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Adelaide's Student Weekly

# Ondit

Monday  
September 12,  
1983.  
Volume 51,  
Number 15.



## Dead Kennedys


LIVE!

**Phar Lap**



The newest Australian extravaganza is given a critical treatment in a review by Dino Di Rosa.  
Page 14

**Roxby Downs**



Helen Mildred and Andrew Eberhard were blockading at Roxby and their report follows.  
Page 9

**Hans Haacke**

"REAGANOMICS!"

Lord Salisbury interviews controversial American artist Hans Haacke.  
Page 5

**Plus:**

- Car Column
- Prosh Photos
- Captain Adelaide

# EDITORIAL

It seems we are to have child-care facilities for student parents on campus this term — a reform with some controversial ramifications which has somehow managed to survive the merciless gauntlet of student politics unscathed. So be it.

The creche is apparently to be situated in the recently-vacated Student Counselling area above the Students' Association office — a huge area containing many offices which are bordering on the luxurious.

We have no objection to a child-minding centre on campus. If a demand exists for such a facility, and if that is what students want, the centre has our full support.

What we do object to is that existing Union Services, cramped to a ridiculous extent for space and catering for many times the number of students that the new child-minding centre will, are not to be considered for extra office space.

The child-minding centre is a new and uncertain facility, which is being run on a trial basis to determine whether a demand exists for such a service. It seems ludicrous that such a tentative venture should be handed such luxury accommodation when the Union is supposed to be currently undergoing a period of severe financial restraint.

Many other Union offices (and yes, we are talking about our own beloved little 'On dit' brothel, amongst others) are unacceptably cramped, antiquated and under-equipped — presenting fire and health risks as well as the obvious problems.

We ask why the child-minding centre should start off its existence in luxury surrounds, much of which will probably remain unused, whilst services like 'On dit' remain cramped into inadequate space? Surely it would be more logical to initially bestow upon the new, tentative, trial venture an office-space of more modest dimensions, and allow those people who have proven needs for extra-space to benefit from the timely relocation of the Student Counselling Service.

We have been pleading for more space and facilities for years, and have been told time and again that the space simply is not available. Now that this area has suddenly become available, we are apparently not even to be considered or consulted.

We are angry. The Union is once again displaying that peculiar talent for which it has become renowned — gross mismanagement and incompetency.

Jenni Lans and David Mussared



## Production Notes

**Editors, Publishers and gradually running out of patience...** Jenni Lans and David Mussared.

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**News Team:** Tim Dodd, Mark Davis, Moya Dodd.

**Photographers:** Damian ("Birthday Boy") Barret, John Tanner, Devin Clementi, Richard ("Other Birthday Boy") Dall — the blurry ones of the Toga Party by Muz...

**Cover:** Harold Evans and the *On dit* Team.

**Cartoonists:** Mark Koerber, Troy Dangerfield, Richard Dall, John Tanner, Gerhard Ritter, Ron and

Rob Tomlian, Penny Locket (come back Inga, all is forgiven).

**Columnists:** Bilbo Baggins, Lena Grant, Charles Gent, Tim Dodd, Jackie Wurm, Paul Klaric.

**Features:** David Mussared, Lord Salisbury, Jane Willcox, Peter Lavers, Andrew Eberhard, Helen Mildred, Kendra Coulter, Cathleen Brannigan.

**Reviews:** Tracey Korsten, Peter Rummel, David Walker, the guys who wrote the car column, LOK, Xavier Pilkington, Richard Dall, David Winderlich, Nigel Stocks, Dino Di Rosa, Martin Coghlan, John Sheppard, Charles Gent.

**Record Reviews Editor:** Jane Willcox.

**Morale Officer:** Regards sent from the *On dit* team.

**Crosswit:** David Astle.

**Transport:** James Williamson.

**Layout Team (or silly fools):** Armon Hicks, Jane Willcox, Mark Davis, Andrew Gleeson, Phillip "tell us

another amusing story" Kelly, John Tanner (and the great work he's done on all the covers), Richard Dall, and the frazzled Eds.

**Special Thanks:** John Sandeman, Geoff Hanmer, Tim Dodd, Xave, Wendy Lagoon — also to Robbie Robinson from the 'Thebbie', for generally being a good guy.

**Non-Person of the Week:** The Bar. We want our chairs back. Please?

**Bad Smell Award (for the person who hung around the office most last week):** Muz. Even though you're paid, you really ought to take a holiday sometime.

**Deadlines:** *Feature Articles* — Tuesday, 5 pm (if we are consulted prior to the event).

*Letters* Wednesday, 12 noon

*Reviews* Wednesday, 9 am

*Notices* Wednesday, 5 pm

*News* Thursday, 12 noon

*Page Two* Tuesday, 12 noon

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY RICHARD AND DAMIAN**

PAGE TWO

# The Death Penalty

As a penalty for murder, the death penalty has a pleasing symmetry — "life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth", as Exodus demands. That we regard human life as so important is the very reason we should reserve for murderers the ultimate sanction. Or is it?

While you turn the arguments in your mind, remember that there should always be a burden on those who want the death penalty to prove their case, to a "moral certainty" if you like. If we kill, we had better have damn good reasons.

**If we don't kill murderers, they'll only kill again?**

Will they? Under the present system, contrary to popular mythology, many killers are incarcerated until they become institutionalised, unreactive, and harmless. Those who are paroled after relatively short terms (7-10 years) are those who prison officers and administrators know to be no more dangerous than the average person often those who killed in a never-repeated, often much regretted fit of passion. Three-quarters of all murders occur in "domestic situations" where tense, emotional confrontations lead to the death of wives, girlfriends, children. To my knowledge, paroled murderers have not been responsible for any further murder in S.A. Their overall crime rate is lower than that of the general population.

**They deserve it!**

We don't torch arsonists' houses. Why

apply to murder the retributive principles which we have rejected everywhere else? We assume that murderers are responsible for their actions; hence we excuse the insane and the intoxicated. Yet in the absence of telepathy, we cannot be certain that those whom we would execute are truly responsible. Yet certainty is exactly what we must require before we take a life. The law guesses at criminal responsibility, however educated that guess might be.

In truth most people aren't worried about moral responsibility. It is the horrific nature of some crimes which shocks them. Lacking any understanding of why Richard Kelvin and others are so sadly butchered, the public wish to respond, and capital punishment seems as good a response as any. But public outrage is a poor basis for a law.

**The death penalty is a uniquely effective deterrent to murder?**

This is very, very probably untrue. Most of the evidence suggest that homicide rates are unconnected to the pressure of the death penalty, that prison is an equally effective deterrent (and the choice, remember, is between death and prison). For instance, South Dakota, USA, adopted the death penalty in 1939, and saw its homicide rate drop 20% in a decade. Meanwhile, just over the border in North Dakota, homicides dropped 40%. The pro-deterrence figures are the work of one man, US economist, Isaac Ehrlich, whose "tentative and inconclusive" (his words) analysis of killings between 1932 and 1969 suggests that the death penalty has saved

far more lives than it has sacrificed. Since 1975 his results have been steadily chipped away by critics who say that his models are unintentionally biased towards producing a pro-deterrence result. For example, the deterrent effect disappears if you remove from Ehrlich's figures the years 1963-69, when homicide rates continued their slow rise in an ever more stressful, divided society, but executions virtually ceased. Nor does he take into account the presence of imprisonment as an alternative punishment. Both are damning criticisms. Ehrlich's work remains doubtful. Any reason to take human life must surely involve proof, certainty.

For those who shy away from the barbarity of saying "the bastards deserve it!", the deterrence theory remains attractive. It seems logical that people who know they may be executed will think twice about killing — except that the logic of the armchair is not that of the real world. How much thought would be given to the death penalty by those 70% of killers who are caught up in an emotional, out-of-control domestic situation? Or by the sort of demented thrillkiller who committed the Truro murders? Professional criminals who kill, do so out of a belief that they will not be caught — and they are usually right. While some, law-abiding, comfortable citizens see the death penalty as a message to potential killers to think again, the killers themselves have never taken this message to heart. Those who are aware that they might be executed for murder learn a variety of other lessons. They might see the

dangers of giving up to police. They might even learn the opposite lesson from that intended: that if the state can kill those it dislikes, so can they. This "brutalisation effect" is quite possible, and some researchers claim to have detected it. If it exists, it would mean that the death penalty increases homicide rates. A belief that capital punishment deters, given evidence to the contrary, can only be interpreted as a disguise for a less rational, more animalistic desire for retribution.

**We won't execute innocent people?**

This too is simply untrue. If you accept the death penalty, you must accept that innocent people will die at the hands of the state, despite our best efforts to prevent such mistakes. How many people will be killed in this way is obviously difficult to determine, but one in every hundred is not too wild an estimate. If one hundred people faced a firing squad, and you knew that while ninety-nine deserved death, one was innocent — what would you wish? That the execution continue? Surely not! And lest everyone doubt that such things happen, consider the case of Evans, a British rape-murderer convicted, executed — and pardoned 16 years after his death, after the infamous John Christie admitted his responsibility for the crime. Given this discovered error, there must surely have been other undetected errors in the grimy history of the death penalty. Those errors are perhaps more horrible to contemplate than any other aspect of an obsolete and insanely brutal punishment.

David Walker

# Student Issues Citizens' Arrest On Bike Thief

A post-graduate student chased, caught and issued a citizen's arrest on a man he believed was stealing a bike worth about \$300, outside the Fischer Building last Thursday afternoon.

After catching the man, the Zoology student "didn't know what to do with him," so he asked the man to lie down.

The alleged thief, who looked "like a respectably dressed student," refused, saying he did not want to get his clothes "dirty".

"I always wondered what I'd do if I saw someone stealing a bike," said the student.

He was walking back from the library when he saw two men crouched over a bike under a tree where a friend often chained his bike.

Zoology student said he "didn't know what to do with him," so he asked the man to lie down.

"He yelled 'Oi', and one of the men immediately rode off on a bike. The other, on foot with bolt cutters in hand, ran out of the University up Frome Road towards the city.

"I was surprised to catch him," said the student, "I'm not a fast runner."

"I got mad for some reason." The alleged thief, after being caught, "sort of threatened" the student with the bolt cutters he still held, then dropped them.

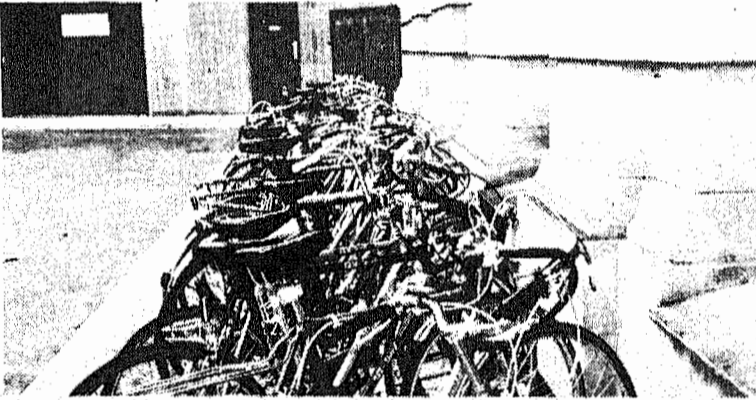
A groundsman from the

University arrived and the police were called.

