



Wed 22
- an
May 20



Your Gang of Four

They were singing songs in Rutherford on Thursday, 26th February when Jez Middleton became the next President of Kent Student's Union. He will take over from Tony Horrocks on August 1st.

Songs too ("There's only one Adrian Bryant") for Adrian Bryant earlier in the evening as he swept past Martin Singleton to become treasurer on the first ballot.

Later on Vicki Wood was elected Union Secretary when she went over quota to beat Chris Jay by 832 votes to 434.

On Monday the 2nd of March amid frenzied cheers, disgusted shouts and cries of "recount" Chip Hamer was declared to be the new Social Secretary. Chip won by 11 votes.

Jez Middleton, always the front runner for President, after a long, well organised campaign, received 698 first preferences to Salim Salam's 420. He was 64 short of the quota. On the fourth count 41 transfers from Mark 'Smacker' Davies went to Jez Middleton to give him exactly 762 votes, and the Presidency.

The result was greeted with dismay on the left. John Moore said: "I may have to work with him, but I don't have to enjoy it."

Paul Satterthwaite said he was "disappointed with the result but not surprised." He advised any left wing candidate who stood next year to "play down the politics."

Jez Middleton had been watching the count from the Postgrad Room in Rutherford and said he was "pessimistic" after the polls closed. It is believed only 400 students voted in Rutherford when Jez was expecting at least 600 to turn out.

Despite this reaction from the left, Jez Middleton does not call himself right wing. When asked what his politics were he said "I don't like to put a label on myself," skilfully avoiding the question. He said this image of him as right wing is a "popular misconception which only actions can dispel."

The Middleton campaign was helped by the large number of Radical Change stickers which Radical Change were allowed to print as a union society. It was a cunning way to get around the rules.

Salim Salam's campaign picked up towards the end and before the first count all the indications were that Salim might win. In the end Jez Middleton it was who was chosen to lead the Students Union next year and not Salim.

In the elections for secretary an otherwise rather lifeless campaign was enlivened by the presence of Chris Jay.

At one stage Frazer Clarke was standing for the Labour Club but he stood down. Leading members of Labour Club split with Kev Jarman campaigning for Vicki Wood, and Emily Thornberry for Hugh Dalgleish. Hugh Dalgleish's manifesto was probably the most unpopular manifesto. Several students in Eliot thought it was "patronising."

At the hustings Vicki Wood stood and spoke as the



Vicki Wood the next Union Secretary.

moderate left wing candidate, whereas Hugh moved towards the centre.

Mr Jay who told 'Incant' later that he was doing an Enoch Powell impression occasionally, burst into action. Asked how he would help organise a rent strike he replied: "Pay students—you can get people to do anything if you pay them."

Harvey Patterson put forward the alternative from the 'hard' left: "Compromise and you're defeated" he informed the audience.

75 of his transfers went to Vicki Wood who needed 114 more votes to win. Hugh failed by 18 votes to beat Chris Jay into second place, and his transfers made Vicki Wood Union Secretary.

As for Treasurer. Everyone knew Martin Singleton's campaign was in trouble. What no one realised until the result came through was how much trouble Martin was in. When the votes were counted it was Adrian Bryant with 779 votes to 601 who ran out the winner.



Adrian Bryant the new Treasurer.

Photo: Tom Wingate

votes. When asked how he felt he replied that his success was due to "hard work" and "telling the truth." But the crux of the election seemed finally to turn upon a political basis, though Chip Hamer was adamant—despite asides like Peter Harvey's (EO Comms Rep): "He's right wing, that's what counts"—that in office he will not be swayed by any political faction, his only interest will be for the good of the students.

And Hamar's campaign manager Dave Kiddie assured us that "Chip isn't political." However, there was certainly antagonism, at the count in Rutherford, when it looked conceivable that Hather might be elected and shouts of "Sieg Heil" were heard from the back of the lecture theatre.

Rick Mustill, suitably intoxicated, was in jovial mood and said although he was sad about Andy Welch it was still "nice to see someone get in who has been in entertainments so long and done so much good," and he considered it a "fair result." Not everyone shared his view. Potential Social Secretary John Paul Fowler after hearing the result said he would prefer to have Mustill in for another year, despite his quip that "Rick did what he was expected to do... nothing."

The political tone of the whole election had been heightened by Geoff Kidder's outspoken manifesto in which he shrewdly ignores any reference to the function of Social Secretary. When asked if he could justify this attitude, Kidder answered that he had had "no clue" of what the post involved and had been led to believe it was just another political post. Kidder's campaigners were heard shouting "give a man a job, vote Geoff Kidder for Social Secretary," was eventually eliminated in the first round. He surmised the catastrophe was due to the fact that the main body of his supporters had gone on the anti-racism march in Deptford.

Andy Welch unexpectedly lost out quite early—according to Fowler this was because he had been foolish enough to allow Rick Mustill's epitaph to appear at the head of his manifesto. Andy's only words in defeat were "never mind."

It was Hamer's campaign of "Experience, ability and commitment" that won the day. Close runner-up Bennett was pleased he and his campaigners had done so well without relying on a block vote situation.



Jez is Prez from August 1st.

Photo: Tom Wingate

Overall then the right will not be unhappy about the results. The executive is perfectly balanced now.

One final thought based on the evidence of this year, as Jez Middleton was chalked up as President, even as voting stopped perhaps, some people's thoughts were turning to next year.

Election Reporters: John Firmin, Daniel Higgins, Paul Simpson



Chip—the little drummer boy.

On the right Ann Bradley (RC7) went out first. Ian Hunter from Keynes who suggested Rutherford College should be rebuilt on the Isle of Sheppey, was eliminated next with 97 votes.

Then Harvey Patterson was eliminated, with 196 votes, and

In an interview afterwards he told 'Incant' that "people were fed up with political bashing and wanted something done. This year's union had not done enough for them. Even though he is an Independent Socialist he said: "I want to be seen as in the middle."

Martin Singleton put his defeat down to a "good ballot box campaign by Adrian, general apathy, and Jez's supporters voting for him."

Martin said now he would "retire from union politics for a while and try and resurrect my degree."

Martin's defeat means that there are now no Liberals on the Union Executive this year.

Chip Hamer is the new Social Secretary, marginally beating Paul Bennett by 11

Quick Quotes

"I used to be popular until I met Jez Middleton."

—Lucy Lunt

"You can get people to do anything if you pay them."

—Chris Jay

Two safety suggestions:

"Ban the Rugby Club."

"Occupy Govers' car."

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EDITORIAL

Election fever is over. We can settle down to quieter things like Sports Fed and disaffiliation.

For Jez the prez let me say this: You fought a long and hard campaign against candidates that seemed to be running against you rather than for themselves.

You fought to be president without making deals with other candidates (or so it seems) I hope this 'straight forwardness' will continue.

You appealed over the heads of the politico's to the ordinary students. I applaud you for that.

In times to come though at UGM's, during rent strikes, when you are installed in the 'gilded cage' that is the Student's Union building, will you still remember them then?

Trust your instincts not your advice, and you may indeed be the 'second coming' that we are promised. I doubt it. I don't believe you are the second coming just as I never believed you were the Anti-Christ.

For UKC students' sake, keep in touch.

Vicki. You've got a hard job which requires you to be ruthless and nice at the same time. When you take over you will have a hard job merely fulfilling your manifesto. Your job unfortunately is probably the least glamorous of all the sabbatical posts, perhaps then that would be one of your major priorities, making people care what the secretary does. That, your illustrious predecessor, whatever her other achievements, has failed to do.

Adrian. Congratulations on what was an excellent campaign. You came from nowhere and I hope that is not where you will end up. Seriously though, you will inherit a financial structure which Simon Hornby has drastically improved. Whatever is 'failings' in other fields, Simon has been an efficient 'treasurer', I would not like to be compared to someone like Simon.

You "seem like a nice boy" as Larry Grayson would say, and perhaps you'll have a problem being "nasty" enough. Also what is more important for a treasurer than for any other post, is trust. It does not matter how controversial, influential or charismatic a person you are, as long as people feel they can trust you absolutely.

Chip. You have achieved the notable feat of being more controversial than Jez Middleton. Your stand on disaffiliation particularly needs clearing up. Students as a whole may give you the benefit of the doubt, but next time, when things go wrong, they will say "Yes wasn't he the one who was supposed to have spoken for disaffiliation?" I hope that you carry out your pledge to place students views above any other views including your union. Bear in mind though, there will be a lot of people waiting if you slip up.



Waiting for the Presidential vote.

LETTERS

A FEW WORDS

In reply to your headlining article "A Farewell To Arms"—a few words. The main argument which we put forward is that the sources of research grants were noted but the uses of those grants were not. If you had taken the trouble to go to the UGM and listen to the speeches, you would have heard details of as much as was known to the proposers of the motion about what is being done with the money. To the average student, "charge distribution in the transition state for intra molecular acyl and zuluhanl group transfer reactions" is completely meaningless. One of the main objections of the motion was to get a full report of what these titles mean, in plain English, what kind of research is involved and what possible uses this research is directed towards. After meeting the VC we were led to believe that this was being looked into. However, at this point of time we have not received any more information.

You seem to have reached your own conclusions as to the DEFINITE uses of this research, however it is important to bear in mind that there are many other possible uses in most cases.

