

EXTENDED

FINAL CHAPTER IN SAGA CONCLUDED

A FIRM promise from the University has finally been made—in writing—concerning the ceding of both Levels I and II of the Refectory for the Union Extension.

In a letter from the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Laurence Martin, the first definite guarantee of Level I as well as Level II of the University-owned

building is set down.

Professor Martin states: "As to Level I, it remains the University's intention to hand this over to the Union as a further extension as soon as is practicable".

This can almost be termed a milestone in the whole extension affair and from here on in it is just a matter of finalising dates and architectural plans.

Reaction from Union Officers in charge of extension negotiations has been nothing short of ecstatic.

Union and Students' Representative Council President, Nigel Wild, said:

"The letter from the Vice Chancellor secures the funds

initially allocated to the project until it can be completed and states the intention of the University to make Level I over to the Students Union as soon as is practicable.

"Getting these two things in writing is an encouraging step forward. However, there are other obstacles in our way, the most perplexing is the University's long term commitment to a large and prestigious pharmaceutical conference in September 1980 which may considerably set-back the schedule for the development of Level II.

"The ideal is that Level II and complimentary alterations within the present Union building would be completed

by October 1980, this is what we are working towards at the moment, it is not a promise but we are working to surmount the obstacles which militate against that achievement."

What is particularly encouraging is Professor Martin's assurance that:

"..... the balance of the sum originally allocated to the adaptation of Levels I and II will be earmarked for the extension of Students' Union facilities."

This dispels any doubts that the money would be used to develop a Sports Complex.

It also means that the 'direct action' undertaken i.e. the boycott of University

catering, can end — if indeed it had ever begun.

Even though no firm date can be set for the extension's completion, Professor Martin's letter marks, at last, a degree of firm progress and one can only hope that his assurances will be carried out practicably and quickly.

— STOP PRESS —

Site Development Committee (the body composed of University heads whose function it is to examine and sanction any plans for the campus) last Monday approved Professor Martin's proposals that the University cedes both Levels I and II of the Refectory as soon as possible.

Courier Contents

PAGES 2 and 3: John Cooper Clarke (the Punk Poet)—Diary — Review of Equus at the People's Theatre — The R.S.C. in Newcastle — "Game for Vultures"—"I Never Promised you a Rose Garden" and "Prophecy."

PAGE 4: Kam-puchea — an alternative view of the Pilger/Oxfam camp.

PAGE 5: Letters on Endsleigh, North Kenton flats and last week's letters. "Fuse," the truth about the people in the know. This week... well, it could be you!

PAGE 6: New revealing series — "TIT AT THE TOP." A column that makes no bones about "its victims" — Bitchy, Biased and Nosey. This week, the President.



PAGE 7: Sport.

PAGE 8: News, Personal Column.

TROUBLE AT MILL

WEDNESDAY night last week saw several examples of the attitude of the university administrators with regard to live band performances in the Refectory.

Most of the action centred around the university ballroom where the "punk-poet" John Cooper Clarke was appearing with two support bands.

The central issue was the old bone of contention, admission to events. It appears that the "Don't Sign In a Stranger" campaign is to be revived with the threat of examples being made of any student discovered doing so. There is a need, we are informed, to educate the student body. So now you know.

UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS

Also on Wednesday the power of admission to the event was vested in the catering officers who could prevent undesirable elements from entering. Generally Union card holders are acceptable but people from the town — the so-called "Sham Army" and their associates — are likely to be debarred. Further, there are probably going to be restrictions on the sale of

tickets on the door after the end of this current term.

UP THE SPOUT

Refreshment facilities were somewhat up the spout; there were six hundred people at the "gig" with a grand total of three bar-staff to attend to their needs. The problem is that the university is reluctant to run a non-profit-making bar and so will not lay on large numbers of staff to cater for a turn-out which could well be anywhere between a hundred and a thousand. In short, they cannot anticipate demands for tickets sufficiently accurately enough to adjust their staffing levels.

A further problem is that of dressing rooms. Basically, there are none and the staff are reluctant to allow visiting artists to use their locker rooms.

SATISFACTORILY HANDLED

There is a clampdown in progress by the university authorities in conjunction with UMC. It seems to be a necessary one but the feeling is that security has been satisfactorily handled by students in the past and that this should still be the case even with these restrictions being enforced.

STRIFE IN ISLAM

AS the United States/Iranian conflict escalates into what the United Nations Secretary describes as the most dangerous situation since the Cuba missile crisis, the Islamic revolution and its repercussions cease to be a local affair.

What is involved is an extreme rejection of the West by Islam in an attempt to protect or resurrect its traditional values, and it is this fear of domination that lies behind the events of last week.

WITCH HUNT

In Iran the continued holding of hostages in the U.S. Embassy is part of the continued witch hunt against the Shah's regime, which was largely instituted and maintained by the C.I.A., while in Islamabad the burning of the Embassy was a result of reports that the U.S. was involved in the storming of the Mosque in Mecca. The siege of the Great Mosque itself involved demands for the radical reassertion of Muslim law.

The reason that all this affects us is, of course, oil.

The power exercised by the West in being the exploiter and market for oil has rapidly been lost as our own dependence has increased, so that now the power balance of the market is very much in favour of the producers.

This realisation led to the price increases of 1973 and the resulting crisis. Now, with the further reduction of U.S. influence through the revolution in Iran, the oil producing countries have seen it in their best interests to actually reduce output in order to conserve their only resource, and continue modernisation and development at a steadier pace. So far this move towards self-determination is one we must approve of, and must take the necessary action in cutting our consumption.

POLITICO/RELIGIOUS PURGE

However, the backlash of Islamic consciousness that came from this liberation has produced a politico/religious purge led by Khomeini, which has resorted to using terrorist tactics in order to extract political premiums.

As such, with the action in Tehran, he has himself interfered unacceptably with the

internal workings of another country, and set a precedent which could tie the diplomatic process in general. It is this that Carter must oppose.

But it must be remembered that what is ultimately needed in the new relationship between the West and Islam is a reasonable working arrangement that is acceptable to both sides. This will not be achieved by perpetuating the fear that brought on the crisis, and so the U.S. should abandon any ideas of direct military action.

CALCULATING FANATIC

On the other hand reason is hardly likely to prevail so long as Islam is led by a calculating fanatic who declares the Iranian people as being "ready for martyrdom in a war with the U.S."

BEST INTERESTS

The moderate forces that accompanied Khomeini into power must reassert themselves and return authority to a government acting in their people's best interests, instead of it lying with a mob directed by religious hatred.

—John Davison.

KARD BAR

NEWCASTLE'S ONLY POSTER SHOP AND THE ONLY POSTER SHOP IN THE WORLD WITH OVER 6000 TITLES IN STOCK. POP, ROCK, ART, HUMOR, BIKES ETC. NEW MODS PATCHES AND BADGES all arrived this week. SEW ON PATCHES over 1000 different GREETING CARDS without greetings 3000 BADGES also badge making service NEARLY NEW RECORDS BOUGHT & SOLD

All this and lots more only 250 metres from this Union

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Courier - Commie Know-alls?

Phantastic

PHANTOM OF THE OPERETTA

THE Gilbert & Sullivan Society's Christmas show promises to provide the usual panto tricks and more — suspender belts and whips! Interested? Good, I thought that would arouse a response from even the most unmusical.

This year's show, like last year's, is created from extracts of various Gilbert and Sullivan operas — though mainly the 'Mikado' and 'Trial by Jury'. But this time the G & S Soc. are taking themselves even less seriously than usual.

The underlying theme of the show is a self parody on the Society and the eccentrics and prima donnas in it. Those who know nothing of the G & S Society will be able to recognise stereotypes who are apparent in any creative production — or uncreative as the case may be.

As usual the anti-heroes are the most inspiring/entertaining — most people cannot but be won over by the uncomplicated vanity and audacity of the baddies in this operetta. Delia, accustomed to automatically getting 'The' parts — audition or no audition, can be considered a parallel to Audrey Florbes Hamilton in 'To the Manor Born': so secure in her superiority and position that it is almost impossible to crush her.

Flowery Melodrama

"I Never Promised You a Rose Garden" (at the Odeon soon) is a sincere attempt at a film about schizophrenia. Anyone trying to embrace that subject on film risks failure and Anthony Page, the director, certainly fails — but not without some credit. Deborah Blake (Kathleen Quinlan), sixteen, sullen and suicidal, is committed by her parents to a psychiatric hospital. We soon are given glimpses of the other reality she has created for herself — a fantasy world peopled by violent tribesmen, complete

with headbands, wood and acid-casualty mysticism.

Meanwhile, back in the institution, Deborah strikes up a relationship with Dr. Fried (Bibi Andersson) and comes to look forward to and depend upon their frequent meetings.

But any progress she makes with Dr. Fried is ruined by her imaginary phantoms who urge her not to betray their world and drive her to another suicide attempt.

