

12/5/89

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

## JAILED FOR LIFE

This student:

- Planted bombs in Leeds and Liverpool
- Burnt out Leeds University Mausoleum
- Wanted to poison the water supply

FULL STORY PAGE 3



## LEAVING THE 1980's

INCLUDING

**ROY HATTERSLEY**

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

- The future of Broadcasting
- Consumer culture
- And much more in **TRASH!**



Leeds student in 'poorly' condition after freak incident.

# Student 'stable' after police chase

## Tragic end to Leeds 6 chase

by John Ripby

**S**tudents witnessed a dramatic car chase involving the police last Saturday night (May 4th) in Headingley which led to the death of a Leeds teenager.

The incident occurred just after 1pm, when a police dog handler noticed the car being driven erratically. The vehicle, an Austin Northstar, believed to have been stolen, was pursued by several police cars and crashed into a lamp-post in Farland Lane, just beside the footballer's cricket ground. The boy in the passenger seat was killed. He was named as Jason Fitchers, aged 17, of Old Farm Road, Leeds. The circumstances, even aged 15, suffered injuries to the head, neck and chest.

Those who witnessed the chase estimated that at least half a dozen police cars were involved in the incident. This May, a 2nd year forensic student, was just returning from Headingley and was at the corner of Richmond Road when he noticed several police cars racing towards the village, he told Leeds Star. "There was a lot of people around

because the police had just blocked out the speed they were going was bloody rapid. Considering the amount of cars chasing them, it looked like they'd done an armed robbery."

Nigel Lister, a 2nd year student Physics, was further down in Headingley on his way back from Harrogate.

"I was at the front crossing outside the Theatre Club. I heard the siren in the distance and then we saw the Northstar car come flying round the corner. A few roads behind were about three or four police cars, right across other's path. They must have been doing about 50 or 60 miles an hour. There was definitely a possibility that there could have been an accident. I had it hard to believe that it was just some kids playing."

Sarah Borewick, a 2nd year English student who was with Lister said:

"I thought the lights at the crossing had just changed to allow us to cross. The Northstar went past as fast that it couldn't see the driver. We were about to try and cross again when the police car sped past us. Two or three got corner into Headingley and

then screeched to a halt. They reversed back for about 50 yards and faced off down it. It took a while to confirm the chase. With the amount of police cars about, I couldn't believe they were just after one car. It was the something out of Starley and Fitchers in 'Wanted'."

West Yorkshire Police deny that Fitchers died in a "chase". Despite the reports of several witnesses about the number of police cars involved and the speed at which they were travelling, the police denied that "the word 'chase' is not appropriate".

The police admitted that there were indications of the car being a light away but they said it couldn't be considered a chase because "at no time did we try to get in front or stop the driver". The police insist that at all times they were concerned with trying to prevent innocent pedestrians and motorists getting killed.

Jason Fitchers the 17th person this year to die in accidents involving police cars last year the figure stood at 24. The incident raised the possibility for an inquiry into police procedures and guidelines when following suspects in cars.

**A**n eighteen year old Leeds student was seriously injured last week when he was run over by a speeding police car. The student, Sean Smith, from Newcastle, was hit when crossing the road by a panda car, which was on its way to a suspected car theft. The accident, which happened last Thursday night (May 4th) at 11.30pm, took place at the junction of Headingley Lane and North Hill Rd.

The police issued a statement which said that the case was under investigation, but they refused to say whether Mr Smith was going to press charges or not.

They asserted that the car was 'responding to a report that a vehicle was

inquiry initiated after the incident.

The police also added that the student, after being admitted into Leeds General Infirmary, was said to be in a 'poorly but stable condition'.

### WORRYING

The accident comes at a worrying time for the police, with a series of serious accidents involving pedestrians this year. Officers at Millgarth police station refused to comment on the incident.

Leeds General Infirmary said that Mr Smith was in a 'poorly but stable condition' every day, yet they were unable to give any details of his injuries.

### Report by Tim Whitwell

being broken into on Victoria Rd.

There were several witnesses to the accident who will be called to an

## Poly security walk out

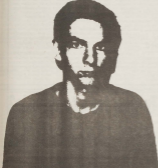
Security at the Polytechnic staged a walkout on Tuesday night in protest at the suspension of one of its members.

The members of security was suspended on full pay, pending an inquiry, after a disciplinary matter the week before.

This meant that the Trifid gig on Tuesday and the Poly show on Wednesday had to be supervised by part-time security staff.



## Life sentence for would-be mass murderer

STUDENT WHO  
'HATED  
HUMAN  
RACE'

Matthew Williams

**L**eeds University microbiology student Matthew Williams — described as “intelligent, lively, brilliant” — has been jailed indefinitely after admitting a string of frightening crimes.

Police say it is a miracle that no-one died during his horrendous three-year (trials) to destroy the ‘evil majority’ of the human race.

The 26-year-old student from Rotherham, West-yr-side pleaded guilty to 11 charges — including arson, conspiracy to cause explosions — and asked for a further 21 offences to be taken into consideration at his Liverpool Crown Court trial last month.

During his first year at Leeds University, Williams planted house-made bombs in a Roundhay phone box and Church Street, Liverpool's main shopping street, caused £148,000 fire at the Leeds University Mausoleum near library Price Plaza where he lived, attempted to poison his parents with lethal arsenic-chloride, and tried to burn down a Rotherham family's home.

Express originally thought the Mausoleum fire was freak accident.

But the Roundhay bomb would certainly have killed the paperboy who found it had it gone off, say investigating detectives.

It was only in July 1998

by Andrew Harrison

— when Williams was arrested at his mother's home after trying to shoot a neighbour through a bedroom window with a crossbow — that Wirral police stumbled upon the enormity of his ambitions. Diaries they found revealed that Williams was motivated by an irrational hatred of humanity and at the time of his arrest it appeared he was preparing his plans of mass murder.

The first was to poison the North West water system, possibly with sodium cyanide stolen from Leeds University. And the second — possibly threatening over 100 lives — could have involved releasing anthrax-infected flies into the air over Merseyside.

Williams' diaries revealed plans to take anthrax samples from the plague-infected Scottish island of Grouse, He possessed the equipment to culture bacteria at home, and wind charts showing how a cloud of infected flies could be directed over Liverpool.

My Justice Rose jailed Williams for life, and ordered his brother James, 19, and schoolfriend David Coulson, 19, to do 208 hours community service after they pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to cause explosions.

- Planted bombs in Roundhay phone box and Liverpool shopping street
- Burnt down University Mausoleum
- Stole cyanide from Uni labs
- Poisoned his family
- 'Planned to release plague over Merseyside'

Pictures courtesy Wirral Evening Post



● Spraying of the Roundhay phone box where Williams planted a house-made bomb

## The quiet man

Matthew Williams' associates describe him as a brilliant individual who was absorbed in the subjects of microbiology and genetics, but was very quiet. He had few friends and seemed not to want a social life.

They say he was reluctant to go out, and that he lived such a frugal life that he wore nothing but plain grey jumpers. He told friends that he had no interest in dressing in anything

but functional clothes.

Though Wirral police found no explicitly political motivation in his bomb-making and poisoning activities, Williams' acquaintances say he had very firm, almost dogmatic views on many political subjects.

One described how he was adamant that all people with an IQ below a certain level should be institutionalised for scientific research or manual work.

## Leeds Student Staff

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# Day of (in) Action

A picket and Day of Action were held at park Lane College on Tuesday last week after Leeds City Council announced that the college might be shut down.

Two other Further Education colleges in Leeds are also facing closures. The council has had its spending restricted by central government. The closure proposals are an attempt to keep within the spending restrictions. Ironically, the college was opened by the Prime Minister in 1971 when she was Secretary of State for Education.

The protest aimed to raise student and public

awareness of the circumstances facing Park Lane, and rally support for the college.

However, Matt Baldwin, President of the college student union told Leeds Student he was disappointed at the lack of support for the picket. "It was not very well supported at all, only the Executive turned up. People hate so much to do at this time of year. The Council have ruined this very

cleverly. Obviously we don't expect students to drop revision studies, that's what they're here for."

An evening gig also had to be cancelled at the last minute.

## Report by Sarah Bond

However, Deputy Student Union President Adam Tucker said that the Day of Action had been a disaster, as it had provoked hundreds of protest letters to MPs and councillors from students and parents alike, and had gained media coverage. "On the plus side, we have

had letters from parents, the general public and the business community expressing support for us. Many businesses and their day-release students here. If we close, where would they go?"