With special reference to "weedkiller for the bottom of ships" it should be remembered that forms of chemical warfare were developed through research into pesticides, and other forms of research which could be labelled agricultural.

The proposers of the motion do believe that students are full members of the university during their time here, and as such have a right to know, and moreover to have some say in what goes on in this university.

If you wish to never question but merely accept those in a "higher" position than you, to be not more than a robot, you should have joined the military instead of coming here.

As for academic freedom and the right of individuals to choose what research to do and

where to acquire finance for it from, does this situation hold in practice today when money is being from most sectors of the economy apart from "defence"? Since the military is just about the only sector being given more money, they are obviously one of the few who can afford to finance any research. In fact almost 75% of government research and development expenditure goes on "defence", i.e. to the military, and firms who work with the military. Hence academics do not have a full choice when it comes to acquiring finance, and since this money comes from so few sources would it not be fair to assume that some researchers would 'twist' their work so that it was of more interest to those handing out the money. Moreover given the current hysteria concerning "the impending Russian invasion of "democratic" Western Europe" we could see a tightening of "security" at any sign of increased activity in Eastern Europe, or increased paranoia among NATO governments. We would undoubtedly be assured that this was "in the national interest" but how much freedom would those academics then have.

As regards firms with military connections, Marconi was cited as an example of such a firm and nowhere was it claimed that they specifically finance research here. However if you think that "detectors for nuclear submarines" are not military related we suggest you re-think. The motion also made reference to recruitment on campus and Marconi is one firm which does this and distributes propaganda which has clearly emphasised their military links.

Concluding, your main argument that the motion did not state what the research grants were for can be answered by repeating that one of the main objectives of the motion was to get just that—a statement of what the money is being used for, in plain English instead of high scientific language—with a view to severing military links in the long term.

Two small points to end with: 1, "Incant were unable to contact ARG"—have you tried?; 2, Your front cover picture of Rob Rosenthal bearing the caption "Mike Berlin speaking..."—are all of your 'facts' so well informed.

ARG Collective

INCANTIONS

Jane Merritt, the Union Secretary, is standing as a Liberal candidate in the Whitstable council elections in May. She told 'Incant' "When they asked me to stand I agreed. The possibilities of me being elected are few and far between." If elected, there will "only be an overlap of a couple of months." She told 'Incant' "I'm finding at the moment that one can pack an incredible amount into 24 hours."

Jane Merritt is the leader of the Union of Liberal Students, on the Liberal National Executive Council, as well as being the Union Secretary. She also has a show, 'Campus Forum' on UKC Radio on Monday mornings. Merritt, it seems, is determined to outdo Batgirl with her various exploits.

The Rolls Bar announced a profit of £1.13. It is felt that much more money could have been made, and the Executive has proposed that it should be run on a profit-making basis in future, the profits being placed in the Welfare Fund, which is administered by Tony Horrocks, Tony Trivelli and V.P. Welfare. This was considered the most effective way of trying to assist people by use of the money raised.

An accommodation survey has been carried out, the descriptive analyses of which should be completed by the end of this term. Hopefully the survey will be published early next term.

John Moore has written a

press release on "Women and Safety," on behalf of the Welfare and W.P. portfolios.

Dr. Todd has refused to allow Rutherford to be used as emergency overnight accommodation, because of the possibility of people using this on a regular basis. The use of a register to avoid this is to be proposed.

UKC Radio has been allotted £500 to pay for the Parkwood Aerial System. The contribution to the cost of the land-line is to be £200; the aerial cable will cost £120; the linear amplifiers cost £75, and the field strength meter a further £100. These costs were agreed on by the Finance Subcommittee of the SU.

Kathryn Everett

Amazed

Dear Incant,
We (UKC Student's Against Nuclear Energy) are amazed and rather horrified at the ridiculous comments made about Marconi in your Sci-Spy column. Did your "science correspondent" actually expect Marconi to say on the phone "yes, we kill women and children"?

The facts are, (direct quotes from "Aerial," Marconi's own glossy magazine): "Marconi has supplied equipment and systems to more than 13 navies throughout the world," (including systems for the Sea Dart, Seawolf, Ikara, A32 and A/S M12 10 weapon systems).

"Marconi Radar specialises in the design and production of the power servos and ancillary controls that are the key factor

in naval weapon systems and armoured fighting vehicles. It has supplied control equipment for almost every weapon system in service with the Royal Navy."

"Company's inventory of radar (missile) guidance heads and techniques is the largest in Europe and probably in the world."

Not to forget fire and gun control equipment for main battle tanks, anti-aircraft weapons, self-propelled howitzers and rocket launches or perhaps FACE (Field Artillery Computer Equipment) which is in service with the British Army and many other armies worldwide—and as Marconi claims "Makes the most out of your firepower!"

UKC SANE, which contains quite a few science students with "uneasy consciences" about prospects of working with Marconi-like firms after graduation, would like to see this enormous amount of skill and human energy, at the moment wasted on the Arms Race, transferred to more socially beneficial research, starting at this university. Its time for scientists to stop making bombs for whoever and start using their knowledge constructively.

Finally, for a paper which places great importance on "independence," Incant should not forget about the concepts of accuracy and objectivity.

Yours,
UKC SANE

Errors

Dear Incant,
I am writing to express my amazement at the number of errors and the lack of responsible research so obvious in your last issue.

Your article on military research suggested that SANE and ARG produce "the facts" about the military-funded activities occurring on the UKC campus. If anyone on your staff had bothered to READ the motion put to the union, they would have seen that those facts are exactly what we are asking the university to produce.

Of less worldly importance than this, but a good indication of the sloppy journalism of Incant, are the errors that occurred in Incant Diary's advert of the English Board Production. As the leading actress in MISS JULIE is a member of the Incant staff, I would have thought that you might at least have managed to advertise the accompanying play, SCENES FROM AMERICAN LIFE, under the correct title, and perhaps even been able to spell Strindberg without a "k".

If the Incant staff is playing at journalism the way the union executive plays at politics, perhaps you had all best apply for jobs with "The Star."

Yours sincerely,
Linda S. Cazanov

Sound of Silence

Dear Sir,
I've just come away from yet another 1½ hours of moronic silence—officially called A SEMINAR. Why don't people talk in these things? Having spent three days preparing furiously for it, I was angry that the others seemed quite content to sit staring at their feet while I felt embarrassed into saying something to fill out the long silences.

Okay, in the first year we're all terrified, but some of these

morons are third years! I though university was meant to be a place for discussion, exchange of ideas, etc.

If you haven't prepared for the seminar, why come? It's not going to affect your degree because we haven't got an assessment scheme yet—so you may as well be doing something else with your time.

But don't just sit there—the 'know-all' who's doing all the talking goes away feeling suicidal!

Mandy Foxwell

Simon Says

It is with some amazement that in recent weeks I have heard people quoting a figure of 60% for expenditure by the Students' Union on administration. Perhaps I could take this opportunity of putting the record straight.

I classify 'administration' as the infrastructure of an organisation, the things that have to be performed before that organisation can effectively operate. In the case of the Students' Union I would class this as the Finance Department, some secretarial and printing support, sabbaticals and costs incurred for the executive to function. Some quick calculations lead to a figure of approximately 35%

for this, and this is erring on the high side.

Even when you add together the total staff and sabbatical salaries for the Student's Union, all office overheads including books and publications for the research department, all the paper and materials for printing, all telephone and postage costs, all new equipment, all repairs, the total heating and lighting costs and even an allowance for that worthy body the Standing Orders Committee the total comes to under 50% of the total expenditure. If you doubt this figure I can only refer you to last year's audited accounts.

Yours,
Simon Hornby
(Union Treasurer)

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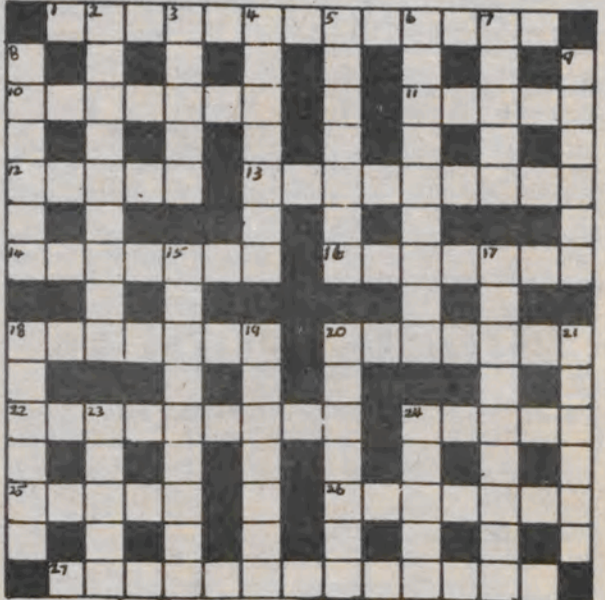
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Easiness of Approach found as I sit on bicycle awkwardly (13)
- Paleness (7)
- Girl comes back to boy; First-class! (5)
- Rupees drop a point and collapse; Great! (5)
- Ian reigns in Africa (9)
- Cardinals Split up by a row; That's not so nice (7)
- Tinge again using 14 (7)
- Listener torn between Thomas Hardy initially, and Mr Eliot on Poetry etc. (3,4)
- Keeps a bad 14 (7)
- Plot includes many people (9)
- Scot slips into river quietly (5)
- I came back and encountered an insect (5)
- Hatching, isn't gen strange (7)
- Current network; the GPO at Christmas (7,6)
- 'ree' Um-American? (5)
- One that Tarnishes spoils 14 (7)
- He fetches a second-class bell (7)
- The student's final chance (4,2,3)
- Silver turned up to his favourite island (5)
- Vicar with average off-spring (6)
- This fruit is found in water (6)
- 'IRA's trite explosion angers' (9)
- Anthropomorphise Antonym (9)
- Detects small amounts (6)
- Glyceryl Ester; Derivative of 14 (7)
- Eye-pieces made from 14 (7)
- The smell inside points to a pudding (6)
- The French, wall-monkey (5)
- These attitudes disturb the sheriff's men (5)

DOWN

- 'Baste Carp?' That's no way to prepare this food (4,5)



Our regular compiler is ill this week so we print a Krypton crossword from 2 years ago today.