Deborah ends up on the violent ward and Dr. Fried's understanding and compassion has to fight hard against the patent brutality of one of the orderlies, Hobbs, and the increasing threat from her own demons, to gain supremacy in the young girl's consciousness.

This difficult balance between the conflicting interests in Deborah's mind is where the film begins to topple over into triteness and predictability.

The scenes on the wards are quite powerful despite overdone, drama-school histrionics from some of the patients, but I was never convinced by the sub-Manson wierdos inside Deborah's head who looked too like standard, alien planet insurgents from 'Star Trek'.

Kathleen Quinlan as Deborah is very good in a part which most young American actresses would give up their sorority pins for and Bibi Andersson gives her usual strong, thoughtful performance.



I gotta get off this page . . . I gotta get off this page . . . I gotta get off this page . . .

I wish I could have felt more satisfied with the finished product because the film was obviously made with care and consideration and not simply as a cash-in on the 'Cuckoo's Nest' genre.

But any hopes I held out were dashed by a pat. T.V. movie-like ending which I wanted to believe in, but my own demons wouldn't let me.

Keith Jarvis.

WHAT'S ON

CINEMA (Sunday times in brackets)

ABC HAYMARKET
Prophecy (x) 3.20 (6.00, 8.40)
Waterloo Bridge Handicap (a) 2.35 (5.15, 7.55)

ABC WESTGATE ROAD
 1 **Quadrophenia (x)** 2.20 (5.20, 8.20)
King Kenny (a) (4.30, 7.30)
 2 **Emmanuelle (x)** 1.40 (5.15, 8.50)
Street Walker (x) (3.20, 7.00)

ODEON FILM CENTRE
 1 **Revenge of the Pink Panther (a)** (4.45, 8.45)
Return of the Pink Panther (u) 2.30 (6.30)
 2 **Norma Rae (aa)** (3.20, 5.55, 8.30)
Summer Sunshine (aa) 2.45 (5.20, 7.55)
 3 **Alien (x)** 2.45 (5.35, 8.25)
Steppin' Out (a) 2.00 (4.50, 7.40)

QUEENS
Game for Vultures (x) 1.00 (4.45, 8.40)
Greased Lightning (a) (2.50, 6.40)

CLASSIC NORTHUMBERLAND STREET
Young Frankenstein (aa) 1.15, 4.50, 8.25
Silent Movie (a) 3.05, 6.35

STUDIOS 1-4
 1 **The Hills Have Eyes (x)** (5.40, 8.50) 2.25, 5.35, 8.50
Deranged (x) (7.15) 4.00, 7.10
 2 **Swedish Play Girls (x)** (6.10, 9.05) 3.15, 6.10, 9.05
Sexy Virgin (x) (4.35, 7.30) 1.40, 4.35, 7.30
 3 & 4 **The Bermuda Triangle (u)** (5.55, 8.40) 3.10, 5.55, 8.45.
Encounter With Disaster (a) (4.50, 7.35) 2.05, 4.50, 7.35

TYNESIDE CINEMA
 Cinema 1
 Until Sat. 1st Dec. **California Suite (aa)** 5.35, 9.00
Remember My Name (aa) 7.20
 3rd to 8th Dec. **Movie Movie (a)** 5.05, 8.55
Klute (aa) 6.55
 Cinema 2
 Thurs. 29th Nov. to Sat. 1st Dec. **O Lucky Man! (x)** 7.00
 Sat. 1st Dec. 10 a.m. **King Creole (u)**, **Blue Hawaii (u)**, **GI Blues (u)**, **Elvis On Tour (a)**

TYNESIDE CINEMA CLUB (members only)
 Wed. 28th Nov. **Days of Hope Pt. 4** 7.30 p.m.
 Sun. 2nd Dec. **Sherlock Jnr./The Navigator** 4 p.m.
 Mon. 3rd Dec. **Richard III** 7 p.m.
 Tues. 4th Dec. **Five Seasons** 7.30 p.m.
 Wed. 5th to Mon. 10th Dec. **Salo** 7.30 p.m.

USEC FILM
 Thurs. 29th Nov. Curtis Auditorium 7.30 p.m. 50p **Looking for Mr. Goodbar**

MUSIC
 LOCAL BANDS
 Balbrass Tues. **American Echoes**
 Cooperage Wednesday **Roxoff**
 Gosforth Hotel Mon. & Wed. **Punk Night**
 USEC Sat. 1st Dec. **Stan Arnold Combo** — mucky folkie
 King's Hall 1.10 p.m. admission free 27th Nov. **Flute/Piano Recital**.

Not Waving but Drowning PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A STIFF

Wavis O'Shawe — "Anna Ford's Bum" (Anti-Pop)

THIS album is really a tribute to the memory of Wavis O'Shawe, Newcastle's answer to Wild Man Fischer, who sadly passed away during the summer.

The blame for his death can be laid at the door of blond-haired I.T.N. reporter Jon Snow to whom Wavis's object of desire pledged her troth.

Before he topped himself, Wavis was persuaded to record his immediate thoughts so that they could be preserved eternally on vinyl and for this we must be truly grateful.

One side of this "memorial"

was recorded in Fatty Round's Mother's Kitchen, and quite fittingly the two sides are entitled "studio" side and "kitchen" side respectively.

Wavis deals with many of the events close to the nations heart at the time of the (ultimately) abortive Ford-Snow alliance. For example, the Jeremy Thorpe trial in "Jeremy's a Pansy" which has the immortal opening line, "Is he really going out with him?" There is also a paean to "Bless This House", star Sid James in "Sid is Dead".

Yet another highlight of this album is the title track, "Anna Ford's Bum", which features the talents of the North-East's most renowned nonentity, James Whale making a desperate bid for

credibility in a cameo role as a commercial radio phone-in presenter. Nice try James but you'll never be anything more than a small fish in a cultural backwater.

This album lasts 27 minutes and is available at a very low price from most record emporiums so I would advise you to buy a copy, if only to help Anti-Pop outfit in their efforts to erect a memorial to Wavis in the form of a Caister marble effigy of Miss Ford's bum which will be strategically sited in the I.T.N. car-park.

I would go on but really the task is proving almost impossible. Let me just say in closing that Wavis O'Shawe was a potentially great talent who was cut down in his prime. He will be greatly missed.
 Anthony Riley.

TYNESIDE CINEMA

Pilgrim St., Newcastle
 Tel.: 21507
 PUBLIC CINEMA 1
 Circle & Stalls £1.
 Late nights £1.20
 Northern Arts Vouchers,
 value 20p. accepted
 Wed. 28 Nov. to
 Sat. 1 Dec.
 Jane Fonda, Alan Alda,
 Maggie Smith,
 Michael Caine,
 Walter Matthau,
 Richard Pryor in
 CALIFORNIA SUITE (aa)
 5.35 and 9.00
 plus Geraldine Chaplin,
 Anthony Perkins
 REMEMBER MY NAME
 (aa) 7.20
 Mon. 3 to Sat. 8 Dec.
 George Burns,
 George C. Scott,
 Barbara Harris and many
 more in the nostalgic
 double-feature feature
 MOVIE MOVIE (a)
 5.05 and 8.55
 plus Jane Fonda,
 Donald Sutherland in
 KLUTE (x)
 6.55
 PUBLIC CINEMA 2
 (3rd floor)
 Thurs. 29, Fri. 30 Nov.,
 Sat. 1 Dec.
 Malcolm McDowell in
 O LUCKY MAN I (x)
 7.0 p.m.
 THE CLUB (3rd floor)
 Wed. 28 Nov.
 Special free screening
 the key strike episode of
 the T.V. series
 DAYS OF HOPE (pt. 4)
 7.30
 Sun. 2 Dec. 4 p.m.
 Buster Keaton in
 SHERLOCK JNR.
 plus THE NAVIGATOR
 Mon. 3 Dec.
 Laurence Olivier's
 RICHARD III
 7.0 p.m.
 Tues. 4 Dec.
 Nikita Mikhaelkov's
 FIVE SEASONS
 7.30 to be confirmed
 Wed. 5 to Mon. 10 Dec.
 Pasolini's final film
 SALO 7.30

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 Tickets £3 (if any left). Opposite Porters Lodge,
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PUBLIC LECTURES
 Tuesday, 4 December 5.30 p.m.
 Inaugural Lecture
 Future Changes in
 Factory Organization
 Colin C. Gallagher
 Professor of Industrial
 Management
 Tuesday, 4 December 6 p.m.
 Department of Mechanical
 Engineering
 Stephenson Lecture
 The Evolution of Aircraft
 Propulsion
 G. L. Wilde
 Chief of Advanced Projects
 and Technology, Rolls Royce
 Aero Division, 1974-1979
 Room F13, Stephenson Building,
 Claremont Road
 Tuesday, 4 December 5.30 p.m.
 Tomkieleff Memorial Lecture
 Volcanic Ice: Diamonds in
 Geology and Industry
 J. B. Dawson
 Sorby Professor of Geology,
 University of Sheffield
 (Main Lecture Theatre,
 Department of Geology)
 Thursday, 6 December 5.30 p.m.
 Archaeology and the
 Invented Past
 Glyn Daniel
 Disney Professor of
 Archaeology, University of
 Cambridge, and Fellow
 of St. John's College
 CURTIS AUDITORIUM

Wake up to your weekly dose of clap-trap

BLIND FAITH

ANIMALS think, they're pretty smart, Shit on the ground, see in the dark.

