

ON DIT

The Adelaide University Students' Association Weekly

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A black and white photograph of a forest stream flowing over rocks. The stream is in the foreground, with water splashing over several large, dark rocks. The background is a dense forest of tall, thin trees, some with bare branches and others with leaves. The lighting is dappled, creating a sense of depth and texture in the scene.

"I may never see it
But I don't care
As long as I know
That it's gonna grow"

The real enchilada

Student newspaper editors in Victoria are getting ready to fight against legislation aimed at introducing Voluntary Student Unionism. This time it's for real. Their campaign is devoid of the stickers, the nifty slogans and the high gloss so loved by the National Union of Students in their campaigns. This is the real enchilada.

A recent article in The Australian's Higher Education Supplement highlighted the current dilemma. The VSU legislation is a fundamental attack upon student services of all kinds; the fear is, however, that when it comes time to rationalise those existing services, campus papers will be the first with their heads forced down on to the chopping block. This could see the end of publications such as Melbourne University's *Farrago*, which has been in existence for seventy-four years.

The response to this from some sectors has been to argue that the campus publications should be able to justify their existence by entering into a market situation. This would be done by increasing the advertising within the paper and charging a cover price for it. There are a number of things that we would like to say about this kind of mind-set. Advertising inescapably encroaches upon editorial freedom; it restricts the ability of publications to provide an objective impartial voice. One of the great things about student newspapers is that they have the freedom and space to thumb their nose at whatever they feel like. There is simply no point in having a student publication which is so important that it cannot be critical and independent.

The Victorian editors and their student councils are alerting their campuses to the threat of VSU. They are not calmly hanging back, secure in the knowledge that their term of office will be safely over by the time any of the major changes in the implementation of VSU legisla-

tion take effect. Already plans are underway for an Inter-Campus edition of the major Victorian student newspapers, mainly dealing with the threat of VSU. In addition, editors and councils alike have been busily writing media releases and letting all and sundry know about their situation. Part of this campaign has been to contact prominent individuals in the community for messages of support. We have reprinted some quotes in support of *Farrago* and student services in general at the end of this editorial.

But what of South Australia? Could VSU come to rear its ugly head at our very own university? Assurances to the contrary from Premier Dean Brown and Minister for Education Bob Such aside, the possibility must certainly be there.

Although the eradication of any student service by VSU is to be deplored, the possible eradication of student newspapers must surely be one of the most insidious aspects of VSU. A student newspaper is a service that most students come into regular contact with. It has the potential to focus the intellectual, creative and other interests at play on campus like few other things can. If VSU legislation in Victoria does destroy the campus publications, then it will be well on the way to destroying what it means to be a student as well.

Fight the power.
David, Tim & Lorien.

Words of Support

"This legislation (and with it the threat to recreational libraries) comes at a time when commerce and industry complain as never before of graduate illiteracy. The legislation is powered by a horror of the word Union. So watch out: the Christian union, the Pan-Pacific Union, and that most red-ragging of associations, the English Speaking Union"

John Bryson, Writer.

"For me, it [*Farrago*] was an essential part of the university, a place where almost any student could contribute, learn or just socialise. It should be produced by students, for students and both the university and its population would be worse for its destruction..."

Mark Forbes, Journalist, *The Sunday Age*.

"I fear that the abolition of compulsory fees will mean the triumph of the nerds and the jocks."

Senator Gareth Evans, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

"To say that the cultural functions of the Union (and therefore the University) should be on a user-pays basis is like saying that the soul should pay its own way...Killing that part of the university kills that extra little bit which the university can produce in and for each of us that makes the difference between us being well-trained technicians and people who can make the world a more humane, lively and caring place."

James McCaughey, Lecturer in Drama, Victorian College of the Arts.

"I oppose the proposed law designed to make student unions half dead and dead boring. It might be the required state for politicians, but it's not a good look for universities. Good luck in your campaign against making free speech and fun illegal acts."

Kaz Cooke, writer.

"If you survive life on a uni paper, you can do anything as a journalist and editor. I still come across my *Farrago* mates and most of them are working - very successfully - in the media."

Kathy Bail, Editor, *Rolling Stone*.

You have my full encouragement for this activity and my support for all the students who are rallying to stop ossible legislation that will potentially destroy the student cultural movement."

Liz Sadler, Comedian and Theatre Director.

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Important Notice

For the next four weeks the Barr Smith Library will be open the following hours:

Monday - Thursday:
8am - Midnight
(Reserve and Reference sections only between 10pm and midnight)

Friday:
8am-6pm

Saturday & Sunday:
10am-5pm
(Reserve and Reference sections only between 10am and 1pm)

Production Notes

On Dit is the weekly newspaper of the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide. The editors have complete editorial control, which is nice. That aside, the opinions expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the editors.

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You can contact *On Dit* by coming into our office downstairs in the George Murray building, or calling us on 303 5404 or 223 2685. Our postal address is:

On Dit
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University of Adelaide
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Healthy Eating

"Tell me what you eat and I will tell you what you are"

Physiologie du Gout (1825)

All very well to be continually nagged about eating a balanced diet, about reducing salt intake, increasing fibre etc. etc. etc.

But when many students live below

the poverty line and have other priorities in life such as booze, bands and books (not necessarily in that order!) what's to be done . . . ?

A few tips for the broke and hungry.

- The Adelaide Central Market, between Gouger and Grote Streets (open Tuesday 7am - 5:30pm, Thursday

11am - 5:30pm, Friday 7am - 9pm, Saturday 7am - 1pm) sells off boxes of fruit and vegies for \$1 starting approximately noon on Saturdays.

Some incredible bargains are to be had. Share with a friend and you'll have your fruit and vegetable supplies for a week. Or if you're feeling energetic, cook-up more than you need and freeze for those times when you're just too stuffed to cook.

- The East End market in Rundle Street East also has a good variety of fresh foods. (Open Friday 8am - 9pm, Saturday 8am - 5pm, Sunday 8am - 5pm.)

Some places will give student discounts if you ask.

- Many of the chain supermarkets sell the previous day's bread at half-price - ideal for toasted sandwiches. The same applies to meats approaching their use-by date, often heavily discounted.

Remember, fast foods and takeaways always cost twice as much as buying fresh and cooking up yourself. Fast foods contain more fat, more salt and more additives than fresh food.

If all else fails, try for at least one 'good' meal a day.

Your student union provides seven main food outlets around campus.

These cater for all tastes and can provide you with your daily fruit, vegetable and fibre requirements.

For example:

- Find your fibre at the "Four Seasons" (level 4 of the Union Building). It has a wide range of fresh fruit, salads, dried fruit and nuts.

The brand-new bakery has delicious rolls, croissants and Danishes, all baked daily on the premises.

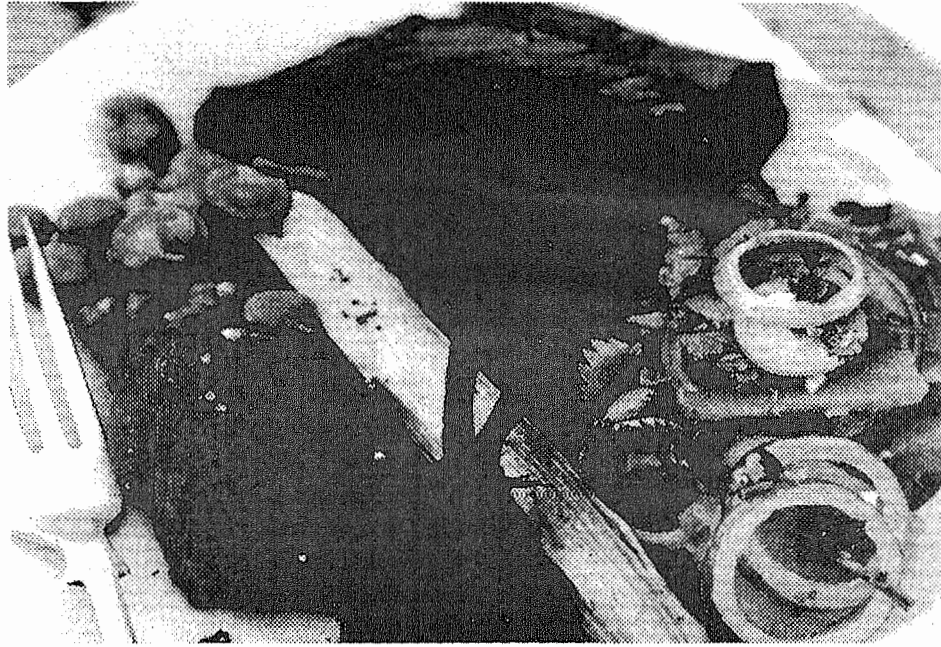
- Your individual taste whims (no matter how bizarre) can be satisfied by making up your own rolls and sandwiches at "The Backstage" (behind the Scott Theatre), "Mayo Refectory" (ground floor of the Union Building) and "Four Seasons".

If all this decision making is too much, "The Gallery" (6th floor Union Building), "The Backstage" and "The Mayo" have the biggest, most nutritious sandwiches and rolls in town.

For further dietary information and advice call in and see the medial staff at the Student Health Services located in the Horace Lamb Building, ground floor, phone 303 5050.

Pick up the "Eat Better for Less" brochure while you're there - it's full of useful and practical tips.

Brought to you as a joint Student Health / Student Union service.



Pro-Choice rally

A Pro-Choice rally was recently held in Rundle Mall on Saturday to circulate a petition demanding a repeal of laws which make abortion a crime. In South Australia, abortion is only permitted under certain circumstances, and even then only with the approval of two doctors. This is despite surveys showing that 81% of the population support a woman's right to choose whether or not to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.

A variety of speakers discussed the need for recognition of the fact that making abortions illegal does not stop them occurring. Rather, it simply forces women choosing abortion into unsafe "backyard" situations. Over 20,000 women die each year as a result of illegal abortions, a figure with which the so-called "Pro-Life" movement is somewhat uncomfortable.

The fascist group National Action made an appearance towards the close of the rally. Leader Michael Brander and cronies waved Eureka Stockade flags, placards and photos of foetuses. For a group

which seeks to deny the human rights of immigrants, they have certainly developed a keen and sudden concern for the rights of human embryos. It is one thing to hold personal views which are anti-abortion. It is quite another thing to seek to force that view onto others.

One of the National Action placards suggested that the "feminist bully girls" arguing for safe legal abortions should cease and desist from their actions. If Brander believes that 81% of Australians - both male and female - are "feminist bully girls" then perhaps it's time he had the wool pulled from his eyes. Brander and the rest of the anti-choice movement aren't seeking to preserve life. They are seeking to control women. It's time they were stopped.

A rally to demand repeal of abortion laws will be held on the steps of parliament House on Friday, June 10 at 1.15pm. The petition will be presented at this rally. Copies are available to sign in the Students' Association office.

AU Pro-Choice Club

A Waite Union Complex?

Waite Union Complex ... 1995 or Never?

A Union Complex at Waite took another step closer to becoming a reality with the University moving to appoint a senior staff member of Waite next week who will have responsibility for the project. Up till now, students have demanded services from the University and

seen only red tape. The Complex will contain refectory and meeting and hopefully a gym (University willing) and the Union is contributing \$500,000 to the University-managed project. The Union will run the catering, commercial services and fund the Waite Student Association in return, among other things.

Anthony Roediger

**With ANZ
Access,
you can rub
out your
bank fees**

Drop in to see Heather Quick and her staff at University Branch (Cnr North Tce and Gawler Pl) or call 232 0351 and at least one set of fees will disappear

ANZ Bank of the Year.

Anita Butler environment officer

Environment Week

Sunday is World Environment Day and this week is Environment Week. Check out the programme in the middle pages of this edition and come along and throw yourself into things. Why do we have a World Environment Day? Well, it's so that we start thinking a bit about the implications of our actions. The environment is where we live and we are mucking it up. Our present way of life is not sustainable; we are destroying the world's forests, the lungs of the earth, polluting the waterways we need to drink from, using up our non-renewable energy sources at a rate of knots, pumping into the atmosphere ozone destroying gases, and greenhouse gases which are contributing to global warming, and populating this earth at a blatantly unsustainable rate. In the last 50 years, since chemical pesticides have been used extensively, frog populations that have lived on this earth for tens of thousands of years have been rapidly disappearing.

Not everyone believes the prophets of doom who foresee a bleak future for the earth, but the facts, in Mexico City the air is making people sick, the Black Sea and vast tracts of the Mediterranean are dead or dying, more and more of this earth's diversity is lost every day as more and more species become extinct. And that means they're never coming back, ever. The ideology of most of the countries on this earth supports "development" for the sake of development. Growth — we must grow to survive. And yet Aboriginal people sustained their culture on this continent for 60 000 years. Their culture was not static. On the contrary, it was refined over that time to be as sustainable as was practically possible. And they were doing a pretty good job. Certainly, the grasslands may have been slowly expanding but it was nothing compared to the damage that has been done in the last 200 years.

However, this is not the time to lay blame. We can't really blame people for their ignorance, but when we *know* that what we are doing is harmful and yet we do nothing to change it, then we can be held responsible. Tales of the damage that our way of life is doing to the earth are daunting and depressing. There are so many of us on this planet, all doing our little bit to destroy it. The whole of society needs to change its attitude to what is good and what is necessary for life. The problem seems too big to contemplate, which is why it is so important to narrow our focus. We really do have to "think globally, act locally" or we will never get anywhere. There are things we can do right here and now to change the way we live our lives and the impact they have on the natural environment. All it takes is a little bit of thought and perhaps an extra minute or two a day. See the programme for a few ideas.

There are opportunities for every problem. If you want to know exactly what difference these things make, come into the SAUA and borrow some of the many books on environmentally friendly living

that are available. Or just ask. No one's expected to know all the jargon or all the things we should and shouldn't do, but you can find out, and if you care enough to do that, you'll be doing something positive for the planet and the rest of us. And for yourself.

Thanks

To everyone who's helped out with Environment Week and especially Dave Roussy, Sharon Middleton and Nick Dunstone.

Jo England women's officer

Hi, well I'm back again after a weeks absence due to chronic illness and as the saying goes the position of Women's Officer is like the ocean, you don't want to turn your back on it.

Let's get straight into it.

Network Of Women Student's Australia

All those women who registered their interest in attending the NOWSA Conference to be held in Sydney from the 11th-15th of July, should have received a pigeon holed letter containing all the information you need about this year's conference.

If, however, you have not put your name down and would like to know more simply drop into the SAUA and ask for moi, Jo.

Registration, billet and workshop forms will be arriving this week. These should be filled out ASAP and returned to me so that we can fax them off to the organising collective.

I also have copies of the NOWSA Newsletter and contributions to this publication can be made through me.

Self-Defence Classes

A series of subsidised Self-Defence Classes will commence on Wednesday the 3rd of August from 3:30pm-5pm for a period of eight weeks. The subsidised price is \$20, and in order to make payment easier it will be possible to make payments on a weekly basis. The classes will be held in the North/South Dining Rooms. Register at the SAUA reception.

If you are interested in attending such classes but find this time inconvenient, don't despair! Come into the SAUA and register your interest at the front desk, with your preferred times and day of the week. If sufficient interest is not shown, however, we will assume that there is no demand for a course to be run at an alternate time.

Dental Dams

I tried in vain to have these available for Pride Week but unfortunately, unlike condoms, dams are not freely available. However, *free* dams are now available from my office, so feel free to drop in and grab a few.

Rape Crisis Workshop

I had organised a workshop for rape survivors and friends of survivors which had to be cancelled due to my illness. I apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

NUS National Women's Policy Conference

At a National Women's Committee

phone link-up last weekend it was determined that this conference would be held from the 10th-12th of September. The conference is the basis for the policy utilised by the National Union of Students (They're the ones who produced the speccy 'Some of my best friends ...' t-shirts). If you are interested in attending this conference and didn't put your name down during Orientation, come in and register now. If you did leave your name with me, start checking your pigeon hole for further details. The committee are also interested in any ideas that women may have for workshops or guest speakers so let us know any ideas you may have!

Bec Shinnick president

Welcome to environment week, I hope you all enjoy the week. Anita has done a fantastic job co-ordinating the week as have all helpers. There are lots of activities and events programmed that will really make you think about just what we are doing to the world. So think lots and enjoy the week!

The SAUA page this week is full of information on the environment and some of the environmentally friendly services we offer so I'll be short. I have been spending much of my time on researching the establishment of a legal service and provision of tax advice. It looks to be a real possibility and we are hoping to secure some funding from the University out of its Quality Audit allocation for this. I have started to look into the very inadequate provision of childcare on campus for student parents and if you are interested in being involved in a campaign on this please let me know. We are also looking at improving our employment and accommodation services.

Other things I have been up to include meeting the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research to discuss the Library, meeting the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic to discuss a variety of issues including the Quality Audit that the University is currently conducting and the University establishing an environment policy, giving a speech to some year twelve students, arranging for some NUS (SA) State Discount Cards to be distributed to you (hopefully within the next month) and organising a SAUA planning day.

Have a good week.

STUDENT REPS MEETING
1pm, 1st June 1994
WP Rogers Room
Union Building
Contact Suze McCourt for more information. Ph: 303 5406

Re-Orientation Helpers Wanted
for fun times in the first week
of Semester Two.

Please leave details in the SAUA office. For more information contact Matt Deaner on 303 5406

Suzanne McCourt education vp

Federal Budget

A successful debate was held on 17th May with Martin Evans, Member for Bonython (Labor), Senator Meg Lees (Democrat) and Trish Worth (Liberal), Member for Adelaide speaking. It was reasonably well attended despite the threat of rain. The debate was informative, with a few comments of note:

Martin Evans said there is no excuse for Austudy being lower than the poverty line and the dole.

Trish Worth said she is trying to encourage the Coalition to look to only targeting the representative part of Student Unions when introducing Anti Student Organisation Legislation. Surely she is not suggesting that student representation within the University is less important than refecs or sporting clubs?

Apart from those particular comments, there was the usual sympathy for the plight of students yet no undertaking to solve these problems. A detailed report of the changes in the Budget will be in *On Dit* next week. One recent change of note is that the Coalition and the Democrats have joined together to move an amendment to the Budget so that children of health care card holders can get Austudy without an assets test. This will affect those families that are asset rich, but extremely income poor, who have previously been ineligible for the entitlement because they had too many assets.

Student Representative Meeting

The date of this meeting has been postponed by one week, so the meeting is now on Wednesday 1st June, at 1pm in the WP Rogers Room in the Union Building. I am attempting to contact all the student reps, however if I do miss some people, feel free to come if you are on a committee in the University. This will be a really informative meeting outlining many of the issues that are affecting the University, how to make sure you are heard in meetings, and how you can use the Students' Association in the most effective way. I have been spending most of my time this week preparing a Student Rep Kit; a folder with lots of information for student reps around Uni.

Best Practice Conference

I recently attended a Best Practice Conference with members of the University and other student reps, both postgrad and undergrad. Best Practice is basically achieving world class standards in what you do. Adelaide Uni has been approached as being a 'pilot scheme' for the development of Best Practice techniques in Australian Universities. Some of these techniques are already used, such as strategic plans but it goes further than that to set the University and its individual components on track to manage, teach and research. This will be an ongoing process and will involve constant evaluation of processes and achievements. It was heartening to see that the University sees the importance of involving students as an integral part of the planning process; our comments and suggestions were respected and noted.

The OSA: What's Going On?

Many events and activities have been organised by the Overseas Students' Association (OSA) since the beginning of the year and I hope that those who have been involved in these events and activities enjoyed themselves very much. The most recent activity, the Sports Week, was jointly organised by the OSA and the Flinders International Students' Association (FISA).

The event, which consists of four games, namely badminton, table tennis, chess and soccer, attracted around 130 participants. Again, the event brought back many memories and provided interesting experiences to participants. Congratulations to all winners and many thanks to the organising committee.

The exams are approaching us and since all the OSA members are full-time students, they deserve some time to study for the exams. Thus, no more activities will be held by the OSA until the end of the exams. However, this does not mean that the OSA ceases its functions at this stage. Many educational and welfare issues are closely followed up by the respective departments and if you have any problems, just feel free to approach us.

Currently, the OSA is dealing with several important matters ...

1. OSA Office / Lounge

The OSA Office / Lounge is in renovation at this moment and, hopefully, the work will be completed by 31st May, 1994. At this time, the OSA is currently operating out of the Chapel, Room 457. An opening ceremony is planned when the Office / Lounge is available for use. This is the first time that the OSA will have a separate Office and Lounge. A bigger lounge enables more international students to mingle around and relax, while at the same time it does not interrupt the proper administrative functions and working of the OSA council members.

2. Multicultural Week

The organisation of M-Week is flowing smoothly and according to plan and I am glad that all committee members show both enthusiasm and professionalism and for this they are highly respected. The theme of M-Week is *Many Voices, One Message*. There is still some room for those interested in becoming part of the organising committee, especially in the M-Nite portfolio. Please contact Fabian if you are interested.

3. National Liaison Committee Conference

The annual National Liaison Committee (NLC) conference will be held in Canberra from the 10th - 15th July. The OSA is sending seven delegates, two of

whom will be voting delegates to the conference. All delegates will be expected to bring back the knowledge and experience from the conference with the view of passing this on to the OSA and thus deal with its problems more effectively.

4. Ablution facilities in the Prayer Room

On behalf of the Islamic Students' Association, the OSA is writing a submission to the University requesting the provision of ablution facilities by the University in the Prayer Room. The OSA strongly believes that the University, and not the students or student organisations, has the responsibility for the provision of these facilities.

Over 35% of international students enrolled at the University are Muslims. They are required to pray several times a day at prescribed intervals and the lack of such facilities in the University has caused a lot of worry and inconvenience to the Islamic students. According to some students, the question of religious facilities was discussed with the representatives of the University in their home country before they considered the University of Adelaide as an option to further their tertiary education. Many students were lead to believe that there were adequate facilities for the continuation of their religious observances. This has proven not to be the case.

5. OSA End of Semester Disco

The OSA is organising an End of Semester Disco on Saturday, 2nd July, 1994 at the UniBar. Further notices will be put around the Uni. Please keep an eye out for the details.

6. Waite / Roseworthy International Students

The OSA has successfully opened its door to Roseworthy and Waite international students. Several informal meetings were held with students from both campuses and the responses were very positive. Currently, we have managed to get three representatives from Waite and one representative from Roseworthy. The OSA aims to set up an OSA branch on both campuses which will be run by international students there. We feel that this is the most realistic approach as the fact that all OSA council members are in the North Terrace campus become the stumbling block for the OSA to handle international students' problems on all campuses effectively and immediately.

At this point, I will sign off and on behalf of all members of the OSA, wish all students *Good Luck* for the forthcoming exams.

San Nee Chin
President

Overseas Students' Association

Sportswweek 94

The Overseas Students' Organisation (OSA) of the University of Adelaide and the Flinders International Students Association (FISA) recently organised the annual Sportswweek for this year on the 7th, 8th, 14th and 15th of May. A total of four events were jointly arranged which included badminton, chess, seven per side soccer and table tennis. This year's event attracted many international students from various nationalities.

The organisation committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who participated in this year's sports carnival. If you missed out, don't worry as there's always next year. Anyway, hope to see you all again next year...

Chess

It was nothing spectacular, no star studded affair - no Grandmasters, no Kasparovs, no Karpovs and the like. Ahh, but it was never short on excitement with a few suspenseful moments added in. The field was small but strong. Representatives came from Africa and Asia to challenge for the crown and the top prize money which came with it. Games were to be played in one and a half hours and most of them ended with tactical brilliance while others were technical knockouts.

Amidst the checks, sighs and other verbal exchanges, Richard Ng emerged as champion with perfect scores. His awesome display of confidence probably defeated his opponents psychologi-

cally, even before he made his move. Mark Chia came second, losing only to Richard.

In the end cheers to all you participants - see you next year. And thanks to FIDE, the Uni Chess Club, OSA, FISA, the stewards who made the venue close to world class.

Soccer

The seven-a-side soccer tournament of Sportswweek '94 was held on May 8 at the soccer pitches opposite the Adelaide Uni Gym. It attracted a total of eight teams from both universities. A number of fans turned up to spur their heroes on.

The eight teams were divided into two groups, where a round robin system took place. During the preliminary round, each match was 15 minutes each half with a five minute break in between. They were fast and furious, yet they were played with great sportsmanship and competitiveness. Even though there was no Maradona or Pele or Roberto Baggio the matches were never short of excitement.

After the preliminary round, the top two teams from each group played in a crossover semi-final to determine the finalists. In the semi-finals, the Iconian I team played the Maldives while the Iconian II team played Solitaire. In the end, the Maldives and Solitaire (the defending champions) triumphed over their opponents. Therefore, the stage was set for an epic final and those present were

not disappointed. Both teams had something to prove; Solitaire that last year's win was no fluke and the Maldives that they were worthy winners this year. After a grueling 40 minutes of non-stop soccer, the Maldives finally triumphed, defeating Solitaire 2-1.

Congratulations to the champions. We hope that you'll be back to defend next year's title. And a big thanks to the other teams. We hope you all had a great time and hope to see you again next year.

