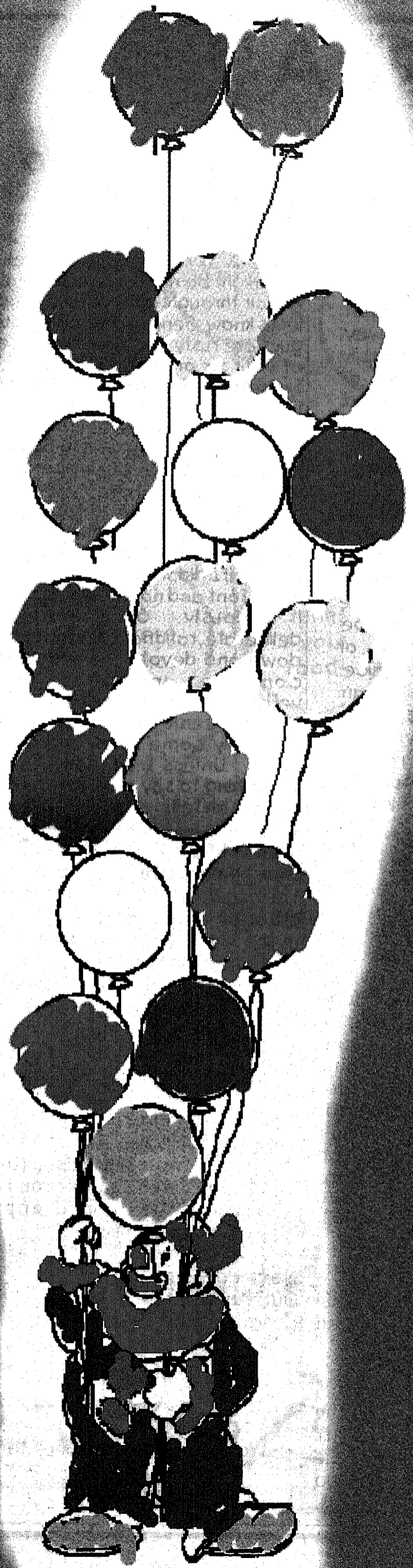


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c-2

LIBRARY OF NEW
14 DEC 1998



EDITORIAL

Susie's Snippets

Hmmm...welcome back to another fun-filled semester of *On Dit* circus magic. Much has happened since we last hit the news-stacks. The Wik legislation got passed, Pauline reigned in Queensland (and continues to taint our country's politics), the Common Youth Allowance has commenced, Jabiluka mining has started, PNG has suffered a real big shock, etc, etc, etc.

It's enough to make you want to run away and join the politically incorrect, animal abusing circus troupe.

Well anyway, we thought it was a good idea. Not as good as the snow in Mittagong, but less flakey. And certainly not as cold and slushy.

And so here we all are ready to start another fresh semester, bright eyed and bushy tailed. I'm alive, awake, alert, enthusiastic. A brim full of smiles. But I s'pose it won't last for long.

LOVE HEAPS...Susie ☆☆☆☆☆

Paul's Prattle

so I said to him, "look," I said, "look, you just can't do something like that," I said, "I mean, the ferret will suffocate or something," but did he listen? of course he didn't, the fool, he just went ahead and did it anyway, didn't he, which was incredibly stupid and got him arrested, of course, which nobody wanted, although the police were very nice about it, and all, waiting in the hospital, listening to the nurses sniggering while the doctors saw to him, telling me 'it's alright' and 'it happens to all men at some stage, so they say' and things like that, which I suppose are really just bits of pointless garbage designed to fill in what could be some uncomfortable space, or something like that, but it was nice of them to think of trying, I mean it's the thought that counts, really, isn't it? of course it is, which, I suppose, is the same thing really, I mean, everyone says it, but who really means it? I mean, it's like I

Chris's Crap

You would think, wouldn't you, that six or seven weeks of not producing any *On Dit*'s would make us all rusty and slow. Well, you might be right. You can have a look through what follows and let us know. Send us an email. "You guys are rusty and slow because of your six or seven weeks off." Something like that. Or maybe just "You guys suck." That works too. You'd also think that the time off would mean we'd have plenty to write about in our editorials. Well, wrong again. Despite actually quite a lot happening here at uni and elsewhere in the world, I'm not writing about any of it. Even if I did, it'd come out crap in this font and noone would take it seriously. So I made a deliberate, rational decision to sit down and devote the space to complete and utter (and verbose) twaddle. And here it is. I hope you enjoy it, I did. So much I'll gladly come back and do it again. Unless I actually have something to say next time. You never can tell.

On Dit is the weekly publication of the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide. The Editors have complete editorial control although the opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily their own. Anything you can do to make our existence more bearable, including gifts, food, drink and flowers, would be most welcome.

Editors:
Susie Bate
Paul Bradley
Chris Slape

Advertising Manager:
Leeanne Storr

Freight:
Jocelyn Milbank

Typesetting:
Fiona Dalton

Printing:
Cadillac Printing

☺:
Anthony Daniele for being his charming self; Chris Bolland for bringing the damn big coffee urn in on Saturday (and letting us drink from it); Esther Speight for coming in twice and helping once; John Hicks for coming in and helping for ten minutes and then wasting our time for an hour; Eva for stepping boldly into the breach; Dean K. for the font gear; Student Radio for gear of the highest order and Peter for decorating the office and bringing some serenity; Leeanne for finding our ads; and our lucky stars, for being lucky. All the time.

☺:
Dean K for the fonts; the people who ran up our down our stairs all Sunday; Matt.

Where we are:
The *On Dit* office is located on the Nth. Tee. campus opposite the Barr Smith lawns, in the basement of the George Murray Building, far too close to the toilets and the drams.

Such is life.
How to contribute/contact us:
You can drop off your copy at the office or in the contribution box in the SAUA office. Alternatively, you can drop us a line at *On Dit* c/o Adelaide University, SA, 5005, phone us on (08) 8223 2685 or 8303 5404, fax us on (08) 8223 2412 or email us at ondit@smug.adelaide.edu.au

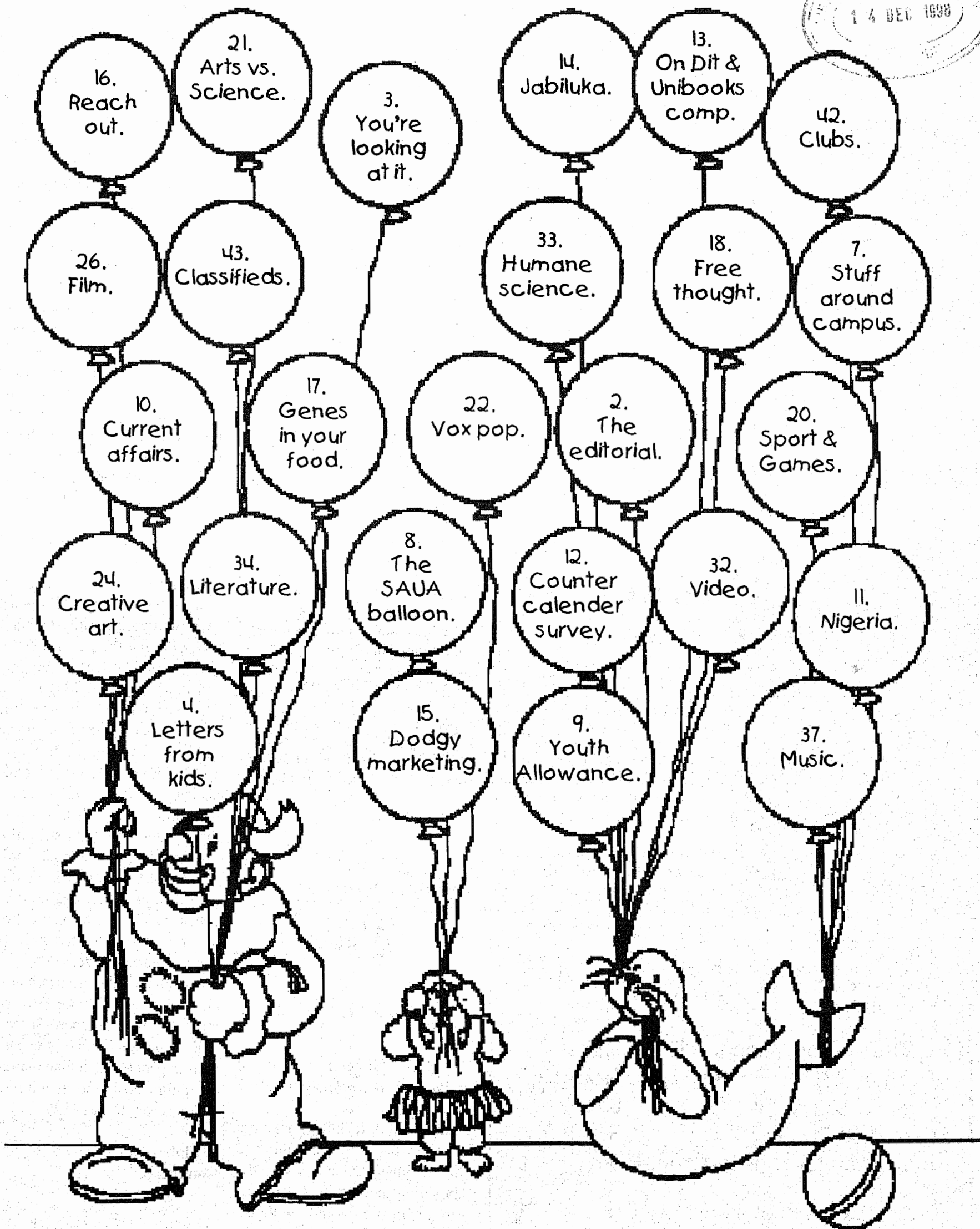
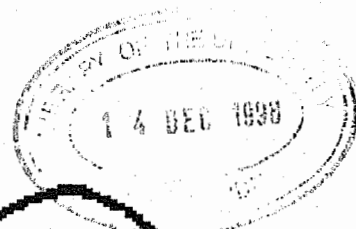
About the cover:
Chris tried very hard to stay inside the lines. We think he's getting better, don't you? Shows promise. Needs to shut up and apply himself more in class.

Next edition:
Out: August 3
Deadline: July 29



We're all glad to be back for Semester 2. Aren't you?

What's in all those balloons, anyway?

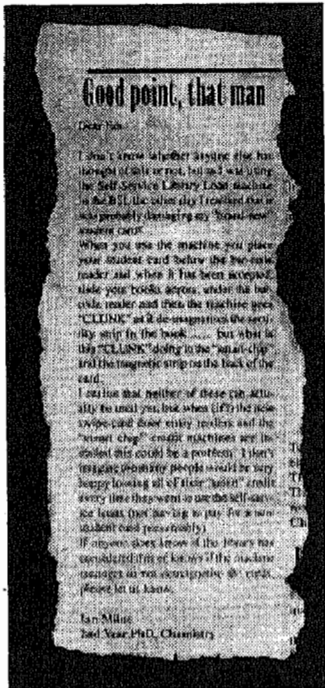


letters to the editors



WELCOME BACK

Hi everyone. Welcome back to Semester 2. We hope that the exams at the end of last semester weren't too stressful for you and the holidays were happy and joyful!! Of course, we don't really care. But at least we don't pretend we do. Or if we do, at least we're insincere when we do it. Or if we're not, at least we try. And if we don't, it's only because we're lazy. It's time to remind you all about the fantastic "What I Did On My Holidays" letter writing competition, in which you could win a terrific prize!!! To enter you have to write us a humorous letter detailing your vacation antics, real or imagined, and drop it in by ... um... let's say Thursday. That'll do. If you, like us, are too lazy to do anything like that, you can just sit wherever you are right now and peruse the rather marvellous collection of letters we have this week. Oh boy. Bet you can't wait. Can you? Can you wait? Didn't think so. Off you go, then.



Good retort, that man

Dear Editors,

In his letter published in *On Dit* on 1 June, Ian Milne raise the sensible question ("Good point, that man") as to whether data encoded on the smart card chip might be damaged or erased by the magnetic processes of the Library's self-service loans unit (and also by the swipe-card equipment for building access).

At the time of the commissioning of the smart card, there existed no smart card chip reading equipment on which trials on the possible effects

of the Library's self-service loans unit could be conducted. However, the Library sought and obtained assurances on the matter from representatives of Telstra, which owns the smart card technology, and from the 3M company, which developed and sells the self-service loans unit. On both cases we were assured that the self-service loans unit will not affect data on the smart card chip.

While the effects on the chip remains untested in practice, the Library has previously investigated a similar matter. The Flinders University ID cards carry a magnetic strip which supports the Flinders University photocopying operations as well as the library barcode, and many Flinders staff and students use their Flinders card to borrow from the Barr Smith Library; we were concerned that the self-charge unit might interfere with the magnetic strip. In this case we sought and obtained assurances on the matter from 3M, and were also able to test the cards. There was no problem.

Notwithstanding these comments, the Library will observe the situation with close interest when the chip on the smart card becomes active.

I speak here only on the matter of the Library's self-service loans unit. The library has no knowledge of the technology of swipe-card door entry.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Choate
University Librarian

I'm sorry?

Re: Native Shoes issue "a-z of native title & reconciliation" & the rest

I am curious to know how the words "I'm sorry" are going to change what has happened to the Aboriginal people, and why our prime Minister should apologise today!

If you have been betrayed by a

friend, do the words "I'm sorry" solve the problem? Does it make it all better? Does it lead to a "happy" reconciliation? The answer is NO, you're still going to remember, you're still going to hold a grudge & therefore reconciliation can't occur. Why then are these words so important??

For national recognition you say. The nation knows what has happened, they know the Aboriginals were treated badly, but some people chose to remain ignorant to the fact, which is their choice. I feel sorry for what the "white man" did to the Aboriginals, but nothing I can say or do can change what has happened. What has passed has passed, and although those affected are damaged, or scarred, for life perhaps, two words can't heal a wound dug so deep. This is why I can't see now, by John Howard apologising this is all going to change. He himself expressed his sympathy, but made the point that the government of today shouldn't need to apologise for something a previous government has done. Believing at that time it was in the best interest of the Aboriginal children. Today in 1998, we know it was a wrong decision, we know to some extent what implications it has had on that "generation", but still all of this can't be solved with 2 words. My suggestion is that instead of treating this issue as a political debate which it has been, is to treat it as it should be treated & that is a humanitarian issue.


Forget about Labor accusations of an "unhuman" Liberal Government, for just a moment & see it as an issue that involves the emotions of people rather than a smear campaign designed at winning voters across to the ALP.

T. Flaherty
Commerce

"Back to Uni"

MS Office Professional A/E	\$249
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Email computers@camtech.com.au



Dr Death and Honest John

Dear Editors,
As regards the Blue Magoo in your previous edition; any Honest John should know that Suharto was regularly and constitutionally re-elected, by a margin of over 90%, every five years for a period longer than many of us have been alive. He knew about elections. Thanks in a large part to students Suharto might be gone, but Indonesian warships are still off the coast of Dili and commandos in its streets. The dictatorship in our backyard is part of his legacy. (Of course the East Timorese have paid a high price for their truculence before now - the Japanese systematically starved these brave people for acts of passive resistance to invasion.) The Timor Sea oil fields go into full production this year. Half of the profits go to Australian big business, the rest of their Indonesian counterparts. Who's plundered who, and why do the protests and demonstrations about these issues continue twenty-five years after the Indonesian invasion? Why is it still an issue, to the extent that small "I" democrats take note of it? Honest John should also know that the education, training and knowledge production infrastructure of this country, rated according to its public utility, is in a parlous state. The Fed Ed Minister, Dr Death, intends to put in the nails. "Negotiation" with this cold hearted chameleon is, I am sure, a dangerous and difficult task for those brave or stupid enough to attempt it. Even more so should Dr Death realise that the crucifixion he enacts occurs in a vacuum of hansonite public disinterest. If only the strong count, why not give your preferences to the Liberals, your allegiance to the devil,

and close your heart to the whole bloody business? Just remember to wash your hands after you vote, John.

Red Dread

My APATHY? or What are you really trying to say?

Letters to the Editor:

I just wanted to tell everyone what fucks me off about this university!!! I have been here since 1994 and this place gets worse every year. But what has really fucked me this time is the new rule in the RESERVE COLLECTION of the BARR SMITH, the one that says a student cannot remove the borrowed book from the library (oh you can take it out of the actual reserve area though, kind aren't they, or is it thoughtful?) Well are they going to lower the price of photocopying in line with SUAU (sic) or will the SUAU (sic. again) increase theirs I wonder?? but what else pisses me off is that this thoughtless decision will cost me a small fortune that I don't already have YOU BASTARDS!!! What else fucks me off is that the Pharmacy, the Catacombs, a decent Uni Bar and oh I forgot the Grill Bar and a free education have all been done over!!! but what is worse you educated wankers out there don't give a shit!!! FUCK YOU ALL. Sorry I forgot that Pauline Hanson is the only ignorant wank out there the rest of you are too busy sucking and being done over. Well what else has pissed me off since I first arrived I hear you ask??? Your APATHY.

Signed **FUCKIN PISSED OFF**
or **APATHY SUCKS.**

Bob wrote to us

Tuesday, 14 July 1998

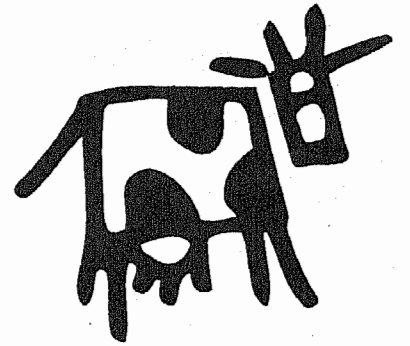
Dear Editor,

Voters who want to prevent the sale Telstra and are opposed to the GST have a powerful option to express their views in the Senate. Only the Greens have clearly stated and consistent track record on these two issues. While the ALP oppose the Telstra sale they have a poor record on privatisation having pursued economic rationalist policies for 13 years in Government. Meanwhile the Democrats have an 'open mind' on the GST. Only the Greens have been

categorical and consistent in their objection to both these regressive and unpopular policies.

Voting Greens in the senate is the positive way of helping to keep public assets for the public benefit as well as ensuring a fair tax system.

Bob Brown
Australian Greens Senator for
Tasmania



67% of cows read and enjoyed BRUCE. 23% of all BRUCE blokes enjoy cows. Statistics can be raunchy.

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32 points and a free go on the On Dit ferris wheel for anyone who can tell us where this came from

Editorial control is a wonderful thing. We can censor any damn thing we like!

Masculinity in the modern world is much more than flashing on and off. Discuss with reference to the the red guy and the green dude.

Blowing Our Own Trumpet No. 1

Congratulations *On Dit*!! *BRUCE* was a great hit amongst our office and we are kickin' ourselves because we didn't think of it first!

Keep up the good stuff

Sara from *CUrio*
Uni of Canberra

Blowing Our Own Trumpet No. 2

Susie, Paul & Chris,

Congrats on your *BRUCE* issue. I have perused it and given the official Bruce™ seal of approval; as awarded to the 'bruce' edition of togatus in 1996 - a spooof of juice, with dead model fashion spread 'n' all.

Regards,

Bruce
Togatus Ed
University of Tasmania.

Blowing Our Own Trumpet No. 3

Susie, Paul and Chris,

We reckon you lot are a bit of alright. We think everything you do is excellent. Keep up the good work.

98% of cows



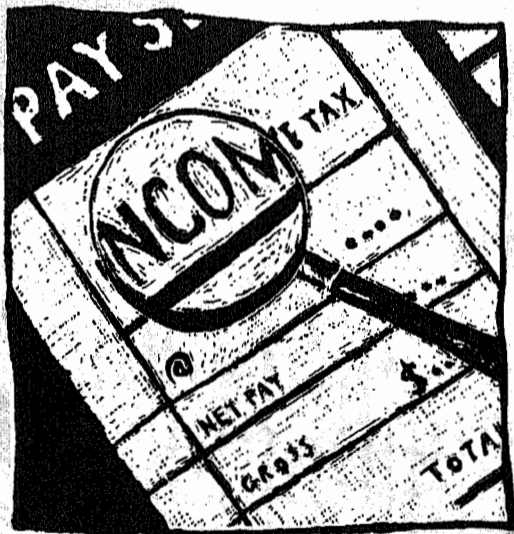
I see a change in your future, Mutations....
Struggles, drugs...
In order for you to free yourself from this pestilence, you must try this special tea that I brewed, made up of exclusive U4 tea leaves!.

little know facts about zane, number one:

his real name is

CENSORED

craze.



tax angst?

Struggling through your tax return?
Don't know your deductions from your rebates?

The Students' Association now has a free tax assistance service to help you through these challenging times. Every Wednesday, between 3 - 5pm, come in and talk to our accountant (courtesy of Income Tax Specialists.)
Gain valuable advice & help with filling out that pesky tax return form.

Simply call into the Students' Association Office (ground floor, George Murray Building, Union Complex) or call (08) 8303 5406 to make an appointment.
Or, visit the web site for free taxation advice:
<http://www.taxspecialists.com.au>
user name: students
password: tax98

your students' association - working for you



Dear People at *On Dit*,

It occured to me that the little red guy on the Kintore Ave crosswalk gets a raw deal. Firstly he's red. Secondly, he has to stand at attention 24 hours a day, with an occasional break to the let the snotty green guy strike a far more masculine pose. So what we have is a little red dude that work probably twice as much as the green dude, stands in an uncomfortable position, and has to go to the trouble of learning how to flash on and off (most likely at a tertiary institution). Anyway, he wasn't there today. At all. I just hope he takes his day off at a cool place like the bar, and gets some cool R & R. Power to the red dudies, I say. Green guys are bastards.

Nick Aschberger
4th yr. Engineering

PS. Does the phrase "Birth Canal" bring to mind the image of Gondolas to anyone esle?
PPS. Don't worry, engineering does this to you.

Student Services Forums

There will be a series of open forums on student services in August. These forums have been organised by the Student Services Reference Panel. The terms of reference for the panel are to be found on the web at <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/secretariat/ssrpn.html>>

All staff and students are invited to attend these meetings and to contribute to the discussion. In addition, anyone wishing to make a written contribution is invited to use the proformas below.

Each forum will be facilitated, and there will be a framework of issues to be discussed. The full panel will attend each forum. Because there has been a decision to outsource the Health Service, this will be the first forum, and people wishing to participate in the consultation process for the Request for Tender are encouraged to attend this forum.

Forums:

Health and Wellbeing

3 August 12-2, Union Cinema

Areas include: security, medical services, proactive health campaigns, sport, recreation, drug user support, art and craft, clubs, pastoral care, religious support, support for specific groups such as Indigenous students and international students, occupational health and safety.

Accommodation, Counselling, Fair and Equal Treatment

10 August, 12-2, Union Cinema

Areas include: accommodation, personal counselling, support for international students, support for Indigenous students, non-professional counselling, careers counselling, financial counselling, support from the religious community, grievances, cultural awareness, equal opportunity, disability liaison.

Commercial/Semi-Commercial Services, Employment Services, Financial Support

17th August, 12-2, Union Cinema

Areas include: food and catering, transport, child care, travel agent, post office, banking, books, stationery, gym, computer and other resource support, careers counselling, employment service, training courses, scholarships, HECS exemptions, sports scholarships, emergency loans, loans, insurance, smartcard.

Information Services, Learning Assistance

24 August, 12-2, Union Cinema

Areas include: Information about course and services, newspapers, radio, promotions and marketing, information technology, academic advice, learning assistance, tutorial support.

Written Submissions to the Student Services Reference Panel

For Students

Year of Study:

Course:

International Student:	Yes	No
Fee Paying Student:	Yes	No

Views on Existing Service

Name of Service:

What is your experience of the service?

How did you hear about this service?

What suggestions would you make to improve this service?

Views on Services required

Area of service required:

Describe what you would like this service to do.

Do you have a preference for which body would deliver this service (eg. Student Union, Faculty, Department, Central Administration etc.)?

Can you estimate the level of demand for this service?

For Staff

Name of Area involved:

Please describe the service your area offers

What structures do support the delivery of this service and what modifications would you suggest?

What relationship does your service have with other parts of the University Community?

Are you aware of any gaps or duplication in services your area offers across the university? What is the source of your information?

Are there any unresolved policy issues in your area?

Can you quantify the demand for this service?

What other comments would you like the review panel to consider?

Health Service Outsourced

The University of Adelaide's Health Service will be put to tender - and staff and students will have a say in the shape of the new service.

The Vice-Chancellor made the decision, on the advice of the Vice-Chancellor's Committee, with a view to creating a high quality, more cost-effective service.

There is an increasing trend in Australian universities towards licensing medical practitioners to provide health services on campus. The University of Adelaide's Student Services (which included: Health, Counselling, Loans & Disability) has been running at a substantial loss for several years.

The new service will be a bulk-billing practice contracted to the University. The University's counselling services will continue to be provided by salaried University staff.

Staff and students will have an opportunity to contribute to the competitive tendering process, either through Garry Read [8303 4638, gread@registry.adelaide.edu.au], who is coordinating consultations to produce the tender document, or through the Student Services Reference Panel Open Forum on 3 August at 12-2pm at the Union Cinema.

Existing health staff will have the right to submit a tender.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Doug McEachern, said he would like to record his appreciation of the commitment and dedication of the health service staff.

"The tender process will open up the possibility of University staff being covered by the health service," he said.

"The new arrangements will provide substantial savings, while allowing the University to provide a cost-effective and high-quality health service."

He encouraged staff and students to have a say on the future of the service, particularly through the Student Services Reference Panel. The panel will play a key role in consultations as part of its broad consideration of the gaps and duplication in the delivery of services by the University, the union and external service providers.

Garry Read can be contacted by phoning 8303 4638, or email gread@registry.adelaide.edu.au



Union Catering

Welcome back to Semester 2.

During the mid-year break there have been some quite noticeable changes in the Union's Catering Department. What was once the Wills Refectory/ Grill Bar (next door to Uni Records) has now become, wait for it ...

WILL'S Will's is the place to be seen this semester, with its funky new colour scheme and decor. Union staff have worked over the break to inject some warmth and comfort into what was a fairly bleak environment. The couch corner is sure to win hands down as the best place on campus to escape the winter cold and rain.

Also this semester will be an awareness campaign about Romax re-useable plates, bowls and cups. Colourful banners adorn the Mayo Refectory reminding all of us of the environmentally friendly product that can be washed and reused. Look after your environment by returning Romax to the marked bays.

Another development in the area of catering has been the setting up of a taskforce by Union Board to investigate the feasibility of a separate Food and Beverage Board. This would remove catering from the direct political influences of Union Board, giving rise to continuity in management of catering from year to year, but still leaving ultimate control to students. Catering is taking big steps forward.

To find out more about catering or any other Union service, you should check out the Union web site on www.adelaide.edu.au/AUU. This web site also includes a responses page. If you have any comments about Union services, including catering on campus, please leave your comments/suggestions for improvements/praise. All are taken seriously and if you leave your email details we'll respond personally to your query.

If you'd like to contact me directly about Union Catering or any other Union issue, you can do so in writing c/- Union Admin, Lady Symon Building, or by email at elysia.turcinovic@student.adelaide.edu.au.

Cheers,
Elysia Turcinovic
 Chair, Catering Advisory Committee
 Member, Union Board

Apology to Ms Judith Clover, former Education Vice President of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society ("LSS")

On 5 August and later on we published a letter entitled "Storm in a Plastic Mug" under the author's name "Anytime McDonald". On 9 September 1996 we published an article entitled "On Dit Under Legal Threat" under the names of the then editors of On Dit, Kerina West, Frank Trimboli and Christina Soong.