The alleged thief said he was "poor" and "in need of a bike".

The bike had been chained with a plastic coated cable, and the padlock had been cut through.

University Security Superintendent, Peter Turnbull says there has been an increase in the



number of thefts, particularly bike thefts, around the University in the past few weeks.

"We know someone went

through the Psychology Department on the first of September," he said.

"I got the impression from the police that this increase in theft was not only here (at University)."

"From past experience I suspect it is being done by people from outside the University."

Turnbull advised students to be careful of their personal belongings, and to lock up their bikes with bolt-cutter resistant chains.

If anyone sees someone acting suspiciously, he said that they

should call University Security on 228 5900 or 228 5990.

Jane Willcox

# Women's Studies As Vic. HSC Subject

Women's Studies is to be offered as an HSC subject in Victorian secondary schools for the first time next year.

HSC is the equivalent of South Australia's Matriculation level.

The convenor of the group which developed the new course, Ms. Maddy McMaster, said that there was a need for such a subject at HSC level. At present women's studies are only available in options in other subjects such as history and politics.

McMaster said that the new course would help students understand why women are in a disadvantaged position in society, and would encourage them to relate what they learn to their own lives and to question their own assumptions and values.

She said women had been ignored in most subject areas, unless they cropped up in a study of family and motherhood.

The new course will look at the nature of sex differences, how they are socially created and at inequalities associated with these differences.

As well students will be able to choose small elective units

including women and education, women and the family, and women and literature, the media, technology and work.

McMaster said resistance to the new course was expected.

"Even some of the people writing the course were talking about the resistance they would get from their principals," she said.

A spokesperson for the S.A. Education Department said that there were no plans to introduce women's studies as a separate subject in South Australian schools.

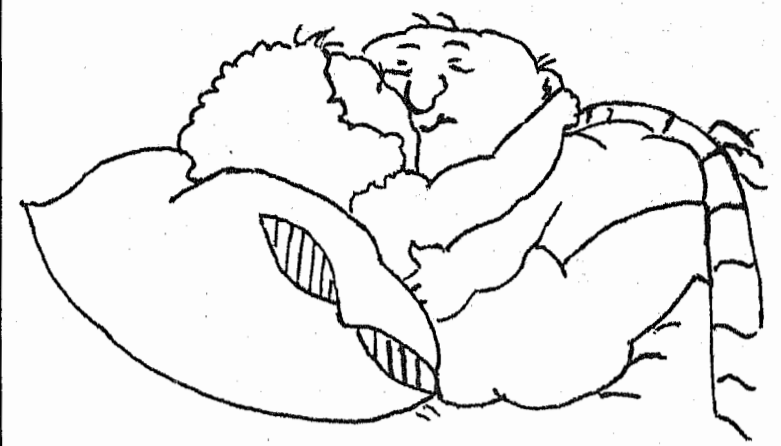
The S.A. department's attitude towards women's studies is that it should be incorporated into present curricula.

"Women's studies should be part of the education mainstream rather than something which is tacked on," the spokesperson said.

To this end the department had appointed special advisors on non-sexist education to encourage the incorporation of principles of equal opportunity into current curricula.

It is believed that some S.A. schools teach women's studies subjects on ad hoc basis.

Mark Davis



# Childless Couples On Increase

Unemployment, the threat of nuclear war and the recession may be frightening married couples into delaying or foregoing children, according to sociologist Dr. Frances Baum.

Dr. Baum of the Department of Social Administration at Flinders University says that although most married couples will continue to have children, couples without children are becoming more socially acceptable.

This 'significant' minority coupled with a rapidly declining birth rate and the reduction in the size of the average family suggests to some sociologists that more thought is being given to the number and timing of children.

Between 1961-65 the average birth rate in Australia per 1000 people was 21.3, by 1981 it had dropped to 15.8. In South Australia, the 1961-65 average of 21.1 fell to 14.7 by 1981.

Statistics also show couples are delaying their first child, and that an increasing proportion of couples who've been married for five years or more are childless.

Dr. Baum says reasons why people delay or forego children are manifold.

Fears about unemployment and the future could cause postponement of children she says.

Dr. Brown interviewed unemployed couples in Britain who felt it wasn't 'fair' to bring children into a world where they may not find a job. Other Britains cited 'idealistic reasons', such as the threat of nuclear war, for remaining childless.

Dr. Baum also believes

developments in contraception have made childlessness a more legitimate and achievable lifestyle.

"Previously, a couple had to decide to contracept each time they had sex; now it is necessary to take a positive decision to become pregnant."

Contraception also weakens the traditional link between a childless couple and infertility.

The increasing acceptance of defacto relationships and the feminist movement have affected the traditional family unit and its roles, says Dr. Baum. She extrapolates that the 'ordinariness' of parenthood could be undermined by these trends, leading to an acceptance of childlessness.

Overseas studies have shown voluntary childlessness offers the advantages of freedom, relative affluence, minimises sex role differences and enables the couple to pursue careers independent of the demands of parenthood. Dr. Baum stresses the role of the feminist movement and the fact that more married women are working in voluntary childlessness.

Jane Willcox

# Aust Aid Hinders Ind Defence - Schacht

The State Council of the ALP has condemned the Hawke Government's military aid to Indonesia.

It defeated by a large majority an amendment from the State Secretary, Chris Schacht, to refer the item to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Bill Hayden, for more information.

The Council, meeting on Thursday night, also called for a review of all aid to Indonesia.

No one at the meeting, which was attended by the Premier, John Bannon, and Left-wing backbencher, Peter Duncan, seemed to be sure how much and

what kind of aid Australia gave to Indonesia.

Schacht, supporting his amendment, said Australia's military aid to Indonesia hindered rather than enhanced Indonesia's defence capabilities.

He said the aid consisted of "clapped-out aircraft and patrol boats."

The patrol boats often broke down and were repaired at Cairns. These repairs employed many Australian dockyard workers whose jobs would otherwise be in jeopardy.

Schacht is a member of the ALP's Foreign Affairs Policy Committee.

Lord Sallsbury



Chris Schacht



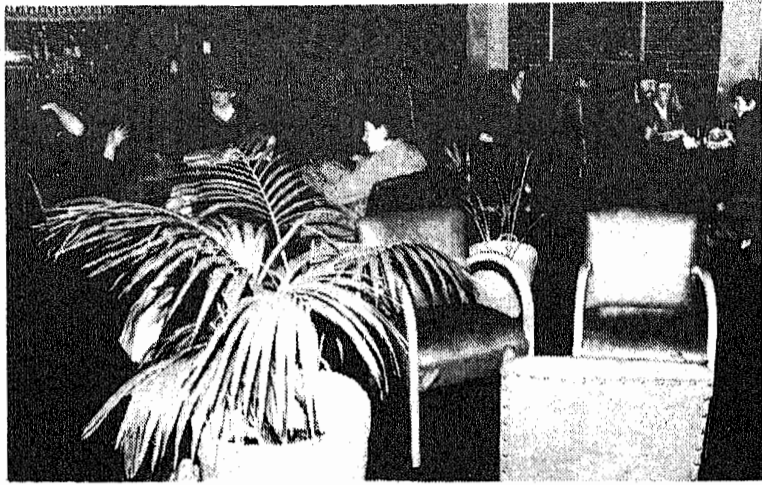
# New Look For Union Bar

Those students who can see beyond the bottom of their glass in the Union Bar on Level 5 will have noticed that the facilities have been revamped.

The tables have been resurfaced, the electronic games relocated and pot plants and art-works procured for the bar.

Also obtained by the Bar are lounge chairs (since reported missing from the *On dit* office) with low tables, and the general level of services have all been upgraded.

According to Barry Salter the Bar has an excellent programme organised for the Bar this term, including performances by *Fat Time*, *Speed Boat*, *Dynamic Hepnotics*, *Iron Horse* and *John Vincent and the Ken Noath Ockerstra*. There will be a



Melbourne Cup Day Special and video screenings on the giant screen.

Friday night entertainment is free to members with \$1 admission for guests. A cover charge is made for Saturday Bar

Nights which are mostly put on by different clubs and societies.

Alan Brideson

Footnote: *On dit* kindly requests the return of its lounge chairs or else we'll send the layout team around.

## CHEAP FOOD

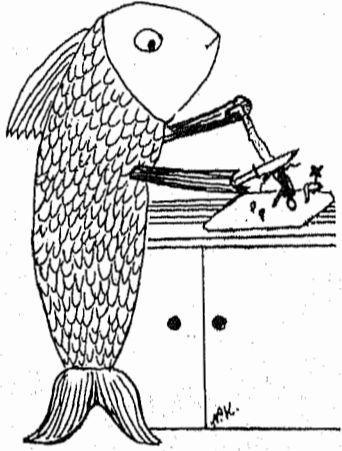
Our resident food columnist LENA GRANT is back again with easy, interesting and cheap recipes for you. This week she uses fresh fish so abundant these days for Tommy Ruffs and a yummy Apple Pancake dessert.

We are very lucky in that many varieties of excellent fresh fish are available to us at more than reasonable prices. There is a great selection at *Coppo's* on Grote Street, and then there is the fish stall in the market. Tommy Ruffs, those tiny little morsels, are among the cheapest of fish, and, although they do not seem to be widely popular, have a very delicate, sweet flavour, which is, I am told, closer to that of herring than any other Australian fish. Tommy Ruff fillets are delicious cooked in the Scottish manner for fresh Herring: just coated in oatmeal and quickly fried in butter for five minutes at the outside. They also make excellent rollmops, which is good news for those of us who crave such pickled luxuries but cannot afford the imported articles. If you are going to make rollmops you might as well make plenty, as they will keep for a couple of months in the fridge and your hands will smell of vinegar when you make them, so will the kitchen.

belly from the inside and remove the entrails. Cut along the back of the fish down to the backbone, then, working from the tail to the head, cut the flesh cleanly from the bones by keeping the knife pressed against the bones. Turn the fish over and remove the fillet from the other side. Rinse the fillets in cold water. The bones could be used to make a fish stock. Now for the rollmops: soak the fish in salt water (2 oz. salt to a pint of water) for two hours. Drain, put into a shallow dish and cover with malt vinegar (about 1 1/2 pints); leave overnight or at least for four hours. Drain, reserving the vinegar, and boil the vinegar for a few minutes with some whole black peppers and cloves. Strain and allow it to cool while rolling the fillets with a little finely shredded raw onion in the centre of each; secure with wooden cocktail sticks. Pack lightly in jars with bay leaves (if liked) chopped gherkins and chillies. Pour over the cooled vinegar and seal. Keep in the fridge; they are best between one and five weeks of being made. Time-consuming but worth the bother, especially when those long summer evenings finally arrive — rollmops, beer and bread and butter.

