

# The Beaver

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Issue 333

## Pro-Choice Activists Picket Irish Embassy

### LSE committee leads protest

by Adam Livingstone

One hundred Pro-choice activists rallied outside the Irish Embassy Grosvenor Place last Wednesday to protest against the strict abortion laws that are currently effective in Ireland.

Organized by the LSE Open Committee on Abortion Rights, the demonstrators delivered two hundred and fifty signed letters addressed to the Irish Prime Minister; protesting at the Irish government's refusal to legalize the freedom to distribute information on abortion facilities outside Ireland.

The protest forms part of a continuing campaign begun by Irish student organizations, such as the Union of Students of Ireland (the Irish equivalent of NUS), to oppose the work of the Society to Protect the Unborn Child (SPUC), a pro-life organization.

Mel Taylor, Senior Treasurer of the LSE Student Union and a leader in the Pro-choice movement, stated that she thought the protest was very successful. "We have had good press response from the campaign. The Guardian mentioned us and the Irish Press is also running a story. I believe this is a good starting point. We had fairly good attendance. These days it is hard to compare to the rallies against the Gulf but we got our message across." Another protest leader, Joan O'

Mahoney, also believes the protest was effective. She felt that it was a good first step towards combatting what she sees as a very deep seeded problem. She said "it's not just SPUC or the courts we have to fight; it's the whole Catholic Church, and the Catholic education system making a nation of hypocrites. People can't go on forever pretending Ireland is this wonderful place and ignoring all the things that go on underneath."

One of the protesters present at the rally is internationally known for her pro-choice activities. Ivana Bacik, was among the fourteen students from University College in Dublin who were arrested in 1988 for distributing the telephone number of an abortion information line. The Irish Supreme Court ordered Bacik, along with her co-defendants, to pay fines amounting to £60,000. The case is still continuing, having been referred to the European Court of Justice. If this body overturns the Irish decision, the Dublin government will have to change the law or face European Community action.

Bacik feels the Irish government simply is indifferent to the Abortion problem. She said, "They've washed their hands of the issue of abortion and the issue of information. They just left it to the courts and said nothing." However, with the election of Bacik's former law-



Sujata Aurora, Womens officer, rallies support at the Pro-choice rally in front of the Irish Embassy

Photo: Jan Kolasinski

yer, Mary Robinson, to the Irish Presidency, the pro-choice activist hopes this situation will soon change.

The Irish Embassy had no comment on the demonstration. However, the Irish Ambassador,

who coincidentally was visiting the LSE on the day of the protest, arrived while the demonstration was beginning to gather outside the Old Building. He commented that "There's not very many of them" and then

denied he was the Irish Ambassador, before making his escape to the lift. His bodyguard subsequently confirmed his identity.

At the protest, the demonstrators collected approximately twenty pounds to donate to the

Irish Students Defense Fund. This money augments three hundred pounds donated earlier in the year raised through a benefit concert and the passing of a hat in a Union General Meeting.

## Ashworth Blocks School Support For Exchange

### Director speaks against Eastern Europe Programme

By Sarah Ebner and Christian K Forman

John Ashworth, Director of the LSE, has effectively blocked school support for the East European Society's annual Easter exchange with universities in Bucharest, Warsaw, Prague, and Moscow. At a standing committee meeting of the Court of Governors, Ashworth spoke out against funding the program because he felt the school's limited resources should be allocated to other programs.

This move came as a surprise

to those in the East European society and the Student Union. Last year, the school granted the program £500, matching funds donated by the Union and other private benefactors.

Ashworth defended his action by claiming the school was operating on a very tight budget and that this program was less important than other school sponsored exchanges. "The schools finances are under considerable pressure and tough decisions must be made. I was concerned that Eastern Europe was getting too much attention. Every-

one was getting so excited over their new girlfriend that they were over looking old friends, such as Africa and other parts of the globe. If we fund this exchange, the other programs will suffer."

The Director explained the school offers a very similar East European exchange in the summer months. "The summer school program is a serious academic and educational experience. It provides the school with the same benefit which this exchange offers."

However, the Standing Com-

mittee of the Court of Governors were in favour of the program before Ashworth spoke.

This last minute funding problem has caused the organizers of the exchange a great deal of financial anxiety. Not only must they help defray the cost of the trip for LSE students, but they must also subsidize the poorer East Europeans when they come to London later in the year. The society, in conjunction with the school's pro-director, will be sending letters to various members of the LSE community asking for monetary

assistance. The Student's Union has responded by giving £300 pounds to the cause. Moreover, the Cafe has offered to provide meals for the Eastern Europeans when they are in the United Kingdom.

The entire situation has infuriated the Student Union executive. Mel Taylor, Senior Treasurer of the LSE Student Union, said, "I am concerned that the priority of the school is no longer it's students. I believe they are using the 'financial restraint' excuse to stop funding anything which they don't agree with.

Given that we are supposed to be an international college it seems this program is appropriate. The SU will do everything it can to help."

The Eastern European Society still has positions left in the exchange. Students wishing to go to Prague, Warsaw, or Bucharest may sign up this Thursday between 10-5 in front of the Old Theatre

## War in the Gulf

# International Relations experts speak on Gulf

by Simon Down

Around table discussion entitled "War in the Gulf" was sponsored by the International Relations department last Tuesday. The event, which drew over two hundred spectators, featured a distinguished board of international specialist airing their thoughts about the Middle East conflict.

The faculty panel was composed of LSE professors Fred Halliday, Christopher Hill, Phillip Windsor, and Michael Leifer. Also present was Lawrence Freedman, from the Strategic Studies department of King's College.

Each participant gave a short talk on a different aspect of the conflict, and then the forum was opened up to questions from the audience. Professor Freedman was the first to speak.

Freedman commented on the extensive media coverage of the war. He stated that the media, though seemingly omnipotent, was open to erroneous reporting. He said that since there is such pressure to get the news out fast, the facts are not always correct or confirmed.

Further, speaking on the tactical aspects of the war, he warned against accepting the illusion that the air bombardment of Iraq would 'soften up' the opposition enough so that alliance troops could capture

Kuwait with out heavy losses. "The strength of any opposition can only be fully ascertained by engaging them in battle," he said.

Phillip Windsor spoke next. He concentrated on the conflict in relation to Israel. Windsor spoke of the probability of Israeli involvement in the crisis and the Arab response. However, the most interesting segment of Windsor's talk came when he discussed the strategic value of the American Patriot missile. He stated that if Israeli was allowed to keep this weapons after the war, it could have a serious destabilizing effect on the region. He likened it to a miniature Strategic Defense Initiative.

Dr. Christopher Hill reflected on British interest and involvement in the conflict. He warned that the current government could face some serious political problems if the war should be prolonged. Interestingly, he spoke of the importance of American public opinion in maintaining British support for the war. He said, that if the American public turned against the conflict, Britain would be soon to follow. He also pointed out the danger of Britain being viewed as the "United States' tailgunner." Being seen as an American vassal in this situation, Hill argued, would be very detrimental to Britain's inter-



Fred Halliday tackles the Middle East Crisis

Photo : Alex McDowell

national image.

Fred Halliday analyzed the situation in general. He explained briefly that Saddam Hussein underestimated the readiness of America to go to war. In addition, he also expressed his opinion that "the shield changed to a storm" around November 8th, when the

Bush administration finally come to the realization that Saddam would not bow to peaceful pressure. Halliday noted that this change came twenty-four hours after the closure of the polls for the US congressional elections. He also spoke wishfully of the Iraqi General Staff overthrowing Hussein, but

admitted that the possibility was slim.

A question and answer session occurred after these speeches. One student questioned the double standards employed by the U.S. in not acting upon previous U.N. resolutions, specifically those which concerned Israel's occupation of

the West Bank. The panel concluded that there was something to be said for this argument but that the extreme nature of Iraqi aggression was such that there was a strong justification to use force in the Gulf.

### Beaver Newspaper Poll: The Crisis in the Middle East

- |  |         |        |               |
|--|---------|--------|---------------|
| 1 Do you think war in the Middle East is justified?                            | Yes 53% | No 41% | Undecided 6%  |
| 2 Do you think the allies did everything in their power to prevent the war?    | Yes 24% | No 71% | Undecided 5%  |
| 3a) Do you support conscription?   | Yes 12% | No 81% | Undecided 7%  |
| b) If conscripted, would you fight?  | Yes 47% | No 41% | Undecided 12% |
| 4 Do you believe the press is properly representing the situation in the Gulf? | Yes 29% | No 50% | Undecided 21% |

## LSE Students Say War is Justified

by Beaver Staff

The students of the LSE believe that the war in the Middle East is justified, according to a Beaver Newspaper poll.

Last week the Beaver news staff interviewed 58 students from the LSE community. They were asked a series of five questions on the Gulf issue. Some rather surprising results were found.

Of those interviewed, 53% said that the conflict in the Gulf was justified while only 41% stated that it was not. If broken down by gender, 56% of the males were in favour of the war, while only 50% of the women supported the conflict.

When asked if they thought the allies had done everything in their power to prevent the hostilities, the results reversed with 71%

saying no and only 24% saying yes. This large division between the two groups was also seen when the respondents were asked if they believed in conscription. A resounding 81% were against the draft with a meager 12% in favour.

However, when asked if they would fight if conscripted into military service, 50% of the males answered in the affirmative along with 42% of the women. 38% of the men and 45% of the women answered no.

The last question asked of the students was whether they believed the press is properly representing the situation in the gulf. Only 29% of the group felt that they were getting the real picture through the news, while 50% stated that they felt they were getting misled.

