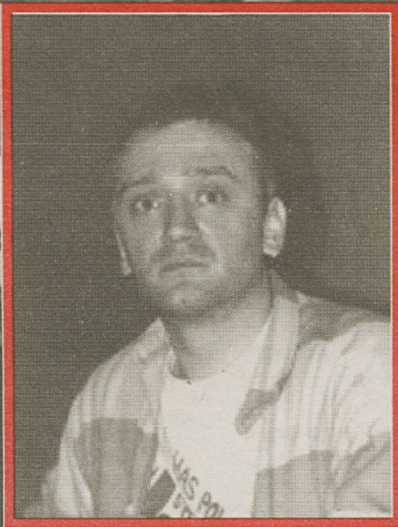


The Beaver

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION



The Face Of A Volunteer.
What Did Ray Yates Do To
Deserve The UGM?



Ready, Steady
It's Nearly That Time Again

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Jack * Tesh's Troubles * Lilley * UGM *
Oscars * Pepys Rides Again * Ron at the Bar
* M. Hall goes missing: Is she with her
Bracelet? * Hello Mr Spleen * Music
Crossword * Sports *

Union Jack

Jack and the rest of the electorate were told by Chris Short about the forthcoming ego boost (whoops, sorry election), and that campaigning couldn't start until next Thursday, but unfortunately nobody really listened to him.

Having got that out of the way, we turned to our spiritual leader, no sorry Faz Zahir. She told us about our real leader, that of no other than the boy himself, Director John Ashworth. Jack considers that this man is in fact so in control that not even a paper projectile could hit him. He spoke of that which took years off his life, yes, becoming a student once more. Jack considers that if some more of those paper aeroplanes had actually made contact this would have taken considerably more years off him. However, one point in his favour though, he was heard to ask who exactly Johnny Bradburn was, since he didn't know. John Spurling spoke about the NUS (Not Useful Society Selling-out a Lot) whose sole purpose according to him, seems to be flogging us "beer and stationary" on the cheap. Now forgive Jack for digressing here but he always thought that this organisation existed in order to provide the average impoverished student with pretty pictures of beavers in and around bushes and trees against a picturesque country background, in England's green and pleasant land (the Editor wishes to apologise unequivocally for this statement at this point). He doesn't actually know what Peter said unfortunately, but did note that yet again Johnny failed to make a report. Jack pointed out a couple of weeks ago that this wasn't all that surprising, so this week he will attempt to explain why in a few brief words why this is. Here goes then: he has bugger all money to spend so he doesn't have a job to do. There you are, that wasn't all that difficult was it?

Now this is where Jack is going to have to become a little bit cynical. Ray (possible sabbatical candidate) asked us all to "calm down", a comment taken with utter contempt by those on the terraces. Jack probably shouldn't say this but he really does crave for one of those really old-fashioned rude comments that Simon (sarcastic candidate) Reid used to come out with (you know, the ones like "shut up" or even "f*** off" when people really used to get on his case.)

And may the campaign begin. No report from Martin this week (therefore a definite sabbatical candidate. A report from him would have been a massive vote loser!) But you never know instead of the building workers waking the residents of Rosebery up in the near future it could be a fully fledged executive demonstration (sic) proclaiming Martin's obnoxiousness. Bob (ancient sabbatical candidate) asked Tesh "How's your painting" Fitzpatrick (the AU candidate) why she wasn't doing her job properly. A classic piece of campaigning if Jack ever saw one! A good move but will it be beaten?

So on we moved to the actual important business of the day, last week's adjourned debate on free speech. Adam Cleary (mad right wing candidate) who is beginning to sound more like Winston Churchill every time he speaks, told the "irresponsible, sad people" that they were a "slur on the reputation of the LSE." At this point the meeting degenerated into what could easily be compared with a scene from any episode of the A-team, i.e. the really predictable ones where everybody is having a go at each other, but no-one actually dies. I can't really tell you which way the vote went, for more information you'd probably be best off consulting Dr. Ashworth (not a sabbatical candidate!)

Thereafter Steve Peake (sad candidate) proceeded to have a go at the director about his eating habits. He wanted to present a united front to the director but since he was making a speech that was always going to be a bit difficult. Leandro (comatose, but is he a candidate?) did raise this point most fairly. Not to worry though, the motion got passed anyway.

A few closing points then:

- i) The LSE is about to be privatised! Adam doesn't mind though.
- ii) Ray is fast losing all of his friends. (from the man himself that!)
- iii) Kate Hampton (model candidate) actually said something vaguely intelligent (no, surely not! Ed.)
- iv) As predicted by Jack the feuding between the current and former vice-chairs is in full flow. First blood must go to Ludwig Kanzler for the obscene suggestion that he does in fact have a sense of humour.
- v) Nominations close for the election on Wednesday afternoon. Jack wishes all those standing the best of luck, and also to those not standing as well, who will have to put up with it all. Hooray!!!!!!

School Responds To 'Lilley's Raw Deal'

The events of the Social Security Secretary, Peter Lilley's visit to the School, were publicised in most national and regional newspapers, even though not on the scale of coverage that Jaques Delors' visit attracted. At the same time the LSE certainly did not appear in a favourable light. The media reported on what the Daily Star called 'Lilley's Raw Deal', which included a 'lightning raid' upon the Social Security Secretary while he was lunching together with Conservative students in the senior common room on Wednesday 10th of February. Despite being pelted with eggs, flour and orange juice as a dozen students' rushed into the dining room and struck a sudden attack, Mr Lilley was reported to have been 'unfazed' by the event. He went ahead as planned to give his speech on social security policies of the government to an audience of around 100 students in the Old Theatre.

The events as reported in last week's Beaver, were thought to have been caused by students belonging to the Socialist Worker Student Society at the LSE. However, the School's press-officer Mr Ian Crawford gave a statement to the press that said the School believed most of the demonstrators were not LSE students but that the school was "sifting through witnesses' reports of the incident". He later told the Beaver that he suspected many of the troublemakers to have been from King's College, located on the opposite side of Aldwych. The School is nevertheless determined to locate the sources of the trouble and will undoubtedly take disciplinary action if any of the protesters are found to be LSE students. Indeed, one student has been identified as being from LSE and disciplinary action is at the present time being taken. According to the mutual agreement between the School and the Students' Union such action will involve a kind of hearing with a panel of academics and students. However, if the majority of demonstrators are found to be from King's, then it will be up to that College's authorities to decide on any action to be taken.

Mr Crawford expressed his concern for the implications of the events on the 10th of February. He said,

"For the students these incidents are bad news. LSE students enjoy the benefit of attending an institution of higher education that attracts the most important of figures; breaches of the 'rules of hospitality' like the one witnessed on that Wednesday are far from propitious to persuade further MPs or Cabinet Ministers to come to the School"

Mr Crawford highlighted LSE's favourable position in attracting politicians and other important speakers, by saying that the School hosts, on an average, half the Cabinet each academic year. This year, another four Cabinet ministers

PERNILLA MALMFALT

are due to visit the School. The visit to the LSE of Malcolm Rifkind, who managed to deal with hecklers from the Socialist Workers in a firm, but nevertheless fair and friendly manner seem to suggest that the future visits are going to go ahead as scheduled.

Mr Crawford stressed for future occasions that the School is, since the Education Act of 1988, under legal obligation to practice freedom of speech and hence consent to anybody speaking at the School. The practice of drowning speakers out by heckling does not do that requirement justice. Many students in the audience who attended Mr Lilley's speech said they were immensely annoyed and disappointed because they had not been able to hear what the speaker said as Mr Lilley was subjected to continuous verbal abuse during his address to the students.

Mr Crawford did also express a certain surprise or astonishment about why politicians even bother to attend this sort of student activities or gatherings, given the likelihood of some sort of protest-outcome;

"This government is known to have strong views on issues regarding Students' Unions so why do the politicians give the students a stick to beat them

[the government] with in the first place?" Mr Crawford commented.

The Daily Telegraph reported Mr Jeremy Mayhew, Mr Lilley's personal adviser, as saying that the Social Security Secretary was "more surprised by the response of the 30 or so academics in the senior common room who did nothing to stop the attack and did not apologise". It was a very quick raid though, over in just a few seconds; the academics who witnessed the scene were simply as surprised as the victim himself.

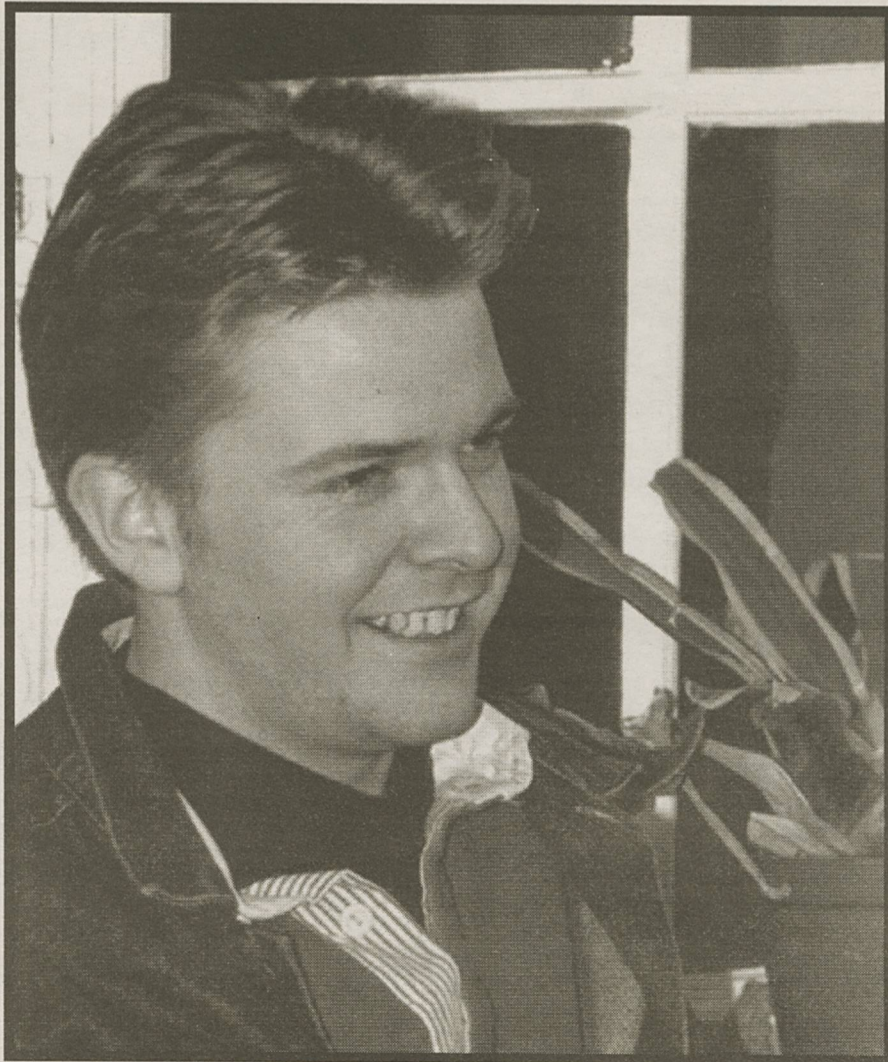
Phoebe Ashworth, President of the Conservative Association at LSE, was reported in the national press as saying that what happened was an outrage and she is now together with other members of the Conservative Association pressing hard for the appropriate action to be taken against the offenders. A petition was launched last week, supporting the notion of freedom of speech and it is to be presented to the Director, Dr Ashworth, to ensure that adequate disciplinary action is being taken.

On a lighter note, The Times newspaper reported the following day that Mr Lilley was 'secretly pleased' about the outrage against him, since it has

brought him into the 'limelight of politics'. Mr Lilley was reported as having previously said in a speech that "a little over a year ago I was a Treasury minister unknown outside the City of London. Now I am a cabinet minister unknown throughout the United Kingdom"

"a little over a year ago I was a Treasury minister unknown outside the City of London. Now I am a cabinet minister unknown throughout the United Kingdom"

The Times claimed that the unknown days of Lilley were over. This was the first time that he has had eggs thrown at him - clearly a case of the unknown minister emerging, as some more jocular observers have suggested. Apparently, it was added, Labour front benchers are meanwhile muttering that the incident must have been a case of mistaken identity...