A Friends of Park Lane College group, including college governors, has been set up. It will organise petitions and leaflets, and urge people to write to the council to protest at the plans.

Matt Baldwin even wrote to the Prime Minister, but as yet she has not replied.

Leeds City Council was unavailable for comment.

# Child's Play

by Emma Webb

Leeds Polytechnic last Friday agreed to hand over £10,000 to fund childcare facilities for the next academic year.

This is the same as the Poly made available last year. However, that was only forthcoming after a strike at the office of the Poly Director.

The bulk of the £10,000 will make provision for 4 places at the University four-year Nursery. The remainder, nothing what is carried over from this year, will subsidise individual childminding needs. Finally, the Polytechnic will help fund the regular one half-term playgroups.

Alison Walker, Vice-President at the Poly with responsibility for Education and Welfare, has been protesting the Deputy Director Geoff Harte, for a decision which is obviously flawed with the outcome. However, she is still concerned about the inadequacy of Poly childcare. Students must, she says, rely on finding childminders or live in local authority care. However, the Leeds in Square nursery for instance, has waiting list of 114 at present.

Mr Walker added that an extension plan for the

University Nursery is in the pipeline but the prospects for finding a site look good.

She would like to see the Poly help proper childcare facilities towards a wider access policy. The nursery will have students in the end.

"They can't rely on Student Unions to take the responsibility."

The Poly have agreed to include the nursery and children in a 3 year development plan. However, students will cannot rely on any childcare heading the year ahead next.



• Walker's original smile

# Labour promise greater access

by Steve Hall

A doubling of the number of students in Higher education within twenty years and greater access for married women, part-time and mature students are some of the measures the Labour Party has put forward in its Policy Review. This week.

However, there is no commitment to widening the student grant to its 1975 level.

Other proposals include

The aim is to give people a drug and not system of licensing education.

There is no mention of an alternative to the existing grants system, despite some support from Labour given a graduate loan on a rent on the basis system. The group which drew up the proposals seems to believe that access would be widened by

increasing the grant, though by how much remains unclear.

Other ideas for improving access include financial incentives for certain categories of students, a national system of education, credit transfer for those taking part-time degrees, and paid educational leave for over-20s.

## In Brief . . . In Brief . . . In Brief

**This Saturday (May 12th) at 10 a.m.**  
Leeds Greenpeace Support Group will be picketing the Garforth branch of Sainsbury's, in protest at the killing of whales by the Icelandic fishing fleet.

The group will be urging buyers not to buy fish from Iceland or Dutch Eys as they are both major suppliers of hake.

**who fish.**  
Roy Scutcliffe, the local Greenpeace coordinator said, "We want people to boycott fish products from there until the company stops buying fish from Iceland. Then perhaps the Icelandic government might have a change of heart."

Despite an international ban on the slaughter of whales, Iceland exploits a loophole in the agreement and has killed 278 whales this "scientific

research" since 1986.  
On Saturday April 29th, 2375 Anti-Apartheid Group handed a petition to Sainsbury's supermarket in Leeds, protesting against the sale of South African goods by the chain. Over 2000 signatures had been collected by the group.

The Supervisor of the Superintendent's petition to the on the petition to the chain's head office in London.

## Cash carve up

by Kitty Malvern

The latest scheme in Whitehall is the development of a new national research council. Included in this is "Mark" grants, to be held to follow through the government's commitment to speed teaching and research funds.

The first one proposed in the report from Sir John Mason is the creation of the new research council. This would fund the Universities Funding Council of its national research funds, and put an end to "regional" research council grants for small science projects.

However, it is another scheme being discussed by the Cabinet Committee, the two elements of the current education and research budget would be cut to fit into a single science post allowing money to be the general academic grants to institutions by the board of the new research council. The UGC would then be confined to allocation of teaching funds.

## "NUS at risk" warns Sherlock

by Jackie West

In a letter to all student union presidents, Marv Sherlock, the NUS President, last week issued of the continuing threat to weaken student unions by the Department of Education's recent inquiry into the funding and activities of the NUS and student unions took the form of a selectively distributed questionnaire.

There's concern that this method was not adequately representative, although NUS was not by itself as good value for money and 20% confirmed that it provided over £10,000 of "free services". Ministers will consider the findings over the summer but already there has been pressure from many top NUS to weaken the NUS.

Sherlock's letter urges Presidents to "make sure everyone knows exactly the scale of the threat. Every job

in your union is being put at risk. Student unions, in general is at stake." As well as encouraging students to lobby MPs locally, there will also be an NUS Lobby of Parliament he targeted areas and against top up lessons Thursday 22 May. This is a questionnaire, not a mass lobby and each NUS area is being invited to send disabled, women, black, and mature students as representatives. Support will be given to students who may need special facilities.

## NIGHTLINE

Emotional difficulties, exam pressures, girlfriend/boyfriend relations, loneliness, anxious about something... however serious or trivial, maybe you'd prefer to talk to someone anonymously... why not try Nightline?

\*\*\*

Nightline has information... train/coach/library times, taxi/takeway numbers, pregnancy tests, missing after pill, what's on in Leeds etc... why not try Nightline?

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For information or someone to talk to in confidence, ring Nightline...

442602

There's still time to make your MARK!  
LS Uni office at 10.30am, Mon May 22nd



# TALKING TO THE TAXMAN



The Government has decided this year to re-introduce a law that was sensibly abandoned in the 15th Century. This is the Poll Tax, a tax likely to increase the tax burden for those already on the poverty line. Guy Flashman looks at how to frustrate the Poll-Tax-Man.

In April 1986 the 'Community Charge' is none devised by Tory economists to try to persuade people that this is not in fact a Head Tax will be demanded from all English citizens over the age of 18 years who are of sane mind and not in prison. Scottish citizens have already had this archaic and 'democratic' economic measure imposed upon them, introduced as a replacement of the rating system.

Jan, of the Leeds Campaign against the Poll Tax, calls the tax 'unjust and undemocratic', and is playing his part in doing whatever possible (within the bounds of the law, of course) to frustrate the Government's successful collection of the tax. As he says: "This needs a collective response — if we don't co-operate, it won't work".

The Campaign against the Poll Tax started in Scotland more than a year ago and since then anti-poll tax groups have mushroomed all over the country. The original decision was to frustrate payment by sending back the registration forms with queries that delayed the administration process as much as possible. The lesson on this kind of action however is that it identifies the non-payer to the Central Registering Office — now the message to people in England from the CAPT is don't send the form back if possible: there are other ways of wasting time, most importantly with Red Tape (as all those of you who have applied for exemption from National Health Service Prescription charges will know).

By the official deadline for collection of the Poll Tax in Scotland, 7,000 households were not registered and the Registering Office only finally decided to fine 106 of these. The Campaign in Scotland is now going itself towards a policy of total non-payment — a policy officially not supported by the Labour Party on the basis that it will threaten jobs and services.

## HOW WILL THE POLL TAX AFFECT YOU?

If you are a full-time student in Leeds — Home or overseas — who has been issued with a Poll Tax certificate in October 1986, you will be charged \$55 per year (for those refusing to pay, an initial fine of \$5.50 who will be added to your tax bill). A non-student however, whether she's a nurse in Harehills or an accountant in Roundhay, will pay the full sum of £276.

## WHEN AND HOW WILL IT BE DONE?

All students living in University halls or flats will be automatically registered, but the University cannot interfere beyond this.

Forms for registration will be sent out from May 22nd, 1986 but they'll be no attempt to register



you until October if you're in University accommodation. You are liable to pay from 1st April, 1986.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU DON'T WANT TO PAY?

Canssavers are being sent out to houses between May and October of this year. They will ask for a 'responsible person' to stand in each household who can fill in their form.

Leeds Campaign against the Poll Tax suggest that you might be in duty to fill in this form at the door or might want to read all the details attached to it before you fill it in. You will fill it in and return it to the office within 21 days.

Another suggested delaying tactic is simply taking away for another form — your first one was thrown away with the rubbish, destroyed in a fire, lost in the post or put in the washing machine by mistake. Write back and politely tell the authorities what happened to the form and ask for another. You might even lose it twice.

So they have sent you another form but it is obviously complicated and you can't understand it all so it might be a good idea to send it back (within 15 days) with a query about something on the form. Suggested questions might be:

*How do I know if I'm the responsible person?*

*I've marked the question I don't quite understand.*

*What criteria equate the responsible person in a shared house?*

The questions obviously go on and on.

