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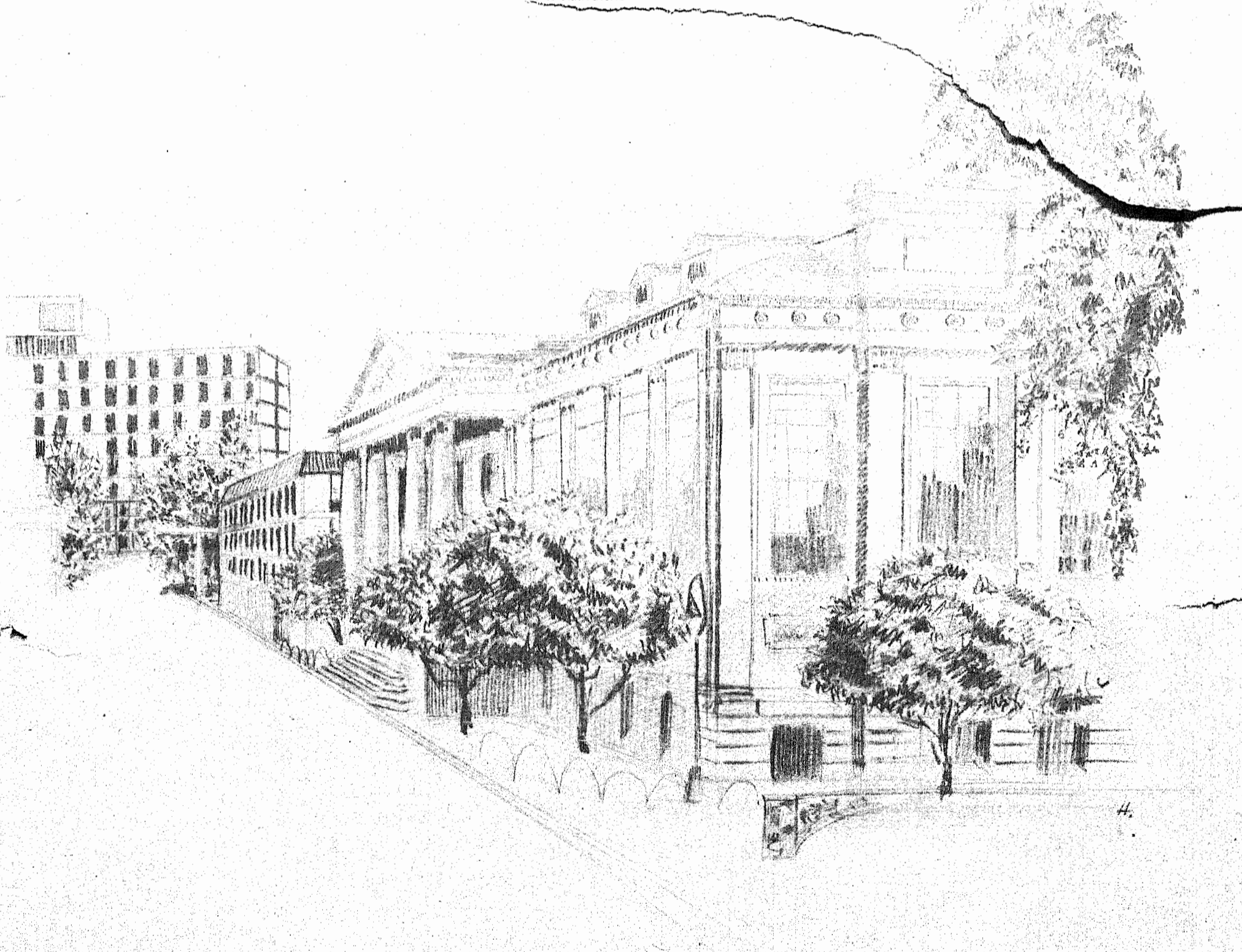


# FRESH ON DIT

Vol. 37 No. 1  
MINOR EDITION

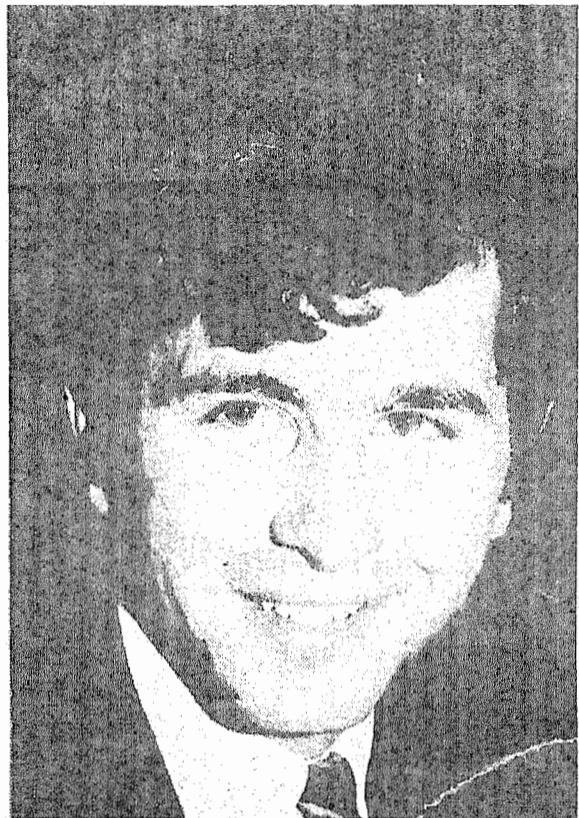
12 March, 1969  
Price 10c City

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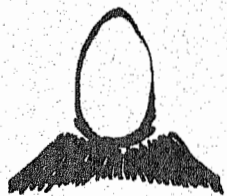


Gaudeamus igitur, iuvenes dum sumus,

# BILL MANOS WRITES FOR ON DIT ON UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATION



Heavy A-Grade  
Freshly Laid



Adelaide students have more in common with South Australian drinkers than just beer. But there is little comfort in a sense of brotherhood that derives from being the last in Australia to feel the winds of progressive change.