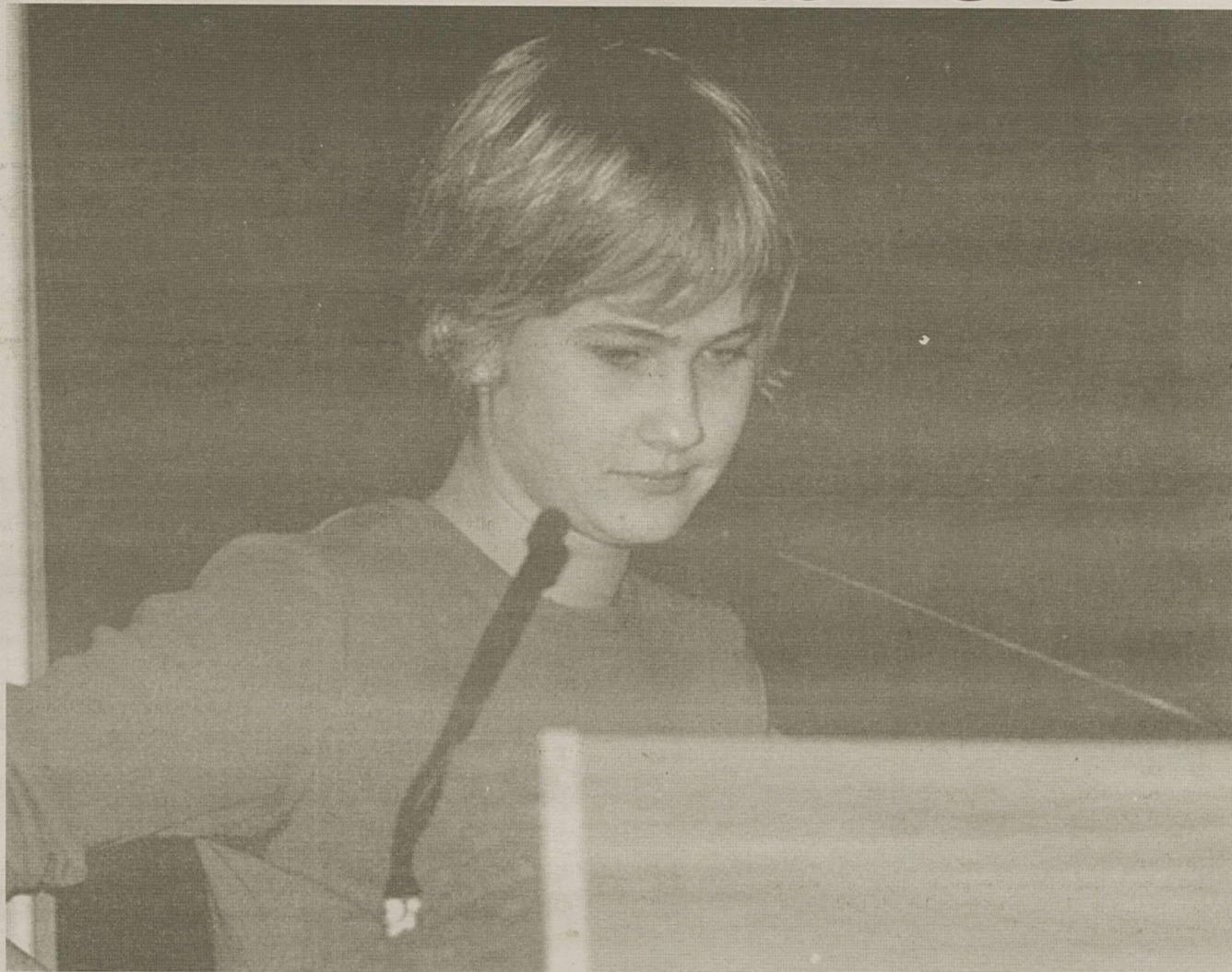
Just in case you don't recognise him: This is Kevin Green (or Mr. Spleen) The "all new" Beaver Executive Editor, pictured shortly after stepping into the well worn shoes of Mr. Andrews.

Photo: T. Moos

Tesher's Troubles

Tesher Fitzpatrick under heavy criticism, following further revelations.

Tesher Fitzpatrick has come under heavy criticism, following further revelations last week. Fitzpatrick, Women's Officer of the Students' Union, is strongly suspected of having smeared the walls of the Athletics' Union office last term, resulting in damage totalling £360 so far. The damage has been paid for by the Students' Union. Further costs are expected to arise once the floor is repaired.



Hang on a moment - I know the answer to this one: Tesher looking stressed at the UGM:

Photo Steve East

The matter was discussed last week at the meeting of the Students' Union Executive, resulting in an increase of criticism against Fitzpatrick. Several new details have emerged, while Fitzpatrick's attitude at the meeting was described as being "uncooperative, to say the least." At the same time, some members of the Students' Union Executive have openly defended the vandalism in the Athletics' Union office. When questioned whether she approved of the damage inflicted, Dominique De-Light, co-founder of the Left Society, answered with "yes". She considered it the vandalism as a way of punishing the Athletics' Union for being "sexist, racist and homophobic," which, according to De-Light, is why it would be fair to charge the Athletics' Union itself for the cost of repainting the room. At the same time, the discussion was productive in unearthing several new details.

After the incident, which occurred last term, Gathin Roberts, General Manager of the Students' Union, had sent a note to Fitzpatrick, asking her whether she knew about the perpetrators, as she had already been suspected to have been involved. However, no reply was received. Fitzpatrick claims that she never received the note, a claim that cannot be contested.

It also emerged that the paint used had been traced to the Lesbian and Gay Society, which had used it to paint banners for an event to be held that evening. Following rumours, Fitzpatrick was asked whether she had had access to the paint. After initially pointing out that several

other people had had access to the paint as well, that it was normal for her to use it in order to help in setting up an event,

"to me personally it is quite clear that Tesher knows who did it....It is her responsibility as Women's Officer to report the truth to the Union and not to cover up for any individual.."

Fitzpatrick admitted that she had used the paint herself during the day. It also emerged that a male sabbatical had asked a member of the Beaver Collective to refrain from publishing the fact that Fitzpatrick had access to the paint.

The most serious point in the allegations against Fitzpatrick originated from a question which was asked by one of the members of the Executive. Fitzpatrick was asked whether she knew who had vandalised the room. After a moment of silence, Fitzpatrick said that she could not answer the question. She was then asked, "Do you refuse to answer this question?". Fitzpatrick answered with "yes".

It seems obvious to all observers that Fitzpatrick knows the identity of the person who has cost the Students' Union several hundred pounds. Quinn Morgan, member of the Ex-

ecutive, has gone on record saying that "to me personally it is quite clear that Tesher knows who did it. Quite frankly, I feel that it is her duty to report who has done it. It is her responsibility as Women's Officer to report the truth to the Union and not to cover up for any individual in the Union or outside of the Union."

Other senior members of the Union have added that "Tesher has disgraced herself completely. She has shown no integrity whatsoever. How can anyone defend that sort of vandalism? Tesher is extremely immature and has shown herself to be irresponsible. She puts her interests first, those of the Students' Union second,

without any consideration for the legal and ethical aspects of the situation. I mean, if this becomes the way of reacting to misbehaviour of others, the Students' Union would be finished very soon."

There is general interest whether Fitzpatrick is still going to stand in the elections for a sabbatical post,

as she initially intended to. It has been suggested that she would find it very hard to maintain any credibility when trying to advance claims to integrity and honesty.

Beaver Staff

Roger Remembers: Apricot Entrepreneur Enlightens All

By
Daniel O'Riordan

Roger Foster, founder of Apricot Computers and present Chairman and C.E.O. of A.C.T Plc addressed the Entrepreneurs Club on Monday 8th February. Foster gave a tour-de-force performance, looking back on the creation of his business empire in 1970 with start up capital of £350, through the sale of Apricot to Mitsubishi in 1989 for £39 000 000, and the continued growth of A.C.T. as a leading European software company. Foster himself is a multi-millionaire whose success hasn't dented his good humour, joie de vivre, and humility. He said he had made many profitable decisions, but even more unprofitable ones; "the key is to ensure that the big acquisitions are your most profitable." A consistent theme of all previous Entrepreneur Club speakers, and one shared by Foster, was "the

harder I work, the luckier I get." When in business, he said, you also have to get out and sell your product, "hoof it", as the Americans say. Foster felt the British weren't very good at this, particularly in the US market, which has proved a graveyard for many British

companies. He quoted a corporate executive of one of the big US firms as saying that business is war. The British were closer to the Japanese in taking a more personal and mutually trusting approach to business.

Foster also felt strongly

that City institutions and politicians were guided by short-termism in investment and in the Government's industrial strategy. British designers and products were world class but needed a longer term view to maximise future potential.

NEXT WEEK

The LSESU hopes to bring you a thorough guide to the coming elections. The people, the faces, the policies and the politics. Individual candidates must contact Ron Voce by 24th February to collect contribution forms. Failure to do this will result in disproportionate coverage.

To Be Or Not To Be, That Is The Question.

Philip Gomm
on EUROPE

The subject of European integration and in particular the ratification of the Maastricht treaty may or may not fuel the passions of the British public, but judging from the turnout in the New Theatre last Monday it is certainly of interest to the student population of the LSE; a definite case of standing room only.

The audience had gathered to hear a debate - organised by the Debating Society - on whether Britain should proceed with ratifying the treaty and the first speaker in favour was Miss Claire Miskin, a member of the legal profession. She proceeded to outline the common arguments against the treaty as crudely outlined in the Sun newspaper ("I don't want to be told what to do by them bleeders in Brussels") and then put the case against them. She felt that detractors were wrong to assume that Maastricht would be an automatic failure "...because there was no precedent for this type of cooperation". She concluded by urging the house to have "daring and vision and vote for ratification".

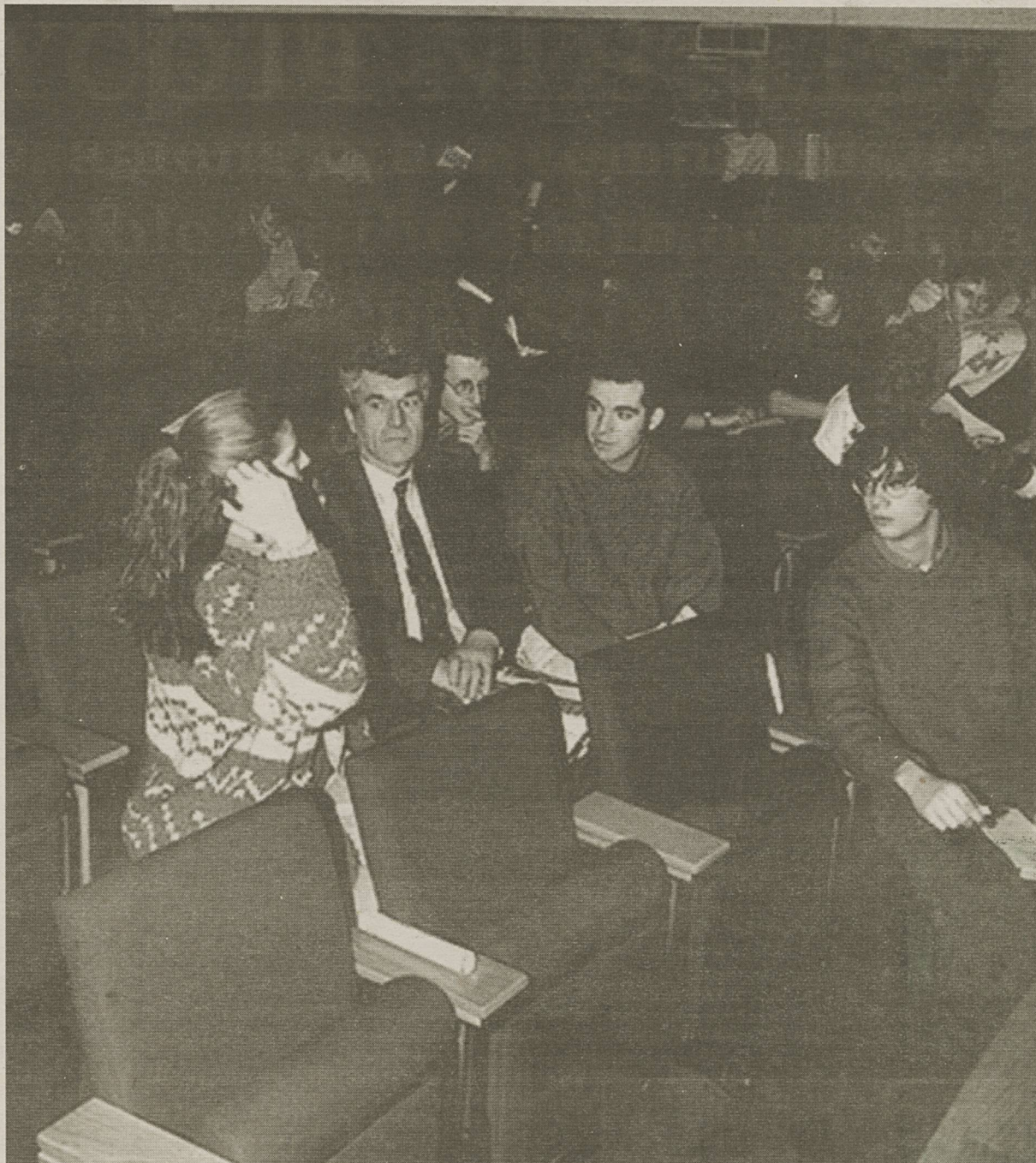
Next up, to open the case for the opposition, was Dr Alan Sked from the school's History department, whose distaste for Maastricht is already well known. The rethoric employed in his speech echoed the vehemence of his position. He explained that the word subsidiarity had its origin in the Roman Catholic Church where "things certainly didn't work from the bottom up" so why should anyone think that in the case of Europe decisions will be taken at the lowest possible level? Dr Sked maintained that the treaty was not about democratising the continent. He was also critical of the British cabinet, the majority of whom, according to Sked, had professed not to have read all of the detail; indeed even David Mellor, who was a lawyer, didn't have time "as he was otherwise engaged". Furthermore only half of the treaty was actually up for debate; Sked took exception to one of the undiscussed clauses which promised that the EC would use "any means necessary to achieve its aims".

