

# The Beaver

18th November, 1991

Newspaper of the London School of Economics Student Union

Issue 347

## AU to Relocate?

### Suggestions to move SU administration office down to entrance of East Building

By Emma Bearcroft

Plans are underway to move the SU Administration Office to the entrance of the East building, occupying the current site of the Athletics Union. The AU office would then move down to CO23, the current snooker room.

Under the plan the admin office, now in E294, would move into the office vacated by the AU, where it has been suggested the wall be knocked down. It has been proposed that this would make available much needed space for the admin, and provide a more suitably located reception area, as well as creating more office space adjacent to the existing staff room.

The glass-fronted lodge facing the main entrance will be constantly manned by a student casual, thereby releasing permanent staff for administration work. At the lodge tickets for Student Union events, as well as NUS and rail cards will be on sale. It is planned that the reception will open in the lodge on Monday the 25th of November.

Discussions will take place during Christmas Break over plans to knock down the wall between the reception and the new office to provide a more spacious area. It has been suggested that the LSE Union Shop could then use the existing staff room as the

Shop office.

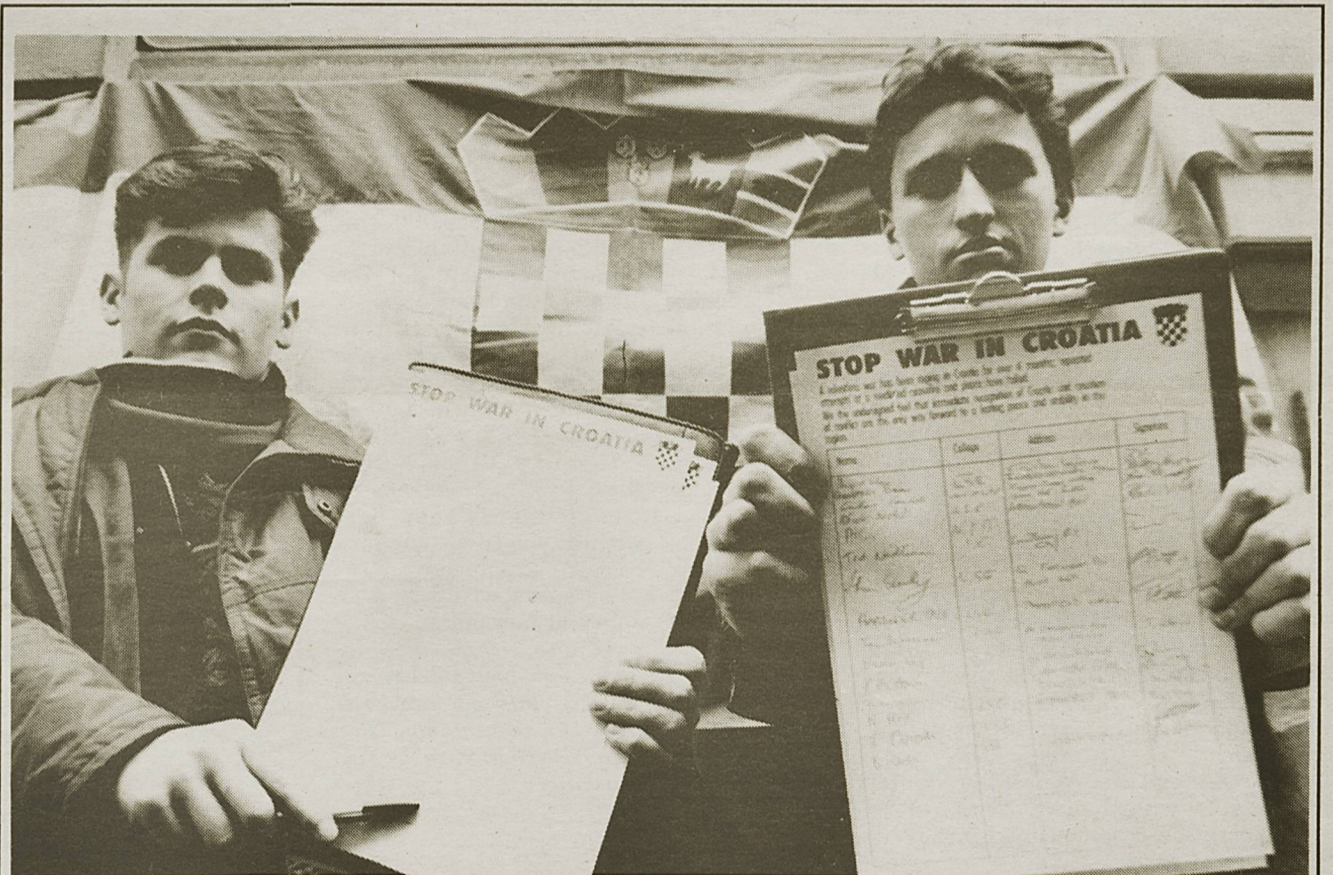
Michiel van Hulst, General Secretary to the Students' Union, said of the decision, "We are always trying to improve Student Union service to students, and by opening up a reception in the East Building, this provides an easy access point."

The Athletics Union President, John Bradburn, has welcomed the proposal, commenting that CO23 is "a lot bigger than the current office (and is also better for indoor sport)!"

The proposal has not been welcomed, however, by the Administration Office, who felt that since the move from the Welfare Offices they have lost valuable storage space, and generally run less efficiently.

They are concerned that the move will not provide a large reception area with seats, enabling students to freely look up material. In addition, they believe that even with the wall knocked down, the space provided would be little bigger than the existing office.

They also expressed worry over the "on the hour, every hour rush" of students past this area following lectures, and that queues for cards at the beginning of the academic year could create problems in such a confined space. Their feelings have been voiced to the General Man-



LSE students gathered on Houghton St. last Monday afternoon to demonstrate in support of Croatian independence. Around a dozen demonstrators collected petition signatures to be delivered to Downing St. Approximately 400 signatures were collected.

The demonstration came as a result of a fax sent two weeks ago to Michiel van Hulst, General Secretary.

The fax described a hunger strike by Croatian students; for every demonstration held outside Yugoslavia in support of their cause, a student will come off hunger strike.

"The fax was a cry for help on the part of the Croatians and by demonstrating we are responding", concluded van Hulst.

Photo: Steve East



Future home of the Admin office?

ager of the Students' Union, Gethin Roberts.

However, Roberts maintains that "no one is happy with current arrangements, and this is one possibility which uses available space, longer term arrangements involving County Hall and St. Philips Hospital".

The private scheme to use the porters lodge is a pilot project, he said and is designed to test out any difficulties.

Subject to the Athletics Staff agreement, the move from the AU office to CO23 is expected to take place by the beginning of next term.

The Students' Union have agreed to partition CO23 by

the addition of a wall, creating a lockable office for location of equipment and a telephone.

Bradburn described the existing AU office as being "superb to get to", but in addition noted that the new office would be "closer to the Tuns", providing obvious advantages for the AU's purposes.

## INSIDE

Housing association under review  
2

Jack  
3

Busy Beaver-our new gossip column  
4

"A perfect cut"  
5

Racism on the rise  
6

Tales from Canton  
7

The decline of LSE politics  
8

Mozart at the Barbican  
9

ULU reviewed  
10

Carter at Brixton  
11

AU gets ticked off  
12



# Housing Association under threat

## Low take-up calls future of SU house into question

By James Brown

The future of the SU Housing Association is in the balance following a review undertaken by Michiel van Hulsten, SU General Secretary. Amongst the courses of action it considers is the sale of the housing association house at 44 Ropery St., Mile End.

The review of the Association's future was prompted by the dramatic contraction in payments made to the Housing Association. Last year, the Board of Governors decided not to contribute any more money, making further expansion impossible.

In addition, the expected budget deficit of the Student's Union has forced the Senior Treasurer, Toby Johnson, and Michiel van Hulsten to ask the union finance committee to consider reducing the grant to the Housing Association by half to £5,000.

The current levy of 'a penny on the pint' operated by the Union will remain, although van Hulsten's report states that "more effective ways of channelling this money into student housing are being sought". This reflects feeling that the Housing Association may not be most effective way of helping student accommodation problems.

The Association was set up in 1989 with the aim of providing low-cost housing

to LSE students, and it owns a five-room house in Ropery Street, near Mile End. It has, however, been unable to fill all the rooms this year. At the moment only three are occupied, despite much publicity at the LSE and latterly at Queen Mary Westfield college, the nearest college to the house. This is partly because according to the report, the rents charged by the Housing Association are out of the reach of over 60% of LSE students. This is in conflict with the aim of the Association, which is to provide cheaper accommodation for students.

Four solutions to the problem are under consideration. The first involves selling the house on the open market. The money so raised could be diverted into other areas of the housing welfare scheme, although it is doubtful whether the Association would recoup the cost price of the house, as a result of the fall in property values over the past two years.

The second solution is to keep the house and to hope that the rooms are all filled. This would present the problem that if the rental income does not cover the costs, then money out of the Association's capital fund would have to be used as a subsidy. There is also the aspect that the management does not enjoy economies of scale, thus making this option an inefficient use of the money.

The third option, of selling to the School, is seen as a satisfactory compromise by Peter Harris, the SU Housing Welfare officer. The School, he points out, has the money to buy the property, and also the resources to enjoy economies of scale, possibly enabling the rent to be reduced in the long-run. The investments of previous years would also be preserved.

The final option, the one most in line with the desires of the Student's Union Officers, is to expand the Housing Association to enable it to enjoy economies of scale. Harris commented "Property prices are favourable at the moment. Another property in Ropery Street is now on the market for £85,000. This would represent a worthwhile investment for the future of the Housing Association." He admits that unless the empty rooms can be filled, however, the case for expansion will not be very strong.

He criticised the School for their lack of involvement. "It's a tragedy they have withdrawn their support, because expansion on the same street would be a viable and easy option".

*Anyone wishing more information about places in the house should contact Peter Harris in the Accommodation Office, Room E296 in the East Building.*



Nice house, but nobody wants it.

Photo: Paul Nugent

## News in Brief

### LSESU reinstates AIESEC

AIESEC, banned by the LSE SU in 1986 for its links to South Africa, has been reinstated as a Union Society at last week's UGM.

AIESEC (an acronym for the International Association of Students Interested in Economics and Management) originally drew criticism for its activities in management education for its members in South Africa and because AIESEC-South Africa had no ties to anti-apartheid groups such as the ANC.

In arguing for reinstatement, AIESEC pointed out

its non-political and non-discriminatory nature, and the fact that the ANC now support the removal of sanctions on person-to-person and educational exchanges. The vote was passed overwhelmingly.

### Document charging proposal reconsidered

A scheme to charge for LSE documentation has been temporarily blocked in a meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

According to the proposals, undergraduates would be able to request one certificate and one transcript per term without charge; after

that the cost will be £5 per copy.

Graduate students would be allowed one set each (five copies in a set) per term; further requests will be assessed at £5 per copy.

Former students would pay according to a scale already set out by the University of London.

The reasoning behind the proposal is that the demand for both certificates and for transcripts has increased over the past few years; right now, the undergraduate office issues around 50 a week in term.

However, some 10%-20% of the documents are never claimed by students. The proposal also points out that all other major institutions of the University of London either already charge for such documentation or are considering doing so.

### LSE to hold own graduation ceremonies

LSE will be organizing its own degree/diploma ceremonies starting in 1992. The proposal comes in the wake of UL Senate decision that presentation ceremonies should be School-based.

Preliminary plans are to have five separate ceremonies, each with a different departmental focus (including a ceremony for all BSc (Econ) graduates), at the Royalty Theatre in Portugal Street, on 16 and 17 July, 1992.

The cost is estimated to be £15 per guest, and the ceremony will be open to recent

graduates and soon-to-be graduates as well as to General Course and Research Fee students.

### Charter of rights proposed

A Student Charter of Rights proposed to the GPC by General Secretary Michiel van Hulsten may result in a lower number of complaints by students over administrative matters.

The charter would mostly deal with the issue of information: students should, when giving information to the School, be allowed to know how and for what purpose it will be used; students should be told how, when and by whom their application for a school service will

be handled; the School should provide, as specifically as possible, reasons why a student's application was rejected.

The School should also implement a system whereby students can claim a receipt for every document handed over to the School.

Van Hulsten refers to the "range of complaints" that could be solved more expeditiously if the School had formalised procedures for dealing with them, similar to the Internal Academic Audit Unit and the Academic Grievance Procedure.

The committee members could find no objection and agreed to consider the proposals.



# Hughes on education

## Liberal M.P. considers grants, and chances for County Hall

By Quinn Morgan

The Liberal Democrats would restore grants to their pre-Thatcher level, it was claimed last Wednesday by Simon Hughes, the liberal democrat MP whose constituency includes Butlers Wharf.

