

The Beaver

The Newspaper of the LSE SU

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Badgers take over the Beaver in B:link

Sharon Stone opens up to B:art



Election Pull Out Special! All the SU Runners and Riders!

LSE Students Accuse Nightclub of Racism

Prashant Rao

Six LSE students, a King's student and at least one UCL student, all of Asian descent, have accused Hombre Discotheque, off Oxford Street, of racial discrimination after the club refused them entry on the night of February 24.

The LSE students, all residents of Carr-Saunders Hall, claim that upon arriving at the club, they were asked by the security manager if they had membership cards. Upon replying that they didn't, the bouncer said that they would not be allowed in without the cards and refused them entry. After a few minutes of deliberation, they went back to the bouncer and said that they had been to the club on Monday night for the past three weeks, and on none of those previous occasions had they been asked for a membership card, though they were asked to produce some form of student identification.

In an effort to prove that there was no membership card required, the students requested a Canadian friend to enter the club by himself. He was allowed in, but immediately left in disgust.

According to the students, after persisting with their assertion that there were no membership cards in previous weeks, the bouncer proceeded to say, 'Listen, I've got 200 Indians downstairs, and there's no way I'm letting any more of you in.'

This, of course prompted the uproar from the students who stood outside the club, demanding to be heard. After relaying their version of the story to a woman in the queue, she proceeded to question the bouncer regarding the validity of the students' claim. The bouncer denied any racial discrimination.

The students stood outside the club in protest for an hour before they called on the Marylebone Police. Upon the arrival of the police, the students relayed their story to the constables. After listening to the students, the constables went into the club to talk to management.

The students also claim that after meeting three white men in the queue to get into the club in a second attempt to enter the club, and relaying their side of the story to them, the men requested to go in with the students, but were refused entry. They followed that up by saying that they were not really with the students, at which point, the students claim, the bouncer let them in. For the record, the three white men refused to enter the club on the basis of the students being refused entry on racial grounds.

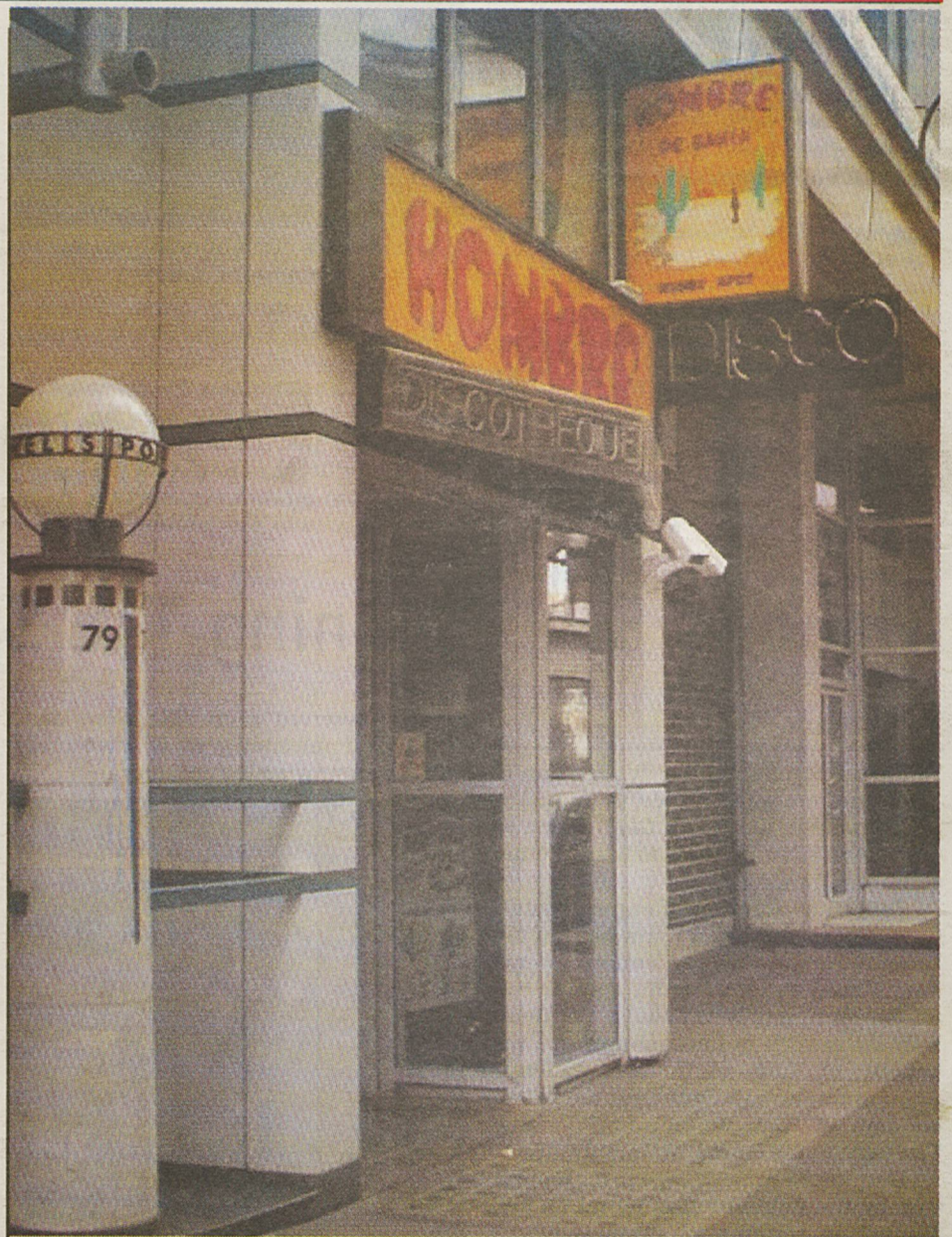
After leaving the club, the two police officers called a senior inspector. The senior inspector also spoke to club management and detailed to the students that they would pass the investigation on to the Racial Hate Crime Unit, who would take their statements at a later date. According to a bar manager who's bar is situated on the street of the club, any public establishment is allowed to refuse entry to any individual so long as it is not on the grounds of gender, or race.

Hombre Discotheque denies any racial discrimination. Club management responded to the request for any comment on the events by saying, 'There was no discrimination on Monday night.'

Upon being asked to write that down in a statement, the official refused, saying that he would not submit anything in writing without consultation with the club's solicitor, but proceeded to say, 'It was not a case of 30 Asian guys being refused entry to Hombre's - it was a case of 30 guys being refused entry to a club. 30 black guys, or 30 white guys wouldn't have been allowed in either. It had nothing to do with the fact that they were Asian. They were a very large group'

Tilan Perera, a 2nd year LSE undergraduate who witnessed the alleged discrimination, commented, 'I am, frankly, quite shocked. It is appalling that such bigotry is present in this day and age in such a cosmopolitan society. I hope, in time, measures will be taken to ensure that such an event doesn't repeat itself.'

LSE House Manager Bernie Taffs, when



The School's view of the future of the Alternative Prospectus

asked whether or not LSE has had any crimes with racial undertones perpetrated in recent times responded that since he has been at LSE, not one crime has been reported as having any racial element.

According to Mr. Taffs, 'It would be foolish to assume that there is no racial prejudice present at LSE. That being said, in my eight years of experience here at the LSE, I have not encountered a single incident based on racism.'

Whether or not any action is taken against the club hinges on whether or not any racial comments were made by anyone, and at this point, all evidence is still only based on the students' word against that of the club's management.

As of Saturday, none of the LSE students had been contacted by the police for statements.

Traditionally, Hombre's is the venue for the LSE post-election celebrations. However, the serious nature of this allegation has brought into question the continuation of this custom. One SU insider said: 'We should definitely steer clear this Thursday. Until the allegations are cleared up one way or another I won't be going to Hombre's.'

Editorial Page 6

Disability Awareness Week "Excellent"

Mark Power

Organisers of last week's first ever disabilities week at the LSE have heralded it as an enormous success. The aims of the week were to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by students with disabilities and raise the profile of their needs.

The week was organised by Priya Parkash, SU Education and Welfare Officer, Stuart Newton, SU Disabilities Officer and the newly formed Students with Disabilities Society. The society set up and staffed a stall in the Quad, where information about disabilities and bright orange badges were handed out. One of the organisers of the stall, Priya Bose was particularly pleased with the success of the badges in raising the profile of the week around campus.

Also at the stand was a petition calling for the school to spend the £200,000 it received from the HEFCE to improve disabled facilities around campus. The school was awarded the money 18 months ago, and there have been few noticeable improvements to facilities for the disabled since. The LSE issued a statement saying that "the School plans to implement a range of improvements to the campus and halls to ensure better access and facilities for students, staff and visitors with disabilities."

The statement was in response to a protest organised as a part of the week to press the school to disclose details of where the money had gone. The protest

began in the Student Services Centre, in the Old Building, when supporters of the week lay spread across the floor of the centre, chanting and making their demands heard.

The protest, which included a bed and two wheelchairs, then proceeded to the 11th floor of Tower One, in a bid to obtain an explanation from Tony Giddens's office, as to what the money was being spent on. Conveniently, Giddens was absent from his office, but Stuart Newton who was leading the demonstration managed to



Students with disabilities are starting to mobilise on campus

challenge Adrian Hall, the school's deputy secretary.

Hall was unavailable for comment on Friday but Priya Parkash who was present, alleged that he and his staff were "reactive rather than proactive." Not satisfied with the school's response, the group intend to present the petition with over

200 signatures to the Director's office next week.

The school claims that it has commissioned a report by disabilities consultants DBA Associates and states that the HEFCE money will be spent according to a plan drawn up by the Estates office. That work is planned to proceed over summer. The protest group are keen to comment and look over the plan, but the school seems to have no intention of disclosing details.

The week also included an awards ceremony where staff and students were recognised for their efforts to make life easier for disabled students. The awards were distributed to a wide variety of staff including members from security and the brunch bowl as well as academics.

The ceremony was followed by a panel discussion entitled 'The Experience of Disability in the 21st Century.' Speakers included David Green, Director-General of the British Council and other speakers from the legal world and representatives of disability welfare groups. Organiser Priya Bose described the event as "a wonderfully touching evening."

Priya Parkash echoed Bose's comments and that she thought the week went "extremely well, especially considering it was the first week of its kind and competing with RAG Week and SU elections." She added that she was "thrilled with the high visibility of the week and good attendance at the events." Priya Bose added that it was "an excellent start" for the foundation of the Students with Disabilities society."

Mass Debate Glory For LSE

Mark Power

The LSE Debate Society's annual Inter-Varsity Open competition held last Saturday proved a resounding success.

Entries were well up on last year, with a number of top level teams entering. Notably present were speakers from the Oxford and Cambridge Unions as well as teams from the Inns of Court, Durham University and teams from the other London universities including Kings, Royal Holloway and UCL.

The winners of the competition were Durham A, after a raucous final where Best Speaker Jeremy Brier from Inns of Court delivered a stinging attack on "gutless pinkos" and "woolly liberals" in a debate on the motion 'This House Would Let Lenin Rot.' Witty and hilarious though his defence of the death penalty was, it wasn't enough to prevent Durham A, and the entire opposition bench from clinching victory.

Other motions included 'That this House Would Sleep With Its Mother', 'That This House Would Compensate African-Americans for The Effects of Slavery' and 'That This House Would Disobey a Bad Law'.

The competition built on the strengths of last year's event. It managed both to attract top teams and retain its strength of being a good place to allow newer teams to gain experience and skills. The presence of the better teams allowed some valuable networking opportunities for the less experienced and also allowed for discussion on proposals for a new British and Irish Inter-Varsity championships.

The organisers were very happy with the success of the competition and felt that it demonstrated the increasing profile of the LSE Debate Society on the British circuit.

Mandy's Still Spinning The Same Old Stuff

El Barham

Peter Mandelson, MP for Hartlepool and notorious twice ex-Minister, spoke in the LSE's Old Theatre as part of the 'From Kennedy to Blair' lecture series last Tuesday.

Following former colleague Alistair Campbell, his successor as the head of the Labour Party's communications operation, Mandelson detailed his specific roll in 'The Making of New Labour' - incidentally the subtitle of his biography, for the benefit of LSE staff and students. Another former colleague from the halcyon days of "the project", LSE Visiting Professor Philip Gould, chaired the event.

Despite the damage done to his reputation by the Robinson and Mittal affairs, Mandelson remains as persuasive and charismatic as his reputation would suggest. The former cabinet minister was introduced by Gould, who reminded the audience of Labour's dark days in opposition and practically gave sole credit to Mandelson for reversing the situation. He was evidently acutely aware of the judgments many audience members had formed of him over the past five years.

He professed his aim to be to show the "human face" behind the myriad of shadowy, often malicious media portraits, as well as elucidate his roll in Labour's transformation from old and elector ally redundant to brand spanking new, ready for success at the polls.

Beginning by addressing the question of why he had initiated this program of reform in the first instance, he revealed two key factors for his motivation. Firstly, that he believed his actions had been for Britain's benefit saying, "The people of Britain wanted a new sort of politics. The

country deserved a credible alternative, capable of imbedding social democracy without destroying the economy".



Mandy, in the days when he was allowed near a despatch box.

But his enthusiasm for the New Labour project had, for him, a more personal edge to it. He explained: "The reason I cared so passionately about the work we were doing is because I had seen Labour not winning for most of my life. I wanted Labour to succeed as I had seen it fail".

Mandelson went on to justify his actions, answering the question most asked by left-wing critics of whether the introduction of a new face as the Labour leader would have been sufficient without the reforms perceived by many as a dilu-

tion of Labour's core values. Mandelson thinks no. Whilst acknowledging that Labour is no longer the same party it once was, he claimed: "Labour is sustaining government, able to implement a program of far seeing change in the country with the party standing united behind it, which would not have been possible without reform.

However, he also asserted that Labour's change had not altered the core ideals of the party. He assured "The party remains anchored in a body of beliefs. To skip into media speak, there was no point in tearing up the Labour brand, but it was necessary to bring about revision of a doctrine that long since 1918 had ceased to be relevant."

He added "The new clause four was not a junking of values but created a new chance for contemporary parlance."

Discussing the often criticised role of the media in modern politics, Mandelson stated "The media are filling the vacuum left due to the lack of opposition. This is what has led them to slug it out. They criticise the Prime Minister, take out his wife, destroy his closest friends...twice."

Finally Mandelson addressed the issue of whether Blair's commitment to war meant that Labour had ceased to act in people's interests demonstrated at the march February 15th. Mandelson responded: "I am glad people marched, I am glad people care about politics. However, I don't agree with them. We have to back persuasion with the threat of force as Saddam Hussein is a man impervious to international pressure.

"If we don't act now, the world will be a colossally bad place to be."

Correction & Addition

Philipp Nielsen

Contrary to what was written in last weeks article about the Daniel Pearl Memorial, Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh was not a LSE graduate but left LSE at which he had enrolled in October 1992 for a BA in statistics before completion of his first year.

Daniel Pearl's family has far happier connections to the LSE. His father Judea Pearl was awarded the Lakatos Award of the LSE in 2001 for his book 'Causality: Models, Reasoning and Inference'. This award is given annually for an outstanding contribution to the philosophy of science, widely interpreted, in the form of a book published in English during the previous six years. The Award is in memory of Imre Lakatos and has been endowed by the Latsis Foundation.

Judea Pearl subsequently donated the £10,000 prize money that comes with the Award to the Daniel Pearl Memorial foundation committed to promote cross-cultural understanding.

ATM Crime Haunts Houghton Street

Justin Nolan & A.Candidate

Crime once again reared its head at LSE as last Monday evening saw an attempted fraud at the Natwest ATM on Houghton Street. The machine had a device attached to it, called a 'Lebanese Loop', which is a strip of magnetic tape designed to record details of any cashcard which is placed into it. The owner of the device can then clone the card and use it to withdraw cash from the victim's account.

The device was discovered by



ATM crime fears on the rise

third year Geography Student Tom Blah, who spotted the magnetic strip and tore it off the ATM. "The thing looked suspicious, and I remembered

having an item on TV about 'Lebanese Loops', so I ripped it off" he said. Having foiled the fraud attempt, he then phoned the Police and gave chase to three men who had been acting suspiciously around the cash point. Sadly all three men got away before the Police arrived. "People should know about the dangers of crime at LSE", Tom added. "It was pure good luck that I knew what the device was".

This incident comes as LSE released figures this week suggesting that crime round campus has increased slightly in 2002, to 174 crimes, from 2001 figures. Bernie Taffs, the LSE House Manager, told the Beaver that although there had been a rise in crime for the whole year, there have only been 30 reported crimes in the academic year. This, Taffs asserts, means there is "nothing to suggest that an actual increase in crime has taken place". Though he added that only about a fifth of crimes are reported.

The statistics show that the Old Building is top of the list for crimes with 27 reported incidents, the East Building (including the Quad) close behind with 26. They also show that bicycles are amongst the most popular items that have been stolen, having been taken from Portugal Street and the surrounding area. By far the most incidents, however, seem to have been as a result of negligence by students, with wallets and computers all having been stolen as a result of students' relaxed attitudes on campus. Lockers, clothes in



The police are looking into things...

changing rooms, and unattended backpacks have all proved popular targets for opportunistic thieves. A combination of common sense and vigilance is called for in such circumstances.

Explaining it is not always the fault of the students themselves, but highlighting the 'open' nature of the LSE campus, where 'walk in type thefts are a feature of the environment', Bernie Taffs has urged students to be more cautious when it comes to their personal belongings. This is especially the case when students are in the busiest and most-populated areas of the School, such as eating areas, the Library and the SU Shop. Security staff frequently patrol these areas of the School in a bid to both identify perpetrators and remind students of the risks of leaving their belongings unattended. It is up to us as students to assist by taking a little more care.



Union Jack

This week Jack has been censored, under pain of death, by the dictatorial edict of the Beaver's loony left editor and the time-honoured convention that in election week (the most sacred seven days in the LSE calendar) that there shall be no references to any names of any candidates as it could unfairly influence all you weak-minded readers.

And so it is that this week's space will be wasted with an account of Jack's wild Saturday night out. Jack kicked off the evening in true British style with a pre-drink kebab and a lather of cologne. Several dozen pints later and after an unfortunate run-in with a brigade of stop-the-war types off to start the proletarian revolution Jack found himself, bewildered and alone, outside the Houses of Parliament.

It is hard to account for what happened next. Perhaps it was the run-in with the lefties or maybe the packet of Walker's Cheese and Onion that had constituted his lunch had been a tad off but Jack was suddenly possessed by the desire to enter that veritable shrine of Britishness and pay tribute in person to the various statues of our great leaders. The thought of snuggling up to Thatcher's bust proved irresistible and so it was that Jack acted like a pikey and broke in.

Jack came to several hours later to find that not only was there a stretch of time entirely missing from his memory but he had managed to puke on Harold Wilson. Undeterred he headed home where he dumped his vomit-stained shirt into the washing machine with a tad of Ariel liquid and then sat himself down in front of the old TV with a pint of Whiskey and his favourite old footy vid. It has a cracking Jimmy Hill goal on it.

Jack was alarmed to receive a summons this morning from the old courts. Seems Parliament has CCTV and they captured not only the unfortunate statue spillage but also Jack's fumbling attempts to urinate on the front bench of the Commons chamber. Jack's being done! He'll have to contact the family law firm, Simmons & Simmons. Best of British. And now Jack's off to admire a Giovanni Bellini retrospective at the Tate to forget about all this unpleasantness. He was founder of the Venetian school of painting back in the Renaissance don't you know.

