

# THE BEAVER

THE STUDENTS' UNION NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS  
6TH DECEMBER, 1993      ISSUE 390



**The Director Drops  
Off For Rag**



**LSESU Budget Special:  
It's Ratified!**

**Jack, Budget,  
SWSS Demo, PC  
& HW, The  
'Unofficial' Budget,  
Pollticking,  
Letters,  
2 Page's of  
Features, World  
Cup '94 Special,  
Album Review of  
1993, Club  
Noise & Harry**

# TOO MUCH TOO YOUNG

**THE SPECIALS**



# Union Jack

Jack. Somewhere in Houghton Street.

Jack's heart was palpitating, his back was clammy with sweat, he could detect a looseness about his bowels. Would he be the next victim of intra-socialist violence? The omens were not good. Obviously the Students' Union was expecting trouble, each door was guarded by uniformed heavies and strange men in suits and short haircuts patrolled the interior of the theatre.

Still, nothing ventured, nothing gained (as Jack's uncle, before he died in a bizarre parachuting-without-a-parachute accident, used to say). So Jack, still looking for that elusive scoop that would get him a job on the Sunday Sport, muscled his way past the security and entered the cavernous chamber.

He beheld the vast panorama of battle. Arrayed on his left, the left. On his right the right and in the centre those who couldn't make up their minds. Eschewing his personal safety Jack made his way to the left. He chose a seat within feet of Gregor Claude, calculating that those precious few feet would give him a vital couple of seconds to get clear should the worst happen.

Realising that he had a few minutes to 'kill' Jack glanced at his John Pilger biography and mulled over the strange background to this conflict. He recalled the violence, the secret meetings and the hatred. God; why did it have to be this way? Anyway, stilling his emotions, Jack returned to the business of calm, objective journalism. He waited for the storm to break.

And what happened? Nothing. After all the preparation, all the money spent on flak jackets, all the lessons in not getting emotionally involved and all the interminable 'Harry' episodes. Absolutely bugger all. And there was Jack thinking that this reporting lark was supposed to be all death-defying 'Cook report' and 'That's Life' investigation.

The only action we were treated to was Gregor Claude waving a small poster of Dennis Russell and Simon Reid verbally flagellating certain greasy balcony boys. In the meantime we passed the entire budget almost without alteration. Lola's masterly [sic] handling of her business in marked contrast to her predecessor's mighty cock-up. Her professionalism ensuring that the only part of the budget altered was the societies section. Well done to the Japanese and Canadian societies, commiserations to the Friends of Gay Cuba.

Prompted by a faithful flunky, it strikes Jack that he ought to describe the Simon Reid incident in more depth. Basically this geezer took it upon himself to bring in approximately 500 copies of some glossy magazine to chuck at Simon and Co. Not surprisingly Simon took exception to this and asked the offender to hand over the magazines. After some minutes (during which Jack began to wonder whether the balconoid was, in fact, alive) the offending articles were surrendered to one of the aforementioned heavies. Not content with this Simon felt a further need to assert his manhood: he picked on the same individual later in the meeting, this time humiliating him irreparably by reference to his myopia and general idiocy.

## ALL NEW SERIES

Kate Hampton's TOPTIPS for a more successful political career. Tip no. 1: Hang around the Beaver office when the news pages are being prepared. This will ensure you favourable publicity.

Tip no. 2: Deny at every opportunity that you are standing for sabbatical office. This will ensure that everyone knows that you are.

Tip no. 3: Be 'deeply caring'. This will ensure that everyone knows that you are not a Tory.

STOP PRESS. Winners of the pushy fresher of the term. Yuan Potts (lib dem/friend of Kate Hampton), Nick Teardon (lab/SWSS-ish) and Paul Birrell (Tory Bastard).

# SWSS March Meets Some Trouble In Strand

## Beaver Staff

On Wednesday, December 1st, SWSS took it upon itself to rally and march on Parliament. It was the decrease in Student Grants proposed in the Budget that had apparently riled them. The march left Houghton Street at 1pm with a crowd of about thirty. This was preceded by the po-

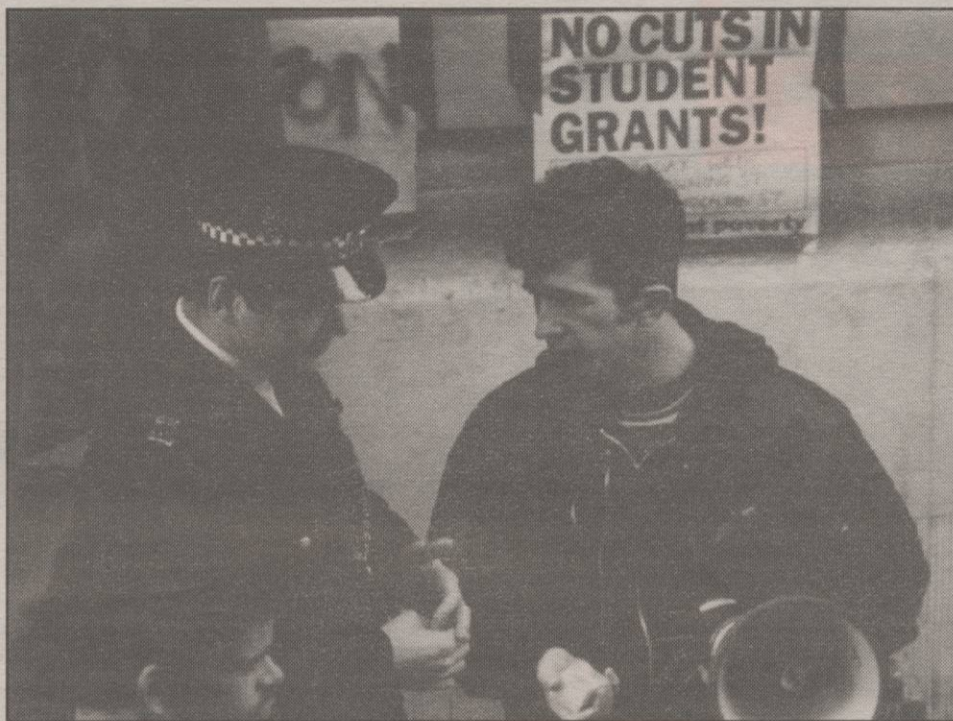
lice warning them about using their loudspeaker. A good start.

The march then proceeded towards Whitehall. Half way along the Strand the police warned them not to continue any further. This warning was consequently ignored. This proved to be a very bad idea because, sources reveal, just past the Red Lion bar, six police vans,

with grills over their windows, surrounded the protesters, hemming them in. The SWSS stalwarts remained relatively calm, but it has come to the attention of the Beaver that certain members on the periphery of the demo were slightly less reserved.

The Beaver's source revealed that Nick Dearden, self styled

rebel, when surrounded by police, allegedly broke down and pleaded with officers for his "release". The march was, however, dispersed shortly afterwards; the police releasing the protesters two at a time. The Beaver wonders if this is due to the valiant efforts of Mr. Dearden, or to some other amazing force of nature.



A member of SWSS being questioned by an Officer of the law. The Beaver is uncertain as to the exact nature of the conversation, but no action was taken on this occasion.

Photo: Pam Keenan

## Thank You

The Beaver News Editors, Phil Gomm and Steve Roy, would like to thank all those who have written for this section this term. Anybody interested in writing for News next term should come to the Beaver Office either this week or at the start of next term.

## Government Spells Out Future for Student Unions

### Wayne Rogers

Last week the government released the final form of its education bill aimed at reforming education in England and Wales. This has been the topic of many a discussion over the last few months and the section referring to student unions and their general conduct was of particular interest to students at the LSE.

The LSE union already fulfils most of the requirements by choice. This bill does not contain any measures that will have a noticeable effect on student lives; it is aimed towards the running of the union and making them accountable as to how they are spending the taxpayers money. Section 21(h) states that "the procedure for allocating resources to groups or clubs should be fair, set down in writing and freely accessible to all students." The union does not currently fulfil this provision and is against having to justify their spending of our money on soci-

eties such as the Friends of Gay Cuba. Under the governments proposals societies will be allocated money according to the number of members or a similar such system.

This bill is the forerunner to a second bill which should propose more substantial changes. At the executive meeting last Wednesday the government's other measures involving student grants took precedence due to the news that grants are to be cut by 10%. The majority took the viewpoint that this would affect the poorer students reliant on the grant. In actual fact the total of grant and loan is to increase by 4% next year which is nearly three times the current rate of inflation.

An emergency general meeting has been proposed for Monday the 6th at 3pm in the Old Theatre. Members of SWSS proposed an occupation of the LSE and the writing of a letter to all parents by the end of the week in protest at an estimated cost of over £1000.

## John Tackles Immigration

### Chris Hutchfield

The Schapiro club lecture on immigration in the new Europe saw a clash of attitudes - optimistic action versus pessimistic inevitability. Barbara John, Berlin commissioner for foreigners, explained the near impossible task in controlling immigration into Germany since for every one illegal refugee caught, an estimated six went free. Simply, migration pays; an immigrant construction worker earns ten times more in Germany than in Albania.

However she rejected the idea that Western Europe will become a 'Continent of Immigrants' since immigrants must fight for jobs with 18 million unemployed Westerners and that the unskilled jobs they traditionally performed have moved to Poland. Another idea dismissed, was that free trade would 'stem the tide' because protectionist Berlin persists in subsidizes to each German miner to the tune of DM85,000. She concluded that Germany would deal

better with immigration than Britain because its population had more easily come to terms with modern realities and as Germany prospers the far right will subside.

Brian Barry, professor of political science played the kill-joy. He considered it was a mistake for Britain to have allowed in foreigners, and believed Britons and Germans were still 'tribal'. He even 'empathized' with residents of the Isle of Dogs who feared being 'swamped'. Socioeconomic forces, he said, had not integrated immigrants into Britain and so he was sceptical they would in Germany. The solution he proposed came little short of arguing for segregation. Such thinking was quickly shot down by the argument that people will always discriminate, whether racially, sexually or physically and so to exaggerate one difference merely exacerbates it.

The debate would have been better attended if LSE had not double booked it with Gavyn Davies speaking in the Old Theatre.



# Lola Cuts Spending, But Not For Herself

## Sabbaticals To Get Payrise Above Rate Of Inflation

Paul Birrell

At last Thursday's UGM, the LSESU Budget was proposed by the Finance and Services Sabbatical, Lola Elerian. After a rather dry meeting, her budget was passed, the only interest coming from the amendments to the Societies section. However, this budget was not as innocuous as it may have seemed.

A decrease in the block grant of 2.85% has motivated Miss Elerian to cut spending as much as possible in line with this loss in funding, but still she is accounting for a deficit of £20,000. Investment income has also declined by 24.28%, exacerbating the situation.

Despite this, though, sabbatical pay has risen by 4.38%. The argument given is that this pay-rise reflects the inflation rate, and despite the increase, does not include living cost rises. However, it is not implausible that at the London School of Economics, a Finance committee should be able to find out the actual inflation rate, which happens to be under half of this pay-rise.

Only a few weeks ago, complaints were levied at MPs when they voted themselves a pay rise above the level of other Public Sector employees. It seems incongruous that with a budget deficit, a decline in income, and a reduction in student grants, those elected to represent us, namely the sabbatical officers of the LSESU, decide to vote

themselves a pay rise above not only the rate of inflation, but above the level of the MP's rise. Perhaps it would have been better if they took no rise at all, and used the £2,305 which would be saved for students. Bernardo Duggan, ex-Assistant Returning Officer, was outraged "The 4.38% increase which the Sabbaticals have awarded themselves in their pay is hardly in line with inflation, let alone deserved."

It is amusing to note that their pay rise is only £102 more than the reduction in the Beaver's budget. This budget cut was justified on the basis that advertising revenue in the Beaver has increased, partly due to the efforts of Miss Elerian. Considering that the adverts given to the Beaver were from NatWest and STA, this second claim seems rather weak. Both companies were extremely likely to have advertised with the Beaver anyhow, so even if she did stitch up the deal, any added income from this deal was minimal.

On the rest of the budget, the budget was frozen by the SU. This is unfortunate considering the likely increase in need for this fund, and especially the £15,600 decrease to the fund from the School, representing their contribution. Thankfully, Miss Elerian, after compiling a report on student poverty, is challenging this on Tuesday, in order to reinstate this money this year and next. As the fund was fully



Erik Mielke, member of the LSE Conservative Students, speaking in last week's UGM.

Photo: Pam Keenan

subscribed last year, it is likely that the money will be sorely needed this year.

Good news came in the shape of both an 83.78% increase in income in the Entertainments, and the Alternative Prospective making a profit for the first time since 1990. Such added income helps to reduce the deficit, so well done to all those who worked on them.

In Welfare, the Women's Right To Choose fund has had an increase in its budget of 21.27%, whereas the Playgroup and the Nursery Subsidy

suffered a decrease of 13.27% and 2.86% respectively, the latter because of a linking scheme with the budget, and the decrease in the block grant. Apart from these areas there are several cost-cutting exercises, including a reduction in equipment, repairs, etc. and the telephone bill, now itemised, in an attempt to minimise the deficit.

Perhaps the only truly interesting part of the budget, however, was the Societies section. To start with the ANL has had its budget application re-

fused, being granted only £10.20 to cover expenses this term, after a decision that it was a political society. The society which most people leapt on was the 'Friends of Gay Cuba', who had been granted £165 originally. A motion was proposed to remove this money and grant it to the Canadian Society. After a speech by Eric Steeves, it was passed, although it is likely that this was more because of the rather obscure nature of the 'Friends of Gay Cuba', than for any real support of the Canadian Society.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Society was granted £600 for its 23 members, for which the Finance committee was accused of being overly generous. Lola explained why this was: "This society represents far more people than its membership suggests, and does a lot of good for the LSE community". £50 of this was taken away in a motion supporting the Japanese society, which claimed that it could not operate on its allocated budget, and which removed a further £50 each from both the Music Society and the Women's Group.

A new society, the Men's Society managed to gain £260 from the

budget, as it was decided that its allocation should be exactly in line with Women's Group money, proportional to membership. This was decided despite a motion by a SWSS member and Nick Dearden, which was defeated at the UGM.

The only other point of any real note is that societies will from now on be given their money every term, and money which is not used will be now be taken back and put into a pool. This is meant to encourage societies to be more active in the LSE; money saved in the pool will be reallocated to societies later in the Year. It is possible though that as the term ends you can expect an end of term binge by all of the societies who have not used their allocation yet, although Lola hopes that societies will be more sensible than that.

Simon Reid would like to offer his thanks to the students, all of those who stewarded the event, and particularly Teshar, for all of the hard work which she put in, to allow the UGM to happen in the light of last week's events, where after repeated interruption the Chair was reluctantly forced to close the UGM forty five minutes before the scheduled conclusion.

## Budget Breezes Through

Toby Childs

The ritual of ratifying the budget was unusually quick, peaceful and well ordered. The sole disruption was caused by a supporter of a banned revolutionary (c/f Dennis Russell).

In this tame atmosphere the Finance and Services Officer had the budget approved, save a couple of amendments. The above-inflation increase in Sabbaticals salaries was explained away by an esoteric statistically based nicety. The absence of a South African scholarship was

seized upon by the Conservative bloc to undertake an attack on the NUS. An amendment tabled by Hugh O'Leary called for the £9875 to be spent more constructively than on an institution which he regarded as inept, incompetent, and having never achieved a success. Lola countered this criticism by pointing out that there was no South African scholar this year so the money was not needed, and also that the NUS was the sole national the student body had, and that this would be of greater importance in the face of fresh cuts.

The amendment was defeated.

The Beaver editor, Ron Voce, opposed the transfer of funds from Searchlight to his paper. James Atkinson argued that the paper encouraged violence, especially by its assertion that it was in fact the Police who started the ANL rioting in October. This was widely supported but the amendment narrowly lost.

