

The Beaver

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Newspaper of the London School of Economics Student Union

Issue 334

LSE to buy St. Phillips Hospital

University bids £6 Million for new facility

by Adam Livingstone

The LSE Administration has made a bid to purchase St Phillips Hospital for approximately £6 million. The building, which is adjacent to the college campus on Sheffield street, is intended to alleviate the current overcrowding of the school's faculty and staff.

The move to purchase the building has met with approval from the Student Union. Rob Middleton, General Secretary of the LSESU, said "The school desperately needs space. I believe that the acquisition of the new building will greatly improve the University."

However, Middleton worries that the University may have problems financing the development, which will cost £8.5 million after redevelopment. "Essentially there have been a number of flippant remarks from school officials like 'God, where are we going to get the money for this one.' I hope these aren't jokes."

However, John Ashworth, Director of the LSE, assures that the school will be able to finance the purchase. He feels the school's monetary problems are "in the Medium term rather than the short term." In addition, he hopes that outside sources could help defray the cost of the building.

In specific, Ashworth believes that the new facilities will boost research work, which in turn could lead to an increase in corporate sponsorship, much like the Suntory programme which is already in place. In the long run, he hopes money from the fund raising drive organized around the school's 100th birthday could also be utilized.

Originally, the school hoped

to gain some support from the funding board of the University of London, the University Finance Committee(UFC). However, school officials were refused funding because the UFC had already committed its monies to the building of a new animal research facility.

The decision on how the new space will be used is to be made by the court of Governors. Ashworth expressed a personal preference that at least some of the space be used for research purposes, possibly rehusing the facilities currently based in the sixth floor of the library. He felt that "we have some of the finest economists in the world, and to house them as we currently do is ridiculous."

However, General Secretary Middleton states, "There have been a number of vague promises and ambiguities on the part of the school. I personally think that a large portion of the new facility will be used for research. But I hope this is not true. What we really need is more teaching space."

The LSE has been interested in purchasing St. Phillips Hospital since the fifties. It's close proximity to campus and large size, approximately 3000 square meters, has always allured the Governors.

The administration feels the price is now within reach. "The School will be here long after I am dead and future Directors would never forgive me for letting this opportunity pass," said Ashworth.

Also at the moment, the school is considering a number of other high capital projects. Among them are the purchase of a row of flats in the Docklands for student housing and the extension of Rosebery Hall.



Photo: Alex McDowell

Alternatives to war: Last Tuesday the Womens group and the Anti-War in the Gulf society sponsored a discussion which looked at how to achieve peace in the Middle East. Among the invited speakers were a Kurdish student, a representative from the DSG, and a member of the NUS Executive. Approximately 30 students attended.

National Front Reprints Beaver Letter

by Andy Spyer and Christian K Forman

Vanguard, the weekly newspaper of the National Front, has illegally reprinted a "Letter to the Editor" published by the Beaver.

The letter in question originally appeared in the December 3 issue of the Beaver. It was written by the Labour Club Black Caucus and condemned racism at the LSE.

Vanguard republished the letter on January 21 with the

following caption, "The Labour Party Black Caucus of the LSE has become rather peeved of late thanks to the growing activity by supporters of the National Front Association. Their letter of complaint about the growing number of nationalist stickers appearing on campus was published in the Beaver, the LSE student Newspaper. Time was when the LSE was known only for the Marxist views of its students. It's nice to see nationalist students beginning to make their mark."

However, the Beaver did not grant permission for the reprint of the letter.

In fact, the Beaver editorial staff is furious over the republication. Sarah Eglin, Executive Editor of the Beaver, said "I am outraged. The Vanguard exhibited negligible professionalism by not obtaining prior permission. Moreover the politics of the National Front are abhorrent. Having any part of the Beaver in their political publication is sickening."

Daniel Trump, a Represent-

tative of the Labour Club Black Caucus and President of NUS London, said, "It shows that there is an organized fascist cell within LSE. I don't really believe that the National Front would be monitoring the Beaver. Obviously, a student is working in conjunction with the National Front."

However Ian Anderson, Chairman of the National Front, is not worried. He said "If you think you're going to get anything, you're wrong. You don't have a legal leg to stand on. It is

legal for a publication to lift a small portion from another publication without breaking the copyright laws, as long as the source is credited. We did that. Go ahead and contact you lawyers."

This situation is not the first time that the Beaver has crossed paths with the National Front. Last term, in an Editorial concerning the visit of Norman Tebbit, the former executive editor of the Beaver, Simon Williams, commented on the violent activities of the National

Front. A few days later the newspaper received a letter from the National Front, purporting to 'correct' Williams' article on several points. It stated that while the NF did not "condone the activities of Blacks, Homosexuals, and Jews," it did not approve of violence in any form. The author of the letter challenged Williams to publish the entire text of his letter. The letter was not published.

Tequila Goes Down Smoothly

"...it was well run and well organized"

by John Pannu

The first Tequila party of this term ran smoothly and without major incident, according to Student Union sources.

There was one incident of violence. An intoxicated guest was thrown out around 10pm. He subsequently re-entered the party and was asked to leave a second time. The guest became violent, and force was used to evict him.

The drunk party-goer responded by calling the police. He claimed the guard had assaulted him with a knife. The police found no knife on the guard and stated that no charges would be leveled.

No details have emerged as to the guest's identity. However, witnesses have stated that the guest claimed to be a diplomat's son, with diplomatic immunity.

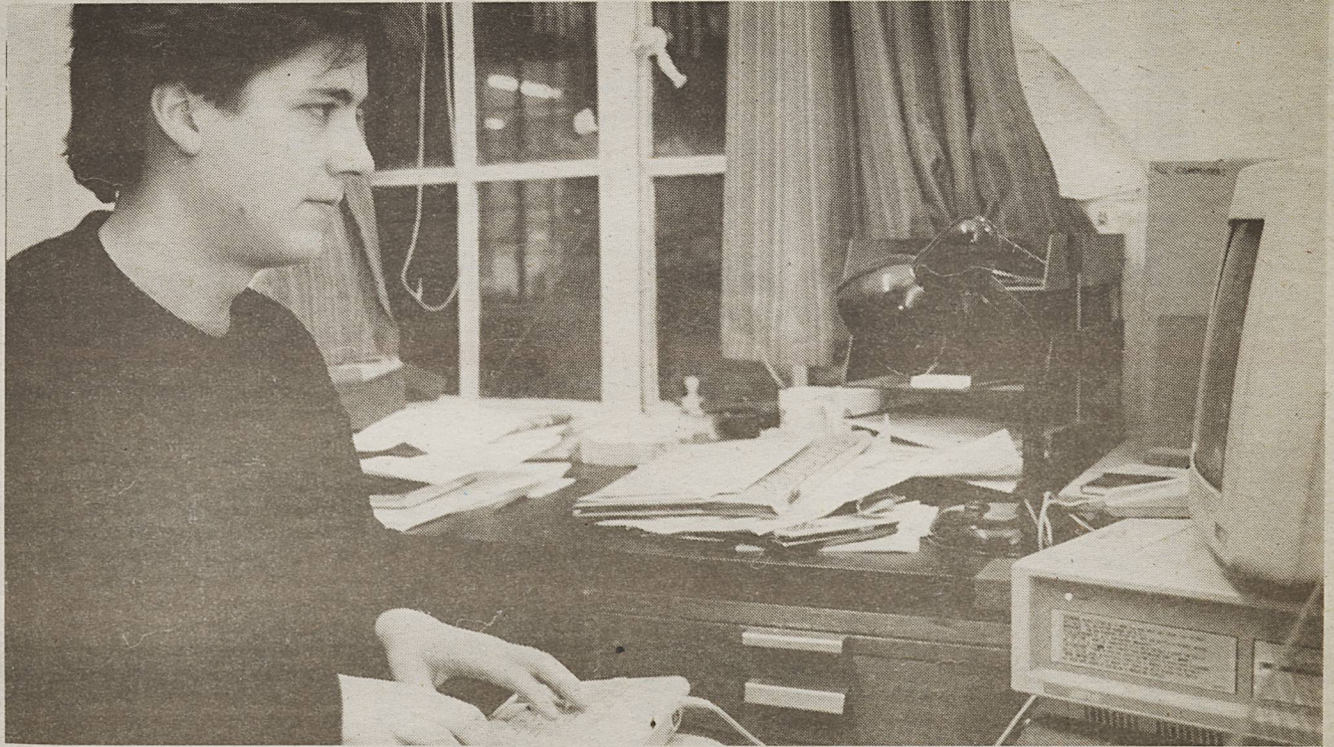
Even with the one incident, this 'Tequila' has been the most peaceful in recent memory. LSE Tequila parties

have had a sorted history. At the end of summer term last year a girl was raped after she had attended a 'Tequila' party.

The primary reason for the non-violent nature of the event was greatly due to the extreme security precautions taken by the Union and the Tequila Society. Body searches were used at the door, and 12 security guards were present throughout the evening.

However, even though security was tight, it was not a hindrance to the festivities. One General Course student described it as "the best party I've been to since I came here. It was really reminiscent of the type of Keg parties we have back home."

Jon Hull, Social Secretary said, "I think it was well run and well organized. The bar took a little bit less than normal. I think around £4000. They sold all the tickets and I reckon the society made a profit of approximately 600 pounds."



Middleton rewrites the constitution

Photo: Alex McDowell

General Secretary Proposes Constitutional Change

Amendments Target SU Inefficiency

by Christian K Forman

Rob Middleton, Secretary General of the LSE Student Union, will propose a series of amendments to the Student Union Constitution at this week's UGM.

Middleton's changes are aimed at streamlining the SU's faltering administrative system. In specific, his alterations call for the establishment of four sub-committees which will oversee and regulate the Cafe, the Three Tun's, the Shop, and the Welfare office.

These committees will be composed of all three sabbaticals, one or two members of the

Executive, and a junior treasurer.

Middleton believes that these changes will drastically improve his ability to administer the Union. In a recent interview, he said, "Look at the constitution as it stands. There's a provision for a whole range of Union Committees, ranging from shop management to applications to whatever. It's ten years old and a mish-mash. There is no structure."

"At the moment, decisions are being made badly. They are made without accountability and great confusion. If once or twice a term the Sabbaticals and a couple of students, say a junior

treasurer and a member of the executive sit down with a couple of service managers, just to work through the problems that exist then it's astonishing how much work can get done," he continued.

