

Thousands ready for NUS march

An estimated 30,000 students from all regions will join forces and descend on London tomorrow for NUS's major national anti-locks demonstration.

The march, which begins at Victoria Embankment, will pass by Whitehall and Parliament Square, and finally end at Kensington Park, where there will be a rally.

Entertainment has been organized at the rally between 3pm and 5pm. The bands Big Star Inc., Andy Parker, and John Kay and The Firm Band will perform.

This demo will be the second national anti-lynch demo since the start of the academic year.

The first case, in London last November, was marked by scenes of violence as students tried to march on the House of Commons but were forcibly dispersed by mounted police.

The police action on that date was widely condemned and NLR hope that similar events will be avoided this

Exhaust (Lachner) are also due in sporadic at the rally.

LIU and LP90 are both selling tickets for the rally at \$3 each from the foyer at LIU and the information point at LP90.

The last coaches will leave from Basingstoke Hall at 6.45am and the Parklemon stops at 7.00am, whilst the Poly ones depart from Portland Way at 7.00am.

Demand for the tickets is greater than for the November demo and Dave Hampton, LUT's General Secretary, urged students to 'Get your tickets quickly as we might have to turn people away.'

The effect of the protest is yet to be seen but MLS aims to "raise the issue to the greatest position of public awareness, to remind everyone that general opinion is against fountains."

Levin's Student will be reporting the demo in full next week.

Report
by
Kitty Melrose

Figure 10.10

Maury Sherrock, NLS National President, will be the main speaker at the rally outlining NLS's continued opposition to the loan plans, which it sees as limiting access to higher education.

A number of other speakers will be present to highlight the widespread opposition that exists against the measure.

This opposition is perhaps most keenly felt amongst insurers, which Diana Warwick, General Secretary of the NUT will rehearse.

Opposition MP's Simon Hughes (Liberal) and Frank



* Great dancers of our time part one. Students storm through the streets of London.



* *Greater distances of our time past two. Students using their program in Government advertisement plans*

**INSIDE
THIS WEEK'S
CAMPAIGNING
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STUDENT:**

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How will the Poly
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and what it means
for YOU P8

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portfolio \$6
plus
THE RETURN OF

THE FAN



★ PHIL COOL
★ BOSTONIAN BALL
★ HOW TO BE A
★ ROCK 'N' ROLL
★ MILLIONAIRE?
★ PAUL SAYER
★ and the
★ indispensable
★ GOOD TO GO

Saunders storms election

Judith Saunders was announced as next year's LEU's Health Secretary on Wednesday polling nearly

Report by Richard Mildren

nearly as many votes as her nearest rival.

When the post was initially advertised only one candidate stood, Corrina Bailey, last year's Social Services Secretary, so nominations were requested.

At the second stage of voting three candidates were submitted from Martin Leigh, Judith Saunders, and Corrina Bailey.

Judith Saunders polled 50 votes, Corrina Bailey gained 28 votes and Martin Leigh polled just 23



▲ A jubilant victorious Judith Saunders. PIC: DARRYL MORRISON

votes.

No second stage re-allocation of votes was necessary as Corrina Bailey could not catch up with the clear majority of 242 votes that Judith Saunders established in the first stage.

Judith Saunders, commenting on her resounding victory said, "I am

delighted. I would like to thank everyone that helped with my campaign, and everyone that voted. I am really looking forward to starting the job."

Mike Green, LEU's Administration Secretary said, "It was a good turnout considering that nominations had to be re-opened."



▲ David Knight of Teacher Union greets Phil Morris of LEU. Knight Union was sponsoring the Day for Teachers which starts a week today. See David to Day for details. PIC: Martin Wright

Secrets Bill condemned

by Robin Perrie

David Fitzhugh, Labour MP for Leeds Central, was one of a number of speakers who condemned the Government's planned Secrets Bill at a packed public meeting at Leeds Poly a week last Wednesday.

The proposed Secrets Bill will be a further step down the road of "modern day totalitarianism", he said.

The Bill is the Government's response to the widely condemned version 1 of the present Official Secrets Act.

Speakers at the Bill want a public interest defence to be included whereby a journalist or civil servant could claim that disclosure of classified information was in the public interest.

The Campaign for Freedom of Information, the National Council

for Civil Liberties and Leeds City Council were also represented by speakers at the meeting.

■ The Campaign for Peace and Disarmament (CPD) is holding a public meeting tonight (7pm) at Leeds Poly to discuss involvement in the nuclear war.

The meeting is to be held in the Council Chambers at Leeds City Hall, starting at 7.30pm and including speakers from Yorkshire TV, BBC and BBC.

NATFHE and Poly clash

by Karen Thornton

The run up to corporate status at Leeds Poly, the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (NATFHE) are set to clash with the Poly's directors over plans to impose changes in the conditions of service of management staff without negotiation.

The proposed changes according to NATFHE, closely resemble those imposed in a national employees' document before Christmas and adopted in a junior position by the Employers' Pensions on the 20th December.

These include a minimum 12 hour week, purely financially dependent on satisfactory performance and a probationary period of seven years before confirmation of appointment, and more to

refer to at all.

What appears to be NATFHE's main concern is that the Poly is apparently trying to implement these proposals on a local level, when they have not yet been accepted by the employers as even a national negotiating position yet.

"It is no time that the Director indicate a desire to consult with us before the governor's meeting," commented NATFHE, rep. Steve Cusack.

Chris Price, however, feels that the lecturer's union has overreacted. In an interview with Leeds Student, he stated that the Directorate had not begun to talk to the governors because it was committed to national negotiating machinery.

"The only thing that has gone to the governors" he continued, "is the discussion about a very tiny number of very minor changes, concerning what would have been put in, and that's not even for making members."

A ballot is organised for next Thursday, when it is hoped members will sign a letter to Price requesting the recognition of their NATFHE recognition.

Howay the lads and lasses! Come and write news for Leeds Student. Commissioning: 10.30am Monday, Uni office

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ELECTIONS FOR SESSION 1989/90

LEEDS STUDENT EDITOR
STUDENT COMMUNITY ACTION
CO-ORDINATOR
PUBLICITY SECRETARY

UNION COUNCIL: 4 OPEN PLACES
UNION COUNCIL: 1 ARTS FACULTY PLACE
DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL CHAIRPERSON
DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL: 10 PLACES
DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL APPEALS
COMMITTEE: 5 PLACES
(one from each faculty)

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27/02/89
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14/03/89

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192 WOODHOUSE LANE

LEEDS LS1 5 8 2 3

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ACCORDING TO RECENT VIBES POLL



MEETING
GENERAL
ORDINARY

TUESDAY 1 PM
RILEY SMITH HALL

This week:

TIME TO GO
JAMES ANDERTON
LUKE COWDRY
LESBIAN AND GAY OFFICER
CHANGING THE WORLD
SALMAN RUSHDIE
plus positive ratification vote

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Parkes - "Carry on till we've won"



The Vice Chancellor, Sir Edward Parkes rounded off the NHS anti-loans week by expressing his total opposition to the government's proposals for loans. The Vice Chancellor, who was recently elected Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, spoke to about 150 students in the Killy Shank Hall last Friday at 1pm.

He began by outlining the government's failure to invest in Britain's main national resource - its people. He estimated that the University system was being reduced to 10 times and teachers pay halved over and added that the government was prepared to spend money on a glossy brochure for £2.20.50 for White Paper proposals.

