

STUDENTS GO DOWN FOR £8

Imogen Hitchcock

First year students Philip Gatrell and Ricky Martin were forced to swallow an 8 month sentence for stealing £8 from three other unsuspecting students. The two friends, one from Highfield Halls and the other from Ordurman Road, were arrested and convicted last week of 2 counts of robbery and 1 of attempted robbery. Both pleaded guilty to the charges.

Their victims were fellow students at the University. Daniel Wheatcroft, a physics student, Ian Long, and Engineer and John Anderson, a history student, were followed by Gatrell and Martin for about half an hour and then were robbed.

To make matters worse Martin also pretended he had a knife. According to Liz Gunther, defending, this was a moment of "twisted logic" on his part, as he felt that less violence would ensue as a result.

Judge Jeremy Burford QC presided over the case. He rejected a recommendation of a community punishment order and the students were sent to a young offenders' institution for eight months. The judge said this would allow the students to resume studies next year. However, whether they will be

allowed back
still remains
to be seen.
Both took
voluntary
suspension

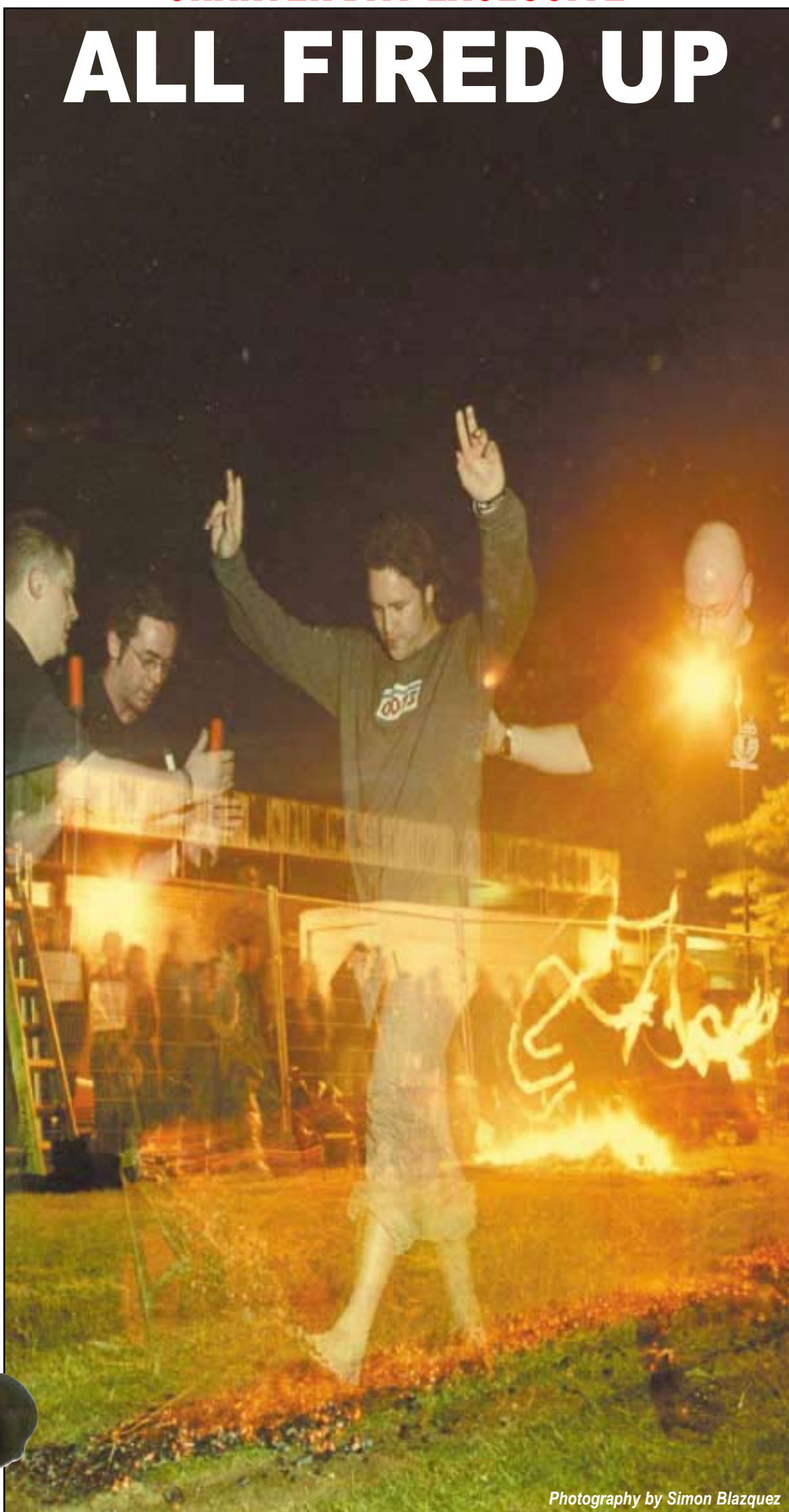
from their courses after their arrest in order to avoid meeting their victims. The University's Academic Registrar, Rex Knight, told the Wessex Scene "The offence was not committed on University premises and is a police matter [...]. The University does not condone criminal acts, and events have taken their course. The matter of the students continuing their education is under consideration."

The reaction of those students who knew about the incident (which is surprisingly few, the University managing to keep this story under wraps) was one of disbelief. "Whilst this kind of behaviour is inexcusable it was a shock to everyone here," notes Alex Pordage, President of Highfield Halls JCR, "Staff and students alike felt it was just so out of character. Highfield Hall has to be Southampton's best. Everyone's so friendly; it's like a big family. It's a shame that something like this tarnishes us."

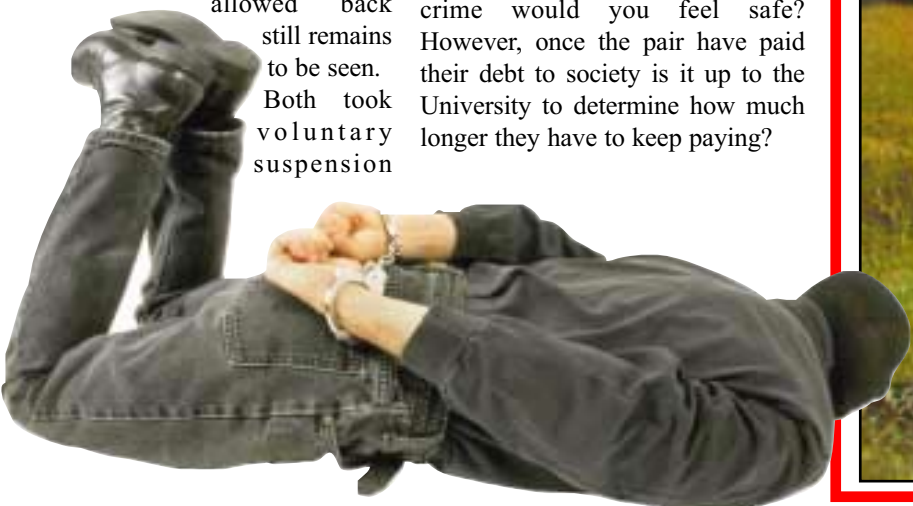
Questions have to be asked. What is to be done next? Of course, now that the two have been convicted this mistake will stay with them for the rest of their life. If you knew that the person in the room next to you at halls had been convicted of such a crime would you feel safe? However, once the pair have paid their debt to society is it up to the University to determine how much longer they have to keep paying?

CHARTER DAY EXCLUSIVE

ALL FIRED UP



Photography by Simon Blazquez



INSIDE YOUR

SCENE

THIS
ISSUE

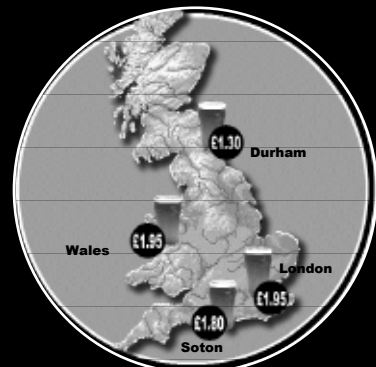


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Dear

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WITH JOEL STOBART



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Charter Day

BODIES piled high, limbs stacked, dripping in sweat, stuck in a crush, wishing you'd never volunteered - and that was just at the union bar.

Students put themselves through a similar ordeal on Charter Day to break the world record for the most people squeezed on to a single-decker bus.

Everyone enjoyed cheap drinks and copious amounts of sticky goo and the entire evening passed without the traditional fire evacuation! The whole day was rather well carried off; there were crowds, the weather wasn't too bad, one of the rides at the funfair was quite good and no one seemed to mind the queues too much. It was a successful celebration of the Charter Day.

“Everyone enjoyed cheap drinks and copious amounts of sticky goo”



Photo: Tim Thornton

THE FACTS

Relay runners ran from SUSU (4am) to Buckingham Palace (5:45pm).

All 3000 tickets were sold.

Helpers, performers and crew took the total attendance to nearly 4000 - the largest ever at a Union event.

The World Record for the number of people on a bus (110) was smashed by 172 students (including John Waugh, University Transport Manager).

The Union broke its own bar takings record with day takings of over £20,000. The attendance was probably the biggest we have ever had at a single event.

2 students won £1000 for their business ideas;
the first was a dog and toaster combined (brings you breakfast in bed!)
the second was a laser guided key to help drunken students unlock their door when they get home from the pub.

RAG raised over £2000 from walking on hot coals.



EDITORIAL COMMENT

RIGHT WING EUROPE?

From the highest to the lowest levels of democracy, the voice of the far right has once again been resounding across Europe in recent weeks, with neo-fascists making their greatest political gains since the destruction of the Third Reich. In France, Socialist Lionel Jospin was ousted from the first round of the presidential contest, leaving only the scandal ridden Conservative, Jacques Chirac, as an alternative to the shock success of the far-right's Jean-Marie Le Pen. Following two weeks of mass demonstrations across France, Le Pen was unceremoniously defeated at the polls; he did however, secure 18% of the votes cast, a shocking 10 million French voters seeking to elect a neo-fascist candidate as their head of state. Achieving 16.86% in the first round, Le Pen improved his share of the vote in the second round, despite up to 1.3 million protestors taking to the streets on May Day. Fears now focus on France's parliamentary elections next month as right-wing parties hope to capitalise on their presidential publicity.

NIGEL MASSEN

Following local elections in the UK, three members of the British National Party prepare to take their seats in the 91,000 strong borough of Burnley, scene of last years 'race riots' between white and Asian youths. With 'voluntary repatriation' policies to achieve the promise of an all-white Britain, the BNP parasitise poverty stricken communities, gaining 18% of all votes for the 19 seats they contested. Focusing on areas of high unemployment and poor housing, the BNP offer a particular brand of scapegoating that has always been popular with the far-right. Popular support for such extremism arises amid disenchantment with the mainstream political parties. Echoing the successful BNP election strategy of Derek Beackon in 1993 (Tower Hamlets), the party attack specific local issues offering race-based solutions to the white community. Of course, none of these racist policies in any way address the long term problems of unemployment, crime and substance abuse which are so prevalent in

Burnley.

Whilst it is easy to dismiss fascist European groups as isolated, minority supported parties, the problem is perhaps deeper than many imagine. Neo-fascist parties enjoy minority support in many European countries. Notable successes include Austrian far-right freedom party Joerg Haider serving in government and the National Alliance's Gianfranco Fini of Italy's coalition government. It is in deprived areas and at times of political homogenisation that the far-right successfully publicise a 'minority' issue to captivate a majority audience. It is the responsibility of mainstream political parties to address such issues wherever they arise, highlighting the real causes of poverty and proposing fast, visible solutions. The plans to tackle such problems must be brave new initiatives that embrace radical ideas.

At all costs, people must not be driven to the point where they choose to vote fascist to make a point, this only serves to fuel the flames of race based policies.



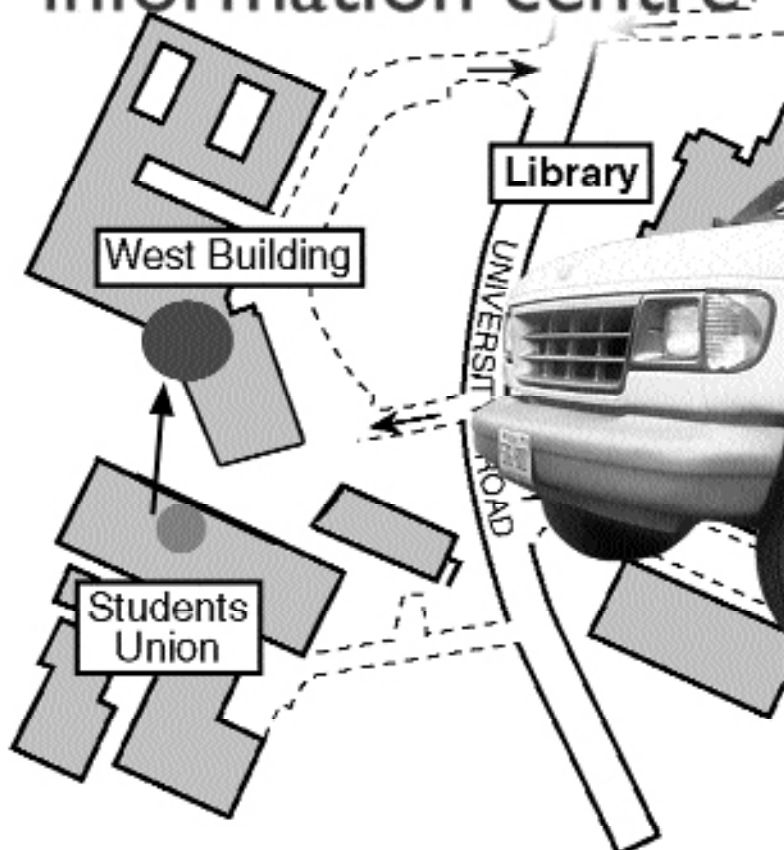
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Dear Beryl,

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Dear Beryl,

I have been called an attention seeker by some of my friends because I only ever wear red. i feel it's the only colour that expresses my personality. Also I like singing in public. Loudly. Whats wrong with that?

Nicki

Dear Nicki,

Trying wearing grey and only going out when it's dark; that should avoid public attention for a while. Maybe not Police attention though.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

I have always wanted a career in politics however; my plans have been dashed by loosing two elections in two months. I campaigned hard, first to become Union President, and then second to become a local councillor. I lost the first by a whisker among no end of scandal; I lost the second because the media unfairly picks on the Tories. Do you have any advice Beryl? I'm ready to quit.

Anon.

Dear Anon.,

Have you thought about why you didn't get many votes? It's because no one votes in union elections! Undoubtedly the victor had a few more friends than you, add this up with the few other students who voted by accident (thinking it was a prize draw) and hey presto, we have a president. As for the local elections, why don't you become a Liberal? Or Labour candidate maybe? If you're going to play popularity you had better be in a popularity party.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

Recently my girlfriend met my parents for the first time. I accidentally read one of her e-mails the other day while we were working together, I know it's wrong to read it, but.....

"Met ma & pa and the kids and they were all acceptable. Also, bf was being a human being, which was quite a novelty. 'MOM' is a bit of an old trout but not too offensive

(bright red talons and white lipstick were slightly gross but she redeemed herself). Kids need speech therapy OK. Dad is very fat, how does bf feel about that?"

Beryl, what can I do about my girlfriend bitchiness?

Anon.

Dear Anon.,

You shouldn't really have been reading your girlfriend's e-mail now should you?? Things people write to each other are personal, the comments were about you, not too you; curiosity killed the old moggy. That said, you girlfriend does seem a bit free and easy with her snide remarks. Maybe you should consider sewing her gob shut or gluing her fingers together to slow those e-mail character assassinations.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

On charter day I saw a bloke going round one of the fairground rides with his pants down. I'm now convinced that my old chap is really big. In fact, maybe it's too big, compared to the guy on the ride I'm packing a marrow. Should I get into movies or something? Any girls want to try it out?

Old boy

Dear Old boy,

Maybe the bloke on the ride has a little un' and you have a big un'. And then maybe you don't, wait; I can picture you now, all mouth and no trousers.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

Am traumatised by the amount of debt I owe in Student Loans. This bloke I know in London says he can get me £8k for a kidney. Do I really need both kidneys? What are they used for anyway??

Beccy

P.S. It's £12K for your spleen.

Dear Beccy,

It may start out with you getting £6K, but it could end up costing you

an arm and a leg. Kidneys regulate water levels in the blood and remove unwanted metabolites from the body. Loose one and you survive, but what if you damage the only one you've got??? Best to save that spare kidney in case someone you know really needs one. There are other ways to make money, have you thought about going on the game? It's an honourable profession that has got many of us through a spot of bother or two. Get yourself down to St Marys and see what you get offered.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

Do you write this naked?

Jamie

Dear Jamie,

Not always.

Beryl

Dear Beryl,

I think I may have been abducted by aliens. At first I thought it was a dream but, now I'm quite sure they've impregnated me with their seed and I'm carrying a superior being inside me. Is this likely? I thought only Americans were abducted by little green men.

Jackie

Dear Jackie,

Based on the fact that most of the people who claim to be abducted by aliens are probably mad, well..... I've seen a few funnny light myself recently but that's just since my new fella bought me a lava lamp, all red and lovely it is, gives the whole house the glow of a whore's palace. I think it's very unlikely you've been abducted by aliens. If you really do give birth to a little green man I'm sure the doctors will let you know. Anyway, parents love their children no matter what, besides you could always get it a job as an extra in Star Trek.

Beryl

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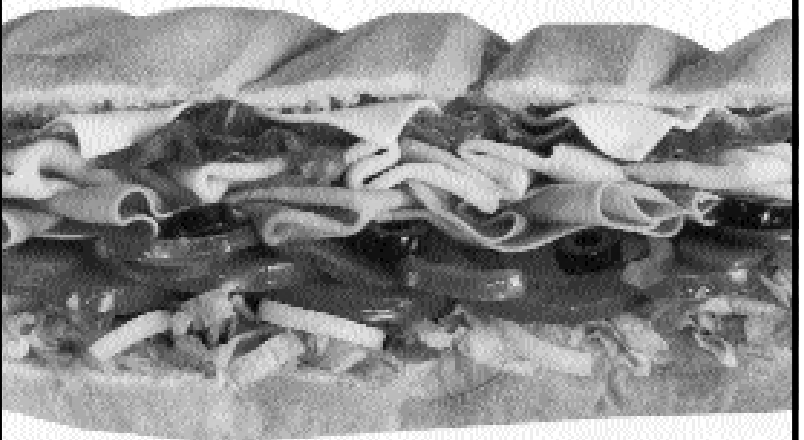
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NEW COLLEGE CAMPUS FOR SALE

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The University has announced radical plans that will see students and staff from New College moving to the Highfield Campus by 2004. The proposals are to ensure that the 'commitment to Widening Participation can be taken forward across all parts of the institution.' All students on courses offered by New College will complete their programmes and New College will continue to recruit to courses in the forthcoming academic year. After that New College courses will be offered across the whole University.

Ed Ellis, Acting Director at New College said: "One of our priorities will be to ensure that there is no disruption to students' programmes of study or to their learning environment. We hope to achieve a seamless transition in the provision of our programmes, services and facilities to students, and will be working closely to ensure that we are fully aware of their needs and concerns."

New College has been at the forefront of the University's attempt to widen access. They have developed

many innovative programmes including developing specialist staff and widened access particularly to medicine and health studies courses.

Stephen Edwards, Union President said "The Vice-Chancellor, Bill Wakeham's, Vision for the University to 2010 will bring exciting changes for Southampton. There are huge benefits to moving the activities to the main campus but we need to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. The Union is working hard to ensure that this will be the case."

Kofi Debrah, The New College Site President says: "New College is a small and friendly campus and obviously it's a shame that after 2004 University of Southampton students will not be able to study here – but there are benefits in the eventual move to Highfield."

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Kate McLuskie said: "We will be working with all staff and students to achieve a smooth transition that will embed widening participation across the University."

Sarah Cooper

Why does the idea that New College is an independent educational centre exist? It may be due to number of factors, however I want to put the facts straight and try to bury the myth. Having interviewed a lecturer at New College campus, I have gained an insight into some of the possible explanations.

Firstly, the isolation of New College could be due to the physical location, as it is quite a way from Highfield, situated on Avenue Road. New College is just another faculty within the satellite system, no different or inferior to any other. Secondly, the name of the campus is, "a bit unfortunate", as quoted by Ian Bryant, a lecturer at New College. In the past, the campus has tried to change its name, but to no avail.

As the newest campus, New College has been a part of the University for four years and offers a range of degree programmes, such as criminology, psychology, anthropology, sports science...the list goes on. New College has also set up a programme that aims to attract a wider range of students, with better further education access.

When Ian Bryant was asked if he would like to see any measures to improve our relations and involvement with the other campuses, he replied, "I would like to see more exchange of teaching." Although he already teaches and researches at Highfield, he would like to see this occur on a more regular basis, to break down barriers between the respective campuses.

A further explanation for our situation could be because "people are not sure what we do." Bryant went on to suggest that students have a look for themselves. You will find that New College is the smallest campus with the smallest student population. New College campus is scenic and the main building is modern and spacious. There are also many useful facilities, such as a canteen, gym, swimming pool and library, although most students use Hartley library as well.

When talking to New College students I received a very positive response about the campus, since they view the staff as extremely approachable, and feel they are less anonymous, due to the small student numbers.

Many universities traditionally have a 'New College' (including Oxford) and in 2004, it is being moved up to Highfield, therefore becoming more integrated.

There are many factors, which make New College more isolated that could lead to people to the assumption that it is an independent education centre. However, given the information in this article it is clear that New College are 100% part of the University of Southampton.



Damilola Taylor Murder

The two brothers acquitted last week of Damilola Taylor's murder insist they are innocent. In an interview with Radio Four, the brothers, both aged 16, say their thoughts are with Damilola's family. All four teenagers tried for the murder were acquitted, raising questions over police handling of the case and highlighting the low level of support they received from the local community during the course of their investigations.

School Shootings

13 teachers, two students and a policeman were killed by a student gunman in Germany last week. 19 year old Robert Steinhäuser had been expelled from the school in Erfurt for forging sick notes during a repeat of his final year. Described as a "quiet and reasonable sort of guy" he ended his shooting spree by turning the shotgun on himself.

Who cheats to be a Millionaire?

The hit quiz show *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* has again been hit with cheating scandal. A fourth man, Major Charles Ingram has now been arrested for conspiracy to defraud following his £1m win. The winning episode has not been screened but allegedly involves members of the audience coughing to assist the contestant in answering the questions.

Celebrity Death

R&B star Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes of TLC was killed last week in a car crash. 30 year old Lisa was on holiday in Honduras at the time, she will be fondly remembered for hits such as the classic Waterfalls and for her love/hate relationship with the music industry.

Space Tourist

Africa's first astronaut, space tourist Mark Shuttleworth, spent last week aboard the ISS at a cost of £14. South African, Mark won over his critics with his educational policies and the research he will conduct in zero gravity on HIV, a major problem throughout Africa.

War on Terror (WOT)

Donald Rumsfeld, the Hawkish US Defence Secretary has told US troops in Afganistahn that theirs is "the first, but not the last" battle in the War on Terror.

WOT Cont.

Columbian rebels are now a possible US WOT target as a Congressional investigation identifies left wing FARC as a direct threat to US interests. In a related development, Gerry Adams declined an invite to meet the committee to discuss the involvement of 3 IRA members in FARC terrorist training. The three men currently under arrest in Columbia have claimed to be ecotourists.

**Aries**

Another incident with a tractor may cause embarrassment. (Boat Club) Bin the wellies; they're so last season.

**Taurus**

You might be hornier than others but it doesn't mean that everyone wants you.

**Gemini**

Keeping your tail between your legs only results in panic; go for the jugular, or is that the juggler?

**Cancer**

Smacking results in a sore arse; pinching results in a sore donkey.

**Leo**

Cats have nine lives; but stop running in front of cars... you've almost used them all up.

**Virgo**

Don't let this weekend get you down; remember you can always drink away your sorrows and blackmail those closest to you.

**Libra**

You always have trouble keeping work and play in balance; quit working, just play.

**Scorpio**

A stranger in your life may ask for a threesome; remember ... you can always get more in a bed, the number you can have in a relationship can be counted on one hand.

**Sagittarius**

Destiny says that Medication will be a magic opportunity for you to meet a new beau. Just keep your head out of uranus's circle.

MYSTIC MOG

**Capricorn**

You spend so much time listening to other people's problems that you ignore your own. (That rash won't go away by itself you know...)

**Pisces**

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, so get yours trimmed before Saturday night.

**Aquarius**

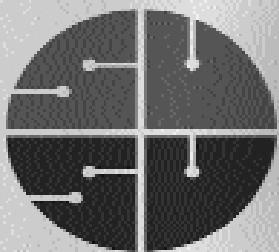
Whatever happens, don't be tempted by the lure of porkpies. Take a helping from the salad bar instead.

The Only
Horoscope for
Students
worth
reading...



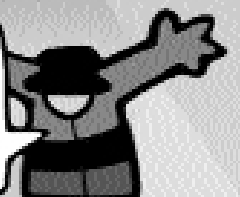
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Bite Back

KEEPING THE STUDENTS UNION IN LINE SINCE 1936



The University is 50 years old. Well "Happy Birthday"! In order to celebrate, Union Management Board budgeted to subsidise Charter Day by £13000. It was a runaway success (everyone wore armbands so they couldn't run away...) and was enjoyed by all involved.

This column is exclusively able to reveal that the event was such a success that it only had a £4000 deficit as opposed to the £13000 loss budgeted. Who could have thought can-dyfloss was so pricey?!

The other story to dominate the second week of term was local government elections, an event in which I'm sure many of you participated. The gains of the BNP have been widely denounced, but those who seek to dismiss them do so from a starting point of hypocrisy. It is true that they are an unsavoury bunch, but hasn't President Tony been advocating greater voter involvement and levelling the playing field for minority parties? Secondly, the Government, by spinning the BNP out as modern demons, seeks to gloss over the fact that thousands of people made clear that there were political need not being met by the major parties. Can it really be right to hold a "free and fair" election and then denounce democratically elected councillors, voted for by THOUSANDS, when you don't like the result?

The biggest student turnout in Southampton was to be found in Swaythling, where our favourite Tory Girl, Emma Webster, stood for a position on the City Council. Many political observers drew comparisons between the campaigns of Miss Webster and H'Angus the Monkey.

H'Angus (aka Stuart Drummond), now the first directly elected Mayor of Hartlepool, also started off the local government race as an outsider: a bit of a laugh. Both campaigns featured overt bribery of the elector-

ate, with the offer of free bananas to all school age children. Finally, it is obvious that both Emma and H'Angus the Monkey would have enormous difficulty working with Peter Mandelson.

Sadly for the people of Southampton (for she would have made a useful contribution to local politics and frankly she deserves a boost in her political career) there is one major difference between Miss Webster in Swaythling and H'Angus the Monkey in Hartlepool... the monkey won.

Future MPs?

In the Council Elections there were a number of Southampton University students who entered the political arena for the first time and although being unsuccessful continued the established tradition of Southampton University students being actively engaged in the political process. The students were:

Edward Glossop, Cons (Bevois),

Liam Ascough, Con (Portswood),

Philip Pope, Socialist Alliance (Portswood),

Philip Williams, Con(Sholing),

Emma Webster, Con (Swaythling)

Watch this space and you may be hearing about some of these individuals standing for Parliament in the future!

Emma Webster

Southampton remains a hung council after the all out elections on the 2nd May

...so what does this mean for you?

In many ways local council elections are the most important elections to take part in. The City Council is largely responsible for delivering changes relating to education, leisure facilities, licensin for bars and clubs in towns etc.

The majority of students live in four wards in the city, Bassett, Bevois, Portswood and Swaythling, so who are your local councillors now?

Bassett

Elizabeth Minzon (Lib Dem) 1,481 votes
John Hannides (Con) 1, 470 votes
Alec Samuels (Con) 1,386 votes

Bevois

Derek Burke (Lab) 902 vote
Stephen Barnes-Andrews (Lab) 855 votes
Jacqueline Rayment (Lab) 775 votes

Portswood

Jill Baston (Lib Dem) 1,830 votes
Adrian Vinson (Lib Dem) 1,675 votes
Calvin Horner (Lib Dem) 1, 623 votes

Swaythling

David Beckett (Lib Dem) 1,154 votes



EDITORIAL

The time has come round again, almost the end of term, with exams in sight. I wish everyone all the best in their exams and hope everyone has a great summer vacation. To those like me who are graduating, best of luck in finding a job, or further study, to those remaining enjoy your time here because it all too quickly disappears!

Having been involved in the Union over the last three years and the paper for one has taught me many valuable lessons, but there are two lessons that I will never forget, firstly knowing who you can rely on and who you can't, which has certainly been insightful and secondly whilst it may be a bit of a cliché, you only get out what you put in!

The Union could be a great place for everyone, it just needs you to make it happen!

Good bye and good luck,

Emma x

24 former Union Presidents say that they still read the Wessex Scene...





16th March

I definitely made the right decision when I attended the Charity Fashion Show in the Union. It was a very enjoyable night and expertly organised although my lasting memory will not be of the models parading on the catwalk. Instead, it will be the infamous Ed Glossop remarking in a voice that was audible to all around him, "Oh, I do hope there is a swimwear section."

25th March

The Brunette and I, along with Pete Wood (VP-Comms) & a housemate of his, went along to a 'meeting' with the manager of Brannigans. He wanted to start a student night and was looking for our help. Normally pubs/clubs know that they need to see the Union Marketing Manager and arrange to pay a princely sum for the privilege of receiving help from the Union. This money goes into paying for everything from Clubs & Societies grants to the Union electricity bill so it is definitely a good thing. Anyway, after buying us all a drink we retreated to a quiet part of the pub where he proceeded to offer us all sorts of bribes in the hope of us letting him by-pass our usual marketing charges. He offered us the prospect of a private bar for all our friends and an unlimited bar tab on each student night. On top of that we were offered weekends in Brussels and Paris, flights to the Canary Islands (on a private jet with all our friends), and (as an aside to me on the way out) 'something special' on Valentines Day for the girlfriend.