Leeds Campaign against the Poll Tax stress that it is only by standing together that the country can effectively oppose the Government's imposition of the Poll Tax. The lesson learned in Scotland was that they got organised too late, even when they had realised that they were to be used as 'guinea pigs' for this latest tax. It is obviously a race-party matter and a question of what is fair although Jan again points to the unpopularity of the local boroughs which will evolve from their position as imposers of the new tax, whether their official line is to stand against it or not.

Whether you are affected or not, whether it will be you paying the tax or your parents, there is an unfortunately large sector of the population who will be worse off due to the imposition of the tax. Probably a good example is a large family living in small accommodation in a cheap area of the city who would previously have been paying minimal rates.

Jan of the Campaign against the Poll Tax, has the last word:

*"... most people agree that taxes should be related to the person's ability to pay and this one most definitely is not. Introducing a local income tax would be a lot fairer than the Poll Tax."*

*"There's obviously not much one person can do against the Tax, but if there is a collective response, there is a chance it can be defeated."*

# ABOUT POVERTY



# Dev. Bamboozlement

by Jennifer Wilentz  
and  
David Colclough

**D**evonshire Hall won the Whiddington Trophy for the second year in succession when they beat Sudley by 67 runs in last week's final at Boddingdon. Only Tetley Hall in the semi-final, gave them any sort of test.

Deonidine was off peak position in the first two runs. Inlet: 100°C, 100°C

and Charles Morris Hall each by 9 wickets. They had little difficulty reaching 44 to beat Bio-Soc, with spinner Mervyn Whitehead on 18, Herbert Dingle and Ronke rather out of an equally pace Charles Morris side for 51 in the next round, and Hudson's splendid 22 not out brought the game to an early close.

Wakelield left armor Raj Gupta and Jerry Nylund, permanent Ensigns, were relied upon heavily and bonded with seaworthiness.

passive throughout the competition. Gupta's wife spin, helped by less than friendly wickets was a constant source of embarrassment.

Krooke also found assistance from the pitches, peppered with divots and bumps and was as terrifying a prospect as any for a batsman. Figures of 6-31 over the four games bore testament to raw pace, expert ability to use the rascol wickets, and batsman's inability to adjust to him.

In a repeat of last year's final, Devonshire beat Teley in this year's semi. Put into last for the first time in two years, Devonshire lost Huchon early on, but recovered to 22-5, with Nicholson (34 not out) and Herbert (58) putting on 72 after a cautious start.

Single hit: 4 shots in a round-mocking 32 as Titley replied, when he departed, we did his sides lapses of a final appearance. Knecke, in the full light, was too hot to handle, and the lesson

obtained and for HQ-4

The final was as one-sided as a Tyson fight. Again, Democrats were required to bat first and Nicholson (32 out) and Sheets took early control. Davis, cavalier, clanking and antelope-like, was finally run out by 37 Rharruck, retired but not

Then, with five acres remaining, Herbert, as is his custom, took the game by the scruff of the neck and ruthlessly plundered a machine 17 not used by

team building on 11/24.

Derbyshire and Gaps. East Cavalry has orders to move between them, with only Carter (22) resisting the Devonshire artillery. Finally, however, the day belonged to Herbert, who returned figures of 4-20, in the best of traditions.

<sup>2</sup> Devotionalists take a party of thirteen players on a six-day tour of Buenos during the last week of term to play a number of fixtures against local schools, colleges, and clubs, etc.

# Running Wild



### Internet Code Search

**A**kohol was inhibited, food was devoured, spite was all matches were played and the winner for all this rivalry? The annual U.S.F. Track and Field championships held in forty over the Bank Holiday weekend. Although the facilities were not as good as last year, the championships were held at Crystal Palace, the standard of competition was certainly of equal quality.

Monstrated by the fact that the 1987 European indoor 100m champion, who came third in the

ness. The Leeds team was slightly smaller than last year but there were some notable newcomers despite the loss of some of the high class and despite the high level of competition. Points of place went to: Mike Baines for winning the 3000m Stregelbush with a thrilling last 300m that put the spectators in the club to shame. However other members of the club also turned in performances of great worth. Nick Munnion finished a strong third in a very close 800m. Nick Sybilz came in third in the 1500m, while Tracy Robson jumped 1.50m in the girls high jump. Butch Hill, Andy Nick

are in their first year and Miss Tychbur still has one year of her contract to go, prospects for the future look good.

Although some athletes were undoubtedly the stars of the show—the other Leeds athletes showed the true spirit of the club by thoroughly enjoying the weekend. Personal bests were set by Chris Shepherd (most food eaten), Roger Mewton (wildest driving) and Craigie John Baptiste (shortest long jump) and it is these non-athletic pastimes that the club truly be said to have strength in depth.

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travelled to Durham to contest the *Endlands* Wimpsey trophy and once more showed its ability to have a good time. Due to the small size of the team each athlete was required for at least four events. Phil Davis having to run in the sprint sprints just minutes after completing the 5000m.

The contrast between these two weekends really exemplifies the nature of the Athletics Club. There is certainly room for excellence, but the most important thing is to enjoy yourself and to give your best at whatever it is that you attempt — be it football, sailing,

## Leeds united supporters appeal



**T**he University branch of the Leeds United Supporters Club wishes to expand to include Polytechnic supporters and football fans in general. What the Club requires however is a polytechnic student to act as a representative on the committee and to mediate between the club and university.

There is very little work involved.

If anyone is interested in doing this, would they please contact the Leeds Student Society, or see Malcolm Fyfe at 30 House Terrace (24874).  
Janis Nicholson at Devonshire Hall (754625), or Logan Anderson at 54 Queens Road, or leave a name and address and phone number so the Leeds United Supporters Society notice board in the University Union building.

## Pensioners Charity Biathlon

by Mark Wilson  
and ...

**W**hile the sun was cracking the flags in West Yorks last weekend, it was all but cracking up the families who took part in the Whitelegates (Oles) Marathon.

A sprinkling of hardy types from the Pole and the United Kingdom took part in this endurance event, which consisted of a 500 metre swim followed by a 30k road run up hill and down dale around Orkney.

involved would have preferred the swim after the run in the tropical temperatures, the winner, James Cartington of Oley, showed his strength and stamina in scorching time of 42 min 38 sec. For the second year in succession, Alois Gail won the women's event, beating off the challenge of Judy Clarke to record a time of 49 min 12 sec.

The event was organized by Help the Aged to raise funds for elderly people, and as it was sponsored by Whitgarren Estate Agency will bring in almost \$1500 for the charity.

## Women's cricket

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The university women's cricket club opened the season on Saturday with an impressive victory at Nottingham Univer-

city women. Batting first, the Leeds openers made a secure start, captain Lath Wright retiring on a score of 48 and Rose Norman retiring on 29. The quality of the Leeds batting was good enough

is complete 28 years  
with a score of 88.6

The fielding of the Leeds team was to be as impressive as the batting. Rose Norman, opening the bowling, took two early wickets as Nottingham found it difficult to clear the

Wickets were also taken by Ian Chapman and Sylvia Atherton and Mandy Beaton, in her debut, bowled well conceding only five runs from three overs. Nottingham were restricted to a score of 87 or 3. The season could prove much.



# Art of the Kick and the Punch!

## Rowing victory fuels Henley morale

Rowing by Jim Deacon

by Jamie Nicholson

**A**s the final weekend of another league football season arrives, so does the perennial debate as to the justice and value of that inappropriate vehicle of promotion, the play-off system.

At present, the play-offs work on the basis of two teams winning automatic promotion from the second and third divisions (5 from the fourth), with the following four teams playing in two-legged semi-finals, a final, the winner of which gains the third promotion place.

The benefit of the play-offs has been the subject of great discussion, and the arguments for are as strong as those against.

The system deals a cruel blow to a team which finishes 3rd in the division and would thus automatically have been promoted three years ago. In 1987, Oldham finished 3rd in the division and were 24th up against Leeds in the play-off at Boundary Park. In the last minute of extra time Keith Edwards scored for Leeds, sending them through to the play-off final on the away goals rule. Finished last was the first in 100, it is fair that a whole season's endeavour should be acknowledged on the basis of a one-off game at the end of a season-long league programme.

That said, however, it is difficult to argue that the play-offs don't bring much-needed interest into football. On other, in the past, large promotions and relegation places have more or less been left to fate.