Middleton argues that this poor structure has been perpetuated over the years by neglect. He blames past sabbaticals for not being concerned with efficiently running the Union. "Most students who have come in [to the position of Secretary General] see the size of the task and prefer to take on political campaigns. It's easier. It's more fun. It's more rewarding." However, Middleton says, the

opportunity cost of this political preoccupation is that the Union has failed to change with the times.

"The structure that we have now could have worked 15 years ago. But the Union has tremendously grown in size. No longer can we have all those involved in the Union sit in one room. It's just not the same."

Middleton was recently criticized at a UGM for not being more politically active in his role as Secretary General. This new systems, says Middleton, will hopefully free up some of his time so that he can participate in these other endeavors.

Guidelines for Research Students Up for Approval

Faculty to Review Recommendations for Staff-Student relationships in Graduate School

by Beaver Staff

A "code of conduct" aimed at improving the treatment of LSE's approximately six hundred research students was approved on January 18th, by the Graduate School Committee. These guidelines will be brought to the Academic Board for final approval this Wednesday.

The "code" was drafted following a report compiled last September by Bob Gross, the Student Union's Postgraduate Officer. This largely anecdotal report draws on the collected "horror stories" and other experiences of research students, outlining a number of deficiencies in

the MPhil/PhD programmes at the LSE.

The proposed guidelines attempt to address these deficiencies by instituting a number of rules and regulations.

The major topics of discussion are the responsibilities of supervisors, research students, conveners and departments. The most important part of the report looks at the responsibilities of the Academic Supervisor. The "code" dictates that each student is guaranteed two to three hours of 'quality time' each term from his or her supervisor. Feedback must be prompt. Other duties now unambiguously deline-

ated include taking a role in the plan and schedule of research, and introducing the student to colleagues. The conveners and their departments also have specific duties to oversee the quality of supervision and provide progress reviews and objective upgrading from MPhil to PhD. They must also oversee the mediation of supervisor-student disagreements.

Not all of Gross's recommendations are targeted at the faculty and administration. The "code" dictates that Graduate Students must type their written work and inform their advisor if they have anyone else comment

on their work.

Another major criticism in the Gross report is the lack of proper research facilities. The offices, computers, and library space reserved for research students, including part-time teachers, are insufficient according to the report. Furthermore, largely because research students do not gather for lectures, and their work is usually independent, there is a chronic problem of isolation. The "code of conduct" does not deal with this material; however, Gross is hopeful that they can be meaningfully addressed in another forum.

Although it seems that

these core recommendations in the "code of conduct" are obvious, Gross believes they are "desperately needed."

"Too many current students have had legitimate grievances. Hopefully, now they won't recur," he said.

When compiling his report, Gross discovered that many overseas postgraduate students would, "discourage study at the LSE to others." This trend is much in line with findings from the recent London Conference on Overseas Students. Comparing students studying in London with those studying elsewhere in the United Kingdom, 31% of the London stu-

dents replied that they would not advise others to study in this country compared with 16% from non-London institutions. Gross hopes adoption of the "code of conduct" will help reverse this trend and make the LSE a better place for study.

However, the "code of conduct" will not be introduced unless it is approved by the LSE Academic Board on Wednesday. The Board constitutes all LSE academic staff and is able to reject or amend the proposal. Should this approval be given, each department will still retain the right to customize the "code" to its individual needs.

Currie Speaks on National Affairs at LSE

by Jon Hull

Former LSE graduate and Tory MP Edwina Currie told a moderately sized audience in the Old Theatre last Tuesday that Britain is facing three major battles in 1991.

In addition to the literal battle against Saddam Hussein, she also spoke of the fight over the Poll Tax and the war against inflation.

On the Middle East conflict, she asserted that Britain was conducting itself in a dignified and justified manner. She emphasized that there was much less 'flag waving jingoism', than during the Falklands War. Moreover, she played down the economic motivations for the conflict, stating that the conflict was more about freedom for the Kuwaiti people.

On the question of the Poll Tax, she admitted that it has 'not been a raving success.' However, she emphasized that in order to provide the services which many in Britain have come to expect, the tax was necessary.

However, Currie stated that the "greatest battle of all" will be attempting to control inflation. She claimed that if inflation goes unchecked, it could lead to serious economic difficulties for the entire nation. She believes that the high wage settlements currently being realized by trade Unions are a root cause of this problem.

Currie fielded questions from the audience on the NHS and homelessness. The former health minister admitted that the government had made some mistakes, even admitting that "we may have closed too many hospitals."

She was also criticized at



Conservative M.P. sings the praises of the Tory government

Photo: Karl Penhaul

length about the level of subsidy given to public transport in the United Kingdom and about the pitfalls of deregulation. She argued that she was not in fa-

vour of raising taxes for the subsidy, because of the unequal distribution of the transport money. At the end she rhetorically asked, "Why should we

raise taxes in Derbyshire to pay for transport in the South End?"

The Conservative Association sponsored this event.

LSE Amnesty Society Backs Gay Rights

by Christian K Forman

The LSE chapter of Amnesty International unanimously voted last week to empower the international arm of their organization to fight for the rights and freedoms of homosexuals.

Currently, Amnesty International does not investigate cases of homosexual persecution. Many in the British wing of the organization have been pushing to change this reality. The LSE vote is the latest reaffirmation of this fight.

Debate over the decision was heated. All agreed that the expression of homosexuality was a basic human right and that nations should not persecute an individual for his or her sexual preference.

However, there was disagreement over whether the adoption of the homosexual cause would impede the ability of Amnesty to maintain its current effectiveness.

"We must be aware of the effect of changing the mandate would have on Amnesty to work effectively. There are many places in the Middle east, Latin America, Africa, and Asia where homosexuality is taboo. If Amnesty starts campaigning for gay and lesbians, this may have adverse effects on the organizations other activities," said Razia Shariff, Chairperson of the LSE Amnesty International Chapter.

Katy Episcopo, member of the LSE Woman's group,

spoke in opposition to this argument. "Homosexuality is a very political issue. It has repercussions in the family, in the state, and the world. Amnesty must address this discussion. It must try and challenge these taboos. You cannot shy away because of opposition. By taking on this issue Amnesty may even be strengthened."

However, even though there was dissension between these two camps, the motion passed unopposed.

Many in the LSE Gay and Lesbian community have hailed this vote as positive movement in the fight for homosexual equal rights. The Amnesty decision was applauded in last Thursday's Union General Meeting by Mel Taylor, Senior Treasurer

of the Student Union. She said, "We would like to thank Amnesty International for taking up Lesbian and Gay rights. It's a major step in the right direction."

In her written report she stated that she would like see "more cooperation of this kind by other groups in the LSE."

However, even though, the LSE and the National chapter of Amnesty are in favour of defending Homosexuals, the international arm of the organization has yet to accept this position. A change in the international charter must be approved by an international conference.

Commentary

Union Jack

It all started promisingly. Rob came forward to give his report, and promptly informed us that Director Ashworth had a vision. What form could this vision take? One briefly fantasized about the Director descending from the cloud-covered tops of Mount Connaught with a couple of stone-engraved memos, outlining the secrets of life and a better society. However, whatever it was, Rob wasn't telling. He'd only mentioned it, to assure us that he was soon to be taken into the Great Man's confidence, and that we weren't to worry. Rob would be looking out for us.

Feeling much better for this piece of news, the assembled masses listened earnestly as Mel outlined her plan for a perfect world. Amongst other things, this involves HM Government being much nicer to Iraqi detainees than has hitherto been the case, and not passing nasty legislation like Clause 25.

Jon Hull developed his vision of Utopia by commenting that in a just and fair society people wouldn't stick posters where they shouldn't.

Visions were left briefly to one side as a procession of the Union's minor minions wandered up to share a few less lofty thoughts with us. Greg Pasco told us about a scanner for blind students. Leandro Moura told us about a Cornell University Scheme. The newly elected Jai Durai probably told us something, but only those within a three-foot radius were privileged enough to be in on it. And Press and Publicity Officer Gareth Roberts bounded up to enthuse, rather bizarrely, about just how wonderful last year's Alternative Prospectus was.

After that, it was back to the visionaries. First up was the ubiquitous Daniel Trump, speaking in favour of a motion on Racism and Community Defence. Nothing revolutionary. Just good safe stuff. Jack suspects the Lefties are still cautious after their defeat on the Gulf Motion two weeks ago. The right made a feeble attempt at an amendment, notable only for Dominic Bourke's thoughtful comment that, yes, if someone's going to put a brick through your window you are quite within your rights to put a brick through their head first. The rest of the time, he concluded, the peaceful way was best. Such enlightenment prompted a largely incoherent bellow from George Binnette, "Iraqoilcapitalistwarmachine".

The second motion of this increasingly tedious UGM concerned SU finance. Or rather, the lack of SU finance. It seems those nasty Tories have been taking it hand over fist from the School, resulting in the Union receiving an increasingly meager grant. This is obviously no way to run a proper society, grumbled Mel Taylor, and she urged us to take the issue more seriously. Heads nodded absent-mindedly. Ian Prince waffled on about asking nicely for things instead of demanding them, and besides, there wasn't much money anyway. ("Iraqoilcapitalistwarmachine," howled George.)

Time dragged on. "You may wonder," said Katy Episcopo hopefully, "why the Women's Group have put this motion forward." (The motion being on Equal Opportunities in the UGM.) Actually, Jack wasn't in the least surprised. Ms Episcopo is a strongly-fancied Sabbatical candidate, but up until now she's been very low profile, preferring to muster support in the Labour Club and the Women's Group. With the elections looming closer, she decided to introduce herself to the masses. I must say however, a motion on Equal Opportunity is a safe way of doing it. Still, Katy did her best to make it convincing. Even in this UGM, she said sternly, women speakers have been wolf-whistled. This caused some puzzlement amongst the assembled, who couldn't remember that at all, but then somebody obligingly wolf-whistled at Katy, and the motion passed safely.

Finally, a novelty. A Tory-sponsored motion actually got debated. The issue: Freedom of Speech.

Echoing Katy Episcopo, Dominic Bourke tried the hopeful approach. "It's quite simple," he said innocently, and everybody should vote for it. The idea being, of course, to convince would-be Tory voters that their party can actually get the odd piece of legislation through, and so voting for them wouldn't actually be as useless as it appears. But the truth is, it is as useless, and five minutes later the motion was comprehensively defeated. The only interesting point was Mel Taylor roaring on about being intimidated. As the Tories cowered under her onslaught, you couldn't help feeling that, for the Tories at least, a happier and fairer society was a long way off yet.

The Beaver

Next month the 1990 Home Office rape statistics will be released. Unfortunately we at the L.S.E. are already sadly aware that these must include a rape within the environs of our own college last summer.

