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ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY STUDENT WEEKLY

SEPTEMBER 7, 1987

IDENTITY CARDS:

IS BIG BROTHER

COMING?



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Prisoners of conscience

Thousands of people are in prison because of their beliefs. Many are held without charge or trial. Torture and the death penalty are widespread. In many countries, men, women and children have "disappeared" after being taken into official custody. Still others have been put to death without any pretence of legality: selected and killed by the governments and their agents.

These abuses - taking place in countries of widely differing ideologies - demand an international response. The protection of human rights is a universal responsibility, transcending the boundaries of nations and ideologies. This is the fundamental belief upon which the work of Amnesty International, an independent worldwide voluntary movement is based.

Amnesty International has an active worldwide membership with more than 500,000 individual members, subscribers and supporters in over 160 countries and territories. The movement is open to anyone who supports its goals. The work is impartial. Amnesty International is concerned solely with the protection of human rights involved in each case, regardless of either the ideology of the government or the beliefs of the victims.

Amnesty International attaches great importance to impartial and accurate reporting of facts. Its Research Department collects and analyses information from a wide variety of sources. These include hundreds of newspapers and journals, government bulletins, transcripts of radio broadcasts and reports from lawyers and humanitarian organizations.

Information also comes in from other people with first-hand experience. In addition, Amnesty International sends fact-finding missions for on-the-spot investigations and to observe trials, meet prisoners and interview government officials.

The Amnesty International movement is run democratically. It is funded by donations from its members and supporters around the world. Its supreme governing body is an International Council of elected delegates from its sections in the various countries. The Statute of Amnesty International -

which defines the organization's work and structure - can be altered only by a two-thirds majority at the International Council. The first article of the Statute sets out the objects of Amnesty International: the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners, an end to torture and executions. These goals define the scope of Amnesty International's work and are commonly referred to as the organization's "mandate".

Amnesty International plays a specific role in the international protection of human rights. Its activities focus on prisoners:

- It seeks the release of prisoners of conscience. These are people detained anywhere for their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion, who have not used or advocated violence

- It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial

- It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners without reservation.

Amnesty International's work is based on principles set forth in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The rights proclaimed by the declaration apply to all people. They have been incorporated into many countries' constitutions and laws and have been further elaborated in other international human rights standards adopted by the United Nations.

Amnesty International works to protect these rights by its efforts to secure the release of prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials in political cases and an end to torture and executions.

By concentrating on a specific program in the human rights field, Amnesty International does not imply that the rights it does not deal with are less important. Amnesty International is convinced of the indivisibility and mutual dependence of all human rights. The movement concentrates on its own defined area in order to be as effective as possible and to put its limited resources to the most efficient use. Amnesty therefore takes up only those cases that fall within its object, as set out in its

Statute.

"3 voting days" for constitutional referendum causes student ballot confusion

by Jamie Skinner

Four students have been suspected of "double voting" in this year's annual student elections.

In each case, the envelopes were not detected until counting had begun on the Friday afternoon of election week. Michael Scott, Returning Officer for the elections said it was "a disgrace" and that any member of society would have to be "morally bankrupt" to vote twice in an election.

"Everyone knows that you may only vote once in an election. Members of the public understand it, so surely intelligent university students must."

To allow the election results to be declared early, counting of the votes was carried out three hours before the close of polling.

"This is standard practice. It was done this year and was most certainly done last year".

"During the early count, no one was allowed to leave after entering and it was conducted in a secure room," he said.

The first voter voted twice on the Wednesday and once on the Friday.

"He was very distressed when confronted and promptly produced a statutory declaration explaining his situation. He said he had been confused." "He claims that his first envelope contained only a Referendum paper, that his second envelope contained only a Constitutional Referendum paper, and that his third envelope contained only the election papers".

"We have no evidence about the contents of the first envelope. The second envelope contained only the constitutional referendum and the third the general referenda."

The first voter wrote to Union President, Susan Coles declaring his innocence. He has signed a statutory declaration that he did not vote more than once for the SAUA Library referendum, the SAUA Constitutional referendum and the election ballot papers.

The student was angered and concerned at first when he received a letter of censure from the A.U.U.

At the next Union Board meeting, a motion will be passed that this student "did not contravene voting regulations and acknowledge his *prima facie* innocence".

The next two voters, are both suspected of voting first on the

Tuesday and then again on the Friday.

One of the students told the Returning Officer that they voted early in election week but later both changed their minds about which presidential candidate to vote for.

"She stated that (presidential candidate) Steve Ronson advised her to vote a second time in the student elections".

Steve Ronson told ONDIT last week that the only time he advised students to vote twice was for the election of candidates and then again for the constitutional referendum.

"Some students were confused about the referendum voting (which could only be held over three days). Many students were confused if they had actually filled in their papers correctly (and may have wanted to vote again).

One of the two students who voted on Tuesday and on Friday has "verbally admitted" to the Returning Officer that she double voted.

Neither of them have signed any statutory declarations.

The fourth student was suspected of voting on Wednesday and again on the Friday.

Last Friday, the student signed a statutory declaration saying that he only voted on the Friday.

He believes that there was a clerical error with the checking of the outer envelope with the roll.

He suggested that in future the outer envelopes are kept for double checking.

Michael Scott says that only students who voted on the Monday were told that they could cast a second envelope later in the week for the constitutional referendum which they couldn't vote for on the Monday.

"I think it confused things for the Monday voters. Only eight people who voted on Monday cast a second envelope later in the week for the constitutional referendum".

"I checked inside their envelopes and none of them cast a SAUA, Union or general referendum vote twice," he said.

Michael Scott added that he thought it was "very extraordinary" that a returning officer should have to check the individual contents of envelopes. He said that he ensured that the votes remained confidential.

He believes that students were confused over the method of voting for the constitutional referendum and the election of candidates.

"In 1985, the Liberal students held a

referendum to change the constitution. The referendum was passed by the required majority".

"It was later discovered that the new Liberal constitution contained a number of entrenchment clauses (entrenchment clauses stop constitutions from being changed)".

"One of them was to disallow constitutional referendums from being held over more than three days. It appears that they hoped that this would make it impossible to hold a constitutional referendum concurrently with the annual elections".

He said that for a constitutional referendum to be passed, it requires a minimum number of students to vote and this number is rarely reached accept in the annual elections.

The 1987 constitutional referendum was held concurrently with the annual elections. It was conducted during the middle three days of election week (i.e. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday).

"As a result of this complication, students who voted in the elections on the Monday were permitted to vote in the constitutional referendum on the middle three days".

He said that all the students who were suspected of "double voting" did not vote on the Monday. He added that they could not have been subjected to the confusion which the Monday voters may have been under.

Michael Scott said that after Liberal students had rigged a ballot in 1977, the SAUA and A.U.U. had enforced rigorous checks and measures to detect election irregularities.

"It is because of these checks that the 1987 double voters were detected".

"But unfortunately the regulations don't allow for punishment of offenders. The only punishment they might receive is moral scrutiny. In future, offenders of election regulations should receive a punishment equal to the crime of subverting the democratic process", he said.

SAUA president, David Israel said it was quite obviously a ploy by those who re-wrote the constitution to make it difficult to hold a constitutional referendum.

"It is a typical abhorrence of democratic processes", he said.

"I think it is outrageous that constitutional referendums can only be held over 3 days when annual elections are held over one week".



Over the past year the science of superconductors has leapt from relative obscurity to world prominence in the scientific, industrial and even political worlds. We will probably see an enormous race between the technological powers over the next few decades as they try to corner the market in the predicted "technological revolution" that superconductors may precipitate.

There are good reasons for this burst of interest. In twelve months the entire field has been revolutionised and everyone suddenly realized that "high temperature superconductors" were a possibility. This has important implications; superconductors have enormous potential.

But what is a high-temp superconductor? Superconductivity was discovered in 1911 when a Dutch physicist, H.K. Onnes found that mercury lost all electrical resistance at a temperature of 4K (-269 C). This is the definition of superconductivity: almost nil electrical resis-

tance. However the extremely low operating temperature made superconductors impractical - obviously this temperature had to be raised. The next 75 years saw little success, and superconductors received relatively little attention.

That all changed in October last year, when IBM announced seeing superconductivity at 33K. Since then progress has been rapid: 90 - 100K earlier this year, and a staggering 225K (-48C) reported in June this year. This enormous progress demonstrates one aspect of superconductor research. It is inexpensive and relatively easy once you have an idea about what materials to use (schoolkids in Britain have made these superconductors in their labs). The competition between scientists the world over is intense; there are over 50 institutes in Japan now working on superconductors alone. Sleeping bags and portable stoves started appearing in labs around the world as scientists the world over began investigating this new breed of superconductors, the copper oxide ceramics.

Scientists are not the only ones interested in superconductors. A superconductor that need only be cooled by nitrogen instead of costly

helium could mean enormous advances in computers, transportation, space sciences and enormous savings in any field using large amounts of power. But the biggest advances are in areas we cannot predict yet; superconductors may create their own technologies.

Which is probably why Reagan would not let any foreigners into the superconductor conference held earlier this year. He is throwing money everywhere in an attempt to beat the Japanese to the pot of gold, and has vowed that American discoveries will be protected by tougher laws on public access to information. The paranoia towards Japan stems from that country's success in semiconductors; Reagan does not want a rerun of history. This will inevitably slow research down as scientists work best when they interact freely.

Do not hold your breath for "supercomputers, flying trains and fusion power"; superconductors have to be developed for mass production first, and that will take years. It will not be a world effort, either, it will probably resemble the race for the atomic bomb more than other scientific projects.

Conference coming

by Graham Hastings

Students from all over Australia will gather at Adelaide University, in October to discuss the formation of a national student organisation and campaigns to defend public education.

The conference, organised by the State Cross-Campus Group (the South Australian Tertiary Students Federation) will be the first national meeting of students since the National Student Conference held after the collapse of the former national body, AUS, in 1984.

One of the conference organisers, Linda Gale said that there had previously been national meetings of the Left to set up such things as free education coalitions and activist networks and also the National Organisation of Labor Students (NOLS) had set up an interim national organisation of state student unions (the "National Union of Students").

She said that this would be the first cross-factional meeting to discuss the national union question. She said that she hoped that Right-wing and Independent student representatives would also participate.

SAUA President-Elect, John Ridgway, said that he hoped the conference would begin the process of cross-factional discussion necessary for the adoption of a national union constitution.

The conference will discuss such matters as the aims and objectives of a national union, its structure, how it will formulate policy, whether it should be restricted to education and welfare issues only and how much it will cost.

The first day will be campaign orientated and will discuss the impact of the Hawke Government's attacks on higher education, TAFE students, Marketing of Education, Compulsory Unionism, Aboriginal students and plans for a national fees boycott.

The SAUA is expected to hold elections for Adelaide University's quota of seven delegates to the conference early in third term.

ID Cards: Big Brother swooping down?

Govt. Report

A report in this week's *Sun Herald* newspaper says a cabinet document leaked to the paper highlights the Hawke government's timetable to push the controversial Australia Card Bill through.

The favoured date for enactment of the legislation is October 7.

Under the government's preferred plan, the issue of the card would begin in June 1989 with the job completed by December 1990.

The options proposed include the Government referring legislation to the Senate Committee early in the next Budget making way for a joint sitting of parliament by the end of 1987.

The document warns of a possible successful High Court challenge which would disallow the legislation after it was passed.

It also warns of a possible State Labour Government not co-operating in the establishment of a national registry.

It says the passage of legislation will create "great public controversy." The government will have to react to the card's shortcomings.

"If the Government is forced to be reactive to these criticisms there is a danger the general political support for the program in the community will be eroded", it says.

The Australian Democrats have said that they will delay the bill rather than reject the legislation.

The document provides a number of amendments in order to "fulfil the community expectation that the Government is prepared to consider".

The legislation could be held back long enough so that by the time of the next Federal Election (which must be held by May 1990) the legislation will not have been passed completely for the card to be issued.



Right of records to state govts

The first two states to go to State elections are Victoria and NSW. There is strong support against the card among members of the SA Labor Party.

The Hawke Government will have to win the support of maverick conservative state governments in Tasmania and the Northern Territory, and especially in Joh-led Queensland.

The Australian Democrats are planning to delay the progress of legislation preventing it going to a Labor-dominated joint sitting of parliament before April next year.

The strength of support by State Governments over the controversial Australia Card Bill will be put to the test during future state elections.

Identity Card opponents have set up all over Australia including the Council for Civil Liberties in all states, the People Against Identity Numbers in Victoria and the Australian Privacy Foundation, set up last week in Sydney.

State Governments have the constitutional power to refuse giving the Federal government its records on births, deaths and marriages.

The delay of the Australia card is now expected to stop it becoming operational before the next Federal election.

Prominent people around Australia are saying if the card is introduced it is the next step towards setting up a "big brother" system.

Professor Roger Clarke, Chairman of the Australian Computer Society's Economic, Legal and Social Implications Committee at the ANU told the *Times On Sunday* last week that Big Brother could be created from dispersed databases if three criteria were held:

- the existence of a number of databases each containing information relating to some area of human activity
- the physical network to link these databases and
- a common identifier so data relating to an individual on one system could be matched to records on the same individual on other systems.

"The third step does not exist. Names are just too unreliable. The Australia Card ID number will create the third condition".

See Peter Garrett interview in *Limelight*



Students from Macquarie

Committee to investigate

by Cathi Walker

A committee is to investigate criticisms of Macquarie University's law school which were raised in a Government report on law schools.

The *Pearce Report* advises that Macquarie's law school be closed immediately, phased out or "radically reconstructed" and fitted with new staff. It says that ideological and personal staff differences are affecting courses. The main concern is the courses' lack of content.

Mr Tony Rumble and Mr John Martin, both recent graduates from the law school, said that political and philosophical differences occasionally lapsed into name-calling, at meetings of the law school.

Although Mr Rumble added that they all came out with well-regarded law degrees, the report says that Macquarie University law graduates found it harder finding jobs. Mr Jack Arnold, an Armidale High School teacher, said that he and two other students failed the

Macquarie law course because they complained to the course coordinator that the level of teaching was "abysmally low".

The Vice-Chancellor of the university, Professor Di Yerbury, has said that the *Pearce Report* is irresponsible, "riddled with errors" and prejudiced. Macquarie set up its own committee into the report and the committee rejects the report's findings, saying that they are "damaging opinions which are not supported by evidence".

A flood of letters to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, from academics, students and graduates of the university, claim that the report was biased.

The committee which will look into the criticisms has been appointed by the NSW Barristers and Solicitors Admissions Boards, which are responsible for accrediting university degrees. If they withdrew accreditation, it would cause the school to close.

Blainey dumped as dean of arts faculty

Professor Geoffrey Blainey has been dumped as the Dean of the Arts faculty at Melbourne University.

The Australian historian's controversial "pace of Asian immigration" speech and his right-wing political views seem to have cost him the senior post which he has held since 1982.

"The pace of Asian immigration to Australia is now well ahead of public opinion," Blainey told 1000 Rotarians at Warnambrook on the South West coast of Victoria in 1984.

