). These riot grrrl girls make political party anthems of hip-hop, featuring a string of guest appearances from America's queer top sonic and the likes of Babyshambles and Seth Sentry from The Gossip.

Runners up:

Leaving bootlegging duties aside for a mo, Soulwax's *Any Minute Now* (PIAS) shows how tarts rock a dance floor. Without doubt Scissor Sisters (Polydor) eponymous debut is a seminal classic, and if it weren't for the fact it's a re-issue, The Magnetic Fields' *69 Love Songs* (Domino) would've made the list.

Singles

Reviewed by Richard Crisp & Jon Martlew

When exactly did Blink 182 stop listening to the noises that burns make and start listening to old Cure records? 'Always' (Geffen), Blink's fourth single off their fifth album is moribund rock-pop as it should be made, not how Evanescence do. "I've been here a few times and I'm quite aware we're dying" is quite a lyrical leap from their frat-punk days but a worthy change in direction.

Goldie Lookin Chain have gone all sappy on 'You Know I Love You' (EMI), their Christmas number 2 challenger. Like everything that they've released it's musically rubbish but that's not the point. GLC are still funny (just about) and taking the mickey out of Ja Rule and R. Kelly can't be all bad.

Electric Six's version of 'Radio Ga-Ga' (Rushmore Records) creates the rather bizarre situation of novelty band covering novelty band – it must be nearly Christmas. Typically furious guitars coupled with Dick Valentine's hilarious delivery amazingly manage to out-camp the original but it's an ordinary comeback from the band that brought us the punk-funk stomper, 'Danger, High Voltage'.

'Breathe' (Something in Construction) by US faves **The Silent League** is an utterly lascivious piece of psychedelic pop. Only 300 copies have been pressed but if you can get your hands on one do because this is surely the return of Jesus; the sound of heaven captured in just under four minutes of nirvana.

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The Beastie Boys' 'An Open Letter To NYC' (Parlophone) should never have left NYC. All their early passion has evaporated, even on such an emotive subject as 9/11. But this lacklustre ode to ethnic diversity & resilience isn't without merit; the instrumental B-side would probably work well on a pom soundtrack.

'Empty Souls' (Sony) by **The Manic Street Preachers** is a very theatrical and forgettable single that falls a long way short of their best. With the guitars relegated to a short, over-reverbed, retro burst plus back to the piano, all topped with un-exciting lyrics make this quite a bland track.

The new EP from **The Concretes**, 'Urban Night' (Licking Fingers) is notable for their hideously cheesy song-writing, employing a choir, excessive violins, what sounds like a fairground organ and few lines less than 47 times. Plus the lead vocals sound like Björk drained of excitement, which hardly helps.

Also hailing from Sweden are **The Radio Dept.** with their single 'Ewan' (XL). They sound like Soulwax with some Embrace thrown in, which makes this a very enjoyable track, if a little short. They're only really let down by the production, which soon drains you as it deteriorates through the B-sides. (JM)



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The Faversham, December 11

The most intriguing festivals are those when you can look down a long list of bands, pick a few bands out that you know and love, a few that you want to see and a few that make you scratch your head. Unless you have a radar for little known indie bands, or are a compulsive liar/warnable indie snob, then Natty Fest II should provoke such a response. Ash, the promoter says, "I've specifically gone for bands who I think are gonna be big in six months. It's been a lot harder because some of them have got bigger quicker since."

Obvious highlights will be **The Research** (ace keyboard pop genius), **The Cribs** (garage pop-rock), **Zombina & The Skeletons** (horror film inspired surf rock) and **The Long Blondes** (female fronted art pop). **Stazil**'s Guns'N'Roses sampling cheeseey electro should cause a fair amount of confusion and **This Et Al** will no doubt be very loud and very good.

You also get the pleasures of Pig Djs, horror movies and the generally luxurious (we're talking in terms of gig venues here) Faversham.

Natty Fest is all about "raising the bar a bit for the other festivals. We're not going to put on a half-assed show, and hopefully people will be grateful for it. I'm sure we will be." Tom Goodhand

PREVIEWS



Rachel Stamp, December 4

Go see the official 36th coolest person in rock, Ricky Wilson and his band the **Kaiser Chiefs** (The Cockpit, Dec 13). You'll laugh, you'll dance, you'll dance some more. What a way to welcome the local lads home in style. Less likely to make you dance are **Baby Food** (The Packhorse, Dec 16). Their electro based horror-rock will probably scare the hell out of you, and if it doesn't, wait until Noah goes prowling into the crowd.

If you like your gigs to feature bird noise, twigs, and taxidermy, then you'll want to go see **British Sea Power** (The Cockpit, Dec 17). Expect a bizarre stage show mixed with eccentrically English indie tunes. Weird.

If kooky is more your thing than weird, go see **Leeds Student Band Of The Year**© **The Research** (The Vine, Dec 17). They'll be playing that same brilliantly twee indie pop that we rave about week in week out. Hurrah.

If you're sticking around in Leeds for New Years Eve, then head down to the **Village Green Preservation Society** (Milos, Dec 31 - course). Expect a great party, great records, and the usual VGS bands to be making an appearance. Ace, ace and ace.

Once you've recovered from your New Year hangover, get down to see **10,000 Things** (The Faversham, Jan 8). They claim, like Arnie once did, that 'Eating's Not Cheating' and lead singer Sam boasts, In 'Titanium' that he needs titanium boxer shorts. Sexy.

Once upon a time, The Manics inspired the kind of excessive glamour following that would make the entire contents of a Claire's Accessories shop look inadequate. Then Placebo came along and nudged most their fans and continued to inspire glitter addiction. But all the while a growing gang of them dissembled, and worshipped the kinder than thou glam rockers Rachel Stamp. Creating a reputation on riotous live performances and obscure one-off singles, once Rachel Stamp got under your skin, you were a fan for life. And they bloody well knew it, as pencil cases of bullied kids were embazoned with their lyrics. 'Mummy and daddy think I'm possessed / But wild kids know I'm simply obsessed.'

Thing is, all this happened quite some time ago and since then they've released a shitty metaleque album and become Kenang! darlings. You can spot lead singer David Ryder Prangle without making up riding the tube in London. How on earth they will ever live up to my nostalgic ramblings is anyone's guess, but you couldn't stop me from dragging my feather booted self down to the Royal Park Cellars. It's smaller than my front room. And taken person per square metre, it'll be busier than Creation. You'll be lucky to find anyone there who isn't obsessed. Bob Henderson

JOANNA NEWSOM

PHOTO: SAM CORBETT

You have been recently categorised as one of a new breed of quirky singer-songwriters with the likes of Devendra Banhart and Rufus Wainwright how do you feel about this label?

It's silly you know, it's not accurate, in order to make those sorts of associations you have to ignore a lot of the individual elements in the music. I feel an affinity with Devendra because he's an old friend and a good friend, but I think that there's a lot being made out of some sort of new scene or new movement that I don't like.

The harp has certain connotations; do you think that by being more expressive you are changing people's opinion of the harp?

I play the pedal harp because it's the instrument I've played all my life. I'm just trying to write music and I happen to use the harp as my medium. The harp has a much wider range of expression than most people believe and I have a tremendous love and respect for it. To me the instrument is secondary, it's the arrangement that's important, and my hope is that the songs are self-contained entities.

When you recorded your album did you record vocals and instrument separately or were they recorded as live takes?

We ended up doing mostly separate tracks which was really difficult because I had to teach myself to play and sing separately and a lot of the songs aren't organised like verse, chorus, they're sort of stream-of-consciousness, fantastical, mythical childhood realm, which is an element among a number of elements. There is a lot of darkness in my songs; they're trying to be whole the way that people are, they're not like caricatures.

What do you take inspiration from for your lyrics?

Where does anyone take their inspiration from? I don't consciously draw influences or inspirations from anything I'd say a lot of times ideas that I have come out of good conversations with friends or my dad.

Have there been certain childhood influences?

The connection to childhood is pretty over-exaggerated, it's just counterproductive to what I'm trying to say because it makes people not dig in the lyrics, not look for meaning because they think it's all just whimsical, fantastical, mythical childhood realm, which is an element among a number of elements. There is a lot of darkness in my songs; they're trying to be whole the way that people are, they're not like caricatures.

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

When I was eleven, one of them involved the ability to paint messages on the sky with a big spray paint, it was my plan to save the world I would write 'love each other' in huge writing and people would think God had done it so everyone would be nice to each other. I think in reality I'd like the ability to fly.

JOANNA NEWSOM: Always harping on

Joanna Newsom is a tiny Californian girl with an incredibly unique voice and six foot pedal harp. Her elusive and ornate musical arrangements accompany miraculous stories of ghost towns, ethereal dreams, and nautical adventures. She was kind enough to talk to Sam Webb before her memorable performance this November at the very chic Brudenell Social Club:





Let's Get

Hayley Broad braves the cold to scrutinize what's on offer from more exotic climes. Well, anywhere but Leeds



Martina Reick, from East Berlin, on the gluhwein stall at the German Christmas market

Christkindelmarkt

Undergoing hardship typical of winter journalistic expeditions, we braved the cold to trek the long few hundred yards cross continent to the German Christmas market in Millennium Square (more specifically, to the gluhwein stall). The lovely lady who gave us the wine which made all the ridiculously early festivities bearable and actually rather attractive was called Martina Reick, who it turned out is also a student of recent French and German politics at the University of Leeds. According to Martina, from East Berlin, the Germans enjoy goose and carp on Christmas day. Well, as for the latter, each to their own. However, she did also mention a rather sweet tradition of giving decorated gingerbread cookies and houses as presents.

HAYLEY'S UNBELIEVABLY EASY MINCE PIES

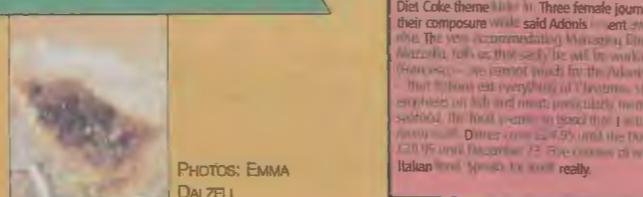
Now listen up you festive frolickers. Here is a recipe where, I am told, the more you throw the pastry about the better it tastes. And it actually TELLS you not to bother cutting out cases and lids - just to press them into the bun tins. It makes 18 and they're freezable. It's official - I am the domestic goddess. Sod Nigella, and follow me, NB: The management will not accept responsibility for any failed mince pie attempts.

1) Rub 8 oz (I am not, and never will be, a metric fan. Sorry, but it's tough) chilled and diced butter into 12 oz plain flour. Mix in 4oz caster sugar and a pinch of salt (don't question, just do).

2) Knead it all together. Preheat oven to 200C/Gas Mark 6/Fan oven (lucky git) 180C. Line 18 holes of two bun tins, by pressing small balls of pastry into each hole. Divide 280g mincemeat (it only comes in metric) between the pies.

3) Take slightly smaller balls of pastry. Put out to lid size (big enough to cover the pies). Put lids on pies (logically), and press edges gently together to seal (no squishing, now). You can freeze them for up to a month (out-in-time for exam period). Otherwise, brush tops with a LITTLE beaten egg.

4) Bake for 20 minutes. Cool in tin for five minutes, then remove to a wire rack (or your clean grill pan rack). Dust with icing sugar when cool. Keep for 3 to 4 days in an airtight container, if you can. Bin the Nigella book.



PHOTOS: EMMA DALZELL

Thai Edge



Santorn Somboon, second head chef at Thai Edge restaurant



Casa Mia

Next stop, Italia. Walking into Casa Mia, on Millennium Square, by this time slightly giggly, we are approached by some rather friendly looking staff who appear to be debating (in Italian) who's going to speak to us. A moment later a formal Adonis begins to descend the stairway. Hilariously, at the same moment, the Diet Coke theme blares in. Three female journalists struggle to keep their composure while Adonis descends away to do something else. The very accommodating Managing Director Francesco Mazzocchi, however, tries to be well behaved in his Christmas Day (from us... we cannot much for the Adonis but who... really... don't know eat everything in Christmas). He shows the main emphasis on fish and meat, especially mentioning ostrich and seahorse. In fact, yes, to be honest I actually want to eat the ostrich. Dinner costs £24.95 until December 15, and £20.95 until December 22. Fine dining in with a strong sounding Italian name sounds... well... really.



Feastive



Nell Frizzell decides it's about time to explore the culinary wonder that is the limited edition Christmas-themed food hybrid

Bettabuy Mince Pies

Morrisons 6 for 49p

Frankly I have seen more mince strewn across Santa's beard than could be found in these budget Morrisons pastries. I would perhaps suggest that they were marketed as mince frisbees or better still, mince-free pies for the slimming market in order to avoid the disappointment one feels when biting into these distinctly pastry-heavy, mince-light deserts. However, at 49p for six, you can't deny the economic draw of the Bettabuy mince pie. There is something reassuring about the soviet austerity of the red and white packaging that makes almost any attempt to engage the passing shopper. These pies sit on the shelf with a 'fuck you, I don't care' attitude that I think should be celebrated in this age of gross advertising sensory assault.



Turkey and Paxo Crisps

Walker's 40p



Do you remember when Coco Pops made the disastrous mistake of rebranding their famous morning brain fuel as 'Choco Krispies'? Sales plummeted, children were crying in the aisles, parliament had to be dissolved as MPs threatened cereal-induced mutiny (perhaps not) and all because the consumer public realised that Kellogg's had done nothing more than changed the poxy name on the packet. Well, frankly once bitten really was twice shy for me. So it was with the cynical eye of a professional crisp eater that I approached the new Happy Crispmas offerings. True to form, this was no more a revolution in potato flavouring than the Choco Krispie was a wheaty inspiration. Yes kids, they've tried to trick us again. The turkey and paxo crisps were little more than good old roast chicken flavour trussed up in a blue packet, shamelessly adorned with a picture of holly. Don't be fooled. Walkers are just trying to lure you into a bout of wild festive consumerism and I for one shall not stand for it.



Rudolf Gingerbread

Ainsleys 80p

I have found planks of oak easier to snap than this festive biscuit. It had the consistency of chalk and was crafted with all the artistic skill of a deranged child with withered stumps for hands. There was, however, a certain sadistic pleasure in biting the face of Rudolf (all fans of Christmas may wish to avoid the rest of this sentence) completely off, leaving just a few desultory crumbs on the Christmas plate. Ainsleys, either change your recipe or hand out pneumatic drills to each customer purchasing a ginger flavoured chunk of granite.



Christmas Cake Cheddar

Morrisons 99p

In the name of all things holy what the hell are Morrisons up to? Christmas cake and cheddar is the kind of combination one would expect to be served up by one of Satan's minions at the entrance to the pit of eternal fiery damnation. It is about as wise a pairing as Keith Chegwin and chocolate body paint and, in my humble opinion, about as appetising. Seriously, why oh why would you want cheese with bits of crystallised fruit in? However, it seems I was alone in my total revulsion. The marauding hoards that creep around in the shadows of the Leeds Student office snuffled their way through most of the block, served as an accompaniment to the special Christmas cranberry bread roll. What can I say, some people really do have no taste.



House Hunting

unipol

student homes

2005/2006



Sign Again

If you currently live in the private rented sector you have a number of options:

- Stay in the same property with the same group
- Stay in the same property with a different group

Either way you should contact your landlord to discuss these.

If you already live in University of Leeds accommodation, or would like to, then application forms are available from the accommodation office after February 14th.

If you currently live in a Unipol property then you will shortly be sent a letter offering you the option to remain for another year.

You should check any changes to the contract – including new rent levels – before you sign.

Whatever you decide to do you are advised to only rent a property belonging to a Code of Standards owner.



155/157
Woodhouse Lane,
Leeds LS2 3ED

www.unipol.leeds.ac.uk

Bigfoots Strike Again

What do you call a number of Bigfoots? Bigfeet? Surely not. That and many other questions were posed in *Sky Travel's World of Mysteries*, the kind of programme that convinced you (well, if you had a pre-teen fascination with anything otherworldly, anyway) that there's as many as 4,000 of the critters

roaming the Pacific Northwest. The rise of Freefall is to the profit of the fantasist. Of course, *Sky Travel* also has *Lesbians Go Mad in Lesbos*, but that's for the fantasist without the imagination. What we want are Bigfeet (Bigfoots?), alien the Loch Ness monster and preferably all three to converge somewhere in the middle of the Bermuda Triangle. With David

It's in these programmes that you realise that the relationship between facts, truth and television has completely collapsed, and all we are doing is searching like magpies for anything that shines in the broken rubble. *World of Mysteries* makes a far more compelling argument for the existence of Bigfoot than Tony Blair ever made for the 45-minute claim. Yes, we're presented with some really quite dubious video footage (man, gorilla suit, forest – it doesn't take much imagination) shot in 1967. But we've also got decades of eyewitness accounts, and a really quite convincing case

John Holmes
Last Week's Television

World of Mysteries Sky Travel Thursday & Monday

based around genuine forensic experts, the intricacies of prime feet, and two cases found 15 years and hundred miles apart that would be near impossible to fake. Yet behind it you're constantly thinking one thing. "Surely this is all bollocks? Surely?"

Jacques Ellul, a much cleverer man than has ever written in the *Leeds Student*, once claimed "modern man worships facts as the ultimate reality." Yet facts in themselves are no truth. To verify the existence of the big fellow up north we need proof, which a number of clearly unmarried crackpot Bigfoot enthusiasts are all too proud to present to the world through the medium of somewhat badly produced documentaries on minority cable channels. Still, as the 45-minute claim showed, proof can be a somewhat sticky business.