The last winner was Ann M. Smart (Eliot) who wins the bottle of gin.

Entries for this issue should be in by next Tuesday at high noon. Win some sherry this time.

Fire Down Below

Nobody took any notice when the fire alarm went off in Darwin on Sunday, February 22. Everyone thought it was a hoax. But this time it was for real.

At 7.15 pm a Darwin student, Peter Wood, looked out of the window of room G2-1 only to see bright, dancing flames reflected on the cobbles below, and to realise that he could smell burning.

He rushed downstairs to the ground level and into room G1-2. The girls there set off the fire alarm while Jacqueline Ward (G2-1) ran to tell the porter of the fire's location.

The fire was in G1-1. Peter Wood was given a blanket from the room next door and entered the affected room.

There was smoke everywhere. The fire came from a waste paper bin placed fairly near the door. Peter soaked the blanket underneath the shower, laid the wet cover over the bin and carried the burning article

outside. Then he ran back to make sure there was no one in the room injured—for the smoke was thick enough to render someone unconscious—and to open the window as far as possible.

Room G1-1 belongs to Annie Millman. She told me she was in Darwin bar when the fire started; a friend came and told her of the catastrophe: "We thought it was someone joking around," she said.

Annie was very shocked when she re-entered her room, although—thanks to Peter's prompt action—the fire was confined to the waste bin alone. "If anything else had caught fire I'd have been really upset," Annie told me. "I'm very lucky that the whole room didn't go up."

She pointed out that she had now been given a metal bin instead of the wooden one. She thought all students should have metal bins to confine any fire that might occur.

The Master of Darwin, Claire Pally, interviewed Annie the next day and it was decided that the fire must have been started by one of Annie's friends throwing some of her not-quite-so-dead cigarette ends into the bin, then leaving the room. Professor Pally also warned Annie to be "more careful" next time.

A circular was sent round to Darwin residents on Wednesday, February 25, in which the fire was reported and there was a sincere warning to all other students to be careful with old cigarette ends.

The fire alarms are set off so often that nobody even bothers anymore. Last term's fiasco in Keynes has made students even more blasé. People who set off alarms as a joke may think it's very funny at the time, but when the time comes for a real fire, those people can be held responsible for the students' attitude which may cause someone, somewhere, very severe injury.

Louise Cracknell



Chris Jay in training for the UGM.

FACE TO FACE

Lucy Lunt has been the editor of "The Alternative Times" ever since it started last term. Previously, she worked on the Editorial Collective of the "Newspaper". But now she is retiring from the amateur newspaper world to try the professional one, hoping to pick up a degree en route.

I asked Lucy why she ever started a newspaper in her third year. "It's of more value to me than a good degree would be," she said. "I just want to be a journalist."

Ms Lunt's comment on my questions about the recent clash with the Union when a censure on her was narrowly defeated at a UGM was that the "Alternative Times" editorial staff were seriously considering putting their own motion to the next UGM, changing the editorial control of the newspaper.

"We want to be given a budget and, for that, we will

print the Union viewpoint." The Executive would be more than welcome to contribute to the paper, but Lucy wants to see "an editor elected by the 'Alternative Times' staff and ratified by the executive who then takes total editorial control and is open to censures only as much as every other member of the Union."

Lucy said that the "Alternative Times" staff were "grateful" to Jane Merritt and Tom Bowman for setting up the paper and that, although they did not agree with Jane's exclusion of the article criticising the Union, they feel it is "a pity she had to resign."

Ms Lunt was adamant that the recent lead story in the "Alternative Times" (on cook-chill catering) had no connection with Jez Middleton's first priority (also cook-chill) on his sabbatical election manifests.

"It had nothing to do with

Jez" she said. "All the manifestos mention it. And it's going to be a big issue this term. Most of the presidential candidates are going on a 'services' platform this year."

She felt that the "Alternative Times" compared very favourably with the new paper. "It's a lot better in organisation—maybe not text—merely because of the structure where there's one editor at the top. With the new paper there was too much onus on Tom Bowman when things went wrong, without him getting true recognition for it."

And the future? "The Alternative Times can get better if the dispute over editorial control is sorted out now and we want lots of new people. Me—I've got an interview tomorrow with the Liverpool Daily Post and Echo. Incant is keeping its fingers crossed for you, Lucy!"

Louise Cracknell

CLAIRE CLAMPS DOWN

Recently Prof Claire Pally, Master of Darwin College has issued a regulation concerning the hanging of bags containing food out of the windows on the outer walls of the college. This decision is unpopular among the students so, managing to find Claire Pally with a few minutes to spare, I asked her why she had decided to "ban the bags".

She told me that she had received complaints from the staff about the untidy appearance of these bags. "I feel no need to make the building look in that kind of state," she added. She briefly mentioned the matter of hygiene, saying that she had had reports of meat being kept in the bags which was definitely a health risk. I pointed out that rather than stop students from storing food, this new regulation would force them to keep food inside their rooms, which would be even more unhygienic. Claire Pally mentioned the limited number of fridges which the college does provide, and admitted frankly that there are not enough to provide for all Darwin's residents. She added that the few fridges there are, are an added bonus since fridges are not mentioned in the conditions of Darwin's accommodation. She revealed that the college was thinking of providing insulated bags with ice for students who are unlucky enough not to be able to keep milk in bags hanging on the inner cloister walls. This sounds like a good idea, and

pretty fair, but it is putting the responsibility on the college to buy these bags, and until they are provided, the students will have to suffer.

The hanging of bags out of the windows is still common practice in other colleges, so I asked Claire Pally why she had banned the bags in Darwin. She stressed the fact that Darwin is closer to the main road and can be easily seen by members of the public, yet she added that it was not public opinion that had prompted the ban, but rather that she herself thought it looked untidy. She said that she had turned a blind eye to it before because she thought that it would die down by itself, and that she would still turn a blind eye to one or two bags. She stressed that she relied entirely on student co-operation to enforce the regulation, in her own words: "I do not wish to make a martyr out of a Darwin student." Surely this rule can only serve to make Claire Pally an unpopular Master. She has already received complaints from Darwin JCC and "one or two others" about it, and since she admits that the main reason for bringing in the ban is her own sense of aesthetics, I doubt very much if she will gain any student sympathy.

Anne Accini

LEN'S LECTURE

One can hardly discuss technology today without mentioning the implications of computerisation and the microchip. If Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, did not mention them directly, then they were implicit in his Open Lecture on "De-industrialisation" held on February 27 in the Cornwallis Lecture Theatre.

The search for economic efficiency is no recent development. It has continued, in the West at least, from the days of Adam Smith.

Unfortunately, its pursuit and the adoption of existing and potential technological resources is a "double-edged" sword. In times of full employment and buoyant consumer demand it has positive advantages both within and outside the factory gate. When there is an economic recession, and 2,500,000 unemployed, however, the ideal becomes rather tarnished.

Mr Murray, of course, is speaking at a time when Britain is in an unenviable economic position, and although technology has not been the predominant cause of our present trouble, it has certainly been a contributory factor.

The problem is that computer and microchip related industries require specialised staff, and generally, fewer of them. Hence, as our staple industries of steel, shipbuilding

and heavy engineering have declined, so the newer technology-based industries have emerged, taking on younger, qualified personnel. Redundant steelworkers cannot be easily accommodated by such a transition.

The basic argument put forward by Mr Murray is that this trend can be arrested, providing industry makes careful plans for the future.

What Mr Murray is concerned about is the apparent tendency of companies to plan their future without fully taking into account the needs of the employees.

As is to be expected, Mr Murray makes no bones about the deleterious effects of Mrs Thatcher's present economic strategy. He argues that her policy of making cut-backs in the public sector has led to a consequential reduction in overall market demand, reflected in similar cut-backs in the private sector. Not only has this increased the length of the dole queue, but it has meant that the great majority of British industry is operating far below its maximum level of output, which is a waste of manpower, machinery, and dare one say it, available technology.

Mr Murray seems to advocate a two-fold remedy; firstly, he would like to see a general increase in Government expenditure, and massive re-invest-

ment in manufacturing industry; secondly, he would like a thorough re-appraisal of working patterns throughout British industry, so that working hours would be more balanced throughout the community, providing a more equitable distribution of leisure time.

The advantages of a move towards more leisure are numerous for employees and employers alike; machines do not go on strike, and do not need to be paid more for working overtime; employees will not have to perform endless repetitive tasks in a factory environment until the age of 65, when they will probably be too old to enjoy many leisure opportunities anyway. As for disadvantages? When it has not been planned and intentional, then one only has to ask a redundant steelworker or shipbuilder how frustrating and tiring an excess of leisure time can be.

