

# BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

STUDENTS' UNION

No. 218

Monday 17 October 1983

BRITISH LIBRARY  
OF POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC SCIENCE

N58

Student offer inside

## The Economist

### Look at it another way

# Indian mandarin gets Directorship

## INSIDE BEAVER

Editorial page 2

Letters from:

Pat Hayes, Robert Shrimpsley,  
Sean O' Neill, Sheree  
Folkson, Philip Groves  
(Academic Affairs Officer),  
Craig Breheny page 2

Mathew Price At  
The Union page 3

News page 3 and 4

Your Union 5, 6, 7

LSE Listing Service  
page 8

Paradise Lost?  
page 9

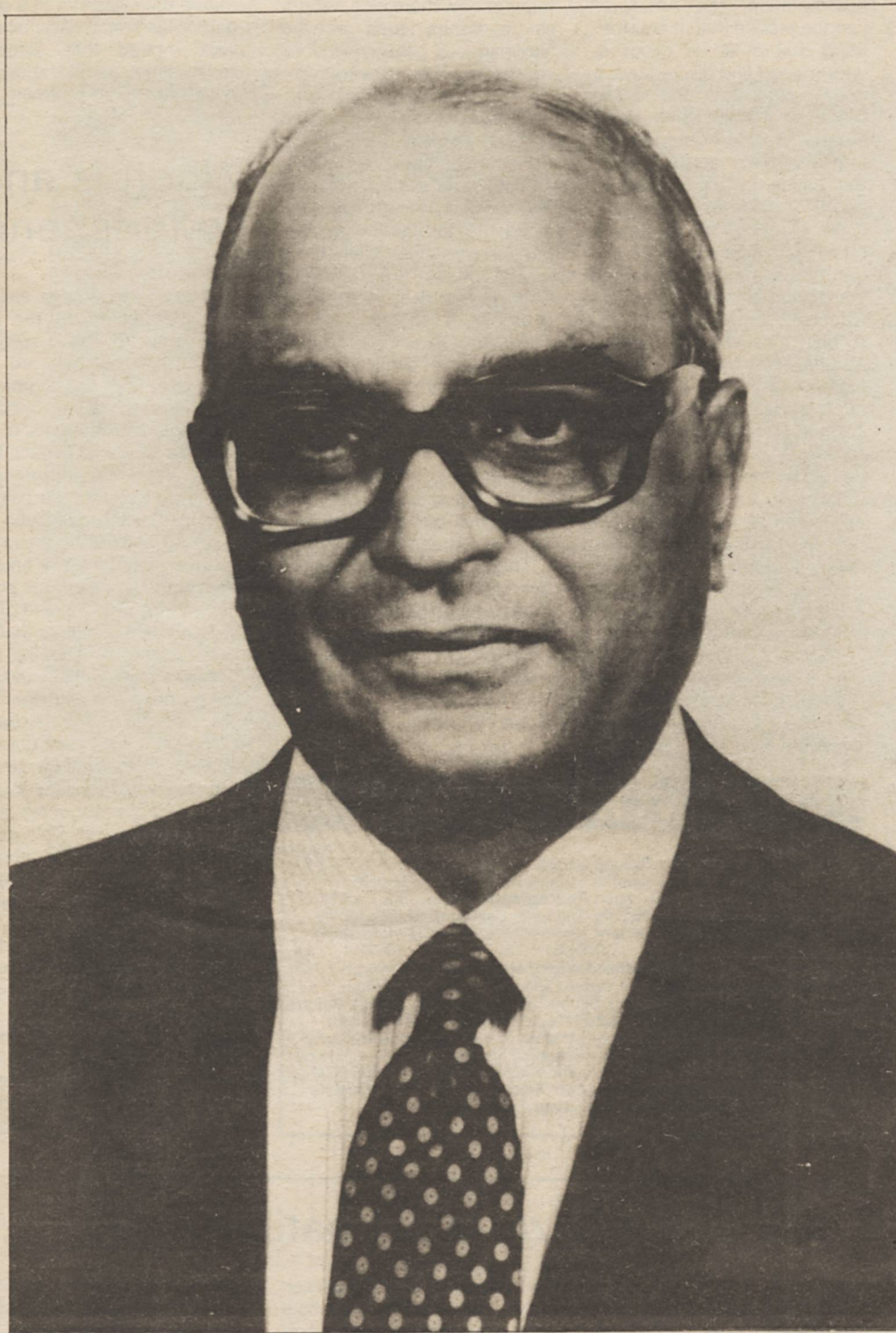
A Flower In The  
Desert  
— Angela Burns  
In Jordan  
page 10

London Arts  
page 11

Houghton Street  
Harry page 12

Sport page 12

Crossword page 12



Dr Indraprasad Gordhanbhai Patel

## Pathways to progress

Matthew Price investigates the issue of the fourth sabbatical

After a summer of debate and discussion the Student's Union executive has produced a series of constitutional amendments, the most important of which is the creation of a fourth sabbatical. The General Secretary and Senior Treasurer obviously hope that these proposals will satisfy all parts of the labyrinth of conflicting interest groups that make up the Union but runs the risk of being rejected by them all.

The new sabbatical will be an 'Education and Representation Secretary' and the responsibilities will include i) Academic Affairs, ii) overall direction and co-ordination of union representation on school committees, iii) understanding all connected research, and iv) responsibility for the training of

the sabbatical-elect and the Executive-elect.

The key question is, does this amount to enough work to justify an extra full-time official and are these areas in the greatest need given the Union's limited resources.

Previous sabbaticals Rich Young and Tony Donaldson (and the recent Senior Treasurer John Donkersley) were advocating the appointment of a Union manager in order to give a degree of continuity in administration, to give a greater co-ordination of staff resources to overcome inexperience in staffing matters. The problem of a manager is that it strikes at the weakest point of the multi-sided role the Union has to play. As a Union it is responsible to its members to produce the most efficient

allocation possible of the student's money, but in being a democratic body it also tries to make its controllers politically accountable and so there is a conflict between bureaucratic efficiency of representing different interest groups. As an employer the Union will also try out a 'Liberal' regime giving staff a high degree of individual autonomy.

Women's officer Lois Hants believes in comparison with the cost of a manager the increase in efficiency would not be worthwhile and if there was a bad manager this would disrupt the whole Union. General Secretary Debbi Hindson thinks the manager would take away student's control and that staff administration was overrated as a problem area by the previous sabbaticals.

Please turn to page 4

The announcement of the appointment of Dr Indraprasad Gordhanbhai Patel as Director answers the big question WHO? but leaves us with the other question WHY? His connection with the school would appear to be that he attended a couple of LSE lectures when he and the school happened to be in Cambridge at the same time during the Second World War. That and the fact that he is a brother-in-law of Professor P S Dasgupta who is currently an economics professor at the school. The appointment, which is only for five years in contrast to the ten year reign of Professor Dahrendorf, is bound to fuel discussion of the issue of high fees for overseas students. It will be interesting to hear what he has to say on this matter. The Union General Secretary Debbie Hindson expressed the view that this appointment may have been made to appease the feelings of overseas students on this issue. At the Governor's meeting on Thursday Debbi called on the Student Governors to abstain from the vote to confirm the appointment.

The good Doctor is currently Director of the Indian Institute of Management which is an establishment of considerable academic repute. Dr Patel is no stranger to the intrigues of Indian politics. When Morarji Desai ascended to the Prime Ministerial Office in the turbulent days of the late 1970's, Patel was appointed to the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Many saw this as the elevation by the master of his (political) protege to one of the most influential and important posts in the country. Indeed, its sensitivity was highlighted by his removal from this position by Indira Gandhi, the following Prime Minister of India.

Dr Patel will be receiving a salary of about 525,000 — rupees — during his time at the Bank of India he used to autograph them.

Iain Crawford and Rajat Kohli

## BIOGRAPHY

Indraprasad Gordhanbhai Patel  
Born — November 1924, Sunav,  
Gujarat State, India  
Education:  
1940-44 Baroda College,  
University of Bombay  
B.A. Hons 1st Class  
1944-47 King's College,  
University of Cambridge  
B.A. 1st Class Hons  
1949 Ph.D  
1947-48 Harvard University  
Graduate School  
1949-50 Professor of  
Economics and Head of  
Department, University of  
Baroda and Principal, Baroda  
College  
1950-54 Economist, later  
Assistant Division Chief,  
Research Department,  
International Monetary Fund,  
Washington, D.C.  
1954-58 Deputy Economic  
Adviser, Ministry of Finance,  
Government of India —  
especially in charge of liaison  
with the Planning Commission  
and the Indian Statistical  
Institute, Calcutta, and as such  
actively involved in the Second  
Five-Year Plan  
1958-61 Alternate Executive  
Director for India on the Board  
of the IMF, Washington, D.C.  
1961-63 Chief Economic  
Adviser, Ministry of Finance  
and Economic Adviser,  
Planning Commission  
1964 Visiting Professor, Delhi  
School of Economics  
1965-67 Chief Economic  
Adviser, Ministry of Finance  
Committees and public bodies  
during the period 1961-67  
Monopolies Commission  
Managing Agency Committee  
(Chairman)  
Committee on Gold Control  
(Secretary)  
U.N. Group of Experts on  
International Monetary Reform  
Group of Experts to advise on

first UNCTAD meeting  
1967-72 Special Secretary and  
Secretary, Department of  
Economic Affairs, Ministry of  
Finance  
Member — Atomic Energy  
Commission, Govt of India  
— Space Commission, Govt of  
India  
Governing Body — Tata  
Institute of Fundamental  
Research  
— National Council of Applied  
Economic Research  
— Institute of Economic Growth  
— Indian Red Cross  
Led the Indian team at the Aid-  
India Consortium; responsible  
for most aid negotiations  
abroad; main responsibility at  
official level for formulation of  
budgetary and general  
economic policies; Alternate  
Governor for India on Boards of  
I.B.R.D., I.F.C., I.D.A., and the  
Asian Development Bank  
1972-77 Deputy  
Administrator, United Nations  
Development Programme,  
New York  
1977-82 Governor, Reserve  
Bank of India  
Alternate Governor for India,  
on Board of I.M.F.  
1982 Director, Indian Institute  
of Management, Ahmedabad  
Other current international  
memberships:  
1977 Member, U.N.  
Committee on Development  
Planning  
1978 Member, the Group of 30  
(since its inception)  
1983 Member,  
Commonwealth Group of  
Experts on reform of the  
international finance and  
trading system. (Agust 1983  
report, *Towards a New  
Bretton Woods System*)  
Member, World Bank  
Selection Committee for  
McNamara Fellowships



# BEAVER

## Making Beaver work

A newspaper, especially in a place such as the LSE, with its disparate community of students from all over the world, has a crucial role to play. We should be a bridge and a focal point for the immensely varied activities that take place here, helping those at LSE to learn about one another.

