

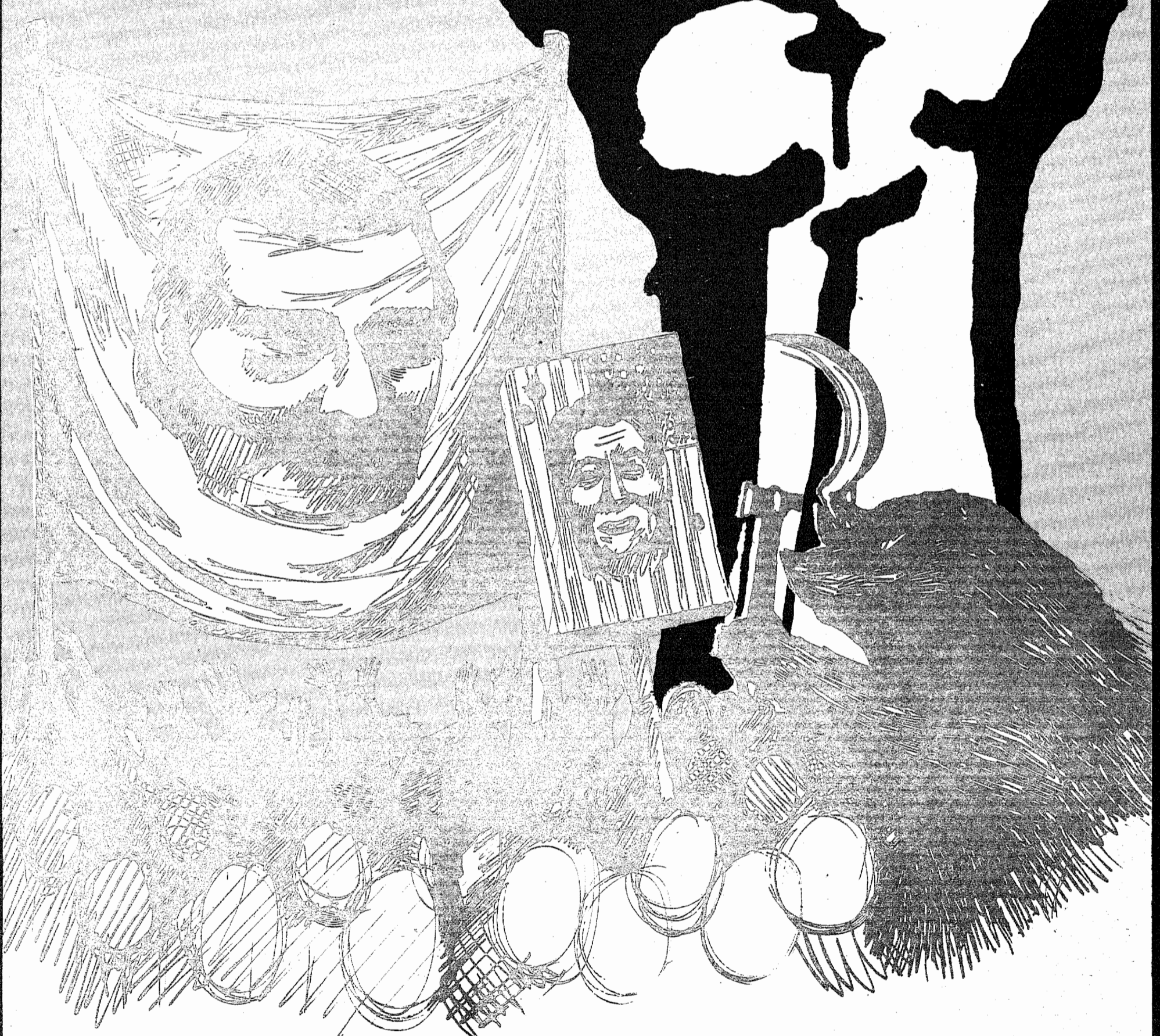
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On dit

newspaper of the students association

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POLAND - a Gap In The Curtain

EDITORIAL

The issue of the week must be, as you are heartily sick of it by this time, the over-dramatised, over televised and over-Americanised shooting of the President of the US. I always said he was a bad actor. America stopped WW2 with the atomic bomb and they looked like they were going to start WW3 with a Ray-gun - until some Neo-Nazi tried to stop it all with a .22 hand gun.

But really, it was an odds on bet that they would interview his next-door neighbour's dog as to how Reagan's incapacitation would affect him. It was interesting, however, joking aside, to note the level of significance that the temporary loss of leadership in the US had. NATO gets nervy and starts asking who is in control, the stock market closes, Haig claims his right to the throne amidst much confusion, and the Academy Awards were postponed. Such fuss! And President Reagan's popularity shoots up after an all-time low in the disapproval rating.

Different theories are floating around as to who really organised it, but the latest around is that it was a CIA plot to boost Reagan's ratings. The evidence for this is that the CIA could never hit from further away than five feet. It was also interesting to note that the now famous quote "I forgot to duck," if followed, would have led to Reagan getting it in the head rather than the chest. Clever thinking! Meanwhile another wave of American patriotism loses its head and reality as they find a new hero.

As for involvement, here we go again on our favourite topic. Wanted - one, two or more sports writers and/or photographers to lift *On dit's* coverage of that area from nix to something.

And, in your criticisms of the content of *On dit*, many of which we accept as justified, please be realistic. Editors in general do not have some mystical ability to assimilate, collect and collate all the differing events that go on - political, international, events on campus or elsewhere. We are not repositories of instant discernment and have only so many days in the week in which to work (seven for us, probably less for you). But please, to criticise, do comment and do come in and see us. If you don't like something, tell us, but at the same time tell us what you do like. We find quite often, however, that we get as many comments for - "Best issue I've ever seen" - as against - "Worst thing I've ever seen". "Too much politics" - "not enough politics" and so on.

Obviously if we bow to pressure from all sides we'll come out with a paper of concessions and schizophrenia. To all those people who signed their name to the fact that they were interested in *On dit* during O-Week and at other times, sorry we haven't contacted you. Please, pretty please, contact us. And as the cry goes out to the far walls of the University to ask the oldies (i.e. two years or more) let's see you heed the call.

To make it easy for you, free tickets are available for the different events in the Australian Drama Festival for budding (or blooming) reviewers. Let's see you pouring into our doors.

Enough of our griping, see you next week.

Paul Hunt
James Williamson

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Letters

Spanner in the Works

Dear Bronco,

I didn't suggest that Jap cars were anything *but* reliable. Studies in the UK suggest that warranty service costs on Datsun products were about 68p (\$1.18) per car, which is incredibly low.

The *Calica* is popular because people like it, not because it's a good car; it's almost the automotive equivalent of a Harold Robbins novel.

As far as the 260Z is concerned, I believe it to have been inferior to the original 240Z, which was something of a sports car. The 260Z was slower and sloppier, and if you don't believe me read *Wheels*, *Autocar* or *Motors* opinion on the matter. Even Peter Burden of the *National Times* agrees that the 280ZX is only for poseurs.

Precisely what Alan Moffatt's choice of car has to do with their quality is beyond me; as it is, the RX7 is a striking 'sporty' coupe that handles well on smooth roads. Aside from its problems with overgearing (cf *Road and Track*), I can't see the machine as anything more than a boy racer's plaything.

Automatic transmissions generally use more fuel than manuals because of frictional losses in the torque converter. Gear changes depend on lots of factors including throttle position, manifold vacuum, output shaft speed vs. input shaft speed, depending on the particular system used. A properly adjusted, or manually held transmission, will change up at maximum revs.

The *Sigma* I drove was definitely slow off the mark, and very leisurely from 80 to 100 kmh. Naturally a manual transmission car would be slightly faster. As far as I'm concerned the *Sigma* sales only point out that the Australian public have been conditioned to accept cars of poor quality. Its fuel economy at high speeds (or lack of it) has been the subject of some concern at the Tonsley Park Mitsubishi factory. The Mitsubishi engineers realize that the car is slow and doesn't like to rev. The silent shaft Astron motor is smooth, but the silent shafts do seem to use a few kilowatts. When the factory started to try and increase engine output the first thing they did was to throw away the shafts, which incidentally tend to fall out of the motor at anything above 6500 rpm.

Japanese cars are substandard, unexciting, well built and competitively priced. Until very recently Australian cars were substandard, unexciting and poorly built. Now they are a bit better and still unexciting. It shifts me right off when people who drive substandard cars aren't prepared to acknowledge that there is anything better. If people want to wank around believing a 280ZX is a sports car, then that's their problem. The sooner the Ford Falcons, Celicas, Datsun, 200B's and Sigmas, Holden 6's, Valiant Chargers and any other motoring throwbacks are relegated to a museum the better.

Frank Spanner

Beat the System

Dear Editors,

I am writing with regard to a letter you published last week (page 3).

I was saddened to hear of the student having to leave university because of financial difficulties, and am well aware of the inequalities in our educational system. However I would urge the student to reconsider his move. For a start, he is not the only one in that position.

I faced the same problems because my father is an invalid pensioner. My father's pension was reduced upon my getting TEAS also. It is frustrating to find that by TEAS standards one is considered a dependent, while the Dept of Social Security considers a student such as myself now as independent.

I have been fortunate in getting a casual job which means I can now reimburse my father for my living expenses. However I realize casual jobs are not always that easy to come by.

Although the student's free medical benefits have been cut, there are free services such as the Royal Adelaide Hospital Outpatients service or the University Health Service. I am not very sure on the following point, but aren't there several financial assistance schemes available at the Uni. including interest-free loans?

If the student earnestly wants to stay at Uni, I'm positive it can be done. I'm sure the student counsellors such as Barry Heath would be glad to talk it over.

Think again and prove the system wrong.

Yours in support,
Catherine Woods

Food Surplus

Dear Sirs,

After lapping up the last edition of *On dit* (Vol 49 No. 5) I was compelled to sit back in stunned silence, and question, "Is this truly the flavour of a student magazine?" The sour conclusion I reached was "No".

In the aforesaid edition of your (since 'our' implies the inclusion of students) magazine, I found over half of its ingredients devoted to the subject of food - a matter which to me is indigestible. Furthermore, the cover of this edition has decoratively emblazoned across it the sickening words "Food Glorious Food" (with complementing illustration). I am shocked and dismayed. How can a publication claiming to be student orientated refer, so openly and frequently, to a sensation which so few students have experienced? Are these piquant articles supposed to condiment our limited knowledge of the subject or tortuously salivating over the matter. I favour the latter recipe - since any student publication of calibre would realize that students can rarely afford nourishment, let alone discuss its relative merits, as has Paul Hunt in his tasteless "Salads Great" article or other seasoned writers too numerous to mention.

I feel that devotion to such matters is in poor taste and could lead to unrest amongst the student population. Editors of this magazine should savour the more palatable matters relating to student life instead of belching forth information ad nauseum on matters of which students have had little or no taste.

Yours Amariudefully,
Marky Markeston
PS. Payment by sandwich.

AUS REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Adelaide University has eight votes at SA Regional Conference. As there were six (6) candidates for the eight votes, an election was necessary to determine which two (2) candidates would have two (2) votes each and which four (4) candidates would have one (1) vote each.

There were 189 valid first preference votes. With eight (8) conference votes to be distributed, the quote was 21.

The first preferences were distributed as follows:

LINDA GALE	51
KEN McALPINE	32
REBECCA KEMMERY	26
ELIZABETH BRUMBY	8
MANDY CORNWALL	51
JULIA GILLARD	21

RESULT - As LINDA GALE and MANDY CORNWALL both obtained more than two (2) quotas (2/9 of the vote), they were both elected with two (2) votes at Regional Conference.

All other candidates were elected with one vote each.

THE PAPER WAR

Dear Paul Klaric,

Thank you for your review of the "Dave Burland" concert held on Monday March 23rd which appeared in *On dit*.

The concert was indeed an excellent one, and I hope that more folk performers can appear on campus in the near future.

I too was disappointed that more students did not attend the lunchtime concert. However, I do take exception to your comments regarding the lack of advertising about the concert. Notice of the concert, plus a photograph was included in the First Term Activities programme which was distributed to every student and staff member of the Union (i.e. over 7,000 copies). Some two hundred handbills were also distributed to interested people in the three Refectories and Union Cellar on two occasions during the preceding week. I personally made announcements with the loud hailer in each of the refectories and on the lawns immediately before the concert.

I had also sent a press release and notice of the concert to *On dit* but they did not run a notice or story before the concert.

I have been concerned now, for a number of years, about the so-called "Paper Warfare" with thousands of posters and handbills being distributed

each week on campus. If we were to produce 200 posters and a thousand handbills for every concert/show and event that was held on campus, we would not be able to see the trees from the forest (if there are any trees left). I think that large quantities of posters should only be used for the larger budget shows. Fewer better quality posters, strategically placed posters, can work more effectively. The release of the Activities programme was designed to alleviate some of the problems of too many posters.

I was not prepared to compromise the quality of the performer by asking him to perform in the Union Bar at lunchtime. We could have claimed a larger audience, although most of them would possibly not be interested, and would have talked throughout the performance.

At least forty people appeared to thoroughly enjoy the concert in the Little Theatre. I also considered the possibility of the performance outside, but there were similar problems concerning presentation, sound and external noise. The Little Theatre is considered one of the best live music venues in Adelaide, and Dave enjoyed playing there. Unfortunately it is a new venue to most students at this stage.

Regards,
Barry Salter
Activities Director

notices

BASICS IN BILLIARDS

Snooker players who aspire to represent the University in the interclub League are required to play billiards in each match as well. A billiards coaching clinic will commence at the University of Adelaide Staff Club on Monday 13 April and will run continuously between 5 pm and 9 pm on each Monday thereafter. Further information can be obtained from Keith Ossenton on extension 2064.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR two undergraduate representatives on the Politics Departmental Committee.

Nominations close 17th April and applications are to be lodged with the Politics Office, 4th Floor, Napier Building, Adel. Uni. Politics Society.

SAUA BY-ELECTONS FINAL RESULTS

Education Vice President

Julia Gillard	153
No Candidate	84
Informal	22
Invalid	3
	264

Julia Gillard is declared elected.

Local AUS Secretary

Kathryn Woods	161
No Candidate	62
Informal	37
Invalid	4
	264

Kathryn Woods is declared elected.

Ordinary Member of the Executive (2)

Mark Jamieson	168
Janet Townend	141
No Candidate	97
Informal	29
Invalid	3
	3

Mark Jamieson and Janet Townend are declared elected.

Women's Officer	
Chris Boutlioufas	149
No Candidate	78
Informal	35
Invalid	2
	264

Chris Boutlioufas is declared elected.

264 Ballots were received as valid.

Nick Runjajic, Returning Officer for the Students' Association By-Election

UNION COUNCIL BY-ELECTION

Preliminary Results

BOWYER, Felicity Jane	131
HEIN, Jennifer	127
JAMIESON, Mark C.	108
KLARIC, Paul	162
MACKAY, Greg	71
MARSHALL, Philip J.	98
MEDLOW, Dennis P.	98
INFORMAL	12
INVALID	2

Don Ray Returning Officer

Examining Assessment

FAIL-SAFE ASSESSMENT

Addressing a crowd of some nine-thousand disgruntled students, Julia Gillard, spokesperson for the Education and Public Affairs Committee, advised those present of their rights concerning assessment and redeemability and, amid wild applause, recommended a sit-in demonstration to protest against alleged violations of those rights ...

... a handful of concerned students gathered in the Activities Office for a meeting of the Education and Public Affairs Committee. Deploring their lack of power due to student ignorance and apathy, those present heard complaints against three offending faculties and mobilised their limited resources to a common end. Brave and bleary-eyed students volunteered for tasks that would have daunted Hercules and Wonder Woman, and no doubt much printed flotsam will collect in student mail-boxes because of it.

Before lobbing the crumpled leaflet into a Napier Building ash-try or adding to the ceiling decoration in the refectory, perhaps it would be in your interest (no, not the bloody rads in the Council, or any other bloody rads - your interest) to read them. What many students do not realise (most notably first year

students) is that assessment should be discussed in the first lecture of first term. The lecturer's bland query of "Any questions about that?" should be interpreted as an opening for discussion on the merits of his/her suggested method of assessment rather than an opportunity for a student with a muzzy interpretation of the world after a hard orientation weekend, to have the lecturer repeat what he/she has already said. Picture if you can, a first year student hot off the PEB production line, standing up to voice his/her doubts and to recommend optional continual assessment or to suggest automatic supplementaries and redeemability of everything submitted for assessment. It's not really on, is it?

The Education and Public Affairs Committee (forever after referred to as EPAC) is a means by which students unhappy with their assessment methods can have their complaints and recommendations heard, and action is possible. Presently concerned with complaints about the Economics, Law and Politics faculties, the Committee is more than willing to hear from students from these and other departments. Any students with specific or general whinges about their course can contact Julia Gillard in the Student Activities Office.

Students studying Economics

IIIA have been presented with a petition in favour of an optional redeemable August Exam and redeemability of essays. At present the assessment consists of a final exam worth 70 percent and two essays worth 30 percent. The essays are not redeemable and supplementaries are not automatic. A faculty-wide circulation of leaflets has been organised and representatives of each subject to issue petitions at lectures are required.