Michiel van Hulsten opened the meeting, introducing Hughes to a New Theatre audience of around forty-five.

The low turnout, however, did not bother Hughes and he started by attempting to explain British politics in a lighthearted and humorous manner, supported by such comments as "There isn't a Tory worth voting for" when reflecting on the Tory opposition in his constituency or "The rather boring process called general election" when explaining the pros and cons of the British electorate system.

The core of this speech was the idea of democracy. He said he thinks Britain is governed by an "autocratic minority" and sees the Liberal Democrats' main goal in abolishing this "undemo-

cratic system".

Hughes would like to see "some sort of system that reflects the public will". His party, he claimed, would "get rid of the House of Lords", institute "some sort of Bill of Rights, freedom of information" and thus bring about "the devolution of power".

"There are lots of things we can hand down", Hughes said, explaining that one doesn't have to decide in London "whether one needs pooper-scoopers in Belfast". In the long run he sees in Britain the chance to establish a model democracy as a guide to other countries.

Regarding education he demanded that grants will be brought back on the 1979 level, that there is enough money for books and equipment and that the system allows "more flexibility".

He and his party fiercely oppose any form of loans or parental contribution and the council tax in any form for students.

He pointed out that students "should be treated as adults", indicating that students should have the same

housing and unemployment benefits as all other adults, and that "education isn't for jobs, education is for life".

When asked how the Liberal Democrats would help secure County Hall for the LSE, Hughes pointed out that he is a member of the London Charitable Trust which is actively involved in deciding what will happen to County Hall.

As the ideal solution he feels that a London governing body should move in there but as they will not need all the space he put forward the idea of the LSE sharing with this body.

He stated clear opposition to luxury hotels, flats and offices on the site and went on to say that compared to such the LSE would be a better solution.

However, he warned that the chances that the LSE will be able to secure County Hall for itself are very slim, because according to Hughes, "the government is hostile to the idea of this institution being in that place".

Commentary

# Union Jack

"Welcome to LSE UGM Flight number 6. We would first like to introduce our flight crew; your pilot today will be Razia Sharif, and her co-pilot, the ever-faithful Bob..."

"Oh, excuse me, folks, but it seems there has been a change in schedule. Bob has acquired an acute case of airsickness - er, sickness of planes, that is - and has thus bailed out. Please welcome James, our new co-pilot."

"While we have no specific destination for today's flight of fantasy, our goal is to provide you with a safe and comfortable trip. Unfortunately, it appears from the navigational charts that there will be some turbulence ahead, so please remain seated, buckle up and prepare for a long and bumpy ride..."

With such a commencement, how could Jack not expect to enjoy this week's hour-long escape from reality?

After a few false starts, the plane(s) took off at 1.08 pm, and it was indeed a bumpy ride, but Jack must admit it appeared that all would be well and that the crew and passengers would all arrive safely. Not to spoil the suspense, but Jack must admit that such was not to be the case.

Although James was able to step in and fill Bob's shoes, God was apparently Razia's co-pilot for awhile as the passengers gave her their overwhelming support and confidence. Ever the humourist, Captain Razia couldn't help quipping that only "God knows why" she received the commendation she did.

After we had been in the air awhile, a few of the flight attendants made their requisite announcements, and Stewardess Antonia offered the passengers refreshments - it might not have been "Coffee, tea or me?" but it was "a quick one" nonetheless.

But once the crew members were seated not only did the turbulence become unsettling; the plane was hijacked (no pun intended). Although she appeared to be your average, smiling stewardess, Eirene Papavassiliou got up and completely rearranged the flight plans and, albeit with the passengers' support, charted a new course for the journey.

With a side trip through Sierra Leone, Eirene was able to commandeer the plane and make sure AIESEC was one of the stopovers. The passenger who came

on board ensured that Eirene's efforts were successful, as AIESEC will from now on be an official destination of the LSESU Airlines.

But hardly had Flight number 6 taken to the air again when yet another group took control and forcibly sent passengers and crew alike on a not-so-enjoyable trip to Cyprus. Yet while the destination was indeed added to the flight-plan, it was left to the passengers to decide whether it would be the land of the Greek or that of the Turkish Cypriots.

Few of those on board, Jack included, seemed to feel qualified to decide which would be a better holiday spot, and a smear-campaign among the hi-jackers certainly didn't help in the evaluation.

At one point a brave passenger challenged the hi-jackers that if they continued on with their in-fighting he would do all he could to ensure that neither Cyprian locale was included.

This action was lauded by many of the passengers, so the discussion continued and in the end it was decided that apparently Greek Cyprus would be the best choice.

After such heated debate Captain Razia looked at the fuel gauge and noticed the plane had been making too many unplanned stops in far-distant lands, so she attempted to bring the flight to an end; again, this was not to be the case, as some passengers out on the left wing made an attempt to rework the flight plans.

The passengers for once were able to keep these would-be terrorists in line, but alas it was too late; the plane ran out of fuel and what would have been a safe if not comfortable landing was instead a screeching halt in mid-air, followed by a tailspin and crash landing.

"...We apologise for any discomfort this flight has caused you, but we hope you have enjoyed flying with LSESU Airlines. If this is your final stop on this flight of fantasy, we hope you have an enjoyable time, but if you are returning to reality, think of us the next time you need to escape for awhile."

...As a postscript, Jack would like to wish Bob the Co-Pilot a happy retirement and good luck in his future career as a hi-jacker. Cheers.

# St. Phillips- new home for SU?

## Latest LSE purchase regarded as potential home for union

By Julian Sykes

General Secretary Michiel van Hulsten has put forward proposals to move a large part of the Student Union to St. Phillips' hospital.

The building, which the LSE takes possession of on the 1st January, will have three quarters of its rooms let out to finance the cost of purchase. However, few rooms have been let out and Hulsten suggests that the SU could rent some of the rooms, at a reduced rate.

There are no plans to move the sabbaticals from their current location, however; it is hoped that the move would allow for office swopping, perhaps ending the current separation between sabbaticals and admin/welfare staff. The main thrust of the relocation would thus be in commercial services.

In particular, the SU shop would open an extra branch at the St. Phillips site. The idea has met with enthusiasm from Toby Johnson, Senior Treasurer, and a representative from



Photo: Barry Pourghadini

the shop.

However, Johnson was unable to give an estimated costing for the move. The shop representative also acknowledged that the new

branch could be isolated from the school.

The LSE is understood to be looking at the suggestion for a reduced rent for SU use favourably.



# Busy Beaver

The all new totally unofficial gossip column . . . handle with care

G'day all you dirt-diggers. Busy Beaver, muck-raker extraordinaire, is here to bring you the latest gossip from your favourite college.

Old news, but still juicy, is the infamous wager amongst our heavenly sabbaticals, Rip van Winkle, Chancellor Tubby, and McMuffin, as to who would be the first to use their office for procreation purposes. The winner of this bedding bet resides in E206. Busy Beaver isn't saying anymore, except that she's taking the "social" part of her job to new extremes.

Keeping on the theme of our heavenly Sabbaticals, old Tubby Johnson seems to have a thing for "Beaver" editors. Lately, he can be found with the Former First Lady of this

illustrious paper, before that he was with the Mad Queen Beaver herself.

A nice little story which just about confirms Busy Beaver's opinion of law students happened the other weekend. It involved a first year female law student at Roseberry and enough vodka to keep the Russian economy afloat for twenty years. This lawyer-to-be was spotted kissing two blokes at the same time (now that's not so easy). It then took three guys to drag her off another man (I believe she was molesting his legs in a lift). Meanwhile, our sozzled student then screamed that she needed a man and, of course, eventually ended up passing out in a bed with a woman. Now that's what I call a legal precedent.

Busy Beaver hears that our eternal American stu-

dent Big Bob is having a few problems with the kids (not his, but the children of his latest Roseberry Rose). It seems that the school half-term holidays just about screwed up his chances for a bit of fun. Keep taking those cold showers.

Have you pub quiz addicts spotted the little tete a tete between MC Strongbow and the Mad Queen Beaver on Monday nights? Could this explain why her team keeps winning or am I just going "round the block".

Busy Beaver has been informed that the Passfield bar manager might be up the proverbial creek without a paddle after being caught with the bar still open at 12.30 am (naughty, naughty). The situation wasn't helped by the naked pool players or the "Leaf Man" wearing just a

Safeway's bag on his head.

The Blonde Barfly was seen last week with a well-known member of the Brunch Bowl staff. Busy Beaver hears that the curry didn't go down too well (though it came up nicely enough). They ended the night at Roseberry wearing very little indeed...

Somebody should help President Brownie out and explain to him exactly where you put a condom. Busy Beaver thinks that he took being called "dick head" in the Tuns a little too literally.

It all seems to be happening in the Cinematic Society where the quote "I think we'll all make a great time" (see Cinematic Soc. article) must now be coming back to haunt them. The Treasurer/Scriptwriter has been described as "going mad" after sacking the director, editor, and lead

actor in their production "The Perfect Cut". The deposed cinematographers claim it was because the Scriptwriter would not accept any criticism of his script. They are now considering going ahead and making a rival film. The Scriptwriter, backed up by the Chairperson/newly-appointed Director, argues that he did not sack anybody, he merely withdrew his script as he was not happy with the interpretation of it. Busy Beaver thinks that they should make a film about the back-stabbing, coup, and apparent war in the Cinematic Society. Well, whatever the truth, it's bloody good publicity.

Imagine how surprised McMuffin must have been upon finding the curtains to her office closed one Saturday morning. Then she remembered lending her key

the night before to a certain well-known person who can usually be found sitting in the middle of the Old Theatre stage on Thursday afternoons (1 to 2 to be precise). Busy Beaver thinks that room E206 should be renamed The Den of Sin and promptly fitted with a mirrored ceiling and a king-sized bed.

That's it for this week. If you have any suitable (or unsuitable) gossip about our favourite LSE folk, drop Busy Beaver a note via the Campus Editor, the "Beaver". Remember, if you can't say something nice about somebody, print it in a newspaper.

B.B.

## Writing by numbers

Joe Lavin writes exactly 750 words on how to stretch your essays.

Indeed, in hindsight, as well as in foresight if I were to have that power which incidentally I do not, thus making this clause irrelevant (25), it would perhaps and most definitely seem, when looking at the grand picture of all events of this earth (43) as compared to all other events not of this world, that most likely, and perhaps it could even be said, most definitely, that I have fallen off the metaphorical cliff, so to speak (77), and into that age old problem that has plagued all men since Adam and all women (93) since Eve of counting those things known to most but not necessarily to all as words (109). Therefore and thus hence, it must now indeed be pretty much concluded that I have now written no more and no less and definitely at least around one hundred and forty-one words at this point in time and am well on my way to having an article long enough to get into The Beaver.

Sorry, I didn't used to write like that. Excuse me, I should have said "did not" instead of "didn't" as it would have taken up more words. Hey, wow, that last sentence really took up a lot of words, almost as much as this next...

Maybe I should begin again. I did not used to write like that until last week when I had to write a two-thousand-word essay. I would have been fine if I had been told to write a six page essay,

because I knew how many pages six pages is — somewhere in the vicinity of six I believe. (I used to study math, you see.) But I had absolutely no concept of how many pages two thousand words is.

In fact, I don't even like thinking about words. My mind finds pages much more aesthetic. I even announced to a friend last week that I had "finished one thousand pages of a two thousand page essay."

It must have been some type of a mental block, but it certainly scared the hell out of her. For a small part of a second, a look of complete and utter fear crept onto her face as she realized that all she had written was a lousy five pages that would have been four pages if she hadn't fooled with the margins. And here was this geek in front of her who had apparently written one thousand god damned pages, and life suddenly didn't seem so pleasant to her.