Fabian Matthews

Table Tennis

The last event of Sportswweek '94 was table tennis, which was held on May 15 at the Alan Mitchell sports centre at Flinders Uni. The categories contested included men's and women's singles and doubles. All in all, about 50 people participated. The system was round robin for men's doubles and women's while a knock out system was used for men's singles and women's doubles. The final results were as follows:

Men's singles

1st: Hermin Merminato; 2nd: Yousuf Riza; 3rd T. Terrence CT

Men's doubles

1st: Komang Wiryawan and Hermin Merminato; 2nd: Irvin Partano and Jackie Chow FF

Women's singles

1st: Leong Wai Ling; 2nd: Chen Lai Han

Women's doubles

1st: Lynette Chee and Leong Wai Ling

Badminton

An exciting day started at 11 am, on May 7 in the Allen Mitchell Sports centre at the Flinders University. Many groups turned up for the first Sportswweek event which was badminton. There were 8 places to be contended and everyone was really competitive and fought hard (REALLY HARD - I know!). It was an "all out", "kill on sight", "smash everything in the way", "no mercy" competition.

All in all, 20 teams "technically" took part in this event which lasted for 6 hours.

In the end, the non-winners each went home with a certificate of participation and a tad dissatisfied and the winners a certificate, a smile, confidence and a fatter wallet (Yep! Cash prize!)

The final results are listed below:

Women's singles

1st - Shaneez (OSA)

2nd - Hilmy Chung (OSA)

Women's doubles

Results unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances

Men's singles

1st - Herv Yowon (OSA)

2nd - Raymond (FISA)

Men's doubles

1st - Herv and Darmatin (OSA)

2nd - Raymond and Terrence

Congratulations to all winners, you deserved it! And a big thankyou to all the other participants for making this event happen. Hope to see you all again next year...

Melinda Tan

Digging a hole

Dear Eds,
Re: 'Nit-Picking Wanker' [On Dit: 23rd May, 1994].

"Just because you are *not* hetro you do not have the right to monopolise sexuality and the problems associated with it." This was just a poorly worded statement. It was not intended to imply anything about your or anyone else's sexuality.

I was only attempting to point out that hetero persons can have problems too - and only that.

It should have read ...
"Just because *one* is not hetro *one* does not have the right to monopolise sexuality ...".

Clearly there was a misunderstanding (which I apologise for) because using personal attacks to make a point just 'ain't my style'!

Cheers,
Chris Beamond
1st Year Arts

Dear Chris,
We find it extremely offensive that you consider calling somebody non-heterosexual a "personal attack". And once again you've made an assumption about our sexualities.

Don't do it again.
"Cheers",
David, Tim & Lorien.

Hard Unit

Dear Leslie Wilson,
I feel that I must write in response to your letter which featured in *On Dit*, 22nd of May, as it contained allegations which are flagrantly untrue.

At no time did I, and nor would I, accept credit for work not actually performed by myself.

The report you read 'tacked to the back of a toilet door' stated that I had been endeavouring to secure Lesbian entertainers for Lesbian Day during Pride Week. This is indeed the truth.

I had booked a band called 'Incredibly Brill', a group of Lesbian musicians, two weeks in advance of the event. Upon speaking with Liana Buchanan she suggested that she felt Jody (the woman who eventually performed upon the day) would be more appropriate.

I concurred with Liana's request but as I did not have the means by which to contact her I asked if she would confirm this for me.

I then cancelled the performers I had already organised.

The money for the payment of performers was passed a month prior to Pride Week, as was the money for food for the Women's Cruise.

Copies of SAUA Council minutes in conjunction with Pride Week Collective meeting minutes will confirm this.

A poster for Lesbian Day was produced and I distributed copies to both Flinders Uni, USA city and Magill campuses and contacted other groups throughout the community, including Murphy Sisters Bookstores.

I at no point took credit for work that I did not perform myself.

As to your offence at my attendance of a Lesbian Only Workshop, when I went down to the Women's Room to find other non-lesbian-identifying wimmin present I assumed that the format of the workshop had changed.

If you, or any other women, were offended by my presence at the workshop then why didn't you ask me to leave at the time, when I would have done so willingly? Or do you find yourself among the group of people who are incapable of communicating with me unless it is via the *On Dit* letters page?

Yours,
Joanne Brook England
Women's Officer

Liberal jobs and Law School snobs

Dear Editors,
The Liberal government seems to be showing its true colours recently. After fudging the figures in order to attack our teachers and ambulance services, they seem to be ready to attack students and student services.

Despite assurances to the contrary, the possibility of the Liberal party removing student representation has still not been ruled out. Indeed, this attack on democratic representation still forms part of the Liberal platform.

The Liberal parties in Victoria and Western Australia have already started the process of winding down student advocacy currailling student newspapers and campaigns for student rights.

Letters such as this one which aims to protect students is what the Liberal government in South Australia under Dean Brown is trying to stop with their anti-student rights legislation.

It's time for students around the state to stand up to the Liberals in South Australia before it's too late. Hands off student organisations, Mr Brown!

Whilst on the subject of Liberals in South Australia, Tuesday, 24th May saw the staging of the annual Adelaide University Law Ball. This elitist event saw dozens of little Alexander and Nikki Downers in black tie all getting "frightfully" pissed.

It would have been nice to have seen the people who will be making and upholding the law in Australia using their time and money more productively.

I know of many students who wanted to go but were unable to because the cost of hiring clothes, paying a hefty entry fee and organising how to get home late on a Tuesday night made attending impossible. I guess that wasn't a problem for the kids who drove Mummy's Mercedes down from North Adelaide.

Next time they put on something like this, the Law Society should make the event affordable and worthwhile, or at least put on a "Not The Law Ball" for us "commoners".

Regards,
Gordon Knight

More to life than a game of footer

Dear Eds,
Anthony Roediger's contribution "Who Runs Adelaide University" must surely score, in his words, "Goal of the Week" for the most pathetic article, concerning one of the most important issues affecting the campuses at the moment - the Council's administration of this University.

Though Roediger raised specific elements in his article that should provoke concern, particularly the Arts debacle and Clause 4C, I doubt if many students would have bothered to read the whole article, thanks to Anthony's personal desire to stamp his own mark through his rather tiresome (and by the end, embarrassing) comparisons of the meeting to a game of football. Is it just me or do nearly thirty analogies somewhat trivialise the important issues involved?

Please, Anthony, stick to the facts. The affairs of the Council is not a game. And, as an *elected* representative of us students, it is your duty to enunciate facts, not a match report.

Tough, honest student reps telling the facts as they should be told? I'd like to see that.

Cheers,
Joe Aylward
Arts

Roussy applies for new job as Anthony Roediger's speech writer.

Dear Anthony Roediger,
Relax, mate, just let me do the jokes. Why didn't you let Bec write the article about the goings on at University Council? She is, after all, President of the Students' Association.

How much profit does the Catering Department make that is returned to funds for general student use?

How much subsidy is the Bar providing for the Union Fee for each student?

Why will the details of the Union's finances not be published in term time but in the middle of the Winter vacation? Shouldn't too many people see the actual figures?

Will you actually bother to give the answers to these figures, or will you pretend not to have read this?

Cheers,
Dave Roussy

Roussy abdicates. And not before time.

Dear W. Hallinan,
Done.

Dave Roussy
Former Convener
Eric A. Blair: Get a Life! Club

Inter-faculty rivalry

To Adele Koh,
For your information the cut off mark for Arts was higher than Economics and, surprise, surprise, economics is also a subject for us "worthless drug-smoking scum" (as you so politely put it) to study.

Mind you, who'd want to do a subject with an uncaring bitch like you? I'll be the one dancing on your grave when you commit suicide from your boring, self-centred, uncultural and economically viable life.

Anyway, glad to see you've never been a moronic misunderstood dickhead (not!).

Taylor Carlisle
Arts

Why can't we all just love each other?

Dear Editors,
Why is that all Engineering students seem to have "circumcision" undercuts, excess bum fluff, wear ankle freezers and still laugh at blonde jokes? Yes, the group of goobers in the Upper Refectory who made the "cutting" comment about all Arts students being a bunch of "drug-fucked hippies", I'm talking to you! Oh, and Adele Koh of Economics, you can go and fuck yourself too.

G. Klimt
Arts

Response to Gen X response response

To Michael Osborn,

We're writing to voice our thoughts on your response to the two 3rd Year Med Gen. Xers in last week's *On Dit*. First of all, you need to improve the expression of your views as you did not make yourself clear in the Kurt Vox Pop. It seemed only natural for the Gen Xers to have thought in the way that they did, considering the style in which you presented your argument. It took someone else's response for you to only then argue clearly and concisely and explain your initial answer (haven't you learnt that how to do that across Frome Road, yet?).

We also believe one doesn't need to know absolutely every song and buy every CD of Nirvana to know Kurt Cobain was talented.

Do you speak tongue-in-cheek regularly? Are you experienced in that area? Is your only method of communication? If so, we'll be sure to send our kids to Dr Osborn's surgery in years to come!

And, by the way, it's most likely that the Gen Xers signed themselves as "concerned" tongue-in-cheek style. Geddit now??

Instead of being continually sarcastic in your comments, you should take such issues more seriously and with more conviction. Obviously, you aren't studying medicine for the potential joy of helping other people, but only to become an arrogant self-centred bastard who's only there for the prestige and wealth.

One of the things you should have learnt throughout life by now is to be calm and rational in your manner. For example, in your doctor's clinic are you going to call your patients morons when they misunderstand and/or ask you to clarify their symptoms or prescriptions?

We're sure that the Gen Xers, although it sounded like a contradiction, knew that Gen X doesn't generally think about everyday issues, but when they wrote "(think about) issues that affect you", they were referring to the after affects of Gen X on you and the whole of society (something which we're sure even Gen Xers are concerned about).

Just a hint: If you can't say anything but put-downs, don't say anything at all.

Due to all the above arguments, it can be seen that the Gen Xers misunderstood you (as any rightful thinking person would, even Med students), thus you had no right at all to call them moralistic, witless, inconsistent, ignorant, unintelligent and humourless.

It is true, most Med boys and girls have some degree of intelligence and humour, but you're not one of them. You confuse humour with sarcasm. Still, we shouldn't be too harsh as you did, unwittingly, provide us and the whole of 2nd year Med with the biggest laugh of *our week!* So thanks for that!

John and Dave
2nd Year Medicine

P.S. Incidentally, Mikey, in case you hadn't noticed, you're at Uni now. There's no need to wear your private school uniform in the holidays.

P.P.S. Editors, in the first Gen X Response "Salesperson" should have read "spokesperson".

Criticism for Adele

Adele. Being a stupid fuckwit who is of no worth or use to anybody, you obviously don't understand the pressures of being famous. Kurt was an unfortunate victim caught up in a world in which he could go nowhere without being recognised.

There was much more to him than being lazy and taking drugs.

Grunge music is not a farce. It is growing in popularity right before your fucking blind eyes. As far as I'm concerned, you can fuck off and die.

This is for grunge fans everywhere ... Fuck you, Adele.

Kurt Fan
Engineering

Even more Gen X

To Marc Vickers, and fellow students, Kurt Cobain's death was a real tragedy, his suicide was undoubtedly brought about by a society that he felt frustrated and alienated by. One in which he perceived consumption to have become the ideological premise of the individual and consequently their overriding concern.

However, has Australia and the rest of the industrialised world suddenly succumbed completely to 'Americanisation'? That's what Vickers would have us presume, we are all being isolated by "US market capitalism in particular. . ." If

that's the case we should dump the Queen and hoist up the 'star-spangled banner' whilst bowing to the President. Even the most ardent proponent of our growing acceptance of American ways wouldn't go that far.

Nevertheless, Vickers' article would have us all question our society and culture because one man (Kurt) and his band believe it to be suffocating. Consumption has made us all mindless zombies that simply take rather than comprehend. Oh, what a crock of shit! Kurt felt isolated from an American society that suppressed his freedom despite its espousal of the contrary. What about the millions who don't, does that really mean that they don't think. Cobain wrote a personal commentary on his society, Vickers would have us believe that we should accept this view!

The whole article is telling us how terrible our - suddenly Americanised - society is and how US capitalism and the consumer nation is constraining our freedom. Very unbiased reporting Mr Vickers, was the Mayday march fun? Shit, what would you prefer, direct control? Shouldn't our apparent acceptance of this society tell you something, namely that the vast majority of people are not disaffected and therefore content.

Marc Vickers looks to be one of the school that presume that we all only pretend or think we're happy when really we're racked [sic] with guilt. I'm not! I don't think most students are, sure there are many who do sympathise with those concepts and fair enough. What I do mind is the attempt to pigeonhole all of us into the same group.

I am not going to deify or sanctify Kurt Cobain, he was simply another singer, sure he had a message but that doesn't make him the apostle of the true path does it Mr Vickers.

Anyway, if we did accept his and your view it only make us members of the pseudo-pseudo-counter-pseudo-counter-culture wouldn't it?

If the biased narrow presumption you made were right I just don't know how any of us could sleep, we'd be too busy being guilty.

Yours Sincerely
Nektarios Tsirbas
3rd year arts

P.S. The whole idea of Generation X is quite silly, please stop classing people as anything other than people.

Dear Nektarios,
If you read the articles on Generation X, surely you noticed that they were arguing against a homogenous classification of entire generations, not saying that Gen Xers were creatures from outer space.

David, Tim & Lorien

A fruit

Dear Eds,
Re: Environment Week.
Fuck the environment! What about my environment! I'm planting a maxiculture garden, what are you doing? I think my suspicions are proven (see my letter of 7th March). So far, you're all failing the big one. How to live on this planet "sustainably".

D. Broadbent

A letter from Greenpeace

To students and faculty :- Hydrocarbon Research

I am writing on behalf of Greenpeace Australia. As part of our ongoing campaign to reduce dependence on environmentally damaging substances, we have turned our attention to the kitchen. As you know, the domestic refrigerator is a leading source of ozone depleting substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). Thankfully, CFCs are on the out. Under an international agreement they are to be phased out by 1996. Hopefully, HCFCs will suffer the same fate soon after.

In the search to find a replacement for these substances, however, industry has embraced hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). It claims that they are ozone friendly, but they fail to mention that HFCs are a potent greenhouse gas. In the past few years, Greenpeace has been working on a solution.

Using technology discovered in a European university, Greenpeace funded the development of "Green Freeze", an environmentally friendly alternative, which substitutes hydrocarbons for the usual ozone depleting and greenhouse gases. The end product of this endeavour should be on the shelves in the near future.

There is still a way to go. That is where you come in.

Your research is invaluable to us, no

matter how many brick walls you think you have hit. So, if you have done any research on ozone-safe and climate-safe alternatives to CFCs or are looking to do so, please let us know.

With appreciation,
Liz Smith
Greenpeace Australia

More problems with Prosh pranks

Dear Eds,
After reading through last week's edition, I was humoured with the Prosh antics. Being Mothers' Day on Sunday, I spoke to my Grandma who questioned me about this Prosh week. I was not quite sure what she was getting at until she asked me about the Ronald McDonald that was stolen. She slowly informed me that as she sat next to poor Ronald in the Myer Centre, a group of young people (about 20 of them) gathered around her continually giggling. Finally, someone piped up and said, "Ha, Granny, we're going to steal that chair". So, as they unbolted the chair she started to panic and decided to move. To her surprise they did steal the chair, she was quite scared as another voice cried, "Hurry up or we will take you too," but she managed to laugh about it (probably because everyone else was on the floor in hysterics).

From the kid with a poor old petrified Granny with nowhere to sit.

UNI STUDENT DISCOUNT
\$1.00 Off All Basic Spirits 7 Nights A Week
Show Photo I.D. At The Bar For \$1.00 Discount (Mon & Tues After Midnight)



MON: 8 BALL COMPETITION WIN \$\$\$
[ALL BASIC SPIRITS \$2.50 UNTIL MIDNIGHT]

TUES: PUMP IT HARD DANCE PARTY
[ALL BASIC SPIRITS \$2.50 UNTIL MIDNIGHT]

WED: SLAVE AUCTION WIN \$\$\$

THURS: THE GONG SHOW WIN \$\$\$

FRI: LIVE SHOWS

SAT: LIVE SHOWS

SUN: PARTY TILL YOU DROP

\$5. Covercharge applicable on Interstate Performance Nights

Adelaides' Most Popular GAY BAR
For Gay Men, Gay Women, & Friends
120 Gouger Street, Adelaide.

Higher Education Funding

John Dawkins introduced the Relative Funding Model in 1988 in order to establish the relative teaching and research costs of different disciplines, and to fund institutions accordingly. Research and teaching were said to take up around 6% of total operating grants, although those teaching costs vary radically across disciplines and levels. For example, Science/Medicine subjects cost 3 - 4 times more to teach than Arts/Law, and postgraduate students generally require up to double the funding of their undergraduate counterparts. Institutions are funded for the student load, per EFTSU (effective full-time student unit), as agreed in their educational profiles.

The Federal Government took 1988 as being a year outside of the triennial process in order to conduct a major review of the sector [DEET, 1993a: 84]. For this reason it used 1988 to form the basis for future funding levels, which has had dramatic effects for two major reasons. Firstly, the new funding arrangements legitimised the levels of (absolute and relative) funding which had evolved through "under-resourcing" over the previous decade, which harmed the smaller, developing institutions and the ex-colleges in particular. Secondly, the sector as a whole has also suffered due to the drastic over-enrolment (and subsequent under-funding) of 1988 which resulted directly from the increased demand created by Dawkins, and rigid enrolment targets implemented by the Government which reduced institutional control over the admission process [AVCC, 1994]. This has entailed that "the decline in per EFTSU funding caused by over-enrolment was locked in for later years" [DeAngelis: 39].

It was a major policy plank of Dawkins to shift the burden for funding away from the Commonwealth. The percentage of total higher education income provided by the Commonwealth decreased by almost 10% between 1987 and 1990 alone [DEET, 1993a: 75], and this decline has continued. Despite this shift, the Federal Government is still the major provider of resources to higher education, currently financing 71% of all higher education income [NUS: 1]. The amount of Commonwealth funding to higher education varies depending upon which figures you read (even within the same report), but spending on higher education currently represents a little less than 4% of total Commonwealth outlays [DEET, 1993a: 81-2].

Higher education in Australia is funded triennially (for the coming financial year and the two years following). This can be altered from year to year, but funding levels are generally known in advance, and since the introduction of the Relative Funding Model a base funding level has been assured for all institutions. The Commonwealth allocates funds to institutions via a number of different grants. Capital grants were previously made in order for institutions to undertake spe-

cific construction projects - building lecture theatres, etc. From this year, these have been subsumed within institutions' total operating grants, which is intended to provide institutions with some freedom as to how they may use the money.

Leif Larsen continues his examination of the funding of higher education. It all comes down to money really.

Given the physical decline of most universities due to past under-resourcing this hardly represents a real freedom: in most cases the money will go, out of sheer necessity, towards the upkeep of buildings in serious decline or the construction of badly needed facilities.

Apart from the usual funding allocations, the Commonwealth recently provided \$76.8 million for quality assurance and enhancement to be allocated by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, \$3.5 million of which went to the University of Adelaide. Much controversy has surrounded this scheme, particularly regarding the claim that it has added to the polarisation of the established, elite, 'ivy league' universities from the newly amalgamated ex-teaching colleges, and has effectively recreated the binary divide allegedly abolished by Dawkins. This seems to be yet another example of the shabby treatment dished out to those institutions that merged at the behest of Dawkins, but have gone without reward for their efforts.

THE 1994 BUDGET: HOW IT WILL AFFECT YOU

The total Commonwealth outlay for 1994/5 is \$4227.3 million, an absolute increase of \$113.3 million, or 2.8% [Giles: 1]. In real terms, however, this represents an increase of just 0.2% [NUS: 1]. While mild growth is promised for the remainder of the triennium, estimated growth of 4 - 4.5% in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) means that in real terms funding will decline.

Given the abhorrent HECS proposals of 1993, this Budget was most notable for what did *not* happen - this was both good and bad. On the one hand, upfront full fee-paying places were not introduced for Australian students, as was feared in many quarters. This would have opened up a number of places to those with the ability to pay, rather than the ability to succeed. On the other

hand, calls from NBEET, the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee (AVCC), the Democrats and the Opposition for a \$125 million boost to research infrastructure were ignored. The Government seems to be entirely alone in not

recognising the need for increased spending in this area, despite the obvious fact that libraries are seriously run down, and basic equipment is sorely needed. This lack of concern poses a very serious threat to the quality of education in this country.

Of those changes that did occur, most publicised have been the changes to HECS and AUSTUDY, as these will impact most directly on students. There has been some confusion over exactly how these changes will work, and not all points of conjecture have yet been clarified. The personal income test for AUSTUDY recipients will now be based on earnings in the current financial year of enrolment rather than the calendar year as was previously the case. Initially, it was feared that this would act as a disincentive to those entering higher education from the workforce, as income from the first six months of the financial year would invariably render them ineligible for assistance. This idea was quickly knocked on the head by the Minister.

Apparently, only income earned during the period of study will count: in other words, earnings from work previous to entering tertiary education will not be taken into account. (This could yet have serious consequences for a small amount of students, such as those who study part-time, and work full-time, then change to full-time study the following year: their full-time income *will* count, one would presume). Students will still be required to estimate their income, but it will be for the financial year rather than the calendar year. For those new entrants to higher education (initially this will apply to all students) income estimated for the remainder of the financial year (January - June) will be extrapolated across the year to calculate an annual allowance. Sound confusing? There's a good reason for that - it is. But it will apparently run smoothly, and net the Government a nice little earner into the bargain.

Similar confusion surrounds the changes to HECS. From 1 January 1995 HECS will be brought into line with Pay As You Earn (PAYE) and provisional taxation systems, and the rate of repay-

ment will be calculated on a pro rata basis. The way this will work is that the proportion of the financial year spent in the workforce by a graduate will represent the proportion of the HECS threshold that will apply. To elucidate:

Under the existing system, a graduate who enters the workforce on an annual salary of \$30,000 a year will be taxed 3 per cent of \$3,148 - the difference between the threshold salary of \$26,852 and the \$30,000 income earned. But under the changes, a student who gets a job paying an annual salary of \$30,000 a year but only works for six months will still be required to pay some HECS. The 3 per cent will be calculated on the difference between \$15,000 - the money earned over six months - and the \$13,426, the pro rata HECS threshold salary [*The Australian*, 10/5/94].

The amount of money able to be 'traded in' through the AUSTUDY Supplement Scheme was also increased. Students may now trade in \$3,500 for a loan of \$7,000 (up \$1,000 from last year and \$3,000 from the previous year). Students then pay back the \$7,000, in effect losing \$3,500 from their original AUSTUDY grant. This is a cynical revenue-raising exercise, and many students will be forced to take up this loan due to the paltry amount of the initial AUSTUDY grant. A student undertaking a standard three-year degree who takes up this option each year is liable for a total debt of almost \$28,000, which will financially cripple many graduates in the years to come.

There was one progressive measure announced in this Budget. A rent assistance component of up to \$34.20 per week has been introduced for recipients of the AUSTUDY homeless allowance to bring them into line with those on DSS homeless benefits. Unfortunately, the Government has been unable to extend this privilege to other AUSTUDY recipients to provide parity with those on unemployment benefits. However, the Federal MP for Bonython, Martin Evans, assured us in his speech on the Barr Smith Lawns (which none of you attended) that it will be a priority of the Federal Government to bring AUSTUDY and DSS benefits into line in the next few years.

FUNDING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

For 1994, The University of Adelaide had a total EFTSU target load of 10,145, and a subsequent operating grant of \$122.9 million. This is expected to remain fairly steady for the remainder of the triennium [DEET, 1993b: 96]. This represents around \$12,000 per student, well above the national average, as based upon study

The problem is money

level and discipline mix. Of this total, \$14.6 million went to research, and almost \$3 million to what was previously the capital grant [DEET, 1993b: 71, 57].

Funds are distributed at the University of Adelaide through the Internal Funds Distribution Mechanism. Of the total income received by the University, 64% is allocated for academic purposes, going directly to the Faculties, and 36% is channelled into Corporate Services, such as the library, buildings and administration [Starcevic & Fox: 3]. Based on historical data, this distribution ratio is determined by the Senior Management Group (made up of the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellors and the Registrar) and approved by Council, the University's foremost decision-making body. The percentage allocated to the Faculties is estimated to be around 2% higher than the national average [Fox].

The University has experienced severe funding shortages in recent years, and still has a sizeable budget deficit. There are several reasons for this. While Adelaide University has fared well in relation to many other institutions, funding cuts have still had a marked effect: witness for yourself overcrowded lectures and tutorials, lack of computer access, limited library opening hours and resources, and generally run-down facilities. The University has also struggled to attract alternative sources of income, and part of the reason for this has been the flagging local economy and the reliance upon volatile interest rates [Fox].

The most recent and extreme example of the funding shortfall at this University is the Faculty of Arts crisis, which is shaping up to be our very own 'State Bank' (detailed by Tim Gow in last week's edition of *On Dit*). However extreme this case may be, and whatever the specific reasons may be for the crisis,

it appears to be symptomatic of funding shortages institution-wide. Sources within the University have revealed that the Administration Branch has had no funds in its equipment budget line for several years (for items such as computers) and, like the Arts Faculty, is currently committing more money to salaries than it can afford. It was also revealed last week in *On Dit* that the University has offered voluntary redundancies to staff in all Faculties in order to reduce the budget deficit. Given current trends in funding, it is difficult to see how these problems can be resolved.