The statistics for Britain in 1989 were hardly encouraging: of the 3,000 rapes reported; 613 defendants were convicted. Compared to other crimes this conviction rate is very low. But not really surprising when Old Bailey Judge, Raymond Dean, could still actually say in April 1990, "When a woman says "no" she does not always mean it."

Too many men still believe that they are, after all, supposed to seduce, cajole, pressurize and eventually overcome. A woman who has not been savagely beaten or terrified by threat of immediate harm has little chance of proving to the law that she was raped. I quote Germaine Greer, "Most of us do not live according to the bare letter of the law of the land, but according to moral criteria of much greater complexity. Morally those of us who have a high opinion of sex cannot accept the idea of passive consent.....rather than rely on the negative criterion that absence of resistance justifies sexual congress, we must insist that evidence of positive desire alone dignifies sexual intercourse."

No where is the comment, "the law's an ass" more true than when applied to current legislation for rape. A man convicted of rape has to be unlucky enough to leave a trail of blood and semen, pick a woman who has the sexual reputation of a nun, but is then prepared to drag herself off to the police at once and face the harrowing experience that this will all initiate. If a woman's only concern were her eventual recovery from the experience she would not prosecute.

At the prosecution trial, probably a year later, she has to face the accused once again and relive her experience in harrowing public detail. While the accused has his own legal representative, she has no barrister to help prepare her case because she is merely a witness for the prosecution. Hearsay evidence about her morals, past sexual history, dress, frequenting of pubs and illegitimate children - implying that she was, "asking for it", or had no "honour" worth protecting, is admissible at the discretion of the judge.

The law as it stands reflects that the crime of rape is still considered as an offence against legitimacy of issue and conjugal rights, rather than an offence against the woman herself. Male judges are still capable of explaining that a sentence for rape was not longer because the rape victim's, "trauma.....was not so great". (Justice Leonard)

Consequently, the estimates of Rape Crisis Centres - that only one in five women who contact them go to the police - are easy to comprehend.

Not only must changes be forced through the legal system, women must develop more confidence and self esteem and support each other in denouncing rape. The majority of rapes are committed by someone the victim actually knows; frequently he abuses her reluctance to have an ugly scene with a friend. Since passivity is a characteristic of female socialisation, the course set up by the Women's Group; "Assertion Training for Women" beginning this week is a good idea. But encounter groups cannot be expected to give a woman any power against a gun pointed at them, a knife against their throats or even the physical force of just one man, let alone a gang.

Most of all, rape is an indication, at an extreme level, of the contempt some men feel towards women. I certainly would not wish to imply that there are rapists at the L.S.E. but it is unfortunate that a number of men in last weeks' U.G.M. had to illustrate how much further society has to go before women need no longer feel intimidated by them, even at the level of public debate.

It seems hardly necessary to point out that however unacceptable people find the views of any male speaker he is not subject to wolf whistles, and sexual comment. This only serves to exasperate the already blatant shortage of female speakers.

That this display of contempt for women should exist, in any force at all, in a so called institute of learning does not bode well for attitudes out "in the real world".

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Post Haste

Letters to the E205 by hand or internal mail by 3 p.m. on Thursday

Left reply to Nickpay's criticism.

Dear Beaver,
In response to Ali Nikpay's confused criticism of "hard left" Executive officers who left the U.G.M. of January 17th to join anti-war protests outside Downing Street, I feel obliged to clarify a few points.

I would remind Nikpay of his mandate from the U.G.M. on January 10th which was to, "attend and publicise pickets at Downing Street and the American Embassy on the day, should war break out."

Some Executive Officers (those who Nikpay condemns as undemocratic) fulfilled this mandate. Others did not, obviously feeling that a war for oil profits resulting in thousands of deaths, is of less importance than officers' reports.

To quote Nikpay himself, "Our U.G.M. is our sovereign body" - is it not therefore a strange concept of democracy if he then feels that the implementation of Union policy is incompatible with his position as an Executive Officer?

Sujata Aurora
Women's Officer.

In support of R.J. Wilson.

Similar to other Poste Haste contributors I do not know R.J. Wilson. However, the similarity stops there. I wish to distance myself from people who are incapable of placing their tongue against the inside of their cheek. It is their naivety that contributors to their high-and-mighty seriousness. It should be overcome.

Yours,
M. Boyd.

And from the man himself.....

Dear Beaver,
I can only consider the Islamic leaders I know best. Gen-

eral Zia and his Islamization of Pakistan managed to alienate a high proportion of the population, bringing about considerable emigration. Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X preached superiority and separatism. Ayatollah Khomeini condoned Iranian terrorism, sentenced Salmon Rushdie to death, advocated violent revolution and holy wars. Saddam Hussein has a penchant for gassing his own people, chemical warfare, and for liquidating the sovereignty of neighbouring states.

On more than one occasion British Islamic leaders have declared on Radio 4, "You westerners, you will never understand". Is it not time influential Muslims tried to help the West understand Islam, or are they content to present a repulsive image?

Unless Islam sheds its arrogance (enabling the West to

overcome its myopia) it looks set to endanger international society for many generations.

Yours,
Robert J. Wilson Carr.

A case to answer?

Dear Beaver,
Following on the Ralf Yvez-Zurbuggee article on centralised procedures for entry to halls of residence and then the letter from Mr. Kurt Kappholz, Warden of Rosebery Hall (21st Jan), I would like to raise the following questions.

(1) How does one become Warden of a L.S.E. Hall of Residence? How long is the wardenship supposed to last? What are the duties of the Warden? Are

they laid down by School regulations? Why are there no women who hold the post?

(2) How does one become Sub-Warden of an L.S.E. Hall of Residence? How long is the Sub-Wardenship supposed to last? Is it true that this post should only be held by a PhD. student, and that he or she can only remain in the post for two years?

(3) Why should Hall Committee members be guaranteed a place in their Hall for the remainder of their School life?

Andrew Long.

Correction
Maarit Kohonen is not, as claimed in Issue 332, a Kuwaiti Student. The Editor apologises for any confusion caused.

Confirmation of Exam Entry for Session 90/91

(concerning all Undergraduates, General Course, Diploma Students and Erasmus Students)

Selection of Papers for Next Session

(Concerning all First and Second Year Undergraduates)

Undergraduates, General Course, Diploma Students and Erasmus Students

You should go to the Timetabling and Examinations Office, Room H302, Connaught House, as soon as possible on or after Monday 4th February to collect your individual Confirmation of Examination Entry and Selection of Papers for next session. The form must be completed, signed by your tutor and handed in at the Timetables and Examinations Office, no later than Thursday 14th February.

First Hand

It is normally not Beaver policy to print letters that do not supply a name. However, we have been trying to look at the war from every aspect and we received this letter from an L.S.E. student who draws on a personal experience of war suggesting that in this country we are in no position to understand what the war really means.

Dear Beaver,

I read Sonia Lambert's article "First Hand" (14th Jan) and it was very revealing for me to see that some English people do realise the realities of war - especially this war. Her last line says, "let your voice be heard" so I figured I'd write and see if it gets printed.

My name is unimportant but my origins are that I come from an island in the Middle East. For a long time I have considered myself British as I have British citizenship and have lived here most of my life, becoming used to the British way of life.

However, the events of August 1990 seem to have changed all this. I have sat in U.G.M.'s and seen both left and right use the Gulf Crisis to further their ends; people have voted without really appreciating the circumstances. I sat with class mates and listened to their talk of war.

I'm sure they didn't mean to talk out of their arse but they did.

I have already been through one war, lost my home and some of my relatives. My parents and I came to England as refugees. I slowly learnt English and my parents found work and a new house. They work in the travel business which has already experienced a slump since August. If the war continues, my parents will lose their livelihood again through war.

Whilst my other relatives in Cyprus, may find their country used by the Americans as a base, as has been the case in Saudi Arabia. As such they will also face death and the destruction of their homes.

War means the U.S and Iraq destabilising the Middle East in such a way that it will become difficult to pick up the pieces, and this includes not only the conflict but what will follow as well.

In England the talk about the war is isolated, people are far removed in body and in spirit. As I write all I can think of is T.V footage of an American soldier in August saying, "let's go kick ass."

On January 15th I went into college and people asked me whether anything was wrong; why did I look so depressed? English people were behaving as normal and even discussing why there had to be a war. So all I can say is if you are English don't ask "what's wrong?" unless you are willing to understand and appreciate the sorrow and the bewilderment.

I think of my parents and relatives actually in the Middle East; I think of my Arab and Israeli friends and wonder whether we will see each other again. Then I remember that soldiers saying, "let's go kick ass."

Opposing views- in Black and White

The Past Week has been significant in South Africa for the calls made by Mandela and Buthelezi for an end to the violence. In this Three-page feature the Beaver looks at different sides of the conflict.

Matt Mattravers and Judy Drucker talked to the South African Ambassador

Q. The role of an ambassador is an ambiguous one; he is apart from the decision making process and yet he represents those decisions. How have you felt about some of the decisions made by your government?

A. The traditional role of an ambassador is to explain and defend the policies of the government of the day. One understands the workings of one's own country, one understands the debate that has gone on, and one understands the different points of view. And I think that gives one a sense of solidity and confidence in explaining what has gone on.

Q. How much more difficult is your job made by the fact that South Africa is such a complicated country, and how do you feel about the way South Africa is represented?

A. I think that a complex situation has been oversimplified for many, many years there has been, not to put too fine a point on it, a lot of propaganda about South Africa, emanating from a number of sources. But I think that world events have changed things, and that the changes made by president De Klerk towards the normalisation of the political process in South Africa, and towards the initiation of negotiations on a new democratic constitution for South Africa have made an impact.

Q. Do you agree that the South African government made mistakes in the crucial years of 1985/6 - President Botha's "Rubicon" speech for instance?

A. Government spokesmen have said that mistakes were made, but I don't think that this was peculiar to South Africa. Mistakes were made, but the point is to recognise this and then to adjust and reformulate the policies, and this is what has happened in South Africa.

As far as President Botha is concerned, I think one has to remember he was dealing with a different world. We were still in the era of communist expansionism and we still had neighbours closely allied to the Eastern Bloc. Fortunately this era came to an end with the changes in the USSR, and the decision of the USSR that regional conflicts have to be settled by political means. This led to the resolution of the problem in Namibia by international agreement, coupled with the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola. So the whole world scene has changed.

Q. Have the changes that you have just mentioned removed much of the fear that the ANC represents a Marxist body?

A. Well, the government is talking to the ANC, and they recognise the ANC as an important factor in the South African political scene. The ANC has an alliance with the SACP (South African Communist Party) - entered into many years ago - but progress has been made in removing obstacles to negotiation, on both sides. The ANC and the government, and others in South Africa, are committed to the process of peaceful negotiation.