When it was announced at the end of last year that students would be represented at certain levels of the University's administrative structure, some were mildly surprised, others passed it off as a sop to pacify restive students, and a few had confident expectations fulfilled.

But most students were probably too pre-occupied with exams to notice the small column in the Advertiser heralding the "New Deal."

## UNCEASING MOVEMENTS

Movements in this direction have not ceased. Indeed, further representation, recently agreed upon, among the more optimistic, raised hopes that the original proposals were symbolic of a change in attitude by Council to student participation in general.

To the SRC, all this activity by the powers that be meant that a committee established early in its term of office, to examine the question of student representation and prepare a submission to University Council, will have to reconsider, and possibly narrow, its terms of reference.

However, it has by no means lost its *raison d'être*. There still remain important University Committees with no student members.

The most interesting, if not the most exciting, of the proposals is the recommendation by the committee enquiring into the University Act that two University Council positions be elected by a student franchise. This would put Adelaide at least on a par with four other Australian Universities.

## STUDENT CONTROL UNREALISTIC

The remainder have one undergraduate representative, who in some cases is not himself a student, or does not have full membership rights. Thus, although consonant with the best of practice elsewhere, the recommendation is not as far reaching as some had hoped it might be, and indeed falls far short of proposals that advocated a fifty per cent student council.

There may be room for improvement in the recommendation, but to press for student control of the University would be unrealistic. A university is not a democracy and cannot become one without degenerating into pandemonium. The result in universities where students have control has been disorder and inferior educational standards.

The important thing at the University Council level is, not so much the number of votes that students may exercise, but the articulate expression of informed student opinion that brings before Council student grievances and demands, and obviates the danger of it making decisions in an atmosphere barren of contemporary trends and feelings in the undergraduate body.

In any case, a community of scholars, that elusive ideal we claim to be striving for, is not born of a particular conciliar structure. It is a phenomenon that evolves from a change in attitude of staff and students, and a desire on the part of both to strive towards a more meaningful interaction, and a more relevant and interesting education.

## SIT INS

It is in the faculties and university committees therefore that democratic procedures can and must operate, and student participation at this level, is the most important, and ultimately will prove to be the most fruitful.

At the committee level, there will be two students on each of the library and sites and grounds committees. Members of both are appointed by the University Council. As the Governing body of the Barr Smith, the Library Committee obviously deals with matters of vital concern to students. With a direct voice on it, one hopes that problems can be resolved by negotiation rather than all night sit-ins.

The Sites and Grounds Committee is a collection of individuals within whose province it is to make aesthetic value judgements. Are we to plant Callistemon Brachyanthus or Melaleuca Fulgens in a given bed?

The decision to have student members of the committee is not merely recognition of the fact that they, too, may have an opinion on such matters. Alteration of any of the University's physical facilities must be approved by this committee. Thus a recent decision by the Union to alter its redevelopment plans must be referred to it.

It is only common sense that student opinion should be an active element in deliberations that are often concerned with the most basic of student utilities and comforts.

## LOAN FUND

The University administers a student loan fund, and, in certain cases of financial hardship, will grant relief in the payment of fees. These were under the control of a committee comprising the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

When the University claimed that this committee should administer relief of the Statutory Fee also (so that all would be treated on the same basis), the Union agreed, on the condition that the President of the SRC be a member of the Committee.

There was little hesitancy in the University's acceptance of this proposal; all funds will now be administered by the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and SRC President.

A decision on the matter of student representation on the Disciplinary Board, however, will not be so quickly forthcoming. A committee established in October of last year to review the Statute and Regulations Governing student discipline is still deliberating. The submission from the SRC was concerned mainly with student membership of the Board, and the keeping of discipline within the University to a minimum.

It is interesting to note that this committee is an example of the University Council inviting student membership of ad hoc committees concerned with mat-

ters of direct relevance to students.

The President and Vice-President of the SRC are members of the disciplinary committee. There are three students on a committee recently established to enquire into the role of theatre in the University.

## GRASS ROOTS

The hard fact about University Council and the Committees is that they will involve only a limited number of students. It is manifestly evident that the University, as a community, can reach its objectives only if there is a growing sense of common goals, and an opportunity and willingness on the part of all to accept personal responsibility in achieving them.

Inescapably, this means that there must be wide participation of as many as possible in the governing of the University.

The most significant decision of Council, therefore, is the recommendation to all faculties that they set up curriculum committees. These, it is anticipated, will provide a common meeting-ground for staff and students to discuss problems in the faculty, the content of courses, lecturing standards and so on.

Considering that in academic matters, faculties are virtually autonomous, such committees can provide a realistic opportunity for grass-root student involvement in University government.

I say 'can' and not 'will' because the composition, status and modus operandi of these committees has been left up to the faculties. At least one has shown an intention to establish a curriculum committee with a substantial amount of decision-making power. Some have indicated reluctance to set up a body with very much authority in the faculty.

It is imperative that faculty societies take the initiative in the establishment of these committees, and prevent them from being powerless bodies with authority over little else but time-tables.

They do have the real potential of becoming the main decision-making bodies in the faculties. It is up to us to ensure that they are established in such a way that they are.

## REFORMS: PROGRESSION

Unfortunately, the student representation issue at Adelaide is far from dead. There are still no students on important bodies like the 4C and Education Committees and the Disciplinary Board.