World of Mysteries on the Bermuda Triangle (you think two mysteries in a week is overboard, well *UKTV History* showed 12 consecutive hours of *Decisive Weapons on Sunday*) presented another truth dilemma. Here's the fact. More ships and planes disappear each year in the Bermuda Triangle than any other section of ocean of a similar size with similar traffic. Here's some conflicting truths or explanations; hurricanes, garrigue sea tornadoes, gaseous emis-

sions from the sea floor, *Donne Darko*-esque "portals". Whoever provides the most convincing "proof" for one explanation wins. But that proof is highly subjective; you're gonna believe the scientist or the government official over the bearded Bigfoot hunter whatever they say. Well all this arsey truth talking then? Well truth, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder, particularly when it's told uncorroborated through a television show by a voiceover man with a deep voice.

Someone once spotted a Bigfoot getting out of a space ship, which certainly would be a turn up for the books. And it's probably equally possible to prove in a documentary that aliens are kidnapping pleasure boats in the Bermuda Triangle as it is to prove that anyone ever knowingly lied about WMDs in Iraq. It's all in who you're gonna believe. Really, we're just chewing on the gristle of a reality that's rotten in the middle. And Bigfoot (Bigfeet?) exist. Because they're cool. And I say so.

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME?

No. 10 - Rainbow Brite

Genre: Little girls cartoon really or powerful tool to annoy brothers with.

Premise: "Hello everyone, I am the super happy bright and bubbly Rainbow Brite. Well I used to be called Wisp... long story but basically it all started one day when I heard about this beautiful colorful place called Rainbowland. When I arrived however the place was dark and gloomy, straight away I knew it had to be my mission to restore it to its former glory. With the help of the seven Rainbow Kids (particularly Buddy Blue who I have a crush on) and the help of the Spirits, we will find the Colour belt and the Sphere of Light and return this place to its magical... ah.. help!" "Ah ha! I am Murky Dismal I have captured Rainbow Brite in the name of Gloom. My sidekick, Lurky and I shall destroy her plans to rule Rainbowland and cast gloom and misery over the entire universe. Ha Ha Ha!"

Theme tune: "Rainbow Brite, see the shining light! Yes I'm gonna take ya to Rainbow Brite, starlite flies! Right before your eyes, and rainbow colors will cheer you up." (What! This thing doesn't even rhyme!)

Best thing: Excellent merchandising - those toys were something for everyone. Rainbow Brite - girl's toy, Unicorn - for animal lovers, Spirits - everyone's gotta like cute and funny and the Badies for boys.

Worst thing: Slight lack of imagination with the characters. Yes there was variety between the different groups but each creature in the group look exactly the same only in a different colour. And just so as not to confuse our little brains let's name them after the colour of their hair and clothes.

Underlying social message: There will always be the popular girl in school (or the work place) and the chances are that she will actually be a nice person. Everyone will love her and if you want to be accepted then you will have to try and join the popular gang and suck up to her. Otherwise you will be a total outcast, a social reject and to make things worse you will be ugly.

Influences: Acid? Definitely not created out of a sane brain anyhow. Bright, happy, young little creatures running around and the colours... ah, the colours! Suggestion to the government: show an episode of this in schools as part of your anti-drugs campaign.

Fact: Twink (the white Spirit) lost his colour when he was thrown into the Pits by Murky.

If it were a cake: It would have been dissolved by all the sugar and colourings in the hundreds and thousands that cover it. Still, the edible paper would be intact.



Documented Failings

Five genuine titles from documentaries which aired this year made into infinitely better shows by the power of imagination.

Make Me A Man (C4) Tired of unreturned phone calls, crap birthday presents and the general shite-ness of the opposite sex, a group of like-minded female entrepreneurs create a Rocky Horror-style man factory. This show charts their successful first year of business and Nobel Prize triumph.

Modern Times: Waxworks Of The Rich and Famous (BBC2) A glimpse into the lesser-known celebratory hobby of waxwork collecting; the Beckhams proudly showcase their extensive collection, while Elton John reveals his recently commissioned 100ft wax tribute to himself.

Making Babies The Gay Way (C4) Gay as in happy, of course. A heart-warming, hour-long real-time special on several couples 'making babies' happily. Also known as pornography.

High Interest: Over My Dead Body (C4) The irritating Click from the Hatton Garden advert goes one step further by allowing his face to be shaved off live on the board and vow to spend the rest of his living days fighting extortions.

House Moves From Hell (ITV1) A light-hearted exploration of the recent surge of emigration from the fiery pit of hell. This show charts the stress of moving day for three families - will the passport controls prove problematic? Particularly entertaining is the story of the Jones', who find their new home in Burley unerringly similar to their previous abode.

Zofia Niemtus

Sarah Vaughan

Ghost World

Something of an instant cult classic due to its roots in the comic book world, *Ghost World* is the tale of two outcasts who have recently graduated from high-school and is a refreshing break from the 'we go together' (rama-lama-lama's) optional tradition of teen coming-of-age films. The bonds here are repeatedly tested, promises are constantly broken and the post-academia world is revealed as a strange and depressing place.

Current Hollywood darling Scarlett Johansson appears aged only 15, before her career went stellar and her hair went peroxide - as Rebecca, the marginally more adjusted of the pair, who gets a job and starts saving for an apartment while her best friend Enid (Thora Birch) finds herself in summer school, with a series of dead-end jobs and a blossoming friendship with an eccentric loner named Seymour (Steve Buscemi). A glance at the cast list: alludes to the brilliance of

this film; the young leads are perfectly cast and ultimately endearing in spite of, or perhaps because of, their cynical attitudes towards just about everything. Whilst Buscemi is treading very familiar ground as the lonely outsider, he does it with skill and a clear affection for the character.

Ghost World is a charming and scarily thought-provoking film for those on the brink on graduation and, if you can handle the thought of entering the real world, a worthy way to spend a couple of hours.

Zofia Niemtus



Best of TV in 2004, see Juice 16-22

Confessions of a Motorcycle Expert: "Colin had a hard on in practice earlier, and I bet he wished he had a hard on now" (Jack Burnicle on Colin Edward's choice of tyre)

Friday

John Holmes
clubs
Basement
HOSPITAL RADIO
 emo, post hardcore,
 college rock & cool
 indie

Brickie
DRAg TRIBUTE
SHOW
 live on stage

Cockpit
SESSION XMAS
PARTY
 Franz Ferdinand,
 Razorlight, Primal
 Scream, Soft Cell,
 White Stripes & Roxy
 Music Xmas Party

George
GEORGE XMAS
PARTY
 with Milk, Contusion
 & Defibrillator

Metropolitan Uni
STAR + ELECTRIC
HEAD
 indie, rock, metal &
 emo

Mission
SUPERCONDUC-
TOR
 Jeff Mills, Paula
 Temple, Dan Moore,
 Alex Bowen and
 more.

Stinky's Peephouse
MAD HATTERS
 residents + guests
 Jason Hodges &
 Justin Long

Think Tank
HACIENDA
 Manchester sounds

gigs

 Royal Park Cellars
ACTION DIRECTE
Wardrobe
BUGALO FOUNDATION

BBC
ONE

- 6.00 Breakfast: The National Lottery Daily Play; 9.15 Money Spinners; 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer; 11.00 To Buy Or Not To Buy; 11.30 Bargain Hunt; 12.15 European Nightmare; 1.00 BBC News; Weather; 1.30 Regional News: Weather; 1.40 Neighbours; Izzy agrees to see a psychiatrist; 2.05 Doctors; 2.35 Murder; She Wrote; 3.20 BBC News; Regional News: Weather; 3.25 Binka; 3.35 The Koala Brothers; 3.45 Looney Tunes; 3.50 Monna The Vampire; 4.05 Hard Spell Abbey; 4.35 The Basil Brush Show; 5.00 Blue Peter; 5.25 Newsround; 5.35 Neighbours
- 6.00 BBC News
- 6.30 Look North: Weather
- 7.00 Hard Spell, Contestants from Wales and the South East.
- 7.30 Top Of The Pops. Studio performances.
- 8.00 EastEnders: Billy proudly shows off Freddie in the Vic, Minty thinks his hints about his birthday have gone unheard and Dennis finds Stacey in his flat wearing nothing but his shirt.
- 8.30 My Dad's The Prime Minister. Sarah comes home with headache, and soon even the Prime Minister is under attack from the creatures - prompting the Press to speculate on the state of his health.
- 9.00 Have I Got News For You. Celebrity guests join in the fun on the satirical current affairs quiz, with regular team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton.
- 9.30 Little Britain. New series. Matt Lucas and David Walliams return for more comedy sketches. Emily Howard is joined by a new friend, while Sebastian continues to lust after the Prime Minister.
- 10.00 BBC News
- 10.30 Regional News: Weather
- 10.35 Friday Night With Jonathan Ross.
- 11.35 Boxing: Weatherview
- 1.10 BBC News 24

BBC
TWO

- 6.00 Little Bear; 6.25 Popeye And Son; 6.50 There's A Viking In My Bed; 7.05 Yvon Of The Yukon; 7.30 I Love Mummy; 7.55 Newsround; 8.00 Big Cook, Little Cook; 8.20 Tots TV; 8.30 Boot; 8.40 Flingo; 8.45 Little Robots; 9.00 Balloons; 9.20 The Roy Mc Show; 9.40 Tweenies; 10.00 Sergeant Stripes; 10.10 Yoh Aboy!; 10.15 Bob The Builder: Cheebies Birthdays; 10.30 Schools: What? Where? When? Why?; 10.45 Primary Geography; 11.05 Hands Up!; 11.20 Primary Geography; 11.40 Primary History; 12.00 Film: Busy Bodies (1933); 12.20 Trade Secrets; 12.30 Working Lunch; 1.30 Seniors Tennis; The Masters Tennis event; 3.30 Fog It!; 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook; 5.15 Weakest Link
- 6.00 Beg, Borrow Or Steal.
- 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. Experts analyse the couples.
- 7.00 Live Amateur Boxing. John Invendale presents coverage of the amateur contest between England and the United States at the Olympia in Liverpool, featuring Amrit Khan's bout against Michael Evans.
- 7.30 Fighting Talk. New series. Sports debate show.
- 8.00 Hidden Gardens. Chris Beardshaw reveals the history behind the Gibberd Garden in Harlow, Essex.
- 8.30 Gardeners' World. The second year of the Berryfields garden.
- 9.00 Empire Warriors. How the campaign to end British rule in Malaya triggered a 12-year war in which Special Branch intelligence forces played a crucial part, using ruthless tactics to get hold of vital information.
- 10.00 QI. With Rich Hall
- 10.30 Newsnight
- 11.00 Newsnight Review
- 11.35 BBC Four On BBC Two: BBC Four Sessions
- 12.35 FILM: Runaway Daughters (1994). Road movie, starring Holly Fields: The Witness
- 2.00 BBC Learning Zone

Peep Show

Peep Show, what else? If only for the line "it doesn't mean we can't be friends just because I'm spying on you". As fast-paced as an American sitcom, but with the dysfunctional and only just loveable characters of contemporary British comedy, Peep Show's current second series also

emerged with a heart. Not only did we have the usually detestable Mark's stand against neo-Nazism, but also the usually brash Jeremy's declaration that "I should be enjoying this but now I just want to cry", unable to take his hippy girlfriend's free loving tendencies. Through the stream-of-consciousness thought processes of the leading characters, the humour comes, cunningly, through the voyeuristic insights into the minds of these quite unhinged voyeurs.

4

- 6.10 The Hoobs; 7.00 BA; 7.25 Friends; 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond; 8.25 The King Of Queens; 8.50 The Bernie Mac Show; 9.15 Supporting Acts; 9.25 Entente Cordiale; 9.30 Out; 9.35 Regency House Party; 10.25 Tate Modern; 10.30 National Gallery; 10.35 Rude Britannia; 11.05 National Gallery; 11.10 Bollywood Star; 12.00 News At Noon; 12.30 Cheers; 12.55 Third Watch; 1.50 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman; 2.45 The Courtroom; 3.15 Countdown; 4.00 A Place In The Sun; 5.00 Richard & Judy
- 6.00 The Simpsons.
- 7.00 Emmerdale. Cain breaks into Peat Tree Cottage while the Kings' party is in full swing.
- 7.30 Coronation Street. Ashley begs Mike to back out of the deal, and Eva exposes Jack and Ron's scheme, ordering them to get rid of the pigeons. Maria borrows money from the salon to enjoy a night out with Dave.
- 8.00 Tonight With Trevor McDonald. Hard-hitting investigative reports.
- 8.30 Airline. Ricky Tomlinson turns up at John Lennon Airport. Leo Jones stops a passenger taking two boxes of dead horses onto his flight and an American passenger has a frightening Christmas after missing a flight in Newcastle.
- 9.00 I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity survival challenge, which tonight sees yet another famous face doing the walk of shame.
- 10.30 ITV Weekend News: Weather
- 11.00 When Jordan Met Peter. Peter's Middle East tour takes a tour for the worse on the border with Palestine.
- 11.30 That's Entertainment.
- 12.30 I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here! Live; 2.05 The Paul O'Grady Show; 2.35 Entertainment Now; 3.20 Mixmasters; 3.45 Beck: In Profile; 4.15 Tonight With Trevor McDonald; 4.35 Gru Stuffed; 4.45 ITV Nighscreeen; 5.00 Jobfinder; 5.30 ITV Morning News

five

- 6.00 Sunrise; 6.30 Milkshake!; Woolamaloo; 6.40 Oswood; 6.55 Hi-5; 7.30 Peppa Pig; 7.35 Funky Valley; 7.45 Make Way For Noddy; 8.00 The Book Of Pooh; 8.35 The Save-Ums; 8.50 Barney; 9.10 My First; 9.15 Roobarb; 9.25 The Wright Stuff; 10.30 Sunset Beach; 11.25 House Doctor; 11.50 The Wright Stuff Extra; 12.00 Five News At Noon; 12.30 Home And Away; 1.00 Family Affairs; 1.35 Brainfeaster; 2.35 Trading Spouses; 3.30 Five News Update; 3.45 FILM Chance Of A Lifetime (1998) Romantic drama; 5.30 Five News: Weather 6.00 Home And Away.
- 6.30 Family Affairs.
- 7.00 Five News: Weather
- 7.30 Tim Marlow's Judgement Day: Images Of Heaven And Hell. The art critic examines depictions of Heaven.
- 8.00 Hot Property. A couple living in Tottenham try to win their dream home in Cartagena, south-east Spain, by guessing the value of their favourite from three properties viewed on videotape to within 750 euros.
- 8.30 Housebusters. The team visit a south London house which the owners believe contains a supernatural presence, and the experts detect signs of bad energy.
- 9.00 House Doctor: Designs For Living. Ann Maurice solves a dilemma at a Victorian house in Forest Hill, rearranging the living room furniture, turning one end into a dining area, and giving the two bedrooms a radical makeover to satisfy both owners.
- 10.05 FILM: House On Haunted Hill (1959). Horror, starring Geoffrey Rush. Including five news update.
- 12.00 FILM: Iron Maze (1991) Mystery drama, with Bridget Fonda and Jeff Fahey; 1.45 FILM: Marriage Act (2000); 3.20 Russell Grant's Postcards; 3.40 The Love Boat; 4.25 Melrose Place; 5.10 Sons And Daughters;

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Saturday December 4



Kelly & Judy

In what other Television phone competition could you answer so many questions incorrectly, yet still walk away with at least £7,000? Who else offers you the opportunity to sit back, relax, and forget about the day as you unwind with the exact same wine that Richard

clubs

Bassment LOVEGUN
punk, metal, rock n roll orgy

Blank Canvas FEDERATION*
White Christmas party

Cockpit THE GARAGE
rock, punk, metal & hardcore, retro rock & indie

Hifi Club BOOGALOO CLUB
funk, dancefloor jazz, latin, reggae & ska, with guest Snowboy

Majestyk/Jumpin' Jaks
BIG NIGHT OUT
dance anthems, chart, r'n'b

Mint ASYLUM
with guests Maurice Fulton & Greg Wilson

Think Tank ROCKNROLL
DJ Debstar, Hans, Scott Dulson, JP & Steve

University, Stylus TUESDAY CLUB HITS LEEDS!
DJ Premier, Phi Life Cypher, Mike L & Andy H, TC-1 & TST

Warehouse SPEEDQUEEN
funky house, disco, soul, r'n'b & classic house

gigs

Cockpit ALEXISONFIRE

Hifi Club TOBY FOSTER
(comedy)

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born 1993

clubs

BBC ONE

6.00 **Fimbles**; 6.20 **Fimbles**, 6.40 **The Story Makers**; 7.00 **Astro Boy**; 7.20 **The Mummy**; 7.45 **Arthur**; 8.10 **Taz-Mania**; 8.35 **Scooby-Doo**; 9.00 **Dick And Dom In Da Bungalow**; 11.00 **Top Of The Pops Saturday**; 12.00 **BBC News**; **Weather**; 12.10 **Football Focus**; 1.00 **Grandstand**; 1.05 **Seniors Tennis** 2.30 **Around The Grounds**; 2.40 **Rugby Union Build-Up**; 3.00 **Live Rugby Union: Barbarians v New Zealand**; 3.45 **Football Half-Times**; 3.55 **Live Rugby Union: Barbarians v New Zealand**; Times may vary; 4.50 **Final Score**; 5.25 **BBC News: Regional News**; **Weather**; 5.45 **Can't Sing Singers**

6.35 **Strictly Come Dancing**. The four remaining couples perform.

7.40 **The National Lottery**
Wright Around The World. With the Crows.

8.20 **Strictly Come Dancing**. The result is announced.

8.40 **Casualty**. A confrontation with Ruth brings further heartache for Comfort, Selena is separated for not doing a thorough examination and Abs tells Claire the real reason he is marrying Ellen.