Q. Moving to the other end of the political spectrum, the South African Conservative Party threatened a tax boycott if President De Klerk did not call an election. Do you think that the right is a force to be feared in South African politics?

A. Well, there is a whole spectrum of political opinion in South Africa as there is in any other country. The Conservative Party is the official opposition. As in any other country, the government has to take its policies to the market place and hope to win support.

Q. But it is unusual for an opposition to call for extra-legal activities to force the government to consult the electorate.

A. I believe that it is happening not a thousand miles from here with the community charge.

Q. It has been argued that the security forces are attempting to undermine the negotiation process by inciting violence in the townships, and by actively supporting the Inkatha side....

A. There is a lot of propaganda. As far as I know, no evidence has been presented of the security forces trying to wreck negotiations. Impressions and opinions have been conveyed, but no evidence has been presented. It is a human tendency to blame others, to seek other reasons for conditions which one's own followers have perhaps created. There are many causes for the violence in the townships, not only ideological, and if one's own followers are at fault then there is a tendency to blame others.

Q. Do you think that the "black on black" violence was exacerbated by

chief Buthelezi's exclusion from the negotiations, which gave Inkatha a political reason for engineering trouble?

A. I think that there are various causes of the violence. In Natal the so-called black on black violence has been going on for some years, and seems to be related to the efforts of some to destroy those who have achieved positions in regional and local government. In the Transvaal and Witwatersrand there were other causes - including a taxi war between various taxi groups competing for routes and trying to assert themselves. (Since deregulation, taxis have been South Africa's fastest growing industry.) There is also the ideological clash between some groups. But I think there is a place at the negotiating table for all political groups which have a power base, which will include Inkatha, the PAC (Pan African Congress) and AZAPO as well as the ANC.

Q. What can the government do, then, to stop the violence?

A. You might remember that there were demands from all quarters for the termination of the state of emergency. That was done except in Natal. There was then an upsurge of violence, for reasons I have mentioned, and then there was the demand that the government should act to curb that violence. An action plan was implemented and then complaints were made that it was not the right plan: But it does seem to have been effective. The violence does seem to have diminished. It is not really the government. Others have to participate too, and I refer you to the agreed minute that was issued after the Groote Schuur meeting in May this year, between the government and the ANC. Both parties agreed that they would use their best efforts to reduce the level of violence and intimidation, so the obligation is not only on the government side but it is on other parties as well.

Q. At the end of the negotiations both sides have implied that their final positions are these: the government wishes to see a constitution with entrenched protection for minorities, and the ANC has said that it will not accept any reference to racial groups in the constitution. How can these positions be reconciled?

A. Well, I can only speak for the

South African government, I can't speak for the ANC. The South African government's policy is to move away from racism, to move away from discriminatory legislation. One has to remember that there are many minorities in South Africa, and they are equally concerned that their culture, language and traditions should be protected. So once one gets round the negotiating table, you might find that there are a lot of views coming out in support of the idea of the entrenched protection of minorities, and that is nothing to do with racism at all.

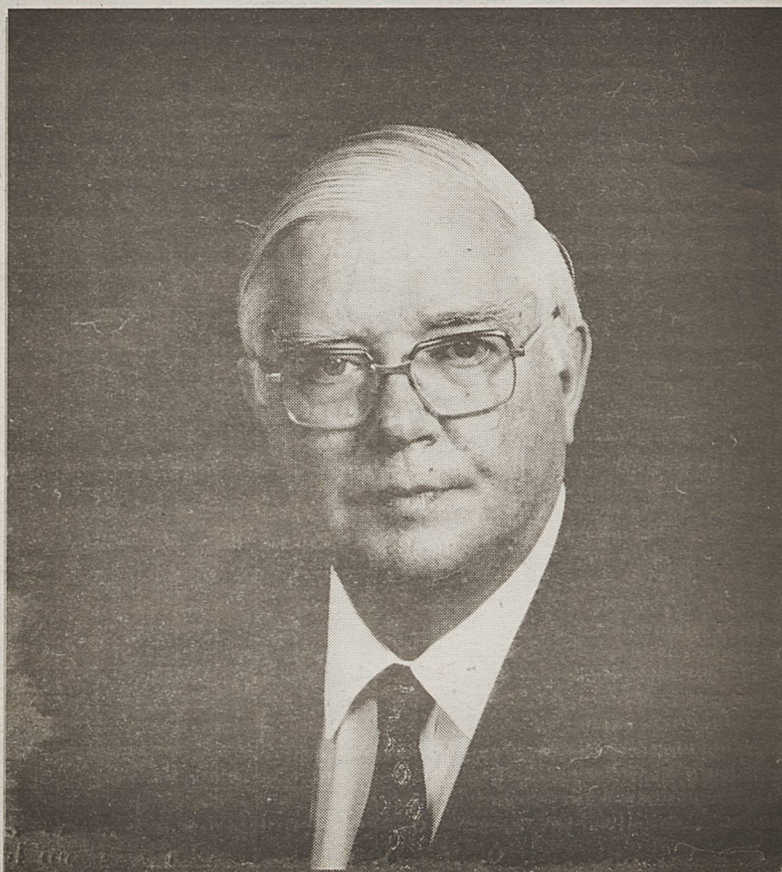
Q. Do you think the government can sell a constitution without reference to minorities to the white voters, and convince other minorities that they are not going to allow the ANC to dominate if no such references are made?

A. The whole approach of the South African government is that at this stage, one cannot spell out constitutional models, but one can talk about principles that one would

like to see in the constitution. Multi-party democracy with regular elections, a free judiciary, checks and balances to preserve the interests of minorities, private property ownership, freedom of expression and association, all these are universally accepted democratic principles around which South Africans, irrespective of colour or ethnic origin, can rally and form alliances. I think that as the process continues one will find that people will start to identify with those principles. The process of negotiation is a process of give and take. I don't think that one should jump to conclusions about what the attitude of the other party might be.

Q. Are you optimistic?

A. These are early days. South Africa has embarked on a new road to broaden democracy and normalise the political process. We hope that negotiations will start this year and will involve all political groupings that have a legitimate and demonstrable power base.



Mr R. Killen, the South African ambassador to the U.K.

Opposing Views- In

Michiel Pestman talks to M.D. Naidu, official representative of the African National Congress (ANC) for Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, who argues that much of the apparently factional violence in South Africa stems from the Security Service.

Q. What do you think are the main causes of the so-called "black on black" violence which has been sweeping South Africa?

A. To start at the beginning, we have to understand that the apartheid system is a system based on violence. Fundamental to that system is to impose the apartheid system on the population, the great majority of which rejects apartheid. This means imposing it by force.

Police force, the force of the security services, at times military force, and, of course, the force that is implied in the laws. Violence is violence employed by the state as an instrument of policy. And it is manifesting itself fiercely, whenever there is expressive, open opposition or resistance to its policies.

Q. But that is what might be called "white on black" violence, not "black on black".

A. The talk of "white on white", and "black on black" is nonsense. The state consists of the party in government, but also of all the resources that those in power command, including the blacks that they employ. The servants of the state, and those who are subject to the state, are white and black. To try to separate whites and blacks, when they are all employed by the state, is a fantasy. So when the state uses its black employees, against blacks who

resist that policy, it is not a question of black against black.

Q. But you cannot deny that there is severe violence between the ANC and the Inkatha movement.

A. Why refer to that as "black on black"? For generations, for hundreds of years, you had conflicts in Europe between white nations, and between classes which are white, but you do not call that "white on white" conflict. What you have in South Africa (SA) is a racist administration, deeply racist, and that administration is constantly seeking to find ways and means of remaining in power.

Q. Might I summarise your point by saying that the government itself is the main causes of the violence in SA?

A. I wouldn't say that the government is the main cause. It is part of the government's purpose to deflect criticism or even the possibility of the identification of itself as a source of violence.

You have heard of the death squadrons, you have heard of the famous, or infamous, Civil Cooperation Bureau, you have heard of vigilantes. These things are rooted in the Security Services of the state and much of this takes place under cover. It is very difficult to get information about this, unless somebody occasionally defects. And when somebody defects, the weight of the state is brought to bear to make nonsense of the evidence.

Q. The SA ambassador denies the existence of any evidence that the Security Forces are involved in the violence.

A. I wish to assert that facts have been presented to the SA government, which they refuse to accept. There have been foreign journals, many British journals, which at times were witness of what the police was doing during the killing which has been taking place. The SA government wouldn't accept it, they refuse to accept it. They refuse to appoint a judicial commission of enquiry. You can't eliminate something by stopping retaliation, you have to get to the cause to stop it, and I am afraid, the cause is within the Security System of the apartheid regime.

Q. Today the negotiations with the Inkatha movement of Chief Buthelezi started in an attempt to stop the violence. Do you think that the ANC and Inkatha leaders will be able to control and stop the fighting in the townships?

A. No. They can play a part in trying to minimise violence, but until such time as the real cause of the violence has been tackled they can't stop it. For example, I don't know how many agents are infiltrated in Inkatha, just as I don't know how many agents there are among the

ANC members. Our experience is that the agents are the most militant and most radical in the membership of an organisation. That is how they win their credibility, and carry out their work, it is part of their job.

Inkatha and the ANC alone, cannot put an end to the violence. You must remember that violence of this kind, long before Inkatha became involved, was happening all over the country. We had this enormous case, at the crossroads in the Cape some years ago. The government had tried for years to remove the squatters from the crossroads settlements. And all their legal attempts to do it were frustrated. Then, out of the blue, there came some so called parents or fathers, who started attacking the comrades, the young boys. And this went on for some time until they successfully drove out the squatters. These elders identified themselves in a very significant way, they used a white cloth around their heads and the called themselves the 'Witte Doeken', which means white cloth. We saw the same thing happen in the Transvaal, recently, only this time they called themselves the 'Rooie Doeken', and they put red cloths around their heads. These people were supposed to be opposed to the ANC, and were identified with Inkatha. But in fact the police had an active part in the Witte Doeken. When they attacked, the police immediately stepped in to back them up, exactly as in the Transvaal. Inkatha was not involved. What I am saying is that the hidden hand here lies within the Security Services, and that the Inkatha is a very useful organization to them, because it is an organization which has political differences with the ANC.

