

Archives 6.287

NOT TO BE REMOVED

COURIER

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS NEWSPAPER

CUTS

The Campaign against the cuts is well under way with the first campaign meeting being held last Wednesday and the launch of a petition earlier this week.

An Emergency General Meeting at 1.00 p.m. tomorrow will decide future policy.

Executive is linking the campaign with NUS' fight against student loans and next week will see a series of local demonstrations and publicity stunts.

For a full break-down of what is being cut and plans for the fight, turn to *Courier's* special centre-page feature on pages 6 and 7.

C.H.

WALKER BANNED

At Disciplinary Appeals Committee last week, James Lloyd Walker was fined £50 and banned from the Union building until the end of the academic year for allegedly hitting Hilary Weaver 3 times on the face in her hotel bedroom at NUS Conference in December.

Mr. Walker, a Presidential candidate in this week's Sabbatical elections, has consistently denied the offence ever took place and is said to be seeking legal advice.

The hearing was procedurally unusual, as Mr. Walker, a Conservative, objected to the make-up of the Disciplinary panel, two of whom were Labour Club members and the other, a personal friend.

As the Convenor of Disciplinary Committee, Ms. L.

Mendelsohn, felt that a balanced panel of three could not be formed from its ten members (six of whom are members of the Labour Club), nor Executive, all of whom were felt to know Mr. Walker too well, the case went straight to appeal.

The Appeal panel was made up of two Trustees of the Union, senior academics who have overall long-term responsibility for the Union, and Chair of Union Council, Paul Smith, with Union President, Ruth Briel, as Convenor.

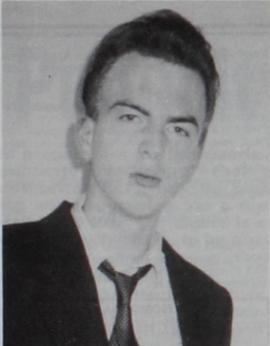
After hearing evidence from Mr. Walker, Ms. Weaver, Cathy Day and Richard Chambers and several written statements, the decision to fine and suspend Mr. Walker was made.

Mr. Walker claims the decision was a political and personal one, possibly jeopardising his chances in the Presidential election.

Ms. Weaver did not wish to comment on the affair to *Courier*, saying she just wanted 'to forget the whole thing'.

For a breakdown of the working of Disciplinary Committee, see Rant and Rave, page 5.

Chris Holt



Backs against the wall; candidates in this week's Sabbatical elections face the hustings crowd. For winners, see results posted up outside Porter's Lodge.

GRANT ON ICE

Student grants are to rise in line with the rate of inflation, by 3.75%, Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, has announced. A Conservative-dominated select committee last month admitted that such a rise would be inadequate.

From September, undergraduates living away from home at Newcastle will receive £1,972, rising from £1,901. Post-graduate grants will rise from £2,756 to £2,859.

Vicky Phillips, the National President of the National Union of Students (NUS), immediately condemned the rise as "cruelly inadequate". The real value of the grant has fallen by 21% since the Conservative government came to office in 1979.

The Department of Education and Science (DES) last year admitted that it was not committed to returning student grants to their 1979 level. The DES claims that, with limited resources available to it, there has to be a trade-off between increasing grants and increasing the number of entries to university. Student entries have increased by 140,000 in the last eight years.

The rise in grants is now tied up in the issue of the student loans. The DES set the rise at the rate of inflation to keep the issue 'on ice' while it conducts a review of student financing which is sure to come out in favour of loans. NUS and Opposition spokesmen have expressed suspicions that the DES wants to push students into accepting the introduction of a loans scheme, as the lesser of two evils, to replace a grant perceived as being increasingly worthless.

The NUS is calling for the restoration of a minimum grant for all students and phasing out parental contributions, irrespective of parental wealth. Under the NUS scheme the government would pay all of a student's income and students would be independent of parental charity. The NUS claims that as many as 50% of students nationally do not receive a full grant. The percentage is lower at Newcastle.

James Clarke

Buses Work On

The Strike by Newcastle Bus drivers, which has disrupted travel throughout the City, over the past few weeks, has come to an end, for the moment. The drivers voted overwhelmingly to support their leaders' calls for a suspension of strike action while negotiations with management continue.

The Ballot, which was taken last Friday, was 6 to 1 in favour of suspension of the strike and giving the two sides 4 weeks to come to an agreement, after which time another ballot will be taken on whether to re-impose the strike.

This means that all bus services will be operating normally for at least the next four weeks and with Newcastle and City Busways already having conceded to some Union de-

mands it looks likely that the strike may not reappear.

This peace move coincides with allegations by the City Council that, since deregulation, congestion in the City Centre has increased hugely and they also claim that thousands of people have taken to their cars because of difficulties with the buses.

The Council has also called for the re-introduction of the Transfare system which was abolished on de-regulation.

Kit Malthouse

COURT REPORT

Nick Baker (3rd Year Architect) lost his appeal against a one-year ban and a £30 fine and costs, for smashing a beer glass over the head of Chief Security Officer, John Turner.

Brian Dixon (3rd Year Agriculture) also lost his appeal against Disciplinary Committee's finding that he was guilty of smashing glasses. A two week ban was rescinded, while a £5 fine was doubled.

Robert Rowland (3rd Year Combined Honours), who stood as Deputy President in this week's Sabbatical elections, lost his appeal against the finding that he was guilty of smashing glasses and being abusive to Security Stewards in the Men's Bar. He was allowed his Union card back on condition that he paid a fine.

He is soon to appear before Disciplinary Committee again on a charge of vandalism in the Union.

Chris Holt

Ents Battle

Last week two Big NU Ents stewards were ejected from the grounds of the Poly-technic whilst handing out leaflets advertising University events.

Mike Newman and Luke Fisher were thrown off the Poly campus by Security after Ents Officer, Steve Foster, objected to their presence.

The attempted leafleting came after Chris Storey had suggested reciprocal advertising as a measure to boost attendances at both Poly and University events. Somewhat surprisingly this was rejected by Poly Ents.

This apparent ambivalence of Poly Ents follows a battle to sign Curiosity Kills the Cat for a Newcastle concert; a battle which was eventually won by our own Ents Officer.

Chris Storey still hopes though that relations will improve before the end of the year.

Nick Gates

London Demo: Go!

A return trip to London for only £4, and a chance to show the Government what you think of student loans.

Coaches will leave the Union at midnight on 20th February, for the National March in London from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square on Saturday, 21st.

Mass demonstration was effective in November 1984; it must be effective in February 1987.

Tickets are available from Ruth Briel or Brian Thomson on Level 6, price £4 returning Saturday night, £5 Sunday.

C.H.

COURIER SUBSCRIPTION DRAW

- 288 wins — £5 worth of Jewellery Donated by Tillymint, Queen's Square
- 316 wins — Dinner for 2 (value £10) Donated by Joe Rigatonies Restaurant and Bar, St. Mary's Place East
- 324 wins — Lunch for 2 Donated by Luckies Corner Bar, St. Mary's Place
- 336 wins — 2 Bottles of Cider Donated by Convenient Kandola, 16 Mistletoe Road, Jesmond
- 295 wins — 2 free tickets donated by ABC Cinema
- 348 wins — 2 free tickets to a Union Event
- 347 wins — Bottle of Wine — Donated by Grants of St. James
- 358 wins — £5 worth of clothing — Donated by Thrift, Handyside Arcade (Sats only)
- 302 wins — Voucher value £5 — Kard Bar or Arcadia X-Army, of Percy St., before 8/3/87
- 726 wins — £10 worth of clothing from Flip, 12-14 Cross Street Collect Prizes/Tickets by 6/2/87

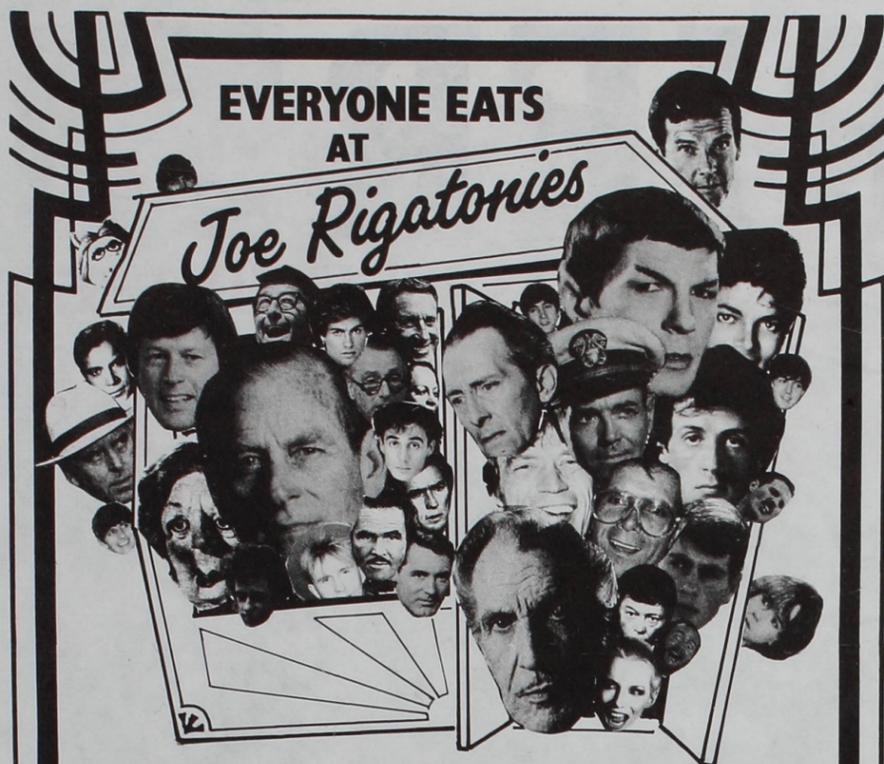
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Six Days 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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COURIER NEWS

Sussex Occupy Lavatorial Blues

The demonstrably militant students of Sussex University took decisive action to oppose government cuts. Executing a "non-implementation" strategy, they occupied Sussex House, the University administrative building for five days.

The students were well prepared, bringing beds, food and other supplies to last them through the self imposed siege. Sixty students occupied the building, maintaining contact with the outside by allowing access to non-participating students bringing provisions, who in turn took news and information out.

According to sources, the occupation was highly popular amongst its students as a whole, despite considerable disruption to them and to U.C.C.A. candidates who found their applications severely delayed.

The protest was ended when 70 policemen acted on a writ issued by bailiffs to clear the building. The only source of conflict derived from students refusing to identify themselves to the police in fear of retribution.

Dominic Nutt



How do you flush empty Skol bottles and plastic skiffs down a toilet? Someone's managing it in the Union, and it's costing us lots of pennies in repairs. Intelligent students?