9.30 **Billy Connolly's World Tour Of New Zealand**. The comedian tries to Christchurch, where he plays to his largest audience in New Zealand, before continuing on to Nelson and the Museum of Wearable Art. A visit to Kilkenny sees Billy in his element as he spots a couple of sperm whales during a trip out to sea.

10.10 **BBC News: Weather**: National Lottery Update

10.30 **Match Of The Day**. Highlights of this afternoon's eight Premiership fixtures.

12.30 **Film: National Lampoon's Dad's Week Off** (1996). Comedy, starring Henry Winkler: Weatherview

2.10 **Friday Night With Jonathan Ross**

3.10 **Top Of The Pops**

3.40 **BBC News 24**

1.00 **Fallen Angels**

2.00 **BBC Learning Zone**

BBC TWO

6.00 **Breakfast**; 9.00 **Weekend 24**; 10.00 **Saturday Kitchen**; 11.30 **Film 2004** With Jonathan Ross; 12.00 **See Heart**; 12.45 **Racing From Haydock And Chepstow**. Six races from the two courses; 2.25 **The Rockford Files**; 3.15 **Monk**; 3.55 **The Return Of Sherlock Holmes**; 4.50 **Seniors Tennis**. The Tennis Masters semi-finals.

6.00 **What The Papers Say**. The week's major stories as reported in the Press, with Martin Samuels of the **News of the World**.

6.10 **Porridge**. The inmates are horrified to discover there's a thief at large

In the prison. Ronnie Barker stars.

6.40 **Flog It!** Paul Martin visits Eastbourne Town Hall to meet people eager to make a profit selling their valuables.

7.40 **Fred Dibnah Tribute**. The life of the late Bolton steeplejack, featuring the reminiscences of friends and workmates, along with clips from his early TV programmes up to the felling of his 90th and final chimney in Royton, Oldham.

8.40 **Timewatch**. Profile of World War Two flying ace Adrian Warburton who disappeared on a reconnaissance mission, revealing how researchers finally unravelled the mystery of his fate in the summer of 2002.

9.30 **Film: The Pledge** (2000). Premieres. A Nevada cop on the verge of retiring becomes obsessed with helping a distraught woman track down her daughter's killer. Thriller, starring Jack Nicholson

11.30 **Film: Sweet And Lowdown** (1999). Woody Allen comedy about a fictitious guitarist whose sensitive playing is at odds with his hard-bitten exterior. Sean Penn stars.

11.15 **ITV News: Weather**

11.29 **Local Weather**

11.30 **The Frank Skinner Show**.

The comic chats to model, TV presenter and actress Kelly Brook, actor Simon Callow, musicians Tom Jones and Joels Holland and features music from Liverpool band the Zutons.

12.35 **I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here**: Live. Uninterrupted coverage:

2.00 **Miss World**

2004: The Final; 4.00 **Cduk**; 4.55 **ITV Nightscreen**

5.30 **ITV Morning News**

Richard & Judy

and Judy are knocking back (at 5.30pm) whilst surrounded by intelligent and polite conversation?

What you have is a show that is the epitome of daytime television.

Richard and Judy provide that little bit of parental companionship we want from time to time during the term, they continually manage to upstage even the most Hollywood of guests they interview, and refuse to leave their private life and marital disputes at home.

Daytime of the Year

Leeds Student Television Awards 2004

4

6.10 **The Hoobs**; 6.35 **The Hoobs**; 7.00 **Trans World Sports**; 7.55 **The Morning Line**; 8.45 **ITV**; 9.15 **TV News**; **Weather**; 12.35 **Calendar News** And **Weather**; 12.40 **The Planet's Funniest Animats**; 12.50 **Coronation Street**

3.05 **Film**: **The Big Green** (1995) Sporting comedy, with Steve Guttenberg; 4.55 **Calendar News** And **Sport**; **Weather**; 5.10 **ITV News** And **Sport**; **Weather**; 5.45 **You've Been Framed**; 5.55 **The Record Of The Year 2004**

7.10 **The X Factor**. The competition sees its conclusion as the three remaining acts perform. Hosted by Kate Thornton

8.15 **The Record Of The Year 2004 – The Results**. Cat Deeley gives the results of the viewers' vote and announces which song from the shortlist of 10 has won the coveted Record of the Year title.

9.00 **The X Factor**. Kate Thornton announces the results of the all-important viewers' vote, and the seventh unsuccessful act sees their hopes of winning a record contract dashed by celebrity judges Simon Cowell, Louis Walsh and Sharon Osbourne.

9.45 **I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here!** Another famous face moves out of the compound, leaving just four remaining stars to battle it out for the title of King or Queen of the Jungle.

11.15 **ITV News: Weather**

11.29 **Local Weather**

11.30 **The Frank Skinner Show**.

The comic chats to model, TV presenter and actress Kelly Brook, actor Simon Callow, musicians Tom Jones and Joels Holland and features music from Liverpool band the Zutons.

12.35 **I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here**: Live. Uninterrupted coverage:

2.00 **Miss World**

2004: The Final; 4.00 **Cduk**; 4.55 **ITV Nightscreen**

5.30 **ITV Morning News**

five

6.00 **Russell Gram's Postcards**; 6.10 **WideWorld**; 6.35 **WideWorld**; 7.00 **Sunrise**; 7.55 **Home And Away**; 10.00 **Hercules**. The Legendary Journeys, 11.30 **Xcalibur**; 12.00 **Beylebad**; 12.30 **Duel Masters**; 1.00 **Combat Club**, sounds little violence for Saturday morning TV, why not tune in and find out? 1.30 **The Chart**, 2.00 **Dawson's Creek**, long-faced teenagers bick and moan in the style of forty-something academics, if forty-something academics were worried about losing their virginity and becoming film-makers. 2.55 **FILM**: **Kelly's Heroes** (1970) **World War Two** adventure, starring Clint Eastwood; 3.55 **Film**. The New Swiss Family Robinson (1998) Adventure, starring Jane Seymour

7.25 **Charmed**. The sisters try to discover who has cast a spell of darkness on a magic school and Phoebe goes on a vision quest. Starring Holly Marie Combs and Alyssa Milano.

8.15 **Five News And Sport**

8.35 **The Dead Zone**. Johnny foresees an explosion and struggles to prevent it happening, but gradually finds it increasingly hard to distinguish between fantasy and reality.

9.30 **Friends**. Concluding part of the star-studded two-part special. Rachel lands a date with Jean-Claude Van Damme, and Chandler gets his just deserts for a high-school prank. With Julia Roberts.

9.00 **Film: America's Sweethearts** (2001). Premieres. Publicist Billy Crystal faces disaster when Tinseltown's golden couple break up.

Entertaining comedy, with John Cusack and Julia Roberts. Again, it's a full-on Julia Roberts fest on Channel Four tonight! 11.25 **Film: Mystic Pizza** (1988).

Coming-of-age comedy, starring Julia Roberts, Annabeth Gish and Lili Taylor. And here she is again... someone in the scheduling office clearly has a thing for the lady with the mouth the size of Texas.

1.25 **Film: Midnight Cowboy** (1969) Oscar-winning drama. Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight star alongside...Julia Roberts. Just kidding.

3.25 **French Football**; 5.10 **Countdown**; 5.55 **Animated Tales Of The World**

11.25 **Film: Runaway** (1984). Sci-fi adventure, starring Tom Selleck, Cynthia Rhodes and Kirstie "Momma" Alley.

1.20 **Law And Order**

2.20 **Film: Chinadream** (1998) Crime thriller, starring Junger Prochnow

3.55 **Short Story Cinema**; 4.20 **The Invaders**: in a dazzling predictable move, tonight the invaders go off invading.

5.10 **Sons And Daughters**; 5.35 **Sons And Daughters**

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The Old Bar

Sunday
December
5



John Holmes

"Now for today's hot topic - have you ever been doing anything wrong, or indeed not been doing anything wrong, and been hit by a tazar?" Taking *Newsnight* out of the newsroom and onto daytime radio, through the inquisitive voice of its

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with drag DJ

Courtyard
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chilled music 'til 5pm
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Mook
FLYTIME
soulful, jazzy &
leffield sounds

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chillout lounge

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22nd Feb. 05
ROOTS MANUVA*
24th Feb. 05
DROPKICK MURPHYS*
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- 6.00 Breakfast: **8.10 Match Of The Day**; **9.30 Breakfast With Frost**; **10.30 Down To Earth**; **11.30 Countryfile**; **12.30 The Politics Show**; **1.30 EastEnders**; **2.55 Match Of The Day Live**. Hinckley United v Bristol City or Brentford. Ray Stubbs presents second-half coverage of the FA Cup second-round clash at Middlefield Lane. Plus, the draw for the third round;
- 4.10 Eastenders**; **4.40 Keeping Up Appearances**; **5.10 Lifeline**; **5.20 Songs Of Praise**; **5.55 Fungus The Bogeyman**.
- 6.45 Antiques Roadshow**. A special edition from Cardiff Castle, featuring items including a ceremonial stick belonging to an African witch doctor, a historic exercise book, and an extremely rare Scandinavian iron drinking tankard.
- 7.35 BBC News: Regional News**: Weather
- 8.00 Hard Spell**. Eamonn Holmes hosts the final as the five remaining young spellers, who have battled through the previous rounds, compete against each other, bidding for the chance to win the coveted title of Hard Spell Champion. Last in series.
- 9.00 North And South**. Margaret is forced to move away from Milton after tragedy strikes. However, when her godfather leaves her a substantial inheritance she makes a return to the North, where a twist of fate leads to an unexpected rendezvous. Last in series.
- 10.00 BBC News: Weather**
- 10.15 FILM: The Beach (1995)**. A traveller arrives in Bangkok, where he hears rumours of a remote paradise island — but the idyllic existence soon turns out to be a nightmare. Good-looking drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio.
- 12.10 The Sky At Night**: Weatherview
- 12.55 BBC News 24**

BBC ONE

- 6.00** **BBMbles**; **6.20 BBMbles**; **6.40 The Story Makers**; **7.00 Looney Tunes**; **7.05 What's New Scooby-Doo?**; **7.30 Smile**; **10.30 Sunday Style**; **12.10 How I Made My Fortune**; **12.40 The Flying Gardener**; **12.50 Shoebox Zoo**; **1.15 Shoebox Zoo**; **1.40 Match Of The Day Live**. Hinckley United v Bristol City or Brentford (kick-off 2.00pm). Coverage continues on BBC One; **2.55 Nick Baker's Rhinos**; **3.25 Seniors Tennis**. Sue Barker presents live coverage of the Tennis Masters final at London's Royal Albert Hall, as the Delta Tour of Champions season reaches a conclusion.
- 6.00 A Wild Spring Day**. An insight into the wildlife which calls the Hebridean Islands of Colonsay and Ornsay its home during the months of spring, a period which many residents claim is their favourite time of year.
- 6.40 The Natural World**. The world of the hammerhead shark.
- 7.30 Every Home Should Have One**. Garry Lavin explores the history of domestic appliances.
- 8.00 Top Gear**. Richard Hammond takes a look at the BMW 6 Series cabriolet. Jeremy Clarkson investigates whether the VW Golf GTI has gone back to its roots, and Cliff Richard is the Star in a Reasonably Priced Car.
- 9.00 Mastermind**. John Humphrys presents this year's grand final. Specialist subjects are American presidents, FA Cup finals, Homer's Iliad, Sixties pop music, Elizabeth I and English test cricket. Last in series.
- 10.00 Have I Got News For You**. Satirical quiz.
- 10.30 Match Of The Day 2**.
- 11.15 Fighting Talk**
- 11.45 FILM: Looking For Richard (1996)**. Documentary, directed by Al Pacino.
- 1.30 Fallen Angels**
- 2.00 BBC Learning Zone**



BBC TWO

Jeremy Vine

most affable presenter, was bound to result in well, clunking down. Still, Jeremy Vine's Radio 2 show, a light lunch of current affairs and steady singer songwriters was commendable

at least for trying 5 Live without the travel, and occasionally with the tunes. Where else would you have your presenter saying "that was Bruce Springsteen. Now what do you think about Britain's ratifying of the new European Constitution?"



- 6.10 The Hobbit**; **7.00 ICC Cricket World**; **7.30 The Challenger World Series**; **7.55 World Cup Skiing**; **8.55 T4 Futurama**; **9.25 Top Gear**; **10.20 T4: Hollywoods**; **1.00 T4: Fool Around**; **1.35 T4: Friends**; **2.10 T4: The OC**; **3.15 T4: Smallville**: Superman The Early Years; **4.15 FILM: Crocodile Dundee In Los Angeles (2001) Premieres**. Comedy adventure.
- 6.00 The Simpsons**.
- 6.30 Scareheap Challenge**. A countdown of the leading mechanical monsters ever created in the history of the show, as chosen by viewers in an Internet poll. Among the machines up for consideration are car crushers, power pullers and vehicle flingers.

Channel 4 News**8.00 What We Still Don't Know**

New series. Astronomer Royal Martin Rees launches a scientific investigation into the meaning of life. He begins by exploring the concept of whether there are forms of life existing on planets other than the Earth, and discusses the theory which suggests the answer may well lie in our own evolutionary patterns.

9.00 FILM: Absolute Power (1997)

An ageing burglar witnesses a murder involving the US President and flees before the police arrive — hotly pursued by a detective determined to get at the truth. Thriller, starring Clint Eastwood and Gene Hackman.

10.15 FILM: The Net (1995)

A computer analyst's personal details are wiped from the national database and replaced by a false police record, hurling her into a desperate race to prove her real identity. Thriller, starring Sandra Bullock.

1.20 Don't Worry; **2.20 Dispatches**

3.10 Crazy Rulers Of The World; **4.10 Don't Worry**; **4.35 Morgan And Platoff**; **5.05 Countdown**; **5.50 Pelviswick**

Radio of the Year

Leeds Student
Television Awards 2004



- 6.00 WideWorld**, **6.25 A House That's Just Like Yours**; **6.50 Tickle Patch And Friends**; **7.15 Milkshake!**; **7.20 Peppa Pig**; **7.25 Valley**; **7.40 Make Way For Noddy**; **7.55 The Book Of Pooh**; **8.25 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends**; **9.30 George Shrimps**; **10.00 Snobs**; **10.30 Michaela's Wild Challenge**; **11.00 Billie, Girl Of The Future**; **11.35 A Different Life**; **12.05 FAQ**; **12.35 Liverpool**; **City Of Poets**; **1.05 Five News Update**; **1.15 The Chart**; **1.45 FILM: Juggernaut (1974) Suspense thriller**, starring Richard Harris; **3.50 FILM: Columbo**: Candidate For Crime (1973) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk; **5.40 Five News And Sport**; **5.55 FILM: Miracle On 34th Street (1947) Festive fantasy**, starring Richard Attenborough. **8.00 Britain's Worst Neighbour**. An investigation into the most appalling neighbours in the country, from people who can't keep the noise down on the other side of the wall to inquisitive types unable to leave well alone.
- 9.00 FILM: Street Fighter (1994)**. Daft futuristic adventure based on the popular video game, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Kyle Minogue as urban warriors who set out to rescue hostages kidnapped by an insane dictator. Including five news update at 9.55.
- 11.00 World's Wildest Police Videos**. Real-life crimes captured by cameras inside patrol cars and police helicopters.
- 11.55 Natural Born Racers**. Fly-on-the-wall documentary highlighting the antics of novice superbike racers battling to win a professional contract with the Virgin Mobile Yamaha Superbike team. The 30 racers get their campaign under way in the R6 Cup.
- 12.25 Ironman Triathlon**; **1.15 NFL Live**. Jacksonville Jaguars v Pittsburgh Steelers (kick-off 1.30pm); **4.30 Portuguese Football**

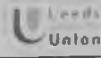
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Monday

December 6

John Holmes

With smooth Mark Nicholas, wise old Richie Beaudouin and a crack squad of cricketing luminaries from around the world, C4's coverage of England's whitewash of the Windies continued to severely impress. That England won didn't hinder matters, of course. But compared to the anticlimax that was Euro

clubs

Bassment
SUBPOP
Seattle/grunge rock

Courtyard
SOULFUL BLISS
soul from the ears

Hifi Club
SWEET REVIVAL
r'n'b, hip hop, soul & old skool with DJ Jason 'Buddy' Birch

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BBC
ONE

6.00 Breakfast: The National Lottery
Daily Play; 9.15 Money Spinners; 10.00

Homies Under The Hammer; 11.00

Housewives Behaving Badly; 12.15 Cash In

The Attic; 12.15 European Nightmare;

1.00 BBC News: Weather; 1.30 Regional

News: Weather; 1.40 Neighbours; 2.35

Murder; She Wrote; 3.20 BBC News:

Regional News: Weather; 3.25 Top TV;

3.35 Book; 3.45 CBBC: Monkeys The

Vampire; 4.10 The Scooby-Doo Show;

4.35 Bring It On; 5.00 Blue Peter; 5.25

Newround; 5.35 Neighbours

6.00 BBC News

6.30 Look North: Weather

7.00 Holiday 2005: Namibia, Orlando and Rome.

7.30 Real Story: Fiona Bruce and

John Sweeney follow up on their report into "shaken baby syndrome".

8.00 EastEnders: Patrick and

Yolande are told they can become foster parents; Stacey continues to wind Zoe up by

stalling stock for her stall at half price.

8.30 Ground Force:

New series: A lock-keeper's garden.

9.00 Spooks: The team apprehend an infamous arms dealer, who warns them that a missile attack on London has been planned.

10.00 BBC News

10.30 Regional News: Weather

10.35 Band Aid 20: Behind the scenes of the recording of the new version of charity single Do They Know It's Christmas?

Featuring contributions from Bob Geldof and Midge Ure.