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I want my MTV, CNN and BBC

In the cultural dead zone that is Generation X, Australian youth is disappearing into relative obscurity in mainstream culture. The declining birth rate in the western world has seen youth culture pushed off radio and television as the media chases advertising revenue, targetting what is now Australia's most important demographic group - old people. While the post-war population explosion created the most powerful and influential youth culture of all time in the 60s and 70s, our generation has been smothered by the baby boomers' "classic rock" radio and geriatric TV. This may be about to change as Satellite television invades Australia. MTV is coming!

Australians are perfectly located to

ride the youth culture tidal wave which is currently engulfing our neighbours to the North. Higher birth rates and burgeoning economies in Asia have spawned a powerful 90s version of the baby boomers, who are causing havoc by heartily embracing western pop culture and its associated youthful consumerism. A major component of this phenomenon has been MTV Asia, which is beamed from Hong Kong by STAR TV.

Australians are relatively unfamiliar with Satellite TV, which most people associate with pub-bound Sky Channel. This is about to change as Australia falls under the footprint of the new generation of Apstar satellites which will give us access to dozens of

channels. It is more than likely that Satellite TV will then become a major cultural phenomenon here, as it is in Asia and Europe. Those companies which have shelled out small fortunes to buy licences for cable pay TV in Australia will be absolutely spewing when they realise that early next year dozens of *free-to-air* channels will be literally falling out of the sky all over the country.

While dish ownership is currently restricted to the wealthy in Australia, budget models (which only cost a few hundred dollars) will be sprouting from every rooftop in sight, if the Asian experience is anything to go by. Australians will be able to view STAR TV's MTV Asia, Prime Sports, CNN and BBC World Service Television. Also available will be HBO, ESPN, The Discovery Channel, Hindi and Mandarin channels - and the list goes on and on.

Who is going to pay to have cable TV when so much is available for free? While some satellite channels are encrypted and require paid subscription, a substantial number of channels will cost nothing after the initial investment in a dish. Naturally, the powers that be in this country will not be happy with this. The dozens of channels emanating from Asia will bypass local censors and will not be subject to any of the advertising restrictions, Australian content regulations or other strictures im-

posed on local channels. Not a cent of licensing fees or other costs will go to the government. Some Asian governments have reacted by banning dishes. While this may seem unlikely in liberal Australia, it is not inconceivable. British authorities have been making noises about placing controls on dishes as a result of porno channels being beamed from Scandinavia.

Despite such concerns, the very fact that much satellite viewing has not been produced and tailored specifically for local viewers is what makes it so very appealing. I am sick of the disgraceful parochialism of local news services. I am sick of living in bloody Crows Town. I am sick of the geriatric conservatism of channels that offer nothing but gardening shows and lifestyle programs dealing with how to survive a midlife crisis. I want my MTV - a channel which probably could not find enough revenue to survive in the Australian market alone. Satellite TV offers programming that this country cannot provide.

Bring on STAR TV! Bring on the global village. Die parochialism, die local TV, die Camry Crows, die lack of choice. The information revolution is upon us and hopefully it will bring radical changes in what we watch on television and what we are able to watch. Hopefully, the arrival of foreign TV in Australia will inspire Australian television to pick up its game and offer more choice. Unfortunately, it seems that international broadcasts may offer the best viewing for those of us bogged down in provincialism.

As Bono says: "With Satellite Television, you can go anywhere".

Matthew Denby



More myopia from Uni admin

For some time now, plans for the construction of a multi-storey car park by the University of Adelaide have been under consideration. As you may know if you've been reading *On Dit* lately, the proposal is to build a 700 space, 7 storey car park on land owned partly by the University and partly by the Adelaide City Council. The justification is that there are currently 200 full-time staff on a waiting list for parking spaces. Within the next five years, the University will lose about 400 on-campus parking spaces, through the construction of a new Engineering building on the Fisher car park, and through the closure of the underground car park as a result of the City of Adelaide North Terrace plan, which plans to limit vehicle access from North Terrace, and this will further add to the perceived problem. In fact, the University's long-term plan is to remove all cars from the grounds and create a pedestrian campus. At first glance this sounds like a great plan, but it is *not* a long-term one, as

term. It is blatantly obvious to anyone who cares to examine the facts that no short-term benefit, such as convenience, can outweigh the considerable problems of air and noise pollution, public health, equity and economics that currently result from our society's overdependence on cars, and which will become ever more serious if we don't change our attitude to transport.

Adelaide is currently in the privileged position of being relatively green and accessible. People lucky enough to live in the inner suburbs still talk about the twenty minute city (although those living in the outer suburbs, without access to cars or efficient public transport, have a very different story to tell). It's this lack of visible pollution that makes it very difficult to convince the average commuter (and the University Administration) that there is a problem, or that there are good reasons for us to change our behaviour. But it's now, while we are still in this privileged position, that we need to

that Adelaide is already one of the most car dependent cities in the world. If we don't begin to change our way of thinking now, we will find ourselves living in Los Angeles or Detroit before we can even indicate our intention of a U-turn.

In the State Government's 1991 publication "2020 Vision: Ideas for Metropolitan Adelaide", there seemed to be a recognition of the fact that this city needs to move away from its dependence on cars. The publication advocated an inner city parking policy that favoured short-term parking and discouraged commuting. It suggested parking space limits, higher entry costs, higher fuel and ownership taxes and, most importantly, a public transport priority. The City Council's decision to approve the University's car park plan shows how much of this "Vision" is being forgotten or ignored. It's yet another example of the shortsightedness that plagues Australian politics on all levels.

The number of inner-city car parking spaces per capita in Adelaide is high compared to the rest of the world, and not even those we have are filled to capacity. Rather than building more multi-storey car parks in Adelaide we should be encouraging a clean and efficient public transport system. The University is in a position to be a community leader in this area by subsidising the public transport costs, rather than the parking costs of its staff, and by lobbying the State Government to improve the public transport system. We are in a position to learn from the mistakes of the world's car dependent cities, and to develop, and export to the rest of the world, truly long-term, sustainable alternatives.

The construction of this particular multi-storey car park by the University will not be of benefit to the City of Adelaide. It will not revitalise the East End, but will make extremely bad use of scarce and valuable inner-city land, and take Adelaide further down the path toward becoming a clogged, polluted and unliveable city, like so many others in the world. In addition, if the occupancy rates of existing inner city car parks are no more than 70%, as stated in the University's Car Parking Business Plan, then the University will be entering into an already saturated

market, and can not hope to make money from its venture. It seems that University staff are not really in the market for an expensive park in the city, but for a cheap one, just outside their faculty. Rather than using parking revenue to fund improved lighting and other security around campus as it currently does, the University will be forced to channel parking revenue back into paying for the car park. All this at a time when the library is cutting back

"Rather than building more multi-storey car parks in Adelaide we should be encouraging a clean and efficient public transport system."

valuable journal subscriptions due to a lack of funds.

There are almost certainly many members of staff and many students who have a real need for car parking spaces. It may be that they are disabled, they need to bring children to childcare, they do not have access to public transport, they arrive at or leave the University late at night, or they need to transport equipment for field work. These are the people who will in no way benefit from the proposed multi-storey car park. However, it is time that the University reviewed its current hierarchical system of parking permit allocation. If we are to move away from an overdependence on cars we must first distinguish *want* from *need*. It is likely that the University's current provision of car parking spaces would be more than adequate for those members of the University community who actually have a genuine need for such a provision. The parking survey which the Registrar has recently commissioned from the Statistics Department will hopefully pinpoint this need.

The construction of a multi-storey car park in the city would not be a viable long-term plan either for the University or the City of Adelaide. If the University truly wants to be a good corporate citizen and a community leader it should hold a vision of our city as ecologically sustainable. The University Council has not yet approved the proposal so now is the time for concerned students to make their views known. If you object to the multi-storey car park come in to the SAUA and sign the petition against the proposal.



Adelaide in the post - Uni carpark era

the University claims, and simply amounts to moving the mess to another part of the city so that our patch is pleasant and green. Not so good.

Unfortunately, the truth is that many members of staff, and also many students, would be very pleased, in the short-term, to have cheap access to a nearby car park (although in the current proposal these parks are neither cheap nor nearby in comparison with what is currently offered on campus). The problem with the University's current proposal lies in the truly long-

move away from our dependence on cars. Although the air may look clean and we may not have to wait in traffic jams very often, we have to convince people that things are not really so good. We have to spread the word that Australian cities in general use more than twice the transport fuel, and produce two to three times the greenhouse gas of European cities (yet the Federal Government has recently done a spectacular back-down from its commitment to reduce Australia's CO₂ emissions). We must spread the word

Transport Alternatives

The crucial question...is whether or not the city, which was formerly built on the human scale, and in which the street existed primarily as a means of contact, is to be replaced by the megapolis where the dimensions of the street are on the scale required for its primary use by mechanical transport...The urban environment should again become a place for human encounter; for looking around, listening and talking to people, walking about and sitting down. Streets and squares should once again be treated as outside rooms within the city, as places where the opportunity of contact between people is the primary consideration."

- Jan Tanghe, *Living Cities*

People live in cities mainly for the opportunities of employment, for recreation and obtaining the supplies, services and human contacts available in a modern community. The population of a city offers the opportunity for many interactions with other people, however through bad planning and cost cutting of transportation systems the possibilities of access to other people and places becomes restricted, especially to those less affluent, and those who have no easy access to cars. Meanwhile the physical environment we live in continues to deteriorate.

FoE Nouveau, an Adelaide Friends of The Earth group has launched a Transport Alternatives Campaign. Those involved are aware of the need to provide information for interested people, and to gather grass roots information to inform the planners and decision makers of our city what the people who actually use the transportation system want.

This campaign has three areas:

•**Traffic Calming.** Techniques for reducing the dominance of the car on our streets, while increasing the access for people. People, as pedestrians and cyclists have been driven off the streets by the danger, noise, pollution and sheer mass of vehicles. Redesign of streets is needed to emphasise people's needs, to create an environment that is a pleasant, safe and

interactive space.

•**Public Transport Improvements.** Public transport is under attack. Routes and timetables are being "rationalised" by the planners to reduce costs - in most cases these changes have little impact on the planners who seldom use anything but their cars. We need more convenient, safer, faster, cheaper and more frequent services, which cater for flexible connections.

•**Access by proximity.** This involves planning to provide services where people live, so that the need for trips is reduced.

Some of the vital transportation questions seem to be:

•Does the transport system and planning of the city provide for the needs for access in a way that maximises benefits to all people needing transportation?

•Does it have minimal negative effects on residents, citizens and visitors?

•Will it create a desirable city in the future, is it sustainable?

•Does it have adverse environmental effects locally and globally?

For a large proportion of people in many cities (including Adelaide) the answers usually seem to be no! Transport seems to have become an end in itself, the needs of the private car seem to have been elevated to a higher place than the needs of people. We need to ask the question, are we willing to go the same way as Los Angeles? There the transportation system was in a state of virtual collapse with congestion, pollution, and dislocation of people's lives before the car was seriously questioned. Or do we have the will and foresight to take action before this stage is approached?

Adelaide Uni FoE in conjunction with FoE Nouveau will be running an alternative transport workshop during Environment Week, on Tuesday 31st at 1:10 lunchtime in the South Dining Rooms, Level 4, Union Building. The exercise planned is to encourage discussions (in small groups) of some of the issues relating to transport alternatives that are of

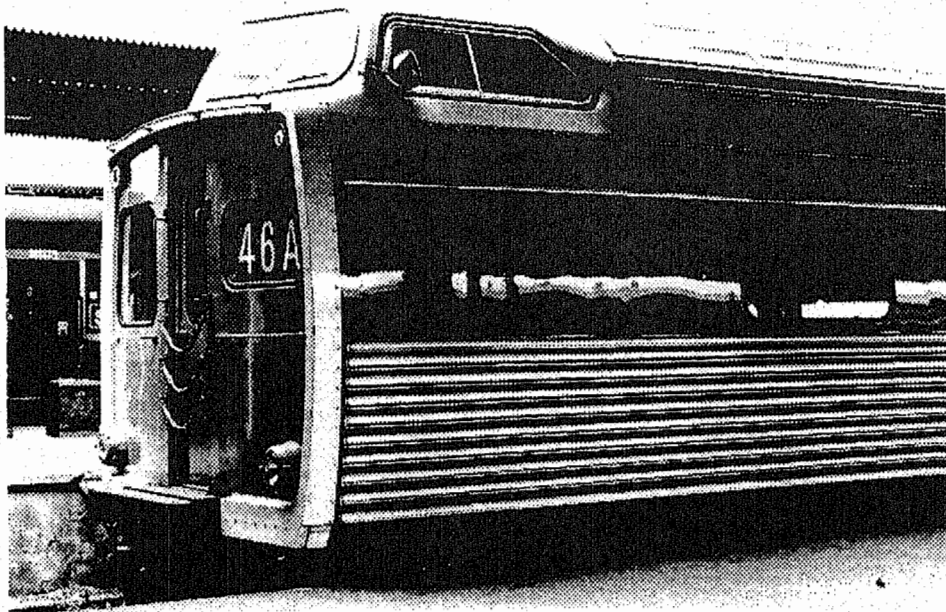
interest to you. We have prepared a number of fact sheets which may help focus ideas on some topics, however please don't be limited to these areas.

We hope that at the conclusion of the session each group will be able to report back to the whole group some of the ideas discussed. These then can be collected, not only from the session, but from others in various areas of Adelaide to provide FoE and other groups with the real needs and ideas of many people for their ideal transport system. The workshop also aims to give information on how the decision makers can be effectively contacted, and how changes in planning might occur. Please remember, the workshop is for you. It is an opportunity to show that the actual users of the transport system are often the best people to understand what is really needed. How many planners actually stand for long periods on wet and windy bus stops, or in the blazing sun at a station? How many have felt vulnerable and nervous trying to get home at night? Ordinary people in a free society have a right to be heard; if we leave all decisions to the experts we can only expect to get the views of a narrow, and usually privileged few.

Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Adelaide.

Equity


Mobility is needed by all people in the community, however a transport system based mainly on the car creates huge inequalities. Largely due to financial differences, age and physical conditions which limit the ability of many people to drive, it also acts against those who choose to minimise car use for the betterment of the environment. With a rapid increase in the aged population, and the rising incidence of unemployment and poverty, more people will join the non-car-using group. Clearly in a just society such people, often the least able to protect themselves, require access to affordable, safe and convenient transport. The increasing reliance on the car as the major transportation system has shifted many of the social and environmental costs onto those who gain least benefit from the car dominant system.



Catch more of these


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Greenbucks are big bucks

"From one of the dirtiest big chemical companies, to a small Australian water cleaning company, the film *Greenbucks* - the challenge of Sustainable Development asks management the world over about how they are pursuing the goals of sustainable development."

On Friday 3rd June, as part of Environment Week, the Students' Association will be presenting a screening of the film *Greenbucks* and a public lecture on ecologically sustainable development will be given by its director, Adelaide-based international film maker, Gabrielle Kelly. Her film, which was made for the BBC and launched at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, has been an international success, causing people to think hard about ecological sustainability the world over.

When the film was released, the chairman of Volkswagen ordered 40 copies to send to every Environment and Finance Minister in the German Lander States. The critics have also applauded it:

"A refreshing angle on the depressing theme of world economic disaster." *The Independent*, London, June 1992

"...these stories reveal a new breed of powerful people joining the green movement." *The Daily Express*, London, June 1992

"It asks business, as one of us, to take responsible action in environmental management." Stephen Spence, Trade Union Official

Greenbucks is a highly relevant and challenging documentary. It tells stories from Australia, Asia Pacific, the Americas and Europe, of the best efforts of

individuals in business, to begin to grapple with the demands of Sustainable Development. *Greenbucks* is not a story about the "goodies and baddies" of corporate environmentalism. Rather it assumes that sustainable development is the way of the future and looks to the business leaders of the world, who are trying to solve the myriad of unanswered questions in a world economic system that is undergoing rapid and urgent change.

The Volkswagen Factory, Swiss Asea Brown Boveri's push into energy efficient technology, Danish Novatex's development of organic cotton for the sustainable T-shirt and the Australian company Memtech's new water cleaning technology are just some of the stories.

The cost of environmental devastation in Eastern Europe, the impact of third world poverty and overpopulation on development, global trade, and the inadequacies of our economic systems also feature in this challenging and far reaching documentary.

Kelly says that "after an extensive 12 month research period we chose several companies of different types and sizes from different industrial sectors for our programme. CEOs were interviewed and the environmental performances of their companies were assessed as well as their efforts towards change... What became clear is that the scale and nature of change within organisations differs in a significant way. For example the size of the "problem" for a chemical company makes change slow and expensive; add to this the different attitudinal cultures

within the different sectors and it becomes clear that the achieving of sustainable development is and will be complex and needs to be seen as such, rather than a black and white cowboys and Indians "them and us", which is the framework in which the debate has been handled."

Last year Kelly presented a paper to the Department of Industrial Relations' Best Practice Week. She says that "it comes as no surprise that best practice firms also lead the field in environmental best practice. These firms are generating "first-mover" advantages in the market place and through this they are increasing market share. Sustainable development makes environmental and market place sense!"

Kelly speaks frankly of her hopes for the future: "To go down a path of destruction is unacceptable to all, however with the increasing understanding of global environmental issues we can look to the future with some optimism. The two most serious questions which we must address as part of a global strategy are poverty in third world countries, and overpopulation. If we are to achieve sustainable development, universities cannot ignore their role in bringing about vital changes in community attitudes. There is a real need to build on the environmental awareness taught in primary and secondary schools and the logical means of achieving this is through establishing a university-wide core curriculum of environmental literacy. Universities must acknowledge their obligation and respond with positive policies to ensure that graduates are able to

adapt and function in an ever changing environmental climate. It must also be understood that environmental problems cannot be solved just by the application of scientific based answers. The problems we face are also of a social and economic nature".

These are the sort of issues which are being raised by the Karpin inquiry, which has been instigated by the Department of Employment Education and Training and is presently examining the potential gap between the needs of industry and the management skills being taught at universities. The University of South Australia recently welcomed Kelly to a lecture as part of their Economics and Public Policy course at Magill Campus, in order to introduce and promote international expertise based in Adelaide, and broaden the focus of students and lecturers in Australian universities. We can learn much from the experience and mistakes of others and I strongly encourage all interested students to attend the lecture and screening. Whatever we do in our future lives will have an impact upon the environment. We must make sure that we have the necessary knowledge to ensure that we contribute to ecological sustainability and not to environmental degradation.

Anita Butler

SAUA Environment Officer

Thanks to Peter Bowen, USASA Environment Officer

The lecture on Ecologically Sustainable Development and screening of the film *Greenbucks* will be held at 1pm in the Union Cinema (level 5 Union Building), on Friday 3rd June. All welcome.

Save our Bilbies

To the right is a "relay" letter to the AMP society about the endangered Greater Bilby in Queensland. The idea is that before you send the letter yourself, you photocopy it and send the letter along to another interested person to photocopy and post their copy etc. etc. Maybe AMP will eventually get the point. The letter itself explains why its so important to send the letter to AMP. They may be Australia's largest financial company, and they may control Australia's largest pastoral company, but that doesn't give them the right to ride roughshod over the efforts of conservationists and state governments and threaten a unique Australian mammal. We have to let them know.

For further information about AMP versus the bilby, contact David Noonan, Environmental Studies.

General Manager
AMP Society
1 King William St, Adelaide SA 5000

There is grave concern that the actions of the AMP Society, through its wholly owned subsidiary the Stanbroke Pastoral Company that operates the Davenport Downs pastoral lease, are a threat to the survival of Queensland's last viable population of the Greater Bilby. The Bilby is a unique Australian mammal that is classified as an endangered species at a national level, this means that unless the processes that threaten the Bilby and its habitat can be checked, the Bilby may become extinct. The Queensland National Parks Service are concerned that continued grazing at current stocking levels will lead to the colony's demise, reports suggest that the number of active burrows has declined dramatically and that the effects of grazing have been exacerbated by the recent drought. Scientists of this Service argue that grazing in the paddock where the colony occurs should cease. The AMP, through the Stanbroke Pastoral Company, has refused to cease or reduce grazing pressure on the colony's habitat. This is a threat to the survival of the Bilby colony. The AMP Society is therefore acting in a very environmentally irresponsible manner.

The AMP will be held accountable for the actions of its subsidiary in this matter. The Australian Nature Conservation Agency is attempting to formulate a recovery plan for the Bilby, but the actions of the AMP in threatening the colony's survival are directly contrary and obstructive to this programme. The Bilby's range once extended over much of arid and semi-arid Queensland, but is now found only in isolated colonies in leasehold land in the Channel Country. The colony on Davenport Downs is considered the only one in Queensland of a viable size and it is for this reason that it is so very important. There are no Bilbies left in South Australia, it is incumbent on the AMP to see that this fate does not befall Queensland as well. While grazing is not the only threat to the colony it is up to the AMP to remove this threat.

AMP's reputation is dependant on the public's perception of the character of its operations, this matter presents the AMP with a choice and an opportunity. It is unacceptable that the AMP should threaten the survival of this example of Australia's biological heritage. The opportunity exists for the AMP to demonstrate its credentials and safeguard the colony by ceasing grazing in that paddock, a simple and commendable act. If the AMP chooses not to do so it will bear the consequences.

The Bilby is becoming an Australian cultural symbol in the form of the 'Easter Bilby'. If the AMP becomes known as an organisation that knowingly threatens the survival of the Bilby its reputation will rightly suffer as a consequence. Unless the AMP takes the responsible decision to cease grazing, then consumer action against the AMP will be recommended and media exposure of the AMP's actions will ensue. That would be an unfortunate and unnecessary event and no doubt damaging to the AMP's reputation.

This situation will be publicised, it is the AMP's choice as to the sort of publicity it receives. The AMP Society's reply is requested.
Yours Sincerely,

GATTzilla versus Flipper

GATT, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, was signed by most of the countries in the world earlier this year. The eighth GATT agreement, this one promises to deliver more on free trade than any of its predecessors. Within its 20 000 pages are agreements on reducing restrictions on trade in everything from agriculture and manufacturing to services and finances. Plus, there are some agreements on things like intellectual property rights. Overseeing the implementation of this GATT will be a new organisation, the World Trade Organisation, to be established by January 1995.

To make sure that signature countries stick to their agreements there is an improved dispute settlement mechanism. Previously if one country had a gripe about another's 'unfair' trading practices (eg. export subsidies) it had to get consensus amongst all the countries on the General Council of GATT just to set up a panel to study the complaint. This was no easy matter when the country at the receiving end of the complaint had a vote, and if it voted against it there would not be consensus. The same rules on consensus applied to the adoption of a panel report by the General Council and the application of trade sanctions. The new GATT reverses the consensus rule so that consensus is necessary to stop the setting up of a panel, the adoption of a panel report by the General Council, and the application of trade sanctions. This makes the dispute settlement procedure fairly automatic once a country makes a complaint.

So what's GATT got to do with the environment? Lots! Almost any actions taken by governments which impede the flow of trade can be declared GATT illegal and hence attract retaliatory trade sanctions. This includes laws which are designed to protect the environment eg: restrictions on the importation of rain-forest timber from Sarawak.

The most famous example is the so-called GATTzilla vs Flipper case. Under pressure from environmentalists, the US government had legislated the Marine Mammals Protection Act which outlawed dolphin-killing tuna fishing practices. One way to catch yellow finned tuna is to throw nets around a school of dolphins so as to get the tuna which swim underneath the dolphins. The dolphins are suffocated in the nets and their bodies tossed overboard. In 1988, around 100 000 dolphins were killed like this. However even once the US tuna fleet stopped this practice the tuna fleets of other Latin American countries continued it. In 1990-1, import embargoes were placed on tuna caught in such a manner so that it could not be sold inside the US. However, Mexico took the US to GATT on the grounds that such embargoes were an impediment to free trade and GATT illegal. In 1991 the GATT panel ruled in favour of Mexico. The implications of the case are dis-

turbing. Trade sanctions are an effective mechanism for enforcing a variety of environmental measures. The world can't stop a country driftnetting, cutting tropical hardwoods, killing endangered species, or killing elephants for ivory - but it can refuse to buy the stuff which makes such activities economically unviable. Or at least we *were* able to slap on a trade embargo, but is it now GATT illegal?

Currently a whole range of environmental measures are being challenged under GATT, including: US fuel economy standards for new cars; US Gas Guzzler tax; and the EC ban on the use of growth hormones in beef. Threatened challenges include: US restrictions on driftnetting; export bans on raw logs from Indonesia, the Philippines and the US; 1990 Consumer Education and Nutrition Food Labelling Act; German packaging recycling laws; and California's proposition 65 which requires labelling of carcinogens. In the past such threatened 'free trade' challenges have produced results without even going through the whole process - for example: Danish bottle recycling requirements were weakened; Canada was forced to accept US food imports with 30% higher pesticide levels than national laws permitted; and a British Columbia reforestation program was scrapped as an "unfair subsidy to the timber industry".