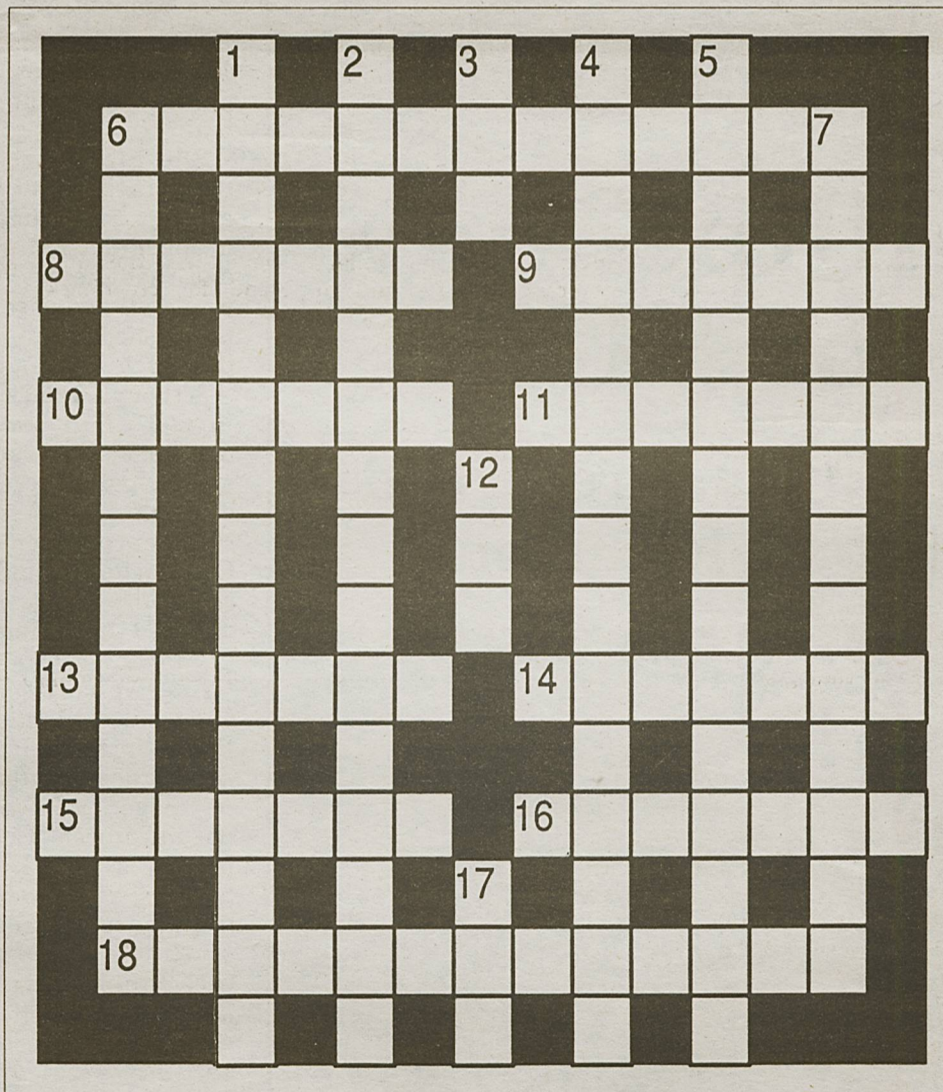
I did, of course, have the presence of mind to notice my mistake and correct myself, so she did recover quickly, probably having that same presence of mind to notice how stupid I was.

Speaking of stupidity, I would like to admit to mammoth exaggeration. I mean, my essay wasn't all that bad,

Please see WORDS, page 5

## ABC

(Another Bastard Crossword)



### Tuns Break Crossword

(answers to last week's puzzle)

- Across:**
1. THE LIFE OF REILLY
  8. FATIMA
  9. CAN YOU
  10. MORSE
  11. REMADE
  13. SPRING
  15. WIMBLEDON COMMON
  16. YELLOWING VOLUME
  17. LAMBADA
  20. STRING
  22. CURSE
  23. CRAMER
  24. TEA BAG
  25. SECOND IN COMMAND.

- Down:**
1. TO FAR AWAY PLACES;
  2. LEILA;
  3. FLAME;
  4. OVERGROWN GARDEN;
  5. RACES;
  6. INNER;
  7. YOUNG AND ENGAGED;
  12. DELTOID;
  14. PROVOST;
  18. BIMBO;
  19. ACRID;
  20. SET TO;
  21. REALM.

#### Across

6. Up to date letters(?) (4,9)
8. Phobia Monster (3,4)
9. Tabloid hero (4,1,2)
10. Mechanical shark (Aus). (3,4)
11. Brings back memories (3,4)
13. Adjourns to (7)
14. Could be glass (4,3)
15. Instruction to Alice (5,2)
16. Outliers (7)
18. Circumambient (13)

#### Down

1. Telling ancient jokes badly (2,5,2,1,5)
2. Unwanted response (5,4,6)
- 3,17,12. Sore thumb, spare wheel (3,3,3)
4. Pledge fealty to lady (5,4,1,5)
5. Arid Roman cities (4,2,9)
6. Hidden passion (9,4)
7. Pentangle (7,5)
12. See 3 Down
17. See 3 Down



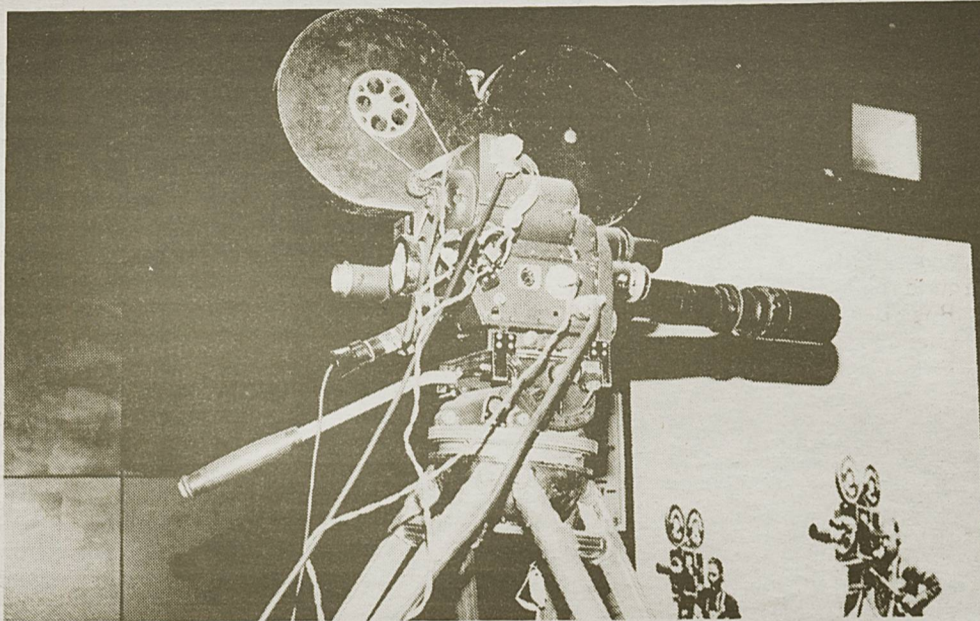
# Lights, Camera, Action!

Cinematic Soc. Chairperson Jody Raab, writes about their forthcoming film "A Perfect Cut".

Well it's been a hectic couple of weeks for everyone involved in the Cinematic Society's debut production "A Perfect Cut". There have been two general meetings in which directors and producers were nominated and selected. People involved in the editing, music and P.R. of the film were also chosen. The finance has been worked out as well as editing suits, cameras, lighting and sound. Then there were the auditions! Every single part was contested by an average of seven actors or actresses, with a total of 50 individual auditions. To quote Acting Director Ambrose Braun, "Some real talent was demonstrated and decisions were tough, but finally, after much deliberation, I think we found the best people for the parts. I think we'll make a great team!"

The film is based largely on a script written by Ambrose which aims to illustrate the links between paranoia and latent homosexuality, as outlined by Freud. It is important to realize that it is latent rather than overt homosexuality, as it is the repression of these urges that gives rise to the various symptoms which develop into classic neurosis as the film's themes develop. These symptoms include strong religious tendencies, which become fanatical, leading to delusions of grandeur and excessive fatalism.

Act 1 Scene 2:  
Alex: You're the "Power and the Glory", right, so you're responsible.



Film on Film: what people used to use before camcorders. Photo: Barry Pourghadini

Act 4 Scene 19  
Alex: I have to continue with my mission.....I must concentrate on having justice done by God.

All this is intertwined with feelings of insecurity, due to feelings of inadequacy, rooted chiefly in sexual inadequacy. As his condition deteriorates we see paranoia creep in and eventually result in paranoid schizophrenia.

This may seem a complicated and challenging theme to illustrate, and it is! But, this is exactly where the strength of the plot lies. We see these Freudian concepts personified and developed through the character of Alex, enabling the audience to follow, and partially empathize, with each stage of this tragic deterioration of a

man's mind.

Having said this, the film can be enjoyed on several other levels, and has several subthemes running parallel to the main plot. These include the double standards of bourgeois life, a sexless marriage, a touching exposure of the agony of female sexual jealousy, and, of course, a good old fashioned murder mystery!

"A Perfect Cut" is a first for LSE - and extremely ambitious for a debut. It will be sponsored by private companies and will carry advertising in the trailers. The rest of the funding will either be from society funds, or from private contributions. It will be professionally edited by an internationally known company, who, for legal reasons, can-

not be named here. The film lasts around 35 minutes and will hopefully be reviewed by some fairly prominent members of the film world. We hope to screen "A Perfect Cut" at other London University colleges, as well as here at LSE, and it will be entered in various national competitions.

In the last few days the final preparations have been made for the first takes with the cast, all now armed with their scripts and hopefully "living" their roles for that 'spot-on' performance! It is hoped that the film will be ready for screening early in 1992.

**N.B: Things are not what they seem. For an update, see Busy Beaver's column - Ed.**

## WORDS, from page 4

and I only say this because my teacher could conceivably be reading this. Even worse, he could conceivably be saying to himself, "Hey, you know, he's right. His essay really was a piece of unappetizing expletive."

That would not be good, so I would like to say in my defence that in all truth and with all modesty aside my

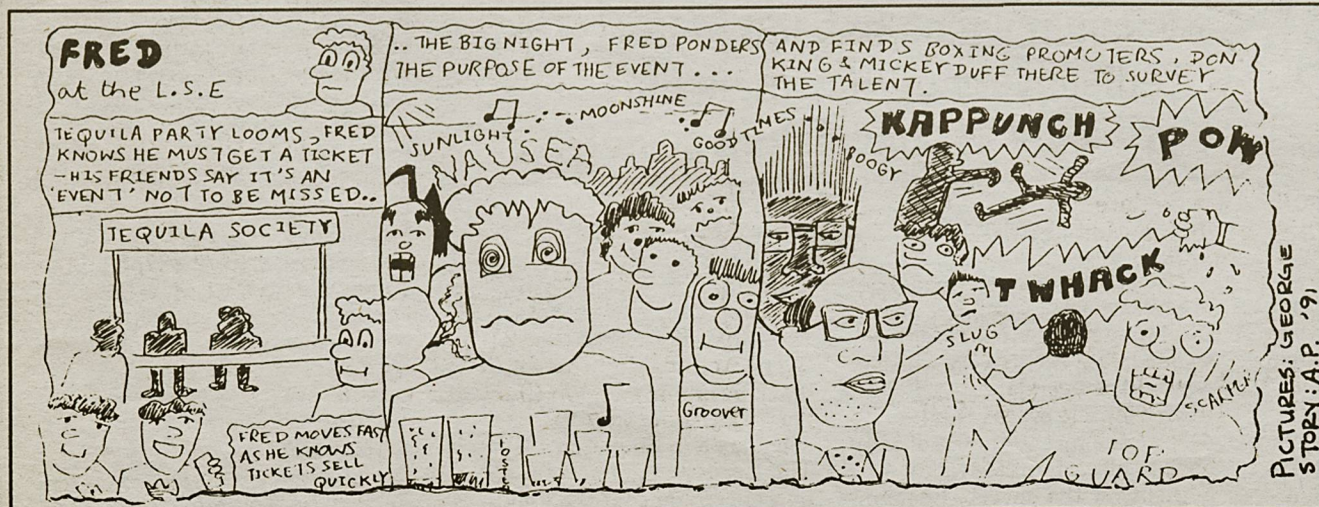
essay was perhaps and indeed most probably the best and most excellent piece of writing to come along since Shakespeare, if indeed Will was all that good. Well, at least, a thousand words of it was.

My major problem was that for all intents and purposes my essay was finished after a thousand words, and suddenly it became subordinating conjunction time. Sure, I had the wonderful opportunity to delve deeper

into my subject and present an even better essay, but I also had the equally wonderful opportunity to not do this and use lots of subordinating conjunctions instead.

Unfortunately, I couldn't find a thousand subordinating conjunctions, so I took the middle road - delving deeper into the subject (read: redundantly repeating things I had already said earlier) while using lots of subordinating conjunctions. It worked like a charm.

Soon, my paper had enough words so that if you rounded them a lot, you would get a number that came close to two thousand. I was done and happy and even had enough time to bitch and whine about it in an article that must by now have enough words so that I can stop soon. Yes, life is good again, and now all I have to do is write a five thousand word essay for next week. Does anyone have a thesaurus?



# diary

Ho, ho, ho. Jingle, jingle. Bah, humbug! Yes, you've guessed it, Christmas is almost upon us. There are now only 32 shopping days left. The lights are on down Oxford Street, and soon the megaphone-armed policemen will be patrolling all the junctions off Regent's Street. Ten million shoppers will be passing through the doors of 'Hamley's' every hour. I know it is only November 18th, but for this great city of London, Christmas started at least three weeks ago! To celebrate this, the LSE, which is always a jump ahead of the rest, is holding "Official Get Ready for Christmas Week". So, let us get on with our packed programme of festive events.