The perennial GCSE debate on the equality or inequality of the races was argued by persons still having an interest in this subject. The Women's

Group was defeated in their effort to take money from the Men's Society, described by them as a beer drinking establishment.

The obscure "Friends of Gay Cuba" came under scrutiny, and the Canadian Society made a successful attempt to encroach upon their field as over-funded, and undeservedly privileged given the nebulousity of its goal. In defence, the "contacts" in the island who suffer to some degree failed to attract any sympathy and the amendment was resoundingly passed



# HIV - Ignorance Is Not Bliss

(Or, Condoms, Condoms, Condoms, Condoms)

## Beaver Staff

Last Wednesday was AIDS awareness day. How aware are you?

The summer I left school I did some voluntary work in a youth centre, where the idea of peer education was being investigated and tried out. This involved several of us learning about issues we felt important and trying to reach as many other young people as possible. It all sounds a bit patronising on paper but in fact was interesting and fun. I made a lot of friends over that summer, and as I learned mostly about HIV, some of the people I met were HIV positive. One friend, who taught me a great deal about the issues involved in HIV and AIDS, has since died. He was bisexual and he had unprotected sex with a man before he knew the dangers of the HIV virus. He tested HIV positive in 1987 and he discovered that he had developed

AIDS in 1991; fifteen months later he died of pneumonia and related problems. His death was a shock - some of the people who did not know that he was HIV positive did not and still do not accept that he had AIDS.

It is sad that for many people it takes this kind of shock to wake them up to the problems around them. I was aware of HIV, the statistics and how it is contracted. I became involved in the youth centre work to try and increase more peoples awareness of HIV - yet when it came down to it I was not able to deal with my friend's death. One random statistic states that by the year 2000 everyone will know someone who is HIV positive. Yet many of us at some time have exposed ourselves to the risk of catching the HIV virus. Why?

Is it because of stereotyping? Do we still believe that only gay men and people who inject

drugs are at risk? It is true that there are more gay men that have tested HIV positive than any other 'group'. Of 20,000 registered HIV positive people in this country around 3,000 are heterosexual non drug users, and the rest are homosexual. This does not mean that we are not at risk and I think that more and more people are aware of this but for some reason have become complacent with their lives. One girl I know was offended that a boy she was contemplating sex with was carrying condoms. I think she should have been grateful that he was offering to protect her from the risk of the HIV virus. Over the past years there has been quite a lot of publicity about HIV and AIDS. Obviously not enough if people are still embarrassed by the mention of condoms, or feel it is a comment on their promiscuity - in fact it is (un)common sense.

Excellent work is being done to bring HIV and AIDS into the public eye and to make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the facts and the dangers. Over the past few years there has been some protected funding from the government to deal specifically with HIV related issues. However this 'safe money' comes to an end next year and there is a doubt that health authorities will continue to allocate adequate funding. Existing clinics and centres provide information on HIV, deal with prevention issues as well as give support and counselling services in the community. If funding is removed from these invaluable services, people will continue to be ignorant of the HIV virus problem and will continue to think that it does not affect them.



Ouch that huuuurts! Someone having problems pinning on their red ribbon.

Photo: Steve East

## Is PC Topping Itself?

### Halima Begum

Political correctness (PC) - the language of the 90s - hangs over us like a wet cloud. Once upon a time PC ("celebrating difference") seemed a noble ideal. Suddenly the academia and the masses had crawled out of their shells and seen the light: Baa Baa Black Sheep was to be substituted for Baa Baa Multicultural Sheep. In spite of being quite a mouthful the nation was willing to sing along this new ditty.

Then the whole thing fell flat on its face. Sadly PC is used today as a punch bag for the Left and the Right. Which leads us to the big question - just who the hell is supposed to be championing PC?

The answer is loud and clear from across the Atlantic. "Everyone is goddam PC!" No matter which way you turn, you can't escape the trials and tribulations of the "right-on, sister" approach. Hoping to find a few answers more close to home, I trudged along to the Living Marxism Conference, headlined "The Perils of Political Correctness", with fingers crossed that I managed to escape being aligned to a revolu-

tionary movement of some sort.

You may be forgiven for suspecting PC to be a fringe affair. Experts think otherwise. Apparently PC is to be found lurking in the higher realms of the Met Police force, the classroom, and the cherished homes of the middle classes.

Have you noticed the upsurge in victim support groups in recent times? The utterance of the word "victim" is enough to result in a crowd of professional busybodies intruding in your personal life. What is wrong with professional advice, you may wonder. Nothing - except that there seems to be a lot of it about nowadays.

Fail your exams and don't worry, they chorus. "Exams are not the only important things in your life". Then everyone's favourite DJ tries to cheer you up. "Bad exam results? Hey, no sweat, it's cool to flunk - all together now, Boom boom, Boom, Shake da room". Or if your sex life hasn't seen a good day in months, you needn't worry either. "Don't worry, boring sex really is fun!" ("By the way," she adds, "mine is boring too.")

Try the ultimate

brain-teaser - the growing number of parents needing advice on how to bring up children. Honestly, you'd think they were talking about rearing cattle or something. Makes you wonder how human beings ever coped before the arrival of sex education and the good 'parenting' guide. From the increasing number of victim-support centres, are we to assume that the human race is on the verge of a collective nervous breakdown?

It is small wonder that British Telecom make a profit of £x thousand a second, or that the word "shrink" no longer carries a tag of ridicule. The bottom line is that the PC celebration of "victim status" encourages low expectations of members of society. The PC celebration of identity means emphasising who you are, rather than what you could be. If you're a black woman, be proud of your identity. But what does it mean to be proud of being "black", any more than it does to be proud of being "white".

If you prefer your PC education with some more drama, try David Mammet's "Oleanna", at the Duke of York's Theatre in St. Martin's Lane.

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# Whippe's Message to the Apologists

David Whippe

Anyone reading my previous articles may have noticed a certain predilection on my behalf for the words "sad" and "pathetic" when used in reference to people. This week, I have found several especially worthy recipients of this description.

Without naming names (you know who you are), the people who have most sullied my normally temperate mood are those small-minded outcasts from society who have nothing better to do with their lives than pressure Raj Jethwa into request-

ing an apology from the Beaver over my article on the Passfield elections. The main sticking point seemed to concern the "Black and Bollocks" quote attributed to him which was in fact made up by myself. The hole in this argument however appears when it is discovered that the use of that quote was allowed by Raj due to it being a joke. "Nay!" I hear you all cry in unison, "How could it have been a joke when the rest of the article was in such an obviously serious vein?" Pretty shocking revelations I think

you'll agree. The flaw in my reasoning though is all too apparent when you consider my foolish assumption that most people here would possess that seemingly all-too-elusive asset of human nature, a sense of humour. It has indeed shattered my previous faith in mankind to discover that in the real world people were actually stupid enough to believe that Raj said that.

Furthermore, the attempt by some to reduce something like this to a sexist and racial issue has revealed in them a seriously counter-productive

line of thought which will inevitably serve only to hinder them for the rest of their lives from actually positively addressing these significantly important subjects.

Therefore, those who misunderstood and took offence at my article are obviously extremely anally retentive and should get a life. I can only presume that all the fuss occurred because there was maybe a hint of truth in my various allegations, and the article hit a little too close to home. Good lord, wouldn't that be a stunner?

# How Lola Spent Her Budget

In order to clear up any confusion over Lola's budget, your favourite organ brings you that all-important breakdown of how Ms Elerian intends to dispense with Union's money for the coming year:

1. 15% was allocated to the 'Friends of Gay Cuba' so they could follow Gloria Estefan's World Tour.

2. 23% went to The Beaver for their annual Christmas party in the Underground, on Wednesday starting at 7.30pm

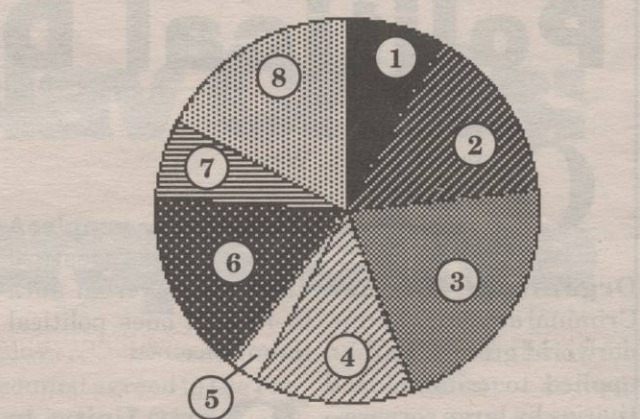
3. 34% was poured into the Sabbaticals' pay rise.

4. 20% went to A.C. Mutley's Barmy Army in accordance with the conditions laid down by the Treaty of Versailles.

5. 6% was spent on a new bottle of Grecian 2000 for Alan Sked because he appears to have run out.

6. 31% went into Jim Fagan's back pocket... ahem, on revitalizing the Juke Box.

7. 10% was again allocated to the Women's Group despite a lack of advancement on the album front. We're still waiting for the hit single, girls....how about a duet on Political Correctness



with Mr Blobby?

8.28% was used to "pay-off" Dennis Russell.

9. Nothing was spent on the rest of the Union. Be fair, Leo, Lola, Tesh and Justin deserved that 4.8% pay rise. They do a

great job, pal.

There you have it. Fags have gone up 11p, beer's stayed the same and Supermarket Sweep is still with us. Next week we'll be telling you how Mr. Stupid spends his grant. Who says we're not value for money.

# The Greatest Story Ever Told?

Rob Hick

Imagine my delight when here at Beaver Central we received a copy of a new book "Behold The Front Page!" in the post. After thirteen years of Roman Catholic education (brainwashing?), anything that takes the piss out of Christianity's fave tome "The Bible" is not only condoned but actively encouraged by an atheist like myself.

Robert Moore, Jamie Buckley and Nick Newman will be hoping there isn't a God, else they are sure to be tortured in purgatory once they die. But it'll be worth it, because this is the funniest book that I have read in years, and I am sure there are many other heathens

who will agree.

The book is a selection of stories from the Bible, written in tabloid journalism style. Testaments Old and New are parodied, with accompanying little bits such as "The Bible says...", a self-test questionnaire, TV pages, cartoons, Page 3 Girls (fully clothed, I might add, before any rampant Andrea Dworkin types out there try to lynch the authors) and all the other trimmings of a "family newspaper".

At only £5.99 this is great Christmas prezzie material, and I'd advise you to buy it. Also, for any God Squad members who may take exception to either the book or this article, I've got one word for you... "Lions".

Would the three people who entered the Newman and Baddiel competition come to the Beaver office for your prize

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**BADDIEL**

# Busy Beaver

1. The Man With The Child Mr. Stupid In His Eyes
2. Gimme, Gimme, Gimme (a man after midnight) Kate Hampton
3. Night Swimming JB & Mutt. LE
4. Dancing Queen Sean Gollogly
5. One Inch Rock M.Lewis
6. Sheriff Fatman/ In Bluer Pies James Atkinson
7. We've Gotta Get Out Of This Place Ron & Neil
8. My Camera Never Lies Peter Harris
9. Maggie May Jimmy Trees
10. Policy Of Truth BB

BB would like to clear up any confusion that may exist over the identity of Mr Stupid. Martin Lewis may think he is Mr Stupid and sleep with under age girls, but we were not referring to him.

# Photo Story

## Before.....



## During.....



## After.....



# The End ( We Hope! )



## POLITICKING...

In the run up to the local and European government elections of next year, it is interesting to look at who the Tories consider to be their real opposition. The Liberals have been the subject of attacks in local by-elections, and POLITICKING notes an interesting case in point. Gloucestershire County Council was one of many who had their Conservative numbers obliterated in May. The council has 30 Liberals, 20 Labour and 10 Tories; and rather than risk the Liberals running (sic) the council the Tories have voted to install a Labour Chair and vice-Chair. Nothing like principled opposition.

The Northern region of the Labour Party is not happy, and POLITICKING hears that a split from the Labour Party is about to become a real possibility. The reason for the discontent is the money saving proposal to merge them with the Yorkshire party, something which the Northern region consider to be a modernisation too far. They are to hold a ballot of their 30000 members to decide whether to form a Northern Party as separate from the Labour Party. The interesting conflict here is between the leader of the Northern group of M.P.s, Nick Brown who is a leadership loyalist and the party rank and file. No doubt his ample frame is working out face-saving compromises as we speak.

The Conservatives have their own method of saving money, by inviting the businessmen who used to contribute to party funds to dinners with John Major in an attempt to find some way of wiping out their £19 million debts. So far they have not been entirely successful, and they have decided to bring out the mad woman Thatcher to entertain the hordes of people who have had their companies ruined by the government. POLITICKING feels there is something quite sick about a load of bitter failures paying to listen to a mad, bitter failure.

In the recent Spectator sponsored Parliamentarian of the Year awards, the winner of the Member To Watch was Nicholas Soames M.P. for Crawley, the appropriately proportioned Minister for Food. He was described at the awards ceremony as "effective and popular". Having a similar tone on most issues to former minister Alan Clark, one would expect him to be popular with the diarist extra-ordinaire. However,

Mr. Soames' alleged choice of in-car stereo listening will not endear him to the vegetarian pro-animal rights Clark. Rather than the speeches of Thatcher, he prefers to listen to the sounds of the hunt on specially recorded cassettes.

College POLITICKING. The budget proposals concerning student grants led to a march to Downing Street last Wednesday. Unfortunately those upholders of law and order decided that they were not to pass, and the police encircled the group, letting them leave in pairs. One of the marchers was Nick Dearden, recently revealed as the "self-styled leader" of the Labour rebels. Obviously a force to be reckoned with, POLITICKING hears that he was perturbed to be faced with hordes of police and asked politely to be allowed to leave. Obviously a potential leader, come the revolution.

## Our Person In Westminster

Frank Rogers Owen

Coming from the right side of the "House", perhaps I might say the "correct" side, I am under no obligation to speak with either honesty or clarity. Were I a Member of Parliament from the governing party I would of course be forced to speak with dishonesty and hazy ambiguity. Since I am neither from the governing party nor an elected M.P. it follows that I may when it suits me speak truthfully (if occasionally libellously).

I (Frank) am the dispassionate eyes and ears of the L.S.E. in the corridors of power. In weeks to come I will bring you insight and information. I

will avoid analysis because of the bias that can't help but get mixed in with it, and also because the more scholarly among you will attempt and no doubt succeed in picking holes in it.

Politics is about the harnessing of the mind to the dictates of the heart. Life in "Westminster" is more to do with personalities and intrigues than it is to do with brilliant and original thought. If you disagree with this you are either a conviction politician who does not recognise the division between the heart and the head, or fated to failure in political life.

Being without loyalties, except to the L.S.E., and without interests, except

my interest in telling the truth, you will come to read this column and as you do so experience for yourself the tobacco smoke, body odour and hunched shoulders of the committee room. The craft of politics will I hope impress itself upon you. Perhaps the British system, without a constitution and apparently obsessed by history, is more than in other countries different under the surface to how it appears. Addicts of "Westminster Live" will already know how it is possible to smile and smile and be a villain.

Happy Christmas, a time when politicians can take a break from their excessive eating, drinking and sloth.

Happy  
Christmas  
and a  
Happy  
New Year  
from  
Kate & Jean  
in the  
LSEU Shop  
and all  
the Staff.  
Thanks  
for your  
support

## Political Dictionary

**O**ppression-  
Elsewhere

**Organised Crime:** Criminal activities by underworld groups. Rarely applied to criminal activities by large corporations or the Government.

**Our Allies:** By definition these are countries worth defending.

**Our Argument was not with the people:** We may have killed a lot of them, but that was not the point. According to Pentagon estimates, 200,000 Iraqi people were killed during the Gulf

War.