Dick Powell

Vandals Pooled

UKC's pool tables are under threat. Increasing vandalism has cast doubt on hopes of their continued presence in all four colleges.

Simon Hornby, treasurer of the SU told Incant: "I wish people wouldn't treat them so badly. I understand people's dislike for the coin mechanism, but they do have to be paid for."

Until the present time, the SU has been fortunate enough not to have to pay for repairs and replacement involved in the upkeep of the pool tables. However, with the persistent and increasing vandalism it seems inevitable that the suppliers of the games, Medway Automatics, will not keep paying. Should the SU be faced with the repair bills "it would be uneconomic to have the tables kept in", said Simon Hornby.

Keynes is undoubtedly the worst site of pool table vandalism. As many as six pool cues are often stolen in one evening. The tables in Keynes are damaged so frequently that Medway Automatics have, understandably, limited the re-

lating of them to once a year.

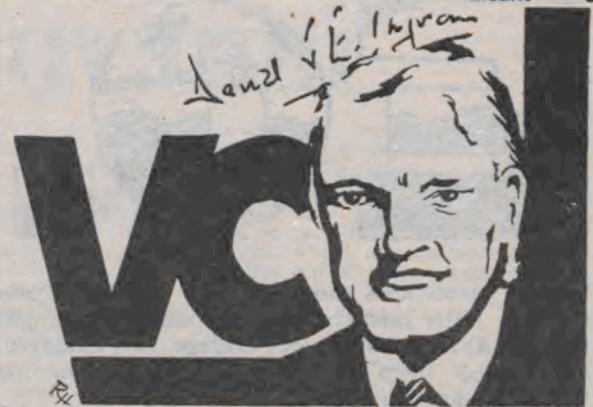
Rutherford's vandalism is on the increase too, and unless damage levels decrease we may see the last of our pool tables.

Video machines too, are taking a beating, but these can be protected by harder panelling, the danger area here being around the coin insertion slot. Some of these machines were not "student-proofed", and the suppliers learnt the hard way what measures are needed for protection of games.

Medway Automatics are only liable for general wear and tear of the machines, and taking this into consideration "they treat us very well", as Simon Hornby told us. The company also supplied two Galaxian machines for the Rag Galaxian knock-out contest, and have provided the university with a good variety of games.

If the machines ever go out of order, tell either the JCC or the SU treasurer, who promises "the machines will be mended within an hour". Any suggestions for new machines/games are welcomed by the SU.

Kathryn Everett



I was interested to see that a future new building for the Students' Union was one of the main topics in the Presidential hustings which have just taken place. It is certainly true that we in the University of Kent have very poor central Union facilities compared with most other universities, although it should be borne in mind that we have much better facilities of all kinds associated with the Colleges than are to be found elsewhere. There is no doubt however that both the Students' Union and the University as a whole would benefit greatly from additional accommodation.

It has been clear for some time that our Biological Sciences are in urgent need of additional space and that quite a number of our courses in the Humanities are in need of additional accommodation. Thus our course in Film Studies really needs a small film theatre of its own, together with some seminar rooms, and our courses in Drama would benefit greatly from another auditorium that was available on the campus. It should be possible in principle to design a complex which both met these additional academic requirements of the Humanities and at the same time provided some of the facilities that the Students' Union would need. The crucial question at the moment, however, is where the finance for such a project might be found.

In normal times we could expect the UGC to provide the finance for such a building, but the Government is not now providing any money for new university buildings and the UGC is having to use all the building allocation that is left for maintenance and repair. We will therefore have to rely on outside funds for any buildings on the campus. With this in mind we have begun to approach outside organisations that might support developments on the Film Studies, Drama and History of Art side, and there are indeed quite a number of enthusiastic groups keenly interested in such topics. All report that sources of finance are very scarce at this time of recession, however, and doubt whether we will be able to secure funds for such a building on the campus, although a combined appeal with the City might be more effective. We will continue to follow these ideas as actively as possible, but feel there is one other building programme that is even more urgent, and of direct concern to students at the moment, and that is the question of student residence.

We are very conscious of the difficulties and disadvantages students face when they have to live as far afield as Whitstable and Herne Bay and we should very much like to move to a situation when we could guarantee residence on the campus for all first year and third year students who would like this. The present accommodation we have available in the Colleges and on our Park Wood estate does not at the moment allow us to guarantee accommodation for even all first year students without producing a very great imbalance in the Colleges. However, we have calculated that if we can provide about another 200 places in Park Wood we should then be in a position to make such an offer of accommodation to all our incoming students, which we believe to be most important for the future.

We have been much encouraged by the way in which the Park Wood residences have been welcomed by the students and the residents there seem to much appreciate the general scheme and layout. We are therefore now drawing up detailed plans to extend the Park Wood residences by at least another 40 houses and hopefully another 70 for occupation by October 1982. The additional 40 houses would provide the further accommodation for another 200 students and we believe that this must therefore be the highest possible priority in our building.

The actual cost of such additional residences is well over one and a half million pounds and although some of this can be obtained by borrowing in the normal form of mortgage arrangement it is likely that the University will have to try and find up to half a million pounds from other sources to make the whole project viable. It will be appreciated that this is no easy matter at a time when finance is so difficult, but we do have every hope that it will be possible to go forward with the 40 additional houses, and we are making every effort to obtain the necessary financial support.

This whole question of building programmes on campus again illustrates the difficult problems that arise when having to make priority judgments between various projects of all which are very worthwhile. There is no doubt that we are desperately in need of further academic buildings for our Biological Laboratory, for our Film Studies and Drama work, and also that the Students' Union should have better central facilities. Despite the very pressing claims for all of these, however, we do believe that at the moment the highest priority should be given to the additional residences since these will in the long run benefit a very large number of students and indeed integrate the whole campus in a way which has always been planned.

D. J. E. Ingram

Rumoured Riot

On Monday, March 2, a coach was organised by the Student Union to take student sympathisers to London for a demonstration called by the New Cross Massacre Action Committee. The committee was set up after the murder of 13 young black people at a party in Deptford in January.


The 20 students from UKC joined the crowd at the assembly point in Fordham Park. The march was led by an open truck carrying a steel band. Relatives carried picture placards of the people killed. It was raining heavily as the procession moved past the burnt-out house at 439 New Cross Road. Outside were wreaths and flowers and a list of the young victims' names.

The march attracted an estimated 10,000 people. It was peaceful until fighting broke out with police on Blackfriars Bridge. The police used horses and riot shields.

I saw little justification for the Daily Express front-page headline "Rampage of a Mob". I was close to outbreaks of fighting at Blackfriars Bridge and Wigmore Street. The violence was ugly but there was no riot.

There was considerable tension between demonstrators and police but little conflict. There were 28 arrests and 10,000 demonstrators. A campaign has been organised against racism in the media.

Brian Daldorph

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Further revelations about the SAS men in Keynes College. After intensive interrogation it was found that the Ayatollah of Keynes College, Mr. Crabtree, had called them in to restore order to his 'revolutionary' charge.

Each of the SAS men had the name of a student scrawled on their chest in invisible ink. It was only when the interrogators set fire to the first SAS men's chest they found this out. The named students were all part of the group carrying out a 'dirty protest' in Keynes.

The students have been covering the walls with excrement, and wearing blankets. This protest has been going on for six weeks now. Apparently the cleaners are under the impression that the 'blanket wearing' was a new punk fashion. As for the 'excrement' on walls, apparently the college authorities have not noticed...

I can now reveal what the Jez in Jez Middleton stands for: Jezebel! Yes, the blonde super hero who phoned his mother, as soon as he became President has the name Jezebel. I'm not quite sure why he's called Jezebel but some people see this as a slur on his masculinity. Actually it's probably that his mother wanted a girl—half of UKC probably wishes she had had a girl too!

The new First Lady, Lucy Lunt, has, I understand, already taken to calling herself Nancy and keeping a revolver by her bedside. She has also just sacked her press officer for giving me that bit of news.

Finally news that Chris Jaybotham is considering signing for Leicester City for £4,000 per game. I'm informed that he's a bit worried about the cold, like Johan, as a Leicester fan I'm concerned that he can't play football.

This article is not censored in any way by Jane Merritt, the Union Secretary. The editorial board unanimously oppose this reaction on the part of the Union Secretary.

