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On Dit

Volume 69 Edition 7 2.4.2001



On Dit

Volume 69 Edition 7, 2.4.2001

On Dit is the weekly student newspaper of the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editors or the Association.

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About the cover

We like to call this one 'Happy Colonising' and it is dedicated to Melissa's British History lecturer.

Wanna write?

Come and see us in our office, located in the basement of the George Murray Building (right next to the stinky male toilets), accessible from the Barr Smith lawns. Alternatively, email us at ondit@smug.adelaide.edu.au or give us a call on 8303 5404 or 8303 6490.

Next Edition:

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This edition could not have been produced without the assistance of:

Clementine, Kate, Leila, Tristan (for bailing us out of an Editorial bind), Alida, Bek, Mike P., the friendly footsoldiers of the Metropolitan Police, Zane, Viv, Viv and more Viv, Bulla for making Splits, Dave & Blake for finally solving the Mystery of the Tubes, Deeptangi, Sarah, Leopold, Linda and Alex (you'll always be a star in our eyes)

(Sub) Editorial

If there's one thing that really gets on our collective goat, it's former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic. As such, we were so pleased to hear that his arse had finally been arrested amidst clouds of teargas and gunfire. There were even reports of rioting, with at least one officer injured during the gunfight between Serbian police and Milosevic's mafiaesque cronies.

Finally, it seemed, somebody in a position of power had showed some initiative and hauled in the aptly-named "Butcher of the Balkans".

Unfortunately, this proved not to be the case. Milosevic - whose heroes include Tito and Stalin - is currently holed up in his heavily-guarded central Belgrade villa.

It seems that Mr Milosevic, who remains leader of the Socialist Party, has secured yet another reprieve and will continue to live behind his gilded bars of luxury. He certainly isn't any more likely to be tried before the Hague any time soon.

So who's to blame? Why aren't the likes of Milosevic and Thatcher and Nixon hung, drawn and quartered for their crimes? In Milosevic's case, the immediate blame lies squarely on Vojislav Kostunica's administration, which has so far failed to deliver Milosevic to the Hague, where he and his cronies have been indicted for war crimes.

But for entertainment's sake, let us find a more interesting group of people to blame. The Americans, perhaps?

As this edition goes to print, President George W. Bush is advising Congress that the new Yugoslav Government has "cooperated sufficiently" with international war crimes prosecutors, and that Yugoslavia be rewarded with US aid.

There are two things wrong with this decision. First, you don't need to be Kissinger to notice that Yugoslav attempts to arrest Milosevic coincided with a the approach of the US deadline, after which punishing financial sanctions were to be imposed. Quite obviously, Kostunica was desperate to avoid these sanctions, and ordered that Milosevic be pestered by police in a furtive effort to please the American juggernaut. If Bush's advisers been properly aware of this (instead of busily having nothing to do with Israel) Kostunica might have been persuaded to ensure that Milosevic's capture.

Secondly, how is it that the United States can impose trade and financial sanctions on countries like Cuba, Iraq and Iran without also sanctioning a nation that continues to harbour literally dozens of indicted war criminals?

The Bush Administration is obviously preoccupied. They have bigger fish to fry. Old Dubya may not know much about global politics, but one thing is for darn sure: the likes of Castro and the Ayatollah caused more than one embarrassing moment for his old man.

The real reason why Milosevic remains a free man is largely due to the fact that the American State Department will from now on only be interested in those aspects of world diplomacy that interest both CNN and the Republican Party. Sure, the Yanks will always tout themselves as champions of global freedom and justice, but as long as the likes of Hussein and the Taliban continue to blow raspberries in America's general direction, less notable criminals like Milosevic and Skase will continue to roam free and unfettered.

Stan



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SAUA Roundup

The SAUA Council meeting held to discuss the outcome of Orientation – one of the most anticipated meetings of the year – occurred Wednesday night. With Orientation assuming increasing importance over the last few years (the SAUA's budget has become quite dependent on the large profits that recent Orientations have generated), the positions of Orientation directors have become quite controversial.

Orientation directors are appointed by SAUA Council in or around September and then spend the Summer holidays working to organise the various parts of Orientation – O'Week, O'Ball, O'Camp, O'Tours and O'Guide. There is a large amount of work involved in being an O'Director and nobody does it with any expectation of being paid particularly well, there being about \$5,000 worth of honorarium (payment) to be split up between around twelve people. They do, however, expect Council to put a reasonable amount of thought into the way that the money is allocated, as different directors tend to be paid different sums depending on their work ethic, financial success etc.

After each director explained how their portfolio had worked and endured a period of questioning (as usual, the conduct of the meeting was poor and the behaviour of some

present bordered on intimidation), Council went into confidential session (*in camera*), which *On Dit* can't report on, to discuss the awarding of honoraria. Now, some questions need to be asked about Council's use of *in camera* proceedings. Why did some Councillors feel it necessary to conceal their actions? Is it appropriate that Council should conduct meetings that don't really need to be confidential (some do, for example those involving commercial contracts) *in camera*? Why shouldn't students know how much money is being dealt out by the Students' Association, and to whom? Does Council have something to hide from its general members? Although discussion about honoraria in previous years have occurred *in camera*, it is not necessarily a precedent for all other discussions.

Thankfully, some insight into the *in camera* goings-on were provided when two rather distraught Councillors left the Council chamber in succession, the first only a couple of minutes after the *in camera* session began. Now, Councillors don't in general tend to desert the Council chamber when there are important votes to be made, so it can be reasonably inferred that something untoward may have happened. For example:

- Things may have been going on *in camera* that were so disgusting as

to drive two Councillors from the room in tears;

- The vote may have been made without any discussion, thus making the votes of the Councillors leaving irrelevant.

Considering that the directors had just spent several hours stating their cases and enduring quite pointed questioning about their conduct during Orientation, it would be a little sad if the second scenario was the case – meaning effectively that some or all members of Council made up their minds about the merits of the various Orientation directors before giving them a chance to make a case for themselves.

Now, Orientation is only one small part of the year-long operation of the SAUA, so if it is handled in a slightly dodgy way we aren't looking at the end of the world. But it doesn't exactly inspire a great deal of confidence in the continued operations of the SAUA.

The length of the part of the meeting discussing Orientation meant that there was no time left to talk about other Council business, a regular feature of which is the reports from Office-Bearers (those people who write reports in *On Dit* each week). So we'll have more on that next edition, after the holidays.

SAUA Ball

The SAUA Ball was an event introduced by Activities/Campaigns Vice-President Mark Henderson, who had been organising it since the beginning of the year. It was scheduled to take place in the Cloisters on Saturday 21st of March but was postponed a week prior to this due to 'bad weather'. One question which will probably be asked when the OBs do their reports is: was it really bad weather which caused the cancellation, or did rumoured poor ticket sales also have a part to play? Mark had previously argued that the failure of many of the SAUA events held in 2000 were due to poor advertising, but some consider a lack of promotion of SAUA Ball to have been responsible for the postponement. Stay tuned for next term's Council meetings.

In other exciting SAUA news, the Constitutional Review Committee has been having meetings regularly to review the Constitution and possible restructuring of the SAUA. There have been rumours to the effect that some Councillors want to get rid of the Sexuality and Women's departments or amalgamate them into something else. However, it must be noted that these discussions are exactly that and nothing talked about at the meetings will necessarily happen. Get your submissions in; that's the only way the Committee can act on your concerns.



Gathering in Victoria Square

Reclaim the Streets

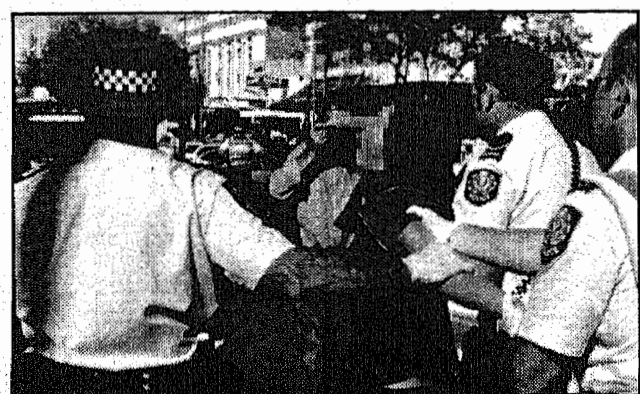


Reclaiming Grote Street

Saturday the 31st of March saw Adelaide's second Reclaim the Streets party. RTS, still new to Adelaide, is huge in other States and countries. Melbourne events can attract thousands, while those in Britain, where RTS originally grew out of a strong activist culture, can turn large areas of city into party zones.

The theory of RTS goes something like this: private interests and the ascendancy of the motor car have successfully converted what should be public space (the street) into private space, stealing it from the people. On one day every year, a section of street is taken back, sealed off to traffic, and used to hold a party.

Unfortunately, last Saturday's outing was not particularly successful. It started off in Victoria Square before moving to a section of Grote Street;



The cops say, 'Reclaim this!'

a large blue bus housing a sound system was the centrepiece of the event, with carpets, beanbags and small stalls lining the sides of the road. There were (at a guess) three or so hundred people there at any given time, with a steady flow of people in and out – not quite the numbers required to make an effective statement (this could be taken as an indication of the apathy and general crappiness of Adelaide). Organisation also seemed to suffer – it's all very well to endeavour to be democratic and decentralised, but sometimes this leads to confusion and a decided lack of direction. For a start, none of the bands listed on the flyers turned up to play. Had they been warned away by the police, or just never properly confirmed?

As happy as it was to see hundreds of people getting into peaceful civil disobedience, it really seemed that, while there was a core group of several dozen who really got into the spirit of the afternoon – dancing, relaxing in the middle of the road, speaking to the crowd etc – the majority was there to see what was going on and spent most of the time standing around the edges waiting for something to happen.

Unfortunately, there was one unwelcome element present: the police, who, all wearing their badge numbers (in a pleasant surprise), seemed to spend the first few hours blocking off the road and milling around in the crowd waiting for someone to jostle them, whereupon the jostler was dragged off into one of a number of paddy-wagons. Enough people (five) were arrested during the day for the

media to get some photos and describe the whole thing as a 'violent protest' (*The Sunday Mail*).

The police presence grew slowly throughout the early afternoon until about 3.30, when they moved in to shut the whole thing down. A flatbed truck carried the bus away after its occupants had been forcibly removed, and a wall of blue swept people onto the footpaths and arrested a few who didn't appreciate being shoved along. Things were adjourned to Victoria Sq., where the party went on until midnight.

A number of people at the event had also been present at last year's. It seemed that more people were present this year but that the event as a whole was less well-organised; RTS 2000 apparently involved several stages set up along Hindley Street, each equipped with musicians. Also, reports from last year indicate that the police had yet to work out exactly what was going on and really had no idea how to deal with it, and the air of confrontation which made this year so difficult was absent. Maybe next year...



The Wall of Police

Lanley Henzell
Photos by Mike Paradowski

PROSH

nus

Would you like to be involved in a week long festival of fun, craziness and prankery, some of it on the very borderline of acceptable behaviour?

Would you like to be part of the grand tradition of student misbehaviour?

Do you have any spare ox bladders lying around?

Would it sweeten the deal if all of this was for a worthy charity?

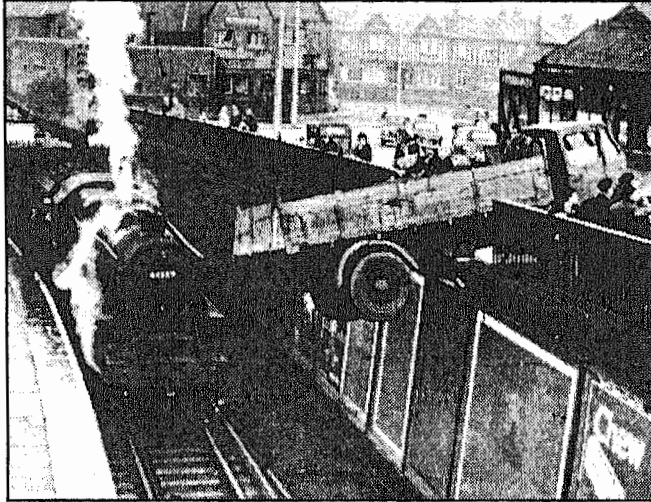
If you have answered yes to the above questions, then you want to be involved in Prosh. 'What is "Prosh"?', I hear you ask. Well, Prosh is a week held by the Activities Department in the SAUA to raise money for a charity chosen yearly. It dates back to about 1916 when students got a bit shirty with the then chancellor, Sir Samuel Way. When Sir Samuel asked University Council for protection from the students chasing him with an inflated ox bladder, the students thought they might make it a yearly event. Thus, Prosh (short for procession) was born.

Over the years, Prosh became an excuse for all manner of pranks. Some of the legendary pranks are as follows:

- A lecturer's VW was taken to pieces and reassembled in the Mayo Refectory.

- A car was suspended from the footbridge (which ended up costing the SAUA a lot of money)

- When Adelaide City Council workers were doing some roadworks on Victoria Drive, pranksters called the police and told them that there were students dressed as council workers digging up the road. The pranksters then spoke to the council workers and informed them that some students dressed as police officers were about to come along and question them. Fun ensued for all.



- A toilet was bolted to the steps of Parliament House.

- Pranksters called up local radio stations reporting a hole in the fence at the zoo. They then called reporting sightings of a large cat...

- Pranksters, with some help from the President, entered the SAUA office and took the door off of the A/CVP's office, then used some misappropriated bricks and mortar to

brick up the doorway.

The modern Prosh is a little different. The main reason for this is that the authorities these days take a somewhat dimmer view of blowing up the footbridge than they did fifty or even twenty years ago. This has meant that the pranks have become more legal over the years. It hasn't lessened the comic or charitable value of the pranks though. Last year a group of pranksters rallied to the mall to save the Malls Balls. So what if they weren't in any danger? The Don Dunstan Foundation and Canteen got some money out of it and people weren't too upset.

This is your official notice. Prosh exists and is coming. Now that you know that it is for a good cause you can't be annoyed with it (we actually make about \$5000 for charity a year), and since you can't be annoyed with it you might as well join in. Just so that you know, the Prosh charity for this year is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

If you want to get involved in Prosh as a prankster, a helper or even as a driver in the Prosh Parade, come and see me. I will be lurking in the SAUA office plotting future nefarious acts of Proshness, but I will emerge at 1pm on Wednesday the 4th of April for the Prosh meeting in the UniBar. You can e-mail me on activities@saua.asn.au or give me a call on 8303 5406.

Mark Henderson
Activities & Campaigns Vice-President

National Day of Action

Just a reminder that this April 5th marks the National Union of Students Australia-wide day of action against funding cuts and the corporatisation of OUR universities. You are invited to join students across Australia in a show of solidarity, you can help us send a clear message to both the government and business community of Australia, and you can help fight for an equitable, quality and accessible education for the future!

OUR EDUCATION IS NOT FOR SALE

On this National Day of Action WE DEMAND

- an end to corporate control of our universities
- a livable income for all students
- reversal of funding cuts
- an end to attacks on staff
- FREE education NOW - no fees for degrees!

Universities across the country face a chronic shortage of funds. This is why tutorials are overcrowded, textbooks and course notes are so expensive, and your HECS debt is so huge.

OUT OF THE CLASSROOMS AND ONTO THE STREETS NUS NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

Please meet us at 1pm at the Barr Smith Lawns or 1:30pm at the steps of Parliament house and contact your NUS SA Education Officer, Marissa Meller-Harris on 0403 325 594 for further details and any enquires about the rally.

Joel Northcott
NUS SA President

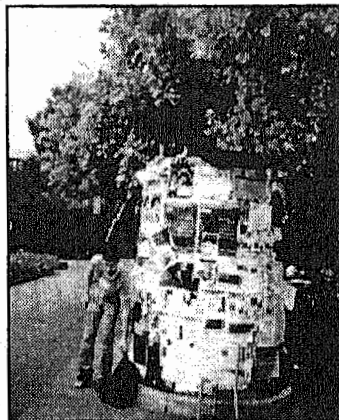
Tube Mystery: Solved?

Far away on Easter Island stand dozens of giant stone heads, carved by generations long past for reasons known only to them. To this day the greatest archaeologists in the world have been unable to account for their existence - the Easter Island heads remain mute testimony to the inability of modern science to comprehend the ways of the ancients.

Adelaide University has its own version of the Easter Island mystery: a handful of giant cement tubes dotted around North Terrace campus. For years students have wondered:

"What is inside the tubes? What are they there for? Who built them? Are they to be loved, feared, or hated?"

Although the purpose and origins of the tubes remain unclear, *On Dit* is proud to bring you - at last - an answer to the first question: "What is inside?"



They are not, as had been speculated, air vents or gateways to the mysterious underground fairyland of University administration. They are in fact, as our exploration team (pictured left inside a tube) discovered, simply hollow, with leaves and other detritus slowly building up inside.

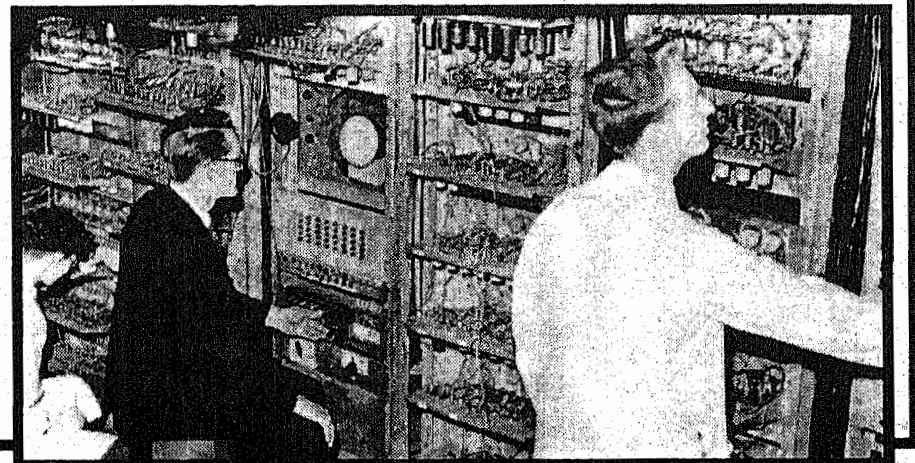
So now you know.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

This is a call for input into a survey run by the SAUA to be placed in *On Dit* later in the year, regarding the status of IT&T facilities, skills and access at Adelaide University. Anyone who has an area of IT&T that

they wish to incorporate into a survey is asked to submit these to the President of the SAUA, Tom Radzevicius by April 23. They can be emailed to:

tomas.radzevicius@adelaide.edu.au

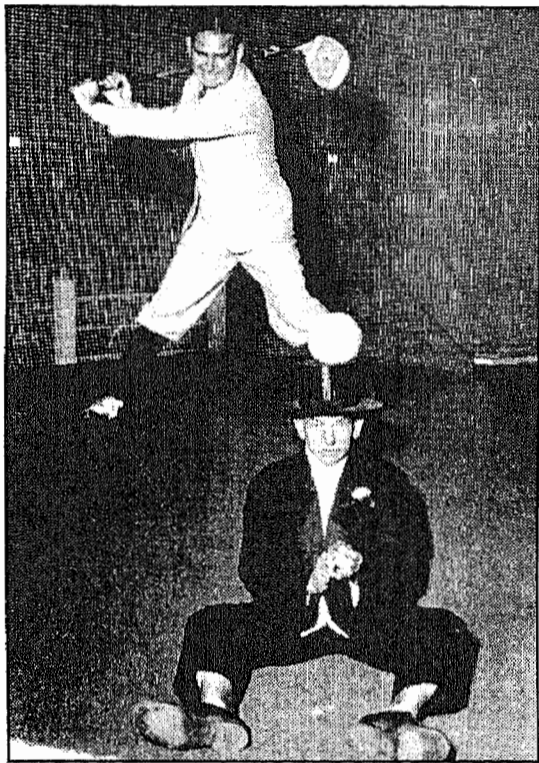


NEWS in BRIEF

World Banker Pied

The President of The World Bank, James D Wolfensohn, had a cream pie smeared across his face and another one hurled at him at point blank range while holding a press conference in Helsinki last week. Two members of The 'Arctic Pie Team' (ah, those crazy Europeans) approached him when Wolfensohn was about to start a press conference with the Finnish state treasurer. This was Finland's first 'pieing action'. The strike managed to delay the press conference for a time and was reported by the pie-throwers to have 'stirred up the thoughts of the two hardcore capitalist pigs'.

[Source: www.indiamedia.org]



Informal disciplinary proceedings at work in Adelaide Uni's Faculty of Golf.

Resisting Arrest

Over 200 Israelis protested in the village of Rantis wielding shovels, pickaxes, and gardening trowels in objection to the occupation and closure of the West Bank last Friday. They tore at the barricade for several hours while the army and police looked on. Villagers brought the protesters drinks and encouragement, however they refrained from helping with the removal of the barricades. Palestinian resistance is often met with lethal force. This action concluded peacefully.

[Source: www.indiamedia.org]

Refugee Riot

Up to 60 illegal immigrants have rioted at the Port Hedland Detention Centre in Western Australia. Officials say the unrest began during an attempt to remove some detainees for deportation after they had been refused visas to stay in the country. A spokesman for three Ira-

With Leila Hallak

nians at the centre of the protest says that the detainees face persecution if sent home. It's not clear whether anyone was injured.

[Source: www.news.com.au]

George Dubyah Does it Again (and again, and again...)

If we had any fears about whether George Bush Jr. had enough smarts to run a country, let alone the Western world, they've been realised. Most recently, George Jr. has outraged nations around the world such as the EU, Canada and Japan, by declaring that he would abandon the Kyoto treaty on Global Warming, claiming it was not in his country's "best interests". Bush prefers an aggressive energy policy based on fossil fuels. Under the 1997 protocol, the US promised to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 7% by the year 2012. The EU said it would reduce emissions by 8% and Japan by 6%. Australia was one of the few nations allowed to increase its emissions - up to 8% above 1990 levels. According to the Kyoto treaty, Washington promised to cut greenhouse gases by a third - that was until Bush Jr. introduced his energy policy. Never mind that America is the world's highest polluter (a quarter of global carbon dioxide emissions are made in the USA). White House Spokesperson, Ari Fleisher said, "The President has been unequivocal. He does not support the Kyoto treaty. It exempts the developing nations around the world and it is not in the United States' economic best interests".

Oz Addicts Lead the World

Despite the clean living, "Life Be In It" health conscious images we Australians pride ourselves on, latest reports indicate that Australia is one of the heroin overdose capitals of the world. Drug use has escalated so much that currently nearly a quarter of all Australians over fourteen have used illicit drugs in the past twelve months.

This week, the Federal Government launched a \$27 million advertising campaign aimed at stopping young people from trying drugs. But critics say information campaigns will be largely ineffective unless the supply of drugs is cut off. New South Wales Premier Bob Carr certainly believes law enforcement is crucial, and has given NSW police officers unprecedented powers to act against suspected pushers.

China short on women

Not satisfied with straining ties with Germany and blaming Palestinians for the violence in the Middle East, George Bush Jr. has claimed that China is once again a major threat to US security. But that's not China's biggest problem. While the world's biggest nation claims that it is finally beating the population explosion and containing its third 'baby boom', they're well on the way to running out of women. The number of Chinese is currently under 1.3 billion, but the nation's "one child policy" has led to the alarming reduction in baby girls, and men are outnumbering women. The population census shows that there is a growing gap in the gender ratio, with 117 males for every 100 females born. Roughly, that means there are 60 million spare men.

The controversial "one child" policy may be a factor - with under-reporting of births by local officials and families anxious to keep to birth control quotas. Sociologist Dr. Jui-Shin Chang says "Many Chinese men would have difficulty to find a wife, and then we can presume that those people will be under a lot of stress." Combined with the traditional Confucian preference for boys over girls, this policy may have another disturbing consequence. Another cause for alarm is China's steadily expanding older population. Eighty-eight million Chinese are now aged 65 or more. If this remains steady, then in 30 years, the proportion will be one quarter of the population.

WEIRD NEWS

At least 1,400 college students are majoring in "golf" at eight U.S. universities, with more schools about to start programs, according to a March Wall Street Journal report. One school just completed a \$1.1 million student "learning laboratory" (that is, a model golf clubhouse), part of what is necessary to meet the demand for pros as new or expanded U.S. courses open at the rate of about one a day. Curricula include business classes, turf science, and many, many rounds of golf.

In Galesburg, Illinois, long-haul trucker Dana Turner, 40, explained to police that the child pornography in his truck was important to him in that it kept him from falling asleep at the wheel. According to the police report, Turner said he was so angry that pornographers would exploit children like that that his agitation kept him alert.

Pediatric pathologist Dr. Dick Van Velden lost his hospital job in the Netherlands in February after an examination of

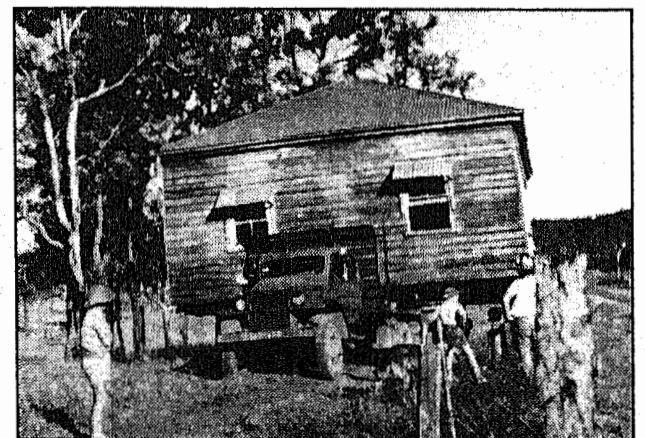
his storage locker in Liverpool, England, revealed that he had removed (for research purposes but without parental permission) and stored the organs of more than 800 deceased children (in addition to a child's head, which he kept in a jar). Two days later, prosecutors in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he also recently worked, asked for extradition so that Van Velden could explain the presence of children's organs in heat-sealed bags in a locker in that city. Colleagues interviewed by Canada's National Post suggest Van Velden was so absorbed with his research that he simply collected organs and forgot about them.

In January, Quebec's health insurance board approved about \$3,000 US in payments for breast implants for a 15-year-old girl after a psychiatrist submitted a recommendation calling the surgery "necessary" for her mental health. The next week, following the predictable outcry, a board official announced, to a chorus of skeptical critics, that the psychiatrist's recommendation was irrelevant and that the girl actually suffered from a medical condition ("aplasia of the breast," or a lack of mammary glands, which made her breasts unusually small) that required surgery.

An Alaskan gas station owner, chasing after a customer who skipped out on a \$20 fill-up, stayed with him at high speeds down Interstate 65 and U.S. 231 for 130 miles before finally giving up.

Raymond Jones filed a complaint after having angrily stalked off his job during the 1998 holiday season, never to return, at a Shoppers Drug Mart in Vancouver, British Columbia, because his boss told him to set up artificial poinsettias in a seasonal display, which he took as a directive to support the abhorrent idea of "Christmas" (he is a Jehovah's Witness). Results: Mr. Jones won a \$30,000 judgment from the province's human rights panel in January.

A Washington homeowner forked over \$40,000 to have his house lifted and moved three feet back to comply with a zoning rule.



An Adelaide resident moving several hundred kilometres East to avoid Adelaide City Council's oppressive postering by-laws.

You've Screwed Us Again, Olsen!

State Liberals have introduced legislation to allow the South Australian Finance Authority to come up with the \$26.5 million needed to begin construction of the Alice to Darwin rail link.

The bill was pushed through State Parliament late last Wednesday in what appears to be a successful effort to keep the popular project on track. The shortfall was at first expected to be plugged by an overseas loan personally brokered by Premier John Olsen. However, the loan was rejected by the Rail Consortium at the last minute.

Essentially, this means that hard-working ratepayers like you and me will be footing the bill for a much larger proportion of the project (\$176.5 million, to be exact).

The little-understood funding crisis seems to have distracted the Adelaide media from the Premier's suspect dealings with the Motorola corporation.

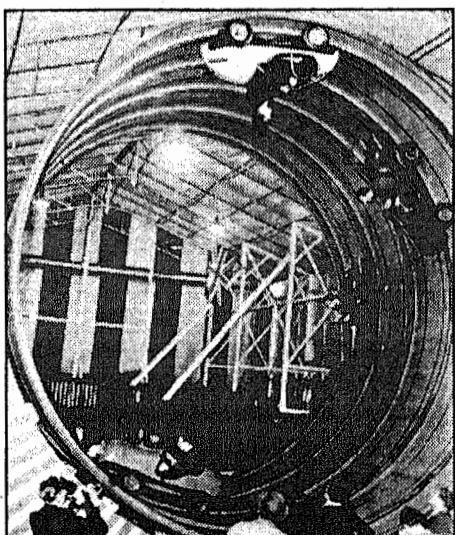
In effect, the government has in fact managed to secure taxpayer funding for a popular project that will prove to be one of the few major feathers in the Liberal Party's re-election cap.

Furthermore, State Opposition Leader Mike Rann has declared that his party will support the rescue plan, despite State Labor's apparent eagerness to "limit taxpayer involvement".

"We are supporting this legislation in order to get those tracks laid in April, and I think obviously if they're not laid in April, then more serious questions have to be asked about the Premier's leadership on this matter," State Opposition Leader Mike Rann said.

Statements such as this place pressure on the Olsen Government to at least appear to have the rail link under control. As such, the electoral fate of both major parties may well hinge on the success of the first stages of construction.

Tristan



An early working model of the rail link.

Libs scrape the bottom of the barrel

In what can only be described as a feeble attempt to keep the moral ticket on side, the Howard Government has moved to place a Federal ban on internet gambling.

In response to the ALP's alternative plan to regulate the industry, Communications Minister Richard Alston accused Labor of being in cahoots with the gambling industry.

"I mean it's an absolute nonsense," he said. "Why are they in bed with the gambling industry? Why aren't they putting Australian families first? Why aren't they prepared to do something about a very serious social problem? Basically because the only policy they have is a casino in every home."

In reality, no single welfare group in the country considers on-line gambling to be a significant problem, particularly when compared to the current poker machine epidemic. Out of the few wealthy Australians who do on-line gamble, more than ninety per cent use overseas-based operators.

As such, a successful ban on the Australian component of the industry would have little or no effect on the popularity of on-line gambling due the hordes of equally available overseas operators. Aware of this, an industrial consortium including the likes of the TAB is planning to sue the Federal Government on constitutional grounds.

In slightly similar news, everybody's favorite bill to scrap one-and-a-half cents worth of fuel excise is currently before the Senate. The bill has been combined with a proposed validation of a beer excise that the Government has been collecting since the July introduction of the GST.

Naturally, both the ALP and the Democrats want to pass the popular cut in fuel excise, but reject the proposed validation of the beer excise, claiming that the combination of the two bills was an attempt to "black-mail" the Senate into passing an unpopular tax on beer.

This is understandable, considering the fact that the fuel excise cut is expected to cast a considerable shadow over the future of the Budget surplus - a surplus which the Coalition has been desperately seeking to maintain as it stares down both barrels of a "technical" recession.

On top of this, a further rejection of the beer excise would create another 200 million dollars worth of fiscal panic. Small wonder the disguised excise was carefully slipped under the door of the Senate.

In a less than surprising move, both Labor and the Democrats have joined forces in a bid to separate the petrol bill from the attempt to validate the excise on beer. Opposition Leader and part-time swiller Kim

Beazley declared that the amalgamation of the two proposals was another example of Liberal tomfoolery. "He's tied the beer tax excise adjustment to the reduction in petrol and these bills should be separated in the same way as the original proposals were separated," he said.

In response to these allegations, Howard told Adelaide Radio 5DN that "efficient governments often do that if the measures are being put forward at the same time, it makes sense to put them in the same bill, there's no trick."

Mr Howard also claimed that a rejection of the excise would result in a hefty refund for big business. "If this measure is defeated, that is the measure related to beer excise is defeated, the Government will have a legal ob-

igation to pay the money back to Carlton United and Lion Nathan."

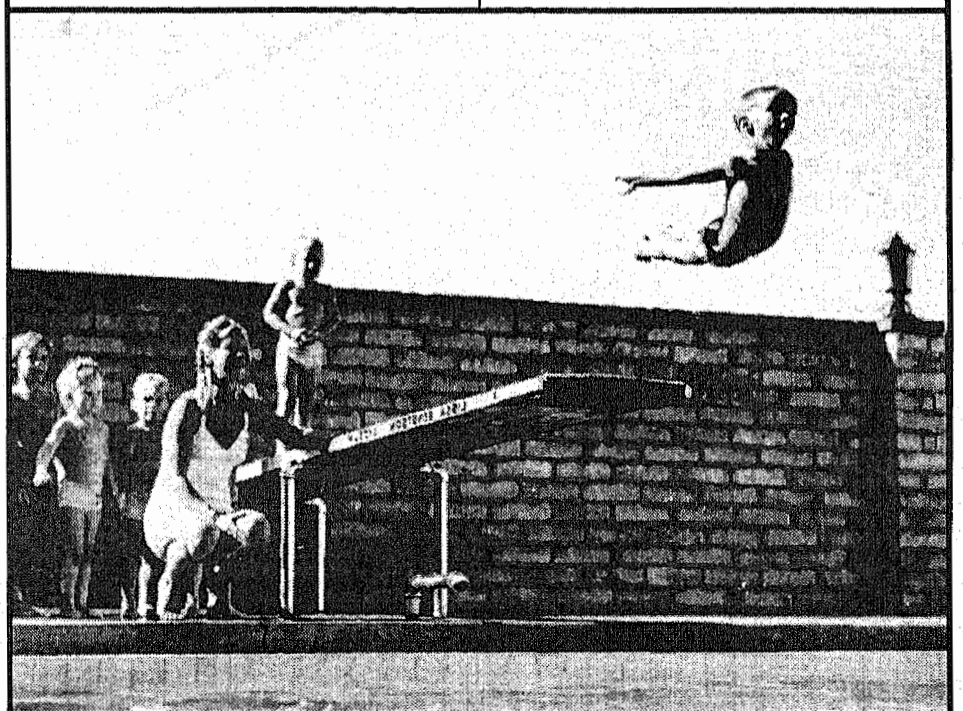
The PM later added that "the new social justice policy of the Labor Party is you hand \$185 million to the breweries of Australia." Such comments come more than a month after the brewing industry lobby group, Australian Associated Brewers, announced that it would form a charitable foundation to spend any excise rendered invalid by the Senate.

Now that the media has its grubby mitts on the story, Howard will almost certainly capitulate. Half expect beer excise to be added to the Coalition's amusingly long list of election year acrobatics.

Randolph

Howard's Acrobatic Extravaganza!