**Owe it to the people:** A Magnanimous gesture and selfless verbal aura to festoon ones political intentions.

**Party Unity:** In other words, shut up and follow party policy

**Peace:** Every politicians claim to want it; many politicians make it impossible.

**Preserve the Peace:** A happy face sticker for a nuclear arsenal.

**Peaceful Atom:** A laudatory term for a nu-

clear power plant as a technology of benign iniquity, whilst worthy topics as the ever present risks of catastrophic reactor accidents and the certainty of nuclear waste that will remain deadly for thousands of years.

**Pet Projects:** Projects that you strongly oppose and some other politicians support.

**Pollsters:** In public, pretend to be unconcerned with the findings of "pollsters".

**Power Brokers:** Sometimes reviled, but much

more often consulted.

**Pragmatic:** Making a virtue out of a necessity.

**Pressure Group:** A group that exerts inappropriate pressure.

**Protectionism:** Sounds bad- So if you're in favour of initiating trade wars and putting up lots of trade barriers then insist that what you're talking about is not protectionism but, fair play.

**Put Aside Our Differences:** Defer to expediency.

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# Feminism - An Excuse For Male Violence?

Lesley Wood

"Some guy has just shot fourteen women at the University of Montreal!"

I remember the moment with shocking clarity. December 6, 1989. For many Canadian university women that moment was our generation's equivalent to Kennedy being shot. It was the moment when everything changed. Four years later I can no longer name the victims, but the story has become part of my skin the way

I see the world. The gunman entered the final year engineering classroom and separated, the men from the women. He proceeded to shoot the women calling them feminists. After he shot himself the note he left explained his chilling vision. He blamed women for his lack of success.

I remember everything happening so quickly. The phone rang, the horror of the news and the call "Turn on the TV!" Women were gathering, I was

told. Staying together to tell and retell the information. To plan a memorial service, a demonstration of the rage and fear we felt. It could have been us. WE had been the ones causing "trouble" on the campus, staging demonstrations about the indifferent attitude of the administration to women's issues, protesting degrading rituals and traditions. It could have been us. In the first few minutes of knowing we felt that fact most sharply. The media told us of a mad-

man. An abused and psychotic individual whose actions were unconnected to the larger society. Many women responded to the coverage angrily. There was a connection in this madness, the madness had chosen a victim that made sense in our society and the victim was Woman.

Women who were active in university women's groups of the time, were aware of the extreme nature of the reactions to feminism. Harassing telephone calls, being stalked and

receiving abusive mail; these could be part of the daily life of a labelled campus feminist.

The following year, classes were cancelled on December 6th. Another memorial service was held. Across Canada, people wore white ribbons to raise awareness about violence against women. The following year the services were smaller and away from the university people asked what the white ribbon meant. Now four years later many people will

have forgotten the massacre in Montreal. That may not be a bad thing. The time for grieving may be over. But violence against women and children still exists. Thus the reason for action remain. Use your anger and love to support the causes that work to end violence and hatred towards women.

Support your local women's shelter. On December 6th I ask that we remember the 14 engineering students who were killed because they were women.

## The Yugoslav Crisis: Another Perspective

Evangelos Katsikis

In the west the situation in former Yugoslavia has raised serious questions on how much civilisation has progressed. Is the society of the 90s as violent and ruthless as was 200 years ago? The answer is simple. The society is as violent as we are. We make it up. When this question is raised in relation to former Yugoslavia the people in almost all parts of the world tend to take a simplistic view, depending on their background and their national interests. My effort is to put into the game an alternative view of the reasons for the outbreak of the war in an attempt to broaden our understanding of this tortured area, the Balkans. The view I am about to analyse has been put forward by the American secretary of state, Mr Warren Christopher. Of course it is not his idea and was expressed a lot earlier by many others. However his acceptance of the possibility that this

theory might explain what is happening is important. According to this theory the war in the former Yugoslavia was the result of mistaken and short sighted foreign policy by the EC and the US. In fact the war was the result of the premature recognitions, as independent, of Slovakia and Croatia. This was almost imposed on the rest of the EC council by the German foreign affairs minister Hans Dietrich Genscher when he gave an ultimatum to the council that either the EC would

collectively recognise the above states or Germany would so unilaterally. The Council was at the time trying to form a common foreign policy and it would have been a serious blow to that attempt if there was a rift on the Yugo-

slav issue. So the council agreed to the recognition of Croatia and Slovakia. The same policy was continued when the Croat-Muslim government of Bosnia decided to declare independence as well. Only this time the Serbs, who were not represented in the government, were terrified in the prospect of an independent state in which they would be a small minority and with the war being fierce in their borders, they would be potential victims of retaliatory actions by the government on which they had no control. In fact the German

stand gave them the political backing to refuse to make compromises. The unexpected thing in the diplomats plans was the fact that the Serbs came to be winning the war and the situation in Bosnia came out of any control.

I am sure that this view must sound strange to ears that have got used to hearing how bad the Serbs, and recently the Croats, are. But we must not forget that this war is a civil war and always the civil wars are the most cruel and fierce of all wars. We should not view the respective parties as saints or devils but we should keep an open ear to what each one is saying. Only in this way will the West be able to promote the understanding between the parties. This is the only way to bring peace. The temporary ending of the war is not enough. To secure permanent peace the people in the area must learn to live together, being free and respectful of the respective human rights.

I hope that this view will promote the understanding of the reasons for the crisis and therefore the ending of the war. Its about time that this disgrace in the European Unions' door came to an end.

**"Civil wars are the most fierce and cruel of all wars"**

**Emergency  
General  
Meeting  
on  
Cuts in  
Grants &  
The  
Education  
Bill  
Monday 6th  
December  
3.00pm  
Old Theatre**



# The Beaver

Well I bet you never thought you'd make it through to the last week of the first term in one piece. After the tentative days of early October when you first appeared at the LSE, you've made it through to the tenth week. After week three, a financial hiccup occurred and you lost direction.

A collective decision later and you ended up with a new sense of direction a new sense of hope that you would make it. It was hard work - you relied on help from some old hands and some eager new freshers. Even some people who have been here for some time, but never thought about helping you, chipped in. You had a few knocks, but then you always have. You even had to make some apologies, but what's new.

One thing that is new is a new sense of purpose that you've got to improve, and improve you have. You've met the deadlines, you've learnt new skills and you have helped yourself to recover.

Yes I thank you for helping yourself. To all you members of the collective who have chipped in and written, stayed late and mucked in, thanks. Without you I couldn't do my job. Thank you too for all those who've contributed in whatever form. To all those that read our efforts, thank you as well.

Next term you will see a continued improvement. We don't get paid, we volunteer our time and we provide a service. Let's hope we survive 'til next year. A lot of people's time and effort are at stake.

In the words of Dave Allen, "May Your God go with you." See you in January.

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## Nick Says "No Splits in the Labour Club"

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to Paul Birrell's article 'No Split In Labour Club'. I would like to say, first, that I agree with entirely with his general argument - that there is no split in the Labour Club. Secondly, his reference to me as the 'self-styled leader' of the so-called 'Labour-rebels' is totally inaccurate. I am in full support of Francisca, who was only elected a few weeks ago (unopposed, I might add). It is hardly surprising that Francisca is unaware of a split, as it does not exist. The reason that I did not stand

for the executive, is because I have no desire for an official position in the club, at the present time. I believe that the elected team are carrying out a perfectly adequate job. There is equally no desire, to my knowledge, to reform the DSG, as was inferred in 'Politicking' two weeks ago. In the post-DSG era, I believe the democratic left is highly united. In my opinion, we most accurately reflect the views of the majority of LSE students, and we will, therefore, go forward to win.

**Nicholas Dearden  
Labour Club**

## London School Of Tequila Hit Back At LSESU

Dear Beaver,

Due to a number of people making false and unfounded allegations in regard to the Tequila Society, we feel that the students are entitled to the real facts.

The Tequila Society did not appear at the Fresher's Fair due to the simple fact that last year's organizers did not bother to set up.

An attempt was made to register the society with the Union with a membership list of 700 people, however Alice Kington (societies' registrar), reported that the Finance and Services Committee rejected the formation on the grounds that the School administration did not want any "Drink promoting societies". When this was put to Lola Elerian (Finance and Services sabbatical) she denied this claim, explaining that the union was reluctant to allow the formation of the Tequila Society as a full society, because of an outstanding debt of £300 incurred by last year's organisers. Is this a lack of communication or internal politics?

First, let it be known that it was the mismanagement of the union for not chasing up this debt.

Secondly, an application was made for an associate society, thus being entirely self-financed.

Thirdly, there is no written School policy in relation to alcohol pro-

motion; and since when has the LSE SU complied to all the wishes of the school?

Lastly, due to the state of the union premises ie. the Quad and the Underground, venues such as Café de Paris and Limelight, which rank among the best in London are being used, with professional security and appropriate door policy, not allowing premises to get dangerously overcrowded as the Tuns frequently is.

The fact is that LSE student's are sick of Deaville's attempts at entertaining them, and this is the reason why society events held outside the LSE are so successful.

In regards to the Tequila logos, they were designed by Nick Lambert and Simon Hewitt who have passed these as well as the original spirit of the society on to the current organisers.

The next Tequila party to be held at the world famous Limelight club has a bar subsidy in excess of £1000 as well as 3 DJs. All this in December for £5. Compare this to Deaville's Party in the Tuns, with no venue charge, no Tequila subsidy, no extension and definitely no atmosphere, all for £3! Is this value for students? Or a skiing trip for Deaville and Fagin.

The students will decide.

**London School of  
Tequila**

## Save The Whales, Someone Has To?

Dear Beaver,

I am writing in order to express my total and utter outrage at the reception given by the so called environmentalists to the Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland on 16 November. She is such a kind and sweet lady and in no way deserved the aggression shown towards her. I am of course referring to the four Greenpeace anti-whaling posters so blatantly and spitefully thrust under her eyes (two in Aldwych and two in the entrance to the main building).

What's wrong with whaling anyway, I ask you? It's actually a jolly good thing. Have these green boys and girls ever stopped to consider why the sea level is rising? I think not. Ozone depletion, global warming, ice caps melting - what a load of poppy cock. It's those pesky whales I tell you. Those whales are absolutely gigantic; a fully grown blue whale can weigh the same as five London buses. Since the ban on commercial whaling these whales have got totally out of control and have been breeding like there's no tomorrow. These whales are causing water displacement of such an alarming scale that it will eventually lead to the flooding of London. Then where will the L.S.E. be?

I say let's support the Norwegians and fight back. Let's get those whales. They're just use-

## The Suede Second Album Dilemma...

Dear Beaver,

I was very disappointed to read Dennis Lim's comments about Suede in last week's Beaver. He is obviously mindlessly jumping on the anti-Suede bandwagon. This is utterly predictable British cynicism, how sad that a band with lasting talent can only be recognised for what seems like five minutes. May I remind you that one member of the band, Matt Osman went to L.S.E, is this the right way to treat one of our more distinguished alumni?

**Matt Pennell**

less blobs of fat and jelly. In fact whales actually enjoy a massive harpoon ripping their brains out; despite the fact they are highly intelligent creatures. It's all a bit of fun for these whales, they love it. I mean, it brightens up their boring days of consuming plankton and singing silly whale songs to each other ('Harpoon in the head' by Rage Against the Machine is a favourite). Now there's a thought, why not have a harpoon on the front of every ship. Then we could skewer these whales and let them drag our boats around the world. After all it will save on fuel. That should keep the ENVIRONMENTALS happy.

Next time these environmentalists want to criticize something I suggest they try it first. How many of them have actually been whaling? None I bet. So zip it up and stop bothering people who really want to save the world. If anyone would like to do something really constructive and join a whaling holiday this Christmas (harpoons and bludgeons provided) contact the Norwegian Embassy. Even if you don't fancy trying your hand at whaling, get in touch with the Embassy and let them know exactly what you think of whaling. Believe me, they need all the encouragement they can get.

**Sacha Powles**

Letters to the Editor must arrive by 6.00pm of the Wednesday preceding publication. They can be posted in the new Beaver Post Boxes, E-mailed, or handed in to LSESU reception or the Beaver Office in E197.



## At The End Of the Day...TheHeadHunters Are After You

Dear Beaver,

I'm writing in response to Tom Greatrex's letter in the last issue. I feel that a few home truths need to be spelt out here. I can assure you that bare facts will be the order of the day here, as they were in my Club Noize:8 article. Tom seems worried that his letter will open a whole "new tedious set of correspondence" on the subject of football. Don't worry Tom, it doesn't bother me, at Chelsea. We're used to the tedious jealous ranklings of our little brothers down the road. Whilst it's nice to know that we are the yardstick that by which Fulham judge themselves, to us the clubs just like an annoying lit-

tle kid with an inferiority complex who needs a clip round the ear every so often. Judging by the massed ranks of travelling army (I think!) that they to Yeovil town (Ha! Ha!), this shouldn't be too difficult. In stark contrast to this, I'd like to quote Pat Nevin, looking back at his previous clubs in one of Tranmere's local papers recently; "...I played five years at Chelsea where the fanaticism of the followers would shame Islamic Fundamentalists".

You've got to laugh when Tom calls Chelsea refugees. For Starters the residents of Fulham ought to be grateful that Chelsea play there, thus bringing a bit of style, panache and glamour to

the area. Correct me if I'm wrong but Fulham have spent most of their history wandering around London looking for somewhere that will have them. Offhand I can remember eleven other grounds where Fulham have tried to set up home, many of these not being in Fulham at all, and half these were playing fields, but then it's a question of supply and demand isn't it. They should never have left Castlenau 'cos playing around the corner from the shit works would have been a much more suitable home for them! Fulham even used to call themselves "St Andrews", probably in the vain hope that Scotland might give them somewhere to live, but even the Jocks

wouldn't have them. Makes you wonder doesn't it. Oh, and weren't Fulham the club that came wandering cap in hand to Chelsea a while ago looking for somewhere to play. Try Shelter in a few year lads, 'cos you 'aint gonna get no more favours from us.

Just one more thing Tom, Fulham and Chelsea both play in SW^, not SW5, I'd better correct you on that [Actually James, my typings to blame-Ed.]

Whilst Glen Hoddle continues to weave his tapestry of football at Stamford Bridge, I'll sign off by asking.....

"WHAT DIVISION ARE FULHAM IN?"

Thanks a lot,  
James Shields

## Kenneth Clark: An Evil Tory Anagram

Dear Beaver,

Did you know, that when rearranged, the letters of "Kenneth Clarke MP" can nearly (but not quite), be

used to form the phrase "Penny-Pinching Tory Cunt". Do I win £5?

Yours sincerely,  
Mr. Poor

## More Crushed Suede: The Backlash Carries On

Dear Beaver,

I'm writing in to say what a sad cunt Matt Pennell is. Suede; what a load of old bollocks, they are a complete pile of shit, and if anyone gets taken

in by their non-talent they must be immensely stupid and immature. I bet you only like them because one of them went to the L.S.E, you tosser.

Billy Bathgate

## Vini Gets Connected To The Passfield Phones Debate

Dear Beaver,

I would like to respond to the letter which appeared in the Beaver on the 29th of November 1993, written by Ben Oliver titled "Passfield Phones: Money Not Well Spent"

Although the writer's concerns are very politically correct and extremely well channelled, I really wish that he had done at least some research before even thinking of writing that article.

I would therefore, like to rectify his facts in exactly the same manner he has, unfortunately, got them wrong.

Firstly costs; As I had pointed out in my proposal and which is still on display in the Passfield Common Room, that the money for this project is coming from The INTER HALL ACCOUNT. The money in this account comes from the fees we pay for our accommodation in any of the LSE Halls. This money cannot be, under any circumstances, be used for any purpose other than renovation and development programmes for and

within the Halls and flats of the LSE. Period.