Q. Do you think that the SA government is sincere in its intentions to negotiate with the opposition?

A. One can always question when the ruling class says that it is ready to give up its power, whether it is sincere. One has to look a little deeper to find the factors that have moved the ruling class into that position. The ruling class is in serious difficulties. The international community has been putting a great deal of pressure on the apartheid regime and it recognises that it can not get out of the crisis, unless it is able to attract a larger measure of sympathy and support from the international community, especially the international financial and economic community.

All I can say is that if De Klerk and his National Party were really genuine, there would have been no great difficulties moving the obstacles which stand in the way of real negotiations. But it is quite clear that there are powerful elements within the National Party, within the SA government that are paying lip service to the path that De Klerk has indicated, and certainly are going to resist its implementation. And De Klerk's conduct himself has led us to



Inkatha supporters at a funeral

Black and White...

wonder whether he is his own man to the extent that he would like us to believe.

Q. Will the talks with the Inkatha movement result in a more active involvement of Inkatha in the negotiations between the ANC and the government?

A. I think we should be quite clear in distinguishing between Inkatha being involved in the negotiation process, and discussions with Inkatha to address the problem of violence. These discussions with Inkatha today, are part of a process that started some years ago, not

basis is. What we do reject, is anyone trying to establish a position based on the use of violence and not on the support of the people.

Q. But what about the violent tactics used by the ANC?

The ANC resorted to armed struggle, but only after being banned and even then it was made abundantly clear that did not mean that we were looking for a military solution. Armed struggle was just one of the various methods of struggle dictated by the circumstances. And the symbolic nature of the struggle was emphasised by the fact that we took every possible

Hussein and Iraq today, but in 1966 the International Court of Justice said SA presence in Namibia was illegal. Immediately after that the UN Security Council adopted a resolution calling upon SA to leave but when SA refused to obey the UN resolutions, the Western Powers refused to take enforcing measures. What changed the situation was a particular battle in Angola, the battle of Cuito Carnevale. The SA forces had to recognise very clearly that they were not longer to impose a military solution on Angola or maintain any significant military pressure. Their own forces were virtually surrounded and had lost air

a first class opportunity for a new president to claim that he was starting on a new scheme. He was in fact continuing the policies of the National Party and taking them further. As far as ANC is concerned, we have long welcomed the idea of negotiations because we know in the long run, if a new SA in which all the communities are living together in harmony and peace is to evolve, the sooner we depart from the armed struggle and armed confrontation, the better.

Q. What role do you think is played by the Western media?

A. The tendency in the media is to present the case as favourably as possible, consistent with the obvious truths. No newspaper, radio, or television station would want to be seen saying something that is evidently false. So when De Klerk says he accepts the principle of one person, one vote, there is so much publicity around that many people assume he is already half way there or that he has already accomplished it.

They do not give enough publicity to the kind of constitution being considered and circulated in the National Party and the Broederbond. It says, yes, one man, one vote in a bicameral system. But in the upper house, the equivalent to the US Senate, they will have groups of various kinds, from the different groups in the population being represented. This Senate must give approval to a range of "minority issues", such as whether there should be nationalisations or not, by a two thirds majority. Otherwise, the one man, one vote house becomes powerless. When you look at the kind of structure they suggest, it is quite clear that they still have a long way to go, before they really accept the principle of a democratic system.

Q. LSE students have been interested or involved in South African issues for some time, for example by forcing the school authorities to divest funds. What can students do now?

A. What the students must do, is to

be allies to us. The ANC has asked the international community, "Do not relax sanctions, until we are able to tell you that we are satisfied and the process has become irreversible". Do not be misled and confused by the rhetoric. Some of our people came back from South Africa yesterday, and now I expected things to be different, but they are not. On the ground, there is practically nothing that has changed.

Q. Are you pessimistic about the future?

A. I joined the struggle, way back, when I was at high school in 1935. When I look back over the years, I cannot be pessimistic. At this moment, we have a perspective from which you can see the immense steps we have taken. 30 years ago, no government in South Africa would have even entertained the thought of political rights for blacks.

I was a member of the delegations in 1945 on behalf of the Indian Congress that met the then Prime Minister Field Marshall Smuts. And for the first time we put down our demands for political rights. I can still remember, he was looking at that paper, and saying "Gentlemen, you did not come here to negotiate. What you have put before me, is a political manifesto. I am sorry, I cannot discuss this with you, we have nothing to talk about". Now, when I think of that, and I think of what is happening today, of course, we have moved tremendously. But it will get harder and harder, as we come towards the end of the road.

I can see that we are on the verge of a real breakthrough. I don't think it is going to be possible for the present government to remain. They can only remain if they have won the confidence of the international community, money starts flowing back into SA, once again the economy is all right and they have the resources they need. So what we have to do is hold our guns, hold our horses, and wait until they have really gone. We want to see the movement become irreversible.

All photos courtesy IDAF



Riot police stand by as white council workers bulldoze a squatter camp in a dawn raid

something which, like the media try to make out, has never happened before. The only significant thing is, at this meeting, Mandela and Buthelezi are present. They are addressing the question of violence, the question of negotiation is another matter altogether.

The ANC has invited Inkatha, as well as the other organizations to sit down together, to consider together the problems relating to the new constitution. Inkatha has refused. We can only guess why. The ANC approach is that ultimately an elected constituent assembly must finalise and adopt the constitution. At the moment, among the black population, we don't have democracy. If anybody wants to challenge the ANC, we can't prove exactly what proportion of the population we represent. So we certainly want to see the process of elections, and then we can know exactly what our

care that there were no human casualties. Our actions were directed against structures, the institutions of apartheid. We are aware that in certain cases individual casualties did arise, but that was not part of a policy, it happened in particular circumstances which we did not want, and certainly we stopped it being repeated. Exceptions to this were when we attacked military groups or military institutions.

Q. What influence have the changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union had on South Africa and the region?

In Namibia change has happened only in part as a result of the changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. These changes have given the Western World a way out. We hear a great deal of talk about Saddam

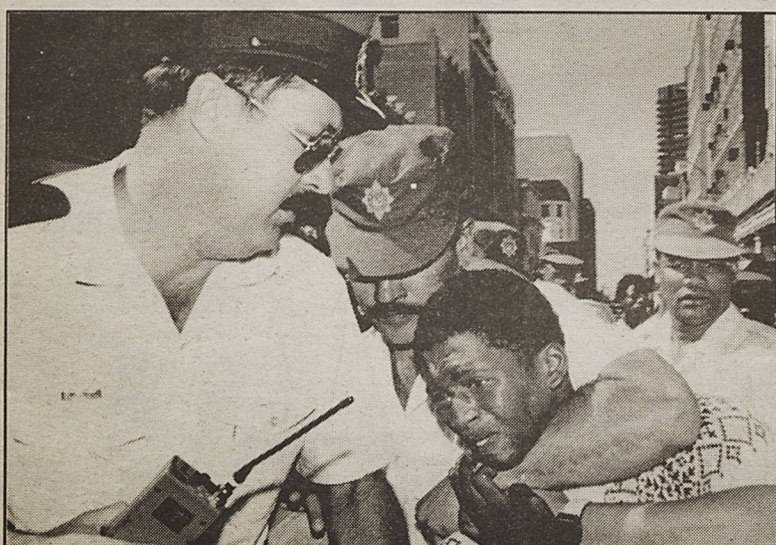
supremacy in Angola. SA, in that climate, was persuaded to accept negotiations. I don't think that what happened in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe was decisive. Of course it happened, and it is part of the world climate. But the significant thing arises from the battle of Cuito Carnevale.

Q. Did these changes effect the ANC as well?

The ANC was always ready to negotiate. But all that we have seen in the past has been talk about negotiations, talk about reform, all of which was really aimed at isolating and defeating the ANC. In fact, in 1987, we put forward our proposals for negotiations to the UN. In the meantime, we were meeting wider and wider groups from SA, white groups, religious groups, cultural groups, even people who came from the National Party. We had achieved a dialogue, long before it was officially accepted by the SA government.

Then they said that they were considering releasing Nelson Mandela and the other leaders of the ANC. But they wouldn't do it, unless they committed themselves to giving up the armed struggle. Then eventually, toward the end of 1989, Botha said "Well, never mind, we will release Nelson Mandela, as long as he commits himself to negotiations, to looking for a peaceful solution". He did nothing about it, but he did meet Mandela in prison.

During those years there were other cabinet ministers who went to the prison, while they were damning the ANC in public. It so happened, of course, that the conditions in SA became even more critical, and then Botha had his stroke, and it provided



South African police arrest a youth following a protest meeting



Squatter children in a makeshift school

Society News

Meeting of Minds.

If you have ever wanted to pose a question to Aristotle or pick the brains of Rousseau then the LSE Schapiro Club has the event for you. Stopping just short of offering you the philosophers in person the Schapiro Club has organized a debate between Professor Maurice Cranston and Dr. Janet Coleman who are to be the advocates of Rousseau and Aristotle respectively.

The debate, to be held on Tuesday 12 February at 5 p.m. in the Old Theatre, will allow both participants to address questions, posed by the Chair, regarding the nature of philosophy and morality in politics. The chairperson, Dr. Robert Orr, will then invite questions to "Aristotle" or "Rousseau" from the audience, concluding the hour-long debate with brief summaries from both participants.

The debate is to be followed by a wine and cheese party (with thanks to Claire Wilkinson), in King's Chambers and all who attend the debate are welcome to join the party.

So, for what promises to be one of the most exciting events in the LSE diary cancel all other appointments, tell your Girlfriends and Boyfriends you'll see them on Wednesday (or bring them along), tout your pre-booked cinema tickets and make your way along to the Old Theatre 5 p.m. Tuesday 12 February: this could be your last chance for mental stimulation before your brain turns to jelly whispering Valentine sweet nothings.

Bridget Edminson.
Schapiro Club.

What's in a name

On Friday the 25th of January, during a members meeting the L.S.E Afro-Caribbean society changed it's name to the African/Caribbean Society.

This transformation reflects a growing awareness amongst London university black students. They are now recognizing that the former term Afro-Caribbean alone is inadequate representation of the diverse backgrounds of it's members. Most of the members do come from Africa and almost all do have roots in Africa.

The emphasis of the newly formed African/Caribbean Society is to continue glorifying African traditions and the development of black traditions in the Caribbean; Europe and America.

Ofcourse 'Black' culture is not entirely separate from 'white' culture. Therefore the society is encouraging white students and other racial groups or nationalities to come along and participate in the events.

The Society is planning to perform a mass cultural event within the L.S.E on Saturday the 9th of March. It will include fashion shows, live music, stage dancing and African/Caribbean food. Look out for the posters in February, or contact any of the organizers.