Backflip / gratuitous crowd pleaser:	Result:
BAS statements no longer enforced quarterly.	Drew attention to the GST's disproportionate impact on the small business sector.
Billion-dollar road recovery "accounting error".	Embarrassing attempt to maintain surplus. Loss of fiscal credibility.
Scrapping of 1.5 cent petrol excise.	Humiliating policy reversal.
Doubling of first Home Buyers' Grant to \$14k.	Nasty dent in Budget surplus. Provoked cries of "too little, too late."
New guidelines for Those Nasty Banks (cheaper fees for welfare recipients).	Missed opportunity - Govt. failed to capitalise on potentially significant public support.
Move to ban on-line gambling.	Ridiculous waste of everybody's time. Will nevertheless impress the elderly and / or computer illiterate.



The Howard Government: flipping boldly into the future.

Why the WTO is Evil III

or Why Trade Liberalisation is Not the Solution to All Our Problems

One of the major problems I have with the World Trade Organisation and, indeed, most governments, is the attitude that liberalisation and growth are ends in themselves. Growth and liberalisation, goes the rhetoric, will generate wealth for everyone, including the developing world, which will result in a higher standard of living and a better quality of life for all. And all the misinformed, leftist 'globaphobes' (to use Mr Downer's word) are only obstructing the road to global equity with their protests and petitions and letters.

If only it were that simple. Yes, trade liberalisation could bring enormous benefits to developing countries by allowing them greater access to Western markets and less competition from subsidised agricultural exports from the US and EU. However, millions of people across the globe are dependent on small scale farming to survive. 1996 figures show that 73% of the labour force in developing countries was involved with agriculture. In the brave, new, globalised world, these small scale, peasant farmers are losing out to giant agribusiness firms. It was noted in a 1999 UN report that this process had led to a surge in food imports without a corresponding leap in exports. The effect on the people was an increase in unemployment and poverty. Which, in the virtual absence of social security nets in the developing world, is significant.

The loss of peasant agriculture is perhaps, though, not such a terrible thing. After all, large-scale agriculture and manufacture can absorb the workers previously engaged in small-scale farming. The wealth generated from these new industries can then

be used to import food. Countries such as South Korea and Taiwan are held up as examples of how this approach can succeed. But other countries such as Ethiopia are dependent on agricultural exports for income (in this case coffee). As the price of coffee falls in the world market, the situation for Ethiopia becomes still more uncertain. At present, there are around 90 such countries (low-income, food-deficit) unable to sustain their expenditure on food imports.



It's okay, he was from the WTO

The other key point here is that the whole rationale of the WTO is based on the theory of comparative advantage. What this means is that the WTO operates on the premise that everyone will be better off if they produce what they are relatively most efficient at producing, and obtain other goods through exchange with others. But when developing countries launch into the manufacturing sector they lack the resources and technology to compete effectively without sacrificing the safety and well being of their workers. So while there may be a rise in the import capacity of developing countries who forgo inefficient, small scale farming, workers in those countries suffer through

appalling sweatshop conditions as their countries desperately try to compete in the global market. And while we abhor these conditions when we learn about the Industrial Revolution in Europe, we seem all too willing to forget them when it comes to extolling the virtues of globalisation and liberalisation.

Within the WTO there needs to be a shift away from the focus on the corporate and political interests of the seven most powerful nations which

give this organisation its driving force, towards the needs of the disadvantaged poor. In July last year, the Indian delegate to the WTO commented that 'agriculture, for these countries, is too serious a matter to be left to the markets alone to determine'. Negotiations in the WTO must ensure that agriculture is still able to support a massive proportion of the populations of the developing world. Again, the decision should be made by governments and not by the WTO, which in the past has not shown

a great deal of concern for the well-being of the world's poor. It would be foolish to suggest that the WTO should be responsible for, or indeed is able to miraculously fix, world poverty. However, there should not be such a focus on the reduction of world trade barriers at all costs, and achieving a better standard of living for everyone should be a part of the equation. And we have to be the ones advocating such changes. Organised people power is the only thing potentially stronger than the might and influence of those transnational corporations currently dominating the world stage.

Ella McHenry

Queer Action and Adventure with George and Rachel

Are you lost for queer things to do? Don't feel that gay clubs and pubs are satisfying your queer social thirst? Aside from bringing you fun things to do we also recognise the need for maintaining queer people's rights. This does not mean becoming a political fanatic but taking simple peaceful actions that make a difference.

Adventure

This Friday at the Edinburgh Castle Hotel the Pride group will meet to celebrate the end of term. You will find the girls and guys in the beer garden from 8pm onwards.

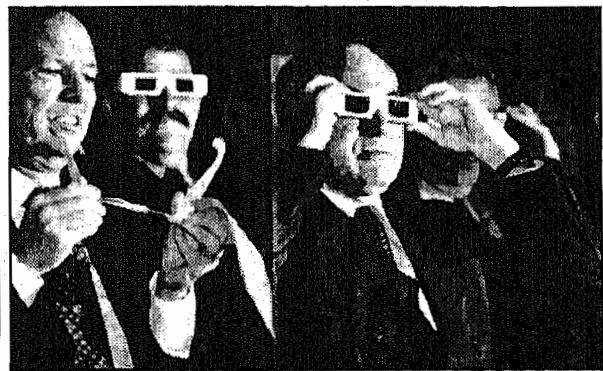
Over the break, Adelaide will be host to the Australia Gaymes. This is definitely an event to go and see. It will take place on the Easter weekend from April 13th to the 16th and includes 17 sports from golf, athletics, swimming, tennis, 8 ball and cycling. Although registration ended on 31st of March you may still be able to sneak in. You are able to register on the day for some of the events so it's not too late. There are social entry levels for you to have a go and levels for serious competitors.

Even if you aren't interested in competing, go along just to check it out. There will be 250 athletes and observers from SA and another 250 from all over Australia. The Gaymes will also host dance parties and several social events. You can get more information from the gay paper Blaze which is free around town or from <http://members.dingoblue.net.au/~mango01/>.

The World Gaymes will be held in Sydney in 2002 and is the largest sporting event (in terms of participants) in the whole world. It will attract 14,000 participants and most likely an even bigger audience. So get involved here in Adelaide and who knows where you may end up.

Action

We are going to keep the focus on the policy review committee for now as we view it as being the most important thing happening regarding Queer students right now. If you have any suggestions for what you want the Sexuality department to do, something you think should be policy for the department or any changes you think should be made then email the Sexuality Officers at boysexo@adelaide.edu.au and girlsexo@adelaide.edu.au.



John Howard Caption Competition

Our second John Howard Caption Competition proved to be as successful as our first. Answers were a little tamer this week which is something to be applauded. Apologies to all who were offended by some of last week's answers. So here they are. And if anyone can find a suitably amusing picture of Li'l Johnny for another week then bring it down and we will see what we can do. This week's winner is ... Greg Keil ... Congratulations Greg, come on down to the office and we will see if we can rustle up a prize for you. It may be another can of aerosol canola oil.

- "We're going to need this new 'cool' image if we're to win the next election" (Patrick Tapping)
- "This tax reform propoganda is even better in 3D" (P.T.)
- "Wow! These glasses make my policies look three dimensional" (Claire Davill)
- "The Business Council of Australia have just developed the 'anti-compassion glasses' in order to prevent any wavering in political thought such as that evidenced by Malcom Fraser" (Rory Spreckley)
- "X-Ray vision! WOW! Who would have thought Carmen Lawrence preferred leather" (Greg Keil)
- "I don't think the disguise works - where are the Groucho moustaches?" (G.K.)
- "Are you sure these will make me 'hip' and all the kids 'dig' me?" (G.K.)
- "These are cool, but nothing like the meth I had last night" (G.K.)

Has Australia Lost the Plot?

Are there no visionaries left? After watching the recent antics of the Government and business, and the public's response, it seems that Australia has been cast adrift, reacting to random events, panicking at every new development. The Liberals, once fiercely free market, are giving away \$14,000 to each new homebuyer in a Keynesian attempt to prop up a crippled industry. The ALP, once a social democratic party, is taking its policy cues from the major banks, as it has no ideas of its own. Banks are now falling over themselves to look "compassionate" in order to keep customers from defecting to credit unions. And the public seems to be even more confused, voting Labor in Ryan, and supporting Pauline Hanson in a desperate attempt to get the "leaders" to understand. It's become increasingly obvious that Australia is completely directionless - even those authorities (business, Government) that once seemed to have power have very little at all.

What could be causing all of this chaos? To many, the obvious demon is 'globalisation' - that mysterious force that, in the name of 'competition' and 'efficiency', destroys companies, renders whole industries defunct, sacks millions of employees, and can cripple a national economy overnight. As Australia is currently being abandoned by international investors (just look at the dollar!), many Australians hold this interpretation of the world. Increasing numbers of us are irate that values of equality, compassion and public-mindedness are being destroyed, only to be replaced with mean-spirited greed and materialism. Groups such as Resistance are trying to capitalise on this anger by proposing a socialist revolution as our only hope of achieving "global justice".

Central to these views is the idea

that great social and economic forces determine history, rendering the individual powerless. It's no accident that Australians, like billions around the world, feel powerless to control their own fate. When governments, businesses and people merely react to circumstance, in the interests of their own immediate survival, vision, control and power are stripped from everybody, not just the poor. In an abstract sense, businesses do have more money than the individual, and

hence more power. However, individual businesses wrestle with their competitors every day; one false move, one moment of weakness, can spell instant death for a company. As the markets become saturated with idle speculators, the whole system becomes vulnerable to collapse. If the whole stockmarket folded tomorrow, everyone would starve, even Bill Gates. Rather than the companies becoming tyrannical, as Marxists would believe, chaos and absurdity are imminent (creating a tyranny of their own.) It's not just Australia- the whole world has lost the plot.

How, then, can anyone change or tame the world for the better? If neither governments nor businesses have ultimate power, then our dominant ideologies (Marxist, liberalist etc) cannot help us. But I believe that a long dead French philosopher, Jean-Paul Sartre, has an answer. He held that the world was absurd, there was

no God, no objective morality, and that the world did not operate according to rational principles. But rather than sit passively and do nothing, the individual should make an authentic, free commitment to their own values, and to act accordingly, in the face of complete meaninglessness. He believed that



*Australia ain't what it used to be.
We blame Crowded House*

the individual, not abstract social forces, was the force for change, and that all circumstances could be overcome for the good- however each individual defined that. Later in his

life he defined "freedom" as an absolute value - despite calling himself a Marxist, his ideas were closer to anarchism.

The relevance of his ideas to our common plight is obvious. I favour an individualistic approach to social change, as all other philosophies strip power away from the person. Liberalism puts faith in governments and the nation state - entities that can act against the people's interests. Marxists only see people as powerful when

they act in unison, to a common purpose - hence 'solidarity' is so important. Moreover, the techniques they use to rouse public support mimic marketing strategies, and encourage people to think with the mass, not as individuals. This opens the way for more exploitation in the name of 'justice' and 'the revolution'.

However, Sartre's ideas contain the seeds for liberation and radical change. No-one has the power to save the world singlehandedly, nor is it their responsibility. Rather, each of us has an obligation to define our own values and to act on them to the best of our ability. Even if defeat is likely, even if one's action is "ineffective" compared to mass apathy, one should act anyway. Following on from this, we should be our own leaders and visionaries, not relying on leaders, mass protest movements, business leaders or 'great people' to articulate a vision for our world. Our actions may seem small and futile, but if everyone did this, the world would change dramatically. If the 'powers that be' merely react (as we have seen), then individuals, and the action groups they create, have the power to force them to adapt - even disappear. We just need to stop making excuses and do it.

Kathleen Lawler

Fight Racism on Campus

Refugees: Think about the fact that while we don't have free education, the government continues to spend billions of dollars on defence funding, some of which is used to intimidate asylum seekers, both within the detention centres here in Australia and in refugees' home countries (tools such as films of crocodile infested water etc to scare people off). That money must be put into community use for education, health and support, rather than maintaining such racist policies.

Indigenous Students: Indigenous students still only make up a small part of the student body - while a small amount of money is set aside to increase the access of Indigenous students, the fact is that the opposite is occurring, with money being stripped back from support services. This includes the abolition of Abstudy, continual closures of Indigenous Studies departments at universities and the ongoing racism faced by indigenous students on campus.

International Students: Before 1986, there were no fees for international students to study in Australia - they were the first ones targeted by the user-pays direction in higher education. Recently, we have seen a spate of racism in the media, with articles implying that International Students are 'cheating' the education system by being marked easily. The target of anger on fees and marking should not be international students, but the university admin and the government introducing a user-pays system in the first place.

* reprinted from an NUS Education pamphlet. For more information see Marissa Meller-Harris - SA NUS Education Officer

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Applications are invited for one student member of the Employment Services Committee.

As a member of this committee, the student representative's role would be:

- to advise on strategic planning and the development of the service;
- to investigate opportunities that will assist the service;
- to consult with key stakeholders (AAU, SAUA & Students);
- to market and promote the service;
- to monitor the operations of the service;
- to administer regulatory requirements and,
- to undertake action as required to ensure the service is meeting the needs of the student body.

Applications close Friday 6th April, 2001

Applications in writing are to be forwarded to:

Mr TOM RADZEVICIUS

Students' Association President. Ground Floor, George Murray Building, Adelaide University.
Further information can be obtained from the President at the Association, telephone: 8303 5406.
or from the Student Employment Service (Level 4, Union Building), telephone: 8303 6483.



Adelaide University Union



Students' Association of the University of Adelaide

The Grass is Always Greener...

This is Part 2 of *On Dit's* special into overseas exchanges. Last week, we ventured into the more conventional destinations of the U.S.A, Canada and France. This week, we cover the rest of Europe (England, Germany, Sweden and Denmark) and also look at some of the more exotic and adventurous options throughout Asia. The major difference is that most of these Universities have language requirements, and they all vary according to which one you're attending.

Also, there are often major differences between the commencement of academic years and semesters between countries, so don't expect that you can start the year at a University overseas the same time you would expect to here. You will often have a couple of months on your hands, which would be a great time to earn all the money you will inevitably need (and want) to live while you're over there.

Germany

University of Hohenheim (Baden Wurttemberg)

Founded in 1818, The University of Hohenheim is considered to be one of the most beautiful in Germany because of its campus location around a former residential palace and its magnificent gardens. The University lies on the Southern edge of the city of Stuttgart.

Places: Not specified.

Course: Natural Sciences, Ecology, Biology, Agricultural Economics, Engineering and Production and Economics and Social Sciences.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either April or October.

Estimated Cost: DM12,000 for the year, including accommodation, health insurance and transport.

Web site: www.uni-hohenheim.de/

Albert-Ludwigs University (Freiburg)

This University was founded in 1457, and is located in the medieval city of Freiburg, close to the Swiss and French borders. With four original faculties, the University currently has fourteen faculties and 23,000 students, 1800 of which are from overseas.

Places: 5 per year.

Course: All faculties except law – Arts, Economics, Sciences, Geography, Mathematics, Theology.

Length: One semester or one year, commencing in either October or April.

Estimated Cost: DM 12,000 for one year including accommodation.

Web site: www.uni-freiburg.de

University of Mannheim (Mannheim)

The city of Mannheim is the second largest river port in Germany, and the University of Mannheim was established in 1763 and lies in its city centre, housed in a stunning baroque palace. The Uni has approximately 13,000 students.

Places: 2 per year for law, others



A very pleasant scene in Germany

not specified.

Course: All Faculties – Law, Business Administration, Economics, Social Sciences, Philosophy, Literature and Language and Mathematics and Computer Sciences.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either April or October.

Estimated Cost: DM12,000 for one year, including accommodation, transport and books.

Web site: www.uni-Mannheim.de/

University of Heidelberg (Heidelberg)

The University of Heidelberg is the oldest in Germany, being established in 1386 by Elector Ruprecht I of Palatinate. The University is an important centre of learning and research within Germany and has over 27,000 students.

Places: Not specified.

Course: All Faculties – Theology, Law, Medicine, Philosophy and History, Modern Languages, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Economics and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Length: Four months – mid April – mid July, or mid October – mid February.

Estimated Cost: DM\$1200 per

month if living on campus, including accommodation, health insurance and transport.

Web site: www.uni-heidelberg.de/

University of Tubingen (Tubingen)

The University of Tubingen was founded by Count Eberhard in 1477, and in 1534 Duke Ulrich I established the Protestant Theological Seminary, which remains extremely influential in shaping German intellectual thought. The University is known to be one of the world's finest higher education institutions, and has a current enrollment of 26,000 students.

Places: Not specified.

Courses: All Faculties – Protestant Theology, Catholic Theology, Law, Economics, Medicine, Philosophy, Social and Behavioral Science, Modern Languages, History, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Pharmacy, Biology, Geosciences and Computer Science.

Length: One semester or one year, commencing in either April or October.

Estimated Cost: DM12,000 for one year including accommodation, health insurance and transport.

Web site: www.uni-tuebingen.de/

University of Stuttgart (Baden-Wurttemberg)

Located in the city of Stuttgart in the South-West of the country, The University of Stuttgart has an enrollment of 21,500 students including 2800 international students. The University offers a free intensive German language course for exchange students which runs for six weeks prior to the commencement of the October semester.

Places: 3 per year.

Courses: All Faculties – Architecture, Engineering, Chemistry, Biological and Geo Sciences, Social Science, Economics, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics and Computer Science.

Length: One semester or one year, commencing in either October or July.

Estimated Cost: DM12,000 for one year including accommodation, health insurance and transport.

Web site: www.uni-stuttgart.de/

Philips University (Marburg)

Founded in 1527 by Pilipp the Magnanimous, Philips University includes T.S Elliot, the Brothers Grimm and nine Nobel Prize winners among its former students. The university currently has an enrollment of around 16,000 students.

Places: 3 per year.

Course: Law.

Length: One year or one semester, beginning in either October or April.

Estimated Cost: DM12,000 for the year including accommodation, transport and books.

Web site: www.uni-Marburg.de/

Sweden

Lund University

Lund University was originally founded in 1666, but was combined with the Lund Institute of Technology in 1968, and is now the largest and most comprehensive University in Sweden. Lund is located about 600kms from Stockholm and has an enrollment of 37,000 students.

Places: 3 per year.

Course: All Faculties – Technology, Natural Science, Law, Social Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry, Liberal Arts and Theology, Education, Music, Theatre and Art.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either September or January.

Language Requirements: Over 150 courses are offered in English, and there is a two-week intensive Swedish language course before lectures commence.

Estimated Cost: Approximately SEK5000 per month.

Web site: www.lu.se

Uppsala University

Uppsala is the oldest University in the Nordic countries, being founded in 1477. Uppsala is a reasonably large town 70kms North of Stockholm, and student life at Uppsala revolves around groups called 'nations', social clubs similar to fraternities/sororities in the USA, but not as exclusive.

Places: 3 per year.

Course: All Faculties – Arts, Law, Dentistry, Medicine, Science and Technology, Social Sciences and Theology.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either September or January.

Language Requirements: There are wide ranges of courses that are taught in English.

Estimated Cost: Approximately SEK6300 per month.

Web site: www.inter.uadm.uu.se/students.html

KTH (Stockholm)

KTH (Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan) is Sweden's oldest technological university, specialising in engineering and technical research. It is located in Stockholm, Sweden's capital, and total student enrollment is about 8000.

Places: 2 per year.

Course: Engineering and Architecture.

Overseas Exchanges Part 2

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in September or January.

Language Requirements: Instruction is mainly in Swedish, but all lecturers and students can speak English and all course material is in English. In architecture, if one student does not speak Swedish, then all courses are run in English. There are also Swedish language courses.

Estimated Cost: SEK6300 per month including housing, food and insurance.

Web site: www2.e.kth.se/

Denmark

Technical University of Denmark (Copenhagen)

DTU is the centre of education training and research in Denmark. The main campus is located only 10 kms North of Copenhagen.

Places: 2 per year.

Course: Engineering and Science.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in September or January.

Language Requirements: 200 of the 700 courses are taught in English. A list of these can be obtained from the Study Abroad Office.

Estimated Cost: Approximately DKK5000 per month, including housing, meals, books and recreation.

Web site: www1.dtu.dk

University of Copenhagen

The old and prestigious University of Copenhagen was founded by King Christian I in 1479, and is spread throughout the city of Copenhagen, with most buildings within a short distance of the city centre. The University has a teaching staff of over 1200 and an enrollment of 30,000 students.

Places: 3 per year.

Courses: All Faculties – Theology, Law, Science, Social Science, Humanities and Health Science.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in September or January.

Language Requirements: 60-75 of the University's courses are taught in English, although Danish is the main language of instruction.

Estimated Cost: Approximately DKK2000 per month, including housing and books.

Web site: www.ku.dk/

England

University of Leeds

The University of Leeds became an independent university in 1904, being a unification of several different colleges. It is located in the city of Leeds, which has a population of half a million and is a major financial, commercial and legal centre within

England. The University is situated close to the city centre, which is surrounded by parks and gardens, and has an enrollment of 21,000 students.

Places: 4 per year.

Course: Geography.

Length: One year, from September to June.

Estimated Cost: 475 Pounds per month including room and board, personal expenses and travel.

Web site: www.leeds.ac.uk/

Singapore

National University of Singapore

The National University of Singapore (NUS) was established in 1980 and has an impressive lineage of predecessor institutions. The University has excellent sport and recreation facilities.

Places: 2 per year.

Courses: All Faculties – Architecture and Building, Arts and Social Sciences, Business, Administration, Engineering, Law and Science.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in July or December.

Estimated Cost: \$120 (Singapore dollars) per week, including room and board, personal expenses and travel.

Web site: www.nus.sg

Thailand

Thammasat University (Bangkok)

Thammasat University is located in Central Bangkok, and offers a University Health Service and hospital, sports complex and opportunities to participate in many other activities. The Faculty of Economics has its own library with one of the best collections in Asia.

Places: 2 per year.

Course: Economics.

Language Requirements: The international B.Ec program is taught entirely in English.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either August or January.

Estimated Cost: 80-95,000 Baht per semester, including housing, food, books, transportation and extras.

Web site: www.tu.ac.th/

China

Shandong University (Shandong)

Shandong University was founded in 1901 and has two campuses located in Jinan (the capital of the Shandong province) and Weihai. Shandong features a special short course for foreign students, teaching subjects about the Chinese language, Confucianism,

Modern China and Chinese Culture.

Places: 2 per year.

Courses: All Faculties – Biology, Chinese Language and Literature, Chemistry, Science, Engineering, Economics and Foreign Languages.

Language Requirements: Some proficiency in the Chinese language is required.

Length: One year or one semester, commencing in either January or September.

Estimated Cost: Food US\$80 per month, room and board US\$3.50 per day.

Web site: www.sdu.edu.cn/

Japan

Please Note: For all the Universities listed below, the Japanese Government offers a variety of scholarships for which Adelaide University students may apply.

Kansai University

Kansai University is located in Osaka, and was founded in 1886



A very pleasant scene in Tokyo

purely as a law school, becoming a university in 1905. It now has seven faculties and an enrollment of 20,000 students, as well as an extensive library and sporting facilities for students.

Places: 2 per year.

Course: All Faculties – Law, Letters, Economics, Commerce, Sociology, Informatics and Engineering.

Language Requirements: Some subjects are taught in English for foreign students, but regular classes are taught in Japanese. Exchange students will need to take two proficiency tests to display their level of Japanese.

Length: One year only, from April to February.

Estimated Cost: Y18,100 per

month if living in a student dormitory.

Web site: www.kansai-u.ac.jp/index-e.htm

Kansai Gaidai University

Kansai Gaidai University was established in 1945 and is located half-way between the cities of Osaka and Kyoto. Kansai Gaidai features an Asian Studies Programme, a special programme for foreign students to learn about Japanese culture and history and Japanese language classes. Over 350 exchange studies participate in the Asian Studies Programme every year.

Places: 2/3 per year.

Course: Arts only.

Language Requirements: Subjects are taught in English, and Japanese language instruction is part of the programme.

Length: One Year or one semester.

Estimated Cost: Y570,000 per semester if participating in a homestay, or Y470,000 for one semester in a dormitory.

Web site: www.kansai-gaidai-u.ac.jp/

Meiji University (Tokyo)

Meiji is a prestigious private university located in the heart of Tokyo, and has a total student enrollment of around 35,000 students spread over three campuses. The University offers a wide range of sporting and social clubs, and exchange students here enroll in ordinary classes, with language assistance provided by weekly Japanese language classes.

Places: 2 per year.

Course: All Faculties – Arts and Letters, Politics and Economics, Science and Technology, Commerce, Law, Agriculture and Business Administration.

Language Requirements: Must take a language test as part of the selection procedure.

Length: One year only, commencing in April.

Estimated Cost: Y120,000 including housing, meals, furniture, commuting and health insurance.

Web site: www.meiji.ac.jp/

The universities are only discussed here in brief, so for more information visit the Study Abroad office on the ground floor of the Old Classics Wing. If you want to know more about one University in particular, your best bet would be to check out the internet sites that have been given for each of them. If it sounds interesting but you still need a little convincing, look out for an article on being an exchange student at Adelaide Uni in an upcoming edition of *On Dit*.

Penny Chalke

Poptart's Oscar Spectacular

So the Oscars have come and gone again. And what an incredibly bland event it was this year. There were no major shocks, no major dress faux pas, no drunken actors falling over mid-speech. It was all a bit disappointing really. Here are the results of the biggies for those who had their head stuck in the sand for the past couple of weeks.

So, here it is:

Best Picture : *Gladiator*

This was of course what most people had expected, and indeed, was actually my pick.

Best Director : Steve Soderbergh (*Traffic*)

Having committed the sin of not seeing this film, I can't comment, but going by what other people have said, *Traffic* was rather boring. Most people were hoping for Ang Lee or Ridley Scott.

Best Actress : Julia Roberts (*Erin Brockovich*)

Definitely not the surprise of the year, a decent choice, although Ellen Burstyn was more deserving for the edgier *Requiem For A Dream*.

Best Actor : Russel Crowe (*Gladiator*)

The culmination of all my dreams - no Tom Hanks ascending the podium. Loved the look on his face when he lost. And Russ? Go the Aussie!

Best Supporting Actor : Benicio Del Toro (*Traffic*)

A good looking man indeed. My choice was Willem Dafoe, but Benicio was definitely the favourite for most people.

Best Supporting Actress : Marcia Gay Harden (*Pollock*)

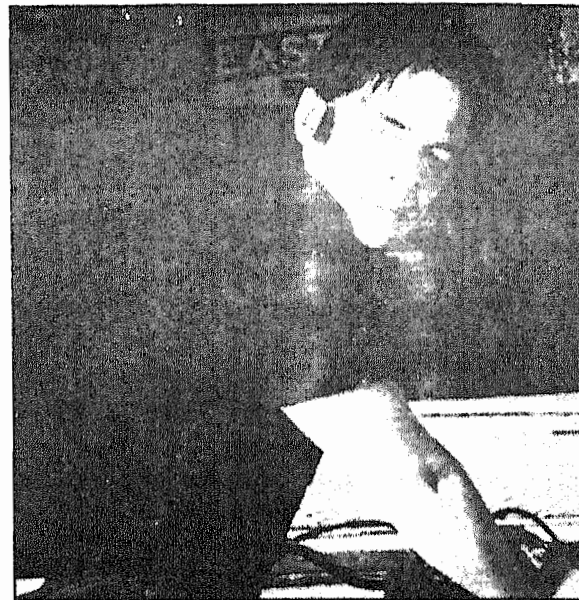
Never seen the film so I can't comment. Kate Hudson was everyone's favourite girl, but this choice seemed to go down well.

The whole ceremony seemed to be in mourning for the loss of Billy Crystal as host. I never liked him but they made a poor choice by replacing him with Steve Martin. Almost everyone that I have talked to has found him as offensive as I did (except music sub-editor Mark who said Steve was "the bomb"). He spent the whole ceremony telling jokes that weren't amusing, interspersed by his lame attempts to make fun of various celebrities, all of whom politely smiled, with the exception of Russel Crowe. I particularly found his attempt to make light of the kidnap threat against Russ by insinuating that Tom Hanks had something to do with it highly unamusing. I would actually rather have seen Adam Sandler host the Oscars than Steve Martin (and I hate Adam Sandler).

The set design was appalling, resembling a whole lot of bathroom tiles

stuck rather haphazardly against some partitions. The musical numbers were also dreadful, particularly Sting's performance, during which I had to find the mute button on the remote. Bjork seemed more than a little out of place although I applauded her brave choice of dress. I do believe that she is the only person who could possibly pull off a dress made out of a fake swan, complete with head. Bob Dylan was almost incomprehensible, due either to too much substance abuse or extreme exhaustion. He looked more than slightly confused the whole time, not knowing which way to look.

The award for most appalling speech and dress surely has to go to Julia Roberts, who, despite knowing that it was more than likely she would win, chose to wear a dress that she couldn't even walk in. It looked rather like she had draped a tape measure around her neck and somehow attached it to her dress, and she floundered at the base of the stairs until Benjamin came and helped her climb them. She flouted the 45 second speech rule (obviously not trying to win the digital TV) and kept remind-



Good work Benicio

ing the "stick man" (I assume she meant conductor) that she could see him waving his stick. She produced some tears a la Gwyneth and thoroughly made a complete berk of herself.

All in all, a remarkably disappointing Oscars. The films were all worthy, but there was just a serious lack of action off-stage. They should definitely serve more alcohol, as the more lubed up the stars get, the more fascinated I become.

Poptart



Counter Calendar 2001 WANTED: EDITORS

The Students' Association is looking for up to 3 Editors for the next edition of Counter Calendar, the alternative subject Guide, which will be published in September 2001.

APPLY IN WRITING TO:

Students' Association, George Murray Building, Adelaide University.
Applications due no later than 5.00pm on Tuesday 10th April 2001.
For more information phone Brad, SAUA Education Vice President on 8303 5406, or email: education@saua.asn.au. You know you want to.



5 useless lists to take up space

By a bunch of people who pay way too much attention to pop culture.

5 really horrible Oscar moments

- Gwyneth Paltrow's speech
- Dame Judi Dench winning an Oscar for her 8 minute performance
- Cate Blanchett and Emily Watson losing to stinky Paltrow
- *Shakespeare in Love* winning anything at all
- Having to put up with seeing stinky Paltrow present Swanky Swank her very deserved Best Actress Oscar the following year

5 memorable Oscars fashion moments

- Celine Dion's backwards Chanel suit
- Gwyneths cleavage diminishing pink dress
- Anything worn by Cher
- Russell Crowes suit and texan tie
- The credit card dress

5 people who really need an Oscar

- Leo DiCaprio
- Robert Downey Jr
- John Travolta (post *Battlefield Earth*)
- Winona Ryder
- Sharon Stone

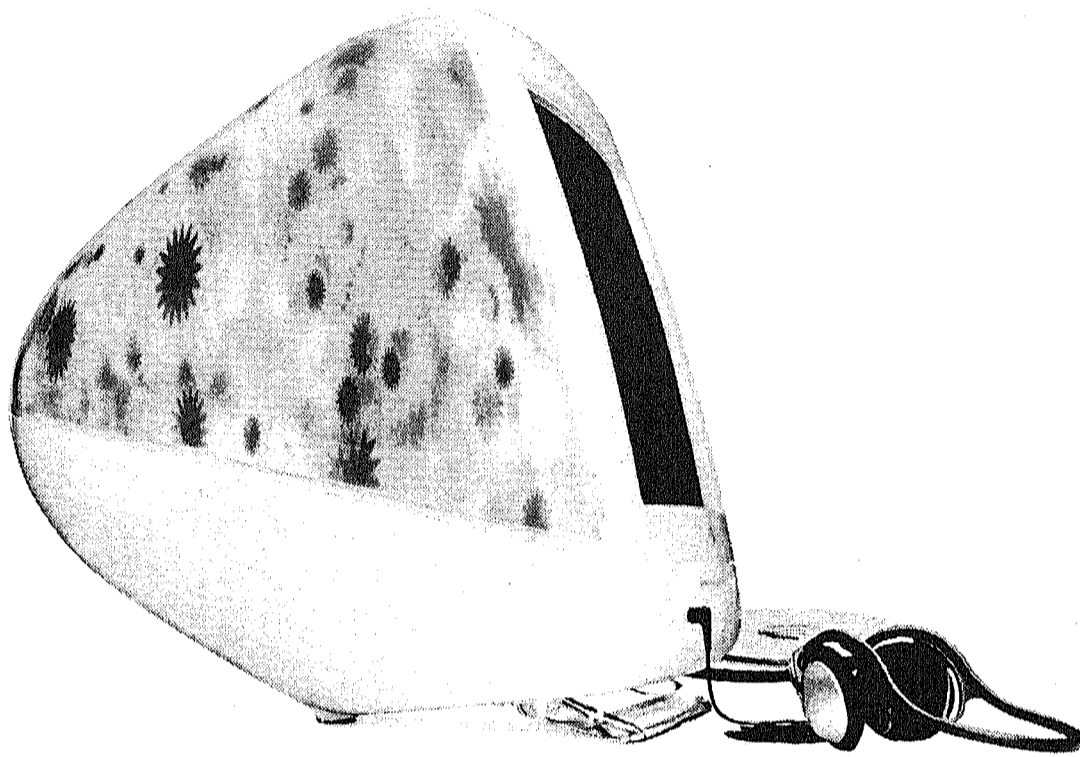
5 people who would have been a better host than Steve Martin

- Daryl Summers
- Burt Newton
- Baby John Burgess
- Larry Emdar
- Kevin Bloody Wilson

5 people who will never win an Oscar

- Stephen Segal
- Jean Claude Van Damme
- Jennifer Love Hewitt
- J-Lo
- Chuck Norris

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Off The Couch & Youth Week

Carclew Youth Arts Centre presents OFF THE COUCH 2001, Adelaide's largest youth music festival, in partnership with National Youth Week April 1-8.

People aged between 12 - 25 years make up 20% of all Australians, yet young people are still thought of as 'the future' even though they are an obvious and vital part of today. Youth week is about getting young people explicitly involved and Off the Couch is the largest such project in South Australia.

Off the Couch is a FREE, all ages music event held annually in and around Adelaide. It is the only one of its kind in Australia, giving young performers under the age of 26 the chance to strut their stuff in front of a diverse audience.

Off the Couch was born in 1995 as a response to requests from a large number of frustrated local musicians who were seeking support in developing and performing their own original music. Since then, Off the Couch has continued to develop and expand - this year there are four gigs in the metro area.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2000?
AMBASSADORS.
REGURGITATOR

Interviewer: Why did you decide to become ambassadors for...
Quin: There can be a lot of a negative vibe when you're growing up...
Ben: ...and some older people, they were in the industry...