Secondly, I had clearly mentioned in my proposal that 66% of the students housed at Passfield are from overseas. Not only are most of them paying £12,000+ in fees, but they are, for the first time ever, away from their home countries, background and culture. Their families have gone through a lot of trouble to send them to the erstwhile LSE for their education, and the least we can do is to try and facilitate communication between them; Specially when in the current system, the amount of time they have to wait till the call is put through to them is phenomenal. This is because in the current system they have to wait till the phone is answered on the floor, then time taken for the receiver to go to the room of the person concerned and then the time taken for the student to come and receive the call. It definitely is a time consuming process, and specially when considering the fact that the main building was put together by joining seven houses and that

there is only one extension per floor. The costs, therefore, incurred by the caller can be phenomenal specially when, as mentioned earlier, most of them are international. If you were a British citizen studying in Timbuktu, you would know exactly what I mean.

Thirdly, the majority of the costs of the proposal is going towards block wiring, which would have to be done irrespective of the project concerned. This is the basic costs which have to be incurred and the Inter Hall account is paying for a different and a new system and it is not correct to break down the costs as £100 per telephone. It is absolutely absurd.

Fourthly, one of the most important features of the system would be that the students would be able to dial emergency numbers.

Fifthly, If you read the Beaver correctly you would have also read that I mentioned that we are getting in more lines.

Get International Get Alive

Vini Ghatate

## Football and Racism

Dear Beaver,

As part of their attempts to end racism, I suggest that Mubin Haq and Hassan Iman see a football match.

At Highbury on Monday 30th November, Dalian Atkinson was playing for Aston Villa. Dalian Atkinson is big, arrogant and good and therefore a threat to Arsenal fans. He is also black.

To an Arsenal fan, Ian Wright- also black- is a saviour and a hero. He never puts a foot wrong, even when he does.

Twice during the match I heard racist remarks directed at Dalian Atkinson. After a tackle and in front of the referee, someone shouted, "Book the Spade!". After he had dived for a loose ball, someone shouted "He must have thought it was a wallet!"

It is an the convenience of this irrationality, from a crowd that are never likely to know much about Malthus or indeed Islam, that those concerned about racism have to tackle.

Graham Bell

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SAT 4	v	Guildford 7.30pm
SAT 11	v	Chesham 7.30pm
SUN 19	v	Manchester 5.30pm
JANUARY		
SAT 8	v	Birmingham 7.30pm
SAT 15	v	Woking 7.30pm
FEBRUARY		
SUN 6	v	Leicester 5.30pm
SUN 13	v	Birmingham 8.20pm
SAT 19	v	Manchester 7.30pm
FRI 25	v	Henley 8.20pm
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SAT 5	v	Oldham 7.30pm
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**Baden isostar**

**CATCH THE ACTION LIVE!**

**Beaver  
Christmas Party**

**Wednesday 8th December  
1993 In the Underground I**

**All members of the collective and  
contributors are welcome**

**Thanks everybody for the hard work  
this term, see you all next term**

Ron



With the draw for the World Cup Finals taking place in Las Vegas on the 19th of this month, Rusty Bullet Hole (for it is he) casts a discerning (brown) eye over the teams and assesses their merits...

### Argentina

Hmm. Argentina. Singularly responsible for attempting to make Italia '90 the most boring World Cup ever. They defeated both Yugoslavia and Italy, possibly the two most attractive footballing sides in 1990 on penalties, hardly surprising as all draws in the Argentinian League are settled in the same manner! Performance in qualification has been typically mediocre, stuffed 5-0 at home by Colombia and scraping through a two-legged play-off with Australia, in which they were very unconvincing indeed. The semi-finals are probably all the Argentinians can realistically hope for, quarter-finals may be more likely. **Player to watch:** Diego Maradona (obviously).



Diego Maradona illegally "hands" England their quarter-final defeat in Mexico '86, the cheating little git

### Belgium

For an insignificant little nation whose chocolate-making ability is probably their greatest claim to fame, Belgium have done remarkably well in the World Cup recently. Semi-finalists in 1986 and defeated by David Platt's last-minute volley in the Second Round of Italia '90, Belgium have qualified for their fourth consecutive Finals, and therefore justify their seeded status. They finished second in their qualifying group, defeated only by Romania and Wales away from home, and with few outstanding teams in the USA, Belgium could well find themselves in the quarter-finals. **Player to watch:** Marc Wilmots.

### Bolivia

On the 25th July 1993 the Football world was shocked. Bolivia had de-

feated Brazil 2-0, the first defeat ever for Brazil in a World Cup qualifier. Two late goals had sealed the result, and further victories over Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela sealed Bolivia's qualification - something which was actually not too much of a surprise, as Bolivia's home games are all played at lung-starving altitude. Complaints were made by other South American nations, and it must be said that Bolivia are probably not going to be as good in the USA as qualifying form suggests. Quarter-finals at best. **Player to watch:** Marco Etcheverry.

### Brazil

Always amongst the favourites, this time deservedly. Brazil will be in the

the French from qualifying! Probably the weakest of all the European sides to qualify, and making their first appearance since 1986, where they failed to get through the group stages. A lot will depend on the performance of their gifted (if not diplomatically so) forward, Hristo Stoichkov, the one world-class player in their outfit. Reaching the quarter-finals would be a great achievement, but even the second round may be beyond them again. **Player to watch:** Hristo Stoichkov.

### Cameroon

A 3-1 defeat of Zimbabwe ensured Cameroon's participation in their third World Cup finals, and after their exhilarating performance in Italia '90, this result was greeted very favourably in all corners of the world. Perhaps no Roger Milla this time (he'll be 42!), but Francois Omam-Biyik, scorer of the goal that defeated the Argentinians in 1990 is still around, scoring twice against Zimbabwe. Cameroon will do very well to go further than their quarter-final defeat against England in Italy, but if the same euphoria is generated in the USA, a similar performance can be anticipated. **Player to watch:** Francois Omam-Biyik.

### Colombia

Few would disagree that Colombia are probably the best side in the world at the moment. Undefeated in qualifying, beating Argentina twice (including a 5-0 drubbing in Buenos Aires) and defending a 20-odd match unbeaten run, the statistics speak for themselves. Lenny the Lion lookalike Carlos Valderrama is still the backbone of the side, now very ably assisted by Alvarez, Rincon, Valencia and star striker Faustino Asprilla. A lot of the "smart money" is being placed on the Colombians, but their relative inexperience at this level may count against them. Definite quarter-finalists, possible winners. **Player to watch:** Faustino Asprilla.

### Germany

What can we say about Germany? "Two World Wars

and One World Cup..." is becoming rather tiresome and unapt as Germany have now been World champions three times, twice on foreign soil, which from a country with a similar number of registered players to England is testament to their shrewd management, coaching and ability to get it right when it matters most. Whether they are as good as in 1990 remains to be seen, but even if they aren't, the phrase "there or thereabouts" springs to mind. Acclimatised well with victory in the US Cup, and should be semi-finalists at the very least.

**Player to watch:** Christian Ziege.

### Greece

A very unexpected qualifier, some may believe - a fortunate one, perhaps. Both Greece and Russia benefited from FIFA's exclusion of Yugoslavia from their group, and Greece came out on top, undefeated. This is their first Finals, and if football can disassociate itself from politics at home, it should not be their last. Their last appearance in a major tournament was the European Championships of 1980, and following a lengthy period in the doldrums, the last three years have seen a significant, if not remarkable improvement. The Second round should be



Faustino Asprilla - pure Colombian, high quality.

well within them.

**Player to watch:** Yirotis Tsalouhidis.

### Italy

Will this be Italy's year? At home in 1990, it was clear they succumbed to the overwhelming weight of pressure from press and fans alike. With the classiest league and some of the world's classiest players,



Christian Ziege - the man to take over from Matthaus?

they could well be Europe's best bet for a first World Cup win in the Americas. With the two Baggios, Casiraghi, Donadoni, Signori - and many more brilliantly talented players in all departments, Italy are sure to be in with a chance. Very difficult to score against and even harder to beat, Italy have the qualities necessary to succeed. They ought to be semi-finalists at least.

**Player to watch:** Roberto Baggio.

### Mexico

Host nation in 1986 when they reached the quarter-finals, conspicuous in their absence in 1990 - banned from competing by FIFA for fielding over-aged players in an Under-21 tournament. They very nearly gatecrashed the Copa America party this year - invited to compete with the South Americans for the first time and finishing as runner-up to Argentina. Their performances were unimpressive, however, and they lack any real strength in depth to get any further in 1994 than in 1986. Hugo Sanchez is still battling, but the star of the show has to be Jorge Campos, their 'keeper, who



Roberto Baggio - can his goals take the World Cup to Italy?

occasionally plays centre forward!

**Player to watch:** Jorge Campos.

### Morocco

The first of the African teams to stake a claim to being world-class in 1986, when they won their (England's) group, and went out 1-0 to eventual finalists West Germany in the second round. Nobody but the Moroccans wanted the Moroccans to qualify - simply because they would have to defeat Zambia's post-disaster side, which they did, 1-0. Probably the weakest of the African contenders this time around, West Africa very much providing the best teams in the continent. Their play is not without flair but not exactly overflowing with it, and the second round looks as far as they will go, if that.

**Player to watch:** Mohammed Chaouch.

### Netherlands

No love lost for the English fans here! Their side, on paper considerably weaker than their European Championship team of 1988, eventually came through to qualify in second place behind Norway and ahead of England. However, they acquitted themselves to the task of qualifying far better than England, hence their success. A lot depends for them on the fitness of Marco van Basten and whether Ruud Gullit condescends to play. Even without these they are more than a match for most on their day, and with the brilliant Dennis Bergkamp and young winger Marc Overmars, the semi-finals are a possibility.

**Player to watch:** Dennis Bergkamp.

### Nigeria

Finally equating their size to football prowess, Nigeria look to be the strongest of the African sides, and the most likely to succeed Cameroon in World Cup success. Their qualification was at the expense of African Champions the Ivory Coast, who were drubbed 4-1, and Algeria, where Nigeria drew 1-1 to give them the point they needed for the trip to the USA. With a wealth of naturally talented players to choose from, the second round



# Cup '94

NEW YORK -- ORLANDO -- SAN FRANCISCO -- WASHINGTON D.C.



looks well within their reach. Norwich's Efan Ekoku may play, if not, look out for Belgian-based Daniel Amokachi or Ajax's George Finidi.

**Player to watch:** Daniel Amokachi.

## Norway

Expected to be third best in their group, and came out on top. This came as a surprise to many, but the warning shots were fired when they took three points from Italy in attempting to qualify for the 1990 European Championships.

Their direct style is one which England attempt to master but consistently fail, and although not aesthetically pleasing it is effective. Despite a recent setback in Turkey (losing a meaningless qualifier 2-1), they look a safe bet to make the second round, and possibly the quarter-finals. They may suffer from their relative novice status

who has ever had a pint of Guinness or bought a U2 album will surely support them - basically, anyone who isn't supporting anyone else! Perhaps the old warhorses are knocking on a bit, but if the old "Green Shirt" syndrome (pull one on and play out of your skin) comes into effect, they could certainly cause a stir. 1990 saw them make the quarter-finals without actually winning a game, and with that sort of luck, the same is possible. Not as good as they were in 1990, but not many teams are.

**Player to watch:** Roy Keane.

## Romania

Was the 2-1 victory in Cardiff a turning point for Romania? Practically unbeatable at home and hopeless away has long been the story of football in Romania, and a change is due. In 1990 they blew the Russians away 2-0 in their first



Ireland's Roy Keane - must show his true form in the US.

ward. If all goes well, without silly team bickerings, the quarter-finals are a distinct possibility.

**Player to watch:** Gheorghe Hagi.

## Russia

As mentioned earlier, Yugoslavia's exclusion helped the Russians a great deal. In previous guises they were always a force to be reckoned with, reaching a pinnacle when runner-up to the Dutch in the 1988 European Championship. Along with Bulgaria, must be regarded as one of the least likely European teams to make it through the group stages, though they can produce results when it matters most. Foggia's Kolyvanov is an able if not brilliant front man, Inter Milan's Igor Shalimov a good midfield lynch-pin. Their ignominious exit from Italia '90 could well be repeated.

**Player to watch:** Igor Shalimov.

## Saudi Arabia

To the surprise of many the Saudis clinched their place in the USA by topping the Asian qualifying group, finishing undefeated. A great outcome for a football-mad nation, justifying the financial and political backing they have received. This is their first Finals, and with the team on an upward curve in recent years, they could emerge as the dominant footballing force in Asia. Highly unlikely to progress past the groups, but could produce a shock or two. Still, first things first: an emerging football nation's public are probably quite satisfied with the team's achievements already.

**Player to watch:** Saeed Owairran.

## South Korea

Compared to Saudi Arabia, the Koreans are "old hands" at World Cup football. Having appeared in the Finals of 1986 and 1990, they qualified through the back door when Iraq fired an injury-time equaliser against Japan, which sent the Koreans through on goal difference ahead of the unlucky and disconsolate Japanese. Six games in the Finals and South Korea have yet to win a game - but they are improving all the time, and could possibly qualify for the second round. Their goals are more often than not spectacular, but they lack the pure talent to pose a serious threat to any of the top teams.

**Player to watch:** Seok-Ju Ha.

## Spain

Anyone who saw Spain take the Irish apart at the seams in Dublin in October will have witnessed just what they are capable of when on song. But it's a case of from the sublime to the ridiculous - in 1986 they thrashed the hotly-tipped Danes 5-1, before succumbing to the unfancied Belgians. They have not appeared in a major Championship since 1988, and an impatient public was only too glad to see them make it to the USA. At their best they are amongst the cream of Europe, but too often they are no more than mediocre. The quarter-finals are definitely within reach.

**Player to watch:** Julio Salinas.

## Sweden

"Beat the English at their own game" to make the semi-finals of the 1992 European Championship, and will be anxious to erase memories of their pitiful showing in Italia '90. Tomas Brodin's participation is in the balance - a clash with manager Tommy Svensson led to Brodin walking out of the squad for the Finland match in October. A very tough team to beat, the Swedes could surprise people in America. In Martin Dahlin they have an excellent partner/replacement for Brodin, and without the

"smart money" tag that dogged them prior to Italy, a quarter-final berth is theirs for the taking.

**Player to watch:** Martin Dahlin.

## Switzerland

Tenuous English link here - Switzerland are managed by Roy Hodgson, an Englishman abroad. Currently one of the top-rated teams in the world - a 1-0 defeat of Italy in qualifying justifying this. This is the first appearance in the Finals for the Swiss since 1966, and years in the football wilderness can only make them more determined. A talented side includes Kubilay, architect of Galatasaray's undoing of Man. Utd. at Old Trafford, Adrian Knup, their prolific goalscorer and Stephane Chapuisat, the star in the side. Again, the quarter-finals are well within their capabilities.



Julio Salinas - too good for the Irish in the Dublin game.

**Player to watch:** Stephane Chapuisat.

## United States

Last but by no means least - the host nation will be desperate to perform well, but are unlikely to challenge the established hierarchy. It's not without trying - defeating England 2-0 in the US Cup and going down by the odd goal in seven to the World Champions has proved that they are no mugs. Home advantage will obviously help, and it will probably be enough to get them through the group stages. Anything after that will be a bonus - but we can rest assured that the US will play open, if not perfect football, and that their superb fitness could worry some sides should a match go to extra time.

**Player to watch:** Tab Ramos.

## Italia '90

### How we laughed...

◆ Argentina losing 1-0 to nine-man Cameroon in the opening match.

◆ Scotland's 1-0 defeat at the hands of mighty Costa Rica.

