

# LEEDS STUDENT

## INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

# Loans rocket as hardship bites

Kate Connolly

**H**ardship among Leeds students has reached crisis proportions with more people than ever quitting their courses unable to afford to continue.

Welfare workers at the Polytechnic and University have warned they are dealing with some of the worst cases of financial hardship ever seen among students.

Figures released in *Leeds Student* this week show applications for the University's access fund have increased eight

times compared to the same period last year.

There was also a threefold increase in applications for interest free loans made by Leeds University Union.

LEU Finance Officer reported that between October and December 1990, 132 loan applications were approved. In the same period in 1991 the figure rose to 428.

Myn Evans, Vice President Communications at Leeds Polytechnic Students Union recently presented a report to the Education select committee which claimed student debts have increased by some 75% in

just two years with the average rent per week now costing £32.50.

Bill Biers, Chief Welfare Co-ordinator at the Polytechnic said: "Tens and twenties of students are having to drop out of their studies because of the level of debt they have incurred very early on in their courses."

"The withdrawal of benefits is the single most damaging thing to happen to students in my lifetime. It is incredibly scary for parents and students alike," he said.

Marie Galloway, University Welfare Officer (Financial Affairs) who has six years

experience as a debt counsellor with the Citizens Advice Bureau said it was becoming more standard to find students with debts of between £2,000 and £3,000.

"Several students have had court proceedings brought against them because they couldn't pay their bills. Some who can't get money from the access fund will have to stop studying. Since I've been in this position I have seen some real hardship cases which I hadn't expected. I've been quite shocked," she said.

Ms Galloway also said that when you combine the student

grant and the government loan and spread it over 52 weeks a student's weekly income is less than income support, which is the lowest any person's income should be before they are below the official poverty line.

●Report page 4: Poverty hits hard.

## £5,000 stolen in Old Bar robbery

Clare Wigglesworth

**F**ive thousand pounds worth of stock was stolen from the offices of the University Union Old Bar during the Christmas vacation.

A thousand pounds of single records belonging to LEU Ents were also stolen in the raid.

The break-in was discovered by Mr Head, manager of the bar and his staff when they came in to make a stock check.

Entry was gained through a small overhead window only possible by a small adult or child.

Mr Head said: "It was far only possible entrance not connected up to the security alarm system." He said the thieves were clearly familiar with the alarm system

operating in that part of the Union.

Kate McCarthy, General Secretary of Leeds University Union said he was very disappointed that something like this could happen.

"We are doing our best to increase the security."

Piers Fitzgerald, Discs Coordinator of Ents said 400 singles and disco cartridges were stored in the Old Bar storage space. Fitzgerald said: "They went our back up records for the Thursday box."

Police are still investigating the theft which was discovered on Monday December 2nd.

No staff member had been in the building since the previous Friday's staff party.



Part of the Old Bar store attached to the Union.

Michael Page

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NEWSDESK: 314251



## News

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# rug fears stop hop

David Walmley

A disco to be held at the University Union next Wednesday night has been cancelled following fears there would be widespread drug-taking at it.

The LIU PRISM society whose members aim to educate people about marijuana and who campaign for the drug to be made legal had planned a fund-raising disco to publicise the existence of the new society.

However, Financial Affairs Secretary, Permyr Vella said that publicising the disco as a "hash-bash" could encourage widespread drug-taking at the Union and therefore he had no option but to

cancel the event.

"If the event had taken place and the law broken, there would have been the serious possibility of the Union losing its licence, which would have affected almost every student of this union. As Financial Affairs Secretary I had to take the decision to protect the interests of this Union as a whole, although I was forced to take the decision to cancel with real regret."

President of Prism, Ian Wombwell, said the proposed "hash-bash" would not have encouraged more people to smoke drugs than do already.

"We would have asked people not to smoke and I wouldn't have smoked at the disco but lots of people smoke anyway. The drugs

squad won't lift people with a split. They are only interested in dollars."

"I prefer smoking to drinking. Marijuana is bloody harmless. I think it was staff pressure which had the final say," he said.

However, Vella denied he had pressure put on him by any member of staff.

"It was pointed out to me that there was a possibility that marijuana was going to be smoked at this disco and I decided therefore, with regret, the risk was too great to let the event go ahead."

A spokeswoman for West Yorkshire Drugs Squad said any person found in possession of an illegal substance at any time would be arrested.

## Clarke announces teaching shake-up

Alison Phillips

There has been a cautious response from Leeds University's Department of Education following the announcement by Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Education, that more teacher training will take place in schools.

Edgar Jenkins, Chair of the School of Education at Leeds University said the department was awaiting the imminent release of a consultation document from the Secretary of State, which would make clear the full implications of Mr Clarke's proposals.

When Mr Clarke first announced last week that secondary school teachers would be trained on the job, spending four-fifths of their one year postgraduate course in schools, supervised by experienced teachers, there was an outcry by various education departments

at Universities including Exeter and Oxford.

However, Mr Jenkins said, "What we welcome is the whole notion of school based teaching." He said PGCE students at Leeds University already spent 80% of their course teaching in schools.

However Mr Jenkins did air concerns at the possible loss of resources to be made available to Education departments in the future as a result of the changes.

## Hanley to graduate

Leeds Rugby League player, Elbury Hanley is among a number of people to receive honorary degrees from Leeds Polytechnic next month.

Mr Hanley, who was born and bred in Leeds and still lives in the city was recently signed to the team for a record-breaking sum.

The ex-Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, John Stalker will also receive an honorary degree at the ceremony.

Mr Stalker, who led the first investigation into the abortion-kill policy in Northern Ireland.

The honorary graduates will receive their degrees at a ceremony at the Polytechnic on February 26th.

## Uni Ski trip havoc

Sam Greenhill

French police were out in force when two thousand British students descended on the French ski resort of Les Arins last week for the English and Welsh University Ski Championships, which included a 300-skiing contingent from the LIU Ski Club.

During the first part of the week, holiday makers complained about the amount of noise, drunkenness and general disruption after 10pm, which led the local gendarmes to issue warnings, including a local radio broadcast to either "stay calm or stay indoors".

Warning posters were also displayed around the resort and police patrolled the corridors outside the student's accommodation. The occupants of four apartments containing Leeds' students lost their deposits after an alleged incident on the first night which involved another skier from Scotland.

"The holiday parties were disrupted and then thrown down the hill, and were never resumed," claimed a local resident who was staying in the flat.

After the third night, police warned that further trouble would result in the expulsion of whole university groups, and

although the entire British party lost their deposits after failing to heed that warning, nobody was sent home.

Andy Howard, one of the Leeds University organisers, said: "As is typical of a large university, we tended to find ourselves being made responsible by people causing trouble, but luckily the organisers knew we were innocent."

A spokesperson for Les Arins gendarmes said the trouble was entirely the fault of British students, but reported that due to their arrival it was "contained" by midweek. However, there were also reports of fights between students from Spain and Britain.

Manchester University student, Kristina Lecker, who was responsible for the overall running of the event could not be contacted for comment.

## Poly proclaim success on the slopes

Leeds Polytechnic Ski team have declared their winter holiday to France a "success", despite criticisms levelled at the trip by Gary Alderson, President of the Polytechnic Students Union. Alderson attacked the trip in November saying it was to be held in term-time and would thereby leave participating club members liable to disciplinary action by the

## Rag prepare Paris leap

Leeds Polytechnic and Leeds University are preparing this year's Paris Week, planned for the leap-year weekend, 28 February - 1 March.

Rag Treasurer Miles Rosner said: "Last year, hundreds of students lined up on the M1 for the start of a journey they will always

remember, aiming to reach Paris for Saturday afternoon."

Anyone interested in joining this year's hatch should contact the Rag staff for details.

A £15 refundable deposit secures a place, and depending on sponsorship raised, the levy and coach cost is refundable.



The site on North Lane prepared for a new 'superpub'

Mike Page

bonded firm and not obtaining tenders from other companies.

The holiday was organised by Victoria Real, the firm set up 20 months ago by ex-members of the Polytechnic Ski Team.

A spokesperson for Victoria Real said: "We are very pleased with the success, everything going without a hitch."

Alderson also criticised the Club for choosing a non-ABTA

A meeting is due to take place on Sunday between members of the Headingley Ladies' Group to plan the next stage of their opposition to plans by Brown Halls to build a new superpub on the site of old waterworks in North Lane, Headingley.

Demerical students have joined the opposition in the pub, which is intended to absorb the overnight from other pubs on the Olley Road.

# Fighting back the desert

Between studying for his MA, Bob Loggah directed an acclaimed farming project in Ghana. He speaks to Alison Phillips about problems facing the project and its future.

**A**t the Sahara Desert continues to make deep inroads into Northern Ghana in West Africa, a Leeds student is spearheading a campaign to resist this attack by nature on his home country.

Bob Loggah, who has just completed an MA in Development Studies at the University is Director of an Agro-Forestry project, part of the Nana-Nana Rural Development Programme, which has received national recognition in Ghana.

Mr Loggah explained the importance of the project. "The north of Ghana is very dry, the soils are depleted and won't support a good crop yield. The Sahara desert is creeping forward very fast and rainfall has become very erratic," he said.

The Agro-forestry programme in the region of Upper Ghana plants food crops between long rows of agro-forestry trees and plants which fix nitrogen in the soil, making the use of chemical fertilisers unnecessary.

Fast growing trees provide food for sheep and goats which in turn provide manure for high yielding crop and vegetable production. It is also hoped to

increase fruit production.

Mr Loggah said: "The idea is as old as man really but it wasn't done in this systematic way before."

Mr Loggah, a Deacon in the Baptist Church first became involved with the Agro-forestry project while waiting for the Christian Council in Ghana.

The people just live from hand to mouth, sometimes the crops fail and they are in big trouble, and there are problems with storage because of the insects."

He said improving education of farming techniques among landowners was an important weapon in combating the problems.

"In the North they really are mostly subsistence farmers. One aim of the project is to introduce farming as a business," he said.

"We have some indigenous customs which hinder planting of trees, but things are changing very, very slowly."

Three full time members continue to run the programme while Mr Loggah, director operates from Leeds. He does, however, hope to return to Ghana in July after raising both awareness



Bob works for the Agro-forestry programme from his Mary Morris house. *Michael Page*

in Britain and much needed funds for the work.

Cash is currently required for a truck to carry seedlings from village to village and to buy a tractor. Funds are also needed to build dams to help with irrigation

work.

Anyone interested in raising funds for the project should contact Mr Loggah at Mary Morris Hall at Rensdown in Leeds. Teach For Self Reliance, 44 Melville Place, Woodhouse, Leeds.

## Off Campus

Thomas Whitwell and  
Stephanie Rigny

## Asda losses

Local Leeds based supermarket giant Asda have released their half-yearly financial report which shows a loss of £56m for the half year to November, compared with a £58m profit in the same period the year before.

A major internal management shake-up and 150 job cuts announced in October are two measures taken by the Leeds headquarters in an effort to curb the huge losses.

## Possible all night flights

Three independent opinion polls led by the *Yorkshire Evening Post* reveal massive support for airport extensions to be lifted and to allow 24-hour operations.

Even residents living as the airport flight path overran the proposal, which if accepted, will result as a major blow to long-term objectives, who include Leeds North West MP Keith Simpson.

## Loan requests soar as poverty hits hard

Kate Connolly

**N**umbers released this week by Leeds Students illustrate the extent to which the loss of holiday earnings is affecting students at Leeds.

The figures show over a three fold increase in students applying for loans and an eight fold increase in those applying for the University's access fund compared to the same time last year.

Gordon Bennett, LUS Financial Services Manager, said: "The increase for applications and loans is clear evidence of the fact that there is a continual downward pressure on student income." Mr Bennett also said because there is no review of parental earnings over the original means test is taken, a parent who no longer can afford the expected contributions would be forced to leave their child with no source of income.

The way the access fund is administered has come in for criticism from both Marie Galloway, University Welfare Officer and Wyn Evans, LPSU Vice President.

Mr Galloway condemned the fund as "very unsatisfactory" with it having no real criteria and being "vague and woolly".

Evans said decisions concerning awards from the access funds were arbitrary and the whole principle of the fund "fell because the access fund is not means tested".

LPSU has also moved to introduce a fourth full time Union welfare officer as a direct result of the present crisis.

There are also plans to advertise for a brand new post of student budget adviser whose job will be partly to provide a counselling service to help hard up students make sense of their financial position.

## Boycott over library services called for

James Lawrence

**A** member of the University Library staff has called for students to organise a petition or boycott of the library facilities in opposition over the introduction of a £5 deposit which is now needed before a locker key is given out by a point.

The number of staff who wished to remain anonymous, said he was fed against the new system. "I think it will put students off using the library. They should organise a boycott or a petition, as this is another example of the library's authoritarian attitude to the students. The simple answer is to resist more lockers."

The new system, implemented on Monday means that any student who does not return the key before the library closes the same day loses their £5 deposit and the student's borrowing privileges are suspended. If the key is not returned within seven days, a charge of £40 is payable.

According to Roger Davis, senior sub-librarian, the new system has been brought in because of "the unacceptably high rate of loss of locker keys".

The new arrangement was ignored with general dismay by students who use the library. Keith Dabak, a final year Modern Languages student and regular user of the library said: "This is outrageous. No one will want to go to the library any more. They need more lockers instead, there's loads of space in the Palfusion Court."

Mr Davis explained it would be impossible to install more lockers, because the Palfusion Building is a listed building, and no permission can be obtained to alter any aspect of the premises. He said: "The more lockers you put there, the more there will be that are misused."

Mr Davis did say the situation concerning the issue of £5 for a locker could not be changed if it appears to prove too much of a problem for all concerned.

## Pollution averted

An alarm Harragate farmers passed on of pollution danger which could have contaminated drinking water supplies in Leeds, when he spotted oil spilling into a beck which feeds a reservoir near to his farm. A major incident fears from the National Rivers Authority set up hours to contain the spillage. An NRA spokesman said action prevented major pollution.

## BYE! BYE!

A first year Polytechnic student has won two Eastern Explorer tickets to a Campus Tourist competition. Philip Pinder, Education student, who came second in the national pilot drive said he was "well pleased".



# Warning of sackings if losses incurred

David Walmsley

University Union officers have been warned this week that if they lose money they will be sacked and people will be sacked.

Services Manager, Phil Sempster, told a recent Executive meeting on Monday evening that losing decisions had to be taken if officers began to lose money.

"You've got to be tough enough to say 'get rid of it if it is not making money and sack people. Stand up if they are losing money and say it'," he said.

Sempster was speaking during a meeting where a decision was

taken to limit internally promoted refectory gigs, such as TPos and Beans International, to three in any one academic session until the summer of 1993.

Financial Affairs Secretary, Przemot Valis, said he was making this proposal in an effort to stem the huge losses incurred by the Fair organisation both last year and this.

Defending the decision Valis said the Union could not afford to allow gigs such as TPos, which he claimed cost the Union £100 a minute, to continue.

He also played down the importance of the decision saying there had only been five internally promoted gigs last session and "the decision is not that radical".

However, LRU Ems Secretary, Sue Ingram said he resented the decision.

"I feel I would be selling my soul out if I accepted a fixed number of three internal gigs. I resent having something imposed on me like this. I hope some not cutting out throats in the long run," he said.

Sempster supported Valis's claims that the Union could not continue to incur such heavy losses. "We have this obsession that we want bands all over the place. The Riky Smith and Tartan Bar are still available. If we take bands which people aren't coming to we were losing money on the band and on the bar," Sempster said.

# Call for circus ban

Opposition to the "cruel and unnecessary" use of animals in circuses was aired by Animal Rights activists when they delivered a 3,800 signature petition to Leeds City Council on Wednesday.

Leeds University Animal Rights Group and Leeds Animal Forum hope their protest will encourage the City Council to enforce provisions for circuses that use animals to perform in Leeds.

The University Animal Rights Group said in the petition they dismissed any claims that circuses involving animals served any "educational or conservation purpose".