On April 1st, Off the Couch events will be held at venues in Unley, Salisbury and Port Adelaide. These events cater for everyone, with acts drawn from all over Adelaide and activities and festivities to complement stacks of live music.

The city's West End comes alive on April 7th between 2pm and 2am, with over 40 acts performing for YOUR entertainment. Venues for the day include the Enigma Bar, the Grace Emily, Supermild, Nexus, the Cumberland, Swingcat, the skate park, as well as the Lion Arts Bar and Courtyard.

For many of the bands, Off the Couch will be their first public gig, so you'll get to hear something completely new before you check out the more familiar names, such as Seraph's Coal, 5NYTK!, 3 Grand Idol and many, many more!

Off the Couch in Adelaide's West End, given the number of venues involved, boasts a line-up so interesting and diverse that it shits all over many modern day festivals.

On the day, you can see bands, DJs, solo artists, poets, electronic artists, short films, dance and theatre displays, fire twirling, karaoke, comedy and more all for the very low price of NOTHING. If you are instead considering growing a mullet and attending the Clipsal 500 (being held on the same day), for some ludicrous price, then think again. Off the Couch will not be beaten for value, fun or excitement. The bands at Clipsal are possibly among Adelaide's finest, but you can catch them most weekends anyway, Off the Couch offers the chance to discover and support the great bands of the near future.

The Northern Off the Couch on Sunday 1st April boasted a breakdancing extravaganza, BMX and skating demos, fashion show and an internet cafe. In Port Adelaide, on the same Sunday,

Plywood Playground came alive with the sounds of live bands, street performers, skaters, and the unmistakable roar of FREE skidcar racing! Off the Couch in Unley was also a huge success at the Soldiers Memorial Gardens next to Unley Shopping Centre. If you didn't go along, there's always next year, which promises to be even bigger, possibly extending into rural SA. Meanwhile, get along to the city gig this Saturday.

Off The Couch is run by teams of volunteers under the age of 26 years old who have the opportunity to learn and get involved in all aspects of event management including programming, production and marketing. The success of Off the Couch can be attributed to the dedication of the volunteers who are actively supporting young South Australian artists by giving them the opportunity to showcase their talents to their peers. These artists not only gain experience through Off the Couch but are given free and reduced cost training and promotional material as well as the chance to meet and talk with other people in the industry.

Most of all Off the Couch is about having a wicked day out. Check out some of the venues on Saturday afternoon, then head down to the Lion Arts Centre from 6 pm onwards to party well into the night!

For more information, check out the street press, including a full page program in this weeks RIP IT UP check out www.offthecouch.savirtual.com or contact Anne at Carclew on 8267 5111.

- Off The Couch Programme - SAT APRIL 7
- CITY SK8 PARK 2-6pm : DJ R-Son, Adriatic, DJ Mular, DJ Nixon
- CUMBERLAND ARMS 3-7pm : DJ Smug, DJ Benz, Mal C, Mystic Connection
- ENIGMA BAR 2-8pm : Dominion, Hefer, Margin 4 Erra, All Jokes Aside, Insect Seeking Technology, 7/10 Split
- GRACE EMILY 4-7pm : Honcho, Suite, Maudlin, Achilles Heal, Liam, Atomic Seasor
- LION ARTS BAR 4-10pm : 5NYTK!, Scissor Pretty, Llagni, Nana's Cane, Stoneyfell, The Armpods
- LION ARTS BAR (Club) 10pm-2am : DJ Rory, DJ Noah, Miss Kate, DJ Kristian
- LION ARTS COURTYARD (Showcase Stage) 6pm-12am : 3 Grand Idol, Hummel, Gestalt, Pulling Strings Hip Hop, Sukatash, Bensolo & Nobu HappyRicefield, Andrew Sellars & Jake, MC - Fin.
- SUPERMILD 3-7pm : Superscience, Modula, Frost, short films
- SWINGCAT CLUB 3-7pm : DJ Tr!p, Lerk, Spherical, DJ Catastrophic

By MP



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In Search of The X-Factor

Much has been made of the bubblegum phenomenon that is *Popstars* since the series first bopped and do-whopped its way into our hearts last year. Every week, we got an insight into the evolution of a manufactured pop group, and got to witness a parade of fresh-faced young things strutting their stuff in the hope they would shoot to fame in a little group that came to be known as Bardot. Well now it has happened all over again, and once more we've been captivated by the excitement, thrills and melodrama that is *Popstars*.

Being the enthusiastic fan that I am, I couldn't resist the chance to interview a friend of mine who had got the opportunity to live the *Popstars* experience first hand. Alex Butler, 3rd year Science/Economics student at our

because I know I can sing, that boosts your confidence up."

And so Alex successfully made it through the three call backs and got invited up to a secret location in Queensland for the intense final stages of the audition process.

"It was pretty tough, I guess, when I look back on it. But it's all part of game. There was a degree of people who were very professional, and then people who hadn't done much, who just had the raw talent. There were people who have been in professional musicals, and it was easy for them. And then there were people like Selwin, the South African guy, who had a great voice but just found it tough."

I asked Alex if he thought the audition process favoured the semi-professionals: "Yes and No. Ultimately it all comes down to if you've got what they're looking for, package-wise. It's such a personal thing, and the judges are just finding out what they like."

But in the meantime, all the finalists were put through grueling mornings of strenuous dance routines and afternoons of singing. Stress levels were high, and on the second of the four days of auditions Alex was eliminated for allegedly not having enough of the 'X-factor'. "I was disappointed when I got out. Probably the worst part about it was the fact that (and I can say this now because I didn't go to the end) I would have loved to have gone to the end just to experience that, even if I didn't get in, that would've been a lot better. But, then again, if I got to the end and then got knocked out maybe I would've been a bit more disappointed."

There was also the added disappointment of discovering, while watching the series on television, that judge Jackie O had never wanted him to advance past the first round (Bitch). "Jackie O didn't really like me in the first place. I thought all along that she liked me, and thought 'He's good' but then on the TV, she said 'I wouldn't take any of them.' And I just went OH."

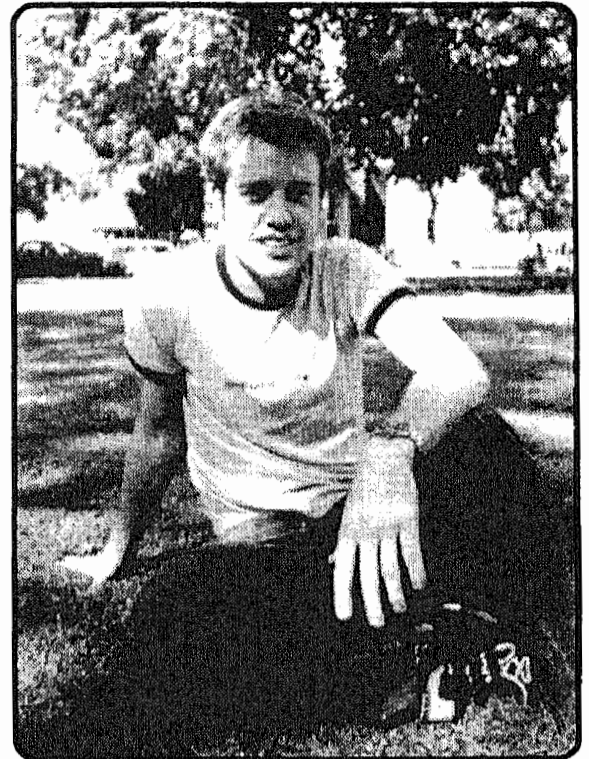
This led me to my favourite *Popstars* topic: the judges, who have almost become bigger celebrities than the members of the band. Disappointingly, Alex said that all the judges were nice, particularly the three who were there the majority of the week (Jackie O had commitments to her radio show). Les Gock, who owned a record label; Jacqui Howard, who ran a talent studio, and Jason Goodman, one of Australia's leading choreographers, certainly had the credentials to capably put together a pop group. Over Jackie O, Alex was a little more hesitant: "Jackie O... She hasn't been out there performing or looking for performers" But is still happy to admit that "It's good to have her there, it's good for the show."

We get on to the judges selection, but first stop to consider *Popstars* most-loved and most-controversial finalist, Arnott. "I love Arnott. He's a champ. I speak to him all the time. Arnott was, and Arnott will admit to this, was just there for the television part of it, if you know what I mean. He is one of the most talented people I've met, and he knows that as well." Yet nobody can be under any delusions that looks aren't important within the pop industry, or the importance of the elusive term 'package'. It seems that a level of androgyny is necessary for any group to be successful, which Alex agrees is a little sad: "If you have someone that's too different or too original, it just won't work in the pop industry."

Last week, the members of the band were announced on the show, being Tamara Jaber, Anna Belperio (Adelaidean #1 - Yay), Jason Bird and Daniela Scarla (Adelaidean #2 - Yay). I asked Alex what he thought of this choice, and whether he would have put anyone different in the group. "I think they had two groups worked out. One was bubblegum pop and the other was R&B pop. And they chose the R&B pop. Because there's a lot of bubblegum pop, and R&B pop is what's coming out now, with Craig David and Destiny's Child and all those things."

"I don't mind the band that they've formed. I reckon it's a good formation. Daniella and Anna, who made it in from Adelaide - they're great. I caught the plane up with them and became friends with them." As for Jason, until Sunday night the only male member of the group? "He's the better dancer of the brother, and probably the better singer."

Rumaging for a bit of inside infor-



X-Factor has a name: Alex Butler



Those Other Guys

very own Adelaide Uni, made it to the last 16 in the intense final auditions held in Queensland, before being savagely and unfairly dismissed by those cruel and ruthless judges (that's my opinion, anyway). I grabbed the chance to ask him the many *Popstars* questions that had been weighing on my mind: How were the auditions? What were the judges really like? Who do you think should have been in the group? And most importantly: was there any dirt we didn't see on camera?

The audition process saw an open cattle call in all the state-capitals around the country, drawing approximately 3 to 4 thousand wannabe popstars. To make the process just that little bit more daunting, each entrant had to perform in front of everyone else, and be rejected in front of everyone else. I asked Alex what those first auditions were like:

"I was shitting my daks on the first day. I hate auditions, they're hard."

Do you find them easier now?

"To an extent. It varies on who you're competing against. Whilst I was really nervous on the day of auditions,

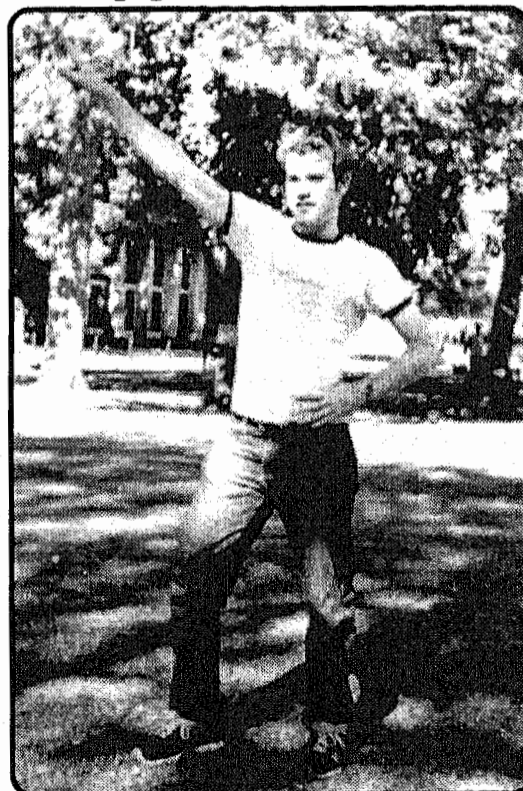
mation, I press on, asking him if there was any stand out performer of the group that really should have got in? "No, not really, I reckon they've done well. From what they've got - they're looking at the whole package and how everyone will fit together, they've got everyone with dark hair, and an R&B style, and someone like Aniela wouldn't have fit into that, Keiran maybe could have."

There's also the matter of Simon Ditcham, the newest member of the group, who was dismissed earlier in the series. Why did they bring him back? Right 'package'? Right hair colour? "It was a good choice, because Simon is great, he's got a great voice, and he'll fit in well. He's not as good a dancer as Jason, but with a bit of practice he would be."

We talk about the potential for the group, and how successful it will be. Will it have the same fleeting glory as its predecessor Bardot? Will it last longer? "I think they'll survive the initial onslaught. It all depends on the songwriters and what they come out with. It's so hard to say; if it's manufactured right, it'll be fine."

Overall, Alex has no regrets: "Friends say to me, 'Aren't you glad you didn't make it, cause it's going to be crap?' But ultimately, if you get a chance to do something like this, you don't knock it back. I would love to be in the entertainment industry, and you've gotta start somewhere. If I got in, I would've gone for it." But as for auditioning for *Popstars 3*, Alex is not so sure: "Maybe not. Because I wouldn't want to be known as the Popstar who went back again for seconds!" But how could anyone resist the lure of overnight fame? While we eagerly follow the progress of Australia's newest Popstars, be sure to watch this space, because this guy has X-factor a plenty.

Penny Chalke



Doing those Popstar moves

Oops I did it again

Travel Schmavel

Dear Eds,

I won't go into all the details of the overseas trip I went on over the summer holidays, but I will say this. I went to Venice, didn't go on a gondola and don't regret it. I could relapse into a reminiscence of my European Odyssey, but I won't, I will wait until I see Tim Williams in person, and I will make sure I have my photos with me.

Yours,
Anna Ryder

PS Windy Point has a lot going for it.

Simpson Sucks #1

Dear On Dit,

Let me start by saying it is not the purpose of this letter to discuss the relative merits of any political parties with respect to education policy. I did however take objection to one short but highly significant point in Mr Simpson's letter last week. Mr Simpson contended that "... as individual students we are all well off since we are able to come to university without having to pay a cent (except mandatory union fees) until we enter the work force..." This is quite obviously not the case. In my first year of study, I did extremely poorly for several reasons all related to my financial status at the time. The first thing that made itself apparent during orientation was that I was going to need money. Each of my ten subjects for first year engineering required me to purchase lecture notes at anywhere from \$10 to \$20. Most subjects required at least one, sometimes several textbooks which as anyone knows, don't come cheap. I struggled to buy what I perceived to be the crucial materials (still well under the recommended bare minimum) and had many subjects for which I had neither course notes nor texts. This left me with several hundred dollars debt which I didn't think I'd pay off anytime soon. The only way I could get government assistance was to move out which I did with no income whatsoever. Living off the charity of friends (adding several hundred more to my debts), I waited six weeks for the government to start paying me. When they did, it was a joke. I'm sure many students can attest to the living standards of Youth Allowance; two minute noodles and water. I was coming to uni ill-fed on an inadequate diet, hampering my ability to study. I still couldn't afford course notes. I got a job working nights (the only time afforded by my schedule). I started eating better and buying course notes. I stopped sleeping. I couldn't concentrate on studies for sheer exhaustion.

I am sure I am not alone. Higher education is NOT free and accessible and many people have to balance priorities between earning a living and obtaining a higher education. Earning enough to support myself in the present comes at the expense of my higher education for my future. At the moment I am making a barely adequate, part time attempt to finish my course which I expect to do in the next ten years by which time I expect most of my course material to be obsolete. My point is that surely it is in the interests of any responsible government, Liberal, Labour or the Party of Collective Ferret Lovers to make a greater investment in the future of the nation by maintaining an inclusive, accessible education. Current education policy is sadly deficient making it more an exclusive privilege of the upper class rather than the right of everyone.

Bill B Bollocks

Fattists

Dear Eds, (if I may give you that title, considering the rubbish you printed last week)

I am writing to tell you I was absolutely horrified and disgusted to read the article, "And the bride wore a fru fru" in last week's edition. For those of you unfortunate enough to have plodded along through this poorly written piece of garbage, you will remember the shocking example of "Fat Janet". In this day and age, it is appalling that public forums of the media are still printing fattist propaganda, in an attempt to convey the message that "fat is bad". The overweight lady at the wedding may indeed be very happy with her size, and may just like wearing pants. Further, your picture portraying "Fat Janet" and her catch at the wedding was insulting and degrading to women. It is hard enough in today's society to be allowed to be fleshy at all, let alone be proud of it, without having rags like yours perpetuating the idea that fat is bad. Fat Gertie, you should be ashamed of yourself - first of all for producing such fattist twaddle, and second of all for further insulting us by assuming an equally degrading fat pseudonym.

Bridget Allen
4th yr Gender Studies

Simpson Sucks #2

Dear Mr. Simpson,
Regarding your letter in *On Dit* 69.6, you defended the current government's stance on education with such zeal that I felt it worthy of a response.

Firstly your statement about fee paying places. Your comment was that "...fee-paying places do not prevent more capable students from studying. If these places weren't paid for upfront, they would not exist." This is certainly true; students who have a TER above the cut-off mark for each course still get HECS places, but this is not the issue. Consider two students, both having equal TERs, both just missing out on a HECS place in the same course. How can it be fair that one of them is able to take the course, solely due to the amount of money his or her parents earn? Again on the subject of fairness, I would like to address the issue of private funding for universities. Maybe higher education is receiving record amounts of revenue as you say, but if this is the case, why are fee-paying places necessary? And by revenue, do you mean that universities are receiving record amounts of money from the government, or that universities are receiving record amounts of money, period? There is a slight distinction. Moreover, how is this private funding used? As companies exist to make money, they will naturally fund the faculties and schools whose research will benefit them in the long run; the money is considered as an investment. However, there is a problem with selective funding; non-vocational courses will suffer as universities become increasingly dependent on the private sector. I am yet to hear that Santos is funding the renovation of the Napier Building...

Finally, your position on HECS. You said that "Since it is the individual and not the nation who is the principal beneficiary of an education it is fair that the individual makes a contribution towards paying for it." Whether in fact the individual really is the principal beneficiary of their education is a moot point, but consider that once we "begin earning a livable income" we start to pay income tax. As taxes are supposed to be used by governments to provide services for the general populace (eg. education), why are we paying HECS; won't we be paying for our educations by paying tax in the future anyway?

Basically, I think that your understanding of the purpose of a government is flawed. Governments exist to provide services (like education) for the people they rule. If the government doesn't do this; if our taxes are not being used to provide these services and universities are being funded from the private sector; what's the point in having a government in the first place?

Sincerely
David Brittain

PS. Do you reckon you could cut down to one letter a week? I know its fun, but let the younger students have a go, eh?

Your Bitch

Going to the cinema is nice. Going to previews is especially nice. There's an air of excitement in the theatre, as people wait with bated breath for the lights to dim, safe in the knowledge that they are the first in their state to see said film. Unfortunately, there are those that try and ruin it for the rest. In this example, it was the overweight, polkadot wearing "woman" whom we lovingly refer to as Bitchlady. Bitchlady committed the very serious crime of seat-hogging. Despite the fact there was a seat on either side of her and her husband, she simply refused to move over to allow for us to sit together. Her excuse? "We got here first and we LIKE seats in the middle!" Newsflash Bitch, you were already on the lefthand side of the theatre and we were asking you to move closer. It's not like you had to relocate to Cinema 4. Thankfully, her browbeaten and tired husband, weary from years of emotional abuse, moved for us. Thankyou Kindman. Bitchlady, we hope you read this. You ruined the start of the movie for us, and as for your pungent cheap perfume - you were the cause of Clem's migraine last night.

Say no to seat-hogs, bad polkadots, Bitchladies and pungent perfume.

Clementine and Penny

Stay in Skool

Dear Eds,

It has come to my attention that the youth of today seem to be spending less and less time in school. Not one single day goes by when I don't see a rabble of school kids, all decked out in their windcheatered finery, traipsing through our Uni under the guise of some kind of educational pretext.

Now I recognise a school excursion may provide some idle relief from the hard swot that is school life, but we all know that there is one stage in life for skipping class and wandering around in the sun, admiring the architectural beauty of the Union Building, and that is called University. I guess my real question is: Why the fuck aren't these kids in school?

I put this question to a few of the more intelligent looking ones the other day, but they just scurried off, and their teacher scowled at me. Has the Education Department really lost so much respect for the three R's that they can devote three to four hours of precious learning time to wandering the streets? I think the obvious answer is no.

I rest my case.
Hugh Shannon

I played with your heart

Wondercar

Dear Eds

I write to protest against certain defamatory comments made by Tim Williams in his otherwise brilliant waffle of last week. Having been a passenger in the Williams Corolla on a number of occasions, I would like to state for the record that this vehicle is an exceptional hill climber, and second to none when it comes to moving faster than pedestrians, whatever the terrain. Indeed, without splitting hairs (or infinitives), might I suggest that in future Tim look first to his own inadequacies as a driver before he again impugns his long suffering vehicular companion, who has served him so well these many years.

You don't deserve that car, Tim. You just don't.

Yours Sincerely,

David Monk

President

Tim's Corolla Appreciation Society

Simpson Sucks #3

Dear Eds,

It has come to my attention that a young man going under the alias of 'James Simpson' has been flooding the letters page with paragraph after paragraph of unentertaining rubbish. These may be your most heart-felt feelings Mr Simpson's but the least you could do to brighten our day at Uni is to give them some life and character. As world famous German comedian Franz Burgerman would say "Make them more funny, stupid". And put some effort into the name you put at the bottom for crying out loud! Is 'James Simpson' the best you could come up with? It's quite clearly fake.

Now, I've never met this Simpson fellow before, nor do I ever want to, but he sounds to me like the type of guy who spends his time promoting extremely right wing propaganda to anyone who will listen and especially to those who won't. Albinos are a good example of this. They hate listening to Simpson's incessant ramblings. "We hate listening to Simpson's incessant ramblings," one albino was heard to say after Simpson filled almost half a page of last week's letters section with his goony poo. A good point there albino, a good point indeed.

Is Simpson a man to fear? Nobody knows. This ghost-writer who refuses to give us his real name could be the guy sitting next to you right now. He probably enjoys eating jam sandwiches. Is your friend sitting next to you eating a jam sandwich? No? Simpson probably stole it.

I have one final thing to say, Mr Simpsons, regarding your allegation that the Adelaide Uni president, Tom Radzswquichywitch, is a robot. This

is absolutely absurd and I will have words with anyone who says different. If you want a fight, Simpson, you've picked the wrong man. As Popeye so appropriately said, "I'm strong to the finish cos I eats me spinach". You said it all Popeye, you said it all.

J. Sangster

No Biscuit, Editor

Linley Henzell's anger at Mayor Huang's East End Precinct Licensing Statement should be directed instead at the developers from Mancorp and the Liberman group who drive such agendas through the East End Traders' Association. The Mayor has to listen to this committee, which purports to be the voice of the people. The rest of Henzell's rage should be fired at greying students like this writer, who has lived mainly in this precinct for decades, and has long been angered by the extraneous noise of the premises which came to the street after the closure of the East End Markets. Bottles being triumphantly dumped into wheelie bins by waiters keen to so impress their next door rivals with their booze peddling prowess is not my idea of a 3am joke. And you don't need your anthropological fascinations to be morbid to realise that continuously extending trading hours leads only to a proliferation of amphetamine consumption amongst exhausted kitchen staff, waiters, proprietors, security and customers, which leads to nobody sleeping at all and the volume knobs winding forever closer to number ten. As I have said many times before, even bohemia needs some sleep.

There were no nightclubs in Rundle street when I was at Adelaide University in the early seventies. The major student facilities were Randall's Deli, from which the radical rich stole dogfood, which was easy, with Mr. Randall's blindness taken into consideration, and a stockfeed store from which we bought cannabis seed bagged as racing pigeon fodder. The Exeter opened at 4am to provide breakfasts for the market workers, and closed at 3pm.

But the noise was much worse in those days: the market racket made it impossible to sleep until 9am three nights a week, so all us residents would head to Hindley Street and party until sunrise. When Premier Don Dunstan first promised an end to that routine, it was so the market could be replaced by student accommodation. The developers buggered around for a decade, promising this and that, but always the change was to be toward residential purposes. Once you've been promised that for fifteen or so years, you tend to expect something along those lines - you cer-

tainly don't expect Q to open up a few roofs away with no sound insulation at all. It doesn't take long to get sick of drinking or drugging yourself to sleep, just so you can rest over such an insufferable racket.

As far as vibrancy goes, those who prefer it at 140 beats per second, 100 decibels and public, should realise that such things are best kept within closed soundproofed doors, so those who like it can get on with it without interruption. It is not up to residents like me, who inhabit 120 year old buildings because we love them, to be double glazing our heritage glass.

Neither Albert Huang nor the East End Traders should be responsible for selecting the sort of music the East End hears, but they should both be keen to ensure that when whatever it is does play, the din is reserved for those who are pleased by it. I didn't much enjoy the dischordant disrhythmia of Chunky Custard groaning and shrieking through songs - which deserve much better - all in the name of St Patrick last weekend. They started in the park at midnight, with their stage pointing straight across the street at several blocksful of slumbering residents 200 metres away. Thankyou P. J. O'Connor's and the City Council which approved the permit. I couldn't even hear my own stereo.

Since the Lord finally burned Q to the ground, some of these other indiscriminate din broadcasters, and shoddy researchers like Henzell, should be taking it very quietly indeed. Can't they recognise real anger when they see it?

Philip White

Simpson Sucks #4

Dear Eds,

With regard to James Simpsons' "Shafted, badly", I would like to respond on two levels.

Firstly, as a law student: I am sorry if Mr. Simpson feels "Shafted" is full of "silly nit-picking" and "pointless drivel", but in fact, I find the issues that is raises very important indeed. I do not appreciate having to pay extortionate ancillary fees for course materials I need just to PASS the subject, on top of an already high annual HECS debt (the joys of which Mr. Simpson expands upon in his other letter). I also do not appreciate that the general incompetence of the law school in recent years is making it look like a national joke in comparison to other universities, and I think it's extremely disturbing that I have up to 30 students in any of my seminars. The Equal Opportunity office disbanded, consistent privatising of vitally important services, lack of student involvement in major decisions about the direction of the University

- if this is "mindless, incessant whingeing" then whinge on I say! Mr. Simpson might be surprised to find out how many students care very deeply about such issues and appreciate that *Shafted* is drawing attention to them.

Secondly, as the Sexuality Officer, I find it disappointing that Mr. Simpson can so easily conclude that the Students' Association wishes to "divide the university community". Nothing could be further from the truth where our department is concerned. Our primary focus is to bring the university community together as much as possible, by promoting tolerance and understanding of non-mainstream sexualities and trying to enforce a welcoming environment for all students, regardless of their sexuality.

Perhaps if Mr. Simpson were to actually come into the SAUA office and see us working, rather than speculate about our "divisive" ways from the comfort of his home, he may not be so quick to condemn something about which he seems to have so little idea.

Cheers,

Sam Butler

Male Sexuality Officer

Rostrum

Dear Eds

I am writing to invite the ambitious, the shy, the assertive and the indiffident to the Inaugural Meeting of the Adelaide University Rostrum Club which is being held at 1.00pm on 24 April in the W P Rogers Room on Level 5 of the Union Building.

Rostrum Clubs are made up of people who want to become more effective public speakers and chairpersons of meetings. The new Rostrum Club on campus will provide students with a unique opportunity to gain in confidence and improve their skills in speaking persuasively, debating and presiding at meetings, in an enjoyable environment, amid good company.

The flexibility of Rostrum means that that the Members of the Adelaide University Rostrum Club will be able to schedule their meetings at times convenient for students, so that they do not clash with examinations etc. and devise programs that best suit their needs.

Members of the University Rostrum Club will of course enjoy all the rights and privileges of other Rostrum Members.

Anyone who would like to know more about the new club, or about Rostrum in general, can contact me on 8332 5478.

Yours etc

Patrick Bourke.

Got lost in the game

Simpson Sucks #5

No Cents or No Sense?

James Simpson believes that "as individual students we are all well off since we are able to come to university without having to pay a cent". How wrong you are Mr. Simpson. What kind of sheltered life do you live in? Do you not pay for study essentials with money? I myself in the first week of university this year payed \$200 dollars on textbooks, readers, pads and pens. I hear it's much worse for Science, Law and the worst: Medicine. Figures such as \$400 plus offend my ear on occasion. That's not "A" cent, that's tens of thousands of them. Sometimes I even hear of students who must apply for special loans in order to gain the basics they need to study. One friend of mine is just buying textbooks he needed weeks ago. You can rant all the Liberal party propaganda you want till the One Nation voters come home, yet you still miss basic facts of the real world. How you ever managed to make it to tertiary education eludes me.

Rory Spreckley

Simpson Sucks #6

Dear On Dit,

In response to James Simpson (Edition 6), I would first like to return his question: why *are* students so displeased with the government, if indeed we are all so "well off"? If the majority who are so utterly disillusioned with the government (and who look forward without enthusiasm to a Labor victory at the next election) are misguided in this sentiment, then a quite radical explanation is needed. I can only think that Simpson must be better off than most.

In the last 5 years the government has cut education spending by half. The fact that private funding has more than made up the difference is no cause for jubilation, however, since this actually means that universities are being sold to corporations. Simpson groundlessly asserts that privatisation increases universities' independence, but how will the new Santos School of Petroleum Engineering at Adelaide Uni encourage independent research? It is not as though companies are just benevolently throwing money at us; they are buying whole departments and programmes, thus compromising the integrity of education and research. The government has at least some level of accountability, i.e., it is to a limited degree independent of elite interests. Corporations of course are not in any sense democratic; they are not elected, accountable, or transpar-

ent. So what exactly are they independent from, apart from the will of the people? Certainly not from the government, which pours hundreds of millions into corporate research development programs.

And how much corporate funding does, say, the English Department attract? Sadly, the government's spending follows that of the private sector. This January, the government pledged a lousy 600 million a year over the next 5 years, but how much will go to the humanities we are not told. Moreover, no faculty has escaped the terrible impact of the last 5 years.

It won't do to claim that fee paying places "do not prevent more capable students from studying", when an increase in these places has been accompanied by a decrease in the number of HECS places, since in any case the government is favouring the rich. This also compromises the quality of education and the value of degrees, as there now exists a conflict of interests between income and the provision of quality education.

Jal Nicholl, Resistance Club

O'Shame #1

Dear Editors,

Orientation directors - you gave up your summer for students, I witnessed it myself. I just wish that the students who had the power to reward you gave all of you the time and respect you deserved.

Mel, Linley, Darien, Adam, Carol, Drew, Lisa, Paul, Georgia, Laura, Gina and of course Mitch should all be proud of the shows you put on for students. I'm just sorry I'm not proud of the show Council put on for you

Please remember some tried.

Sarah Hoban
(One Councillor of 15).

Comfort Issues

Dear Comfort Appreciators,

While I am one renowned to find issues of protest in very much EVERYTHING under the sun, I say now that I have a genuine reason to complain: what in God's name is wrong with the chairs outside the Wills Refectory? They are the most uncomfortable seating devices I have ever had the misfortune of sitting upon. Within moments of manoeuvring myself onto their cold and unforgiving surfaces, I begin to feel my spine being twisted into a God-awful myriad of frightening and extremely painful shapes. When this began, I thought

it could have been something wrong with me, that I was somehow unique to the tortures of the apparent Chairs of Doom and Back Deformity, but I have done my research. I know of others who have been plagued with the sadistic games of these Seats of Satan. The stories I have heard, my friends would send a shiver down anyone's spine (provided it was still in tact, something it wouldn't be should the person in question have been subjected to the evils of the chairs). I have heard tales of dreadful tinglings and violent spasms, which I can only put down to the severing of precious nerves in the spinal chord when it is pressed against those fidgety little metal bits at the back of the seat.

So people of the Wills: do something about it!!!!!! The outside of your quaint little store is so pleasant, what with its trees and concrete and vending machines - but the chairs (if you can call them that) must go! I'm not sure how much longer I can endure this. I love eating at the Wills but if you refuse to acknowledge this complaint then I cannot be held accountable for my actions. Do not anger me. You have no idea what I am capable of.

The Devil's Advocate

O'Shame #2

Three o'clock on a Thursday morning is a time when most people are asleep, at least those of us who are over seventeen and have realised that Planet Disco, or whatever they call it now, isn't the greatest place on earth. That said, I am not most people; I am a member of SAUA Council and it's not uncommon for me to have just finished debriefing after a Wednesday night meeting at this time. The reason for this is that the meetings go for up to six and a half or seven hours. You might think that this would mean that the *Students' Association* Council would have spent that time to discuss the needs and wants of students. I sit here writing this thinking that on the whole I didn't spend any time last night talking about students. I believe that the council needs to think about students and have students at the forefront of their minds when making all decisions.

Last night we spoke about Orientation and the people who organised it. This was Council's opportunity to, on behalf of all us students, thank the Orientation Directors for giving up their summer to give to us the Revolution. Of course assessing the performance of these people was going to be tricky, but I was willing to give it a fair go.

For the uninitiated, SAUA Council is the decision-making body of the Students' Association. It is made up

of the office-bearers of the association and then eight general councillors. We are all elected at the annual elections. Council is a political process and this means that groups of people on Council get together before the meeting to work out how they will vote. Thus, in some instances the outcome of the meeting is known by a few beforehand and nothing that anyone else might have to say in the meeting will have an impact on the outcome. No matter how hard you try. I will admit that I have been guilty of this on occasion and I am utterly ashamed of this.

Currently I feel Council Meetings leave a lot to be desired. We, the Council of 2001, are not bound by previous Councils' decisions and ideas. We are an independent Council free to make and our own decisions and importantly our own changes. SAUA Council can make a difference to the way things operate. To do this effectively there are a lot of boundaries and barriers, which need to be broken down. Factions, precedents and tradition all need to take a back seat (if they deserve a seat at all...) so that the primary motivations of Councillors be for students. (Okay yeah, a close friend of mine is helping me spout these ideals, but I believe them. So does she.)

There is only a council meeting once every two weeks. Councillors should take the time during those meetings to address the issues that are important to students. As it stands, we spend too much time on the issues that are internal and students don't give a shit about and then skim over the issues that might actually affect students in a material way. We need to keep students at the forefront of our minds when making decisions in these council meetings. Meeting procedure can, and should, be used as a catalyst to make meetings more time efficient, but should not be used as a tool to hinder or restrict discussion.

Last night I believe that we made a mockery of the efforts of the Orientation directors. We spent five hours discussing the reports they wrote, I thought so that we could then discuss the issues. We then moved *in camera* (where it's all confidential-like) to **discuss and decide** honoraria. As Ms. Caitlin Gill stated in her reason for abstaining from the vote on honoraria, she believed that there was no discussion once we moved *in camera*. I believe that there was no reason for council to hide what occurred behind the veil of confidentiality as happened. Students have a right to know what occurred.

I challenge anyone out there who cares about how the 13% or so of their student services fee is spent to come to the next council meeting and tell us what you think about the way that it all works. I also challenge anyone out there to give me feedback about whether or not they think that the

Ohh baby baby...