"So where do we go from here?" he asked us.

"Well, you call the Union Marketing Manager and make the arrangements with her."

"Is she a member of staff or a student?" "Staff." I replied.

"I don't like dealing with staff, only student officers". I guess student officers don't tend to have as much integrity.

15-18th April

I attended NUS Conference and was shocked at just what a waste of £300,000 of NUS money and time this farcical event is. To think that our affiliation fee (only £70,000) is used to fund this... I won't go into detail, I will leave that for a separate article in the Wessex Scene (being written by others) and also because I promised Edith Gray that I would stop attacking the hard left Socialist (Workers) types in this column!

20th April

The first event in the Union celebrations of the University Golden

Jubilee was a dinner for former Union Presidents. Unfortunately work commitments or the passing of time meant that many couldn't be with us but amazingly twenty six ex-Presidents, and some former members of staff were able to return to the Union and relive their memories. Some are still very involved in their old Union, for others it was the first time they had returned. Peter May (1954-1955) is the Union Senior Treasurer whilst a contemporary of his, Derek Schofield (1956-1957) eventually went on to become the University Secretary and Registrar. Anecdotes abounded and it seems not much has changed; Jon Craig (1978-79) remarked that one of his election pledges was now finally being fulfilled: the University is building a swimming pool!

25th April

As Union President it is a proud moment when your institution does well at Sport, Research league tables or whatever. It is also particularly satisfying to be able to gloat about these triumphs with contemporaries at other institutions. I was therefore more than pleased when the University football team thrashed The Destitute 3-1 with Raz, their Union President looking on uncomfortably.

For the match I was given a seat in the Directors box (someone thought I was VIP) although this had its downsides. Although I knew many of the people in the box - DSR, Union Staff and so on - it certainly wasn't as much fun; the sun was shining directly in front of us for most of the match, all of the supporters were on the other side of the stadium (we couldn't properly hear the chants) and worst of all we got a full frontal of each of The Destitute streakers.

29th April

Charter Day was a greater success than I could ever have imagined. When I first asked the Vice-Chancellor last August to give everyone the day off from lectures I wasn't too optimistic that it would actually happen. I also wasn't certain that we would be able to put on such a large-scale event, so the credit really must go to all the Staff and Students who worked so hard to make the day a success. To have broken the all-time records for attendance, bar takings and the number of people on a single-decker bus is something to be proud of.

Finally the Summer Plans?

election

result!

Elections are a fundamental part of democracy. However, they tend to bring out the best and the worst in many people!

The Union Sabbatical elections took place on 12th and 13th March 2002. The turnout was even more dismal than the General election with less than 2,000 exercising their democratic right out of an electorate of 21,000 a mere 11% of the student population.

There were a number of eyebrow raising incidents! Including the disqualification of Kev 'the underdog' Bradley from the presidential race and the disqualification of the Highfield Hall ballot box.

The results were as follows:

President

Tim Rowlandson 867- ELECTED
Phil Williams 843

VP Communications

Kate Messer 1500 ELECTED
RON 211

VP Education and Welfare

Cat Brown 1140 ELECTED
Will Ellis 402
RON 117

VP Student Activities

Tiger DeSouza 1030 ELECTED
Dave Martin 780
RON 61

VP Winchester

Harry George Walker 172
ELECTED
RON 8

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Is Uni Obsolete?

Adam Charlton

As the number of students continues to rise, funding per head is rapidly decreasing, which has dramatically diluted our standard of education. Money that could be spent on improving sub-standard primary and secondary schools is instead being spent on increasing the student population. Universities are becoming bigger and poorer whilst trying to provide more degrees that are effectively worthless.

Professor Andrew Oswald of Warwick University recently published a report that highlights the fact that real funding per student has decreased by 50% over the last decade. Last year 57 higher education institutions reported an operating deficit. Would it not be better to have fewer students who are properly funded? Funding could then be redirected to primary and secondary education, particularly those children who leave school without basic literacy and numeracy skills.

Tony Blair recently stated his aims for future University attendance: "By 2010, I want to achieve a university participation rate of more than 50% among under 30-year-olds." How can a government bent on promoting democracy and greater equality of opportunity, concentrate resources on only half of the population?

'Real funding per student has decreased by 50% over the last decade.'

As everyone attends primary and secondary school, perhaps it would be more beneficial to increase funding in this area. Once the highest standard has been attained, then more money can be used to push

school leavers towards a tertiary education.

The diluted state of today's university education highlights how obsolete these institutions are becoming. In previous years, in order to get the best jobs you had to be an Oxbridge graduate with a preferably public school background. Though graduates are still sought after, the rising number of 'fashionable' and academically diluted degrees means that employers are seeking much more. The employers I spoke to stressed the importance of experience, personality and initiative, which are widely becoming more important when securing a job. This has given rise to more practical means of education such as home learning and apprenticeship schemes.

The Modern Apprenticeship is designed to provide young people with 'on-the-job' training in their

chosen field. Their practical skills are improved whilst simultaneously earning a wage. Katherine Morgan is part of the Modern Apprenticeship: "I'm learning more day to day by experience at work than if I sat in university for four or five years doing a degree. Earning a wage is something you can't achieve from a full-time college or university course."

People who choose not to go to university have arguably not had their interests narrowed by a single subject, and are more likely to have developed a more practical intelligence, which counts more in the 'real' world. Ian-Duncan Smith had

no university education and yet has risen as the leader of the Conservative party, cutting a far more assertive figure than William Hague.

'You can go to university and get a degree, or you can get an education.'

Home learning, which is becoming increasingly popular, allows people to gain new practical skills in their own time such as IT. Friends I know from school who decided to get a job, rather than go to university, have the option of completing part-time degrees, fitted around their working week. This means that



Forward your responses to WSX@wessexscene.co.uk

EDITORIAL

This is my first issue as full Features Editor after taking over from Kate Messer.

Drink, drugs and the Middle East are the main topics in this issue. *Driving Ambition* has returned, this time looking at the Renault 5 and the Proton 1.5. If anyone would like their car reviewed drop me a line and we'll put it through the paces. You will also notice that Devils Advocate has been continued, and will be a permanent feature during my term.

I am always looking for new writers with new ideas so e-mail me if you are interested in getting more involved with the Wessex Scene:
WSX@wessexscene.co.uk



while I am at university writing obscure essays about feminism and poetry, mounting up huge debts in the process, my friends have already got a three-year head start on the career ladder. The importance of university is shifting from an academic emphasis to an increasingly social dimension. The social networking and 'life-skills' that are accumulated at University are becoming more important than academic achievements. Someone once said to me, "you can go to university and get a degree, or you can get an education." For me it is the 'education' which will benefit me far more when I am finally let loose on the 'real' world.

OPINION AND COMMENT

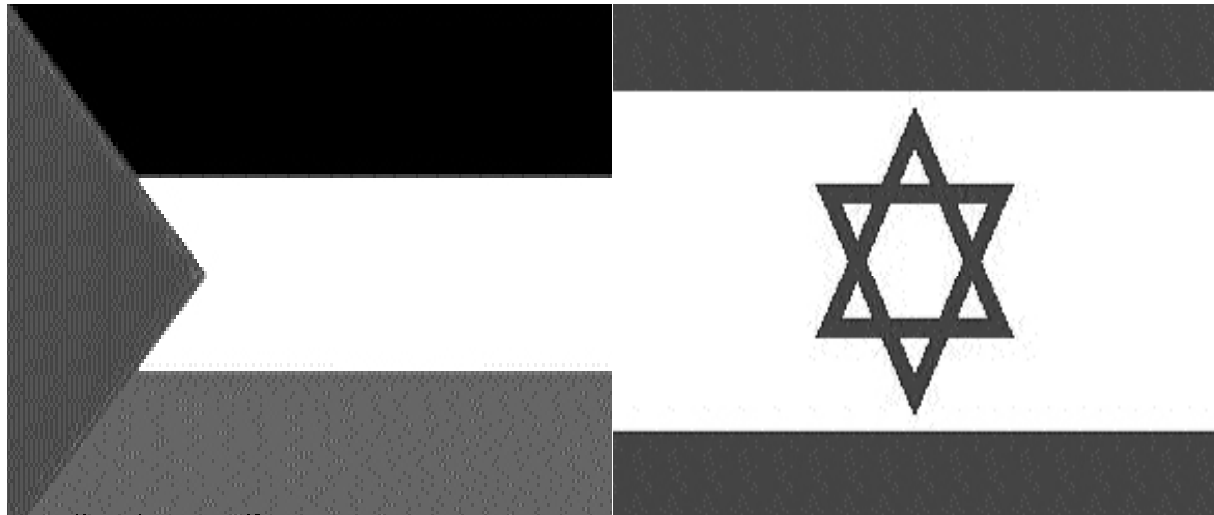
Right Versus Might?

Hudhaifah Shaker

"I do believe Ariel Sharon is a man of peace", said a certain George W Bush a few weeks ago. I don't really know what words I would use to describe the Prime Minister of Israel, murderer? war criminal?. 'Man of peace' just doesn't fully describe the person who is seen by some, as associated with almost 20,000 deaths in the past 20 years.

The truth is slowly coming out about what really happened in the refugee camps and towns in the occupied territories of the West Bank in the past few humanitarian law, this 'democratic' state has shown that it does what it wants, when it wants. And leaders like Bush and our own Tony Blair pretend to care. So far most body counts by independent organisations have shown that most of the dead are not 'terrorists', as Israel would like you to believe, but women, children, old men and unarmed civilians.

Israeli soldiers looted civilian homes



stealing jewellery and other valuables, they totally destroyed many governmental offices (and their contents) and even shelled a school for blind children (a terrorist base if there ever was one!). The crimes don't even stop there! Palestinians were used as human shields, prisoners were executed, injured left to bleed to death and peoples homes were used as snipers nest, all illegal under international law. The evidence clearly shows that Sharon's intentions were never to root out any militia or gunmen, but to wilfully destroy the infrastructure of the Palestinian people and

put down this legitimate uprising. Everybody (including Israel) knows that this Intifada (uprising) by the Palestinians is legitimate and right. Under every law, religion or belief, everybody has a right to defend their land and everybody has a right to get back what was stolen from them. Israel's policy throughout its history has been to provoke, wait for a reaction and then retaliate with excessive force. To show the outside world that it is the victim and not the aggressor, it creates a situation where the real victims (the occupied Palestinians) have no choice but use whatever means they

have to try and liberate their land. Desperate times call for desperate measures. When a Palestinian refugee sees his brothers get shot in the head for throwing stones or his mother get beaten and humiliated at every checkpoint by Israeli soldiers and the whole world does nothing, then I would not blame him for blowing himself up to liberate his land. When immigrants from Russia and America illegally take the place of Palestinians who've lived their for generations, can you really ask him to restrain himself? Consider this, when a Palestinian blows himself up to kill Israeli civilians he is

called a terrorist, but when Israel uses American made tanks, Apaches and F-16s to do exactly the same thing they are simply an army who is either 'defending itself' or 'retaliating' against Palestinian 'terrorism', a case of very harsh double standards indeed.

The issue here is not just to tell both sides to call a ceasefire, the issue here is for Israel to finally realise that it can kill thousands and thousands of civilians but it can never crush a people's desire to rightly resist and fight a colonial power that is Israel. There will never be peace as long as Israel thinks and acts the way it does now.

If you have a response to this article, or would like to represent the opposing side in this debate send your e-mails to WSX@wessexscene.co.uk.

The views expressed are those of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the Wessex Scene or Students' Union

Attack of the Clones

Ian Joyner

The advances being made in genetic engineering have for a long while remained outside the interest of the general public.

The media has often focused attention on heart-warming stories of children cured of genetically linked diseases by revolutionary gene therapies, and the puns were out in force when Scottish scientists announced the birth of Dolly the first cloned sheep nearly five years ago. However the subject of genetic manipulation has been thrown into the media spotlight recently. Suddenly the notion that it could be possible to successfully clone a human is not such a distant prospect.

Two supposedly "maverick" doctors have recently boasted of pioneering the world's first cloned pregnancy, although other special-

ists in the field have greeted their claims with some scepticism. But what exactly is cloning, well put to rest all the thoughts of Arnie Schwarzenegger fighting an identical copy of himself in 'The Sixth Day', or 5 equally annoying Michael Keatons in 'Multiplicity', because the reality is quite different.

Cloning involves taking DNA from a donor adult and placing it in the nucleus of a donor egg. After being treated electrically and chemically, the egg is transplanted into a woman's womb, where it can develop into a genetic copy of the donor adult.

However, as the adult who donated the DNA is likely to be much older than the "clone" there will never be a time in their lives when they will look anything more than similar to each other, and different conditions in the womb and upbringing will more than likely result in different personalities. The clone will only

be genetically identical to the donor. The simple fact is that the chances of producing a cloned baby are slim, after all Dolly the sheep was the result of 276 failed attempts!

The reason why the subject has gained so much attention is due to another function that the technology of cloning allows. Stem cells, cells that are capable of growing into any of the 300 different kinds of cells in the human body are found in embryos that are a few days old. Scientists can use stem cells to grow tissue transplants that may help to cure diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Cloned embryos will produce stem cells with the same genetic make-up as the donor, which scientists believe will eliminate the problem of tissue rejection which occur when someone else's tissue is transplanted. The process of creating cloned embryos for embryonic stem cells is known as therapeutic cloning.

It is therapeutic cloning that has caused political controversy, leading to a partial ban in some countries such as Australia and the US. The fear is that by allowing such cloning to go ahead, the path is cleared for someone to attempt to clone a human. In the UK, scientists can apply for licences to clone human embryos, the hope being that such regulation will not allow the successful production of a cloned human.

There are obvious moral issues in the production of human embryos for the purpose of 'harvesting' them for stem cells, and the implications if scientists are able to produce a cloned human are worse. However, the benefits of stem cell research are clearly attractive, with the potential to cure serious diseases. The question is whether the benefits of curing these diseases are really outweighed by the moral and ethical issues involved in pushing further

the boundaries of genetic manipulation? Is it time for those who have banned therapeutic cloning, like George W. Bush, to wake up and smell the genetically modified coffee?



THE EDGE



It's like a retroprohecy, man

May 17th 2002

getting ugly

party time at camber
sands: atp reviewed

the edge get wet with
H2O

dj shadow

the cinematic orchestra
talk to the edge

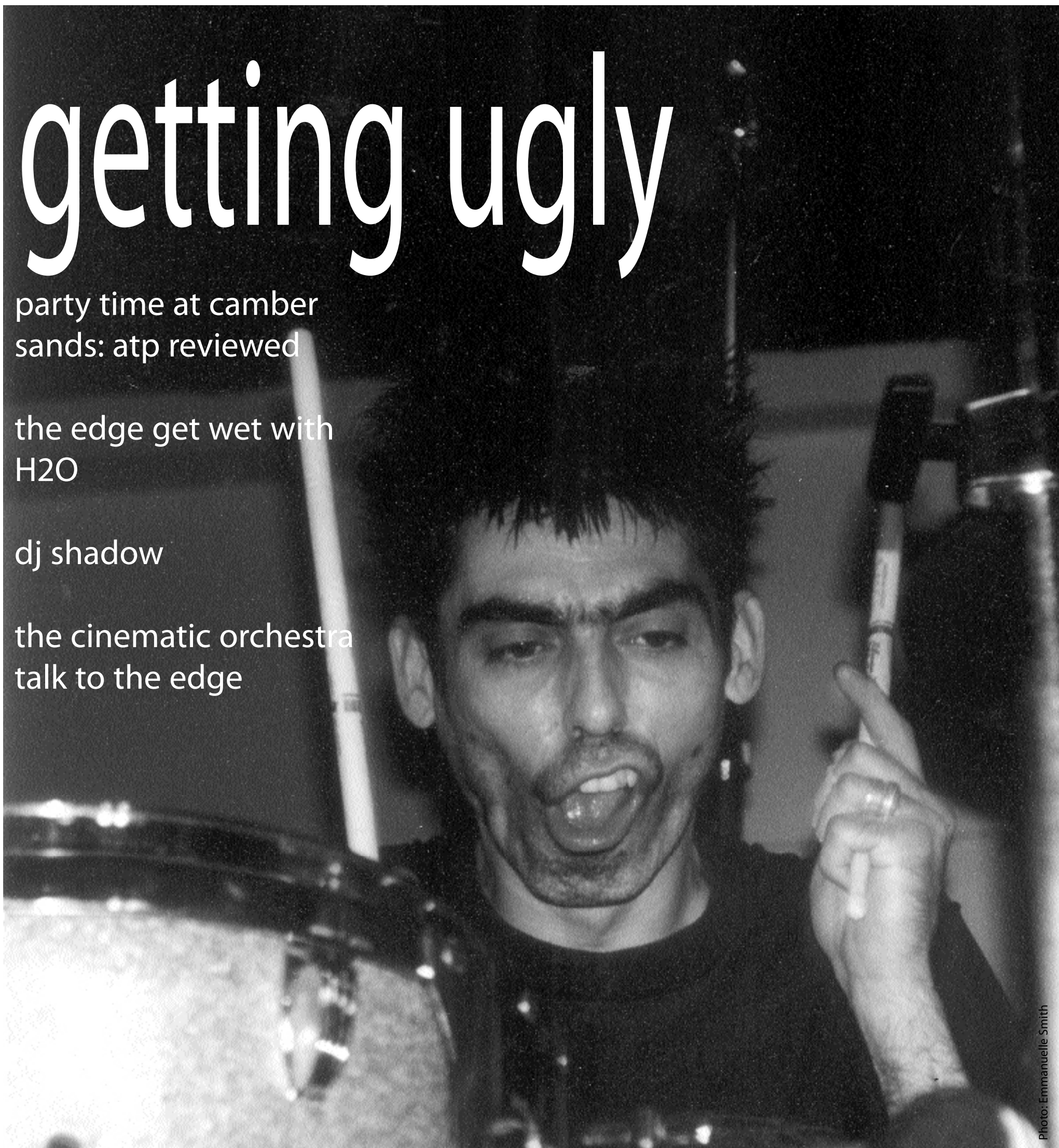


Photo: Emmanuelle Smith

Fabric ... Creation ... Bukem ... Idlewild ... About A Boy ... Future World Fusion

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THE NEWS...

with **EDGE** hound Paul Cornwell

Glastonbury has sold out in record time this year and with super tight security this means that many fans will miss out. For the first time in its 30 year history all tickets have sold out two months in advance. The sell out of the tickets means that the full line-up will soon be released. Said Michael Eavis, festival svengali: "We are really pleased people have got the message that the festival's future was in jeopardy - and have responded so quickly by buying their tickets. The overwhelming demand for tickets, despite no details of the line-up being announced, is a tribute to the unique nature of Glastonbury Festival, which was sorely missed last year." It appears that the talk of a £1 million 'super fence' has spurred many people on to buy their tickets but will it deter all that haven't managed to get tickets from heading towards the site?

Alice in Chains singer, Layne Staley, has been found dead in his Seattle home.

The 34-year-old, was discovered in his apartment on April 19, a possible two weeks after he had died. His body was examined by the King County Medical Examiner who gave his report to the police. A police spokesperson said that the probable cause of death was either natural causes or a drug overdose. It is believed to be more likely that he died from a heroin overdose. There will be no police investigation.

Singer, Lisa 'Left Eye' Lopes, has been killed in a tragic car crash in Honduras. The R&B singer and rapper was on holiday there, a place where she regularly retreated to. The 30-year-old member of TLC was reportedly with seven other occupants in the car but was the only fatality in the accident. The singer had recently finished work on TLC's fourth album and was underway with work on her solo material - under the name NINA (New Identity Non-Applicable). Her funeral took place on May 2 at

the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, a suburb of Atlanta. The service was attended by over ten thousand mourners, mostly fans, and was delayed by an hour by the massive influx of people wishing to pay their respects. Also present were P Diddy, Whitney Houston, Usher, and Suge Knight (Tha Row record label boss).

Hairy, old rocker Ozzy Osbourne has been in talks with MTV about two more series of his hit show 'The Osbournes', and rumours abound that the figures being offered by MTV are in the region of \$20 million though MTV deny any figures. In the US, the fly-on-the-wall look at the lives of Ozzy and his family has become one of the most popular in the history of the network, regularly attracting eight million viewers. Reuters news service reports that negotiations are under way between the two sides for two more runs. The price, when decided, looks set to become the largest payout for a cable series.

COMPETITIONS!!!!

We have got two cracking prizes to give away to some of you lucky readers. Why revise for your exams when you can go to Somerly Festival and then Rock Island (the Isle of Wight festival)? You know you'll be happy with a

We've got a pair of tickets to give away for the Rock Island festival on June 3rd.

The likes of The Charlatans, Robert Plant, Ash, Hundred Reasons, The Coral and Starsailor are all playing. So if you want a chance to win just send the answer to the following question to the usual address:

Which of the above groups suffered a blow when their keyboard player was killed in a car crash?

Mani - Playing at



Somerley//02 takes place on June 2nd at Somerly House, Hampshire. The 7,000 acre site is going to be playing host to 10,000 revellers being entertained across 5 arenas.

Playing the festival will be: Orbital, Stereo MC's Rob Birch, Killa Kela, Scratch Perverts, The Mixologists, Mr Thing, Rodney P and Skitz, Fallacy & Fusion, The Happy Mondays, Mani (Primal Scream), John 00 Fleming, Lottie and loads more!

What are the brothers in Orbital names?

The **EDGE** TOP 10

Things to do in the 'tougher' Big Brother house... ooh, scary!

1. Be on TV, with no privacy, for 24 hours a day, for months... yes please!
2. Cultivate an ego the size of a small African country for when you're kicked out
3. Take it all too seriously, get painfully paranoid and, hopefully, go mad... it's great TV.
4. Convince yourself that a career in the music industry really is a viable option on your release back into the community
5. Go for a swim in the nice heated pool... tough, my arse! I wish I could afford a holiday. Bastards.
6. Show yourself up for the shallow, boring, fame-seeking moron you really are. And, trust me, you are.
7. Break a world record that no-one, not even Norris McWhirter cares about. Sweetcorn eating? Wow, you must be so proud. Idiot!
8. Miss the whole of the World Cup, including England's painful underachievement and early exit. Just cry a lot around the middle of June to capture the mood of the nation.
9. Get a special bonus from Endemol for having live hardcore sex in the specially-designed S&M den (probably... hopefully)
10. Create a live hostage situation by holding everyone hostage with that specially sharpened HB pencil you covertly snuck in, cleverly concealed in your...
- ...OR YOU COULD JUST...
11. Plan your unimpressive appearance at the University of Southampton Fresher's Ball 2002, alongside similarly fantastic E-list celebrities... perhaps Barry Chuckle, Gordon the Gopher, and Yvette Fielding. They'll love that!

your trusted editors are (hopefully!) graduating this year and off to join the big scary real world... but before we do, we wanted to say some important thank yous to a load of people who made the edge possible this year.

Well, what can I say? It's been an amazing two and a bit years. I've had the chance to blag some great nights, meet some top people and get superbly battered.

I've associated myself many people along the way and would like to just thank some of those diamond characters.

Firstly I'd like to thank Emmanuelle for being such a great person to work with over the past year - I think we've made a pretty good team. Charlotte, it's been a pleasure working with you over the past couple of years and Tim, ditto, for the past year.

I wish Tim, Rich and whoever they manage to rope in to it all the best next year - you've got a lot to live up to!!! I'd like to also say cheers to Nick Hampton, thanks for all of your advice.

I'd like to thank all of those PR types and promoters that have kept me in free CDs and guest-list places all this time. In particular I'd like to thank:

Paula @ LD, Paul and Jabez @ Squeeze 18, Bryn and Richard @ The Brook, Mike & Karlito @ Niteflight, Gerard @ Drive-By, Sam @ XPG, Tim Boshed, the Essential crew, Adrian @ Wild, Nick @ Cool Delta, Jane @ WEA, Duncan @ APB, Mark, Sarah and Ursula @ Ponomo, Simon and Maddie @ Beatwax, Hannah @ Beggars, Janine Warren, Jim and Sarah @ Renegade and Rob and Dolly @ Hut. Cheers.

I'd like to thank my folks for helping me get here, and all the rest of my family.

Lastly, but certainly not leastly, I'd like to thank the crew for all of their help and support and all of the good times!!! Big shout out to:

Don Pedro, Lukee, Dan, Amos, Pier-Luigi, Miss Pellicci, Dicko, Lisa, Timmah, Rozzamundo, Beck, Bex, Pete, G, Tristan, Rich, Jibbah, Polly, Virginia, Rico, Bob, Mark, Big Dave, Dustin, Kat, Gin, Smerin, Burberry, John, Jim, Smellie, Wheeler, Chrissie, Andrea and all of those that I may have missed out. Cheers for putting up with me and making these last three years the best of my life. Safe.

Well, I'm not in much of an essay writing mood, and Paul seems to have said all there is to say already, so I'll keep it brief.

First, a massive thank you to Paul himself, who's been much more than an 'assistant'. Cheers! Also thanks of course to Tim and Charlotte for all their work, and not forgetting all our contributors. We've had some top quality writing this year. And finally, thank you to all the lovely PR music people who provide us with CDs, entrance to gigs, and are very helpful! That's it I guess. Over to Tim and Rich for next year...

Signing off.

Emmanuelle
xxx

This is where Charlotte might have written a few words... but we can't find her. So here's some blank space instead. Enjoy.

Highflyers ADD

SINGLES



SAHARA HOTNIGHTS
With Or Without Control
(BMG Music)

The Sahara Hotnights are the latest musical exports from the land which gave us porn and a decent England manager. This female four-piece (good start) veritably butcher Teenage Kicks on the B-side but, in every other respect, are pretty good. The vocals are clearly provided by a mixture of PJ Harvey and Howlin' Pelle's sister (girlfriend actually, I think); they scream and grate slightly, but overtake you in their fervour. And when backed up by fast-paced poppy rock, you'd have thought the result would be a winner. Well it is. Almost.

7.5/10
RH

THE BELLRAYS
Fire on the Moon
(Poptones)

With a sound like the lovechildren of Led Zeppelin and The Ramones, The BellRays release this, and clocking in at under two and a half minutes, Fire on the Moon is a soulful riposte to the whiney, egocentric songs of today's nu-metal and skate punk bands.

Lisa Kekaula screams and rips her way through the vocals with ease and though, at times, the fairly obvious tribute to the MC5 makes the song seem a little dated, the raw energy propels this along at such a pace it would be an anthem for any generation.

8.5/10
DH

HAVEN
Til the End
(Radiate)

Til the End follows the frankly dumbfounding critical lauding of its parent album Between the Senses. Entering a market overcrowded with Radiohead-alikes, Haven show little in the way of

originality to suggest that they will be breaking free from this tag and establishing themselves as a successful rock band in their own right. Gary Briggs' feather light vocals combine with jangly guitar riffs to sound, well, nice but it leaves you with the distinct feeling you've heard it all done much better before. Like a fortnight in a British holiday camp; mind numbingly dull.

3/10
DH

LOOPER
The Snare
(Mute)

The title track from Looper's forthcoming album, The Snare is a catchy synth-pop number. Only it's not actually by Stuart David, Looper frontman. It's by Peacock Johnson, the main character out of David's second book who has somehow come to life and possibly kidnapped him. I don't know... And I don't really care. (if you want to find out more go to www.looper.info) Top track with top B-sides. Nice work Peacock.

8/10
ES

CLEAN
Room 16
(Sugarshack)

According to the press release, Switzerland's Cléan are "a weird blend of psychedelic folk, live scratching and insanely catchy pop tunes". According to The Edge, Cléan are trip-hop wannabe wank, with weak pop tunes, unnecessary, inexpert scratching and vocals by 'Allo 'Allo. Room 16 comes on like Teenage Dirtbag on purple haze, but without the catchiness. Dated, and devoid of anything resembling a good song, though bonus point for having a guitarist called Severin Brugger. This CD was listened to twice, then thrown from the top floor of Glen Eyre J-Block.

A L B U M S

VARIOUS
CBGB's And The Birth of US Punk
(Ocho/Union Square)

New York's CBGB's club (Country, Folk, Bluegrass and Blues) opened in 1973. Unfortunately, no one seemed to like Country, Folk, Bluegrass or Blues anymore (that is, if they ever did) and the project flopped. Keeping the bands in, let alone the crowds, was proving difficult. So, to avoid going bankrupt, CBGB's opened their stage to the not so folksy struggling inventors of US punk: Television, The Ramones, Blondie, Talking Heads and company. And that's how the legend that is CBGB's began.