There are many areas of society/Beaver liaison that need to be improved. Our new LSE Listing Service is presently an inadequate embryo, but we want to build it up to being *the* forum for finding out what is going on. We urge *all* society officers to keep in *regular* contact to let us know what is happening.

Secondly, Beaver needs its own phone. Why? Because at the moment we can call out only by asking for an outside line on the Union extension. This is during office hours, from 1Cam to 1pm, and from 2pm to 5pm. This is totally inadequate both for us, as much time can be wasted waiting or going to a phone box, and also for Doreen Angus, the Union Secretary, who has far better things to do than feed us 5 or 6 lines consecutively if we are, for example, calling back on messages.

The sabbaticals all have direct outside lines through the School's network. Because the system is so mediaeval and overloaded the School cannot spare us a line. Beaver, it can be argued, merits a sabbatical in its own right, as a production week involves more time for the editors than a forty-hour week. The least we need is our own phone – a separate number that is always available. The Beaver Collective is putting a motion to the UGM calling for this. We hope anyone who wants to see a better newspaper for LSE students will go to the meeting and support it.

## A case in point

Over the summer, the General Secretary, Debbi Hindson, put forward in report some ideas to improve the administration of the Students' Union. She highlighted as the major problem the inadequacies of students as managers. In her conclusion she suggested the creation of a fourth sabbatical concerned with 'Representation and Academic Affairs'.

Immediately, two blatant fallacies appear. First, after highlighting the problems of having students as managers she just advocates more of the same – i.e. another student sabbatical. Secondly, the role of the new sabbatical would have nothing to do with the administration of the Union, let alone improving it. In defence she argues that her measures would improve the administration by taking away from the General Secretary and Senior Treasurer the burden of academic affairs campaigning, giving them more time to deal with administration itself.

Obviously she does not realise that successful administration depends far more on skills gained from experience than on the time available. Further, she only recently acknowledged the very limited time needed for academic affairs when she supported the reduction of the number of academic affairs officers on the executive from two to one. The whole proposal seems to be grinding to a gradual halt. This has happened not least because Debbi Hindson seems to have neither the heart nor confidence to push her idea over. Perhaps she just highlights the immediate problem of having a student in such a complicated administrative role.

## The long shadow

That racism is an evil that must be stamped out before it spreads is something which most people within LSE would agree with – or would they? Judging by some remarks made at Union meetings maybe they wouldn't. Perhaps all we are talking about is something thoughtlessly said in the heat of the moment. Why then do people stand idly by when overseas students are charged fees considerably above the limit set by the Department of Education and Science, or David Irving, fascist sympathiser, is allowed to work in the library on 'academic research', refining his evil doctrine still further?

Maybe the reason lies in the fact that most people no longer see the issue of racism as a real one. The near extinction of the NF and others by the Anti-Nazi League in 1979 may have led many people to become complacent. But racism is something which will not be got rid of in just one attempt. It will take a continuous and sustained campaign, and it must be staged in every part of society but more than anywhere else where racism is felt most. In Hackney and Stoke Newington the racism is something which most students could not understand unless actually experienced. The objects of anti-racist attack are not so easily definable, usually rallying behind individuals who have been subjected to racial attack, such as Blair Peach or Colin Roach. But that is just as well since although racism is an attack on one section of society, it is the fact that it is an attack mainly on individuals that makes its shadow seem to be cast so long.

While Beaver supports the Newham 8 and others, the coming together of these many individuals and the banner of LSE anti-racism week at the end of November is something we will give even more support as we believe the only way to change ignorance is through education.

## CND October demo

Sir,

The October 22 demonstration by CND is an important step in winning back the ground lost in the General Election, when the arguments were mostly unheard. Moreover, the organisation has to win new support to continue its upward trend of the last 4 years.

Since 1979, international opposition to the arms race has grown rapidly. Two years ago, huge demonstrations showed that this was now at the forefront of our political lives. Now, with the imminent deployment (perhaps already underway) of Cruise and Pershing missiles, this resistance has to be increased.

Demonstrations are planned for West Germany, France, Norway, Canada, Portugal,

Belgium, Sweden, and the Netherlands as well as here. In the US, the "Freeze" movement will march in many cities.

CND is highlighting the "Freeze" as a major theme of the demonstration, to support the Americans. Also, they intend to concentrate on the new weapons systems, Cruise, Trident, Tornado, which are the focus of the "second wave" of CND. Also, they must, however, reaffirm their arguments for unilateralism, and withdrawal from NATO, to ensure that the concentration on the other issues is not seen as a retreat from traditional policy.

The demonstration is obviously primarily a political occasion, but it is also a time for participation and fun. Like CND says, it's OUR demonstration. Yours faithfully, Craig Breheny.

# Letters

## On Racism

Sir,

As someone who has actually experienced racial abuse, I find myself deeply insulted and enraged, when I am called a racist by someone who wouldn't recognise one if he saw him walking around in a white sheet and carrying a flag with a swastika on it. I get incensed by those members of SWSO and the Labour group who feel that they have a monopoly on absolute truth, and that anyone who opposes what they say must be a racist. This tactic is used by the left as a way of trying to silence all opposition to what they believe to be right.

Racism is something that cannot be fought by outright confrontation, the Anti-Nazi League proved that. It is something that must be exposed, undermined and discredited. It does no good for the lunatic fringe of the left-wing to go around starting fights with all that they term racists. It does the cause of anti-racism no good for its supporters to be seen as being just as big a bunch of thugs as the people that they are seeking to fight. It was for just this reason that the National Front was so pleased to have the Anti-Nazi League around. It is hypocrisy of the highest order for bully boys such as John Hall and John Tomaney to condemn those racists who are intolerant of people for their creed or colour, when they themselves are so intolerant of people for their beliefs. Their attitude is very similar to Hitler's intolerance of the Communists, and the present Polish government's intolerance of Solidarity.

The attitude of the lunatic left is one that will always prevent the fight against racism from being successful. They succeed only in alienating

those whose support they need in their fight. I doubt that there is anyone at the LSE who would not oppose racism and fascism, but they are put off by the bullying and thug tactics of the left. Racism must be fought by education not by confrontation. It cannot be defeated by hurling abuse at those who won't support violence to achieve aims. It cannot be defeated by starting fights with racists, that makes us out to be as bad as them. Blair Peach may have been martyred for his cause, but his death still served no purpose in the end. We must stand up and inform people about what is going on, where racism exists we must highlight it, be it in the police force or anywhere else. Where as in cases such as the Newham 8 the evidence seems to point towards the claims of racism being true, then we must stand up and protest against it.

We must however be discerning in those cases that we choose to champion. We must avoid the temptation to support every case against the police, just for the hell of it. The Colin Roach case is a classic example of people trying to make something out of nothing for the sake of political benefit. If we act in this way then the fight against racism will be a successful one. However, if we reduce our fight to the politics of the gutter by trying to fight them at their own game we reduce our own credibility and our chances of victory.

Thugs like Mr. Hall reduce our chances of winning even more when they alienate, attack, and brand as racists the very people whose support they should be trying to gain.

Yours sincerely  
Robert Shrimpsley

## BEAVER STAFF

**Editors** Richard Bacon, Jim McCallum  
**Sports Editor** (Houghton Street Harry) Martin Graham  
**Arts Editor** Guy Warrington **Photographic Editor** Alan Peakall  
**Society Editor** Irene Nyborg-Anderson **Cartoons** George Dickie  
**Special Investigative Reporters** Matthew Price, Iain Crawford, Rajat Kohli,  
**Production Editor** Robert Alan  
**Beaver Team:** Malcolm Lowe, Sarah Pelling, Lucy Cohen, Gautam Khandi, Sara Gillingham, Mayuri, Simon Taylor, Francesca Joseph, Antonia Burrows, Jonathan Bray, Tim Judah, Paul Houghton, Stephen Jelbert, James Bailey, to whom many many thanks, as well as anyone left out of this list. **Published by** The London School of Economics Students' Union, East Building, Houghton Street, London WC2. **Telephone** 01-405 8594 extension 30. **Typesetters** Rangle Left Photosetters. **Paste-up Artists** Gee Graphics. **Printers** Cambridge Heath Press.

## Opposing a 'bizarre' sabbatical post

Sir,

Debbie Hindson and John Donkersley are proposing (among many changes in Union structure) the creation of a new sabbatical post for the Union, and an 'Education and Representation Secretary' no less. Your readers may want to bear in mind ten reasons for opposing this somewhat bizarre idea.

1) A new sabbatical post would simply not solve the problem of staff/sabbatical management which exists, a problem which led to Rick Young and Simon Taylor's 'Union Manager' proposal at the end of last term. That proposal was designed to prevent a situation in which inexperienced sabbaticals are expected to act as experienced managers. I fail to see how adding a fourth inexperienced sabbatical to the three already there would solve this problem.

2) The existence of a fourth sabbatical would necessitate a seriously-weakened Executive (Flower) Committee, by making redundant the posts of Academic Affairs and External Affairs on the Executive. No longer would the Executive be

an effective link between Union members and sabbaticals. Through their monopoly of information, the time they have for their jobs and the lack of a firm check on their actions, four sabbaticals could effectively run the Union from behind closed doors.

3) In addition to supplanting two Executive posts, a fourth sabbatical – responsible for academic affairs and representation – would cover much of the work which the General Secretary is supposed to carry out. There would be an unwelcome duplication of responsibilities. More seriously, should, one day, two people of different political persuasions come to occupy these two posts, endless futile conflict might well be the outcome.