Next up was Professor Goodhart, a member of the Economics department, who was quick to point out that even his

Parish Council "would profess the same aims as those outlined in the Maastricht Treaty to get things done". On a more serious note, he said that he had doubts about the ERM as it pandered too much to the will of the Germans, however he was in favour of monetary union and in answering a later question suggested that the common currency could be the DMark, though he suspected that this would be politically unacceptable. Professor Goodhart firmly believed that subsidiarity would be good for Europe, leading to more democracy for the country as decisions would not only go up to Brussels, but be passed down to regional centres thus often bypassing Westminster. He was not averse to this loss of power of a body that was in many respects already above the electorate's control.

Finally another distinguished economist, Professor Bean, completed the case against. He was not against "organic European growth" but regarded as "non-sense" the necessity for a single currency. Similarly he attacked the totally arbitrary fiscal constraints that were to be imposed (such as the amount of debt a country would be allowed as a percentage of GDP) as a sign of an unconsidered proposal. Even the idea of an independent central bank, an idea of which he was in favour, was flawed by the prospect of its unaccountability with senior figures being guaranteed a tenure of eight years.

On completion of the eight minute speeches, the debate was opened up to the floor which resulted in some quite specific and technical, if slightly lacklustre, questions. But some questions did succeed in eliciting some more vitriolic comments from Alan Sked who emphasised that he didn't want to see the UK as a backwater of a "Gross Deutschland" being dictated to by "Kohl and his bunch of thugs"; he was sure that, if given the chance, the British people would vote NO to Maastricht in a referendum. Unfortunately for him, when it came to the House's own vote, the Europhiles carried the day, though, of course, the cosmopolitan student population of the LSE could never be described as being a microcosm of British Society.



The Director joins the ranks of the UGM to witness some truly stimulating debate: (Pictured left to right Fazile Zahir (Gen. Sec), Mr. Ashworth, James Brown (Union Executive), Martin Lewis (Union Executive), Jon Spurling (Finance and Services Officer). Photo: Steve East

UGM "disgrace"

James
Brown

A major difference of opinion has emerged over who was to blame for last Thursday's "wildly outrageous" UGM. At one point the meeting was so uncontrolled that a two-minute speech was completely drowned by shouts from the floor.

The meeting was attended by LSE Director, Dr. John Ashworth, as part of his day seeing how students live. Ray Yates, the Union chair, claimed that the Director's presence encouraged everyone to "orchestrate their parts", and said that trouble had been brewing all week after Peter Lilley's visit.

He singled out Adam Cleary, who he felt was deliberately antagonistic when giving the first speech defending the police's actions during the Peter Lilley incident. This set the mood for the rest of the meeting. Barely a word of Cleary's speech was audible over the heckling from all sides of the meeting, and chaos erupted after a decision to allow Cleary a second attempt at being heard. Yates claimed that at this point keeping control was impossible, as he couldn't be heard himself.

Yates commented; "The only power I had was to close the meeting, which would have made the Union look even less respectable, and was thus not a serious option."

Once control had been regained, two motions concerning the School were discussed. The first suggested the £200,000 earmarked for refurbishment of the Senior Com-

mon Room be spent on the Library instead, and the second opposed the introduction of full-cost Master's fees for overseas students.

Dr. Ashworth spoke against both motions, pointing out that the LSE already spends "a staggering proportion" of its annual budget on the Library, and that the refurbishment programme was five years overdue. He encouraged students to "look closely at all the facilities provided". In replying to the second motion, he referred to his speech at the beginning of the meeting, where he criticised the government for the current financial problems in Higher education. He added that there were as yet no firm plans to introduce full-cost masters fees, and that full discussions would take place with the Student's Union before their introduction.

No-one else spoke against the motions, and both were passed. Dr. Ashworth professed himself "amazed" at the one-sidedness of the debate. Fazile Zahir, General Secretary, said afterwards that she disagreed with both motions. She accused the members of the DSG who proposed the motions of "distorting the facts to suit their own political aims, and ignoring any evidence that flies in the face of their beliefs." She did however enjoy the meeting, even though it was "wildly outrageous and completely mad."

Despite the more productive mood of the latter half of the meeting, many felt that the Union had been discredited. Geoff Robertson, Chair of the

Constitution and Steering Committee, thought that "Ashworth must have been laughing himself silly inside at a display of how inept, petty and ridiculous student politics can be."

Jon Spurling, Finance Sabbatical, was more blunt. "We disgraced ourselves" he said. These sentiments were confirmed by Dr. Ashworth, who later said that it had been "an interesting piece of theatre."

Walkabout!

LSE Director Dr. John Ashworth spent last Thursday acting the part of a student. In addition to attending the UGM, he travelled in to the LSE from Silver Walk using public transport, visited the library, observed the under-provision of computing facilities, and examined the classrooms in the recently refurbished St. Phillips building. Following the UGM, Dr. Ashworth was shown at first hand the shortage of books in the course collection. The problem of students being forced to use the more expensive photocopiers in the library to copy offprints was also explained. The Director was keen to visit St. Phillips with the aim of seeing how close the new classrooms came to fulfilling expectations. Some were too small for the size of class that used them, some were

poorly laid out, and the Director commented that most of the rooms seemed to lack ventilation. The most visible shortcomings in the facilities visited concerned the computing rooms. There was an obvious shortage of Apple Macs in S018, even in the morning, and although at this time there were several free IBM computers, later on in the day, all three large IBM rooms in the St. Clement's Building were booked for classes. This meant there were very few IBM computers available for students to use. Whilst not wishing to commit himself, Dr. Ashworth hinted that he considered the information technology services at the LSE could be the target of the next large investment.

PLAYAWAY

Barry Levinson waited 14 years to direct *Toys*, wanting to make it before almost all his other films, *The Natural*, *Tin Men* and *Rain Man* amongst them. Teaming up once again with Robin Williams (they worked together on *Good Morning Vietnam*), he finally got to bring it to the big screen, along with a \$40 million budget. But was it worth it?

Before answering that question, one has to wonder just why Levinson was so keen on making this film. It seems to owe something to not only *War Games*, but also to the films of Tim Burton, and in particular, Edward Scissorhands, with the naive character being the one poorly treated, and for whom we should all have sympathy. Yes, this

is certainly a Barry Levinson film: all his usual cloying sentimentality is present, in certain scenes to an excruciating extent. But it is still a pretty original story (set in a toy factory - it's easy to see where the \$40 million went when you see the sets), and that in itself is a pleasure to see at present.

However, original though it may be, it still lacks something. Perhaps it is the big budget: the sets are great, but in a clever-clever way. The same is true of many of the jokes, especially at the beginning, when you are laughing, but in the same way that you would laugh at a quick fire comedian, rather than a film. In many ways, that is what the film is like: a series of linked together sketches,

all trying to keep the attention span of the average television watcher. Well, Barry, this is cinema, and we do expect to be able to cope with long scenes. We could also do with some more rounded characters. Poor Robin Wright. Either a lot of her character ended up on the cutting room floor, or it just wasn't written well (oh, the story is co-written by a Mr Levinson, by the way).

All that is not to say that it is a bad film. It is well acted, particularly in the supporting roles - Joan Cusack as Williams' sister and LL Cool J as their cousin, whilst Michael Gambon once again demonstrates Hollywood's fixation with British villains, although his accent seems to hover somewhere across the

Atlantic. It is just that its moral seems a little forced (war is bad, simplistic people obsessed with toys, with the mental age of children are good). In addition, Williams looks old, and his crazy humour doesn't fit with his character.

Perhaps I am being too hard on the film by trying to see if the wait was worth it. Levinson is probably pleased with the finished project, but personally I wonder if it might have been a better film if it had been made earlier on in his career (after the excellent *Diner*), without the big budget and the huge star. Like *Bugsy*, it is glossy, well packaged and lacks heart. Put it on your list of things to see if you have time; that is where it belongs.

Sarah Ebner

This year's Oscar nominations

SARAH EBNER

As Mercedes Ruehl, last year's best supporting actress winner stood up to announce the first nominee for this year's Oscars, I knew we were in for a few surprises. 'Jaye Davidson', she said to cheers from the crowd, 'for *The Crying Game*'. Hollywood is showing it appreciates daring, if it is well acted. Without wanting to spoil the film for anyone, the fact that Mr Davidson was nominated for best supporting actor, does give away some of the plot.

However, Davidson's chances are not too good, particularly as many people in Hollywood do not really see where he can go from here. His role in *The Crying Game* did call for somewhat specific casting.

He is also up against remarkably strong competition. Not including David Paymer for *Mr Saturday Night*, which bombed in the US and is not out here yet, the other nominees will provide close voting. Al Pacino is nominated for *Glen-garry Glen Ross*, but as he must be in for a huge sympathy vote for best actor (it is about time he won an Oscar), it is likely that votes for him will go to that. Still, that leaves us with Jack Nicholson who was superb in *A Few Good Men*, and Gene Hackman for *Unforgiven*. My money is on Hackman, but it will be close.

For best supporting actress, there was similar surprise. Marisa Tomei was nominated for *My Cousin Vinny*. Yes, she was good, but this was a lightweight film and surprising fodder for the Oscars. It appears to suggest, once again, a simple lack of female roles. Her chances are limited, as she too is up against strong competition, all from foreign actresses, three of them British! The most likely winner is Judy Davis for *Husbands and Wives* (also up for best screenplay), as Vanessa Redgrave's politics are likely to work against her for *Howards End*. Strangely, Miranda Richardson is nominated for *Damage*, and not for *The Crying Game* (in which she was superb), or for *Enchanted April*, for which she won a Golden Globe. Still, the Academy know how great she was in those roles, so she does have a good chance. The other contender is Joan Plowright, for *Enchanted April*.

Onto the biggies. There are few surprises in the best actor nominations. Al Pacino, who must be favourite for *Scent of a Woman*, and Clint Eastwood for *Unforgiven* must be slugging it out as favourites, although Eastwood is perhaps more likely to win best director (Hollywood likes giving actors best director awards). Robert Downey Jr is surely too young, and 'Chaplin' was too badly received for him to win, whilst Denzel Washington has won an Oscar before, and ominously, *Malcolm X* has not been nominated for anything else (Spike Lee must be furious - again). That leaves the magnificent Stephen Rea for *The Crying Game*, but his chances must be limited by the fact that no American has won this award since Dustin Hoffman in *Rainman*, back in 1988. Out of interest, what happened to Daniel Day Lewis for *Last of the Mohicans*, Tim Robbins for *The Player*, and Jack Nicholson for *Hoffa*?