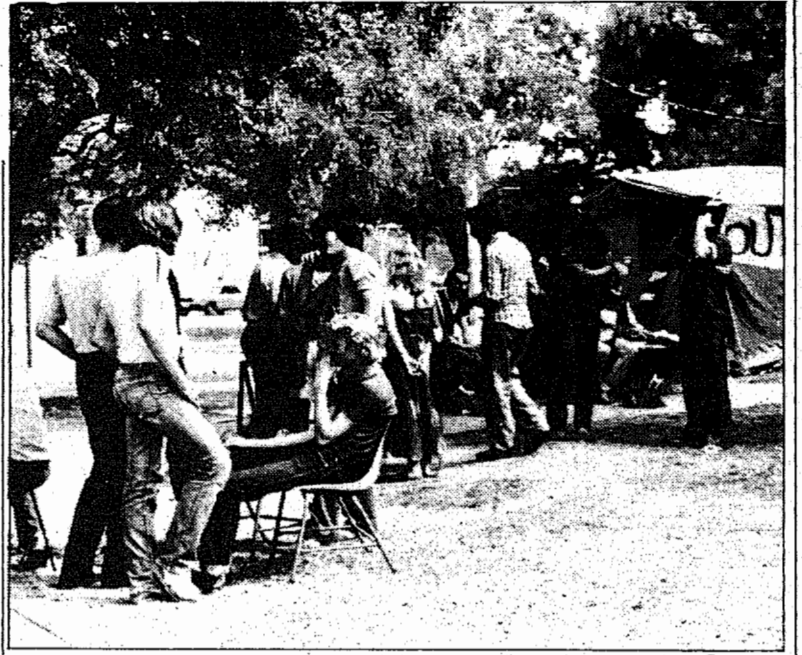
In the Law faculty students protesting about closed-book examinations have managed to force a vote of sorts to determine what form the exams will take. However students in their fourth year of a Law degree have faced threats of lecturer enmity because they attempted to organise student determination of assessment.

Alternative optional assessment methods and automatic supplementaries are possible (and, theoretically, should be the policy of the faculty heads - following the guidelines laid down by the 1975 Assessment Committee) provided enough students indicate that they want it.

Students studying first year Economics (EEI) can contact David Mussared through his pigeon hole on the fourth floor of the Napier Building in the History Department, or Julia Gillard (in Student Activities Office).

Any other enquiries or complaints can be directed to Julia Gillard or EPAC in the Activities Office. It could well be you who fails because you stuffed up a single exam worth 70 percent of the year, and were refused a supplementary exam by the relevant faculty. So if you want to act now to change your assessment method which will be the major factor determining how well you go and how happy you feel this year, act now. COME TO A MEETING on Thursday 9th in the Portus Room at 1.00 p.m. to start organising.

David Mussared and Bill Morton



Born in a tent?

THE LOW-INCOME Housing Action Group (LIHAG) took over part of Victoria Square last week with a 'tent city' designed to highlight the problem of homeless people, particularly the young unemployed. A small collection of tents and some banners and displays were placed to attract the attention of passing motorists and pedestrians to their cause.

The 'city' is a response to the critical housing shortage and suffering faced by many who do not have access to adequate housing, mainly due to lack of income. A report by a State Government working party on the issue estimates that there are over 6,000 homeless youth and makes a number of recommendations. It is these recommendations that LIHAG wants to see fulfilled, including: provision of 300 houses over a three year period for long-term accommodation for young people (16-25 yrs); Emergency Housing Office facilities to be expanded which will require about \$100,000 and expanded funding of youth shelters and accommodation shelters to allow their proper utilisation and greater effectiveness.

While *On dit* was speaking to some of the people at the site, Robin Millhouse rolled up (literally - he was on his suped up 10-speed pushbike) and we took the opportunity to ask him some questions. He felt the demonstration illustrated a lack in fulfilling a need of significance. When asked about

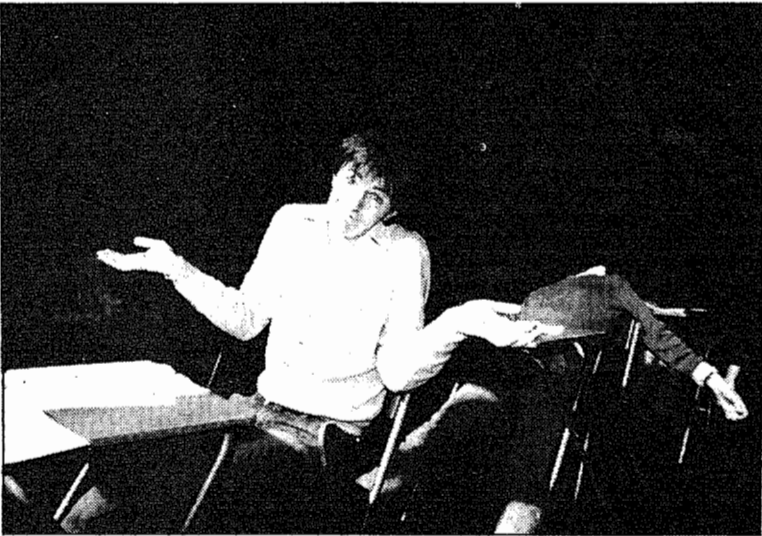
what he was going to do about it he said very little and commented that he was constrained by the fact that Parliament was no longer in session. With this he "pushed-off", returning to his law practice because he is, of course, only a part-time parliamentarian.

The organisers of the tent city say that no permit was asked for and it seems the City Council has ignored them and is hoping they will just go away. The police have apparently been stand offish and have just skirted the edge of the area or peeked at the group from behind the pie cart. They have commented that at least it gives them someone to talk to on nightshift.

The Government is considering the report, which for LIHAG is as good as having it shelved. Urgent action is required to provide a roof for these people to live under besides derelict cars and condemned houses. LIHAG's information leaflet states that the South Australian Government has been aware of the problem for more than two years, and that "Whilst the community has worked hard to convince the government to take action, the government has wasted time and done nothing to assist young people to find housing".

Meanwhile the tent city, under the shadow of the growing Hilton and the empty shell of justice (the old Moores Building) shows that not all is well in this city of churches.

Paul Hunt



TROGDOLYTES

The Students' Association has found there are too many reactionary anti-student academics at Adelaide University. An institution such as this should be able to react to change and in fact be at the forefront of new ideas. To stir things up a bit we've decided to run a competition to seek out those troglodytes, ogres and gnomes amongst the academic staff.

The idea is that you find the troglodyte and let the Students' Association know who it is, with brief reasons why you think they fit the bill. Entries will be published weekly through the pages of *On dit*.

The winner will be presented with the dubious title of SAUA Troglodyte of the Year! Go for your life.

My nomination is another Law School lecturer, Dr James Crawford.

Dr Crawford presides over Constitutional Law II. He has been trying to get rid of open-book exams for the past few years. Last year he gave students a "choice" of open-book or a "modified" open-book exam. The "anonymity" numbers of students were

carefully noted according to which exam they sat, and their papers were then marked.

Now Dr Crawford smugly claims that students who sat "his" exam scored higher than those sitting the open-book (dare we accuse him of discriminatory marking?). On this basis he announced that this year, students would sit "his" exam. That's it, no questions asked! Even though the assessment Committee has now distributed voting papers on the issue (only after student pressure), Crawford announced that students should approach the subject with "his" exam system in mind. He earlier said that he would set an easier paper - provided of course we didn't make waves.

This single-mindedness should be enough to qualify him for nomination, but there is an added bonus; his subject has the highest failure rate in the Law School (40% I believe) which he rationalizes by arguing that it's a difficult "conceptual" subject. Perhaps he finds it difficult to teach? The textbooks are easy enough to understand but his lectures are not so easily understood.

Anonymous Law Student No. 2



ANOTHER PERFECT troglodyte for the *On dit* competition, Dr Merv Lewis, is a lecturer in charge of Economics IIIA, who refused to allow students to go to a meeting of staff which was discussing the assessment in that course. An overwhelming majority of students had signed a petition requesting an optional redeemable August exam, but Dr Lewis refused to allow students to present the case for this exam at the staff meeting. When asked if students would be allowed to vote on any change to assessment made by the staff meeting, he said, "This isn't a democracy. If it was students would be assessing themselves".

Essays Required

ALL STUDENTS with copies of their first year essays wanted!

The Students' Association Essay Library needs essays of any standard for use by first year students. Access to essays completed in previous years can help current students judge the standards expected of them and how they should approach their work.

You can rest assured that we are not setting up a formalised source of plagiarism. As academics will have access to the essays any attempts to plagiarise will be easily detected.

The English Expression Tutors have condoned the scheme. Students helping other students is a great way to learn.

So rest assured that any contributions will be to a respectable scheme. All we need is a photostat copy so

your prized originals will be returned. Your name will not be shown on your essay so will remain completely anonymous.

Essays should be brought to the Students' Association, c/o Mandy Cornwall, or any other member of the SAUA Executive.

After Hours

LIFE DOESN'T END AT 5.00 P.M.

The Students' Association will be open until 8.00 p.m. on Tuesdays as of this week.

Part-time students can therefore have after-hours access to services which include AUS cards, essay library, Legal Aid, Work Action, Accommodation, education information and current campaigns and activities of the Association.

If there proves to be a further demand for late-opening we will extend it to other nights during the week.

See you Tuesday!!



CATWOMAN STRIKES

Screams of agony, squeals of delight, and some very strange noises emanated from the offices of *On dit* last Thursday. Was it editor James Williamson executing his revenge on fellow editor Paul Hunt? Could some strange illness have turned the entire *On dit* team mad? No (what an anti-climax), it was the arrival in the *On dit* office of a batch (or is it a litter?) of feral kittens.

The kittens' source was the 'bushland' of trees and shrubs outside the organic chemistry labs. A team of enthusiastic Zoology III people were busily catching snails for a "capture/recapture" experiment (they want to mark them with nailpolish - actually it's a subversive plot to make all snails in the University wear 'frosty white' or 'ravishing red') when

they discovered a cave-like structure in the midst of a bush. Investigating further they found the kittens and then proceeded to remove them from the bush (not without injury to the would-be rescuers). No mother or father was to be found. Immediately a news-starved *On dit* team raced out with camera and typewriter to record the event. Subsequently the kittens were brought to the *On dit* office.

Paul Hunt, trying to be a nice guy, provided a box for the kittens to be put in, thus avoiding any more rending of clothes that was occurring at the time by some over-curious kittens. It was interesting to note that Paul placed an edition of *On dit* on the bottom of the box. Isn't it wonderful what you can do with a copy of *On dit*.

About this time conservationist and part-time Activities Assistant Maureen Sadler, wandered in and noticed the commotion. Her comments were to suggest that the kittens be returned to their mother. (By this time I too had become interested in the proceedings and had wandered outside to look at their home. Inside was a very annoyed and very large Ferrel cat. I did not feel like doing a Harry Butler act and putting my hand inside to fetch her/him in to accompany the kittens. It was safer back at the office.) In the end the kittens were replaced and everyone wandered off, the excitement over, and the editors happy that this story will provide some more action-packed thrills for their paper.

THE PRES.



IT'S BEEN SO long since the last President's column appeared in *On dit*, I feel I almost need to introduce it all over again. Basically I intend to let students in on issues I've been dealing with so that you're informed and aware of what's going on around the hallowed walls of the SAUA.

Last week was reasonably interesting for tertiary students. In the build up to the release of the Tertiary Education Commission's recommendations for funding for the next three years, many students were led to believe that fees would be reintroduced. There were no real surprises though. Our expectations were already so low that not much could disappoint us. For a fuller report on what the TEC had to say, see *On dit* next week.

A clear pattern of the government's attitude to education was borne out in the document. Although there were no indications of the possibility of fees being reintroduced, there will be no funding to facilities such as child care and non-collegiate housing, clearly excluding all but the wealthy students. Colleges of Advanced Education were clearly the

major losers, with funding priorities going to the more elite tertiary institutions.

In the meantime Adelaide Uni. has been looking at ways it will cope with the expected cuts in funding. Anything from closing down the University to retrenching academic staff have been thrown about the committee tables under the guise of "Budget initiatives". Obviously students should be a part of the decisions on future education in this University. Yet it's hard enough to get the information out of them on what they are doing, let alone the chance to have a say in it. For next week's *On dit* I'll attempt to decipher and translate what they've had to say so far. There will be a general student meeting to discuss the proposals next Thursday, so keep an eye out for it. We may need to use the power of numbers to be heard on this issue.

A couple of incidents about the place in recent weeks have indicated that there are more male chauvanists around than I thought. It makes me think that the Students' Association should adopt a policy of positive discrimination in favour of women, just to balance things a bit! If you have any ideas on this, let me know.

While we're talking about thinking, all students who haven't submitted their first year essays to the essay library yet should make sure they do by the end of the week!

Remember, if you have any ideas or would like to see the Students' Association take up a particular issue, come and see me in the Students' Office. If I'm not there, see one of the nine other SAUA Executive members.

Mandy



Bilbo

Bilbo is a happy, hopping little hobbit this week with stories coming out of the woodwork. Remember that even ears have walls and Bilbo can always use more information.

FEES ARE ON THE CARDS

Education isn't very free at the University of Adelaide as Bilbo has found out. One lecturer in Chemistry is not happy with the fact that many of his students choose to attend his 9 a.m. lectures and clog up the aisles rather than attend alternative lectures. So, he decided to institute a system where students are required to present an issued card to attend the popular lecture. Such is the importance of this lecture to some students that the black

market has the cards at \$5 each and there is talk of printing 1000 copies and distributing them.

Bilbo wonders whether the Government will adopt this scheme for rationing education, getting the "users" to pay.

FLINGING A THONG?

Regular readers will recall Bilbo's mention of (now ex-) AUS Secretary Ken McAlpine having a thong in the midst of his filed papers. Well, that's been changed now - the filing baskets have gone, Ken is no longer AUS Secretary, but his papers are still there, and the thong remains the same.

SPA'S A JOKE

Bilbo noted the excellent timing of the Taurina Spa advertising campaign announced on April 1st to regain the sales lost when the mineral water was taken off the market six weeks ago following a scare about its radium content.

A notable thing about the campaign is the use of a "Lady Di" look-alike which was not accepted by the advertising watchdog body until the company put across the screen the words "DO NOT BE MISLED. THIS IS NOT THE REAL LADY DI."

Bilbo suggests that if it were, and the mineral water did contain radium, then we could see the real Lady die.

WHAT DO YOU PUT IN THE SQUARE HOLES?

Elections are tough for many candidates, but some find it more difficult than most. Bilbo heard of one (eventually

successful) candidate, Mark Jamieson, who needed three attempts to lodge a valid vote.

Bilbo has heard a rumour that there is the possibility of an intelligence test for all candidates before elections. Then Mark might not need to vote.

Of course, Bilbo could see the need for astute people such as Mark on both the Students' Association Executive and the Union Council, because it's sometimes difficult to know who's doing what.

Bilbo doesn't have a story about \$1000 of oddly-allocated funds; it's closer to \$350. It seems that early in the year the Union Executive Officer, David Muir, decided, without proper consultation, that the Student Activities Office needed an acting office manager to fill the gap between the departure of the old and the appointment of the new. David even decided who this should be and didn't even tell the Students' Association President what was going on.

Bilbo is sure that more will be heard on this, not so much about the allocation of the money, which is within the Executive Officer's powers, but about who should be making the decisions about what the students need.

UNKIND CUT

The joint-election of people for vacancies in both the Students' Association and the Union caused some problems as

there were two returning officers, one ballot paper and the votes had to be counted separately. The simple solution was that the ballot paper could be cut in half and the returning officers could count their respective sides.

However, there was a small problem. Not only were the papers divided, the Students' Association part had a significant portion removed with an extra cut.

The guillotine operator was Union returning officer Don Ray, who has had some years' experience with the machine, until he resigned as Students' Association president last year.

No votes were invalidated but the counting was made much more difficult, especially as the mis-cut portions were not found until Don Ray was found.

Bilbo wonders whether this is the cut and thrust of Student politics that is sometimes mentioned.

Bilbo noted a letter received by the Students' Association from the Malaysian Union of Students in Australia.

It started with the words that this campus had an above-average proportion of Malaysian students.

The only problem was that the letter had been roneed and seemed to have been sent to most campuses.

NO SECRETS

Bilbo wonders about the motives of ex-Australian Union of Students' Regional Organiser, Larry O'Loughlin, in moving a motion of no confidence in AUS

Executive members, Ken McAlpine and Howard Glenn.

It seems that it was suggested that the AUS Regional Conference, a meeting to which Executive members report, was not being told enough about what happened in and around an 'in camera' or confidential session of the AUS Executive.

Bilbo would like to suggest that if Larry just wants to know what's going on he should just sit in the Adelaide University Student Activities office where Ken and Howard will go into much more detail than was apparently told at the AUS meeting.

Of course Bilbo can't tell what was heard about the meeting because it was 'secret'.

Bilbo wouldn't like to let a week go by without mention of the *On dit* editors, but this week it isn't them who's doing the funnies.

The AUS Regional Organiser, Howard Glenn told the above-mentioned meeting of AUS that the *On dit* editors had agreed to put aside the cost of one edition of their (read: the Students' Association) newspaper to go towards the production of a state-wide student newspaper.

It now seems that although the editors and Howard had discussed the idea and the editors even saw some merit in it, there was no agreement, at least by the editors.

However, Bilbo can now tell the editors that sometime in April they will not put out an *On dit* but will instead assist with a newspaper for all campuses.

UNION COUNCIL

at it again

THE UNIVERSITY, as you probably know, has a large extra-curricular component - large in the amounts of building space, student time, and money devoted to extra-curricular activities. Responsibility for these lies ultimately with Union Council, the body of representatives that distributes the Union fee and controls the use of assets accumulated with it. Most extra-curricular activities on campus have some sort of financial dependence on this council.