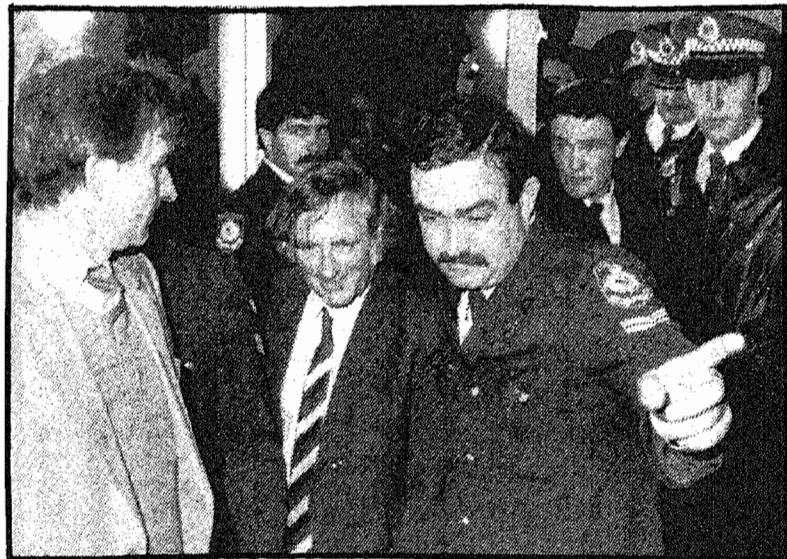
A protest vote against Professor Blainey by 11 student representatives is believed to be a likely reason for him not to win a third successive term in the position he has held for five years.

Professor Blainey's statements on immigration as well as his tendency to "err to the Right" were reasons for a group of students to vote "en-bloc" against him, one of the students told *On Dit*.

"We did not want to vote for Geoffrey Blainey because of his politics and his comments on immigration did not exactly make him a favourable candidate.

She said that the students realising that their votes might be "crucial" had decided to vote for other candidates after interviewing three of the four who were running for the post. Professor Blainey, 57, had refused to be interviewed.

"We are not sure that the students held the balance of power but it was highly likely. It is nice to know that students can actually exercise some power and make a difference," she



Blainey in 1984

said. Professor Blainey is alleged to have acknowledged that "political reasons" were the cause of his not being re-elected.

However, the student said that the eleven students (of whom two forgot to vote) could not claim responsibility for Blainey's downfall with any certainty because the results of the ballot and the number of voters will not be made public.

She claimed that Melbourne Uni was a "predominantly Left-wing Campus" because it was the lefties who were always the ones who got elected to the SRC. She said left-wing students were unlikely to vote for someone like Mr Blainey because of his politics.

A report in a Melbourne newspaper attributed Blainey's defeat to

See feature article on page 15 concern among some academics to his alleged "increased racism".

Professor Blainey's successor is Dr Marion Adams, Chairman of Germanic Studies and the "most likeable" candidate in the election according to the student voters.

Dr Adams is the first woman to be elected dean in the faculty's 143-year history. She will take over the reins and undisclosed allowance from the beginning of next year, if the outcome is formally ratified by the university council on September 7.

Other candidates in the election were professor Blainey's immediate predecessor as dean, Mr Arthur Huck, chairman of the Political Science Department; and Professor Michael Osborne, chairman of the Classical Studies Department.

False dawn of the sunrise industries?

At the beginning of the Hawke Government, Science minister Barry Jones promised an Australian industrial renaissance for technological industries such as biotechnology, communications and computers. PROFESSOR JAMES BEATTIE looks at the sunrise or sunset of Australian industry.

At the beginning of the Hawke Government, Barry Jones, then Minister for Science and Technology, promised an Australian economic renaissance based on "sunrise industries" of new technology.

These included biotechnology, personal computers, computer software and custom-made chips, communications technology, industrial ceramics and metal alloys.

Mr Jones was quoted as saying: "It is a desperate race against time. Unless we move into the high growth, new technology areas, we are going to find our standard of living and quality of life deteriorating rapidly."

Now, more than four years later after the collapse of our terms of trade, the Treasurer, Mr Keating, is promising that we are just at the beginning of a manufacturing-led recovery of import replacement and export growth.

What happened to the sunrise? We have apparently only seen the false dawn.

Recently Senator Button, who has absorbed Technology into his Ministry, announced the generic technologies "of fundamental significance for industry competitiveness in the 1990s".

They are much the same as Jones' sunrise industries - biotechnology, new materials, computer, information and communications technologies.

Every developed country has the same short list. This is because it is easy to identify the broad area of emerging technological growth. But the sun cannot rise simultaneously everywhere in the world.

The challenge is to find the particular niches in which a competitive advantage can be turned into markets and profits. It is a slow, difficult and uncertain process which has only just begun in Australia.

How should governments allocate funds for research and development in science and technology? This is not a trivial question.

Australia spends nearly \$2 billion annually in public money on research and development, close to 1 per cent of GDP.

Is it worth the cost? The questions being asked here are the same as those raised elsewhere in the developed world - how to identify priority areas of research for the greatest socio-economic benefit and how to organise strategic research so that its benefits accrue locally, in our case, to Australia. How can we pick the winners?

John Irvine and Ben Martin of the respected Science Policy Research Unit at the University of Sussex in Britain have analysed how four leading industrial nations - France, West Germany, the United States, and Japan - conduct this process.

They conclude that in the attempts to forecast the future in science and technology, only Japan performs well. Surprisingly, this is not for the reasons commonly believed.

They conclude that the vision of Japan Incorporated, a corporate capitalist state with strong central direction, is erroneous.

Investigation reveals that the strong policy directives promoted by MITI, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, are consensus views obtained from a bottom-up process rather than the top-down decision-making typical of other governments.

MITI organises the exchange of information among the various parts of the technological community - companies, industry associations, public laboratories, and universities - until opportunities are identified and a consensus emerges on desirable policy directions.

This approach has a number of important features. One is that it requires a large and up-to-date

international information base.

In the days when local manufacturers were copying Western technology, procedures were adopted for monitoring technological development. Conventional methods such as literature searches and databases are used routinely.

So are unconventional methods such as the exhaustive exploitation of trade fairs, where entrepreneurs are only too eager to disclose their latest ideas.

A second feature is that both "science-push" and "market-pull" perspectives are integrated. Even in Australia, the linear model of basic scientific discoveries leading inexorably to new products is discredited.

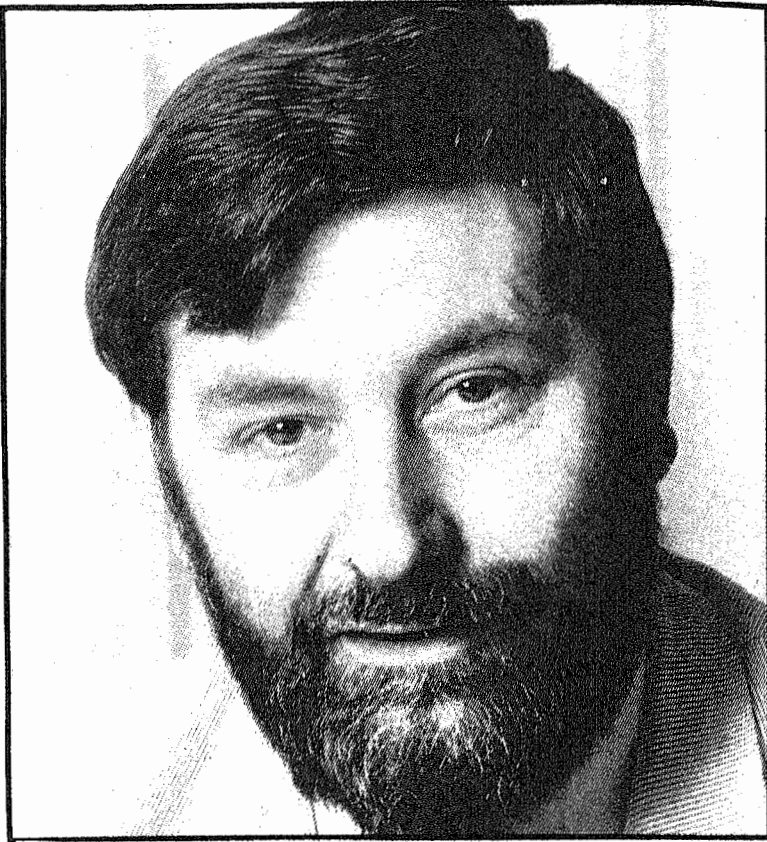
Often it is a perceived market need which stimulates the necessary basic research. By involving large numbers of participants from all of the sectors, using a variety of different organisational techniques, agreement is reached on what is possible (new science) and useful (new markets).

Furthermore, the initiatives determined through this "bottom-up" procedures are likely to be implemented more successfully because the participants have been involved from the beginning and have been learning about the possibilities and constraints.

It is sobering for scientists to learn that in research and development, development usually takes 90 per cent of the time and money. There is a long time between the dawn of an idea and the high noon of the profits.

Finally, the accuracy of the forecasts is not considered as important as the process by which they are generated.

By stimulating communication among different groups in the technological community, periodically forcing attention on the interests of the other groups and on



Barry Jones

the future, and creating a consensus about the direction of strategic research, a commitment to the co-ordinated and systematic development of an area is created.

Not all of these features are directly applicable to Australia. Our industrial research base is so weak that, in many instances, information gathering will have to be carried out in the public sector by the CSIRO or in the universities.

These institutions have been well insulated until recently from market forces. In the past 30 years, Australian universities have been establishing successfully their international reputations as modern research institutions, not interacting with industry as is more typical elsewhere.

Only recently has the primary role of the CSIRO in applied research been enunciated, although it has a history of success in some areas such as agricultural research.

Furthermore, as a small country we have the additional problem of ensuring that some developments can be exploited locally to our profit.

This is made more difficult by the large presence of multinational corporations in high technology areas with little Australian research and development activity. All of these problems require a large initial role for government.

There has been only a limited effort to address these problems. In 1986, OECD examiners of

Australia's science and technology policies recommended systematic reviews of the various industrial and commercial sectors along the lines described above, with full participation of the research community and the end-users.

With a few exceptions, these have not been taken up.

The Government has, however, provided the necessary incentives for change. The chronic underfunding of university research, estimated to exceed \$100 million annually, has prepared many academics to look to the private sector for support of their research.

The generous 150 per cent tax concession for industrial research and development costs should stimulate that activity as it did with the Australian film industry.

It remains to be seen whether the three sectors - government, the publicly-funded research community, and the private sector - can overcome the inertia of their past practices and prejudices.

The essential features of the "bottoms-up" approach to successful research and development will have to become much more widely adopted here, and quickly, if we are to become competitive.

Otherwise, the sunrise we ultimately see will be that of the Rising Sun.

James Beattie Associate Professor of Chemistry at The University of Sydney.

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Tate, embryos and liberation theology

On the surface, Tasmanian Labor Senator Michael Tate would appear an unlikely candidate for the role of a successful politician.

Low profile, and coming from Australia's forgotten state, he is all the more intriguing for being so out of character with the mudslinging, glib marketing and idealistic corruption prevalent in Canberra.

He was elevated to the ministry as Special Minister of State earlier this year, a portfolio which encompasses the controversial National Crimes Authority. Having chaired inquiries into Justice Lionel Murphy and the contentious field of human embryo experimentation, he has played a central role in important public debates.

Yet Tate's entry into politics was not easily foreseen. After gaining a first class honours degree in Law at the University of Tasmania, he won a scholarship to Oxford where he read for a degree in Theology, the first Catholic Layman to do so since the Reformation.

His interest in political life arose on his return to Hobart, where he lectured in law and was tutor at a Catholic residential college. He recalls sitting by the radio in the common room as the birthdays of those who were conscripted to Viet-



nam were broadcast from Melbourne.

"You could see the blood draining from the faces of the fellows whose birthday had been called."

He became ardently opposed to conscription and the Vietnam War.

"This was against my previous instincts. I'd been an ordinary, conservative, patriotic boy and had argued in those great campus debates in favour of Vietnam."

His reading, in the original Greek, of Christ's Sermon on the Mount, for his degree at Oxford had altered his outlook and he entered the Labor Party because of its opposi-

tion to the Vietnam War.

"Your politics should flow from your Theology. In that respect, I'm a supporter of Liberation Theology. I'm disgusted with religion in American politics where the authentic Christian vote has to be for Republican fundamentalism."

Tate has a perceptive and refreshing view of the part played by religion in politics. "I revel every day in being an Australian Catholic politician because we don't have an established church in Australia.

"If you've got any values you have to persuade and argue in the market place rather than rely on the burden of authority of an established church.

"At Port Arthur [the convict settlement in Southern Tasmania], the first thing you see is the crumbling ruins of a church, guarding the portals of the prison. It symbolized the close relationship between the Church and the political system which luckily has passed.

"Section 116 of the Constitution sets the terms for an Australian Christian politician. The framers decided against an established church. The only candidate would have been the Christian religion. I think that's healthy.

"They weren't saying however that

Christian values shouldn't try to permeate the community. What we have to do is persuade and argue. Pluralism doesn't mean neutrality and that is the freedom I feel and am exhilarated by."

Tate has been centrally involved in a number of significant Senate Committees and wholeheartedly endorses the committee system.

"There is a need to get away from the Senate which is necessarily theatrical. The very geography of the Chamber requires confrontation." He cited the debate on embryonic life as an example.

"The way is not to go for large grandstanding motions which are put with such a tirade of abuse that it antagonizes other politicians."

"An immediate vote would have polarized the Chamber immediately."

Instead, a select committee was formed, the Human Embryo Experimentation Bill committee, of which Tate was elected chair.

The committee heard from 170 witnesses over several months which Tate describes as a "magnificent enterprise".

Although the committee was divided in the final report, the seven senators came to agree on a basic view of the embryo, a moment Tate

remembers as a breakthrough.

"We all agreed that an embryo was genetically new human life oriented towards a future and the significant moment was the moment of fertilization. None of the other marker points was significant enough.

"Rather than look at the process as a camera snap shot it was better to look at it as a video and acknowledge, from the moment of fertilization, the inherent push to the future of an entity.

The committee was conscious to reject dogmatic assertions as to the nature of the embryo. Instead, it viewed arguments from the set of international, protective medical ethics which arose from revulsion at the medical experimentation of the Nazi regime.

"What came out of Nuremberg was a recognition that you cannot sacrifice human lives to advance medical science for great goals.

"The committee also came to view the human embryo not as property but as an entity which should be surrounded by the rights of guardianship."

The report is presently being examined by the Health and Attorney-General departments and a response should be made by September or October.

170 OS students face deportation if fees aren't paid

by Cathi Walker

Over 170 overseas students may be deported for failing to pay their overseas student fee.

A letter from the Department of Education to the National Liaison Committee of Overseas Students' convenor, Mr Peter Subramanian, said that students who had not paid had been declared non-citizens and were liable for deportation.

Thirteen students over the past two years have been deported for not paying.

The charge is at present 45 per cent of a full-time course but next year will rise to 55 per cent.