Onto the women. The field is not as weak as many were arguing. Emma Thompson should still win for *Howards End*, but Susan Sarandon may (like Pacino) win for *Lorenzo's Oil*, on a she-should-have-won-something-by-this-stage-in-her-career vote. Catherine Deneuve for *Indochine* is a way out option, and so, probably is Mary McDonnell for *Passion Fish*. That leaves Michelle Pfeiffer for her two year old performance in *Love Field*, hurriedly released at the end of the year in the US, just so she could stand a chance of winning.

Lastly, we have the best film and best director nominations. *A Few Good Men* is nominated for best film, but not best director, and must stand a very outside chance, with only one other Oscar nomination. *Unforgiven* is nominated for both, and is probably favourite, although *Scent of a Woman*, *Howards End* and *The Crying Game* also receive best director and best film nominations. *The Crying Game* would be a popular, but surprising choice, as would Robert Altman as best director for *The Player*, only otherwise nominated in a screenplay category.

We will have to wait until the end of March to find out the results, but the nominations this year show variety and a (perhaps surprisingly) large amount of good taste. Hopefully this bodes well for the future.

The Blind Leading the Blind

The most beautiful things in life are usually right under your nose. If you are Saddam Hussein, those things would be your moustache and Kuwait respectively. And what if you are a student in London? Assuming that you are a student in London, you will most probably have noticed what a fascinating city it is, and that it has more than enough cinemas, pubs, clubs, restaurants and whatever else students are interested in to offer up to us. So what am I getting at? Patience, young grasshoppers, I'm on my way there. Now imagine it to be a Sunday or a Saturday morning. Raining, of course. What would you do? Well, you can't get into any cinema, pub, or club. So come on, think, what are you up to? Some of the people I asked said "study". Conclusion: I asked the wrong people. Others suggested anything from going back to sleep, to gazing incredulously at the ceiling and picking their nose. Nice try, no fish. The answer is out there. And yes, I'm actually getting to the point here, the answer is "Tourist attractions". WAIT! DON'T GO! Read on brothers and sisters. Millions of Japanese. Every year, flashing cameras in a frenzy. Europeans, thousands of them every week, strolling through museums, climbing spires, circumventing memorials. Americans, hundreds of them every day, fondling the wonders of British architecture [????-GR], surveying the splendours of British monarchy, glaring droolfully at Cathedrals, palaces, gardens, exhibitions, statues. They all know it's out there. And you? Yes, I know, with a finger up your nose. What I'm trying to say here, is that people from all over the world pay to see what you have for free in your own backyard. You call yourself a student in London? When have you last seen the Crown Jewels, Westminster Cathedral or St.Paul's? When have you last taken the time to stroll along the Mall to Buckingham Palace, and then through beautiful St.James' park to the Houses of Parliament? You may take the finger out of your nose now. The good news is - your fortune is about to change. As it happens, the Beaver is in grave shortage of writers [True enough-GR] so I shall be spending the next few weeks in the vicinity of this page, going into excessive detail about museums and such-like. London has about seventy of those: a museum for every bridge, tower, Church or borough, museums of science and natural history, art history, history of history, music, design, war, cinema, theatre, transportation, telecommunication, archaeology, geology, museums for children, wax dolls, bankers, freemasons or plain "mankind", a couple of Sherlock Holmes museums, and of course, a "Museum of London". And they are all huge, colourful, exciting, inviting and just around the corner. Don't take my word for it - go and see for yourselves! Next week, God forbid, I will be surveying the second-best hobby of the placid British Empire, as I venture through the "Imperial War Museum" in Lambeth, the "Army Museum" in Chelsea, the "Britian at War" exhibition at London Bridge and the "Cabinet War Rooms" under Whitehall. Until then: get thee unto a museum and enjoy.

by Rony Hassner

Sam Pepys Rides Again!

As the moment of decision draws ever nearer **Pepys** feels his spine tingling with anticipation; which of our illustrious candidates will lead us boldly into the next year. By the time you read this nominations will have opened and those candidates truly committed to the cause will have registered their intentions. As the election looms the political infighting becomes fiercer, for your delectation **Pepys** offers a choice selection of betrayal, dishonesty, incompetence and scandal.

First **Pepys** feels it incumbent upon himself to comment on "Fitzpatrickgate". Did she or didn't she? **Pepys** doubts that we will ever know. However one thing is certain **Fitzpatrick's** campaign team will have to work hard to repair the damage that many people feel has badly dented her image, sources close to the campaign suggest that Teshar may be about to produce indisputable evidence that she once played "hockey" for the AU as a last ditch ploy to widen her appeal.

Meanwhile, and still with the **Fitzpatrick** (Independent Jackson Pollock admirer) campaign, **Pepys** has heard his revelation last week that Teshar had entered into an alliance with **Lola Elerion** (Independent Goth) has caused ructions amongst LSE's left wing fraternity. Apparently by this act **Fitzpatrick** destroyed a fragile and recently formed pact she had made with fellow-travellers **Leandro Moura** (Concerned and Caring) and **Andy Baly** (Concerned but responsible). **Andy Baly**, running against **Elerion** for Finance, was particularly shocked by this backstabbing, with such a delicate sensibilities and touching faith in human nature will he, wonders **Pepys**, be able to survive what promises to be a bruising election campaign.

Next, to move on to that pillar of the political establishment the DSG, rumour has it that the politburo of that particular organisation are having the greatest of difficulty deciding who to stand for the sabbatical posts. Those putting themselves forwards as possible saviours of the Union are adjudged of such low credibility that the group is seriously considering putting no-one up for the posts of General secretary and Equal Opps and Welfare. The burden of reviving the organisation seems to have fallen on Peter Harris (DSG campaign manager, sorry Equal Opps and Welfare Officer) who is churning out leaflets as though the end of the world is nigh.

Still with the battle of the monster egos (campaign for Gen Sec) word on the streets is that two aging hacks may be emerging from self imposed purdah to make one last bid for glory. Both **Adrian Cattley** (egoist Green) and **Antonia Mochan** (ex-DSG now anti DSG) are rumoured to be denying their candidatures furiously; always a sure sign in **Pepys'** book (diary-ed).

Whilst **Cattley** is a rather sad example of a man whose party, the LSE Greens, deserted him for good jobs in the city (**Pepys** feels that this is not the place to bring up the dubious past history of his involvement with a certain ex-Ents Officer Fiona MacDonald.) **Mochan** is a more interesting example of the principled political turncoat. Her only motive for standing would appear to be a vehement dislike of certain leading members of the DSG, is this really the way to build, in the immortal words of one of last years heros, a fighting Union?

Pepys has to say it seems as good a way as any. In any case **Simon Reid** (Independent sarky Tory) is still clear favourite to post the winning fax, indeed his case may well have been strengthened by an alliance he is alleged to have forged with Ents hopeful **Navin Reddy** (Independent Kick Boxer).

APOLOGY: It has been drawn to **Pepys'** notice that last week he said of **Rachael Goldwyn** "She will have to work hard not to be seen as a female Johnny Bradburn." After receiving a writ from Messrs Sue, Grabbit and Runne **Pepys** unconditionally retracts any suggestion that Goldwyn bares any resemblance to Bradburn. In addition **Pepys** would like to pay £200,000 to a charity of **Goldwyns'** choice. Unfortunately he hasn't got the money so he can't.

STOP PRESS: **Hugh O'Leary** (Conservative) has revealed that he is standing for Finance. One thing you have to admire about these Conservatives; they do try.

Across Enemy Lines with the Youff of Today

Ian Roberts on the value of cross party talks and consensus politics

As someone who has sunk to the depths of actually enjoying politics, the opportunity of Youth and Student day 1993 was too good to miss. The event organised by the Liberal Democrats, was at Westminster Central Hall, just across the road from the Houses of Parliament. Over 2,000 people from across the country attended; and the speakers included over fifteen MP's and Peers from all parties, including Jeremy Hayes from the Conservatives, Paddy Ashdown and Simon Hughes from the Lib-Dems and the interesting combination of Ken Livingstone and Peter Mandelson from Labour.

"You sell out" a heckler to Peter Mandelson, Labour's image guru

The first two events were Peter Sissons- style question times with an MP or Peer from each party. Ken Livingstone was the star of the first, being mobbed for autographs and delaying the start for 5 minutes to sign them all. The audience were suprised to see Lib Dem MP Matthew Taylor and

'Red Ken' agreeing on most issues, but agree they did. Even the Tory, Lord Allport, was fairly critical of the government, sadly, Joe Marshall from the Democratic Left (formally the Communist party of Great Britain) didn't turn up, so we missed the opportunity to see if this consensus stretched even further across the political spectrum.

Peter Mandelson, in the second question time, came over far less well (I certainly wouldn't buy a used car from him). He supported military intervention in Bosnia and was firmly against a referendum on Maastricht.

After lunch there were speeches from, and questions to, Paddy Ashdown and Liz Lynne (Lib Dem for Rochdale). Then the audience split up to go to various 'workshops' including "The Earth Summit- was it just a lot of hot air?", "Defence- At what price the peace dividend?", "Animal rights- should hunting be banned?" and "What are 'women's' issues?", with more MP's and pressure groups including CND and the League against Cruel Sports.

The defence debate was characterized by each side attempting to refute figures and statistics provided by the other, but I did learn that Young CND are currently using a poster with the slogan " We need to fight a



Paddy Ashdown: To nice to talk too?

war, but we aren't spending enough on weapons." All was soon explained, and it turned out to be an entirely admirable war against poverty.

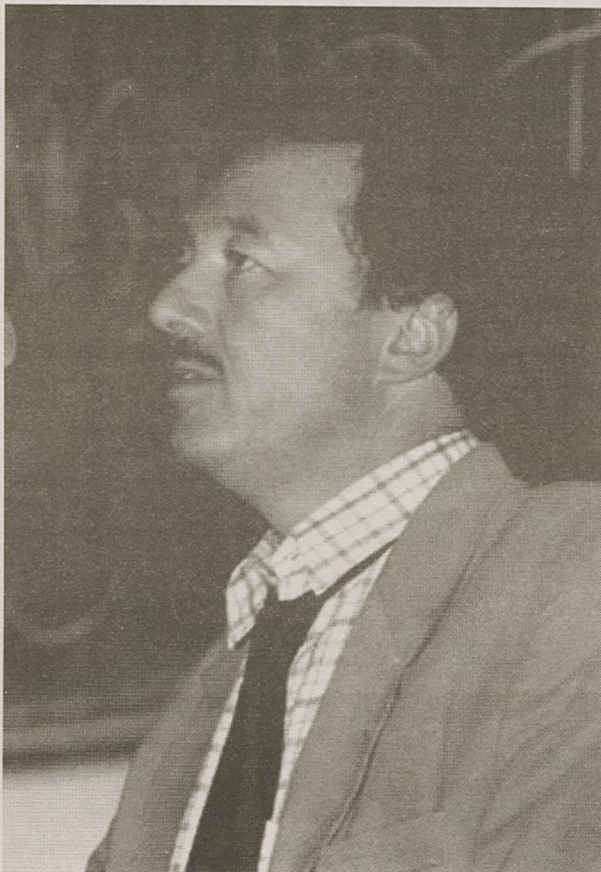
"Norman Tebbit is lower than pond life." Jerry Hayes (Con, Harlow)

The 'women's issues' debate left me little wiser as to what womens issues are, but in favour of single sex lessons in secondary schools. The consensus of opinion was against any special privilages for women, but for equality in all areas of life.

Overall, it was a very worthwhile day. I have been more interesting if Peter Mandelson and Ken Livingstone had been on the stage at the same time, or if a right wing conservative had come along. The audience was heavily biased to the left,

Proportional Representation would let extremists in, but it is preferable that they have a legitimate platform so they can be argued against." Paddy Ashdown (Lib Dem, Yeovil)

but a sprinkling of Conservatives were in attendance. I had the opportunity to listen to more MP's in one day than I could in a whole year at the LSE, though whether that was a good thing is a matter of opinion.



Red Ken no more, but still a STAR

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY PARTY

Thursday 25th Feb - 7pm - Underground

£1 non-members - Free for members
Free Snaps & Scandinavian Music

It's still not Cricket old boy!

Steven Roys' return throw to Sundeep Tuckers' hit for six

England duly went two-nil, as by the time you're reading this, it may well have turned into a whitewash. However, Sundeep Tucker's article last week does I think merit a response from an England supporter, if only to correct the impression that only Indian supporters in Passfield sat up through the night to watch the cricket.