"During transit, the animals are held in cramped, dark, unventilated conditions, unexercised and generally neglected," the petition claimed.

Leeds University Animal Rights Group will hold an Animal Rights week from Monday to the University Union.

The week, which will involve speakers and videos, concerned with various aspects of animal rights and free vegan food on offer is intended to heighten awareness of all the issues the group is concerned with.

Leeds University Animal Rights Group claim some Town and City Councils have already banned circuses using animals to perform on their district, and they hope Leeds City Council will follow this pattern.

Committee member of the University Animal Rights Group, Trevor Jones, said he was pleased with the Council's decision to submit their proposals to the Council's environment committee for further scrutiny.

Spokesperson for the University Animal Rights Group, Kathryn Edwards, said she was hopeful the Council decision would be favourable although she said the best action was to ban circuses including one booked to appear on Woodhouse Moor in the second week of February.

A spokesperson for Leeds City Council said regulations were upheld ensuring all circus animals were inspected by a vet before they were allowed to perform on Council land.

"It is felt that it is better they are on Council land and checked than on private land and unchecked," he said.

# Philosopher wins chatline tribunal

Hand up dead your philosopher, Sarah Silk, found her name in the national headlines last week as she won her claim for a lost day's pay packet of £38.75.

Silk, of Salford had been employed by Let's Talk UK as a

chatline operator during the summer.

Her pay was cut when she was found without her headset on.

However, Silk's job entailed more than simply answering phone calls as she was reportedly paid by

the hour to keep callers on the phone.

Silk explained the only way to do this was talk about sex. "I tried talking about Kant, Descartes and Wittgenstein, but that fell on deaf ears," she said.

JURA ZONE

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## 6 Comment &amp; Analysis

LEEDS STUDENT  
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

1992 looks to be an interesting year. With a General Election in the offing which may well bring the Conservative's glory years to an end, the time has come for students to flex what political muscle they still possess.

The diary statistics in this story on the front and fourth page of this newspaper are just the latest in a long line of miserable stalling

about the plight of students in the 1990s.

It is wrong that Student Union welfare officers are having to focus so much of their attention towards debt counselling and help with so many other student issues and concerns, require their concentration.

It is also wrong that Student Unions, whose purpose, although

to aid their members' welfare, is not to use funds to provide stop-gap cash relief loans.

Considering the worsening situation, caused by reasons that must now be known to everyone, why aren't Leeds students not demonstrating right now? And why will the Polytechnic and University Union undoubtedly be sought to sell tickets for the NUS national demonstrations against hardship organised by NUS to be held in February?

Even if these methods of lobbying are now perceived to be unimpressive and irrelevant, why aren't the demands of students, the educated workforce of the future, barely heard about the rising per-

fection element.

The problem appears to be complacency, not even apathy.

Students forced to quit their course because of hardship are at present in the minority. Beyond these however are people far whom the door of Higher Education will remain firmly shut so long as studying continues to go hand in hand with borrowing.

University and Polytechnic should now list in their prospectuses qualifications required as those A-levels and the capacity to withstand up to £3000 debt.

Still, the bulk of students do continue despite debts, confident in the knowledge that someone

somewhere will bail them out if things get really tough.

All who consume education and will reap its benefits should however acknowledge the necessity for free education for anyone who wants it.

Students are being literally starved out of education. Although they may be a minority it should be a concern of the majority to act now.

Complacency must be cast aside, if only for a few months during this run-up to the General Election so that all political parties receive a clear mandate from students in these early months of 1992.

Happy New Year everyone.

## Letters

J-Soc's  
actions  
condemned

Dear Editor,

Sara Conway, Political Advisor for J-Soc, wrote an article expressing disapproval about alleged bad press that her society gave in the student paper. I am very that like me, Sara agrees that people and societies should be judged by their actions.

J-Soc has little regard for the LUL Constitution as demonstrated by the way their emergency motion was pushed forward by them and accepted by Union Council even though they had no right to do so under the Constitution because the meeting was not quorate. Needless to say that the only ones voting to accept the emergency motion in the Union Council were all members of J-Soc except one.

Last year, out of all the societies in the Union, J-Soc was the only one to ride against an anti-racism motion and of course defeated it. The motion protected Blacks, Asians, Arabs, and Jews alike.

Sara Conway herself signed an agreement last year with the PSU which all executive members saw, then completely revoked it after J-Soc got what they wanted out of it.

Members of the J-Soc are also rated on N.E.S. matters according to the Union of Jewish Students policy and notably against LUL policy. Sara Conway was the only person to defend this action publicly.

I am glad that Sara realises that these accusations are not motivated by anti-Semitism because they are facts, and are

some of the reasons why J-Soc has such a negative profile. Yours faithfully, S. Sahar, PSC, Chairman.

Plea for  
better  
behaviour

Dear Editor,

I hope you will forgive this letter being sent to you by a non-student, but I feel compelled to put pen to paper because of the continually obnoxious behaviour of the students who live around me at Leeds 6.

After the quiet period over Christmas, my rights have again been disturbed by the senseless screaming and shouting that goes on after the local pub has closed.

My garden is once more being used as a litter bin for pizza boxes and other such rubbish by lazy non-students and I have little hope that my hedge, which was nearly destroyed by young people jumping into it, will be given time in which to recover.

I know that it is probably asking too much, but it would be nice if some students could make a better New Year's resolution to enjoy themselves without inconveniencing those who live around them. Yours faithfully, A helpful & headstrong resident.

Letters should be no more than 300 words. Leeds Student reserve the right to edit any letter submitted.

Please address correspondence to Leeds Student Newspaper, LULU, PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH.

Taking on the fight  
against homophobia

A Lesbian and Gay Society is soon to be set up at Leeds Polytechnic Students Union. Here, its founder expresses his feelings on why the society is needed.

There are many groups and societies which are part of student life. They form an additional part of the general enjoyment of a student's time of study. Yet there is an increasingly large group of students who have a problem facing society because of attitudes towards their way of life. I am talking about those whose lifestyle is different to the perceived "normal". These students facing a lifetime of acceptance and bad attitudes. These students who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.

To walk through the corridors of an advanced attitude faculty of further education and receive sneers of "queer" as you pass, is not what you would expect. That is what has happened. It is for this purpose and other incidents of homophobia that a society is needed to support these

students.

The pressures are great enough upon anyone studying at college, polytechnic or university without the added difficulty of fellow students in the union bar or as you walk around campus because of your sexuality. A society to aid awareness of the difficulties faced by these students, to support them when they feel wrong for something they cannot help - nor do they wish it. A society is needed to fight against this sort of homophobia.

Leeds University - has a society. Park Lane college has a society. Leeds Polytechnic - doesn't. Considering that Leeds Poly has a student population of 16,000, and the national average of homosexuality is one tenth of the population that means there are up to 1,600 Lesbian Gay or Bisexual students, maybe more,

standing here. Yet no support. Well there is a group called "Alternative Lifestyles" - a support group who are there for you to air your problems to fellow officers, to get together with each other and have a drink and to let you know you're not alone, but it's not enough.

A group is needed to force and fight the homophobia existing in the polytechnic. After all if the NUS can have an anti Gay President (Stephen Twiss) and other gay or lesbian executive committee members who can't Leeds Poly?

Well now it can and will. I Eddie Trevelyan is a first year student. In support of "Alternative Lifestyles" I am setting up an LGLG Group at Leeds Polytechnic. This will be a positive attitude action group. There is fight for you, if you're interested contact me. If you want someone to stand up and fight for your rights support me.

Someone has to and I will. Planning Meeting: 2.00 Meeting Room Leeds Poly Student Union. All welcome.

## LEEDS STUDENT INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Leeds Union, PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH (0113) 114121, is a Company Status, Leeds Polytechnic Union, Leeds (0113) 114121.

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If you feel strongly about a particular issue or want to share your concerns with others, bring your ideas to Neil Cameron in the Uni or Poly office.

900 copy Thursday 10.00am-11.00am, Music copy Thursday at 10.00am, News copy Thursday 10.00am-11.00am, Sports copy Thursday 10.00am-11.00am, Arts and Music copy Thursday 10.00am-11.00am, Letters and Comments copy Thursday 10.00am-11.00am, Typewritten letters: Output by letter, Study Hill Trading Estate, Barclay Road, Leeds. (Print by Fotherby Communications Group, 74a Manchester Road, Wakefield, WF1 7AL).

# Challenging the perceptions

Andrew Kidger returned from Syria, having seen beyond images of terrorism and problems too often associated with the country. He details the characters and places fixed in his mind from the journey.

"Where have you been then?" The customs officer asked his eyebrows indignantly. "Syria". "Syria". That's a bit ambiguous isn't it. I smiled and shook my head—he couldn't have been more wrong. But of course, his impression of Syria amounted to little more than the generalisations of certain newspapers reporting Middle Eastern issues in black and white. For with the Gulf crisis, Syria tended to be synonymous with terrorism and the hostages in Lebanon, a country often condemned by the press as 'Saudi backed'.

The situation of Anglo-Saxon tourists had finally afforded me the chance of travelling to one of the key places in the dispute. The guide books promised invader fortresses, Roman ruins and fascinating towns and villages, from busy haunts in the magnificent Ammanish, remnants to Damascus 'the cradle of civilisation'. The reality did not disappoint. Far from it. But I left the country with much more than just a couple of souvenirs.

Arriving in beleaguered and half asleep in the centre of Damascus, I climbed out into the gritty bus terminal expecting to be set free by a motley crew of tacky souvenir sellers and cheap hotel reps. No one waited an eye-blink. I handed my redoubt demurely on to my shoulders. No one paid any attention. No cries of 'tari', no promises of the best deal in town, no questioning as to my origin. I was disappointed, used to middle

eastern curiosity and enthusiasm propelling me in the direction of a hotel or coffee shop.

Temporarily I approached the ticket office, planning to head towards the coast initially, returning to Damascus as later. All near city buses were booked for three days. The travel assistant shrugged sympathetically and looked to the next customer. I scratched my head, stamped, 'can I help you?'. A young girl behind me smiled encouragingly 'where do you wish to travel to?', 'we'll not save the coast', 'OK follow me', we wandered over to a large group of people. 'My family', she explained, 'we will take you to the station'. My hand was pumped by beaming cousins, brothers and parents. Then our entrance was set off through the intricate streets of featureless architecture.

The French built station in Damascus is imposing with its

From the crowded holiday resorts which squat on the dusty, western beaches, through not beautifully lush mountains adorned with groves and blossoms, to the barren expanse of desert in the east, Syria exudes charm, but population is as diverse as her geography. Arabs, Kurds, Lebanese, Palestinians, Turks and others are spread throughout the country. That they manage to Co-Exist may be due, in part, to the way in which the government treats those who fail to conform to the current system. In Hama in 1982, up to 28,000 people were killed by troops for allegedly participating in an insurrection by the supposedly Nizariyyah Muslim brotherhood. But from the evidence I saw, they revolted because they got politic, laid back and above all peace loving. Very few of the troubles dividing the Lebanese to Syria seem to have spilled into Syria, with the only exceptions that I

noticed were a persecuted coming from Christian Muslims in the South West, who frowned upon my friendships with Muslims and hated each other violently when I refused to take sides over the issue of Lebanon.

It is virtually impossible to follow a tourist route through Syria, there simply are not enough tourists. In any case, I was fairly able to follow the itinerary I had roughly planned. Boarding one of the brightly coloured buses, lavishly decorated with the oddest collection posters, plastic models and plants, which gave the impression of being in a miniature greenhouse, I would soon be the focus of a pellucid stream of repetitive questions from my fellow travellers, who would frequently take time in at least to me. Those who opted with my poor Arabic would receive no consolation to the rest of the bus, and would seemingly be rewarded by being allowed to stay for longer before being hassled by the next interrogator.

Such a system not only quickened the journey but also insured that there was no end to the persuasive offers of tea and food when we reached our destination.



Hence, going from A to C always involved stopping in B for several hours.

Syrian reactions in both village and town to encounter a foreigner was utterly welcoming and alive among. Amidst the splendid ruins of Palmyra, which are often virtually deserted, lone business would approach and eagerly asked for a pen, looking more disappointed to hear that I didn't have one. This happened many times but I was unable to discover why. On other occasions I would find myself surrounded by a large crowd pointing at my walkman, 'take my picture, take my picture' they chorused, only realising its true purpose when I demonstrated its purpose to each of them in turn.

Cafe owners would ply me with streams of questions over gallons of tea. The questions always intrigued me. None of them three way 'What do you think of my country?' that are often asked out by people who would claim if they received any other reply than 'very nice'. One proprietor had scarcely said me down when he lent over conspiratorially and murmured 'How do you rate homosexuals in your country?' On another occasion I was accosted outside a Post Office by an ageing man in a

necktie who clutched me saying 'We must talk'. Feeling like I was entering a certain Coleridge poem, my eyes were gripped me. Glancing hastily around me he whispered, 'tell me, what do you English people think of the Islamic Fundamentalist revival?' A difficult question to answer at the best of times. My reply was rather watery. Unsurprisingly he acknowledged all manner of socio-political responses at once.

I found such incidents challenging. Determined to quash my innate Western prejudices, I was often forced to critically examine the rest of beliefs held by the common citizen. Many of the Syrians with whom I spoke showed an unusual political awareness and opened me as to why they received such a bad Western press. The curator of a small museum in Latakia, a quiet Mediterranean town presided at his empty display rooms. 'No tourists come here, you poor people afraid of my people.' I struggled to find a suitable reply, the closest I'd come to terrorist attack was the constant threat of being kidnapped by our enemies 'new friends'. Well, he glared, now 'you can tell them what it's really like in Syria'.



# Split-Identities

Alma Cogan

Gordon Burn (Secker and Warburg)

Celebrities don't have things easy, do they? Sammy Davis Jr lost an eye, Tommy Cooper died on stage before an audience of millions, and Alma Cogan succumbed to cancer in 1966, after a singing career in the 1950s which made her one of the most popular stars of her day. It is precisely this relationship between violence, tragedy, and our postwar portraits of celebrity squares which Gordon Burn explores in "Alma Cogan" by glancing Alma from her grave, to the novel, Alma is alive and well in 1986, living a reclusive life on the coast. Her narrative acts as a superb vehicle for Burn's meditations on the dark side of superstardom.

There is little plot to speak of; instead, Alma offers her recollections of life as the nation's darling, often focusing on the sinister relationship between celebrities and their devoted fans. We meet a collection of scoundrels, including obsessive collectors of paraphernalia, and an aged sleazebag star who endlessly repeats his video of Tommy Cooper's final curtain call. We go to museums of junk and kitch where the clothing of Alma, Bonnie and the Beatles are stored with the same reverence as the Mona Lisa. Alma even plays as a selection of tape-recordings used by fans who murder her while listening to her fantasies to their favorite melodies.

This atmosphere of perversity and obsession is intensified by the fact that Alma recounts her memoir at the same time as Myra Hindley's return to Salford where Moor, after Hindley had confessed to further atrocities. This is often remarked on by Alma, and the work's close reveals a hidden link between these two public figures that I won't reveal here.

Burn's use of language is watertight, making this very sophisticated scrutiny of popular culture a highly readable and thought provoking novel. Let's hope it isn't his only achievement.

Alma Cogan...

John McLeod

...and Myra Hindley

## Spill

Les Standford (Pan)

Things aren't looking good for Jack Fairchild, the hero of "Spill." His wife has left him, he's drinking too much and now, to cap it all, a huge great truck full of a noxious chemical that causes a very unpleasant death for anybody unfortunate enough to come into contact with it, has crashed and spilled its gory cargo into the Yellowstone National Park where he is a park ranger.

With the tourist season about to start, the bosses of Yellowstone don't want the public to know about this minor incident. The government aren't too keen on anybody finding out either as this anti-social cocktail is being manufactured illegally by The Pro-Dyne Corporation who just happen to be the purveyors of the illicit substance compatible to agent orange. There's chaos! Why, the government of course.