Beer Idea

A new attraction will soon be coming to the Men's Bar. The catering manager has arranged for a different guest beer to feature each week. It'll all be good stuff — cask conditioned brews from the length and breadth of Britain and each particular beer will be chalked up on a blackboard, so you'll know what you're drinking.

Furthermore, the Men's Bar has managed a bit of a scoop; it'll be the first outlet in the whole of Newcastle to stock good ol' Budweiser on draught. Go for it.

COURIER has received a complaint about last week's profile of Ghanian student, John Bosco Frank Naeroh, 'My African Friend'. The main point of the complaint was that the tone of the article was condescending and patronising and that it portrayed an inaccurate image of Africa as primitive. COURIER would like to see a greater understanding between its British and Overseas students, and we, therefore, invite any other articles about the experience of overseas students coming to study in Newcastle.

PERSONAL COLUMN 2p per word — 10p minimum

Where are the results of yodogisov? ANDY LEXWIN, the man with the fastest panting rate in the game and the smallest fore? skin measurements! PAUL, would you like us to make your chestwig into a codpiece? Was that WILL I saw eating the Warden's nuts on Saturday night in Leazes Terrace? PAULA FLEMING — Fancy a bite in the Chinese? Will all Zeppelin owners/users please exercise extreme caution while flying them, as they have been known to explode! Romance on the cards. Personal Column's here. Where are you sloppy bards?

Due to the imminent arrival of Baby P, Mr. and Mrs. P are embarking on a second honeymoon to celebrate, and must regrettably announce their retirement from the page of Personal Column. See you in the Seychelles! Mr. and Mrs. P. P.S. We're still very happy despite the sabotage attempts!!

PAUL why is the carpet outside the bathroom wearing thin? From the Homesick Toothbrush.

SOMEONE TO TALK TO
NiteLine
TEL 2612905 8pm-8am

Thanks for the ride on your crocodile MICK! Pity you're not from Down under though.
THE PLASTIC EYE SHOW
Mondays at 8.00 p.m.
If you don't tune in you're crap!
Mark Smeg

WATCHOUT for the coming MALAYSIA WEEK
13-15th February 1987

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB
Annual Dinner
Saturday, 14th February
At The Royal Station Hotel
Tickets £12.50 includes 3 course meal, wine, band and disco

ANGUS is Churn not looking after you? or do you just like the variety in 7F? What do Sc, P+L, Z do behind your back? The inaugural meeting of the Nerrad Yhrum fan club will be held in the boot of a Fiat 127
ALEX what a slag! How many did you sleep with in the Crest?
FOR SALE: A Silver Lark trumpet. Excellent condition with case. £45 ono. Contact Tim 27 39 776.

PANAMA JAZZMEN — Divaland Jazz available for function parties — reasonable — Ring Blyth (0670) 361930
PAUL what have you got against mornings? Nutty about Con-Doms, Chris?
TO MARY and THE BOYS' songing SYLVESTER

Interested in the Nerrad Yhrum Appreciation Society? Be in the Cochran Bar on Monday 1.00 p.m.

MIG what for? Harry
MICHAEL M Monday nights just wouldn't be the same without you
CHRISTINE Have Paula's teeth marks gone?
PAUL next time you go to church you can collect your brown!
Where are all you sloppy sods?
Next week special COURIER VALENTINE edition
Get that Romance rolling

THE PLASTIC EYE SHOW
MORE ADDICTIVE THAN CRACK
SI CHRIST

Is the Black or Purple Bald Lesbian Vegetarian Mothers Against For The Bomb And Pineapple And Flower Arranging Society splitting up? disoriented members.

GODSPELL
February 13th — 8.00 p.m.
February 14th — 2.30 and 7.30 p.m.
Eldon Square Recreation Centre
Tickets from Chaplaincy
£2 for students
Buy your ticket NOW!

Contributions for the ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS (if there is to be one!) are needed now. Write your assessment of life at Newcastle or your course or anything relevant to prospective students. NOW — See Brian Thomson, Deputy President.
MRS. ROBINSON Can I apply for a Ph.D. THE GRADUATE.

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University of Newcastle upon Tyne

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1986 — 1987
TONIGHT
Thursday 5th February — 5.30 p.m.
Earl Grey Memorial Lecture
European Origins:
Archaeology and Language
Colin Renfrew, FBA
Disney Professor of Archaeology
and Master of Jesus College, Cambridge
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SCHOOL OF PHYSICS

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COURIER NEWS AND REPORTS

AMAZON: THE FINAL FRONTIER Strong Competition



AMAZON - The Final frontier

This is the name of the video that was shown to the Third World First group by Richard Graham who works for Survival International. This organisation was set up in the 1960s with the specific aim of supporting tribal peoples in their struggle to retain their homeland in the face of large scale industrial schemes, funded in many cases by the World Bank.

The video concentrated on the situation of the remaining Amazonian Indians. If you have seen the film 'The Mission' you will be particularly aware that these people have been living in fear of losing their lives and of losing the rain forest since the 1500s. The video revealed how the situation has been getting even worse in the last 20 years. Because of increasing national debt the Brazilian

government is intent on exploiting the enormous wealth that lies in the Amazon area. The valuable materials include timber, tin and gold.

The massive highways that provide the infrastructure for the extraction of these materials have now eaten their way right through the rain forest, from Brazil northwards to Venezuela. The villages that lay in their paths

were destroyed and literally thousands of lives lost. These settlements were wiped out by either bombing, blasting, machine-gunning or deliberate administration of inappropriate vaccination programmes.

The blasting process involves blasting away the top soil with high pressure hoses and sieving the gold over a conveyor belt system. For every 3oz of gold extracted, 7oz are lost. So far the cost of this ant-like activity to the rain forest is an area the size of Norway, totally treeless. For many of the remaining Indian villages, the rivers on which they are totally dependent are now heavily polluted, with tin and mercury among other harmful substances. This means that children who play in the rivers (just as they did in 'The Mission') become adults with skin diseases and impaired health in general. Many of the fish caught have mutations such as eyes half way along their bodies.

The Indian people are aware of the damage done and have been harshly woken up to the impending doom surrounding them. Many communities are determined that their lives and homeland will not be taken from them and further destroyed. They know of the support of organisations such as Survival International, who have a main office in a city in Brazil where the Amazonian Indians DO make their voices heard. As a result of this direct contact Survival

International is recognised by the World Bank, the EEC and the UN as a representative of tribal people.

Survival International is growing rapidly at present partly due to the showing of the film 'The Mission'. Thus the organisation is able to better influence policy making of such massive bodies (World Bank etc.), in the interest of the right of the tribal people.

Survival International's aims are to make known the situation and to bring a halt to proposed World Bank projects which threaten the lives of thousands of communities not only in countries in South America but also in Botswana, Central India, Australia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The tribal people are appealing to us in the West, who have at least access to the International bodies which hold power over their lives, to speak out for them.

If you are interested in finding out more about the issues involved and how you can support these people, contact:

Survival International
20 Craven Street,
London WC2N 5NT (Tel: 01-839 3267)

and keep an eye and ear out for local activities in the near future. There will probably be a sponsored cycle ride next term to raise funds for Survival International's campaign work, so... on your bike!

Here's a wonderful chance to win a bottle of Strongbow 1080 and there are also great runners-up prizes in an absurdly different, no expenses spared competition. Put the answers to the questions on a postcard and send to Strongbow 1080, c/o The Editor, by 12th February 1987.

1st prize - 1 bottle of Strongbow 1080
2nd prize - 2 bottles of Strongbow 1080
3rd prize - 3 bottles of Strongbow 1080

and two
4th prizes - 4 bottles of Strongbow 1080

Plus a Sanyo MGP9SP Personal Stereo Cassette player.

1. Why is Strongbow 1080 called Strongbow 1080?

- (a) Strongbow 540 x 2 wouldn't go on the label
- (b) The Earl of Strongbow (who he?) died in 1080
- (c) Strongbow 1080 is double fermented for extra strength.

2. Which medium was used to advertise Strongbow 1080?

- (a) Skywriting over the Sahara
- (b) Logos on Gucci designer sock suspenders
- (c) Independent local radio.

3. Would you call Strongbow 1080

- (a) A dry, strong cider?
- (b) A small step in the history of mankind?
- (c) Fred?



What a Wappa!

- (a) A dry, strong cider?
- (b) A small step in the history of mankind?
- (c) Fred?

Expedition to Pot Telecom: All out

They're off to see the potters, the wonderful potters of Iz...

In April, Newcastle University post-graduates, Huw Evans and Richard Willis and graduate Richard Carlton will set off from the Department of Archaeology to the Yugoslav island of Iz on an archaeological and ethnological survey.

With some financial backing from the University and the Archaeology, Excavation and Fieldwork Committee the archaeologists aim to study four island potters, all in their eighties, who continue a 2000 year old earthenware tradition. The students also hope to learn how to make the clay pots themselves which are mined by hand then built up, instead of being thrown on a wheel.

Demand for the pots from the islanders has meant that this peasant based economy has remained unchanged for hundreds of years. This establishes one of the main points of interest for the archaeologists, as Richard Carlton says, "The islanders are part of our own cultural heritage - we left this behind a few hundred years ago".

Recently the society seems more set to be swallowed up by U.S. culture so the archaeological project, which will also dig for evidence of past cultures, is made more urgent - but more promotional backing is needed before Richard, Huw and Richard can go.

Caroline Burns

Consider a national strike - the first since the miner's in 1984/5 - in a high tech industry where 98% of all workers belong to a union; in a company which achieved £2 bn profit last year. The company offers to their members (80% of whom are shareholders in their company), a 5% pay increase while their chairman awards himself an 85% pay rise.

The scenario is real. The facts of the strike explode the myths of both people's Capitalism (or is it share owning democracy these days?) where workers have a 'say' in how many or how few of them will be sacked. And secondly the idea that the Unions are obsolete and powerless.

The power of the Telecom Engineers is in some ways considerably greater than that of the miners. The NUM was defeated partly because the strike did not spread solidly to all coalfields, and partly because coal could be imported and stockpiled by the Coal Board. However much 'new technology' has advanced - city vultures able to buy and sell whole economies in seconds over a telex line - it is IMPOSSIBLE to stockpile phone calls.

Presently the mood of engineers who came out in support of suspended colleagues is confident and determined.

So what is the Strike about? On Monday, 19th January, Telephone Engineers in the North East walked out in support of colleagues who had been suspended by management for carrying out Union instructions and refusing to work overtime.

BT Engineers (all members of the National Communication Union (Engineering) are refusing to work overtime as a part of a campaign of industrial action after pay talks broke down in December.