If you want to know whether there is going to be a white Christmas, or you just feel like cleaning up at the bookies, then there is a lecture on "Chaos and Forecasting", on Monday 18th at 5.30 pm in the Old Theatre. It is being given by Professor Robert M. May of the Department of Zoology, University of Oxford. Playing Santa that evening will be M.C. Steve as he gives away the usual sack of prizes in the Strongbow Campus Challenge, in the Three Tuns at 8pm.

Thinking of putting on a nativity play? Then make sure you attend the "10 Minute Theatre" meeting on Tuesday 19th at 6pm in The Underground (C018). To start off the season of goodwill the very merry Socialist Worker student Society is holding a meeting at ULU entitled "Does America Rule the World?" The Christmas party round gets underway with the History Party at 8pm in The Underground. It's also Steve's birthday, so it should end up in a drunken orgy, or so says Neil.

On Wednesday 20th, the Debating Society will be revealing all, as usual, in the Vera Anstey room at 1pm. This time it is called, "THB in Positive Discrimination". The Lebanese Society are holding their party/dinner that evening (and it's about time they did something too!) I don't know where it is so just follow your nose.

John Kelly (no doubt brother of Henry) will be going for gold in the Old Theatre on Thursday 21st, at 5.30pm. The subject is "Arabian Frontiers and Anglo-American Relations". A veritable Christmas cracker of an evening takes place at 8pm in the Quad. First off is a black poet called Lemn Sissay on racism in Britain. Following him is a black mime theatre company called "They Wouldn't", who are currently on "The Oops Uranus Tour". This is brought to you courtesy of the Afro-Caribbean Society and our beloved Fiona.

To really get you into the Christmas spirit, or at least a damn good bottle of whiskey, get down to the Three Tuns on Friday 22nd for a disco and a pint of eggnog.

If you fancy a pleasant stroll through London (with a lot of shouting thrown in) then meet at Lincoln's Inn Fields at 1pm on Saturday 23rd. Workers Against Racism are organizing their "Stop the Bill" demo.

If you fancy taking an MBA at University of Chicago, contact the Graduate Office toute suite.

After a week like this, how can you possibly resist the urge to get out those bobble hats, pull on that specially knitted sweater with the little snowmen on it, and dust off your favourite Bing Crosby records. So get making those mince pies, collecting up the mistletoe and polishing your sleigh bells. Now is the time to work out which one of those fairy lights is knackered. Now is the time to fight your way through the hoards to do your Christmas shopping. Now is the time to brush up on your carol singing. Then again, there is still time to sod all this crap, and book your holiday to Bermuda.

So, Merry Christmas to one and all.



# Turning the tables on racism

Interpreting the recent developments on the issue of racism, **Sinisa Vacic** foresees growing intolerance in the face of foreigners in the 'West'

The year 1991 has definitely seen the issue of race back on the political agenda in all Western countries, and has profoundly affected the social mood. During the Gulf War, the vilification of Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi people provided the focus for racists to target black, especially Muslim, communities in the West.

In the UK, the discrimination against these communities took very extreme forms in places like Bradford, where the Muslim community was not only isolated, but harassed both by the police and the 'racists'.

Because the opposition to the war remained muted and failed to challenge the imperialist motivations of the war, the consensus gained ground all over Europe.

The general response to this year's famine in Africa indicated the strength of this trend as reactionaries such as Nicholas Ridley publicly expressed their contempt for people in the Third World on prime-time TV:

"We shouldn't offer aid, we should send them condoms."

After having bled the Third World dry of its few remaining resources by extracting debt repayments all through the 1980s, people like Nicholas Ridley now feel comfortable enough to sermonise us on Malthusian theory and wash their hands of the responsibility of starving millions.

This has cleared the way for the issue of race to emerge more overtly, and has been most prominent in the immigration debate taking place in all Western countries.

It is reflected in the growth of racist attacks which are happening all over Europe, from Sweden, Italy, Belgium, Germany, France which are for the most part directed against foreign workers, their homes and their families.

In France, Jacques Chirac's comment about "smelly immigrants" in July opened the way for mainstream politicians, who previously distanced themselves from the far right, to make a profile for themselves by adopting similar positions.

Thus, Michel Poniatowski compared the presence of immigrants in France to the Nazi occupation of France, and was joined by former president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in his denunciation of the "invasion of France by foreigners."

Even the prime minister, Edith Cresson, who was formally outraged by these statements, has joined the right in calling for further immigration controls by proposing a scheme to repatriate refugees by force on charter flights. Immigration has provided the excuse for making racism respectable.

In Germany, the issue of race has focused mostly on immigration from the East. The establishment has gone to great lengths to create a sense of panic about immigration by spending vast resources in sealing off its borders with Poland, as well as tightening surveillance in refugee camps.

The excuse has been that it wants to protect refugees from



Funeral of Siho Muguven: an activist to the end

photo: Simon Worfolk

fascist attacks. This has had a wide resonance amongst the German population, since the rise of fascism, albeit contained, has raised real identity problems in the way most Germans still feel about their past.

However, it has helped the establishment to divert attention from its own problems about the recession and focus its attack on foreigners as the cause of social instability.

The British government has

**"Immigration has provided the excuse for making racism respectable."**

adopted a similar approach to politicising the issue of race. The introduction of the Asylum Bill is an attempt to criminalise black people seeking to enter this country and present them as the cause of the economic problems in Britain.

The promotion of this theme has allowed right wing reactionaries to express their racist and chauvinist views in public. In particular, Charles Moore publicised his prejudices in the 19 October issue of *The Spectator* when he called for "a more overtly racist immigration policy". His statement echoed Graham Turner's in the 10 October *Daily Mail*, expressing much the same view by labelling refugees and immigrants as "invaders," and stating that:

"...(if immigration is not stopped), there will be the biggest swing to the right in European politics since the 1930s. Second, there will be social and racial disorder on a scale not seen in continental Europe since the war."

The right in this country has become so confident as to try to blame the existence of racism on its victims. Even though black people are continually denied equal rights and continually face police harassment and state repression, the establishment has been mostly successful in

promoting ideas which amount to a total inversion of reality.

The chauvinist pretension that somehow immigrants are the cause of rising unemployment, declining productivity, and the lack of housing has nothing to do with the reality of the problem.

The absence of any serious discussion about the slump in Britain, and the Conservatives' inability to propose any new ideas to overcome it shows that in fact the immigration debate is

a diversion and a way of labelling foreigners and using them as scapegoats for the problems they never had anything to do with.

Racism has also come on the agenda in the USA, albeit in a slightly different form, because the issue has centred more on the

**"The collapse of Stalinism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has deeply undermined the sense of purpose of Western authorities ... It's this ideological vacuum which has led to the rediscovery of racism as the principle of cohesion in society."**

internal aspects of American society.

Thus crime, drugs, inner cities are buzzwords for talking about race; in fact, American identity as one being exclusively white is now on the agenda.

An example of this is how, despite the fact that 50% of kids born to black families today face a life below the poverty line, and that black people have a lower

life expectancy than any other minority, the establishment has been able to demonise the ghetto as a type of "home grown Iraq".

The main idea has been to portray black people and ghetto youth as innately criminal and savage, "un-American" and lacking any "moral restraint" and therefore, as a threat to American society.

This logic may sound perverse given the fact that the USA has been the country where black people's oppression has taken the most barbaric and protracted form, but it is totally serious, as a new book on race by T.B. Edsall and M.D. Edsall illustrates vividly:

"In political and social terms, the underclass serves to reinforce the most damaging racial preconceptions about black America. By a large margin, white Americans now refuse to accept any blame for these conditions. As they see it, black people have had more than a fair chance, thanks to the removal of barriers against political representation and aid from special

In that context, the nomination of former Klu Klux Klan leader David Duke as the Republican candidate for Louisiana does not come as a surprise, given the extent to which racism has again become a topic of dinner table discussion.

Despite the varying forms of the debates around it, the growth of racism as an objective social problem and an outlook on society has one common cause in all of these countries.

The collapse of Stalinism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has deeply undermined the sense of purpose of Western authorities, as was demonstrated last week over the confusion in Rome around NATO's future role.

The old rallying call of anti-communism no more has the same flavour, and has ceased to be the cohering ideological motive for America to mobilise support from its allies. This has exposed divisions within the Western camp, and created a sense of confusion and purposelessness, which was expressed as early as 1989 by Western politicians and advisors such as A.C. Goldberg:

"As Soviet Hegemony dissipates, so does the rationale for thinking of the West as a unified political actor". (*Washington Quarterly*, Winter 89/90)

J. Mearheimer, went even further to say:

"We are likely soon to regret the passing of the Cold War". (*Why the West will soon miss the Cold War*-The Atlantic, August 1990)

It's this ideological vacuum which has led to the rediscovery of racism as the principle of cohesion in society, and identity in the West.

However, national identities prioritise exclusivity, and promote the idea that being "foreign" is a lesser identity in relation to the British, French, German, American identities, in particular in a time of recession.

The affirmation of a national identity in this context seeks to negate the privileges which accompany it to anyone else who is not part of it. It acquires its significance by fostering artificial divisions between people by defining "racial" differences, and creating an atmosphere of confrontation.

Thus the growth of racism in the West is part of the recreation of the past and the racist divisions between white and black, the "civilised West" and the "barbarian East". This is extremely vivid in the vilification of Serbian people in the conflict which is tearing Yugoslavia apart, as well as the proposals for tighter immigration controls in the West.

In that context, as reaction and conservatism set in, we can count on racism to be one of the main political issues in the West in the 1990s. We need to actively challenge the assumptions behind this trend in an effort to try and revert this trend of racism.

There will be a "Stop the Asylum Bill" demonstration (coordinated by Workers Against Racism) on November 23- meet at 1 pm in Lincoln's Inns Fields.



# A Tale of Two Cities

Sahr Johnny casts a glance at Hong Kong and China in the run up to 1997

Five years away from 1997, the countdown continues relentlessly. The prosperous baby dragon must return to its yearning mother. Hong Kong has for decades been the major crossroad of the Far East: an economic stage on which East and West meet with considerable commercial advantages for both sides. Beneath this commercial success has been a strong link with mainland China - an umbilical cord which has never been broken. Any Friday evening on the Kowloon Railway from Hong Kong Island to Lo Wu in mainland China exemplifies these strong ties as hundreds of people make the one hour journey to visit relatives, conduct business, set up factories, sightsee etc. The relationship between China and Hong Kong is a special one but one which will be put to the test in 1997 when Capitalism meets Communism face to face.

Present day Hong Kong is a Capitalist's dream, skyscrapers loom high and tall: their shapes and sizes casting a symbolic and sometimes imposing shadow on the neighbouring mainland. Ironically, the most outstanding monument in Hong Kong's concrete and steel paradise is the extensively mirrored China bank building with its multi-faceted grandeur. An ever-present symbol that China from now on will continue to play an increasing role in Hong Kong's affairs. Those who have doubts about China's intentions have already moved abroad but the majority of people in Hong Kong prefer to stay. The fifty year safety cushion has been an important factor in their decision-making process and Hong Kong is much more suited to the industrious nature of the people than Canada, United States or Britain.

China is becoming increasingly open as the years go by but the process is a slow and tentative one. Shenzhen and Zhuhai have been dubbed "Special Economic Zones" in the South of China and already they have enjoyed a prosperity surpassing the majority of cities in this vast country. Location has been an important factor, with Shenzhen located just outside Hong Kong's New Territories and Zhuhai adjacent to Macau.

Here the government of The People's Republic of China has encouraged foreign investment with tax concessions and other economic incentives. The cities boast major new developments and are in the process of developing a skyline of their own. Zhuhai for example is a beautiful example of a new city with wide, tree-lined roads and very little traffic. Being only fifty minutes from Hong Kong Island and virtually next to Macau it is reaping the benefits of openness and proximity. In 1997 when Hong Kong rejoins China and in 2000 when Macau follows in its footsteps, Zhuhai and Shenzhen

will be the first to gain.