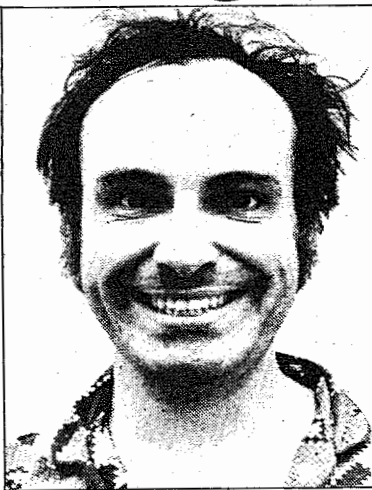
Last week's by-election attracted some 3% of the electorate (about 8,600). Surely if so few people vote, even fewer people will be interested in the actual goings-on of this council. But perhaps more people would vote if they knew what they were voting about. Perhaps.

Union Council holds monthly meetings between which standing committees supposedly deal in detail with narrower areas, formulating resolutions to be put before these meetings. Thus when Council meets, Councillors must have previously familiarised themselves with a massive amount of information. To understand the meetings requires familiarity with all of this and the ability to stay awake through the six hours that they always seem to last. The latest meeting (Mon. 30th March) was no exception. My brief notes took twenty pages. The Minutes Secretary wrote eighty. Obviously Council meetings are not the sort that a casual observer could drop in on to find out what is happening to their Union fee, although all students are free to sit in and try. I've been trying to find out this year what this group of people is getting up to, and I'm just starting to perceive the first few clues.

Scheduled for 5.30 p.m., the meeting opened fourteen minutes late with the usual apologies and confirmation of minutes, followed by announcement of modified rules of debate - to try to get it all over with a bit more quickly than usual.

The first business was to consider recommendations of the Catering Management Board. But to my great shock and surprise, Council did not merely "rubber-stamp" these. When Peter Maddern (Chair of CMB) suggested removing electronic games machines from the games room, some Councillors emphasised the income while others listed the difficulties. The motion to remove the machines then failed - astonishing! Just eleven days before, I had seen the CMB concur that they had to go. Even I was convinced. After much further wrangling, Simon Maddocks (CSC Chair, etc.) suggested that the House Committee look at it. Kerry Hinton (Union Council Chair) wanted it referred to the CMB. Finally Andrew Frost said that the Planning Committee should review it. When the merriment subsided, a motion was passed to keep the machines. David Muir (Union Council Secretary) agreed (reluctantly) that he would keep them there - unless the Bar licence was put in jeopardy.

Thus was I privileged to see a contentious issue resolved, if uneasily. But more privileges



were in store. The sun had just set and the meeting was not to finish until 12.14.

Peter Maddern went on to report good sales by the Catering Department so far this year, and the plans to consider low alcohol beer for the bar. Andrew Frost commented that Queensland students got stropo [my choice of words] when they discovered the taps had been changed over without telling them.

Peter then raised the matter of the controversial Wholefoods Report, suggesting that *On dit's* coverage was unfair because Council thought it had extracted a promise not to print, and expressing regret that only two Councillors came to a special meeting called to discuss the subject [and I thought all student politicians were fanatical].

Andrew Frost said that Ron Kendall (the controversial Wholefoods Cook) had been asked specifically to comment on the controversial areas that he had, thereby correcting an impression passed on in an earlier *On dit* article (p. 5, 30/3/81).

If you think this is all too trivial to have a place in *On dit*, you're right, but remember that this is just a brief summary of brief notes. To actually sit through it all is far more painful than reading this article, especially if you have a bad cold and have better things to do.

Anyway, several people tried to get figures on how Catering was being run and were told that not much information was available. Barry Heath said the Bar sound system was disturbing the work of people like himself and that even Bar customers didn't like it so loud. Someone mentioned knocking down the Portus Room partition. Then time for dinner for Councillors, and chocolate-flavoured milk for me. The half hour meal break lasted from 7 pm till 8 pm.

Once back, everyone dithered over whether *On dit* should get money for "fonts" (sort of a slide show for people who like different print styles - eds.) so that they could print headlines cheaply. That is, except for Mandy Cornwall (SAUA President, champion of justice, etc.), who couldn't understand why *On dit* had been given such bad treatment by Council (permission to buy fonts, then no permission, etc., etc.). After much more dithering [I hate to use emotive terms, but I don't think you would have disagreed with me in this case], *On dit* effectively got their fonts. So if this paper soon has slightly better-looking headlines, you'll know why.

Discussion then turned to conscientious objection,

funding cuts, child care, a proposed essay library (and whether or not the Education Research Officer's reputation would be besmirched by association with it), a proposed Education Information Kit for activists, an Industrial Award, some legal matters (about Gallery lights, I think), air conditioning and staff meals. In camera (i.e. while visitors like myself waited outside in a cold corridor) some boring industrial matter was dealt with.

Then they were at it again: would a Health Food store fit on Level 4 of Union House next to the Bookstore? Could the Union afford to air condition its office workers? Should the Union's administrative structure be altered? Should the student representative to the Education Committee be paid \$90/month or the going TEAS rate to compensate for time lost to the job of representing? At 12.04 Nick Murray [don't ask me who he is] got up to make coffee, simultaneously moving that the motion be put (on the \$90/month issue) because it was so late and he wanted to go home. Nobody supported his motion. Similarly at 11.50, Andrew Frost had tried to defer the question till next meeting.

Perhaps as a result of her eloquent speech in favour of pragmatism and the natural resilience of the enthusiastic activities or because everyone wanted to go home in a hurry, Mandy Cornwall's \$90/month motion won, despite apparently concerted opposition by Councillors with a certain political affiliation in common. Has Union Council become politicized? Can we trust these people? Are our Union fees safe? Find out in the next exciting episode of the adventures of Union Council.

Alan Kennington



Anyone for Golf?

TINA, A FRIEND'S German Shepherd, is a frisbee freak. Won't go anywhere without it. I used to think she was unusual until I met Brian Allen and Mark Powers from the Australian Frisbee Association. It seems hundreds of dogs compete for prizes in the States in many frisbee events.

For the two legged enthusiasts there'll be a display

by Mark and Brian on the Barr Smith Lawns Tuesday 7 April between 1 and 2 p.m. Then a chance to compete in a new game - frisbee golf! It's played like ball golf. Players throw from a tee, curve round hazards and hole-out by hitting natural objects or rubbish bins, light poles etc. Come along and improve your own golf game or learn how to handle a frisbee.

Health Store Proposal

AT THE MOMENT the Planning Committee of Union Council is considering what to do with the space between the Student Travel Office and the Chemist Shop on the Fourth Floor of the Union Building (you know, on the level below the Bar).

A suggestion that the space be turned into a bulk health-foods store has been proposed. This store would sell foods like bulk grains, honey and organic vegetables. There are only two other stores in Adelaide selling

this type of food and it is envisaged our store would be able to undercut them.

If you have other suggestions for the space or you agree with this one, contact Julia Gillard in the Student Activities office or David Muir in the Union Office, and make your opinion known. You can also attend the next Planning meeting on Wednesday 15th April at 1.00 p.m. in the Union Office. Julia Gillard

Walk off starvation

EVERY DAY, 10-15,000 people die of starvation. At the present time 450 million of the world's people are undernourished. In 1970, in the Third World, 434 million people had insufficient protein energy to live a barely normal life: and 50% of the children in these countries suffered from inadequate nutrition.

These facts and figures were printed in articles in last week's *On dit*. If you did not read them you have probably seen or heard very similar statistics somewhere else.

We know about these things, but they are like the hum of the traffic on North Terrace to someone who never left the University grounds; we know all about it, and we know it's always there, but it's so remote from our daily life that it never engages us more than superficially. To be told there are X millions of starving people in India, is like being told the sun will burn itself out in X millions of years - it's too distant to touch our lives. So we can dismiss it just so easily.

Sometimes we rationalise to ourselves by saying that there is nothing we can do. But this is false. There is a lot we can do - starting this Sunday in fact. This Sunday - April 12th - is the day of the annual Community Aid Abroad Walk Against Want.

What is the Walk Against Want?

It is an Australia-wide Walk-athon which aims at raising money for CAA projects among the poor and powerless of our world. The money raised in 1981 will go to the following projects:

- to send urgently needed medical teams to Somalia for the thousands of refugees from the war in Ethiopia.
- to construct a medical clinic in the desperately poor Andhra Pradesh region of India.
- to develop viable small scale industries, such as fish-farms, for landless villagers in Southern Bangladesh.
- to double food production in an area of Sri Lanka by re-building a 2,000 year old dam that will irrigate 700 hectares.
- to expand the facilities at Yipirringa: a school for Aboriginal children in Alice Springs.

The principle of the money-raising is that people undertake to pay a certain amount of money for each kilometre that you walk - they 'sponsor' you. So the further you walk, and the more people sponsor for you, and the more sponsors you have, the more money you raise.

The basic route is from John Martins Car Park in the City to Morialta and back (30 k). You can do just half the walk to

Morialta if you wish. The official starting time is 9.00am but you can leave any time up to 10.30am. The route will be clearly marked and there will be plenty of other walkers. The day, remember, is this Sunday - the 12th. So rush in and get your sponsorship form now! - from any Coles, New World or K-Mart store - or from the Student Activities Office. The form contains further information.

What is Community Aid Abroad?

Briefly, CAA is an Australian organisation which exists to assist the people of the Third World in their battle to overcome the poverty and injustice which cripples their lives. This it does in a number of ways - through fund-raising for self-help projects (such as some of the ones mentioned above), through supporting the poor's own struggles for justice, by research and public education about the economic and political roots of under-development. If you are really worried about world starvation on a massive scale, then CAA is something you should get into. For further information contact CAA at:

19 Austin Street,
Adelaide 5000
Tel. 223 3369/223 1782.

Andrew Gleeson

Justice and Peace



NOT BEING A particularly religious or political person I was rather dubious at the thought of writing a report on a talk about non-violent communities and their struggles against the violence of the social and political systems of the modern Western world. After fifteen minutes on Monday I sat in the North Dining Rooms trying to look calm and confident until finally the talk commenced at 1.15 p.m. Much to my relief Barbara Clements, who was invited by the Catholic Community to deliver this talk, made a lot of fascinating and simple comments about activist communities operating in the US and France.

To begin with Barbara explained the types of political dissent that exist today and in case you are as ignorant as I am about politics, I'll repeat them. 'Liberal' dissent is a courteous, traditional form of disagreement involving such methods as petitions which can easily be ignored. But to be an activist one must have a deep sense of objects of concern, never forgetting the sufferings and exploitation of people. Most resistance communities live in areas of intense suffering and their non-violent struggles are not gentle but are in the heart of violence. They lead a life of paradox and tension which is certainly not pleasant. There are two distinct types of activists. There are the activists struggling for power, and those who struggle because of their compassion, pity and love.

Daniel Berrigan, a Jesuit priest and leading figure in the American resistance to nuclear armament and warfare, was the first activist Barbara described. Daniel opposes the consumer system in which a man works to pay off a house and essential

luxuries needed to conform in today's Western world and doesn't work for the joy of work. He appeals to the American nuclear family realizing that although many families may have the hearts for resistance, they are tied to the system and cannot effectively resist. In dividing society into small units which spend their energies just surviving and bringing up children, the system has conquered it. During the Vietnam period Daniel had two aims; one, to provoke families to look at the core of their existence and two, to offer alternatives and hope in a time of turmoil and war. His No to death is a Yes to life.

Associated with Berrigan is the Jonah House Communities, whose sole target is the Pentagon. Resistant activities include simple actions such as digging up the lawns surrounding the Pentagon and planting roses and vegetables, thus representing their aim of working for life and not death. Other activities involve spilling their blood on the steps and plaza area of the Pentagon, praying silently in the vicinity and blocking gateways so visitors can't get in. The Jonah House Community has some form of resistance going on at the Pentagon for three hundred and sixty five days of the year. Because the activists often go to jail, married couples with children carefully co-ordinate their actions so that there is always one responsible adult taking care of the community's children.

The Community of the Ark in France is based on Ghandi's theory of non-violence in the community. They live as free and sovereign people avoiding linkage with the state and acting independently from it. They follow the anarchist traditions of self rule, opposing

the centralized system, and believing that everyone should have a chance to rule, and be ruled only by those they respect. The further the distance between the ruler and the ruled, the greater the possible moral dangers.

Members of the community lead marches and campaigns, undergo assault and imprisonment in their opposition to militarism. They live by working the earth, and crafts supply their other needs. They lead lives of great simplicity, treating man and nature with respect. They believe there is no need for war, misery, slavery, revolution and policemen. They come to terms with their weaknesses in prayer and conversation, in the light of their faith and spirituality. They believe you must know and possess yourself before you can give yourself; you must be before you act. This community has great self-discipline, self-control and compassion, emphasizing celebration in a more ritualized but equally joyous manner.

The Community has been successful in many of its actions; for example, a truck-load of sheep with "save the Larzac" painted on their backs was deposited on the clean formal lawns under the Eiffel Tower. When the truck left, nobody knew what to do with the sheep and the incident attracted world press. Another successful resistance action has been achieved by agricultural co-operatives, who have bought land in strategic positions, thus halting the Army's plans for acquiring more land for military exercises.

Barbara concluded her talk by mentioning that there is no such resistance group in Australia. No one here has yet had the imagination and deep trust in other people to form such a community.

I don't think I'll ever have activist tendencies but I feel happier to think that there are compassionate, humane people in this world who really believe they know what life is all about. Maybe it is just an idealized way of life that couldn't possibly work for everybody but it works for some people, so let's not begrudge them their fulfilment. One doesn't have to be non-violent to believe in peace and appreciate what these activists are doing.

If you are interested in coming along to any of the talks on non-violence, there will be at least two more, on Mon. 13th April (North Dining Room) and Mon. 27th April (Little Theatre). Keep an eye out for posters around the campus for more details.

Amanda Rogers.

Comprehensive information about which bands are playing where, can be gained by listening to 531 khz between 10pm and midnight on Thursday nights. Nick X's film review (occasionally helped by the Unknown Reviewer) can be heard *Thursday* at 10.30pm.

On the final night of the week, you can play music programmer by ringing 223 3699 and requesting your favourite tracks.

The Co-directors would like to hear your response to the programmes. If you're not in the habit already, begin listening week nights between 10pm and 1am to Student Radio, today. **Student Radio**



Radio Ripoff

ON SATURDAY night (March 28th) Student Radio ran a moderately successful show in the Bar.

Student Radio has two very strong reasons for running shows in the Bar. The first priority like in Student Radio's programming and outside recording work, is to support Australian bands and to provide good entertainment as cheaply as possible for students.

So in organising the Bar nights the bands are paid a good flat rate, and they are provided with a quality sound system and light show, all of these costs being taken up by Student Radio. Extra costs are also incurred when we record or take bands live to air.

On the 28th as the interstate band we had intended to get did not come through, and other local bands were not available, we hired a 72 in. video screen to provide continuous entertainment for students. Costs involved here amounted to \$685 before any profit could be made.

This brings us to our second priority - to make some money. A casual look at the Students' Association allocation to Student Radio reveals that the Budget is \$8,000 which seems to be quite reasonable.

However, what is probably not realised is that \$7,700 of this is paid to Radio 5UV so that we have our access time (10pm - 1am on week nights). This in fact leaves an inordinately small budget of \$300 for one year's operation.

It is only through running Bar nights that Student Radio can get money to expand and improve. Last year profits earned allowed Student Radio to have a land line put in from the Bar to enable live to air broadcasts. It also went towards buying a multicore, which enables direct off stage sound to come to our mixing desk for recording or broadcasting.

This piece of equipment, which we are still paying for, has recently been valued at \$2,300, adding another valuable asset to both Student Radio and Union equipment holdings. Herein is the rub (as

Shakespeare might have said) for the last two shows, out of our profit the 10% of the door take which goes to the Union has amounted to over one-third of the profit worked for.

While the Union has justified this on several grounds, it seems to be perpetuating rather false divisions between its own areas of operation. Student Radio provides all the labour and effort to put on the shows as well as 500 people to drink at them, providing the Bar with a profit. The Union costs all areas separately - activities in one budget, Bar profit in another (in fact all the Bar profit is doing is subsidising an already over priced catering service).

One can reasonably understand that in the case of clubs, who often rely on the Activities Officer to do much of their organising, and whose profits are not directly recirculated back for the benefit of the Students' Union, should be passing some money back to the Union to cover costs.

However in the case of Student Radio, which is ultimately only an autonomous subdivision of the Union, the argument does not seem to hold.

As mentioned above, when Student Radio raises enough money for its running costs, the surplus goes into equipment expenditure. At the moment we (or the Union) now own over \$9000 worth of equipment enabling us to produce quality band recordings and live to air broadcasts. The last purchase of a mixing desk compatible with the rest of the equipment, was recently costed at approximately \$11,000. It will eventually save us between \$40 and \$60 in hiring fees every time we do outside work. Once we have this, Student Radio (and hence 5UV) will be the only public radio station in Adelaide to own all the necessary equipment for live broadcasts and recordings. It will be no thanks to the Union if we ever do manage to raise the money to buy it.

Student Radio Co-ordinators Nonee Walsh, Trevor John

Radio Program

STUDENT RADIO is an access programme on Radio 5UV (531 khz). Each week night from 10pm till 1am students present a wide range of innovative music, details of campus activities and a coherent student view of life, the universe and everything. Which brings us to our nightly features.