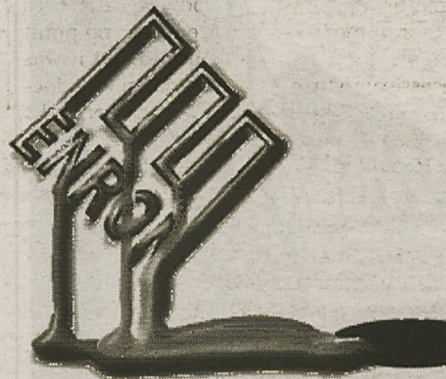
Accounting Glory For LSE Alumnus

Tom Burn

Last week saw School alumnus Professor Geoff Whittington rewarded for his outstanding contribution to the field of accountancy. Professor Whittington, who graduated in Accounting and Economics from the LSE, was awarded the Founding Societies Award by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. The award, given annually, is the profession's prize for lifetime achievement.

Professor Whittington, who also serves on the International Accounting Standards Board, has been kept very busy in recent times. The accounting scandals surrounding Enron, Worldcom, Xerox and others have led to intense scrutiny of the profession. Questions have been asked about the ethics of some of the firms involved in reporting and auditing companies' financial performance. Such uncertainty and lack of trust has precipitated a loss of shareholder confidence which has been blamed by many for the fall in share prices over the last year. Falling share prices affect all areas of society, including the millions of people who have invested in pension funds, and who have seen their value of their pensions slump in recent years.

Restoring shareholder confidence is crucial to the any economic recovery and Professor Whittington has played a key role in this task. He has gained a reputation as one of the most awkward and



Whittington works to prevent this happening again

thoughtful members of the International Accounting Standards Board, thanks to an awareness that a tough attitude is vital to ensure that the ethical standards laid down by the law and the profession's traditional values are adhered to. In particular, Whittington has played an important role in the battle for share options to be

shown as an expense in companies' accounts. But his work continues, for now the debate focuses on the means of measuring that expense.

With particular expertise in the area of standard-setting, as well as company law and taxation policy, Whittington possesses a different perspective to many in the accounting profession, thanks to the time he has spent as an academic economist. A different perspective is useful, he feels, as one of the things that worry him about accounting is that "people use ideas from economics without understanding their true meaning".

When speaking of his experiences in the accounting profession, Whittington stresses the changes which he has witnessed. "Financial reporting has been transformed", he says, and points out, for example, that "it was only after the 1967 Companies Act that for the first time you saw the then-revolutionary disclosure of turnover figures." Such developments encourage a belief that reform and improvements in transparency and uniformity across international borders are achievable. Along with other members of the Board, he is pushing for global harmonisation of accounting standards and practice, and is confident of future progress: "time is on our side," he says.

Israeli Student Perspective Comes to LSE

Calev Bender

Last Thursday LSE hosted two Israeli students, Akiva, 26, a third year undergraduate of communication and mass media studies at Bar-Ilan-University in Ramat-Gan, and Einat, 23, a second year undergraduate of history and literature at Ben-Gurion-University in Beersheva.

They described their aspirations for the future, empathy for the suffering of Palestinian students and their hopes for a return to negotiations and dialogue between the two peoples.

In a question and answer session, the two expressed their fear of going out to clubs and cafes due to their anxiety of suicide bombers but explained that they try and live as normal life as possible in the current violent situation. They discussed the coexistence that is present on campus between Israeli Jews and Arabs, and suggested that it is through good interpersonal relations in classes and student unions that dialogue and trust can be fostered.

They explained how one suicide bomb in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem destroyed this attempt of coexistence killing both Israeli Jews and Arabs, reminding all present that terror not only strikes indiscriminately regardless of race

or political opinion, but also destroys any atmosphere of tolerance and respect that Jews and Arabs may have created. Those who blow up civilians and students are not fighting for freedom, they are destroying it.

Einat and Akiva refuted the charges of apartheid and racial hatred which are often levelled at Israel. The two described



Israeli students enjoying themselves despite tensions in the region

it as a country which does not want to rule over another people and as prepared to create a Palestinian state yet feels that it has no viable partner on the other side

with which to make peace. The conception Israelis predominantly have about the Palestinian side are, according to them, that the Palestinian Authority is corrupt, that Arafat has betrayed his own people, and that many Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza believe Arafat's strategy of violence is self defeating.

But most importantly they both stressed the lack of trust the last two and a half years of violence have created in the Israeli public towards the other side. And though operating that Israelis feel ready to evacuate settlements in the framework of a final peace deal once all violence has ceased, the two admitted that Israelis did not feel that Palestinians had truly educated their children towards peace and bemoaned the lack of seemingly moderate Palestinians calling for a peaceful solution. 'All Israelis want to do,' Akiva commented, 'is to go on a bus without fear of being blown up.'

The talk gave an interesting insight on how the Israeli side perceives the conflict, the other side, and the way to and need for a peaceful resolution. It was important to see their opinions, aspirations and dreams as well to go beyond a black and white oversimplification.

Progress Made In LSE's Middle Eastern Talks

Tuuli Kousa

Last Wednesday representatives from the Islamic, Jewish, Friends of Palestine and Israeli societies came together to discuss the future tenor of the Middle East debate on campus. The meeting was organized by the Students' Union, chaired by C&S member Robert Schiff, and was attended by Beaver Editor Ibrahim Rasheed, one of the Equal Opportunities Officers and myself.

Each society sent two representatives and the conversation focussed on the content of a letter to the community from those present. The letter is a way for the societies to make clear their commitment to having the highest quality debate while recognizing the great sensitivity of this issue.

All of the societies worked to find common ground throughout the meeting, and the final letter is a big step forward. It is now incumbent on all of the societies to both trust the others and to fully incorporate the commitments of the letter in their future actions.

Most of all, this meeting provided an opportunity for the participants to hear each others' concerns. I hope that this will be the beginning of a new approach to the Middle East conflict - one that incorporates the liveliest of campus conversation and activism with mutual respect. Please read the letter to the community and throw your support behind this important effort.

RAG-ing Success Of Stunt Filled Week

El Barham

The LSE campus resembled a buzzing hive of activity as five full days of events unfurled to accrue revenue for Raising And Giving week.

Students sporting extremely fetching London School of Alcoholics T-shirts, complete with inebriated beaver logo, gave up time, energy and above all dignity to raise cash for Cancer Research UK, the Queen's Jubilee School.

The opportunities for self humiliation in the name of a good cause were limitless. You could take your pick from abseiling down the Old Building for the amusement of all your friends and tutors to donning womens' apparel, complete with lip-gloss and fake breasts as part of the Miss LSE contest. For future reference lads - even non-waterproof mascara does not just wash off. There were noticeably more Goths than usual mincing around the Tuns on Wednesday night.

To give you a clearer picture of just one of RAG week's multi-faceted plethora of possibilities, your rather silly reporter spent a night huddled in a sleeping bag in the porch of the Clair Market Building in a bid to induce those struggling in for nine o'clock lectures to part with a few early morning pennies, if only out of pity for our sanity.

Prior to the sleep-out, the wonderful, fantastic people at Walkabout, which in common with most Wednesday nights resembled an LSE rally, allowed a group of us to whisk buckets round the premises twice during the night, and punters gave generously. Money flowed freely from pockets to buckets and the sweet sound of clanking coins filled the room.

Staggering out of the club at three in the morning, a group of us trekked back to Houghton Street, dragging duvets, roll mats and sleeping bags, much to the amusement of the sporadic passers by.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by the sight of several sausage bodies in the porch, who had beaten us to the [in]action and were already contentedly snoring. Others had set up a table and chairs, and in true hacks-Ville fashion heatedly discussed union politics until the sun rose to greet them.

We were lucky: the days preceding had been significantly more temperate than usual for this period of the year and the night was a mild, dry one. But we were still cold. It is remarkable how quickly heat can move from your body, seemingly sucked away by the ground in seconds.

Our little sojourn on the streets in no way resembles the experience of a real homeless person. The Old Building, with its security staff, toilets and central heating remained open 24 hours, so creature comforts were precisely 60 seconds walk away. Wright's Bar also obligingly opened at 7am, the hot tea and coffee being a more than welcome antidote to the impending frostbite. One can only imagine how much worse the experience of sleeping on the streets must be for those who have no home to go to, those who are subjected to all of nature's temper tantrums, those who are exposed to all of society's late night violence.

Nonetheless, fun though it was talking through the night in a manner reminiscent of teenage sleepovers as the sun crept across the sky, the lessons learned, though limited, were poignant. I have lost count of the number of Big Issues I have purchased simply because I can no longer pass someone by without remembering the numb, cold feeling down my left side only a few only a few hours on the ground.

But the main point was to induce the early morning animals to give generously to some just causes, and give they did. One did in particular. At about 7:30, who should stride onto the scene dressed in a long, extremely warm looking, grey

woolen coat, Starbucks in hand but our notorious Director Tony Giddens. He was a particularly welcome sight, as he proceeded to empty his incredibly deep pockets into the charity buckets thrust in his face.

So, all in all, the night was definitely worth it - with a particularly huge thanks to the management of Walkabout for letting us levy cash from their customers and the staff at Wright's Bar for the steaming beverages and numerous bars of chocolate.



Abseiling off the Old Building

Far Flung

by Lyle Jackson

Queen Mary University

Queen Mary University is set to run a competition for aspiring young computer programmers. The scheme gives young programmers the chance to show off their talents and battle it out for a prize of £25,000 and a computer science scholarship at London's Queen Mary University. About £22,564 worth of prize then. The competition, already dubbed 'Geek Idol' is split into three phases combining multiple-choice questions, complex mathematical problems and computer programming. Dr Peter McOwan, of the Department of Computer Science at Queen Mary University, confirmed that the contest was inspired by the Pop Idol series, but failed to comment on whether it would be as popular. Entrants must be 17 or younger, giving Gareth Gates the opportunity for a clean sweep of 'The Idols'.

University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University

Wreaking havoc seems to be at the top of the list of things to do for Nottingham Students. After a spate of complaints from local residents, Nottingham city council is looking into the possibility of recruiting neighbourhood wardens to cope with problem students. The plan would be part of a wider initiative to improve relations between the universities and the community. According to a report published last week, wardens will act as a point of contact for local residents disturbed by unruly students! At present, the universities educate 35,000 full-time students, 25,000 of whom live within the city - and with this set to increase by 4000 within the next 2 years, something must be done to manage the sprawling student population.

Editorial Comment

Democracy in action

You may have noticed a strange tribe of students wondering up and down Houghton Street pestering you whenever you walk past. It's that time of the year again. The hallowed LSE SU election week is upon us. Scores of desperate hacks will be tugging at your shirt tails and touting for votes. It is tempting to watch them wallow in their own self importance and to just get on with life. After all, what does it matter?

Student elections are important though. These are people who are volunteering to devote their time and effort to represent you, the LSE student. Admittedly there is something in it for the candidates. Actually there is a

lot at stake for them. Who knows, maybe a future career in Parliament awaits. Don't let that put you off though. This years candidates are a genuinely decent, caring and hard-working bunch. Take it from us; we have had to deal with them day in and day out and have grown quite fond of a lot of them.

As the government says, votes are power. It is vital that as many students as possible vote to ensure that the best possible people get elected to the jobs. Voting takes place Thursday with advance voting on Wednesday and a tour of the halls.

This will be the first chance that many will have to vote in an election. Please take the time to read the manifesto's and cast your ballot.

Peace In Our Time

There has been a certain degree of tension on campus over the past year due to the Israel-Palestine debate. Everything kicked off with the 'Boycott Israeli Goods' motion submitted to the UGM last term. Since then, there have been various activities organized by both camps to promote their side of the argument. Unfortunately this led to hostile feelings whenever it was felt that one side stepped over the

boundaries of decency.

It is a great achievement that all sides sat down together and came to an agreement over how they would conduct their various campaigns to raise awareness of the situation in the Middle-East. It would be pointless to stifle debate and not discuss the issues at all. Hopefully the agreement reached will ensure that the message that is sent out will be positive and create a better understanding of the conflict.

Are you aroused, amused or even slightly aggravated by The Beaver?

Then write a letter to us and let us know what you, the readers, think
email: thebeaver@lse.ac.uk with your comments

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Over the course of the year we have become concerned that there is mounting tension within the Union over the conflict in the Middle East. In an effort to overcome the increasingly divisive debate we have come together as representatives of the Students' Union, Islamic Society, Jewish Society, Friends of Palestine Society and Israeli Society.

Our hope is that we may agree to disagree in a mutually respectful way that recognizes the sensitive nature of this issue. We are all members of the LSE community - a community that historically has sought to foster an understanding of our common humanity.

With this in mind, we agree that:

- Criticism of a state or its political policies is not tantamount to defamation of the religion of its citizens. Criticism of the Israeli Government is not automatically anti-Semitic nor is criticism of the Palestinian political organisations automatically Islamophobic.

- It is not acceptable to personally attack or intimidate, either verbally or physically, an individual on the basis of race, religion, nationality or political belief.

- We will seek to avoid the use of labels such as "terrorist" or "racist".

- In all our printed materials, be they articles, motions to the UGM, leaflets or posters, we will include citations for all pertinent facts.

- In all our public expressions, be they leaflets, speeches in the UGM or published articles, we will attempt to avoid excessively inflammatory or derogatory language or implications.

- All leaflets and posters will indicate the society responsible for their production. When concerned about the content of other societies' materials, the appropriate line of action will be to contact a sabbatical officer and we will not remove posters.

- On other campuses, societies involved with the Middle East conflict have been banned. We will not question the right of the signatory societies to be Students' Union societies because of their political or religious beliefs.

- Both sides have been accused of bringing non-LSE students to the UGM. We reaffirm that the UGM is for LSE students only.

The only force binding this agreement is trust. We will cooperate in an effort to promote healthy debate, and we realize that there may be difficulties. We will work with each other, despite the inevitable challenges, because we value this community.

We ask all to throw their support behind this agreement. This is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Tuuli Kousa
SU General Secretary

SU Equal Opportunities Officer

Abdul-Rahman Mustafa
Noor Drummond

Islamic Society
Islamic Society

Jonathan Shapira
Robert Lanzkron

Jewish Society
Jewish Society

Lina Jansson Friends of Palestine Society

Gil Gorev
Sarit Steinberg

Israeli Society
Israeli Society

Dear Sir,

Last week Ms. Peckett pointed out that the Stop the War Coalition represents a broad range of political affiliations. Quite rightly she suggested that any attempt to say it was the sole preserve of the SWP was "just playground name-calling". This is true. Within the Stop the War Coalition, there are many people who are not members, and want no affiliation to, the SWP. Why then does she have to resort to "playground name-calling" by saying that the Fair-Play Coalition (FPC) is a "rag-tag band of rightwingers"? The FPC represents a wide range of interests. Infact, almost anyone who is disillusioned with current SU policy. We do have Libertarians as member, just as the Stop the War Coalition has SWP members. We also have New Labour supporters, Conservatives, Democrats (as in Clinton) and independent minded people of no political affiliation.

I personally, am a member because I would like the SU to consider the Government's White Paper on an income dependant loan scheme in an objective and educated light. I also think SU policy on international affairs should in no way offend any of our fellow students, as has happened recently in the discussion about the Middle East.

So, I request that you judge the FPC on its ideas, not its people.

Kind regards

Alex McAuley
(FPC member)

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express a pain that I know many members of our community will be feeling. I speak, of course about the tragic defeat of the English cricket team last Sunday.

The cruel game that fate played with the hearts and hopes of battered and bruised England fans is beyond belief.

We were tantalised, placed on that all too familiar roller coaster of despair, elation and once again despair. Our deepest dreams, of progression to the Super Six Phase of the competition, now hangs by a perilous thread. At times I feel that swift execution might be preferably to the aching hurt of hope that I know may so soon be dashed.

But, brothers and sisters in agony, know as you crawl round campus that you are not alone. We few, we happy few can keep the hope alive and hold on to our faith that one day things will be better.

One day, maybe not soon, but one day we will bounce our children on our knees as, sipping Pimms at Lords, we watch a fine brace of English fast bowlers rip through the Australian top order. And we will know that the Ashes are coming home and that it is in some small way down to us, those who kep the dream alive in the dark days of Winter 2002/3.

I remain, sir, as ever, your obedient servant.

Yours etc.

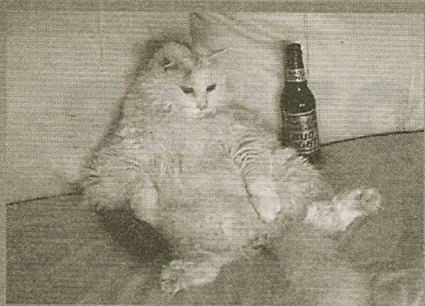
W.G. Grace

P.S. And, as a consolation we can have a good chuckle that United lost and Nolan is walking around with a face like a slapped arse! Hurrah!

Editorial Comment: Hang in there WG. The Beaver Team feels your pain.

The SU Advice Centre can help any distressed cricket fans in a fiery, smoky vortex of sporting misery

A Picture Says a 1000 words....



edited by:
b. chapman

h:Link



A. CANDIDATE GETS PASSIONATE ABOUT BADGERS.

KREBS DESERVES CRABS

"Initial gassing measures were judged to be inhumane"

Quite. Since the 1970s the British government has been conducting experiments to determine how Bovine TB is spread. Sounds innocuous?

Well, as the quote above suggests the truth is far more sinister. The Krebs experiment is the latest in a long line of experiments that focus on killing badgers in huge numbers. 30,000 badgers have been caged or shot since the seventies.

The experiment was temporarily stopped due to Foot and Mouth disease but it is now restarting and pressure is being put on the government, by Farmer's groups, to get it rapidly back on schedule.

You would assume that if an experiment were carried on for 25 years it must have shown some signs of success. Nothing of the sort; in fact the problem of Bovine TB has grown, spreading to South Wales and the Midlands.

Last year £12.9 million was spent on bTB research. You would think that this much money would lead to a comprehensive study; a look at all the different possible causes of the spread of bTB. Once again we are disappointed, 74% of the funding went on examining one possible cause, badgers, and in this case examining means exterminating.

No serious link has ever been established between badgers and bTB. The man who co-ordinates the killing experiment, Professor John Bourne, admitted in a BBC report "I think it is true to say the badger has been made a scapegoat". That he can continue to work on this project after that admission is disgraceful and indicates that the academic gravy train is enough of a lure to overcome a great many moral scruples.

There is a problem beyond the current killing. As even the most basic statistician can tell you if you carry out a trial enough times you will come up with the result that you want sooner or later.

BTB is probably to an extent cyclical, most diseases are. Next time the cycle turns downwards the likelihood is that badgers will be getting culled. The reaction among the farming community to this is predictable; an experiment could then become a pro-

gramme and badgers as a feature of the British countryside would become sadly scarce.

There is little reason to assume badgers are the main cause of bTB. The National Farmers Union website states that in many cases "the disease appeared to have jumped a significant distance". They cite this as a reason for an extra-farm method of transmission. One problem, badgers don't travel around.

As we are all aware this is far from the first disease problem that farming has faced in recent years. Foot and mouth is the most obvious epidemic. Conditions such as diarrhoea and foot rot are the result of intensive agri-

requires in agricultural land.

Farmers argue that they are the 'stewards of the environment'. That E.O. Wilson's logic of land surface minus agricultural land does not hold true. How can they continue to do so when they are arguing to wipe out every, potentially, disease carrying animal that comes near animals kept for food?

Do they expect us to pursue a Silent Spring as policy?

Badgers are a species that have been a part of the British countryside for as long as the term has made sense. How can industrial agriculture claim to have a greater claim on the countryside?



culture that leaves animals with vastly weakened immune systems.

Intensive agriculture leads to disease. It is not fair of the farming community to pass the costs of managing this disease onto badger populations in the form of culling.

Agriculture hurts the environment. It is a sacrifice that must be made in order to feed a human population. One of the biggest problems highlighted by respected observers such as E.O. Wilson is that an increasing amount of the earth's surface is needed to accommodate the footprint that each person

If this were agriculture necessary to feed the population then there would be a point in pursuing such a policy, however, the food being produced is added to the massive overproduction created by the CAP.