4) It is my belief that the current General Secretary should face up to the duties of her office. She originally wanted elections for the fourth sabbatical this term. I think we should be told why.

5) Having a fourth sabbatical for the future would leave the General Secretary with more time to indulge in political campaigns against the interests

## Union entertainment

Sir,

Having just attended my first N.U.S. meeting, I was subjected to a form of fascinating "entertainment" akin to a B horror movie. Sitting directly in front of me was a row of neatly attired young men. From the way they voted it was obvious that they were the Conservative Group. However, they had already classified themselves before the voting began by the belligerent way in which they heckled any speakers they disagreed with, particularly those of the left. These bully-boy tactics were just the introduction of more horrors to come. Firstly, after a woman was elected chairperson, these "chaps" derived great pleasure from making what they considered snide remarks about her sexuality, by calling her a lesbian. Then, when a couple of people with regional accents addressed the meeting, our Tory friends proceeded to mimic their accents in a derogatory fashion. Finally, when it was moved that someone might speak about the serious racist attacks in Newham, the

forementioned voted against the motion.

I was not at all surprised by any of these actions. Indeed, these people conformed totally to the parody of an archetypal Tory; they were selfish, rude, sexist, "classist" and racist. However, their behaviour sickened me. Do they think that presenting a clean and tidy exterior allows them to retain a rotten interior? Is it possible to be a Conservative supporter without adhering to such bigotry? It seems not.

At one point in the meeting, having just been beaten on a motion, the most vociferous of these louts proclaimed to his fellows, something to the effect of: "Oh well, its only student politics, its good to know we still control the actual Government of the country". Yes you do, which seems to explain perfectly why we now have a Government that encourages selfishness and ruthlessness, and ignores the problems of the unprivileged, the poor and minority groups – its because its brim-full of bully-boys like you.

Sheree Folkson.

## When is an Independent not so independent?

Sir,

A new phenomena has recently appeared on the LSE political scene. This ill-assorted body claim that they are free from party links and dogma and are therefore able to better represent the interests of the average student. In fact they are a well-organised grouping currently floated by a paid up member of the SDP who has actually appeared on their party political broadcasts and is therefore definitely not an independent in any sense of the word. In fact I suspect that the new independent leaflet may not have been laid out and produced not a million miles from the SDP take over bunker in Cowley St. Andrew Cooper is in turn supported by several members of the Conservative Party and the rest of his group all voted Tory or SDP in the general election. The group is therefore in no way independent, it is a political body following a particular ethos. The SDP were wound up by their own membership in order to create the Independent Student group so that they could put across their views without disclosing their true and more discredited colours. More sinisterly, several prominent Tories at LSE know that

Thatcher has destroyed a Tory's chance of ever controlling LSE Students' Union. But they know that by feigning no alignment they can pretend to be the voice of the mass of the students. The real aims of this group of course are to attack the democratically elected Labour Sabbatical officers, whilst hiding their own noxious doctrines from the student body.

At LSE we are now faced in reality by three political groups, two of which in fact at the last elections formed a coalition. The Labour Club and Tories who align with the closet Social Democrats and Tories who operate under the independent banner. Everyone has political opinions and will ultimately choose the group they prefer, the independent group illustrate this totally and should be exposed for what they are. Careerism plays a big part in their creation of Richard Dunn, their Sabbatical candidate last time longed for office only to help his C.V. Their current bunch look not set to improve the Union by constructive criticism but see their activities as merely the start of a very long election campaign to further one of their careers.

Pat Hayes

and wishes of many students. We have no guarantee that the General Secretary would devote his/her extra time to administrative matters.

6) As one extreme left-wing student remarked to me recently, this fourth sabbatical proposal looks increasingly like an excuse for one more Labour sabbatical. The Labour Club is indeed trying desperately to heighten its hegemony over the Union. Its sabbaticals now seem to want the Executive to become a tool of a small elite at the top.

7) It is with some amusement that I now witness John Donkersley transparently arguing that the job of academic affairs is so important and wide-ranging that we need a sabbatical to do the job. Has he forgotten that that it was he, John Donkersley, who argued in favour of reducing the number of Academic Affairs Officers on the Executive from two to one? That was last March. What, I wonder, has made him change his mind about the importance of the job?

8) There has been a distinct lack of democracy in the dis-

ussion of this proposal. The idea of having a fourth sabbatical sprang up over the summer, was put to an Executive meeting held outside term time which, conveniently, all Labour Club Executive members were able to attend and thus gained a rather rushed Executive recommendation. Since then, opinion has moved sharply against the idea.

9) The Union is therefore now set to consider the fourth sabbatical proposal before it considers the idea of a Union Manager which – at least – was a proposal relevant to the Union's difficulties. Furthermore, the Manager proposal was supported by last year's sabbaticals whereas the current proposal is not.

10) The implementation of the fourth sabbatical would cost the Union up to £5000 a year, if not more; money would be paid out for a job which many, on all political sides, feel is not needed and would add to the difficulties of the Union.

Yours sincerely,  
Philip Groves,  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
OFFICER.



## IN BRIEF Elections

The elections for the following School Committees take place on 3 November. (Number of vacancies in brackets)  
 Court of Governors (5)  
 General purposes (4)  
 Library (2)  
 Building (2)  
 Accommodation (4)  
 Careers Advisory Service (9)  
 Student Health Service (4)  
 Catering Services Advisory (4)  
 Safety (3)  
 Welfare of Overseas Students (3)  
 In addition, on the same date;  
 Joint Union Representation Committee (2)  
 NUS Conference Delegates  
 University of London Union General Council  
 Nominations: 20 October - 12 noon 27 October. (Forms will be available)

## LSE Sailing Club

Is there a sailing club in the Athletics Union? ... Yes, there is, and you are invited to join (£1 fee paid to A.U.)

The Club owns three Firefly dinghys, which it sails at Welsh Harp Reservoir (near Wembley Park tube) on Wednesday 1pm (meet outside Old Building) and other times by arrangement.

Everybody welcome, beginners or Rod Pattison Clones. Rock-along, rig-up and fall-in!

## LSE Music Society

LSE MUSIC SOCIETY  
 Each Tuesday 6pm Shaw Library  
 The LSE choir (rehearsing Schuman Mass)  
 7pm  
 The LSE Orchestra  
 (Beethoven 4th piano concerto)

November 8 Shaw Library  
 1pm  
 BABETTE LICHENSTEIN (cello)  
 NADIA GRINDEA (piano)  
 Music by Beethoven, Brahms & Martinu  
 FREE Recital

## Anti-Racism

On November 10 LSE Anti-Racism Society will be joining a picket and demonstration outside Snaresbrook Crown Court in support of the Newham 8 Campaign. The Campaign itself was set up in September of last year following the arrest of 8 blacks who were subsequently charged with obstruction and assault, and more recently conspiracy. LSE Anti-Racism Society has already taken part in other demonstrations and pickets organised by the Campaign, and they have been told that any support that they can give will be more than welcome. Anyone who wants to find out more or who would like to go along to Snaresbrook in November can come along to the Society's next meeting which is on Wednesday 19 October at 1.00pm in room A344, or simply leave a note for Jon Hall in the undergraduate pigeonholes.

The LSE recognises the special safety problems of women and has introduced courses of self-defence classes, for staff and students, which are provided FREE by the school. There is a choice of 7 different times (see below), and you can sign up for them in the Student Union Office: Room E.296 (information centre).

You are strongly urged to

## School Rejects Student Reps

At the last Academic Board meeting of the year, the teaching staff of the School rejected student membership of the Board by 47-17.

The Board is the supreme decision-making body on academic matters and every lecturer is automatically a member. It was deciding on whether to implement the recommendations from a Working Party which sat last year following student protests for a say in the types of decisions which affect them most. There were three students in the working party (including last year's General Secretary, Tony Donaldson, and myself) which was chaired by Professor Bill Cornish.

The Board said that student membership would "constitute an irreversible step which would lead to the infringement of academic standards" and feared a "politicisation" of the Board and the Academic Policy Committee (the Board's

Executive).

As a member of the working party, I regard this as a snub for students' interests. We have in effect no serious forum to allow us a valuable input in academic affairs of the School. The academics do not want to know what we think of assessment. They do not want to know how lousy some post-graduate supervisors are. They do not want to know what the consumer thinks of their highly expensive product.

Rumours are now spreading that a new 'Bruce the Beaver' may be standing for the Court of Governors to ridicule the whole system of School committees. The last fictitious character to be admitted to the Court was 'Mole Attila', in November of 1977, courtesy of LSE anarchists.

In addition, one option open to the Students Union will be to press for a ballot of the 300

Please turn to page 4



Dr David Owen - really happy to form a coalition with Kinnock?

THE PRESS COUNCIL RECENTLY CENSURED THE MAIL ON SUNDAY FOR PUBLISHING THE MEMOIRS OF EX-CHIEF CONSTABLE RONALD GREGORY OF WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND FOR PAYING HIM SOME £40,000 IN "BLOOD MONEY" FOR THE STORY ...

Gregory's Greed  
 The Ripper  
 Cops it and  
 The copper  
 Rips it off.

© N. Racine-Jaques

### Get it right this time!

Below is the revised (and correct!) version of the poem by Mr. Racine-Jaques which appeared in the last issue of this fine paper ...

### THATCHER EATS 'HER' WORDS

O why did Thatcher ever choose to quote  
 The prayer St. Francis of Assissi wrote.  
 For we in all good faith cannot compare  
 Her callous deeds with his most thoughtful prayer  
 since one-per-cent of Britons has at hand  
 Four-fifths of all the wealth within the land.

## Women's Group

This week's guest at the Women's group was Judy Freeman, whose skill and determination have enabled her to become the first female Sound Recordist in the British Film industry.

A great deal of Ms. Freeman's conversation dwelt upon her solitary position in the industry and the sexual discrimination she has en-

countered during her career. She complained of invisible barriers set up by her Union which prevented her from work and of the fact that when she first began work as a Sound Recordist she was employed solely for female oriented documentaries dealing with aspects of childbirth, motherhood and abortion. Ms. Freeman asserted that until

attend a course, but remember that they are a package of SIX and you can only gain full benefit by attending all six classes.