These poll results surprised some in the LSE community. One second year student said, "These figures are really interesting. If you were to judge LSE's political orientation by eating in the Cafe or attending a Union General Meeting, you would tend to feel that the University was left wing. However these results seem to reject this idea. Most of these people seem to be politically moderate."

This poll was conducted during a three day period during the week of January 21. The pollsters conducted their research on Houston street questioning students between classes. Of the fifty-eight interviewed, thirty-four were males and twenty-four were females. The interviewers were male and female from Great Britain and the United States.

## LSE Rumoured Terrorist Target

### False allegations shake LSE administration

by Christian K Forman

A rumour that the LSE is near the top of a list of probable terrorist targets has been denied by the LSE administration.

Last Tuesday, an individual phoned and informed the school that an American television news program listed the LSE as the third most likely terrorist target in London. The school immediately contacted the department of the Metropolitan Police which deals with terrorism, and was told that the LSE is not considered a likely recipient of a terrorist attack.

Efforts by the LSE press office to identify the news program which started the rumour have failed up to this point. The NEXUS agency, a news clipping and information service, has been hired to scan ever American publication in an attempt to identify the source.

Even though the rumour was unsubstantiated, the administration is taking the report very seriously. The security staff has been briefed, and a number of new security procedures have been instituted. Among the most notable, are that students will be asked for school identification before they are allowed to deposit their belongings in the BLEPS cloakroom and no one will be allowed into the school facilities after midnight. Also, a special edition of the "LSE Circular" has been published which urges all members of the LSE

community to avoid leaving their belongs unattended and to report anyone acting suspiciously to the main Porter's lodge.

Ian Crawford, the LSE press liaison explains, "the school has taken this situation very seriously. We have spoken to the police and they are convinced that we are not a target. However, if this situation changes they will notify us immediately."

The school was greatly troubled by this latest rumour. In addition to the obvious concern for the safety of the community, the administration also was worried that this scare would

reduce the number of foreign students who will attend the school next year. General Course Tutor, Mike Reddin, will be starting a tour of major US universities next month and plans to assure American students of the safety of the LSE.

An interesting theory explaining the rumour has been offered by a member of the LSE administration. The source explains that the London Stock Exchange also is abbreviated by "LSE." It is possible that the news report could have been referring to the commodities market rather than the university.

### Security Guidelines

- 1 No bags or other articles should be left unattended anywhere within the school.
- 2 Any unattended items may be removed and if necessary passed over to the security authorities for disposal.
- 3 Anyone depositing any item in the school cloakroom is liable to be asked to produce proof of identification.
- 4 No-one should accept any item which is not their personal property for storage in offices or particularly personal lockers
- 5 Any suspicious behavior should be reported to the porters lodge in the main building.
- 6 School premises may be closed at 12 midnight and nobody would be allowed to remain on the premises after that time until further notice.

# DSG Candidate Wins Election



Democracy in Action : LSE students replace former NUS External Officer Lee Marriott

Photo : Alex McDowell

## Durai is new NUS External

by Swaha Pattanaik and Sarah Eglin

Jai Durai of the Democratic Socialist Group (DSG) was elected to the post of NUS External Officer in an election held last Thursday.

Out of the 375 votes cast, Durai polled 137 votes with Labour candidate, Rick Livingstone, coming in second with 98 votes. The Tory candidate, Chris Pincher, received 97 votes, and the Green candidate Awenna Williams took 43 votes.

Peter Mackey, the returning officer, expressed his hope that

Durai would not be the same disappointment as the previous NUS external officer, Lee Marriott. Marriott was removed from office in mid-term for his failure to satisfactorily complete his duties. On this topic Durai stated, "There is a problem about people running for things when they're not really interested."

In Mackey's view, the turnout was good for a by-election, with approximately 8.33 percent of the LSE community voting. Of those who voted, the majority were undergraduates. However, he did note that more graduate students than usual took the

time to cast a ballot.

Mackey commented that he believed the candidates campaigns were, "fairly laid-back". This observation was substantiated by the fact that the Tories failed to have a representative present at the ballot counting procedures. In the past, they have been known for their hawkish attention to detail when it comes to such events.

The D.S.G. chairman, Peter Harris, expressed his delight at the election results. He believed that Durai would represent the LSE community and the Student Union well in her new

duties.

Durai, herself, felt that her success was, "another step for a Union free of dictator's dogma."

Gareth Roberts, Press and Publicity Officer for the S.U., commented, "Jai is a very popular and likeable candidate."

After her election, Durai was asked about the recent controversy surrounding the possible rift between the L.S.E. Labour Club and the National Organization of Labour Students. She said, "I haven't got an opinion on the subject. I haven't been to many N.U.S. conferences."

# Racial shooting in Limehouse

## Student Union Executive notes increased ethnic violence

by Beaver Staff

On Tuesday, January 22, two Asian youths were shot with air rifles by two white males in the Limehouse district of London. The male victims, aged 17 and 18, were not seriously wounded and did not need hospitalization. The police have not made any arrests.

Mel Taylor, Senior Treasurer of the LSE Student Union, talked about this

particular incident at the Union General Meeting on Thursday January 25. She noted that this sort of racist attack was on the rise in London as a result of the hatred started by the Gulf war. She denounced the act as despicable.

According to the Police report, the attack was unprovoked. At approximately 1:30pm, a group of five Asian youths were standing on Commercial Street when two

caucasian teenagers barged their way through the gathering. No words were exchanged, however, the two whites returned a few minutes later armed with air rifles. They proceeded to fire into the Asian gathering, wounding two of the group. The gunmen then fled the area.

The Newham Monitoring Project, a watchdog organization which investigates racist attacks, is meeting

with the victims and the police in the hope of determining the cause of the attack. A project spokesman said, "We believe that this shooting is just the latest manifestation of the growing racist attitude of British society."

The police investigation is still continuing.

Commentary

# Union Jack

The last UGM, it has to be said  
Twas not the best it's been.  
The tone was weary, lethargic, dead  
And young Marriott couldn't be seen.  
Rob got things rolling by muttering on  
'bout fees and funds and the rest.  
To muted cheers he covered for Jon  
Who'd last been seen heading west.

About student exchanges Mel was quite bland  
Grumbling about the School being lean.  
Last year they stumped up nearly a grand  
But this year haven't offered a bean.  
And this war in the Gulf, young Melanie intoned  
Was for racism a bit of a curse.  
And for gays and for girls and for Arabs, she droned  
Things could now only get worse.

The left's favourite target stepped up to speak  
A likeable but gormless young chappy.  
Some oddball was visiting the lefties next week  
And the J-Soc weren't particularly happy.  
Ali marched forward to point out their fears,  
But the left were having none of his views.  
"Greenstein was invited to be exposed to our jeers  
And not to cause offence to the Jews."

And after Sujata, fresh from some picket,  
Nikpay was again under fire.  
As a housing campaigner he just wasn't the ticket  
And his opponents were expressing their ire.  
Quick as a flash the buck was passed on  
Gareth Roberts was the man they should blame  
But Gareth's OK, so the interest was gone  
And the satisfaction just wasn't the same.

The motions began as the officers departed  
Nothing new, I'm sad to relate.  
"The Tories are mean, vicious, cold-hearted,  
While Labour are cuddly and great."  
Attacks on education was the theme for today  
And the masses yawned hard and long.  
And while Daniel Trump tried to make it less grey  
He really just wasn't on song.

The Tories made noises while time did allow  
Pincher and Bourke were their men.  
"If you haven't got time for Tory policies now,  
You should have seen what Labour did then."  
Amongst others, this enraged the DSG's Liz  
Who was so furious she looked faint and weak.  
Indeed such was the extent of the poor girlie's tizz  
That she nearly forgot how to speak.

Kandy Woodfield finished off with an emotive appeal  
That set many hearts all a flutter.  
From the start the hecklers gave her a tough deal  
But by the end, there wasn't a mutter.  
An amendment came forward, but didn't last long  
And Diarmuid said it was time for a vote.  
The arms in the air showed the Tories were wrong  
We can only hope Ken Clarke will take note.



# The Daily Telegraph wants you to give your legs to Oxfam

Enter them now for The Daily Telegraph NUS Fun Run and they can raise much needed money for Oxfam's vital work to relieve poverty in Southern Africa.

The 5km Fun Run is the biggest student event in the UK and by taking part you will be voting with your feet for better living and working conditions in Front Line Africa.

Celebrities, steel bands, competitions and entertainment are just part of the fun.

There are prizes and incentives for raising

sponsorship and the star fundraiser will run off with two return tickets to New York from Campus Travel. Hosts of other prizes from National Express, Our Price and Nike.

*Where:* The University of Birmingham.

*When:* Sunday 10 March. Entry forms and further details can be obtained from your local Student Union or by telephoning the Fun Run office on the following number 0865 311 311.



# Arts Supplement

This week, the Beaver presents a special four-page pullout Arts section, including features on Mozart and the London Jazz scene.

## Child Prodigy Reborn

200 Years Of The Man, The Myth & The Music.

1798, the year of Mozart's death, is to be remembered incessantly. It seems ironic that we are obsessed with tragedy. 1991 is not only the bicentenary of the death of Mozart but also the five hundredth anniversary of the birth of Henry the Eighth. Yet although birth is an infinitely more joyous event than death, it seems that Henry is deemed to pale into insignificance this year beside the celebrations over the best classical composer.