Europe's comparative advantage is in, innovation-heavy, industry and services. It should not be the world's greatest dumper of foodstuffs and is only kept as such by massive subsidy.

One of the biggest critiques of capitalism in the developed as well as

features

Krebs deserves Crabs

The Denial of the Other

The Unjust War

developing world is that it is not the fair system it pretends to be. The CAP is the most common example of this unfairness and is always the top target of developing countries during trade negotiation. It impoverishes some of the poorest people in the world.

Britain does have a place for farmers. Head to one of the, rapidly proliferating, farmers markets and you will see high quality, non-intensively farmed produce. Then look at the prices. This is direct selling where farmers cannot complain of squeezing by supermarkets. However people pay these prices for food of high quality, animal welfare and local supply.

This is farming in niches that are safe and sustainable in the long term for British farming. It is the sort of farming that should be the stock in trade of our farming community.

If non-intensive, high quality, farming were the norm then Krebs would not be on the menu and tens of thousands of badgers would not be facing an awful death.

Instead farmers have chosen the path of becoming one big vested interest. They see a better future in being a pointless product of EU subsidy.

If this is their choice then so be it, the French don't appear likely to let the CAP go anywhere, but we shouldn't further assist such a poor policy by exterminating any species that is held to be harmful to unsustainable and, ultimately, inefficient agriculture.

The badger is a part of our national heritage and an animal that deserves protection. It should not be sacrificed on the altar of false economics.

A.Candidate is an undergraduate student at LSE. He cannot be named due to draconian censorship laws during election week

features

THE DENIAL OF THE OTHER

OLA HAAVELSRUD AND COLIN KINLOCH

DISCUSS THE IMPLICATIONS OF AMERICAN SELF-PERCEPTION

War, almost by definition, represents the end of dialogue and a return to a baser form of engagement. What it does not represent is the end of reason, the end of politics and most saliently for our purposes the end of culture. It is through an analysis of the cultural dynamics in the United States that we hope to discern America's frame of mind.

One main motivation for writing this article has been the repetitive simplifications represented by the dichotomous way of thinking regularly on display in the American political administration. We search for the basis of this simplified rhetoric through an analysis of underlying values, beliefs and self-perception in the United States. Perhaps the most important factor in the American, as well as any other country's cultural mindset, is self-perception. Therefore we also ask the question of how America's view of itself relates to its actions as exemplified by its current belligerent stance.

We acknowledge that there are many, alternative self-perceptions in the US as in all countries. However, simplified self-perceptions may find a greater resonance when governmental voices constantly support them and systematically project them.

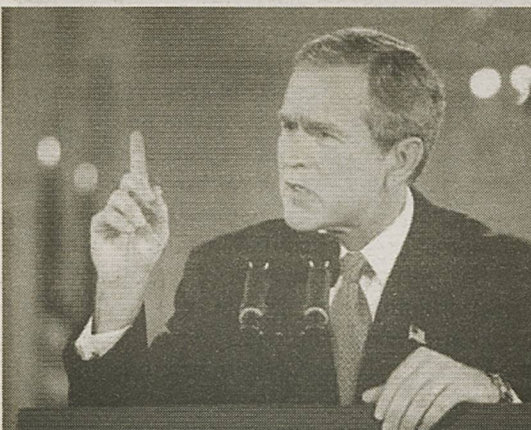
America's hegemonic position gives it a unique perspective on both the world and itself. While other countries are constrained by moral and political obligations, the USA in its position of pre-eminence is, largely, free. While it may be free it is not clear that the American cause is coherent. As we see it, America is its own *Causus Belli*.

The American assertion that it alone is Good has led to its current position. This is not a new viewpoint. When the pilgrims first saw the American coast, they saw it as their land. They asserted their desire to build a city on a hill without considering the ownership of said hill. When they discovered that the land was not theirs, they did what came naturally and committed a genocide. This was not done purely out of malice towards the Indians but out of belief that the Indians were Other and thus were morally inferior. It is this spurious logic that has persisted through time in the United States. A perspicuous example of this can be found in De Tocqueville's *Democracy in America* when he says Anglo-Americans '...first violated every right of humanity by their treatment of the Negro, and afterwards informed him that those rights were precious and inviolable.'

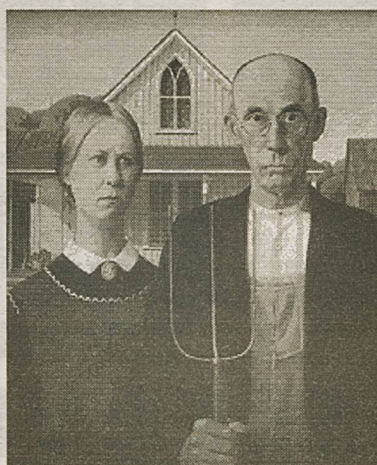
Too often, nuance is given up for the sake of simplicity, and one eminent example of this is the all-or-nothing rhetoric on display in the Bush

administration since the terrorist attacks on September 11th. 'If you're not with us you're against us'. This inopportune way of depicting reality is purely intentional, and is probably a way of convincing oneself of a moral superiority. But by rhetorically dividing the world between the Good and the Evil, Bush instils false hope among his followers. The belief that the progress of Good corresponds to the defeat of Evil is not only erroneous: it is fundamentally wrong. The United States has a solid record of trying to defeat 'Evil'. It happened during the cold war and it is happening now in the context of the 'War on Terror'. A few days after the terrorist attacks on September 11th, Bush declared; 'In every generation, the world has produced enemies of human freedom. They have attacked America, because we are freedom's home and defender...But our responsibility to history is already clear: to answer these attacks and rid the world of evil.'

Because America sees itself as the force of Good, it tends to justify its actions by actually doing them; the assertion of the will becomes the sole arbiter of morality. America seeks not so much a military hegemony as a moral one. It wishes, through its War on Terror, to preserve a system, but one in its own idealised image; an atemporal utopia where Good and Evil are discrete entities and not fully imbricated. Baudrillard says, 'Good does not conquer Evil, nor indeed does the reverse happen...Good and Evil advance together'. Evil and Good are incommensurable.



In the light of President Bush's quote, we observe that America views itself as a nation which has the ability to be a true historical agent. It sees the projection of itself through time as something feasible and worthy. This is coupled with a complete myopia with regard to its attempts to affect history in the past; the fact that the French colonial war in Indochina became an American ideological war is most telling. A good illustration of this sensibility is provided by the following sardonic quote from a recent edition of the *New York Review of Books*: 'Americans



are strong, principled defenders of freedom, standing tall in the patriotic service of the world's last truly sovereign state'.

One of the recurring themes and most considerable aspirations throughout American history is Unity. The US owes its existence to unity and the aspiration to social unity and homogeneity across time and space partly explains why America is characterised by an apparently strong patriotism built on common values and providing collective strength. In the aftermath of the atrocious attacks on September 11th 2001, we witnessed an important revitalisation of this patriotism. But it is the unnatural profusion of patriotism that demonstrates the synthetic nature of the United States. It is a desperate patriotism, not a historically rooted sense of nationalism or shared collective representations. It is very much in the spirit of the *Simulacrum* described by Baudrillard; the creation becomes more real than the original object. Patriotism, in this light, is called for in the presence of fear and in the absence of any shared sense of history. Patriotism is revealed as *ersatz* history, as a substitute, as a crutch.

Theological doctrines have been another way of creating and preserving unity through time. It seems now however that America's manifest religiosity is a tacit misuse of God for specific political ends. It is a proxy for self worship where market ideology, patriotism and individualism are constituting elements. America claims to fall down before the cross but really it prostrates itself before the flag.

This pursuit of unity has had two particularly severe implications for the United States. Firstly, the national effort that has been exerted in the name of Patriotism has come at the expense of a considerably high level of indifference with regard to the rest of the world. This indifference is political, ecological and cultural.

A second pathology arising from the aspiration to unity is vanity. In an exclusive sense, America sees itself as the

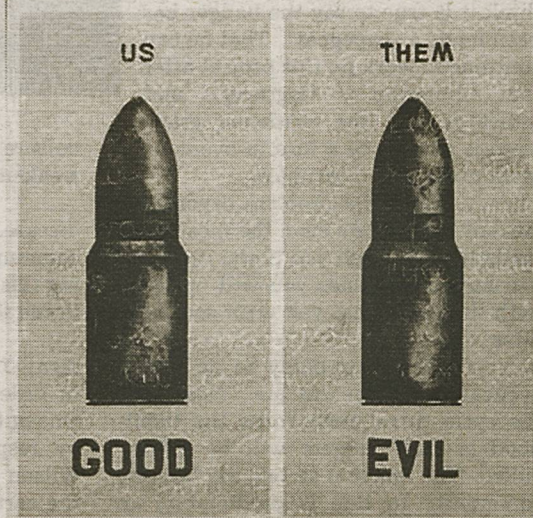
'land of the free and the home of the brave'. In this rather erroneous vision, all that is Good in this world is represented by the United States. However, as Taoist thought argues, Good and Evil are contained in all entities and certainly are not distributed according to national and territorial borders. By expecting the world to accept the universal pre-eminence of American values, it becomes a culturally (in addition to militarily) belligerent state.

Preoccupied with their conviction of being chosen by God, being, in the old Calvinist term, the elect, American ego-mania can be seen as the spur towards our understanding of their systematic, worldly indifference. The egomania we speak of is simply the fact that self-interest is the over-riding maxim of the American psyche and political will. We witness individualism, the reification of capitalism, the word made flesh. Furthermore, America sees itself and her enemy not as analogous opposites but as independent others. This means that America can never be truly secure as it sees itself as fundamentally different from its enemy and thus prevents even the possibility of a true form of understanding.

The indifference towards the world community evident in American foreign policy is emblematic of the cultural perception of Self and Other, and serves to reinforce it through reciprocity. There is invariably a need to recognise the shortcomings of the Good and Evil rhetoric emanating from the White House. However, this rationale appears to extend over a significant proportion of the admittedly diverse population indicating strong cultural contingency and homogeneity. It remains to be seen whether alternative self-perceptions in that vast country will constitute a strong enough force to counter those that presently dominate the government.

Ola Haavelsrud is a second year BSc Management student.

Colin Kinloch is in the second year of a BSc International Relations degree.



THE UNJUST WAR

BY PAUL KIRBY

"STATES ARE NOT MORAL AGENTS. PEOPLE ARE, AND CAN IMPOSE MORAL STANDARDS ON POWERFUL INSTITUTIONS." - NOAM CHOMSKY

"YOUR FAILURE TO BE INFORMED DOES NOT MAKE ME A WACKO" - JOHN LOEFFLER

It is naïve to believe that our war on Iraq will bring freedom to its people. The pattern of Western intervention is not an encouraging one. The 'liberation' of Afghanistan came at no small price - accurate estimates of those killed by bombing are hard to come by but an incredibly well researched and long article by Dr. Mark Herold at the University of New Hampshire puts the number of civilian deaths as a direct result of US aerial bombing between October 7th and December 3rd 2001 at 3,750. By the end of 2001 US bombers had delivered 600 cluster bombs on Afghanistan with each containing 202 "bomblets". At a dud rate of 12% this left "14,500 unexploded bomblets littering the Afghan countryside and villages...akin to landmines." And yet despite contentions that Afghanistan is now free and democratic Taliban forces

"propaganda tools" and may well have caused more harm than benefit. A New York Times end of year review revealed that the US-led war "has returned to power nearly all the same warlords who had misruled the country in the days before the Taliban". Also ignored by the press has been the attitude of the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan, the foremost campaigner within the country for the human rights that this war was all about. In November of 2001 the group condemned the US/Russian backed Northern Alliance for "a record of human rights violations as bad as that of the Taliban's." And this military campaign was called "Enduring Freedom"!

The contention that the systematic human rights abuses carried out in Iraq will end the moment Saddam is deposed is, unfortunately, also one without foundation. Saddam Hussein is a world-class asshole but his orders are carried out by an ingrained governmental structure that has been torturing and repressing political dissent for decades. The US has already recognised and admitted that it could do little to change the nature of the Iraqi system - the hierarchies that existed under Saddam would have to remain. The idea of freedom and democracy in Iraq seems abstract with the latest US plans calling for an unelected US military governor to take control for a "transitional period." The policy is one of leadership

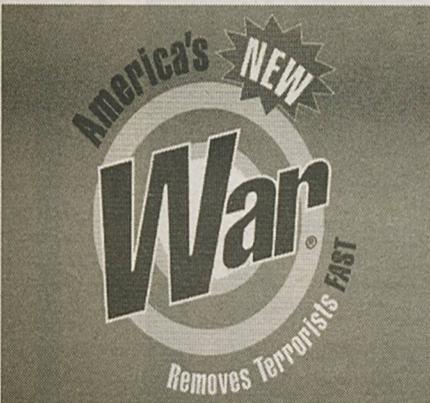
done is to complain that the US administration has been using their figures to justify war when they believe such action would be disastrous for the region. And yet those who support war claim that those who are anti-war are Saddam apologists or appeasers.

When Colin Powell, the least-hawkish member of the Bush administration, was asked how many Iraqi people were killed in Operation Desert Storm he responded "It's really not a number I'm terribly interested in." Dick Cheney, vice-president, voted against a 1986 US Congress Resolution calling for the release of Nelson Mandela from prison and the un-banning of the ANC in apartheid South Africa. "I have no problem with the vote I cast 20 years ago" has been Cheney's response to criticism. Cheney voted against the Equal Rights Amendment. Dickey was also CEO of Halliburton Industries between the two Bush administrations, a company that was revealed by the Washington Post to have had two subsidiaries doing business with Iraq.

Alistair Campbell, the British prime minister's communications advisor claimed in the Old Theatre last month that we were going after Iraq because it was the biggest human rights violator in the world. The main claim levelled against Iraq in this context is the gassing of the Kurds at Halabjah in 1988, killing some 5,000. And yet Turkey, NATO's new flirting partner and

regime in Zimbabwe which has been in place since before Saddam was sold his biological weapons by the west in the 1980s. And the best we can manage against old Mugabe is to not play cricket with him. Civil wars are underway in Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda and that's just Africa. The United States, of every state in the world, is number one in the number of international human rights treaties not signed and the only country in the UN with a legally constituted government not to ratify the UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child. And last month Tony Blair authorised the sale of biological weapons to Israel. The US spends more on defence than the next 25 countries combined and just 25% of the proposed amount to be spent on the Star Wars defence programme would provide every one of the billion people lacking clean drinking water on the planet with that necessity. How's that for being big on human rights?

Opposition to this war is not about being a Saddam apologist but about seeing past simplistic characterisations of west = good + democratic and everyone else = inhuman monster who only understands the use of force. It is about seeing past the easy hate figures of Bush and Hussein to see that there is a human face to this crisis. And that

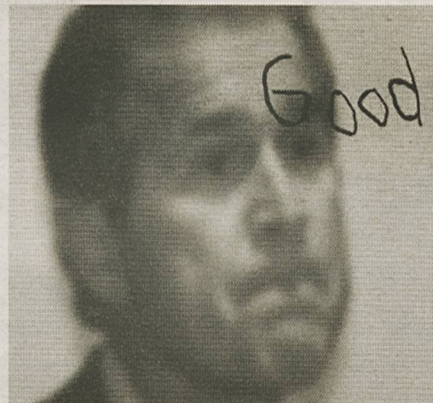


remain with the peace process being "far from secure" in the words of the highest ranking UN envoy to Afghanistan, Lakhdar Brahimi, in his briefing to the Security Council at the end of January. Hamid Karzai may be the new democratic face of Afghanistan but real power is said to remain with the drug-smuggling warlords. Allied efforts in the notoriously resilient country are also reported to have, at best, decreased Al-Qaeda's ability to operate effectively by a quarter. Even before September 11th the UN estimated that millions within Afghanistan were being sustained, barely, by international aid. The World Trade Centre attacks were followed days later by demands by the US that Pakistan ceased sending food shipments across the border to Afghan civilians. By the time bombing was underway in October the humanitarian crisis had reached epic proportions. 7.5 million were short of food and at risk of starvation while aid agencies levelled scathing attacks at US air drops which they claimed were barely concealed

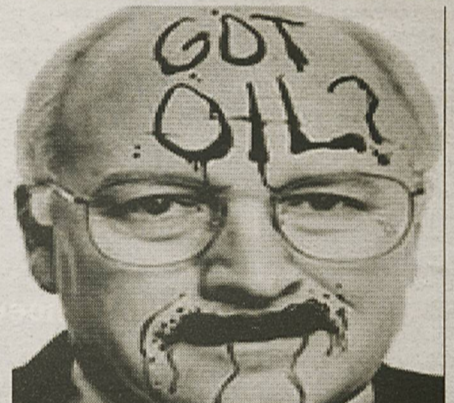


change not regime change - the military term being 'decapitation'. Furthermore the top two officials in each Iraqi ministry would be replaced by US military personnel. In a recent Observer article Kanan Makiya, adviser to the Iraqi National Congress [Iraq's main opposition group], said that America had dumped its commitment to Western-style democracy and that US plans to leave Iraq under the control of the Baath Party "would be an unmitigated disaster" and would amount to "Baathism with an American face". The White House has labelled these criticisms "counter productive".

It is equally dubious to suggest that those members of the administrations on either side of the Atlantic who are mobilising for war are doing so from humanitarian concerns. Amnesty International have documented Iraq's disturbing and widespread history of human rights abuses just as they have documented those of countless other states. What they have also



last week the recipient of \$25 billion of US aid in exchange for cooperation against Iraq, has been waging a war against its own Kurds in the South-East since 1984 - a war that has resulted in "tens of thousands of people killed, two to three million refugees, massive ethnic cleansing with some 3500 villagers destroyed." The offices of human rights organizations have also been raided by the police and last November Turkey's Council of Ministers rejected an Amnesty International application to open a branch in Turkey. Permanent Security Council member Russia continues to carry out human rights abuses in Chechnya not to mention the use of gas against their own people just last year during the Moscow Theatre siege. Permanent Security Council member China continues to repress quasi-religious/spiritual organizations like the Fulan Gong as well as maintaining the least-spoken about total occupation of the modern age in Tibet. North Korea is clearly high up on the list as is the



means more than shedding crocodile tears and saying "its war - of course innocents will die" as if its all an acceptable cost. "Collateral damage", it seems, is the one concept that Osama and the war-hawks can agree on. It is about seeing that war will not bring the freedom we all dream of but will plant the seeds of future hatred. It is about having the will to find other ways - it is not that, as Tony Blair claims, the anti-war movement suggests "doing nothing". There are many shades of intervention here and our concern should be with the kind that balances real, positive, lasting results with a respect for human life. Ghandi put it best when he said "I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent".

Paul Kirby is a first year International Relations and History student. He is a regular contributor to B:link



EDITORIAL

Hello and welcome to this week's section. Once again in a bid to keep b:art hip and happening I've done another slight makeover to the section. With this many relaunches I may have to start calling the section 'the Conservative Party'. Yes its the b:art common sense revolution, rebranding reactionary right wing arts for the twenty-first century!

Anyway enough of politics, as indeed I'm sure you're sick of the constant whoring of themselves that each of the candidates are undertaking. To be honest if some of candidates, instead of doing speeches, merely got up on stage, bent over and said 'take me i'm yours' then I'd have more respect for them. Thats what they're doing anyway in a sense, but they're dressing it up in a cloak of sophistry and rhetoric.

