

The Courier

NUS / Guardian Student Newspaper of the Year

Thursday November 10, 1994

Issue No.903

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This week: Win Bottles of Snapple or one of more than 30 other prizes

Jailed

Judge gives
Newcastle Agric
fifteen months for
"frenzied attack"
on fellow students

by Joe Churcher

AGRIC NEIL RAE, who seriously injured two students in a vicious bottle attack in the Union last year, is tonight in Durham Prison at the start of a fifteen month sentence.

The third year student, whose 50 year ban from the Union was lifted on appeal, was sent down by a jury at Newcastle Crown Court after being found guilty of three offences.

It is still unclear though as to whether he will be allowed back into the University to finish his degree in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Food Marketing.

Two of the charges, the more serious being Wounding With Intent to cause Grievous Bodily Harm, were related to an incident in the Union last February. Rae, 31, repeatedly hit Mark Bullas and Neil Cherry over the head with a Budweiser bottle after a "verbal disagreement" which left them needing stitches to severe head and facial injuries. The cause of the confrontation was apparently a remark made to Bullas that he "looked a bit red in the face". Rae claims to have been so frightened by Bullas' angry reaction that he lashed out with the bottle.

Neil Cherry, who graduated from the Maths Department this summer, gave evidence at the trial and is now "trying to put it out of his mind". He said that he took "a little while to get over the attack" but refused to comment on the outcome of the trial.

Mark Bullas, who also graduated in July was unable to talk to us as he is abroad until next year.

The third charge, of Being Concerned With Producing Class B

•RIGHT:
The Courier
breaks
news of the
horrifying
attack last
February.

Drugs, came about after Police officers found cannabis plants in his Fenham home when they arrived to arrest him. He was given a three month sentence for this, to run concurrently with those of fifteen and six months for the other offences.

In his statement to the Union, Rae had said that he was "truly shocked at what I did" and felt that it would "probably ruin my life". Whether or not Mr Rae will be able to finish his degree though is very much dependent on what action, if any, the University Disciplinary Committee take against him. His tutor, Mr A Moxey, explained that the Department want to grant him this as a "year out" to give him a chance to write his dissertation "which he couldn't do over the summer due to the obvious pressure he was under". It is expected that he will be released next May.

Ms Noelle McVicar, Administrative Assistant at the Registrar's Office, explained that any decision about a possible disciplinary hearing cannot be made until she has received official confirmation of the verdict from the Crown Court.

Whether Spiny Norman's, the scene of the attack, will ever be graced with his presence again depends on Union Disciplinary. Last year's Convenor of Disciplinary Marcus Whitehead said after the attack that a ban was "essential" but the fifty year ban he imposed was quashed on appeal when Rae was sentenced in his absence after officials failed to inform him of the time of the hearing. Miles Gibson, Sabbatical Secretary, expressed doubts

The Courier

Thursday, February 24, 1994

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Bottle attack student will never enter the Union again



Banned

A YOB whose unprovoked bottle attack on two fellow students caused the face. Bullas was insulted by the remark that he had been seen

by Simon Bird

Victims left with twenty

titchy instead of hands

about the worth of Union sanctions in the face of a court verdict but said that action would depend on the University's decision.

Are you a lucky punter?

This week we'll be giving away a bottle of mouth-watering Snapple to every lucky hundredth punter who buys a copy of the super-soaraway Courier from our gorgeous paper sellers in the Union.

Snapple is the brand name of the totally natural range of drinks from the States that include Lemon, Peach, Raspberry, Orange, Pink Lemonade, Mango Madness, Kiwi Strawberry Cocktail and Fruit Punch flavours.



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Inside your SUPER 16-page edition TODAY

Newcastle Student News

Saintly Sabbaticals: Executive cough up for coaches to national demo after Union solicitor sinks subsidy hopes - Page 2

Not Guilty: Ex-Arts lecturer cleared of sexual assault - for the second time in a year - Page 2

Wimps: Top North-East Tories refuse to try a week of life on a grant - Page 2

A right Royale balls-up: North students ripped off by Ball promoters - Page 3

Death of the Haymarket: High Street giant M&S tramples Britain's best Doner shops - Page 3

National Student News

Cross Campus: Nine seductive snippets from around the country - Page 4

Features

Brat Packing: *The Courier* weighs up the difference between holiday faves BUNAC and Camp America - Pages 6 & 11

A potential killer in every home: *The Courier* examines the deadly dangers of gas fires - Page 14

Centre Stage

Aural Terrorists: Jon Bennet interviews top indie tunesters Terrorvision - Page 7

Nirvana 'Unplugged': We ask why Nirvana's latest offering isn't titled 'Live & Unplugged' - Page 8

Natural Banned Killers: We review the film you may never get to see - Page 9

Tyne Out: Your definitive listings guide to Newcastle night-life - no matter what your tastes - Page 10

Sports News

Rugby: Victory at last - but the lads take a pasting in BUSA brawl - Page 16

Globetrotters: Newcastle women bounce balls best - Page 15

The Regulars

Courier Quickies: The latest gossip from around the University - Throughout the paper!

Frankly Speaking: Shining wit Frank replies on important issues of the day - Page 12

Barpy Buckle's guide to culture: That invaluable index of style and sophistication - Page 12

The Personal Column: Even more sleaze, slagging and back-stabbing than the rest of the paper - Page 10

Crossword: Big Prize problems for the over-active brain - Page 13



The Courier

NUS/Guardian Student
Newspaper of the Year

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Union Sabbs to foot Grant Cuts demo costs

PRAISE BE to our heroic Sabbatical Officers who paid for coaches to the Grant Cuts demonstration in London yesterday out of their own pockets.

They stumped up the cash after the Union Society Solicitor, Mr Todd, advised against using Union money to fund the coaches because he thought some judges could see it as 'ultra vires' - 'outside the remit of the Union Society'.

If Union funds had been used, said Mr. Todd, the General Manager Donald

by Lucy Cypher & Seemi Gopinathan

Fraser and Honorary Treasurer Fred Crouch could have ended up in court - as could any elected Union officer involved in making a decision to spend funds on coaches to the demo.

Not wanting to deny students the right to demonstrate, the six sabbaticals used £130 (a week's pay) from their wages to pay for the coaches instead.

Crea Lavin, Union President, explained "We believe in the demonstration and were willing to subsidise the coaches for the students. Why should they be expected to fork out?"

The issue has caused controversy about how Union funds should be spent and how far Union objectives are compatible with the Charity laws which regulate its activities.

If all goes well the Sabbs should be paid back in full by the end of the year through a series of fund-raising evenings in the Union.

Acquittal No.2 for ex-Arts lecturer

by Siobhan Almond

FORMER University art lecturer Mr Andrew Maclare was found not guilty last week of the second sexual assault charge brought against him within a year.

In the most recent case before Newcastle magistrates, a 29 year old woman claimed that whilst modelling for the lecturer in a University studio in January 1990, he sexually assaulted her.

Earlier this year the lecturer, whilst still employed by the University, was cleared of a similar charge brought by a 21 year old student. Mr Maclare has since retired.

Speaking on Friday, the current head of the Fine Art department, Mr G Robson, stated "In both instances Mr Maclare was cleared. As far as this department is concerned, it's finished business".

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A right Royale balls-up



■ One of the glossy shots of last year's event

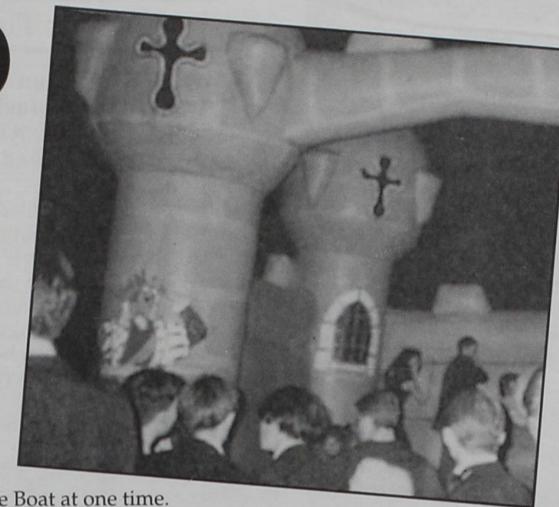
by James Lyons & Victoria Taylor

THIS YEAR'S Freshers' Ball has provoked anger and derision from Newcastle, Durham and Sunderland students who forked out £15 a head to attend the event last Tuesday.

"Whoever organised this Ball needs a fucking good kicking" said Ian Barrett, an incensed Medic from Newcastle, one of the 2,500 students greeted by 'unbearable crowds' and 'understaffed and overpriced bars' at the Tuxedo Royale night club organised by R.S.V.P. Parties by Design.

Fears over the safety of revellers have also been expressed after it was revealed that The Boat has only a 1,600 legal capacity.

Club Manager Tony Knox claims only 1,500 people were present - well within their legal maximum - but organiser Chris Atley claims to have figures proving that up to 3,000 were on



The Boat at one time.

One Durham student, who wishes to remain anonymous, said: "I was nearly crushed, my outfit was ruined, the bouncers were complete tossers and whoever ripped me off deserves to be shot. I paid £15 for this mess and they charged £2.20 a pint. It's unbelievable."

As a result Durham University Union, who initially backed the event, are now looking into legal action.

President Richard Taylor has hit out at event organiser Chris Atley, saying: "We are absolutely livid, he has been incredibly greedy and broken the spirit of our contract. We suspect he has made about £15,000 out of this event. We are now seeking legal advice about the safety aspect of the Ball".

'Invitations' to revellers to book a ticket for 'THE biggest event in the University social calendar' were sent out in Freshers' packs at four North-East Universities.

They showed pictures from last year's event at Hallgarth Manor, near Newcastle, leading many unsuspecting punters to believe a similar venue had been booked for last week's event.

Putting a chill in the air: ICE FM

by Dominic Allon

A STREET-SHATTERING selection of 24-hour dance music has made Ice FM, 105.4 FM, a force to be reckoned with on the Newcastle airwaves.

Now approaching the end of its second 28-restricted service licence (RSL) its success has made a future full time licence possible, perhaps starting from early 1996.