Mozart's life was extraordinary, tragic, brief and alcoholic to an extent which would shame even the most hardened drinkers who frequent the Tuns. The Oscar-winning film "Amadeus", somewhat crudely depicts Mozart as a vulgar, fun loving and irresponsible creature whose talents were wholly inappropriate to his person. Salieri, court composer to the Emperor Joseph the Second, was seen to be jealous and obsessed by his inadequacies in composing. Whether this was true or not can only be left to the imagination and to the poetic licence of film directors. However, there is no doubt that his talents were extraordinary and way ahead of his time, even to a greater extent than J. S. Bach appeared to be nearly a century before.

Mozart's childhood was not a happy one but he seemed to gain security from his father's dominance. His ability to play pieces of technical brilliance with such emotional maturity at so tender an age simply illustrates his complete mastery of his material. At the age of six, Mozart made his first professional European tour. This involved such venues as the court of Louis the Fourteenth. At this time, Mozart's father, Leopold, was praised for having raised such a fine musician of a son and Mozart himself was treated rather like an unusual plaything. He was marvelled at, constantly tested, picked up, made to play on chairs or tables and blindfolded at the request of the audience. Indeed, such was the legacy that Mozart left to future generations of children that Beethoven was bullied and beaten as a child by his father in the hopes that he would become the latest child prodigy and make his father wealthy.

From the immortal "Twinkle Twinkle little star" which he wrote at the age of five, to the D minor requiem which death prevented him from completing. Mozart's repertoire is vast and varied. The sheer number of compositions which he wrote is unmatched by any other composer. He wrote concertos, symphonies, operas, sonatas and a

wide selection of chamber music. The changing nature of the string quartet can be attributed solely to Mozart. He broadened the scope of the melody, sharing it amongst all four instruments rather than just giving the first violin the glory. This method served to vary the tone of the melody and to increase the variety of the music offered. His most famous quartet "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" is an ideal illustration of this method. Mozart's mathematical ability in composition must also be assumed, as composition, in Mozart's day, was studied as a peripheral course to traditional maths subjects at most European universities. However, all of his skill seemed to come to him without much contemplation. All of his music drafts were only written once, no copies were kept, and harmony seemed to flow from his quill to the extent that mistakes were minimal.

Mozart's music often reflects the emotional situations which he faced in his life. His desire to continually widen the horizons of musical appreciation illustrate his insatiable enthusiasm for his subject. For example, his wish to write an opera in vernacular faced court disapproval and opposition but was achieved with success. In doing this, Mozart was able both to reflect German life more appropriately and to make his music more appealing to a wider population.

His most commercially successful operas were "The Marriage of Figaro", written in 1786 and "Don Giovanni", a year later. The latter, in a broad sense, reflects Mozart's conflicts with his father, Leopold. It seems to tell of his father's constant disapproval of his son's playful antics. Even after death it is said that his father continued to hunt him. The film Amadeus accurately illustrates this fear by showing Salieri dressing up in the same operatic mask and cloak which his father wore on the occasion which Mozart was last to set eyes upon him. However, it was not the jealous Salieri who subjected Mozart to this emotional torture but Count Walsegg, a noble often present at the court of the Emperor to whom Mozart had, by this time, been appointed as Kammer Musicus.

At this point in his life, Mozart already spent more than he earned on the old evils of wine and women. However, this emotional manipulation which Walsegg subjected him to merely drove Mozart further into the declining spiral of alcoholism. It was at this point in his life that



From The "Mozart In Art Exhibition"

the opera "the Magic Flute" was written and performed. Such an opera with a story line of utter fantasy and a musical mastery so vast gained widespread popular appeal but could not provide quite the financial benefits that Mozart so badly needed at this time. It was then that Count Walsegg came to be some financial assistance. Still in the same ominous guise and posing as Leopold Mozart, Walsegg approached the composer and commissioned him to write a Requiem for the funeral of a man who was to remain anonymous. Mozart was for the rest of his life doomed to convince himself that this piece was a death warrant: a requiem to be written by him for his own funeral. Such was not the case. In reality, Walsegg wished the music of the finest composer to grace his funeral.

However, the completed requiem was not to grace Walsegg's funeral, as death prevented Mozart from completing it. Yet the money given to Mozart as a composition incentive helped to clear the majority of his debts. Mozart was a compulsive spender. He bought all manner of useless artifacts and drank his way through his family's

livelihood. He was buried in a pauper's grave. This great classical composer had no headstone, he had no coffin and there was no ceremony for his funeral. It was only after Mozart's death that his D minor requiem was completed. Süssmayr, a contemporary German composer had the honor of completing the work. Yet when one listens to it now, it is clear where Mozart's work ends and Süssmayr's begins. The depth of the music and the emotions which it provokes is so much more diverse in Mozart's work, yet, compared to the last movement, it also seems so simple and so pure: just enough instruments are used to make the music sound complete in its deeply moving sadness. In celebration of Mozart's achievement it seems likely that many more films are to be made, that concerts will be staged across the world and that people will become victims to the latest trend in music: rushing to the nearest Virgin to buy a copy of Cosi Fan Tutti or Mozart's fourth horn concerto. Perhaps by the end of 1991 we'll all be sporting powdered wigs and satin bodices.

Madeline. Gwyon

## Mozart Concerts At The Barbican

The following all begin at 7.45pm and ticket prices range from £4 to £15.

- Wed 30th Jan "La Betulia Liberata"
- Frid 8th Feb Four Milan Quartets
- Wed 13th Feb Symphony Number 26
- Wed 20th Feb Early masteries of Symphonic form
- Wed 27th Feb Five violin Concertos, with Nigel Kennedy.
- Sat 2nd March Marches and Serenades
- Sun 10th March Symphonies and Concertos
- Wed 13th March Symphonies and Serenades
- Sat 23rd March Symphony Number 34 in C and "Zaide" - unfinished dramatic singspale.
- Wed 27th March Serenade in E flat plus Quartets. Works for wind ensemble.

Also at the Barbican from the 14th February to 1st April "Mozart In Art" Exhibition.

# Disneyland in Chaos

Double dilemma of chocaholic twins



The "Pitchfork Disney" suggests in its title, a fairy tale pierced by a dagger of fear and nightmarish intrusions which momentarily destroy the sweetness and beauty of things and instill chaos where order had been the norm. The play is in fact a modern version of *Babes in the woods* and tells the story of a pair of chocaholic twins constantly haunted by grotesque gothic dreams of distress and dire distress and destruction. This intrusion into their simplistic lives reaches a head when the personification of their deep-rooted fears walks through the door in the form of the beautifully evil Cosmo who questions their very existence and sanity.

Cosmo is the perfect man, driven by greed for money, dark and handsome, master of every situation, destroyer of lives and invader of beautiful dreams.

Presley is dazzled by his glittering jacket, mesmerized by his smooth silky charm and in awe of his warped mentality. In his personality, Cosmo brings to life all the evils of modern society under one roof and his sidekick Pitchfork (who lacks the basic human essential of a face) only serves to confirm Presley's (one of the twins) fear that they must now confront their deepest nightmares in the flesh.

The imagery and symbolism are powerful and seductive especially the chocolate idea which brings to mind something dark and destructive (to the teeth for instance) but sweet and smooth and so terribly addictive. One can imagine the twins swimming for their lives in a sea of thick bubbling milk chocolate and drowning in the sweetness of its dark beauty. Gothic images project from the script and

swirl around the stage finally disappearing into the nothingness from which they evolved. The idea of a faceless, expressionless man is particularly daunting and is a constant source of mystery in the play until his much awaited entrance towards the end. Pitchfork does not disappoint. He trundles in with a stiff limp in one leg and a face as black as death itself.

Cosmo is played by Dominic Keating who regularly appears on T.V in *Desmond's* and has played in *The Bill*, *Casualty* and *The Paradise Club*. Rupert Graves who played in "A Room with a View" plays the twin brother Presley and is particularly worth mentioning because of his undeniable talent and facility for expressing words. Philip Ridley outdoes himself in this bitter-sweet production.

# In Sickness And In Health

Feverish guilt in a strange bedroom

American actor/writer Wallace Shawn prefaces "The Fever" by telling us of its humble beginnings as a work performed in the intimacy of friends' apartments. A setting which does seem more appropriate for Shawn's brand of armchair philosophising. For one and a half hours the audience is taken on a relentless guilt trip from the security of capitalist America to the land of desperados, rife with socialism, terrorism and poverty. On a bathroom floor in a foreign hotel room he vomits up his

life of guilty privilege. With his eyes recently opened to torture, rape and death in, "the poor country where no one speaks his language"; a life of dinner parties, theatre, ballet and superficial friendship no longer holds any appeal. Making money is meaningless when compared with the profound struggles of the poor.

What can he do to relieve his guilt? Give up all his riches? But he earned them! He thought Communism was dead, that no one, anywhere, had cause to

shout out slogans such as "Down with the rich!" anymore. He visits more poor countries, his misery increases.

And so it goes, on and on, to the profound irritation of this reviewer.

*Reviewed at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs.*

*(On tour; returns to the Cottesloe Theatre, Royal National Theatre, on February 8,9.)*

Madeleine Wackernagel



'Portrait of Wally 1912' from the Egon Schiele Exhibition at the Royal Academy. Beaver apologises this should have been printed with Maya Pastakia's review in the 14th Jan issue

# Ken Campbell Bares All

The naked truth by a humourous storyteller

It's a strange world Ken Campbell inhabits. One of his anecdotes in "The Furtive Nudist" concerns the unfortunate death of a female friend who, struck by a desire to check on her brain's whereabouts, plunges a wire coat hanger into her head. He tells us of Charles Fort, the man who believed that if you kissed enough frogs one day you'd end up with a prince. He relates strange dreams about finding happiness in a swimming pool surrounded by foliage. And, to start off with, the joys of furtive nudism - particularly walking down the high street starkers at three in the morning whilst blind drunk. If his material is bizarre, his presentation couldn't be more low

key. Campbell wanders on stage, absent-mindedly thanks everybody for turning up, and starts chatting. He doesn't stop chatting for three hours, save for a fifteen minute interval, and he is, quite simply, stunning. If they gave an award for raconteuring, this man would storm home. Every pause, every movement - the slow chuckles to himself, the shy glances to the audience, the slow pottering around the stage - is exactly right.