Then there's award ceremonies. This week the BAFTA's are reviewed in film. What a load of shite. Every year Oscar-hunting Hollywood Actors and Actresses, and D-Grade Brit Celebs turn up to patronise Britain in general, and our pisspoor film industry in particular. Fanny-fuckin-tastic. The fact that 24 Hour Party People didn't win anything speaks volumes. Represent.

b:art top ten

This week's b:art top ten comes from Tezza Li and he gives us his top ten 'erotic' films of all time. These are films which you say you watch for the story line and the acting, but in actual fact you watch for the slap and tickle that you might get.

1



Basic Instinct
1992
Dir: Paul Verhoeven

The ultimate erotic thriller filmed by the master of excess himself, Paul Verhoeven. Two things about this film. Firstly, has anyone ever watched this film to the end, or have they fallen asleep after copius amounts of you-know-what? Secondly, Michael Douglas is a twat. Firstly he picks off Sharon Stone in her prime, then Demi Moore in her in prime (Disclosure), now he's married to Catherine Zeta Jones!! Words fail me. Oh and the film's about a female murderer on the loose. Like you care.

2



Intimacy
2000
Dir: Patrice Chereau
The film, written by Hanif Koreshi, may have purported to have been a witty study of love in the 21st century, but the full oral sex scene made sure this film gained notoriety for all the wrong reasons.

3



Emmanuelle
1974
Dir: Just Jaeckin
The original soft porn spectacular, that showcased the 'talents' of Sylvia Kristel, and set the standard for all 'one woman's journey of self-discovery' movies that were to follow.

4



Wild Things
1998
Dir: John McNaughton
Denise Richards. Naked. Threesome. Need we say anymore?

5



Eyes Wide Shut
1999
Dir: Stanley Kubrick
Kubrick may have been the finest director to ever walk the planet, but his final film wasn't so much his epitaph, as a grubby, soiled porno mag that had been found under his bed.

6

9 ½ Weeks
1986
Dir: Adrian Lyne
Kim Basinger and Mickey Rourke get down to business using various fridge items. Apart from pineapples. Because that would be ludicrous.

7

Showgirls
1995
Dir: Paul Verhoeven
Verhoeven at it again, with a supposedly 'satirical' look at the lapdance industry.

8

Animal Farm
1973
Dir: B. Ste Ality
Old Major preaches, Snowball is overthrown by Napoleon, in Orwell's superb political satire. This film isn't about that. Isn't about something rather different.

9

Species
1995
Dir: Roger Donaldson
Sci-Fi porn. Great pitch though, 'woman shags world to death'.

10

Walkabout
1971
Dir: Nicholas Roeg
Its probably a diservice to call this atmospheric classic soft-porn, but all anyone remembers is Jenny Agutter naked.

Koufax

JAZMINBURGESS talks to Ohio's 'piano-rock' upstarts Koufax..



edited by jazmin burgess
and neil garrett

11

Koufax are one of those rare bands that defy genres. You know the type, the combine so many elements and are so unquestionably brilliant that they appeal to so many people with different 'alternative' inclinations. 'If you made a generalisation about the band, you could just write us off as an alternative rock band' says lead singer/guitarist songwriter Rob Suchan. 'When people call us a pop band, people think that's a insult because the first thing they think of is Britney Spears', he adds, 'but The Cure were a pop band, Cheap Trick were a pop band, so we don't mind being called a pop band, an alternative rock band, an indie rock band, there are so many ways people can package something..' Suchan is definitely right, because there are SO many ways you can package Koufax, most probably due to their intensely unique sound: think piano heavy songs with killer guitar riffs and Beach Boys-esque vocals -it doesn't bode easy for description that's for sure, 'The fact that the piano is the main instrument seems to really threaten people that like rock and roll,' he laughs, ' or they say what the fucks this?I want a distorted guitar..!'

At the end of the day, all the genre debate that has long since been associated with Koufax is futile. Because their recently released second album 'Social Life' stands on its own as a more than fantastic collection. Building on what they established with first album 'It Had to Do With Love', 'Social Life' is a deeply accomplished record loaded with energised keyboard filled melodies and bittersweet irony. 'The first record we tried to make a of rock-synthesiser record, and I don't know how well we executed it, I personally don't think we executed it as well as it should have been. But with this record we tried to be more 'what the band can do live' so its trying to be a bit more raw and not as polished' says Suchan, 'of course, we ended up getting Bruce Springsteen style sax solos on the song 'Social Life' he laughs, 'but generally I tried to make it more upbeat and more something we can pull off live!' And to be perfectly honest, Koufax almost certainly succeeded in that, judging by the number of people to be found tapping their feet during their recent support set on The Get Up Kids' European tour and their own lower-key shows in the UK...

Although they won over a large European audience with their tour of the continent in the summer of 2001, its doubtless that Koufax have gained a lot more fans 'this side of the pond' due to their overwhelmingly lively and pretty much kick ass shows on their recent six week tour here both as headliners and support to The Get Up Kids. And it appears that just as Europe are growing to truly love Koufax, so Koufax are beginning to love Europe too 'People in England have better taste in music overall than in the States-its not as scene segregated,' says Suchan 'People over here are a lot more acceptable, music is just music, rather than an identity.' What's more if the six week stay in this crazy place they call Europe doesn't send Koufax insane, the band have a busy year ahead 'We're on tour in Europe til the end of February, then we're going to tour the US and Canada in April and I hope we can go to Japan, cos I've been there with another band and it was the most amazing experience..then we'll probably be touring this record in the States until next fall.'

Hopefully, the intense touring of the US will allow the band to gain as many fans as they have on their recent European tour, particularly seeing that initially they seemed slightly misplaced amongst their Vagrant label-mates 'It's sort of a mixed thing being on Vagrant', says Suchan, 'people always assume that the band are bigger than we are', he adds, 'and with the press in America, Vagrant is really unpopular!People are like 'Dashboard Confessional!that's for thirteen year old kids!' he laughs ' but people who think like that are stupid!And it's better for us to be on Vagrant now then it was a few years ago and I like being on the label with bands like The Get Up Kids, The Anniversary, Rocket from The Crypt and Paul Westerberg.'

Vagrant may be slightly 'uncool' in the US currently, but it is as cool as Antarctica in Europe nowadays, and with this business of genres aside, Koufax's brilliance couldn't be more suited to being on a label alongside equally impressive bands. And all this comes down to the simple fact that Koufax (according to their press release) 'are their own barometer of cool' -'I don't know what that means!' says Suchan, 'but the band are quite unpretentious, we're not allowing anyone to tell us what to do, or make us do things that give us a cool image. Coolness and hipness in the sense of 'hype'-we really don't want to be that. We don't want to be sensationalised and then become a commodity that becomes spit out and put in the five pence bin!' he laughs. On the basis of their live shows and Social Life, Rob Suchan need not live in fear. Because it looks like Koufax will be around for sometime, continually impressing and astounding those in the know.

b:music

singles

DATSUNS HARMONIC GENERATOR

Retro stuff this second release from the hyped New Zealanders. More like the Rolling Stones than AC-DC with whom they are often compared. Nostalgic rock and roll? Big time, but done well. Its got an energetic swagger about it and, incidently, is a really good head nodder. So good, you don't even notice your nodding. That deserves respect.

NEILGARRETT

MOBY SUNDAY (THE DAY BEFORE MY BIRTHDAY)

As a whole, Sunday [...] could best be described as typical easy listening electronic pop: a bit somber and melancholy. Included is a (slightly wierd) vocal sample from Sugarhill Records founder Sylvia Robinson. The single is very chillout, and Moby offers nothing incredibly new to the genre. A bit boring, especially the marathon 9 minute track "ISS."

MELISSADE-WITTE

SUGARBABES SHAPE

No doubt the Sugarbabes will probably disappear into a huge flood of publicity and into their own world of arrogance following their recent Brit Award win. To the extent that whatever they do will be eaten up by the record buying public. However it seems that they got ahead of themselves already, as 'Shape' is a pretty sub-standard ballad. Sounding much like recent Single 'Stronger', this is nowhere near the brilliance of 'Round, Round'. Whats more it features STING. Which all in all makes it pretty much akin to musical hell-even though the beat's pretty impressive.

JAZMINBURGESS

ZWAN HONESTLY

Disappointing single from Corgan's post-Pumpkins project. Not only does this have the creativity of a dead hen, it's also ridiculously sentimental: "There's no place I could be without you", "I believe, you mean the best that life can bring". Yuk. If he had the looks he'd join a boy band. And they'd probably sound more interesting.

NEILGARRETT

BIFFY CLYRO THE IDEAL HEIGHT

If Biffy Clyro had their way thy'd probably want to sit right alongside the 'new wave' of British rock with bands such as Hell is For Heroes. However, on the basis of 'The Ideal Height' they are more suited to the mediocre 'pseudo rock' genre. And even thats generous, because bands have done what Biffy Clyro have done before. And with a lot more style and talent.

JAZMINBURGESS

FC KAHUNA HAYLING

The original is like a hazy meandering dream, a downbeat track very comparable to Air; pleasant but rather boring, particularly here where it is stretched out over nearly 7 minutes. The Super Furry Animals provide an excellent remix on the b-side however which has much more drive and energy about it.

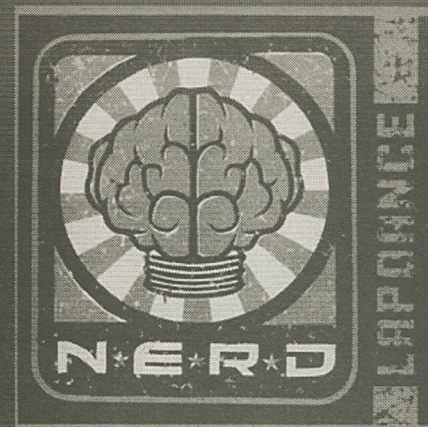
NEILGARRETT

CLEARLAKE ALMOST THE SAME

Why Clearlake are making a comeback now is pretty much beyond comprehension-having enjoyed minor post-britpop success in 1998 and disappearing into oblivion thereafter. 'Almost the Same', shows the band to have made absolutely no progression since 1998. Although their guitar sound has improved, they still sound like a bad indie band and a budget My Life Story. Its not that 'Almost the Same' is a bad song, but there are just many, many more exciting bands around at the moment.

JAZMINBURGESS

single of the week



N*E*R*D LAPDANCE/PROVIDER

A re-release of one of the strongest N*E*R*D songs to date and featuring guest vocals from Kelis, the unbelievably fantastic Lapdance is perfect proof of the utter genius possessed by Pharrell Williams, Chad Hugo and Gene Thornton. Whereas Lapdance combines kick ass distorted-but-heavy guitars, with loops and a beat to amke anyone want to rock, Provider is a much more mellow, although with an equally brilliant tune and totally beautiful vocals. Easily one of the most innovative, unique and original bands around, and as this double A-side demonstrates N*E*R*D are worthy of endless applause. Whats more, the re-release of thsi proves that Pharrell Williams is up to much more and in possession of more talent than that he demonstrates by throwing out his super-slick shapes in Justin Timberlake videos.

JAZMINBURGESS

NEW WRITERS WANTED!

We are always keen to get more people involved with B:Music. If you are interested in doing interviews, reviewing singles, albums, gigs or have an opinion on anything music related then contact us! We are welcome to new ideas and want to make the section as diverse as possible.

So, if you want to join the team, send an email to J.D.Burgess@lse.ac.uk and N.Garrett@lse.ac.uk with the subject heading 'I want to write!', and we'll let you know how to become a regular contributor.



ELECTION 2003

LENT TERM ELECTION PULL-OUT SPECIAL

Dear Reader,

It's that time of the year again when students get to choose the officials who will represent them in the coming academic year. It is incredibly important that you participate and cast your vote. There are a whole host of candidates who have put their names forward and the Beaver is proud to produce this supplement to help you make an informed choice.

See you on election day!

HUSTINGS

There will be six hustings organised for candidates to the Sabbatical positions, executive committee and for both the "Yes" and "No" campaigns on referendum about affiliation to the NUS.

There will be two hustings held after the Beaver is published.

" Tuesday 4 March, 1pm-2pm in the Quad - Hustings on affiliation to the NUS.
" Tuesday 4 March, 7pm-8.30pm in the Three Tuns - Hustings for candidates to the Sabbatical Positions.

Voting will take place at the following locations and times:

Wednesday 5 March 2003

" In the Quad 11.30am-2pm
" High Holborn 4pm-4.30pm
" Rosebery 5pm-5.30pm
" Carr-Saunders 6pm-6.30pm
" Passfield 6.45pm-7.15pm
" Bankside 8pm-8.30pm
" Great Dover Street 9pm-9.30pm
" Butlers Wharf 10pm-10.30pm

Thursday 6 March 2003

In the Quad 9.30am-7pm.

There will be a separate Manifesto Booklet Published by the Returning Officer. If you have any questions, please e-mail me on k.faizullaev@lse.ac.uk

Happy Voting!

Returning Officer, 2002-3, LSESU.

THE CANDIDATES

General Secretary (Sabbatical)	Equal Opportunities (Male)
1. Katie Hill	1. Max Koss
2. Rex Walker	2. Daniel Freedman
3. Arielle Krebs	3. Mike Warriner
4. Peter Bellini	
5. Iain Wilson	Returning Officer
6. Elliot Simmons	1. K
Education and Welfare Officer (Sabbatical)	2. Vita Maynard
1. Beyzade M. Beyzade	Constitution and Steering Committee (7 positions)
2. Rowan Harvey	1. Ali Velshi
3. Shilpa Umrania	2. Stephen D. Gurman
4. Laura Harvey	3. Charlie Dorr
Treasurer (Sabbatical)	4. Vita Maynard
1. Doug Hancock	5. Matthew Sinclair
2. Candice MacDonald	6. Oliver Jolleyman
3. Jo Kibble	7. Jonathan Ezer
Entertainments Officer (Sabbatical)	8. Mark Power
1. Doron Meyassed	Equal Opportunities (Female) - Elected Unopposed
2. Jimmy Baker	Sian L. Errington
3. Mike Burn	
Executive Slate (4 positions)	Students With Disabilities Officer - Elected Unopposed
1. Nick Spurrell	Alice Brickley
2. Danielle Milne	
3. Szymon S. Ordys	Mature and Part-Time Students Officer - Elected Unopposed
4. Dave Cole	Jon Clark
5. Rishi Madlani	
6. John Wu	Finance and Services Committee (4 positions) - Elected Unopposed
7. Will Macfarlane	1. Alexander Phua
8. Omar M. Srouji	2. Christopher Bostrom
9. Hanna Hedges	3. Nick Spurrell
International Students Officer	4. Natalia Loskoutova
1. David M. Willumsen	
2. Ali Velshi	
3. Dzung Nguyen	
4. Andrew Schwartz	

As part of the elections we are also holding a referendum on affiliation to the NUS.

If you would like to get involved in campaigns, please e-mail Tom Packer t.packer@lse.ac.uk for "NO" campaign; and Matt Willgress m.i.willgress@lse.ac.uk for "YES" campaign.

GENERAL SECRETARY



KATIE HILL

As a working and active student in the Union I have identified 5 key areas that I believe are important in helping students get enough from their University experience.

- *Raise Participation - all students need to see the link between union politics and their lives
- *Fight for Wednesday afternoons free - for societies, sports, part-time workers and academic work
- *Provide for Part-time workers - welfare and academic security for part-time workers
- *Fight fees - differential fees are wrong.
- *Lobby NUS/LSE for increased Postgraduate participation - no preaching: they need their own voice.

R U GETTING ENOUGH?
VOTE KATIE HILL



REX WALKER

Vote Rex Walker for a REAL chance to get things done.

A keen activist within the Union, AU President and UGM chair, I have experience, energy and enthusiasm.

- Representation** - Standing up for the views of all students be they home/overseas, male/female, under/postgrad.
 - Education** - MSc resits, 24hr library access and increased transparency in teacher appraisal
 - Accommodation** - I will lead a campaign for a decent, low cost replacement for Passfield and improve IT Services in Halls
 - Leadership** - A strong, coherent negotiator on committees, right through to the top. See my manifesto for more....
- Vote Rex for REAL!



PETER BELLINI

As SU Treasurer I have worked hard to ensure that the Union has remained strong financially. Having set in motion moves to expand and improve the Unions Services and having improved society funding, I am standing on a record of successful achievements. I believe I can ensure that my knowledge of the Union and the school can help to get the real improvements students want, need and deserve! Having a year left of my degree I have a vested interest in ensuring the success of this Union not just for myself, but for all who continue to study at LSE



IAIN WILSON

New fee fighters campaign to raise participation in anti-fees action around campus
Push for more action by NUS against raising limits on international; post-graduate and home fees

- Build on the anti-war movement at LSE to act to stop the war
- Back-up the education and welfare sabbatical
- Campaign against the racist backlash that will come from war
- Lend full support of position to increasing awareness of vulnerable groups and campaigns
- Support the anti-racism and LGBT officers joining the executive committee
- UGM motions advertised in halls and by a gen-sec e-mail by Thursday
- Encourage diverse issues, to increase participation and intensify campaigns

ARIELLE KREBS

I want to increase the transparency of our Union, to make it truly accountable to all of its members, especially international and post-graduate students.

Vital issues are being ignored because these groups are properly engaged in our student community. I will bring these people in from the cold and involve them in strong campaigns on the quality of education and accommodation offered by the School.

I have the skills, from student and national government, and desire to do the job of GenSec.

If you really want to turn the rhetoric of greater inclusion into reality then vote Arielle Krebs 1.



ELLIOT SIMMONS

I intend to introduce a set of achievable policies, beneficial to the student body as a whole, and effectively represent the SU on the various School committees.

Experience? Societies Officer 2002/3 and Communications 2001/2; Organiser of the Thursday night Live Music, member of the Beaver Collective and the Financial Services Committee.

Policies? Lobby for a Job Exchange to help students find part-time work and a Review of LSE Accommodation; Lobby for improved Course Collection Facilities, longer Library opening hours and more On-line Course Materials; and fight any proposed move of the SU Facilities detrimental to students

TREASURER



DOUG HANCOCK

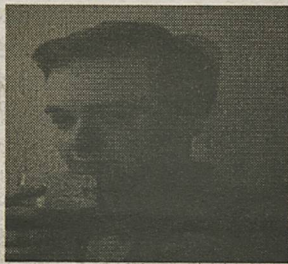
I am a politically independent candidate who is committed to the fair representation of students from all backgrounds. Having spent the last year as Football Club Treasurer and all three years at university heavily involved with the Beaver and PuLSE FM I realise the full value of LSESU's societies and services and am keen to ensure that they run smoothly in the future. I feel that my involvement with these societies has given me the experience necessary to take on this role. Please read my manifesto to find out about my ideas for improving the LSESU's Services and Societies.



CANDICE MACDONALD

I'm Candice Macdonald and I think I'd be a great SU Treasurer. As Treasurer I would give strong support to LSE Fee Fighters, while providing our students with practical financial help by creating an employment agency. I would also institute a strategic review of the union, looking at our resources, how we use them and the best way to reallocate them according to YOUR needs, long term. I would also create Cross-Society Networks to provide societies with bigger and better integrated events with wider appeal with extra joint events funding. There's nothing quite like a MacDonald! Vote Candice 4 Treasurer!

ENTERTAINMENTS



JO KIBBLE

I want to build a Union that protects and promotes the values we share - equality, justice and accountability. This means campaigning vigorously against top-up fees, all forms of discrimination and against an attack on Iraq that would damage race relations on campus. I will also tackle issues of access by introducing a subsidy on the cheapest Halls paid for by a second late licence for the Tuns. I also want to revise the system of society funding and environmentally audit the SU's spending. I will be a proactive campaigner, not a technocrat. I urge you to reject the quiet life



DORON MEYASSED

My involvement in LSE has extended from entertainments officer of Bankside house and organizer of the Mexican boat party, to Experimental Music nights in the underground. I have also organized commercial events in venues holding over 1000 party heads. As Ents officer I would ensure the Tuns is renovated into a cosy venue while keeping its "lets get hammered" vibe. My priorities will include encouraging societies to express their party skills, setting up an interactive Ents web page (Online booking, questionnaires), bringing well renowned bands to LSE and improving Crush with shorter queues and more variety. Peace, Love and Chicken Grease



JIMMY BAKER

Re-Elect the Ents Sabbatical Jimmy Baker - One More Time!
Crush is higher profile, better attended and more fun than ever before. RAG week has been and continues to be a winner around campus. We have seen more live music and a fantastic number of society parties, which the Ents Officer fully supports.

