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OnDit



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THE SUGAR
CUBES

HOT MEAT, metallic blood

18 Years On...The Murder of Doctor George Duncan

May 10th marks the 18th anniversary of the drowning of Dr George Duncan, a University of Adelaide law lecturer.

Malcolm Cowan and Tim Reeves ask: Who murdered him?

The whole series of events leading up to and following Dr Duncan's death have been, and continue to be, questioned by the media, many members of society at large and the gay community in particular. The integrity of the South Australian Police Force and Justice systems has been seen to be, at best, suspect. This is borne out by the recent release of the Duncan Task Force Final Report which, after four and a half years of investigation sheds absolutely no light on the case.

Dr Duncan was thrown into the River Torrens on the night of May 10th, 1972. Unable to swim, he drowned. Because of the site of the drowning, the time of the drowning and other people who were involved in the events of that night, Dr Duncan, by association, was presumed to be homosexual.

There was a great deal of media coverage of the event, the first appearing in 'The Advertiser' on Friday May 12th, 1972. Police involvement in Dr Duncan's death was first alluded to the following week on Friday, June 2nd, 1972,

"...homosexual acts at the time were still illegal, making it highly unlikely that witnesses would present themselves..."

in an editorial headed 'Dr Duncan Mystery'. 'The Advertiser' welcomed the fact that the State Government had called for a full report and asked: 'What steps are being taken to reassure the public of the integrity of the police force?'

An inquest was begun on June 7th, 1972 and concluded on July 5th of the same year. The coroner found that the cause of Dr Duncan's death was 'drowning due to violence on the part of persons of whose identity there is

no evidence'.

It was widely rumoured that members of the Vice Squad in one of their usual raids on 'beats' (public toilets) had thrown Dr Duncan into the river. Such rumours were strengthened by police treatment of the body, which was tossed into the river and pulled out again by an obliging officer for recording by television cameras.

Ex-members of the police force were eventually charged with manslaughter: Brian Edward Hudson, Francis John Cawley and Michael Kenneth Clayton. Subsequent investigations culminated in the trial of Cawley and Clayton. On September 30th, 1988, they were acquitted of the charge. There was found to be insufficient evidence to bring Hudson to trial.

The Attorney-General, Chris Sumner commissioned the Duncan Task Force Final Report and presented it to parliament last month. It was compiled by Commander R.G. Lean in response to allegations made during the trial of Cawley and Clayton, and the claims of former Vice Squad member, Michael O'Shea. Its original brief was to identify the person(s) responsible for Dr Duncan's death, determine Vice Squad policing practices in relation to homosexuals in 1972, investigate corruption amongst 1972 Vice Squad members and conclude whether any of the 1972 enquiries were perverted due to political interference.

In assessing the report, it falls short of any satisfactory finding and still leaves unanswered the question of who was responsible for the death of Dr Duncan. Commander Lean concludes 'I now report in my view, there is insufficient material to charge any other person with respect to the death of Dr Duncan'.

The report also exonerates the police force from practices which were known to exist at the time 'Poofter Bashing' was a common occurrence with police frequenting beats in an effort to arrest homosexuals. In the report, Commander Lean says, 'Had it been common practice then I would have expected victims to

have come forward and raised the issue with the media or police ... it surely would have been common knowledge amongst homosexuals frequenting the Torrens 'beat' at the time'.

This ignores the fact that homosexual acts at the time were still illegal, making it highly unlikely that witnesses would present themselves. Despite claims, their claims to the contrary, police did not treat complaints by gay men seriously. Regrettably, this situation still exists today.

Commander Lean is also contradicted by an officer of his own force, who gave evidence at the inquest. 'The Advertiser' of June 29th, 1972, reported the officer as quoting Cawley saying 'Would you mind taking a drive? You are bugging up our poofters'. The officer explained this statement thus, 'By our presence there, we were preventing them from catching homosexuals at the toilets, which I understand is part of their duties'.

Lean uses the same argument in explaining away police involvement in throwing homosexuals into the river: 'the absence of specifics and allegations from victims would tend to indicate it was not a common occurrence'.

Indeed, it is the whole basis of the report which exonerates the

"...the report exonerates the police force from practices which were known to exist at the time..."

Vice Squad from any harassment or corruption. With homosexuality being illegal, with a prevailing homophobic climate in society, and with police singling out gays for prosecution, it can hardly be surprising that there is a dearth of witnesses. By the time of the more 'enlightened' late eighties, the memory of an elephant would be necessary to throw light on an event which occurred some fifteen years ago. Lean's assertion that 'this issue requires no further investigation



Dr. George Duncan

as no specific allegations relative to Vice Squad members ... was forthcoming during the 1985 investigation or the subsequent court trial', rings absolutely hollow.

Dr Duncan's death was not altogether in vain. It galvanised the gay community into pressing for law reform. The first attempt to decriminalise homosexuality was made in July 1972. Legislation was finally passed in South Australia in 1975. Unfortunately, while decriminalisation has changed the laws, it has not greatly changed attitudes. Homophobia is an ever-present problem.

In 'The Advertiser' of July 6th, 1972, the head of the Law department at the University of Adelaide was quoted as saying, 'It (is) distressing that we seem to be no nearer to seeing solved the mystery surrounding the senseless and premature death of Dr Duncan. Whether Dr Duncan had been a homosexual or not, he had been a courteous and likeable colleague and a meticulous, dedicated scholar. Academic scholars (are) greatly in his debt'.

The fact that the Duncan Task Force has been abandoned makes it highly unlikely that there will be any further investigation of the case. Internal police investigations are questionable at best and dangerous at worst in their potential to thwart the course of justice. The homosexual community can hold up Dr

"...the fact that the Duncan Task Force has been abandoned makes it unlikely that there will be further investigation..."

Duncan as a symbol of gay pride and self respect. A reminder of the tragic consequences of ignorance, intolerance and abuse, state-perpetuated or otherwise.

For any student (regardless of sexual orientation) who wishes to protest at the unsolved murder of Dr Duncan, the Gay and Lesbian Association will be holding a "Splash of Pink" day on Thursday, May 10th. Simply wear one or more articles of clothing in pink, to voice your concern.

PRODUCTION NOTES

ON DIT is the weekly newspaper of the Student's Association of the University of Adelaide. The editors have complete editorial control although opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily their own.

Letters Policy- Deadline for all letters is 12:00 Wednesday. All letters should be double spaced and include the author's name. Anonymous or pseudonymic letters will only be considered for publication if the author gives us a valid reason for its anonymity and includes his or her phone number (not for publication).

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Australian Conservation Foundation accuses Adelaide University joint-venture of genetic engineering cover-up.

The director of a company involved in genetically engineering pigs has disputed allegations that it has ignored voluntary genetic engineering guidelines.

The Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) claims that there have been unauthorised releases of pigs containing extra growth hormone genes by Adelaide company Metrotec, jointly owned by the University of Adelaide and Metro Meats.

At its April 6 meeting, the University Council was told that its Biosafety Committee and the Federal Government's Genetic Manipulation Advisory Committee had not been informed of the releases. This contravened the voluntary guidelines, said the ACF.

Written reports to the meeting were shredded afterwards in an attempted cover-up, claimed the ACF.

"This scandal proves that the present voluntary code of genetic engineering ... is weak and open to abuse," said ACF Genetic Engineering Campaign Officer, Mr Bob Phelps. He called upon the Federal Government to act by establishing an inquiry into the "secret" releases.

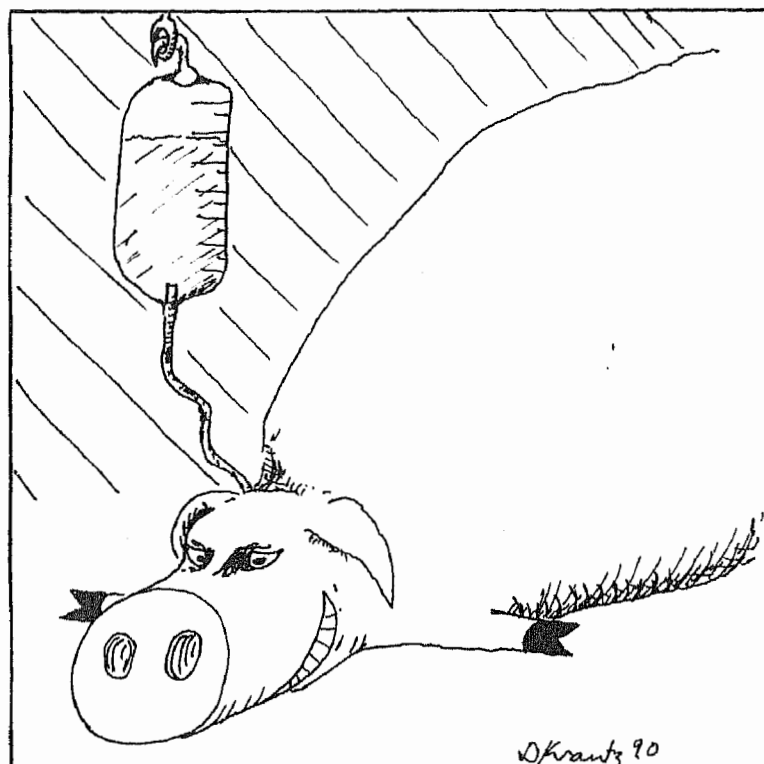
Metrotec director, Dr John Smeaton, said that he did not have any information on whether or not reports to the University were shredded.

Dr Smeaton told *On Dit* that Metrotec went through the proper channels. "Metrotec posed the question first of all to the State Minister for Health through the Health Commission and the Minister at the time (Dr John

Cornwall) ... then ... took the matter up on our behalf with the National Health and Medical Research Council's food standards committee. They looked into everything and we were given a clearance to sell the pigs."

However, this fails to answer the ACF's allegations that the guidelines were contravened by Metrotec's failure to tell the University's Biosafety Committee and the GMAC of the releases.

The ACF said that Metrotec had failed to assess the possible impact on biological diversity of extra hormone genes transferred into feral pigs or other domestic breeds, and the human health aspects of eating genetically-engineered animals.



But Dr Smeaton said that pigs had not had contact with other animals and that there were no health risks to people who ate the pigs.

"There is no difference between these pigs and those that are bred by any other conventional breeding means. What we're talking about ... is an alternative, more specific way of improving pig breeding."

Adelaide University genetic engineer, Dr Julian Wells, supported the present system of voluntary compliance but admitted that "No-one quite

knows where the buck stops".

GMAC secretariat director, Mr Ian Mason, has said that there was a need for legislation, now that genetic engineering was moving more into the commercial area. Scientific advances had outstripped legal, ethical and environmental considerations.

The secretary of the University of Adelaide Council, Mr Frank O'Neill, has also said that their guidelines need to be enshrined in legislation, whether or not the ACF's allegations were true.

Cathi Walker

The White Elephant Club.

Ever heard of the Staff Club? Well it's in that building connected to the Horace Lamb (that has the architecture faculty in it). Did you know that it could cost the University \$50 000 a year to subsidise?

The Staff Club was first "envisaged" in 1968, as somewhere "academic freedom" and the pursuit of higher forms of thought could be actively enjoyed in an informal environment. Now it will cost the whole academic community of the University, including students, up to \$50 000. (This is keeping in mind the fact that undergraduate students are not "encouraged" to use the facilities.) Just exactly who is subsidising who?

In the 1970's the University provided the Staff Club with power and water services, clerical assistance etc. However in the 1980's the Staff Club received, every year, \$40 000. This annual subsidy was removed in 1986 in return for a loan of about \$295 000.

In 1990 the Staff Club cannot continue to function. The solution? To grant \$300 000 to repay the debts and reinstate an annual subsidy. That's what 120

members of the University of Adelaide Club have requested.

University Council (the peak decision making body of the University) requested the advice of a special meeting of the Education Committee, held last Friday May 4th, who agreed that the Club is of "fundamental importance to the University community" and that "the Club cannot provide the services which the University community requires of it without financial subsidy". The entire membership of Education Committee, save the Registrar and student representatives, voted in favour of the motion. This resolution will now be debated by the University Council this coming Friday (the 11th).

Having attended for part of the discussion on the Staff Club, there are a number of points to be made about the running of this University. The substantive motion itself was debated at

length, with many members of academic staff putting forward a point of view along the lines of, "the Staff Club is an important part of academic life as it gives academics the chance to discuss important issues in an informal environment". But at a potential annual subsidy of \$50 000, that makes for a very expensive pastime.

Student concerns about the lack of adequate information regarding resource implications, both financial and academic, were treated with contempt. Members of the Committee argued that there was no way that the Staff Club could be expected to run as a business, and that the existing management structure was the *only* option. Understanding that the Staff Club has certain legal rights and obligations, it is difficult to understand why alternative management structures have not been contemplated. To simply assign \$50 000 to an organisation without conducting some kind of overall management review defies common sense, let alone any notion of fiscal responsibility.

From then on the discussion got interesting indeed. There was a further motion that *yet another* \$10 000 be allocated to the Staff Club so that it could continue to trade until University Council has made a decision on its future. This motion, which arose from the Executive Committee of the Education Committee, had originally been intended to

provide a loan but was amended to become a straight out grant. This will only escalate further the total expenditure by the University on the Staff Club, which is already running to hundreds of thousands of dollars in this financial year. That's a lot of beers.

Where is this money going to come from? No information was presented at the Education Committee to suggest any source of funds.

A student union would have no hope in allocating any amount of money without that kind of specific resource identification. The students would yell "Rort!" if the Students Association spent students funds on a project like this.

Finally a motion was introduced that attempted to put the whole thing in perspective, being that the allocation of a subsidy to the Staff Club not impact on already recognised priorities for resource allocation in 1991. The academic leaders of this University community considered this motion useless and irrelevant, even suggesting it would have no effect. The *principle* behind this motion was that resources for teaching, the Library etc. would not be affected. Unfortunately the motion was amended to the effect that these priorities would not be affected only if they were not 'more important than the closure of the Staff Club'. Following the inclusion of this amendment in the motion, a heated altercation

ensued between a student representative and the Chairperson of the University of Adelaide Club.

A Staff Club is a very low priority in terms of the facilities that Universities provide, in terms of its use by students who study here. Unfortunately the idea that there were priorities in the academic arena other than the Staff Club was not accepted, which demonstrates the lack of concern that many of the academic staff of the University have towards students.

Yet again the nature of the Education Committee within the structure of University governance, and the culture of academic hegemony which prevails in this institution, have led to formulation of advice to the governing body which has been incompetently formulated. The sooner that Education Committee is given a specific brief, to ensure that financial accountability is not divorced from policy decision making, the better.

Kate Smithson

hate mail

Sensitive New Age Bogan

Yous Yuppies reckon us Bogans are Wankers. Our checked shirts cost \$9.95 at Target. Yours cost you \$120 at Jag.

Spot the Wanker!
A. Bogan

SPOC or SPAK?- The Patrick White Saga

Dear Editors,
How disappointing, I thought. Whatever happened to those offended and offending letters that had filled the 'Letters to the Editor' section of last year? And so an idea was spawned. Write a critical letter to the editors, I thought, adopting a pompous and condescending tone, and claim that I have impeccable taste. That should be sufficient. Just for good measure I added SPOC. Would that be enough to incite violent verbal abuse?

The days ticked by as I anxiously awaited this week's (April 30th) edition of On Dit. Would my blatant ploy succeed? Opening On Dit up, I was pleasantly suprised to find four indignant responses accusing me of all manner of things. Thank you to you all, it was most gratifying. I would have been most disappointed had there been no reply. Binky Kosmina's letter was particularly enjoyable. She was most irate; yet her accusing me of being totally talentless, could hardly wreak of greater hypocrisy when she chooses to end an otherwise excellent letter with a trite piece of scatological verse (total originality of wit!).

Enjoyable though these letters were, it is sad that they had replied merely to a letter from a reader, rather than providing constructive comment on the broad range of topics that the articles in On Dit cover.

Thank you, once again.
Yours sincerely,
Patrick White
2nd Year Arts

Disabled Students

To the editors,
What a degrading article you present. Not only do you *assume* that people with motor difficulties need help, but you infer they are intellectually incapable of deciding that for themselves! Did Mr Turnbull calm his conscience? What a paltry attempt to shift responsibility from the administration to students. Did you bother to *talk* to the people on campus who are finding it difficult? They have to use service lifts, or are faced with the choice of dumb waiters, escort by security officers, locked out of lectures. *Give me bloody apathy!*

Mr Turnbull, instead of attacking students, you should be lobbying the Government and University for an acceptable level of access for us all.

Jude Stevens
1st Year Arts

More On the Disabled

Dear Editors,
Students with disabilities face even greater obstacles than *access* if they are imposed upon via the "automatic buddy system" suggested by Peter Turnbull (On

Dit Vol 8, 1990),

Certainly, the nondisabled can always assist by automatically opening doors for those who are in wheelchairs, but how about extending the courtesy to *any* person pushing a pram, or carrying a large load?

However, to automatically assume that someone *we* perceive as disabled needs our "help", has the effect of falsely imputing a handicap on people with disabilities. This is a blatant *patronisation*.

Beyond opening doors, would it not be more empowering to enquire whether a person requires our assistance, rather than taking Peter Turnbull's advice that "it is not necessary to offer"?

My greatest concern, however, is that the encouragement of patronisation via a "buddy system" not only disempowers individuals, but also disguises the real needs of the disabled in the form of access on this campus.

While the Library and many other University buildings certainly require self-opening doors, other areas, such as those surrounding the Cloisters have *steps* preventing access. We need ramps in these areas. In the Union Building, some areas are inaccessible because of raised lips in doorways. These would *not* require excessive expenditure to remedy.

It is high time the appropriate departments including Mr Turnbull did their own "buddy" bit to remedy these situations while we keep on waiting for electronically-operated doors.

J. Voit,
Honours Politics

Gays and God

Dear Mr Cowan,
It is obvious from the points that were made in your article that you and other GALA members have experienced much rejection from society and the church in general. I firstly apologise for the rejection you have received from the church, but along with this, I must make a few points.

You are right in saying that Jesus came to earth to proclaim a message of love to one another and not a message of condemnation to people. Jesus loved the homosexuals and lesbians just as much as He loved all other people, but He came to earth to set them free from the sexual bondage that they were experiencing. Sexual love between a man and a woman within the confines of marriage is not wrong, it is meant to be a wonderful expression of love, but love between two men or two women sexually is a misuse of what God intended. God still loves you as much as anyone else, but he does condemn the art of homosexuality.

I said before that the church should be more accepting of homosexuals and lesbians, in order to show them God's forgiveness and love. Deep in your heart, you know, Mr Cowan, that you need to be freed from this. I can accept that at the moment you will reject this statement completely. I pray that

one day you will see the deception you live in, and turn to God in repentance so that you might really come to know what God's love is all about.

Yours sincerely,
Suzanne Kowald,
2nd Year Arts

Credit Where Credit is Due

Dear Eds,
I feel compelled to write in view of recent publicity about the Cinemateque Film Program which appeared in 'The Advertiser' and 'On Dit' - specifically about the 'bomb hoax' of 3rd April, as well as the ongoing publicity in these and other publications.

In each instance to date, I found no mention of the fact that the program is *jointly* presented by the Media Resource Centre (MRC) and the Adelaide University Union (AUU). AUU provides use of the Union Cinema; the Union's projectionist; co-ordination and campus administration by the Arts Officer; Publicity distribution and some origination; some curatorial input by University of Adelaide students and the Arts Officer as University representatives on the Cinemateque Curatorial Committee. (MRC employs a full-time curator for the Cinemateque programs).

The above equates to thousands of dollars in "cash and kind" and should not be overlooked.

The AUU's Activities Committee, a student representative committee, has given the program its full support since the program's inception which originated from the semester film and guest speakers programs from 1987, devised by the Arts Officer.

There is no animosity intended towards any of the other organisations mentioned here, simply a desire to give credit to the Union for its participation in what is probably the most successful, ongoing, independently-run film programme in this state.

Thanks
Jennifer Jones
Arts Officer
Adelaide University Union

In Sickness and in Health

Dear Editors,
I am writing to you strongly defending the Adelaide University Health Service Doctors. This is particular in relation to the letter that surfaced in On Dit, three weeks ago by a Miss Michelle Bayliss. She wrote to On Dit complaining of the doctors advice to go and see the Royal Adelaide Hospital in relation to her bad back, as a result of falling off her horse on the weekend. She further complained that the Doctor advised her to get an X-ray and then come back. Michelle then finalised her letter by saying the whole process was a waste of time! Poor Michelle! Nevertheless, even though we could fawn over Michelle's bad back for ages, we must consider a few things. Firstly, if Michelle

was so much in pain as she said she was, why did it take her until Friday, 4.40 pm to make an appointment and see a doctor?

Secondly, the doctor was quite correct in saying that Michelle should go to the RAH and get an X-ray: undoubtedly the Health Service would not have any x-ray facility.

I know for a fact that collectively these two doctors - the two female doctors - have over 50 years experience and their pay is ridiculously undercut for their credentials, knowledge and excellent work, both medically and as a social worker. The hierarchal health service is the problem: the doctors must see a new patient every 10 or 20 minutes. This is absolutely absurd - I wouldn't even be undressed by then! Where else are the doctors supposed to work 9 to 5, seeing a new patient every 10 minutes? What if an emergency occurs, or if the problem is blatantly serious - undoubtedly the doctors still have to see the same number of patients in a day.

In closing, I must say that this is not meant to undermine Miss Michelle Bayliss. The doctors have done some truly excellent work over the years and many students see them as friends that can be trusted.

Their unerring ability to give advice, help and often plain love has touched and changed the heart of many contemplating, grieved students, myself included.

To Dr McLean, you are an inspiration - I'd take you for my mother any day.

A student who wants to give credit where it is long overdue.

Punch-drunk

Dear Eds,
I am often bemused and amused by certain people who criticise other folk by arguing that such folk need their religion as a crutch on which to lean on in this life. And yet, these very same people, or at least a large majority of them, that criticise the religious folk would have just as many crutches on which they lean on. A very simple example is the huge number of people who simply could not adjust to life without alcohol and the pub. For many, this is their pathetic religion.

Everyone needs some sort of belief or crutch to get them through, except possibly David Krantz, because all the activities he indulges into is merely an act of great detached proportions and that he could quite easily live under a tree in India and be perfectly content.

As for myself, I don't go to a church or read a bible, and I don't take any drugs, not even tea or coffee. But my great attachment in this life is the sport of boxing. I simply can't get enough of it. It is my religion and I couldn't live without it. Therefore, I can't really criticise the religious folk without being a knave and a hypocrite.

Sincerely,
James Douglas

The Joys of Oakbank

Dear Readers,
I am yet again forced to put pen

to paper for On Dit. On Dit's self-styled Oakbank expert Georgina Thomas showed her ignorance in her article about the Easter racing carnival. What makes me any better? I live in the town and have been involved with racing for some years, though I don't pretend to know it all.

I'm not going to argue with her description of people attending the races, yet let me say not all of the people there were yuppies or bogans. There were also those actually interested in seeing the horses race - shock, horror - and they even know their names and form.

However, what I am obliged to object to is Ms Thomas' description of the crowd-favourite, River Amos', fall. She stated River Amos was tiring, fell, and brought down another horse! The fall was neither the horse's or his jockey's fault. Obviously, Ms Thomas didn't watch the race. It would have been if she had than read the official steward's report, or at least asked someone who knew what they were talking about. Let me set the record straight: At the corner, where the horses fell, the track has a difficult camber to ride over. On the first lap, one horse slipped yet did not fall. On the second lap, River Amos was leading Curl of Success by a narrow margin. Mark Patton, River Amos' jockey, knew the corner, was a tricky area so he called out to Curl of Success' jockey, warning him not to try to pass or get close, as River Amos would need the room to get around safely. The jockey, thinking he had room, chose to try to pass and Curl of Success slipped, fell, and brought down River Amos. Commission Red and Contract successfully jumped the downed horses, the only fortunate part of the incident. In no way could this be River Amos' or his jockey's fault. Mark Patton was very upset after the race, as he had become very attached to the horse, who was put down.

I hope, readers, you all know have a better view of the Easter weekend at the Oakbank racecourse. It can be a lot of fun, well worth the trip, so I hope you'll all be there next year.

Michelle Bayliss

More on the Saints Boys

Dear Concerned Law/Eco (Wealthy, Conservative, Eastern Suburbs, Saints Boy),

Where do you get off with this pompous bullshit? You criticise someone for pretending that membership to Saints Old Collegians is a reverential and holy state - fair enough. But then you lose all credibility as an intelligent critic by the "wealthy/Eastern suburbs" tag you give yourself. Honestly - who gives a flying fig? Are we supposed to worship you instead of Patrick just because you can spell 'Collegian' properly?

Rack off!
Eco

A Few Bones to Pick

Dear Johnny Ruckerfeller,
Robert Plant is a Genius and the words to his songs are like poetry in motion, I agree with you completely, who else could have come up with such gems as "Ooh Yeah Ooh Year" (Rock and Roll) or "Oh Baby Oh Baby, Baby, Baby, Baby" (Black Dog). Dylan Thomas - no! W. Shakespeare - never! T.S. Eliot - amateur!
Shithead.
Love and Kisses,
J. Sanchez

Dear Emma Hunt,
Go away. Simon has the copyright on 'wank' until the end of next year. Then I'm sure he'll sell it to you.
J. Sanchez

Dear T.C. Hill,
God, Guts and Guns made this country great. I'm glad to see someone else shares my vision of Student Vigilantes.
J. Sanchez

Dear Kate Smithson,
The Advertiser and The News both suck lots anyway. What do you expect from the editor of trashy newspaper?
J. Sanchez
P.S. Do ya wanna get together and shave Pier's eyebrows?

Dear Captain Mark Phillips,
God does lie. He also cheats at poker and drinks cheap whiskey (how else do you account for Patrick White?).
Luke 12, 19: "cat, drink and be merry."
J. Sanchez

Dear Anita Hood,
Right on, Sister. Solidarity for students. On Dit will be first against the wall when the Revolution comes.
Yours in comradeship,
J. Sanchez

Dear Andrew Lamb,
Is there a difference for David Pen'ber'thy between Drunk and Sober?
J. Sanchez

Dear James Greentree,
Life's tough at the top. I know. Everyone wants a piece of you. Sometimes it seems everybody wants to drag you down. I think the mistake occurred because all the writers for On Dit are always pissed as newts.
J. Sanchez

Dear Richard Harrison,
Concerned Law/Eco Binky Kosmina,
You cruel, heartless tyrants! How could you say such things about a fellow human being! You wicked, wicked, wicked, naughty people. Poor Patrick White has probably crawled back into his Country Road/Jag shell for ever. It cost myself and his mother a fucking fortune for the psychologist before and now all the years of progress are wasted, down the drain. How could you say such things about our poor sensitive boy! He stands up for his rights, voices an opinion and

so it publicly ridiculed for this basic democratic right. This is not Stalingrad, you know! I did not fight in two world wars just to allow you shits with foul mouths and bad attitudes to grow up and torture my son. We know where you all live.