As winter is still with us, you may like to try some hot apple pancakes: Peel a large cooking (Granny Smith) apple. Sift one cup of self-raising flour, add 1/2 teaspoon each of finely grated orange rind and lemon rind. Beat one egg and stir in with 1/2 pint of milk until the mixture is smooth. Melt a dessertspoon, or 1/2 oz. of butter and stir in; grate the apple and add to the mixture just before cooking. Heat a little butter in a frying pan, and when it is frothing put in some of the batter (about three tablespoons). Tilt the pan to make the batter spread out evenly. Cook over a medium heat until the underside is browned, turn and brown the other side. Repeat till the batter is all used, keeping the pancakes in a warm dish (unless you are eating as you go). Serve with lemon juice and sugar, or honey, perhaps a sprinkle of cinnamon. It's enough to take one's mind off exams.

Lena Grant



Get a kilo of Tommy Ruff fillets — if you have the time and want to be even more economical you can buy them whole and fillet them yourself; three kilos will give you just about one and a quarter of fillets. It is not an enormous saving, however, and scaling and cleaning is a very messy job. Scale by holding by the tail and scraping downwards with a sharp knife, preferably in a deep sink. Rinse the fish, and, working on a flat surface with a sharp knife, cut off the head just below the gills, slit down the

# BILBO

gollip

cosumn



The streamlined black and yellow leaflets demanding that students should "Shake the Gremlins Out of the Union" scored a minor moral victory during the election, although the results from the campaign were not as good as its organisers had hoped.

A number of leaflets were distributed at a 3rd Year Med. lecture on the Friday before voting.

The leaflets were enthusiastically picked up and turned into paper darts (as per instructions on the back) by students at the lecture.

Enter then Union President Darryl Watson to give a propaganda talk to the lecture. He was promptly pelted with the darts.

"I've never been more scared," he admitted to his audience.

Bilbo has gleaned a few little snippets of post-election rumour from the over-full waste-paper basket around campus.

That infamous vote that indicated Phillip Marshal as first preference for Union Council had as second preference Bilbo's old friend Tim Dodd, and in third place was another *On dit* personage, Armon Hicks.

Phillip Marshall claims that he did not vote for himself — Bilbo can understand why — so Paul Klaric and Greg Mackay's competition to find out "Who did it?" has yet to produce a result.

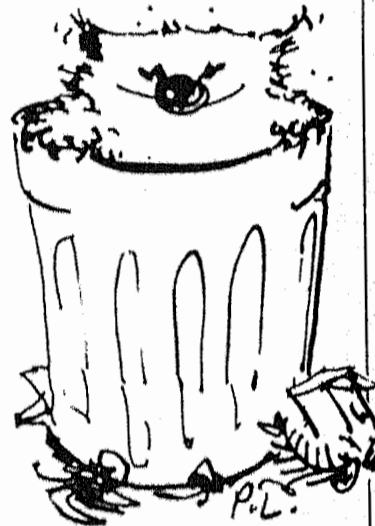
Your humble hobbit would like to profer an opinion on the design for that Pirelli Rubber advertisement passing as Ingrid's election poster.

Was the cross-hatching on which Ingrid's casually reclining figure was super-imposed inspired by her name — In-grid?

And Bilbo understands that an interesting variation of that poster exists somewhere on a notice-board in the engineering faculty.

The A.U. Campaign Against Nuclear Energy people (recently returned from Roxby) have at least one reason to justify their paranoia if the rumours Bilbo has heard are correct.

Seems that the CANE clubroom was broken into last-term by persons unknown — and CANE have not even found out about it yet.



# MAXWELL'S DEMON

science column



## Science On The Newsstands 1.

Science seems to have regained a lot of public respect and popularity in the last few years. How else does one explain the resurgence in popular science books and the new wave of science magazines on the news-stands?

Science magazines have proliferated. They vary in their emphasis from technological messianism, which is popular with some science fiction freaks, to the sober reporting of science in the established journals.

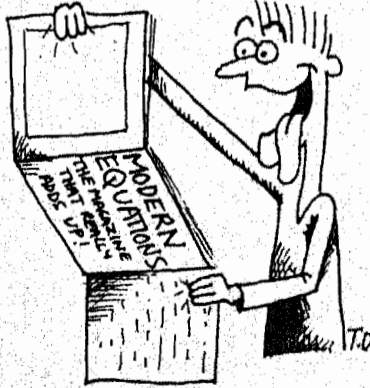
The scientific rush back into print began in the late 1970's. Bob Guccione, the Penthouse tycoon, thought he had spied a gap in the market and he launched *Omni*, a magazine of pop science, in 1978.

Other magazines soon followed. Time-Life launched *Discover*, their monthly newsmagazine of science in 1980. That year the American Association for the Advancement of Science decided they would join the popular magazine bandwagon and published *Science 80*. For the association, which is an academic body, it was a radical departure. Since then this monthly journal has advanced with the years becoming, in turn, *Science 81*, *Science 82* and *Science 83*.

This wave of science publishing has proved a few pundits wrong.

Many said that the science reading market simply would not stand the sudden inundation. Yet the magazines are still going in 1983 while the old scientific stalwarts like *New Scientist* and *Scientific American* are also apparently healthy. It is interesting that *New Scientist*, picked up circulation markedly from 1970 to 1980.

There has been a proliferation of popular science commentators



coinciding with the rise of the science magazines. They are ready to reassure the public that science is far from the cold, mechanical and logical discipline it was always thought to be. We have Lewis Thomas eulogising biology, Carl Sagan propounding the 'beautiful universe', and even staid old *Scientific American* allowing Douglas Hofstadter — the author of a long, rambling treatise called

Godel, Escher, Bach — into its pages to write about "Metamagical Themas" ... whatever they are.

How is the public reacting to the flood of scientific information which is apparently so eagerly sought? It is interesting to notice that those who seek the scientific information represent very diverse interests.

At one end of the scale are a lobby whose apparent aim is to relieve the conquest of the American West out in the asteroid belt, where they believe they can live untrammelled by government regulations. In the United States this group seems to be loosely associated with the gun lobby, the crowd who believe they can survive a full-scale nuclear war, and the 'right wing' of the science fiction camp.

On the other hand, 'benign' science has captured the imagination of some environmentalists who see an accumulation of knowledge about our biosphere as the key to saving it.

These two views are at opposite ends of the spectrum of interest public who are purchasing scientific magazines. The magazines which are available represent this range too. Some are crackpot, others are responsible and some are very imaginative.

Next week this column will offer readers a consumer guide to the popular scientific magazines.

Tim Dodd

# RMS Ignores Alt. Route Around Site - Kokatha Claim

**Roxby Management Services were deliberately misleading both the public and the State Government in their dispute with the Kokotha Aboriginal people, a representative of the Federation of Land Councils, Shorty O'Neill, claimed last week.**

Speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Aboriginal Land Rights Support Group at the Aboriginal Community Centre, he contended that the road Roxby Management Services wanted to build through a sacred site would be more costly and more deviatory than an alternative route devised by the traditional owners.

He said he would not be surprised if the site was in fact on top of a major ore deposit.

Members of the Kokotha tribe have set up camp on the site about six weeks ago and have refused to move. O'Neill has just returned from the camp.

The Kokotha people approached the Federation of Land Councils, of which they are a member, for help, and it responded in the form of people to help maintain the camp.

O'Neill said that over 300 elders of the Kokotha people had been at the site for various lengths of time, many of them coming from as far away as Yalata on the West Coast.

This was an exceptional achievement, he claimed, as the Kokotha people were rounded up and dispersed throughout the north of the State due to the State Government loading them into trucks and removing them from their land in all directions earlier this century.

The Roxby Management Services initially gave the Kokotha people 48 hours to propose an alternative route, and their bulldozers are waiting two miles from the site.

O'Neill said that the company buzzes the camp with their plans every morning, and visits from the police are an almost daily occurrence.

O'Neill claimed that the traditional owners had tried to approach the company as far back as 1980, but it had refused to listen, and has only started negotiating this year because they were forced to by the State Government.

Before speaking about the Canegrass Swamp dispute

O'Neill gave a historical perspective to relations between "white" Australia and the indigenous people.

He stressed the importance of the sacred sites to the Aboriginal people, and said that their destruction would, for the Aboriginal people, spell the



destruction not only of the local people and animals and plants, but the whole world.

"The sites are all-important and interconnected, and remain sacred today," he said.

O'Neill said that the Aborigines discovered Cook, not the other way around, and said that Cook was evicted because his men stole from and raped the native population after they had been fed and watered by them.

"The problem the Aborigines

face is 14 million illegal immigrants," he said.

"No agreements or treaties have ever been signed, and the only way we can put up with these illegal immigrants is if they act in a responsible manner towards their hosts.

"White Australia has never paid any rent for living in our house, and is now proceeding to chop down the walls and dig up the floors."

In response to a question on his attitude to the white protesters and demonstrators at the Roxby mine site, O'Neill expressed his disappointment that the Roxby blockaders had given no support to the struggle of the Kokotha people, even

though they had ample opportunity.

"I am glad, however, that some white people are taking a responsible attitude towards the future of their children," he said.

He said that if conservation movements wanted to preserve their environment for their children, they should speak to the Aboriginal people, who are the experts on conservation in Australia.

Andrew Foley

## Amnesty Releases Figures On World Executions

**Worldwide, at least 1,609 people were condemned to death and executed by processes of law during 1982, according to figures compiled by Amnesty International.**

The amnesty organisation reports in its National Newsletter that the death sentences were carried out in 42 different countries.

In Iran 1,609 people are known to have been executed, in Iraq the figure was at least 300 and in South Africa 100 people were officially put to death last year.

"In many cases in Iran prisoners appear to have been executed almost immediately after passing of sentence," the organization

says.

The figures must be regarded as a minimum, Amnesty says, because many governments do not release information about death sentences and executions.

Amnesty has no figures for Pakistan though hundreds of people are believed to be executed in that country every year.

In the last five years, eleven countries have either reintroduced the death penalty or extended the range of crimes to which the death penalty applies. These countries include Iran, Iraq, Guatemala, Mozambique and Pakistan.

Latest Amnesty reports show that no end to official executions is in sight. The organisation has learned of

96 death sentences carried out in 14 countries during June 1983.

On dit Staff

## Herpes Partner Sued For \$40,000

**Having herpes could be profitable if the result of a recent case in Washington is any indication.**

A woman who claimed that her husband gave her herpes during "an attempt at reconciliation", was awarded \$US 40,000 by a jury.

The six-man, six-woman jury in Snohomish County Superior Court voted in favour of the woman ten to two.

The woman, 31, had originally

sought \$US 161,257 from her 31 year old husband.