The letter made certain assertions about Ms Judy Clover's involvement, as a member of the Law Students Society, in the production of a Careers Guide for students.

The latter article reiterated the assertions in the letter and made further assertions against Ms Clover and her reaction to the letter.

It has been pointed out to us that each of the letter and the article were defamatory of Ms Clover.

We now take this opportunity to wholly withdraw all our assertions against Ms Clover contained in both the letter and the article and to record that we accept that at all times she acted in accordance with her duties to, and in the best interests of the Law Students Society.

On Dit and Kerina West, Frank Trimboli and Christina Soong apologise to Ms Clover for the hurt, harm and embarrassment we have caused her.

sophie allouache - president - sallouache@auu.adelaide.edu.au



WELCOME BACK

Hi everyone. Welcome back to Semester 2. I hope that the assessment period at the end of last semester wasn't too stressful for you and the holidays were full of happiness!!

Remember if you had any problems with your lecturers or tutors or please don't hesitate to come into the SAUA and see either Sky or myself. If we can't help you directly we will be able to tell you where you can get the assistance you require.

COMMON YOUTH ALLOWANCE

As many of you are aware the Common Youth Allowance was introduced on the

1st of July. For those of you who were previously on Austudy and haven't lodged your transfer forms do so now as you will not receive any back pay. For more information on the Common Youth Allowance check out the article in this edition of On Dit or come into the SAUA and see either myself, Sky or Phil.

FACTS ON TAX

The SAUA has introduced a new service for students this semester. For students who are having difficulty with your tax returns you can now come into the SAUA and talk to an accountant about your tax return. The accountant will be coming in

on Wednesday afternoons from 3 - 5pm starting from next week. All you have to do is drop into the SAUA or give us a call on 8303 5406 and make an appointment.

SEMESTER PLANS

This semester the Students' Association will be running several campaigns and events throughout the whole semester. There is something for everyone so keep you eye out for

- Re-Oriented,
- Environment Week,
- Blue Stocking Week,
- Enrol to Vote Campaign,
- Lost Property Sale and lots more....

sky mykyta - education vice president - skym@smug.adelaide.edu.au



WELCOME BACK!

Hope you've had a fantastic break and are already for another exciting semester at uni! Have a ball in Re-O Week (check out Alida's column for all the details) and then look out for the following events this term from the Education Department....

"ROCK ENROL" TO VOTE IN WEEK 4

On the 19, 20 & 21 August there will be bands, speakers, JJJ gear and all the info about why YOU should enrol to vote. Be an informed and active voter and send the Government the best possible message about what you want and what you care about. Whether that's university funding, HECS, Youth Allowance, Unemployment,

the Environment, parallel CD importing, Native Title, Reconciliation, Health funding, taxation or a million other things, they are ALL decided by the politicians that we elect at State and Federal elections. So if you reckon that you're not affected by the Government think again! Come out to "Rock Enrol" Week - it's gonna go off!

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION - AUGUST 26

It's in M - Week (Multicultural Week) so the focus will be on education issues for International students, Indigenous students, students from language backgrounds other than English, cultural diversity and combating the influence of

the red-headed witch from Ipswich. Look out for more info in the weeks to come...

ATTENTION ALL UNIVERSITY STUDENT REPS

Meeting of Student Representative Standing Committee on Tuesday 4 August at 1:00pm in the North/South Dining Room in the Union Building, North Terrace. RSVP on (08) 8303 3898 to let me know if you're coming.

Remember if you've got any problems with your assessment from last semester NOW is the time to deal with it - come and see me or Sophie, or phone the Union's Education Welfare Officers on (08) 8303 5401.

alida parente- activities/campaigns vice pres. - acvp@smug.adelaide.edu.au



RE-ORIENTATION

When my baby, when my baby smiles at me I go to

Re-O is happening this week, Wednesday 29th to the Friday 31st. It will be held on the lawns or in cloisters if it rains. What's happening? Well I'm glad you asked, there will be bands, there will be food, there will be drink.

Food wise there will be the traditional sausages, but there will also be BBQ corn on the cob as well as a SAUA soup kitchen, with everyone's favourite tomato soup.

Soup will be \$1.00 a bowl, with bread BBQ and Beer will be \$1.00 (don't forget to bring your SAUA cup, to be able to enjoy the cheap beverages.)

There will also be club stalls and retro/grunge second hand clothing stall as well. Bargains galore for you to rumage through.

SOUTH PARK

Quick get to the uni bar on Monday nights to watch South Park before Stan throws up.

The Activities department of the Students' Association will be showing South Park in

the bar, and on the big screen. It will start Monday August 3rd. Screening will start at 6.30pm and just in case you miss the weeks before we will be showing that as well, so you will be getting 2 whole hours of South Park.

There will be a happy hour included in the programme, just to make the show even funnier if that's at all possible.

So get up there to see the bastards kill Kenny. Oh my God. Get Re-Oriented.

Cheers, Alida

eileen fisher - womens' officer - sauawo@smug.adelaide.edu.au



Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a fun and relaxing holiday after exams.

ELLE DIT

Elle Dit is the women's edition of On Dit, produced by women for women. This year it will be coming out on the 10th of August, so work is well under way. Remember, the deadline is August 5th, so get your contributions in to one of the Elle Dit collection boxes around campus. What do you contribute? Well, that's completely up to you! Articles, reviews, creative writing, artwork, letters, interviews, the possibilities are endless. The Elle Dit collective meets on Wednesdays at 1pm in the Womens' Room.

TOTALLY WIMMIN POWERED RADIO

Have you ever listened to 5UV? Have you ever thought about working in student radio? If you have, then the week beginning the 10th of August could be your chance! Totally Wimmin Powered Radio is a week when women have the opportunity to learn what student radio is all about, by learning the technical work, directing the week's programs or putting on a show of their own. It'll be a great week. Don't forget to listen out for the all female bands playing on Local Noise. So, if you want more information or are interested in being involved come in and see me in the SAUA or phone 8303 5406.

BLUE STOCKING WEEK

This year Blue Stocking Week will be from the 10th to the 14th of August. This is a week when we celebrate women's achievements in higher education. There will be lots of activities happening during the week including: a cheese and champagne opening in the newly renovated Wills refectory, a photo exhibition of female student representatives on campus, a band and gourmet BBQ on the Barr Smith Lawns, a women in the workplace stall and pancake BBQ in the cloisters and films in the union cinema. So come along, join in and don't forget to wear your blue stockings!

danielle kowalski - environment officer - kowalski@smug.adelaide.edu.au



Welcome back to another semester at Adelaide Uni, I hope everyone had great holidays.

SAUA CUPS

Well this week is Re-Oriented so don't forget to bring your SAUA CUPS so that you can get some great deals on drinks. SAUA CUPS are always available in the SAUA (all year round). For only \$2.50 they are a great deal. So if you don't already have one buy one.

UNLOGGED BOOKS

Are now available in the SAUA and they only cost \$1 and if you bring your binder back then the next book only costs 80c. This is a great deal!

Unlogged Books are great for writing lecture notes on and are really really cheap.

FOOD CO-OP

It is important that all people interested in starting up a food co-op on campus come to see me and that we set up a meeting time.

You can ring me on 8303 5406 or email me on kowalski@smug.adelaide.edu.au

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

The 7 - 11th of September which is week 7 of this semester

Thanks, Danielle

NEED HELP?
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/AUU/services/saua/index.htm>



don't forget to bring your saua cup for re-orientation!

youth allowance

if you think the commercials are crap, get a load of the scheme.

by Phil Harrison, SAUA Project/Research Officer

Token eyebrow rings, designer clothes, TAG watches, 90210 clones, not a flanny in sight and \$3.8 million dollars. Put it all together and you get the publicity associated with the 'Youth Allowance'. If the Coalition doesn't do another thing until the election, they'd get people voting for them if they just sacked the advertising company responsible for that shyte of a campaign. Somewhere in Lithgow, NSW, Elvis shot the telly for the second time in his life, because of those bloody ads.

Actually the one that peeves most people off, is factually wrong. You know the one where the father won't be able to 'kick her ass' or inflict any other form of physical abuse or mental anguish on his pierced daughter.

The daughter is a secondary student and under DSS guidelines for Youth Allowance would be ineligible for any support. The guidelines state: "to get the away from home rate, it is not sufficient for the young person to choose to live away from home either for study, job search or general preference, or where a secondary students parents move to a new location". The ads are not only a misrepresentation of young people, they are fundamentally wrong.

What the ads failed to mention:

UNPALATABLE

- That if you didn't return a transfer form you'd be kicked off your payments or have them reduced. (what form?!!!!)
- Under the parental means test the full rate of Youth Allowance is only granted to students and young unemployed people whose parents' combined income is less than \$24,024 p.a.
- Families with a taxable income of \$42,000 p.a. and over will be granted no allowance at all. (After paying out for food, utilities, rent, mortgage, vehicle and other necessities, that doesn't leave much)
- Up to 47 000 will now be denied access to student assistance because of cumulative changes to Austudy in the past 2 years.

Some people may now be eligible but we're not saying who. You'll have to self identify. Unemployed young people are being treated in the same manner that contributed to the outbreak of 'Mad Cow Disease'. (Lets grind 'em all up and feed them to battery hens and call it a primary producers incentive scheme)

PALATABLE

Changes to 'Independent' status for Youth Allowance and work criteria arrangements. Do you qualify?

- If you have worked, or been lucky enough to for 18 months in the previous 2 years at over 30 hours p/w; or more than 2 years at a minimum of 15 hours p/w since leaving school; or 1 year at a minimum of 30 hours p/w if unsupported and educationally disadvantaged; and 2 years since leaving school earned at least 75% of the Youth Training Allowance (\$13 676) continuously for the last 18 months.
- Are in a de-facto relationship of more than one years' duration
- All full-time away from home, not just previously classed as homeless, can apply for Rent Assistance (a federal government payment). Don't forget to go to the Housing Trust and apply for rent relief as well (a State government payment).
- If, within 3 months of transferring to Youth Allowance, you realise you have not received the Rent Assistance payment, because your details have not been updated due to circumstance, the payment may be backdated.

"The fact that to qualify for 'Independent' is predicated on young people working in climate of 35% youth unemployment should not be forgotten."

Activity agreements, what you can and can't do and a new loophole.

Study loads and issues to do with part time work and part time study have changed slightly. In some cases combining part time study and saying (or actively proving) that you are seeking work, will entitle you to a Youth Allowance payment.

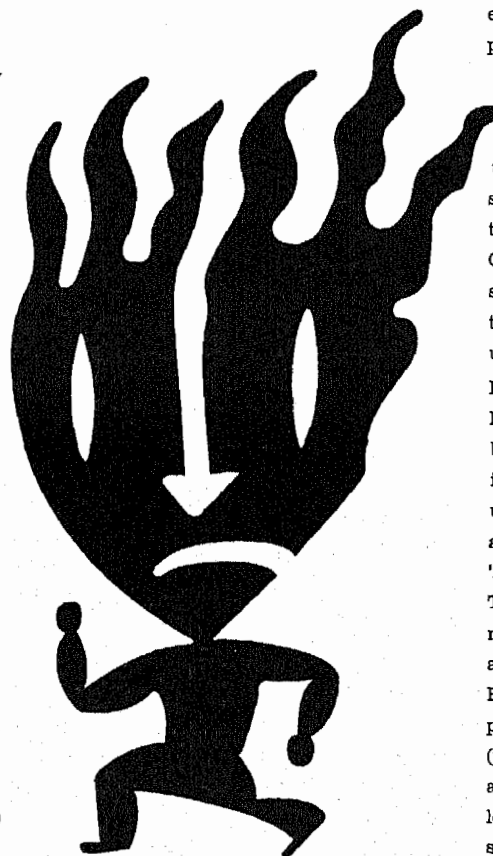
To satisfy the activity test as a full time student, the person must:

- be enrolled in an approved course; and
- be undertaking at least three-quarters of a full time load; and
- make satisfactory progress in the course

A recent ruling of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in relation to 'summer school' or 'intensive studies' means that these types of short courses can be considered in determining a students load. These courses are given a weighting by the institution, as per the HECS loading ratio, and subsequently can now be counted as studies for the purpose of satisfying the Youth Allowance activity test for students. Each subject has it's own prescribed HECS loading ratio. ie. a 6 point 2nd year subject in most cases will equal 0.25 of a full time load. For a student undertaking a course which attracts a HECS fee, three-quarters of a full time load will be equivalent to 0.75 of a full years HECS loading, or 0.375 for a semester.

"If you might have stuffed up or it is alleged that you have contravened any YA guideline, do not accept the verdict. Seek out advice from several independent sources and fight like hell to keep your only source of income."

If you have done the wrong thing, breaches become cumulatively harsher. An initial breach will result in an 18% decrease in your payment for 6 months. Choose wisely!



Income bank.

All students transferring from Austudy to Youth Allowance have been credited with a \$3000 in their Student Income Bank (SIB). Instead of averaging out your expected earnings over the year, you can earn up to \$6000 p.a. before payments are reduced. If you exceed the assigned amount in your SIB and do not inform the authorities, chances are you will be breached. A threshold of \$230.76 per fortnight means you can earn up to that amount, and anything less you can accrue in your income bank and offset it when you might earn more money, say during holiday periods.

Why fix it if it ain't broke?

The underlying issue for students is grounded in the reason for the changes. The majority of people would say that the policy changes are predominantly a cost cutting exercise. No doubt this is a significant factor, however, it is more about a bureaucratic/administrative grab for

power over who controls a program such as the old Austudy. On good advice the resultant changes have been attempted several times unsuccessfully over the past decade. Has the grab for one of the nicer jobs in the Public Service, of who hands out the money, meant subterfuge of the usual mean spiritedness of the Coalition and caused unintentional policy outcomes? Initial analysis indicates that the Youth Allowance will prompt an increase in enrolments across the country due to previously ineligible working-poor students qualifying for the 'Independent' payment.

In what has been described as an ironic twist at odds with government moves towards user-pays, thousands of poorer students will gravitate towards the path of tertiary education.

Of the 50 000 previously disenfranchised students, due to policy shifts in the past two years, most will become eligible again under the new rules for 'Independent' payment. In addition, another 50 000 potential and current students could also become eligible in the same way. These include previously ineligible full-time undergraduates aged 17 - 19 and those aged 20 - 21 who can qualify as 'Independent'.

The down-side of the changes are numerous, however, there's too much doom and gloom and dark clouds hanging over Higher Education at the moment, hence the positive aspects of the Youth Allowance (possibly interpreted as stuff ups if you're a policy adviser to the Minister or genuine loopholes if you're an impoverished student). There is one big downer in the whole deal, you will now be a client of the most bizarre government department in the cosmos; Centrelink/DSS.

"Remember, you must self identify, fill in a form no matter what, be vigilant, seek independent advice and everything you are entitled to."

If the arrangements of the new payments start to affect the departmental budget, then don't feel guilty. The Treasurer has kept \$2.7 billion up his sleeve for little surprises like unintended policy outcomes, or bailing out the Aussie dollar to the tune of \$billions because pig farmers Keating deregulated the Australian financial markets and \$3.8 million for publicity campaigns that are probably intended to put you off applying.

For advice and assistance, contact the Education/Welfare Officers, Chris, Karen and Vicki, Ground floor, Lady Eymon Building, River Torrens side of the Cloisters.

CURRENT AFFAIRS DIGEST

Not Waving, Drowning

Papua New Guinea is reeling in the wake of three giant tsunamis, created by an earthquake, which decimated the beach along Sissano Lagoon on the north-west coast. The death toll is expected to reach 3000, but is open to fluctuate given that 6000 people are missing - either dead or hiding further inland. There are grave fears that an entire generation has been all but wiped out with children accounting for a disproportionate number of those dead or missing, presumed dead. Noted one observer of the scene: "Only coconut trees stand where villages flourished". For the survivors, the threat posed by disease is great. Gangrene and malaria are the most pressing immediate concerns. Meanwhile, in a bizarre but purely coincidental twist (we hope!), TV producer Aaron Spelling has jumped at the chance to flog his latest soap opera *Sunset Beach*, which at least until now has been floundering in the ratings. An episode, entitled 'Shock Wave', which screened in America only hours after the PNG tragedy featured a plot line in which "a huge earthquake and tidal wave hits Southern California". Never one to shirk publicity, Spelling made sure everyone knew about it while expressing his distress at the events in PNG.

Apartheid Atrocities Endorsed

In the same week that the President of the 'Rainbow Nation', Nelson Mandela, celebrated his 80th birthday and his marriage to Graca Machel, former South African law and order minister, Adriaan Vlok, revealed to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that he was directly instructed by President P.W. Botha to organise the bombing of the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in August, 1988. Vlok is seeking an amnesty for his involvement in that bombing and the bombings of the HQ of the Congress of South African Trade Unions and a number of cinemas which were screening the anti-apartheid movie *Cry Freedom* in 1988. Vlok said that Botha instructed him to "make the building unusable by the SACC" in an attack which would injure 21 people and extensively damage central Johannesburg. Later, Botha allegedly congratulated Vlok on the success of the bombing. Botha is already in trouble with the Commission for refusing to appear be-

fore it earlier this year. Vlok's testimony also calls into question the earlier evidence of Botha's successor, F.W. de Klerk, who testified that he knew nothing of government sponsored terrorism against anti-apartheid activists. Vlok is adamant that de Klerk knew what was going on at the time.

Take Me to Your Leader

With Tim Fisher's National Party rapidly heading for feather duster status in the wake of the apparent popularity of Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party in the rural heartland, you'd have thought that the other half of the Federal Coalition would have battened down the hatches to prevent the ship from sinking. Instead, we were exposed to much huff and bluster after Treasurer, Peter Costello, admitted that there were leadership queries about the PM amongst Victorian Liberals and confirmed

(for reasons best known to himself) that he'd been approached about mounting a leadership challenge to John Howard. Meanwhile, the Federal Government has done a pike over the full privatisation of Telstra. In light of the Senate's rejection of the full privatisation plan and polls suggesting community opposition to the sale hardening, the government has undertaken to privatise only 49% of Telstra pending an "independent inquiry" into the issue of full privatisation versus maintenance of services. That leaves only the GST

as the millstone around the government's neck. Former National Party Senator John Stone wrote a couple of weeks ago that "Howard and Costello...will ring down the years as the greatest political dummies in Australian history" if they proceed with a GST to the next election and lose, or are forced to govern with the aid of One Nation, given that the GST had already been rejected in 1993 (& by Howard as well!).

Crime, Punishment & the American Way

Earth's Globocop, the United States, no doubt miffed at its sudden loss of muscle, will "actively oppose" and seek changes to the Treaty of Rome which 120 countries signed up to two weeks ago. The treaty, which provides for the creation of a permanent International Criminal Court, was stridently opposed by the USA which found friends in strange places -

like Iran, Libya, Syria and Burma. The USA's allies, including Australia, were

unanimous in their endorsement of the principle of a criminal court with strong

powers. The United States is opposed to the principle of an independent Special Prosecutor who could prosecute war crimes on their own initiative, without being subject to UN Security Council approval or the invitation of the country whose citizens are being prosecuted. US State Department spokesman James Rubin said that

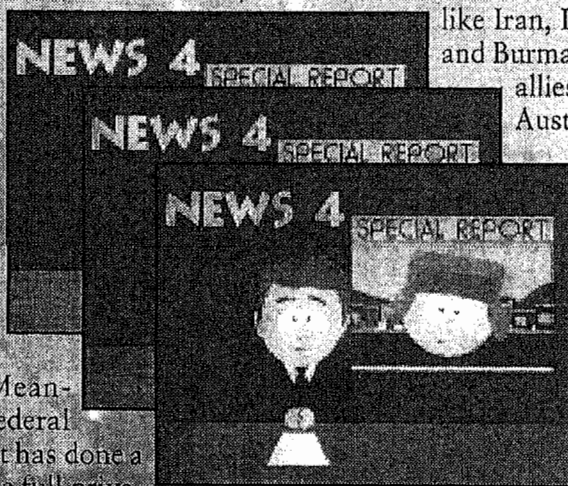
the Rome Treaty would complicate US participation in military operations abroad because of the fear that the international criminal court will adopt frivolous or politically motivated war-crimes prosecutions against US soldiers. Supporters of the Criminal Court are dismayed at the USA's stance. Richard Dicker, of Human Rights Watch, accused America of "breathtaking arrogance" adding that it was clear that America only wanted a court subordinate to the political interests of the members of the UN Security Council in which the USA, along with Britain, France, China and Russia, possess a power of veto. Dicker noted that accused war criminals often have a protector among the veto-wielding UN members: "...it means no Pol Pots and no Saddam Husseins (and the like) will ever appear before this court" were it the US model. Meanwhile, 60 bodies - many bound and blindfolded - have been exhumed in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a continuing investigation by the ad hoc war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. The investigation is linked to the missing thousands of Bosnian Muslims from the UN 'safe haven' of Srebrenica which was overrun by Bosnian Serbs in July 1995.

I'm a Loser, Baby...

Frenchman Jacques LeFevrier, no doubt overwhelmed by the success of 'Les Bleus' in the World Cup, left nothing to chance when he decided to top himself. He stood at the top of a cliff overlooking the sea, constructed a noose and makeshift gallows, drank some poison and set himself on fire. Then, as he jumped, he fired the gun he had with him. Then things went wrong.... The bullet missed him completely and cut through his noose. Freed from the danger of hanging, he plunged into the sea below, where the sudden dunking extinguished the flames and made him vomit the poison. Feeling more miserable and useless than he was at the top of the cliff, Jacques was rescued by a passing fisherman and returned to dry land... where he died of hypothermia.

Georgie Hambrook

Sources: *The Australian*, *The Age*, Reuters, PANA, Bizarre News.



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NIGERIA: punch-drunk and reeling

awaiting a new dawn or another false one?

Feeling punch-drunk? No? Not just a little? Well, Nigeria is. First, Africa's most populous nation was sent reeling in June with news of the death of hitherto indestructible military strongman General Sani Abacha, supposedly of a heart attack (sceptics reckon poisoning). Then four weeks later, the imprisoned figurehead of Nigeria's pro-democracy movement and self-declared winner of the annulled 1993 democratic elections, Moshood Abiola, died whilst being visited by an American diplomat. Natural causes, aided by medical neglect while imprisoned, was the official verdict (Abiola's family alleges murder). Now, Nigeria's new head of State of just seven weeks standing, General Abdulsalam Abubakar, has announced that power will be handed over to a democratically elected civilian President next May, with civilian government to follow soon after. Too good to be true? Maybe. But with large demonstrations and the threat of violence apparent after Abiola's death, Nigeria's military junta has to placate the population somehow. Even if only to buy

themselves some breathing space to organise the next crackdown. Or to enable a crumbling oligarchy to plunder and stash away the booty - inevitable, one would think, in the world's most corrupt nation (according to the people who survey such things). The attitude of the Abubakar regime towards these elections could well determine once and for all whether the transition to democratic civilian government is one to be achieved peacefully.

The foreshadowed May 1999 elections will be held in the place of the discredited electoral charade planned for later this year, in which General Abacha was to have been the only Presidential candidate nominated by the country's five 'government approved' political parties. In his speech, Gen Abubakar admitted that "our most recent attempt at democratisation was marred by manoeuvring and manipulation of political institutions, structures and actors". In an effort to clean the slate, these five state sanc-

tioned political parties will be disbanded with the elections being opened to new political parties. But not all political parties will be registered. Somewhat ominously, Gen Abubakar warned that free-for-all democratic participation in politics "is full of pitfalls and dangers which this administration cannot accept".

General Abubakar also announced that he would be dismissing all charges against Nigeria's political prisoners. In an 'gesture of goodwill', Gen Abubakar preceded this announcement by releasing 10 of Nigeria's political prisoners, including three high-profile journalists who had been serving 15 year sentences for aiding an alleged coup plot in 1995. So far, the government has released about 30 of the estimated 250 political prisoners in Nigeria's jails.

However, many opposition leaders have dismissed Gen Abubakar's plans. Leading democrat, Gani Fawehinmi, patriarch of the Joint Action Com-

mittee of Nigeria, said of the latest election timetable: "It's the same old wine in new bottles". There are strong demands for an immediate return to civilian rule. Human rights activist, Clement Nwankwo, thundered: "We need to match these words with action". Added the radical democratic group, Campaign for Democracy: "Try as the military may, Nigeria's crisis cannot be reduced to mere declaration of an election timetable. It is a crisis of nationhood. Nigerian people should not swallow hook, line and sinker the (sic) Abubakar's bait of another transition program as it will lead nowhere". Of course, you must forgive the scepticism of the democracy campaigners. They have a valid point. Prior to the annulled 1993 elections, the military resorted to conciliatory gestures and populist tactics by promising free and fair elections and releasing a few political prisoners, only to crack down even harder when the elections were won by the wrong man...

Georgie Hambrook

Sources: Chicago Tribune, PANA, Reuters.

HEY! YOU! READ THIS!

Library PINs

From July 27th 1998, all University Library users will require a PIN (Personal Identification Number) to access their borrower's details, place holds, renew loans and use the Barr Smith Library's self service loans machine.

If you have not already set a PIN, you may do so at any time using the 'Borrower's Details' option on the Library catalogue.

Please note that your Library PIN is unrelated to any other PIN you may have for University Business, such as those used for SOLAR, email and the IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System).

More information is available from the Barr Smith Library or your Branch Library. Further enquires to the Barr Smith Library Services desk, Mon. - Fri. 9am-5pm. Tel 8303 5124.

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**counter calendar
subject survey**

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!!

We know it seems early but it is Counter Calendar time again and we need you to fill out and return our funky surveys. Pete, Anita and myself will be distributing our fine surveys over the next fortnight or so during lecture bashes, etc, and for your convenience have provided you with a copy here in *On Dit*. Please be honest with your answers, the Counter Calendar is for your benefit. Surveys may be returned to boxes strategically placed in such areas as your faculty, the SAUA, Barr Smith Library, and the Uni Bar. Alternatively, if you are a paper conservationist, or a computer freak, you may choose to access the Counter Calendar survey on the Net. In case you are not already suitably excited, we are also offering the chance to win one of four \$30 Uni Records CD vouchers.

Bonnie-Claire Yates
Counter Calendar Editor.

what is the counter calendar?

The Counter Calendar is an alternative course guide provided by the students' association for the students. It provides a real perspective from students who have survived and lived to tell the time. This publication will contain the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (we think!).

So why are you telling me this you ask? Quite simply, last year people filled out similar forms so that a guide could be compiled to help you choose the subjects you're doing now. Basically people, it's your duty - it works both ways! You give responses on your subjects this year, and you are provided with information on your subjects for the next year. Remember, if you don't respond - nobody else will. And if nobody responds - we can't give you the Counter Calendar. And that would be sad, wouldn't it?

So, please, fill out the forms for as many subjects as you can, and drop them into the box in your faculty or the SAUA. Even if you're not going to fill them out for the reasons above, at least fill them out for the chance to win one of four \$30 CD vouchers from Uni-Records! (Yes, that is a bribe).

