Leeds Polytechnic students are being asked to withhold their Hall fees in protest against the Polytechnic's proposed rent increases for next year. Fees are expected to rise by between 25% and 36%, although the student grant is only going up 7%, and it is feared that this could cause severe financial problems for many residents.

For the first time ever there are more places available in Hall at Beckett Park than there are students to fill them because of the increasing cost. The fees are by Jane England and Hilary Green

the main issue of contention but there is also bad feeling over the charge being the same for double and single rooms. Promises were made that this would be changed but as yet nothing has come of this.

A third point has been made that the standard of food in the Beckett Park refectory is very poor and declining further in quality. This situation, it is claimed, badly needs improving and has been discussed by the catering committee.

The rent strike, which has been organised by Vice-President for Lecturers, Dave Moutrey, it is hoped put pressure on the Polytechnic authorities to reconsider the increases, but as Mr Moutrey explained, "we need 100% support from all students and its not effective."

* A motion calling for a similar rent strike by University students will be discussed at the Union OGM on Tuesday.

Next week is the Polytechnic Union Election Week of Action. The nursery matron, Andrea Nicholson, explained that the week is intended to make people more aware of what the nursery provides as well as raising money. There will be an exhibition of the children's work on the wall at the nursery on Wednesday, a jumble sale, a raffle and a disco at Brunswick Terrace on Saturday 9th.

Nursery children will be making collections through the week, and you are asked to give generously to support the nursery.

Election Victory For Tories

In what is seen by many as a surprising result, two Conservative students have been elected as President and Deputy President of the Polytechnic Union Executive for next year. President Elect Sean Morris, who is Vice Chairman of Yorkshire Area Federation of Conservative Students, defeated Loraine Wells, standing for her second term of office, by 524 votes to 124.

As a member of the FCS, Mr Morris was asked for his views on FCS policy to disband the National Union of Students. He replied, "I am totally against it, and I voted against the idea at the FCS conference. Leaving the national union is a cowards way out. NUS needs reform but we cannot do so by pulling out, because there is a need for a National Union." Mr Morris sees the national union's function as a negotiator with the Government and a pressure group for the interests of students, and he said, "It is not fulfilling this role. The extreme views of the National Executive are not representative of students."

Mr Morris believes that disagreements between Conservative students over this issue could lead to the formation of a more moderate, Tory student group.

Deputy President Elect Doug Cowie is also a Conservative. He is a final year Education student, and he will be the Education Secretary on this year's Executive.

In Brief

The University Union minibus service has been improved by the employment of three professional drivers. This will make the service more efficient and reliable. The drivers will be on duty from 8.00 pm, and if you want to use the bus just come to the Union building and ask the Porter. The service is open to all female students and it is still free. It is expected that many women will use the bus after evening studies in the libraries.

The price of a student railcard, which entitles you to half-price British Rail travel, has been pegged at £10, the same as last year. In addition, cards bought from June will be valid for 15 months, even for this year's finalists!

Grants Announced

Undergraduate student grants will be increased next September by only 7%, compared with the annual inflation rate of over 12%.

According to Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education, the rate of inflation when the next academic year starts will be 10%. The grant rise was based on this figure, but there is a reduction of 3% so that students "could contribute to the Government's policy of restraining public expenditure".

University Union President Chris Shenton said that the value of the grant had been dropping since 1962 and the latest increase was "only to be expected".

National Union President David Broome said that the figures were "terrible". He said, "We presented Dr Boyson (Under Secretary for Higher Education) with all the evidence for what we think is a moderate claim of 21% in view of inflation and expecting price rises of 30% and more. But he completely ignored us."

As if by way of compensation, Mr Carlisle announced the same day that plans to implement the loans system for students were being shelved for the time being because the scheme would cost too much to get off the ground.

Xenon Must Go!

If whilst watching television in the University you have been disturbed by female orgasmic noises from above, it was not a public act of indecency, but a pinball machine called Xenon.

As well as making moans of ecstasy the loquacious machine also invites players to "try me again". But the powers that be were not amused by this money making novelty. "I was offended," said Chris Jaekier, who proposed to a Union Council meeting that it should be removed. "It implies the mentality that I play pinball to hear the orgasmic noises of women."