This year, with only six teams left to play, there were six two-legged division games with a realistic chance of clinching a play-off place. Any play to prevent the season from getting out to a predictable conclusion must be a positive.

The value of the play-off system is therefore beyond question. The justice of it, sadly, is not.



Tae kwon do by S.J.

**I**ntensely 'Art of kicking and punching', Tae kwon do is a native Korean form of fighting and self-defence, and although it embraces kicking, punching, jumping and blocking, the use of foot remains its trademark.

Tae kwon do is a martial art for training both the body and mind, with an

emphasis on the development of character. The actual name Tae kwon do was originally thought of by General Choi Hong Hi on 11 April 1955. Today he knows do is the world's largest martial art, with about 22 million practitioners. It is also an Olympic sport.

UKU Tae kwon do club with its large membership, a third of whom are women, has long been involved in martial arts

tournaments including the British, Yorkshire and Inter-territories full contact championships, and has achieved numerous successes. The instructor, Mr Kim Stokes (18th Dan) as well as being a full time instructor is also a constant tournament winner.

Once a Foreigner champion, Mr Stokes has won the British Championships on numerous occasions and is the current British

Champion.

With regular gradings, training sessions and trips to various competitions, UKU Tae kwon do Club is one of the most active martial art clubs on the campus. Despite the size of the club it remains a friendly place, and with its active social life it has turned training in martial arts into a pleasant and enjoyable experience and it always welcomes beginners and new members.

The three squad, with high marks, are now preparing to dominate the rest of the season's events, as the Women's squad make their preparations for what could be Leeds' first entry to Women's Stanley this season.

HAND IN **glove**

**TRASH**

**Front 242**

**Simple  
Minds**

**Cure**

**TERMINATOR 2: THE LAST ACTION HERO** is Freddy Krueger in his spare time. The other day he took off his nasty face and went down to the Office to see himself get weed on.

The American equivalent of Janet and John (remember your Green Dragon resident live on Elm St. This fact might lead one to think that Nightmare on Elm St. 4 has some profound criticism to make - don't worry it hasn't). What it has got is lots of lucky. Like Salvador Dali, actually, dream imagery, a rather rusty green and red striped jumper and plenty of young Americans getting greased, which, if you don't like touchy-feel teenagers will probably be your thing.

Freddy is brought back from beyond the grave on the thin premise that some ~~misbehaving~~ misbehaving sleeping parents live out him in a car park.

Fred is understandably upset, it being bad enough that the parents are full of drugs (but without being inebriatedly inside as most) involved upon and upon, acts about revealing himself on the tower of the dog and all his friends, spooking them in increasingly unimpressive ways apart from a rather gaudy look sequence with a pizza.

The only saving grace of this movie is Freddy's jumper and his billowing friendly got that makes the hot shoe shuffle look like a chicken dance. As per usual with Nightmare films the characters have trouble staying inside - especially, again, I.

**+ DINOSAUR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, MARTIN ROSS AND ALL YOUR FAVOURITES!**



## SMITH'S SPLIT!

Daddy having given him enough money, young Robert Smith has produced another LP, 'Disintegration'. Baby Veo picks up the pieces.

**T**he last Cure LP came out in summer '97. At the time I was rather involved with an athletic 50 year old. We sat and watched the TV screen, the sun streaming through the curtains and talked of chemistry 'O' levels.

So, I love summer, I love being alone when there's no heat, so that I can sit in the park and watch the world go by. Tripping along, watching all the pretty girls and boys hand in hand. I always end up dealing with the eternal question of why she's going out with HIM. So I console myself with old 'Pictures Of You'. Memory is a wonderful thing, the best of aphrodisiacs. But to love what you remember is to miss what happens now. "That's some catch, that Catch 22". Yeah, its the best.

On 'Disintegration', Mad Bob Smith has returned to the well-known

ing loneliness that filled out 'Seven Years' Seconds'. There's some massive yearning behind the music, some terrible fear of loneliness. The music is lush, lush, lush. The sentiments he expresses are a mix of old emotions. I can not imagine this as the last Cure LP. His pain is almost too perfect, too exquisite.

At last, Smith has learnt to sing. He wails a lot. In the belly of the beast, he shrieks out, "I will always love you, whatever words I say". Our pet magpie walks across his face on the record cover, in search of food. Why it eats catmeat I'll never understand, its breath stinks so.

I love the quirky little guitar scrapings at the beginning of 'Lullaby', click, click. Once, I had a look by Philippe Duillet. There was a picture inside of a plane ship. The picture looked down, along the mast, into the sea. It was a long, long, way down. I don't fall much, but when I do, I do.

BETRAYED is yet another American thriller. ALISON CAMPBELL gets vaguely excited.

**I**f *Betrayed* and *Mississippi Burning* are anything to go by it seems that conspiracy, rather than writing about lovable aliens and messy yet irresistible babies, the new trend is for producers to make movies about racism and the civil rights movement that they grew up with.

*Betrayed* seems to confuse these loyalties. Although scenes such as the negro man hunt and the powerful portrayal of the dangerously organised insanity of the right wing extremists pose serious issues about racism, these are somewhat softened, flattered, such as the seemingly cute little child and the dubiously locked on ending and a spoon-

ful of sugar to the issue which takes the sting out of its tell.

Conversely, this dilution results for a mere "enjoyable" film then *Mississippi Burning*, instead of just black versus white or gay meets girl we are given undercover FBI agent unwittingly falls for white supremacist. Its original storylines allows for a strong treatment of the theme of betrayal which, with tight tense direction and notable performances is entirely plausible.

Less plausible for some is the whole idea of such an organised, extensive and fanatical right wing or such an irresponsible and hypocritical FBI. Ultimately, whether you think *Betrayed* is frighteningly prophetic or simply the product of an excessive imagination must depend on how cynical your own perception of reality is.



## PEEPING TOM



During the summer vacations DAMIAN WHITWORTH generally finds himself looking after four-year-old kids whose parents haven't quite got round to explaining to them the benefits of going to the toilet at the right time. He, therefore, found the production at the Playhouse of Turpin's 'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' a bit of an eye opener.

When the next few weeks of frantic lounging on the grass are over, and all our exam papers are safely stacked in long-term storage, it will be time, once again, to embark on the perennial quest for the almost unattainable, as enjoyable holiday job.

In Turgenev's *A Month in the Country*, a certain Muscovite student in the name of Khvostovskiy, thinks he's found one, as it were in two children in a wealthy, 19th century Russian household. Within a month, however, both his 17 year old pupil and her married guardian are obsessed by his sophisticated macho charms. Now, before you start that yes, this does sound like the perfect romance novel, thank you very much, it should be stressed that Turgenev is concerned with the agonies of sexual passion and pangs of unrequited love and not with showing his characters having a polyamorous ménage à trois. Turgenev's protagonist is an immensely likeable character, but the film's treatment of his character is the silliest attraction. Indeed, if anything, the humane indifference in the piece is not captured as successfully as it could be.

There are few especially dynamic performances, but rather an all-round solid one. The basis of the production's success is that it gets on with telling a good story. Turgenev's character drawing and his explanation of how they behave when the wealthy capital life leaves his devious arena is intricate and satisfying. It is an essentially beautiful of how the end of the 19th century will allow us to resume our timeless straining of guitars in darkness and noise and other such fantastic, pathetically literary activities. If just for this it is worth an evening away from the club by Hyde Park.

The Wedding Present recently brought their version of Christian rock music to the Riley Smith Hall. Phil Smith went to watch Leeds' first step into the domain of the dreaded 'World Music'.

**T**he current success of the "Classical" *Maqam V. John Pader* album and the accompanying "Night of Classical music" is fairly obviously not due to a sudden, overwhelming national desire to hear centuries old folk music culled from the lapses of (the) Classics, but rather due to a lack of any new Wedding Present product in the shops.

This was inadvertently confirmed by the sequence of the crowd's laughter to the motion to "Glennize" music played as an introduction to the Wedding Present's set — they cheered, partly in an attempt to pronounce the band's arrival on stage and partly in relief to find that was one less folk song to enjoy. The Wedding Present managed to reverse this reaction with their set, which was much for their judicious treatment of the genre. It also shows that if you had to cover a form of folk music at all, *Glennize* music would be the most suitable, as it lends itself readily to their blasphemous greed.