In the hands of such a devastating storyteller, the strange tales which make up the evening seem almost incidental. Campbell plays them for laughs, but underlying the humour is a strong sense of uneasiness. Just about every orthodoxy is ques-

tioned in the course of the evening, and the net effect is to leave you feeling distinctly disturbed. He demolishes the barriers we erect, and dances on the ruins. If life is bizarre and tragic, he enthuses, it is also wonderful and comic.

As subtexts go, it's better than most, but it's hardly profound. What matters here is the singer not the song, and Ken Campbell does remarkably well in making the song seem more than it is. You leave with the feeling that you've very nearly - but not quite - stumbled onto a great secret. Go and see it. Entertained you most certainly will be. Enlightened is another matter.

Richard Stevens

# Lovewars

A story of bullet crossed lovers

Interested in seeing a gangland movie but tired of reruns of *The Godfather*? Miller's *Crossing* should prove to be the right prescription.

Produced by Joel and Ethan Coen, Miller's *Crossing* is the compelling story about Leo (Albert Finney), a tough local political boss and Tom (Gabriel Byrne) his adjutant. Tom is a compulsive gambler, stops at nothing to get what he wants. Their partnership falls apart

when they both fall in love with Verna (Marcia Gay Harden), this leads to Tom joining ranks with Leo's arch-enemy, Johnny Caspar (Jon Polito) who is only concerned with ethics. Other actors include J.E. Freeman who plays the Dane, a cold-blooded killer who enjoys his job and is Tom's rival for Caspar's ears. John Turturro is Bernie Bernbaum a hilarious double-dealer who can only be saved by Tom. With photography directed

by Barry Sonnenfeld, an all-star cast and a music score by Carter Burwell, Miller's *Crossing* can't seem to go wrong. Although some of the scenes are reminiscent of movies of that genre, it portrays the rather humorous side of a gang war set in an unnamed eastern city in 1929. Well worth seeing. Be prepared for violence though, there's lots of it.

Ben Dare

# Misery Revisited

Stephen King's best-seller hits the screen

Having read "Misery" by Stephen King it was not with a little curiosity, and premature fright, that I began to view its adaptation to the big screen. Happily this conversion saw little alteration to the original plot. "Misery" still centered around a badly injured writer being taken in by a raving psychopath, Annie Wilkes. Additionally this horror movie is set against the beautiful backdrop of snowy Colorado Mountains.

The film sees another resurrection of James Caan, who most recently starred in *Alien Nation*, playing the unfortunate Paul Sheldon author of the "Misery" novels. It is Kathy Bates, however, who steals the show brilliantly bringing to life

Stephen King's Annie Wilkes. Although she did not live up to the ugliness I anticipated, Kathy Bates convincingly plays a woman living in twisted reality. Annie Wilkes's loud and complex character is well contrasted with James Caan's usual inert self. This makes him almost perfect for the part. His role demands little more than a few appropriate vocal or facial responses to Annie Wilkes eccentricity to make the film very funny in places.

The main supporting actors Buster and Virginia played by Richard Farnsworth and Frances Sternhagen serve to bring some spice and normality to the film. Their quaint relationship produce some moments

of a comedy quite different to the comic effects seen between Annie Wilkes and Paul Sheldon.

Rob Reiner, the director, successfully uses these dual sources of humor to exaggerate the horror to come. Indeed, the shocks towards the end are delivered effectively to the audience who up until then had mostly been watching a bizarre black comedy. Personally I found the transition unappealing and sometimes too sickening, but then my preferences of film never lied in the horror genre. Nevertheless, most Stephen King readers will surely find *Misery* an absolute scream, and often in the literal sense.

If there is one major negative criticism of *Misery* it is a com-

mon fault amongst adaptations. Rob Reiner relies so heavily on the remarkable plot devised by Stephen King at the expense of character, especially Paul Sheldon's. It is difficult to sympathize with Paul Sheldon when so little of his character is revealed. However these problems have never stopped horror from being unsuccessful in the past, and if you are a glutton for shock now and then I suggest that you see *Misery* when it comes out on general release. Ironically on top of a few frights some quite funny moments makes *Misery* rather enjoyable.

# Baby Love

Bruce Willis gets a new sister

Films without plot are always facing an uphill struggle. The attention of the audience cannot be allowed to wander for a second, otherwise they notice that nothing is happening. *Batman* just about got away with it, but this film did not.

The formula is much the same as "Look Who's Talking" - baby does cute things while Bruce Willis does a soundtrack of what the baby is thinking in Brooklyn slang. In this one, Roseanne Barr joins him as a younger sister, but as she isn't in it much don't go see it on her account. In the first film, John Travolta's endearing slob fell in love with Kirsty Allie; in this one, they split up (rather unconvincingly) and then get back together. Travolta gets to dance again. And that's it.

There are still quite a lot of good moments in the film, the best of which is when Kirsty Allie's accountant brother comes to stay. He looks and acts exactly like Robert de Niro in "Taxi Driver," beating up burglars and pointing guns at visitors. There is also the talking toilet and the sinister toy clown which comes to life after the lights go out (an idea stolen from "Poltergeist") all in the imagination of five year old Bruce Willis. As in the first film, Willis gets all the best lines - "Hi, I'm your big brother. It's my job to beat you up." As well as those nauseating soppy ones about love that Americans like. Roseanne Barr gets a few



lines too, but she is mostly confined to shouting "He's so stupid" and "I want out of here." It almost seems as though the scriptwriters were scared to use her, which is not too surprising bearing in mind her general capacity to be offensive. It might have been a better film if she had been allowed to let rip.

Other entertaining moments come from unexpected quarters. Gerry Sadowitz (the stand-up comedian who shouts) is a play group leader who talks to him-

self. John Lennon sings "Jealous Guy" while Bruce Willis the baby is losing the attention of his parents to his sister. And the black kid in the play group explains how to play Doctors and Nurses in the voice of Levi Stubbs from the Four Tops. Unfortunately, they only amount to moments, balanced out by the unfunny bits with Travolta and Allie, and of course the lack of story.

If you think don't mind being told that single mothers are

incapable of managing, and don't think that a talking foetus is not a subliminal advert for the anti-abortion lobby, and have the attention span of a goldfish, and like American children, you might enjoy this film. Otherwise, go see something else.

Adam Livingstone

# Noise Annoys

"Somewhere in the distance is a place where I can go, and no-one else can be there, it's my own secret world. When life gets rough I will stay there." - 'Secret World', The Golden Dawn.

*Gigs: The Poppuns, Islington Powerhaus 11/1/91.* Scene: a crowded, sweaty Powerhaus. Starting the set with a new song is usually bold, sometimes stupid. It doesn't matter, the crowd are insane. A group of lecherous males and a few adoring females ogle Wendy Morgan, the singer wearing the slinky black number. Some may feel cheap or violated but she revels in it... and why not? I would. This is pure pop relying heavily on chiming guitars and stern drumming supplied by ex-Wedding Present Shaun Charman. These are ordinary folk (sharing their wine and beer with the audience wilting in the heat) playing at being rock stars. Greg, one of the two guitarists, starts the set with an obligatory 'rawk star' jump; Patrick, bassist, has his leg molested by the crowd and goes back for more; Wendy looks sultry and provocative (when she isn't laughing); Simon, guitarist, looks mean and moody. This is certainly a far cry from when I saw them playing their home town of Brighton in the art college basement, to an audience of about ten. They've developed, but whether they've improved is debatable. However after much favorable press and having seen previous support bands of theirs (Ride, The Las) reaching the charts, it is somewhat surprising that they haven't achieved such success themselves. Maybe the *Melody Maker* review summed them up perfectly: "I'm looking forward to the rest of 1991... won't it be fun watching bands like The Poppuns, bands with tunes and noise and tales to tell."

The UK Subs, 'Mad Cow tour', Moonlight Tavern, W. Hampstead. Some might say that punk is dead, but tonight's gig proves that it still lingers on. Only a few die hard punks turn up (with multi-coloured hair etc.) but they put up a good fight at the front of the crowd. There are only about 60 people here but, nevertheless, the venue is packed. The Ruptured Dogs start the evening with a powerful punk performance followed by Beautiful ("Hello, we're Beautiful), sporting a mellower sound. At last the UK Subs come on stage and play a long set, mixing classics such as 'Tomorrows Girls', 'CID', 'Emotional Blackmail' and 'Party in Paris' with new material from their forthcoming album. Though the UK Subs may have toured more than most groups, they've lost none of their energy and sparkle. -Thankyou Andre T. for this report.

*News: January 21* was a popular date for record releases; Dinosaur Jnr. are back with the *Melody Maker* single of the week titled 'The Wagon'. Their new album 'Green Mind' follows in February. Spacemen 3 are back after their apparent split with a new double A-side single, 'Big City/ Drive'. EMF release their follow-up to 'Unbelievable', entitled 'I Believe'. Also Madonna releases her full 12 minute video of 'Justify my Love' which also includes her 'Vogue' performance at the MTV Awards ceremony last year - was the controversy justified? The choice is yours (as they say on Blind Date). We mustn't forget Rick Astley, who makes his long-awaited comeback with 'Cry For Help'. Out now!