Monday's show includes a programme called "Do Not Erase". This is a fifteen minute feature on a local band, including their music and an interview with the band-

members. Tonight (6th April) you can hear *Safari Set*.

News from the Australian Union of Students can be heard at 10.30 on *Tuesday* nights. At 11pm on the same night you can learn how to see the universe on 30 Altarian dollars/day by listening to Douglas Adam's "Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy".

Social saviour, Vincent Wong offers some insights to the world's events during *Wednesday's* Student Radio show.

O-Ball Ideas

ORIENTATION BALL MEETING

WHAT DID YOU think of the O-Ball?

- Too big?
- Good bands?
- Too many people?
- Bar facilities too limited?
- Not very "orienting"?
- Like to see more like it?
- Any ideas you have on the

sort of show the O-Ball should be in the future will be welcome at a meeting to be held Thursday 9th April at 5.00 p.m. in the Student Activities Office.

If you can't make it to the meeting let us know what you think by putting it on paper or come in and see SAUA President, Mandy Cornwall.

Motor Show: conformity plus

MOST YEARS I go to the motor show, and most years I walk out disappointed. Why? Mainly because I get depressed at what's on offer. Every year brings a new crop of cars that seem to strive ever closer to total conformity. Besides that, for \$2 you get very little more than the right to stand and stare at a succession of locked cars.

"Can I help you sir?" croons the salesperson as I desperately look for a means of entry to some car that looks vaguely interesting. What can I say? That I can't raise the deposit to purchase the fanbelt and I just want to get \$2 worth of vicarious experience?

Time was the cars would have light placed in them so you could examine the interior. Now a few vague details are visible. OK so the distributors don't want their cars wrecked, but surely the idea of a motor show implies more than just gawking. Even a raised bonnet here and there would be appropriate; it would save all that undignified crawling on the floor.

But, I digress. Cars. That's what all this is about. Well, there weren't many surprises, or much excitement in the new car lineup - that is in anything that is vaguely affordable and available here. The anaemic Fiat X-19 (especially in ADR27a form) and the brilliant Alfasud Ti and Sprint enliven what is otherwise a very dull marketplace. Unfortunately all three are overpriced at \$10,590, \$12,990 and \$11,308 thanks to the import duty slug.

Nevertheless the Sud Ti still strikes me as reasonable value. A real work of art, the Sud is spoilt by its variable build quality, some penny pinching detailing and ADR 27a. Without our tariff wall the Ti would be competing with cars like the Laser S and upmarket versions of the new breed of Japanese small cars. Looked at this way, the Sud is incomparable, and one wonders how long it will take the others to catch up. Not only does it have more interior room than any of them, it also has an extremely clever suspension system, unmatched steering and Italian brio. When it prematurely subsides into a rusting heap you can still admire its brilliant design.

The strangled X-19 in its five speed 1290cc guise is really too slow to be a proper sports car, but it does try hard. Like the Alfasud, it suffers from annoying detail design faults (what Italian car doesn't?) but at least you can take the roof off. The 1500cc 5-speed version is now available in Europe and might make it here at some stage; I wish the Abarth version could, but ADR27a rears its ugly head again. Well, not entirely ugly. I don't want to get poisoned either, but it does seem to discriminate against small capacity cars which, importantly, use less petrol. The Australian regulations are out of step with the rest of the world, which means that we don't get certain cars, or we get a compromise. For instance VW Golf and Passat petrol engines were common for Australia and Sweden. Sweden's regulations

are even tougher than ours, so we lost a few more horses here and there. The other depressing thing about 27a is the feeble attempts most manufacturers make to meet the regs. Although some, like Honda, have sacrificed little in meeting the requirements, most comply at the expense of driveability, fuel consumption or power output. The local manufacturers are especially guilty here.

In the new release stakes, Ford's Laser came closest; to being new that is. Despite the fact that its Mazda 323 parent has been around for some time, Laser has only been available to the public since March 25. Ford must be on the edge of their corporate seats with this one. After the new Cortina sank without trace and given the present Falcon's obvious unsuitability to the market, a flop would mean disaster. I'll be bringing you some driving impressions soon, but suffice to say the Lasers at the show wouldn't have sent me panting with desire into the local Ford showroom. Incidentally, one of the show Laser's seats had parted company with its mountings; an unhappy accident, or does it really give the lie to Ford's claim that Laser quality will be "built in". Time will tell.

It would be interesting to see how the new European Escort (FWD, OHC, IRS, etc.) matches up against the 323/Laser (FWD, OHC, IRS). It's a pity we won't get a chance to see it, or the Fiesta, Ford's mini which has been a big success in Europe.

There were a few other odds and sods. The new Skyline from Datsun and Cressida from Toyota, the Gemini diesel and a few facelifted models like Daihatsu Charade, which if not exciting is at least an honest and economical little car.

Exotica fans were in for disappointment. Except for the mouth watering Renault 5 Turbo, and the obligatory range of Porsches and Ferraris roped off from the masses, there was little that was new (or old) and exciting. The Audi Quattro which I doubt we'll see, was suitably interesting in a detached sort of way. Among the oldies, an AC289, a Ferrari 250GTE and a B65GT 2+2 were notable, especially the latter which looked as though it had some head gasket problems. It's for sale at \$34,995 so don't say I didn't warn you.

Frank Spanner

FOR THE LAST TIME - IT'S "CARRN THE DOGGIES!!"



Footy Fever

The time of the year when we eagerly (?) brave the elements to stand in the hallowed stands of Football Park to cheer on our favourite team is with us again. Amidst the usual fuss over clearances, etc., the 1981 SANFL football season commenced last Saturday, after a series of trial games which may have boosted or dashed your morale about the hope your team has in the Big League this season.

Hopefully 1981 will see the emergence of some new faces, as well as the re-emergence of older, better known players who occasionally work miracles when their side is losing. But one can only wonder how Glenelg will cope without Kym Hodgeman, or Norwood without Michael Taylor. And will some of the "underdog" teams conquer one or more of the Big Four (Glenelg, Port, Norwood and Sturt) with an upset win? The next few months will only tell.

In winter, our weekends can be inundated with football, if we choose to follow this brand of "aerial ping-pong". It all starts on Saturday with the Reserves match, beginning about midday, followed by four hopefully exciting quarters of A grade football (more exciting if your team happens to win by a walkover). The Mini League, which may feature some of tomorrow's stars, shows their style of reasonably unviolent football at half-time.

After the game, it's weaving

through all the traffic to get home, and then there's the Big Replay on TV at 6.30, followed by the VFL Replay later in the evening. Or, alternatively, you could patronize one of Adelaide's discos, run by, yes, you guessed it, your local football club.

Sunday afternoon is spent in front of the TV watching the South Australian Football Association's Match of the Day, as well as reading the post mortem of your League team's performance on the previous day in the Sunday Mail Sports Lift-Out. And thus endeth another weekend's football.

Footy fever, that disease which seems to affect much of Adelaide's population reaches its highest pitch around September, when those teams that make it to the finals battle it out for the ultimate - a premiership. The Magarey Medal presentation, in which the season's best and fairest player receives his dues, precedes the finals.

Although football will remain big in SA for many years to come, the rise in popularity of many sports, such as soccer and netball, has become more noticeable. More women in Australia actually play in a netball team than do men in an Australian male's team. It's great to see more people actually participating or actively supporting a local team, rather than just standing on the sidelines and shouting abuse.

Here's to yet another football season.
Jennie Caire.



INTER-VARSITY SPORTS CONTESTS IN ADELAIDE 1981

This year Adelaide University is host to several Inter-Varsity contests, that will be conducted during the May, August and end-of-year vacations. Inter-Varsities are generally considered to be the highlights of any club's competitive season in which a week of daily matches are played, together with a usually hectic social life, with the members of the visiting University clubs making for a memorable occasion.

During the May vacation (11th-15th), Inter-Varsity Baseball will be played on the West Beach Sports grounds. Inter-Varsity Rifle Shooting will be conducted at the Dean Range, Port Adelaide.

During the June long weekend Adelaide is hosting the Inter-Varsity Cross-Country Championships (men and women) and success in this event would lead to selection in the Australian Universities' team to tour New Zealand in August to compete in the New Zealand National Championships and against NZU.

The Rifle Club contestants will no doubt have their eyes on selection in the Australian Universities' team that will be touring overseas in 1982, with Bisley, UK being a possible venue.

In August the Judo Club will be hosting the Inter-Varsity competition, with entries expected from most other Australian Universities. The contest will be staged in the Centre for Physical Health between 23rd-28th August.

The 7th to 11th December appears at this stage to be the most likely date for the hosting of this year's Fencing Inter-

Varsity which will be held in the Centre for Physical Health. Our club has an excellent record in University Fencing. Three members of the club toured New Zealand with the 1975 Australian Universities' team, and two club members are likely to tour this year having been selected as reserves.
C. Pickering

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY GLIDING CLUB

This was to inform you of our Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 2nd April at 7.30 p.m. But, no doubt, by the time you read this it will have been finished. We haven't had the meeting yet, but let me tell you that it was great. I don't know who will be (was) elected but our annual power struggle orgy is usually a lot of fun. Highlights always include a slander slinging match, a paper warfare of misleading advertising and much maligning of the media. We are a small club, but we think big ...

Over the last few weeks the flying has been great and this promises to continue over the winter. Don Hein has reached 5000 feet on his last three flying days. Most people have had at least an hour of flying on each day that they have been at Lochiel. Lift last Sunday was going to 5,500 at 400-800 feet a minute.

Our new clubhouse was started. Emil's put a lot of work into organising and constructing the plumbing and digging holes for the foundations and floor slab. It's not going to be an empire state building but it is slightly bigger than your average outdoor privy. And it's already licenced!

Anyway, come flying with us soon. Our autumn season is very pleasant and Easter has one or two attractions in store!! For information ring Andrew 255 3646 or Mark 251 2820.
Maurie

Stand up and be

The position of Counter Calendar Editor(s) for 1982 is now vacant. The job involves the soliciting and editing of articles, the collating and layout of the Counter Calendar, and decisions regarding any future changes in the format of the Counter Calendar (e.g. the conducting of a questionnaire).

The job requires a heavy commitment during November and December as well as involvement during the year. There is a small honorarium.

If you are interested in the job, send a written application to Mandy Cornwall, Students' Association President, or just come in and talk to Linda Gale or Simon Maddocks (previous editors) or Mandy Cornwall about the job. All the previous editors are willing to help the 1982 editor(s) with advice and ideas. Applications close April 30th.

Star gazers wanted

Like an exciting night life? Enjoy viewing heavenly bodies? If yes, then you and the Astronomy Club have something in common! Our aim is to familiarize you with the objects of the night sky - moon, planets, meteors and distant galaxies. Most people have the misconception that astronomers simply watch a "boring" star through a telescope. This "boring star" is usually doing something very exciting like - winking on and off behind lunar mountains as it "grazes" the edge of the Moon, or - is part of a group of thousands of tightly packed stars ... a brilliant starry snowball! - or perhaps even a hot star making a surrounding gas cloud shine.

All these sorts of things can be seen with the naked eye, but you have to know where and when to look!

If you want to know more, come along to our inaugural general meeting on April 8th at 1.00 p.m. We'll be in Meeting Room 1 (behind the Bar) just waiting to open your eyes to astronomy.

POSITIONS VACANT

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POSITIONS OF Boundary Umpire, and Goal Umpire

For the Adelaide University Football Club. All successful applicants will be expected to attend games on Saturday. Duties include flag waving, running, and wearing white clothes. The remuneration of 3 dollars includes travelling expenses and beer money. Send applications including past experience, no references, and address for correspondence, to the Football Club pigeon hole, care of the Sports Association.

THE PHILOSOPHY CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

HOW DO I FIX MY BIKE MR FEYERABEND? (A cyclist's guide to scientific knowledge.) by Paul Jewell (Postgrad. Phil. student, Flinders) In this paper I will prove why scientists are always wrong. I will be drawing on - and criticizing - the work of Paul Feyerabend. The presentation of this paper will be followed by refreshments and discussion. To be held in THE CHAPEL (Level 2, Lady Symon Bld. - just above On dit) at 7.30 p.m. on THURSDAY APRIL 9th ALL WELCOME. Please come, and please join the Club (\$4) to help us keep afloat in 1981.

ASSASSINATION AMERICAN STYLE



"Assassination" means to murder by surprise. The word comes from *hashshashin* - the name of a sect in India which, under the influence of hashish was directed by an "Old Man of the Mountains" to execute contract murders. Indian princes would hire these suicidal fanatics to bump off their enemies. The practice remains virtually the same today - only the assassin usually escapes alive. On July 19, 1980, former Prime Minister Nihat Erim of Turkey was murdered in a suburb of Istanbul. On July 21, former Syrian Prime Minister Salah Eddin al-Bitar was shot to death in Paris. A day later, Ali Akbar Tabatabai, a former employee of the Shah of Iran, was shot dead in a quiet suburb of Washington DC. Nearly 1,000 people have been assassinated since 1970.

Despite the popularity of assassination throughout the world, there is something undeniably different about the American variety. The individualism of American assassins is what sets them apart. Usually, political assassination is the result of an elaborate plot to achieve rational aims - the elimination of a dangerous foe.

SKETCH OF AN ASSASSIN

No such plan appears to guide the American assassin. He acts on apolitical impulse. He is a pathetic loner - a Lee Harvey Oswald, a Sirhan Sirhan, a John Hinckley Jr. John Spiegel, founder of the US Center for the Study of Violence, had this to say about the American assassin after George Wallace was shot in 1972:

"The would-be assassins have all been people who were mentally disturbed, living out of the mainstream of the political issues of the day. They were people who lived in fantasy worlds with no real contact with their intended victim."

Dr Marvin Wolfgang, a University of Pennsylvania sociologist, draws this picture of the typical American assassin: "He has been neglected, abused or rejected by one or both parents. He is frustrated, both in his work and in his personal life, and probably has some kind of sexual problems. Feeling rejected by his parents, he will likely seek reassurance in some larger paternalistic group, like the military." Lee Harvey Oswald was a marine, and John Hinckley was a member of the Neo-Nazi Party. "Even in that larger group, however, the potential assassin will almost inevitably find or feel rejection."

Consequently, they gain a sense of identity and a feeling

of importance by striking down the charismatic leader of an enthusiastic constituency - someone who brings excitement to politics as well as a sense of hope and dynamism. By his violent act the assassin wins a footnote in history, becomes a somebody, shows that he is not to be laughed at.

The President is an obvious target. He is the object of incessant attention. Because of television, the President is always on view. The assassin knows that his deed, or immediate aftermath, will be witnessed by millions of horror-struck citizens. Says University of New Hampshire Professor Stuart Palmer: "You can become a TV star or an assassin," adding that for some people, "becoming an assassin, known to everyone by the media, is certainly pretty good second-best."

"A STRUCTURE OF VIOLENCE"

America's long courtship with assassination is an indictment of the society as a whole, if only because it has created the conditions in which the killers live and flourish. In the wake of the 1972 assassination attempt, Milan's *Corriere della Sera* observed that "The US is built on a structure of violence on every level. It is a perpetual state of siege that affects the whole society." Only last February, America's top jurist Chief Justice Warren Burger, echoed these words when he bitingly asked: "Are we not hostages within the borders of our own self-styled, enlightened, civilized country?"

The competitive, increasingly computerized and mechanized nature of US society is creating more and more lost and purposeless people. To a degree, those conditions exist in most industrialized nations. But in the US they are especially intense and combined with particularly American elements: the loosening of many moral and social restraints on all kinds of behaviour; the decline of tradition and the breakdown of the family; the mobility of American life; the US frontier culture of violence - the litany can go on.

TARGET: THE PRESIDENT

But if the social environment is such that it produces an abundance of violent people, the political system does little to protect itself from the danger. The key problem is the high importance of personality in US politics. Whereas most other democratic countries generally vote for parties rather than individuals, US politics requires the leaders to plunge into crowds, to "dress the

flesh", to ride in open cars, to stand silhouetted against TV lights.

There have now been ten attempts to kill a President in the US - four have succeeded. Yet Presidents and candidates continue to barge into crowds of strangers and to stroll within gunshot range of waiting spectators. The press continues to provide a podium for some unbalanced person's notoriety.

The President is not only the Chief Executive, Commander in Chief of the armed forces and leader of his party. He is also the symbol of the nation, the living repository of its power and integrity. Few other democracies invest such temporal and quasi-spiritual authority in one life. Most split them between a President or monarch and his Prime Minister.

The President carries a ridiculous degree of responsibility. Because of this he must receive sufficient protection against those who would do him harm. President Ford occasionally wore a protective vest in public. Such a vest may have prevented the bullet that struck Reagan from penetrating his lung.

The Secret Service should keep the President closely guarded. Press Spokesman James Brady unintentionally stopped a bullet with his head which could have killed Reagan. The Secret Service are paid to take such risks.

The President's itinerary should be kept secret, and all unauthorised people within the vicinity of his route should be cleared away. That Hinckley was allowed to mingle with the newspeople shows an inexcusable lapse in security.

Even with such precautions there is no guarantee that all assailants can be stopped. As we have all heard, Reagan told his wife after the shooting that he "forgot to duck". The truth is, he had no chance of consciously getting out of the path of the bullets, because the six cartridges were emptied in two seconds. No one could react until all the shooting was over. Unless the President were to be encased in bullet-proof material, there is no real way of stopping someone willing to surrender their own life on a khamikaze mission. Steps can be taken to reduce the possibility of success however.