They managed to faithfully reproduce their featured version of the Ukrainian song from the album and I suspect with the ecology that the originals were meant to be played with. Ultimately though it all sounded a

# HAIRY TALES



J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" has been brought to the stage. STEPHEN 'WILBO' GRIMES chopped off his legs at the knees, grew hairy feet and palms and set off with a wizard, twelve dwarfs and his pocket handkerchief on a long and dangerous quest to check it out.

**I**'ve never read the Hubble. In fact I only read *1984* last year, but don't tell anyone.

Wizard, Spells, Elves, Dwarfs and Dragons seemed inevitable ingredients for such tales of escape into the world of Fantasy. But I never got there... Judging by the increasing amount of spreading seeds and endless whispering in some of the dinner moments of the play, neither did some of my fellow high-schoolers. Life now can get dull in "Middle Earth" between Troll-busting scenes.

In lush plastic seats complete with saggy, overstuffed pillows. And knowing the dragon obligingly smoothed my anticipation of some hope, paper-mache head resting precariously on the end of a pole, I've behind a curtain. He even walked around the stage

a little too restricted to do anything other than intrigue the camera with the thought of a new silhouette into a totally different milieu.

Of course, the vast majority of the crowd loved it, but then there are the people who would like to deliver to the *Washington Post*'s editor to be the "most uncomplicated pop band in the world" - anyone who claims to be uncomplicated, most certainly is not and this attempt to renege their stage about Gossard and your *Positives* readers will find that they

CAMILLE CLAUDEL is not a stuffy, moving, action-packed blockbuster. But if you have a passion for sculpture or Isabelle Adjani or industrial quantities of coffee, JACKIE WEST recommends it to you.

**A** word of warning: you'll need more than a carton of Kia Ora and a Strawberry Mavi to see you through this film. More like a thermos of black, sweet coffee and a jar of Pringles, or CAMELLO FLAUTO: it's these heavy loads

There seems to be no reason, other than self-indulgence, why director Bruno Nuytens has chosen to make a film of such length about the mistress of the sculpture Rodin, interesting though her life was. **FAMILY, LOVE**

off possession of "the machine of man," not Basile when she was only 22 and he 44. The film portrays their subsequent love affair and entanglement but concentrates more on both artists work, which is fine if you have a passion for sculpture, but not so good if you don't know your Titians from your Balaus. This film also has the disadvantage of neglecting the potentially more interesting Claudel family, especially Camille's relationship with her brother.

Inaïde Ajalón plays Camille with the right balance of innocence and sensuality and succeeds in making her decline into alcoholism and demagnetism a convincing one. The film has its good points but one half its length could still have done justice to the plot and been more discursive.

Last word, Richie Mullins subbed ship set in his hair, placed a kipper under each arm, and pencilled 'I'm a Gorbie' on his ribbons. He was heading for the Pub, to see Pop Will Eat Itself.

**T**here are some things in life which are so terribly beautiful that you're never sure whether they make you feel blissfully happy or unbearably sad. With *Big Will* out, here's it's all mixed again. There's

case. They've submitted it themselves.

(Of course it's a wonderful idea. You pile all those hips and breasts and song albums that might be useful, and then you pour them into a post-modern postmodern culture. In this way Pop becomes Great.)

But *Pop Will Eat Itself* don't realize how much you apply this method to a song, descending it with cultural catchphrases — "Give me Big Mac, just to go!" — mistakes from *Blade Runner* and the like and the demands, it will always be a song. On "Can U Dig It?" this fact is valuable also.

They get it right sometimes though. "You James, We're Back" is the opening note of grand and graceful from the wind, while still aware himself, is there very much of sampled nature, it's clearly and in fact. It's almost funny, it works. "The harder" like all good rap music is based on meaning. The guitar fix and the "goldie" comes to mind. It seems goes the

as thoroughly malignant. They include boozing, heavy tap-dances and sing songs in haunting chords and snags. There are 4 things to sing about. Mine, for example, cheer myself up I think of the Author Bep in "Boudhian At Night." The last beautiful words are: "Then I come



## FAB HUE & CRY CONTEST!

**Y**es and the partner of your choice could be the proud owner of two sparkling new, glossy tickets to see Hue and Cry on Saturday 13th of May, at the Refectory. All you need to do is answer this unfeasibly simple question. How many Dolphins, swimming Dipper

to Ripper, could make their way up a Blue Whaler's backside?

The proper question is: which member of Hue and Cry used to be a music journalist? The two people in the Leeds student office with the correct answer will receive this glorious prize!

Last week, Signe Signe Sputnik played the Irish Centre. D.J. Smash 'n' Grab stumbled into the 'Suede Office, samples blazing and eyes popping, to file this report.

**H**appily both men looked intently at me across the strange machines. "They said I was mad!" ... "he waggled one forefinger in the air, ... but I'll show them!" As he worked the huge lever the world swam before my eyes and I found myself in the Irish Centre. The dial had said 1990 but things weren't that futuristic — the support band were playing an irritating version of 'Being Boiled' and the place was full of hedonist types whispering furiously about the RS232 Interface Lead and looked like their makeup had been applied by Freddy Krueger with Poln Herta's magic brushes. The whole thing had an odour of 1981 about it and while I was trying to work out whether that made me old enough to buy a drink the support shuffled off and the P.A. clicked into overdrive filling the room with a pandimensional expressway thunder that made me almost forget the drink.

Out of the aural antiradical defence screen soared up some of the least cone friendly haircuts I've ever seen (Marin Deguyille's seemed slightly less, being about a foot shorter than in person), and Tony James struck up that reliable Sputnik riff and they were off.

Overload, offset samples crash through dual beatbox drama, Max Headroom's gibbers about his haemorrhoids and Judge Anderson plays slap bass while Deguyille wiggles his skinny half eyeborg, mostly sexist body and urges us to 'Shoot it up' and become space cowboys.

Oddly though, despite all this 'my penis is a big red rocket aimed at China' business the Sputniks are really very charming. The new songs sound just the same as the old ones but they are undeniably sweet — a bunch of little boys who have been given a guitar, a sampler and a Robocop annual having a good time the way only anal incentives can.

Then suddenly I heard my man calling from downstairs, "Wake up! Wake up!" and it was all a dream.

# ACE!!





# COSPLAYING PASSIONS

**DAMIAN WHITWORTH** remembers the days when he could phone his mum to tell her he was going to be late home from school by stuffing two pence in a pay phone. As we head into the 90's such memories are fading fast.

**B**ack home in comfortable Suburbia, I know who my neighbour is. He's a large bearded man, in his mid thirties, with an attractive (but rather dim) young wife, two kids and a string of video shops. He recently retired from the city. But who does he think he is?

For one fine day, in the days when portable, cordless phones were still uncommon, my neighbour possessed one. I know this, because on a summer Sunday afternoon I was sitting at a front-facing window, quietly minding everybody's business, when my neighbour appeared nursing his first boy. He swaggered slowly to his Range Rover, talking at the wheel and without a sideways glance, collected a packet of cigarettes and sat back. But on his return journey he just could not resist. While fiddling for his house key he snatched one foolish look, to assure himself that the car washers and curtain bidders were all watching him.

Now, of course my neighbour's friends are everywhere. A telephone is no longer a telephone, it's a cordless phone, a vodafone, a car phone. How would sales executives, whose time is just so terribly precious, be able to survive if they couldn't call Steve Wright from the M25?

## BIG BANG BOYS

The emergence of the Big Bang Boys is one of the true phenomena of the decade. When The Fat Shop Boys called "Let's make lots of money!" the future yuppies were quick to join them. Mrs Thatcher is the greatest advocate of the magical duo's suggestion that the opportunities to be successful in life are there for everyone who looks in the right place. We live in a free society full of promise and if we persevere we could all be lucky enough to make it. And then we can buy the trappings and the suits of success.

The product of the Big Bang is identified by his Rolex and his Porsche. Perhaps we have confused it for him, but as a society we aspire to the same success. Of course throughout history the rich have never been especially slow to display their wealth to the world. An affluent Roman rode down The Apian valley in a golden Greek chariot driven by a Nubian sunfish. An eighteenth century nobleman thumped past in a six horse Cinderella-style coach and sported a mountainous powdered wig with birds nesting in it. But there is something more serious and determined about this way our whole society is geared to consume. Everything, from the wonderful gimmicks of yuppies to our national resources and industries, is a commodity.

Even we students are moving in on the act. Of course we're not really. I mean, we all absolutely *hate* people who seriously *stare* at us. (I hate us. But they are serious about it, aren't they?) Really, I mean, of course. We wouldn't harm beautiful, brave ourselves, you understand. But when someone buys you something you have an obligation to, like it, don't you?