So, if you want the chance to win a CD voucher, write your student number here: _____

subject: _____

what did the assessment consist of?

issues regarding money spent on
(a) textbooks/equipment
(b) photocopying (c) alcohol

department: _____

level: _____

duration: _____

describe lecturers/lectures (personality and content): _____

what support was offered by the department to aid your studies? (eg. computers? personal? hard drugs?)

key notions describing your views of the subject: _____

describe tutors/tutorials (eg. were they held at the bar/did you need to read the equivalent of the bible before each tutorial?): _____

did the subject contain any sexist material? _____

advice/hints/warnings: _____

rating out of 43 (1=ruderal, 43= good)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43					

thank you dearly for your time!
with love - bonnie, anita and peter
(your counter calendar editors)



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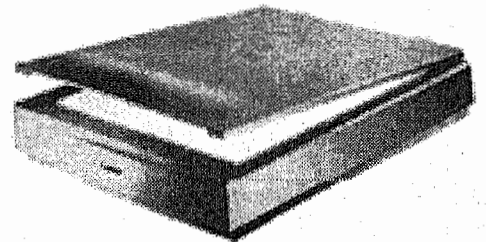
Begins July 27th Closes August 26th Drawn August 29th

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• Money 97 • Internet Explorer • Games Sampler • Norton Antivirus**

2ND PRIZE

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- Adobe Pagemill 2.0 • Adobe Pagemaker 6.0
- Illustrator 4.1 • triple j mouse mat

3RD PRIZE

- Microsoft Word 97 • Word Attack
- Norton Antivirus • Claris Home Page for Windows 95/NT • Lotus Study Pack '97
- triple j mouse mat

4TH PRIZE

- Astronomer • Encarta Encyclopedia 97
- Print Shop Deluxe 111 • Claris Home Page for Windows 95/NT • Print Shop Ensemble 111
- triple j mouse mat

5TH PRIZE

- The Last Express • Risk • Totally Gorgeous
- Trivial Pursuit • Geometry

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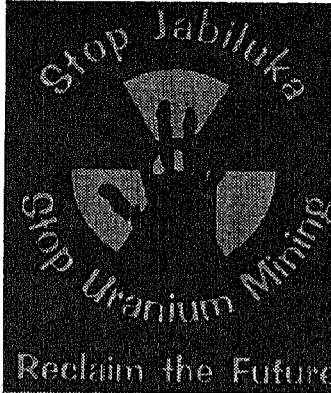
ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NUMBER: _____

STUDENT ID #: _____

Staff of Unibooks and On Dit are ineligible to enter.

...a personal response by Julie Erwin



[INTRO BLURB]

Situated 300km from Darwin in the World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park, the Jabiluka Uranium mine lease is a subject of much controversy and opposition, from environmental, cultural and social perspectives.

In its estimated 28 year life span, Jabiluka mine will produce 90,400 tonnes of uranium oxide to be exported. 20 million tonnes of radioactive tailings waste will be produced and buried within Kakadu, remaining radioactive for up to 250,000 years. A satisfactory Environmental Impact Statement has yet to be carried out on the proposed mine site, with that which was undertaken being deemed inadequate by the minister for the Environment.

The Jabiluka lease is located on land owned by the Mirrar Aboriginal clan, and holds many sacred sites within its boundaries. The Mirrar oppose uranium mining on their land, and have invited all Australians to join in solidarity with them in their fight against the Jabiluka development.

The Jabiluka blockade began in March 1998, and intends to maintain a presence at the lease site until the wet season begins in December. The blockade aims to stop the construction of the Jabiluka mine by means of non-violent direct action.

A permanent camp is situated approximately 8km from Jabiru, a small town about 250km from Darwin.

Protests initiated by the blockade camp are based on non violent principles, and vary in size and form, from individual lock-ons to mass presences. All actions provide freedom for people to behave as they wish within consensually agreed upon action guidelines, allowing for individuals of different opinions to work together at a level at which they are comfortable.

All blockaders have been invited to the camp by the Mirrar people, and as such must adhere to the requests and guidelines set out by the clan, including the maintenance of a drug and alcohol free camp, and violence free protest actions.

The Jabiluka blockade is a practical expression of solidarity with the Mirrar people in their opposition to uranium mining. It is part of the wider national campaign to oppose the development of an extended uranium mining and milling industry in Australia.

For further information on supporting the Jabiluka blockade, either by going there or staying here, contact the Jabiluka Action Group (JAG)

email: jagadelaide@hotmail.com
phone: 8272 0341

or come along to our meetings every **Monday 6pm**
at the **Conservation Council 120 Wakefield St Adelaide**

[RESPONSE]

It was four in the morning. The sun was still asleep and the mosquitos were still parrying from the night before. But three hundred people were awake and eating muesli to the sound of drumming which acted as a primitive wake up call. Somewhere between screaming blue murder at the mozzie onslaught and chasing the breakfast scraps around my still darkened bowl, I paused and looked around. The cohesion felt between three hundred people eating muesli to bongos at four in the morning is astounding, if not inspiring. Later that morning, 106 of the people I ate breakfast with were arrested.

I did not know all of these people. But I did. Each of them was arrested for the same reason. They did not want to see a uranium mine being built in Kakadu National Park.

I watched each of these people being taken away by the police, and I felt empowered by their conviction. Each person was saying that they believed that they were doing no wrong. They were standing for the earth, as were all of us - and the actions of the police were merely a demonstration of the strange workings of our society - that people are not able to peacefully protest against the destruction of their own environment.

It seems a foreign concept, to me at least, that we should be seen as common criminals for doing such a natural thing. That protecting our environment, that which gives us life now and will continue to support future generations, should be seen as an arrestable offence. And that the people who choose to destroy our land for their own monetary advances should be protected and pampered by those government forces which are in place to protect and to serve the community as a whole. Last I heard, the community consisted of more than private corporations.

And so hundreds of people are to be charged with criminal offences. These people will be hushed down, words unheard, seen as the absurd ferals and ageing hippies, whose drug addicted brains have little else to do besides meddle with the economic and industrial development of this great country. Beliefs and morals are to be placed on the stand to defend ones actions. Yet the actions of the corporations will be left unquestioned by the majority of the population. How very odd.

That the media, government officials and other blind hearted souls must belittle the issue at hand by downsizing it to a mere offshoot of a hairbrained, drug induced delusion, directly resulting from the way in which a person chooses to wear their hair or spend their day, only illustrates an acute deafness to their environment.

Protesters are not locking themselves to machinery, lying on roads, storming corporate buildings, or marching through cities for self gratuitous reasons. Protesters are trying to stop a uranium mine being built. They are trying to open the public's eyes to the nonsensical reasoning of corporate bosses with large wallets who are able to rationalise everything by waving money in the faces of anyone who might question their actions.

There is a need in our society to move peoples vision beyond that which they are specified, beyond the economic rationalism, beyond the superficial assurances. To question that which occurs around them, rather than accept all that is routinely espoused to them by bodies and groups with vested interests. I ate muesli at four in the morning with three hundred people that I did not know. I was once told that each person at the blockade is representative of twenty others who could not be there, and that when three hundred people walk in protest, they are walking with the spirit of six thousand. So I ate muesli with the spirit of six thousand people.

I am one of hundreds who have passed through the blockade camp, who are returning home the join those around Australia already fighting for Kakadu. Fighting to stop this mine.

That each person is aware of the issue might be used as a tool for levelling the playing field. That those fighting for the environment might be heard on equal ground to those who fight to overpower it. That the wider community might then be allowed the opportunity to make an informed decision about the future of their land.



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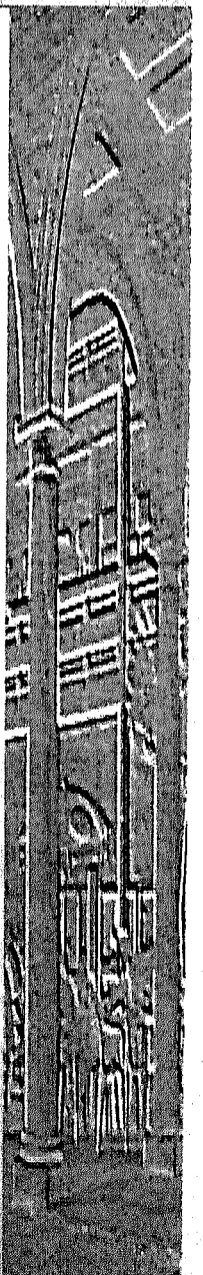
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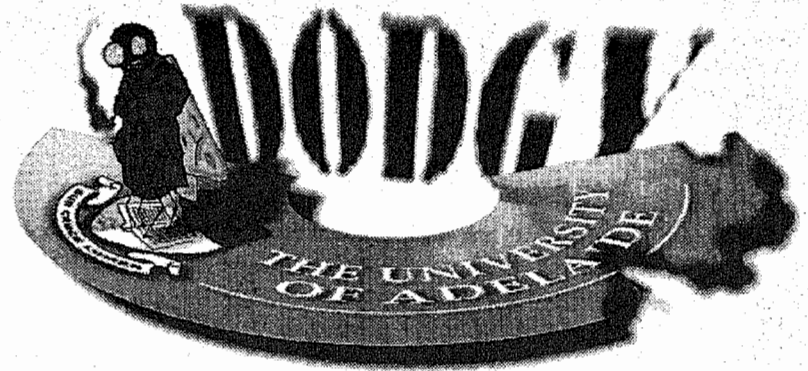
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It has been said by many smart folk that we fear that which we do not understand. This is not supposed to infer that I, along with loads of other university types, fear almost everything because we don't understand a hell of a lot. It does not try to make Kurt Cobain the most frightened person ever because he made a point of illustrating the fact that he did not understand nor care about anything... or maybe it does.

At any rate, I did not intend to write about "whatever for never and don't mind if I do" just now - partly because it's just boring, but mostly because I don't particularly feel like it. Everyone knows that it's a lot easier to believe in nothing than believe in something.

Cross marketing is one thing that I don't understand, and moreover the little bit of it that I can grasp appeals to me about as much as Fergie's topless photos. Cross marketing describes the new trend in big business for sponsorship and multi-advertising that is nearly invisible to the consumer.

An example which everyone is familiar with is the bizarre trend in credit cards that has created things like the Nutri-Metics National Visa Card that earns FLY BUYS(tm). Every major bank offers some kind of credit card that "works for you" in some way by providing the consumer with bonus petrol or frequent flier points and so forth.

So far so good, so what the hell is the problem?

Woolworths is set to make a splash in the petrol market by offering consumers discount price petrol for every dollar spent at their supermarkets. Toyota not only sponsored the world cup of soccer but featured strongly in almost every Advertiser page printed and pre match commentary offered by Les Murray about the event. I can watch an ad for a sports store on the TV and see more adidas propaganda than promotion of the store.

As I see it, the problem is that it is becoming less clear for consumers what exactly they are paying for. A fundamental right in a consumer society is the right to choose. If you don't like a product or a particular com-

pany's methods, then you make your protest clear by not buying that product or supporting that company. The problem of cross marketing is that when a company has multiple sponsors or interests, it is darn near impossible to work out who or what is benefiting from your money. The right to make a consumer decision is not taken away, but it is complicated.

Cross marketing has been kicking around on the internet as any user of Hotmail or a large search engine will tell you. The majority of the most popular sites are "owned" by a small number of large computer companies (no prizes for guessing the biggest of these). The internet is more of a complicated issue in that money comes purely from sponsors and the only burden on the consumer is reams of advertising and "hot links". The same concern remains though; when I patronise a website, how do I know who's paying for it to be there? When I give my personal details online, to whom exactly am I giving them?

By now it should be clear that I do not understand the concept of cross marketing, and hence have every right to fear it and its power to change consumerism.

I love myself and I want to live.

Estiv

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Holidays (or, as we like to say here at university to make ourselves sound all grown-up, mid-year (or mid-semester or summer) break) is actually a much stranger thing than you might at first think. Why? Well, I don't know. Perhaps you're all just really slow and it takes you a while to catch on. It's not really my problem.

To be more accurate, the break itself is not such a strange thing; you're working away, you get tired, you take a break. Noone's so dumb that they wouldn't understand that. What's strange about it is ... well ... what's strange about it? Hmm. Not at all sure. I think perhaps I was just pulling the old (or is it new and just exceptionally prevalent?) stand-up comedian's trick: Did you ever notice how weird <insert topic here> is? And then everyone goes hey, yeah, that bloke's right, that is weird, only noone else has the guts to say it in public, how embarrassing, hah hah hah. That sort of thing. Maybe I was trying to pull that manner of swifty. Well, I'm a bit out of practice. It has been holidays, you know.

Let's see what we can salvage, though, eh? Holidays are a little odd in the differing ways in which people choose to spend them. Some brave souls (of whom the FlyGuy is eternally envious) can actually organise themselves, and sometimes even others, to take a trip somewhere. No, really. The beach. Any one of numerous homelands (depending, naturally, on the individual in question). Just away, somewhere. And then there are others, who are invariably either (invariably either?) boring, poor or lazy, who waste the time doing useless things, like finishing that particularly tricky computer game they've been wrestling with for months. Or making clothes for the cat. Or sleeping.

There are other sorts of people as well, of course (no matter the topic, the categorising of the entire human race into a discrete number of fields is nearly impossible (assuming a meticulously high standard of accuracy (which should be a safe assumption, considering who I'm talking to here (that's you, chump)), that is)): those who have or get jobs and spend their vacation in the pursuit of material goods, and those who figure it would be a good idea to get a head start on next semester and squander their time chasing academics (useless at the best of times) and reading books. Boring books. These people will not be discussed here today. Don't get upset, nerds. This is in no way a judgement of any kind. You're just not on

today's agenda. Because I don't like you.

Observe, if you will, exhibit A: BumbleBeeGirl. BumbleBeeGirl is one of those infuriating individuals with six times the energy that one would normally feel comfortable shaking a stick at (although much of it is wasted dithering back and forth between several of the innumerable things that she always has lined up to be done (Ooh! Can you say that?)), and a break, in her eyes (interesting visual), is no excuse to slow down. She spent these past holidays in Melbourne, Sydney, Dublin, Lens (World Cup, baby!), Toronto (that's in Canada), Antarctica and, I believe (although I am a bit gullible), the moon. There may also have been terrorist negotiations in Saudi Arabia. I get confused. I think that's understandable.

Observe now exhibit B: StinkBugBoy. StinkBugBoy has a certain appreciation of his own filth, and enjoys those days where you don't have to leave the house, get dressed, wash, etc. He has, on numerous past occasions, managed to stretch one of these days out into a fortnight. He can be a bit embarrassing to take places (but it's worth it, 'cos he's so damn funny). He spent these past holidays sitting on his arse. He doesn't have a cat (nor the requisite clothes-making skills (barely able to dress himself and all)), but he did spend a good amount of time saving the Beetle Princess (not to mention recovering all that treasure) in *UberBug VII* (he says, by the way, the trick is to put the magic scrolls in those holes in the wall before you disable the BugSpray doodads). He was quite proud of that little achievement. And he says he did catch up on all that sleep he missed during semester (although he rarely attends lectures and generally sleeps through those he does make it to).

So I'm not sure if we really salvaged anything there at all. We probably need a moral. Er ... well, possibly the interesting thing is that I could put BumbleBeeGirl and StinkBugBoy side by side (assuming that BumbleBeeGirl loses the power of smell when drunk, that is) and they would both be roughly equally happy. So, spend your break how you want, kids. It doesn't matter. Even if you are one of those people I said I don't like. What, you need my permission?

As for the FlyGuy, he happily spent his break wandering around the landscape in his magical sparkly red shoes. Ooh la la.

REACH OUT!

Youth suicide in Australia is one of those things that we don't talk about much. It's not the sort of thing that works itself naturally into conversations, and few people will bring it up it's hardly an upbeat conversation topic. Our reluctance to talk about it allows us to avoid the unpleasant facts surrounding youth suicide in Australia. Each year, between 25,000 and 45,000 suicide attempts are made by Australians aged 15-24. 20% of all deaths in the 15-24 age group are a result of suicide, it is a leading cause of death in that age group. Since the 1960s the rate of youth suicide in Australia has tripled. The rise is mainly accounted for by increases in suicide rates in rural areas, which is in thought to relate to economic decline, lack of community and health services, and the availability of lethal means such as guns. The facts are depressing and the problem is enormous.

Three years ago, former diplomat and senior advisor to Paul Keating, Jack Heath, decided to do something about the problem. Heath was one of the early adopters of the Internet in Australia, and advised the Keating Government on the Creative Nation Arts/Multimedia policy. He felt that the Internet had enormous potential as a provider of social services, a potential that few people recognised at the time. Heath set up an organisation called the Inspire Foundation, a nonprofit group dedicated to issues of national healing, with a specific focus on youth suicide. A high profile Board was put together to run the Foundation, including Paul Gilding, former Head of Greenpeace International. The Foundation decided to set up an Internet service for young people going through difficult times, with the goal of helping to reduce Australia's rates of youth suicide and self harm. Heath says that the Internet is an ideal medium for the prevention of youth suicide.

"The stigma associated with suicide and mental health issues in general means that a lot of people are hesitant to take the first step of making an appointment or calling a counsellor. The great advantage of the Internet is its anonymity. People can visit a site without anybody knowing who they are or why they're there. For young people in crisis, typing a web address is a relatively easy first step to take in working out their problems."

In August last year, Triple J ran the Real Appeal for the fledgling web site, which became known as Reach Out! The appeal raised over \$170,000 for the project, and helped put the finishing touches on the site before its launch in March of this year.

The launch, held in a Sydney high school, featured the Federal Minister for Family Services, Warwick Smith, and a performance by the Whitlams. According to Heath, the launch received a media reaction way beyond his expectations, with more than 100

newspaper articles appearing about Reach Out! in the following days.

"The site is the world's first attempt to use the net in a positive way to reduce youth suicide, and the international media picked up on its significance. It's my view that we're

at the beginning of a new phase of development of the Internet, where people begin to see its social, as opposed to recreational or commercial, uses. Quality social service sites which deliver tailored responses to the individual needs of visitors can do a lot to make people's lives better."

A visit to HYPERLINK <http://www.reachout.asn.au> reveals a site clearly aimed squarely at its youth market. High tech graphics make the site visually spectacular, while the overall atmosphere is laid back and relaxed. Reach Out! is divided

into three distinct sections, Heath explains the rationale.

"We wanted to have a site which catered not just for young people feeling down, but also for their friends and families, and the professionals who work with them. Sometimes a person will know that their brother or sister is not coping, and want information about how they can help. Our Families and Friends section gives them that. Professional Forum allows psychologists and other professionals working with people at risk to exchange experiences, ideas, and resources."

Reach Out! is symbolic of a wider trend towards what's becoming known as 'whole-of-community' approaches to social issues. As Government continues to wind back its involvement in welfare issues, a new sector seems to be emerging involving individuals, community organisations and businesses with some input from Government. Heath sees positives and negatives in the new developments in the non-profit sector.

"I think the non-profit sector is where the really innovative social projects are taking place. As Governments wind back, it's people in the third sector who are taking the risks and acting as the real entrepreneurs. That's a great thing but it's also important that the Government matches its rhetoric on the need for the Government to provide a social safety net.

"As more and more corporates set up their own foundations, they're looking to concentrate their philanthropic dol-

lars on a few key projects. That's OK if you're a highly professional outfit with access to lawyers, accountants and other resources. But if you're Joanne Bloggs running a shelter in the local community the change might not necessarily be for the better. We have to find ways of linking local community services with business and giving them the wherewithal to find the support they need for their services. The Internet has a huge role to play in all this."

Heath views the growth of partnerships as one of the major positive developments in the not-for-profit sector.

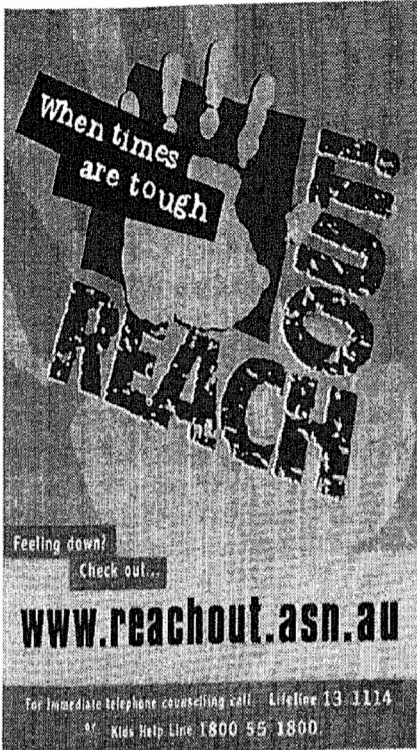
"One thing about the new philanthropy that is clearly a good thing is the spirit of partnerships that is starting to emerge. Old divisions between not-for-profit organisations and corporates are starting to break down, and that means more money and firepower to use in the delivery of social services. At Reach Out!, we have been able to create a broad coalition of groups supporting the service. It really is very heartening to see organisations with vastly different backgrounds and objectives working together for a common cause."

The people at Reach Out! are particularly proud of the feedback which they have received from users of the site. Heath says that at times working in an area like youth suicide can be difficult for staff, but that positive feedback keeps everyone going:

"One visitor to the site told us that she would not have been alive today without Reach Out! That was a fantastic feeling. We've also received comments from people thanking us for the advice offered in Family and Friends, and for helping them to face up to things that scare them."

While Reach Out! does not replace the role of counsellors, it provides a worthwhile support mechanism for the thousands of people who at some point think that it might not be worth going on with life. As a prototype for what the Internet can do when it's used for a social purpose, the site is eye opening. Reach Out! has already saved at least one person, and when you think about it that is a pretty powerful achievement.

The Reach Out! web address is: www.reachout.asn.au



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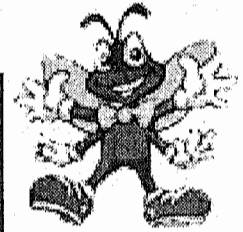


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GENETIC ENGINEERING

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Genetic Engineering is more common than some may realise. A substantial amount of gene tinkering is involved in the production of many foodstuffs, and while much of the negative press that genetic engineering receives is little more than mindless scaremongering, the issue is a real one which deserves intelligent and informed debate. In these interests, we devote space here to the promotion of a meeting which will take place at 7:30pm, Tuesday July 28 at the Burnside Town Hall. The meeting will be moderated by food writer Maggie Beer and include speakers from the Natural Food Commission and the Gene Ethics Network.

Information supplied by Maharishi Health Education Centres of Australia

Imported pesticide-resistant soybeans will come to us after the Australian National Registration Authority recommended a 200 times increase in the level of the pesticide glyphosphate. Glyphosphate has been found in US studies to cause ill effects in farm workers. The company that produces the modified soybeans also markets the pesticide, which can now be used by farmers in much greater quantity.

Studies in Europe and the US have indicated that pesticide resistance can be transmitted to similar plants, so that weeds of the same family as some genetically modified crops are absorbing the pesticide resistant genes and themselves becoming resistant.

In the US, the Agricultural Department has already recommended that farmers

stop planting the recent modified cotton, as those that have been doing so are reporting disappointing yields and increased production costs. A large body of farmers has taken the biotech company that developed the cotton to court.

In South America, India and the Philippines, farmers are fighting these companies because they are patenting the genes of indigenous food crops so that no farmer can plant crops without paying the multinational companies royalties. Basmati rice, for centuries the staple food crops of impoverished Indian farmers, is now being patented. If this succeeds, seeds cannot be saved from this year's crop for planting the following year without paying royalties. The Indian government has now taken this case to the World Court.

Information from Greenpeace Web Page www.greenpeace.org/~geneng/main.html

France is the first country in Europe to allow the commercial growing of a GE plant: a maize produced by Swiss multinational Novartis. This maize is engineered to kill pest insects, however, it may also kill beneficial ones. It also contains an antibiotic (Ampicillin) resistance gene. A recent Greenpeace study reports that the antibiotic resistance gene may jeopardise future antibiotic treatments both of humans and animals. Ironically, the French authorities state that they will oppose all upcoming applications for GE-organisms that contain antibiotic resistance genes.

On 19th February 1998 Greenpeace took legal action against the French government to suspend the authorisation of the Bt-maize because it has not passed the process for the registration of a pesticide. One of the main concerns is the danger

that insects will become tolerant in time to the built-in Bt-insecticide. Even the manufacturer, Novartis, accepts that this is possible. This would destroy the usefulness of natural forms of Bt, the main biologically friendly insecticide used by organic farmers in the integrated management programmes to protect plantations and forests without negative effects on health or environment. In September 1997 in the USA, Greenpeace and other organisations filed a petition against the USA EPA approval of GE plants with Bt-resistances. An opinion poll conducted in March 1998 by the institute B.V.A. on behalf of Greenpeace says that 76% of the French public do not want to eat genetically modified food and 63% want the French government to reverse the authorisation of the GE-maize.

elle ♀ dit

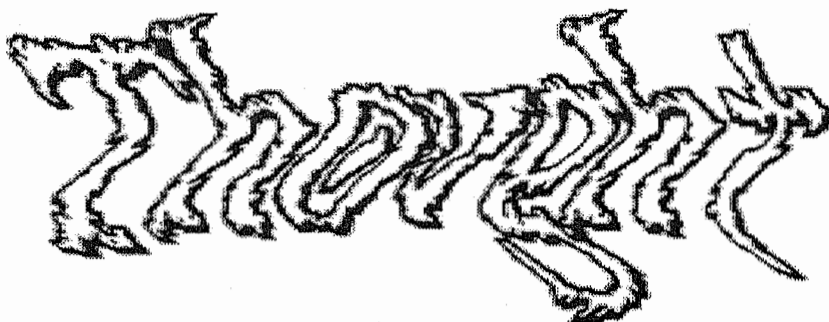
will be out on august 10

elle dit is the annual women's edition, produced by women for women.

the elle dit collective meets wednesdays 1pm, in the women's room. contribution boxes are available in the SAUA, On Dit, Women's Room, the Library, the Mayo, the Gallery, WISA, RACSUC, Thebarton and other spots around the campus.

what do YOU have to offer?

Make your contributions - [articles reviews creative writing artwork letters interviews or anything else you can think of] - by 5pm wednesday august 5.



What is consciousness?

If you're reading this in hope for an answer to what it is like to be conscious you are in for a disappointment. This can not be answered. What can be answered, however, is how consciousness fits in with the processes that make up life forms. To what does the word consciousness actually refer? It seems to be a general term which is used to refer to the experience provided by the senses. To see red is to be conscious of redness. To feel a sting is to be conscious of a sting. To hear a whistle is to be conscious of a whistle.

The best that can really be said is that for a thing to be conscious there must be something it is like to be that thing. There is nothing it is like to be a rock. But there is definitely something it is like to be yourself. Its probably worth repeating this sentence: for a thing to be conscious THERE MUST BE SOMETHING IT IS LIKE TO BE THAT THING. This is probably a very vague way of saying that consciousness is the ability to experience. But it is also saying more than that. It seems to be saying that there is a unique process that occurs within that thing. It is a process that occurs over time and changes as events change around it. Consciousness reacts to changes in the surrounding environment. It is changes in internal states caused by changes in external states. But it is something more than this. A rock can react to external changes. If you kick it, it will react by lurching away. Consciousness isn't just a passive reaction. Consciousness reacts to environmental changes, but it also does something with these changes. It interprets these changes. It processes

them. It modifies and transforms them. Consciousness is creative. It transforms chaotic, unproductive environmental phenomena into a form that can be used. The confused disorganisation of vibrating air particles is changed to sound. Waves of light are changed to colours. Airborne molecules are changed to smells. Varying degrees of pressure on our flesh is changed to tactile sensations. These unorganised phenomena are systematised and transformed into

information that can be used. Consider, for example, when you purposely adjust your vision such that everything turns blurry. Everything becomes fuzzy and indistinct, and bright lights take on strange, concentric, star-like patterns. Why isn't our conscious experience always like that or even more chaotic? Because it isn't a useful form of perception. The order we see in the world is just as much a created by our senses as by an external uniformity. It has been argued that con-

sciousness is like a filtering device. There is an infinite amount of possible information that could be gathered from the environment at any one time. We are only conscious of a very small percentage of it, that which is relevant to our survival. But is it our consciousness that does the filtering or our senses? This question is of course a misunderstanding. By labelling consciousness

with a separate word it causes the illusion that we are

conscious of a continuous flow. It also seems that our consciousness can be focused. We become habituated to (unconscious of) repetitive noises and the feel of our clothes. If, however, we focus upon these sensations then they re-enter our awareness. If you have a splinter in your finger your consciousness will focus upon it. If you laugh, for the period of the laughter, you will often forget or become unconscious of the splinter. If you walk into your room where a new poster has been put up, it will stand out like a blaring light. Your consciousness focuses on it because it is a novel stimulus. When you become habituated to the poster you will hardly notice it. At times of extreme danger it will often seem as if things are occurring in slow motion. This seems to be due to the intensified focusing of the consciousness.