The Union negotiated for 6 months against a dogmatic and uncompromising management. As a result of continued failure to get any agreement a national ballot indicated that 80% of Engineers were in favour of industrial action.

The present offer is a 5% pay increase (none of which will be paid until 1988) conditional upon the Union accepting certain strings, such as extended start

and finish times at management's discretion, abolition of certain grades, accelerated promotion (blue-eyed boys) and Saturday working 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as normal conditioned hours.

The overtime ban came into effect on 12th January. Engineers were working normal hours and covering Life and Death emergencies with UNPAID volunteers during the arctic weather.

But, management made their intention clear that they were going to suspend the Customer Maintenance Engineers.

Management's attitude to emergency cover has revealed a strange interpretation of 'life and death' calls, which workers agreed to cover. BT announced it would specify what is and what is not an emergency. Calls, which were then slotted into this 'emergency' bracket included a carpet firm which relied on its telephone for business.

Engineers withdrew their cover.

The arguments concerning Life and Death situations has since been used by the national media as a moral weapon to undermine support for the NCU strike. A question must be posed in response: If BT really cared about emergencies, why do they charge hospitals for 999 calls?

The strike itself is beginning to bite. Faults have threatened financial companies in the City such as Extel. Telephone exchanges in Warrington, Manchester, Liverpool, Aylesbury and Peterborough have already been off line. In Chester the system was reported to be "falling apart".

At a time when our own Student Union is under attack both locally in terms of cuts and nationally, students should support NCU workers through collections for the hardship fund.

Brian Coughlan

Publicity Banned

In preparation for this year's Union elections and the frenetic publicity campaigns that precede them, Castle Leazes authorities have radically modified their policy on electioneering and canvassing. As a result there are no hustings in the Halls and each Candidate is only able to submit one poster to the Hall authorities, to be posted by them.

The Hall authorities are so intent on enforcing these new regulations that election posters have been removed and canvassers have been escorted off the premises.

The decision to limit publicity in this way was taken by the Hall Wardens but the decision to cancel the traditional hustings was taken, surprisingly, by the Hall Presidents, who themselves are

elected by the Students. The Halls will, however, still allow a ballot box in Reception on the election days.

These decisions may mean a little less work for the cleaning staff in the Halls but it will be interesting to see how this lack of information will affect voting patterns as residents approach their first election.

Kit Malthouse

DRINK ALARM

Underage drinking in Newcastle is reaching drastic levels, and the majority of young people drink primarily to get drunk, a recent survey revealed.

The alarming results show that more than four-fifths of girls and three-quarters of boys in Newcastle drink alcohol before the age of sixteen.

The survey was carried out by the Futures Youth Project, a group currently trying to raise funds to create the first alcohol-free nightclub in Newcastle.

A spokesperson for the project said that such a nightclub would offer an alternative to poorly-financed, inadequate youth clubs, in a city where violent crimes committed under the influence of alcohol increased by almost a third last year.

Rose Boylan

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DISCOUNT ON ANY HAIRSTYLE

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TOPSTYLE 2

NEWCASTLE'S VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT IS

The Super Natural Restaurant

PRINCESS SQUARE (back of Central Library)

We provide natural foods at reasonable prices, including at least 12 varieties of salad. The hot dishes are mostly unusual due to our determination to avoid convenience foods and those containing obscure chemicals.

Theakstons beers are sold, as well as a comprehensive selection of the better quality wines and spirits.

Open from 9.30 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. every day except Sunday.

WINTER SPECIAL OFFER

BIG REDUCTIONS

Sun - Mon - Tues evenings
Open 7.00 p.m.

EXAMPLES

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Fillet Steak | £4.95 |
| with 2 veg, Salad and Chips | |
| Chicken Stalla | £3.45 |
| with 2 veg, Salad and Chips | |
| Pizza & Pasta | £1.50 all night |

LA STALLA

99 Pilgrim Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tel. 232 4220

Disco - Wed. - Sat. evenings

UNION MATTERS

1. EMERGENCY MEETING ON EDUCATION CUTS

FRIDAY 6th 1.05 pm -
DETAILS ON THE FULL PAGE SPREAD

2. N.U.S. ANTI LOANS AND ANTI CUTS ACTION

MONDAY 9th. A BALLOON LAUNCH
TUESDAY 10th. A DAY OF DEPARTMENTAL ACTION:

GET YOUR DEPARTMENT INVOLVED!
THURSDAY 12th. DEMONSTRATE AGAINST LOANS AND CUTS, IN DURHAM
SEE RUTH BRIEL FOR FURTHER DETAILS

3. GENERAL MEETING ON DEFENCE FEB. 12th

RUNNER-UP IN THE PRIORITIES BALLOT.
AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL OFFICE BY THE 6th



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COMMUNITY ACTION WEEK

What is your department

Society
Hall

doing for CAW?



Needed: Floats for PARADE
Events for CAW day

Don't forget MAG RAIDS.
Leaving King's Walk 8.30 a.m.
IF YOU SIGN UP, TURN UP
We still have to pay for the buses

DRIVERS NEEDED

ideas into action →

Want to be a FIRST YEAR CONFERENCE STEWARD/ DRIVER?

Application forms from
Porter's Lodge
Return before
Friday, 27th February

Interviews
Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd,
Wednesday 4th March

COURIER ~~STANT & RAVE~~

UNION DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OR KANGAROO COURT ?

What is Disciplinary Committee? It is not a court of law, it is not a means for barring people from the Union "on the basis of (their) character or political views", it is not a "quasi-judicial institution", whose function is to punish "non-Labour members . . . found guilty on unreliable evidence". What it is, is the means to enforce the Union Laws and Bye-Laws to which every member of the Students Union has agreed, upon signing their Union cards.

The procedure is quite simple — incident reports are filed by Security and on the basis of these, the Sabbatical Secretary, Keith Myers and I, decide whether to take the matter to Disciplinary Committee, and under what charges. There are no hard and fast rules here, but we try to weed out the trivial matters, and the ones where we feel there is insufficient evidence to prove anything.

At the hearings, the panel is made up of three members of Disciplinary Committee (who are elected by Union Council) with myself as Convenor. The case against the alleged offender is put by the Sabbatical Secretary, using any relevant evidence, and up to 3 witnesses. The defendant or their representative then states their case and may also present evidence and witnesses. The committee then closes to discuss the matter and to decide whether to uphold the charges and if so what penalty to impose. If a penalty is imposed, then I make sure that the appeals procedure is known to the defendant.

There are 10 members of Disciplinary Committee, 6 of whom are members of the Labour Club, 1 of whom is a Conservative student and 3 of whom are not politically aligned. I myself am a member of the Labour Club but at Disciplinary hearings I do not have a vote. Disciplinary Committee is not a committee which has any power or say in how the Union is organised, therefore it would seem to me that the fact of 60% of the committee are Labour Club members indicates not that they are seeking to wield political power, but that it is Labour Club members who are the most numerous and most committed Union activists. This does not mean that the committee is prejudiced against any group of people for any reason, or that decisions are made because of partisan bias — that is utter rubbish. As for accusation that I am out to 'get' the Agrics. — that is also rubbish. Since November, out of the 23 cases I have dealt with, 9 have been Agrics., 4 have been doing Sciences or Engineering, 5 have been doing Arts, 2 have been from Social Sciences, and 2 from the Poly. That there is a high proportion of Agrics. is simply because a large number of Agrics., are involved in incidents, usually on Thursday nights.

My aim is for penalties to be fair but firm, so that the message is put across about what sort of behaviour is acceptable in the Union some examples of what is not acceptable (of which I have been notified) — pissing in places not designated for that purpose, deliberate and pointless vandalism, physical violence, sexual harassment — I could go on but I think I've made my point.

No wonder less and less people are using the Union; I wouldn't want to go to a pub or club where that sort of behaviour is the norm, so why do some people think it is acceptable in the Union. The Union is not some sort of playground where you can do and act as you like, knowing that someone else has to clean up the mess, is clearly a problem that has to be tackled. This Union is a private club of which we are privileged to be members. We are not infants anymore, and infantile behaviour is not acceptable; nor is drunkenness an excuse for stupid behaviour. Everyone must accept responsibility for what they do whether drunk or otherwise, they are responsible first of all for getting themselves drunk, and for how drunk they get — I find it unacceptable as an excuse.

In view of all this, I have started to try to give some sort of structure to the way penalties are imposed. Firstly there are bans from the Union Building (up to permanent expulsions) through which I aim to convey how unacceptable certain types of behaviour are. Secondly there are punitive fines (up to £100 an individual, £1000 a society) which hopefully have a deterrent effect on the offender and on any potential offenders; and thirdly there are charges for such things as broken glasses, cleaning costs, damaged property and clothing of Security personnel. There is an element of difficulty in achieving standard penalties for certain offences, since members of the panel only sit on one of every 3 or 4 hearings, however I try to guide them to a reasonable degree of consistency, since I am the continuous element in all Disciplinary hearings.

When I stood for election in November, I said that I thought that it was a difficult job that needed a lot of hard graft. Now I know it for a fact, but I'm going to keep at it. Disciplinary Committee is not a joke, it is not a Tory-bashing/Agric-hating bunch of looney lefties, and I am not using it as a vehicle to achieve any political ends. What I would like to do is to stamp out the violence and vandalism that is costing the Union thousands of pounds in repairs and lost revenue.

L. Mendelsohn
Convenor of Disciplinary Committee

Dear Editor,

That the Union's Disciplinary procedure is in a very sorry state must be the inevitable conclusion of anyone unlucky enough to be on the receiving end of its rough justice. In November I had the dubious pleasure of representing a friend before this less than august body who was unable to attend his hearing (lucky chap).

The first and most obvious problem with the hearing was the lack of formality. Some might consider this to be a virtue of the system, if so I suggest they go and see for themselves, they will soon change their minds.

After the prosecution put its case the whole hearing subsided into general discussion. What should happen is that the defence be treated the same as the prosecution and be formally allowed to outline its case. This palpably did not happen and therefore the proceedings were inevitably unfair as the prosecution was allowed to give its case the fuller airing.

The second problem concerns the evidence which was presented by the prosecution — we heard from the Security Officer who was present when the incident occurred which was of course correct but then in addition the Committee accepted as evidence a statement from another body which was neither presented orally at the hearing nor contained in a written statement signed by the person tendering it. This evidence was merely referred to in another statement and as such was clearly hearsay and therefore it should not have been considered.

It is all very well for the prosecution to say to me when I made this point that 'this is not a court of law' and for the Committee to say

we understand what you say, but nevertheless we consider it to be good evidence so to hell with you and your quaint notions of natural justice and procedural fairness. I find it very sad when a quasi-judicial body (which disciplinary undoubtedly is) can be so arrogant as to consider itself not bound by the requirements of procedural fairness even though bound by them it surely is.