So, poor old Jack has to single-handedly contain the poison, defend some reporters, avoid execution of metabolic activities himself - a state denied strongly for him by government agents and Alaska, the real poisoner employed by Pro-Dyne - tell the families of the exploding hundreds of paint and blood who used to be his initials that there is a nasty stain at the going about AND resist the tempting vacuum of herbal substances. To find out how he copes with this

hedge formidable I would recommend asking someone who has read the book. Your 90 will be much better speed elsewhere.

It is not that this is a bad book (indeed, much of the descriptions, particularly of the deaths caused by the chemical, is wonderfully gory and elegantly varied) it is just that for a suspense novel, which it proudly claims to be, it doesn't very often work. Standford's prose style is effective and pacy - he has not a couple of paragraphs setting search for short fiction - but it can't sustain a plot which is pedestrian and obvious.

The environmental warning that toxic waste threatens is not confined to the Chernobyl of this world, and the attendant attack on the discredited money principle of capitalism and complete guilt of the free market ethic of contemporary governments is strongly felt but poorly executed.

"Spill" tries to be that most useless of books - a popular fiction dealing with important issues - but sadly fails to fill the boundaries of its own perception.

Matthew Winston  
Pulcinella

## The Liar

Stephen Fry

Stephen Fry - comedian/actor/scholarly spokesman/wide/denial/slightly bitter and whenever the hell else he wishes to be - thinks he can write a novel, eh? Well, actually he

can and a damn fine novel it is too. I am about to enlighten you, dear reader. You may not realise it but in the grand scheme of things there are people who are remarkably brilliant in all fields. And then there are people like you and me who are stoned to death about in the quagmire of incompetence. Life sucks.

Whether this is a novel or an autobiography is debatable, the hero of the story, Adrian Hopley, is introduced as a rising young, devoted, middle-class Noel Coward with more talent for the witty put-down than is humanly fair. After some reversible childhoods, boarding schools, teaching at a prep school and some not so reversible experience as a test boy in London, Adrian goes up to Cambridge and proceeds to headhunt tutors, friends and the nation when he 'disappears'. Dickens' best novel about paedophilia. Eventually Adrian's skill for deceit gets him involved with murder, espionage and the ominous sounding 'Mendips' project. Similarly, Fry is noted for his posturing and literary language, leads in prep school and disappeared to London in unimpressive circumstances before going to Cambridge. Maybe he's got something to say of this chase.

The story is enormous fun, brimming with wit and life characters, wholly deserving of Fry's ability to ridicule and lampoon. These days most storytellers' words fall like pebbles from their mouths, whereas Fry picks you up by the wrist at the neck with plenty of incredible situations and beautifully worked

sentences so that I was left 'wishing I'd said that' and lamenting the fact that I was stuck in a grey lunch with the rain coming down. Stephen Fry seems to be a jack of all trades and a master of most of them - a professional in his fingertips.

Hugo Dobson

## The Redundancy of Courage

Timothy Mo (Penguin and Wind)

There is so much thing as a typical Timothy Mo novel. His early books are comic attacks on traditional Chinese society, whilst his previous novel, "An Insular Possession" was a stirring account of the colonisation of Hong Kong in the 1940s which ran for almost 700 pages. But here Mo once again changes direction in his narrative the invasion of Daim, a small island off the Australian coast, by a neighbouring region. The situation here is more than a passing resemblance to the current Indonesian occupation of East Timor in the Pacific. In a parody of the blackboard novel, Mo intricately describes the advance of Daim by the invasion movement PAKOUM, revealing a landscape of anarchy littered with slaughtered corpses, infused by military regime obsessed with domination and power.

Unusually for Mo, the novel

has a first person narrator, Adolph Ng, a Chinese hotelier settled in Daim. Ng is a self-confessed coward - when the invading forces take the island Ng escapes execution and accommodates their most monstrous general in his hotel. Scathed one night by the PAKOUM, Ng is forced to live with them in the hills and becomes a manitous expert surviving constant guerrilla raids and the ever-present threats of disease or starvation. He is eventually captured by the invaders, and becomes a servant to a leading figure in the occupying regime, and from whom Ng eventually gains his freedom.

Ng is a character figure adopting to his surroundings by switching loyalties within minutes in order to stay alive. His sketchy political sympathies are overridden by his fear of personal oblivion. Because of his many about faces, he is a difficult figure to assess. Any contempt earned by his apparent shallowness is opposed by the way he throws himself into those roles imposed upon him. Mo's point is to highlight that heroes in the romantic sense do not exist; there are only wounded, ordinary people pressed into living extraordinary lives by the perversity of totalitarian regimes. Blackboard stories only romanticise what are real, horrific struggles which constitute a daily reality for millions across the globe. Although not as good as his last novel, this is an intelligent and highly serious reminder of the depravity of international colonialism.

John McLeod

# A Mistaken Resurrection

Madam  
Butterfly  
Grand Theatre

Everything about this production is old fashioned. This is not necessarily a criticism, as this is what the producers set out to do, by performing Puccini's original 1904 score, but, academic interest apart, it failed to deliver the kind of trauma and emotion, that one would expect from a more modern, 'grittier' production. This would have thought, that at the original premiere of *Butterfly at La Scala* was so soundly 'panned' that the producers would have known to leave well alone, alas not.

The singers themselves seemed to be from the old school, and for their amazing voices, rather than looks or acting ability. This applies particularly to the lead: Mariyane Tilius as Madam Butterfly and Richard Taylor as Pinkerton. Ms. Tilius was superbly voiced, but, and it may be unkind to say it, she looked too old for the part. The same could be said about Richard Taylor, only to a greater degree. No one can doubt

his extraordinary voice, but there was nothing about him, which made *Butterfly's* devotion understandable. In the finale of the first act the emotional climax seemed to consist of Butterfly throwing her arms out and staring at the procession and.

Both leads were thoroughly out-acted by the two seconds Keith Latham as Sharpless and Patricia Barden as Suzuki. Mr. Latham has a beautifully deep bass voice and he positively communicated what the action was all about - the opera was sung in Italian and it was frustrating that, although you knew the plot, the leads were incapable of communicating some of the finer points of the narrative. I was well aware of Patricia Barden's singing ability after hearing her sing the solo part in *Debussy's 'A Mass of Life'*, but she certainly surprised me with her assurance on stage and her studied actor performance.

The second act was a vast improvement as the first as Mariyane Tilius seemed far more comfortable with Patricia Barden than she had done with Richard Taylor, although I understand that she is having to play opposite three different Pinkertons in this run, which



'I spy with my little eye something beginning with...'

can't the crew.

A most amusing feature of the Second Act was the boy who played Sharpless' Pinkerton, Laurence Greed, who was obviously from the minimalist school of acting. He had two expressions, 'bemused' and 'totally bewildered', and as the act went on, he developed both in their fullest potential, as Madam

Butterfly dragged him into his next position. The music 'never work with us' should have a footnote stating that it's not their capacity for doing the wrong thing that is a problem, but rather that, even when they do the right thing, you still end up being totally upset. It's called the extreme face.

As a spectacle, the Opera

failed simply because of it's lack of innovation, which is a pity and in some ways unfair to the production team. However, due to the increasing willingness of Opera companies to experiment, modern audiences are becoming used to a more sophisticated product.

Rick Rogers

## Halls/Groves

St. Georges Hall,  
Bradford

A Sunday night and I am not out shopping! Kater, I paid my first visit to a very pink St. Georges Hall in Bradford. The Halle Orchestra is based in Manchester and is Britain's first professional orchestra. The 77 year old conductor, Sir Charles Groves was at the helm and conducted without a score - a first of memory certainly beyond me.

The *Savannah's Apprehension*, by Dukas opened the concert, with one or two images of a mouse with a pointed tail brought to mind. Otherwise, I was not overly struck with this interpretation, perhaps partly because of my own familiarity with the piece. It didn't feel right enough, and by the end of the evening, I resented rather an inconspicuous beginning.

For me, the evening truly started with a beautifully tuned piano and a fascinating sonata - Kevin Kenner playing Chopin's Piano Concerto in A minor. A tape insertion in his programme, with a recording of when not, demanded that the audience listen. The randa was played with precision and passion that left the Orchestra way behind. True, they have little to do in this concert, but their energy still felt

much Kenner's.

This was made up for after the interval with an excellent rendition of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. The whole piece was very enjoyable and I particularly liked the later and in the fourth movement. Classical music is not without honour. The strings filled the hall and I found myself watching and listening with close attention. It was really the best piece of the evening. Sir Charles Groves finally coming into his own. Definitely worth going for.

Lara Gisborne

## London Mozart Players/Glover

Town Hall

You've got to hand it to the organisers of the London Mozart Players' International Concert Season, they certainly get variety into their programme. We have had the large and the great, and on Saturday we got the small, her perfectly form.

The London Mozart Players are one of the world's finest chamber orchestras and in Jane Glover, they have a conductor much in demand worldwide. For this concert, they treated the audience to a musical history of Vienna, with pieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Strauss and

Schoenberg.

Mozart's *Forensic Symphony*. In a concert was a superb way to start the concert. The Orchestra skipped through the elegant opening with a delicate tone supported by a masterly precision. As the piece progressed the fragile voice of the earlier movements became seen for the moment and into and playful for the finale.

Mozart's *Duet Concertino* for clarinet and bassoon and Beethoven's *Romance* for Violin and Orchestra in F Major were played either side of the interval and provided the audience with a taste of instrumental virtuosity. Angela Mahony led from the front with her superb clarinet playing in the Strauss and the tone of Thomas Barnes, violin in the Beethoven was quite beautiful and had a magical solo quality.

The last piece was Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* which, although a little negative, was a good choice for the final piece. Thankfully, *Verklarte Nacht* is not one of those dreadful twelve tone things, but rather a very moving and well crafted piece, if a little long.

The London Mozart Players are probably the best orchestra I have heard recently. Everything they do excites performance!

Rick Rogers

## Kronos Quartet

Huddersfield Town  
Hall

A great time was had by all at the last concert of the 1991 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival. The Kronos Quartet is one of the foremost string ensembles for contemporary world music, and have attracted a cult following. At this concert they treated the audience to two encores and still there were cries for more.

The players presented a great programme which demonstrated a wealth diversity within the genre with music from all over the world. They appeared on stage one by one and drew some gradually deteriorated beginning with the hip cellist, Joan Jean Remond, sporting a black velvet top and flowing velvet hair pants and ending with a seriously dodgy concoction which appeared to be wearing the first violin.

However, as soon as bows were put to strings it wouldn't have mattered if they have been swaddled in bin bags. They were fantastic. It is easy to see why they're considered to be one of the world's top string quartets. They demonstrated superb technique with some friendly difficult

music. Their ensemble was incredible too - they really were as one, as opposed to many quartets where all the limelight is absorbed by just one player at a time.

The varied programme showed an array of contemporary compositional approaches to the genre and included acoustic effects, using pre-recorded tape and specialist audio effects equipment. A range of visual colour effects were used, with the town hall organ providing an effective backdrop for the lights.

The quartet gave brilliant performances of some vibrant works by Tim that Tim and Peter Southgate in the first half of the concert and El Dia. Harris, Oswald, Narisio, Zinn and Daugherty in the second. They took us on a journey through dark, eerie, twisted, bright funk and a profusion of exploding colour. Alternative techniques, textures and sometimes more explored in this concert - one of the most exciting I have experienced. If you image of a string quartet is a bunch of stuff wearing D-I-Y and pompous facial expressions, then this again, I suggest you seize an opportunity you get to see the Kronos Quartet perform live - I promise you'll be glad you did.

Rachel Segal

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## Music

Reeds' Frown  
Centre

Lou Reed

Magic and Loss (Warners)

Over the years, Lou Reed has given us some of the most touching and evocative music of all time. He has however also provided us with confusing, apalling and highly forgettable efforts. Most of his important work was, of course with the Velvet Underground, Andy Warhol's pet rock band. His style was in the formative stages and need to be viewed amongst the most influential music of it's period. There is no doubt that R.E.M., Rime Shores, Galaxie 500 and a million of the other bands you all love could not have existed without V.U. and therefore Lou Reed.

Lou led the Velvet through and went on to record several solo projects including 72's classic 'Transformer' and 1975's appalling 'Metal Machine Music', at which point most people thought Reed had gone too far, turned up to 11 and had that extra push over the cliff. But it seems obvious that it was amongst a series of typical Reed gestures to the public and to his label that he was, as always, in one, uncompromising, person. 'Which brings us to recent years, and a return to form, with the 'Savage For Drella' Andy Warhol tribute and 1989's critically acclaimed 'New York'. So 1992 arrives and a new Lou Reed LP arrives, and putting it in my tape machine is like playing medieval Russian Roulette: this could be very painful. As it happens, it is. Reed has continued the good work from 'New York' and adds with a hefty dose musical buckling to his lyrics, which are the focal point. And perhaps in the greatest modern poem, his narrative, 'Mare' and sometimes obscure descriptions of everyday life, he seems hard like your toughest post record ('That sea of emptiness and Dandelion, we use to the Stars, like the pain and keeps you up you're very cold to keep'), which he spreads a large part of this album questioning himself, rapping subtle at heart and looking at, sometimes through the eyes of another, wondering what he is, his love, wants to be and will be... a devil, perhaps? I think, no, sure, it's touching as poems, beautiful in colour, and sometimes even depressing. But Reed is happy to do what, and will always make, always add with his music, a Lou Reed record can make you cry, laugh, or even smile.

'Magic and Loss' is quite possibly Lou Reed's masterpiece, in it he takes apart his life, past, present future, hopes and fears, damn it, everything, and releases it elegantly on to our sacred Globe.

Tim Vigon

## Superchunk

No Pocky For Kitty

(City Slang)

As always, your lovely Leeds Student Pop Team have their collective finger on the pulse. Mercury Rev, Nine Inch Nails (don't say "who?") - you read about them first here. And now we proudly present Louie, Clark, Jay and Mac. Kicking are out of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, they are the quartet known as Superchunk. That's two lead guitars, a bass, drums and vocals from the boy Mac. This, Superchunk's debut, is not at all bad. You get twelve urgent, melodic, vaguely thrashy pop songs, all originals. There's no flaming sound, at roughly three minutes each, Superchunk's songs waste no time in saying what they have to say, doing what they have to, then wind things up. Well hell! Don't want to let the kids go home, mate!

And it really is quite good; perhaps a little noisy, but the melody will be happy. The appreciation of music being essentially subjective and all that, your reviewer liked it. Played seven times this afternoon after being received in its entirety for the same day, the record slowly grew in charm for him. There were a few songs in particular that did the trick nicely. Recently, albums



have shown a disturbing tendency to stick the best song first and take the listener downhill from there, but not here. The closing track 'Throwing Things' boasts a more beguiling charm than Nirvana managed on the 'Nevermind' LP, and has a nice serving lyric too. 'Head over heels, hand on my heart, I'm making a promise and that's a start.' The marvellously bitter 'Sideshow' tells someone who's thinking of leaving town 'Well I think you'll find / to say

what sideways there's the same old tracks'. Pure poetry.

Disillusioned, yet somehow those guitars make it groovy and alive too. Superchunk have the potential to become the next Pixies, Jane's Addiction or Smog. Youth! Something of that ilk, anyway. For now, this is an engaging meal of a record, and that's a compliment. It's a start.

Phil Scowen

## Curve

Leeds Polytechnic

Curve another. The existence of Curve is another nail in the coffin of this rotten stinking world they need to call Western civilisation. The co-director of the C.A.A. and sometime international drug dealer has virtually no opposition in this year's U.K. presidential election, the supposed economic miracle of the 80s has been exposed to the four joke it always was, and our culture has been eaten by Jeremy Beadle. And what connects all the ugliness, from that android Major and nasty old trainers to Curve and cocaine is the Free Market, the great god of unfettered, unbridled, unbridled capitalism.