The Peoples Theatre are staging Peter Shaffers remarkable play 'Equus' all this week.

It tells the story of a young man (Alan Strang) who is admitted into the care of a psychiatrist (Martin Dyshart) following his conviction for blinding several horses at a local stable.

It is gradually revealed, through the complex and disturbing relationship between the boy and his psychiatrist, that Alan, confused by his mothers Christian beliefs and his fathers atheism, is moved by a passionate experience in childhood to the fanatical worship of 'Equus', the God who, Alan believes to exist in all horses.

This ritualistic religion, heightened by the repugnant domesticity of the dormant Christ, and the intrinsic sexuality of his equine experience, leads him into employment at the stables at which the 'crime' was committed.

The psychiatrist, tormented by the ordinary, is crippled by the knowledge that his job is to destroy the

obsessive passion in his patient, for which he himself is constantly searching.

The play climaxes in a crescendo of entangled emotions which leaves a smoking hole in the wasteland of organised religion and social conventions.

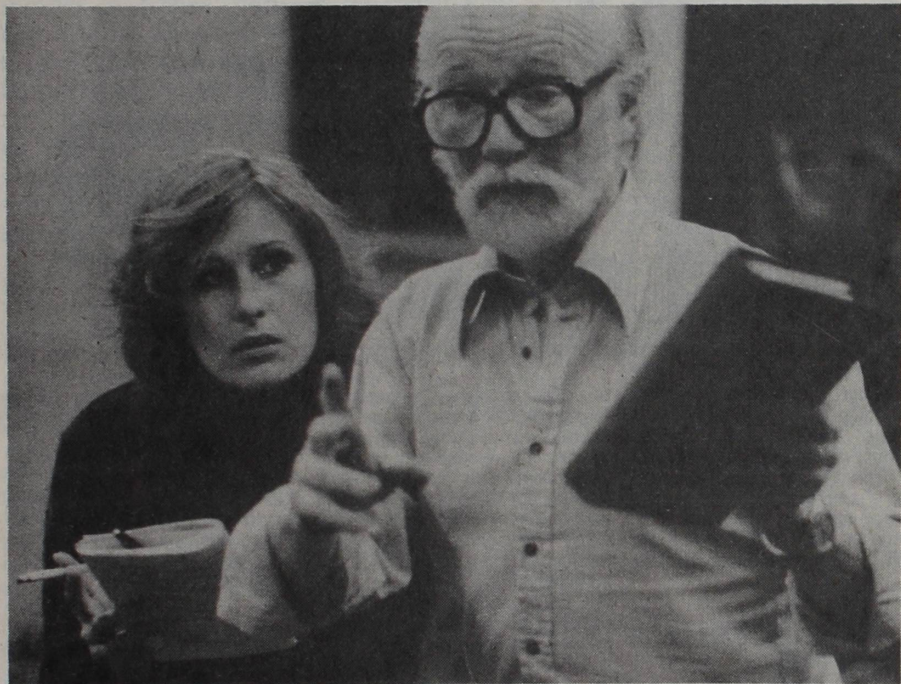
Michael Short as the psychiatrist is superb. His intricately structured relationship with Alan is explored in depth, and as the professional shine on his career begins to dazzle rather than attract, we see a finely balanced analysis of the convictions and disillusionments of them both.

Alan himself, played by Piers Ibbotson, (a student at this University) is stunning. His manic meanderings through the levels of the psyche is more than convincing throughout.

The Peoples Theatre consists entirely of amateurs, and has less financial backing than any other theatre in Newcastle. For them to achieve the professionalism and ingenuity which this production demonstrates, is a tribute only to the enthusiasm and dedication of all those involved.

The direction, design and acting are all masterly, and combined with Shaffers script, sex and violence, must be worth at least one evening of your lives.

PETER CHALLONER.



A scene from the rehearsal of Equus at the Peoples Theatre.

Pic. R. Kelsall.

R.S.C. VISIT TO THE NORTH-EAST



The Suicide: Roger Rees (Semyon), Susan Tracy (Maria).

THE Royal Shakespeare Company will be in Newcastle between 18th February and 29th March, 1980 for their fourth season.

Nine productions are to be seen at two theatres — the Theatre Royal and the Gulbenkian Studio. They consist of five Shakespeare plays — "Othello", "The Merry Wives of Windsor", "Pericles", "Twelfth Night" and "Julius Caesar" — and versions of Chekhov's "Three Sisters", Brecht's "Baal", "Anna Christie"

by Eugene O'Neill and "The Suicide" by Nikolai Erdman.

There will also be the usual school and college visits and workshops along with lunchtime and late-night shows by RSC actors at the Gulbenkian.

Donald Sinden, Ben Kingsley and Edward Petherbridge are among the stars of the Company which has made the North-East its third home base alongside Stratford and London.

Full details of the times and dates of individual performances will be available soon but tickets are on sale now at the Gulbenkian so get in quick because ticket demand is always very strong.

The Bear Bones

REAL monsters created by industrial exploitation rather than by individual neuroses is what 'Prophecy' (now showing at the ABC Haymarket) is all about.

With plenty of Mods in the direction of the ecology lobby, the film is peopled by nasty white money-grabbers, strong, silent, oh-so-ethnic Indians, two pretty, committed, W.A.S.P., liberals who

ducks, are attacked by a beserk racoon, and even (unwittingly) eat polluted fish. (This is important and relevant, see, because delicious Maggie is pregnant and there are knowing remarks about Minemata — Ugh!).

Anyway, it has to happen and it does. Mummy bear goes on the rampage, pulling throats out and heads off with un-BooBoo-like relish. You can spot the Indians because they are the ones with the beautiful smiles who whisper ancient names and THEN get their heads torn off.

dealing with the situation in Zimbabwe, the film bends over backwards trying not to be offensive to whites, blacks or anyone else. It fails. It offended me.

The plot is the usual, fairly impenetrable guff — consortia, sanctions — busting and the like — the script laughable and the cast, whatever the colour, shallow and without a grain of credibility.

Richard Harris and Richard Roundtree are the interchangeable protagonists and there are brief cameos from Ray Milland and Denholm Elliot, both completely wasted.



are so wet you could water-ski on them, and a charming array of mutants, ranging from haggis-size tadpoles to a not-totally-ursine bear which is really in the Bigfoot league.

Robert Foxworth and Talia Shire play the two nice eco-freaks sent to find out what is causing the Indians to be uppity about the decimation of their forests in Maine. They see gargantuan salmon which swallow

It's all hokum but, at least, made with a bit of style by John Frankenheimer whose experience shows. More laughs than chills for me but harmless entertainment despite the mutant script.

'Game for Vultures' (now showing at the Queen's Theatre) could do with a few monsters to annihilate everybody concerned with it. Attempting to be topical by

I hated every minute of it from its slack action sequences, hyphenated by empty anti-war platitudes, to the few flabby bedroom scenes with a totally redundant Joan Collins. Which reminds me, there is one saving grace.

Joan Collins keeps her clothes on.

Keith Jarvis.

Diary

M.E.S.S. need you to boldly go to the Level 6 DISCO TONIGHT
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THEATRE
NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE
Until 1st Dec. Romeo & Juliet, 7.30.
1st Dec. Tyne Wear Brass Band Concert.
GULBENKIAN
27th Nov.-1st Dec. Phantom of the Operetta. 7.30 (University G & S production).
THEATRE ROYAL
Scottish Opera — 27th Don Giovanni, 28th Orfeo Ed

Eurydice. 29th Don Giovanni. 30th Orfeo Ed Eurydice. 1st Dec. Don Giovanni. 3rd Dec. When We Are Married (National Theatre) — for one week.
LIT. SOC.
Andrew Motion 30th Nov. 1 p.m. Gulbenkian Studio.
David Wright 13th Dec. 1 p.m. Gulbenkian Studio.
Fleur Adcock 10th Dec. 1 p.m. English Common Room.

GULBENKIAN STUDIO

Tuesday, 27th November - Saturday, 1st December at 7.30 p.m.
Newcastle University Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERETTA
by P. M. Clarke. All tickets 90p

Sunday, December 2nd at 8 p.m.
SUNDAY-NIGHT FOLK AT THE GULBENKIAN

MARTIN CATHY
plus PAUL DICKMAN and GEORGE WELCH
All tickets £1.00.

Tuesday 4th - Saturday, 8th December at 7.30 p.m.
Newcastle University Theatre Society presents

THE WAY OF THE WORLD
by William Congreve. All tickets 90p.