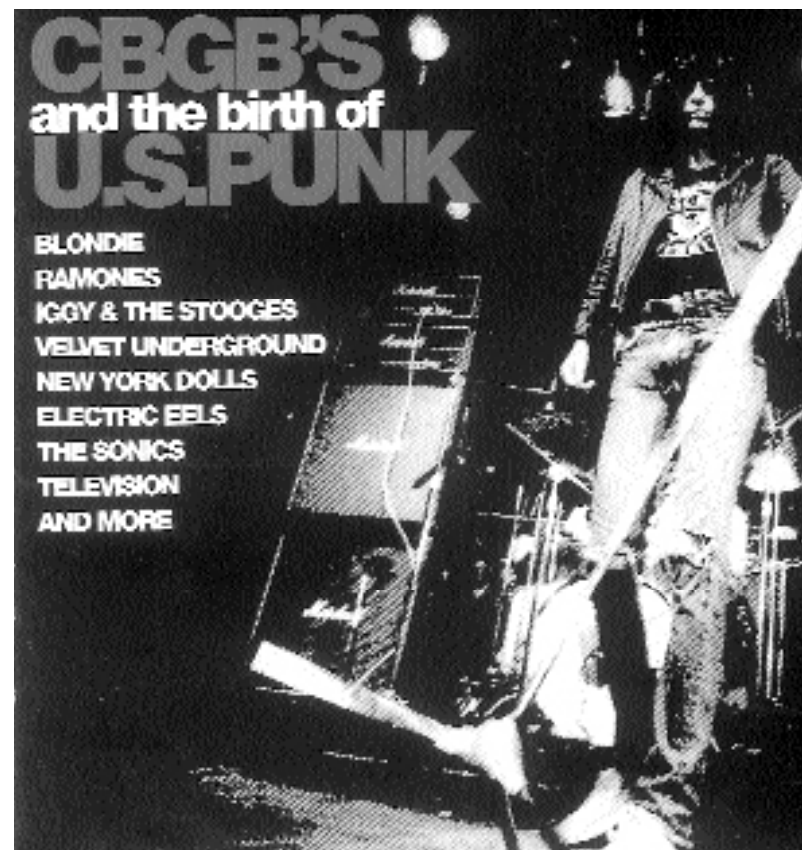
This 18-track compilation is a bit like a 'history of music' lesson. Starting with The Velvet Underground and The Seeds (pre-CBGB's) and ending with The Ramones via Iggy Pop and The Stooges, this record traces the beginnings of US Punk. A timely reminder that our American friends didn't always use the word 'punk' in vain.

8/10
ES

DANKO JONES
Born A Lion
(Bad Taste Records)

"If you want to know how to play the blues, get yourself a woman." Never was a truer word spoken, and the truth teller? Danko Jones. Ha ha, but Danko Jones is not one man, oh no... it is the moniker for three Canadian scampateers who are just about to kick off their U.K. tour. So, do they know how to play the blues? Well, erm, no. It's far more rock than that, not that that's a bad thing you understand.

True, I'd like more bluegrass bits, just so I can close my eyes and imagine myself in a dingy bar where the heads of crocodiles and bears are considered the height of interior design. But, alas, no... it's faster, more akin to Hendrix, yet does contain some of blues' lyrical hallmarks. Well, maybe not about dead dogs, but in lines such as "You know love can never last" on Love Is Unkind perpetuate the theme of women as evil and dangerous creatures, not to be trusted. And along with Play The Blues, Suicide Woman and Sound Of Love certain tracks stand out, but beware of the distinct averageness of other overtly polished offerings, as unnecessary lustre just doesn't befit such an archetypally dirty genre. They give us nice ironed shirts, when we're craving some grubby "I'm back from the rodeo, pumpkin" denim. Yet for a band to



play rock music with a blues influence is commendable to start with, especially when it tiptoes around the edges of metal. At least take off your Stetsons to them for that.

6/10
RH

SOIL
Scars
(J Records)

"Let it gooooo!" Ryan McCombs, vocalist with Chicago's SOiL, frequently to be heard snarling "god damn!" throughout this album, bellows over a muted, down-tuned riff. This was 6 seconds into first track Breaking Me Down, and I thought "I know where this is going..." But I was pleasantly surprised; SOiL have delivered a great album, given an epic sound by producer Johnny K, managing to be heavy without resorting to screaming "jump the f**k up" over blastbeats, and melodic without using the formulaic rapped-verse-crooned-chorusroutine.

The two key weapons on this album are McCombs' melodic growl and that bastion of Rawk music - BIG FAT RIFFS. Chunky bastards that make you want to have shoulder-length hair that you can shake around. The songs are great, too; Breaking Me Down is followed by annoyingly catchy, MTV-invading first single Halo. Unreal manages to be a slightly lower key song, without any cringe-inducing balladry and many of the choruses on this album could rightfully be described as anthemic. The only things inherently wrong with this album are that sometimes the lyrics are on the wrong side of cliché;

"I am all sins", "feel my angst", "I've got your demon seed deep down inside me", and occasionally McCombs' vocals sound like an affectation competition between Metallica's James Hetfield and Scott Stapp of nu-grunge tosspieces Creed. A minor complaint, however, when the music is so beefy and well-played.

This will be of no interest to anyone who thinks that The Cooper Temple Clause are the future of rock, because this is Nu-Old-Skool metal, then, if you can get your head round that. Modern production values married to old school growling and riffage, with less 12-minute guitar solos. Safe.

8/10
RB

THE CATHETERS
Static Delusions and Stone-Still Days
(Sub Pop Records)

Despite the pretentious title, The Catheters sound like they've been taken from the smallest and sweatiest club in Soho's sleaziest side street (they're haven't. They're from Seattle.) They've made one glaringly obvious mistake, however; the songs are all radio length. You're meant to cram it into less than two and a half minutes lads... c'mon, keep up.

Riding into town on Been There Before, which revs like a just-larger-than-average-sized engine, they go straight into I Fall Easy without pause for breath, and then the next one, and the next one, and so on. And that's what you want, surely? One continuous frenzy of noise,

THE **EDGE****ALBUMS**

but wait... the big explosion you expect never comes, and there's always a feeling that it could be louder, or faster, or whatever. There's also the suspicion that they've stretched the songs when short, sharp shocks are clearly preferable (like the endless feedback on the finale of 3000 Ways). And despite the lack of variety, and no real stand out tracks, it's raw, it's dirty, the singer's throaty, and it's probably worth investigation.

But be warned, it didn't throw me into the hysterical state where I bounce off the walls whilst intermittently pulling Spinal Tap-esque 'rock' poses. It would have, had it been sped up a notch, or just plain noisier. And they may have toured with Motorhead and Mudhoney but, after seven years, you suspect that if they don't unleash their full power soon, they may be confined to support slots at best. Being aged between 19 and 21 time is still on their side, but the clock is ticking, and if it's not connected to a gigantic stick of dynamite, the game's up.

7/10
RH

MUM
Finally We Are No One
(Fat Cat)

Mum are an unusual proposition to say the least. Formed by four Icelandic kids (including the twin sisters who appear on the front of Belle and Sebastian's Fold Your Arms Child You Walk Like A Peasant) their music has developed through an equal love of lush melodies and experimental electronica. Finally We Are No One takes this combination and uses it to create some of the most beautifully accessible music in the genre, blending skittering cracks and glitches with gorgeous string and synth arrangements.

The effect is dreamlike with tracks such as Green Grass Of Tunnel and Now There's That Fear Again recalling childhood memories of joy and sorrow. Delicate glockenspiel and keyboard motifs occur and recur like familiar friends and lend a comforting feel while the vocals are likely to cause a flood of tears if you're the least bit down.

Finally We Are No One is exactly the kind of album that will keep finding it's way back to your CD player no matter how much you try and resist the temptation.

8/10
TH

THE HERBALISER
Something Wicked This Way

BUY THIS! Or Else...

BILL WELLS TRIO
Also In White
(Geographic)

Pianist and innovator Bill Wells forms a unique silhouette on the Glasgow music horizon. Although in recent years he has fashioned collaborations with notable indie figures such as The Pastels, Future

Pilot AKA and members of Belle and Sebastian, his musical background remains firmly rooted in the stultifyingly conventional Scottish jazz scene. Through sheer frustration Wells began taking his ideas elsewhere. The Future pilot AKA versus The Bill Wells Octet LP eventually emerged in 1998 on Domino records, offering up a remarkable synthesis of Wells' dark chord progressions and Sushi K. Dade's lo-fi tape spliced backing tracks.

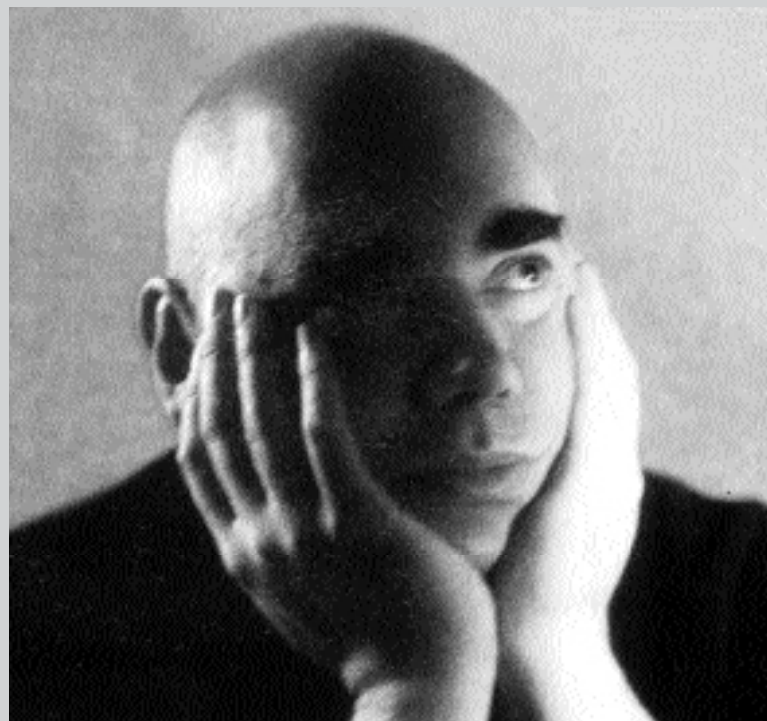
The first trio album, Incorrect Practice, was released in December 2000 and featured cohorts Robert Henderson on trumpet and Belle and Sebastian's

Stevie Jackson on guitar and harmonica. Also in White effectively picks up where that all too short record left off. Beautifully melancholic melodies spring from the heart of the trio arrangements like haunting laments.

The elegiac motif of Singleton is one of the most unsettling piano figures ever committed to tape and has the feel of a Stephen Poliakoff soundtrack. Elsewhere the intricate pickings of Jackson on The Last Guitar Lesson and the Steve Reich like loops on New Ascending Staircase give Henderson the space he needs to pull off some of the most expansive playing this side of Miles Davis' back-catalogue.

This is an album which is literally crying out to be heard.

9/10
TH



Comes
(Ninja Tune)

The Herbaliser return with their fourth album of orchestral hip hop (I'm sorry folks, but I couldn't think of any other way to describe it), and

they've done Ninja Tune proud once again. The album opens with the Macbeth-quoting Something Wicked (featuring ghostly vocals from Seaming To and a beautiful harpsichord/string instrumental backing). It then moves on to Verbal Anime, a slapstick slice of hip hop featuring Iriscience of Dilated Peoples rapping about cartoons, complete with a tongue-in-cheek Tom and Jerry style beat. This diversity continues throughout the album, with Jake and Ollie applying their crisp, jazzy production, considerable DJ ability and cheeky sense of humour to everything from the atmospheric breakbeat of Mr. Holmes to the upbeat exercise in bongo destruction that is Battle Of Bongo Hill. All that stopped me giving Something Wicked This Way Comes eleven out of ten was that at times it doesn't

really feel like a proper album. Whilst utilising so many different ingredients in their musical melting pot lends The Herbaliser's work an interesting variety, I came away with the feeling that the album was somewhat disjointed.

I don't want to end the review on a negative note though, as this really is an excellent album. If you're a fan of The Herbaliser, the chances are that you'll already have a copy, but if you're not familiar with their work, just make sure you hear the pure, unadulterated Funk of The Turnaround and the lazy horn arrangements of The Hard Stuff. These tracks alone will convince you to buy this album, as well as The Herbaliser's entire back catalogue.

9/10
RW

KID GALAHAD
Gold Dust Noise
(Ignition)

I must say that I wasn't the slightest bit impressed when Kid Galahad offered up the best of their creations on their previous EP, but this

album sees them in better form - possibly after a bit of soul searching (it might just be producer Jim Abiss though).

The bottom line is that they've got an utterly shit name, which is deterrent enough. However, they've got some good tunes this time around, so I decided to give them another chance.

The album starts plainly and it's not until the fourth song that any evidence of tunesmithery comes to the fore. Swimming to Shore is a catchy tune which is sounds a bit like Straw trying to get it on with a circa '96 Brett Anderson.

Following that up are the best two songs on the album: Salvation and Runaway Train. Salvation is a slow song based around the soft vocals and a few chords on the piano. Runaway Train was the key song in their previous Runaway Train EP, but now, reworked, it's considerably better - far more atmospheric, far less Britpop.

Pack it In is just crap and helps to show that Kid Galahad are better at the slower songs such as World Crashes Down and album closer I Don't Wanna Play which has touches of Spiritualized.

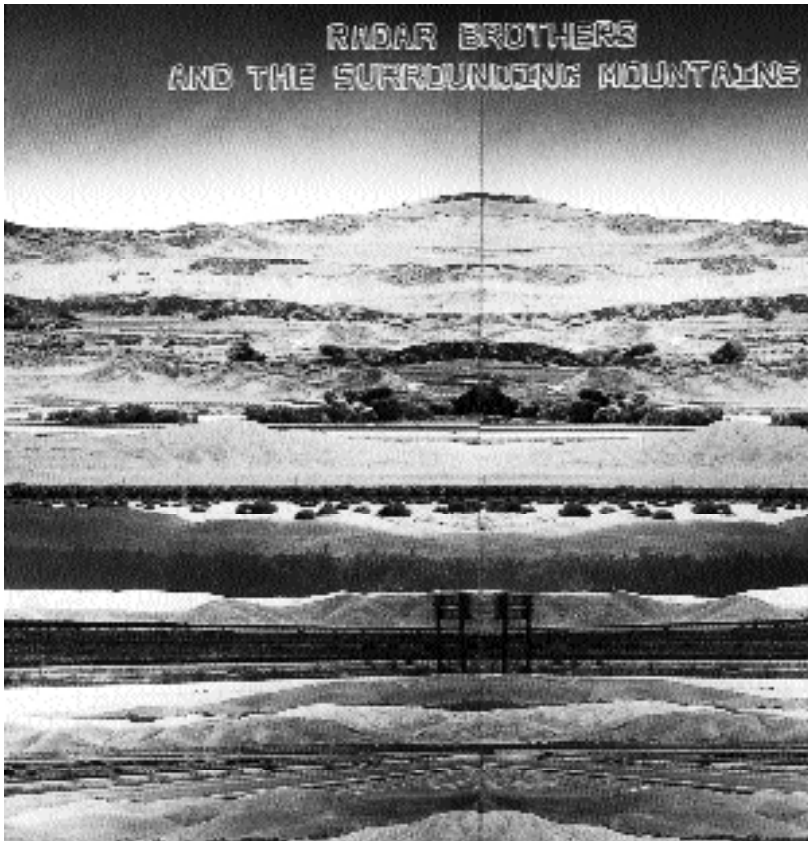
The album grows on you quickly but there is just too much of an undercurrent, which makes most of it sound like it was copied off of Shine 4. A lot of the songs make for a great soundtrack, in small doses, but under scrutiny holes start to appear all over the album which eventually detract from their good songs.

6/10
PC

TRAM
A Kind Of Closure
(Setanta)

One look at the tracklisting of this album is enough to depress anyone. With titles such as Forlorn Labour, A Painful Education, Forgive Me Dear and You Let Me Down, what is the point in living? So, unless you want to get even more depressed, I wouldn't recommend listening to this album. Don't get me wrong, it's a record of utmost beauty, but the funereal pace and dark melodies may just dampen your mood ever so slightly.

THE **EDGE** ALBUMS



RADAR BROTHERS
And The Surrounding Mountains
(Chemikal Underground Records)

This, the third LP from Radar Brothers, is a subtle move in a different direction for the California-based band. Whereas earlier recordings drew comparisons to Neil Young and The Beatles at their most psychedelic, And The Surrounding Mountains is a much more downbeat affair. Distant echoes of Pink Floyd's The Wall can be heard throughout, particularly on Sisters. Second track On The Line sounds like a more mature Grandaddy. This record is full of majestic ballads, which remain low-key enough not to be tarred with self-importance. A melancholy stroll through Americana that you just won't want to end. Ever.

8/10
ES

VARIOUS ARTISTS
You Don't Need Darkness To Do What You Think Is Right
(Geographic)

The Geographic Label is home to some good bands, some great bands and some downright amazing bands. This label compilation, originally intended for the Japanese market, culls some of the best tracks by each of the artists with either past or forthcoming releases (with the unregrettable exception of Teenage Fanclub). As well as the usual lo-fi indie suspects such as the Pastels and Future Pilot A.K.A, this also includes German electronic popster Barbara Morgenstern

and terminal indie waster Kevin Shields providing a trance like 'outro' (although if he ever gets around to releasing a record proper it'll be a minor miracle).

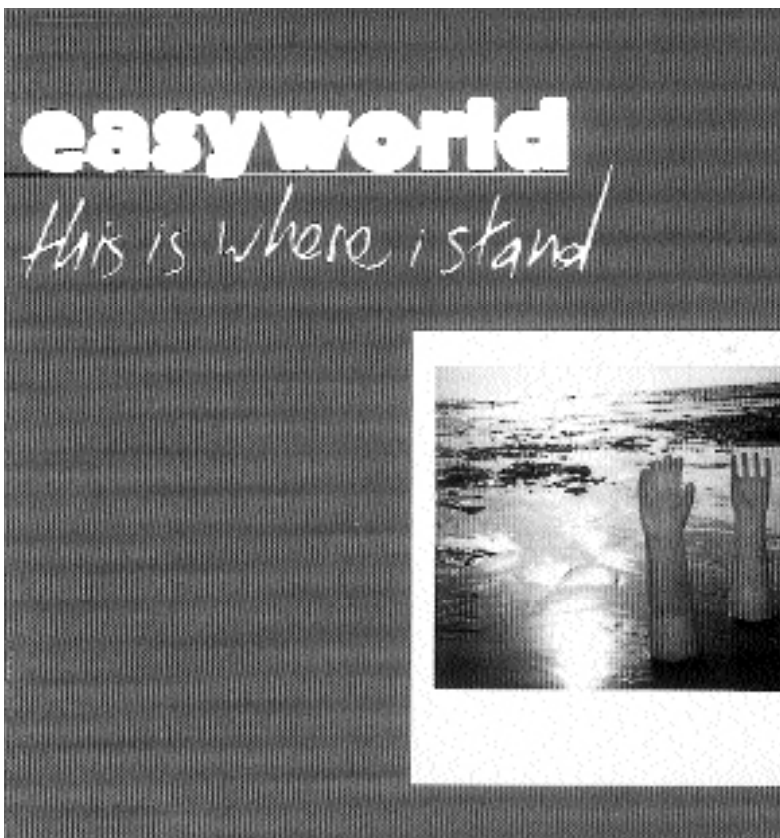
There are some surprise highlights in the form of Directorsound's unsteady guitar pluckings and National Park's forlorn murmurings, but the best tracks come from the two Japanese bands, Maher Shalal Hash Baz and Nagisa Ni Te. Both bands deal in folk derived meanderings, but whereas MSHB can barely hold it together on the deceptively hummable Stone in the Water, Nagisa Ni Te's Me, On the Beach is altogether more coherent, a wonderful mixture of farfisa organ and innocent female vocals.

For the uninitiated this album is a great starting point but be warned, once bitten you won't rest until you own every record in the Geographic back catalogue.

8/10
TH

DEMPSEY
Dempsey
(Output Recordings)

This collection comes straight out of the (horrible) place where experimental jazz meets lo-fi country amblings. And wherever that is (please God... never make me go there) you'll find a sleazy stoned man delivering sleazy vocals sleazily. As such, it's what you'd expect a poor Beck imitation impersonating Macy Gray, whilst drawling Babybird lyrics all over the mic; it's chilled out but, and here's the killer, it's, erm, interesting. NO! NO! NO! NO! NO!



AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAARRRRRRGGGGGHHHH!!!! I don't want to describe music as 'interesting' because it's just so wanky.

And perhaps the police sirens which herald the opener, ODB On The Run, could be construed as a warning to get out of this album's way, at least for the opening four or five tracks, which seem hastily cobbled together from recordings of the music featured on The Fast Show's Jazz Club (mmmm.. mellow). Though after he's got that (crap) out of his system, this actually turns alright. It's got a decent mellow beat, Dylan-esque guitar strummings and, on 'Blue', the sax music from a softcore porn movie... yay! Saying that he's just trying to be Beck would just be too obvious, so I won't. Instead I'll suggest that it's a semi-psychedelic twangy country blues mixture; now try telling me that you've heard that done a fair bit better before. And however you look at it, it's definitely 'interesting.'

But as with many things, the conditions must be absolutely perfect for enjoyment of this album to ensue. Unfortunately, for the majority of people who aren't drenched in American sun whilst simultaneously breathing in the fumes of traffic and marijuana, there's only a small chance that you'll enjoy this a hell of a lot. But it's okay. Slightly different. Hard to dislike. It's just... erm... what's the word? Oh yeah, 'interesting.' And fairly cool to boot.

5/10
RH

EASYWORLD
This is where I stand
(Jive)

Over the past year Easyworld's fan-base has steadily been gathering momentum and its growing by the day. It isn't difficult to see why. Easyworld are just one of a seemingly endless stream of indie-pop combos who attempt to disguise their dull and derivative music with mock intellect. Tracks with titles such as Junkies and Whores and Armistice are exactly the type of contrived garbage that inspire so many 'what do the lyrics mean?' websites that clog up the internet these days. And as if the lyrics weren't enough the music itself plumbs new depths of tedium. 100 Weight treads a monotonous halfway line between Placebo and Radiohead while Try Not To Think is reminiscent of Jollification-era Lightning Seeds!

The press release that came with this release urges one to swim against the tide by listening to Easyworld. Drowning in the flood would be nearer the mark.

3/10
TH

ANT
A Long Way To Blow Kisses
(Fortune & Glory)

Antony Harding, better known for being the drummer out of Hefner, releases his debut LP. Funnily enough, it sounds a lot like Hefner... Bittersweet love songs and all that. Just not quite so witty.

7/10

BADLY DRAWN BOY
About a Boy -Original
Soundtrack
(XL)

Everyone's favourite tea-cosy wearer returns with a full-length album of new material which constitutes the soundtrack to About A Boy. Predictably lovely, tuneful, melodic, blah, blah, blah. One or two tracks stand out but the rest just merges into a sick pool of niceness.

5/10

AFEL BOCOUM, DAMON ALBARN, TOUMANI DIABATE AND FRIENDS
Mali Music
(Honest Jon's Records)

Damon has a mid-life crisis, goes to Mali, and records some 'locals' making music with him. Although it's very kind of him to bring Malian music to our attention, and although some of the profits go to Oxfam- why, why, why? A great listen, apart from when Albarn's overbearing presence is felt.

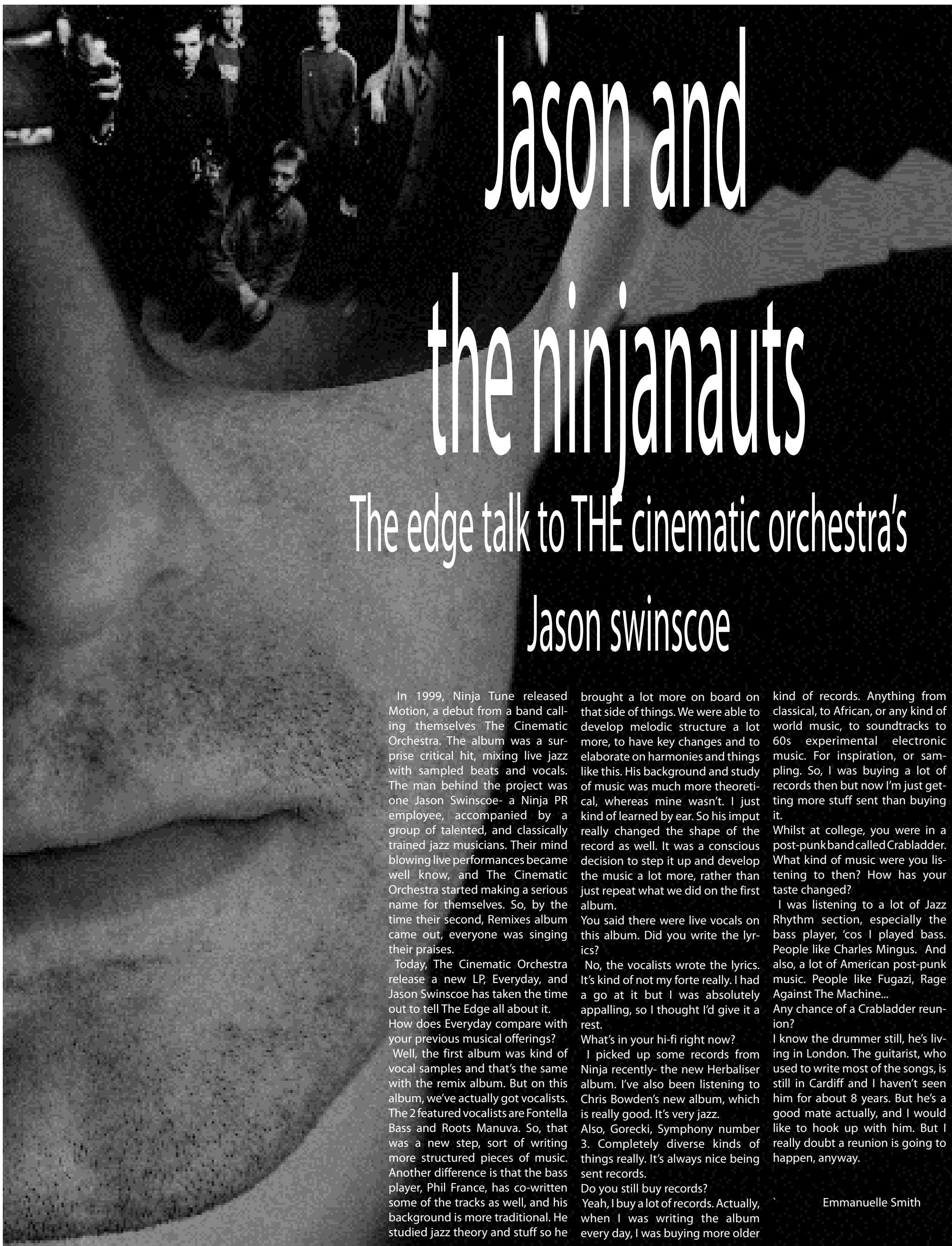
6/10

LASTDAYSOFAPRIL
Ascend to The Stars
(Bad Taste)

The best thing to come out of Sweden since Abba (and that's saying something)- Heartwrenching pop at it's most glorious. Get it. Now.

9/10

Emmanuelle Smith



Jason and the ninjanauts

The edge talk to THE cinematic orchestra's
Jason swinscoe

In 1999, Ninja Tune released Motion, a debut from a band calling themselves The Cinematic Orchestra. The album was a surprise critical hit, mixing live jazz with sampled beats and vocals. The man behind the project was one Jason Swinscoe- a Ninja PR employee, accompanied by a group of talented, and classically trained jazz musicians. Their mind blowing live performances became well know, and The Cinematic Orchestra started making a serious name for themselves. So, by the time their second, Remixes album came out, everyone was singing their praises.

Today, The Cinematic Orchestra release a new LP, Everyday, and Jason Swinscoe has taken the time out to tell The Edge all about it. How does Everyday compare with your previous musical offerings?

Well, the first album was kind of vocal samples and that's the same with the remix album. But on this album, we've actually got vocalists. The 2 featured vocalists are Fontella Bass and Roots Manuva. So, that was a new step, sort of writing more structured pieces of music. Another difference is that the bass player, Phil France, has co-written some of the tracks as well, and his background is more traditional. He studied jazz theory and stuff so he

brought a lot more on board on that side of things. We were able to develop melodic structure a lot more, to have key changes and to elaborate on harmonies and things like this. His background and study of music was much more theoretical, whereas mine wasn't. I just kind of learned by ear. So his input really changed the shape of the record as well. It was a conscious decision to step it up and develop the music a lot more, rather than just repeat what we did on the first album.

You said there were live vocals on this album. Did you write the lyrics?

No, the vocalists wrote the lyrics. It's kind of not my forte really. I had a go at it but I was absolutely appalling, so I thought I'd give it a rest.

What's in your hi-fi right now?

I picked up some records from Ninja recently- the new Herbaliser album. I've also been listening to Chris Bowden's new album, which is really good. It's very jazz.

Also, Gorecki, Symphony number 3. Completely diverse kinds of things really. It's always nice being sent records.

Do you still buy records?

Yeah, I buy a lot of records. Actually, when I was writing the album every day, I was buying more older

kind of records. Anything from classical, to African, or any kind of world music, to soundtracks to 60s experimental electronic music. For inspiration, or sampling. So, I was buying a lot of records then but now I'm just getting more stuff sent than buying it.

Whilst at college, you were in a post-punk band called Crabladder. What kind of music were you listening to then? How has your taste changed?

I was listening to a lot of Jazz Rhythm section, especially the bass player, 'cos I played bass. People like Charles Mingus. And also, a lot of American post-punk music. People like Fugazi, Rage Against The Machine...

Any chance of a Crabladder reunion?

I know the drummer still, he's living in London. The guitarist, who used to write most of the songs, is still in Cardiff and I haven't seen him for about 8 years. But he's a good mate actually, and I would like to hook up with him. But I really doubt a reunion is going to happen, anyway.

Emmanuelle Smith

Live...



WEEZER
Southampton Guildhall
23rd March 2002

Weezer finally arrived in Southampton for this rescheduled gig, and they won't have been disappointed by the numbers of fans who have held on to their tickets waiting to finally see the band make a relatively rare live performance in England. The crowd seemed to have been roughly twice the size of that for the recent Spiritualized gig, though the average age was probably halved. The band did not disappoint playing for an hour and a half of what amounted to a greatest hits set, with a few songs from the forthcoming Dope Nose album thrown in to show that the band haven't been slacking since last year's successful third album.