As for Curve, being a leather jacketed indie rock band are part of the anger counter-culture. The band's chairman Toni told this very paper:

'The average Curve fan won't put with any shit, they don't want to know it.' Of course. The average Curve fan appears

not to have sensed that Curve are Corporate Rock Pigs, a bunch of aging music his failures who went mad and bought some nasty K-Tel alternative Rock compilation. The result is a nightmare cross between the dreamy pomp of Gorky and some blackness of the shagbats; and the most fraudulent and emotionless music I've ever heard.

Having to experience Curve live this feelings is me about the authority of pop music that I thought I'd lost in my slide towards cynicism. It may be odd for a born again Kyle fan to worry about indelicately in pop but hell... maybe because this is all part of the game in the mainstream, taken as read, but independent music was meant as space where in return for its record sales bands could celebrate their awkwardness, personal inadequacy and sometimes musical incompetence. A lot of indie records were made, but so were a bunch of wonderful ones. In my Curve aren't even an accurate forget they have no rough edges; their sound is clear, booming, pristine and utterly brilliant. The only blinks at the sheer

professionalism of the whole thing is Toni Balliday herself. In place of the icy sex goddess of press imagination, a woman with the physique of Bette Midler and the attitude of Marlene Dietrich, is a halting skinny desperately sexual rock hucker, every bit as dangerous as a stuffed pig on Valium. Did the starchy reserve that passes for music journalism in this country, fuelled by the sexual frustration of extremely ugly men, could have offered this woman and this band as victims.

And this is where it gets apocalyptic. Because Curve, like George Bush, Flax, Saddam Hussein, McDonalds, Nintendo, Coca Cola, are highly successful. Product. Any decent pop music that emerges in this climate is a stubborn reminder of a defunct age; merely happy anarchisms. Curve, C.D. compatible computer designed anti-establishment heroes, are probably the future.

I'm packing up and heading for a monastery, preferably in Tibet. This place is just too nasty for me.

Mark Morris

## Music

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# IT TO GO

## Scott Walker and the Walker Brothers

No Regrets (The Best of...) (Fontana)

As you may have noticed, this is not the happiest of weeks for pop music. I'm generally not keen on the idea of having to review compilations by classic pop groups flung out by even tighter record companies on the back of dodgy juke ads or even dodgier money sessions, packaged without love and often replacing an earlier, cheaper and higher quality record. Even the vinyl that this is pressed on is disappointingly flimsy (but at least it isn't C.D. only)...

But there are other reasons for discussing this record now. This was commercial pop music made with the kind of skill, care and most of all emotion that is completely absent from any music made nowadays. The almost total variety of the sound on "The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore" makes everything around new, made with hugely expensive equipment and extravagant amounts of time, sound positively tame. Not even Phil Spector heeded this wall of truly glorious sound, but maybe even more important than the fact this sounds so good is the persistent feeling that this is music made with love.

This is a shameless sentimentalism about this whole thing. From the Walker Brothers' biggest hit to Scott Walker's more personal moments, that never really sinks into schlock that is always threatening. Except, that is, for the appalling "We're All Alone" from 1976, a song ripe for a Whitney Houston cover, so sickly is it.

Look, this kind of nostalgia is not my chosen style. I've spent so many years arguing with those who wallowed in an unbridled version of someone else's past, and yet here I'm telling you your best bet is... this. Oh, I don't know. Buy this, or better yet find some older, less calculating compilation in a second-hand shop, but let's not collapse into some sentimental vice.

Mark Morris



Would you like fries with that Scottie?

## Darkside

"Melomania"  
(Beggars Banquet)

That they live in Rugby Means of the fact that Darkside Means another splintering of that sorely missed seminal outfit (that's meant to be ironic) Spontaneous 3. Their sound consists of some twiddly, Yehyeh guitar, a rather mellow organ and extremely monotonous vocals. While Spiritualized go off on their later-planetary tangents, producing such rhapsodies as "Red So Sad", Darkside are unable to get their feet off the ground. They try to pull off the steps but are unable to be transcendental or offbeat.

"Spontaneous" has a spiritfully guitar part but soon begins to pull. When the music is bright and interesting the lifelessness of the vocals manage to keep it bogged down in the mire. Any potential spark remains until the end of the first song, where the atmosphere of its surroundings. The places where they attempt something like energy or climax seem contrived, as if they are trying to lift themselves out of

their boggy. "Rise" is an irrelevant drone which takes up half a side and really shows them up to be the ponderous, self-indulgent hippies they really are.

Mind of what's here is ineffective. The song arrives and floats around and in a minute or two you will have forgotten it's there. You probably won't want to hear it again. It is not disturbing, not mysterious, and not even pleasantly blotted out. "Melomania" may be defined as the mental state whereby you suffer under the illusion that your expression of bland blankness are of supreme beauty. Sounds like it could be sound.

Steve Lowe

Sarapoly  
(Sarah Records)

Digressive times indeed at the Leeds Student bi-atch podcast. Instead he plays a badly chosen "Jesus Christ" on my left the growlings of an ex-ecutor (whose longevity alone has apparently prompted his critical rehabilitation) strain

towards Serious Art and up like the wind street nothing close a Waffleholmski copist to cries of genius; on my right a contemporary rock group attempt to reproduce one facet only of the noise that man made nearly a quarter of a century ago. Behind me, my striding editorial hand has flipped completely and is flailing. Curse for the God will. Here it. This is a work of bench of excitement, as free from interesting stuff that not only has a mass psychosis been induced, but yours truly, the last bastion of sanity, is reviewing Sarah 30. No new board game.

Not being entirely accustomed to reviewing board games, I'm not really sure whether a critical vocabulary exists, so tough. Pick your favourite recent company boss, let's say Mr. Remson, and dot your way with me around a rather stylised Victorian landscape. Your task is to collect the essential ingredients for a Sarah I.P. (reparations) cones, plastic bags, and a T-shirt etc., attempting to avoid the many pitfalls which can bear a superlative magical. For example "Realise you're told Chibonnet to typist shopping list rather than track finding for new compilation I.P. Go home to get right piece of paper. This whole process is, you

will find, riddled with problems which run from amusing to time-consuming to unbearably frustrating as the game progresses. If you decide that you will abide by the rules to the letter, particularly the irritating one-way system, expect to be playing until...oh, until indie-pop is back in fashion. It's fun, particularly for those of us hopelessly obsessed with the music but, but a tangle to either bore or frustrate after the first thirty-six hours of play. Which, I suspect, is pretty much the point.

What the game represents, apart from a Pictionary-like piece of catalogue Product-joke, is a dig at the industry figures, who they despise, and a soundboard defense. It's difficult, honest to those who (rightly) accuse Sarah of not living up to the spirit of their original aims and promises. And another symptom of the sick world which rewards us honest folk. Come the glorious day, each thing will rightly be regarded as irrelevances. For now, Sarapoly is the most interesting thing in the shop. Tightly close your eyes, with very hard, maybe something will happen away from the shop's clock ticks.

Tim Hopkins

## SINGLES

They're not... this much talent... by T. Kiger

### Real Deal South

Old red eyes like black (Go Down)  
Absolute, total and utter single of the week. A breath of fresh air to bring 92 with a whole, a smile and a good old singalong. The Beatles' "I Hoohey" with pop songs in the best sense of the word, down to earth, great tunes and this one is a killer. Hence: South church have long been the object of men and many others, admiring and the wit and irony in this guy's lyrics are far superior to the Mangkaters and Whore and Followers of this world. No one else could tell the story of a character from the borders of Haiti and across the land and money, whilst replacing it with Northern class and grandiosity. I love it. Number one for 30 weeks.

### Stone Roses

Waterfall (Silvertones)  
Clearly wonderful second from perhaps the only band of late who have their choice "a factor" which elevates them from the mediocrity of back indie and chart music nowadays. Of course it is another take from their one and only LP and a great marketing move from the record company they resented in the court case. Still my copy was free so I was overjoyed of gain, and Paul Oakenfold has managed not to ruin a great tune.

### Kingmaker - 14th of F.P.

#### Cherished

#### Carver USM - Rhythmic (Creative)

#### Snowden TSG - Static (Epic)

So the major setback a hole of such an up in the state of 90's U.S. success and the desirability of such music goes well to find a new single in single...  
North/Careless/Carver is set to take the world. Well I can't say to find that these bands do form a triangle, but it is the musical equivalent of the Bermuda Triangle and anyone who stays in is lost in any form of dream music forever. Avoid it.

I will however have the elements and hope to ensure eagerly awaited. Carver show what good, uncompromising, take no shit (but some record company, all money "you aren't it for the money" guys they are by putting out, yet it's another re-release, and I shall avoid the obvious and get the bonus. It was an album, the first time.

Kingmaker are of course U2 without talent (oh, oh), and Snowden things are middle-class guys of old on sulphate and the Baccareos, they are best in it and better. Thank God that's over, but we have you heard the new Stefan Schuster unapologetically get me plus plus plus.

# Sleeping with the Fishes

**Billy Bathgate**  
Showcase Cinema

Here we have a film with a pedigree larger than my arm, at least as long as the arm of anyone I've ever met, and probably only to be matched in limb length by the arm of the tallest person ever to breathe the face of this planet. Starring Dustin "granted senior actor of his generation" or so I'm told - Hoffman, along with a cast of more than moderately able supporting actors, directed by the man who directed the classic swep "Kramer vs Kramer" - the film which won Dustin his first Oscar; and with a screenplay by veteran playwright and script writer extraordinaire Tom Stoppard, this tale of the making of a young gangster seemed to have potential to hit large upon it.

As the lights dimmed and the opening titles flickered into view, all manner of optimistic thoughts filtered into my increasingly little mind. This could, I thought, shape up to be a new "The Godfather" or a second "The Untouchables"; it might even be a film worthy of comparison with the ultimate in gangster films, the inimitable "Goodfellas". It had great potential so why, by the time the lights finally came on again, was I plagued by a nagging sense of disappointment with the damn thing.

Maybe it's partly my own fault. Whenever I start to expect a film to be excellent, it invariably fails to live up to my massively high expectations. It's a law of nature, that having said that, this did lack a certain indefinable spark.

It is difficult to put your finger on why. The direction was okay; the script suffered from a rather predictable plot, but Stoppard managed to keep it up with his usual narrative tricks (repeated images, flashback sequences, the occasional burst of snappy dialogue - that sort of thing) and the performances were basically sound. Nicky Kattman deserves his natural Award being with a fair enough American accent. Bruce Willis looks possibly bothered when Hoffman sends him overboard to feed the fishes in a pair of concrete walls, and the new star, Liam Neeson, makes a competent debut as the little character. In fact, they are all just so competent that it hurts. You feel that they could have done so much more, that they could have been so much better if they could all just have been given their performances up a gear, doing more than just the bare minimum required for an adequate bit of acting.

Nobody is this more apparent than with Hoffman



Dustin makes certain that the camera gets his good side, while Bruce gets ready for a returning blow that he will never forget.

himself. One Dustin is, at almost always, interesting to watch and crafts a handful of neat dramatic moments, but largely he just seems to be existing. By drawing upon the techniques of screen acting that helped him win a critical fall of awards, the distinctive one is just about able to make the character of Dutch Schultz, the prosperous mobster at the end of his power whom Billy idolises, believable, but not really strutting himself be

falls to make him memorable. He seems to be lacking commitment and just cruises through the film doing the sort of stuff that both he and cinema goes the world over already know him to be capable of. It is not a performance to rank with the likes of Pacino in "The Godfather" or especially Neeson in "Goodfellas" - the latter's explosive bursts of incredible violence being infinitely more shocking than those in which

Hoffman's Dutch indulges.

By no means is this a bad film, but it is a frustrating one. A bit more effort from all concerned and it could have closed its way up to the level of my childlike optimistic expectations. Oh well, I suppose we all have to grow up some time.

**Ceri Thomas**

## Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey

Odeon Cinema

God or I expect I'll be damned if I should give in and do what any other young man. Simply because one sees a film with a couple of Taz chappies in, doesn't mean one ought to capitulate and start taking like the blithering idiot I? I mean, whoever heard of a self respecting fellow dabbling something "buddacious" when it was simply mildly agreeable? Can't they speak the King's English? Cut get their tongues!

Two chaps, one, Ben, were seeing side-side of the East India; William and Edward, got a bit of history - previous film one hasn't seen: time-travelling, all sorts of machinery responsible for important change in direction of planetary history, dunno know. Killed, naturally, by evil aplications of selves, embark on the sort of any young chap should take sort of Grand Tour of the great

beyond. Heaveo, hell, you know the sort of thing.

Anyway, turns out that despite colonial upbringing they know what's what, commander a kind of master-chappie called Death (the man with no-tail, delat fumes of evil ranged against him and get back in time for us. Not bad, not! Only a couple of dilly-billy, two terrible ridiculous in-jokes, (Ed) and time on their flank too. Available dates, that is, er... follows. Type of chaps one could opt some how with, as long as the fuzzy-muzzies kept their clowns. Heave! Wrong continent. By God, thought this was one of Bern's Horvats.

Anyway, fact is, despite whole thing being overly trivial the film makes a chap want to sit cross-legged on the floor of the club, talk about babies and compare one's Megadeth collection with the fellow's on one's right. Must be the quality of the stuff. About excellent footage. Like, go see it, teacher-dude. And then later, where one's bad one's innings and the Big Umpire in the Sky asks a fellow if he knows the

meaning of life, by way of entry through the party gates, a chap will be able to put his hand to his chest, so as not to let the side down, and be proud to declare: "Tory one has it's down. Just like every night has it's down. Just like every cowboy sings a sad, sad song..." etc.

**Emma Hanley**

## Fools Paradise

-live comedy  
The Studio, Bradford

Flying carpet, the coordinators of this season of comedy, have obviously given the atmosphere some thought; we are all seated at little tables, sipping cans of beer at only 65p each (Trinity being the sponsor) while waiting for the show to begin.

Tonight the comedians appearing are Dave Cohen and Tony Allen, with Roger Montbourne as the host. Montbourne, a young bloke of around 27, comments briefly on

some current issues ranging from George Bush's collapse to fantasy vending machines; he's got a dry, wicked sense of humour, and you wish he'd stop on stage a bit longer. Still, it's time for comedian number one Dave Cohen.

New Dave Cohen is a middle-aged bloke who draws on his Jewish descent as inspiration for some of his jokes, while for others he's centred around current (or neo-current) events. While sometimes very funny, at other moments he unfortunately misses the mark. He has a natural talent for joke-telling; the audience hang onto his every word, which sometimes backfires when the jokes aren't that good and some were rather dated, eg. the ones referring to the August coup in Russia or to Margaret Thatcher. Also many Cohen's topics are quite conventional for stand-up comedy, eg. stag nights, rugby songs, relationships and so on. Although he's not a bad comic, I think that he was in front of an audience expecting something more "alternative" than what he had to offer.

Allen, another brief

appearance by Roger Montbourne, Tony Allen came on. Tony Allen is no longer young, but moves about with the energy of a twenty year old and his wit is so sharp that you forget his grey hairs. Considered the "Godfather of Alternative comedy", having invented the phrase in 1979, he points out funny ideas in all its grandeur. Chomsky, Tony politics, Einstein and branded bosses all get the Tony Allen treatment.

Tony Allen doesn't try to be funny, he's a natural comedian who captures the audience just by his highly individual style. At one point, he boldly goes where no other comedian has gone before by starting to explain the principles of atomic physics. "Observation alters the nature of the observed", he says, and plunges us into a naive description of microscopic chaos.

This man's mad, he's so good he shouldn't be second. Find out all about comic acts, the "com' pres, write pres" after your squad and book tickets - go see Tony Allen! That's all I can say.

**Rosa Podos**



## Arts

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## Bite the Bullet

The Year of the Gun  
Showcase Cinema

This is a political thriller. Horrark! There just aren't enough around for my tastes: as maybe they're not enough of a high-profile genre. There is, after all, a certain level of concentration required to keep your chin above water during such things when's getting used to whom, and where, if anywhere, is there an out of moral fibre to be admired? Nothing is explicit, and if it is it's probably a red herring. Frank's More of this phase and then the hand-gun, mother.