My third criticism concerns the role of the Committee itself. The Committee should, of course, have the right to ask both sides questions but not to aggressively cross-examine witnesses as actually happened. By taking up such a role the Committee can no longer be presumed to be impartial which must invalidate the whole proceedings.

Anyone reading these criticisms is entitled to say, 'I'm never going to appear before disciplinary, why should I care?' If anyone does think that, then I suggest that they lay hands on a copy of the Union's Constitution and read up on the disciplinary committee's powers of suspension and expulsion. That might help concentrate their minds on the flawed nature of the justice on offer and might even persuade them that this is, after all, an issue of essential importance to us all.

Yours etc.,
R. J. Lucas
3rd Year Law

VIEW POINT

It's astonishing that Ministers are able to get away today with their talk of tackling 'Skills Shortages' when the evidence was before them years ago and once again we face another round of University cutbacks.

So it is that the savagery now extends to the supposed 'seed-corn' subjects of the second industrial revolution, in which there are already acute national shortages — Maths, Science, Engineering and Technology subjects — as well as the Arts and Social Studies.

Cuts may be the wrong policy in education but, even if they were the right policy, these are plainly the wrong cuts. It doesn't say much for Sir Kenneth, and it doesn't say much for the powers of persuasion of the U.G.C. either. Just where is the inherent

logic of a system which, while preaching the need for technological relevance in higher education, inflicts damage on precisely that technological area.

Early in 1980, for instance, the National Economic Development Office warned the Government that Britain was short of at least 25,000 Computer Specialists. It said that even if the problem was solved the nation would still need 500 new computer programmers every month till 1986. The problem could be over if tackled at once.

But while the new economic powers of South-East Asia race ahead of us industrially continuing to invest in their education systems, our own output of graduates with the skills of information technology continues to decline (by five per cent last year). It's not because of a lack of candidates. (In 1983, at least 10 Universities had to turn away nine out of 10 of qualified applicants for their Computer Science courses). It's because of a lack of investment, spreading back through all the Thatcher years and reaching into the Labour days of the '70's as well.

The N.E.D.C. over a year ago warned of an 'impending crisis' of prospective decline to the status of a 'third world country' and of a 'competitive threat to the Survival' of the information technology industry unless something was done and done quickly. What is still needed is a 'National Training Focus' in education for if Britain does not now grasp the opportunity of leaping a generation of industrial practice, our economy will become a fascinating repository for industrial archaeologists, but a source of increasing frustration for everyone else.

Steve Batey

Dear Editor,

As you must be well aware by now, the departments of Music and Philosophy are under serious threat of closure. It is important to realise that last year the Senate agreed to continue supporting the music department, re-offering the Chair in two year's time.

Now this decision has been overturned, and I feel if Music and Philosophy do close, other departments such as Fine Arts, Religious Studies

Dear Editor,

I was having 'the one' in the Forth recently when a friend gave me a garbled version of a curious story, the gist of which was that students are being encouraged to use 'Courier' as a condom.

In my many years as a regular contributor to its pages I watched Courier become an evermore impenetrable rag; its proposed new use is therefore strangely suitable. Why did no-one think of this before?

Yours etc.,

John McPherson

which appear to have Senate support at present, may suddenly find their support vanishing, and be themselves under serious threat.

It is therefore vital that everyone gives total support against the closure of Music and Philosophy and cuts in general. Please write to the Vice-Chancellor expressing your disgust at the closure of Music and Philosophy.

Yours etc.,

Charlotte Ridsdale

INTERMEZZO

How is it that age improves our view of things? 'Psycho' is now generally regarded as a great thriller, but was slated by critics at the time — "fairground thrills", "the plot creaks". Rubber-necked German tourists now gawp admiringly at castles, which must have seemed draughty and impractical at the time. I imagine too that the classics of literature, like Dickens and Bronte, were nothing more than a good read on the horsedrawn equivalent of the Tube at the time.

I can't believe that the passing years will do any favours for our age. Future generations will not revere its culture and feature like we do ages gone by. Can you imagine the National Trust opening multi-storey car parks to the nation? Tesco's Hyperstores being turned into theme parks? O'level English Literature examiners setting questions like "Discuss the recurring theme of disaster in Gyles Brandreth's books"? One hundred years from now people might think of Frank Muir like we now think of Oscar Wilde.

People always get a distorted and selective memory as years go by. They get nostalgic about the Age of Steam, but I can't imagine us all getting fond memories of B.R. in our old age. Instead of remembering the Flying Scotsman and stoking up the engines we'll all think back longingly to half-hour delays at Rotherham and surly porters telling you to "look on the board!" Every time you ask a civil question.

It would be nice to think of the Brits of the future being patronising about us, as we are about the Victorians (their silly ideas like covering up phallic table legs and believing in God). They'll wonder why we feared AIDS so much and why we thought unemployment was here to stay — I hope.

Anyway at least Denis Norden won't be viewed any more favourably in 50 years than he is now because he'll still be alive or someone who saw him will be, to remind the world what a droning talentless bore he manges to be.



12.00 — 2.30
PASTA OF THE DAY plus WINE or BEER
£2.50
also Reduced Pizza Prices ALL £2.00

EVERYONE EATS AT

Joe Rigatonies

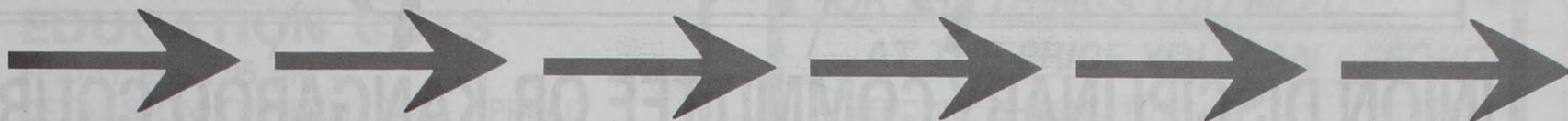
PIZZERIA BAR & RESTAURANT
St. Mary's Place East, off Vine Lane, Newcastle (next to Luckies Bar)
Tel. 261 5014

5.30 — 8.30pm
MINISTRONE SOUP or MUSHROOMS IN GARLIC
LASAGNE & SPAGHETTI (any style)
Joe Rigatonies SPECIAL SWEET
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10% Discount off a la carte menu on production of S.U. Card

HAPPY HOUR REDUCED PIZZA PRICES 5.30-7.30 pm

CAMPAIGN AGAINST



Last week the Vice Chancellor's Strategy Group announced its draft plans to deal with a cut in Government funding of £4m over 4 years.

Its proposals include loss of academic staff in nearly every department and the closure of music and philosophy.

As the implications of the proposed cuts sink in, students and staff are planning a hard-hitting campaign. Departmental activity has begun, while teaching unions are linking action with their pay claim. N.U.S.' attack on student loans is gathering pace and it is along with this that our own executive is planning its fight against the cuts.

The big date on the horizon is April 28th, when Senate meets to accept or reject the Vice Chancellor's strategy. Brian Thomson outlines the background to and the targets of the FIGHT AGAINST THE CUTS.

The present Government have deemed Universities as areas of savings for the past few years. In the early 1980's a number of cuts were proposed and when implemented made not a great deal of impact at Newcastle University. However, it has since been argued that the initial cuts rid the system of any "dead wood", the present cuts have therefore been much more difficult to implement because they require savings only possible through a dramatic review of the University system.

THE 1986 STRATEGY

The present strategy proposed by the Vice Chancellor and his senior colleagues requires 140 job losses, the closure of two departments and the merger of many more. Although it has been stated that this is an academic strategy and that the scope for reductions in other areas is limited, we must not underestimate the threat to support staff throughout the University. As departments close and merge there will obviously be no jobs remaining for clerical staff, technicians, ancillary workers etc.

The "strategy group" as has been widely advertised have recommended the closure of Music and Philosophy, and cuts in all other areas amounting to total job losses of 140 academic staff.

Once again, Arts have been the faculty to be hit hardest. 24% of the academics are to disappear by 1990. Science comes next with a reduction of 19%, then Medicine 16%, Engineering and Education 15%, Agriculture 13%, Law 11%, and Social Sciences 10%.

The strategy has been compiled on the basis of findings of the University's own Research Group and the findings of the UGC selectivity exercise. Thus those departments that have been hit hardest are those which are designated to have a low quality student intake, a low research out-put or a particularly unfavourable staff/student ratio or all three.

However, in many cases the findings of the strategy group appear to be rather dubious. In many cases it is glaringly obvious that specific departments have been chosen for cuts simply because the strategy group do not deem them "worthwhile".

In departments such as these the Group always compare their information with that which will make the Newcastle department look particularly bad, e.g. there is no standard procedure in drawing comparisons, certain departments are compared with other "northern Universities", others are compared nationally in order to prove any specific point the strategy group want to come up with.

Similarly in the case of Music, one reason given for suggested closure is that the quality of applicants (based on 'A' level scores) is low, but the fact of the matter is that music students are chosen primarily on their musical ability. Even though this is surely a much better way to assess potential students it has been conveniently looked over.

THE WHOLE STRATEGY READS AS THOUGH THE STRATEGY

GROUP DECIDED BEFOREHAND WHICH DEPARTMENTS IT WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO CLOSE AND THEN SOUGHT TO FIND THE MOST ADVERSE CRITERIA THEY COULD.

Many academics are, quite rightly, extremely upset at the outcome of the strategy. This strategy has been produced with a great emphasis put on research records of particular departments. No account has been taken of how good the academics within the departments are at teaching, how much certain academics contribute towards the smooth running of the departments e.g. some academics contribute very little towards their department's research output, but organise admissions, and carry out initiatives which contribute towards the efficient management of the building etc.

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The University strategy states that: "We hope that members of the University will remember that the economies proposed are designed to protect and preserve many other areas and to clear the way for positive advances in them. This inevitably entails pruning what seems less successful and effective. What suffers may be perfectly sound in itself, but must give way if what is even better or more robust is to survive in national competition. IN THE COMING DEBATE IT WILL THEREFORE NOT BE ENOUGH TO ARGUE THAT THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH A THREATENED ACTIVITY, BUT ALSO TO IDENTIFY BETTER TARGETS FOR ECONOMISING".

This is an invitation to start a pitched battle between academics to argue that "mine is a better department than yours".