CONTACT STUART ROGERS
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EDUCATION COMMITTEE
will meet on
WEDNESDAY, 28th NOV.
1.00 p.m. Level 6
Committee Room
ALL WELCOME

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THE DEATH BELL SOUNDS.....

The Kampuchean Tragedy: A Personal View By R. S. Harris

KAMPUCHEA is a small Asian country that has hit the headlines in recent months, with passionate pleas for relief aid to combat the mass starvation and malnutrition. Kampuchea has become a major question of international significance for 200,000 Vietnamese troops are presently in occupation of that country. Yet little has been said of the history of how this state of affairs has arisen.

in readiness to feed the vast city population.

To avert a disaster of unimaginable proportions the city was evacuated. It was a walking operation because of the lack of trucks and petrol. People were re-located either back to where they had originally come from or to the area of their choice. Work began on planting the fields immediately, such was the urgency of the task. After two years of Liberation rice production was such that it met internal needs and allowed the export of a small surplus.

Life was hard, material sacrifices were essential. Prince Sihanouk's description of those days was that:

Kampuchea is a small Asian country that has hit the headlines in recent months with passionate pleas for relief aid to combat the starvation and malnutrition.

A French colony from 1863, Kampuchean resistance to colonial rule arose during the 1930's and was just as active under the Japanese occupation during WW2. After gaining independence in 1953, Kampuchea was still tormented by imperialist pressure as was seen in 1970 when during Prince Sihanouk's absence a coup, organised by the CIA, installed Lon Nol in power. Prince Sihanouk had displeased the Americans by maintaining a neutral stance in relation to the Vietnamese War.

American military intervention in Kampuchea was initiated by sanctuary given to the Vietnamese by the Khmer Rouge. Between Jan.-Aug. 1974 U.S. B-52's made more sorties on Kampuchea than in the Korean war. Despite the firepower of the Americans and the forces of the dictatorial Lon Nol clique, the Kampuchean people under the leadership of the Khmer Rouge headed by Pol Pot, waged a liberation struggle that received little of the headlines of the Vietnamese heroic struggle. Undeterred by Lon Nol scorched earth policy, the Khmer Rouge entered liberated Phnom Penh on 17 April, 1975.

The subsequent evacuation of the capital has been the subject of much criticism and slander in Western and East European media. It is important to state the facts.

"Phnom Penh, a city of 600,000 before the war, was bloated to 2 to 3 million at its end, mainly by peasants driven from their land by U.S. bombing and napalming of the countryside.

"Most importantly Phnom Penh was devoid of food supplies.

"Lon Nol forces had vindictively destroyed the sewer, fresh water and electricity services threatening to precipitate raging epidemics, at least 15,000 people died of starvation and disease in the last three months of the war.

"In the countryside there were field hospitals, there were fields to be farmed, there was rice set aside

"The rich are not so rich and the poor not so poor as before. This is the unification of the society and a social justice, and the majority of the people of Kampuchea like it".

A country devastated by war needs to be reconstructed. Democratic Kampuchea was not propped up by the United States and Soviet Union, it did not depend



Execution or press con?

primarily on foreign aid and imports of food for its survival. (Only 5% of Lon Nol's regime national expenditure was met by internal resources; 95% was met by foreign aid.) America cut off all aid to Kampuchea. The Soviet Union, who recognised Lon Nol right up until April 1975 — the threshold of Liberation — offered nothing.

Kampuchea was subject to a sustained campaign of vilification by the media... 'Atrocities... Massacres... Bloodbaths... Genocide...' all these sprung forth while simultaneously we were informed that Kampuchea was a closed society of which we could learn nothing. A visit by the Swedish Ambassador in Peking reported no evidence for the "Bloodbath", "slavery" and "starvation" school of reporting. The Japanese journalist, Mabuchi, went and reported that the people "all appeared well-fed and in good health". That infamous photo (published in April 1977 by the Washington Post) purporting to show an execution by hoes and rifles carried out by the Khmer

Rouge is a proven fake. Taken in Thailand, it was arranged by a Thai counter-intelligence officer. Washington Post has refrained from acknowledging its error.

The backbone of the campaign against Democratic Kampuchea is a much discredited book written in 1976 by Ponchaud. Exposed to damaging criticisms by Naom

Islands and stepped up border provocation, a Vietnamese-inspired coup d'etat was thwarted in June 1978. This was not the first attempt to try and usurp power, a wartime attempt was foiled but remained unpublished in the interest of the struggle against American Imperialism.

The Vietnamese invasion of

question what the Vietnamese invaders put before him, without consideration of the historic circumstance. The existence of mass graves is not 'proof' of genocide — at least 800,000 Kampuchean people died in the war of Liberation, how many died in the Vietnamese invasion? Graves are proof of the murder

"a treaty between Vietnam and Kampuchea was signed on February 18 (1979). Vietnamese troops were stationed in Kampuchea at the request of the Kampuchean People's revolutionary Council".

This 'council' headed by Heng Samrin was installed into power by Vietnamese troops. Its flimsy



Soldiers from the Cambodian People's Armed Forces.

Chomsky, Jan Myrdal and Malcolm Caudwell as a jigsaw of deception, this book relies entirely on accounts of refugees hostile to the Khmer Rouge, and of 94 accounts cited not one is a peasant. How reliable are "witnesses" who have heard rumours of killings? That there

Kampuchea took place on 25 December, 1978 with 100,000 troops and equipment. The capture of Phnom Penh on Jan. 7, 1979 marked not the end of the war but a new phase as the Khmer Rouge restored to the tactics of 'People's war' of which they have had 17 years experience. If the

of Kampuchean people by foreigners trying to dominate the country. Why did it take eight months to release pictures of 'extermination camps' in (evacuated) Phnom Penh? Did it take that long for the Vietnamese to set the scene? In the New Statesman (12/10/79) John Pilger states that if the Vietnamese "pull out of Cambodia, they will be exposed on the West" — exposed to whom? Thailand? Burma? Is it not Vietnam who has shown itself to be the aggressor and disregarded international law by invading and occupying Kampuchea?

position rests on whatever the Vietnamese troops can control — and that tends to be 1/4 of the country, mainly the cities, while the Khmer Rouge controls another 1/4 of the less accessible parts of the country and are at present waging war upon the Vietnamese aggressors for control of the remaining half.

The independence of Kampuchea has been brutally violated by the aggression of Vietnam.

Silence could be interpreted as acceptance of aggression and invasion. An international



Before the carnage?

On the nature of Vietnam's action they condemn themselves; "This has but one precedent in the world, that is, the Soviet union's action to help Czechoslovakia in 1968". The December invasion is 'legitimised' because as Pham Van Dong says:

conference for Solidarity with the Kampuchean People in their struggle for National Independence was held in Stockholm on November 17 and 18. I urge You to send your name, address and official position, if relevant, to:—

The existence of mass graves is not 'proof' of genocide — at least 800,000 Kampuchean people died in the war of liberation, how many died during the Vietnamese invasion?

enough it will be believed. It is used to justify the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Kampuchea. With victory in 1975, Vietnam occupied Kampuchea's Way

puchean people have taken up arms against foreign aggression. Pilger, writing in the Daily Mirror (Sept. 12/13) acts as apologist for the invasion. He believes without

Kampuchean Conference
Pipersgatin 11
S-112 24 Stockholm
Sweden

Personal Column

ADS.: 2p per word, minimum 10p

WATCH THE FILM, SEE THE STATUE. READ THE BOOK, C.J.'S "CONFESSIONS OF AN A.A." A BOX OFFICE SUCCESS I DIDN'T get where I am today by marrying a sailor. "C.J."

JOHN A.L. serenades Clifford while he sleeps.

TIM, I'm into Brian Ferret Music too — Love Mandy.

MEET PETE GANIC and the PARANOIDS at Madisons last night.

CHRIS MULLER — Will you bring it up at the next Freeman's Executive Meeting?

DID you hear that Pete Robinson confessed to his girl(?) friend, that he had slept with another man before.

O.K. KINCADE, so YOU WANNA BE A MARINE?

HAS mountain ever had a tensing of the muscles.

CORRECTION

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Representative from Overseas Student Societies welcome — December 3rd, 1979

1.00 p.m. Level 6 Committee Room

ANNIE, as if I would put you in the Courier.

UNIVERSITY FOLK CLUB

Every Wednesday 8 p.m. at BALMBRA'S Bigg Market

New Singers Welcome
Tonight:
THE WILSONS

ALL cool, hip people contact STEVE in the Men's Bar.

BATMAN!!! ROBIN!!!

PETE GANIC, was 21, and then appeared at Maddisons with the PARANOIDS last night.

MAL deified! Temple of the Diving Header erected on Pitch 4.

SECOND-HAND pressure cooker wanted will pay £5.00. Call P. Robinson, 92 Richardson Street, Wallsend.

BOOZE & CIGARS AGAIN?

ACEFACE — was it love at first bite?

IS Tim the fifth Man? Does the Queen know?