Self-defence classes can help you in several ways, notably:

- to help you to become more confident and feel able to deal with threatening situations before they go too far.

- to show you how to fight back effectively if you decide that is the best way to cope with an attack.

Please come to a course: they are enjoyable and not over-exerting.

If you require any further information, please contact the Women's Officer, Lois Hants, care of the Students Union, or come to the Women's Centre.

## Hard Times

Of the estimated 235,000 undergraduate students attending universities this year, a large proportion are still waiting anxiously for their grants to arrive.

University students will be forced to wait till well into November for their grants, according to a spokesman for Croydon Council, whilst polytechnic students are dealt with first. The Inner London Education Authority, like many other local authorities, say that they have too few full time staff to deal with the workload.

Delays reflect not only the inefficiency of local authorities, but also that of Central Government. The Gov'ts late announcement of this year's grant regulations has been given as the reason for much of the delay. The Dept. of Education and Science blames the DHSS for the length of time they spent on their part of the procedure.

The NUS has taken immediate action in the hope of ensuring that any student seriously affected financially will not go penniless. NUS has asked all the major banks to allow students to open accounts without a grant cheque and to authorise overdrafts. In reply to this a spokesman from one of the clearing banks said "In cases of delayed LEA grants, we would naturally give sympathetic treatment" and advised students to consult their own account-holding branch.

The LSE is equipped to deal with problems of delayed grants. Those students who are facing financial difficulties can obtain advice from Felicity Criddle, the welfare Officer, in rooms E294 and E295 in the East Building (next to the Accommodation Office).

## David Owen

L.S.E. Liberal's first presentation of the 1983/3 session was a short address and question and answer session by Dr. David Owen, the S.D.P. leader, on the 4th of October. A packed New Theatre heard Dr. Owen gloss over June 9th as a vindication of his policies which the U.K. electoral system had failed to reflect at Westminster. Speaking the day after the formal adoption of Neil Kinnock as Labour leader, he saw Labour moving away from an unsaleable manifesto (leaving Europe, unilateralism etc.) and into a position where he would be happy to form a centre-left coalition with them after the next election.

He then went on to answer questions from the floor on topics ranging from the leadership and policies of the Liberals "No comment" - to whether (his) political leadership could create caring people to populate the manifesto's caring society - "Yes"

## 'Harry' Tries Again

LSE's 'Houghton Street Harry' (alias Martin Graham) has given notice of a motion he intends to have debated to the effect that the Union spends its £10,000 tax rebate on a race-horse.

This is not another whacky student wheeze. Last year Harry was narrowly defeated in his attempts to disaffiliate from the NUS and spend most of the £12,000 gained on the race-horse 'Caballo'. 'Caballo' would have cost £6000 to buy and £4000 to train and maintain, but had it been purchased, it would have more than covered its costs. The horse came first twice, taking £8000 in prize-

money - it was eventually valued at £20,000. 'Houghton Street Harry's exploits were given extensive coverage in the national media (including a Daily Telegraph editorial) to the considerable annoyance of many in the Union's Left. This year's attempt has seen Harry on national radio and the front page of The Times. Annoying the powers that be in the Union is partly the point. Graham has no political affiliations and finds Union politics petty, boring, and non-achieving. By buying a race-horse, he hopes to upset the party politics and make the Union more 'interesting'.

Senior Treasurer John Donkersley dismissed the scheme as 'stupid', claiming that after two years of zero the Union badly needed the money for more useful purposes, such as the Nursery Trust Fund. The Labour Club feels so strongly about the issue that both he and the General Secretary would resign if the Union ever buys a race-horse.

'Houghton Street Harry' has already chosen the horse that he hopes will become the LSESU money-earner, though he has not as yet revealed the name of the 'well-bred novice hurdler'.

Jonathan Bray

Dates	Day	Time	Place
24th Oct/28th Nov	Monday	4 - 5.30	C018
24th Oct/28th Nov	Monday	5.30 - 7	C018
25th Oct/29th Nov	Tuesday	4.30 - 6	C018
26th Oct/30th Nov	Wednesday	1 - 2.30	C018
27th Oct/1st Dec	Thursday	3 - 4.30	C018
27th Oct/1st Dec	Thursday	4.30 - 6	C018
28th Oct/2nd Dec	Friday	1 - 2.30	C018

(Room C 018 is situated in the basement of Clare Market Building, next door to the Women's Centre.)

## Matthew Price at the Union

### Sleepwalking On The Dream Ticket

Nye Bevan once said, "The problem of being in the middle of the road is you tend to get run over". Mr. Bevan had obviously not stood in the middle of many roads, as, if he had, he would have realized the traffic merely flashes past either side of you. This must have been the sensation that Ed (the Liberal) Lucas got when he stood for the Union Chair and, while pleading for the middle way, saw the Left and Right fight it out between them. The danger of course, is not being in the centre or on the extremes, but stepping off the pavement into the centre of the Left hand, as Nye Bevans protégé Michael Foot, found to his cost. But what of the Wonder-Boy, Neil Kinnock? Well, for the moment, the hard Left is standing at a red traffic light. But how long will that last?

The other notable feature of the election was the way the Labour Club spat out Gareth Stoten from the Chair as if he were a cheap table wine that tasted like vinegar. The Left's desertion of Gareth and the "miraculous" appearance of Diane Lye as the Left's candidate was a stab in the back that any Conservative would be proud of.

Unfortunately, there was only time for one business motion and, being on the Newham 8, was one which attracted the maximum support from the broad "progressive alliance" and was bound to be unopposed by our liberal and compassionate student body. One of the more amusing features of the UGM is when one of the Right-Wing Conservatives goes on a kamikaze mission by opposing this type of motion and hurls himself down towards the stage trying to avoid the heavy flack coming from the Left, normally landing in grandness in front of the microphone. Arch-exponent of this craft, Robert Shrimmsley, looked as if he might make an attempt, but was merely on a reconnaissance mission. The whole meeting, with a competent Left-Wing Chairman, two Labour sabbaticals and a broad Left motion went so smoothly as to make one feel quite lethargic.

So, are there any future fireworks in store? Well, possibly the creation of a fourth sabbatical to be known as an Education and Representation Secretary. One feels this incongruous title will force us all to shorten it to Edandrepsec, which sounds more like an obscure provincial town in Eastern Europe than a post in the Students Union.

## Fed Up With BEAVER

'VOSTOK' is now on sale - for a mere 25p you can read considered, and controversial analysis on events behind the 'iron curtain' both past and present.

IN THIS ISSUE:  
 George Schopflin on Europe's Struggle for Autonomy;  
 Arms Control - the sides take issue;  
 Poland - Medicine in Crisis  
 Wojtyla's Men - the Church in Poland.  
 'Vostok' is published by the LSE East European Society. The Society meet at 2pm on Wednesday in S 600, or contact The Editor: Rosie Whitehouse in the Government Department - All contributions and letters gratefully received.



continued from page 1

In reply they claim that the new sabbaticals have only been in office during the 'quiet' summer months and are still in a 'honeymoon' period with the staff. The Education and Representation secretary will give more time for the Gen. Sec. to devote to staff matters, but Simon Taylor claims the problems need a qualitative change of approach rather than a greater quantity of time.

The placing of the Soc. Sec. and the Ed. Sec. on the Administration sub-committee (the legal employer of Union staff) will spread the burden of decision making and the proposal for termly reports from heads of departments and annual reviews of jobs and descriptions should increase staff/student communication and assist in the most rational application of staff-resources.

But even if the case for a manager cannot be made does this mean that an extra sabbatical is needed? It is true that most London colleges of the L.S.E.'s size apart from King's have three administrative sabbaticals and as Debbi Hindson says 'even if we had four sabbaticals our luxury would be in having a social secretary and not in having an education secretary'. It must also be remembered that most of these

Gen. Sec.'s have in addition a manager to assist them.

There are though sceptics such as executive member Archie Dunlop who believe that this would produce a closed committee of Labour Club sabbaticals and reduce the representation of minority and fringe political groups such as Psychedelic Action. He believes that instead, the executive should be expanded to include more volunteers. Debbie Hindson claims that there is so much work. It also looks ridiculous if one remembers that last term Labour Club members actually abolished one of the Academic Affairs posts on the executive, which is something they will have difficulty in justifying.

A senior academic, though, has commented on the lack of experience and preparedness of student representatives on school committees, and a student who makes sure that students not only turn up to committee meetings but do so properly briefed would go some way to making student representatives effective.

These are some of the reasons why the idea of a 4th Sabbatical has emerged. They are part of a series of constitutional amendments but this one effects all of us mainly because it costs £4500.

continued from page 3

members of the Board to get round the votes of the 50 or so staff activists.

I hope I have dispelled controversial rumours concerning destination of increases in the Students Union income. I have outlined plans for the three principal sums of money involved in the increase:

1) there is the £10,000 increase in the block grant to the Union, which I expect will be swallowed up in the increased cost of administration and in the operation of Union services in general.

2) The refund from the DHSS: I advocate protecting this sum in a nursery trust fund since I fear that if the money is utilised in societies and for other Union activities, the School might subtract it from next year's block grant.

3) The greatest uncertainty surrounds the sum of £11,800 which seems to have appeared mysteriously in the Union's account. This is money which has been budgeted for cleaning costs over the past three years and is being returned to the Union under a certain agreement with the School authorities. Both my predecessor and myself were aware that this money would be returned. The money will be used for the installation of a computer, and hopefully, a word processor for the Union Offices.

I expect benefits from the new technology which will improve the efficiency of administration and financial management of Union services and societies, therefore benefiting the students.

John Donkersley

## Harry Fixes it for Passfield

At long last, residents of Passfield Hall's top floor can take their showers when they want them, in designated shower-rooms, and not only when the rain decides to come through the roof. This is the result of extensive work carried out during... and after... the Summer break.

This long-awaited renovation has replaced the roofs of the Passfield Main Building and the two annexes, and has added showers to the facilities provided. It might all seem desperately expensive and extravagant, but both areas of work were long overdue.