He quoted the Financial Times and Christopher Johnson of the University of Leeds who are well quoted as saying that the government's loans proposals would be scrapped as more costly than giving the money to students. Chris-

Report by Julian Stern

John Johnson of Leeds addressed a return to the full grant system at 1979 levels. The Vice Chancellor quoted extensively from the experience of over 150 graduates who left University with a debt of £10,000, having chosen a medicine general university.

He pointed out that despite the Government's admission for the American system the US government spent more on its universities than the general British system. Both Denmark and Sweden were changing from a loans to a grants system, he added.

Responding to a questioner he said that demonstrators were good to get media attention but he felt that a violent confrontation would only result in a bad press. Asked what alternatives to loans he advocated the Vice Chancellor explained that he favoured a return to the full grant level of 1979.

He ended his 25 minute talk by urging students to keep up the pressure by keeping the issue in the public consciousness 'till we're won'.

Warning for Women

by Janet Whitby

Risk Whitby of the NHS Executive cautions that the introduction of loans will severely deter women from gaining access to higher education. Whitby gave this view in a talk which she gave to a packed RH Evans lounge as part of the LUU anti-loans week.

She highlighted the fact that women, though not the only group affected by the loan threat will suffer and will be doubly deterred if the system from other minority or lower social class groups especially. A survey conducted in Edinburgh by Hugh Barclay highlights this fact, showing that 80% of males from the working class would be deterred from entering higher education by the implementation of loans. 70% of females from the same class saw themselves as being affected.

It is felt that, however, many women already face obstacles as they attempt to enter higher education, particularly in the family.

Where a family may only be able to afford to support one child in higher education, daughters often have to be left

home counterparts.

This view, linked with the traditional view that women will eventually get married, and leave children, and consequently that education is somehow wasted upon them.

Both is especially interested in the involvement of more women in the campaign against loans.

The discussion which followed her talk also highlighted the problem of finding a community among students that they are prepared to change the situation affecting them.

However, both Jane Thompson and Ruth Middleton are optimistic that feminism can be changed by involvement in the anti-loans campaign.

Education - "a right not a privilege"

by Sara Fraser

The Government's loans proposals have been debated four times before, and it can be done again. That was the optimistic message of Ms Janine Booth, Area Convener for Manchester MU, when speaking at LUU last week at a meeting called to discuss the implications of the loans system for lesbian and gay students. The meeting was also to have had a representative for mature students speaking but owing to an unfortunate car accident the speaker was unavailable.

However students themselves contributed to the meeting. Several expressed concern about the government's plans to use benefits to students during the summer vacation. A loan of income which would have dire consequences for students not on good terms with their parents and hence unable to return to their parents' home over the summer vacation, and for mature students who

have to maintain their own family home.

Ms Booth drew attention to what she saw as the government's hypocrisy in allowing the white paper claims to aim to reduce students' dependence on their parents it will in practice mean the reverse.

What students needed, Ms Booth said, was not a loan, but a grant covering all twelve months of the year. The MUU committee had the loans issue was all about access, higher education might be a right, not a privilege.

Medics follow MU's lead

by Julian Stern

Medical and Dental students took part in last week's NHS anti-loans campaign, following the lead of the British Medical Association (BMA) who have opposed the government's loans proposals, claiming they will hit medical students especially hard.

An information stall on changing medicals to show their opposition by writing to their BMA, organised by the BMA student rep for Leeds, Nicola Pratt, was manned during the afternoon every day last week to the medical building.

On Thursday, medical took to the streets in Leeds leafleting central areas and in the evening, BMA, Leeds, Leeds, and Hull, representative from the BMA student group talk to about 50 medicals and dentists writing out the BMA's con-

cerns about the effect of loans on medical students. He stressed that, along with general opposition to the government's loans policy, medical had to be seen as a special case. All courses have more than three years' medicals and books and to clinical work money on penultimate studies. They have shorter holidays giving them less opportunity to supplement their income with vacation jobs, he said.

40% of medicals have an over-

debt of an average of £300 and under the present system graduating with debts of up to £2000 was not unusual for medical students, he said. He went on to explain that, the White Paper on loans took no account of courses that lasted longer than three years or of the extra financial aid needed for certain studies.

Stressing his recent discussions with MPs he stressed that there was considerable opposition and everything is fight for.

Naming up last week's action Nick Pratt said: "It was a bit slow to begin with, but over 20 people have now joined MU. Under medicals many medical students in later years are pretty doing clinical practice."

Same old story

by Susan Harkness

The Government's continued belief in student loans was highlighted again last week at a Conservative Student rally.

Renowned Editor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, Lord John, said that the more the principle of student loans has been established. There is no reason why the Universities and Polytechnics should not

board of Leeds Bank did not agree with its chief economic adviser who had criticised student loans and encouraged the opinion that the banks are generally critical of the loans.

11111 Adams, Mr. Mike Green, condemned any acceptance of the principle of student loans and was welcomed by pleased about the lack of opposition within the banks.

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Leeds Student Editor Elections

This year Leeds Student is running an informal primary election before polling in the 'main' election. At 1pm on Wednesday in the Polytechnic office there will be a brief question-and-answer session with the candidates, open to all readers, and a secret ballot in which the following contributors are entitled to vote:

Richard Mildren	Jacqui West
Steve Ball	Sarah Bond
Patrick Johnson	Beezy Marsh
Tom Symonds	Antony Kaavany
Phil Smith	Damian Whitworth
Jeremy Murch	Debbie Lee
Vee	Paul Twite
Brian Margatroyd	Ed Waller
Karen Thornton	Martyn Ziegler
Hayley Lee	Gay Flashman
Chris Dankin	Ed Vanner
Jane McDonald	Martin Ross
Sue Oldfield	Steven Hicks
Danner and Blitzen	William Potter
Tim Whitwell	Simon Rigg
Pete Finan	Julian Stern
Rachelle Ford	Kamel Ahmed
Paul Hartley	Adam Higginbotham
Rabin Perrie	John Rigby
Liz Orton	Tim Crabbe
Kate Pearce	Martin Galley
Rob Hunt	Ian Millar
Siobhan Elliot	

Editor: Andrew Harrison
News Editors: Robin Perrie, John Rigby
News Features Editors: Karen Thornton, Tim Whitwell
Sports Editor: Simon Rigg
Picture Editors: Pete Finan, Martyn Ziegler
Reviews Editors: Adam Higginbotham, Hayley Lee
Trash Editor: Gay Flashman
Good To Go: Jane McDonald, Sue Oldfield
Designs-at-large: The Terminator His Commissioning
News and pictures from 9.30 am Mondays and Tuesdays (also sent at the University office)
Reviews from 1pm Tuesdays in the Polytechnic office.
Deadlines:
Advertising: 1pm Friday preceding (display ads), 2pm Wednesday (classified and Good To Go)
News: 5pm Tuesdays/Wednesdays
Reviews: 3pm Mondays
Sport reports: 1pm Mondays

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LEEDS STUDENT

I was a confident, quietly spoken Chris Price, Director of Leeds Polytechnic, who greeted us as we sat down to discuss the Polytechnic's forthcoming corporate status. Price, a man who considers himself important enough to be in *Whin's* World, started off as a teacher, then became a Labour M.P. When he lost his seat, he entered the world of journalism for four years, working for the *New Statesman* and then *Times* Television. After re-entering Parliament as M.P. for Lewisham for ten years, and heading an Educational Select Committee for Science and the Arts, he worked at South Bank before coming to Leeds in February 1986.

Price was not over-motivated about the effects that the changes surrounding in Leeds will bring.

"The great difference," he said, "is that we are going to be on our own, in a very tight financial situation, so we are going to have to fight for every penny we can get."