Of course none of this is terribly surprising when you look at who is negotiating the GATT. Of the 800 members of advisory committees to the US trade representative on GATT, five are environmentalists, a handful are unionists and the rest are from the business community. The US based group Public Citizen did a study of members of the three trade advisory committees which most directly related to environmental, health and safety issues. Cross-checking with Environmental Protection Agency records they found that five of the ten biggest dischargers of hazardous waste in the US were members of these committees responsible for environmental standards: Du Pont, the biggest polluter in the US; Monsanto, number two polluter; 3M, sixth biggest; General Motors, number eight on the role of honour; and Eastman Kodak, just scraping



GATT did this

into the charts at number nine. Nearly half of all trade advisers in the study were found to be from companies listed by the EPA as "Potentially Responsible Parties" for hazardous waste dumping.

It would seem that the evidence suggests that GATT will lower environmental standards and suggests that the reason is that those people doing the deal are representatives of companies that have an interest in polluting.

And yet there is currently a lot of discussion in the free trade journals about what to do about GATT and the environment. The free trade ideologues claim that GATTzilla vs Flipper was an aberration and that free trade can coexist with environmental protection. They propose putting a section into the GATT which would give precedence to international environmental treaties. Such a clause already exists in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between Canada, the US and Mexico.

The problem with this argument is that a) there is plenty of evidence that GATTzilla vs Flipper is not a unique attack on environmental protection (as above), b) as of yet NAFTA hasn't produced any environmental victories, in fact, some backward steps have been taken, also pollution in Mexico City is as bad as ever from US dirty industry c) effective international environment treaties are few and far between and d) it doesn't account for the structural obstacles that stand in the way of environmental action.

If political power is, roughly speaking, a function of economic power, then there is a problem when those economic powers have a vested interest in environmental destruction. If capitalism is democracy of the dollar then there are problems for reducing Greenhouse gas emissions because seven of the world's biggest ten industrial corporations produce oil or cars. Motor vehicle production and petroleum refining are the world's number one and two industries with sales of around US\$1800 billion in 1992. They have a vested interest in pumping out greenhouse gasses and they have a lot of power.

On the brighter side, political power not only comes out of economic power, it also comes out of organised political

movements and the free trade ideologues are shit scared of the environmentalists. There they were happily writing up their GATT in a quiet corner when GATTzilla vs Flipper hit the fan (messy). All of a sudden they're on centre stage, vilified as ecoterrorists and dolphin killers. One free tradecrat went so far as to argue that if GATT didn't accommodate the Greenies it would be GATT that lost out. Whatever the truth of this, GATT is going to be one to watch and keep pressure on.

There are of course other problems with GATT:

a) The Third World will not be able to give protection and subsidies to develop indigenous industry as such subsidies are GATT illegal. This leaves the South at the mercy of the transnational corporations (TNCs) that can go into these countries and plunder the resources and get cheap labour. Which brings me to...

b) The mobility of TNCs will put enormous downward pressure on wages and conditions in First World countries. They can threaten to relocate in, say Indonesia where wages are a fraction of those in Australia. And likewise of course with environmental standards.

GATT is by and for international capital. In countering international capital co-ordinated through GATT, the progressive movement will need to develop far better international links. Australian unionists, for example, need to have solidarity with Indonesian unionists to help them get better wages and conditions in order to protect those already in Australia. And international solidarity of this sort will be absolutely essential to survive the environmental crisis.

Russel Norman

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MYSTIFIED BY THE MATHS IN MICROBIOLOGY?

STUMPED BY THE STATS IN PSYCHOLOGY?

Why not drop in to the **Maths Learning Centre** ("downstairs" in the Hughes Plaza) where there are friendly tutors available to help you FOR FREE over a cup of coffee.

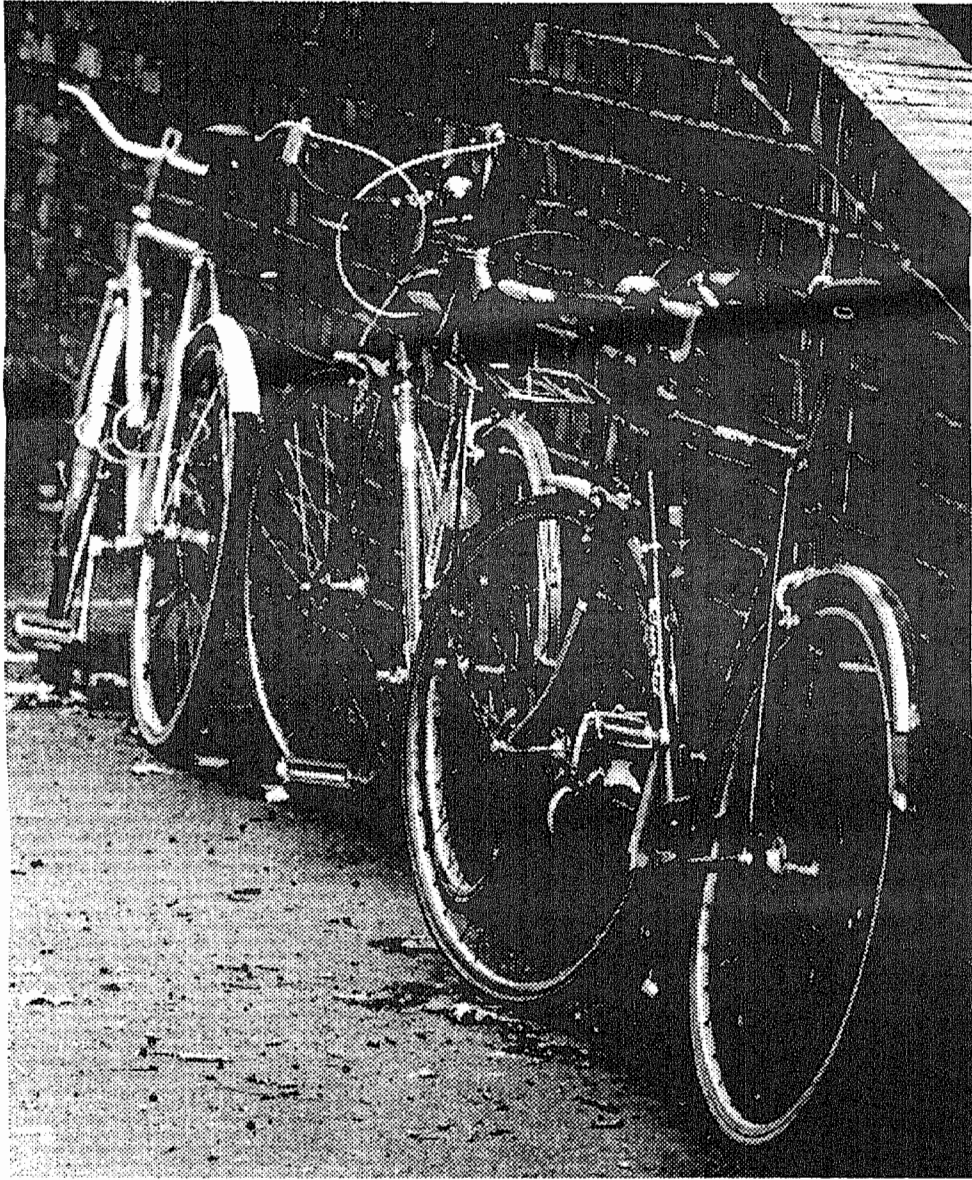
The drop-in facility is available to all Adelaide Uni students taking any first subject involving maths or stats, whether it be in Economics or Astronomy, Agriculture or Genetics!

Open 10am to 4pm daily (Monday 10am to 1pm). Phone 303 5862 for more information.

I like to ride my bike

May 1994 was declared United States National Bike to Work Month. A group of Internetters (people who ride on the information super highway that we've been hearing so much about lately) posted a challenge to other Internet users to amass the

distances travelled by bike, skates or on foot during one month, after which time these particular users, who called themselves "The Global Cycling Network" would calculate the reduction in atmospheric pollutants resulting directly from their efforts.



Internet efforts are truly global. The net spans almost every country in the world and while most of the users are westerners, who post in English, there are increasing numbers of well-off people from third-world countries. Recently, a new language specific to net users has been developing which renders language barriers irrelevant and brings everyone in the world much closer to one another.

The implications of this for environmentalism are enormous and as yet they are known only to a few hardened hackers. For a long time now "think globally, act locally" has been accepted as a sensible and effective principle in environmentalism. What is offered via Internet is the chance to immediately post to others news about how you are acting locally. They can then act locally in their own areas in the same way, and the result is one great big global act. Environmental networking at its best.

Unfortunately, not everyone has access to Internet (yet) and most of us don't even know what's going on in our next door neighbour's back yard. If we are really going to turn around our destruction of this planet we really need to start listening to one another, now. And what better place to start than with this challenge from our friends in California: "Brought to you by...The Global Cycling Network and...The letter 'B'." This is what they said:

Okay, so you ride your bicycle hundreds or thousands of miles over hill and dale on the weekends. You grind your teeth into talcum powder sweating it up the local "killer hill" or endure 100 degree heat over 100-mile courses that make your non-cycling

friends wonder if all that carbo loading hasn't turned your brain into spaghetti. But you still find yourself playing bumper tag every weekday on the way to work. Something's wrong with this picture folks!

I challenge you to leave your car at home for as much of this month as possible. Keep track of the number of days you ride, walk or skate to work and how far you travel round trip. (Please count only the most direct "cycling/walking/skating-friendly" route when tallying distance.) At the end of the month your score will be determined from the following formula: $S = 10N + D$ where N is the number of days commuted by bicycle, foot or skates (one way counts as half a day) and D is the total distance commuted.

From your score, I will estimate the reduction in atmospheric pollutants resulting directly from your effort (and all of our efforts collectively). You will also earn one of the following prestigious titles based on your score:

- 300+ Earth Guardian
- 200+ Green Machine
- 100+ Trend Setter
- 50+ Air Freshener

I will post the results back to the Net with a breakdown by organisation, city and country.

So, shall we rise to the challenge? I hereby declare that our Bike to Uni month starts now. Lets make the information super highway work in a useful, truly global way and show our friends in California that there is someone tapping away out there. If you want to join in, collate your results and bring them into the Students' Association. Vive the information revolution and Vive Planet Earth!

I like to clean my house

Green consumers often run into trouble when trying to buy household cleaning products. It's all very well to make sure you actively avoid adding to the toxic nutrient load which ends up in our creeks, rivers and the sea. But if at the end of the day, your clothes and dishes are just as dirty as they were then you may as well have kept your money. That's why it's refreshing to find biodegradable cleaners that actually work.

Tri Nature is one of these. The Tri Nature Company is a subsidiary of an Australian company based in Newcastle called Brockman Research Prop. Ltd, the research and development arm of Hammersley Chemical Industries. About fifteen years ago, the company's biochemists, who were concerned about the potential for environmental damage from the products used in industry, decided to develop some "green" alternatives.

Their major challenge was to find a natural material which could replace

the phosphate or nutrient based detergents used in conventional household cleaners but which posed no threat to the environment.

In their search they rejected the use of the phosphate substitutes now causing concern like zeolites and polycarboxylic acids (PCAs). Instead they developed a new polymer technology using herbal additives. The results of their research went beyond even their own expectations. Their years of research and development produced Tri Nature products, which are not only guaranteed to be safe for people and the environment, but have shown themselves to be economical and often better cleaners than their traditional polluting counterparts.

In recognition of this exceptional technical breakthrough, in 1990 the Banksia Environmental Award Foundation presented Tri Nature with two Certificates of Recognition for being first in the fields of Innovative Technology and Pollution Control.

Tri Nature products contain only plant based ingredients and some naturally occurring mineral salts. The company makes detailed information on these available to concerned consumers.

The products contain no ammonia, chlorine, petrochemical derivatives, formaldehyde or enzymes which can aggravate conditions like asthma, eczema or allergies. Local holistic medicine practitioners have had very positive results with their patients using Tri Nature products.

The low toxicity of Tri Nature cleaners has also been of interest to parents and those responsible for the care of small children. Tri Nature offers safe, effective alternatives to the conventional cleaners and dishwashing machine powders which can cause serious, even lethal, poisoning and burning.

All products are supplied in concentrated form, and contain no fillers or extenders. For this reason the initial outlay is greater than for your average

eco-destroying product but the products last much longer and in using them you're not harming the environment. From the start, the company recognised that consumer education in the use of concentrates is an important aspect of customer service and chose direct marketing as its method of distribution to enable consumer education to occur one on one.

The products are therefore made available through individual distributors who generally have a deep commitment to the environment and human health and a love for the Tri Nature products. Some people buy direct from the company just for themselves and friends and others make it available to the public. South Australia needs many more distributors in all areas to meet the increasing demand for these truly green products.

Anyone wishing to try these very special cleaners can contact Sue on 339-4412.

Subverting the Dominant Paradigm

Environmental Education at Tertiary Level

Environmental education has a number of important and unique features.

- It is new;
- It is holistic and non-disciplinary;
- It is based on values which are made explicit;
- It is subversive;
- The *process* of learning is an integral part of what is to be learnt.

It is easy to demonstrate that tertiary level environmental education is new. The Graduate Centre for Environment Science at Monash University can fairly claim to be the oldest such institution in Australia. It opened its doors in 1973. It was quickly followed by the Centre for Environmental Studies at Adelaide University in 1975 and centres at Tasmania, ANU and Macquarie in the early 1970s - all graduate centres. Undergraduate environmental education was not established until the late 1970s at Griffith University and Murdoch University. The Australian Association for Environmental Education was not founded until 1980.

Today, there are undergraduate and graduate courses at just about every university in the country which incorporate the word environment into their titles. But there is more to environmental education than just a name. The existence of departments, degrees or matric level subjects with environmental in their title doesn't guarantee that environmental education is occurring. In their early days, university courses offered by the pioneer Centres of Environmental Studies were little more than collections of subjects - biology, geology, law, economics, engineering, etc. with

mental education is, or should be, trying to show that everything is connected to and affects everything else; that the whole is a great deal more than the sum of its parts; that humans - and all their works - are part of nature; that it is how humans perceive their environment which is important and that reducing environmental issues to matters of biology, chemistry, physics or, heaven forbid, to dollar values, is totally counterproductive in understanding how the environment works and trying to protect it. These are immensely difficult things to do. More so because so much knowledge is taught in high schools and universities as part of traditional disciplines; it is very hard to break out of the mould of seeing the world broken up into discrete parcels of knowledge. Maybe this is why primary schools at one end of the educational journey and Graduates Centres at the other are so important in environmental education. They are not so constrained by this disciplinary reductionism. They can, to use the correct terms, be holistic and non-disciplinary.

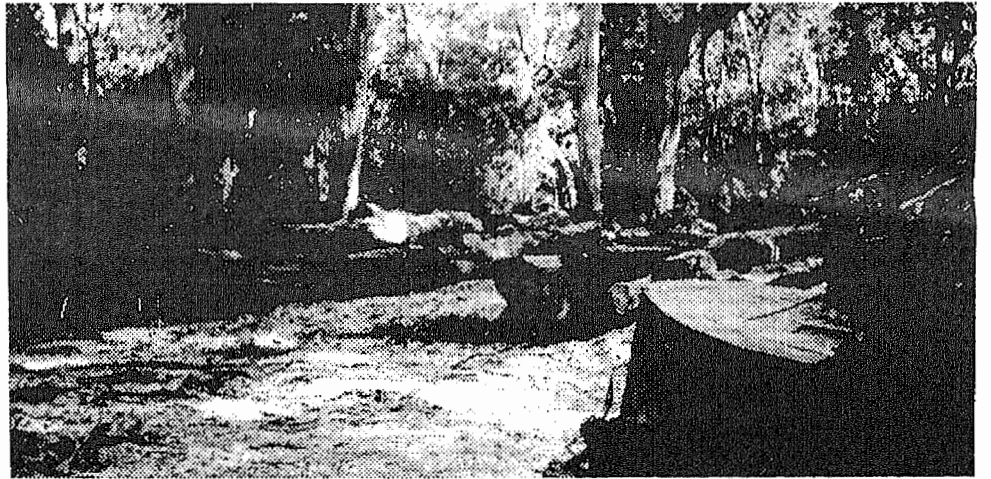
Let's turn to the third of my essentials for environmental education - values. There are three ways in which values necessarily are part of environmental education. First, it is committed to protecting the earth; it is, therefore, not just *about* the environment, it is *for* the environment. It assumes that the environment is worth defending and puts this as its primary goal. This is not the sort of thing which formal education at any level ostensibly sets out to do. The traditional objectives of liberal education are very individualistic - the development of healthy, fully developed indi-

viduals with the intellectual abilities and skills allowing them to take their place in a functioning society. But not even these individualistic objectives can be achieved unless we can save the earth and maintain an environment in which all or, indeed, any human activities can satisfactorily occur. We must therefore defend the environment and environmental educators

must say so loudly, clearly and often. But we must go beyond that to the second area in which values intrude. The consequence of adopting such individualistic educational goals, which is not usually stated explicitly, is that the present functioning of society is thereby maintained and enhanced. In other words, what

The different choices we make reflect our different values.

Why do I say that environmental education is subversive? At the time of the establishment of the earlier Centres for Environmental Studies in our universities, there was a crucial, widely shared confidence in the ability of the educational



are stated to be individual goals and values are, in fact, corporate and societal. But it is just these goals and values which, to a very great extent, created the environmental problems which now face us, so it is hardly surprising that environmental educators want something different. For example, the recent draft statement on 'Studies of Society and Environment for Australian Schools' released for consultation in November 1993, said (p6) ...

"Throughout their studies of society and environment, students ... develop the shared values which cluster around the concepts of democratic process, social justice and ecological sustainability."

The sharp, not to say acrimonious debates about 'sustainable development' and surrogates such as 'ecologically sustainable development' and 'ecological sustainability', show that Australian society is far from experiencing fully "shared values" in this case. Concepts of "democratic process" and "social justice" are also far from universally agreed upon. Whose was the *Common Future* of the Brundtland report? The affluent middle classes of the western industrialised nations? Or indigenous forest dwellers of Brazil, Indonesia and Borneo whose homes and livelihoods are being destroyed around them as the tropical rainforests are logged for the benefit of the aforementioned middle classes of the industrial nations?

The third reason why values are an inevitable part of environmental education is because it starts from the position that environmental problems exist which need to be solved, rather than that a piece of knowledge needs to be acquired, or that some theory is valid because it fits into the corpus of the rest of the theories of that particular discipline. Yet human beings cannot solve problems without some criteria for deciding between different choices.

process both to maintain the social, political and economic status quo *and* to change it. Today, with the awareness of the global environmental crises that the intervening years have brought, it has become increasingly clear that formal education in our society has functioned predominantly to *maintain* the social, political and economic conditions that have produced one environmental disaster after another. It is severely hampered in its ability to make the changes in human behaviours and attitudes necessary to stop the degradation of our planet, let alone improve its health. Environmental education must subvert the dominant paradigm.

I have made my point, I think, that environmental education is different and controversial. The consequences are easy to demonstrate. In its short history at Adelaide University, Environmental Studies has been subjected to a major review no less than three times; it is about to experience further reviews, partly as a consequence of a university-wide review of environmental science/studies currently being planned and partly because the Faculty of Arts, of which the Centre has been a part since 1984, is about to be reviewed. The brave independent Centres at Monash and Tasmania have been merged with traditional disciplinary departments. The ANU Centre no longer offers courses in environmental studies. Environmental education has had to fight all the way since its establishment in tertiary institutions and has lost many battles. Recognising what it is really about may yet allow it to achieve its stated goals - however, novel and subversive they appear. They are very necessary!

Associate Professor Ken Dyer
Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Adelaide.



the word environmental preceding them. They taught *about* the environment; there was little recognition of the centrality of social and political issues in environmental problems and there was little genuine integration of ideas.

Today, a genuine environmental education exists in at least some parts of some universities, including Adelaide. Environ-

mental education is, or should be, trying to show that everything is connected to and affects everything else; that the whole is a great deal more than the sum of its parts; that humans - and all their works - are part of nature; that it is how humans perceive their environment which is important and that reducing environmental issues to matters of biology, chemistry, physics or, heaven forbid, to dollar values, is totally counterproductive in understanding how the environment works and trying to protect it. These are immensely difficult things to do. More so because so much knowledge is taught in high schools and universities as part of traditional disciplines; it is very hard to break out of the mould of seeing the world broken up into discrete parcels of knowledge. Maybe this is why primary schools at one end of the educational journey and Graduates Centres at the other are so important in environmental education. They are not so constrained by this disciplinary reductionism. They can, to use the correct terms, be holistic and non-disciplinary.

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ENVIRONMENT WEEK

Monday 30th May

Launch

Union Gallery 1:15pm

Speakers: Professor Ian Falconer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic); Professor Martin Williams, Director, Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies

SAUA RESOURCES THAT YOU CAN USE TO BE KIND TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Photocopying

If you really feel the need to photocopy what you can often just read in the library, (thereby wasting far less paper), think about coming into the SAUA to do it. Not only is it considerably cheaper than in the library or anywhere else, we also have recycled paper in all our machines, and you can do double-sided copies.

Bus Timetables

By catching the bus you are helping to minimise the number of cars on our roads and hence the amount of muck we pump into the atmosphere. If you ever need to check a bus timetable, the SAUA has a full set hanging off the front desk. Make use of them. By the way, the STA would like me to let you know that their Customer Service Centre is open until 6pm Monday to Thursday, until 9pm on Friday and until 5pm on Saturday. Hmm...The SAUA is closer and open almost as long!

Environmental Resources

The SAUA has lots of books, government publications and journals which are available to students to borrow. There's a full list of what we have in the office so if you need some information for a course you're doing, or you're just interested, come in and check them out.

Bike Pump and Puncture Repair Kit

Riding a bike is not only very gentle on the fragile environment, it's also fun and it keeps you fit. However, bikes do get punctures and flat tyres. If this happens to you at uni, come in to the SAUA and borrow the puncture repair kit and bike pump. Just ask Nia at the front desk.

Car pooling

The SAUA is attempting to institute a car pooling scheme which would help cut down on the number of cars on our roads. We already have a lot of names of people who are willing to participate but we need more to make it work. If you are interested either in being a driver and getting some of your transport costs paid by your passengers, or in getting a lift with someone who's going your way, come and let us know.



Tuesday 31st May

Forum: The Hindmarsh Island Bridge

Barr Smith Lawns 12:30pm

Speakers: Dave Thomason, CFMEU; Sara Malra, Ngarrindjeri People

Workshop: Alternative Transport, organised by Friends of the Earth
South Dining Rooms (level 4 Union Building) 1pm
Facilitator: Roman Orzanski

Thursday 2nd June

Environment Speakout: Taking up the issues of the World Environment

Day rally: Make the Polluter Pay, Stop the Nuclear Cycle, No to the Hindmarsh Island bridge, Defend and Extend Public Transport

Speakers: Sue Dunn, People for Public Transport; Kate Mussared, Environmental Youth Alliance; David Evans, Resistance

Saturday 4th June

World Environment Day Rally: Young People and Communities Demand Environmental Justice
organised by Resistance and EYA
Parliament House 12 noon

Eco Fair

Festival Centre Amphitheatre



Wednesday 1st June

Eco Fair

Barr Smith Lawns 11am - 3pm

Band: Wave of Noisear

Barr Smith Lawns 1pm

Friday 3rd June

Screening of the film Greenbucks and public lecture by its director, Gabrielle Kelly on Ecologically Sustainable Development
Union Cinema 1pm

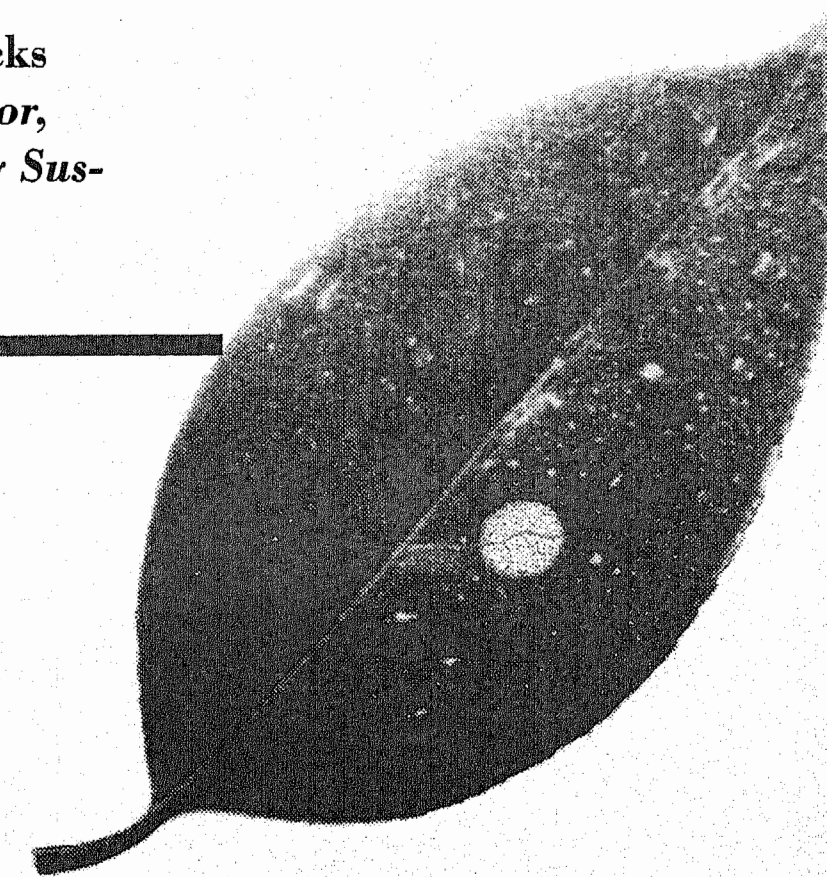
Sunday 5th June

Family Day

organised by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Belair National Park

BE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BY:

- Taking a five minute shower instead of a cascade
- Only washing your clothes when you've got a full load
- Keeping a scrap paper box
- Writing non-business letters on scrap paper
- Reusing your envelopes and wrapping paper
- Using a rag instead of paper towel
- Choosing the product with the least packaging
- Not taking your car whenever possible
- Walking, riding or catching a bus
- Car pooling
- Taking your own shopping bags when you shop
- Rejecting unnecessary packaging on fruit and vegetables
- Reducing, reusing, recycling
- Buying bulk foods
- Using a rubbish bin instead of plastic garbage bags
- Photocopying, printing or writing on both sides of the paper
- Recycling office paper
- Recycling cans and bottles in the red topped bins
- Looking for used items before you purchase new
- Putting a brick in your cistern
- Thinking of what else you can use it for before you throw it away
- Not eating meat every single day
- Not using disposables



PROGRAMME

Skate or die, man



For those of you who think that skateboarding is "kid's stuff", hopefully this article will serve to enlighten you. From my look at the skateboarding scene in Adelaide, I discovered what life is really like on Planet Skateboard and, believe me, there are "No Wimps". Accepting the risk of irreparable bodily damage is an integral part of any skateboarder's ideology. I observed this as I witnessed such tricks as "the handrail", which involves sliding down a handrail at the risk of injury to one's reproductive organs (if you don't pull it off).