The control of the focusing of our consciousness can be thought of like the control of our breathing. If you do not think about it, your breathing will operate involuntarily according to your physiological state. If you make a conscious effort, however, you can easily control its rate.

To focus consciousness seems to be to increase the amount of processing devoted to that sensation. Just as breathing faster will provide you with more oxygen, processing more information will result in more experience/consciousness. At times, eg after physical exertion, your breathing rate will involuntarily increase. The body's need for oxygen overrides our desire for comfort. Our consciousness also focuses involuntarily, such as with extreme pain or loud noise. When our survival depends upon it, our free choice for focusing our consciousness is overridden.

With a separate entity. Rather consciousness and the working of the senses are inseparably part of the same process. It is changes in the eye that cause the conscious experience of blurriness or clarity. What you are conscious of depends entirely upon the quality and type of information that reaches your brain. It also depends upon the processing of that information. Music is composed of absolutely separate notes, but our conscious experience is of a con-



This is not the whole story. We are also conscious of internal states - thoughts and emotions. Emotions can perhaps be understood as an internal bodily sense of chemical reactions occurring within it. What about thoughts? It seems that thoughts are actually the recall of past experiences. If you were to picture a tree, the approximate process that occurs when you actually see a tree would occur without the tree actually being present before your eyes. This means that mental imagery is a toned-down form of actual sight. Tastes, smells, and feelings can also be recalled. What about the words that pass through our minds when we think? These are probably the recall of auditory sensations in the form of words. Thus what the mind does is gather information from the world through the senses and then manipulate this information (or vestiges of it) in the form of thought. Thought may not be as clear or distinct as our other senses, but is always there like a shadowy commentator giving a voice over, or just going off on its own tangent. No doubt at times our thoughts ramble on and we take no notice of them as we focus our consciousness on the other senses. At other times, however, even the most brilliant sunset will be dimmed as we fixate upon our cognition. Thought seems to be a new innovation in evolution. It is the ability to enact and rehearse actions within our heads without necessarily externalising these actions. Evolution has created for us our own personal universes in which we can practise.

But what is consciousness? My answer is that you already know. You are conscious. You want a definition in words? Not everything can be defined by words. Try explaining to a person who has never seen the colour red what redness is like, or to a deaf person what sound is like, or to a person that has never drunk alcohol what intoxication is like. These things can not be explained by words but only by reference to the actual experience or experiences like them.

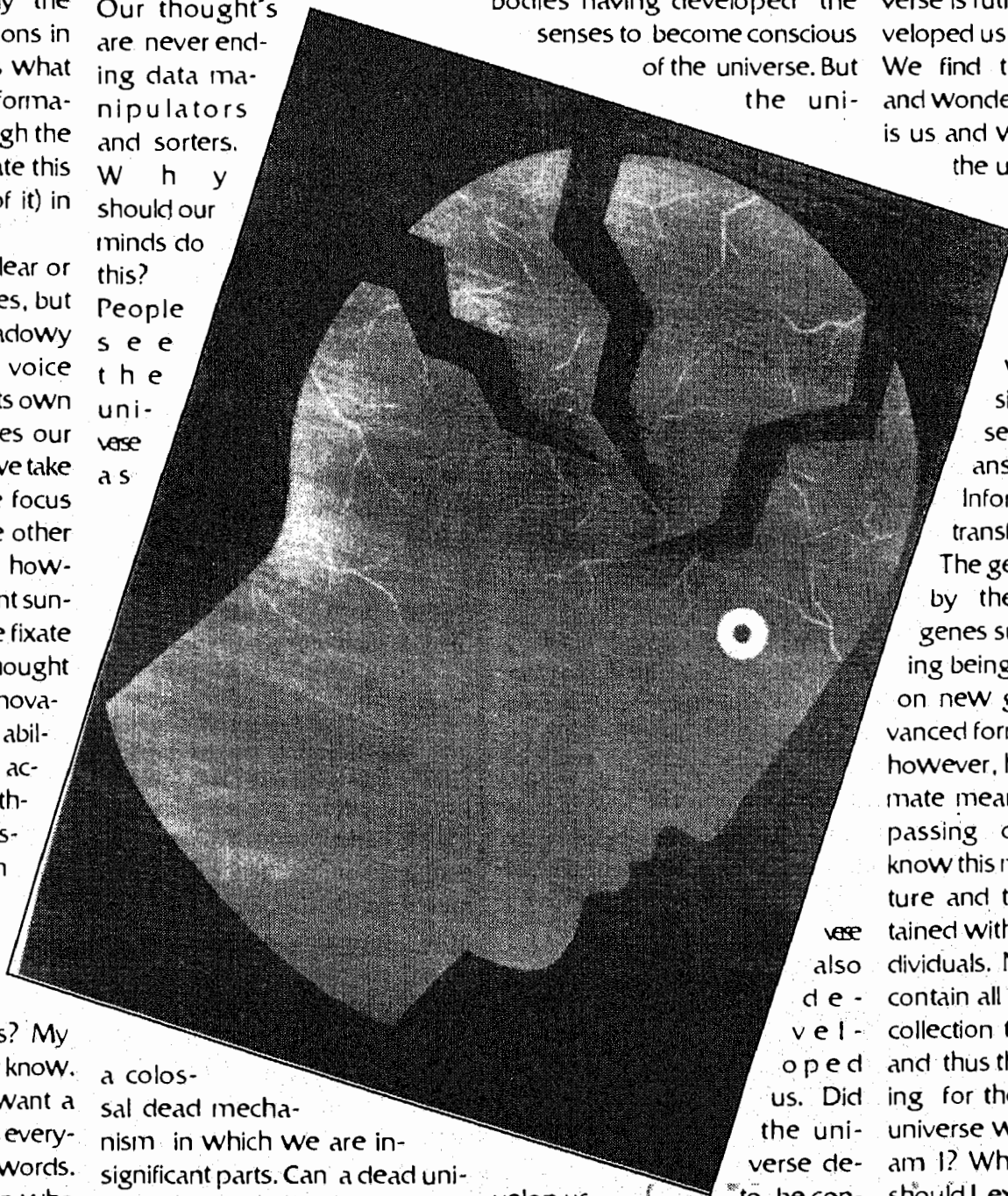
What you would actually be trying to explain is a type of conscious experience. Just as these experiences can not be explained by words neither can consciousness in general. The definition of consciousness which says that consciousness is when there is something it is like to be that thing, is actually circular. You can not understand the definition without already knowing what consciousness is.

CONSCIOUSNESS AND ITS PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE

Our thoughts are never ending data manipulators and sorters. Why should our minds do this? People see the universe as

a colossal dead mechanism in which we are insignificant parts. Can a dead universe really produce consciousness? Does consciousness really develop for no reason? Or is there more to the universe than can be perceived? More than can be brought into the consciousness of finite beings? What if the universe is far from dead? What if it is conscious? What if it is conscious by the very fact that

we are conscious? We evolved as part of the environment. Our hair stops heat escaping from the top of our heads. Our hands and arms manipulate things and procure food. Our legs get us to those things. Our eyes see those things. Light, solidity, and movement of air particles are all environmental phenomena. Our bodies evolved to respond to these phenomena with the senses of sight, touch, and hearing. It's not surprising that we appear as we do - our bodies mirror the environment perfectly. Can consciousness really develop by random processes? Or are the processes so infinitely complex that we just call them random? We think about our bodies having developed the senses to become conscious of the universe. But the uni-



verse also developed us. Did the universe develop to be conscious of itself? We can not separate ourselves from the universe since the universe contains all matter, and we are made of that matter.

We are consciousness, we are part of the universe, therefore we are the universe's consciousness. If the universe was

conscious, why should this consciousness be integrated into one single whole like an organism? Why can't it be that the universe developed small pockets of consciousness of varying complexity all throughout its vastness? These pockets of consciousness are ourselves. An infinite consciousness would be impossible, but many finite conscious beings is not. Thus rather than being a colossal dead mechanism, perhaps we are the universe's way of perceiving, enjoying and interacting with itself. Perhaps our intuition is true that an universe empty of conscious beings is an incomplete universe, that without conscious beings the existence of the universe is futile. The universe developed us to inquire into itself. We find the universe beautiful and wonderful simply because it is us and we are it. All through the universe, in their own

unique ways, conscious beings are all working together and evolving together. They are all working towards a single goal. They are all searching for the great answer. Information is usually only transferred by the genes. The genes are transformed by the universe and the genes subsequently build living beings to create and pass on new genes. The most advanced forms of consciousness, however, have created the ultimate means of storing and passing on information. We know this means as culture. Culture and the information contained within it surpasses all individuals. No one individual can contain all knowledge, but as a collection they can. Ourselves, and thus the universe is searching for the great answer. The universe wants to know: What am I? Why am I here? Why should I exist? We are its means of finding out.

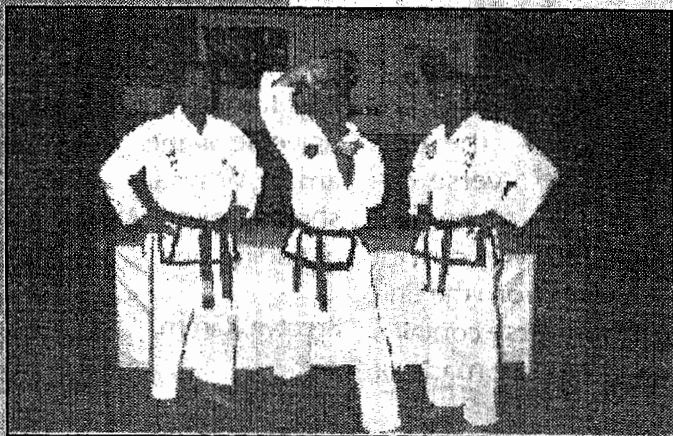
Brentyn Ramm.

Question 10: Does God exist?

Adelaide students exceed expectations

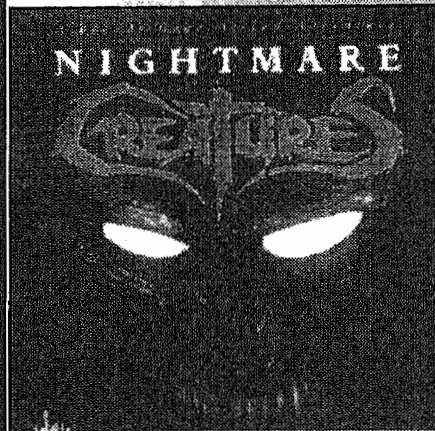
At the recently held Rhee International Tae Kwon Do grading test series, participating AU Tae Kwon Do club members achieved exceptional results. Not all members attended the Adelaide University test, but of those who did, a high number were members who only joined this year. All of our members graded in the top ten percent of their various groups, and the club is extremely proud of their efforts. - Congratulations!

Results are as follows: Damian Blue, Elham Ruzehaji, Graham Harris, Vivian Thompson, Julia Bolton, Casey Lynch and Helen Kavanagh - Tenth to Eighth Grade. Alan Lee and Thomas Evans both triple promoted from Tenth to Seventh Grade, an exceptional effort. John Kaesler - Eighth to Seventh. Jean Odd - Seventh to Sixth. Pam Khaira - Fourth to Third. Colin Marchant and Jim Taylor - Second to First. Colin and Jim are now pre-Black, and preparing to face the big test. University members who tested at other venues also did very well, and all bodes well for yet another very successful year for the club. Members are encouraged to take the test in their own time, and never pressured into doing so before they are ready, so aside from the obvious benefits (coordination and stress control, mental discipline and self defence), members of this club achieve tremendous personal growth and have a lot of fun while doing so. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to come along to a training session and watch or participate - wear loose clothing - at 1.00pm in the Games Room, Union House, on Monday and Wednesday, or at 6.30pm in the Irene Watson Room on Tuesday nights.. We also offer extra training sessions around Adelaide and the suburbs, so we can cater to all timetables. Out senior instructor can be reached on 8277 4670 or 0413 821 650, and our Executive Officer can be reached on 8297 4631 for all enquires.



GAME

GEAR

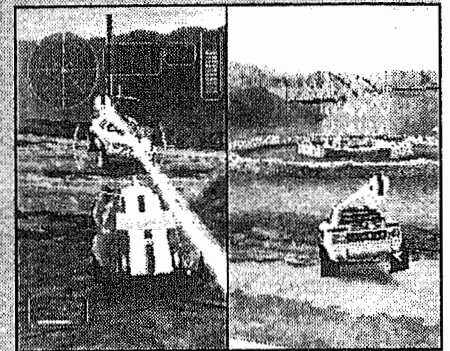


Nightmare Creatures
Activision
Platform: Windows 95

Legend has it that on London's blackest night in 1834, the secret Brotherhood of Hecate rediscovered the lost key to the darkest regions of man's unholy fears. It is said that through this arcane act, they released into the dark, foggy streets of London the most horrifying creatures ever known. But facing these monstrous beasts were two mysterious warriors. And on this fateful night, they engaged in a decisive battle to deliver the fate of millions from these demon spawn. This is their story."

Apparently.

Nightmare Creatures is a 3-D action-adventure game set in the fog-shrouded world of nineteenth-century London. The two aforementioned heroes are Ignatius (a noble monk - sounds a touch Jesuit to me) and the deadly swordwielding femme fatale Nadia. Basically, there's a fair bit of violence involved (hence, I guess, the 'M: Ages 17+' rating) as you, as one of these two, roam around a London recreated from actual maps, including sewers and cemeteries, as you try to hack to bits as many foul creatures as you can. Each character has different weapons, which are upgraded with each change in level, and their own set of special moves. People who like this sort of thing will find this the sort of thing that they like.



Vigilante 8
Activision
Platform: PlayStation

"In 1975, when a secret military base in the American Southwest was invaded by a power-hungry motorised gang, the world's most advanced weapons technology fell into the wrong hands. It was then that a civilian militia group known as the Vigilantes banded together to protect their Southwest settlements and small towns. What followed was the most intense vehicular warfare the American Southwest had ever known. What followed was the high-octane power of ... Vigilante 8."

I hate to be pedantic, but I don't recall hearing about the American Southwest being the site of any vehicular warfare before 1975. Perhaps three cars played Chicken at a T-junction one day, I don't know. The point is that saying that Vigilante 8 is "the most intense vehicular warfare the American Southwest had ever known" isn't necessarily saying too much at all. But that's a problem for the promoters to deal with.

As for the game itself...

Well, basically you drive your selected heavily-armed vehicle (there are a number from which to choose, each with its own psycho personality and combo attacks) destroying a whole bunch of gear. It features a number of off-road scenarios, with fully destructible environments, hidden weapons, and Two-player Split-Screen play. Sound like fun?

The only problem is the graphics. They look a touch too pixelated for my liking. Some might say this is a deliberate attempt to render an authentic 1975 kinda feelin', but I think this unlikely. But then, that's just me.

ARTS VS SCIENCE

Thankyou to all people who responded to the ARTS vs SCIENCE survey in *On Dit*. The responses we received were many* and varied, and raise some interesting questions regarding a few of the respondents (such as: who are these freaks???) Only kidding. Actually we were pleased to find that the majority of you approached the survey with the utmost reverence and respect. Or whatever. Enjoy the results.

I AM MAJORING IN:

We figure most of you probably lied anyway. But according to your answers we had a broad sample of respondents from faculties such as:

- Computer Science
- English
- Underwater Basket Weaving
- World War 2
- Horse Husbandry
- Psychology
- Architecture
- Dentistry
- Mechatronic Engineering
- History
- Mathematics

10 WORDS WHICH DESCRIBE ARTS STUDENTS:

- corrupt people who run the union, waste of space
- Nazis, fascists, anti-semetics, power-hungry nuts, Bean impersonators, corrupt.
- perpetually wrong, have cruddy lecture theatres, wrong, wrong, wrong, wrong.
- drug fucked
- strangely dressed, freaks, stoned, addicts, potential McDonalds employees, bad taste
- 8 hours a week - lucky bludgers (don't have to study)
- unique, hard-working, unpretentious, self-effacing, ambitious, dedicated, focused
- lazy vegetables, creative, sexy, bullshit artists, charming, brilliant, cool, pisspots, funky
- pretentious, boring, untravelled, retro, unfriendly, arty wankers, unstylish, affluent eastern suburbs, smelly
- alternative, black, verbose, obfuscating, procrastinating, intelligent, misunderstood, necessary, cool, zany.
- oh my god!! they killed (insert Arts students' names here)... you legend!!
- pretentious, smart-arse, politically-incompetent, wankers that like filling in surveys.
- diverse, liberal (not politically)
- Unionists, poor, insulted, self-deprecating, hairy, JJJ-ish, alternative, Greenies

10 WORDS WHICH DESCRIBE SCIENCE STUDENTS:

- corrupt people who WANT to run the union, space wasters
- communists, Marxists, anti-nazis, anti-capitalists, leftys (sic), extremists, Lenninists (sic), disestablishmentariants (sic).
- nerdy, congested, blood vessels, logical, drink too much beer, wrong.
- not AS drugfucked

- square, nerd, geek, uninventive, study-obsessed, uncaring, inhuman, impersonal, sadists.
- sad people who think plants & microscopes are really interesting.
- slothful, lazy, procrastinating, beer-swilling, anti-social, up-themselves, on-a-road-to-nowhere
- geeky, analytical, lazy, boaring (sic), dull BUT fascinating, sleezy (sic), alcoholics (sic), stereotypical, rich.
- daggy, sleazy, cool/nerdy, friendly, experimental in chemical (sic) square, lacking in social skills, no style, studious, retro.
- boring, sadistic, warped, mad, white-lab-coated, unimaginative, concise, mathematical, intransigent, profligate.
- in tan (8.428940686 x 10-to-the-power-of-1) words I'm meant to answer this question?
- bunch of incongruent, dole-bludging, belly-dancing, manic-depressive buffoons.
- socially inept, less poor, intellectual, politically neutral, hippie, long-haired, unshaven.

WHAT DO YOU EAT FOR BREAKFAST?

- According to our data, Artsy types consume:
- beer or coffee or both
 - definitely coffee, maybe fruit, yoghurt, cereal, toast
 - anything that I can find on the floor between uni and home (especially peanut M&Ms)
- Meanwhile, Sciency types favour:
- pork, lots of pork
 - cornflakes & sacrificed virgins
 - weetbix with yoghurt, coffee with milk and 3/2 sugar
 - cereal and toast (cornflakes and peanut butter - but not together)
 - vegemite on toast
- The dual Arts/Science student who responded goes for:
- multigrain bread/rolls toasted one side with jam
- And those who fit neither category eat:
- bacon, eggs, cornflakes, porridge, sausages, coffee, steak, veg & chips
 - yoghurt or Maccas or corn pops with vanilla soy or porridge or iced coffee
 - coffee

WHAT IS YOUR WORST HABIT?

- Artsy types are guilty of:
- openness
 - repeatedly and sadistically going to ALL my lectures and telling my friends about them
 - not getting work done quick enough (or starting it even)

Sciency types walk the wild side doing stuff like:

- killing people (lots & lots of people - mainly student politicians)
- sodomising rent boys in public lavatories
- table-talk whilst playing cards
- I pick my nose (but don't eat it - I wipe it somewhere)

Other students favour:

- leaping from tall buildings onto arts/science students to extract compensation
- lying about everything, squeezing zits and blackheads, excess consumption

Gross-out prize of the month goes to the guy whose worst habit is "using my mum's dish towel as a cum rag".

WRITE YOUR OWN QUESTIONS:

A few of the primable ones were:

What do you say to drugs? Is there anyone better than me? Should we ban coffee? Is fluoro-yellow hair a good look? What? Did you finish high school? Are uni students real people? Do you have pink hair? Can you have some money? Do you know what you want to do with your life? Have you ever written your own questions before?

ANSWER: NO

What do you say to girls? Am I cool? Is coffee good? Is coffee good for your health? How? Would you like a beer? Did you lie on your university application? Is *On Dit* a fool's paradise? Is there promiscuous sex amongst Adelaide Uni students? Will I find my soulmate? (Answer "You already have, she's brown & furry") Do you listen to Triple J? Do you think this survey is worthwhile?

ANSWER: YES

Is it true that I am a King Stud? Does life suck? Coffee is good! Is the chancellor a figment of Mary O'Kane's imagination? Is the Union corrupt? There is more to life than the Barr Smith Lawns. Uni students karnt spel proppa... Have you ever been in an inter-racial orgy? Aren't you a slut? Are you very smart? Do you think *On Dit* has put a lot of effort into this survey?

ANSWER: SO THEY SAY

Should they cancel "Perfect Strangers" (10:30 a.m. weekdays)? Ban coffee. Where is my headstone? Should jazz be banned? Will the Spice Girls rule the world? Where does the zip on a cadavar bag go? Necrophilia? What is a good place for a pyramid? Will you stay a virgin until marriage? Can I pick your nose? Would you like to be a Science student? Would you ever fill in an *On Dit* survey?

ANSWER: OVER MY DEAD BODY

My idea of classy, sassy, wild, hot on-campus fashion would be to wear...

The most popular answers were "nothing" and "chainmail" with "jeans" coming a close third place. Other nominations and inventions were "labcoat"; "just an apron"; "Docs"; "all of the above"; "swastikas"; "coffee"; "I don't have a choice, I have to wear 'suitably respectable clinical attire'"; and "hats, sheer, stretch, fishnets, g-strings, leather".

My interpretation of the word "cool" is closest to...

Arts and Science alike, the popular definition of the word "cool" seems to be "anything that makes you smile". Still, some of you nominated "anything funky"; "anything that makes you look good"; "anything that doesn't require you to think"; "anything"; "North Terrace"; and "The CBD". Other suggestions were "South Park"; "Russia" and "Sydney".

I spend most of my free time...

Equal points to "procrastinating" and "in a state of denial". Just about everything except "surfing" and "at the library" got a tick for this one. Creative (?) responses included "masturbating" and "masticating".

(All other questions were designed for the purpose of enabling statisticians to assess the demographic and so do not appear here.)**

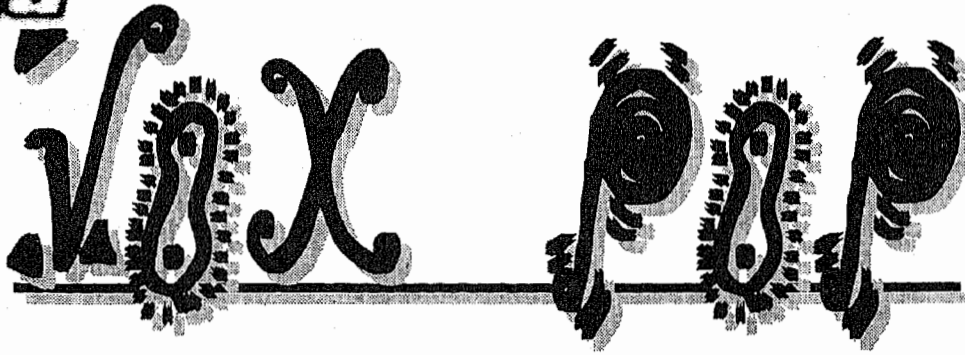
ARTS VS SCIENCE: THE WINNERS, THE LOSERS

You're all raving mad. Enjoy your fun while it lasts, suckers.

* this is manifestly untrue
** also a lie

This survey was put together by an Arts Student.

TORCH BEARERS: breaking apart those old, old stereotypes (and making some new ones . . .)



- As a new semester commences,
- 1.) What subject are you doing that you don't think you'll enjoy?
 - 2.) What subject would you rather do?
 - 3.) Over the holidays, who has been your favourite newsreader?
- And please draw yourself, as we can't find the camera.

Craig

- 1.) None, I just work here.
- 2.) I still work here.
- 3.) I don't know her name, she does the weather on Channel 10 sometimes, and I see her at Recovery all the time.



Chelsea

- 1.) I'm going to enjoy all of mine. I know that sounds crap, but I think I will.
- 2.) There's a course in English called Power, Love and Evil. Sounds like my love life.
- 3.) Oh, it has to be the cult hero - Indira Naidoo.



Eileen

- 1.) Corporate accounting.
- 2.) Dancing, anykind.
- 3.) The Channel 10 girl with the pointy eyebrows.



Jamie

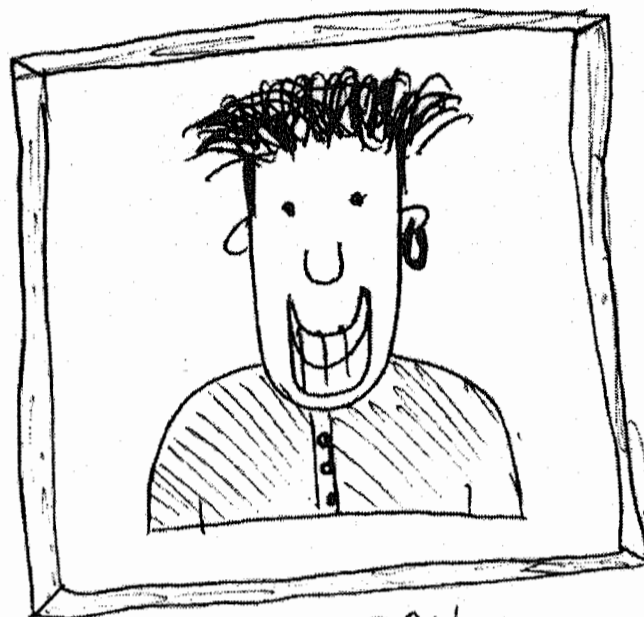
- 1.) Accounting theory.
- 2.) Singing.
- 3.) Leigh McClusky.



- Imogen
- 1.) Chemistry.
 - 2.) Art - design.
 - 3.) The lady who just had a haircut - Indira Naidoo.

Christian

- 1.) Advanced Piratology 2A. It's just not me. I'm more of a buccaneer than a pirate. Pieces of eight.
- 2.) I've always been interested in fish throwing and roo shooting and bear baiting and eating bears. If there were a subject with all of these, I would sign up.
- 3.) Keith Martyn. I know he doesn't read the news, but his talents and rugged good looks are being wasted on the weather.



CHRISTIAN



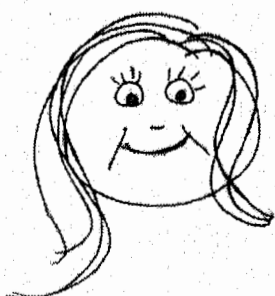
PETER



- Peter
- 1.) i would rather shoot myself with a spikey cannonball and then eat my left leg than do organic chemistry III. but I am. i wish i was a pirate. arr.
 - 2.) Advanced Piratology 2A. all my years i have wanted to gain a degree in practical piracy, and yet again i have missed me ship. arr, shiver me timbers.
 - 3.) anne wills. without a doubt. not many people become more attractive with age, but anne most certainly does. many a lonely holiday night was spent dreaming of willsy and her sensual earrings.