It's set in Italy in the late 1970s and refers to actual historical events. The Red Brigades, communist terrorists, are raging war on the government, students, subversives, homosexuals etc. is an American film and out-and-out, honest-to-godness terrorism complete with large woolly hats that roll down over the chin with holes cut out for the eyes, are vying with each other in the unattractiveness stakes. A US journalist (Andrew McCarthy), himself once a student activist (journalist -

shipy husband), arrives back in the country to write a novel, the contents of which he keeps a secret for his own safety. Apart from a few acts of violence and murder everything's going fine until a female photo-journalist (also American) turns up and the plot hits off.

"Year of the Gun" is an adequate example of its genre, which means that the plot isn't overly as complex as it might be; all the best ones require a radioactively tracer to follow the convolutions of the screenplay, re anything by Le Carré. But the atmosphere generated by the location filming in Rome, the novelty of seeing Andrew McCarthy playing a grown-up, and the general seediness of the whole thing make up for this somewhat.

The most surprising thing about the film is that despite the apparently masculine character line-up, no one is completely two-dimensional. The terrorists are suitably enigmatic and animalistic; McCarthy,



Watch out - he's behind you!

despite early-warning signs of being bawdy, does the dirty on his girlfriend; all the Italians turn out to be terrorists (except only kidding); and Sharon Stone, though improbably beautiful doesn't get anything resembling a political or simply a jerk. And she's involved in a sex-scene that makes "The Incredible Lightness of Being" look like a book-end video.

It would be easy to sneer: do all Italy terrorists have

the bathroom door open when taking a leak? But the fact is that when the showdown happened at the end I was there; not thrilling my socks off, but a good 70% thrilled. And as I'm sure you can't be well aware by now: a thrill in the dark is worth two in a bank.

Emma Hartley

Richard Hall and  
Simon Stead  
-Art Exhibition  
Wakefield Art Centre

I don't like that picture - I don't like those trees," the spectator and author.

There was a pause.  
"They're not trees, they're trees of wheat," the artist pointed out firmly. "And they represent peace."

How many of us have tried to make out what exactly a poem? More of us than what would be to infer it's art, and I was no exception at the exhibition of most works by Richard Hall and Simon Stead, currently showing at the Arts Centre in Wakefield College.

However the puzzle of

trying to come to terms with works that we don't understand does not be treated as a joke and does actually face both the artist and the spectator with a problem.

Simon Stead admitted that it was slightly depressing seeing people walking quickly past his work and making the comment that their face you still can't make how beautiful, but he also says that his work has no definite meaning, which makes any kind of explanation as to what it's "about" impossible.

Stead lives and works in Wakefield and shares a studio with Richard Hall where work is also exhibited. Stead's work is made of mixed up materials including canvas, wood, metal, magazines and paint, whereas Hall's work is typically executed using oil paint only.

Both artists have been influenced by developments in the art world over the last twenty years. Stead admitted that for somebody with little or no knowledge of current ideas, the work may seem to have

little or no meaning.

"I know it's a cliché," he said, "but I'd rather people find it or hated it instantaneously, than simply walk past it having not noticed it."

It is a fact that the majority of people don't, can't or can't understand what processes go into a piece of abstract art and yet we are surrounded daily by forms of abstract art in commercialism: posters, on television and on radio. Although it could be said that art like this is often, maybe it is simply that we are used to having images shown at us without having to think about them, and the work in this exhibition requires at least a little time and some careful consideration.

As to what it's about. That's not for me or anyone else to say. You might like it, you might hate it, but so long as you don't just walk past it, that's OK.

The exhibition runs until February 5th.

Jo Osbourn

V.I. Warshawski  
Odeon Cinema

Does the mean axiom of local cinema: a man must work, without letting the dress condemning him get too down. If I did let it go to me, then "V.I. Warshawski" could have been the film to finally loosen my feeble grip on the shadowy edge of sanity, ending me plummeting into oblivion. As it was, I escaped relatively unscathed, only spending a few days crumpled whimpering in a small, dark room peeping magazines like the sunken and I recovered.

A film of most everything badness, Kathleen Turner as a female F.I. leading quips and blows with the cynicism of Chicago may have seemed a bright idea to some studio exec, but he was wrong. Slow, badly plotted, badly acted and less fun than a blind date with a lamp-post.

Ceri Thomas

ALTER  
EG

To say that 1991 was a more than ordinarily hectic 12 months is up there with describing WW II as a mild flu season, or the Vietnam War as a scandalous waste of time, money and human life, as great understatement of all time.

Unsurprisingly, however, there was a war in the Gulf, a crop failed in Russia, the Soviet Union fell apart faster than the World-Eagles team and Terry Wogan announced he was going to stop doing his simply wonderful choruses (We would like to point out that this is a statement intended to drip backside of irony - neither the writer, nor Leeds Student, believe Mr Wogan's show to be anything more than a glorified cliché. We hope that's clear. Thank you for your time).

But now it's 1992. A time to relax, a time to kick sounds, repair losses and prepare to greet each other, bright tomorrow with a smile on your face and a song in your heart, a time to stride into the future with energy and purpose: a time to chase every moment, chase every dream, follow every rainbow and you find your direction something like that.

On that's the theory. My own attempt to take the first step on the road into the new millennium is a crippling setback. Let me tell you a tale.

Picture this: a cat at all your January morning in Leeds. A lovely new young student reaches slowly for his first coffee of the day, and, with the fresh infusion of caffeine creeping into his veins, begins to leaf through the copy of "The Independent" which moments before has fallen onto the doorman with a satisfying "Thud" an officer full of student journalists came up with that cracking piece of monotony: "Chick" and "Nipkow" were close runners up, but the editor's own suggestion, "Play", was rejected out of hand as being far too simple.

He shows through the newsy bit, lingers over the Arts pages, briefly scans the Sports and I, before turning supply to the business pages - not to play that new sportsman sport. Watching the Economy go free-free, but rather to pursue the crime-biz because of my cartoons "Aids". But it wasn't there. He leafs frantically through the increasingly crumpled pages - where, oh where, was the bloody satirical and cynical cartoon.

For days he wallows in despair, until finally discovering that "Aids" was, apparently, "The Telegraph". THE TELEGRAPH! It was like hearing that Mother Theresa had kicked a beggar or that Neil Kinnock had joined the National Front. It was mind-boggling, my cat sat so much stunned out on the street, as on completely the wrong kick, that I'd ever fully got over the shock.

Ceri Thomas

# A race to t

The enormity to which last years craze of joyriding reached remains unknown due to Police statistics failing to distinguish joyriding from plain car theft. It did however become one of Britain's largest problems as the death toll of those killed in joyriding accidents mounted, the deaths of one joyrider in Tyneside sparked inner city tensions and car theft rose 42% on the previous year. While the subject may have slipped from the centre of attention, for those who were directly involved it remains very real.

Ewan McGeary speaks to Mark, a Leeds joyrider, Eric Gibbs who works with youths in the community and Robin Sangster, a Leeds student who was a victim of a joyriding incident.

Mark, as he will be referred to in this interview, has used cars to joyride for almost five years. He talks about the thrills and dangers he has experienced during this time.

**I**t's all calmed down a lot since last summer", explains seventeen-year-old 'Mark' who spent much of last summer driving stolen cars around Leeds. To Mark and many other teenagers the high from joyriding has been the biggest event of the year.

"It was really popular then, everyone was doing it. It was like a new game", he says remembering what were heady days for him. "I knew about fifty people who were doing it. You could go out in a car and see six of your mates out driving too. We were all cruising around and blowing the horns and waving to each other when we passed. We were

really buzzing then and just driving around laughing."

"It is just a laugh really", he says to explain the appeal that joyriding holds for him and his friends. "When you get a really good one you can sometimes keep it for a few days. Then you can go out to the pub in your car and go onto a club or a rave or something."

Mark remains as keen on the thrills as ever despite a crash which badly injured one of his friends. "He was totally out of it", he says. "He

**"You learn taking the cars fifteen mph or as fast as they will go on the motorway".**

just kept on muttering his girl friends name who had been in the car too. We had to drag him off so that we didn't get caught. It was really close that time."



A car abandoned by joyriders

Michael Page

joyriding, or TWOCing (Taking Without Consent in reference to the legal offence) as it is known to the youths, has become a part of life in the community that Mark lives in near Leeds city centre. "I haven't to drive in a TWOC, we all do here. Most people have learnt by the time that they are fourteen. You take your first cars down in December because the police don't go down there much. An older lad will get you into the car and drive down. You drive on the way back up. You learn taking the cars 130 mph or as fast as they will go on the motorway."

The techniques for stealing cars remain simple despite security campaigns carried out by police forces across the country. "It's easy to do especially down near the town centre during the day. When you see someone leaving their car before nine in the morning you know that they probably won't be back before five. You could and I have seen the easiest to get into, you just pop the lock and you're gone. The best ones are an XJ or a G1 though if you can get one."

Since he left school Mark has spent most of his time without a job and at 17 is ineligible for state benefits. He worked in the delivery room of a Leeds factory but quit after two months. "The money was crap", he says, "and I got really bored. They left me standing around most of the time. The best day was delivery day because I knew that I would be kept busy all day until I could go home."

"I want to get a place at college in September 'cos I will be eighteen then. If not I'll try and get on the U.C. at least", he said. His aims are modest but Mark is not optimistic. "There are a load of fifteen year olds who live near me that will be leaving school before then. They might all get jobs I suppose, but I doubt it."

"It's something to do", says Mark. "The youth clubs are mostly for younger age groups. I'd go to them if they ran trips to the baths and stuff but they're all been stopped now. That's only one night a week anyway. You see a TWOC as a way of getting about and going to new areas you haven't been to before. When you get there you just burn

**"When I get a car I'm not going to choose a battered one am I? If it's a nice car then it's insured. Their insurance will go up but that's just tough on them really - they can afford it."**

around and show off, doing hand break turns and stuff."

He remains unrepentant about what he does. "I don't feel anything as long as I don't get caught", he insists. "When I get a car I'm not going to choose a battered one am I? If it's a nice car then it's insured. Their insurance will go up but that's just tough on them really - they can afford it". The cost of the youth activities has been estimated at costing the insurance companies £500 million.

Home for the well publicised accidents and dangerous driving belongs clearly in the police in Mark's eyes. "It's alright until a copper comes over your face", he claims. "If you can't get rid of him

before you reach the car, you usually have chances are with knowledge, you take it a good way of getting on you can get down the police won't follow."

It is possible confrontations which can be tense as early warning. However carrying going fast which is

**"It always (police) car k chances are you'll always him. In that about his li about getting. You'd probab**

scanner with me b You can't just cry made off so you cr

Police policy is chase through be picked up by the Huddersfield, North the city and then cars waiting for y

"It always end with you and it's one and get into th "The chances always just know a he's thinking about about getting ar probably got killed

Although the p the police are tak a lot of harassment they can get a TM in so that they can

Under the Ag which passed then December, custodi years will be han drivers and passio found to have de damage to property new penalties. "Ye one night of fun,"

The tough new Mark thinks. "It he says. "I wouldn be short of money or if I was stuck somewhere."

# The very last

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Aggravated Public Taking will now bear witness of up to five years

Michael Page

**Eric Gibbs** believes society should shoulder the blame for the behaviour of joyriders. He runs a scheme in Bradford providing youths with an alternative to constant run-ins with the law.

Youths who visit the Bradford Motor Engineering Project are given intensive courses in motor mechanics and defensive driving in an attempt to channel their fascination with fast cars more constructively. They are also taken to accident units in order to show them the possible results of their behaviour. It is one of one fifty such projects set up across the country which are

attempting to combat the problem with measures other than heavier prison sentences.

Another scheme near Runcorn takes joyriders onto the Yorkshire moors with scramble motorcycles to try and recapture the excitement of the road chase in a more controlled environment. Mark was enthusiastic about this idea and workers on the project claim that they have seen many youngsters losing their cynicism through such trips.

Eric Gibbs, who runs the Bradford project, clearly sees the attitude taken by society as a whole as the cause of the youths' behaviour. "Society wants to adopt an attitude to young people that says, you don't have any value, you're no use, please don't impinge on my lifestyle. On the other hand it says everyone should be an entrepreneur, everyone must look out for themselves. We have created a generation of kids who

**L**ast February a chase involving two joyriders and a police car down Otley Road in Headingley ended in a crash which killed a student and lecturer from the University. The driver of the car was sentenced to three and a half years youth custody in June. Robin Sangster was one of the survivors of the incident.

"It's only now that I can look back to the accident and feel anything else except angry", says Robin Sangster, a third year Mechanical Engineering student injured in the crash. "They've got to realise what kind of damage they can cause. There were two people killed and another two injured but it could very easily have been a lot worse. All seven of us that were walking down the road have been standing in the middle of the road".

"It isn't just the injuries that are inflicted, but the affects that it has on peoples lives that are really far reaching. I had a broken leg and collar bone, and cuts and bruises and I can't remember the week I spent in hospital because of blows to my head. But the trauma, the self-orientation, for everyone that was involved and saw the accident can be very hard. When you see something like that where your friends have died you keep asking yourself 'Why wasn't it me, why was it them that died and not me?'"

Although Police Constable Paul Craft who was involved in the chase on Otley Road is facing a charge for reckless driving, he supports police action in combating the crime. "I've paid a lot more attention to the accidents that are reported since it happened to me," he explains. "It's not always the police pushing them to it. The accidents are often caused by the joyriders themselves racing each other across both lanes of the road and obviously that causes accidents and deaths."

"I would support anything that will stop them from doing it, but it begins with taking the car in the first place. Just by driving around in stolen cars they are creating a dangerous situation. The simple fact is that they shouldn't be taking the cars in the first place".

have nothing to look forward to, nothing to look back on, to a future in which it is alright to take what you can", he says.

Mr Gibbs has strongly held views on the subject and wants "total determinism" as a whole decides it seems to see young people as objects of wrath these kids will see no future for themselves and will take their excitement where they can. Because they certainly can't afford to buy it."

# 16 Spectrum

## no trial, no charge

Leeds University's Economics Department is a far cry from a Sudanese prison. Julian Thorne and Leanne Buckle speak to someone who has intimate knowledge of both, and examine the role of Amnesty International in championing the causes of the politically persecuted.

Amnesty International regularly clashes with the governments of over 100 countries in its role as largest international organisation for human rights. Founded in 1961 by British lawyer Peter Benenson, its three stated aims are: the release of all prisoners of conscience, that is, people detained for their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion; fair and early trials for all political prisoners; and the opposition to the death penalty and all forms of torture.

Amnesty is most vocal when pinpointing the crimes of dictatorial governments, for example in 1977 it was accused of spear-heading "a concerted world-wide campaign of denigration" against the fundamentalist Iranian government. Amnesty also highlights cases of political abuse in the developing world - last year concentrating on illegal detention in India.

Amnesty's fight for political rights has also involved it turning its gaze further closer to home. In 1989 it criticised Britain's record on the detention of Irish suspected terrorists and this was followed in 1990 by a scathing attack on England's treatment of political refugees.

"The Efficient Policy and Practice for the Protection of Asylum Seekers" stated that the British government gave inadequate legal advice and assistance to asylum seekers, used insufficiently

trained officers to process applications for asylum, operated deficient appeal procedures, frequently expelled applicants to unsafe 3rd world countries and took excessive delays when making decisions on whether to grant asylum.

Amnesty has taken action on behalf of more than 4,000 people seeking asylum in the UK since 1990 and was forced to come to the damning conclusion: "These shortcomings are now so serious that the process cannot be relied on to identify and protect all those qualifying for asylum under the criteria set out in the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees. As many as 100 - possibly many more - persons seeking asylum in the UK have been summarily and unlawfully expelled without a proper examination of their asylum claim."

Amnesty's initial members included statistics kippers Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, but as it has gained in prominence and respectability its support has increased to tens of thousands of people in over seventy countries, including such comic icons as Vic Reeves, Frankie Howerd and Stephen Fry.