FUNDING

The funding for the poly will come from three major sources: one that it is fine of local government control, these being sponsorship from industry, less from tuition, and government funding via the Polytechnic and Colleges Funding Council (P.C.F.C.).

Price emphasized the differences in funding between the Poly and the University. "Both have around 11,000 students, but the university's two are in around sixty million, and our income is around thirty million, so we are managing on much less money per student."

Price feels that the government is attempting to play the universities off against the polytechnics, but that it is the poly who will have to find new sources of revenue from elsewhere, or become more efficient, he declares. Industry, emphasised by the government as critical to the corporate policy strategy and funding, is "not likely to part with their money anymore than the government does."

The poly already has close relations with the industrial sector. "But like anyone, they expect value for money," he pointed out.

SIGNIFICANT

As for the involvement of industry affecting the content of courses, Price commented that both sides and also the students themselves are significant in this respect.

"I believe that it is a student demand that affects the con-

tent of courses quite strongly, as well as employer demand," he commented.

An ethics committee already exists to try and make sure that the educational process is not "wrongly affected by industrial pressures." Other ways of funding projects cited by Price included raising money and effectively attracting more overseas students, and

of as important to the system, that the City itself would be involved in a multi-way carpark or office block to finance the rest of the poly.

"It is a preposterous idea - impossible in terms of these student debts," he said. Price does not consider the idea a real financial aid anyway, whilst the poly would always require a ci-

On April 1st, Leeds Poly becomes Leeds Poly Ltd. Corporate Status will mean big changes for Students and Staff. KAREN THORNTON and TIM WHITWELL talk to the College's director CHRIS PRICE about the future.

running the poly creatively in a more financially independent way. "But," he concluded, "we're always going to rely on the government for most of our money."

SUSPICIONS

Not so, according to certain rumours circulating around the Poly. These have been suspicions that one of the prime aims of the new corporate Poly will be to sell off or redevelop the colleges. The *Leeds Evening Citizen* is, using the capital generated to build a new campus complex at Beckett Park.

But Price quickly dis-

misses the idea, saying that it is in order to cater for its increasing part-time student.

"But a lot of rationalisation will have to take place," he said. There is a possibility of SOME sites being sold.

However, relations between the Poly management and the industry. Under NATTHE, are becoming strained. The Poly has recently begun to introduce a pay and conditions package for new senior management appointments without consultation with NATTHE, and this perhaps contributes a potential source of future, post-corporation conflict (see *see story* page 2).

LETTERS

"LS RACIST" CLAIM

Dear Editor

I am writing with reference to the article entitled 'You said it Hyde Park' by Gay Flashman (12/1/87). I am absolutely incensed that your paper had the audacity to print that this man was of 'West Indian' origin. What do you mean he was of 'West Indian' origin - was he born in the 'West Indies', or was it that he wore a tanktop with a hood pulled over his head that lead you to such a deduction - a stereotype rather reminiscent of the 'Ben' which you are smothering with great success!

The identification of a black man with 'West Indian' origin just serves to reinforce the racism which is so obviously inherent in this newspaper - that black people in this country (regardless of the fact that they have been here for one or two full British citizenships) are simply not seen as British. Why do you rule out the possibility that he may have been of African descent? By using a description which indirectly refers to the colour of the person you have actually compromised one of the basic codes of journalism in this newspaper to eliminate that it is likely it is necessary to follow any guidelines? Finally, why did you choose to use the term 'West Indian' anyway, it is actually a useless imputed impression which is totally incorrect! 'Wine-Caribbean' might have been a better term to use if you wish to continue your report on the basis of the assumptions you have made.

Yours extremely offended,

Lyndie Smith.

A black British female (where you may 'racish' be labelled as a female of 'West Indian' origin).

P.S. An apology would not go amiss.

KEEPING TABS

Dear Leeds Student

I wish to highlight the recurring appearance of a lot of the student population by an inconsiderate and irresponsible years of publicity surrounding the dog's smoking.

Smokers consistently hold up the right of individual choice and freedom as a justification for smoking. However, choice is a powerful argument only when choice involves serious damage to the health, serious epidemic marks should be raised and continued freedom to smoke is public.

In a number of years, when medical science has progressed even further, and we have statistics of death by smoking, it will be a powerful argument to use. Until then it seems we must continue to suffer years.

Pete Brocknock

YO BUM RUSHDIE SHOW

Dear Editor

This is a letter of protest against the availability of *Satanic Verses* in the university bookshop. As for concerning the principle of Freedom of Speech is not well but it does not and should not stand in the delinquent and slandering of peoples beliefs. Let me tell you that neither I nor the vast majority of students have objections to a rational and intellectual critique of *Satanic Verses* but we do not want students who in the bookshop Rushdie's name is used to sell the book. If this kind of any student who has read the re-

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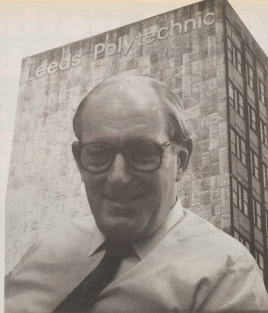
"The only employees are are almost in the same position as the universities," he said. "So that we can't begin to pay increases the going rate."

Price was not keen to comment on student loans because he did not believe that he had yet seen what the final scheme was going to be. Baker is looking for a bailout to get the money back off the students; the banks aren't unhappy to lend money to the students. What they're unhappy to do is be responsible for collecting it.

Price agreed with the government's wanting to increase student numbers but did not think that loans was the way to fund the larger intake. The loans scheme was not seen by Price as being set up to save money at all but to control the courses that students study.

"That's wicked," he said, "because actually students are far better judges of the subjects they ought to study than governments."

Chris Price, A tough future
P. Mervyn Dargatzis



I'll tell you this. By calling the holy prophet a derogatory term used specifically in the to insult him, [literally 'my dog'], by referring to him as 'bitch' and 'scum', and by referring to a prophet as whoring [popular with the youth] there can be absolutely no doubt that every wonderful book, whose aim is to per-muade and to incite hatred and dissension, is a book.

These facts I think the union should do the duty to have the book removed from the bookshop as of now.

Yours,
Ahmed.

Dear Sir,
I'm with you with concern of the fact that the book 'Sister Feelings' is being sold at the bookshop.

In view of the speech for all members of the union acknowledged that the book is neither a novel nor a play; it is outwardly anti-Islamic, and at such is spreading to my faith as a copy of the publication, being sold in the Union, I fear publication and the matter can neither be ignored nor ignored.

On the basis of its ill — presentation and its instability, the book can be regarded as a false; it is mostly an anti-Islamic catalogue of lies and should forthwith be removed from the bookshop.

Yours,
Ahmed.

Dear Editor,

As a devout muslim of the university I was deeply distressed to hear that the book by Salman Rushdie 'The Satanic Verses' is on sale in the Union bookshop. Having read certain excerpts from the book which refer to the prophet in a derogatory way and show his wives as 'whores' is a 'brothel'. This book in no way represents a fair criticism of Islam, which would be acceptable in a free society. Instead it aims to degrade Islam and all it stands for. The main aim of Mr Rushdie is to insult INSULT, DEGRADE and STIR RACIAL UNREST against Britain's muslim minority. In view of what I have said I believe this book should be removed from the university bookshop.

Thank you,
Yours sincerely,
Kulim Tasseem.

Dear Sir,

I am disgusted by the fact that Salman Rushdie is on the sale in the union causing deep poisoning of the mind and body to many students in Leeds.

Yours Faithfully,
Ahmed per xeroxcarrier.

'A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT' DEPT.