Students' Association really is working for you, the student.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Henderson

Activities & Campaigns Vice-President

But more importantly a concerned SAUA Councillor

PS Thanks to all of my friends who have helped me form my opinions and have helped me to make sure that I stick to them.

O'Shame #3

Dear Editors,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Orientation Directors for 2001 with the exception of perhaps two. As this year's Orientation Coordinator I feel that it would be remiss of me if I did not defend the very fine efforts of a group of incredibly dedicated young men and women. Furthermore, I must comment on the behaviour of SAUA Council.

First I should like to make it clear that I am in no way writing this letter to help relieve myself. This is not my concern, I am concerned with the Orientation Directors to whom I was responsible for.

As a student with first hand experience of the ins and outs of SAUA Council, it appears to me that the majority of voting members failed to preserve the best interest of students. Indeed if this were not the case, then council members would not stoop to cut a deal over honoraria recommendations. For the benefits of your readers who are blessed not to be corrupted by the political contentious nature which shrouds the SAUA, I need to explain what a deal is. It is when a faction or network orchestrates getting enough votes with other factions/networks in order to negotiate a fixed outcome. It is primarily used to make a majority vote.

In the case of last Wednesday's council meeting, the fixed outcome was to ensure that the party which is represented most affluently in the Students' Association successfully underpaid 9 out of the 11 directors. The party who ensured that a deal was done over the director's honoraria did so unfairly.

Congratulations must be extended to these voting council members. These same council members chose to use their votes in such a way as to ensure that all the orientation directors received unjustified honorarias. Whether the honorarias be incredibly low, or inexplicably high, all of the directors were cheated of their true value. For this I can only offer my profound apologies to their directors, in particular to the 8 who in my opin-

ion were drastically underpaid. There was no discussion, nor fielding of any questions regarding my honoraria recommendations for the directors. For the interests of your readers I would like to note that, as O Co', it is my responsibility alone to make recommendation for the directors.

In regards to my opinion on honoraria I would like to say this. I was elected to my position for 6 months. For three months straight I worked day and night with 8 directors. If I cannot give a true and accurate reflection of their honoraria, who can? Whilst I realize that my recommendations were never going to reflect what they rightfully deserved (there is no set wage for the directors), I was much closer to the mark than SAUA Council. I would have hoped that common sense, conscience voting and integrity could prevail. Unfortunately, this was not the case.

It is my understanding that \$5000 was allocated to 12 directors. 10 of whom shared \$2700. I admit, Maths was never my best subject, but I'm sure someone out there can work out the calculations. No morals and no integrity; unfortunately in the last few weeks these are the words commonly used about the SAUA. Is this the price of student representation?

According to SAUA Council 10 out of the 12 directors were worth very little. I would hope that 120 O'Camp freshers, the thousands of students who attended O'Week activities, the thousands who read O'Guide as well as the those who participated in O'Tours, would join me acknowledging that we have a better understanding and appreciation of what these directors deserve. And I hope that these directors will rest easy with the knowledge that we do appreciate them, far more than what SAUA Council could ever hope to express.

Furthermore, I would like to add that there was no evaluation on any of the orientation events after their completion. Therefore, it would seem that the only basis upon which they decided the honoraria was their own opinion. The voting council members did not attend all of the orientation events; in fact, some of them did not attend virtually any. I would hope that the opinion of the students who participated is worth something. It reflects a perspective of orientation which is not biased. Most importantly it is the very opinion which we should seek, as it is the most important.

I ask readers to remember one thing: Orientation is not an easy thing. Surviving it is even harder. But to be punished by SAUA Council, well, that is just too much.

Yours

George Taylor

Oreintation Coordinator 2001

Simpson Sucks #7

Dear *On Dit*,

James Simpson asks why there were people protesting against Dr. Kemp (Letters 26/3). Fortunately James provides us with some figures that may help explain the "Liberal anti-education agenda".

Firstly, note that HECS payments for your average band 2 degree are now around 220% of what they were before the Liberals obtained power. This means they will collect an extra \$2750/year from each student. Given that there were 464,700 full time students in 2000 this means an additional \$1.25 billion per year in HECS payments by existing students. Add to this the extra 30,000 HECS places created by this government (all of them in my tutorials it seems), the government will collect about \$1.5 billion extra per year from students.

James tells us that higher education funding has increased by \$900 million since Labor days, the majority coming from the private sector. So then, what is happening to the extra \$1+ billion the government is collecting from students? (Possible answers: income tax cuts for the rich, 30% private health rebate, TV ads promoting the previous two.)

The Liberals have only encouraged universities to increase lecture and tutorial sizes through their policy of providing extra funding to universities for over-enrolling courses. Additional fee paying places mean that rich kiddies can now buy their way into university, further increasing class sizes and laughing in the face of the average student who has had to work hard to get a place at uni.

Finally, government assistance has become even harder to obtain meaning that many young people must work to support themselves, which can restrict their access to education. Some people just don't have rich daddies, James.

Patrick Tapping

I'm Confused

Dearest *On Dit*,

I really don't get why everybody likes clowns so much. Supposedly they're cute and funny but I don't think they're funny at all. In point of fact, I think they're quite scary. I've often wondered about where this feeling comes from and I think it goes back to when I was a kid and we went to the circus and a clown killed my dad. Just a hunch. What do you think?

Confused

Gobble, Gobble

Dear *On Dit*,

Sometimes the beauty of this world overwhelms me. It just gets too much sometimes and all I want to do is gargle. Just gargle. Just throw back back my head and gargle, gargle, gargle. And do you know what, I don't care who hears me, because I am beautiful.

Like you know what would be really beautiful? Like sitting in a beautiful field watching a beautiful sunset and all of a sudden a really beautiful swan flies overhead with a really beautiful rose in its mouth. And also, you're drunk. Peace.

A. Hippie

Suckers

Dear Eds,

Someone asked me the other day "If you could be an animal, what animal would you be?" They reckon they'd be a bird, but that's what everyone says, just because they want to be able to fly. But they forget the negative side, which is the preening. And as I always say, eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

A. Weasel

THE LETTERS POLICY

- Letters should be around 250 words, and must get to the Editors by 5pm Wednesday afternoon.
- Please send your letters in by email to <ondit@smug.adelaide.edu.au>, deliver them to us in person to the *On Dit* office, or bring them in on disk.
- All letters must be accompanied by your real name and student number. This information will remain confidential to everyone except the Editors and the SAUA President (unless we get sued, of course).
- Please do not write anything that is racist, sexist, homophobic or defamatory. For obvious reasons, we cannot print this stuff.

That said, don't otherwise hold back. Have fun, kids.

Stanley George

I look inside myself and see my heart is black.

Mick Jagger

Does anyone care?

The Cranberries

There's fuck-all nicotine in these damn things. After months of Dunhills and Winfields I have to sort of reverse cough them down for them to have any effect. I mean, what's the bloody point of a cigarette with next to no goddamn nicotine? Holiday menthols are like light beer, decaf and soft-core pornography: there just doesn't seem to be any point. Without the nicotine you're just sucking down tar for the hell of it. No wonder my mother is so strung out – there isn't any bloody nicotine in her fags.

Dad's Boss has weaseled his family into staying here for the last weekend before Christmas. Mr and Mrs Boss have taken the spare room, and their slightly fucked-up kids have occupied my room. For the duration of their stay I'm relegated to the couch in the dining room, along with their evil little poodle, Zack.

For centuries now, mankind has been *purposefully* breeding arsehole midget dogs for the amusement of a bored and apathetic nobility. Zack is the result of a cruel breeding process that continues to tamper with canine evolution, rendering the descendants of a once-proud species stunted and codependent – a tragic case of survival of the cutest. The same thing will eventually happen to humanity, only there won't be a sympathetic master species to pamper *us*. By the fifth millennium we would have successfully bred out useless qualities like curiosity, compassion and creativity. Our final descendants will be bipedal poodles mindlessly prancing and rooting amongst the fibreglass ruins of civilisation. Not a bad gig, really. The hippies and simplicity freaks will finally

have their way. At least until the next ice age comes along . . .

But here and now, while the human condition continues to flourish, I'm pondering the fate of the next generation – the one that'll take over after you and me. (*In truth, here and now isn't really here and now any more. It is in fact a Monday night and I'm drunk and at home and stuck for ideas. The only thing that springs to mind is something that occurred to me last Christmas Eve. As such, we shall pretend that we are in my parents' house some three months ago.*)

Ma and Pa George are laughing it up with The Boss and his Wife at the office Christmas party. I'm landed with the Boss's two kids: a girl and a boy, both roughly seven. For most of the evening the little bloke is fine with his gameboy and the TV, while the girl – Carmen – is quietly reading some Roald Dahl. At about ten I send them off to brush their teeth, then tuck them both in for the night. I leave the door ajar and tell them that they'll see their folks in the morning. Nice work, Uncle Stan.*

Less than twenty minutes later I heard little footsteps coming down the stairs. It was Carmen – she was half in tears and blubbing something about not being able to sleep. Fair enough, I thought. I told her she could stay up until she felt sleepy.

I tried everything to get that poor girl to sleep. I read to her, explained Special Relativity to her, had her help me work on my novel – I even sat her on my lap and sang *Moondance* to her. Finally, after I had convinced her that her mother hadn't really left for good, Carmen fell asleep in my arms. I took off her glasses and carried her upstairs, where her brother had been sound asleep all the while.

It was time for a drink. I poured myself a straight glass of gin, and sipped it on my parents' balcony. I got

* Back in the real here and now, Stan has a sudden urge to call Natalia. He is not sure why – the two of them haven't spoken in days. Stan hasn't been able to get through to her since The Charlie Incident.

The Charlie Incident occurred just over two weeks ago. At about nine in the morning Stan found himself roaching cones with Natalia on a mutual friend's balcony. Nicely toasted, Stan ambled downstairs to retrieve some personal items that he had left in the back of Charlie's Precious Commodore.

Charlie is one of the oddest people that Stan has ever met. He seems to lumber through the world in a sort of careless daze, while those around him marvel at how he even manages to remain upright. He is the kind of person who can trip over a caterpillar, or hang up the phone mid-sentence, or light the butt of a cigarette without ever noticing.

With all this in mind, Stan made it perfectly clear to Charlie that he wasn't going with him to Murray Bridge – he was just getting his things from the back seat.

Or so he thought.

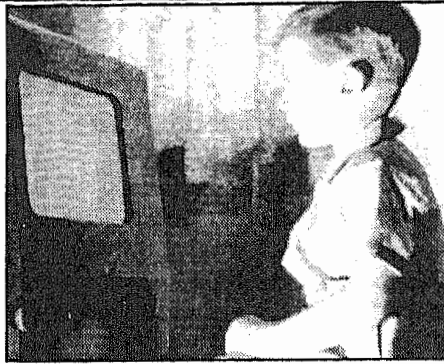
Charlie started the ignition. Again, Stan told him that he was not there for the ride. As if in reply, Charlie drove toward the road such that Stan had to pull himself inside the car moments before his legs bashed into the letterbox. 'Well,' Stan thought, 'he's obviously not taking me all the way to Murray Bridge – nobody can be that insane.'

About halfway up Glen Osmond Road, Stan realised that Charlie was indeed that insane. Terrified, Stan demanded that Charlie pull over so that he could get the hell out of the car and get his head together. Charlie complied, then sped off, leaving Stan barefoot and alone in the middle of nowhere with a head full of nothing save the kind of stoned confusion that would make any man convert to Anglicanism.

And so it was that Stan found himself wandering into St Martin's Anglican Church on Glen Osmond Road. Understandably, some nice old church ladies mistook him for a vagrant, and fixed him a breakfast of tea and scones. After thanking the blue-rinsed Samaritans, he moseyed into the church proper, sat through the Sunday morning service, mumbled half the words to Onward Christian Soldiers and took part in the Eucharist.

After the service, Stan shook a confused Reverend's hand and asked him where he could find a phone booth. The Reverend took one look at Stan's pyjamas, chuckled, then pointed towards Greenhill Road. A reverse-charge call and two long walks later, Stan found himself waiting for Lachlan S. Croft in the car park of an abandoned steakhouse.

Since that day, Stan's relationship with Natalia had taken a turn for the worse. The Charlie Incident had virtually severed all contact with her; save a single message on her machine in lieu of the shoes, clothes, CDs, papers and assorted drug paraphernalia that he had



to thinking about little Carmen and the reason why she had been so upset. I decided that it was because she was smart – that the whole ordeal had been the result of a kind of reversal of the phrase *ignorance is bliss*.

See, it was perfectly reasonable for Carmen to be scared – distraught even. Think about it: her mother – whom she had trusted up until that point – had left her to sleep in a strange bed in a strange house with no real supervision save an unshaven beatnik who reeked of gin and menthol cigarettes. I mean, what intelligent girl *wouldn't* be terrified?

There comes a point where people can be too aware of how fucked-up things are. Sooner or later, we ourselves may have to deal with *our* Mother pissing-off to a cocktail party. The question is, should we accept this possibility, or should we stay up all night whingeing?

Will the ALP always overspend? Will Liberals always be tight-arses? Will Bob Downe always be popular? Perhaps – like the Christians – we should have faith that Mother will be home by the time we wake up from this capitalist nightmare, and that everything will sort itself out. Maybe it's best for us to just keep watching *Popstars* and reading *Who Weekly* until we finally reduce ourselves to a race of snivelling poodles.

Who knows? Who gives a fuck? The way I see it, there is little point in worrying about such things. Instead, we should all be ignorant and stupid like Carmen's brother, who slept through the whole ordeal as if nothing was amiss.

left in the back seat of Charlie's Precious Commodore.

Skip back to now, and Stan's sudden urge to call Natalia. After a talking to Natalia for less than five minutes, Stan carefully hung up, then collapsed on the kitchen floor. He heart was breaking – crumbling into the abyss. A new kind of darkness was creeping into his soul – the kind of darkness that engulfs a man until he finds himself lost and in the shadow of a terrifying realm of despair. At its centre, like a neon ghost, lay the source of Stan's heartbreak. It was the Devil. It was the Dark Lord of Übel. It was Bob Downe.

Why Bob Downe? Why not? The mindless twerp has been perpetuating garish homosexual stereotypes for years. Who the fuck does he think he is? He's a talentless fool who is about as beneficial to the gay rights movement as the phrase "fudge-packing faggot".

But there's another reason why Stan should hate Bob Downe. During the aforementioned phone conversation, Natalia told Stan that she was now married to another man, and that they were now a couple. As it happened, the two of them had been to some nightclub where a certain Bob Downe had conducted a spontaneous mass wedding, with himself as the celebrant. As Stan lay prostrate on his kitchen floor, Bob Downe overtook Jennifer Lopez and Pauline Hanson on Stanley George's Mental List of People to Have Beaten to Death.

Banks

Any movie buff will know that 'the greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist.' Now, I'm not going to start a debate about whether the devil is a he or a she. Just as we allow God himself to be androgynous, we shall let the devil herself to be so too – there was obviously just a mistake in the script. Nah, in all seriousness (well perhaps not *all*), it matters not whether you be a man or woman of the cloth, a cloth-less man or woman, or even a mannish woman or a womannish man you must agree that some things in life can be identified as good, and some things as bad. It is with this proviso that I shall use the phrase 'devil ever pulled' and I shall use it thus: The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was NOT convincing the world that he didn't exist, it was to convince the world to accept the BANK as a logical and legitimate pillar of society. 'The bank!', you say, what is so devilish (in a bad way) about my friends at the bank? Your friends at the bank?? Probably nothing. The way banks work in the 21st century (and indeed have worked since their beginning), that's the nasty part. In these paragraphs I do not speak of fees, charges, pheels or charges, or whatever names your branch has for the inexplicable deductions from your account. No. I am attacking the very crux of banking itself. The bank loan. Put simply, banks lend imaginary money, charge real interest getting the people of the world to pay real money back – thus profits for the bank. Why imaginary? What do you mean *real*? Good questions – that means you've been reading carefully. In explanation let me offer a little anecdote. If everyone who had their money invested in bank X went on the same day to withdraw that money, they would find (to their shock horror of course) that the bank wouldn't be able to provide them all with their money. Where is it then? I gave my money to the bank for safe keeping (literally), yet when I go to collect it, there is none there. Hmmm. Now consider Mr Y who visits bank X for a loan. Now if we've just established that bank X wouldn't actually have everyone's money, then the loan Mr Y receives is actually imaginary, because it is not actually the bank's own money it lends, it is other people's. The bank therefore makes \$\$ by using your money to buy Mr Y's house, who then pays back your money to the bank over a long period of time, hence a mortgage. This is how banks make a profit. They pay you interest (fuck all!) to invest your money with them. They then lend your money to others (just like Mr Y) with high interest rates attached, who pay back to the bank twice as much as they were originally lent. The bank hasn't actually provided any service other than to *handle* your money, and create a

Schmanks

The greatest trick the devil ever pulled....

someone else. From all of which they profit. The more customers they have, the more money they lend, the more debt they create, the greater the amount they are paid back and hence profit from. Those studying business and economics courses have at this point most likely risen from their chairs in protest and defence of the humble bank. We couldn't all just keep our money at home - imagine the house invasions then! However, the bank on a world scale is not so humble.

After WW2 the World Bank and International Monetary Fund were established to hasten the economic recovery of Europe. When this was completed, however, they moved on to *world poverty*. The reality is that by attempting to raise standards of living and *develop* countries into the western model (their real motives? who could say), the World Bank and International Monetary Fund invested and lent huge amounts of money to what they saw as primitive economies. As I have discussed, lending money creates the demon of debt, and as such, today we have a situation where most of the world owes money; some owe money to the US, most owe money to the World Bank. A bank which has lent imaginary money in the first place can now control the economies of nations. Take Papua New Guinea for example who, due to their debt, owed the World Bank (in 1990) 20% of its annual budget as interest alone. In this sort of environment no wonder a country rich in culture, tradition and resources can be considered poor by the world economy and hence *3rd world*. To help pay back their debt, the World Bank sent in advisors to cut back spending on areas like education and

health. Somehow ironic that the very institution working to eradicate world poverty is, through the creation of unpayable debts, its main contributor. If the banks and money lenders of the world can control the economy of a country like Papua New Guinea, then they can control the economies of others. Once you control an economy, in effect you control public policy, and once you control public policy you control the standards of living, the lives of the people within those countries and eventually the countries themselves. Who does run a country? The government or those who control the economy?

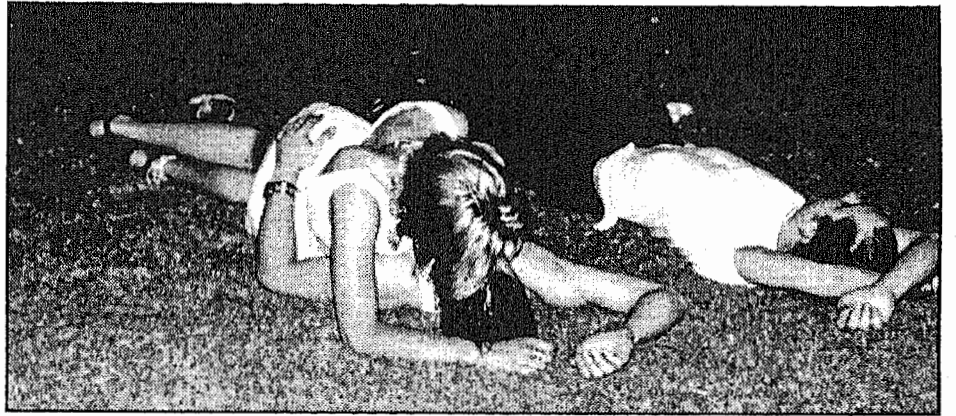
I believe we all sit back and let the world work in this way because we don't think to challenge it, and we don't like to ask why. Economics and the world economy is shrouded in mysterious jargon and assumptions, which make little sense to anyone on face value. The concept of a bank, and how they operate is simply illogical and dishonest, but we are so accustomed to our world functioning in this manner that we assume it is all happening for the right reasons. Always ask, *who controls the money?* and *who will benefit from this change?*; the answers will often surprise you. Banks create debt. On a local scale it is your parents' mortgage, money owed on the car, a credit card or your Supplement Loan. On a global scale it is countries like Papua New Guinea which have sacrificed their traditions, culture and natural resources to paying back what they owe the World Bank. If money makes the world go round, then only some people's worlds are spinning, the rest are paying them for the pleasure of watching.

Seb Henbest



Introducing a new *On Dit* column, in the style of *Sex and the City*,

Sex on the Lawns



By Lady Simon

Episode 1: Drunk People should not have SMS

I recently found myself in a purely lust-based infatuation with a certain first year Arts student. It wasn't just any kind of lust, it was intense lust. The archetype of the fourth deadly sin. It so occurred that I would be almost completely preoccupied with lascivious thoughts - small things like watching him rub his hands would send my stomach into wicked acrobatics. Unbeknownst to him I imagined him in several states of undress, various positions of my choosing and performing acts that no normal eighteen-year-old boy could ever hope to perform.

I convinced myself that despite the fact he and I had almost nothing to talk about, it could work out between us, it had to work out between us, that I could settle for the Mills and Boon romance without the romance and double the smut. I went back to being sixteen and unkissed, desperate for a mouth no matter what head it was attached to.

Unfortunately all did not go according to plan.

I have a law which follows that however much one intends for something to work out in a particular way, it very rarely does. In fact, if possible, it will work out entirely adversely.

So there I was, one Friday night, trying to celebrate my birthday sans the first year Arts student. He had said he would be there. After a rather nice pash the week before I thought he'd want to be there, but he didn't come. I was very drunk, very horny, very 'it's my party and I'll cry if I want to', so I picked up my phone and to heal my hurt I messaged two fateful words. The first was 'frigid', the second rhymes with truck.

Oh lord, ladies and gentlemen, if I could take back that message. I felt like the Russian Tsar, the 'little father'

when he adopted the nickname 'Nicholas the Bloody'. I went from being sweet to scathing. Kind to conniving. In one little SMS I destroyed my purity, my innocence and my painstakingly developed pretense of being sweetness and light. And as I lay in bed, cringing and hoping that they wouldn't take away my membership with the Barr Smith Club, I struck upon a universal truth: 'drunk people should not have SMS'.

Am I alone? Has anyone else been in such a state of intoxication that some kind of evil message has travelled its cancerous way to another's phone? Is it possible that sending awful messages is nothing more than a psychological response to alcohol consumption?

Juvenal wrote that 'no one becomes at once completely vile', but clearly he wrote this before mobile phones were invented. SMS is the devil's way of saying 'dig your own grave'. The word 'sent' has, after this experience, taken on a malevolent undertone.

I didn't want to be a bitch, because romance novel heroines never are, but my fingers did the walking before my brain could register the feasible damage. Sometimes, in the grips of a juvenile infatuation, we act a little passionately, we dabble in the art of being irrational, and mixing champagne with mobile phones only feeds the fire.

Let my experience with alcohol and SMS be an example to all you young, tantrum-throwing uni students, there's no reason to repeat such libidinous mistakes if it will save the manly pride of a few horny ex-college boys. I've found it to be a sad, unfortunate fact that your mobile phone does not have a back button, so the next time Optus says 'yes', say 'no'.

VOX

Questions

1. What do you want to be when you grow up?
2. What's your favourite sex toy?
3. There are two types of people in the world. What type are you?

Laura & Belinda

Making Adelaide Uni more beautiful

1. L: Journalist.
B: Someone happy who earns a lot of money.
2. L: Handcuffs and whips.
B: Ropes and lubricant.
3. L: The good type.
B: The other type.



Ben

Explaining the difference between garbage collecting and garbology

1. Garbologist.
2. I refuse to answer on the grounds that it may incriminate me.
3. An Engineer.



BEER STUFF

Even though they used a ridiculous number of expletives, the VoxPop sub editors have awarded this week's best answer prize to Daniel, Cheryl and Peter. This glorious prize not only includes 10 pints of free Southwark beer at the Unibar, but also a glorious Southwark Sessions T-shirt. Bonanza! All prizes need to be collected from the *On Dit* office, and are donated by those lovely people at Southwark.



Lucy

Watching herself in a parking mirror

1. Hopefully something in the media.
2. Strawberries!
3. The friendly and nice type.

Daniel, Cheryl, & Peter

*S**t, f**k, f**k, f**k, s**t*

1. D: I want to be in Cannibal Corpse.
C: I want to be in a fucken punk band.
P: Porn star.
2. D: My fucken dick.
C: I'm kind of into bondage so probably handcuffs and shit.
P: Double adaptor dildo.
3. D: I'm a c**t.
C: I think we're the sort of people that people think are fucked, but like, we're not the ones who are fucked.
P: I'm a fucken drunk.

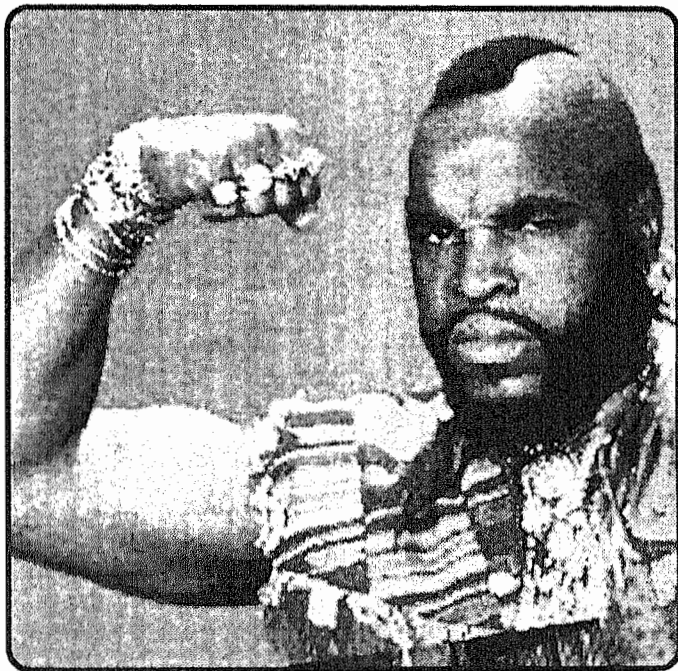
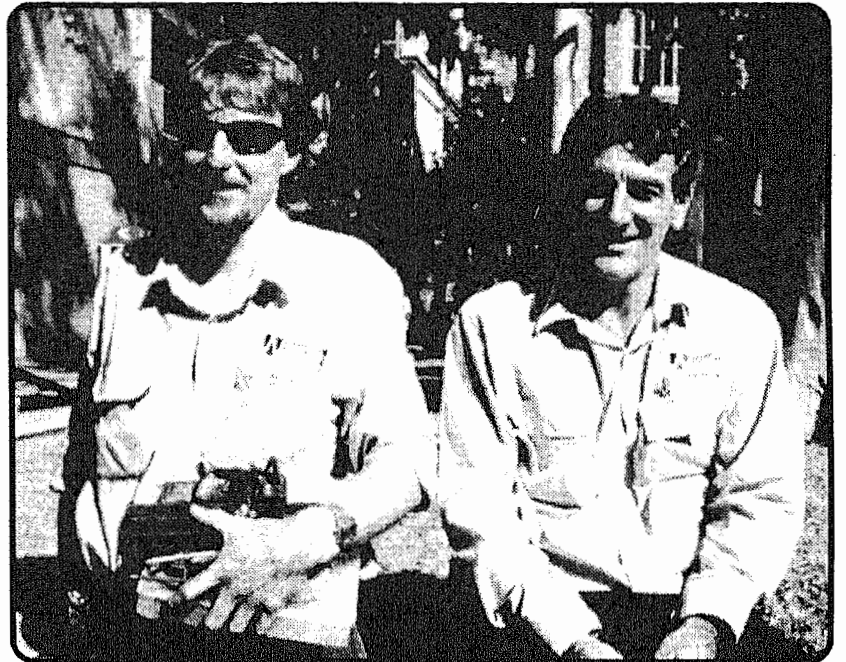


POP

Andrew & Darren

Stopping to talk to us when they should have been working

1. A: Locksmith.
D: Astronaut.
2. A: My wife.
D: My blow-up doll, Pamela.
3. A: The ludicrous type.
D: Honest.



Mr T

Pitying the fool'

1. Da' best damn crime fighter in 'dis here town...fool!!!
2. Mr T don't need no sex toy.....Mr T is the sex toy!!!
3. Der' two types of people in da' world, den der's a category just for the T!!!

Debbie & Josh

Scaring us with their sex toy ideas

1. D: Plumber.
J: Project Manager.
2. D: A hamster and a PVC pipe.
J: Sledge hammer.
3. D: The right type.
J: The arsehole type.

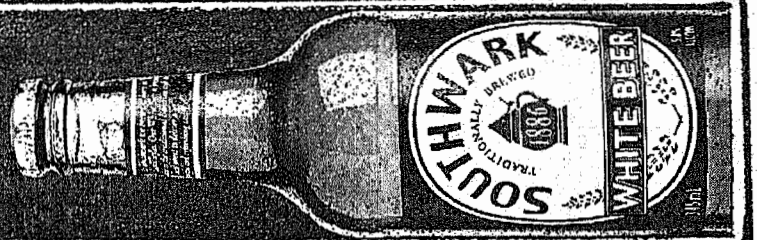


Lizzie & Sunita

Basking in the sun

1. L: I want to die young.
S: No wrinkles, and a great sex life.
2. L: Answering this question could potentially ruin me.
S: When are you free?
(Note: The Sub-Editors of Vox Pop would like to state that in no way are we swayed by sexual advances, and in other news - pigs can fly, ha ha ha)
3. L: The other one.
S: The third type.

BREWED WITH WHEAT.
NOTHING TASTES QUITE LIKE A WHITE.



Tom Radzevicius President



Central University Committees
Currently there is a proposal from the Student Affairs Committee that relates to increasing the level of student involvement on central university committees. Central university committees are committees that govern the overall running of the University from a policy and strategic direction perspective.

It is important to have student involvement on these committees as the decisions made by them directly affect the educational quality of students on campus. For example, these committees include the sub-committees of University Council, committees concerned with educational policy, research, student

grievances and complaints.

This policy is an important and relevant issue for all students, primarily because of the effects that these committees have on students. If people would like to have a look at this proposal then please come into the SAUA and ask.

Student Complaints Policy

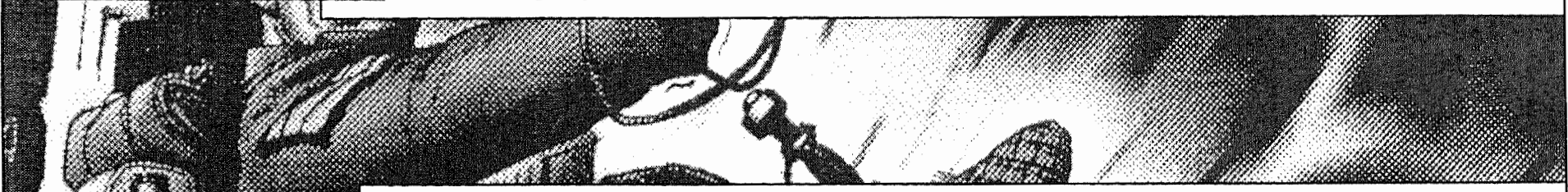
This is a recently finalised section of policy that institutes a new set of procedures for the handling of student complaints that concern issues relating to academic standards, issues pertaining to the interactions between administrative staff within the University and students, and other issues that are not harassment related. The new policy sets very clear and concise

procedures for the handling of these complaints, including the implementation of strict time lines for the completion of dealings with grievances.

Constitutional and Structural Review Sub-Committee

Don't forget, submissions are still open for the review of the SAUA's constitution. The closing date for submissions is April 9. Any submissions should be either brought to the SAUA or emailed to me at:

tomas.radzevicius@adelaide.edu.au, if anyone has any questions or wants a copy of the constitution then please feel free to contact me.



National Day of Action

On April 5th students from Adelaide Uni will be participating in a National Day of Action for Higher Education. Students will meet on the Barr Smith Lawns where they will march to Amanda Vanstone's Office (Minister for Community Services), and then onto Parliament House. If anyone wants to get involved in the NDA or in Education Department Campaigns please feel free to contact me in the SAUA.

Corporate Law Survey

We have had a fantastic response from students for the Corporate Law Survey. We have received over 45 responses from students and more are trickling in. If you had any problems with Corporate Law in 2000 or you

had any major problems with any subject from any degree please let me know. You can call the Education Department on 08 8303 3898 or email education@saua.asn.au

Quality Of Education Survey

The SAUA is conducting a student survey on quality of education. We want to know what issues students are most concerned about and what effects the quality of your education. You can get a copy from drop points all around uni, or you can get one from the SAUA. If you are unsure about any of the issues raised on the survey grab a copy of Shafted, the Education Department publication, for more information.

Student Forums

In the first few weeks of term 2,

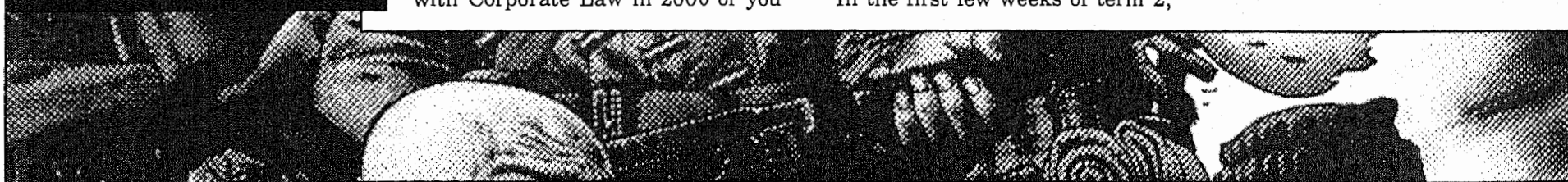
the SAUA Education Department will be conducting a series of student forums. We will be visiting all faculties and giving students the opportunity to tell us what you think of the Students' Association and how we can best serve you. Look out for dates and times in *On Dit* and in your faculties.

Students as Workers

Students as workers campaign will be run by the Education Department in week 2 of term 2. We will be highlighting the positive benefits of trade union membership and giving students the opportunity to get access and information from individual trade unions and well as on trade unionism.



Brad Kitschke Education Vice-President



Prosh

Prosh is the next major event on the Activities Department calendar. It will be held from the 14th-18th of May (the fourth week of next term) and preparation is now underway. If you would like a discussion of what Prosh is, please refer to my article on page 5. The Prosh charity for this year is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The first Prosh meeting will be held this Wednesday the 4th of April at 1pm in the UniBar. So come up to the bar and bring your friends along with all of your ideas that will help to make Prosh great this year.