In actual fact, and even an Indian umpire would be forced to give this decision England's way, there were at least 4 England supporters watching every day's play in the First Test, including the final morning session. Sad bastards you might say (Not me, I watched it at Rosebery-Ed) but the truth nonetheless. In contrast with this, an Indian presence was strangely lacking. Occasionally a silent Indian supporter sidled shiftily into Passfields TV room at 10am to catch the final hours play, but most preferred to lie in their beds and venture out when victory was a formality. It is easy to applaud you team when they win, but it is a much braver supporter who stays up through the night to see their bowlers get hammered.

Before listing the various reasons why England lost the series in India, and yes I will be mentioning some of the 'excuses' listed by Sundeep last week, it is worth noting that the single most important factor behind England's defeat was the absurd team selection. Leaving out the best wicket

keeper in the world, and the greatest batsman India have ever suffered from, was totally without justification. Having said that, England should have whipped India, just as they did in 1990 when India were tourists here. Any team which lets Gooch score 450 runs against them in one match can hardly be described as 'good'.

Let's start listing the excuses. First the poor quality of the Indian pitches, bone dry and without any type of variation (Don't forget the Second test match venue had staged a test since 1988!-Ed), was clearly suited to the Indian spinners. If England adopted a similar policy, every Test in England would be played at Headingly, where England almost invariably win, because the pitch is custom made for the typical English seamer. This ground has made one match wonders out of county non-entities like 'nice eyebrows' Mallender and 'wide-boy' Pringle. In much the same way the ridiculous Indian pitches make celebrities out of mundane spinners unlikely to take any serious wickets anywhere else.

Secondly, as the Daily Mirror so accurately reported last week, the Indians have indulged in gamesmanship, what other term cheating. Repeatedly warned by the Umpires for scuffing up the pitch, ie making the spinners job easier, the Indian batsmen showed no regard for the spirit of the game, which England adopted and

have carried out for so many years. Thirdly the standard of Umpiring was, in the words of Peter Roebuck, by no means a biased reporter, although he is English, crap. Fourthly, if you can't eat a meal in a five star hotel in India without getting food poisoning, you're never going to get the runs (except those to the toilet-Ed) Fifthly, the toss, how come India always win it? Sixthly, what about the smog.....?

To correct another false impression given by Indian supporters in the last couple of weeks- namely that India are actually better at cricket than England. Mike Gatting's testicles to that. India were slaughtered by England in 1990. Their only two decent players Azza and Tendulkar, both learnt all they know playing for second rate counties in England last summer. Tendulkar scored only one century in 22 matches in England last summer.

As to Mr Tucker's claim that Azzarudin and Mahatma Ghandi are similar because they are both 'capable of uniting India and slaying the 'English lion', it is worth pointing out that until his century in the First Test, Azza was uniting the Indian press in criticism of him. He was only appointed for one match at a time, following India's pathetic performance against South Africa a few weeks ago. The fact that most of India was against this rarely talented player shows the fickleness of the Indian public, including previous masters like Sunhil 'nice commentator'

Gavaskar.

Finally to the cricket test itself. All decent English supporters are perfectly happy for other English residents to cheer India when the two countries meet. However, under such circumstances it should be customary to see some uniformity in support. When England played San Marino at football last week, these so-called Indian supporters, for whom Sundeep thinks it is 'far too early to..... throw off or betray their genuine feelings', were united behind their old colonial master. Surely therefore they do not fail the cricket test, for when it comes down to the apple crunch, they line up behind England. Given the San Marino result last week, this dichotomy tends to suggest that Sundeep and his chums are glory supporters rather than fervent nationalists.

Anyway, it's only a game, old son, and perhaps when the crickets over you can go back to supporting Arsenal in their quest for mid-table obscurity. Mine's a large one, cheers.

No Sympathy for the de-Bill!

Mick tells all in Beaver E(xc)lusive

When we were putting together the Beaver's 40th Anniversary issue, we put a certain Mr Michael Jagger on the cover as he attended LSE for a while before forming the Rolling Stones. The General Secretary kept dropping hints that he was to ring her, so by using one of those scanner things, a tape recorder and some sticky backed plastic I was able to record a conversation, well it was pretty one sided, that allegedly was between Mick Jagger and Faz Zahir. Unfortunately we didn't get all of the alleged conversation, but here's a big part of it, concerning the departure of Bill Wyman.

".....Bills left right, to pursue other interests right, more likely to chase a few friends grand daughters around right. But we can replace him, like man, he's only

the bass player right, it's not as if he does anything important Yeah awright I suppose we'll have to replace him, but we're not due back into the studio for 5 years and the tour will be a year after that, man. We work so hard these days! I suppose we could have a black bass guitarist, we've been ripping them off for nearly 30 years, he'd have to be old though, nearing 50. We can't have any 30 year olds showing us up on stage with youff and vitality!

We'd prefer someone British, but he would have to like being abroad, cause that nasty Chancellor of the Exchequer keeps taxes so high in England, you know what I'm trying to say. I mean I have to live on a Caribbean Island all the year and fly back to England right, on a private jet, right. To watch the test match right, which gets rained off. I mean man what an absolute bummer

We got ripped off financially in the sixties, so we've made sure it doesn't happen now. Whoever takes over from Bill right, will have to have his own personal accountant, lawyer, stockbroker and estate agent. He's going to be well paid and we don't want him to waste it all on sex drugs and rock'n'roll. That's for me and Keef to do!

Yeah its me an Keef all the way. We write the songs right and do the interviews. There's no room for egos in this band. Well except Keefs and mine. All the new guy has to do is record the album and go out on tour right it's really easy, I mean Bills done it for years

Look we really don't want any young guys, they ain't got the right skills. They all want to appear on Top of the Pops and that Smash Hits Poll Winners party right! With us, you'll be unrecognised on the streets, never have a hit single, a hit

album is a possibility every 5-6 years. The main requirements though are those classic sixties skills which no youngster can have a hope of equaling. Joint rolling, cocaine snorting, un safe sex and how to throw a telly out of a hotel penthouse suite. Yeah man its only rock'n'roll but I like it like it yes I do. Right!"

Next week we may be listening in on a conversation between Jonathan Ross or Edwina Currie, but then maybe not. Who knows keeps your ears peeled you never know who is listening!

Ron at the Bar

Gerard Harris came from nowhere to become Vice-Chair at the start of this term. He even gave Ray Yates a run for his money for the Chair. If you know nothing of this political novice, read on as we sip on our drinks.

In your letter to the Beaver the other week, you said your election was a joke, but now you have done the job do you still think its a joke?

I don't know really. It's not really important, is it?

I know there is no love lost between you and your predecessor, but what did you think of him, before the letter writing saga began?

The thing I can remember thinking was "What's that bloke sitting next to Simon Reid doing?" in every UGM of last term.

If Ray didn't turn up one week you could be asked to run the UGM. Do you have any ideas about that, would you enjoy it or would you run a mile?

I think I would enjoy it immensely I'd wish I'd won the Chair at the start of the term. Although I was shitting myself at the time that I might actually win. The only thing I can say as an advance speech for Michaelmas term is that things will be a lot different under me. Although it may seem as though the Union would collapse into chaos, I think it is more accurate to say it would 'ascend' into chaos. Believe me, this will be a good thing.

Having spent 6 months at the other end of a Rosebery corridor to you, I know your musical tastes. But can you tell the rest of the LSE what you treat us to?

Miles Davis, Prince, John McLaughlin, Hendrix, Keith Jarrett, Herbie Hancock, Eno, Kate Bush, The Disposables, Coltrane, Roland Kirke, Fun Buckley, Led Zep, John Martyn, lots of funk and fusion, rap, new age, and some other shit. This includes Rachmaninov, the Police, Fela Kuti, Neil Young, Spin Doctors, Stanley Clarke, Santana, this Irish builder named Joe, who can really sing and play the guitar and of course the LSE's very own Take That and Fuck Off, with their new 45, "Joey Deacon-Sex Beacon".

Having tasted the smell of LSE politics, do you think you would like to stay involved or is the vice-chair a one off?

Well I've slept with over 30 of my fans since I took over as Vice-Chair, I've snorted coke from the fingernails of a senior DSG member (allegedly) and got away with several gross misdemeanours because of my new found status. So in answer to your question, I would like to stay involved.

Whats your opinions on the use of drugs?

Taking drugs is very uncool but I've never been the one to follow fashion that closely. Anyway, the problem with drugs is the subculture built around them and I would advise anyone who takes drugs not to immerse themselves within the drug culture unless they get a buzz from death and mental instability. But saying that, getting stoned is one of my favourite pastimes!

Why have you a toilet bowl in you room?

Because I'm a shit fetishist!

You called yourself a balcanoid in your letter, what is a balcanoid?

I don't know, ask Bob Gross, he made it up in Union Jack.

As a first year, what do you think of the LSE and London?

I don't think anyone will be interested in what I think of London, I know I'm not!

What do you drink and is drinking bad for you?

I drink mostly water based liquids and fluid. I don't drink alcohol very often, although there's nothing like brandy after a f**king good Sunday Roast.

TTFN. Next week someone that isn't standing in the elections, because we can't use anyone famous!

The Beaver

This being my first editorial for the Beaver I thought I would make it an introductory piece.

I Could comment on Neil but I think enough has been said already (issue 374) although "respect" is due.

London Student is a boring paper though isn't it, I quite agree. Their letter of support, published on this page, which highlights what they call our "verbal masturbation" just focuses on their limbo state of not a good student newspaper, yet not a good newspaper either.

But hang on a moment you may well say: why has the Beaver editorial suddenly commenced on an attack of London Student? Well it really is a form of defence. The Beaver has changed considerably in the past few months, not least with regard to layout. But we think we've found something we like. Yes it has obscure humour that only LSE students will understand, and perhaps it doesn't look like your average, run of the mill, student newspaper. But we have to keep in mind who it is really for. We are not struggling to gain national recognition, like some of our competitors, who readily adopt a style akin to any national newspaper. We are guilty as charged - our issues are focal and not generally concerned with life outside of the LSE. But that is what a student union newspaper should be. So when you next pick up your copy of the Beaver remember, we are not trying to be all things to all people, but more importantly we do try to be all things to all LSE students.

There is now a vacancy for the post of managing editor, which concerns all levels of production of the newspaper. Nominations must be handed to me by Monday 1st March 5.30pm at the latest.

Here's to the continued success of the Beaver as a real student newspaper.

Executive Editor
Managing Editor
News Editor
Campus Editor
Features Editor
Food & Drink Editor
Arts Editors

Music Editor
Sports Editors

Photographic Editors

Financial Director
Classifieds Editor
Scannerman

Kevin Green
In Transition
Hans Gutbrod
Ron Voce
Paul Bou Habib
Steve Thomas
Navin Reddy
Geoff Robertson
Rob Hick
Daniel Beharall
Tom Randell
Steve East
Thorsten Moos
T. James Brown
Carolyn Wilson
Ian Turner

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LS Get Bitchy!

Dear sir,

It comes as little surprise to me that The Beaver has the affrontery to attack the London Student (Editorial, The Beaver, issue 374). Trapped in your own little fantasy world of hack comings and goings you cannot possibly realise that anybody seriously interested in writing would not want associate themselves with a bunch of self infatuated bores, intent on drowning the rest of us in sub-tabloid standard, verbal masturbation.

This letter may sound vitriolic, but my opinion is that The Beaver is a painfully sorry vehicle for talentless, repetitive drivel. However, it cannot be accused of lacking a sense of humour. The Beaver is a very old joke, heard too often on just about every university campus you can name. In fact one particularly amusing aspect of last week's copy was the editorial attempt to judge the London Student from its own sad and cliched position.

For an unoriginal, column orientated slag-mag, which vomits up the same old rubbish, week in and week out with no other purpose than clique maintenance, to criticise the London Student, is indeed risible. Is it any wonder that you find the London Student, for its part, boring and unhumorous, where unlike the Beaver - you are unable to laugh at your own jokes and read about yourself every issue. Let us face the facts, you were obviously threatened when non-hacks who approach journalism for journalism's sake stepped on your toes over Bradburn-gate. Touchy.

I often cannot figure out where you are coming from. But I suspect (sic -Ed.) that you are (sic -Ed.) post-modernist inspired, having deconstructed the nature of student-hood after a pubescent crush on the Young Ones, you have self-consciously put it back together for the rest of us in a user-friendly format. Of course you see yourselves as a posse of media rebels don't you? Well I am sorry to break the news, but it has all been done before.