The price of buying Organisation is, however, right down at the bottom of the scale, provided, of course, you're in the chance to win. I have to buy a lot of B.P. or a few hundred pounds worth of British Gas. This is something we can all get in on. Even if we don't believe in globalisation in principle, once they've decided to do it, it's surely best that we have a share in a successful thousand. It is better that we risk a few pounds than people who are purely in it for the money and have no concern for the national interest.

the times they are a-changing, as the me-me decade wanes, trash looks at the consumer nineties, the broadcasting revolution, Britain's ageing population and your postmodern future. Over the page we talk to Roy Hattersley and Stuart Weir of New Statesman and Society about the left at the end of the twentieth century.



■ Lesley and Rupert Booth-down Lesley Manville and David Bamber — archetypal yuppies from HIGH HOLES, directed by Mike Leigh

## SILLY WATER BOYS

The privatisation party of the year will undoubtedly be WATER '88. Horribly if you're not at this one, to get half of your share of rain water is a pity, your lack of commitment to the business of buying will be sorely missed to all.

Furthermore you'll be missing out on your chance to participate in the creative process of organising the new companies.

Remember how the newly formed British Telecom not only produced all sorts of fan telephones, but also handy wallet sized phonecards, sprinking green three sided phone kiosks to allow the whole street to join in your chat to your mum, and the benefits of twenty four hour dirty phone lines.

Surely the rain water industry can provide similarly useful services. How about water-sellers on every corner so that for a mere fifty pence or so we need never go thirsty on a hot day? Or what about a coloured water service? For the sake of a phone call and a small charge, indigo or magenta, cheese and onion flavoured water could flow from your computerised, non-drip taps to provide ambient delight at kiddies' birthday parties.

## POOR PEOPLE

However, the most important innovation will be the introduction of a fair system of paying for the water we use. Instead of paying standard water rates, everyone will now pay only for the water they use. I think most people will agree that, although this may mean that occasionally a large, and perhaps fat as rich, family may have to subsidise slightly on the amount of water they use overall it will be a far more satisfactory system.

Furthermore, classes of water could be

introduced so that poorer people could perhaps use fresh rainwater for most purposes and only more comfortably off sectors of society would feel the need to have properly purified Executive Water.

## BUSES

A major growth industry, as our roads become more and more congested will be Transport. It is an irony that is told of Nicholas Ridley a visit to a Newcastle bus garage and his wish to know exactly how many drivers owned their own buses. Perhaps this is not such an unlikely scenario.

"Good morning, Sir."

"Good morning, Mr Whitworth."

"I'd like to book a non-smoking, reclining, window seat on your 8.30 run to Bradford two weeks on Thursday."

"Certainly. That will be one hundred pounds please."

But before we get totally carried away with this game of selling things off, and grant catering away into aspirations of a vastly altered of our society from health to education times with excellent selling prospects we should pause. For what will my neighbour and his brood be up to in all this? Well according to plans being revealed in the halls of power at this moment, he certainly won't sit be driving one handed, laughing with his companion, mistaking into his car phone and generally not looking as he sails into the side of my battered Skoda. Oh no. He'll be racing his chums in their very own executive lane.

In how many years will I listen to Neil Tennant's bored tones and regard his words as a clever prediction of someone in the pub repeating an announcement, he heard on Prime Minister's Question Time? "I heard it in the House of Commons: everything's for sale."



THE 1980s

This week Labour looks genuinely electable — perhaps for the first time in

## And in the

# HATTERSLEY: accept some Tory m

Roy Hattersley got a present on the morning of Margaret Thatcher's tenth anniversary. It was a political board game called "Peacemaking," in which players have to administer the economy, control inflation, deal with industrial unrest and above all keep winning elections.

And like Labour's much-soured policy review, Hattersley's was still in its wrapper. Putting such binding restraints to the back of his mind, we asked him for his thoughts on the years the country was celebrating.

**Are there things that have happened in the past ten years that you think may prove to be an indelible mark on the country for the future?**

I think Thatcher has been extremely successful in imposing this 'get rich quick, every man for himself' view on society. But I think it will go after the gas, and we will go back to the old Tory Party, which was a much better Tory Party, the Macmillan Tory Party which really believed that it had a duty to help the disadvantaged and deprived, and really wanted a unified nation. I don't believe that she's changed the world, she's changed the Tory Party, but I don't think she's changed it permanently.

**How do you think we'll look back at the 1980s?**

Oh, we'll be looking back at her as a phenomenon, because she's won three elections in a row and no-one else has done that, so by any standards that's an electoral achievement. But I'm looking back on it as the years when the Opposition was pretty feeble, until the past couple of years.

We'll be looking back on them as the years of wasted opportunity, while in particular the chance to become real is a part of the integrated Europe, with the benefits that that provided. We'll be looking at it as a time when the Government wanted to pursue what Britain's strength, rather than building the sort of strength that interest me.

**What is the central message of the Policy Review?**

The Policy Review is based on a paper that I wrote, and then Neil added some words to, called 'Aims and Values of Socialism', trying to develop the idea that essentially socialism is about freedom. It's not about economic socialism, it's about making individuals free. Freedom is the ability to do things that you may want to do, it's having the power and the power to do them. It's not just saying you can send your kids to Eton if you want to, or if you've got money in the bank, or if you've got influence.

Freedom is also saying we will give you a real opportunity to provide a better education for your children by putting the physical resources at your disposal by organizing society in a way that makes more people able to do more things. That is the theme of the policy Review, not just the paper that I'm merely responsible for, but all the other papers. It is to do with building a free society with the economy giving people more opportunities. And of course more opportunities are to do with purchasing power, and therefore it must be concerned with redistribution of wealth.

**With the emphasis of the Policy Review being on individual freedom, as opposed to, say, democracy, how far do you think you're leaving yourself open to the danger of allowing yourself to be defined on the agenda of the Right?**

I don't think we are at all. Because I think that Mrs. Thatcher's view of freedom is the opposite to our view of freedom. The great issue for natural democrats is how you produce more freedom. Our view of freedom is that



Roy Hattersley is that rarest of Labour Party politicians — as one of the few survivors of the Callaghan years he has experience of government.

A veteran of two ignominious election defeats and another which the pundits subsequently marked "Good effort," he has been one of the driving forces behind the Party's historic Policy Review which was unveiled on Monday of this week. It has been seen as Labour's last chance to get closely enough in touch with the voters to become electable — or as a final sell-out on cherished policy commitments.

Ten years to the day since Margaret Thatcher's 1979 election victory, Andrew Harrison and Joe McCrea talked to the Shadow Home Secretary about the then-secret Policy Review and Labour's bid to make the nineties theirs.

It can't be distinguished from equality. That a society has to be more equal is to be more free because resource allocation is one of the things that determines freedom. Mrs Thatcher's view is that equality and freedom are the enemies of each other. That the equal society is the Un-free Society.

**So it's an enabling freedom?**

Exactly. Neil will talk constantly about the enabling state, which isn't a phrase I like because it's associated with something else, but the idea's right. It is a state which says we will allow you to do more, we will make it possible to do more, we will give you the resources to do more. We will make you really able to do more, rather than just in theory.

**Keeping in mind that in order to win a general election, you're going to have to take a lot of current Tory supporters, is it not the case that many of those supporters have the kind of freedom that you want?**

We do have that problem. We will never be able to understand or fit the target voters with the same cynicism that she does. She does it very well, that cynical, tactical, materialistic ruthless way. And by our very nature and psychology, we're never going to be able to do that. If we were going to say 'but I make sure we get the target voters, who are important to our victory', there are a large number of our policies that we would have to dump. I don't think we would win that way, because we lack our moral philosophy, we lack our dynamism. But there is a great difference about balancing some of the things we need to do with their popularity with a key part of the electorate.

**What will be the immediate priorities of the next Labour government?**

Oh, the immediate priority will be getting the economy right and the spending programme, which is getting the economy right. Until we can find the money and know that the money can be spent without damaging the economy, until the economy is right, we won't be able

# red corner

years. But will the nineties see the Rose blossom or choke on its own roots?

## We'll res''

...and other things. Getting the economy right

...the initial programme will involve ending

...ing not to look at it that way. We are looking

...except a lot of what the Govern-

...cepting some things. But not because they've

...be Britain's position in Europe?