ROBIN drives Cath bats, man!

STOP PRESS — HELEN AND TINY. ENGAGEMENT OVER!!!

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

dear ed

Conned By Capitalism?

Sir,
Having just read the letters page in last week's 'Courier,' I feel rather sad — and this state of sadness has been brought about by Peter Robinson's letter. Why do I feel sad? Well, Peter seems to be part of this "Socialism is simply a phase you are going through" crowd that are continually trying to tell us not to think, just to accept with a sense of inevitability what is going on around us.

I am reminded at the time when, some three years ago, Sir Keith Joseph attended a meeting at the London School of Economics. After his speech, a student asked him a complex and well-researched question about the financing of statutory undertakers. Sir Keith arose and, feeling perhaps as though he was outfoxed, commenced his reply with the words: "Well sonny . . ." Up-roar followed.

Perhaps Peter has a vested interest in maintaining the present balance of control and

wealth in society, either through guaranteed secure career and/or financial prospects, or he may just have been 'taken in' (like so many) by the dominant bourgeois ideology. It is certainly pushed at us a lot, usually by groups seeking to defend a 'more than comfortable' existence.

One thing that Peter will have to accept, however, is that as capitalism enters its (inevitable) third major crisis (I may have missed some), the prospects for the majority of students will almost certainly decline even further, in terms of job security and a reasonable standard of living.

As this happens, it is to be expected that increasingly students will seek an explanation (it IS natural for human beings to think). They may even start to question whether this "economic sense" which Peter talks about really is necessary, or whether it is just capitalism trying (once again) to make the powerless and the weaker section of society pay for its own problems, whether it be through increasing overseas students' fees, reducing the living standards of the working class, abolishing handicapped persons special parking permits, or whatever.

Conceivably, many students may even begin to identify with other sections of society that are experiencing the same imposed hardship (i.e. the working class) and may even notice that for many, this isn't just a temporary phenomenon, but the majority of the population permanently exists (some don't) in an unnecessary state of misery — if this happens, then who knows what the future may bring.

Yours hopefully,
Chris Voisey.

single flats and not, as Nick Morell suggests, only one.

(3) To suggest that the Council sees student occupation of Maisonettes in North Kenton as a long-term solution is totally inaccurate, the Council intend to convert all the maisonettes into three-storey town houses. (This was due to start in September 1979, but has been affected by the Tory Government spending cuts).

(4) The statement that students are the first tenants to pay rent on a regular basis is largely inaccurate and seems to be based upon an unsubstantiated generalisation and as such shows contempt for the other inhabitants of North Kenton.

(5) As regards the bus service, the area is served by the 24, 25, 10 and can be easily reached from the 26, 27 and 8. All of which run regularly — approximately every 10 minutes and every 15 minutes in working hours and the evening respectively. However, like the conversion plan this has been adversely affected by the Government spending cuts.

(6) The number of break-ins on the estate compares favourably with the number in University accommodation and throughout Newcastle.

(7) To say that: "the life blood of the North Kenton development is now the recently arrived student population" is, with 60 students living in an estate of in the region of 6,000 people, quite frankly laughable as the author would have discovered if he had bothered to talk to any local people or had ventured into the social club or any of the estate pubs.

Finally, we would point out that the Council's prime responsibility is to the local population and that of housing students, who are likely only to be in the area for three years, is a very low priority indeed.

We would suggest that when producing similar articles in the future, your reporters bother to get the relevant facts and to get them straight.

Yours etc.,
Jeff Marston.
John Ithell.

Endsleigh

Sir,
Having read a front page article in last week's Courier 15.11.79, about the peril of Castle Leazes residents at the hands of insurance sharks, I was somewhat surprised to find that inside this week's issue there was a handout from the "student" insurance company Endsleigh.

Without arguing over the pros and cons of this type of advertising might point out my personal experience of Endsleigh.

When I enquired at their office last year about insuring my possessions they were quite adamant that they couldn't insure bicycles (a pretty basic form of student transport after all) and that they couldn't include a 'new for old' clause — both things which an insurance shark was quite happy to provide to me at a reasonable rate.

Similarly, when I enquired about car insurance they wanted £20 a year more than a Lloyd's backed policy and wanted to include an excess of £100 should I be involved in an accident — just how good is Endsleigh for students?

Yours etc.,
Tom Neale.

Life-Line

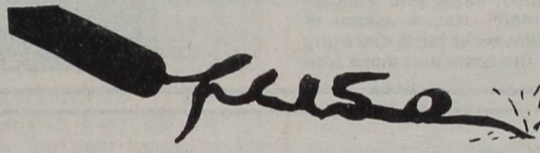
Sir,
I was distressed to read in last week's Courier that yet another girl had been accosted and frightened near Castle Leazes. As you are aware both the University and the Students' Representative Council are most anxious to make this, and other similar "danger" areas safe for students, and anyone else, to use at all times.

I understand that the police can do little as to them there is little problem because very few incidents are ever reported. We believe that there is a problem but can only prove this if we have knowledge of ANY attempts at accosting, interfering, mugging and so on.

I have agreed to act as a "post box" to note any incidents and would be grateful if anyone involved in such an incident (anywhere in Newcastle) would report it to me.

Any such information will be treated in the strictest confidence: it's the scale of the problem we want to know.

Yours etc.,
Diana Stewart,
N.U.S.R.C. Welfare Services Officer,
Level 5,
Union Building.



RUMOURS reach us that a certain member of Freeman's Hall JCR committee who has been disgracing himself all year one way or another has gone one step further at the EPH formal dining last week.

This young gentleman arrived at the function in a state of intoxication (two litres of wine is the estimate)

and then proceeded to regurgitate both his imbibings and the excellent repaste all over Castle Leazes. In fact he was throwing up during the speeches which, although possibly fair comment, strikes us as a virulently anti-social act.

One of his colleagues commented: "We are not amused. If it were possible for him to disgrace both Freeman's and himself any more, he has done so." She might have added that this walking disaster area has successfully cultivated the exact opposite of the Midas touch with regard to everything in which he is involved.

Fortunately it was left to somebody else to make a fool of themselves at the social event of the year — the vote of no confidence in Mike Gallagher, president of Havelock JCR.

At this lively shindig, one Simon Spalding succeeded in totally defeating his own aims. The meeting was split about sixty-forty against the motion to start with but Spalding's stuttering, petty complaints so effectively turned the meeting against him that the final vote was about fifteen to one against his motion. It was all great fun, three hundred people turning out for the sport.

Spalding will rise again but wither our other lone idiot? Discontent is the weakest possible word for the feeling towards his actions in Freeman's. His days as an official irritant could well be severely numbered: he may well be demoted to being a mere, untitled, pain in the neck. We shall await the fate of these two prize loonies with bated breath.

"I like Anthony Blunt; some of my best friends are KGB spies." Thus spoke our very own mole, the 104th man,

Levdev The Gnome.

Posing as a tweed-clad hitman for the FCS, this vile traitor has undergone the rigorous initiation rites conditional upon membership of the Sporting Club. While gleefully emasculating innocent wildlife, he was in fact conducting undercover activities with the full knowledge and encouragement of Nicky Edwards.

Students are reminded that all moles are vermin.

Square Ed!

Sir,
We were most upset, nay horrified to see ourselves and our party so cruelly exposed in 'Fuse' this week. We merely intended to have a small intimate bondage session in the appropriate clothes (and who can fully participate without these?) with one or two alcoholic beverages to mellow the inhibited.

It was with sorrow that we noticed that gatecrashers (i.e. yourself and a fellow crony) were embarrassed (why?) to remove below-the-belt attire. After all, everybody else had, AND WE ENJOYED IT!!! At least next time you will realise that our soirees are not for square farts like you.

Yours with love bites,
Sheona the Oshphresiolagnist,
Wendy the Algolagnist,
Helen the Troillist.

North Kenton

Sir,
With regard to Nick Morell's article on North Kenton, we feel that, although it had several interesting points, it is marred by a large number of inaccuracies which could easily have been avoided had he consulted first with the local community and councillors.

We should like to make the following points:

(1) The North Kenton properties are not poorly built, having been constructed to the original Parker-Morris standards, which are far in excess of much of the University's own accommodation.
(2) The Council have converted ALL the five-storey blocks in North Kenton into

NEWCASTLE'S VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT IS:



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(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. Tartan Bitter and Harp Lager 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.

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FRISCO

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Levi Shrink to fit Jeans, Button fly, Red Label, £16.50. Levi Drainpipe Jeans, Red Label, £16.50. Authentic Western Boots, Texas Brand, from £32.50. Lots of Tuxedo's in Black/White/Powder Blue, from £5. Canvas Hunting Jackets, £12.50. Lots of American Authentic Shirts from £1.50.

PLUS LOTS MORE!!

Arcadia, Percy Street, Newcastle.
Authorised Dealer 'BROOKS' Famous Footwear

Top of the Haemorrhoids — that's your COURIER

— TIT AT THE TOP —

First in a weekly tongue-in-cheek look at the cool people. This week, Nigel Wild.