Come along and support something different and exhilarating (or stay at home instead).

Anthony Karimu.

Daphne Dare



WRITES

Daphne Dare (LSE graduate of 1938) returns once again to write her regular column offering advice on all manner of topics relevant to the modern day student.

THIS WEEK: COURTING

As I take a turn about the LSE campus and observe the behaviour of our current student population I grow somewhat disheartened. It hurts me to see certain standards on the decline and so I feel my services of handing on good stout advice are required more than ever at this moment in time. My concern is with the manner in which young males and females chose to conduct themselves.

Disdainfully I stand and watch both boys and girls falter in their attempts to show their true heartfelt feelings for one another. The notion of romance and chivalry, it seems, has long since departed, replaced instead with unspeakable acts of debauchery and decadence. Courting today is certainly not what it was. As I was leaving the Apple Macintosh room last week, having completed my column on hooliganism, I was stuck by certain movements in the shadows of Houghton Street. It was with horror that I witnessed one of the most unpleasant, not to say unwholesome, scenes in my long career as a woman. The shameful erotic actions and disgusting noises emitting from behind a bush had me blushing - something I haven't done since my one time fiance Trevor Howard dropped his trousers on a beach in Torquay. I was forced to delve into my handbag for a handkerchief, such unspeakable horror rather hit me for six.

In my LSE years such behaviour would not have been tolerated, indeed even to think of such an unholy act would have been considered a sin of blasphemous proportions. (Father Jerry would have expected no less than five 'Our Fathers' and ten 'Hail Marys'). The males of the school, with perhaps the exception of wayward Pinkie Frobisher, conducted themselves in a manner befitting young gentlemen, no untoward advances were ever made. The young ladies, myself included, were treated with respect and dignity. I was courted with flowers and love poems, I was serenaded, in the whispering gallery of St. Paul's my intended secretly revealed his feelings for me. There was never any hint of the unmentionable before marriage.

In our halls of residence, if ever we entertained a young man then without exception us girls always ensured that our beds were firstly placed out in the corridor. Temptation was kept out of temptations way.

I do not advocate that the current residents of Passfield or Roseberry remove their beds, nor am I against showing signs of honest affection, but I do not endorse the shameful movements that so shocked a few days back. My own long life is proof, I feel sure, that abstinence from carnal proclivities before the appropriate time leads to a happy life.

Yours ever,

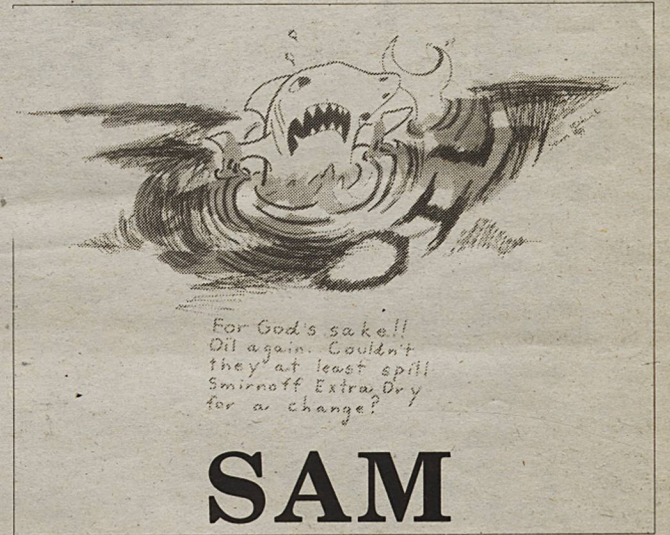
Daphne

Rag Up-date

Rag Week this year will once again feature the traditional treasure hunt. Teams are invited to join in what is probably one of the highlights of the week. Application forms and 'dummy lists' (detailing examples of what each team is expected to find) are now available from Jon Hull.

Contributions are still required for the LSE Rag Mag. Please hand in your jokes, cartoons, limericks etc to Jon Hull. (Remember there will be prizes!)

Finally, any Society wishing to take part in the Multi-cultural evening should see either Jon Hull or Dave Jones.



Cult Heroes Crossword

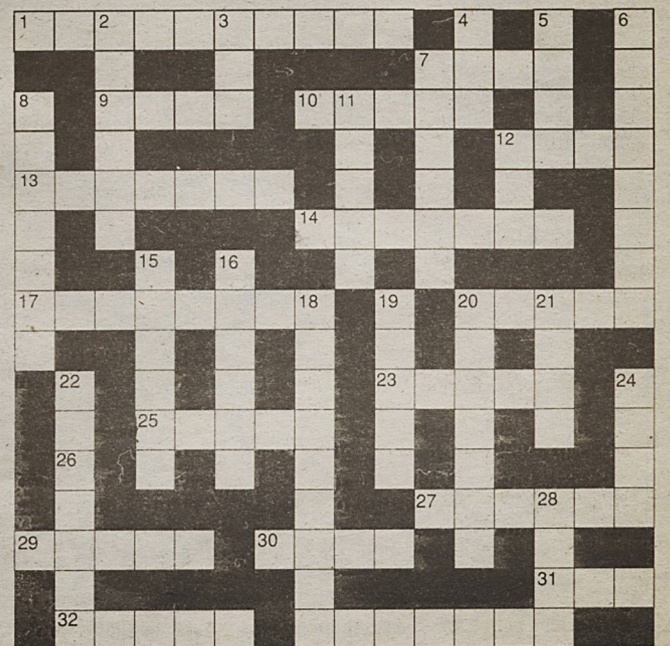
ACROSS

- French comic strip hero portrayed on screen by Jane Fonda (10)
- (see 31 across)
- (see 8 down)
- Slow moving friend of 14 across (5)
- The Tracy brother stationed on Thunderbird 5 (4)
- (see 3 down)
- Boiiiiinnng! (7)
- Sixties cult TV series starring Patrick MacNee and a selection of kinky boots (8)
- The ultimate Timelord (2,5)
- (see 24 down)
- One of the creators of 'The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles' (5)
- Cult Republican serial made in the 1930's '--- Coastguard' (1,1,1)
- Lady Penelope's manservant (6)
- 29+18d. The smelliest character from the comic in 31 across (5,9)
- (see 4 down)
- 31+7a. Melchester Rovers' player-manager (3,4)
- Wacky children's comic now only available in annual format (5)
- Tom's got a brand new Magnum (7)

DOWN

- The bear who lives in Nutwood (6)
- 3+13a. Creator of 'The Twilight Zone' anthology series (3,7)
- 4+30a. 2000 AD's greatest astronaut (3,4)
- Nautical captain from '20,000 Leagues under the Sea' (5)
- The turtle with the Blue "disguise" (8)
- Denace the Menace's pet pig (6)
- 8+9a. He's a miserable bastard (7,4)
- 11+16d. He's the man on the telly (5,6)
- The boy with the strange surname of 90 (3)
- Codename for Spectrum's pilots (6)
- (see 11 down)

- (see 28 across)
- Father of the Addams family (5)
- Cult director Sam Raimi's latest film (7)
- Which organisation was Stingray part of? (4)
- Second in command of the starship 'Enterprise' (2,5)
- 24+23a. Individually, they were known as Field, Cotter, Simpson & Radleigh (4,5)
- Captain Jean Luc Picard's predecessor (4)



Looks Familiar



Has anybody spotted the remarkable similarity between Print Room Supervisor Stuart Wilks and stand-up comedian Ben Elton. Are the two related? I think we should be told

Get the Lavvy habit

Are you a creature of habit?

There are matters more important than the impending annihilation of the human race by this age's crop of madmen in power. For instance, why is it that despite the existence of at least ten stalls in the library basement's mens toilets I always choose to enter the same one? The fourth from the left: That's my stall. I could recite the graffiti that splatters its confining walls from memory (though none of them is printable save 'Saddam is really Captain Pugwash').

I recall the first day I ventured into the basement lavatory; I made a random choice. I could have chosen the third or the fifth stall perhaps, but no, number four happened to strike my fancy that fateful morning. Four

months later, however I nolonger have a choice: I will periodically visit this cubicle and no other for the remainder of my stay at the L.S.E.



Photo: Jan Kolasinski

The fact we are all creatures of habit effects our lives in areas of less dubious taste as well. The average L.S.E student must,

every 24 hours, confront an astounding array of decisions. From the simple 'Corn Flakes or Weetabix?' To the more complex dilemmas, such as 'how to feign consciousness during a stats class?' Countless questions must be efficiently disposed of his overtaxed brain. Thank God then that we are creatures of habit, and that most of these matters are resolved automatically, following patterns of behavior previously established.

Anyone who remembers that nightmarish blur of confused events that was 'Fresher's Week' will appreciate how shipwrecked one can come to feel in the absence of a secure patterned lifestyle. In what

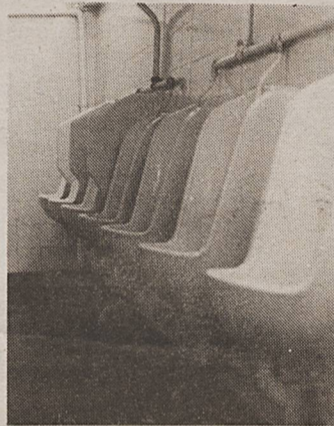


Photo: Jan Kolasinski

was a completely new environment for all of us, and particularly for us non-Londoners and overseas students, the first week seemed an eternity. We were continuously being bombarded by new information, and had to actually think through twelve billion decisions a day. Every action performed and every word uttered every one of those 604,800 seconds resulted from a conscious effort. Lost in a sea of variables, we all clung to the few constants we had brought from home like drowning men to a broken mast. Personally, no matter what extreme depths of confusion and desperation I reached I knew I was O.K. as long

as I had my trusty stuffed walrus Fred to hug.

After Fresher's week, however, most patterns of our behavior have been fixed, and they continue to haunt us today. Consider lunchtime. The Brunch Bowl, The Cafe, The Pizzaburger and Wright's are only a few of the choices available to the student. Yet most of us have no choice whatsoever in the matter. We continue to feed wherever we decided to do so in September of our first year.

The vast majority of choices we make during the day are made before we even wake up. Who can tell one Monday from another if nothing extraordinary happens? During your first lecture you will sit at 'your' desk, and will draw alongside the usual page-and-a-half of notes 23 tiny pointed stars, 8 squiggly spirals and one not wholly flattering portrait of the lecturer hanging at the end of a sturdy length of rope. After class you will again attempt, unsuccessfully, to strike up a meaningful conversation with that appetizing member of the opposite sex in the class, only to end up brooding over a cup of coffee in Wright's. Et cetera. Et cetera. Ad nauseam.

