

LEEDS STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Hardcore porn prompts ban

Rupert Hamer

An investigation has been launched at Leeds University following the discovery of computer programs showing obscene sexual acts. It was claimed this

About six students have been suspended from using the university computer system and could face criminal charges if they are found to have been involved in distributing the hard-core software.

The revelation comes amid growing concern as universities are flooded with copies of pornographic programs which

can be sent easily via computer lines.

One Leeds student, who is under suspicion because the software was sent into her file, said she was disoriented by what she saw.

"The images were really realistic. There were a couple of pictures of naked women and another of two people having sex in a very strange position."

"In another a woman was giving this Mike a blowjob and when you press the keys it goes faster," said the student, who did not want to be named.

"I was disgusted when I saw them. I don't want to touch the computer again because it will get me into more trouble."

Other students suspended from the system are believed to be from the Maths and Physics departments.

Meanwhile, LEU Welfare Officer Amanda Goldman has pledged to investigate the matter.

She said: "I think it is absolutely disgusting. If it can be stopped it will be stopped. People sitting down to do some work at the computers should not be subjected to that sort of thing."

First year Geography student Dave Barlow, who has to use the system regularly for his course, said: "I've heard about it on TV but I was quite surprised when I saw one of the programs in use. I was surprised at how graphic it was."

Dr Edward Bosc, of Computer Services, who is believed to be heading the investigation, refused to answer any questions about the situation.

The head of Computer Studies, Professor Peter Dew, said he was aware that such programs cropped up from time to time but did not realise there was a major problem at Leeds.

According to computer experts the programs are written primarily in Scandinavia and America. They are then spread by computer "viruses" to computers in other institutions around the world.

Alan Cartledge, a manager in computer services at

Sheffield University, said: "It is not an isolated problem. Recently more and more hard-core programs seem to be about. It is not just Leeds and Sheffield."

He added that Sheffield University is considering handing offending students over to the police.

A spokesman for Scotland Yard's Obscene Publications Squad said only that the Yard is aware of the situation and is monitoring it.

Woman killed by horse

Stephanie Rigby

A bride-to-be student killed by a horse from Leeds was crushed to death after a horse landed on the car her fiancé was driving.

Caroline Wiles, a 22-year-old theology student, suffered severe head injuries when her fiancé was unable to avoid two horses which had strayed onto the road.

The impact of the collision sent one animal spinning into the air before crashing down onto the car. Financier Timothy Ward, 21, occupied with wedding plans.

The accident happened on the A442 near their homes in Sheepshead. They had recently become engaged after Caroline, who wanted to become a teacher, completed a theology degree at Trinity and All Saints College, which is affiliated to Leeds University.

Students at the college were this week mourning her death. Dennis McHugh, Dean of Students at TASC, said: "Everyone was very distressed to hear of Caroline's death. She was a wonderful student, very able and she had a very important social presence within the college. She was particularly involved with sports and made an enormous contribution to involving other students. She will be very sadly missed."

"The church was overflowing at the funeral last Friday in Bridgforth and the service was relayed outside, which shows the respect the other students held for Caroline."

Caroline had been appointed to a teaching position in West Bromwich.

A spokesman from West Mercia was reported as saying: "Mr Ward was suddenly confronted confronted by the horses running loose on the carriage and could not swerve to avoid them." Police have traced the owner of the machines, one of which was killed, to discover how they managed to stray onto the busy road.

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Prospective Labour Party leader, John Smith, was at Elmdon Road football ground in Leeds last week. See page four for the full story. Photograph: Mike Page

Maxwell funds found at Leeds University

Sam Greenhill

The worldwide inquiry into the missing millions that Robert Maxwell plundered from the Mirror Group pension fund has led investigators in Leeds University, to say this week.

The move comes after representatives of six Lichfield trusts founded by the late tycoon broke their silence. They said that money in the Maxwell Foundation, a registered charity, from September 1988, was transferred

to the Maxwell Institute at the university to fund research into molecular science.

Maxwell was on the University Board of Governors for five years, during which time a total of £15 million was channelled into Leeds University.

Controller of the Foundation, Dr Werner Kneiser, told journalists last week he was determined to channel as much of the foundation's funds as possible to the Maxwell provisions who have lost over £480 million.

The University Deputy Bursar, David Allen, said: "In September 1988 the university entered into an agreement with the Maxwell Foundation to fund research into the field of molecular science.

Payments were to be made by five annual instalments of £300,000. Three of those were paid, the last of them in January 1991. The payment due in September 1991 remains outstanding and the last instalment will become due in September 1992."

Briefly

Roger Ingham

Leeds University student, Roger Ingham who has charges of domestic violence, lack, sexual harassment, possession of firearms and robbery appeared at Leeds Magistrates court on Monday. He was granted conditional bail to appear in court again on 27 July.

Leeds Metro Uni

Leeds Polytechnic have approved the same Leeds Metropolitan University for the students when it becomes a University. It will have to be approved by Privy Council.

Wilson helps out

Alan Wilson, Leeds Uni Vice-Chancellor is to help school children from being "left out". As Chair of the new Leeds Schools commission, Sir Wilson will work towards keeping schools that are considering opening out, in the state system.

Calls for voluntary NUS membership

Richard Fletcher

Conservative MPs made the first moves to introduce voluntary membership of the National Union of Students and Student Unions last week in a amendment motion to the House of Commons.

Conservative MP Graham Riddick said: "The government must now give students the freedom to choose for themselves whether they wish to belong to student unions and the NUS. It is simply a question of choice."

Riddick believed the black grant - the main source of Student Union funding, from its institution, should be scrapped.

Last year the Leeds University Union received £0.57 per student, 62 per cent of its total income in the University, while Leeds Polytechnic Students Union received £13.71 per head, 46 per cent of its total income from the Polytechnic.

Riddick said: "Part of this money should be paid directly to students so they can choose for themselves which societies to join and whether they join the student union". He said the remaining money should be used by the universities and colleges for provision of welfare and sports facilities. Riddick said that and shops should be run on a commercial basis, which could involve contracting out services.

Riddick maintained he did not wish to ban other NUS or student unions and argued it would thousands of students would still join.

An NUS spokesman said: "We at NUS do not feel in danger. The suggestion of voluntary membership was rather immature, there are so many legal implications in trying to impose voluntarism."

Gary Alderson, President of EPSU, believed the proposed withdrawal of the black grant has potential to do very serious damage to a wide range of Union services.

However he believed that the proposals were unlikely to be implemented.

What a scorcher!

Christine Smith

Leeds University union was so hot it was like a sauna, it was claimed this week.

The union only turned its heating off on Wednesday despite a month long heatwave over the past few weeks, which has resulted in unbearable conditions.

But Fiona McCarthy defended the heating system saying that "if students want to have beer glasses, then the heating must stay on."

Many students have found the building ridiculously hot and think it is a waste of union resources.

Rachel Potts, a second year History student, said: "I didn't know the union provided saunas!" while Steve Livers, a Combined Studies student, was so hot "that I wrung out my T-shirt for a drink."

A University employee who works in the building remarked: "It was a cool customer and it doesn't take a lot to warm me up." Mike Page, a second year Economics student, has blamed the heat for complete responsibility. "It is a bloody disgrace. One has come up with this new green initiative and does not seem to do anything on its own doorstep."

Fiona McCarthy has conceded that "it is a stone-age system but there is nothing we can do about it."

So it appears that students will continue to suffer heat and will have to endure the hot climatic conditions of the union.

OAPs fear 'superpub'

Joe James

Plans for a 'superpub' in Headingley were described this week as an "absolute nightmare" by residents fed up with late night drunken revellers.

The pub will be located on the now deserted waterworks building, opposite an old people's home, in which residents include a woman of 183.

Sharon Farrar, deputy manager of the home, said: "The pub will be an absolute nightmare. Our residents are really angry about this."

Basic breweries plan to transform the listed building into what has been coined a 'superpub' costing £1.5 million. Trevor Baragry, of the Headingley Action Group which is opposing Basic, said: "The pub alone could floodlight a lot of trouble. Residents suffer people smoking and urinating in their gardens when the pub is closed. St Michaels Church has had £4,889 of stained glass smashed in the past six months."



An artist's impression of the superpub

Ben Brewster's spokesperson Erica Caglan said: "The breweries level of commitment to the site is very high. We have already revised our plans

considerably to try to suit the residents demands. Basic plan is make it a traditional pub. It really isn't going to be a 'super pub'."

Funds for overseas council scrapped

Christine Smith

overseas and under represented by LNU.

Martina Kichholz, student representative on the council said: "It looks like a plot going on against us. We are really appreciative of the money as it helps us fund activities which enlighten us on the English way of life. LNU just seem to chip and change their stance on stopping the grant."

Linda McCarthy, LNU General Secretary, explained that funding for any social activities goes against union practice and as a result the grant has to be stopped

in line with the Union's constitution.

"No money goes towards cultural events but we are in fact giving the council some money for any cultural proposals. We are actually offering things well above what the council is offering," he said.

George Wakefield, Coordinator of the council, said he was extremely disappointed with the decision.

He said: "It would have been better to see the results of any employment that pulling the rope from under our feet."

Poly toilets

EPSU is to build new toilets and new showers for new students over the summer. It will also increase the size of the shower and surrounding steps in an attempt to make the surrounding.

Foreign students are furious with EPSU's decision to bail a grant which had helped The Leeds Council for Overseas Student Affairs.

LOOSA, has, over the past few years, received grants from the University, Polytechnic, Leeds City Council and the British Council.

But this will be severely curtailed when LNU stops giving the council a £1500 grant. The students feel that they are being

Races end at Uni

Sam Greenhill

Races have been stopped at Leeds University Union because of increasing use of drugs and rowdiness, LCU General Secretary Ende McCarthy said this week.

At Phobia, held in the canteen two Saturdays ago, half the canteen were "off their faces on something which wasn't alcohol", according to Ende McCarthy. She added:

"A lot of women, believed to be under the influence of drugs, had to be carried out on a stretcher and taken to Leeds General Infirmary, after her medical staff thought Phobia attracted a well-cut crowd of 1800 people who raised at least 2000 pounds but it took two days to clean up afterwards, said McCarthy.

He said: "The races attract more 'jowies' than students and you end up with a lot of hippy youngsters who are often the worst for wear before they even start. I don't see why we should have to deal with them.

Races do not make much business sense to the union, which is about breaks even on each race, so do they particularly

qualify as a service worthy of union support. Stu Ingram said he could appreciate why the union has become wary of races but said it would not be prudent to abandon them. "Races are popular and no one can deny that. I think the union is alarmed because it isn't used to big sell-out events but the problem of things like drugs can be eradicated," he said.

First year English student and Phobia server, Andrew Lee, described races as "the only fun we have at the moment", and said to ban them would be foolish. But fellow race fan Ben Miller, a first year Pharmacology student, welcomed the union's move. "You can't have a race without selling the drugs," he said, "and if the

union doesn't like drugs it shouldn't have races."

But even if the word 'race' is to become a thing of the past, the events themselves may still go on. "We might have 'races' with electronic music," Ende McCarthy conceded.

At an incident on the same night as Phobia a woman was taken to Leeds General Infirmary after she consumed an excess quantity of alcohol as part of her end of exam celebrations. She was discovered after passing out on the grass outside the Tartan Bar and was vomited out to an ambulance by members of the St John Ambulance Service, who were on hand to cover the race.

Summer soup kitchens

Sam Greenhill

Soup kitchens are to be set up over the 12 weeks over summer in the university union to help alleviate the problems of student hardship.

Every weekday between 11.30 and 12.30 LCU members will be confined to a free bowl of soup and bread roll on presentation of a union card, explained Fiona Mager, LCU Women's Officer-elect. She said:

"This is the second year of no jobs and no legal access to money for students and it's about time the union did something to help."

The Polytechnic is not as charitable as the rest of its opponents, although the Polytechnic and

Union have discussed the idea of free meal tickets for students to use in the canteen, emergency accommodation and help with domestic expenses.

The Student Financial Support Scheme, part of the government's Averss funds, will also be operating as normal. Wren Evans, LPSU Vice President, concluded that students feeling the financial squeeze can go to the welfare office for advice and assistance.

At Sheffield Polytechnic the arrangement is rather more extensive, where Exe offers cook food themselves which is donated by other students.

But this should be impractical for Leeds, said LCU Students Secretary, Mike Raftery: "Imagine if a student came into Exe needing some help and was told: 'Sorry, the welfare office is busy cooking some soup'. Besides, if you had no cooking it would be quite dangerous."

Student charged over bombing



Arrested over his head, Eamon Patrick O'Donnell leaves Leeds Magistrate's Court on Monday.

Photograph: Sam Greenhill

A mid heavy security Eamon Patrick O'Donnell, a Yorkshire student, is held out at Leeds Magistrate's Court, accused of conspiring to commit a bomb attack. Richard Fletcher, O'Donnell, 27, of no fixed address, was remanded

in custody until June 29 charged with planning bombings in Leeds city centre. He spoke only once, to confirm his name, during the eight minute hearing. He was accused of conspiracy to commit a bomb

placing explosive substances, arson, attempted arson and possessing explosives.