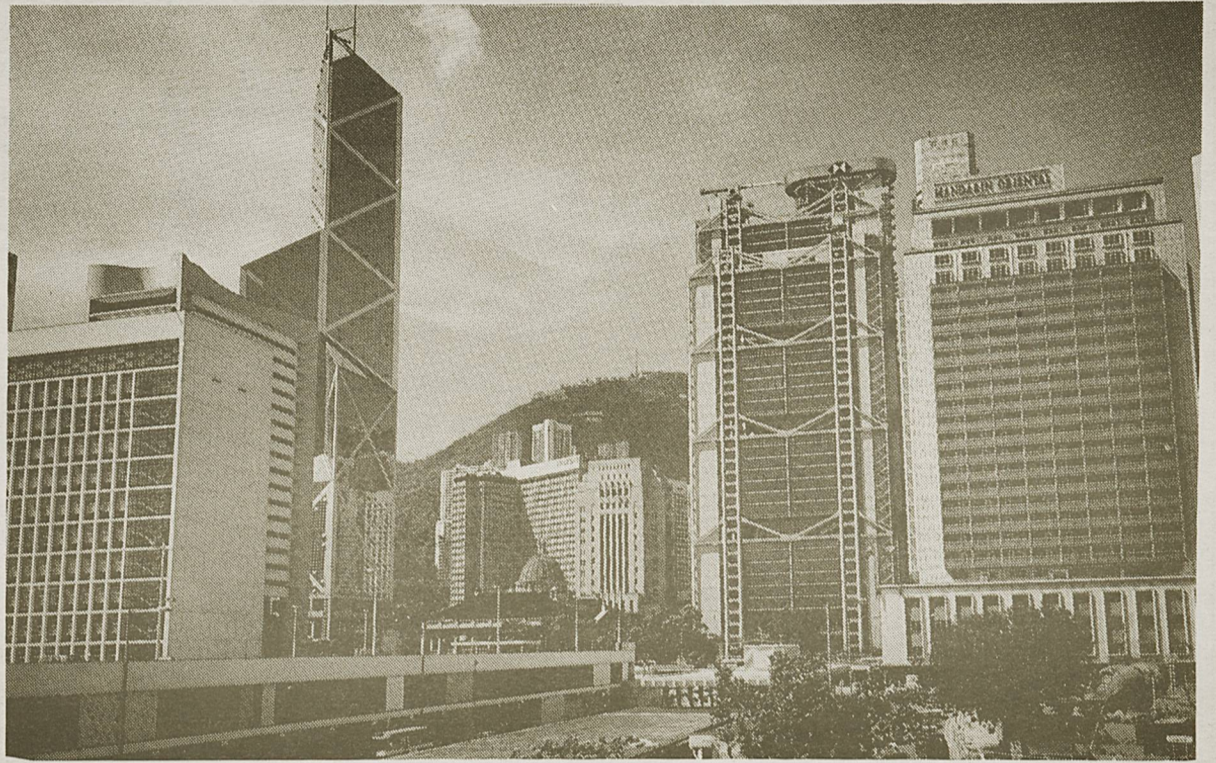
Despite the gradual opening of China, the process is hindered by a delicate balance of the desire for economic success fuelled through links with the West, and the refusal of the government to lose any political face. Various commentators would maintain that China, even in the light of the erosion of Communism in Eastern Europe, remains Communist to the core. They justify their adherence to outmoded principles by saying that theirs is a different brand of Communism.

Different or not it is still difficult to see how Communism of any sort can be reconciled with successful capitalism. Already, Hong Kong is experiencing problems with the priorities of the Mainland.

A case in point is the new billion HK\$ airport, a project which China initially objected to because it meant that Hong Kong will have fewer reserves when China takes over. The obvious effect of such a stance is the discouragement of major investors and the curbing of any

**"Hong Kong needs to be treated like a complicated piece of machinery: owned by China ... but run by the people of Hong Kong."**

emergence of large-scale projects. For a city which relishes in extravagant projects that add to its unique beauty, this is not the



This is where the big boys make their money: Central Hong Kong

recently been under water, illustrating further Hong Kong's technical wizardry.

Hong Kong is famous for its shopping malls, arcades and Plaza's generously splashed with international designer labels and fashion houses. Furthermore, the chances are that money, in whatever currency you choose to carry it, will take you twice as far as it does at home. Limited duties have meant that it has been a shoppers paradise for decades. Inflation rears its ugly head but its effects are still minimal. The Hong Kong Dollar carries a lot of weight in the Southern tip of China and is commonly preferred to the Chinese currency, the RMB (the People's Currency) or Chinese Yuan. It is forbidden to take RMB's out of the country (I did

on one side (probably to prevent the value of the ink from exceeding the note's face value).

Dictated by the location of Hong Kong, the language spoken is Cantonese, stemming from the Guangdong Province. A huge part of South China speak cantonese as an everyday language. While many in South China can speak Mandarin as well (the official language of The People's Republic of China), the proportion in Hong Kong is much less. However, Mandarin is gaining in importance on the Island as 1997 looms near.

The city of Canton/Guangzhou lies in the heart of the Guangdong Province, China. It is the heart of the cantonese language and home to Cantonese Cuisine. The city sprawls endlessly and is

bravery, recklessness, stoicism and sheer good luck. The high streets are a melange of bicycles, people, cars, vans, lorries and motor-cycles with something to catch your eye for every second. This is a far-cry from the relatively conformed and organised nature of Hong Kong's urban life, but it possesses a beauty of its very own. It has a budding tourist industry with big names like Holiday Inn, White Swan Hotel, Garden Hotel and Canton Plaza handling most of the foreign element and handling a lot of FECs, US\$ and HK\$ in the process.

Hong Kong also receives its fair share of visitors from the mainland, usually Chinese government employees, heads of Chinese companies based in Hong Kong and their employees. The cross border traffic is hardly one way though the bulk is usually from Hong Kong

Recently, there was talk of leaked documents in Hong Kong concerning China's suspected initiative to step up the activities of the Hong Kong communist party gradually by secretly encouraging new recruits. Fact or fiction, this is not the view China wants the people of Hong Kong to take of its intentions. Even if China keeps its promise and does not tamper with Hong Kong's capitalist element, the potential to do so will always be there.

The wheels are already in motion, so the hope can only be that the government of China realizes how much it needs this window to the West and therefore will endeavour to keep it open. This window needs to be open not only so that the world can look in but also so that China can look out. Hong Kong needs to be treated like a complicated and delicate piece of machinery owned by China (which is ill-equipped to operate it) but run by the people of Hong Kong who have the pre-requisites to run it efficiently. The baby dragon awaits its mother's embrace and there is huge scope for optimism. In Hong Kong, where the stock exchange flutters if Comrade Deng Xiao Ping has a temperance, such an embrace is one that the people of Hong Kong could have done without.



Blending of the old and the new: Hong Kong and Kowloon from the Peak

stance they want the mainland to take. Now, the Chinese officials have been won over but it will become increasingly difficult to do this the closer the big day looms. At the moment a huge outdoor escalator is being built from the Mid-levels to Central to ease traffic congestion in the area: just one of many examples of Hong Kong's unique way of solving problems. The new airport will be on land that has

and got caught) and usually foreign visitors are required to change foreign currency into FEC's (foreign exchange certificate) which you can re-exchange on your way out of the country. They are easier to handle than RMB's which tend to disintegrate in your hand and even have paper notes for the equivalent of one pence. Hong Kong seems to be following suit on this, with a one cent note that is printed only

probably the biggest Chinese city close to Hong Kong. Traffic between Guangzhou and Hong Kong is busy. The direct train between the two is almost always full, so you can fly there or make the three hour journey by Hydrofoil. The city is conspicuous by the sheer number of people it is home to and the level of activity, bustle and atmosphere. Crossing a main road in Guangzhou requires a cocktail of



# The Beaver

This is a time to reflect on the Union meetings (yes, again) and to determine what motivates people to act irresponsibly and with potential violence when a speaker voices beliefs which may conflict with those of the majority.

Everyone is here at the LSE because they are supposed to be intelligent enough to obtain a degree. It amazes me that such people can be so lacking in common sense and decent principles.

Take the example of the debate on the independence of Cyprus. This is debated year after year and the same conclusion is reached on every occasion. Why, then, do they still continue to reiterate the same rhetoric when it is not rhetoric in England that is going to solve the problem but action in Cyprus itself. The issue has to be repeated on an annual basis obviously because those who have chosen to discuss it have not acted on their principles.

There was also some despicable intolerance of the rights of those who wished to speak, to do so. Adult and rational human beings as we are all supposed to be, we should be able to make up our minds for ourselves which way we will vote on such an issue by listening to both sides of the argument.

Instead of such an approach being allowed to hold sway, intolerance towards those who did not hold the same beliefs as the "majority" was shown to an extreme, as well as intolerance towards those who wanted to hear both sides of the argument. Paper aeroplanes being thrown are one thing in the UGM's but throwing harder objects such as coins at a speaker trying to make his or her point of view is ridiculous and somewhat pathetic. One speaker last week was cut on the hand simply because she wished to make her point of view heard and those opposing her could not be bothered to listen and resorted to throwing things.

This is not the way to treat anyone, no matter what gibberish or rhetoric they may spout.

Executive Editor	Madeline Gwyon
Managing Editor	Monica Neal
News Editor	Peter Harrad
Campus Editors	Simon Bradberry Paul Cann
Feature Editor	Sandrine Bretonniere
Arts Editors	Ben Accam Navin Reddy
Music Editor	Neil Andrews
Sports Editors	Andrew Cox Andrew Pettitt
Photographic Editor	Steve East
Financial Director	Leo Griffin

Production Team: Peter Bancroft, Howard Bruton, Ian Coates, Darren Crook, John Hobson, Andy Rowlands.

Staff: George Binette, James Brown, Sarah Eglin, Frank Eich, John Fenton-Fischer, Nick Fletcher, Gavin Gillham, Daniel Harris, Justin Harper, Becky Hartnup, Eduardo Jauregui, Toby Johnson, Joe Lavin, Fiona MacDonald, Stavros Makris, Pernilla Malmfalt, Adrian May, Thorston Moos, Paul Nugent, Hok Pang, John Pannu, Charles Peat, Rodrigo Pizarro, David Price, Ian Prince, Miriam Quayyum, Zaffar Rashid, Michiel van Hulsten, Ron Voce, Stuart Wilkes.

Printed by Eastway Offset, 3-13 Hepscott Road, London E8

Typeset by U.L.C.C.

There will be an election Monday at the Beaver Collective meeting, on the top floor of the Cafe, for the position of co-News Editor. All nominations are to be handed to Madeline Gwyon by 5 pm Monday.

## First Person

A chance for individuals to express their opinions.

It seems that this year is seeing the demise and sadly the death of the UGM. In my four years at the LSE, it has had its ups and downs but this seems to be a permanent malaise. Our supreme decision making body is being made into a pantomime except that it does not have the attraction of Frank Bruno.

Politics at the LSE has become a victim of apathy. This is not to say that there was a heyday when hundreds of militants would take to the streets at the drop of a hat. Far from it, but at least politics was alive. Now, we are dominated by anonymous politicians whose pledge was to "open up the Union". The only thing that will be opened up if we go the way

## John Hull, former Social Services Secretary, expresses his views on the demise of oppositional politics

we are, is the Old Theatre, for lectures at 1pm on Thursdays.

This "new politics" was meant to sweep away the legacy of the old left wing, which was undoubtedly complacent and over-confident, in the same manner that the revolutions of Eastern Europe swept away Stalinism. However, the new politicians have forgotten what is at the root of politics: people and ideas. This year, fewer and fewer people are involved and, as a result, fewer ideas are on offer.

The DSG claim to be the party of efficiency; this may be so, but any changes are not apparent, and they must remember that it is the full time staff who try to run the Union effectively and efficiently; their job is concerned with policy and leadership.

Sofar, not one campaign has been launched thus not giving people the opportunity and motivation to join in with it or vehemently disagree with it and be involved that way. At present, the Tories have no one to disagree with except themselves.

Labour, too, do not escape blame. Their demise is part of this reason for the lack of opposition and lack of debate in Union meetings. However, although the hard left hate the mainstream Labour members, they do need them. Otherwise they become objects of ridicule and eventually play into the hands of the very people they are opposing. Labour once used to have power and make good use of it. We made many gains such as the "Divestment" campaign; the foundation of the "Housing Asso-

ciation" and the equal opportunities initiative to name but a few. Now that Labour is in opposition it needs to use its time to rebuild and mount an attack that will ensure the Union does not become dominated by what seems to be the "Major youth" who have the policies and ideas that are greyer than the man himself.

It is up to us to build a Labour party that uses its experience and broad range of ideas that can once again encourage the Union in decent debate and provide a leadership that will hold up to these new challenges. Otherwise they may become so "efficient" in the meantime that all debate will be "rationalised".

## Post Haste

Letters due to E197, by hand or internal mail, by 4 p.m. Thursday

## Bone of contention

Dear Beaver,  
I read with interest last week's editorial attacking myself and my proposed motion on Beaver political independence. Could you please publish my reply without too much creative editing?