Sincerely,
Pastor Reg White and Mrs Marjory White

Dear Marc Hudson, Deborah Cashmore, Dianne Van Dulken, Anne Francis, David Mills, Ingrid Cother, James Slattery, Michelle Malone,
Stop whinging, bastards. Just necklace the editors. It is very effective.
J. Sanchez

Andrew Hamilton- the verbose New Statesman

Dear Editors,
Response to 'No Confidence' motion, 10th April 1990

The role of the President has been changing, although not officially, in the last few years. In previous years the President of the Union Board took responsibility of a Board of elected members that controlled the business of running a student union. This entailed the administration of the substantial statutory fee that the students pay at the beginning of every year. It was the President's job to see that the Union provided services, catering, facilities and activities at a level that made students' University days easier and in some cases, possible. Together with the Board the President would endeavour to strike a balance between the provision of these facilities and the financial burden that would be bestowed upon the students to pay for these facilities.

However, in recent years, and in particular in 1990, the President's role has changed due to the changing face of Union Board. The President must now channel most of his/her energies into politics to ensure his/her political survival, for the Union Board is slowly taking over the role of the Students' Association of past year by becoming the political wing of the AUU.

No longer is the statutory fee used being used solely for the provision of services to students, but now also contribute to the propagation of a political game that hides under the guise of the Union Board. No longer are decisions being made on the basis of the good of all students but along political lines. Now the administration of \$8.5M a year (of which each student contributes \$228) is having its efficiency crippled by the destructive and detrimental effects of the politics that has managed to creep in.

I must be said however, that Adelaide University as a place of free thinking must have its political forum and means by which students' political views can be expressed. This forum in the past has been, and should continue to be, the Students' Association where political views are encouraged and so flourish. The Students' Association should always be the political and representative arm of the AUU, in essence the students' trade union. However the Union Board in recent years has experienced the frustration and stagnation that is associated with the emergence and overflow of politics from the appropriate forum of the Students' Association.

It is with this background that I feel I must be able to respond in a frank and open manner concerning the no confidence motion in myself as President and the processes by which the motion arose.

According to a minority of the total number of Board members my performance as President is inadequate. The reason behind the minority's view of my "inadequacy" is that I am also a full time student. Little mention of any valid inadequacies entered the argument.

Why was a no confidence motion passed by this minority who just happened to have the numbers at a particular time at a Board meeting? What were these inadequacies that were so grave that they warranted a no confidence motion? Perhaps there was the Harradine case questions that I declined to reply to

because of lack of information in the first week of my presidency. The fact of the matter is that the University at that stage - and "inadequacy"? - I think not. Perhaps it was my willingness to make Bruce Henderson, Education/Welfare Officer, the Union representative on the Working party for Non Award Students because of his expertise. Inadequate? No.

Consequently the motion of no confidence must have stemmed from "greater" things. Does the minority who voted for the motion think that combining both the presidency and 5th year medicine constitutes a president who is incapable of performing his duties?

If so, why didn't this minority of Board members move a no confidence motion before April 10th? This puzzles me because I have been on a full time work load since the 23rd January but there haven't been any complaints up until now.

Is the minority who passed the motion saying that despite the abilities of any President, the President shall never be a full-time student? This is to say that most of Engineering, Medical, Dentistry, Architecture, Ag. Science, Science, Maths Science students may not become President of the AUU. This means that 4 out of the last 5 Presidents, and many more before them, would have been inelligible.

In essence the vote of no confidence has a sinister motivation that should alarm both students and University alike. The no confidence motion is but a typical example of the alarming trend that has beset the Union Board of late.

Over the last 4 years the Union Board has become increasingly more political, to the delight of some politically motivated students who partake in such pastimes. However, the reality of the situation is that the Union Board exists, not to provide a breeding ground for future politicians of all persuasions, but to service the general student population. Students should run for Board and be elected on the basis of merit and willingness to contribute to student services. If students wish to push political platforms then they should run for the Students' Association not clutter the Union with politics.

The Union's aims are to provide facilities, catering, activities and services to the students of Adelaide University and its members. In order that this can be done students elect members of the Board who are obliged to work together for the good of the whole student population. At present there are Union Board members who are primarily working, not for the betterment of the student population, but for themselves and their political careers.

As a result of these politically motivated students the Union Board has evolved over a period of time to embrace a 'them vs us' mentality that serves no-one but those wish to prove their prowess in a two party system. No longer can individual Board members expect to have any substantial influence on Union Board unless he or she adopts a "side" called arbitrarily 'left' or 'right'. Why should the task of administering a student organisation by a Board of 19 be unduly obstructed by the concept of two sides. The issues are local issues and should not be dealt with under a political umbrella.

Issues that appear to be non contentious are tainted with the political brush and so one side feels obliged to oppose any decision simply for the reason of destabilising those who make up the majority on Board. No matter what the outcome of any election, as long as the political element is allowed to stay, there shall be those who for purely the sake of politics and their own personal political progress will obstruct even those decisions that would allow the student organisation to progress through future years. The situation exists where the minority will always attempt to destabilise the majority even to the detriment of the AUU as an organisation. Politics will always handicap the Union provided the present situation exists.

I am absolutely appalled that in my capacity as President I have had to through necessity fall into bed with one side of politics so that I may simply accomplish the day-to-day duties of President.

No longer does free thinking, rational debate transverse the boundaries of ignorance on the Union Board. It is not debate that rules meetings but the caucuses that meet prior to meetings. I have seen to my horror various members of Board vote against what they believe simply for the sake of sticking to the line of the political caucus.

It is well known that these same

members of Board have made clear their desires to progress into parliament following their days at University and so would not break a caucus for fear of being thrown out of a political club and so threatening their progress up the political ladder. Is this the way students really want their organisation run? Does the adoption of a "leader of the Opposition" role, as one member of Union Board has done this year, serve the best interests of students? I think not.

The students of the University of Adelaide must be made to realise the dangers of a continuance of the system of governance of the AUU that exists. The AUU is stagnating under the weight of individual ambition and political selfishness.

It is on this basis that I must reject the motion of no confidence voted on by 9 of the total 19 Board members, and also call for serious consideration to be given by the Union Board and the student population into a general rethink of how our student organisation is administered.

Andrew Hamilton
AUU President
"A statesman is a politician who places himself at the service of the nation. A politician is a statesman who places the nation at his service."
(Georges Pompidou 1911 - 74 - French Statesman)

Why Andrew Hamilton Should Be Sacked

Dear Eds,
As supporters of the no confidence resolution the Union President, Andrew Hamilton, we felt compelled to respond to allegations of petty politicking raised by Mr Hamilton in your news story (On Dit, April 30).

We believe that Mr Hamilton is desperately trying to detract discussion away from the real issues:

- his deception of Union Board and the student body is continuing full-time study despite giving assurances that he would deter, or substantially cut his study load to do the Union Presidency.

- his decision to continue to accept payment for a position that presumes a full-time commitment, despite being a full-time student.

Andrew attempts to dismiss the no-confidence motion as "typical of what goes on at Union Board this year". We are unclear as to why this detracts from the motion. The no-confidence resolution is only typical in that it follows from Board dissatisfaction over the President's performance, exemplified by the moving of a censure motion last semester.

Andrew further claims that the position of Union President "has not changed in three years". This simply illustrates that he doesn't understand the job. The amalgamation with Roseworthy, and the forthcoming merger with the SACAE, and the expansion of childcare on this campus are a few issues that highlight the changing environment the Union is in.

Further, any 'lack of change' has much to do with ineffective planning and leadership. For a union to be dynamic and responsive to its members requires that the student elected as Union President actually does the work.

Mr Hamilton accuses us of not being concerned with the way in which the Union is run. We are deeply concerned with the way the Union is being run, and we have consistently tried to do what we believed to be best for the student body.

We have argued for:
• The development of policy and strategies to respond to the University's decision to drastically reduce funding to Sports Grounds Maintenance.

- Proper Industrial Management to ensure that staff are able to provide the highest possible level of service to students.

- Adequate funding for Clubs, the SAUA and other affiliated

groups.
• The President's involvement in key issues and negotiations in the interests of effective student representation.

If it is political to stand up for students, then we are being political and we make no apology for it. We point out that Andrew's Liberal and Medical student mates on Union Board voted together, on factional lines, against the no-confidence motion. These Board members are condoning ordinary students being ripped off, as no basis other than their political allegiances.

We ask students to consider who is indulging in petty politicking to the detriment of students.

Penny Wong
Wendy Wakefield
John Fitzsimmons
Mel Yuan
Ian Steel
Natasha Stott Despoja
Asha Puvan
Andrew Lamb

More on Hamilton

I doubt if I have ever before heard so much fatuous rubbish from our Union President. To hide behind the fallacy of "political motivation" shows nothing except extreme cowardice.

The Union President has shown repeatedly his lack of concern over the opinions and issues raised by members of the Board, and on this issue it is no exception.

The hypocrisy in this case is too obvious. On one hand Andrew Hamilton attempts to denigrate the political nature of the Board, on the other hand he says that "he is supported by ten, the other side are supported by nine or whatever". Doing the numbers Andrew?

As mover of the "sack" motion I feel outraged that this can be looked upon as a politically motivated action. Obviously Andrew Hamilton seeks to muddy the waters by casting suspicion on other Board members besides himself. The issue is simply whether or not Andrew Hamilton has been performing as Board President well enough to justify him continuing to hold that position. The answer is undoubtedly NO.

Lack of experience and commitment are the primary factors, lack of understanding of the political process is also glaringly apparent.

"Politics" is not destroying the Union, administrative inaptitude is. It is too easy to blame the predicament you are in on others and their "political opportunism". However if the Union President is committed to the good running of the Union surely he should listen to the concerns being raised and not simply pretend it isn't happening.

Finally, if the President believes that the position is not a full time one, why did he introduce and support the removal from the Policy Codes of the provision that it should be a half time one? The section I refer to is section 28(2) of the Administrative Procedures Policy Code.

Surely not more hypocrisy?
Melissa Yuan

Wendy Wakefield President

Plagiarism

The follow-up article on proposed plagiarism policy and penalties will appear in next week's On Dit.

Review of Governance

I have been present at a number of forums over the last couple of weeks at which the Interim Report of the Review of Governance has been discussed - Faculty of Law, Executive Committee, Student Services Committee and the Library Committee. It is notable that all of these committees expressed concerns that the Report needed more work in a number of areas, including important areas which were not covered at all. Student Services, the Library and the Registry were identified.

Student representation in the governance of the University is accepted as important and necessary. This has been recognised recently at both the Faculty of Law and Library Committees. The Faculty of Law, of which I am an elected student representative, discussed the Interim Report of the Review at its last meeting. The Faculty resolved to support the principle of student representation in the governance of the University, and noted that the Interim Report of the Review did not enhance or even retain present levels of student representation. Library Committee resolved to support the continuance of an undergraduate and postgraduate representative on the Library Committee.

The Law Faculty also resolved to support the recommendation to increase the participation of women on University Committees, but stressed that time spent on committees by women should be taken into account for promotional purposes.

The Students' Association is currently formulating a response to the Report, which will be discussed at a meeting on Tuesday at 1.10pm and at a Special Meeting of SAUA Council on Thursday at 1.10pm. Both meetings will be held in the Union Boardroom, and all students are welcome to attend and participate in these discussions.

HECS problems

It was brought to my attention that there are a number of students who, through no fault of their own, received a HECS bill for Australian Politics even though they are not studying that subject this year (due to the quota). I contacted Judy Philip who is in charge of Student Records, and she assured me that administrative problems of this nature could be rectified.

If you are in this situation, then all you have to do is go to the Arts Faculty Office (2nd Floor, Napier Building), and ask to see Don Longo AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. You must complete

an "Amendment to Enrolment" form.

Barr Smith Library

The issue of fines was discussed at the meeting held last Tuesday. I was informed that the library is flexible when it comes to fines, and that in some cases students will be allowed to pay fines in instalments or work in the library instead of paying a fine. The Students' Association resolved that this sort of "penal" labour is not acceptable, for reasons of principle as well as industrial implications. Concerns were also raised regarding the impact that fines have on the library budget. I will take up these issues with the University Librarian, Ray Choate.

National Union of Students

The National Union of Students (SA Branch) will be holding a State Conference this Wednesday. If you want to find out more about what the National Union is doing for you, come along. More details are available from me in the SAUA office.

The Students' Association passed 3 motions at the SAUA Council meeting last Thursday requesting the State Branch to undertake surveys on issues such as Austudy and Abstudy receipt levels, cost and standard of living for students and access and equity programs in South Australian tertiary institutions. We trust that NUS will take on these State-wide surveys which will provide useful and necessary information for students and the community.

NUS on a national level is pursuing the issue of the inadequacy of Austudy/Abstudy. This is an extremely important issue, and one that must be tackled on a national level. It is concerning however that NUS is taking the position that students should only aim to demand increases to the level and distribution of Austudy/Abstudy which fall within the government allocation for Austudy. NUS will be arguing for priorities within the amount allocated for Austudy/Abstudy, through their "direct line to Cabinet", the Austudy Planning Group. Prioritising in this way is important, but students should also be demanding that the Government allocate more money for Austudy/Abstudy. Students should not be constrained by government budgetary priorities in their demands for increases to Austudy/Abstudy.

Chinese Students Commeration

June 4 marks the anniversary of the student demonstration that occurred in Tianenmen Square last year. The Students' Association has accepted a suggestion from a Chinese student to organise events in commemoration of this day. More details will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Mel Yuan Education V-President

Honoraria

It is time to tackle this issue in this column. This issue tends to become a very controversial one. However to try and overcome some of the controversy and put the issue back into perspective I have been doing some research in to what honoraria are granted to the various student representatives in student organisations in the country.

To do this I sent a letter to every student organisation in every tertiary institution in the country. The letter asked what honoraria are paid, to whom and how much. To date I have received replies from virtually every student organisation, both in public and private institutions.

Why?

Generally an honorarium is given for a number of reasons.

Firstly as a token "thankyou" to the individual concerned, as appreciation for service given or work done.

Secondly to cover any costs incurred such as phone calls, stamps even travel.

Thirdly, looking at it from a more economic point of view, to provide some consideration for the services rendered, which ensures a higher duty of care. There is an attitude that if the task involves money there is something necessarily more important about that task, than if it were unpaid.

And finally to encourage participation of a greater number of students regardless of their own personal means.

What this means in practice is that there are representatives who are able to devote time and energy to their tasks, to ensure that student interests are represented in a more professional way.

How?

It is pretty obvious that an honoraria is only granted pursuant to that individual carrying out their task(s). For example the Orientation Directors receive their honoraria after their activity has finished and their report has been tabled at SAUA Council. The SAUA also determines the level of honoraria depending on the levels of competency, time spent and the nature of the task involved. One of the most important things about an honorarium is that the receiver be accountable to the organisation that pays it and therefore the constituency i.e. students.

Accountability has a number of aspects, many student representatives have job specifications or terms of employment. Student unions more commonly have duties of office bearers laid down by the Constitution, Regulations and Policy of the organisation. Apart from this, it is ordinary for office bearers, who are normally the ones receiving honoraria, to

present written or verbal reports at their peak body's meetings (in our case SAUA Council).

So What?

Since amalgamations there have been major upheavals in student organisations. The most significant of these, which also affects Adelaide University is the fact that so many more campuses have become multi-campus.

The older Universities such as Sydney and Melbourne have generally been single site and metropolitan. Now their student organisations have to reform to accomodate huge multi-site institutions.

New structures to accomodate this have developed, and our student organisations can learn from this.

What started out as a simple comparative exercise has been useful in coming to some comparasins between our organisations and others.

Honoraria are tied to the structure of the student organisation. For example, if the institution is multi-campus then it may be necessary to have a full time President representing all campuses, but at the same time having part-time or voluntary campus Presidents to oversee activities and campaigns on that campus alone. There are so many different options and equally the distribution of student representatives will change as needs change.

The SAUA is going to have to change to accomodate our changing constituency, but a thorough overhual of our regulations is now overdue.

Lookout for things ahead.

Ian Steel & Jo Dyer Environment Officers

GREENWEEK: Monday 14 -

Friday 18 May

Finally Greenweek is approaching. We hope that the

events organised will contribute to an increased awareness of environmental issues and what's happening in the environment movement. The following is a basic outline of the week's events.

MONDAY LUNCH:

There will be a vegetarian barbecue in the cloisters starting at 12.30 pm. Along with this there will be a variety of stalls either selling merchandise, advertising or providing information about services, activities, groups, businesses, etc. all promoting the environment.

TUESDAY LUNCH

Jack King speaking in the Little Theatre at 1.10 pm on Marine Environment Pollution. Students will have read King's story which was featured in last week's On Dit.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH

To be advised.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Free films in the Little Cinema at 7.00 pm.

"Dark Circle", "The War Game", "Environment 1990", "23 Skidoo".

THURSDAY LUNCH

Keith Oehme speaking in the Little Cinema at 1.10 pm on Green Politics.

Keith is a member of Green Alliance and ran for the House of Representatives in the recent Federal elections.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Free videos in the Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre at 7.00 pm.

"Dr. Strangelove", "Atomic Cafe".

FRIDAY LUNCH

Free band in the Union Bar at 1.00 pm - CASM's "Rough Edge".

GALLERY

Also during the week there will be various displays in the Gallery.

Check next week's On Dit for the full programme and keep an eye on the poster and notice boards for details of events.

CAN YOU PRONOUNCE STRASSENBAHNHALTESTELLE?
DO YOU KNOW THE WORDS TO "99 LUFT BALLONS"?
DO YOUR LEDERHOSEN RIDE UP AND SQUEEZE YOUR BRATWURST?
IF YOUR ANSWER IS JA, NIEN, OR ERICH HONECKER, COME ALONG AND BREAK L.
YOUR OWN BERLIN WALL AT...

THE MARKS FEST

A SUPERLATIVE GERMAN-STYLE FESTIVAL OF BRILLIANTLY BREWED BEER,
BREATH-BROILING BRATWURST AND BAWDY BAVARIAN BALLADS!

FEATURING

- * REDBACK
- * LION STINGO
- * LION PILSNER
- * COOPERS BEERS
- * HOME BREWS
- * CIDER & WINE
- * GERMANIC CUISINE
- * PIG ON A SPIT
- * SOFT DRINKS
- * OOM-PAH BAND
- * FREE BEER STEIN
- * BEER HALL THEME

SUNDAY 13th MAY, 1990, 1:30-6pm

\$25 per TICKET

ST. MARK'S COLLEGE, 46 PENNINGTON TCE, NORTH ADELAIDE
ENTER FROM PENNINGTON TCE ONLY

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ST. MARK'S COLLEGE,
SAUA OFFICE, OR LUNCHTIME TICKET STALLS, MAY 7-11

It is somewhat ironic that tonight's Union Board meeting is to see a motion to sack the President, Andrew Hamilton, being moved. Ironic because the meeting is to be held at Roseworthy Agricultural College, in order to show Roseworthy students, our newly merged other half, how this student body conducts its affairs.

Any Roseworthy student who attends tonight's meeting will undoubtedly believe that their own student council operates much more effectively. Our Union is currently not even close to working effectively. Staff have passed a no-confidence motion in their Secretary Manager, Robert Brice, and the Union Board likewise has passed a similar no-confidence motion in the Union President, Andrew Hamilton.

Now although you're probably thinking this all

sounds extremely boring, remember that the Union is the very body that an \$8.5 annual budget, made up of your money. Tonight's motion is akin to sacking the directors of a medium sized corporation in which you are a shareholder.

The Board is currently split into two camps. Those in favour of the sack motion (see letter on page 5) argue that Hamilton, as a full time 5th year Med student, is neglecting his obligation as a full time Union President, his salary being based on a minimum of 38 hours work per week.

Hamilton maintains that he can do both jobs satisfactorily, yet his inability to even properly organise his own political forces to defend his Presidency at the previous Board meeting indicates an almost naive attitude to the management and running of this multi-

million dollar association.

Hamilton maintains that the Union should be managed on an apolitical basis.

In this respect, it's obvious he has studied medicine, not politics. Any organisation where long term decisions have to be made will see political manoeuvring by its members to achieve their desired ends. A nice cosy compromise isn't always possible. Argument and political division will occur. The Union is not a country tennis club, it is a multi-million dollar organisation. Crying "not fair" as Hamilton has done is to ignore the issue.

The issue is that some very unusual Union Board meetings have been occurring of late. Meetings involving attempted rorts of standing orders and a disturbing lack of decision-making due primarily to an absence of Presidential initiative.

This is because the President has been under constant attack over his performance. To claim that these attacks are the result of damaging caucuses within the Union Board, as Hamilton does, is to ignore the question of why other Board members have agreed on a number of Union issues in opposition to Hamilton. The obvious answer is that they are dissatisfied with how Hamilton is performing.

Any shareholder would not be bothered with a company director who held down an additional full time job. Yet this is exactly what Hamilton is doing. Recent industrial troubles in the Union were inadequately approached by President Hamilton. The situation could have been avoided if Hamilton had consulted staff about the proposal new Union Manager position before it reached the final planning

stages.

Hamilton argues that "politics is ruining the Union." Surely in a democracy adversarial politics is the only guarantee that democratic rights will be protected. Continuing accountability only comes through political debate. Hamilton, as a champion of democracy, should realise that the sack motion, far from being an abuse of the political process, is a sign that it is functioning democratically. Leaders must occasionally be recalled, and if they are, we must assume that in the absence of guns and uniforms, it was done for a damn good reason, and justice has been done.

Steve Jackson
David Penberthy

The Evolution of Anne Summers

She's the quintessential modern woman. Cool and confident. Tinted blonde bob, Armani sunglasses and chic designer co-ordinates. A bit of a cliché really.

But as a pioneer of the Australian Women's Movement, Anne Summers PhD defys the usual clichés.

Adelaide born and bred, she's been a political journalist, Canberra bureaucrat and best-selling author of *Damned Whores and God's Police* - a part polemic, part social history of women in Australia. Summers is a homegrown activist who started out organising Adelaide's first women's liberation meetings on the campus in 1969 and scaled the commanding heights in the 80's as publisher and editor-in-chief of *Ms*, America's groundbreaking feminist magazine.

Permanently based in New York where she is engaged in freelance writing projects, Summers is very much part of the

mainstream now, and unashamedly, so she says: "The mainstream is where change occurs. I've certainly worked on the fringes and I've been extreme in my time and that is a very good way to draw attention to political issues and to get the world to take notice. But if you actually want to change the world you have to go into the mainstream and make sure the culture or law gets changed... Shouting in the streets can make us feel very good, but that doesn't change anything by itself."

But how relevant is feminist thinking to the lives of Australian women today? Very important, counters Summers, as it is fundamentally concerned with women's ability to have and maintain economic, social,

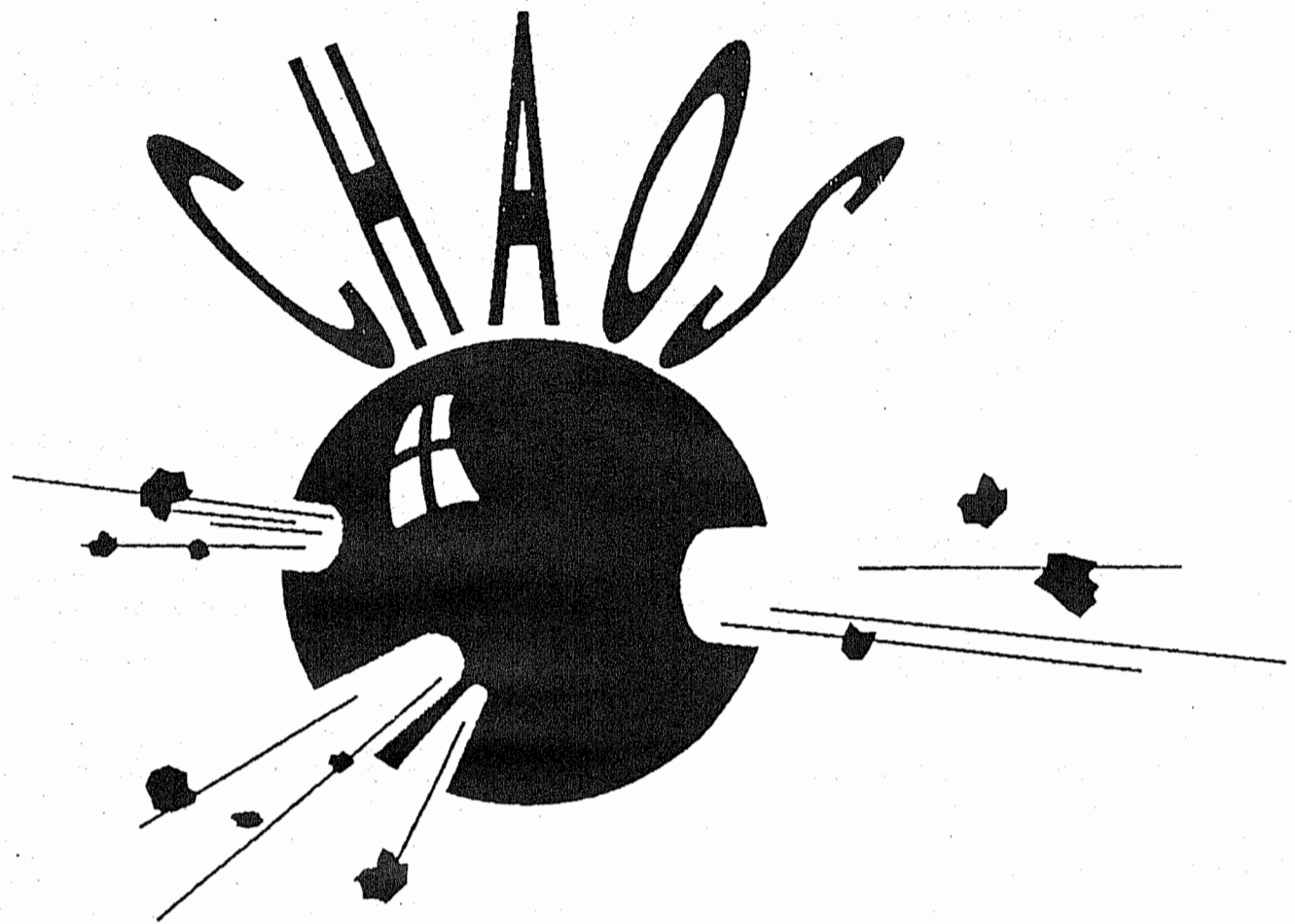
political and legal equality: "Women may not identify with a movement they think is a little old fashioned, but the basic rights involved are something very few women would deny. Most women expect to be able to make their own choices about their own life."