How can we break out from this endless rut? I'm afraid for the most part we are sitting on a badly scratched LP playing the same groove over and over, with little hope of skipping to the next. We can occasionally escape into literature, music, conversation, sleep or Disneyworld, but most of these are only temporary relief and the other is in Florida. At least, I hope, my humble offering has helped to relieve the monotony. Not as ingenious as 'Saddam is really Captain Pugwash' perhaps, but at least new.

Eduardo Jauregai

diary

And now over to the vidi-printer

4.42
SP Glasgow Rangers 2 Celtic 1

D4 Crewe Alexandra 0 Halifax Town 0

Exciting game up there at Crewe, the game ending in a goalless draw. Crewe and Halifax of course both near the bottom of the table both teams a long way from the top of the table both in fact crap. Oh come on, there must be some scores from the Beaver Homes League

4.43
D3 Shrewsbury Town 4 Wimbledon 0
D3 Fulham 1 Swansea 1

a score draw there not one of mine though bugger

8.00 MON KICK OFF
3 TUNS league (Pub Quiz Cup)
The Beaver Team 0 The Heavy Drinkers 54

I see the Beaver team are improving at this weekly pub quiz lark

4.44
GMV High Barnet 8 Kettering 5
BHL Cheam 15 Chorley Athletic 9

I love these non-league sides god only knows how big the goal posts are oh, perhaps those were rugby results

1.00 TUE KICK OFF
A698 Rob Smith (speaking on the Economics of Defence Spending) £5 million LSE Economics Society Budget £3.50

so that leaves the Economics Society placed firmly on the bottom of the SU league ha ha

4.45
D1 Liverpool 0 Tottenham 1
D1 Arsenal 2 Southampton 0

Yes yes yes

D1 Crystal Palace 4 Coventry 2
D2 Brighton 2 Charlton Athletic 2

2.00 WED KICK OFF
Graham Wallas Room (Assertion Training League - Women only)

Women 59 Men... didn't turn up

4.46
RLT Wakefield 33 London Scottish 16

no idea what that is still it doesn't effect the pools coupon don't know why they bother putting up the score really

D2 Portsmouth 0 Watford 1

D4 Some northern industrial town that no one ever goes to 3 Some fishing port whose other major industry is weaving 0

good result that for Newcastle

FRI EVE KICK OFF
India Society League (Dinner and Dance Cup)
Members £5 Non-members £6

no home advantage there

4.47

not much else happening at the moment do you know about the Aphrodite party next week the Photo Soc are also planning a meet in the Vera Anstey Room on the 13th at 1pm And what about Brighton eh? They showed Liverpool a thing or two And now for the classified check

Crossword Solution

1	R	A	2	B	L	3	I	L	4	A	5	W	6	
8	P	9	P	L	O	10	R	I	A	11	A	12	A	
13	S	E	R	L	I	N	G	14	C	R	E	D	E	R
17	A	V	E	V	E	R	18	S	19		20	R	21	
22														
26	S	25	A	E	R	27	A	R	28	R				
29	D	V	E	30	A	R	Y							
32	A	A	2											

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Royal Academy of Arts
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10 to 5:00 ev. day until 12 May

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071-228-2620
8 pm ev. day until 16 February

IN ROOM FIVEHUNDREDANDFOUR
by Jimmy Chinn
The Grove Theatre Club
8 pm ev. day until 9 February

I THOUGHT I HEARD A RUSTLING
by Alan Plater
Theatre Royal Stratford East
081-534-0310
7:30 ev. day until 2 March

IMAGINE DROWNING
by Terry Johnson
Hampstead Theatre
071-722-9301
8 pm ev. day until 5 March

Shows

CAMPING ON THE ALDWYCH
by and with Julian Clary
The Aldwych Theatre
8 pm ev. day until 5 March

A house is not a home

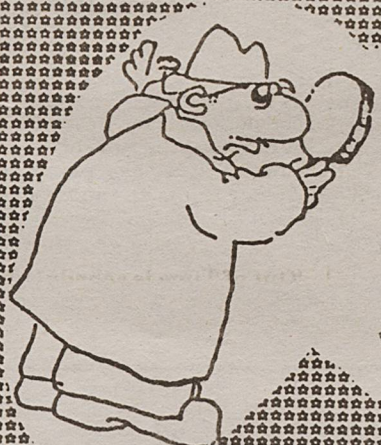
Charity begins at home but this is ridiculous.

The first thing I noticed about this movie is that Melanie Griffith has aged a lot since "Working Girl". Yes, the cute smile is still there but it seems strained and not spontaneous. Now, to the film (one must not get carried away). "Pacific Heights" stars Melanie Griffith, Matthew Modine and Michael Keaton and isn't it strange that their names all begin with an M. I am sure this is purely coincidental but does lend the cast an atmosphere of compatibility, an eerie sense that the three will work well together. And guess what! The combination is absolutely brilliant except for the fact that Michael Keaton is playing a psychotic real estate swindler. If you thought estate agents were bad then you ain't seen nothing yet. This guy waits until you've taken a \$750,000 mortgage then he moves into your house without telling you, refuses to pay rent, gets your husband ar-

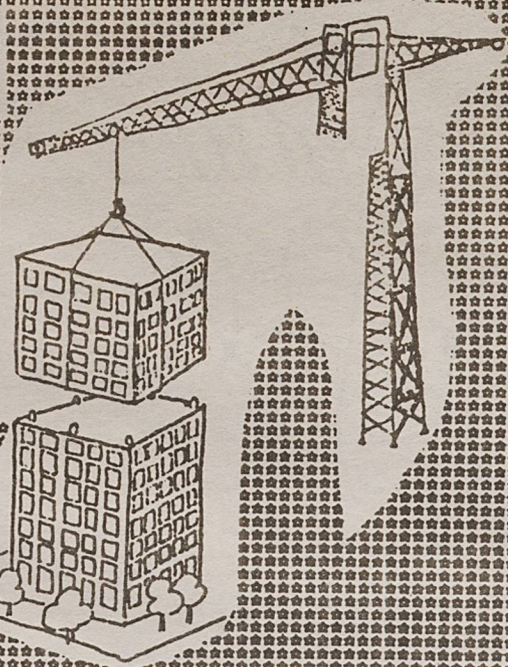
rested, removes all your fittings, takes you to court for harassing him and he actually wins. Rule number one: Never, if you can help it, give part of your house for rent to a guy in dark glasses driving a black porsche. Rule number two: If you do, make sure you check his credit history (don't be influenced by the wad of banknotes he waves in front of you. Final Rule: Don't let him take over your life whatever happens. The title says nothing about the film except that the goings on go on in Pacific Heights San Francisco. I would strongly advise prospective house buyers not to watch this film and I urge potential rent payers not to miss it. The reason being that the movie drives home (no pun intended) the reality that the law sometimes puts the landlord at a disadvantage and tenants can actually walk in and practically take control. I don't know where English law stands on this issue

but I know what I would do if somebody tried to take over my home. Michael Keaton demonstrates in this movie and in "The Dream Team" that he will not be stereotyped into Batman-like roles, exciting though they may be. His portrayal of a sociopath with warped priorities is exhaustive to say the least, even the most hardened house-owner will feel uncomfortable with this man especially if he is wielding a hand gun and is bent on pinning your face to the wall. This he tries to do to a terrified Melanie Griffith but what a strong woman she turns out to be. The conclusion of the movie is somewhat incomplete but a good score and excellent photography coupled with tolerable performances by the three M's make this movie worth watching. *Pacific Heights is on general release.*
Sahr Johnny

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Lust and laughter

Venus In Furs.

Finally something exciting for peeping Tom. At least that's what I thought when reading the program's warning about "scenes which may be disturbing". Besides, I always wanted to know how this strange notion of "masochism" evolved into everyday use. And this is exactly what John Petherbridge's adaptation of the Austrian Leopold Von Sacher-Masov's novel appears to offer. Hence the trip to Battersea's homely Latchmere theatre (conveniently situated above a pub) could not hinder my sexually inspired endeavour. Well, alright there is a

lot of sex (well dressed I must admit) but very little action. The story: Young well-to-do artist, spoiled by childhood trauma falls in love with pretty, but innocent widow and teaches her how to satisfy his weird obsessions. Unfortunately, she learns her lesson a bit too well ...and the play is still rather enjoyable. I am not sure whether this is intentional but most of the dialogue calls for immediate laughter. One should really pity the main character whose exasperations are brilliantly enacted by Owen Scott but albeit imposing strict disciplinary measures



on my self, I could not refrain from continuous giggle - maybe you could?
Playing at the Latchmere Theatre until February 16.

503 Battersea Park Road Tel :071 228 2620. Tickets: 3.50 conc. Nearest tube Vauxhall.

Thomas Cohrs

Camp at the Aldwych

Since you are supposedly all diligent students who spend their long nights hovering over loads of hyper-interesting books and other teaching material, I guess you haven't had a glance at "sticky moments". Unless, of course, you are either rather immature or incredibly bored at night...in which case there is no need for you to wander to the Aldwych to see the stage-version of "that pool off the telly", in Julian's own words. If you haven't seen him before, however, that visit may well be worthwhile: where else do you get an outrageous collection of glitzy costumes, genital jokes and helpless volunteers who enjoy being completely taken the mickey of, all live and within a couple of hours? After a while you can't even help laughing about the most obvious lines,

and even the pompous music does not throw you off the seat anymore... Talking about music, I am afraid the guy can't really sing - but then again he has this abso-



lutely fantastic duo with him, Barb Jungr and Michael Parker who almost make up for it: Barb's voice is a s bluesy as they get and Michael sure can play his guitar..The main

appeal of this revue apparently is the show of bizarre clothing (ever seen a guy wear sky-scrappers on his shoulders), hence Mr. clary's main man Hugh Jelly - what a pun - nicely fits the picture with his weird on and offs in ever-changing outfit. Too bad, the guys (and Barb) had to ruin some old songs (Lee Marvin was definitely better in "wandering star" and I do find it difficult to see soft Julian as the "leader of the pack" although I am quite sure he really misses his "Japanese Boy"). Who says bad songs can't be made worse? Well, fair enough, his other stuff and a lot of the little innuendos do have some charms: Go and camp at the Aldwych! On the whole quite enjoyable - but nothing much new I'm afraid.

Thomas Cohrs

War Intrudes on Matrimonial Bliss.