ONE way or another, everything has a leader. The eighth army had Montgomery, Nottingham Forest have Brian Clough, the first Protestants had Martin Luther and we... well we've got Nigel Wild.

Bit of a comedown really: Nigel is to Monty what a mud hut is to the World Trade Centre. Come to think of it, Nigel's so insignificant I'm surprised he's not in the Tory cabinet.

"Yond Cassius hath a lean and hungry look". For that matter so has Nigel though I doubt that, like Cassius, "he thinks too much". Or at all. "Such men are dangerous" is the next line (from "Julius Caesar") and the honoured Mr. Wild is certainly that: trusting Nigel with running the Union is like passing the controls of a jet-plane to a

man in a coma or giving a child an atom bomb to play with.

Who is this blond bombshell with a winning smile, a gentle manner and as much grit and intelligence as a two-legged sloth? Apart from being our guru, he's an Agric and the darling of the student body, he tells me. What qualities, apart from blond hair, blue eyes and a soft voice, has he for leadership? None. Some students have described him as dilatory, ineffectual self-interested, dormant and doltish. The most common description is that of "dope". He actually makes me think of Lewis Carroll's dormouse whenever I am honoured enough to meet him, that is when I dare to look up at his beautiful features from my prostrate position.

I am informed that Nigel is the sweetest, noblest, most handsome man they have ever known. Admittedly these people are either female (not a sexist remark — a fact) or blissfully ignorant of Union politics. Or both. Those I have met who have actually had more than momentary contact with Nigel are split into two camps: those who think he couldn't run a game of tidly-winks but is a nice guy all the same and those who

think he couldn't tell his tiddle from his wink and is a nasty piece of work to boot.

Personally, I think Nigel is ostensibly nice enough: he does people favours and anything else which might help his image. Beyond that, I am not convinced that Nigel

Wild exists. If the flimsiest evidence was produced that he is in fact a cardboard cut out, I would accept it without question. It seems to me that Nigel has built himself a great image, but that, is the extent of the man: a projection of affability

without any substantial qualities to support it.

Neither is Nigel exactly ardent on student business. There is a point where compromise becomes submission and Nigel seems to go too far beyond that point in his efforts to keep popularity with the university administrators. He has been accused of "creeping" and I think rightly so. Were he as sly and calculating as some people suggest he would make a good snake (if he is calculating, perhaps an adder) but I prefer to think of him as a slug with a hangover, weaving slowly through life leaving a trail of slime behind him.

That's not fair. Life's not fair. I'm not fair. What, apart from Nigel's hair, is it fair that we have a president with all the charisma and commitment of a lump of lard? Is it fair that we have a president as fitted for his job as a wingless glider is for flying? Maybe it is. Those in the know have suggested that apart from Nigel's sparkling image, it was his very neutrality and ineffectuality which got him the job in the first place.

Is Nigel the sly, devious manoeuvre some people suggest? For my money, he is not. Oh he's a lot more

perceptive and slippery than most people give him credit for but his shining halo does tend to obscure this. He is not a puppetmaster, pulling strings and laughing at we poor dancing marionettes. I rather think he'd like to be one but he's not really cut out for it. I'm not sure but I'd say that he's just another careerist, keen on the idea of power and of the possible advantages of having been president.

It is actually an incredibly tough job being president. To do it well takes a very special person. And that's where Nigel really falls down: he is thoroughly ordinary. He hasn't the extrovert bonhomie, the zest, the humour or the efficiency of some of his colleagues. Nor has he their motivation: he is mediocre in the extreme, the sort of guy you'd lose at a party without noticing you'd lost him.

In normal circumstances, I think there'd be things I'd object to in Nigel Wild, though I can easily see how he would be popular with most people. But, as president, Nigel is more than a little unpalatable. He's not doing a good job, he's not really doing a bad one: he is, in fact, doing nothing.

Dave Niklaus.



SRC & UMC Meetings

FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING
WEDNESDAY, 28th NOVEMBER, 1979

WEDNESDAY, 28th November :

Joint Working Party on the Union Extension at 12.00 in Level 6 Committee Room.
Education Committee at 1.00 p.m. in Level 6 Committee Room.
S.R.C. Executive Committee at 3.00 p.m. in Level 6 Committee Room.

FRIDAY, 30th November :

U.M.C. Executive Committee at 12.00 in Level 6 Committee Room.

MONDAY, 3rd December :

10.00 a.m.—No nomination papers for elections will be accepted after this time.
Services Committee at 1.00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 4th December :

Catering Committee at 10.00 a.m. in the Gramophone Room.
Hustings for Vice President of Services and One Freshers Conference Organiser in the Debating Chamber at 1.00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 5th December :

Joint Working Party on the Union Extension at 12.00 in Level 6 Committee Room.
S.R.C. Executive Committee at 3.00 p.m. in Level 6 Committee Room.
Elections for Vice President of Services and one Freshers Conference Organiser and S.R.C. Faculty Representatives.

—Claire Sheehan, Secretary.



S.R.C. BYE-ELECTION

Wednesday, 5th December, 1979

VICE PRESIDENT OF SERVICES COMMITTEE

Nominations papers are available from the Permanent Secretary's Office, Room 2, Level 6 and MUST be returned not later than 10.00 a.m. Monday, 3rd December.

The elections will take place between the hours of 10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. in the Union Foyer. Hustings will take place from 1.00 p.m. in the Debating Chamber on Tuesday, 4th December.

—Claire Sheehan, Secretary.

S.R.C. ANNUAL ELECTION

Wednesday, 5th December, 1979

ONE FRESHERS CONFERENCE ORGANISER

Nominations papers are available from the Permanent Secretary's Office, Room 2, Level 6 and MUST be returned not later than 10.00 a.m. Monday, 3rd December.

The elections will take place between the hours of 10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. in the Union Foyer. Hustings will take place from 1.00 p.m. in the Debating Chamber on Tuesday, 4th December.

—Claire Sheehan, Secretary.



GOOD GRIEF — A FREE WEEKEND

Want to go to an N.U.S. Conference?

(5th and 6th January)

PART-TIME STUDENTS

SRC will pay for a Part-Time Student to go to the N.U.S. Part-Time Students Conference to represent S.R.C. and report back to Council.
Details from the Sabbatical Secretary—Level 6.

ART STUDENTS

SRC will pay for an Art Student to go to the NUS Art Education National Conference (5th and 6th January) to represent SRC and report back to Council.
Details from the Sabbatical Secretary—Level 6.

SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS

SRC will pay for a Social Work Student to go to the NUS Social Work Students Policy Conference (5th and 6th January) to represent SRC and report back to Council.
Details from the Sabbatical Secretary—Level 6.

—Claire Sheehan, Secretary.

COURIER SPORT

Cross Country

The Schweppes International

Cross-Country Races
THE above fixture held at Gateshead is undoubtedly the most important pre-Christmas cross-country event for clubs. The standing of the competition in these races was highlighted by the presence of BBC Television and of club teams from as far away as Oslo and ensured tough opposition for the Waders.

In the ladies race circumstances conspired against the Newcastle team to reduce the turnout but Gill Burley and Ruth Browning were undeterred and both ran very well.

In the Men's race Adam Cooper signalled his return to fitness with a fine 34th position. Steve Pautard also found the steep hills and mud relatively less demanding and his strong running was rewarded with a good final place.

Strength was also the cornerstone of Mike Cade's performance as he worked his way up through the field. Arguably the best run from our contingent came from Andy Brinkman who sailed over the muddy terrain to take some notable scalps.

Next week's fixture is the last race of this term so a massive turn-out would be appreciated for the Leeds Relays.

Badminton

SINCE the last report there has been a great deal of activity, regarding matches. The ladies lost a match away to Dunston on Sunday, 11th November, mainly because again half the team was not available (visiting friends and hangovers were the excuse).

On the following Saturday we were again defeated, by Durham University 6-3, but this time with a full team. (We will improve soon!).

The Men's 1st team have had more success, beating Hexham 7-2, with aid of a strange newcomer playing in a borrowed female's shirt and tracksuit top (a nice tight fit). Newbiggen likewise suffered defeat against these stars of University Badminton, 6-3 being the result.

STRANGE ANGLE

The journey home was not unexciting: six men (?) packed tightly into a Hillman Imp, racquets and limbs thrust out at strange angles, made movement of bodies and the gear lever very difficult. Apparently the thought of a mixed match similarly arranged was met with more enthusiasm.

The Mixed II's had the pleasure of winning against Blyth Ridley on Monday, the most notable thing for which we will be remembered is the consumption of a total of 15 cups of tea between us. Well, it was hot, and we were thirsty!

—Sheona Norris.

Hockey

LAST Wednesday Newcastle played Durham to decide who should top the U.A.U. qualifying group. All the players were very keyed up for this important derby game.