SCI SPY

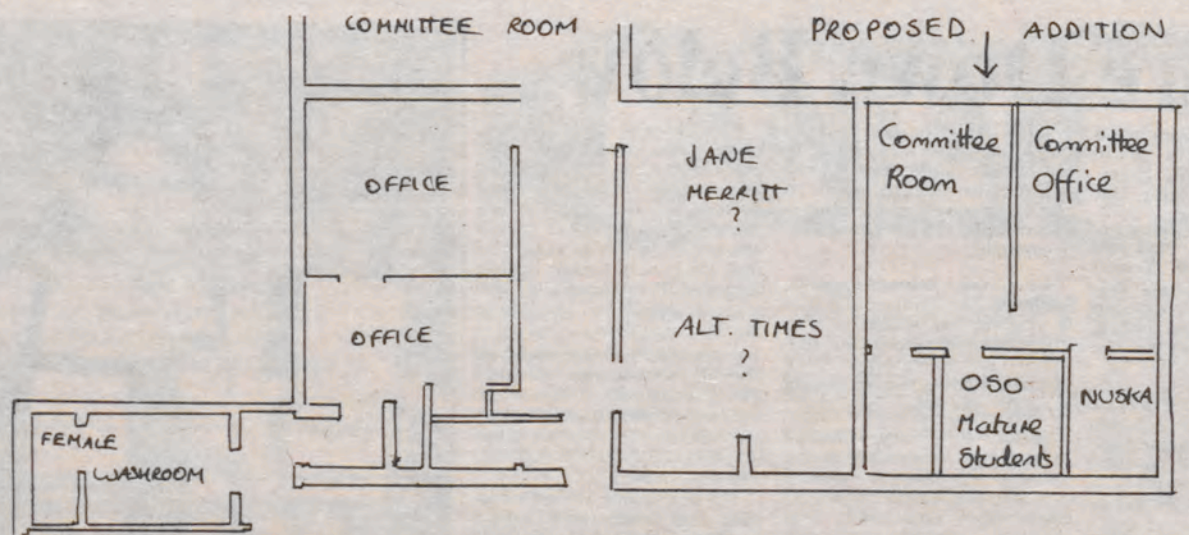
Did you know that living in Salford can take ten years off your life—as well as putting your street credibility rating well into the red? If not then this is for you—The Sci-Spy/Hypochondriacs anonymous guide to where not to live.

In general avoid industrial areas such as Halifax and Newcastle (not difficult, I know), in fact anyone who has moved from those to here should have improved their life span somewhat.

On a sort of best to worst comparison for England and Wales the place not to be is the Northern Hospital region, where the death rate is half as much again as the national average—this could have something to do with the fact that they all run around in bearskins and paint themselves blue. The mecca of good health would seem to be the Oxford region, all those centrally heated universities.

Another bad place is Wales—they all catch chills when they go out to burn down cottages and the general trend is for the health of the nation to deteriorate to the north and west. Of course, where you live is only one factor of your life expectancy and your habits are more likely to kill you (they deteriorate to the north and west as well). In fact the best way for a man living in the north to improve his life expectancy would be to become a woman living in Oxford—womens death rates are consistently lower than mens.

GRANTS
February saw a new batch of research grants and contracts being accepted by the university science faculties, among them were—From the South East Thames Regional Health Authority: £10,180 in support of the development of a hearing aid using a new digital encoding technique to overcome neural deafness—a project led by Dr. O. R. Hinton. Makes a change from cleaning ship's bottoms...
Jeremy Hayland



UNION BUILDING

Plans for the extension of the union building are on 'ice' as 'Incant' goes to press following the re-advertisement of the post of Housekeeper which has the rooms above the proposed extension as a part of the jobs 'salary.'

The news is that the proposed extension will be delayed for a month or two until the post is sorted out.

If the plan goes through however, the union will have the space on the ground floor next to the union building. Tony Horrocks the Union President explained: "It will be done at the minimum cost to the union."

The costs will be, the cost of erecting a partition, of re-draining the roof to make it fireproof, and expenditure on the installation of telephones and other office equipment.

If the union do get the building the latest proposal is for Rick Mustill to move into Jane's room and for the new Research Assistant to move into Rick's room.

In the extension itself there will be offices for 'The Altern-

ative Times', Jane Merritt, NUSKA, OSO and mature students as well as a room for the Executive to work in.

He mentioned that the union "might cost a coffee machine."

Tony Horrocks told 'Incant': "The Executive has got nowhere to work, there really has to be office space. You can move roll bars around the colleges but obviously not offices."

Jez Middleton, President-Elect of Kent Student's Union, told 'Incant' he was "concerned about the plan to add five offices."

"I doubt the need for five offices," he continued, "I would question whether 'The Alternative Times' needs an office as its own, or NUSKA. Both perform adequately now."

"The whole idea of an extension has been thrown in the air by the news that the university

may be negotiating with National Westminster Bank over a new building.

On the issue of a new union building, Jez Middleton said: "I will be seeing a number of people before my period of office starts. It's important to do it as part of the union plan. I think there's a desire for it on all sides, hopefully we can bring them together."

Meanwhile the issue of an extension to the present building hangs in the balance.

Societies

P.G.'S

All 655 post-graduates are automatically members of the Post-graduate Society run by the Post-graduate Executive Committee and concerned with the promotion of graduate's social and academic lives.

Many PG's have difficulty finding friends and establishing a good social life. This is particularly true of research students who, unlike undergraduates, do not meet many new people in lectures and seminars. The most social events for post-graduates occur in the summer vacation and in the first week of the New Year during the committee's annual "Graduate Introductory Conference."

The conference offers a variety of social events including parties, film shows and pub crawls. During the summer

months the post-graduate committee organises all the campus entertainments: films, discos, parties. During term-time there are regular parties and theatre trips and last year there were weekend trips to Frankfurt and Amsterdam.

Facilities for post-graduates include a post-graduate room in each college and there are typewriters in the library to use for theses and reports.

The Executive Committee deals with problems faced in post-graduate life and tries to ensure that adequate facilities are provided.

Each college has its PG representative: Keynes, Gavin Malloch, in Biology Lab; Eliot, Mike Hewitt, in the Maths Institute; Rutherford, Karen Toole, via the college IPS, and for Darwin T. K. al-Jorani.

another coach trip to Streatham ice rink and seats will be in great demand, so keep a look-out for the posters and book early.

D. Chelley (E)

GERMAN SOCIETY

We offer the chance for those interested to learn a little about the German mentality by providing films, slide shows, talks and informal gatherings.

In the past we have organised a trip to London to see a German exhibition and would like to be able to arrange a visit to the country in the near future.

We would welcome any suggestions from members as to how the society should be run and would also like to encourage more people to join. At present we have approximately 30 paid-up members. A society is what its members make it so come along and put your views forward.

S. Van Eyken
Jane Davies

GAYDAY

Spot the blue-jeans wearer day, more commonly known as Gayday, was held on 26th February. A variety



MATHS SOCIETY

This year has been another successful one for the Maths Society. The events we have organised have included a couple of social evenings in "The Unicorn," a very successful disco in Eliot and two well-attended coach trips, one to Nero's night club in Ramsgate and the other to the ice rink in Streatham, South London.

The Maths Society has about 75 members including people from other faculties and it is a credit to the committee that we have survived at all since we have been working on a generous grant of £5 from the union. (I hope next year's treasurer is reading this).

Forthcoming events include our annual open lecture which will be given by Dr. R. Hughes-Jones, the subject of which will be polyhedra.

We shall have our annual meal, probably at Cardinals, at the end of this term and this outing was very successful last year. Next term we shall have



A scene from Gaysoc's past—"Humble Beginnings."

of entertainments were offered in Keynes Post Grad room for all interested in Gaysoc's salubrious past.

Nine years of Gay Liberation could be traced through the exhibition, which showed how both this and Gaysoc have expanded from humble beginnings into the considerable organisations they are now. Photographs of members past and present, old newspaper cuttings and extracts from student journals gave a comprehensive guide to what the other tenth get up to.

Just after lunch Jeffrey Weeks, who attended the founding meeting of Kent's Gaysoc, and has written several books including "Coming Out" held a talk and discussion on Gay Liberation. It dealt with political and personal aspects of the gay movement and was attended by over forty people. Aggressive intruders to the meeting were greeted with cries of "fascists," and were examples of the less liberated aspects of "straight" society.

A panel discussion which promised hetero-homo-bi- and

a-sexual members produced some interesting issues. For instance, should someone who's bisexual choose a male or a female partner for a permanent relationship and ignore one side of their sexuality? Each person on the panel gave an insight into his or her sexuality, and the heterosexual male managed to appear more oppressed than the gays.

Anyone who imagined relationships were simple one-to-one affairs should have been successfully confused by the end of the discussion.

Our very own beauty consultant, "Ziggy" from Darwin, turned everyone who came to his make-up workshop into a dazzling butterfly for the ball later in the evening. Prizes for best Butch and Butterfly went to Clive and Jan, but I'm not sure which was which. Raffle prizes included a packet of Durex, promptly discarded by its (male) recipient, and a little pigs tie for its (fe)male chauvinist pig to crawl back into.

Those who chose to change from jeans for a day did so to their disadvantage.

Rasco de Wil

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Smalls

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JUSTIN YOUNGER wants a mention.

JOHN SENIOR—Better luck next year.

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2 SINGLE ROOMS available in flat in lovely old country house, centrally heated, 4 bedrooms, kitchen, sitting room, bathroom, hall, fully carpeted, nicely decorated, garden, phone just outside, £12.50 per week plus about £1 electricity. Contact V. Wood (E). DAVE—Belated happy birthday. A.

ROMA—Wondergirl of UKC Radio, and the greatest talker of Keynes study area... Hi!

Incant smalls are free—send details to 'Incant', Eliot College, via I.P.S.



And From The House of Atreus . . .

Yet another exercise in self-indulgence by UKC Dramatics was unleashed on an unsuspecting audience, this time in the form of "The Curse of Atreus".

The play, based on Greek mythology, comprised of three parts: "Seneca", "Agamemnon" and "Electra", to the curse that Atreus brought to his house and the ensuing horrors linking the three.