It is no argument to say that student members of University Council will be on some of these committees. They will have a right to membership as Councillors; not because they are students.

It has been shown that student participation at these levels is of use to everyone. Council's half-hearted approach is only delaying what many University administrations consider are progressive and advantageous reforms.

There has been enough procrastination over the whole matter of student representation already. In 1949 the third SRC's proposals for representation were rejected by Council. At least there has been some progress.

"How long, O Lord, how long?"

## 23RD STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

# ELECTIONS

Nominations are called for the following vacancies:  
ONE ENGINEERING FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE  
ONE SCIENCE FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE  
ONE GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Application forms will be available from the S.R.C. Office Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 12th 13th 14th March.

Photographs of candidates will be published in the "ON DIT" issue of March 19; the statutory three days of voting will be deemed to be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 19, 20, 21st. March.

STUART BRASTED  
Returning Officer,  
23rd S.R.C.

## COMMENCEMENT BALL

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## STAN FORD

WED. MARCH 19

1.05

LADY SYMON HALL

Jesus said:

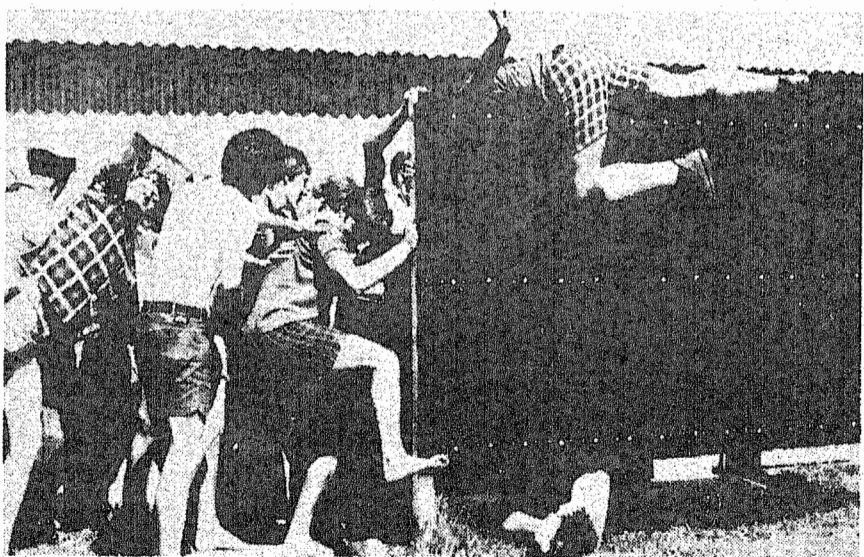
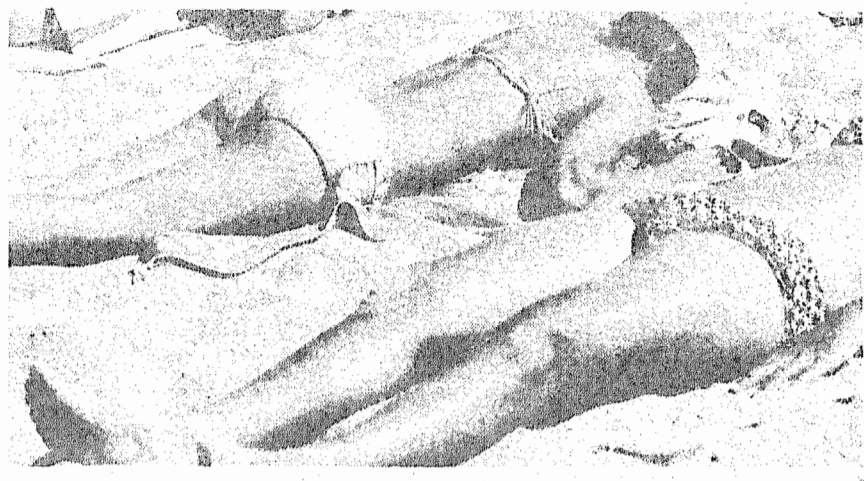
"I AM THE WAY"

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# FRESH ON THE SCENE



Top to bottom, left then right:  
 Fresh food/172 apples  
 a day.../camp cook Jennifer  
 Hunt trusting to bread  
 and jam/Wash-in/Surf's up/Sun's  
 out/Daily rations/Great  
 Australian segregation / Dyke-cramming  
 record attempted/Fresh approaches,  
 new thoughts, in group discussions/

post iucundum iuventutem, post molestam

# GANGRENE

On leaving this University, I fully expect to have a large and impressive shelf of volumes displayed in memory of me in those cavernous recesses of the Barr Smith Library.

**JUDY MARCHANT**

**LOOKS AT LIBRARY FINES**

Money for this collection will come solely from the library fines which I have been forced to pay during my university sojourn.

I have not worked out the grisly total sum, but believe that it would be well over twenty dollars by now. Though I may be unsure of the exact sum, the library never is.

They are never wrong. So don't bother to query those caustic little fines-rendered notices which arrive regularly in the mail.

They will be exact to a millionth of a cent.

The University Council has set the following fines for overdue books where no invoice is set:

15c/day/volume for 14-day loans

30c/day/volumes for 7-day and 2/day loans

30c/hr/volume for 3-hour and overnight loans from the reserve and multiple collections.

But friends and neighbours, take heart and note, that by putting the cash directly into their grasping little hands, you can get a cash discount of 5 cents.

Such Tom the Cheap tactics seem oddly out of place when used by a supposedly austere institution such as our Barr. Apparently they are inevitable.

If financial threats such as these aren't enough to deter the habitual keeper of multiple and reserve books, perhaps the thought of 500 desperate students, all wanting that particular book will speed its return.