It's a personal credo for Summers who grew up in the claustrophobic social atmosphere of Adelaide in the 50's and 60's, the oldest girl among five brothers in a Catholic family where the expectation, she says, was that she would sacrifice herself for her brothers and then get married and have children and sacrifice herself all over again for her kids. Women's Liberation touched her life, says Summers, in the sense that it changed the expectations of her particular generation of women from traditional family oriented ones; women started to go for higher education, explore new ideas and challenge the accepted wisdoms of the time.

The intervening years, says Summers, has only increased her conviction that she'll always want to be in charge of her own destiny and not have decisions affecting

continued page 9

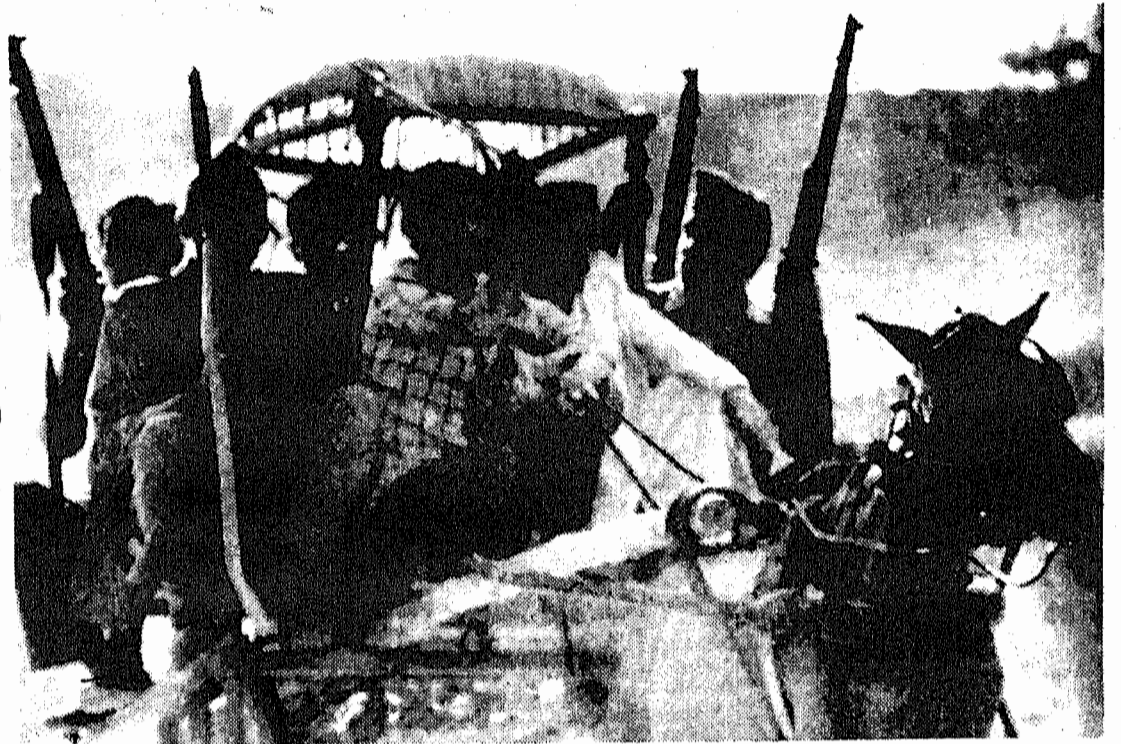




dance 10th club
opening club 10th
dance may club
dance club opening 10th may
dance club 10th
club dance opening
opening 10th opening

club chaos
thursday nights
top floor griffins head
cnr grenfell st & hindmarsh sq.
students \$2 non students \$5

Fear and Loathing in Nepal



James Danenberg, On Dit's roving reporter, files this article from Nepal, where human rights are a foreign concept in the eyes of the Nepalese government.

"Namaste" from Nepal. That's the traditional salutation used here. It means "I salute the God-like qualities within you" which goes to show not only what a compact language the Nepalis have, but also what a nice temperament. It makes it kind of hard to reconcile the average Nepali (short, smiling and generally not too money hungry) with the social and political realities of this place.

I arrived in Kathmandu from Bangkok, leaving the sweltering City of Angels in a relaxed frame of mind. Of course, at that time the riots hadn't really begun, and noone in Bangkok had much of an idea of what was going on anyway.

It didn't take too long to find out. On the inappropriately named Democracy Day- February 23rd- over thirty people were killed by the army in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Patan. Hundreds of people were injured and summarily detained. Under the ironic title of the "Public Security Act" anyone can be detained without reason and held without trial for up to nine months. As you may have guessed, the government here isn't really big on human rights. "Human what...?" It's a hard situation to understand without appreciating something of the history and culture of Nepal.

Basically, the country as it presently exists is removed from the feudal period of the Ranas rule by only fifty years. Although feudalism is an almost archaic concept, in Nepal it is evident that elements of the feudal hierarchy still remain. Inequalities between the different castes and classes are evident. In the late 1950s the country's brief flirtation with representative democracy was ended by the present King's grandfather, and the partyless Panchayat system of "democracy" was introduced. Whilst this does

allow for some limited representation, the district level Panchayats are elected by the local Panchayat members, and it is these plus a majority selected by the King that comprise the government. In short, the King controls the government, the army and the Israeli-trained and highly efficient secret police.

Hmmm. The King. The KING- "His Majesty Birendra" is a complex subject. Admittedly, he is one of the richest men in the world- his ownership of a Greek island is testimony to the fact that according to Nepalese culture he is also an incarnation of Vishnu, a Hindu God. To call him a despot would be a trifle tactless, but that is by no means it. Although the small but affluent middle class are well aware of the endemic corruption and nepotism in Nepal, they are by necessity involved to some degree. The current unrest is not to do with this new facet of Nepali life, nor is it a peasant-led anti-monarchical protest. By and large many rural people appear to be quite fond of the Royal Family- it's just the partyless Panchayat system they are opposed to.

This is difficult to judge however, as the most recent referendum on the subject (in 1980) returned a narrow victory for the present status quo. The fact that only 12% of Nepalis are literate may have had something to do with the result. Voters were given colour coded cards and told that a vote for multi-party democracy meant the abolition of the monarchy.

Ever since then "Democracy Day" has evoked strong feelings amongst students, the intelligentsia and the middle class.

Since the most recent protests things have been quiet. Every week, usually on a Friday, a general strike has paralysed

Kathmandu, turning the usually bustling markets and squares into an abandoned vacuum, empty except for wandering journalists, naive tourists and heavy concentrations of troops.

It's funny seeing the little Nepalis dressed up in bamboo riot gear- with their breast plates, leggings, helmets and sticks they look more like teenage mutant ninja turtles....but not as cute. The atmosphere during the strikes in Kathmandu is tense. The few shops that open have their metal shutters at half mast. It's easy to see why most people stay home. Small clusters of men sit around, darkly eyeing the rifles, bayonets and teargas guns of the omnipresent military. Any buses or cars that dare to venture out are frequently stoned.

To the average tourist, much of this is missed or ignored. In Thamel, the tourist ghetto of Kathmandu replacing the Freak Street area, most of the restaurants were open, although even here shutters were drawn.

It was here that I met a Swiss expat, Anya (not her real name), who has lived here for five years. According to her, much of the current trouble stems from the banned Nepali Communist Party, who the Indian Congress Party is rumoured to be providing with financial backing. It is clear, however, that the democracy movement does have widespread indigenous support.

Throughout these tensions, the military is maintaining a conspicuous and well armed presence at almost every major intersection throughout the town. *The Rising Nepal*, the English language daily, is backing the government line, spouting propaganda against the "anti-national, destructive and violent elements". *Newsweek*, *Time* and *The International Herald Tribune* have all been censored, and on some occasions haven't even appeared. The censorship extends to photos- if you try to get photos of riots or demos developed, you won't get the film back.

Unfortunately, the future looks bleak for Nepal, unless the international community exerts influence through aid grants. Nepal is heavily dependent on foreign aid, but most of this is not given for development per se, but for strategic, political and economic reasons. It would simply not be in the interests of the donor countries to suspend aid.

The other possibility for Western countries to exert their influence is through tourism, Nepal's major exchange earner. Any disruption to the tourist trade would impact heavily on the local economy. If you *do* come to Nepal, come in the knowledge that your tourist dollar will support a fiendishly corrupt

oligarchy with little regard for human rights.

Namaste,
James Danenberg

The Evolution of Anne Summers from p7.

her life made for her: "If that means being somewhat unconventional in the way I want live my life or the jobs I choose - so be it. I'm not going to alter my beliefs to suit the rest of the world."

The most significant issue for women today according to Summers continues to be economic ones: "Unless women can earn enough money to make realistic choices about their lives for themselves and their families they can't do anything else. The ability to control one's fertility - and therefore the abortion issue - is incredibly important but I don't think we can ever see it as important as economic issues ... If you've got money you can always buy an abortion, if you've got no money you can do nothing."

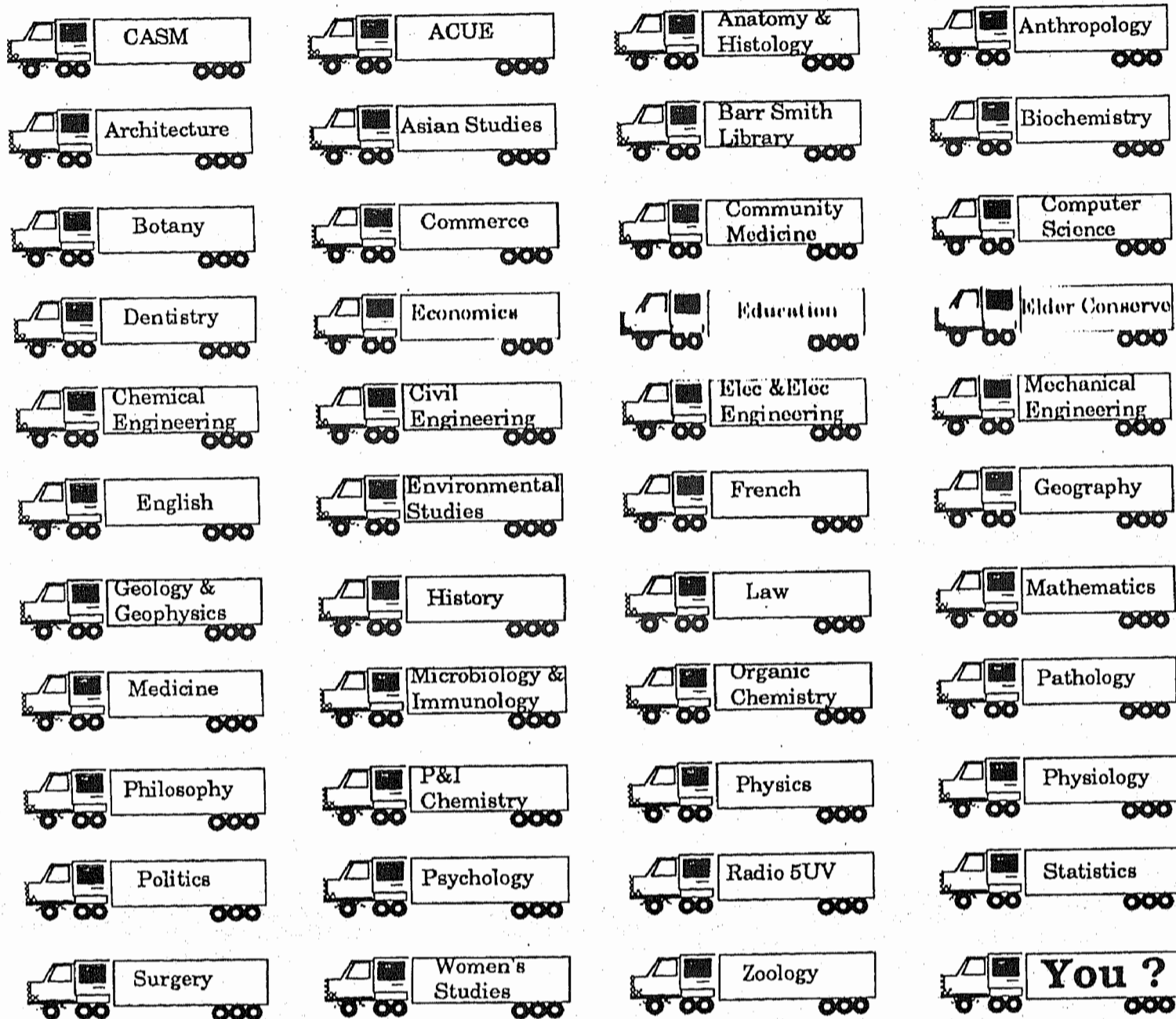
Summers believes there's still a great deal to be done to improve the position of women in this country but has faith in the Australian government's ongoing commitment to women's issues: "There's nothing at all in America that compares to the Office of the Status of Women in Canberra or the Women's Advisory Offices in each state. Women's issues are not integrated into policy advice mechanisms in the American

government at the federal level at all and it rarely exists at the state or city level. So a lot of policies we take for granted here like childcare policies, paid maternity leave and efforts to train women and make sure there is affirmative action in education don't exist at all in the United States."

Summers accepts that she may be a role model for young women today but she readily admits she's no longer the grass root activist of her youth. She's been there, done that, and feels its up to a new generation to take up the cudgels on behalf of Australian women: "I don't think an older generation can preach to a younger generation. Every new generation of young people always wants to map the world for themselves. However much I might think my ideas are the right ones, you're not going to believe me or agree with me until you can find it out for yourself. While you can make the ideas and information available, there's no prescription for foisting it down the throat of a new generation ... You have to discover it for yourself and that's the only way you're going to believe it."

Farah Farouque

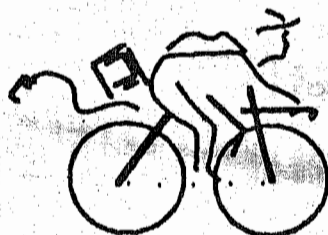
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WHEELS FOR THE MIND

EL SALVADOR

Supporting Injustice In Latin America

El Salvador is the poorest and most populated country in Central America. It is currently being governed by Freddy Cristiani, the leader of the ultra-rightist ARENA party, which is closely linked with the notorious death squads. Racked by an horrific civil war between the FMLN, the popular army, and the military and death squads, the prospects for peace look bleak.

Susan Subramaniam reports.

"I worked on the hacienda over there, and I would have to feed the dogs bowls of meat. I could never put bowls on the table for my own children. When my children were ill, they died with a nod of sympathy from the landlord. But when those dogs were ill, I took them to the veterinarian. You will never understand the meaning of violence or non-violence until you understand the violence to the spirit that happens from watching your children die of malnutrition."

These words were spoken by a Salvadorean peasant to an American journalist. They are the only words that matter in the conflict raging in El Salvador. The rhetoric of the US State Department and the policy statements of liberal US Senators cannot address the conflict as well as this peasant's testament. The salient feature of his words is that the conflict in El Salvador is not between different ideologies, different superpowers, or different economic systems. It is between rich Salvadoreans and poor Salvadoreans.

This conflict is not unique to El Salvador. A peasant picks up a rifle and aims it at an advanced jet fighter flying towards him at hundreds of miles an hour. As the peasant fires, the plane releases thousands of rounds from its machine guns. If the peasant is fighting in Poland or Afghanistan, he would be praised by the United States as a "freedom fighter", while, the peasant fighting in El Salvador is labelled an "insurrectionist", or even worse, a "leftist". This double-speak of the United States Government reveals the glaring inconsistency in US policy towards Central America.

The United States views events in El Salvador exclusively through the lens of a Cold War conflict. They have tried to create

an East-West conflict in El Salvador by injecting 4 billion dollars worth of military and humanitarian aid into El Salvador over the last decade. But while attempting to realise its own cold war fantasies, the United States has dug its own grave. There are social and economic factors, far more powerful than 4 billion dollars in US aid, at work in El Salvador. Instead of reacting with knee-jerk anti-communism to the day-to-day acts of government or rebel troops, the US should respond to these deeper forces that are pushing El Salvador towards change. Only when the power of change is realised is El Salvador and the policies aligned with the groups who advocate it, can the ties be sustained between the United States and El Salvador. And so a serious discussion of events in El Salvador is not about the actions of the right wing ARENA government nor those of the left wing FMLN guerrillas. Rather, an examination of the evolution of its economy and its relationship to the stratification of society is needed if we are to understand where change in El Salvador is earning from - and where it is going.

Like most Central American countries, El Salvador's economy is mainly agricultural. Agriculture makes up 90% of its exports and 60% of the population work in agriculture. As a result, the relationship between land use, the agricultural working class, and the land owners is extremely important to political events. The old colonial system of agricultural land use was characterised by large haciendas. These plantations raised cattle and employed most of the rural peasants who were allowed to plant corn on small portions of land to support themselves. This self-sustaining economy began to change in the 1910's when coffee was first

introduced to the region.

The significance of the move towards growing coffee instead of producing cattle and corn is detailed in Harald Jung's article, "Class Struggle and Civil War in El Salvador". The move signalled a change from a locally self-sustaining economy to an export cash economy. But rather than alter relations between the wealthy growers and the peasants, this change only intensified the difference between the two classes. The amazing profitability of coffee helped it to spread rapidly and take over farmlands from traditional peasant cultivation. From 1912 to 1920 the common lands of peasant villages were sold to urban middle and upper class families at cut rates. These families created coffee plantations and employed the peasants who had previously farmed the land to process the coffee on a pay-wage system. One important characteristic of the coffee crop which helped to confine coffee's profits within the urban bourgeoisie was that the coffee tree takes five years to mature. In order to reap the benefits of allotting land for coffee cultivation, the owners needed to have enough capital to withstand five years without any return on his investment. The small farmer who used the land to produce food for his family could not endure the five-year wait and so coffee became the crop of the bourgeois families.

The economic change had a dramatic effect on the population of El Salvador. The 1930's and 40's saw a tremendous increase in the number of landless peasants. OXFAM estimated that by 1951, 60% of the rural population was without land, either rented or owned. Most of the displaced peasants became full time plantation wage earners. These wage earners eventually became privileged compared to the rest of



the rural population.

As mechanisation and farm technology became widespread in the 1950's, more and more plantation jobs were liquidated. Once again, there was a flood of now unemployed, landless peasants. These people became seasonal migrant workers and so took yet another step away from the mainstream Salvadorean economy. The creation of a large, migrant, seasonal working class also limited the influence of the infant labor unions. Essentially, through mechanisation, the growers were both displacing workers and insulating their farms from labor's increasing attempt to gain political power.

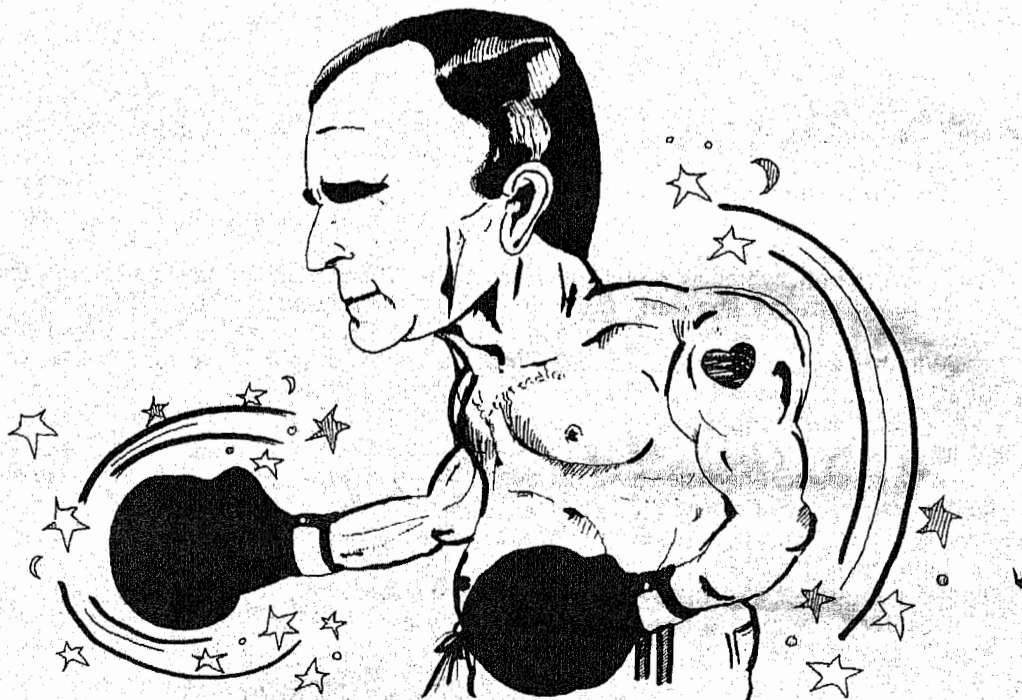
By the 1960's, according to OXFAM, coffee and cotton (as opposed to basic foodstuffs) together represented 80 - 90% of El Salvador's agricultural products. The rise of coffee and cotton as commercial products resulted in increasingly more displaced peasants trying to gain a subsistence from less available land. Several statistics demonstrate the growing desperation of the rural population. While the government considers 10 hectares of land enough to

support one peasant family in El Salvador, by 1971 half of the 271,000 farms of El Salvador consisted of less than one hectare of poor soil. In fact, 90% of the farms had less than five hectares of land. But an even more revealing statistic about the distribution of land is that in 1971 six families held more land than 80% of the rural population held together. These dry statistics have intense meaning for Salvadorean peasants. 95% of them do not have enough land to subsist on and must compete with migrant workers for seasonal jobs on the big coffee estates. Scrambling to obtain work at whatever wages the growers are willing to pay them, these peasants face unemployment and the constant threat of starvation.

One response of the rural population has been to flee to large cities like San Miguel or San Salvador. But the cities are no better than the fields. Wages for industrial workers in 1975 were at the same level as in 1965. Since 1975 the fastest growing economic sector in El Salvador's cities has been "independent merchants". According to Jung, the term "independent merchants" glosses over the harsh reality of urban life. This class consists mostly of shoeshiners, prostitutes, lottery ticket sellers and street vendors. In four years this class grew by 84,000 and the shacks on the outskirts of San Salvador have multiplied. These marginalised city dwellers, refugees from the fields, confront the capital-intensive export economy of coffee and cotton, which although lucrative, does not create many jobs.

The Civil War, which has raged for a decade, emerged out of these economic problems. The massive poverty in the cities and the starvation in the countryside reflects the unequal distribution of the nation's most important resource: its farmland. Since the 1930's, the governing parties of El Salvador have been supported by the important commercial middle class.

(Continued on page 14)



Stopping the government shredder

Freedom of Information legislation is soon to become a reality in SA. In the second part of his series on recent issues in SA politics Jim Prest looks at arguments for Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation.

An environment Minister takes a business trip to Paris and is found to have stayed there for five days at the public expense in order to attend a single, hour long meeting.

This is not Derryn Hinch's description of environment minister Lenehan's latest trip to Europe. But it is the kind of thing that's been uncovered in Canada using FOI.

FOI was also used by Canadian media to discover Prime Minister Mulroney had taken an entourage of 60 with him to a meeting in Paris. Amongst the crew were butler and nanny. All were found to have taken dinners at one of Paris' most expensive restaurants, the Tour D'Argent.

Such examples of public servants getting caught out are a good explanation for the SA government's reluctance until recently to consider seriously the introduction of FOI, long after numerous promises dating back even to the seventies.

Why FOI?

SA needs FOI legislation as a means - however limited - of exposing poor decision making, corruption, inconsistent application of rules, and misuse of funds in government.

It would give members of the public the right of access to SA government files that are confidential, without having to demonstrate "a need to know". The recent ABC TV special entitled "the Secret Files of Edgar J. Hoover" was almost entirely based on information made accessible by U.S. FOI laws. FOI in SA would also give citizens the right to correct inaccuracies in records government has on them.

It could also prove very important for the long term future of us all. It would enable one to find out what government knows and isn't prepared to say about damage to the environment.

It would let us find out if testing for contamination had ever been done.

Without it, we are forced to accept such platitudes as "there is no immediate danger", and "trust us". All at a time when evidence exists that governments are grovelling to industrial interests in fear of jobs vs. environment blackmail [see last week's *On Dit*].

If FOI existed in SA it would have enabled politicians from both Opposition parties to get information that has so far been refused to them:

- the heavy metal contamination of non migratory fish in Spencer Gulf by which

could be making them unfit for human consumption.

- the effects on marine life of 340,000 litres of dioxin laden effluent draining daily from Lake Bonney, contaminated by the Apcel paper mill, which is protected from pollution controls by an indenture agreement.

- Whether testing of groundwater in the South East had revealed contamination by industrial toxics such as copper chrome arsenate.

- Why government agencies have decided to persist with the marine dumping of sewage sludge from Port Adelaide, despite the destruction of 6,500 hectares of seagrass, with disastrous consequences for the entire marine food chain - in spite of proven possibilities for dumping the effluent on land at Bolivar.

Liberal politician Martin Cameron said to *On Dit*: "I don't understand what is there in the sewerage system of Adelaide that creates



Mike Elliott said earlier this year in Parliament: "who said the Environment Department [DEP] owns the information about what is happening in our waters? That is not the property of the E&Ws Department or the DEP or anybody else; it is the property of the people of SA, not the public servants."

Parliamentary processes useless:

The obvious weaknesses of traditional means of Parliamentary scrutiny underline the need for FOI. Elliott estimates that at the end of the last session of Parliament one third of his questions remained unanswered. He went further than this, saying: "the government either don't answer or answer by fudging. I have many answers that are simply lies and distortions."

Evidently the situation is similar interstate. In 1988, Victorian Opposition Health spokesman Mark Birrell claimed that at the end of the last Parliamentary session of that year:

- 165 questions unanswered by the government in the Assembly
- and 65 remained unanswered by the government in the Legislative Council.

So how long have SA governments been talking about and not acting on FOI? FOI was first discussed in SA Parliament as far back as 1978. Since then it has been the subject of two reports.

The Bannon government made election promises of an FOI Bill in the 1982-3 campaign. In August 1984, Attorney-General Sumner promised FOI by December. Legislation was never introduced.