What I find most

embarrassing about the Beaver is that it is not an appropriate forum for discussing anything worthwhile - thus when something moving, politically adversarial or concerning student does come up in its pages it sits uncomfortably amidst the rest of the rubble. There is of course a place for the likes of the Beaver...not only as a foil to newspapers like London Student but as a vehicle for entertaining, educating and informing the students at LSE. Unfortunately it so rarely measures up. This is of course a personal opinion and not a personal attack, especially not towards those students who misguidedly put their time and effort into the Beaver. If they have any aspirations to write and to improve their writing they should write for the London Student. In the meanwhile perhaps reappraisal for the Beaver is overdue. Be radical and red by all means, but not juvenile.

Yours

F. Christopher Hadley

RE: Bradburn-gate. London Student chose to write about this event two weeks after it took place and then chose to misquote two of its primary sources. If that's the standards we have to live up to then I'm glad you've informed us. Next week, in true London Student style, we shall have an interview in which we make up the responses on a topic that happened years ago. Should anyone have a copy of the Young Ones, please send it to Mr Hadley because he was obviously watching a nice safe sitcom like 'Terry and June', 'Robin's Nest' or 'The Good Life' before Daddy, who was something big in the city, sent him to bed. Be radical and blue by all means, but not juvenile and extremely borin.

Lilley, Lilley, Lilley

Many students were sickened by the report of the Lilley demonstration in last week's Beaver. It did not include any of the reasons why students were so angry that Lilley should be invited

to speak. Peter Lilley and the Tories are embarking on a campaign to make the poorest sections of society pay for their economic mess. As unemployment reaches the 3 million mark again, (even with government figure fiddling) they are threatening to make more cuts to benefits and introduce "workfare" schemes. They want to cut child benefit. They are threatening to means test state pensions which will probably mean 7 million pensions being destroyed. They have introduced the Child Support Act cutting the benefits of single women who refuse, for very good reasons, to identify the fathers of their children. Lilley has been at the forefront of these attacks and has repeatedly announced that he is going to wage war on "scroungers". Benefits are not hand-outs, we pay for them through taxes and National Insurance, and we deserve them.

People who took part in the demonstration have been labelled as thugs... but the real thugs are the Tories. Many of us are sick and tired of Tories waltzing into the LSE and spouting off about their crackpot schemes. Contrary to what the Beaver article alleges, SWSS organised the demo at only 2 hours notice, "the response shows just how angry students feel."

There were many inaccuracies in The Beaver article. It was unnecessary to mislead students in this way. After the demonstration, members of SWSS were approached by Ron Voce who requested we write an article. This we did. However, The Beaver decided not to print this. So much for freedom of speech. Who was the spineless creep who wrote this article and wasn't even brave enough to put his/her name to it? I'm sure many of The Beaver staff listed on page 8, including Steve Kinkee who is now threatened with a disciplinary, are disgusted that this article was published in their name.

We feel it is unfortunate that the article draws comparisons between what occurred on the Lilley demonstration and "brown-shirt tactics". We are faced with a real fascist threat at the moment. SWSS have been active in fighting back against this, taking part in the demonstration at Bexley Heath on Wednesday 17th to

close down a Nazi book shop. Where were the Tories on this demonstration? They were inside the council, sticking up for the Nazis in the name of defending 'freedom of speech'. Freedom for Nazis who have murdered 4 black people in the area already.

Will The Beaver print this letter?

Louise Ashon and Mubin Haq
SWSS

Of course the Beaver will print this letter, the whole world isn't against you. We did not chose to withhold the article, we simply never saw it. Hopefully this will redress the balance on this subject, about which we have received far too many comments to print. And if we really are concerned with freedom of speech then surely it should not be a question of bravery as to whether or not the author of an article attributes his or her own name.

Nominations for the post of Managing Editor must be handed to me by Monday 1st March 1993 5.30pm

Post Haste Letters to the Editor must be delivered, preferably on disc, either by hand or internal post, to E197 no later than 4pm Thursdays.

Rough Justice

David Watson has been in prison for 9 months of a two and a half year sentence. He was charged and convicted of theft and carrying a knife. However, his wife says: "He was put away for being in the wrong place at the wrong time, and I've never seen him carrying a knife, ever. The knife they accused him of having was more like a museum piece - I'd never seen anything like it". She firmly believes in David Watson's innocence.

So too does Gloria Van Cooten, 57, who founded Peoples Against Injustice and Disparity (P.A.I.D.) in 1991, after her removal from the Hackney Lay Visitors panel when she drew attention to the maltreatment of detainees in the cells of Hackney's

Police Stations. Last Wednesday she arranged a small picket outside the Old Bailey, protesting at the imprisonment of 35 people for offences that only the Courts believe they committed. Many of the cases involve drugs, and it is claimed that these were planted by police. Some of the cases are more grave. As she talked about each person in turn, it soon became apparent that many of the prisoners have serious cases against the judicial process that convicted them. Unfortunately for them, they have little redress against the system. Blacks are convicted more often, and get longer sentences, than whites. Judges are, by common consent, out of touch with the real world. Criticism of the

Police is widespread. This is why P.A.I.D. was set up, to help the fight against injustice.

George Silcott joined the picket. His brother Winston Silcott is still in prison, accused of the murder of Antony Smith in 1984. New evidence has arisen suggesting that Silcott acted in self-defence during the incident, and that he was innocently caught up in a feud between Smith's "Yankee Possee" gang and an acquaintance of Silcott's. Silcott's trial lawyers were extremely badly prepared, and have twice been investigated concerning other matters, and much of his case was handled by a legal executive - a post requiring few qualifications. Added to this, his conviction

was heavily influence by the events surrounding the P.C. Blakelock case, for which he was framed. At the very least, the Home Office must be forced to reopen Winston Silcott's case.

As the wrongful convictions of the Birmingham Six and Tottenham Three have shown, the British Justice system is badly in need of review. To help in the fight, get involved in the Winston Silcott Defence Campaign, The Selby Centre, Tottenham N17, and contact Gloria Van Cooten and P.A.I.D. on 071 253 1966, or write to Kenneth Clarke MP, the Home Office. As P.A.I.D.'s motto says, "How many times can a man turn his head and pretend he doesn't see?".

Andy Bailly

BOYCOTT NESTLE!

Nestle, among other companies, is responsible for the death of millions of babies: David Savage reports.

The campaign against the irresponsible promotion and marketing of baby-milk substitutes can be traced back to an article in 1939 by Dr. Cicely Williams entitled "Milk and Murder". In it she explains how she came to identify the medical condition



"kwashiorkor" during her work in the Gold Coast (now Ghana). This condition is a form of malnutrition common among abruptly weaned children. Her speech to the Singapore Rotary Club in 1939 concluded:

"Anyone who, ignorantly or lightly, causes a baby to be fed on unsuitable milk, may be guilty of the child's death....If you are legal purists, you may wish me to change the title of this address to Milk and Manslaughter. But if your lives were as embittered as mine is, by seeing day after day this massacre of the innocents by unsuitable feeding, then I believe you would feel as I do that the misguided propaganda on infant feeding should be punished as the most criminal of sedition, and that these deaths should be regarded as murder."

Despite the passage of 54 years, a World Health Assembly Resolution (39.28) and the drawing up of a joint WHO/UNICEF International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, the issue of ensuring the ethical marketing and supply of these products remains one of crucial urgency. UNICEF estimate three to four thousand infants die every day because they are not breast fed. This figure, as James Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, pointed out in February 1992, is equivalent to:

"...daily, the death toll of the Bhopal chemical disaster of several years ago that commanded the front pages of virtually every newspaper in the world....weekly, the death toll of the Armenian earthquake disaster.. whilst the monthly death toll is equal to that from the Hiroshima explosion in 1945..."

Nestle, as the largest multinational corporation involved in the production and supply of baby-milk substitutes, has always

been the high profile target of campaign and boycott strategies. They continue, despite protestations to the contrary, to contravene the WHO/UNICEF International Code on Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes by promoting bottle feeding and undermining breast feeding. One of their strategies involves giving "humanitarian" free supplies of baby milk formula to third world hospitals, which leads to new born children being routinely bottle-fed. When the mother's leave hospital, the formula is often so expensive that it is over diluted, and children are liable to become malnourished. Furthermore,, difficulty in sterilizing bottles, teats and water can lead to life threatening infections. UNICEF estimate that babies are 25 times more likely to die of diarrhoea if they are bottle fed, and that over 1,000,000 babies die every year due to unsafe bottle feeding.

However, because of difficulties in identifying every Nestle product (they own, or part own, Rowntree, Findus, Crosse & Blackwell, Perrier, and L'Oreal, to name just five from a list of over 100 brands and products), the current boycott campaign, established in the UK in March 1989, targets particularly Nescafe, the most widely advertised food product in the UK. The boycott is coordinated by the International Nestle Boycott Committee (INBC), whose UK member is the group "Baby Milk Action". The campaign against Nestle is endorsed in the UK by over 100 health, consumer, development and church groups- including, the Royal College of Midwives, and the Church of England General Synod, as well as the Green and Liberal Democrat Parties, 12 local authorities and 9 trade unions.

The boycott campaign has sometimes come in for criticism on the basis that it focuses exclusively on Nestle, when there are several other companies, albeit smaller, which irresponsibly supply and market baby-milk substitute products, for example Farley Health Products (Boots) and N.V. Veerenigde Bedrijven Nutricia (Cow & Gate). This criticism largely misses the point: Nestle were selected because of their size and influence in this market. Besides the obvious remark that unethical behaviour by other companies does not excuse Nestle's practices, it is Nestle which sets

many of the market trends. Nestle is obviously unwilling to act unilaterally because it does not want to lose out to other companies. But this is the very strength of a targeted boycott campaign: if a boycott is so effective it forces a company to act unilaterally, that company then has a vested interest in doing everything it can to make other companies follow suit.

The Third World First Society at LSE have submitted a motion on this issue in the UGM. Please support this motion that calls for the Union Shop to stop selling Nestle coffee and chocolate products, and to publicise a list of all the brands in which Nestle has an interest, as a practical demonstration of increased accountability of those companies acting irresponsibly in this area.



Taken from a UNICEF video on Fabella Hospital in the Philippines, which became Baby Friendly and ended baby milk company interference

ARE YOU POLITICALLY CORRECT?

For all those decaffeinated, vegetarian, non-CFC, vegan, non-smoking, safe-sex performing, artificial-fur loving, Sinead O'Connor fans I have decided to put together a list of politically correct synonyms for words you feel uncomfortable using.

The whole point of political correctness is to forge a cosmic accord of unprecedented unity and harmony enabling humans to rejoice as we are diversally equal. So apart from checking your refrigerator for freon leaks, hugging trees, subscribing to National Geographic, and listening to REM, John Lennon or Sting, you must become familiar with a host of favourable terms that reinforce cultural diversity while maintaining equality of rights.

First of all, then, a list of animals you must learn by heart:

RIGHTS

cows
dolphins in tuna nets
whales
red squirrels

NO RIGHTS

cockroaches
tuna in tuna nets
sharks
grey squirrels

Anyone reinforcing political correctness is a social warrior fighting the jihad against intolerance and sexism. Social warriors consider people differently based on their equal individuality. In order to enter the glorious ranks of the social warrior you must fortify yourself with the following vocabulary:

"Insensitive term" Politically Correct(PC)

- WASP (white male)-Insensitive cultural oppressor (ICO)
- Housewife -Domestic engineer
- FireMAN -Firefighter
- Meter Maid -Parking Enforcement Aduciator
- PostMAN -Post Person
- MailMAN -Person Person
- Policeman -Baton Bot
- Blind -Photonicly Non-receptive
- Deaf -Visually Oriented
- Poor -Economically unprepared
- Bum -Philosophy major
- Hunter -Animal assassin,
- Elderly -Gerontologically advanced
- Drug addict -Chemically challenged
- Bald -Comb free
- Vegetable -Noble unconscious hero
- Insane people -Selectively perceptive
- Fat -Gravitationally challenged
- Learning disability -Self-paced cognitive ability
- Insult -Emotional rape
- Ghetto -Ethnically Homogenous Area (EHA)
- Hamburger -Seared Mutilated Animal Flesh(SMAF)
- Trees -Oxygen exchange units
- Slum -Economic Oppression Zone(EOZ)

And so my fellow social warriors let us fight on till' the day when pluralism and multiculturalism reigns everywhere and Earth's children may rejoice as our cultures are finally seen as different branches of the common tree of mankind!