O'Donnell was a student at Bradford and Ellikay Community College.

Slater sentence reduced

Kate Connolly

A former Leeds University student who was sent down for two years for a driving incident has had his sentence cut by six months following an appeal.

Friends of Matthew Slater, 20, said said he was "delighted" at the decision to shorten the sentence for the Leeds driving to 18 months, which means that he may be able to return to Leeds as a first year student in September. The driving ban of ten years has been cut to three years.

Mr Slater, Matthew's mother, said: "We're very pleased about the outcome of the appeal. It has been a dreadful tragedy all round."

He added that his son was looking forward to returning to Leeds but added: "He's coping well with it."

During the incident, two years ago, Slater drove his father's company car at speeds of up to 140mph, causing three of the four passengers from the vehicle to be killed and two others.

Researcher denies indecency with child

Richard Fletcher

Leeds University Advanced Research Fellow, Dr Paul Baird, appeared at Leeds Crown Court this court charged with five charges of indecent assault, one of committing a further serious sexual offence. Dr Baird has denied all the charges.

The court heard that Baird admitted to police officers that he was a lonely man who found

it difficult to relate to any one he grew up and preferred young boys.

Mr Shaun Spencer QC, prosecuting, said: "He allowed himself to give vent to his curious sexual taste and abused young boys who he befriended and deliberately confused."

Dr Baird was arrested after staff at a shop in Harrogate became suspicious of the photos they were developing. It was also

alleged that Dr Baird taped activities with the boys which he later played back for his own enjoyment.

A university spokesman said: "Dr Paul Baird is a visiting research fellow in the Department of Pure Mathematics on a fixed term contract due to end in 1994. We are aware of this incident but while the trial is in progress we cannot make any further comment." The trial continues.

AWOL Rob again...

Sam Greenhill

Robert Miles, the first year French and Spanish exam candidate, has missed three appointments with the doctor since he made the headlines in the last issue of Leeds Student for absurdly forgetting about three exams.

He said: "I made an appointment with the university health department to find out if it was the exams that were making me so dizzy and ill but that I forgot to turn up and went to Morrison's instead."

Following friendly coercion by his flatmates Miles successfully attended a second appointment but failed to progress beyond the waiting room. "I turned up on time and sat down to wait for the doctor but didn't spot a big sign saying give your name to the nurse and sat up reading for 20 minutes. When I eventually asked the nurse if it would be my turn soon she told me I had missed my shot and would have to make another appointment."

Unable to conceive of a nurse and even more innovative approach to missing an engagement Miles settled for sleep through his first appointment but is happy to report that he is now better.

He said: "I feel alright now, I just feel so guilty but all the dizziness must have passed."

It has not been recommended that Miles arrange to see someone about dealing with his pain.

Citizen Smith

As the Labour Party scrambles to reorganise itself in the wake of a fourth electoral defeat, Richard Fletcher talked to its future leader.

John Smith's visit to Leeds was a PR man's dream, witness of a traditional 'family dinner' and a winner flanked into the subconscious as he sat among a group of school children in Elland Road holding the League Women Cup.

In fact John Smith is a PR man's dream and almost definitely the future leader of the Labour party.

Smith and his supporters are certain of victory: "The ordinary members of the party are supporting me, it looks like we are going to get a clear majority," said the smiling Scot.

Smith does, however, remain critical of the current electoral system of Labour party leaders. He said: "The electoral college should be composed of MPs and local party members."

His criticism of the unions power within the Labour Party is mild.

In his leadership address he talks of reducing the union position in the selection and re-election of MPs and the policy making process.

"I do not believe that it can be acceptable to ourselves or the public, who observe our deliberations that the mass membership of the party should only wield a tooth at the votes at the party conference," he said.

However he goes on to stress that "Labour must not and will not sever its links with the Trade Union movement."

Smith also talks of a need for an examination into electoral reform.

Turning in the fourth election defeat is now Smith does not

believe that anyone was to blame. "We failed to make an appeal, people failed to trust the labour party."

However Smith holds out great hope. "With hard work we can put a sense of purpose back into the country, our policies will be seen to be more relevant over the next few years."

In his leadership Election Address Smith talks about finding a new direction for Labour and offer a new vision to Britain.

A message that members of the Labour party, MPs, and the Union want to relate to, he would certainly seem to have the wholehearted backing of the majority of Labour party members.

From lifelong middle class members who describe him as: "A man has some coming in socialist philosophy."

To more radical student members who describe him as: "The 'right man for the job'." Smith would seem to have universal support among at least the members of the Labour party.

Whether he will be as successful with the voters of the United Kingdom, and eventually in The General Election, we will have to wait and see.

Leeds Student and the Diana Story

Ex-editor of Leeds Student, Ian Cason, had a hand in one of the biggest scoops of the decade, David Wabinsky spoke to him.

Production Editor of the Sunday Times, Ian Cason, claims the revelation amount to "the biggest story to come from the serialisation of a book for fear or five years".

Cason, who was the Leeds Student Editor 1975-74, was one of only four people in the Sunday Times workforce who knew the contents of the first front page outlining the allegations of the state of the marriage and the health of the Princess.

Project X, as the operation was labelled was enveloped in a web of absolute secrecy, to the extent that Cason reportedly carried the front-page dummy copy around with him in a special folder the day before the paper went to press.

"There were a number of interesting attempts made to get the magazine's photographs. Someone from the Mirror rang the printers in Yorkshire where a large proportion of our magazine are printed and asked

for some proofs. Unfortunately the printer sent them off without checking with us first. We tracked it to the Mirror, issued a writ and retrieved them.

"It is interesting to note to what extent an editor can work, obviously within the law, in which way they want."

The newspapers which ran the story were roundly criticised for what was seen as an appalling invasion of privacy. Even some nationalists rounded on the Sunday Times.

"There is an element of irony that we have got the story. Obviously not everybody is happy it was put across in a quality newspaper but the story was undoubtedly dramatic. We have done nothing to embellish the story. We presented it and reported the most pertinent parts. The editor is convinced the book is correct."

"The Sunday Times worked independently on the whole project as we always do. I have never known any interference in editorial decisions."

"In the past there have been suggestions that we were dishonest. Editors often in enormous amount of freedom."



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Herbal healing cure

Richard Fletcher

A Leeds resident is appealing to students to help him in the development of a magical herbal compound that he claims can cure almost every disease, including AIDS.

Thomas Perkins who currently lives in Chapelthorpe has developed the potion, made entirely from natural herbs, from knowledge he gained while growing up in Mansfield, in the West Indies.

Since 1984 Perkins has worked on this knowledge to develop his potion.

The potion is a mustardy brown colour, with a pungent smell, which Perkins defends. "People in the West have become too used to things smelling nice," he says.

Perkins who left his job at Sincwell B eight years ago to develop the potion said: "I'm now struggling, the University refuse to test it, and the drugs manufacturers just laugh at me, they are baffled by the fact that one compound cures everything."



Not too healthy: Thomas Perkins

Photograph: Sam Crockett

Perkins is able to provide letters from satisfied customers who have been cured of severe acne, skin rashes, back pain, hay fever and arthritis - all of which

perkins Perkins treatment recommended him to others.

"A former Acne sufferer said 'It really does work, I don't know how but it does.'"

SLEEDST INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

In many ways this year has been one of great change for Leeds student.

In September we moved into a new 'high profile' office at the Polytechnic Students Union in great improvement on our previous, windowless basement - at least now we can watch the sun rise over 'Marionette' after spending all night slaving away

over a hot terminal! ... In it we installed new desktop publishing equipment which has enabled us to be fully responsible for layout throughout the paper. No more blaming the typesetters for headlines that don't fit, lines that don't join up and spelling errors. And certainly there was enough of those mistakes and a whole horde had more in the year's

early editions.

The first issue appeared with consideration for the visually impaired, being printed on 12 point type throughout, as we had yet to grasp such basics as how to create the correct point and leading size.

However, it had to happen some time. There is still a lot of learning to be done, but at least Leeds Student, is keeping at the forefront of technology ... even if some members of LUS (even if some referring to our state of the art Apple Macintosh computers as 'rinky dinky little toys

Marking within the University and Polytechnic Student Unions while trying to maintain some independence from them can be a difficult task ... however Leeds Student has strived to be objective in all that it prints, while retaining its role as students' main channel of information on how their Unions are behaving.

One of the key aims of the paper is to enhance Polytechnic coverage, which seems particularly important at a time when it is clear to become the Leeds Metropolitan University.

Within the paper itself, there has been a new classical music

page, a weekly books page and even a regular style page. All part of an attempt to cater for the tastes of a larger proportion of students based in the city.

Interest in the paper from all of the education institutions in Leeds has soared over the year with new orders coming from not only the Uni and Poly, but also from TASC, the Music College and Park Lane College.

It has been a year of adventure and evolution. A year that was not without problems, but a year that those of us involved with the paper will never forget.

Letters Poly production line disgrace

Dear Editor

The last issue of the Leeds Polytechnic weekly newsletter, 'weekly', included a letter to Polytechnic Director Chris Price from a satisfied part time student Les Fawcett.

His claimed that "Studying at the polytechnic is the best thing I have ever done... The lecturers have been excellent they are enthusiastic and supportive."

His then went on to say how much he appreciated the quality of teaching, and how much better it was than the education he received at the University in the seventies.

If Les actually exists, and it is not that hard to believe, may I suggest that the authority opens her eyes.

The use of halliffs to collect student debt, including one case where the debt was only £48, the scrapping of part time courses, whilst students are only halfway through them, the use of ARRY Barracks for

examinations, the constant changing of the rules concerning academic appeals making it harder and harder for students to successfully challenge the Polytechnic, and the disciplinary procedure which assumes that students are guilty until proven innocent, are all there to be seen.

Although the Polytechnic is obviously constrained by central government funding the 'production line' attitude to students is completely unreasonable and a disgrace.

Come on Les open your eyes, speak to other students, speak to your lecturers working longer hours under new contracts, look at the state of Brunswick Terrace and the lack of resources.

Yes, many people at the Polytechnic do work extremely hard, but not on the managerial floor, and not under easy conditions.

Yours
Chris Dalrymple

Good show

Dear Editor

I'm writing in just to say what a fine job I think you do. I submitted him a ticket of mine that you took all hours of the day and night to produce such a wonderful paper, for out, the students of Leeds, please. Sometimes I hear critical, bitter, rational, students say that you are merely doing it in order that you may go on how Leeds is becoming rich and successful journals on national papers. And sometimes I hear even more cynical, bitter, rational students say you do it merely to provide some kind of pompous purpose to an otherwise useless life. What sad people who say these kind of cynical, or things. I respect their lies and go to sleep every night with a smile at reassurance on my face thinking that you are slaving away in your newsroom surely to bring happiness to an ordinary, to big, God bless you all.

John Revell, Charles Morris Hall

Breakfast time blues

Dear Editor

Why is it that I wake up at 8am feeling half awake and fit and as a fiddle when my alarm goes off, only to fall back to sleep and wake up again at 8am and feel as if someone has hit me over the head with a sledge hammer, it is something to do with my hormones, because I stopped having active about two years ago. Sorry to trouble you.

Yours sincerely,
Brigitte, Mary Ogilvie House.

It's the end of NUS as we know it...

Wyn Evans, a leading Liberal Democrat Student at Leeds Polytechnic talks about the effects for the National Union of Students, of voluntary membership proposals

News of recent government promises to abolish the 'closed shop' of NUS should be welcomed by all those on the left.

Voluntary membership of student unions may signal the end of NUS as we know it, but will spark new radical student political activity, perhaps on an unprecedented level.

Not because students will become so powerful and united? National Union, or even out of sympathy for possibly the last NUS president still - Larina Fawcett. New radical activity will come as a result of the possible outcome of proposals currently being expressed on the terry hushhush.

Firstly, Union services may seriously be affected. Numerous unions will have to hand over many of the services to their institutions. This is certainly the wish of Mr Graham Hiddle, MEP for Central Valley who seems very keen on the institutions themselves providing sport, welfare and all social and catering facilities.

Secondly, Mr Riddick represents a danger to reduce the representation role of the student body, both nationally and locally.

Friendly lobbying (as despised by the left) will no longer be the order of the day.

It is possible to dream up a scenario in which students have no democratic control over their services, and an opposition as much inclined to lobby institutions over 'showing students' in or educational establishments, in

such a scenario, I can only think that students will turn to direct action protests - occupations have we come!

So, who are the left opposed to voluntary membership? I was always led to believe that occupations were part of their ideology - a first step towards THE REVOLUTION!

I can only conclude, that as usual, they are more concerned in maintaining the status quo, so much for radicalism!

My only worry is that this recent tory attack will become the major activity of NUS, I must emphasise it must not.