It has taken until late February this year for a definite commitment to FOI to be made by the Bannon government.

However, on 4 occasions, the Government has allowed Opposition FOI legislation to lapse in the House of Assembly after it had passed the Legislative Council.

In 1986 Sumner rejected the Liberal's suggestions that FOI should be taken seriously, saying it would be too costly. It is interesting then to note that the Opposition Bill had been drafted directly from an ALP committee report released in '84!

The Swedes have had the right of access to government documents, with certain exemptions, since 1776. Federal FOI laws were introduced in USA in 1966. In the 70's Italy, Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, and Norway all got FOI.

Victoria, NSW, Tasmania and the Federal Parliaments all passed FOI during the 1980's.

Why the delay in SA?

It appears as if bureaucrats have pointed to the "experience" of FOI in other States as an excuse not to introduce FOI here. There are claims of inordinate expense and excessive use of departmental time.

In 1984, heads of Departments in SA were asked to estimate the cost of implementing FOI. Predictably, their answers formed the basis of Sumner's rejection of FOI. Martin Cameron argues the "Sir Humphreys" came up with costings which "indicated" the unviability of FOI. These costings have never been subjected to any form of independent review.

Such bureaucrats have pointed to the fact that in Victorian and Federal experience costs recovered have fallen far below actual costs of meeting information requests. For example \$13.3m actual cost in 1986-7, only \$161,000 was recovered.

Cameron argues "You can't put a price on democracy". Perhaps this carries more weight, given that the incentives created by FOI for departments to keep their record

Table 2 Forecast levels of demand and actual nos of requests in Aust 85/86.

Department	Expected	Requests
Attorney-Gen	3000-5000	313
Health	16000	334
Immigration/Ethnic Affairs	100000+	1582
Primary Industry	12500	54
PM and Cabinet	1000	89
Treasury	600	54
Bureau of Stats	200	24

collection better organised will inevitably create long run cost savings.

Federal government agencies received an average total of 30,000 applications each year between 1984-7.

This is way below the amounts originally estimated in the late 70's by Federal departments: for example Immigration alone expected 100,000 requests per annum, but actually only received around 1600 requests in 1985-6.

The point being made is that we can expect the actual amount of FOI requests in SA will be way below departmental estimates from the Sir Humphreys given the experience of Canada, New Zealand and of our own Federal FOI.

Another strong reason for the delay has been the lack of public pressure. But this is not peculiar to SA.

When the NSW Govt went back on its promise of FOI in 1983, it received a mere 12 letters of complaint.

We haven't got FOI because we haven't asked for it. That is the truth of it - ask yourself if FOI was an issue that swayed your vote last November.

Media slack.

Adelaide's media are perhaps also to blame. Adelaide's print media has hardly given FOI prominence comparable with that given Evan Bencer spon Viemem, the Anzac "Legend" [with a capital 'L'], Oakbank, or even Driller Jet Armstrong or "the New 90's Man".

Nor is it the stuff the *Adelaide Review* is likely to have placed amongst reviews proclaiming the hedonistic sophistication of the latest chardonnays - that is, the ones with the delicate hints of "pencil shavings and ash".

Various inside sources have commented that in SA investigative journalism is no longer a reality, being both time consuming and expensive (all those FOI charges) for newspapers built around profit maximising objectives. Such papers have no financial incentive to use FOI to make news stories due to a lack of competition. However this is probably a common situation across the country in daily journalism, with its pressures of providing copy within tight deadlines, giving little room for more than superficial treatment of all but the most extraordinary stories.

Some media organisations overseas have a greater commitment to investigative journalism. One US television network has an office in Washington with a full time staff of 25, which it calls the "Holy Shit" office, specialising in muck raking. A Chicago newspaper once ran a pub for four months in order to acquire material for a series of articles on bribery of police by politicians.

One of the exceptions in Australia appears to be the *Age* which has made more than occasional use of FOI, digging up, among other things, files in 1985 which revealed that the SEC State Electricity Commission had prepared a short list of 30 possible sites for nuclear power plants in Victoria.

However, at least one person in SA anticipates using FOI a lot. Liberal MLC, Martin Cameron, told *On Dit* he is expecting to make requests "almost daily" once FOI is

in place.

Yet it is a mistake to believe that FOI is the exclusive province of Opposition politicians, hardbitten journalists such as Bob Bottom and Brian Toohey, or of radical activists like Lenin Limbo.

Most FOI applicants are seeking information which directly relates to themselves. 92% of Federal FOI applicants in 1986 were either the clients or staff of government agencies.

In 1986-7, eighty five percent of Federal FOI requests went to five departments alone: Veterans Affairs, Tax, Social Security, Immigration, and Defence. Some departments have never received requests. In fact, by December 1988 found two hundred agencies had never received a request.

Black texts and FOI

We have all heard of FOI requests being returned with all information below a bland statement - such as "the following matters were noted" - being blacked out. At the bottom of the page, below blocks of black, all that would remain would be a note like: "Copies of this note have been sent to all participants".

But when we look at the figures, rejection rates actually appear low: outright refusal rates of 12.3% in Victoria and of 4.6% in Federal applications.

However, given that partial refusals are not included in the above figures, we can suspect that the refusal rates for the 5% of requests asking for politically sensitive information are high.

This is because of the rampant granting of exemptions to departments and "special" types of documents, and because of disincentives created by often charging several hundreds of dollars for information.

Victorian Liberal politician Mark Birrell, who has made extensive use of FOI, argues that the granting of exemptions in Victoria are in danger of becoming "political devices which would make the FOI Act of no practical value save for the retrieval of innocuous or trivial files".

In 1985, the Cain government tried to amend Victorian FOI to give the Premier absolute discretion to the granting of exempt 'Cabinet document' status. At this time the move was rejected by the Liberal dominated Upper House. But in 1987, Cain used the mechanism of introducing regulations in order to make eight entire government agencies and whole categories of information exempt from FOI scrutiny.

Denis Muller, assistant editor of the *Age*, writing in 1988 in the journal *FOI Review* argued that in Victoria "exemption claiming has now reached the pro-forma stage". He recounted the story of documents which "fell out of the back of a paddy wagon and into the hands of the *Age*". They were from the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence [ABC] and carried the following memo:

"If this document or its contents appear at any time to possibly become caught up in any subpoena or FOI action, the Director of the ABCI is to be informed with view to arrangements being made for your force either claiming public interest privilege, or exemption against freedom of

information".

Under the Federal, Victorian, and NSW Acts, the fact that a member of the public is interested in the information is irrelevant. It doesn't mean that the information can be released on the grounds of "public interest".

Inhibitions

Excuses for not introducing FOI are made. The classic presented by bureaucrats is that open and frank discussion of policy will be inhibited by fear of later disclosure. Given the exemptions for Cabinet documents this seems an empty criticism.

Even more ridiculous is the suggestion that various vindictive crazed nutters (who without doubt exist) will succeed in their requests for information for the purposes of revenge. Such a category of requests are those for information about the informers who put them away.

However, it is extremely unlikely that such people will access exempt information from agencies covered by numerous exemptions.

Take for example a tale recounted by a Victorian based lawyer - of a eccentric who wanted all flight paths of police helicopters over Melbourne for purposes of target practice with an ex-army anti-aircraft gun [purchased at auction for \$100]. He later had his request declined and was charged.

Perhaps some of the exempt agencies such as ASIO should not exempted, given that equivalent 'security' services in NZ and Canada are open to FOI requests.

NZ allows access to info, not just documents, ie info about meetings of which there is no record.

The government's Bill

The ALP introduced an FOI Bill in April to provide "limited" access to government documents. The point must be made that the Bannon Government's Bill appears to have



EL SALVADOR

(Continued from page 11)
As a result, the government has never been intent on reform. Sometimes, as in 1972, a group of military reformers has removed a leader when the repression or poverty grew so great that the military feared the Communist Party might gain power. But since the 60's, the Popular Movement, a coalition of unions, students, the clergy and peasants, has held hundreds of protests and marches calling for reform. The government's reaction to the Popular Movement's activism has been so brutal that many have questioned the efficacy of peaceful, electoral change in El Salvador.

The Communist Party in El Salvador (PCS) foreshadowed many of the modern left wing popular organisations. The history of violence against the PCS and these other organisations is long and sickening. In 1932, the military government refused to allow the PCS candidates who had been elected in local races to be seated. In response, the PCS called for workers and peasants to march into the cities. Despite the arrest of Faribundo Martí, the peasant leader, peasants and workers did march. They were met by the military which killed 4,000 peasants. To reinforce this message the military went into the countryside and purged the small towns of all peasant activists and leaders. In a few weeks they killed thirty thousand people.

In 1980, the Salvadorean military killed 600 peasants who were fleeing the rural paramilitary squads. In the same year, the Popular Movement organised 500,000 people (10% of the population) to march in San Salvador. After failing to disperse the protesters by flying planes above them and spraying insecticide, the National Guard opened fire, killing 57 and wounding 250. In response to massacres like these and many other brutal deaths aimed to terrorise the landless peasants, Archbishop Oscar Romero called for the military to disobey their commanders and for them to "follow the will of God". Romero also stated that, "when a dictator becomes insupportable and closed to all channels of dialogue, understanding, and rationality, when this occurs, then the church speaks of the legitimate right to insurrectional violence". Later that year, Archbishop Romero was assassinated while saying Mass. Eight days after his assassination, the US government approved \$7 million dollars in military aid to the Salvadorean government.

The Archbishop's support for insurrectional violence was an acknowledgement of the role that the FMLN, a coalition of five different armies, began to play in the late 70's. Each of the armies split apart from the PCs and the Popular Movement and so they each have slightly different ideologies. But in 1979 they banded together and now act in concert with the Popular Movement in trying to bring change to the economic system of El Salvador. The FMLN and the Popular Movement call for the "use of the land by the people" and advocate a major redistribution. But many object to the FMLN since they have assassinated elected officials, peasant conscripts, and regular soldiers. The FMLN makes no claim to pacifism. It is the armed wing of the FDR - the Revolutionary Democratic Front, a popular movement which has been forced to seek refuge in the face of government abductions, assassinations, and the "disappearance" of 70,000 Salvadoreans in the last 10 years.

It is easy for Americans to reject the FMLN as a violent guerrilla organisation, from the safety of their homes in the USA. But time for peaceful change in El Salvador has long past. It is easy to perceive the FMLN and its actions as offensive to our liberal ethics and the high value placed on human lives. However, in rejecting the FMLN because they resort to violent change, one forgets the peasant whose children died while the landlord's dogs went to the doctor. The government of El Salvador is fighting to maintain the present economic system and land distribution which inflicts violence on that peasant and child. The FMLN seeks to change that system.

If the United States government continues to align itself with the government, then they align themselves against the forces of change. The outrageous injustices in El Salvador cannot be endured for much longer. They will eventually fall under their own oppressive weight, and when they fall, where will the United States be? Now is the time to choose sides: the peasants and their children, or the landlords and their dogs.

Susan Subramani

The African National Congress - A Programme For Democracy

The African National Congress has been hailed by many as the voice of reform and democracy in South Africa, and vilified by others as an ultra-leftist terrorist organisation determined to destroy apartheid through any means possible.

Ben Mudge, Convenor of the ANC Solidarity Group - Adelaide University, gives the ANC's opinion of the current political situation in South Africa.

The struggle of the African National Congress is to establish in South Africa a non-racial democracy in a unitary state and to totally abolish the abhorrent system of apartheid. The ANC is the leading liberation organisation of the Mass Democratic Movement. The liberation organisations have such popular support that their campaigns to defy the apartheid regime have totally destabilised the country.

F.W. De Klerk, the National Party State President of South Africa, has in the last few months been trying as much as possible to do

the right thing according to the international community and by the ANC. This is something that cannot be attributed to De Klerk himself. The crisis that the regime is facing at the moment is such that even if there was no De Klerk, some kind of De Klerk would have had to appear.

The regime had failed to suppress the forces that were destabilising the country. With all their efforts (State of Emergencies, arrests, detentions without trial, torture, police shootings in the streets, draconian laws, etc.) the regime hadn't been able to really suppress the struggle. Instead, people were finding new ways of continuing the struggle. People had reached their limit in how far they could withstand the repression, and the regime had exhausted all its resources - human, political, military, financial, and so on - in trying to repress the uprising.

The uprising had created such an atmosphere of instability that apartheid's creditors overseas were no longer prepared to invest in South Africa. It had reached a point

where even the Thatcher government, who had supported the regime for so long, was finding it difficult to continue support under these circumstances. They were faced with a situation where there was no capital coming into the country, the regime couldn't get any loans: the economy was going to ruins.

So it was clear that the National Party was in a very serious crisis and that they had to do something to resolve this crisis. They had to come up with some new solution. If they wanted to receive the good will of the international community, they had to concede to at least some of their demands.

De Klerk had done some good things in the latter part of 1989, such as restraining the police from beating people up in the marches and so on, then he followed that up by lifting the ban on the ANC and other political organisations, the release of Nelson Mandela and a small number of other political prisoners. This is the first time the South African government has conceded to some of the demands of the ANC and the international

community.

The National Party had hoped that these concessions would lead the international community to believe that they were committed to ending apartheid. If the international community were convinced, then

"The liberation organisations have such popular support that their campaigns to defy apartheid have totally destabilised the country."

they would ease their pressures. But these concessions have not achieved the kinds of results that were expected by the regime. The EEC, the Commonwealth and the United States are still maintaining the same position on sanctions.

Obviously, that is going to put more pressure on the regime. Now De Klerk will have no choice but to advance towards the position of the majority of South Africans and of the international community.

De Klerk has been talking about negotiations, he wants to have a negotiated settlement of crisis facing him. The ANC has been involved in trying to negotiate for the rights of the people right from its inception, but the regime has previously not been willing to do so. Now the regime have been forced by the world and by the people inside the country to listen. But for the ANC to be able to negotiate meaningfully, there must be a situation in the country where there is an atmosphere of free political activity.

Late last year, the ANC proposed the Harare Declaration, which spells out the process which needs to be followed before

"The violence of the ANC has always been a reaction to the violence of the regime, the original violence in the country."

negotiations can begin. The declaration has been adopted by the Organisation of African Unity and also by the United Nations.

The release of Nelson Mandela and some political prisoners (less than 5% of the 3000) and the unbanning of the ANC and other organisations is only the start of the creation of a climate conducive to negotiations that would be acceptable by the ANC and its supporters internationally. Further demands that need to be met are: (1) The release of all political prisoners and detainees. (2) The removal of the troops from the townships. (3) The ending of the State of Emergency. (4) The ceasing of all political trials and executions (over 300 political trials are in process). (5) The repeal of the Internal Security Act, which retains all of its power for 6 months detention without trial.

The leaderships of the liberation organisation have drafted proposals for the process of negotiation, but the leadership have no way of determining whether their proposals meet with the expectations of the people as a whole. Meeting the demands of the Harare Declaration would create a situation where the people would be free to discuss the kind of constitution they want and the liberation organisations would be able to begin consulting their people all over the country. This climate has to be established so that all political organisations can operate freely within the country for the purpose of being able to obtain a mandate from their constituencies. This is how a democracy operates and this is what the regime should allow these organisations to do.

At the moment, the South African government is able to call meetings to address the media and to have rallies in order to promote its position and to seek a mandate from its people. But the ANC and other liberation organisations can't establish their structures, can't address meetings, can't talk through the media, can't hold rallies, can't seek a mandate, and so on, without fear of either arrest or intimidation.

When an agenda has been adopted by the liberation organisations following the

mandates, then they can sit at a table and negotiate with the regime. The first topic for discussion will be how to have peace in the country. That is to end, or at least to suspend, the armed hostilities of the ANC and also of the regime. The violence of the ANC has always been a reaction to the violence of the regime, the original violence in the country. There can be no question of the ANC ceasing its revolutionary violence against the reactionary violence of the regime until the regime does so.

Negotiations should then proceed to establish the basis for the adoption of a new constitution. The ANC believes that the only way to ensure equal rights for all South Africans is to adopt a constitution which guarantees a

"If they (the National Party) were to receive the goodwill of the international community, they had to concede to at least some of their demands."

system of one person, one vote. De Klerk was recently saying that there is no question of one person, one vote. At the back of the mind of the regime is their hidden agenda of maintaining the political and economic privileges of the whites.

However, the ANC will not even begin to negotiate the whole question of dismantling apartheid and the establishment of a new constitution until the regime has conceded to all the remaining demands in the Harare Declaration. Until such a time the only discussion the ANC will hold with the regime will be over establishing this climate. The ANC decided to send a formal delegation to meet De Klerk to try and get him to remove the rest of the obstacles to the beginning of negotiations. From the second to the fourth of May, a delegation of the ANC will meet De Klerk to give him some encouragement.

The pressure from the international community and from within the country needs to be intensified on all fronts to push the regime further, in the direction of democracy. Because of the pressure, De Klerk has been

"Meeting the demands of the Harare declaration would create a situation where the people would be free to discuss the sort of constitution they want."

forced to turn and look in the direction of the ANC. Now he needs the force to propel him to work with the ANC to get rid of apartheid. Only when there is a situation where it is quite certain that the move towards democracy is irreversible, can the pressures on the regime be lifted.

As long as these pressures are maintained, the ANC is likely to succeed. If the crisis within the country is deepened, then the regime will eventually have to concede to abolishing apartheid and adopting a new constitution. They have no other solution to the crisis.

Ben Mudge

Most of the material in this article is taken from a talk given by Eddie Funde, Australian Chief Representative of the ANC. The talk was recorded by SMMM on 23rd April, 1990.

DOES THIS SOUND BETTER THAN YOUR UNSIGNED ROCK BAND?

If your answer is YES! Enter YAMAHA ROCK 90! and win the following prizes.

A professionally recorded single of your band's winning song at Metropolis Audio, Melbourne distribution courtesy of Mushroom Records.

PLUS: A demonstration video of your band's winning song.

PLUS: \$1,000 cash.

PLUS: The chance to perform in the Tokyo International Final in October - all expenses paid!

PLUS: Cash awards for runner-up bands and the Juke Magazine Encouragement Award.

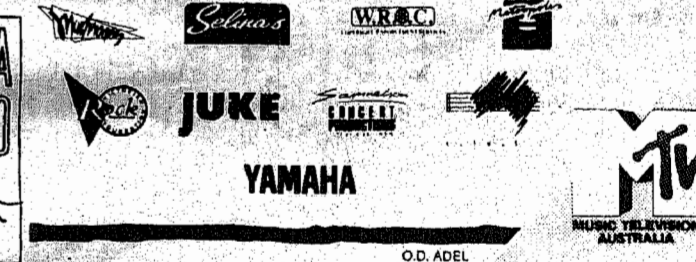
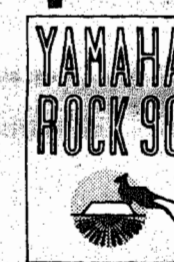
And to cap it off, the Australian Final of Yamaha Rock 90 will be telecast live on MTV by Richard Wilkins on Saturday August 25 from Selina's, Nightclub Sydney.

The Yamaha Rock Contest is now in its fourth year, Yamaha Rock 90 is the International Rock Contest for unsigned, untried bands with original songs.

And remember, you don't have to be a rock and roll guru to be successful. It's your band's opportunity to have your songs heard by music industry professionals.

The closing date for the completed entries is Friday June 15. So pick up an entry form now at your nearest Yamaha Music store.

If your band's ready to play, Yamaha Rock is ready to listen.



Yamaha Rock Contest Patrons include: Jimmy Barnes, Iva Davies, John Farnham, David Hirscheider, Michael Gudinski, Darryl Somers, Gary Van Egmond, Glenn Wheatley and Richard Wilkins.

A Night of Elegance: Flagon and Burger Frenzy

It's about six thirty on a Saturday night, and you're contemplating a big night ahead. Now, it would obviously be nice to get together with a few friends and roll up at a lavish restaurant, eat half the menu and drink your way through the wine list.....but with ten dollars in your pocket you'd be hard pressed to coin out enough for a bit of fried camembert and a jug of iced water. The reality is that the culinary choice of the vast majority of students is severely limited by their financial predicament. Life for the most part is pretzels and beer, or, if you like, burgers and casks. It would be unrealistic for us to review the latest drop from Wynn's or Henschke's, and the current offerings at the Fleurieu Restaurant, and expect you all to rush out and indulge.

There are a lot of good reasons for eating slimy burgers and drinking cheap red. Foundation South Australia, the National Heart Foundation and other wowers see them as a scourge against humanity, responsible for the deaths of thousands as their hearts and livers decay into a seething mass of fat and gristle. But life's too short to worry about death. Anyway, if we all tried to lead a pure and healthy lifestyle, we'd spend an extra ten hours looking for non-carcinogenic foodstuffs and refreshments every week.

We decided to review burgers because they are:

- 1.) Cheap

- 2.) Not too nasty
- 3.) Easily available- especially in and around town
- 4.) A time-honoured institution

The burger contents were limited to the standard burger with the lot, but without pineapple or beetroot, as it seems about 50% of burger-fanciers hold something against them. Basically, the burgers contained (or claimed to contain) a beef pattie, tomato, cheese, lettuce, onion, egg, bacon and sauce. That is, apart from the industrialised McDonald's/Hungry's fare, which could contain anything.

We decided to review red wine because:

- 1.) Cheap
- 2.) Not too nasty
- 3.) Easily available
- 4.) Although bad red wine tends to taste bad, bad white wine is virtually undrinkable.
- 5.) Beer is good but a bit more expensive (and we might review beers later)

So there you have it. Read on and find out which burger and red will give you the best value for money and the smelliest bottom in the morning.

The Burgers

Hungry Jacks

Bacon Double Cheese Burger Deluxe \$2.80 **

Damien Storer: Old faithful for a pissed individual.

Steve J: Bacon disappointing- too sweet!

Dave P: Industrialised food, but perfect repast after a night at the pub.

Andy J: I could feel the bacon but certainly couldn't taste it. Very disappointing-like plastic.

Whopper with cheese \$2.60 ****

Andy J: The mayonnaise and its relative minimalism are the secrets to its success. Yummy.

Andrew C: Fine, full user-friendly flavour.

Dave P: Like most Whoppers, variable in quality, but the splendid mayo-gherkin tang will make me eat one again.

Steve J: Made to eat fast.

McDonalds

Big Mac \$2.45 no stars

Dave P: A crime against nature.

Steve J: Lived up to its name as a small overpriced deathburger.

Damien S: An atrocity.

Andy J: Pretty scary and not really worth the effort.

Andy C: Nastiest cheese in the world. Do not attempt to eat this.

McFeast \$2.45 **

Dave P: Far too sweet. Tasted like an OXO cube and three sugarines. Crap.

Andrew C: The lingering taste is of food-free buns.

Steve J: The best McBurger but that doesn't mean much.

Andy J: Strange, kinda tasty. Mac sauce. Meat seemed a bit fake, but quite tasty and filling.

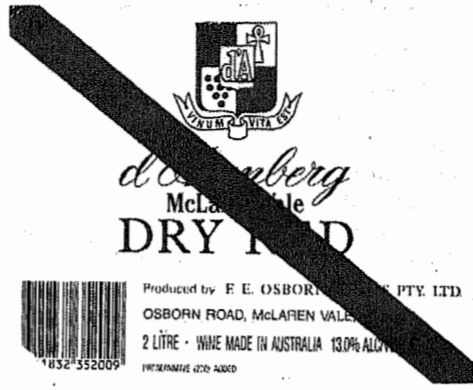
Damien S: Bland and uninspired. Ideologically unsound.

Dave S: Artificial.

Reviewers for the night of elegance were: the editors, Andy Joyner, Paul Champion, Andrew Champion, David Sag, Damien Storer, and James 'Scoop' Prest. We apologise for the gender imbalance but no women would join us.

no stars: consume on threat of death only;
* consume if desperate;
** acceptable-just;
*** fair-average quality;
**** quite superb and good value;
***** unbelievable food/wine of the gods. Almost yuppy food.

The Best Goon



Andy J: Mad, bad and dangerous to know.
Paul C: A wine which warrants a whole tasting dedicated to its subtle nuances and character. With D'Arenberg Dry Red, every year is a triumphant vintage, as firm and unwavering from the first challenging quaff to the punishing last. It is the flagon by which all others are measured, and as such stands as the paragon of truth. A truly remarkable wine, at an affordable price.
Andrew C: Goes well with the chips I just had. If you must drink this sort of wine, there are cheaper alternatives.
Damien S: A real creeper. Hitchcock. Psycho killer.
Dave P: Nirvana.

D'Arenberg McLaren Vale Dry Red \$6.49 *****
Steve J: A very satisfying big fruity freaker. Dazza does it to me again. An absolute fist of a wine.

The Best Burger

Parade Fish Shop Burger with the lot \$4.70 *****
Damien S: Fresh, good flavour, loads of garlic. HEALTHY.
Dave P: Brilliant. A welcome division of flavours. A very thick meat pattie with lots of garlic.
Steve J: Excellent! Good quality beef with a garlic marinade-well cooked. Parkin'

good.
Andy J: Perfectly balanced tastes. Equal, if not better, than Mr Blue and White.
Andrew C: Good ingredients, well balanced.
Dave S: Superb, a winner, balanced, flavour, presentation, burp.

Blue and White Burger with the lot (no pineapple) \$3.00 ****

Damien S: Strong stuff, egg a bit rubbery.
Andy J: Big bonus juice factor. I liked the egg. Excellent.
Andrew C: Honest hard working burger. Unpretentious and basically sound.
Steve J: You fucking beauty. Flavour, bulk, grease, this baby has it all. Better than Bosses?
Dave P: Bloody good. Bun a little bit wet- I still think Bosses is better.
Dave S: Decent fine upstanding young burger. Greasy.

Bosses Burger with the lot (no pineapple) \$3.00 ****
Steve J: OK but firkin greasy.
Dave P: Poetry. A glorious celebration of the human spirit-moist onion, crisp bacon, fresh salad.
Andrew C: Real ingredients! Subverts the dominant paradigm.
Andy J: Really juicy (ie greasy as fuck) but lacked a little taste-wise.
Damien S: Now we're getting somewhere.

Norwood Seafoods Burger with the lot \$3.50 **

Andrew C: I liked the bacony bits.
Andy J: Bun to filling ratio not good, consequently a little bland. (Also I heard that it was very difficult to order; you had to list every extra item instead of merely saying "a burger with the lot please". Fuck me!)
The rest: Burp. Couldn't eat another thing.