Cinema

This week Anais and the rest of the women's department will, with the help of Eddie and Patsy from Absolutely Fabulous, take over the Union Cinema on Wednesday from noon. So

head along to the cinema and enjoy a 3 hour AbFab marathon.

End of term

Unfortunately, there is no organised event or festivities this Friday for the end of term. The Activities Department would love to put something huge on but our budget doesn't allow us to. The lack of a big organised event shouldn't stop us from having a great celebration that the holidays are here. Thus, I would encourage everyone to head up to the UniBar for happy hour on Friday afternoon to enjoy the cheap prices and the free BBQ that is cooked for you by the Activities Standing Committee. Also, put yourself in the running to win a carton of beer to kick off your holidays.

Council

I encouraged people in my last column to come to last week's council

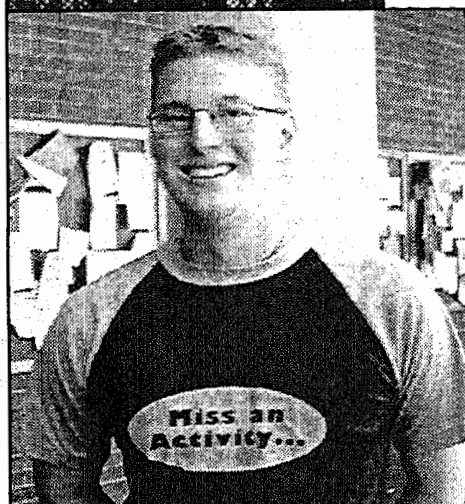
meeting. For anyone who is interested, please refer to my letter in this edition.

National Day of Action

This Thursday the SAUA is helping to organise an education rally; refer to Brad's column for more information on this. The Activities Department will be helping to cook a BBQ and sell some beverages on the day. So come along at about 11am on Thursday with your rallying shoes on to have your say.

Holidays

Have a great couple of weeks off of Uni and don't stress too much. See you all next term if not in the bar, at the cinema, at the Prosh meeting or anywhere else.



Mark Henderson Activities/Campaigns Vice-President

Absolutely Fabulous

This Wednesday at 12 noon in the Union Cinema (Level 5, Union Building) episodes of Absolutely Fabulous will be screened until 3pm. Admission is free and popcorn will be very cheap. AbFab is a show that, apart from being extremely funny, is also about women and was written by Jennifer Saunders. If you have any episodes that you would like to see especially, call me at the SAUA before 5pm Tuesday.

NOWSA

The Network of Women Students in Australia conference is an annual event that will be held in Sydney this year. The dates are the 16th-20th of June (the mid-year holidays), so while it seems a long way off, we have to start fundraising soon! If you are interested in going, or want more info, get in touch with me because we

may be able to help fund you to attend the conference!

Totally Women Powered Radio

Some of you will know that on alternate Saturdays at 9pm, Elise Duffield and myself run Totally Women Powered Radio. This week, following the debate in *On Dit*, the show will be focussed on whether or not the women's movement should be involved with other campaigns, with particular reference to the issue of globalisation. This debate, while a long time running, was brought to attention after the International Women's Day 2001 collective, made the theme "women against corporate tyranny". They argued that because the effects of globalisation and economic rationalism adversely affect women more than men, that the theme was valid and necessary. The main argument against this is that many more women would get involved

in the women's movement if it didn't have the radical component of the globalisation debate. It is a complex issue, and one which I am personally not decided on, and will make for an interesting programme. If you are interested in speaking on either side of the debate please contact myself or Elise at the SAUA, on 8303 5406.

Women's Room

There will be a working-bee on the Women's Room, Basement, Lady Symon Building, on the 29th of April, starting at 1pm.

Meeting Procedure Plenary

On the 29th of April (after the working-bee), there will be a workshop on formal meeting procedures for women. It will be facilitated by Tanisha Hewanpola, and will be a great opportunity to develop these skills. It will be held in the Women's Room.

You can contact me on 8303 5406 or anais@arcom.com.au

**Anais Chevalier
Women's Officer**



**Environment Department
Soup day**

Tuesday the 3rd April the Environment Department will be having a soup day. Come down to the Cloisters between 12:30 and 1:30 and buy some yummy vegetarian pumpkin soup. It will be on sale for a cheap \$1.00 and will guarantee to warm you to the Environment Department. That is if you fulfil the demands of the notorious Seinfeld "Soup Nazi" who will be serving the soup on the day. You will probably see orange fliers around the Uni advertising his appearance. Follow the ordering procedure and you should have no troubles, and there will be plenty of soup for you!!

The soup will be sold to raise money for sending students to the

Students and Sustainability Conference being held at Newcastle Uni from the 2nd to the 6th of July. The conference has been identified as a mechanism for bringing people together to share information, alternatives, strategies and visions which work toward reversing the environmental degradation which exists in the present and will continue to in the future. The conference provides networks to collaborate ideas and sustain action in the wider community. It is important that as many students as possible are sent from Adelaide University. Not only will Adelaide students obtain a wealth of information from the conference and bring their experiences back to our university, but our environmentally aware students also have a great deal to offer student activists throughout Australia.

Environment Week

Environment Week will be held during the second week of term three from Wednesday the 1st to Friday the 3rd of August. This is great timing considering that we will have just returned from the Students and Sustainability Conference, and will have a wealth of information to impart on Adelaide Uni students. I thought it would be good to have some native animals on the lawns, and am currently under negotiations. Watch this space for further developments. If there is anything you'd like to see at environment week, if you want info on a topic you are interested in, or are an environmental student who wants to put your work on show - just give me a call 8303 5182 or email me on environment@saua.asn.au.



**Georgie Perks
Environment Officer**

Queer Collaborations

For those of you who may be unaware, Queer Collaborations is the annual national conference for all queer (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, intergendered etc.) students. This year, the conference is running from the 9th-13th of July at Newcastle University, NSW. The theme: "The Future is Queer to Me Now". This conference is a great opportunity to meet new people, network, learn and (apparently) pick up, and this year, the Sexuality Department is working with Pride to build up a travel pool to help send as many people to Newcastle as possible. If you'd like to find out more, contact us on 83033899 or boisexo/girlsexo@saua.asn.au.

Sexuality Week

Ack, Sexuality Week draws closer! This year it will run from May 7th-11th, and will be filled with dance parties, BBQs, bands, forums, services, art shows, movies, lamington drives - you name it and we'll probably do it (we have no shame!) If you'd like to get involved please contact us or Pride (auprideclub@hotmail.com) because the more people helping out means the bigger and better it will be.

Coming Out Booklet

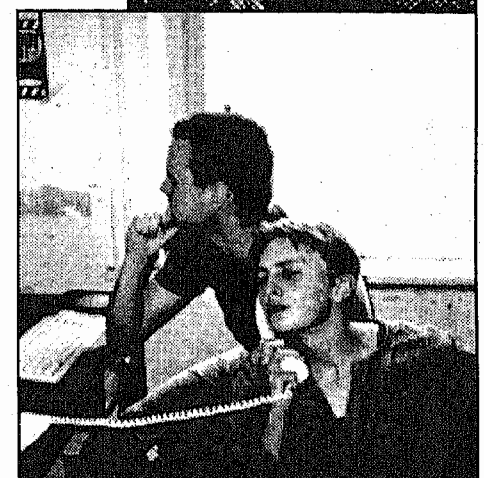
Submissions for the booklet have now closed. Now comes the fun part: putting it all together. A million thank yous to all the great people who submitted articles and/or responses to our questionnaire, we now look forward to an important and we hope helpful

publication, which we will be launching during Sexuality Week.

The SAUA Structural Review

It looks like there's going to be debate (perhaps even heated!) as regards the future of our department, if the first structural review subcommittee meeting is anything to go by. However, we do not at all object to this. Obviously, different people are going to have different ideas and it is important to communicate, and try and work together to provide a model that offers the best representation for students in this very sensitive area. Again, this is your chance to have your say, so please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions, problems or suggestions.

Stay sexy,
Sam and Elise



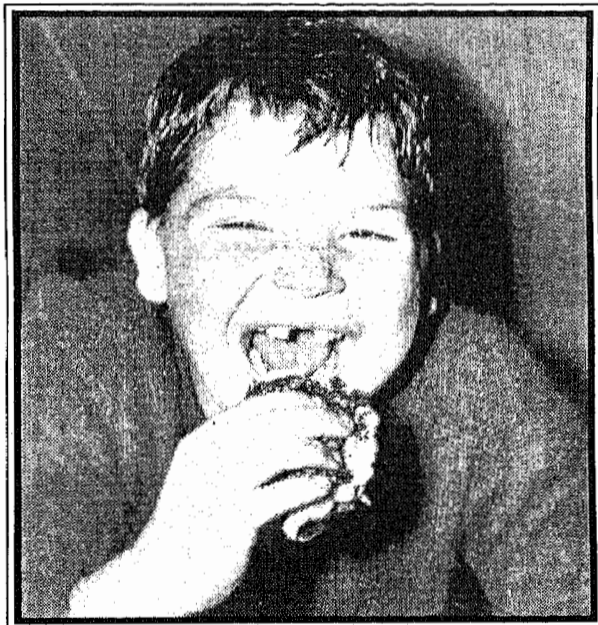
**Elise Duffield &
Sam Butler
Sexuality Officers**

You can be a human bean too!

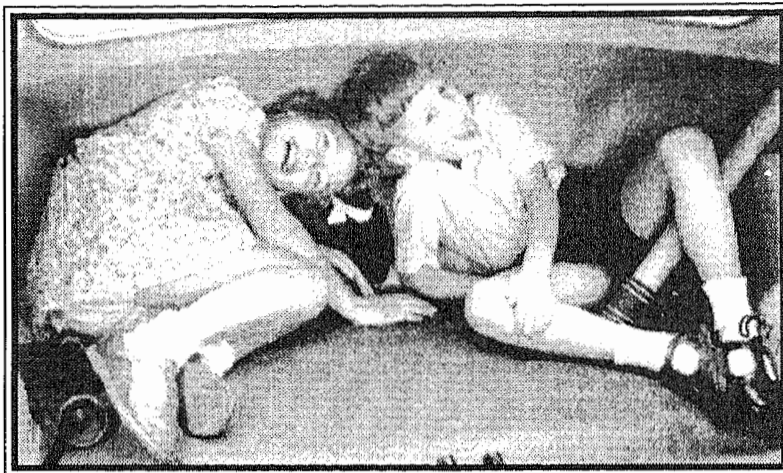
Everyday as I walk around campus and the outer world and am forced to interact with the rest of the population, I become more and more disgusted with how uneducated people are when it comes to acceptable standards of social behaviour. Some people have no consideration for others and society as a whole. Now, I understand that everyone has a 'selfish' day now and then, but I see blatant acts of disrespect and disregard every which way I turn. And it is time for it to stop. Let's get this straight right now - the world does not owe you any favours. It irritates me and the other people who bother to think about others. So we are equipping you with a rough guide to how to act in different situations. Follow it. Please. It's far from fascist.

Let's go to the movies . . .

- If you are too cheap to spring for a babysitter for your very young child then you shouldn't be at a cinema or theatre anyway. But if you must bring little Harry (and the pram/baby paraphernalia) along with you then please consider others. Don't park the pram in the middle of any aisle, push it to the side so people can walk past. If your child cries or screams during the film/play, take it outside. If you don't want to miss the film, leave it outside and come back in. Don't try and settle it back down with its favourite nursery rhyme sung at medium



Pig-like and abrasive, say no to children in public



Avoid unpleasant stares and leave your children in the car

volume. We know you think that your little rugrat is the centre of the universe but it's not. In fact, they do no more than irritate others, especially in restaurants - but more about that later.

- Mobile phones are the dirge of Satan. But even worse is a mobile phone whose owner has forgotten to turn it off at the cinema/theatre. Worst of all are people who pick up their phone and have a conversation with whoever is on the other end. These people ought to be shot.

- If you have a bladder problem then perhaps an end seat is for you. Besides, what were you thinking buying the jumbo sized coke? It's not clever, it's not smart, it's none of the above. People with weak bladders shouldn't even leave the house for fear of unsavoury accidents. Same goes for those with flatulence. You'll recognise the flatulent sod when he erupts mid poignant soliloquy and then shuffles slightly in an elaborate facade designed to blame the seat's poor cushion structure. In fact, all that is achieved is allowing the fumes to infiltrate the breathing space of their entire row.

Can I get a price check on Kraft Peanut Butter?

- If you don't need a trolley then please don't take a trolley. That is what the baskets are for.

- If you have children and you insist on bringing them with you to the supermarket then please stick to the specified 'parental' shopping hours. These are Monday mornings. As stated in theatre, and as will be stated in restaurant etiquette, nobody cares about your children, and nobody wants to see them, hear them, or smell them.

- Don't hog the little samples that they hand out. Students often consider these samples as the only variety in their diet and it would be cruel to deny them the pleasure. Leave the Thursday Night Bonanza to the ones who really need it.

- If the supermarket's run out of Marine Fragrance Fabreze, don't ask the shelf stackers if they have any more 'out the back'. If it isn't on the shelves it means there's none left. This is just the way things are, and not in fact part of an elaborate plot masterminded by the nightfill boys to deliberately fuck up your day.

Children, ugly and offensive

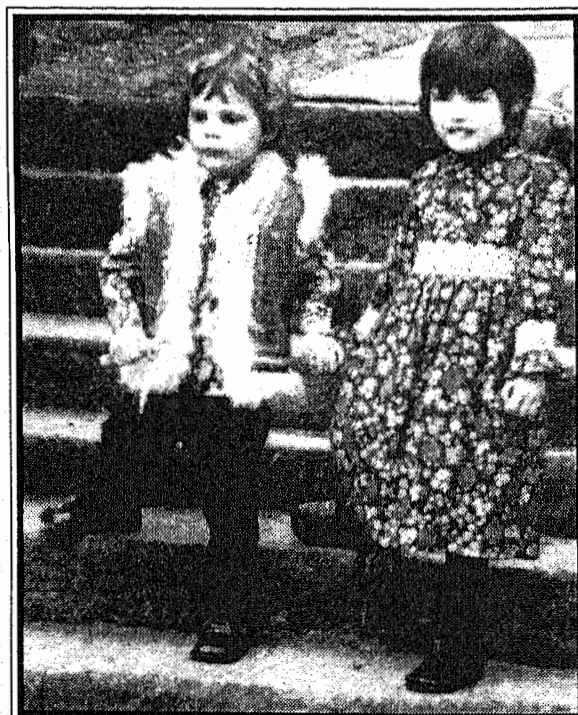
Is this one of them fancy restronts?

- Number one rule of etiquette when even considering dining out - respect your waitress. Know that she is not your slave, and you are not to treat her as such. It's very simple - give her the respect she deserves, and you will get the level of service you desire. If you bitch and moan at her all night about how the tables are too small, there's not enough bread and what was she thinking clearing your darling child's ham and pineapple pizza before they were finished, then she will work her hardest to ensure your night is shit. She is the direct link between the chef and your table, and she will sneeze on your food if the occasion calls for it. For the sake of your food, consider the smooth running of her night to be more important than yours.

- There is no such thing as a nice family meal if your children are under the age of 6. No one has fun with chewed up food flying all over the place and baby vomit dripping off the table ledge. Again, think of your waitress. Not only does she hate children in general, but she has no desire to act as your babysitter whilst you enjoy your meal. It is not her job to clean up after your brats, and she certainly shouldn't be expected to humour your children's very limited food tastes. If your selfish attempt to unify the family results in her having an extremely bad night, make sure you leave a very big tip. No one should have to deal with your offspring. To be on the safe side, you should use the age of a 14 as a bare minimum.

- On the subject of tipping - always do it, even if it's just a token stingy couple of gold coins. Don't leave your thirty cents change and fool yourself it is a tip. It's not. In fact, it didn't even pay her for the time it took her to walk between the till and the tip jar. Once again, your waitress deserves respect, and a little bonus on top of the probably crap wage she receives for all the dirty work she more than likely does. Most importantly, do not waste her valuable time chatting with her if you don't intend to leave her at least \$5. Better to know now that any act of kindness is a huge facade executed to earn cigarette money. Just give it to her, and smile as you leave. Waitresses remember people who tip, and doing so will earn you extra bread next time.

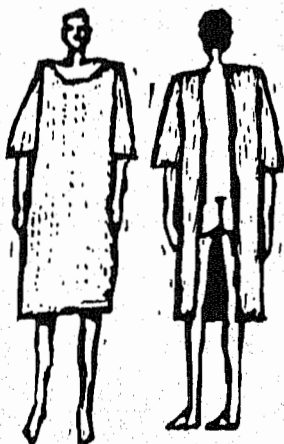
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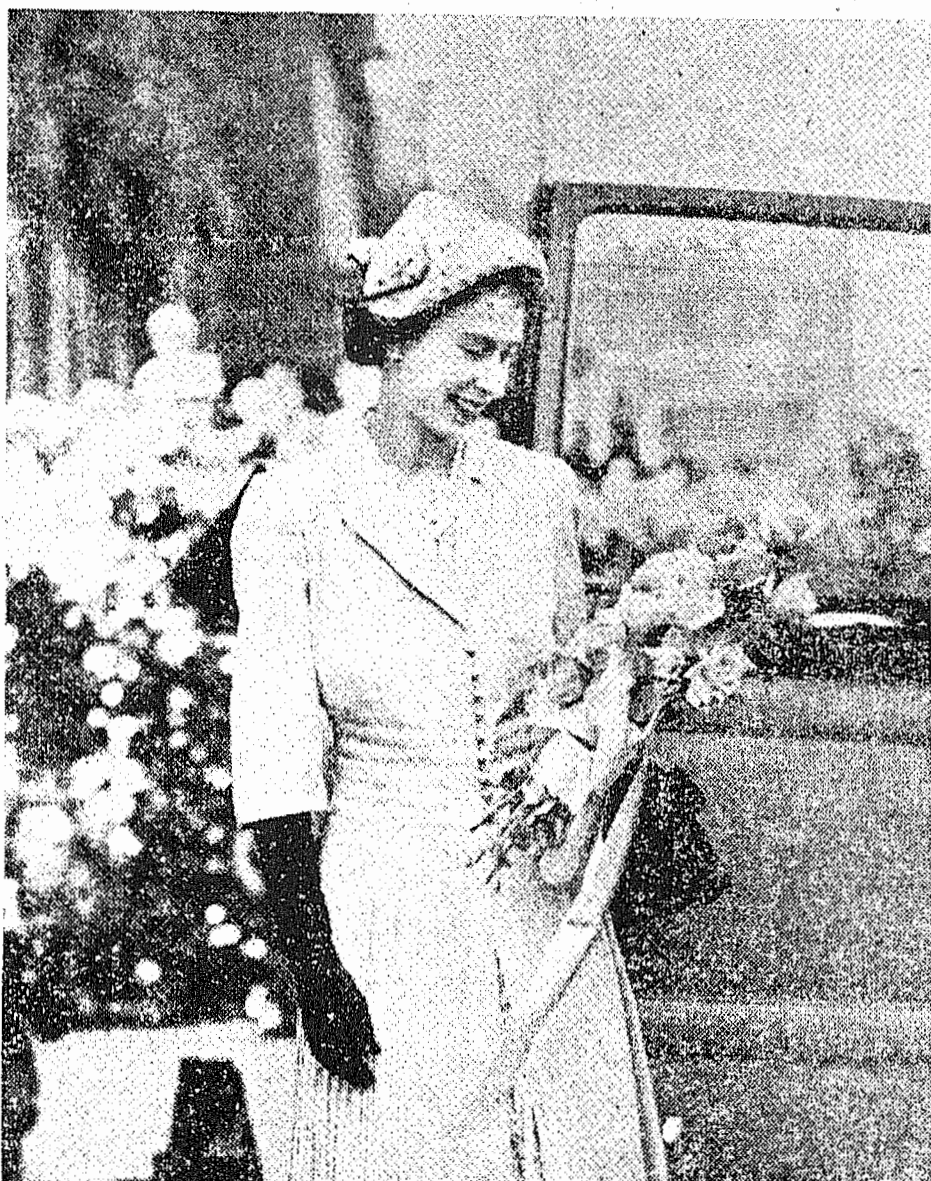
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HER MAJESTY AT BONYTHON



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN as she re-entered her car after attending the reception tendered her by the National Council of Women in the Bonython Hall last Wednesday.

(Photo by Mick Maros)

Blast From the Past

QUEEN VISITS VARSITY

Her Majesty the Queen was given a rousing welcome to the University grounds by hundreds of students and members of the academic and administrative staffs when she visited the Bonython Hall to attend a Women's Reception last Wednesday morning.

As everyone waited with keen anticipation for the Royal car to arrive, strains of music could be heard from inside the hall, where representatives of women's organisations throughout the State, awaiting their Queen, were rehearsing the singing of the National Anthem.

Soon after the arrival of the Governor's wife, Lady George, Her Majesty, in the beautiful black Royal Daim-

ler, with the red, gold, and blue standard fluttering from the front of the hood, reached the front steps of the Bonython Hall.

There she was met by representatives of the National Council of Women, who presented her with a beautiful bouquet of golden roses.

After the reception, on-lookers, who had thinned out considerably during the half-hour wait, once again had a very good glimpse of Her Majesty, who looked radiant and happy.

Thus, in a small way, people from the University were able to show their loyalty and affection for their Queen and Royal family, despite the fact that no official visit by Her Majesty or the Duke had been arranged to Adelaide's seat of learning by S.A. Royal Tour authorities.

Reprinted
from
March 31st
1954

THE TIME HAS COME! FOR THE SAKE OF GLORY, HONOUR AND A SATURDAY NIGHT DATE, WAYWARD PROUDLY BRINGS YOU

TRACK THE DAKS!

Yes, that's right folks, we teased you with it a few weeks ago. We left it just long enough for you to wonder if the whole episode had been a magical dream. No longer must you wait with bated breath. The time to start tracking is here. Deep in the dank recesses of the Barr Smith Library, a lone pair of underwear emblazoned with the proud image of Spiderman awaits your seeking eyes. We at Wayward have taken great pains in ascertaining the most dastardly and devilish of hiding places - this is serious business kids. You can't go wrong when you invest your time and efforts into Wayward!

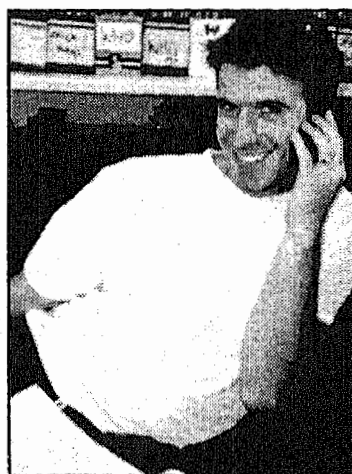
THE RULES

Quite simple really. We'll be printing a clue each week as to the whereabouts of the daks. When you think you've figured it out, simply go down to the library and retrieve said jocks and bring them down to the *On Dit* office with a smile. There is a letter enclosed within the jocks, so don't even think about trying to fool us with some FAKE undies. Prizes will only be redeemed on reproduction of the undies, the letter and the name of their hiding place (this will be a book - but you knew that already).

THE PRIZES

On Dit is renowned for its great prize bonanzas - who could forget the cooking oil extravaganza and the great stack of slightly yellowing A3 paper? You'll be pleased to hear that Wayward's Track the Daks is offering similar glories. The winner will receive:

- A carton of beer
- A carton of Lift Plus - to compensate for energy sucked out of you by the Barr Smith Library Demons
- An invite to *On Dit's* end of year party - WOW!
- and finally, the one you've all been waiting for, the grandest prize of them all...
- A date with the sub-editor of your choice!



A date with this man?!
Yes please!

So there you go guys, everything you need to know about Track the Daks. Following is the first clue, and the Wayward Eds will accept bribes in order to obtain more revealing clues. We are shameless. We are also the only ones that know where the daks are hidden. Even the Editors don't know. Spooky. **HAPPY TRACKING!**

THIS WEEK'S CLUE!

Wayward? Why not!

Pub Review

The Norwood hotel vs Finn McCool's

Corner of Osmond Terrace & The Parade, Norwood

Going down to The Parade to dine is usually a pleasant experience. So, armed with good company, a relentless hunger and a craving for a saucy little steak, the choice of what to do was obvious. The plan was originally to go to Sketches, but after reminiscing about past counter meals consumed we all unanimously decided to go to Finn McCool's. Finn's was quite busy. None the less, it was warm with fireplaces in every possible wall cavity, lively with families having dinner and Irish melodies in the background. However, after discovering that they served weird, elaborate Irish dishes we couldn't imagine stomaching, my fellow connoisseurs and I turned around and went next door to The Norwood. Their menu was much more appealing, if not a little or-

dinary. Porterhouse steak, chicken parmegiane, hamburgers and fries, and more of the stuff that makes your arteries cry out for some attention. And the prices seemed kind of decent, but after further consideration, somewhat dodgy seemed to be a better way of describing them. \$4.60 for the hamburger and fries, \$9.60 for the chicken parmegiane and \$9.90 for porterhouse steak. Hmmm....

Anyway, being the dedicated Carnivore that I am, I ordered my steak (Medium) with Mushroom sauce while both my counterparts ordered the Chicken Parmegiane.

While we waited, we noticed that the atmosphere was...err...somewhat lacking that certain something. To put it bluntly, it was cold, and dismal. The only people there were a group of pre-pubescent lads cheerfully munching on their dinner, a few geriatric gamblers peering drowsily at their schooners of gold before them, and Mary Poppins beaming all knowingly from a tv set (no audio). Oh yes, and how

could I forget, the latest Greyhound race somewhere in New South Wales wailing from the other. I asked the chick at the TAB counter if there was any chance of getting some music going but retreated hastily after she snarled that the pub was officially a TAB outlet until 10 pm. Yeah, well, excuse me for wanting to cheer up the place a little. No wonder everybody there looked close to suicidal.

The food took ages. Seriously. We spent the time trying to figure out if Mary Poppins and the Nanny from *The Sound of Music* were in fact twins separated at birth and had somehow chosen the same profession but on opposite sides of Europe. When it did arrive, I took one whiff of the salad and one glance at my mushroom sauce and was more inclined to keep watching the anorexic dogs run on wide screen. All meals came with salad and chips on the side, and two slices of buttered bread. The salad dressing smelt mysteriously like wasabi. I was convinced we had somehow walked into

the Sumo Station by mistake. Okay, fair enough, I didn't really care about the salad, after all, the main attraction was my steak and sauce. The sauce was basically soggy tinned mushrooms in gravy, and as for my steak, it looked like it had ran away from the nearest abattoir, and fallen onto my plate. So I ended up devouring my chips and swilling my beer. As for the chicken parmegiane, it looked and smelt much more appetising than what was on my plate, and I was told it didn't taste too bad. Except for the floury meat ball thingies in the parmegiane sauce. My suggestion? By the time we were done at The Norwood, Finn McCool's looked pretty fucking appealing. Good atmosphere, warm rooms, tolerable music, and semi-decent (looking) bar staff. It might be tad more pricey, and the menu might sound a little odd, but it was a standard case of you get what you pay for at both places.

Rani

Restaurant Review

OTTOMAN'S

Rundle St, across from Scoozi

Who Goes There: I must admit it's an older crowd. But only because you people out there haven't discovered what this place has to offer and are too busy in bloody Scoozi's.

Atmosphere: Typical restaurant inside, tables, chairs, nothing out of the ordinary. Except for the cool room upstairs which is set on the floor with lots of pillows (to sit on) and has a great 'Turkish' feel to it (sorry, don't know myself what that would be exactly). But outside is my preferred location (need nicotine with my red).

What it Serves: They have

many Turkish delights, and the main courses I've had there have all been very tasty. But what my friends and I go there for is the platters they serve. They are big and yummy. They have a small one with fetta cheese, marinated olives, dolma and dips with Turkish bread. And there is a bigger one, with everything the smaller one has, plus morsels of pastrami, sukut and fasulye (don't ask, just eat. It tasted great). I personally suggest jajik (cucumber based) and pink sultan (beetroot based) as the best dips to get. The smaller one is more than plenty for two, and the bigger one more than enough for four (more like five). My friend Lidia and I went there one day quite hungry and ordered the big platter, and were there for three

hours trying to finish it off. And who can forget their ice-cream? It's stretchy. You know the place.

Why we like it: It's a great place to have a bite to eat when you don't really feel like a meal and you want to pick at something (or someone, convo flows when you have a glass of wine and finger food). The bread is to die for. Worth going there just for that. And I love the fact that I get to share with my pals. Although fighting for the last piece of fetta isn't so much fun now that I think of it.

Any Complaints: Not from me. I have been going there for ages and I love it. The staff are very friendly and they are always happy to help with anything (specially in bringing extra baskets of bread. Lots of them).

Prices: Well... It is a little bit on the pricey side. But, if you are splitting one of those platters it's really not that much. It's \$14.50 for the smaller one and \$27.90 for the big one. That's really about 7 bucks each for food, which is what you would expect to pay for bloody wedges in some places, so I happily pay it. So for about \$15 you can stuff yourselves and have a couple of reds (or whites) without breaking the budget. I believe it's definitely worth it.

Summing Up: Go and be adventurous kids. Don't be one of those people who only eat pasta with names you can pronounce....please.

Viv Torres-Opazo

Lumberjack Cake

INGREDIENTS

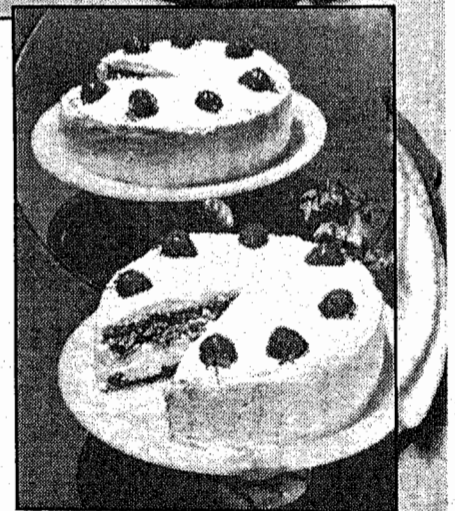
- 2 large apples, grated or finely chopped
- 1 cup chopped dates
- 1 tsp bicarb soda
- 1 cup boiling water
- 125g butter
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cups plain flour

TOPPING

- 60g butter
- 1 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 cup milk
- 2/3 cup shredded coconut

METHOD

- Grease tin and preheat oven to 180 degrees
- Combine apple, dates and bicarb in bowl, stand until cool
- Cream butter, sugar and vanilla
- Add egg and beat well
- Mix in flour alternately with apple mixture and pour into prepared pan
- Bake for 50 minutes in moderate oven
- While the cake cooks, combine topping ingredients in small pan and stir over low heat until butter is melted and sugar dissolved
- Pour topping over cake and bake for a further 30 minutes or until topping is golden brown
- Serve with lashings of thick cream



**Ella's
Cake
of the
Week**

Consumer Watchdog

To boldly drink what no one has drunk before

By this time of the year most students at uni should have discovered one of the most revered places on campus: the Uni Bar. We feel it our duty to you, the consumer, to provide you with the information you need to fully appreciate the alcoholic splendour contained therein. With complete disregard for our own physical safety we have compiled our thoughts on the various taste sensations that tap beer provides.



Making the Unibar safe for borderline alcoholics everywhere: our beer watchdogs, Speck and Mike.



WARNING

We are seasoned drinkers who have lived through many a Happy Hour and know what risks our bodies and wallets may encounter.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION

Dark Ale

\$2.70 schooner, plastic cup, 4.5% Alc/vol

We were very impressed with our first choice of beer. Maybe it had something to do with the fact that it was finally Friday afternoon. The smooth, malty flavour was reminiscent of the taste of many Irish ales. The head was very creamy, despite the plastic cup, and we both agreed that this was definitely a pint beer trapped in a schooner cup. Damn shame! Rating: Mike 9/10, Speck 9/10. Top beer, guys!

Guinness

\$3.00 schooner, \$4.00 pint, \$6.00 imperial pint, 7.5% Alc/vol

The beer was so thick and creamy you could be forgiven for asking for a knife and fork. Guinness is an acquired taste, but it is well worth the effort. Like most stouts, Guinness has a high alcohol content (hooray!) and a fairly sweet taste once you get past the creamy, bitter head. This beer can be poured so that a shamrock can be seen in the head, but we don't judge a beer by looks alone. Guinness is great in cold weather so lap it up during the winter, just come cashed up. Rating: Mike 9.5/10, Speck 9.5/10. The only

disappointing thing was the inability of the head to support a 5c piece. This gave the beer a metallic taste.

Premium Aussie Cider:

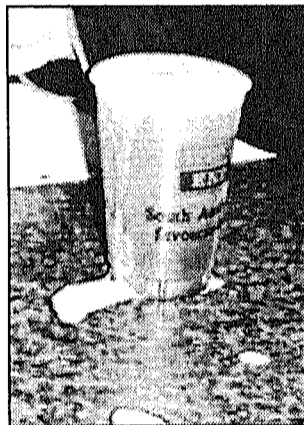
Don't know the price or Alcohol percentage.

Not a beer, stop wasting good tap space. Rating: Mike 0/10, Speck -5/10.

Cooper's Sparkling Ale

\$2.80 schooner, 5.8% Alc/vol

Usually this beer is sensational, but like all of the Coopers ales, the top of the keg (which draws from the bottom) throws a large amount of sediment into the glass. . . and we got that. This beer has a high alcohol content and goes down just as easily as a Pale Ale (Danger!) so is normally a great choice. Rating: Both agreed that normally a great beer but this one was crap, Mike 3/10, Speck 6/10.



Guinness, attractively presented in plastic West End cup.

Cooper's Draught

\$2.00 schooner, 4.5% Alc/vol

This beer, the first lager of the evening, went down as easily as the proverbial, and was a welcome change from the heavy ales tasted previously. Possibly a bit sweet for the lager style and with about as much body as Calista Flockhart, this Coopers' offering is drinkable but the taste may be improved by aluminium packaging like VB. Rating: Mike 7/10, Speck 7.5/10.

West End Draught

\$1.60 schooner, 4.5% Alc/vol

By far the winner in value for money, and for this reason should be the staple diet for many broke stu-

dents. Suitable for drinking in large quantities and extremely skullable (not that we encourage binge drinking, unless there is a REALLY good reason). Tasted more bitter than Coopers Draught, and full of taste (just not MY taste-Speck). Bottom line, it's cheap, so drink up. Rating: Mike 9/10, Speck 7.5/10.

Southwark White

\$1.80? schooner, 5.0% Alc/vol

Very sweet and fruity, easy to drink, and with a surprisingly high alcohol content, this beer is different from any other on offer. Based on the traditional German wheat beer, it

has the right idea and the right price to boot. By this time of the review the beers were starting to have an effect so it is difficult for us to comment in detail on the finer points, but previous experiences remind us that this beer is pretty tops! Rating: Mike 8.5/10, Speck 9.5/10.