Mr Subramanian said that the fee was causing extraordinary hardship to overseas students and that the figure of 171 students facing deportation was extremely high. He said that the Government should grant a stay of termination to those who had not paid.

"It is not only those on the list who are in trouble but all those who have had to scrimp and save and work long hours to pay the fee." More than 950 students had not yet paid the charge on May 15, two months after the deadline.

"We are hoping for some avenue for these students [who are facing deportation] to apply for short-term interest-free grants from the Malaysian Government."

Sathish Dasan, the Overseas Students' Representative at Adelaide University, said that as far as he knows none of the 171 students are from S.A.

One or two students from Adelaide University have been

deported in previous years. Usually a student does not know that they are going to be deported until an Immigration Officer knocks on their door, and then it is too late to do anything.

85 per cent of overseas students at the university work part-time. Those that have paid their fees are still worried, said Mr Dasan, because paying the fee is causing them hardship now and the charges are rising, so they may not even be able to complete their studies.

"They'll work until they can't pay any more and then they'll leave."

He thinks that the Government should plan for the students to pay over their term of study here, rather than making them pay it in a lump sum at the start of the year.

A survey of overseas students in the Melbourne University Medical course has highlighted the difficulties of overseas students. Most of those surveyed do not have wealthy backgrounds and substantial sacrifices were being made by their families to keep them at the university.

One student said, "I think that if my family and I had known earlier about the way the fees would increase over the years, I would not have commenced my studies but would instead have joined the workforce, especially as I am a girl in a large family where priority would be given to a son to further his education."

"Due to social and cultural factors most Malaysian parents will not let their children stop halfway. Many will plunge themselves into severe financial hardship to let their child

or children finish. For many, admission by themselves or their children that they have to stop because of financial difficulties means losing face and/or letting their children down."

Overseas students accepted the need for some charge, said Mr Subramanian, but financial difficulties would be greatly reduced if they could pay in at least two instalments. This view was expressed by the majority of those surveyed.

Over half of the students worked here during the summer holidays to earn money for their fees. Students were frequently underpaid - all but two of the 35 students worked more than 35 hours a week but only four were paid more than \$100 a week.

A spokesman for the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Mick Young, said that deportation had previously been fairly automatic but the Immigration Department would take the students' circumstances into account this year.

The Malaysian Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Muhamid Sani, called on the Government to delay deportations of overseas students until all avenues of paying their fees were exhausted. Mr Sani said he wished that the Government was more flexible in its procedures.

The Malaysian Government has considered lodging a diplomatic protest at the 10 per cent increase in the charge. The Malaysian Minister for Education, Mr Anwar Ibrahim, said that Malaysia would send its sponsored students elsewhere, as Australia was becoming too expensive.



319 die of AIDS since 82 says report

Figures released last week showed that 583 cases of AIDS have been reported in Australia with 363 cases reported for 1987, exceeding Health Authorities' expectations for this year.

301 men and 18 women who contracted AIDS have died since the first case was reported in Australia in 1982.

The figures show that the majority of cases involve homosexual or bisexual men with 37 people contracting the disease blood transfusions.

The figures were released last week by the AIDS research unit of the National Health and Medical Research Council, a government funded body.

220 cases of AIDS were reported in 1986 and they predicted in January this year they would have about 340 new cases of AIDS reported in 1987.

A total of 583 cases of AIDS have been reported since July 1982. Of those figures, 319 people have died.

Dr Bruce Whyte, the medical administrator for the NH & MRC, told the *Sydney Morning Herald* last week that the number of Australian cases and how AIDS was transmitted were consistent with figures from the USA, Sweden and other overseas countries.

The figures released last week also

showed that:

- Out of the 583 cases, 507 AIDS cases were contracted by homosexual and bisexual men while 18 homosexual and bisexual men who were also intravenous drug abusers contracted the disease. Three IV drug abusers with no known homosexual links also contracted AIDS.

- Six people who had haemophilia contracted AIDS and 37 of the cases were blood transfusion recipients.

- Four people contracted the disease through heterosexual transmission; two cases are still under investigation.

- Most of the AIDS cases are from New South Wales with 398; 96 cases have been reported in Victoria; 39 cases in Queensland; 26 cases in Western Australia; 10 cases in South Australia; two cases in Northern Territory; four cases from the Australian Capital Territory and one case in Tasmania.

- The most affected age-group is that of 30 to 39 years with 238 AIDS cases; compared with 143 cases in the 40 to 49 age group; 126 in the 20-29 age group; 49 cases in the 50 to 59 age group; 16 cases in the 60 plus age group; four in the 10 to 19 age group and seven in the nought to nine years age group.

Business Daily calls it a day after 38 eds

BUSINESS DAILY



Australia's first new national newspaper, *Business Daily* closed down last month after only 38 editions.

The paper's editor and managing director Mr. Michael Gill gave reasons for the closure as lack of funds and low circulation.

"I suppose we ran out of money in the end," he said.

"We could have done a lot better. There were a whole lot of things we could have done, and I guess in the end we were disappointed with a whole lot of things, but fortunately a newspaper is not strictly limited by production."

Business Daily closed business on the 19th of August last month. The brave venture into the business market dominated by Fairfax's *Australian Financial Review* was always a risky proposition.

Mr. Gill told the *Age* that he aimed for a circulation of 50,000 (17,000 less than the *Fin Review*). Industrial sources say that *Business Daily* was selling 15,000 in its last two weeks.

Business Daily first hit the streets on July 6, five days before the federal election.

Mr. Gill said that Rupert Murdoch's News Ltd. had not been confident of the paper's market and many people "widely expressed" similar views.

He said the decision to close the



paper was made by *Business Daily* and denied that News Ltd. had backed out.

He said that *Business Daily* had been looking for a new partner to take place of News Ltd. for "about a month" before closing.

Business Daily had approached several prospective partners but had received no commitment from them.

Mr. Gill was reluctant to criticise News Ltd. at the time of closing.

"News Ltd., I don't think, were ever very confident of the market for the newspaper."

The federal secretary of the Australian Journalists Association, Mr. Chris Warren, said the closure demonstrated the difficulty of setting up a new national newspaper with only two big press proprietors. (Fairfax and News Ltd.). Mr. Warren has called for a national media inquiry.

Computer technology reaching student newspapers

The age of computer technology in Australian Universities has now reached the area of student newspapers

Tharunka, the University of New South Wales newspaper, *Grok*, the Curtin Uni student *News*, the NSW Institute of Technology student newspaper and *Neucleus*, the University of New England student newspaper are all produced with the benefits of computer typesetting and layout.

In the United States, an estimated 1300 such newspapers are now being provided to students with the greater professionalism that computers are offering the publishing industry.

Market research has shown that U.S. student newspapers reach 97% of students who spend in excess of \$US 30 billion annually.

A business and marketing company conducted an assessment of Adelaide University Union facilities last year and found that over 70 per cent of students read *OnDit* several times a month.

In the States, the publishers of student newspapers have made them a more attractive medium through which to reach students.

Advertisers are more willing to use them in their campaigns designed at the 18-25 year old age bracket.

OnDit editor, Jamie Skinner said that the advances in computer technology meant electronic publishing was becoming a very likeable resource for publishing newspapers.

Recruitment boss critical

Australia has a critical shortage of skilled people especially in the area of computers, the manager of a large recruitment company said last week.

Mr Geoff Slade of the Slade Consulting Group told the *Sydney Morning Herald* that there were too few graduates to fill job vacancies in engineering, accounting, marketing, sales and computers.

Mr Slade said it was disturbing to find only 9.5 per cent of Australians had any sort of diploma or degree in comparison to over 30 per cent in the United States and Japan.

He blamed the shortage on a lack of incentive for people to study at a

tertiary level. He believed that private enterprise needed to invest more money in training staff.

In Japan, 1.9 per cent of the gross domestic product was spent on training staff, but Australia spent only 0.8 per cent in this area, Mr Slade said.

"As a nation, we are paying the price for neglecting the development of people - Australia's most important resource - and for the short-sighted policy of depending on the sale of primary products and mineral resources to maintain the 'lucky country' standard of living," he said.

The Prosh Press Presents.



THE MURDOCH



NUMBER 7137

MONDAY AUGUST 3 1987

ONE DOLLAR

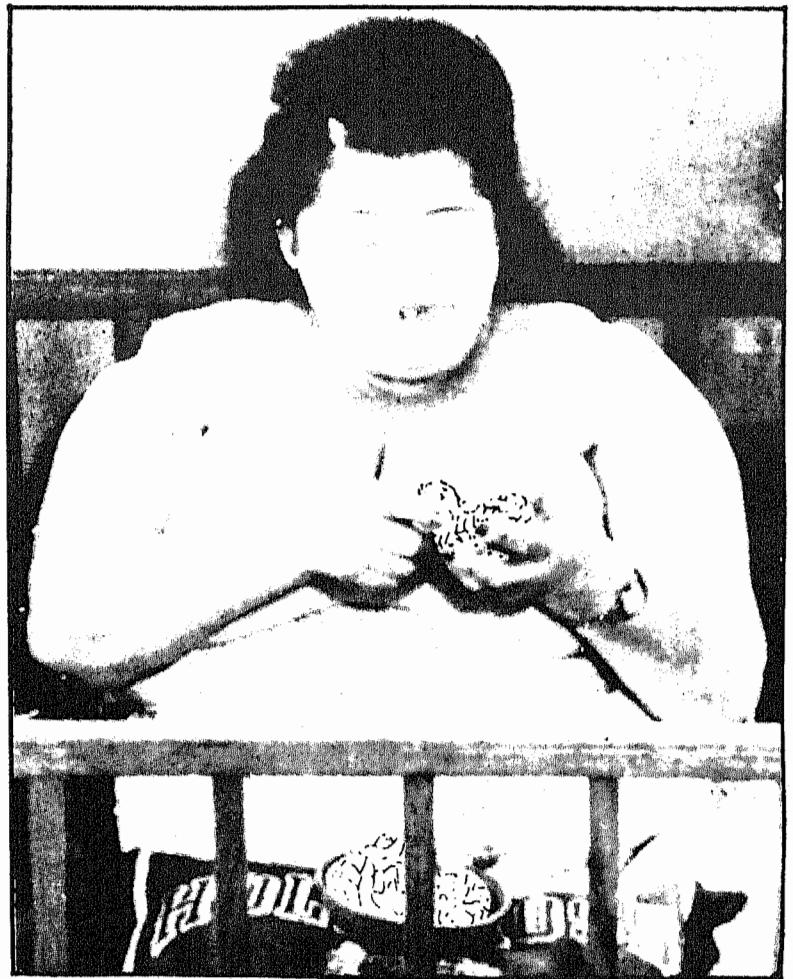
PROCEEDS TO AID
RED CROSS

WOMAN

EATS

OWN

BRAIN



PROSH 87

HITS

ADELAIDE

Ms Gloria Bookworm: an Adelaide University student was admitted to the Royal Adelaide Hospital tonight after reputedly eating her own brain. Ms Bookworm mistakenly ate it after it slipped out of her nasal cavity into her lap. It is said that she is suffering from the horrific and deadly disease A.I.D.S. (Academically Induced Degenerative Syndrome.), which is spreading rapidly through out the uni

as well as around other Australian universities. Her condition is critical but stable, as she has just undergone intensive reconstruction in order to save her traumatised brain.

Although still in the Intensive Care Unit Ms Bookworm was only able to grunt "OAARGHHHHHH!" in reply.

MORE INSIDE SOMEWHERE.....

FAMILY FOUND PICKLED IN GRAND PIANO

PIX-SEE P. 4

ON SALE NOW AT STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OFFICE. PROCEEDS TO RED CROSS.

BLUE VELVET : MYSTERIES OF LOVE & DARKNESS

BLUE VELVET
Piccadilly Cinema

by Dino Di Rosa

The opening image of *Blue Velvet* and the ones which follow it, may well become film legend: down from a cloudless blue sky, a white picket fence, crisply and vividly shot in a brand new version of Cinema-scope, has before it red, red roses and yellow, yellow tulips swaying to the warm air of Bobby Vinton's schmaltz classic "Blue Velvet" on the soundtrack. We soon see and hear that we are in idyllic Lumberton, a small American timber-milling community - all bright billboards and big red firetrucks - where they have a radio station with the call letters WOOD and a station identification which hollers, "At the sound of the falling tree (sound of falling tree) it's 9.30!"

A smooth cut to a middle-aged man, a Mr Beaumont, seen watering his back lawn. Straining to disentangle his hose from a stubborn shrub, he falls spectacularly to the ground, stricken with a seizure of some kind, and so sprays water everywhere with the hose he still holds in his hand. The neighbour's dog jumps all over the fallen man, cheekily trying to drink from this strange accidental fountain. Suddenly, the camera forgoes its subject, and instead mows and rumbles into a close up of the lawn, and the armies of angry ants who live and work within it, their busy noises amplified to sound like a stampede of buffalo.

Soon Jeffrey Beaumont, a clean-cut young college student who's back home to see his ill father, is seen taking a nostalgic walk a stone's throw away from his folks' hardware store. There in the shrub he finds a severed ear, by now gangrenous and with ants marching upon it. Jeffrey opts innocently to take it to the local authorities, who in turn appear rather too matter-of-fact and wait-and-see about the unusual find. There is then a probing close up of the said ear, showing its dark inner spirals and canals as if a seashell, and the roar of what seems to be an ocean is heard.

His suspicions aroused, and his healthy appetite for the unusual whetted, Jeffrey decides to do some of his own investigations into the matter of the severed ear, carrying the blonde girl-next-door, Sandy, in his ingenuous, if not ingenious, tow-

The young pair suspects, conveniently enough, that a bluesy chanteuse called Dorothy Vallens may be involved in the arcane crimes of their naive imagining. They see Dorothy do her lusty "Blue Velvet" set at a local nightclub, and work out a way of getting into her musty Deep Rivers apartment - a building more decadent than nostalgic - tucked away in the seediest part of town.

What Jeffrey and Sandy see, and what in particular our young hero experiences there, forms the basis of the rest of *Blue Velvet*, a truly remarkable audio-visual odyssey of an adolescent's close encounters in an adult's nether world of sadomasochism, fetishism, voyeurism, narcotics and corruption.

"It's a strange world," the young lovers keep telling each other, as if whispering sweet nothings. What we are meant to be seeing are "the mysteries of love and darkness" that exist even in dullsville, but what we are really seeing is a brilliant and powerful but warped and immature imagination at work, the strange world and case of David Lynch.

David Lynch, the writer and director of *Blue Velvet*, has the eye of a great surrealist and the mind of a college sophomore. Like the public image of master painters and movie directors as single-minded artists who use their thumbs and fingers to frame their creations before them, the youthful American filmmaker imagines and creates purely and obsessively in terms of his mind's eye, his *mise en scene* - what goes into a shot, a sequence, a scene, not only visually, but aurally, kinetically and emotionally, almost regardless of the larger concerns of story, theme and character. Such an attitude has persuaded one critic to nominate him a "genius naif" and another to denounce his latest work a "mindless piece of junk".