As many students face another summer of hardship, as student grants remain frozen with no welfare benefits available, and as more student (and staff) complain over the decreasing standards of education in our institutions, student unions must not put their own self interest before the needs and demands of individual students.

In this way, student unions will gain more respect, dignity and possibly a greater chance of survival.

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Books

6 in the 19th's Clothing

Dead Certainties

Simon Schama (Granta)

Everybody's doing it. If you are a Russett, Me or Ishiguro then you're already doing it well. If you are a Barrow, Boyd or Ballard then you're bad at it and not doing too badly. But when, like Simon Schama, you are a Professor of History at Harvard University, the overcrowded hangout of historical fiction is the last place where you would be expected. In *Dead Certainties*, Schama brazenly embraces contemporary fiction's most popular genre, the fiction of history. The result is an impressive meditation upon the relationship between life and art, the actual and the imaginary.

The dead certainties of this book are two deaths. In Part One, Schama compares the unsentimental death of General Wolfe in 1759 at the battle of Quebec with its transformation into the noble subject of Benjamin Moore's famous painting, an emblem of British imperial glory. Schama explores many such representations, reinterpreting the thoughts and words of those present at the time, in order to demonstrate the logic behind imperfect thinking which refused to believe that an orphaned daughter could be generated in the quiet for Empress. It is a process which results, Julian Barnes' empyre into fireworks, and Timothy May's satire of George Crichton which also exemplifies the ideology behind imperial art. But Schama's historical expertise adds additional depth to his art history.

Part Two concerns the murder of Harvard doctor George Parkman on headless years later, and the trial of Professor John Webster who was hanged for the deed. Again, through a variety of styles Schama paints a vivid picture of the effects on the learned Boston community by this most gruesome of acts. The detective story element offers Schama a neat metaphor for the pursuit of history (which also needs evidence, trial and conviction). Schama argues that truth is forever out of reach, always contaminated by the prejudices of those who seek it.

Anyway, Schama appeals an Afterword nearly explaining why he has chosen to expose history's fictional side. This clashes with his preferred approach which emphasises gaps and aporias, and neat conclusions. But generally this is an engaging, illuminating book.

John McLeod



Simon Schama

Father Melancholy's Daughter

Gail Godwin (Penguin)

The melancholy beauty of this novel is such that it conjoins in the history not a sequence of events, but a post, an arena of repose into which we, the fortunate reader, must slip. It bewitches the mind with a surface tension of physical detail, beneath which lies the knowledge of what is intended and conveyed by the detail. For Gail Godwin never distracts our concentration with that which is merely interesting and accidental, but contributes instead what is wisely needed to be absorbed into the life and world of Margaret Gower: daughter of the opynous prior and our heroine.

Fate has dealt her a fearful loss in the loss of Ruth, Margaret's mother, to a witch-like figure a set designer from New York, whose cynicism and mocking tones are alien to the values of Rosalind, the small southern town where Margaret lives. And the book is set in the context of a small child's early remembrance of perspective on this formative event.

The setting lends itself easily to the style of description, each detail bearing the distinction of a precious and familiar friend, the substance revealed in a collage of their habits and accidents by the well-practised eyes of fast Ruth then Margaret. And there is a teasing quality to the way in which the story unfolds, dancing between plot progression and a closer observance of the entries, suggested by the story's quality of being both defined and left by its possession.

This is a book for anybody who has met and loved a woman impulsive or been enveloped by the mystery of everyday life. Just when you feel you goodwill towards a character, subverting through time/fate, a subtle change in perspective or an unexpected set of events your curiosity and wills you forward; you grow and learn with Margaret, making you unable to judge her unfavourably. The detail you are left behind both physically and imaginatively, but prompts the understanding that with the depth and clarity of vision revealed here it would be possible to live anywhere and feel "the power of duty obligation" be sought after by Margaret. Pure joy.

Emma Hartley

The Woman's Daughter

Dermot Bolger (Penguin)

Bolger's imagination is a powerful and amazing thing, sweeping from ancient mythic landscapes to the swirling realities of Victorian Dublin, cascading from the observation of a mother's imprisonment of her daughter to the violent social dynamics of a race for a young woman's girl. His glowing inventions are perceptively contained within his ferocious prose, confining the reader with a second-hand horror, allowing no space for evasion.

Trying to pass this novel down to its constituent parts and provide a plot summary is an impossible task. A narrative occasion is barely visible as Bolger chooses to modulate between scenes of startling intensity which provide the novel with an admirable depth: a girl locked in her room since birth, the mother's brother in London, a Victorian notorious rater, a Brazilian who loves all things Victorian who is loved by the sister's grandson.

There is a logic, a progression, but it is born of chance, the straight lines of history are warped and reduced so that time's colours melt into a new spectrum of the oil-film scar of memory, the red and white discharge of infected men, the battered tricolour of nationalism.

Holding these shards together, providing the most fragile of fabrics is Bolger's impeccable manipulation of tone. The moods of the various sections build to a picture of emotional intensity that almost denies the reader a story at all. From the opening sentence which promises the reader a journey through the wasteland of Ireland and her history, to the haunted mind of the sexually abused girl who waits the tutor's baby, Bolger has created an atmosphere of oppressive and claustrophobic quality.

Dermot Bolger has provided us with an extraordinarily powerful, subtle and acute novel: one that defies description or comparison but demands to be read. It is this rather than wasting your money on going to "The Lotus". This is a novel that lives up to its publicity as a brilliant and ambitious piece of writing.

Matthew Pieneman

The Witching Hour

Anne Rice (Penguin)

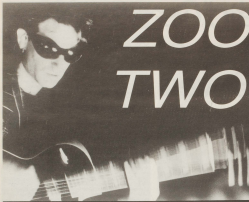
Anne Rice is a gifted writer, she's quite good, for instance, at communicating a sense of supernatural power. She can create believable moieties, beings whose strength lies in such as their sexual seductiveness as in their almost supernatural might. Her books span centuries, yet the never fails to evoke just the right atmosphere. Whether it be the lushes garden district of 19th century New Orleans, or the Muted deserts of Pre-historic Africa, these places live for the reader. These qualities helped to make Rice's earlier series of novels, *The Vampire Chronicles* (books about a race of vampires), into best-sellers. But I can't say *The Witching Hour* is book about - wait for it - witches doing anything nearly so well.

It's not that it lacks any of the qualities outlined above. In fact this is a book in which seductively mysterious supernatural characters do exotic things in beautifully realised settings. It's verily new style and gothic atmosphere. The stylish settings and characters aren't enough on their own to make satisfying reading. A strong plot usually comes in handy. Rice's story never all has this, remaining interesting right up until the final page. *The Witching Hour* lost my interest well before the end of one single chapter. It runs out of plot somewhere around page 300, which for a book of over 1200 pages isn't very good.

Most of the book deals with the uncovering of myths of modern day women at the Mayan cities of their family's history of incest, murder, violence and abuse all else, magic. The Mayans, it transpires, have been witches for generations. This we find out through the records of the Talamasca, an equally long-lived organisation of psychic investigators, who have tracked the Mayans since their early days in Scotland, through their times in France and the Caribbean, to their activities in modern-day New Orleans.

This stuff is fine - the middle of the book is as good as anything else ever written - but once the family history has been told, the whole thing runs out of steam. There is nothing left to tell and the present day bits are simply tedious, but Rice would have been paid by the word for this one, because she rambles on for the price of a good sized mansion in New Orleans before finally coming to a very convenient and satisfying ending. The last quarter of the book could (and should) have been severely edited, and Rice made to come up with a better ending. Then this might have been an excellent gothic distillation. As it is, it is merely average. Disappointing by her standards, and by mine.

Ceri Thomas



We Catch U2 on "ZOO TV" their biggest and most extravagant tour so far. **Tim Vigor** tuned in to the Irish Megastars at their shows at Sheffield Arena and Manchester G-Mex.

LOCAL

Strange lives on Eton Lane, but who takes too from the ashes of local heroes the Bridewell Taxis. Vocalist John Chang was the Bridewell's first guitarist, and Sean McElhone who plays guitar was the Bridewell's guitarist for four years before their recent demise. Whilst Mick Roberts the Bridewell's vocalist is continuing the band on Phil Mancera's (Rory McE) label, these two lads along with Phil Parlane (Keyboards), are taking their music in a different direction.

"It was time to move on, and I think we all knew this in the Bridewell," says Sean. "Some of us were unhappy with the way it was going. Surely, the band player thought we were shit!"

Sean, John and Phil started working together on their dance-orientated pop in the back room of their local, but things got out of

STRANGE FROOT

**TIM VIGOR MEETS
LOCAL DANCE
HOPEFULS**

CUD

Asquarius (A+M)

Esquars are over and everything is over so wonderful again, enter Cud with the soundtrack to this summer. Their third album and major label debut where Tom Jones meets Led Zep meets New Fads is the most enjoyable 45 minutes I've had for a long time.

They're never scolded like anyone else, and each release has just taken them further out there, further into their space-age fantasy world where everyone in Leeds dresses in leather trousers and Cud can be heard blaring from every car stereo.

After their last album it was becoming too easy to pigeonhole

Cud; they were just a cult indie band producing music which was occasionally flirtdy but always decisively indie, but this album introduces a great new diversity in their material. There's the last two singles, the funk-rocking love song and journey through past girlfriends that is "Through the Roof" and the fantastic guitar rock and pure pop that thrash "Rich and Strange" make Top Of The Pops for about, er, 30 seconds.

Guitarist Mike Dunphy obviously has an obsession with Jesus. Page which has been released on previous albums. Track after track on Asquarius are literally bursting with the type of heavy GTS which Robert Plant probably still wishes he had in his veins.

"Sometimes Right" ticks the off from "Brown Sugar" for its

chords (listen carefully) and great chunks of harmonica give a decidedly bluesy feel to "Soul Food". But was it to? Cud is bulled stuck on postmodern truck. They're not dead it believe but it sounds great, as if it's when Carl has always wanted to do, one day there will be a Carl Patton solo album made up entirely of ballads, probably.

The album closes with Carl singing by himself, the music fading faded, and it's a reminder of the central element of the band (the singing, that is), elevating them from being just also-tons to being the most interesting and above all, the best live band in the universe.

Out of this world.

Stephen Dick

W henever on Zoo TV, Bono speaks, personating the thought cyclone that is "Zoo Station", indeed, welcome to the crazy, kinetic, over-the-top, enthralling and most wonderful world of U2 '92. A world where anything can happen and, inevitably, does. 55 minutes of "Arbiting Baby", U2's most dramatic, confrontational to date kicks it off and shows us that U2 are not of the generation that was "Rattle and Hum" - and not back in their prime as the biggest, most entertaining rock act still based in the world. Two and a half hours of Zoo TV is roughly akin to three days in Alton Towers on a bucket full of adrenaline. It probably was bang from the ceiling seeing as makeshift lighting rigs, decorated in various different themes, while on stage bands of TV screens provide a colourful and exciting backdrop (drawing from vintage images in history) to old U2 footage and even Bono on "Spinning Images".

Seeing U2 new, compared with the various, political parodying of 1987's Joshua Tree tour, they look almost liberated, free from "Trying to force their arms around the world", and ready to accept themselves, often at their own expense. You can't help but laugh occasionally as Bono loses his image in the snow or waves goodbye to himself running through the desert on the big screen. - Over the next two hours we will see him rescue a young lady from the audience with champagne, the edge jumping like a Revenant, and Sid Vicious and Lou Reed join them on stage for "Staircase of Love". It's just theatre, and we love it.

U2 like Bono, celebrate and plunder their influences freely, drawing in covers of "Unchained Melody" (immediately after it's resident son "The"), "Dancing Queen" and "Stand By Me", all of these are perhaps even more insidious than U2's own material, because the love and affection the band obviously feel for the music shows through, and when the audience responds to U2 songs with equal respect the hand-slap playing and listen to the songbooks, visibly moved by the personal essence of rock it's not a vain they tap into constantly and brilliantly.

The band settle down a catalyst into the middle of the arena, bringing everyone into ZooLand, and play a short acoustic set which signals the start of a celebration of their back catalogue. After so long, they don't even have to try back to the main stage, wicker punch after wicker punch until the "Bad" is pulsating and endlessly uplifting, it seeps into you. "All I want is you" before coming into the arena of "Rattle the Blue Sky". A band with so many precious moments cannot feel, and as "Walk or Whirlwind You" storms the arena rock hysteria is in full effect. It's not a bad haul. In Manchester Bono calls John Major and leaves a message: "Watch more TV, I can't stop that."

hard when as many people were watching their release as most bands get in their gigs. At the moment they are recording several tracks into having the songs and getting their sound right.

Next they want to get out onto the live circuit and establish themselves again. "We definitely want the shows to be more fluid than the Bridewells, the gigs to be more of an all-round, very quick event, changes are really good and people are already asking when we're going to be playing in Salford."

The songs themselves do carry on the pop traditions of the Bridewells, with a more vibrant dance-edge to them and more overtly experimental keyboard sounds and thrashing guitars. The formula could be a winner, and the band will be searching out a deal in the Asquarius. Look forward to catching them soon.