The work was carried out as the result of years of need, and a well-worked "soft-talk" campaign by Martin Graham, of race-horse fame, the Passfield Hall President; not a rent-strike nor an occupation marred the

friendly and co-operative nature of the campaign. The Inter-Hall Committee has at last recognised that Passfield residents have always paid as much rent as anyone else, but have had significantly poorer facilities, and has allocated funds to attempt to alter this.

The only poor aspect of an otherwise happy situation is that for the entire first week of term, top floor residents were left with no sanitary facilities at all. This was the result of the work taking longer than expected. Perhaps this could have been avoided had "penalty clauses", whereby late completion brings less money to the builders, been written into the contract for the work. Take note, all future contract writers!

Malcolm Lowe

## BEAVER DIARY



Scantily-clad American girls were forced into the streets at Passfield on Friday, as the fire alarm system, noted for its faults, disturbed their slumbers. But this was no technical malfunction, rather the work of Gareth Stoaten clone, Pat Hayes, who was reported to be somewhat under the influence of intoxicating liquor. This followed an earlier "beer-throwing" incident.

As a result of this episode, this prominent apparatchik of the Labour Club has been banned from Passfield.

Could this be the first act of the Glorious People's Revolution to free the Workers from the Capitalist, Imperialist oppression of the Passfield management?

Once again, the Men of Straw have succumbed to the superior puff power of the big bad Beaver. Not only did they get the name of the new Director wrong, but they got his place of origin wrong. They claimed that it was Barry Supple from Sussex University. Not only is it actually Indraprasad Patel, but Barry Supple is in FACT (Get it? - Ed.) from Sidney Sussex, Cambridge. Get your act together, Giant Haystack; either

that or fire the Men of Straw (Heads) and get some decent reporters.

This year's FCS Chairmanship contest doesn't take place until mid-November, but the hacking is already well into its stride.

Simon Brewer, pompous socialite and Old Cliftonian, has craved the post ever since he arrived, but the problem is that he told several Old Cliftonian buddies (who have just arrived at LSE) that he already *had* it, and fresh-faced Tories were wandering around in bewilderment asking "Is Simon still chairman?" Another candidate, Philip Groves, is a phenomenon unto himself, having what *appears* to be a complete lack of political acumen combined with an eagerness that stems from nothing less than total sincerity. And he has the respect of the Left.

Third is Iain Miller, the acceptable face of yellow sweaters, who as a prominent wet will probably give 'Groovy-Babe' a run for his money. Mark Hoban, number four, admits that he is not a good speaker, but has said he would not be standing unless he thought he would win. We shall see.

# STA'S WORLD



GOVERNMENT BONDED UNDER ATOL 822

## U·L·U TRAVEL

Ground floor University of London Union

MALET ST. LONDON W.C.1

TEL. 01 636 0271

in association with SATAC Charterers Ltd.

FOR FULL INFORMATION OF FLIGHT COSTS PLUS DETAILS OF OUR PROGRAMMES WORLDWIDE (AND A GOOD READ) TICK THE RELEVANT BOX BELOW

AUSTRALIA  NORTH AMERICA  LATIN AMERICA  
 ASIA  CHINA  EUROPE  AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 SEND TO STA TRAVEL, FREEPOST, LONDON SW7 3BR (no stamp needed)

"Woody Allen's best film to date. The film's comic collage is magnificent" FINANCIAL TIMES SEPT. 9TH 1983

Zelig  
 Zelig  
 Zelig  
 Zelig  
 ZELIG  
 Zelig<sup>PG</sup>

A JACK ROLLINS and CHARLES H. JOFFE Production

WOODY ALLEN MIA FARROW

Editor SUSAN E. MORSE  
 Director of Photography GORDON WILLIS  
 Written and Directed by WOODY ALLEN

Costume Designer SANTO LOQUASTO  
 Executive Producer CHARLES H. JOFFE  
 An ORION PICTURES / WARNER BROS Release THRU WARNER BROS. A WARNER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY DISTRIBUTED BY COLUMBIA-EMI-WARNER DISTRIBUTORS ©1983 Orion Pictures and Warner Bros. All Rights Reserved

Production Designer MEL BOURNE  
 Produced by ROBERT GREENHUT

NOW SHOWING

WARNER WEST END LEICESTER SQ 439 0791  
 ABC FULHAM RD 370 2636  
 GATE BLOOMSBURY 837 8402  
 CLASSIC OXFORD ST 636 0310  
 SCREEN ON THE GREEN ISLINGTON 226 3520



In July of this year communal violence of unprecedented ferocity disrupted civil life in Sri Lanka. For approximately 10 days the government found itself unable or unwilling to prevent elements from the majority Sinhalese population (73%) attacking members of the smaller Tamil community (20%). There are conflicting estimates of the destruction which ensued. Government officials put the death toll at 385 and estimated the damage to commercial and residential property to amount to \$150 million. Foreign relief workers on the other hand, have indicated the possibility of a death toll in the region of 2000 and *The Economist* (August 20) points out that the sum of \$150 million is based on book value and is therefore "almost certainly too low" - once replacement costs are considered the final figure could well be ten times as much. These figures, combined with those pertaining to the refugee problem - which at its height, according to some observers, amounted to 100,000 Tamils in camps in and around the capital, Colombo - provide the grim statistical outline of a problem which seriously threatens to tear Sri Lanka apart.

The roots of the present debacle can in some measure be traced to the colonialist legacy. In particular the British imperialist *modus operandi* of "divide and rule" had the practical effect of favouring the Tamil minority with respect to the much coveted Administrative Service, and as a consequence unwittingly nurtured the envy and frustration of the Sinhalese majority. It is the persistence of these issues, derived from the emotive question of language, and focussed on educational and employment opportunity, that provide the impetus for the periodic violent expression of mutual antagonism. Intractability and misunderstanding on both sides have contributed to the present situation in which a majority of the Tamil community are agreed on the ultimate objective of secession, some through conviction and others through despair, despite some very real differences as to its means of attainment. In particular the majority Tamil party - the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) which was elected at the last general election as the single largest opposition grouping in Parliament, pointed in its manifesto to its espousal of Eelam (separate state) as inevitable and that it was a consequence of the Sri Lankan government's unwillingness to satisfy Tamil demands. The TULF emphasized its commitment to pursue this objective by peaceful means and declared that its intention was to negotiate the terms of secession. The other principal Tamil group collectively termed the 'Tigers' are committed to armed struggle as the chosen means of attaining Eelam.

As indicated earlier Tamil grievances are centred around language, education and employment. In addition there are the issues of colonization of 'local' autonomy.

## Language

In 1956 as Sinhalese nationalist backlash swept into power the first Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SFLP) of Mrs. W.R.D. Bandaranaike which instituted as promised, the Sinhala language as the official language of the country. Communal riots followed in 1958. Subsequent attempts, both half-hearted and genuine, of a political as well as legislative nature have failed to quell Tamil fears that language - given its significance in terms of education and employment - will be used as an unobtrusive instrument of cultural repression. A key Tamil demand is that the Tamil language be accorded coequal status as a "national

# Paradise Lost?

Life in Sri Lanka has been disrupted severely this year by racial riots. The root cause of these is the presence of two distinct ethnic and cultural groups, the Sinhalese and the Tamils. There has been rivalry between these communities for political representation throughout the history of the country's independence.

Over the summer, this tension erupted into 'communal violence of unprecedented ferocity'. **Ranjan Joseph** examines the background to the present troubles, and suggests that, however tortuous, negotiation is the only way out.

## The Sri Lanka riots

language". The present Government policy is considered by the Tamils as grossly inadequate and devoid of practical content. With reference to the latter illustration may be cited:

a) Out of a total Tamil community of approximately 20% of the population of three million - inclusive of the Indian Tamils brought over by the British in the last century to work on the plantations - 55% are situated outside the predominant Tamil areas of the north and north-east of the island. Despite this, at present outside the afore-mentioned areas Tamils do not have the right to transact business directly with government officials in the Tamil language. The language issue is no less emotive for the Sinhalese majority who advance the following arguments to support their stance:

a) Sinhala as the official language can serve as the focal point for integration and national unity.

b) It redresses the economic distortions and anomalies in employment carried over from the colonial period.

c) It is the language of the majority community and, unlike Tamil, spoken only in Sri Lanka. Official status thus serves as the means of preservation.

The language issue associated with that of employment and education invidiously complicates the further issue of university admission. Present government policy of regional quotas precludes introduction of entrance by merit and serves

to create another focus of tension. As regards public sector employment - whilst Tamils concede some truth in the argument about the advantages obtained in the colonial and immediate post-colonial periods, they point out that since then the trend has been drastically reversed and at present Tamil entrants to the Civil Service have vastly diminished in numbers. Whilst this brief outline provides a basic background to the problem, it must be emphasized that an examination of these issues alone does not provide a satisfactory explanation for the ferocity and magnitude of July's riots. To obtain this one must look to the political and economic context and ascertain the extent to which it was congenial towards which it was congenial towards the widening gap between rich and poor, and the gradual erosion of political freedoms in the name of economic efficiency and social stability.

The present United National Party (UNP) of President Jayawardhene came to power in July 1977 with an overwhelming landslide of 140 out of 168 seats in the Sri Lankan Parliament. Its return to power after the bleak years of the SLFP's "socialist experiment" was accompanied by a resurgence of hope that the gradual erosion of political freedoms would be arrested and the creative potential of private enterprise in the economy unleashed. In



The gutted Bristol Building, The Fort Colombo, which had been full of Tamil businesses. This photograph was taken in secret from a car window.

both cases the record of this government has fallen short of expectations. With respect to political freedoms the government has refined the clumsy attempts of its predecessor to a fine art. Significant amongst its authoritarian measures are the following:

a) The use of a referendum (Dec. 1982) in lieu of a general election to extend its period in office and preserve its overwhelming parliamentary majority for another six years operative from August 1983.

b) The use of successive constitutional amendments and other legislative devices for the following purposes -

i) Deprivation of the previous Prime Minister's civic rights on the charge 'abuse of power' - a legal definition of which is yet to be provided in statute. This was realized despite the objections of the principal judicial organs and has the practical effect of neutralizing the alternative national leader.

ii) Diminution of the powers of MP's - they may not cross the floor without having an electoral contest. Vacation of the seat in Parliament is followed by a period of 30 days in which the party hierarchy may nominate someone to fill it or else if they so desire allow the time period to lapse and then face a by-election.

iii) Most constitutional stipulations for the regulation of power are premised on the assumption that no party will control an overwhelming majority - as the government has ensured continuance of its own majority it can effortlessly

undermine the constitution.

iv) Encroachments upon judicial independence as well as the use of intimidation against political opponents not to mention the remnants of an independent press. The use of government controlled media to systematically discredit the opposition in particular against the political left.