Ice FM aims to satisfy the growing demand for dance music: including house, techno, hardcore, jungle, trance, garage, ragga, progressive, ambient.....you know the type!

Michael Stockton and Paul Skevington, better known as Mick and Skev, are now the main-men down at Ice FM. Along with Jim Hesslett they plan Ice FM's promising future with enthusiasm.

I spoke to Mick and Skev during their lunch time show, in which they mix a host of funky street sounds with wacky jungles and their own unique type of entertaining tomfoolery.

Skev said, "It's possible we'll have another RSL in March, but we are looking for future advertisers; they are our bread and butter."

Their latest license ended at midnight last Sunday, but they still have lots to keep themselves busy. Their merchandise, such as T-shirts and record bags, will be available soon from the trendier clothes shops in town.

They also plan to launch a series of pre-club nights around town. Acting as a showcase for Ice FM's local talent, the aim is to maintain a high local profile.

Also in the pipeline is QE3, a mammoth party at the Boat, on November 17. The line-up includes Judge-Jules, DIY and Hardtimes on tour.

Ice FM and all its voluntary DJ's have much to be proud of and as Kenneth Williams says in one of their jingles: "Ohhh yes, that's a very good one."

Internal friction painful for NUTS

A BITTER BATTLE of words and action has broken out between two NUTS members.

Christina Berns, an English Postgrad and Jos Fairman worked together on the highly successful production, Milena, performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Plans to put on the play at the University later this year are in jeopardy because Christina has copyrighted the script and will not let them use it.

Christina, known as Bernie, was the director

of Milena but she dropped out just a week before they were going to Edinburgh due to a "clash of personalities" with Jos.

Jos insists the cast rewrote the script and redirected the play after Bernie left. But a source close to the cast says about 55% of the script was written by Bernie.

"If she does stop us performing, it means the new NUTS members won't get the chance to see how well we did and that would be a real shame" complained Jos. "I hope it doesn't come to that."

Lucy Cypher

Turkish delight turns sour for students

by Miranda Saville

UNIVERSITY STUDENT Sarah Buckley and visiting friend Kate Noran got more than they bargained for when they went to Newcastle City Pool for a "steam clean after a heavy night at the Union".

A very relaxing Turkish bath was followed by a coconut oil enhanced massage. No sooner had they been lathered up and laid "naked on the slab" than they were asked to vacate the building immediately - which they did, leaving certain articles in the building as they fled. They were told there was

a gas leak but Sarah describes the odour as an "ammonia type smell" and claims that people "felt their throats were burning and found it difficult to swallow".

The official police report confirms that there was an error when the wrong chemical was mixed with hydrochloric acid. The City Pool state the matter is "still under investigation" but the reason behind the leakage "could not have been simple" and that the "routine tank filling procedure has been suspended in the meantime".

This must be to the good of the public and very comforting for the five people who had a 40 minute stay in hospital as a routine measure following the incident. Sarah and Kate however escaped this chemical cock-up without injury and for that we must be thankful.

The Courier

ALL STUDENTS ARE FILTH!

This is the scandalous accusation being levelled at us by Anti Student Action (ASA) in a recent publicity campaign.

Stickers proclaiming their message have been found all over the University in recent weeks and rumours are rife as to the make up of this mysterious undercover organisation.

There's just one question weighing on *The Courier's* mind; if you hate students that much, why are you spending so much of your time in the Union. Go out and find yourself some friends!

Quickie

St Michael orders kebabs, pizzas and chips to go

by Michael Yates

AS FROM February next year the Haymarket will become Newcastle's biggest building site as the entire area is to be blitzed to make way for the largest Marks and Spencers in Europe.

The section known as "Kebab row", stretching from the "Farmers Rest" to "Get Stuffed" will take up an honoured position in the city's history books in a matter of just four months.

Inevitably the first question that pops to mind is where do you go at 2am to supplement the evening's alcohol with pizzas, pies and doners.

Rest assured, things aren't as bad (or as good?) as they seem. A visit to the internationally renowned "Get Stuffed" revealed exclusively that they are relocating to a shop just yards from "Luckies Bar".

The fate of the other 2 great establishments is tragically less assured! Pizza King are still looking for new premises; whilst the strange excitable man in the "Newcastle Kebab Centre" blatantly refused to cooperate by pretending not to understand my questions and asking me whether I wanted a doner.

An indication as to what the revamped Haymarket will look like was provided by Barbara from Timpsons. The front entrance to M&S will be where Kebab row now stands, whilst the Bus Station will be completely redesigned to allow better access. Shockingly everyone's favourite family pub, the Farmer



Rest, is being "moved" to the other end of the Haymarket, because part of it is a listed building.

Just as the last ship to be made on the Tyne made a tearful departure this week, I wonder whether the last Kebabs to be served at the Newcastle Kebab Centre will be seen off with such RAW emotion.

Cross Campus

VAN-ISHING

Darrol Plows, the AU President at Hull University, is not exactly "Mr Popular" at the moment. Taking advantage of his privileged right to utilise the Student Union minibuses whenever he feels the need, he decided upon a swift shopping trip to Leeds. Unfortunately, however, the trip was not exactly a rip-roaring success for Plows who indirectly placed an even greater strain upon already stretched Union transport resources when the vehicle was stolen. Beat that Ian Brockwell.

SPENDING

Students from St Anne's College, Oxford may be the first to face huge new poll tax bills, some eighteen months after the tax ceased to exist. One hundred and twenty undergraduates residing at the college when the poll tax became the council tax in 1990/1991 have been adjudged to have forfeited their right to "transitional relief" (or any form of financial help) because they have since changed residence - despite the fact that in most cases they had simply moved from one college-owned building to another. Jenni Borg, Oxford's Student Union Vice President (Welfare) said she was "gobsmacked" by the decision, adding: "It's an utter stitch-up and we're going to do everything we can about it". (Never mind, I'm sure mummy and daddy can afford it)

ISOLATION

Students of the new BSc degree in Information Engineering at the University of Southampton seem destined never to need to set foot outside their own homes due to the fact that the degree will be the first in Britain to be conducted via computer on the Internet system. Apparently all they have to do is sit at their computer terminals and "download" essay assignments and lectures, even being able to attend "electronic tutorials" in which a group of people "log-in" simultaneously and hold an "on-line discussion". Professor David Barron of the Department of Electronics and Computer Science seriously believes his course offers a glimpse of college life in the future stating: "I am sure it will become much more common" - not if students who aren't sad, anti-social, screen-staring, brain-dead, boring bastards have anything to do with it. (No offence to Information Engineers intended).

PROPOSAL

A rather high percentage of exam failures on a radiography course at Glasgow Caledonian University seems to have lecturers confused. Apparently, an enquiry is to be held into why over a third of the class failed both their first year exams and then the resits. Cross Campus feels humbly obliged to suggest a possible solution - perhaps they're all as thick as pig shit.

by Andy Kay

REFUSAL

The Junior Common Room representative of Christ Church College, Oxford met recently to reject an odd proposal from Corpus Christi College and thus deny their fleet-footed college tortoise a chance to race against its Corpus Christi counterpart. Following the decision, JCR President Kirsten Scethem expressed her disappointment, condemning the evident lack of a sense of humour amongst her fellow students - who says times are changing at Oxford?

PUBLICATION

Misleading story of the week award this week goes to Essex University's "Wyvern" newsletter for its scoop entitled "Essex Graduate Assassinated". The feature refers to a certain Francisco Ruiz Massieu, murdered secretary general of Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, and politics undergraduate of Essex between 1969 and 1971 - what you might call a very mature student.

IMPEDING

A proposed extension to the bar at John Moores University, Liverpool is under threat, NOT due to a lack of money but to concerns from local residents. The residents in question - a group of nuns - have complained that the extension would create too much noise, labelling students as "rowdy". Surely not.

COMICAL

At the JCR meeting at Grey College, Durham last week, hustings for the position of bar "stewards" produced some interesting questions and even more interesting answers from those in attendance. In reply to the query of "where in the bar would you make love, given the choice?" one genuine wif retorted under the Guinness tap for maximum head".

PERSECUTION

Disturbing news this week from Leeds Metropolitan University where a male driver on the Women's Nightbus was (allegedly) sexually harassed by his drunken female passengers. Apparently, the shocked man was subjected (amongst other things) to the yelling of abuse and the letting off of a rape alarm in his ear - rumours that Ian Brockwell has since volunteered to run the same service here this coming Friday night have been denied.

More No-confidence nonsense at Poly

by Alistair Thomson

THE POLY UNION was once more thrown into confusion last week as the External Affairs Officer resigned amid renewed allegations of corruption.

David Holden, who failed in a bid to oust fellow Union official Jonathan Howlett three weeks ago, published a letter of resignation last Thursday, 3 November. In the letter, circulated to Exec, Council and University governors, he said that he could no longer run the risk of being prosecuted as a member of an Executive who he says have been acting illegally ever since they took office.

He also accused fellow members who were elected with him on the Labour slate of "representing a left-wing revolutionary faction that does not follow the Labour Party and its policies." He hopes this latest move in his ongoing battle with Exec will force people to listen to his allegations.

Holden told *The Courier* that he will continue to fight to remove the present Exec from Office, and predicts they will be forced to resign in the near future.

He is currently collecting the 76 signatures

needed to table a motion of no-confidence, which would lead to an Emergency General Meeting to decide the future of the Executive, and he claims to have the support of Union staff, some of whom have had their hours cut due, Holden says, to Executive's incompetence.

"The President, Karen Rudd, and other members of Exec now have no option but to resign," he said. Jonathan Howlett dismissed the idea of mass resignations, saying that if Holden has accusations to make, he should bring them properly, and with evidence, rather than making vague allusions in an open letter.

He said "It is regrettable that David cannot continue with his job, but I can't see any more accusations in the future.

"As for a vote of no-confidence, I can't even see him getting enough signatures, considering the success of his last attempt."

But the resignation may have far-reaching implications for the Executive, who have been called to see the Vice-Chancellor of Northumbria Uni after he received a copy of Holden's letter.

Jonathan Howlett criticised Holden for involving University Management in Union Affairs.