Chameleons

Here Today, I Imagine

Friday morning. It's been up all night. At 11am, faced with a frantic day's project timing, I got home, sat on my floor with a cup of strong black coffee, and played Sully. It was perfect. The sense of exhausted contentment. That special joy you only feel when you're happy.

The Chameleons had that knack. Their songs had been the perfect alchemy to recreate the most intense feelings with what seems like the minimum of effort. This album contains many of two radio sessions, one from '82 showing a steadily '80s group struggling to express themselves with the words of things to come in

song's like "Up The Down Escalator". The other, from '89 sees a band who, having mastered their art, have ditched their wigs and are soaring through the washed beauty of pop genius. There's "Sully", a so-washed Mad Jack rapped by "Brother Movers" and the classic "Shreds" which is still iconic and harrowing. If any of the songs can be criticised for being slightly over-dramatic, that's because all the faces emotions are.

If you've missed the Chameleons, you've missed some of our finest music to love and dance. Since Imaginary soon determined to release their old stuff, there couldn't be a better time to dive in and drink deeply, to realise that just couldn't make band's like the Chameleons any more.

Rob Mitchell

TALENT

Music

9

STAR

DUST

SUEDE

Duchess of York

Our best new band and our most stately, compelling live act. The jay was out for about two minutes.

The Daughters is strewn with critics and leveraged young actors, both on stage as well as on their faces. If you know what Linnova, Ray, and the Daughters are, you are going to be called in 92 and beyond and it's for the simple reason they come across like everyone and no-one. Their young, fly-thin Brett Anderson is a blank canvas upon which the audience can whatever they want to see. They've heard he might be shamelessly camp, and so he looks like he might be. They've also heard he's an absolutely heinous racist, and so he looks like he might be that too. Gay, thin, ragged rocker, tortured poet or unbalanced soul, Brett Anderson is scary and he's there for the taking.

People will wish to compare them to whoever because that's how people like to talk about bands, by similes, by approximation. Somebody says the bands, another says Krazy Music. Not very useful. Just love the descriptors 'furious' and, in Anderson's recent of breaking sadness, fuck it with oblique hints about those things that measure and the lives of observers, like love, desire and the flight from darkness. Anderson's characters are lightened with the same radiosity and chond changes that have pulled lovers in your heart since you were old enough to crack on a radio, and they take the band out of the data arena of their contemporaries, high up into the hazy arena of your first concert (remember?). Further out in ledge is a part of the mind unclashed by the human. The song "I Lined Half an Hour and I can hear

Jason Darrin



Tung-Ping Wu

Marillion
Singles (EMI)

When Fish departed from *Marillion* in 1989, it was obvious that he would be virtually impossible to replace. His agonised wails and disconcerting lyrics, which could be both self-indulgent and remarkably socially adept, was the perfect contrast to the band's nearly grown-up sound. His replacement, pun-sized Steve Hogarty, certainly had the vocal ability Fish lacked, but his lyrics soon scrambled into banal ACORN clichés. After the promise of *Season's End*, their last album, *Holidays in Eden* suggested that *Marillion* were rapidly approaching a permanent position in the middle of the road, writing safe, unambitious music where once they were in character.

In short, both pre- and post-Fish Manilius are best thought of as two quite separate bands with radically different attitudes to that most protean of ideas, the progressive rock album. Unfortunately, EMI refuse to believe this and have issued 'A Singles Collection' in the vain attempt at forcing the Manilius of old onto the same stage as its successor. Thus, we have right here, and right now, *Manilius*. Heath and old Fish rock's schiz-

Incense throughout this deluxe compilation (every Hagar track is duly followed by Frank Zappa's trademark incense). This is a fun disc, serving only to understate the extent of Marillion's debt. Whereas for old Marillion songs, such as "Fleece and a Golden Party," old and new sound and behave the same, the Hagar-era output is comparatively dull. Easier to perhaps, the best of these, proving that you can pack a variety of styles into five minutes, but for more recent "On the Case" is just awful, exemplifying Marillion's new-found pliancy. It is a telling sign that the best of the Hagar era tracks, "The Land and the Sea," has three versions.

Mardian will undoubtedly keep producing polished, thoughtful progressive rock and survive the remarkably dull phase in rock music at present. But they won't benefit as all from this coalition of new and old were.

John McDonald

Phobia
Reflexivity

Although *Phobos* this time around is not quite sold out (something made evident by the pained expressions on the faces of the tourists outside) there can be little doubt that it

absolutely raked in the cash. There seems to be a kind of bizarre logic that operates whereby events like this are supposed to be expensive, as though this by law must make them better. Value for money, however, is somewhat questionable.

Admittedly the lasers, strobes and visuals are all very good. 51.2 are brief but barny and Dave Angel does an excellent job yet there is something here that smells more than a little mercenary. Perhaps it's the fact that the drinks and irrelevia (good idea) are vastly overpriced. Perhaps it's the fact that the water has been laced off, forcing the exhuberant to buy water from the bar (5lbs a can).

Or perhaps it's the fact that the advertised "stringent" body searches to protect you' just aren't and as such anyone wanting to take drugs in is fooling.

Despite the prices it was at least well organised, security was always on hand to help the faint and the miraculously transformed Mount James lounge into a "chill out room" worked wonderfully. Aided by chemicals or otherwise, it only takes a glance to realise that people are having a ball and that can't be a bad thing, can it?

Rockingbirds
Duchess of York

You're serious, should you choose to accept it, is to replicate as closely as possible the sound of the man Gram Parsons. Yes country, no westerns. Yes trucks, no cowboys. Yes denim, yes shabbie, yes sweat, and in place of hard-living Southern delfin, pastel painted expression guitar solos and 'total commitment', and Camden crew

The Rockinghairs are a revival band no better (but certainly no worse) than the million Blues Brothers cover bands, dealing heavily in the past and moving forward in no way at all. Original songs are nonexistent without some originality. The diversity of influences which these boys claim is so buried under counterfactual conformity that the music can't really breathe, can't really function except as some word nostalgia for times the audience never saw, or is content to view select bits from a narrow perspective to the detriment of the music's quality, quantity. And they're not old enough. More plastic pollen, less mudstone across the stage.

I had a great time, tapping my foot, waiting for the revolution.
Taps... The Machine

Shingles

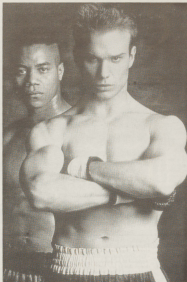
(As good as)

Prosper Whittemore : "Forsaken
Whittemore" E.P. (Imaginary)
The Bellflower : "Flight"
(Ultimate)

10

Arts

BOXED IN



Tom looking at you?

The Lover Cannon Cinema

For how the most blacks and pain suffer for suffering from a quite unprecedented host of amnesia, or else they really weren't any good bits in this film. I remember seeing something in the press pack about the camera work and how it used endoscopes to enhance parts of images which are usually relegated to a key part of the screen. And I remember thinking 'Huh, aren't they things that need us to look up those intricate little crannies that nobody else would WANT to see?' And then there was this long period in the middle of the film when I had quite a good conversation with the person to my right. But apart from that, nothing. I think this might be because the film was about China, but I couldn't recall it.

Apparently (I heard) at this in 'The Independent' 'The Lover' is

about a young girl and a Chinaman having it away until he's killed the previous solo-act-down them at all. Hmm. Well, there's definitely a Chinaman in it, because I remember that he's a rather sporty looking young man picked up a pair of worn pants, soiled them and then announced, somewhat jadedly I thought, 'Those staff of China'. Then everyone in the cinema burst out laughing because one person from the audience had shouted out 'That would be monosodium glutamate then, chuck!' and someone else had followed it up with 'You're a looser-suffer'.

But as for the 'young girl' part I have to say that all I saw was the child of about twelve dressed up in Indian clothes, wearing lipstick and wiggling her bum about when she walked. So probably this film would have a minority audience of paedophiles and children of twelve - I shouldn't knock it, it was some minority rights group comes down on me like a tonne of bricks.

Since I've seen it, I'll say it's a bit like 'The Last Emperor' set in the East with amazing photography and not a bit like. And it really suffered in translation from the French as well, with all kinds of dumb lines like 'Can I laugh or what? Take care little buddy.' Which was rather a shame, especially as it is supposed to be autobiographical on the part of a really famous (and good) French author, who's so famous and good that I haven't heard of her, (Marguerite Duras). - Mean anything to you?

There's only one possible line in the whole film and that goes 'You have no idea how weak I can be.' (Must be said with narrowed eyes, at a waning full moon. I And since I've just said you that, there's no point going to see it, is there? And don't think you might get your money's worth just for the books either - they can't be that good or I would have remembered them.

Emma Hanley

Paradise Showcase cinema

When on earth will Hollywood find popular experience for (crap?) go in it to their thick skulls that any movie film like this self-indulgent, we're, are about as welcome as a plague of rats in a hairdresser's? You'd think Don Johnson (the natural choice to play an embittered shrimp fisherman) and Melanie Griffith could find less irritating ways to spend their spare time. Not yet it seems.

Ten-year-old Eljah Wood (Wilfred Young, thankfully anonymous) is sent by his mother to live with her friends in the north town of Paradise, while the sons on her fast-falling marriage, Eljah's Doory reception from Lily and Don Road (Melanie and Don conveying that 'inner warmth and emotion' - pass the bucket!) can only indicate some deep-seated problems in their relationship. The sedition and

Gladiator Odeon Cinema

Hands up all those who recognise this plot. A willing young fighter is forced to fight (followed by several scenes of imaginative carnage, and at least one scene in which an unwilling young fighter gets off with a subtle young love interest), unwilling young fighter's friend (mentor), loved one is killed (mutilated), otherwise damaged by bad guy/fighter; unwilling young fighter goes on to kick shit out of said bad guy/fighter in a glorious testosterone bloodbath.

This should be instantly familiar to anyone who has seen at least one of the Rocky films (TV in particular, I think), any of the Karate Kid films and virtually every martial arts film from 'Enter the Dragon' to 'Blood-Death-Kick-Boxing-die-to-Fuck-Marc'. 'Gladiator' (surprise, surprise) follows this plot to the letter. But even if it is less original than my sense of humour, it is still quite entertaining in an understanding sort of a way.

James Marshall (James Marley from 'Twins') is woefully plausible as unwilling young fighter, living in a black ghetto and forced to fight to pay off his old man's gambling debts by taking part in illegal boxing matches; Brian Donohue is very big and very muscular as bad guy/fighter, the organizer of the bouts, with help from Robert Loggia (the foul-mouthed 'ex from 'Jagged Edge') and the whole thing troubles along quite happily towards the predictable victory for the forces of goodness.

There are memorable long lingering shots of Marshall looking mean and moody, stomping up and down recession hit streets, bearing his manly physique to the world, and repeatedly smashing his manly face into particularly unwilling boxing opponents with particularly sickening thudding sounds.

The film tags a worthy (if rather heavy handed) final boxing message onto the film by having Marshall live in a black ghetto and by making unwilling young fighter's friend and unwilling young fighter's mentor both black, but basically this is a good professional formula film, made with skill and pace.

If you want to see a truly stunning boxing film, see 'Raging Bull'. If you want a film which makes a telling comment on America's racial problems, see 'Do the Right Thing'. But if you want a fairly sharp, action movie with a little bit more thought than usual behind it, then this is for you.

Ceri Thomas

profitability is relieved somewhat by the appearance of Billie Piper (Thora Birch), a teeny bony who spends all her time climbing trees and among the adults is far after my own heart - especially if the adult concerned happens to be Lily and Don. Eljah and Billie become friends, he discovers the cause of his parents' anger and comes to terms with his own parents' separation (along the way they, it's all a day's work for your teenage son to be a ten-year-old mega-star).

To be fair, Don and Melanie try their best to inject some depth of feeling into their characters, while Billy McCaffrey (his name is up wonderfully as Billie's mother), a chain-smoking nymphomaniac. Unfortunately, without sufficient content to compensate for a parental split and lack of sex. The result, like the series itself, is killed by my face with boredom, is cruel and cruelly and not fun to enjoy.

Katie Weeks

Arts

11

Colour Me Good



Picture courtesy of Sam 'Edward Blower' Crowell

Loot
Raven Theatre

Simon Wilson's production of this play for Theatre Group was majestic: the tone, pace, mood and rhythm of the piece was of a quality rare in professional theatre by these student attempts. Managing to convey the humour and the fury of *Loot* is a difficult and often insurmountable ambition, but with Wilson's direction, a cast of renowned quality, and a production crew with the vision and calibre that this performance could boast, it was an ambition spectacularly met.

Retelling the old-timey legend of 'What the Butler Saw', as well as the precise and scathing language of 'Entertaining Mr. Sloane', *Loot* combines wit with savagely felt pessimism to present a world of caliginous disaffection and hopelessness.