His filmography reads and looks like a connected series of dark nightmares, of filmic dreams emanating from the same troubled child-prodigy. *Eraserhead* (1977) was a film school project that gestated like some cellulothalidomide baby over several years. Shot in 16mm black and white and featuring an innovative organic soundtrack and bizarre human sculptures, *Eraserhead* had the special effect of forever superceding Salvador Dali's famous but now rather flat dream sequence in

Hitchcock's *Spellbound*. An experiment rather than a real movie, it also gave audiences their first opportunity to either love or loathe Lynch's singular vision, as they have been doing ever since.

The Elephant Man (1980), also in beautiful-ugly black and white, captured the horrors of the English Industrial Revolution, as seen through the hooded eyes of a Victorian side-show freak, the ugly-beautiful John Merrick. Yet there were some problems with it, problems which showed that Lynch's strengths were also his weaknesses, and vice versa. Working from the dialogue of Christopher De Vore and Eric Bergren, to which he later contributed, Lynch's study forsook fact for fiction in its quest for a surreal approach to truth and beauty, and relied heavily (and powerfully enough) upon the "elephant man" mythology rather than telling Merrick's story as it was historically documented.

Dune (1984) saw Lynch backed, incredibly, by the behemothic Dino De Laurentiis group, and his visualization (better not say dramatization) of Frank Herbert's SF tome proved to be a behemothic failure, commercially and certainly artistically. On his lonesome as a screenwriter, Lynch just could not conceive of a coherent story from the Herbert epic (a comic book in words by any literary estimation), and he still has foolish ideas of recutting it, for all its over-length, over-crowdedness and obtuseness, in the form of a long "poem". This is tantamount to raising the "Titanic" in hopes of getting it afloat again for another New York-Athens voyage.

The miscarriage of *Dune*, even more incredibly, did not effect Lynch's contractual obligations with DeLaurentiis, and the American once again summoned himself as lone screenwriter on another subjective project, *Blue Velvet*. The uncommon freedom which Lynch was allowed has managed generally to pay off: *Blue Velvet* has been a critical and controversial success (that's putting it mildly), and by dint of these facts a cult-size audience has indulged in its fashionable hallucinogenics. There have, however, been extremes of opinion from reviewers and viewers, and the picture has been praised as "the most creative and daring American movie so far this decade" and buried as a sick, worthless wish-fulfillment fantasy which has "dishonesty and stupidity as well as grossness on its conscience."

Blue Velvet is one of this decade's most creative and daring American movies all right, but like all transcendental cinematic events - like, for instance, first seeing *Last Tango in Paris* or *A Clockwork Orange* - one's reactions must almost necessarily be mixed. Sitting sometimes comfortably, sometimes not, between a kind of colourised fifties B movie and the work of a new Bunuel, *Blue Velvet* rides roughshod over several genres - thriller, horror, comedy, drama - and literally fails in each one of them. Lynch's script does not really follow up on the connections it makes between the real world and the nether world, and if the truth be known his story is rather half-baked and not hard-boiled.

The characters and characteriza-



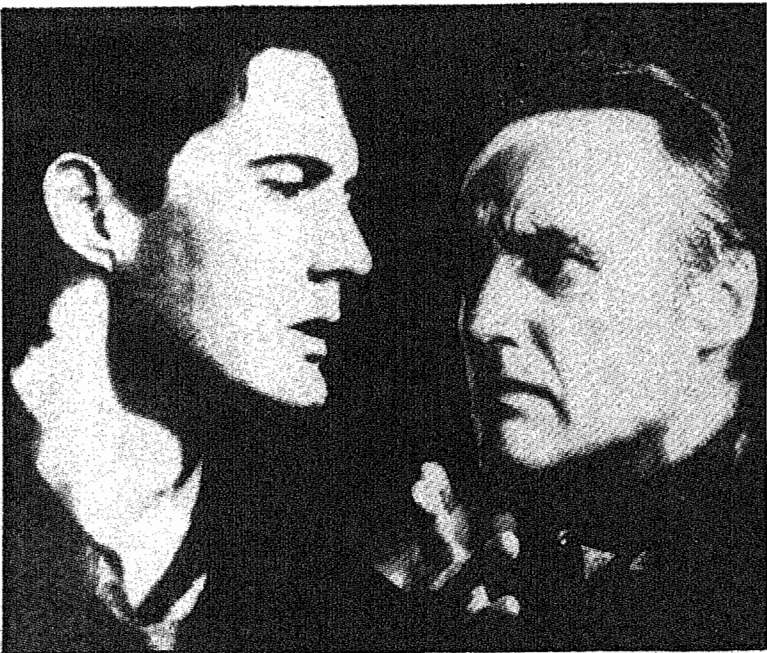
Isabelle Rossini stars as Dorothy Vallens

tions either blossom or become nipped in the bud. Sporting a tiny ring in his ear and good looks to match the director's own, Kyle MacLachlan, who was comic book two dimensional in *Dune*, is almost perfect as Jeffrey, playing him with a wide-eyed, open-minded naivete. He is supported less satisfyingly but fittingly by Laura Dern as Sandy, who is shaped like a swan and acts more often like a goose. Isabella Rossellini does a magnificent turn or two as the masochistic, maternal Dorothy: she sings the title song as if the lyrics are running down her legs, exhibits the difference between true nakedness and mere nudity, and melts away from life and love and back again like so much dry ice - the ultimate heroin, something which her mother, the late Ingrid Bergman, was rarely allowed to become.

As Dorothy's hardcore, druggy suitors, Dennis Hopper, Dean Stockwell, Brad Dourif and Jack Nance are fascinatingly, entrancingly awful: sex, violence, drug-dealing, Budweiser beer and late fifties love songs all seem to have given them collective autism. Lynch has underwritten them almost to nothing, to small details done with the broadest strokes. Hopper's Frank Booth, the villain of the piece, appears more like a glassy-eyed, stone-faced mouthpiece of four letter words than pure evil. The only really interesting thing about him is his sexual paraphernalia, his

oxygen mask and lust for blue velvet. Lynch does much better with the peripheral characters, particularly the senior citizens who know next to nothing of what really happens in Lumberton except through gossip, because he has less chance to ruin them with his deficient screenwriting.

But what Lynch achieves, despite all the complexities and absurdities which result from his simplicities and illogicalities, is something comparable perhaps only to other arts, to painting (he was, like the late Welles and Huston before him, a one-time painter), to poetry - to artists' dreamworlds. In this strange world you would expect to see daubed on the screen a sky full of dark clouds with silver linings, enough to call up W.H. Auden's first portentous images of America which he expressed in his *New Year Letter*. In this strange world there is the happiest of happy endings, and the lasting image of a robin perched proudly on a window sill with a live bug in its beak, auguring love and darkness once again for all. David Lynch was aided in his dreams by his collaborators (cinematographer Frederick Elmes, production designer Patricia Norris, sound engineer Alan Splet, and Angelo Badalamenti, the composer of the score), who together have conspired to make one of the cinema's most seductive and subversive chimeras - one which purrs, but which also has a sting to its tail.



Sadistic Dennis Hopper threatens Kyle



Jeffrey Beaumont and Isabelle Rossini 7

How Do You Feel Today?



Aggressive



Agonized



Anxious



Apologetic



Arrogant



Bashful



Blissful



Bored



Cautious



Cold



Concentrating



Confident



Curious



Demure



Determined



Disappointed



Disapproving



Disbelieving



Disgusted



Distasteful



Eavesdropping



Ecstatic



Enraged



Envious



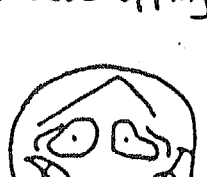
Exasperated



Exhausted



Frightened



Frustrated



Grieving



Guilty



Happy



Horrorified



Hot



Hungover



Hurt



Hysterical



Indifferent



Idiotic



Innocent



Interested



Jealous



Joyful



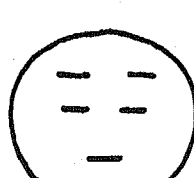
Loaded



Lonely



Lovestruck



Meditative



Mischievous



Miserable



Negative



Obstinate



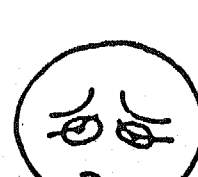
Optimistic



Pained



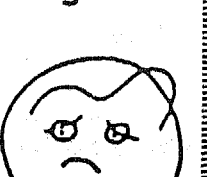
Paranoid



Perplexed



Prudish



Puzzled



Regretful



Relieved



Sad



Satisfied



Shocked



Sheepish



Smug



Surly



Surprised



Suspicious



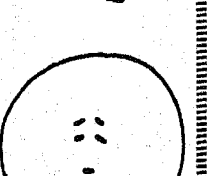
Sympathetic



Thoughtful



Undecided



Withdrawn

Combining work with travel to see the world

TRAVEL

Ever wanted to combine work with travel? The Student Work Abroad Programme offers a really good deal as BRAIN HAVENHAND reports.

The Student Work Abroad Programme (SWAP), now in its third year, is a working holiday that allows you to combine work with travel to suit your own plans.

Working with the locals allows you to gain valuable first-hand experience not available to the tourist.

It is the best way to learn about a country and its people. It also means extra dollars to allow you to continue your travels.

There are a lot of advantages going with SWAP. Even if you were not planning to travel to one of the countries listed, you could always start there, work for a while and move on.

It may allow you to stay overseas longer than you thought possible. It's an experience worth thinking about.

Accommodation

The orientation and accommodation upon arrival are services that set SWAP apart.

At the orientation you are given information about job hunting, accommodation, travel, taxation, social security requirements and all those little things that can go wrong.

Of course the social aspects of your stay are not overlooked. Some of the group arrivals manage to turn into parties where you get to meet local students.

Being a Swapper means you have a safety net. Swappers are put in contact with a local network of people who can help you during your stay, regardless of whether you run into problems or just need some information about the local area.

Although most of the programmes also have individual departures, it is an advantage to travel with a group.

When you travel with one of the SWAP groups you have the option of travelling with like-minded travellers or meeting up with them as you criss-cross the country.

There are times when it is good to be able to talk to someone from home and there are some good practical reasons to stay in contact because sharing is always cheaper.

SWAP even helps those who have relatives in the country of destination. Although you may have somewhere to stay for a while, there is no guarantee that your relatives will know anything about the short-term job market, accommodation, or any of the other networks that SWAP can put you in contact with.

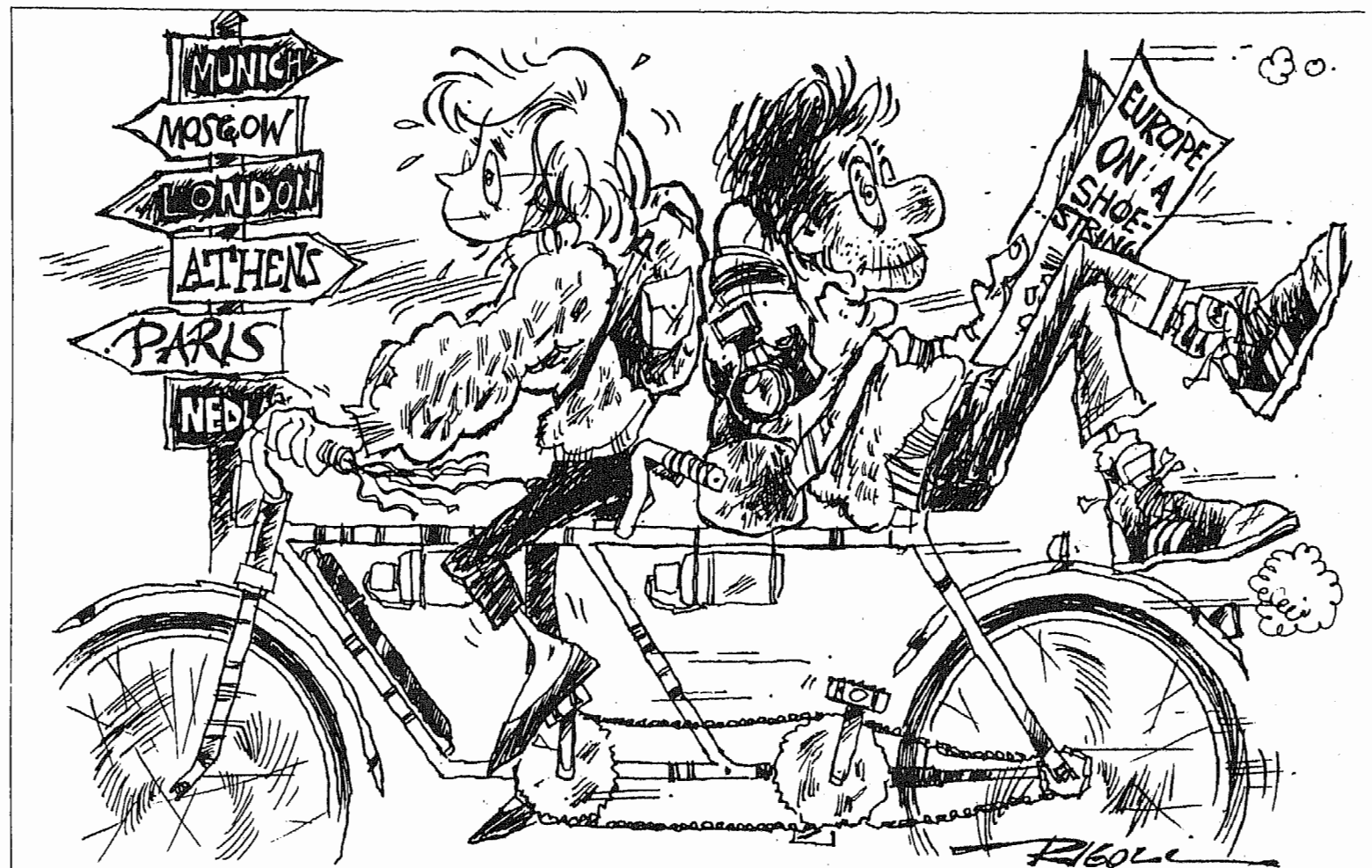
Where appropriate, SWAP operates under the rules of the working holiday agreements that the Australian government has with other countries.

For this reason you must carry an Australian passport or a passport of the country of destination. The only exception is Britain.

If you have a passport from another country then you must check with your home government to see what arrangements it may have with other countries.

Agreements

The spirit of these working holiday agreements is that your work helps you to travel around the country. The travel, rather than the work, is the primary purpose of the visit.



Most of the operators in each country are student organisations or student travel companies and all are members of, or closely associated with, the International Student Travel Conference (ISTC).

This is an international forum of organisations from over 50 countries that provides a base for these programmes to be put together. Student Services Australia (SSA) is the Australian member of the ISTC and Student Travel Australia (STA) is the accredited travel agent.

Once you have decided on your destination, visit your nearest STA office and register. When you register, you will receive a SWAP Starter's Kit, followed within two weeks by the SWAP Country Kit mailed from SSA.

These kits provide the information you will need to get the most out of your trip. In addition, you will receive SWAP Notes which keep you up to date on things you need to know.

When travelling in a group, we let you know who else is travelling from your city or area. This has resulted in Swappers getting together and starting the fun before they even leave town.