...take positive role in Europe than she would

...who more hostility to the EEC in the Labour

...ing to be a participatory role for

...think that there may be a ground-

...I will be based among the Shadow Cabinet.

...I will be now. I think the groundwork

...I always remember; I think not to get

...I think they will do, if we start doing

...I think they will do, if we start doing

...I think they will do, if we start doing

...I think they will do, if we start doing

...I think they will do, if we start doing

## WEIR: (Real change) "means Labour losing another General Election."

...a Charles 88 (which calls for proportional rep and

...From 1984-1987, he was editor of the Labour Party's

...On Margaret Thatcher's tenth anniversary as PM, he



• Stuart Weir

Picture: Mousique Cabral

...ly, is to take that fundamental wish and see how you

...Cultivating means that you are a member of society in

...It seems to me that the new sense of progressive, radical

...I think the breakdown of the power blocs, human rights

...But the problem is how these ideas can be

...The idea of the working class as, somehow, self-determining

...society is an illusion, far good and bad reasons. It isn't

...So how does change come about? Change comes about

...We are in at the beginning of a shift in perception of

...It's a very important for the Left now to take these delib-

...What prospect do you think there is of that

...With the current Labour Party I would think, unfortunately,

...Unfortunately for us, the Labour Party is in a hegemonic

...We have really got to keep ourselves free, as feminists,

...How important do you think Europe will be

...Well, I think it is enormously important, because

...All of these things are going on in West Germany,

...I think there is a sense of hope, that we are a

...But there are of course right-wing trends in Europe,

...And I think there is a sense of hope, that we are a

# Glad to be GREY

by  
**NEIL  
AMOS**

**F**orget the Baby Boomers. Ignore the Young Urban Professionals. The clock has moved on. It is the 'Grey Panthers,' the growing legion of the aged and ageing, who seem to be set to hit centre-stage as the societal obsession of the next century.

Britain's population is getting older. In 1950, 11% were over 65 — today it is more than 15%. In 2030 it is predicted that one in five will fall into this category as Britain's baby boomers start to pick-up their pensions. More importantly, our elderly will be generally older too. The number of people living beyond 85 has doubled since 1950, and is likely to increase threefold again by 2030. If the present trend in a low birthrate continues, by 2030 the well-known demographic pyramid will become very top-heavy.

For some, figures like these represent a population time-bomb. Alan Pifer, who in 1982 set up the Carnegie Ageing Society Project in the United States, warned in 1987 that "today's children will become the most heavily burdened group of prime-age workers in our entire history." Other pessimistic forecasters predict an enormous rise in contract that many would argue is hardly being honoured in the eighties. Figures being suggested are as high as 42% of all earnings...



• Pictures: Stuart Harrison

# Europe after the reign of

**PETE EAVIS** ponders a muddy future for the Single European Market. And will we

In this post-pensioners age when half the electorate prays that they have not contracted Aids each time that they suffer from a runny nose, it would seem politically risky for Mrs Thatcher to conduct her European policy as if she were peddling her wares across the continent like Pamela Bondes gone inter-nalling. The PM, is not a loose lady but as Cecil must have told her: if she wants to keep ten statements on the go at once then she must not commit herself to any one of them.

For the moment such globe-trotting flirtation has paid off: most Europeans are in love with the Ice Queen. Mrs Thatcher basked in the white-hot post-Heyzel hatred as if she were Princess Stephanie sunbathing on the Côte d'Azur. Paris prostitutes earn hundreds more francs per hour for foreigner couples who arrive dressed up in Thatcher-esque powder blue chiffon tufts, Gucci Blum handbags and megamartians, shoulder pads. It is a testament to the spirit of 1982 that President Mitterand has declined to exact barriers to this influx of home-courtesy exiles.

But Mrs Thatcher, like Britain as a whole, cannot compromise. We can not honeymoon with ten European ne-

tions at once and then expect to marry them all on some date in 1992. Because *à priori* it is ultimately faithful to her British subjects — the majority of whom do not like 'Frog' and 'Worce' — she may have severe difficulties in 1992 to possible election year in emphasising the benefits of the single market.

So all in all, 1992 is in desperate need of a good hand sell. In these years' time the following ideas will have formed the basis of a very expensive political advertising campaign which will seduce a whole nation into spellbinding suspense by the eve of the opening of the Single European Market...

## SAFE EUROPEAN HOME

It will not take long for Conservative Central Office to realise that inevitably, a further free Europe will in fact satisfy the average British xenophobe's every need. From 1992 the prospective holidayer will not have to travel to Spain for a holiday because the greenhouse effort will have transformed the British climate into roughly the same conditions that exist inside Nigel Lawson's belly-button, sweater, hat and heels.

It should be made common knowledge somewhere on

the 'Bell Sit' scale of sedation, that if anyone visits France BEFORE 1992 it will only be to buy date-free cigarettes, fireworks, flakjives and boots. AFTER 1992 such important consumer products will be able to be exported to Britain's corner shops without interference. There will be no need to travel on capillary lines to rub shoulders with people that only bite the once before middle age.

It is in the Conservative Party's interest to sell Europe to students in such a way that it will make them want to leave Britain for the continent because these multi-brained liberals are prone to voting green. After all Europe is the natural home of the student flycatcher, so much so that these year courses in 'Finding One'sself' could be directed safely at the continent.

## LET'S GO EUROPE I

For students 1992 will mean unrestricted travel to nations where Green politics are so prevalent that the best owner of a large hazardous chemical plant can make the hippies at 'Friends of the Earth' sound like a Salford tour guide. Most alarmingly there will be the once in a lifetime chance for all campus sleepheads to

# The future invents itself

VEE gives the plain person's guide to Post-modernism. Or not.

Pick up any magazine, any book printed in the last five years, and there's a good chance that it will mention, at least in passing, postmodernity. As a cultural label, Postmodernism is more trendy than post-fadism, more advanced than post-industrialism, more confused than post-humanism. But, just what does it mean to be called a Postmodernist? Nobody really knows, because the word means nothing at

Constructing it.

This creative attitude towards such tedious concepts as truth along with such other ideas as History, Progress, the Future, and Man, ah, and Taste too means that literally anything goes. With society suffering from a similar lack of rules, the only way to go forward is to re-gurgitate what has gone before. TV breeds nostalgia, advertising and drama playing with the same images of what the past is thought to have been.

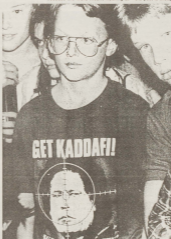
TV culture reaches its funniest, and most extreme, form in the shopping mall. "A whole new experience in shopping", as the Manchester Annals Centre constantly informs its shopping public. This "whole new experience" is a well-lit trip into global consumerism. All the shops in all the malls are exactly the same. They might deal in nostalgia and "home-made craft production", but they're owned by faceless multi-nationalists, pushing in-land and architecture, making the city landscape into a supra-national zone. Writing, music, architecture, art, and criticism are bankrupt. They all produce pictures of art in style.

Humorous re-workings of clichéd expressions. Miami Vice plays out the same scenes told by Raymond Chandler, Robert Bauschberg incorporates old-fashioned pictures, fragments of the past, in his new "works". Kathy Acker uses complete passages from Dada, and The Per Shop Boys

draw everything into their songs, regardless of original context. The Buarque and Debussy is a disco beat.

Even "real life" has spun off into a void, without context. We are entranced by flashing, spinning images. Adverts and MTV videos run into each other, creating the feeling of a colourless, new-past, commodified world. Dances and Dohls movies are mixed over hip-hop beats, and singers providing the backing notes, without passion or any need to rely on old ideas of "emotion" and "new soul".

Everything here is referential, a direct or even indirectly signalling to itself. It might seem ridiculous, but it's not depressing, but that's what the world is like nowadays. With a soundtrack by Fleet 242 and Ennio Morricone, visuals provided by Derek Jarman and Terry Gilliam, and words by JG Ballard and William Gibson, the Postmodern world captures something the millennium, floating in the global village, are not managing to yet.



• The extent of the video game of the association. Profile in extremes.

all...

To put it simply: The Per Shop Boys, SPK, Salazar Ruchie, Tom Wolfe, Melody Mister, the Lloyd's Buddies, Richard Rogers, Francis Bacon, Umberto Eco, Max Headroom, Mrs Thatcher and the St. John's Centre ARE postmodern. Bruce Springsteen, The Swans, T.S. Eliot, Dylan Thomas, NME, La Consolida, Mandrill, George Orwell, the Love Ringer, Neil Kinnock, and the Mexican Centre ARE NOT.