The couple are now going through divorce proceedings.

"On dit" Staff

## Child Care Given Space

**At the first meeting of the newly constituted Union Council on Monday 5th September, a motion from the Joint House and Planning Committee recommending that the vacated Student Counselling Rooms be made available for an on campus child care centre was strongly endorsed.**

This followed the decision of the previous Council (25/7/83) to provide \$10,000 to meet part of the costs for establishing an occasional child care service on campus.

The background to these developments began in March this year, when an informal meeting of student-parents who had indicated a desperate need for child care and Councillors from the Institute and Adelaide University Unions met to determine the possibility of joint action in developing a shared facility.

At the SAIT's Union Council's last meeting (31/8/83) the Union firmed up on a proposal to make \$10,000 available for a child care service, and moved to seek complementary funds from the Institute Administration. This followed the decision of the Student Services Committee, to support the initiatives of the Adelaide University Union.

At its last meeting it unanimously agreed to recommend that the University Council should match the Union's contribution for on campus child care; should approach the CTEC to obtain increment funding for on campus child care centres and should provide such resources so as to assist the S.S.C. Committee to carry out a survey on the nature of the demand for child care services at the University.

Actions on tertiary campuses seeking the establishment of child care centres are currently occurring Australia-wide.

Although nearly all Universities have some child care facilities on campus, child care featured as a priority in student submissions Universities Council visits during May and June this year in all Capital cities.

The strength of child care needs was highlighted when over 40 campuses met in Sydney last June during a National meeting of Community Based Child Care Centres in an unplanned session,

to discuss how they could organise the funds to establish services on their own campuses.

During 1980 the Mature Age Students Society held a seminar to discuss the issue of campus child care. A circular by the then Welfare Officer, Barry Heath, commented; "The present child care facility, the Mackinnon Parade Child Care Centre (MPCCC) while catering very well for some students' needs, was (and is) unable to help some parents and their children.

"The Centre, for example, operates on a morning and/or afternoon sessional basis only to allow longer term care so that interactions between the child and child as well as child and staff can be consolidated over the longer periods of care. Some parents have need of a short-term drop-in creche arrangement."

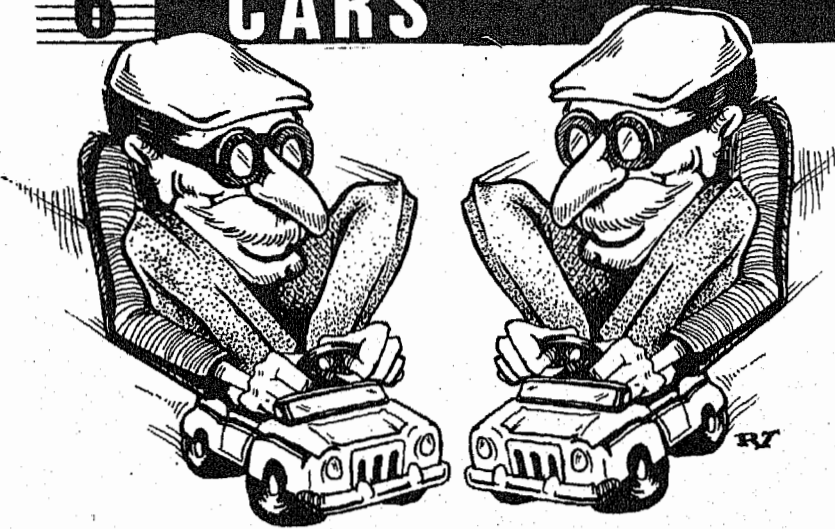
The Directors of the University's facilities have indicated that current demand far outstrips available services, and are no longer encouraging parents to add their names to already extensive waiting lists. Many of these parents are not eligible for care as their needs are for short-term arrangements only.

Student parents are encouraged to contact the EWO, Andrew Derrington (228 5915), Linda Gale (SAO), or Kentra Coulter, Regional Women's Organiser (228 5466) to let us know what hours of care are required, and thus where the resources and staff time would be best deployed.

The decisions of the current Child Care Committee are to stress the role that parents should be encouraged to play in the management and policy decisions of the centre.

Andrew Derrington





Much has been said about Camtech 4, GMH's 1.6 litre transversely mounted power plant for the Camira. No insight into the engine's performance can be obtained by reference to figures on paper. One really has to drive the Camira to discover the engine's strengths and weaknesses. Motoring to Murray Bridge in the SL/X version gave us the opportunity to look at the car in three distinctly different modes of driving. We experienced city driving, winding roads and long straight stretches of freeway during the day.

City driving was effortless. Steering was light, and this combined with seats which could be adjusted for rake, tilt and height, ensured that you were always relaxed at the wheel, commanding an excellent view of the road ahead and surrounding traffic. Acceleration from the lights is adequate without being startling — you won't be first away but there is no way you will be last. Ride was firm but still felt very comfortable on most suburban routes.

The real test of the car's performance came in the stretch of road from the Tollgate up to Eagle on the Hill, for here, the brisk

feeling of the car soon faded. Its engine appeared to lack the torque necessary to tackle steep inclines quickly. On this section of road the gearbox had to be worked hard. There was continual need to drop from fourth to third and even sometimes as far as second to negotiate the gradients. Coming down the same section of road later in the day gave Radial Tuned Suspension (RTS) a chance to prove itself Holden's winner. It was on these twisting sections of road that you could really feel the superior handling nature of the suspension. The Camira was always flat on the corners with the rear end never moving an inch out of line. It really does inspire the driver towards faster motoring. At each corner you can push the car a fraction quicker and still feel quite safe.

Camira is a great Australian car. On our long undulating byways it shows itself to be of impeccable breeding. Five speeds in the gearbox provide for economical, high speed touring, and the ride and handling are always equal to the task. The Eurovox factory fitted sound system has been well selected by the General. Ventilation is particularly good, but a trade off has been made with the noise which the vents make at high speed.

Wheels magazine in 1982 awarded the Camira their prestigious Car of the Year Award. The car goes a long way to justifying the award for its faults are few. The engine has a nice character but definitely lacks grunt. It is understood that more powerful engines are in the pipeline for 1984 and this will surely silence the sceptics. The gearbox is slightly notchy but then this is debatable. The handling, ride, brakes package is difficult to surpass at \$9,338 and only the Telstar with further development could match it, even then, it would be unable to match the price. Its widespread appeal has been and will continue to be proven by its sales leadership.

Thanks go to John Schmitzer of United Motors for supplying us with the test vehicle.



## Prez Column

While you've been away or doing exams, quite a bit has been going on. Firstly the 1983/84 Federal Budget wasn't anything like we had expected from the new Labor Government. TEAS rose marginally, but the \$7 dollar increase in the dole, while welcome, will further widen the gap between TEAS and the dole, especially as the dole will now rise with CPI increases in short this is contrary to the ALP election promise to raise TEAS to the same level as the dole.

Secondly, Overseas students suffered yet another blow, the pre-budget announcement of five hundred less places being available to Overseas students in Australia has been followed by yet another exorbitant rise in the Overseas student fees or 'visa charge'. Such disregard for the valuable contribution Overseas students make to Australian tertiary institutions and the wider community, for example in research carried out at the Waite Institute, should not be tolerated by a Labor Government.

Furthermore, the Budget was little evidence of an improvement of the social wage — obviously we must keep the pressure up so that the situation improves before the next federal election.

On the University side of things, student membership of Departmental Committees, now enshrined in University Statutes, has been challenged by some 'sore losers' amongst academic staff. They want the whole situation looked into yet again. So rather than getting on with making Departmental Government function better, they are prepared to waste everyone's time because they don't like the democratic decision reached by the University Council and ratified by the State Parliament.

Environmental Studies is once again being forced on the defensive — will it be offered beyond 1986? Will the courses be offered to part-time students (who are most likely to be interested and able to pursue Environmental Studies) in 1984? Stay tuned for further developments — Education Committee was split 22 all on this one.

Jackie Wurm  
SAUA President

with my work as such."

He attributes this to the eclipse of Left-Liberal politics in the post-Vietnam War years. "As soon as the draft was abolished interest in politics declined and people went back to their private lives," he said.

Why did his work satirise Western capitalism exclusively?

"I happen to live in the West. I have no sway in the Soviet Union or its satellites. I am responsible for what happens in the area where I live."

He is in Australia to speak on the relations between art museums and the corporate sector.

He was in Adelaide last week to show slides of his work at the Experimental Art Foundation at Hackney.

Lord Sallsbury

### TYPING

Are you doing a Masters or a Thesis? Do you require typing of any nature carried out?  
I have had medical typing experience as well as straight typing.  
All work is carried out on an IBM electronic typewriter.  
For further information, please ph 263 9198.

# CAR COLUMN

Holden's Camira is a medium sized family car which joins the ever increasing line up of front wheel drive cars on the Australian market. We drove the SL model which featured as standard equipment a 5 speed gearbox, cord cloth trim and a stereo radio/cassette sound

system. The car is immediately pleasing to the eye and this is carried through to an attractive interior which is also easy to operate. Room is really only for two adults and two children/teenagers but that is precisely the market Camira aims at. The proof of the pudding is in the eating...



# Hans Haacke

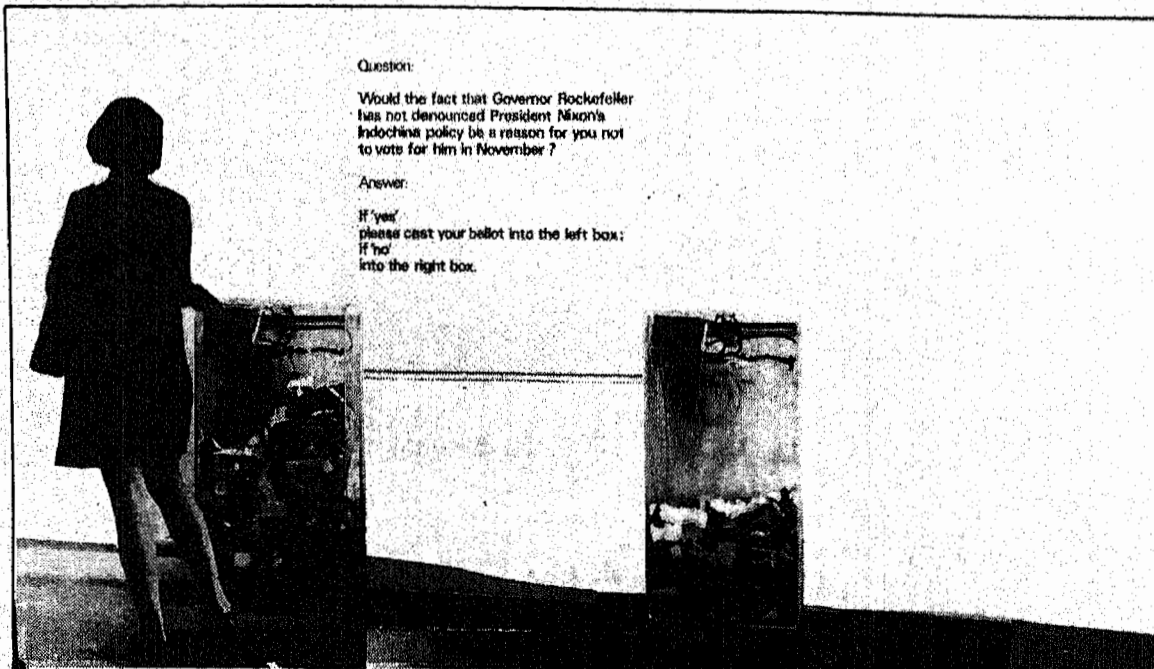
## —Controversial Mimicry

Some of Hans Haacke's art could pass for a slick corporate advertisement until you read the words.