The first episode seemed promising enough, the acting standards seeming quite high. Sam Sneade was well-cast as Atreus; his sneering, sinister smiles graced the otherwise turgid script. Pam Hardiman was excellently lucid in her role as the minister, her function being to serve as narrator, describing in hideous detail, the murder of the three sons of Thyestes.

From the second section of the "Atreus" trilogy onwards, however, the play began to deteriorate. Long prose passages from the chorus and excessively high-flown speeches began to weary the mixed audience. The lack of any real action in the play became only too apparent, as the difficult language, obviously considered "poetic" and "profound" by those actors who spouted forth, succeeded only in isolating the audience. Thus any emotions this sordid tale could have raised were lost.

The language was the major fault of the play. Lines such as "leaping flames consume my vital parts" verged on the farcical, deserving and getting the laughter of the audience.

Graham Pyper provided much needed (but unintentional?) comic relief in his role as an old man in the last episode of the trilogy, yet this seemed incongruous beside the serious acting of most of the leading characters.

I have two questions to ask UKC Dramatics: who wrote the scripts (no credit is given), and why are some actors/actresses still taking two or even three roles in a play when there are well over 200 members in the Dramatic Society?

Perhaps I expect too much from UKC Dramatics' performances, yet I suspect that most of the audience felt, as I did, that "The Curse of Atreus" failed to fulfill the hopes it raised initially. As a lady behind me remarked whistfully "things looked so promising . . ."

Kathryn Everett



Murder at the Marlowe

However low in artistic merit, "thrillers" are held to be, I spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening at the Marlowe on February 27, at a performance of the second of the series of three thrillers at this theatre, "A Murder Has Been Arranged", by Emlyn Williams.

The plot was effective, if not particularly complex, and had the added gimmick of revolving around the Marlowe itself: the scene was the Marlowe stage.

Set in 1935, the play involved (originally enough!) a legacy, a long-lost relative, ghosts, and, of course, a murder.

Although no great masterpiece, the play contained several clever touches. The theatre props were used to dramatic effect, with the safety curtain being lowered and lights dimmed at appropriately tense moments.

The cast gave a polished performance, portraying the thriller stereotypes with professional precision. Alan Cody was the evil Maurice Mullins, his smooth and sinister role counterbalanced by Matthew Solon's lively rendering of Jimmy North, the hero. Characterisation to any depth is obviously not a primary

demand of thrillers, and the Marlowe players were not willing to break this boundary.

A major criticism of the play is the abruptness of its ending. In all other respects, this was a conventional-style thriller, thus the end took the audience by surprise, failing, as it did, to provide the usual epilogue.

As many have observed, thrillers are obviously a safe bet for the Marlowe in these times of financial uncertainty. I only hope the Marlowe reaps the rewards of its consistent attempts at an entertaining programme.

Kathryn Everett

Don Giovanni

In recent years there have been more and more attempts at translating a work created for one specific form of expression to a completely different media. Increasingly opera and particularly ballet, have been taken from the confines of the Opera House stage and given the relatively unrestricted scope which film permits.

On the whole these experiments have proved less than successful. Grand opera and romantic ballet in particular were created with the view to being seen through the proscenium arch, so in fact the audience is in effect looking from the outside, into an imaginary world, or at least are divided from the reality of everyday life. To take cameras into this world and effectively show it from the inside, brings immense problems of giving a fair presentation to the scope

of choreography in the case of ballet, and requires a complete revision of the dramatic form of opera. Film treatment also tends to kill the magical aspect stone dead.

Joseph Losey's much discussed film version of Mozart's Don Giovanni, which is currently showing in London (Academy One, Oxford Street) again displays all the shortcomings of filmed opera, but at the same time it shows signs of great possibilities for the future. First, the outside locations present marvellous scope particularly with the great use which can be made of buildings and gardens which date from the Classical period in which the opera was written. Unfortunately, the film remains confined within the space of a small number of settings, and at times takes on the very appearance of a stage.

The singers have to cope with the difficulties presented by camera close-ups, conflicting with the exaggerated gestures and facial contortions which they are by necessity used to employing on stage. This makes some of the exchanges stilted dramatically, and presents the singers with a perhaps insoluble dilemma. Their performances, however, are all exemplary. Ruggero Raimondi in the title role, his appearance striking and almost devil-like, illuminated the character and his sinful intentions, breaking through the barrier which opera, when sung in a foreign language, can often present. The richness of his performance, together with Kenneth Riegels' witty portrayal of his servant, Leporello, are equally matched by the excellence of the female leads. The quite stunning Edda Moser as Donna Anna and Kiri Te Kanawa as

the rejected mistress Donna Elvira, both give performances which enhance to the full the sheer brilliance of Mozart's arias and duets, despite an occasionally poor soundtrack. Kiri Te Kanawa must surely be one of the great opera stars of the 80s.

Despite some of the criticisms initially put forward, there are memorable moments of great imagery. Particularly haunting is the scene where Donna Elvira, Donna Anna and Don Ottavio arrived masked and heavily cloaked on a barge, appearing out of the river mist at the foot of the steps of the villa. Moments such as this, make one realise filmed opera, if handled with more imagination, could indeed be an exhilarating art form.

Peter Whittle

Cambridge Chorus

The "structuralist" controversy at Cambridge has recently hit the headlines. Incant went along to Cambridge to find out about the controversy for itself.

Colin McCabe, a young assistant English lecturer was automatically forwarded for promotion to the Faculty Board. He was not promoted, and as he is not allowed to stay on as an assistant lecturer, effectively he was sacked.

Colin McCabe is one of the leading "structuralists" at Cambridge and his supporters believe that is why he was denied promotion.

He has a reputation as an intelligent, intellectual lecturer in semiology who occasionally wears a donkey jacket when giving what one student called his "incredibly difficult" lectures.

A student told me that the "structuralism" is all things to all people, and "anyone who pretends to know what it is, is lying".

Structuralism places an emphasis on linguistics, grammar and psychoanalysis, but the mixture varies from lecturer to lecturer.

One of the leading structuralists at Cambridge is Raymond Williams who wrote the basic text for Kent's Drama II course "Drama From Ibsen to Brecht".

The English Faculty Board chaired by Christopher Ricks argued that not giving McCabe promotion is "standard practice".

Howard Erskine-Hill of Pembroke College dismissed "structuralism" as a "terminology masquerading as a theory".

He continued: "Anybody who encourages that sort of position is not likely to be at the top of the list for an appointment."

An English student said: "The issue is really that the traditionalists have got the jobs, and the structuralists want them."

The press have made much of the split between "structuralists" and "traditionalists". In fact there are at least three non-structuralist approaches to literature at Cambridge, including Marxism and liberal humanism.

The student's reaction was one of "bewilderment". Generally they sided with McCabe, seeing him as a rebel, standing against the Faculty authorities.

The debate has been going on for many years. Carl Baron, who supervised McCabe when he was a student, said: "I've been hearing the same arguments for eight years."

The McCabe "incident" provoked a "flash of anger" (as one student said), which, however, has not changed much in the Faculty. McCabe will still move on to pastures new when his assistant lectureship runs out, though he has been compensated financially by Kings College.

"Incant" reviews some new arrivals in Dillons Bookshop

The first literary criticism I ever heard was a school friend's comment on "Lady Chatterley's Lover": "It's f--ing good (or vice versa). That book was my friend's (wet) dream."

D. H. Lawrence did, however, write excellent poetry. This, along with the bad stuff, is collected in "The Complete Poems of D. H. Lawrence", edited by Vivian de Sola Pinto and F. Warner Roberts, just out in Penguin.

The edition has excellent notes with Lawrence's introductions and a general introduction by de Sola Pinto.

An irreplaceable edition, then, which is worth the £5 it costs, and more.

It does the poet justice. And it does us good to realise Lawrence also wrote "The Only Way Is Love".

My school friend might have preferred "Schultz" by J. P. Donleavy. It is the story of Sigmund Franz Schultz (notice the resemblance to Freud's name) of Sperm Productions, who seduces women and produces plays—in that order.

The book suffers from having a hero more obsessed with sex than Freud. Whereas for D. H. Lawrence, sex is a religion, for Donleavy it is a "corkscrew paroxysm". D. H. Lawrence enters women's minds; Donleavy enters somewhere else and stays there.

The strain of sexual egotism is off-putting, as is the style ("Schultz tugging . . . Schultz pinching . . . Schultz wiping his hands"). Much of the dialogue rhymes with "buck" (and it's not "puck"!); It's funny Harold Robbins really.

Onto saner (and plainer) things now: "The History of Myddle" by Richard Gough. Myddle is a 17th Century parish and Gough is a parishoner who recorded village life then. Gough

does for Myddle what Hardy was to do for Dorset.

It is an excellent piece of social history and Penguin must be thanked for having the courage to print it for the first time in paperback. Gough (in the original English) tells many stories, but I particularly liked the one about the woman who drank away her husband's fortune. It is a book to delve into time and time again. A minor classic.

David Barash's "Sociology: The Whispering Within", is relatively easy reading. I am always a bit suspicious of books which "unravel the world", but this is better than its publicity suggests. The chapter titles are occasionally pretentious, e.g. "Hottentot Gods and the strange case of the plucked Ocelot", but the book itself is excellent.

I reject the convention that homo sapiens is a "little-studied species". Man has for centuries contemplated his navel, but this book turns us to other topics.