Firstly, let me ask two questions. If the Beaver already follows effective guidelines to maintain political independence then why has there been so much abuse of editorial power for political purposes THIS TERM? If there is an effective Beaver constitution, then why did Madeline Gwyon tell me that she could not find it (if it had ever existed in writing) and that it might take two years to finish the new one she is currently writing?

Secondly, let me comment on the smear that I am proposing this motion for other motives i.e. political motives. If I wished to be party political on this issue, I could have proposed censure motions against the editors who are abusing their power for political purposes. Whether or not these motions were passed, I would certainly have gained party political publicity. But witchhunts do not achieve anything.

Putting forward a well thought motion of guidelines to prevent further abuse, after consulting many Beaver journalists, should achieve something. Already Michiel van

Hulsten has agreed to incorporate the bulk of my proposals into his review of the SU constitution, which the UGM will vote on next term.

I have privately received support for the motion from Democratic Socialists, Conservatives, Liberal Democrats and others across the political spectrum.

I hope that my motion will be passed at UGM now so that these guidelines can be put into practice as soon as possible, rather than waiting until the constitutional review comes before UGM next term.

John Pannu  
LSE Liberal Democrat

Dear John,

As I am sure you will appreciate, I have not edited your letter at all as you requested. Therefore any grammatical errors which you spot are entirely your own creation.

I am glad that you have received support for your business motion because, if you remember from my editorial last week, I was in support of the resolutions that you were proposing. I simply stated that it is the Beaver's policy to endeavour to uphold these principles anyway and that they are already part of the Beaver constitution.

I am, however, rather disturbed by some of the allegations that you make in your letter. For example, I would like to know the occasions on which there has been such a blatant abuse of editorial power for political concerns. In addition, if you care to come and see Madeline Gwyon at your convenience in her office at some point over the next two weeks then she will show you the Beaver constitution as it stands at the moment. The reason that I said I could not find it earlier was because I was in the middle of distributing copies of the Beaver around the school when you interrupted

me. I was extremely busy and would have preferred a chance to discuss the issue without interruptions. I am sure that I can look forward to seeing you in the office at some point in the near future. I can only point out in amusement as well that, if you are not doing this for political motives, then why have you signed the letter with the political party to which you adhere beneath your name?

## No longer an island

Dear Beaver,  
I was glad to see immigration control taken up in your November 4th issue as well as in the recent debate on this topic. However, it is sad that you only let quite extreme views clash. The problem is real: to address it is not racism. To suggest that it could amount to economic suicide - as the Chairman of the LSE Conservatives did - casts doubt on the quality of his first year economics course. Many immigrants are highly motivated and foreign communities have created huge amounts of wealth in several European countries.

When a Polish worker crosses the river Oder to Germany, he could well multiply his (average) income by a factor of eleven, just as much as the Moroccan does who crosses a few miles of sea to reach Spain. Wherever in the world such income discrepancies existed, immigration control was difficult. Countries had to employ iron-curtain-like techniques or instead, immigration proved largely futile, as illegal Mexicans all over the US would suggest. Meaningful trade agreements and generous, if well considered, aid to the Southern Mediterranean and to the transforming economies of the East

could be an alternative. This kind of immigration control would admittedly be long term and politically hard to sell. Still, it goes to the root of a problem which would affect all Western Europe (which includes Britain). That is a very human desire each of us looking north from Tanger would easily understand.

Alexander Lehmann

## Positively apathetic

Dear Beaver,  
Your article on student apathy has totally missed the point. Students are apathetic for a very understandable reason. Students politics at the LSE are a reflection of national politics in the western world. It makes no difference if you vote for a radical candidate because they will be outvoted by the moderate, power-hungry careerists of the established parties.

Whether the difference is between Labour and Conservative or DSG and Tory, nothing will change. The system will remain the same. The difference between them is negligible.

The reason we LSE students don't vote is that we are intelligent enough to see through the myth of democracy. It is not that we don't care about the LSE or the Union or the country, it is simply an expression of our understanding that democracy is at best the dictatorship of the majority, and at worst, "nice" consensus politics. DSG, Tory, Labour or whoever, our vote was quite simply none of the above.

Anna Kist  
(or should that be anarchist? — Ed.)



At a  
Glance

Music

Mozart 200  
at the Barbican  
through 5 December

Film

K2  
general release

Little Man Tate  
general release

Shattered  
general release

Betty's Brood  
National Film Theatre as  
part of the London Film  
Festival

# Rock Bottom

## K2: Nice mountain, good climb; pity about the plot

Perhaps "K2" will appeal to those mountaineering enthusiasts who are particularly keen on the tackiest American buddy-movies available. For the rest of the population the film doesn't offer very much, especially at an opportunity cost of three or four pints.

Roughly, "K2" is about two men who climb a mountain. We are given a laborious insight into their every day lives, before the expedition and shown that the old motto — opposites attract — must still be true. One is the typical macho sex machine, trying to be as mean, selfish and generally unpleasant as possible while the other is a family man and just a bit too nice. (Well, how much empa-



Hi mum! (Michael Biehn and Matt Craven in "K2")

thy can you feel towards a guy who found physics more attractive than a sex life!

From beginning to end, the viewer is taken on a journey through the depths of an unbelievably tacky script —

whoever wrote it should be beaten savagely with a wet newspaper. Scenes that are potentially absorbing are consistently degraded by the dialogue which is less inventive than a poor Mills & Boon

novel. How on earth the director allowed such lines as, "You mean it's you or the mountain?" (as the nice guy asks his suffering wife) to remain in the film, is quite incredible. This is particu-

larly frustrating because the photography is excellent and even people who aren't climbing freaks can't help to be amazed at the beauty of the Himalayan shots (actually filmed in Canada) and at the skill involved in filming some of the breathe-taking climbing scenes.

If you go and see K2 take some cotton wool buds for your ears. The photography is great but then a film must have just the hint of a plot with perhaps one or two moments with interesting conversation. Unfortunately both those qualities seem to have been completely forgotten in this collection of well filmed images.

Rhodri Nicholl

# Bicentennial wake at the Barbican

## A musical celebration of Mozart's life on the anniversary of his death

The Barbican centre has recently inaugurated the second part of its much acclaimed Mozart 200 series, paying homage to maybe the greatest composer the world has ever seen. Under the expert guidance of Jeffrey Tate, the artistic director of the Barbican, the English Chamber Orchestra has been able to revive the genius of Mozart's works in a number of stunning concerts which will continue until the 5th of December, 1991.

The idea of this concert series was masterminded by another Austrian, Hans

Landesmann, whose plan it was to portray Mozart's character and masterpieces on the occasion of the bicentenary of the composer's death. Each concert highlights a year's worth of compositions; in the first part, the growth and development of the young prodigy into a mature musician was depicted, while the second episode tells the tale of Mozart's search for simplicity, the probing of his limits (if he had any) and the entering of new worlds of spirituality. In fact, all of Mozart's great pieces are solely played in

the second part of the concert series.

The deft skill of the English Chamber Orchestra literally seems to carry Mozart's genius one step further and I was completely transfixed by the beautiful melodies which seemed to cleanse my mind and left me in awe of Mozart's talents. The number of famous soloists, opera singers and conductors appearing at each individual concert add that final touch that makes the trip to the Barbican centre so worthwhile. Appearances have been made by Sir Colin

Davis, Pinchas Zuckerman, who gave a stunning performance as both a violinist and a conductor at the same time, Mitsuko Uchida, the Japanese pianist par excellence, and Andras Schiff, an Hungarian musician widely regarded as another one of the world's best pianists. Still to come are the likes of Felicity Scott and Sir Charles Mackerras.

Even though, the Mozart 200 series tries to cover most aspects of Mozart's music, it does not, however, include any of Mozart's chamber music and none of his operas

are staged at the Barbican. This minor fault does not undermine the quality of the performances and the wide ranges of music which are played at them. As a result, when I left I had a better understanding of Mozart's being as I followed him through life, through the medium of music. The remaining concerts are on the 23rd, 30th of November and on the 4th and 5th of December.

The Mozart 200 series at the Barbican centre also includes a number of very interesting exhibitions, sere-

nades, films and public lectures each focusing on one of Mozart's character traits and brought together by a myriad of artists from varying backgrounds united by the one goal to commemorate Mozart's genius, whose "bones might lie lost in a graveyard in Vienna, but whose music had such an influence on all composers and lovers of classical music worldwide" as Jeffrey Tate put it.

Patrick Fietje

# Little Genius

## Jodie Foster directs, acts, etc., etc...

Little Man Tate marks Jodie Foster's debut as a director and leading lady and the film deals neatly with a subject which deserves some exposure. The issue here is child prodigies, the effect of their mental superiority on society, their relationships with loved ones and the intense emotional pain and sensitivity that they suffer because of their genius. Jodie Foster plays a working class mother who despite loving her super-intelligent son Fred, lacks the social and economic sophistication to enable him to exploit his huge talent.

Fred at seven years old is an intense little boy, he has no friends, no hobbies except satisfying his vast appetite for knowledge.

Imagine a child, gifted with ideas and intuition that his class teacher can hardly understand, sensitive and racked with ulcers. His is a search for mental and emotional fulfillment. His mother's love is a shelter from which he

must break out and find his true self. Little Man Tate's mental hunger is abated when Jane Grierson (a former child prodigy herself), invites little Fred to join some other bright kid's for a weekend at her institute for the mentally astute. At the institute, Fred solves mathematical equations of dazzling intricacy but as the formulas and numerical patterns whiz through his brain, emotional forces are at war.

Tate finds a friend when his light's are put out by a globe thrown by Eddie (played by non other than Harry Connick Jr. His performance is amazingly good and he portrays strikingly, the bewildered college hunk befriended by an intense little boy. Eddie shoes Fred a good time, teaches him pool and plays music with him. For a while Fred is up with the big guy's but his world comes crashing to earth when he discovers that big Eddie cannot spend time with him. The sad figure of this poor, clever boy, his weak frame weighed down with

nuclear physics books, pulls gently at the heart strings and Foster delivers a generous dose of such poignant scenes.

Little Man Tate, is a well-made, well directed film, full of life, truth and inner-conflict. It deals with the tender subject of the sufferings of both child and parent, when the former is taken away to improve his/her mental prowess or when parents inadvertently suppress a child's needs for intellectual nourishment. The end result is a sensitive and gentle film with a hard humorous edge. Fred is in class and his teacher writes numbers one to eight on the board and asks the silent class, "How many of these numbers are divisible by the number two?" Fred looks up from his book and casually says "All of them". The perplexed look on the teacher's face says it all.

Sahr Ermaco Johnny

# Regarding the Trends

## Shattered follows in Henry's footsteps

A haunting shadow lingers in the mind of a man who has lost his memory. Surrounded by strangers he is convinced of the familiarity of his surroundings. His personal style is obviously opulent and his professional style that of understated excellence; all is as it should be.

Tom Berenger wakes up from a coma to find himself married to the charismatic and sexy Greta Scaatchi, and faced not with the usual

problem of "who am I" but rather "who was I". Enter Bob Hoskins, an asthmatic P.I. driven off the "mean streets" to the safety of a "pet-shop haven", whose evidence of marital infidelity creates even more uncertainty in the eyes of a man suffering from amnesia.

Following a new Hollywood trend, amnesia makes nice guys out of calculating, egomaniac "hard-assed" professionals (in the shadow of

Harrison 'Regarding Henry' Ford), Shattered is really about "pretty people" living "pretty lives" underlined by dangerous ugliness.

Life as a fast moving video-clip - it's all here - the style, the glamour, the strong, tight editing. There is a clue in every scene, leading on to the expected twist at the conclusion as truth conquers evil.

Stavros Mikris

# Glaswegian Tales

Betty's Brood, an excellent video film portraying life in the Gorbals' district of Glasgow has made a significant contribution to this year's London Film Festival.

Directed by Mick McConnell and produced by members of the Gorbals' Unemployed Drama Group, the film developed as a result of a questionnaire for local residents concerning issues that were felt to be socially important in the area. The result is a moving account primarily of the McNeil

family's experience of unemployment, housing and drug addiction.

The portrayal of drug addiction like in "Christiane F" some years ago, is ugly and bitter, resulting in the death of Marie McNeil's (Diane Allison) childhood friend and Marie herself becoming H.I.V positive. Though Marie is initially estranged from the rest of her family, there is eventually reconciliation, and it is in the drama and dialogue building up to this that the

film scores its strongest point.

This project run on a meager budget of £2000 and while it is not just a social comment about urban life in Glasgow it does leave one thinking about the wider issues involved.

On reflection it is encouraging that Betty's Brood was given a screening at the Film Festival, thereby providing it with the opportunity to be shown to a wider audience due to its success in London.