11.35 Film 2004 With Jonathan Ross: Review of The Phantom of the Opera

12.05 Film: Who Dares Wins (1982): Action thriller, starring Lewis Collins: Weathernews

2.10 Sign Zone: The Natural World: The African lion.

3.00 Sign Zone: Too Close For Comfort

3.30 Sign Zone: One Life

4.10 BBC News 24

BBC
TWO

6.00 Little Bear; 6.25 Popeye And Son;

6.50 There's A Viking In My Bed; 7.05

Yvan Of The Yukon; 7.30 I Love

Mummy; 7.55 Newsround; 8.00 Big

Cook, Little Cook; 8.20 Tots TV; 8.30

Boo! 8.45 Pingu; 8.45 Little Red

Tractor; 9.00 Balloons; 9.20 The Roly

Mo Show; 9.40 Tenstones; 10.00

Sergeant Stripes; 10.10 Yohoh Ahoy!

10.15 Bob The Builder: Cheebies

Birthdays; 10.30 Schools: Science Clips;

10.40 Maths Channel; 10.50 English

Express; 11.20 Hands Up BSL; 11.35

Hands Up BSL; 11.55 Hands Up BSL;

12.05 Watch; 12.20 Trade Secrets;

12.30 Working Lunch; 1.00 Schools:

Watch; 1.15 Watch; 1.30 FILM: Devil's

Canyon (1953); 3.00 The Flying

Gardener; 3.30 Fog It!; 4.30 Ready,

Steady, Cook; 5.15 Weakest Link

6.00 Beg, Borrow Or Steal: Jamie

Theakston presents.

6.30 Strictly Come Dancing

– It Takes Two. With the latest couple to be knocked out.

7.00 The Curse Of Oil – The Pipeline:

Documentary following an international consortium's efforts to build a pipeline stretching from the Caspian Sea to Turkey.

8.00 Mastermind: John Humphrys

presents this year's grand final. Specialist subjects are American presidents, FA Cup finals

Homer's Iliad, States pop music, Elizabeth I and English test cricket. Last in series.

9.00 Dead Ringers: Jon Culshaw,

Jan Raven, Phil Cornwell, Kevin Connelly and Mark Perry send up a host of celebrities.

9.30 The Kumars At No 42:

Sanjeev and family are joined by guests Jo Brand and Esther Rantzen.

10.00 The Smoking Room: Lillian

wonders why everyone has gone fitness mad.

10.30 Newsnight

11.20 Top Gear

12.20 Trouble At The Top

1.00 BBC Learning Zone

England v West Indies

2004, the cricket continued to sound track the summer to a new army on converts, brought into the game partly by C4's engaging yet accessible coverage. For £5 residents, the Headingley

test also had the added bonus of spotting your housemate's girl-friend's house when the camera turned down Cardigan Road way. And the moment when you hear a plane fly past your house and the camera pans round to show the exact same moment on telly.

Sport of the Year

Leeds Student Television Awards 2004

4
five

6.00 Sunrise; 6.30 Milkshake!, Old Bear Stories: Kells and Old Bear team up for a one-off special. Happy go-lucky children's fun and details of how to get the boys to your yard are featured.

6.40 Oswald; 6.55 Hi-5; yeah! 7.30 Peppa Pig, 7.35 Funky Valley, the lesser known region of Wales is finally given the airtime it deserves. 7.45 Make Way For Noddy; 8.00 The Book Of Pooh, an in-depth review of the DaVinci Code

8.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends, 9.05 Barney – how is he not yet extinct? What is his secret?? 9.20 My First; 9.25 The Wright Stuff; 10.30 Sunset Beach; 11.25 House Doctor;

11.50 The Wright Stuff Extra; 12.00 Five News At Noon; 12.30 Home And Away: 1.00 Family Affairs; 1.35 Braintea; 2.35 Blow Out; 3.30 Five News Update; 3.40 FILM: The Return Of Ironside (1993) Crime drama; Raymond Burr stars; 5.30 Five News: Weather

6.00 Home And Away: Felix steps up his campaign against Dani.

6.30 Family Affairs: Sam and Olly come to blows. Five News: Weather The Gadget Show: Christmas Special. Jon Bentley, Jason Bradbury and Suzi Perry showcase the items on every gadget fan's Christmas list, including the iPod mini and a child's luxury car.

8.30 Fifth Gear: Tiff Needell investigates the latest developments in making cars less of a threat to pedestrians while bombardier James Nolan discovers how difficult it is to accurately hit a target from 20,000 feet. Plus, interviews with veterans build a picture of the first large-scale bomber raid of World War Two.

10.00 Without A Trace: A man goes missing after an argument with his wife, while Martin prepares for his firearms qualifications test. Drama, starring Eric Close.

11.00 Toots On Tour: Documentary following two of Britain's most successful ticket touts as they head Down Under to ply their trade during the Rugby World Cup.

11.25 The Jules And LuLu Show: Camp entertainment show. 12.25 Champions League Weekly; 12.45 Game Stars Live; 1.15 Building The Dream; 2.00 Moving Day; 2.25 Trish; 3.20 Everything Must Go; 3.45 Entertainment News; 4.10 Tonight With Trevor McDonald; 4.35 ITV Nightshift; 5.00 Jobfinder; 5.30 ITV Morning News

12.05 Putting The Fun In Fundamental; 1.05 Animale! TV; 1.35 Third Watch; 2.15 Don't Worry; 2.45 Crazy Rulers Of The World; 3.45 Freeposts On 4; 4.10 World Cup Skiing

11.35 The Most Bizarre Ads In The World: French rockers Principe Gauche present another selection of barmy adverts.

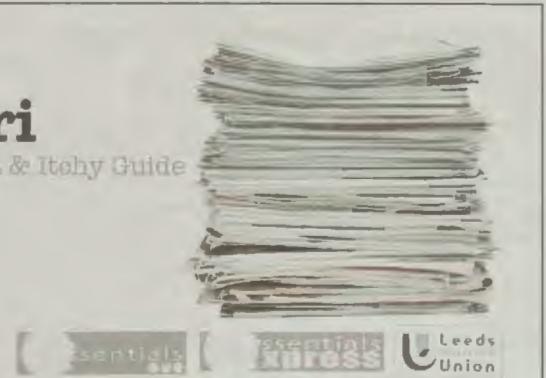
12.30 T-20 NBA Action; 1.45 NFL Live: Seattle Seahawks v Dallas Cowboys (kick-off 2.00am);

5.35 Motorsport Mundial

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A very close call here - in terms of sheer watchability (let's pretend that's a word) E4 is the choice for my household - but, as my household is comprised of six girls who whoop with delight at the prospect of an OC repeat we've seen twice already, this seems somewhat unrepresentative -

Challenge TV

so, well done E4 for your endless Friends and OC repeats, but step up Challenge TV to accept this honour.

A big pat on the back to this channel which dedicates itself to re-

running random quiz shows, sometimes excessively (hours of Who Wants to be a Millionaire anyone?) and, the real jewel in the crown of Challenge TV, the seemingly endless array of Takeshi's Castle episodes. Challenge TV, we salute you.

Digital of the Year

Leeds Student
Television Awards 2004

4

five

6.00 Sunrice; 6.30 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories; 6.40 Oswald; 6.55 Hi-5; 7.30 Peppa Pig; 7.35 Funky Valley; 7.45 Noddy; 8.00 The Book Of Pooh; 8.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends; 8.50 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends; 9.05 Barney; 9.20 My First; 9.25 The Wright Stuff; 10.30 Sunset Beach; 11.25 House Doctor; 11.50 The Wright Stuff Extra; 12.00 Five News At Noon; 12.30 Home And Away; 1.00 Family Affairs; 1.35 Brain Teaser; 2.35 Blow Out; 3.30 Five News Update; 3.35 FILM: Istanbul Express (1968); 5.30 Five News: Weather

6.00 Home And Away; 6.30 Family Affairs. Chrissy resolves to track down her mother and find out why she was abandoned.

7.00 Five News: Weather
7.30 Fifth Gear. Tiff Needell investigates the latest developments in making cars less of a threat to pedestrians they hit.

8.00 Can You Trust Your Doctor? Donal MacIntrye investigates cases of doctors accused of sexual offences who have been allowed to continue practising.

9.00 CSI: Miami. Horatio suspects sabotage when an investigation into a fatal plane crash reveals a disturbing fact — leading to the exposure of a drug ring in a seemingly ordinary suburb.

10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Grissom and the team struggle to apprehend the murderers of an elderly woman, while Sara and Nick face a tough challenge tracking down the maker of a bomb that caused a girl's death.

10.55 Crime Scene Academy. How blood spatters can provide clues.

11.30 Boontown.

12.20 Arrest And Trial; 12.40 Arrest And Trial; 1.00 NBA Basketball; 3.30 Argentinian Football Highlights; 4.20 Argentinian Football

Challenge TV

6.00 GMTV; 6.25 Trisha; 10.30 This Morning; 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News; 1.00 Today With Des Mead; 2.00 I Want That Luxury House; 2.30 Five Under Five; 3.00 Calendar

News And Weather; It's Your Call; 3.15 Miffy And Friends; 3.20 Fun Song Factory; 3.45 Smart; 3.55 Atomic Betty; 4.05 Art Attack; 4.30 My Parents Are Aliens; 5.00 Countdown To Christmas. Antony Worrall Thompson meets Coronation Street star Wendy Peters.

6.00 Calendar; Weather
6.25 ITV Evening News; Weather

6.55 Emmerdale. Cain is confronted by two thugs who accuse him of being involved in a robbery at their warehouse, while Alice hints that she would prefer to stay on with Paddy and Emily rather than return to her farm.

7.25 Champions League Live.

Arsenal v Rosenberg (kick-off 7.45pm). Gabby Logan presents this evening's Group D encounter at Highbury, a match the Gunners may need to win if they are to progress through to the knockout stages.

7.45 Young, Posh And Penniless.

Three spoilt youngsters give up the pleasures of their affluent lifestyles to move in with a working-class family and spend 10 days experiencing hard graft in a minimum-wage job.

Continued after the news.

10.30 ITV News: Weather

11.00 Young, Posh And Penniless.

Concluded. After their time with the working class, the three privileged kids enrol on a University of Leeds course, form a piss poor electro band, get £3000 treddy mullet haircuts and continue to piss off everyone except their fellow mullets with their faux radicalism and awful, awful music.

11.30 Champions League. Matt Smith presents highlights of this evening's matches.

12.30 Cdukt Hotshots. Cat Deeley

prepares forthcoming releases; 12.55 Daniel Bedingfield In Profile; 1.20 Grounded For Life. 1.40 Take The Mike;

2.10 Champions League; 3.45 Get Stuffed; 4.00 ITV Nightscreen - classic video game pong, with Bob Dole and James Alexander-Gordon; 5.00 Jobfinder; 5.30 ITV Morning News

5.55 Animal Alphabet

6.00 Fourways Farm; 6.10 The Hobbs; 6.35 The Hoobs; 7.00 B4; 7.25 Friends; 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond; 8.25 The King Of Queens; 8.50 Nikki; 9.20 Will & Grace; 9.45 Will & Grace; 10.15 FILM: City Under The Sea (1965); 11.45 Icons; 12.00 News At Noon; 12.30 In Your Face; 12.45 Other People's Holidays; 1.50 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman; 2.45 The Courtroom; 3.15 Countdown; 4.00 A Place In The Sun; 5.00 Richard & Judy

6.00 The Simpsons.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Debbie tries to

persuade Darren to drop the charges against Dan. Justin and Paula face up to their punishment, and Bombead gets an unwelcome visitor.

7.00 Channel 4 News

7.55 The Political Slot

8.00 Selling Houses Special.

Andrew Winter visits

Bury St Edmunds to revamp an eight-bedroom Victorian detached house. Last in series.

The Heist. New series. A team of

reformed criminals are

challenged to brush up their old skills and pull off complex thefts, pitting their wits against sophisticated security systems and experienced detectives.

10.00 Teachers. Damien's

determination to enjoy being single evaporates the moment he catches sight of supply teacher Anna — but a crippling bout of impotence could threaten the relationship.

11.05 The Sex Inspectors.

Tracey Cox and Michael Alverar help a couple who have indulged in so

much sexual experimentation they have run out of ideas, and are fast becoming bored with each other.

11.55 Peep Show.

12.25 Distraction; 1.00 FILM: Disco

Pigs (2001). Premiere. Drama, starring

Cillian Murphy. 2.35 POM: A Family

Business; 3.05 Monkey; 3.55 Crazy

Rulers Of The World; 4.55 Zero To Hero;

5.55 Animal Alphabet

Digital of the Year

Leeds Student
Television Awards 2004

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Wednesday December



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BBC ONE

- 6.00 Breakfast: The National Lottery Daily Play; 9.15 Money Spinners; 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer; 11.00 Houses Behaving Badly; 11.30 Cash In The Attic; 12.15 European Nightmare; 1.00 BBC News: Weather; 1.30 Regional News: Weather; 1.40 Neighbours. Connor meets his Intern, "boyfriend"; 2.05 Doctors; 2.35 Murder, She Wrote; 3.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather; 3.25 Tweeters; 3.45 CBBC: Mon The Vampire; 4.10 New Scooby And Scrappy-Doo Show; 4.20 The Story Of Tracy Beaker; 4.35 The Fairly Odd Parents; 5.00 Blue Peter; 5.25 Newsround; 5.35 Neighbours 6.00 BBC News
- 6.30 Look North: Weather Yorkshire And Lincolnshire Sports Awards 2004. Harry Gration and Christa Ackroyd present the awards ceremony.
- 7.30 Airport. Paramedics Jane and Gerard rush to the aid of an asthma sufferer.
- 7.55 The National Lottery: Midweek Draws. Ian Wright gets the balls drawn for the all-important draws.
- 8.00 Family Contact. Anjula Mutanda comes to the aid of a mother and her three teenagers whose household is a lot less peaceful than the countryside in which they live. Last in series.
- 9.00 Cops, Robbers And Videotape: Wanted. A new squad set up by Lancashire police to reduce the region's burglary.
- 10.00 BBC News
- 10.30 Regional News: Weather
- 10.35 Imagine - Bruce Nauman: The Godfather Of Modern Art.
- 11.15 The Richard Dimbleby Lecture
- 11.55 Film: Different For Girls (1996). Drama, with Steven Mackintosh: Weatherview
- 1.35 Sign Zone: Full On Food
- 2.35 Sign Zone: A Year At Kew
- 3.05 Sign Zone: Desert: The Challenge
- 4.05 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

- 6.00 Little Bear; 6.25 Popeye And Son; 6.50 There's A Viking In My Bed; 7.05 Yvon Of The Yukon; 7.30 I Love Mummy; 7.55 Newsround; 8.00 Big Cook, Little Cook; 8.20 Tots TV; 8.30 Boot; 8.40 Pingoo; 8.45 Little Red Tractor; 9.00 Balamory; 9.20 The Roly Mu Show; 9.40 Tweenies; 10.00 Sergeant Stripes; 10.10 Yoh Ahoy!; 10.15 Bob The Builder: Cbeebies Birthdays; 10.30 FILM: Dirty Work (1993) Laurel and Hardy comedy; 10.50 Trade Secrets; 11.00 The Daily Politics; 1.00 Lifeline; 1.10 What The Victorians Did For Us; 1.30 Working Lunch; 2.00 FILM: The Square Peg (1958); 3.30 Flig It; 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook; 5.15 Weakest Link
- 6.00 Beg, Borrow Or Steal.
- 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. Fanzine.
- 7.00 The Mighty Boosh. Howard and Vince take a bear to prison.
- 7.30 Rick Stein's Food Heroes. The chef samples seaweed pie.
- 8.00 Full On Food. Richard Johnson visits Ludlow to learn how to shop and eat locally. Stefan Gates smokes his own salmon and guest Nick Knowles rustles up a dinner party favourite.
- 9.00 Bodies. Rob is cheered when he successfully applies for a job at another hospital and Donna agrees to leave her husband to be with him, but another error in the operating theatre sees his plans turn to dust.
- 10.00 Arrested Development. Michael tries to get his son into a prestigious school.
- 10.20 The Planets: Brief Encounters. How scientists have discovered volcanoes 15 miles high and evidence of dried-up rivers and seas on Mars.
- 10.30 Newsnight
- 11.20 Desi DNA
- 11.50 FILM: The Million Dollar Hotel (2000). Murder mystery, with Mel Gibson.
- 1.45 What The Romans Did For Us: The Witness
- 2.00 BBC Learning Zone

Homer Simpson

Everybody loves Homer Simpson. Not only does he represent a growing number of concerned, prematurely balding males, his happy-go-lucky nature in the face of disaster is an inspiration to all. With hobbies such as occasionally reading safety pamphlets, regular beer drinking and an

obsession with doughnuts, there is a little bit of Homer in all of us. As a loving husband, doting father and dedicated employee, Homer provides a young generation of men with

something to aim for in life and, for female Homer devotees, he represents all that is desirable in a male companion.

Homer Simpson, voted Springfield Nuclear Power Plant Toxic Waste Handler of the Month in October 1990. A hero to us all.

Hero of the Year

Leeds Student Television Awards 2004

4

- 6.00 Animated Tales Of The World; 6.10 The Hobbs; 6.35 The Hobbs; 7.00 84; 7.25 Friends; 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond; 8.25 The King Of Queens; 8.50 Nikki; 9.15 Will & Grace; 9.40 Will & Grace; 10.05 FILM: Seven Brothers For Seven Brothers (1954) Oscar-winning musical Western, starring the late Howard Keel; 12.00 News At Noon; 12.30 In Your Face;
- 6.00 Calendar: Weather
- 6.30 ITV Evening News: Weather
- 7.00 Emmerdale. Cain tries to extort cash from Robert and later makes another attempt to blackmail Sadie - who laughs in his face.
- 7.30 Coronation Street. The Barlows and McDonalds quibble over selling the car, and Yvonne reveals she will also be inspecting the Rovers' financial dealings.
- 8.00 The Bill. Jim tells June about his debts, leaving her stunned by his betrayal and in no mood to enjoy her retirement party. Amber seduces virgin Steve, and Jack puts Ramani in charge of a new Vulnerable Persons Unit.
- 9.00 I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here: Coming Out. Ant and Dec present a special show following the celebrities as they leave the jungle and prepare to settle back into their old lifestyles.
- 10.00 The Real Julia Roberts.