Let me build on these successes with;

- " LSESU TV through our new Plasma system
- " Making the Union safer for you
- " Delivering the Bars Refurbishment
- " On-line booking systems (www.the-quad.co.uk)
- " A bigger and better Freshers' Fortnight

Re-Elect Jimmy Baker - One More time!



MIKE BURN

Hi my name is Mike Burn. I'm standing for Entertainments Officer.

I'm standing because I think LSE students deserve high quality Ents which properly reflect the diversity of our community.

The best way to run SU Ents is to involve more of YOU. I will set up a representative entertainments committee and listen to your views on improving our events.

As someone who runs a successful club night, DJs extensively, works in promotions for Sohy and managed the Beaver. I have a wealth of skills and experience which I will use for you.

For professional ents vote MIKE BURN 1.



"Can't we think of something better to do with £15,000? How about raising society budgets by a third?"

" The NUS cost LSE S.U. £14,970.00 this year. (Source: LSE SU Budget.) This money could be spent on student societies, access funds and bursaries for poorer students, sports clubs, or whatever we democratically decide needs more money! The money represents a 1/3 of the societies' budget.

" The NUS binds us to specific training which our own Sabbatical and Executive committees have said is generally poor quality.

" NUS claims to be a National Student body. Conference delegates are often elected by less than 1% of students at a university, and the NUS is dominated by political factions. The main issue the NUS has championed (they claim) is student fees. However when they were introduced NUS prioritized an anti-foxhunting campaign. In Scotland where all the top universities are not part of NUS, the various independent student unions got together without the NUS bureaucracy and lobbied ministers. In Scotland they no longer pay up-front fees.

" Attempts to reform the NUS have constantly failed. Every year there are promises to push through reform. Every year nothing materialises.

" The NUS is simply not representative. It explicitly claims it seeks to represent UK not international students. For LSE, where most students do come from overseas, NUS is hardly a suitable representative body.

By voting to disaffiliate we will join the non-NUS Imperial College London, Edinburgh, St Andrews, UMIST, Buckingham, Oriel & Keeble Colleges (Oxford University), Dundee, and the Royal College of Music, plus dozens of smaller higher education institutions.

VOTE TO DISAFFILIATE

SHORT ANSWERS TO NUS MYTHS

1. If LSE S.U. disaffiliates will I still be able to get my student discounts?

Certainly. Companies don't give discounts to students whose union belongs to another union. They offer them to attract students. Now that universities in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester and Southampton have all disaffiliated, and retailers are realising that if you're a student, you're not necessarily in NUS. McDonalds in fact used to require an NUS card but now no longer has a deal with NUS due to political wrangling. Other companies like Virgin have their own discount scheme.

2. Won't the price of beer go up in the student bars if we leave NUS?

Absolutely not. It didn't in Southampton when they disaffiliated, and the price of the cheapest pint of lager in Imperial is exactly the same as that in the Tuns. The myth is that NUSSL., NUS's bulk-buying branch, is alone in being able to arrange good prices. But that's simply not true. Other consortiums such as Northern Services offer equal or cheaper rates. When you consider that NUS charges so many thousands of pounds a year in affiliation fees, it becomes clear that they're the most expensive bulk-buying consortium you can imagine.

3. Won't LSE cut the Union's budget if we disaffiliate?

No. The Union Treasurer has declared: "The funding system at LSE won't cause us to lose out if students decide to leave". That's because the School does not decide our budget by taking into account who we affiliate to.

New Subway Opposite Holborn Halls - Special Discount for LSE Students !

students pay less!!

15% off

Sandwiches

on presentation of a valid LSE ID card

SUBWAY
eat fresh.™

214 Shaftsbury Avenue, Holborn

Subway have just opened its new store in Holborn (just opposite High Holborn halls) and to celebrate we're offering a special discount to LSE students.

All our bread is freshly baked on the premises, and prepared by one of our sandwich artists - so called because every sandwich is a work of art! And to accompany the subs - which you can have from 6" to 6 ft! - there's a variety of great tasting fillings, salads, snacks and hot or cold food.

Buy a carbonated drink (Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Tango or 7-Up) and you're welcome to help yourself to as many free refills as you like!

We're open from 8 each morning, through to 11pm on Monday and Tuesday's and through 'til midnight the rest of the week - including Sunday's! We've got 7 sandwiches that have less than 6 grammes of fat, so we're an ideal stop-off for a healthy snack after a good night out.

We're just opposite High Holborn halls on the north end of Shaftsbury Avenue (behind the theatre).

Say YES to



NUS is:

- " The only national body to represent over five million students throughout the UK.
- " Your route to national discounts in shops such as HMV, Topshop and Jet. This is through your NUS card, the only universally recognised student discount card.
- " Supplying your union with everything from beer to birthday cards at some of the best prices in the country, so you can keep your money in your pocket.
- " Training your union officers to represent and deliver for you through national and local training events and providing them with support and advice on a day-to-day basis through the NUS London regional office.
- " NUS has campaigns every year against racism, sexism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination and bigotry. LSE students can be part of these campaigns and help make a difference at a local and national level.
- " Providing research, information and legal advice on everything from housing to entertainments, giving your union the help it needs to support you.

Don't be isolated - Say YES to NUS

Last month saw the launch of the biggest attack on students we have seen for decades. The Government's proposals to introduce top-up fees of £3,000 per year will cripple higher education, unless as a united student movement stop them. It will mean international students will have to pay more. There is no question that higher education is desperately under funded, but asking cash-strapped students to foot the bill is an insult to the hardship they already go through. NUS is the vehicle through which we can campaign against these proposals with a lobby of parliament on March 5th. Only as part of a national campaign can LSE Student Union seriously make a difference and only as part of the national union can we have a say in the nature of such campaigns.

NUS membership offers us direct benefits financially at a cost of well under £2 a student. We have access to cheap goods and services offered by NUSSSL, which is the largest vodka and second largest beer consortium in the UK. If we leave NUS the prices will go up in the Tuns, the shop and the Quad - these savings massively outweigh the costs of affiliation.

NUS may not be perfect; but reforms we feel it needs can be better implemented by using our voice within the NUS. Leaving would leave us isolated and lose students many benefits that can only be obtained by being part of a national body.

CONSTITUTION AND STEERING COMMITTEE

Ali Velshi

Stephen David Gurman

Charlie Dorr- "Steering for Openess and Justice"

Vita Maynard- Re-elect former Chair!

Matthew Sinclair- "Vote for Matt; he's not a twat"

Oliver Jelleyman- Re-elect current chair. Haven't missed a single meeting yet!

Jonathan Ezer-

I intend to make sure that the rules of the constitution are respected, and that no laws get broken.

Mark Power-

A moderate and sensible voice for C&S, working to ensure the decisions of the union and ugm are implemented

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Bridge



EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BEYZADE BEYZADE

PUTTING, "STUDENTS BEFORE POLITICS"

KEY PLEDGES:

- 1) To promote and ensure the general welfare rights of LSE Students.
- 2) To help perfect equal opportunities policy for ALL LSE Students and supports its implementation.
- 3) To support student choice on student issues.
- 4) To encourage continued production of our alternative course guide for prospective students.
- 5) To ensure fairness, openness and representation within the LSESU.
- 6) To value teamwork by playing an active role within a campaigning executive working for YOU.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT
STUDENTS' WELFARE MUST COME FIRST!



ROWAN HARVEY

I feel that the Edwelfare position is about improving the quality of student life, whether this be through National campaigns such as Higher Education Funding or through individual problem solving. I would love the opportunity to take on these challenges.

To this end I would:

- " Reform the library with more online resources and course packs.
- " Seek affordable accomodation for students
- " Integrate welfare campaigns such as Depression Awareness Week into the role.
- " Campaign for Masters and General course resits.
- " Look to improve the Pastoral Care offered by tutors with tutor assesment and training.

Please Vote Rowan



SHILPA UMRANIA

Hi, I'm running for this position because I genuinely care about people here. If elected, I'd offer a listening ear as well as liasing with other LSE departments to make them more student-friendly. My main policies are: working on a united stance on tuition fees, liasing with Halls to ensure students are provided with all the help and care they need and that rents are kept as low as possible, working to ensure that class teaching meets expectations and that pastoral care is improved, and involving all students.

It's our Union and we need to make sure that everyone feels that they can have their say at any time

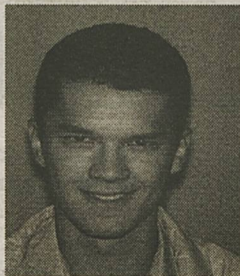


LAURA HARVEY

As your Education and Welfare Sabbatical I will work hard on the following issues:

- Equal Opportunities: Full implementation of the Special Education Needs Disability Act.
- Student Funding: Campaign against 'Top Up' and differential fees. Campaigning for substantial grants for those in most need and increased loans as an immediate requirement.
- Tackle Hardship: Pushing for budget accommodation and 31 week contracts. Helping students who work by providing information on managing studying with part-time work, budgeting, and low cost living.
- Teaching and Facilities: Ensure student consultation on management school.
- Widen Union Participation: Working through societies and departments.

RETURNING OFFICER



"K"

Re-Elect K.

- Re-Elect K - Current Returning Officer.
- Re-Elect K - The Independent Candidate.
- Re-Elect K - To Ensure Fairness.



VITA MAYNARD

As a current Union Executive Officer, and former Chair of C&S, I feel I have the competence and commitment necessary to do this job successfully. I seek to increase turnout during elections and referenda, and would like to clarify the regulations governing elections. Vote for Experience, Enthusiasm, Commitment!

EXECUTIVE SLATE

NICK SPURRELL

"If elected I would seek to work for 24 hour library opening to make studying opportunities more flexible; seek to provide facilities for students who smoke, as well as those who prefer a smoke-free environment; and champion a campaign for a low-waste culture throughout the LSE community."



DANIELLE MILNE

VOTE Danielle MILNE - Improving LSE's Environment 4U!
I am committed to LSE's environment; my policies include - but are not limited to - pressing for and raising awareness of: recycling in the School and Halls, use of Fairtrade and Organic products and continuing the Green Electricity Campaign.
Representing your voice in the SU!



SZYMON ORDYS

Running for Communications Officer.
What this union needs is someone to clearly and concisely educate its members on the unions' activities. This will promote the unions' events and increase participation in important decision-making affecting all. I feel I can achieve this and would put all my effort into this position.



DAVE COLE

I hope to use my experience with all sizes and types of societies as Societies Officer position to continue the good work done this year in all aspects of society life. I will use my Executive position to make the SU a more open and inclusive organisation, particularly at UGM.



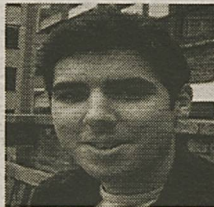
RISHI MADLANI

- " Incumbent SU Residences Officer
- " Former Passfield President
- " Former Vice-Chair of Constitution and Steering Committee
- 1. Most Experienced Candidate for Residences Post
- 2. Committed to serving student interests
- 3. Team player on previous SU Exec
- 4. Approachable and understanding of student needs



JOHN WU

From the passionate lobbying to the operational organisation work, I endeavour to commit myself of all to represent you. I present myself as the simple, dedicated, approachable candidate. Experience includes the Passfield Hall treasurer. Supporter of the union. Advocate of its democracy. VOTE JOHN WU AS EXECUTIVE SLATE!



WILL MACFARLANE

Please vote Will Macfarlane '1' for Exec Slate in the SU Elections. I'm an experienced member of the Union - Court of Governors, C&S, and NUS. I'm committed to consensus-building and promoting unity in our SU, so we can fight any campaigns united, whether internal or external, achieving far greater success.



OMAR SROUJI

Hi, my name is Omar Srouji. I stand for democracy, diversity and equality. I strongly believe that the LSE Union should be both accessible and representative for ALL its students. Furthermore, I will work tirelessly to combat racism, discrimination and student-hardship on campus. If you like what you read, vote for me.



HANNAH HEDGES

As the fresh face of student politics, I want to represent you. Students make the LSE what it is and it's time we get the respect and the voice we deserve. I'm ready to listen and I'm eager to work; because I believe action is louder than words.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICER

DAVID WILLUMSEN
ALI VELSHI
DZUNG NGUYUN

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (MALE)



MAX KOSS

I am Max Koss, running for Equal Opportunities Officer (Male). I will raise awareness of male issues through campaigns, events and office hours. I will commit myself to an integrated approach to Equal Opportunities, with the same energy with which I have been president of the History Society this year.



DANIEL FREEDMAN

Hi!
If elected, I would strive to remove any discrimination, and to promote opportunities for all. Problems specific to men I will attempt to ease.
I will be responsive to whatever issues arise. Where people have a need or a problem, I will try my hardest to help them.



MIKE WARRINER

Help me restore pride to Equal Opportunities (male). This is a vital position within the SU, as all of the positions dealing specifically with your welfare are. As an executive officer I will be committed, hard-working, caring and available. Vote Mike Warriner preference 1, restoring pride to Equal Opportunities (male).

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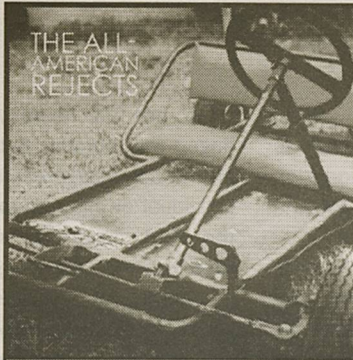
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THE ALL AMERICAN REJECTS
THE ALL AMERICAN REJECTS

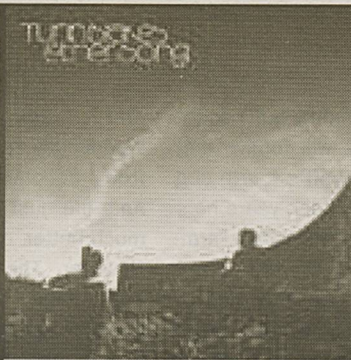
RELEASE DATE: 3/3/03
LABEL: INTERSCOPE

Hailing from Stillwater Oklahoma, The All American Rejects are the latest band to take the emo scene riding on the crest of the wave of 'new emo bands (post-emo perhaps?). This new wave seems to have taken and adapted old skool emo guitar heavy sound epitomised by bands such as The Get Up Kids and Saves the Day. Buddyhead not so affectionately call bands like the All American Rejects 'fruitcake bands', more accurate is probably 'synth dominated rock'. Because it's likely that if these bands didn't have a moog, they would be very, very lost...

And The All American Rejects most certainly epitomize this sound. Although opening track 'My Paper Hear' has a synthetic drum beat that's so 'cheesy' it verges on comedy, the split vocals of Nick Wheeler and Tyson Ritter are upbeat and hyperactive enough, to make you forget such glitches. Undoubtedly, it is the keyboard dominated 'Swing Swing' and brilliantly sunny 'Don't Leave Me' that carry the album through, however The All American Rejects have somehow mastered the art of producing a catchy pop song, that its a challenge to anyone if they manage not to sing-along to the whole album. At some points (such as the bewilderingly epic 'Last Song') The All American Rejects do undeniably verge slightly too much on tacky, 'feel my pain' emo clichés and cheesy lyrics. What's more, their vocals often tend too sound too close to Blink 182 for comfort. However, if you take the album as lighthearted, up-tempo 'alternative pop' then it pretty much hits the mark perfectly.

On the basis of their self titled debut album, The All American Rejects look set to challenge Weezer's 'serious music gone pop' crown. To be fair they may not be brilliantly complex 'deep' music, but they are still fun and exuberantly cheerful. And at the end of the day, there's absolutely nothing wrong with that. (7)

JAZMINBURGESS



TURIN BRAKES
ETHER SONG

RELEASE DATE: 3/3/03
LABEL: SOURCE

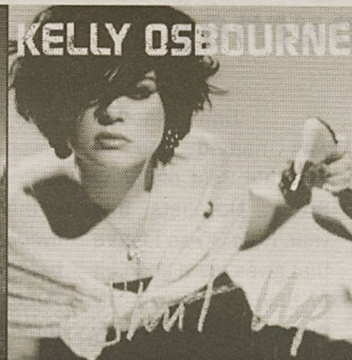
Olly Knights and Gale Paridjanian, otherwise known as Turin Brakes broke into the commercial music mainstream in 2001 with their debut l.p. 'the optimist'. Two years later and their second album, 'ether songs' takes up much the same style as their previous release, with somewhat less character.

The catchy songs (apart from the ballad like 'long distance' and 'pain killer') have been replaced with a more down tempo kind of bland. I thought the time had passed when bands jumped on the radiohead bandwagon, attempting an intimate-depressant vibe, but failing miserably.

This is the sound of trying to glimpse at happiness whilst blinkered by a veil of melancholy. Song titles like 'falling down,' 'panic attack,' and 'rain city' add to the impression that this is not the kind of music you want to hear to put you in a good mood. The attempt at philosophy is far from profound, 'it's the demons that drag you down, but the angels pull you on,' from the particularly bad 'full of stars' is a par for the course lyric for this album, and as you can tell, it hardly compares to Nietzsche or Plato.

That said, it would be unfair not to give the vocal accompaniment to some bad music the credit it deserves. Olly Knights certainly has a talent, reaching the highs and coasting, whispering along the lows. When Turin Brakes try to rock out, with his voice working to it's potential, they probably produce the best song of the album in 'Little brother,' which partners 'Stone thrown' as the only songs of reasonable quality. Overall, this is a weak album that fails to live up to the bands early promise. (4)

JOSSSHEDDON



KELLY OSBOURNE
SHUT UP

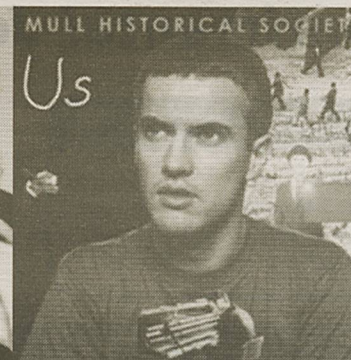
RELEASE DATE: OUT NOW
LABEL: EPIC

Those people at Epic Records evidently have a vendetta against the world-seemingly not content with the fact that Kelly Osbourne annoyed people to the point of insanity on 'The Osbournes', they have inflicted upon us Kelly Osbourne's debut album 'Shut Up'.

To be honest the songs on this album are not particularly bad. The problem is however Kelly Osbourne's terribly off key, squealing-come-shouting brand of singing. Easily the worst song is title track 'Shut Up' which is a pretty below average manufactured pop punk tune that you'd expect from a band like Good Charlotte but with singing that sounds like a terrible genetic mutation of Blink 182 and those screaming sirens you read about in Greek mythology. However, overall what is the most distressing thing about this album is the fact that Kelly Osbourne manages to totally decimate Madonna's 1980s classic 'Papa Don't Preach', even though this choice of cover was meant to be 'semi-ironic' reference to Ozzy Osbourne, to be perfectly honest, with a daughter producing music like this then Ozzy has ALL the right in the world to preach.