# REFECTORY PRICES GO UP

The refectory made a \$6,000 loss last year (surprised!) attributed to increases in wages and wholesale food costs. With the concurrence of the SRC, the Union has decided to raise Refectory food prices.

After the hysteria dies down ('The food's bad enough as it is, without our having to pay more — let's boycott the place!'), and the stomach's settle ('my ulcer can't take any more unless the prices go down!') the problem remains.

How can students effectively improve the quality and quantity of cheaply-bought Refectory food?

The answer is simple: by a great deal of work. Work in setting out in detail how to serve two thousand adequate meals a day; work in suggesting methods of streamlining the preparation of chips, vegetables, stews, sausages, rice and fish so that the final products are both palatable and reasonable in cost.

The SRC approved the proposed increases only on the understanding that:

(1) A survey of student opinions about the refectory would be held as soon as possible.

(2) A committee of enquiry into refectory management be established.

(3) Concerted efforts to improve the quality of Refectory food be made by the Union.

All who are concerned with their stomachs should support the proposed survey. Eliot Dwyer, Chairman of the Refectory Advisory Committee, is there to hear specific complaints. He can be contacted

through the SRC Office.

Whatever happens, the new blue chairs are beautiful.

Thus spake the establishment. According to them, if you think the food stinks, or is too expensive, or there isn't enough of it, then you will complete one of the survey forms in as pithy a manner as you are able, being careful to make constructive suggestions for further improvements.

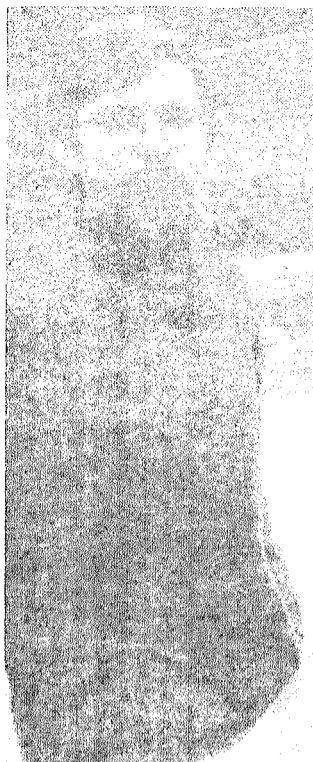
The official line of patter runs as thin as Refectory soup: it is the very same line that has been handed out within living memory wherever a howl of protest rises from the proletariat.

That there have been improvements cannot be argued: the Mayo servery has been renovated and the Wills' Refectory half-hearted efforts at making with the stained glass scene have mercifully been removed. The place has been cleaned and repainted and the new blue and white is positively antiseptic.

There remains the matter of food. We await with trembling interest the offerings of the New Asian and Grill Bars. What we're used to is unspeakably bad. Apparently we are not due for a change of management so, there is no good reason to expect that things are going to get better.

Perhaps the new surroundings will encourage those responsible for the food to reach a level of happy adequacy.

If they do not, then it's back to base one.



Cultural Affairs Officer  
Claude Wischik

**UNI-TECH BOOKS**

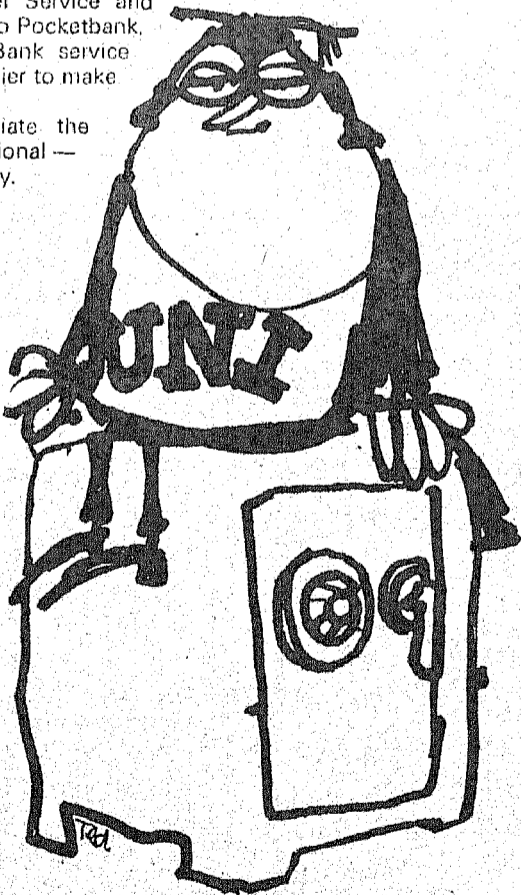
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 National Bank

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY ORIENTATION REVUE

"Well it's better than stuffed prunes and junket"

Consider the prune's eye view of the junket. We did, and came up with a revue. This slop will be served at 7.00 p.m. on Friday, March 14 and Saturday March 15 at 8.00 p.m. in the Matthew Flinders Theatre.

Seats available at Adelaide S.R.C. Office, Allans and Flinders P.O.

50c students.

All others 80c.

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For the positively minded, one sticker indicates a preference for spelling reform. For the negativist, the alternative sticker tactfully suggests a certain degree of dissatisfaction with traditional orthography.

\*\* APHRAID OF PHEELING PHOOLISH?

Well, Let's put it this way. A Director of Education in the U.K. wrote in 1964:

"Generally speaking, it has been the outstanding scholars, the masters of English language, the authorities on the history of the language, who have demanded spelling reform. It is those ignorant of the history and development of language, of its etymology and structure, who have raised their hands in horror at the mention of reform.

Incidentally, Lord Tennyson (of Tennyson Medal fame) was the Vice-President of the English Spelling Reform Association of his day.