There are alternatives that can be used, such as Flash Gordon."

President Chris Shenton pointed out that "We do have policy against sexism, and this contravenes it. If members feel that something is degrading, we should do something about it." So the machine is to be removed.
On March 25, 500 people staged a protest at Leeds City Council. Inside, the ruling Labour group was present, but it was clear that the cuts would lead to the loss of over 200 teachers in Primary education, the equivalent of 26 lecturers in Further Education (which means the loss of a far larger number of part-time staff), and the equivalent of 19 full-time posts at the Polytechnic.

Similar cuts and demonstrations are occurring throughout the country. In Birmingham, 2500 students marched, and the response from Further Education students has been encouraging in Leeds and elsewhere.

The Government is planning cuts in education and health, with a £1.5 billion cut in 85% in University income. The first time the Universities have faced such a substantial threat. Public sector higher education (poly) is already being hit, and in Scotland, Callden Park and Hamilton Colleges of Education are due to close in June.

However, it would be misleading and deceptive to make out any special case for education. Militant students are suffering from reactionary policies that say ordinary people should pay for a crisis not of their own making. In Leeds, £1 million has been transferred from education to housing and £500,000 from the Social Services. Yet all these services need more money. We must oppose cuts in all spheres and build a united campaign that involves trade unions and everyone prepared to resist these policies and their implementation.

This raises the central question of how we fight the cuts. I would argue that we need a campaign of active resistance to the attack on public spending. Councillors should refuse to obey Government directives and help a mass movement, basing its strength on the Trade Unions. Unless we begin the fightback by organising those opposing the cuts on such a basis, we have little prospect of getting anywhere. Mass movements are built from beginnings such as the lobby on March 25 in Leeds. We need to give the campaign a direction that will progressively draw more people into action. If all we can offer them is gestures of protest they will soon become demoralised and demobilised.

The National Union of Students is planning 'work-ins' and 'public activity' on May 6 and 7, but these will be insufficient in themselves. I hope these views will stimulate debate in all student unions in Leeds. We cannot avoid confronting such questions. Should we negotiate over the implementation of cuts? Or should we refuse to co-operate with these measures in any way? Should Labour councils take a lead and defy Government policy? Or is it all we can expect, the cuts imposed in Leeds? Those students who protested on March 25 showed that they were in the fight. The future of the campaign will depend on how we present the political challenge that confronts the entire cuts campaign.

Paul Hodgkinson, General Secretary of Leeds Area NUS suggests a plan of active resistance to Government Spending cuts.

The People's March For Jobs

Unemployment is the most important issue in this country at the moment. There are already over 2,500,000 people officially registered as jobless, but it is a real figure much higher and the total is rising fast. Every minute one more person is made redundant. By the end of the year the total will be over 3,000,000.

Unemployment is having disastrous consequences throughout the whole fabric of society and must be reversed. Students are obviously affected, as are workers now completing degrees with little prospect of a job or future. Even people who do have jobs are insecure, not knowing when their turn will come.

This means that employers are able to use unemployment to weaken the trade unions so the wages and conditions of those who are employed, are worsened.

In addition, many people, justifiably frustrated by unemployment, instead of turning to the Government to alter its policies to remedy the situation, attack weaker minority groups of workers who are in no way responsible for the mass unemployment.

As a result of unemployment the wealth of the country is obviously decreased. The homes, schools, hospitals, goods and services which the people of the country desperately need could be produced by the unemployed. This is a waste of human talent and means the collapse of industries which are vital to the country. Unemployment is also very expensive; this year we will pay almost £5 billion in benefits for the unemployed. Meanwhile, money that should be used to create useful jobs is wasted on nuclear weapons that can never defend us but only make us a front line target in a nuclear war.

In order to combat unemployment, the People's March for Jobs is a major initiative. The aim of the march is to create a mass movement of people who will call on this government to make unemployment its first priority.

The People's March for Jobs is being organised by the North West, Yorkshire and Humberside, West Midlands, East Midlands and South East regions of the TUC. The trade union and Labour movement have demonstrated recently at Glasgow and Liverpool their commitment to unemployment.