Orlando Shiraz (no year) \$6.99 *
Steve J: A bit jammy. Grapes just don't cut it, but (just) acceptable drinking at a winter party if this the only cask available at the local.
Andy J: Fuckin' hell. Thats hideous. Sits at the back of the throat and refuses to let go. Vomit potential very high.
Paul C: The spiggot confused me. An evil, unappealing nose. Misses by a long way. I didn't finish the glass
Damien S: Freaker.
Andrew C: Tries hard but fell at the first hurdle.
Dave P: Tastes like Loys Red Creaming Soda, smells like Pine-O-Clean.
Dave S: First impression: bubbly.
Colour: black.
Taste: in seven years it will be in my glass, undrunk.
Pissed yet? getting there.

Renmano 1988 Hermitage \$6.49 *

Steve J: Very bloody young and acidic. OK with meals provided you don't smell it. A bit much for party drinking.
Andrew C: Fine fruity palate but the smell and the after taste...Christ!
James P: Wonderful character imparted by the stainless steel vats whence it came.
Damien S: Nose! Not really mellow.
Andy J: Really strange. Like drinking acid but more annoying.
Dave P: Bit of a kick on it. Bark chip aroma and palate.
Paul C: It smelled funny-like an old Chux. Instant fur tongue material.
Dave S: Foul muck.

Yalumba 1988 Cabernet Sauvignon \$8.99 **

Steve J: Weak fruit nose with hard tannins completing a very short palate that is nonetheless not unpleasant. Not one of Yalumba's better casks.
Andrew C: Has varietal character but who cares? Too young to crawl.
Andy J: Really soft, almost innocuous but I like that.

Paul C: Goes down with little opposition. An all-night wine.
Damien S: A true blue Aussie red in the fine tradition of the Anzac spirit. Marching wine. Quaff.
Andrew C: An old friend. Familiarity breeds contentment.
James P: Cheap piss.
Dave S: Not too pretty.
Dave P: Tastes a bit like a car battery, which I like.

Renmano 1988 Shiraz Cabernet \$6.49 ****
Steve J: Well integrated blend. Pleasant cask drinking. Excellent value.
Dave P: My tongue is furry, I thought it was a Yalumba so don't trust my judgement.
Andrew C: Instantly appealing. Bloody Good. I think I'll have another.
Dave S: First Impression: smooth.
Colour: Virgin's blood.
Taste: a good piss-on wine.
Pissed yet? a bit.
Andy J: Innately drinkable.

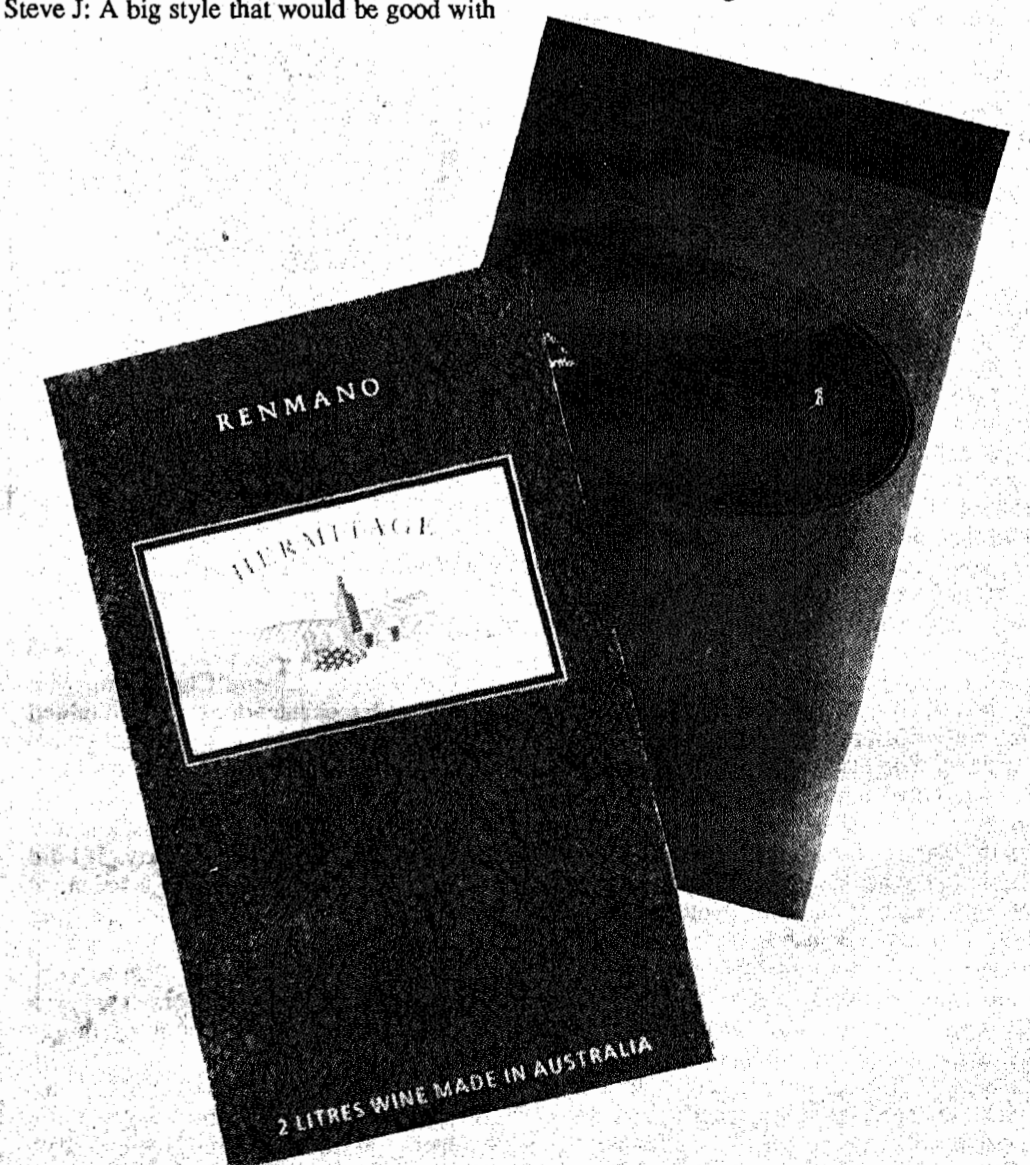
Killawarra 1989 Shiraz Cabernet \$4.99 ****
Steve J: Pleasant fresh berry berry (carbonic maceration) fruit. A yummy lighter style. Great value. Drink all day and all night.
Andy J: Had a lot more flavour and complexity than some of its more expensive counterparts.
Paul C: Nice ruby colour. Doesn't try too hard, but doesn't have to. Well worth the \$5 investment.
Andrew C: Energetic and generous. Pleasant and fruity.
Dave P: A real gem. Still looking forward to more D'Arenberg however.
Damien S: Oh yeah. What you need, you freaker. I've never seen a Warra, let alone killed one. Economy.
Dave S: First Impression: I liked the way it looks. Hmmm.
Colour: see above.
Taste: Top Stuff. YO!!
Pissed: Utterly.

Yalumba 1988 Shiraz \$6.80 ****
Steve J: A big style that would be good with

Flagons of Death and Degradation.

Tolleys Claret \$4.99 *
James P: Whitmore Square blend. No way. Clean your windscreen with it.
Andy J: Could be dangerous at the right time and place but my palate is beginning to blur.
Steve J: Well, I'm a bit tired and emotional but this is drinkable. Where's the park?
Dave P: Tolleys? Freak that crap! Pabst's Blue Ribbon!
Damien S: Much better now we're up to the 'goons. A winner.
Paul C: Uhh. Don't smell this wine if you feel you have to drink it. Perhaps best avoided altogether.
Dave S: Fear and Curiosity.
Colour: This is redundant.
Taste: OK, I guess I'm too shitfaced to care.
Pissed yet: yesshhh.

Tolleys Shiraz Cabernet \$5.99 *
Andy J: Oh Christ! Help me, please help me. Three dead and many injured.
Andrew C: You may ask what my criteria for judging were at this point. In the absence of higher sensory apparatus, I find myself asking, "Does it have your in it?" Well, this one does. It's a wine that wants to be remembered in a market which actively pursues its own amnesia.
Damien S: Busty, gutsy, fartsky.
Paul C: Goes down smoothly but thats no excuse for drinking it.



Buy balloons shake those wobbly bits get very smashed

Do Young Liberals have any brains? Do young Bohemians have any soap? Chloe Fox presents a tale of two cocktail parties- the result of a strenuous night's work, slaving away with a biro in one hand and a fluffy duck in the other.

Date: April 28th, 1990
Event: A delaide University Liberal Club Annual Cocktail Party
Venue: Burnside Hockey Club

Date: April 28th, 1990
Event: Adelaide University Literary Society Cocktail Party
Venue: A House in Beulah Park

If you, the average, slightly grimy Adelaide University student, had asked your friends ten days ago if they were going to the Annual Liberal Club Cocktail Thing, I bet you lots of money (well, enough to buy a loaf of bread and some milk) would have got this response, or one quite similar,

"God! (or gosh or hell or wow) I mean, no, of course I'm not going! I do know Someone Else who's going though."

Interesting. No one would actually admit to even wanting to hang out with Young Liberals for a night. However, three days before the event all the tickets had been sold. 170 people had handed over \$20, which covered the price of five excellent cocktails, and unlimited beer, nasty champagne and softies; softies, what a silly word, but I don't blame the Young Liberals for it, not at all. -1 Let no one say that this piece of writing was biased.

And then a bit later, if you, the now dishevelled Adelaide University student (dishevelled and grimy because avoiding lectures can really take it out of you) had asked anyone if they were going to the Literary Society Cocktail Thing, I bet you lots of money (well, enough to buy a Bertie Beetle) that you would have got this response, or one quite similar,

"God (or gosh or hell or wow) I mean, no, who are they anyway?"

Exactly. We all know that the Young Liberals are young people on campus who believe in the ideology, whatever it is, of Australian Liberalism. But who are the Literary Society? They appear to be a strange collection of individuals, united by their love of literature and veiled contempt of the English Department. Maybe no one knows who they are, but there were enough people, members and non-members to fill a largish house in Beulah Park, drink a frankly unbelievable amount of alcohol and thoroughly smash to bits a bathroom sink. (Someone sat on it.) Members of the Literary Society, commonly known as the Litsock, paid \$5 for the privilege of drinking like threatened maritime species, and non-members like myself paid \$7.50 to join in.

Why did I go along to all of these things?

Well I went to the Litsock thing because I wanted to find out how they have a good time - and I did - they drink until they vomit, they dance brilliantly in the dark, they snog in corners, and when they think that the party needs brightening up they break a sink or two. I went to the Liberal Thing because I thought it would really offend me, I could write horrible things about them and because On Dit were generous and said that if I would write something along these lines for them they would pay for my ticket. (I am

automatically residents of the City of Burnside? Because I certainly am not, and as a result (the upper half of The Parade, Norwood is extraordinarily DARK; there are few street lights) I spent nearly 40 minutes driving around looking for the Liberals. Quite honestly I thought they had played an evil trick on me, all one hundred and seventy of them, and that the Cocktail Fete hem, and that the Cocktail Rage was taking place in Port Adelaide or something. After having rather embarrassingly crashed a Greek

bounded up to these traitors and in a very indignant voice said angry things, and asked intrusive questions.

"Don't be a fuckhead," said Tim, "you know I'm not a Liberal. I didn't have anything else to do, and a lot of my friends are here, so I thought, why not?" Chloë the Fuckhead then turned towards the other person who was standing in front of her and aggressively demanded why she was there.

"Ah well," explained Jacqueline hastily, "you know I'm not a Liberal. I don't agree with their policies or anything. But a lot of my friends are Liberals and so I thought I'd come."

I nodded. Why not after all? What is a Liberal Cocktail Thing anyway? Just a social fundraiser for a political party. A rather wealthy political party. The Libs. had spent \$1700 on drink, \$40 on balloons and god only knows how much money on hall hire, dresses, suits, perfume etc. I had some problems getting an estimate for balloon costs. The figure s ranged from \$70 (from a very unreliable source) to \$22 (from a very hopeful young Liberal). I then remembered all the Ethiopians who were starving, and the fact that Australians spend .57 cents per capita on the whole Ethiopian nation. I felt monumentally angry, and the question of politics faded into the background. What were all these people doing here - young, healthy, educated people, guzzling drink,

were taller than me; most of them had longer hair than me which was tied in knots on top of their heads, so that it looked like the room was full of slender female Samurai Warriors; and they were all doing their best to have a JOLLY GOOD TIME. Feeling very inadequate I slurped down a cocktail and slunk away to experience the Litsock.

I was confronted by a very bizarre looking girl in the hallway of the House in Beulah Park wher the Litsock had gathered together. (At least I think she was a girl. It was very dark. If you were actually a boy, well, I'm sorry. You were looking like a girl.) She asked me for my money and I gave it to her. Do I regret it? NOT AT ALL. Next time the Litsock have a party, go if you can. It's cheaper, the people are funnier to watch, the men are more attractive (sorry, Liberal men. I bet you're all beautiful really, but the suits and the inability to dance put me off a bit.) and the drink is just as good. There was also a very friendly atmosphere, which is not to say that there wasn't one at Chez Liberal, but it was a bit more pronounced with the Litsock. The Organizer of The Party, the perpetually frenzied Marc Hudson, was welcoming to all those who didn't know anyone, and helped to create an ideal party ambience.

Rather strangely, everyone was wearing incredibly bizarre clothing; it all looked rather Satanic. I kept expecting someone to

Affair, and I didn't want to go. I was definitely getting my money's worth of booze (my money; I think it is important to say that On Dit didn't pay for that; a lot of the evening was self-financed, so don't go stomping into the On Dit office, demanding to review any available extra-curricular University activities with all expenses paid, because they will just wheeze drunkenly at you and tell you to go away.)

You've always wondered about what goes on at the parties organized by University Clubs, haven't you? Yes. Well even if you haven't I went along to two of them to see what they had for you, the reader; YOU the student; YOU the person like me who didn't get invited to any parties that weekend and so had to go to a University function to pretend you have a social life.. But I was pretending that I was an enormously dedicated journalist from a leading global newspaper (ignoring the reality of being a young person ego-tripping, a syndrome that many On Dit flunkies suffer from) so I went back to the Liberals, taking some of the more drunken members of the Litsock with me for amusement value. It was getting on for 11.30 p.m. now, but whether you're a Liberal or a Litsocker, this means one thing: The Night Is Young And We Still Have Forty Kegs Of Beer To Drink. The Liberals were doing this with a vengeance. The party had livened up while I

.. pump up the jam." I suppose he was alright, but I don't know much about D.J.'s except that they have to wear baseball caps or their friends won't take them seriously. Those who were dancing on the floor frenetically were the younger of the Young Liberals. They were the people who, when I asked them why they had come replied quickly,

"Oh I'm not a Liberal. All of my friends are here though and they persuaded me to come along."

What I worked out was that somewhere, in amongst this group of self-declared non-Liberals, there was a person who was, 1) the elusive friend that everyone else had been referring to all evening, and, 2) this person was a self-declared proper Blue Ribbon I love John Hewson bona fide no questions asked LIBERAL. And I found him! And he was incredibly offensive! He was everything the poor On Dit editors have had nightmares about! Needless to say he was not on the dancefloor relating to his frivolous comrades. He was leaning against the bar. He had leant on it for much longer it would have rapidly collapsed - he was by far the fattest person in the room. Now I have nothing against fat people. I have a few things against bony people but I won't talk about that now. Nevertheless, this man was not a man about whom you could have said, "it is all muscle." Obviously this young

someone who wants their name printed, BUT NO, IT IS TRUE. I swear to it on the life of my terriers.

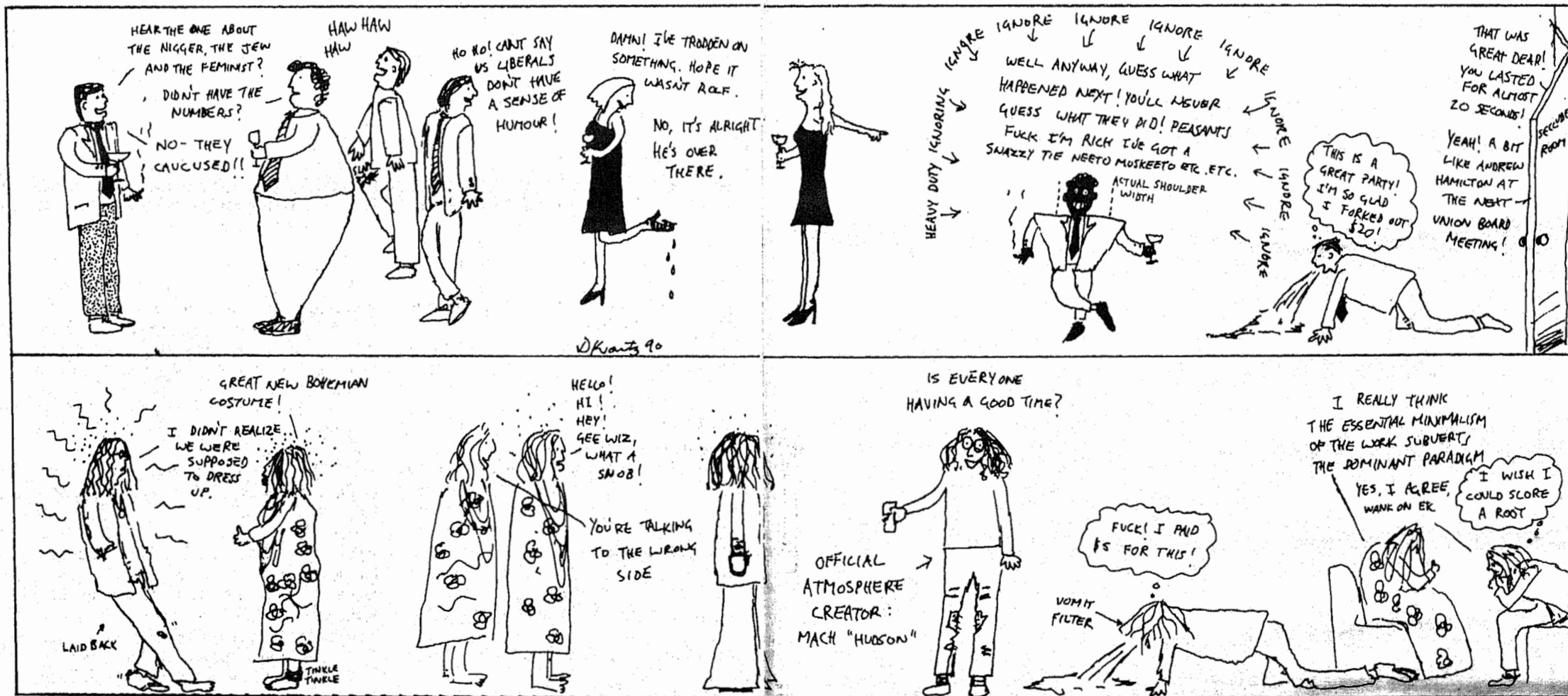
When I pointed out to a passing pseudo-Liberal he said, "oh him, no one actually knows who he is." I don't know if it was true but he certainly sounded like he meant it. And he didn't look as if he was the kind of guy who could lie with any credibility whatsoever. SO THERE IS A SCANDALOUS POLITICAL BIT. It was really the only juicy thing that happened with the Liberals... they were just wealthy young people whose parents voted Liberal, or people who felt secure within that particular social milieu. While all these exciting things had been happening to me, the bits of the Litsock Cocktail Party that I had brought into the Liberal Cocktail Party had danced wildl with young Young Liberals, insulted a few people and had subsequently fallen gracefully onto the floor. Something told me that it was time to put this un-Liberal element back into its natural habitat before it got severely beaten up by a peeved Liberal. We all got back into the car, but not before one of the male Litsockers had grabbed hold of the decidedly heterosexual Mr. Hoffman and given him a great big kissy. Mr Hoffman was reportedly stunned and the anonymous man who kissed him looked a bit horrified as well.

Voom Voom and back to the Litsockers we went. The party had disintegrated - what had happened was that everybody had made friends with everybody (the word body is very important in this particular context) and they had gone away to Club Foote. Ever true to my assignment (wank wank) I went to Club Foote, and then onto the Austral. At the Austral, bits of the party - including the man who dared to kiss Rolf Hoffman - fell asleep in the corner, and the rest of them just kept on drinking. They were amazing, they just kept on going and all I could do was watch. If I had been really diligent I would have attempted to keep up with them. But I love and respect my liver. So I didn't. At this point I ought to point out that it was now about three o'clock - I think - so I never really managed to make it back to the Liberals. I don't know what happened to them in the end, but I have a strange feeling that they, like the Litsockers, parted on until the majority of them were feeling too repulsive to do anything but go to sleep. They were all exhausted young people who had gathered together for various different reasons and who had ended up in the same way: they were all ratted-smashed-off their faces; whatever you want to call it. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.

If you had gone along to these two different functions, the odds are on that wherever you went you would have ended up having a pretty good time, assuming that you don't have an inherent hatred of Liberals and people who like reading books. People at both affairs were unexpectedly welcoming, and I didn't feel half as left out and sad as I thought I would at the beginning of the night. (Wallow in retrospective misery, wallow, wallow.) Clubs are, in the end, what you make them. If you insist on saying to yourself, "I am going to have a real crabpooch of an evening, I know it, I know it," then of course it is going to be a bit hideous. PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER AND HAVE A GOOD TIME. Join a club. They're not full of social cripples like I thought they were. Sorry. I didn't mean it really. I will go away and pull myself together. Except for me because after all this poncing around the City of Burnside my car broke down. It farted a lot and there was smoke coming out of it!

Chloë Fox

COCK



not a member of the Labour Party nor of the Democrats, but being a predictable third year of course I am going to be leftishly inclined. I would like to apologise to everyone for having gone to the Liberal Club Thing with naughty slanderous intentions. As it turned out the only person who was really offensive was a high ranking member of the A.U. Labour Club. He was a real TURD.)

What I decided to do was to spend the evening lurching from party to party. If I did this I decided that I would get a balanced rational mature view of what was occurring at these two functions and I would be able to drink as much as possible. They were uncannily close to one another. That was really where the similarity side of things ended.

I thought I would go to the Liberal Thing first. Easier said than done. Were the organisers assuming that all those who would attend their little number were

Wedding in the function rooms at the Olympic Sportsfield - I was so confused - I thought that all the Liberals had turned into most of Greek Community overnight, and that the children running around had been hired by A.U. Liberal Club's man-about-town, Rolf Hoffman, as a publicity gimmick. I was quite relieved when the very welcoming and friendly guests of the bride and groom told me that they were not in fact who I thought they were. Actually it is weird but the people who were nicest to me all night, with the odd exception here and there, were the Greeks. I said goodbye to my new acquaintances and crawled into the darkness, determined to find the Liberals if it killed me.

I probably found them because they don't know me. In I walked and I immediately spotted about twenty people I knew, I was astounded, what were they doing there? Had they no political conscience? I

laughing manically, getting fatter - while just a phoned call away in Ethiopia, a whole bloody NATION was slowly dying? I immediately hated everyone in the Burnside Hockey Club, including myself. Guilt. I felt guilty. Did the others feel guilty? One person called Michael Vorin (ex Big-Shot of the A.U. Liberal Club) had said to me not a week before,

"I think that a lot of people join the Labour Party because they feel guilty about their lives in relation to those who are worse off. They think that joining the Labour Party will help them to cope with that guilt."

Is it true? Were the group of the people gyrating heavily on the dance floor unashamed of their lack of guilt? If so, was that a good thing? By now I was extremely confused. I had also noticed that all the Liberal girls were taller than me. (If I vote Liberal, will I grow?) All of these women had a few things in common. 95% of them

produce slaughtered chickens and skulls (by the way, this is the Litsock I'm talking about, not the Liberals), but it didn't happen. I found that it was in fact a Bohemian Cocktail Party. That was why everybody looked like something from a Sixty Minutes Report. (Scrawney, lots of black clothing, very very hairy.) The people at the Litsock all had a certain sort of name. Either they already had bizarre names like Groffle, or they made them up. One very hairy young man insisted that he didn't like his name, which was Craig (obviously not Gothic enough), so people called him Ewok instead. Other people were calling him something I couldn't even pronounce, so you can see what sort of a party it really was. Although I couldn't hear people saying, "I'm such a crazy guy!" I strongly suspected that somewhere in the the house there was a roomful of people saying it to each other.

I was having a good time at the Litsock

had been down the road. I knew this because there were Liberal Girlies crying and hugging each other in the toilets, always a sign that the party is swinging. (The girls at the Litsock couldn't get into the bathroom-toilet because it was full of men vomiting - and don't write in and say it wasn't because I saw it all and it is TRUE - and when the Litsock girlies finally made it into the bathroom they broke the basin. So the moral of the story is that men shouldn't spend the night vomiting in bathrooms that women want to use to cry and hug each other in. They should vomit down their trouser legs instead. That is why God gave you legs.)

Anyway, back to the Liberals. During my absence, not only had the female toilets taken on the characteristics of a counselling centre, but a funky DJ had appeared. He sat behind a makeshift desk and said things at interv als in a rather desperate voice, like "

chop ate a lot all day, every day, when he wasn't earning heaps of shekels. I don't know what his name was, but he was wearing a nasty green bow tie and I think that wraps it up pretty conclusively. When asked if he was a Liberal, he said yes. I was so damn-happy, things were looking up. I said,

"Young man with repulsive green bow tie, why are you a Liberal?" and he smiled in a satisfied sort of way and replied, "Do you really want to know? Seriously?" so I skipped happily; this was just what I had wanted to have happen all evening been waiting for and I said, "Yes!"

"I am a Liberal because I hate the Labour Party," -my eyes widened as he said this- "because I am rich," -my mouth fell into an unattractive position- "and because I'm not interested in ecology at all. That is why."

"My God!" You are probably saying to yourself, it's a lot of lefty bull made up by

Easter in Jerusalem

A Myriad of Religions celebrate in the Holy City

Israel is the site of some of the world's most catastrophic battles and at the same time its most celebrated events. Kate Barclay reports on Eastertime in Jerusalem, when tensions come to a head, and a diversity of religious groups celebrate in their own way.

Jerusalem at the best of times is a tense city. At Easter emotions heighten to a feverish pitch. The epicentre of activity is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where the body of Jesus is said to have been put when it was taken from the Cross. Crowds of Christians of all denominations are so thick around this place it is a long wait to push one's way inside.

This time of year is also important for Jews. The festival of the Passover (or Pessach in Hebrew) is observed with all its attendant rules and customs. One such rule is that all things containing yeast (bread, beer, etc) must be thrown away to commemorate the fact that Moses and his people weren't able to leaven their bread when fleeing from Egypt across Sinai. Needless to say an Ultra Orthodox Jew is offended by the idea of a hot cross bun and during Pessach it is not uncommon for groups of them to go into the Arabs sectors of Jerusalem and overturn bread carts.