Yet while considerable clamour to be recognised in supporters, it seems that despite Amnesty having lambasted the government, like Majesty's cabinet is still eager to be seen as an aid fan. "Amnesty has put human rights at the heart of the government's concern," claimed Douglas Hurd recently.

At 4 o'clock every morning Sidi Kaballo is woken by the shrill whistles of prison guards announcing the dawn roll call. But Sidi has been a free man for nine years yet for the first few seconds of every morning his subconscious still plays its daily trick to remind him of his past.

Sidi is a PhD student at Leeds University it is a position he was due to take up in November 1979 but he failed to arrive from his native Sudan. Eight years later Sidi walked into the University's economic department to apologise for the delay in his arrival and to begin his PhD studies.

Sidi had a good excuse. For 52 consecutive months of the intervening eight years he had been forcibly detained without trial at Khartoum by the Sudanese government accused of organising a doctors' strike. The story of how Sidi came to have this accusation levelled at him and ended up in a bleak prison in Fort Sudan would be unbelievable if it was not quite so bizarre. In July 1979 the 30-year-old Sidi went to visit his wife in hospital who had just given birth to their third child. While Sidi was congratulating his wife he was suddenly "taken away from her room" by government officials and detained indefinitely along with doctors in the hospital ward who had been on strike. The officials explained to Sidi that his presence at his wife's bedside made him "responsible for the strike of the doctors". By 1979

medical detention was nothing new to Sidi and it was perhaps his previous history as a political detainee that truly accounted for his release in the hospital.

Since 1971 when Sidi was first detained along with 4000 others he had been in detention or

"During this period we were treated very badly and vulgarly. We were sleeping on the ground with a mat and two sheets and for the first year we were allowed no visitors. I tell you, when we entered the prison we thought at first 7 or 8 years detentions. We prepared ourselves psychologically for that." However Sidi was eventually released in May 1975 after he and other detainees had staged a hunger strike, a protest which was supported by the BBC World Service and resulted in diplomatic pressure being brought to bear on the government for the detainees' release.

This happy state of affairs failed to last and Sidi spent the next two years in and out of detention. 1976 was the first year since 1971 that Sidi lived from beginning to end without a period of released absence. 1977 saw him finally graduate and get a job, eventually with the government, whose security services continue to watch him, but after a presidential plebiscite failed to go as smoothly as the government wished Sidi was again detained. This time the conditions were "difficult". "We had beds, they allowed us radios,

even a TV". Far from ceasing in this relative luxury Sidi found this "a danger sign because when they try to make prison conditions they mean to keep you for a long time, dozens months to be exact. Release came when the Sudanese political climate changed temporarily for the better.

During the 1970s Sidi's repeated persecution was unknown to Amnesty but in 1981, two years after his arrest in the hospital, Sidi received in prison "A short post-card from the Belgian section of Amnesty in Brussels" telling him he was on Amnesty's prisoner of conscience list and that he was "no longer alone". The Amnesty post-card was the first mail to reach Sidi in prison since his arrest, but it was followed by hundreds of letters to him and his fellow detainees.

Sidi could not stress sufficiently strongly how important such cards were to the morale and hope of the detainees although during his detention Sidi received via his home address one (and recently came letter from Amnesty congratulating him on his release. "The Amnesty General in Sudan, when the pressure on the government was high told Amnesty I had been released when I was in prison. So I wrote back and told Amnesty that I am sorry

to tell you that our Amnesty General is a liar... and I was really sorry." After 4 years in detention pressure from Amnesty contributed to Sidi's release in November 1983.

Today Sudan is ruled by an Islamic fundamentalist regime that Sidi claims is currently "detaining people and torturing them, torture that may not be known in Sudan even during the colonial period. Now the stories of detention are horrible". Amnesty is increasingly having to fund treatment for Sudanese torture victims as well as opposing the existing one of the death penalty in Sudan.

Sidi believes that prison for Amnesty was responsible for 25 death sentences being committed to life imprisonment last year by the Sudanese regime. Sidi himself contributes to Amnesty's valuable work by passing on any useful information that he gives from his contacts in Sudan. He hopes that one day he will return to his homeland to see his aging mother but so long as the fundamentalist government remains Sidi believes he would get no further than the awful steps below arrest and yet another period of arbitrary detention.

Sidi Kaballo free in Leeds

Mike Page



**To pick up  
The Telegraph  
for 20p,  
follow these  
four steps.**

- 1. Walk into a shop displaying  
the Student Newsave sign.**
- 2. Say "I'm a student."**
- 3. That's all.**
- 4. Honest.**

**The Daily Telegraph**

# GOOD Life

## THE GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

**T**ake a nostalgia trip back to your teenage years tonight (Friday 17th) when "Top Banana" the tribute to the eighties comes to Leeds Poly.

The eighties show is the brainchild of Jim Moggridge and Tim London, and in making it's debut at the Poly this time Moggridge told us:

"We had a fine date at the Poly, and being into DE's we knew from our 80's nights we'd done, so we thought we'd give it a shot and see how it goes. If it does well we'll put it on again, it should be a laugh though, and it'll cover the full spectrum of Eighties stuff, from Bryan Adams to the Clash, from U2 to AC/DC, everything."

What is most noticeable about the show though is the ridiculous name. "We got the name from a late TV programme, we think it's a bit. Next time we do it we'll change the name, something with apple in or whatever."

Top Banana is at the Poly on Friday 17th of January, from 8 PM till 2 AM. Tickets are £2.50 in advance.

Those of you with any sort of memory at all will surely remember "The News" nightclub and those sold-out student evenings on a Wednesday. You will also have noticed that such an institution has been closed for over a year now, and the subsequent shockwaves felt through the clubbing fraternity have been reverberating ever since. Rumours regarding the reason for its closure range from the official "closed for refurbishment" to theories concerning short-mansures and sussed-down fees and subsequent court action. The truth I am sure will be lost within the realms of Leeds folklore.



Well the new year has seen the end of the fairly extensive renovations, and its re-opening under the new title "BL PLYER". Promising such exciting features as a "massive" sound system, an "incandescent" light and laser show and an "Infinity Dance Floor" (the club also boasts confirmed bookings of DE's and covers (a must for any aspiring nightclub - ask anyone who goes to The Warehouse and has been victim to one of their "phantom" occurrences).

Thursday nights premiere "Hardcore House and Techno" whilst Friday nights "Happening House and Dance" evening, with tonight's event hosted by Andy Robinson from Shalby's in Soho and John E' Blue of Orbi. Entrance is £5 on the door (but open at 9pm until late and dress is desired to be suitable (whilst that)).

**Tim Vigon  
Jon Richards**



**VAUXHALL**  
Once driven, forever smitten

## CLUBS

### POLYTECHNIC

at 400771  
Weds - BOF 8pm to 1.30am  
Tickets £1.50  
Sat - BOF 8pm to 1.30am Tickets £2  
17th January TOP BANANA a tribute to the 80's 8pm - 2pm  
tickets £2.50 in advance from  
Cash and Jumbo Records

### LEEDS UNIVERSITY

at 449671  
Fri - Taurus Bar disco 10pm to 1.30am Tickets £2.50  
20th January PROG ROCK  
TEXACO Taurus bar 8.45pm start  
members free before 8.15pm - sign  
up for a trip to Rockwell at  
Manchester

### RITZ'S

Mon - THE WORLD "the biggest  
student night in Yorkshire"  
beers and dance spots 80p 9-12 2am  
admission £1.50

### YEL

Meriton Centre, Wade Lane LS1  
at 444057  
Mon - Student Night Half Price  
YEL bar Happy Hour 5-7pm

### MILCRAIG'S

54 New Briggate S:LS1  
at 422224  
Mon - student night 8pm until 2pm  
admission free before 11pm with  
student card, £1 after  
9pm £1  
Thurs - Rave night FEVER  
at CRAIG'S of Ritz's  
£4 entry

### KICK'S

9 Meriton St:LS1  
at 425718  
Mon - ARMAGEDDON  
admission £4 with student card  
10pm per 50p Color £1 triples  
9.15pm until 2am

Tues - The Gallery ELECTRIC  
BLUE indie rave  
£1 with student card  
Thurs - THE DAYDREAM  
ELEVATOR 9-11 2am £2 before  
11pm, £2.50 after, DE's 10p and  
Mrs. Thickstock and Ritz's  
Ritz's, Lights from Popclub and  
Think Sex

Weds - The Gallery  
DESTINATION Out live jazz  
and Latin Pop until 2am  
at 50672

Thurs - THE MILE HIGH CLUB  
open until 2am  
£2 before 10.30pm with student

card £2.50 after  
Fri - The Gallery RLES featuring  
DJ Tina (Lash Sains)  
£2.50 before 10pm £4.50 after  
Fri - PARADISE CITY  
glass/rock/dance/£2 entry  
Sat - RLES 9-11 at The Gallery  
Tues/Fri/Sat and Dean White

### LE PRONOGRAPHIQUE

Meriton Centre LS2  
at 443689  
Thurs - PURE admission £201.50

### DIGBY'S

20 York Place LS1  
at 443594  
Mon - COMUSION indie  
Alternative 10.30pm £2 admission  
Weds - CLEAR 10pm £5 before  
11pm £3.50 after

### ROCKSHOTS

Lower Briggate LS2  
Thurs - BREATHELESS (charity  
at Ritz's) 10.30pm - 2am

### FUNHOUSE

Above Rockshots Lower Briggate  
LS2  
Thurs  
Frid, House, Garage, 70's etc...  
£2 admission £1 with Over  
Doors open 10.30pm

### LEEDS TRADES HALL

Savile House LS1  
at 628840  
Basement  
Fri - THE UNDERWORLD  
CLUB - jazz, groove, hip-hop  
etc...  
Doors open 10pm Tickets £1 on  
the door

### MADEMONS

at 442271  
Weds - Student night doors open  
9pm £1 admission with student  
card  
£1 for perils and alcohol spirits

### RIPS

North St:LS2  
Mon and Weds - REDGAR  
BRIVANZA admission £1.80  
Thurs - the 2nd and 3rd of every  
month THE SNAKE DANCE  
(10p) Alternative night £1.80  
Sat - THE LIZARD CLUB (cash  
only 70's rock

### ASTORIA

Roundby rd LS2  
Thurs - H2C FLICK 2am, groove  
etc... admission £3.52

### WEST INDIAN CENTRE

Leeds 7  
24th January Subway, House and  
Techno/Pop/Live admission £2

# STAGE

## WEST YORKSHIRE

**PLAYHOUSE**  
Quarry Hill Mount LS9  
tel:442111

**Quarry Theatre**  
17th to 25th January **World Premiere of THE GULF RETRIEVER** by Tawlat Ghalib 7.30pm Sat matinee 4pm tickets £5.50 to £12

**Courtyard Theatre**  
16th to 18th January **CINDERELLA the Piano**  
21st January **ACCIDENT OF BIRTH** by Paul Smith presented by the Leeds Theatre-in-Education Company tickets £1 to £9.50

**THE GRAND THEATRE**  
45 New Briggate St LS1  
tel:439051  
**OPERA NORTH** presents

17th and 23rd January **DER FLENNING** by Franz Schuster 18th and 25th January **GOIN' DOWN**  
20th and 22nd January **MADAME BUTTERFLY**  
tickets £7 to £28 concessions available

**LEEDS UNIVERSITY**  
Raven Theatre  
21st to 25th January Theatre Group presents **MACBETH** tickets £1.50/£2

**LEEDS POLYTECHNIC**  
Studio theatre  
22nd to 23rd January **CARPE DIEM** by Marcus Land and David 011 presented by Two in One Theatre Company  
12.30pm and 7.30pm

**ALHAMBRA THEATRE**  
Bradford  
tel:5774 72000  
17th to 23rd January **THE**

**ADVENTURES OF ROBINSON CRUSOE** starring David Hous 17th to Sat 7.30pm Sun 2.30pm matinees Wed 2pm Sat 2.30pm Sat 1pm tickets £5 to £11.50 concessions available

**ALHAMBRA STUDIO**  
Bradford  
tel:5774 72000  
22nd to 23rd January **GHORMENGHAIST** by Mervyn Peake presented by The David Glass Ensemble tickets £6.50 concessions £1.50

**CITY VARIETIES**  
The Headrow LS1  
tel:43008  
17th to 18th January **FINOCCHIO** the Piano 7pm Sat matinee 2.30pm  
tickets £7 to £7 concessions available

**CIVIC THEATRE**  
Craghead St LS2

**Leeds Student Independent Newspaper**  
17th to 18th January **SNOW WHITE** 2pm Sat matinee 2pm tickets £3.50  
22nd to 23rd January **LOOK BACK IN ANGER** by John Osborne presented by Leeds Art Theatre tickets £5 concessions £1.30

**HARDWATE THEATRE**  
Oxford St, Harrogate  
tel:54223 802718  
21st January **HENCEFORWARD** by Alan Ayckbourn 7.45pm

**BRADFORD PLAYHOUSE**  
Chapel St, Bradford  
tel:728229  
20th to 21st January **MY MOTHER SAID I NEVER SHOULD** by Charles Kennedy 7.30pm tickets £1.50 and £4

**NORTHERN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE**  
18th January **EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE WORKSHOP**

# VIDEO

All videos courtesy of Village Videos, Cardigan Lane, Headingley

## Robin Hawk

When this "Robin Hawk" went on release in the cinema last summer, there was blood in the arctic as critics thought both and not with each other so as one which of them could claim this film up against the wall and beat the living shit out of it the fastest.

'Arctic' - The Sun.

'Not so much a hawk, more of a Turkey' - The Telegraph

'Could mark the end of Willis' career' - The Guardian

'A piece of executable shit' - Barry Norman, Film '91

And it is so bad in everyone's call 'Well, to be honest, when it all comes down to it, when the shit hits the fan, yes, it is very little bit as bad as every single one of them said.

Brace is amiable enough, but even the leading one's nice line in very grunting cannot save this misbegotten tale of car burglars, spies, men's, states and Leonardo Da Vinci??? from sinking to well deserved oblivion faster than a shipload of very heavy things that would sink really quickly if stored in the hold of a sinking ship, a desperate compassion maybe, but then again it is a very, very desperate film. Do not. I repeat, do not see it.

## The Naked Gun 2 1/2

On the other hand this is an overthinking a look at an entry Friday night. Leslie Nielsen does badge and gun, and Lieutenant Frank (Bruce once again under and to be done with the forces of evil and his own massive incompetence, as the Asphexia school of humour gets whacked out for another acting.

Better than the first one, this is very witty, very chaotic and very, very funny. Almost worth seeing for the real bits alone.

## Prayer of the Healerboys

Fantastic neo-Nazi on roller-skates. Worse than "Robin Hawk."