◆ Colombian 'keeper Rene Higuita being dispossessed and beaten by Cameroon's Roger Milla.

◆ Mo Johnston's point-blank miss against Brazil.

◆ On the toss of a coin, Ireland getting to play Romania in the second round while Holland were drawn against West Germany.

◆ David O'Leary's penalty shoot-out winner in the Ireland v Romania game.

◆ David Platt's last-minute winner against Belgium.

◆ Italy going out (albeit against Argentina, on penalties).

◆ Gazza's tearful reaction to his second yellow card for "fouling" Thomas Berthold.

◆ Diego Maradona blubbing too after Argentina's defeat in the final.

### ...and cried:

◆ Stuart Pearce blasting an indirect free-kick into the Dutch net, pillock.

◆ Rudi Voller and Frank Rijkaard gobbing at each other, filthy pigs.

◆ Argentina defeating Yugoslavia on penalties.

◆ Argentina defeating Italy (on penalties, natch).

◆ Hotch-potch Ireland losing 1-0 to multi-talented, home ground advantaged Italy.

◆ Paul Parker's somewhat unfortunate own goal for the Germans.

◆ Stuart Pearce, the Penalty King, I don't think.

◆ Chris Waddle, rubbing it in a little bit.

◆ The 1990 World Cup Final.

◆ Knowing England would have a new manager...



Dennis Bergkamp of Inter Milan and Holland is reckoned by Graham Taylor to be "the best player in the world" - as if he's an authority on the subject!

against more established sides, though.

**Player to watch:** Lars Bohinen.

game, and followed that up with defeats against Cameroon and Argentina, eventually going out on penalties to the Irish in the second round. In Gheorghe Hagi they have a superb footballing brain and dead-ball specialist, in Florin Raducioiu an excellent for-

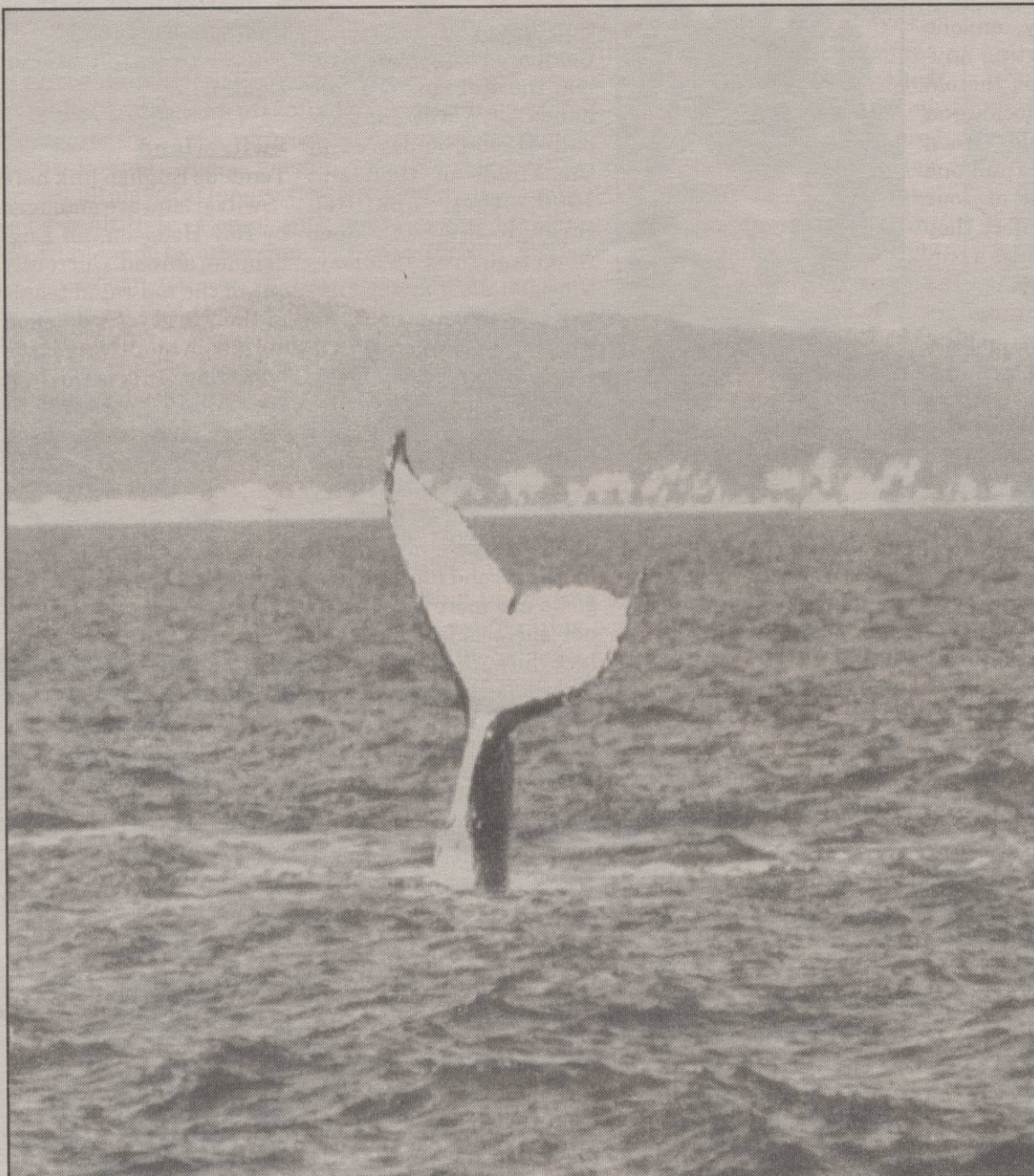


# The Environment - "It's Not My Fault"

Dan Coulcher

We often casually talk of governments and industries being the cause of the environmental problems but we should realise it is us whom the governments and multinationals are providing for, it is us who buys their products, it is us who votes for them. Blame for the environment cannot be conveniently shifted to somebody else, we are all responsible. There is a Quaker saying, 'It is better to light one small candle than to curse the darkness'. Nothing is guaranteed to bring about environmental disaster faster than everyone in the world believing that, whatever they do, it won't make a difference. Ultimately we are as subject to biological restraints as any other animal species, but unlike them we can consciously shape our future. If we fail to do so, there will be no-one to blame but ourselves.

In the 1960s and 1970s we thought we would run out of energy and raw materials. Now the real threat seems to be the problems caused by the rapid destruction of the planet's plant and animal life and the destabilization of the atmosphere and climate. Documentaries on television have made an enormous impact and the media has brought the horrors of a string of environmental disasters into our living rooms - Chernobyl, Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, Bhopal gas factory in India - all these are the result of consumer demands. It is still amazing the way the environment is not considered one of the top if not the top political issue. All other issues become irrelevant without a world able to sustain human life. Of course so many of these other issues, such as education, social welfare and health are linked to the environment as they all have environmental implications. We have grown to accept our poor living conditions in most of the 'developed' world as just a part of our economic success. Economic success and standards of living are often talked of in money terms but a fundamental part of a person's standard of living must surely be the environment in which they live. Would you like your children to grow up in London with its increasingly polluted atmosphere knowing



"Goodbye Cruel World"

Photo: Dan Coulcher

the increasing likelihood of them contracting respiratory problems? Do you enjoy living near large roads creating huge amounts of air and noise pollution as well as creating a physical danger. These roads are built to support one of the most inefficient and environmentally damaging forms of transport invented - the private car.

In today's materialistic society the most powerful action one can take is consumer action. The present free market domination can be used by green consumers. We can use our ultimate power, voting with our feet and wallets either buying a product somewhere else or not buying it at all. The green consumer is here and is already having a tremendous impact. There have been some notable changes already - the replacement of hard detergents with soft, more biodegradable products; the gradual shift from leaded to unleaded petrol; and the

growth in demand for health foods, additive-free products and organically grown produce. The adverts on television for many products now mention the environmental benefits (often falsely) of their products as advertising companies recognise peoples' concern for the environment and attempt to use this as a selling point.

The consumer's ability to change from one brand to another, or, even more distressingly for manufacturers, stop buying the product altogether, makes producers sit up and notice. The case of CFCs is a good example. In Britain, 3 days before Friends of the Earth was to follow up its listing of 'ozone-friendly' aerosols with a listing of those brands which do contain CFCs, the eight largest aerosol manufacturers announced that they would phase out CFC propellants by the end of 1989. McDonalds' decision to abandon the use of CFCs in fast-food cartons in the States was

one of the environmental milestones of 1987. Norway's decision to renew commercial whaling in defiance of a worldwide moratorium by the International Whaling Commission in 1986 has led to many companies, such as Iceland Frozen Foods, refusing to buy Norwegian fish or prawns due to pressure from groups such as Greenpeace. Worldwide, Norwegian exporters have lost orders worth over £30 million, compared to the £4.5 million whaling is worth. With this sort of pressure it is surely only a matter of time before Norway decides to stop murdering these magnificent creatures.

Every day of the week, whether we are shopping for simple necessities or for luxury items, for carrots or for compact discs, we are making choices that affect the environmental quality of the world we live in. More and more of us want to do the right thing - we simply don't know how. Part

of the solution is in our hands, whether in the supermarket, the garage, the garden centre or the travel agent, there are many ways we can act to make a difference. The success of such books as 'The Green Consumer Guide' and Friends of the Earth's 'How to be Green' shows many are seriously looking to see what they can do. LSE Greenpeace will be holding an 'Eco-Awareness' week from January 24th which will offer more detailed information on the problems facing us today, possible solutions and what you can do to help.

Ideally it would be nice to go into a supermarket and feel confident that all the products there are environmentally friendly as possible but supermarkets are far more concerned about cost and profits. It is up to us to press those supermarkets into thinking they will increase their profits by stocking more and more environmentally friendly products. Cleaning up pollution isn't cheap and the costs will ultimately be born by consumers - in the form of more expensive electricity, calls, water or higher taxes. Yet trying to save money now by failing to control pollution could mean that we (or future generations) could end up paying more later on. All these changes have come about with the pressure of groups such as Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

It is worth remembering that it wasn't that long ago that these groups were publicly branded 'loonies' by many in government. These same groups are now used by the government as advisory bodies on environmental matters, the government recently met Greenpeace to discuss the dispute over the THORP nuclear reprocessing plant. Gaining this sort of recognition from those in power is extremely important for the environmental cause as it gives them the opportunity to help the government make environmentally sound decisions first time, rather than having to make environmental decisions as a consequence of previous environmentally harmful policies. Although campaigning is essential, you don't have to be an active member of these groups to help the environment. Use your ultimate power as the consumer to make a better world for ourselves and our children.



# Socialism: J'accuse! How Far Jerusalem?

Chris Lee

The Conservative party is in trouble, or at least this is what we are told. Externally, the shabby paint work shows, Conservative popularity is on the wane.

Internally it suffers fragmentation and banality that trickles from the leadership down. In all fairness John Major's task was not an easy one. His succession to Mrs Thatcher was akin to Chamberlain trying to fill the shoes of Ghengis Khan. A once cohesive party lost its tribal mother (or is it father) and with her, its unity.

That the Labour party hasn't fully capitalised on this fragmentation is rather surprising. Instead they decided that their best tactic was to match the lifeless corpse of its opposite. The shadow cabinet could never be accused of containing charismatic elements, and its policies seem to have expired long ago.

If only it were so easy to reduce the shortcomings of British politics to our favourite characters. Yet like most problems it's causes tend to run deeper.

At this point in time Society is witness to a whole plethora of processes and trends that, for better or worse are irrevocably changing the nature of our lives. The much talked about Globalisation processes implicates all of us in a system that goes beyond all national barriers. You can't ever brew a cup of tea in Richmond without engaging unwittingly in the exploitation of Tamil tea workers in Sri Lanka. Datsuns location in an Asian free trade zone inevitably results in a drop in wages or worse for Mr and Mrs X in Dagenham.

We also live in a society that questions all that is traditional. It is no longer enough for a collective of people to merely live their way of life and legitimize it by appeals to its self evidence. Where once a shared existence gained its validity by being beyond history, or proven by history, it must



now provide a rationale for its existence in the face of other innumerable variations competing for the same pool of resources.

Modern Society may be de-traditional but it is by no means un-traditional. The evidence shows, if anything a traditional backlash which can have ugly manifestations in the shape of fundamentalism, whether it be the fascism, or Islamic or Catholic dogma. The danger lies in lack of dialogue.

The Institutional right seem to have failed it. Their attempt to control the rampant changes and agitations that propel modern existence. So can we hope for the left to seize and save the day? I fear not; at least not in its present form.

It is not that the left haven't conceived the problems, they just misconceived it and consequently misconceived the solution. Socialism must gain a sense of conservatism. I am not suggesting that the apostles of progress become the apostles of anachronism, but that they shed the old vocabulary. The institutional left shed it quite a while ago and replaced it with something to close to conventional 'Market Speak'.

The remaining portion of the left spectrum is still stuck in its anti-populist, puritan, conspiracy speak. I refuse to take seriously anyone still locked in by ideas of ruling class, bourgeoisie and proletariat, dominant ideology and other puerile talk. Socialism is no longer, or can no longer stick to the same agenda as in Orwells time. The possibility of genuine world revolution died with the start of the second world war. Perhaps if socialism had got its act together when it could have really changed things the possibility of a real 'New World Order' could have been genuine not empty liberal talk. We inhabit the world of their failure to act. Consequently socialism must shed the old words. Oppressors and oppressed; who are they? What are they? They are not absolutes, power was never that simple, never more so than now. Socialism must also drop its condescending attitude towards the popular masses, How can you convert those you keep calling stupid, they would rather go and watch Emmerdale. The leftist intelligentsia get particularly caught in this trap. They go blue in the face condemning

popular cultures without realising that they're shouting at the wrong spook. They can't expect that popular culture is precisely what it says it is, Popular. For Gods sake! It might even be enjoyable. Instead they console themselves with "I know better, the truth has been revealed to me. I have gone beyond the false consciousness of the infernal culture machine". They sound like eighteenth century puritans "lets denounce everything fun". Rule number 1, being a killjoy was never a good political panacea.

I am not suggesting that Socialism has nothing left to do the election of Mr Beackon proves this) but that it begins to place new ideas into the new social context.

It is doubtful that the two processes I mentioned in the beginning can be reversed or altered in a short space of time, but here lies the crucial point. The rate of change is almost as important as the direction of change. We need a sense, however limited, of continuity. A linking of past, present and future. It seemed as if the Green party might of initiated this process, but they failed to push conservation

to its ultimate social, human conclusion.

Socialism must fill the gap by repelling its rather outdated ideas with a total conception of conservation. They must do this without scaring people. Nobody wants to be flung into the void of revolutionary change, whether they've nothing or everything to lose. Unless they completely see its necessity. The left must come to realise that modernity alters our locus of belonging. our old notions of citizenship are they being drained of their inner logic. The political, economic and cultural life of nation states is being emptied of relevance by the impotence of national sovereignties. It is highly probable that human groups will always be partial and partisan to some extent, and to deny this is sheer stupidity, it is an essential attribute of collective life. Yet political will can mitigate their effects, or at least subordinate them to an enlarged picture. Any political narrative that don't raise this human attachment to a greater scheme will inevitably fail.

We must however, face the fact that this vision is scarcely conceivable in todays global order. The outrageous divisions of modern wealth, on both national and global levels inhibits any real move to genuine conception of total conservation. it is here that socialism will find its traditional roots. For at best, is socialism nothing more than the hatred (or distaste) for tyranny and oppression. But it is essential that the left reformulate itself for the task. people must be made to realise that socialism is the only intelligent solution to our problems. Not the socialism of Marc or Mao; not the socialism of Ranting SW17, nor the socialism of the present Labour party.