Dear Joe McCrea,

I am writing in response to your columnar in last week's Leeds Student in which you said "while they were at it, these people could ensure that all Union Council decisions are reported in Feedback". I am very glad you have brought this subject up because as LUS's new Communi-

cation Secretary, I have the responsibility for providing feedback and will be using Union Update sections in Feedback to do precisely this. I will also be using it to report on decisions and happenings of C.O.G.M. and Exec. meeting.

I believe this to be vitally important as previously there has been little or no regular reporting of what's been going on in these places. Through this reporting, hopefully I can keep more people informed about these bodies and help to reduce the mysticism that surrounds them.

By the way Feedback is out every Monday and can be picked up from the two boxes situated in the Union foyer.

Yours sincerely,
Tim Ayris,
LUS Communications Secretary.

SISTER FEELINGS CALL

Dear Leeds Student,

It appears that the Theatre Group has at last lost all request in its latest choice of play — Alan Ayckbourn's 'Sister Feelings'. Surely with cross and meaningless humour, incoherence is rather more suited to the old village halls frequented by amateur dramatic companies.

The point of Theatre Group is rarely to stage mere experimental works, or at least established plays of a more relevant nature; how about a bit of Brecht or Beckett? Something a little more ethical, political or feminist would be nearer the point. At least TG's choice of David Edgar's 'That Summer' at the end of term is veering towards the right direction.

T.G. has not staged a comedy for — I've been told — about five years; let's hope it's another five years before they get so blindly again.

Yours,
SI Grimshaw

Ain't nothing going up but the RENT....

In the 1930's, when Monopoly was invented, you could buy a station for \$200 and a house on Park, London SW1 for the same amount. In the late 1980's most Leeds students pay that sum or more for three months rent in Leeds 6.

On 15th January 1989 the most recent Housing Bill became law. The Government, which had already deregulated bus and television, has now moved on to the private sector. The declared aim of the Government as outlined in the Housing White Paper (Housing — the Government's proposals — CM 2146) is to ensure, "That landlords should be able to secure a reasonable return on their investment when they let property." Research has shown that this premise with regard to student housing is false.

Landlords/ladies may receive an annual average income on a shared house of between £580-£450. This can represent a capital return of up to 25% on the value of the house. In six years, rents have almost doubled, to an average of \$17.25 in 1987. Most people would regard this to be a very "reasonable return on their investment". This Government can tell agree.

According to Will Wood (LNU Welfare Officer), "Rents have increased up to the start of this year. Quite what they will stabilise at, with the Housing Act fully in operation, is difficult to assess."

This is for three reasons: namely the househunting season has not yet begun in earnest; there has been an increase in available property and thirdly, the abolition of the Fair Rent system.

The latter has been replaced with the right to appeal to the Rent Appeals Committee which will only be able to determine a market rent, not a fair rent. The RAC will only act on what it considers to be an excessively high rent and the appeal is likely to involve a long procedure. Students are therefore advised to gain the best deal they can before signing the contract.



• The Leeds side streets that you slip down are just to become more easily in five p.

tract, rather than try and challenge it at a later date.

Under the 1988 Act a new type of tenancy agreement came into being and it is understood that this "Assured Shorthold Tenancy" (A.S.T.) is the one most likely to be offered to students. It will give far more power to number of other areas where they will benefit, and some groups especially will be further disadvantaged.

Premium

The new legislation allows for a premium — a payment in addition to rent and deposit — to be paid. This practice used to be widespread, since it was used as a condition of being granted or having one's tenancy extended; rather than someone else. Thus the possibility of exploitation of tenants in

areas of scarce accommodation is opened up. It may occur in Leeds.

Eviction

It will now be much easier for a landlord/lady to evict a tenant because when an agreement finishes, the property automatically reverts to the lessor.

A new contract may be negotiated but all terms including rent level can be altered.

Students who do not sign a contract equal to the minimum length of six months do students must ensure they arrange a contract which gives them their optimum time. There is not maximum limit.

Students with families

Although the Government claims that deregulation will lead to more rented housing becoming available, it is possible that there will be a contraction in non-shared housing, as it has less of a return or capital compared to shared housing. This will greatly affect students with families. Other from overseas, these students will either have to find the wherewithal to pay competitively high rents or will have to look elsewhere.

Housing Benefits

Students in receipt of Housing Benefit (HB) will find that although rents will rise, HB will not increase to match them;

causing suffering due to the resulting shortfall between the amount they get and the rent level.

Negotiations

There is however a way to cope with the changes, and that is to use them to your benefit. The Government wants to move to a much freer market in housing — a market, however it is not one-way.

In Leeds (Housing) there is a small surplus of rented accommodation, as students do not have to accept the first property or price offered to them. Some insurers worth pursuing in order to negotiate the rent downwards and:

- defenceless in housing
- quality of electrical wiring
- the state of the plumbing
- The deposit is another area where the landlord/

lady will try and rip you off as much as possible. In 1985, 2 students paid a deposit — by 1987 47% of students, landlord/ lady will \$750 on a five p shared house in order for nothing, have people enter. Know their deposit is for

If students do not consider all these details will find themselves receiving excessive money for post-graduate accommodation. The majority of landlords are not interested in the welfare of the student tenants; their concern is how much money they can. With the 1988 Housing Act, the Government gives them carte blanche to increase their rents — at the expense of students, and their

Yorkshire Giants



RODIE
Ginger

...ing had only one match this year, due to the pay dispute, there is to report on the game watch front so. However, the University Lacrosse has been kept busy for the past weeks with both friendly and exhibition

matches against the Lancashire and English U-19 teams.

Turbotville and Quiggby, having recently been selected to play for Yorkshire, along with Giffet, helped Leeds to a convincing 16-6 victory over Lancashire U-19.

In the following match against the England U-20, Leeds, captained in this case by J. L. Tait, convincingly demolished a

talented but arrogant England U-19 side.

Some outstanding defending by A. Storch and superb reflex goalkeeping by M. Meddall kept Turbotville and Quiggby (this time representing England) at bay.

Never in the match did it look as if England would win and Leeds thoroughly deserved their 9-0 win, watched in the dying seconds by B. Jodrell.

Going Up!

FOOTBALL
LEICESTER CITY 1
LEEDS UNITED 2
by Jamie Nicholson

A moment of ingenuity from Glynis Steele set up Leeds' third away win of the season to launch them into the play off frame for the first time. United just held on to their 2-1 lead against a resilient but pitifully inept Leicester side.

Shobby Davidson had given Leeds a perfect start in the second minute when Rodge was driven off to his by Hilditch cross, and Elliott accepted an over invitation to sub the Leicester keeper.

Leeds at last found the form which has been lacking in their attack this season. Had their

finishing been a little more potent, they could well have had a rugby score on the board by half-time.

Hilditch should have scored twice. First he volleyed straight at Rodge, and later hit a beautiful wide. Rodge also missed a useful chance from close range.

After Nicky Cross' equalising volley Steele restored United's lead. He combined well with Adams on the left, and turned the speculation into the spectacular as his 20 yard drive flew into the top corner.

United looked less dominant in the second half, as Leicester got back into the game without really threatening the Leeds goal. The visitors continued to create the best chances, as Rodge totally misread his shot, and Davidson scraped the ball over the bar, which it would have been easier to score.

The imaginative flourish was, again the standard for

Leeds, while on his back, Hilditch's inactivity constantly tormented Sporting. (How does Angus cope, with him in training?)

In a game which was heavily contested but severe duty, the night breakage made by a rather pathetic referee was something of an excess. But then so were the staggering 50 minutes of injury time allocated, which did little to encourage him in the Leeds supporters.