Some Moslems are also annoyed by the disruption caused by Easter and storm through the crowds outside their homes, headscarves billowing behind them.

Jerusalem is a remarkable city because it is a major religious site for Christianity, Judaism and Islam. Tolerance and respect for the religion of others is a basic necessity for peace to be achieved in the Middle East. Tolerance and respect were definitely not shown by a group of Israeli settlers on Good Friday. Claiming they had purchased the St Johns Hospice from its Armenian owners, the settlers posted a makeshift Star of David over the cross above the door and loudly sang Jewish songs. A court had ruled that day that the building actually belonged to the Greek Orthodox Church.

The settlers action precipitated a demonstration of about 200 Christians and Palestinians who were incensed by such behaviour during the most holy of Christian



weeks. The protesters received the usual tear-gas-and-rubber-bullet reply from the Israeli Defense Forces.

Thousands of Christians from all over the world make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem every Easter. In groups or individually,

they trace the steps of Jesus as he carried his cross along the Via Dolorosa. Some even act out what the description given in the Bible, dressing up as centurions and whipping a man in a crown of thorns carrying a cross. Groups of monks in sandals and

ascetic brown robes chant in Latin as they wander the cobbled streets of Old Jerusalem (with bright orange baseball caps on so their tour leaders don't lose them). It is a peculiar feeling of irony to watch people pay homage as they have for nearly

2000 years, to a Jew killed by the Romans because he posed a threat to their domination of Judea. This year the pilgrims were forced from the streets of the Old City by the tear gas of the IDF.

Kate Barclay



"Swimmers" is an innovative and challenging production that deals with the lives of homosexual and bisexual men in Australia and the issues that AIDS raises in the community. Sponsored by the AIDS Council of South Australia, and fully funded by the Health Commission, the Department for the Arts and the AIDS Council, "Swimmers" has received its fair share of controversy, being described by the mass media as "the gay play", and provoking much emotional talkback on radio about the so-called moral questions raised by the production.

ON DIT spoke with Nick Gill, an ex-Cambridge actor/writer who wrote the script for "Swimmers", David Paul Jobling, an actor who has worked for numerous interstate companies, and directed "No Worries", and Henry Collins, a Flinders Drama Centre graduate who has performed at the Red Shed.

On Dit: How would you describe "Swimmers"?

Nick: It's a play about a community's response to AIDS. It takes the form of a masque, which was a 17th century English Court entertainment. Primarily, it is a dramatic spectacle for the enjoyment of audiences and it attempts to give people an understanding of the attitudes that can protect them- the attitudes, not the mechanics- against HIV infection, and the attitudes that will keep them living happily even if they've got it.

On Dit: It seems that a lot of gays respond to the situation that exists in the community through the arts rather than through politics. Why do you think this is so?

Henry: There are some of us who approach politics through the arts as well.

Nick: Speaking personally, I have a long history of gay political involvement....in the middle and late sixties I was heavily involved in the gay liberation movement in England, when I came to Australia in 1974 I was one of the co-founders of the Gouger Gay Men's Centre, the first drop-in centre for gay men in Adelaide, and the Adelaide Homosexual Alliance. My experience throughout the seventies in Adelaide was that there was a strong political involvement of gay men. I think this changed to an extent towards the end of the seventies and...at the beginning of the eighties many people thought the battles had been won. It was a naive feeling. But with the successful passage in 1975 of Peter Duncan's legalisation of homosexuality in this state, and with the climate of opinion during the late 1970s which seemed to be moving towards legislation against discrimination against homosexuals, there was a feeling that things were moving in the right direction, and we'd won. I would say that your perception that gay men are involved in politics only through the arts is a history-related one.

On Dit: Were you at all surprised by the controversy with

which the play has been received.

Nick: Not at all. I've been associated with people working in the area of AIDS and gay politics for a long time, and we've known ever since AIDS became widespread in Australia that it tapped into the two great unconscious fears of the Australian psyche, death and sex. If you actually bring it out into the open then people are going to want to not know, and they'll try to shut you up. We are very fortunate to have had superb backing from the State Government, both through the Department of the Arts and the Health Commission, who have backed us 100%. In common with federal policy on AIDS, education and open talking is the only way we're going to stop this from becoming a disastrous pandemic.

On Dit: Do you think there's still a very strong feeling in the community that gays are completely irresponsible and can be blamed for causing AIDS in the first place? Does that account for the sort of publicity you've been getting?

Nick: Well, the article (in *The Sunday Mail*) used a couple of key phrases. It talked about the "gay play". I have since pointed out to the arts editor...that noone would describe "Romeo and Juliet" as "het play". It is not a play about heterosexuality, neither is "Swimmers" a play about homosexuality. They've agreed that in future they will refer to it as "AIDS Play". The "gay play" phrase cropped up for the first time last year...when the Shadow Minister for the Arts raised questions in the house as to why the Health Commission was funding this play, which she saw as promoting homosexuality. *The Advertiser* for about a week ran a series of articles and letters about the play, calling it "Gay Hyphen Play". I wrote a letter to the editor saying that it was roughly equivalent to calling "The Merchant of Venice" a "Jew Play", or Othello a "Nigger Play". It's an easy label and it's precisely designed to trigger every homophobe in town. We've had phone calls at the AIDS Council from homophobes...we feel them every day.

On Dit: Threatening calls?

David: Sometimes they're threatening.... a lot of the time it's a mother of three saying that she doesn't think it's good to promote homosexuality in the newspaper.

On Dit: Do you think that these attitudes will mean that the audience will come mainly from the gay community? Is that a problem?

Nick: That's not a problem because our principal target audience is the gay community. The play was written in response largely to a perception that although 99% of the gay community are aware of the method of HIV transmission, not all of them practise safe sex. So we ask why. What's happening to that small percentage that doesn't? The reasons are twofold. One is denial- "It can't happen to me", or "He's a clean boy". The other is the extraordinarily low self esteem which younger members of the gay community have now. Homophobia over the last ten years

has increased, so it is extremely difficult for a young man to come out as gay. They are given a bad self-image...they are told that they are dirty filthy homosexuals.

On Dit: Even so, surely it would be good if the play was not marginalised and could reach a wider audience?

David: The target audience is gay men, bisexual men and intravenous drug users. But it's a piece of theatre. We would like everyone to come along and see it. Even if they know all about AIDS there's other things in the play, different insights into human relationships. It's not a play purely by and for gay people.

Nick: The four acts of the play are set at seven year intervals, 1975, 1982, 1989 and then whenever...it looks at a group of gay men who to an extent stand for the gay community as a whole and their interrelationships in response to AIDS. The growth of the characters is the central theme. It's about how to treat people while they're alive, and how to treat people who you love, and how not to exploit people.

Henry: It's very much a message from the front line. What we're saying is that the gay community has learnt a lot about sexuality and life from AIDS. Because of that, they've got something to share with a heterosexual audience.

David: There's some really interesting things that "Swimmers" brings up. Sure, one of the characters gets AIDS, but another is an alcoholic, and another is a bisexual married man, and another is a young guy coming out. It's not like someone dies of AIDS and that's the play.

Henry: The only thing that the characters in this play have in common is that they go to this beat. As people they are so different. There's no way anybody is going to leave the play and think that's what poofers are like.

On Dit: That's an interesting point, because there seems to be a perception even in more enlightened circles that gays are somehow over there and lead some kind of strange, unseen lifestyle.

David: Yeah, that's extraordinary. I mean Christ, what lifestyle?

On Dit: Do you think they have the idea that gays live in a bath house somewhere and appear occasionally to perform street theatre?

David: Yeah..God forbid. Can you imagine how boring life would be? Your sexuality is only one face of the whole diamond of a human being. We get journos coming in and saying "Oh, so you're a group of gay actors", so we say, "What are you talking about, we're a group of actors performing in a play." That becomes the issue for them. They can't see past it.

Swimmers is playing at the Lion Theatre from Tuesday May 15 to Sunday May 20 at 7:30, with an extra performance on Saturday the 19th at 10:30 pm. Book now at BASS or the S.A. AIDS Council on 362 1611

David Penberthy
Andrew Joyner

Another fine Shakespeare from the State Theatre Company

Would you rather fly or be invisible? Would you rather be beautiful or brilliant? If you could live forever and had to decide now, would you?

These are very important questions and ones that I'm sure surrealists ask themselves. The theme of surrealism is adopted in the great production of Shakespeare's "A Comedy of Errors" by the State Theatre Company, and if you think the link is a tenuous one, it's got you interested in this review, and it got the audience interested in the play.

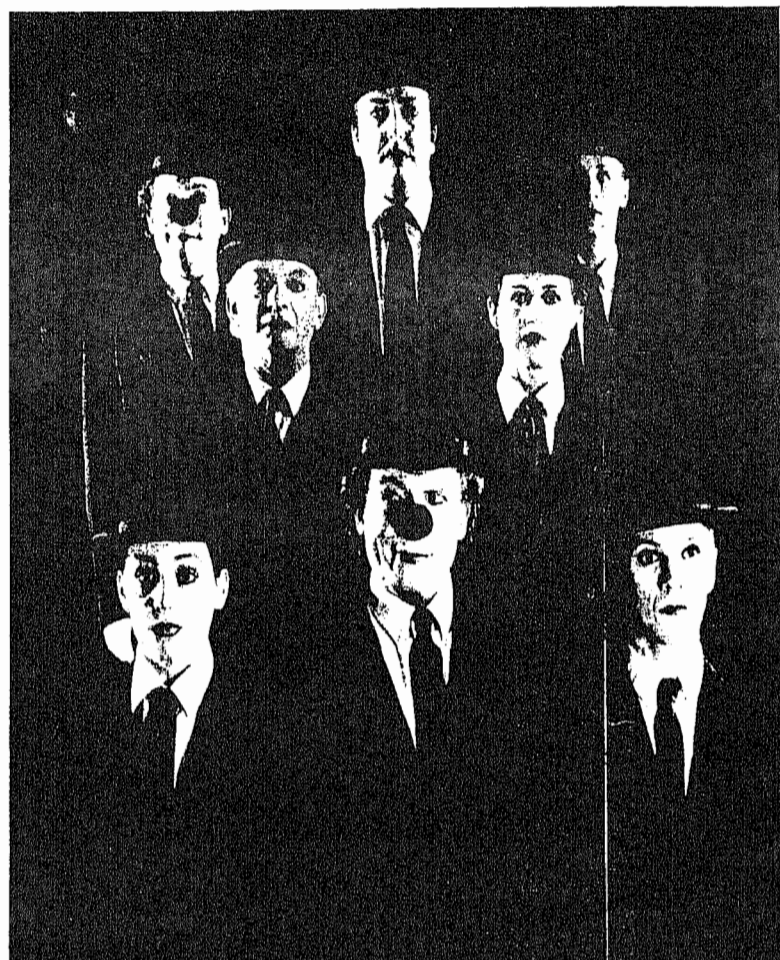
Overall, Simon Phillips' production of a Comedy of Errors is extremely good, but it is designer Shaun Gurton who steals the show. If Marat/Sade was inspired, Gurton's set is breathtaking and the most memorable aspect of a very capable production. He borrows techniques from the surrealist tradition, particularly the work of Magritte, and places it in the context of a light Shakespearean

farce. The stage is made up of vast blue skies dotted with clouds, and hanging at various intervals are giant apples, roses and birds. The piano and pianist are suspended in mid-air on stage and each scene sees some new diversion- a yellow door appears from nowhere, Adriana and Luciana enter from cages that float down from the ceiling, stairs leading to an abbey appear from the clouds. Almost all the characters in the play are clothed in bowler hats, black business suits, carrying umbrellas and riding bicycles. This is juxtaposed with occasional flashes of colour. One character has a gold face, another silver, another red. It makes the play a very beautiful one to look at.

The acting in the play is excellent, particularly Dennis Coard as Dromio of Ephesus,

Richard Piper as Dromio of Syracuse and Carmel McGlone as Luciana. Simon Phillips' direction is assured and sustains the theme of conservatism and old-guardery by the synchronised walking of the actors with their unswerving direction and determination. He takes this Shakespearean comedy and accentuates its lightness and fun by turning it into a Charlie Chaplin style, slapstick comedy. Practically all that was needed was the young virgin tied to the railway tracks. overall, Phillips combines the stunning, seemingly incomprehensible set with a comic acting that is as amusing and reassuring as a home movie.

This simple mistaken-identity farce is well sustained and, while I would advise reading a bit about the play before seeing it (it will help in following the convolutions of the plot) it is just as enjoyable



to watch without concentrating. If this production was performed in another language it would be just as rich and entertaining and there are very few productions I have seen that can boast that.

Phillips is to be credited for orchestrating a second success, however it is Gurton who creates

the beauty and amazement, which is what theatre should be all about.

If you want to see A Comedy of Errors for only \$14, a \$4 saving off the normal student price, leave your name on the form in the Student's Association. Rachel Healy

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Life's Sweet and Sour: The Sugarcubes

The Sugarcubes are bringing their own miasmic brand of punk(ish) arctic rock to Adelaide. Paul Champion and David Penberthy spoke with Soggi, the drummer from the band.

Until 1988, Iceland was famous mainly for the fact that it wasn't famous for anything. Even Finland sounded interesting when mentioned in the same breath as Iceland. Not even the Reagan/Gorbachev summit in Reyjavik he'ped....they just sat together in a cold room, staring blankly at one another, while Raisa ranted to Nancy about dialectical materialism.

However, in 1988, something happened. The Sugarcubes released "Life's Too Good". And it was very good. Probably the album of the year.

The Sugarcubes have everything that most popular bands lack. They are tantalisingly original, comparable to nobody, and driven by some kind of intense Icelandic psychosis. Their gutsy, post-punkish music is complemented perfectly by singers Einar Örn and Bjork. Einar punches when he sings, grunting like a demented pig, and Bjork doesn't even sing, but ranges from a wailing, chanted mantra to a gurgled cooing.

The Sugarcubes have been heaped with virtual unanimous praise by every music magazine you would care to mention. Despite their now global popularity, they have never toured the antipodes. Soggi explains why.

"We've been on our way, so to speak, for a long time, but the thing is that we have a sort of limit on how much we tour every year because we have kids with us and things like that and we don't want to be on the road all the time. We've been touring mostly in Europe and the States. That's the only place we've toured so it's high time we got over to Japan, Australia and New Zealand."

After the critical acclaim with which "Life's Too Good" was received, their follow up album, "Here Today, Tomorrow, Next Week" was met with a much quieter reception. This can be partially attributed to the new familiarity with the band's sound. Soggi explains how the two records differ.

"The new one is basically more documentarish. The first record was recorded over a long period of time and was done fairly slowly and gradually, and takes

on more character through the production process in the studio. The second one is more of a live documentary. It's recorded more or less live in the studio and mixed in a fairly documentarish way, as opposed to going through a big process of production, so I would say in short that they were the biggest differences, technically, between the two records."

Despite the difference in the finished product, the band's songwriting style has not changed much since "Life's Too Good."

"We still write songs in the same manner. We have our own so-called "Backwards" approach to writing songs, which is not sitting down with the lyrics or an idea for a melody or where to fit the chords in. It's more or less starting backwards with the basic instruments which are the guitar, drums and bass, and then adding your own subtle ideas, fixing vocal lines and melodies. Then you usually end up trying to make a lyric for the whole gobbledegook."

The Sugarcubes are always wary to identify a particular band or sound that has directly influenced them. In a recent interview in *NME*, Einar Örn claimed that they hope to create "the new folk music of Iceland." Soggi agrees that the band's sound is pretty well entirely their own creation.

"I think we don't have any basic external influences on our sound. I think we sound like only *we* can sound at any given time. Our sound is not preconceived...it's born of itself when we do the music."

When "Life's Too Good" was topping the independent charts the Sugarcubes reportedly received a one million pound offer to leave their record company "One Little Indian" and sign up with a bigger one. Soggi claims that their independence is worth more than any amount of money, and that he doesn't mind that the Sugarcubes are seen as an independent band.

"In England being an indie band is almost a cliché by now. But if you mean that you can make your own decisions about your own career, that shouldn't bother us at all."

The Sugarcubes are playing the

Old Lion on Saturday, May 12th as part of their Australian tour. Soggi sees the live act as a crucial part of the band.

"It is important to play live for us, because we do write our songs very live. We are a very live band as opposed to a studio band, so we sound much better live. I think we need to be heard live to be appreciated properly."

Paul Champion
David Penberthy

Special student tickets to see the "Sugar Cubes" on Saturday, May 12th at the Old Lion Hotel are now available in the Students' Association for \$15 (regular price \$20). Limited tickets - be quick.



JESUS JONES

Jason Bootle and Simon Healy (remarkably good friends) went to Melbourne at Easter to catch new megawild English indie sensation, *Jesus Jones* and have a chat with the skating god himself.

Ah, there's another bush! Short of hitchhiking, bus travel is the most depressing and annoying form of transport. You honestly do meet a better class of person on railway sleeping carriages. We suffered alternatively the horrors of Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell's "Overboard" and the middle-aged niceness of "Cousins" on the On-Bus Video System (one of the most wretched creations known to humanity) and pulled up in Melbourne at 7:00 on Saturday morning, cold, tired and hopelessly lost.

After battling bus-lag, the absurdity of Melbourne's public transport system and our unfamiliarity with the streets ("if you can just show me where *The Windsor* is, I can find my bearings..."), we arrived breathless in the Chateau Melbourne at 1:59 to interview Jesus H. Jones, aka lead singer/songwriter for Jesus Jones, Mike Edwards.

Waiting in the foyer of the Chateau was quite an experience. The opulence of the surroundings hit you in the face like coke at an A&R board meeting.

Jesus was late. We had been assured that the Arrival would be no later than 2:00, but were still surrounded by suits 20 minutes later, until He burst in to the foyer on his skateboard. We knew that God moved in mysterious ways, but we never anticipated *this*.

But that's enough religion for one weekend. Walking into Mike Edwards' room was like a scene out of a John Le Carré novel: his British passport sat on the dresser, clothes were strewn around the room and an opened suitcase revealed the itinerary for what had recently been renamed "The Better Late Than Never Two Thirds Of A Tour".

The tour had been shortened due to their appearance on Britain's *Top Of The Pops* to play their top 20 hit, "Real Real Real".

"We're now in the fortunate position of having a hit single in Britain, and *Top Of The Pops* is the program to be on - probably about 25% of the bands in Britain form just to get on that show. It was offered to us, so

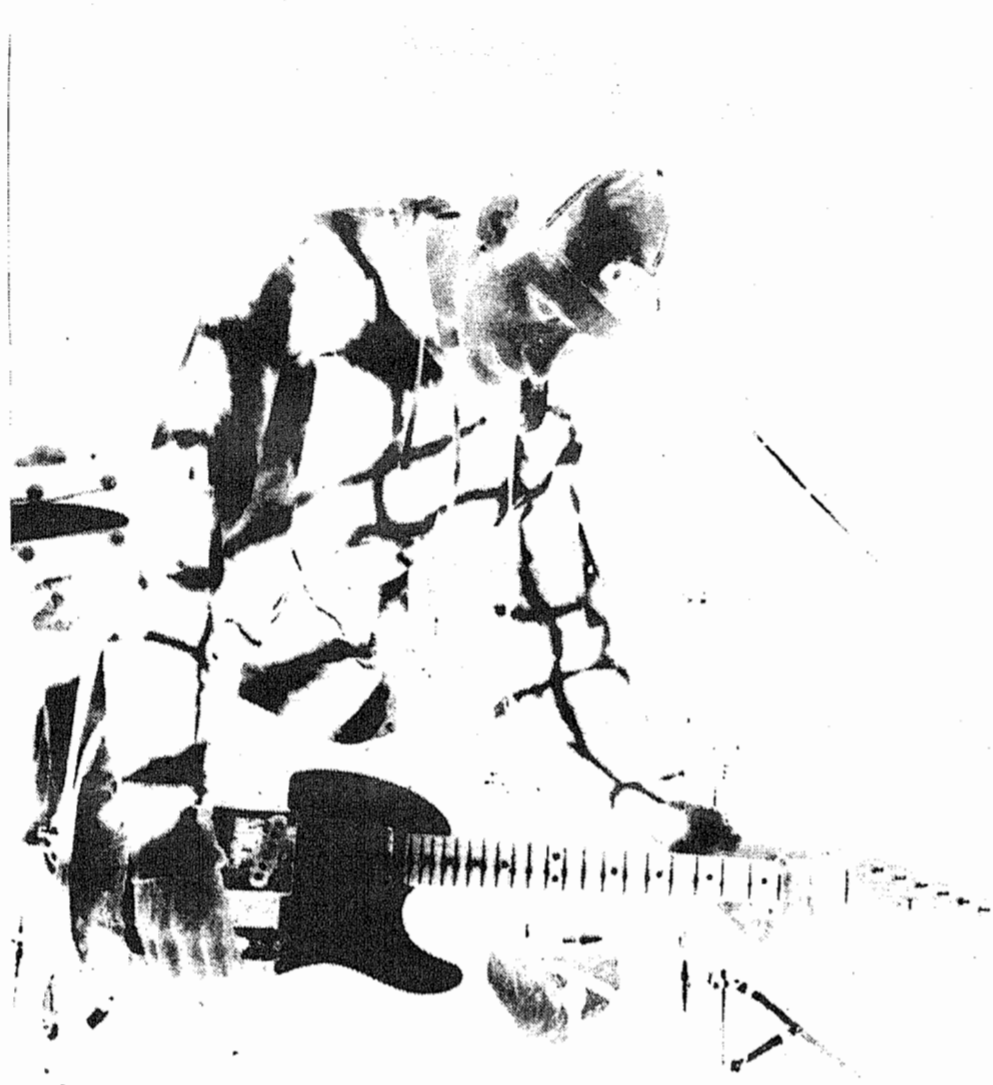
there was no way the record company was going to let us come out here without doing that."

But before we speculate as to their chart success, just who *are* Jesus Jones?

An English band who started in January 1989. Their name (hold on to your bibles Christians) is derived from wanting an 'unusual' name, and the fact they were sitting on a beach in Spain.

You see, in Spain about one third of the population has the prefix Jesus in their name. So! They decided to take the 'Jesus' and add something essentially English. They were definitely not expecting having to explain it to people on a global scale.

Then, just three months later they had their first single, "Info Freako", in the charts. This is unheard of - for a band not industry-created or relying on a novelty song *doing this*. Why did it happen?



mature approach to sampling:

"We do have a definite approach to sampling, which I believe makes us different to pretty much everyone else who uses it, except possibly *The Young Gods*, *Bomb the Bass* and *S'Express*, and that's that we never, or very rarely, use samples that are extremely obvious. I tend to take samples and twist them upside-down, run them backwards, tune them up, down or anything. Because I go for sounds rather than pieces of music."

He is quick to denigrate those who use samples to the most gratuitous and cheapest effect:

"There are a lot of people who use samples who might just as well be using tape recorders. You just press the button and you play the piece of music exactly as it is on someone else's record. But once you start using a sampler you find other things you can do. It really is the first instrument where your imagination is the only limit. I mean, we have a chainsaw playing a harmony on "Bring It On Down". You can make *anything* play music."

Don't mistake this as some muso-rambling. Enthusiastic kids bash away at crusty old Pistols classics on guitars in their parents' garage in Mitcham today, but increasingly they will pick up a cheap sampler from a music store and throw together pieces from their favourite songs.

As with any form of expression open to the public, 80% of the results will be dire, but it will become fabulously easy for anyone to get their ideas onto tape cheaply and quickly.

"Rather than mess around and spend three think: 'That Prince record's got a nice bass drum sound', and the drummer just sits there and goes *doon* (rather dodgy approximation of a bass drum) and Prince comes out. It makes things a lot easier. And a lot better, as well."

ICECREAM GODHEAD

Liquidizer was produced by Craig Leon, who is famous for oodles of stuff, from the first Ramones album to the last V.Spy V.Spy album:

"Working with him was fabulous, for a start - I mean he's quite an eccentric guy. He's very small, quite compact, and very bubbly. It's like this small American speed-freak: 'Y'know, wow! That's gonna be... *genius*, what an *idea!* That's Godhead!'"

"He has all these amazing sayings like 'Godhead!' and he says 'Genius!' all the time. What are a couple of other classics? Just things like 'Icecream Godhead on *that* track!' He's got all these weird sayings... I mean you work with a guy who's bumbling on like this and completely mad. It was great."

But the production of *Liquidizer* left Mike a little disappointed, partly because of the 'grungy' sound inherent in the production and partly because there are too many ideas on one song fighting for attention. With the second album, that's something we'll improve on."

The production of *Liquidizer* was not intended to be of "pristine" quality. The samples used were taken from 'lo-fi' sources, like 'tape it off the radio, put it on another tape, take it in the studio, bung it on a tape'.

"The number of engineers that have complete nightmares when we get in the studio because we do get the worst samples possible. Gen and I share a flat and the record player we've got is absolutely dreadful, and sometimes, I can only get them off records: 'Oh well, it's going to be crap quality. That's what studio's are for.' I don't

wanna make it easy for them."

Jesus Jones second album is currently being recorded and will be released around August/September in England. Of course it will take another three or four months for the record company to release it here!

"WHERE?"

The Old Greek Theatre *isn't* one of the better-known venues in Melbourne. The architects had helpfully failed to include the name of the theatre on the front or any other visible part of the building and no posters were giving the game away either. With the help of some insider knowledge, however, we managed to locate it, and wandered in on Jesus Jones soundchecking. As soundchecks go, it was one of the all-time greats.

Their bass player said afterwards, "I can't remember working up a sweat during a soundcheck for ages." Everything just clicked from the moment they stepped on stage. The lack of people to soak up the soundwaves meant that the sonic force was awesome, and roadies riding skateboards very badly around the venue completed the spectacle.