Documentary delving behind the Hollywood actress' public persona as the beautiful girl next door, highlighting her difficult childhood, tempestuous love life and evaluating her body language.

11.05 Max And Paddy's Road To Nowhere. Part two of two. The duo find themselves in prison.

11.40 Sex And The City.

12.20 Outside: Rosalyn's Dog; 12.35 Outside: Lost For Words; 1.35 Missing Moscow; 1.55 Alt TV; 2.20 World Cup Skiing; 4.10 Freesports On 4; 4.40 KOTV; 5.05 Countdown; 5.50 Pelewick

five

- 6.00 Sunrise; 6.30 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories; 6.40 Oswald; 6.55 Hi-5; 7.30 Peppa Pig; 7.35 Funky Valley; 7.45 Make Way For Noddy; 8.00 The Book Of Pooh; 8.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends; 8.50 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends; 9.05 Barnaby; 9.20 My First; 9.25 The Wright Stuff; 10.30 Sunset Beach; 11.25 House Doctor; 11.50 The Wright Stuff Extra; 12.00 Five News At Noon; 12.30 Home And Away; 1.00 Family Affairs; 1.35 BrainTeaser; 2.35 Blow Out; 3.30 FILM: Mallory: Circumstantial Evidence (1975) Legal drama, starring Raymond Burr; 5.30 Five News: Weather
- 6.00 Home And Away. Sally finds out Leah lied to her.
- 6.30 Family Affairs. Dave visits Jake in prison, and Yasmin is charmed by Owen. Pete sets out to prove he's over Eileen.
- 7.00 Five News: Weather
- 7.30 Egypt Detectives. Miriam Cooke and Dominic Montserrat attempt to trace the origins of ancient Egyptian culture, aiming to establish whether it began with the people of the Nile Valley or was imported from another civilization.
- 8.00 Megalithing: Stranger Than Fiction. The phenomenon of giant, powerful lightning.
- 9.00 FILM: Regatta Sunshe (1968). Drug dealer Mel Gibson clashes with cop Kurt Russell for the affections of restaurant owner Michelle Pfeiffer. Thriller, also starring Raul Julia, including five news update at 9.55.
- 11.15 The Gadget Show.
- The team examine the best digital cameras on the market.
- 12.15 Sex And The Settee;
- 12.40 Snooker: World Champions V The Asian Stars; 2.10 Combined Duathlon And Triathlon World Championships;
- 2.40 European Drag Racing; 3.05 Golf: The Challenger; 3.30 Boxing: Fight Of The Week Classics; 4.20 Dutch Football

Xmas party

Santa's & Fairies Theme

Monday 13th Dec

9pm - 2.30am

Free Santa Hats
Free Cocktails
Free Tinsel
Free Mistletoe
Bucking Raindeer
Mince Pies
Santa and his elves
Balloon Drop
Kmas Lights and Tree
winter Wonderland Decor
Two rooms of magic music
Shots £1
Pints £1.30, bottles £1.50
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Thursday
December
9



Zofia Niemietz

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artrock/garage/rock-
dark/dance/electro

Bindage
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90s music

Elbow Rooms:
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Nosh Baby Food

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6.00 Breakfast: The National Lottery
Daily Play; 9.15 Money Spinners; 10.00
Homes Under The Hammer; 11.00
Houses Behaving Badly; 11.30 Cash In
The Attic; 12.15 European Nightmare;
1.00 BBC News; Weather; 1.30 Regional
News; Weather; 1.40 Neighbours;

Harold gets a new look; 2.05 Doctors;
2.35 Murder, She Wrote; 3.20 BBC
News; Regional News; Weather; 3.25
Cbeebies: Big Cook, Little Cook; 3.45
CBBC: Mona The Vampire; 4.10 Rugrats;
4.35 Smart; 5.00 I Dream; 5.25

Newsround; 5.35 Neighbours;
6.00 BBC News

6.30 Look North: Weather
7.00 Wildlife On One. The lives of
capuchins, reputedly the world's
most intelligent species of
monkey.

7.30 EastEnders. Ian cries foul
when Lucy fails to land the role
of Mary in the Nativity play. Billy
tells Alfie that wh-enever he
looks at Freddie, he sees Little
Mo's rapist.

8.00 The Dobsions Of Duncraig.
Plans for the castle begin to
take shape, as Eilish searches
for a job while Greg devotes his
time to the restoration project –
but with so much to do, the
family already feel in need of a
holiday.

8.30 DIY SOS. A team of experts
help some amateurs in a fix.

9.00 Blackpool. Marr shows
his true colours by
playing a dastardly
trick on Ripley, while Natalie
tries to decide whether to
discontinue her affair with Carlisle.

10.00 BBC News
10.30 Regional News: Weather
10.35 Question Time.
11.35 This Week

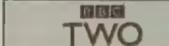
12.20 FILM: Looking For Mr
Goodbar (1977). Adult drama,
starring Diane Keaton; Skiing
Weather

2.35 Sign Zone: Watchdog
3.05 Sign Zone: Truants
3.35 Sign Zone: TBA

4.05 Sign Zone: Antiques
Roadshow
BBC News 24

There are worse villains, I know.
Hitler could get a special mention,
George Bush certainly deserves a
heads up and Satan's minion Simon
Cowell was a strong contender but the
award goes to...the Titmuss.

Although (to the best of my knowl-
edge) she hasn't actually committed



6.00 Little Bear; 6.25 Popeye And Son;
6.50 There's A Viking In My Bed; 7.05
Yeon Of The Yukon; 7.30 I Love
Mummy; 7.55 Newsround; 8.00 Big
Cook; Little Cook; 8.20 Tots TV; 8.30
Boo!; 8.40 Pingoo; 8.45 Little Red
Tractor; 9.00 Balamory; 9.20 The Royle
Family Show; 9.40 Tweenies; 10.00
Sergeant Stripes; 10.10 Yoho Ahoy!;

10.15 Bob The Builder; Cbeebies
Birthdays; 10.30 Schools' Emotional
Literacy; 10.40 The Maths Channel;

10.50 The Maths Channel; 11.00 The
Maths Channel; 11.10 Primary
Geography; 11.20 Primary Geography;
11.30 The Daily Politics; 12.30

Working Lunch: Turning Points; 1.05
Trade Secrets; 1.15 FILM: Jesse
James (1939) Western; 3.00 The Winter
Flying Gardener; 3.30 Flop It!; 4.30
Ready, Steady, Cook; 5.15 Weakest Link

6.00 Beg, Borrow Or Steal.

6.30 Strictly Come Dancing – It
Takes Two. Claudia Winkleman
presents.

7.00 The Culture Show. Verity
Sharp presents the latest from
the cultural world.

8.00 The Natural World. Philippa
Forrester spends a year
examining the wildlife of an
ancient oak wood, witnessing a
sparrow preying on blue tits, and
fox cubs learning
how to catch rabbits.

8.30 Wild Scotland. The red deer
population on the Island of Rum
offer Gordon Buchanan another
opportunity to explore the
wildlife of Scotland.

9.00 The Man Who Broke
Britain. Documentary-style
drama, exploring the possibility
of a financial meltdown
crippling Britain's trading
institutions after a terrorist
attack.

10.00 Newsnight
11.20 The Culture Show

12.20 FILM: Will It Snow For
Christmas? (1996)

French drama, starring
Dominique Reymond.

1.50 What The Romans Did For
Us Mining operations.

2.00 BBC Learning Zone

Abi Titmuss

any intrinsically evil acts, nor has she
been particularly villainous (as that
might actually require a personality)
but, in terms of sheer pointlessness and
undeserved media attention, Abi is

head, shoulders and bare breasts
above the rest.

It is deeply troubling to change
channels and be faced with yet another
interview with a woman only
famous for snorting coke and shagging
John Leslie. She deserves our pity, yes,
but not our airtime. Stop the madness.

**Villain of
the Year**

Leeds Student
Television Awards 2004



6.10 The Hobbs; 6.35 The Hobbs; 7.00
84; 7.25 Friends; 7.55 Everybody Loves
Raymond; 8.25 The King Of Queens;
8.50 Nikki; 9.15 Will & Grace; 9.45

FILM: The Three Musketeers (1948)
Classic adventure, starring Gene Kelly;
12.00 News At Noon; 12.30 In Your

Face; 12.45 Friends' Holidays;
1.50 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman; 2.45
The Courtroom; 3.15 Countdown; 4.00

A Place In The Sun; 5.00 Richard &
Judy

6.00 The Simpsons. The family go
to Washington.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Justin considers
his family's feelings during a
group therapy session at camp.
An argument between Cameron and
Steph leaves the future of
the play in doubt.

7.00 Channel 4 News
7.55 Political Slots.

8.00 Beyond River Cottage. Hugh
Fearnley-Whittingstall collects
home-made honey from his
beehives, and attempts to
improve the reputation of tripe
with the general public.

8.30 Home From Home. A family
from San Francisco swap homes
with Suffolk householders, and
find the scenery of East Anglia
isn't what they anticipated.

9.00 Dispatches. Serious Samura
visits Sudan's border with Chad
to investigate the plight of
refugees from Darfur; finding
they must walk miles over harsh
terrain and subsist on a meagre
diet.

10.00 What The Butler Saw. The
Callaghans get to grips with the
traditional aristocratic pastimes of
fox-hunting, shooting
and archery, while the secret
panel decide which two family
members are to be disinherited.

11.05 FILM: Ghost World (2001).
Premiere. Comedy, starring
Thora Birch.

1.10 Freesports On 4; 1.45 KOTV
Classics; 2.40 Brazilian Football
Championship; 4.30 Trans World Sport;
5.20 Countdown



6.00 Sunrise; 6.30 Milkshake! Old Bear
Stories; 6.45 Oswald; 6.55 Hi-5; 7.30
Peppa Pig; 7.35 Funny Valley; 7.45

Make Way For Noddy; 8.00 The Book Of
Pooh; 8.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch
Friends; 8.50 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch
Friends; 9.05 Barney; 9.20 My First;
9.25 The Wright Stuff; 10.30 Sunset

Beach; 11.25 House Doctor; 11.50 The
Wright Stuff Extra; 12.00 Five News At
Noon; 12.30 Home And Away; 1.00

Family Affairs; 1.35 Brain Teaser; 2.35
Blow Out; 3.35 FILM: One Of Our
Pies Is Missing (1966); 3.50 Five News;
Weather 6.00 Home And Away.

6.30 Family Affairs.

7.00 Five News; Weather
7.30 Egypt Detectives.
8.00 The Truth About The Killer
Squid.

9.00 FILM: The Specialist (1994).
11.10 X-Rated: The Films That
Shocked Britain.

12.10 John Barnes' Football Night;
12.50 Portuguese Football; 2.20
Dutch Football; 3.50
Argentinian Football; 5.20
Argentinian Football Highlights

On LSTV this week

Catch LS-TV everyday at 1pm in
the Union

The Essential – On this weeks
show, we head down to the
Christmas German Market, plus an
interview with Simon Hughes and
the Essential Question – What do
you want for Christmas?
Brought to you by Richard Salkeld.

Street Style – The new LS-TV
fashion show produced by Grace
Gibbons.

That's Entertainment – An
interview with Hope of The States,
more movie reviews in trailer
Fresh and a festive edition of
Socks Entertainment. Brought to
you as ever by Tom and Claire.

Socs In Focus – The Making of
Copacabana. We take a look
behind the scenes on the new
Stage Musicals Society show,
Copacabana. The Idiots Guide to
Film Making – A new comedy
film from our News Editor Sami
Shepherd.

THE BIGGEST EVER OLD BAR GIVEAWAY

Join us for a fun packed Christmas day 7th Dec from 11am

**You could win... A Snowboard
A Microwave
Playstation 2 + Game
DVD - Film
Mini Fridge
+ Lots of other stuff inc. Live music**

What's on at the cinemas in Leeds

VUE CINEMAS

Kirkstall Road. Tel: 08702406020.
Adults = £5.50 (after 5) / £4.70
(before 5), Students = £4.10 (with a
valid NUS card)

After the Sunset (12A)

Fri + Sun - Tues: 17:50
Fri - Tues: 20:20
Fri + Sat: 22:50

Bad Santa (15)

Fri + Sat: 23:50

Blade Trinity (15)

Weds + Thurs: 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:50 +
22:15

Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason (15)

Daily: 13:00, 14:30, 15:35, 17:20, 18:20,
20:10 + 21:10

Fri + Sat: 23:10

Sat + Sun: 10:20am + 11:50am

Christmas with the Kranks (PG)

Daily: 13:15, 15:45, 18:10 + 20:40

Fri + Sat: 23:15

Sat + Sun: 10:40am

Churchill: The Hollywood Years (15)

Daily: 14:50, 17:05, 19:20 + 21:30

Fri + Sat: 23:45

Sat + Sun: 12:30

Taxi (12A)

Fri + Sat: 23:55

Sat + Sun: 09:40am

The Forgotten (12A)

Daily: 19:10 + 21:40

Fri + Sat: 00:00

Fri + Sun - Tues: 13:10 + 15:40

The Grudge (15)

Daily: 21:20

Fri + Mon - Thurs: 14:20, 16:40 + 19:00

Fri + Sat: 23:40

The Incredibles (U)

Daily: 13:20, 14:10, 15:10, 16:10, 17:10,
18:00, 20:00 + 20:50

Fri + Sat: 23:00

Sat + Sun: 09:45am, 10:30am, 11:20am +
12:20

The Polar Express (U)

Sat + Sun: 09:50am, 12:00, 14:20, 16:40 +
19:00

STER CENTURY

The Light. Tel: 08702403696. £4.20
(with a valid NUS card). All day
Tuesday = £3.80 for students

After the Sunset (12A)

Daily: 21:10

Bad Santa (15)

Fri + Sat: 23:20

Beyond the Sea (12A)

Daily: 13:50 + 18:50

Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason (15)

Daily: 12:45, 14:45, 15:30, 17:30, 18:15,
20:00 + 21:00

Fri + Sat: 22:45

Sat + Sun: 12:00

Christmas with the Kranks (PG)

Daily: 13:20, 15:40, 18:00 + 20:20 (not
Tues)

Fri + Sat: 22:40

Sat + Sun: 11:00am

Churchill: The Hollywood Years (15)

Daily: 13:00, 14:15, 15:00, 15:45, 17:00,
17:45, 18:30, 19:45 (not Mon), 20:30 +
21:15

Fri + Sat: 22:30

Sat + Sun: 11:30am + 12:15

The Manchurian Candidate (15)

Daily: 18:10 + 20:50

The Merchant of Venice (PG)

Daily: 12:30, 15:20 + 18:20

The Polar Express (U)

Sat + Sun: 11:10am, 13:20, 15:30, 17:40 +
19:50

Enduring Love (15)

Fri + Mon - Thurs: 15:50, 18:00 + 20:15

Fri + Sat: 22:30

I Heart Huckabees (15)

Daily: 13:30 (not Sat or Sun), 16:20 + 21:20

Sat + Sun: 11:10am

Memories of Murder (15)

Mon: 18:15

Weds: 20:15

School for Seduction (12A)

Daily: 12:30, 17:00 + 19:15

Taxi (12A)

Daily: 13:30 + 15:50

Sat + Sun: 11:10am

The Forgotten (12A)

Daily: 13:30, 15:50, 18:20 + 20:40

Fri + Sat: 22:50

Sat + Sun: 11:10am

The Grudge (15)

Daily: 14:45 + 21:30

The Incredibles (U)

Daily: 13:00, 14:15, 15:00, 15:45, 17:00,
17:45, 18:30, 19:45 (not Mon), 20:30 +
21:15

Fri + Sat: 22:30

Sat + Sun: 11:30am + 12:15

The Merchant of Venice (PG)

Daily: 12:30, 15:20 + 18:20

The Polar Express (U)

Sat + Sun: 11:10am, 13:20, 15:30, 17:40 +
19:50

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE

Brudenell Road. Tel: 01132752045.

Adults = £4, Students = £3.50

Before Sunset (15)

Weds + Thurs: 18:45

Coffee and Cigarettes (15)

Daily: 20:30 (not Mon)

Five Children and It (PG)

Sat: 12:00

Goldfish Memories (15)

Fri: 18:30

Sat + Sun: 16:00

Love Actually (15)

Mon: 18:00

Meet Me in St Louis (U)

Sun: 13:45

You're My Hero (15)

Sat + Sun: 18:20

COTTAGE ROAD

Cottage Road. Tel: 08456441693.

£4.50 / £3.50 (with a valid NUS card)

Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason (15)

Daily: 20:20

Ladies in Lavender (12A)

Daily: 17:50

THE LOUNGE

North Lane. Tel: 01132752001.