(At about this time of the night the SAUA raffle was drawn. Speck won. He would like to thank Hendo, the Uni Bar and the rest of the Activities standing committee for the very tasty Pale Ale carton. To all the others who didn't win, well, sucked in!)

Cooper's Pale Ale

\$2.70 schooner (we think that happy hour just ended), 4.5% Alc/vol

Most of you would know what this beer tastes like, but we had to review this one anyway (our thirst prevailed). Quality beer, pale and cloudy in appearance, this beer tastes bloody great. Didn't have the problem with sediment, unlike the Sparkling. Rating: Mike 9/10, Speck 10/10 - drink it until you can only handle spirits!

(At this point in time we thought we'd finished all the tap beer, but to our delight we discovered that there was one left)

Southwark Pale Ale

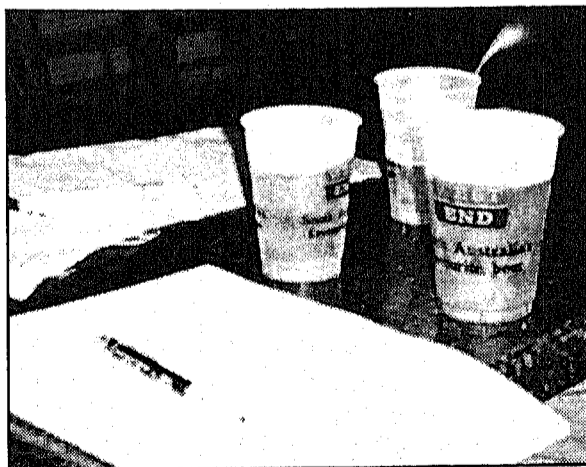
\$1.80 schooner (Happy hour), 4.6% Alc/vol

Very similar to the Coopers version, but with a sweeter after taste. Good alternative to Coopers and cheaper, but both versions can leave you feeling a little bloated after a long session. Rating: Mike 9/10, Speck - see Coopers rating.

Our overall opinion on the tap beers are that there wasn't enough of them, but we still had a very good afternoon. The effects of conducting this research included loss of balance, slurring of speech and a propensity to dance really badly in public. However, these were sacrifices that we were willing to make in the interest of public awareness. Later in the year we are keen to review the many fine imported beers on offer in this city, but we will need monetary donations before we can perform this service. Donations can be forwarded to us via the *On Dit* office and are fully tax deductible (not a guarantee).

We hope that this article enhances your Uni Bar experience. Happy drinking.

Cheers,
Speck and Mike.



Our beer watchdogs' checklist:

- 2 pens
- 2 pieces of paper
- 1 Unibar
- large amounts of beer
- 2 livers hardened by years of exposure to the Demon Alcohol.



As always, the winner was: beer.

Ok, so you're tired of me telling you what's coming up. Alrighty, ask me what you want to hear and I'll tell you when to tune in...

Local, live bands performing and being interviewed? **Local Noise**, Tuesdays at 9pm. More info on what's happening in the local scene is on Saturdays at 11pm, with **Hybrid** and **Vsd**.

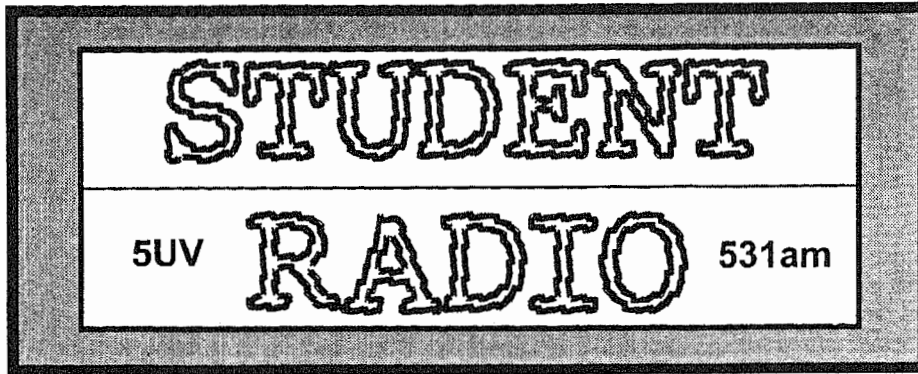
Electronic music? Mondays from 11pm onwards, with **The Void**, **Lost in the Mix** and **Dork in a Cup**, and other beats and pieces are on Saturday nights at midnight.

You would like to hear some heavier music? **Heresy**, every second Monday at 10pm, is your place to find out about the latest releases and gigs.

Chat, current affairs and comedy? Well, **On Dit Radio** have reviews of the latest music, and **Well Powdered** look at some current affairs, so tune in on Mondays at 9pm. Or you could tune in on Saturdays at 9pm for the **Women's Show** and **Urban Legends**, or Tuesday nights from 10 onwards for **Crud Radio**, **Kul Cha Cha** and friends.

In any case, tune in on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9pm to hear radio shows by other Adelaide Uni students.

P.S. Flinders and UniSA are on during the rest of the week, and they're worth checking out too!



A few people have asked me where I found out about the links I gave last week. Some (like the Propellerheads website) aren't very difficult to find. Micromusic.net has a huge links page which is well worth visiting, and dmoz.org is a really big and very useful Yahoo-like site (except, in my opinion, a bit better on some areas) with links arranged by category.

There are a few sites which I like to check a few times every week for all kinds of weird or strange links. Memepool.com is the best, with a

music section and a lot of other stuff as well. Slashdot.org has been very useful, but Plastic.com is even better for non-computer and internet news. Camworld.com is also mainly web design issues, mixed with a lot of the author's own interests. And if you read Need to Know (www.ntk.net) every week, you'll know why I've been a subscriber to their email list for over a year now...

Luke Toop
King of Studrad



Student Radio's army of technicians putting together another Non-Stop Block of Rock

SHOW PROFILE

EYE AND EAR CONTROL

"Free music is distinguished by the absence of exact premeditation and, therefore, by the absence of the musicians from planned repetition of the same music on subsequent occasions ... In this way Free mirrors reality, while structured musics reflect the vain attempts of human subjectivity to impose itself on that blind flood of facticity." - Bruce Russell

"Life itself is improvised. We don't live life as a scripted thing. Two boxers go into the ring and improvise. You go make love with someone and you improvise. Go to the sports car races, total improvisation." - Bob Dylan

"We must let sounds be what they are." - LaMonte Young

every Monday, midnight
Student Radio 531 am
email: eyearcontrol@hotmail.com

Beer Lines

Temperatures are rising

One of the main defining characters of beer are the individual brewery yeast strains, which mold their own distinct ester profile around the beer. Yet because modern Australian lagers are designed to be consumed cold (1-3°C), the subtleties of these aroma characters are not always fully appreciated.

The correct temperature at which to consume a beer depends very much on the style of the beer. Heavier and more complex 'sipping' styles can easily accommodate a warmer serving temperature.

The early settlers to the land down under were principally from England, and so their first efforts at colonial

brewing were modeled on the big, heavy, warm and flat English ales. It didn't take them long to work out that this style of beer was not well suited to a hot climate.

The first concession came in the style of ales produced down under which used less grain and introduced cane sugar as a diluting adjunct. Our colonial ales were therefore lighter in body, colour and in flavour. This was influenced also by the availability of grains. Mixtures of wheat and barley were often used and these grains were not always malted, unavailability of adequate malting facilities in many of the fledgeling colonies forcing the early brewers to improvise with mix-

tures of malted and raw grains. So even our early ales were a concession to our hot Australian climate and the need for a thirst quenching beer.

Little wonder that when lagers were first locally brewed in the very late 1800s, and refrigeration quickly followed, they soon became the beer of choice for the hard-working Aussies.

It is for this same reason that we prefer our beers served at an icy cold temperature. Cooler temperatures make the beer more refreshing and subdue the flavours, including the hops, thus increasing drinkability. Australian lagers are moderately hoppy, and fairly estery in keeping with the need for a thirst quenching beer served very cold, yet still exhibiting flavour, quite a contrast to the U.S. style lagers.

It is the other effect of temperature that makes our lagers stand out as a little more flavourful than the U.S. beers. Australian practice is to start fermentation at a temperature which is somewhere between the low temperatures (less than 9°C) employed for the European lagers, and the warmer (18-20°C) ale temperatures used in the U.K. A more vigorous fermentation means more of the volatile flavour components which add flavour to beer are produced.

The style and method of fermentation have a big impact on flavour, but serving temperature is equally

important. Perception is everything.

To pour at below 1°C, will result in freezing your taste buds, deadening them to the flavour of the beer. A good indicator of beer which is served too cold off the tap is the lack of head on the beer. It will tend to pour like a glass of cold tea.

A beer that is being pulled too warm will tend to be very lively, often taking several top ups to fill the glass. It may not be as refreshing, but you will perceive more flavour. This may not mean that you will like those flavours at their higher levels, or accept them as typical of your favourite brand.

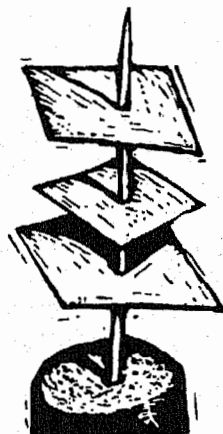
Unfortunately there is inconsistency in how we drink beer in different circumstances. The home refrigerator often sits at a temperature between 3 and 7°C, whilst beer placed on ice in an esky and given sufficient time to chill can get very close to the zero mark.

Consumption temperature will have a significant affect on how you perceive the flavour, and is probably one reason for many people's insistence that bottle and can beers taste different. Cans will chill much more quickly than bottles in the esky and consumed side by side you will notice the difference.

Tony Jones,
Southwark Chief Brewer

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United States of Hell

When I thought about America, I thought about New York or California, big cities where no-one had a backyard and everyone caught the subway. It hadn't really entered my mind that I would be sent on my exchange to a small town where the only excitement would be the daily trip to Wal-Mart for a slice of pizza. I hadn't planned either on being sent to stay with the family from Hell. And indeed they were. Upon arrival at the house, I discovered that I was expected to not only share a room with the 8 year old girl, but that I was relegated to bottom bunk status. Now, being an only child, this was more than a bit of a shock. I also discovered that the little girl was a huge country and western fan, and that she liked to listen to Billy Ray Cyrus all night long.

My only joy at home was watching MTV, until my host parents decided that I spent too much time doing just that and placed a parental block on it. Of course, they were kind enough to leave the country music channel on for the two other children. The real reason that they had decided to host an exchange student soon became clear - they required a live-in

babysitter, as they worked long hours. I was expected to get the kids up, feed them, get them to school and then amuse them when they returned home. I also had to get the evening meal prepared, and clean up afterwards. For this, I was paid the grand sum of \$20 a week, and during the holidays I was also expected to look after them full-time for no extra cost. Never having had siblings before, I wasn't prepared for the antagonism between the two kids. The young boy would chase the girl with a heavy baseball bat, and she would in return come after him with a sharp pair of scissors. It was like watching Itchy and Scratchy, and after a while I learnt to



just let them be, figuring that if they did some damage to each other I wouldn't have to look after them any longer.

The father was incredibly opinionated, and was prone to sweeping statements like "If they had dropped me in 'Nam with a machine gun then

I would have kicked their Commie butts single-handedly." He took his young son deer and squirrel hunting every weekend, and I was quite often confronted by a gutted deer swinging from the rafters of the garage. About halfway through the year, the parents suddenly discovered God after years of being lax church-goers. I was called upon to sit in on hour-long Bible sessions held in the parents' bedroom, which seemed to consist of a whole lot of "Hallelujahs". The young girl quite often would shout

such gems at me as "You don't believe in Jesus so you are going to burn in Hell. Go back to Australia with all the other heathens." The new found faith in God also necessitated trips to Ohio to stay with the grandparents. It was a four-hour trip in the car listening to country music. The grandmother was so large that she had to live in a motorized wheelchair so that she could get around the kitchen and her husband was a dirty old man who liked to show off his collection of porn. The entire house was built into the side of the mountain and they even had a mini statue of Liberty and Mount Rushmore built into the hill next to it. The ceilings of all the rooms were decorated with beer cans and the whole house reeked like boiled cabbage. Needless to say, I tried to avoid these trips wherever possible.

By the time the year rolled around, I was more than ready to leave. I was more than a little concerned that they were heading towards the favoured Kentucky religious practice of snake-handling. There were certainly no tears shed by any of us at the airport, and I haven't heard from them since. And what about my year at an all-American high school? Well, that's another story.

Poptart

I Work Hard for the Money

'Is that Mrs. Brown? Hi, my name is Viviana, and I am calling from...' CLICK. And there goes another call. Again. Yes ladies and gentlemen, I am one of those annoying people who call you up at any time of day, and bother you. Some of you seem to think for my own pleasure, but no, for money. My latest job endeavour is telemarketing. I have only been doing it for a few weeks, and I have already developed a love-hate relationship for it. I love talking on the phone all day, I hate rude people on the other end of it. And people are so rude you would just not believe it. I know what you're all thinking. Who am I to complain since I am the one calling them, I understand. But why not just give me a simple 'I'm not interested' instead of telling me where to go?? And it hasn't been anywhere fun, let me tell you. And I'm still not sure where it's meant to fit. The worse is when people steal lines off *Seinfeld* and ask me for my home phone number so they can annoy me at home. Excuse me, I saw that episode.

The people I work with are by far the best bunch of people I have ever worked with, in one building, at the one time. Which makes what I have to say so much worse. I am about to slag what pays for my daily bread (more like clothes and trips interstate). So, while sitting down might look attractive after working in retail and being on my feet all day, sitting for 9 hours isn't so much fun. I think

I have sores on my butt (was that too much info?) and I tend to cross my ankles when I sit, so after having them crossed for all that time, it's kind of hard to uncross them and walk. And talking on the phone all day isn't too much fun either. Not when you have to repeat the same thing over and over again all day, every day, hyundai.

I'm not sure what it is about telemarketers which makes people get into quite intimate details about themselves with us. I know that check-out people have the same effect on people, but with us it is so much more profound. I suppose it's because they can't see our face and we can't see theirs. Years ago a guy started talking about committing suicide over the phone with one of the girls, and she kept him on the line as another girl called the police. I myself have been told exactly how people are feeling, what gets them down. I have had one lady cry on the phone because she didn't have a partner (one of the pre requisites for qualifying) and I did my best at calm-



ing her down and telling her she could win something else, and she didn't need a partner for that.

Now I have gone on a complete tangent on what I was going to say. I thought I was going to write an article about how bad telemarketing is, and how much I dislike it. But I have changed my mind. I think people don't

realize it is a job. I am not a prostitute, I am a telemarketer. And while I could think of about a million jobs I would rather do instead. I could also think about a million jobs I wouldn't rather do. And this is not one of them. I provide a service which goes beyond what people think I do. Does anyone know that my phone call is the only phone

call some people get in weeks, sometimes months?? Specially when it comes to the elderly. We could be rude, and we could hung up on them the minute we realize they are no good for us. But we don't. We talk to them and wish them a good day. We put them in a draw for a free trip if they wish. I cannot speak for those who work for other companies. But I can say undeniably, that everyone who is nice to us gets beyond politeness out of us. And genuine too. We don't turn around and bitch about

you the minute we get off the phone. Unless you're rude to us. Then we might say something to each other. Not to you. It still gets to me a lot though. The other girls have become used to the rudeness we get. I think that is sad. It doesn't shock them, they expect it. What does that say about the people on the other end of the phone?

My job is the job people go 'Oh my god' the minute I tell them what I do. My family and friends are always expecting funny stories out of me after work, and I am always ready to supply. But I have just realized that I do more than just annoy people. I give them a laugh, I give them an outlet for whatever has been happening in their lives. And I listen. And although I will be looking for retail work shortly (anyone have any leads?) I have found that I don't dislike my job as much as I thought I did at the beginning of this article. I kinda like it. I do feel some sort of respect for those people who do it day in and day out, and will continue to do it after I am gone (left the industry, not died).

I bet this is not what you thought you would hear (read) about telemarketing. It isn't what I thought I would be saying (writing) either. But I hope I have enlighten someone to just say 'I'm not interested' instead of hanging up next time they get the call. Better yet, why not thank them too, would you rather do their job?? Don't be ungrateful, and say thanks, for we provide a service not many people have the strength to survive for a single day. I know I (almost) don't....

Viv Torres-Opazo

the world is but a stage...

Rambert Dance Company
Festival Theatre
March 28,30,31, 7.30pm

I've only attended two real dance performances in my life (apart from junior tap), and this is the second, so if this review seems more emotive than technical then please forgive me. I was lucky to get the opportunity to see the Rambert Dance Company from Great Britain performing in the Festival Theatre last Wednesday night, and got to enjoy a show comprised of three amazing examples of modern dance. Rambert are the oldest Dance Company in Britain, being founded by London dance teacher Marie Rambert in 1926. But far from being a backward institution, the company is constantly innovative and challenging, and specialises in exciting and unique choreography under the artistic direction of Christopher Bruce, who himself was trained by Marie Rambert from the age of 13.

The production consisted of three separate performances, and the first was 'Meeting Point', a dance choreographed by Christopher Bruce in 1995

to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter. This dance saw twelve dancers dressed as diplomats in tuxedos, shaking hands or shaking fists, courting or shunning one another, until

they come together at the end in a symbolic representation of all the nations joining together. This was my favourite of the three performances because it flowed beautifully while having such complicated choreography and a spectacular finish. I was also blown away by some of the performances of the dancers, particularly one duo of Hope Muir and Paul Libird that I couldn't take my eyes away from the whole time. Muir especially was fantastic and had an amazing stage presence, and I was a little miffed when I discovered she wasn't performing in any of the remaining dances.

The second performance was entitled 'Gaps, Laps and Relapse', a piece choreographed by Jeremy James. This piece was extremely modern and youthful, with the dancers dressed in very 'now' sorts of outfits, and was performed to a very raw piece of dance music, intended to reflect street and club culture. In line with this the choreography was

extremely sharp and abrupt, with less traditional ballet moves and a lot of choreography emulating the actions and emotions of the young people living within these cultures. While still effective, particularly with clever use of lighting, the performance seemed a little disjointed and required a lot of concentration to fit the pieces together.

Christopher Bruce choreographed the third performance, 'Rooster', entirely to songs by The Rolling Stones. This performance was visually and musically exciting, and was obviously a big crowd pleaser. Most of the songs used were older (*Little Red Rooster*, *Ruby Tuesday* and *Play With Fire*), and so had inspired a fifties theme in the costumes, but also a real vibrancy and definite flirtatiousness in the choreography. There were couples fighting, teasing each other, and reenacting those quaint little courting rituals that we all find so amusing. The only flaw was when some idiot, right before the finish, yelled from the crowd "Don't stop there!!" It was so embarrassing, and I couldn't help but groan "Australia."

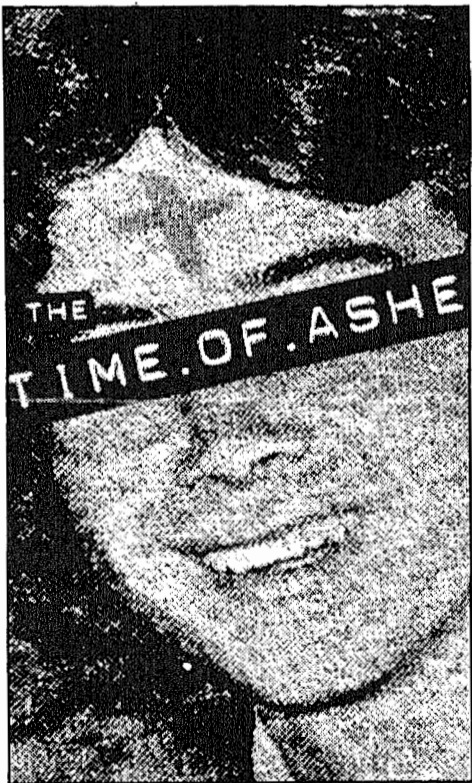


But what can you do.

Overall I really enjoyed seeing Rambert's performance - they were exciting, vibrant and fun, and even to my untrained eye there was some fantastic dancing. The quality of the performances were also heightened by the bare stage and dramatic lighting, which made the whole production visually spectacular. This is their first tour in Australia since 1947, so it might be quite some time before they come back, but if you ever get a chance to see Rambert perform, don't miss it.

Penny Chalke

The Time of Ashes
Theatre 62
Written by Sean Riley



Wow. This was seriously fantastic. Sean Riley's 'The Time of Ashes' is a dark and powerful tragedy set in the Dunstan era - a time of change, a time of rebirth, where new forms emerge from the ashes of an old. Samuel, an artistically talented schoolboy, disappears from a Catholic boarding school, shaking the student and teacher population. When he is found dead, the lies and veneers are stripped back

and the people who knew him find that everything that had been wordlessly accepted must be re-evaluated.

This is yet another production highlighting the damage that the strict institutionalisation of the Catholic boarding schools causes. The repression of young boy's natural desires and growth is a major feature of 'The Time of Ashes', as is the permanent harm done to the men these boys become.

One of the most striking features of this production was how past, present and future were completely unsegregated. The effects of current events preceded and were intertwined with the telling of the tragedy. It is hard to explain how it was so simplistically and straightforwardly presented, but at the same time beautifully complex and fascinating in its presentation.

The thing that really made 'The Time of Ashes' was the sheer energy and enthusiasm of the cast. Members of the Urban Myth Theatre of Youth, these actors are locally South Australian and very talented. Benji Groenewegen and Geoff Revell in particular were outstanding. There were, of course, some weaker aspects to the characters. One of the actors seemed uncomfortable with the fact that he had arms (not joking). Unfortunately, none of the characters were especially innovative and a fair proportion were horribly stereotypical. This was at such odds with the brilliant presentation and structure of the play. There was a very typical bad-guy headmaster, a good guy with a conscience who gives it all away, the indecisive teenager, the bully, the class clown, etc. It seems that a formula has been constructed from old classics and tacked together in what may be an innovative form, but the material content is still same old, same old. In fact, I kept on thinking that I had heard or read lines from 'The Time of Ashes' before, and lines by William Blake were floating around my head.

It is obvious that 'The Time of Ashes' is a beautiful construct with a haunting sense of melancholy about it. Even though this is set in the past it contains implications for the future. There is no closure to so many issues that Riley raises, and regrettably it is just about accepted that there never will be.

D-Yin Lin

COMING
 SOON

The Wildlife of Music

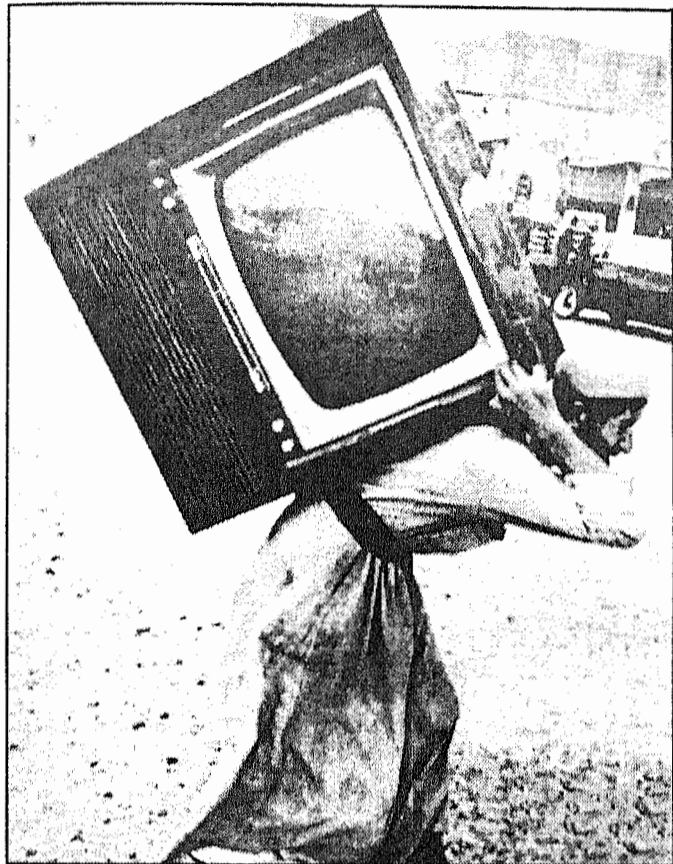
A newly founded theatre company takes a look at critical moments in life and the choices we face in 'Cat' and 'Swansong'. Kaos Unlimited's first project 'The Wildlife of Music', two one-act plays about musicians, decisions good and bad, and the consequences of recreational drugs, runs from April 19th until April 28th at the Bakehouse Theatre, 257 Angas Street Adelaide.

Cat is a young drummer trying to make a break, but wrestling with limited resources, lack of self esteem and a small drug problem. She has a chance, one audition, but taking the opportunity is harder than it sounds. 'Swansong' is the story of a former nightclub singer, the Voice, almost a star in the sixties, now an alcoholic and still trying to deal with the past. The idea of a comeback forces her to take a good look at herself, and the choices she made. Features some fantastic jazz, rhythm and blues.

'The Wildlife of Music' opens at the Bakehouse Theatre, 257 Angas Street Adelaide, on Thursday April 28th. Preview on Wednesday April 18th, matinee Saturdays at 2pm. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 concession, \$5 preview and matinees. Bookings and enquiries made to Jeanne Mazure on 08 8223 2963.

Generation Teeve

The Death of Drama and the Third Series Slump



This week was supposed to herald the final of a three-part series on realiteeve, which was (is) going to culminate with an article on that Eco-Boy with the thigh-parting smile (hmmmm...melty): *Treasure Island Dan*. Funny thing though, the laziness-illness-procrastination combo really is a killer.

Over the past couple of weeks there has been plenty of cheering the heroes and hissing the villains going on in front of my corner-dwelling magic moving picture box. And a number of important questions must be answered: 1) how on earth did I get a mosquito bite on my cleavage on this well-covered, early-Autumn afternoon (ewwwwwww...do I, like, have bugs in my clothes or something)? 2) Why don't the nice boys like me? and 3) How did *Dawson's Creek* get so crap? I'm not talking about the usual crap—I'm talking about SuperCrap.

To plagiarise to the worst extent: some are born crap (*Young*

Americans), some become crap (*Party of Five*), and some have crappiness thrust upon them (*Freaks and Geeks*). The latter isn't crap, no, not at all. It's just shown during a deathslot. Other programmes never stood a chance. Others die during their third season. There are exceptions of course—arguments abound over the relative merits of various *Simpsons* series (some, I believe, claim series 6 to be the classic best), and Shaun Micallef's ABC laff-fest just gets funnier and fun-

nier, even well into the third series (more about that later).

But how did *Dawson's* get so crap? Okay, so it's never been exactly cutting-edge hip or anything, but as far as cerebral-switchoff went, you could have done worse. Oh the many hours spent not paying much attention to the teeve as I crocheted myself a warm winter blankie. Incidentally, a year-and-a-half later, after pulling it out only in front of the television, it's finished (yay—me so warm at night now).

Dawson's Creek at least pretended to be kinda hip during its first season (like, how many fucking 15 year olds do you know who talk like that? Gimme a break). But boy have we slid deeply into the slimy muck of conformity lately. Hey everybody, look over there, it's the status quo—let's maintain it.

Like, what the fucking fuck's the deal with that whole 'bad things happen to people who take drugs' episode? I know plenty of people who have

taken drugs. Do you know what happened to them? They had a really fun time. Speaking of which, how hilarious is that Government booklet that popped into your letterbox last week? Johnny Howard: One Muppet Fighting the *War On Drugs*. Featuring chapters on 'Ten Easy Ways to Slip "So, Honey, Did You do any Crack Cocaine at School Today?" Into an Easygoing, Friendly, Conversation with Your Teenager'; 'Is Your Teen Making Late-Night Visits to the Servo?', and the ever-popular 'Will Brandishing This Booklet and Searching Her Room Make Her Turn To Drugs?'

And the abortion episode. It's not really confronting or discussing the issue if the woman involved has a huge guilt trip over it. I'm not saying that deciding whether or not to keep a baby is an easy decision for any woman, but it really bugs me when these drama programmes pretend that they're being soooooo fucking controversial and cutting edge when they're really just conforming to the standards. Admittedly, the *Dawson's* mum acted a little differently by deciding to keep the baby. What usually happens is that someone gets pregnant, grapples with 'the abortion question', and before they can decide anything either way they have a miscarriage, thus conveniently avoiding the whole issue. That way the proliferers are placated because the deed was never done—yet are annoyed enough at abortion being discussed as a solution at all for the programme to be labelled 'controversial' (read: 'ratings winner'). The pro-choice folks are just stoked that the issue of abortion was raised at all. The result? The stigma of abortion still remains because it is rarely openly discussed—even amongst confident, young, post-millennial chicks, those who have 'done it' still discuss it in hushed tones.

The final *Amazing Dawson's* Phenomenon of the Week is...*The Magical Black Man*. I don't know his name, but he was floating around during the very first episode, attached to Joey's big sister as the de facto and father of their child. Then he kinda did this disappearing act, along with the kid, seemingly never to be seen again. Oh, sometimes they were both mentioned in passing, but we never saw them again, nor had an explanation of why there was suddenly no room for them in the script. Until the other week. There he was, as if he had never left, sharing a place at the dinner table. I've heard of peripheral characters, but this is quite frankly ridiculous.

But the cream turning sour in the universal sharehouse fridge that is television is not an isolated incident. Remember when *Beverly Hills 90210* had a luxurious Sunday night primetime slot? The last couple of sea-

Television
Anagram of the
Week:
Jennifer Love
Hewitt:
Hint - evil OJ
went free.

sons have seen the rich kids slumming it in a fibro box in the bad neighbourhood of late, late weeknights.

Why the fucking fuck do I go nuts on the bad metaphors when I write way past my bedtime? What I'm trying to say in my sleepy state is that the Third Series Slump is not isolated to *Dawson's Creek*. *90210* used to be massive, and not so bad to watch. But then The Slump kicked in. Did it lose popularity because its stars were too old for teen magazines, or did they stop appearing in teen magazines because the show became unpopular? Ahhhhh...it's that damned chicken with its stupid bloody egg again. I've seen it listed in the teeve guide—is it even a new series, or have they started repeating the High School Years or something? I don't even know. I do know that at least one series went virtually unwatched last year. One has to wonder if the actors, once so cool and hip, even bother showing up to work anymore.

Party of Five (affectionately known as 'Pof') also slid into the mire rather quickly. *Melrose Place* went out not with a bang, but a whimper (I'm plagiarising again—sorry). I used to love *Pof* and *Melrose*. Then I had a fight with the Evil Frigid Hypocrite Bitchslut From Hell who I used to watch them with, curled up on a couch with coffee and tim tams, or over the telephonic communicator with (simultaneously yelling into the phone "Oh for fuck's sake, Allison, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING????????"), or call immediately after to discuss animatedly the various twists, intrigues, and tantes. I realized soon after, when all such programmes had quickly lost their charms, that the enjoyment lay not in the programmes themselves—lets face it, they're crap—but sharing the bad scripting, the impossible plot twists, and the hatred of certain characters. Thanks to you, The Punters, I need never watch bad teeve alone again, because I'm always thinking of you, and how I'm going to tell you all about it. It's just a pity you never answer back (insert self-pitying sigh: HERE).

Teeve: yuan eht nioj.

Jayne Lewis

Survivor Roundup - OR LACK THEREOF!

Unfortunately there will be no Survivor Roundup this week. For anyone who tuned in last week, you will have noticed the update of the first 24 days, an inferior 'filler' of an episode to try and rope in the new fans who missed the boat on the start of the series. Well, I say this for all those people who think they can get into Survivor after all this time: think again! You're just not hardcore enough! I've heard stories about fans having Survivor Parties at hotels, and we're not even at the end of the series. Now that's dedication.

As I've said previously, this is the sort of episode aired best at the end of the season, where fans are desperately trying to offset the post-series depression with anything they can get their hands on.

Thus, we continue to wait for a further update.

Hey, that's a poem.

Mikey

Don't knock masturbation

Bruiser

2000 Dir: George A. Romero
Jason Flemyng
21st Century Pictures

I know, I know; everybody hates it when you say a movie is just like another one. Well, *Bruiser* is just like *American Psycho*. I'm sorry, but it has the whole shower opening and the imagining killing people but living a normal professional American life thing.

Starring Jason Flemyng of *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* fame (ahh what a movie - I creamed my pants!) as Henry, this is the story of the guy who's so nice everybody chews him up and spits him out. His wife is cheating on him with his boss, his best friend is stealing money from him, his cleaner helps herself to his silverware, and even his dog gives him no respect. Henry wakes to find that he no longer has a face and that it has been replaced with a featureless mask. He accidentally kills his cleaner in a fit of rage and finds that he likes it and goes about settling some old scores.

Bruiser is told very cleverly. There are some of the trippiest scenes ever and just the right mix of wham-o action-packed scenes and chilling quiet moments which spook you out and sent me running for the liquor cabinet. Flemyng is excellent - menacing and calm with an edge. He is a little detached, but once again the *American Psycho* complex really needs that. He's not exactly challenged by the blank-faced monotony of his role, but if that's what is called for him then that's what he delivers.

Bruiser does get a bit pretentious with all the posturing and reducing the mighty to meat; some scenes are so obviously shock-value only that they lose a lot of impact. Thankfully, it doesn't reduce itself to tackiness. I must say, I'm wrong, *Bruiser* isn't just like *American Psycho*. Unfortunately, it's not as good.

Indy

Clementine's Top Five Christan Bale Flicks

1. The Newsboys
2. Swing Kids
3. American Psycho
4. Empire of the Sun
5. Velvet Goldmine



GIVEAWAYS!

Do you want to see *Save The Last Dance*,
rumoured to be the second *Flashdance*?
For Free?!

Come down to the *On Dit* office on Tuesday
at 1:30 and the two people who can flash us
the best thigh-parting smile will win! Easy.



Komodo

2000 Dir: Michael Lantieri
Jill Hennessy, Kevin Zegers,
Billy Burke
Hollywood Pictures Home Video

This movie is scary. It is. Well, I'm a coward, but I don't like scary dragon/big lizard creatures jumping out of anything - floors, doors, reeds, tunnels, cars - and biting people. Which is basically the plot of this movie, although the inept scriptwriters try to go deeper, focusing on teen Patrick Connelly (Kevin Zegers) who has been holidaying with his parents on an oil drilling company-controlled Emerald Isle in North Carolina for years (God knows how or why).

Suddenly his life falls apart when his parents and - the biggest tragedy - his uniquely named dog Buster(!) get eaten by what we have to assume is a Komodo dragon. These creatures have been on the island for nineteen years since, for some unknown reason, a dodgy hippie dumped a batch of eggs there.