Rivers arrived on stage (sporting a beard) to be greeted by rapturous applause from the relentlessly enthusiastic crowd. Each song was played competently, if not exactly enthusiastically, and the group seemed to have slipped into cruise control as they approached the end of their tour. Each song was greeted with recognition and enthusiasm particularly slacker-punk anthems like 'The Sweater Song' and 'Surf Wax America' although occasionally the performance failed to live up to the crowd's enthusiasm (Island in the Sun' and the classic 'Buddy Holly'). The highlight of the set was undoubtedly the closing number 'Only in Dreams' which was performed beautifully amid atmospheric lighting and a ticker tape finale featuring an illuminated 'W' hoisted above the stage. All in all the gig was good if not excellent as the band unleashed a set of wall to

wall classics which meant that few could have left disappointed but the performance largely failed to rise above the routine which left some songs falling a bit flat. However, this did little to dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd and the energetic atmosphere was summed up by one fan who was heard to say, "I'll be bruised to bugery after that!"

Chris Bienemann

FAITHLESS
Southampton Guildhall
25th March 2002

Not one of the 500 or more fans asked for a rebate on their tickets after this concert was delayed from last December, and the reason was demonstrated by Faithless' excellent performance. Alpine Stars, a relatively unknown band who are attempting to make their mark in the dance music industry, supported the sell-out event. They failed to impress the crowd, who talking amongst themselves, biding time as the repetitive music droned in the background, waiting patiently for Faithless. After all, what's another ten minutes when you've waited 3 months?

Finally the wait was over and one by one Faithless appeared on an impressively kitted out stage. Maxi Jazz - the band's front man - did a fine job getting the crowd going, waking them up and succeeding where Alpine Stars had failed. Insomnia, an all-time favourite and the band's most memorable hit induced the crowd into a euphoric high, causing them to jump up and down energetically in time with the music. Half way through Maxi introduced one of his back-

ing singers, Zoë Johnston, who sang a pleasant slow song, allowing him (and the crowd) to regain his breath. Maxi returned with a few more favourites, including the top ten hit Become One, getting the crowd involved in this one. Another chance for Maxi to rest his voice was provided by guitarist Nemo Jones, who performed Drifting away, a fairly chilled-out instrumental. The concert ended with an encore, involving God is a DJ, leaving fans gasping for breath, exciting the venue on an exhilarated high.

Damian Brierley

REMY ZERO
Southampton Guildhall
23rd March 2002

Remy Zero are probably best known as the band behind "Save Me", the theme tune to Smallville. Their offerings of Radiohead-lite tormented tunes have been going down a treat in the US, but what would Southampton make of them?

For a start, the Guildhall has the worst acoustics known to man and is not therefore the right place to make a rational judgement about a group's musical prowess. They started off in promising enough fashion with a couple of tracks that put me in mind of early U2. "Save me" went down well enough with an apathetic audience, but things weren't going to get any better. The tracks began to fade into a bland mush of all the anguished clichés that have ever been paraded by Yorke et al, and Remy's US compatriots like Counting Crows. Not quite a zero then, but already

ART STARS?

YEAH! YEAH! YEAH!



YEAH YEAH YEAHS, D4 and
THE BEATINGS
The Metro Club, London
Friday 29th March

Whilst punk-tinged rock 'n' roll may not be back raising hell in suburban streets quite yet, the revolution has taken root and is growing in the venues of the U.K.'s most exciting city (sorry Mancs... it's true.) Testament to this is the three-day Artrock Rock and Roll Summit in Oxford Street's slightly sleazy-looking (blue and pink neon) Metro Club, with other days including Ten Benson, The Flaming Sideburns, and Beach Buggy. And if The Strokes and The White Stripes are leading lights of this uprising then one time support act to both, New York three-piece the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, are gaining fame in their slipstream but are different enough to transcend it.

But first up were The (appropriately-named) Beatings, who senselessly pummelled the audience's consciousness with a loud and shouty brand of rock that you'd expect from a bunch of reprobates who look like Supergrass' evil twin brothers. They proceeded to beat the collective head of the listenership against a metaphorical brick wall in a way you might imagine of a blind, disorientated headbanger. It got the night going and was most definitely 'rock', but 'art'? Hmmm. But did that matter? Luckily not, for them and Kiwi offering D4 (not a third of Marshall Mathers' side project) who took the theme on, with a drummer who reinforced the idea of them as all slightly overweight or totally

fucking mental. He's called Beaver. But with a riff worthy of The Hives, they continued in the vein all other bands in this ilk; in other words, harking back to the 70s, garage rock, and a hint of late 60s (or, in D4's case, a bit of Oasis). But with this style so fashionable at the moment (with the NME), can you have too much of a good thing? Not as long as it's good. Well, it doesn't matter to me anyway.

And then the star attraction, footsoldiers on the campaigns of 2001's two most hyped bands, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Fronted by (Howlin') Karen O, memories of Suzi Quatro would have been elicited amongst those old enough to remember her, and PJ Harvey amongst those of us without moustaches, tight jeans and leather jackets. Well at least she's different to saccharine-coated teens, dull balladeers, and overtly feminist ranters. Yet despite the twangy guitar sound they weren't as bluesy as you might expect from a Jack White protégé, with a sound quicker and more visceral than anything except 'Fell in Love With a Girl'. But they were raw and up front, and very good as a result, something to which the audience would testify as, apparently, O could get away with making monkey noises in her penultimate offering. Watch out for them because rock 'n' roll is coming overground again and, when it gets into the bedrooms of supposedly dejected and rejected Surrey adolescents, it's got the teeth to scare the shit out of production line nu-metallars. And the sooner the fucking better.

A Class of their own

Live...

Photos: Tim Houghton

Sketches of Japan: Tori Kudo

GEOGRAPHIC NIGHT: MAHER SHALAL HASH BAZ, SISTER VANILLA & BILL WELLS TRIO
93 Feet East, London
Wednesday 1st May

Japanese acid-folk collective Maher Shalal Hash baz have never made the trip to the UK before despite having consistently produced some of the most inspired genre-defining music over the course of the last decade. It is thanks mainly to the efforts of The Pastel's Stehen McRobbie and his ever excellent Geographic label that their chance finally arrived this month. For this London date of Maher's mini tour the evening was converted into a showcase for the label, with support provided by stablemates Sister Vanilla and The Bill Wells Trio.

Wells' music isn't the kind that immediately lends itself to live performance. Full of tricky sampled loops triggered to vamp under some subtly shifting brass arrangements some of the more delicate nuances were lost in the ambience, not least because of the second rate sound system and the less than attentive audience - the conversational din from the bar was a distraction to say the least.

Nevertheless, one of Wells' greatest talents lies in his ability to push a song on and on past its breaking point and eventually allowing it to reach its completely illogical end.

This was evident particularly on 'D.A.D.E.', which featured Katrina Pastel as guest vocalist, where the letters of the title's acronym are endlessly repeated until the letters become syllables and the syllables become words until the song entirely transcends all conventional notions of music.

Second up were the dubiously titled Sister Vanilla, perhaps the sole reason why many of the older punters turned up at all. The new project of brothers Jim and William Reid, whose former band The Jesus and Mary Chain achieved godlike status in the Eighties, is a more subdued affair and on the whole less likely to result in the chaos that characterized the early J&M Chain. Unfortunately this also means that Sister Vanilla are more conformist in their approach. While the first half of the set featured third sibling Linda on vocals, producing some enjoyable pop tinted songs, when the brothers were left to their own devices things went downhill. Declaring every song to be about either alcoholism or Keith Moon (isn't that the same thing anyway?) they proceeded to rehash some Munki era J&M Chain - all the more disappointing when considering the fantastic records put out by W. Reid's Lazycame project only two years ago.

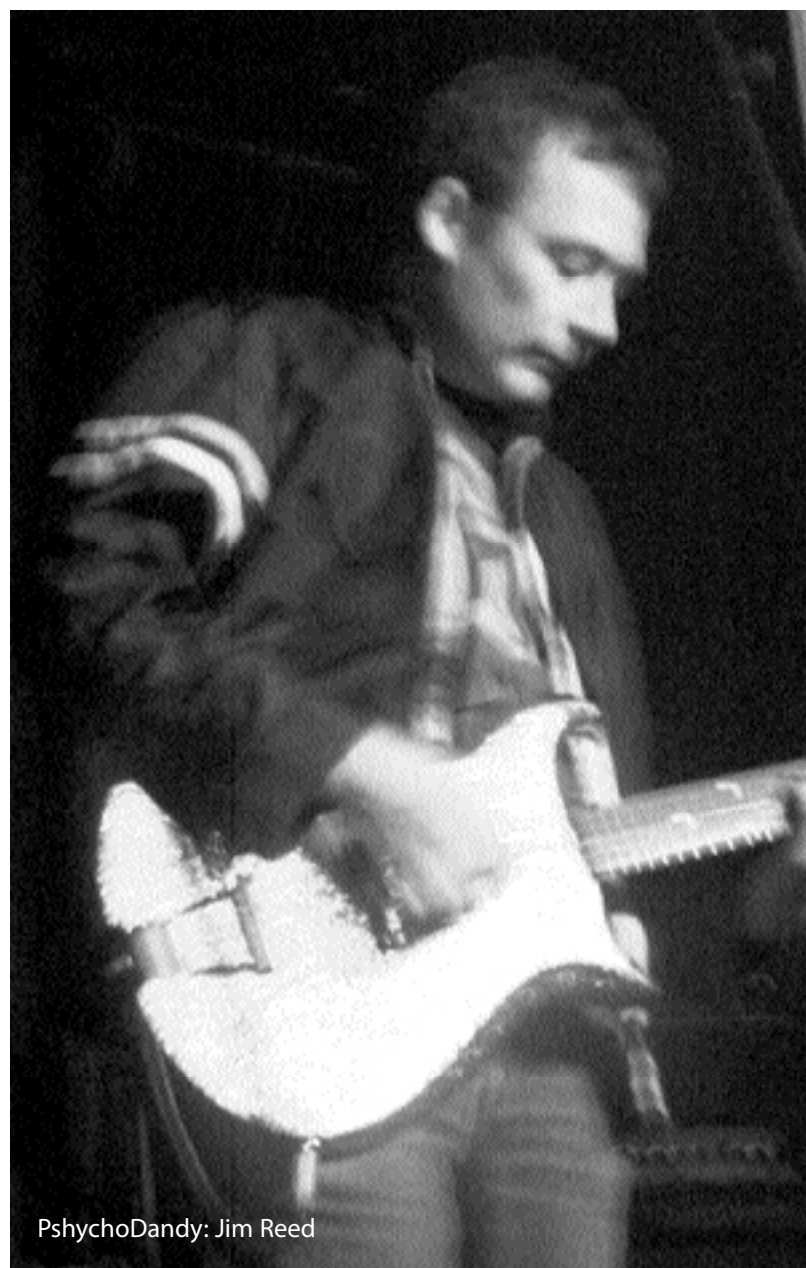
Maher Shalal Hash Baz, however were undoubtedly the stars of the evening. On stage they formed an

odd ramshackle collective of instrument sharers centered around the largely knee-level activity of vocalist Tori Kudo. Despite the fact that Kudo's wildly articulated microphone stand meant that no-one beyond the first row could work out who the hell was singing, his vocals filled the room with what sounded like eerie paeans to his homeland (although for all I know he could have been singing about what a tosser Peter Andre is).

For their part, the rest of MSHB imparted beauty, musicianship, incoherence and humour in equal measure. On 'Stone In the River' (featured on the Geographic compilation) they seemed barely to be able to hold it together whilst at other times they gave fantastically coherent performances of old tracks fusing them with extraordinary group jams. A rendition of the instrumental Unknown Hapiness allowed Kudo a rare opportunity to leave the safety of the stage floor and produce wielding guitar lines reminiscent of vintage Syd Barrett.

In an endearingly disorganized style, MSHB managed to return to the stage just as half the audience had buggered off home but it was just one of the things that only made me love them more.

Tim Houghton



PshychoDandy: Jim Reed

party tricks

All tomorrow's parties kicks off the festival season with an act that's tough to beat

ALL TOMORROW'S PARTIES UK
2002 - Weekend 1
Camber Sand Pontins'
19-20-21st April

First, a few words of introduction for the uninitiated: All Tomorrow's Parties is a fiercely independent alternative festival which a different band 'curates' every year. Said band gets to pick all of the other bands on the bill. This year, said band are Shellac of North America, who, as well as gracing us with three hardcore shows over the weekend, also happen to have chosen some outstanding artists to perform the rest of the time.

Furthermore, ATP's set-up differs from most festivals in that: a) it's held at Pontins- minus the Bluecoats, b) There's only two stages, c) there's no corporate sponsorship dictating what beer is sold, d)... Actually, I'd better stop there before we go through the whole alphabet...Anyway, you get the picture I'm sure.

Notwithstanding Shellac, who we'll come back to later, Friday got off to a mellow start with experimental classical outfit The Threnody Ensemble. Their guitar/cello led sound interspersed sweet melancholy with dark sorrow and I promised myself to rush out and buy everything they've ever recorded. I also did this with almost every band I went on to see over the weekend, and thus haven't quite realised my project yet...

Next up were Danielson Famile. Literally an extended family and all their friends, they came on dressed in nurse uniforms complete with name tags and made for an unforgettable live experience. All of their songs were upbeat and hilariously choreographed and the crowd couldn't help but laugh and join in. What the Shaggs could have been had they had any ounce of talent.

Remember the Pixies? Ever wondered what they were up to these days? Well one of them, namely ex-drummer David Lovering, is going around doing science. And by science, I mean all of the fun bits out

of Chemistry and Physics at school. He got up on stage, lit up a gherkin, did some other cool stuff, and entertained the hell out of us kiddies. It was like being back in the classroom, only without the underlying feeling of security. David Lovering is a madman, and I wouldn't trust him with any gherkin of mine. The next band I saw, after a quick rest in the chalet was Low who were beautiful and heart wrenching as always. I went to bed (a real bed, at a festival!!) drained but happy.

Saturday began with a stroll on the nearby beach, before seeing Shellac perform for the second time. Although they were on at the ungodly hour of 2.15pm, the venue was (quite rightly) packed out to its full capacity. Shellac's set was explosive, and they also indulged us in their customary 'Question and Answer' session in which Steve Albini thanked us for entrusting him with our money for a load of bands we'd never heard of, and Bob Weston recommended us to his hair stylist Jessica, who'd do anyone for £5. Hmmm...

Saturday's other highlights includ-

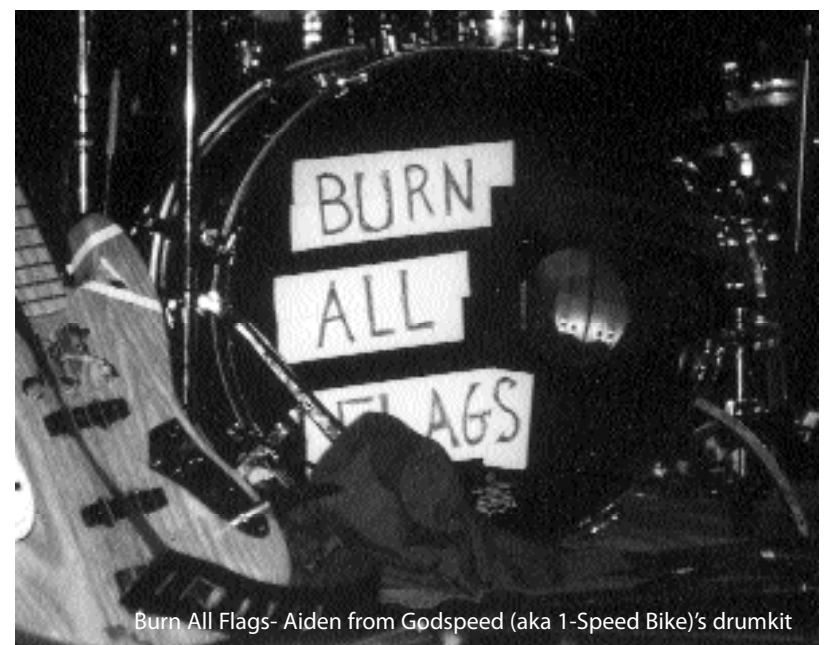
ed Shannon Wright, who sings and plays the piano like an angel but can also rock with the best of them, and Nina Nastasia, an intelligent NYC singer-songwriter who can actually sing and write songs. Bonus! I also caught the end of country singer Robbie Faulks who blew my mind and made me wish I'd gotten my arse down there earlier. But what can you do?

Lo-fi pioneer Bill Callaghan, aka Smog delivered an hour-long set which, frankly, didn't live up to his exquisitely beautiful recorded work. As well as playing his own numbers, including a painfully slowed down version of Cold Blooded Old Times, he also covered Paranoid by Black Sabbath (almost unrecognisable) and Lean On Me by Bill Withers. A pleasant enough set, but not worthy of the genius that is Smog.

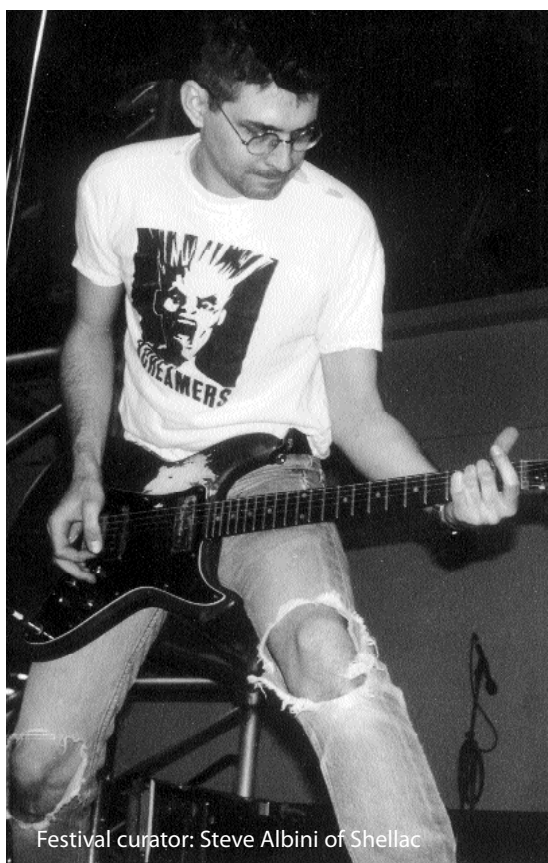
Next up were the bands I'd been most looking forward to see, the psychedelic experimental outfit that is Do Make Say Think, and their better known label mate nonet Godspeed You Black Emperor! Hailing from a Canadian music collective, both bands, in my

opinion, play some of the most exciting music around. Godspeed in particular, with their loud orchestral rock intertwined with plaintive strings, blow me away every time I see them live. Often described as Anarchists, politics are definitely underlying in their music, even though 'lyrics' are restricted to harrowing samples of speech. That was it for bands on Saturday, but a

2 and a half hour DJ set would take us through the night. The DJ in question was Aiden, drummer from Godspeed, playing under the alias of his electronic solo project, 1-Speed Bike. His set was held in the pub, where the tiny dance floor was packed out for the duration. Maintaining his own sampled beats throughout, and mixing them with various pieces



Burn All Flags- Aiden from Godspeed (aka 1-Speed Bike)'s drumkit



Festival curator: Steve Albini of Shellac



Japanese death metal: Zeni Geva



Nursing your wounds- the lovely girls from Danielson Famile

of unreleased music made by his mates, (including an excellent hip-hop track in French) the result was phenomenal. Between tracks, Aiden could be heard shouting at the top of his voice as the crowd gathered around his tiny booth: 'This one is for people who participate and don't observe', or 'This one is for a fucker named Mayor Giuliani because who cares if some fucking buildings fall down'. To which he played a sped-up, messed-up version of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

Out of the pub we go, and it's daylight already. I'm in an ecstatic daze because what has just been experienced was out of this world. Dancing to 1-Speed Bike with some crazed Do Make Say Think members until sunrise. Could this weekend get any better? Well actually, no, but it didn't get any worse either. So, it was back to the chalet, via a 'screaming' party in one of the quads. (Kind of like playing 'bollocks!' at Glastonbury only so much more avant-garde).

Before we knew it, it was Sunday afternoon, and we made it out of bed in time to see Shellac perform their last set of the weekend. Rumours that they were going to play an entire set of Sex Pistols covers were soon dispelled, and, to no-one's disappointment, they played a fine selection of their very own musical offerings. Then came Brick Layer Cake, otherwise known as Todd Trainer (see cover), drummer from Shellac. Turns out he can sing and write songs too. Multitalented or what?

Rushing upstairs to the 'primary' stage, I catch the start of Zeni Geva, a Japanese heavy-metal band. Scaryyyyyyy!

The Upper Crust are what one might call a one-joke kind of band. Their one joke being that they dress up, and try to talk as though they're in 18th century Britain, when in fact they're from Boston, Massachusetts. The line up includes Count Bassie, the Duc D'Istortion, and Lord Bendover. They look like Louis 16th, but don't be fooled, they sound like ACDC. In the words of Steve Albini referring to something completely different: Swell!

Last, but certainly not least, The Fall and a remarkably well-behaved Mark E Smith giving a remarkable performance. No band sacking, no onstage fights, just a little mild niggling. You know, untuning his band members instruments while they're trying to play and that sort of thing. Nothing serious though.

The songs were vibrant and angry and loud, but unfortunately, I couldn't tell you what they all were, since Mark E Smith seemed to delve deep into the old back catalogue. (which I am not overly familiar with. Although after tonight, I do intend to become acquainted)

And with that, the festivities ended on a high and I only wish I could afford to go to weekend 2 as well.

Photos: Emmanuelle



Cheer up: emo dude- Shellac's Bob Weston

FUTURE WORLD FUSION

Time to bring ou the big brass
with Smerin's Antisocial Club



Hippy Mark with his
Harmonica and DJ Break



All Photos: Paul Cornwell

FUTURE WORLD FUSION
The Talking Heads
16/03/02

The word on the street was 'get there early', but then that statement usually is flying around preceding most events. However, after the blistering success of the first Future World Fusion, plenty took heed of this warning and did just that.

The doors opened at eight o'clock and by half-eight the queue was already out in the street. The 'Heads has never known such a crowd, so early on in the evening. It was quite literally a sight to behold. Almost as much of a sight as the crowd packed in to the main room, loving it come Smerin's Antisocial Club.

Before SAC however, there was a blend of live percussion, bass and filthy harmonica action all held together by the super-glue of beats that was Kuba (aka Stink Master Flex). Like everything at FWF this was quite unlike anything

you can catch just anywhere. Kuba provided the hip-hop, cuts, breaks and talented scratching that was the canvas of the first couple of hours of the evening. Working their magic over the top of this was the live bass and Hippy Mark with his ten harmonicas.

With the 'Heads at capacity the climate in the main room, almost as if planned, was similar to that in the Caribbean in the summer. Smerin's Antisocial Club, one by one, filed on to the stage (which had to be specially enlarged to accommodate all nine of them) and kicked off their set. The Antisocial crew had been locked away in practice rooms for many weeks preceding the night busy looking for new material, creating some of their own and honing the classics into almost an art form.

And so their hour and a half set began, taking in some of their well developed classics such as the beautifully brassy version of Groove Armada's 'At The River' and the unforgettable 'Chan Chan'. Not

“ The
magic lies
in the
relaxed
manner in
which the
event
always

to forget 'Use It Before You Lose It' and a quite unique version of 'Groovetime' in which Dreaded Tom skats like it's never been out of (or possibly in) fashion.

Their sets are always a delight of unbridled passion for the music, incredible technical skill and overflowing fun, which can't help but infect everyone in the building. And so, it is also a fact that their sets seem to fly-by and before anyone knew it the instruments were down and the band were surveying the baying crowd.

The encore was undoubtedly the highest point of the set and probably reflected the amount of time and effort that went into the full band take on 'Apache', which is without doubt one of the greatest songs ever. No, it really is. The crowd erupted, the temperature went up some more and then SAC launched tentatively into the first ever public airing of a piece inspired by 'Acid' by Ray Baretto. This piece was live drum 'n' bass that snuck out of nowhere and had

the crowd properly dancing. Having it even. Using only their instruments and a sampler they fully created a phatty right there for our aural pleasure.

Keeping the vibe in the house was DJ Break who took to the decks and rinsed the room out until everyone was booted out kicking and screaming at quarter past one. As well as many of the current more widely played favourites such as 'Ska' Break kept it fresh by playing such pleasers as the remix of Jill Scott's 'It's Love' and 'Nina' by SUV.

The magic lies in the relaxed manner in which the event always goes off. Break was spontaneously joined by Hippy Mark on the harmonica and just as spontaneously went back to back with DJ G. All the while percussion instruments were circulating the crowd so you could join in with a shaker or a tambourine. Fantastic.

If ever an audience has been more engaged with what's happening on the stage than at a Future World Fusion It'd be nice to see, because

Oh my



Oh dear



Somerley//02



Open Air// Paul & Phil Hartnoll (Orbital DJ set), DJ Sets from Bent, Kinobe, Stereo MC's Rob Birch, Placebo's Brian Molko, Scanners, Martyn The Hat, Jay Ratchet
Arena02// Killa Kela, The Scratch Perverts - Plus One, Prime Cuts, Tony Vegas, Blak Twang, En4cers (Cutmaster Swift & DJ Biznizz), The Mixologists, Mr.Thing, Rodney P & Skitz, The Steel Devils, Fallacy & Fusion, Tom Dollar, Second2None breakdance crew
Arena03// DJ Sessions The Happy Mondays (Bez, Paul Ryder, Rowetta, Wags) The Stone Roses (Mani), Elastica (Dave Bush, Sharon Mew, Justin Welch), Inspiral Carpets (Clint Boon)
Arena04// Alex Gold, John 00 Fleming, Ferry Corsten, Guy Ormadel, Scott Bond, Public Domain, Trisco, Paul Moss, Mike Brett
Arena05// Harry Choo Choo Romero, Yousef, Lottie, Paul Richards, Smokin Jo, Cliff Lay
Arena06// Howard Donald, Jenny Harrison, Si Gracia, Seth Sanchez, Sean Brosnan, Bob Povey, Dodge, Artwell, Bronson, Cass.



sunday/june.02/2002

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just your favourite DJ saviour

Russell Wood gives you the lowdown on DJ Shadow



Back in 1996, DJ Shadow released *Endtroducing*, his darkly atmospheric debut album that redefined the nature of hip hop. It's the only album ever to be composed entirely of sampled material, though far from a plagiarised exercise in the cut and paste of other people's work, *Endtroducing* is an experiment in production that's far greater than the sum of its parts.

Overlaying dozens of individual instrumental samples plundered from his expansive record collection, varying their pitch and time signature, Shadow reconstructs and orchestrates the samples into a new form, often unrecognisable from the music that gave life to it. Shadow's new album, *The Private Press*, is released at the end of the month, but what has he been doing for the last six years?

The DJ Shadow name that California's Josh Davis releases his material under symbolises a wish to maintain an anonymity and allow the music to speak for itself. A student of the drum, Shadow is a self-confessed vinyl junkie who'd

rather spend time rifling through record stores than hyping up the release of his next twelve inch. As such, there has generally been a total lack of publicity surrounding his work, and much of it has gone largely unnoticed.

A tour of Japan with James Lavelle resulted in Shadow collaborating with Japanese hip hop producer DJ Krush, a fellow Mo' Wax artist. Krush's 1995 album *Meiso* features the track *Duality*, which blends Krush's stark, minimalist beats with Shadow's haunting and experimental drum production. Shadow also went on to remix the title track of Krush's album, and it stands as one of the rare instances of the remix surpassing the original tune.

Q*Bert was the first DJ ever to win the DMC World Mixing Championship three years running. His crew, the Invisibl Skratch Picklz (including Beastie boys DJ Mix Master Mike), is responsible for creating many of the scratch techniques that revolutionised how hip hop was mixed. In 1997 Mo' Wax released *Camel Bobsled Race*, a

twenty four minute live mix composed exclusively of DJ Shadow tunes, scratched together with astounding precision and invention by Q*Bert.

1998 saw the release of Shadow's reconstruction salvo number two, *Pre-Emptive Strike*. The title refers to his wish to issue a collection of singles and B sides before the record companies and sample laws caught up with him and blocked their output. Less an album and more a retrospective, *Pre-Emptive Strike* contains the entire introspective *What Does Your Soul Look Like* Quartet, the *Extended Overhaul of Organ Donor* (with bonus scratches!) and *Influx*, the twelve minute opus which put a twenty year old DJ Shadow on the musical map.

The UNKLE *Psyence Fiction* project finally got released in 1998 accompanied by an unprecedented publicity machine (remember the billboards claiming it had been 'one million years' in the making?). The brain child of James Lavelle, the album knitted Shadow's music with vocals from an array of guest

stars (Mike D, Kool G Rap, Badly Drawn Boy, and long term Shadow fan Thom Yorke). The album was, to a certain extent, a victim of its own hype, and was panned by many music journalists. That said, it has some excellent tracks, and Lonely Soul, featuring Richard Ashcroft, is an outstandingly beautiful song.

In 1999 DJ Shadow and Cut Chemist (one of the Jurassic 5 DJs) were messing around with a pile of 45 rpm funk records when they decided to throw together amix composed entirely of old seven inch records. They performed this mix twice in San Francisco, called it Brainfreeze and it instantly became an underground classic. Featuring soul classics like Marlena Shaw's California Soul alongside the Cut Chemist Party Mix of Shadow's Number Song and a 7-11 song promoting slurpy drinks (!), it's an eclectic mix of funk with a real sense of humour. As the two DJs only produced it for enjoyment, it received an extremely limited release in 2000, though the number of bootlegs circulating shouldn't make it too difficult to get hold of a copy.