\*\* 200 years ago it was already well known that the "ph" spelling was always a hoax as the corresponding Greek letter was, in fact, an "f."

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MAUREN AND ROSS NENKE

Mine Hosts

senectutem nos habebit humus. Vita nostra

# UNIVERSITY ARTS FESTIVAL 2 (II)

or

"The 'You can talk o' gin and beer  
When you're quartered way out 'ere,  
but not in Melbourne, May 23-31" syndrome.

If this May festival does not radically fertilize the C. R., Australia, failure will be rooted in Blank sterility of the student mass.

Moribund or not, the Festival as are, always, will grasp and hold up for total inspection the contribution that we of the age of rage have to make.

But then, given the mythic extent of Student Collective Consciousness, plus, (hopefully) the Midas-touch of James Baldwin, Joan Baez and Peter Brook, the pessimist is left meagre hope of failure.

The event, as our era, is a reality. It is a 9-day, 24-hour-a-day programme continuum. There are disastrous programme clashes at every hour of the day, and the unrelenting demand for choice of commitment. There be plays and jazz, choral and classical, poetry and the latest big-name-director films. Bat-Man for breakfast! This is a celebration of student being.

More than a combination of tradition-laden I-V's. More fresh, new I-V's; Folk singing; more than just a concatenation of I-V's. The Festival offers ground on which studes of Australia may unite.

Here you can meet those who animate the campus life, those who have things to say. Here, you as an animator of the campus life, You who have things to say, can say something to those who come to meet those who have . . . "La Mama" and "The Muse" will be open day and night throughout to sit and talk. The Artfes will even take over the top disco for a night.

**Fiesta!**  
Festival is what the word says. It is a total tribal event: a celebration of first offerings to the dire inevitabilities that lurk across reality. The commemoration of Dionysus. To embody this spirit of totality, a festival film will be made. A magazine of poetry and photography will publish the fruits of the junction.

The more tangible form of this spirit is accommodation. Here the ever-vigilant organizing committee is galvanized. Arrangements are not yet finalized, but as grants grow beyond the now-attained \$6,500 mark, living costs, by heavy subsidy, will be reduced to a minimum.

Printed matter on the Festival will soon become available through the local Cultural Affairs Officer (CAO) He exists. He is Claude Wischik of Arts. He is here to sell his soul for the Festival (65 1515).

Art is the most immediate medium for propping up in the rat-social-rat-race. The only values that count. Student art is devastatingly huge in potential power. A celebration of this art is unique and grand, and must demand your attention.

# STUDENT CHALLENGE GONE STALE

Catherine Thiem looks at the implications of the Bob Hall case.

In these turbulent times of reassessment of the student role in society, a small black cloud hath hove onto the horizon, showering the student world with yet another storm of hysterical pamphlet issuing and motion passing.

Let us dispense with colorful imagery and examine the situation.

Robert Hall, a student at Adelaide Teachers' College, has been suspended, and will possibly be expelled, because (as SDA's "Grass Roots") expresses it "of actions which he has undertaken outside of TC on an issue unrelated to the administration of the College."

These actions stemmed from Mr. Hall's political beliefs and took the form of handing out pamphlets as a demonstration of protest against the National Service Act.

Unfortunately for Mr. Hall, he and his fellow demonstrators neglected to apply for a permit to hand out pamphlets, and when arrested, he added to his crimes by refusing to give his name and address to a police officer, and by sitting on the pavement (disorderly conduct).

The repercussions have been quite startling.

There was the ATC-SRC's mild motion: "The Management Committee does not fully endorse the actions of Robert Hall, but it considers that a dangerous precedent may have been set if suspension results from the expressed political opinion of a student. It is urged that since his actions did spring from his political beliefs, Robert Hall's position in the Department be reconsidered."

This states disapproval without venturing into the realms of the revolutionary.

Not so the SDA. Their approach was admirable. No messing around with cumbersome and carefully worded motions. Their suggested demands are eminently simple, succines and straight to the point:

1 "The immediate reinstatement of Bob Hall and a personal apology from Pfitzner for his actions.

2 "A written assurance from the administration that internal college discipline will not be used against students for off-campus activities in the future."

A mid-course was taken by the University SRC. After heated discussion, three motions were passed, two of which dealt with generalisations arising from the events, and the third dealing with the Hall case specifically.

This latter was, "that this SRC condemns the actions of the principal of ATC in relation to the suspension of Robert Hall, believing that his suspension was basically founded on a judgement of Hall's political beliefs, and not in accordance with any regulation concerning automatic suspension.

Whatever minor differences may appear in the overt appearances of the protests, all



seem to be in agreement with the idea that Mr. Hall is something of a martyr. A martyr in the cause of personal freedom versus that blind monster, bureaucracy.

Few would deny the importance of this cause. It could probably do with a martyr or two; but let them be chosen carefully. A martyr's credentials must be capable of standing up to the most stringent scrutiny.

It has been mentioned that it was unfortunate that no application for permit for the handing out of pamphlets had been made. If it had, the situation might have been quite different in many ways.

Surely, if the actions of Mr. Hall et al spring from carefully formulated political beliefs, someone would have conjured up the notion of applying to the City Council for said permit. If such a request had been refused, the whole situation could be seen quite differently, and the protest would have gained weight.

Further, it may not be irrelevant to suggest that all would be demonstrators should, before making any moves, overt, covert, or half and half, consider the consequences of their actions.

Should they then want to sacrifice themselves in the student cause, fine. If not, then there might be less agonizing by the local student administration, and interested bodies like SDA, fewer attempts to bail out at the eleventh hour.

Although Mr. Hall may have been a little ill-advised in his actions, some of the issues raised by this farce are worth considering.

Requiring a permit in order to hand out pamphlets is, at least, ridiculous. It is probably the most innocuous method of staging a protest.