An Anonymous Social Warrior.

Over 100 coffee brands to choose from....

so why go for one that profits from this?

The "Boycott Nestle" campaign led by Baby Milk Action, 23 St. Andrews Street, Cambridge, CB2 3AX.

LSE PHOTOSOC

EXHIBIT: Please bring your b/w & colour entries to the Union Office (E65) before 5th March. All entries welcome. For more details see the Darkroom board.

Peter Hain, Labour MP for Neath, will visit the LSE on Wednesday 24th Feb. Speaking on "The Future of the Labour Party and the Left" in the Graham Wallas Room at 1pm. All welcome. LSE LABOUR CLUB.

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Montags, 1-2 Uhr, Sprachlabor, 7 Stock, Clare Mkt Building.

Return of the White Man's Burden?

There will be two round-table discussions on

'The Crisis in Somalia'
Marton Woollacott (the *Guardian*)
Douglas Johnson (Oxford University)
Charles Langford (*Living Marxism*)

'Africa in the New World Order'

Victoria Brittain (the *Guardian*)
Mohammed Babu (Birkbeck College)
Frank Ferudi (University of Kent)

4-9pm Thurs 25th at SOAS
Tickets £5 (£3 conc.) available from Ben Atfield c/o SOAS History Dept.; or from The Edge Bookshop, 92 Cromer St., WC1.

VACANCIES IN THE LSE DAY NURSERY

There are currently several vacancies in the Nursery for the children of student parents.

The cost per place is £49.50 per week excluding meals.

For further information, contact the Nursery Officer on extension 7772.

SHAW LIBRARY CONCERT

24th and 25th Feb

7.15-9pm

Jennifer Stern & Alan Lowson

perform English Music for Two Pianos.

Fricke 'Four Fughettas, Op. 2
Britten 'Intro. & Rondo alla Burlesca', Op. 23 No. 1

'Mazurka Elegiaca', Op. 23 No. 2

Holst "The Planets", Op. 32 (the composer's original version for two pianos).

Founders' Room

Old Building: 6th Floor

You may enter or leave only at suitable breaks in the programme please.

Admission: £2.50 (incl. wine at interval) or £1.50 for students.

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February

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for beginners

Fri 2-3.30pm

for intermediates

2pm, 3rd March in A155

"Kagemusha: The Shadow warrior"

Free admission.

JAPAN NIGHT '93

On March 12th at SOAS Assembly Hall. Tickets £3.50 - contact

Toru on 071-628 3252

Our third newsletter is now available. If you're a society member and haven't yet received yours please get in touch with Toru.

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BOOMING SYSTEMS

The Khan gets hardcore !

BRAND NUBIAN: "In God We Trust"
The 'Steady bootleggin' trio continues its steady flow of phat beats and dope rhymes. The nubian tales ain't no mystery: US rappers Brand Nubian belong to the 5% Nation (known to be America's most radical muslims), and preach the words of Black muslim leaders such as Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X. Originally driven by Grand Puba's unique laidback rhyming, they now have to fight it out all alone after the success of their debut album "One for All". Grand Puba is hitting the decks with his solo project "Reel to Reel", while the BN kick off with "Punks Jump up to Get Beat Down" (one of last year's booming rap tracks). These rappers fit in today's image of rap by preaching Black Power. The X is on the rise: "teach what you know to those who don't know".

DA LENCH MOB: "Guerillas in the Mist"
Ice Cube proteges Da Lench Mob are ready to attack and kill at will. Cube's newest outcome of his production company STREET KNOWLEDGE is steady mobbin' til tha brothers are left hangin'. Rap, known for its tolerance, peace-appeal, no to drugs and gangs attitude suffers tremendously on this album. Somehow one cannot deny the lyrical talent of the trio aka J-Dee, Shorty and T-Bone. Cube stated about his boys: "They are the illest band around, they're over militant and they are the real shit".

DAS EFX: "Dead Serious"
The wiggidy-style can't get loose ! Mad motherf---ers DAS EFX are the dopest result of EPMD's (meaning Eric and Parish Make Dollars) rap kitchen. You know the band, when you see them: ready for a rap with a tongue-twisting ragga touch. That's what makes these dudes so unique. The duo's smash hit 'They want EFX' opened the way for their wicked style. But what the heck does DAS EFX mean ? Answer: Dray And Scoob EFX ! The chillin' New Yorkers are not DOA but HOA: Hitting On Arrival, bravo EPMD: album of the year !



Naughty By Nature - Looking naughty

ICE CUBE: "The Predator"
The pipe-smoking Cube on the album cover reminds us of Amerikkka's Most Wanted Nigga. Cube exactly knows what the homeboys want and how they feel about Amerikkka. Hardcore til you drop, but Cube is imitating himself on many too many passages. The Ice that can't cool down provides our eardrums with some fresh food, ya know ?

J.: "We Are the Majority"
Berlin-based anti-Nazi rapper J, who looks more like a hardrocker than a B-Boy, catches a totally new rap-style. Rap has witnessed many changes and alterations, but J finds the newest mix between hardcore lyrical elements, soulful rap and indie. Two thumbs up for the German homie who preaches tolerance with "school power". Take a chance and watch out for the new German wave: tolerant rap in English !

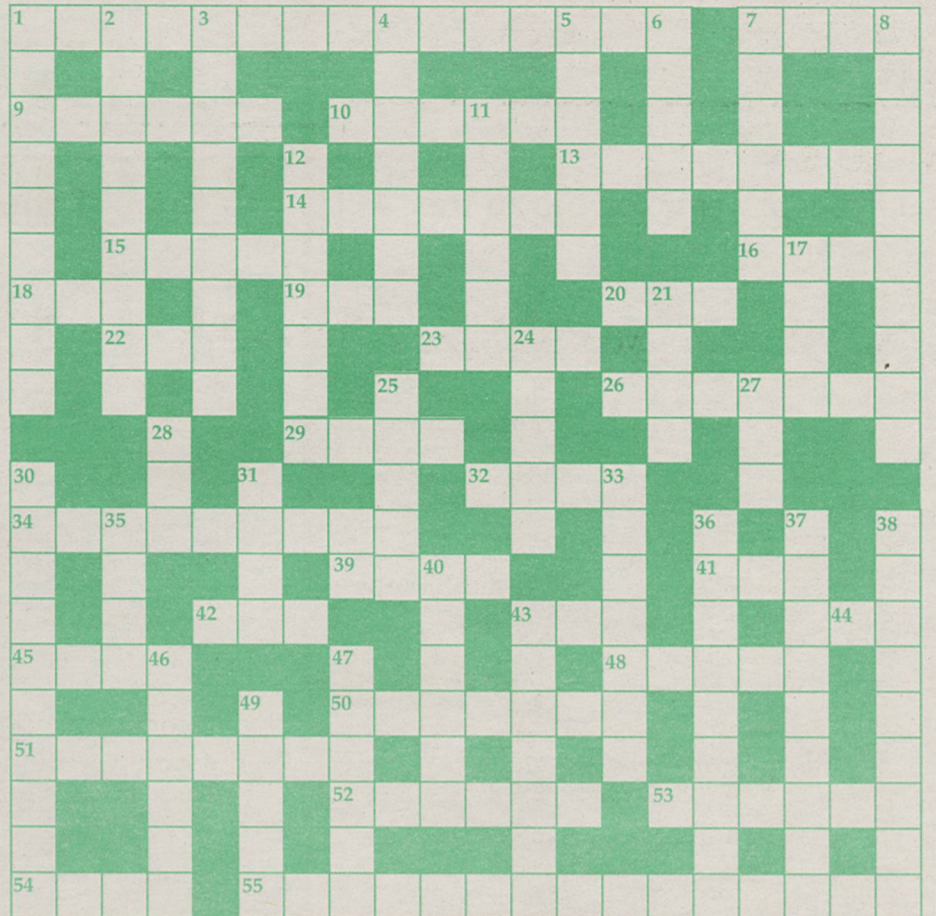
NAUGHTY BY NATURE: "19 Naughty III"
Real bad brothers out of the sewer are back in '93 after having delivered '92s booming expansion 'OPP'. They rae ready to cut our souls with a chainsaw, replacing the baseball bat on the cover of their debut album. The FLAVOR UNIT (headed by DJ MARK THE 45 KING, who is responsible for the productions of QUEEN LATIFAH) most successful act is backed on three cuts by HEAVY D., QUEEN LATIFAH and FREDDIE FOXX. The '93 groove-shaker seem s to be the Hip Hop anthem 'Hip Hop Hooray': really naughty to the max !

PARIS: "Sleeping with the Enemy"
San Francisco-based hardcore rapper Paris is back with his second stroke, after his debut album "The Devil made me Do It" in 1990. The Panther (as he calls himself in allusion to the Black Panthers) is the most hardcore preacher of Malcolm X and Black Power. But to me he is the league of rap's best lyricists along with RAKIM, ICE-T and Q-TIP from A TRIBE CALLED QUEST. His single 'Bushkilla' gave rise to some critics, who only see in rap a threat, instead of using it as a source of inspiration and revolutionary ideas. Paris kills George Bush in his album, condemns the White Devil and preaches the coming of his people. Yes, he may sound radical to many, but Paris ain't come for bullshittin'.

REBEL MC: "Word, Sound and Power"
M. West aka Rebel MC is on the scene with a powerful word and backed by a rootical sounds: the Jah (rastafarian root) has taken over the Rebel. 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but folls despise Wisdom and Instruction' can be read on the back cover. Now who's the fool ? The Rebel started out with Hip House and touches now Ragga and some hectic beats. The Words remain powerful, but the sound ... no comment !

Music Crossword II (Respect)

compiled by the Raith Rovers Fan Club.



It's really easy, or so I reckon. No prizes but "Respect Is Due" to those who manage to complete it!

ACROSS

- 1: It's that Cork-based side who really ought to put their jerseys in the cloakroom when they go dancing, if you know what I mean! (7,2,4,1,1).
- 7: Monie ____, had a hit with "Grandpa's Party" (4).
- 9: "The __ Know", a track from the follow-up to 37 down. It's about Java. No - Red Indians, actually! (6).
- 10: Mr. Lydon's adopted surname (6).
- 13: "And _____", from The Beatles' "Hard Day's Night" LP (1,4,3).
- 14: Split Enz had us with this in 1980 (1,3,3).
- 15: __ of the New Church, __ of Acid, The Time __ (5).
- 16: "Take __ and Party", chart-topping '92 album (4).
- 18: Mr. T.? A cool bastard, I'd say (3).
- 19: "___ Me Free", by Jaki Graham (3).
- 20: "Jake The ___", an earlier effort from the didgeridoo-toting "Stairway to Heaven" star (3).
- 22: You're a fool if you think Chris is over! (3).
- 23: Did the Boomtown Rats catch one of their number in this? (4).
- 26: Acen took a trip to it, the Fatima Mansions were behind it (3,4).
- 29: Ain't no doubt his first name's Jimmy (4).
- 32: "___ City" - Jan and Dean sang it, the Jesus and Mary Chain killed it (4).
- 34: The Stone Roses covering Bob Marley? I don't think so, actually! (3,4).
- 39: "___ Fool's Mess" - a top track from Gallon Drunk (4).
- 41: Simon Le Bon and co. on a Latin American t(rip) (3).
- 42: Martin of ABC (3).
- 43: "___ Down", mega-hit for Tim Booth's gang (3).
- 44: Nine Inch Nails' follow-up to "Head Like A Hole" (3).
- 45: "For __ and __", a phenomenal hit, from the "Roussos Phenomenon EP". What a fat bastard! (4).
- 48: Sting's latest album, "The Soul ___" (5).
- 50: Dance lessons with Kaoma (7).
- 51: Duff indie band, fronted by R. J. Mitchell? (8).
- 52: This number was a wonder to Patsy Kensit (6).
- 53: "Barbarism Begins _____", from "Meat is Murder" by The Smiths (2,4).
- 54: Owen ____, he gave us "My Favourite Waste of Time" (4).
- 55: "___ Anywhere", from a Martini drinking "Sarff" London duo, I guess (7,8).