Since his college days, Shadow has been making music with a close group of friends who collectively called themselves the SoleSides Crew. Along with Blackalicious and Latyrx, they've been releasing a steady stream of quality MC based hip hop. By 1999 they had changed their name to Quannum, and released their first collective effort, Spectrum. The album represents every aspect of hip hop, soul and funk, with collaborations from the likes of Jurassic 5 and The Poets Of Rhythm. To mark the rebirth of SoleSides as Quannum, the crew released a round up of the best tracks from a decade of work. SoleSides Greatest Bumps, so-

released through Ninja Tune, dropped in 2000 and featured Shadow's many layered old school hip hop mix Entropy and Hardcore [Instrumental] Hip Hop.

The cinematic feel of shadow's work has led to him being offered a number of film projects, but he chose to wait for a script he really believed in. Dark Days (2000, directed by Mark Singer) documents the true story of the community of drug addicts forced to live under the streets of Manhattan. Shadow provides a fittingly murky score, with the title track based on Davis Macallum's House Of Mirrors.

2001 brought Product Placement, the much requested sequel to Brainfreeze. The set was similar in style to the original, but as well as a healthy dose of funk, was composed of everything from '70s psychedelic rock to government issued songs encouraging the drinking of milk. This time around, Shadow and Cut Chemist realised the demand for the set, and took the show on a limited date tour of North America, Japan and Britain.

And now we're on the verge of receiving DJ Shadow's second solo album proper.

The tunes I've heard so far have been extremely encouraging. Monosyllabik, a seven minute song composed entirely from a two bar sample works particularly well, and Blood On The Motorway is a dark, melodic piano based tune with vocals from Quannum's Lateef. Aside from a collaboration with Zack De La Rocha on the former Rage Against The Machine front man's solo project, what the future holds for DJ Shadow is impossible to guess. A musical changeling, Shadow tends to take the direction which people least expect of him.

logical progression



MC Conrad and LTJ Bukem

Progression Sessions
The Opera House,
Bournemouth
22.03.02

LTJ Bukem and his Good Looking record label have been responsible for some of the best dance music released over the last decade, and without the label's input, drum and bass would not (could not) be in the strong position it holds today. Renowned for its soulful and melodic brand of drum and bass, Good Looking has steadily built up a reputation as the home of a chilled and atmospheric style of music that holds appeal across the board, rather than just the minority of "hardcore junglists".

After hearing people rave (weak pun intended) about how great a venue The Opera House is, the Bournemouth leg of Good Looking Record's Progression Sessions tour was the perfect opportunity to have a look. I was pleasantly surprised by the event; the main room is huge, with excellent acoustics (though I should probably have realised that with a name like The Opera House). Sadly, the Good Looking boys were just visiting, and the Progression Session had been marginalized to Cocoshebeen's smaller drum and bass room. Slinky's long running hard house extravaganza ruled the roost (as

the number of kids in fluorescent boiler suits, feather boas and general spangliness showed), but a smaller crowd can often make for a better atmosphere, so there were no complaints there.

LTJ Bukem's set was already in full flow when we arrived. With long term partner in crime MC Conrad on the mic, Bukem gifted the crowd a set composed mainly of Good Looking's own output, past and present. The rework of PFM's drum and bass classic Western and Bukem's own remix of Herbie Hancock and Chaka Kahn's The Essence drew the best reactions from the crowd. Conrad's unique vocals, closer to singing than the classical definition of "MCing", provide a perfect backdrop to Bukem's upbeat tune selection, which he blends together with seamless ease. A relaxed and friendly atmosphere pervaded the drum and bass arena, in contrast to the hyper active (though equally friendly) hard housers to be found in the main room.

Nookie's set picked up where Bukem's left off, though the Good Looking DJ/Producer gradually increased the tempo of the evening, hardening up the drum and bass and forcing the few remaining wallflowers (myself included) onto the dance floor. Ably assisted by the enthusiastic MC Five Alive, Nookie proceeded to tear through a fine selection of

contemporary drum and bass (4 Hero's 9 By 9 and High Contrast's soulful Make It Tonight), dropping a few tunes of his own (Dimension Of Sound) into the concoction.

The time had unfortunately flown by, and we were just preparing to leave for the bus when Nookie foiled our plans by unleashing Peshay's outstanding Piano Tune. I'm not exaggerating in the slightest when I say that this is one of the best drum and bass tunes ever written, and if you're unlucky enough not to have heard it, have a listen at www.glo.uk.com. Nookie then surpassed himself by playing LTJ Bukem's seminal Atlantis (I Need You), a track guaranteed to convert all but the most cold hearted to the joys of drum and bass.

All in all, a grand night out. Slinky undoubtedly deserves its reputation as one of the best hard house nights in the country, but Bukem & Co. have to take the credit for one of the best drum and bass nights I've been to. Make damned sure you catch the next Progression Session tour.

Russell Wood

LTJ Bukem's new album Producer 05 is out now on Good Looking Records



— dance —

AND ON THE FIFTH DAY GOD CREATED
DRUM 'N' BASS.....

DRIVE-BY RECORDS LAUNCH
PARTY@ Creation
05/04/02

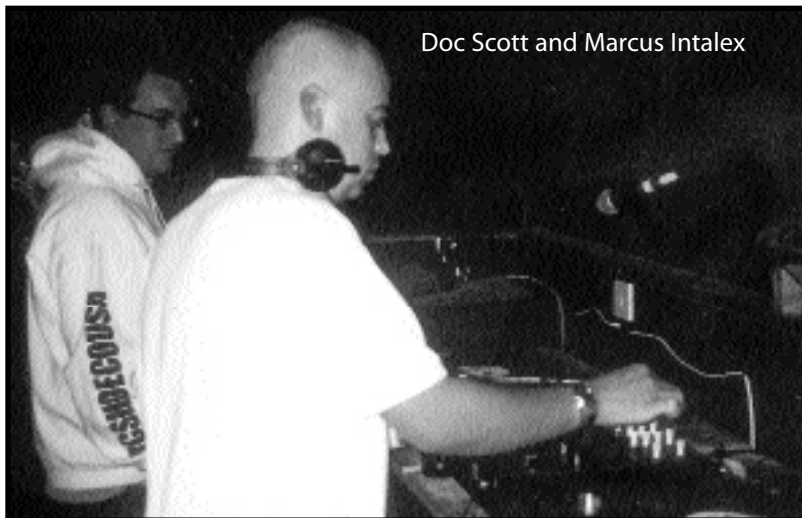
What's better leaping on to the train and heading off to London for a bad ass night of partying on a Friday afternoon? Heading off to Bristol for Drive-By records launch party, that's what.

In case you haven't been there, Bristol is a fantastic city that puts Southampton to shame. The city is positively buzzing with the amount of restaurants, bars and clubs and revellers filling the (clean and nice) streets.

The EDGE stumbled across Creation (a beautiful big building that was an old cinema) shortly before the ten o'clock opening time and was immediately struck by the outside of it. Instead of posters advertising what's coming up they've got graffiti. Good graffiti as well, they just paint over it every so often and get someone to re-spray it. It's the little touches you know.

Come doors opening we bowled in and surveyed the place from the inside. It consists of one main room with balconies and seating either side of the main dance floor and another higher balcony facing the DJ booth. Linking the two lower balconies behind the DJ booth is a soundproof second room and bar which was supposed to house the likes of Rodney P and Skitz, Insiders and more.

Starting it off downstairs was DJ Amo, a relatively new face on the scene and a friend of our very own DJ Wheeler, whom I discovered backstage later in the evening. The levels were initially low, and before long the gremlins came out and



Doc Scott and Marcus Intalex

the sound died. The first hour ended up being totally sketchy with the sound coming and going until the mixer was skilfully changed over. Still, for a while after this the volume was quite and the bass practically non-existent - you could even here a bottle being dropped on the dance floor.

However, Amo was persevering and pulling some really nice tunes out, such as the Marky tune with Gloria Estefan vocals. The first white label that totally grabbed me by the nuts and drag me on to the dance floor was 'Do You Remember Me... (feat. Tali)' by Full Cycle's SUV. It's got a fantastic jazzy swing beat and female vocals that make you want to melt and had me bounding across the club to get to the dance floor - it out at the moment on the new Full Cycle Live CD.

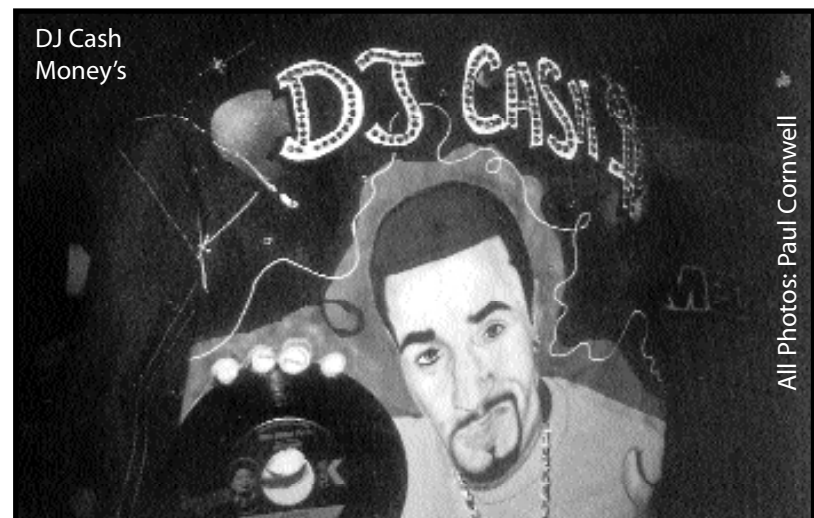
Up after Amo was Marcus Intalex and Doc Scott b2b, both being outrageous with the little played classics and the dubplates alike. At his point in time I happened to notice that for the first time ever, the ladies actually outnumbered the men. And they were lovely

too.

MC Sweetpea joined Doc Scott and Intalex and got the crowd going even more. All the crowd needed though was the remix of John B's 'Up All Night', which was harder and faster than the original, positively incendiary, and again had me running on to the dance floor and holding my phone aloft. The sound was now fantastic and the packed club was raging. What was really going down though, was the fact that I only knew about four of the songs that had been played so far - a far cry from what we get churned out in Southampton.

Upon deciding to go for a wander to the second room I was greeted by Mr Roni Size himself (who rang up a little earlier and asked to come and play) going back to back with Amo. With just Wheeler, myself and about ten other people in the room intimate is not the word. I could put my glass of water on the floor next to me without it getting kicked over!

Between them Roni Size and Amo knocked out one of the most blistering sets I've ever been lucky



DJ Cash Money's

All Photos: Paul Cornwell

enough to witness. Roni kept tempting the gathering with 'Snapped It' but never dropped it. He also crammed his latest dubplate 'Formation' and plenty of other Full Cycle releases in to his set. Fantastic.

Meanwhile downstairs, Drive-By don, Gerard played a little set before Hip-Hop (you can't stop) legend Cash Money blinged his way onto the stage and worked it good.

Back upstairs Roni Size was still in the mode, playing a samba/jazzy tune laden with beats, which reconfirmed the love of the Brazilian stylee.

When was the last time an amazing DJ and producer randomly dropped into a Southampton night? Err.. I can remember plenty of them blowing Southampton off to do something better but not the other way around. The drum and bass cognoscenti were out in force - like London but you could tell all the DJ's felt more relaxed - they didn't feel like they were on show, they were having a good time.

Back down stairs, the explanation as to why nobody was upstairs was

evident: Cash Money was on fire. He was quite literally tearing it up; scratching behind his back, getting the crowd going with his own microphone - his crown of DMX champion was clearly not erroneous. Da man was just generally whipping the crowd into a frenzy.

He took Missy Elliot's 'Get U'r Freak On' into Beenie Man's 'Who Am I? (Zim Zimmer)'. He dropped a fantastic version of the old KC White reggae tune 'No, No, No' with the phattest throbbing bass line that's still rattling around in my head. To cap it all off Cash Money played a fantastic version of 'Apache', which got everyone on to the podiums giving it some. Honestly, it was almost unbelievable. If you get a chance, check Cash Money out, you won't be disappointed.

Gerard came back on and played another set whilst Patife was either getting ready or still on his way (he'd been playing Fabric earlier). Gerard brought the drum 'n' bass vibe back to the main room and the darkness soon resumed. A real nice touch in the evening was the special press that had "Drive By Can we Kick It?" looped over and over with a brain squelching bass line towering all over it. Unfortunately Creation was starting to empty out a bit by the time that Gerard handed the reigns over to Patife which means that a lot of people missed out on Patife's magic touch.

Patife had a set chock-full of dub plates but was unfortunately playing the graveyard slot to those of a very stout nature who were still raging at four till five. It was a pleasure witnessing Patife at work. He only sealed the deal as far as me not giving up on the new lighter side of drum 'n' bass ever since 'Shake U'r Body' hit the charts.



Movement's Patife



Amo and Roni Size - quite literally back to back

dance

albums

sin-



THE STREETS
Original Pirate Material
(679 Recordings)

Seriously, this is good. Quite unlike anything that's about at the moment, or ever come to think of it. To pigeonhole The Streets, aka Mike Skinner, as garage is about as stupid as licking an iron to see if it's hot. 'Original Pirate Material' does quite often move along to a garage beat but more often than not there are elements of uplifting house, beautiful orchestration and emotive urban poetry.

Second song is the single 'Has It Come To This?', last autumn's offering which is by far and away the most garage sounding song on the album. The following song is the new single 'Let's Push Things Forward' which has greater roots in ska than garage.

The album is essentially Skinner's form of urban poetry laid over a blanket of beats, strings and brass. This is the anti-bling. This is clever stuff, there are too many quotes to pull as evidence. It's raw and exciting, it's real and bears more relevance to the real in's and out's of most peoples lives than anything out there at the moment. 'Geezer's Need Excitement' touches on fights and late payment to your dealer, 'Too Much Brandy' tells tales of the 'dam, shrooms and of course, getting the Marlons in.

'It's Too Late' is one of the greatest melancholic and yet uplifting songs so far this decade covering the extremes that come with love "Standing at the top of this huge mountain smiling and shouting/ Spring flowers sprouting". Not the slightest hint of irony. Finally,

someone in the genre who is man enough to not hide behind fronts.

'Weak Become Heroes' is a diatribe of club-land with a fantastic uplifting house piano riff with the political bent "And to the government I stick my middle finger up with regards to the criminal justice bill". Whilst 'The Irony Of It All' sees Skinner matching student waster against angry towny piss-head (his contribution to the current cannabis debate).

Not all of Skinners 'lyrics' are genius, some are rhymed for the sake of rhyming at the cost of sense. However, 'Original Pirate Material' is a devastating blend of stark realism and uplifting positivity which perfectly mirror the mood swings which clubbers are often faced with - just check some of the song titles: 'Has It Come To This?', 'Same Old Thing', 'Too Much Brandy', 'The Irony Of It All', (and the uplifting) 'Weak Become Heroes', 'Let's Push Things Forward', 'Who Dares Wins' and the fantastic closer 'Stay Positive'.

9/10
PC

LTJ BUKEM
Producer 05
(Good Looking)

The Producer series is a great concept, allowing artists from drum and bass label Good Looking records to take a break from their constant touring and mixing duties to showcase their production talents on a solo project. The results have been a bit inconsistent so far, but my hopes were high for

Bukem's first foray into the Producer series. The album's subtitled 'Rarities', and he's used the opportunity to round up many of his best tracks from over the years.

The album begins where Bukem himself started out, with the superb 'Demon's Theme (Part II)'. The original version of this track broke the drum and bass mould, helping Bukem establish himself as a producer and get Good Looking records up and running. The tunes continue in the same vein; Bukem crafts melodic drum and bass that wouldn't be out of place in a club, but that's also inventive and tune-fun enough to relax to at home. Old school flavoured 'Logical Progression' (and its reprise), the onomatopoeic 'Rainfall' and the excellent reworking of the James Bond theme (inspired by Monty Norman's classic, rather than simply ripping it off) are the tracks which stand out. The quality remains high throughout the album, and it's completed with the remix of Herbie Hancock's 'The Essence'. An LTJ Bukem produced track featuring Chaka Kahn has to be worth the cover price alone.

This is a great album; it's a real shame that it's only going to see a cd release, as it would be good to hear DJs playing more of this sort of thing in the clubs. 'Producer 05' is a necessity for the Good Looking disciples, but also the perfect starting point for those not aware of Bukem's work or the diversity and creativity that still exists in drum and bass.

9/10
RW



ROB DOUGAN
Clubbed to Death
(Mowax Recordings)

Already widely recognised as 'that tune' from the Matrix - this really needs no promotion. Having featured on the highly popular Ministry Chillout album, this track evidently has numerous qualities - in is bares essential form or the numerous remixes offered with it. Clubbed to Death doesn't sound like a good concept, but listening to this the process is almost lethargic. The track smoothly entices with a classical introduction, building up to complete mesmerism. The interludes of piano and classical stretches harmonize well with the housy vibe; simultaneously thrilling and realxing- it's almost like floating. If this isn't already big- it's bound to be

8/10

TIMO MASS feat MC CHICKABOO
Shifter
(Perfecto Records)

Following the wide success of To Get Down, this is quite a disappointment. Its not so much the music that's the problem, but the whining MC-ing courtesy of MC Chickaboo - if his name didn't scare you off anyway! His style is quite feminine and it's mc-ing in its broadest sense. Apologies for the brutality, but going on Timo Maas's earlier stuff this mistake can be rectified. The instrumental shows its potential, but it will probably not shake the dance floor.

4/10
SP

ANGIE STONE
Wish I Didn't Miss You
(J records LLC)

A soulful offering from Angie Stone. Judging from the title it was quite obvious this was going to be a slow, heart-wrenching track. The mood is blue and the lyrics emotional - a perfectly depressing tune to mope to and contemplate that lost love.

If however, you have nothing to cry about, this isn't totally unappealing. There is a jazzy vibe and if you like your deep soul, you can't really go wrong. It has to be said it is not anything spectacular - one of those tracks where you've heard something like it before. Angie Stone's husky vocals however give

it a funky edge which will draw you in and make you feel the emotion. A perfect song for a quite, chilled evening with or without that loved one!

6/10
SP

DJ SHADOW
You Can't Go Home Again
(Mo'Wax)

As Tony Blair recently announced, people are entitled to their opinions. I was one of the first people to agree with this ground breaking statement. However, sometimes people are wrong. One of the things people are wrong about is Dj Shadow.

Josh Davis has composed and produced some of the best releases in the last five years, Endtroducing and Psyence Fiction to name but a few. His entire approach to production is so different it is folly to ignore it. For those in the know his new album is out at the beginning of June, however various excerpts have been available on the internet for some time. Yet it was with baited breath that I awaited the release of his first original single since 1997, not including the soundtrack to Dark Days. "What if it's rubbish" and "How can he better such milestones in hip hop as Organ Donor and Midnight in a Perfect World?" are questions that have been circulating for some months now. You Can't Go Home Again is the first single from the forthcoming album The Private Press. I am not disappointed. In fact I am approaching a state of near jubilation. Shadow has pursued the electronica beat through countless samples and settled on a suitably funky electro riff, reminiscent of a TV theme tune fresh out of 1983. Over-laid with a quivering Spanish guitar and backed up with Shadow's unique percussion arrangement this is an excellent tune.

The other songs on the single include collaborations with Zack de La Rocha and a lovely vocal sample of some aged American guy talking about how everyone is happy in the 1930's; would probably be handy to own on vinyl to drop into Hip Hop, Breaks or even Drum and Bass. Yes, the shadow has done well; "...no worries, few cares, everybody's happy."

WATER DISAPPOINTMENT



All Photos: Ben

H20
Southampton Guildhall
19/03/02

H20, the last drum 'n' bass event to be held in the Guildhall for the foreseeable future, or so we thought. In real terms, you'd be hard pressed to call H20 a d&b event, with only an hour of tunes at the end that could be called drum 'n' bass.

As an event, H20 was excellent, living up to its description as an urban festival. The decor was fantastic, the lasers were awe inspiring, the dancers great and the Hip-Hop was quality. The security were professional and the organisation first rate in view of the obstacles placed in their way in actually getting the night on. All for charity too.

You see the problem lies in the Guildhall's recent change in musical policy. It was leaked to the EDGE that the Guildhall's contract with the organisers, stipulated that no drum and bass should be played upon penalty of all monies taken being withheld.

Why would the Guildhall do such a thing? Hmm..... I can't think why in the slightest. It's not as if the name of drum and bass in Southampton has recently been tarnished by any promoters holding events that get out of control and degenerate into violence by artists and customers alike. The Guildhall certainly aren't blameless though, as in times gone by when an event has degenerated into violence (such as Sun City the garage event held in the Guildhall a while back) it was only the promoter that was penalised, not the genre.

Still a decision was made to sign the contract and so Bad Company were cancelled in favour of some less risqué acts such as Mark B and the show went on.

So what exactly happened? Smellie was whipping his blend of Hip-Hop out to the eager crowd who were inside the Guildhall before the fashion show started. He also kept close to his decks throughout and dropped a few

— dance —



tunes in between the various dances which the fashion show was comprised of.

The fashion show was very professional and all of the dancers were fantastic. All of the models did themselves proud parading about in some of the freshest street wear whilst the dancers broke it down to tunes like 'Smooth Criminal' wearing clobber that ranged from full camouflage to the necessary suit and hat attire that accompanied Jacko's number.

MC Fize was fronting the Hip-Hop crew who held the fashion show together like glue. Before the last dance Fize prompted Smellie to buy a little more time - "Stick one on Smellie - Stink them out." After the last dance, a big group one, MC Wrec started to mill around the stage as Smellie played his swan-song.

Next up DJ Skitz started his set with Roots Manuva's 'Witness' followed quickly by Redman and Adam F's 'Smash Sumthin'. Skitz wasn't taking any prisoners, chopping from one tune to the next like he had several record boxes to get through. After a while he was joined by Rodney P on the microphone and before long he was name-checking the cream of the British movement in the likes of Roots Manuva and Mark B and Blade. Together they started to get the crowd going but there was still very little energy in the crowd.

Next up on the decks was, not the Scratch Perverts, but Mark B who didn't change the vibe coming from the stage at all. It kept going nicely, the crowd were nodding their heads but there just wasn't any frisson.

He was without Blade and didn't

seem to really get into his stride until Dre's 'Next Episode' which he chased up with Pharohe Monch's 'Simon Sez'. By the time KRS ONE's 'The Sound Of Da Police' got rinsed for the third time, the crowd was pretty much at capacity.

The Second To None breakers were apparently very talented, I missed them because I was queuing for forty minutes for a very expensive drink. However, still with Mark B, some breakers hop on to the catwalk from the crowd and started giving it some. They were good but still not enough to get the crowd, who, were starting to get itchy for some d&b, going.

Mark B was technically very good

and was backed up by inspired tune selection such as taking Pharohe Monch's 'Got You' out of Missy rip-off 'Ugly' by Bubba Sparxxx. This didn't quell the rumours that were flying around by this point: "Bad Company aren't turning up" (well that happened to be true), "Bad Company are in the building", "Adam F isn't turning up" and so on.

So the Scratch Perverts were replaced by Mark B and consequently Bad Company were replaced by Fallacy and Fusion. Who carried on playing Hip-Hop. Which was nice but people were starting to leave.

The security were professional but



as tight as a blow fly's ring piece; I actually saw one security guard taking someone's rather evident hand rolled cigarette (filter and all) and sniffing it.

One o'clock came around and the lasers started flashing 'Adam F' around and then the 'Kaos Main Title' with the Royal Symphonia came roaring out of the stacks. He then kicked off the proceedings with his recent work with J Majik, 'Metrosound'. The crowd started showing an interest. Then he dropped the piano riff from Shy FX's 'Shake It' (that's what 'Shake U'r Body' was called when it wasn't being listened to in board rooms kids) then, once he had a reaction, did a rewind into something else.

Wrec bowled it down the catwalk throwing out CD's whilst the crowd were wondering when the big tease was going to actually play 'Shake It'. Then he did. Hooray. Out

of this came that wobbly people mover, Zinc's 'Ska'.

Adam F looked as if he might just have salvaged it for the d&b heads when he pulled 'Thunderball' by Moving Fusion out of a good d&b version of his and Lil' Mo's (no, not the one from Eastenders) ghetto chick whine 'Where's My...'. He followed this up by Ray Keith's old skool classic 'Chopper'. You beauty!!! Then the sound died. Well, it decreased to a level that would be acceptable in an old people's home. Doh!

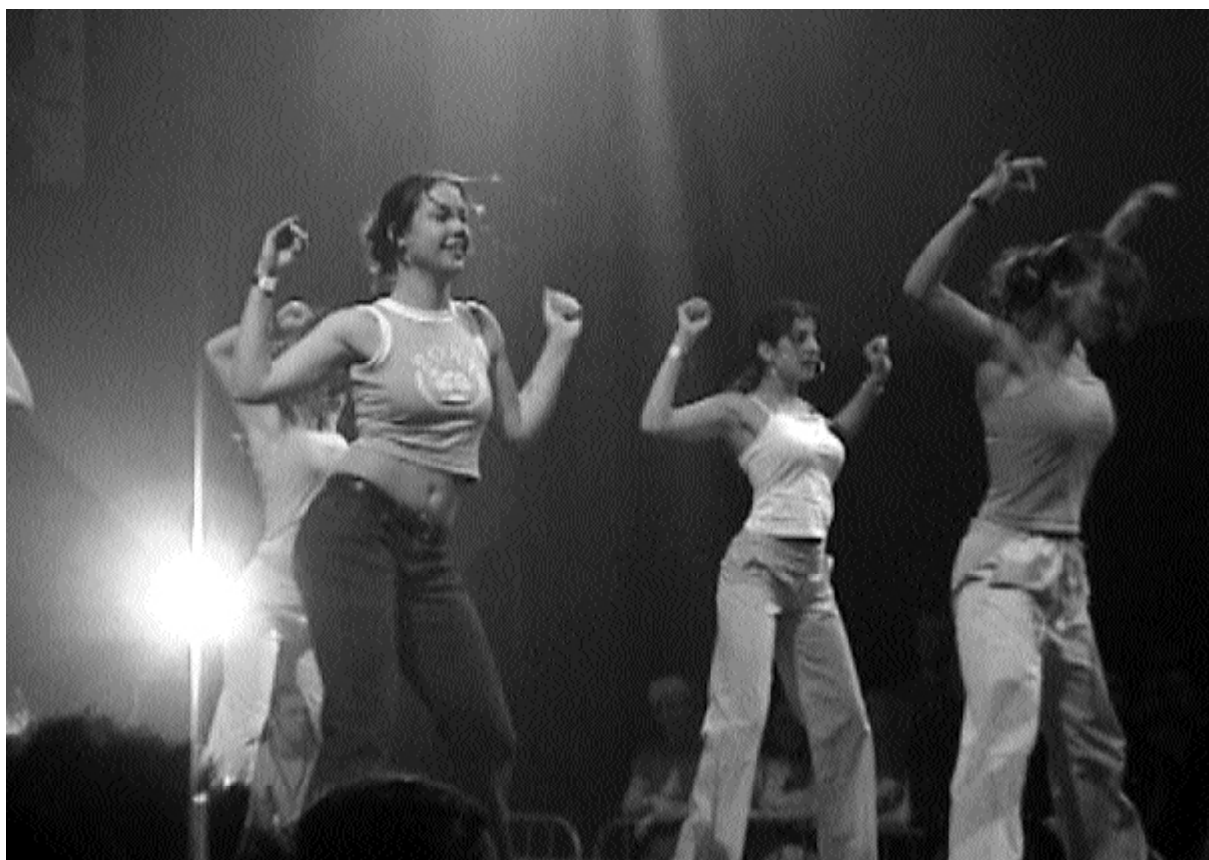
The explanation for this was that it was a brand new set up, the amps were clipping and they didn't want to damage anything. Fair enough, but that tore it as far as I was concerned. I took my earplugs out and watched the atmosphere start to slip from the room.

Which was a shame because the emotionless Mr Fenton was on fire as far as his crowd pleaser tune selection was concerned. Roni Size's 'Brown Paper Bag' into some hot dubplate action into Roni Size's remix of 'Simon Sez' into Bad Company's 'Planet Dust' into the Total Science remix of 'Champion Sound' into DJ SS's remix of 'Lighter' into Bad Company's 'The Nine'. If the sound was there, the crowd would have been raging.

"Who wants to get Grimey?" Yes, oh fucking yes!!! Dillanja's 'Grimey'. Great to hear it out, but I play it louder at home. Finally, Adam F dropped 'Bodyrock', mixed in a taster of John B's 'Up All Night' and then pulled the plug.

The set, though filled with crowd pleasers, was fairly uninspired, but mostly he seemed like he wasn't really that interested. The MC's were louder than the tunes and it all ended on a bit of a bum note.

Paul Cornwell



— dance —

TOUCHING CLOTHFABRIC LIVE @ Fabric
12/04/02

With a huge amount of work to do and absolutely no motivation to do any of it a Fabric mission was always on the cards. Having already experienced the exceptional quality of nights, at what is unquestionably one of London's premier superclubs on a number of occasions, high expectations were unavoidable and provided a towering benchmark against which the night would be undoubtedly measured.

Friday nights at Fabric always bring with them quality Drum & Bass line-ups, this was no exception with the talents of Bryan Gee, Krust, Peshay, Mampi Swift, DJ SS and A-Sides on show. A-Sides came on at 11 and warmed up the evening with ruff and ready rollers, dropping some of the more well known tunes around at the moment such as Shy FX's 'Shake Ur Body'.

DJ SS took control of the decks at 12 gracing us with a number his own dub plates, starting to really get the crowd going. Amongst a rocking and technically superb mix of fresh tunes such as his new 'Lighter' remix, he gave more listened to tunes such as Bad Company's 'Planet Dust' a new lease of life through some incredibly original mixing.

A shadow was then cast over the room as the huge frame of Mampi Swift entered the DJ booth. As expected he played a set that was in no uncertain terms, absolute filth. His production style of heavy bass riffs and dirty distortion was prominent throughout the set, his best mix however involving the launching of Thunderball out of the awesome Ram Remix of Ed Rush & Optical's Pacman, a record played by almost every DJ throughout the night.