A newly-wed couple must come to terms with their fate

February 1942, Skegness. In a run-down boarding-house, Edie and Harry are playing out their first and last night as a married couple before he goes off to war. The mood is one of anti-climax and foreboding; their union legitimized, they are at a loss as to how to behave together. The poignancy of their situation is overlaid by a tone of false propriety, set by the manager of the boarding-house (Peter Saracen). "We get a lot of couples here". Indeed, sinfulness and superstition abound. Both resent their circumstances. Both are resigned. Elizabeth McGloin, as Edie, captures perfectly the role expected of women: bossy, coy and maternal by

turn, she is more worldly than poor, naive Harry. The character of Harry (Stever Thomas) is less consistent. However, Thomas portrays Harry's impotence perfectly: outwardly a little-boy-lost, he lacks the eloquence to express fear and anger at what fate has put on his plate. In a series of flash-forwards, Edie reveals the tragedy of their tale: the device adds dramatic tension, as well as imbuing the play with pathos. Well worth a visit. In Room Five Hundred and Four" is currently at The Grove Theatre Club 139 Ladbroke Grove until February 9

Madeleine Wackernagel.

Don't be stupid
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And keep their heart and love alive.

Noise Annoys

I didn't want to mention the events in the Gulf but it has had repercussions on a far wider sphere than many of us had anticipated. The music industry has been no exception. It was feared that US acts such as Throwing Muses, Bob Dylan, Jane's Addiction, David Lee Roth and Lenny Kravitz would cancel European dates because of the terrorist threat to transatlantic flights. However, record labels and agents alike have been keen to dismiss such doubts and confirm that these bands would still be playing. Unfortunately, Vanilla Ice is taking no chances and has cancelled his performance at the music biz seminar, MIDEM, in Cannes. A Tribe Called Quest has also withdrawn from a promotional trip to London.

The BBC has issued 'guidelines' to their radio presenters outlining what they consider to be potentially offensive records. Included in the list are Lulu's "Boom Bang-A-Bang", The Bangles' "Walk Like an Egyptian", Abba's "Waterloo" as well as John Lennon's "Imagine" and "Give Peace A Chance". One of the tragedies of war - no Lulu.

Their album has been available for a few months now but I feel that Mazzy Star still deserve a mention. Their debut album, 'She Shines Brightly', was one of the highlights of last year. The voice of the singer, Hope Sandoval, is exquisite. It ebbs and flows wonderfully and glides so effortlessly. It's purity is epitomized in 'Halah' and 'Ride It on', it's power in 'Blue Flower'. David Roback, producer, songwriter and guitarist weaves exotically psychedelic strands of sound, complementing Hope's vocals. 'She Shines Brightly' is available on Rough Trade records now.

I would just like to mention Rutland Records, the self proclaimed smallest record company in the world. Among the bands on Rutland are possibly the youngest band in the world, The Ammonites ('Sun, Love, Guitars and Ice-Cream') and PO! PO! have a vinyl LP available entitled 'Little Stones' which has been received very well by the press. It includes a cover of Dylan's 'All I Really Want To Do' amongst the other self-penned pop guitar gems. For more information send a S.A.E. to Rutland Records, P.O. Box 132, Leicester.

News: R.E.M. release their first single since the re-release of 'Stand' at the end of February. It is entitled 'Losing My Religion' and their album 'Out of Time' is scheduled for release on March 11. Echo and the Bunnymen, those almost veteran pseudo-goths, play ULU on Wednesday 6th February. The Pogues play The Venue, New Cross on Saturday 9th February. They have now finished recording their debut LP (after some delays), and is due for release in March. It is called 'Snog' of all things!

Weekly Pixies slot: Why is Black Francis called what he is, he isn't black and his name probably isn't Francis. Kim Deal has been working on more Breeders material, but the results are unlikely to be heard for some time.

Seal, currently enjoying chart success with 'Crazy' and singer on Adamski's 'Killer' last year, was working in a studio next door to Jack Nicholson's pad when his peaceful slumber was rudely interrupted at 3 a.m. by police brandishing guns. Apparently they were unfamiliar with the sight of dreadlocks around those parts and had assumed he was a burglar. I'll finish with a little wisdom from Wendy James of Transvision Vamp, "I don't do cute little dances and I don't wear a rarra skirt and look sweet. I'm pretty much Joe Strummer born again." Of course you are luv.

Hok Pang

Houghton Street Harry

Harry goes bananas

It was never going to be easy. Traditionally, this has always been one of the toughest non-UAU encounters on the LSE calendar, and this year was no exception. UCL were able to field their strongest team, while LSE were without their captain and No. 8, Martin De Hop-a-long Da Cassidy De Costa, who had ruptured ligaments in his knee the week before.

From the whistle, both sides were clearly pumped up, but it was LSE who gained early advantage with a surgical dash by Dave Richards through the opposition's forwards. UCL panicked but managed to prevent a score, somehow bungling the ball into touch, conceding a line-out deep inside their 22. Unfortunately, the LSE were unable to capitalise on the position, and slowly the opposition were able to move the ball back up the field, and it was not long before they took the lead. A scrum right in front of the LSE posts gave UCL's stand-off the simplest of drop-goals, and the contest had begun.

UCL's lead did not last long, however, as a scud-defying run by flanker Ed Floyd ripped through the UCL defence. Ed, his long dark locks flowing behind him, his strapping thighs straining with every stride, galloped towards the UCL try line like a modern day Adonis - surely one of the greatest sights in modern rugby. With only the full back to beat, Floyd elected to chip and run, but the covering left wing read it well and stifled our young hero's challenge. In stemming the flow, however, UCL's forwards were caught off-side, and Neil Thompson converted the penalty to score.

Then all of a sudden, it all went horribly wrong. Our lads found themselves in all sorts of trouble. As had been feared, UCL's superior discipline began to show as the gulf between the two teams visibly widened. The LSE front five came under terrible pressure, and at times it simply seemed as if they had no idea of what was going on. The UCL's backs were fast and strong, and made a number of successful sorties into LSE territory. Three tries (one converted) were scored in only ten minutes, and at half time UCL were walking away with it 17 to 3.

In the second half, with their backs against the wall, the LSE responded magnificently. Nick Carter spun off a rolling maul, fended off a challenge from his opposite number before diving over in the left-hand corner. Then Tom "I'm getting married to Kate who wants to be next year's AU vice-president" Riley scored an amazing try. Picking up a loose ball on the half-way line, he beat all the other 29 players on the field, chipped, ran four times round the equator, caught his chip and scored between the posts. Honestly, it was unbelievable. Thompson converted the try, but missed all the kicks, primarily due - he claims - to having broken his ankle in a tackle in the first half.

But it was not all one way traffic. UCL responded with two tries in rapid succession, and with the score at 25-13, it looked as though LSE's momentum had come to an end. But then came Floyd. Ed, his long dark locks flowing behind him (for the last time), stealthed the UCL defence, and with only the full back to beat, elected this time to beat him, and plunged over the try-line. Then Paul Manson beefed his way through the opposition's centre, in what was a fantastic solo try. And then Iwan Jones scored right in the corner, having ducked and dived his way round his opposite number.

Into injury time - the score was poised at 25-25. Once again, Manson had possession just outside the UCL 22. He looked up at the posts, closed his eyes, prayed to Harry, and went for the drop goal. He connected beautifully. The ball sailed like a rugby ball, bisecting the uprights, and the LSE had won.

The crowd went wild - he had been threatening to do so all afternoon - but the UCL captain was dumbfounded: "At half-time I predicted we would win 28-7. I just don't know how this could have happened. "Ah, but that's Harry," I replied, with a twinkle in my eye.

Vacant Harry

The Beaver's legendary Harry has sadly chosen to step down from his pedestal. Anyone interested in wearing the crown should contact Suhul or Hassan - come to the Beaver meetings on Mondays at 6 pm or leave a message in E205.

Mancunians quartered

AU Table Tennis.
Men's quarter-final
LSE.....10
Manchester.....4
Women's first round
LSE.....4
Kent.....6

The LSE Men's table tennis team kept up their recent run of form by removing the last obstacle to the semifinal, Manchester University, in last Wednesday's match. It turned out to be a repeat of last year's semifinal, with a similar outcome. The table arrangement and the early departure of a home team player distorted the usual order of play and slightly affected our performance (original excuse - Ed).

Despite the confusion, the squad got off to a good start by clinching the first three matches. Both L. Domingo and T. Bissels failed to counter the speed of the same opponent but the LSE were still able to lead by 6 to 2 after the first two rubbers. B. Hernandez strived hard to overcome his rival's semi-defensive style in the third rubber but failed, while H. Chan saved two match points in the

final set to upset Manchester's best man in a fast attacking contest. Hernandez then snatched another point to ensure our victory. When Domingo was about to wrap up the last singles the aerobics club stormed in to occupy the gym, thus forcing the end of the match. Anyhow, the final score was 10-4, securing the LSE a place in the final for the second year running.

On the same day, the women's team played their first round match in Kent, but were comparatively less fortunate as they lost 4-6. Some fine performances were witnessed nevertheless, as K. Kottasz won all her singles matches. Our doubles pair of Kottasz and I. Fung nearly beat the experienced Kent duo in a breathtaking doubles match which finished 19-21 and 20-22. Despite the loss of the match the women still managed to gain a place in the quarter final which will be held next week. Their aim, eventually, is to join the men in the Championship Final Weekend in Birmingham this month.



LSE 1st XI football in action last Saturday
photo: Alex McDowell

Serving success

Tennis Championships
Women.....5-0
1. Kelly Cole 5-7, 7-5, 6-2
2. Christian Schmidt 6-1, 6-2
3. Zoe Taylor 6-3, 6-1
4. Nancy Rooney 6-3, 6-4
Doubles: C. Schmidt and Z. Taylor 6-3, 6-4.

Last Wednesday, the LSE team took the familiar underground route to Wimbledon Park in the second match of the semifinal round, this time against Bristol. Once again the weather did the teams no favours as this traditionally summer game was played in freezing conditions. Christine stormed through her match. Zoe followed suit, taking little time in dispatching her opponent - once she found her rhythm on her serve. Similarly, Nancy made a slow start but then recovered her form to win convincingly. At 3-0 in the singles it was up to Kelly to make it a complete victory. Despite a gruesome and extremely bloody dog fight that stopped play for 10 minutes, she managed to keep her concentration and win a tough match. Due to the length of Kelly's match only one doubles rubber was played. It wasn't won as quickly as it could have been - we could tell since by 3 pm our fingers were freezing and more than a few balls were thus mis-directed.

It was a very enjoyable match, dog fights aside, against a friendly team.

The men's team were supposed to play Exeter, but the match was rescheduled to February 13.

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