That happy crowd, the general public is not molested in any way, and since no one can be forced to read a pamphlet, people need not be affected by the demonstration in any way at all.

One would hope that the days when the masses accepted everything that appeared in print as gospel have long since passed.

There is the vitally important issue of Education Department policy of automatic suspension of any of its employees charged with criminal or civil offences. This is completely unfair, and a violent contradiction of one of the basic tenets of our legal system, that a person is innocent until proven guilty.

Suspension, while not as damning as outright dismissal suggests that, while the accused may not be actually guilty, he certainly is not completely innocent.

Reassessment of this regulation is long overdue. The police force is not infallible, and while "the possibility of acquittal of an accused person exists, such a regulation should not."

A final issue remains. Teachers' Colleges are constantly being accused of over-regimentation of their employees. And employees they are.

Student teachers' salaries are not adequate, but they do exist. Hence, the Colleges can reasonably expect some proof that they are receiving services in return for the money that they spend.

Students sign the bond knowing exactly what they are letting themselves in for. If they do default, they do not have to repay tuition fees, but merely the money they have received in the form of their allowance.

It is this which complicates the whole issue. Usually, students find the demands tedious, but not exorbitant. When there is strife, there are lecturers and advisers ready to hear the case, advise, and, if necessary, plead extenuating circumstances to the "powers-that-be."

No one would advocate blind conformity to every departmental regulation. It seems to be equally absurd to advise blind rebellion. "Short haircuts, 'correct' dress and passivity" are not "the external characteristics of the mass produced teacher today."

A high proportion of young teachers are long haired, casually dressed revolutionaries. The majority of teachers feels that dedication to providing for pupils the best education possible is more important than an outward display of what is often merely superficial individuality.

Demonstrate your protest by all means. Someone has to improve the situation, and it helps to convince if there are ready alternatives to offer. Certainly, it does not hurt to try legal though tiresome avenues first.

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# FRESH OUT OF SWEAT

## HOCKEY FIJIAN STYLE

The second Australian touring team to visit Fiji stepped from the Air India Boeing 707 in to the early evening steamy heat at Nadi airport on January 7 this year. Both Australian and Fijian teams were playing during their off-season and Fiji's rainy season. Surprisingly, rain fell only on one day, when a thunderstorm flooded the hockey pitch with three inches of water.

From the airport, the team drove past shouting and waving Fijians and more sedate Indians to Lautoka. Two matches later (one drawn, one lost to a team that would do very well in Adelaide district matches), and quite a few pounds lighter, lost in shops, clubs and in the late afternoon heat when matches were played, the team left Lautoka by boat to Levuka, Fiji's old capital. The team's hockey was conquered by the storm and they lost. The Fijians turned on a special dance for them in the hotel which was followed by a Yaqona (Kava) party. Grog turns Fijians into an amiable, singing, extremely friendly people, but not into blithering fools.

## Indian girls...

The Hockey team then travelled to cooler and more humid Suva on the other side of the Island. Playing on a beautifully green pitch, two matches were won and two were drawn. One of these was to a women's team. The Lautoka women became jealous and the team was obliged

to play them before playing the Nadi men's team on the way home.

The tour officially ended on January 21. While most left as scheduled, four of the team caught an Indian-laden bus to a village near Sigatoka on the South Coast. Here they were luxuriously waited upon by a family of six Indian girls, who served them food on the cane matting floor of a beautiful bure and swam with them in calm lagoons with white palm-fringed beaches (who said sports reports weren't poetic?).

Overloaded with duty-free goods but minus the Adelaide Cup, which had been presented to the Fijian Hockey Association for junior players, the team returned to Adelaide leaving microbiologist Robin Mitchell behind. Mitchell, chief organizer and star player for the team, was born in Levuka and had been studying in Adelaide. The hockey team are sorry to have lost Robin, a remarkable person in his own right as well as a remarkable player and team-man.

Believe it or not, old and new members of the club can enjoy a slide evening (apologies: Barry Humphries) after practice at St. Marks' middle common room on Tuesday March 18. Pies and beer are supporting features.



## RACING OFF AT THE SAILING INTERVARSITY

The 1969 Sailing Intersarsity Competitions were held in Canberra this year. Adelaide's three-man Men's team joined sixty-five competitors from seven other Universities. As the Women's team found themselves two members short at the last moment, the remaining two girls went to Canberra to 'observe' the Intersarsity (not from the sidelines, either). The residential

halls in which crew members, managers and reserves lived were far more acceptable than was expected. Reasons for this were that they were mixed, they contained single rooms, and they provided three good meals a day, in that order of merit.

Races were so arranged that the women raced in the morning and the men in the afternoon, to enable Universities with one boat to compete, and, at least in theory, to allow the non-competing teams to cheer on their members of the opposite sex. In practice this did not quite work: the boys usually urged the girls on from the comfort of the lounge of the Canberra Sailing Club.

The weather in which the women sailed was ridiculous, to say the least. On most days they drifted around a shortened course. Seven o'clock weather forecasts invariably predicted two-to-three-knot NW-SW winds on the lake. Despite poor winds, however, the racing requirements were filled and the Victorian team narrowly won from New South Wales.

## Social events

The men's teams sailed in better conditions: the prevailing wind came from the North-West. If this did not appear, the starter had to wait for the so-called sea-breeze to spring up. On the afternoon of a desperate bid by the South Australian team to equal the number of wins by the Sydney crew, the wind did not arrive until five o'clock. It promptly disappeared after the first two boats rounded the last mark. With the race ending at eight-thirty, the crews understandably claimed that they could not see the finishing lines. South Australia finished a close second in that race, and over-all second in the series.