Eva

- 1.) I don't know.
- 2.) How to get more sleep and drink less coffee.
- 3.) John Lombard - you sexy cat.



- Alice
- 1.) I think I'll enjoy all of mine. 'Cause then it will be all over.
 - 2.) French, Russian, Arabic, Spanish and Hebrew.
 - 3.) I read papers. I don't watch TV.

are you...

happy?
sad?
pained?
bored?
pissed off?
anything else?

if so, or even if not, you should write a poem, draw a cartoon about it, write a story about it or find some other unique way to express it and send it in to us at on dit. you might even win something!!!

plus, if you don't do it, we might be tempted to try doing stuff ourselves, and noone wants that.

UNIBOOKS



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WIN WITH ART

Thanks to Unibooks (on campus), we have a \$60 Book Voucher to give away for the adjudged best piece of creativity published in ON DIT each month

Prose, poetry, comics, drawings, just about anything will be considered. The submission box is down in the ON DIT office. Written work will be best received typed and under 1500 words. A name and phone number (not for publication) must be included.

AHHHHHHHHHHHHHH

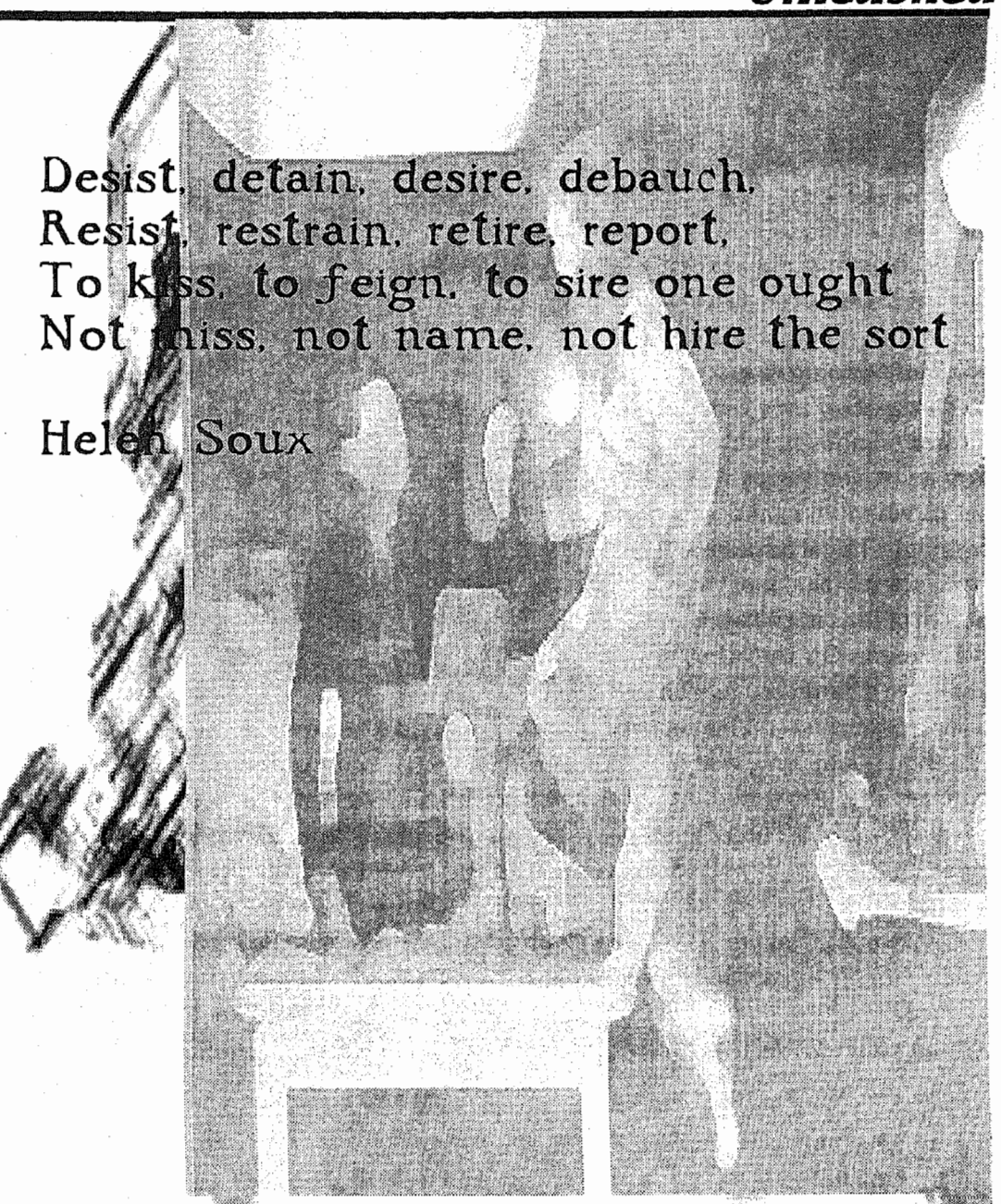
I do love this world but sometimes it gets to me

I would yell, scream, and in the
shout destroy the world.
Tear it down
Gleefully watch it burn to ashes

I have no peace among all this...
Every moment I am smacked in the head
by a noise, a repugnant smell, a crass image.
Death to all this SHIT!

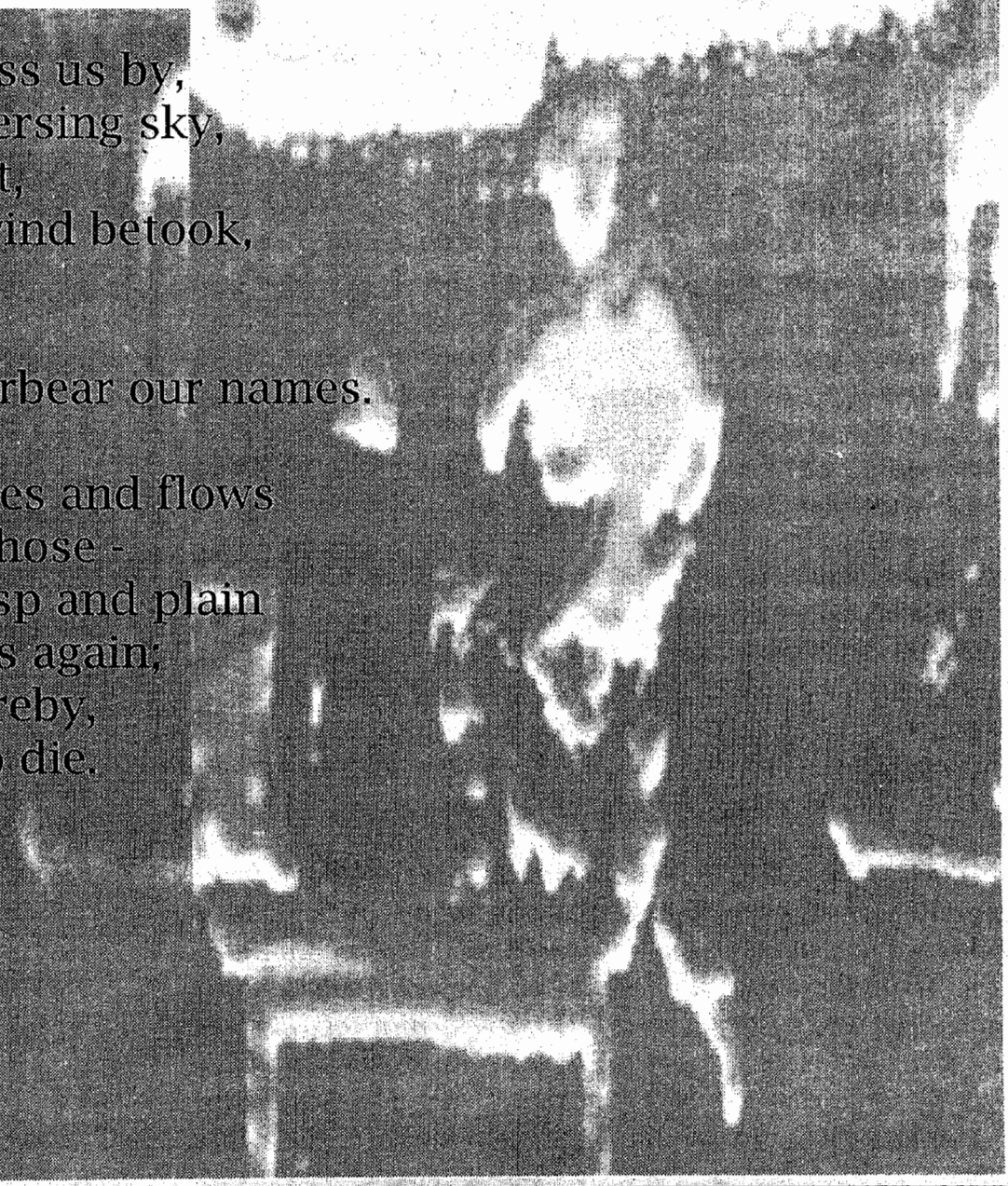
And do I ever get what I want
Every other moment I am killing myself
with loud music, junk food, and TV

It is not myself that I want to kill
=> the excellence of modern day education
I want to kill this world
I want freedom
The freedom
of peace...
so I can be the 'I AM' that I am.



Desist, detain, desire, debauch,
Resist, restrain, retire, report,
To kiss, to feign, to sire one ought
Not miss, not name, not hire the sort

Helen Soux



The rolling seas which pass us by,
The churning clouds traversing sky,
The turn of soil underfoot,
And tumbling leaves by wind betook,
The turning stars,
The flick'ring flame,
The gravestones which forbear our names.

In all that grows and moves and flows
A mortal spirit wrinkles those -
Still, if once fresh and crisp and plain
The sphere of life restores again,
Yet for this I, in spite thereby,
My lot this life remains to die.

Icecream Man



The X-Files: Fight The Future

Now showing
Hoyts & selected cinemas

No plot twists are given away below. You may read on safely.

You know you've got a lot to live up to when you take your surprisingly hugely successful TV series with the most devoted bunch of fans in the world to the big screen. On the other hand, you have a damn big guaranteed audience and no trouble getting all the money you want from your studio. Do you do it? Of course you do. The real question is: can you do it well enough to keep everyone happy? And the answer to that one, if you're Chris Carter et al, is also yes, you can.

For anyone who's been living under a rock (hello!), the *X-Files* has so far been five years of Fox

Sexy X-y



Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) chasing all manner of nasties around the place and always just falling to end up in bed together. Along the way has evolved an *X-Files* "mythology" concerning alien life and the government conspiracy to keep the little green men from public knowledge.

Without going into any detail

whatsoever, the film does follow on directly from the season finale (although it has nothing to do with that mind-reading kid, so don't expect to see any of him), does bring the non-fan up to speed very quickly and rather skilfully (and kind of amusingly, too), and for those of us who do follow the series fanatically there are plenty of revelations which make really good sense

(in that peculiar *X-Files* way). I hate a revelation that doesn't tie in properly with what has gone before, but there's none of that here. All very good. What more could you want?

Oh, romance. Right. Well, you know I'm not going to say. But I thought that what did happen, whatever that might be and whatever I might think about it in an empirical sense, was very well handled and everyone laughed. So that's a good thing. In fact the film as a whole was, if anything, funnier than your typical funny episode. Which is pretty funny.

If I was going to complain, it would be about the minor parts (or even absence) of certain regular characters. But I'm not going to complain. I'm going to recommend it. Go see it, fan or not.

Chris Slape

One is the loneliest number.

The Apostle
Now Showing
Palace Eastend and
Greater Union Marion

The deep American south, in film and literature, usually oozes passion and mystique through its slimy rivers and small character-driven towns. In Robert Duvall's *The Apostle*, small town America is portrayed in all its honesty and eccentricity through a flawed man with the popularity of a big time rock star, passing through.

Duvall stars as Euliss "Sonny" Dewey, a Pentecostal preacher from Texas, who baptises himself "the Apostle" when he flees town, escaping the realisation that he has killed his wife's lover with a baseball bat at his son's little league game. Abandoning his home, his sick mother and his

church, he lands in Bayou Boutte, a small, mostly black town in Louisiana, where he sets up his own church and begins his quest for the salvation of the townsfolk, but more significantly, his own.

As writer, director, lead actor and executive producer, Duvall leads his audience into a lifestyle occupied by over 200 million Pentecostal followers worldwide; a way of life that lies outside mainstream cinema. In *The Apostle*, Duvall has created scene after scene of long sermons, that whilst revealing aspects of character and place, could have benefited from a sharp knife in the cutting room. They are long and there are way too many to inhabit such a simple story. The performances, like the characters, are vast and passionate. Miranda Richardson, Farrah Fawcett, Billy Bob



Thornton and non professionals as background characters who were selected purely for their church background, support Duvall in his superlative performance as the flawed man. He was well deserving of his Academy Award nomination early this year. *The Apostle* has its own type of fate. It will never be a film that will gain a wide and diverse audi-

ence, but it's well worth a look. Then again, you could always take a trip to your local church and perhaps gain a similar effect.

Belinda Schaefer



STELLA!

Stella Does Tricks
Now Showing
Cinema Nova

The opening scene of *Stella Does Tricks*, shows the title character jerking off her paternal pimp in a well lit park, while he holds her melting ice cream. What follows is the biting reality of a teenage prostitute's attempt to escape her life on the streets of London and come to terms with her Glaswegian childhood.

The inspiration for director Coky Giedroyc's debut feature came from a documentary series about homelessness, that revealed spirit, humour and intelligence in the wake of suffering circumstances. In *Stella Does Tricks*, it is difficult not to be moved by the way Stella weaves reality, memory and



fantasy into her lifestyle. Kelly Macdonald, who rose to recognition as Diane in *Trainspotting*, reveals a mix of frank toughness and vulnerability without resorting to such tricks as lowering her character into victimisation. Stella is part of a group of young girls working for Mr. Peters, a pimp played with powerful sleaze by James Bolam. When her best friend is attacked, Stella sets out for revenge, with her new friend, a druggie played by Hans Matheson.

It would be easy for this film to be littered with cliché's and violence, and it is to Giedroyc and Scottish writer Alison Kennedy's credit that it is not. It is not a *Pretty Woman* prostitution story and there are no easy answers to how to escape life on the streets. It's very much a story that shows us how it is and how it is just not supposed to be. As much as we would like to think that such lifestyles don't exist, we end up realising that they do and it's a tough place to get out of.

Belinda Schaefer

SOURCE

Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas
Now Showing
Wallis and selected cinemas

Fear and Loathing is a wild roller coaster drug addled ride through several days of reporter Hunter S. Thompson's life. It is spectacular, hilarious, scary and over the top. Johnny Depp is masterful in his performance of Hunter S. Thompson, AKA Raoul Duke. Benicio Del Toro (*The Usual Suspects*) plays Dr. Gonzo, Duke's lawyer, along for the trips. We join the two in a rented convertible, speeding toward Las Vegas under the influence of hallucinogenic drugs, alcohol, uppers, downers, you name it. In their boot is a case loaded with drugs to get them through the next couple of days. Duke, a reporter (read Doctor of Journalism) is being sent to cover a motorcycle race for *Sports Illustrated*, held outside

Vegas. The two stumble and hallucinate their way through Vegas, experiencing the gamut of drug effects. The film flows at a furious pace for most of the time. The audience is drawn in and taken along for a virtual drug experience - some parts of the film are quite intense, like Dr. Gonzo's bad trip in the bath early on in the film. Director Terry Gilliam (*Brazil*, *12 Monkeys* etc) has struck a balance between immersing the viewer in the experience and giving us enough distance to shelter us during the more intense moments of the film.

Fear and Loathing is visually spectacular. During intense trips colours are deep and dark. Day and night are starkly different, along with their effects on the drugged out characters. If you have read the book (by Hunter S. Thompson) you will be amazed at how faithful to the extremely difficult text this is. The only complaint that I have about sticking to the text is that the film covers the whole book, and the film seems a little long at just over two hours.

Esther Speight

Big Boys

The Big Hit
Now Showing
Selected Theatres

"Marky" Mark Wahlberg is a popular boy at the moment, not too long after playing the lead role in *Boogie Nights* he again has a lead role. He stars in this action/comedy with new comer China Chow, Lou Diamond Phillips, Antonio Sabato Jr. and Christina Applegate. The only way to describe this film is to say it is a Chinese action film in America. It has big action scenes, big stunts and big guns. It is genuinely funny and it is only 93 minutes long which means you don't have time to get bored. There are no outstanding performances in this film because it isn't the kind of film that has them. However, Lou Diamond

Phillips goes above and beyond the call of duty in playing the sleazy Cisco, who sets up Melvin (Mark Wahlberg). If you are willing to suspend your logic and belief this film is entertaining and you will come out laughing. I should say that this film is violent and a little gory on occasions (it has an "R" rating) but it is usually in a comical way.

Chris Bolland



MC

Hurricane Streets
Too late, you've missed it
Palace Eastend Cinemas

Straight from New York's lower east side to a cinema near you comes *Hurricane Streets*. Directed by Morgan J Freeman (not "the" Morgan Freeman, that's why he has a middle initial) this film follows a few days in the life of Marcus Frederick (Brendan Sexton III). Marcus has just turned 15 and his life consists of regular bouts of petty shoplifting and hanging out at the "clubhouse" with his four friends. Marcus, an asthmatic, longs to escape the stifling city to the open space of his native New Mexico. Things begin to look up for him as he receives a ticket to New Mexico for his birthday and he meets a girl, Melena (Isidra Vega). However outside forces conspire against Marcus as he battles against the police, his friends, Melena's father, and the truth of his mother's incarceration, and he is forced into more serious crime to realise his dream.

While *Hurricane Streets* offers nothing particularly new, overall

it is a good film. It is an excellently filmed story of urban suffocation with a good soundtrack. The acting from the young cast is very believable and the script, thankfully, did not attempt to overplay the youth street slang, or saturate the screen with sex and violence. The ending is interesting if somewhat arbitrary, but Freeman could easily claim that the story had been told. The only downside was the *West Side Story* slant that Marcus' romance gives the film. Melena's father is a cringingly stereotypical Latino and is the only unbelievable character in the film. The whole romance seems somewhat forced, one suspects for box office appeal. However on the whole *Hurricane Streets* is an entertaining showcase of the acting skills of Brendan Sexton III and the directorial skills of Morgan J Freeman.

David Brown



Total Eclipse of something!

Total Eclipse
Now Showing
Palace Eastend Cinemas

What can I say about this film? I didn't like it to start with. It stars Leonardo Di Caprio (first problem) and David Thewlis (second problem). If you are unsure of who David Thewlis is he was the video artist in the *The Big Lebowski* and the lead role in *Naked*. The film is about two 19th century poets and their relationship. Their names escape me at the moment but I don't really care because I truly disliked this film. The characters have absolutely no redeeming

features at all and are so easy to dislike. The only person you feel sorry for in this film is Romane Bohringer, who plays Thewlis' wife, when he leaves her for Leo. This film is rated MA which it appears is only because the film company decided to censor David Thewlis' full frontal nudity. When I say censored, I don't mean cut, I mean had a big skin tone circle put over it. This occurred about 3 times and managed to amuse the audience greatly each time. It has been suggested to me by someone, who shall remain nameless, that perhaps the title is referring to the eclipsing



of Thewlis' penis. I could bitch about this film for a long, long time but I think I'll be kind and finish on a positive note: the cinematography was good.
Chris Bolland

Love me Tender, or not.

She's So Lovely
Now Showing
Cinema Nova

With a title such as *She's so Lovely*, I was expecting a schmaltzy love story. Fortunately this expectation was not met. Instead I watched a story unfold which left me stunned at times, laughing at other times, but consistently mesmerised.

A typical day in the lives of the two lead character Eddie (Sean Penn) and Maureen (Robin Wright-Penn) occupies the first half of the film. Maureen, both pregnant and an alcoholic, awaits the arrival home of her husband who has taken a three day walk-about without telling anyone. On the day of his return, Maureen falls victim to an abusive neighbour who leaves her with black eyes. This triggers Eddie to reveal his true character, a mentally ill man with a burning love of his wife, who would never leave him.

Although Eddie has violent tendencies due to his illness, you can't help but feel sympathetic to his problems. However, there is no sympathy given to him by the authorities of the law and he is

thrown into an institution for ten years, cut-off from his beloved wife. In the meantime, Maureen has moved on with her life, divorcing Eddie and marrying Joey (played by John Travolta) who represents the 'normal' American lifestyle. All seems set for the story to end here with all parties relatively happy. At this point however we find out that Eddie is to be released from the asylum, we also discover that Maureen longs to return to the life she had with him.

Sean Penn gives a fantastic performance in this film, upstaging the likes of Travolta with ease. His portrayal of a man constantly on the edge of reality is fascinating to say the least. You are left hanging on his every word as he reveals more and more the mind of a madman. His dialogue leaves you laughing at times and sad at others as you realise that his obsessive nature is destined for disaster.

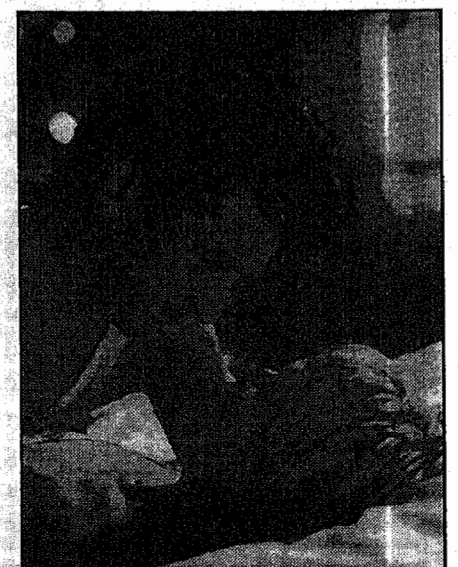
The film itself throws the audience from the positive to the negative aspects of the world - from the savage nature of people, to the innocent nature of Maureen and Eddie's love. The continual contrasts prevent the audi-

ence from becoming comfortable with the format of the film and does not allow for a swift or tidy categorisation.

Despite the above accolade *She's So Lovely* is let down by its ending. The intensity and pace generated by the first three quarters of the film falls down in an abrupt anti-climax of an ending. It is a credit to the film, however, that this ending does not completely ruin the enjoyment of the film. John Travolta's short part in the film is of particular interest to me. My reaction to his character was the most mixed as, on the one hand he portrays the arrogance and snobbery of the rich American man and on the other hand, the despair of potentially losing his wife and family in a matter of days. In fact, one tends to have mixed feelings towards nearly all of the characters in the story, making it an intriguingly complex tale. The cinematography of *She's So Lovely* was particularly impressive. Consistently well-shot arrangements were presented throughout the film. Nick Cassaetes has done a good job in mixing effects to keep the film visually varied and interesting, which complements the variety of the ac-

tion seen. Also complementing the action is a terrific soundtrack full of funky seventies beats and rhythms, which in the first part of the film really draw you into the carefree life-style which is portrayed. In summary, it is well worth a look. The only down side to the film is its lack of adequate closure with all the loose ends being tied up a little too quickly for my liking. However, overlooking this, it is a sharp, quirky and slick piece of filmmaking, typified by great performances by the Penns.

Basil Genimahaliotis



Slappy

Slappy and The Stinkers
Wallis and selected cinemas

Well, I did think that this film stunk, but the four children I took with me (ages 4 to 11) loved it, so what the hell?! Slappy is a "lovable" belching sea lion. The Stinkers are a bunch of "lovable" kids attending the Dartmoor Academy - an exclusive school that they are constantly being threatened with expulsion from for their "lovable hi-jinx". The headmaster, Mr Brinway, is an annoyingly wussy patriotic American who sucks up to the rich kids' parents and hates The Stinkers. Thrown in for good measure is the weird-ass grounds keeper Roy (who reminded me of Otto from *The Simpsons*). Roy acts stoned all the time, but being a kids' movie, no drug taking is seen and Roy is just soooo 'lovable'. On a school trip to Sea World The Stinkers see Slappy performing and decide that, being totally influenced by movies, Slappy, like Willy, must be freed. At the same time, an animal broker bad-guy has his eye on Slappy and attempts to steal him. The Stinkers manage to liberate Slappy from the baddie and so begin the Stinkers' attempts to hide the sea lion from parents, the authorities and the bad guys, culminating in what the press release



calls 'a hilarious chase scene involving a runaway bathtub and an abandoned log chute'. One of the highlights for me in this film (second only to the final credits) was the reference to the film *Caddy Shack* where Roy (Bronson Pinchot) mistakes Slappy for a ginormous Gopher and destroys the school's lawns.

The Final Word: The kids really did love this film, so if you have children and don't mind a little suffering take them to see *Slappy and The Stinkers* - or better still, send them with a relative.

Esther Speight



Greasy

Grease
Now Showing
Greater Union Cinemas

It's the one that we want...apparently. 1950's highschool romance *Grease* is back once again to celebrate its 20th anniversary (with an all-new digitally remastered soundtrack)! The story about Danny (John Travolta), Sandy (Olivia Newton-John) and the rest of the gang is one that has continuously found its way back to the big screen time, after time, after time. This classic teen musical borders precariously between sentimental and just plain corny. I almost don't know what more I can say about the storyline (if you haven't seen *Grease* by now you probably don't want to) except that the final scene would surely be frowned upon by all aspects of political correctness these days. However, this is somewhat saved by the extreme tongue-in-cheek comical situations lived out by the minor characters (especially by Stockard Channing as Rizzo and Jeff Conaway as Kenickie). If you enjoyed seeing this movie in it's 1970's glory, or enjoyed the recent musical representation, or even, for some reason, haven't seen it yet, go and see this 'digitally remastered' *Grease*. Otherwise just wait for it to appear as a lunchtime TV movie. Again.

Susie Bate

Frenchy

Western
Now Showing
Palace Cinemas

I wondered about a movie that was promoted as a 'French road movie' and pondered my growing distaste for this genre. I also wondered about French movies, especially as I find that some can be so clever and obscure as to leave this reviewer behind in a quagmire of cultural obscurity. With these trepidations in mind, I approached the theatre to find that there would be no-one else there to view the film and so I had the rare privilege of being the only person in the whole cinema and thus was able to make as much noise as I wanted, sit where I liked, laugh when I felt like it and make inane comments to an unresponsive screen. The only obstacle to my pleasure was my uncertain expectation of the film.

The film itself is set in West France in the province of Brittany and the cinematography showed a place of a harsh windswept beauty and oddly compelling landscapes. The location is important. The French are

not immune to the rural/urban cultural snobbery gap and Brittany is not well regarded in Parisian circles. Although Paris is seen as the centre of France, it becomes obvious that Brittany is French, despite or perhaps because of it's Celtic influences (as seen in the score). This notion is central to the film and its message and it does have one worth noting.

The characters themselves were also compelling, but in a more subdued way and not as immediately. The two lead characters were an Italian vagabond by way of Russia and a Catalan shoe salesman by way of Paris. They are well cast and the way they play off each other is a reflection of a real life friendship, with all the subtleties and nuances one might expect. There are moments of embarrassing unpleasantness, but these pass as we and they get to know the characters more closely. The Catalan has a way with women and is easily able to meet them while the Italian/Russian has considerably less luck. The two of them hit the road and experience Brittany. The trip becomes a journey to help him find a woman and to settle down from his vagabond life-

style. They meet some interesting people, try some amusing tricks and near the end there is success of sorts for one and heartbreak for the other.