John Hobson



# Saints For The Memory

## It's Seventies night with the Utah Saints

The Quad has a 0 percent person capacity. To say it was empty on the evening of 11th November would not be an understatement. The line-up for the evening was fairly good for anybody who likes dance music — a DJ and two bands whose style would be appreciated by followers of different styles of dance music.

The evening started with 'The Doctor' (Which one, there were six of them after all — Sci Fi Ed.) at about 8pm and by this time there were only enough people there to pay for the cost of the lighting in the Tuns. Whilst the Doctor was 'performing' there were six people watching — two were security guards, one was Ralph the sound engineer, and the other three just stood there looking completely phased, probably because it was so cold. However this is not to say that the Doctor wasn't very good — he was

a very good technique combined with a good mix of techno from fairly hardcore to Italian house.

I'd never heard of 'The Checkists' before and the three piece outfit seemed to be terminally stuck somewhere between Front 242 and Nitzer Ebb. While their music was just as hard as these two bands', it was less refined and relied on lengthy repetition of the same drum beat and computed riff.

After playing for about 30-40 minutes they departed the stage and the Doctor returned until the Utah Saints finally came on. They played for only thirty minutes, half of which was simply some very good DJ-ing and a lot of shouting by their drummer Keith.

When they finally played as a band however they were very good. They played only three songs, 'Trans Europe Express', an untitled B-side of their next single, and their Top Ten hit 'What Can You Do For Me?', all of which



Get on down with the Utah Saints

Photo: Steve East

were superb dance/techno tracks.

After they finished I was able to have a little chat with the band, or at least with Tim, "The one that does all the talking" (or something like that).

There were only seventy people who turned up in the end, a very poor turnout considering that the gig was advertised in both Melody Maker and NME (No, not really — pedantic Ed.). After apologising for the bad turnout, Tim was asked by Fiona McDonald, who was also present how the Saints could justify a £1000 fee when they didn't even play live. Tim explained that they aren't actually touring yet as such — they are just doing PAs at raves and the like and as such there is no need to perform live because of this they have yet to prepare and rehearse a live set, which they are saving for next year. They are not going to be playing live again for some time as Tim really wants to "just take some time off", and get down

to the serious business of writing some new tracks for their debut album.

Their new single, as yet untitled, will be introducing a new direction for dance music, according to Tim and Keith, and will really "take our heads off". The single will include "lots of great samples", although neither would disclose exactly where they come from. I await it's release with interest.

The gig, as a whole, was a great let down simply because of the apathetic audience who seemed more interested in the Tuns than the gig. The Saints themselves agreed that their kind of music doesn't really suit an evening gig, even though they were brilliant, and Tim expressed a desire to eventually create the same kind of experience as the Shamen's synergy and progeny clubs.

Navin Reddy



Drummer Keith gets the feeling that the rest of the band aren't telling him something. Photo: Steve East

# Reader's Poll

## Win a pair of free tickets to the next Tequila Society Party

Reader's Poll.

Ha, ha. Yes dear reader, its that time of year again. The snow is falling (well, in Scotland anyway!), Christmas bells are ringing and those long dark evenings are drawing in once more.

But never fear! You can always fill in our Reader's Poll and win yourself two — yes, TWO — tickets to the next Tequila Society party and get so inebriated that you won't wake up until next July, by which time England should have won the European Championship and Millwall should be back in the First Division (ahem!).

All you have to do is to complete the questionnaire and return it to me, the Music Editor. Your name will then be put into a hat and the winner will be announced in next week's issue.

The closing date for all entries is Thursday 21st at 3pm. The winner will be drawn by a mystery celebrity whose identity will be revealed eventually. Hurry up and enter before it's too late.

### The Beaver Music Poll

Most Overrated Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Most Underrated Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Up & Coming Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Sinking Fast: \_\_\_\_\_

Who's Better, Kylie or Dannii?: \_\_\_\_\_

Who'd make the best Joseph?: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Duet of the Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Tragic Death of the Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Single: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Album: \_\_\_\_\_

Favourite Gig: \_\_\_\_\_

Favourite UGM song: \_\_\_\_\_

The Address to send your entries to is: The Music Editor, The Beaver, Room E197. By the way, we lied about the Intastella competition.

If you don't want to ruin your precious copy of the Beaver simply write down your choices on a piece of paper instead.

If you can't wait for the next Tequila party (and who can blame you?) you can always pop along to the History students' rave in CO18 on Tuesday night. The Tickets are priced at £2.50 and are cheap at half the price.

# Fireworks Abound

## The Catherine Wheel play with matches at ULU

November 8th was a bit late for a firework display, but it was a lot better than anything on the 5th!

The first band on, That Uncertain Feeling, played to a mainly apathetic audience, although throughout their set I could hear many shouts of "Who are they?". These people were, without doubt, justified in trying so hard to find out. The band are in the Ride mould, but beat the crap out of Chapterhouse/Slowdive/Moose et al. It is a pity for them that at this late stage they may have their work cut out enduring to find a niche in the market.

A fairly typical guitar thrashing was laid over basslines very reminiscent of the Nephilim — whether this was by design or accident I can't

say, but it worked well — with hints of early U2 (no insult intended!), Joy Division and the JAMC showing through.

Very impressive indeed. The band are signed to Dead Dead Good — the label which gave us such turkeys as the Charlatans and Oceanic — and have a single out in January. If this performance was anything to go by, it will be well worth buying.

A good evening was marred by the appearance of P.J. Harvey. I had not understood the acclaim and NME Single of the Week she has received before her set, and I'm absolutely perplexed now.

Bloody tuneless racket or what! Not in the style of Sub Pop or other US noise — just painfully bad to listen to. A

voice like a strangled cat and a band whose playing was, well, dire....Enough said.

The fuses were lit. The Catherine Wheel took the stage to an avid reception from a slightly smaller than expected core of fans, and proceeded to knock us over with a string of excellent, well played, memorable songs.

"Upside Down" (not the Mary Chain one), a rather upbeat number, was followed by a couple of slower ditties, "Texture" and one which was unreleased and unannounced, the crowd activity increasing all the time.

"She's My Friend", the first single, was greeted with a joyous reception, and 'the front' became a frenzy, not bad for only twenty people or

so who were down there. "I Want To Touch You", a song which usually closes their set, took the stage-diving to new heights, but this was only a build-up to the centre-piece of their act. "Black Metallic" is the best single of the year, without competition. It has taken a good six months to reach vinyl from when I first heard it, but has matured and improved immeasurably with age.

The audience had bayed for it from the word go. A slow, anthemic, mindblowing 7 minutes followed the first chords and fan activity accelerated. However, it is not the done thing to dive during "Black Metallic", the guitarist booting one hopeful in the head, emphasising the point somewhat.

# Hate Mail

If you have any quibbles, squibbles or dibbles then drop a line to the Music Editor, E197

Rob Hick



# Unstoppable

## Carter sock it to the Brixton Academy

The rise and rise of Carter The Unstoppable Sex Machine has been storybook, two years ago Jimbob and Fruitbat (as they are lovingly called) were nothing but stupid names, now they have top ten records in the hit parade, a huge following and ambitions of world domination.

It isn't so difficult to chart their success, with an initial helping hand from that guru of alternative music Jonathan King (the kiss of death), the Reading Festival and stomping Sheriff Fatman, Carter USM exploded. With tours of America and Japan this year already in the bag, supporting Jesus Jones and EMF, their further rise seems inevitable.

Brixton Academy was the last date on their most successful tour yet, sold out everywhere as Cartermania struck the nation.

Family Cat kicked the night off and having been around for some time now they are simply waiting for the kick start that Carter got; however good their music is I can't really help thinking that if it doesn't happen for them soon they will slip into music's archives as another band who didn't quite make it. Nevertheless I do hope they get their break which they deserve as their music is excellent it's a shame their live act is so poor.

I am still totally confused as to why the Inspiral Carpets came on next, there is no connection with Carter (whose regular supports include Mega City 4, Senseless Things, and Kingmaker). Although the band were highly energetic, this wasn't the Carpets scene; the crowd slugged them off and I know hope they realise that "baggy" is dead. "Joe", "Caravan" and "This Is How It



Carter: Early learning the silly way

Feels" were fine for '89, but Manchester is no longer the music mecca it once was and the Carpets proved that.

They looked so lost without new music and even the haircuts hadn't changed. If they continue to bore us with past glories, we will not see that much more of them and be much the happier for it.

With the Inspiral Carpets forgotten, the night really began. It is obvious that Carters success relies heavily on their live act, it is more of an event than simply a gig.

Jon Beast (The Fat Bastard) opened the show in his usual self-conscious manner, displaying his HUGE stomach for all to see and generally prancing around stage like a madman. His sole job in life (apart from lighting) is to whip the audience into a frenzy usually through the use of profanity while Jimbob has a last spliff, the guy is professional.

By the time the music started everyone was going

to have a great night whatever, Carter could have been crap but no-one would have cared. Two video screens and perhaps one of the best lighting shows around created an atmosphere of it's own and although it meant nobody could see the two musicians for half the show it meant nothing.

Everybody was swept away by the sheer spectacle of it all; songs were belted out amidst re-runs of the infamous Schofield incident, not for delicate ears this. The music itself touches on issues such as suicide, child abuse, racism and is fairly controversial stuff, it was good to see that even amongst the lights and cameras, Carter still had their music at heart and various comments throughout the evening show that Carter really do give a shit.

As the evening drew to a close, "After The Watershed" Carters new ditty was played accompanied by a constant stream of water over the crowd who were completely nuts by now. Add in a cover of the Carpets, "This Is How It Feels" and the perfect encore was found. Whether Carter were taking extracting the urine out of the Mancunian band or whether it was some kind of surreal tribute we will never know but it put the two bands' jam session on hold. And so the lights faded, the video screens went blank and the ice machine self-destructed; Carter finished their latest tour.

As they return to America again, it is clear these two guys have so much energy and original ideas that they really could dominate the world (although I doubt it). Whether you love them or hate them you had better learn to live with them, God knows where they will pop up again.

Nick Fletcher

# You've Been Framed, Mate

## Everything you've ever wanted to know about a TV camera, a pop star and an awful lot of publicity

In honour of our first Carter review the Beaver is proud to print those ever-so-funny moments on television involving the TV cameras, a top musical celebrity and an awful lot of publicity. Your starter for ten: Neil Andrews.

Carter the Unstoppable thumping machine were hardly breaking new ground when Fruitbat recently floored Philip Schofield during the 'Smash Hits Poll Winner's Party'. As far back as anyone cares to remember pop stars have hit people on TV. Grace Jones whacked the late Russell Harty for ignoring her on his talk show way back in the early Eighties and pop history is littered with incidents of celebrities abusing (oo-er) their interviewers. Sometimes they were provoked into attacks. On other occasions they were forced into submission.

The Sex Pistols' interview with Bill Grundy as become a legend in it's own right whilst Jason Donovan's appearance on The Word ("I'm not gay") could be considered to be a minor classic but how many of you out there in flatter-squarer-tube land remember Gary Glitter being interviewed on 'Night Network' by Roland Rivron? Let me refresh your memory:

Gary Glitter—"Actually some people think I look quite young and youthful"

Roland Rivron—"Really?...Do you play many blind clubs then?"

Interviews are a PR's worst nightmare and greatest opportunity all rolled into one. If it goes well then your star will have made the headlines the following morning but if it goes badly then your superstar will be made to look a right 'nana.

Live performances offer an even wider scope of opportunity for hilarious cock-ups and promotional stunts. The greatest provider of these moments is 'Top of the Pops'. The programmes C.V. includes a mischievous cameraman who actually stuck his camera up the top of one of the Belle Stars in order to get a better view and a director who plastered a backdrop of the darts player Jockie Wilson behind Dexy's Midnight Runners while they performed their hit single 'Jackie Wilson Said...'. But the artists themselves have contributed to the programme themselves. Fairport Convention once 'performed' on TOTP wearing T-shirts bearing the legend "We Are Miming" while All About Eve's lead singer, Julianne Regan, completely forgot to mime along to their hit single 'Martha's Harbour'. The Who smashed their gear up before a stunned audience during a performance of "5:15" and Roger Daltrey introduced the Village

People, when he appeared on the show as a guest presenter, with the phrase "Mind your backs"! The Wedding Present's Dave Gedge refused to enjoy himself on their debut appearance and this prompted many a schoolchild up-and-down the country to say "He's a miserable bastard, ain't he?". But nothing outstripped Milli Vanilli's cucumber-down-the-trousers routine which jammed the BBC's switchboard with complaints.