South Australia certainly excelled in the social events. Without mentioning names (to protect the guilty) one of the men's team was awarded the coveted medal for 'The Man who Loved the Most Women', while one of the girls won her's for 'subterfuge and fraternization above and beyond the call of duty.'

ON DIT'S regular feature  
SPORTSMAN OF THE WEEK  
will appear on these pages as from next week.

## Medical Undergraduates!

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# REFRESHMENTS

Chris White on *Bye Bye Birdie*/G. Sand on *Sunday in New York*/G. J. Searle reviews a Dylan Thomas biography.

## BEER, BIRDS AND WORDS



One of the first lessons to be learnt while exploring the lower branches of the groves of academia is that Dylan Thomas is no fit subject for the attention of a literary critic.

People involved in thinking about the Great Issues which confront today's world are very apt to despise, with a Calvinistic fervour, that self-indulgent abrogation of responsibility which they see as characteristic of the artists and intellectuals of the 1930's.

Dylan Thomas was no intellectual, and, indeed, the importance of his lack of education is very great. He was one of those artists who are roundly condemned for being a fashionable bolshevik.

Constantine Fitzgibbon has written a biography of Thomas which is so well researched, and so honestly presented, that such generalisations cease to have meaning.

One almost suspects, should one dare say it, that they are crap (university readers of this article will please eat it to avoid detection).

"The Life of Dylan Thomas" is both an exhilarating and depressing story. Dylan's poverty, womanising, and above all, his drinking, are well known. But the incredible stories which have surrounded his legend, and made his habits so famous, pre-

sent a formidable difficulty for his biographer.

Although Fitzgibbon was one of Dylan's close friends, he makes no bones about Thomas' constant lies on the subject of his own exploits, his sense that he had to live up to his image of "the poet," his petty thieving, and his fears that "they" the educated and those in power, would "find him out."

On the other hand, Dylan's charm, generosity, and naivety, shine through everything. He was a man of extraordinary contradictions and unpredictabilities.

Very early in his life, he seems to have taken the anarchic position and said, "No."

At school, in the drab Swansea, which he hated for its confinements and loved for its security, he decided that, as a poet, he should fail academic subjects spectacularly.

This he did, generally coming bottom, with the exception of English, which he topped. Success would have been a lure and in the toils of his corruption, his "vision" would be lost — such may have been his unconscious logic.

Like Wordsworth, another visionary poet with a strong sense of "nature" and what is "natural," Dylan was always to be much preoccupied by childhood. But whereas Wordsworth was a solitary, and protected his vision

with all sorts of defences, Thomas was urgently gregarious. There was nothing he liked more than the life of the pub.

Dylan exposed himself more, in both senses, and his poetry shows the difficulty which he found in expressing himself amidst so much confusing data.

Fitzgibbon's account of Thomas' life is worth reading for a number of reasons. The most basic is the intrinsic fascination of the day to day events. It is a mystery how he lived as long as he did in the face of such a hectic hand-to-mouth existence, in which one of the heady rules was that money and material gain are not worth considering as objects of desire.

Apart from the bare events of the "Life," the book is exceptional in the manner of their presentation, and the genuine good taste of the analysis and commentary.

Even more important is the stimulation of interest in Thomas' poems, which the biography cannot fail to provide. Where Dylan said, "Yes," was in his desire to communicate through his art.

To do it, he worked extremely hard, and was never more frustrated than when people admitted that they were unable to understand his poems.

The work of his biographer will see that the effort to understand is made again.

The Life of Dylan Thomas by Constantine Fitzgibbon (Sphere Books \$1.15).

## Book & Theatre Reviews

## ATC SCORES WITH 'BIRDIE'

Once more ATC Drama and Music Clubs have forced the complacent, especially within the University, to reassess the talents lurking in the institution in Kintore Avenue.

The cause of this stir was the recent production of "Bye Bye Birdie", which earned numerous accolades, including packed houses and a rave review from Mary Armitage.

The production was made spectacular by a spirited combination of Graham Purcell's direction, choreography by Yvonne Howell, musical direction by David King, production by Shirley Box and Geoff Smith's design, with a lively, enthusiastic cast of ATC students.

America saw the first production of "Birdie" in 1960, when it was designed as a satire on the furor caused by Presley's somewhat forced entrance into the service of Uncle Sam.

Despite the passing of time, the story of rock-and-roll idol Conrad Birdie's "One Last Kiss" before being drafted, with its even more comic subplot of the conquered romance between his manager, Albert, and his secretary, Rosie, still provides lively entertainment.

It's all wholesome humour, very much in the American musical tradition of racy production numbers ("One Last Kiss") vibrant singing and dancing, and snappy patter.

Perhaps the most outstanding performance was Pam O'Grady's Rosie. Her singing, dancing and acting were excellent. Eva Rebane gave a delightful characterization of Albert's mother, and Bruce King extracted everything from the part of Birdie.

Cheryl Mills, (the teenage girl), Peter Westhorpe, Joanne Mason (her parents) and John Davis (Albert) all made significant contributions to the light-hearted satire of a ridiculous situation.

It is safer not to make comparisons between ATC and University production. Enough to say that the next ATC show must be seen, especially if they should choose to divert their resources into legitimate theatre.



Eva Rebane



Graham Purcell

## And Sunday it was Raining

The Adelaide Repertory Theatre began its 1969 season with Cecil Reed's production of Norman Krasner's "Sunday in New York."

It is the policy of this company to present plays which are contemporary, at least in theme, and which entertain an audience. "Sunday" attempts no more than this — and succeeds.

Its theme is the dilemma in which a 22 year old, who happens to be a virgin, (I'm the only one left in the whole world) finds herself.