"The Penguin Dictionary of Microprocessors", compiled by Anthony Chandor, is an excellent complement to the author's dictionary of computers. According to the cover notes, these words are becoming part of "everyday speech", though I have not heard anyone talking about a "crippled leap frog test" for ages.

It is interesting how phrases such as "daisy chain" have been given a new meaning. Useful for science students.

"Learning Through Interaction", (Cambridge University Press, £6.50) is of mainly specialised interest. It is difficult to follow, but a must for students in education as well as teachers, future and present. It's central thesis is that conversation—rather than writing—is how we learn our language.

Two birds in a tree

Two birds in a tree,
One sings of love,
The other in harmony.
Thick leaves in the night,
One wrestles with shadows,
The other bathes in moonlight.
Two clouds in the sky,
Both dance in the breeze,
But one knows not the other,
Is preparing to fly.
A flap of the wings
And one bird alone sits
In a tree and sings.

Frank Speight

The Chalk Circle

The Chalk Circle,
February 19, 1981

To your average modern day audience accustomed to a diet of Hamlet-style character/audience identification, the Brechtian concept of theatre is, at the very least, unfamiliar. But Charles Osborne, the director, is to be congratulated for this brave experiment which for the most part was successful.

It is a play "about real people". But I must admit that the introduction made me wonder if I had inadvertently gate-crashed a biker's club meeting and I do not feel that the parallel between the events in Meridan motorcycle plant and the action in the play really came across. What was effective was the combination of fluidity of episode and consistently powerful lyrics and music.

The acting standard varied considerably and though the comedy occasionally degenerated into slapstick, the main impression was one of a competent company who obviously enjoyed the whole thing. In fact, at one point, one of the actors who was sitting at the back of the stage was enjoying himself so much that the whole

set behind him shook as well! Having the actors on stage throughout as an extension of the audience must have been very demanding for them but I'm glad to see that this did not stop them from entering wholeheartedly into the spirit of things. However, it did provide an extra depth to the production (and also cut out the usual disturbing backstage noises).

Lynn Blackmore's presentation of the superbly bitch Governor's wife, whose name I didn't catch but it sounds like a sneeze, and Richard Markle as her congenitally deformed husband and Azdak, the bent judge with a heart of gold were particularly enjoyable. Doug Greig and Christella Soteriou were adequate narrators but came into their own when they sang, blending his finely controlled and trained voice with her spontaneous and surprisingly deep tones.

All in all it was an excellent and informative evening's entertainment, though the star of the show for me was the under-sized oriental boy with the matching oversized trousers and grin who appeared in the final scene!

Cecily Salmon

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— LET'S DANCE



Heads down, no nonsense, mindless entertainment, that's what Bad Manners offer and that's what the crowd at the Odeon on Tuesday night got.

Bad Manners aim to entertain, their music is devoid of politics and social comment, something that more often than not spoils the music of some of the other ska bands. They operate 'very nicely thank you' under the old 'Fuck Art, Let's Dance' dictum which on the last night of their tour provided a fresh and exciting sound. For a nine-piece band they were tight and sharp producing their individual brand of fun ska which has made this sound so popular.

Their rather short set (around 45 minutes) opened with the excellent 'Just a Feeling' and continued with almost all the songs from their second album 'Loonee Tunes!'. These received a mixed reception with the singles 'Lip-Up Fatty', 'Ne Ne, Na Na Na Na, Nu Nu,' and 'Lorraine' turning the crowd into a comical mass of jerking bodies in time for the encore 'Special Brew.'

The set dragged slightly half-

way through and, sensing this, Buster (26 Big Mac's a day) Bloodvessel decided to remove his white boiler suit to expose his massive derriere to the crowd, playing with himself at the same time. Now I can understand Sting taking off his shirt on 'Top of the Pops' to boost the sales of a certain Police disc but the relevance of this particular act escapes me. A lady declared the following morning that her ten year old son had enjoyed the concert very much because he was at the age when he liked 'that sort of tit and bum humour'—I suppose that says it all really!

Backsides apart, this was one of the most enjoyable concerts I've seen in Canterbury. Musically and visually Bad Manners are excellent (at times rivalling even Madness) but it must be said that the apolitical, fun-loving message emanating from the band was not echoed by the outbursts of violence and fascist chanting from the skinhead fraternity in the crowd. Rude boys did not prevent the night from being a memorable and above all, entertaining one.

Jackie Lawther

RICHARD WHO?

Richard Digence
Keynes Dining Hall
A singer/comedian and a sell-out gig with fifteen encores!! Well that was what Richard Digence told me to write. Richard who?

Richard Digence is rapidly becoming one of Britain's most popular folk performers. In London, his home town, he hosts a weekly radio show on the extremely popular Capital Radio, and now commands sell-out concerts, and has a live album to his credit.

Digence deserved far more than the one hundred odd people that turned up in Keynes. The hundred (few but loud) were treated to a virtuoso performance of humour, poems and songs, with a dis-

tinct emphasis on humour.

With the sing-a-long-a-Digence atmosphere, the half inebriated crowd were able to air their voices to such ageless classics as "Working-class Millionaire," "Drinking with Ponie," "She's a Lady" showed Digence as the serious and talented songwriter. It was just as enjoyable as the "booze up" material.

For the misguided people who missed the gig, there is only one way to find out what you missed—beg, borrow or steal the album "Richard Digence and Friends Live."

After hearing that I dare anyone to say "Richard who?"

Brad Feld

A R T E R Y

I really don't know why I'm writing this review, I mean, if you were really interested in hearing what the band were like you'd have gone to the gig; if you haven't heard of them, if you couldn't be bothered to go to the gig and give them a chance, then it's highly unlikely that you'll trouble yourself with reading this. The fact is there were only 4 people in EJCR there to watch Artery when they came on stage. Although this number "swelled" (??) to a magnificent 26 (including band and roadies), this was more than a little off-putting for the band. To have come all the way from Sheffield to play in front of so few people must have been incredibly demoralising.

However, this was your loss. Artery played a full-length set and seem to put as much into it as they would if they were playing in front of two hundred people. Their songs are interesting and original. At times they use the normal format of guitar bass, drums and keyboards, at others the guitarist plays saxophone and the rest of the band play assorted percussion. While their songs are hardly likely to be played on Junior Choice, they are catchy, but in an unusual and perhaps harsh way. On top of a foundation of hypnotic drums and bass are laid jarring guitar, distorted organ and (at times) crazed vocals. The band have so far released 2 singles, "The Slide" and "Cars in Motion", either of which is worth buying (if you feel so inclined).

Surprisingly, Artery seemed to be more philosophical than pissed off about the lack of audience. Their manager did not think it was a complete waste of time; at least I suppose a few more people have heard of

them. Things generally seem to be progressing quite nicely for them with several gigs in London and a John Peel session recorded last week.

This brings about the whole question of JCC Ents and whether or not they are worthwhile. There are some who feel that it would be much better to have a small number, of so-called "big-name" artists rather than the considerable number of lesser known groups which we now have. I can understand the attraction for some of having, say, the Police and Roxy Music and then hardly any minor ents, but this attitude is hardly adventurous or constructive. Every group has to start somewhere and, in my opinion, groups are usually more exciting and have more conviction in their early days. A university is in the position of being able to present up and coming groups in a small venue with a good atmosphere, at a time when they are often at their best, and at a mere fraction of what they would cost if they were in the charts. A great variety of inventive and imaginative groups can be provided as opposed to one or two "megagroups" who are often stale and only in it for the money anyway. To merely have chart groups down here would be to support the demented attitude of some that if an artist sells a lot of records he/she/they must be good. A university can help a great number of bands and try, to some extent, to rectify what Radio 1 and "Top of the Pops" do. It is surely better to do something constructive and try and improve the "music scene," rather than to contribute to the mess it is in at the moment.

Andy Borgess

**NEW ORDER
BANSHEES
N. A. STEPPERS
THE PASSAGE**

New guitarists, new style, new sessions, new tension, new order.

The rebirth of psycho-atmospheric cinema soundtrack.

Guitars recoil from earshot as Bernard Albrecht sings: "We're so far away It seems to draw me in."

His style has a sense of wonder. He seems over-awed by the words (by Ian Curtis).

"It's such a strange day In such a lovely way Some people look down on me I hope they like what they see."

Ian Curtis would have sung these as desperately miserably

lines but Albrecht gives them a sense of well-being. The band twitches and soars behind him, flowing into the horizon in hopeful surges.

Peter Hook—not the greatest vocalist—tries to get his vocal chords round a new song called "The Dreams Never End." It is a jaunty little number with a strong hook making "bid farewell to your soul" the best advice you ever heard.

If you're into epistemology New Order are an absolute must. An ethereal umbrella of pleasure (when you're in the right mood).

The birth of psychatrical rock. A description not a category. The door is open for the noise to shine in. From John Peel to the Hammersmith Palais. "Voodoo Dolly" is possibly the best thing the Banshees have done since the "Join Hands" LP.

It is enacted on stage with each Banshee transfixed in a cage of sharp yellow light shafts, posing before a background of flooding green. A cage of heart-caressive rolling drums. A cage of icy guitar switches. A cage of numbing bass. A cage of dry spiral vocal. A human zoo where Western restrictions can

be affective. The Banshees are back into the rhythm.