Canada

You'll arrive in Vancouver, a delightful city bounded by the sea on one side and steep snow-capped mountains on the other. It's a great place to start experiencing Canada.

Most Swappers work in the snowfields and cities of western Canada. Surprisingly few people make their way across to the eastern half of the country.

Eastern Canada has much to offer including cities like Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal where there is little difficulty in getting work.

If you travel as an individual you can also arrive in Toronto for the orientation. If you have learnt French, why not get a job in Montreal or Quebec City and get plenty of practice before travelling to Paris?

To meet the visa requirements for Canada you need to be between 18 and 30 years of age at the time of application; you need to pass a medical test as required by the Canadian government; you should have a minimum of \$800 upon arrival in Canada and it is advisable to have a return or onward ticket.

The visa is for twelve months and

allows any kind of work provided it is incidental to your holiday.

There is no charge for the visa, but the cost of the medical test is approximately \$90, some of which is refundable.

Japan

Tokyo is a city of ceaseless movement and it is here that the majority of working holiday makers find work.

Most likely you will be teaching English and so the less of an Australian drawl you have, the better.

It is recommended that you are over 21 and have a degree or diploma or be well on the way to finishing one.

It is also recommended that you have some basic understanding of Japanese, even if it is only survival tourist talk.

The visa for Japan requires you to be between the ages of 18 and 25 without children; to have a return ticket or funds to purchase a return ticket; to possess no less than \$2500 and have the intention of working only in order to supplement your holiday funds.

The visa is valid for six months and can be renewed for an additional six months.

Britain

At some stage everyone dreams of being in London, so why not live as a local. This will give you plenty of time to discover one of the most interesting cities in the world.

It will also give you plenty of time to make a detailed study of the unique English pub scene. And if you want a change of pace, the rest of Europe is just across the channel!

Most Swappers will find themselves working in the casual job market based on the tourist trade and on the appetite of the city's offices. But don't forget the job opportunities just outside London.

The visa requires that the time of entry to Britain you should be between the ages of 17 and 27 inclusive, with no dependants; you must have a return or onward ticket; you must also have funds to maintain yourself for at least the initial part of your stay and it is recommended that you have \$1000 for each six months.

The visa allows you to work on a full-time basis at any job for short periods and on a part-time basis for longer periods provided the work is incidental to your holiday.

The visa costs \$50 and is valid for

two years.

The Canadian student travel organisation operates the London SWAP centre.

The centre has been arranging jobs and accommodation for Canadian students travelling to Britain for over 10 years so they know London's job and accommodation scene inside out.

Australian Swappers will be linked into the network of Canadian, New Zealand and American students who are in Britain on working holidays.

USA

The United States has diversity to match its vast size. However, most Swappers will spend their time working in the west, more likely than not in the famous snow resorts accessible from San Francisco and Los Angeles like Aspen, Lake Tahoe or Sun Valley.

When the work is over there is plenty to see. Los Angeles is a city full of sights including the wonderful Disneyland and the amazing Knott's Berry Farm. To the south is San Diego with Sea World and home of the America's Cup.

To the north of Los Angeles are the quieter hills of San Francisco and further again you will find 60-year-old Melbourne trams running along the waterfront to Seattle.

The visa requires you to be a full-time student over 18 years of age. There is no maximum age limit. You are also required to have minimum funds of \$1500 and a return or onward ticket.

You should remember that the visa only allows you to work between November 1 and March 19. After this period you can only stay as a tourist.

New Zealand

The 'Land of the Long White Cloud' is our closest SWAP destination, but that doesn't mean it is not full of surprises.

The majestic mountain scenery of the South Island has been dubbed by some as the 'Switzerland of the South'. Combine that with steaming thermal springs, rolling dairy country, raging rivers and picturesque country towns, and you can find real adventure.

Swappers from the United States and Canada have been travelling to New Zealand for over 10 years, finding work and loving every minute of it. So it's worth the visit all the more because it's so close to

our shores.

Australian citizens can travel to, and work in New Zealand without a visa, though you must carry a valid passport. There are no age restrictions.

Although New Zealand is our nearest neighbour and has much in common with Australia (New Zealanders would say that we have more in common with them), it is still valuable to quickly obtain local knowledge about jobs and accommodation rather than by finding out slowly through trial and error.

USA camp

SSA, in conjunction with YMCA, is able to offer the International Camp Counsellor Programme (ICCP) to Australians who would like to work in children's summer camps in the United States during the June-August period of 1988.

Working in summer camps is a great way to see and learn about the United States from the inside. It's an exciting and rewarding summer experience, but not exactly a holiday.

After the camp has finished you will be able to have a well-deserved rest exploring other parts of the country.

You must be between the ages of 20 and 30 and be prepared to take full responsibility for a group of children for the duration of the camp.

You must have some experience with children or involvement in youth affairs, but you do not need to be a student yourself.

Responsibilities of a general counsellor typically include living with a group of six to 10 campers on a round-the-clock basis for the period of the camp, which usually lasts about nine weeks.

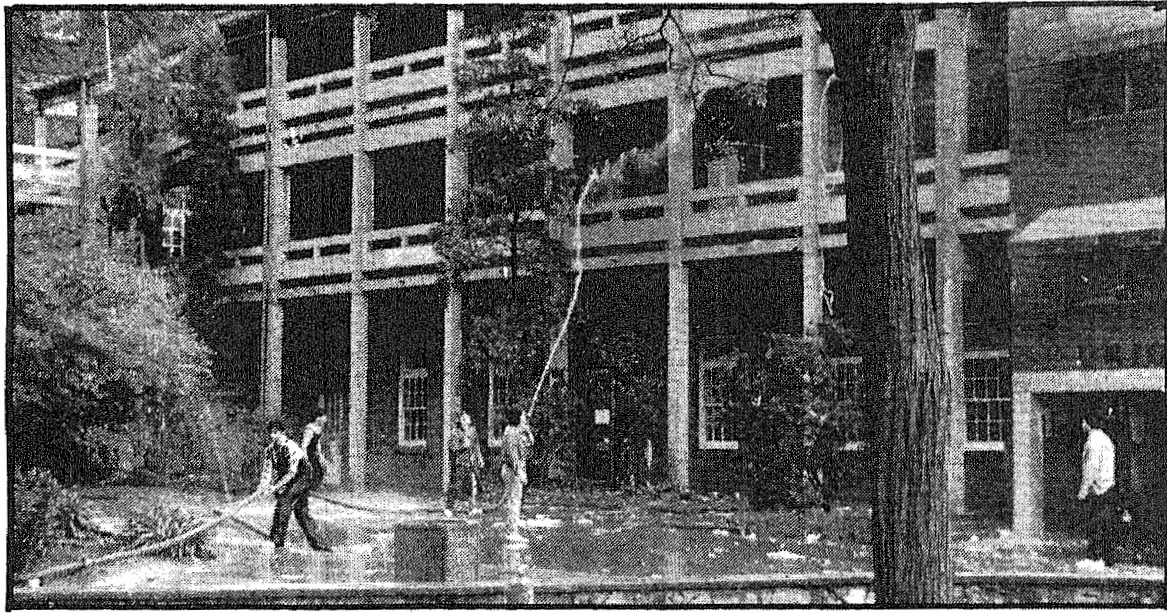
You will also be involved in running particular programmes in areas where you have skills or qualifications, such as sport, arts and crafts, drama or music.

Ireland

The SWAP Ireland programme was not complete at the time of publication so if you are interested in travelling and working in Ireland, contact SSA and the information will be sent to you.

The one thing that you do need to be aware of is that unemployment in Ireland is such that you need to be quite resilient in job hunting. Jobs are not as easy to obtain as in other SWAP destinations.

Prosh Week 1987 ...



Water-terrorists



Caught in the act!



Watch out,
we're mad



The Cot Race

ENTRY TO LAW IN 1988

Introduction:

From 1987 new programmes of study are offered for students wishing to undertake studies in LAW.

Under the new arrangements studies in Law are only available to:

- (a) Students who have completed at least one year of study of an approved non-Law degree
- (b) Graduates.

Further information is given in the leaflet "LAW - Graduates and students who have completed some University studies" available from the Admissions Officer or the Assistant Registrar (Law).

Applications:

Students currently enrolled in Architectural Studies or Arts or Economics or Mathematiacal Sciences degree courses at the University of Adelaide who do not expect to complete

their degrees at the end of 1987.

Applications must be made direct to the Assistant Registrar (Law) using a Form of Application for Admission to the subjects Australian Legal System and Contract in 1988 by no later than 15 October 1987.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Assistant Registrar (Law) (Room 215, Law School) or the Admissions Officer, or by writing to the Registrar.

Others

Applications must be made for entry to the Law Course (ABLW) on the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) Form R by no later than 15 October 1987. Forms of Application may be obtained from SATAC or the Admissions Officer.

Closing Date: 15 October 1987

F.J. O'Neill
Registrar

CELLULOID

A.U. Union Films:
Persona, Little Cinema, Wednesday September 9, 7.30 pm.

A Nurse begins to identify with her mentally ill patient and eventually has a mental breakdown herself. The genius of Ingmar Bergman showing his metaphysical expressiveness changing to a deep concern for the human condition. Features Liv Ullman and Bibi Anderson. Swedish language, English subtitles. 1966, Black and White, 81 mins.

Buff's Film Choice:
My Beautiful Laundrette (Academy); *Sid And Nancy* (Academy); *Lilli Marleen* (Trak); *Blue Velvet* (Piccadilly); *Travelling North* (Academy).

Films For Lunch:
State Library Theatre, Kintore Avenue. Wednesday September 9, 1-2 pm.

Table For One.
A multi-award winning film starring Geraldine Page as a professional women who is dining alone in an elegant restaurant. A voice-over monologue reveals her thoughts as she reflects on herself and her life. 27 mins.

Overnight Sensation.
This contemporary adaption of Somerset Maugham's short story 'The Colonel's Lady' focuses on a couple whose marriage is tested when the wife's first novel is an unexpected success. The husband who sees the wife in a traditional role must deal with a radically new perspective on their relationship. 25 mins. *American Film Festival Winner.*

Wednesday September 16, 1-2 pm.
Rockaby

A record of the creative process of bringing Samuel Beckett's short play 'Rockaby' to the stage including a complete performance of the work with Billie Whitelaw who performed 'Rockaby' at the 1986 Adelaide Festival of Arts.

FEATURES

Blainey: A donnish academic or inflammatory prophet of the New Right

Professor Geoffrey Blainey has just been unceremoniously dumped as dean of the Arts faculty at Melbourne University. His views on the pace of Asian immigration seem to have led to a student backlash. PETER WHITE reports.

Professor Geoffrey Blainey, one-time hero now turned villain of Australia's intellectual community, is unbowed and unrepentant.

He has just been unceremoniously dumped as dean of the faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne, a position he has held since 1982. He failed to be re-elected following a political protest vote by students opposed to what they see as his racist, anti-Asian views.

The loss is but the latest in a series of events by which the professor, at least in the public mind, has been transformed from a retiring, archetypically donnish academic loved by students into a strident, inflammatory prophet of the New Right.

Before he flew in a small plane from Melbourne to Warrnambool to deliver his views on immigration to about 1,000 Rotarians in an old picture theatre on March 17, 1984, Blainey was undisputedly one of our most eminent thinkers, standing beside Donald Horne and Manning Clark.

His *The Tyranny of Distance* had become a highly influential, historical classic, selling 6,000 copies a year, its title entering the language in much the same way as Horne's *The Lucky Country*.

But when Blainey told his Warrnambool audience that he believed Australian immigration policies were anti-British, were dangerously tilted toward Asia, and were threatening our democratic institutions, he unleashed a backlash which recent events in Melbourne show is still being felt.

His work was subject to the most thorough reappraisal, some would say attempted demolition job, in the history of Australian letters.

The NSW Anti-Discrimination Board investigated him.

Novelist Thomas Keneally, a long-time friend, warned that he was giving his imprimatur to dangerous, radical movements and that he

might have unwittingly unleashed a "latter-day Lambing Flat lunacy".

A colleague at Melbourne University described *All for Australia*, in which Blainey outlined his views in detail, as "so shoddy, if it were the essay of a first-year student, it would be sent back for further research and re-writing".

Where once his work was mined by students for inspiration and guidance, it is now fashionable to go to it seeking for evidence of covert racism.

His name has become a byword in ethnic circles for Anglo-centric bigotry and intolerance.

But despite all these slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, Professor Blainey doesn't resile from anything he said. Taking arms against a sea of troubles is something he sees as the intellectual's lot.

"I'm certain I have been vindicated in what I said. I think that I hold those views even more tenaciously than in 1984. One of interesting things is that when I said I believed it was very difficult to build a multi-racial, multi-ethnic society - I didn't see many places where it had been done - people kept pointing to Fiji.

"And now we see what happened there. I think Fiji vindicates what I said in a very forceful way. I think things are a lot more fragile than people say. Look at Brewarrina. People were saying you couldn't have that in Australia."

Back in 1984, Blainey claimed that the pace of Asian immigration was too fast for the tolerance of average Australians out in the suburbs into which the new settlers were moving. In *All for Australia* he quoted an anonymous Cabramatta resident who complained about the ethnics cooking on their verandas, the smell of goats meat, the phlegm on the footpaths and the new arrivals driving around the suburb in fast cars.

Yet there has been little evidence of racial tension threatening the



Thoughts of Professor Blainey

- On politics and politicians - in throwing overboard policies which were the cornerstone of traditional Labor philosophy, Bob Hawke has, in effect, given Australia a government of the New Right. Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen is a communicator without equal in Australian politics.
- Aboriginal Land Rights - Aborigines should have rights to their land, including the right to receive royalties but not to veto mining.
- The Arts - The heroic status that Australian landscape artists have achieved serves to demonstrate that, contrary to much academic opinion, we are neither a nation of anti-intel-

- lectuals nor philistines.
- Taxation - The taxation system is in the greatest disarray since our last tax revolt - the Eureka Stockade - and it is stifling incentive among average, hard-working Australians.
- Defence - Present defence policies are leaving our resource-rich northern coastline and principal sea-lanes dangerously undefended.
- On the founding of Australia - The original British convict settlement was the product of error. The decision to found the colony was based on reports from Captain Cook in 1770 who though he was seeing Botany Bay at its driest when it was, in fact, at its wettest.

social fabric of these suburbs. The Vietnamese seem to be adapting very well to life in 1980s Australia. Doesn't Blainey stand corrected at least on this point?

"No, my view is that the situations of racial and ethnic tensions can be contained for a while and then they break out with surprising suddenness - take Brewarrina.

"The Government knows that the situation is much more difficult than they let on. You'll have great difficulty getting out of the Government their latest public opinion survey on immigration".

Blainey remains as opposed as ever to multiculturalism.

"We are still an overwhelmingly European society and still overwhelmingly British in our institutions, our political system and, of course, our language. Leaving aside eating and cafes and ethnic dances, I don't think we are any more a multicultural society than we were 10 years ago. In my view it's just that temporarily the politicians are

frightened of the ethnic lobby and give them so much credence and lip service.