Instead a mature, realistic socialism imbued with a new dose of humanity and sensitivity. The ultimate end IS not human perfectability, just a little less misery, a little more humanity and a big shot of common sense.



# Ice Cube Cuts the Crap !

**Sonia Kalsi**

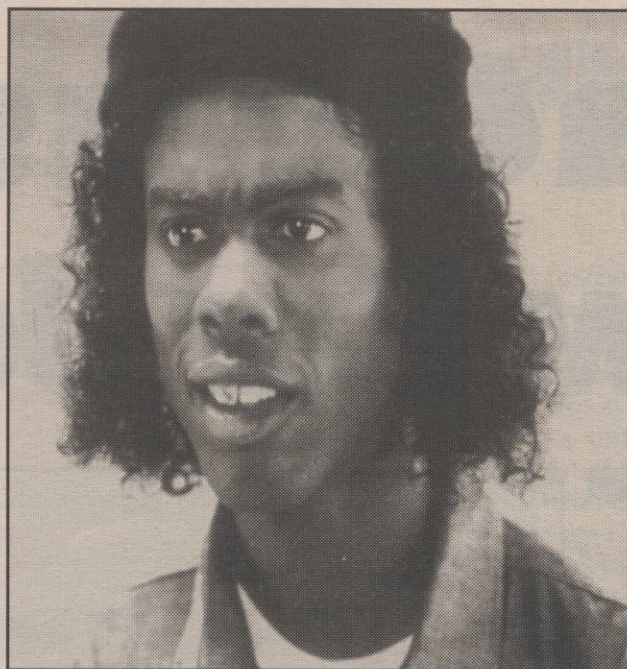
Fancy going to the cinema and being bored for 88 long minutes? Like to see a film in which you can sit trying to spot the jokes which would have worked if only they had been funny? Well, if you have nothing better to do, that's to say if you've found that watching the paint dry has lost its initial excitement, then I suggest you go see "CB4", a film described as "arguably the best comedy of the year." Well, if there was comedy in this film, I'm afraid I missed it.

The story centres around three boys called Albert, Euripides and Otis (played by Chris Rock, Allen Payne and Deezer D.) who desper-

ately want to make it in the world of rap. After Albert accidentally causes the arrest of Gusto, (played by Charlie Murphy, yes Eddie Murphy's brother), he and his group remodel themselves to form the group "CB4"- Cell Block 4, the place where Gusto is being imprisoned. They become a hard-core rap group and face numerous dangers: the evils of fame and fortune, a right-wing politician who leads the crusade against them and also of Gusto himself who breaks out of prison.

Very exciting stuff, as you can see. It is strange though how at the end of the film you are left wondering if there was any point to it all. The apparent plot was cleverly

disguised by rather poor acting and a sketchy (though I've been informed humorous) dialogue which mainly consists of swearing. "CB4" is supposed to be half-parody and half-tribute to the rap world. If this is a true reflection of the world of rap then I vow to have nothing to do with it. The movie came across as trying very desperately to be funny, but failing miserably. It was because of this that the most annoying part of this film was when amid all the action (??) Albert's father angrily tells his son not to glorify what coming from the streets is all about in his rap. What, were the writers and producers trying to make a social statement in this film? Surely not.



However, there were some good points in "CB4" (you may be surprised to learn.) There were several cameo appearances from Ice T, Ice Cube and others, though

these lasted only a couple of minutes and were right at the beginning of the film. The soundtrack featured Hi-C, Daddy O and Kool Moe Dee and they kept the film going

when all else seemed to fail. The best acting awards go to J.D. Daniels who played Ben, the son of the right-wing politician who wanted to get rid of "CB4" (and by this time so did I) and Khandi Alexander who played Sissy, the laughably glamorous femme fatale.

However, all in all "CB4" will come as a disappointment to those who were hoping for some good rap, good acting and a faint glimmer of a plausible (or just coherent) plot. Chris Rock, the film's co-writer and producer said, "no one has ever made a really good movie about rap." Well, I'm sorry to break it to you Chris, but you haven't made a good one either.

# Angel Hearts

**Dennis Lim**

"The Blue Angel" has its origins in the Heinrich Mann novel, "Professor Unrat" (Unrat being German for excrement). Josef von Sternberg later adapted it, making radical changes to Mann's story and the result was the almost legendary Marlene Dietrich film.

In the Mann original, the professor marries a cabaret singer, uses her to establish some sort of social standing and gets his revenge on society by setting up a gambling establishment. In the film, the central characters are altered drastically - the singer made heartless, the professor helpless. Freda O'Byrne's direction for The Courtyard uses von Sternberg's characters, but her adaptation is anything but straightforward.

To be honest, it reeked of pretentiousness right from the start. To get to my seat, I had to make my way past the entire cast - all eleven of them, clad in identical black-and-white and frozen like mannequins. They stood there paralysed waiting for the audience - all twelve (?) of us - to settle in and quite admirably, managed to keep straight faces throughout.

Von Sternberg features as a character in

this (directing his own film, interrupting to reshoot every now and again) as does Marlene Dietrich - and don't bother asking me why. Snippets of dialogue and song are in German - my appallingly rusty German

They also play up to three characters each, which means that within seconds, they switch mode from coffee table to student to dressing room mirror (i.e. staring another actor straight in the face and doing the mirror im-

garde experimentalism, which - essentially - is what this is, and sometimes you just want to scream out PRETENTIOUS WANK and leave it at that, but O'Byrne's austere style is constantly intriguing. The emphasis



(which wasn't all that great to begin with) was of limited help. I tried to think of a word which would best describe this - 'bizarre' was a close second, but (a little cruelly) 'economical' sprang to mind most of all. The identical costumes, the stark set and the complete absence of props - unless you count a few wires hanging from the ceiling. The actors double quite successfully as articles of furniture - beds, tables, chairs.

age of whatever he does). Sound effects again come courtesy of the actors - dropping imaginary lumps of sugar into an imaginary cup of tea involves tongue-clucking sounds and stirring it (with an imaginary teaspoon) sees them go 'tinka-tinka-tinka'. Squeaky chalk-on-blackboard sounds, frantic page-turning ('rustle-rustle-rustle') - they do it all. It's easy (and tempting) to poke fun at avant-

is on a very visual interpretation - movement, mime and a fair amount of admittedly pointless acrobatics all feature.

Still, the exceedingly arty feel does detract considerably from von Sternberg's focal point of the undoing of an enamoured man and throughout the entire play, the promise in the press blurb to explore the social and political significance of 1930s Berlin is rarely, if ever, delivered.

## Hard Shit

**Skippy and Dave**

What happens when you take one of the best action directors (John Woo), add one of the biggest action stars (Jean Claude Van Damme), and a high budget with minimal salaries (V.D. excepted)? You end up with an artistically produced all-action thriller which is ideal for the average punter seeking easy to handle escapism.

On the streets of New Orleans a sadistic game is being played out. Taking advantage of a city-wide police strike, Emil Fouchon and Pik Van Cleef, two former mercenaries have set up a murderous safari. The hunters are those who are rich enough, the prey - homeless veterans.

Jean Claude Van Damme plays Chance Boudreaux, who comes to the aid of Natasha Binder, a determined young lawyer from Detroit who is searching for her missing father. When they discover that Natasha's father was a victim of the hunters, a deadly contest begins between Chance and Fouchon, shifting from the mean streets of New Orleans to the treacherous Louisiana bayous, as Chance becomes the ultimate "hard target."

If you are looking for a film with strong characterisation, Oscar-worthy performances, romance and a realistic story line, then this is definitely the wrong film for you. If, on the other hand your requirements are 95 minutes of hard-hitting non-stop action, with plenty of guns, a variety of different vehicle chases, and unnecessary destruction of property, this is your kind of movie.

"How does it feel to be hunted?" screams Van Damme at one of the many times he demonstrates his vast variety of thespian qualities. His characteristically wooden acting is ably supported by an equally nondescript cast, with the exception of Lance Henriksen (Aliens, Alien 3) whose over the top portrayal of the ultra-villain Fouchon is a perfect example to those whose psychopathic tendencies are tempered by a warped morality.

On the whole, this is simply another typical Van Damme action/chase/violence movie which is enhanced by Woo's distinctive directorial style and imaginative fight scenes, but is tarnished by Van Damme's dodgy barnet, terribly inappropriate music and the lack of Van Damme's trademark "ballbreaker" splits. In the interests of animal rights, we think the snake definitely got a raw deal.



# Hall, Hall Had a Ball

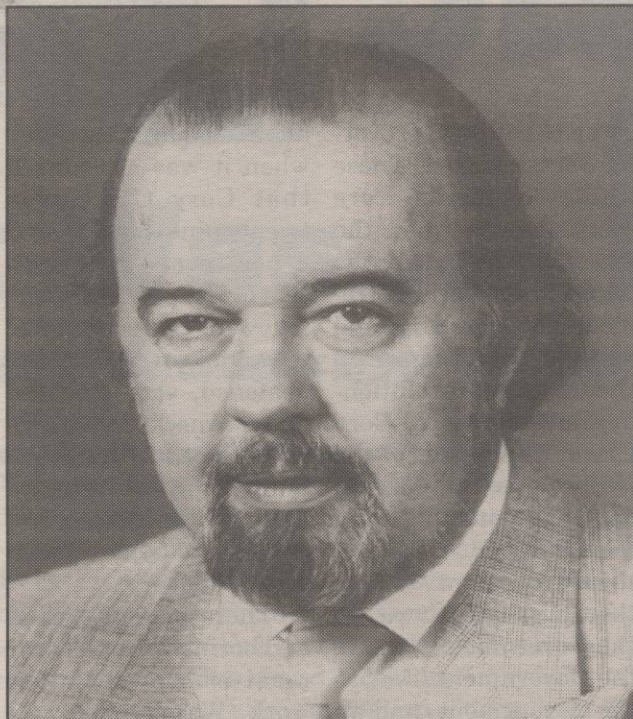
Deborah Goldemberg

"Who are you Peter?", fires Benedict Nightingale, the Times theatre critic, at the beginning of Peter Hall's interview, on the occasion of the publication of his autobiography "Making an exhibition of myself", at the National Theatre on the 1st of November.

That is surely a peculiar question, considering that "Peter" is Peter Hall, one of the greatest theatre directors in Britain. He is the man who founded the Royal Shakespeare Company, he was the director of the National Theatre at the time it was being established. He introduced Beckett to the English speaking world with the premiere of "Waiting for Godot"...no need to say anything else.

Still, Peter's answer did not consist of his CV. He said: "I am a country boy...a lonely child who grew up with a mother who every time I made an "exhibition of myself", as she called it, would scream "keep yourself to yourself"! My father, a railman, got free train tickets for his son, who liked to go to London almost everyday to watch plays, standing up at the back of the circle (it was free at the time)".

The fascinating mix of the myth of "Peter Hall - the director" and "Peter Hall - the man", expressed



Actually, I ate all the pies...

itself throughout the interview. Peter Hall has been a director for 40 years and he loves it more than ever. He asks; "Is there anything better than spending time "living in the head" of the greatest writers, unfolding the mysteries of life through reading and interpreting such masterpieces in such detail, and still be paid for it?".

In describing the relationship between actor and director, he gave insights on the reasons why people see him as such a powerful character; "a director, has to convince the cast that he is in control of the situation, and that he knows what he is doing, even when he doesn't". The importance

of the director was stressed, "There isn't a good actor who hasn't become better with a good director, the director is not a teacher, he is a mirror to trust, to feedback on what they do and suggest improvements". I am sure some of that knowledge comes from the fact Peter Hall, at the age of 28, was directing Laurence Olivier.

To close it up, some hot politics came into light. Peter Hall expressed his dislike for Mrs Thatcher's policies regarding the subsidy programme and the privatisation of theatre. As a "living example" of what a person with access to subsidised theatre can achieve, Peter Hall reminded us, if when he was

a little boy students weren't allowed to stand up at the back of the circle for free to see as many plays as he did, he would have come to London with his "free rail ticket" to wander around the streets of London. He would not be the world famous director he is today, he would not be influencing me or you, through his plays and books.

He frantically "thanks God", for the existence of the two competing national theatre companies, the National Theatre and the RSC, because they are healthy and breeding arts. However, he fears tremendously that they might be privatised in the next 10 years, "It would be...sad", he says coldly.

It is absurd to think that a theatre can be privatised because it is not economic by any means, theatre is a risk activity, people experiment, people go wrong, its nature is controversial. Even if more money would come into the theatre industry, the point is - How is this money going to be used? There is no point in having money, if the money will have to be safely invested in mediocre predictable plays, like what happens to the American film industry today - "no market risk" attitude - "it would mean the death of theatre", says Peter Hall.

## Magic Roundabout

Beaver Staff

What would you do if, in search of entertainment, you walk past the Shaftesbury Theatre and read: "Carousel; "Rodgers and Hammerstein's masterpiece!", "Worth waiting a lifetime to see" and "winner of four Olivier Awards including Best Revival 1993"? If you even considered going to see it, don't! The only entertainment you can get from Carousel is from reading this account of my suffering. The first scene reminds the spectator of how glamorous the West End musicals are. It is pointless to relate the technical achievements of such a rich institution. Overwhelming live music. Twenty actors on stage, singing and dancing in tune and in coordination. Beautiful costumes. Five set changes in two minutes, including the colourful Carousel which we all expected

to see! It is an early display of where the box office money goes to. The spectator innocently sits back and relaxes, thinking, "this is going to be another entertaining musical," (there were no expectations of intellectual stimulus). The illusion does not last until the second scene, when Rodgers and Hammerstein's attempt at producing a musical to equal their great 1943 smash hit on Broadway - Oklahoma, which indeed changed the course of Musical Theatre - shows its dark side. One of the couples, who gaily chatted in the first scene, while the Carousel turned, turn out to be the main characters of the play. They fall in love, but he is a bad boy and she is a good girl, still, she gives up her job and reputation for her love for him...it turns out that he beats her etc... Yes, it is the most predictable plot one

can think of, and it soon gets to the spectator's nerves, who is no longer able to enjoy himself. It is pitiful to see the actors attempting to give any meaning to such empty lines and flat characters; It seemed as if all the challenge they got was from attempting at putting on an American accent.

In act 1, one still hopes that Mr Baddie will soon die and Miss Goodie will be happy. Until then, you hope to enjoy the good singing and dancing and hope for more individual good performances, such as dancer Bonnie Moore's expressive dance number, and actor Clive Rowe's, playing Mr Snow, funny twist.

Unexpectedly, for once, it turns out to be worse than that. There is a pathetic attempt of giving this musical a serious connotation, through interminable eight minute soliloquies, which basically try to convince the

poor spectator, through exhaustion, that love is eternal, and in Julie Jordan's (good girl's name - surprised?) own words, "when a man hits you really hard and it does not hurt you...that is your feller". Feminist writers would have lots to say about that!

No longer unexpectedly, but "unbelievably", when Mr Baddie finally dies, to the momentarily relief of the audience, he soon wakes up in the kingdom of heaven...God, angels, Santa Claus, everyone is there. Yes, he gets a chance to go back to life and make up for all the bad things he has done to Miss Goodie. After two hours of torture, we head for the interminable third one.

I wished I could say that my analysis of the play is plainly pessimistic, because it would then not imply, that if this kind of play is winning awards, there are probably worse being shown! Sad.

# Arts Brief

The LSE Drama Society presents Twelfth Night from the 7th December for three nights.

Despite a low budget and tight rehearsal schedule, Director Nick Wachsmann and producer Rhodri Nochol have produced a "true theatrical experience". By simplifying props, sets and technical aspects they have been able to concentrate on the acting, and some fine individual performances are expected.

Tickets are on sale now, priced £2.50.

Shakespeare hits the M1 on December 15th when the Northern Broadside Theatre Company present their rendering of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" at the Lyric Hammersmith.