"Your decision... suggests the contempt with which you hold the autonomy of the Union, and therefore the student body," he wrote.

Rough ride ahead for University Raleigh recruit

SARAH Hollingham, a PGCE student at Newcastle has been selected to take part in Operation Raleigh.

Raleigh International, a UK-based charity sends volunteers to carry out environmental and community projects on overseas expeditions. It includes conservation work, data collection, hospital building and an adventure component, usually trekking to the site of the volunteer work.

The course involves the four Raleigh Challenges. Having filled in an application form you are invited to attend a selection weekend. For Sarah this was near Oxford with about 100 other people. On arrival at the station she was stripped of her Mars bars and other 'extras'.

Teams of ten then had to complete tasks such as rafting and crossing streams blindfolded, relying strongly on teamwork. They then had

to camp out on Saturday night, skinning a rabbit and building a bivouac for entertainment. Madisons anyone?

Sarah said "after going on the selection weekend, I wasn't too bothered about going on the expedition because it taught you so much. You got to know the people in your team so well after just a day and a half. It is just a fantastic opportunity".

She is now at the second stage - the fund-raising. She must raise £3000 by August 1995. So far she has raised £875. She is currently doing a sponsored swim which will be the equivalent of swimming the Channel. If she passes this part of the selection procedure Sarah will spend three months in Zimbabwe. "Everyone I've talked to who has been on an expedition said that it is something you never forget".

"Any suggestions for fund-raising activities will also be appreciated."

Robert Fullerton

The Courier

0898 fetishists were in for a treat last week with kinky goings on in an Ethel Williams phone booth that would have left Bob Hoskins blushing and Maureen Lipman in hysterics.

An amorous couple, clearly not ENGAGED, were discovered EXCHANGING bodily fluids when a student went to use the telephone, only to be put off by some curious TONES.

The smooth OPERATORS are thought to have made a brief CONNECTION before RINGING off into the night.

A porter said the whole incident was 'perfectly DIAL-abolic'.

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BUNAC

On June 23rd 1992, I stepped off the plane as one of a group of BUNACers. This was the first stage of an adventure that would see me experiencing a whole new way of life and many changing emotions. That night we stayed at Columbia University in downtown New York as arranged by BUNAC. The following morning we headed off in our smaller groups to our respective destinations.

As we arrived at the gates of Camp Hillcroft, we were afforded our first glimpses of what was to be our home for the next eight and a half weeks. Clusters of green and white, wooden 'bunkhouses', set on a leafy hillside, surrounded by trees and mountains. We could not have wished for a more idyllic setting.

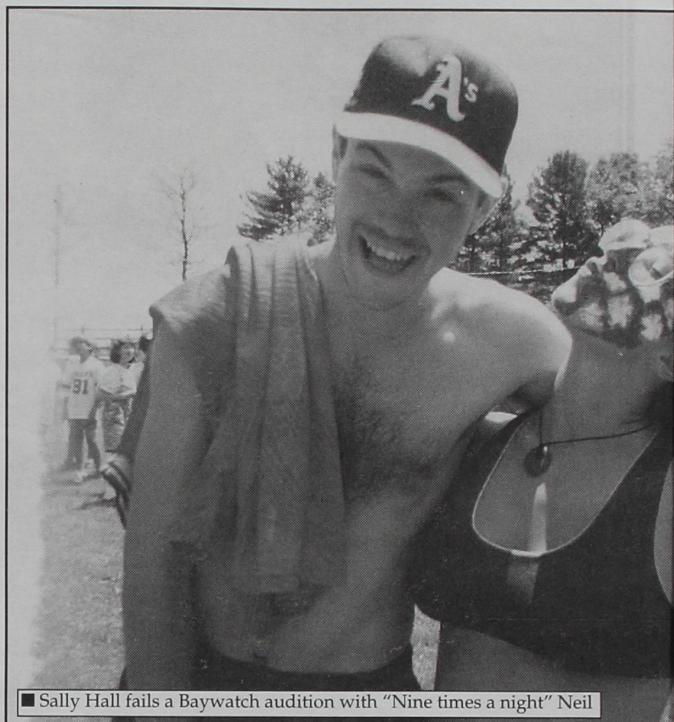
Our first few days were spent taking part in an orientation to allow us to get to know each other and to prepare us fully for the task ahead - dealing with kids and the camp environment as a whole. My title was that of 'general Counselor', which involved looking after a group of 10 year old boys, from dawn until dusk and being totally responsible for their welfare for the remaining eight weeks. The role of Counselor sees you as teacher, big brother, friend and role model all at once.

I spent my days taking my group to their various 'classes', ranging from swimming to woodwork to rock climbing to creative writing. The days were never as simple as they seem, many situations arose to challenge and reward you. The days can be long and tiring but there is still time to have some fun. I got six days off during the summer and one or two nights off a week. This gave us the chance to see some of the surrounding area, relax, let our hair down and most importantly have a break from kids. We had special events during camp for the kids, such as Camp Olympics, a fair and Arts Festival where 'magically' the camp was changed into NeverNeverland. It was a day in which the counsellors probably had more fun than the kids.

Many of the people I met at camp have become great friends and I am still in contact with them. The duration of camp saw the building of many such friendships as well as invitations for places to stay on our post camp travels. During the summer we were visited by a BUNAC rep. to ensure that there were not any problem and that everything was okay. We were also provided with a regular BUNAC newsletter to keep us up to date with things at home.

After a summer of hard work and immense fun, we had six weeks in which to explore the vast and diverse continent of America. At the end of the summer I was paid \$390 cash in hand, after deductions for my flight, first night of accommodation, visa and other administration done by BUNAC. If you would like to work in America or elsewhere, but do not fancy the idea of camp come and see your local club here at the University. For more information come along to Committee Room B, Level 5, every Tuesday lunch time between 1 and 2pm.

Ben Bowley



■ Sally Hall fails a Baywatch audition with "Nine times a night" Neil

If you're interested in Camp America, contact them at:

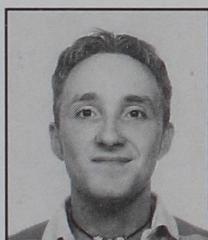
Camp America
Dept. NA
37A Queensgate
London
SW7 5HR

Being prepared to dress up in a p
days I did a great impression of U2
for this!

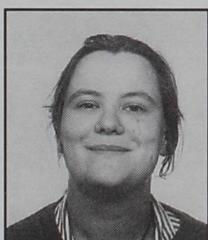
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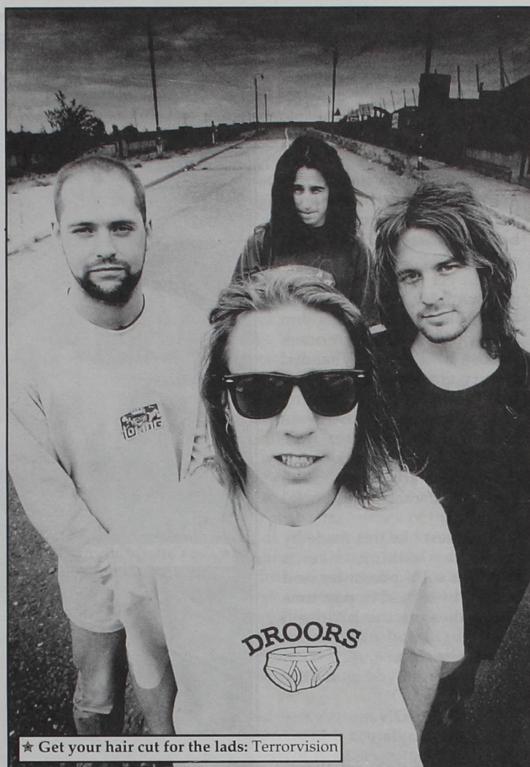
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* Get your hair cut for the lads: Terrorvision

TERRORVISION'S recent appearance at the Mayfair, part of a major British tour, is evidence of the band's rapid rise in popularity. Drummer Shatty is unsurprisingly delighted at the events of the year: "Fuck me, in January we played the Riverside to 60 people, July to a full house and now we've sold out this place which is 1100. We've been gigging for 8 years and now at long last it's coming together."

The breakthrough for Terrorvision was the top ten hit "Oblivion" which was catchy and addictive or an irritating novelty depending on whether or not you're a fan, Shatty is snappy at suggestions that

Terrifying tunesters

When *Terrorvision* took the Mayfair by storm last week *The Courier* sent Jon Bennett along to talk to the top indie tunesmiths.

He finds them riding high on the back of their recent chart success 'Oblivion'.

"Oblivion" was a novelty that repelled as many fans as it attracted.

"It's just a pop song - no more, no less. I think journo's don't like us because we're not the new this, or the second that. We're the first Terrorvision and can't be stuck in a pigeon hole and "Oblivion" is part of that. We're not rock, we're not pop, not anything except Terrorvision."

Sitting backstage it's easy to see why the band have toured so hard, it looks like everything it's cracked up to be. There's about a 100 Red Stripe, 2 bottles of Whisky, 6 wine and a host of other things your mother wouldn't like. Add to this the fact that on my way to meet the band a 14 year old started crying asking me to get their autograph and you begin to realise "Sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll" is alive and well.

Shatty is blasé: "Well it's all there to be had and why not? I want to enjoy this as much as I can although we're not nearly as bad as others - I know one group that puts

condoms on the rider. We went on tour with Motorhead last year, a dream come true, and if you want to see wild have a drink with Lemmy - he really knows how to down them." Whether you're a fan of *Terrorvision* or not Shatty has got his principles right - he's basically the best imaginable student lifestyle.

"I used to work as a printer's mate so I know what 9 to 5's like so I'm going to milk this bastard dry. We just want to make good music, have a laugh and live the dream. Nothing wrong with that." Lucky bastard.

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New York, New York



John O'Brien takes time off from studying Middlesbrough F.C.'s recent away record to listen to NIRVANA's post-humus release "Unplugged in New York"

NIRVANA have only released three studio albums, making "In Utero" their "Hard Day's Night" - if the Beatles had stopped there we would have missed loads of magical stuff.

This acoustic performance provides an insight into how Nirvana's sonic orientation may have shifted. Recorded about a year ago you may be surprised to learn that between songs there are some really quippy introductions.