Cameras, research and typewriters have replaced oils and sketching pencils in the mimicking, satirical work of the 47-year-old New York-based artist who describes the conventional separation of art and politics as "disastrous." President Reagan plays Aunty Sally in Haacke's large 'ads,' which bear Reagan's visage and such messages as "My son collects unemployment too: REAGANOMICS."

Haacke mimics the style of corporate advertisements to caricature the pitch of capitalist America. He claims the neo-conservative president has revived attention for the Left-Liberal message conveyed in his work. His most famous work, *Shapolsky et al Manhattan Real Estate Holdings* was banned from the Guggenheim Museum in 1971 just before it was due to be exhibited there.

*Shapolsky* detailed one family's ownership of vast slum tenements on New York's Lower East Side and Harlem. Haacke researched its land holdings through the land title's office and followed the family's corporate web through sixty subsidiary companies. The result was a series of one hundred and forty-five photographs of the Shapolskies' buildings, a



Question:

Would the fact that Governor Rockefeller has not denounced President Nixon's Indochina policy be a reason for you not to vote for him in November?

Answer:

If 'yes' please cast your ballot into the left box; if 'no' into the right box.

commentary on the significance of each one and a flow chart explaining the related companies. He was asked to remove it from his exhibition, but refused and lost the whole exhibition instead.

"A lot of artists give in so the show can go on," he said yesterday. "When you live in New York you get interested in who owns and runs the city."

It is this interest in the relationship between money and

power that has prompted him to exhibit studies of the changing ownership of famous painting such as Manet's *Still Life* and Seurat's *The Nudes*.

Starting as a gift in 1888, *The Nudes* was traded for 4000 francs in 1909, passed by inheritance several times and was split into half shares in the 1970s, one share worth \$1,033,200 being in the hands of a Belgian corporation.

Haacke represented the

transfers of ownership in the form of photographs of the owners with biographical notes underneath them. "What I'm doing is much more accessible to the non-initiated audience than a lot of contemporary art," he said.

"In the past year or two (since Mr. Reagan was elected) there has been renewed interest in my work whereas in the second half of the 1970s there was a blackout.

"I don't think it had much to do

# Headless Chook Scandal Advertiser in a flap

Anne-Marie Taplin, manager of the Adelaide band "Sex, Art and Decay", denied last week that she had perpetrated the hoax which led to a sensational page 3 story in "The Advertiser".

After interviewing Ravi, the band's singer and songwriter, Advertiser reporters were convinced that the group's transvestite percussionist had cut the head off a chicken as part of his stage act at a recent Adelaide gig.

"They came around fishing for a bit of dirt, they wanted a sensational story," Anne-Marie Taplin told *On dit*.

The headless chicken affair is ruffling a few feathers in the local press and Adelaide's morning daily has been left with egg on its face.

The hoax began after *The Advertiser* received a letter signed by a woman who claimed that her daughter had seen the chicken slaying.

Band members were "sick and sexually perverted," the letter alleged.

Taplin denies that she wrote the letter. But when *The Advertiser* contacted the band they willingly played along with the hoax.

The chicken story "just happened when *The Advertiser* rang," she claimed.

Ravi was then interviewed by Advertiser cadet reporter Necia Hall. She says she was deceived by the band.

"They misled me the whole time," she said.

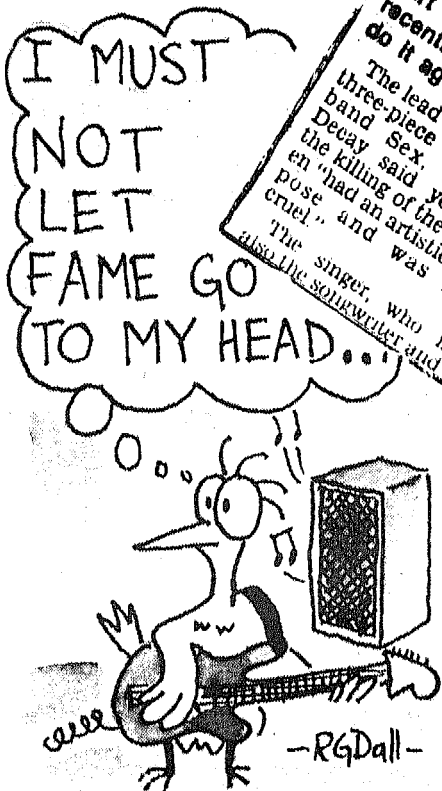
"I had no idea it was a hoax."

The band, it seems, were trying to feather their own nest. Hall believes they abused the news media to get some free promotion.

"It's a pity that they couldn't depend on just talent and not cheap publicity to get them places," an emphatic Hall said.

But last week singer Ravi and Taplin decided it was best to defuse the affair, before too many people were running around like headless chooks.

They visited *The Advertiser's*



King William St. office to lodge an apology in the classified ads.

"But they refused to allow it because it would amount to apologising for something *The Advertiser* itself had done," Taplin claimed.

Evidently the pair were interviewed by a reporter, Lachlan "eat your muesli son" Colquhoun, who helped them set the record straight.

"But we didn't go in on bended knees to beg forgiveness," said Taplin, and she is dissatisfied with the article which *The*



## Chicken-slaying claim was lie: rock man

Adelaide rock musician and singer Ravi was apologetic when he visited *The Advertiser* yesterday.

Ravi, 20, of the Adelaide rock band Sex, Art and Decay, visited *The Advertiser* with the band's manager, Anne-Marie Taplin, 18, to confess.

He admitted he had lied when he told *The Advertiser* last week

that the band had cut a chicken's head off on stage.

He said the band had never slaughtered a chicken on stage or elsewhere, and he had been "lying" about the incident.

"We wish to apologise," Ravi said.

"We didn't mean to hurt or offend anybody. It was too good a chance for publicity..."

*The Advertiser* contacted the band last week after a letter of complaint claiming to be from a woman whose daughter had seen the slaughter of a live chicken by band members on stage at a private party.

Ravi said the address given on the letter had been the address of the band's manager. The band was not responsible for the letter.

Advertiser later published.

Hoaxed reporter, Necia Hall also has a bone to pick. She remains certain that the band rigged the letter.

"I don't know whether I would pay to see them on principle, not after this," she told *On dit*. However if it was free, she might consider it.

"I'll be a lot more wary in future," she said.

Perhaps she will be confirming her sauces more carefully.

"On dit" Staff

# High-Tech Pollution Toxic

Serious pollution from computer industries in Silicon Valley, California, suggests that the new clean high-tech industries could be every bit as polluting as their old soot and smoke-stack counterparts.

The silicon chip makers are spilling toxic wastes into the ground water in Silicon Valley and the pollution has spurred public concern and triggered at least one law suit.

Underneath the clean, neat exterior of the chip making plants are the underground tanks in which the manufacturers store the solvents, gases and acids used to etch and clean the chips. These tanks have leaked and the chemicals are seeping into the groundwater, which is widely used for drinking.

A tank leak at the Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corporation was discovered in December 1981. A well, six hundred metres from the plant from which local households drew supplies, was found to be contaminated.

The water contained 1,1,1-trichloroethane, a chemical which is known to damage the liver, heart and

central nervous system.

Fairchild is reported to have spent \$14 mill. on a cleanup, but wells are still contaminated, and now, 266 local residents have filed a law suit against the company alleging they have suffered emotional distress and physical harm due to the chemical.

Since the Fairchild affair came to light, water authorities have checked up on other plants. So far, sixty-seven companies have been discovered to be leaking chemicals. Among the transgressors are IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Tandem Computers and National Semiconductor.

The chip industries have also been adding to California's smog problem by releasing solvent chemicals into the air. The chemicals evaporate during processes which remove impurities from the silicon wafers and etch the electronic circuits onto the chips.

The industry has now been told to begin a \$10 mill. program which will lower the release of solvents into the air by 3.4 tonnes per day.

On dit Staff

# Menopause Social Effects Underrated

Menopause is as much a social phenomenon as a medical one according to a recent study conducted at the King George V Hospital in Sydney.

The study of 300 women found that stress and change of lifestyle have been underrated as significant causes of depression in menopausal women.

"Anxiety, depression, headaches, loss of libido are all part of the way people react to stress," said Ms. Susan Ballinger, a senior psychologist at the hospital, who conducted the study.

She said the social factors related to menopause were often ignored in medical research and treatment of the "disease of oestrogen deficiency."

Ms. Ballinger's study turned the conventional theories on menopause upside down by looking at the effect of stress on hormones, rather than the effect of hormones on symptoms such as headaches, anxiety and



depression. She found that women who had been diagnosed as depressed had lower oestrogen levels than non-depressed women and could be treated through counselling.

The study also found that hormone therapy did not necessarily help depression.

"Menopause is a symbolic event, like puberty," Ms. Ballinger said.

"During puberty a girl changes from a child to a woman; this is a stressful time, but it is seen positively by our society."

"But a woman going through menopause has to come to terms

with aging, and aging is a very difficult thing to do in our society."

"Until recently menopause was a taboo topic and many people assumed most menopausal women had the same symptoms and experiences."

Ms. Ballinger said that women often assumed symptoms such as depression that were menopause-related rather than due to other causes.

She said only about 15 percent of women suffered any symptoms during menopause.

Mark Davis





# ROXBBY DOWNS

—the riot  
that  
never  
was

The primary feature of the main stream media over the last few weeks has been the infamous Roxby Downs Blockade. Those 500 reportedly dirty and violent blockaders are a bunch of pill-popping, dole-bludgers with little better to do.

This article is an account of the blockade from a viewpoint which the commercial media tried desperately to ignore — that of the blockader.

What would possess 500 people to travel 8 hrs. northward to camp in the desert for 9 days? The commitment of the people that attended the blockade, — extending to arrestable situations in some cases — was to slow the mines progress and draw attention to the dangers of Uranium mining. There is an ever growing concern about the inadequacies of the nuclear fuel-cycle.

This cycle is not clean and self-contained. Major anxieties stem from the by-products of the industry such as weapons build-up and proliferation and waste products existing for hundreds of thousands of years.