As they travel, they are welcomed almost without exception and taken into homes and hearths. We see them in a variety of social settings and not mainly alone as in most recent Australian road movies. And slowly the message of the film insinuates itself. Although France may be seen as a fiercely parochial country where strangers are unwelcome, this film shows a Brittany where strangers are not unexpected and even welcomed. So, ironically, the backward Brittany is showing the forward looking France the way ahead in terms of acceptance of the stranger. It is a message that should not be lost on an Australia that is experiencing a resurgence of division. In any event, even apart from its message, this film is one worth seeing for all of its elements. It's resolutely French but it touches parts of the human psyche we can all feel. 4/5

Anton Bockwinkel



Godzilla
Now Showing
Selected Cinemas

When I first heard that Hollywood was reviving *Godzilla* - about eighteen months ago - I was, well, hopeful. In spite of the fact that the rights had been purchased by the people responsible for *Independence Day*, rumour had it that Peter Jackson (*Meet the Feebles*, *Heavenly Creatures*, *The Frighteners*) was pegged to direct the feature. I guess you all know that didn't happen, and it's no use going over 'could have beens'. I could just

Has-Been

say that the film is crap and leave it at that, but that wouldn't be fair, I guess, so here it goes.

The original *Godzilla*, or *Godjira* in Romanji, was born out of a specific period in time; its creators managed to tap into a kind of collective mindset among the youth of post-war Japan only twelve-or-so years after Hiroshima. In all of the early films there was a kind of ambiguity to the monster, somewhere between the compassion of Frankenstein's creation and the hypocrisy of America's involvement and growing influence in the country after the war. Needless to say, *Godzilla* is devoid of any

of this kind of subtlety. There is a feigned stab at some measure this in the character of Phillipe Roaché (played with the throw-away sensibility of an Allan Rickman by Jean Reno), but Hollywood still hasn't lost the prevailing attitude that the viewing public simply wouldn't understand the subtle nuances of a story that had more than, say, two dimensions.

I wouldn't tell you not to go and see *Godzilla*, just like I wouldn't tell you to make yourself sick on popcorn and fairy-floss. The effects are special.

J.D.

Remains

Anastasia
Now Showing
Hoyts, Greater Union and selected cinemas

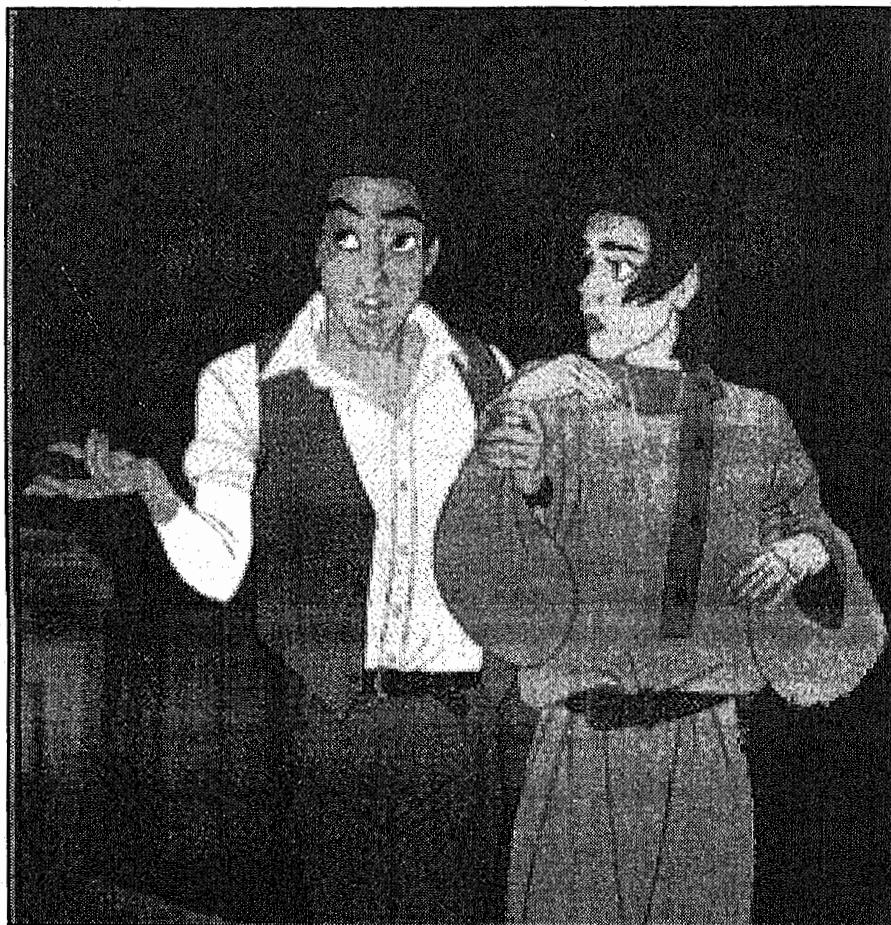
In the 1917 Russian Revolution the Bolshevik Army captured and overthrew the ruling Romanov family of the time, and a year later led them from their beds to be slaughtered, along with several servants. Their remains were not discovered until 1991, and for years there circulated rumours that the youngest daughter, Grand Duchess Anastasia, had escaped and was alive.

Loosely based on these facts, *Anastasia* follows the journey of orphan Anya (voice of Meg Ryan) to Paris in search of her true identity. She is accompanied by con men Dimitri (John Cusack) and Vladimir (Kelsey Grammer), who believe they can convince the only living relative of the Romanov family that Anya is Princess Anastasia, thereby reaping the cash rewards. Oh, and Anya has a 'loveable pet Pooka' - the dog that says nothing

and on occasion deserves a swift kick up the rear - to help her on her way. Intent on preventing all this is the villain Rasputin (Christopher Lloyd), but it is his not-so-evil sidekick, an albino bat named Bartok (Hank Azaria) who steals the show. Go just to hear the Simpsonesque one-liners and see the dance moves that would make John Travolta go green with envy - this guy is the funniest thing since Disney made small animal companions compulsory in animated movies.

Anastasia is the first animated musical feature to come from the new 20th Century Fox studios, formed by ex-Disney animator Don Bluth and Gary Goldman. As a first time foray into a genre dominated by Walt, this movie is a pretty good effort, but its realist style may bore you in the same way that *Pocahontas* did. Now if you're looking for true fantasy, in my opinion you can't go past *The Little Mermaid*.

Helen Speck



GORY BITS

Species II
Now Showing
Selected Cinemas

Following the relatively large success of *Species*, a sequel had to follow. Unfortunately it did. Human kind has just reached a new high of putting a man on Mars. However, the mission brings something back without declaring it at the airport. Patrick Ross (Justin Lazard), the first human on Mars, finds that his body is changing. No it's not puberty, it's an alien invasion. This causes him to have sex with as many women as possible, which then causes a baby to splatter out of their bellies a matter of minutes later. Meanwhile, Eve (Natasha Henstridge) lives in a perspex lab and doesn't wear much clothing. She is a genetic identical twin to Cyl in the first film (half human-half alien), and is being experimented on to discover how to

kill this new species. In steps Press Lennox (Michael Madsen), reprising his alien hunting role in *Species*, who uses Eve to track Patrick. Eve is torn however, because she wants to have sex with Patrick, and in the end she chooses the option that allows her to take her clothes off. The rest of the film is a number of chase scenes supplemented by sex scenes.

If you haven't guessed already, I thought *Species II* was just about the worst film I have seen all year. The sex, violence, and gory bits are all way over the top, and I am mystified as to why this isn't R rated. The acting was wooden and unconvincing, as was the storyline. However I'm sure it will appeal to its niche market of pubescent boys. Hold on kiddies another sequel is probably on the way.

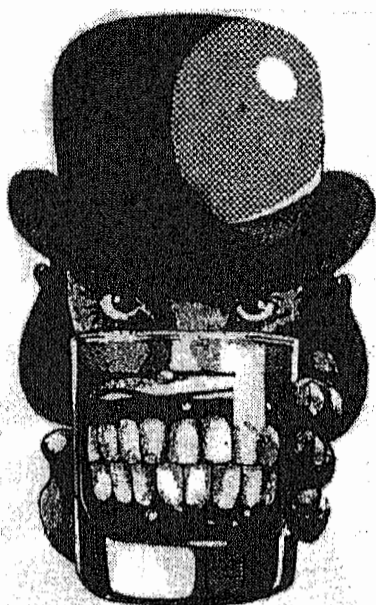
David Brown

Raunchy Moloko

A Clockwork Orange
Now Showing
Academy City Cinemas

Wanting a bit of ultra-violence tonight? Then Stanley Kubrick's 1971 tale of social decay is what you need. Last semester I raved about Kubrick's skill as a filmmaker and this is yet more proof of it. *A Clockwork Orange* is slightly different to *The Killings*. It is "a futuristic fable about a violent and sex-crazed society." It follows the activities of Alex and his droogs (friends) who go out on the town regularly to fight and rape but when Alex's friends betray him, he is caught and put in prison for murder. There he learns of a new treatment that will have him out of jail in two weeks rather than several years. Alex is chosen for the program and willingly accepts thinking it is a quick way out of prison. The Ludovico treatment, as it is called, is designed to take away his choice of participating in violent behaviour and sex by creating the sensation of impending death by choking every time he is confronted by them. The doctors who administer this treatment see it as a marvellous break-through in behavioural science but do not see its dehumanising qualities. No matter what the purpose, if you take choice away from a person you are disrupting their natural development and dehumanising them. Many would argue that choice is a factor that makes people human. By removing choice and programming people with a response it makes them more machine-like, it turns them into "a clockwork orange".

Chris Bolland



I Don't Do Much Either

Dr Doolittle
Now Showing
Selected Cinemas

Eddie Murphy is one of those actors who seems to do either good films or bad films and this time I think he has a good one. *Dr Doolittle* is a family movie with "something for everyone". Some of the humour involves innuendo and those parts are directed more at adults than kids but the kids have the cute animals and the fart jokes. The next most familiar face in this film is Raven-Symone (*The Cosby Show*) who plays one of Eddie's daughters.

As a child, John Doolittle had the ability to talk to animals but after a few incidents of strange and embarrassing behaviour his father took away his dog and best friend and John stopped communicating with the animals. When he grows up, he becomes a successful doctor but hates animals. After nearly hitting a dog on the road, he starts to hear animals talking again and this is when the fun starts. The more he talks to animals the more people think he is going mad and he eventually ends up in an asylum. The voices of animals in the film include Julie Kavner (*The Simpsons*), Chris Rock (*Fifth Element*), Garry Shandling (*The Larry Sander's Show*), Ellen DeGeneres and Jenna Elfman (*Dharma and Greg*). I enjoyed this film just because it is mindless fun.

Chris Bolland

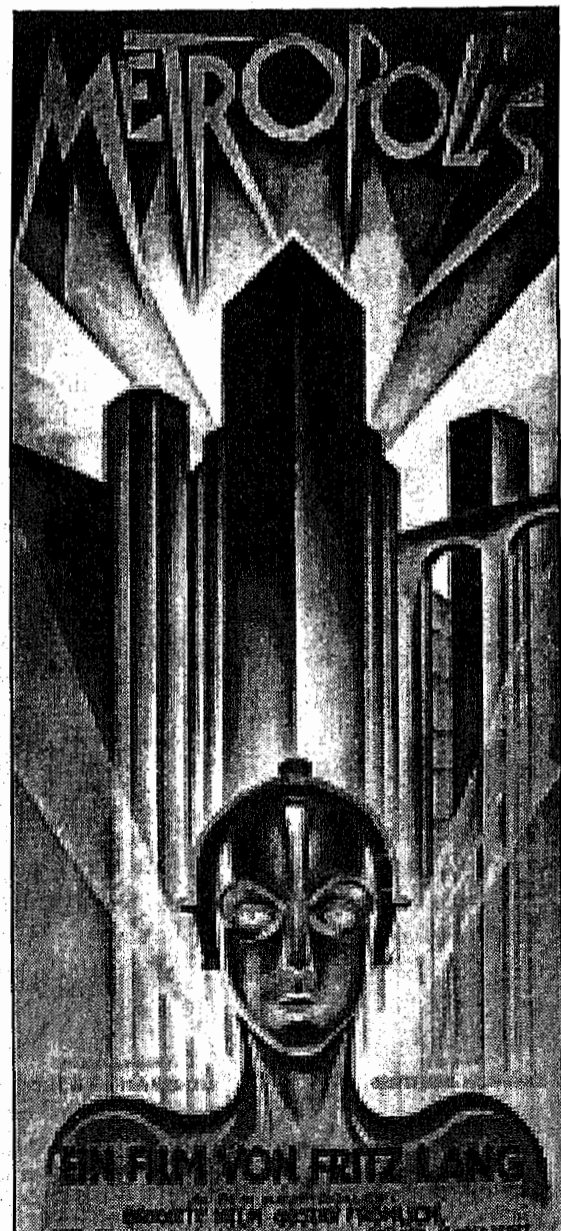
Metropolis (1926)
Dir. Fritz Lang
Plus Marx for Beginners
Screening this Thursday, July 30th at 7pm in the Union Cinema, Level 5, Union Building.
Film Society members FREE, others \$2.

The period between the end of World War I and the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany produced a huge outpouring of creative work, which included a thriving film industry. The films of this Weimar Era have been highly influential. Director Fritz Lang, whose other films include *M*, *Dr. Mabuse der Spieler* and the epic *Die Nibelungen* is one of the best known of those working at the time.

Metropolis is perhaps one of the earliest science fiction films. It depicts a futuristic city, where the rich and privileged lead lives of leisure high above the grime of the city and the workers toil at huge machines deep underground. One of the privileged class, Freder (Gustav Frölich), ventures down into the underground factories. Also underground is Maria, a beautiful and idealistic young woman who is trying to improve the lives of the workers underground. Freder's father, the Master of Metropolis, orders Rotwang, half scientist - half sorcerer to create a robot version of Maria, who will incite the workers to revolt so that he can replace them with a workforce of robots.

The depiction of the city of Metropolis is stunning. A fabulous city of skyscrapers and railway bridges, with underneath a hellish factory, filled with huge engines attended by workers who never see the world outside. While the story itself has been criticised as somewhat simplistic in its portrayal of the struggle between management and workers, the sets and effects are enormously impressive. The city of Metropolis became the archetype for all of cinema's visions of the oppressive city of the future. Films such as Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* owe more than a little to Fritz Lang's vision.

Helen Chandler





TAKE FIVE



The Fifth Element

(1997) Director: Luc Besson
Stars: Bruce Willis, Milla Jovovich, Gary Oldman, Ian Holm
Columbia TriStar

At first glance it's easy to dismiss *The Fifth Element* as simply another Bruce Willis sci-fi action-packed adventure-thingy with lots of big guns and explosions. However the twenty-year development story of this film has ensured that it stands apart from the crowd of derivative Hollywood rubbish we have been persuaded to endure in recent years.

The story opens with the arrival of a group of Mondoshowan aliens in Egypt in the early twentieth century, to claim and protect the fifth element, a genetically en-

gineered perfect human who unites the power of the four classical elements (earth, air, fire, and water) to protect the Universe against the ravages of anti-life that threaten life periodically. The story then jumps forward three hundred years, where we meet Korben Dallas, an ex-marine turned taxi-driver to whom falls the task of locating the fifth element (a carrot-topped woman called Leeloo, played by Milla Jovovich), obtaining the tools she will need to protect life, and thwarting the efforts of the minions of destruction (in this case represented by the wonderful Gary Oldman in the guise of Jean-Baptiste Emmanuel Zorg).

In a day and age when all too many films portray death and violence as something that's okay as

long as the good guys win, the fact that the true hero of the story, Leeloo, doesn't simply beat up the bad guys but must be nurtured if she is to have the strength needed to protect life comes as a welcome change. At the same time, *The Fifth Element* manages to provide plenty of action, great special effects, some very humorous moments, a wonderful soundtrack, and a very definite sense of style. It also packed with more good science fiction concepts in five minutes than the average mass-produced nonsense claiming to be SF manages in a full-length feature.

This film does suffer from a slight sense of unevenness, in that one major part of the film is left almost exclusively to Willis as he deals in a typically unsubtle man-

ner with a group of alien mercenaries who have hijacked a luxury cruise vessel, quite in contrast to the style of the rest of the film. However the cast all manage to turn in good performances, especially the relatively unknown Jovovich who succeeds in creating a likeable, believable character in a situation where it would have been all too easy to slip into the role of eye candy. And despite any shortcomings, it's obvious that *The Fifth Element* was not slapped together overnight, but has spent years being developed into a fine story.

Sundance

Cop This

Copland

(1997) Director: James Mangold
Starring: Sylvester Stallone, Harvey Keitel, Ray Liotta, Robert De Niro, Janeane Garofolo, Robert Patrick.

Roadshow Entertainment

Just over the George Washington Bridge, stretching from New York to New Jersey, lies a small, quiet town called Garrison. It is a town established and populated by police officers, and where the local Sheriff's department is headed by failed police hopeful Freddy Heflin, an honest, easy-going man with a hearing impairment. Everything in Garrison seems perfect, but the truth is darker and dirtier than Freddy can or wants to believe and, with the apparent death of Garrison resident Ray Donlan's nephew in a bridge shoot-out, he is forced to risk his life to fight it.

On the surface, *Copland* is a simple 'good guys versus bad guys' morality tale, and yet another film that deals with police corruption seemingly rife in America. But it is a film

that deals with its subjects in a powerful, compelling and even artful way. Director/writer James Mangold has pulled out all stops on this film, and with a powerhouse cast including Keitel, Liotta and De Niro amongst others, it would've been difficult to go wrong.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of this film is the stunning performance of Sylvester Stallone as Heflin, without doubt his finest role since *Rocky* way back in the late '70s. Stallone piled on over 40 pounds specifically to win this part, fighting off his natural self-disgust throughout, and turns in a powerhouse performance as the humble, defeated, yet heroic Sheriff of Garrison, NJ. The man can act, folks, and very well.



If you love tight, thrilling police/mob dramas - or just damn good films - and want to see four fine actors at their best in movie with superb action, tension, direction and music, then don't hesitate to grab *Copland*, one of the year's best.

Gerard van Rysbergen

Latex

Irma Vep

1996 Dir: Olivier Assayas
Maggie Cheung, Jean-Pierre Leaud and Nathalie Richard.
Siren

Hong Kong action hero Maggie Cheung stars in this "latex comedy" about the remake of a classic french film, *Les Vampires*. She is asked to play Irma Vep, the lead character in the film, by a director who is well past his used by date. Maggie plays herself and spends most of the film in a skin tight, black, latex catsuit which the costume director bought from a sex shop (by the way, it is meant to have zips over the breast and crotch [so says the costume designer] but they are not noticeable). This is a fast paced satire aimed at French cinema. You probably have to know a lot about the French film industry to really appreciate it and although I know a reasonable amount about it, I still think it is an average film. Perhaps this is one of those films you have to be in the the right mood for. If you are into French cinema then take a look.

Chris Bolland

Video Give Aways

Columbia TriStar Home Video are releasing a veritable plethora of incredible videos for people to buy at video retailers. There is a Sci Fi range in shops now. These include: *The Fifth Element*, *Total Recall*, *Universal Soldier*, *Robocop*, *Terminator 2 - Judgment Day*, and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind (Special Edition)*. You can go out and buy a copy of any of these videos now, or you can win one of FIVE copies of *The Fifth Element* that I have to give away.

To be in the draw to win drop your name and a contact number into the video pigeon hole in the On Dit office or telephone on 8303 5404 with your details before 1pm Friday 31 July.

POINTLESS BUTCHERY

Throughout Australia, university lecturers are not fulfilling their legal obligations. Is yours one of them?

"Animals are to be used for teaching activities only when there are no suitable alternatives for achieving the education objectives"...

The Australian Code of Practice for the Care & Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes

Thousands of animals are used every year in teaching programs across Australia, by students studying subjects such as psychology, biology, zoology, and pharmacology. For most of the animals involved, this process involves at best discomfort and deprivation and at worst suffering and death. And the most frustrating part is that there are alternatives available.

Humane Society International Australia, the Australian office of the largest animal welfare and conservation group in the world, has been trying for over two years now to encourage Australian university lecturers to trial alternatives such as computer programs, models and mechanical simulators, interactive videos, self-experimentation and human studies, observational or field studies and CD Rom packages. MTU Friedrichshafen has sponsored us to try to get as many animals as possible out of laboratories and we would like your help to make this happen. Many alternatives, which satisfy all course requirements, are available on loan for the cost of return postage. Yet many lecturers remain obstinate, refusing to give way to new technology which would see animals out of the laboratories.

The Australian Code of Practice also states that "Students should be given the opportunity to discuss the ethical, social and scientific issues which are involved in the use of animals for scientific and teaching purposes." It is difficult to see where students are given the opportunity to exercise this right. Before enrolment, no information is given about the use of animals within the course. Once a student has enrolled, there still seems to be little choice. Heads of departments have said they strongly encourage students to partake in the experiments within the course outline.

Have you ever discussed the ethical, social and scientific issues which are involved in the use of animals in class? If so, we would like to know. Having met with a blank wall of bureaucracy in trying to communicate with University staff, we have turned to students in an effort to gain a more accurate picture of exactly what is going on in Australian universities.

How many animals does your class use? To what use are they put? Do you know where they come from or where they go? Are you offered any alternatives in light of the fact that animal experimentation is cruel, barbaric and inhumane, and replacement is required by law?

Please contact Humane Society International
Phone (02) 9973 1728
Fax (02) 9973 1729
or write to:
PO Box 439 Avalon 2107
humanesocietyint@compuserve.com



RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship is open to both men and women and is tenable at Oxford University for two years in the first instance. In 1999-2000 a personal allowance of not less than 8000 pounds sterling a year will be paid in addition to the scholar's College and University fees.


Applications will close with the Honorary Secretary of the South Australian Committee on 1 September 1998.

Intending applicants are advised to write for application forms and additional information as soon as possible to the Honorary Secretary, Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee, University of Adelaide, SA, 5005.




No poll Herefords here. We're all horny at
THE 1998 WAITE BALL
SATURDAY AUGUST 15

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WARP AND WEFT

The Chosen

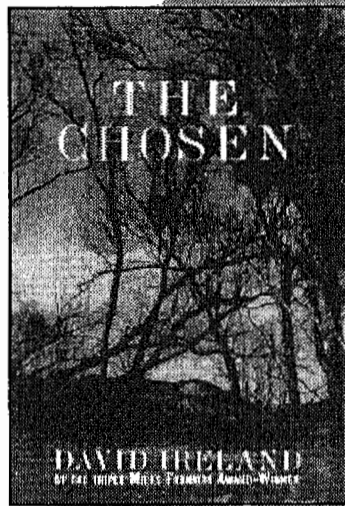
David Ireland
Vintage Australia
\$17.95

The Chosen is David Ireland's first novel in ten years, and the break has obviously done him some good. When you read that an author has won three Miles Franklin awards and is now in his seventies you usually expect the novel to be deep, moving, and perhaps a little dry. But *The Chosen* is written with all the energy, humour, vitality and freshness of a twenty-year old.

It concerns a weaver who is commissioned to weave a tapestry for the council chamber of the town of Lost River. To do this he must hear the stories of a selection of townsfolk (52 in all, one for each week of the year) to determine the gestures by which their lives might be defined. The stories he hears range from the tragic to the hilarious, and are written with a subtle flair that never fails to impress. Underlying these stories run the town's obsession with the death of one of its members, and the weav-

er's recurrent thoughts of Yarrow, the woman he loves, but who is lost to him.

What really catches the attention in this novel is Ireland's writing. Of the 520 pages in *The Chosen* there is not one without some turn of phrase that provokes either laughter or wonder, particularly in the weaver's constant comparisons of his subjects to different types of animals. At first this seems a trifle pretentious, but as he continues, and the names of the animals become more ridiculous, the funnier it gets. And speaking of names, the characters have some wonderful ones: Knudsen Boulton is my favourite, but I also like Nurse Pain and Doctor Clitterhouse (the gynaecologist). Some of Ireland's lines are too good not to quote, so here goes: *He sat slumped under his own weight*



... on the adzed bench like a Mullen Gullen avalanche cow.

Old Uncle appeared to have the physical prowess of a damp mat.

All slide their eyes off me, I'm unnoticeable as the bottom-dwelling footfish.

He was so big, he struck out like a horse in bed.

He was in bondage to music. By the time he was ten he was bowing the dried intestines of sheep with horsehair, and that's how it sounded.

In the high school magazine Ron Clancy had written Old Clampett's description as 'A person with few uses.

Soup, perhaps.'

His brothers got him a Pulamalong satellite dog, which needs a leash even when asleep.

She used to say blood was thicker than water and that was why relatives seemed thicker than other peo-

ple.

He has a mouth like two sides of a street containing only white houses.

His face had been assembled by an unkind committee, the parts obtained on mail order. He was given a lawyer's nose: long, dryish, inquisitive, and the charm of a bunch of pars-nips.

And that's but a brief sample.

Of course, it's not all laughter and hilarity. Some of the stories can be quite brutal or tragic, but overall it's a delight. The only annoying thing is that quite often you'll get to the end of a particular character's story and not want to keep reading. It just seems complete as it is, not requiring more. But then, the next one is just as good. In fact, some seem a little too short. I would have liked to have had some more from Lord Henry Ball, and Zuzz, the Sagamore family cat. But then, life's like that. *The Chosen* is funny, touching, moving, disturbing, joyous, and above all a triumph. Read it. You might even find yourself in there somewhere.

Paul Bradley.

Rise and Shine

The Rise of Endymion

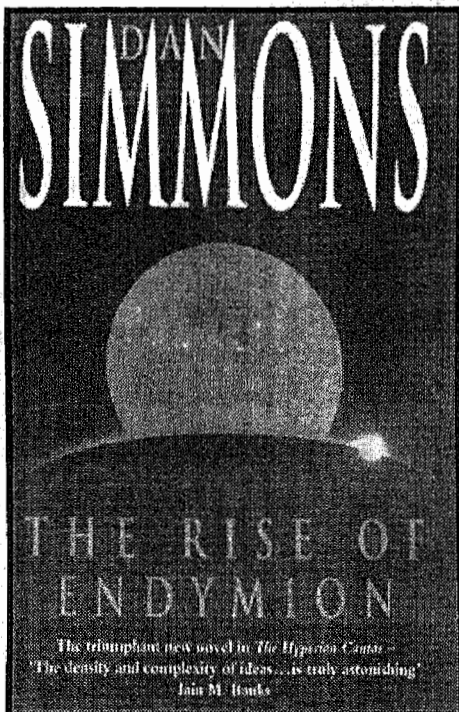
D. Simmons
Hodder Headline
\$14.95

Without having read the books that preceded this one I had a little catching up to do with this fine story. Technically, this book is pure genius. I loved the intricate weave of the de-

tails and the mind-bending concepts, and even though I was sometimes at a loss to understand where the storyline was going, I have nothing but admiration for the complex tale.

It is a science fiction epic adventure that follows the life of Raul and his young companion, who he has sworn to protect. Their lives take them throughout the solar system and beyond, travelling through space with a message for the universe. The detail into which the author goes is astounding and you'll find yourself lost in a system of worlds where it seems so familiar and yet so alien, where both human and alien life exist amongst war and adversity. It is sometimes a little too technical and I found I had to read a few of the passages more than once to fully grasp the idea that was being put forth. If you are a big science fiction fan then I suggest you read this series, as it is both technically beautiful and extremely entertaining. One thing I must warn you of, you must read them in order!

Claire Murphy



Got Smarts?