Of the songs "About A Girl" is an absolutely genius pop song. "Jesus Doesn't Want Me For A Sunbeam" is introduced as

a rendition of an old christian song, done in the Vaseline's way" and features Krist Novoselic on accordion.

The David Bowie song "The Man Who Sold The World" shares the same poignancy in lyrics: "I must have died alone, a long, long time ago" while "On A Plain" shows how well Nirvana have captured a sound and made music at once time-defining and timeless.

"All Apologies" is a mantra-like explanatory angst and it all ends with a wracked interpretation of the Leadbelly song "Where Did You Sleep Last Night", introduced as "My favourite song".

LPs

FINITRIBE
Brand New
LP

THE LATEST offering from the veteran Edinburgh hardfloor hedonists continues in a similar vein to their previous releases.

Their formula of pulsating, upfront techno and uplifting vocals works well. Not their best effort but well worth checking out. 7/10

R.W.

VERUCA SALT
American Thighs
LP (Hi Rise)

THREE SONGS in and American Thighs looks like being a "good" album. Cool. The single, "Seether",

err...well seethes, actually, with understated menace beneath Lousie's lightly whipped vocals, and chunky riffs. Also cool. Repeating this until the listener is all grunged out and wants to turn the drone off and go to sleep is not cool. So "good" is the one night stand that leaves "alright really" to pick up the pieces. 6/10

Kat

ASH
Trailer
Mini LP (Infectious)
YOUNG URCHINS. At the age of 18, I was shitting my pants about A-Levels, but Ash get to tour around the UK with Elastica just because they write fantastically simple and brilliant tunes. And I bet they don't do their homework. Needless to say, "Trailer" is wonderful - bursting with

raucous guitars and laddish energy. Mini in size but enormous in stature. 9/10
Razor Ruddock

THE BIG CHIEF
Platinum Jive
LP

DO YOU too wonder whatever happened to the mighty, and indeed magnificent, Schooly D - purveyor of quality hip hop in the halcyon Run DMC/LL days of the late eighties?

Well he's on this collection as are many other, frankly, fellas which makes this an interesting, if uneven experience for all rap enthusiasts.

A little samey but there are some storming tunes and this on the whole is worth a copy, but not a tenner. 6/10

Jon Bennett

Live

ECHOBELLY
Newcastle Riverside

WHY does Sonya insist upon grinning relentlessly and fluttering her eyelashes between each ridiculous couplet?

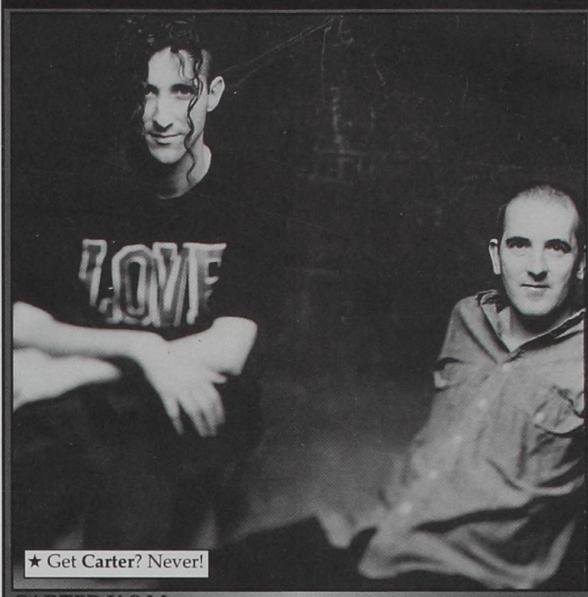
Don't get me wrong, I don't particularly object to ECHOBELLY'S charming pop songs, but Sonya comes across like some air-headed beauty contestant with her fixed inane expression musing pretentiously about the state of the nation.

"Call Me Names" for example, addresses the problem of racial and social prejudice.

A request like this made by someone looking like a children's TV presenter and backed by a bubbly pop tune just makes me think 'Stupid cow'.

Not even close.

Shit Heap



★ Get Carter? Never!

CARTER U.S.M.
Let's Get Tattoos
12" (Chrysalis)

"LET'S GET TATTOOS" is possibly the worst single Carter have ever released, which is no mean feat. This makes "Sheriff Fat Man" seem positively charismatic, intelligent and witty. The lyrics are pretty crap too.

This single heralds a first for the sex machine - a drummer with hands, and he's good: he sounds just like a drum machine. I only wish I had something positive to say about this single, but alas Carter have degenerated into a half-baked concoction of the Pet Shop Boys, Sheep on Drugs and Fisher Price music.

The problem USM are suffering from is the dwindling affections of the Neo-crusty indie people, those who have maintained the life in Pop Will Eat Itself for so long.

Buy this record and be scarred for life. 0/10

Strahd

of the week

Singles

DRUGSTORE
Starcrossed/Accelerate
7" (Go! discs)

MMM... pleasant ditties ahoy. Both sides of this double A-side single are adorned with sweet soulful songs, featuring poignant vocals and jingling guitars, backed with the occasional chink of a tambourine ('Accelerate') or a slightly more obvious up-tempo beat ('Starcrossed'). Reminiscent of the Cranberries without that Irish lilt to the voice.

They reappeared for two absurdly stage managed encores: a frantic cover of Kraftwerk's "The Model", with support band DIE TOTEN HOSEN's singer joining in, and an inevitable but very welcome "Oblivion".

Only Britian could produce a band like Terrorvision and that's nothing to be ashamed of.

Simon Steele

Donovan Leitch is a total babe in smudged eyeliner. But wanting to shag someone purely on looks is against my principles. Honest. However, the music.

The A side is a bouncy Bluresque pogo dance between Adam Ant and Bowie. With synths. Horribly addictive, as things that are bad for you generally are. The other tracks are live, and slightly nasty glam punk. Not short enough and low on ideas.

Hot property in New York apparently. Oh well. 4/10

Kat

IN
Bristol Rovers
Sunderland F.C.
Athletic Bilbao
Grimsby Town

OUT
Newcastle United
Manchester United
Norwich City

University of Newcastle upon Tyne
Thursday 10 November

ORGANISED ECONOMIC CRIME

Dr Barry Rider
Dean and Tutor of Jesus College,
University of Cambridge

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Thursday 17 November

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Emeritus Professor of History

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(Free list suspended)

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(Free list suspended)

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(Free list suspended)

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PROGRAMME INFORMATION

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What's the frequency, Kenneth?



Boasting big producer, big stars, big budget – there's been a lot of hype about Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein'. Beginning and ending in the icy desolation of the Arctic regions, the distraught Victor Frankenstein (Kenneth Branagh) relates his story to the polar explorer Captain Walten (Aidan Quinn).

Frankenstein's first confrontation with human tragedy is the painful and bloody death of his loving mother in childbirth. This comes at a strategic point in his life and it sets him on the ambitious path of creating a super-human death defying creature.

His dream is finally realised one dark and stormy night, but his disillusionment with his creation forces Victor to abandon it, triggering off a chain of events, culminating in the complete and utter destruction of Victor's public and personal life.

In a similar vein to 'Bram Stoker's Dracula', this film is an attempt to get to the essence of the original literary work and it does so in the sense that it includes certain characters previously ignored by other Hollywood film-makers, and also in trying to follow the chronological events of the novel.

DeNiro's portrayal of the creature initially provokes sympathy rather than horror, as he is shown to be an innocent creature who only becomes a murderous after being shunned by his creator and society.

The make-up used was certainly more inventive than usual, with the creature actually looking as if he's made up of pieces of flesh sewn together rather than the usual bolt-in-neck Herman Munster look-alike.

Although DeNiro's portrayal of the creature is basically sound, his talents have not really been fully exploited by the director. DeNiro's role in the film seems minor compared with Kenneth Branagh's.

What is striking about the film is the inappropriateness of its tone. Some of the lavish sets seem more appropriate for the theatre rather than the screen, which could also be said about Kenneth Branagh's enthusiastic performance as Victor. Whilst some scenes are unintentionally comic, others are extremely powerful like the one when the creature is brought to life.

This film is entertaining and enjoyable but be warned, if you've read the book prepare to be disappointed as, despite Branagh's claims, the essence of Mary Shelley's novel once again evades Hollywood.

Kirstie Skelton & Gillian Corish

Teechers

Newcastle Playhouse
Monday 14–Saturday 19 November

If schooldays really were the best days of your life and you want to relive them for a couple of hours, make sure you see 'Teechers' at the Newcastle Playhouse.

Hull Truck theatre company is performing this hilarious play which looks at life in a modern comprehensive school.

Nicholas Lane, the only male in the cast of three, spoke to me about the play.

Nicholas has already performed 'Teechers' in Ireland. He chose to do the play again because his parents will be able to see him in it they couldn't get to Ireland. "Plus I get the chance to work with John Godbar again."

John is the writer and director of the play. He used to teach drama himself and has worked on 'Grange Hill' so the portrayal of school life will be accurate.

Nicholas admits some people don't think plays are as exciting as stand-up comedians but he says Hull Truck's blueprint is to make theatre accessible to the masses.

"Performing a play which everyone can relate to is a good place to start. Everyone's been to school after all. They can spot characters that they went to school with. Like neurotic teachers and games mistresses that make you do somersaults off high beams."

Lucy Cypher

'Born' in the USA

This is a review of a film you might not even get to see. The British Board of Film Classification has not given it a rating yet. Sarah Wilde saw the film in America and gives her views on the film and the violence it portrays.

NATURAL BORN KILLERS displays all the hallmarks of Oliver Stone at his worst.

The film puts you through a disagreeable experience for no reason other than to get a reaction.

The idea is that tabloid TV reporters are a lower form of life than mass killers. When killers Mickey (Woody Harrelson) and Mallory (Juliette Lewis) execute the sleazebag reporter (Robert Downey Jr) you don't think the film is trying to say anything.

It's surprising that this film prompted so many copy-cat killers as its violence left me shocked but cold and detached. Like when Rodney Dangerfield who plays Mallory's father, terrorizes his family with physical and sexual abuse to a background of canned laughter.