- MUSIC – TO CLOSE
- PHILOSOPHY – TO CLOSE
- ENGLISH – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
- FINE ART – TO LOSE 3 POSTS
- MODERN LANGUAGES – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
- HISTORY/ARCHAEOLOGY/ CLASSICS/RELIGIOUS STUDIES – TO LOSE 3 POSTS
- BIOCHEMISTRY & GENETICS – TO LOSE 1 POST
- PLANT BIOLOGY & ZOOLOGY – TO LOSE 7 POSTS
- PSYCHOLOGY – TO LOSE 5 POSTS
- SURVEYING – TO LOSE 0 POSTS
- GEOLOGY – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
- PHYSICS – TO LOSE 7 POSTS
- CHEMISTRY – TO LOSE 5 POSTS
- COMPUTING – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
- MATHEMATICS – TO LOSE 6 POSTS
- CHEM. & PROCESS ENGINEERING – TO LOSE 3 POSTS
- CIVIL ENGINEERING – TO LOSE 0 POSTS
- ELECT. & ELECTRONIC ENG. – TO LOSE 3 POSTS
- ENG. MATHEMATICS – TO LOSE 0 POSTS
- GEOTECH. ENG. – 1 POST ALREADY LOST
- MECH. ENG. – TO LOSE 5 POSTS
- METALLURGY – TO LOSE 4 POSTS

10%

Friday, 6th Feb
EMERGENCY GE
Outside

N.U.S. WEEK
Monday, 9th Feb
LAUNCH OF
Release of Balloons

Tuesday, 10
DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, 11
LOBBY AT C

Thursday, 12
MARCH IN
(Meet at Uni)

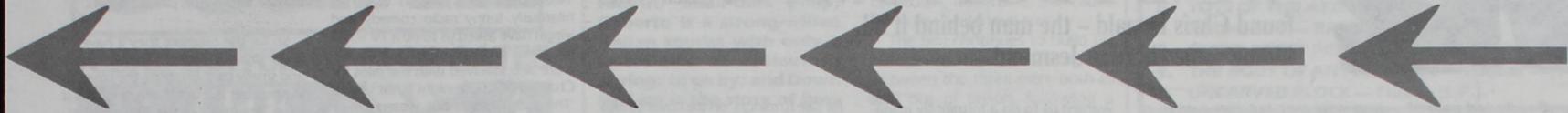
Friday, 13th
LEAFLETIN

Wednesday, 14
MASS DEMO
outside Academ

Saturday, 21
NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

For further
See Brian Thomson
Ruth Briel
LEVEL 6 Stu

GAINST CUTS



We must not get drawn into such an argument – "History is just as important to a Historian as Science is to a Scientist". A good Arts graduate is just as likely to make a valuable contribution to his/her chosen career as an Engineer is to theirs.

We must encourage the University to look into other areas of savings. When finances are tight, luxuries must go. But we must also develop an alternative strategy which will not necessitate job losses in other areas. We hope to contribute in some way to developing an Alternative Strategy, but to do this we also need your help. Firstly we must show the Senior Academics that this strategy is not acceptable, and bear in mind that we do not say this alone, all employees, from academics to technicians etc., are against such a radical strategy.

Remember that the departments which are earmarked for closure are those which have been run down over the years and are now regarded as unviable. If your department is losing one post you must ask yourself how long it will be until it is also considered unviable!

Help us to help you

Bring up the strategy document at your next Staff/Student Committee.

Sign the Petition outside the union.

Organise activities within your department.

Join in the NUS Week of Action on 9th-13th February.

Demonstrate on Feb. 18th in Newcastle and Feb. 21st in London.

Persuade anyone in your department who may be on Senate to vote for a re-think.

Attend the E.G.M. tomorrow, and look out for future campaign meetings.

Keep informed. See myself or Ruth Briel on Level 6, Students Union.

Brian Thomson
Deputy President

Music and Philosophy Fight Back

Reeling from the shock of threatened closure, students and staff of Music and Philosophy are fighting back to save their departments. There is a feeling of some confidence that they can convince the University Senate their departments should be kept for the benefit of the Arts Faculty, the University and the area as a whole.

This is particularly true of the Music Department which has launched its third campaign for survival in two years. The department is particularly canvassing the considerable concert-going population of Newcastle to protest against closure – as the loss of the department is likely to lead to the loss of the 60 public concerts put on at the University each year.

Acting Head of Music, Dr. Eric Cross, said "It is rather a paradox for the University to be cutting the department with the most local links. The University is very conscious of its public image and is seeking to be more involved with local needs. Music should be the last department to be cut in this respect".

Denying that the calibre of music students was low, as implied in the Strategy Report, Dr. Cross said "Our 'A' level points numbers may be low, but we place more emphasis on practical musical ability. We audition every applicant. Perhaps the Senate should focus instead on the very high standard of students coming out of the department.

"The amount of saving that will be made by closing this department will be far outweighed by the loss to the University and the area. We contribute more for the amount we cost than any other department. People would soon notice if there wasn't a Music Department.

"A high standard of music in a University does require considerable financial investment but the music staff here keep costs down by using their extensive contacts to secure high calibre performers for University concerts. The University would still have to make some provision for music, and it would be much more expensive without the support of a Music Department".

In another part of the Armstrong Building, the Philosophy Department also believes that axing the department will not make any substantial saving for the University. Head of Department, Dr. Martin Hughes, commented "The argument for closure is not convincing. The proposal that staff will be distributed around other departments is simply an inefficient use of human resources and would spoil the contribution we can make to the academic life of the University, for a very small saving its investment in us won't damage any other departments.

"In a school of humanities such as the University proposes, it would be very regrettable not to have a Philosophy component". Students too are rallying round to defend the reputation of their departments. First-year music student Andrew Adigun said "I have enough musical and academic qualifications to study anywhere I wanted, but I chose to study at Newcastle. The Senate should realise the implications of its proposals".

Whether or not the Senate shares the convictions of the two threatened departments will be seen in April. Until then Musicians and Philosophers alike will be conducting vigorous campaigns to save their departments and would appreciate any support from sympathetic students.

Sue Leaver

CUT

February – 1.00 pm
GENERAL MEETING
Students Union

WEEK OF ACTION

February – 12 noon
CAMPAGN:
Demonstrations outside Union
13th February
GENERAL ACTIVITIES

14th February
VIC CENTRE

15th February
DURHAM
(on 11.00 am)

16th February
MARCH IN TOWN

18th February
CONSTITUTIONAL
Executive Board Meeting

19th February
DEMONSTRATION IN LONDON

Information
(Deputy President)
(President)
Students Union

INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT –
THREAT OF MERGER

MARINE ENG. – 1 POST ALREADY
LOST

MINING ENG. – 1 POST ALREADY
LOST

NAVAL ARCH. – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
ARCHITECTURE – TO LOSE 3 POSTS

TOWN & CO. PLANNING – TO LOSE
3 POSTS

ECONOMICS – TO LOSE 0 POSTS

POLITICS – TO LOSE 1 POST

SOCIAL POLICY & SOCIAL STUDIES
– 7 POSTS TO GO

GEOGRAPHY – TO LOSE 1 POST

LAW – TO LOSE 2 POSTS
(1 ALREADY GONE)

FACULTY OF EDUCATION – TO
LOSE 5 POSTS

AGRIC. BIOCHEM. & NUTRITION –
TO LOSE 0 POSTS

AGRIC. BIOLOGY – TO LOSE 1 POST

AGRIC. ECONOMICS – TO LOSE
1 POST

AGRIC. ENG. – TO LOSE 3 POSTS

AGRIC. & FOOD MARKETING – TO
LOSE 1 POST

AGRICULTURE – TO LOSE 1 POST

SOIL SCIENCE – TO LOSE 1 POST

MEDICINE – TO LOSE 27 POSTS

DENTISTRY – TO LOSE 6 POSTS

ACTION NOW

SCENE ONE INTERVIEW



THE MAGAZINE WITH A WINDY BOTTOM . . . Nick Gates

found Chris Donald – the man behind it all, hiding somewhere in Jesmond.

In a quiet and secluded part of Jesmond sits the headquarters of Viz, which since 1979 has been turning out a decidedly different kind of magazine. If you're one of the few people who've never seen a copy, basically it's a very funny comic which mixes out and out bad taste with more subtle piss-takes of daily life, sometimes drawn brilliantly, and sometimes not so brilliantly. It's a mix which is apparently catching on fast.

Chris explained how it all got started. "Myself and Jim Brownlow had been doing cartoons about extremely fat people getting cut up on bacon slicers and stuff like that at school; passing them round the class as you do". On leaving school, however, it seemed their drawing

days were over, but after a week at the D.H.S.S. Chris decided it would be more fun to do comic strips, hence Viz was born.

"Over a few years we'd built up quite a little collection of cartoons, once we left school we didn't have anywhere to put them so we decided to publish them in a comic".

The first issue in December 1979 proved hugely popular "a pretty shallow affair" admits Chris, all 150 copies were sold within two days and circulation has risen rapidly ever since. It was getting to the point where administration was coming before the creative side of things and so Chris and Co. decided to find a publishing deal.

Enter I.P.C. magazines, a huge organisation that owns about half the publications in the country, "they

wanted us to do a fortnightly magazine that wasn't necessarily even going to be called Viz, we'd send them stuff and they'd send it back saying "You can't do this" in the end we decided to turn them down".

Luckily the more liberal-minded people at Virgin Publishing decided Viz was a sound business proposition

and snapped them up, Chris explains – "Basically we've signed a record contract with them, except we don't have to sing or go on Top of the Pops, Virgin don't mind things like bollocks on the cover, I asked them if we could have some large testicles and they said Yes".

The result of the deal has been to boost circulation, Viz is now sold in every Virgin store. "At the moment circulation is 20,000, it went from 5,000 to 20,000 in a year and they're hoping that by the summer it'll be up to 40,000, the Album has also sold 15,000 copies".

Chris and his brother Simon still do most of the strips themselves (they sign themselves C.D. and Johnny Shiloe respectively), they get lots of stuff sent in "most of it is terrible though" admits Chris "uninspired and boring, we only have a few regular contributors".

But how, one wonders, do they manage to come up with the weird characters that frequent the Viz world, "Usually I have my brilliant ideas in the pub or in bed" says Chris "they just tend to evolve".

Chris quite happily admits there is nothing deep lurking behind the pages of Viz, despite the fact many of his characters are power mad lunatics he has no desire to overturn the government, the Viz philosophy is very simple.

"It's childish in the extreme, it's not purposeful at all. It's just having a laugh, and hopefully becoming infinitely rich in the next year or so".

Has this led to offending people though, with columns like "Barney the complete Bastard" and "Buster Gonad and his unfeasibly large testicles" surely complaints have flooded in?

"No, not really, I've seen women walking down the street and thought 'That's an angry parent', but we haven't had any complaints, I don't know why, although it does say 'Not

for sale to minors' on the cover so kids aren't supposed to see it".