In the People's March for Jobs, in addition to the trade unions and Labour movement, a wide range of organisations, well-known personalities and churches are supporting the march as it passes through their area. They all recognise the disastrous and tragic effects unemployment has, not only on individuals but on the whole of society. They are all united in expressing their revulsion against mass unemployment which now affects more than one in ten of the workforce.

The Western leg of the march starts from Liverpool on 1 May and travels via Manchester and Birmingham to London. Our Eastern leg of the march starts from Huddersfield on 1 May and passes through Leeds, Sheffield and Nottingham, then joins the Liverpool march to register at Nottingham, to march together on the final leg to London.

At the march centres the march passes through, there will be concerts, rallies, debates, church services and civic receptions. The marchers in Leeds the march is supported by the Lord Mayor, the leader of Leeds City Council, the leader of the W Yorks Council Labour Group, West Yorkshire church leaders, W Yorks group of Labour MPs, the Regional TUC, Leeds Trades Council, Leeds Labour Party and many unions. National figures supporting the campaign include Spke Milligan, Glenda Jackson, The Who and Brian Clough.

The Eastern leg of the People's March will be in Leeds from Saturday 2 til the morning of Monday 4. The events arranged include a concert by John Cooper Clarke, a folk group from El Salvador, a concert in the Lipman Building and a Civic Reception. The marchers will arrive in London on May 29. All those who support the aims of the march are requested to participate in the programme in Leeds. This is a chance to show the Government in a big way how the people of this country feel about unemployment.
The re-elected President David Aaronovitch

**Elections**

The elections were a bookies dream - all the favourites were placed, and the only outsider to win was such a surprise that nobody thought of tipping her.

El Presidente for the coming year is David Aaronovitch. He only managed to win by 16 votes and would not have been elected if it had not been for the first transfers of NUS delegates. Aaronovitch's nearest rival was the retiring treasurer Helen Conner, who was the candidate of the National Organisation of Labour Students, and it was her political motivation to arouse the NUS Executive, and almost all of the members of the Leeds delegations disassociated themselves from the leaflets. It is unlikely that the situation will improve at future conferences, as of NUS and conference just elected a hard line right wing were able only to achieve minimal solid policies were set, and the FCS members of the Leeds executive, and passed policy to continuously point out that they facilitate. The Leeds delegation did not distinguish themselves. Due largely to the lack of interest shown by their own OGM's there was little attempt to contribute to debates. The FE Colleges, who are to suffer most from the government cuts were more active, but it is ironic that the University Union, which concentrates its effort was the National Organisation of Labour Students, and it was her political eligibility which accounted for the narrow margin by which Aaronovitch won. The presidential election was the debut for former Trinity and All Saints President Neil Jacques, at present a student at the University, who distinguished himself as conference's most conspicuously unsuccessful elections candidate. He stood for the Ecology Party in four separate elections, and failed to D. Aaronovitch the sole motivation was to arouse delegates to acts of violence. There to a certain, he said, was not to inform but to provoke, and it was only by this being continuously pointed out that they were able only to achieve minimal success. The "wets" of the FCS, including David Bones of the NUS Executive, and almost all of the FCS members of the Leeds delegations disassociated themselves from the leaflets. It is unlikely that the situation will improve at future conferences, as of NUS and conference just elected a hard line right wing executive, and passed policy to actively promote college disaffiliations from the NUS.

Rent-a-Mob

The Conference itself was often volatile to the point of childishness, with walkouts and aggressive behaviour often setting the tone. Despite this, fairly solid policies were set, and the NUS seems set to continue its evolution from the "Rent-a-Mob" image of which Trevor Phillips spoke to a quieter but more potent force. The Leeds delegation did not distinguish themselves. Due largely to the lack of interest shown by their own OGM's there was little attempt to contribute to debates. The FE Colleges, who are to suffer most from the government cuts were more active, but it is ironic that the University Union, which concentrates its effort was the National Organisation of Labour Students, and it was her political eligibility which accounted for the narrow margin by which Aaronovitch won. The presidential election was the debut for former Trinity and All Saints President Neil Jacques, at present a student at the University, who distinguished himself as conference's most conspicuously unsuccessful elections candidate. He stood for the Ecology Party in four separate elections, and failed

The NUS Easter Conference is to an OGM what an AGM is to drinking coffee in someone else's flat. It's pretty big, about 700 delegates and 300 observers and full of self-opinionated would-be saviours of the student movement. It has its own language, constructed largely from initials such as "CM", "NOLS", "CARL", "PSHE", with a special vocabulary devoted to its own intestinal rumblings. As an event it is overwhelming, with caucuses, debates, guest speakers, gulotines and elections all conspiring to consume about 5,000 trees worth of wood pulp.