After such a dirty full on assault from Mampi Swift it was Peshay's turn to have a spin on the turntables and bring his own touch to the night. The Drum & Bass funky jazzmeister, who has returned to playing out more again after some time in the studio, working on his new album 'Fuzion', brought uplifting jazzy riffs intertwined with clean yet powerful bass licks, which made the crowd (who were already havin' it) go wild.

During the last few enthralling minutes of Peshay's set the figure of Krust loomed at the back of the DJ booth. Krust came on and within 30 seconds was bashing the crossfader from side to side, dropping in 'Snapshot Part 3' with immense skill. The first ten minutes of Krust's set were unbelievable and brought the vibe of the room to an immense crescendo, which for us, was the atmospheric high point of the night.

The quality of Krust's mixing did not falter and continued to rock the crowd till Bryan Gee took over for the final hour. After what had already been a great night of music

the movement man had a tough job on his hands, however he took it upon himself to rip up the dancefloor keeping the Fabric Drum & Bass massive loving it until they were reluctantly shown the way home.

As those of you who have been to Fabric before will know there is far more to Fabric than just a Drum & Bass room. Every time we investigated the brilliant breaks on show in room 1 courtesy of Stanton Warriors, Unkle and Plump DJs, we heard a funky and uplifting blend of tunes providing an excellent contrast to the darkness of room 2.

Whichever way you turned in the club throughout the night there were people having a great time due to the fantastic variety of high quality music that is the trademark of the Fabric experience.

One clubber was heard as he left the premises saying 'that was a fucking boonty bar!' Whatever it meant it was obvious he had had a good night.

Although this article may have swayed a little towards the proceedings in the Drum & Bass room we are unapologetic since the amazing atmosphere and standard of music being played acted as a industrial sized Drum & Bass head magnet drawing us helplessly into its midst all night.

If you've never been, and you love your Breaks, then Fabric should be placed high on your list of clubs to visit. If you've been before then you already

The towering bulk of Mampi

Are you still going to be around next year? Well, we're not, so how about helping out with the dance section? With free CDs and entry to clubs, what else could you ask for? E-mail Tim and Rich at theedge@soton.ac.uk for more info.

homelands

Homelands returns this year at the slightly earlier time of June 1st and with an even more formidable cast of DJs and live acts.

Headlines include Basement Jaxx, Zero 7, Roots Manuva, Giles Peterson, Roni Size, Sasha, Digweed et al. Whether it's the deepest of house, the darkest of bass or the very finest in eclecticism you're after, the homelands festival guarantees something quite special.

Check the website for full line-ups, ticket details etc and start

praying that your exam timetable is kind enough to allow your place at the summer's first, and arguably best, dance festival.

Just for you, coaches are set to run once again between the Matterley Bowl and the Uni and in and around Portswood. With that kind of service you have to pity your fellow reveller whom, come sunrise, is unable to rest his weary soul until completing a more than sizeable journey home.

looking good!

the edge catch up with LTJ Bukem and Nookie on their recent Progression Session tour

How happy were you with the recent Progression Session tour? How did the turnout and crowd reaction compare to previous tours?

Nookie: The recent UK tour was a great success, we had some really good turn outs, the events seem to get better and better.

LTJ Bukem: Each gig you do is different, even if you play the same place twice there are always different things that contribute to making a gig good or bad. The sound, for example, is so important, yet it's surprising how little effort some clubs make to improve sound. The people obviously make the gig so it's always good to have some. This last tour was excellent, I love playing in the UK, because it's the birth place of this music. I've played in most places in the UK and thanks to a lot of great support from people I always seem to extract such good vibes from wherever I go...Thanks to the masses...

LTJ Bukem, jazz funk fusion has been extremely influential in your musical career. Have you ever considered forming a band to play that sort of thing live?

LTJ: Over 20 years ago I played in several bands, as I play the trumpet, drums and piano. I totally enjoyed the experience and it's something I definitely want to repeat. There's nothing like going somewhere where you can let off with a few mates and just jam for a day.

Adam F cites the music as important in his evolution too, have you guys ever jammed together?

LTJ: No but it's something I would do. Adam has so much talent, and I love his 70's interpretations of tunes on whatever style he chooses, wicked.

Speaking of Adam F, he recently had a lot of success with his Kaos hip hop project. Are there any artists you would be particularly excited to work with?

N: Too many! Not enough time! Mainly some of the artists that have influenced me in my produc-

tion, like Lalo Schiffrin [legendary jazz/classical composer], Derrick May and Kevin Saunderson [Godfathers of techno].

LTJ: There are plenty, but there are also plenty of factors like time and availability to name two that I have to consider, as I spend most of my time out of the UK DJing, something I'm working on...

It would seem that the music industry is on the verge of a drum and bass explosion, with many of the more mainstream producers adopting aspects of the medium for use in a variety of musical outlets.

LTJ: Not sure about that but I hope you're right...I think D&B has been used a lot for commercials for film and TV, but no one big company has stuck with the sound for that long...

Many elitist drum n bass fans will claim that their genre has grown and evolved so effectively over the years directly because it remained underground. How do you think that a mainstream recognition of drum and bass would affect the scene?

N: Mainstream attention, we've had it all before, I just hope all the new artists who are being linked to the majors are wise and have learnt from other people's mistakes. Of course the media attention is always good; like they say, any publicity is good publicity. I just hope people don't jump on the bandwagon and start producing cheesy commercial shit like they have in the past.

LTJ: There are no negatives to getting our music heard, so as long as some A&R prick who knows nothing of the music doesn't try and change what is handed to him to fit a commercial market which is ALL about changing people and their music so companies make money, then cool. But it's that same old thing, who's going to be brave enough to really support a D&B artist from a major field and let that artist make his own music? I mean that's why he or



MC Five Alive and Nookie

she was signed in the first place, wasn't it????????????????? Funny old game. Also, we still have to find the best ways of marketing the music that suit the D&B fraternity, simply because the format it's already in doesn't fit into a typical commercial release system most of the time. We are trying though, everyone in the scene.

Gareth Jones and Nick Purser's artwork and design for the Good Looking Organisation output is integral to the product as a whole. Has the label ever considered publishing a collection of the best artwork and photography from over the years, or even running an exhibition?

Gareth Jones (Good looking Records artwork department): We'd love to publish something that showcases the artwork because there seems to be a fair amount of demand for something like that. However, at the moment, there's not much room in the label's budget for something like that. Having some kind of

exhibition inside a club or something would be a great idea and something for the future, but there never seems to be the time to concentrate on anything outside the release schedule.

The advent of corporate involvement within the dance music scene, improvements in home computer technology and the price of production equipment seemingly falling by the week has made it easier than ever for people to become 'bedroom producers'. Do you feel that this has benefited the industry as a whole, or simply led to an increase in the amount of sub-standard music around?

N: I think it's a great time to be getting into making music, with the technology being what it is at the moment, and I welcome anybody to have a go at making music, it's not as easy as you might think! The standard should not drop just because more people are making music.

LTJ: With all sub standard music you will always find someone in amongst those that can do some-

thing very special. Would that kid be able to present that special tune to us if the equipment was out of his reach price wise? I remember when I first wrote music in the late eighties and I couldn't afford anything. It was such a survival course all the time which can get so frustrating, like mixing down your first 5/6 tracks through my DJ mixer, nice, so the easier the better in my eyes...

Dance culture has now become part of the social consciousness. How do you feel about the way it's represented within the media? Do you think the press place too much emphasis on the negative aspects?

N: Like any successful business, there are always people around ready to criticise you and to knock you down. To be honest, I don't really take much notice of the attitude of the media, I'm more interested in the attitude of the people that actually go out at the weekends, week in week out, for the love of the music, not because they have to.

continued on next page...

looking good!

...from last page

LTJ: The press always want the juicy story, so to speak, no matter what they're writing about, so you get a lot of negativity in a lot of articles, not just music. I don't read half the amount of press that I used to because at the end of the day it's one person's perception of any given matter.

Outside of the Good Looking artist roster, which contemporary musicians do you respect the most at the moment? What releases are you most looking forward to in 2002?

N: I respect any producer who has the balls to try something different, who's not afraid to be a little left field.

LTJ: I never really name people as we all do such different things with different qualities at different times. I enjoy every style of music, as there's always something for each person in each style, you just have to have the time to find it. I get sent so much music (big up the labels) so like the last twenty odd years where I've been into so many forms, I'm sure the next twenty will be equally as exciting.

What were the first records the Good Looking crew ever bought?

N: A lot of the early Tommy Boy stuff, 'Renegades of Funk', 'Planet Patrol', I was also a big Madness fan, Baggy Troosers!!

LTJ: The Jam "In The City", Chick Corea, Bert Weedon/guitar man, Scott Joplin, Ska etc.

Good Looking will be playing at the Homelands festival this year. How does the festival atmosphere compare to the club environment?

N: It's much harder to create an atmosphere in such a huge environment. Lots of things help to build up the atmosphere, but mainly the sound, and the sound systems at festivals are usually shit!

LTJ: The first thing is the amount of people. Those of us that have been around a while can relate the festival thing now to what it started out as, illegal raves etc. It's always good to play to a lot of people, the energy, vibe and whole buzz of it is

different from that of a club

Good Looking also have another leg of the American tour coming up. What's the reaction been to the music in the United States?

N: Very open-minded, the D&B over there is appreciated by a wide range of people. The States is one of my favourite places. Every time we come here the crowds get bigger and bigger.

LTJ: I've been touring the US for about 6/7 years now and it's always got better by the year. The first tour was only a couple of cities where as now we are going to 20 or more and the US people know exactly what's going on with the music etc.

What is the state of drum n bass generally within America? How does it fit into the fledgling dance scene as a whole?

N: It's definitely growing at a healthy rate, lots of UK DJs and producers make the trip across the Atlantic.

LTJ: There's a great passion for the music in the States and it's showing with the number of producers making such excellent tracks right now. There needs to be more though to make an impact the music requires. It's so non-commercial and needs a lot of people supporting it, slowly but surely I think between us we are making the world listen.

Technics SL 1210s or Vestax PDX-2000?

N: Technics 1210s. Don't fuck!

LTJ: Haven't used the Vestax as yet...

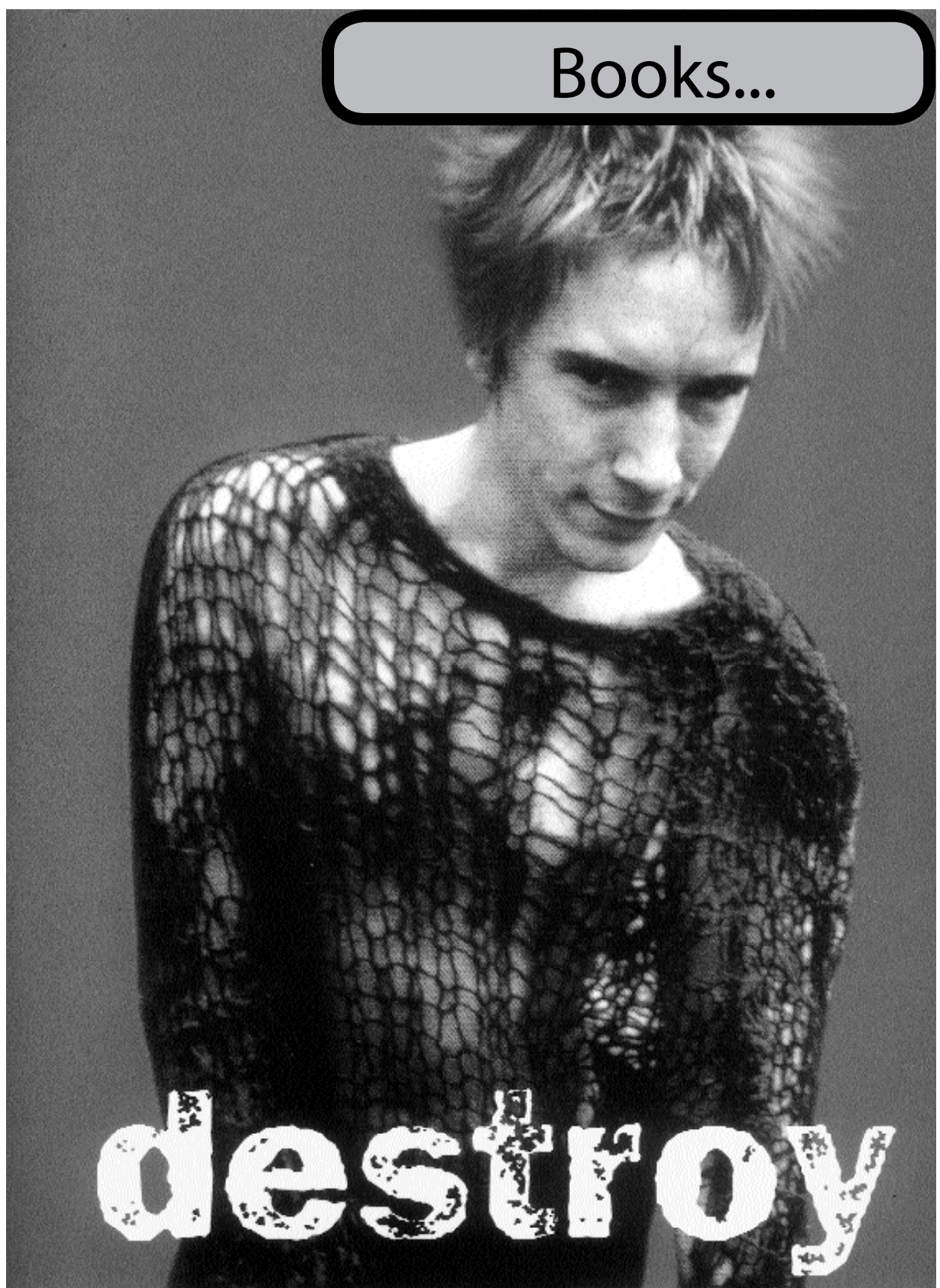
How did you all come up with your names?

Nookie: I can only speak for myself but I think my mum gave it to me when I was born...just kidding! I don't get enough of it!

LTJ Bukem: LTJ actually stands for nothing, it was just something that got attached to my name around 89/90 just because I didn't want to be called DJ Bukem anymore, so it became LTJ... Five Alive you'll have to ask yourself as I'm not sure, but the carton drink sounds familiar...

Interview conducted by Russell

Books...



DESTROY
By Dennis Morris
(Creation Books)

It's 1977 and the Sex Pistols are at their punk rocking best. Today, exactly 25 years later, a brand new edition of Destroy, a collection of photographs, is out to celebrate Punk's first major anniversary. Dennis Morris was the first 'official' photographer of the Sex Pistols and also became close friends with Johnny Rotten. His photographs, all in black and white, are of the kind that can only have been taken by an insider. They portray the Sex Pistols under a multitude of different angles and Destroy is a comprehensive collection that traces them throughout the year that led to their downfall in America. This edition also contains an exclusive interview with Dennis Morris, which goes some way towards explaining some of the more obscure pictures. A must-have for any Sex Pistols fan.

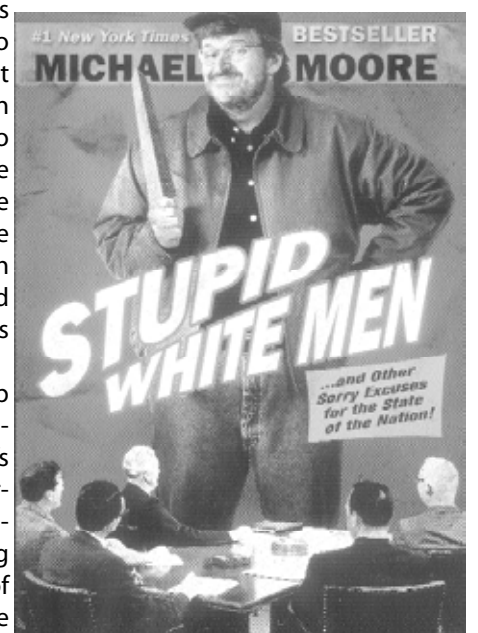
ES

STUPID WHITE MEN...AND OTHER SORRY EXCUSES FOR THE STATE OF THE NATION
By Michael Moore
(Regan Books)

It had been a long time since I'd read a book that really made me angry, a book that woke me up to the sad state of the world and some of the injustices we try our very best to ignore. In fact, I think it was the first non-fiction book I had read since No Logo that actually made me sit up and think. The 'nation' referred to in the title is America, though I'm sure that stupid white men are just as prevalent in our parts.

From the botched up election that Bush undeniably stole, to America's decidedly fascistic foreign policies, and big-ass corporations making profits on the back of the poor, Michael Moore

lays out all of the facts. The writing is hilarious and could unwittingly draw in anyone who has never even questioned these issues. If you like The Mark Thomas Product, you will love this book. And if you don't know what The Mark Thomas Product is, you need this book. ES





the edge hang out with Idlewild's colin newton

"We've been playing Kerplunk. That's rock and roll, eh?"

I am sitting in Idlewild's tour bus with Colin Newton, the band's drummer, and already some of the great rock myths are being exposed. He is welcoming, but quiet, reticent but without being withdrawn. Hardly the type of character you would expect to find in a well-known, raw-edged, energy-driven guitar band. Yet,

for Idlewild, it seems to fit. Not for them the raucous, trash-the-hotel-room lifestyle that so many high-profile bands have lived to the full. They seem content to stay out of the spotlight, although this may be more difficult to manage now that You Held The World In Your Arms, the new single, crashed into the top ten this week. It is a beautiful song, reminiscent of REM at their best, and is

the first song from their new album, The Remote Part. Although Colin does not talk in depth about the album, (merely assuring us that "it's good") a listen to their new songs live suggests that Idlewild are sticking with the same formula that served them so well on their previous release, 100 Broken Windows. It seems to be a good strategy. Last year the band had a lot of success in the US, one

magazine voting their album "best album you won't have heard of". It started a buzz.

"The US is a really good place to tour. The fans are great... there are a lot of people out there who believe that British bands are always the best," he enthuses. Idlewild are by no means massive in America, but they like it that way.

"It's great playing the small venues,

the energy drives the show." Colin smiles, no doubt thinking back to the days when playing small gigs was the norm. You somehow get the feeling that if Idlewild were to disappear from the public consciousness tomorrow, they would still be playing the same places they did before festival appearances and top ten hits. As if nothing had ever happened.

FILM

THE ONE

Starring: Jet Li, Delroy Lindo, Jason Statham

"There can be only one..." - nope, not another Highlander movie. "He is the One..." - wait, I thought The Matrix Reloaded wasn't released until next year? Well, you'd be forgiven for being confused, because this new movie from Jet Li amounts to little more than an amalgamation of just about every other recent sci-fi movie you care to name.

Pay attention - here comes the science bit. Our world is not a universe, but a multiverse, consisting of an infinite number of parallel dimensions, and countless different versions of each person, all interdependent. If one man dies, his essence is divided between the remaining versions of him; they all become stronger. Nobody knows what would happen if just one remained... but yes, you guessed it, one man intends to find out. In some dimensions, technology is so advanced that it

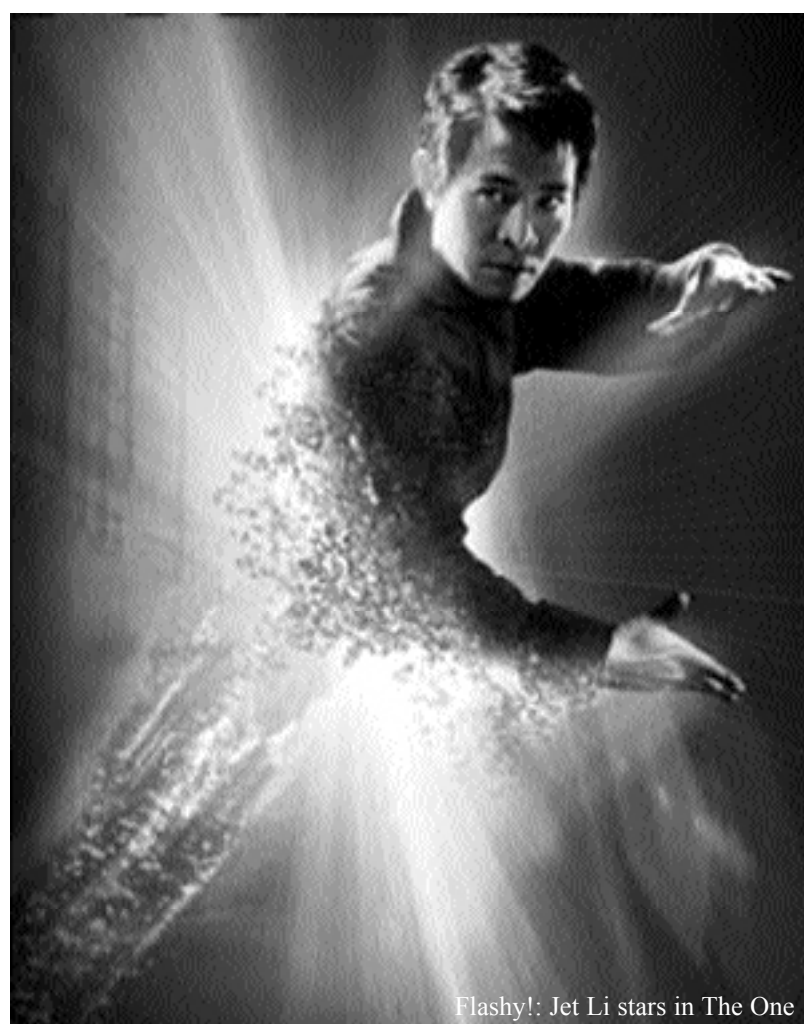
is possible to predict when a wormhole will occur between dimensions, and thus travel between them. Gabriel Ulaw is wanted for murder in 123 dimensions. There is only one more of him left; sheriff's deputy Gabe Law.

If you think all this sounds like an elaborate excuse for Jet Li to follow in the footsteps of the likes of Jean-Claude van Damme (rarely a wise career move) and appear as his own co-star, you're absolutely right. Despite the aspirations of writer-director team of Glen Morgan and James Wong, the partnership behind many of the early X-Files episodes, back when it was still good, and more recently witnessed putting the shock back into horror in Final Destination, this is little more than a kung-fu movie with above-average special effects.

The cast is what you'd expect - nothing spectacular. Delroy Lindo is wasted as one of the multiverse cops on Ulaw's trail; and it's difficult to take his partner Jason

Statham, of Snatch and Lock, Stock...seriously when he sounds like any moment his American accent might crack into "Oi, geezer!" Meanwhile Jet Li may be a martial arts expert, but it's a shame nobody has suggested that some acting classes might help. Fortunately for most of the film's ninety minutes, he sticks to what he does best.

The script isn't the only thing reminiscent of The Matrix, as the action sequences pay homage to, or if you prefer, rip off the 1999 blockbuster. Still, the shots where the superhuman Law/Ulaw moves at a normal speed while the world slows around him do look very cool. And this is the crux of the matter - if you like fast-paced, tongue-in-cheek, stylish action movies, then this could be for you. But if you find yourself picking holes in the plot, then you're completely missing the point. Be warned: don't see this film in the company of Physics students. Nothing could spoil the fun more.



Flashy!: Jet Li stars in The One

FILM

Rachel Weisz and Hugh Grant star in About A Boy



BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM

Starring: Parminder Nagra, Keira Knightley, Jonathan Rhys
Director: Gurinder Chadha

Teenager Jess (Nagra) is a huge football fan. But the only football she plays is when she shows up the guys in the local park playing five-a-side, until one day she is spotted by one of the players (Keira Knightley) from the Hounslow Harrier's local female football team and encouraged to play for them. She then realises her dream of becoming a professional football player can become a reality.

However conflict arises because of her Indian parents forcing her to honour her culture and give up football. Will she give up football and listen to her parents?

The two main issues that the film covers are Indian tradition and female footballers, which are the focus throughout the film. Therefore female footballers and people with Indian heritage may appreciate this film more than I did.

The biggest problem with this film was that the script was neither as original nor as funny as a film with a reasonable budget should be. The jokes were so run-of-the-mill that I'm sure the script could have taken about an hour to write. In my opinion this film only got made because it could be easily pitched to producers.

Unfortunately it does not live up to recent films I have seen by the same director. Having said that, it is not a bad film. It was just crying out for a better script.

Niall McAuliffe

ABOUT A BOY

Starring: Hugh Grant, Rachel Weisz, Toni Collette and Nicholas Hoult.
Director: Paul and Chris Weitz.

Usually Hugh Grant never fails to annoy me with his floppy fringe, his public school boy behaviour and his typical 'boyish charm'. However on this one occasion I was pleasantly surprised with his change in character, his haircut and even his performance, although he couldn't quite get rid of his trademark "Bollocks".

About A Boy, based on Nick Hornby's novel, is about unemployed, thirty-something Will (Hugh Grant), who spends his time shopping, listening to CDs and developing his theory of 'every man being an island'. He also dates and dumps various women, due to his fear of commitment. Accidentally discovering the fun of dating a single mum he joins a single parents group, hoping to meet more of them. Here he sets his sights on Susie (Victoria Smurfit), through whom he is introduced to 12-year-old Marcus (Nicholas Hoult). Marcus is the typical outcast kid at school, he's picked on and is just generally really uncool, which is not helped by his depressed hippy mother (Toni Collette). After her attempted suicide Marcus thinks of a plan to get her and Will together, which doesn't quite end as he planned. However, Will gains some responsibility and Marcus new trainers...

Although I'm not a huge Hugh Grant fan, here, his character is genuinely funny. This could have something to do with the fact that the makers of American Pie wrote the screenplay and directed the film. However, the rest of the actors don't really make a great impres-

sion, and although Nicholas Hoult does try to keep up with Grant, it is clearly impossible. The film's ending is a bit predictable, your typical 'feel good' conclusion, but the rest of the film makes up for this, as does the 'Badly Drawn Boy' soundtrack.

Nina Dubravec

BLADE II

Starring: Wesley Snipes, Kris Kristofferson, Luke Goss
Director: Guillermo del Toro

They call him the Daywalker. Half-human, half-vampire, he hunts down the undead to avenge the death of his mother, with the help of his father-figure sidekick Whistler. And he looks damn good doing it.

Yes, that was 1998's Blade, a movie destined to go down in movie history as the only Wesley Snipes movie ever to garner a sequel. And here it is. Of course, Blade killing vampires has already been done, so a more convoluted plot had to be found for the next instalment, and has been dutifully provided in the form of a new foe.

The Reapers are a new breed of vampire, mutated to harvest their victims' blood more effectively (not that normal vampires seemed to have too much trouble, mind you). Their mutation consists of a jawbone that splits in half, revealing an Alien-esque mouth ideal for bloodsucking; of greater concern for Blade is their immunity to most of his usual ammunition (garlic, etc.) - they are susceptible only to sunlight. The Reapers prey indiscriminately on both humans and vampires - cue Blade teaming up with his old foes in order to defeat the new one.

We couldn't decide who looked like more of a tosser, Wesley Snipes or the Vampires



The Bloodpack are an elite group of vampires trained to hunt, and Blade agrees to co-operate with them - though not without suspicion on both sides, particularly when he discovers they had been training to hunt him. As if that's not enough trouble, Blade's old pal Whistler has just been rescued from vampires and miraculously cured, but is he trustworthy? There's more than a little tension between Whistler and new sidekick, ammunition expert Scud.

If you saw the original Blade, then you should know what to expect. The gothic decadence of Prague provides an atmospheric backdrop

for some well-choreographed vampire slaying. The cast includes Luke Goss (yes, that Luke Goss), plus a welcome appearance from Danny-John Jules (Red Dwarf's Cat, or for the eternal child in you, Barrington from Maid Marian and her Merry Men); who could ask for more? The twists and turns of the plot provide enough inconsistencies to keep the pedants among you busy for hours, but let me explain something. Blade has a penchant for leather and sunglasses. He wields a big sword. He kicks vampiric butt. The point is, he's a dude. So get over your demands for a flawless plot, meaningful

LOCAL CINEMAS

Harbour Lights Picture House
Ocean Village
Southampton S014
Film Info: 023 80234234

The Phoenix (films every
Wednesday at Boldrewood)
Film Info: whw@soton.ac.uk

UGC
4 Ocean Way
Ocean Village
Southampton S014
Tel: 0870555132

The Odeon
Leisure World
Southampton S015
Tel: 08705050007

Binge Drinking: A Return to Feminism?

Gemma Crisp

In every bar, in every university in the country, it is easy to spot examples of so-called 'ladette' drinking culture.

These days its not just tom-boys who are acting like geezer-birds; even the most demure looking, lady-like girls are drinking pints of lager, downing shots and necking 'messy-pints'. There are plenty of famous ladettes for us to use as our role models; Zoe Ball, Ulrika Jonsson, Denise Van-Outen and Billy Piper to name a few. All these women are successful and glamorous, yet they could certainly give a few lads a run for their money in a drinking circle.

Since the 1950's alcohol manufacturers have recognised the potential for female drinking. The launch of 'Babysham' was a great success that massively altered the image of a lady drinker. But it has been over the last couple of decades that the image of the female drinker has really made her impact. Now more than ever, manufacturers are cashing in on the female drinking market with various different brands of 'alcopop'.

It is no surprise to see young ladies being among the most dominant groups in pubs, accumulating the most amount of empty glasses and bottles on their table and for them to be the last to leave, loudly, long

after last orders and completely 'leg-less'.

It is also common practice to see girls out drinking with the lads. Most blokes, quite rightly, don't have any qualms about their girl mates getting as drunk as they do, especially in student culture. It's not such a taboo if a lady decides not to act lady-like on a night out. Many a relationship has blossomed over a toilet bowl, with a chivalrous young man holding back his beloved's hair

as she vomits up her vindaloo. Not that such an end to a night is typical for a ladette any more than a lad; these days a girl can hold her own on a night out drinking!