Skateboarding may be a tough sport but it's more than just physical activity. It's a culture. Skateboarders are easily recognised world-wide in their baggy clothes and Airwalks. They speak a universal language unintelligible to the everyday person. Adelaide street-skater "Rudy" sums up skateboarding:

"Skateboarding has always lived on the edge of public tolerance. Ever since its emergence as a surf alternative, the sport has petrified slalomed pedestrians, aggravated law enforcers and driven many city councils to extreme reprimands. But why?"

Skateboarding is an activity that many have found to be inspiring, fulfilling, enjoyable and worthwhile. There's a certain feeling associated with skating that is unequalled anywhere and in any way. And that's what makes it so addictive. What may have been an occasional roll around the block soon escalated into a daily quest for a grindable curb or smooth embankment. The skateboarders of Adelaide are all people who, at one time, enjoyed skateboarding as a hobby, but now live it as a lifestyle. Unlike a drug, they feel it in their blood.

Comprehending this indivisible association between skateboards and their riders is extremely difficult - probably impossible - for anyone who doesn't share the feeling. Therefore skateboarding is still considered a fadistic game that hyperactive youths engage in during their adolescent years. Most people don't perceive skateboarding as its participants do. But how could they? They're not skaters.

So maybe next time you see a gathering of baggy clothed people rolling around on small planks of wood, you may be able to appreciate the significance of what they are doing. Hey, you may even catch the feeling and enjoy it."

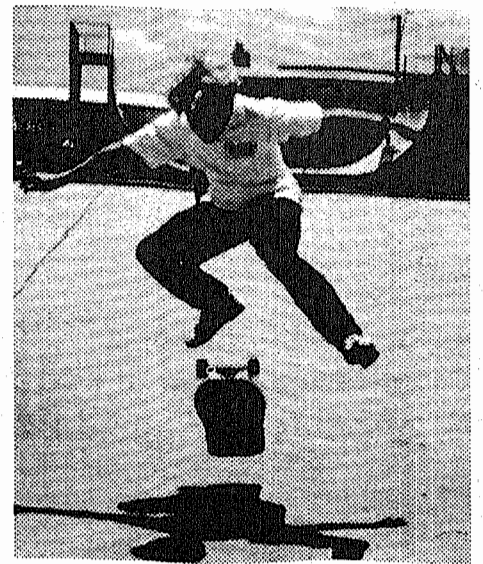
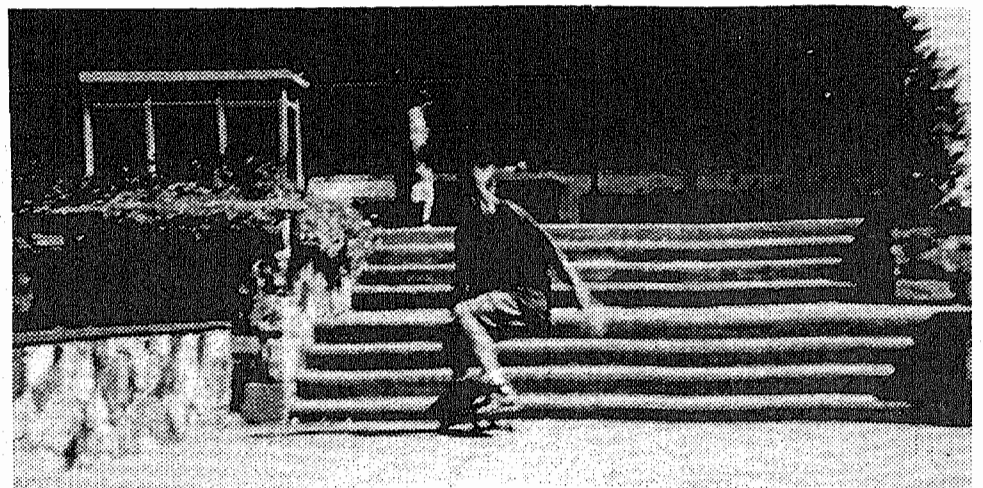
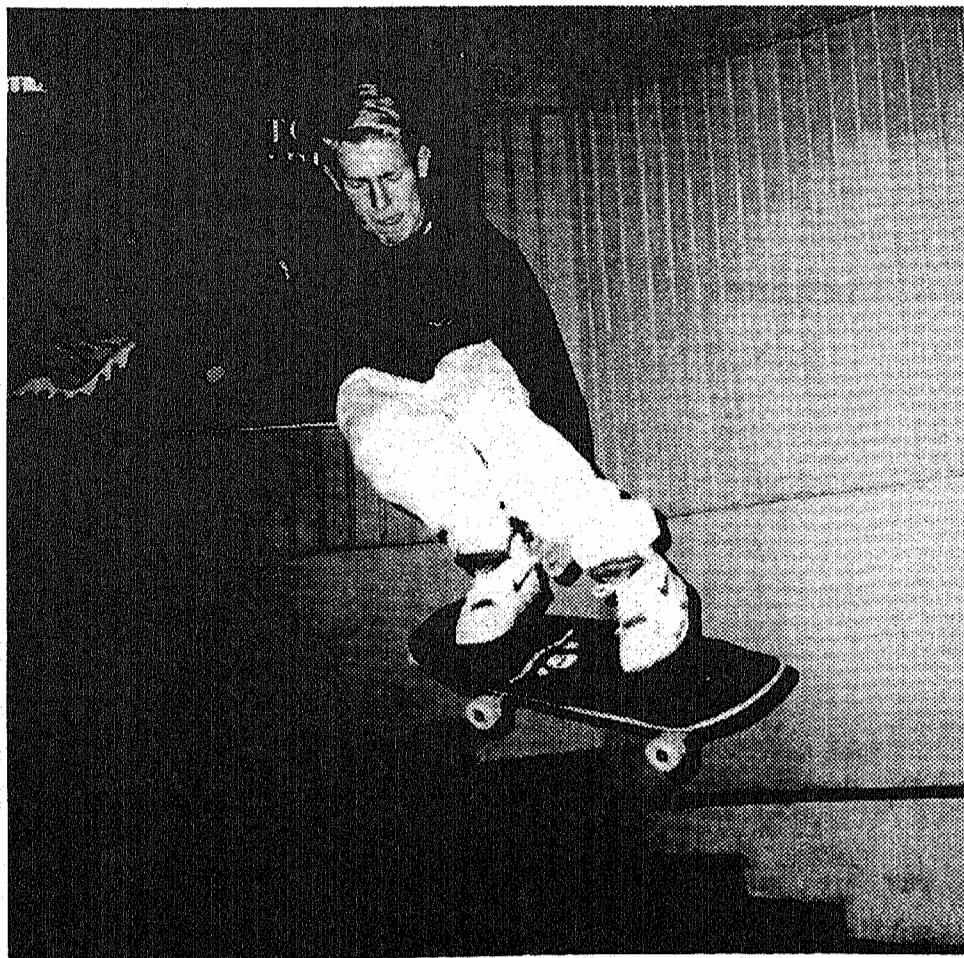


Others, like Matt, chose to sum up their experiences with shorter, more somewhat bizarre statements: "Shop SMART, shop S-Mart", while Dan "the Double Flight Man" added "Skateboarding is here for good. It will never die". Could this be the solution to reducing air pollution?

For lots of reasons, skateboarding is definitely worth a try. But take it from

me (someone who hasn't yet mastered the most simple trick, an ollie, without flying over backwards), it's a pretty intense and challenging sport. In fact, I have to conclude that skateboarding is either for the very skilled or for those who have a very blatant disregard for excessive bodily pain.

Natasha "The Thrasher" Yacoub



Doing time inside

“GO ON, TAKE EVERYTHING

TAKE EVERYTHING

I DARE YOU TO”

- HOLE

. . . That song just will not stop going ‘round and ‘round inside my head. I am standing in a cubicle with two “Women’s Correction Officers,” somewhere inside Northfield Prison.

One of the officers says to me, “I like your haircut. Now take off all your clothes.” The other officer reaches for a pair of latex gloves and puts them on, snapping the bands loudly against her wrists. I am being strip-searched on admission to the prison. My crime; an unpaid fine for not wearing a bicycle helmet whilst riding a bicycle.

I remove my coat, t-shirt and bra, then wait while one of the officers shakes them out. I feel like cowering in a corner, so I stick my thumbs through the belt-keepers on my jeans, pull back my shoulders and straighten my spine. I grin at the Latex Sow and say “O-o-Kay hon, you just stand over there, will you? And put your hands behind your back,” and then I laugh. She laughs too, and flexes her hands.

I undress and then, acting on instructions from one of the officers, I squat, cough and tilt my head back. Then I stand up again, hands on hips, fully conscious of body language. I grin and ask “how was that, then?”

“Fine,” they say, and leave me to change into my prison clothes. The Latex Sow removes her gloves, having (thank fuck) not touched me at all.

It all began the previous evening, when I was approached on my way home from the pub by two police officers, who asked me my name. It was about 2am and - whoops - a mental blank! The only name I could think of was ‘Thomas Aloysius Camden the Third, Esquire’, and that just wouldn’t do at all.

So I gave them my real name and address, and before I knew it, I was under arrest for aforementioned unpaid fine. Mind you, the last time the cops did a warrant check on me they laughed and said “Oh, so you didn’t wear a bicycle helmet? Of all the crimes - forget it, we’ve got better things to do.

Better things to do? This reminds me of a long-ago dingy encounter I had with the police. I was walking home at about 4:30am when I noticed somebody following me. He approached me and began threatening me. I walked on until I came across a group of police officers standing on the side of the road. I went over to them, explained that I was being followed, and asked for help. I spoke clearly, but they pretended to be hard of hearing, and when the man walked up behind me and took my arm, one of the officers said, “I think you’d better go with your boyfriend.”

I explained that I was being harassed, and that I had never met the man before. The police just looked in the opposite direction and ignored me. I later frightened the man away by myself, by threatening to break both his legs - but it would have been a lot easier with police assistance!

Ah well, that’s cops for you - never there when you need ‘em, and always there when you don’t. I suppose I shouldn’t have expected help from the police while I was wearing a mohawk and a short skirt.

Back to the bike helmet debacle. I spent the night in the watch-house, staring at the ceiling and wondering about all those ‘suicides’ that were supposed to have occurred in police custody. There’s nothing to hang yourself from in those cells.

At about 8am I heard yelling and screaming from the cell next door. A female voice was shouting “. . . but you can’t just drag me in here, off the streets - what am I charged with? You haven’t even arrested me!” This was followed by two other voices, swearing energetically (“You wanna bet we can’t? Just

get in that fucking cell, you fucking bitch. . .” etc.) then sundry bangs and thumps and grunting noises.

Then I was led out of my cell and handcuffed. I flung my hands out for the cuffs and cried “Tell them I went gracefully!” and was led to a van by two rather apologetic (but still firm) cops.

“To Northfield, Jeeves,” I said to the driver, “And don’t spare the horses.”

It was all a bit of a giggle, really. It was also a lot like a bad movie. My first view of Northfield Prison was of two sets of barred gates closing behind me, and lots of razor-wire, visible from the side window of the police van.

“I deserve it,” I muttered to myself. “I *must* wear a bicycle helmet, I must, I *must* remember. . .”

I wondered at the time, as I’m wondering now, just what the authorities hope to achieve by putting minor, first-time fine defaulters into the prison system. From what I can gather about prisons (at least in Australia) you can go into them for a crime and emerge a better, more skilful crim, having exchanged handy hints with the other prisoners. Prison can also teach people an immense anger with the police, which may lead to hostility and defensiveness when that person is approached by the police in future.

I acknowledge that I came through my little hassle without any trouble, compared with some of the horror stories I’ve heard about the police (I wonder what happened to the woman in the next cell, back at the watch-house). At the time I was uncomfortably aware of the fact that once behind a cell door, your fate is rather beyond your control. Pretty much anything could happen to you, and your word doesn’t always weigh much next to the word of a cop or a “Correction Officer”.

They let me out a few hours after I was admitted. One of the first forms I filled out was an application for community service. Even as I write this, my appalling debt to society remains unpaid (ha-haaa!), and I must do my quota of community service to set things right.

When I heard the screws coming to let me out I leaned against the bars on the cell door and began singing the theme from *Prisoner*. I was disappointed not to receive a tin cup to bang on the bars with, though. Styrofoam just don’t cut it, I’m afraid.

Before they released me, the Unit Officer had the stupidity to call through on the Intercom to ask me if I was still in my cell, after he’d locked me in there himself, about ten minutes earlier.

“Well, honey-child,” I replied, “since the door’s locked there ain’t much place else I can go, don’t you think? But give me another half-hour. I’ve just got it sussed, and in another half-hour I’ll be out, I reckon.”

So that’s the story I wanted to tell you. It doesn’t have a punchline or anything, it’s just an anecdote from a pissed off student. There is crime everywhere, you know - even your favourite lecturer could have done time at one stage.

Always remember, gentle reader, sometimes your freedom and physical safety may depend on the whim of a cop, so it’s best not to get aggressive with them when they pick you up. And always remember to wear your stack-hat when you’re riding a push-bike (and use a condom when you’re having sex. . .) and if you’re asked - ALWAYS GIVE THE POLICE A FALSE NAME AND ADDRESS!

“I LIKE YOUR HAIRCUT. NOW TAKE OFF ALL YOUR CLOTHES.”

“TO NORTHFIELD, JEEVES . . . AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES.”

A Full Load of your Front End

Rohan Thompson talks about shifting huge units with Sydney band Front End Loader.

The Germans want them. For some odd reason Front End Loader are capable of shifting huge units in a country that they've never been to. For some strange reason the fans go ga-ga for their sort of sound. So the aural destroyers, No-Means-No sharpened their pencils and asked the group to take a hike on the beer trail to Bavaria. The place where the pints are long and the kids like it loud.

"We had an offer to tour with No-Means-No," whom they previously collaborated with on a national tour in the wake of the release of their debut album. "We got along really well with them. They've got a tour of Europe in September and they wrote to us earlier this year and said 'We'd really like you guys to do it with us'. We, of course, said, 'Fuck, that would be unreal. We have to get there'."

They seemed to be getting just enough off each tour to place a deposit on the bus for the next tour. A renegotiated record deal with Shagpile Records through Shock opened the bank account doors. Dreams started to bear fruit and the likelihood of the German tour is looking better. "We wanted to put out an EP and an album and go to Europe so we decided that we needed to start negotiating another deal." That's

often easier said than done. For a struggling band it sounds like it's coming just a bit too easily. "We recorded an EP. We paid for it ourselves." So they're not bums then. Autonomy is an important factor. Self-reliance is never lost and Shagpile don't seem to be about to strip them of it. The comments about other record labels are not quite so nice. But a trip to Germany is still a trip to Germany.

The band is, nevertheless, miffed over their apparently favourable reception in Germany. Other groups such as the Adelaide band, Static, have just snaffled German record deals. Recent news indicates that there exists a cadre of pro-Australian music maniacs on the continent. "We've sold pretty well close to a thousand CDs over there and we haven't even been there." Anything slightly loud and at least semi-industrial gets lapped up by the bucket load.

There are still objections to the tour. The record label in Germany that carries No-Means-No seemed less than keen to go ahead. A few of the venues have a bit of a complex when it comes to booking double bills. "They'd never heard of us. They thought, we're going to have to put up our money and reputation for this band that

we've never heard of." They also claimed that Front End Loader have major label connections. That didn't wash with the fiercely independent German carrier. "We had major label connections in Europe which I think they somehow figured out because Survival, who our previous album came out on is distributed by Play It Again Sam who probably have some distribution arrangement with a major or something. But No-Means-No wrote back to them saying that we have no direct deal with a major. Even if we get just a couple of shows with them in Germany then it will go down great."

For the time being the group could be

found floating around Australia, swathing a trail of headaches and sore necks and life-long ear complaints. They showed up at the Synagogue recently. It was a Friday. Friday the thirteenth. No-Means-No weren't around but You Am I made an appearance. It was loud. That was to be expected. They played the way they wanted to. Even if the future of the big tour in Europe remains slightly enshrouded in fog, it's hard to believe that they're about to disappear. There's still too much determination and too much youth. The fan base is burgeoning and there's still no sign of exhaustion. Play loud. Drive fast.



The Front Endies.

STATE THEATRE

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

The Swan

by ELIZABETH EGLOFF

A BIZARRE love triangle. The story of a MAN, a WOMAN and the SWAN that comes crashing into their lives.

with KAARIN FAIRFAX, DAVID FIELD, ANTHONY WONG and XIAO-XIONG ZHANG

Director MELISSA BRUCE

Designer GENEVIEVE BLANCHETT

Sound PAUL CHARLIER

Lighting MARK SHELTON

The SPACE THEATRE,
Adelaide Festival Centre
4 June to 2 July

BOOK AT BASS PHONE 131 246



JAZZ
AT THE SCOTT

Featuring
The Adelaide Connection
Directed by John McKenzie with the Bruce Hancock Trio featuring Tony Hobbs on Saxophone
The University of Adelaide Big Band II
Directed by Tony Hobbs
Senior Student Jazz Ensembles
Thursday 2 June 1994
Scott Theatre 8pm
General Admission \$10 Concession \$8 Students \$5
Tickets are available from all Austicket outlets including the foyer of Elder Hall Book by phone on Auscharge 131314

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

The Adelaide Connection is proudly sponsored by
 QANTAS
THE AUSTRALIAN AIRLINE

Viva Las Lovers

The darlings of the Australian pop scene, The Underground Lovers return to Adelaide next week.

George Safe spoke to Vince Giarrusso, the lead singer.

Melbourne's Underground Lovers have been back in Australia for about eight months now, after completing a rather largish overseas tour - England, Scotland and across America. Understandable then, that the band have been lying pretty low, taking the time to recover from *Life On The Road*, and to finish their third album, *Dream It Down*.

Vince Giarrusso is on the blower to chew the fat (oh dear) about *Dream It*

feely response from English record companies, which Vince is eager to play down.

"We had a few people talking to us, but we came back and knew we had to finish the album that we started before we left, so we didn't really follow up on it. In the meantime we felt that we needed to find something that was more based in Australia, because signing to something overseas is a bit scary in a way because you sort of lose that

got college radio, and we found that a lot of people had heard of us."

According to Vince, he was inspired to write the new single *Las Vegas* after a heavy night in the USA

"I woke up after a huge night on the town, in a seedy hotel in Reno, next to what I thought was a girl - *Las Vegas* is his story."

Other crazy touring experiences also abounded in America, land of the Crazy Touring Anecdote:

"We nearly died three times in America. The plane we were on took off from Detroit and it got delayed, then we were in the air and reached a high altitude, then all of a sudden the plane dropped 10 000 metres.

They turned us back and we had an emergency landing. We had to assume crash positions and there were people praying and stuff. It was quite exciting actually - very funny, because all the air hostesses and stewards really panicked."

Another scary moment for the band occurred in LA.

"When we got to LA, we had to spend the night because our plane had been delayed. We didn't know what to do, so someone suggested taking a bus to down-town LA. We thought down town LA would be like down-town Melbourne, you know, shops and business centre. But down-town LA is the heart of the riots. So we ended up in this full-on riot country - it was really strange and really tense. We were the only anglo-saxon people there. There were addicts and black people everywhere, and everyone was giving us all these bad looks. We didn't know whether we were going to get out of there alive actually."

But they did make it back safe and sound to put the finishing touches on *Dream It Down*, to be released in mid June.

"It worked out well, because we had

time to think about what we'd recorded, we ditched some songs, re-wrote others. We just had more time, which worked to our advantage. It was sort of frustrating in a way, because some of the songs had been going for over two years. I don't think we'd do it again like that, but it was OK."

Certainly *Dream It Down* marks a departure from *Leaves Me Blind*

"Yeah, it's a lot more considered, a lot more introspective, and wiser in a way than *Leaves Me Blind*. There's sort of an air of franticness to *Leaves Me Blind* which we wanted to get away from. It's more experimental. We got away from noisy guitars and replaced that with more acoustic sounding instruments, but at the same time the technology we used is sort of more "out there" as well. We're sort of using a lot more samplers and sequencers. We're mixing the two radically different sounds together all the time."

Dream It Down features another crucial difference - a new drummer. Former drummer Richard Andrew left shortly after the tour to pursue a non-drumming musical career, and replacement Derek Yuen has worked out a treat.

"He's fitted in really well. He's a different drummer to Richard - he's more jazz-influenced and sort of holds back more, which is suiting the style of the songs at the moment. He's just a guy we met through auditions, although he's always been a fan. But he's actually studying industrial design and he's a shoe designer. He's been doing some designs for the band as well."

Lastly, I ask whether in spreading themselves across the Atlantic as they have certainly done, the Underground Lovers still identify with being an "Australian" band?

"It's sort of weird for us, because when we got to England we got a reaction like, 'they're good, but they're Australian'. In England they'd also think we were an American band that sounded English, and then when we got to America it was that we sounded like an English band. They never picked up on the fact that we were Australian unless it was in a negative context. But we are an Australian band, born and bred here, I don't know. I think it's our outlook, something that you can't pinpoint that makes us an Australian band."

The Underground Lovers play at Synagogue with The Mandelbrot Set this Wednesday night.



I left blind, but dreaming it down

Down, wacky tour antics, and shoe designers.

I start by asking him about England, where the group played at 4AD's prestigious showcase "13 Year Itch" show in London. A primo slot at what many consider to be the hippest label's extravaganza was scored when The Undies released *Leaves Me Blind* on 4AD's baby offshoot label Guernica last year. For lovers of fine music the bill included The Breeders, Lush, Betie Severt ... the list goes on. So, how was it Vince?

"Um, it was really good, although a bit nerve wracking. It's a big event over there, and we'd had a big week of gigs and stuff. But it was fantastic - really good to be a part of it."

Combined with rave reviews and interviews in *NME* and *Melody Maker*, the 4AD show generated a very touchy-

control. You really need to be over there all the time."

Vince is also keen to put the Brit music papers hype-machine into perspective.

"Their press is the greatest hype machine in the world - *NME* and *Melody Maker*. Whether it's a good thing or a bad thing, it's totally hyped. And so what we get from the magazines over here is a totally distorted picture of what it's actually like, and sometimes what the bands are like."

We switch to talking about America, and radio:

"America was really good. The radio was so much better than England. Australia's got the best radio in the world, I reckon. In England their radio is just crap - nothing like what we have. Not like RRR in Melbourne, or JJJ nationally. But in America they've

A little Spanish night music



Paco and troupe

The world renowned flamenco guitar virtuoso, Paco Pena, is back in Australia again, this time with five dancers, three singers and four guitarists. Having performed, so far, in Perth, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, virtually every night, I asked him how he was coping with the busy schedule.

Paco: Yes, it is very busy. I suppose it's necessary when you come all the way from Europe that all the time is used as much as possible, of course we expect that.

On Dit: Do you find it difficult to sustain such energy every night?

Paco: I don't have any problem with that, that's what I do. You gear yourself psychologically and emotionally to perform. The moment really comes when you're there.