**The Parties**

Almost every political party was represented, including a palpating body of Social Democrats who seemed to take themselves seriously enough for there to be a strong likelihood of a gaudy new rosette at future conferences. As usual these parties diverged and coalesced as the situations demanded.

Remarkably, the party which presented the most disunited front was the Federation of Conservative Students, which is basically the peak body of Social Democrats who are non-means tested grant for all 16-19 year olds.

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From the Tearooms... …to the Hell-holes of Utopia’s Landscape

Landscape are a band that have usually been treated rather harshly by the critics, for it seems to have the knack of popping up on the wrong side of the critics’ cool criterion. “Tearooms” should prove that reviewers are usually wrong.

In their early days when it was clever to be clumsy they were stubbornly skillful, and though they played the most accessible jazz in the country, they seemed to use guitar and vocals put them beyond the pale.

The full version of “Eliminist” precedes the sound of a man desperately trying to reach the President by phone, which puts the whole song in a different context and gives the lie to those who criticised the radio version for being shallow.

“Norman Bates” has shades of ‘Careful with that axe Eugene’ one of the most disturbing tracks of its era, set in the atmosphere of Ronnie Corbett’s “Sorry”. After 10 listens one still discovers hidden comments.

All the tracks pass the whistle test after 10 listens one still discovers hidden comments.

The title “Too Much Loving” gives the game away right from the beginning. Chevy play straight Americanised Heavy Metal fairly reminiscent of Boston. It has the same old beat, power chords, guitar solos and lyrics about mistreatment by women.

Admittedly they are professional and the sound is nice and glossy but then, so what? There is no originality here, nothing at least that would differentiate them from any other Heavy Metal band, the kind that seem almost to insin the intelligence. Tommy Vance may like them!

Chevy are playing at the Frodor Greene Hotel on March 15th so those of you who are fans can go and stick your heads in a bass bin.

Graham Cooper

The struggles of two Milanese families; we are shown the frustrations and anger of working class people everywhere - the incessant toil at dreary, unnecessary jobs, the problem of affording food apart from dog meat and canary millet and frozen rabbits heads. The play tries to find a solution for the working class, an alternative to the Fascists, the Christian Democrats and the Communists, in Italy where inflation is at 20% and inflation on food is over 30%. The solution that the characters in the play come up with is anarchy - supermarkets are cleared out, canteens looted and the European rail system brought to its knees. Giovanni, (Rod Beddall) a staunch Communist Party member, refuses to accept this alternative to start with, but eventually it proves too strong an attraction in the face of temptation - a lorry sheds its load of black-market food in the local square.

However, the excesses of anarchy lead to a total breakdown of reality and order, with dead men coming to life and pregnant men. Unfortunately, the humour such as it is based on this pantomime as it is based on this pantomime, element, and not on political satire, which worked so well and so originally in Accidental Death of an Anarchist. The political rhetoric is overplayed and empty, and one is left with an ultimate feeling of disappointment.

Despite the efforts of a good strong cast, the script is lacking in conviction and message.

Cat Smith

Drugs

The title track, captures the aspirations of the young American with Bowie’s eloquence but perhaps takes the theme a little further than Bowie would ever have dared.

What the album lacks in chic, it gains in the spontaneity of production.

Chris Springham
Roald Dahl sells 2 million books a year. As three quarters of these are for children, he was a fitting choice to open Austicks' new children's bookshop in Leeds last month. At 65, with 5 spinal operations due to war injuries behind him, and with the addition of two steel hips as a result of osteo-arthritis, he is still lively, assertive, and successful. Sitting imposingly in the middle of a cluttered desk (he has just rung the shop), he prepared to run the interview for me. With justifiable good humour, he took as a starting point the fact that, apart from himself, there are no writers of both adults' and children's fiction who produce enduring best sellers.