£4.50 / £3.50 (with a valid NUS card)

The Incredibles (U)

Daily: 18:10 + 20:30

Sat: 11:00am, 13:30 + 16:00

Sun: 15:00

MIND YOUR HEAD

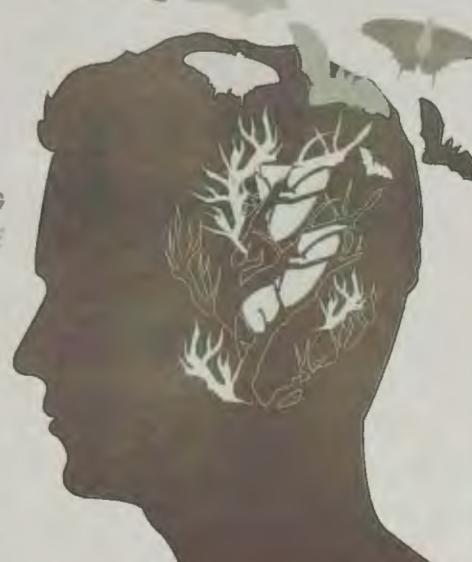
A WEEK OF EVENTS TO GET YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING

TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 7PM IN THE CLARENDON WING LECTURE THEATRE
A TALK: STIGMA AND MENTAL HEALTH A DREAM OF INCLUSION

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A PRESENTATION BY THE ONE IN FOUR THEATRE CO. FOLLOWED BY A
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AND RELAXATION, WITH PRIZES AND INFO ON MENTAL WELLBEING

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Sócrates of Brazil & Leeds Met students rubbing shoulders with champions

Sócrates, captain of Brazil in the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, received an honorary doctorate from Leeds Metropolitan University at the winter graduations, 26 November 2004. Leeds Met is striving to be a world-class regional university, with world-wide horizons, using all our talents to the full. Sócrates, of Brazil and now Garforth Town, illustrates this vision. He stayed on-campus and spent time rubbing shoulders with graduating and continuing students.

www.leedsmet.ac.uk



leeds metropolitan university

allusions

In his seventies,
writer Matt Kennard
is still alive'

**'The War on
Terror was
declared quite
explicitly in
1981'**



player on the global scene until the Second World War. It dominated and there were some forays into Africa. But it was secondary to Britain, in fact, even France up until the World War."

Everything changed. During the World War it was clear in the early of the war that the US was going to be the world dominate power and were high level planning meetings only going on from 1939 to 1945, through the war years. They had met-

ning for the post-war world and it was very explicit. In the early part of the war they expected that Germany would survive and it would be a German-controlled world which would be part of Eurasia, and the rest they wanted to be US controlled. They even had a name for it. They called it the Grand Area. It was defined as the area necessary for the US economy - which means US industry, agriculture, corporate structure - to enable it to flourish and have the resources it needs and the markets it wants and so on. And the Grand Area was defined as the entire Western Hemisphere, the Far East

and the former British Empire which the US would take over. That is the minimum and from then on to the whole."

At this point it felt like there was an auto-cue running behind my head. The sheer breadth and detail of the knowledge he is able to summon off the top of his head is truly dazzling. Any quixotic hopes I had of catching him out with some obscure bit of my own knowledge were fading into the information-laden mist. But something was still bothering me. The "war on terror" must be different to attempts at US domination during the Cold War.

"First of all the "War on Terror" was declared quite explicitly in 1981 by the same people who are now in Washington or their immediate mentors. That was during their Reaganite phase. The Reagan administration - it's mostly the people currently in office - had announced right off that the focus of foreign policy would be fighting terror - state sponsored terrorism - "plague of the modern age"; "return to the age of barbarism" and so on and so forth. Same rhetoric as today and the "War on Terror" was the cover for major terrorist wars that the US waged against Central America, in



"IT GOES BACK TO THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD": Noam Chomsky was one of the most outspoken critics of the war in Vietnam in the 1960s and, as he nears 77, shows no sign of quieting down



South East Asia, in Africa, in the Middle East and elsewhere with horrendous consequences. No-one wants to talk about it because you're not supposed to admit those things. But the fact is that the "War on Terror" was designated to be the focus of US foreign policy in the early 1980s."

But, I contend, it was qualitatively different. "How was it different?" he asks with a certain impatience. Well for a start it didn't use US ground troops. "Actually they intended at first to use US forces in Central America but there was so much popular reaction that they turned to what is called "clandestine war". Clandestine means the war that everybody knows about except the American population - it's kept from them and it was fought with an international terrorist network, in which Britain contributed incidentally. So it was Taiwan, Israel, Argentina's neo-Nazis until they were thrown out, Saudi Arabian funding, British assistance. So that's a kind of an international terror network that was used to support the murderous state terrorist governments of Central America and in the case of the one government where they didn't control the security forces, Nicaragua, they were used just to attack."

Just as the conversation is starting to flow, there's a knock at the door. "Time's up guys," his secretary says cheerily. "Can we get a few more minutes?" Chomsky replies. It seemed I had time for one more question. I decided to go with the not so trivial topic of human survival. Chomsky's most recent political book is, after all, apocalyptically titled, "Hegemony or Survival?". Does he really believe the choice is that stark? If the US continues in its quest for global dominance will it threaten the survival of our species?

"Actually it's not particularly my opinion. Probably the most respectable journal in the West is the *Journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* which last issue has an article by two leading strategic analysts who (they were studying the transformation of the military: the new build up of offensive military weapons that put the entire world at risk of instant annihilation, militarization of space and so on) talk about the scenarios which are anticipated and are already taking place and they conclude that if this continues there is a fair likelihood of "ultimate doom". That's very respectable strategic analysis, the most respectable journal in the West. Not given to hyperbole. In fact they hope that a coalition of peace-loving states will coalesce to counter US militarism and aggressiveness. And they don't expect it to be led by England, they hope it will be led by China. That's where we have come to. They hope that China will organize a coalition of peace-loving states to stop the militarism and aggressiveness headed by the US and its British ally. Well it's interesting that they have such contempt for American democracy and British democracy: they don't even dream of it coming from within. I don't agree with it. I don't think we have to wait for China to save us from all doom. I think we can do it ourselves."

And that was that. A half-hearted attempt to squeeze in another few minutes of talk time with some mumbled reply was interrupted by another knock from Ms. Stohl. I stood up briskly, shook his hand again and dizzily made my way out of his office clutching my various bits of technology. There, in the same place I had been an hour earlier, was another in the steady stream of journalists with a brow as nervously furrowed and palms as sweaty as mine had been. I made it out onto the street with Chomsky's words still ringing in my ears. The world is not out of our hands. We don't have to wait for those with power who are reluctant to change it for the better. "I think we can do it ourselves."

philmk@leeds.ac.uk

The front line

Having lived through the first siege of Fallujah in April, Dr Salam Ismael is now touring Britain telling the city's unheard history. With violence continuing across Iraq and January's elections looking less likely by the day Kevin Widdop hears his story



Speaking with Dr Salam Ismael, a young Iraqi doctor whose family has been subjected to so much, whose country has been subjected to more, it is hard to understand how his dignity remains intact whilst talking about his harrowing experiences. Rarely does he lose his temper or become emotional, even when talking about the recent deaths of two of his colleagues killed in a missile at the Fallujah General Hospital.

In Iraq during the first siege, in Britain for the second, his stories are both poignant and revealing. A case in point is when his home in Baghdad, Iraq's capital, was invaded and his 64-year-old father endured humiliation at the hands of US marines. "They put shoes on his head and told us to take off our clothes. Then they told him to kill himself," he says shaking his head.

With the second bombardment reducing parts of Fallujah to ruins, did it all come about because of the four American contractors that were tortured and then burned as a spectacle back in April? "No, I think it started from the sanctions," he pauses, adding solemnly: "Now it is a genocide in Fallujah."

From the death of his two cousins to the four invasions of his home to being interrogated twice, he narrowly avoided being killed on various occasions and still suffers psychologically from his experiences: "How can I forget what has happened? I get nightmares, insomnia, lack of eating as a result of post-traumatic stress. No one can forgive or forget."

Such treatment seems to dwarf with images released last week of a US marine shooting an unarmed

prisoner. I ask him if such an incident is a one-off? "Well, this is part of the norm, the reality there," he says matter-of-factly. "What the media show you is just one tenth of the iceberg. Nobody is showing what is happening inside Fallujah. The other side of the story is horrible. I received a call yesterday from one of the Doctors who left Fallujah and he said to me they were making an operation in one of the theatre rooms and the American soldiers entered with their shoes and their guns. They took the two doctors who were making the operation and tried to arrest them. So they are interfering with doctor's work."

The role of the captured image has played an important part in the war. With the shocking pictures of abuse of Iraqi prisoners in Abu Ghraib and the sacking of Daily Mirror editor Piers Morgan for printing faked photos of British soldiers abusing Iraqi captives, what is his opinion of the British media? "I went to make a [video] piece for Channel Four and I met Jon Snow. I told him, 'Well, the coverage is away from the truth.' He started laughing and said to me that Channel Four is sometimes near to the truth and sometimes away from the truth, so here is my card and email me when you think we are getting away from the truth. From that time I have emailed him every day and told him you are getting away from the truth."

Part of that video footage shows an F16 bomber communicating with his air controller as he locates some movement below. F16 says: "I got numerous individuals on the road. Do you want me to take those out?" The command comes promptly: "Take 'em out." Having released the

bombs, F16's response to his destruction of the helpless civilians below is an indifferent, satisfied: "Aw dude."

He then introduces Noam Chomsky into the conversation, caveating it with "but he's clever, an intellectual" so as to contrast him with the marines. Chomsky said: "The butchers count their dead, the sheep nobody counts."

'They put his shoes on his head, told us to undress and ordered him to kill himself'

Yet for all Dr Salam's sincerity, much of what he says could be interpreted as anti-war propaganda, as a compatriot later says confronting him during his speech to the anti-war lobby: "If you had shown both sides it would have been fairer." He also cites the regular refrain of the anti-war movement in response to a question on recent beheadings: "Who made Saddam Hussein? Who opened the doors for these terrorists? Can you blame the father of any of the more than 300 orphans that are now in Fallujah?" Yet such is his position on the frontline, helping dismembered children who had lost dozens of their family, it must be hard to distance himself from what he saw and what he endured.

While the military dangers have left their indelible mark, he warns that Fallujah is on the brink of a humanitarian disaster. "The most dangerous thing is typhoid mainly because of the lack of sanitation and

health services inside the city. The breakout will spread and mainly affect the children and there will be a disaster," he says without exaggeration. "At the same time there are bodies all over the streets and that has increased the difficulty of the situation inside. In addition, the Americans have prevented any aid convoy to enter the city, only a few convoys from the Red Crescent and that is all the ambulances."

He speaks of times when it was too dangerous to leave his ambulance for fear of being shot. His depiction of treating - or trying to treat - people is of a task hampered by a jet of obstacles. "We had to use a foot ball field to bury the dead. When we tried to enter the hospital a marine said to me, 'Fuck off'. This is the new culture in my country. We had to smuggle people outside the city to treat them," he says dejectedly.

I ask him, despite his reservations, does he think the coalition forces ever did a job of trying to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people? "They won the hearts and minds because they took out the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people," he says, only half-joking about this military platitude.

Given that all he has witnessed, it is not hard to understand why Dr Salam's rhetoric smacks of the opinion that war was the wrong option. Whilst his portrayal is a despondent one, is it tempered by anything at all? "Let's be fair, you can say there are good things as well. Take freedom. The freedom I am here, I can travel. I have a certificate and can speak out. But we lost the most important thing - security."

Does he see the proposed January elections going ahead, the date when

the Iraqi people will have the freedom to finally vote in a fair and free election? "I don't think there will be elections, but if there are then we will never wash our hands. It is a term we use inside of Iraq because of the Afghan elections," he says knowingly of the other country whose regime was overturned by the 'coalition of the willing'. "In Afghanistan, [Hamid] Karzai won the election before it started. It was a big scandal that they used paint to mark the nails of those who had voted. But all the voters when they got home could wash off the stain and vote again."

In spite of this, should the elections go ahead and Iraq be presented with a democracy, would it all be worth it? "Democracy is rule by people for people. George Bush", who he later calls "a monkey man", "does not understand this. If you ask the 100,000 dead or me, then no, it was not worth it."

If, then, Iraq is a quagmire of daily suicide bombings and civilian deaths, how can it be mended? "If we want to stop terrorism, then we have to stop participating in it. Peace cannot be enforced by force. You have to love peace itself, by going towards peace not war."

So if he had the opportunity to speak to the men who launched the war, and advise them about how to make things better, what would he say as someone who was on the frontline dealing with the daily carnage? "I don't want to see them because if I would then I would see the blood of my people on their faces, on their hands. I'm sure there are many good people in Britain, but Tony Blair is not one of them."



CROSS FIRE: Dr Salam Ismael during his time in war-torn Fallujah in April 2003



Sarah wears:
Trousers - R&M £19.99
Halter top - Brooch (Corn Exchange Saturday Fair) £22
Belt - House Of Frazer £19
Cape - charity shop

Fur Trade

Fur capes, coats and stoles are winter's must-have accessory. **Louise Bartlett** and **Anna FitzPatrick** styles fur-friendly solutions while **Gina Bramhill** discusses the ethical implications of fur in fashion. Photos: **Jack Hoyle**

So, I have been wearing my grandmother's real fur coat for three weeks now as part of an experiment and I have had no red pain thrown at me, no heckling and, to be honest, not many negative responses at all.

Does this mean that the students of Leeds universities are apathetic to the cause? Or does it just mean that there are so many fake furs about that it is difficult to judge if someone is wearing a real one? Surely as students it is your job to fight for fair trade, ethical issues and animal rights? Yet nothing, not even a peep. Shame on you. I have engaged in many debates concerning the use of fur in the fashion world and the general consensus is that, if it is vintage fur, it is acceptable. However, the manufacturing of

new fur items is seen as inexcusable. A distinction with which I wholeheartedly concur.

Disturbingly though, fur sales are on the rise and industry leaders say it's not just a fashion flash in the pan.

Fur is inescapably glamorous, making you feel like Brigitte Bardot waiting under a Parisian streetlamp for her dark and mysterious lover, as opposed to a shivering student waddling along with five brimming Morrisons' bags along a muddy track through Hyde Park. Beware though as the wearing of fur comes with the haunting connotation that it will forever be a reminder of the living creature that it once was.

So wrap up warm and take heed - no naff gilets or dead animals, please.



Cape - as before
Skirt - Topshop - £18
Blouse - model's own
Hand Bag - Vintage £10
Shoes - Vintage - £12



**Jumper - H&M £14.99
Skirt - H&M £24.99
Skirt - French Connection - £45
Sip & Marry - Spencer £12
Tights - Primark £1.20
Brooch - Brooch (Corn X) £10 dec/**



**Sarah wears:
skirt - Brooch £45
Top - Brooch £18
(Saturday Craft Fair 18th December)**



**Sarah Wears:
Halter top - Brooch (Corn X) £22
Cropped Trousers - H&M £24.99
Jacket - Monki £17.50**

Searching for the final status

With the world's attention focused on Iraq, **Judith Poultny** talks to a Serb and a Kosova Albanian about the forgotten conflict in the Balkans

Going to war without UN Security Council backing is nothing new. Back in March 1999, America and her NATO allies went into Kosovo, a small territory which had long been the theatre of tensions between the ethnic Albanian majority and the powerful Serbian minority.

The recent troubles in the region can be traced back to 1992, when Slobodan Milošević, President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), initiated a campaign to create a 'Greater Serbia'. FRY's subsequent exclusion from the UN appeared to have little effect. The subsequent expulsions by FRY forces and Serb paramilitaries of ethnic Albanians living in Kosovo finally convinced the international community to intervene.

Efforts to restore peace failed. NATO's subsequent seventy-eight-day bombing campaign against the Serbian army and brutal militias led to the withdrawal of the Serbian army from Kosovo and the establishment of a UN interim administration. Five years later, the region is still a protectorate of the UN and Kosovo's final status is still to be decided. Dependent on foreign aid and lacking natural resources, the Kosovo created by the conflict in 1999 is facing economic crisis.

In March this year, Kosovo Albanian mobs destroyed around thirty Serbian Orthodox churches and monasteries in a wave of violence that displaced around four thousand people. The Serbs are victims of the same type of oppression that the Albanians faced before the war.

Around ninety-nine per cent of the Serbian population abstained in last month's elections under alleged pressure from Serbian political leaders and the Orthodox Church. Ethnic Albanian turnout was also relatively low. The Liberal Democrat party, lead by Ibrahim Rugova, won forty-seven per cent of the vote, but can only form a government in coalition with another party. Kosovo's Albanians, a majority of whom are Muslim, are impatient for independence.



Ivana Popovic and Hasrete Zena Hysa



but for Kosovo's Serb population, which maintains strong links with the Orthodox Church, independence is a highly sensitive issue. President Rugova wishes to lead the country to a final status as an independent nation state, but what will this mean for the ethnic Serbians, and how does this affect the ethnic Albanians? Can a single-issue leader solve Kosovo's other problems? In the following interview, Ivana Popovic, a Serbian who has lived in Kosovo, and Hasrete Zena Hysa, a Kosova Albanian, tell *Leeds Student* what the situation looks like on the ground.

Leeds Student: Why did so many Serbians abstain? How valid do you believe the claims of intimidation to be?

Ivana Popovic: Serbians in Kosovo have always been hardliners, and they helped bring Milošević to power in the 90s. When the Serbian Army withdrew from Kosovo most of the Serbs left with them. There was a lot of retaliation [against those who decided to stay] and it took a long time for the internationals to realize it was no longer the Albanians who needed protection.

Those who stayed were either so poor they had nowhere else to go, too old [to leave], or remained to spite the Albanians. Not many democrats in that lot I guarantee you. After the events in March 2004, Kosovo Serbs realized that the Serbian Army was not going to return to save them. Why would they vote for a government led by Albanians who were their sworn enemies? Also the Orthodox Church urged the Serbs not to vote. The church is really strong in Kosovo...they

are kind of rural down there.. they are the Albanians of Serbia. Claims of intimidation are very real in Kosovo on both sides. You get these "if you're not with us you're with them" threats if you do vote and you get threats that humanitarian aid will be withdrawn if you do not vote. However I do not believe that intimidation had a crucial impact on these elections - [not many people] wanted to vote in the first place.