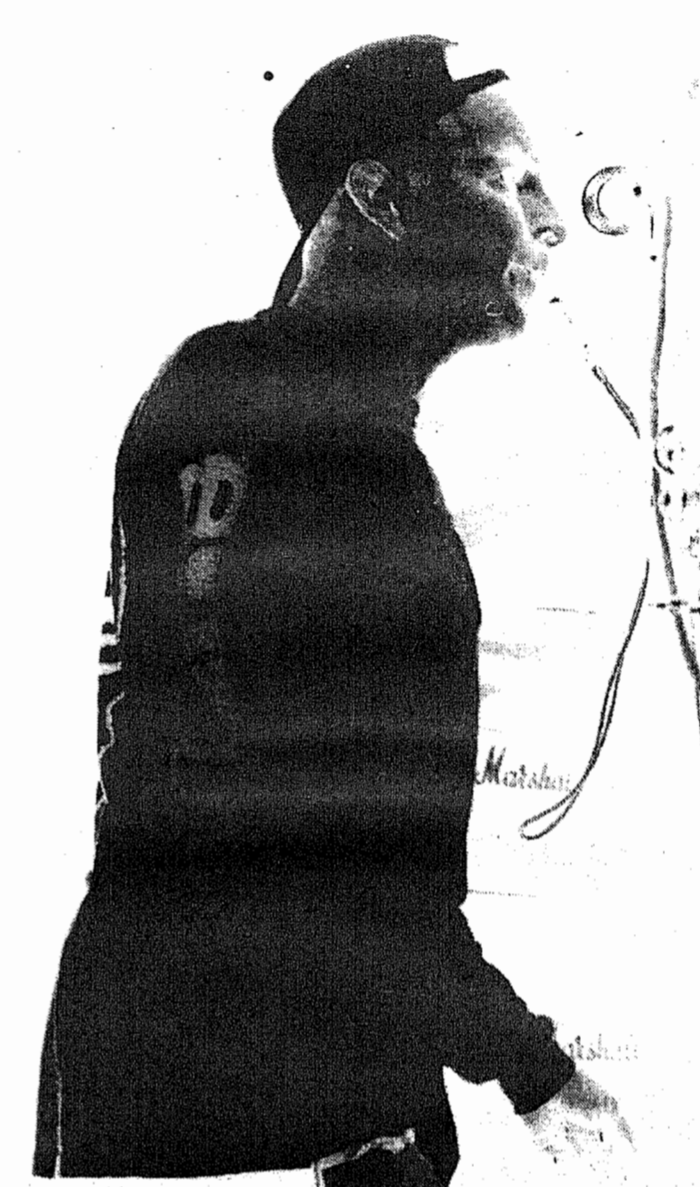
Ripe were the opening act for the concert proper. While they belong to the broad realm of guitar pop/rock somewhere between *The Sundays* and *Mudhoney*, they curiously defy accurate categorisation. They had a wealth of original material, covering only a Neil Young ditty just as I was about to congratulate them for avoiding the obligatory "traditional college-band cover". They lack a little in stage presence (more shy, sensitive types), but that is more than compensated for by the noises they make. *Ripe* released an independent E.P. the week after the concert.

As they say in the pop papers, one to watch.

The jobbos at the Billy Bragg concert who liked to pretend that they came from England and are close personal friends of the performers had also shown up at JJ, worse luck. Ignoring them, we wriggled our way to the front (is that really an infant's head under my steel-capped boot? Sorry, but these things happen, y'know, I'm just trying to get a view of the band) and prepared ourselves for total mindfuck.

Now c'mon, what do you think we're going to say? That they were crap and we wish that we'd never bothered going over? Mike walked on stage and announced "Hi! We're Jetlag Jones!", but no compensation had to be made for the fact that they had been in the country for less than 24 hours and hadn't had a good night's sleep between the five of them.

They tore into their duties for a good 50



virtually impossible to create a record with a production feel as big and clean as the concert. When the guitars came over the top during "Bring It On Down": play Russian Roulette six times consecutively (no respins) and you'll get the idea. They follow rap's edict "make some noise" to the letter. They are VERY loud.

A couple of girls were heard to say, "Hold On" just at the end of the slow ditty before "Info Freako" was played in an absolutely scintillating manner, with punks springboarding off the stage into the sweat covered crowd below.

Of the new songs, I wouldn't be surprised if "Right Here, Right Now" is sailing high in the charts within the next year. Written in Romania and inspired by the revolution, it operates at the slower and more melodic end of JJH's songwriting range, but still has the bitter lyrical sting we have come to expect from him. Merely on the basis of one listening, I would say that it's his finest songwriting credit to date.

Jesus Jones cemented themselves as one of the most energetic bands to hit the independent scene. Their songs were played with a vitality that most bands couldn't even match, even when they've caught the bus to the gig, let alone just jetted in from England.

The main act, *Died Pretty* should consider changing their name to Died Boring. Their performance was uninspiring due to the quality of the Londoner's show and the fact that we had been up since about 5:30 that morning.

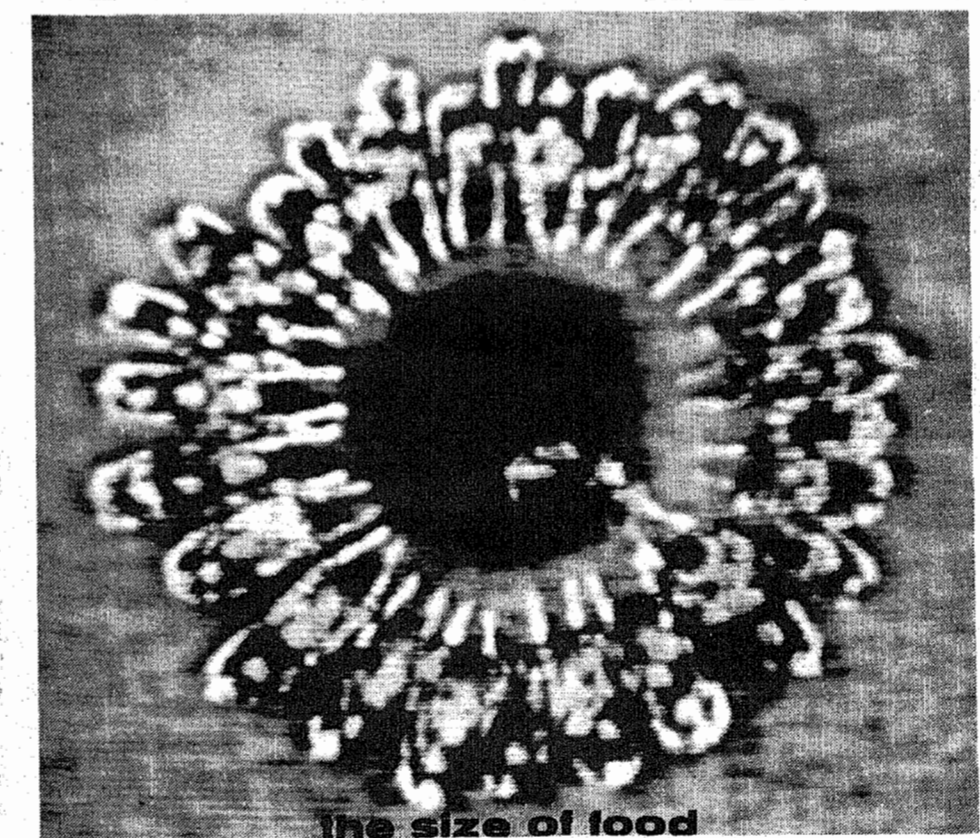
Jesus Jones mingled with the crowd after their performance discussing the show and dialogue from the seminal classic "Spinal Tap", and invited people back for a few corials and cake at some seedy little bar in Melbourne's suburb of Richmond.

When you journey 730 kilometres to Melbourne to see a band and obtain an interview, one tends to make sure you are going to enjoy it.

We didn't have to try too hard. We left knowing the true meaning of Easter.

Record of the Week

JEAN-PAUL SARTRE EXPERIENCE



The Size of Food
Jean-Paul Sartre Experience
Flying Nun

For a band with such a stupid name, this is a great record. To be fair, they realise the joke has fallen flat and now want to be called simply JPS, which should remove the last remaining barrier to superstardom beyond their home shares of NZ, and lead to riches beyond their wildest dreams.

Initially, JPS reminded me of The Cure, until I realised that they are probably much better. Their influences are virtually impossible to define - they could include anyone from Albert King to The Velvet Underground to Eurhythmics. The guitars and bass are constantly moving with and against each other, with upfront drums structuring the songs and allowing for an invasion of strange, unidentifiable sounds. And the melodies are stirring and brilliant.

The Size of Food is an unique album which deserves to be one of the hits of 1990. Jean-Paul, far from turning in his grave, will be sitting up teaching himself guitar.

Patrick Allington

Say Goodbye
The Marines
CBS 12"

This is radio pop at its best. "Say Goodbye" is a dance song about breaking up. It has an upbeat tempo nicely set against the use of timpani drums. It has a guitar solo. The chorus is a love anthem and the bridges inbetween are semi-orchestral. The other song on this 12" is called "If you're looking for love" and is not a hallelujah different to the title track. This sort of music gives away the fact that this is "produced", not "composed" music.

The Marines are Helen, Sarah and Denny and these girls know how to dress and put and they can sing! This EP is largely English Plasto-pop which the producers have formulated nicely.

Re: Bananarama; three pretty girls, song, dance, fashion... sounds familiar?
Zippy Q

Madly in Love 12"
Bros
CBS

Boring, Repetitive, Odious, Spatchcock.
Simon Andrews

Mlah Les Negresses Vertes Festival Records

Les Negresses Vertes (The Green Negresses) take their name from their final ska-beat song which, like most of these songs, has a happy tune belying a serious message. In the case of "La Danse des Negresses Vertes" the stupidity of racism is tackled and the freedom of Mandela is demanded. Les Negresses Vertes look and sound a great deal like The Pogues except that they sing in French (bien sûr) and draw their inspiration from French folk music, with the use of accordions, acoustic guitars and trumpets. Full advantage is taken of different French pronunciations which give the vocals a lovely rich sound.

Other topics range from the ill-gotten gains of gossip, the frustration of working in a factory,

"He drinks to forget that he lives

He sleeps to forget that he drinks" (Geneviève translation) to the celebration of summer and the wonderfully stupid song of Marcelle Ratafia of the Mafia, the beautiful maiden with the teeth of gold.

Don't fear the French lyrics! This is a record to drink a bottle of red wine to, dance to with your lover, or pogo and skank to with a group of friends. The music alone could easily make this one of the best records of the year.

Geneviève Marjoribanks
and Andrew Beveridge

Michael Penn March BMG

It seems that the Penn household is a very talented one. Not only are Sean and Christopher Penn fine actors but their brother Michael is a talented singer/songwriter. March is Michael's debut album and contains a number of excellent songs with strong Beatles type melodies, Dylan overtones and driving acoustic guitar rhythms. In most cases the lyrics are cryptic and concern pain and confused relationships. It was quite difficult to compare most of the songs to anything I have heard before but Brave New World sounds like Subterranean Homesick Blues with a Beatles chorus, and Evenfall is a cross between Turning Japanese and Needles and Pins overlapped with Stand By Me.

The single No Myth is a fine example of pure pop complete with its George Harrison type guitar solo. One of the best songs on the album, Cupid's Got a Brand New Gun, has a strong melody and fantastic lyrics:

"It slithers like a viper/readies its attack

Tears your flesh and soul apart/and clings on to your back

Not till it turns away/can you feel the pain/before the damage done

and you will notice/that this quick opiate/might wear the wings of angels

that's when you realise/you've been shot down/wounded into death by something called love."

In summary this is one of the best albums of 1990 which sounds better the more it is played. Each time I listen to it I have a different favourite track which is indicative of a good album. Rating 9 out of 10.

Jack Kyriacou

Here's Looking Up Your Address Absent Friends RooArt

"It was essentially just to play live," ex-Model Sean Kelly said of the formation of Absent Friends in May 1989. "We just wanted to create some soul music live and we arranged the music so there would be plenty of room for improvisation."

Absent Friends consists of Kelly, Wendy Matthews (Models, and just about everything else in the Australian music industry), James Vallentine (Models, and "Afternoon Show" guru), Garry Beers (INXS), John Mackay (Machinations), and Micheal King (Danglin' Brothers).

The making of an album was an unexpected bonus stemming from the concerts, and was therefore made casually. "A lot of the album songs we didn't do live, they just came together in the studio," explained Wendy Matthews, "so it's the same spirit of improvisation."

This emphasis on improvisation means that although Kelly is the most involved member, this is far from being his solo album. *Here's Looking* is a conglomerate of rock, blues, jazz, soul and funk that somehow gels together well.

However, it is still evident that the style Absent Friends has developed may be better suited to live shows than the studio. Although the album never falls flat, only occasionally is it outstanding. The best track is a traditional ballad, "The Water is

Wide", wonderfully sung by Wendy Matthews (look for her upcoming multicultural solo album which contains African and Scottish influences sung with a Canadian accent). The remainder always interesting, thanks to the high quality of musicianship, and overall, *Here's Looking* is a clever and inventive LP that deserves more attention than it is getting.

Absent Friends expect to tour in June, and should be well worth a listen. By August, when Garry Beers will be the first member to return to other commitments, their lifespan may effectively have ended.

Patrick Allington

Save Yourself McAuley Schenker Group EMI

I have a t-shirt of MSG that is a bit small now. This does not mean that I like them though. Mr Schenker plays the guitar very well and very fast (a past idol from previously) but this does not mean that this record is good though. It is quite mediocre for even the 'LA good time hard rock kick ass' band which MSG try to be. You do not even have to listen to the record in order to form an opinion of it. The crashed motorbike and guitar (?) over an earthquake with lots of violence and destruction and things on the cover, the names of songs (literary classics like 'Bad Boys' and 'Get Down to Bizness') and so on. But not to offend anyone's sensibilities I did listen to the record. And guess what kids? What Mr Schenker et al has not realised from Day 1 of his career (including UFO and the Scorpions) is that flashy guitar fireworks will not save a song that is just plain bad. Parsley and cleverly diced olives on toothpicks do not detract from the fact you are eating a shit sandwich. Until someone actually hands him a good ditty, he will continue to produce this rubbish until the day he kicks the bucket. It is no coincidence that Doc McGhee (of Motley Crue, Bon Jove managing, lets-bring-in-a-semi-trailer-of-coke fame) also manages MSG, probably because no one else was left. The best thing about this record is the other managers name: Obf Schroeter.

The end.

Do not mess with these guys - they are obviously tough and mean.

Government Health Warning.

James Nuttall



Something or Other The Someloves Festival

Reviewer: The Someloves are a studio band comprising Dom Mariani, who sang for The Stems (great band), and Darryl Mather who was a founding member of Lime Spiders.

Censor: You can't slip in some opinion on greatness just because its in parenthesis.

Reviewer: Sorry. Scrap "great band", and put, "considered by some judges of unascertained reliability to be at least an average band".

Censor: I like it. Objective, yet punchy.

Reviewer: "Something or Other" is the best example of guitar driven pop to emerge in Australia for too long. Such sustained songwriting is unusual. Catchy is the word. These tunes zing around your head on the bus, in the shower, or on your way to the zoo pumped on amyls.

Censor: Hang on! "Best"? What is "best"? Who are you to say it is the "best"?

Reviewer: In my opinion it is the best.

Censor: But what justification have you got to thrust your opinions forward so rashly?

Reviewer: I am the Reviewer.

Censor: Oh, very clever, I'm sure. Another thing - do you know for sure the tunes will 'zing' around the reader's head on his/her way to the zoo?

Reviewer: An educated guess. How about this? Production by Mitch Easter enhances the bubbly effervescence of each song. He produces a record with the same shimmering pop as he achieved on early REM records.

Censor: There you go again. Passing judgement based on subjective comparisons of two bands in a loosely defined genre with no more than a producer in common. Sorry. It's just not right.

Reviewer: The guitar work is simple and understated. It is surprising really - Darryl is such an unlikely name for a guitar hero.

Censor: Come on. That is not fair.

Reviewer: Do you know any guitar heroes called Darryl?

Censor: Well, no. But it doesn't matter what either of us know.

Reviewer: Can't I sacrifice a little integrity for the sake of humour?

Censor: No.

Reviewer: Dom Mariani sings with a pure simplicity that complements perfectly the type of songs he has written for this album. Just as I would expect from an ex-Stems vocalist.

Censor: "You" expect this type of singing do "you"? Well, I'm sure that impresses the readers.

Reviewer: OK. He sings with pure simplicity.

Censor: That is only your opinion.

Reviewer: He sings.

Censor: Nice one.

Paul Schoff



The Way You Live Hunnas Festival 12"

More brilliance from this band. If you do not have "Ghost Nation" yet, buy/steal/borrow/beg for it. This song is typical of the quality that Hunters and Collectors consistently put to vinyl. This twelve inch's worthwhile for its B side, the acoustic version of 'Lazy Summer Day' and in particular 'Do You See What I See?', which is now a song for all occasions. A worthy edition to any collection but especially mine because I got this one for free.

James Nuttall

Hummingbirds live well worth the effort

The Hummingbirds are off to the US and Europe shortly, so we won't see them in Adelaide for some time yet, but Ian Richardson managed to see them in Sydney before they left.

On a warm Saturday night in deepest, darkest St Peters, Sydney, the brightest young things in Australia pop race through 60 minutes of thrash, improvisation, gratuitous guitar posing and pop bliss. Immediately after 'Hindsight' and 'Hollow Inside', singer/guitarist Simon announces that tonight is a request night, precipitating a violent shouting match between fans of the Stone Roses, Camper van Beethoven and Killdozer - it seems the Hummingbirds appeal to a wide spectrum of musical taste. The former are rejected: "Don't get me wrong. I like the Stone Roses, but they're overrated, thanks to the NME," and Simon can only sigh "I wish I could" to the Killdozers request, so eventually they settle on "Talk About the Passion" on the basis that "someone's bound to request REM sooner or later". We also got "Take the Skinheads Bowling" and they make a splendid job of "Pretty Vacant" after Simon has explained the intricacies of Sex Pistols music to singer/guitarist Allanah ("just play an E").

Sounding brilliant amongst this dross are the Hummingbirds originals, the best of which are "She Knows", a blistering "Word Gets Around" and the exquisite

"Tuesday" with ethereal guitar effects and an altered vocal arrangement. Simon is transformed into a Richie Sambora-type red hot guitar hero during the guitar solo in "Three in the Morning", and takes this parody to extremes during the Hummingbirds-do-Megadeath "Priests of Love" with a performance that David Stokes might have drawn inspiration from. Robyn and Allanah guffaw delightedly and some mods in the corner look bemused. At the other end of the stage presence spectrum is Robyn, the bassist. Standing motionless in shadow with her toes pointed inward and her childlike backing vocals barely audible, she makes Morrissey seem extroverted.

The best is saved till last with an extraordinary 10 minute epic, "Portrait of the Artist in Hell". This song could well be the Hummingbirds "Stairway to Heaven" but drummer Mark says after the show that it will be released as a b-side at best as "MMM (Sydney's SAFM) would never play it". A more commercial future for the Hummingbirds? Having witnessed tonight's performance, it hardly seems possible.



The Hummingbirds

AXEMAN'S jazz



• The Axeman has heard rumours that members of Where's the Pope's were a tad pissed off about last term's Mark of Cain gig. The story seems to be centred on the fact that it was the Pope's guitarist's last show is, scheduled for this Saturday. Apparently, the

"poor mix" of the MOC was a result of this.

• Heat 2 of the Battle of the Bands saw more "fucking boring" performances as one judge liked to put it. The Jaynes (surprise, surprise!) were the eventual winners, but what can you expect from a band who has already been released on vinyl and could be easily described as "professional". "Hot for Funk" provided the best fun & dance for the night pumping out original disco stomps such as "Funk-A-Rama", "Let's Go to the Disco", "Party Time" and "Let's Funk".

• Tour News: Nick "Sheri Pickering" Cave is touring the eastern states this July, followed by Manchester band The Fall in June. House of Love will

be gracing our shores in October with Public Enemy, The Mission and Happy Mondays still to be confirmed. Let's hope these bands do decide to come to Adelaide and not just the eastern seaboard.

• Bill Haley and the Comets released "Rock Around the Clock", spawning a whole generation of bobby-sock clad tools. And in 1970, when Michael Jackson's head wasn't made out of asbestos and extruded plastic, the Jackson 5 released "ABC", which, unbeknowns to the average punter, is a seething indictment of illiteracy in the ghetto.

• Mick Saggy Lips married Bianca Perez Morana (of Nicaraguan extraction) on the 12th of May. The marriage lasted a loving eight years, almost as long as the Sandinista revolution, until the divorce proceedings began in a LA court.

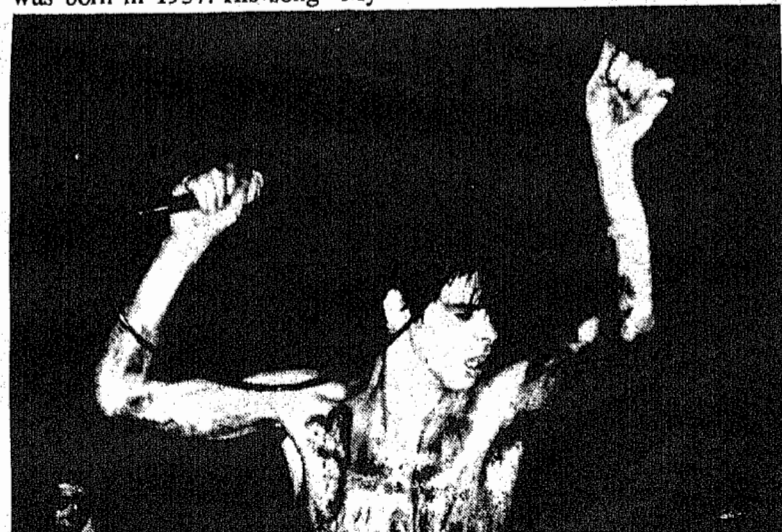
• Paul "Do You Wanna Touch

Me?" (actually, no, you enormous fucking porpoise) Geddy - more commonly known as Gary Glitter turns 46 this week. Billy Joel turns 42 - another bag under the eyes, ey Bill!

• Sex Pistols signed to Virgin Records in 1977 and John Simon "Drugs Don't Kill" (Sid Vicious) was born in 1957. His song "My

Way" was covered earlier by Frank Sinatra and entered the U.K. charts in 1969.

• 1981 Bob "I Don't Smoke" Marley died of lung cancer and fellow black man Stevie "Has anybody seen the piano?" Wonder was born Stephen Judkins in 1950.

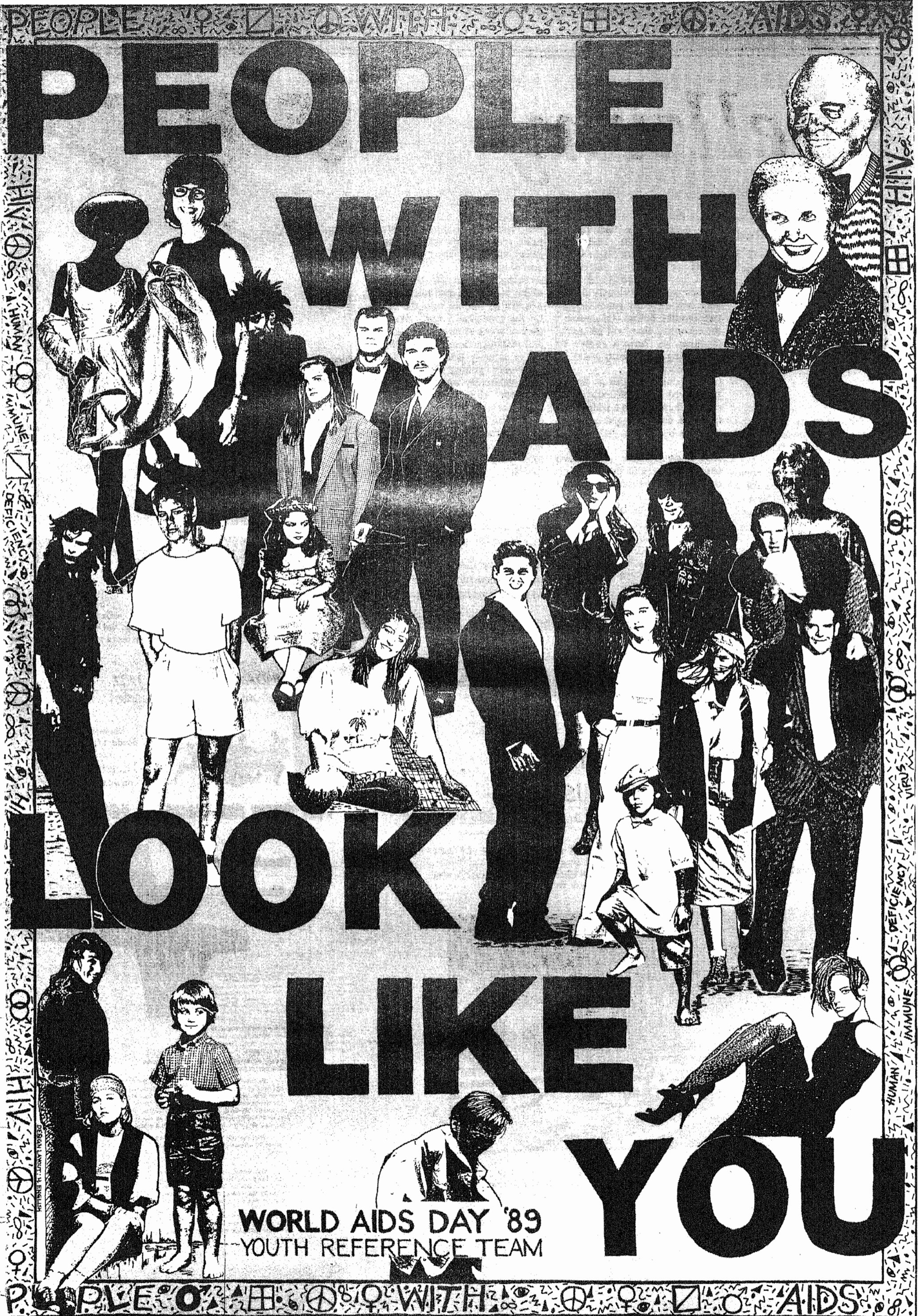


PEOPLE WITH AIDS

PEOPLE WITH AIDS

LOOK LIKE YOU

WORLD AIDS DAY '89
YOUTH REFERENCE TEAM



United States of Stereotype

Heart Condition A James Parriot Film Academy Cinemas

"Why bother with originality when you can steal from everything that's been done before?" writer/director James Parriot must have asked himself when he made *Heart Condition*. In this film he asks us to believe that by mashing together various genres - cop, ghost, action, intrigue, buddy - he is somehow breathtakingly original.