Indeed, as Leicester staged a late rally, they brought a marvellous flying start out of them in the eighth minute of time added on, only two minutes after hitting the bar. Leeds now edge meaningfully closer to a playoff place. In winning away, they have redressed the missing ingredients to their goalkeeping recipe, if they stick to that recipe they will be an awesome prospect for the other Second Division hopefuls.

Motoring....

Leeds University Union Motor Club

Mobil 1

Northern Lights

Rally

5/6 March 1988



Photo: Bradshaw Photographic

ACCORD CLUB
LU Motor Club are running the **LMORU 1 Northern Lights Rally** on 5/6 March.

The event starts on the Saturday evening at Harry Ramsden Fish Restaurant

in Goleby, with the first car leaving at 23.00. The competition will cover 150 miles of classic Yorkshire roads before finishing at the Jacobean Lodge Hotel, north of York, early on Sunday morning. Spectator information

will be available at the start from 20.00. Anyone interested in marshalling on the event (there will be a prize draw) is asked to contact John Ramsdale (18, Clarendon Place, Leeds, tel 6932 40248) as soon as possible.

Leeds Evening 28 February 77





Phil Cool GONE GREEN

Innovative impressionist and comedian Phil Cool arrives at the University next week as part of his "Go For Green" tour in aid of Greenpeace and the Friends of the Earth. Adam Higginbotham found out why the man who does Rolf Harris better than Rolf Harris is now interested in Ozone.

Phil Cool sat down heavily in a cloud of tongue fatigue and eyed the tape-recorder with quizzical apprehension. He did not want to be in a small room with a box of wily Japanese electronics and a stranger unduly interested in his current tour. He wanted to be in bed, asleep. "I've just got up", he said, reproachfully, I thought.

Cool as, the self-styled "bendy-faced comedian" is beginning to show clear signs of wear and tear.

Sporadically turning into the Page Four sight a week for the last 10 years has etched bits of Posh around his eyes; funnies of Rolf Harris, Quasimodo and Ronald Reagan are visible elsewhere. Above all, the rigours of an extensive British tour have made the man genuinely frustrated.

In spite of this, the comedian rallies his ardent fans to discuss his reasons for conducting another tour that he would perhaps not have undertaken merely for his own profit.

"I've been a member of Greenpeace for three years now, and prior to that I was into anything environmental. I was dead impressed with Jonathan Portt from Friends of the Earth. I think that what they're doing is very important, and

everyone should help them in some way. The best way I can help is to do this tour and give them some money from it. I've promised them a minimum of £20,000 - if it does really well I'll give them a bit more."

Although sponsored as the "Go For Green" tour, however, the issue is not rained down the audience's throat, and plays only a token part in the show.

"The alien space creature does a bit of a plug, and I do a song about nuclear pollution. ('A shit lies floating in the harbour' - as Roger Whittaker would knowingly), you can't dwell on it too much, I had decided.

+ YOUR COMPREHENSIVE
GUIDE TO *RAG WEE K*

THE WEDDING PRESENTER
BODINGTON BAL
BREAKING BANDS
FEN CITY



MY MIKE SOUNDS NICE



Suits designers The Shamen recently released their second LP with the boast that they do "both kinds of acid." **ANDY PEMBERTON** tries on his tie-dyed t-shirt and belts on IN GORRACHEY WE TRUST.

This record is witty, more chaotic and better dressed than any mainstream in the shop window of pop. The Shamen aim at the heart of American culture, set their phasers on rock and cocaine...

They mix Acid House and pop and produce a "swinging" effect, a "ritual" technology and human emotion. Samples are stretched from the junk located in the deepest corner of the darkest side of Americans. There are then turned inward, used to treat the heart apart. Once the monster is slain the corpse is left to rot, the decaying flesh is then folded with. This is Acid House with brains, a smiling face with a degree in Plant Biology.

The Shamen rock at TV evangelists, the "moral" majority, the indifference of middle America, and with a punk send it took us... "Jesus loves it more, but I don't love neither." They cut a Mark Twain poem opposite the chilling sample, "God will destroy Russia." Chopping up 1988's rule was propaganda, they juxtapose the luxury of US politics with the violence of the last. "Sweet Young Thing" is dance music doing war, with joy and pinning, loaded forward. Bliss.

They shake glow in satisfaction then suddenly, immediately pale with the line "Adam Strange is in my brain, I'm so glad to know him." Then pale still with the line "Marmite-ing." I mean, PLEASE. Eat, the most drugs, kills pain. The pain of living in a climate such as this. But who cares? "We change it? Just get out of your head and forget your worries. Doesn't matter how intelligent you may be, everyone can be stupid."

There is a natural home for The Shamen. They never mind their lineage, just their career. They think without sterile intellectualizing, they make revolution danceable. They are light and heavy all at once. Free your feet and your necks will follow.



BLOW OUT

The 'highlights' of the Endingside Mall Paradox Hall were provided by Dave Lee Travis and the Blow Monkeys. **ANDY PEMBERTON** packed up his satirically-astounded class propellers in his old kit bag and billed up the Odey Road to quail it with the *Penns* posse.

Balls are the music of the middle class yob. Well dressed, well placed and very stupid. What better audience for the Blow Monkeys? Their sartorial elegance would fit in perfectly, and their music, well who cares what that's like, as long as you can dance to it.

I huddled backstage hoping to rub kumage with the rich and famous. Before me stood Dave Lee Travis, bleary-eyed and cowering with the lads of the Endingside Mall stage crew. Last year he apparently took some wood and cloth onstage and simulated an erection, to the delight of the glibbed throng. What a sense of humor—what a heart—that a man. What a legend. As he left a student reader contacted "Play some more Queens!" Yeah.

Wild Weekend, the support act, are INX without being

Australian, fuck without the 'u'. They don't smile, it all comes easily. The sounds are familiar, the onstage moves have been practiced to perfection. Sex is as its most potent when it is suggested, sexuality over tension both thrive. The singer grabs his crotch, makes his bones wobble, but it's just not sexy. He attempts no seduction, but Madonna the audience with both his workman and synthetic soul shirks.

When the Blow Monkeys finally take to the stage, Dr Robert looks angry. He'll Australian. How can this man sing about the sufferings of the poor, dressed in an exclusive Armani suit? The glowing contradictions overtake me.

They leave the stage, jump into the audience, and rebelliously punch me in the face. Angry social conscience articles berate me as in compliance just as used 'likes'. The Blow Monkeys are the living embodiment of style over content. The complaints played loudly on style. It's Thatcher's Britain, poverty and social deprivation are endemic, unemployment is rife, and people are freezing, but that's no excuse to be turned out badly.

The Blow Monkeys are a good rule, but little else. It is that same good rule that separates this ball ball from any other just up. There's nothing wrong with getting down, but there's nothing stylish about it either.



ISLAND LIFE

PASCAL'S ISLAND is apparently an exciting new film. Ed Waller checks it out.

IN 1908... the Ottoman Empire is in decline... talk of war is on everyone's lips. It is a time of turmoil and change, even on the isolated, idyllic Greek island of Naxos. Pascal's Island. This once peaceful hide soon becomes a hot-bed of subterfuge and deceit. All sorts of life's pleasures and vices flock

there to feed off the dying empire: the spies, the convicts, the gun-runners. The result is a tale of treachery and notorious double-dealing, of love, jealousy and betrayal.