President Rugova has vowed to push through independence straight away, how do you think an independent Kosovo would affect the Serbian Community?

'Today Serbs are living in conditions that are similar to the concentration camps'

Rugova's screaming for independence is his only role in Kosovo. He was the first to start the independence movement in the 1980s; he is like a mascot for the movement. I have no hope for Serbs in Kosovo whatever the final status. Kosovo is very poor with a young and growing population. In ten years' time you will have a lot of unemployed young Albanians and the Serb youth will have no chance. Serbs are living in conditions similar to the concentration camps without the gas chambers and [starvation], but with the isolation, hostility, fear, depression and poor living conditions. There is not one hope left that Albanians will tolerate minorities in Kosovo. I honestly do not believe that any Serbs will stay in Kosovo if they give Albanians their independence.

Leeds Student: What do you believe the final status should be?

Ivana Popovic: It is a complex issue because Albanians are big minority in Macedonia, Greece, Italy and southern Serbia. People are worried independence for Kosovo will have a domino effect in the Balkans, and perhaps lead to more war. I believe they should split Kosovo, integrating that part with a Serb majority, north of the Ibar River, into adjacent Serbia. I realize that under theories of diversity and tolerance this is not an acceptable solution, but I believe anyone who has been there knows it is the only solution. Kosovo is not about modern times, it is about the Serbs, the Albanians and the dinosaurs and who got there first and I think, in the long term, this will prevent violence in the future.



FORGOTTEN: A Serbian monastery destroyed by Kosova Albanians

of "the father of independence"

Leeds Student: Why was the turnout in the recent elections so low?

Hasrete Zena Hysa: The turnout issue is not new. There have been four elections in the five years since the conflict. The poor performance of the newly-elected institutions and their lack of competencies (the responsibilities handed over by the UN) have disappointed many voters. They have become frustrated by the lack of progress,

Leeds Student: Do you believe that President Rugova will be able to solve Kosovo's economic problems?

Hasrete Zena Hysa: President Rugova is far from being a leader ready to tackle any important issue, and especially not economic and social affairs. He has always been satisfied with being President. It's his coalition partners who will be in charge of running the country. He has not shown any interest in dealing with real issues. He will surely limit himself to the role

Leeds Student: What do you believe the final status should be?

Hasrete Zena Hysa: The final status of Kosovo should be independence, but the issue is what kind of independent state? The real question is how best to create a functioning state that will be a sustainable partner for the internationals so that they can be phased out and support the integration of Kosovo into the Euro-Atlantic community



Sexy or sexist?

Flyers and posters across Leeds use pictures of semi-naked women whatever the club, whatever the music. So is it sexy or just plain sexist? **Nell Frizzell** investigates

BEYONCE: Tune in or turn off?

The use of the female form in advertising is practically as old as consumerism itself. But in an age in which gender equality is not only encouraged but demanded by law in documents such as the European Constitution of Human Rights, is the image of a naked woman still relevant and engaging or has it become an outmoded relic from our advertising past?

The prevalence of club advertising in Leeds was demonstrated very clearly this year with the fifty-pound flying fine. The council's complaint concerned the sheer volume of litter the practice created, yet little attention has been paid to the style and imagery used in these flyers. One need only walk into college or wait outside a club for a taxi to find several examples of a flyer on which is either a photograph of a naked woman, a female silhouette, an illustration of a woman in a provocative pose or a photograph taken inside the club showing several female customers. Although this is by no means a universal

technique the number of images of women on flyers greatly outweighs those that use either the DJ, band or musician playing, whilst using a picture of a man is almost unheard of.

Those who give out the flyers argue this disparity is an inevitable and natural reflection of the tastes of the target audience. According to Neil Khanna, one of the few men to be found flyering outside the University of Leeds union, when it comes to club advertising "Sex sells, it's as simple as that". His female colleagues agree, arguing that the imagery on the flyers "epitomises the night" and the use of beautiful women is particularly effective for club promoters because it attracts beautiful women to their nights. When asked if they therefore believe that the women on the flyers were representative of those one would find in the club however, the flyers seemed a little more ambivalent. It would seem that whilst an image of a woman is attractive to potential female customers, it is not necessarily

an accurate portrayal of those who patronise clubs like The Space, Fruit Cupboard or Rehab. Their image is merely used to tantalise people into reading the flyer and learning something of what the night is about.

'Sex sells - it's as simple as that,' says one flyerer. His female colleagues agree

Could one therefore not argue that if these pictures are used merely to tempt people to take notice of a club event a more inspired image could be used rather than the cliché of the attractive woman? Although sex sells, sex has been part of advertising for so long that in the competitive atmosphere of clubbing promotion perhaps more up-to-date, fresh advertising could massively improve the notoriety of the product.

The argument that a woman will be as attracted to an advert

depicting a sexy looking lady as a potential male customer is often used to defend the design of flyers and posters. Furthermore, it seems to be supported by the high number of naked or half naked women found in adverts and features in magazines from *Vogue* and *Marie Claire* through to *Heat* and *Cosopolitan*. It would seem that whilst men find a picture of a woman alluring, women would find the same image equally engaging.

The disproportionately high number of flyers depicting sexy female figures is not restricted merely to the 'sexy r&b, funky house' nights that one may associate it with. 'Neat Neat Neat' at the Elbowroom on a Thursday advertises in a way that it is assumed will appeal to the rock, indie and punk community. This is translated into the use of a Debbie Harry-esque model on their poster who is pictured in her pants. It is another example of how women, it would seem, are used to sell any genre of music, as long as their image, styling

and pose would appeal to the night's target audience. If this is true then the women in these adverts really are treated as little more than objects to grab the attention of the public. So why has the naked woman as object crept back into advertising?

One explanation could be that the increasing commercialisation of the music industry has caused people to put more emphasis on image than musical quality. Therefore, clubs are aware that they are no longer just selling good music but are promoting an image of and for their clientele. In this climate the obvious decision would be to put a picture of an attractive woman on a flyer, website or poster. It shall attract men because it represents something to which they are sexually drawn and will attract women because it represents something to which they aspire. However, perhaps in the world of advertising obvious is not always best.

nellyfrizzell@hotmail.com



Win free meals

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

To celebrate the launch of its new TenderCrisp™ chicken sandwich, BURGER KING® teamed up with Leeds University to find the skinniest student on campus! The winner will receive £50 worth of vouchers to spend on the new TenderCrisp™ chicken sandwich. What's more, as the proud owner of the title Mr/Ms University of Leeds/Leeds Metropolitan University the winner will also be entered into the national final where there is an even bigger prize on offer – a year's supply of TenderCrisp™ meals!* The TenderCrisp™ Meal includes Regular Coke®, Regular fries and your choice of TenderCrisp™ Chicken sandwich, the original, a 5.2oz whole chicken breast** fillet served on a corn dusted bun topped with lettuce, juicy red ripe tomatoes and creamy mayonnaise. Or if you're brave enough, the Spicy TenderCrisp™, with its bold and spicy sauce! Tender on the inside and crispy on the outside, it's BURGER KING's® biggest ever chicken sandwich. To be in with a chance of winning your free TenderCrisp™ Meal vouchers, all you have to do is tell us in no more than fifty words exactly how skinny you are! Is your bank manager on speed dial? Is your overdraft bigger than the national debt? How long will you have to work before you pay off your student loan? Simply send your answer on the back of an envelope/a postcard to Mike Smethurst, Euro RSCG Leeds, 4 Jordan Street, Manchester, M15 4PY, before 10th December.

arrive no later than December 10. Winners will be notified by post. Winners will be notified by post. And to whet your appetite for the new TenderCrisp™ chicken sandwich, why not visit its very own website: HYPERLINK "http://www.chickennight.com" www.chickennight.com. *£2 TenderCrisp™ meal at £5 per meal. **5.2oz/152 grams pre-cooked weight. BURGER KING and the Crescent Logo are registered trademarks of the Burger King Corporation.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT TERMS & CONDITIONS

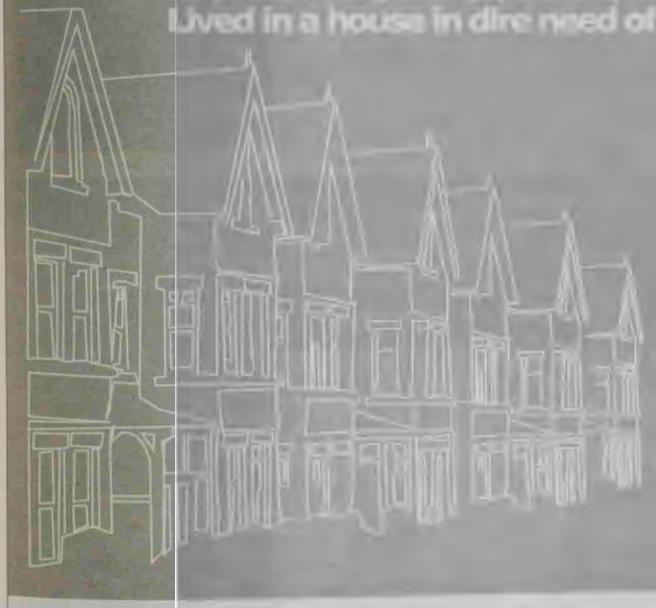
The prize is not refundable and no cash alternatives will be offered. Entrants of BURGER KING Limited or its franchises and their immediate families are not permitted to enter. Entries must state the name and contact details of the entrant and be sent to the entrant.



Mike Smethurst, Euro RSCG Leeds, 4 Jordan Street, Manchester, M15 4PY, to be received by first post on December 10.

No responsibility is accepted for entries lost, delayed or damaged for post. The winner will be chosen on December 11 as the student most deserving of the title 'most skin student on campus' by the editor/editor's representative from all entries. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The winner will be contacted by a member of [insert publication] once a decision has been made. Entrant's personal information is for the purpose of this competition only and will not be passed on to any companies or used for advertising or marketing purposes unless permission has previously been provided by the entrant.

Have you had problems with your landlord?
Had problems getting your deposit back?
Lived in a house in dire need of repairs?



Soon after Christmas thousands of students will begin looking for a property to rent for next academic year – many rush into it, paying whatever the landlord puts in front of them only to regret it later. If you think you can use your experiences to help other students too, then why not sign up with the same houses you had – contact the Student Advice Centre as we are looking for volunteers to help with house hunting, advice and contract checking in January and February. Full training will be given in December.

For those of you thinking of future housing, there is a guide to properties to rent, full details of rules and awards will be available online start date 23/12/04.

advice@luu.leeds.ac.uk
 tel: (0113) 38 01 300
 First Floor of the LUU Building



STARS

With Fruity Tobias

"Meaningless" - Astrology Today

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

On Thursday somebody mistakes you for a copy of the Daily Mail, folds you up, tucks you into their fetid armpit, and proceeds to carry you around all day whilst grinding their teeth to the roots in frothing spasms of racist, homophobic, pigheaded ignorance.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

As part of his bushucker challenge (or whatever they're called), Fran Cosgrove attempts to shave your name into his eyebrows whilst retching violently in the vain struggle to hold back an eye-wateringly sour gobful of semi-digested rice water, chewed up newt ovaries and puke.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

David Dickinson writes you a scented love letter. What you choose to do about it is none of my business.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

A promising holiday job as a department store assistant goes horribly wrong when you accidentally cleave a small child's face off with a carelessly-demonstrated Kenwood MultiWhisk.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

I'm not one for idle gossip, but that dickhead over there – yeah, that one – has been calling you a plumb and an arseweasel and stuff behind your back. Go on, just walk over and smack the ratbag. Revenge is a dish best served really fucking HARD. Go on. Quick.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

Swedish Nazi mattoflickers Europa obtain permission to play a month-long residency in your kitchen. No matter how many times you ask, they stubbornly refuse to play The Final Countdown, sulkily claiming they're "more zan only von-trick poe-knees".

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

In a highly unfortunate case of mistaken identity, a crazed gunman with a score to settle forces you to chew off your own hands whilst sitting cross-legged on a revolving potter's wheel and humming the theme from Johnny Brigg.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

You attempt to enter several new words into the Oxford English Dictionary, including 'cafolding', 'edgbound', 'dumbcudulationism', 'hoofishool', 'yoggamaka', 'umbidown', and 'tvogit'. All are rejected – with the exception of 'hoofishool', which from now on means 'unable to maintain prolonged facial contact with winter fruits'.

Leo (July 23 - Aug 22)

Inadvertently walking under the flight path of a Boeing 747, you become only the fourth ever victim of the dreaded Blue Ice. Still, it was a proper fucking rimshot, so take heart in the knowledge that you never stood a chance – it would probably have killed you had it been dropped from a ladder.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

A hawker has been using your computer as a remote depot to store breathtakingly obscene images of Lego porn. Throw it out the window, quick – the rozzers are mere hours away from closing the net.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

You and your girlfriend!! Grant for sheltering him gradually in an email reply to a reporter, in which you might have accidentally implied that he molests disabled baby animals (which of course, he doesn't).

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

An innocent check-up at GP leads to the fascinating discovery that your prostate is actually made of wicker. You've been wondering what that crackling noise was.

astrologytoday@gmail.com

astrologytoday@gmail.com

THE LUU PRIORITY SAFETY BUS



For all Students travelling alone and women in pairs...

Every night from the union steps straight to your front door! 50p - Buy your ticket from reception before 7 and security after 7! Forgotten your 50p? Jump on anyway and use your student card as a deposit!



There are late runs on
Thursdays when there
are club nights in the union!

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Thursdays when there
are club nights in the union!

Mon to Sat:	Late runs
Fri, Sat:	
17.00	
17.30	01.10
18.00	01.30
18.30	02.00
19.00	02.30
19.30	03.00
20.00	(Staff run)
20.20	
20.40	
21.00	Sun:
21.20	17.00
21.40	18.30
22.00	20.00
22.40	21.00
23.20	22.30
23.30	23.00
00.20	(Staff run)
00.30	

FOOTBALL'S MANAGERIAL MERRY-GO-ROUND HITS UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS

By ALEC SHILTON

Harry Redknapp became the latest victim of football's managerial merry-go-round last week as he ended his two and a half year spell at Portsmouth's helm.

There are a few characters in the game more magnetic than 'Amy' and it won't just be Pompey fans who are sad to see him go. Indeed it was this charisma that endeared him to the passionate Pompey fans and it seems few wanted to see him leave after such a successful spell.

His departure was the sixth of the Premiership season so far, the highest number at this stage for twelve years. Messrs Redknapp, Souness, Robson, Santini, Megson and Sturrock have all left clubs within the first fourteen games of the season.

Whilst the reasons differ for these departures, Redknapp's has been particularly intriguing.

The fall-out from last week has highlighted several problems that managers and their board sometimes experience.

Redknapp was quick to point to the 'pressures' of the

job and the need to spend more time with his family. Managers have to bear the brunt of supporters' emotions when things do not flow smoothly. They must face the cameras to explain inept performances, whilst justifying the bank balance in relation to the league table to the bill-payers. Sheffield United manager Neil Warnock recently illustrated Redknapp's problem: "I want to be able to do simple things, like dropping the kids off at school and reading them a story at bedtime" stuff that football managers never really get the chance to do because they are always out.

But despite Redknapp's comments, it appears obvious that chairman Milan Mandaric's appointment of Velemir Zajec as Director of Football was the final straw in an increasingly strained relationship between the manager and his chairman.

Mutual trust is key to footballing relationships and is imperative for success at any level. Managers disapprove of men at the top of the hierarchy meddling in team affairs and similarly, as previous Aston Villa managers have found under 'Deadly' Doug Ellis, the



board do not take kindly to managers voicing their financial concerns.

Much has been made of the need for links between the board and manager and many see appointments such as that of Zajec as the solution.

However this seems to be a board's acknowledgement that the manager is not fully capable of dealing with his first-team squad and undermines this trust. Frank Arnesen's director of football role at Spurs undoubtedly added to the pressures that led to Jacques Santini's exit.

So we learn that trust leads to the continuity of the footballing relationships. And we also know that this continuity more often than not leads to success.

Examples range from the obvious such as Alex Ferguson and Arsene Wenger, to the bosses of rising mid-table outfit such as Sam Allardyce, Steve McClaren and Alan Curbishley, and on to others in league football such as Dario Gradi (Crewe) and George Derby (Ipswich).

HIT THE DUST (clockwise from top left): Harry Redknapp with Milan Mandaric, Gary Megson, Graeme Souness, Paul Sturrock, Bobby Robson and Jacques Santini

(County).

What these managers have in common is the mutual trust they share with their board of directors, and the infrastructure that the clubs develop through stability of these relationships and the continuity obtained by the lack of managerial changes. The youth training systems at these clubs are excellent and this is no coincidence.

Redknapp obviously felt undermined, but ultimately his exit was as a result of the contrast between his and Croatian chairman Mandaric's footballing philosophies.

Portsmouth lack the infrastructure of many lower divisions clubs in terms of facilities and the youth system and during Redknapp's tenure he averaged close to one transaction per week, despite the introduction of the transfer window. Short-term signings such as Merson and Sheringham were indicative of Redknapp's approach.

His wheeling and dealing has put Portsmouth on the footballing map, now they need consolidation and harmony to progress.

JONNY: THE NEW BECKHAM?

By JAMES PLATT

Retrace your mind back to just over a year ago and the majority of sports fans will fondly reminisce about the glorious right and left boots of England fly-half Jonny Wilkinson.

The fresh-faced number 10 was hugely instrumental in providing England with the glory of some much-needed sporting success.