OD: Are you still performing with Inti

Illimani?

Paco: We always do occasionally get together and do something but we never plan long term because we have our own ways to do things, we have our different groups. We may be going to Chile at the beginning of next year, which is something we discussed not long ago.

OD: How do you find it working with classical guitarist John Williams?

Paco: Why, I love John. I find it enlightening and enriching. He's a great musician and a great friend of mine, so that is like being in a family and certainly with a great master, like him, things are always rich and new.

OD: What about other flamenco guitarists, such as Paco De Lucia?

Paco: Well, it's tremendous the way he plays and the way he expresses the music.

Again, it's like a great master, it's always new and creative, I love it.

OD: Could you translate or explain the term *duende*?

Paco: It is a difficult thing even to talk about. We never talk about these things. If you like what you are doing you do it, if art penetrates to you then you interpret that as you like. Certainly, I try and we all try to enjoy, we do it and therefore the muses of art will appear if they do but it's a bit pretentious of me to speak about that. It's something that if you experience it, great. It is like putting words where it is feelings that must be.

Paco Pena and his new Flamenco Dance Company will be performing on Tuesday, 31st May at the Festival Theatre. Olé!

Dylan Woolcock

Mantissa on the high road

Mantissa have been through quite a bit in their time: a name change, line-up changes, two hit songs and now a 5-month, 100+ gig tour of the United States, which is where Sid, the drummer of the band, was when Florian Minzlaff spoke to him.

My first question was about how the tour of the U.S.A. was for Mantissa:

"Really good; we did two tours. One of them was just clubs on our own, and then we did a tour with a band called Blue Murder. Have you heard of them?"

I had to confess my ignorance: all I knew was that Blue Murder's guitarist is ex-Whitesnake and Thin Lizzy member John Sykes.

They gave Mantissa a chance to play in some renowned venues during their U.S. tours, and I asked how it felt playing in, for example, Roxy Music in New York.

"Pretty exciting; I mean, it's a big thing. We were aliens to everyone who was watching us. I mean, we spoke funny, and really fast, so no-one could understand what we were saying."

In fact, Sid found that Americans generally had very little idea of what Australia was like: "We got some strange bloody questions, like whether there was a drive-through McDonalds in Australia ... they're mad over here, I tell you [laughs], they think it's [Australia] like a Third World country. Some of the questions are, like 'Do you have cities in Australia?', or 'Is there cars?'. They really don't know, ...some people haven't even heard of Australia. It's America: all it is itself, that's it, there's not much outside. The only thing [about Australia] I've ever seen on the news here is about the bush fires in New South Wales earlier this year, otherwise there's nothing, no world weather or anything."

Since the band's transport usually consisted of the members sharing the driving of the band van, stress levels

were higher than usual, but the group also got the chance to do some sight-seeing.

"It was stressful, but also fun because we got to see amazing sights like the Niagara falls, the Grand Canyon, the Rocky Mountains as we went through Colorado, you name it, we saw it."

I asked how their album *Mossy God* was doing. "It's doing well, both in the U.S...and in Australia. There's a single being released on the 31st of May in Australia, called "Sanctify". We did the video [for the single] with the guy who did the video for Alice In Chains' "Would?" and Cypress Hill's "Insane in the Brain"."

Asked about the effects of the band's name change from Killing Time to Mantissa, Sid stated that the effects had been positive: "I think it's been good because we had a few line-up changes, like me and the lead guitarist, and it's just good to start our stuff from scratch. At least we haven't got two names now, because if we were called Killing Time, we would have had to change our name over here, since there's already a Killing Time in New York, a punk band, strangely enough. [laughs]"

Besides Blue Murder, Mantissa also supported Mindfunk, one of my favourite American guitar bands, and I asked Sid how he felt supporting them. "It was really cool. We started our combined tour in Washington D.C., and the Mindfunk guys and us were loading our [respective] equipment. They saw the names Mantissa and Australia on our road cases, and they came over and said 'Hey, you guys did a record with Terry Date [legendary producer for several big-name guitar bands]'. Terry Date did our record with us, and then after that he went and did Mindfunk's straight away, so Mindfunk knew everything there was to know about us. We got along like a house on fire, partly because they al-

ready knew something about us."

Touring, in fact, seems to have the potential to become a routine, as I found out when I asked Sid to describe a typical day on tour.

"A typical day on tour for us starts in the morning, which is check-out time, 12 o' clock. We get our stuff and ourselves into the car, probably we're hungover. Then, for the last three weeks, we've been driving probably four to six hours to the next city, and we get there for sound check, set up our gear. Because we've been supporting Blue Murder, we get on stage early: sound check is at around eight o'clock, and we come on stage about nine thirty, ten. Then pack up our gear, just

hang around for a while and then go back to the hotel. Then the next morning, we get up and do it all again." Sid disputes that the 'rock n' roll lifestyle' is a glamorous one, but... "It can wear you out; it's bad when you're really tired and you're driving, but when you're on stage, and you're playing and having fun, you just forget about all that."

Lastly, I asked Sid for a definition of the band and especially its sound: "Well, we got a write-up in San Francisco that said we were Led Zepplin crossed with Jane's Addiction, on crystal meth. I thought that was a great description of what we sound like."



Lock up ya daughters.

Serious rock action

Dave Graney and The Coral Snakes have just released the follow up to their highly successful *Night of the Wolverine* album, entitled *You wanna be there but you don't wanna travel*. Tim Gow caught up with Dave Graney as he prepared for his forthcoming tour.

OD: Is *You wanna be there but you don't wanna travel* much of a departure from *Night of the Wolverine*, or are the two fairly similar?

DG: I think all the elements are pretty much the same although we knew when we recorded this that we'd have a bit more time to spend on rhythms and guitar sounds and there's about two weeks more production in it, so we thought we'd have more rockin' sounds and it's more around that end of the spectrum and that sound. I don't think of it as us progressing to some degree or leaving things behind. There's quite a few stories and ballad kinds of songs on this album too.

OD: And do you think there's more of a pop influence or is it pretty much the same in that regard?

DG: I guess we tried to make it a bit more vibrant with more emphasis on melodies and choruses and thumpin' beats than the more lyrical slant to *Night of the Wolverine*, yeah. We tried to get Tony Cohen, the producer, to make it more dynamic and pop.

OD: What led you to get Tony Cohen into the studio; what kind of work did you admire of his?

DG: Well he did *Night of the Wolverine* for us and he's one of a kind really. I've known him for a long time and he's going through a hot creative period which happens to producers as well as performers. There's nobody comparable to him as someone to have on the recording, he's quite a fiery character. We liked what he did on *Night of the*

Wolverine which was recorded very quickly and we thought that it would be good to work with Tony with a little bit more time.

OD: Do you have any musical influences or does your music come exclusively from inside you?

DG: Personally, the greatest influence on me is a singer from New York from a very long time ago called Alan Vega. He's a very flash singer who used to be in a group called Suicide who were a bit before their time. He's a Hispanic looking little guy who's a beautiful beat-poet kind of singer. You never got the impression that he was the kind of singer who would labour over lyrics or anything, he just seemed to be totally flash; a total finger poppin' flashin' freak rocker. He is just out of this world; I saw him play once in Switzerland and he was just fantastic, he was the sort of performer who you could see until he died. As far as the Coral Snakes go, we don't have any kind of personal mythology that we bring to things that hang heavy on us because we didn't form the group when we were teenagers in a single place. We all came from very different directions. Clare Moore and I came from The Moodists and that Melbourne post-punk scene. Our bass player Gordie Blair comes from Belfast, Ron Hayward our guitar player comes from the Melbourne rock scene but I'd never met him until he started playing with us in 1989 and Robin Casinader comes from another distinct tribe of the Melbourne rock scene; all come from very different directions.

OD: You've described your music as "Rock 'n Roll Rock 'n Roll". What does that actually mean?

DG: It means that it's Rock 'n Roll that's fallen off the tree, laid around for a bit, that's turned to mush and dried

and then got up and gone for a piss and a look around.

OD: How much input do the rest of the Coral Snakes have in the production and the writing of the songs? Is it very much your project or more of a group thing?

DG: It belongs much more to the kinetic energy of a group of people doing something. We've been playing together for a long time and this record especially belongs very much to The Coral Snakes and their empathy for my songs. I write the songs on the guitar and go through them and suggest ways that I want it to attack. There's a song on it called "The Word is How" and I said that I wanted it to be like a dumb boogey; like something Wizard would do (Wizard were a 70's glam-rock band). On another song, "The Stars Baby", I wrote the guitar riff and all the little things and just told the band to play it with a lot of stomp and rock action and make it really wild, and I'll see you at the end of it. They play it with a lot of that kind of devil-may-care attitude; it's very much a band kind of thing.

OD: Is that kind of attitude similar to The Moodists or is it something different?

DG: The Moodists was like, it was long time ago, I don't really remember it, but more like nobody was there with the one distinct idea writing the songs. In The Coral Snakes, I've been setting the borders up and saying "I want to work in this kind of area here and this is the kind of song that I want to do" but The Moodists didn't have that, it was more like five people playing as loudly as they could which as a live act made it very aggressive.

OD: Is the project you are working on currently always the most exciting to you, or do you look back on your other

work most fondly?

DG: I have the most optimism for this record than I've ever had before and it's the first time we've ever had to deal with expectations of an audience and expectations of record companies, so it seems like this the first time in my musical career where we are on some kind of track and some kind of journey and we



won't ever be going back. Other times it's always seemed like a much more fidetary kind of feeling to a place in the world of rock music, it was a bit more out of the way than we are now.

OD: Finally, how important are lyrics to you? Is rock music a kind of intangible thing or are the lyrics important to you as well?

DG: It's good if there's not too much emphasis placed on one thing, it's got to be a whole kind of thing. Like the group You Am I look really flash and they rock and it's all the fury of it that really drags you in, and later on you'd listen to the words maybe. Ed Keuper has a real rhythm and blues kind of easyness to all of his music, and he doesn't print lyric sheets or anything like that, so a lot of his music acts in that kind of primal way. The Cruel Sea are like that too, they have a sensuous kind of feel to their stuff, and the same with Kim Salmon. I went to see Red Cross play a couple of months ago and it was in a big hall and I'd never heard any of their music before and I couldn't hear any of the lyrics at all but it came across as such a fantastic rock action show that I was completely sold and I went and bought their latest CD as soon as I could, so it's generally a whole thing and you get a feeling of what the words could be and later on you may think they are important, but I like the whole package rather than just someone thinking they are a poet or something.

Dave Graney and the Coral Snakes will be performing live at the Unibar on June 4. *On Dit* has five tickets to give away. To win, all you need do is rock up to the office on Thursday at 1pm.

★
EXCLUSIVE
★

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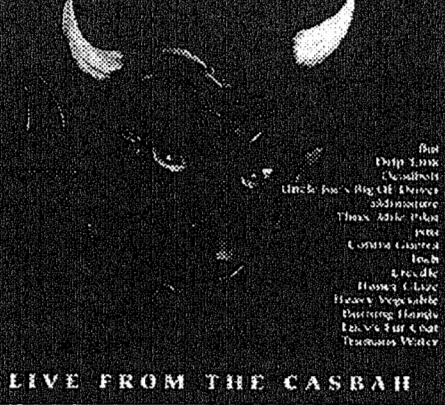
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EXCLUSIVE
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Musica del Diablo



LIVE FROM THE CASBAH

Bind
Black Market Flowers
Relativity/Sony

"Grunge" is dead, or so I'm told, and thus record companies are no longer labelling their new, guitar-playing bands the next Nirvana or Pearl Jam. Instead Sony have undertaken the audacious step of calling Black Market Flowers "the Led Zeppelin of the 1990s" (Sony Soundbytes), at best an unrealistically heavy burden to place on a new band.

Despite the fact that this comparison is far from accurate (to these ears at least) the Black Market Flowers have made one hell of an album. Slower and more melodic but by no means less heavy than, say, Alice In Chains, *Bind* does not introduce any incredibly off-centre, original ideas to contemporary music, but is simply a good rock n' roll album. Some inconsistent song-writing and an occasional inability to maintain a good melody line for an entire song hinder this from being all it could be, but at their best (for example on the opening track "Fixin'"), the Black Market Flowers are very good indeed, and certainly worth giving a good listening to.

Florian Minzlaff

The Venus Trail
The 3Ds
Festival

This album is a pain to have to review because it is simply too good and I'm going to feel like an effusive wanker. Perhaps I'll let other reviewers give you the picture. *Spin* has called them "the world's premier noisy pop band," *Melody Maker* has called them "masters of melody" and *Select* said of *Helzapoppin*, their first album, "in an ideal world all pop would be as vibrant and inspirational as this."

The Venus Trail is consistently better than *Helzapoppin*, with more memorable riffs, more churning guitar, more layers of demented melody. The movement between extremes is astonishing - from the frenzied and fuzzed "Dr Sues" to the haunting clarity and beauty of "Beautiful Things". There are moments of slacker lo-fi rambling, and moments of panoramic timelessness, of sweet, simple sounds. There is chaos and tune, noise and melody, paranoia and peace, beauty and frenzy - all overlaid with a refreshing sense of fun and laughter.

Highlights for me are "Jane Air", a gleeful, weird rush of Sonic Youth style guitar (without the aloof-cool crap) and Dave Mitchell screeching over the top in his manic psycho-nerd vocals, "Love has come into my heart... and I want it out." Then there's "The Golden Grove" with Denise's serene voice floating above dense background guitar. And "Summer Stone", an astonishing, buzzing tune that sits tight in the memory after one listen. And "Ice", and avalanching noise-fest. Then there's... well, you get the picture. My advice is listen to it sometime before you either die or get married.

Andrew Fisher

Blood
The Holy Toledos
Sony

The Holy Toledos are a pretty reasonable band for a group that virtually nobody knows. They could be labelled as a folk influenced pop / rock that also has an indie guitar pop influence too.

One of the songs, "Love's Not Fair", has Paul Hester (ex-member of one of New Zealand's best bands - Crowded House) playing the drums and percussion. This song sounds remarkably like Crowded House, even the vocalist changes his style to sound more like them.

One of The Holy Toledos' biggest problems may be that they aren't commercial enough for the commercial market, while they aren't really alternative enough for the alternative market.

Much of the album really isn't alternative but the song "Save a Second" kept me happy by finishing off with a bit of weird guitar noise. Other stand-out songs include "Only For You", which is mildly angry; "Blood", which is slow, beautiful and folksy, and; "Waking Up" which is also a graceful slow ballad. The lyrics of the album are thought-provoking and deep, covering issues such as alcoholism, the shedding of blood, the selling of arms and the always popular subject of... can you guess... yes - love.

Overall, a good album but it's a bit of a grower so you may want to hire it before you buy. Do listen out for The Holy Toledos, they have got potential.

Scott Berry

Sitting Pretty
Warners
Festival Records

The Warners would like to be bad-arse hard rockers but all they have managed to be is bad at hard rock. They have been playing in pubs around New Zealand for the last 10 years but you'd never guess they had all that experience, but you do easily notice that here is a band well and truly stuck in the 80s.

The production is bad, the album is low in originality and the lyrical content is severely lacking. Poetry like "I'm sick, sick, sick as a dog," repeated several times for the chorus spews from this inadequate, attempted hard rock album.

Now to try and think of good points. The vocal delivery is punchy (but at times very cliched), the guitar and bass solos are quite decent. There are lots of songs on the album (I think that's a good point - either value for money or longer suffering). Another good point is that my parents hated it (oh, but so did I, come to think of it!).

The best songs of a bad bunch include "Satellite Surfing" and "Peggy Suicide". How are these titles for cliched song names - "Bad City", "Dance of the Dead", "Baby Baby" and "Dance Dance Disco".

All I can say about this album is ... Don't bother!

Scott Berry

Geronimo
Ry Cooder
Sony Music Australia

Geronimo, produced by Ry Cooder, is the soundtrack to the movie of the same name. A diverse and bizarre array of styles and instruments comprise this recording, ranging from the amazingly low guttural throat singing from Tuva and nearby regions to a military brass band.

The masterful guitar work of Ry Cooder and the flute of R. Carlos Nakai prove the solid mainstays of most of the original tracks. A very powerful rendition of "Wayfaring Stranger", with soulful cello on melody and emotive orchestral swells stands out, as does, for entirely different reasons, an accordion duet that is surprisingly tasteful.

Geronimo is very effective in evoking a wide range of moods and scenes, although from a purely listening perspective as a CD it is a bit disjointed.

A must for Ry Cooder fans.

Dylan Woolcock

THE VERYS



TWENTIETH CENTURY FIX

Twentieth Century Fix
The Verys
Red Eye / Polydor

Twentieth Century Fix is the first album from Australian group The Verys that I have come into contact with and, perhaps, it will be the last. An all male four-piece, The Verys have presented a 13-track LP which has a great cover but that's about it.

Inside the slip there are quotes from some of the songs - "I'll sit and wait with my despair slowly sipping my deception" - but the unfortunate thing is that it's practically impossible to hear these lyrics in the songs. It's gruff, growly and vicious music that doesn't seem to get anywhere, even though they're desperately trying to make a point... whatever it is.

They have some impressive names behind them, such as recording / producing whiz, Paul McKercher, but I find that this album is nothing different to what's already been done. However, their "thank you Verys much" list (ugh!) is fun reading (including mentions of the Butthole Surfers, Lush and fried onions) and knocks the socks off any Welcome Mat effort.

Shelley

Musica Del Diablo
Various
Cargo/MDS

This live CD documents the impressive San Diego alternative scene, featuring 15 local bands recorded at the Casbah, a club with an audience capacity of 75 but a superb lineup of artists. Five of the featured bands (Truman's Water, Miniature, Rust, Inch and Lucy's Fur Coat) have secured major label deals, and most of the others (including Drip Tank, Deadbolt, fluf, Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver and Heavy Vegetable) can be found on Headhunter records. Despite the disparate sounds, the San Diego scene has been described as the 'new Seattle' due to the wealth of talent and music industry interest, the irony of which is not lost on Deadbolt, who introduce their song with a rather poignant mauling of Pearl Jam's 'Jeremy'. Whilst there is a common use of interesting and distorted guitar, this selection is not homogenous enough to classify a scene, apart from showing a wealth of talent that is deservedly being explored. The live recording is entirely adequate without being studio quality, the performances are generally first rate, and overall this compilation gives you the chance to discover and appreciate some new, innovative music in a well produced package.

Daniel Kearney

Smashed on a Knee
Powder Monkeys
Dog Meat

Melbourne's Powder Monkeys play rock'n'roll like it was meant to be played. Loud, gritty, passionate and technically brilliant. John Nolan is one of the few guitarists who can let fly on a lead break without boring me shitless, and only Tim Hemensley could get away with singing these songs. Pain, suffering, drugs and brawling are the main source of inspiration for this record, which can get a little much for those of us who've lead a nice sheltered life, but Tim's not pretending or bragging. The music leans on R'n'B, and features some blues harp, but I think the best description is rock'n'roll. Real rock! Have I mentioned John Nolan's guitar work? Have a listen to 'Persecution Blues' - he doesn't need to play a lead break to be inspiring. I strongly suggest you see this band live, and get this record (if you think you can stomach the lyrics).

Daniel Kearney

In My Time

Charlie Musselwhite
Festival Records

Charlie Musselwhite has been blowing his harmonica since the 50s, rubbing shoulders with the gods of blues - Little Walter, Muddy Water, Howlin' Wolf, Magic Sam and John Lee Hooker. Charlie has learnt well from his mentors and gives back to the blues tradition as much as it has given to him.

In My Time is an excellent album of diverse shades of blues. There are 16 tracks on this album, with feels and grooves ranging from slow pieces with slide guitar and voice ("Stingaree", "Brownsville Blues") to full-blown jams with guitar, bass, drums and piano ("Watson's Excellent Adventure", "When it Rains it Pours").

I find Charlie at his most soulful when he accompanies himself on slide guitar and sings with the legendary group The Blind Boys of Alabama. The Blind Boys appear on two tracks, "Aint it Time" and "Bedside of a Neighbour". The minimal arrangements and Charlie's gravelly baritone make these tracks as emotionally powerful as good blues can be.

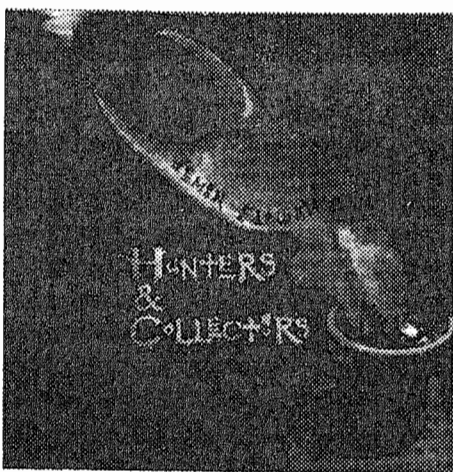
Even though there are many moments of brilliance on *In My Time*, the album still contains lots of musical clichés (traditions?) and that old blues standby - misogynistic lyrics. A few of the tracks are of the "low-down-cheatin' woman-who-up-and-left-me" type. I know it's tradition, but ...? The music makes it worth the occasional cringe and the music is what the album is all about. This is a beautiful cathartic experience, lump-in-the-throat material. Listen to it when you "got them blues ...".

HBC

BLUES AND THERAPY? COMPETITION

Thanks to **Festival Records**, there is an opportunity for all the blues fans out there to win some serious blues compilations, including *The Great Bluesmen*, *Blues At Newport* and *Chicago Blues Of The 60s*. If you're interested, come into the *On Dit* office on Thursday the 26th of May between 1:15 and 1:45 p.m., ask for Florian and name one or more of the artists you think may be on one of the compilations to win that compilation.

Also, courtesy of **Polygram Records**, we have a vinyl copy of Therapy?'s latest album, *Troublegum*, to give away to the first person to come in during the above time and name the last Therapy? EP.



Demon Flower
Hunters and Collectors
Mushroom

Few bands are as constantly surprising and excruciatingly frustrating to fans as Hunters and Collectors. Their prayers for commercial success without compromise have not been answered; nor have our prayers for a repeat of past glories (such as *Human Frailty*).

Ghost Nation and *Cut* were both good albums speckled with great songs, however, with *Demon Flower* they have perfected this current mutation, making their last two albums look like practising.

The snappy and laid-back blues rock of "Easy" sets the tone for the rest of the album. Other stand-out tracks include the quieter "Mr Bigmouth" and "Ladykiller", the sour-grapes "Courtship of America" and the head-turning "Panic in the Shade" (a real psychedelic juggernaut).

It's an enthusiastic album made by Hunters and Collectors, and I feel for the first time that they're satisfied with where they're at. There is barely a hint of the customary schizo/paranoia, but it's still very personal and well recommended to all Hunters fans.

Adam MacLeod

The Last Unicorn
Swirl

Half a Cow / Regular

Labelmates of Godstar and Smudge, Swirl have created an album of standard indie pop fodder. This Sydney three-piece are one of many bands to adopt this style, but there is not enough originality to make this album stand out from the best.

The Last Unicorn begins promisingly enough with catchy guitar track, "Strangelands". However, the remainder of side one merges into one long distortion-riddled, noisy blur. Side two sees a change as the soft vocals of Nicola Schultz mingle with careful pop melodies ("Night of the Unicorn", "The Last Unicorn", "Poppel Grave"). There isn't one outstanding track with little diversity between songs.

The Last Unicorn is not a bad release but there are similar albums around at the moment more inspiring than this.

Kerina West

Pop Art Toaster
Pop Art Toaster
Flying Nun Records

I must say I was rather annoyed, there were some very good CDs to review and I ended up with a five track EP on tape. However, there was some hope, this was Martin Phillipps' (lead singer of the now defunct and much missed New Zealander group 'The Chills') new project and it was on Flying Nun Records. This is a collection of five cover songs from various little known groups, all redone in a distinctive way which is unique to Pop Art Toaster.

So I whacked it into my walkman and the sun came out from behind the dark clouds of melancholy and its gentle rays warmed my heart. Listening to *Pop Art Toaster* is like driving through green countryside on a fine spring day in a Vee Dub with flowers painted on the side and the windows wound down.

With catchy choruses like "everyone is gonna wonder what happened last night with the girl delight, oh we looked so tight" and folksy, mostly acoustic riffs, one can't help but want to sing along and bob around. Other catchy choruses include, "So I say; go ahead and break my heart, go ahead and tear it apart", this might sound a bit depressing, but is sung in such a happy voice it must be tongue-in-cheek.

To conclude, absolutely brilliant, bring on the album! Alternatively, if you like music that "really packs a punch", this will annoy the hell out of you.

Just as an afterthought, this is very good to have around the house on a Friday morning.

Dominic Stefanson

9 Lives to Wonder
The Legendary Pink Dots
Shock Records

This is one for all you self-proclaimed weirdos out there. Apparently, according to the accompanying propaganda, the "holy rapture" will occur shortly after the release of this strange little outfit's fifteenth album. This is the fifteenth album. Any time now ...