McLeary, deftly and wildly handled by Adam Tubbman, is a very recently bereaved widower. The corpse of his dearly departed is still in the front room, surrounded with two fake eyes. His grieving is supervised by the straightforward

('Oh, so the isn't') Fay, a nurse whose development from Catholic dog-good to homicidal baby-killer is quite brilliantly presented by Rachel Taylor. She hopes to get her hands on his money, but this is complicated by Dennis who falls in love with her and a given the hope of being her man because he and McLeary's son, Hal, have robbed a bank. A further hassle arises in the form of Truscott of the Yard who poses as a man from the next door. *Phew!*

The hapless Hal played by the far from hapless Chris Gearing can't help but tell the truth and spills the beans, much to poor old Dennis' consternation (notably played by Dennis Ackroyd's dourness). Everything becomes even more out of order as the corpse assumes the role of Catholic tailor's dummy, the stash is hidden in a box containing the remains of the dead woman and McLeary slips in to the inevitable role of victim.

Loot as performed in this Theatre Group production was in itself better: funny, shocking and depressing. The play is running tonight and Sunday. Go see it.

Matthew Patsman

Joseph
and his Amazing Technicolor
Dreamcoat

Riley Smith Hall

There can be few of us who have not donned a tea-towel or a beard to lend dubious authenticity to a school production of *Joseph*. It is one of the best-loved shows, and this production saw a highly enjoyable romp through all the well-known and irritatingly tricky songs. I went home and drove my flatmate mad with a rendition of 'Jacob, Jacob and Sons', (probably because those three words are all I knew of the silly little number).

The key to *Joseph* is the playing up of all the musical stereotypes and the humour in the lyrics, which make it as enjoyable for adults as for children. It did not matter, therefore, that everyone awarded it more than ten a park butcher. Nathan Dale did well as Joseph (a hard part to sing as such a goody-goody). Daniel Jackson (Pharaoh) could set up a terrific side-line as an Elvis impersonator. The King Live!

Special mention must go to Christine Philpotts, who

played the rathlessly seductive Mrs Potiphar like a down-market *Cleopatra* on speed.

Real innovation was shown by Light Opera society by splitting the part of narrator in two. There was one 'good' narrator (Sean Johnson) and a 'naughty' one (Gabe Shinn). This characterisation, and their contrasting voices worked very well.

Equally important was the back-up of brothers, choros and dancers, and the implied staging and choreography. The only reservation I would have is that there were too many people in the choros at times they were almost tripping up over each other.

However this, is unimportant. What does matter is that both cast and audience enjoyed themselves enormously. Forget Jesus at the Paladium, if you missed this one you're a Bruck!

Liz Crawshaw

The Ghost
Train
Civic Theatre

Seen in the 1950's, this play is a bizarre mixture of romance, drama, espionage, and Cornish suspension, written to provide the author with enough cash to get married. One hopes the lady in question was worth it... The Leeds Art Theatre heavily attempted to convey the Civic audience to the mysterious atmosphere of Fall Vale station, and in the main succeeded.

The plot, for the first two acts, centres on the growing anxiety of six passengers stranded at the above station, which we are led to believe is haunted by the spirit known as 'Ghost Train'. An excellent supernatural atmosphere was built up, both by lighting and staging, and by some fine performances, most notably from Frank Fell as the station master. Some of the passengers were a touch on the 'Theatrical' side and Amanda Oliver went so far over the top as the disturbed Julia Price that she was half way down the

other side by the end, but overall, the cast combined reasonably well, and an intriguing climax was reached in the end of the second act by the appearance of the train.

Unfortunately, after the second interval, things went... well, a little off the rails. As Act three managed to make 'Ghost Train' look like 'Tales of the Unexplained' in a highly unimpressive ending revealed the spoils to be cracks, the train to be full of smuggled machine guns, and the thoroughly twitish اسپر class passengers to be a special needs officers. To be fair to the cast, this was largely the fault of the play itself, but one got the feeling that they hadn't rehearsed this act as much as the others, and there was some phonetically interesting scene changes near the end as well.

Generally, it was a good old round production, and the company managed to put on a brave face for the sparse audience, knowing that the bar wouldn't be too crowded after the show. It wasn't really fair, and act three shouldn't really have been 'Theatre', but I came away at the end and feeling rather enjoyed the entertainment.

Stephen Hill

ALTER
EGO

Anybody who's interested in the history of film will no doubt have noticed the series of offerings from the Newcastle Vague of the 50's and 60's. French cinema, certainly coming on CD.

I mention this not because of my great interest in the genre itself, but because it provides us with the completely spurious excuse needed to meet in my real area of concern which is France. More precisely, foreign language studies.

These people, and I'm sure that you all know at least one, spend two years in Leeds, like the rest of us, but then they just go off and off, just like that. One minute it's 'See you down the tunnel', the next it's 'Voulez vous croquer avec nous ou non?' And which then comes? What pretty little makeshift apology of a reason do they give for this vanishing act? 'It's going to improve our French / Italian / German / etc.'

Well, excuse me, but from what I can remember last I realise that I am not an insider to this *Masonic* club! What happens is that, come the end of the second year, off they all toddle to whatever city to do play but, even a load of other foreign language students, go round all the local theatres, say English football games, play golf, teach English in English and then come back to Leeds at mid-GOSE level.

I have a theory about all this. At some point in the dim and distant past, there lived a tall and slender old man who got Momen out by some long shot... probably in Oxford. He was so put out by this that he decided a way to assure that no impostor would ever be able to have a stable and loving relationship again.

Alas, he thought, 'I've got the perfect solution. Just as these young people are getting settled in their college, making friends, having fun, meeting lovers, I'll send them off away somewhere. I'll pretend one it's for the good of their language but all the good it will do them is being able to throw up on different sorts of beer. Ha Ha Ha!!'

And so he did. And he was right. Except that delights in the sound of English scolding, while back in the old country broken-hearted souls listen to Sacha Distel singing about raindrops and watch Jean-Luc Godard film us in a garbula attempt at espionage.

Give me a mechanical copyright any day.

Matthew Patsman

12

LEEDS STUDENT

Bar victory as overhaul imminent

Anger mounts over new staff

**SPORTS STUDENT**

Ents face crisis as gigs flop

**LEEDS STUDENT**

President victimised over missing funds

**LEEDS STUDENT**

T4 for last attacks escalate in Halls of Residence 'war'

**LEEDS STUDENT**

Crowding chaos hits Poly exams



As another episode of journalistic history is made **Richard Fletcher, John McLeod, Alison Phillips, Rick Rogers, Carl Thomas and Tim Vigon** cast a discerning eye (or two) over their combined achievement in print this year. **Alex Sanders** unites them in a mere four pages.

Goodbye

For those of you who have not absorbed every word printed on the pages of *Leeds Student* this year - you feel - we present you with an abridged version of the news stories that rocked this particular small portion of the world.

The year began with proposals for an abortion fund and lighting for Hyde Park making the headlines. The abortion fund, intended for women who could not receive an abortion on the NHS, was agreed by Union Council, overturned by an OGM, then finally adopted at a packed Special Constitutional General Meeting. A pregnancy and new born baby fund was set up soon after and everything seemed settled until Pongee Vaid, LNU Financial Affairs Secretary, received an

expression of no-confidence for telling someone the name of a woman who used the supposedly anonymous fund.

Crimes against and by students continued as a worrying trend throughout the year.

In three-week hundreds of fine first years bought £5 tickets for a party at Ritz's which never took place. Any enterprising and considering the same soon next year should remember that the key ingredient to success is a good-looking Australian as a mascot.

Crimes on campus for an all time high in October. The following month a gang rampaged through the victory window windows and by all accounts, the odd student.

By the end of November, house burglaries were up 100% on the previous year. At Leeds University Union there was little Christmas spirit to spare when £5000 of stock was stolen from the Old Bar cellar.

However the depths some crisis will sink to played further when a mysterious, ten factor began playing innocent toilet work by grabbing bags from under toilet doors.

Meanwhile at Elmslie Hall, police had to be called in and locks fitted to fridges as war against a food snatcher broke out.

Students were also up at arms over a little more extreme, then

balancing traffic cones on the Revolution statue in Hyde Park, when Matthew Waller, a Polytechnic student was charged with a reason following a fine at the home of three other students, and Roger Lighten, a third year Mining Engineering student was charged with threatening to kill three members of LNU's Rifle and Pistol Club.

The Tigris bogging black jeans brigade, come on in it is known as E4s kept filling the Leeds Student columns inches. In October E4s even a student staff walked out during a gig, by December Ents were running around £30,000 over budget and things only got worse. Concerts were cancelled due to poor ticket sales and in May a motion of no-confidence was passed in first Secretary Stu Ingram's working practices. Things reached some form of resolution with the executive decision to employ an Ents Manager.

In the drinking world, the Double Bar took on a new 1980's look, while the Tartan Bar is to have a roadworks feel -



John Walker and Elroy Hankley receive their honorary citizenship for £15,000 made in like they are standing Friday night. In November overhauls were announced for the first time. Last autumn, a paradox in the University magazine. Flamingo marchal lower at the working in the third, second net and some arrested for. Instead Edward Boyle.



Overcrowded Flax Place in 1992, when announced

Mike Page

"Hopefully, more women will realise that there is an alternative to their current oppression. Women must learn, we don't need penises, that is my message." Feminist activist, November.

"According to a spokesperson for the shop, their most popular attire in Leeds has been the novelty glow-in-the-dark condoms." On the opening of Condoms in January.

The Marie Starz Producers on Sonic the Hedgehog (February) "All I wanted to do was make it, and then all you get is the little dance jumping up and down, going 'The End'. Our levels of satisfaction are going down all the time."

"I am so fed up about it all and it puts me in a bloody bad mood. I am warning everyone that I

shall put the boot in on anyone I catch putting posters up." Mr P Williams of the Sex-Ed Leedsens on fly posting May.

"I just couldn't believe the crowd wasn't anything...if a road either is or easy to believe shouldn't be left around in 'Student life' News as an incident of prying on a poster in May.

Spe

The Final Year always. It's traditional college sports editor and let off steam on their biased others.

This year escapes from on the top of the League. "Not only have a giant nose following, but as a it has watched both a undoubtedly

harder pain" to a tedious pace on the long awaited Mick Jagger Essex victory. "Finger knowing where you were when Kennedy died, I will always remember where I was when Wales won again. The union TV room will never come be the same."

The sports pages also managed to handle a few of the great and good into giving an interview to aspiring lads.

From former World Jockey Champion, John Parrott, who admitted: "None of my grandpas are under the age of 50", to Peter Smith, local independent bookie who spoke about the early days of legal betting. "The position of the day seemed to want the interior of a

betting shop to look like a Methodist church and certainly no more comfortable". He later admitted that in 1968 his only ambition was to own a Morris Minor 1000. He now owns 20 betting shops, an electronics company, and sits on the betting pattern committee.

But interviewing is not easy. As in the interview with Sir Lawrence Byford Chairman and President of YCU: "Interviewing anyone is always a nerve-racking business but even more so when their name begins with Sir and their only in which she reads like an encyclopedia of union police rules."

And finally, Leeds Student managed to squeeze a few words from the elusive Elroy Hasky at the presentation of his honorary degree at Leeds Polytechnic.

Leeds 14.00 c. Liverpool



Pete

0 all this...

Leeds Polytechnic announced it was to trade for a small site in a bus garage with the name Leeds Metropolitan University.

L.U.'s Student Union members have played into chaos during the Executive elections which had to be re-run following a complaint that polling booths were not open long enough.

Stephanie Bernard, standing for VP Becken Park also claimed that Nick Hewitt - VP Communications - had included a report based against her in the Poly newsletter, Offspring. Hewitt was fraternising with Bernard's opponent, Mike Jones.

Five months later Bernard was able to find comfort from her defeat in the arms of her new fiancé, none other than Hewitt.

Blackburn, mercury was found in the Earth Sciences department following a

fire last summer, sets were found in Lupton and co-ordinators at Mary Morris Hall.

The University announced that Devonshire Hall was to be closed and 500 new beds to be built on its grounds. Work also began on 1800 new beds on grounds around Beeston.

Famous folk popped in and out of Leeds, including a good line in has-been politicians. There was David Owen, Shirley Williams, Ted Heath, and Michael Heseltine who arrived for the signing of... Masonic in its Bedroom! Come.

And so, there you have it, a taste of all that has come and gone, never to return. Well, that is with the exception of the L-New PSC debate and the Old Hat saga which would like to keep appearing now and again, until we are old, grey and can barely remember where Leeds ever was.



Mark Thomas

Services Secretary, May.

"I am all for kissing members of the opposite sex in union time. Any interested partner should contact me." Mike Jones, Vice President of Becken Park, May.

"The people that said this were basically the same kind of civies that rated U2 over Wham!"

because U2 played their own instruments. Those ignorant fools know nothing about pop music." Mark Morris on those that don't rate Kyle (October).

"We'll probably last for a bit longer than all their bands. For example the Master Street Preachers, I don't believe how much success they got out of a little..." The Lovestones, May.

STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Newsletter banned in bias row



STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Noise fears scrap gig



STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Vicious gang storms foyer



STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Safety queries after mercury smoke leak



STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Plans afoot to transform Dev



At the end of the year, the Leeds Student Independent Newspaper will be celebrating its 10th birthday.

Leeds Student Independent Newspaper is a free newspaper for students at Leeds University.

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LEEDS STUDENT

Loans rocket as hardship bites



LEEDS STUDENT

VC looks to the future



LEEDS STUDENT

Man knifed in burglar chase



LEEDS STUDENT

ROOF TOP PROTEST



LEEDS STUDENT

Fearless rescue from arson blaze



It was the Friday of intro-week. I was in the University Union minding my own business, mandering up the stairs towards the porters office, when all of a sudden I was approached by a very pleasant young woman whom I vaguely recognised.

"Hello" she said, which wasn't surprising really, "how would you like to edit a classical music page?" which certainly was "Yeh sure" I answered; well what she could I say? "We need it by Monday" she beamed and beamed off. The woman was Alison Phillips and, although I didn't realise it at the time, I had been murdered.

The highlight of the year, for me, were the interviews.

perhaps the most admirable feature of this year's books pages has been the variety of writing which has fallen under a keen critical gaze.

Booker-shortlisted novellas have rubbed shoulders with hapful *Poisons*, travel writing has mingled with *The Ice of Sex*. Dedicated reviewers have studied their axes through the now small hours for your exclusive pleasure, and on occasions the strain has certainly shown, but where else could you have found anywhere else

particularly the one with Vladimir Ashkenazy. Anybody who knows about music will appreciate what a great coup this was; the reaction in the Leeds Student office "Huzzah" Needless to say they all know who he is now! Two people know who Shostakovich was... but unfortunately I had to tell them that it was only Masina, not his father.

Of the Town Hall concerts the Ashkenazy/RPO sticks out in the mind for the sensational rendition of Shostakovich's gigantic Eighth Symphony. The London Mozart players were one of the most accomplished orchestras, and Arthur Foa and Heinrich Schiff were two of the most interesting soloists. It was a great shame that Evelyn Glennie could not make it to Leeds this year, but she should be here in 1993.



Ashkenazy - the man, the legend

Man Elton

The highlight of Opera North's year was undoubtedly their brilliant production of Don Giovanni, although La Finta Giardiniera and The Thieving Magpie were brave additions to the repertoire.

The jazz in the city was

varied between the modern jazz season, and the more 'trief' jazz offered by the concerts at the Civic and the Playhouse. Ian Garthwaite proved very popular, as did old favourites George Melly and Chris Barber.

The breadth of music on offer in Leeds should continue to be wide and Leeds Student will continue to be there. If the new Classical music editor has a bit

and all...

Julian Barnes, Martin Amis, Peter Ackroyd, Marina Warner, Nicholson Baker, Stephen Fry, Larry Brown and Peter Carey during the last nine months?

The best of this year's writing has, not surprisingly, come from a selection of young writers gradually consolidating their reputations. Julian Barnes' novel *Talking a Good Game* was declared 'a miracle of a book, a shining star, a pinnacle, the God of books,' while the reviewer of J.G. Ballard's *The*

Kindness of Women became suitably hysterical, saying that it 'battled' 'down the fast lane of fiction, headlights ablaze, eternally seeking for the ultimate collision with its unrepenting readers.' Peter Carey's *The Tax Inspector's Close* Sinclair's *Anger's Rest* and Marina Warner's *Indigo* all met with favourable reviews, as did Ben Elton's *The Favourite*

Read and Patrick McGrath's *Spider*. Gordon Burn's *Aim* a *Cogan* enthusiastically recommended in January, indeed went on to win the Whitbread Prize for first novel. Work by Booker-shortlisted Timothy Mo and William Trevor was deemed to have deserved their prestigious places on this most lucrative of lists.

Things did not go so well for Kingsley Amis, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Richard Rye and Andy Warhol, all of who failed to impress. Billy Haver's *Where Raining* was accused of being the 'a cross between a Carla Lane steam and the worst of Bernard Manning's simpatia'.

The best book of the year? My vote would be for Peter Carey's *The Tax Inspector's Close* or Timothy Mo's *The Redundancy of Cogan*.

I would pronounce Peter Russell's *Silver Riding* the winner of the Nonino Cup of the Year prize, but a book that had doesn't deserve to win anything.

emo. Our decision to leave seems to have been a timely one, and one we don't regret." The ex-concert security on their sudden resignation end concert in October.

"Flora McGee's sharp, hard working Woman's Officer and decent person. Don't believe the hype." Mark Morris defends the Women's Affairs Secretary in November.



J.G. Ballard - The Nature of Protest

"I tried talking about Kurt, Descartes and Wittgenstein, but that fell on deaf ears." Sarah Silk is on being tackled as phone chatter operator, January.

"He continually uses a variety of words such as 'crap', 'shit' and 'toss' in all single reviews, seemingly unable to provide any more descriptive alternatives." A letter to

November came up that made page eight in full.

"An inspection by Health and Safety officials gave the existing toilets an 'E-rating', the worst possible which often leads to immediate prosecution." The Poly unless in November before proposed upgrading.

"Eats is now deteriorating into a building

Spectrum

15

1991-2 for the Music Pages has been an odd year. Sick of wading through environmentally wasteful vinyl filled with atrocious music, we began by theorising.

The World According to The Trade told of the "New Mediocrity", as we led a crusade against the main exponents of this fearful trend, the Carters, Nicks and Levellers of this world. Invariably, this annoyed people especially as we then went on to devote a full page to Headline under the titleless/less head-scratcher of "Reading for a Good Time", complete with a plume of our incumbent, general secretary Mr. Mason staring out of the pages. Oh dear.

After numerous complaints about our obnoxious tendencies, we had a radical policy change. We decided we liked Kyle. A superbly written live review by a certain News Editor and a fine display of critical brown nosing from our music editor, Mark Morris showed we were honest.

1010

the mainstream.

In the same issue, features editor Tim Vigan opened forth with a fine piece of taxonomy. In his essay on the Ford Madox Ford of the year, "Indie Pop is dead, long live Indie Pop", Oomphs, this is the man who offered sexual favours for Bruce Springsteen CDs.

We culled down as the year went on, but respected the Mancs, typed the Teenage Fanclub, said R.E.M. a million times and reviewed a DJ who didn't turn up.

We slugged the U2 album and then called them "the greatest rock & roll band in the world", so were consistent. The Housewives ruled the mood and inspired ourselves with everybody, publicly.

Next year, a new magazine, a new Editor, who knows what it will bring? For now, here are our awards for the year.

Best Single: Neil Diamond; If there were no Dreams;

"Those of us who cut our milk teeth in 'Sweet Caroline' will cry tears of sentiment... he's back"

Best Album: Pat Sharp Boys; Discography: "The fact that this album is not



Timmy Fanclub at Leeds Polytechnic

Was One

enriched" posthumously" might be a cue for revelling in the streets, glorious. Best Gig: U2 live in Sheffield;

"Two and a half hours of Zoo TV is roughly akin to three days in Alton Towers on bucketload of narcotics"

("Scarier film ever made? Don't you believe it")

But maybe we're being unfair. Maybe looking back it's only the critical and sarcastic printings of severely dodgy garbage that catches our cynical and sarcastic eyes. After all this was the year in which The Commitments, Barton Fink and the inestimable "Waste's World" came to Leeds. The Film Festival screened Postcards and later on in the year, even Bruce Willis managed to make a bit of a comeback with "The Last Boy Standing". Best of all, Maccular Cullen only appeared in one film ("My Girl") and in fact, he managed to die before the end. Binge!

Diving deeper into the back issues, it even looks as if the Playhouse hit a purple patch of high quality drama round about the middle of the year. The Guild Between Us was superb, as were "The Revengers' Tragedy" and "Viva Debra". Even some of the university's amateur drama seems to have been passable, at least judging by the reviews.

Perhaps there is hope for next year. Perhaps...

this too



Our own Musicians in My Car!

The editor looked sheepishly across the office, and in a rather imploring voice asked, "You couldn't do a piece on the Arts here in Leeds

could you?

Just a small piece, nothing lavish, please! Kindly bear with, we said yes and plowed through the back-issues. God, it was painful. There really was some about doped up for review, most of

it coming from the Playhouse. Saragat was awful and Toss of the D Littleville! deluded description. Student reviewers had to sit through films like Freddy's Death, the Final Nightmare, not to mention the cornball "Cape Fear

supporting Pat Sanders of Populist Intelligence in November.

"Return to Sender" Headline for a review of the book "Edits: The Last 20 Years".

"Come on girls, don't be selfish and pick up the guts to walk that little bit extra around the park at night." J. Ferreira Newman's

considered advice so as to avoid the need for lighting in Hyde Park.

"Experience is what we are, we're not ahead of being commercial! But wait people to see how good we are cheap. There's a lot of improvisation on stage... we go with whatever the feeling is." Ben of the I-cows.

"I've seen the hard work they put in and they do get results. If you see a man dressed as a man you want to know why." Tracy Kennedy

LEEDS STUDENT

HUNDREDS CONNED BY HOAX PARTY



LEEDS STUDENT

Union backs rent rises at three times inflation



LEEDS STUDENT

Abortion fund sparks fury



LEEDS STUDENT

Finalist faces gun charges



LEEDS STUDENT

Meningitis virus kills second year



FOOD Life

THE GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

Students are being invited to see the live audience for a comedy show due to be screened on television this autumn.

Packing Them In, the second series of Channel 4's popular *Packer of 3*, stars Frank Skinner, Jenny Relfair, Kevin Boyle and Roger Mann.

Sadie Wainster, Production Secretary for the show said: "Kevin and Roger have not been around so long as Frank and Jenny but they will be as famous soon."

Frank Skinner, whose popularity has soared in recent years following his appearances on Channel 4, was last year's winner of the prestigious *Pearce Award* for comedy.

Each show being recorded at the Wakefield Opera House, will have a theme, taking the vague form of a situation comedy, but incorporating live guests.

New character, Roger Mann will take the role of "Big", with Kevin Boyle taking the role of a caricature.

The line up of special guests includes such names as the comedy circuit as Lily Savage, Owen O'Neill, The Rubber Bishops, Hall Humour Video, Al Murray, Alastair McGowan and Chris Lynn whose party piece includes shoving fireworks up his bottom.

Sadie Wainster said: "A lot of the guests are from America or have been on the comedy circuit and visited Edinburgh last year, but have not taken much exposure."

Wainster guaranteed that any students who enjoy live comedy would enjoy the show. She said the producers were particularly keen to encourage noisy young people along to provide the right atmosphere



Stars from a packet of stars

for recording.

The comedy series will be screened in eight parts and shown during September and October.

Recordings will take place between 7.30pm and 10.00pm on Friday 26th June, Tuesday 30th June, Friday 3rd July, Tuesday 7th July and Friday 10th July.

Free tickets can be obtained from the Wakefield opera House, Drury Lane, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, by ringing Wakefield 44446 or in person at the Opera House box office.

For further details about the show, students should contact Sadie Wainster at the Wakefield Opera House box office.



VAUXHALL

Once driven, forever smitten

FILM

All films advertised are for the week commencing 26 June.

ODEON CINEMA

The Hushbox, tel:438031 Tickets £3.60/£2.50 Student reduction available.

1. GLADIATOR - 2.10 5.35 8.05
2. THE LAWNMOWER MAN - 2.05 5.35 8.25

3. BASIC INSTINCT - 1.50 4.55 8.00

Sat & Sun continues DONT TELL MOM THE BABYSITTER'S DEAD

4. PARADISE - 1.45 5.10 8.10
5. THE PLAYBOYS - 1.35 5.40 8.15

Sat & Sun Matinee BOOK 1.55

CANNON CINEMA

Victoria Lane, tel:441451/103 Tickets £3.50/£2.00 Mat/Fri 10.15

1. WAYNES WORLD - 1.25 3.30 6.00 8.45

2. LADY BOTS - 1.15 3.50 6.15 8.45

3. THE LOVER 12.30 3.30 5.50 8.20

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE

Drummond Rd, L56, tel:752545

LOW PRICE NIGHTS MONDAY AND THURSDAY - ALL SEATS £1.50

Fri 26th - Sun 28th - DECEIVED - 8.00

Mon 29th - Wed 1st July - FINAL ANALYSIS - 8.00

Low showing Fri 26th/Sat 27th at 11.00 - DECEIVED

COTTAGE ROAD CINEMA

For Headingley, tel:751608 Tickets £1.60 Mat/Tues 10.15 Union card, otherwise £2.20/£2.50 THE LOVER - 5.50 8.50 Sun times - 5.50 8.00

Late show Fri 26th, Sat 27th 11.00 - PEOPLE UNDER THE STARS

THE LOUNGE CINEMA

Headingley, tel:752091 Tickets £1.80 with Union card, otherwise £2.20

EDWARDS END - 5.50 8.50

Sat - 5.00 8.40

Late show 11.00 - FREDDIE'S DEAD

SHOHCASE

27 Golden Rd, Birstall, tel:09246 420071. Tickets are £1.60 with a reduction for students, or for weekday showings before 6pm. Ring for times of showings.