On the economic front the following bear testimony to the government's inability to enunciate or practice a coherent strategy for development:

1) Despite six years of a much trumpeted economic policy success, if at all, has been more apparent than real - inflation is at 35%, unemployment amounts to 500,000 and the Sri Lankan rupee has been devalued from Rs. 7.89 to Rs. 24.20.

2) The President himself conceded that over 50% of the population earn less than Rs. 300 (£6.50) a month.

3) Urban poverty is rampant - 50% of the inhabitants of Colombo, the capital, live in slums. The drastic diminution of the welfare state must be seen in this light.

4) State control vilified by the party in opposition as inefficient has in some areas been extended to conjure up the spectacle of a corporate state.

5) Whilst tourism and migrant labour in the Middle East butters up the economy, the key industrial and agricultural sectors have yet to show comparable improve-

ment. In terms of the future, tourism as a consequence of the upheaval is bound to suffer - figures show that whilst 33,000 tourists visited in August '82, only 3,000 did so in August '83.

Creeping authoritarianism must then provide a significant insight into the recent upheaval. However, the catalogue of calumny cannot be complete without some reminder of these gruesome proceedings of July and particular events leading up to them. Changes related to the complicity of certain sections of the ruling party and security forces cannot be dismissed lightly, as it is in some quarters clumsily camouflaged by recourse to conspiracy theories. The Amnesty International report (2 July '83) amply documents instances of torture practised by security forces upon Tamils suspected and/or convicted of terrorist offences. Amnesty points out that the Sri Lankan government's Prevention of Terrorism Act is more stringent than that of Britain's or South Africa's - the suspension of habeas corpus being operative for up to 18 months. The emergency Regulation is singled out for particular mention by human rights activists, since it allows the security forces to shoot and bury opponents without revealing their identities or for the conduct of post-mortem. Despite this legislative protection certain sections of the security forces feel that they have not been allocated sufficient power to deal with the problem in the North and in the light of recent eye-witness accounts and reports as to their complicity and participation in the recent orgy of violence, it is not unreasonable to conclude that the security of the body politic is at risk. Some observers point to this, as well as to the President's confession that the loyalty of these forces was in doubt, as key factors in the anarchy that ensued. In these two instances in which a total of Tamil prisoners were murdered by Sinhalese inmates at a maximum security prison, complicity on the part of the officials cannot be denied. Furthermore, given the systematic nature of the violence, despite government attempts to raise the spectre of a Marxist conspiracy and the prescription of certain leftist parties as a consequence, accusations and eye-witness accounts, that certain government ministers and MPs were instrumental in organizing armed thugs cannot be denied.

As a consequence of the calamity the future of Sri Lanka is in mortal peril. Regional ramifications and the pressures of local Indian politics have their part to play as well. The government for its part will have to curb the grotesque chauvinistic elements within its fold and address itself to Tamil grievances perceived or otherwise instead of concentrating on the 'oppossession' of the Sinhalese as the President suggested. In order to do this it must at a minimum be able to maintain law and order and proceed to take steps to dismantle the apparatus of authoritarianism. There are two communities to satisfy and inspire trust in - recent attempts to introduce the the 'bhumi putra' (in which a majority holding on the part of the majority community in business undertakings is stipulated in law.) Laws of Malaysia will almost certainly have the opposite effect. The Tamils for their part will have to seriously address themselves to the question of secession and ask some searching questions as to its viability - whilst passion may create a state it may not sustain it, and the fight for emancipation from a form of bondage will be negated by passage into another. Furthermore, they will have to address themselves to the question of integration. For both communities negotiation, however tortuous, is the only way out.



# A flower in the desert . . .

## BEAVER

During the summer **Angela Burns** worked as a volunteer on the Hai Nazzal community development project for Palestinians refugees in Jordan. She describes the problems the community faced, the lifestyle and also the attitudes she encountered as a Western woman in a society whose only connection with them had been watching Dallas

The idea of "community development" petered out in Britain in the '70s, but is still nurtured by sociologists in developing countries. One of its most active proponents is Dr. Seri Nasir, of Amman University, Jordan – and it is largely owing to one of his schemes that I have spent the last two summers working and living among the Palestinian refugee community in Hai Nazzal.

Hai Nazzal is the proud owner of the first community centre to be developed in Jordan without central government financial assistance. Before explaining my own role as a volunteer within the centre, it is necessary to present an outline of its history, financial position and layout. Building began in April 1977 on five "dunums" of land donated by the former, sympathetic head of the municipality of Amman, with labour supplied by Dr. Nasir's students (both male and female) and local residents.

The appearance of middle-class women students engaged in building work had led to the labelling of Dr. Nasir as a "Communist" and threats upon his life at one site. When the location of the centre was switched to the religious area of Hai Nazzal (just opposite the local mosque), their reception

was only marginally less hostile. It cannot be stressed strongly enough that there was no precedent for this sort of project: community work previously undertaken by the students had amounted to no more than the provision of bus shelters and park benches in and around the university campus.

In addition to strong opposition from the religious community, naïveté created special problems in terms of resource utilisation. Building materials, equipment and fittings were all provided by disparate members of the business community, donated after lengthy periods of personal persuasion, which ultimately delayed the completion date of the centre. Expensive pre-fabs were used to house the activity rooms, largely because the first company in Jordan to deal in such structures was keen to promote its business. Financial disaster would have befallen the project if it had not been for a generous, eleventh-hour private donation.

The centre at Hai Nazzal consists of a library, gymnasium (which is now used for women's sewing classes), a typing room, table-tennis/conference room, an outdoor theatre and a clinic (both of which are hardly used).

In addition, there is a basketball court, a small aviary, garden, and children's playground. Prince Hassan (recently brought into the limelight by *The Sunday Times*) has donated a car for official use by the director of the centre. The salaries of the director, her assistant, the sewing/typing instructor, driver and gate-keeper are covered by a private bill passed under the auspices of the former head of the municipality. The centre survives on donations from private individuals/companies (including overseas visitors) and aid-giving bodies such as UNICEF (although contributions from the latter are extremely difficult to obtain, as it prefers to deal with government agencies.)

Bearing in mind the tight financial position of the Hai Nazzal Centre, which serves a poor district with a rapidly expanding population (almost 4% p.a.), it seems topical to point out that Jordan possesses some classic "howlers" in terms of resources wasted on lavish programmes. For example, another community centre in the middle of nowhere (supposedly serving surrounding villages) has 45 full-time members of staff whose children fill the nursery, a full-time doctor and nurse, an abundance of sewing machines, typewriters, projectors and so forth – as well as a string of vehicles provided by the UN. A recent survey indicates that the local people not only do not use the centre, but believe it is simply a research institute (not an unreasonable assumption, when one considers the number of questionnaires they have been subjected to in recent years.)

So much for the history, structure and financial arrangements of the centre. However, other than as an exercise in construction for sociology students, why does it exist? I stated at the outset that the primary theme is to participate in the development and ordering of their locality. Given this, one must question whether or not the centre has been a success on two levels – community leadership, and environmental considerations.

Firstly, although local youths aided its construction, and local residents do use the facilities provided, ever since it opened,



Sociology students building the centre

the centre has been led by graduates from the University (with quite a rapid turnover.) Further, the expectation of such leadership has made it increasingly difficult to find and nurture potential leaders from the community itself.

Nowhere more pointedly is this shown than in the operation of the women's sewing co-operative, which is based at the centre. The local women are without doubt highly skilled in producing luxury goods, using classical needlepoint designs.

However, only Ferial (the present director) is competent at bookkeeping, and so the local women are not encouraged to participate in the purchase of raw materials, or to encounter problems of marketing. In short, they are frozen in traditional women's activities, and have not begun to see clearly their potential in the market economy. This is a common problem throughout Jordan, where social development programmes have resulted in the establishment of handicraft and typing centres for women – emphasising "safe" skills, without raising their consciousness. Hopefully, a pioneering income-generating project for women, funded by the Catholic Relief Service, will make some impact. However, lessons have been difficult to draw from the Hai Nazzal co-operative example precisely because of the monopoly of responsibility for documentation and marketing in the hands of a university-educated director.

Secondly, various activities are provided in order to encourage the local people (especially the children) to enter. Once inside, it is hoped that, in the long term, they can be persuaded to concern themselves

with personal and environmental hygiene. For example, the children are responsible for cleaning the centre's toilets. At the new Hai Suweilah centre, the toilets have been built some distance from the main activity area. In Hai Nazzal, at the height of the summer, a not-so-faint whiff of human effluent often reaches the women's typing room, and can be unbearable. The children have also been requisitioned for periodic collections of waste on the scrub-land around the centre, and it is hoped that eventually "pressure from below" might encourage their parents not to dump rubbish there in the first place.

How, then, does an LSE undergraduate come into all of this? I first heard about the centre from one of the students involved in building it, who had subsequently come to this college to take a Master's course. With hindsight, it is apparent that I set out, at the time of the Israel-Lebanon war, with very little information, fewer expectations, and a highly developed sense of adventure in place of philanthropic zeal. Although whilst I am in Amman, my ability to teach English is made use of, my primary function is to live in the community (in order to take a good look at the structure of family relationships there), but, also, most importantly, for my presence to provide a living alternative to the stereotype of Western women that the local people glean from such enlightened programmes as 'Dallas'.