There seems no practical way for a free country to go about deliberately reducing the chances of producing lonely, disoriented individuals who lash out at a President to fulfil some antisocial personal need. The weapon he uses however, may be changed.

GUN-CONTROL

We've heard the numbing list of statistics before: every 27 seconds, a violent crime - murder, assault, rape or robbery - occurs in the US. Every 24 minutes, one of those crimes is lethal: a murder. Handguns account for half of all murders, firearms in general for 63%. A handgun is sold in the US every thirteen seconds, adding two million a year to the nation's estimated arsenal of 55 million automatics and revolvers. That is one pistol for every four Americans.

The gun lobby's favourite slogan is: "Guns don't kill people, people kill people". What they overlook is that people with guns are far more likely to kill people than those armed with any other weapon. It is a fact that the ready access to guns in a community will raise the murder rate.

After every attempted or successful assassination the call is inevitably renewed for some form of gun control. The call usually fades after opponents of gun control point out that the Constitution guarantees the right of all Americans to bear arms. But, as New York's Commissioner McGuire pointed out after the death of John Lennon: "That's been perverted. I don't think that means you have the right to carry a .357 magnum down 5th Avenue."

The pressure against gun control is strong. The National Rifleman's Association, with an annual budget of \$30 million and over one million members, forms the nation's most powerful single-interest group. Neal Knox of the NRA states: "The right of self-defense is a fundamental one, and if I know how to use a gun and feel I need one for self-defense, whose business is it to say that I shouldn't own one?"

In the face of such opposition there is little hope of anyone being able to introduce a Bill that requires the registration or banning of handguns. Reagan is himself an opponent of gun-control. Before his wounding he planned to cut back or abolish the agency that now enforces those federal gun laws that do exist. It will be interesting to see whether his attitude changes in the light of recent events.

One compromise solution being considered is to allow unrestricted ownership, but crack down on the criminal use of guns. With perverse irony, Reagan advocated a stiff mandatory jail term for anyone who uses a gun in committing a crime. Perhaps now he can see that such a measure is small comfort for the victims of



fanatical attacks. Though the NRA would never allow it anyway, outright banning or severe restrictions to handguns would be equally ineffective, unless it were initiated on a national scale. Handguns are severely restricted in Massachusetts, New York and Washington DC. But because such measures do not apply to the whole of the country, a Mark Chapman can bring a legally purchased gun from Hawaii to kill John Lennon in Manhattan, and John Hinckley can use a gun purchased in Dallas Texas to shoot at the President.

THE ASSASSIN'S LEGACY

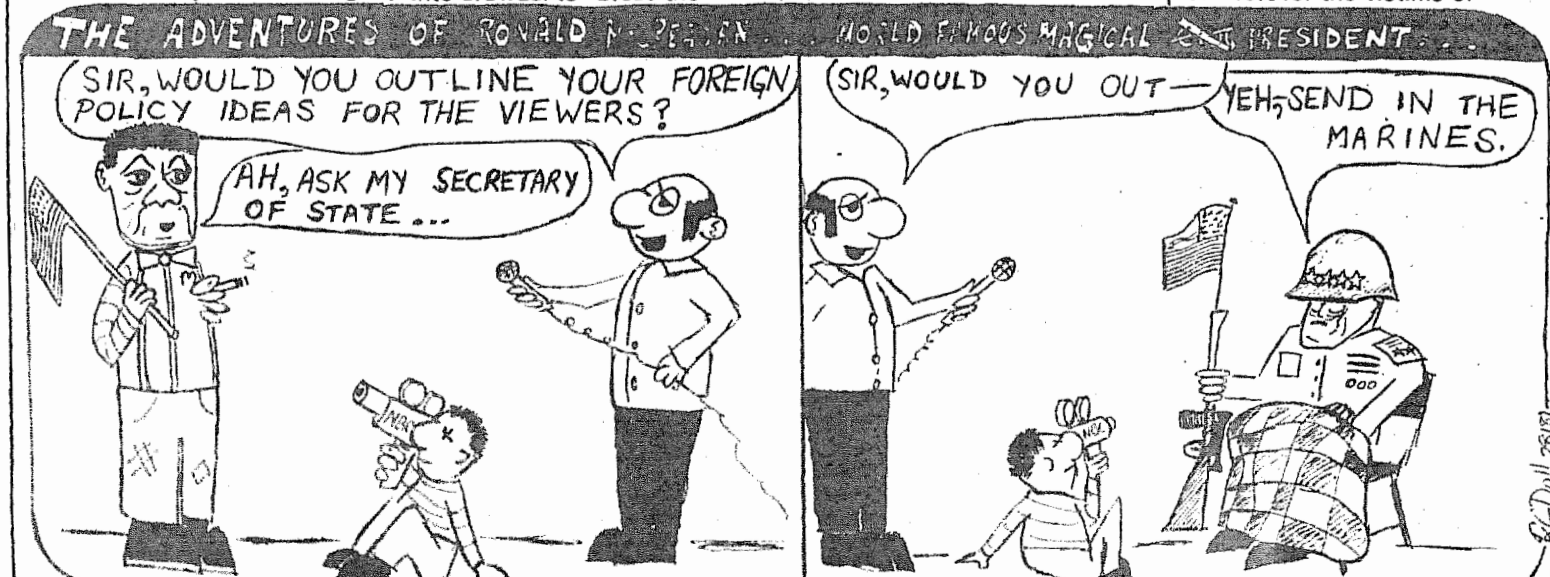
What will be the long term effects of Hinckley's shot at fame? Every previous attempt at assassinating a President has resulted in some alteration in the way the future has developed. Professor Harry Gelber, lecturer in Political Science at the University of Tasmania, believes that the backlash of sympathy for Reagan will bolster support for his trailblazing economic policies.

There is little evidence of it so far, but the attack may have blunted the strength and ability of Reagan. This would result in a struggle for effective power between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Vice-President George Bush. There were early signs of this while Reagan's health was still uncertain shortly after the shooting.

Most other consequences will probably remain largely indiscernible, such as a general shift in the attitude toward gun-control or Presidential security. The most immediate and tragic of results has been the serious injury to the good-humoured and popular Press Secretary, James Brady. His previous work had been for Senator John Connally - the man who was wounded by the same bullet that killed John F. Kennedy. The unending cycle of violence and assassination feeds upon itself.

In the first seventy odd days of his term of office, Ronald Reagan has been able to inspire his people as few Presidents have been able to do before. He has attempted to slow some of the more deleterious trends of recent history. Whether his ideas are correct or not, he and those who follow him should have the opportunity to try. The assassins of society will continue in their attempt to foil such efforts.

Tony Butcher



Brezhnev's Polish Dilemma

Much has been reported in the Press concerning what the Poles are doing, but little has been said about what is happening over the other side of the fence - in the Soviet Union. How can the Kremlin react to this latest and most serious challenge to its hegemony in Eastern Europe? If Brezhnev allows the Poles to succeed in the establishment of their free trade unions, thus creating a political force in opposition to a supposedly totalitarian government, then workers in other East bloc countries cannot fail to view this Soviet inactivity as a mandate for their own reforms. Such a development would effectively destroy the unity of the Warsaw Pact. In fact, reports are already emerging that tiny free trade union movements may be cropping up in other Soviet satellites.

On the other hand, the only way the Soviet Union can now successfully reverse a rebellious trend, is by restoring the supremacy of the communist party in Poland - via either Poland's own security forces as in 1956, or, as a last resort, Soviet invasion. Inactivity or suppression - the Soviet Union cannot escape untarnished in either case.

If economics was the sole explanation for the nature of the workers' protest in Poland, then the Kremlin would have little to fear. Other East bloc countries face problems that are as bad or worse, but their workers have not yet felt compelled to form free trade unions. Other factors, unique to Poland, have come into play, creating the present volatile and tense situation.

These factors include the intense nationalism of the Polish people and a deeply rooted faith. An enduring stronghold through almost two centuries of foreign domina-

tion, the Roman Catholic Church remains a symbol both of Polish nationalism and anti-Communism.

Of more particular significance in the Kremlin's calculations however, is a centuries old Polish sentiment of anti-Russianism. That enmity was inflamed when Catherine the Great crushed Poland in 1772; again with Nicholas I in 1830; with Czar Alexander II in 1863; and then Stalin in 1939. The latter included the massacring of 4,000 Polish army officers at Katyn Forest in 1940. In 1947, a Soviet-backed regime was installed in Warsaw.

In light of these Polish sentiments, which the Kremlin leaders are well aware of, they must decide how best to react to a workers' revolt that has not only resulted in the toppling of Communist Party Boss Edward Gierk's government, but also continues as a constant challenge to the authority of the Communist system imposed on Poland by Moscow.

Clearly, the Soviets are presented with only two alternatives, neither of which are particularly beneficial or attractive. Firstly they could do what is against their character - nothing. Or, the one most Western observers are placing their money on - invasion, or at least severe internal agitation. The Soviet Union's past track record would seem to support the latter option.

In 1953 the Soviet army moved into East Germany to crush a widening worker-led insurrection in support of political freedom and economic improvements. Three years later, there were popular uprisings against pro-Moscow regimes in both Poland and Hungary. The Kremlin let the Polish army put down the rioting Poznan workers, who were demanding "bread and freedom". But the Soviets sent

their own troops into Budapest in a brutal suppression that left at least 25,000 Hungarians dead and forced thousands more into exile.

In 1968 Czechoslovakia's party leader, Alexander Dubcek, was promoting a series of reforms that promised "socialism with a human face": a more flexible planned economy with touches of political pluralism. Two hundred thousand Warsaw Pact troops, sent into Prague under the guise of "fraternal assistance", ended this liberal period.

Analogies with the Prague spring of 1968, while useful as a possible rationale for intervention, are not exact. The reform movement in Czechoslovakia was the brainchild of liberal intellectuals. At the time the Soviets stepped in, a true counter-revolution was working its way down to the grass roots. In Poland, by contrast, the reform movement is very much a working-class phenomenon, with the intellectuals cheering from the side-lines. Most important, the Polish Communist Party remains orthodox and loyal to Moscow.

Internal agitation can only have limited success, and there still remains the possibility of a complete breakdown. If this occurs and the Polish security forces are unable to handle the crisis, then sufficient precedence exists to justify, in the Soviet mind, invasion.

To subdue Poland, the Soviets would need at least thirty-five divisions (each consisting of 7,000 to 13,000 troops). Such a force could be mustered without seriously weakening the Warsaw Pact's western flank, since the Soviets have thirty divisions near their own border with Poland, another nineteen in East Germany, and five in Czechoslovakia. Two Soviet divisions are also stationed in Poland.

Based on Soviet tactics in Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Afghanistan in 1979, experts outlined the following possible invasion scenario: the two Soviet divisions already in Poland would quickly try to secure strategic points, notably major airports, so that infantry and light artillery could be flown in as reinforcements. At the same time, tank forces and additional motorized infantry would move across the borders from the Soviet Union and East Germany. Soldiers from the satellites would be used sparingly, in case anti-Soviet feeling flared throughout the East bloc. East German troops would probably be withheld completely, since the Poles hate the Germans even more than they hate the Soviets. Rumania, which refused to take part in the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia, would probably refuse to invade Poland.

The military, diplomatic and economic price of any invasion - no matter how successfully executed - would be incalculable. Some units of the large (210,000 man) and well-trained Polish army would almost certainly fight back. If defeated, the Poles would no doubt set up an opposition underground.

The use of force would destroy what is left of detente, accelerate the US-Soviet arms race and damage Soviet prestige in the East bloc and the Third World. Western

economic reprisals would be swift and painful.

More important, the Soviets would be forced to take over Poland's enfeebled economy, a \$21 billion hard-currency debt to the West and a mutinous population. The low-keyed rumbles of discontent in the USSR about deaths and injuries suffered by an invasion force of 100,000 in Afghanistan would grow far louder if Soviet troops were bloodied in a Polish occupation.

As the situation stands at the moment, with virtual passive Soviet acceptance of the new situation in Poland, the Kremlin is going against the grain of the USSR's proud national heritage.

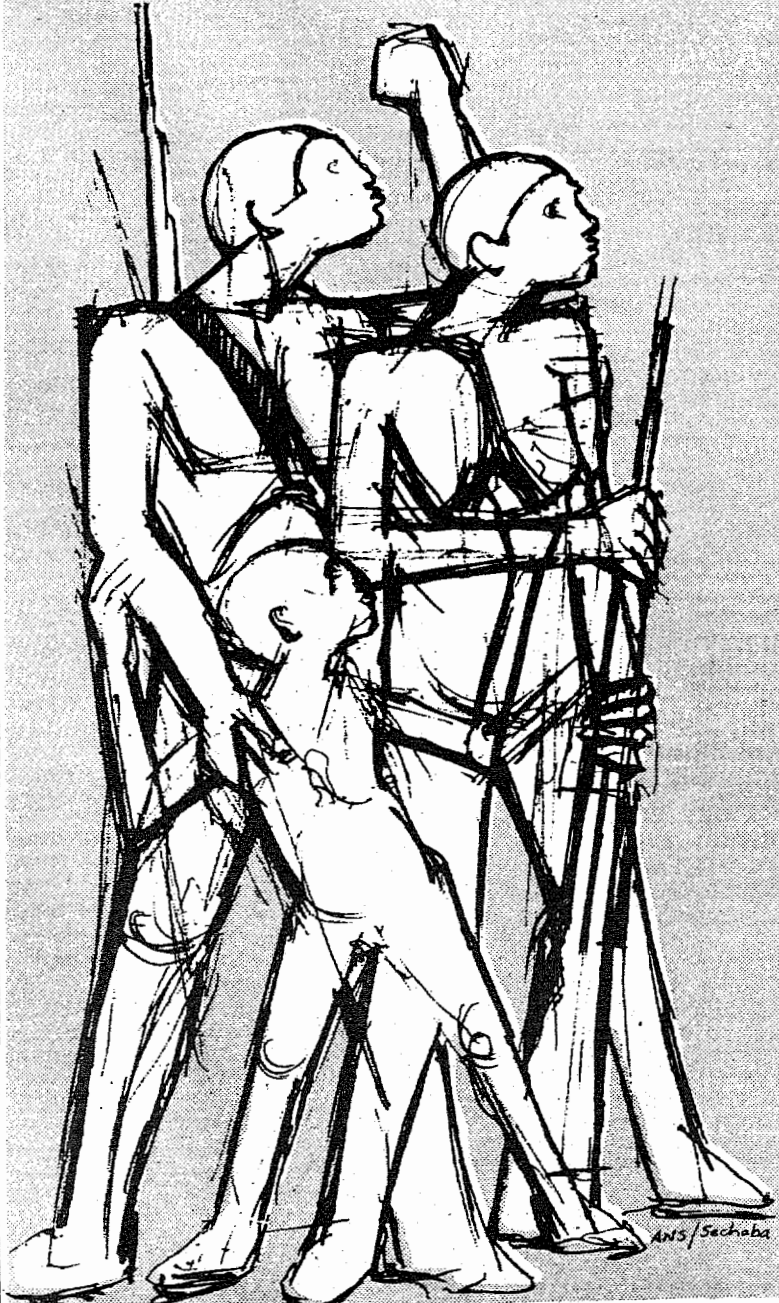
The size of the country is misleading. Despite its octopus-like hold on the map of Europe, the Soviet Union's history, traditions, beliefs and concerns compel its leaders to think defensively. History has shown the vulnerability of Moscow - from Napoleon to Hitler. The desire to protect this nerve-centre produces an outward drive, like the Roman Empire of old. New territory must constantly be annexed to push the empire's frontiers as far away from Moscow as possible. In so doing, the newly acquired land, and the old, becomes even harder to defend - from outside invasion, but, more particularly, from the aspirations of the internal native populations. Afghanistan

and Poland have lately demonstrated this. Was Afghanistan invaded in order to secure a springboard to the Persian Gulf, or as a buffer for the Soviet border? Chances are, not even Brezhnev knows the answer to that one.

The Soviet Union's innate insecurity will not allow it to stand back while Poland demonstrates how to weaken the Communist system. That system relies for its existence upon the support of the workers - the "stupid asses" as Marx and Engels referred to them in their private correspondence. As the East bloc is now discovering, to the Soviet Union's intense consternation, freedom depends on the ability of the workers to stand in solidarity against the totalitarian dictates of a despised regime. In this discovery, they resemble the Western workers of the nineteenth century, who founded trade unions as protection from their exploitative capitalist overlords.

The Polish workers have given the *Communist Manifesto's* "Workers of the world, unite!" a dimension of irony. As Marx himself wrote in 1875, "The emancipation of Poland is one of the conditions for the emancipation of the working class of Europe." The Politburo in Moscow is finding this to be an ominously accurate prediction.

Tony Butcher



ASBESTOS BLUES

ASBESTOS
University buildings were first found to contain asbestos in August 1978 when Mr B.C. Lweis, the then Staff Architect, carried out a brief test in the Fisher Building.

These tests were prompted by staff members, in particular Professor Williams of the Department of Zoology, who were worried about the possible presence of asbestos.

It seemed that there was no need for concern. Mr Lewis reported that although steel beams in the Fisher Building were sprayed with asbestos, the samples tested were not the dangerous 'blue asbestos' or Crocidolite.

ORIGINAL REPORT CONTRADICTED

No further action was taken until the following year, when further letters from Professor Williams came to the attention of the Safety Officer, Mr Blunt, who was unaware of any previous action.

Mr Blunt's report, dated

to determine the exact position of the asbestos, and in obtaining quotes for its removal.