Depicting bigoted, slobbish, down-on-his-luck cop Jack Mooney (Bob Hoskins) who gets a heart transplant from his arch-nemesis, a black attorney, this film purports in some small way to be enlightened entertainment. The lawyer, named Napoleon Stone (Denzel Washington) becomes a

ghost whom only Mooney can see, opening the way for all sorts of overdone humour as Stone attempts to reform Mooney. Napoleon the Ghost isn't content to pad around the apartment in a sheet. If he has to reside in the body of a short, fat white guy, he's going to do it in style. Haircuts, wardrobe, and rhythm are a black man's speciality, the director appears to be saying. Add to that a subplot about a drug-using Senator (surprisingly topical in the midst of all this banality) and you have the 'heart' of this movie. See how we undermine stereotype and prejudice in the middle of a cop movie, Parriot tries to say, but he ends up reinforcing the stereotypes he seeks to overcome.

Washington and Hoskins give both supply energetic performances, although the former is the more amusing and engaging

of the two. Hoskins essentially repeats his detective character from *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*, but here the role is uglier. Are we supposed to keep laughing as Hoskins' Mooney incessantly spouts obscenities at Stone, or as he discusses at length the "N-

word" with his superior who happens to be black?

Parriot doesn't give the material the harsh satirical edge needed to downplay the somewhat racist overtones.

Any cleverness or sincerity in the script is squandered in the

careless handling of prejudice. *Heart Condition* is one of those movies that leaves you wondering not what effect the director was going for in the movie, but why he made the film at all.

Susan Subramaniam



Hollywood's Saccharine Traditions

Stella A John Euman film Academy Cinemas

The saying "Third time's a charm" may hold for the sequels of *Star Wars* and *Indiana Jones*, but it certainly does not apply to remakes. *Stella* is the third version of Oliver Prouty's novel *Stella Dallas* to be made in Hollywood. However, in an attempt to modernise the story, the script writers have resorted to using emotionally manipulative and clichéd scenes to gain the film viewer's sympathy for Stella's plight.

In this version, Bette Midler plays the title character, single mother who struggles single-handedly to raise the daughter she conceived with a rich doctor. In

one of the stock tear jerking scenes, after hearing of Stella's arrest, friends call one by one to cancel acceptances to a 16th birthday party Stella has spent weeks scrimping to prepare for her daughter Jenny (Trini Alvarado). If that isn't implausible enough, some of Jenny's schoolmates then drive by her home honking loudly and mooning.

For a film that purports to deal with the dignity of the working-class struggle for a better life, *Stella* is full of unrealistic portrayals of the working class. Scenes like those of Stella struggling to make a living selling cosmetics door to door juxtaposed with images of her playing with her daughter in a living room full of expensive toys betray the film makers' middle-class perceptions.

This problem is even more apparent in the film's sympathetic view of the rich characters. The boyfriend Jenny meets on one of her annual visits to her father is a vapid Tom Cruise look-alike whose crested blazer and khakis seem to suggest even more stereotyping. Yet, when we learn that he is an education major at Brown who has ambitious of becoming a teacher, this surprise is just one example for the shadings given to the wealthy to make them seem less like caricatures.

Stella might have had hopes of presenting the story of ordinary people's struggles, but in the end, the saccharine traditions of Hollywood have crushed any such objectives.

Susan Subramaniam



The Pleasure of the Text

La Lectrice A Michel Deville Film Trak

Are you a confirmed anglophone francophobe? Do you find subtitles daunting? If so, be imprudent! Cast aside your prejudices! This lighthearted, somewhat off-beat French comedy should cure your fear of all things Gallic.

Miou-Miou is bewitching as the narrator Constance, and as Marie, the reader in Raymond Jean's novel, *La Lectrice*. The film commences as Constance is reading to her boyfriend in bed. She quickly becomes immersed in the author's fantasy, putting herself in Marie's place. Marie is a young, intelligent blond possessed of a unique quality, her beautiful voice. At the suggestion of a friend, she

decides to profit from this asset and unsuspectingly advertises her services as a reader.

Innocent of the potential dangers of this lost art, Marie throws herself enthusiastically into the task. Her clients include a wheelchair bound youth, the widow of a Hungarian general, and a neurotic businessman. They are all crippled in some way and they want Marie to help them escape from their isolated world. Not deterred by the peculiarities of her clients, and the sometimes disastrous effects of her reading, Marie learns quickly. She knows she has mastered her profession when she can overcome her hesitation and read explicit passages from the Marquis de Sade without a tremor in her voice.

The distinction between the books and life is lost as the film oscillates between Marie,

Constance and their imaginative world. The director, Michel Deville, has used mirrors to emphasize the ambiguity of reality. The language acquires double and triple meanings, and unfortunately the effect sometimes is dulled in translation.

Miou-Miou and her delightful feline qualities carry the film. There are other great performances; Marie Casares, as the widow, was nominated for Best Supporting Actress in the Cesar Awards (the French version of the Oscars). Patrick Chegnais also deserves a mention for his brilliant portrayal of an overworked and hysterical "PDG" (chairman and managing director). He won the Cesar for Best Supporting Actor.

Sos, dedicated bibliophiles, and ordinary culture vultures - dépêchez-vous!

Amanda Seaton & Justine Sheat

of Las Vegas. It's an attempt to a vision of modern America as "an Utopia", a post-orgy world of sul abundance, of "indifference, discon exhibition and circulation" powered immoral dynamic images".

It all sounds a little familiar, world of... earlier, th te: ...onder. If, as en the real



A.U FILM SOCIETY
Presents

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME



plus
ZERO DE CONDUITE

Wednesday 9th May 7.30pm
Union Cinema (Level 5 Union Building)
Membership \$3 All Welcome

Dear Students,

You are invited to attend the
Union Bar's 15th Birthday Party
on Wednesday May 9th 1990 between 12 noon - 6pm

Drinks will be specially priced
Beer, wine, and cider \$1 glass all day



Special Birthday Entertainment All Free

noon - 2pm Fiddlestix

2pm - 3pm Phil Hoytzenroder

3pm - 5pm Guest appearance of *Spank You Very Much*



Join us to celebrate 15 years of the Union Bar.

We now have icy cold beer on tap plus a good range of
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Student Radio

MONDAY

10.00 "Three Boys, a Girl and their Dog"
Dave, Rob & Ben Present this week's show from the Astor, the Austral & Downtown.
11.00 "Orinoco Flow"
Arts and Sciences dichotomised and lobotomised.
12.00 "Voices in the Dark"
Curl up with the bedside blondes Kelly & Erica for a smooth blend of somnolent sounds, movie memories & book reviews.

TUESDAY

10.00 "Stir Fried Armadillos"
John & Dave talk Arts.
11.00 "Adelaide Underground"
Live Band recordings, interviews and sub-culture with Dave Stokes, Stephen Hards & Ian.
12.00 "The Russ Hinze Benefit Show"
Simon & Jason present the best in English & American indie music, with sporadic comments on The Fat Man.

WEDNESDAY

10.00 "Baltic Radio"
Take a Slow boat to Novorogod with madame Volga & Boyd Borsht.
11.00 "Good Times"
Get out those brown flares, and immerse yourself in the seventies with Caz & Anne.
12.00 "Buster Gonad"
Revolting offerings from the rudest man in the world, Nick Bell.

THURSDAY

10.00 "UV-Blockout"
Emily, Juliet & Finola
11.00 "British Beat"
With Todd Cavender.
12.00 "Dolphin-O-Rama"
Julian's topic of the week is the continuing plight of the dolphins, and how they relate to house music.

FRIDAY

10.00 "Ilva Wakefield"
Presented by ..Ilva Wakefield
11.00 "Eleventh Hour"
Presented by Kristy Arbon.
12.00 "The Heavy Concept Show"
Weighty topics covered by the slightly less leviathan Angus & David.

Activities Week beginning Tuesday, May 8th, 1990

Tuesday, May 8th
7.30 pm Cinematheque Film Programme in Union Cinema with "Night and Fog", (Dir. Alain Resnais, France, 1955, B/W, 31 mins) and "The Stranger" (Dir. Orson Welles, USA, 1946, B/W, 95 mins).

Wednesday, May 9th
Noon - 6 pm 15th Bar Birthday Party in Union Bar.
2 - 3 pm Phil Hoytsensoder
3 - 5 pm "Spank You Very Much" Special priced drinks all day. Beer, wine and cider \$1 per glass. Come and help celebrate the 15th birthday party. Free.

Thursday, May 10th
1 - 2 pm Jazz in Gallery with "Blues in Our Shoes". Free.

Friday, May 11th
9 pm - Midnight Adelaide University Campus Battle of Bands final with "My Love Pumpkin" and two other acts to be announced. Free to students, \$5 guests.

Saturday, May 12th
8 pm - 1 am 1990 Graduation Ball at Adelaide Convention Centre. 4 course dinner, all drinks and dancing to "DW Waldorf Swing Orchestra" for \$65 inclusive. Some tickets still available. Formal dress. Enquiries to Alumni House or Union Office. Book before Thursday.

Activities Programme
Now in your student pigeonhole. Find out what's happening on campus.

Coming Entertainment
"Swell Guys", "Just Kidding", "Ad Lib Ensemble", "Big Opera Co." and lots more.

Amnesty International General Meeting
Monday, 14th May, 1 - 2 pm, Little Cinema.

Clubs Association

1991 Budget
All clubs must complete a budget submission to assist the Clubs Association Executive in preparing the CA submission to Union Board. The submissions are available from Vicki Ferguson (CA Administrative Secretary in the Sports Association Office).

The **Deadline** for the submissions is **Friday, 18th May, 1990**. The submission must be accompanied by (a) 1990 membership list (b) Statement regarding the financial situation of the Club during 1989.

Manuals
Are now available for collection from Vicki, however, only if we have a current contact list for your club for 1990.

Pigeon Holes
All pigeon holes must be cleared each week.

CA Executive Lost

Gold double chain bracelet. Very important. If found please call 223 7292.

Overseas Students' Association 1990 Annual Ski Trip to Victoria. From 14th July to 21st July. At a very competitive price of \$379 (includes ski-hire). For more information, contact Edward 363 0113 or Jeff 362 7577.

Wanted - Coxswains
The Boat Club is urgently in need of coxswains for its Intervarsity rowing crews. If you are approximately 55 kg and either have experience or are willing to learn the skills required please drop a note in the Boat Club pigeonhole in the Sports Association. Intervarsity will be held in Brisbane

from 5-11 July, followed by a week long lager frenzy in Surfers and Noosa.

Campus Challenge
Everything you ever wanted to know about christianity but were afraid to ask. Monday's 1 pm Union Cinema and Thursday's 1 pm Napier Lecture Theatre 101. Sponsored by Campus Challenge. For more info phone 364 2881.

Quick Macintosh Courses
Do you want to spend your time more efficiently on the Macintoshes in the Barr Smith Library? Have you always wanted to be able to use a Macintosh? The Quick Macintosh course will teach you these things in just one lunchtime! For just \$10, you receive hands-on tuition, "Introduction to the Macintosh", and "Learning MacWrite" books and a floppy disk. Courses are planned for Friday, 27 April and Friday 11 May, at 1.10 pm. Bookings essential - phone 228 5441, or call into the Apply Consortium, room 281, level 2, Horace Lamb Building (inside the Computer Science Department).

Tai Chi Club
Tuesday 2.15, Dining Rooms. Cost \$3.50 lesson. For fitness and health, relaxation and well being. This ancient Chinese art form has been practiced for hundreds of years. This your chance to integrate it into your lifestyle to improve your life. For men and women of all ages. Bookings: Gerard Menzel 332 7638 or Sherry at the Craft Studio.

FURNITURE FOR SALE
1 single bed with strong and solid steel frame. \$25
1 Table 0.8 x 1.5 m \$20
1 Wardrobe 1.6m high \$15
Several chairs \$2
Top bargain - Prices negotiable!
Contact Mr. Lin Sheng, Chinese Student
Address- Unit 4, 55 Fullarton Road, Kent Town.
You welcome to come and see the furniture at any time before the 15th of May.

Were You a Road's Scholar?
An invitation is extended to all past Daws Road High School students, to join in the school's 25th anniversary celebrations, to be held on May 11 and 12.

Events being organised are: an open day, including a school assembly on Friday 11; a 'Back to Daws Road' reunion on Saturday 12 from 11 am - 4 pm; and a dinner dance in the Adelaide Hilton International Ballroom on Saturday evening.

Over the 2 days, sporting matches are being organised between old scholars and present students, in football, soccer, netball (contact Peter Cavouras) and volleyball (contact Ian Hilditch). For a full programme of events, contact Daws Road High School, phone 276 8822/276 9607.

Under Milk Wood
Union Hall, Friday 11 May, 7.30 pm
Celtic Circle's rehearsed reading of Dylan Thomas's legendary play for voices was sold out at every performance in the recent Festival Fringe. A repeat performance, hosted by the Department of English, will be put on in the Union Hall on Friday 11 May, beginning at 7.30 pm. The performance will be followed, after a short interval, by a lecture on the play, given by Dr Tom Burton, and a brief discussion session in which the audience is invited to put questions and comments to the cast. Tickets (\$5.00 each) may be bought from the English Department Office (6th floor, Napier Building) or booked through the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild (telephone 228 5999).



ABORIGINALS |
ACADEMICS |
ACTIVISTS |
AD.AGENCIES |
AFFIRMATIVE-ACTIONISTS |
ARTISTS |
BARRISTERS |
CHILDREN |
COMMUNITY WORKERS |
CORPORATE LAWYERS |
COURT STAFF |
ECO-POLITICIANS |
ENVIRONMENTALISTS |
EQUAL-OPPORTUNISTS |
GAY RIGHTSISTS |
GOVERNMENT LAWYERS |
HIGH-SCHOOL LEGAL STUDENTS |
HUMAN RIGHTS WORKERS |
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES |
ISSUE GROUPS |
JUDGES |
LAW STAFF |
LAW STUDENTS |
LEGAL AID WORKERS |
LOBBYISTS |
LOW-INCOME |
MAGISTRATE |
MEDIA WORKERS |
MUSIC |
ONCE |
ORGANISERS |
OPPRESS |
PARALEGALS |
POLITICIANS |
PUBLISHERS |
WOMEN |
YOUTH

Adelaide Public Interest Advocacy Centre
155 Pirie St, 1st Floor / GPO Box 1025 Adelaide Ph: 232 3197

Brief Meeting
6pm
Tuesday 8 May
155 Pirie St, 1st Floor Meeting Room

All welcome-- and especially
Law, Media & Community Workers.

1. to consider the response so far from:
 - Legal Services Commission of South Australia
 - Office of Legal Aid Administration, Canberra
 - Legal Practitioners and the Law Society of S.A. SACOSS.
2. to focus on funding strategies, priorities and community-control.
3. to call for a national conference or forum on Public Interest Advocacy.
4. to support the establishment of a national secretariat for the Coalition of Australian Public Interest Advocacy Centres.



POOR? OPPRESSED? UNDER-RESOURCED?

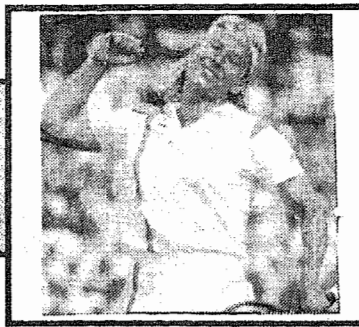
The PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY Centre is a collective thinktank and network of local skills/contacts/experience offering representation in any media globally.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION 1991 BUDGET MEETINGS

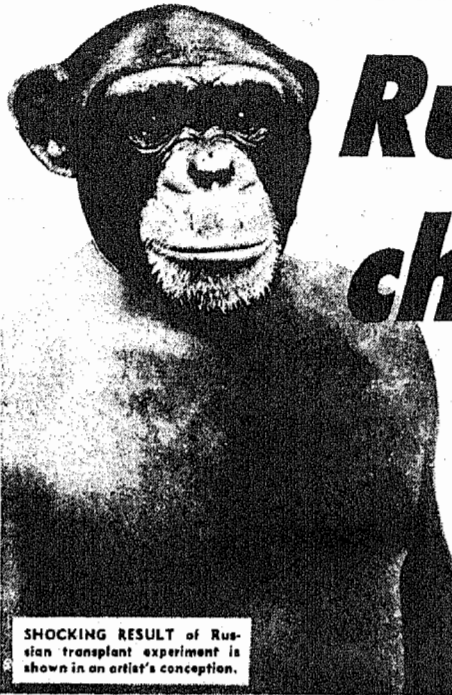
THE PROPOSED MEETING DATES OF THE FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE 1991 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

DATE (1990) TO CONSIDER	
MON 16 JULY	ACTIVITIES, CLUBS ASSOCIATION, PGSA & CAPITAL
TUES 17 JULY	GALLERY, STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION & CAPITAL
WED 18 JULY	CRAFT STUDIO, SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THEATRES & CAPITAL
THURS 19 JULY	UNION, CHILDCARE, CATERING & CAPITAL
FRI 20 JULY	WAITE POST GRADUATES, OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS

THE MEETINGS WILL START AT 4.00PM IN THE UNION BOARD ROOM, FIRST FLOOR LADY SYMON BUILDING.
IF THERE ARE ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT
PETER VON MALTZAHN, UNION ACCOUNTANT ON 228 5401



Medical world enraged at latest Soviet experiment



SHOCKING RESULT of Russian transplant experiment is shown in an artist's conception.

Russians sew chimp's head onto man's body!

By RAGAN DUNN

A human rights advocate says Soviet scientists have transplanted a chimp's head on a man's body in one of the most horrifying medical experiments on record. "The Russians have never been restricted by ethics or respect for human life but this time they've gone too far," Dr. Herman Lusk told reporters in Amberg, West Germany. "They conducted the transplant on August 20," he added, "and according to my sources, the patient is still alive."

Soviet officials angrily denounced Dr. Lusk's allegation but he produced both written and photographic evidence to support his claims. Documents smuggled from a research facility east of Moscow contain a step-by-step description of the bizarre transplant experiment. And a shocking series of photos taken after the operation clearly depict a human body topped with a chimp's neck and head.

Dr. Viktor Makmudov is a former Soviet surgeon who emigrated to West Germany last year. He told reporters that Soviet scientists have conducted head-transplant experiments in the past and will continue to do so unless "God-fearing people everywhere pressure them to quit."

"The most recent transplant is particularly gruesome but it doesn't surprise me in the least," continued the doctor.

"I seriously doubt that the patient will live more than a few months because the animal head will almost certainly be rejected by the human body."

"But this sort of research is very important to the Soviet medical establishment; and will definitely go on. It is part of an attempt to alter life itself in the pursuit of ultimate power."

Western intelligence sources confirm that the Soviets have been con-



RUSSIAN doctors spent seven hours attaching chimpanzee's head to a "volunteer" human's helpless body.

ducting head transplant experiments since the early 1950s. Similar research has been totally banned in the United States, they went on to say.

In spite of Soviet denials, Dr. Lusk has called on individuals and human rights groups worldwide to condemn the Soviet research.

"In the name of God and everything decent we've got to stop this madness," he said.

Cops find dead man holding floral bouquet

Baffled cops found the corpse of Andrew Kerns floating in a lake — clutching a bouquet of flowers.

The well-known Columbia, S.C., interior designer often picked flowers from a woods near Lake Murray where his houseboat was moored.

"We have almost been able to rule out foul play, but that is not conclusive," said Richland County Coroner Frank Barron.

Kerns, 45, had a history of allergic reactions and was taking strong medication.

Dad is charged after tot shot

A 3-year-old boy accidentally shot himself in the face — and his father has been charged with child endangerment, police said.

Little Nicholas Martinez Jr. of Chicago reached up into a high drawer in the kitchen and got his father's gun while Nicholas Martinez Sr. was taking a nap. He shot himself while looking into the gun barrel and is in critical condition.

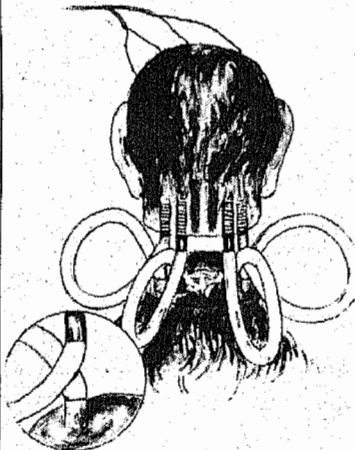
Nicholas Martinez Sr. has also been charged with failing to register his handgun.

Loneliness is more risky than smoking

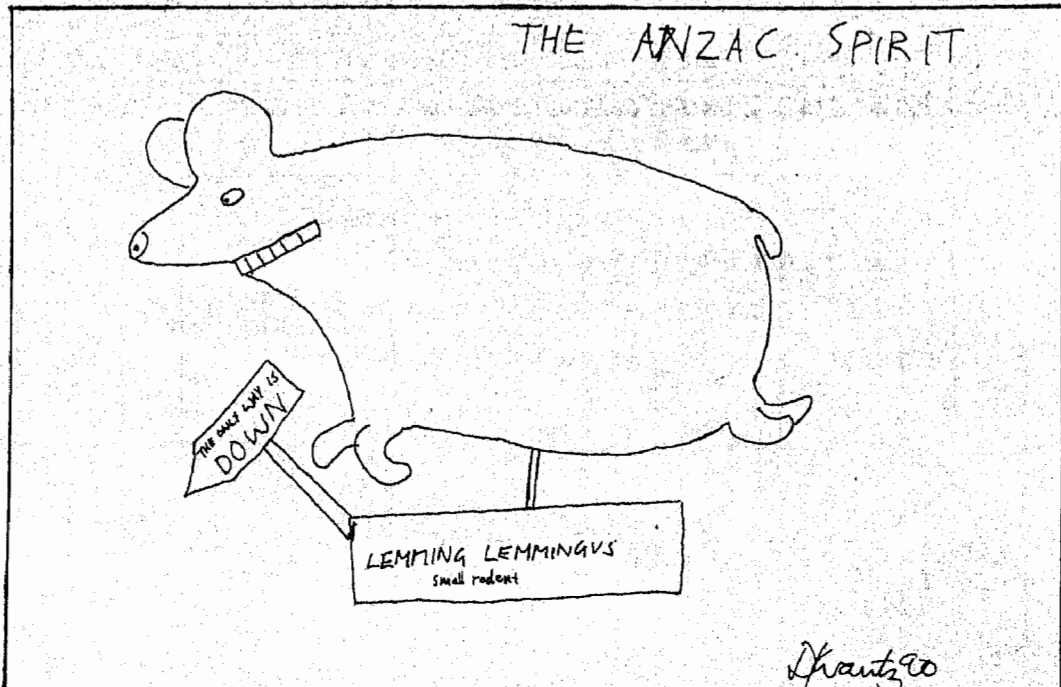
Scientists have isolated a new killer: loneliness.

New research reveals that being socially isolated rivals established risk factors like cigarettes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, being overweight and neglecting exercise in causing serious health problems.

Sociologists at the University of Michigan concluded that the risks of loneliness are "stronger than the relative risks for all causes of mortality reported for cigarette smoking."



HOW THEY did it: Drawing shows method used to keep ope's head alive during the operation.



PRIMROSE PATTY SPEAKS WITH BOT CHAT'S BINKY KOSMINA

A world exclusive to On Dit - Primrose Patty breaks her silence about the society marriage shock that rocked the world of high society. Binky Kosmina finds out what really went on during that fateful, but extremely important, socially relevant and earth shattering weekend in Venice.

BK: It must have been difficult for such a shy, retiring and private person as yourself to have had her personal life, in detail, splashed all over the world's headlines in quite explicit and revealing terms. You received an abnormally huge amount of publicity.

PP: Yes. Those newspapers were quite vulgar and hurtful. I hadn't cried as much since the day mumsy told me that I was too old for show jumping.

BK: I agree. Now onto some questions about Prince Lorenzo. Before the planned wedding, in Venice before 2000 important society guests, did he ever jump your bones?

PP: I beg your pardon?
BK: Show you the wedding tackle, slip in the big pink one, go bearded clam spearing?

PP: I don't quite understand.
BK: Were you two sexually active with each other?

PP: Hmm ... sexually active ... Oh no! He was a Qantas Steward.

BK: How did you feel when it was suggested that you only married him for his title, and he you for your money?

PP: I could not believe they said it! I felt the implication was absolutely, totally, completely and utterly uncompromisingly true. But mumsy didn't know he was one of them when she arranged it.

BK: So you admit that the wedding was pre-arranged?

PP: No! No! No! No! You journalists are all alike! Making up all this rot and rubbish, hurting myself and my family. You ...

BK: But you just said that it was arranged by your mother ...

PP: Not the marriage, silly - oh ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! - the pre-matty. I believe that it had something to do with teenage boys when we were to have decided to raise a family, you need a man and lady you see. Mind you, just between you and me, the apartment mumsy set aside for us in Toorak only has a tiny vegetable garden, so I can't see how we could have had a large family.

BK: I see. What were the teenage boys actually for?

PP: Valets, I think. Between 3 - 4 a week. But if you are out

there Lorenzo, please come back, all is forgiven my widdle bubby-wubby. Champers?

BK: Thank you. Do you have any idea why Prince Lorenzo piked out just before your special day?

PP: Who me? I hardly knew the man. Heaven knows. I have only met him once, briefly at Susan Rossiter-Peacock-Sangster-Murdoch-Rockerfella-Skywalker's birthday do last year at Sur-Murde.

BK: So you hardly knew the man, yet you were willing to spend the rest of your life, not to mention the rest of your money - quite huge, large, considerable bankrolls of money and cash and expensive things and stuff - just in order to get a husband?

PP: Of course! Doesn't everyone? Mumsy did and Susan's given me a few pointers. For goodness sake, he's only a man you know.

BK: Primrose Patty - thank you. What are you doing for dinner tonight?

WE HAVE A WINNER!

Last week's Bot Chat competition drew an ecstatic and frenzied response from the public...in fact, the one person who entered our "Oh Gosh..what does that zany word mean?" competition got almost every single word right.

As you remember, we were after the names of the piece of skin between the anus and the genitals, the tip of a shoelace, and a wig made out of pubic hair.

Mr. Ben Allen, a first year Arts student of no-fixed address, sent in the following answers.

1. Perineum- CORRECT!(also known as "the piece of rudey skin")

2. Flugelbinder- WRONG, YOU STUPID DROPKICK- IT'S CALLED AN AGLET

3. Merkin- CORRECT AGAIN! Remember, they're really comfortable, but a little bit whiffy!

Congratulations Ben. The diamond set momento is on the way...that is, as soon as we can bribe one off of Tony Barber.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Let he who is without aim cast the first stone."
Rupert, 9: 3

CHAOS

The first twenty people to saunter casually into the office after 12:00 on Tuesday will receive a free pass to Club Chaos, this Thursday evening at the Griffin's Head...which is actually quite close to Rundle Street.