Avoid 'Shut Up' with as much energy as you can, because it is almost certainly one of the worst, most annoying, non-musical, off key albums of the year. No doubt Kelly Osbourne is guaranteed to have massive sales on the basis of the success of 'The Osbournes' and the media fueled rivalry between her and that other terrible manufactured product Avril Lavinge The only applaudable thing on this album is the mention of Har Mar Superstar in the thank yous. And even that's not enough to give this album any credibility. If Kelly Osbourne actually did 'shut up' and stuck to being the obnoxious kid on that TV insanity/reality show, then the world would most definitely be a more pleasant place (3)

JAZMINBURGESS



MULL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
US

RELEASE DATE: 3/3/03
LABEL: BLANCO Y NEGRO

MHS is essentially one hapless chap, Colin MacIntyre. Once upon a time when Colin was a young boy just knee high to a small grasshopper, he was misled by a wicked stranger into believing he was a talented musician who could make good music which people would enjoy. Poor Colin. He naively clasped his feeble little hands tightly around this foolhardy belief. He was deceived at a vulnerable age and because of this, we forgive him. Just make a humble apology, turn around and attempt find a job that suits you better. A fishmonger perhaps.

Colin would do well to qualify for Fame Academy. Although I doubt he would pip Dave Schmedface to the prize based on this evidence. And what repulsive, stinking evidence this is. Pressing play on the CD player was akin to releasing a fart from a jar it has been festering in for months on end. Just who on earth does he think he is? What does he think this sounds like when he listens back to this disgusting tripe? Does he honestly sit there in his studio with a contented smile on his face, job done good.

"Us" does have some positive aspects to it, let's not be one sided about the matter. It's in time. Furthermore it's also in tune (more or less). It was also free (although it does skip at the end of track 9).

On the opposite side of the fence though this is happy clappy sentimental rubbish. You could give it to primary school kids to sing along to in assembly although even they'd probably be outraged and organise a national protest. Spare us please. (3)

NEILGARRETT



SPIRITUALIZED
THE COMPLETE WORKS

RELEASE DATE: 31/3/03
LABEL: SPACEMAN

Yum Yum. A double CD of Spaceman oddities, rarities, extended versions, instrumentals and much more. This is not a compilation of songs that didn't quite make the cut when it came to choosing album tracklistings. Well, I guess it sort of is, but in the case of Spiritualized even the rejects are of the highest order - there are no duff tracks here by any means. Nor is it just for the obsessive Spiritualized fan; this is a fantastic and comprehensive collection of soul absorbing sounds regardless of how much you're already an admirer of the group.

The term psychedelic or comparisons to Pink Floyd fail to do this group justice. The tracks here shimmer. They are timeless in the true sense of the word. They are uplifting, each a slow building epic masterpiece you cannot help but become fully engrossed in.

The greatest aspect of Spiritualized is their masterful control of an incredibly diverse array of sounds. A single track will typically be sparse, eerie, barely even audible at times but will also contain fully orchestrated, thickly layered parts; dense walls of sound which burst with cosmic energy. Yet the contrast is executed with such guile and subtlety; never sudden or jerky but supremely crafted with an assured composure. The music here glides; rising ever so slowly, peaking, softly ebbing away and starting all over again. Nowhere is this better illustrated than on the sublime "Feel So Sad (Rhapsodies)" which begins as a gorgeous soft lullaby but after 9 minutes of enchanting vocal harmonies and delicate delay soaked guitar, it starts to gently build. By the end you're mesmerized by the driving satiated sound this has evolved into, a startling blend of intertwining melodies.

Quality. (9)

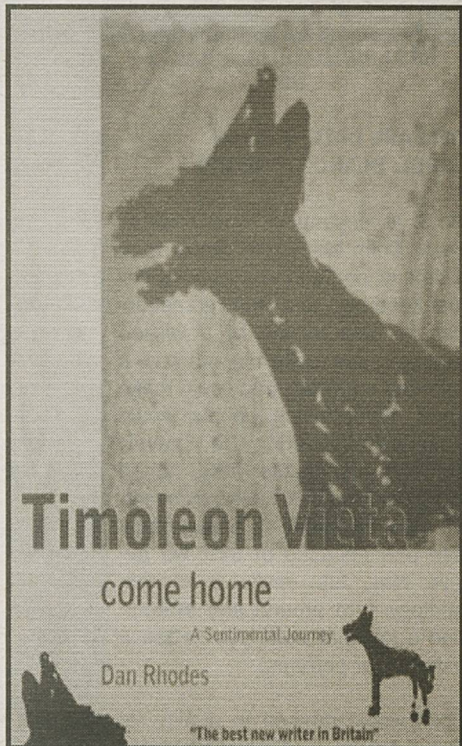
NEILGARRETT

Timoleon Vieta Come Home

A Sentimental Journey

Just The Facts...

Author: Dan Rhodes
Publisher: Canongate
Date: March 2003
Price: £9.99



Dan Rhodes was named one of Granta's Best of Young British Novelists this year. He's 30 so I figure that gives me a good bit of time to work on my masterpiece and qualify for the list as well. Well, assuming I turn British between then and now. Timoleon Vieta is a dog with beautiful eyes. He's a mongrel (the best breed according to Rhodes and he finds in me a partner to that particular theory) and his owner, Carthusian Cockroft is a props conductor who retired in disgrace (the details of which I shall leave you to read for yourself) and now is spending the remainder of his years in a secluded house in a secluded part of Italy. Timoleon Vieta ('Timoleon' to save me time. I'm tempted to

write Timmy but I doubt anyone will forgive me) is Cockroft's fourth dog in the fifteen years he's lived in the Italian farmhouse. Of the other three, one had died of thrombosis, the other been killed by Cockroft himself, and the next had vanished - in that order. But Timoleon is different - he's deeply loyal and wonderfully undemanding; a much better other half than most of Cockroft's old flames. So here we have a man and his dog. Apart from Cockroft's depression, drinking, and suicidal moments, a happier couple you'd probably never find. Into this Italian idyll walks The Bosnian - a handsome, surly and mysterious stranger who takes Cockroft up on his offer to perform

oral sex every Wednesday in return for free accommodation. And life just got that much better. However, The Bosnian and Timbo just can't seem to get along and in a drunken haze (and with the promise of many more such Wednesdays to come), Cockroft agrees to dump his beloved mongrel in the city, leaving him to return to the wilds of the Roman streets. This is where the 'sentimental journey' to the story comes in as Timoleon Vieta struggles to make his way back to his master. It begins to read almost like a collection of short stories where Rhodes brings to the forefront the lives of every person Timoleon meets on his journey home. The

tales are all liberally tinged with humour, but as the dog leaves each individual on his way to the next, laughing is what you won't be doing - unless of course you're not half as weepy as I am when it comes to sad endings - even in tragicomic novels. I can see why Rhodes made the list - anybody can think up 'weird' 'what if' situations and I'm sure we all know at least one person whose imagination is off the wall - but it takes another class of creature to deliver that imagination straight from the mind and on to the blank page...successfully. All credit to him, and since I can't write like that, the next best thing is that I get to read it.

Dalia King

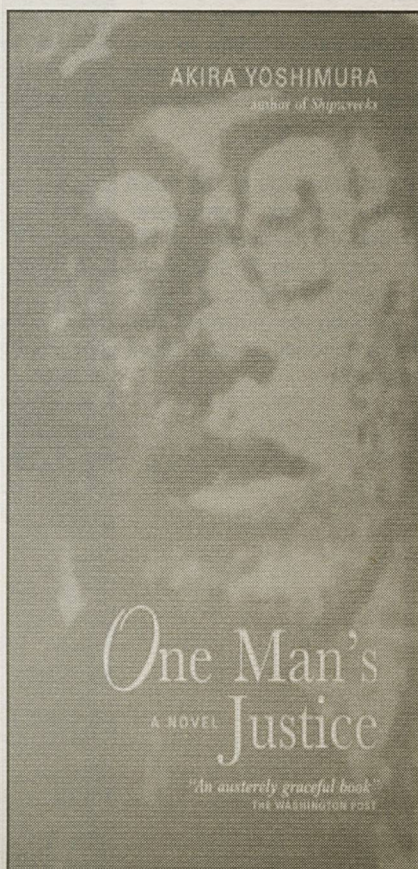
Also by Dan Rhodes: *Anthropology and a Hundred Other Stories* (2001); *Don't Tell Me the Truth About Love* (2002)

One Man's Justice

A fugitive in his own land...

Just The Facts...

Author: Akira Yoshimura
Publisher: Canongate
Date: February 2003
Price: £10.99



In war both sides commit the same crimes but only the loser pays for them. The victors don't commit crimes; only 'acts in the name of' (insert ideal here). Takuya, an ex-officer in the Japanese Imperial Army, is a loser - which is why he's running for his life. It's the late 1940s and Japan is still smouldering in the immediate aftermath to WWII. Everywhere, American jeeps make their presence known, a constant reminder of defeat. Countless high-ranking officials have taken their own lives rather than face death at the hands of the enemy. Takuya is only one of the many being sought for trial as a war criminal. After Japan had announced its surrender, Takuya had taken part in the execution of American prisoners of war who had parachuted from disabled B-29 bombers. He had cut the head off a tall blond

American man with his sword. If Japan had won, he would have been looted high in the streets and heralded a hero. Now, he is labelled a criminal and his family faces shame and hardship. The story is told in the third person narrative, but Yoshimura tracks not just the physical journey, but the emotional one of Takuya as well. What he feels, what he thinks, we read about. It's no surprise that his enmity towards Americans runs deep - seeping even into dislike of fellow officers who were schooled in American universities and spoke the American language. Why, he wonders, is his family name being tarnished and his family humiliated, by the people who dropped atomic bombs on his country? By the people who had sent "horrible numbers of non-combatants old people, women and children to their deaths"? Where was the

justice? Even his very people look on him and those suffering his fate with distaste as if he had not been fighting for them and for their country. But then when Japan becomes an American ally in the Korean war, old war criminals are recategorised as 'victims' - a label Takuya rejects as much as 'criminal'. Troubled by flashbacks of the beheaded Americans, Takuya also faces an internal struggle with his conscience and his sense of right and wrong. This individual struggle does not however, lessen his feelings of anger towards the strangers occupying his land - the burly G.I.s with their Lucky Strikes and their candies and their random acts of malice. One Man's Justice was written in 1978 but only now has been translated into English by Mark Ealey. Despite the original publication date, the

story is a timeless one - as many tales of war are. It seems even more well-timed a publication date given our current readiness for war. This isn't my little space to talk about who's right or wrong in the US-Iraq debate, but perhaps it would do everyone a little good to look beyond the first strike and at the lives of those left to deal with the aftermath of the destruction. French author Guy de Maupassant wrote similar tales - albeit in short story format, and what I took from them, as I take from this, is that the enemy is you. He defends his country just as you defend yours; all that separates the two of you is who gets to ride home on the backs of his people as a victor and who is left to lie in shame and humiliation as the vanquished.

Dalia King

Also by Akira Yoshimura: *Shipwrecks* (2002 English ed.); *Battleship Mushashi* (1999 English ed.)

Two other classic anti-war novels: Bao Ninh *The Sorrow of War*; Erich Maria Remarque *All Quiet on the Western Front*

FILMNEWS: SHOHELLUNAT

delights you with more goings-on

I was watching *Richard & Judy* last Wednesday (c'mon we all do) where they entertained the charming **George Clooney** and I was shocked to hear the star of *Solaris* blasting former family friend Jerry Springer suggesting he had overstepped the mark as the show was "coarsening" America....

...Maybe Jerry should take some notes from **Bruce Willis** who was shifted from star guest to TV host when he filled in for David Letterman on the *Late Show* in the US. The *Die Hard* star was originally booked as a guest on the show when the regular presenter was struck down with an eye infection. At short notice, Willis was drafted into the presenter's chair where he found himself having to quiz news anchor Dan Rather who had just returned from his exclusive interview with Saddam Hussein...

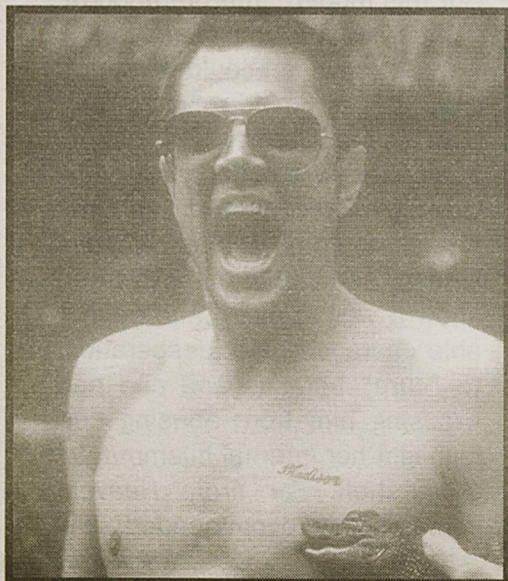
...Willis obviously wasn't pleased that the US is going to war and maybe it's because it appears the beloved Hollywood film industry will be greatly affected. Therefore on his behalf I'm hoping we can start a demonstration for the following 3 reasons:

1) The start date of the eagerly anticipated *Mad Max: Fury Road* has been put back due to concerns over the war in the Middle East. *Fury Road* is now rescheduled for an autumn start.

2) *Troy*, the mythical epic starring **Brad Pitt** as Achilles, could also be affected by a US attack in the Gulf due to part of the filming taking place in Morocco. Options are to either cancel the film or reschedule the filming date.

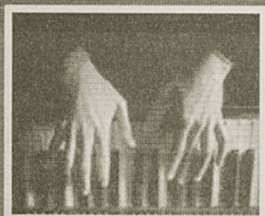
3) The Oscars could be canceled by up to two days in the event of war with Iraq. Academy insiders are opposed to canceling the event but accept they may have to bow to scheduling priorities if conflict with Saddam breaks out in the days before the Hollywood ceremony on March 23. Around one billion people worldwide watch the Oscars and officials agree that the worst-case scenario would be if war broke out during the broadcast.

...However, these reasons may not be enough for some German politicians, as it seems their love for Hollywood is not so great. Markus Soader of the Bavarian Christian Social Union Party is calling for a ban on *Jackass: The Movie* saying, "the film contains repulsive and absolutely inhumane scenes" (I would urge him not to watch *Treasure Planet*).



The BAFTAs 2003

IONMARTEA: should know, he was there!



In the hype of the award season, the BAFTAs, held on Sunday, 23rd February, did little to single out a clear favourite for the Best Picture race, due to finish on 23rd March at the Oscars.

Polanski's *The Pianist* had the weekend of the year on 22nd/23rd February, bagging six Cesars on Saturday, including for Best Picture, and then picking up two BAFTAs for Best Film and Best Director. Initially considered an outsider, with only six nominations, Polanski's holocaust drama was finally acknowledged for its attempt to "bring a little stone in the construction of the memory", as Alain Sarde emphasised it, while picking up the top award.

Although Scorsese stressed on the red carpet how the British Academy has acknowledged his work over time, and felt "gratified" of the new nomination 28 years after his directorial debut at BAFTAs, his excitement was much diminished when *Gangs of New York* managed to grab only the Best Actor Award, which went to the strong performance of Daniel Day-Lewis. 'Bill' was not really "The Butcher" though, being significantly moved in his acceptance speech. "There are such wonderful performances this year, both men and women", he marked, "and I feel a great sense of privilege at having been included amongst you".

The other leading acting award went to Nicole "Noseman..." "Kidnose..." Kidman, as Stephen Fry forced himself to remember the actress who portrayed a most remarkable writer, Virginia Woolf, in *The Hours*. Kidman, greedy at giving interviews on the arrivals, went on to mark that the British Film Industry has been "incredibly good" to her during the past years. "You have given me the opportunity to work with your finest". The BAFTA, which puts Kidman in a definite favourite position for her first Oscar, was divided by the stunning Aussie into three, acknowledging her "opportunity to work with two absolutely gorgeous women, Meryl Streep and Julianne Moore".

Streep was to have the best speech, though it was so "thrilling not to have it about me", since she picked up Charlie and Donald Kaufman's adapted screenplay award for *Adaptation*. While reading Charlie Kaufman's letter, which was obviously an intentional set up, the double nominee ended up wanting "to spank, rather than 'thank' Spike Jones". Even they are humans after all!

While Christopher Walken won Best Supporting Actor for *Catch Me If You Can*, *Chicago* was another great favourite to go home with only two golden masks. The hormonal Zeta-Jones finally received an overdue BAFTA for her performance as Velma Kelly, and ended up cheering an "oggy, oggy, oggy, oi, oi, oi" in Leicester's Odeon. The on screen version of the best selling musical lost even the Asquith Award for Achievement in Music, which went to Philip Glass for *The Hours*, and had to satisfy with a best sound award.

The most awarded film of the night was the epic *Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, which grabbed two technical awards and the Orange Film of the Year, voted by the public. Another technical award winner was *Road to Perdition*, which took the best Cinematography and Best Production Design.

The 2003 BAFTAs were however about celebrating international films. Kapadia's Hindu epic *The Warrior* won in two categories, including Best British Film, while Almodovar's *Talk to Her* topped the Best Original Screenplay and the Best Film not in the English Language. Finally *City of God* got the Editing Award, while Frida went home with a mask for Best Make-up and Hair.

The Academy Fellowship was received by Saul Zaentz, who produced such remarkable productions as *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Amadeus*, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* and the superb *English Patient*. "Getting an award from another country shows a lot of kindness and understanding", said Zaentz receiving the award from Michael Douglas and Kristin Scott Thomas.

Overall the BAFTAs could be considered a success, especially since stars such as Caine and Streep have rated it as becoming even more glamorous than the Oscars, and you'll have to believe them, it was.



b:film edited by eleanor keech



Maid In Manhattan

HOLLYFEATHERSTONE: used to have a little now she has a lot

Director: **Wayne Wang**
Starring: **Jennifer Lopez, Ralph Fiennes, Natasha Richardson, Stanley Tucci, Bob Hoskins**
Running Time: **105 mins**
Certificate: **PG**
Release Date: **7th March**

Jennifer Lopez, everyone's favourite serial bride, is back with a girly Rom Com. Basically, this film is like Cinderella. J-Lo plays Marisa Ventura who is a cleaner in a top Manhattan hotel, one day her friend dares her to try on one of the guests Dolce and Gabanna suits. As if by magic at that moment in walks Christopher Marshall - a politician guy running for senate (Ralph Fiennes) and thinks she's rich. They go for a romantic walk in the park and then before you know it he invites her to a ball, they go and fall in love. Between all this there is the 'hilarious' (!!) case of mistaken identity as Marshall asks out the woman actually staying in the room (Natasha Richardson). Although Lopez is worried about their different statuses, he vows to find her and make her his own, hooray! And I don't think I will be spoiling the ending for anyone

when I say that they live happily ever after.

This film will never win any Oscars but it doesn't take itself too seriously and even though the story is not great the cast pull it through. Bob Hoskins, Stanley Tucci and Natasha Richardson are just some of the people in this film, as well as Ralph Fiennes, showing that it can't be all bad. The little kid who plays the son is funny and cute making him ideal for the female audiences to ooh and aaah over. However, as 'Jenny from the block' recent nomination for a Golden Raspberry shows, she is not brilliant. Even when she is trying to be a hard done to single mom, scraping together the dimes and dollars, she looks better than I ever could. But this does not put a dampener on this essentially feel good film. It is better than you think it will be, honestly.

The soundtrack is also good. I feared that it would be littered with crazy, 'street' style J-Lo tracks but in fact there is a great deal of Norah Jones on there meaning

that you don't get too sick of Jennifer and it does aid the film immensely.

My advice is for no male to go and see this film but for all girls to go out and simply have fun watching this feel good film. It is not for the hard-hearted realists amongst you but a good watch none the less.