I was shocked to hear that Def Leppard guitarist, Steve Clark, was found dead at his London home on Jan. 8. The cause of death is so far unknown. Although recording sessions for the band's new album has stopped, they seem to be prepared to keep the band going with it's remaining members.

Lenny Kravitz plays the Brixton Academy on May 10 to co-incide with his as yet untitled second album. The Men They Couldn't Hang, who have been going for 6 years, are to split after their farewell tour. They play the Town and Country club on Feb. 8.

I just have to express my despair at Iron Maiden going straight to No.1 with a song called 'Bring your daughter... to the slaughter!' But Carl from The Farm summed them up nicely: "Iron Maiden have terrible trousers". I'd like to end with a quote from Dmitry of DeeeLite, "We had this girl moon at us once because we wouldn't give her our autograph. She just turned and dropped her pants. She had a big butt." The price you pay for being a pop star I'm afraid Dmitry.

# BEAVER RECOMMENDS THIS WEEK

## FILMS

### Cyrano de Bergerac

Encapsulating romantic film starring Gerard Depardieu as the tragic poet suffering from unrequited love in France in the period of dashing cavaliers.

*New Releases this week:*

**Postcards from the Edge** - Odeon, Leicester Square

**Catchfire** - Cannon, West End

**Havana** - Empire, West End

**Maniac Cop 2** - Cannon, Panton Street

**Rocky V** - Cannon, Chelsea/ Odeon, Marble Arch

## THEATRE

**Furtive Nudist**, Riverside Studios.

Ken Campbell delivers a comic tour de force.

**Belle Reprieve**, Drill Hall

Split Britches and Bloodlips' present a mixture of surreal and silly hot frocks, songs, one liners and comic sketches.

**All Things Nice**, Royal Court

Joanna Roth is besieged by advice in this humorous and sympathetic play.

## CABARET

**Tuesday 29th Jan**

Comedy store: The Cutting Edge (doors 7.30pm)

Bob Boyton, Dave Cohen, Richard Morton and Mark Thomas perform new topical material.

**Wednesday 30th Jan**

No to War In the Gulf, Red Rose Club - Finsbury Park Tube (doors 7pm)

Large line up, hosted by Malcolm Hardee and Arthur Smith. Late Bar.

## MUSIC

**Tuesday 29th Jan**

Jools Holland Band/Midge Ure/Nick Lowe, Hackney Empire (7.30pm)

Benefit for Homerton Hospital Donny Osmond !, Marquee (7.30pm)

# The London Jazz Scene

### RONNIE SCOTT'S:

Probably the most famous jazz club in the West End, Ronnie Scott's opened in 1959 in Gerard Street, before moving to its present location in Frith Street. Over the years it has provided the setting for performances by legends in the jazz world, most recently it has seen the likes of Brandford Marsalis, Horace Silver, Roy Ayers, Joe Pass and Arturo Sudoval.

It still remains a very popular venue despite the proliferation of clubs over the last few years, which can be attributed to its reputation and the quality of sound. There are two sets on most nights, one at approximately 9 pm and the other at 11 pm, you might even be able to witness Ronnie Scott play on certain nights. It tends to get very packed at weekends so book a table, otherwise arriving late implies standing around (and avoiding drinks or food being spilled over you) if you want to see the band, or alternatively adjourning to The Tango Room upstairs for an immersion in Latin and African rhythms. Artists over the next couple of months include Arturo Sudoval and Roy Ayers.

Admission is £6.00 for students on Mondays to Thursdays (on presentation of an identity card), £12.00 at weekends.

4, Frith Street, Soho, WI  
Tube: Leicester Square

### BASS CLEF

Tucked away in Old Street the Bass Clef is another popular venue.

It tends to host less impressive names and tends to focus on British-based performers. "Real" jazz fans will like this venue

because the restaurant is separated from the bar/performance section. It provides seating for about 200 people, although admittedly a large proportion of this is to be found in the restaurant. Drinks are fairly priced. There is also the Tenor Clef upstairs which seats 50 - 70 people. You can always catch Norman Jay on a Monday spinning some pretty interesting stuff. The Jim Mullen Quartet and Microgroove should be playing there over the next couple of weeks.

Admission is normally £3-5.00



Photo: Karl Penhaul

with concessions for students or group bookings.

35 Coronet Street, off Hoxton Square. Old Street Tube

### RED EYE

This post-modernist haven awaits those who live or venture south of the River Thames. South London's first purpose-built jazz club, the Red eye opened in Lewisham in March and is already making a name for itself. Live jazz, from Big Band to Bebop and a varied com-

position of artises from 9 pm to 2pm, it is a club to look out for. Sound quality is fair.

Admission is £5.00 - £ 7.00

227 - 229 Lewisham High Street London, SE13

### JAZZ CAFE

This club famous for its jazz and vegetarian meals has moved right into the middle of Camden, from its rather cramped location in Newington Green. It continues to draw in the crowds since re-opening on 10 December last year. It provides seating for about 350 - 450 people. Interior decorating is what you would expect to see in a modern jazz club, but the sound quality is relatively poor. Final touches are still in motion so for example it gets rather chilly, not what you would expect in a jazz club. Having said all that, you can expect it to provide a residency for some of the best musicians in town. Coming attractions are Tommy Smith, Tommy Flanagan, Andy Shephard and Abdullah Ibrahim. There is currently free lunchtime jazz on Sundays and they intend to extend this over the whole week. Drinks are about £2.00 for a glass of wine and £1.80 for a bottle of imported beer.

Admission is normally £4-5.00 but can go up £8.00 depending on the artiste. There is also free membership which, however entitles you to nothing (just to cover you in case it becomes a members-only club).

5/7 Parkway, Camden Town

### 100 CLUB

If you happen to be in the middle of Oxford Street you can always pop into this club espe-



Photo: Karl Penhaul

cially if you are really into Big Band. There is always something going on there, drinks are fairly priced and you will certainly be kept awake.

100 Oxford Street

### DINGWALLS AND THE PROHIBITION

For those interested in the dance aspect of jazz you can check out "Freedom Jazz Dance" at the Prohibition on Saturdays for some "alternative" jazz. If you still have the energy and find Sunday afternoons boring you can always hop along to

"Talking Loud and Saying Something" at Dingwalls on Sundays. From noon till 6.30pm jocks Giles Peterson and Patrick Forge will be churning out the best in "alternative jazz" around a live set.

Dingwalls Camden Lock, Camden.  
Prohibition, Hanover Street, WI.

Ben Accam With Sinisa Vacic.



## The Case For :

The attempt at the U.G.M. of the 24th January by the Union of Jewish Students to label Tony Greenstein and some of the left as anti-semitic is a deliberate attempt to slander anti-Zionists.

To be anti-Zionist is not to be anti-Semitic. Tony Greenstein is a Jewish socialist who has opposed anti-semitism all his life, he also happens to believe it is wrong to make the Palestinians pay (by stealing their country), for the wrongs Jews have suffered.

The U.J.S. has also tried to stop Socialist Worker speakers on the same spurious basis of anti-Zionism = anti-semitism. The S.W.P. was a founder member of the anti-Nazi league, and recently organised demonstrations against the desecration of Jewish graves.

The left in this country have a proud record of opposing fascism and anti-semitism. These slanders by the U.J.S. do not help in the struggle against the racists, they create disunity where we need real unity.

Julian "Woody" Bild.

# Tony Greenstein

## The Case Against :

We would like to bring to your attention the invitation to speak extended to Tony Greenstein, current editor and former member of "Return" magazine. Tony Greenstein is a veteran anti-semitic campaigner who has in the past been banned from both N.U.S. and N.O.L.S. conferences for his racist views.

Greenstein, for instance, was a staunch defender of the book by Alfred Lilienthal called "The Zionist Connection" which was not only replete with references to a world Jewish conspiracy but even repeated the far right holocaust revisionist slur of Anne Frank's Diary being a hoax. Greenstein and the "Return" collective have themselves peddled the filthy lie of Zionist - Nazi collaboration and even described the Jewish religion itself as "Nazi".

Jewish students find such views deeply distressing and offensive. Anti-semitism is often cloaked in the guise of anti-Zionism, Greenstein is one such example. All anti-racists at the L.S.E. should be alarmed at the dangerous precedent set by inviting such a speaker.

However, since the format in which this speaker has been invited is that of a debate, arranged by the Socialist Organiser and presumably with an opposing viewpoint being given a full airing, we will only go so far as to express our concern.

In these times of heightened anti-semitism, both in this country and in the Jewish state itself, which is coming under unprovoked missile attack, we feel it is crucial that organisers of meetings give a greater degree of thought to whom they offer a platform to speak.

The L.S.E. Jewish Society Executive.

# The Beaver

Not so long ago the Union was up in arms about the visit of Norman Tebbit to the L.S.E. This week Tony Greenstein was invited to visit and take part in a debate entitled, "Israel/Palestine - how should the conflict be solved?"

Why do I make the connection? Well, even though a wide body of opinion would label Greenstein a racist - the chair of the debate a member of the Socialist Organiser - himself confessed in front of the U.G.M. to Greenstein's racist views; no cries were heard at this U.G.M. to ban him from coming to the L.S.E.

In the weeks preceding Tebbit's arrival, the Union was to be found hotly debating whether he should be allowed to speak or not. In this instance it was the right who denied that Tebbit had any racist views. Now the far left deny that Greenstein has racist views. On that occasion, as has been the norm of late, the middle ground prevailed. Whilst accepting the right's argument in favour of free speech, the Union generally agreed with the left that Tebbit was a dangerous person because he incited racial hatred.