Mr Blunt's report and subsequent measurements of the amount of air borne fibre, showed that the risk was low. Most of the asbestos was closed off from the public, since it was sprayed on beams above the ceiling tiles. Levels remained low so long as the ceiling tiles were not removed. If they were moved, levels rocketed, and the dust took an hour to settle.

An immediate moratorium was placed on the removal of ceiling tiles.

COMMUNICATIONS AT FAULT?

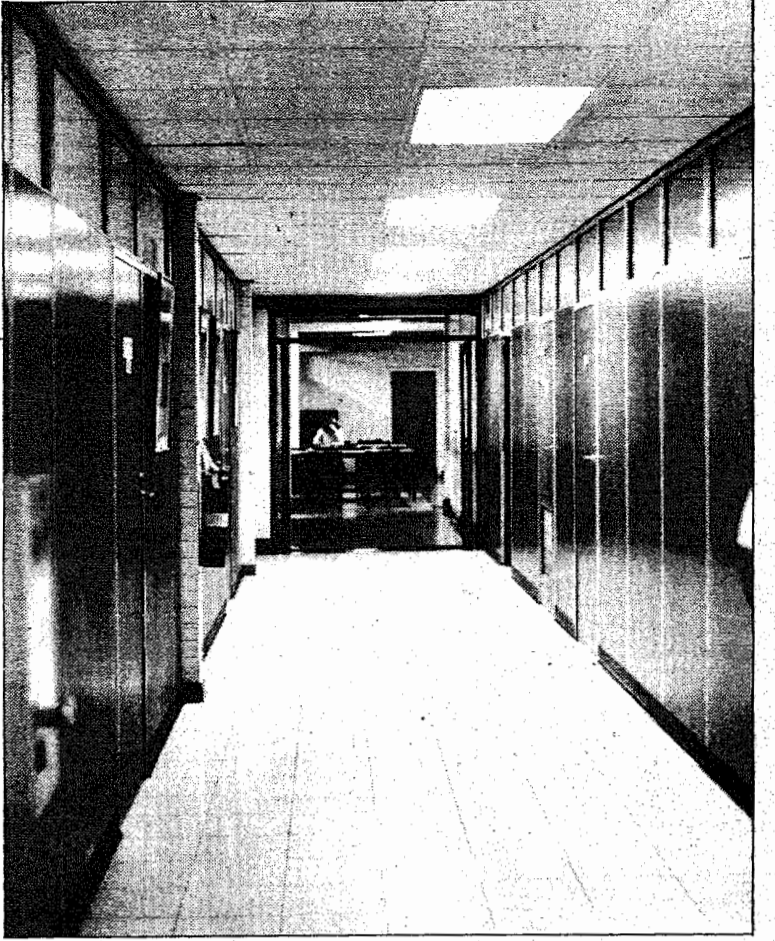
It seems that the Vice Chancellor and Professor Williams were not informed about Mr Blunt's report until early August 1980 - nine months after it was lodged.

In a letter written on 5 September 1980, to Dr Barker of the Department of Zoology,

Professor Clyde Manwell wrote to Professor Williams a few weeks later, congratulating him on "letting all the employees working in the R.A. Fisher Building know the facts as soon as you became aware of them" (emphasis added). Professor Manwell also asks "Why was approximately a year allowed to lapse between the positive identification of Crocidolite fibres in the Fisher Building and the notification of yourself and other staff members?" and "Where is the report referred to by Dr Heddle and Mr Blunt? We were given to expect to receive copies, but neither I nor another staff member I have asked have received this report."

Six days later, Professor Williams received the long awaited report from the Deputy Vice Chancellor.

Mr Liptack told *On dit* that the nine month delay was not due to any deliberate withholding of information. He and the Safety Officer had



November 1979, revealed that asbestos, including blue asbestos, was present in several buildings in considerable quantities (see Table).

His report stated that the Fisher Building *did* contain blue asbestos, contradicting the earlier report. It seems that several different batches of material had been used when spraying the beams. In the small area tested by Mr Lewis, no blue asbestos was present. Mr Blunt's more extensive investigation revealed the true state of affairs.

The report, together with the results of tests on samples of absestos, was lodged with the Registrar of Buildings, Mr Liptack. He held a meeting of University workmen to determine where asbestos had been seen. The next few months were spent in hiring workers to crawl in between ceiling spaces

the Vice Chancellor says: "As you may know, my attention was drawn to this problem only three weeks ago and I hope staff members will agree that the University has responded as rapidly as possible."

Similarly, in a letter dated 12 August (about the same time that the Vice Chancellor said he was informed) from K.A. Provins the Deputy Vice Chancellor to Professor Williams, he is asked to make Mr Blunt's report, which had only just been sent to him, 'available for perusal by those members of your staff who wish to see it'.

Earlier in the month, the Professor had held a meeting of staff employed in the Fisher Building. Mr Blunt and Dr Heddle had been present, and had referred to the report, but none of the staff had seen a copy.

worked in full co-operation with the Safety Committee. Departmental Representatives are elected to this committee and it is their responsibility to keep their Departments informed of events.

He assured *On dit* that work was taking place during the nine months from November 1979 and August 1980. The exact position of the asbestos had to be determined and quotes obtained for its removal.

However conspicuous action began in August 1980, around the same time that key figures were informed and Professor Williams held his meeting of staff members. It was then that the exposed asbestos sprayed beam in the 5UV office was boxed in, though it had been reported to be in poor condition in November 1979.

Other work had to wait until the long vacation, since it



necessitated the evacuation of buildings.

REMOVAL, ACTION AND MONEY

Not all the asbestos could be removed at once. Funds, already stretched to the limit, could hardly rise to this new demand. Priority was given to those areas where blue asbestos was present, and where the asbestos was in poor condition. Work began in November of last long vacation. Unfortunately it was held up by an Industrial Dispute, with workers asking the Bestobell contractor for higher loadings.

In spite of this, asbestos was removed from the Level 3 plant room in the Library Complex, from the Ceiling of the Bragg Laboratory plant room, and throughout the Fisher Laboratories.

At the moment work is in progress in the rest of the Fisher Building. It has been held up by another industrial dispute, and so may not be completed until second term.

Funds for the above work have been taken from the minor works programme budget. Hence, other minor works will be delayed. Submissions are underway to the Universities'

Council of Australia for major capital building funds to remove the asbestos from the rest of the Library Complex and the Medical School.

Ealier approaches to the Universities' Council have met with an unsympathetic response. To quote from the October 1980 University Bulletin

"The Universities' Council ... pointed out that other institutions funded by Federal and State grants had met the same problem with their overall building grants and the University must expect to do the same. It appeared of little avail to point out that this and other universities' building grants in recent triennia were in fact so meagre as to deny the flexibility available to larger instrumentalities ... in overcoming the problem and that allocations of funds from current Building Repairs and/or Minor Capital Works grants of the magnitude required to resolve this problem would seriously curtail many of the urgently needed projects listed in the triennial submission for 1982/84."

Funds permitting, it is hoped that it will be removed by the end of 1983.
Margaret Simons

ASBESTOS: WHAT SORT AND WHERE?

BUILDING	LOCATION	TYPES	COND.	ACTION TAKEN
LIBRARY COMPLEX	LEVEL 3	30% Amosite, 15% Chrysofile	Poor in places	Asbestos in Level 3 plant room removed and replaced with vermiculite.
	LEVEL 4 Underside of roof in link between old and new library sections	"	Good	
	MAIN STAIRCASE on beam on Levels 1, 2 and 3	"	Good	
	5UV AREA exposed beam in Room 3100	"	Poor due to air movement	Was boxed in - August 1980
STAFF CLUB	Beams above ceiling in Level 4	"	Good	
COMPUTING CENTRE	Beams above ceiling Level 1 conference room and tea room	"	Good	
FISHER BUILDING (constructed about 1965-66)	Beams above ceiling Levels 3, 4 and 5	Crocidolite and Amosite in equal amounts	Good	Removal in progress. Expect completion end of first term
MEDICAL SCHOOL	Beams above ceiling Levels 5 and 6	Amosite only	Good	
BRAGG LABORATORIES	Ceiling of plant room and lecture theatre	Mixture Crocidolite and Amosite	Poor and flaking	Asbestos in plant room now removed and replaced vermiculit.

ASBESTOS Facts and Figures

THE TYPES OF asbestos present in University buildings can cause lung diseases and cancer. That is accepted fact.

Two types of asbestos have been used: amosite, or brown asbestos and crocidolite, or blue asbestos. Of the two, blue asbestos is the most dangerous, but exposure to either can increase the risk.

Asbestos is not dangerous so long as it holds together. It is the loose, airborne fibres which, if inhaled, can cause disease. This is why asbestos used in and around air-conditioning systems is so dangerous. Fibres break off due to air friction, and are circulated throughout the building.

In the University, asbestos has been used to fireproof beams above the ceiling tiles. In the Radio 5UV area of the library complex, there was an exposed asbestos-sprayed beam.

In the Bragg laboratories, the underside of the ceiling in the lecture theatre plant room is sprayed with asbestos. In an elementary school in the United States, a similar ceiling deposited asbestos dust in such quantities, that air conditioning vents were clogged with it, and the amount of airborne fibre was ten times that considered acceptable.

This does not sound very healthy. It is of special concern that blue asbestos has

been used. This type is most dangerous.

In the North West Cape Province of South Africa, where blue asbestos is mined, eight out of every thirty-three miners develop asbestosis. Blue asbestos mining in North West Australia has been associated with the high lung cancer rate in the area, and workers using blue asbestos in manufacturing industry have a 4-6% higher incidence of cancer than normal. Amosite, or brown asbestos, can be tolerated at higher levels, but it too causes irreversible illness.

Asbestosis, a progressive, irreversible lung disease, and increased incidence of cancer in the lungs, larynx and stomach, are the main hazards of exposure to asbestos dust.

Crucial factors are the length of time you are exposed to the dust, and the amount of fibre in the air. Size of the fibres is another factor. Smaller fibres are more dangerous.

The period between exposure and detection of tumours is about twenty to forty years. People who worked for three months in a factory making asbestos insulation showed a 3.87 times higher than normal incidence of cancer twenty years later.

Workers in asbestos manufacturing industries are most at risk, so it is here that most research has been done on the ill-effects.

How safe are the University buildings in comparison?

According to the National Health and Medical Research Council, anything up to the following levels is acceptable in a normal working environment.

crocidolite 0.1 fibres per millilitre of air
amosite 0.2 fibres per millilitre of air

Measurements taken around the University last November show that levels are considerably lower than this - .01 fibres per millilitre for both varieties. However, any disturbance of ceiling tiles sent the levels rocketing to .05 fibres per millilitre - well over the safety threshold. It took an hour for the dust to settle.

It is important to remember that the asbestos beams can be expected to deteriorate with time, and the fibre count will rise.

It is understandable, and commendable, that the University wishes to replace the asbestos as quickly as possible. Even now, keeping levels below those quoted, does not mean that we are safe. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, levels of airborne fibre in buildings sprayed with asbestos are up to eight times more than those experienced in the ordinary urban atmosphere.

In the last four decades world asbestos production has boomed. This versatile material

is used as insulation, fire-proofing, decoration, in brake linings, road making and many domestic products. Beverages are filtered using asbestos, and significant levels of fibre have been found in sherry and whisky. It is also used in hair dryers.

By the time cancer potential had been recognized and defined in the 1960's, asbestos was a part of modern society. The relevant University buildings were underway, and all over the world thousands of products were being used and manufactured with inadequate safety precautions.

The ordinary urban atmosphere contains far more asbestos than ever before, and

so any comparison between it and a particular building is simply a comparison between bad and worse.

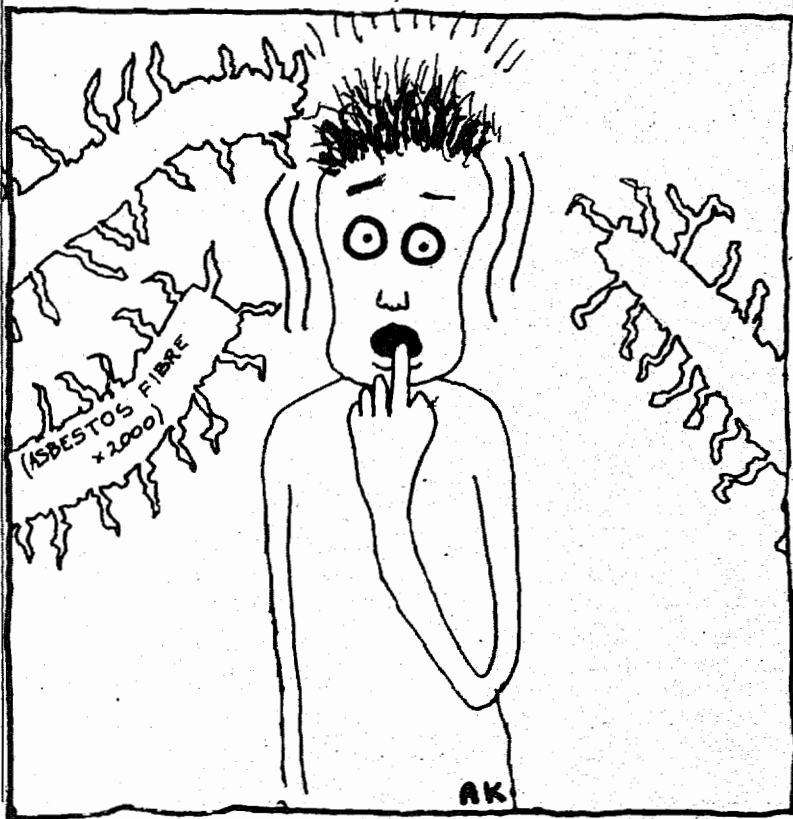
To quote the International Agency for Research on Cancer:

"At present, it is not possible to assess whether there is a level of exposure in humans below which an increased risk of cancer would not occur."

Asbestos is one of the great public health problems of this century.

Reference: IARC Working Group on the Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Man, 1977, *Asbestos* (vol. 14).

Margaret Simons



ACADEMY AWARDS

Going Through the Motions



IF THE ACADEMY of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences was truly an event to give the little gold statuettes to the best film of last year, then there would have been no contest. *Raging Bull* in its acting, direction and photography would have swept the rest of the movies nominated off the ballot sheets. However the "winners" are not determined necessarily on quality.

This self-congratulating show for the Hollywood elite is run by bribes, corruption, arm-twisting and the collection of IOU's. *Ordinary People*, a good little film with Robert Redford's debut as director, won the major awards: Best film, Best Director, Best Screenplay adaptation and Best Supporting Actor. Of course it was Hollywood's pat on the back to Redford for doing something different, and doing it successfully.

Vegas, who's betting on the awards started last month, were betting that *Ordinary People* would win 2/1 and this time they were right. Many times before they have backed the loser: *Network* against *Rocky* in 1976; *Heaven Can Wait* against *The Deer Hunter* in 1978; *The Turning Point* against *The Goodbye Girl* in 1977 (a big loser that year; Woody Allen's *Annie Hall* won) and *Chinatown* against *The Godfather Part II* in 1974.

But not all the Hollywood stars have succumbed to the Oscar magic. Marlon Brando who won the Oscar for Best Actor in 1954 for *On the Waterfront* refused his Oscar in 1972 for *The Godfather*. He sent an Indian girl, Sasheen Littlefeather to the gala event to refuse it on the grounds that the Indians had been unfairly treated in movies. Two years before George C. Scott had refused his Oscar, less spectacularly, for *Patton*.

De Niro won the Best Actor

Oscar for *Raging Bull*. This was at least deserved (and expected). More interesting was that Sissy Spacek won the Best Actress award for *Coal Miner's Daughter*. Mary Tyler Moore for *Ordinary People* was clearly the front-runner because usually the movie that wins the best film picks up the other major Oscars. Not that Spacek did not deserve the award, but it makes one wonder what took place behind the scenes for her to secure her win.

When Elizabeth Taylor, back in the early 60's was lying in a hospital bed critically ill, the Academy gave to her the Best Actress award for a piece of unremarkable trash called *Butterfield 8*. In 1976 the Academy passed over Sylvester Stallone and Robert De Niro to give Peter Finch the Best Actor award because he had died a few months before. Merely old age can be enough for the Academy in its many sentimental gestures, to award the Oscar; for instance Art Carney over Jack Nicholson and Al Pacino in 1974.

But in 1941 *Citizen Kane* produced, directed and starring Hollywood's then "boy wonder" Orson Welles, failed to win the Best Film award. Today it is still considered, as it was at the time, the greatest film ever made in sound. However at the time the people running the Oscars had too much at stake to give Welles his due.

The film, a loose biography of then powerful publishing tycoon William Randolph Hearst, was too much of a "risk". Hearst insulted by the movie he had never seen, threatened to start printing the numerous scandals concerning the studios and its stars, if the film was given any kind of recognition. That year, *How Green was my Valley*, a Lassie-film-without-the-dog, won. The Oscar's lack of guts was only

matched by its poor taste.

But the Oscars do serve a purpose on a more practical, commercial level rather than artistic service. Any film nominated for any award, automatically reaps greater profits at the box-office. If a film can boast "Nominated for four Academy Awards", it can pick up an extra five or ten million dollars. The films that actually win the Oscar, particularly the big three: Best Film, Actor and Actress, can pick up an extra twenty million dollars. But *Ordinary People* was already a commercial success and it was not in need of financial assistance. *Raging Bull*, although it has earned its money back, needs all the help it can get: it got a token of support with Best Actor and Best Editing.