Pascal, a Turkish spy, is seen away by his own distrust and secrecy. The film is seen through the eyes of the well and weary figures, excellently portrayed by Bob Angilly. The supporting cast includes Charles Dancy, as the elegant but mysterious Englishman, and Helen Mirren, as the enigmatic

actress. These three characters form the triangle around which the film revolves. It's a plot intriguing and thoroughly absorbing the viewer.

Pascal's Island brilliantly captures the atmosphere of the turbulent pre-war years, the backdrop of the modern tragedy set on a classic Greek stage.

So if the recent fleet of porting machine men on blood hot eggs are seen somewhat muted and predictable then this film will provide a satisfying alternative.

Reviewed by Morryn Ziegler

THE HOLLOW MEN

The Hollow Men will be popular. Chances are little doubt. With more than a little of the Buryman, and some well-produced indie pop, SUGAR seems guaranteed. Here is an apt description of the Drawing Man, but with enough "sugar" to suggest that The Hollow Men might be the second coming.



FUZZBOX International Rescue (WHA)

We've got a bland voice, bland music, a good name and we're going to show it. This stuff is really tragic. Fuzzbox probably think they're something different, but when it's sold and done first, they haven't got the ball out of defence. A definite over goal.

THE REYNOLDS GIRLS

I'd rather Jack (PWL) I'd prefer to Bill, myself... but this latest offering from Shock Artists and Waterman Productions has certainly got me more going for them. Not a bad industry record, but they could well achieve PWL's best of being 'The Sound of A Bright Young Britain'.

BUSTY SPRINGFIELD

Nothing has been proved (Paraphrase) The only thing that has been proved is that the Pet Shop Boys haven't lost in producing this one. I listened to the 'B' side instrumental version for 10 minutes by mistake. The 'A' side says, 'I'm sorry, even worse. Please, something 1980.

JOHN MOORE AND THE EXPRESSWAY

Out of My Mind (Pelpider) This song, otherwise known as 'Thee From The Expressway', is quite a good song. John Moore is an AMC... and it shows on the stage, deep guitar and soaring voice. At times sounding like a revitalised Ramsey, with this song the Expressway have taken out a long list to lose an Independent Chart success.

ALYSON WILLIAMS

Step Talk (Self Jan) Definitely this week's winner of the Cuts and a new record. Head and shoulders above the rest, I especially like it because Alyson speaks her name with a 'y'. This is what nights out should be all about. A wonderful voice, sweet lyrics over a top band track. Not many better than a top band track than this. Singles from CRASH records.

Resident Playhouse staged a musical version of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* last week. Stephen Grimes grants its approval.

I wondered what the children in the audience were thinking. George Orwell's brilliant allegory "Animal Farm" forces one face to face with so many disturbing truths. It parallels the Russian Revolution from the "Battle of the Cowshed" (1917) to the pigs creating a dictatorship and becoming indistinguishable from the human beings (1929). But it does more. With frightening relevance it reveals the ease with which idealisms become tainted, and eventually transformed by human nature.

Peter Hall's adaptation of the novel into a musical play is almost as impressive in the book itself. With a strength of theme and song energy what Orwell had in his mind about propaganda and the weight of general opinion.

The much loved anthem "Beasts of England" is banned. And the sheep are taught a new idiom: "Four legs good, two legs better."

It was an amateur production, and not surprisingly the individual characters did not come across as strongly as might have been desired. The chorus scenes

(folk-heroic songs) were able to overcome this problem, creating the powerful atmosphere necessary for the audience to take that leap of the imagination required of them.

"However much things change they always remain the same", says Benjamin the old donkey.

There's something there for everyone.

Resident Theatre produced *Arthur Miller's The Price*. Theatre-goer Hayley Lee went to see its worth.

There were once two brothers — Victor and Walter. They had grown up together, both took a keen interest in science at school, both born good of American kids. Then their mother died, the crash arrived and their father lost all in one sweep below. Walter, the wicked, self-centred sibling, ignoring his father's tragic plight continued with his medical studies, whilst Victor, the good brother, quit school, joined the police force and supported his lonely, destitute father.

Eighteen years later the sons meet up to sell off his house and belongings. Walter is now a successful and rich doctor, Victor is still a struggling cop. The price of the farmhouse has to be decided as does the price paid by the sons.

An ideal basis for Arthur Miller to create a melodramatic dilemma, a parental betrayal. Unfortunately, although the scene was set beautifully the Resident Theatre Group did not make *The Price* into a quest for morality, but into a laugh-a-minute farce. Unfortunately, Malcolm Puchall as Victor Frame stepped onto the stage looking like an extra from *The Rocky Horror Show*. This man's make-up artist could give Dame Edna a few lessons. This left me in no mood for taking the struggling cop's life anywhere near serious. Added to this make-up massacre Mr Puchall straited through his lines making me wonder whether his "read like" job was a pincer. I.E. Silverman portrayed his wife with a little more conviction although her American slang along to me that the Cockney kids would have been proud. By far the best performance that this says little I add was Len Silverman as little nepotism 10 wonder who injected humour into a dying drama both physically and verbally.

What more can I say about this production? Oh, if you ever visit to the Grammar School Theatre take a very thick paper as search is not one of the school's priority. Maybe an extra reason for the Government to increase their education funds.

"**T**heatre the University for a long time," says Von, leaning back in his chair; there must be 3000 streaming away on their guitars up there, few ever get as far as forming a band and of those that do, how many are going to get anywhere?"

A good question and all over Leeds the swall strains of Sunday strummers and late night jam-jams mingle with dreams of record deals and concert sell-outs.

Two other people fall back on age old clichés of "knowing the right people" and "being in the right place at the right time" when confronted by



anything as apparently distant as success in the music world.

Certainly these things help but there's a lot to get on with while waiting for that lucky break. You can then ensure that you're in the right place at the right time with the right people. Very often one of the first problems budding rock artists come up against when trying to set up a band is finding other members. Where in the university and pub can musicians advertise for fellow aspiring offbeats — and vice-versa? On the noticeboards.

And that seems about it. The solution seems to be simply one of trial and error, a phenomenon which anyone entering the music business should start getting used to.

Now the band is formed and has rehearsed 35

QUEMADA

This is a 6 piece Jazz and funk group with a well developed image and multi-instrumentalist talents. They bring in bongos, big bass, cello and keyboards for gigs and jam sessions.

Formed in 1985 as a cross cut score they plucked in the Tartan Bar, hired from Inits for £200. Jonathan Riley has emphasised the importance of knowing as many people as possible. Paul and Jonathan are organising the stand up jam sessions in the Royal Park an alternative Wednesday. There is an enthusiastic response to Jazz, especially with a Latin American dance feel. It's cornering gigs that is the most difficult because Leeds has such a strong path throughwards. Quemada continue their search for a taxi and are setting their way onto the ball circuit.

songs and SS Bob Dylan covers, and given itself a cross name, it's time to get some gigs. You want to see bands they're never heard of?

It's all a matter of exposure — joint slots at society events, playing at empty gritty pubs, and begging your friends to come along and swell the crowd. These are all part of the degrading and necessary process for any band who wants to get

themselves heard. Richard Hunter, Fair North Promotions points out "The key to getting a live gig is to get an audience... to build up a following." This seems at once painfully obvious and a vicious circle. But venues are unlikely to give a band a slot unless they're sure the evening will pull a crowd.

One way of doing this is to concentrate on a par-

BROTHERS CLARK

The phrase "We're patient — good songs and the right chemistry are good passed by". The 7 piece funky feel group are looking to gain an independent Leeds base. They have been touring for 8 years and have already gigged in London venues such as the Rock Gardens in Covent Garden. In Leeds the group has forged a strong link with Amnesty. It's useful to play benefit gigs because all promotion costs are covered. Ian Potts is the art and design member and has introduced experimentation with video.