Patrick, forgivably traumatized, is taken back to the island by his shrink Victoria (Jill Hennessy) and carer Annie, to trigger and release his memories so he can go on with life. While they are there they run into the two guards of the island who are paid by the oil company to kill off the endangered species.

There is much blood and gore as the body count rises; incidentally, it seems the good-looking characters are those that survive! And Patrick, rather than overcoming his trauma, begins to turn savage in a very *Lord of the Flies* type of way.

I didn't enjoy this movie at all, the best parts being the shock value of the Komodos' entrance and their realistic appearance.

GRATNOST

The Gratuitous Nostalgia Column

Cape Fear

1991 Dir: Martin Scorsese
Robert De Niro, Nick Nolte
Jessica Lange, Juliette Lewis
Universal

Cape Fear refers to a holiday destination which Sam Bowden (Nick Nolte) and his family retreat to when things get hectic. Sam is a lawyer who deals with criminals daily and who wishes he had never dealt with Max Cady (Robert De Niro). After being represented in court by Bowden, Cady was imprisoned for fourteen years on a battery and rape charge. Upon his release, Cady seeks vengeance on Sam and his family. Lavish Leigh (Jessica Lange) and adorable Danielle (Juliette Lewis) are Sam's pride and joy, but protecting them from the evil, revenge-driven Cady becomes a challenge in itself.

Using his frequent crew members including Thelma Schoonmaker (Editor) and Barbara De Fina (Producer), Martin Scorsese has churned out another offering that is pleasing and energetic. This remake of the 1962 classic starring Robert Mitchum and Gregory Peck is packed with a standard storyline that keeps you involved... it is predictable but engrossing. I actually enjoyed this 1991 remake more than the original and Robert De Niro's portrayal is incredibly convincing; Cady is scary and persistent. Nick Nolte is a competent actor and usually breathes life into the characters he plays.

Sam's attempts to guard his family misfire regularly; Cady is sneaky and unstoppable and watching his next move is just one of the highlights of this film. Cady's impure mind repulses Sam, who becomes enraged. Sam attempts to buy Cady off, but wealth cannot persuade a man who is chillingly focused on revenge. In one outstanding scene, Cady and Danielle meet. This part of the film is icy and riveting and scared the shit out of me.

For other grand Robert De Niro movies check out his directorial debut, *A Bronx Tale* and my favorite, called *This Boy's Life*, with Leonardo Di Caprio.

Matthew Herfurth

it's sex with someone you love

Cyberworld 3D
Released-5th April
Imax cinema

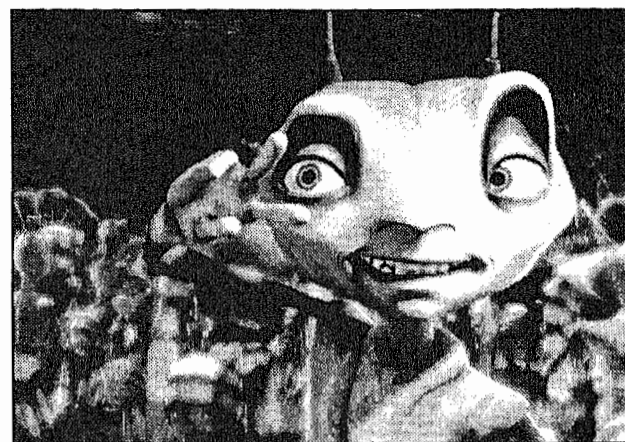
The words awesome, spectacular and pretty bloody good all spring to mind when reviewing *Cyberworld 3D*. Not being someone who regularly attends the Imax cinema, I was more than a little excited about attending a 3D movie. There is something about putting on those glasses and knowing that everyone else looks like a complete dork too. Perhaps the only disappointing aspect of the movie was the fact that you have to return the glasses at the end of the show. Not that I can think of any vaguely useful function for the glasses other than dressing up as Steve Urkel for a fancy dress party.

The beginning of the film was a sort of adjustment period for me, as the constant twisting and turning and the sheer reality of what I was seeing made me feel more than a little motion sick. Definitely do not see this film while drunk because it may have an effect on your upchuck factor. Once I had gotten used to having things moving what seemed like inches away from my nose, I was knocked out by the visual nature of the whole thing. There is a sort of storyline, involving a rather annoying character called Phig (voiced by Jenna Elfman), but it is a little trite and obviously aimed at children. The bug characters are very cute if you like animated Disney type cartoons, but

the real splendour lies in the immensely creative visions of the different worlds that lie behind the various doors. Watch out for the groovy floating battleship drawn through the air by floating horses. Cool stuff!

Of course, the major drawcard for most people will be the segments of *Antz* and *The Simpsons*. And they are indeed fantastic, even

for someone like me who actually doesn't like the aforementioned show. Seeing Homer's gut ripple in its full three dimensional glory is certainly worth the price of entry. This film is certainly a one of a kind in terms of the sheer creativity that has gone into its animation. Make sure that you go and see it!



Poptart

slightly in their execution of stories.

Jamal (newcomer Rob Brown) is 16, a gifted writer and an extremely competent basketball player. Whilst he and his boys play on a rundown court, they indulge in local folklore and urban myth offering conjecture about the scary man that stares out of his window all day. In a brave and daring act, Jamal accepts a dare to break into the hermit's house. He complete's the task only to be chased out by the angry scottish man (deliciously saucy Sean Connery), leaving his backpack carrying his notebooks behind. Returning for it later, he finds that the hermit has been through his writing and corrected it. Thus we see the tentative beginnings of a student/teacher relationship. Around this time, the school discovers he is a genius (as is wont to occur in cities beginning with "B" in movies directed by Van Sant) and he is sent to an exclusive private school with rigid scholarly values. Jamal soon discovers that his teacher is none other than William Forrester, a famous one time author and Pulitzer Prize Winner who has since dropped out of the picture without explanation.

Finding Forrester is at times very slow moving and its soundtrack left a lot to be desired. Employing thick saxophone sounds against the backdrop of the Bronx, Gus Van Sant appears to be trying too hard to recreate the atmosphere of the academic fifties. Anna Pacquin was also given a guernsey on the cast list, but the less said about her the better. Whilst this can all get very irritating, it doesn't subtract from the overall impact of the film. The exploration of the two men's relationship, one at the beginning of his literary career, the other at the end, is moving yet subtle. Rob Brown's shows definite promise with a fantastic debut performance. Although not as interesting as *Good Will Hunting*, *Finding Forrester* is worth a look and the \$9.50 you will pay for that manufactured fuzzy feeling we are conditioned by Hollywood to feel.

Clementine

story away - it would save you the joy of predicting it correctly. In its favour, it must be said that *The Wedding Planner*, while undoubtedly the work of sentimental drivel merchants, is not a film that is trying desperately to teach you anything. You need have no fear that it may attempt to become serious or meaningful in the second half, nor is it the victim of the last-twenty-minutes-speech syndrome. Remarkably, Jennifer Lopez's performance included really rather good comic timing and was only hindered by the director's apparent insistence that she be on the verge of tears as regularly as possible. Given that she had to act opposite Matthew McConaughey for most of the film, this was probably not difficult. Doubtless there will be people who will enjoy this film. They are, I fear, those upon whom quality productions are entirely wasted. Even the SAFM promotion which preceded the screening failed to make it look good. So, dear reader, although this film was not nearly as bad as it could have been, it is not even vaguely worth watching. I can, therefore, bring myself to give it only 2 Commercially Non-viable Indie Film-makers.



Dame Gloria Witherspoon

J-Lo - Hot Stuff

Finding Forrester
Now Showing
Selected Cinemas



It is a standard rule in Hollywood that amongst the slasher flicks/action flicks/slushy romantic plop flicks there be places a few intellectually driven "films". Last Monday, we had the pleasure of adding yet another teary story to the bunch. *Finding Forrester*, directed by *Good Will Hunting*'s Gus Van Sant, is an interesting movie examining, wait for it, the meeting of a boy from a lower socioeconomic

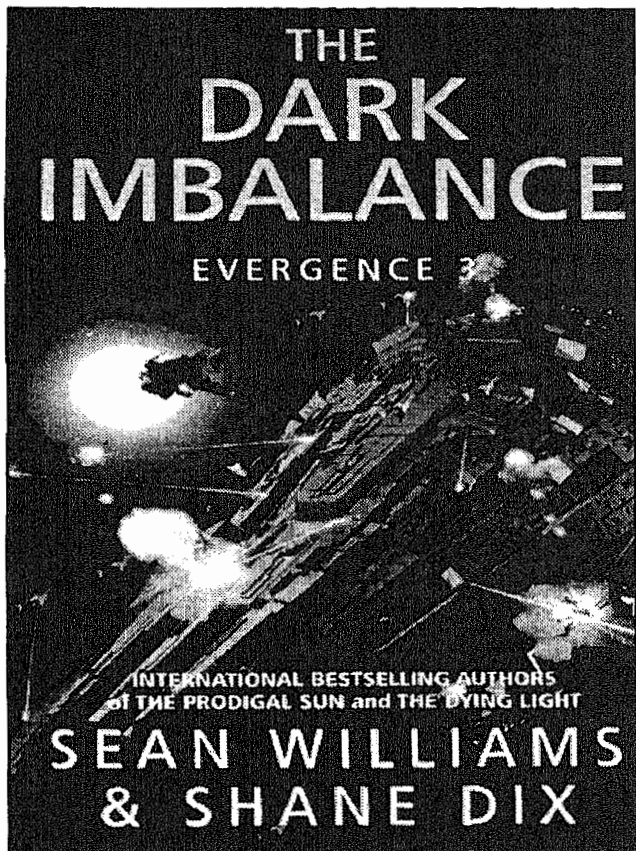
background and a reclusive scholar and their ensuing relationship. If you think it sounds like *Good Will Hunting*, well you'd be both right and wrong. Whilst the two do have very clear correlations between plot lines, they differ

The Wedding Planner
Now Showing
At a Megaplex near you

Please note: The archaic system of judging all films out of 5 Stars has been abandoned. Hereafter, all quality productions will be judged out of 8 Excellent Film Reviewers and all rotten productions out of 8 Commercially Non-viable Indie Film-makers.

This festival of over-acting and overtly romanticised locations is to be avoided by the discerning punter. Starring Jennifer Lopez and Matthew McConaughey and, as the first feature film foisted upon us by Adam Shankman, 'tis a poor example of the romantic comedy genre. The script by Pamela Falk and Michael Ellis contains a few genuinely funny moments, but the overall effect is mediocre at best. The attempt by an optimistic costume designer (Pamela Withers) to make Matthew McConaughey look sexy is just that bit too obvious and can do nothing to remedy his irritating on-screen persona and paltry performance. The plethora of soppy lines may make the more sensitive audience member feel somewhat queasy. Nor does the soundtrack help this point at all and it ought to be mentioned that sections of this film are undoubtedly a cure for insomnia. Incidentally, the plot: Career-driven wedding planner (Lopez) unexpectedly falls for a doctor (McConaughey) but the path to true love is never smooth etc, etc. I won't give any more of the

Buy the ticket...



**The Dark Imbalance:
Evergence 3**
Sean Williams & Shane Dix
Voyager

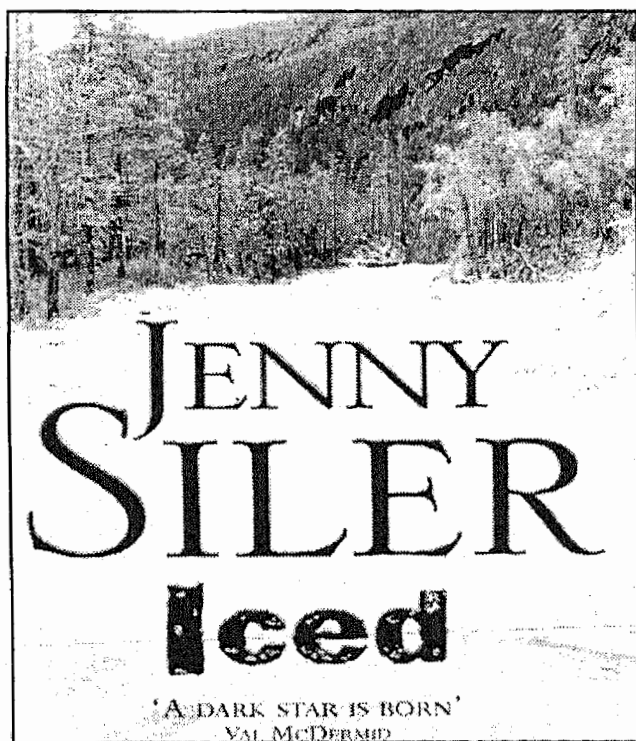
Why is it that I'm always immediately suspicious of books written by two authors? A number of solutions present themselves; however, none are very flattering. *The Dark Imbalance* is the third and final chapter of the *Evergence* trilogy, which follows the bestselling *The Prodigal Sun* and *The Dying Light*. Written by two Australian boys, this apparently exciting conclusion to the trilogy is supposedly the best of Australian science fiction writing. Can I just say that, if this were the case, Australians would be much better off writing Mills and Boon? Reading this book gave me the impression that the authors were vying for a Hollywood deal. The action is thick and fast. The characters are a clever meld of every science fiction stereotype from the good guys to the bad guys. Yes, it's pretty complicated and insightful stuff. If you're a thoughtful reader who enjoys a bit of depth and some interesting ideas, maybe you should find something else

to read. However, if you're a science fiction fan who enjoys a bit of light escapism, with a very clear-cut plot and depressingly, simply constructed characters, then this is the book for you.

Sean Williams and Shane Dix have generously included a fifteen-page glossary of key terms and concepts at the end of their book, which to some degree explains what the authors are writing about. However, the constant flipping back to the end of the book reminded me more of my first year psychology textbook than an enjoyable read. Call me a jaded and cynical reviewer who has spent way too much time in the English department, but *The Dark Imbalance* is a typical example of so much science fiction writing that concentrates heavily on the scientific concepts and forgets to put any real thought into the fiction side of things. *The Dark Imbalance* is pure escapism but it left me stranded and wishing for reality. Despite all of this, if you really want to indulge in a bit of mediocre space schlock then why not support Australian mediocre space schlock.

To any die-hard fans out there, I change my locks once a week, rarely go outside and study externally.

Ben Rowley



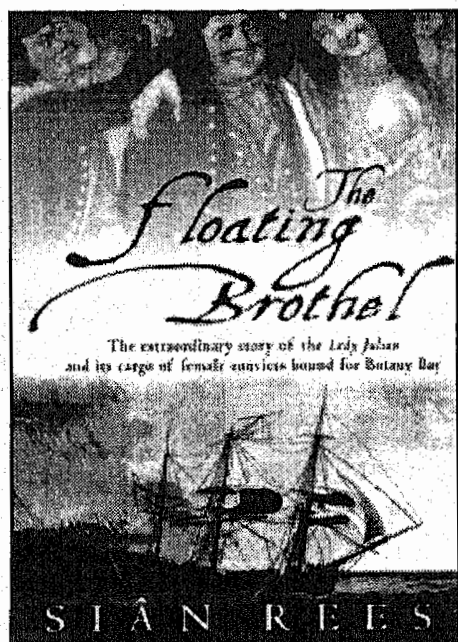
Iced
Jenny Siler
Orion

Although I believe in the old saying 'Never judge a book by its cover', I knew within seconds of seeing the cover of *Iced* that I probably wouldn't enjoy the contents. *Iced* is a fast paced, formulaic thriller; it certainly won't challenge or confront you, but it will entertain you. The main protagonist, Megan Gardner, is a former criminal, a loner and a wanderer who, after leaving prison just before her twenty-ninth birthday, returns home to Missoula, Montana. Unable to get a 'straight' job with her criminal record she starts repossessing cars for a living. With this comes a desire for owning her own home, family ties and a life in the suburbs. This all goes horribly wrong, however, when she repossesses the car of a man who was recently murdered. The car contains something that every dodgy woman and man in the Montana underworld are keen to get their hands on. As the plot thickens, the

story of Megan's family starts to unravel and Surprise! Surprise! The two become inextricably linked.

The book works a lot in stereotypes that serve mainly to reproduce the American ideology of national pride, with most of the gangsters starring as Russians or Native Americans. Here was an opportunity for Siler to question race issues and define her work as something more contemporary within this genre than that of her predecessors, but instead she falls quite short of the mark, with her narrative reminding me of a 'Cold War' spy novel written in the eighties. Siler also overworks the 'frozen' themes and metaphors to the point where you are literally numbed by its lack of subtlety. Ultimately I will always be disappointed with books in this genre because they are predictable and leave me unchallenged and unmoved. However, if you want something light for the holidays or something to zone into after a heavy-duty week of assignment writing, *Iced* will provide the perfect escapist narrative... just try borrowing this one first.

Divine Diva



The Floating Brothel
Siân Rees
Hodder

The Floating Brothel is the story of the *Lady Julian*, the one and only ship in the second fleet to Botany Bay. Siân Rees has created an absorbing and intriguing read in the 'Herstory' tradition, which is essential reading for anyone interested in Australia's early history, especially from a female perspective.

Rees has taken the dry, hard facts of traditional history, and turned them into a more personal story of the 'damned whores' aboard the *Lady Julian*. She freely admits when the

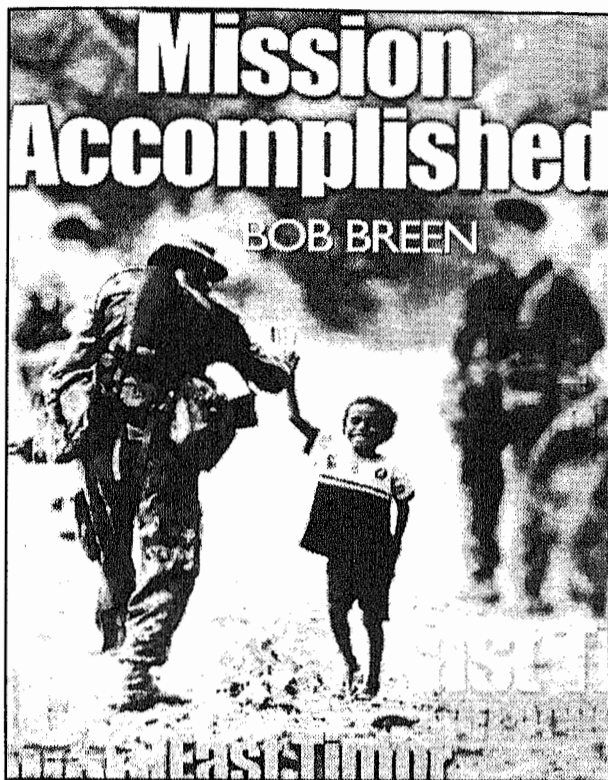
facts are lacking but, unlike traditional history, she is not afraid to presuppose what may have happened next, or what the women may have been thinking or feeling.

Well researched and extremely interesting, the only problem with *The Floating Brothel* is trying to remember all the different 'characters'. Rees has done her best, but not enough information is available from the records of the time to be able to create a truly individual 'feel' to each of the women on board. From court reports, memoirs and ship logs it is possible to infer personalities and motives to a certain extent, but most of the women discussed have a fairly homogenous feel to them.

That, and it's hard to believe that people actually used to get scurvy.

Jayne Lewis

...take the ride.



Mission Accomplished

Bob Breen
Allen & Unwin

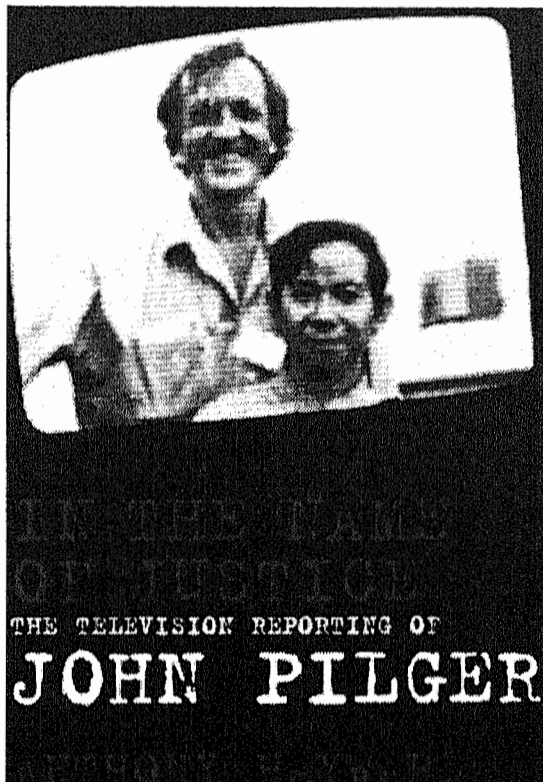
On August 30 1999, the people of East Timor voted to separate from Indonesia and become a nation. What followed was a time of violence, destruction and turmoil. Into this environment the UN's INTERFET peacekeeping force was sent – led by Australian troops. In *Mission Accomplished*, Bob Breen details the work of these Australian INTERFET troops in restoring peace to East Timor.

If you're interested in politics and military strategy, you'll enjoy this book. Even if you think you aren't, you may be surprised - the subtle politics of preparing for and conducting an operation such as the one in East Timor is quite intriguing, and this work provides quite an insight. Breen also gives plenty of detail on the military tactics behind the operation. But more than this, he provides details on the ordinary aspects of the lives of the troops (did you know that the paratroopers were shown 'Saving Private Ryan' by their hosts on HMAS

Tobruk, the night before they disembarked at Dili?). However Breen writes with an irritatingly familiar tone, as though he was personally acquainted with most of the armed forces personnel he refers to. If you don't mind that, it makes for an interesting stroll through the ways of the Australian armed forces.

It's a beautifully presented work in a large, hard-back coffee table edition. Augmenting the main text, the margins contain extra information including statistics on the scale of the operation, quotes from people involved, and a description of East Timor taken from the *Lonely Planet* travellers guide. Further enhancing the text is an extensive and insightful collection of black and white photographs, paintings and sketches made during the operation. The book is worth buying for the photos, which capture so many aspects on the operation more elegantly than any written description could. From the tired soldier sitting propped against a wall, asleep with machine gun in his lap, to the raised fists of a group of youths attending Xanana Gusmao's first speech after his return to Dili, the pictures say it all.

Ellie



In the Name of Justice: The Television Reporting of John Pilger

Anthony Hayward
Bloomsbury

In the Name of Justice takes a look at Australian journalist John Pilger, who has been making hard-hitting controversial television documentaries for thirty years. Kind of like Mulder and Scully, Pilger is famous for exposing government propaganda and conspiracies of deception, and uncovering the truth behind the lies. He has reported on everything from the Vietnam War to the discrimination against Aborigines to the advertising war between Coca-Cola and Pepsi. There's a huge appendix listing all the awards he's won, so you can tell he's pretty good.

Having never heard of John Pilger and not particularly passionate about the fight for justice around the globe (isn't apathy great?), I wasn't expecting to be enthralled by this book. But while the subject matter actually turned out to be more interesting than anticipated, I still ended up being

bored by the intolerably dull writing style of the author.

I guess I should have known not to expect much from a writer whose claims to fame are sensationalist books such as *Phantom: Michael Crawford Unmasked* and *Who's Who on Television*. While Pilger's documentaries are described as passionate, exciting and even humorous at times, Hayward's text is completely devoid of any personality whatsoever. Where he's not writing a straight summary of one of Pilger's films, he strings together endless series of quotes from every Tom, Dick and Harry who had anything to do with the documentary. It's almost as if he's managed to write an entire book without coming up with a single sentence by himself.

If you're specifically interested in the work of John Pilger, there may be enough of interest to justify reading this book; but I would suggest that it would be more worth your while tracking down the actual films and watching them. Let the documentaries speak for themselves, for this book certainly does not do them justice.

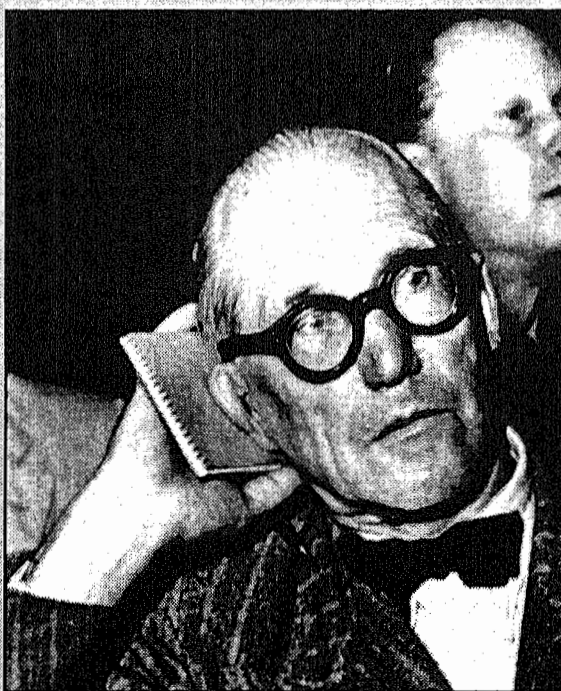
Justin Ghan

Want to expand your book collection?

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Perhaps you should consider doing literature reviews for *On Dit*. Not only do you get a free book but also your name and review printed within our prestigious pages.

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Unlike a hopscotch craze, unlike a knucklebone craze...

Doodle of the Week

This week's doodle is hardly a doodle at all and makes all our prior doodles look kinda crap. This strip was done by Stephen Dodds. If you dare to do better then bring down your doodles or artwork or cartoon strips to the *On Dit* office and we may just publish them.

'Woven Dreams'

A collection of Iban Textiles (Cloth Weaving) of Sarawak Malaysia
Flinders Uni Art Museum, City Gallery (12-14 Grote St, City)
23 March - 5 May

Surviving floods and wars, this collection of contemporary and traditional woven textiles has been gathered from the women weavers of Malaysia. A collection of cloths/textiles made from pure, natural fibres and dyes, this is really an exhibition comprised of intricate and time-consuming handiwork.

Over 50 pieces of work hang on the walls and are draped over boxes in the gallery, showing the skills and creative expression of the Iban women weavers (some over the ages of 80) of Malaysia. The weavings are traditional recordings of dreams, which incorporate the patterns and designs as dreamt by 'special' female members

(the 'chosen' ones) as 'given' by their goddess 'Kumang', which are then woven into their 'pua kumbu' - a particular form of Iban textile. Many of these textiles were used in religious ceremonies as a means of communication between this world and that of the gods. Hence the title 'Woven Dreams'.

Because the materials used are natural, earthy browns, reds and oranges are most prominent; however, lovely, rich purples and blues make an appearance, and there are a few pieces which incorporate the delicate art of beading. The patterns appear as simple geometric designs which emphasise the importance of natural

creatures, occurrences and produce, such as the crocodile, whirlpools and rice; each piece is bordered with an intricate, convoluted design. The sizes of the pieces vary, from warriors' vests to scarves to what seem to be huge throw-rugs, but each and every article is a display of skill, patience and tradition.

Catch the FREE b-line bus in front of Darrell Lea Chocolates at the western end of Rundle Mall and get off at Victoria Square; the Flinders Uni Gallery will be a short walk across the road to your right (12-14 Grote St), and admission is FREE. Easy.

Take your grandma; if you don't appreciate the effort and time that has gone into these textiles at least she will (when I visited the place was full of middle-aged women, 'ooohing' and 'ahhhing' pretty enthusiastically. Truthfully, I couldn't blame them).

kp



The Southwark Sessions

"Adelaide has always had a reputation for producing original bands. In recent years however, it has become almost impossible for our local talent to get a decent hearing and we thought it was time for someone locally to step up and remedy that." (Tony Jones, Chief Brewer, The Southwark Brewery)

Introducing the Southwark Sessions: from March 31st to April 28th, Seven Stars will be playing host every Saturday night to the Southwark Sessions - an event sponsored by Southwark Brewery (duh!) that is designed to give unsigned Adelaide talent exposure to both the punters and the record industry big-wigs alike. The bands were selected by *Rip It Up's* The

State of Sound page that has been dedicated to the local music scene for over a decade.

By the time this goes to print, the first session, 100% Rock Mondo - punk rock'n'roll, roadster rage-rock and metal - will be over. Apologies for the late notice on this one, but there have been advertisements in the last 2 issues of *On Dit*!! Playing were Blood Sucking Freaks, Roadkill 66, Sprawl, and Z-28.

Saturday, April 7th is Dubbed Upbeat & Eclectic featuring human electronica, popular fusion and happy hybrid. Unfortunately this is an industry invite night; however, if you managed to make it to the first session you may very well have scored yourself an invite for this night as

they were handing them out! Bands featuring in this session are: Roger The Band (who supported pre-shrunk last week when they were in Adelaide), Snap to Zero, Digit, and Career Girls.

The holidays bring on another session, with Guitar Bizzaro night on April 21st. This session is described as cerebro-pop, jingle-jangle, future classic and alien headscape. Bands featuring are: Diplomat, Avon, Bergerac, and Krystapinzch. Another promising looking evening - you know you have nothing better to be doing!

The final session is on April 28th: the Surf, Swamp and Ska session. The bands to play at this session are: GT Stinger, Johnny Seven O*M*A, King Daddy, and The Seen.

This is a NON-PROFIT gig, so no one is charged entry. Yes, that means you can rock up any time at Seven Stars after 8pm, check out the talent and leave without feeling ripped off. On top of that, if you get in early, the

first 50 people through the door at each session will score a free schooner of Southwark White Beer. Beer specials will be running all night with pints selling at schooner prices.

All the shows will be recorded for the forthcoming Southwark Sessions live compilation CD, and Three D Radio (93.7FM) will be on site covering the events.

Promoted in the press release as "no egos, no attitudes, just a communal gathering to promote quality local music in the form best suited: the live arena, it's all thriller, no filler!" the Southwark Sessions looks to be an exciting new venture, hopefully resulting in a few big deals and a lot of talent in between.

For more information, please visit the Southwark Sessions webpage on <http://southwarksessions.savirtual.com>, kindly donated to the cause by Andrew Glancey Designs.

Graceless

Interview with Superheist

Superheist have finally released their debut album, following the critical success of their 1999 EP *8 Miles High*. The band has been touring extensively in the leadup, including a main stage performance at this year's Big Day Out. Speaking with the lead-singer Rod, I got the impression the folks were very happy with the finished product. "It's been a very exhaustive process but we're really pleased with how it turned out." And well they should be.

Fans of the band should be pleased to note that Superheist have not used a traditional cheapskate technique, that is including popular songs from previous EP's to sell the record. Tracks like '2 Faced (Check Your Head Up)' and 'Have Your Way' probably would have ensured good album sales, but the band wanted to keep it wholly new material.

This doesn't indicate a new direction in songwriting for the band, but rather a desire to reward fans with original stuff. The band seems to have achieved just that, with each song having its own identity, keeping it both challenging and rewarding.

In writing the album, the members

of the band each concentrated on what they do best, with each member writing having dominant creative control of their own sections. I found this surprising, as the songs reveal a tightness that would appear to indicate intense collaboration between members. The melodies echo vividly the emotions in the lyrics. As for the title, the 'Prize Recruit' comes from Song 5, 'Deliverance', and is un-



shamed in its ploy. "The title basically congratulates you for buying the album, saying 'You're the Prize Recruit.'" We'll forgive him for that.

When questioning the style of the album, the band's genre inevitably arose. Rod cringed at comparisons made to bands like Korn, Limp Bizkit

(who he described in quite unflattering terms) and Rage Against the Machine. Rod found it hard to establish what the band's predominant influences were, although I managed to get out of him that his last album purchase was Outkast. Superheist like to maintain an essence of individuality. They detest the cringeworthy label 'Nu-Metal' made on the band, a term that is bandied around rather frequently these days.

Of course, no interview would be complete without a question about whether or not the band liked Adelaide, and in true kiss-ass style they responded in the affirmative. In fact, the band was here a couple of weeks ago playing a gig at the Holdfast. In touring for the current album Rod assured me they'd be stopping by again. "I really love Adelaide, no I really do - and not just because I would have to answer yes. We always get a really fantastic response from Adelaide crowds, which you can never be unhappy with."

By the way, Stanley George thinks Superheist are tops and way ace, so they must be good.

Frank Murray

ALBUM REVIEW

The Prize Recruit Superheist

It's difficult to provide a summary of this album without resorting to unappealing blanket terms like 'nu-metal', but I suppose that's how you could describe it. Although the band is most renowned for their live performances, the album still translates a lot of that raw energy, as well as big riffs and big choruses. There is energy and passion in the form of songs like 'Bullet' and 'The Ghost', the driving attack of 'Deliverance' and 'Uncanny Decadence' and a certain hypnotic power in 'Slide' and 'Step Back'. Personally I liked the catchy beat and quirky bass line of Track 9, 'Happy Wasted', which combines pseudo-pop catchy beats and a quirky bass line. That damn infectious chorus is still in my head. I think one of the best aspects of the album is the variation, such as the slower track 'Slide'. A little bit of difference in track styles goes a long way to ensuring the long term appeal of albums like this one. A good purchase if you're into the band, or even things that come under the expanding umbrella term of 'nu-metal' (even though they'd hate me to write that).

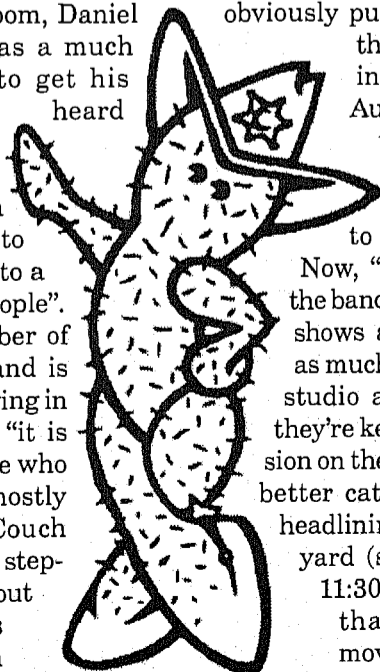
Frank Murray

Off The Couch (Sat April 7)

Spherical

A synth, a sequencer and a taste for bizarre, abstract music were responsible for Daniel Mohor's incarnation as Spherical. With a heavy jazz influence, scattered off-beat drumming, wailing horns, lo-fi pianos and thick juicy bass lines, Spherical will have you plummeting to the depths of your psyche only to groove your way out in exaltation. Having created his music in his bedroom, Daniel saw Off The Couch as a much needed opportunity to get his music out there and heard

by people of all sorts. "Off the Couch is great in that it is a chance for local artists to showcase their talent to a wide cross section of people". Daniel is also a member of the band Blue Unit and is not a newcomer to playing in front of a crowd but, "it is mostly the same people who come to the shows, mostly friends, so Off the Couch provides you with that stepping stone, it gets you 'out there' and in peoples faces". You can catch



Spherical's sonic sophistication at the Swincat Club at 5pm.