"The ethnic lobby is obviously well organised or, at least, the politicians see it as such but I see that as a temporary phase. Multiculturalism is fine if it means having a variety of views, being tolerant of people with different views from different backgrounds.

"I think the multiculturalism we have today is a denial of Australia's history. Many people who support multiculturalism seem to think that Australia didn't have any history until the 1950s and 1960s."

He believes that this multiculturalism, with its underlying rejection of our past British heritage, draws ideological sustenance from a mood of guilt sweeping the nation.

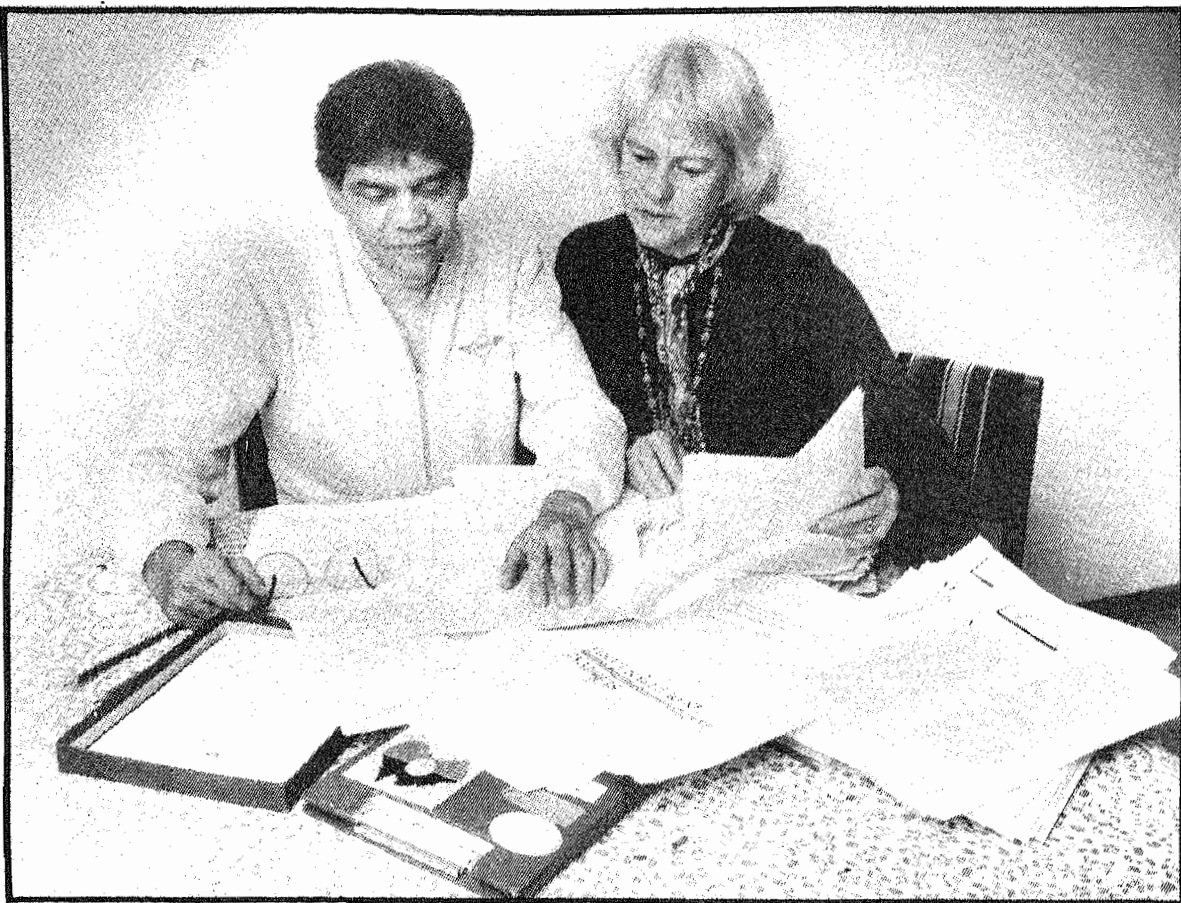
"It's a very curious wave of guilt - as though we have to be guilty of the sins of our great, great grandfathers irrespective of whether they might or might not have been in the country. It's curious to me because

although we have had our failures, I think we have been one of the most successful nations in the past 200 years. I think a nation is heading into trouble if it doesn't realise it has done well.

"We are one of the least successful decades in the history of Australia - and I say that in a non-political sense - it's strange that this generation of failures is so reluctant to give praise to the generations which faced much greater difficulties than we have."

In 1984 Blainey claimed that elements within the Immigration Department were secretly manipulating the immigration intake in a way which ran counter to publicly stated Government policy. He believes that the department still engages in deception.

"The figures that come from the Immigration Department are laundered still," he says, pointing out that it uses a definition of Asian that



An uproar has risen over the publishing rights to the historical Aboriginal book, *Survival In Our Own Land*. Authoress CHRISTOBEL MATTINGLY reports in this exclusive story for On Dit.

What of the rights of the Aboriginal people? Over one hundred gave their statements freely in good faith for the book which the Government had agreed to sponsor. It was the Aboriginal gesture towards better race relations in the year which gave them no cause to celebrate. But under this disgraceful deal, after the first print run of 2000 is sold, all rights in *Survival In Our Own Land* go to the new "owner".

What is fair to them in that? It is gross injustice and crass insensitivity on the Government's part. This is the very book which should never have been "privatised".

Aboriginal people are angered that their book, so important to their identity, has become the property of a non-Aboriginal commercial interest which has done nothing to help the book come into being. All thinking Australians will be disgusted that such an important piece of our heritage has been handed on a silver salver to a firm with no book publishing experience and which has shown no commitment in ensuring this unique book is properly produced. Because of lack of professional production supervision the book has run into grave difficulties.

Is it a conspiracy to suppress the Aboriginal voice?

Now Aboriginal people are considering withdrawing their material, as the only form of protest left to them. The reaction is understandable. But this would be a tragedy of national dimensions. The book would disintegrate. All Australians would lose a part of their heritage.

The Government seems to have acted irresponsibly towards their taxpayers.

Almost four years of research, editing and compilation, funded by taxpayers' money, have gone into this book. It has 35 chapters, based almost entirely on primary sources. It has extensive notes on sources, a bibliography, three indexes, two specially drawn maps, and almost 350 photographs and facsimiles from more than 40 sources. The Adelaide University History Department requested a copy of the manuscript to put in the Barr Smith Reserve Collection for 1986 studies.

By selling off their book the Government has denied Aboriginal people an opportunity to prove they are not always on the end of a hand-out. Because the book has a long term market potential, its earnings would have offset the outlay of taxpayers' money. Aboriginal people wanted to see the earnings of their book returning to Government revenue.

The Saga of the Contract

We have been expressing our concern since February when we heard on the grapevine of the fate of *Survival In Our Own Land*. Information has been withheld from us and all our attempts to communicate have been fobbed off. We have not been granted an audience with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs or the Premier.

What is their position in this?

In May I took legal advice because all attempts to obtain a contract for the book over the previous twelve months had failed. When it became known that I had done so and had been referred to the Ombudsman, I was suddenly offered an appointment with the Deputy Head of the Premier's Department. Only weeks before the Chairperson of the Aboriginal Executive Committee had been refused an appointment.

On June 2 the Committee's Deputy Chairperson accompanied me to the interview about the contract. When we voice our concerns about the book's future with the *Adelaide Review* we were told to "have faith until June 30".

Until July 8 we received no written response whatever to any of our representations. Then the Premier wrote a letter imputing that I was to blame for the book's problems. He implied that the book had been sold to the *Adelaide Review* because there was no binding contract. I replied on the same day, refuting the charges, but my letter to date has not been acknowledged.

On July 10 I was finally offered a contract which met my main stipulations. I had asked for a clause to be inserted which provided that all royalties should be paid into a trust fund to assist in the publication of writing by Aborigines. Believing that I had done all possible to protect the rights of Aboriginal contributors, I signed two copies of the contract.

But a week later I was rung at night and told that the Premier had refused to sign the contract because of the clause. Another contract was drafted by the Crown Solicitor's Office and pressure was put on me to sign it at short notice. I objected to the nomination of an incorporated body I knew would be unacceptable to the Aboriginal people involved and requested time to consult them and take legal advice.

On July 20, I received a contract with blanks "which can be filled later" and was asked to sign immediately "before the Premier goes overseas tonight". Again I

requested time for consultation. On July 21, I suggested some further inclusion to protect Aboriginal interests. The trust fund clause was again redrafted in a way that was unacceptable to Aboriginal people. Pressure was again put on me to sign. I was told I had half an hour to consider it. On Aboriginal and legal advice I declined to sign until the documents are assessed.

On August 3, I received a copy of a minute from the Minister to the Premier expressing our concerns. It was dated July 27. On July 23 we had learned from a small item in the *Advertiser* that the deal selling off *Survival In Our Own Land* had been signed on July 21.

Why did the Minister fail to act for the people who are supposed to be his particular concern?

Ken Hampton says, "In the early years of European occupation of our country we had 'Protector of Aborigines' who often didn't do the right thing. Nowadays we have Ministers who still don't appear to be doing the right thing, at least in 'South Australia'. We feel very disappointed with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs in this state for his lack of support towards the policy of self-determination.

On July 10 a senior official of the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs told Aboriginal people that if they became political about their book's fate, the finger would be pointed at me.

On August 17 the Premier in a letter to the *Advertiser* made allegations of me failing to sign a contract, but made no mention of the fact that he himself refused to sign the contract I signed five weeks earlier.

The project of documenting the history of the last 150 years in 'South Australia' from the viewpoint of the original holders of the land was conceived in 1983 by the Aboriginal Executive Committee of the Jubilee 150 Board.

They saw the Sesquicentenary as the appropriate time to draw attention to the side of the story which has been glossed over or ignored ever since the British decided to colonise the land they described as 'waste and unoccupied'.

But although the manuscript was first handed in to the publisher, Wakefield Press, in April 1985, in the hope that its publication would precede the Jubilee, the book is still not published. Now official vandals on high salaries seem determined to ensure that *Survival In Our Own*

The saga of "survival in our own land"

Land will never be published.

Ignorance, incompetence and inefficiency have been factors in the delay of the book. But discrimination, prejudice and the politics of personal power in high places also seem to be part of the plot. Perhaps there is also a fear of what will be revealed.

Over the past nine months the fight between the Aboriginal people and the occupants of the corridors of power of the State Administration Centre and the ivory towers of the Education Office at 31 Flinders Street has become the last unwritten chapter of *Survival In Our Own Land*.

The fight is still continuing as more and more Aboriginal people become aware of the scandalous way the Government has exploited them and sold off their book. They are asking,

"Why has the Government ignored our wishes?" "How dare the Government sell our book, the stories of our struggle to survive in Goonyia (European) society?" the Nungas (Aborigines) are saying.

They see the Government action as cultural genocide, a continuation of the oppression they have suffered for 150 years.

Aboriginal Co-editor Ken Hampton says, "It is OUR book and handing it over to private enterprise continues the suppression of our voice. It follows the taking away of our land, our languages, our children. It emphasizes that things

haven't changed. It is taking away history from our children and all South Australians. They're leaving us nothing."

When the Government decided to wind up Wakefield Press, a senior Jubilee 150 Board official recommended that *Survival In Our Own Land* and three other books should be handed over to the Government Printer for completion. The three went as recommended. But *Survival In Our Own Land* was put in the grab bag along with a computer, software and rights to other titles, which was handed to the *Adelaide Review* at the bargain basement price of \$17,500.

The whole affair begs some searching questions: Has the book become a victim of a power struggle between officials in high places? Is it a casualty of a personal vendetta?

The Aboriginal people involved were not even informed, let alone consulted. When the deal became known, we, with other disgusted authors, approached the Government, to ask for our book back. Other authors succeeded in their requests. But we were told we would never be allowed to buy our own book back. Jane Branford of *SUV Talk Back* was told by the Deputy Head of the Premier's Department that "it would not be fair to the *Adelaide Review* if the eyes were picked out of the deal."

The Citizens Committee on Human Rights is conducting an investigation into:

PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE

Any person knowing of abuses by psychiatrists or psychologists in South Australia including assault, unlawful imprisonment, treatment without consent, sexual abuse or any other crimes or complaints

Contact the:

CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(Sponsored by the Church of Scientology)

PHONE 51 4627

All confidences respected

A.U. German Club Presents

DIE CHINESISCHE MAUER

Von Max Frisch

Venue: Little Theatre
Adelaide University Union

Price: \$5.00
\$3.00 conc.

Date: 10-11 Sept
Time: Matinee &
Evening

Enquiries: AU German Dept Ph:2285333

BEHIND THE NEWS

HOWARD STRINGER, editor of Queensland University's student newspaper Semper Floreat has been investigating the possibility of "behind the scenes" political funding of Australian Student News. Semper has been cautioned off by legal warning by ASN's solicitors. Here, at last, is an attempt at bringing you "the full story"

Chinatown. The fourth floor of the Target Building in Wickham Street, Brisbane, looks like a set from Space 1999.

The long garishly carpeted corridors are dimly lit by space age lighting discs set into the white streamlined walls. At night these corridors are empty - silent, save for the footfall of security guards who probe the shadowy alcoves of the building with torchlight. Outside in the Chinatown Mall, the dreary muzak plays twenty four hours a day....

Up on the fourth floor of the Target Building is the inconspicuous office of Australian Student News - an unmarked white doorway set into a wall of other unmarked white doorways. Inside in their cramped two room office, Kieran McCarthy and James Power work long hours putting their magazine together. It's a long, time consuming job, but the duo feels that it's worth it.

When McCarthy and Power aren't working on *Australian Student News* (ASN), they spend a fair bit of time soothing their lawyers onto editors of other student newspapers. In the months since ASN hit the streets, Kieran and James have instructed their solicitors to issue three legal warnings to *Semper* and *Planet* Editors, cautioning them not to publish articles analysing *Australian Student News* too closely.

In two instances, these legal letters were issued before articles on ASN were even written. The zealotry of the ASN editor's attempts to protect their magazine is interesting, especially in the light of the private war McCarthy and Power have maintained with Queensland campuses, concerning the distribution of *Australian Student News*.

So far, the University of Queensland, and the Queensland BCAE's have attempted to ban ASN from their campuses. Student Councilors have been known on occasions to pick up large bundles of ASN's and throw them into incinerators - a sore point with the McCarthy/Power combo who have lately taken

The controversy over *Australian Student News* stems not from its content, but from the organisations which determine its content.

Australian Student News is alleged to be funded and set up by the National Civic Council (NCC) - a secret right wing Catholic organisation set up by B.A. Santamaria in 1959.

One of the priorities of the NCC is to infiltrate student unions. The NCC's interest in student unions is rooted in their belief that the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and that students on campus are susceptible to having their political direction and ideologies influenced by left wing socialist student politicians and magazine editors.