LADY BOTS - BASIC INSTINCT - LAWNMOWER MAN - THE ROAD THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE STONE COLIN WAYNES WORLD THE LOVER MISSISSIPPI MARSALA SPITE SECOND MEDICINE MAN BOOK PARADISE GLADIATOR

BRADFORD PLAYHOUSE AND FILM THEATRE

Chapel Street, Little Gunway, Bradford, BD1 1DE

Mon 29, Tue 30th June, Wed 1st July - SALMONBERGERS - 6.00 8.15

Thurs 2nd, Fri 3rd, Sat 4th - MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO - 6.00 8.15

Thurs 2nd, Fri 3rd, Sat 4th - BANGDAD CAFE - 5.45 8.00

Mon 6th - Sat 11th July - ON STAGE: TRAFFORD TANGI

provision of feeding programmes, food storage containers, sanitation and health units, emergency tents and shelters, water, water equipment and sanitation areas.

Celebrities and politicians are also expected to join the refugees or help-out at the camps.

Orlam are organising the event to celebrate its fifth anniversary. They hope an estimated 10,000 people will join the refugees as a stand against the "Trevor of Disasters" by calling on trading politicians to tackle the growing problem of world poverty.

Orlam say: "Many refugees are haunted by horrors they have witnessed and experienced. Most have lost their possessions and lack the money and means they need to live and work in a foreign country."

Anyone interested in becoming a refugee for a day should contact Orlam on 19 Montagu Villas, Bradford, West Yorkshire.

EXTRA

A unique event will take place in Leeds on July 31, when thousands of people will follow a Refugee trail from Leeds City centre to Temple Newsam park.

Orlam who are organising the national, Forced To Fly campaign want people to walk to make this 'helping camp' to bring the plight of 43 million refugees worldwide to public attention.

Students who join the refugee at Leeds City Station will have to walk five miles to Temple Newsam park, where they will register as refugees, receive a special refugee passport and to enter the camp.

Once in the camp, refugees will be able to take part in activities, that Orlam organisers claim are normally only witnessed on television. These will include the

OFFBEAT

As one longing to get out of Leeds for a day, to sample something a little different, could do worse than to make a trip to York, while the annual festival is on. Apart from anything else, York is one of those places which is always good to visit if the weather's good, but the festival, which is an international event, both in its performers as well as its audiences adds an extra dimension, with over 50 different venues where people can join in the Festival events.

Traditionally, the centre-piece of the Festival are the unique Mystery Plays the first "witnessed" plays in English and which are performed nightly, but the festival also incorporates folk and popular music, theatre, comedy, classical music, variety, dance and heritage and ecological subjects, in an event which has long been seen as a celebration of York's arts, history and also vitality.

It would be impossible to list all the many events that are going on over the next 18 days, but the free comprehensive booklet produced for the Festival will help you make the best of the day. Unfortunately, not many of the events organised are free, but student discounts are available for

almost everything and the average ticket for a show or concert will cost around £1-45, although some things are cheaper. Regarding tickets, it should be possible to buy them on the day, but if in doubt, the number to call is 0904 632223. Tickets for all events will be on sale (subject to availability) at the City Centre Box Office until 4 hours before the advertised time of performance. Venues like the Theatre Royal and the new Belfrage Centre will also sell tickets for their own events.

Although there are many events on during the day-time, it will still be worth your while to make the journey if you only have an evening to go. If you're going by train, remember that the last one back to Leeds returns at approximately 10.50pm, so plan the evening accordingly. York station is not generally known for it's world class entertainment. (Train tickets cost £2.50 with a rail-card and £5.50 without one.)

York is easy to get to, it's easy to find your way around and it's worth visiting now before the borders of tourism start descending over the summer. The Festival makes the city come alive and it traditionally involves both professional actors and musicians as well as many local residents and schoolchildren. If you want to get the full of the place, then now's the time to go.

Jo Oxshorn.

Phil Cool at the York Festival - Sunday 28 June

CLUBS

POLYTECHNIC

Weds - POP 9pm to 1.30am
Tickets £1 on door - plus 50p live bus home to Headingley
Sat - POP 9pm to 1.30am Tickets £2 on door - plus 50p
Both Wednesday and Saturday Bands included with the cost of these. Doors open the first time on the 27th of June.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY

4-439771
Fri - Tartan Bar disco 10pm to 1.30am Tickets £2.50

RISEY'S

THE WORLD - The biggest student night in Yorkshire!
Beers and base prices £1.00 9-11am admission £1.50 before 11.
£2.00 after 11
Thurs - KISSIN' NUBS up front dance 9.30-11 2am admission free before 11 with SU card and £2.00 after 11

BE PLAYERS

City Square, Leeds, tel:452115
Thurs - HARDWARE Techno for the "musically more sophisticated" 44 on the door 9pm till 1am
Fri - TOONS - 10.00N (starting 7pm) Rose and Mario Picard £1 on the door 9pm till 1am £1 a post Sat - FREQUENCIES House & pop

Garage featuring John - Kelly, Steve Proctor, Mark Hudson, Tony Ross, Maria Gao. £5 entry

YEL

Merton Centre, Wake Lane LS1 tel:444691
Mon - Student Night & Karaoke
High Price draught, and spirits
Happy Hour 5pm to 10pm
Thurs - Promotion Night with prizes

MILKBAR'S

54 New Bridge St LS1 tel:422224
Mon - student night 9pm until 5pm
Tuesdays free before 11pm with student card, £1 after 11pm
Wed - SOUL NIGHT 10pm to 2am £2 entry with SU Card
Thurs - CELEBRATION NIGHT £1 entry with SU Card

RICKY'S

9 Merrion St LS1 tel:437178
Tuesday 30 June - GEORGE AND ANDY'S LAST 90'S PARTY 9pm - 2am £1
Mon - ARMAGEDDON admission £4 with student card 10pm post 50p Color CD 40p 4 9pm until 2am
Weds - Rave Room with "AK & Dream" DJs, Indie Dance rooms with DJs
Thurs - Rave Room and DJs
Fri - The Gallery ELECTRIC BLUE Indie Rave £2.50 with Student card

THE RIT-KAT CLUB

Tues - THE DAYDREAM ELEVATOR pop/bedrock disco, some comedy of Mr. and Mrs. Thackeray entrance £2.50

Weds - The Gallery D&J live band and Latin 9pm until 2am £2.50

Thurs - THE MELO HIGH CLUB 9pm until 2am £2 before 10.30pm with student card £2.50 after

Fri - The Gallery '92 BLISS featuring DJs Tim Clob & Doss
White & special guests £2.50 before 10pm £4.50 after

Fri - PARADISE CITY glamrock/dance/rock 47 everyone Sat - Saturday at The Gallery 10am 10pm and Dean White

THE PHOENIX NIGHTSPOT

Pinch St, Chapthorn, tel:62645
9pm with - Student Nights Bar Student admission £4
Tues - Live R&B Bands student admission £2
Fri and Sat - Big Nite Out Student admission £2
Doors open 8.30pm

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Doors open 8.30pm

LE PHOENIX NIGHTSPOT

Menton Centre LS2 tel:419668
Tues - FREE admission £2.50
Sat - J&K&M UNLEASHED 10pm to 9pm, Wild Time, Rave 7-11pm Free membership, this is essential because it's a Sunday. Apply at Cash Records or The Stinking at least 48 hours in advance.

THE MAKEHOUSE

tel:448727

FI - Dance music 9pm admission £4.50

Sat - Dance music 10pm admission £4.50

FRINGS II

at Westminster Buildings, 43-45 New York Street, Open Mon-Sat 9pm-2am.

New pop club, Free cloakroom, quiet drinking area, large disco.

CIRCUS CIRCUS

The Music Factory
Lower Briggate
Every Wednesday
TTS Disco's 90's pop/dance's pop and indie - £1 a post £2.50 £2 members

Membership on night £1

BACK TO BASHES

Briggate 37
Sunday night - rave night

LEEDS TRADERS HALL

South Mount LS2, tel: 420844
Fri - THE UNDERWORLD CLUB - jazz, groove, hip-hop etc... Doors open 10pm Tickets £5 on the door

RHPS

North St LS1
Mon - REGGAE BOSANZA admission £1.50
Weds - STEREO SHOOTING admission 2am admission £1.50 students £1 "music to bond your mind"

Thurs - the 2nd and 3rd of every month THE SNAKE DANCE 10pm/10.30pm admission £3

Sat - THE LIZZARD CLUB classic club 7PM on

VIDEO

Videos courtesy of
Village Video,
Cardigan Road,
Headingley.

The Addams Family

Exciting film in the cinema, even better on video. But big budget adaptation is short on plot, but long on laughs. Basically a series of short sketches strung together into a very flat, very sick and very, very funny, if a little inconsistent, hour and a half.

Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston are both in to finance and produce, while Charles Hallahan is up unceremoniously as Uncle Fester.

Get in a pizza and cuddle up with your loved one, consuming sordid secret cashings in your chosen TV set in Goober.

William Tell's Boogie Journey

Rock first, will love it. But probably won't get the joke. Kevin Kline's face will shed over their sales (don't see the attraction myself, and threat of humanity will just laugh... a lot... Better than the first one - but still not as funny as Wayne's World - featuring the coolest version of Death over Number's men in small corners in joke there. Sorry. Almost unwatchable.

What About Bob?

Not the best film that Bill Murray ever did (which, in my not too humble opinion, was The Untouchables - but I'm a sucker for men in better suits, but a damn sight better than some of the dross he's done in the last few years. Overlooked comes laughing playfully so much as a shining example of a mind-blowingly brutal piece of repudiated honour.

He's the psychi-ridiculous nightingale who haunts the every waking hour of glibly psychotic, Richard Dreyfuss.

Better than average with enough laughs to justify being it.

By The Sword

Bravely, not and living in a New York setting as P. Murray Abraham and his Roberts act Karate Kid with super.

Roberts is the hard as ice fighting coach who teaches his pupils to win at all costs. Abraham is his mirror image, advocating a softer (though no less effective) intellectual approach in the sport.

good evening

centralising. Both leads dominate the screen, and make the most of a rather flimsy plot in good effect.

Cent Thomas

Cent Thomas

Cent Thomas

Cent Thomas

Cent Thomas

GOOD Life

STAGE

WEST

YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE

Tickets: 1st £10.00

tel:442115

Quarry Theatre - Fri 26th - Sat

25th - **ABSENT FRIENDS**

(telephone for times)

Courtyard Theatre - Fri 26th - July

11th - **WICKED OLD MAN**

7.45pm

Network - Sat 27th - **BAZAAR**

Mon 29th - **WYD OUT**

Wed 30th - **PLAYBOY AND**

BEYONDS

Thurs 30th - **PLAYTIME**

Sat 4th - **BAZAAR**

CIVIC THEATRE Leeds

45555

MILKSHAK AT THE VICARAGE

by Angela Christie

Fri 26th - Sat 27th

Starts 7.30pm Tickets £3.50

Week 1st - Sat 4th - **UNDER MELK**

WOOD

Week 8th - Sat 11th - **THE PEARL**

FISHERS

THE GRAND THEATRE

46 New Briggate & L1

tel:499354

WOMAN OF THE GAUNT

D'Oyly Carte Opera Company

June 26th, July 1st, 7.30pm

July 2nd - 1.30pm

THE MIKADO

D'Oyly Carte Opera Company

June 26th - 1.30pm

July 2nd - 8pm, July 3rd - 1.30pm

July 4th - 2.45pm & 7.30pm

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

Bradford tel: (0274) 752000

MY FAIR LADY

15 July - 7.30pm

Tickets: First night and matinee

£13.50 - £5.00

Mon - Sat evenings - £22.50 -

£3.00

BRADFORD PLAYHOUSE

Chapel Street, Little Germany

Bradford tel: 729528

MAKAT - AADH by Peter Weiss

June 22nd - June 24th. Ring for

times and prices

TRAFFORD TANGI by Claire

Lachman

6th July - 11th July

LEEDS UNIVERSITY, RAVEN

THEATRE

LOOT by Joe Orton (presented by

Theatre Group)

Wed 24th - Sat 27th 7pm

£24.1.50

CITY VARIETIES

Leeds tel: 438888

Sat 27th - **THE SCORCERER**

Oliver & Sullivan - 7.30pm

£5 Conc. £1 off

Sun 5th July - **THE DUTCH**

SWING COLLEGE BAND

Ticket prices 05.50, 05. £5

ST. GEORGES CONCERT

HALL

Bradford tel: (0274) 352000

COURTNEY PINE - Fri 28 June

8.00pm, tickets £7.50 plus

GIGS

THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL

Queen's Road

Leeds tel: 757044

Fri 26th - **THE KEE**

Sat 27th - **SLEEPY PEOPLE**

Sun 28th - **BIG WEDNESDAY**

Tue 29th - **BOY RACER AND**

RAZOR BLADE SMILE

Wed 1st July - **JAZZ & BLUES**

GRAND FINALE

THE GEORGE

Great George St.