How To Succeed With IQ Tests

Ken Russell and Phillip Carter
Allen & Unwin

It's important to notice that this is not a book designed with the intention of improving the reader's intelligence, but rather their performance in IQ tests. The difference between these two aims

is debatable, but any sane person would have to admit the difference is not insignificant. This book seeks to make you better at IQ tests by providing 420 practice questions, covering all the standard

types of questions that such tests include. These questions do not comprise actual tests: if you want to know your IQ, this book is not going to help you with that. The closest they come is the occasional "excellent" or

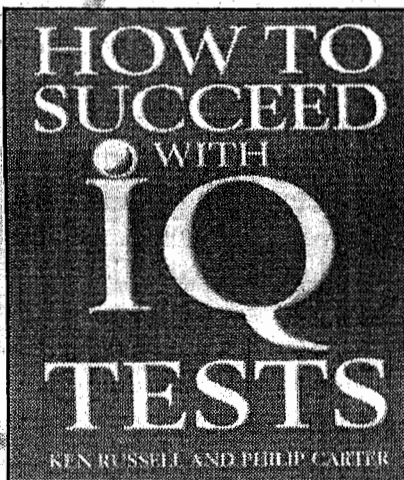
"above average" rating. I'd have thought the same result would be achievable by looking some questions up in a library, but I don't know everything, do I?

I do, however, have an IQ in excess of 180, which is clearly beyond improvement. So, in order to give the book a fair trial, I called up my stupid friend Bruce and

asked him to practice some questions. I gave him a "before" test, in which he did quite badly, and I gave him an "after" test, in which he also did quite badly. I conclude, therefore, from this scientific and highly intelligent approach to the problem, that this book is worth very little indeed as far as improv-

ing your IQ score goes. Also, that Bruce is a dumb old stick but I love him anyway, and isn't that what counts?

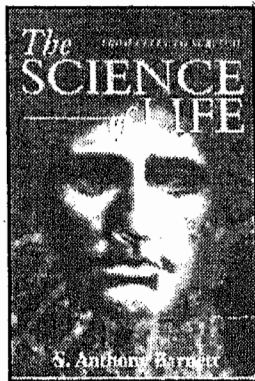
Chris Slape



It's About Life.

The Science of Life: From cells to survival

S. Anthony Barnett.
Allen and Unwin
\$24.95



Alongside the plethora of anti-science books peddled by the religious and new age are an exciting array of clear, factual books about science. With the increase in popular books about science, why is there so much misunderstanding about science, and why do so many people still believe in gods, superstition and luck? Because these books are unfortunately bought by those already aware about science.

Barnett has produced an excellent book about life. The book concentrates on humans, but includes ecology as a whole. In particular, it discusses how humans slot into the environment. He opens the book with a chapter address-

ing the question 'what is life?' which looks at how living organisms exist and what makes them different from non-living organisms. This is not as simple as it seems. Too often people make reference to the body as a machine. Or to computer programs that are 'Artificial Life'. Barnett is quite specific about what constitutes life. Chapter two is titled Evolution: History or Blasphemy. In 14 pages

he quickly shows the idea of creation science to be ludicrous. It is a shame that the author feels the need to include this in his book. Rather, I should say that it is a shame that there are so many people who still believe in creation myths that is necessary to include such a chapter. Barnett is no fan of reductionism either. Throughout the book he takes to task the idea that we are simply a machine for genes to continue (as Richard Dawkins implies). Barnett describes biological life, but

acknowledges the strong role of behaviour and society on an individual. Barnett does not simply state 'X, Y & Z are true, here is the proof, believe it.' He places before us what facts there are, how they work in scenarios X, Y & Z, how they may not, and so on. He asks us to think and to make our own conclusion.

I was particularly impressed by his taking to task those who have absolute faith in the Human Genome Project. 'We are, as happens so often, required to genuflect before the gene' (p84). Genes do play a role in a person's make up, but they are not the be all and end all. Just because there may be a case that men hunt and women gather does not mean that it has application now. His example is about clothes. Is there a gene for wearing clothes that suddenly popped up several thousand years ago? Unlikely. By all means let us use our knowledge about the gene for benefit. But we must not let it become a blind faith. Flick through any books about the

Nazi ideas about eugenics to find out what could happen.

This is not a book for the science student, but if you have trouble explaining to people the basics of biological science, give them this to read. Barnett does not dumb stuff down. He explains things clearly, succinctly, and with passion. There are three excellent appendices: a Classification of organisms, a Stratification of organisms, and a Glossary. These are an enormous help to those of us who are ignorant of many of the terms he uses, let alone the classification system used in biology. If you are an arts student, get this book. You will find something of interest, or that will relate to your life somewhere in it.

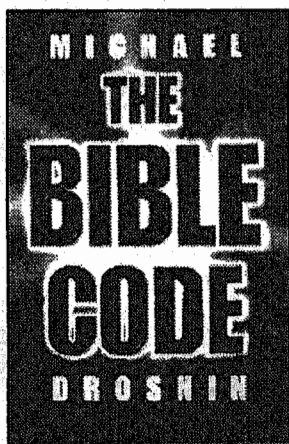
A final note: Tony Barnett is an Australian. Personally, I find this to be of great help. The writing style feels more comfortable to read than many overseas books.

Michael Blackwell

CONSPIRACY?

The Bible Code
Michael Drosnin
Allen and Unwin
\$14.95

I have never wanted to learn how to read ancient Hebrew more in my life, at least then I would have some way of verifying this ultimately very scary phenomenon. Michael Drosnin is one of those hardened journo's that one tends to only see in movies. You know, the ones who have the ability to actually ring the President of the United States and 'have a word'. I'm not quite sure if this is a ploy to make the story more credible or whether he is really legit, but either way the idea that this book encompasses is a very disturbing one. The story begins with an Israeli mathematician who, through his chosen field of group theory, discovered a code within the original Hebrew Bible that can both predict events that will occur in the future and give an accurate account of occurrences in our recent past. Things such as the assassinations of Yitzhak Rabin and J.F.K. and the attempted assassination of J.F.K.'s brother are mentioned, as are such periods of history as the rise of Hitler and the Jewish Holocaust. Even mankind's



giant leap was documented thousands of years before it actually happened. The code itself has been spoken of for years, and even the great mind of Albert Einstein could not figure it out, but with the invention of computers the vast volumes of information hidden within the Bible's text can now be reached. Mathematician Ely Rips and journalist Michael Drosnin have come together to try and show the rest of the world that the code is real. It has been passed by US defence force decoders as legitimate and has survived the scrutiny of some of the world's top math minds. Unfortunately it is hard to really maintain a grasp on the idea presented in the book and it is easy to pass it off as a form of millennium fever, but the odds of these things appearing as they do in the decoded text are at something like 1000-1. Although to our nation of exaggerators this doesn't sound like much, mathematically these odds lie in the impossible category. If you have a keen interest in finding out the fate of the entire human race, then this is the information you need - but remember, nothing is set in stone and man always has the ability to change his destiny.

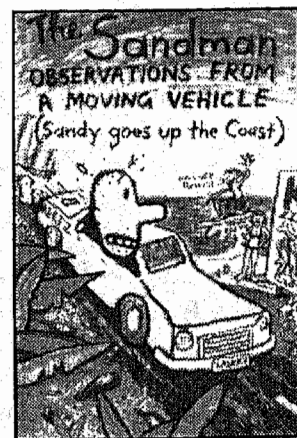
Claire Murphy

On The Road

Observations from a moving vehicle (Sandy goes up the coast)
The Sandman
ABC Books
\$14.95

If you enjoyed hearing the serialisation of The Sandman's story on Triple J's breakfast show as I did, then you will enjoy this book as much as I did. This book is beautifully written in a style that only Sandy can be responsible for. By the end of this story of a teenager's trip up the coast with a group of eight friends, one can only feel pity for an awkward, yet intriguing young man.

If you read this book with The Sandman's voice in mind, you will get the maximum effect, and feelings that go along with the adventures and experiences of The Sandman. One gains an insight into the mind of a frightened teenager called Sandy ... and it isn't pretty. The faithful recreations of conversations and events were so real that I felt as though I was there with Sandy. While read-



ing this book when other people were around, I had to keep reading out passages as those around me wanted to know what was so funny. We get to share 13 days of Sandy's life, as he goes on holiday with eight other people, and it is strangely compelling. We find out odd things about Sandy such as the fact that he sees himself as a wagtail, an interesting analogy.

I felt like a voyeur while reading this book and at the same time I felt that I had been invited to share the Sandman's most inner thoughts and deeds. This is a very funny and entertaining book. There is even a bonus at the end of the book. The sheet music to four songs is included to enhance our experience

of travelling with Sandy on his holiday. I recommend this book to anyone who likes to laugh at the social awkwardness of others. For those not acquainted with The Sandman, he could be compared to Mr Bean. This is a book that will not disappoint, despite The Sandman's expectations.

Polly Kennington

ONCE UPON A TIME...

Chapter one: Everything you want to know about starting your novel!

Jennifer Bacia
Allen and Unwin
\$16.95

There are many types of novels to write: from science fiction to historical thrillers, postmodern to pulp fiction. *Chapter One* does not cover them all. In fact, it only covers a very small range. The easiest way to describe the type of novel *Chapter One* covers is to say that they are the type found in 'women's magazines'. It is very easy to write a novel off because it is written in the style of writing that *Chapter One* discusses. But, contrary to popular belief, this style of writing is very difficult. Try reading one of the short stories in the *Women's Weekly*. Okay, no great intellectual feat, but that is not what they are

about. They are written to be read in a very short time, and to satisfy. Closure is not dead yet. Bacia works through several of her own works by giving a few pages of chapter one, then a commentary about the work. This works very well. A book of theory just would not work in this case. She deals with the mechanics rather than theory. Bacia dissects her work thoroughly. She explains why the selection works, then she continues with questions about the characters, scenes, etc. She understands her craft in fine detail. Reading this book you soon realise that those who write this style

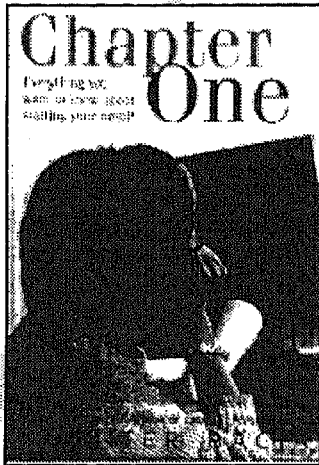
of story are not simply trotting out a quick half hour job. In some ways following a set pattern, and making it interesting, is just as difficult as writing an "intellectual" novel. It could take dozens of stories and hundreds of rejections before you get to a good story. By having signposts to measure your work, and questions to ask of it, this will cut your time to publishing drastically.

As I said earlier, the type of novel that Bacia writes is hard. A friend of mine has been trying to break into the Mills & Boon market. She is finding it extremely difficult. After sending off several

manuscripts, she is has only just now had one sent back with comments! All of the others were sent back with only the first page read. Writing an intellectual novel may be good for the ego, but Mills & Boon pay good money. Some authors make seventy thousand per book. If you think there are already enough authors, think again. Mills & Boon are reprinting old novels because they cannot find enough new authors.

This is an ideal book for those wanting to understand how to write light/swift/resolved fiction (I can't think of a succinct term). The genre is often snubbed by literary snobs. Unfortunately the literature favoured by literary snobs does not pay as well. These are the stories to do while you are writing the great novel.

Michael Blackwell



Bonking

How Do Detectives Make Love?

Coral Hull
Penguin
\$19.95

Carol Hull is a contemporary Australian poet. Depressing is a too harsh word to describe the collection of poems in *How Do Detectives Make Love?* and melancholy is too weak. Unsettling, disturbing, uncompromising, and revelatory are a few words that come to mind when I read her poems. Her works blend suffering and innocence with violence. She has the ability too, to show the suffering of those who perpetrate violence. 'Royal Park Stalker Sequence' has the blend of suffering of both perpetrator and victim. What does the stalker buy from the supermarket? Several of Hull's poems deal with her father, a drunken violent man who cries. She writes with a disconcerting voice: she both despises those who commit violence and understands them at the same time. Most of her poems are set out in the same way: short lines that seem to have an anguished rhythm. She deals with issues of gender relations, sex, public corruption, the criminality of law enforcement, and animal exploitation. Hull is an Animal Rights Activist. These works reflect that. Not because of the content, but the residue of emotion left after reading them. If one is an animal rights activist, one understands suffering

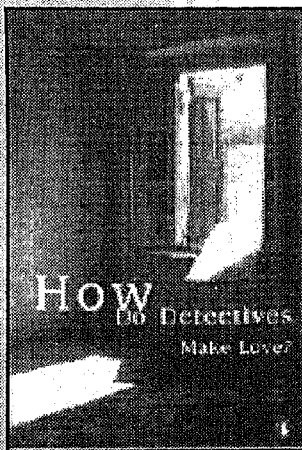
very differently to other people. It is to feel what the animal is going through, not as some paternal over-god, but as a fellow being. Empathy such as this is deep, and draining on others. Hull avoids the drain, and in some cases shows contempt for those that choose to ignore vivisection and animal abuse.

Many of Hull's poems lack completion. Not in a big bad way, but a nagging way. It is like listening to a person's thoughts on the bus. You know what they mean, what the thought is about, but there is no framework, no context. In Hull's case, this style works well. Hull's work is intensely personal. Both autobiographical, and about things she cares about. Work of this nature can become self-indulgent, an excuse for self-pity and emotional masturbation. Not so with Hull. She writes with a ferocious feeling.

A raw unconcerned-with-the-reader type feel. Not wanting to be trite, written from the heart is one way of looking at her work.

How Do Detectives Make Love is an excellent book. If you have the slightest interest in Australian poetry or writing this is a must. I hope this book is released overseas. Coral Hull is another great Australian poet that the world should know about.

Michael Blackwell



Brinky Brinky Brink Brink

On The Brink: Australia's Universities Confronting Their Future

Peter Coaldrake & Lawrence Stedman
Penguin
\$29.95

Well, the cover design pretty much sums this one up, described as the "gargoyle of a gloomy scholar or teacher". Reading this book, I realised that I have never felt more like a healthy dose of sleeping pills in my life. If you're a uni student, you know all of this already. It's the summation of the things we face on a daily basis - you know, fees, cuts, ifs and buts. In other words: fees, quality of education, and employment opportunities. What this book will give you is concrete evidence that your degree probably won't get you a job, because as the government reduces funding the University seeks alternative sources of income which, in effect, compromise the quality of your education. If the international student is buying his/her degree, what does that say about the rest of us who have ours on lay-by? In actuality, your prospects are probably better with the "back of the cornflakes box" degree, as you have the same chances and at least you're getting a

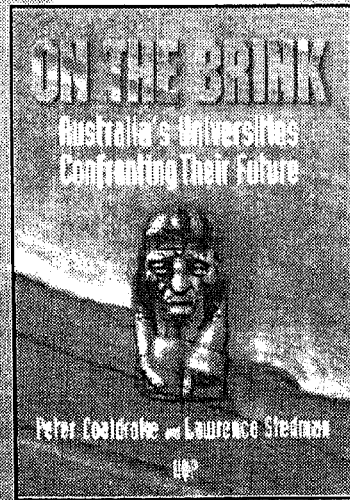
quarter of your daily fibre intake. You may also be under the misconception that your friendly lecturer is there to help you in that dark hour before deadline. The truth is, the undergraduate student is an annoying distraction from the lecturer's reason for being - research. This research ends in the proliferation of many and not always varied texts written

by your friendly lecturers, which are never available in the library but live in abundance in your lecturer's office.

It has not always been this way, though. There are still some of the old guard left who remember a time of quality education, free for those who wanted it. These scholars would give everything to return the University to the pursuit of great minds, instead of the great degree factory that churns out minds barely touched by academia.

So the future, boys and girls of the nineties University, is gloomy: not only is the quality of your education falling, the price of it is rising and eventually the poverty-stricken young tattooed freaks of this generation will no longer have access to that great shiny degree as only those already on a hundred grand a year will be able to afford it. But how did he/she get this wondrous career? They went to Uni, of course!

Claire Murphy



Adelaide UniBar Presents:

folks doin' stuff

Thursday July 30

1pm
Jeff Lang FREE

Friday July 31, 8pm

Adelaide Uni Final of the National Campus Battle of the Bands
Brunatex
Probe Red
Wreckless
Hermaphrodite
Euphony
FREE to Adelaide Uni Students, \$2 Other Uni Students & \$5 others

Sunday August 2, 12pm onwards

University Open Day:
Jeff Lang and Chris Finnen FREE

Thursday August 6, 1pm

Tracey Redhead FREE

Friday August 7, 8pm

Student Radio SUV and Union Activities present 'Monte'
Brunatex
Revolvar
Killjoys
FREE to Adelaide Uni Students, \$5 others

Friday August 14, 8pm

Pre Shrunk
ASD
Seven
FREE to Adelaide Uni Students, \$5 others

Friday August 21, 8pm

Rash (last show for at least 6 months)
Flat Stanley
Think Tank
Slingshot
FREE to Adelaide Uni Students, \$5 others

Saturday 22 August, 8pm

Triple J presents: Turn
Up Your Radio
The Fauves
Webster
Violeteen
Pollen
\$8 Adelaide Uni Students, \$12 others

Friday 28, August, 8pm

State Final of the National Campus Band Competition Artists TBC
FREE TO ALL SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNI STUDENTS, \$5 others

Friday 4 September, 8pm TO BE CONFIRMED

TESTEAGLES
Wrench
FREE to Adelaide Uni Students, \$5 others

Saturday 5 September 2pm all ages, 8pm OVER 18's ONLY

Mavis's
Even
Effigy
\$10+bf from ticketing outlets

Friday 11 September 8:30pm

Ammonia + Guests
\$10+bf from CIB ticketing outlets

Saturday 12 September, 8pm

Ammonia + Guests
\$10+bf from CIB ticketing outlets

Three great outfits, one big night! Yes, I'm talking about A Capella! at the Nexus Caberet. On Friday the 31st of July [that's this friday coming] Nexus will host a night of pure harmonies and dreamy melodies performed by three groups, Ratatouille [or 'the Rats'], The Harmonix, and the Adelaide based Sunam. If your musical tastes run toward folk, gospel, 'world music', or even more contemporary tastes, then you'll find something to catch your ear [and your taste-buds] at A Capella! The tickets are \$8.00 concession, and tickets are available from Nexus and b# Records. The show starts eight-thirty and goes well into the wee hours, so tell your parents not to wait up.

If watching local bands locked in mortal combat in a Colosseum-like frenzy of blood and guitar-riffs is more your scene, then maybe you should check out the Adelaide Uni final of the 1998 National Campus Band Competition, to be held in the UniBar this Friday evening [31st of July]. Support your local music scene and watch our local heroes tear each other's heads off in a furious battle for supremacy. There can be only one.

Get in early with your bookings for the Victor Harbour Folk Festival [120 acts on 12 stages over four days - Queen's Birthday long-weekend, Friday the 2nd to Monday the 5th of October] and save around 12% on the price of your tickets. It's going to be big, and you know you always wanted to be a part of something big [besides Uni]. Information is available from the Folk Festival Office on [08] 8340 1069, or on the net at www.folk-sa.auslink.net.au

The Norwood Symphony Orchestral Society is celebrating the Fiftieth anniversary of Russian settlement of South Australia [and the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Norwood Symphony Orchestra] with a Concert featuring an all-Russian, all-Romantic Concert including Borodin, Tchiakovsyy and Rimsky-Korsakov. The concert will be at the Russian Community Centre, 239 the Parade, Norwood, on Sunday, September 13th at 2.20pm. Tickets are \$10.00 concession, available at the door.

Local chamber group Auricle is presenting their second concert for 1998 on Saturday, August 1st at 8.00pm at St John's Church on Halifax St. The program will include works by Schoenberg, Webern, Lutyens and Berg. Tickets are \$12.00 adult, \$6.00 concession, available on the night. Get along and absorb some cool Twentieth-century musical gear.

Late News!!!
Message reads 'Beer Lovers - If your (sic) yet to sample CERVEZA then come and guzzle with 3 chicks and a loud mouth drummer and watch them bang out some grungey tunes at the Holdfast Hotel, Thursday night 6th August, with the Kill Joys. NO CADBURY'S ALLOWED.' [We don't write it, we just print it.]

single files

28 days
"S a n d"
(Shock)

Cool, throwaway punk from emerging Melbourne outfit 28 Days. Keep walking.

Spiritualized
"The Abbey Road"
EP
(Deconstruction/BMG)

These guys are way cool - and that's where the Beatles comparisons stop. Containing three songs (one of which is an instrumental of a b-side), this is good stuff. And what's more, they look like they're gonna tour for Big Day Out 99.
AnDrEw 1

Rancid
"Blooddot"
(Epitaph/Shock)

Rancid are one of very, and I mean VERY, few punk bands that I can stand. That's probably because they sound vaguely Clashish (although they've lost that reference a fair bit). This is an awesome single.
AnDrEw 1

Embrace
"Come Back To What You Know"
(Virgin/EMI)

The arch enemies of Oasis, Embrace re-appear for the tail end of 1998 with a fantastically "warm" single, that is simply miles ahead of most of Oasis' last album. Great stuff - can't wait to hear the album.
AnDrEw 1

feature

of the week



Adore
Smashing Pumpkins
(virgin/EMI)

Welcome to the land of excess. A land of plenty. A land of the free. A land where you can do what you want, as long as it doesn't conflict with the King's rules. King William (Billy to only his closest friends). A land where, if you cross the King, you risk expulsion. Just ask once loyal prince Jimmy Chamberlain. One death and one overdose and then the greatest drummer in any 1990's band is gone. So how will the King cope? Get a new drummer? Nah, too obvious. Get two new drummers? Yep. Dust the cobwebs off the old drum machine that they used when the King, and the remaining Prince (James Iha) and Princess (D'arcy) were a three-piece? Even better.

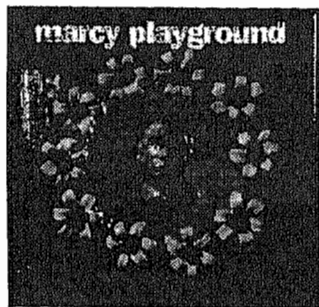
After such a sharp rise to ascension through the crossover *Siamese Dream* and its hits 'Today', 'Disarm' and 'Cherub Rock', the King made his magnum opus, *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*. This bloated excess of guitar symphony was inferior to *Siamese Dream*. And we all know why - the King let his princes and princess actually play on it, unlike *Siamese Dream* where he basically played everything and produced it himself.

So how does he go about topping the excess of *Mellon Collie*? Why, bring it back to the roots of the Smashing Pumpkins of course. He brings out the drum machine, the indie wunderkid producer (Brad Wood who has worked with Liz Phair and Ben Lee), and reign back the controls over his prince and princess.

The King has described his latest symphony (stretching in at just on sixty minutes) as "arcane night music". It certainly is that. With 'To Martha', 'Daphne Descends', 'Appels + Oranges', 'Annie Dog', 'For Martha' and '17', the King reigns in the controls and lets the music be gentle and certainly less in the traditional "angsty" Smashing Pumpkins style. Whilst 'Ave Adore' (in which the King discovers an analog synthesizer) and 'Tear' (which is the best song on *Adore*) are more like traditional Smashing Pumpkins with swollen guitars and burning vocals, overall it these quieter songs that make up the King's best work on *Adore*.

The King would be happy if you brought this record. He thinks it's the best. He may be right. It's certainly better than *Mellon Collie*, but whether it is better than *Siamese Dream* is up to you.

AndREW I



Marcy Playground
Marcy Playground
(Capitol)

Marcy Playground are probably best known for their single "Sex and Candy". If you liked that single you will like this album. All the songs retain the element of quirkiness that 'Sex and Candy' had but aren't quite as catchy. Having said that, the exception is 'Ancient Walls of Flowers', whose chorus, once in the mind, refuses to leave.

John Wozniak has a very relaxed way of singing, almost like he has nothing better to do on a Sunday afternoon. Their music mostly has an understated feel and relies on guitar effects.

The album begins with 'Poppies' which is the harshest song, musically. After that the songs slide into more mellow territory until the forth song 'Saint Joe on the School Bus'. Most albums have a disappointing track, and for me it was 'Gone Crazy' which is catchy but in an irritating way.

Lyricaly, the song topics include drugs, suicide and vampires, but despite this the album does not have a dark or heavy tone. Some of the songs have sarcastic undertones, especially 'The Vampires of New York', "...see them go into the den of the vampires of New York, but please watch your step as you're getting off, kids."

All in all, this album is distinctive enough to be interesting, but subtle enough to study to. Sort of.

Catherine E.



The Best of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds
Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds
(Mute/Liberation/Mushroom)

Nick Cave needs no introduction. The former

Birthday Party front man and erstwhile screenwriter/novelist/poet has made arguably the single most influential and comprehensive contributions to the musical and literary fields in Australia of anyone of his generation. Seemingly driven by an inner need to exorcise his personal demons [as anyone whose childhood was lost to the suburbs will understand] Cave has punctuated the last decade or so with moments of absolute clarity of beauty and harrowingly personal insight, sometimes simultaneously. A "best of" album from the Bad Seeds is long overdue.

While any collection of this nature is destined by its very nature not to please everyone, *The Best of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds* succeeds in compiling many of the band's most popular songs. This would be a damning indictment against the album if it wasn't for the fact that the album is so perfectly balanced that it *sounds* like an album rather than a collection of radio songs. A couple of listeners will convince the most doubtful that the album has been prepared with love and respect for the material. Combined with a limited edition bonus CD recorded at the Royal Albert Hall, this "best of" is a must for the devoted fan as well as anyone who has sung along to 'Tupelo', 'Deanna' or 'The Ship Song'.

J.D.

cd reviews



5
Lenny Kravitz
(virgin/EMI)

"People get around/This is a part for you" and so starts the first single (and fifth song) 'If You Can't Say No' off Lenny Kravitz' fifth album, suitably entitled 5. People

were around and pawing and lavishing praise on Lenny Kravitz after the release of his third album, *Are You Gonna Go My Way*. Then people buggered off again because his next release, *Circle*, was such a paltry effort in comparison with earlier works such as 'Moma Said', 'Are You Gonna Go My Way' and 'Believe'. So Lenny vowed that he would envelop new technology into his next album, in order to keep with the times and lose the "Lenny Kravitz is a 70's pastiche for contemporary times" comment.

So has he? Nah, not really. He, like Billy Corgan and his Smashing Pumpkins, has discovered an analog synthesizer. That does not make him seem to have discovered contemporary music and styles - in fact, his best piece of music (for it only contains one line, which is the title) on 5 is 'Straight Cold Player', which just screams 'Boogie Nights' and all things 1973 (and 74 and 75 and 76 and 77).

This is not to say that 5 is a bad album - it's not. It's just far too long. Thirteen tracks at 75 minutes is over-indulgent, particularly when many of the songs, such as 'Supersoulfighter' (which is a great track), contain a few words repeated many times over. The first song, 'Live', and joint single with 'If You Can't Say No', is a tremendous track. 'Thinking of You' and 'Little Girl's Eyes', both songs devoted to his daughter, are also great tracks. In fact, every track is at least a good song. Just not outstanding.

We all know that Lenny is a tremendous musician - he is equally talented at drums, guitar, bass and vocals - but he also produced the album himself. This is where I believe he could have used some help, simply because it is too excessive. If it had been trimmed to a tight ten tracks, it could even have been one of the albums of the year. But, because of it's excess, it isn't. Which is a shame, because it's a great, if overly indulgent, record.

AndREW I



Original Seeds: Songs that inspired Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds
(Rubber Records/BMG)

God how I hate Nick Cave. "Over-rated

'adult' music" is me being kind to him. That's why I was so surprised when I got this in the mail - a fantastic compilation of songs that have been covered by Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and songs by artists, such as Serge Gainbourg, that have inspired Nick Cave and his Bad Seeds.