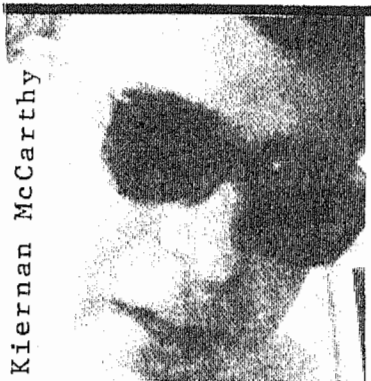
The National Civic Council is par-

An independent nationally distributed student magazine on the other hand, provides the perfect front for an organisation like the NCC to push its political line to students on campus.

The first NCC funded publication of this nature was a small magazine called *Mulberry Leaves* - a lacklustre and fairly blatant political journal which mixed wishy washy political comment with reprinted *Bulletin* style humour. The magazine was a disaster, primarily because it failed to capture the interest of students at large.

Australian Student News, on the other hand, is a classier product, its combination of lightweight feature articles with lightweight news articles being very appealing to students all over Australia. The clever thing about ASN is its subtlety. The magazine pretends to push no political line at all. The political stories in ASN are presented in a 'newsy' format, where facts are stated with a pretence of objectivity. The editors keep their comment to a minimum but rather balance their fact selection so that a political ideology is subliminally present in their stories.

The NCC are on a real winner with ASN. Students throughout Australia are slowly being weaned onto the magazine's soft line political approach. The hard part will be sustaining the magazine without having its credibility destroyed by disclosure of its backing. Perhaps it is this fear of disclosure which



Kieran McCarthy



James Power

ticularly interested in student newspapers. Students in the pay of the NCC (known as 'operatives') have been known to campaign for the position of newspaper editor in student elections. In 1980, for example, an NCC operative campaigned for *Semper* editorship, but was defeated. This year, an NCC operative is working to undermine and take over the editorship of *Planet* out on the QIT campus. Doubtless other student newspapers on other campuses in Australia have been infiltrated by people working for the NCC.

The problem with NCC control of student newspapers however, is the transient nature of the editorial throne. Editors are elected annually

makes Kieran and James so write happy...

Needless to say, Kieran McCarthy and James Power emphatically deny being involved with the NCC.

"Look, we don't want to compete with anyone, we don't want to put shit on anyone, all we want to do is put out a newspaper that is an alternative to the sort of newspapers that are going around today," says Power. "I don't see that there is any problem between *Semper* and ASN. *Semper*'s a magazine, ASN's a newspaper. The two things are very different..."

They certainly are. Because *Semper* is a magazine, it is read with the assumption that it contains comment and editorial opinion. *Semper*'s ideological bent is pretty easy to identify. ASN on the other hand is presented in newspaper format, and is read with the assumption that it contains news, and journalistic objectivity. You have to read between the lines to decipher the magazine's political message...

Power and McCarthy claim that they set the magazine up because they wanted to teach themselves business and management skills and because they wanted to set up an independent newspaper along similar lines to the National student paper in New Zealand. They say that they have never had the backing of any political organisation, but rather approached private companies and asked for corporate sponsorship. McCarthy and Power decline to name the companies they approached because the companies 'were sensitive to being associated with a newly established newspaper like ASN', but say that these companies provided them with enough money to produce, publish, air-freight and distribute 50,000 copies of *Australian Student News* nationwide.

"As a political news magazine, Australian Student News really isn't all that harmful. It's just another student paper pushing another political line. The thing that is harmful about ASN is that like the NCC, its purposes and objectives are secret..."

to staking out their magazines, cameras in hand, waiting to photograph the offending Union hacks and print nasty articles about them in the next edition of ASN.

So why the pathos? By student newspaper standard, *Australian Student News* is far from controversial, yet it has whipped up huge amounts of controversy Australia wide. The low key sixteen page tabloid produced in the backrooms of the Target Building in Brisbane has been the subject of widespread speculation from student unions.

on most campuses, so NCC operatives seeking to gain control of student newspapers have to mess about trying to stay in power every year.

Considering that the NCC is a secret organisation, and that its operatives attempt to remain as inconspicuous as possible, prolonged editorship of a student magazine is the sort of thing that attracts suspicion from political opponents. NCC infiltration of student magazines does not, therefore, influence the tone of student politics.



This is pretty interesting stuff. Power estimates that every edition of ASN costs about \$7,400 to typeset, bromide, print and distribute. Assuming that the duo stick to their objective of producing an edition of ASN every month this year, they are looking at an annual budget of \$70,000 plus. On top of this, both editors claim to be on some sort of salary from 'the paper', and on occasion have used money from 'the paper' to fund outside projects such as their recent campaign against the formation of a state student union organisation in Queensland. Power has also boasted to his friends that his impressive new car was also paid for by 'the paper'.

This means one of two things. Either the private companies McCarthy and Power refuse to cite, acutally donated the duo large amounts of money without expecting anything in return, (the first four editions of ASN were conspicuously devoid of advertising) or the ASN crew have been receiving financial backing from some organisation they are point blank refusing to name.

Last year, Murray Hogarth from the *National Times* started researching into the political front behind ASN. Hogarth claims that he phoned Kieran McCarthy at the original ASN headquarters (described by Power as 'somewhere in Ann Street'), hung up and then phoned the NCC headquarters (also in Ann Street) and asked to speak to McCarthy. The switchboard operator patched McCarthy through. The original ASN headquarters, Hogarth concludes, was stationed in the NCC headquarters until suitable office space could be found.

Power and McCarthy deny this of course, and their vehemence in disassociating themselves with the NCC almost reaches the point of overacting. During Orientation Week at Queensland University this year, a member of a left wing club on campus rammed a microphone under Kieran McCarthy's nose and recorded the following dialogue on behalf of *Semper*. *Semper*: Do you guys work for the NCC?

CONT P14



B.A. SANTAMARIA

BOND UNI

Open for business

by Gerard Wheeler

Within two years, Australia's first private university will be open for business.

The Bond University of Applied Technology dates back to a suggestion made over a decade ago by Alan Bond's Gold Coast property agent, Brian Orr, that a tertiary institution should be included in a residential development close to Surfers Paradise.

Though he dismissed the idea at the time, Alan Bond's chance to turn the dream into reality came in 1982, when Bond Corporation bought Burleigh Forest, a pine plantation a short drive from Miami Beach.

Demand for a new tertiary institution in Queensland has existed for over ten years. According to the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, more students were turned away last year from Queensland's three public universities than in any other State. Calls for funding for a fourth university were rejected twice in two years by the Federal Government. Canberra's best offer was a college of advanced education to be located in a disused primary school.

Mrs Jo Anne Cracknell, a masters graduate and former teacher from California, determined to see her children having access to higher education on the Gold Coast, gathered material from overseas universities in a bid to persuade the Commonwealth Government to change its mind. She seized upon the idea of a private university and found it could be self-supporting.

Federal MP, Peter White, introduced Mrs Cracknell to Brian Orr, whom he knew was toying with the idea of a tertiary institution for Bond's Burleigh Forest site. Orr was given approval by Bond Corporation to hire Mrs Cracknell as a consultant to continue her research, and within months the project was off and running under the Bond banner.

Since then, there has been no turning back.

Over 250 academics applied for the six professorial chairs at the Bond University. The newly appointed vice-chancellor of the university, Professor Don Watts, said that there would not have been so many applicants from Australia and around the world had the institution not been seen as a respectable university.

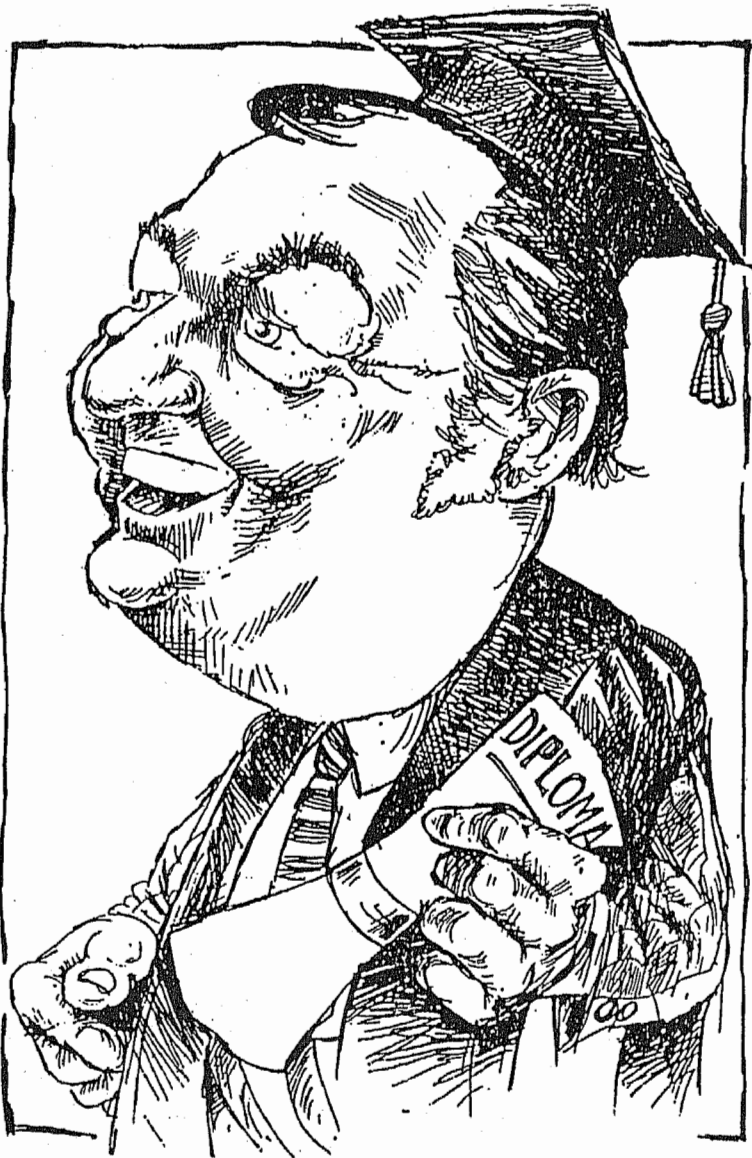
Professor Watts said the Bond University "was the most exciting educational experiment in Australian history."

Thirty million dollars and all the land involved in the project had been provided by the two joint venture partners, Bond Corporation and the EIE Development Group of Japan which has interests in electronics, computers and education.

A new company, Bond University Trust, which will own all the assets of the Gold Coast university will be floated in 1991 when it will be listed on the stock exchange.

Additional funds for construction will be raised by way of loans to the joint venture.

Four main academic buildings, an administration block and a library are part of the first stage being built on the 183 hectare Surfers Paradise site. In time, a lake will be provided of sufficient length to accommodate a full 21 kilometre Olympic rowing course.



The university which will open its doors to about 900 undergraduate students in 1989 has a financial structure comprising three elements. The first is a non-profit company, the Bond University Ltd., which will run the university and derive its revenue from student fees which will go back into the university. The company will seek further support from the private sector in the form of direct funding, scholarships and cadetships. Professor Watts said about half of the 900 students would be Australian. Of the remaining 450 students, 30 per cent would be from South East Asia and 10 per cent coming from both Japan and North America.

The second element of the University is a private trust, the Burleigh Forest Trust, which owns land zoned for residential development surrounding the university. Initial plans were for between 50 and 60 townhouses in an exclusive suburb. Eventually, the land could house between 8,000 and 10,000 people.

The final element is the Bond University Trust which will own all the university buildings and land, a Research Park and shopping centre. The university will eventually pay rent to the trust.

Professor Watts told a news conference that "the university will not make a profit. However, a successful university is always surrounded by a diversity of commercial activity. The sponsoring companies quite rightly expect to generate income and make a profit from the Research Park and their surrounding commercial and property developments."

He said any company providing the nation with a "great university" also deserved to accrue "intangi-

ble" benefit.

Professor Watts, a former vice-chancellor of the Curtin University of Technology in Perth won the Bond top job ahead of 200 applicants from Australia and overseas. His salary is to be \$150,000 a year, double the sale of other vice-chancellors.

He said that with the founding of the new private university Australian higher education has "come of age".

"This initiative will decrease demands on the taxpayer and provide a yardstick against which our public system will be compared and through which the accountability of all universities will be established."

Already, demand for the limited number of places at the Surfers Paradise campus has been high. Mr John Ford, secretary of the university's advisory council said "we have not yet formulated in detail the information prospective students will need, but that should be available late this year or early next year." It is expected that fees will range from \$7,000 to \$15,000 a year depending on the course being studied.

Both Mr Ford and Professor Watts scoffed at suggestions that the university's degrees would be substandard.

Professor Watts said that "if at any stage we could be accused of having substandard degrees, we would lose our position in the marketplace."

Like any other organisation, the Bond University of Applied Technology will prosper or plummet depending upon the quality of its product. For the university to survive, Bond's graduates must be marketable.

Thanks to Woroni, ANU

FROM P13

McCarthy: Oh piss off you stupid fucking dickhead.

Power: Yeah, piss off and get a few beers into you.

Semper: But do you - do you

McCarthy: Fuck off, we don't fucking know about the NCC, we don't fucking know about it.

Power: Piss off back to your left wing mates.

In a more subdued environment, Power acts hurt when the NCC is mentioned in connection with ASN.

"Yeah I don't know," he says almost wearily. "They've (student unions) said that we're NCC, that our friends are NCC, that 'the paper' is NCC. It's just stupid. I mean you guys (left wingers) have your politics, Kieran and I have ours. That's cool. We never set out to attack anyone. All of this stuff with the NCC is stupid."

Stupid maybe, but it explains a few things about the ASN editors. Like their interest in campaigning against QUS, the left wing Queensland state student union, as it struggled to become affiliated with Queensland University.

It explains ASN's public support of the right wing QIT executive when they swept into power last year. Kieran and James have often been seen up in the QIT union office offering support and advice.

It explains the ASN editors interest in having the left wing editors of *Planet* sacked and replaced by a caretaker editor who used to write for *Mulberry Leaves* - the forerunner to ASN.

It explains McCarthy and Power's trigger happy tendency to throw legal letters around to silence debate over the NCC/ASN connection.

Financial backing from the NCC could also explain McCarthy and Power's easy access to money - lots of it.

So far the McCarthy/Power duo have produced six editions of *Australian Student News*. The magazine in all cases has been quite professionally produced, and even more professionally distributed. ASN really gets around. Kieran and James claim that they distribute their paper through a network

of 'mates and old boys' befriended during their debating days at Nudgee College in Brisbane. Their old boy network must be pretty impressive. ASN is airfreighted to campuses throughout Australia at considerable cost, collected at the airport and then distributed on lots of campuses down South. The question must be asked - could Kieran McCarthy and James Power, two ex-Catholic private schoolboys in their early twenties, possibly organise such an effective and expensive distribution campaign from their inconspicuous little two room office in the Target Building in Wickham Street, Brisbane?

For a national secret organisation like the NCC - an organisation funded and staffed by influential Australian people - distribution of a magazine would be a piece of cake.

The editorial tone of ASN has been conservative - issues like the proposed Bond University have been pushed by the paper. Left wing student unions have often been attacked and criticised in ASN for being 'extreme' and 'opposing free speech'.