But I'm quite willing to listen to arguments. The books, magazines, thing about the writings of Postmodern philosophers is that just about everything is left open for argument. It thus leaves new world of uncertainty, nothing can be known for sure. It's the biggest of the new generation of post-punk, post-abstractism! — Perhaps more about town. Jean Baudrillard — who's frequently not saying what he means. What? Hope can't there be for real theoretical discussion when nobody will admit to any 'real' truth? What? Michael Gough? While everybody's living for it, in the new terminology, de-

And these that suggest a switch from state or private pensions as the solution are being taken in by their own propaganda. It will make no difference. While advertising executives look on in glee at the prospect of thousands of elderly and wealthy retirees forcing out on villa in Spain and on new cars for jumps across the Trusthouse Forte-infested Isle, few seem also to realise that the pay-as-you-go occupational pensions work because those in work provide the pensions of the retired.

Luckily Britain has not yet resorted to the increasingly bizarre and often masculine solutions being tossed around in the United States of America. Over there, "Age Wars" has been declared.

To counter the new and increasingly powerful lobby groups for the elderly, new groups such as the Orwellian-sounding "Americans for Generational Equality" have emerged. They campaign for an end to the old living at the expense of the young. Quite whether they intend to exterminate all those above the age of 65 remains to be seen.

Nevertheless, misguided and misinformed solutions still abound on this side of the Atlantic. The choice presented seems to vary between a watered down version of AGE's fee-for-market final solution, or a labourist view succinctly summarised in January's *Man Alive* today (which should know better), that exhort mothers to have more babies and castigating people for retiring early.

Nobody disputes that there is a very pressing problem, but outdated and patronising ideas like these can never be the solution. A wholesale change in attitudes will help as a start. Let us and the guilt-trip society forces upon the elderly for living too long. They should never be seen as a burden: rather as living proof of the great advances made this century in medicine and living conditions. All too often, the balance sheet ignores the amount of work this group of people do for society. They give as well as take. Three times as many people receive a pension today compared with when they were introduced eighty years ago; improvements in technology and efficiency have made this possible. Who can possibly judge what advances will have been made in another eighty years?

Some awkward decisions will have to be made between now and 2030. There is a need for a fundamental rethink in social and welfare provision. There may be no alternative but to make the 'third quarter of life' — as the Americans so politely put it — a more productive one. But until there is a change of our attitude towards and perceptions of the ageing population, the great potential of our Grey Panthers will remain forever leashed.

## Margaret ever stop hating the French?

born around 1900, the home of the elite, where sleeping sickness which reaches epidemic proportions in British universities, is considered to be a national pastime.

### MUSHY-BRAINED LIBERALS

Whatever happens, by 1995 Mrs Thatcher will have succeeded. She will be making her living doing nothing in northern working men's clubs. This is because the single market will make certain that in the European Police Control, Thatcherism will score one point.

But when poor and intelligent she will be eternally grateful for every last unit of bureaucracy denied to her in social security in the generous forecasts that she once failed with a gaze usually reserved for Gabriel. The fact that Mrs Thatcher will have landed in safety net, said, that Baudrillard will appear in his. They will be facing home. Mrs Thatcher, the failed rightist, of which will never experience the poverty she would have felt under Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister.



# INTERNATIONAL FRONT

Vee and Phil Smith talk to Belgian sample — desecrators **FRONT 242** about New Beat, subverting the media and why Christianity could have been made for television.

"Being Belgian is being nobody. You don't have any culture, you don't have any background."

Richard 23, drummer and dancer with Front 242, leans back and laughs. He's well aware of media reactions to both his band and his country. Over the last year, a devastating couple of sample crazy singles — "Headhunter" and "New Beat" — and the flamant "Front by Front" LP have placed them at the forefront of electronic music. Massive on the continent, in Britain the media has taken over themselves to place Front in the super-hyped world of New Beat dance, the "next big thing".

Like Acid House, New Beat is just a new name. The press in general like to put labels on everything, so Front 242 became one of the New Beat "names" — just like that. In Belgium, some people say that Front 242 are the godfathers of new Beat. What's sure is that we've always used electronic beat music so other people now working on that scene may see us as the spark, but don't see about fashions, about any sort of fashions.

"We stay away from that, and from the press. We know that when they speak about you one week, the next week you'll be forgotten. We're just doing our music like we feel we have to, trying to probe musical and graphical points more than the media does."

## TOTALLY WIRED

So they avoid the chance to play the media's games, while playing with the media themselves, constantly cutting up news-information streams. But is there any IDEA, any central interest in the way that they proceed?

"We try to do research in music, not give in to rock stereotypes. It's a very visual way to be, because we have a lot of research in our music, but we also have a lot of references — a base-line, drum-beat that we use to attract people. The only chance we had was that the audience was going underground, underground bands were becoming popular. The basic concept was a small individual unit doing research with a more traditional way of doing music."

"We're not musicians. When we work, we exchange a lot of data, of information. For every thirty minutes of music we do, we speak for an hour before it, so we know what we want to do how to package it and so on."

Front 242 are a complete concept heavily theorised, extensively researched. They deal with the media-process, ignoring the content, the subjects, involved only in the flow of messages, the data systems.

"We have no ideal view of the media, the activity of propaganda — like advertising — are interesting. The content could be bullshit, could be anything. We don't care about the results. It's the same on stage — we expect a reaction. Of course people will go like that (makes a new sound), but you will see all kinds of people there."

"We're like TV, where you never see a position being taken, it's a big rule for us too."



■ FRONT 242 — what's their music?

## BOOM! THERE THEY WERE

Live, the Front are a totalisation power at its most extreme. Dressed in black, constantly moving, they use lights, noise, to over-power the audience. A constant screen of mechanical power, the individuals fade before the blast, constantly streaming information. "Headhunter" wells up from the floor, down from the sky, pure walls of sound, blowing out windows. Smile and you miss the point. "If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boat steering on a human face — faster!" Scaring, stamp.

"Welcome to Paradise" streams around the Riley Smith, a heaving mix of sampled blowupshots. Like other electronic bands, Front are obsessed with the state of Christianity in the US. Unlike others, they refuse to embrace a moral position, desecrating, playing, a screen on which the world

writes its existence.

"Yeah, 'Paradise' involves obvious emotions, obvious feelings, but the stance that you pick up on depends what you read into what we do, all the songs have different levels of meaning."

For its reading of Front, Christianity is the original version of the modern media — as foundational discourse — a system that determines how we think, how we feel, how we came into being.

"Like, TV replaced the crucifix. Science and medicine were once big symbolic too, but that's going down now. If you look at the media through the ages, you have constantly moving level of interest. Before, you could be impressed by images of people marching on TV, but now those images don't work so well."

As he speaks the Woburnborough deceiver is playing itself out as a mediant across the networks.

"So those old images don't work so well. During the 'nineties, people get into into re-cycling old values, going back to old things. The domain we work with is this area of where things are going, using the information that we have. The world is moving so quickly, but I don't know how precisely, that's what we're trying to find out."

## TOO REAL TO FEEL

The world that Front 242 involve themselves in is the white-hot arena of information exchange. Styles, words, meanings become over-involved so quickly that nothing can develop as fully 'new'. To survive as a research team, Front 242 try to only dip their samples into the stream, to try and take simple movements and try to document that fascination as everything — Front wants to accept to those in news — is reduced to the same level, a hyper-realised closed circuit of existence.

In Silent Majorities, Jean Baudrillard writes:

"Mogadishu, Sarajevo: the media are made the vehicle of the total coordination of terroristic... But, simultaneously, they propagate the 'local' fascination of the terrorist act. They are themselves narrators, to the extent in which they work through fascination."

This level of fascination, where everything is equivalent, disallows any form of subjective discourse, undermines critical comment, but what's the resulting feeling for the humans that are left?

"Well, the feeling of PMAC is something that you find it quite a lot of our song."

At the end, Front 242 leave the stage and a shocked, chilled, audience staggers out of the Union. The lights continue to beat, Driff's Centre Bureau playing at ear-splitting volume. Don't associate the band with the content that they use, the individuals are not the Front. The moment of terror is the beginning of the life.

**Front 242**





# TRASH VIDEO NASTIES

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- 6 THE STONE  
ROSES —  
The Stone Roses
- 7 DELUXE —  
Just A Little More
- 8 THE WED-  
DING PRESENT —  
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