The live up and style of the band is diverse from original pieces, such as *Mr. Ted* to cover versions that range from blues to free jazz. They know the London independent scene will be their objective,

ticular path for example. If people come back to hear a band a second and third time they must have liked it and have already formed that small catalyst of followers.

Jim Nasty of University Events did not organise any kind of "showcase" where a number of bands could be given the opportunity to play. The presence of a better known band (or a drinks prize) would obviously help. Due to the inevitable complication of petty-bureaucracy live music can't start until after 5pm in the Tartan Bar this means there would apparently not give more than three bands' playing time. As well as this, the new P.A. is apparently not enough to do live bands justice.

In the last few years students seem to have lost interest in hearing bands live. Whereas three years ago when Indecap and live music by the order of bands constituted a healthy proportion of a Leeds nightlife, Gods City seems to have lost its audience.

Apart from the Tartan Bar, the only possibility for gigs in studentville is the Riley Smith Hall at the University. Even better known unsigned bands have no opportunity to support major gigs at the Poly or Hefestory because of bands who are "booked on" to an entire tour through the agent of the main band.

Chris from D.N.A. (a promotions company based in Leeds) is constantly confronted with this problem. The only (very rare) exception is if the support band are unable to play at short notice. What possibilities are there elsewhere in the city?

"The situation for gigs in Leeds is bloody awful", to quote Andy Tilson at Lion Studios who is

"the best venue for unsigned bands without a doubt". The Warehouse is the only better venue but you have to be able to guarantee a bigger crowd or pay the £120 odd to hire the place.

In the light of what was said earlier about live music JAZZ is arguably one of the few live music styles which has potential as the small gig circuit. Apart from "Ricky's" and "Cosmos Grove" on Wednesdays, the Astoria has live jazz evenings on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and blues on Thursdays. Bigger concerts are based in "the rooms downstairs" on Fridays. Mark Wreather and Kervin Badger, the cubs people there, emphasise flexibility so far as musical styles are concerned and they do accommodate for non-jazz bands.

Most venues expect a little package containing a demo tape and some photographs and information about the band before they will consider giving even a support slot.

One venue which doesn't make this requirement is the Queen's Hall in Bradford. John McIneraghan on three live bands most nights in the "cellar-bar". The cost of hiring the P.A. here is £60 and the sole criteria for getting a gig here is not quality of your music so much as how many beer drinkers you can bring through the door. In John's own definite phrasing: "You just need to bring in a crowd who drink".

Alastair Taylor of Virgin puts the emphasis on live music as an essential means of developing a band's style, confidence and image. Richard Hunter reiterates this advice: "Some people fall into the trap of a contrived 'image' and while this too can be successful as it was for Dead & Co America, bands have to see how easy and dangerous it is to cover things up in the recording studio as a temporary measure.

Joining the Musicians' Union is also a possibility worth considering. Bands like the Mission, Snap Dragons, God and the Wedding Present have all been members of the Leeds branch run by Malcolm Woodward.



somewhat disillusioned altogether by the Northern music situation. The Duchess is the obvious venue which begs to mind. Not only is it the only venue in Leeds hosting live music every night but to play here is to get at least a potential foot in the door of recognition.

Richard Hunter claims that the Duchess is

While they don't seem to be able to help much so far as getting venues arranged, for the annual membership of £27 they offer advice on contracts, provide some insurance and help recover unpaid money for gigs.

As far as record deals are concerned, Richard Hunter points out that a mistake many bands make is to send their first demo tape straight to record companies instead of waiting for their style to develop. There are several recording studios in Leeds — 'Lion' being one of the

more popular. At £10 per hour Andy Tilson boasts: 'for students in particular, we're the best value for money'.

Last year the emphasis was on making records for independent labels at Lion, but since the bubble burst and Red Rhino hit bankruptcy a number of labels were pulled down with them. The picture now came altogether bleaker. 'The efforts are very far reaching' said Andy. 'They were responsible for so much work with Northern bands and



clearly marked and a small amount of information included about the band. A SAE is always a good idea and a photograph is essential.'

It would have been nice to have written a little bit here about Leeds record companies. After all 'if you get a contract with a London record company you're selling your soul. They manufacture your personality, your image and your records' remarks Andy at Lion. But then he is a self-confessed adherent of London record companies which he claims have made it increasingly difficult for the already struggling Northern music business.

Another potential problem for smaller record companies is the predicted phasing out of vinyl pressed records in favour of compact discs. Being an altogether more expensive operation, this would push smaller record companies and independent bands further out of the market.

Jeremy Hizard hosts the Great Northern Rock

THE KENNEDY PILL

'People are less into seeing live bands nowadays' says Mike, lead guitarist of Leeds-based Kennedy Pill. They started as instrumental in Harry Brown in 1987 and in February of last year they had their 'lucky break' and were able to make a 24-track demo tape with N.I.S.A. in Manchester. They later made another promo recording and have decided to produce a vinyl single via an independent London pressing agent.

While they all value 'having a degree of artistic control' over what they do especially if they get signed up by a record company, they realise there has to be a measure of give and take.

Basically their motives are love of their music: 'We'd like to think we can play live music to people who are aware and they'll enjoy it.'

Show for BBC Radio Leeds on Monday evenings concentrating on underground bands. We are 'discreetly looking for new talent...new sound' and he encourages people to send him demo tapes (4 inch recorded at 15 inches per second to be played on the air) and information about forthcoming gigs.

Michael Stack at Far North, produces a 'Helping Hand Package' — if you send a SAE and a £1 postal order (Chapside Chambers, 43 Chapside, Beakford, BD1 4HP). Far North deal exclusively with Northern bands and organise periodical showcases in London music media/Venues. They listen to and reply to all demo tapes sent to them.

If it all gets too much, the Manual G.I.F. productional provides a step by step guide of how to get a number one hit within 3 months — or your money back.

It's a jungle and few people find the pot of gold that's hidden for some to find. But for those that do, and for many that don't, the months of frustration and closed doors can provide their own treasure trove even if it's only the copper coins of underground stardom and recognition in the local music scene.



studios are all suffering from it.'

His advice on demos: 'record companies always say it doesn't matter about the quality of the recording and it's the talent they are looking for. That's rubbish. They want a high quality sounding cassette.'

For a third of the price no double Rapal records (based in Leeds) can do the same demos.

'The mistake a lot of bands make is not to leave enough time to mix their recordings' says Alastair at Virgin. Even 8 and 16 track recordings are fine if the quality is good and it does justice to the music.

'Another important thing is to sequence it well. No more than 2 or 3 tracks should be recorded and the first half of the first song should be the strongest part.'

It hardly needs pointing out that record companies, promoters and agents the country over, sit behind mountains of rotting demo cassettes which clog their desks and spill onto the floor.

One way to speed up the process is to ring the record company and get the name of someone in A&R who the demo can be sent to.

'You can always keep ringing, basing it, if they haven't written or sent a rep-

RECLINERS

With a string of support slots this term in the Duchess with the Vibrators and in the Riley Smith Hall, the Recliners have proved that with hard work, talent and determination a studio band can break the gig scene rigour. They have a manager and play entirely original material. Andy Pemberton recognises the importance of self promotion and compiling promo packs to present to gig organisers. They are now looking to compile a demo tape, continuing the original lyric writing and get a slot in the prestigious band on the wall slot in Manchester.

ly'. Virgin actually guarantee to listen to every cassette they receive within six weeks of it arriving and always write a reply giving any advice they think helpful.