Carl Thomas

# GIGS

## DUTCHESS OF YORK

tel:430629  
17th January **CHERRY WAMBA + CREDIT TO THE NATION**  
18th January **MIDNIGHT TRAIN + THE JOHN BOGARD BAND**  
9th January **COMPUTERS**  
10th January **RED LOBBY BELLOW LOBBY + BOB DEDMONDOO**  
21st January **KINGMAKER + BLAR HAPPY**  
22nd January 999 + **SILENCE**  
23rd January **THE BIRTHDAYS + THE PORTCARRIES**  
All gigs start at 7.30pm with tickets around £2

**THE EAGLE TAVERN**  
North Street, Leeds  
tel:47344  
17th January **STILL RUMPEY**  
18th January **AFTER HOURS**  
19th January **Incubine - ED O'DONNELL JAZZ BAND**  
evening - PC8 880718005

**THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL**  
Queen's Rd LS8  
tel:757494  
17th January **SOULICE**  
18th January **PACHA COLA**  
22th January **JAZZ AND BLUES**  
8.30-10.30

**THE DRIVE INN**  
tel:49254

17th January **"SINGER'S NIGHT"**  
19th January afternoon - **JAM SESSION**  
evening - **JOHN STRONG**  
20th January **PATSY MATTERSON**

**THE DICK AND DRAKE**  
tel:40806  
19th January **JED THOMAS**  
20th January **BLUES BAND**  
21st January **PUS BROTHERS**  
22nd January **SPIDER JIVE**  
free admission to all gigs

**ST GEORGES HALL**  
Bradford  
tel:5774 72000  
21st to 23rd January **MY FAIR LADE** presented by Buttercups

St Peter's Church Amateur Dramatic Society 7.30pm tickets 65

**LEEDS TOWN HALL**  
19th January **Northern Solstice** of England and Leeds Festival Chorus present Handel's **SOLOMON** tickets £3.50 to £13.50

**LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY**  
Lancaster concert 1.15pm  
17th January **Chaloua Drake - cella**  
Cavali Drake - piano  
from the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music

# FILM

**GORDON CINEMA** - The Headrow, tel:439001 - tickets £3.35/£2.30 Student reduction available  
1. **FREDGIE DEAD** - 1.15 5.25 5.40 £2.5

2. **BILL AND TED'S BOGS JOURNEY** - 1.10 3.30 5.45 8.10

3. **THE ADAMS FAMILY** - 1.00 3.25 5.40 8.15

4. **SUBURBAN COMMANDO** - 1.05 3.15 5.40  
HOT SHOTS - 8.20

5. **BILLY BATHGATE** - 1.00 3.20 5.40 £1.5

**CANNON CINEMA** - Vicar Lane LS1, tel:451013 - Tickets £3.50/£1.90 Mon-Fri with Union card before 10pm.  
1. **FRANKIE AND JOHNNY** - 12.30 1.25 5.30 8.20

2. **CURLY SUE** - 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.30

3. **PEOPLE UNDER THE STAIRS** - 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.30

Sat. and Sun. matinee - **AMERICAN TALK 2** - 1.20 5.20

**HIDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE** - Brimley Rd LS6, tel:72045  
LOW PRICE NIGHTS WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY - ALL SEATS £1.30

Fri 17th Jan for 6 days - **HOT SHOTS** - 1.30 8.00

Low shows Fri 17th and Sat 18th - **THELMA AND LOUISE** - 11pm

**COTTAGE ROAD CINEMA** - Fair Headingley, tel:751685  
Tickets £1.80 Mon/Tues with Union card, otherwise £2.00/2.50  
**BILLY BATHGATE** - 6.00 8.15  
Sunday times - 3.30 7.45  
Late shows Fri 17th and Sat 18th - **BLUE VELVET** - 10.45

**THE LOUNGE CINEMA** - Headingley, tel:753061  
Tickets £1.80 Mon/Tues with union card, otherwise £2.00/2.00  
**HOT SHOTS** - 6.15 8.20  
Sunday times - 3.30 8.00  
Late Shows Fri 17th Sat 18th - **MERMAIDS** - 11pm

**SHOWCASE** - 27 Goldthorpe Rd, Bradford, tel:57241 420671  
Tickets are £3.00 with a reduction for students, as for weekday showings before 10pm. Ring for times of showings

**DON'T TELL HER IT'S ME! HOT SHOTS! FREDGIE'S DEAD! BILLY BATHGATE! CURLY SUE! THE ADAMS**

**FAMILY! BILL AND TED'S BOGS JOURNEY! AMERICAN TALK 2! PEOPLE UNDER THE STAIRS! SPARTACUS! THE C.O.M.M.I.T.M.E.N.T.S. POINTBROOK! SUBURBAN COMMANDO! LEBESTRAUM! FRANKIE AND JOHNNY.**

**L.U.U. FILM SOCIETY. ALL FILMS SHOWN IN THE REPERT BUCKET LECTURE THEATRE AT 7pm. 30p members/ £1.40 non-members. ALL WELCOME.**

**Tues. 21st Jan - UP IN SMOKE** (The epitome of the serious depots heaven and hell.)

**Thurs. 23rd Jan - WEEKEND** (First of films under the theme "Film as a Subversive Art")

All films advertised are for the week beginning Fri 17th Jan.

# GOOD Life

## MISC

FRI 17th Jan - L.U.U. AFRICAN SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the R.H.Evens Lounge at 7.30pm.

CENTRAL AMERICA RELIEF COMMITTEE EXHIBITION - MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NEXT WEEK IN THE PARKINSON COURT. ETHNIC MERCHANDISE AT BARGAIN PRICES BE THERE!

L.U.U. ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUP IS HOLDING AN ANIMAL RIGHTS WEEK IN THE UNION BUILDING, WEEK COMMENCING 20th Jan.

MON 20th Jan - First meeting of the Leeds Ethical Research Campaign, led by Robin Smith of

R.U.A.V. All welcome. Meet at 7pm at the Student's Union steps

MON 20th Jan - BUSH SOCIETY Live Music and Drinks From 8.15 in the R.H.Evens Lounge at 7.30pm.

TEXTILE SOCIETY "CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL BALL" 19th 20th Feb. TICKETS ON SALE 20th/21st Jan M.O.F. Tenile Dept.

TUES 21st Jan - THE NEW LEEDS ARTS CLUB meets at the Victoria Hotel (George St) at 8pm. This week - John Jones on Pop Art. All welcome. Entry free.

WED 22nd Jan - CHRISTIAN UNION meets in the Jubilee Room at Becker's Park. 7.30pm.

THURS 23rd Jan - BALLROOM DANCING in the Billy Smith Hall. Intermediate. 8.45pm. Beginners at 6.30pm.

## EATS

### CHICKEN IN WINE

This can be made with a chicken joint or the breast, but is good made with boneless chicken breast or filleted turkey, according to your taste and pocket. Serve with rice or jacket potatoes and peas or green beans. Serves 1.

Preparation time: 40-60 mins plus defrosting time (chicken on the bone takes the longest time)

#### Ingredients:

- 1 chicken joint 45-60g/175-225g, boneless chicken breast or fillet of turkey fillet
- 1 small onion
- 1 small onion - preferably chicken flavoured
- Half cup hot water
- 1 tsp oil and knob of butter
- 1 wine glass of white wine (or cider)

Half tsp herbs  
Salt and pepper  
1 tsp flour (or cornflour)

#### Method:

Defrost the chicken thoroughly for several hours at room temperature. Peel and finely chop the onion. Dissolve the stock cube in the half cup of hot water. Heat the oil and butter over a moderate heat, in a saucepan or deep saucepan, and fry the chicken gently for a few minutes, turning it so that it browns on all sides. Remove from the pan. Add the onion to the pan and stir over the moderate heat for a few minutes to soften.

Put most of the wine (or cider) into the onion, stir well and allow to bubble for a minute. Remove the chicken to the side. Stir the stock, herbs, salt and pepper (according to taste). Cover the pan, and simmer very gently for 30-45 mins, until the chicken is tender. Mix the flour with the rest of the wine (or cider) to make a smooth paste, and gradually add this into the chicken sauce, until it has thickened a little. Serve hot.

## ARTS

UNIVERSITY GALLERY, LEEDS UNIVERSITY - ON THE RIGHT SIDE - Work by Margaret McCrath. Limited edition. 14th January - 7th February 1992

LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY - MEDALS FOR DISHONOUR - Anti-war posters by David Smith. The first occasion the complete set of bronze medals has been seen in Europe. Until 10th Feb 1992

Also LA MANIERE ANGLAIS - English manuscripts from the permanent collection. Until 26th Jan. 1992  
Also LANDSCAPES...AND SUCH WILD WORKS - Until 26th Jan. 1992

DISCON DATE GALLERY, 34-36 Queen Victoria St - EXHIBITION OF WORK BY HENRY MOORE - Lithographs and etchings. Until Jan. 18th

THE PAULINUS, 235 Woodhouse Lane - STOLEN GLANCES PT II - The second half of the Paulin's highly acclaimed exhibition of lesbian photographs. Until 30th Jan. 1992

LEEDS CITY MUSEUM, Calverley St - THE HOMER OF FOOTBALL - Photographs by Stuart Clark. Until 16th Jan.

## RADIO

Gayles fans should tune in to Radio 1 on Sat. for the first of five consecutive "Gayle Legends". This week - Bo Diddley and B.B. King "Family Legends" on Radio 4 at 5.25pm is not based on the T.V. show, but is an exploration of love, sex and marriage across three generations of working people. Still in Saturday on Radio 5 at 9pm is "Aloppop Worldwide". This week, a showcase of Papa Wemba, singer and bandleader from Zaire.

Sunday on Radio 4 sees "Best Behaviour" at 8.30pm in which Nigel Redden decides whether the British are too polite for their own good. Radio 5 at 3pm presents James McIlroy motivating Frank Schimmenti for another hour of mid-to-end discussion, this week on Freshfield offshoot.

"Woman's Hour" on Monday (Radio 4) at 9.30pm meets the screen legend Zsa Zsa Gabor, and "Surrealism" on Radio 5 at 5pm presents Robert Elms "in" the Easy-Yeah scene.

Radio 2 on Tuesday has a salute to New York's most famous concert hall, Carnegie Hall, which



Right: Prints. Centre: 2 by Margaret McCrath. Leeds University Gallery

DESIGN INNOVATION - The Cello - Prints by DAVID GREEN

CARTWRIGHT HALL, Little Park, Bradford - EARLY 20th CENTURY PAINTING, DRAWING AND SCULPTURE from the permanent collection. Also SHOPPING SENSATIONS - a look at one of the great cultural sensations of this century. Until 28th Feb 1992

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY, FILM AND TELEVISION, Bradford - STONE WALLS, GRASS SKIES - A vision of Yorkshire by George Tice. Until

was opened in 1991. Included are excerpts from a few of the many musical seasons there. "Life on Fire" (Radio 4 at 7.30pm) investigates why a growing number of diagnosed psychopaths are being refused treatment in Britain's top security hospitals. "Lambert" on Radio 5 at 10.10pm has the hottest music and talk from Scotland.

Wednesday on Radio 4 (2.45pm) sees "A Short History of the Cold Shower", in which Dr. John Peel samples more than 100 years of advice about sex, and later on Radio 4 "Kaleidoscope" (4.05pm) discusses the new films of the week, including Oliver Stone's controversial JFK. "Hi The North" (Radio 5, 10.30pm) has interviews and the northern music scene with Mark Radcliffe.

Open on Thursday (Radio 1) has "The Rap Session" and Pina Topp looking at the best current rap, regga and new jack swing. P.M. Wednesday here should tune into Radio 4 at 12.25pm for "Guided at Blindings" - the first adaptation of the classic novel. Likewise, Times fans could try Radio 5 at 7.30pm for the third of its adventures. This week, "Red Rhythms Tanzania".

Jo Oshelm

and March.

Also THE HANDCRAFTED PRINT - exhibition of hand finished printing processes. Until mid March.

WAKEFIELD ARTS CENTRE, WAKEFIELD COLLEGE - EXHIBITION OF WORKS BY SIMON STEAD AND RICHARD HALL. Until 5th Feb.

YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK, Brum Park, off the M1 - JU MING - TAI CHI SCULPTURES. Works in wood, clay and bronze. Until 31st May.

## EXTRA

"ONLY THE PERVERSE FANTASY CAN KILL. SAVE US"

In the above quote, we are presented with a subversive hypothesis. Save us from what? Perverts? Assassination, or happiness? The possibilities are endless, and so are the possibilities for perverse fantasies. This issue, L.U.U. Film Society are showing a series of films with the common theme of subversion, interpreted between rather less potentially revolutionary ones. The aim is to give a basic idea of how film has been used in the subversion of existing values, traditional institutions and values.

Antonio D'Alema once said, "The cinema implies a total inversion of values, a complete upheaval of optics, of perceptions and logic. It is more exciting than philosophy, more surprising than logic." If you sense something that level, if you sense something with what you have seen so far, use it as we can change your mind. Remember, words are not the best way to deal with a visual medium - they must be seen to be judged.

M. Pilham



**1** If it frightens, but not licks inside your dog's mouth, this can get the hands on him.

in 1938. The *Whicker Way*, published at the about-past working-class interest Scotland, set society on fire in 1 month.

### 2. Submit the manuscript

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*Journal of the Royal Society Medical Sciences*, highly accredited journals, at the top of mainstream publications in living health. It gives a current article in family counselling.

## S a t u r d a y

and improve the quality of your life.

## Summary

day

© 2000 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

# Sunda

© 2004 The Nobel Foundation  
 S. & Flora Yu Buzan, Vice of Helgey Bragg's  
 only, enhancing social harmony.  
 28 Nov 2004, nyman 1.08 The Nobel Center

only. Mervin Dymally, another liberal, was

will be front of the morning

It sometimes can cause considerable mortality.  
(1.36) Yellow Earth. A subtle murder by the  
mournful folk songs in northern Shanghai.

This week Kevin Fylan settles himself in front of the screen again.

## review

declining to answer such questions at "What you're completely asked about is why," Barto, I'm sorry to say, was Mr. Embarassing as he tried to get his head around the question of what it would mean if the Fatherless Baker Boys, and the most troubling question he asked last night was, "How would I respond to allegations that you are, in fact, collectively attractive?" A hot topic, Barto. For the first time in my life, I didn't waste my decision at all on Christmas Day, even the incorporation of the Queen's speech into Communion Street. Strange idea that last one. Still, suggestions that it was a cynical move to avoid the sharp decline of viewing figures have been flatly denied by a spokesman for Broadcast Pictur-

**Review**

## Previ

## Preview

Another ending with a twist? It's in the offing in *Boyz n the City*, this week's new. This Morning is back on the scene, with more pain, pride and practical moral advice on sex and shopping. **THUR.** In the sounds of Statue City playing live is the studio's **WHIRL!** in the wisdom of **WOODCRAFT** with *The Smokey Fall*. **ALL** **EXP** to the expertise of Maggie Phillips (the comedy monkey). **11** All that isn't enough for you then not around that there'll soon be another photo-in on dead-waiting when lady gets to enter the immortal world. "We've been through that with *thirteen*, haven't we Richard?" All in all, a bloody good choice for our going in for that **11** O'Clock lounge. The other by ones of the week is that

"...what did you watch over the Christmas holidays, you remember each person?"

He lit the highlight of the whole period was the fact that Buckle converted, according to himself, from a couple of weeks ago. Obviously, "Well, probably, he was reading about him trying to make his own life as a wealthy fellow going to church every Sunday in a long time."

Ferraro said that he was so taken in conversation, but for the moment had Main Fuchs at hand there was Betsy Norman's Film #90 special on Michelle Phillips. Sorry to be so crude but you could actually see the man's erection from your living room. Michelle, surrounded by his loving "appreciations," of her love scenes by [Mick] suddenly denying that she was anything more than sexually aware, and instead that Woodstock.

There is a host of new series of Which leg it is busy?" starting next Friday: Jump up and down in the tubs; wear bits of paper in the air and get lost; videos set in anything like as good as the first series there it should be essential viewing. As long as it's got the two most beautiful and eminently funny people in the world, though, those Lawrence and Tony Sherry, who could easily compile.

Finally, have you watched the second episode of The Falklands War on Channel four at 800 on Monday? This one examines the possibilities of a peaceful solution even after the original vegetarian landing and promises to tell the full story behind the sinking of the General Belgrano. It may be an exceptional triangle.

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# New Year... New You



We've all made and broken our New Year resolutions by now; diets, fitness, quit smoking; all to improve our image, and what better way to achieve instant effortless image change than with a hair cut; no starving yourself, no shame, and no bad moods - good for those lacking in willpower, at least one resolution fulfilled.

Long term change or just for the night, particularly with the Ball season approaching, most hairdressers will offer a variety of acceptable alternatives. In cutting, dressing hair includes making long fringe waves, a step further than Brylcreem and gel.

What we want into the hair dressers we had no idea what they would do, remember you are their walking advertisement.

All hair was designed by stylists at Hair Hair, Hair Park Corner (near the Post Office) which is currently offering 15% discount for students and specialise in hair extensions and advice.

For those of us that are more environmentally conscious than others The Hair and Body Studio in Headingley offers an organic clay hair lightening technique; plus permanent hair colouring using no peroxide or ammonia. All products are not tested on animals.