With sixteen tracks it's nearly impossible to pick highlights although "Katie Cruel", as performed by Karen Dalton, Leonard Cohen's "Avalanche", and all the other fourteen tracks are highlights. I'd buy this over Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds recently released "Best Of" any day.

AndREW 1



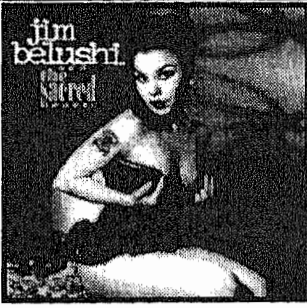
Volume 8 - The Threat is Real
Anthrax
(Ignition)

The boys are at it again. Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the record store, Anthrax go and release a new album.

Their eighth full-length release, appropriately called *Volume 8*, finds our heroes treading familiar turf. I should say here that metal isn't really my thing, but these guys I can respect as musicians and artists because - a) they've been around since I was little [a lifetime ago], and - b) they don't take themselves too seriously, something you don't often see in a high-profile metal band.

The music is cool. Like I said, this isn't the sort of thing I normally listen to, but Anthrax seem to have something that a lot of metal acts lack - a point. The crunchy guitars and cookie monster vocal delivery are their for a reason in the context of each song; to accentuate the lyrics [handily provided in full], and to break up the run of the tune, which is usually uncommonly melodious. The production values are there, along with the angst-ridden lyrics we've all come to expect from Anthrax, but the words and music are much more accomplished than I expected in this album. Each tune tells a story, which maybe as simple as a guy wanting a coffee ['Cupajoe'] or as poignant as a kid rebelling against his parents ['Stealing from a Thief']. I can see what they're trying to do, but Anthrax is still definitely an acquired taste.

Sam Andreas-Fault



36-22-36
Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts
(Festival)

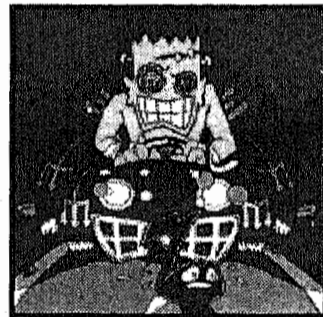
Before I say too much about this release, let me first say that the band is brilliant. The Sacred Hearts, cool, the Texicali

Horns, fat. I just, well, I can't think of a blues singer with less soul than Jim Belushi (for white man sings blues, see Todd Snider).

Jim Belushi is actually the actor, James Belushi, of Blues Brothers fame; whether the 'Jim' was some cunning plan to pretend he wasn't, I don't know. But I can tell you that fame like that can buy you stuff, like a band, a record contract, Charlie Musselwhite... From what I can tell, these are mostly cover songs; the liner notes seem to leave the song credits rather vague. The opening track is the only Belushi original, and if it wasn't for the band it would be pretty average at best. '36-22-36', which I am told is definitely a cover, is actually quite well done, with its sing-along chorus and slow groove, and would be the only highlight of the CD.

The liner provides some suitably show-off photos, in particular one with Belushi in full Blues Brothers pose on-stage at the House of Blues with President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. Very famous for their blues talents. I think I've said too much, with friends like that, I think I had now better run and hide.

andrew four



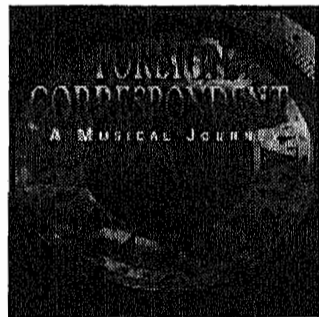
Mass Nerder
All

Okay, from what I understand, All and The Descendants are essentially the same people. Except for the lead singer. That's a different guy. Trust me, you can

tell. *Mass Nerder* is an exercise in melodic hardcore (leaning more towards the melodic than the hardcore, I'd say) which smacks of straight-edge sensibilities and Ameri-East Coast energy. This is fairly standard punk, although it moves around a lot more than you'd expect (one of the better elements of the Descendants involvement). It's your usual manic, speedy guitar collision laced with what sounds like throwback eighties rock emotions. They're all so damn sincere. y'know? Personally, I could do without the romantic plodding of 'Don't Let Go'.

I think the only real problem with *Mass Nerder* is this little vocalist exchange that's taken place (incidentally, Milo's still there doing back-up vox, feel free to explain the situation to me). Chad Price is one of these hopelessly self-righteous punkers, as demonstrated in the ironically flat-chested 'World's on Heroin', and the boring rehash of ethics in 'Greedy'. On the other hand, if I had to choose option B, the "sensitive-man-o-steel" meanderings on tracks like 'Perfection' or 'I'm Sorry, I'd be at a loss'. All's *Mass Nerder* isn't stunning, but it's really not that bad if you don't listen too hard. At least musically it's demonstrating some kind of individuality (as far as punk goes, anyway). If you're into The Descendants, give it a listen. it won't kill you. I miss Milo.

simone



Foreign Correspondent
Various Artists
(EMI/ABC)

This is a compilation CD of world music recorded on story location for the television program of the same name. The songs,

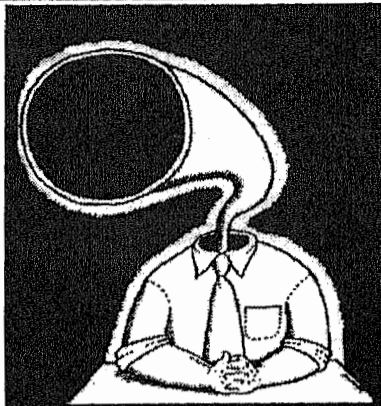
chants and instrumentals originate from locations such as Mozambique, Sulu Seas, Pakistan and the South Pacific island of Banaba.

While other CDs of world music can sound quite slick and glossy, this compilation is very raw and authentic. This can sometime be a disadvantage as some of the vocals are too coarse to lend themselves easily to enjoyable listening. However this can also be an advantage as it gives a real audio picture of the peoples lives and their surroundings. Almost all the tracks are fairly short, on average one to three minutes in length. The only exception to this is 'Elephantasy' at four minutes; this track ironically could benefit from editing as it is quite repetitive.

The best track is the last track, 'Raou Era Ae Tamaroa' which features tuneful singing and a smooth, flowing melody.

These tracks may have been excellent background music for stories but have trouble standing on their own, with a few exceptions. However, if you are a fanatical world music fan you will probably love this, also, scrawled on the CD is George Negus' autograph. Now there's an incentive for you!

Catherine E.



student radio column

yes indeedy how were your holidays and all that sort of stuff. i'm sure those "other" columns have asked you already anyway, so who cares? how are your parents? send them our love.

things to put in your student radio diary:

1. cows (oh hang on that would be a dairy...)

2. doing the student radio survey. no, it's not a "crazy" new dance, kids. it's provided for you in this here magazine, and filling it out can win you some ace prizes.

• **first prize: signed whitlams t-shirt and some CDs of your choice.**

• **second prize: lots of film tickets and a copy of the castle and spawn**

• **third prize: some lovely film tickets.**

• **fourth prize: a night in with us.**

3. not this friday, but next friday, student radio and the adelaide uni union are presenting **the killjoys plus special guests revolver and brunatex live in the unibar.** entrance is free for adelaide uni students and a little bit more for others. keep posted for details.

4. totally wimmin powered radio is coming up very soon. radio produced by wimmin for wimmin and those interested in all things womyn. it's happening during blue stocking week, as is *elle dit*, the women's edition of *on dit*. listen in, it will be great. get involved, you know you want to. just drop into the SAUA or speak to the women's collective for information. e-mail at clitoris@smug.adelaide.edu.au.

5. hey, you probably already know about OPEN MIC, student radio's culture and campus life show. that's good, but it gets better. OPEN MIC is now expanding to ONE HOUR A WEEK. that's right, ONE HOUR! That means more news for you.

e-mail us at padams@radio5uv.edu.au and "find us on the web" at <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/5UV/sr/index.html>.

this week on **LOCAL NOISE** will be **FUGE**, another fine adelaide band. Tune in at 9:30 PM TUESDAY the 28th of JULY on Student Radio 5UV.

thankyou for your attention.
Peter Adams
Christian Haebich
1998 Student Radio Directors.

TWP - crashing the airwaves on 5UV 531, august 10, 11, 15, 9.30pm-1.30am



hey girls, wanna be radio stars?
interested in talking about feminism, girl
power, the patriarchy, tampons, politics,
food bodies, music or any other girl stuff
that gets you going???



totally wimmin powered

TOTALLY WIMMIN POWERED is three nights of adelaide uni student radio completeley run by, you guessed it, WIMMIN. it's about sharing skills, learning broadcasting and presenting techniques, it's about providing a space for voices and issues not usually heard in the media. the best bit is, it's fun, simple and
NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.

wanna get involved? come to our meeting this Tuesday, 1pm, in the wimmin's room.
or give jessie (8332 1770) or kathleen (8431 6320) a buzz.

TWP - crashing the airwaves on 5UV 531, august 10, 11, 15, 9.30pm-1.30am

incredible!!!!

this week on local noise

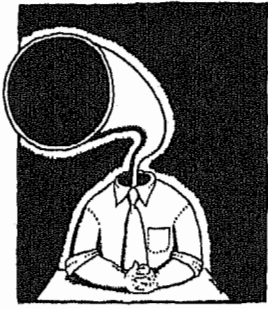
fuge

playing 'live-to-air' on student radio
tuesday the 28th of July 9:30 PM 531AM

**give me student radio.
give me local noise.**



student radio. give me noise.
7 nights a week on 5UV 531 AM



the student radio 'we wanna know' survey

Please fill in this survey and return it to the box in the Student's Association or outside the fine catering facilities a round campus by July 31st and you could be in the running for some great prizes, including: CD vouchers, a Student Radio t-shirt autographed by the Whitlams, CD's, Film Tickets, Posters etc. You've got to in it to win it.

1. Do you listen to Student Radio?
 Yes
 No - go to question 3.

Dodgy
 Needs Work
 What Column?

2. Have you heard of Student Radio before?
 Yes
 No - go to question 9.

9. Do you have any ideas about the content of Student Radio?

3. When do you listen to Student Radio?
 Monday
 Tuesday
 Wednesday
 Thursday
 Friday
 Saturday
 Sunday

10. Have you heard of 'Local Noise'?
 Yes
 No - go to question

4. Is there a particular show or presenter you like?

11. If you have listened to 'Local Noise' was the band(s) worth listening to?
 Good
 Crap
 OK
 Can you name them?

5. For what reasons do you listen to Student Radio?
 Music
 Views
 Student Issues
 Band Info
 Live bands/music
 Other (Please State)

12. What local bands would you like to hear on 'Local Noise'?
 a.
 b.
 c.
 d.

6. What would get you to listen to Student Radio more than you currently do? eg: More prizes, less waffle!

13. Do you think Student Radio is a worthwhile aspect of University Culture?
 Yes
 No
 Why?

7. Is there enough publicity & promotion of Student Radio?
 Yes
 No

Why not?
 14. Do you think the establishment of On Campus Radio is a worthwhile pursuit?
 Yes
 No

8. Is the Student Radio column in On Dit:
 Informative
 Easy to read

Reasons?

15. Would you listen to On Campus Radio while at Uni?:
 Yes
 No
 Maybe

16. If On Campus Radio was presented do you or would you support its transmission through speakers into food and beverage outlets on campus?
 Yes
 No
 Maybe

17. How often do you listen to AM or FM radio?
 1-2 hrs per week
 2-5 hours per week
 5-10 hours per week
 10 + hours per week

18. What are your favourite radio stations? (rank 1st - 5th)
 3d
 Student Radio
 5AD/5DN
 Triple J
 MMM
 SAFM
 Alta Mira
 5AN - ABC
 Coast FM

19. What publications/papers do you read/browse? Tick them.
 The Australian
 Messenger
 The Advertiser
 Rip It Up
 On Dit
 dB Magazine
 Empire Times
 Gay Times
 Entropy

Guardian
 Weekend Australian
 Green Left
 Sunday Mail
 Other (please specify)

20. What are your favoured pastimes?
 Sport - participation/active
 Sport - watching/passive
 Music - listening
 Reading
 Socialising/Pub
 Studying
 Movies/TV/Videos
 Live Music
 Arts -Drawing, Theatre, Opera
 Music - playing instruments
 Drugs - legal & illegal
 Indoor Activities - computers/ video games

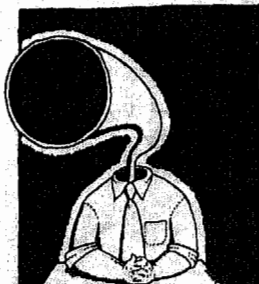
21. Tick the frequency with which you purchase the following items:

	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly
CDs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Books:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothes:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Musical Equip.:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Travel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thankyou for completing this survey.

Please return it to the SAUA, or one of the nifty collection boxes outside our numerous catering facilities before July 31st and you could be in the running for some nifty prizes.

Thanks.



Thankyou for taking the time to complete this survey.

Fill in your details and win some great prizes. See above for details.

Name:

Address:

Contact Department:

Telephone Number:

E-Mail:

**Student Radio 5UV
531 AM.**

**9:30 PM - 1:30 AM
7 NIGHTS A WEEK**

**Christian Haebich &
Peter Adams - Directors.**

Clubby Clubby Clubs Clubs

Next week is the Clubs' Fest.

Many of the clubs that are on campus are going to be out plying their wares and enticing you to join them. More than that, there is mega entertainment. Just to give you an idea about what's on, have a look below.

Wednesday 5 August

Bouncy Castle
Bobcat Ballett
Magician
Face Painting
Film
Choral Singers

Thursday 6 August

Camel Rides
Clown
Face Painting
German Play
Film
Uni Jazz (eve)

Friday 7 August

Native Animal Display
Magician
Face Painting
Flamenco Dancers
German Play

Next week will be the full schedule. Look for it.

German Club

are celebrating the centenary of Berthold Brecht's birth by staging *Der Gut Mensch von Setzuan* (The Good Woman from Setzuan) in the Little Theatre Thursday 6, Friday 7, and Saturday 8 August.

Matinees

Thursday and Friday at 1:15pm

Evening

Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 7:30pm

\$4 concession and \$6 adults.

For further information please call Steve on 8383 6232 or 0416 145 493

French Club Play

Merdre! The absurdist classic *Ubu Roi* by Alfred Jarry

is being presented in the Little Theatre on Sunday August 16th at 7:30pm
Monday August 17th at 2pm and 7:30pm
Tuesday August 18th at 2pm.

\$4 students/\$6 others

Bookings can be made at the Clubs' Association

For more information phone Sam 8379 3515 or David 8445 1231

Adelaide University Film Society Term 3 Programme

Week 1:

Metropolis plus Marx for Beginners
Thursday July 30 at 7pm
Union Cinema, Level 5, Union Building
Members FREE, Nonmembers \$2

Directed by Fritz Lang, this German film of 1926 is one of cinema's all-time classics. Admired for its amazing scenery and effects it tells the story of the workers of Metropolis and their attempts at overthrowing their oppressive masters.

Also screening is short film Marx for Beginners based on the book by Mexican cartoonist Rius.

Week 2:

Dark Star plus All Summer in a Day and The Big Snit
Wednesday 5th August at 1:10pm AND Thursday 6 August at 7pm
Union Cinema
Members \$1, Nonmembers \$3

Ultra-low budget Science-Fiction cult film, directed by John Carpenter in which sentient bombs come to terms with their purpose in life. Also screening is All Summer in a Day, based on a short story by Ray Bradbury and The Big Snit, an animated film in which a middle aged couple resolve their trivial arguments just in time before being atomised by a nuclear apocalypse.

Week 3:

Secrets and Lies plus Luxo Jr.
Wednesday 12th August at 7pm AND Thursday 13th August at 7pm
Union Cinema

Directed by Mike Leigh of Britain and winner of the Palm D'Or at the 1996 Cannes Film Festival, Secrets and Lies examines the lives of an adopted daughter and her biological mother when they meet as adults. Luxo Jr. is another short film by John Lasseter and Pixar Animations who were responsible for Tin Toy and Toy Story.

Week 4:

If... plus Seven Up
Thursday 20th August at 7pm
Union Cinema

If... directed by Lindsay Anderson, stars Malcolm MacDowell (Alex in A Clockwork Orange) as a student in an English boarding school where a riot breaks out among the students. Seven Up, a documentary made by Michael Apted in 1964 is the first in a series which follows the lives of a group of English children, interviewed about their lives every seven years. 42 Up is due out later this year.

Week 5:

Freaks plus Porklips Now, Evolutionary Fantasy and The Last Meow
Wednesday 26th August at 7pm AND Thursday 27th August at 7pm
Union Cinema

In this nightmarish film from 1932, circus freaks take revenge on a trapeze artist and her strongman lover. The film features real freaks and was the inspiration for the Pulp song of the same name. Also screening are two films from Allegro Non Troppo, a spoof of Fantasia, and Porklips Now, a parody of Apocalypse Now made by the team that gave us Hardware Wars.

Week 6:

Spellbound
Thursday 3rd September at 7pm
Union Cinema

Directed by Alfred Hitchcock in 1945 this film features Gregory Peck as the head of a mental institution who believes himself to be a murderer and Ingrid Bergman as his psychiatrist and lover. It draws on Freudian psychoanalysis and features a dream sequence based on designs by surrealist Salvador Dali.

Week 7:

Triumph of the Will plus Chicken Little
Thursday 10th September at 7pm
Union Cinema
FREE/\$2

This film, directed by Leni Riefenstahl, was commissioned by Hitler as a record of the Nuremberg rally held in 1934, to act as a propaganda tool to glorify Hitler and the Nazi Party. Riefenstahl, director of Olympia, the film of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, has extraordinary skill as a director and cinematographer and the film has a terrifying power. Short film Chicken Little is a Disney film, which uses the children's fable to show how propaganda can be used to gain control over others.

Week 8:

The General plus Chaplin's First Films
Thursday 17th September at 7pm
Union Cinema

This is widely regarded as Buster Keaton's finest film. Based on actual incident in the American Civil War, Keaton, an engine driver, must recapture his train after it is stolen by Union soldiers. Keaton, who does all his own stunts, shows why he is regarded as the greatest slapstick stuntman in film history. Also screening is a selection of excerpts from Charlie Chaplin's first films.

A new Film Society Newsletter can be found in members' pigeonholes now. If you would like to be added to the Film Society's e-mail list send a message to aufs@smug.adelaide.edu.au. And check out our website at <http://www.smug.adelaide.edu.au/~aufs>.

Sliders

First Class Careers

If you are looking to complete an undergraduate or post-graduate degree at the end of 1998 then you should attend the Motorola Australia Software Centre On Campus employment information session.

Date: 4th August 1998

Time: 1 - 2 pm

Where: Kerr Grant @ Adelaide University

Why: To give you access to worlds you never expected to enter. To provide you with the opportunity to be a part of a team creating software and pathways that promise to bring the virtual world to life.

Let Motorola provide you with life's possibilities in ways that fulfil your dreams.

Way Out Bizarre Types

Comedians, musicians and other way out bizarre people are invited to enter a competition with \$2000 prize money. Contact Brad on 041 222 2851 for details.

What's Wrong With The World

Free Public Lecture

Dean R Dowling, retired Physicist

"Why the misery and suffering from modern economics (financial deregulation, privatisation, Adam Smith, etc)?"

Except for two equations, the seminar will be qualitative.

Tuesday 4 August

7:30pm

Rennie Lecture Theatre

Johnson Laboratories Building

The University of Adelaide

Easy Money

Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW INC

Walter Stone Award

\$1000 plus medal

Walter Stone Award

Closing 30 September 1998

A prose of \$1000 plus the Walter Stone Medal is offered for an unpublished bibliography, bibliography or monograph up to 40,000 words on some aspect of Australian literature.

Entries must be written in English. There is no entry form or entry fee. Entries will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope of appropriate postage. The winner will be announced at the FAW luncheon in November and results published in December/January *Writers Voice*.

Send to: Walter Stone Award, PO Box 488 Rozelle 2039.

Jean Stone Poetry Award

\$100 plus medal

Jean Stone Award

Closing September 30, 1998.

A prize of \$100 plus medallion is offered for a poem or group of poems, maximum 50 lines. All entries must be unpublished, in English and typed.

Pen-name only must appear on entry. Poet's real name and address, telephone number, title of Poems(s) and pen-name should be typed on a separate sheet.

An entry fee \$3.00 (no coins or stamps) should accompany each entry. There is no entry form. Entry fee will be used to pay judges.

Two copies of each poem is required. No entries will be returned. The winner will be announced at the FAW annual luncheon in November and results published in December/January *Writers Voice*.

Send to: Jean Stone Award, PO Box 488 Rozelle 2039.

Once a month

RAH Auxiliary

Seeking volunteers to help in the Royal Adelaide Hospital Kiosk at weekends between 11:30am and 4:00pm.

We need about 6 extra people to serve on tables once a month.

If interested please call Mrs Pat McKinnon, Manager, Kiosk, on 8222 4880 or call in and see us on North Terrace (to left of main entrance).

Arse-kickin'

Steel-capped

Shoes

\$30

Ph. Tania 8230 4054

Teech To Speel Godd

Tutor

Uni student with English major. Patient and understanding to coach your children for end-of-year English/Humanities exams.

\$15 per hour

Speak to Zoe on Tel: 8339 4271

The deal with getting your classifieds to us:

Bring them in.

Send them in.

Email them in.

And do it by 5pm Wednesday.

It's just that easy!

CHEMISTRY

**THURSDAY
JULY 30**

Central Station in Chemistry
Special Guest **ANDY J**

**THURSDAY
AUGUST 6**

Chemistry with Jetty Surf gift vouchers.
Special Guest DJ
GROOVE TERMINATOR

**THURSDAY
AUGUST 13**

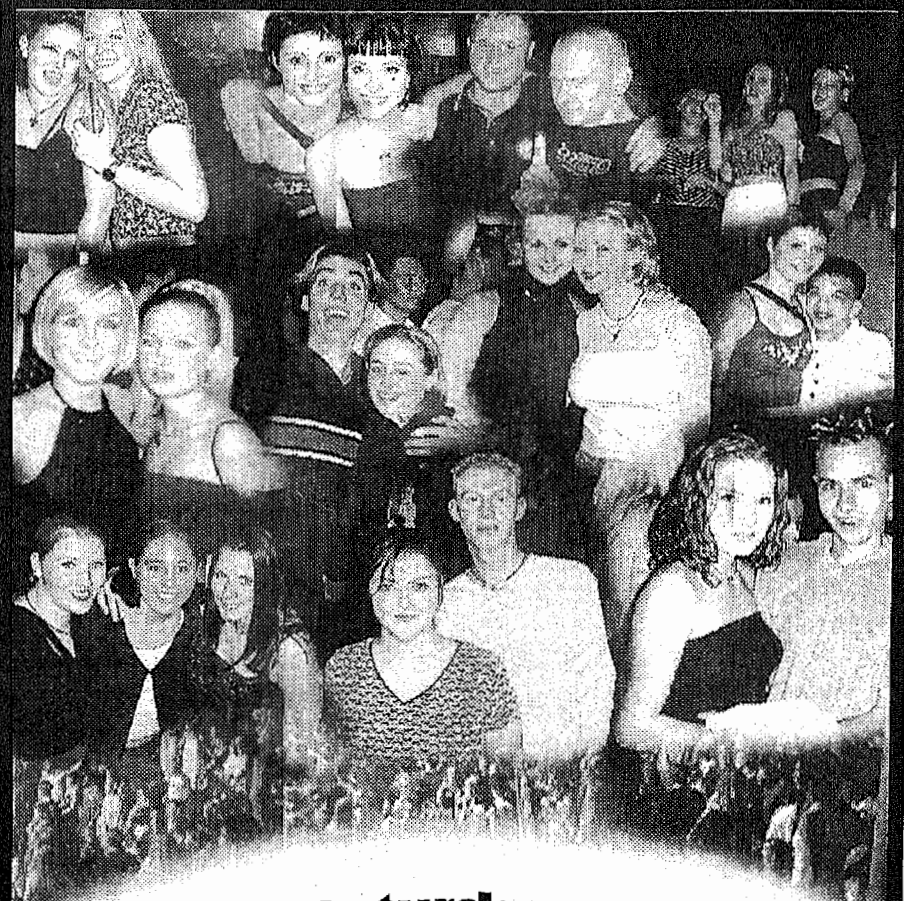
Black Market Clothing
with special guest DJ
BADMAN

CHEMISTRY...

THE PERFECT THURSDAY NIGHT FORMULA.



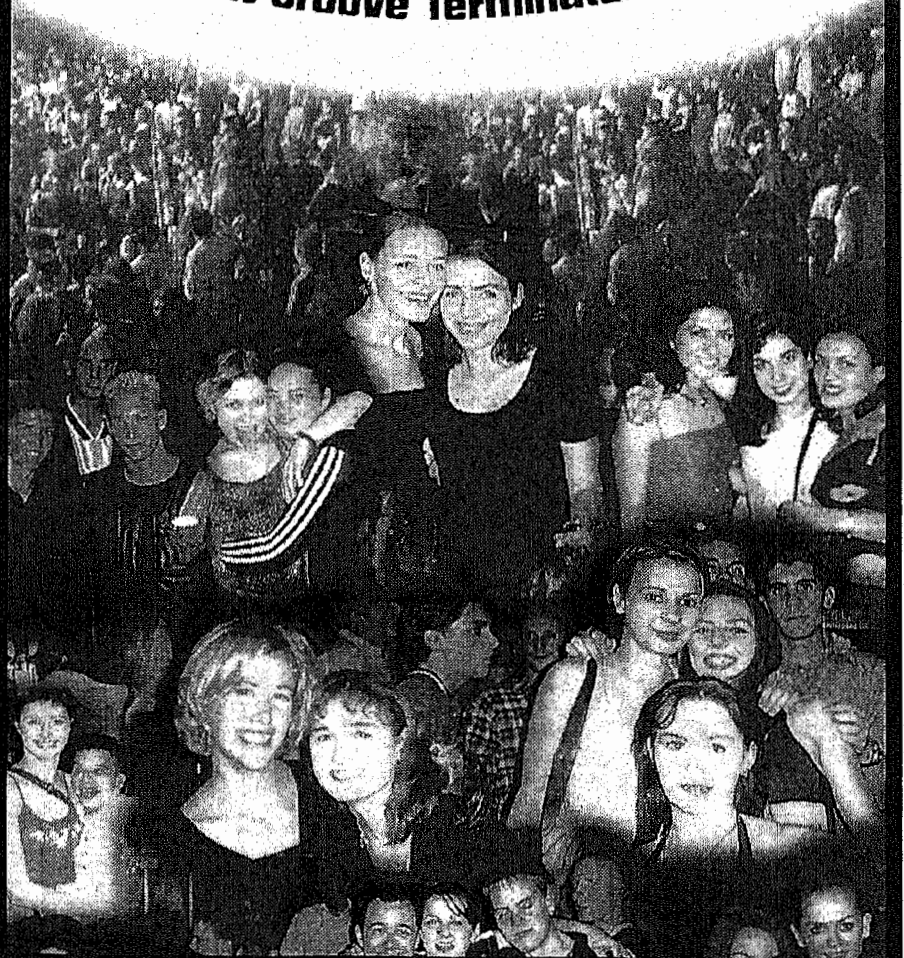
DOORS OPEN 9PM
HALF PRICE DRINKS UNTIL 10.30



Every Saturday Night

Clubland

Our House is Your House
Guest DJ Groove Terminator August 8



RESIDENT DJs JAMES INGRAM, JAYSE
& REELAX - MCS TIM & MOORE