AS a political news magazine, ASN really isn't all that harmful. It is just another student newspaper pushing another political line. The thing that is harmful about ASN is that like the NCC, its purpose and objectives are secret. The magazine pretends to be objective. It is far from that. *Australian Student News* is as politically motivated as the socialist magazines it ideologically opposes. At least *'Direct Action'*, *'The Battler'* and *'The Socialist'* make no secret of their politics.

Yes the NCC are onto a good thing with ASN. If McCarthy and Power continue to publish without full disclosure of their paper's financial backing, they could come close to achieving their real objective - that of discrediting the political tones of left wing student newspaper.

Student papers like *Semper* openly admit to printing 'comment'. *Australian Student News* pretends to print 'the truth'. The people behind ASN are seeking to achieve a day where most students on campuses around Australia read and believe the information presented in ASN as being 'the truth', and will read and believe the articles presented in student papers like *Semper*, as being biased and inaccurate.

Whether control or not they achieve this end really depends upon whether or not they can prevent the true nature of their political and financial backing from becoming public.

FROM P11

no other government department uses.

Despite the criticism, he believes his stand has achieved results.

He says the proportion of Asian immigrants has come down and he detects a significant move in the Government's rhetoric away from the philosophy of multiculturalism. While in the past the Hawke Government was telling Australians to see themselves not as one nation but as a nation of nations, and was dismissing the long period when Australia was overwhelmingly part of European, and especially British civilisation, now initiatives such as its commitment to the "Australia-made" campaign point to a change of heart. The Government's decision in the last Budget to cut multicultural programs rather than education programs and other areas, he sees as evidence that the Government has stepped back from multiculturalism.

But does he have any second thoughts about the way he raised the immigration issue. Does he have any sympathy for those migrant communities which felt that what he was saying threatened their future in the country?

"No, I have no regrets. I was on my own. I had no committee. I answered the phone myself and certain things were inevitably taken out of context. I had given a similar speech at the National Press Club three or four months earlier and it hadn't attracted much journalistic

interest. I had no way of knowing what would happen.

"But as for the migrant groups feeling threatened, I'm conscious of that argument, I take that point but there's no answer for it. It's a very difficult debate to carry on while there are already in the land large numbers of people representing particular migrant groups who might see themselves under attack. Now I have said that, it would have been much better if this controversy had taken place in 1980 or 1970 but on the other hand it's much better for it to take place now rather than in 1998."

Blainey is reluctant to say anything about his critics or their motivation. "You'll have to ask the 'singlers-out' about that," he says. Although he refuses to comment about losing his deanship, he does admit to a sense of sadness and loss over the dramatic change in his standing as an intellectual.

"There are certain groups who once were sympathetic to me who are no longer, and those groups are probably fairly strong in universities. My view is there's nothing I can do about it. If I believe something is right then it should be said. If people react in a certain way, then so be it. If I believe something is in the long-term interest of the nation, I'll say it, even if it's not in my own short-term interest."

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As Murdoch pulls the plug, hard realities of the market place give swift demise to Business Daily

BUSINESS DAILY

On the night of the Federal election the *Business Daily* crowd, all tweeds, beards and pipes, descended upon Canberra, triumphant after their first week of producing the first new national daily newspaper in Australia since 1964.

Just five weeks later they were all looking for new jobs.

While hardly anyone except the *Business Daily* crowd themselves had expected the new paper to survive in the long term, the fact that its demise came so swiftly and so remorselessly shocked many observers, driving home the hard realities of competition in a market place now dominated by the Murdoch-Fairfax duopoly.

Business Daily was initially just an idea of Michael Gill, an experienced and senior finance journalist. Last year Gill quit his job as finance editor of Fairfax's *Times on Sunday* to begin putting that idea into practice.

After commissioning feasibility studies and market research, Gill persuaded the board of the Herald and Weekly Times Limited - then one of Australia's three big newspaper groups with a chain of papers, including *The Advertiser*, in every State capital except Sydney - to back his project.

The new paper was to be a joint venture between HWT and its own journalistic staff with a corporate structure ensuring the journalists would remain in control. This corporate structure in itself was unique in the Australian newspaper industry, drawing on the resources of one of the major companies in the industry to establish an independently-controlled paper.

HWT injected \$5.7 million into a joint venture company, Australian Newspaper Publishing, but only held 40 per cent of the company's stock and 20 per cent of the voting shares.

The remaining 60 per cent of equity in the company was held by some 35 of the paper's staff, many of whom ploughed their savings and superannuation payouts from former employers into the new operation.

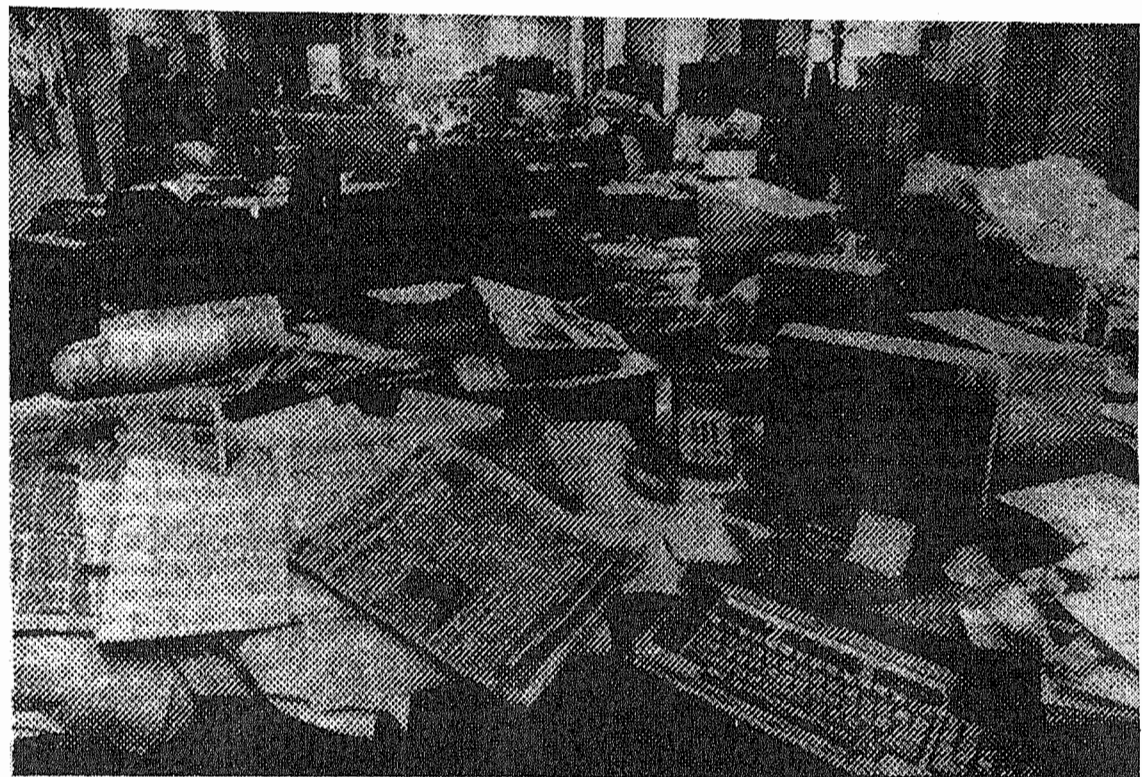
When Rupert Murdoch spectacularly took over the HWT earlier this year the *Business Daily* project was well advanced and Murdoch was keen to avoid any troublesome hiccups in the \$A1.8 billion takeover. So Murdoch agreed that his News Limited would inherit HWT's \$5.7 million stake in *Business Daily*.

After months of planning, recruiting about 90 staff and fitting out office space in the HWT's Flinders Street head office in Melbourne, *Business Daily* hit the newsstands on July 6, the last week of the Federal election campaign.

Despite speculation that the new paper would be taking on the only existing finance daily, Fairfax's *Australian Financial Review*, head to head, after *Business Daily*'s launch it became clear the new product was targeted at a different segment of the market.

The theory was that the new paper should be aimed at attracting the small investor, middle-level managers, small business operators and the reader with a general interest in business and finance rather than a specialist expertise in the sometimes abstruse economic and financial topics covered by the *Financial Review*.

Business Daily went after this more "middle-brow" readership by reigning in the length of its stories through tight editing, by restricting the style or reportage mainly to straight news reporting (which has become something of a rarity in Australian journalism during the last three or four years) and by striving for an easy-on-the-eye layout with far more photographs and illustrations than is the norm for finance journalism.



Last month, after five short weeks on the news-stands, Australia's first new national newspaper in 23 years folded. Ace reporter TERENCE CAMBRIDGE looks at how Rupert Murdoch pulled the plug on Business Daily and at what tentative rise and sudden fall of the paper reveals about the market for newspapers and the concentration of media ownership in this country.

Editor Michael Gill believed the new paper would, by filling a niche previously unoccupied in finance journalism, both create its own readership and attract some readers away from the *Financial Review*.

According to *Business Daily*'s news editor, Rod Metcalfe, the breakeven point for the new paper was a 48-page tabloid paper running 45 per cent advertising and circulating 40,000 copies six days a week. Just before the launch the sums were adjusted, setting an even more ambitious circulation target of 50,000. As Gill's confidence in the project grew, advertisers were guaranteed a 50,000 circulation and were offered rebates, in the form of space in the paper, if that target was not reached.

The end came sooner than anyone expected. After a month on the market *Business Daily*'s sales were averaging around 10,000 and the losses were draining the company's capital.

News Limited refused to inject further funds, another backer could not be found on terms acceptable to Gill and so the board of Australian Newspaper Publishing closed the paper on August 13 to ensure the company would be left with enough money to meet its various financial commitments, including generous redundancy pay-outs for many of the staff.

In retrospect, it is hard to believe that Gill can really have expected to reach the break-even circulation of 50,000 before the initial capital ran out.

Certainly some unforeseen actions taken by News Limited, more of which later, increased the paper's production costs significantly above the original budget, draining the operation of its initial capital more quickly than had been expected.

This exacerbated the problem, but the bottom line was that *Business Daily* was never likely to start running at a profit for some years after the launch.

The substantial capital, production and labour costs involved in writing, editing, printing and distributing a newspaper mean that any new paper will not survive unless backed by someone prepared to spend several years absorbing big losses until the operation starts earning profits.

Fairfax's *Australian Financial Review*, for instance, although now a healthy money-spinner, ran at a loss for almost 20 years after it was first launched, as a weekly, in 1951. When the *Financial Review* went daily in 1963 its circulation was a meagre 19,500 and it took decades, rather than the months some in *Business Daily* seemed to be anticipating, to build it to the present level of about 77,000. The *Financial Review* didn't get out of the red until 1970-71, slipped back into losses for the next two years, and has only been consistently profitable from the mid-70s.

Fairfax's troubled *National Times*, now reincarnated as the *Times on Sunday*, has reportedly never been profitable since it was launched in 1971. The weekly has simply been a black hole into which the Fairfax group has poured millions of dollars.

The economics of the newspaper industry around the world, and particularly in Australia where the readership base is so small, mean that owners of new newspapers have to shoulder a long period of losses before starting to see a return on their investment.

Nobody knows this better than Rupert Murdoch. Here is what he has had to say on the subject: "It frankly proved a lot bigger job than I expected. We ran into opposition from quarters we didn't expect, heartbreaking opposition at some time." Those words could just as well be Michael Gill's on the *Business Daily* experience, but they are Murdoch's on the launching of *The Australian*.

The Australian, launched in 1964, was the last new national daily in this country before *Business Daily*.

It did not begin running at a profit until the early 1970s, then fell back into a hole for several years and is now thought to be making money again. Murdoch told an Australian Broadcasting Tribunal hearing in 1979 that he had sunk \$13 million into keeping *The Australian* afloat.

This is why, despite the common argument that in a free market "anyone can start their own paper", there has been such a strong tendency for increased concentration of newspaper ownership.

Even for a Holmes a Court, starting a new paper from scratch is not an attractive proposition: for a newcomer to the industry the start-up and production costs will be significantly greater than for the established newspaper publishers who benefit from economies of scale flowing from their access to their existing printing, production and distribution facilities.

Thus Holmes a Court, despite talking for most of last year about establishing his own daily in Perth, eventually opted instead to snap up HWT's *West Australian* during the shakeup in media ownership precipitated by the Murdoch takeover.

So despite the unusual enthusiasm and commitment of those working on the new paper - the predominantly-young *Business Daily* crowd, remarkably free of the endemic cynicism and disillusionment of most mainstream journalists, seemed to regard their paper as more a way of life than just another job - that *Business Daily* need to survive was a backer with the same level of commitment.

Instead it had Murdoch, whose News Limited had inherited HWT's \$5.7 million investment in the *Business Daily* project.

But the structure of Australian Newspaper Publishing, as noted above, meant Murdoch was restricted to only 20 per cent of the voting shares and so had only one representative on the five-person board.

Murdoch's preference is for total control of his operations rather than for such a passive investment and so when *Business Daily*'s money ran out News Limited refused to put up any more funds.

Michael Gill then reportedly approached Holmes a Court to take up Murdoch's 40 per cent equity, but News Limited is believed to have made it clear that it was not prepared to sell its stake to a potential future rival such as Holmes a Court.

Murdoch had also played a more active role in *Business Daily*'s demise - days before the new paper was launched, News Limited pulled out of a deal under which the Melbourne-based *Business Daily* was to use News Limited's interstate printing presses.

The new paper, like other national papers such as the *Financial Review* and *The Australian*, was to have been edited and laid out each night in one city (in *Business Daily*'s case, Melbourne) with facsimile copies of the completed pages transmitted to other cities for printing.

But *Business Daily*'s high resolution facsimile equipment, ordered from overseas, did not arrive in time and News Limited's withdrawal of its printing facilities meant most of the new paper's print run had to be done in Melbourne with copies airfreighted each night into Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

The paper never became a true national because it was never able to get into Perth for morning delivery to match the *Financial Review* which was printing in that city.

In Sydney a suburban printer had to be engaged and a sub-editor had to be flown from Melbourne to Sydney each night with the negatives of each page - when the sub missed the plane the paper simply didn't come out in Sydney, hardly the ideal way to build circulation.

All this flying of tonnes of newsprint and people around the country blew out the paper's distribution costs.

It also brought reporters' deadlines forward by several hours which meant *Business Daily* missed several late breaking stories. The new paper's copy deadline was 5.30 pm (compared to around 8.00 to 8.30 pm for *The Australian* and the *Financial Review* and around 9.30 to 10.00 for most metropolitan dailies) and because missing the deadline meant missing planes, there was no margin for stretching it any later when a big story was developing.

Then after two weeks of poor sales, Murdoch's distribution agency, Mirror Australian Telegraph Publications, cut newsagents' supplies of *Business Daily* by 30 per cent.

So the irony of the *Business Daily* story is that while the paper relied on the deregulation-driven explosion of interest in the business and financial markets under the Hawke Government to provide its readership base, it was the application of that deregulatory, free marketeering philosophy to the Murdoch takeover of the HWT which sealed the fate of the new paper months before it had hit the newsstands.

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