Alongside the comic, Viz now has a successful merchandising branch

with T-shirts and postcards, and hopefully soon some Johnny Fart-pants underpants – complete with stains and blow-hole. There's also some new creative projects in the pipeline. "Somebody from BBC Radio asked us if we'd like to write an hilariously funny radio comedy and Virgin have asked us to do a TV script for their production company, we were also involved with the pilot for Channel 4's late-night chat show 'The Last Resort', but weren't very happy with the end result".

It seems then that the Viz Empire is primed for take-off, Chris, however,

might disagree. "I'm not at all your Richard Branson type business maniac, he's just mental – definitely a loony. It would be handy though if we had a large empire and I could do something different each day. At the minute we're a bit pinned down."

So for the moment they'll have to keep drawing their violent, stupid and smelly cartoon strips, the cover of Viz number 22, out this week, says it all – "Sex frolics of the T.V. weathermen", "Win 500 toilet rolls", "Is Prince Edward Soft?" Go out and buy a copy, but don't let your mum see it.



"We haven't had any complaints"



DESPITE BEING BORN HALF MAN, HALF FISH, YOUNG BILLY THOMSON HAD MADE THE GOALKEEPER'S JERSEY AT FULCHESTER UNITED HIS OWN.

Who was the original? Word has it Paul Mariner's the man with the fishy hair.

BHUNDU-FUL

The Bhundu Boys Riverside

The Bhundu Boys were practically unknown in this country, twelve months ago, but now if Monday night was anything to judge by they must be probably the best, certainly the most original, live act of the moment. It is very rare that music from Africa is ever taken seriously in this country, but the Bhundu Boys have succeeded because of the enthusiasm of a certain Radio One D.J. and because, they are, to put it bluntly, fantastic.

When you take into account, the fact that none of their songs are written in English, it seems amazing that they received the ovation they did, but unlike most modern groups they have the advantage of being totally with-

out pretensions, and of actually enjoying playing live.

But what's the music like? (I hear you ask). Well, they use the standard equipment of modern music; electric guitar, bass, keyboards and drums, but from this predictable format, they have moulded a sound that is subtle, refined and distinctively African, which for some strange reason, just made you want to smile with contentment, and of course, you had to dance. Perhaps the basic secret of their appeal is the rhythms they use, but it seems pointless to try and analyse such talent, because I could never do them justice on paper.

So my advice to you is go and see them even if you have to travel to Africa because they are, in the words of one loud mouthed fan 'Absolutely fucking brilliant!!!!!!'.

Chris Reynolds

MANIAC

Even been on a joyride with a real maniac? Do you remember the surge of adrenalin brought on by that wild combination of speed and fear? Will you ever live through such excitement again?

Well you can if you just get down with the Age of Chance. Chainsaw guitars and the irrepresible rhythm of a pneumatic drill deliver this unchallengeable sound of power and fury. The noise produced by the Age of Chance, overlain by an avalanche of beats, will induce nothing but perpetual motion on the dance floor. Ever. Don't miss this unique opportunity to burn up in the disco inferno. Get carried away on a tidal wave of anti-Americanism through the streets of Motown into the Motorcity – come and live through the Age of Chance!

Steve Naive

COMMUNITY ACTION WEEK
SPONSORED HITCH-HIKES
 24 HOURS
RACE TO PARIS
 Leaves outside Union on **FRIDAY 6th MARCH** at 9.00 a.m.
 All other events – collect sponsorship forms now at **SCAN**
ideas into action

Monster Big NU Events

Monday 9th – Saturday 12th

Monday An awe inspiring Cochrane Quiz.
Tuesday Stay in the library, cook your friends tea etc., but not a lot in the Union!
Wednesday Disco L6 with late bar.
Thursday PAMELA STEPHENSON on Level Two!! A guaranteed good laugh for £4.00. with disco and late bar
Friday A sensuous Level Two Disco £1 still the most popular, other discos pale in comparison . . .
Saturday ST. VALENTINE'S BALL £3 with the Soup Dragons and Ritzer Ratzer Rotzer and My Bloody Valentine. A soppy night out with plenty of surprises, late bar and disco.
Sunday 'Religion' and 'Catchphrase' (again).
 Don't forget the Happy Hours 8-9 Monday – Thursday
 Coming Soon: The Age of Chance February 19th
 The Wedding Present February 21st
 * Curiosity killed the Cat February 28th *
 You have been told, ignorance is not necessarily strength!
 Love Brocky and Iggy pp Chris S.

DOWN BY LAW

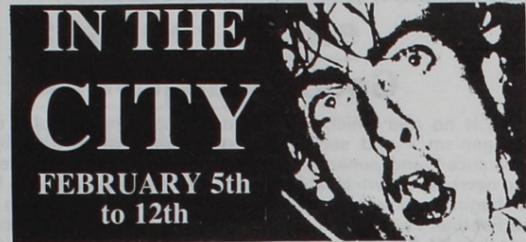
ROBERTO BENIGNI
 JOHN LURIE
 TOM WAITS

TYNESIDE CINEMA

FEB 2-7 & 9-14
 10 PILGRIM STREET - NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE TEL: (091) 232 1507

SCENE

SCENE EDITED BY NICK GATES



IN THE CITY
FEBRUARY 5th to 12th

THE UNION

Tonight up on Level 6, busking competition winner Johnny Lee plus Love in the Asylum to keep everyone happy, plus a late bar. Friday night as ever the redoubtable Sid doing his best on Level 2. Saturday night get yourselves to the Men's bar which is open late. Monday the ever popular Cochroach Quiz, win some booze.

Wednesday follow the noise and you'll find a disco somewhere in the Union with a late bar thrown in.

Thursday a first for the Union — comedienne PAMELA STEPHENSON, star of Not the 9 o'clock News, Saturday Live etc., will be doing her live show down on Level 2. Get your tickets now before it's too late.

ROCK 'N' ROLL

Coming up soon at the City Hall, check box-office for details. Spear of Destiny, Simply Red, Level 42, Magnum, Style Council, Meatloaf, Nik Kershaw, Go West, Gary Moore.

At the Riverside tonight, The Rubber Men, Wireless Wireless and Red Music. Usual discos Friday/Saturday and on Sunday, Bloodfire. Monday 9th the Toxic Kangaroo Babies, Tuesday there's a Psychedelic Disco, Wednesday the Blues Burglars and Thursday 12th the excellent Pop Will Eat Itself.

STAGE

At the Playhouse until Saturday 'Bugsy Malone'. Also at the Playhouse from Tuesday 10th until Saturday 14th the Gilbert and Sullivan Society presents 'The Gondoliers'.

Elsewhere in town the RSC tour begins. From the 9th to 14th the following productions are being presented. Gulbenkian 'Worlds Apart', People's Theatre 'The Fair Maid of the West', Tyne Theatre 'Richard II'.

SCREEN

At the Tyneside until Saturday 'Down By Law' and 'Witness' in cinema 1 and 'Yellow Earth' in cinema 2. From the 9th to 14th they've got 'Down by Law' and 'Witness' in cinema 1 and 'Yellow Earth' in cinema 2. From the 9th to 14th they've got 'Down By Law' and 'After Hours' [Dir. Martin Scorsese] in cinema 1 and 'The Tin Drum' in cinema 2.

ABC

Screen 1 — The Golden Child 1.10, 3.10, (not Sun), 5.30, 7.55

Screen 2 — When The Wind Blows 1.30, 3.40, 6.00, 8.30

Sun 3.25, 5.40, 8.00

ODEON

Screen 1 — Crocodile Dundee 1.25 (not sun), 3.40, 5.55, 8.10

Screen 2 — Room With A View 1.10 (not Sun), 3.30, 6.10, 8.25

Screen 3 — The Mission 2.30 (not Sun), 5.10, 7.55

Screen 4 — Peggy Sue Got Married 1.40 (not Sun), 3.50, 6.05, 8.15

JESMOND PICTURE HOUSE

Crocodile Dundee 7.15 p.m.

Nick Gates

DOING TIME

DOWN BY LAW TYNESIDE

Zack is a rather moody, sullen, unemployed disc-jockey; Jack is a cocky but foolish, small-time pimp; Roberto is a strong-willed Italian tourist with only a notebook of ridiculous sayings to go by; and Down By Law is the story of how these men met in a prison cell and what happens to them afterwards.

The film begins by concentrating on Zack and Jack who are both experiencing more than their fair share of bad luck. With desperation creeping in, the two men take up offers that seem too good to be true, not realising that they are in fact being set-up by the police.

They are thrown into the same prison cell which, because of their extreme differences in personalities, causes great friction between them. The film becomes slightly monotonous at this point and it is with welcome relief that Roberto, the Italian tourist, emerges on the screen.

He too is thrown into the same cell, but with his feeble attempts at saying the right thing by consulting his notebook, his awkward uneasiness turns out to

be the saviour for this film. With his movements and gestures similar to those of a silent film comedian, Roberto is the cause for many a hilarious scene.

The film continues to build up the love-hate relationship between the three men, both in and out of prison, following a somewhat inevitable, yet totally absorbing, storyline.

Avoiding a specific time period, the story is set, abstractly, in New Orleans and the dense, surrounding swamps of Louisiana — territory that makes for some marvellous black and white photography. With direction and writing coming from Jim Jarmusch, whose last film 'Stronger than Paradise' was recently shown on television this film is in a style of its own.

Tom Waits and John Lurie give effortless performances as the 'deadbeat duo'; Zack and Jack, with Tom Waits's D.J. jive being particularly entertaining. The music score was written by the same pair and is more than a small contribution to the flow of the film.

Down By Law is both unusual and outstanding. It must be seen.

Nigel Vincent



Tom Waits and Roberto Benigni fail the IQ test in 'Down By Law'.

VOLUME PLAYLIST

1. DIRT DISH — Wiseblood — (L.P.).
2. ROCK THIS WAY — Tony Rome — (12").
3. I THINK OF DEMONS — Rocky Erickson + Aliens — (L.P.).
4. UPSETTERS BOX SET — Lee Perry — (Box Set).
5. SHOPLIFTERS OF THE WORLD UNITE — Smiths — (12").
6. TOYS OF THE ATTIC — Aerosmith — (L.P.).
7. RADIO CITY — Big Star — (L.P.).
8. SWEET SWEET PIE — Pop will eat itself — (7"/12").
9. THE BODY OF AN AMERICAN — Pogues — (7").
10. UNCARVED BLOCK — Flux — (L.P.).

THIS YEAR'S MODEL

ELVIS COSTELLO CITY HALL

It seems amazing that Elvis Costello has been around for just over a decade, but even more incredible is that he has still produced excellent songs throughout this period. Last Saturday El (?) made a welcome return to Newcastle playing his heart out through a set lasting almost 3 hours and getting through some 50 songs.