Dahl began to write after the war, almost by accident, and has long been acclaimed a master of the difficult art of short story writing. His children's books are hugely successful - 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' is still topping the best seller list after 20 years, and 'James and the Giant Peach', which he prefers, is not far behind.

To illustrate the difficulty of writing for children, he told a story about a New York publishing firm, which some years ago came up with the idea of compiling an anthology of stories for children by the great modern writers in English; among them Updike, Graves, Greene and Dahl. No one turned down the invitation to contribute. Dahl made a face as he recalled how bad the submitted stories were. "Guaranteed to anaesthetise any child in five minutes" he commented. The project was abandoned. Dahl's own contribution, 'The Magic Finger' still sells well.

The secret of writing for children, he says, lies in the state of his interest in kids" he said firmly. "You have to be a jokey sort of nippy at heart, the type who likes knock knock jokes." He has never tested his work out on his family first. He feels that "You must know yourself well, and be able to tell whether you've written something good or not."

Discipline is required for the writing. Dahl works from 10 til 12 in the morning and from 4 til 6 in the evening. "All ideas come at the desk" he says. "Outside the workroom, you shut yourself off, and just mooch around washing and shaving and so on." It is vital to keep the momentum going. You stop when you're going well, so you want to get back to it the next day - shut your mind off, and you can't wait to get back." Ideas do not consciously come from other people, though experience is vital. "I'm very wary against encyclopedias" he said, slightly obscurely. His knowledge of antique furniture, pictures and wine - all of which have come into his stories - stems from his early choice of owning his own bookshop and his three, and his cellars at home contain 400 bottles of wine.

As for putting a moral into a story - "It must be pure entertainment" he said vehemently. "A moral is a very dangerous thing. Children don't want to be taught things." He now prefers writing for children, enjoying the challenge. "An adult's learnt to concentrate. If there are a few dull pages, he keeps reading anyway, but a child will just throw it away and go to the telly. You've got to try to compete with that."

Many of his short stories have been adapted for television. "Tales of the Unexpected" has been sold to 42 different countries, and is especially popular in Norway, Dahl's native country. "I was widely pleased with the first two or three" he said, "but then they took tremendous trouble over them." He complained that they meddled with his plots, and made unnecessary cuts. "I've taken so much trouble with the construction of a story - months - they took solid, but if they're mved around they shatter."

What about the type of story? "I hate science fiction, impossible things." he said. "The fun is in making them just possible." The supernatural holds an appeal for him, though here again he has his reservations. "I've longed to write a ghost story, but they all lose me, because there's a point where you can't believe them."

By this time the shop was seething with excited children, with a few parents helplessly trying to gain control. Dahl read a couple of witty poems, yet to be published, before making a brief speech and sitting down to autograph copies of his latest book, 'The Twits'. As I struggled to the door, the shop manager grinned at me warily. "Don't forget to mention us," he said.

Over Easter English National Opera North came to the Grand Theatre

March 26th Tosca
April 4th Magic Flute

Enon's recent productions of Puccini's Tosca and Mozart's The Magic Flute were both wonderful and I've still to decide which one I preferred.

The first assault on our senses that Tosca made was on our noses. Act I in a set of gilt and the audience was willed into a drugged stupor by the continuous wafting of incense over the pit. The stage with its fantastic set of huge marble pillars, gloomy paintings of ecstatic virgins and dirty ugly was soon brought to life however by the appearance of Tosca herself (Elizabeth Vaughan) who from then on dominated both the stage and our attention with a very remarkable performance.

Tosca is a tragedy, superbly acted, and most memorably, concerned with the unhappy end of Tosca and her lover Cavaradossi. Their untimely end is brought about primarily by the machinations of Scarpia, a thoroughly excelling villain and excellently portrayed by Geoffrey Chand. At the end of a very tense and very touching Act II, Tosca is almost forced to make love to Scarpia to save Cavaradossi from execution but as she kisses him with a knife from the dinner table. Almost as horror-stricken as Tosca herself is, we watch her desperately trying to wipe away the blood from her hands with an intensity equal to Lady Macbeth's.

As Puccini's haunting score has already foretold us, the lovers are doomed to failure. Cavaradossi, awaiting the firing squad, makes a heart rending attempt to write Tosca a final love letter of farewell and Tosca's grief at the discovery of her dead lover was so beautifully done as to be almost unbearable.