Perhaps after a good dose of mind-altering drugs, this recording might work (and you never know, you might even get a holy rapture). These guys are trying hard to be a trippy band, but, sadly, failing. Some tracks, particularly "A Crack in Melancholy Time", reminded me of Pink Floyd in the *Wish You Were Here* phase. But that's about as rapturous as I can get, I'm afraid.

This album lacks too many things so, punters, just don't bother.

Phil Noack

Persuader
Free Moving Curtis
Hippy Knight Records

FMC's second 5-track EP in a short time carries on where *Blind* left off. *Persuader*, unfortunately, lacks FMC life punch but replaces it with more melody and attention to Steve Collinson's gravelly vocals and the considerable tempo changes and talent within the band.

Persuader is a very consistent EP with the immediate stand-out tracks being "Freelance" and "Fall". "Dark Inside", "Machinehouse" and "Persuader" are definite growers.

On the negative side, *Persuader* sounds a little underproduced but shows that the songs can stand by themselves as well as the continued development of FMC as a whole

Look forward to other releases as better production will lead to gems of releases.



Swamp Ophelia
Indigo Girls
Sony

From the first twang of an acoustic guitar, it's clear that the Indigo Girls are back with their special blend of folk/rock. *Swamp Ophelia* highlights the strong, mature "Don't give me any shit!" voices of American duo, Emily Saliers and Amy Ray as indeed does its predecessors. This is the 'Girls' sixth LP and is a good follow-up to the acclaimed *Rites of Passage*. It demonstrates just how well these women combine their vocals with an assortment of, on average, about seven other instruments including accordion, mandolin, flugel horn and strings, as well as the compulsory acoustic guitars.

Swamp Ophelia was produced by Peter Collins and recorded at Woodland Sound Studio in Nashville. It features old-timers like Sara Lee on bass and also Jane Sibery on backing vocals with her distinctive style.

Saliers and Ray are both accomplished writers with recurrent themes being the joy/anguish/pain/mystery of love affairs and self-discovery. If you're in the throes of a tragic love affair I recommend the poignant "Fare thee well" which is performed solo by Saliers with acoustic guitar and voice, or "Mystery." (As a rule, there's always a few make-up/break-up songs on every Indigo Girls album.) The 'Girls also do a twisted version of "This Train" starting: It's a fish white belly lump in the throat / razor on the wire skin and bone / piss and blood on a railroad car" - You never rode such a bizarre train!

While some of the songs do sound remarkably similar to their older stuff, different lyrics and sentiments give new life to trusted chords. So if you like melodic, acoustic, folk-based rock full of stirring harmonies and strong women with attitude, look no further. There have been murmurs of a tour later this year but for now you can buy this album to experience these "bright stars."

Christina Soong

Talent does not discriminate

South Australian Women Artist's Painting from the 1890s to the 1940s.
Art Gallery of South Australia
17 July

South Australia was one of the first places in the world to give women the vote (on December 18 1894). This monumental achievement of common sense is being celebrated in Galleries 6 and 7 of the Art Gallery of South Australia, as part of the crazy antics of the Centenary of Women's Suffrage. In *South Australian Women Artist's Painting from the 1890s to the 1940s* exhibition we see a period in which many women were producing work far superior to their much lauded male contemporaries. If not as original, their styles were as diverse and idiosyncratic as the European male masters that we revere. But because of nasty old misogyny rearing its ugly head they received little acclaim. This exhibi-

tion redresses the imbalance by exhibiting the works of very accomplished, but unknown, artists. However there are exceptions to this rule, such as Margaret Preston, Dorrit Black and Nora Heysen, whose works were well received in their era, as well as being recognisable to most people today.

The exhibition ranges from very strong self portraits to the inevitable bowls of fruit. The most notable works include Buxton's watercolour *The Chinese Dragon* (c. 1930) with its crisp warm colours pouncing out at the viewer, contrasting the cool colours that recede into the paper. Tuck's oil *Fete Dieu* (c. 1904-1910) beautifully shows a frozen moment in the life of a small town in Brittany. It displays her early concern with modern, geometric design rather than figuration; way ahead of most contemporary male artists. Also shown is her *Toilette de la Mariee* (1911); which was displayed at the Paris Salon in 1911. The darker colours of these works are

dramatically contrasted to the bright South Australian light that glows in Davidson's impressionistic work *Mother and Child* (1914).

In Gallery 7 we see work from the late 1920s to the '40s. Indication of women artists' growing confidence is seen in Heysen's *Self Portrait* (1932) which shows Nora Heysen staring out, with her stern blue eyes, daring any misogynist viewer to criticise her work. Tuck's confidence is shown in *Mannum Mill* (1941), which is a Cezanne influenced post-Impressionist, for the want of a better term, work that shows a modern, sculpted painting with crisp, bold lines separating blocks of colour which are effectively juxtaposed to each other.

The exhibition includes one of my favourite State Gallery-owned paintings: Black's *The double basses* (c. 1950). This is one of the finest examples of early Australian modernist painting. She was obviously influenced by the time she spent in France studying Cubism,

which is particularly seen in her Braqueish *Still Life* (c. 1928), but shows an idiosyncratically Australian style with its warm and ochre colours coupled with a sense of joyful lethargy. As does Bowen's *Provençal conversations* (c. 1939), which is a bright, but strangely calming painting, that evokes all those booze-sodden, bull-shooting, summer days spent with good friends.

By modern standards there is nothing challenging and startling new here, after all, by its own definition, this is a historical, academic look into art by South Australian women. Taken from its historical context some of these works can be relegated to mere decoration, such as Preston's numerous renderings of fruit and flowers. However, it is an important inclusion to an important event. The exhibition shows women expressing, through their art, a new confidence and proves that talent does not discriminate.

Mike Hepburn.

These Girls are toxic

Toxic Girls
Unley Youth Theatre
Season Closed

Toxic Girls is youth theatre at its best. It is powerful, confronting and entertaining, but above all it airs issues and concerns about things that the kids wanna say. More specifically, it's about what the girls wanna say, and they want to say that sexuality is a fucking big issue for young wimmin. *Toxic Girls* is the latest offering of playwright Mardi McConnochie and explores issues of sexuality and individuality in the context of a strict private girls school. The play centres around a world of friendships, rivalries and all that other school stuff (that we can all remember only too well), and from the stifling conformity that the school tries to impose upon these young wimmin, their individual personalities and sexualities begin to shine through.

The head prefect, Juliet (Shar Camilleri), is a strong and mature character who makes the brave decision to introduce her female lover Madeline (Taruna McLean) to her school peers - at the senior girls picnic! Needless to say, this act (and their open snogging), as well as a tragic twist to the picnic debacle, when Madeline dies of an asthma attack after being taunted by other students, sparks discussion and scandal throughout the school, revealing the other students' prejudices, sympathies and their own emerging sexual identities. Juliet is forced to leave the school in disgrace and the pain and trauma that she experiences drives home the only too real lesbophobia and

prejudices that still exist amongst students, the school system and wider society.

Jess, and her close knit group of friends act out a film that Jess has written about toxic mutant spiders who take over the school due to a students science project gone wrong. Scenes from the film are acted out, providing a refreshing, creative and funny contrast to the more serious plot. Ultimately though, the subplot is about venomous spiders as a metaphor for the passion of young wimmin's sexuality that lurks within like a powerful toxin. Jess (Claire



Alex Whittham

Charenton), is a likeable character who is battling with her own sexuality, and love for her best friend Emma. The pain, denial and confusion of her character is superbly represented.

Emma (Alex Whittham) is a friendly, confident member of Jess's group of friends, as well as playing the 'lead' role in the film as the heroic hockey captain who fights off the spiders. Indeed it is this role that forces her to be true to herself and to face up to her crush on Jess. Although this lust comes as a surprise, it shows how she had become an expert at 'playing the game' and giving away very little about her true feelings, even to her closest friends. Emma, acts on her feelings in an exciting and awkward scene, where both wimmin act nervous and hesitant. It is a beautiful moment, when at the school formal, they finally get together in a totally in-your-face rejection of the traditional, unchallenged boy-girl formal thing.

However, the play is not a total dykefest with most of the other characters expressing their own unique sexualities. Kristy, (Krissy McLeod) a very cool and likeable prefect, who appears squeaky clean, but is 'practising' the art of bonking, and refuses to let values of morality and niceties stand in her way. Liss (Sophie Hyde), is also happily bonking with boyfriend Dan, but decides to put it on ice temporarily until she is above the age of consent. Sam (Kate Box) is the dorky friend who has a crush on her best friend's older uni-student brother, Nick, and will do anything to get his attention. There's also the character that is happily celibate, seeing that the hassles of boys and bonking are things that she can do without - for now.

The wheel comes full circle in the closing scene of the play, that blends the plot with the toxic spider motif. Madeleine, the girlfriend that had died at the picnic reappears as the toxic spider queen, from the burning ashes of the school hall, to deliver a bizarre monologue about all endings creating new beginnings and possibilities. It was a drawn out and cliched ending, but it made its point, contextualising her earlier death and tying up what had been an entertaining subplot. Despite this, there is a feeling that her earlier death was unresolved and needless. It added little to the plot and the development of issues could still have happened without it.

It must be said that the performance of the male characters was mediocre, but other entertaining performances were by Melissa Gowling and Kate Smith, who is haunting as Polly the school bitch who is competitive, judgemental and lesbophobic. The direction, by Kim Hanna, is lively and makes the play run with smooth efficiency, while the use of space and interaction of characters was spot on, giving the production a very professional feel.

This youth theatre would strike a chord with any adult audience, but probably the most challenging part of the production would have been the matinee performances for other school students. It would have directly confronted prejudices and values of many, and presented real affirmation and choice of sexuality to others. Ultimately, that Mardi McConnochie and Unley Youth Theatre have explored such uncharted territory was refreshing and fantastically entertaining.

Amy Barrett

Green thinkers

Green Political Thought: An Introduction
Andrew Dobson
London: Harper Collins Academic

This thoughtful and very interesting book can be recommended as the best introduction to green political thinking that I'm aware of. Author Andrew Dobson seeks to raise consciousness so that Green politics is not swallowed up and absorbed by that society which it opposes. While this is definitely a "British" book, Australian "greens" or "environmentalists" who wish to deepen their understanding of the theoretical foundations of Green thinking, should take a look at *Green Political Thought*....

Dobson is a British academic at the University of Keele. He is also the Reviews Editor of the journal "Environmental Politics" (first appeared in 1992). The analysis he presents is based on his understanding of the experience of the British Green Party and green and environmental politics in England. Dobson has a critical perspective, is grounded in a left tradition and is a supporter of deep ecology.

The basic subject matter of this book is what Dobson calls "ecologism". Ecologism accepts and propagates: limits to economic and population growth; limits to consumption; taking the natural world as a model for the social world with its equality and interdependence of all species - and the humility that this

implies; limits of society and the planet itself to absorb pollution; and the necessity that any society be sustainable.

Dobson contrasts ecologism to environmentalism, dark-Green to light-green, political ecologists to environmentalists. He also brings out what he calls the "tension" or discrepancy between the goals of the dark-Greens and their reliance on traditional "liberal democratic means" to bring about such goals. Greens seem to have felt that the "message" only had to be given and it would be acted upon.

On the other hand, while many environmentalists may work mentally within the system, they are usually involved on

the front lines, in struggling around concrete environmental issues. It's often the absence of such involvement that causes many committed environmental activists around the world to reject green parties.

However, I believe in addition to the above any green party which is going to move forward and not remain a paper organisation has to:

- lead theoretically, which means party members sharing, understanding and expressing in their work a common deep Green philosophy. Party greens need to read Dobson's book and examine critically their understanding of what a Green world view is about.

- be practically involved in issues and sum up this experience in policies / programs, around which the public can be rallied.

- Develop new structures, independent of the market and the state and of the parliamentary road, which are radi-

cally democratic, give a sense of the embryo of a Green society and which are accountable to the alternative movements.

Dobson's discussion of philosophy in *Green Political Thought* and of the red-green or green-red interface, is illuminating and provocative. The philosophical focus is deep ecology and its contradictions. The author sees a "failure" of deep ecology to make itself practical.

The evocative slogan for revolutionary socialists, "workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to win", is anthropocentric, that is human (and class) centred. For deep ecology, the world view is non anthropocentric. Human interests are not necessarily dominant. Ethical boundaries encompass all of the natural world, not just human society. So old growth rainforest ecosystems are not subordinate to keeping workers employed. The natural world has intrinsic value, independent of its usefulness to human beings. A basic red/green fusion problem becomes immediately apparent, in this clash of contrasting ethics between socialist and deep Green positions.

The relationship of Green thinking to socialism / communism is a matter of hot and ongoing debates. The traditional Left for Dobson does not like the Green belief that "the similarities between communism and capitalism are greater than their differences".

It is growth which is the problem; undermining our planetary life support systems and disregarding the environment and its ecological constraints, as the foundation of human society.

If growth and increasing consumerism are embraced by capitalists and socialists, is ownership of the means of production so crucial? Because of its origins in the industrial revolution, does the working class, as a class, have a commitment to the continuation of industrial society and the consumer life? Is it then part of the ecological problem?

The ecofeminism discussion by Dobson is helpful. Even defining the dimensions

of the debate in Green / green circles, can be extremely contentious. Some feminists oppose ecofeminism. This opposition is from the perspective that "nature" as a concept has historically been associated with conservative thinking, intent on keeping women in positions of inferiority.

Dobson argues that there are three interwoven strands to ecofeminist thinking. One strand sees some values and behaviours as primarily female, either socially or biologically determined. These female values are undermined by patriarchy. The second sees the domination of nature related to the domination of women and the structures and reasons for this being similar. The third sees women being closer to nature than men and therefore in some kind of vanguard position.

This is a thinking book which can generate a fundamental questioning of beliefs. The dualisms that permeate the book seem overstated and rooted in the shallow / deep distinction, first made by Arne Naess, the Norwegian founder of deep ecology philosophy. Yet, these dualisms, e.g. ecologism and environmentalism, are illuminating and help explain the derailing of the green political agenda which has occurred in England and elsewhere. However, I do believe that Dobson is wrong in his essentially negative evaluation of environmentalism and the denigrating contrast with ecologism. This negativity can be found also in the social ecology writings of Murray Bookchin.

Dobson shows that pale green thinking or environmentalism can be absorbed by socialist, liberal or conservative political ideologies. This is not the case for the radical vision of deep-Green thinking. This book forces us to face the basic question of whether light-green and dark-Green thinking are complementary to each other or in conflict. My sentiment goes to the conflict position, since light-green thinking has become a shoring-up of the existing ecologically destructive industrial system, not a step forward towards something different.

This book is small ecstasy

Small Ecstasies
Moya Costello
University of Queensland Press

Some books are very, very difficult to get interested in and *Small Ecstasies* is one of them. It is a fragmentary collection of what seems to be little more than twenty-two short and uninspiring extracts from Costello's private memoirs. It has little to do with its classification on the back cover as fiction.

The very short opening piece is repre-

sentative of the style employed through the rest of the book. There is a subject taken from ordinary life, in this instance, bathing. There is a brief narrative, often vividly descriptive, but rarely original or enlightening. Then to finish, a last sentence or two which attempts a leap into philosophy or surrealism. And so Costello leads us through her experiences and theories on cardigans, buses, moving from Sydney to Adelaide, washing clothes, choosing the title for this book, her teaching problems, her father's childhood and picking mushrooms.

The danger for a writer with tackling banal subjects is that you have to be very good. You need to have the ability and pit-bull tenacity of a Joyce or a Thomas or a Pinter. The danger with writing very short prose pieces is the same and, apart from the French poet Baudelaire, few writers have succeeded at it.

Costello fails to add anything original or thought-provoking in what the back-cover blurb acclaims as "offbeat perspectives on modern life". Yet a few fragmentary passages within the fragments show glimmers of unmined literary potential.

In "Language as a Virus" is an outstanding paragraph:

"The language was an animal alive. A wrestling match that made your brain seize up - so full, it might burst; so weary from the struggle, it hurt. The language was a creature from outer space. You couldn't angle it like a fish with bait you knew suited. You couldn't sneak up behind; you couldn't snare. The language was a vortex, a black hole, where you spun out of control."

I wish she had put as much effort into the rest of the book.

John Emerson

Major let down

Major League II
Wallis Cinemas

After the abundance of subtle wit and ironic nuance that was *Major League*, the sequel was something of a disappointment. The sequel was not unexpected; the fact that the Cleveland Indians only managed to win the American League East title (as opposed to the World Series) left the door open for "The Tribe" to come back and have a crack at the big one.

Major League II opens at the beginning of the next season, and things are not what they used to be at Cleveland Stadium. Catcher Jake Taylor's (Tom Berenger) knees are in a state of permanent decline, the retired Roger Dorn (Corbin Bernsen) turns out to be a major dud as the new team owner, whilst former wild man pitcher Rick Vaughn returns as a corporate mobile phone type having lost the fire of old. Perhaps most amusingly, designated hitter Pedro Cerrano (Dennis Haysbert), who made his name as a voodoo worshipper who sacrificed live chickens in his locker in the first film, gets transformed into a peace loving Buddhist, much to the team's detriment. All these problems drive commentator Harry Doyle to drink before mid-season. The team's complacency is best summed up by former base

stealing whizz Willie Mays Hayes (Omar Epps), who is more concerned with trying to hit home runs than doing his duty for the team. The casting of Epps as Mays Hayes does provide some point of interest for connoisseurs of films of this genre (the part was originally played by Wesley Snipes). Mays Hayes' performance in a B-grade action film during the off-season draws parallels with Snipes' recent roles in such classics as *Demolition Man* and *Passenger 57*. Could it be that producer/director David Ward is bitter at being unable to lure Snipes back for the sequel? Or is he just engaging in a bit of harmless inter-textual parody? Who knows.

For the most part, the humour in *Major League II* is disappointing, especially when compared with the original. The whole complacency slant seems too obvious, and the gags revolving around this theme are kind of predictable. It also lapses back into the same plot midway through when the evil former team owner Rachel Phelps (Margaret Whitton) regains control of the team and resumes her sinister plan of making the team lose so she can re-locate them in Miami. The romance side of things also bears an uncomfortably close relation to that of the first film, even to the extent of including the climactic grandstand snog at the end, although this time it involves Rick Vaughn instead of Jake

Taylor.

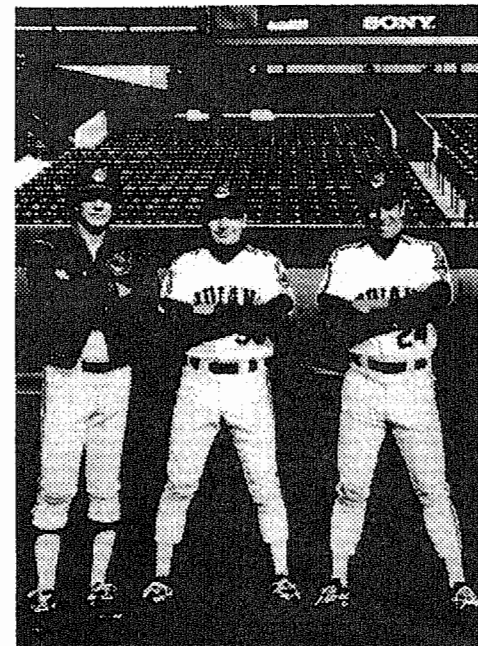
One thing that *Major League II* does do successfully is adopt the tried and tested sports flick formula of giving the audience someone to hate. In this case that person is Jack Parkman (David Keith), who after leaving the Indians in a flurry of controversy, signs with the arch-rival Chicago Whitesox who swept "the Tribe" out of last year's play-offs. Keith adapts to his role with aplomb, even if his sledging of opposing players was a little mild for my taste.

The movie also tries to spice itself up with a few race jokes by way of Japanese recruit Tanaka. The part is played with panache by Takaaki Ishibashi. Although a comparative unknown in the West, Ishibashi is a multi-media icon in Japan, having shot to fame by taking home the bickies in the grand final of Nippon TV's *Comedy Star Search*, hosting the popular evening radio talk show, *All Night Nippon* and recording the single "Gara Gara Hebi", which has sold almost 2,000,000 copies. Tanaka is a very endearing character, and if you're like me and enjoy jokes revolving around people running into fences and the like, then you'll at least be able to appreciate his part in the movie.

For the most part, the only real comic

possibilities for *Major League II* would seem to lie in seeing it stoned. However, an acquaintance of mine who did so resolutely declared that another classic along the lines of *Jurassic Park* or *Alladin* this film ain't. So I guess there isn't much left to save this film from dud status, which is a pity considering the brilliance of the original.

Tim Gow



Berenger, Sheen and Bernsen

WANTED

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The Lover
Piccadilly Cinema

Considering its title and R-rating, *The Lover* will probably be promoted as another flesh flick and pitched at voyeurs (look out for promo lines like 'steamier than *9 1/2 Weeks*' or 'LOVE, LUST, forget the art and religion'). Pity, because this is actually a fine little film. Produced by Claude Berri (*Jean de Florette*, *Manon des Sources*) and directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud (*The Name of the Rose*), *The Lover* is a screen adaption of Marguerite Duras' novel of the same name (subtitles, you can relax; the film is in English).

The film tells the story of the affair a 15 year-old Marguerite Duras had with a Chinese man during her childhood in Indochina, and also gives great insight into her family and their relationships with each other. Now, Marguerite (played by miniscule Jane March) is no ordinary schoolgirl - she saunters around in an old silk dress, gold lamé high-heels, a man's fedora and red lipstick (nice look). No wonder she catches the eye of the nameless rich young Chinese man (Tony Leung) as they cross the Mekong River on a ferry. He offers to drive her to Saigon in his limousine (get in my car, baby, we can go places); obviously Mummy never told her not to ride in cars with strangers, so thus begins their 'friendship' (that's what she tells her mother and brothers, but really, who is she kidding?!)

Their relationship is purely physical -

they hardly talk, and when they do, it is usually on a shallow level. Communication problems abound, not only between Marguerite and her lover, but also within her family. They are not exactly your typical celluloid happy, close-knit family. Mum loves the older son to almost unnatural extremes, the evil (but incredibly sexy) older son is an absolute bastard to everyone, and the younger son seems permanently shit-scared, while Marguerite is just trying to figure out if she loves them or hates them. Fun times.

The film remains very faithful to Duras' novel, with only a few extra scenes included to create additional interest. This is the first time a film adaptation has actually enhanced my appreciation of a book. *The Lover* is a well-crafted film, and, like Duras' novel, it is quite tastefully done. OK, so it is quite explicit at times, but its object is not to get as much tit'n'butt on screen as possible. It deals with all aspects of the novel, and by no means ignores the importance of Duras' family. Particular attention is paid to minor details described by Duras in her novel, and these details add a final gloss to the film. Jeanne Moreau's narration creates a nice flow and continuity, and her voice is perfect - faultless English with a gentle hint of a French accent.

All in all, *The Lover* is a worthwhile and enjoyable film. But, be warned: this is a French production, so no happy ending is guaranteed and there is not necessarily a point to the whole thing. Just appreciate it for what it is.

Li Fung

Bickering journos

The Paper Greater Union

The Paper is the story of *The Sun*, a small New York Tabloid. *The Paper* follows Henry Hackett (Michael Keaton), the City Editor, for twenty-four hours, based on an innocuous scrap of home-spun wisdom that one day can completely change a life. On this day Hackett's life certainly does change. He gets a new job, and loses it. He gets a great story, loses it, and gets it again. He loses his old job, and gets it back. And in the pursuit of a good story, he completely pisses off his bosses, his potential bosses, his staff, his friends, the police, a waiter, his wife and his family.

The movie starts: two youths have been accused of murder and Hackett knows they didn't do it, but doesn't have enough proof to write an article. The Managing Editor, Alicia Clark (Glenn Close) wants to run a 'Gotcha' article but Hackett thinks that running a story knowing it's a lie is naughty. *The Sun*, he says, doesn't know the meaning of integrity. It probably once ran a story about it, "INTEGRITY!!! SHOCK PIX!!!" And so he pursues the true story in a race to get it in for the morning edition.

Oh, and there are sub-plots too. Hackett's wife (Marisa Tomei) is pregnant and Hackett is a Very Busy Man. So busy that he sleeps in his clothes and has no time to spend with her. We can assume that he found at least a few minutes to spend with her eight and a half months ago. She's given up her career, she's all alone, and she's getting snotty about it. Eventually we are assured that her fears were entirely hormone driven. Sure.

Sub-plot number two: Editor-in-Chief,

Bernie White (Robert Duvall) has (and I quote) a prostate the size of a bagel. Ah yes, Bernie, but does it come with cream-cheese?

Sub-plot number three: Alicia Clark is an over-sexed, ambitious bitch. Which brings me onto a gripe. In one scene we see her perched on the edge of a much ruffled bed in a hotel room rebuttoning the top button of her blouse. There is a Man in the background, also redressing. There's been some serious lunch-hour scruffing going on, AND I DIDN'T GET TO SEE IT. I can live without a sexual element in a movie, but if there's going to be fornication in the plot I want it on screen in all it's moaning, sweating, sheet-flying glory. Top button, indeed. The nerve.