At present America is in crisis with their nuclear power industry, both technologically and economically, and this is a good illustration of the situation to the rest of the world.

Here it is most evident that the problem of long-term waste has in no way been solved. The US is

most advanced in this industry and Carter's decision to stock pile waste until a method of safe disposal is discovered, has ultimately lead to the recent Supreme Court Decision to allow countries to stop the building of new reactors due to the long term waste problem. Thus the whole economic viability of Uranium mining becomes doubtful.

Other reasons for the blockade at Roxby at this time include the fact that it is the largest Uranium mine in the world (not just a copper mine with smatterings of uranium ore), the fact that the ACTU and ALP over the next few weeks are going to be reviewing their respective Uranium policies, and the S.A. Government will also be considering the signing of the Western Mining Lease at Roxby.

Going to Roxby was not a snap decision, but a carefully planned strategy in the campaign against the nuclear cycle.

There were people of all ages,



**The Roxby Downs blockade has attracted media attention — mostly unsympathetic — which has concentrated on the 'violent' aspects of the protest action. ANDREW EBERHARD and HELEN MILDRED deny that any outbreaks of violence occurred, and explain that the protesters were misrepresented by the media.**

which led to appropriate police action.

The main charge of those people arrested was that of failing to cease loitering when we finally got to our specified camp and started to blockade miners entering the mine area.

The police reaction to blockaders changed gradually from one of abruptness, through amusement, to almost enthusiasm. By the end, many police were buying anti-uranium badges, banners and T-shirts from blockaders. The police, in an awkward situation, in general seemed to show a certain tolerance.

Some curious miners came to visit the camp on the last night despite directives from their bosses to stay away. This was our affinity group's turn to keep watch and we talked until four in the morning with them.

These people seemed quite sympathetic to our viewpoint, and stated they were only there short-term, for the money.

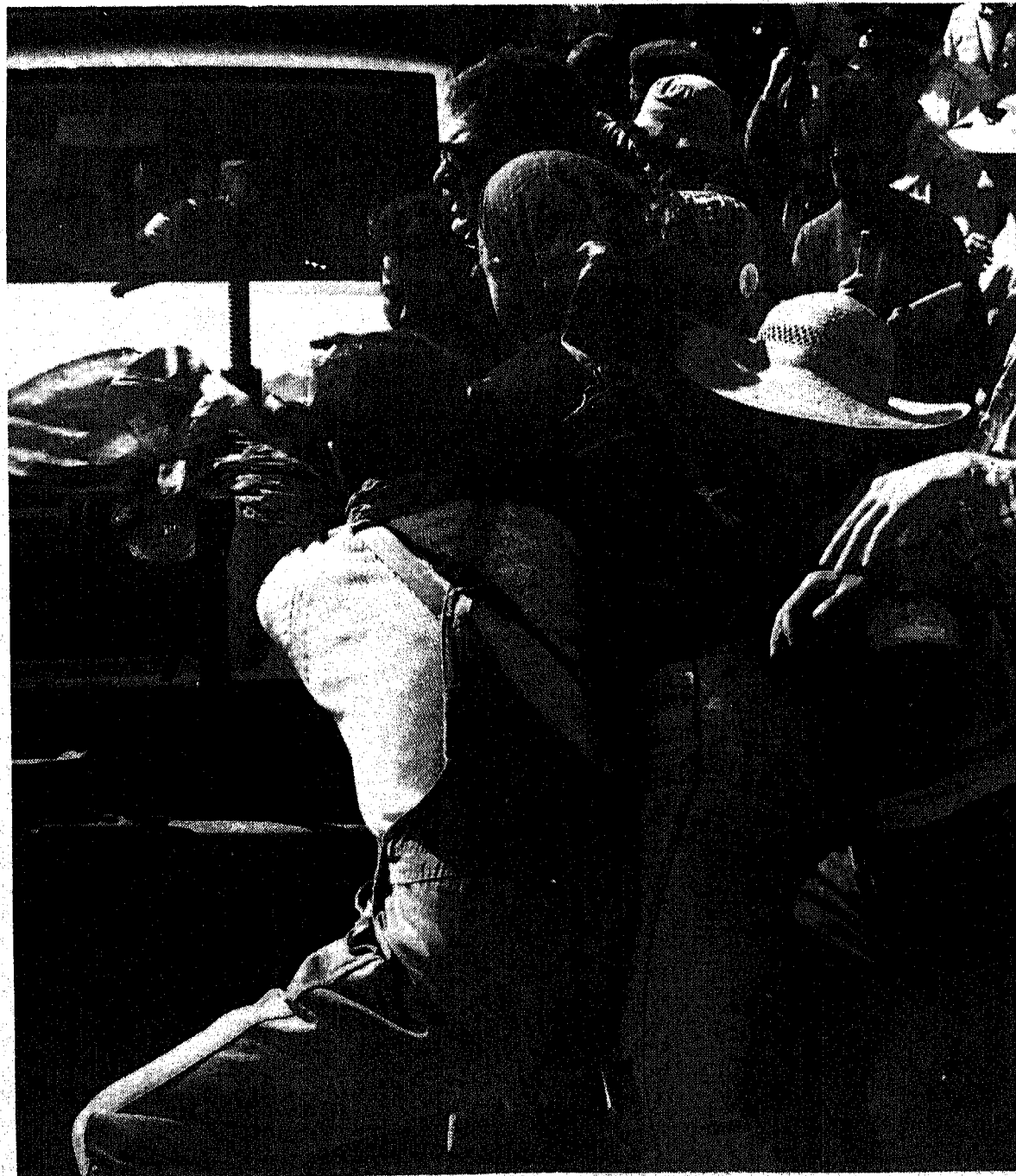
This sort of discussion with the workers and their families was the dialogue we wished to set up on a larger scale through the media itself. The reasons why this did not occur are open to speculation — many protesters felt that the principal of non-violent action was called into question by the adverse media coverage.

Despite this, many goals of the blockade were achieved; communication between people living, working and visiting Roxby (police), and the blockaders; media coverage to stimulate thought and educate people about Roxby Downs as a Uranium mine; increasing understanding of the land rights of the Aboriginal People; and slowing down production at the site.

As a final thought, those blockaders carrying geiger-counters found that around the slag heap and minegate, the levels of radiation were .025 mr/hr and .25 mr/hr respectively. The exposure level of radiation permitted to the public are .02 mr./hr.

It has been estimated that the blockaders have effectively received almost a three years dose of radiation in less than two weeks.

Helen Mildred  
Andrew Eberhard



nationalities and lifestyles at the blockade who during non-violent training had arranged themselves into affinity groups (7 - 12 people) designed to provide practical and emotional support in the isolated and direct action environment. These groups were an integral part of the whole blockade decision making process.

The non-violent guidelines to which they worked, included; no endangering life or the environment, no deliberate irreversible damage to property, and no action or behaviour which would be offensive to the land's original owners — the Kokatha people. These guidelines were not bridged by any of the blockaders during the time spent at Roxby.

However there was one incident in which the blockaders were in fact being blockaded by Roxby Management workers.

The incident occurred while we were pushing a car around one of their trucks, parked illegally across a sloping public access road leading to the shaft.