The pace of the match was very fast and the standard of hockey high. Newcastle put some very good moves together with Martin Higgin consistently beating his man. Unfortunately Newcastle were unable to capitalise on the resulting crosses and penalty corners.

The defence played extremely well with Mark French and Martin Riley outstanding. Just before the end of the first half, however, Durham took the lead when Dave Try saved the first shot but was unable to keep the rebound out.

In the second half Newcastle continued to press forward and should have scored through one of the many short corners gained. It took a good through ball from John Bowling which split the Durham defence and enabled Chris Clancy to run through and crack in a superb goal to level the score.

Unfortunately Durham took the lead a little while later from a long corner and despite heavy pressure held on to run out the winners of a very fine match. Commiserations to Mark French who late in the second half broke his thumb.

The 2nd's and 3rd's fared no better. The 2nd's like the 1st XI, qualify for the next round in second place after going down 4-1 with Mark Williamson scoring the only Newcastle goal. The 3rd's were beaten 3-1.

A VERY below par performance from Newcastle produced a convincing victory, 6-0 over a weakened Edinburgh side, a fortnight ago.

At times the weaknesses of Newcastle's defence were exposed by some direct running by the Edinburgh forwards. Only Mark French looked convincing at the back. The man to man was very ineffective with Edinburgh being allowed much room through the middle and left of the pitch.

Ringers

THE Newcastle University Guild of Change Ringers, were one of six entrants in the Northern Universities Striking Competition, held in Birmingham on the 17th November.

The competition included Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, all strong University Guilds.

The contest entailed ringing 240 changes of Cambridge Surprise minor. The intended team was Gillian French, Jane Parker, Catherine Maughm, Hilary Bugler, Katie Shaw and Jonathan Chalmers.

We managed a second place, to Birmingham, which we feel will certainly put Newcastle University Change Ringers firmly on the ringing map. We have been asked to host next year's competition.

Jon Chalmers.

Physical Activity in Childhood and Adolescence

Provided that the opportunity is available, young children are spontaneously active so their exercise capacity is well maintained.

In our increasingly labour saving society, it is likely that adolescents and young adults are in danger of becoming so sedentary that their capacity declines to low levels. Moreover they are likely to become obese.

Over 15 years ago President J. F. Kennedy announced a national fitness campaign with the statement that "we are becoming a nation of spectators" instead of "participants," but it is only in recent years that individuals are beginning to make a conscious decision to include exercise in their daily lives.

Parents and schools have an important part to play in fostering positive attitudes to exercise in all young people and not just the sporting elite within the community in the hope that active life styles which are established early will last into maturity and old age. Students at this University will be aware that this is one of the main aims of the

Physical Education Centre Coaching Programme.

Children with mental or physical disabilities are not capable of spontaneous play like their normal peers and this restriction may further retard both their mental and physical development. It is, therefore, important that those who care for the disabled should ensure that appropriate opportunities for adequate physical activity are made available.

CONCENTRATION ON THE FEW

Socially it is a very valid question to ask why school seems to turn so many young people off exercise? Is it too much competition or a concentration on the few at the expense of the majority? An equally valid question is how can post-school agencies make up for this failure if the effects of the prolonged lack of exercise are to be avoided in middle and old age?

My next article will look at the role of exercise in middle age.

This article is based on the Case for Exercise by Professor P. H. Fenton and Dr. E. J. Bassey, Sports Council Research Working Papers 8.

Swimming

LAST Wednesday evening saw the battle between the swimming teams of the University and Newcastle Polytechnic.

The match, which was watched by the President of our club Mr. Fred W. Latimer, was for some reason limited to 50 yard swims. This meant that it turned out to be a much closer contested match although yet again the University excelled itself.

STOPPED SHORT

In the men's match, fine swimmers from everyone made the final score 59-28 to the University. However one should mention the fact that one student in particular, thought that the race was even shorter than it really was and stopped after half of his back-crawl leg in one of the team races.

After a considerable length of time he thought it was in his team's best interests if he finished and so he started again catching up what he had initially lost.

WORK HARD

Although the women won by a comfortable margin (53-34), there were some races in which they had to work hard to get the points.

The water-polo team with the absences of some regular players had a good match which the Poly never really got into. The final score was 8-4 in favour of the University.

Andy Elliott (capt.)

Squash

UNIVERSITY Ladies Squash team go through to the next stage of the U.A.U. tournament, after having convincingly beaten the other Universities in the league.

Results:

1. Sue Richardson won 3-1
2. Sue Blair won 3-0
3. Belinda Taylor won 3-0
4. Fiona Spens won 3-0
5. Sheila Donohoe won 3-0

On Thursday, the University Ladies Squash team travelled to Hexham to play a Northumberland league match. The journey was, however, very worthwhile, as, despite gaining a 5-0 win, we were fed extremely well!!

Results:

1. Marion Johnstone won 3-0
2. Belinda Taylor won 3-0
3. Fiona Spens won 3-0
4. Pam Bromwell won 3-2
5. Gill Periera won 3-0

Fencing

U.A.U. MATCH Newcastle v Hull

Newcastle University's new Men's team had an easy victory over Hull on Wednesday. All team members performed well. The score overall was 20-7.

Teams:

Sabre: Andrew Butler, Anton Pollard, Tim Wilson.
Foil: Ian Downing, Anton Pollard, Tim Wilson.
Epee: Andrew Johnston, Anton Pollard, Tim Wilson.

Sailing

The Ocean Youth Club operates a fleet of 71 foot Bermudan Ketches each with accommodation for a Skipper, two Mates and crew of 12.

One of these vessels, "Master Builder," will be based in the North East of England during May, June and July 1980.

Opportunities to crew on this ketch are available to anyone under 21, who is reasonably fit, can swim 50 yards and is prepared to work hard.

Cost: (1) £2.00 subscription to the O.Y.C. (2) Approximately £75.00 for the cruise.

Provisional sailing programme: May 3rd to 10th, 7 days Brightlingsea - Blyth. May 17th - 24th, 7 days Blyth - Blyth. May 24th - June 3rd, 10 days Blyth - Bergen.

June 3rd - 12th, 9 days Bergen - Bergen. June 12th - 21st, 9 days Bergen - Blyth. June 21st - 28th, 7 days Blyth - Blyth. June 28th - July 5th, 7 days Blyth - Newcastle.

July 5th - 12th, 7 days Newcastle - Newcastle. July 12th - 15th, 3 days Newcastle - Newcastle. July 15th - 19th, 4 days Newcastle - Whitby (Newcastle 900 celebration). July 19th - 21st, 2 days Whitby - Newcastle (Newcastle 900 celebration). July 21st - 24th, 3 days Newcastle - Newcastle. July 24th - 26th, Alongside, Newcastle. For further information please apply to Lesley Cooke, P.E. Centre.

Golf

LAST Wednesday, the golf team played their first inter - University match for two weeks due to the fact that the match against York scheduled for the previous week had to be postponed.

However, this enforced break appeared to have no adverse effect on the standard of play in the team and opponents, Durham University, suffered badly at the hands of a Newcastle team exhibiting boundless confidence borne of outstanding success over the past few weeks. The eventual victory margin was 7 points to 2 in favour of Newcastle.

MISSED IMPORTANT LITTLE PUTT

Unfortunately, due to ground frost, the morning matches were played on temporary greens which made putting very difficult as Malcolm Lockyear will testify. However, after missing an important little putt on the final green in the morning, Malcolm redeemed himself fully in the afternoon with an admirable 8 and 7 victory in his singles match.

The match was played at Newcastle's home venue, the Northumberland Golf Club, at Gosforth Park and the team was, as usual: M. Lockyear (capt.), D. Mason, P. Minchella, J. Turnbull, C. Wagstaff, T. Whittaker.



"Peace man, we're the headbangers."

Netball

ON Wednesday, 21st November, Newcastle 1st Netball team replayed Saturday's abandoned match against Durham.

The games started well for Newcastle and by quarter time we were leading 12-1. Durham didn't give up and started the second quarter replying to every Newcastle goal with a Durham goal. It didn't last long however (they weren't as fit as us—phone numbers supplied on request!) and at half-time Newcastle led 21-6.

Newcastle still kept putting on the pressure and with a three-quarter time score of 39-8 the inevitable happened, Newcastle won with a final score of 52-13.

Team: G.S., Lesley-Ann Wilkinson, G.A., Alison Mayo, W.A. Janet Bown, C. Hilary Nixon, W.D. Bev Morris, C.D. Helen Crittal, G.K., Sue Bailey. Rs.: Alison Hudson.

Bridge

WITH P. Appleby having the sort of match his talent warrants, and P. Nattress being wonderfully solid, the first match of the season against Gosforth Park produced a fine win by 18-2. The way opponents errors were punished, and the almost total absence of University mistakes makes one look forward to the future with some hope, especially after the trauma of relegation last season.

Another win, this time against Roma Fisher and by the largest possible margin of 20-0, confirmed the promise of the first match. N. Mackintosh, replacing the apprehensive D. Humphreys, added steel to the defence and it was in this department that the match was won.