What is it about heavy drinking that attracts young ladies? Is it a throw back to feminism; a need to prove to our male counterparts that we can drink like they do and act as they do? Perhaps it has more to do with the simple fact that since the lid has been lifted on this taboo more and

more girls think 'why not just get drunk and have a laugh?'

But stories in the news such as that of 23 year old fashion student Nicki Evans, who died after drinking half a bottle of vodka on a two hour binge, indicate that there is more to ladette culture than having a laugh. The consequences can be tragic.

A recent rise in female drinking is marked by the shocking fact that over the past decade, drink related liver disease has risen by 50% in

women alone. Also, women drinking more than the recommended allowance of alcohol are 2.5 times more likely to develop breast cancer.

As any girl that drinks will have been warned a thousand times, the long-term health effects are not all that make drinking a dangerous occupation. Getting blind drunk can lead anybody into undesirable circumstances, like getting mugged or having unsafe sex, with a potentially regrettable partner. However, women especially are more vulnerable to being attacked or raped.

It is not just women who need warning about the dangers of binge drinking. The number of male drinkers has not ceased to rise over the past decade either. The male lager-lout still very much exists in our culture; the only difference is that now the women drink alongside him. However, before challenging the boys to a drink, girls should be aware that they are at a bigger risk from getting more drunk. 65% of male body weight is water compared to 45-55% of women's; meaning that alcohol is less diluted in the female body.

As a student, it can be difficult to avoid the attraction of regularly getting drunk on cheap drinks. It is important for anybody, whether male or female, to be aware of their limitations.



Generation Acceptance

Harriet Wailing

DRUGS. Whatever your opinion, that word alone will probably have made you read on a line or quickly scan this article.

It's a compelling word, mainly because when it's used it provokes some degree of controversy. The papers love the word. It causes sensation and sells like mad. Everyone knows sex sells but drugs, or rather the word DRUGS, must do nearly as well. If a public figure is found having used DRUGS, it is an immediate scandal. MP, policeman, children's TV presenter. It doesn't matter who they are or which drugs they took, the fact is, they were DRUGS. Cue the dramatic 'da-da-daaaa' music. Shock Horror! Not DRUGS! A respectful Member of Parliament? A policeman? A children's television presenter???? What is the country doing for heavens sake? Well, drugs apparently.

Apparently, in the UK today, over thirteen million adults use, or have used illegal drugs. Thirteen million! That's a hell of a lot of people taking drugs. The MP, policeman and kids TV presenter scandals loose a bit of their drama once you know the statistics don't they?

Despite what a surprising number of people still insist on believing, drugs do not only exist in poor and deprived areas. Drugs in today's society are pretty much everywhere. Students are smoking hash, teenagers are swallowing e's, city workers are snorting coke, and according to the Observer newspaper, those over 55 years old are munching their way through a whole load of magic mushrooms. Indeed, according to the Observer/ICM poll referred to above, more than five million people take cannabis on a regular basis despite its illegal status. Apparently nearly two and a half million are also taking ecstasy on a regular basis and around two million people are taking amphetamines and

cocaine, again on a regular basis.

And of course let's not forget we are all drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes. But alcohol and cigarettes have been accepted and are totally legal so I guess that's a bit different isn't it? Or is it?

'Drug use is a social problem not a medical problem.'

There is a substantial amount of research around to suggest that cannabis, for example, is far less harmful to a person's health than cigarettes are, and that this drug causes far less violence and aggression in its users, resulting in less street crime. In fact there is currently a scheme being carried out in the London borough of Lambeth where cannabis is being tolerated by the

police, being confiscated rather than leading to arrest, and the results so far suggest that the street robberies in that area have fallen and the arrests for hard drugs have risen.

The Government it seems are becoming far more realistic about drugs. David Blunkett, the current Home Secretary, is planning to put forward a legislation to Parliament this June to allow a reclassification of cannabis from class B to class C suggesting the beginning of a decriminalisation of the drug. In March there also appeared news that the Home Office is moving towards a tolerance of the use of ecstasy in night-clubs. In a booklet created by the Government department called 'Safer Clubbing', night-club owners are being instructed to create 'chill-out' rooms for those taking the drug.

Personally, I think that maybe drugs aren't so bad. At least, not when the use of them is under control. The reason many people are worried

about them, and rightly so, is because so often they come from such a dodgy source. In Amsterdam, cannabis is regulated and controlled by the government making it altogether much safer. I don't necessarily agree with all drugs being legalised but if they were, at least all the crap that gets mixed up in them would be removed and people who do choose to take ecstasy or cocaine for example, would know that it's safe. Like I say, I think drugs, in the right situation are probably not that awful. I read an article recently that suggested that drug use is a social problem not a medical problem. The article argued that as long as there is stability, family support, and a home environment, the recreational drug user isn't at risk of becoming the stereotypical druggo. Only when drugs (and this includes alcohol), become an escape from a reality that doesn't have that stability does it become a problem. 'Every now and then', 'once in a while' and 'for a bit of a laugh' are OK then, but then again, maybe not.

Devils Advocate



Are Nuclear Weapons Necessary for the Maintenance of World Order?

YES

NO

Alistair Nelson

Nato's nuclear doctrine states that weapons of mass destruction should only be used as a 'last resort.' I on the other hand, am of a different opinion. The western world should adopt a more trigger-happy attitude. Maintaining world order requires the use of nuclear weapons, not just as a threat, but also as a viable option in conflict. Terrorists are not deterred by the size of the US arsenal. The only way to send a clear message is an active policy of first-strike nuclear attacks.

No doubt people will argue against a more liberal use of nuclear weapons.

There will be some who claim that a diplomatic approach is required when dealing with rogue states. I say nuke them. If necessary let's be pre-emptive. We know whom the troublemakers are, so why sit back and wait for them to attack us? Let's get in there first, lob in a few warheads and be safe in the knowledge that the world is being made a better place. World order is being thrown into disarray therefore decisive action needs to be taken. The free and democratic countries must stand up to the threat that is being generated by a minority. Actions speak louder than words, so let's act. It may seem like a contradiction, but a lasting peace depends on the use of nuclear missiles.

A number of countries are known to sponsor and harbour terrorists. They also have active weapons of mass destruction and a long-standing hostility toward the US. The world has seen that this is a recipe for disaster. Rogue states upset world order and the only thing they will pay heed to is extreme force. So let's get tough and get launching.

Clare Connolly

Would you start a fight with someone bigger than you? It's not the greatest idea. Do you mess around with countries that possess nuclear weapons? I think not. The ownership of nuclear weapons equates to POWER and DETERRENCE.

Have you ever stopped to consider a world without such protection? We would already be into World War 10. These weapons of mass destruction have the ability to stop and prevent wars. Their sheer capacity for utter annihilation and unthinkable devastation, acts as something in place to deter countries and power crazed leaders from the constant feuding. Something in position that poses a threat, stopping the endless wars and the killing of countless innocents.

Nuclear weapons maintain world order as we know it. The capitalist economy of the West would likely be a Communist regime if the intervention of nuclear weaponry had not occurred. The Western order with its balance of power, is carefully maintained by the constant acquisition and possession of further defence systems. It is nuclear weapons that defend their position of dominance; it is nukes that defend their people.

At the end of the day nuclear weapons are a reality, they have been invented and we cannot un-invent them, they maintain the status quo. It appears that when it comes to weapons, the bigger is certainly the better!

Emily Stone

At the end of the Second World War nuclear weapons became an all too familiar part of the defence systems of the world's most powerful countries. Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) they call it. "You shoot me and I'll shoot you" kind of scenario. But with the history that has gone before us, why are we still condemning their manufacture and even their existence? Take the Hiroshima disaster for example, not only were millions of innocent people slaughtered but the effects are still very prevalent today.

With babies being born with appalling and life threatening deformities, how can we advocate generation after generation paying for the mistakes of those who went before us? And who knows how long these devastating effects will continue to haunt the world?

Even with the nuclear weapons, which already threaten our existence, can it really be said that our world is "ordered"? NO!

Even after the Cold War when America and Russia threatened each other with nuclear destruction, this troubled world has still not found peace. So with the potential devastating effects that nuclear weapons carry with them, what would happen if they fell into the wrong hands? Just the events on the dreadful September 11th proved to the world that the 'Mutually Assured Destruction' system is not keeping the baddies at bay.

If the Taliban had had access to nuclear weapons, which is not an unlikely event, they could have reeked even more damage and absolute destruction for several genera-

tions to come. With nuclear weapons merely being manufactured and people like the Taliban desperate to bring America to it's knees, such a disaster could be closer than we think. Let's face it, with people like this, if there's a will, they will find a way. Also, with the likes of Le Pen as potential leaders, with his fascist and racist views, such powerful weaponry would mean assured destruction.

The fact of the matter is that nuclear weapons are hugely dangerous. Peace, NOT Mutually Assured Destruction!

Katie Gosden

Nuclear weapons do not act as a deterrent to militant action and could ultimately lead to the destruction of the human race.

Responding to an attack with nuclear force would be a worldwide disaster, and maintaining active arsenals are a security risk as opposed to a solution. Although motivated by a desire for self-protection, political wrangling is exposing present and future generations to severe risk.

As a member of a leading democracy it is rather disconcerting to learn that Britain could potentially kill up to 500 million people at the touch of a button. No civilized country should be prepared to use nuclear weapons and in 2002 the perceived benefits of deterrence come at too high a price. As an

insurance policy they increase the very event for which one is being insured against (Schwartz).

Currently Britain, America, France and China hold enough nuclear weapons to destroy the world three times over and it is estimated that 600,000 people worldwide will die prematurely due to the fallout from atmospheric testing alone. Furthermore, how can our own government justify money spent on maintaining their nuclear arsenal when our education and health services are crying out for increased funding.

The events of September 11th, although arguably demonstrating the need for increased protection, show that Osama Bin Laden was not deterred from causing incomprehensible devastation to one of the largest nuclear powers, using limited technology. Indeed if terrorism of this nature is to shape the warfare of the future, nuclear manufacturing and storage sites could become future terrorist targets. Maintaining nuclear weapons are only a real deterrent if it is truly believed that the country holding them would undoubtedly use them if provoked. Increasingly though this is not seen to be the case as multinational conglomerates and the globalisation of trade means that the presiding powers have too much to lose. Militant action will ensue in the face of nuclear weapons and a real risk of accidental or deliberate attack overrides any deterrent value, and presses for disarmament.

We wish to emphasise that the views in this column are not necessarily those of the writers, the WSX editor, the Wessex Scene in general or the Union's. The intention of Devil's advocate is to encourage debate and discussion for the sake of argument.

Cocktail Hour

Rebecca Williams

The summer sun brings us all out of our winter shells and into our gardens to sit in the sun and have BBQ's and parties, more excuses to do no work and drink.

I challenge you all this year to be more inventive with your drinks, ignore the bottled alcho-pops and cans of beer, and try some cocktails. Decorated with the slices of fruit and little paper umbrellas they are perfect for summer fun.

Naturally a great deal of research was required so I delved into the great expanse of cocktails that can be created. I was amazed at the things that can be made but beware, some do require you to have liqueurs and curacaos not regularly found in a student household, such as banana or strawberry liqueur. Do not be put off by this as many are very easily made. They can be vodka based, rum based or gin based. Think of a spirit and it can be the base of a cocktail.

The basic rule when making cocktails is take a spirit and mix it with fruit juice. To expand on this add different spirits and more fruit juices. It is also handy to have a bottle of grenadine about. Once the cocktail has been made the next rule is to give it an interesting name, such as sex on the beach or screaming orgasm.

There are some great classics, which have been heard of and drunk by people all over the world such as sex on the beach and pina colada (recipes follow). They are not all that challenging to concoct and can be quite addictive, as my housemates and I found as we researched this topic for the benefit of all students in Southampton. Books full of recipes can be bought, websites devoted to the art of cocktail making can be found or you can make your own variations on some great classics.

Turn the cocktail hour into an experience and add those drinking games we all know and love. We all know different games and have our favourites.

For new games the Internet is a resource with hundreds of tired and tested games, many of these websites having been written by students. Inevitably the more you drink the harder the games get to play and more fun they become.

Games such, as twenty-one get harder to complete as the numbers are replaced. Endless games can be played to the Star Wars Trilogy and the Simpsons. Take a drink every time a character appears or says a catch phrase. This can lead to great hilarity and drunken behaviour.



verted.

'Turn the cocktail hour into an experience and add those drinking games we all know and love.'

Of course after all of this a hangover cure will be required. These are cures used all over the world. Each individual will find that different cures work for him or her while others just make the situation worse. Consequently my housemates and I are leaving the trying and testing to you with the hangover cures. There is a limit to our dedication to the topic.

The first and most simple cure is to take Ibuprofen to relieve the symptoms. Secondly is the Bloody Mary, it's benefits having been long debated it is still recognised as a hangover cure (recipe follows). Finally there is what I would argue to be the worst cure I have come across, the greasy burger and milkshake. It is claimed that it will calm the stomach and relax you. It's still not something I would choose. But remember each individual works in different ways and has their own cure. Much of this has been tried and tested by my housemates and myself and as I write this now they are firing up the BBQ and getting out the fruit slices.

I invite you to take up my challenge and try something new this summer. Write in and let us know if the Bloody Mary actually works as a hangover cure, I'm yet to be con-

Pina Colada

Three measures of white rum.
Four measures of pineapple juice.
Two measures of coconut milk.
Two scoops of crushed ice.
Slice of fresh pineapple to garnish.

Sex on the Beach.

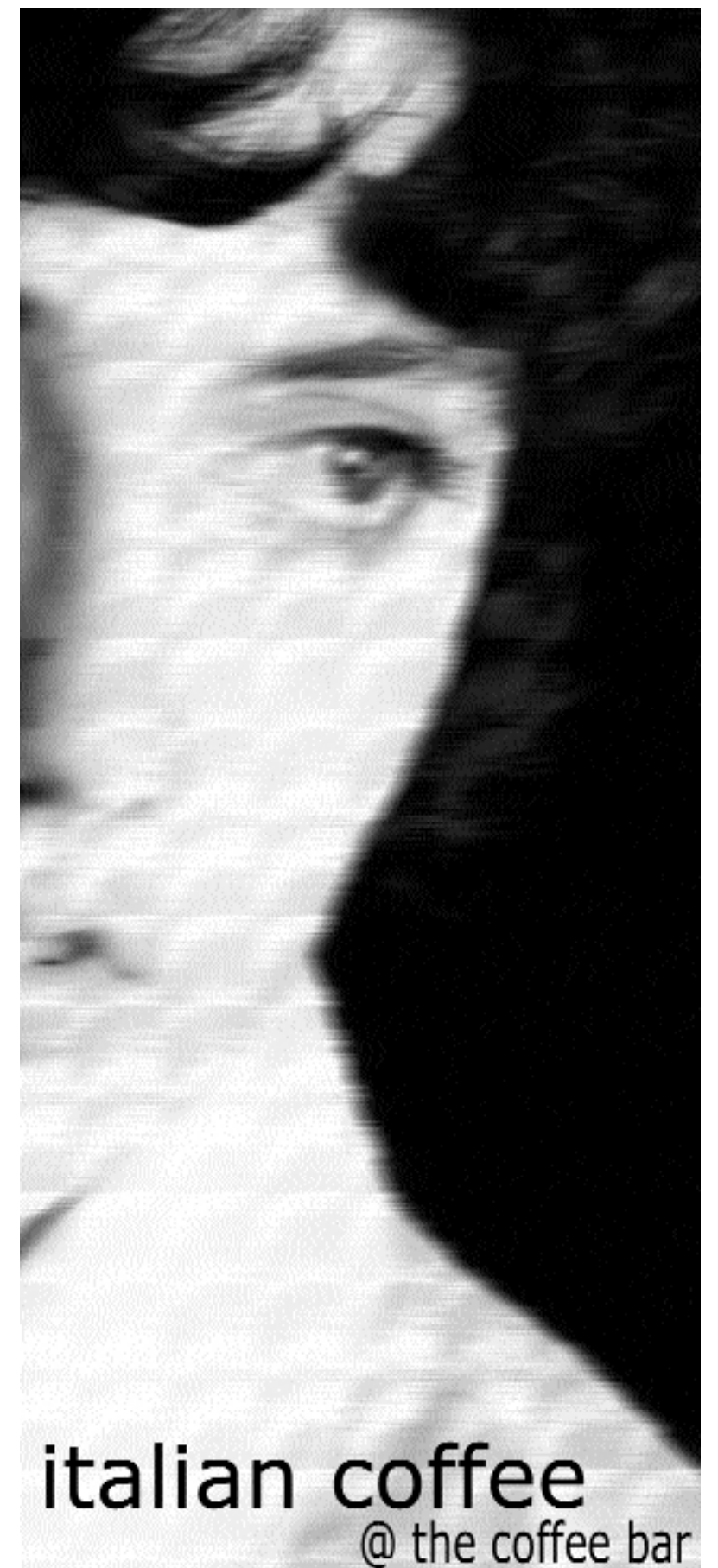
One measure of Vodka.
One measure of Peach Schnapps (Archers).
Two measures of orange juice.
Two measures of cranberry juice.

Spankin'

One measure of dark rum.
One measure of Malibu.
One measure of peach schnapps.
One measure of orange juice.
One measure of pineapple juice.
One measure of grenadine.

Bloody Mary

Two measures of vodka.
Six measures of tomato juice.
Four tsp of Worcestershire sauce.
Two-three drops of Tabasco sauce.
Add a stick of celery to garnish, this can be considered to be your breakfast.



Driving

Adam Charlton and Harvey Longstaff

Driving Ambition brings you the highs and lows of student wrecks around the campus. If you want your car to be put under the microscope contact us at wsx@wessexscene.co.uk



Proton

Price:
Up to £800
0-60mph:
An impressive 10 seconds
Top Speed:
80mph if pushed to its limit. Crash helmets and gum shields are advised.
Gearbox:
Automatic transmission makes for a very smooth ride.
Image:
The main let down for the Proton is the blocky shape and overall lack of character.
Extras:
CD player, air conditioning and electric windows definitely do not come as standard.
Review:
Someone once said to me, "a car is not about safety, price, speed or reli-

ability- it's what your friends will think of it." If this is anything to go by then the Proton has the same naked, raw appeal of a fridge freezer supplied by your landlord.
Underneath the bland exterior the Proton does however have surprisingly good acceleration and top speed. Lectures are only a few minutes away no matter the distance. The speed of the Proton also ensures that should the passenger shout "old granny at 12 o'clock" the driver can happily oblige with a little more pressure on the accelerator.

'The same naked, raw appeal of a fridge freezer.'

Handling is also extremely good which means braking doesn't always have to be an option when tackling those hair-pin turns. This goes to show that you shouldn't judge what is an ugly book, by its cover. Unfortunately braking is a real problem for the Proton and fails to balance the superior acceleration and

handling. People have found it easier stopping a chieftain tank with their bare hands than bringing a Proton to a complete halt.
I know that I seem to dwell far too much on the issue of image, but aside from the braking, this is the main issue I have with the Proton. As far as first-impressions go, the Proton has the same effect as breaking wind in front of your potential in-laws. I guess this could be advantageous to those drivers without car alarms, as the ugly, less than inspiring features of the Proton are enough in themselves to deter thieves.

Overall: **

Renault 5

Price:
£100-£500
0-60mph:
15 seconds
Top speed:
70mph. We were a little scared of getting stopped by the police. This is common for some Renault drivers, apparently.

Gearbox:



Depends on how old the model is. Newer ones are likely to have more that still work.

Image:
Charming little motor that just won't go away.

Extras:
No need for a radio, the engine will provide enough knocks and rattles to make up a drum solo.

Review: The Renault 5 has 'cheap charm with classic looks' (apparently). Its design has changed little in the last 21 years. Sources say that it was too good to change.
I personally say that the French were too busy eating snails to bother. No offence to the French, apparently they're really quite nice (snails that is).
The Renault 5 is quite cheap to buy

but costly to maintain. This means that there is a lot of badly done DIY jobs out there.
This will usually mean that placing your overloaded university file on the back seat will instantaneously cause the rear suspension to pack its bags and migrate. As you can imagine, this problem is enhanced when passengers occupy the rear seats.

The rear seats offer all the comfort of an electric chair, which becomes even more realistic with the sparks flying from the chassis as it drags along the floor.

Being around the same weight as your average supermodel, the Renault offers more excitement than a go-kart. When it is up to top speed you can chuck it around liberally, though the problems start when trying to stop. The R5 has less braking power than a well-oiled fart.

Overall, the R5 is quite cheap, but make sure it is checked out before buying as costly repairs may reduce valuable drinking money.

Overall: **

Career Women

Catherine Jones

Young, Free and Single? For a great number of female students thoughts of settling down and starting a family are way down the list of priorities. It comes a distant second to the more immediate concerns of going out, having fun, oh, and getting a degree. Our ambitions may well lie far from being mother of the year, a successful career featuring far more prominently on the wish list. However, although currently the patter of tiny feet may seem a distant prospect, in 15 years many of us will be creeping (or hurtling out of control!) towards middle age. Will the chances of having children have silently passed us by?

My sister is only 18 years old, but highly ambitious. Having just

embarked on a law degree and aiming for the bar, she has let herself in for years of hard graft! If she is ever going to achieve her goals then she will have to make sacrifices...will one of these be having a family? Is it possible for women to balance both a successful career and children, can a woman have one without sacrificing the other? Some think so, Cherie Blair has, so what's stopping the rest of us?

Surveys of high achieving women consistently indicate that a top career and a family are not entirely compatible. Some women decide that what they want more than anything is a successful career. However surveys also indicate that it was not always a matter of choice that prevented high-flying women from having a family. On the whole it appears that the chance just never arose. Statistics indicate

that "ultra-achieving" women, separated from the rest by earning over £60,000 a year, on the whole also wanted to have children. In fact only 14% of these women indicated that they had made the conscious decision not to have a family. However, sadly the statistics also proved that 49% of these highly successful women were left childless at 40.

Speaking to a recent female graduate, now 26, I discovered that she feels herself far too young to even consider having children, and she's certainly not alone. Although she has a career in a traditionally male orientated field she felt she wasn't particularly held back by the fact she was a woman. When she does feel ready to have children she intends to suspend work until her child was old enough for full time primary education. However,

despite this fact she felt that this would not affect her career or her prospects.

If this opinion is shared by most young women, then what factors have led to 49% of high achieving business women being left childless? Recent changes in attitudes towards parenting also suggest that women should be able to balance a career and a family. For example the introduction of recognised paternity leave indicates that women and men are being offered the same opportunities in the work place.

It appears that rather than being affected by career worries, it was in fact a difficulty in finding the right man to be a father that has left successful women alone. Working up to 14 hours a day, seven days a week doesn't leave much time to find Mr Right! Looking at suc-

cessful women in the public eye, recent examples of new mothers include Michelle Pfeiffer (34), Diane Keaton (49) and Calista Flockhart (37). However what separates these women, undoubtedly successful in their own right, from the majority of new mothers is that their children are adopted.

These female icons have found that despite (or maybe as a direct result of) their talent, fame and wealth they have found themselves unable to establish equally successful relationships. The pressures of a high flying career have overtaken other aspects of life, and often by the time this has been realised it's too late. It appears that it is an awareness of this situation, which will allow women to balance a successful career with a family.

Oscar Politics



Alex Moss

Well I'll be honest with you, some of the 2002 Oscar winners surprised me, but at the same time restored a lot of my faith in Hollywood and the Academy. Why? Because the people who won deserved to, and were the dark horses of the nominations.

However what was the voters motivation for awarding people like Denzel Washington and Halle Berry their awards? Those of you who read the last theory on the Oscars will hopefully support me in saying that it is rare that the voters vote for

who they believe to be the best in their respective category.

Now I'm open to the possibility that this year was an exception. But not everyone else is. Much press has been given recently to Russell Crowe supposedly throwing away his second Oscar chance by acting in his now infamous 'loutish' behavior. But did the delightful Denzel win because he didn't threaten a TV executive, no of course not, he won, at least in part due to a great performance.

I don't want to be the pessimistic weasel of the paper but I believe that Halle and Denzel won partly due to two reasons:

1. Sidney Poitier- that's right the Actor/Director considered to be the first black actor to break the stereotypical mold (before Poitier black people received very stereotypical roles and were often played very small parts) won an Honorary Achievement Oscar. Is it therefore a coincidence that the two best actors were also black?

2. They're American. Yes that's right, true citizens of the USA won all the major awards. The Americans have stuck together through the tragedy surrounding the events of 9/11. The fact that the Oscars paid tribute to New York this year shows that the Academy is fully aware of the patriotism felt in the US at the present time.

Now please don't misunderstand me, I fully support this, after all they gave 'supporting actor' to a Brit (Jim Broadbent), but I still firmly believe that the Oscars are a highly political event. However this time around the politics resulted in some truly worthy winners. Ok so Halle's speech was extreme, but also very touching, and perhaps a little ironic that she gave a speech advocating equality, while her white mother sat watching in the audience, but good for you Halle for staying true to yourself.

'It is rare that the voters vote for who they believe to be the best.'

This writer remains forever happy that Jennifer Connelly, the most stunning woman in films today (apologies for Alex's obsession, ed.), won her best supporting Actress award (for A Beautiful Mind). Congratulations Jennifer and all the winners, you all fully deserved it even if the Best Director (Ron Howard) did play Ritchie in Happy days!



Please send all letters to:
editor@soton.ac.uk

Retribution Deserved ?

Dear Editor,

In response to your article 'Kebab House Horror' in the last issue, I think it is disgraceful that students, who clearly cannot hold their drink, have to bring violence into our community. Though the retribution from the kebab staff may have been

extreme, what do the students expect will result from provocation? If you're going to put yourself in a potential fight situation, at least ensure you have enough friends to back you up. I applaud the kebab staff for sorting out another group of drunk, cocky bastards who had it coming. I'm sure they'll think twice before doing the same again. Why should they get away with insulting people who are just doing their job? People who are just providing a service to the local community. Our government has believed for too long that taking a 'softy-softy' approach with unruly youths will somehow turn them into model citizens. The rising crime figures speak for themselves. The actions of the kebab staff are indicative of the methods we should be using in our society as a whole. Too long have older people been scared to leave their homes due to the fear of being attacked by pissed up kids, who think they have a free reign to do whatever they want. Thank god some people are starting to stand up for themselves.

Angry Mature Student.

Charter Day: Hit or Miss?

Dear Editor,

Could you please pass on my congratulations to those responsible for organising the Charter Day festivities. As a whole I thought the day was superb, despite the poor weather. I enjoyed the rides and the candyfloss (when I finally got to the front of the queue!). However, I do think there could have been a timetable of events so people actually knew what to expect during the day. Hanging around for hours on the off chance that something might happen on the main stage was a little annoying.

Unfortunately, I found that the evening was not as well planned as it could have been. Firstly, I think too many people were allowed into the union building. Once I had got through the half hour queue outside, I then had to wait another 45 minutes, battling my way through a scrum, just to get a pint. As usually is the case in these events at the union, they seemed to dramatically underestimate the amount of people who would actually turn up. There were only a handful of bar staff catering for thousands of thirsty students. Also I think they could have benefited from having another bar on the same level as the coffee bar, just to disperse the crowd a little. I also think that the main stage and marquee area could have been capitalised on, allowing people to also go outside, via the Garden Court entrance. However, the foam party was superb, and something I think the union should use at things like Poundstretcher to increase the amount of students actually going.

L. Trotter

Summer Plans? Trek America

Camping, Walking & Lodging Tours

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The Travel Centre
Southampton University
Students' Union

Pick up a brochure or visit the website
<http://travel.susu.org>



spotlight on: Clubs & Societies

Well people, this is the last issue of the year, sniff! It's nearly time to enjoy a long and (hopefully) hot Summer. Cast your eyes over the BUNAC article and I challenge you not to be tempted to go travelling!

Got any articles?
Email me at sjb500@soton.ac.uk

See you next term!

Sarah xx

Travel the world with BUNAC!

Sally Asquith



Celebrating 40 Years of Work and Travel Abroad

If you've been contemplating what you could do this summer then read on. Uni. summer vacations were made for getting that rucksack packing it with the essentials (English T-bags and marmite) and flying off to far flung places to work and live somewhere you had only ever dreamed of. I'm a member of Britain's biggest student club called BUNAC. If you haven't heard, it stands for British Universities and North America Club and is a non-profit, non-political organisation. We have clubs in unis across the country run by students, who have had such a great time working abroad that they want to inform others how they can do it too.

I spent the summer after my first year working in a factory in my hometown in south Wales. I had to get up at 4.30 am every morning to catch 2 buses and be on the production line for 7 am. I made some good friends and had a laugh. However, I also realised that I was never going to eat frozen lasagne again. Let's just say sixteen-year-old boys aren't renowned for their cleanliness! I decided then that I would definitely do something a little more exciting the next summer.

July 12 2002, I was on my way to NYC, I spent one night there for an arrival orientation, then was heading west again to the city by the Bay - San Francisco. I had two jobs, one I had already set up at Aquarium of the Bay and the other I found when I arrived both were on Pier 39. My job at the aquarium was ace, normal hours no 7 am starts. One of the best jobs was working outside at the 'shark shack'. We had loads of

shark paraphernalia including some disconcerting sets of jaws so that the tourists could learn a bit about sharks. Going to work every day with a view of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge and in the aquarium walking beneath sharks, octopuses and more, was a bit more exciting than white walls and fluorescent lights for 8 hours. Again I made some good friends, but this time they were from all over - Colombia, Hungary, Chile, Italy, France, Russia and of course the USA, think of the freebie holidays.