★★★★☆



Far From Heaven

ELEANORKEECH: is dreaming of a far-off place

Director: **Todd Haynes**
Starring: **Julianne Moore, Dennis Quaid, Dennis Haysbert, Patricia Clarkson**
Running Time: **107 mins**
Certificate: **12A**
Release Date: **7th March**

Some say that the golden era of cinema has well and truly passed, and that glamorous melodramas of the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s featuring leading Hollywood starlets can never be replicated and their rich and beautiful artistry is long gone. *Far From Heaven*, although of course made in this millennium, was plucked straight out of such a genre.

Set 1950s middle America, riddled with small town mentality, sees Julianne Moore playing Cathy Whitaker, a well-to-do socialite, mother and loving wife of Frank (Dennis Quaid). Everything is apparently picture perfect, befitting the style of the cinematic golden age. Perfect children, the ballerina daughter who wants to be as beautiful as her mother, and the son who shines on the football team. Perfect husband, a successful and rich businessman. And of course a wonderful repertoire of plush outfits for Cathy. She hosts

cocktail parties, participates in local affairs and gatherings, and is interviewed by magazines captivated by her charm.

However it is expected that things are not as they seem. Beneath the flawless surface lurk dark secrets, racism and wagging chins overflowing with small town gossip. Strife is on the agenda for Cathy, yet she copes and carries on with her life, pretending that her husband's repressed homosexuality can truly be cured, that his drinking will come to no harm, and that he really didn't mean to strike her, it was just an "accident". She finds herself very much alone despite her perfect friends, children and husband.

Just as the melodrama is truly kicking in, she befriends her black gardener, Raymond (a gentle but strong performance by Dennis Haysbert who you may recognise from 24). It is he who provides her with the understanding that she needs to make sense of it all. In the strictest sense of the

word they do not have an "affair", but their closeness is noted by the community and soon she finds that she is glared upon by her former good friends and ostracised by them. At the same time she discovers the situation and lifestyle that the hidden black community of the town live in.

This beautiful film was endlessly satisfying. I was enchanted. Common themes in film, such as racism and homosexuality, were explored from a simple viewpoint but that however does not compromise the viewer's appreciation of them. Melodrama has a clichéd bad name these days. But this modern interpretation of it mesmerises and charms. If I were to criticise I could point out that, to my mind, events are slightly predictable, but this in itself is not a bad thing if it adds to your appreciation of this film. Cathy may come across as occasionally selfish but does this not show a well rounded and believable character? Her desperation to "cure" her husband and her excusing him from abusing her highlight her internal dilemma. In a nutshell, *Far From Heaven* comes highly recommended.

★★★★★



The Good Thief

MATRYAN: will take anything not chained down

Director: Neil Jordan

Starring: Nick Nolte, Tcheky Karyo, Said Taghmaoui, Nino Kuchanidze

Running Time: 108 mins

Certificate: 15

Release Date: 7th March

The dark drug-fuelled Monte Carlo underworld, a corrupt team of experienced villains, a shrewdly devised heist, a 17-year-old crack smoking prostitute and an amusing transsexual called Phillippa. Sound like a promising set up for a movie? Yeah, it's alright.

The Good Thief is the latest offering from Irish Writer/Director Neil Jordan (*Michael Collins*, *Interview with the Vampire*, *The Crying Game*) and stars Nick Nolte as washed up heroin/gambling addict Bob, a lovable ex-crook lined up for one last stab at criminal glory. After hitting rock bottom, Bob shakes off his habit and reforms the old gang with the aim of setting up two heists, one real and one fake, so that he might rob a vault containing numerous priceless paintings. In doing so he runs into various problems, not least in the form of Ralph Fiennes who plays an amusing cameo as a vengeful art dealer, the comically penned Tony Angel. Also standing in Bob's way is his long-standing detective rival Roger (Tcheky Karyo), and a drug dealer by the name of Remi (Marc Lavoine).

The problem with *The Good Thief* is that it sets itself up to play out like a heist movie, but then fails to deliver any of the gripping tension, the bloody thrills or the exciting bits. Indeed, without giving away too much of the ending, it hardly delivers the heist itself. Nolte is convincing in his role as heroin addict Bob, not least because he looks absolutely awful throughout. Also of note is 17-year-old Georgian newble Nutsa Kukhianidze, who plays the part of drugged-up-prossie-turned-accomplice Anne. In only her second film, her portrayal of the troubled teen is unusual, but thoroughly watchable.

Additionally, *The Good Thief* suffers since there isn't really a bad guy. Karyo, Nolte's rival on the right side of the law is virtually his best friend; drug dealer Remi only has about 5 lines, and Ralph Fiennes's cameo is just that: a cameo. The script also lags at times, and the plot takes too long to get to the bits we really want to see: the bits that films like *Reservoir Dogs* jump straight to.

Of course, I shouldn't really be comparing heist films to *Reservoir Dogs*, and there are genuine issues covered here such as Bob's redemption that give the film more of an emotive undertone. However, this is somewhat driven home by the "happy-ever-after" ending, in which, annoyingly, no one really gets hurt and everything somehow works out well for almost everyone.

Having said that, *The Good Thief* is curiously different to other films of this genre, contains some genuinely funny moments and is by and large an enjoyable night out.

★★★★☆



Mr t:
abseils
the LSE

There are only a few issues left and as promised I am now using the opportunity to share with you, the reader, films that you definitely should have seen. If you haven't then quickly rush off to the library with your laptop and download them. Ahh yes, how I will miss the fast internet connection that LSE provides, it's almost worth the tuition fee alone.

Since a war with Iraq is probably inevitable now I would urge you all to go see *Three Kings*. A film about the First Gulf War released in 1999 starring George Clooney, Mark Wahlerg and Ice Cube. If it was made today it would probably not get released especially not by a US studio for sure. It's cuttngly satirical and actually quite moving. David O. Russell seems to have disappeared off our radar screens but his direction mixes the themes of war with the responsibility to pick up the pieces afterwards. The Iraqis thought the US would help them dispose of Saddam but when the uprising began the US stood on the sidelines even in the face of civilian casualties. Ok it is just a film and as such it glosses over the details but I would imagine most people at LSE, being the leftist institution that it is, would sympathise with the film.

It's not just the subject matter that the film deserves to be seen, O. Russell uses some very peculiar shots that makes you wonder if he was not on acid when he storyboarded the film. The colour is bled in some scenes and then enriched in others, its an obvious attempt to describe visually the current state of turmoil in the film and it works. When I first saw the film at the cinema, back in my heady sixth forms days, the film started with a disclaimer explaining the unusual shots as being artistic rather than poor focussing.

There isn't such thing as a bad war film, *Pearl Harbour* being the most oblivious counter example. (I'm not describing physical laws as was once my discipline but rules accepted by the "social sciences" as has become my chosen path. What this means is that no such rule exists but for the purposes of my argument it would suit me if one does).

Since I have described a film I enjoy I feel that I should take the opportunity to restore balance to the universe by sharing with you a film that I detest. Never wanting to appear boring nor say anything dull I feel I must tell you all that *Gladiator* is probably the most overrated nonsense I have had the displeasure to see. Can I leave a comment like that in the air? Why of course I can... until next week folks.

My Wrongs 8245-8249 & 117

SIMONCLIFF: (the BAFTAs may say otherwise, but) a big disappointment

Director: Chris Morris

Starring: Paddy Considine

Running Time: 12 mins

Certificate: 12

DVD Release Date: OUT NOW

Chris Morris is unfortunate in that he is most famous for that episode of *Brass Eye*, the one that received over 1,500 complaints for its satirical critique of how the media handle the subject of paedophilia. Whether you regard that as one of many examples of his darkly-comic genius or some depraved attempt at humour is probably down to whether or not you (a) actually saw the episode concerned and (b) can appreciate his particular brand of wit. Your appreciation of his new short film, *My Wrongs 8245-8249 & 117*, will be depend entirely on what you consider funny, and crucially, what you don't.



In its ten or so minute running time, a nameless house-sitter takes his posh friend's Doberman for a walk with the lead around his neck. The two fumble to the local park, where a duck is beheaded by said canine, a homicide witnessed by a clutch of disturbed children and their parents. Then the dog claims to be a lawyer about to represent his chaperone in court for everything he has done since he was four. And so it goes.

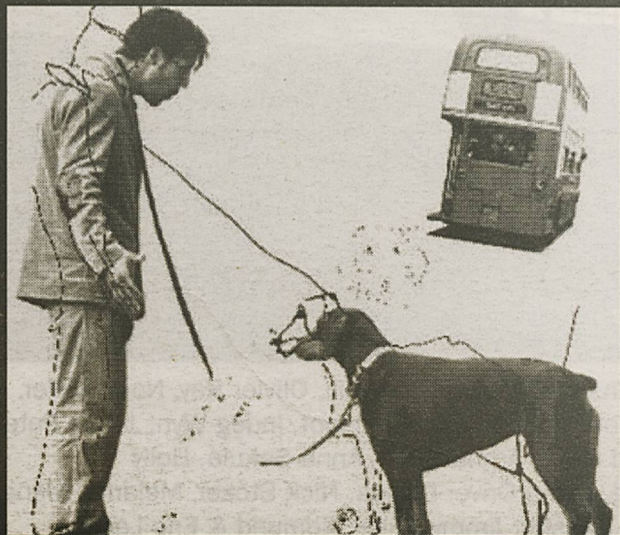
Right.

Let me tell you the shocking truth; this thing won the Best Short Film BAFTA just over a week ago. And I really struggle to understand why. True, some of the humour employed will tickle the ribs of those accustomed to Morris' style (I hope), but the rest you will struggle to grasp both the narrative, not there is much of one, and the reason this was considered so impressive by the British Academy.

Brass Eye, for me, was a sharp dose of sardonic irreverence with a twist of controversy that Morris pulled off very impressively, preceded by the marvelous and ingenious *The Day Today*. *My Wrongs*, by contrast, is pretentious shite. And why anyone would buy a DVD lasting ten minutes is also beyond me.

★★★★☆

(One star for the well-spoken pooch, another for Morris' sheer cheek. But that's all.)



Abseilers



o:abseil edited by terance li



Don't look down!

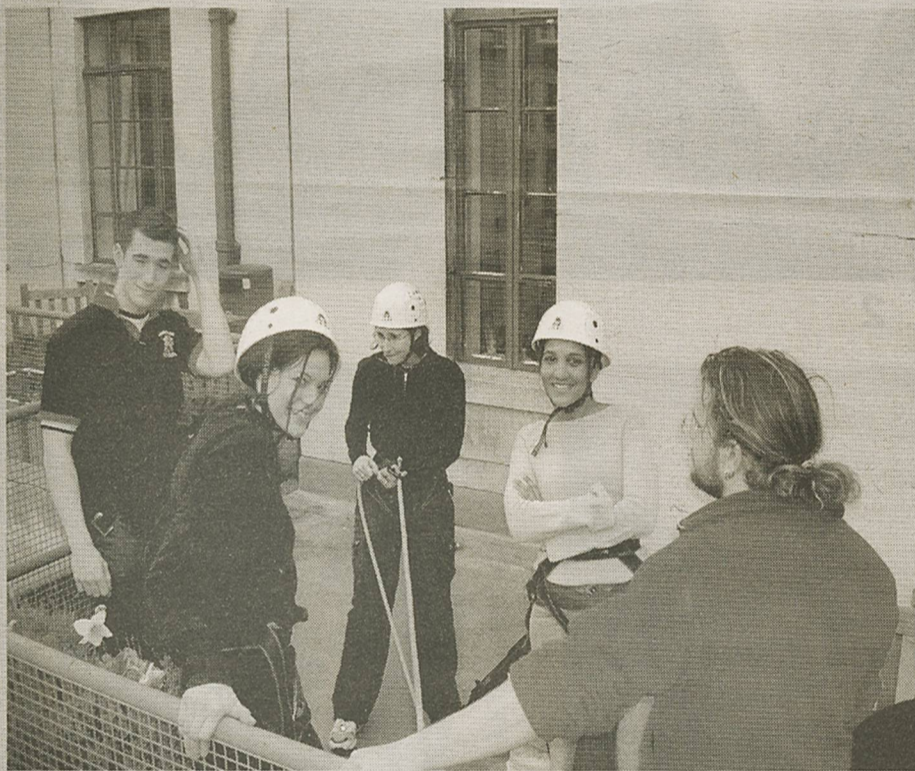
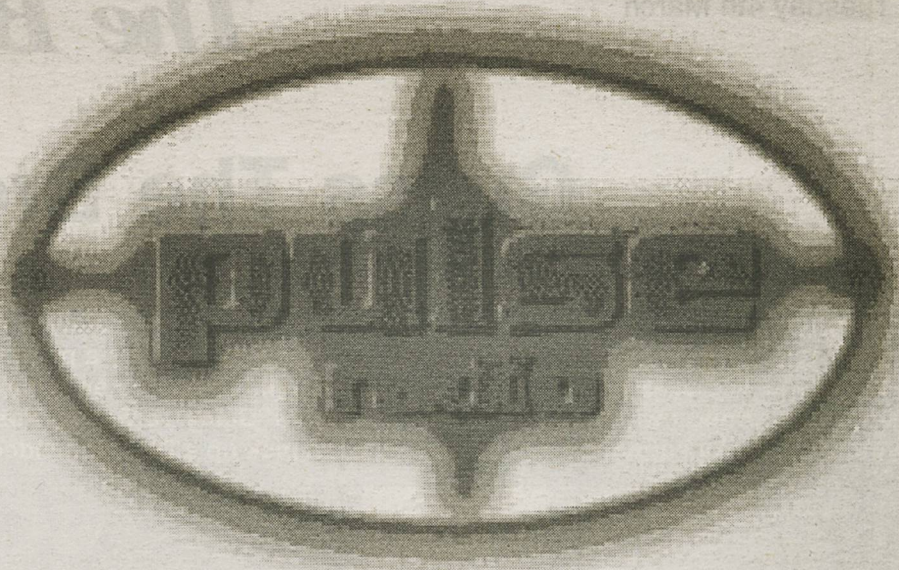
The event stooped traffic on Houghton Street and raised £1000! Well Done to everyone!



A lemming's eye view of going over the edge

Congratulations to all the abseilers... Terance Li, Nick Harvey, Laura Johnson-Graham, Katie Hill, Olivier Ray, Noah Miller, Caroline Bray, Saskia Marsh, Asha, Kate Ress, Alex Phua, Silvia On, Jarlath O'Hara, Flo Villeminot, Indeg Wyn, Jamie Patel, Dave Willumsen, Tahiya Islam, Paul, Michael Bradley, Amber Malik, Rimul Patel, Arpna Shah, Anna Sekula, Holly Featherstone, Sha Hua, Phillip Ng, Kate Werrell, Sam Nicklin, Bang Bang, Lorna Driver-Davies, Nick Stoker, Melanie Yasner, Kelly Lavender, Lauren Cox, Puri Amin, Chris Wang, Yuroslav Pan, Tobias Kessler, Jimmy Baker, Edmund & Eric Lee

'Like lambs to the slaughter'
Beaver contributors joined in the
abseiling fun too...

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Get involved. PuLSE is always looking for people to get involved.
Whether you want to do a show, join the music or news teams, or
just want to help out behind the scenes.

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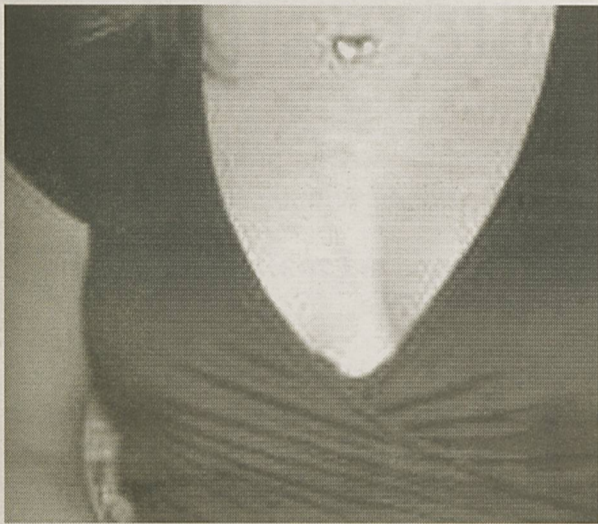
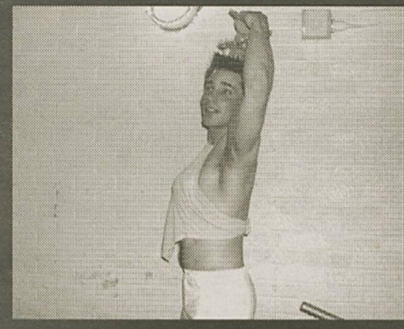
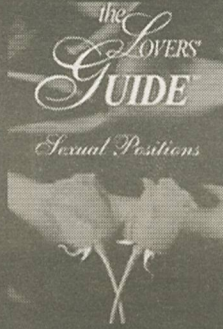
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Guess The Breasts!! Win Porn!!

Right, you're not gonna be reading this are you? No, it's painfully obvious that this text is the last thing on your mind at this moment. Anyway, if you are reading this, then you may be happy to know that there's a point to this flagrant perving. If you can drag your peepers away from these buxomed babes (and one bare-chested boy) for long enough to send us an e-mail, then correctly identify the owners of these pert pairs and the winner will find themselves the proud owners of a copy of *The Lovers' Guide To Sexual Positions* written by a friend of a friend. Seriously. We've got two copies to give away. If you're not lucky enough to win a copy, you can pick up a DVD or a video in a high quality shop near you! Now get Perving!



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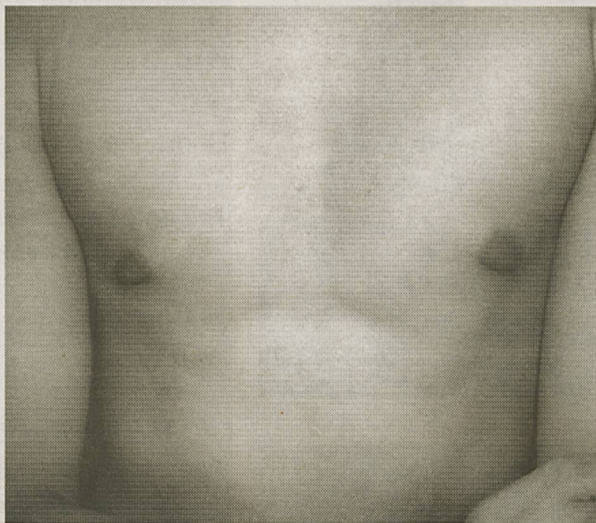
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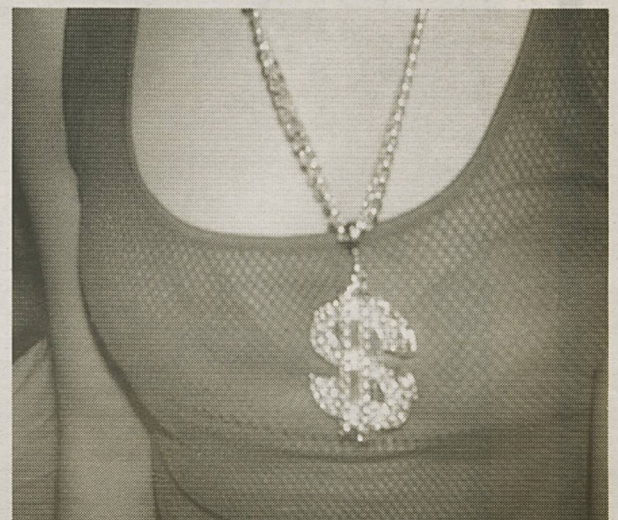
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7



8



9

The Invisible Men

By S. Gupta

LSE Mens Hockey 2's	0
St George's	3



Right, so last week we had nine players and we were unlucky to lose. This week we had ten which you would think would be an improvement. But you couldn't be more wrong.