Probably one of the secrets of his success is his constant reworking of old material and his willingness to look for new influences, which has brought him to work with some great American session musicians. The Confederates, including James Burton, who not long ago was accompanying another great Elvis, in the same unpretentious manner. It was these musicians who led us through tracks from the 'King of

America' album as well as a large selection of new material which hopefully may appear on record soon.

But some of the most spellbinding moments came when Costello sung alone, performing simple more basic versions of classics like 'Shipbuilding' and 'I want you'. Here, his voice showed great versatility and range, emphasising the sharpness and humour of his lyrics which has characterised his songs from the early days, during 'Tokyo storm Warning' he stopped several times to explain some obscure references, and now we finally know what a 'Japanese God Jesus Robot' is.

He obviously enjoyed playing on the Tyne again, and the audience who participated in his performance were reluctant to let him leave the City Hall finally resorting to switching on 'The Big Light'. All in all the best concert you're likely to see at this venue. Nik Kershaw eat your heart out.

Chris Reynolds and Alex Everitt

★ ★ COMPETITION WINNERS ★ ★

The following people win a double ticket plus book from the 'Golden Child' courtesy of the ABC. D. Carman, B. Edmiston, N. Neave, K. Skidmore, T. Hull, L. Cooper. Clare Barton wins the double RSC ticket for the Gulbenkian, please come and get your prizes as soon as possible.

Coming next week an Exclusive interview with the RSC's Jeremy Irons as he begins a season of plays in Newcastle. Plus the usual reviews, previews and what's on around Newcastle.

Nick Gates

Newcastle University

Gilbert and Sullivan Society Presents

THE GONDOLIERS
or
The King of Barataria

Production
Trevor Harder
Musical Direction
Bill Caldwell

Tue. 10th - Sat. 14th Feb.
at 7.15pm

Tickets - £3-40 (2-90 to O.A.P.s, Students, Children & UB40s)
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NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE

Don't miss "the most versatile and exciting acting company in the business!" (Punch)



Royal Shakespeare Company

New Play Season at the Gulbenkian Studio

WORLDS APART

José Triana's powerful Cuban drama

"A wonderful evocative succession of scenes spiked with Creole choruses, Spanish tangos and Cuban folk songs... the festival atmosphere is delightfully contagious... you never want it to stop" *Financial Times*

Seats available Feb 12 (Mat), 14 (Mat)



FLIGHT

David Lan's wry study of a Jewish family's political dilemma in Rhodesia

"touching, funny and sharp" *Observer*
"splendid cast, sensitive direction" *Today*

Seats available all perfs Feb 16-21

COUNTRY DANCING

Nigel William's joyous celebration of English folk culture

"exhilaratingly lusty... the heart is warmed" *The Independent*
"splendid cast, sensitive direction" *Today*

Seats available Feb 23, 24, 26 (Mat & Eve), 28 (Mat & Eve)

THE ART OF SUCCESS

Nick Dear's bawdy comedy on the 18th century artist William Hogarth

"a dark and crackling play... its progress is spectacular and unfaltering... fiercely memorable performances" *Times*

Seats available March 5 (Mat), 7 (Mat)



BOX OFFICE: 091 232 9974
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Football Violence; Questions And Answers

Violence

Flicking through a football programme the other day, I came across a letter from a supporter who no longer attended games, because he was afraid of violence. In the letter, he offered a suggestion to the football authorities: "Why doesn't every club print a membership card . . . which would be taken away from people found guilty of trouble making?" A sensible idea, yes: and one which Luton supporters will be all too familiar with. The interesting point is that this letter was published in an Everton programme dated December 1967.

There are always people willing to use football's hooligan element as propaganda. The Labour party likes to blame it on unemployment: but can this have been applicable in the prosperous sixties? The Conservatives blame violence on television, the French blame the English and so on. And it is true that there is no simple solution: if there were, the problem would not have drifted unsolved, for over twenty years. But at least part of the blame must lie with the media, and especially the tabloids. A fight in, or in the vicinity of, a football ground will now receive more coverage than the result of the match itself. And this is precisely what the thugs want. The more publicity given to the antics of the Chelsea Boot Boys, the more West Ham's Inter-City Firm will want to get in on the act. Thus you have a problem which escalates beyond all reasonable comprehension.

In the seventies, Manchester United's hooligan element, the Red Devils, earned - thanks to the press - the dubious reputation of being the most violent 'fans' in the country. Leeds United, perhaps recalling the feudal days of the Wars of the Roses, were somewhat angered by this dismissal of their own destructive talents - and set out with a vengeance to prove the press wrong.

Football is labelled, with boring frequency, a violent sport. The truth of the matter lies a little deeper than such jaded comments. It is important to remember that football is the most widely followed spectator sport in this country: and

wherever such huge numbers of people are congregated together, friction and tension are invariable. Football merely provides a convenient excuse for the mindless minority who delight in proving their superiority by means of primitive battle. There is no doubt in my mind that if the Football League ceased to exist tomorrow, the fighting would continue.

Blinded by Hooligans

I was talking to a Mancunian, who owns a shop in Leeds. He had no interest in football whatsoever, and had never even been to a match. He told me that he commutes, six days a week, between Manchester and Leeds; and had been doing so for six and a half years. Hadn't he ever thought of moving to Leeds? I asked. "I did move there, when I first got the job," he replied. "I'd only been there for five days when I got attacked in a pub, and lost the sight in one eye. If I'd stayed there, I'd be dead by now." He also said that his shop windows had been daubed with graffiti reading "F . . . off scouse". The fact that the natives who did this could not distinguish his accent correctly is not surprising - the fact that he sounded "different" was good enough reason to attack him.

In Vogue

Stories like this are hardly uncommon - every day people are mugged, attacked or beaten up because they're 'different' - maybe gay, or black, or female, or a Liverpool supporter. Yet, because these things don't happen inside a football ground, they are not news. Unfortunately for our national game, hooliganism is now in vogue.

The trouble is, those people who have the most power to control violence are usually the most likely to provoke it. I talk about the press. In an article in the Football League Review of 1969, Harry Brown writes of a series of articles in the *News of*

the World. The newspaper, at this time, was urging huge penalties for violent players, and complaining about soccer thuggery. Yet, in the same issue as these worthy reports was an article beginning: "Soccer Sinner or Soccer Sucker? What's the truth about Arsenal international Ian Ure? Quiet man in a pub, he can be a wild man on the field - five times sent off, his six weeks ban proves that." So where does the *News of the World* stand? asks Harry Brown. A very good question, and one which, twenty years on, remains unanswered.

Good Influence

There is no rule which can forbid newspapers to report on hooliganism - and such censorship would be wrong. But unbalanced and sensationalized reporting can be avoided. And newspapers which are as concerned as they pretend to be can begin by showing their concern. The *Today* sponsorship of the Football League is a step in the right direction, but more branches of the media must take an interest in promoting football's genuine side. Television, radio and newspapers influence most people's lives; and by sponsoring competitions for the country's best supporters and emphasising the good side of the game, can surely play a huge part in curbing violence. When 20,000 Everton supporters travelled to Rotterdam in 1985, they were told by local police that they could return any time. Yet, when I scoured the newspapers the next day, there was not one mention of their impeccable behaviour.

There can be no excuse for what happened in Brussels admittedly: but can anyone truly believe that if it had been a rugby match, with 20,000 English rugby fans present, the same would not have happened? It would have done. Why put all the blame onto football? Just isolate the trouble makers and you will isolate the problem; but let us hope that it doesn't take another twenty years to do.

D. Waldron

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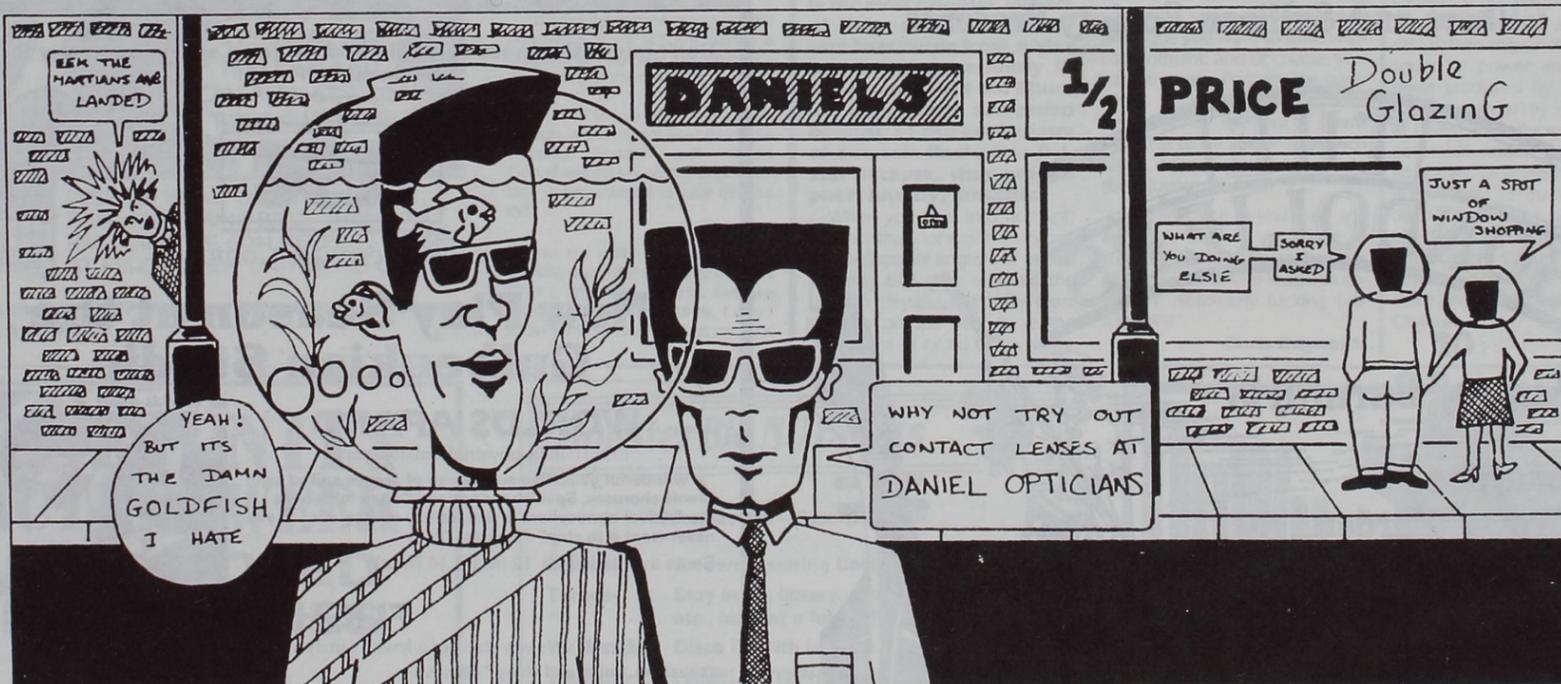
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| Wisecrunch - Dirt Dish | £5.49 | Survivor - When Seconds Count | £4.99 |
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Our special correspondent, Dominic Nutt gets his teeth into major changes in the underpant industry.