Elsewhere, Frankie Goes To Hollywood made a memorable appearance on the Tube dressed in bondage gear which convinced Trevor Horn to sign them. The Stone Roses got upset on the Late Show when the Beeb's fuses blew ("Amateurs, amateurs...Come on lads, they're wasting our time"), Jimi Hendrix appeared on the Lulu show singing an Eric Clapton number and Marc Bolan cropped up singing a duet with Cilla Black (?????) on one of her many shows while the Beautiful South employed Bob Mortimer as drummer during their appearance on the Brit Awards. But all these examples are nothing compared to the ultimate moment of TV Pop and it goes something like this:

"...So be there at six-thirty, you groovy f\*\*\*\*\*..."

# Slayed in one

## Slayer play the Guildhall, Portsmouth

After a pretty uneventful day, discussing the why's and wherefore's of historical under-achievers and a couple of Newky Browns, I finally decide to vend my way east on the bogey line (well it's green innit?) On the way I got accosted by two men whose names were Mosh and Napalm.

"You forgotten its Slayer tonight?" they said. Looking at them, all arms, legs, hair, and leather jackets, how could I forget.

Within an hour we were shooting down the M3 to Portsmouth Guildhall, whilst consuming the odd can or two of 'Norseman', probably the greatest lager Peckham.

The Guildhall is a strange

venue. Wot no seats! (I think your showing your age, Ron — Ed.) Everyone compresses themselves into a tiny space in front of the stage. Slayer come on and for the initiated, myself included, they played loud and fast and I soon exited the mess of bodies throwing themselves about around me (Your definitely showing your age now — Ed.).

Slayer are not known for their subtlety but their musicianship cannot be faulted. If anyone were to sum up heavy metal in one musical idea then their five second drum rolls would be top of their list. Guitar riffs may be more recognisable but Slayer's drum fill blows your mind.

Unfortunately the show is over too soon and with my ears still ringing in over-driven power-chords and vibrant drumming we all headed back towards the smoke, as us country folk call it. (Baaaa! — Ed.)

If you think music is basically what's in the charts then blow up your scruples and see Slayer. If you've never seen a metal band, you've never lived and if you've never lived you can't be reading this so drop dead! (Or alternatively go to the History party on Tuesday! — Ed.) That's what Slayer did for me!

Ron Voce, a Norseman.



"Ere we go, 'ere we go, 'ere we go



# Houghton Street Harry

Christmas, my friends, is upon us once more. Keats' season of mellow fruitfulness is smothered in cheap tinsel and Cliff Richard is poised to release his christmas number one single.

But don't dare try and tell squash star Del Harris that Christmas has come too early. The high flying British champ was highly delighted to hear the October chimes of Santa's sleigh bells, if only so as to keep up with the strenuous financial demands of being the world 397 and international playboy. Apparently Del-boy (as he is known) is currently supplementing his miserly income as a servant of British Home Stores (Wolverhampton branch). Not for Del, though, the humdrum duties of cashier etc. No no! Ladies and gentlemen, for a limited period only, Mr. Harris will have kiddies perched on his knee as resident B.H.S. father christmas. I'm afraid its squash rackets all round this year kids!

On to loftier subjects: ie; The roof at my Soho flat, which is in a state of some disrepair as a result of a high velocity collision with my head. The blame for this terrible occurrence must be laid firmly at the door of a Mr. Garence (Gary) Lineker esq. Following England's deserved, if somewhat tardy equaliser against Poland last week, myself and my flat mates were to be seen bouncing off walls and ceiling for some hours afterwards resulting in a large number of bruises and several thousand pounds worth of damage (all donations gratefully accepted).

Yes indeed, it was with no small measure of delight and relief that we greeted a goal which finally saw off those dogged Poles leaving the way clear for undoubted Euro glory in the summer of '92 and leaving poor Jack 'Judas' Charlton free for a spot of fishing come June and July. Our thoughts are with you Jack (Ha!)

Talking of bruises, my co-editor is currently enjoying the hospitality at KCH. Following his damning indictment of the A.U. bigwigs in this space last week the poor fellow had the misfortune to bump into several of the executive in a dark alley on Saturday night. When asked if he liked hospital food he innocently replied that he found it more palatable than much on offer at the S.U. cafe. While his assailants agreed, it didn't prevent them from giving him a most savage of beatings, I can assure you!

Anyway, off I went yesterday, with grapes and magazines, to console the injured defender of honesty and justice. Yet I found him in remarkably good spirits. He told me that the A.U. have, generously, budgeted for him to have a full time nurse, to help in the difficult months that lie ahead (shes a dab hand at sociology, I've been told). "Most kind of them", I told him. He agreed but confided that he didn't need a nurse and so would most likely use the money to get pissed and eat alot of curries. I didn't approve. "Thats highly dishonest", I said angrily.

Finally, for all my long suffering supporters out there, a word on my christmas list. Many of the items on it are reasonably priced and not out of the price range of the average student. The list is available from the beaver office and don't worry because its very long, there'll be something there for every last one of my devotees to buy (I'd particularly like the bottle green V-neck please!)

I don't think that my words of wisdom will appear next week, so another break seems on the cards, I could even do some school work in my time off, but I doubt it. Anyway I'm sure next weeks column will be an interesting affair! I'm off for a curry. Cheers.

# Thunderthirds are go

LSE 3rd XI ..... 3  
City University ..... 1

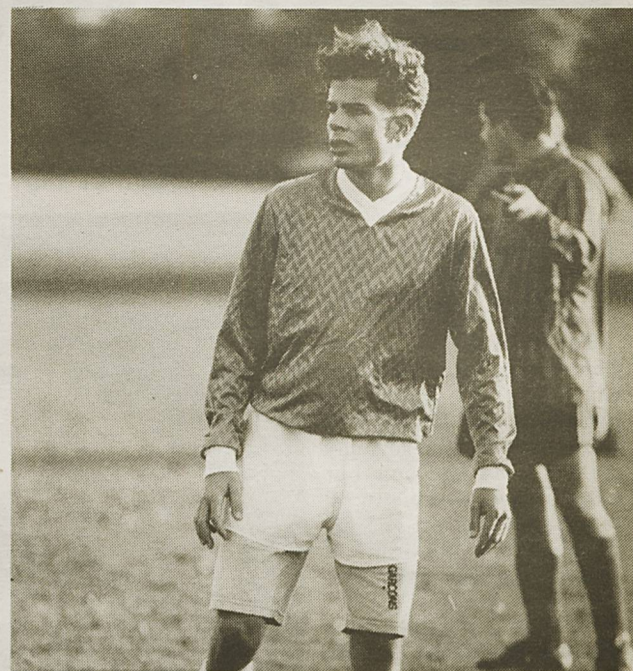
The first victory for the 3rd XI for quite a while, and a quite necessary moral booster for the lads. It was a definite case of International Rescue as Mark Ingledew, with his uncanny resemblance to Virgil Tracey, made a return from injury, to tighten the midfield. The Thunderbird influence seems to have inspired the whole team as we fought admirably for truth, justice and fair play.

A stylish performance in which LSE outplayed, outmanoeuvred, and outwitted City. We went up half way into the first-half with a remarkable display of individual talent by Runa Scarfstein in Thunderbird 3, only to concede a soft goal against the run of play before

half-time. With the wind and slope in our favour in the second-half, it was a foregone conclusion. Runa grabbed a second, a cheeky little header that showed the pressure City were under. Even Simon "Miss Penelope" Collier managed to get himself on the scoresheet-rare indeed and goes to suggest how weak City were at times.

Notable performances came from Tim Thomas's rubber head, and the centre-back pairing of Nigel Dyble and Andrew Cox-despite injuring himself early on. In the middle of the field silent leadership from Ben Nuttal won for LSE, with Virgil Ingledew determined to get his head kicked-in this season.

(Dave Keeble didn't play half bad either! - Ed.)  
Dave Keeble



Mark 'Virgil' Ingledew: No Strings Attached Photo: Steve East

## AU: 'Must do better'

Now for the bit you've all been waiting for, yes sportsfans it's the LSE sportsworld extra on the Commercial Union UAU fiasco against City university. Firstly, praise must be lavished on the 3rd XI football, and men's hockey, carrying the burden of being the only two teams at New Malden to emerge with victories. However, UAU officials are looking into rumours of the hockey team overdosing on cheap curries to scare the opposition.

Staying with hockey and a brilliant tactical move by ladies' captain, Bella Sleeman. Following their near miss at Surrey the week before, Bella cancelled the match against City on the pretence of having no umpires, thus assuring that the girl's only suffered a two nil defeat for forfeiting the game!!! I wonder if the hockey club's new super coach-Curry House Colin approves of such tactics? Unfortunately Brett was unable to comment, being at the time, on the sun bed.

If only the rugby captain's had considered this option too. In an exclusive backpage interview, John Bradburn refused to talk about the 1st XV humiliation, saying only that they went down lots to very little. Despite a valiant effort, the 2nd XV could not match up to the pressure of their opponents, and

eventually went down 3-8, with a consolation penalty. The bar was quiet afterwards with very little banging of ceilings, pointing, and spilling beer.

Further defeats were suffered by the football 1st and 2nd XIs, both going down 1-4. This was despite a ruffling better in that camp with only a narrow 1-2 defeat last Saturday. As Laurence Ryan said "It's a steep slope, but things are coming together".

The 2nd team suffered another frustrating game against City, with the mad Manc wondering if luck will begin to shine soon on his boys. After an unfortunate match on Saturday, losing what should have been two points in the bag due to having only nine men turn out, emphasis has been placed on servicing the goal machine, who seems to be suffering in a similar way to his hero Alan Smith.

There was more doom and gloom for the starlets of the ladies' squash team, going down in only their second UAU outing, although strong performances by both sexes in the tennis salvaged some pride for LSE. Under the captaincy of Zoe Taylor the tennis secured a 6-0 victory over their City counterparts. More glory was gained by the

golf club-no pun intended-as they won 4-2, to compensate for their humiliating 6-0 drumming at the hands of Surrey.

What, I hear you all cry, of the report on the ladies' netball squad? Well, rumour has it that following their close encounter the week before, they were out in Lincoln's Inn Fields practicing! Cheered on by a dozen smiling, cheery faces with a dozen Tenant's Super each, they are hoping for an improved performance next time out.

All in all this was a mixed bag of results for the LSE, although there was a good deal of promising talent on display, which should come to the fore as the year goes on. For those teams that lost, don't worry, as Brian Clough says, losing is a learning experience. Nobody knows that better than me, having made a debut as captain of the 3rd XI football only for us to suffer our biggest loss this season, against Sussex, and ending a marvelous unbeaten spell.

Anyway, I'm off now to meet HSH for a sly curry, but we'll be back next week for a full run-down on the football failings as Jeremy Beadle played a cruel hoax, allowing both rugby teams to win, and assuring a jolly good sing-song!

Andrew Cox

## Sweet victory

LSE Men's 1st XI ..... 2  
City University ..... 1

They said it would never happen. The LSE hockey heroes savoured the taste of UAU victory for the first time in living memory. Boys became men within hours (well, almost men) as the dayglo lads of LSE battled on.

Dick stood firm in goal, John Rhodee and his solid defence strolled forth-somewhere. Richard and Jez swapped balls in mid-field, whilst Jason possessed a "Latin" flair down the wing, even from the bar!

The break came with Guy attempting a pike over the defence — he failed but LSE got the penalty which Jez converted. A second goal was clinched whilst the City defence were tying their laces.

Brett continued to roam about the field, somewhat reminiscent of a lost sheep, whilst Ben played his usual dominant and decisive role in the showers, although this was put down to the absence of team fancy, BS.

Last word to the rugby teams "We beat you in the bar...and now on the pitch. It's about time you took up synchronised swimming."

(Please could you find someone who isn't illiterate to write the next report, maybe ask one of the football team to do it for you-Eds)

Roger Irrelevant and The Sun Tan Kid

## Basket cases undefeated

LSE Men's A ..... 89  
Surrey Men's ..... 77

LSE Men's A ..... 81  
Kent Men's ..... 58

LSE Men's A ..... 103  
Reading Men's ..... 37

The LSE Men's "A" basketball team remains undefeated with a 5-0 record.

We take this record with us to the Commercial Union

UAU Southeast-South regional tournament in the second week of November.

Surrey are the best team we have played, although the score suggests that they were better than they actually were.

Up by 23 points with 6 minutes to go, LSE let-up somewhat, and Surrey were able to capitalize on this.

The game against Kent is memorable if only for the

hellish journey to Canterbury, normally one and a half hours, kindly stretched to four and a half — thanks BritRail! (Well, there were probably leaves on the track - Ed.)

As we got to know each other in this time we discovered serious political divisions within our group, true to the LSE (must not have been any Labour Club members, then - Ed.), although I'm

pleased to say that on the court we were a staunchly structured unit, as the result shows.

The true strength of the side will be tested on November 23 when we entertain Oxford University.

Attendance at Sorbell Sports Centre, N7 at 2pm would be greatly appreciated.

Robert Dickinson