NBK is just 'Kalifornia', except Juliette Lewis' character has a few more brain cells and joins in the gunfire: 'How sexy am I NOW?' she screams before blowing the head off an ogling old man.

The visual tools Stone uses are already old and tired. Here's the same tilted camera angles, grainy black and white, and quick cuts you've already seen on those 'Generation X' adverts.

At one point a slide is projected over Mickey and Mallory that says 'Too Much TV'. I'm not sure if that's a criticism of Mickey and Mallory or of the film itself. Whichever I'd rather go and see Pulp Fiction any day.

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Festival Favourites

The Newcastle Comedy Festival began last week and two of our reviewers caught three of the acts. Let's hope they tempt you to go and see some more.

Young, Gifted and Green

Live Theatre

If you weren't at the Live Theatre this week, you missed a treat. "Young, Gifted and Green" billed three Irish youngbloods from the world of comedy.

First up was John Maleney. With a desert dry wit, he was at his best when picking on unsuspecting members of the audience.

By the end of his act he had convinced them they were in for a good night.

We were less sure when Kevin Gildea's ravings failed to strike a chord. Billed as slick, sick, surreal and Irish, they at least got his nationality right.

Perhaps his humour was too surreal. He had a strange desire to mention over-absorbent tampons during the awkward silences. And the mainly Geordie audience found his jokes about Newcastle United pretty sick.

Dermot Carmody made up for it. Guitar in hand, not one classic escaped a reworking of lyrics and a savage exaggeration in style.

His cover version of Prince's "Purple Rain" was an inspired performance and he did a great send up of "Hey Mr Tambourine Man, I've Got a Headache and You're Not Helping".

Emma Jessop

Donna McPhail

Live Theatre - 3rd November

Described in the Comedy Festival programme as 'Charm with a killer instinct', Donna McPhail must rank in the top ten of comedians on the circuit.

Straight onto stage without a compere or warm up comic, it doesn't take her much time to get the audience under control.

Most subjects from tampons to train travel got the McPhail

treatment. It's not hard to see why she draws consistently large audiences. She included her famous clitoris/carburettor sketch and has an uncanny knack of going off on a

looks as though the void has been filled by the sharp witted and talented Will Durst.

Sharing a three-bill line up with Diane Ford and Eddie Brill, Durst rounded off the night by not only delivering some excellent material, but also seeing off a tiresome heckler sitting in the cheap seats. This from a man who once ran for Mayor of San Francisco in 1987 and won 2% of the vote. "On a vote per dollar spent I won by miles!" was his claim to fame.

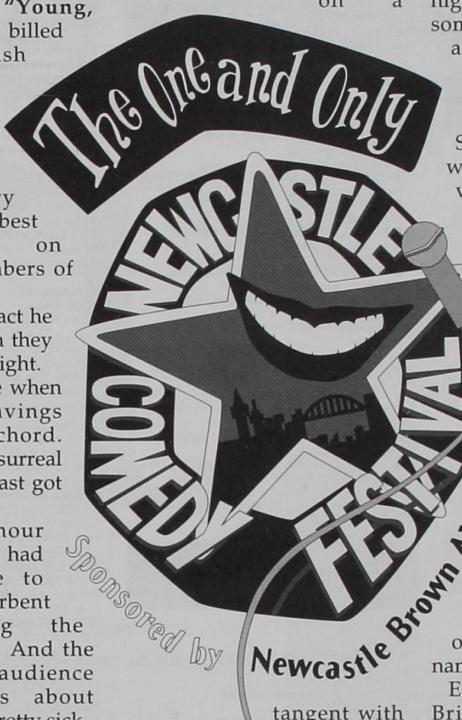
Ford is currently hailed as the top female comic in America, with a lot of her material working in a similar vein to that of Jo Brand, this was her only UK appearance of the year. And what a damned good appearance it was.

Having analysed the marriages of various members of the audience, she then went on to find out what the men named their private parts.

Equally on song was Eddie Brill. Having played the Comedy Festival last year, his return was a welcome one. His American roots don't stop him making a brilliant analysis of the inconsistencies of the English language. All this and a dodgy microphone as well.

What a shame it is then that we don't see more in this country of these three. As the compere Vladimir McTavish is also one of the festival organisers, I've a feeling they might all be back again.

Frank Laughton



Stand Up America

Tyne Theatre - 5th November

With the death earlier this year of Bill Hicks, America lost its greatest political satirist. Now, however, it

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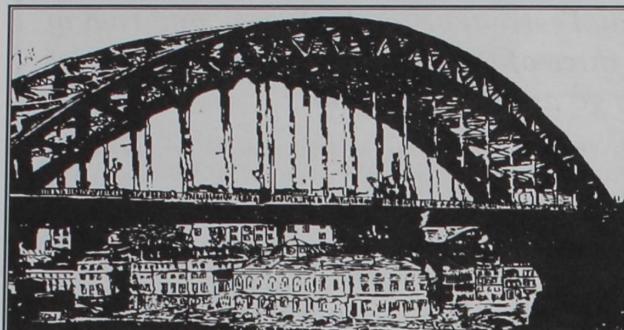
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POSTERS, BACK-ISSUES, PLUS A MASSIVE NEW SELECTION OF HORROR,
FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION BOOKS.
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Tyne Out: Your Comprehensive Weekly Listings Guide



Unions

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

Thurs. 10th Nov.

● CLUB ANORAK - DISCO

£1 on door

Fri. 11th Nov.

● THE BASS-MENT CLUB with Satisfaction

Now £1.50 £1 entry - Bars till 1am

Sat. 12th Nov.

ASYLUM - INDIE DISCO

Free entry

Mon. 14th Nov.

● BINGO in the Cochrane

Tues. 15th Nov.

● NME POP QUIZ

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHUMBRIA

Fri. 11th Nov.

● DOUBLE DECKER with Innocence,

Wobble, etc. £2 adv. £2.50 door

Sat. 12th Nov.

● CLUB 69, £1 entry

Tues. 8th Nov.

● FLAUNT IT - Christian Woodyatt

8pm - 2 a.m., £2 (entry before 9.30 pm). £2.50

afterwards

● CLUB BOOT - INDIE NIGHT

8pm - 12 a.m. Free entry

Music

Fri. 11th Nov.
 ● DODGY, Riverside, Newcastle, £5, on stage 9pm
 ● PSYCHO SURGEONS, Broken Doll, Newcastle, 8.30pm
 ● 321, Salsa Dance Night, Arts Centre, Newcastle, 4pm

Sat. 12th Nov.

● OTIS GRAND & THE BIG BLUES, Corner House, Newcastle, £5, 8.30pm

● SWING PALACE, Irish Centre, Newcastle, £1.50, 8pm

● FUNDAMENTAL + PROFIT OF THE CITY, Riverside, Newcastle, £5, 7.30pm

Tues. 15th Nov.

● PUBLIC ENEMY, Mayfair, Newcastle, £12.50, 7.30pm

● BRAND NEW HEAVIES, City Hall, Newcastle, £12, 7.30pm

● ELLIE BROOKS, Empire Theatre, Sunderland, £9.50 - £13.50, 7.30pm

Wed. 16th Nov.

● GENE HARRIS & JIM MULLEN QUARTET, Corner House, Heaton, £6, 8.30pm

● APU, Irish Centre, Newcastle, 8pm

● STAR WITNESS, Bridge Hotel, £1.50/£1, 8pm

● SIMON MAY ORCHESTRA, City Hall, Newcastle, 7.30pm

● SNAKE DAVIS & THE CHARMERS, Live Theatre, Newcastle, £6.50/£4, 7.30pm

● ALVIN STARDUST + MUD + THE GLITTER BAND, Empire Theatre, Sunderland, £12.50 - £10.50, 7.30pm

Films

Thurs. 10th Nov.

● PLUCK & FIDDLE, Global Beer Co., Jesmond, 8pm

● BONE + BURITTO, Cumberland Arms, Newcastle, 8.30pm

● JACKS PEOPLE, Arts Centre, Newcastle, 8pm

● NEAL PATTMAN, Jumpin' & Hot Club, Bridge Hotel, Newcastle, 8.30pm

● JJ CLARK BAND, Simpsons, Newcastle, 8.30pm

● THE MIDNIGHT COWGIRLS, Country & Western Dance for lesbian & gay men. The Buddha, Wallsend, £2.50/£1.50, 8pm

● ASTERIX & THE BIG FIGHT (U) 1.30

● VACAS 3.00

PULP FICTION (18) 5.00, 8.00

RESERVOIR DOGS (18) 11.00

KALIFORNIA (18) 11.00

WRESTLING ERNEST HEMINGWAY (12) 3.45

DO YOU REMEMBER? 6.15

+OUR LIFE IS NOW (15) 6.35

SLINGSHOT (12) 8.30

Sun. 13th Nov.

PULP FICTION (18) 3.45

KALIFORNIA (18) 6.40

+ RESERVOIR DOGS (18) 8.50

Mon. 14th Nov.

WRESTLING ERNEST HEMINGWAY (12) 3.25

SLINGSHOT (12) 5.55

PULP FICTION (18) 8.00

Tues. 15th Nov.

PULP FICTION (18) 3.00, 8.00

SLINGSHOT (12) 5.55

WRESTLING ERNEST HEMINGWAY (12) 4.00

BEING HUMAN 6.30

NIGHTMARES OF THE INFERIOR 9.00

Wed. 16th Nov.

ME LEFT FOOT (12) 1.30

BEING HUMAN 5.00

PULP FICTION (18) 8.00

WRESTLING ERNEST HEMINGWAY (12) 3.45

THE SEARCHERS (U) 6.15

SLINGSHOT (12) 8.40

● ODEON

Showing Fri. 11th Nov until Thurs. 17th Nov.