Many of the men *do* believe us to be a complete set of beckoning orifices, and hence get rather a shock (cultural or otherwise) when confronted with a feminist. In and around

the centre, one is received with curiosity and a cautious reserve. Beyond the community, Western women may receive a more overtly hostile reception (at least among the lower classes) finding oneself pushed or jostled in the "Downtown" streets; occasionally, a stone will ricochet against one's calf – because we present a threat to the existing order. An improved understanding of Arabic this year simply made me more aware of the extent of hostility.

The Hai Nazzal Community Centre has been operating a student volunteer scheme for three years now – the deal being that volunteers cover their own travel expenses, but accommodation and food are provided by families in the area. Last year, there were just two volunteers: this year, the programme expanded to five. But it soon became apparent that the locality has insufficient resources to absorb such an influx.

Next year, there will again be opportunities for two or three volunteers, so I would be pleased to hear from anyone with enthusiasm for, or experience in, dealing with large numbers of monolingual brats.

**Next  
Issue  
31st  
Oct**



Encouraging the children in environmental hygiene



# The London Arts

## Pop Goes The Easel (at the ICA)

### Friday

First in a week's so-called 'Pop Goes the Easel' season, of bands with 'art school' connections, the Institute of Contemporary Arts in the Mall opened its doors to a crowd of various haircuts and raincoats.

First band of the week, Creature Beat, from Portsmouth (playing at the LSE soon!) are rather less uh elemental than their name implies, but use a trumpet to pleasant effect. I'm reliably informed that none of them have been to art school.

Once I heard a really bland

noise on 'The John Peel Show' by Flesh for Lulu. Bland no more, now Flesh For Lulu are the most conspicuously Art-less band around. A glorious racket stolen largely from the Stooges and Velvet Underground, buried in a sludge of fuzzy guitar. This is my kind of group – you might think they're just a racket. Yow!

To Clock DVA, the headliners. Resuscitated by Adi Newton, owner of a classic 'bleak industrial' voice (cliche), after his former cohorts formed The Box, the new, young DVA rely largely on brute force (Raw Power?)



Alien With Sea Chicken Eggs Destined for Martha's Vineyard

In a week of essentially Peel-fodder bands, the Belgian group Antena came as a rather refreshing change. The drum machine bashed along to pretty Europop songs as the girls sang about love and marriage with suitable sincerity. Indeed they committed the ultimate Euro-cliche when they performed their latest single which doesn't actually contain any real words at all.

I had expected from Paul Haig an evening of Polished elect Dance that he produces on vinyl, in the event; augmented by assorted stars from

Orange Juice and the Associates the sound was a lot thrasher and punchy. It was also, especially towards the climax of the evening, a lot better. He played some old Josef K songs and the fans went wild and it was then that I wondered whether he was actually enjoying himself and it suddenly struck me that he was just going through the motions; he never spoke to the audience and he refused to do an encore. He seemed to be compromising himself. Why bother? I thought.

### Saturday

Were musical ability the sole criterion for assessing a band's performance, the Icicle Works would undoubtedly have been the best band I have ever seen. However what set them apart from the Smiths (who are the best band I have ever seen) was their total lack of style and wit. To an extent I enjoyed their performance, I just found them utterly uninspiring.

After the Icicle Works' new progressive rock excesses, the Scottish duo, The Cocteau

Twins came as a welcome relief. Indeed it was a joy to realize how much could be accomplished simply with a voice, a guitar and backing tapes. More than any other band I saw this week the Cocteau Twins had a presence. Liz's voice cut through cold, Robin's guitar screamed harsh discontent. The Cocteau Twins were shimmering and massive: I can only recommend them to you.

James Bailey

### Sunday

Xmal Deutschland are thrashing their way through yet another song to the delight of the punky throng at the front... and I'm really bored. I'd never accused them of subtlety anyway, but at least I'd found them wonderfully engaging in three minute doses. But here they are, bashing away, a band partly limited by a lack of technical ability, but hampered far more by a severe lack of imagination.

I could categorise faults – Anja's apparent inability to sing in anything but a formula Teutonic drone, a lack of vital drive from the drummer and a guitar perpetually submerged in the same fuzztone. There are some compensations, notably the one-finger grandeur of the keyboards, but ultimately nothing stands out, nothing grabs you. Repetition taken to a tedious extreme... and I thought they were going to be really good too.

Stephen Jelbert

## The Dialtones at the LSE

The evening didn't start too well: forty minutes late, a barely half-full theatre, and the first twenty minutes an inferior imitation of last week's 'Off-The Curb Roadshow'. There were sparks of wit but not enough cohesion. To be good, alternative comedians have to go all the way. This alternative comedy routine was too routine, and contained few alternatives.

Terry MacDonald improved things by doing amusing and distasteful things with a loaf of 'Mother's Pride' and a carton of yoghurt in the style of an ingratiating U.S. television

presenter. He demonstrated the best thing to do with a carton of 'Ski'. Opening it by squeezing the carton until...

After the interval the evening moved up a gear, thanks to Brian Bailey who portrayed a nervous puppeteer who'd learned his art on a Job Creation scheme. He was alternative in that he reversed the normal jokes. His acting contained such subtle pathos, and had all the right mannerisms, that he managed to break the audience's reserve, engage their sympathy, and be very funny. He introduced a comically surreal puppet that told us

### ZELIG

One of the more ironic things about Woody Allen's latest film, about 'Leonard Zelig' – the Chameleon Man' is the response of its critics. Never before have so many reviewers taken up their pens and written down exactly the same things. The key words and phrases have been 'Brilliant', 'Mr Allen is a genius – an unrivalled master of screen comedy today', and 'a Masterpiece'. Well frankly, once these totally justified and uncontroversial things

have been said there really is not much more to add – except perhaps to look at the critics' startling omissions.

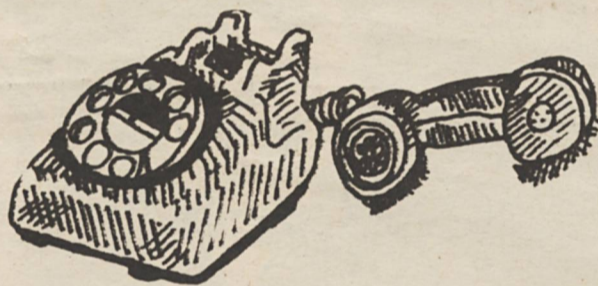
The first concerns Woody Allen's use of intellectuals such as Susan Sontag, Dr Bruno Bettelheim and Saul Bellow who pontificate with dead seriousness about Zelig – 'that phenomenon of the twenties'. Clearly the purpose of these highly amusing interjections is to slag off – and no more genteel a phrase will do – that absolutely appalling melodrama 'Reds' by an American

called Beatty. Mr Allen knows in which direction true ridicule should be pointed.

The second major omission of the critics was their failure to discuss San Sebastian where 'Zelig' was showing in the film festival three weeks ago. San Sebastian is a really charming resort town in Northern Spain, well worth a visit. One can stay in a nice clean hotel very cheaply, (about £3.50 a night,) and eat, drink and sub oneself – in season of course – equally cheaply. Bars in the old part of town serve delicious snacks

and everywhere (as is common in Spain) for the price of one drink one gets the equivalent of four English measures. This means that one can be basically paralytic after a mere four or five (ie fifteen or twenty) drinks in which case one would be in no position to sample one of the Basque region's true culinary delights – the Sea Chicken. Now the Sea Chicken – the maritime version of the land based hen – when marinated in true Spanish Rioja

Tim Judah



### Crime and Punishment

Raging, despairing, Raskolnikov screams: 'I wanted to be a Napoleon.' He staggers grotesquely as other actors clutching beam lamps pour light on his torment. A stunning climax in a remarkable production of Dostoyevsky's classic.

Knowledge of the book is presumed although without it this cleverly faithful adaptation should retain much of its force and value.

It opens with the murder committed. Blood, bodies, axes and mirrors discreetly dominate the stage. This unfortunate carnage would not

have troubled Napoleon. It tortures Raskolnikov. From that realisation come the horrors of guilt, paranoia, inadequacy, failure and nightmares that destroy him. A tense, powerful atmosphere is created by superb acting, ingenious design and the adventurous use of spectacular strobe lighting and taped incidental music that could have been crass but work with dramatic effect.

It is clear why producer Yuri Lyubimov has so often angered the Soviet authorities. The official interpretation has always been a socially concerned young man driven to the murder of the wicked old pawnbroker, symbol of the capitalists that impoverish and repress his class.

Lyubimov disagrees. Dostoyevsky was no socialist and that doctrine is scornfully used for light relief in both book and play. Raskolnikov is a passionately individual man who believes that society does consist of two kinds: The Masses that must obey the law, and the Remarkable Ones that transcend it. He longs to prove himself one of the latter. To kill one cruel old woman in order to secure the money for a thousand good deeds is the kind of action a Napoleon can, indeed must, commit, regardless of its technically illegal nature.

## Dance Umbrella

Entertainment *does* exist beyond West End theatres and cinemas, and the occasion of "Dance Umbrella 83" provides an excellent opportunity to view the creative energy and diversity of talent abounding in the field of contemporary dance. Together with its secondary focus, "Dance and the Camera", this international festival comprises fifty performances and twenty-five different programmes spread over six weeks, at The Place, the ICA and Riverside Studios, where the Festival culminates in a Grand Finale on November 17th.

One of the most exhilarating and imaginative performances so far was presented by French choreographer Daniel Larrieu, and his experimental company, "Astrakan" – his most recent work, "Trois Pieces, Cuisine". Undoubtedly, it was the second movement, "Volte-Face", which delighted the regrettably sparse audience. Performed to a curious mixture of Catalan songs and extracts from Bizet's "Carmen", the dance captured the air of a "Bavarian" beer-keller (slapping thighs and mid-ribs, placing one foot behind the calf, and so forth), or a school playground, at once seemed both solemn and ridi-

culous. Some of the movements performed by the choreographer, Pascale Henrot, and Pascale Houbin, were notably lacking in "grace": Dance Umbrella has in the past been renounced for presenting avant-garde dance, "aggressively anti-ballet", but one finds the absence of elegant strutting and raising of lower limbs to 160 degrees to the floor somehow refreshing. The rapidity and flow of the "isolations" enacted by the three dangers were spell-binding in the synchronisation, even though each one had appeared self-engrossed – rather like a child playing hop-skotch alone.