The fact that this argument was not used in the Greenstein case can only be indicative of the state of the U.G.M. It is the left who set the agenda. The general pattern of meetings is for them to propose motions which the right ridicule with puerile insults. Then the moderates step in, and amend motions to make them bland and acceptable.

In this instance moderation had already struck home. The Jewish Society had been informed that if they wanted to implement a similar sort of response as the left had initiated against Tebbit - namely a demand for the organisers to withdraw the invitation and following their refusal a picket outside the debate - they could present a motion to the Union. They decided not to do this and merely expressed their disapproval of him and his views. Obviously there is some divergence of opinion within the Jewish Soc. because at the debate many were clearly angry that his views had been given a platform.

Are the left, however, not worried that Greenstein's visit incites racial hatred? They may argue that he is merely anti-zionist and not anti-semitic at all. Of course it hardly needs to be said here that no one doubts the commitment of the left to anti-racism. But just as it is possible to listen to Tebbit and not interpret his views as racist, those who want to can listen to Greenstein's anti-Zionist views and not consider what this implies for its implementation.

Whatever the left's decision on Greenstein and it is not uniform; if their argument during the Tebbit affair is to be followed through consistently should not the very fact that many people believe him to hold anti-semitic views suffice to grant him the same "persona non grata" status as Tebbit has. One hopes that their arguments hold some logic and are not just based on whether the speaker in question pertains to be left or right wing.

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**Post Haste**  
Letters to E205 by hand or internal mail by 3 p.m. on Thursday

enough time speaking out for themselves in society and at a so called liberal institution such as the L.S.E., we should not have to feel threatened by such sexist comments as those in his letter.

I think R.J. Wilson should see a psychiatrist about his feelings of inadequacy which freely flow from his letter, failing that why not just eat xxxx and die.

Wendy Turner and fellow "female marxists".

## The female response

Dear Beaver,

I am not too sure whom R.J. Wilson (re. last weeks letter) is referring to when he talks about the "L.S.E.'s female Marxists". If he is referring to the female students who actively campaign on issues which are not just relevant to the student community but to society in general, then I must fall into this category.

I would like him to know that I, and my fellow "female marxists" find his highly sexist letter not only objectionable but also an indication of his intellect (which I have concluded is near zero).

I remember R.J. Wilson's letter on the Racism Awareness week and I feel that his two letters just about sum him and his attitudes up.

Women have a difficult

## Assessed by tutor on political views.

Dear Beaver,

"Tends to coast along on strongly held political views". That was the sum total of the formal "academic" assessment submitted by one of my class teachers, in connection with my work/participation at a Public Law class, in the first term.

I am writing to you Beaver, in the hope that you will sound out the readership to discover whether others have been assessed like this.

## LSE Print Room E202

Photo-copying at cheap prices (copycards from the SU shop), printing of society leaflets done in Black-and-White or Colour. Design work also undertaken at competitive rates

I am worried about the mention of "strongly held political views" in what is supposed to be an academic assessment.

Is it usual for professors to drag in a student's political views? What is wrong with having "strongly held political views", or is it only bad when professors (and future employers) think you have them?

I always thought LSE professors were progressive, liberal, Charter 88ish people. But now, I am no longer sure even of that.

Please advise,  
Mary O'Neill  
First Year Law.

## Executive criticised.

Dear Beaver,

For months I have suspected that the word democracy was not in the vocabulary of the hard left. The events of the U.G.M. of the 17th January confirmed my fears.

Having lost the motion on the Gulf they began to leave the U.G.M. "en masse" with the clear intention of making the meeting inquorate and thus forcing the chair to close it. Fortunately they failed.

They should be condemned for this blatant attempt to undermine the principles they claim to support.

It was particularly disconcerting to see that amongst this minority were several "leading lights" of the left who have come to dominate our Union not through open and free debate, as they promised, but through cliques on the executive and A.S.C. (Administrative Sub Committee)

Our U.G.M. is our sovereign body. We must accept its decisions good or bad. The Executive must set the example. Last week several of its members failed to do so.

Ali Nikpay  
Welfare Officer.

## Apology

An article entitled, "Surplus Scholarship Funds" incorrectly reported that the Overseas Scholarship Fund was only open to foreign students. This fund is in fact open to all students. It is merely subsidized by Overseas student tuition. The news staff apologizes for the mistake.

at all, and virtually no coverage on the television. Death from starvation is not as glamorous, nor as newsworthy. It is death from a "silent violence".

The names of the people who will die from famine in Africa this year will not be remembered, there won't be any body bags to put them in nor any plaques to commemorate them. Those that are lucky enough to live through to the next harvest, are more than likely to die from the famines to come.

A fraction of the sum being spent to wage war by the west, and not least by some of the governments of these famine affected countries, could go a long way towards addressing the problems of famine and poverty.

## First Hand

Abe Selassie takes an original look at the Gulf War and tries to put things into perspective.

It looks like a million people are going to be fighting on both sides in the forthcoming war. The cost of this war - in human terms incalculable - is estimated to be around \$1 billion dollars a day. The political and environmental costs too are unknown. Whichever side you are on, the moral justification for this war is rather feeble. Neither side can be considered to be on the moral high ground.

Meanwhile, less than an hour's flying time away from the amassed forces, in Ethiopia, around 3 million people are expected to starve this year. In Sudan, between 5 to 7 million people, in Angola, Mozambique and Liberia another 5 million people face a similar predicament. This though is nothing new. It warrants a few column inches in the newspapers if

Daphne Dare



WRITES

Daphne Dare (LSE graduate of 1938) has been unwell this week, but like the trouper she is, has agreed once more to write a short piece for the modern day student.

## THIS WEEK: HOOLIGANISM

My column this week, though somewhat brief, is rather poignant in its message. Many of you bright young things are no doubt aware of the present international crisis which so darkens our days. In the modern idiom, it seems man has developed a passion for the destruction of all things that are good and decent and all things that are right and proper. Codes of honour, moral conduct and sportsmanship seem to have long since disappeared. The onset of war, now raging across the Middle East, is testimony of this deeply disheartening fact. I find today that I am continually asking myself the same question: Why is man so violent and destructive?

Students today need only to go to a soccer match to witness the vile and decadent behaviour of certain individuals who seem to derive pleasure from spitting, kicking, shouting and being thoroughly unpleasant to their fellow men.

Yet, I am reminded of a time when things were different. During my pre-war LSE years one could go and sit in the Taverner's enclosure at Lords and, under the balmy summer heat, observe the ongoings of the England - Australia Test. In those days the Ashes were played for in the fashion accustoming young gentlemen. Such wholesome behaviour was also mirrored off the field in the Pavilion, the Long Room, and the various terraces bordering the boundary. There was no drunkenness and no fighting. We sat and ate our cucumber sandwiches in peace and harmony. . .

Yours ever,

Daphne

# Sabbatical Elections: The Race is on.

## Saint and Greavsie give us the Starting prices

Once again, we're in the middle of the National Hunt season and soon approaching is LSE's own Grand National - Sabbatical Elections.

Greavsie and myself will inform you of the runners and riders and attempt to help give you, the 'punters', the early showing and prices.

Early runners are true to form: The fa-

vourite for General Secretary must surely be Labour's Gareth Roberts. However, he could be an early faller if the going is 'hard'.

Also pressing close behind is the DSG's very own Liz Van Euyik, who must be a good each way bet at 6/1. The DSG stable is not yet established but there are some notable riders including veteran, Michiel Van Hul-ten and former Labour stable boy, Paul Wickes. Although their

potential has yet to be fulfilled this year the going suits them, and they have a few tricks up their sleeves with experienced, but quiet, Abbey Innes also

showing early form. Well worth a flutter at the starting price of 20/1.

Labour's stable is bursting with competitive runners and riders, Stuart Wilks, who could

well snatch a victory at the worthy price of 12/1. Another contender could be handsome left-winger Greg Pasco, but there are suspicions about his jumping ability and this shows in the price of 33/1. There will be, as usual, horses running out of the SWP and Tory stables, but these horses are often lame, temperamental, and

unreliable. This is reflected in a price of 100/1. Moving on now to the race for the prize of Social Secretary, there are only three candidates: Toby Johnson of Roseberry fame, Diarmuid Boyd (Man of the Tuns), and little known American Fiona MacDonald.

The normal handicap for Social Secs is their extra weight due to excesses of alcohol. This is the case for two better known runners, but MacDonald is leaner, fitter, and maybe hungrier.

However, the early favourite must be 'Saddam Hussein look-a-like' Boyd at 2/1. The race, nonetheless, will be close and many factors on race day may alter the outcome.

Saint and Greavsie.



Liz van Ewijk

Photo: Alex McDowell



Gareth Roberts

Photo: Alex McDowell

## ACCESS FUNDS

Following the abolition of Housing Benefit, the Government has made available funds to assist students with financial difficulties. This year the LSE has received £149,000.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Home and EC full-time undergraduates and postgraduates.

## HOW ARE ACCESS FUNDS ALLOCATED?

The following criteria are used in deciding who should receive an award: shortfall between income and expenditure, loss of housing benefit, cost of accommodation, level of poll tax payable.

## HOW MUCH WILL I GET?

Successful applicants should receive between £50-£200.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Application forms are available from the Scholarships Office, H209 (Connaught House), 2-4.30pm.

## WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE ACCESS FUND: FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 1991

For more information about Access Funds contact the Scholarships Office H209, or tel: (071) 955 7163.

## Rag Update

On Monday 4th March, as part of Rag Week, a jailbreak will be arranged. If anyone is interested in joining in the fun, please see either Jon Hull or Dave Jones.