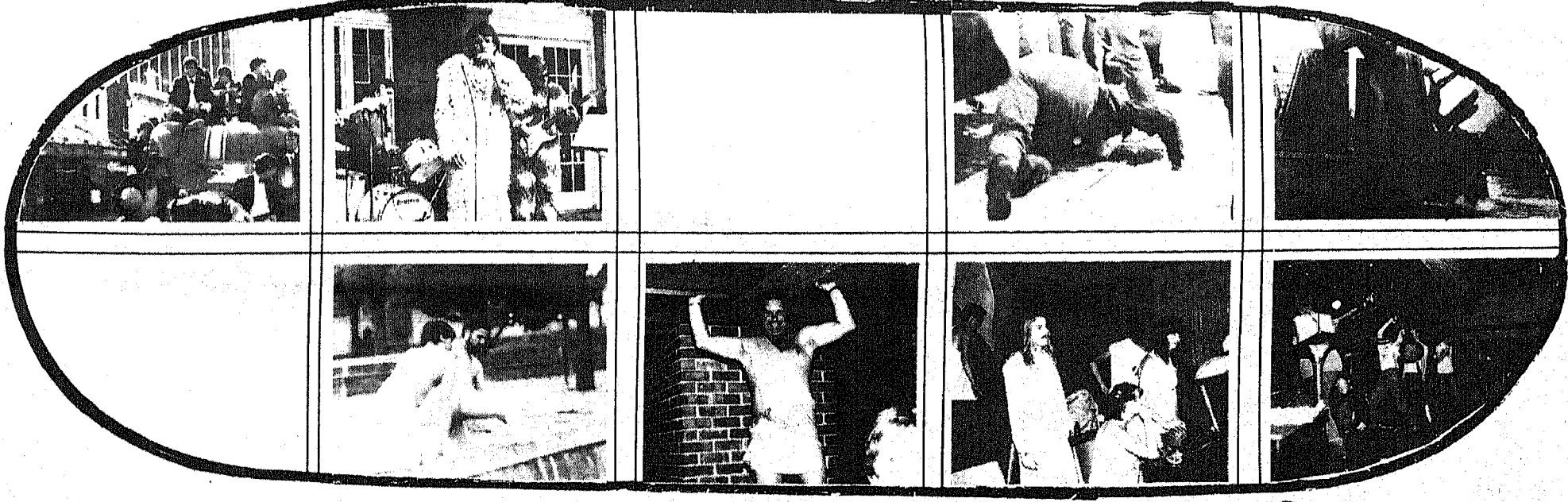
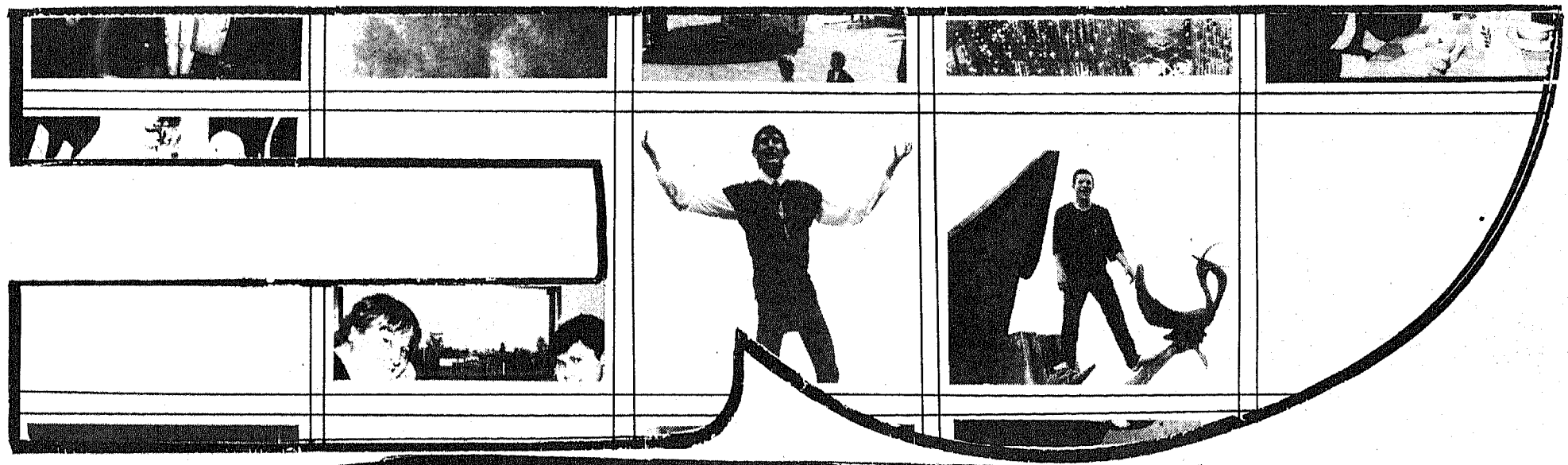
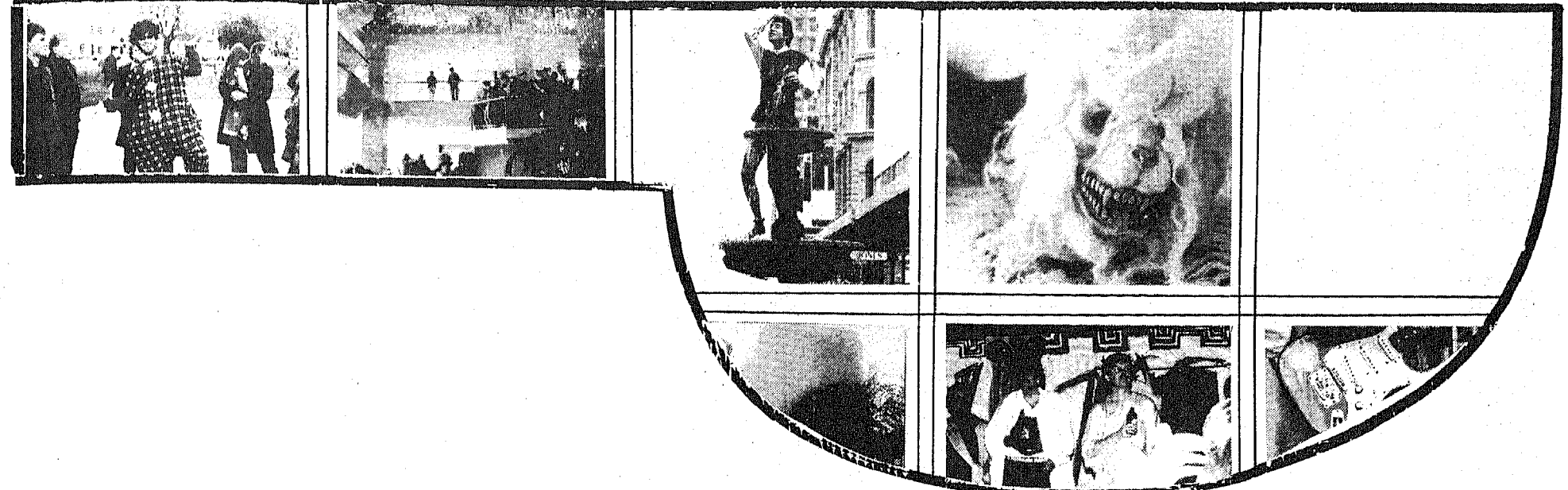
A driverless car, after being pushed around their blockage, began to run down the incline toward a group of police. One blockader jumped in to try to divert the car, but unfortunately one policeman was badly bruised.

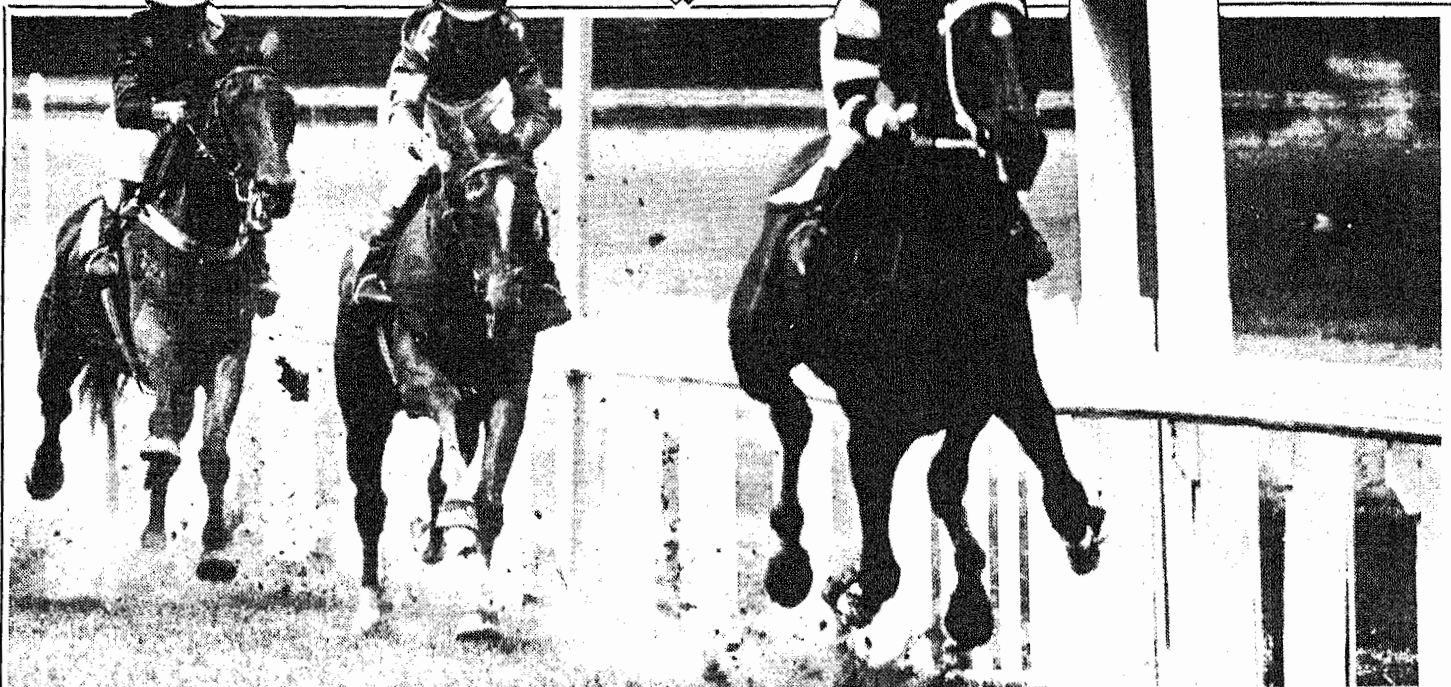
This was the high-point of the consistently bad media coverage we received throughout the blockade — TV cameras only showing the man in the car supposedly trying to run the police man over. The general media on site at Roxby appeared sympathetic — it seems many editors had other ideas.

The attitudes of the police and RMS workers towards the blockade changed over time. Initially protesters were arrested for trying to proceed along a public access road which was blocked by angry workers concerned about their jobs. There were a number of instances in which blockaders were assaulted by miners none of









# Lapped By Far

Phar Lap  
Hoyts 2

**P**har Lap, the latest equine opus from the Michael Edgley stable, is just another horse movie — save for the fact that it is Australian. That this country is one of the last film communities that bothers to pursue such an old-fashioned exercise, and given that the world is starved of this, the type of film Hollywood stopped making moons ago, will ensure considerable box office (if not critical) success wherever it is shown.

Nevertheless, to be constructively captious that now-famous Edgley shindig, the hype, and the expectant buzz underpinning this *Phar Lap* is, upon scrutiny, all much ado about nothing. In fact it pales to another much-maligned piece of Australiana, *The Man from Snowy River* which, despite Kirk Douglas' superfluous intrusion, was a far richer serve of the old cinema with lush settings and the beautiful damsel, Sigrid Thornton, compensating for the cliched dialogue and stereotypical characters (one cannot help but laugh when the virile Jack Thompson, as Clancy of the Overflow, declares: "I wouldn't swap the rolling plains for all the tea in China").

*Phar Lap* is not only a tribute to the immortalized horse, but a recognition of an era long gone in Australian history (the late '20s and early '30s). It is also a throwback to the special epoch of film-making when a

simple plot, characters, and moral were all that mattered.

The story-line, like myriad rags-to-riches horse stories, involves an unpromising nag (despite his esteemed lineage) who ultimately comes good — spectacularly — via the suspiciously inordinate affection of strapper Tommy Woodcock (Tom Burlinson; who must have been selected for the part on merit of horsemanship rather than acting prowess).

So superior is this marvellous animal to the rest of the 'field' that corruption (as you'd expect from a David Williamson screenplay) is installed to add meat to the lean plot and is personified by the top-hatted Melbourne racing Establishment headed by the dastardly Vincent Ball, always the perfect villain.

Despite harassment, disadvantage, loveless treatment and gunshots from speeding cars, *Phar Lap* survives to conquer all until his ill-fated American venture in 1932 when he mysteriously met his death.

*Phar Lap* begins rather clumsily with this contentious death. The ailing horse drops dead — literally — much to the lament of his confidant, Tommy. The opening shock and tragedy comes too suddenly and awkwardly for the audience to really care. Immediately there's a disorienting cut back in time to Sydney circa 1928 where *Phar Lap*, an emaciated also-run from New

Zealand, is inauspiciously winched from a cargo ship. There, as expected, commences the tale; from, as it were, humble beginnings to the toast of the turf.

Like *The Club*, where the central theme was player exploitation on the part of the Collingwood Football Club bureaucracy, Williamson's script provides for the unscrupulously insincere side of the racing game — the venal opportunism of trainers and the callous self-centredness of the owners (here exemplified by American actor Ron Liebman, who turns in a serviceable performance).

Bruce Rowland's score is oddly melancholic, though occasionally jazzy — and always lively when *Phar Lap* nears the finish line in his familiar home bursts. It is dissonant with what we see on the screen, purporting beauty, even though the only beauty we see is that of the awesome sinewy form of the horse ('played' by Towering Inferno, who, given the chance, may well have up-staged his biped colleagues, but instead is provided with little or no character — strangely, the famous rapport between 'Big Red' and Woodcock is here only given a cursory treatment).

Simon Wincer's *Phar Lap* will certainly not outlive its legendary subject. It may now be the talk of the local movie business but one wonders what all the fuss and hype-induced applause is all about.