Barely able to sustain any more sorrow, it was with relief then that I went the following week to see Mozart's Magic Flute. As for putting a moral into a story - "It must be pure entertainment" he said. "A moral is a very dangerous thing. Children don't want to be taught things." He now prefers writing for children, enjoying the challenge. "An adult's learnt to concentrate. If there are a few dull pages, he keeps reading anyway, but a child will just throw it away and go to the telly. You've got to try to compete with that."

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Leeds Student
Sergeant Jane McGill works as a Community Affairs Officer in the notorious inner city area of Chapeltown. In an interview with Fiona Mallon she told us about her work.

The Community Affairs Division was set up in 1972 after relations between the ethnic communities and the police reached an all time low on bonfire night when blacks rioted in the streets of Chapeltown. Twelve police cars were overturned and two policemen were seriously injured. A major rethink in police policy resulted in an Inspector being appointed to the area, given special duties to build up better communication with the residents and work towards a system of mutual co-operation. Five years later the Division is flourishing, and I spoke to Sergeant McGill about her work in Chapeltown.

First, she explained that the Community Affairs Division takes in the whole community; the Poles and Jews as well as the West Indians and Asians. The area has many problems due to the poor environmental conditions, bad housing and poor facilities, and these problems aggravate the social problems with which the area is faced.

As the police system becomes more bureaucratic and institutionalised there is a need for personal contact on the streets, someone who is familiar with the difficulties people face living in Chapeltown, and who understands the cultural differences which, when problems arise, require specialised knowledge. Jane sees herself as this liaison between the police and the community. The aim is to make the police service available to the community, particularly now that the local bobby is no longer on the beat, and there is a need to build up a relationship with people on the area so that they don't see the police continually in an authoritarian role, but also in an assisting and co-operating way.

Much of Jane's work involves taking over where the social services have left off, or where they cannot deal with cases. Often she plays a positive role, using her authority to ensure a particular part of the area is kept clean by the Cleansing Department, which often sees environmental conditions from getting worse. Petty vandalism can be contained, if residents complain, a special patrol may be sent to the area.

Again, where a resident is having difficulty with electricity bills often it is the police who are the initiators in getting something done about it. The relationship with the social services is so co-operative one, with the police intervening to prevent further hardship, particularly in protecting children. Jane explained that she is often called to case conferences when children are brought to hospital and the doctors suspect that their injuries may be non-accidental. A visit to the parents can often prove the best deterrent to any further harm coming to the child. She explained that when a child needs to be brought into care immediately, the police are often called in to issue a place of safety order, which can remove a child from its parents if it appears to be in danger of abuse or neglect.

Apart from the role as a liaison with the public, Jane fulfils a special advisory and practical role as an expert on the special problems which occur within the ethnic communities. Particularly in the first category, problems of culture conflict amongst young girls. Much of her work is preventative. She has the responsibility of making policemen aware of the cultural differences, so that they don't unwittingly cause insult or provoke members of the ethnic groups.

In showing the police acting in a responsive manner like this, it is hoped that feelings of bitterness and resentment will decrease, and co-operation will become a more active part of police and community relations. Jane explained that often the best community relations work can be done by dropping in and opening doors when people have locked themselves out, or, as happened recently, helping a woman in distress. He was babysitting and couldn't get his small son's pyjamas on!

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Leeds University
Union
Ordinary General Meeting
Tuesday 5 May 1981
Riley Smith Hall 1.00 pm

Ordinary Members Business
1. Expression of No Confidence on Executive and Union Council for disbanding the Conservative Society.
2. Rent Strike - hall and flat fee increases
3. Peoples March For Jobs
4. Irish Rugby Football Union - tour to South Africa
5. Anti Racist Carnival
6. Bans on Marches

Jane McGill

women will refuse to complain to the police to get help. Young girls are also experiencing problems of conflict when their education tells them to question situations, while in the issue of their prospective husbands they are allowed no dialogue with their parents at all. The police become involved because the social services won't recognise this as a problem and because of the underlying threat of violence from the family if the girl won't co-operate with their plans. It is vital in this case to have someone who is fully aware of the problems and who is able to offer alternative solutions. For this reason, Jane keeps in close contact with specialists who can advise her on the options open to young people, in special hostels and so on.