Mary Shelley's FRANKENSTEIN (15)

Every day 2.20, 5.10, 8.00

FORREST GUMP (12)

Every day 1.35, 4.40, 7.45

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU (PG)

Every day 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.30

THE LION KING (U)

Weekdays & Sun. 1.55, 4.10, 6.25, 8.40

Saturday 11.40, 1.55, 4.10, 6.25, 8.40

THE MASK (PG)

Fri. 2.50, 5.10, 7.30

Sat. 12.30, 2.50, 5.10, 7.30

Sun. 11.30, 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

Mon.-Thurs. 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN (15)

Fri. 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

Sun. 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

MONKEY TROUBLE (U)

Sat. 1.35, 4.45

Late Show

RESERVOIR DOGS (18)

Fri. /Sat. 11.30 only

Managers Choice 17/11/94

SHOPPING (18)

Thu. 8.20 only

THE MASK (PG)

Fri. 2.50, 5.10, 7.30

Sat. 12.30, 2.50, 5.10, 7.30

Sun. 11.30, 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

Mon.-Thurs. 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN (15)

Fri. 1.40, 3.55, 6.15

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Sat. 1.35, 4.45

Late Show

RESERVOIR DOGS (18)

Fri. /Sat. 11.30 only

Managers Choice 17/11/94

SHOPPING (18)

Thu. 8.20 only

Theatre

● Sat. 12th Nov. 7.30pm

Quayside Theatre Company

BLACK DIAMONDS

£3.00, £4.00, £5.00

The Buddha, Wallsend 091 262 4276

● Mon. 14th Nov. 7.30pm

Live Theatre presents

CLOSE THE COALHOUSE DOOR

£6.00, £4.00, £2.00

Globe Theatre, Hexham, 0434 607272

● Mon. 14th and Tue. 15th Nov. 8pm

Hull Truck Theatre Co.

DEAD FISH

£7.00, £5.00

Live Theatre, Newcastle, 091 232 1232

● Mon. 14th - Wed. 16th Nov. 8pm

NUTS presents

ONE WAY PENDULUM

Globe Theatre, Newcastle, 091 230 5151

● Mon. 14th - Sat. 19th Nov. 7.30pm

Northern Stage presents Hull Truck Theatre Co.

TEACHERS

£12.50 - £6.00

Playhouse, Newcastle, 091 230 5151

● Tues. 15th - Sat. 26th Nov. 7.15pm except Sat.

19th Nov. 5pm

SCOTTISH OPERA

£48.00 - £6.50

Theatre Royal, Newcastle, 091 232 2061

● Thurs. 10th Nov.

BENEDICT CRYER & WILLIE RUSHTON in TWO OLD FACES IN THE NIGHT

Tyne Theatre, £8.00, £5.00, 9.30pm

GREG PROOPS

Playhouse, £7.00, £6.00, 8pm

POETRY VIRGINS

Gulbenkian Theatre, £4.00, £3.00, 8.30pm

MARK THOMAS

Live Theatre, £7.00, £6.00, 9.30pm

SCOTT CAPURRO + JOHN FOTHERGILL

Comedy Cafe, £5.00, 10.30pm

● Fri. 11th Nov.

FRANK SKINNER

City Hall, £10.00, 8pm

JEREMY HARDY

Playhouse, £7.00, £5.00, 8pm

CHARLIE CHUCK

Gulbenkian Theatre, £6.00, £5.00, 8.30pm

Cabaret

● Thurs. 10th Nov.

BENEDICT CRYER & WILLIE RUSHTON in TWO OLD FACES IN THE NIGHT

Tyne Theatre, £8.00, £5.00, 9.30pm

IAN STONE + NOEL JAMES

SA

Sally Hall and Ben Bowley probe the truth behind the smiles of American summer camps



Unlike the BUNAC programme, Camp America limits itself to employing people solely for work on summer camps. This may make it more specialised, although you are likely to be paid less pocket money.

To work for "Campower" (in the kitchen maintenance) you don't need much experience. The exertions of cooking and cleaning can be exhausting for some though. To be a Counselor, some experience with children and possibly a special skill will be required.

Dozens of brattish American kids swarming all over you and bashing you with their Nintendos? Or singing lullabies to gorgeously sleeping Shirley Temple look-a-likes before dashing to the pub for a raucous night out singing the camp song to the locals?

The reality comes somewhere in between. Yes, there are hours (and hours and hours) of hard work. Yes, some kids are bratty, and various assaults with huge waterguns are inevitable. But, you're likely to meet some of the best mates you'll ever make in your life. And yes, the shagging potential is also huge!

One essential thing to bear in mind is always to expect the unexpected. A hideous epidemic of nightmare proportions struck our camp, rendering it more like "Barf America". The "shigella" bacteria was caused by a septic tank leaking into the water supply. As a result, 120 kids were projectile vomiting into 2 porta-loos. The camp smelt worse than Glastonbury, and I found myself playing nursery to a kid with a temperature of 105.6 degrees. (near fatal).

After the large scale trauma of this, our camp settled into the normal routine of relationship turmoils, teenage punch-ups and silly activities. Games such as "Chemical Warfare" and a staff and kids footie match involving 200 players on one pitch entertained our evenings. During the day, we taught riding (of the horseback variety), water-skiing, drama and go-karting.

tights with socks stuffed down them is also a pre-requisite for doing Camp. During various theme days, Mary Poppins, a 17th century wench and Marilyn Monroe - a split personality might be of benefit

"Camp America" outdid "Dynasty" for intrigue and scandal. More swinging went on than in the 60's and foursome were caught on the go-kart track. Of course, all this was away from the prying eyes of the

avelling afterwards makes it all worthwhile. And you'll never forget your camp song!

Sally Hall

Camp America



getpacking

we specialise in low cost travel for students and young people

	£ O/W	£ RTN		£ O/W	£ RTN
Amsterdam	36	65	Mexico	163	326
Athens	85	159	Miami	120	240
Australia	355	445	Nairobi	212	398
Bangkok	219	394	New York	99	165
Caracas	221	442	Paris	36	67
Cologne	49	81	Prague	75	139
Delhi	205	335	Quito	282	506
Ho Chi Minh	249	489	Rio	237	474
Hong Kong	250	475	Rome	85	140
Istanbul	120	166	S. Francisco	134	252
LA	134	229	Tokyo	267	499
Madrid	61	83	Toronto	122	226
Marrakech	106	199	Round the World	fr 699	



NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY, Union Buildings, Kings Walk, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 8QB

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NEWCASTLE
0191 232 2881

LIVE
IT.



When blindfolded you know the difference between a bottle of Faro lambic beer and a Saison brew, you obviously live for the taste of BieRReX.

When you just can't resist peppering your conversation with educated gems such as: "Without doubt the only way to drink Framboise is lightly chilled from a balloon glass" or "Actually, I first tasted Pils in the town of Pilsen in Czechoslovakia", you obviously speak the language of BieRReX (or you're reading from our free beer-phrase book!).

When you've delved deep into the huge bottle bank (and the draughts) which include beers for every occasion, from the seriously strong sort, to nice 'n' easy apéritif ales, you obviously know the difference between the average bar offering and the BieRReX renaissance.

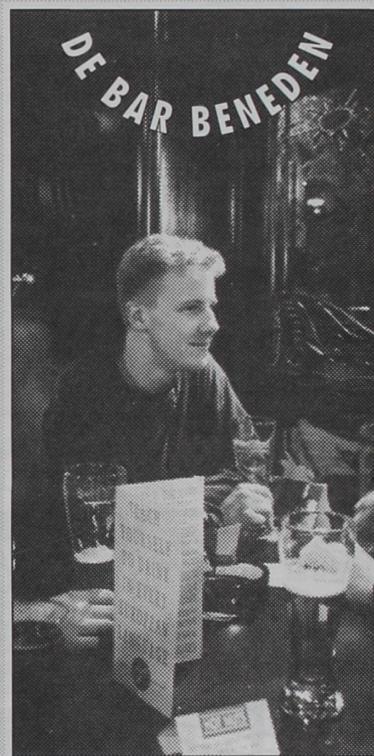
When you've savoured the staggeringly good food and the continental-style atmosphere, perhaps even a live jazz or R 'n' B session in one of the two distinctly different bars, you know for sure you won't find a more interesting, meeting, grazing and watering place.

BieRReX...
...when you live it, when you taste it...



THE EUROPEAN BAR

BieRReX, 2a Hancock Street,
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE2 4PU.
(Behind the Civic Centre
and between the Universities)
Telephone: 091 281 5653



Taste
IT.

Speaking Frankly

Write to Frank at *The Courier* office with all your views, opinions, thoughts and inane drivell. Each week there's a prize for the star letter. This week it's a packet of laxative chocolate!



In the Line of Fire

This week's *In the Line of Fire* is Lady Penelope Cobham. More like 'Knob 'em is the truth of it! Anyone who beds David Mellor, possibly the ugliest man on the planet, deserves to be put out of their misery. Anyone out there who is grossly over-weight, hideously ugly, supports Chelsea and is desperate for a shag contact International Rescue who will put you straight through to Lady Penelope - for a relationship with no strings attached. Oh, we forgot to mention, only mega-rich ex-Cabinet Ministers need apply. (Where are you Cecil?) Until next week keep those assassination suggestions rolling in.

Letter - Star Letter - Star Letter - Star Letter - Star Letter - St

BEER BOLLOX

Dear Frank,

I am appalled with the way the Union promotes its facilities. It doesn't take much research to realise the biggest service the Union provides is alcohol orientated.

If they're not promoting cheap beers, then it's promoting bands and discs that go on until late into the night, with the almost obligatory late bar.

I know that some bars in Newcastle have 'happy hour' type promotions early in the week, and/or early in the evening. This can be understood as they are times that are, generally speaking, not very highly patronised.

However, for the Union to offer cheap beer all the time merely entices students into wasting their already meagre grants on a totally over-rated product, when they should be tightening their purse strings and getting on with their studies.

I've heard many people in the past confess that if they'd spent less time in student unions bars they could have got much better exam marks. Isn't it therefore about time the Union helped to raise the standards of the University by dropping this idea of cheap beer in their bars, and encourage students not to fritter away so much of their time in bars, clubs and discs.

The latest promotion to sell Newcastle Brown Ale for £1 a pint only serves to illustrate my point.

In fact it's not only students who are suffering because of this wicked drug, the nation as a whole is suffering with one massive hangover! If everyone drank less then perhaps the country might be a bit more competitive.

For god's sake lets get this country moving again.

Yours etc,
Name and Address withheld by request.