Downstairs Bar - Free Admission

Tue 28th June - **PUZZLE LOGIC**

Wed 1st July - **SODAS KIDS**

7th July - **REIGN UNDER**

HEAVEN

ENIGLE TAVERN

Leeds tel: 457146

Free Admission

Fri 26th - **STILL HUMMING**

Sat 27th - **PRIVATE DICKS**

Fri 3rd July - **STILL HUMMING**

Sat 4th July - **SQUARE FOOT**

BROTHERS

THE DUCK AND DRAKE

Leeds tel: 905056

Free Admission

Sun 26th - **LOVE**

Tue 28th - **FOUR HORSEMEN**

Thurs 2nd - **CARVER CARVER**

Sunday 3rd - **JOHN DECON**

THE GROVE INN

Holbeck, Leeds tel: 438254

HARBON HALL

Leeds tel: 351115

Sat 26th - **SWEET REVENGE**

Sat 4th July - **RELL SYKES**

TEQUILA SOCIETY

Wed 1st July - Harvey Milk Bar -

Members £8.9.00

FORCED TO FLEE

Be a refugee for a day

Temple Newsam Park, Leeds -

Saturday 11th July Starts 12 noon

KIRKLEES ONE WORLD

FESTIVAL is currently being

organised to be held between 30 - 24

October. To be opened by

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston

MISC

HELP STOP THE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN

PRIMATES FOR RESEARCH

Tues 26th July

Meeting organised by the British

Union for the Abolition of

Vivisection

Albert Room, Town Hall, The

Headrow, Leeds - 7.30pm



GOODBYE SPECIAL

by **donner und blitzen**



Bossa-nova !

Take it easy Baby, I've been at work all day and my feet feel just like lead. You got my short tails flying all over the place and the sweat droppin'

off my head. She said: "They Bossa Nova Baby keep on workin' cos I ain't got time to think."



drink, oh fiddlely drink. I can dance with a drink in my hand. They Bossa nova baby keep on workin' cos I ain't got time to think. She said: "They Bossa Nova Baby keep on dancein', I've about to have myself a fit." I said: "They Bossa Nova Baby, let's all dance, have a drink and dig the beat." She said: "Drink, drink."

When Elvis Presley met Carmen Miranda at the beach it was love at first sight.

Perhaps it was her flower bra and platform shoes or his Hawaiian style shirt. They danced the Bossa nova in their holiday fashions.

Hair by Callum at Vidal Sassoon, Photos by Linda, Gingham Cageti pants from The Tube, Schofield Centre, Shirts by The Wardrobe, Flower Bras by Claudia Centre, Microphone lent by The Kit Kat Club, Thanks to James and Catharine

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Vision



MONTHLY REPLACEMENT (DISPOSABLE) SOFT LENSES

Travel light this summer & wear lenses
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A "one off" 4 month pack **£69.00**

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£45.00 (initial) + £10.00 (per month)

MASSIVELY REDUCED CLEANING COSTS
4 month pack, disinfecting solution £15.24

You'll find us in the University Union
Telephone 424684

*Can't be purchased for anyone

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Wherever you're going, we will arrange everything from the flight at the right
price to accommodation and travel insurance. Students and academic fares
are even better. With 120 offices worldwide, we will never be far away.

	o/w from rtn			o/w from rtn	
Amsterdam	£54	£96	Madrid	£65	£96
Auckland	£380	£549	Mexico	£202	£404
Bangkok	£276	£439	Nairobi	£262	£402
Bombay	£275	£402	New York	£162	£291
Boston	£162	£293	Paris	£50	£89
Huraru	£390	£555	San Francisco	£189	£367
Hong Kong	£315	£485	Tokyo	£391	£710
Los Angeles	£170	£366	Toronto	£135	£231

Sydney o/w £345 rtn £590

London-Los Angeles-Sydney-Bangkok-Vienna-London from £731

London-Bombay-Singapore-Sydney-Auckland-Fiji-Tahiti-Los Angeles-London from
£948

**88 Vicar Lane,
Leeds**

Tel No. 0532 449212

ST/

STA TRAVEL

Looking for volunteers



**ARE YOU OVER 18?
HAVE YOU GOT FREE TIME
ON YOUR HANDS?**

*Here at the Clinic, we are assessing the suitability of volunteers
which may be available on prescription or for purchase
over the counter.*

*Our Volunteers assist us in our work by taking small doses
of new or previously tested medicines.*

*Typically this involves monitoring blood pressure, pulse rate
and taking small blood samples.*

*Facilities include a comfortable TV lounge where you can relax
and view the latest video releases.*

*A recreation room is also provided with a pool table, dart board,
video game, computer board games as well as a book
and cassette library.*

*All volunteers are compensated for their
time and inconvenience.*

GHBH/Hadston Clinics



**Interested?
call
free on
0800
591 570**

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION WELFARE SERVICES POLL TAX

*If you are married and you are advised to notify the Leeds
Poll Tax Office of your current address.*

*Last summer lots of students were contacted as the
representative of the 1990/91 Poll Tax bill. However, most
students did not notify us of their current address and letters were
not forwarded to them.*

*Unfortunately when £32 council costs were added to their bill
in April this year had to be paid by the Poll Tax bill. £32
council costs AND £12.50 health charges.*

*If you haven't paid your 1990/91 bill and you don't want this
to happen to you, send your current residential address to:*

**The Poll Tax Office
P.O. Box 60
Maritime House
130 Maritime Centre
L14 2JH
Leeds LS2 6JH.**

KEEP A COPY OF THIS LETTER!

*If you have any queries, please come to the
Welfare Office in the University Union.*

Sport

23

Taylor made disaster

The cries of despair from despondent England fans could be heard all over the nation when Sweden finally smashed England's fragile hopes. The cries for Taylors were nearly as loud. **Stuart Smith** reflects on Taylor's role in the fiasco.

I have a confession to make, as an Aston Villa fan I thought Graham Taylor to be the Messiah, he saved the club from obscurity and went on to build a team that finished runners up in Division One two years ago, he signed David Platt and basically restored life to an ailing club. So you see I was always reluctant to criticise him, despite the flimsy and Swindering allegations that he made, he'd done this at Villa, he hadn't done too badly, I wasn't too concerned.

My opinion has now changed, I no longer feel indebted to him, just hostile. Yes, we can blame the bluntness of the *despondent* segment, we can also blame the idiots who run our national game, the party managers, inferior players, fat-out

chaimen, it's a case of pick your scapegoat. But Taylor himself has to take ultimate responsibility, he has transferred the National side from one who played superior, but entertaining football into a bunch of workaholics and asexual boofers who are more suited to playing in a Pub league not an international tournament.

There is no place for flair in Taylor's brave new world, Nigel Clough, Chris Waddle and Paul Gascoigne have all suffered because of their individuality and passion we feel saying it, their ability. His footballing creed was finally confirmed when he replaced the only decent player on the field against Sweden, Gary Lineker. It doesn't really matter about "that record", Taylor took

off the ONLY player who looked like saving the match. Oh yes, Sweden played the long ball game in the second half, took at their delightful second goal, sorry to watch wasn't it? That for me summed up the chances that was England in Sweden, our National Manager didn't even have the guts to admit that his team were outplayed by a side who were technically superior by miles.

The time has now come when Taylor will finally reveal to a cynical wilderness at Sheffield United, Cambridge United and Crystal Palace, we need to play in our strengths don't we? The reality is that it's clubs like Liverpool, Sheffield Wednesday, Leeds United and Nottingham Forest who have enjoyed success over the last two years, clubs who play cultured football that entertains.

As a Villa supporter I can see the difference between the two styles of football, the style played under Taylor can never compare with the style that we now play under Ron Atkinson, as we're to be entertained again, and we actually look capable of winning something.



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STOCKISTS OF
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GARAGE, HYPNOSIS,
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Do you
recognise
this person?
- Long, dark
hair,
longish side
boards,
dark
baseball cap
with the
word "CRASH"
on the front.
Please
contact Mike
Proctor in
University
Vision in the
University
Union.



THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, STUDENTSHIPS AND PRIZES THE EDE AND RAVENSCROFT PRIZE 1993 - £500

Applications will be invited early in the session 1992 - 1993 for the Ede and Ravenscroft Prize. This prize, instituted in 1950 to mark the bicentenary of Ede and Ravenscroft Ltd., Rasebakers, at London, is a competitive prize to all registered students in the second year of a first degree course in the University.

Those wishing to compete should submit a report, not exceeding 5,000 words, on a project or journey undertaken during their first summer vacation; the reports will be judged on the author's clarity and distinction in the use of English and, if appropriate, of such visual material as photographs, maps and graphs.

Entries should be sent to no later than the end of February 1993 to Miss A. McClurkin, Assistant Registrar, Taught Courses Office (Admissions).

The Ede and Ravenscroft Prize and other competitive prizes will be advertised in December 1992 on university notice-boards and by means of advertisements in the Leeds Student.

SPORT STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Sticking the oar in



Summer has finally arrived. Sky fever has not in its saline grip, the Test matches are in full swing and talk of strawberries and cream is once again in the air with the start of Wimbledon. But there is something missing, something impossible to diagnose, something called the absence of Dan Maskell. At 82 he felt it was time to bow out gracefully, a thought that I hope has not occurred to the voice of English Cricket, Brian Johnston.

Johnners reached the grand old age of 88 this week, he is enjoying a new, strenuous lease of life on Radio 7 with chattering away about chocolate cake, pots of tea and, uh yes, cricket. The reason why I'm rambling on about these two older statesmen of sports commentary is that their comradery - the sheer professionalism and dispassion that all top commentators possess.

The examples are abundant, Stuart Hall and Sir Shackletonian football reports, the unbelievably surreal Peter Allen and Bill McLaren using studies and metaphors in their fullest potential. All are special in that their commentary becomes an event in itself.

I know that this is a strange way to end the year but I needed to celebrate the mercurial, spontaneous character that is the Sports commentator. If ever the long and lazy days of summer you have a spare hour or two, sit and listen to Johnners and Fred Treanor or the gentle humor of Peter Allen, you won't be disappointed because you will hear the art of sports commentary in true, poetic perfection.

Stuart Smith

Rowing

After a short but intensive preparation the Leeds University Women's First VIII travelled to what is considered one of the most prestigious events in the women's calendar, that being Women's Headley. They were unfortunate in being drawn against Churchill College Cambridge who, with their

greater experience, were able to cope with the windy conditions. However, the ladies did not do themselves an injustice as their time of 5:59 is over the 1500m course was comparable to many of the day's times.

Closer to home, the men's crews were racing at York where they continued to show their increasing dominance in the North with impressive wins in the senior VIII's and the senior 2 pairs beating teams from

Durham and Cambridge Universities.

The University Boat Club took part in one of Britain's oldest regattas at Durham which ensured a high standard of competition. The weekend proved fruitful with victories in three events, the first came on Saturday when a men's novice team overcame a selection of Durham college crews and home support to win the prestigious Mayors plate trophy. Their feat

was equalled by a win by the novice women four who also beat local crews to gain their senior status.

The most impressive win of the day was in the women's senior III event. Expertly steered by Jo Coady, the crew kept its composure and control to overcome a very strong field including Durham University crews and an impressive Sheffield outfit.

Fencing

Leeds University Fencing Club has had one of their most successful years ever.

The men's team came third in the IAU team championship, narrowly losing to Bristol in the final; the women's team were unlucky to lose to Manchester in the later stages of the same team championship and the combined men's and women's results at the BUSE individual championships placed Leeds second (again losing to Bristol).

Last weekend the club rounded the year off in style with

an impressive showing in the Kirkstall Open held in Huddersfield.

Three of Leeds male fencers, Steve McFarlane, Rob Smith and Jason Clarke, entered the foil on Saturday. Steve, unluckily, went out in the second round, but the other two survived well into the later stages of the competition.

Rob landed and the final twelve, finally losing to the eventual winner, and Jason, who a few weeks ago won the prestigious York Open Foil Championship, made it into the last eight.

For the women's team only Ruth Bamber took part in the ladies foil event. She got on as as

the semi-finals before losing, and then went on to compete in the plate competition, eventually coming third.

The Sunday saw foil and sabre competitions, for which Leeds fielded two entries, Phil in the foil and Givi Thomas in the sabre.

Phil produced an excellent performance, going through to the last 8, only to be rather ironically knocked out of the competition by his own brother, who was rooting for the weekend.

In the Sabre, Givi, despite starting slightly, imposed in the later rounds and finally secured second place.

Sports physiotherapy

Sports Centre,
University of Leeds
(0532) 335095

Times: Tues 5 - 8
Wed 10 - 2
Fri 11 - 2

Prices: Students £5
Staff £7
Public £10