Team: P. Appleby (capt.), P. Nattress, J. Charlton and N. Mackintosh.

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HOLES ON LEVEL SIX

ANYBODY'S who's ever seen Joe Florek will have noticed how emaciated he looks, how pathetically undernourished and unloved.

stodgy climax when Hungry Joe's desk was swamped by no less than twenty of the overblown polos with their attendant pieces of literature. Who is the mystery doughnut donor? Uncle Joe claims



A Dough-Joe at Feeding Time.

To remedy this tragic situation, somebody has been sending our beloved Ents Officer a daily doughnut, accompanied by a letter and a little poem. On Friday last week this novel demonstration of affection reached its

to know but he's not letting on. Meanwhile, the whole of level six is putting on weight and hoping the young lady will maintain her attentions to save them the trouble of sending someone to get lunch for them.

LARRY'S A DRAG

IT has been revealed that the 1979 Newcastle Festival was overspent by £9,713. Over a third of the losses over the two-week festival were attributable to a "disasterous" show by Larry Grayson.

Despite Larry's ability to draw 15 million viewers for his TV show "The Generation Game," only a tiny audience attended his show at the City Hall in June. "I have to say that Larry Grayson was an absolute disaster—the show just did not sell," Recreation Chief, Bob Brenton, disclosed.

Larry came to Newcastle as part of a £5,000 one-day package. Meanwhile Newcastle rate payers face a £3,670 bill, as Larry's show netted only £1,330—a sum far short of the £5,500 anticipated by councillors.

However, Larry himself enjoyed the show which also featured Isla St. Clair: "Isla and I had a wonderful time and they were a fabulous audience." He said he felt

that inadequate publicity had contributed towards the show's lack of success, and mentioned the resignation of Festival Director, Andy Hudson, and the motorbike accident suffered by his successor Dick Godfrey. "We got lots of letters afterwards from people who said they didn't realise we were coming."

Recreation Director, Bob Brenton, agreed that the absence of a "Festival figure-head" had caused problems to a certain extent but he also directed attention towards the highlights of the event. The concerts given by the Royal Philharmonic and Scottish National Orchestras were said to be "very popular" as was a "Brass and Voice" spectacular.

Councillors agreed on the necessity of planning early for the next festival, to be held in 1981 due to the 900 celebrations next year. At present they were searching for a definite theme for the forthcoming festivities: "We should be striving to produce festivals, not fiascos," Coun. cillor Les Russel commented.

Wild Power

OVER the summer the printing facilities of the Union were further extended to include a screen printing machine.

Previously all such printing had been sent to Sunderland Arts Centre, who actually advised the University about what apparatus to buy. It is hoped that by doing its own poster printing the Union will vastly reduce costs and ultimately be able to produce all such work.

The Screen-Printing

machines, in Committee Room B, Level 6, are available to all societies at a minimal cost (to cover the materials used).

Application to use the machinery must be gained from the President of the Students' Union, Nigel Wild. Preliminary instruction can be obtained from Publicity and Events Officer, Joe Florek.

It is hoped that if the screen-printing techniques are in great demand the Union may further extend its facilities to photographic stencilling.

UnorthoDoc's Inn Patients

MEDICAL students at Liverpool University have again been censured following their annual dinner.

After being banned from the city's Centre Hotel last year, following behaviour which manager Mr. Menhennet described as "frankly disgraceful," the venue for the dinner was moved to Liverpool's Holiday Inn.

This year's chapter of vandalism started at about 11.30 p.m. after the top table and the guest speakers had left the function which has been held for the last 134 years.

Travel Press Services of London, the spokesman for the Holiday Inn group of hotels, informed the Courier that over £1,000 worth of damage had been caused. The trouble started when food was thrown around the ban-

queting room, and was swiftly followed by the setting alight of the plastic table numbers. After dismantling the welcome sign from the entrance foyer a minority of the 275 medics who attended the dinner proceeded to distribute the hotel's brochures around the grounds. At the same time another group was busying itself smashing the seats in the toilets.

The manager, Mr. Jack Ferguson, said "I have never seen anything like it in twenty-five years in the business, they were just hooligans. If they won't pay the bill then I will take them to court."

Despite being given the opportunity to refute the allegations, a student representative from the Faculty of Medicine refused to comment on the incident. The police are investigating the accusations of theft and damage.

INFANTILE STUDENTS

A HEALTHY sign of co-operation between the Students' Representative Council and a University department is alive and flourishing at Ridley Place. I am, of course, talking about the Psychology Playgroup which has gone from Legobrick to Wendy House in amount of success since its inception this term.

The playgroup caters for 3-4½ year olds and, while it might exclude most of you reading this article, it does give a much needed service. George Balfour, lecturer at the department and brains behind the scheme feels that the playgroup fulfils a number of worthwhile functions.

Not only is it a help to parents and allows student involvement, but hopefully its establishment will create a nucleus for further research into developmental psychology.

Were parents suspicious of what the psychologists would get up to with their children? Apparently not, says George Balfour. "Feedback has been good and they seem to believe that we're the best people to handle such a scheme."

Preparations for the playgroup has been going on for over a year and after minor health and safety alterations to the premises it opened last September. Mr. Balfour's only surprise about the enterprise has been the popular initial response. Although mainly used by staff and students' offsprings, no restriction (other than age) has been placed on entry.

Daily running of the playgroup is by one supervisor and two assistants along with the voluntary student help. Luck as well as hard work has played a big part in the existence of the playgroup, as without the use of the Univer-

sity premises and a substantial grant from the S.R.C., overhead costs couldn't have been lowered sufficiently to make the idea viable. The grant covers service costs and most importantly part of the £3,500 staff salary bill. The remainder of the money is fund raised.

As well as traditional activities particular emphasis is given to useful learning experiences. George Balfour's philosophy of 'get them while they're young' means early introduction to anything from reading to general social interaction — especially for 'only children'. Several foreign children attend and despite this meaning an even more dedicated effort on the staff's part, it does further enhance the group variety.

George Balfour states that "centres for pre-school research in psychology departments aren't unusual as it gives a first hand chance to see and work in social interaction, influences in language application, plus the advancement of thinking capacity. There's no doubt that the richer the social environment at this age, the better preparation for school and later life. I always find the enormous capacity for creative behaviour in all young children remarkably impressive."

Possibly most influential in George Balfour's thinking is the writing of Margaret Donaldson. She theorizes that the intimate relationships of children and their formal education are very close. The bases for perceptual development arise from simple everyday activities.

General value to the community has been demonstrated by the interest the playgroup has generated among other similar schemes in the area. The Pre-School Association are having their 1981 Convention in Newcastle and George Balfour feels "it would be nice to offer something practical at that meeting."

Peter Elson.

MAGGIE LANCED

ON Thursday a surprising attack on Tory policy was made by an Ex-Tory Education Minister — Lord Boyle, who is now Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University.

Lord Boyle was Minister for Education between 1962-64 under two Tory Prime Ministers, Sir Harold Macmillan and Sir Alec Douglas Home. But now he feels he must speak against the education cuts being made by the present Conservative government.

In a 5,400 word statement delivered to the University Court he said that raising the fees for foreign students from between £2,000 and £5,000 would price British Universities out of the market. Tuition in other countries, including the U.S.A. and Russia, would be cheaper. The result would be a "lasting loss, both political and educational to this country", he said.

He added that the Government's policies in general seemed calculated to give the impression that "Britain is no longer interested in maintaining its international cultural relations".

HUGE RISE IN FEES

Not only was there to be a huge rise in fees but there have been cuts in the British Council Budget and the B.B.C. external services. He also attacked what he described as "the now blatantly sex and race-discriminatory immigration proposals" and the assimilation of the Overseas Development Ministry into the Foreign Office.

Altogether these measures are "a major assault across a very wide front" which could only be damaging to Britain itself in the long term.

British Universities derive about 20% of their incomes from tuition fees. If this income is cut then the standard of education for all students will be lowered. Lord Boyle pointed out that foreign students do not only contribute financially to the wellbeing of British Universities; many are here to do research and "they play a vital part in the intellectual and scientific life not only of individual Universities but of the country as a whole".

Heartless

A cruel thief has stolen a vital piece of equipment from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Gateshead.

The item is a heart monitoring machine, worth about £2,000, which disappeared from the corridor outside one of the Children's wards during the busy Saturday afternoon visiting period. The authorities assume the thief mistook the machine for a television set as there are close similarities between the two.

The hospital's Press Officer, Mr. Arthur Caley, commented "we have had several televisions taken from the hospital before this. It is of no real use to anybody outside the hospital, and we can only hope that the conscience of the thief will trouble him enough to return the machine".

He said that no criminal proceedings would be taken if the authorities were informed, anonymously if necessary, where the monitor could be safely collected.

Personal Column

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

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HAS Mandy Porter got bigger legs than Judy?

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CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY PRESENTS

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