The humour of "Volte-Face" extended to the highly unusual and dramatically irrelevant movement changes, whereupon the audience was plunged into darkness and subjected to the grating sound of timber-felling, with the dance crisply resuming as the trees crashed. Further, "fun" was clearly the guiding principle behind Bastien-Thiry's costumes, which complemented some of the dancers' wackier moves perfectly. Edwardian bathing suits and last season's peculiar "winged" trousers made a gay change from drab Jane Fonda-type body stockings.

Larrieu has stated his ambition: "Developper de nouveaux vocabulaires, sans pour autant négliger ceux qui existent déjà. Apporter, non sans humour une vision personnelle du mouvement et de son rapport à l'espace." As such, "Volte-Face" must surely be a personal triumph and delight.

Paul Houghton



# BEAVER

# SPORT

'Caballo', whom Houghton Street Harry advised the Union to buy last year, going into the stalls before hacking up at Brighton by 5 lengths



## Houghton Street Harry



After only a few weeks of term, the habitual problems of finance are already affecting many students. Clearly, the only way to achieve a reasonable standard of living other than through Socialist Revolution is to seek an alternative source of income. By far the most profitable and enjoyable means of accumulating such an income is to invest one's money in equine affairs. This distinguished column serves to propogate enough to do so.

Making money will be simplicity itself if you concentrate your efforts on just four animals. Fred Winters' GRATI-

FICATION has yet to show an inkling of ability but should turn out to be one of the season's top hurdlers. Jenny Pitman has two horses with immense potential, JOULOVILLE is probably the friendliest horse in training; he is Grand National winner Corbiere's next-door neighbour and should be able to win races. QUEEN'S RIDE is in the same calibre. The fourth horse, Michael Dickinson's RIGHTHANDMAN will win the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury in November.

In the short term, look out for Nicky Henderson's GRINGO in low class hurdles and the ever-green ARTIFICE who will be winning in the next fortnight. Finally, DESTROYER could be worth a very small each way investment in the Horris Hill at Newbury this Saturday. And for anyone going racing in Budapest, put all your illicit currency on WORRALL, who had a relaxing summer in the Oxfordshire countryside.

## Table Tennis

This year the L.S.E. will have two teams playing in the Central Tennis Table League. Prospects were not particularly inspiring at the end of last year, L.S.E. having lost a wealth of talent to the dole queues. However, a good fortune smiled at the recent trials when several outstanding players emerged. L.S.E. 1 have a find chance of promotion from Division III according to Club Secretary, Juan Nevado.

## Hockey

The L.S.E. women's hockey teams made themselves proud on Sunday October 9th. when they took part in the ULU inter-collegiate 7-a-side tournament.

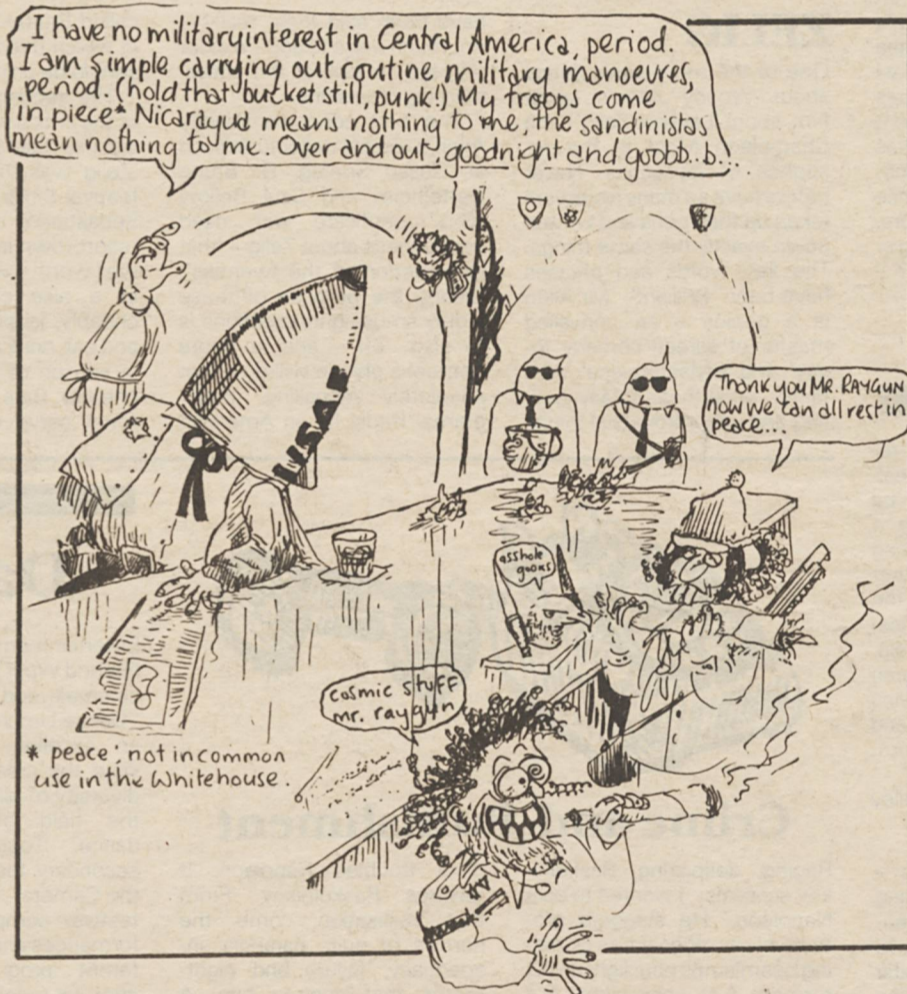
Despite the lack of sleep and the effects of the Fresher's Ball which took some time to wear off, the 1st team made it to the quarter-finals (fresh after a

downpour of rain) before being beaten by the top seeds. Previously, goalie Ginger Deeley had cheered them onto two victories: in the second, Mary Lee Rhodes finished off an eye-catching performance by scoring from a penalty flick. Unfortunately London Hospital defeated us in the quarter-

finals with the benefit of a 'dubious' penalty.

Helen Taylor led the 2nd team to an unbeaten run in their section, with their only victory coming against Wye College, with Debbie Holgate the scorer.

Julie Oldroyd.



# CROSSWORD

### CLUES:

#### Across

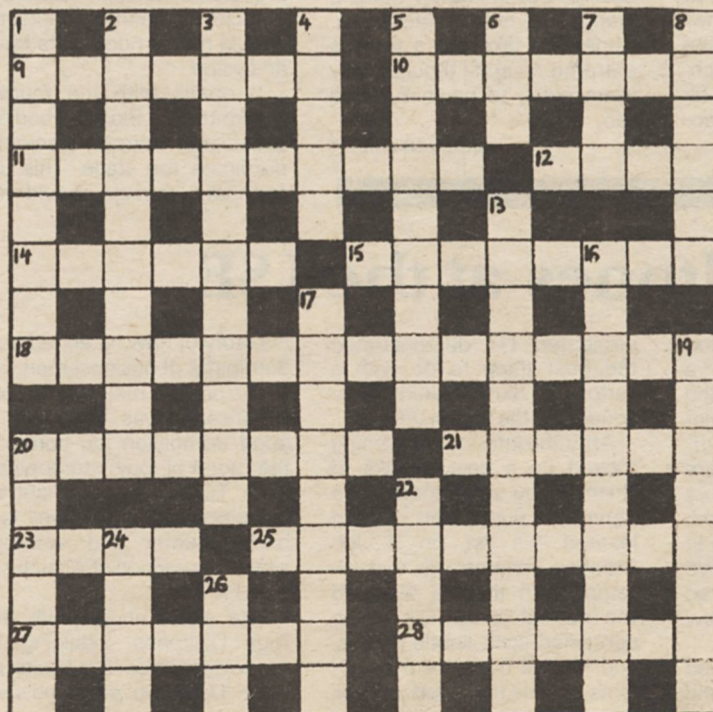
- 9 Three inside that within attempt (7)
- 10 Stuff co. produces cheap meat (7)
- 11 Hard for change to surround the finish of the director (10)
- 12 Defamation dance (4)
- 14 If you don't get the point, you may get it (6)
- 15 Always close, ran free running around the first venue (5,3)
- 18 Same question, lip-read again maths problems (6,9)
- 20 Scatter girl's bag, I hear (8)
- 21 Lawyers' place of work or relaxation (3,3)
- 23 Solid company (4)
- 25 Professor Reelsky resorts to the Treasurer (10)

- 27 King has limb here (7)
- 28 Espy arm moving weapon of 'burning gold' (2,5)

#### Down

- 1 Dust settled over 7's department for you (8)
- 2 A term me and Sam arranged (10)
- 3 Mixed grill, i.e. within matches for flora (5,6)
- 4 D-days changed for couples (5)
- 5 River runs after taken, I hear, to be polite (9)
- 6 Awfully fat rear (3)
- 7 The sabbatical with the flannel (4)
- 8 America before her last money-lender (6)
- 13 See that Bert changes to win... (4,3,4)
- 16 ... as unsuccessful horse has boot trouble with sportsman (10)

- 17 Most upset in trousers, say, or jewels (9)
- 19 Pleas after last mistakes with painting instruments (8)
- 20 Scribble over front after the backward newspaperman (6)
- 22 Sport footwear politician is ungenerous with (5)
- 24 Name before II (4)
- 26 Writer in Trollope novels (3)



### SOLUTION FROM LAST ISSUE

Across: 7+6 Greenham Common, 9 Took on, 10 Diva, 11 Monochrome, 12 Legion, 14 Chlorine, 15 Solder, 17 Cruise, 20 Aberdeen, 22 Pamper, 23 Infatuated, 24 Coke, 25 Revere, 26 Pullover.  
Down: 1 Trailers, 2 Lena, 3 The Man, 4 Stickler, 5 Horror Film, 13 Illtreated, 16 Executed, 18 Even Keel, 19 Instep, 21 Banner, 22 Paddle, 24 Clot.

MIKE HUTCHINSON