Hockey is a simple game. The first step is to get ten mates to make up a team. Captain Sicknote (after managing to crawl out of the STD unit of his local family planning clinic) had nine. Not bad for him, considering he smells. So anyway, we had ten men which later, to our cost, we found out not to mean we had ten players (you know who you are, and if not, read on).

We had a bright opening spell. Then Richard got his first touch and it all went pear-shaped. No seriously, that was later. First, our new centre forward, Sivananda, who we wish was left back (in the changing rooms - who says our jokes aren't

original?) needed to be told repeatedly what was wrong with wearing an out-of-date ManU red T-shirt when playing for LSE. You'd think that was a bad enough start for anyone, but he managed to make it worse, displaying a complete lack of control of his limbs that even a Bangladeshi cricketer would be ashamed of. After failing to make contact with the ball on two occasions, an experience David Seaman is much too familiar with, it was hard to tell who was the novice, our very own Andy Cole or the opposition goalkeeper playing his first ever match between the sticks.

We also had a new dynamic playmaker in the centre of midfield. But enough about me, lets talk about Shahid. His only notable characteristic (if you can call it that) was that he too was a Man Utd fan. For an overall assessment of Shahid, read the above paragraph regarding

Sivananda, although he did show some signs of life.

And now to the man who puts the shit in shite. I wanted to come up with some other adjectives but, to be honest, any other word would be doing muppets around the world an injustice. As a newcomer to the team, nobody knew much about Richard (except that he didn't know where the Tuns was!) and after seventy minutes of anonymity, the situation hadn't really changed. His lack of movement even encouraged stray dogs to relieve their bursting bladders. To be fair he did

run once during the game, although thinking about it, it was to retrieve the ball for the opposition.

Despite what it may look like, this is a match report and so here are two lines about the 'match'. With effectively seven outfield players another brave and courageous performance, requiring character and determination, was in order. Unfortunately, due to the obvious numerical disadvantage and the lack of skill that was to become all too apparent, we lost. Again. Final score St Georges 3-0 LSE 2nd XI

AU Hustings: Let The Voting Commence!



AU president

Gareth Carter
Darius Tabatabai



AU Secretary

Jade
Matt 'FC' Trenhaille



Club Liason

Lauren Cox
Helen O'Toole

Communications

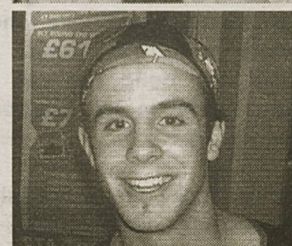
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Michael John Turner
Phoebe White

AU Events

Joanna HoJo Martin
Chrissy Totty
Will Williams

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Will Jordan
Jeremy Sanders



2nd XI In Last 16 For BUSA!!

By 7ths Team Ringer...
J.P.Bassan

It seemed that the Jan Wojna dictatorship was starting to crumble as he was, again, left short of players having to call up four 1st team players and me from the 7th team. The match preparations started the night before when Jan a.k.a. Mr Frog and I went to Asda for some beer in anticipation of a celebratory return party bus journey. Already a little later in setting off than planned due to Stefan getting lost on Houghton Street, the bus driver conspired to make us late by managing to fck up the clutch meaning we were stuck in Regents Park. Mr Frog wanted us to jog to High Wycombe as a warm up but luckily the coach company had a spare coach nearby and we arrived an hour early. We turned up and were faced with a ploughed field and thought we would have to trek across country to get to the pitch, little did we realise that in fact we did have to play on a mud slide with a 3 in 1 incline. Vahe found a fox's skeleton trapped in the netting of the goalmouth and we feared that we might also get murdered. We started nervously. Mr Frog started crying after going into a tackle and breaking a nail before managing to give the ball away five times in four passes. Rumours were flying that had been bribed and the serious fraud office was alerted when he decided not to mark anyone and offered their striker the freedom of the penalty area, luckily our crazy Armenian goalkeeper (don't worry he has got football boots now) cleared the ball but only to their striker

LSE 2nd XI Butterflies	3
Bucks Carthorses	1

to volley into the open goal and take the lead. Not downhearted the team pressed on but chances came and chances went and I feared that it was going to be one of those days. However, on the half hour mark, following a poor clearance, 1st team legend Mike "Thinks he's Beckham" Turner picked up the ball 25 yards out (tripped over a plough that the farmer had carelessly left on the field that was our playing surface) and scuffed a shot goalwards. The ball bobbed across the terrain before bouncing up through the keepers hands and sneaking in the post. The referee waved away the fat cnut's protests that he was blinded by Mikey's hair flicking into his eyes (yes he was 25 yards out - and yes his hair is long enough) and we were all square at the break. The half time oranges provided by the gaffer lifted the team's performance and gave them renewed energy. The Pirate drew his sword and started slicing through their back line whilst Dom sat, mopped up and protected the defence. Obviously Jan still ran around moaning and shouting at everyone to deflect attention from his own frailties of giving the ball away. Scouse was back doing what he does best, cynically kicking the shit out of their cnut of a striker and standing on their toes at set plays. Up front we played our classic foreign striking partnership Panos and Alex who regularly showed flashes of brilliance and skill yet



had the typical continental striker's temperament missing a few chances and getting caught offside by some Bucks and Chilts cnut who thought the offside rule applied whenever their defenders called for it and whenever we played a forward pass. However it was not long before Panos finally broke through and scored with a neat finish. Mr Frog demonstrated his extensive knowledge of the game by bringing off The Pirate who was having a good game, despite Gamel struggling with the heavy pitch and steep incline down the right and Alex being marked tightly. No matter. Top goal scorer Stefan came on to play in the cheating position and immediately used his pace to trouble their back line. Bos finally woke up and started making runs down the left linking up well with the front two but when he got in the penalty area and had the chance to double his season's tally (he's last in the house goal scoring charts) but he got a nosebleed and had to go back to left back. Vahe our eccentric keeper was so confident of the win that he decided that he would sell a number of dummies by letting the ball through his hands on a couple of occasions

fooling not only their striker but our defence as well. As they pushed on seeking a late equaliser, we counter attacked and Panos deservedly got his second goal of the game. I came on for a cameo 2 minute performance and immediately showed that the gap between the 7ths and the 2nds is not quite as big as some people might think by immediately slicing through their back four and would have gone through too, had the ref not decided I had handled the ball. What a cnut. It didn't matter we had won 3-1 and were through to the last 16 in the country. Stefan decided to rub their noses in it by being the first man in the shower and the last man out denying their team any hot water! It was all about the result especially when the pitch was such a hinderance, the only thing missing was Mr Frog's customary glaring miss... The next round is away at Brunel on March the 5th so friends, footballers and countrymen lend me your cheers, get to Houghton Street for 12.00 and come along to cheer on the LSE.

Fashion Q & A With C. Richards!

NOT SURE if you should be wearing brogues or Oxford lace-ups to an evening at Crush? At a loss between lighting your sambuca with a gas- or petrol-fuelled lighter? Uncertain as to whether the Beaver's Retreat is an appropriate venue on a first date? There comes a time when even the most savvy of AU members finds himself inadvertently straying from the convoluted path of LSE protocol - but help is now at hand! Beaver Sports has got together with the most distinguished antipodean dandy on campus, Sir Cliff Richard Nick Wilson of the LSE class of '83, to get you back on track and make those etiquette uncertainties a thing of the faux-past!

Dear Cliff: I play football on Wednesday afternoons but I often go out after the game and don't have time to change before going to the Tuns. How can I avoid that "Hello, I've just come from Berrylands" look? (Caustic Steve Simpson, 7th XI)

Cliff says: This is a tricky one. I suggest you try and get yourself a locker at LSE where you can keep your post-footy eveningwear. That way you won't have to worry about your best threads getting crumpled and creased on your way to and from the Fortress. Lockers are also a great place for keeping those grooming essentials that would otherwise make you look like a sheila if used in the Berrylands

showers. I would always recommend the shower facilities in the basement of the Old Building as the best place for an invigorating post-match/pre-drinking scrub-up. I appreciate there's high demand for lockers at the school and you may experience difficulties procuring one yourself - heaven knows it was bad enough back in the 80s! But fear not: your team captain will have already been allocated a locker by the AU and I'm sure he'll oblige your sartorial needs if you shout him the entry charge to Limelight!

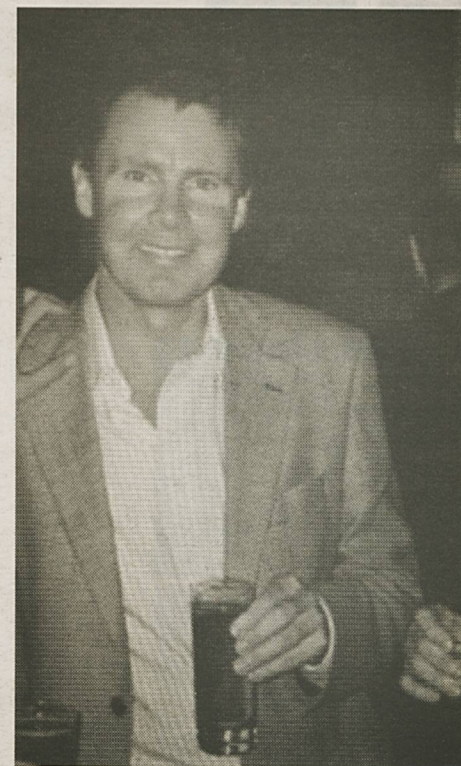
Dear Cliff: What is the accepted procedure for mixing a Snakebite? Should the blackcurrant be mixed in or floated? Are there any definitive rules one should follow when consuming said drink? (Doug Handmeacock, IT Services)

Cliff says: The Snakebite is as ubiquitous now as it was during my undergrad days, and is still the drink of choice of the Tuns more discerning clientele - even if it does leave your breath smelling like a croc's stomach! Forgive the hair-splitting, Doug, but to the purist a Snakebite has only 2 ingredients: lager and cider. The cocktail to which you are no doubt referring is officially recognized as a "Snakebite and Black", although ordering it as such in the Tuns will probably make you look like a ponce to the hostelry's sheilas. The correct procedure is to half fill a pint glass

with lager, then top with cider and stir whilst floating the blackcurrant. As for Snakebite etiquette: never wear white garments if you're planning to drink upwards of 8 pints in a sitting, otherwise you'll end up looking like a pink galah covered in wallaby shit. May I recommend any finer points of drinking etiquette and chundering be henceforth addressed to my colleague Matthew Trenhaile at fc@lse.ac.uk.

Dear Cliff: I'm a regular eat-in customer at Wright's Bar but I can never decipher their itemized bills so I don't know if service is included in the price. I've always been too embarrassed to ask and have not been sure how much to leave by way of a gratuity. What should I do Cliff? (Prof. Danny Quah, Economics dept.)

Cliff says: Service is not included in the prices at Wright's Bar and is as such left to the discretion of diner. If you've received bad service (though I find this hard to imagine at an established eatery such as Wright's) then don't feel obliged to leave a tip. I always leave 10%, though I know people who leave more. Anything more than 15% is just showing off.



More LSE lifestyle Q 'n' A in Cliff's Your Uncle! next week, readers! In the meantime, please address any epicurean queries you may have to Sir Cliff's secretary at m.j.carton@lse.ac.uk.

Rugby's Fairy God Mother Sets Sail On Her Journey To HSBC

3'4", 26", 34" are her stats, blonde, green eyes and with two huge Babylon's, on a clear Sunday morning in October 2001 the first LSE Women's Rugby Club Captain emerged. Taking the lead over a small group of ex-netball girls, with the help of LSE's finest rugby boys, she taught them the laws of this male dominated sport. Seventeen months later, she has captained the first ever LSE team not to finish last in their league in their first entry. The journey was no easy ride; in the first year we trained and trained and trained, played a rugby sevens game and a couple with Kings. Other teams mocked us, yet she still held her head high. In the new academic year we recruited at the Freshers Fair and joined two leagues.

I'm not going to deny that there weren't moments when I would think what on earth is the stupid idiot doing, especially with her quick penalties, but when they turned into tries I was the stupid one. I would lie in bed

on a Sunday morning with my phone switched off on purpose, as I knew she would ring asking me where I was whilst she was warming up the troops at Regent's Park. My line of excuses was endless. This did not dent her dedication to the team, even when she stood alone at Great Portland Street Station. She led us through a huge win of 42-12 over Canterbury Christ Church and draws against Kings and Imperial - not bad

when 95% of the team prior to their first game in October had never seen a rugby ball.

You have a final round interview at HSBC on a Thursday morning, would you on a Wednesday be supporting your team on the pitch and then later on in the evening? An example of her unprecedented commitment and something that I would always admire. Helena Ahl, you introduced me to a game

that I now love and built the foundations of a team with a unique team spirit. Your drive and natural enthusiasm kept the team together and without you there certainly would not be a Women's Rugby Team. You will be missed by us all but most of all me.

Ellie
xxx



Imbred Chimp Monkey School Beaten Mercilessly By Buxom Beauties!!

By Ellie and HoJo

LSE Beauties	10
IC Gorillas	10

After my struggle in the coalmines, I have managed to find my cause and play a game of rugby against Imperial and fight for the Science Cup. With the help of nasty HoJo we have decided to write a cleaner article. Our final trip, our final game, the final for our captain. All 14 of us skated down to Berrylands, the energy and enthusiasm overwhelmed me so much I began to read my optimisation theory.

The beauties of LSE, gorgeous enough to put Miss World to Shame, waltzed on to the pitch. The Imbred Chip Monkey School rolled on, the ground began to shake and our Captain Miss Trunchball had to save Lizzy from falling down the cracks. The Henchman Hester was ready to declare war over the ugly beasts.

The Head Imbred Chimp kicked off, fortunately, the ball landed between the two Babylon's of Miss Trunchball who skated off. We tackled, drove, and bounced off their hairy stomachs. Sexy Kate and I caught offside more times than Andy Cole resulted in a try to the Chimps. The Henchman was not happy. There was an LSE scrum down, with amazing precision I threw

the ball into the scrum and over to the football pitch - school boy error. Second attempt, we crouched, they crouched, we engaged, they engaged, we fell to the ground, they watched and laughed. Henchman not

larger than life Chimp soon-to-be-gorilla, ran the length of the pitch with Lizzy supporting, and the perfect duo evened the score, stealing the Chimps bananas.

redeemed herself and drove down the length of the pitch whilst all 15 Chimps hanging off begging for their bananas. As a spectator on the pitch I then watched Kay score our second try. The hungry Chimps, missing their bananas, took their aggression out on Hannibal - she survived, but we were now down to 13 beauties. Christie inspired by the Henchman's great strength and drives, took on all the Chimps. Again Sexy and I were offside, but alas my spectator skills came to some use and grabbed Sexy by the scruff of her neck and pulled her back -well done to me!

They then evened the score- minor details. The Science Cup without a home was then to be fought in a boat race.

An end to the game, an end to a season and we didn't finish bottom. Megan King, Annie Connor, Lauren Anderson, Kristie Macnamara, Rebecca Carter and Emma Richardson, I would like to thank you for your commitment you have given to the team and contributed to a unique team spirit. You will all be missed.



impressed. Third attempt, the Chimps performed a 360-degree turn. Damm, we lost the scrum - comedy moments. Nasty Ho Jo after dump tackling a

Second half. The Henchman began with an Usher Style U-Turn and ran backwards, then forwards, and then in a circle - we lost ground. She then

Guess The Breasts!
Win The Porn! Check
out our competition
inside...



"Well, either side could win, or it could be a draw"
-Ron Atkinson
BeaverSports: Full of surprises...

Boo-ya-ka-sha! Possibly...

Holly and Ali G... innit?

LSE 4ths	33
Imperial 3rds	20

And so it was week 7 of term....something strange had been looming over the 4ths league - all the other London universities had cancelled matches with the LSE 4ths, out of pure fear that we would whip their measly asses. For this reason we played our first match of the Lent Term this week - never have it said that the 4ths team don't do anything but get drunk! Having already hammered the Imperial 4ths last term we were ready to take on their 3rds. Ali had performed a multivariate regression analysis from the league table and predicted that even if they had ringers in their team - if nothing else we had subs, and they didn't! So we headed to South Kensington to see what Netball was played like in the posh end of town.

The first quarter was nerve rackingly close. Captain Ali assumed her normal

position along the sidelines shouting "grab" at spontaneous moments with her other cheerleaders: Laura W and little Lini Martini. We had a phenomenal start being 3-0 up after the first 3 centre passes but Imperial started controlling the game by the end of the first quarter and the score was 6-6. Holly "Duracell Bunny" was not feeling so sprightly, and although looking like she was about to pass out, soldiered on, reminding us where her nickname comes from.

Everyone began to warm up, Becca and Shelly managed to get the goals in helped by brilliant support play from Anita round the circle. In general, Anita was outstanding, she played like we have never seen her play before. We managed to squeeze out a 4-point lead by the end of the second quarter despite shooting into the sun and a wonky post. We then went on to discuss the umpire's biased calls in great detail, I mean, Jane the Ho, flawless in her previous matches, does know what footwork is and generally avoids it, and Becca, (of Janine Butcher fame - hasn't Charlie Brookes done well for herself?!) is not usually known for contacting the Goal Defense. Although I did overhear her say she was feeling randy. Imperial didn't even perform one foul - funny that.



We then put in our strategic substitutions, the two Laura swapped over - to be fair Laura C looked like she was about to pass out. We also put on our Super Sharp Shooter Lini who is our secret weapon and managed to secure a pretty strong lead by the end of the third quarter. Anita had injured her hand so Ali came on as Wing Defense (yes she does occasionally play matches) and Jane switched to Wing Attack.

The only word for it was immense. Laura W was exceptional putting pressure on their attack; she was being extra aggressive and grabbing all the balls that came her way. This linked with Marie playing her usual impressive style so even when the ball went to the other end, there was

no goals. We were scoring freely; Lini was so accurate and fast that it was like she was taking the piss, she simply made it look too easy. Anita was shouting "one for the road" encouraging us to get over 30, so we did, and it went on..... The final score was 33-20 and a proud victory for the 4ths.

So next week we play London School of Pharmacy, and they are rough bitches. Last year they injured 4 of our team and we've heard on the netball grapevine that they have not mellowed, so next week could see the end of half the 4th team. But for now we are victorious, hopefully helping us move up the league and off the bottom!



Women's Netball 3rds And Footy 2nds On Course For Glory!!

ULU Netball League 2002/03
Last Updated on Thursday 27th February 2003 at 12:27

Division Three									
Pos	Team	Pld	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Agnst	Points	Diff
1st	LSE 3	3	5	0	0	130	57	15	+73
2nd	RVC	6	4	0	2	197	95	12	+102
3rd	SBLH 3	6	3	0	3	100	78	9	+22
4th	Imperial 2	6	3	0	3	111	106	9	+5
5th	UCL 4	6	3	0	3	66	125	9	-39
6th	Queen Mary 2	3	2	0	1	67	46	6	+21
7th	Royal Holloway 4	5	2	0	3	86	114	6	-28
8th	GKT 3	7	2	0	5	110	178	6	-68
9th	Queen Mary 3	4	0	0	4	22	90	0	-68

Men's Football Vase (FOURTH QUARTER)

Last 64 First Named Team @ Home 19-February		Last 32 First Named Team @ Home 26-February		Last 16 First Named Team @ Home 5-March	
UMIST 2nd	4	UMIST 2nd	0		
Wolverhampton 5th	1			Brunel WL 5th	
Hat trick - Gavin Malone					
		Brunel WL 5th	2		
		Erington 4th	2		
		5-4 pens			
		Buckinghamshire Chilterns 3rd	2		
				Buckinghamshire Chilterns 3rd	1
		De Montfort (Bedford) 4th	1		
				London School of Economics 2nd	
		Essex 4th	1		
				London School of Economics 2nd	3
		London School of Economics 2nd	3		
		penalties			