Frankly Speaking: You sad bastard. If you think that hiking up the prices is going to stop students getting whammed on a regular basis then you're less in the way of brains than John Major has in the way of charisma. I recommend that you be locked in an air-tight room and have all the air sucked out.

NOT ENLIGHTENING

Dear Frank,

We felt it necessary to write and tell you how disappointed we were about the flippant, dismissive way in which you replied to the letter concerning lighting in last week's *Courier*.

This is an important issue concerning a large number of students and as such deserves to be dealt with in a serious manner.

A lot of people are putting time and effort into this campaign, and your trivialising response only serves to undermine the spirit in which the letter is written.

Isn't it about time you realised that not all the letters you are sent should be treated as "inane drivell".

Yours etc,
Laura Richardson,
Louise Boulter,
Amanda Lawson.

FRANKLY SPEAKING: O.K. it's a fair cop. Having lived in Richardson Road myself I know just how bad it is along the alley way mentioned. I can only ask all students to support you in your campaign.

COMPLAINT - THE SEQUEL

Dear Frank,

I am writing with regard to the letters page. Last week you published a letter from Helen Poole, a member of the women's group. The letter concerned the poor street lighting by the Medical School and Richardson Road flats. Such an issue affects many of our students, who I can assure you are very concerned about it.

Whilst I understand that there is a place for humorous letters and replies, I find it disturbing that an issue of such a serious nature was treated with such triviality. (Even if Kevin Keegan is the light of Frank's life.) The letter was intended to draw attention to the importance of the issue. Student apathy will reign if *'The Courier'* continues to show such a light hearted view and lack of responsibility.

Yours etc,
Alex Smith,
Women's Officer.

FRANKLY SPEAKING: To receive one complaint is to be expected, to receive two shows lack of professionalism. The Editor has dealt with me in an appropriate manner and I hope to be out of hospital in a few days.



Want to be a Union Councillor? Union Council is the Union Society's managing body and meets twice a term. It's got

INCREDIBLE

amounts of power and there are currently 31 vacancies for representatives from each Faculty. If you want to get involved in the running of the Union, pick up a nomination form from Reception on Level 4, fill it in and return it by 1pm on Monday 14 November. Nominees do not normally have to stand for election. More information on what Union Councillors do from Miles Gibson, the Sabbatical Secretary, on Level 6.

Gratuitous pictures of the Tyne Bridge help advertise...

General Meeting

15 November 1994
1pm
Debating Chamber

(Boring bit: deadline for amendments to published business: Thursday 10th November at 1pm. Documents published on Monday 14th November)

kingswalk

Claremont Road
(Access from Playhouse Car Park)

(091) 2220725

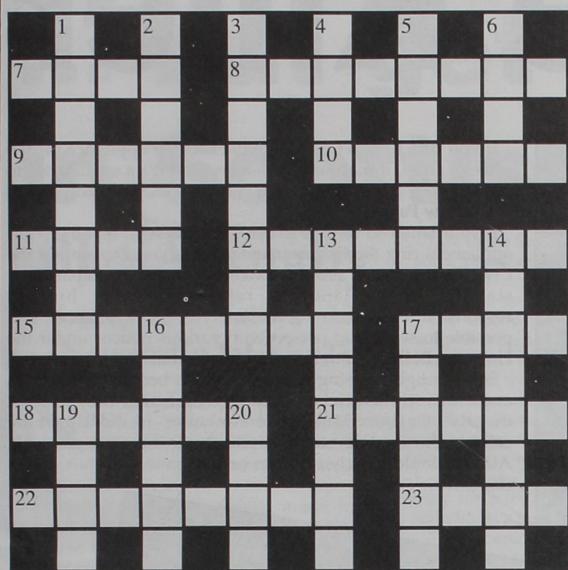
STUDENTS WELCOME

Come and collect your AGI form.
We have a lot of experience
in catering for students' needs

You don't neglect your
education - so don't
neglect your smile!

The Courier Prize Crossword

Compiled by Grazy



Across

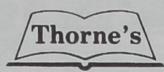
- 7 Mint with a hole (4)
- 8 Courage (8)
- 9 Not dormant (6)
- 10 Returns (6)
- 11 Vaulted recess (4)
- 12 Alluring (8)
- 15 Killer (8)
- 17 Possess (4)
- 18 Indifference (6)
- 21 Pillage (6)
- 22 Secular part-song (8)
- 23 Musical instrument (4)

Down

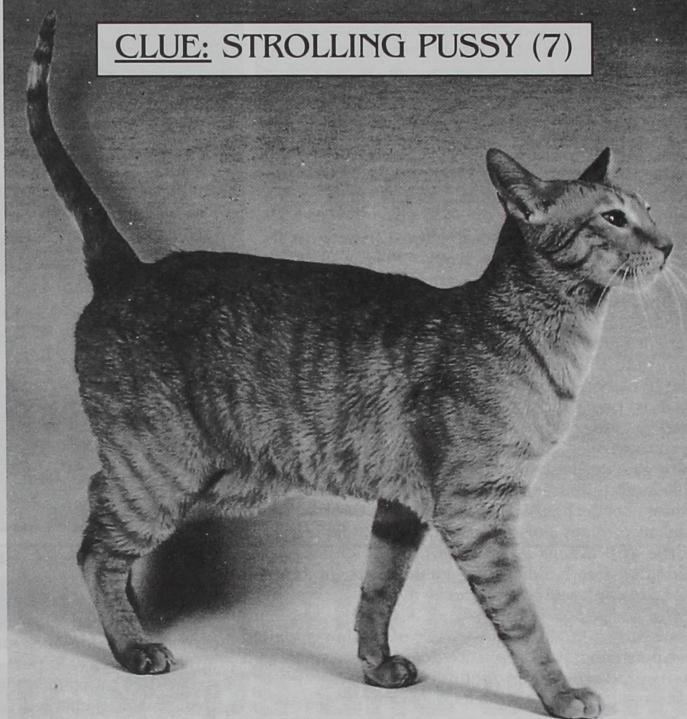
- 1 Ideas (8)
- 2 Apprentice (6)
- 3 Heat resistant cancerous material (8)
- 4 Black and white mix (4)
- 5 Uptum (6)
- 6 Horse farm (4)
- 13 West African Monkey (8)
- 14 Steer (8)
- 16 With the ship's rear first (6)
- 17 Ramshackle dwellings (6)
- 19 Baby's carriage (4)
- 20 Hindu philosophy (4)

Last Week's Winner:
Josie Mayes,
41 Devonshire
Place, Jesmond.
Collect your prize
from *The Courier*
office.

Crossword entries
to be returned to
The Courier office by
2pm on Monday,
November 14, 1994.
The £5 book token
prize is donated by



CLUE: STROLLING PUSSY (7)



Stella Dry



a bottle

week commencing 14.11.94

Saturday 19th November & Sunday 20th

November, 1994, 7.30 p.m.

Kings Hall - Armstrong Building

Tickets on sale

Union Reception - £4

"The Fashion Event of the Year"

The Invisible Killer

by Jill Kidson

The start of a new semester, and for many students the start of a new tenancy. Renting accommodation certainly has its joys – and its pitfalls. However few people would necessarily consider death to be one of these.

Yet statistics reveal that nearly one person a week is fatally poisoned by the gas fire, boiler or water heater in their homes. Figures from 1992 show 140 incidents of carbon monoxide poisoning as a result of faulty gas appliances. Out of these cases a total of 33 deaths occurred.

Only recently the dangers of faulty gas appliances were drawn to the public's attention when seventies tennis star Vitus Gerrilus died from carbon monoxide poisoning. Everyone is at risk, but for students the danger is increased. Many live in accommodation that can hardly be described as palatial – where home safety is not necessarily a top priority.

Yet the fact remains that between 1991 and 1993 four students at British Universities died as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The unerring fact about carbon monoxide remains its difficulty to detect, you can't smell or see the gas – but it is deadly. Those of you who are scientifically inclined will be aware that carbon monoxide poisoning is caused by the formation of Carboxyhaemoglobin. Because the gas forms a permanent bond with the red blood cell it reduces its ability to take up oxygen. Continually breathing in quantities of carbon monoxide will therefore cause a build up of carboxyhaemoglobin. This will prevent the body from carrying the oxygen necessary to respire, therefore causing suffocation.

A faulty gas appliance releasing low doses of carbon monoxide in your house or flat will cause symptoms such as tiredness, headaches, dizziness, and chest pains. The only way to prevent poisoning – and paranoia – is to ensure the appliances in your house are checked – professionally. Gas boilers, fires, cooking appliances and combined fire/boiler units provide the most risks. While age and lack of servicing are top reasons for faults. The main hazard is clearly a gas leak. However inadequate ventilation can cause poisoning. If an appliance does not receive enough air, it will produce carbon monoxide, so always ensure rooms are ventilated and never block air vents.



Potential problems with gas appliances may be indicated by sooty or blackened areas – look above the flames on a gas fire and near the top of a gas boiler. But a quick glance is not enough. The danger of carbon monoxide poisoning remains even if there are no visible signs. Expert advice is always necessary, under the law your landlord is responsible for having gas appliances checked annually. These checks must be carried out by a CORGI, not one of Her Majesty's little darlings, but an engineer approved by the "Council for Registered Gas Installers."

However some landlords can't necessarily be relied upon to do this, if you are not sure the checks have been carried out – ask. If your landlord will not ensure the appliances are looked at, take action yourself.

If you ring British Gas they will check an appliance for the price of £8.74, it may seem expensive, but it's a small price to pay for your life. Alternatively look up a CORGI company in the Yellow Pages.

If your landlord refuses to carry out essential repairs to gas appliances ring the Environmental Protection Division of the Civic Centre. When asked a spokesperson for the department stated, "If the landlord refuses to meet his/her responsibilities concerning the safety of gas appliances, it is possible to serve that person with various notices under the Housing, Building, Public or Environmental Protection Acts."

So although housing horrors such as beetles in the bath and slugs in the kitchen may be disgusting, they are not deadly. Carbon Monoxide however is, so don't be complacent or dismissive, if you think there's a gas leak, ACT, it could save your own or someone else's life.