This is 'Examine the profession' entertainment. Editorial meetings, elbowing through crowds for a good photo, scheming to get a quote from the authorities, stealing leads from other papers, racing for deadlines, snorting the Managing Editor. All in a day's work. And the sub-plots? Ah - they're part of the delicate interplay which exposes the chaos behind the order. Or rather, the chaos behind the other chaos.

Them's the facts, and they ain't brilliant, but they ain't so dusty either. You would think, wouldn't you, that with the combined talents of Glenn Close, Michael Keaton, Marisa Tomei, Robert Duvall and Randy Quaid this would be a pretty slick production. It's sufficient, certainly, but its not as good as it could have been. Take a look at that list of players again, count the Oscar winners. Damn, we're talking significant line up here. Somehow Ron Howard (am I the only one who still thinks of him as Richie Cunningham?) has managed to take a

pretty good story and lots of talent and (no doubt) a hell of a lot of money, and turned it into a mediocre production. Too many sub-plots maybe, or it could be the stereotyped characters. For example the sex crazed bitch, the sweet but crazy wife, the gruff editor and the ambitious reporter (with Integrity). Nothing original there.

Wry and witty it's not, but *The Paper* has plenty of amusing moments, and the scene where Michael Keaton slugs Glenn Close is well worth seeing. Let's face it, in these days of complete Hollywood drivel, if the worst criticism that can be made of *The Paper* is that it's not absolutely Fab-O, it's doing Okay.

Kim Evans



Keaton, Tomei, Duvall, Close and Quaid

Greenaway gets mellow

The Baby of Macon Mercury Cinema

Maybe I'm just not as young and impressionable as I used to be but Peter Greenaway's latest film, *The Baby of Macon*, lacks the edgy blackness characteristic of other Greenaway films such as *The Draughtman's Contract*, and *The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover*. Perhaps greed, sex and death, while novel concepts in adolescence, lose their appeal once you realise that these are the insoluble problems of life. Certainly, Peter Greenaway seems to have realised this. *The Baby of Macon* does not explore any themes new to Greenaway films, but it appears quite content not to do so.

The film unfolds as a three-act play performed within a cathedral before an unruly and at times raucous audience. When the play commences, au-

dience members, including the aristocratic, pious, 17 year old Cosimo (a character fashioned after the religiously fanatical Cosimo di Medici) participate, and in some instances, even direct the drama. The action is set in a French town hungry for martyrs. Divinely punished for allowing its cathedral to decay, the women are overwhelmingly barren.

When a beautiful boy is born to a monstrously pregnant middle-aged woman, he is venerated as a child saint. The baby's opportunistic sister is the first to cash in, passing herself off as the virgin mother of her infant brother, and charging spectators to view an elaborate tableau of mother and child.

There are clear references to the exploitation of children and the reactionary nature of the Catholic Church. Artistically, there is often a deliberate blurring of the distinction between fiction and reality; actors are shown

vying for parts backstage and things which happen to the characters in the play "really" happen to the actors. However, *The Baby of Macon* is not nearly as confrontationally nasty and vicious as other Greenaway films, most notably, *The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover*. Knowing the plot in advance probably helped. There's nothing like goring, infanticide, and 208 rapes followed by a bit of ritualistic dismemberment (not to mention graphic childbirth) to turn the stomach, but once you know these things are going to happen, it is then simply a matter of ticking them off a checklist once they occur.

The Baby of Macon is immediately recognisable as a Peter Greenaway film. But while it follows in the opulent, heavily costumed mannerist tradition of *The Draughtman's Contract* and *Prospero's Books*, it lacks the tense claustrophobia of the former and the transporting lyricism of the

latter. There is a curious deadness (no pun intended) about the film which fails to engage the audience.

It is, however, visually stunning, and the performances from the largely unknown cast very nearly superb. Julia Ormond is wonderfully grasping and feral as the daughter. Ralph Fiennes as the Bishop's sceptical son, reluctantly but lustfully drawn to the Daughter, is coolly elegant and controlled. He is also extremely beautiful, and I'm told, a lot thinner than in *Schindler's List*. The highlight of the film for me was a scene between the two actors which involved a long banqueting table, hay, and some serious sexual tension. *The Baby of Macon* is challenging and thought-provoking, sometimes startling and often brutal. I doubt that it will be remembered as one of Peter Greenaway's best films but you could do a lot worse than see it.

Wai-Quen Chan

Here we go, here we go

After making their way through the throng of traffic down Military Road, Bryan Scruby and Matt Rawes managed to wedge the Sigma between a fire hydrant and a driveway. With ears pricked up for even the slightest xenophobic comment or uncouth gesture from a Crow's cap to a Hawthorn scarf, Matt and Bryan headed for the concrete monstrosity that is Football Park. Too cheap to buy tickets, they attempted to understand the Crowmania phenomenon by accosting the stragglers not quick enough to go to their seats. Specifically, they wanted to be told what the Crows had done for South Australia, if every Crows supporter wanted to brain a Victorian, if they wanted a second South Australian team and who it should be . . . and anything else they wanted to get off their chest.



Steve, Matt and Brett

On the Crows and South Australia

"They're bringing everyone together, like in the carpark we didn't have any bread for our BBQ and everyone rallied around us and got us a slice.

What if you were decked out in Hawthorn garb?

"Well, I reckon we would've still got some. It's a bit more of a family atmosphere out here in the carpark."

"It's good to have a bit of friendly rivalry but if it does spill over into violence it's just ridiculous."

"We're not out here to scream abuse at people - we just like the football."

Why are the Crows losing?

"Scott Lee is injured which has torn the defence apart. We think Bruce Lindsay should be brought out of retirement."

Is Crows milk your drink of choice?

"Nah, it's either a beer or an iced coffee!"



John (Carpark Attendant #1)

Do you see much xenophobia out here?

"I don't think there's any real animosity . . . just friendly rivalry. It's just the same for South Australians when they go over to Victoria so it cuts both ways."

Can you see yourself working the carpark for a second side?

"Well, I think it would be good for football generally because it improves the standard and gives the younger players something higher to aim at."

On the media

"The media is giving them too much hype and they should be left to get on with their footy."

tial to become violent - not like in England with their soccer."

On the SANFL and the Crows

"The Crows have ruined it. I barrack for the poor old Double Blues."



Gavin (who wore a Norwood jumper to a Crows/Hawthorn game)

What do you think of the Crows?

"I don't like them. Never have. Don't like their players. Only here to see Hawthorn. They stole all of our [Norwood] players."

On the media

"Well, I don't get the paper. But when I do, I rip it up. When they first came out I was interested but when you see all the adverts and stuff. . ."

Gavin's friend

Why do you hate the Crows?

"Um . . . because they're not Hawthorn."

"Yeah, it's really the only thing left now that we've lost the Grand Prix. The only other thing we've got left of this scale is Oakbank and that's only once a year."



Matt and Tim - the foot coppers

Do you have to intervene in any interstate clashes of the fisticuff variety?

"Not at all. I work plain clothes here all the time and nothing at all."

"You get your barrackers and everybody ribbing each other but that's it - even in the interstate game, nothing at all."

"Obviously the newspapers are looking for some news."

Are you guys a precaution against the violence?

"Oh no, no, no. It's just part of normal policing. We're here to stop people breaking into cars."

"Nobody's trying to kill each other."

Are the Crows good for SA?

"Just take a look around you and see how many people are here."



Dave, Barry and Sharon (Three hardcore Hawthorn supporters from across the border)

Do you feel threatened?

"Yes, [laughter] we've already been told to go back to Victoria a few times already."

"But outside everyone's so friendly when you're not wearing your uniform. South Australians are so arrogant - the Crows' show is such a joke."

"We'd rather go to Victoria Park and sit in the middle of the Collingwood cheer squad than come to Adelaide."

Then why'd you come?

"Dunno."



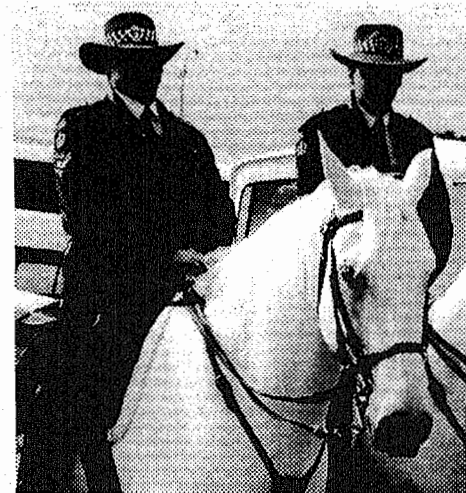
Cheryl (Carpark Attendant #2)

On South Australia and the Crows

"I think it's a great thing for SA."

Do you see any carpark victimisation of interstaters?

"Yes, but I don't think it has the poten-



Peter and George - the mounted cops

Do you have to deal with any anti-Victorian feeling?

"No we don't. We generally don't see much and we hang around the carpark until well after the game is finished."

Are the Crows our last hope?

"Yeah, it's good to see something good coming out of SA with the State Bank and all."

So do the Crows stir your blood? Do you scream in delight when Tones takes another blinder or do you cringe in shame when Cornsey's wife makes the front page of the Advertiser. If so, send in your opinions and the best will earn a six-pack from the Unibar. Get them in before Wednesday and quantities of lager will be coming your way.

student radio guide for sunday 5th June

Sunday
 June 5, 19; July 3, 17, 31; August 14, 28; September 11, 25; October 9, 23; November 6, 20.

2.30 Chris O'Brian and Matt Fleet. A showcase of English indie pop.

3.30 Richard Seamark and Tony Page. English Pop.

4.30 Simon Hunt Talks about clubs and societies of the University of Adelaide and plays alternative releases of the late 80's and 90's.

5.30 Mystery Show. (!)

6.00 Grind the Pose. Social and cultural issues and comment. Paul Hoadley, Dale F Adams and Michael Dwyer.

7.00 A Twist of Lemon. Comedy by Roy Flavel and Danial Kammerman.

7.30 Babes in Boyland. If there are wimmin in it...she'll play it. Katrina Picozzi attempts to redress the imbalance of our boy's club rock industry. From punk to acapella, she'll prove once and for all that babes all over the world know how to rock. Interviews, live recordings, live performances in the studio, music to caress your ears and make them bleed! **TOTALLY GRRRL POWERED FRENZY!!**

8.30 The Spiral Perspective. New American punk brought to you by Darian O'Rielly with Greg Woods from Spiral Objective Records.

9.30 Local Noise. Tracey Skehan (On-dit's music editor - Wow!) show cases Adelaide bands, and finds out what they think about things (yes, she interviews them.)

10:30 Sweet Valley University. Tanya Collins and Ben Wickham present very satirical social comment in the form of short scenes and caricatures. Don't miss them, they're fantastic.

11.30 David Hewitt and Penny Fredericks take you through till the BBC at 12:30 with indie pop and other treats.

sundays 2:30pm - 12:30am on 5UV 531am

Problems with childcare?

The SAUA is coordinating a campaign to look at the inadequacies of childcare on campus for student parents and to campaign for improvement. If you are interested in being involved, or have any comments or complaints you would like to voice, please contact Rebecca Shinnick or Jo England in the SAUA (ph 303 5406) or come in and see us.

For Sale

SLX Road Bike, 21" frame, Rolls saddle, Cinelli bars and stem. Good condition. \$500 - all offers considered. Ph. 298 3371.

Wild trips

Adelaide University Mountain Club Go Away; We have trips going to all the great wild places of Australia. Come to the Winter Trips Meeting at 7:30pm on Wednesday June 1 in the Union Cinema, 6pm in the Bistro for dinner. We have trips going Cross-country skiing, bushwalking, canoeing and rockclimbing

For Sale

Haro Freestyle BMX. Chrome, 48 spoke wheels, rotor, power disc, Haro bars and clamp. Foot pegs. Exc. condition \$400 o.n.o. Ph. 298 3371.

Somewhere to lay their heads

Visiting Canadian Academics with children, 6 and 10, require furnished 3 - 4 bedroom house from July 1994 - June 1995. Phone: Jennie Hornosty 506-453-4849, Fax: 506-453-4659; e-mail: HORNOSTY@UNB.CA.

For Sale

Smiths - One of the largest collections of Smiths records ever gathered in one place! Almost everything on vinyl plus CDs, tapes, magazines and other rarities. \$3,000 o.n.o. Ph 298 3371.

Proud to be Pride

Adelaide University Pride meeting Thursday, 1.00 pm in the North / South Dining Room, Level 4 of the Union Building. All welcome.

NOWSA IGM

All women interested in attending or promoting the attendance of the NOWSA '94 conference in Sydney or the International Feminist Bookfair in Melbourne this July are urged to participate in the NOWSA IGM at 1pm. Thursday June 9 in the Little Theatre to discuss issues of funding and travel etc. For more information call Leslie on 373 5134

ELLIS

The English Language Learning & Improvement Service at the State Library of SA is looking for volunteers to work as tutors in their new service, ELLIS for NESB and others wishing to improve their literacy skills. Necessary training will be provided. For further information contact 207 7221.

For Sale

Return plane ticket Adelaide - Melbourne. Must sell to female \$180. Valid till September 28th, 1994. Phone Beth after 6 pm on (08) 252 0259.

China Society Video Night

Jet Lee in *Tai-Chi Master* 7pm Friday 3rd June, Margaret Murray Room, Level 5, Union Building. Free to all members. Just turn up and bring along a smile.

- ★ **UNIBAR PERFORMANCE OF THE WEEK**
- ★ Congratulations to the Adelaide University Football Club for achieving victory in all of their seven grades. But since everyone played an exceptional game we cannot give the 6-pack kindly donated by the Unibar to one player purely on form. Thus to collect the lager, any Blacks player can make their way to On Dit (after 1pm on Tuesday) and tell us what number the illustrious Bob Neil wore during his playing hey-day. See how easy it is to win the beer. All you other clubs have to do is drop those results in. So do it.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Results

FOOTBALL

A1: Uni d Goodwood Saints 19.10 to 8.7
 Best players: T Förd, J Edwards, J Sibbick, N Hoskins, A Muir, A Lehmann.
A1 Res: Uni d Goodwood Saints
 Best players: A Cassidy, B Prisk, J McLoughlin, J Koch, M Ellery, D Kennedy.
A6: Uni d St Pauls OS 11.9 to 5.10
 Best Players: A Deer, C Bryson, B Roberts, B Dring, M Coping, A McDonald.
A6 Res: Uni d St Pauls OS
 Best Players: A Lines, B Scruby, J Priest, C Rule, M Fahey, R Yeates.
A8: Uni d Walkerville 16.4 to 6.5
 Best Players: F Warrick, S Clark, T Slattery, A Faulkner, D Graetz, M Wilson.

A8 res: Uni d Walkerville 7.13 to 5.5
 Best Players: D McGrath, T Kerslake, D Bryan, D Milligan, R Hutchinson, A Kretzchmer.
A10 Uni d Adelaide Lutheran 9.20 to 5.8
 Best Players: N Lymn, M Bruenig, S Stolz, B Binder, I Lackey, B Sampson.

TOUCH

A 2-5
 AA 2-2
 B 0-8
 C 7-3
 D 4-1
 E 1-3
 F 2-1
 G 5-2
 H 0-7
 I 3-6

WANTED

A Returning Officer to oversee the conduct of the Union and SAUA Annual Elections, scheduled to be held in late August. The position is responsible for ensuring the elections are well publicised and run smoothly from calling for nominations through to a weekend devoted to counting votes. Familiarity with the Hare Clark Optional Proportional Voting System would be a distinct advantage. A generous honorarium is paid to compensate the person for the hours and responsibility involved. Those who are interested should forward a short letter of application to **Anthony Roediger, President, Adelaide University Union, Level 1, Lady Symon Building.** Applications close Friday, 3rd June, 1994.

HOLIDAY DATES

A mistake has been made in the holiday dates given in the 1994 student diary. The mid-semester break dates for this year's second semester are:
19 September to 30 September
 not 26 September to 7 October.
 They are a week earlier than indicated in the diary.

Bus Ride to Degeneracy



By Edna Welthorpe, public morality watchdog and concerned Mother of two.

The people I really fear for are the children. I do my best to protect mine from the moral degeneracy that so plagues our times; I read Bible passages to them at breakfast and bed time, I tell them to close their eyes during the adverts in *Little House on the Prairie* and I never, every let them read newspapers. So imagine my horror when I realised that my little cherubs minds were being poisoned ever school day of their lives and, worse still, the damage is being done by public transport.

Oh, I know, it looks so innocent, but after a little scrutiny, I saw the truth - the bus ride to school was a thinly veiled advertisement for sex, crime and drugs.

Right next to the door was a sign saying "Please pay as you enter". We might as well be telling our children "Off you go, join the world of prostitution". No doubt the same degenerates who dreamt up the Red Light District had a hand in projecting their carnal lusts throughout our fair city.

From there we climb a dimly lit staircase and are presented with "Collect tickets and change".

Change into what? Something a little more comfortable, that's what! We might have hoped that this would be the end of the degradation, but no! It goes on...

All around there are suggestive adverts which are clearly intended to corrupt young minds. For instance, just opposite my horrified head was an advert for Sinex nasal spray. Of course, it is a short step from

sprays up the nose to cocaine abuse and thence to a life of crime to support your ungodly addiction.

Other glossy temptations include Estrel Juice (they don't mention the Forbidden Fruit, which is clearly what they want us to taste), Doc Martens (bondage and discipline) Crunchie Nuggets (golden showers) and Optrex eye drops (I'm not sure what this referred to, but the ad looked very sinister).

And is this where the perversion ends? Oh no, heaven forbid! There are signs that say, and I really mean this, "Children should stand for adults!"

Well I never! They might as well drop the pretence and simply say "Fornicate with whomsoever you please!"

I suppose I should have suspected something sooner. After all, STA could easily stand for Sexually Transmitted...well, I dread to imagine what the "A" could stand for, but no doubt it's vile. (Appetite, perhaps).

So now I am driving my children to school and will continue to do so until:

1. The offending signs and adverts are removed and the name STA is changed to Virtue.
 2. The current staff of drivers is replaced by clergymen.
 3. The buses are divided into Boy and Girl halves with a heavy curtain dividing them.
- Until then, you won't catch me or my family "on the buses".

CD Competition Winners

We were surprised at the number of entries we received for our "Bizarre Duets" competition. Although considering the competition took a minimal amount of thought, it's not all *that* surprising. Anyway, here are those winners:

Amy Grant and The Burthole Surfers.

Tim Beaumont

Barry Manilow and Henry Rollins singing "The Stars are Shining Brightly - But One Day They're Gonna Fall and When They Do it'll be on You, Sucker".

Anna Smith

The surviving members of Led Zep with the surviving members of The Beatles.

Joe Hackel

East 17 and Suicidal Tendencies - "It isn't alright".

Lisa Kewley, 3rd Year Science

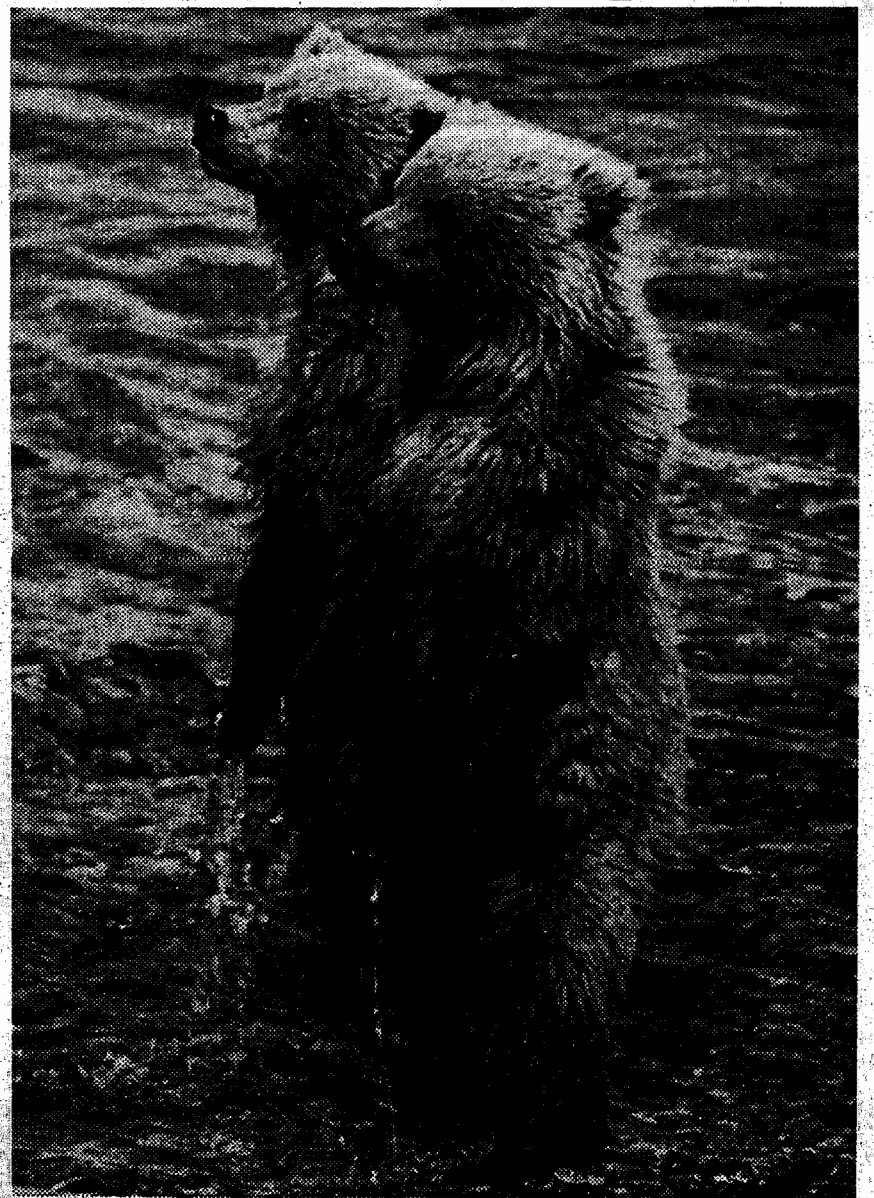
The Who and Madonna - "Prostitute".

Paul Lambros, 3rd Year Science

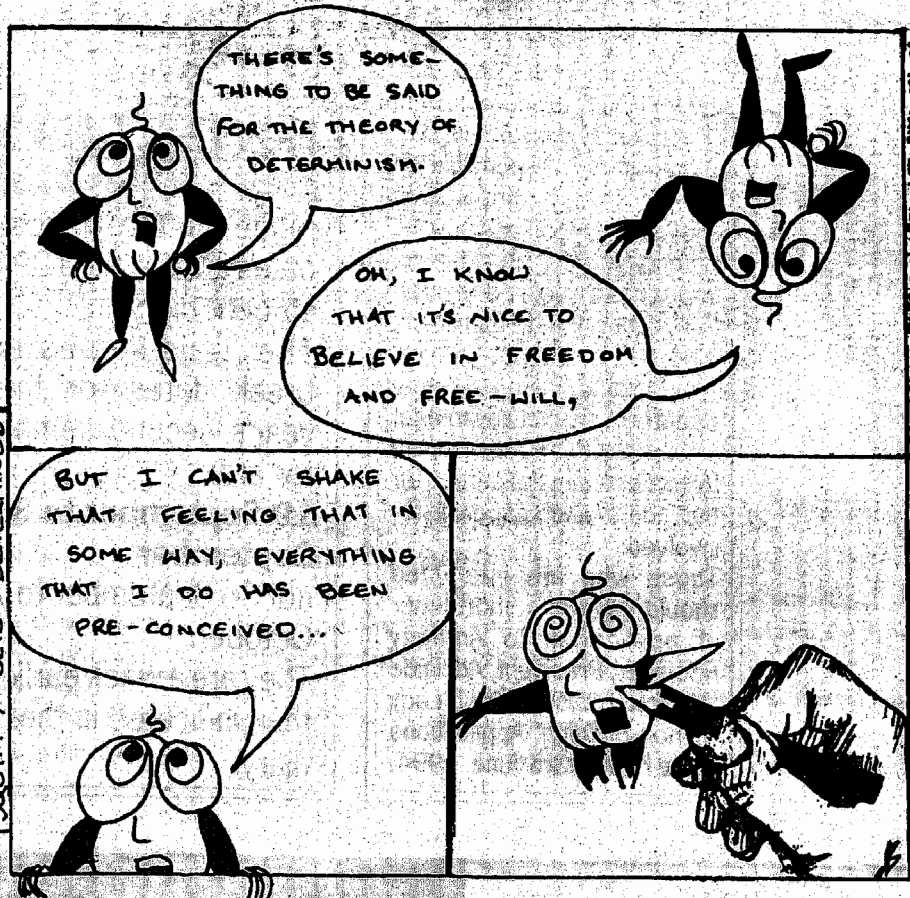
So there you go. The winners can claim their prizes (the nifty *Judgement Night* soundtrack CD) by coming into the *On Dit* office anytime from Tuesday.

F A A A A R K !

It's a caption competition!



Fit a caption to this picture and you could win one of five double passes to the new film *The Paper*, as well as some speccy clipboards. Get your entries into the *On Dit* office or in the contribution box in the SAUA by Friday. The winners will be announced in *On Dit* next week.



SQUIFFY GETS DETERMINED