The Oscars are a ceremony where the stars, would-be stars, almost stars, has-been and has-beens-that-never-were parade around and get to embarrass themselves on stage with embarrassingly unrehearsed jokes. *Ordinary People* continues the sentimental tradition of the wrong film securing the right award.

Yet it raises the question of whether awards of any kind are applicable to artistic scandals, as they are to sporting achievements. To say, *The Elephant Man* is a better film than *The Stunt Man* is merely an opinion. Can there really be a winner between two great actors, say Robert Duvall and Peter O'Toole? As Dustin Hoffman said as he accepted his Best Actor Oscar for *Kramer vs. Kramer* in 1979, "We are all winners". One pauses to reflect that maybe the prostitution of their art makes them "all losers" except for Brando and Scott who told the Academy exactly where to put their Oscars.

John Hainsworth



ALCOHOLIC REFLECTION

Though she is my lover
I cannot call her love,
this moment she is everything,
but a moment's not enough.

Dewy grass blades drying,
the song is on the run;
celestial bursts the bubble
as worldly wields the gun.

A glass, once used, is empty,
with vacancy for wine,
sand falls, seconds pass,
and the flavour fades with time.

David Mussared

BYE

This complex business of existence,
(please lady, keep your distance), this frantic,
antic of survival,
(you didn't cry at my arrival)

This blase system of selection,
(emotion's just an imperfection),
this drastic, plastic imitation,
(you can wave goodbye at the station).

This cliché lust to be wholesome,
(love's just another compulsion)
this shallow wallow of indignity
(all you've lost is virginity).

This filmy, cover-up brick-facade,
(leaving a lover has never been hard)
this dusty, lusty wall of fallacy,
(there's no such thing as heartfelt jealousy)

This ersatz, suburban canticle,
(the look in your eyes is mechanical)
this boring whoring of innocence,
(don't be a martyr at my expense).

Flatulent empathy,
flat and empty.
(And while you're still numbering the reasons
- why,
I take my leave with a tactful;
"Bye")

David Mussared

SHADOW AGAINST THE WALL

Is it that I just can't see you
Through my broken eyes
Or is it that my attitude just fades before the
stars?

I somehow think that in some back-street
My graveyard slowly sings,
And heaven's steps
Fade away into clouds.

I seem to be looking straight ahead
Wandering past the barn,
Watching a window smash
And arranging the pieces
Into a picture of lies.

Don't tell me where I'm going now
I don't really want to know.
But when I get to my Palace,
The river will still be there,
Coke cans still littered on the beach,
Students still sleeping,
Poets still dreaming.

And don't cry for me
Just a shadow against the wall,
A street without a name.
No chance,
Don't try again ...

David J. Thornley



COSMIC DANCERS

Stars are like dancers --
 Their costume -
 a vast panorama of brilliance.
 Their stage -
 the dark drawn drape of night's sky.
 Their spotlight -
 the moon and all its luster.
 Their audience -
 people and their curiosities.
 Their encores -
 nightly.

Carol L. Bukovac



BATTLE CRIES

I fought another war the other day.
 The enemy sat in the back of the class
 awaiting my advance.
 "Don't you remember me?" he asked.
 And I knew one of them was after me again,
 coming out of the woodwork,
 from a past I chose to forget.
 He offered me a seat
 and I took it,
 not knowing who he was.
 And then like a pound of pot,
 it hit me,
 and I died under the battle cries,
 not really knowing why it had to be
 this goddamned way again.

Carol L. Bukovac

EVENING

The grey of evening resides around the
 willow,
 It's gently downward dancing branches
 Caressing the close-cut lawn.
 Feel the falling of the night nurturing you
 Towards the soft dissection of this day;
 Little pearls and diamonds of memory,
 Some clear, some bright,
 Some worn, some broken.

Allan Powell

TIME FOR A CHANGE?

Now, above any other time,
 In the tiniest moments of afterglow,
 When she needs him to say anything,
 Something of value, of presence,
 A diamond of sensitivity or affection
 That can be locked away inside
 To guard against her vulnerability's detection,
 (Her human habit hard to hide),
 He sits back to light a cigarette,
 His eyes wandering in yesterday,
 Expels smoke like a bored cocotte
 And finds not a single thing to say.

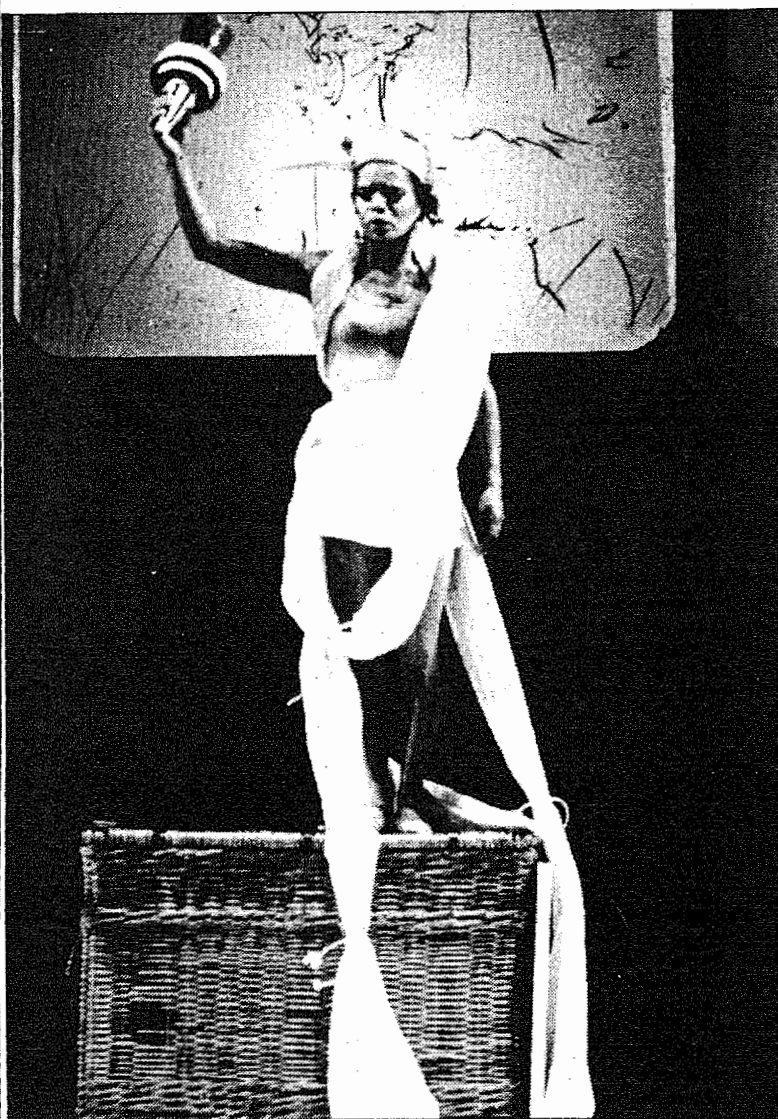
Allan Powell

BRING BACK THE MECCA

Bring back the Mecca that I lost, and make me a
 Goddess again.
 Bring back those people
 and all of their beer
 and we'll bake baths in the apartment again.
 Bring back the madam
 and all the candles he made
 to sell to tourists
 in Ocean City, New Jersey
 and we can learn to hurt each other
 by candlelight.
 Bring back the psyche,
 with his macho inconsistency,
 and his million broken mirrors,
 and we can look at each other and laugh.
 And the last one I lost
 was a lemming,
 and he never stopped in Ocean City.
 If he would have,
 he probably would have stayed
 to pay homage again
 for me.

Carol L. Bukovac

'TIS GOODLY SPORT



Australian Dance Theatre
Opera Theatre 'til April 11
Students \$5.90 (\$3.20 at matinees)

The Australian Dance Theatre has returned to Adelaide with another season of modern dance. The dancers are up to their usual standard of precision with just a pleasant dash of panache; and all in all, ADT is a modest and suitable counterforce to the annual extravaganza which occurs when the Australian Ballet comes to Adelaide.

Four works were on ADT's programme on opening night, but only one of them was new, which might disappoint many ballet goers. Can ADT expect to pull in the crowds when they resurrect pieces which were only moderately successful when first presented? However another new work by director Jonathon Taylor is promised for next week. It will replace one of those already on the programme.

The new piece that was ready for the opening night is *Aussie Rules* by Andris Toppe. It is an amusing look at Australian folk rituals examined in the light of Australia's greatest ritual, i.e. football. The work begins with eight dancers on

stage hamming it up in some playful and ragged choreography. Initially they are clad rather anonymously in skin coloured cling suits but then the dance gains some coherence. It appears to represent the great Australian innocence becoming the great Australian ignorance, because *Aussie Rules* then whirls through some lightning sketches of Australian sex, politics, boozing and sport.

A big basket is dragged on to the stage and the dancers take from it costumes for the various sketches. Masks of Fraser and Bjelke-Petersen appear in the political dance. Hawke is represented by a querulous pair of eyebrows and the other dancer has an unidentifiable pair of large ears which I presume is Bill Hayden. The football is a crown which during the scramble passes from one head to another until it finishes up on Bjelke-Petersen. Then Hawke makes a sneak attack from behind, pulls Joh's pants down, and as Bjelke bends down to see who did it, the crown falls off his head and the scrum disappears into the wings.

The look at Australian sex is just as funny. A lot of simpering playboy bunnies cavort before

some grey raincoats. So much for Hefer's highlife.

Aussie Rules then examines the real Aussie rules; football. If you've always believed footy to be an expression of latent homosexuality, you'll enjoy this one. It features a group of effete footballers handballing coloured balloons to each other.

Throughout this parade of parodies one lone and bewildered figure is tossed from role to role. She is the only sane person around and she's soon completely disoriented. But in a crowning moment of irony she is awarded the trophy.

The second piece is called *Field* and ADT presented it here before in 1977. It's an oddly moving work about a family relationship. It was choreographed by Cliff Keuter while his father was dying. The members of the family enact a long series of gestures which seem to be repeating the cliches of the psychoanalyst's couch, i.e. "I want to communicate but I can't, etc. etc. ..." But through the skill of the choreographer, *Field* does manage to transcend these banalities and it contains a lot of depth and feeling. The music is, appropriately enough, some songs by Mahler.

The highlight of the night was Jonathon Taylor's *'Tis Goodly Sport*, which is a bawdy vamp set in sixteenth century England. It's full of lusty wenches and their gallant suitors and is a superb characterisation of love in Elizabethan England as well as being enormously funny. Margaret Wilson is perfect as the love-stricken lady in green and Roslyn Watson dances impressively as the sex-crazed nun. Monasteries might have been fun places in the sixteenth century.

Still, the evening had some dull spots and the last work, *Black Angels*, was one long dull spot. It is based on the theme of a fallen angel in hell. I cribbed that from the programme. I couldn't discern any meaning in it at all.

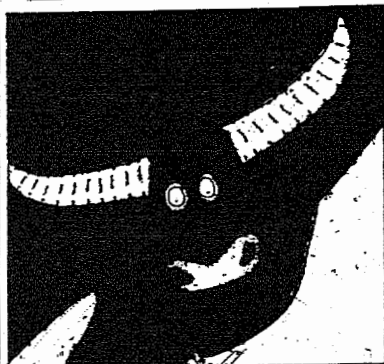
However the earlier three works were enough to compensate for *Black Angels*. Andris Toppe who created *Aussie Rules* is a young choreographer certainly worth watching. Another point in favour of *Aussie Rules* was the backdrop of Patrick Cook cartoons. Cook rose to the occasion with his usual penetrating humour.

But the major problem of the Australian Dance Theatre is one which has recurred a number of times in their Adelaide seasons. They aren't drawing much of an audience in spite of the excellence of their performances. Perhaps they should run a repeat season of the spectacular (and popular) *Wildstars*.

Next week a new work by Jonathon Taylor called *Broken Head* will replace *'Tis Goodly Sport* in the programme. I hope it's as good.

Tim Dodd

IMPOSSIBLE DREAM



Buffaloes Can't Fly
Little Theatre

Simon Hopkins' play *Buffaloes Can't Fly* is set in the 1920's; "the age of the motorcar and aeroplane" as it is described by one of the main characters. It is this interest in aeroplanes that forms the basis of the play.

It is centred around three main characters; Laura and Reg Hargraves (Marilynne Hanigan and Peter McGlone) who come to a small settlement near Catherine River, Northern Territory from Melbourne to start a new life. Things do not turn

out as expected as they find it hard to maintain the same standard of living which they were used to in Melbourne. The arrival of Jack "Dampier" Glover (Colin Jacobus) provides Reg with a friend and also some help in fulfilling his dream; to start the first Northern Territory airline. The conflict arises from this impractical dream of one man. The tragedy lies in the realization that dreams are made more difficult through total lack of experience. The characters are hilarious in their attempts to escape from an unacceptable reality.

The characters were portrayed with realism and believability; one can identify with the frustration of Reginald's impossible dream. The sets were not elaborate but notice should be given to the onstage construction of an almost life-size bi-plane. Hopkins has succeeded in his interpretation of a true to life story and it is well worth seeing, considering the \$1.00 concession available to students - prices \$5.00 general public, \$4.00 students. It will be running until 11th April every night at 8.15.
Wendy Lagoon

COLONEL OF TRUTH

The Great Santini is a very definite movie and so brings mixed reactions from different people - which means I didn't like it but the people I saw it with did ... I always tend to feel that when people say things like "Treat what I say like it came from the burning bush," one can't help but hate them and Bill Meechum (Robert Duvall) is very easy to abhor if you agree with me on that ...

The film centres around the Great Santini's relationship with his family, in particular his son Ben (Michael O'Keefe) to whom he wishes to give "the gift of fury", a gift that Ben thinks he would do well without. It all starts with the departure of Colonel Meechum from his Spanish commission to his "home", where he immediately proceeds to shift his family (at 3am mind you) to a new Marine Corps base. The Meechum kids are expected to be good at sport, as well as academically sound and it is when Ben finds himself on the Varsity Basketball team that the enmities between Ben and his father prove to be more than the usual father-son hassles.

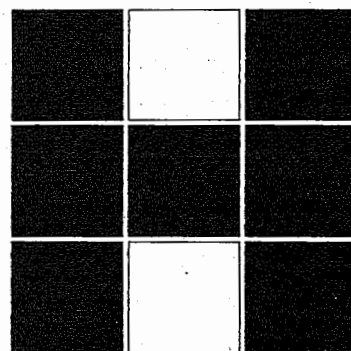
Santini has a lot of badly needed comic relief provided by

who plays the precocious daughter of the almighty Meechum brilliantly; if you are into practical jokes you will probably learn a few from the Colonel while you're there too. Duvall is very convincing as Meechum - I personally was sure that Meechum was demented - and the support acting was excellent, in particular of course Ben who was ideal as a very confused, and rightly so, adolescent who finds it extremely difficult to escape from his father's very dominating character and will.

I found the plot interesting, even if relatively straightforward, and thought the direction was incredible because the emotions were conveyed with such clarity. The photography was generally very good and there were some excellent shots of army jets flying through the clouds with the greatest of ease. All in all, I think that if you like having your entire emotional repertoire summoned in approximately ninety minutes, *The Great Santini* is the film to see. But if you're not really into egocentric, insufferably arrogant chauvinist colonels, and lots of negative feelings, avoid it (like the plague!).
Ann Pye

A Little History

Little Magazine



Little Magazine

At last - the History Department brings you the *Little Magazine*, a compilation of essays from past history students that would have been thrown gleefully into the nearest rubbish-bin after the pressure of final exams.

Fortunately, and doubtless to say, for our own benefit, they are being preserved in this latest mag. from our own well-preserved History lecturers. This type of literature is especially useful to those new at the art of writing History essays, an arduous task under any circumstances, and who experience the usual "problems of style, methodology and organisation".

Since only seven essays, and thus only seven topics, are included, there are several

historical "gaps", which could be annoying to those adept at the art of plagiarism. However, the essays contained do give one an idea, in general, of what is required.

The works are all set out well, with a new page beginning for each essay, and, the columns are even on both sides, a novelty which seems to be absent from a certain rag of the Students' Association. The topic is set out on the first page of the essay with the author, or authoress's name, and a small paragraph from a factual work, placing the question in an historical context. A very useful bibliography is contained, as well as the all-important comments of the tutor.

An improvement, and one which would be very useful as a guide to writing essays, would be to contain the flops, those absolute failures which we would all prefer to forget, to absolutely determine "what not to do". It would also be helpful to mark the year in which the course is taken; first year, second year, and so on. This is because a higher standard is expected for the higher years and those amongst us who are first year students do not want to appear too ambitious.

Overall, an excellent idea by the History Department, which should be noted by the other departments, and hopefully emulated and, at a (fairly) reasonable eighty-five cents it is well worth the money and, of course, better essay grades.
Jenni Lans

WITOLD GOMBROWI-WI

Witold Gombrowicz In Buenos Aires
At the Carclew Stables

Witold Gombrowicz in Buenos Aires is as hard a play to define as it is to pronounce. "It's a comical, though thought provoking look at a crazy bunch of people who need something to hold them together," as Director Michael Pope puts it.

Written by Polish/American born, Australian naturalized playwright

Roger Puluers, *Witold Gombrowicz* is essentially searching for answers to the problems of every day life. Yet it does so without tiring the viewer; it is in fact filled with humour. Without giving too much away, the story is about two people who meet in a battlefield and surrender to each other. So obsessed with their own surrendering, neither is willing to accept the other's surrender. This highlights a

basic problem of communication and as these two characters meet others during the play, similar problems are raised.