The absurdity of today's ethical code is touched lightly, and preference is given to a deft and slightly ironical treatment of the reactions of such a girl to the various lines handed out by the male world.

This is an approach to situation comedy which has not often been handled. For this reason, the dialogue does not drag, as it is usually wont to do in works of this kind.

The play unfolded smoothly, if predictably, and with a completely competent cast, made slight, but pleasant entertainment.

Perhaps more of the interest centred, from time to time, on the largely middle aged audience, who seemed to be unexpectedly stirred to whispered comment at the sight of the hero flashing about on stage in his underpants, with the lady in question racing around without her dress.

Those who expect depth in treatment of theme and development in character in theatre may be soothed by the thought that even this type of play can 'educate.' We can now eagerly await the advent of "Motel."

The most immediately impressive part of the performance was the design of the set. The play demands nine very fast scene changes from the interior of a flat, to a bus, to a bus stop, a cafe, the interior of a cinema theatre and the inside of a car.

The set was at once striking and attractive. After the first scene change, it was difficult not to wait for the next, to see how this very clever design was going to be exploited to produce a different effect.

The company worked smoothly with a cast which was, on the whole, quite able to cope. Rob Sykes made a delightfully engaging young man, adjustable to an infuriating degree, who, in spite of his being able to handle them easily, professes that he will "never be able to understand women."

If there is to be a regular audience for theatre in Adelaide 'between the Festivals,' there must be more plays of this kind performed well.

If this is the way the Arts Theatre is going to start its year, we can expect this audience to have grown considerably by the end of this year.

### AUDS

Pre-auditions for *Prometheus Bound* will be held in the rehearsal room Union Hall Wednesday and Thursday at 1.10 this week.

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When the abortion is effected, inhibition must start immediately, otherwise enthusiastic ions will be at it again.

The choice of a modern Pill is important. Old fashioned inhibitors are like old fashioned contraceptives. They are not reliable, they have a limited life, they "break down" in use and mostly only inhibit performance.

What was good gear in 1949 is not good enough for 1969. People and motors have both changed. Modern inhibitors improve performance and ensure constant peace of mind.

Our Corrosion Doctor insists on the right Pill for the patient. Some motors have cast iron constitutions and for them a full dose of RUSTGARD will suffice.

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### STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Nominations are called for the following NUAUS positions:

- LOCAL NATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER
- LOCAL FRIENDLY SOCIETY OFFICER
- LOCAL ABSCHOL DIRECTOR
- LOCAL PAPUA/NEW GUINEA OFFICER
- LOCAL TRAVEL OFFICER
- LOCAL SOCIAL ACTION OFFICER

Nominations should be handed in at the S.R.C. Office as soon as possible.

**Bruce Riley**  
Local NUAUS Secretary

### ON DIT

VACANCIES EXIST FOR MEMBERS OF STAFF

If you have any interest whatsoever in student newspapers and journalism contact THE EDITORS C/O SRC OFFICE

ON DIT IS LOOKING IN PARTICULAR FOR —

- CARTOONISTS
- PHOTOGRAPHERS



# FRESHER OF THE WEEK

ON DIT's first Bird of the Week is first year Arts student Jenny Weaver. Miss Weaver's beautiful countenance graced the recent SRC Fresher's Camp, where she was captured by our roving photographer. She confided that she likes modern clothes and music, fast cars, and spicy foods. When pressed she revealed her ambitions were to pass her exams and travel.

Miss Weaver will receive a small gift courtesy ON DIT and is the first to be eligible to be coveted Bird of the Year.

Photo: Ken McClay.

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THE N.Z. AVENGERS  
RED ANGEL PANIC  
IMPACT  
CAMPUS SIX**

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**COMMENCEMENT BALL  
UNION & SURROUNDS  
FRIDAY MARCH 14 8.30**

## UNDERGROUND SOUND IS TWENTY FEET HIGH

The most devastating feature of the Commencement Ball this year will be a wild 'underground sound' by Adelaide's first and only underground group, Red Angel Panic — upstairs! From eleven-thirty onwards the upper Refectory will explode with mind-blowing sounds, strobes and special effects, including the Group's own Panic Girl, who provides atmosphere and creative movement.

Australia's top group will be alternating with New Zealand's top group in the Mayo refectory and outside in the cloisters on the ground level. The cosmopolitan twosome are Sydney's Levi Smith Clefs, who have been playing at the Whisky-a-go-go for the past twelve months and who are about to take up an offer in the States; and the New Zealand Avengers, voted top group for 1968 in that country in three categories, including World Class (over the Beatles and Bee Gees as far as New Zealanders are concerned).

Impact, one of Adelaide's top groups, and the Campus Six, now recognised as Australia's top jazz band, complete what must be one of the greatest line-ups the SRC balls have ever had.

### DRESS TO KILL

A total lighting environment has been specially created for the Ball, and the use of large screens will enable the visual colour and film continuum effects to be more effective than before.

One of the big innovations with the '69 Commem Ball is that it has 'gone informal' — fluorescing posters have splayed the 'dress to kill' line around the campus for several weeks now. The idea behind this is for the birds still to dress up (as is their wont), but to go all out for the grooviest gear possible. While the staunch conservativists amongst us are baulking at the change (there is nothing to stop them wearing formal gear) the change has been heralded by most people as one for the better.

With free beer and wines available, the '69 Commem Ball will be the happiest grooviest event of the year. Don't miss it!

## FRESH ON DIT

Edited by Miss Daniele Villunas and Adrian Mann.

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Ken McClay.

Printed web offset by Smedley Press Pty. Ltd., 33 Hastings St., Glenelg, S.A.

Artwork accepted: Copy for next issue: Thursday, March 13. Copy for following issue: Thursday, March 20.