Take Action HOT List

- Ensure appliances are regularly checked.
- Get expert advice from a CORGI or member of British Gas.
- Don't block air vents in rooms.
- In emergency 'phone British Gas free Hot Line - 2658321.
- Always TAKE ACTION!

Portofino PIZZERIA RESTAURANT
Offers all students on Mon/Tues
Pizza or Pasta from the main menu
+ sweet for only
••• £3.50 •••
Any other time Pasta or Pizza £2.65 and 10% off all main meals
Student Union card required
97 PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE TEL: 261 7276

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MEN'S HAIRSTYLING INTERNATIONAL STYLISTS
Discount to students on production of Union card
142 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
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BALI HOUSE
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277 STANHOPE STREET
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Tel: (091) 226 1726
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK: 12 noon-2 pm - 5.30 pm-12 midnight

- No dickie bow
- No fancy decor
- BIG PORTIONS OF GOOD FOOD AT VERY VERY LOW PRICES**
- Student parties catered for (book in advance)
- Freshly cooked vegetarian dishes
- Free delivery service on orders over £10
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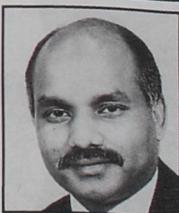
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HUMUNGUS

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A. Latif, Lord of Harpole welcomes you to the

Rupali Restaurant



Best restaurant in the North
Highly recommended by Egon Ronay Guide.

Special lunch: Mon-Sat from 12 noon-2.00pm
Closed Friday lunchtime.

Main course starts from £2.50

Excellent Value especially

EARLY EATERS

Mon-Sat 5.30pm-7.00pm

Sun 7.00pm-8.00pm

Main course from £2.50

10% discount for students
when having meal from à la carte menu.
(Drinks not included - guest not included)

Indian, Tandoori, English,
Vegetarian, Balti and Halal cuisine.

Takeaway service available.

Opening hours
Mon-Sat 12.00 noon-2.00pm, 5.30pm-midnight
Sun 7.00pm-11.30pm

1st XV record victory at last ... but get beaten senseless in Scottish brawl at Kelso

BUSA Rugby

Leeds Met. 1st XV: 12
Newcastle 1st XV: 21

NEWCASTLE gained their first BUSA points of their 1994 campaign in this less than attractive match on a dreary day at Leeds RUFC.

With changes having been made in the second and back rows, as well as at fly-half, because of injury, the early moments of the game were more notable for their dislocation than anything else.

Despite this, Newcastle began to take control of the game and a siege of the Leeds 22 began. This was only punctuated by occasional breaks from defence, largely instigated by the Leeds No 8.

Interrupted by an unnecessary number of penalties, the game struggled to gain any real momentum, until during one of Newcastle's purple patches, when Paul Tinkler, called into the second row in place of the injured James Martin, scored Newcastle's first try.

It resulted from a barrage of forward drives, followed by swift interpassing for a try ten yards wide of the post which afforded Nick Thomson his easiest attempt at goal. He gleefully accepted this chance, having spurned two more difficult kicks earlier in the game.

Late in the first half Leeds began to rally, with some pressure placed on the Newcastle line. Good tackling, however, allowed the university to weather the storm and take an interval lead.

The second half followed a similar pattern, with Newcastle struggling to attain anything like the form of the previous two weeks. Yet the opposition was not as strong as either Durham or Northumbria, and this ensured that the result was never seriously in doubt.

This view was confirmed when Newcastle elected to run a series of penalties, wearing Leeds down to allow Neil Deakin to power over for a try, following Steve Cook's quick thinking at a tap penalty.

Three penalties from Thomson throughout the course of the match had put Newcastle out of reach, although that did not deter Leeds from returning to the Newcastle half for the last minutes of the game, during which they scored two swift tries.

The only worry during these moments, however, was a moment of madness from Cook, who risked his season with some rash bootwork in front of the referee.

The final whistle arrived, and Newcastle were happy to accept the points, which will hopefully act as a base for the remainder of the season. Previous form permitting, this should still have some length to run.

Team: Bingham, Wood, Greenwood, Thomson, Parsons, Allport, Cook; Lamb, Goodfellow, Ferguson, Boyd, Tinkler, Farrell, Emmerson, Deakin.

Neil Deakin

Kelso: 26
Newcastle: 22

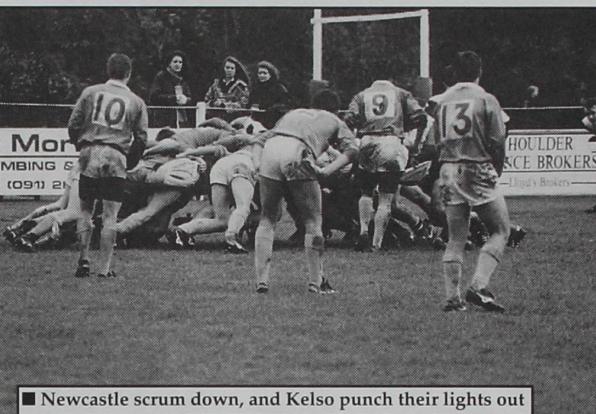
THE UNIVERSITY 1st XV travelled up to Kelso last weekend and saw the ugly side of Scottish borders rugby. With a strong Saturday side out, it was felt that the university held a very strong position.

This was confirmed five minutes into the game, when after two unconverted tries, we led by ten points. It was at this stage that Kelso realised that to obtain a result they were going to have to play more than just a clean game.

The final score of 26-22 in Kelso's favour speaks volumes about the determination of our far younger side in the face of unabated violence.

Throughout the game, refereed in the most amateurish fashion, the liberal use of the Kelso boot and fist, sometimes in perfect combination, managed to reduce our side down to 14 players, with Simon Selkirk and Jem Allport taking early showers and visits to the Kelso hospital.

Allport was dismissed tragically with a punch to the head and a kick to the temple, which started a brawl in the midfield. Throughout the



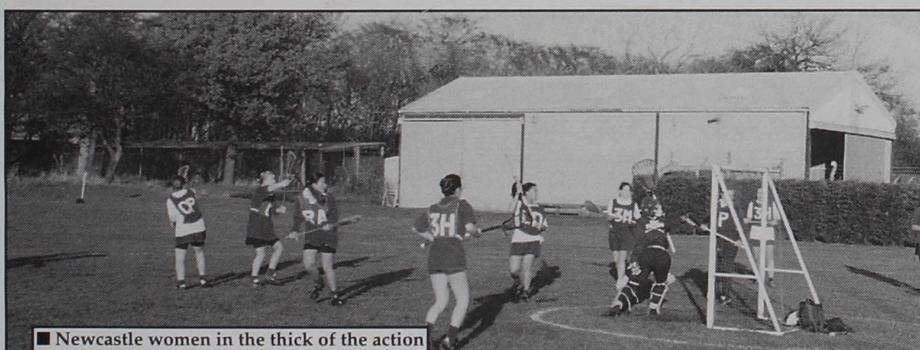
■ Newcastle scrum down, and Kelso punch their lights out

match, consistent punching in the set scrum left two of our front row with broken noses, and it was only through sheer balls that Richard Benson, some twenty years younger than his opposite man, managed to last the full 80 minutes.

With the North versus South Africa fixture last Wednesday raising similar questions, it is high time that a clean distinction is made between aggressive rugby and the illegal behaviour that Kelso and South Africa displayed in these instances.

From a purely selfish point of view, it is not in the university's interests to continue with such fixtures when a higher standard of rugby can be played closer to home. Kelso should be ashamed of themselves.

Six Uni players selected for Northern lacrosse team



■ Newcastle women in the thick of the action

THE NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY lacrosse team travelled down to Leeds last Sunday for a Northern University tournament. Manchester, Leeds and Durham were the other teams competing.

Having arrived just about on time, we raced on to the pitch to enjoy a 5-2 victory over Leeds. Without a break, we continued to play Durham. Despite our embarrassing defeat the week before, we managed to beat them 6-3.

We then waited to play our last match. Having spotted one English international in the Manchester team, we thought that our chances

of winning the tournament were slim. However, we stormed ahead to beat them 7-4, thus winning the tournament.

We then spent two hours in the afternoon trying out for the North lacrosse team. Obviously Newcastle had impressed them sufficiently for them to give six of us a place in the team. We will be going to Liverpool on 26/27th to take part in a tournament.

Those who were selected were Belinda Berkeley, Jo Pollock, Sophie Kent, Nicki Greenlees, Kirsty Ealand (chosen as vice captain of the North), and Sarah Carron-Brown. Kirsty Ealand

Newcastle progress in leaps and bounds

BUSA Women's Basketball
Newcastle: 48
Northumbria: 21

THE USUAL friendly verbal sparring preceded the match against Northumbria as we hitched a lift on their coach to Lightfoot Stadium. Apparently they had a starting five consisting of national, international and American players, with a minimum height of 6 ft, or so their coach and AU President would have had us believe!

However, Newcastle would not be perturbed, and we were ready to take the game to them, which is exactly what we did. The usual combination of Gina Bailey, Jo Dalton and Michelle Grech under the backboards ensured that Newcastle dominated both offensive and defensive rebounds.

This superiority in rebounding also gave us

the advantage of being able to run the fast-break, giving Sarah Allen, making her return to the squad after a year out, and Michelle Tan the chance to pick up some quick points. By half-time Newcastle had a 30-11 lead and we were on a roll!

The second half saw us continue to put the pressure on, this time through Nicki Wright's accurate shooting and Hege Nordahl's persistence in offensive rebounding. At the end of the third quarter Newcastle were ahead by 48-21 and we were looking to make 70 points.

However, it was at this point that Northumbria introduced an original game plan - during the end of quarter time-out one of their lads slambunked the ball and brought half the backboard back down to earth with him.

Luckily, there were no injuries, but it did mean the game had to be abandoned. Fortunately, Northumbria conceded graciously, so we got a well-deserved victory with the added bonus of getting to the bar earlier. All in all, a very successful afternoon.

Team: F.Renkin (2 points), S.Allen (2), M.Grech (16), H.Nordahl (4), E.Wilcox, N.Wright (4), M.Tan (2), J.Dalton (6), G.Bailey (12).

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