DOWN

- 1: Debut hit for that "Sweet Harmony" group. The ____ (3,6).
 - 2: Band who were "Levelling the Land", somewhat unsurprisingly (9).
 - 3: MOR chappie who sung the theme to "Moonlighting" (2,7).
 - 4, 38: And from out of the blue came Mike Patton's band's smash hit (4,3,2,7).
 - 5: Julian Cope's a Floored one (6).
 - 6: Ms. Wheeler, featured on Soul II Soul's first two hits, and in her own right on "UK Blak" (8).
 - 7: The French green band who told us about "Casanova"? (6).
 - 8: "Love Changes __", or "___ I Do" (9).
 - 11: __ Dayne, who took "Tell It To My Heart" into the top 10 almost exactly 5 years ago (6).
 - 12: Their hits include "Wasteland" and "Hands Across The Ocean" (7).
 - 17: Mr. James could have told you so (4).
 - 21: Pseudo ____, had a hit with Lipps Inc.'s "Funky Town" in 1987 (4).
 - 24: "Oh I ___", Dollar or Erasure (5).
 - 27: Were these guys employed in Australia? (3).
 - 28: "That's ___", sadly it wasn't, from Genesis (3).
 - 30: Pop down to the end of the road to purchase "In The Days of Ford Cortina" from this lot (10).
 - 31: "Don't Dream It's ___", Crowded House (4).
 - 33: Perhaps Tracy Chapman lent hers to Nigel Mansell (4,3).
 - 35: U2's axeman reaches the limit (4).
 - 36: Slipmatt & Lime were on this last year (1,5,3).
 - 37: Pixies' album spawning "Velouria" and "Digging for Fire" (9).
 - 38: see 4 down
 - 40: Monthly publication concerning the Dance music scene (6).
 - 43: Did P.I.L. tell us about Mudhoney, Soundgarden etc.? (7).
 - 46: "___ de lo Habitual", courtesy Jane's Addiction (6).
 - 47: "Cheer up __ Jean, Oh what can it mean...", from "Daydream Believer" by The Monkees (6).
 - 49: Hue and Cry weren't looking for Paul's wife (5).
- There, piss easy, wasn't it? Answers next week, though I'm sure no-one will need them!

COOLING SYSTEMS

The Khan cools down !



Mother Earth, Oh Dear!

ALEXANDER O'NEAL: "Love Makes No sense"
All you need to say is : "Alexander play it this way", and the soulman will enhance your deepest emotions. Rawcut diamond on the Hip-Hop tip. Actually quite typical for new US soul releases, nevertheless hallucinating for a romantic night !

CORDUROY: "Dad Man Cat"
One of the main pillars of Ed Pillar's ACID JAZZ label, kicks off '93 with a funky, jazzy album, that reminds me of ISAAC HAYES. Ed's label is definitely in the right swing with this orgasmic instrumental venture into the '60s and '70s: laidback and still upfront !

DINA CARROLL: "So Close"
What a voice on the single 'This Time' ! Astonishing lady, picking the vocal flows from the very deep. Unfortunately the production fell to often prey to the "unsoulful" dancefloor beats. No wonder with producers like CJ MACINTOSH, who should stick to Hip-Hop rather than soul. Should we still let go ?

EN VOGUE: "Funky Divas"
After having fed our souls with their debut album 'Born to Sing', they really deceive their truest followers with a normal selection of "not-too bad songs" (known as NTBS). Now what the heck is funky about this album ? Ok, I'll cool down ... it is really not bad at all, but as history shows, bands who reach sudden stardom, can barely rejuvenate their style.

MOTHER EARTH: "Hope You're Feeling Better"
The river is flowing, Mother Earth is growing, the planet is moving, well ... I hope you're feeling better ! The first track is a cover of SANTANA's original, but obviously powdered with some JIMI HENDRIX and LED ZEPPELIN influences. The two remaining late-night groovers on the CD single 'Little Bag of Sugar' and 'Jonathan E' (JB-influenced) reveal the band's musical direction: stronger and harder than other ACID JAZZ acts, nevertheless gradually flowin' ! Their EP entitled 'Mr. Freedom' will follow in March.

Houghton Street Harry

Like most people on Wednesday night Harry was sat in front of the telly with his best pair of beer goggles on. For the entertainment value of football Harry has long given up on watching England, preferring the likes of Brentford and West Brom. So why did he forego a potentially stimulating evening in the library just to have his ears abused by the worst commentary team ever to have been assembled outside the third world? Basically to see what Ladbrokes know that no one else knows - Ferdinand at 6/1 to score a hat-trick whilst Platt was at 10/1 and Gascoigne higher.

Naturally Harry feels sorry for Barnes, who played on regardless of the crowd, and sorrier still for Clough, who would have loved to play in front of anyone at all, but sorriest of all for the few members of the British public who for some reason or another managed to miss the game. These now misguided souls will have picked up the next days papers and seen a six-nil scoreline, and not unfairly associated this with a team who deserve to win six-nil and are in some way competent. Encountering too many such individuals to explain to each that two-nil would have been a far better reflection on England's talents Harry feels obliged to spread the word.

American style match statistics are, like most American sporting influences, a bag of cock, but in games like this one they occasionally reveal something interesting - like how on earth did San Marino manage to be caught offside twice? Did you see them? If so ring this special number etc. etc. More importantly, why does David Batty lie on his back in the six yard box every time someone even thinks of crossing it in? Bicycle kicked goals look incredible, but statistically they are rare, so get a grip you ridiculously surnamed prat. Next, Platt; every footballer knows that two-down feeling and the sudden rush of hope that comes if one is pulled back, the scorer bundling past defenders and goalkeeper to get the ball out of the net and back onto the centre spot. But what is his problem? Sure, he wanted a hat-trick, then he wanted five, but had he been a bit less keen to get a feature on the forthcoming "Manic Ball Boys of the 90's" video maybe he'd have been calm enough to put a penalty past a man who drives a bus for a living. Thanks to Benedettini Platt's most likely link with the history books is if he goes out and buys a Malcolm Maclaren record.

Luckily Harry's evening was not totally devoid of excitement as those who obviously felt that Ladbrokes did not offer the flexibility that was needed in this kind of match competed for most obscure/risky side bet of the night. Ferdinand came to the rescue of one hapless Arsenal fan who'd offered to run round the block naked if Tony Adams put one in. Another fool who should know better offered a few beers if Carlton Palmer should do the unlikely thing, even tempting fate by saying "The only way he'd score is if he fell over and the ball hits him on the head". . . If it wasn't for a couple of corking saves Palmer could have been on for a hat-trick and London's police could have had a cell full of naked joggers.

At the end of the day the pseudo-Italians handled Wembley admirably even if Charles and Eddy (M. Mazza and P. Mazza) failed to justify their non-menial day jobs; the underlying message being that the 1-9-1 formation is alive and well. The manager expressed his sympathies for Graham Taylor and politely expressed a belief that England would qualify for the finals, but we all know that he'll get a hero's welcome when he touches down in the San Marinese capital of, er, San Marino and the 'keeper will get a knighthood.

It is not a secret that Graham Taylor keeps an eye on the Beaver sports page, possibly in the vain hope that something about sport will occasionally appear, so Harry's message to Graham is this: If the Vatican City ever decide to field a team you're fucked. Cardinal Hume is a genius between the uprights and the Pope is no stranger to dressing room tactics behind closed doors. No prizes for guessing whose shirt the Hand of God will be putting on.

BLUNDEN'S MUD BRACE BRINGS BLUES' BLINDER

LSE 2ND XI . . . 6
UCL 4TH XI . . . 2

NICK BLUNDEN'S GOAL SCORING ABILITIES NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE AS THE TALL, PLANKESQUE CENTRE HALF NOTCHED NUMBERS 5 AND 6 FOR THE SEASON IN A PERFORMANCE OF EXQUISITE ATTACKING FOOTBALL. (PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 'CAPS LOCK' KEY ON THIS COMPUTER IS STUCK DOWN - ED). UCL STARTED BRAVELY, BUT WERE ALWAYS TREADING WATER AGAINST A GOAL-HUNGRY PACK OF FOOTBALLING WOLVES WHOSE VORACIOUS APPETITE FOR GOALS IS ONLY MATCHED BY THEIR PONDNERESS FOR PIES. KEIREINI, THE DRAMATIC ACROBATIC ASIATIC, GOT THE SECONDS OFF THE MARK AS HE SLID IN TO CONVERT BLUNDEN'S KNOCK-DOWN AFTER A DANGEROUS STRING OF CORNERS. A MOMENTARY LAPSE IN CONCENTRATION ALLOWED AN EQUALISER, BUT LSE PUT THEM BACK UNDER THE COSH ON AN AFTERNOON AS DIMAS A TOC-H LAMP. RIGHT ON THE STROKE OF HALF-TIME STEVE TOC-H QUICK'S BACK HEEL WAS PICKED UP BY BLUNDEN, AND THE 'POWERING INFERNO' TOWERED A LEFT FOOT DRIVE PAST HOUDINI IN THE UCL NET TO GIVE THE EDGE AT THE TURN. SKIPPER STAZZA'S STERN WORDS WENT UNHEEDED WHEN A PREVIOUSLY CROPPED UCL UNIPED CURLED A SHOT PAST FAULKNER TO BRING IT BACK ON LEVEL TERMS AGAIN.

LITTLE DID THEY BANK ON THE STAPLES-BLUNDEN YOU CHIP IT IN

AND I HEAD IT IN' TRAINING GROUND COMBO. STAPLES CHIPPED IT IN AND BLUNDEN HEADED IT, TO MAKE IT 3-2. THE BLACK AND BLUES WERE NOW AS RAMPANT AS A PARTICULARLY RANDY MALE DONKEY WHO HADN'T HAD IT IN AGES, ALTHOUGH 'BULLET' BAXTER SEEMED TO HAVE SOLD HIS SHOOTING BOOTS FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER AND HIS MUM HAD WASHED HIS JEANS WITH THE RECEIPT IN THE POCKET. KEIREINI BAGGED A FINE GOAL WHEN HE BOLTED AFTER A BACK PASS LIKE A RAT UP A SHUTTER. THE KILLER BLOW CAME WHEN FRY (OR IS IT PIE), WHO IS IN AND OUT OF THE GAME LIKE A SOUR PLUM, RASED A POISON ARROW INTO THE TOP LEFT HAND CORNER. IN THE WORDS OF PAULMERSON "IF IT HADN'T GONE IN IT WOULD HAVE KILLED SOMEONE IN THE CROWD." KEIREINI COMPLETED A WELL DESERVED HAT-TRICK AFTER BEING RELEASED BY STAPLES, WHO ROUNDED HIS MATCH OFF WITH A JINKING RUN BEFORE HE CLATTERED THE POST WITH A CURLING EFFORT THAT BEAT THE KEEPER ALL- ENDS UP. FURTHER CHANGES WENT BEGGING, BUT WITH TRAFFIC AS ONE WAY AS TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD A FEW MISSES DID NOT SEEM TO MATTER. KEIREINI AND BLUNDEN CAN NOW FULLY EXPECT TO HIT THE BAR THE NEXT TIME THEY DRIBBLE INTO THE TUNS. IAN STAPLES.

LSE 1st XV : 15
QMC 1st XV : 15

Referees are never particularly popular, but the young gentleman who presided over Wednesday's brawling encounter on the (ploughed) Queen Mary College's pitch was particularly special. The match saw a full strength LSE team struggle in conditions which in no way aided their commitment to champagne rugby. On Wednesday, Guy overcame many a malaise that would have struck down mere mortals to return to the second row alongside Rob Reynolds; the anchor of the scrum. This veritable power house was aided by a formidable front row, notably Lance the deputy Australian cultural ambassador who sadly leaves us after capturing the side for the first time, with no hints of deportation. Domination by the pack gave Mutley McNeil a multitude of options which the backs were unable to capitalise on, mainly due to the pitch being six inches deep in mud. However, both tries came from devastating runs through the QMC defence by the back

nine; touched down by Ben Wales and Adrian Surly, a further try by Silver Surfer Tim Whyte disallowed by the referee who was allegedly the antichrist himself. QMC were allowed back into the game by fluke scores but the defensive stalwart Titchmarsh saved the day with a try saving tackle, unfortunately unseen by anyone else on or off the field, followed by the Silver Surfer using his super hero powers to streak the length of the field as if on an eight foot breaker to cut down the QMC winger who intercepted Iwan's chip and chase debacle. The final score of fifteen all in no way reflected the quality and mastery shown by the LSE, notably Matt Claxton as flanker, Iwan at fly half and Benga (who?) by his absence. Next game will be Saturday 20th against the Economicals, who hopefully will have read the rules by then, as a warm-up for the local derby versus Strand Polytechnic (Kings).



Look, it's me

Photo: Steve East