Three Grand Idol

This four piece officially formed in February 2000, its nucleus based on school friendships. Drawing inspiration from such artists as Ben Harper, Stereophonics, Radiohead, Counting Crows and Something for Kate, they obviously put a lot of feeling into their music. The recording of a studio demo in August of last year gave the band valuable experience and an avenue through which to promote themselves.

Now, "the main priority for the band is to play as many live shows as possible and spend as much time in the recording studio as we can afford". As they're keen to make an impression on the other states soon, you better catch Three Grand Idol headlining the Lion Arts Courtyard (showcase stage) from 11:30 before they're bigger than you know which movie.

RI State of Sound presents

SOUTHWARK Sessions

at the Seven Stars

Southwark Pints for the price of schooners all night

free entry

First 50 thru the door get a free schooner of Southwark White

SAT 21/5/2001
100% ROCK MONDO
Blood Sucking Freaks
Roadkill 66
Sprawl
Z-28

SUN 27/5/2001
UPBEAT AND ECLECTIC
Light
Roger the band
Snap to Zero
Career Girls

SAT 2/6/2001
GUITARO BIZARRO
Avon
Bergerac
Diplomat
Krystapinzch

SUN 26/6/2001
SURF, SWAMP & SKA
GT Stringer
Johnny Seven O-M-A
King Daddy
The Seen

DERRINGERS
INSTRUMENTS • PA • DJ • LIGHTING

Andrew designs

BANDS & VENUE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Eskimo Joe

Things have been pretty quiet from the Eskimo Joe boys recently. Now with a new single 'Wake Up' hitting the stores and a new album due out in June, the Joes are just finishing up a six week tour with our very own Superjesus. And what a long tour it has been! Two cars later (the first gone due to an unfortunate incident with a handbrake being left on all day) I had the opportunity to chat with the guitarist, Stuart Macleod, about the new album and tour. The latest tour has been going well for Eskimo Joe, despite them having been playing an exhausting six nights a week. They now have a new guitarist on stage to help fill out the new songs because as Stuart said, he can't play two guitars at once.

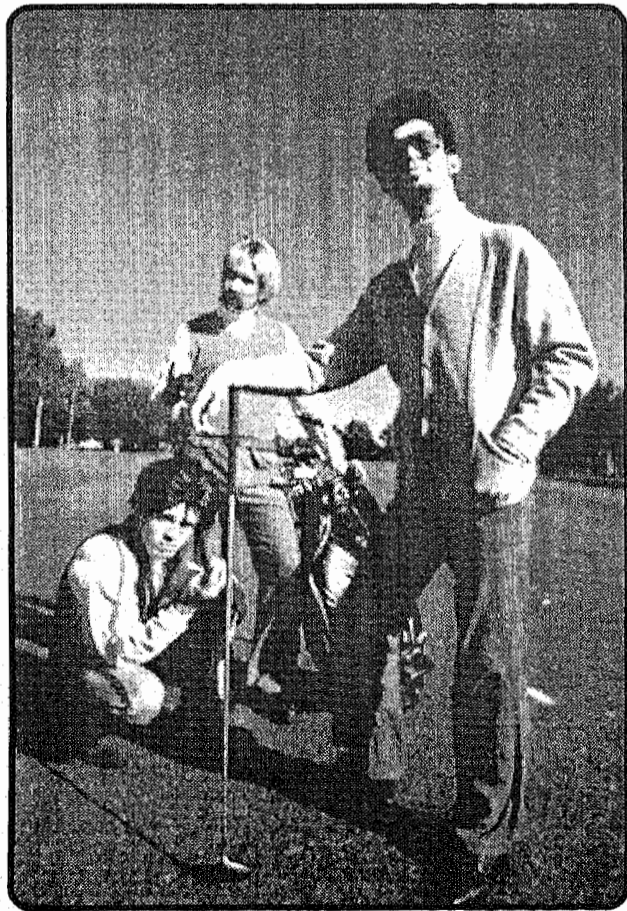
The band hope to play the Big Day Out next year, after doing only one show in the 2000 event. Their seventh gig was actually at Livid after they won the National Band Competition. 'It was pretty...interesting. We've still got the playlist, and we're listed as "Band Comp", because that was our prize.' After launching into the airwaves with their popular *Sweater* EP, Kav, Stuart and Joel have deservedly placed well in the Hottest 100 and toured extensively. Their high-octane music and enthusiasm made them a favourite on Triple J and I'm sure they will continue to be with the release of their new album.

Just a casual look at the latest single will clue you in on the different direction the band is taking. Instead of the bright colours and simple cartoons of the previous EP, the cover is stylish and arty. When asked about the difference, Stuart said the band

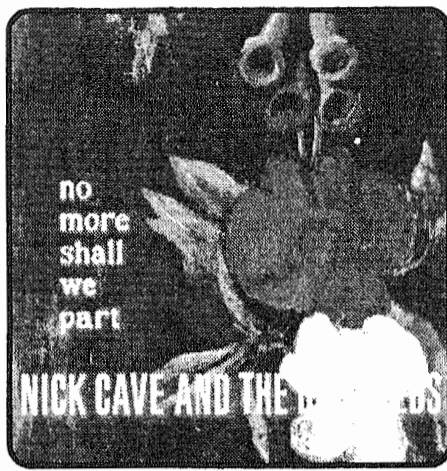
'has definitely mellowed out on this album. That's not to say that you're going to fall asleep when you listen to it, but there's a lot more emphasis on the song writing and a lot less on the energy. But that's not to say that there's no rockin' numbers on there. We're still taking care of the old fans.' He said that they have been recording it since last year, with apparently the most effort going into coming up with the song titles. I thought that would have been the easy part, but he replied that they have a song they have been referring to as 'Whiskey and Fishcakes' for the last six months because they 'couldn't be arsed' giving it a real name. It's a shame they can't keep the title, despite the song having nothing to do with either subject. The new album is being produced by Ed Buller, (also responsible for Suede), Stuart calling him a 'typical whingeing Pom', who shared their sense of humour, although how he'll feel when he sees that they have referred to him as Ed 'Fatty' Buller in the credits is anybody's guess.

Stuart says that the band adores the Beatles, and that he likes to push them onto anyone that he comes into contact with, 'sort of like a chain letter.' They also are inspired by a lot of other British artists like Blur and Supergrass. Eskimo Joe actually got to support the latter on their tour when they came here, which was apparently an illuminating experience. 'Gaz is an amazing joint-roller. Like, technique is one thing, but speed is where it's at. He's a machine basically. We asked him how often he's stoned and the sudden realization dawned on him, and he said [insert English accent here] "Well, I reckon I'm pretty much stoned most of the time really." This was very nearly rivaled by the Living End tour, who, during the 40 date tour 'aged nearly ten years through excessive rock and roll debauchery.' With the latest Superjesus tour finished, the band plans to head home to W.A. and chill out. Hopefully they will be back soon and be well-rested enough to promote the new album and to get up to more of that debauchery.

Poptart



Album of the Week



No More Shall We Part
Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds
Mute/Festival Mushroom

Any album featuring Nick Cave and his Bad Seeds is invariably good and, *No More Shall We Part* is particularly great. Featuring the talents of Warren Ellis and Mick Harvey (as per usual), the Bad Seeds are back in fine form.

Cave's lyricism is beautiful, dark, ascerbic and somewhat satirical. The best example of Cave's notorious mockery is 'God Is In The House'. A cynical comment on (perhaps) American society, 'God Is In The House', is also one of the most accessible tracks on the album.

Receiving a great deal of airplay on the Js, 'As I Sat Sadly By Her Side' is the first single to be taken from this album, and it is quite an epic. 'Fifteen Feet Of Pure White Snow' is equally precious and features the haunting vocals of the McGarrigle sisters. 'Sweet Heart Come' is lyrically beautiful and for this reason is potentially one of the finest songs on the album.

Overall, this album is raw and emotional, yet still very well produced. A worthy album of the week.

Jen

Live Reviews

Acme Jazz Unit
Governor Hindmarsh
25th March

Last year Acme Jazz Unit supported Grace Knight. The less said about Gracie the better, but I was overjoyed to receive an invitation to Acme's latest gig at the Gov. Unfortunately a combination of left-over flu, cold, wind, and rain made the lure of ordering Indian takeout and curling up to watch N-Sync ("...girl...") do *The Simpsons* ("...cause I love you...") was just too great ("...girl..."), and I stayed home instead.

That said, I'm going to plug them anyway, 'cause they're a fucking great band.

As the name implies, Acme Jazz Unit are bunch of Jazz-Cats. And *what* a bunch of cats. I mean that in a nice way. I've had my share of aural pleasures over the years, but Acme Jazz Unit would have to be the creamiest of creamy jazz explosions ever experienced. Their music is hard, fast, and loud. You wanna talk about giving up for the kids? They give it all, and more, displaying amounts of energy and sheer talent that are exhausting. Whether they're doing covers or their own compositions, Acme Jazz Unit put a fire in the belly of the music, ignite the inner-kerosene of the song, and spit it out to the audience in a spectacular display of hot flaming action.

I'm tired. It's late. I really shouldn't write reviews when it's way past my bedtime.

So I apologise to Acme Jazz Unit

for being too fucking cold and lazy to get off my arse and go to their gig. My housemate (who has the car) bailed on me at the last moment. I also apologise for fire-eating metaphors, and promise to attend the next gig, if you would be so kind to invite me. You guys rock my world and redefine music. Release a bloody album, would you?

Jayne Lewis

Roger the Band
Community Service
Announcement
Independent Release

Adelaide's *Roger the Band* has always been a popular live act around town, and for good reason. Their mix of funk and dance with a touch of metal rarely fails to get a crowd moving. This 6 and a bit track EP is the band's first release and is a fair representation of their live shows.

Funky guitar and tight drums accompany the super-talented bass player perfectly, but for non-bass players the vocals will cause the most amazement. Anything from falsetto to pure metal screams is possible for the obvious Mike Patton fan, with many fine examples on this recording.

With five of the six tracks receiving a "pretty damn cool" rating, every bass player, vocalist or funk lover should shell out the couple of bucks for this CD, it's definitely worth it.

Patrick

This Hollywood Girl...

Singles

Feels Like Sunshine

Y Para Sol

Hyperion Dance/Universal Records

One word describes this single: mediocre. When the actual inside cover describes the song as being 'Cheesy', it's a sign of what's ahead. 'Feels like Sunshine' does have a catchy, girly-house sound, but it's all been done before. If you like girly house, with the same lyrics repeated ad-nauseam, grab this single, otherwise don't touch it with 10ft inanimate carbon rod.

Jester

Strychnine Girl EP

Warped

I am not much of a fan of stoner rock, which is probably why I have never heard of this band before. Furthermore, I did not expect their new five track EP, *Strychnine Girl*, to be "listenworthy". I was wrong. The title song 'Strychnine Girl', starts off with an energetic guitar solo and after the drums join in, the song continues at the same (relatively fast) pace until the end. After that, 'Dog Eat Dog' starts it reminds me of that new AC/DC song 'Satellite Blues'. The other three songs continue in much the same vein - all the songs on *Strychnine Girl* might sound very similar but the differences become very obvious. This EP has inspired me to start listening to more of this kind of music and if it can make someone who didn't pay much attention to stoner rock think it's pretty good, then a fan cannot possibly go wrong in buying this CD.

Janko Miskovich

Group Dynamics

H-Block 101

Grudge Records

'Group Dynamics' is the first single off Melbourne outfit H-Block 101's forthcoming album, *Burning With The Times*. While it stays true to H-Block's punk rock roots, the 'B-sides' are fairly appalling, with the exception of the Rose Tattoo cover 'Nice Boys'. Though not as good as their 2000 release 'Koka-Kolonisation', the catchy 'Group Dynamics' will interest fans of bands like Rancid and Superheist, and of course long time H-Block fans.

Micky Dub



Elastic Vol. 1

Various Artists.

Hyperion Dance/Universal Australia.

Straight off the bat I must admit two things. My type of dance music has thumping base, coupled well with smooth melodic samples, and plenty of variation of beat and melody. Unfortunately (for me anyway) 'Elastic Vol. 1' is all in all the opposite of this and isn't really my glass of lolly-flavoured alcoholic beverage.

Having said that, both Jayse and Sveta's talents shine through on this album, with Sveta's efforts (Disk 1) my highlight, which is quite a progressive set with a great first track 'French Horns' by Cycloid. Jayse's mix (Disk 2), will appeal to the tribal beat/techno fans, and includes quite an interesting version of 'Never Gonna Come Back Down' by BT.

This album in all honesty didn't excite me all that much, but the 'Elastic' series is in early days. A compilation series with a lot of potential.

Jester.



Loco

Fun Lovin' Criminals

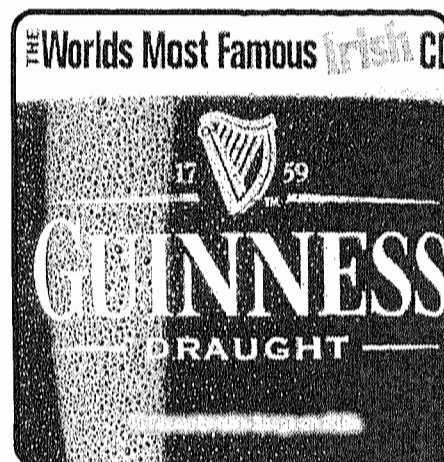
EMI

When I chucked this one in the CD player, cranking up the volume, the first track that came on was an old-school AC/DC style rock song, and I thought, what have they done! But luckily what followed was smooth and sweet, with much wah, hip-hop beats funky bass-lines and along with a huge variation horns, keyboards and synths.

They've put their different jazz and

techno backgrounds to good use and met in the middle to come up with an incredibly smooth and catchy album. The use of blues, jazz, rock'n'roll and even country inflections gave huge variation in music of a similar tempo and style. They ended a little too country for my liking, but overall a decent album. With the exception of 'Where the Bums Go', this is one to soothe even the most savage beast. Not bad at all.

ArtFool

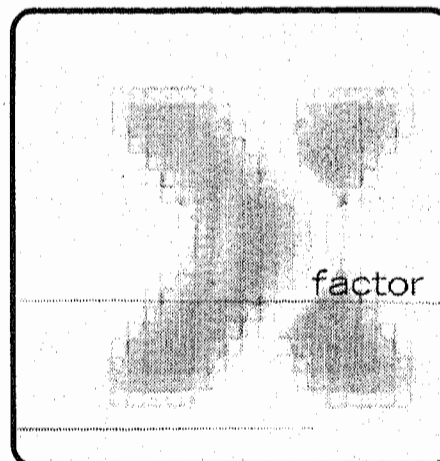


The World's Most Famous Irish CD

EMI Music

Perhaps it was the beer on the CD cover, or the lingering enthusiasm of Saint Patrick's Day, or maybe it was simply the fact that I love Jimoin's accent that inspired me to offer to review this double CD. It features well known artists such as Van Morrison, Sinéad O'Connor, and Andy Irvine and well known tracks such as 'I Don't Like Mondays', 'A Pub With No Beer', and 'Danny Boy'. Amongst these are a number of lively instrumental pieces with all the fiddles, flutes, violins and hand clapping of traditional Irish music. Highlights for me were 'Seven Drunken Nights' and 'Guaglione', which is the music from the Guinness TV commercial. I have to admit that a few of the tracks were pretty slow and depressing, with a wife leaving husband, husband having an affair kind of theme running through them.

LT



X factor

Universal Music

This 24 track double CD is yet another of the 'club hits' CDs that seem to be around at the moment. In my opinion, this one is pretty good. CD #1 starts off with 'Power To The Beat' by Utah Saints and continues through with tracks such as Sonique's 'I Put A Spell On You', Kylie Minogue's 'Butterfly', and Chicane's 'Autumn Tactics'. A very, very extended mix of 'I Was A Ye Ye Girl' by Doin'Time starts off CD #2 and highlights from this CD include Lost'n'Alive's 'Funky People', The Vincent Project's 'Gonna Thrill U Tonight' (which includes samples of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller'), and 'Re-Rewind' by The Artful Dodger. Overall, this double CD is a good selection of current club music. My only criticism is that the tracks aren't mixed together. For a CD of this type, running the tracks together would heighten its night club vibe.

LT



Horrorscope

EVE 6

RCA - BMG

You may remember Eve 6 for their excellent single 'Inside Out' from 1998. That track alone gave me high expectations for an album full of catchy guitar pop/punk from this young trio from Los Angeles. To my disappointment, I was met with an album that seems to alternate between musical styles far too often. This brings about some dreadful moments (such as the weak goth-style verses and Cher-type synth-vocal effects in 'Rescue', and the very average hard rock attempt 'Sunset Strip Bitch'). However, when they stick to the pop/punk formula, they do manage to produce the occasional highlight, such as the first single 'Promise', and 'Nightmare'. The catchy pop and insightful lyrics of 'Jet Pack' is for me the standout from an album that at times promises a lot to the listener, before falling into the seemingly ever-growing world of uninspired, over produced, throwaway music. A little disappointing from a band who has the talent to be so much more.

Church

She's so lucky...

Singles

Flashdance 2001
E-Motion Feat / Irene
Cara
Hyperion

It's back. 'Flashdance' - that song that had a generation groaning as they unwittingly mouthed the words and danced along. My advice for all you closet 80s fans who can't wait to get your hands on it... don't bother. Your original will outdo these awkward revamps any day.

Kyles

Primary
Not For Me
Warner Music

'Primary' is one of a growing group of Australian indie bands with a female lead. This single is decent with some nice vocal harmony, but lacks dynamics. In their B-sides they show their experimental side, and I actually preferred the third song, 'We Can Fool Around' to the release. Quite decent, if you're a Garbage fan this is definitely worth a listen.

Sim

Champagne High /
Change Your Mind
Sister Hazel
Universal

If you have yet to experience the awesome mellow rock of Sister Hazel, check this out. 'Champagne High' and 'Change Your Mind' give insight into Hazel's depth and diversity. For old fans, some nice live versions of 'All For You' and 'Wanted it To Be' are also included.

Kyles

Brave
Mishelle Bradford-Jones
Warner

'Brave' is the first single from Mishelle Bradford-Jones, the next in line of those cute bohemium singers in the vain of Nelly Futardo. Bradford-Jones maybe even sweeter, and has a philosophical yet happy-go-lucky find of style, which is very catchy and fun to bop around too. And since I like bopping, this suits me fine.

Penny



Just Push Play
Aerosmith
Columbia

Legendary American hard rockers Aerosmith return with their first studio album in five years, *Just Push Play*. Their latest offering is more of the same - big, hook-laden hard rock which invariably lodges in your head.

The album opens with 'Beyond Beautiful', which features some blistering lead pyrotechnics from Joe Perry. Next up is the title track, my favourite. This has a great guitar riff as its basis, which is reminiscent of the one from 'Walk This Way'. 'Jaded' - the first single - sounds like something from the *Get A Grip* album, and is one of the best tracks. 'Fly Away From Here' is a big power ballad with some nice strings, and is followed by 'Trip Hoppin' which has a big, strong horn section and a tasty solo from Perry. Another of my favorite tracks is 'Luv Lies', also a power ballad.

I must confess to feeling a little disappointed by this record; it all sounds a trifle tired and familiar. But then, when you've been around for three decades, it must difficult to come up with stuff that sounds fresh.

James Trevelyan

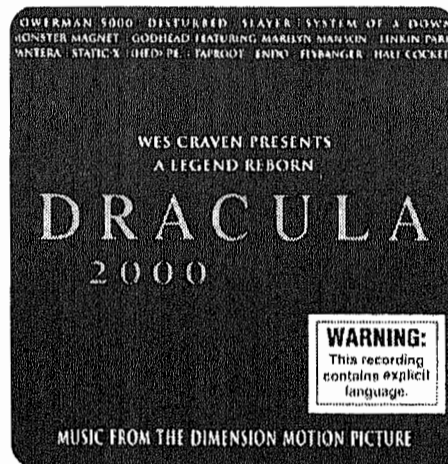


Whoa Nelly
Nelly Furtado
Dreamworks

"I'm like, a bird", sings Nelly (please note that the comma isn't actually part of the direct quote) and she is indeed quite a talented one at

that. Behind her good looks lies a lot of actual songwriting talent, in fact she writes all the songs on *Whoa Nelly*, her debut album. All in all it is an album that spans many genres of music, including R&B, pop and at times has an almost hip-hop type feel. This may sound akin to many other pop albums in the charts but the album retains a unique sound thanks to great lyrical diversity (hooray for the explicit language warning!) and varied sampling (including Portishead and The Kronos Quartet). Standout tracks on this album include 'Hey, Man!', 'Turn Off The Light' and the ridiculously catchy 'I'm Like a Bird'. Buy this album now, and when Miss Furtado becomes a superstar you too can fold your arms and say in your most smug tone "I liked her way before she became popular", and isn't that the real reason for buying a debut album?

Jase



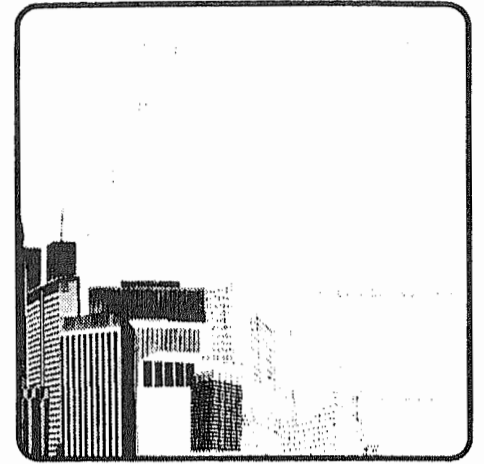
Dracula 2000
Various Artists
Sony

Dracula 2000 looks like a pretty ordinary film. Fortunately, the same does not apply to its soundtrack. The album features a good cross section of some of the more popular genres of heavy music - Pantera and Slayer fraternise with bands like Linkin Park, Static-X, (Hed) P.E. and System of a Down. The fact that there is a good deal of new material from the bands on the album makes *Dracula 2000* even more worthwhile.

In particular it's worth checking System of A Down who are eclectic as always, unleashing a demented punk song which is part ska and part frantic guitars ('Metro'). Static-X are also good ('Ostego Undead'), sounding like an energetic cross between Coal Chamber and White Zombie.

But the stand-out track is unquestionably Pantera's 'Avoid The Light'. In between Phil Alseldo's trademark roar and Dimebag Darrel's solos are moments of deep gothic majesty. The album is almost worth it for this track alone.

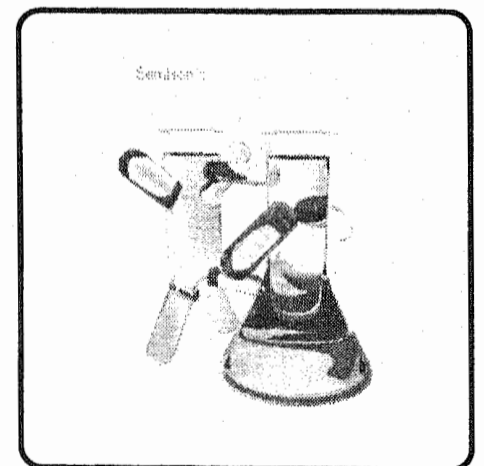
Dionysus



Wires
Art Of Fighting
Trifekta/Festival

Art of Fighting's debut album after two strong eps is one of the most relaxing albums I have ever heard. That's not to say that it's boring - it's just that it is so smooth and Ollie Browne's aching voice is so perfect that it just puts you at ease. Art of Fighting (much like fellow Melbournites Augie March) have perfected the ability of doing much through very minimal instrumentation and vocals that just float over the top of the music. Highlights include 'Just Say I'm Right', 'Skeletons' and 'Find You Lost'. But my two beefs with the cd are the silent start to the album and the cardboard packaging. If I like a cd I want something that is not going to get destroyed so quickly and I want to be able to hit the remote and know that it's started without getting off my arse. Other than that the album is pretty good, just perfect for sitting around and having a quiet ale.

Schnaps



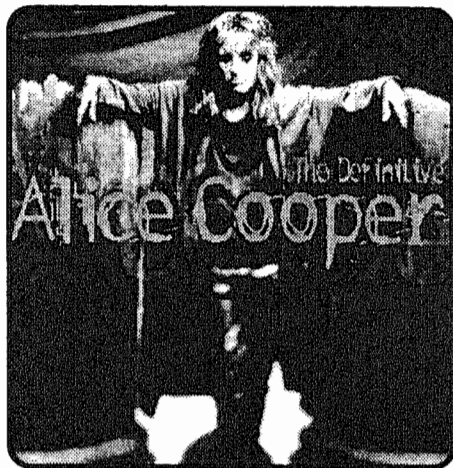
All About Chemistry
Semisonic
mca records

Too pop to be alternative, and too 80s keyboard to be pop; Semisonic's latest offering presents the same soft, melody-driven writing as their previous hit 'closing time', but without the indie-rock 'edge' which made them appealing to pop listeners who longed to

She's a Star

to be "a bit alternative". *All About Chemistry* is, however, a release with a lot going for it. The Gary Newmansque chorus of 'She's got my number' and the soothing assurance of 'Follow' are perhaps the most accessible points of this release, but there is more to be discovered on closer inspection. Unfortunately the style of the album places it dangerously close to light-weight status, only being saved by Dan Wilson's retrospective (relationship song) writing. I must say, I did not expect to enjoy this album, but found a soft spot for it after several listens.

M.C. discoballs



Alice Cooper WSM/Warner/Rhino

The Definitive Alice Cooper spans twenty years of Alice Cooper, from 1971 to 1991. There are twenty-one tracks in all, and all the classics are featured. I am especially happy to report that this collection features the beautiful ballads *I Never Cry, You And Me* and *How You Gonna See Me Now*.

The album opens with *I'm Eighteen* from the album *Love It To Death*. This is followed by *Desperado, Under My Wheels* and *Halo Of Flies*, all from the album *Killer*. The tracks are arranged in chronological order, which shows Alice growing and maturing as an artist.

School's Out, from the album of the same name, is followed by *Elected, Hello Hooray, Generation Landslide, No More Mr Nice Guy* and *Billion Dollar Babies*, all from the album *Billion Dollar Babies*. Also featured are cuts from the albums *Muscle of Love, Welcome To My Nightmare, Trash* and *Hey Stoopid*.

This is an excellent, extensive collection of cool Cooper classics, suitable both for the long-time devotee and the as-yet uninitiated.

The Definitive Alice Cooper

James Trevelyan

GIVEAWAYS! GIVEAWAYS! GIVEAWAYS!

Yep, that's right. More giveaways! Aren't we nice? Let's see, this week we have copies of: -

Lash's single 'Take Me Away'. Here is a picture of Lash.



Aren't they lovely too? They are rumoured to be part of Style Wars 2001. Be sure to catch them when they come. Thanks to Cheree at Festival.

Muses 'Plug In Baby' single. Well, no-one came down to collect these *On Dit* Radio giveaways last week. Sad really. We reckon it's because no-one is listening yet. Well,

it's your loss. If you listen, you will win! Simple as that! Once again, thanks to Cheree at Festival.

On Dit Radio Giveaways!

Monique at Sony has kindly given us a few copies of the new **Manic Street Preachers** album to give to our listeners. Tune in at 9pm, Monday, April 2nd and hang off of Mark and Jenny's every word. Good music, good giveaways.

Clubs and Classifieds

Bacchae

Bacchae Club AGM Hughes building room 723, 1pm Thursday 5th April

Francais

French club AGM 1pm Friday 6th April Room 806 Hughes contact Kate on 8390 2260 or Ellie 0411 110643 or 8352 8246 for more information.

Movie Nite

Economics and Finance students assoc are holding a Cinema night Tuesday 3rd April. Doors open 6.00pm. Entry is gold coin donation. Movies are *The Million Pound Note* and *Other People's Money*.

There will be door prizes and refreshments provided.

Everyone Welcome.

AUSCa

AUSCa Science Assoc Pubcrawl, Friday 6th April start from Unibar 6pm.

Thundercats and Ninja Turtles

Wanted:

Old "Thundercats" and "teenage mutant ninja turtle" figurines and vehicles. Will buy other things associated with these toys. Will pay up to ten dollars for a vehicle.

Email me at:

wile_kat@hotmail.com

SCA

Society for Creative Anachronism AGM & SGM, 6pm WP Rogers room, Thursday 5th April.

Born Performer?

Anyone who can dance as well as sing may like to contact Jordan Daintree as she is seeking entertainers for a cabaret show. Jordan's phone number is 8353 4984, her mobile is 0407 271 340 (it is going in for repairs soon so keep trying, don't give up)

Help Wanted

I'm looking for any undergraduate female who wants to help create content and assist in making decisions regarding the running of a web site. For the full story visit: <<http://ov.8m.com/home.htm>>

Democrats

Democrats Club AGM Friday 6th April 1.30pm, WP Rogers room, contact Mark Pierson 8356 6372 for further information.

Deux Francais

You are all invited to attend the French Club AGM on Tuesday 3rd April at 1pm in the Gallery. Look out for the posters.

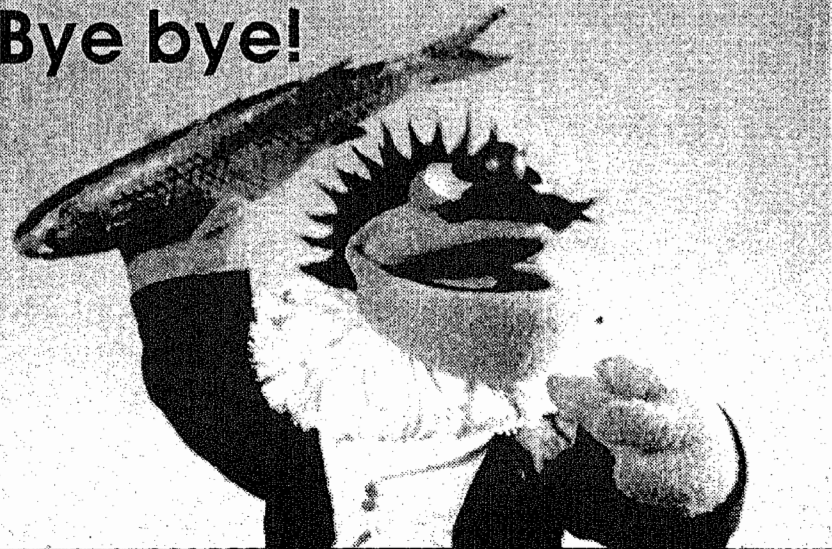
Ellie Palmer, President, French Club

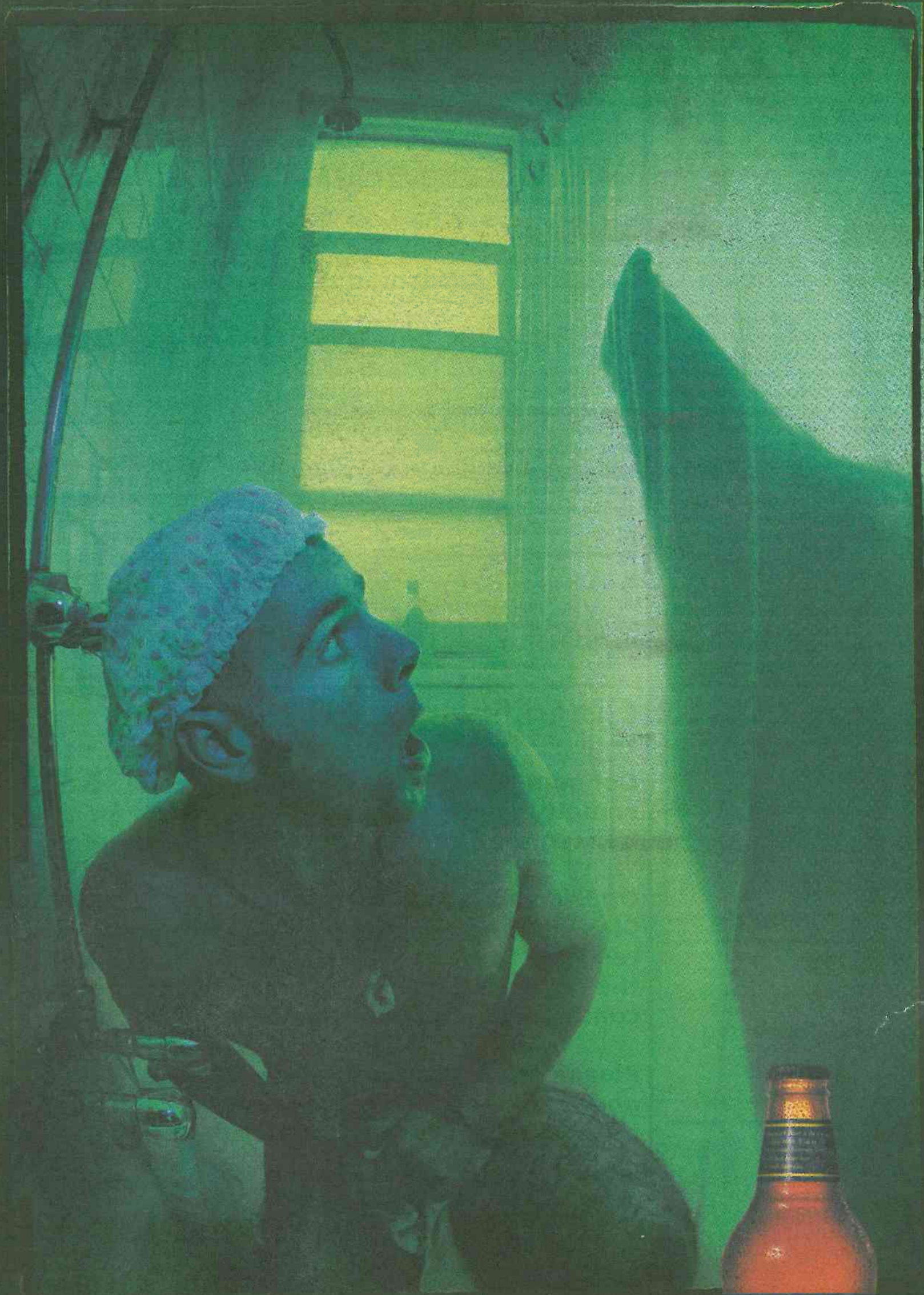
Novice Witch

Beginning Pagan is extremely interested in learning more about wicca and how to begin. If you can help at all, or if you're interested to, please email me at:

<witch_fairy@hotmail.com>

Bye bye!





Killer Bitter

With 25 IBUs, there's nothing in South Australia as bitter.