Serms Ginnings at Rough Trade Records estimates that they get sent 3200 demos a year. Like Alastair at Virgin, he emphasises not only presentation of the demos themselves but what is sent with them. The cassette just needs to be



IC SCENE still grow up more as spermwhale ones and Rachel and their black homeknits to 'fund' in Leeds & gate the roots of 'student idom'.

HOMAGE TO

CARLSONA

psychiatric nurse PAUL SAYER recent-ly beat A.N. Wilson and Salman Rushdie to win the highly regarded Whitbread Prize for his novel, *The Comforts of Madness*. One day the controversy over Rushdie's satanic Verses escalated into promises of renewed terrorist bombing campaigns. EYE EAVIS met him to collect his thoughts on his book, the fame it has brought and the threatened position of others in this country.

In the sitting room of his suburban semi in York the paradoxes were plentiful: the MFI bookshelf stuffed full of heavyweight books, the overwhelmingly ordinary family man with a brain awash with weird fascinations; the discussion of York City FC one minute and then the imprisonment of a catatonic the next.

Little wonder that there was an air of conspiracy: we were interviewing a cerebral man of letters at the same time as chatting to the bloke next door.

Sayer had just heard of the threat by Islamic fundamentalists to let Seneca take toll on an airliner unless Rushdie grovelled for forgiveness for the offence caused by satanic Verses. Sayer was unmistakably spooked. In January he met Rushdie who was even then receiving death threats.

'He felt that if someone was going to kill him they weren't going to write a letter about it first.'

Although the book-burners' actions might be justified by pointing to the frustrations felt by the Asian community, Sayer could have none of it.

'No, I was quite shocked. I thought it was racism; reminiscent of Nazi Germany.' *The Comforts of Madness* is the self-proclaimed first person narrative of Peter, mute and motionless catatonic. In the course of the novel various 'cures' are attempted and all of them fail. This seems to press a somewhat pessimistic attitude, suggesting that some people are simply too lost. However, Sayer seemed unwilling to discuss the meanings and intentions of his work.

To hide behind the novelist's mask and say that I was just trying to write a good novel. It has been described as disturbing, pressing, funny, even uplifting. But the book is a kind of allegory to convey this idea (about treatments) like the approach of... we are ill, I'm going to make you better, I'm going to re-invent you in my own image, to make you like me.

Sayer is heavily influenced by Kafka, but a hero of *The Comforts of Madness* dies radically from the victims of Kafka's weird Kafka's characters become human victims of a monolithic bureaucracy, but though Sayer's Peter, as 'real flesh and blood labyrinthine world' he resists the treatment that could transform as well as 'cure' him. Thus, the individual survives. However, is a futile battle to win because preserving the isolation of his soul is an equally bleakly obvious and it is this defeat of makes *The Comforts of Madness* a timely read.

For the last few years Sayer has been coming home from work and writing for King's sake. Accidents has never been his, and he poured disdain on a stranger to have recently written to him looking for vice, with the assertion that... writing should be a solitary, private thing.

It is this approach that he hopes to follow in the future.

'I'd be happy to be on the periphery just working as a serious artist popping in the odd novel every year or two and hopefully making enough money, but I'd always carry on writing whatever.'

Sayer's recruitment into the high ranks of prize-winning novelists will do nothing to turn him into a typical modern British author. The London literati hold no allure; he prefers the York writers' circle to hampered dinner tables, the terraces of York City Football Ground to media brats' hounds in Soho. He is reassuring proof that you do not have to be a University educated, culture-coddled member of the upper middle-class to write an 'interesting' novel. In fact his achievement is all the more impressive as he denies that he ever had a direct personal influence to tell him he was writing adolescent bunk in his early efforts. The inability of writers to improve is something that amuses Sayer.

'I think that at the outset everyone writes crap. I mean everyone starts somewhere but some people go on writing crap. Some are very successful at it.'

Surprisingly, Sayer professed no wish to 'take the lid off' the treatment of the mentally ill. In the book, Peter is given a lethal injection, partly because he has no apparent kin and no outward signs of thought; more importantly it is the need for the extra bed that finally prompts the consultant to perpetrate a murder inspired by government cutbacks. However, Sayer has never actually seen this happen when practising as a psychiatric nurse, and apparently doesn't wish to be seen as making a statement.

To think that you get the occasions now and again where a relative would ask not to treat a patient if the case was dying anyway, perhaps if they'd got a chest infection and there was a nine to one chance against them responding to the anti-biotic. But no, I've never seen enthusiasm of any kind used at all.

It would be easy to get an incorrect impression of Paul Sayer. He could easily be



represented as a man deliberately choosing morose isolation in the hinterlands, hating arrogant disregard for the works he occasionally turns out. However, he is a surprisingly genuine and direct person. His strongest, and perhaps most attractive trait is his genuine modesty. He told Rushdie at the Whitbread preliminaries.

'I'm scared stiff of winning this prize because I don't feel that I've earned it; if I was entered for the Booker I would never have made the last six - I wouldn't have made the last two hundred and fifty.'

He apparently believes, as Rushdie maintained in his reply, 'awards are nothing to do with literature anyway.'

However, it does mean £35,000 in the bank and enough limelight to propel him into the bestsellers' chart at number five. As a 33 year old father he is too old to embark on the turbulent career of a controversial author. It is easy to understand his nonchalant view of the future, but it seems a pity that he was unable to show even the merest glimpse of delight at having won such an enormous prize. It would have made the use of Whitbread's money seem more worthwhile if it was possible to see a deserving artist made happy.

TAGE

THEATRE

Codebridge 14303

4th Feb for two days at

at PORT PEAK

THEATRE at

Support 14303

4th Feb 7.30pm last

7pm, Sat 2.30pm

WEDNESDAY

PLATYHOUSE

by 14303

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4th Feb 7.30pm last

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Unit 4th Mar Mon/Tue 8pm,
Wed, Sat 7.30pm THE
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14303 (14303)

4th Feb 7.30pm last 2 days
7pm, Sat 2.30pm (14303)
21.50/25

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main Stn, Victoria CL25

(14303/14303) (14303)

from the info Point at 14303

& the Theatre in the Poly

Office

4th Feb 7.30pm The

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presents FROM MY POINT

OF VIEW by Steven Berkoff

& TELL TALL HEART by

Edgar Allan Poe

Thurs 2nd Mar for 2 days at

7.30pm ANTIGONE

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Opera North at New

Biggings HOLLIER INFO

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Duchess of York

Kiln Lane (14303)

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WASHINGTON AND

THE BARK (14303)

Sat 23rd Feb GIVE FOR

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THE RAGWORLD

ON MONDAY 6th MARCH
AT CONFETT

TRASH VIDEO NASTIES

Martin Ross

The TRASH
CHART

INDIE CHART

- 1 The Dressing
 - 2 Max - THE HOLLOW MEN
 - 3 Can't Be Safe THE SUNDAYS
 - 4 Dazy - THE THROWING MUSES
 - 5 Touch Me I'm Sick - SONIC YOUTH
 - 6 Never Another Sunset - ROSE OF AVALANCHE
 - 7 Bonds Away - KING OF THE SLIMS
 - 8 First Time - YAZZ
 - 9 Alone Not Dead - THE SUN AND THE MOON
 - 10 Kansas - WOLFGANG PETER
 - 11 Yesterday - THE NEVENS
- Chart supplied by the beautiful CRASH RECORDS, The Bandbox.



WOBLES EYE VIEW Six days of studentdom SPECIAL

by Jennifer and Nicky