Dino Di Rosa

# Wargames

Wargames

Hindley Cinemas

**T**he story runs well for a while. A bright but "underachieving" 16-year old computer expert named David accidentally taps into the computer which controls America's nuclear arsenal. He thinks he's just found a game program, and starts playing it, with his winsom girlfriend looking on. "Let's play Global Thernuclear War... Do we nuke Seattle? Oh, yeah!..." Government spooks, understandably agitated, apprehend our hero, who discovers that the computer is still "playing the game" and that within two days All Hell Will Break Loose. Up to this point it's all deft photography with good acting and a script which is lively if not credible, with the audience bemused by the innocent ironies of the situation.



Suddenly the film descends from interesting narrative to ludicrous cliché. David is called upon to act. He nonchalantly escapes the Secret Service, setting out to find the war computer's creator. Said creator is a bitter old man cares not for the end of the world, but David's qualities of hope and innocence and his acne-free complexion and girl friend manage to change his life's direction in a scant half-hour. Together creator and innocent rush off to save the world in the obligatory split-second.

This second half of the film can be hilarious in its predictability, as if someone tired of trying to write intelligently half-way through the script, and got the rest off the back of a Cornflakes packet. The final frames of the film are filled with moral, moral, moral — nuclear war is like naughts and crosses, you can only win if you don't play. *Dr. Strangelove* and *Fail-Safe* said this much better long ago, although a reminder is always worthwhile. Moral is fine, yes, but must the audience be so artlessly beaten over the head by it?

Stupidity does not necessarily defeat enjoyment; a screen filled with interesting colours and shapes and enthusiastic actors (notably Matthew Broderick as David) can at least give an unobtrusive morality play a sideshow sparkle. In truth *Wargames* is for children and child-minds, pompous though that may sound. If they find nuclear war a little worrying, well and good for wider political awareness. Its serious subject has confused some people — it is not a serious film, merely a bright, silly trivialisation.

David Walker



# Non-Entity

The Entity

Hindley Cinemas

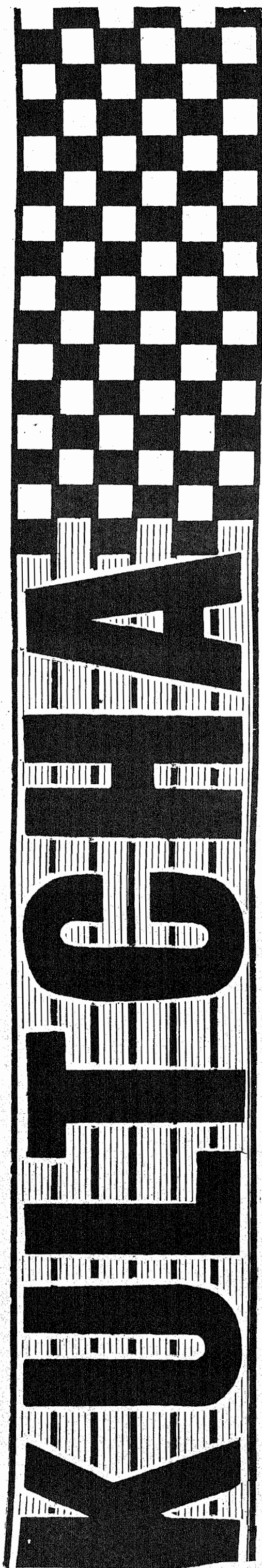
**S**everal months have passed since I saw this movie, but time has sadly failed to erase its memory. I remember not only "the pointless, exploitative premise of *The Entity*," but also the grisly, semi-pornographic details. I wish it were otherwise.

How bad is it?

How bad can it be, dealing as it does with an invisible poltergeist who continually, relentlessly rapes a helpless Barbra Hershey?

Perhaps such a plot could have been handled with taste, and some message imported. But I doubt it. Certainly the people involved in this film didn't try. They went the easy way — make it gross enough, sick enough, and lots of people will go see it. Which doesn't change the fact that it stinks.

David Walker







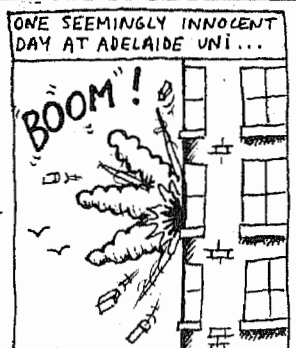




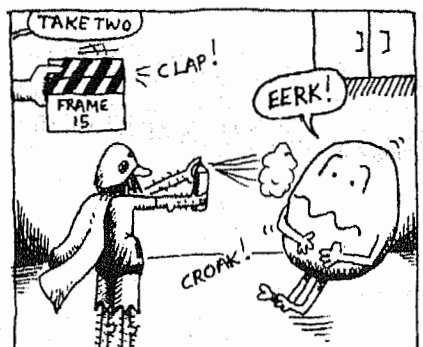
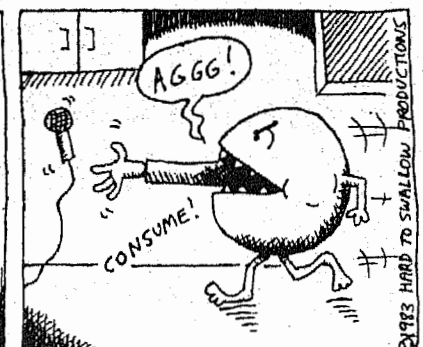
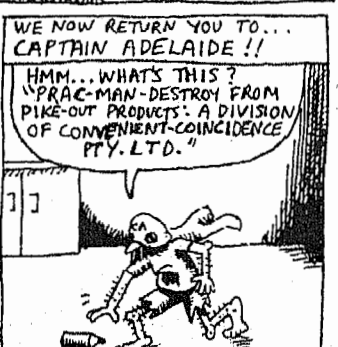
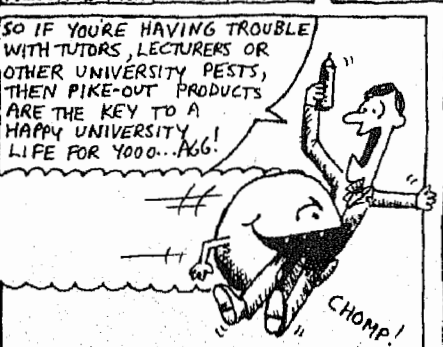
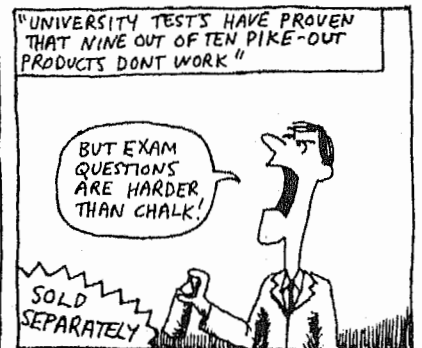
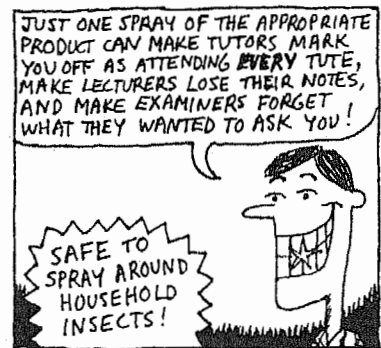
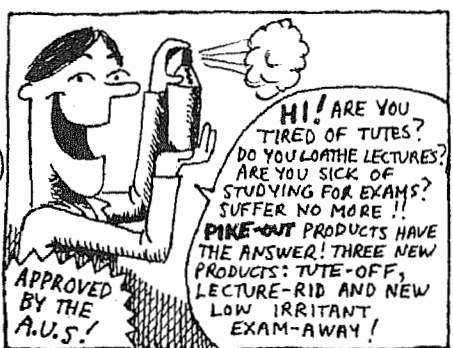
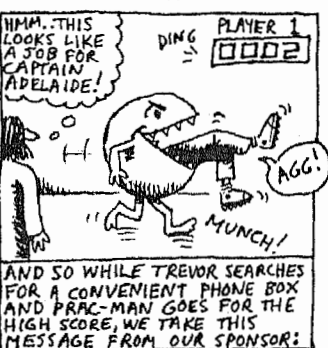
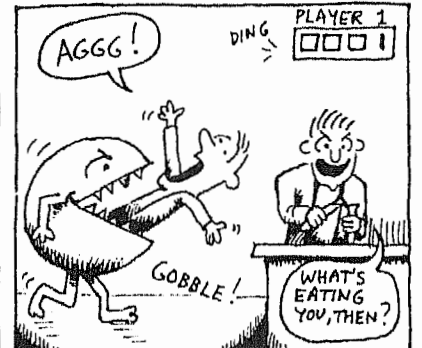
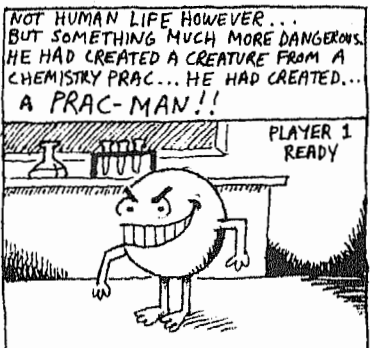
Ondit

**CAPTAIN ADELAIDE**

And "That Old Gnawing Feeling"



SO TREVOR IS EXCLUDED FROM YET ANOTHER CHEMISTRY PRAC. BUT WHAT SEEMS LIKE JUST A SLIGHT MISCALCULATION IN CHEMICAL REACTIONS IS ACTUALLY MUCH MORE SERIOUS! BECAUSE, UNKNOWN TO TREVOR, THE EXPLOSION HAD REPRODUCED THE EXACT CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE CREATION OF LIFE, AND, IN FACT, HAD CREATED LIFE!



# Poetry

## The Empty Soul

I come to another crisis —  
 Once again I contemplate suicide.  
 Again I suffer the torment of  
 Sacrifice and inner humiliation: pride bursts.  
 My mind explodes. I feel a tight fire in my throat,  
 And a constriction in my gut.  
 I focus on all the things that anger me,  
 and let them die  
 In an orgy of wails, screams and a tempest of  
 blasphemies.  
 An angry calm follows.  
 What to do! What to do! What to do!.....  
 ..... What do I do?  
 Concentration on my faults. Opening of my heart to  
 the irreconcilabilities of others. Accepting both.  
 I want to die; to sleep. Ah! To sleep.  
 The mood escapes  
 I now sit in a too-bright room  
 with an ache in my head.  
 I want nothing.

Con Giakamozis



## Songeant Aux Jours Defunts

Cloudlands and spun glass towers  
 Too beautiful and fragile  
 Ephemeral world  
 Which vanished like a rainbow  
 Then, the flowers were lyrics  
 Lyrics to the song the wind sang  
 Cascading waterfalls of sound  
 Overflowing goblets of light  
 Three dimensional recollections  
 From an unwritten diary  
 O lost days, the irretrievable...  
 White birds  
 Which took their flight beyond the bound  
 In one swift movement

Monica Carroll