Leeds Student
Orienteering BUS F/UAU Report

The BUSF and UAU Championshipships were held this year near Durham, and, following on from a strong build-up throughout the season, the University had its most successful championships yet.

The individual event was held in appalling conditions with heavy rain and strong winds. Even so, Jane Robson showed what a good winter’s training can do by finishing 2nd behind Alyson Stewart of Stirling, and 1st in the UAU competition. Ruth Hancock also ran an outstanding race to finish 7th (UAU 5th) in her first major championship. The men, however, suffered badly in the conditions in the ‘A’ race and only Maurice Calvert ran anywhere close to form, finishing 13th out of 160 (9th UAU), but the ‘B’ race saw Nigel Burt and Roger Parker finish 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Overnight the weather changed completely and the Relays were held in a warm Kellas Plantation near Consett. In the men’s race Mark Elsegood brought the ‘A’ team in 15th on the first leg, with Roger Parker and Pete Martin only 2 seconds apart for the ‘B’ and ‘C’ teams (the ‘C’ led the ‘B!’ in 23rd and 24th. Pat Blasthill, in spite of a 5 minute mistake, managed to hand over to Maurice Calvert in 10th position who then recorded the 5th fastest time of the day to bring Leeds in 5th (4th UAU) the best position ever, except for the 1977 win. In the ‘B’ team Andy Kelly and Nigel Burt ran steadily to gradually climb through the placings and finish 15th and 3rd ‘B’ team.

However, the best performance came from the Women’s team. Helen Pilling, recovering from a series of disastrous runs, brought the team in 5th to hand over to Ruth Hancock 6 minutes down on Edinburgh. Although a minute slower than Helen, Ruth had a strong run to whittle the lead down to 4 minutes and bring the team back 2nd. After her run the previous day, Jane Robson then proceeded to make the whole affair seem so easy, and brought the Leeds team back in 1st place, with a 9 minute margin of victory, as Edinburgh slipped to 3rd, and Loughborough came 2nd. Leeds thus retained the BUSF and UAU women’s trophies after a very successful weekend.

Report

World Record

On the 18th March the world record 400 x 16 mile continuous relay record was squashed.

Over 30 athletes from Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester universities got together at the Firs Sports Ground, Manchester. They broke a long standing record by over 16 minutes. The new record now officially stands at 7 hours, 2 minutes and 7.5 seconds.

In order for the old record to be broken each 1/4 mile lap had to be run in under 65 seconds but with such athletes as Gareth Brown running several laps under 52 seconds this proved to be no problem.

Volleyball

Mens and Women’s volleyball teams achieved outstanding victories in the BPSA Finals held on Wednesday 18 March.

The Women’s team achieved a sweeping victory by beating Thames Poly, last year’s winners, by two sets to nil with powerful servings from Karen Gregson and Stella Wilson, accurate setting from Liz Clarke, and agile back court work from Carol Fletcher.

The Mens team began in devastating form against last year’s winners, Wolverhampton, by taking the first set 15 - 0, a feat which reflects all the time and effort put in by players, and coach George Balman. Leeds regained the Championship with a convincing 15 - 5 victory in the final set, thus winning two sets to nil. Leeds’ strengths was their team work, held together by Captain, Dave Brennard.

In the preliminary matches against North London, South Bank and Preston, Neil Dewsnip, Nadeem Hussein, Ed Schofield made a big contribution in getting the team to the final. This, together with some awesome spiking from setter Richard Reyon and blocker Colin Toal, led to the Mens Championship returning to Leeds for the third time in four years.

Announcement

The Sports page relies on the Captains of the sports concerned to provide reports to either the Polytechnic Leeds Student Office (by the Info point in the Union), or the Office in the University Union by 2.00 pm on Monday afternoons.

In Grade two, the Leeds Poly ‘A’ and ‘B’ teams came second and third respectively with Wolverhampton taking first place.

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Please ring John Harper, reversing the charges on Newcastle upon Tyne 857141, or write to him c/o Brand Promotion Division, Procter & Gamble Limited, P.O. Box LE, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1EE. The closing date for applications is 11th May 1981.

Interviews with applicants will be held at the University before the end of term.