Taken out of its home counties context and set instead in the industrial North, "Merry Wives" is described as a 'rumbustious response to purist preciousness', setting pugnacious northern womanhood against philanderer Falstaff.

Launched in 1992 as a 'vehicle for the northern voice', Northern Broadside has already made its mark with a fine production of Richard III.

Once called 'the most Japanese of all Japanese directors', and even, 'too Japanese for Western tastes', Yasujiro Ozu is the subject of a retrospective series at the Renoir. Six of his 53 films will be shown, including a new 35mm print of his 'masterpiece' "Tokyo Story".

Ozu's career spanned 35 years from his 1927 debut "The Sword of Penitence" to his death in 1963 from cancer. The series concentrates on his later period, the earliest film being "The Record of a Tenement Gentleman" from 1947.

Ozu concentrated on the commonplace, portraying traditional family values and relationships in a simple style, avoiding great drama or conflict. The series will be an antidote to Hollywood's addiction to action and crisis.

University College Music and Drama Societies have combined to present a musical marking the centenary of the UCL Union. The "Dracula Spectacula" opens at the Bloomsbury Theatre on the 8th December for a four day run, with a matinee on Thursday at 2pm.

Directors Daniel Antopolski and Matt Fenton have totally revamped this secondary school standard to give it an adult, seventies feel. Rehearsals are in full swing, and promise a fine night's entertainment. Gareth Davis as Dracula has a booming voice which belies his slight frame, and his sidekick Genghis receives premier league comic treatment from Norman Anand. Countess Wraith, Dracula's incontinent mother is played by Allison Pettitt, who manages to keep up a very competent Yiddishe Moma accent throughout. Not art, but fun.

Australian comic duo Double Take play the Prince Charles Cinema until Christmas Eve with their unique brand of improvised humour. Sitting at the back of the cinema, they overdub the 1978 film "The Bees", the cinematic height of naiffness.

Des Mangan and partner Sally Patience take on 42 characters in the course of the film. The comedy isn't actually improvised, which is no bad thing as it's funny throughout. Their reconstructed plot involves a troupe of performing bees, murder, espionage and flatulence; it's basic toilet and genital humour, but what do you expect from Australians?



# Soul Music?

## Warrior Soul at the Astoria

**Matt Brennan**

On a bitterly cold November Sunday, four intrepid and perhaps slightly misguided L.S.E. students donned their baseball boots, drainpipe jeans, let their hair down and went boldly forth into a new chapter of their being.

Their destination was the fabled establishment the London Astoria, which continuing in its noble Rock'n'Roll tradition was to play host to the phenomenon known as Warrior Soul. The expectant and fanatical crowd were forced to wait and endure the talents of

the warm up band New England.

Despite being named after a particularly dodgy Billy Bragg number, the band's performance was both spirited and competent, and they showed a great deal of potential but were doomed only to receive a polite ripple of applause at the end of their set. But - take heart New England fans - pre-song speeches like "All you have to do is Fuck the machine!" will always guarantee their records have a place in the collections of acne-ridden "potential rebel" fourteen year olds.

During the interval

the ever growing crowd were subjected to about a dozen too many Rush records and were forced in their boredom to resort to frequent trips to and from the bar. Finally the lights went down and the crowd noise went up as the mighty Warrior Soul graced the stage with their divine presence.

The start of the set was relatively slow with the lights combining with the sound to create a moody atmosphere. After four of these "soulful" classics certain less informed members of the audience began to show unease and began to question whether or not they were

going to get their proverbial butts kicked. These infidel elements were soon silenced when the power chords kicked, the pace and decibel level trebled. The crowd ignited as they paid homage to the talents of revolutionary melodic poet, Cory Clark. The height of the performance came during one song with these immortal lyrics - "We are the Government / we are the Government / we are the Government / we are the Government / and we rock and roll".

The performance came to an end after approximately one and a half

hours of anarchic ecstasy when it was announced that Cory Clark was twenty nine that day, and a heart-warming rendition of "Happy Birthday" followed. Two songs later it was all over, and the deafened, sore throated and sore necked audience were forced to return to reality vowing never to Suck Corporate Dick and never be a loser, a substance abuser.

There were no clichéd and boring drum solos or masturbatory guitar work (Warrior Soul are far too cool for such tired old vanities), the spotlight was quite rightly aimed constantly upon Cory

leading some to suggest that the band should be renamed the Cory Clark band. The lights were excellently used to enhance the religious experience and full marks to the band for the liberal use of the smoke machine. (It can help stop Global Warming.)

The overall unbiased view of the spectacular event was that it was a foundation shaking, sweat pouring guitar-based rock bonanza it's a shame you missed. But fear not, Rockless infidels, this band is going to be around for a long time, so next time go and see them. It will change you life.

# Bootiful!

**Dennis Lim**

A hurricane - a violent, destructive wind with a relatively still and tranquil centre; The Boo Radleys - its aural equivalent. Intense, messy and chaotic with guitars going mad all over the shop, but in the midst of the mayhem, That Voice (Sice) - cool, calm and positively glacial.

It's been an excellent year for The Boo Radleys - the astonishingly inventive "Giant Steps" is surely one of the year's finest albums and to cap it off, a compilation of their earlier, now-deleted material has just been released on Rough Trade.

"Learning To Walk" comprises their pre-Creation EPs - "Kaleidoscope", "Every Heaven" and "Boo Up!" - and also previously unavailable Peel Session covers of Love's "Alone Again Or" and New Order's "True Faith".

Although "Learning

To Walk" groups together three separate EPs, it's as seamless as the other two albums and a little difficult to distinguish one track from another at first. But as with all Boo Radleys recordings, patience bears more-than-proportional rewards.

The material here (from the 1990/91 period) is obviously a lot closer to "Everything's Alright Forever" than "Giant Steps", but it does hint at the greatness which would eventually follow. This is the period which saw critics lumping them in with the shoe-gazers, obviously blind to the fact that the insane inventiveness on show here can only be likened to that of My Bloody Valentine and not the introversion of pitiful wanna-bes like Slowdive and Chapterhouse.

The highlight is surely the cover of "True Faith", embarrassingly retitled "Boo! Faith". Covers work

best when they completely transform the originals (best examples: The Fatima Mansions' annihilation of "Everything I Do" and "Shiny Happy People", the Pet Shop Boys' transformation of "Always On My Mind" from sickly dirge to over-the-top disco classic) and The Boo Radleys were thankfully aware of this. While remaining relatively reverential, they have seized the song as their own and the end result is staggering.

"Giant Steps" remains the classic - the one everyone will remember in years to come, but "Learning To Walk" is a more-than-worthy companion.

While most of their contemporaries remain doggedly earthbound with their heads disappearing up their arses, The Boo Radleys are in full flight, light years ahead, creating majestic mindfucks from a universe of their own.

# Two's Company

**Beaver Staff**

New Order have made some of the best records known to man ("Low-Life", "Brotherhood" and "Technique" are arguably the three best successive albums by anyone ever), but the band members' separate spin-off projects have been, on the whole, patchy.

Barney Sumner's Electronic was generally fine, but considering he had some heavyweight talent on his side (Johnny Marr and an occasional Pet Shop Boy), it must be recognized as an underachievement. Peter Hook's Revenge, however, achieved little else besides ignominy and is best remembered as an unfortunate self-indulgence. Which brings us to The Other Two, Stephen and Gillian.

"Tasty Fish", The Other Two's first single, was released two years ago - it was classic

throwaway pop, but it flopped. Now countless delays later and after the slightly anti-climactic "Republic", they finally release their first album.

There are basically two sides to it - sprightly, jaunty pop songs and moderately interesting, if somewhat pointless, instrumentals. Neither works terribly well. Album opener "Tasty Fish" has been touched up and remains as infectious. But they lose it immediately after.

After repeated listens, "The Greatest Thing" still doesn't register. Recent single "Selfish" is simply inconsequential.

"Movin' On" is pleasant, but nothing more. Then the weird instrumentals kick in, of which "Ninth Configuration" works best.

Everything here comes across as lightweight - ethereal, buoyant, airy, wispy, fluffy - you get the picture. It's all so up-in-the-clouds you

can't help longing for Peter Hook's bass to come along and anchor it back to firm ground. Of course, I'm not suggesting that they should be New Order (that's missing the point, isn't it?), but then again, when you've been partly responsible for such ground-breaking wonders like "Ceremony", "Blue Monday" and "Bizarre Love Triangle", sounding like St. Etienne (a below-par St. Etienne at that) is NOT a good thing.

Although Gillian handles vocal duties fine enough most of the time, Barney's endearingly off-key mutterings wouldn't go amiss. It's still unclear why New Order are only truly great collectively - put it down to chemistry, or more likely friction - it doesn't matter. The bottom line is - it's neither talent nor ability that The Other Two are found wanting - it's the other two.

# Pathetic Engineering

**Michael Goulding**

The other day, Rob gave me an album to review. Engine Alley by - wait for it - Engine Alley. Brief scan: Steve Lillywhite producing - very interesting - cover/inner artwork fairly normal bland stuff. First impressions: rock band (if only) with usual problem of blowing all their advance on recording and beer and then having to

have a whip-round for a beer for the guy that "did them a favour" with the cover, probably in his lunch break at the office.

And then I saw it. Inside, they had written "tanx" instead of thanks. Why do people always presume to be so intelligent? It's going to be a bad review. I didn't want it to be, but as time goes by it gets worse.

The production is at least as good as I wanted

it to be: the album sounds excellent. The mix is also superb but then it should be fairly easy to mix well-recorded instruments. It has that clean sound that suits CD so well, which a lot of people are going for now.

But, I hear you ask, what about the music? Bollocks. I'm trying hard, you know. Anyway, the songs are crap, with the attitude one would expect after the "tanx" fiasco. I

couldn't find one good track to name, but some of the least worst are "Switch" and "Spare me". There's one track called "Infamy" (should there be more than one?) in which the poetic genius of the band writes/sings "you were in infamy, you've got it in for me". Infamy, in for me. Does that mean the next album will have on it "she had a colostomy, she used dental floss on me"?

I wouldn't mind, but it is the poor vocals that let the album down, really. Bad parts, badly sung. You can almost hear our Steve's frustration in the takes he had to use in the final patchwork vocal track.

I cannot, despite Rob Shitty Stick's insistence, think of anything to compare the music to, other than the somewhat erratic (maybe erotic) sound made by the north end of

a south facing mule.

Thought for today: when you breathe out, you make a large cloud of steam; so does the same happen when you fart? I've often wondered, as I "kick in the afterburners" at the roadside, whether I'm standing in a rather atmospheric cloud, just like the Flying Scotsman waiting to pull out of the station.

Don't buy the album, it's shite.



# That Was The Year That Was...

# 1993

The 10 essential albums of 1993, as chosen by your Music editor. Feel free to disagree, but any complaints received will be ignored.

## Trans-Global Underground - "Dream of 100 Nations" (Nation)

If you haven't yet bought, borrowed or stolen this album, you are a fool and really ought not to be at one of the country's top educational establishments. "Dream of 100 Nations", the long-awaited debut LP from Count Dubulah, Alex Kasiek and DJ Man Tu is by far the best release of the last two years, a stunning fusion of Eastern and Western dance music styles. From the first and most well-known track "Temple Head", through "Shimmer", "La Voix Du Sang", "Sirius B" and up to "Hymn To Us", this is very nearly a perfect record. "Uplifting" may be an oft-used word in such circumstances, but it is an ideal description of this album. Put it at the top of your list when you write to Santa.

## The Fatima Mansions - "Come Back My Children" (Kitchenware)

As regular readers of these pages will know, the Fatima Mansions are The Best Band In The World. Consequently, as this is the only album they have released this year, it has to be on this list. Despite containing no new material, "Come Back My Children" still eclipses the vast majority of recent releases. This record is a compilation featuring the band's debut mini-album "Against Nature" and subsequent singles, notably "Blues for Ceausescu" and the majority of the "Hive" EP. Cathal Coughlan, in a typically offensive manner, shows two fingers to the Tories, the Catholic Church and anyone else similarly bigoted, which certainly appeals to a cynical fucker like me.

## Sugar - "Beaster" (Creation)

Last year's "Copper Blue" was a marvellous first offering from Bob Mould's new three-piece, full of catchy tunes and pleasant on the ear. "Beaster", however, is everything "Copper Blue" was, and more. Call it what you want - aggressive, nasty, jagged, intense - "Beaster" is a storming mini-album. Mr. Mould is obviously a little peeved at something, and tracks like "Judas Cradle", "JC Auto" and "Tilted" reflect his annoyance. It is a sad day in the music world when an old campaigner releases the most challenging record of the year - simply because of the competition, or lack of it. Many so-called "Alternative Rock" acts should really quit on hearing this.



Ultramarine - blue is the colour, folk/techno is the game.

## Ultramarine - "United Kingdoms" (blanco y negro)

Crossovers and fusions are very much the order of the day - we've had rap/metal, jazz/rap, funk/rock, you name it - now prepare yourselves for folk/techno. Interesting? Without a doubt. In normal circumstances, the very mention of folk music is enough to make people (myself included) have seizures. In this case, Ultramarine have brought English folk music kicking and screaming into the twentieth century, utilising the vocal talents of Robert Wyatt and a big spoonful of electronic wizardry. The result is a dance album that is pretty difficult to dance to, but unbelievably easy to listen to while sitting on the floor with your friends, with a big "five-skinner" in your gob.

## Orbital - "Orbital" (Internal)

Variouly known as "Orbital", "Untitled" or "the second one, you know, the one with the brown sleeve", this veritable slab of vinyl is a superb follow-up to "the one with the green sleeve". The Hartnoll brothers have now got their First from the University of Intelligent Techno, and this is their Ph. D. thesis. Bloody exceptional it is, too. If you are one of those sad gits who goes into raptures when listening to the new Retro Indie Toss LP, you could do worse than listen to Orbital, which would definitely be something to get excited about. If you choose to remain unenlightened, then you've missed the point - all techno doesn't sound the same, and here is proof. Indescribably good.



One Dove - welcome to coo in my ear anytime!

## One Dove - "Morning Dove White" (Boy's Own / London)

It could have been better, had Lord Sabre got his grubby mitts on all of it, but it's still a very good album. Dot Allison's breathy vocals are sexy as hell, and One Dove are undoubtedly good to fuck to. "Morning Dove White" is worth buying for debut single "Fallen", the inclusion of follow-ups "Transient Truth" and "White Love" serve to make it even greater value for money. Dub indulgences abound, causing reviewers like me to use words like "ethereal" a lot, when trying to describe it. Not quite "Screamadelica 2" as it was heralded, but still light years ahead of the majority of the chasing pack. Stephen Hague's wishy-washy mixes of are tacked on the end - use fast forward.

## The Drum Club - "Everything Is Now" (Butterfly / Big Life)

Once upon a time, two lads called Charlie and Lol - refugees from Spiral Tribe - started a Thursday club night, the Drum Club. It was, and still is, a brilliant night of techno excess. Then they decided to make some records, not piss-poor ones like Spiral Tribe, but mini-masterpieces. This, their first album, is the club night to take home with you - play it loud and dance around in your room. Emma from Lush has given them some guitar lines, which work well, but this album is really a fitting testament to what two blokes plus a lot of drugs can do. "I Really Feel", "One Tribe" and "Follow The Sun" are the killer tracks here, floor-fillers for sure. First class, or "Class A".

## Gallon Drunk - "From The Heart Of Town" (Clawfist)

Morrissey likes 'em, but don't let that put you off. They're still the best indie band around, despite the more professional approach which they seem to have taken since their early days of gigging in grotty little north London venues, and one of the best live acts you can hope to see. "Bedlam" late last year was the taster for this album, and there was no disappointment when this was released. Bolstered by the brass heroics of Terry Edwards, Gallon Drunk's second studio album still showcases their customary bass-driven, sordid rock epics, but it is far more mature. Second single "You Should Be Ashamed" is superb, and one of the many highlights of this record.