Jokes are also required to make up this year's Rag Mag. (As an extra incentive there will be prizes for the best jokes). These should be handed in to Jon Hull's office (E206) by 8th February.

Lastly, any Society interested in taking part in the Multi-cultural evening, being organised on the Wednesday of Rag Week, should get in touch with the Rag Committee (via E206). Each Society participating will receive a subsidy.

## Advertisement

JOIN THE LSE's VERY OWN NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK APPRECIATION SOCIETY.

Yes, it's true. Now's your chance to become a member of the New Kid's Fan Club (LSE branch) for the extremely low cost of £35. This entitles you to numerous pictures of the various NKOTB (the slimy one, the 'hard one', the ugly one who looks like Herman Munster, the littl'un, and that other one who nobody notices), patterns to 'make-your-own' New Kids outfits, and exclusive re-mixes of all their fabulous hits (can you spot the difference?) PLUS, to the first fifty who join: a six-inch diameter 'I Love the New Kids' badge to impress your friends. Aren't you the lucky one!

Send all applications to:

A. Ripoff,  
Beaver Office (E205),  
East Building.

# Operation Highland Storm

## A dram good time was had by the Scotch Appreciation Society

As the Gulf crisis rages, the national media are straining their every resource to bring us news of our boys' heroic deeds. But meanwhile, other important events continue to unfold around the globe. This is the story of one such drama...

Thin wisps of mist enveloped the deserted streets. In the distance a powerful throbbing could be heard, growing ever closer. A small cat, its fearful eyes peering from behind a wall, took fright and scuttled away. The throbbing grew louder as its source, a large National Express personnel carrier, bowled down the road, before lurching to a halt in the

small Scottish Highland town of XXX.

With clipped military precision, eight men and two women, each with a small pack slung over their shoulder emerged into

the half light of the dawn. The leader of the group, a man of blonde Germanic good looks surveyed the area with his steely blue eyes, satisfied that their arrival had been unobserved, snapped a few curt words prompting the others to fall quickly into an easy march to-

the S.A.S. Their mission was to infiltrate two secret distilleries in Scotland, to capture large samples of their output for analysis in London, and if possible, to swig back a hefty amount of Scotch. These men had been on manoeuvres for weeks, and in just a few short hours their mission would be complete, and they



The Battleground



Wts in the pot? asks SAS president Thomas Cohrs

wards a small coffee shop by the road. But for the order and efficiency of these troops only the small blue cards in their wallets could identify them as the elite of

would be fleeing back to London and their loved ones.

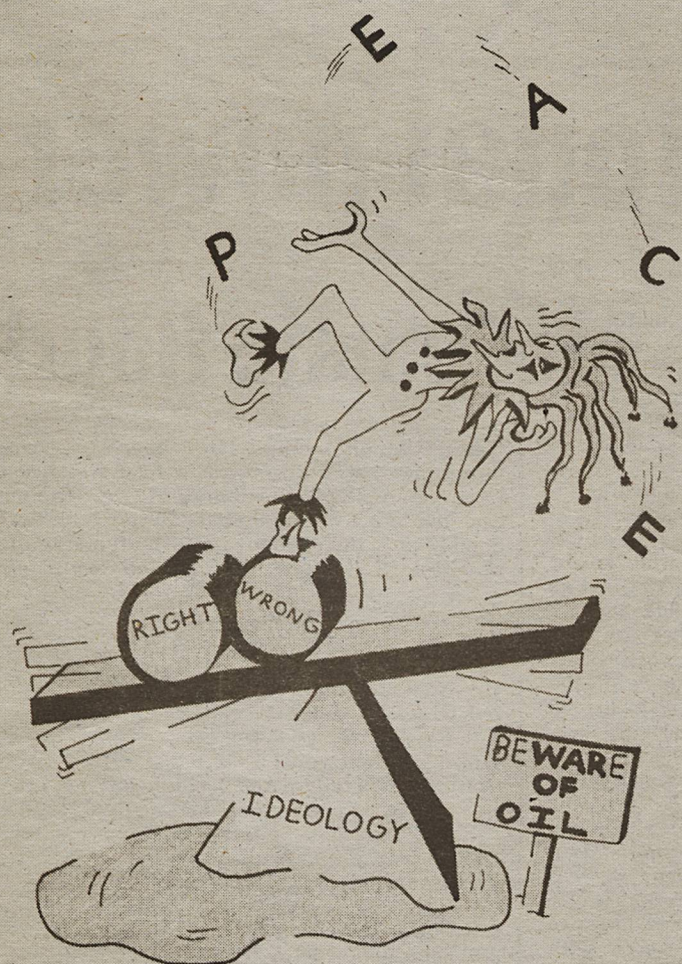
The Scotch Appreciation Society (S.A.S) is a crack team of bon-viveurs. Their dedication in the face of massive hogsheads of single malt whisky is legendary and it is said that no drink is too large for them. They are the kind of tough heroes who take their whisky neat and do not even grimace. These men are not only experienced in action however, they are also expert strategists. Stories of members identifying whiskies, blindfolded, trussed up and placed 500 metres upwind of unopened bottles are whispered in awe in the corridors of the LSE.

At regular meetings of the seventy strong unit, held in a secret location, known only to the author of the Diary column, concentrated sessions of drinking Scotch are mixed with lighter activities, such as eating and partying. Those who feel that they have honed their skills to perfection may step forward for volunteer weekend missions to Scotland.

Whilst full details of the largest sortie remain classified, sources report that it was an astonishing success. "We inflicted serious damage on the distilleries' stocks of Scotch", commented an officer. "Every drink was certainly hitting its target and our entire team returned in high spirits".

So was he completely satisfied with the attack? "Our critics claimed that a surgical strike was bound to fail - but I feel sure that we have successfully Scotched any doubts."

**Leo Griffen**



SAM LESHNICK '91

# SAM

Beaver Collective Meetings every Monday at 6p.m. in the Cafe

# diary

Dear Simon Bates,

This is the sad diary of events leading to my suicide attempt and near death. Perhaps you would consider this for your daily 'Our Tune' slot...

My name is Adrian, but for the purposes of your programme please call me Bob.

Things started to go wrong for me at a very early age. I was born in an NHS hospital and the mid-wife told my mum that I was an ugly little spud. From that day on I never really recovered.

At school all the kids hated me, so did my mum - she used to make me wear flared trousers and collars that pointed down as far as my belt. I was always getting called names - Donny (as in Osmond) because of the flares, Gary (as in Glitter) because of the collars, and Dick (as in Head) because... well, kids are like that.

I did not find it easy to fit in. Everywhere I went I was made to feel the odd one out, the misfit. I also had bad acne and no one wanted to go out with me. I didn't have a friend in the world, except for my cat Roger (and he was always disappearing).

I coped with life fairly OK until the week beginning 28th January 1991, that's when things escalated.

On the Monday I went to the regular Pub Quiz in the Three Tuns Bar. Our team paid the usual £4 entry fee and proceeded to answer questions on all manner of subjects. I was doing alright until they asked me to name the capital of France. I went blank, I couldn't think, I said 'Brussels' - they all laughed, I just wanted to die.

On the Tuesday, between 7.15 and 8.30pm in the Quad, I went dancing Latin American style. To fit the occasion I thought I would dress Latin American style, so I dug out my old flares. Bad move. Everyone else went in their 501's. Someone even had the gall to say to me that the 70s Society disco wasn't for another two weeks. I was so humiliated.

On Wednesday things went from bad to worse. During the hours of 2 and 5pm, at the Table Tennis Club, someone trod on my ball. Bastard. Then later on at the art class in C018, at six, I was asked to show my drawing to the class at the end of the session. Sadly, I had mistakenly painted the bowl of fruit - positioned on a table next to the model - and not the model. The teacher told me that the only accurate thing in my picture was the banana and two oranges. Life wasn't worth living.

Thursday was even worse. At the Environmental Forum talk (A144, 5pm) given by Julian Bateson on 'Nature Conservation - The Truth and not the Boring Bits' I realised just how fragile the world has become. And if that wasn't enough to contend with, I showed myself up further at the karaoke evening in the Tuns. All my friends got to sing to easy backing tracks - "My Way", "The Great Pretender", "Unchained Melody", and "It's Not Usual". I had to sing "It Was An Itsy Bitsy Tiny Winy Yellow Polka Dot Bikini". Then to cap it all someone even suggested that I bore a striking resemblance to Timmy Mallett. The cheek of it. I was getting pretty desperate.

On Friday, much against my better judgement, I went back to the Tuns for the free disco. I tried my luck with a woman. She told me that I was the ugliest man she had ever laid eyes on and that if I tried to lay any part of myself on her she would lay me flat. Then when I got home I found that my cat Roger had passed on. I was suicidal.

There is, however, a happy end to the story. On Saturday I went to the Rag Ball at the Waldorf Hotel and it was there that I met Tina. (I noticed her between the soup and fish dish). Tina is lovely and her wants in life are simple. A clean floor, a bowl of whiskas, and a cat flap are the only things she asks of me.

Please could you play our tune, the one that will always remind me of this week: "It Was An Itsy Bitsy Tiny Winy Yellow Polka Dot Bikini".

# Houghton Street Harry

Flinders Park, the Australian Open's venue in Melbourne, is an impressive construction. The Stadium Court, with its sliding roof and modern design, has shown the world what sporting arenas should look like in the 21st century. Before long the United States Tennis Association will also take the plunge and replace the old bowl currently used at Flushing Meadow. In Paris, Philippe Chatrier's team have already worked wonders with the old Centre Court which, although far from perfect, has at least one advantage over its Wimbledon counterpart-it can hold 17000 spectators. The Centre Court in SW19 holds just 13000.