In town and need a hair cut there is always John Major in the Merion Centre. Who assures 100% satisfaction on every visit.

We found Hair Hair to offer the cheapest prices.

Photos left column, top - longed the short back and sides, have the top left fashionable - precision cut. Both bottom - hair cut on opening rods for those "special occasions."

right column; multi-coloured extensions available for either full head or half head, middle - for the evening hair has been put up into a chignon with ringlets; bottom - first hair was shown unadorned and then put up into a chignon this time with a fringe.

By JULIA HUNTER  
and CLARE SPRIGGS

THE WEST YORKSHIRE  
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or THE TRUTH AND OTHER FICTIONS

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# Balancing the Books

As the Jockey Club ends its 213 year autocratic rule over racing, **Richard Fletcher** spoke to local Bookie **Peter Smith** about life as a Bookmaker and the future for racing

Just over 30 years ago Peter Smith was a labourer for H&H beans. His only dream was to own a Morris Minor 1000, but in 1960 all that changed. The government finally legalised off course betting and Peter Smith immediately opened a betting shop in what he describes as "fairly a cheeky bar", near Pripton colliery. He now owns 40 betting shops, an electronics company, and sits on the Betting Patterns Committee. As we chat, Peter Smith leans back in his leather executive chair in a valid but casual suit.

Before 1960 off course betting was illegal. However, the resurgence of illegal shops and bookies runners, for which Yorkshire was particularly notorious, persuaded the government into legalising the practice. Looking back Peter describes it as "a very exciting time". He says: "the whole industry was coming out of a very dark age, although the powers of the day seemed to want the mirror of a betting shop to look like a Methodist church, and certainly be no more comfortable".

To a certain extent this changed in 1986. Bookmakers were finally allowed to show faces usually. "I raised the whole profile of the sport, it was not sufficient to listen to it on audio, but the only thing that held it back was government legislation," Peter says.

Racing is now undergoing another period of change, for nearly a year the so called "crisis in racing" has filled many a racing column in the national and racing press. However Peter doesn't believe there is a crisis. Rather, what he calls "the disease of recession".

One of the largest areas of confrontation over the last year has been the cost of owning a racehorse. However Peter echoes the argument used by many Bookmakers. "The owner of a racehorse is in the same vein as the owner of a yacht. When you go to a racecourse and see owners and trainers in the enclosure with all the fun and exclusivity of being at the centre of the whole thing you cannot expect to do that at no cost," he says.

More surprising is Peter's admission for the Jockey club;



Peter Smith in his Leeds office

Michael Page

"they are the guardians of the sport, they are a bit uncomfortable, and that is a very valuable piece of mechanism - that makes racing in England very unique". The largest debate recently has been concerned with the levy - the contribution bookmakers make to racing. Peter argues that bookmakers, particularly independents, don't have the easy time that some people believe. He says: "You have got to remember that in the early part of the 1960's there were 15,000 betting shops, we are now down to 9,200. Does that sound like we have an easy time?" Peter

himself has closed down 30 shops over the last few years.

Throughout these debates, the government has been reluctant to become involved. When asked about this Peter finally drops the poker face he has held throughout the interview. "First of all we have the betting and gaming act, which tells us - the off course bookmaker - how we have to operate, then we have the betting duty, roughly half a billion pounds, that comes from the off course market and goes handily into the treasury. With that in place they very get along by themselves then by all means do.

It's true, it's not even appropriate. Away from the politics, Peter Smith's original retail background shows through in his attitude towards his customers. "I think they are very discerning". The seven service in his shop is one example of this. "It is a matter of information, we decided that right colours that is the telephone number was not sufficient, so now we have an out system a quarter of a million colours, we also have a larger menu, allowing us to bring extra claret to the screen".

Looking to the future Peter plans to increase the role a technology father, "a very short time from now you will be given a very different type of betting slip, data transmission will all be automatic. Once you have the information in the box the whole of your system, we will know exactly how much we have turned over on a particular racecourse, so coming back to the politics we could then pay a amount to a particular racecourse," he says.

On the whole the debate along certain changes in racing has become interested and bitter, but talking to Peter Smith we are left with a lasting impression of a man truly concerned about the future of racing. Perhaps independent bookmakers are not the biased individuals some would have us believe.

**Leeds University Union**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**1pm Week 4 February 6th 1992**

If you use the bars, go to bops, are a member of a society (or two), use welfare services, use the safetybus, use the shops, have photocopied all your mate's notes in the print shop, play sport, get your books in the Bookshop, play pool (or just come here to see your friends and keep warm

Come to the AGM.

**ALL LECTURES ARE CANCELLED**

**You lucky people**

Thanks to the cancellation of lectures we have a lot of time for the AGM. Please arrive early to avoid the queues for the AGM.

There is a NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION against student poverty on

February 18th (Friday) with 5.00pm a national report meeting for all students and the demonstration. It is a opportunity to meet a variety of people in the demonstration. The demonstration is a opportunity to meet a variety of people in the demonstration. The demonstration is a opportunity to meet a variety of people in the demonstration. The demonstration is a opportunity to meet a variety of people in the demonstration.

For more information on the demonstration please see the AGM notice on the notice board. Together we can succeed.

**Leeds University Union  
Notice of Elections**

**Nominations for the positions of**

**Administration Secretary  
Education Secretary  
Financial Affairs Secretary  
General Secretary  
Welfare Secretary  
Womens Officer**

**Open on Friday 25th Jan  
at 10 am.**

**You want to run the union?  
The choice is yours.**

## Sport

27

# Poly Skiers dominate North Western league

## Skiing

Jason Hough

Leeds Poly Ski club again dominated the Kanga Club North Western Skiing League at the end of last term.

The Poly fielded five teams, the first three definitely enjoying places in the top ten, out of the fourteen teams competing at the Inshore Ski Centre.

In the first round presented few problems for LPSC, 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams with victories over Salford Uni, Huddersfield Poly and Liverpool Uni 2. However, Leeds Poly 4 and 5 were less successful, losing to Lancaster Uni and Liverpool Uni 1 respectively and valuable experience was gained by the first time racers.

In the second round, the Poly's 3rd team struck the Poly's 3rd team in the second round. Mark Thompson caught a ski tip on the outside gate but fell resulting in a broken collarbone. This left LPSC with two teams in contention. Poly 1 overcame stiff challenges from Manchester Uni 2 and Leeds Uni 1, easily matched by the 2nd team's triumph over Manchester Uni 1 and Lancaster Uni 1.



James Betteridge (24) his way to victory

In the final, Leeds Poly 1 captured up against Leeds Poly 2. What started out as a friendly competition soon became a fierce battle; the tension was illustrated when first team member, Barbara Gierley fell. Nonetheless, the first team clung to themselves back equal with two skiers to go. Tony Bell and Clark Wood matched each other pole for pole until Tony skidded out. The 2nd team eventually finished

the course, and with the news that the 1st team had been disqualified for a faulty start, the 2nd became the overall winners. "We intend to start 1992 as we finished 1991, on top," said Lucy Rowbotham, chairperson of LPSC.

During the LPSC ski holiday in the French Alps, an individual parallel slalom race event was organised with competitors from Leeds Poly Newcastle University, Newcastle Poly, Huddersfield Poly

and Liverpool Poly.

The race took place on a relatively long and difficult course compared to the more familiar artificial slopes in the UK.

Leeds took first and second place in the men and the women won the board with first, second and third place in the women events. With Lucy Rowbotham and James Betteridge taking first place.

## In Brief

### Wanted

Leeds Polytechnic Rugby League Club requires new players. No experience necessary. For more details phone Ianar on 7429 93.

### Here We Go

Leeds Polytechnic Rugby League, are through to the quarter finals of the Student Rugby League having beaten Newcastle Poly at the end of last term. It was the second time the teams had met in as many weeks. Impressive performances from Smith, Biggs, Howard, and Gumble, combined with good teamwork in the second half, combined with Ainge's impressive kicking ensured success for Leeds, final score Leeds 26-Newcastle 14. Leeds are also through to the semi final of the RFLA quarter final beating Nottingham Poly 40-14.

### Taoist Arts

Beginner classes in Tai Chi, Kung Fu, and Ping Pong, are being held at the Polytechnic Fitness Centre, on Tuesdays between 6.15 and 8.30, and at Beckwith Park, gym 1, between 2.00 and 4.00 on Wednesdays. For more details contact Alex on 628272.

### Inter Semester

During the inter semester week at the Polytechnic, which begins on January 26th, the sports office are laying on a number of extra events, in addition to the usual programme. Free a side, Netball, and Volleyball competitions are being run. Aerobic classes between 1-2 pm, and extra occasional and beginner swimming. Their will also be extra coaching in weight training and tennis. For more details see the posters around the union, or pop into the sports office and see Ed White.

## Whats On

### Local Fixtures

Leeds United V Crystal Palace, 1.00, Saturday the 16th/Jan/92, 87 at 15.

Leeds at Cardiff, 3.00, Saturday the 16th, 19 at 12.

### Television

Grandstand, BBC2 12.15- 3.00, Five Nations, Championship Rugby, Highlights from first New Zealand test, Racing from Haydock Park.

Leeds and Newcastle ITV 1.18-1.35

Channel 4 Racing, 1.35-5.15, from Gosport Park

Boxing, ITV, Commonwealth Championships title fight, 11.05-11.50

## Running

Dariusz Micioran

Leeds Uni had a great weekend, with the Women's team winning in style. The heavy rain still did provide an opportunity for the club team course to be washed by some red-hot performances.

An extremely quick Leeds Uni trio of Andrea Duke, Jane White and Sarah Wilson provided a selected team that won the Yorkshire Bank 10K, their highest honour for years.

Andrea Duke ran a fantastic leg of 12 min 45 secs to devastate the field of 35 women. Jane White then took over and held on to the lead with a determined performance which was then followed by Sarah Wilson in confident style.

This victory for the women hopefully shows the way forward

for the Uni and provides them a glimpse into future success.

The Poly also provided a good performance in the women's race, finally finishing in 8th position. Sue Harrison, the most-improving athlete coached by Will Parikh, showed great form recording a time of 13 minutes exactly.

In the men's race, the day was dominated by a strong Staffordshire Poly team that included many internationalists. The likes of O'Connor, Whalley and Connel had been seen to finish and ran a combined time of 1 hour 22 min 44 sec.

However, Leeds Uni again had a solid performance. Ray Foley who ran a blazing 13 min 33 sec, set up Leeds for a very creditable 14th position overall.

The Poly, without many of their top runners, finished in 9th.

The whole event seems to go from strength to strength every year which must be credited to the organisers for their efforts.

## Tae Kwon Do

Steve Menah

A strong contingent from both the poly and Uni clubs entered the 1991 British Tae Kwon Do championships at Watford at the end of last term.

The day began with, with pattern events judged on technique, precision and strength by a panel of judges.

Competitors then weighed in for the sparring many having been forced to diet or binge to make their designated weight categories.

In the greenbelt divisions Peter Burke, rounded his way into the final to take gold, beating his arch rival Paul Wei on the way. Bernice Tan took gold in the ladies bluebelt division with some excellent legwork.

# SPORT STUDENT

## INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

# Fighting chance

### Karate

Karen Blackledge

A hectic, but successful weekend was spent by the Leeds Poly Karate Squad competing in the Student Karate National Championships at Crystal Palace at the end of last term.

Although they had only had a few weeks of training together as a squad, they made up a strong team of thirteen. Despite some of the squad members having only a year of training behind them, the high placings achieved in the competition showed the hard work and dedication by the students in the weeks leading up to the event, and the excellent instruction from Shiro Ray Wilson 6th Dan, and coaches Geoff Wilson, 4th Dan, and Frank Shierovitch, 1st Dan.

All team events took place on the first day. The squad had one kata team entered, Candice Boyd, 6th kyu, Stuart Sharp, 6th kyu, and Mike Atkinson 6th kyu and a men's kumite team, Solomon Walker 5th kyu, Stuart Sharp, 6th kyu, Steven Kendrick 2nd dan, Julian Crawshaw 3rd kyu, Henrich Bowman 7th kyu. The men's team fought well to be in the quarter finals of their pool, but had a close match against West London who eventually took the bronze and gold medals.

Leeds' secret weapon Henrich Bowman 7th kyu drew his match against a very experienced 3rd dan black belt, he himself being only a 7th kyu beginner. Had the points of this fight been taken into consideration the squad believed they could have won their first place.

Individual events took place on day two with all members of the squad competing. Candice Boyd 6th kyu, and Kristin Foran 6th kyu performed well in the Junior women's kata, Candy scoring one of the highest scores in the first round, eventually taking 5th place.



Stuart Sharp in training for the kumite

overall. Walker, Sharp, Perkin and Atkinson all competed in the men's Junior kata, one of the fifty competitors. Atkinson scored the highest score in both the first and

second round and after the finals took the bronze medal.

Karen Blackledge 1st dan, Duncan Kendrick 2nd dan, and

Henrich Bowman

Adrian Hall, 1st kyu, were up against 70 other competitors in the men's and women's senior kata. Karen getting 9th place overall.

The kumite (semi-contact fighting) kept the medical staff and doctors busy, with 6 broken noses, 30 facial injuries, six compound fractures and three fighters taken to hospital. The contact was not as it should have been, but fortunately our squad was not part of these statistics. Julian Crawshaw had two excellent winning fights in the men's under 61 kg, but lost to the eventual winner in the quarter finals. Karen Blackledge also won her first two fights, in the women's over 60 kg, scoring a maximum of 5 points against her opponent in the second round, but lost in the quarter finals to the eventual bronze medalist. Also competing in the individual kumite were lightweight Sharp, Middleweights Perkin, Maccione and Cameron and heavyweight Walker and Bowman.

A good weekend was had by all, and next year with more experience under their belts the Leeds Poly squad hope to achieve even more.

Karen, involved in training with the squad or participating in the beginners' training programme, should go along on a Monday or Thursday to Blacklist Park Gym 2.



Last Saturday Royal Trophy Final between Leeds and Widnes marked 25 years of Imperial Tobacco's support for Rugby League. The anniversary comes at a time when tobacco companies involvement in the game is increasingly being called into question.

As smoking becomes more and more unfashionable, the ever stronger anti-smoking lobby are pointing to the saturation level of tobacco sponsorship in rugby league. On a national level the majority of rugby league coverage centres on two events, the Royal Trophy and NAB Cup Challenge Cup, both sponsored by tobacco companies.

Although the arguments of the anti-smoking lobby are weak, blinkered and a caricature of freedom of the individual, this is not the point. Rugby League is currently dependent on tobacco sponsorship, but as the strength of the anti-smoking lobby grows it cannot be long before further cut-throat on TV coverage of tobacco sponsored events is implemented. If Rugby League is to achieve national recognition as the more superior code of Rugby, national TV coverage is the essential weapon. To put this at risk by such dependence upon tobacco sponsors is a scandal.

The recent comment by David O'Leary of the Rugby League that calls from MPs to drop tobacco sponsorship were "spurious and hypocritical" indicates that concerns over sponsorship are falling on deaf ears. For the league to walk into the inevitable day that the anti-gate their way is dangerous, it is now and not later that they should be looking for alternative sponsors.

Richard Fletcher

## Henley triumph for Uni rowers

### Indoor Rowing

Brad Lewis

Leeds University rowers had a very successful day at the British Indoor Rowing Championships at Henley. Richard Tewe completed the 2,000 metre course in a time of 7min. 40sec to take the silver

medal in Under 23 and in doing so beat many members of the Olympic Squad in British 5th overall.

After only two months of rowing Matt Jones took an impressive bronze in the Junior class showing great potential, and with Andy Lutz, Pat Stanton and Steve Lawrence all showing strongly in their own events Leeds emerged as the strongest student squad of the day, beating

Bristol and Oxford Uics.

A week later the club staged an attempt on the World 24 hour men's slip row machine record in raise cash for Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Association for people with mental handicap in Thurmond Square, and after rowing through the night in sub-zero temperatures broke Oxford poly's record by a mere 230 metres.