Look back at the aftermath of the 2003 Rugby World Cup triumph and you may also recall the refreshing attitude of England's latest sporting sensation. Jonny proclaimed to be a quiet, shy man, one whom would be doing his utmost to shun the limelight, instead fully focusing on maintaining his self-imposed standards of excellence.

Fast-forward to the end of November 2004 and England have just relinquished the Cook Cup to the beaten finalists of 2003.

Australia.

The current side is distinctly unfamiliar, with many of the World Cup heroes no longer available. New coach Andy Robinson faces a tough task in rebuilding a young side into a unit as formidable as that led by the charisma and talent of Johnson, Dallagli and Wilkinson.

A huge factor in the potential success of this new squad will be the return of captain Jonny. The need for an inspirational figure to spearhead the side draws comparisons with the apparent importance of skipper David Beckham to the national football team. And unfortunately, the similarities between these two leaders do not end here.

For despite all the previous claims that advertising was not for him, Wilkinson's face is now almost as prominent as the king of publicity himself.

Indeed, in recent months your best chance of catching a glimpse of Jonny's pretty face is not by

obtaining a ticket for international rugby at Twickenham but to walk through the high street or glancing at a glossy magazine in the local newsagents.

Wilkinson can now be seen everywhere – on television, in publication and if you happen to set foot in a large Boots outlet, a field day will be had. Jonny has sponsorships with the store itself, the sports drink Lucozade, and as an added bonus he is also the face of a new range of men's cosmetics produced by British designer-label, Hackett. This seems quite some going for a man determined to avoid any media spotlight.

Now don't get me wrong – I fully appreciate the lure of large amounts of cash for very little work. I also understand that being injured must increase this temptation further. The reason I am so disappointed with Jonny is because he so diligently stressed that he did not desire additional money or fame.

I greatly admired his humble attitude of a year ago, proud that England had not only produced a fantastic sportsman, but also someone of great dignity and restraint.

Here was a real role model, a rugby player who could be cherished and admired, rather unlike his footballing counterpart. My disdain and sadness stems from a belief that I have been slightly betrayed by a man I used to hold in such high esteem.

And as if this wasn't enough, salt was well and truly poured into my gaping wound when browsing 2005 calendars earlier this week. Amongst the customary Beckham's, Bloom's and "Babe's", I was horrified to see our Jonny striking a sultry pose.

Never mind eh, at least I won't have to splash out on that pricey ticket for Twickenham. I will now be able to feast my eyes on Wilkinson every day of the year for a mere £5.99.



SPORTING COMMENT

By EDWARD SALTER
Deputy Sports Editor

The behaviour of footballers was once again brought into the spotlight this week as a series of unsavoury events hit the back pages and the animosity between arch rivals Arsenal and Manchester United was unsurprisingly resurrected on Wednesday evening.

Bolton striker El Hadji Diouf admitted a charge of improper conduct on Tuesday after television cameras caught him spitting at Arjan de Zeeuw of Portsmouth in a Premiership fixture at the Reebok Stadium.

Diouf's disgraceful behaviour is made all the more intolerable as he is establishing himself as something of a repeat offender. The Senegal international was fined £5,000 by authorities in Glasgow after spitting at a Celtic fan during a UEFA Cup tie while playing for Liverpool.

Police in the North East were also alerted to a similar incident earlier in November following allegations that Diouf spat at a young Middlesbrough fan.

The player, though, appears to recognise his duties as a public figure as he stated in his public apology to his victim: "My behaviour showed a lack of moral responsibility to the public who support me and I'm deeply sorry."

One could be forgiven, however, for perceiving these words as a somewhat hollow afterthought. Bolton Wanderers, meanwhile, desperately tried to distance themselves from Dion's behaviour and fined him the maximum penalty of two weeks wages.

With the highly inflated salaries that Premiership footballers now demand, it is virtually impossible to sufficiently penalise them in the pocket.

The greatest example of how to maintain respectability and sporting behaviour was set by the recipient of the unhygienic abuse.

By not showing the slightest signs of retaliation, Pompey's ex-Burscyle star de Zeeuw proved that there are still players in the game who are able to control their behaviour and set an example to the watching millions.

Saying in Greater Manchester, the conduct of Arsenal's potential gem Robin van Persie was called into question after he vented his frustration in their 1-0 'Curling Up' defeat at Old Trafford by use of his elbow.

The FA concluded that, having reviewed the actions of all players on Wednesday night, no improper behaviour had been on display but Sir Alex Ferguson saw more in the second half incident. Even Arsene Wenger, a manager who generally finds himself in highly inconvenient positions to view controversial incidents properly, admitted he feared the production of a red card.

It is important for footballers, even those young and inexperienced, to maintain control of their actions on the football pitch. They are in a fortunate position to earn incomprehensible sums of money for playing a sport that millions of us love to play and watch. At all times they must adhere to responsibilities that are a small burden to bear.



HUMILIATION

By JOANNA LESTER

AUSTRALIA got off to a flying start, aided by some dazed and disorganised British defence, to storm into a 20-point lead within as many minutes.

Tries from Matt Sing, Anthony Minichello and Willie Tonga, along with a Lockyer penalty and three conversions gave Britain a mountain to climb if they were to attempt a comeback.

Minutes later Minichello dived over for his second, Lockyer grabbed a try of his own, and Tonga completed the first-half rout. The crowd was stunned into silence by the 38-0 half-time scoreline and, in the knowledge that there was no chance of a British comeback, emptying seats were visible as early as the interval.

Britain rallied a little in the sec-

ond half, managing to restrict the Aussies to just one try, courtesy of Willie Mason. The home nation managed to avoid a whitewash thanks to a solitary score from Stuart Reardon, and had two others ruled out by the officials, but it was a desperately lacklustre spectacle. Repeated, but sloppy, British efforts to score again before the final hooter failed, and were a fittingly depressing end to an encounter that most fans in the sell-out crowd of 40,000 will be eager to forget.

Perhaps the pressure was responsible for Great Britain's shaky start, especially following their victory over Australia two weeks before, which added to the expectation surrounding the final. The win at Wigan proved that Britain have the ability to beat the Kangaroos, although it is still the Aussies who have the all-important composure and cutting edge in the big games.



GUTTED: Stuart Fielden and the British players reflect on a humiliating defeat

But veteran Australian prop Shun Webcke summed up the reality of the contest. "We just had one of those rare halves of rugby league where everything we touched turned to gold – it was quite freakish really. I've played in games where I've been on the other side of that, and it's very, very difficult to arrest. I don't think they [Great Britain] need to hang their heads in shame; they have had a wonderful tour and we were probably just lucky to put together a very, very good half of foot."

Great Britain forward Stuart Fielden, one of the only British players to acknowledge and thank the fans after every game in the tournament, was only too aware of the massive disappointment felt by supporters at Elland Road. "We could have sold the game three times over, and I feel sorry for the

people who turned up. We let them down in the first half. We tried to rectify it in the second but you can't climb Everest. We were never going to come back from thirty-odd points to nil."

"What can't be taken away though, is the fact that the Tri Nations was a success. The final was set-down, but it shouldn't detract from the other four games in which we did compete. We just didn't turn up. Maybe another day or week we would have done."

Hopefully the 2004 Tri Nations will be remembered for its successful and competitive games earlier in the tournament, which provided strong evidence that Great Britain are a growing force, able to beat their antipodean counterparts in three consecutive weeks. But it may take a while longer for the scars of Saturday to heal.



CAPTAIN FANTASTIC: Darren Lockyer ran the show for Australia

HOCKEY LADS TRIUMPH IN TOP ROSES CLASH

MEN'S HOCKEY
UNI OF LEEDS 3
MANCHESTER 1

By KY CAPEL

LEEDS eventually came out on top in a close fought trans-pennine clash at Wetherby, after Tom Berry's late clincher.

It only took the hosts four minutes to get their noses in front, forward Grinny completing a smart team move with a crisp finish, leaving the goal keeper with no chance.

Manchester looked to hit back quickly, but Leeds' keeper Jay Jay was on hand to deny the opposition's forward. Leeds' defence stood firm for much of the first half, making some important challenges and interceptions to deny Manchester a clear shot on goal.

Good defensive play by Leeds was rewarded with a second goal as stand-in captain Lloyd Edmondson followed up an initial save by the opposing keeper.

Five minutes before half-time, Leeds went close to mak-

ing it 3-0. Andy Kelly put Grinny clean through but Manchester's keeper made an excellent save.

Manchester did have some good spells of possession in the first half, but were unable to create any real goalscoring opportunities.

The second period was very scrappy, with neither side able to take control of the game.

It took a while for any chances to be created. 25 minutes into the second half, Jay Jay pulled out an impressive save to deny Manchester, but just a minute later Manchester did

score, a close range finish reducing the deficit to a single goal.

Moments later however, Leeds crushed any hopes of a comeback. Berry hit a fierce shot past the keeper from a short corner to effectively seal the points.

The final minutes of the match were uneventful, and Leeds cruised through to the final whistle.

After the match, Leeds skipper Edmondson said "It was a good physical performance from us, but not our best of the season. It was vital that we won this game and we did. I am very satisfied with the result."



ON THE ATTACK: LUU launch another offensive during their 3-1 victory over Roses rivals Manchester. Photo: PATRICK NEALE

LUU SWIMMERS MAKE NATIONAL FINALS

By CHARMAINE BROWN

THE University of Leeds swimming team took seventeen swimmers to the BUSA National Short Course Swimming championships at Ponds Forge, Sheffield, and made made two relay finals and three individual finals.

Competition standards were high, with championship records being broken in almost every final.

Friday saw Sam Sheratt's amazing effort in the men's 1500m freestyle. He finished in a time of 19:53.86 and was placed 20th.

Saturday's finalists were Charmaine Brown in the Women's 50m breaststroke final and Kerrie Wassall in the Women's 200m backstroke final. Brown finished eighth in a time of 35.95 and Wassall finished seventh in a time of 2:27.59.

Sunday saw Brown making the 100m breaststroke final coming sixth overall with a time of 1:17.24.

Both the men and women's medley team made the B finals on Sunday afternoon. The girls came forth in the final in a time of 2:09.75, and the men's team took eighth place in a time of 1:54.64.

Sabrina Marsh's 400m freestyle was impressive with her finishing in the top ten in a very respectable time of 4:52.64.

A good weekend was had by all, and the competitors were well supported by fellow swimmers who did not participate in the event.

ANOTHER YEAR OF SPORT FLIES BY

It was a great year for Rhinos, Greeks and our British Olympians, and one to be forgotten for some of our national teams. GEORGE RENDEL looks back over the sporting highs and lows of 2004

As we reach the conclusion of another sporting year, full of ecstatic triumph and agonising defeat, it becomes increasingly clear that sport is the theatre of the 21st century.

In the Olympics, Team GB surpassed all expectations, winning 30 medals; their best haul since 1924. Matthew Pinsent won his fourth gold, Kelly Holmes completed a magnificent 800m and 1500m double, and the 4x100m men's relay team pulled off one of the game's biggest upsets.

CHAMPIONS: Leeds Rhinos romped to Super League glory



GREECE: Olympic hosts and Euro 2004 winners

cal masterpiece. Their perfectly drilled defence, marshalled by Traianos Dellas, conceded, on average, a meagre 0.67 goals per game.

England fell to Portugal in the quarter-finals, but Wayne Rooney established himself as an international star. His four goals left him just one behind top-scorer Milan Baros, and helped England to an average of 2.5 goals per game, the highest in the tournament.

While English football witnessed the emergence of a new god, rugby union missed its old ones. Seven players, including inspirational captain Martin Johnson, called time on their international careers after the World Cup. Jonny Wilkinson, meanwhile, has not played for England since kicking the winning drop goal in

the World Cup final last year after suffering injuries.

The architect of that triumph, Sir Clive Woodward, resigned after a disappointing Six Nations and an unsuccessful tour of the southern hemisphere. Andy Robinson was appointed as his successor, and installed Jason Robinson as captain. The Sale star became the first black man and former rugby league player to captain the national side. He suffered his first defeat in a 21-19 loss to Australia, but young talent bodes for a brighter future.

In rugby league, the British Lions reached the Tri Nations final, but were thumped by a rampant Australia 44-4 at Elland Road, their worst home defeat since 1963.

Domestically, Leeds Rhinos won their first league championship in 32-years, overcoming Yorkshire rivals Bradford Bulls in the Super League Grand Final. A large contingent of Leeds Met students were part of the Rhinos squad, including skipper Kevin Sinfield.

Over 67,000 people saw the 16-8 victory at Old Trafford, and it will be remembered as a defining moment in the Rhinos' history.



Jason Robinson (far right) became England captain

Results-wise, it has also been a good year for the England cricket team, winning ten out of eleven Tests. But the current tour of Zimbabwe continues to dominate the headlines.

Many thought it inappropriate to visit the country run by Robert Mugabe's tyrannical regime. But the ECB would have faced serious penalties had they failed to fulfil the series, and were reluctant to make a political stand.

A media ban had offered a last minute opportunity to cancel the tour, but this was lifted, and, with the government resisting calls to intervene, matches are now under way.

Hopefully the murky presence of politics will not infiltrate sport in 2005. Association with such a shadowy companion can only detract from the splendour of the sporting calendar.



GOLDEN TOUCH: Kelly Holmes picked up two gold medals in Athens

teams dominating, the Celtic offense had been given little time on the field. When they finally got a chance, rookie running back Jason Robinson stepped up to crash over the line for his first Celtic touchdown. Another extra point conversion gave the Celts a 30-0

lead by the end of the first quarter.

Shortly into the second quarter a Sunderland player had to be taken to hospital and with the score so high and no ambulance present, the decision was taken to call the game in the Celts' favour.

KINGS DE-THRONED FROM BACK PAGE

Linebacker Andy Stevens showed this to be ill-advised, as he picked up his second interception in two weeks and ran it in for a touchdown.

With defence and special

This win ranks the Leeds Celts as number one in the country and gives them four wins and no losses for the season.

Next week the Celts look to extend that record to 5-0 with a victory on the road against Newcastle.

THREE CHEERS FOR LUU MEDALS



THE University of Leeds cheerleading team have won two medals in the Northern Classics Cheerleading Competition at the Blackpool Winter Gardens.

They took 50 cheerleaders (45 girls and five boys), making two stunt groups and two dance teams.

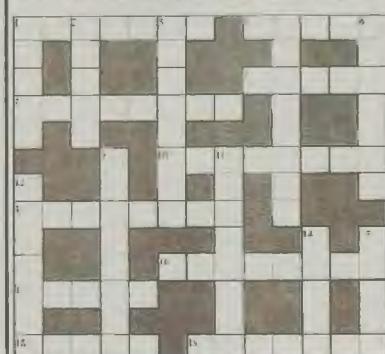
Celtic Alastair, the first stunt team, came second by one point in the Senior Coed Stunt section, and Celtic

Spirit the first dance team won the Senior Dance section, beating 19 other teams from around the country.

The dance routine was a medley from 'The Step', and the dancers used pom poms and various hats to entertain the judges and audience with a highly spirited and fun routine.

The next competition is in Manchester on the 3rd-4th March, when they will be hoping to pick up another first place for dance.

CROSSWORD



Clues

Across

1. Greed (7)
4. Groove, nick (5)
7. Dark, strongly flavoured beer (5)
8. Ocean (8)
10. Make up (8)
13. Interpretation; test (8)
16. No longer operating; idle (8)
17. Best possible (5)
18. Mammals whose milk is used to produce cheese (5)

Down

1. Calm down (5)
2. Lite; athletic (5)
3. Gets in touch with (8)
5. Sudden fit of emotion (8)
6. Axe (7)
9. Aggressively or violently active—like George Bush, perhaps? (8)
11. Incorrectly understood (8)
12. Young tree (7)
14. Star sign (5)
15. Closely packed (5)
19. Unappreciative person (7)

Answers next edition

Crossword: Harry Hayman

DUMPED

By JOANNA LESTER

HUGE expectation collided with unbelievable disappointment at Elland Road on Saturday, as the eagerly-awaited Tri Nations final ended in a 44-4 thrashing for Great Britain.

Sometimes a team hits its absolute peak and is capable of destroying anything that is put before it. Unfortunately for Great Britain, this was the mood of Australia, and what should have been a close and thrilling contest became an embarrassing whitewash.

The culmination of an exciting and competitive series, the final was expected to be a hard-fought game, and there were hopes that Great Britain could clinch their first series win over the Kangaroos in 34 years.

But the return of influential captain Darren Lockyer, who was a shoe-in for man of the match, gave the Aussies a massive boost, as he directed traffic in one of the most complete halves of rugby seen in recent years.

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CELTICS KILL KINGS

AMERICAN FOOTBALL
LEEDS CELTICS 30
SUNDERLAND KINGS 14
MATCH REPORT

By SIMON HARMER

THE Celts notched up their fourth consecutive win after an emphatic victory over Sunderland Kings.

The 30-0 win was achieved just minutes into the second quarter, when the game was called in Leeds' favour.

Following a Leeds kick off, the Celts defence took to the field and proved why they are such a formidable unit with an early stop. This forced Sunderland to punt the ball down field to rookie Hugh Morgan, who returned the kick

for a touchdown. Without the extra point, this gave the Celts a 6-0 lead.

Next, a Celtic drive put them in field goal position, and kicker Mike Cardinal stepped up to add the points to make it 9-0 to the Celts.

More excellent work by the Celts defence led to another punt, this time older brother Ed Morgan ran it home for a touch-

down. The extra point took the Celts to a 16-0 lead.

Continued hard work from the kick off pinned the Kings back deep into their own half. Given their lack of success with a running game, Sunderland decided to try the passing game.

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WHO WILL BE CROWNED
WORLD CHAMPIONS?



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