The play is currently showing at the Carclew Stables as part of the Australian Drama Festival, and is presented by MOP, a fledgling theatre group comprised of mostly drama students from various campuses (explaining the generous student concession). They make a good show of the play, with strong performances by Cathy Fitzgerald as the soldier and by Robert Pitt in his first stage role.

Michael Pope in his first try as a director is pleased with the play, though concedes that there is a lot to learn in the field. "I've learnt a lot from this experience," he told me. "Still, I'm happy with the performance; it's funny, entertaining, and has a message."
Paul Klaric

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Boredom for the Rich

Dire Straits Festival Theatre

Mark Knopfler sat, worry-eyed and said, "We're not making any money on this tour." The fact that he said it with a straight face was amazing; and it was equally amazing that I did not scoff with laughter. *Dire Straits* played last week to four full houses at Festival Theatre. I inquired to the Festival Centre as to its capacity, which was approximately 2,000 people. So this, times the ticket price (minus booking fee), is \$29,000. *Straits'* basist John Illsey told me it costs \$10,000 a day to keep their entourage on the road. This whittles the profit down to \$19,000 a day. Then subtract \$2,600 for Festival Theatre hire, staff, technicians (figure supplied again by Festival Centre), which leaves \$16,400 spare. I imagine that there must be added expenses; but where do they come from? *Dire Straits* are playing seventeen concerts in

nineteen days while touring Australia, and one assumes that their profit margin would be similar in other states. Yet they all fervently deny that the price could have been lower.

If they claim they deserve that much on artistic grounds, they are mistaken. The *Dire Straits* concert ran for just over 1½ hours (not two as some reported) and saw most of the songs strung out to about double their original time. So Mark Knopfler may be a good guitarist, but after a while one would like a little more variety. Similarly, Knopfler's vocals droned away like a hive of bees; nowhere near as clear as on record. In fact, I got the impression that *Dire Straits* didn't give a rat's armpit to what anyone thought of their performance. Like, "We're *Dire Straits*. We sell records, can charge outrageous prices and you can take us or leave us." They don't believe in encouraging the

audience to participate in the concert. They believe the crowd should stand at the front and clap and sing along of their own accord (in the Festival Theatre?).

After seeing them in concert and interviewing them, I can only conclude that their latest album should have been titled *Making Money*. They indeed produce a good sound on record, but their 'on stage' performance does not measure up, particularly for such a high price. They don't care about giving students or unemployed discounts either ("Why should they be privileged?" their manager said of the most under-privileged groups in Australia.) At the end of Monday night's concert, drummer Pick Withers pranced up to the mike and made a comment which was more of a put down to themselves than to the audience to which it was aimed. "You can all go back to sleep now," he told us. We already had.

Paul Klaric

Photo: Alison Lea



Jade Diadlenz of the Bad Poets.

Rude Boys and Rastamen

Rude Boy

Valhalla
The Clash

It's hard to say what this film is about but whatever, it is a good very well executed piece of cinema. It doesn't really capture many ideas, but it certainly creates a mood.

The plot has a young punk Terry leaving his drink sodden, mindless, love starved existence in a Brixton Council housing estate (one of "the towers of London") for an even more drink sodden, mindless, love starved existence as a roading with *The Clash* on tour in the North of England. But Terry, however, is a static stock character and the film isn't about him as such.

The film also shows lots of footage of *The Clash* live on stage. It's easy to see why magazines like *Rolling Stone* voted *The Clash* as group of the year for 1980 once one has "seen" them on stage. It also helps one understand the band once one has seen them talking politics - and *The Clash* have always been a very political band. And yet the film is not about the band as such.

So what is it about? Firstly I think it could be seen as a story of the relationship between *The Clash* and

their fans. Terry is the typical fan - an average punk with no convictions (out of court) who really doesn't care about what *The Clash* are all about, but who grasps enough of the music to be fanatical about it. It could be that *The Clash* have finally tired of attempting to frame solutions for the world's problems when all their audience want is to hear about the problems themselves. Change the music or change audiences. *The Clash* have done the latter in their last album *Sandinista*, quite a radical move away from punk while still retaining the original lyrical contact. This alienation from punk audiences is also backed up by the fact that all through the film, band members continuously refer to their fans as animals. It certainly seems that the audience spends most of its time attempting to mob the stage and if they have to beat up any of the equally moronic bouncers on the way, then that is all part of the fun.

The other theme behind the film is a pure political one attempting to document the present situation for kids in England. *The Clash* are seen constantly down at the courts as are other characters, particularly some West Indian pickpockets (who get

very rough justice indeed). "F-uckin' Rastamen" call out a group of racist rockers from (they loudly inform me) Glasgow, who are sitting behind me in the Fair Lady cinema, introducing another political theme in the movie. *The Clash* are seen doing a show to fight against the National front whose NF initials can be seen spray painted all over every free wall. Again Terry is used as a typical mindless punk figure to bounce ideas off. *The Clash* are seen listening to his "let's keep politics out of rock" arguments in quiet but disapproving suffering.

The film manages very well to create a strong conviction in its own truthfulness. It isn't a documentary, but it is played like a documentary. The characters are neither overplayed nor underplayed. Terry isn't treated as a working class hero or as some sort of animal. He is criticised as a drunk 20 year old with no ideals, but we are also given an explanation of why he has no ideals. Thus if you want an idea of what the working class youth does in England, *Rude Boy* is a valuable social document.

James Williamson

Bon Voyage Poets

Out of the renaissance of Adelaide rock 'n' roll in 1980, the *Bad Poets* emerged unscathed by changes in musical direction and band personnel, to be the festival city's brightest shining light.

After weeks of debating the prospect, the band is finally going interstate soon, prompted by their well received gig in Melbourne supporting *The Models*.

The *Bad Poets* performed in January last year and played their first gig in March, supporting *The Sputniks*. The band in those days consisted of, Jade Adrenalin (vocals), Marcus Jarrett (guitar), Troy Spasm (guitar), Broggs (bass), and Tim Nicholls on drums.

Growing out of the end of the punk scene, the band retained the excitement of punk, added great melodies, and lyrics you could identify with, like those in *You're Gonna Cry, Not Me and The Job*.

In the early days at the Richmond, I remember myself and many others standing around the bar consuming large amounts of alcohol till we heard the first chords of *John the Bad Poet*. Then, it was out on to the dance floor, and you didn't stop dancing till you fell on the ground. One of my personal highlights in 1980 was waking up under a table at the Richmond,

and opening my eyes just enough to see Jade singing the words to *Beginning to See the Light* off a piece of paper. That was only the beginning.

At the *Brats* birthday gig last May, St Peter's Town Hall was full of leather and plastic and all things nice. *Void* and *The Dagos* gave me enough time to consume most of my flagon to be ready for the *Bad Poets*. Jade came on stage draped in a Union Jack, stalking, squatting and jumping out in the audience to *I'll Do Anything, Vietnamese Baby* and *Sing Another Song* while the audience fell over and got up again.

The *Bad Poets* went off the road for a while in July after their gig at Flinders University for those arrested at the ACA basement (except half those arrested couldn't get in). Troy Spasm left the band due to "musical differences" and the search began for a keyboard player to take his place.

Eventually however, they settled on guitarist Martin Rigby, whose addition to the band notably influenced their change in direction. Their first come back gig was supporting *The Laughing Clowns* at the Governor Hindmarsh and one was struck by the finesse and "un-sloppiness" of the band. They didn't even appear drunk.

After experiencing the new sound for a while and getting used to it, one appreciated the *Bad Poets* more than before. Most of the old songs have been dropped and the new ones like *Crash Sweet Crash, Notes From a Dark Street* and *The Walking Song*, great melodies, are accentuated by the cleaner sound.

The cleaner sound has been described as a cross between *Siouxsie* and *The Banshees* and *The Pretenders*, but the *Bad Poets* are more danceable than the *Banshees* and not as "samey" as *The Pretenders*.

I wish the *Bad Poets* well on their journey interstate. Don't be surprised in a few months if you see a band called the *Bad Poets* on television, and find yourself saying, "I didn't know they were from Adelaide".

mmmm

Want some rock for free? Well almost free. There is a catch - you have to be a MMM subscriber. The basic story is this. 5-MMM is running their first free gig featuring *Foreign Body* and *Avante Garbage* on Saturday 11, 9pm-1am at Norwood Town Hall as a finale to the Radiothon (which you've just missed).

It's the first in a planned series of free gigs for subscribers so why not pay up? MMM needs all the help it can get to remain as a viable force in Adelaide radio helping Student Radio to blast schmaltz off the airwaves. You can subscribe at the door. If you can't get the ready cash for this, it's \$3.50 for the general public, and for students and unemployed, the cost is \$2.50. On dit Staff

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TRAFFIC AUSTRALIAN AIRLINES

THE PURPOSE OF IT ALL

This week we have had submitted to us two articles on the general area of the purpose of education. Both invite the reader to think beyond the academic side of the issue. Both are obviously personal opinions and have merit in that they are not a scholarly attempt to intellectualise, but are directly a point of view.

We invite any reader who feels he or she may want to "have a say" about an issue or incident to put pen to paper and invite discussion and debate. Come and see us and talk about it first if you like. Let's see if we can get some decent debate going and liven up this tired University. - Eds.

A Livelier University

Australian universities have slipped in public importance in the last ten years. Their role in stimulating intelligent criticism of our society was first weakened from within, then eroded from outside. Simultaneously they have become inward-looking, and the quality of student life has suffered. This article attempts to understand why, and suggests ways to reverse the trend.

Most popular explanations of the decline in student life during the 1970's mention the advent of continuous assessment, the expansion of knowledge (and course-loads), and increased competition among students for fewer jobs after graduation. Each appears to offer a partial explanation, but even the combination need not have been fatal for the university's role as a major forum of discussion.

My undergraduate experience was in Melbourne in the late 1960's. I mention the best features of that experience not to indulge in nostalgia, but to highlight what has been lost. For many undergraduate and graduate students of the time, the main event of the week was a public meeting on campus featuring a major figure in the news, national or international. Whether this weekly forum was arranged by an academic department or by a student club didn't matter. The university and its students regarded themselves as having a role and position not much less than that of the National Press Club. Figures at the centre of a controversy could be 'summoned' to give an account of their part in it. Politicians, newspaper editors, actors and the rest came to speak and be questioned. Best meetings of all were those where both sides of a question were argued, and both were challenged from the floor.

These major meetings were part of a pattern of daily lunch-time meetings, five or more each day, where staff and students munched lunches and took part in discussion on sporting, moral, scientific, cultural and other questions. To most of us, lunchtime was the most interesting and formative part of university life.

What was peculiar about this era was that the average student, in any faculty, was 'expected' to take part in these lunchtime activities. It was part of his or her job-description. More important still, students went to talks by people they disagreed with at least as often as to those they agreed with. In a generally left-wing era, best attended meetings were often those addressed by right-wing analysts. Students wanted to hear and see the people themselves, not simply accept a caricature painted by their opponents. In a quiet but significant way, staff and students of the university were calling public figures to accountability before an educated audience. At the same time, the university's eyes were turned outward to events and issues in the wider community.

In the 1970's, two new factors sounded the death-knell of the older kind of student life. The first was the switch from the public forum style of meeting to what I'll call the trade union style of meeting. (By the way, I support union-style rallies where a grievance is aired, and a vote taken on appropriate action. However, I question the dominance of such meetings in student life.) Probably the union-style of meeting became dominant towards the end of the Vietnam era, where issues no longer appeared to need discussion. All that remained was to persuade the Government to withdraw Australian troops. You went to a meeting or rally to hear your

own side, not the others.

This was an important development in student life at the time, a political awakening. But meetings where the result was never in doubt are not the stuff of which lively and well-informed student life is made.

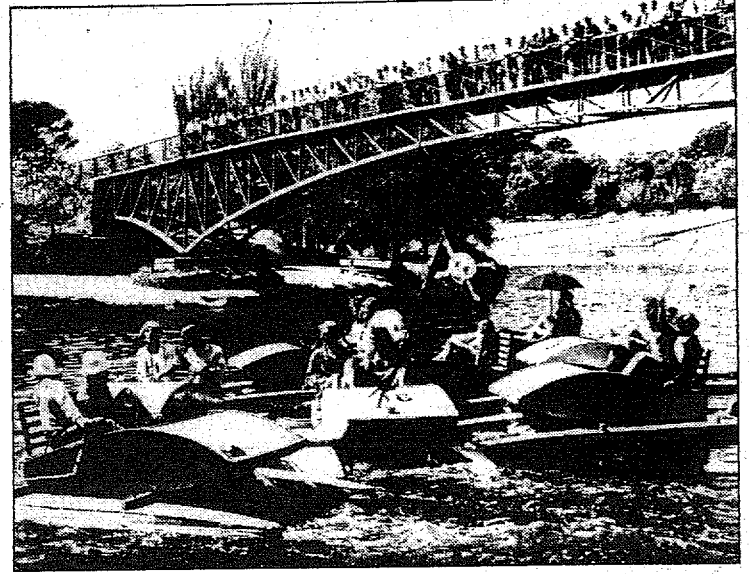
The second major factor leading to a 'quietening' of the university has been the series of cut-backs in government spending. There is no doubt about the seriousness of the cuts for our university, as the Vice-Chancellor has clearly demonstrated. Staff and students are right to give attention to the effect reductions and restructurings will have. But need we suffer an era of intense introspection, where staff and students become fixated on questions of education? To become parochial in outlook just now would be a tragedy for an Australian university. The country is at turning points in policy areas such as resources, energy, welfare, defence, and ethnic affairs (to name a few).

If Australian universities continue to lick their financial wounds, the quality of public debate on major issues will decline further. Policies that keep universities worrying about their own survival are also calculated to keep them on the margins of society. Unless universities such as ours are determined to keep alive their function as centres of intelligent criticism, taking a lead in bringing important decision-makers and researchers together, the necessary task is unlikely to be done. Television is notoriously thin on 'in-depth analysis' of issues. And radio, even Sunday night radio, is spasmodic.

To repeat: of course the university should represent its own interests strongly to governments. Of course students should be concerned about the declining number of teachers and library resources available to them, and about welfare issues including inadequate finance. But if at the same time the university lets its public role go by default, it will be accepting a role little better than a school for professionals in the narrowest sense. The University of Singapore, virtually reduced to impotence as a school for technocrats is a frightening model to move towards.

Do we have the nerve to invite major figures in the community to subject their ideas to our scrutiny? And will students again come to see regular participation in forums on major issues as central to tertiary education?

Adrian Lyons
Catholic Chaplain



Education & Religion

The demise of philosophy

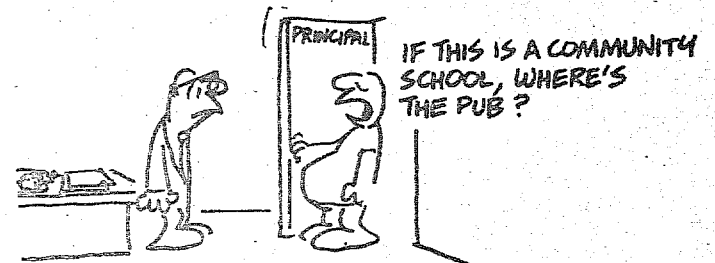
Some weeks ago, the High Court of Australia rejected a challenge made by the DOGS (Defence of Government Schools) Association upon Federal funding of non-government, religious schools. The DOGS' argument was that such funding was a violation of section 116 of the Commonwealth Constitution, which provides in part that "the Commonwealth shall not make any law for establishing any religion".

The court said that to give grants specifically for educational purposes did not "establish any religion" as long as they were given out without favouring any one religious denomination over the others.

What interests me here, however, are not the legal niceties of the High Court's judgment, but rather the wider implications of the funding controversy. While the DOGS' challenge was being mounted in the Courts, a debate went on in the community at large as to the validity of religious schools, and their relative merits in comparison to secular, state-run schools.

It is a mistake because something as important as the preparing of children for life should not be undertaken without some kind of coherent vision as to what life is all about - without a philosophy, if you like. It is quite clear however, that the secular, State-run schools in which the greater part of Australian children are being educated have little such philosophy. And while the religious schools might be presumed to be different in this respect, a closer inspection reveals that in the average "religious" school, religion is kept safely away from education. Christ's imperative to love your neighbour as yourself becomes a topic for languid discussion between algebra and geography lessons, and greater pride is taken in the school's playing fields than in its chapel.

The result, it seems, is that there is hardly any philosophy to speak of in Australian education. (I refer here to philosophies of life, not techniques of instruction.) Not in the government schools, where such things are not



Without necessarily taking sides in that particular argument, I think it would pay as well to take this convenient opportunity for a critical look at our own attitudes towards and expectations of education, and also at what we might call the "purposes" of education.

To try to define the "purposes" of education would at first seem a daunting task. I myself prefer the single definition given by the modern Hindu philosopher, Jiddu Krishnamurti, who once said: "The purpose of education is to prepare children for life."

"To prepare children for life." Obvious, isn't it? So obvious, in fact, that we usually take it for granted. That is our great mistake.

supposed to exist, and not in the "religious" schools, where it is not polite to be serious about religion.

What, do you think, is the result of that? I'll tell you. A nation of people who have been bred without any vision. A nation that has no poets, and no prophets. A nation of beer-swilling, materialistic hedonists.

The idea of a secular society was invented by philosophical men - by religious men. Their desire was to establish freedom by precluding the dominance of any one religion over others. The result has been a demise of philosophy altogether. I don't know about you, but that strikes me as being exceedingly sad.

James Irving