## Higher Intelligence Agency - "Colourform" (Beyond)

Birmingham's Beyond Records have, up until this, been keeping us well pleased with the "Ambient Dub" compilations (featuring HIA), but this is their first album release by one particular group - and what a start! Coming straight from the nerve centre of "intelligent techno", "Colourform" is a brilliant debut for the Higher Intelligence Agency. This record opens your head, sticks a spoon in and stirs your brains about - and it's a pretty good reproduction of the HIA live experience. The single "Speedlearn" is huge, as is the equally brilliant "Ketamine Entity". For a city whose most famous artists are Duran Duran and UB40, this is a refreshing change.

## Bubonique - "20 Golden Showers" (Kitchenware)

Almost unlistenable (which was the band's aim), "20 Golden Showers" is a bit like the Barron Knights having an excruciatingly horrific bad trip. The whole album is a piss-take, artists parodied include REM, Guns 'n' Roses, New Order, David Bowie and Frank Sinatra. With Sean Hughes doing a bit of singing as well, it all adds up to being an album that your parents will not wish to hear. "Summer (The Fist Time)" (sic), "Cop Lover", "Play That Funky Music Irish Guy" and "Elvis '93 (You Can Fuck Elvis)" are some of the gems here, in a non-stop 56 minutes of madness and foul language. "20 Golden Showers" is a truly terrible record. I advise you to buy it!



# WHAT'S ON \* WHAT'S ONLS

The Last Definitive Weekly Guide For LSE Students Covering All LSE & London Specials  
 Guide 10 - For Michaelmas Term 1993 - December 6th - December 12th

**Monday  
6th**

1pm. Graham Wallis Room. Revd. Michael Taylor, Director of Christian Aid, will be speaking on "The Poor of the Earth". This is a Chaplaincy Lecture, but all are welcome.

5pm. Old Theatre. The European Society introduce Karel von Miert, Vice-President of the EC Commission. He will be speaking on the "Competitiveness of European Industry".

The LSE Gay, Lesbian and Bi-Sexual Society hold their Xmas party and AGM. Featuring food, drink, videos and music; entry is £1 members and £2 otherwise. 6pm. in C120.

Regular underground football again!!!! Quelle surprise... No clue who is playing but the Villa have knocked Arsenal out the Cup so I don't care. Bound to be 7.30pm

and bound to be drinks promotions.

**Tuesday  
7th**

Tonight is the first showing of the LSE Drama Society's production of "Twelfth Night". All the drama soc's. presentations are to be recommended, and this is no exception, well worth seeing. If you can't make it tonight (essay deadlines getting closer? Tell them it will be in first day of next term, honest), don't worry, there are two other showings, one tomorrow and then on Thursday. Tickets are £2.50 or £2 for members. 7.30 pm each evening in the Old Theatre.

Also tonight, the Malaysia-Singapore Society hold their end of term disco at Legends (29, Old Burlington Street). Tickets are £5, with your first drink free (which will probably have cost you that fiver anyway), and special reductions

for members. 10.30pm till 3am. Tickets still on sale in Houghton Street at time of writing.

**Wednesday  
8th**

MSS General Meeting. 1pm in A86. To discuss MSS Nite and the election of a new committee member. If you have any other business or just want to get involved, simply turn up and look excited.

Fabian Society Speaker Meeting. Bryan Gould MP will be speaking on "The Way Forward for Labour". 1pm in the Vera Anstey Room. One thing to note, information received seems to point that this will be a regular meeting in the future. Watch this space for details.

The LSE Japan Society introduce Professor Ian Nish, who will be giving a lecture on "LSE Links to Japan" in the Suntory-Toyota Room (R420) at 3.30pm onwards. All welcome.

Described as "the LSE community event of the year", which it may well be... The LSE Carol Service starts at 5.15pm in the Shaw Library. It will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Another regular event... The last Rag Film Night of term. See posters for full details but you should know all the

details by now. Old Theatre at 7.30pm. (But don't quote me on that)

**Thursday  
9th**

The Centre For The Study Of Global Governance Lecture announce Pierre Sane (Secretary General of Amnesty International) on Human Rights In The '90s: An Agenda For Action. 5.30pm. in the Old Theatre. Admission Free.

**Friday  
10th**

Unfortunately, tonight will no doubt see the last Time Tunnel disco of term ('cause it's the last day of term today). Although this has yet to be confirmed, keep watching the noticeboards for details.

**Saturday  
11th**

Just go home will you... As this page will be continuing next term, obviously by public demand (no really, there is demand). If you have any details that you would like to be included, it's all free of charge and the best way of letting people know what is happening around the LSE, drop a line to Nick Fletcher, at least a week before the event, help us to help you.

**Sunday  
12th**

# Time Out

## MAGAZINE

**This week as it's the end of term, Julie Emery gets all nostalgic and casts her cynical eye over the past year.**

So, '93: how was it for you? It was pretty bloody good for me: I got to be the editor of a monthly magazine in Amsterdam, as well as editing the very wonderful Time Out Student Guide (hey, that's my last plug of the year, so you can let me get away with it). But students got a bit of a raw deal I reckon, what with all the press hysteria about 'promiscuous' students in the wake of the King's College court case, the Government finally starting to carry out their threat to dismantle the NUS and cutting grants in the Budget by 10 per cent.

It was also a bad year for Michael Jackson: but we'll have to wait until '94 to see what happens, although any chance of a fair trial has been blown away by the constant harping by the media. George Michael spent a lot of time in the High Court trying to get out of his contract with Sony. London Underground didn't have it easy either: it's actually quite frightening to realise how outdated most of the system is, when millions of us quite happily descend into the bowels of the city every day and put ourselves willingly into the hands of a dangerous, dirty, overcrowded transport system. The England football team didn't fare too well: but who wants to go to a World Cup in America anyway?

But enough of negativity - 'tis the season to be jolly after all - so let's think of some good things that happened this year. Um... it's quite difficult isn't it? Ha, I've just thought of something: the signing of the final draft of South Africa's new constitution. And Mandela and De Klerk winning the Nobel Peace Prize. Thanks to TV's 'The Thatcher Years', a nation finally woke up to the fact that Margaret Thatcher is totally bonkers (allegedly). And Graham Taylor at long last resigned as England manager (did he jump or was he pushed?) Oh, and England's rugby team beating the All Blacks for the first time in a million years. See, it wasn't all bad was it?

Films of the year, as far as this Time Out panel of one is concerned, were 'The Crying Game' and 'Howard's End'. Gone but not forgotten: River Phoenix, Fellini and Vincent Price. And one of the TV stars of the year has to be Noelene from 'Sylvania Waters'. After years of squeaky-clean teens in Australian soaps, it was good to see them swearing, drinking and slagging each other off in a real family soap opera. Then there's Hufty, new presenter of 'The Word': she's a lesbian (gasp!); she's got no hair (how subversive!); she's from Newcastle and says 'canny henny pet' a lot (blimey, how very northern).

So let's all prepare for the annual torture that is Christmas, and look towards '94, New Year's resolutions at the ready (stop smoking/lose weight/stop drinking too much vodka/stop buying 2 Unlimited records). '93 wasn't too bad a year: remember those two sunny weeks in July? Happy Christmas.

# Time Out

## END OF TERM COMPETITION

We have some prizes from Time Out to celebrate end of term and the New Year. These include a first prize of a Time Out Eating and Drinking Guide, a T-Shirt and a 1994 Diary. Four runners up will receive Time Out 1994 Diaries.

The questions are:

1. Who is the Editor of Time Out?
2. What is on the front cover this week?
3. Who was featured on the cover of the Time Out Student Guide.

Winners will be announced at the Beaver Party on Wednesday, so you have little time to get those answers in to the Beaver Office, the postboxes or by any means necessary



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

## CLUB



## NOISE

Neil A.

"No one likes us, we don't care" - a cry that follows Millwall around the country. It's rather outdated now, but once upon a time it was a symbol of Millwall's struggle to survive, proving there's more behind the club than it's hooligan element and brand new stadium. It's a history full of ifs, mayes and what-could-have-beens because without a doubt, Millwall are one of the unluckiest clubs in the history of the game.

The Lions have been around for 108 years now. During that time they haven't won anything worth mentioning - the then 2nd Division Championship they won back in 1988 plus an appearance in the War Time Cup Final of 1945 being the nearest they've got to one of football's glittering prizes. The Evening Standard 5-a-side Competition and the FA Youth Cup are all well and good but it's hardly your FA Cup and Coca-Cola Cup double, is it? But that's not to say the Lions haven't come close to Wembley. Millwall have reached the last four of the FA Cup three times (1900, 1903 & 1937) and the Quarter Final countless other times but we always seem to end up the bridesmaid instead of the bride - except once.

Everyone who was alive at the time knows where they were when Kennedy died. Down the Old Kent Road every Millwall fan remembers the day The Lions finally made it into Division One for the first time in their history. Grown men cried. After years of failure, it was time to go play with the big boys and people began to look at the club in a different light. The fantasy only lasted for two years but by Christ did we

enjoy the ride. In our first full season in the top flight we were right up there with Liverpool, Arsenal and Norwich in the hunt for the Championship and on October 6th 1988 the impossible dream became a reality - an away win at QPR put Millwall at the top of the First Division. For a week, we were the best team in the land, a fact supported by our continued two-fingered salute to the rest of the Nation as we powered on to become the last team in any Division, in both England and Scotland, to lose a game. Nirvana was there for the taking, unfortunately the bubble burst and the club's crap luck returned the following season.

After a promising start, which saw Millwall return to the top of the League, the luck ran out. The Lions won four games that season and the whole campaign can be witnessed in one simple FA Cup tie. After defeating Manchester City 3-1, Millwall drew Cambridge Utd, then of the Fourth Division, at home. It ended in a two-all draw, so it was off to the Abbey Stadium for the replay and that's when the fun started. With another draw on the cards, the game was into it's final minute when defender Dave Thompson decided to pass the ball back to Keith Branagan in the Millwall goal. Unfortunately he hit it a bit too hard. A rocket, it flew into the net and the final whistle went. It summed up our whole season, so near yet so far and down we went.

Two seasons in the top flight may not mean much to anyone else, but for any Millwall fan it became the golden era of Millwall Football Club. We proved that we had it in us to be up there with best of them. At last we could fill the poten-

## No. 10 Millwall

tial that had been promised so many times before.

Once upon a time, Millwall were the joint pioneers of professional football in the South of England. At a time when travel to the North simply to play a game of football was beyond the means of most clubs, Millwall were at the fore-front of the Southern League, which basically consisted of every other present day club South of the Midlands plus a few that have since become extinct. A powerful club, Millwall resisted the temptation to leave this League and join the Football League until after the First World War, when the two organisations finally merged. The Lions found themselves in the newly established Third Division (South) but to many, those years in the Southern League wasted the club's chances of establishing her as a major footballing power on the lines of Aston Villa. Without a doubt, had Millwall joined earlier, the club's name would have appeared on a few major trophies. Instead she was banished to the lower divisions while Arsenal, who had joined the Football League shortly before the war found themselves in the First Division (despite the fact they had never won promotion) but life's like that. It isn't fair. Furthermore, the war had run ragged the club's squad. The team that had won the London Cup and Southern Championship, containing England internationals Fort, Hill and Graham, so many times was no more.

From the horrors of the Great War, however, Millwall some how man-

aged to rebuild her squad and a year later they won promotion to the Second Division. Nothing could stop them, or so it seemed. After establishing themselves as one of the most powerful teams in the division they went nowhere (sound familiar?) and ten years later it all went wrong again. On May 5th, 1934 they played a Second Division game which changed the face of World Football.

Millwall needed a point to stay up while their opponents needed to beat the Lions to avoid the drop. Millwall were the favourites, after all, the game was to be played at the Den, which had already become established as one of the most inhospitable grounds in the land and they were finally getting into their stride but 'flu and a dodgy ref saw Millwall fall to a solitary goal in front of 33,000 fans. The Lions were relegated for the first time in their history while their opponents, who were in considerable financial trouble, were saved from the low attendances of Division Three (North) and the genuine threat of extinction: who were they? Manchester United, that's who. Always the bridesmaid never the bride.....

The Second World War destroyed the club totally. The squad was decimated, while supporters returned from the war and moved away. Attendances dropped and Millwall fell slowly, but surely into the 4th Division.

Benny Fenton was a good club player and emerged in the '70s as a great club manager for it was he who dragged Millwall up from the doldrums to the fringe of Division One. He changed the team around and formed a squad which became a classic containing a number of folk heroes: Barry Kitchener, 'Arry Cripps, Bryan King, Derek Posse etc. He also changed the team strip, with Millwall running out in white instead of the familiar blue. It was a new-look Lions that embarked on what has become one of the most painful seasons in the club's history, 1971-1972. Come May, Millwall had finished third, a point behind Birmingham City. In those days only two teams went up and so once again the Lions missed out. Two seasons later the quota was changed to three clubs up and three clubs down - the first victims of this change



J.R. Smith - the last Millwall player to be capped by England, way back in 1938.

were Millwall, who finished third from bottom that season and were relegated. It was a return to the dark ages.

For a club that's been threatened with closure more times than most other sides put together, the F.A. Cup Quarter Finals, versus Ipswich and Luton in 1979 & 85 respectively, proved to be a nightmare. Both ended in some of the worst crowd violence ever seen at a football ground and enhanced the reputation of Millwall's followers but the game against Luton hurt. Having dispensed Chelsea in the fourth round and Leicester City in the Fifth, both First Division sides, Millwall went to Kenilworth Road with high hopes. An unglamorous Third Division side, the Lions had put together a decent side, containing a number of Internationals and were looking to pull themselves up from lower depths of the Football League. The hooligan element put an end to this. All of a sudden everyone, including Margaret Thatcher, wanted to close the club down and Millwall were more likely to appear on the Nine O'Clock News than Match of the Day. No one liked us, but did we care?

That's all in the past now. The ghosts live on but they've got nowhere to haunt. When the Club moved grounds last Spring, a piece of me died. The Old Den had a certain atmosphere that intimidated the best of them. Close to the pitch, when the crowd got

behind the team in blue and white they were invincible and it had one of the best atmospheres you were ever likely to find at a football stadium. Admittedly, it was a dump, but it was our dump and for me it holds some very fond memories. Now we have a great new stadium with it's own identity but it's not the same - the memories of the past are no longer there. Ask any professional player what it was like to play at Cold Blow Lane and they're likely to turn white at the thought. It was that special. That's why anyone who has ever played for us has fond memories of the club, the only trouble is, their ghosts now roam across a housing estate. But for me, Cold Blow Lane will always mean only one thing: Millwall and the ghosts of Cripps, Kitchener, Sheringham, Cascarino, Fashanu, O'Callaghan, Kinsella, Chatterton, Lee, Walker, Seasman, Hamilton, Stephenson, Horrix, Hurlock, Jackson, Horne, Dawes, Carter, Salman, Cooper and Keith Stevens. For older generations it sums up memories of J. R. Smith, Finlayson, Charlie Hurley, Billy Neil, Julians, Hewitt, Keith Weller, Gordon Hill, Alex Stepney and Jack Williams but that's all in the past. For now, it's Mick McCarthy's Blue and White Army and a hopeful spot in the Premier League. As for the FA Cup, I doubt whether we'll ever reach the final in my lifetime, but here's hoping. Always the bridesmaid, never the bride.....



Dave Mangall rises above Man City and England goalkeeper Frank Swift to score Millwall's second in a 2-0 victory which sent the Lions into the Semi-Final of the FA Cup, becoming the first Third Division side to reach the last four in doing so.