Y FRONTS BOX CLEVER



"God! I need some new underbaggies"



THERE'S word abroad that a radical revolution is occurring in the world of fashion. If it materialises, it will be universal in effect; concerning both male and female alike. In fact, I would not feel guilty of exaggeration if I said it could "strip down to fundamentals" the accepted conventions of the street-wise dresser.

Y-fronts could be taking over! The demise of the boxer short is imminent, no longer will boxer shorts be plastered over full page spreads in "Cosmo Man", Marks and Spencer will have to completely rethink their sales policy, as their main source of income dries up and the 501 advert will have to be re-written.

But surely boxer shorts, that bastion of sleek maledom, are in a class of their own, untouched and unsullied by the shapeless and shabby Y fronts? This was the unquestionable philosophy upon which my upbringing was founded. I remember my father asserting the proposition to my mother that the superior circulation of air afforded by boxer shorts increased his potency. This must have been true, and indeed, I probably owe my existence to the Harrods Men's Shop.

Duds

The virtues of boxer shorts and their superiority over the Y front pretenders to the throne are manifold and hardly need articulating. Certainly the male public passing through the Airport Lounge seemed shocked and

you would be well advised to remember the maxim "the cranks are after your skanks".

Skanks

The problem is not merely confined to London, the Sin City of the South; it has crept up to Newcastle and is amongst us now. Respected people have been affected for example Nick Fletcher, D.J. and spokesman on street credibility, has said (quite openly): "The supremacy of Y fronts over boxer shorts is not due to a functional advantage. It is the aesthetic quality of the Y front and the gorgeous way they hang in the mirror"



AT the moment, the Y front flag of revolt is fluttering timorously in the wind of change and this is not entirely due to their aerodynamics. The still small number of converts are nervous of declaring their new allegiances. This was illustrated by the difficulty we had in finding a model for the photo - they obviously feared identification and persecution (hence we had to make do with a pair of briefs instead). Miles Whytte, clearing sitting on the fence



with his Y fronts, hedged his bets when he said: "Normally Y fronts are more comfortable but it depends on what I'm doing". Yet I detected a distinct preference for Y fronts as he declared defiantly: "One doesn't get sweaty thighs from Y fronts".

Pouch

The philosophy of Y frontism relies on the idea that whilst boxer shorts are obviously trendy to be really trendy one must not aspire to be so (it's untrendy to be trendy if you see what I mean) - hence, wear Y fronts. I can see the logic of this and of the assertion that due to their unsurpassed ugliness "the hipness of Y fronts

almost insulted when I asked them what was the first vestige of clothing they reached for a morning. "Boxer shorts" they replied unequivocally and with one accord.

Their expressions then went on to question my sanity. "How could anyone ask such a ludicrous question?" they seemed to ask. These faithful know they look smart and can't be aesthetically more versatile with the Marks and Spencer brand alone encompassing a myriad of designs - an eclecticism for surpassing that of the straight white Y front.



BOXER shorts are of fundamental importance to the discerning dresser: what pair you choose in the morning reflects your mood for the rest of the day; pink ones when you're feeling cute and coy, patterned ones for the sophisticates and Next ones for the poseurs. Starting with your boxer shorts as the foundation, you build your dress up around them. They're more healthy, cleaner and more comfortable (especially on long coach journeys). The status is unquestionable.

Unfortunately you're wrong. In London, in the West End pubs and cafes (notably the "Spice" in Cambridge Circus) men have been gathering in clandestine clusters plotting the downfall of boxer shorts. Like any revolutionary group, they started small and were treated as cranks. But beware! Their subversive ideology is spreading and



transcends the trendiness of boxer shorts - they're so very disgusting!"

Whether we drown in a deluge of dodgy underwear remains to be seen. I ask you to look carefully at the evidence and judge for yourselves. I personally fear the worst.



COURIER SPORT

MIXED LACROSSE

Newcastle Mixed Lacrosse team had their first fixture of the season (ever) last Wednesday, when they entertained Leeds University at Cochrane Park.

Newcastle started the game as rank outsiders due to several factors. Firstly, most of the girls were hung over from the Agric. dinner dance, and were more interested in the contents of the Australian pack playing on the next pitch.

Secondly, due to the cold weather the male contingent of the squad were somewhat in absence, with only two regular chaps bothering to turn up (such heroes). Fortunately Mark "Chopper" Heading was seconded from the Rugby spectators and a stick and skirt found for him. Thus the team was now equipped with three 'sound' male participants. However, Leeds failed to arrive on time and as the cold took its toll the squad became depleted (the Bar also just opened).

Eventually Leeds did turn up (like a bad penny) and looked very formidable, having six big men compared to our three boys! The game started with end to end action there were flashes of brilliance from Alex on the right wing (even though she was playing second home), superb attacking from Sara and Mark, great support from Nen, Pollyanna and Hellen, and fantastic

defence by Mark, Julie, Elspeth and Charlotte who was dynamic in goal.

The first half brought three goals from Newcastle and only one from Leeds. Our goals came from some silky, skilful manoeuvres by Mark and Sara and a fluke effort by Russ, who managed to catch the ball for a change.

In the second half Nici Boon sobered up enough to play and gave the refereeing job to Pollyanna. Nici's strong defensive attributes and bloodthirsty swings for the head were just what Newcastle needed. As Leeds launched a major second half offensive, Newcastle rode out this storm with inspired defensive work especially from newcomers Chloe and Jo. This defence was also converted into attacks and we grabbed some more goals. The first from Alex who for a change popped up in the right position and like a wily Welsh rabbit humped the ball into the goal. Our other goals came from the omnipotent Nen, whose endless running paid dividends and led to two colourful goals which were matched only by the colour of her cheeks.

So despite the odds, the men and girls ran out winners. Six goals to two, a fine performance all round and a fairy tale ending to find the bar still open.

Hans C. Andersson

Rugby Round-Up



The awesome reputation of Australian Rugby was dispelled as a myth last Wednesday as the touring Sydney Club was comprehensively defeated by Newcastle's 1st XV by 31 points to 3.

The Sydney squad composed of 40 players have played in Ulster, Edinburgh and London as well as here and so far have lost them all. Their excuse offered for their defeat rested on the fact that their best players couldn't afford to attend. However, the score line militates against the validity of this conclusion; it was a walkover.

It was, admittedly, a hard game but for the Australians, less a case of up, than down and under.

CASTLE LEAZES 28 v GREY COLLEGE 6

An impressive display of rugby by a scratch team earned the boys a well deserved victory. A stupendous display by an inexperienced front row, Hamish, Rubik and Pat provided the backs with excellent ball which they used with flair despite poor handling by Fozzy and others - Mark's kicking was a little wayward for which he was duly awarded tit of the week.

Tries were scored by Fozzy (2), Kim, Pete, Tom and an amazing try by Rubrik which brought back memories of David Duckham. Girly Peach converted 2. A great performance all round. Host who played excellent, was undoubtedly man of the match.



On the pitch its up 'n' under . . . but for the squad from Sydney its down and out.



FENCING

Sunday 25th January saw the individual and team sabre championship for the N.E. section.

It was a day of mixed fortune. Having missed the train, failed to hitch to Darlington, lost wallets, and felt generally confused, the team arrived barely in time.

The individual competition saw Masih falter early on despite hewing several heads - he had a physical morning. Bex was hot, stomping on his opposition all the way to the final. His ultimate placing was 2nd on wins but 4th on hits against him.

Luke and the Light Sabreurs were missing a third of their team and consequently lasted about 5 minutes.

Team (duet?) Bex Kenobi, Masih Skywalker.

BADMINTON



MENS UAU QUARTER FINAL v SURREY

NEWCASTLE 9 SURREY 0

An outstanding performance in the Mens Bar was the result of a well earned victory in the U.A.U. quarter final.

A sound performance all round with Mark Burr and Rob Gray playing with consistent brilliance and Steve Thariyan and Rob Batstone, despite their clashing tracksuits, played with their usual non-chalant apathy to continue their unbroken record.

Despite continual distraction of various kinds from the netball 'girls', Rich Webster and Bahrain proved also too formidable for the Surrey team.

A fine victory with each pair holding much in reserve for the semi's, and hopefully finals, at Leicester. Well done lads. Leicester here we go.

SEMI-FINAL DRAW - to be played 21st Feb.

Medics 'A' or Social Studies v R.V.I. Methosc v Athletico Bershams '80

Football Focus



SATURDAY INTRAUMURAL FOOTBALL

CUP QUARTER-FINALS RESULTS

Medics 'A' - Social Studies (Bus strike Medics failed to show).
Naval Arch 1 - 11 R.V.I.
Garrett 'A' 1 - 2 Methosc
G.O.R.S. 1 - 4 Athletico Bershams '80



Our immediate feelings of sympathy for the Downhill Skiing Club, when we beheld the limited amount of snow on which they were going to ski, were soon replaced by rather more grave twinges in our legs as we worked our way up the slopes to do some really serious skiing on the top of the Cairngorms.

Evidence of our privileged status was manifest in the quasi-Caribbean sunshine which met us on those peaks. Map-reading on top was distinctly equivocal: we knew exactly where we were but had not the foggiest idea where we were going. Feelings of distress as Baskervillian-darkness closed in were stoically suppressed and we reached the van

without any significant loss. Our second outing on Saturday was to an immense disco - reminiscent, in many ways, of the worst excesses of the Radio One Road Show.

Despite tedious conditions, spurious traditions, and reckless exhibitions a favourable weekend was enjoyed by all.

GENERAL MEETING:

ON

A. I. D. S.

(ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME)

YOU'VE READ ALL ABOUT IT, HAD FREE CONDOMS, BEEN CONFUSED BY THE GUTTER PRESS AND (HOPEFULLY) HAD THE HARD FACTS IN THE RELIABLE PRESS - NOW YOU MUST DECIDE WHAT YOUR UNION'S POLICY SHOULD BE ON THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE (FIRST IN THE PRIORITIES BALLOT). THE FOLLOW UP TO THE *COURIER* SPECIAL YOU MUST NOW MAKE DECISIONS, AS LIKE IT OR NOT, AIDS AFFECTS YOU. MEETING IN THE NELSON MANDELA DEBATING CHAMBER

TODAY 1.05 pm



NU-NEWS