If you want to see the real America then this really is the way to go. Jerry Springer has got nothing on the wonders you see whilst 'going Greyhound'! Seen Ocean's Eleven? Thought about going to Vegas? Do it, it is fantastically unbelievable. Grand Canyon? Would be rude not to take a look while you are there. You really have to see it for yourself, the colours and vastness are things that should be experienced, not just seen on a postcard. From there it was north again up the coast to Los Angeles and Hollywood. Los Angeles is actually pretty when the smog is not suffocating it. But Hollywood has got to be my favourite; we even managed to find a bar selling beer for just \$1 a glass with the funniest drag show.

Before I knew it I was back in the air returning to NYC. I met several people who had lost close ones in the events of September 11. The resilience of these people just made me think that you absolutely have to make the most of life. I for one have already have plans to work in America again this summer. It is a diverse, beautiful country with a million things to see and do.

Do it while you can!



Amnesty's Aim to Care...

Helen Jackson

IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CARE ABOUT PEOPLE

The Uni's Amnesty International group is a very busy society. Recently, a few of us went to Sussex University for a regional conference: "Respect Refugees" regarding Amnesty's aims following the White Paper that the Government was hoping to pass through Parliament in April.

Amnesty aims to change people's perceptions of refugees and asylum-seekers, because common misconceptions about asylum-seekers can lead to violent attacks and these misconceptions allow the government to get away with low-standard policy. Amnesty hope to encourage consideration of the basis on which people are (not) allowed to stay in the UK and to stop people being returned to countries where they are at risk from human rights violations. Amnesty aims to make the process of determination (whether someone is allowed to stay in the UK) fair by ensuring that the quality of information that informs the decision is of a much higher quality than at present. The same people who gather this information are the people who make the decisions about asylum-seekers. Amnesty suggests that the person gathering information should be an independent person, not involved in the decision-making process.

There were two speakers at the conference, both refugees themselves. Fazil Kawani had to flee persecution from Iraq in 1979, he now works for the Refugee Council in the UK. He pointed out three main issues regarding refugees. Firstly, human rights situations in many countries have not improved in recent years. Secondly, once you flee your country of origin, you lose

everything: your society, memories and plans for the future, not to mention friends and family. Thirdly, there will always be refugees as long as there are wars and human rights violations.

The convention defines a refugee as someone who has a well-founded fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, social group or political opinion and is outside their country of origin. Asylum-seekers are one of the most disadvantaged groups in our society. They are dispersed to parts of the country with no community spirit, where they become isolated and excluded. Asylum-seekers are forced to survive on vouchers (which only amount to 2/3 of income support). Amnesty believes that these vouchers are degrading, inhumane and make people possible targets of abuse.

The government sees asylum-seekers as only being in the UK on a temporary basis, which is supposed to explain the small amount of money they receive. A possible alternative to vouchers is an ARC (Asylum Registration Card). However, the problem of identification and attack may still be present even then. Asylum-seekers are also exposed to possible detention and they are subject to much negative media coverage.

The other speaker was a woman from Afghanistan, Zarghona Rassa. She believes that the current situation for women in Afghanistan is not really much better now than it was under the Taliban. People fled to Pakistan from Afghanistan, yet were asked by police to pay to enter Pakistan. The majority of such refugees are women and children, who are subject to physical, sexual and domestic violence. They are supposedly entitled to protection as the result of various conventions, but

this does not seem to happen. On the 22nd March, it is Afghanistan's New Year. As of this date, girls should be allowed to go to school again and hopefully this will mark an improvement of the conditions in Afghanistan. The overall solution to any of these problems is unclear. It was pointed out in the conference that the UK has no immigration policy, whereas the rest of Europe has, perhaps encouraging refugees to come to the UK. The English language is also a top reason why people come to the UK.

At the moment, the Uni's Amnesty group are concentrating specifically on the human rights situations in different countries, by looking in depth at one country per week in the weekly meetings. On Friday 8th March it was International Women's Day and the group held a successful stall on the Union concourse. If you would like to get involved with Amnesty International at Uni, then come along to our weekly meetings, Wednesdays 1pm in the Committee Room. You can email Doug, our President, at amnesty@soton.ac.uk. Our website can be found at www.soton.ac.uk/~amnesty. Please think about making a difference to people's lives worldwide by getting involved with Amnesty's campaign to stop human rights violations.



Jazzmanix and SUJO Concert

Jazzmanix and SUJO are putting on a joint concert at Turner Sims Concert Hall, 17th May 2002.

This concert was inspired by the huge success of previous joint ventures including 'The Jazzmanix and SUJO 2001 Holland Tour' and the demand for the CD the two groups recorded last year.

SUJO is a top quality 25 piece big-band playing a range of styles from Latin to Funk under the direction of music student Joe Stilgoe. The band also performs locally, with regular gigs at the University Staff Club and Southampton Jazz Club and the Talking Heads Pub. SUJO are planning to go abroad this summer with the Montreaux Jazz festival as its target

Jazzmanix is the university's largest

choir and is renowned for their unique style of performing music in the genres of jazz and gospel as well as popular music influenced

by these styles. This year the choir has a new musical director, Jo Mattock. This concert will be the second major concert under Jo Mattock's direction and follows their sell-out concert in November. The choir will be performing numbers like 'Fun Fun Fun' (Beach Boys), 'He ain't Heavy..... He's My Brother' and 'Let it Be' (The Beatles).



The Jazzmanix in action on a previous occasion...

Friday 17th May 2002, 8pm
Turner Sims Concert Hall
Tickets: £8, £5 concessions, £4 Students
Box office: (023) 8059 5151

Competitions

Competition to win a Pro Plus buddy!!!



Pro Plus launches EssayFly

Exam time is probably one of the most stressful periods in our lives. All the tension, revision and pressure can add up leaving you feeling like a useless failure.

Planning a revision timetable carefully and implementing some simple stress relieving techniques can help cut down on tension and improve your exam performance. Try these simple tips from Pro Plus - the student's buddy -

- * Plan a timetable - and stick to it
- * Read through all your work and make concise notes listing key points
- * Use highlighters, diagrams and mnemonics* to help you remember information

- * Revise with friends from time to time to get a different aspect on your subject
- * Study past papers
- * Get plenty of sleep
- * For relief of temporary tiredness, drink coffee or take an OTC product such as Pro Plus

Pro Plus, the fast acting, easy to swallow tablets containing 50mg of caffeine - equivalent to two cups of coffee for the relief of temporary tiredness, has been a student favourite for decades helping them to stay alert during demanding revision times.

Now, they've set up a website called EssayFly, the ultimate tool for students to use for research, revision tactics and stress management. The site which launched at the beginning of April, in time for last minute cramming, www.essayfly.com combines hints and tips on revision and exams together with an instant access database of essays posted on the site by students, for students.

If a student wants to do some research for an essay or revise a particular subject, they can type in a key word e.g. Charles Dickens, and the database will bring up a list of essays for them to study. They also have the opportunity to add their own essays to the site to help other students.

EssayFly is set to evolve into the definitive student's secret weapon!

We've teamed up with Pro Plus to give one lucky winner a Pro Plus Buddy, aka a slave for the day. The winner will be able to command their buddy to do whatever (within reason!) whether they want them to

cook and clean, pick up their library books or simply collect drinks from the bar.

Just think of the possibilities...

To be in with a chance, just answer this question..

Q: What is the web address of the Pro Plus crib site?



LYNX



LYNX is offering you the chance to win £50 of FCUK vouchers and a male grooming kit!!

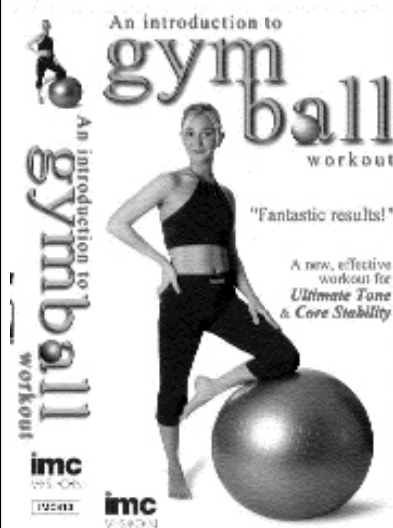
All you have to do is submit to the email address below, the most AND least impressive traits of you girlfriend or boyfriend. It's that easy!

Email entries to lynx@wessexscene.co.uk

LYNX

Email answers to competitions@wessexscene.co.

Another Video Giveaway!



Get your hands on copies of the latest fitness phenomenon!!!

The winter months can be unforgiving to a workout routine - grey skies and seasonal blues make a mockery of what was the very best of intentions. But not to worry, summer help has been delivered early with an exciting and fresh new workout routine. Developed to take full advantage of the newest and simplest in fitness equipment, the stability ball, An Introduction to gymball workout by IMC Vision is available from April 8th to help you strut your stuff in style.

Perfect for any age or fitness level, this innovative routine will improve your core stability, strength, flexibility and fitness. Shot on location in the beautiful Canary Islands, the 50-minute workout delivers an extremely effective yet safe and non-stressful workout.

Working with the resistance offered by the gymball, Lucy Knight, a professional fitness instructor and trained dancer, leads slow, controlled exercises which help to sculpt and tone your body. These subtle balancing exercises improve posture and build stability in muscles you didn't know you had!

To win copies, just answer:

In what tropical location was the video shot?

£2.35

CHECK OUT THE DEALS

Toiletries available over the gift counter.

Union Shop

Other products shown: £2.50, £1.80, £2.85, £5.50, £2.25, £1.80.

The Charter Day run to Buckingham Palace: 101 miles, 49 legs, 40 runners, 27 sports, 6 cars, 3 minibuses, a bike and one decorated cardboard tube.

“What the fuck were we doing!”

CAR 1: Matt Waldron, Andy Bishop, Ellie Atkinson, Bex Orr, Tessa Hodge & Sally Mitchell

It all started disastrously. I was ill Matt ran the wrong way on the second leg because the directions said left instead of right (oops) and Sally Mitchell's car broke down. Seeing Andy Bishop running through Eastleigh with his buttocks exposed is an experience that most of us want to forget but probably never will. Ellie Atkinson's 2 mile leg that went on, and on, and on...and then of course an irate Ladies Hockey captain awakening me with shrieks of “I'm gonna charge this to the AU” when her radiator overheated. Despite all of this we made it to the first handover, the car was mended (without cost) and all six returned home just in time for dawn.

CAR 2: Iain Murrell, Sorrell Klatzko CAR 3: Fiona Griffiths, Nigel Davison, Ollie Booth

The rain, cold and strong wind didn't perturb Iain Murrell who happily stripped into his skimpy runner's shorts and set off at a steady canter. Ollie Booth took over from him and manfully strode through the elements like a Norse God on his way to Valhalla. Sorrell Klatzko who embarked upon the 10th leg must have been wondering what she had done to upset the God's for she was greeted with a heavy fifteen minute downpour that lasted the duration of her leg and stopped kindly to give Fiona Griffiths a pleasant morning jog. Nigel Davison completed the quintet of runners. We had reached Car 4 just half an hour behind schedule and with a selection of runners from the Uni's Cross Country team taking over the relay you would think we would get back some time...

CAR 4: Gareth Klepacz, Beth Harris CAR 5: Jon Brown, Nigel Wright, Harriet Quast
For some unknown reason the Cross



A ROD FOR THE QUEEN'S PLEASURE

Country guys were treating this as a training exercise. One ran and one paced them...ON THE BIKE! This was at 7.30 in the morning and I felt like poo and these guys were pumped. I felt afraid, very afraid. Harriet set off on the first leg and all seemed to be going according to plan. Then disaster struck - we got very, very lost. Nigel set off on the bike with Gareth running and we drove the two cars around aimlessly for 20 minutes trying to follow the directions. Although this was the last time they let us down they put us seriously behind schedule and even worse 31/2 miles the wrong way
AAAAARRRRRRGGGGHHH!

We eventually handed over to Car 6 an hour and a half behind schedule; so much for the real athletes saving us time!

CAR 6: Dave Martin, Kate Molnar, Louise Edwards, Phil Johnson

The sun was out and I felt confident that if we didn't fall further behind schedule we'd get to the palace before closing time. With a glint in her eye Kate Molnar of Isle of Man fame set off first at a steady pace.

Louise wasn't as ill as she'd made out to be and bombed along merrily for two miles. Phil Johnson of Baseball and Dave Martin of Handball completed this section.

BUS 1: Matt Hickman, Elizabeth Oates Wormer, Emma Jones, Philip Lawson, Michael Saunders, Matt Addison, Fay Chinnery & Chris Tuffill

Enter the cavalry, bus 1 loads a room and Chris Tuffill driving. No need for me to direct I could just sit back now and enjoy the magic unfolding, with the odd nervous glance at my watch that is. There are 3 things that I will remember most from my experience on this bus. The first was how this event was drawing individuals from clubs across the AU and bonding them into teams. While the camaraderie in the cars had been impressive, it was nothing compared to this. The second was Phil Lawson, admirably representing the Chess Club who to be fair are not renowned for their athletic pursuits. I felt that once again this day was about breaking personal milestones as part of a gargantuan team effort. The third was Michael Saunders running like the T1000

and at stages catching the bus up. On leaving the first bus I felt a greater sense of sadness than I had done before on this marathon journey.

BUS 2: David Rose, Luke Foster, Laura Allen, Francis Bateman, Neil Mackin, Chris Dawes, Charlie Palmer & Chris Tuffill

Luckily that sadness didn't last long as this event was clearly infectious. As I boarded bus 2 I was greeted by the same atmosphere that I had just left behind and for the first time. The task of negotiating 'the hill' fell to Laura Allen. When Laura reached its summit the rapturous applause with which she was greeted for such a monumental effort stopped local traffic in its tracks. So inspired were they that Neil Mackin and Chris Dawes had a bit of a fight over who should run leg 38. By the time we reached Charlie Palmer's leg, schools were kicking out and he was so far ahead of the bus at one point he stopped and waited for us to catch up.

BUS 3: Neil Adams Tasha Susnik, Adam Mayes, Katie Parkin, Flo Kinnafeck, Becky Kemp, Jo

Hopkins, Gareth Hunt & Chris Tuffill

After two storming legs by Tasha Susnik and Adam Mayes, Katie Parkin and Flo Kinnafeck decided that it was better to run 4 miles together rather than 2 miles individually! They passed the baton onto two more girls (this Venus thing was catching) and before we knew it Gareth Hunt from the Ski Club was charging off with the baton. Suffering from shin splints, Gareth found his 'leg' rather painful.

So the final leg, here I was 13 1/2 hours later with the honour of delivering a LARGE CARDBOARD TUBE!!!!!! Oh well, we're here now might as well finish the job off. So I set off, followed by the rest of the runners, all wearing our blue BUSA Halifax shirts. Down Buckingham Palace Road we ran, like a Smurf tribute band, to deliver the tube. I was getting excited there would be hoards of fans, rows of stewards, a police escort the press the media, Meg Ryan...no-one. No-one except Neil and John the coppers on duty. “We've come from Southampton with a message for the Queen,” I said. “Hang on a minute mate. [static] Charlie Tango we've got a bloke here with a tube for the Queen [pause]” “Roger that, let them in” That was it, we walked in.

No ID, no strip search, no retina scan - nothing! We met Jill Middleborough, PA to the Queen and gave her the tube and she did seem very excited by it. We had a few piccies done, signed the guest book and that was it. No reception, nothing not even a pissing bottle of Evian! However, on the bus on the way home it was clear that we were here for a different reason and what we had accomplished could not be rewarded with food and drink (although I'm still bitter about the drink bit - I mean tap water would have been fine!) This event was about camaraderie, student spirit, overcoming obstacles working as a team and achieving our goal. Parcel Force can sod off, we are the TRUE masters of Cardboard tube delivery!

Tiger



THAT'S THE WRONG POLE LOVE.....(NOT THAT DES MINDS...)



HEY! COME BACK HERE! I WAS ENJOYING THAT!

After a long and arduous league and cup season, the University of Southampton Men's 1st XI, pulled off the second leg of their amazing treble winning season with a deserved 3-2 victory over a classy Glaswegian outfit.

The game was played on wonderfully sunny day at Warwick University, with perfect conditions, for what proved to be a classic game of end-to-end football. With an unbeaten record this season behind them, Southampton 1st's had every reason to feel confident of victory and got off to a flying start. With only 10 minutes showing on the clock a wonderfully worked move, constructed by the industrial Lyons and extravagant Antoniades, saw a perfectly weighted cross into the path of the incoming James York. Within the blink of an eye it was 1-0 and the celebrations of the dedicated followers who made the long trip North began.

However, less than 5 minutes later a controversial penalty was awarded against the Uni for what can only be described as an exaggerated fall by the Glasgow no.10. Justice was prevailed however, as the newly crowned player of the year Inigo Sarriegui pulled off a miraculous save, leaping salmon-like as he clawed the certain goal away from the net with his giant hands.

The Uni's joy was short lived. The usually dependable Waldron gifted Glasgow an equaliser with what can only be classed as a misreading of

BUSA SHIELD VICTORY



the situation. At 1-1, it was time to get serious and it showed. Challenges from the two Smiths, Adam and Daniel, got the team going again and an onslaught of attacking pressure resulted in another well-worked move. The second goal came from Thornby who smashed the ball home after slick passing from Cullen and Antoniades opened the Glasgow defence like a hot knife through Nesquick.

At 2-1, the Uni could now relax, and the fast paced, flowing football

began to unfold. The third goal came just before half time, after a goalmouth scramble, the ball fell kindly to D. Smith inside the 6-yard box. As calm as you like, he placed the ball into the corner of the net with a flick of his left toe.

The second half was a more even contest as Glasgow attacked in droves, only to be pegged back by the Uni's counter-attacking play. Southampton, and Thornby in particular, had some great chances to



kill the game off but some over indulgence in front of goal prevented the Uni taking this commanding lead. With 20 minutes left, Glasgow pulled one back, after some hesitation in the Uni defence, and the now the game was well and truly on.

Changes by the skipper saw Sadler come off the bench, and nearly score with a 80 yard run from one penalty area to another, while the other substitute Smart was doing

what he does best, filthy challenges. With the defence holding firm, and more great saves from Sarriegui, it looked like the match would fizzle out, but there was another twist in the tail.

The 3rd substitute Kevin Walsh, got a nasty kick in the face, resulting in an egg shaped growth and the Uni having to go down to 10 men for the last 10 minutes of the match. With the crowd counting down the minutes, it looked all over until a corner was awarded deep into injury time for Glasgow.

Another goal mouth scramble and vital blocks resulted in the ball bouncing 4 yards away from the open net. A swipe of Glasgow's no.7's right peg, looked as though it would take the final into extra time but miraculously it hit the corner of the post and bar and bounced clear. With that being the final kick of the game, the whistle blew and Southampton University were crowned the BUSA shield champions, the first Southern University to win the competition.

The squad was I. Sarriegui, M. Waldron, J. York, T. de Souza, J. Lyons, D. Cullen, A. Smith, D. Smith, P. Antoniades, J. Thornby, G. Sadler, K. Walsh, D. Smart, M. Raja and little Scampi Attridge.

FALLING FOR JUDO

The Judo club recently competed in their national BUSA championship at the NIA in Birmingham.

The individual event was held on Saturday. Lucy Cowley won the gold medal in her weight category. She convincingly won all her fights, defeating her opponents with a good display of technical groundwork moves and experienced standing work. Sebastien Boutareaud wowed the crowds with his dynamic escapes from opponents throws, he won a bronze medal. Other medal winners were Becky Neal who won a silver medal and Heidi Meckler who won a bronze.

Saturday night was spent eating and drinking copious amounts in a Birmingham curry house, planning team tactics for the next days team competition.

Recharged from the magic effects of a 'stinging' Birmingham curry the men's and women's team took to the mat on Sunday morning hoping for victory.

The men's team were fighting first. They won one fight and lost two, eventually loosing against the



London university team in a nail biting decider. Their were notable performances from Graeme Nash and Chris Harold. How Graeme could fight after drinking so much the night before, and how Chris managed to hold out against a 130kg giant for any length of time is a mystery.

The women's team got through their pool and to the semi-final where they were pitted against Bath. One of the women, Louise, got a shock when she saw her opponent from the Bath team. She had been drawn to fight against Kate Howey, a fighter with a world championship gold medal and 2 olympic medals under her belt. Louise fought hard and fast but in the end was attacked and thrown by some world class techniques. Baths victory meant that the women had to settle for the bronze team medal.

If you are interested in Judo, no matter what your ability is, come along to a training session. All relevant information is on our web page at www.soton.ac.uk/~judo.

Adam Johnstone

A black and white photograph showing a woman with long hair smiling and looking down at a young girl with long hair who is also smiling. A man is partially visible in the background.

The boat club continued this good form when they took on the institute and proved themselves superior, managing to break a world record into the bargain.

We've been looking at past issues, and just found out that we've missed out on a lot of mindless swearing. **FUCK.** don't know how that happened!

In national sporting news, 'H'angus the Monkey' - Hartlepool F.C.'s mascot - has been elected town mayor, pushing out the closest Labour rival. **Apparently it was his pledge to provide free bananas that tipped the balance and allowed him to swing to victory!**

Susie and Chrissy.x



Soon after Peter Antonioades again outwitted his opponent down the right and drove to the by-line where he crossed along the face of goal for the oncoming Dan Cullen to sweetly strike into the net. 3-1 to the university. Soon after that the only sad note for the evening for the university happened. Joe Lyons was breaking from midfield when an institute player put in a filthy challenge to cut Joe down. The ball was miles

The next substitution was a tactical one as the tired Adam Smith was brought off for the last 25mins to give the “terrier” Steven Attridge a chance at attacking the institute from the right side. This soon resulted in the fourth goal. From a great move constructed by the university midfield a free kick was won on the right hand side. The ball found the head of Tiger de Souza at the far post who headed across goal to the unmarked Gareth Sadler who completed a brace from an acute angle. 4-1.

By now the only question on everyone's lips was how many. The insti-

When the referee blew the whistle the university players jumped for joy with the knowledge that they had just completed arguably the most successful season ever for the Uni Football 1st XI. In the award ceremony that followed James York picked up a well-deserved medal for man of the match but the biggest cheer was reserved for our Captain marvel Dan Cullen when he lifted the coveted trophy above his head to confirm Southampton University as Varsity Match champions 2002.

TIGER

The day before we left for tour we all met up together at Avondale, had a curry at the Spice of India and then on to Academy. Without mentioning any names there was a lot of eyeing up going on for prospective tour relationships in the next few days.

So Tour in 10 simple facts:

1. Tiger in his immense wisdom got us there a day late but the carnage that unfolded made up for lost time.
2. Lots of the Lacrosse girls have Chlamydia
3. The Netball Girls enjoy playing with inflatable men named Barry
4. If anyone asks you if you'd like a dirty sánchez politely decline and if Gary McCormack asks for a kiss on the cheek always smell it first.
5. Beach Kabaddi is an excellent way to grope girls breasts.
6. You can fit 9 Lacrosse girls in a post box
7. Men from Aberystwyth pretend to be your mates but really use you to pull your friends and then steal

Who's your mate? What have you
come as? Do you work here?

So for those of you who want gossip. Here are the headlines

3 Netball girls found in their undies in the Irish Sea. One onlooker was nearly blinded.

A Girl from Southampton found crapping in a bush. She later tried to avoid arrest by diving in a pond.

A midget from Aberystwyth thrown
overboard by Soton Footballers.

Soton Lacrosse girls come out as
bisexuals on tour.

James Thornby wins England the World Cup with a spectacular 30yrd overhead kick.

And finally...It's all about the observation deck.

If you're wondering what any of
this means, you'll just have to come
on tour next year and be part of the
best Wessex experience on offer.
Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz.

Tiger





Photographs by Nigel Massen

CONTINUED FROM
BACK PAGE...

**'Row, row,
row the
machine...'**

combination of James Fielding, Matt Tarrent, Ginger Tom (see photo - he really is that ginger), Charlie Parker, and the Monkey managed a very respectable 5:25.4. This beat the individual 2000m world record (5:38.3) set by Rob Waddell (NZ) and, even if it's not entirely fair to compare 5 men against 1, it was a fantastic achievement for the university team. The SUBC second team completed the challenge in 5:37.7, with the team from the Institute third in 5:44.1. No-one from the Institute rose to the challenge of the SUBC birds in the women's event, and they made it home in 6:29.5, keeping it firm all the way, as always. Just in time for a quick Bacardi Breezer and down to Jesters, where the grand SUBC traditions of pulling and drinking more beers than the Institute were entered into with much enthusiasm.

Andrea Kells

Looks like someone needs a bit of fibre in their diet.....

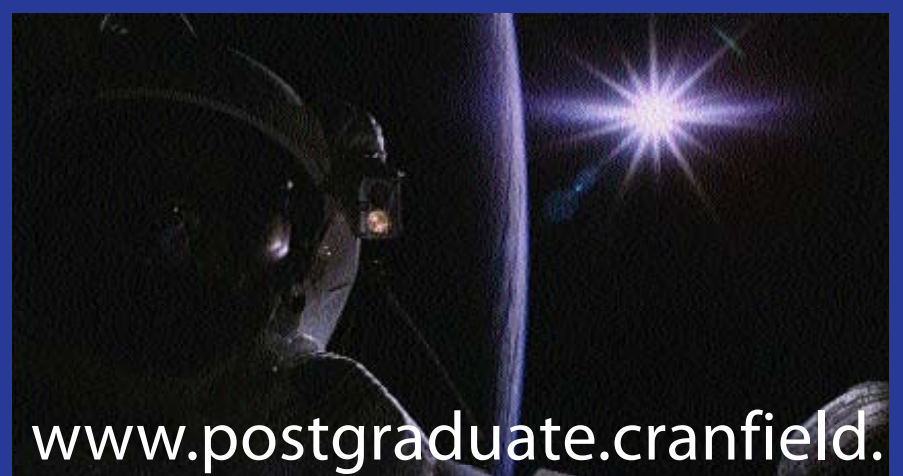
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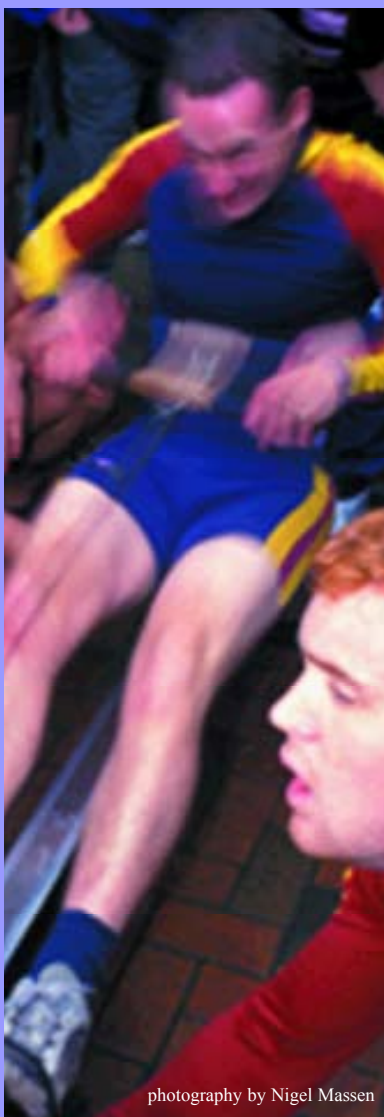
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RECORD ROWERS



photography by Nigel Massen

BLOOD, SWEAT AND PAINFULLY TIGHT SHORTS...

Another wet lunchtime in March on the Union Concourse was livened up somewhat by the sight of big boys (and girls) in lycra bearing the distinctive stripes of Southampton University Boat Club (SUBC). They had turned out to show the Institute Rowing Club who is boss when it comes to pulling. The challenge was to compete on rowing machines over 2000m in 5-man teams using a strategy of your choosing, recover in the Union Bar, and then survive the evening in a certain quality Portswood nightspot. After a lot of huffing, puffing and more than a little screaming the delightful SUBC

Continued on inside...

5-1

UNIVERSITY OBLITERATE THE INSTITUTE



Thursday 25th April the date of the 2nd Varsity match between the University and the Institute.

The game was to be played on the grandest of scales, at the magnificent new St Mary's stadium, home to the Saints. With a thirty thousand capacity and a veritable carpet for a pitch both supporters and players were both licking their lips with anticipation at the prospect of the oncoming game.

The two sides ran out on the pitch to rapturous applause and grouped on their sides of the pitch, rbrated less arrogantly.

The Institute continued this period of pressure but the back four remained more disciplined and the Uni began to claw their way back into the game. The centre midfield pairing of Joe Lyons and Dan Cullen dealt well with the packed Institute midfield and good attacking play down both flanks, eventually led to a breakthrough.

A touch of magic by the deft feet of Peter Antonioades drew us level after 21 minutes. The ball was played to his feet on the edge of the area and under considerable pressure from three defenders he neatly spun leaving them tackling each other and hit a low snap shot into the bottom corner past the flailing

Institute goalkeeper. Once again the fans erupted but this time from the other side of the stand.

Unfortunately it was just after the equaliser that Dan Smith had to leave the field due to a calf injury that he had picked up the day before. Jamie Thornby came on at left midfield and it proved to be a turning point in the game. Thornby's youthful exuberance added the impetus that the university had lacked so far. The last 15mins of the first half were heated with both sides battling to dominate the game. Adam Smith was involved in several bad-tempered situations, which the referee did well to curb. At half time the University disappeared into the tunnel somewhat dismayed at their

lacklustre performance.

The University returned with a glint of determination in their eyes and the second half was a very different affair. As soon as the whistle blew for the second half to begin it was obvious that there was only ever going to be one winner. The University team ran riot. The defence performed as solidly as they had done all season and were occasionally seen on forays forward. The forward play also improved considerably and James Thornby terrorised down the left flank with several dazzling displays of skill and the

CONTINUED INSIDE...

WHAT'S INSIDE: ROWING>>>JUDO>>>JUBILEE RELAY AND MORE.....