For the past two decades, Wimbledon, with seemingly effortless ease, has managed to keep pace with the ever changing tennis scene while maintaining its tradition-bound image. This admirable sleight of hand has enabled the Championships to remain the leader in an increasingly competitive field - it's still recognised as the most famous, most prestigious and most over-subscribed tennis tournament in the world.

The All-England Club must take enormous credit for this, not simply for enhancing the quality of the tournament but also for creating, with the help of experts like Mark McCormack, a commercial bonanza that showers the Lawn Tennis Association with £9 million pounds a year in profit.

However, there is a limit to what cosmetic surgery can achieve. The face-lifts that have produced new areas for the Museum and Players' dining room were grafted with great care onto the magnificent body of the Centre Court. But for how long will the Centre Court itself be considered a suitable centrepiece for one of the world's greatest sporting occasions?

The reduction in the capacity of Centre Court - an unnecessary but unavoidable measure after Hillsborough - only makes the problem of how to replace it even more pressing. Studies carried out by the All England Club have shown that it would be impossible to tear down the existing structure and build another in one in 50 weeks, thereby making the whole idea untenable - it would involve skipping a Wimbledon Championship. Most are pleased about that because it virtually ensures that the powerful sense of history and charming intimacy which pervades the Centre Court will be preserved for generations to come. But not necessarily as the Centre Court.

A more appropriate solution lies in turning the old arena into No. 1 Court and building a new structure in Aorangi Park where apparently, there is room to accommodate an 18,000 seat stadium. But it is not merely a question of capacity. Sometime during this decade, with new stadia rising all over Europe in places like Dusseldorf, Milan, Munich, Paris and even Sheffield, people are going to begin looking at the All-England Club facilities and start using phrases like "old-fashioned" and "out of date". To be precise, they already are.

The possibility of a new stadium has been studied but there are no plans to go forward with it at the moment. Although there may seem to be no urgency now, it would be a mistake to delay formulating contingency plans so that Wimbledon can have the kind of ultra-modern facility expected of it before the new century dawns. Ted Tingling had little patience with this softly-softly approach to radical modernisation. "From the moment Flinders Park opened, the set up at Wimbledon was made to look passe," he said. "It is just not on for Wimbledon to be compared unfavourably with another tennis tournament; Wimbledon has to be the leader. Second best in any area of development negates everything it stands for."

There is another touchy subject that should also be tackled before the century is out - grass. In 1977, the French Open was the only Grand Slam event not played on grass; by 1988, Wimbledon was the only Major that was. In 1978, the US Open changed to American hard courts - cement with a thin acrylic skin. In 1988, the Australian Open gave way to Rebound Ace, a sort of resilient asphalt.

Grass is lovely and everyone enjoys padding around on it and saying how wonderful it looks. However, this overlooks two things. First, it is only wonderful to play on for the pros if it is perfect, and, even with the cleverest groundsman, perfection is in the hands of the weather. Secondly, no matter how perfect the climate, the Centre Court invariably looks a mess by the beginning of the second week and the men's singles final - arguably the most important and certainly the most popular tennis match in the entire year - is often played on a surface that is simply not up to scratch. It is not the groundsman's fault. Grass is just not designed to remain pristine after the likes of Becker and Edberg have roared up and down it for a fortnight like 10-ton trucks.

The only possible alternative to grass at Wimbledon lies in the synthetic grass courts that are in use around the world or, to be more specific, a perfected version of one of them. Wimbledon's reputation was earned many years ago. In today's modern world, such reputations must be defended regularly. Wimbledon will have to make some difficult choices in the near future, but to delay the making of unavoidable decisions would be unwise. With the first Grand Slam event of the year now complete, the All-England Championships are less than five months away. It is the most prestigious tennis tournament in the world, and only the authorities have the power to keep it that way.

# Minority race

## Sarah Ebner champions the cause of neglected sports

Who will remember, at the end of 1991, that it was proclaimed the Year of Sport? There are, after all, a great many more important events that will be heading the end-of-year lists. At its launch last week, the Princess Royal spoke of the "importance of sport", and the fact that "it will play an extremely important part in maintaining the morale and fitness of waiting troops." Whether this is true or not, it is interesting to speculate on what a Year of Sport is actually for, and to wonder at what could be achieved by having it.

Last year, the World Cup was just one of the many sporting events that made the news; hardly an example of sport's lack of prominence in this country. Yet there is, a problem: which sports actually hit the headlines? We all know about football, boxing and snooker (for some un-earthy reason). Golf is a popular sport to watch on television, as of course is that good old Saturday afternoon time-filler,

rugby. Yet what about all the other sports, and yes, before you wonder, there are others. How much coverage did you see of the recent World Swimming Championships in Perth, despite the success—a major achievement—of British swimmers such as Adrian Moorhouse and Nick Gillingham? Don't try to argue that swimming is not exciting to watch on television—are golf or our national game, cricket, really more stimulating? Unless you watch edited highlights, I think both are extremely tedious. Swimming, on the other hand, is more like athletics. It consists of races which are full of action and which are over quickly—before anyone has a chance to get bored.

Some might argue that there is no demand for the coverage of sports such as swimming, and that may indeed be true at the moment. Perhaps the problem is not that no one wants to watch these sports, but that they are not given a chance to. The growth of American Football's popular-

ity in this country, ever since Channel Four began regular broadcasts, has been phenomenal. It is arguable that if the same was done for a number of other minority sports, and there are quite a number of them, the results would be similarly impressive. A good example is hockey, a sport which has such minimal regular coverage that some people are led to believe that it is only played during the Olympic Games.

I think that there is a problem in this country in that when most people think of sport, they think either of their own schooldays, or of mainstream television viewing. We take no real interest in participants of sports which do not receive national coverage. There are, of course, exceptions, for example the success of Tracey Edwards in yachting. Yet even though we all know that she managed to sail around the world with her all-woman crew, I doubt if many people actually know who won the Whitbread round

the World race last year (Steinlager? —Eds.). It is also reflected in the rewards to participants themselves. Sean Kerly, whose team won Olympic Gold, had problems keeping his job when he went off to the 1988 Olympics. No one would dream of suggesting to Gary Lineker that he should take a day job, and play football in his spare time.

I do not know what the solution is, and perhaps I am not qualified to pronounce it. Like many other people, my sporting interests are mainly limited, unsurprisingly, to football and athletics. I do wonder, however, what a Year of Sport actually attempts to achieve, and whether one of its priorities should be to target desperately underfunded sports and to improve their public image. This could mean that in the future, when people purport to be sports fans, they actually mean that they show an interest in sports in general, rather than a few, select, examples.



The LSE First XVI storming their way to a 35-6 triumph over Roehampton last Wednesday

Photo: Alex McDowell

# Multinational power

**Table-tennis**  
LSE..... 9  
Birmingham University..... 6

After a hostile takeover battle lasting more than three hours, LSE Table Tennis Club PLC finally overcame the stiff resistance of Birmingham University. However, this was in the gym, not the boardroom, and it was not shares but points that were being traded. In the harsh world of "Ping-Pong", the dividing line between business and sport is very blurred.

The merger plans had been hatched as far back as last term, when the LSE, having successfully consolidated the whole of the South-East zone, resolved to extend their sphere of operations farther afield. It soon became clear that the chosen target would not submit easily. Industrial espionage reports spoke of some highly prized assets, in particular a left-handed serving machine known simply as "Patrick."

So the LSE directors decided to develop their strategy. Hours of rigorous analysis ensued, before finally, on the 23rd of January, the decisive meeting was held. At first it appeared that everything would go according to plan, as the chemical research

and development expenditure of Henry Chan on his new bat, along with probing examination of their opponents' defences by the Mexican chief executive, Bernardo, and the Euro-expert Thomas Bissels combined to give LSE six out of the first eight games put on the market.

But nine were required to gain a controlling interest and it was at this stage in the proceedings that a mysterious white knight appeared. Later identified as Johnny Yau Penholder Services Ltd, his intervention led to shareholder uncertainty, and with only four games outstanding and the score at 8-5, LSE still needed one more game to cement its position. The offshore specialist Domingo promised to deliver, but as the venture fell through—much to his disappointment—it was left to Bernardo to wrap up the deal, leaving the score at 9-6.

The board of directors is now looking even wider for lucrative prospects, and a merger with Lancaster University may be finalised next week at the UAU quarter-final summit. Watch this space for details. Recession? What recession?

**Roland Ilube**  
Table-tennis captain

# Female flourish

**Tennis Championships.** The women's team won the first match, against Swansea, of the three match round-robin by a convincing four rubbers to two. The men's team crashed to a five-one defeat. Better luck to them, and good luck to the women, in the matches against Exeter and Essex that follow. The detailed results follow:

LSE men..... 1  
Swansea men..... 5

1. A. Grimaldi lost 4-6, 5-7.
  2. J. Gluck lost 1-6, 2-6.
  3. R. Kaufman lost 6-3, 4-6, 4-6.
  4. M. Mansfield won 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.
- Doubles- A. Grimaldi and J. Gluck lost 3-6, 1-6.  
R. Kaufman and M. Mansfield lost 6-4, 4-6, 6-7.

LSE women..... 4  
Swansea women..... 2

1. K. Cole lost 6-1, 6-0.
  2. C. Schmit won 6-4, 5-7, 6-1.
  3. Z. Taylor won 7-6, 3-6, 6-2.
  4. E. Grossman won 6-2, 4-6, 6-1.
- Doubles- K. Cole and E. Grossman lost 6-1, 6-1.  
C. Schmit and Z. Taylor won 6-0, 6-0.