A couple more singles need plugging. New Age Steppers' "Fade Away" and The Passage's "Devils and Angels/Watching You Dance." Both have the same drifting, seductive vocal. The Passage all the more effective for their abstract lyrics.

It floats over me, taking me over. Until I can't write about it any longer.

The Banshees material will be out as an LP in May, but it will probably be the middle of 1987 before a New Order LP is released. Anyway, get it.

Jeremy Browne

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INCANT DIARY

Thur. 12th March

1. UKC Dramatics Audition Time for 'God' by Woody Allen. Your big chance to be extra silly next term in Rutherford and Eliot JCRs budding anything go along to Eliot Seminar Room 9, 7.30-10 p.m. (Jez where are you?).

2. The Photos supported by Joöls Holland (ex Squeeze) and His Millionaires, D.D.H. 8.30 p.m. £2.

3. Cinema 3. Sebastiane, Jorman/Humfress (Eng.). Of homosexuality. Go for the soundtrack, it's gorgeous.

Fri. 13th March

1. Rugby Club, Men v Women scrum, 2.30 p.m. somewhere on the Sports Fields, and (if anyone survives . . .).

2. Pyjama Disco, EJCR, cheap booze, 8-late.

3. SU film, Shampoo. Sex and suds with yummy Warren Beaty! 7.30 p.m. 50p (Do you fool around with your hairdresser?).

4. Open Lecture, Rosalind Wadel (novelist). The Contemporary Novel and Short Story, 6 p.m., Colt, admission free.

5. Chinese Society Film, 800 Heroes, 7 p.m. RLTI (free). (Featuring the dutiful souls who turn up to UGMs).

6. Food Bar in Rutherford. Upper Common Room, run by the Chaplaincy. (Watch the Bruce Smy 'floored show' in the bar area).

Sat. 14th March

1. Marlowe's Wait Until Dark, by Frederick Knott, the last night of the thriller season, who knows what may happen . . . 7.30 p.m., £2 and £2.50.

Sun. 15th March

1. SU Film, Adolf Hitler, My Part In His Downfall (not serious), 7.30 p.m., 50p.

2. Baccholian Singers, Open Recital Series at the Gulbenkian. Music from Henry VIII's court, Ridout, Schubert, Britten, guitar solos and just 4 American Songs, 8 p.m., £1.50

Mon. 16th March

1. Aids for the Disabled Exhibition at Ricemans (down town) sponsored by the local Rotary Club.

2. Ted Turd and the Toolsheds (is this a joke someone?). KJCR

3. Literary Society Revue (general merriment) R Upper Common Room, 8 p.m.

4. Adolf Hitler, My Part In His Downfall.

Tues. 17th March

1. Cinema 3, The Tempest (Jarman, Eng. 1979). Toyah Willcox as Miranda, Heathcote Williams as Prospero and Karl Johnson as Ariel. A must for all

Shakespeare students who didn't bother to read it. 7.30 and 10 p.m., £1.

Wed. 18 March

Last day of lectures folks!!!



Jez Middleton is chalked up as the new President.



IT'S ALIVE!

This ridiculous film by Larry Cohen has absolutely nothing to recommend it—except perhaps that it is the ultimate in baby jokes. How could anyone hope to make a credible film about a killer baby—a baby whose athletic performance in leaping up at lightning speed to plunge its fangs, vampire-style, into its victim's neck, and its intelligence, in using the sewer system to travel around town, were matched only by its appetite, in devouring an entire fridge of frozen meat and six bottles of milk!

The body (a dummy!) was the best actor in the film. Its father, played by John Ryan, represented a combination of appalling acting, lack of emotion and unintelligible speech, which makes it difficult to comment on the content of much of the dialogue as the subtitles had evidently been forgotten.

Bad acting runs in the family, as his equally plastic wife and "all American boy" son were no better. The father was the only member of the cast who made any attempt at profundity, when he was a child he thought that the real monster was the creator of Frankenstein rather than Frankenstein itself—an obvious attempt to link this

film with Mary Shelley's classic.

Credibility was lacking at every point, from the fact that the body survives so long to the shooting of the police chief by his colleagues at the end, when he was left holding the baby. The film specialised in anticlimaxes, stereotypes and clichés, for example, our hero's sudden discovery of his love for his baby in the sewer. There was a stab at a subplot, where the head of a pharmaceutical company offered a boardroom place in return for the total destruction of the "monster", but it didn't take long for Cohen to forget this, and he left it unresolved.

There were two conscious attempts at humour in the film—a portrayal of nervous fathers in the maternity hospital and a scene where the police got the wrong baby, but these were not as humorous as the rest of the film, particularly the baby's blood-curdling cries as it pounced on its next victim.

The film finished with the daunting announcement: "Another one has been born in Seattle." Does this mean a sequel? As the hero's boss says consoling him, "These things happen."

Carl Sumner
Caroline Elwell



Neil Diamond as "The Jazz Singer".

Taxi Driver

Taxi Driver played to a capacity audience when shown in the Cornwallis, and deservedly so—it is a superb film. The plot, which in unscrupulous hands could have been exploited into a sub-standard 'sex and violence' movie, is in fact manipulated into an intense and powerful film.

Its success is attributed to a remarkable performance by Robert De Niro, supported by Jodie Foster and Cybil Shepherd. Credit is also due to Martin Scorsese for skilful directing and to Michael Chapman for some captivating photography, especially of New York.

The story revolves around the day to day life of a New York cabbie called 'Travis,' a simple, withdrawn Vietnam veteran whose willingness to take " . . . anyone, anywhere, anytime . . ." brings him into contact with the extremes of New York society, the residents of the de-luxe skyscrapers and the inhabitants of the slums and ghettos.

His simple standards are offended by the power and exploitation he sees wielded by the pimps and pushers of viceland.

His character is similar to the effervescent tablets he frequently consumes—put him in the right environment and a violent reaction will ensue. The catalyst for this reaction are the sights he sees as an everyday voyeur of a New York street life.



Robert De Niro as he appeared in 'The Deer Hunter'

He changes from the nervous, uncertain suitor of an attractive campaign organiser to the strong-willed, indignant saviour of a child prostitute.

The inner anger that has built up within him has to be released; at one point he attempts to assassinate an obnoxious presidential candidate whose slogan "We are the people" feels hollow set against Travis' experiences. But he redirects his anger to the pimps and gangland bosses, culminating in a violent, but riveting climax.

Robert De Niro is totally convincing in his role. He has the ability to absorb the contradictions that this role presents, and the audience is compelled, spellbound, fascinated . . . by the character he presents to us.

This is one of the most worthwhile films shown on campus this year, a standard other films should aim for.

Robin Britton

Brubaker

"Brubaker" is an archetypal Robert Redford film. He is the liberal hero against The Establishment. What is new is the subtlety. It makes a large part of its argument the deficiency of 'career liberals,' the "pseudo-reformers" who promise things but never carry out their promises.

Stuart Rosenberg who directed the film also directed "Cool Hand Luke" another prison drama. "Cool Hand Luke" is probably the better film, but "Brubaker" is better in its aims.

Brubaker is appointed to reform Starkfield Prison. He (like his predecessors) is a 'reform governor' but Brubaker really means it. His ambitions to reform lead to arguments, doubt and death. When he digs up the graves of prisoners who were murdered by past prison wardens, he is replaced. As the film ends Brubaker is driven away to the sound of the inmates clapping

in recognition of what Brubaker tried to do.

One scene particularly sticks in the memory. Brubaker is arguing with the liberal governor's press aide when she says "Why are we arguing? We believe in the same things." "No we don't" he says, "not really."

The 'pseudo-liberals' speak of the realistic, Brubaker of the possible.

The film is based on a true story.

UKC FILM ROUND-UP

UNIVERSITY OF KENT

OPEN LECTURES

Friday, 13th March

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Cornwallis Lecture Theatre
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New Image For UKC?

Slim-in and sunlamp set trend

The physical appearance of students at UKC seems to be a matter of great concern for the Sports Centre's administrators. What with a sauna and various keep fit classes, it could be believed that those who use UKC sports facilities were kept well in trim. However recent developments would appear to contradict this evidence.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

As spring creeps its way in past winter and thoughts turn to summers of blazing suns and clear blue skies, many "minds" will now begin to reflect on the state of the "body". The Sports Centre now offers the chance to rid yourself of unwanted pounds.

On Monday, March 2, 12 brave people weighed in at the Sports Centre at the beginning of a sponsored slim. Their weights are kept in strictest confidence and they have three months to lose as much weight as they can. Anyone is entitled to enter with all the money collected going to the "Friends of the Sports Centre" Fund.

When you have lost all these pounds how then can you improve yourself? Yet again the Sports Centre has the answer.

SOLARIUM

Under the direction of

George Popplewell, a new solarium has just been installed. Following the success of such equipment at other universities, Mr Popplewell took the initiative to try out this, hopefully, money-making scheme.

The equipment consists of a simple wooden-framed bed with ultra violet lights running the length of it. The system is completely safe, and, supposedly, very healthy, with only those most sensitive needing to wear protective glasses. The charges are reasonably low, at 25p for ten minutes. It is claimed a good tan can be attained after only half-an-hour (though it is best to do this in several sessions).

It would therefore appear that the Sports Centre is determined to ensure that at least some of us will leave this University no longer envious of those who have a suntan even in the depths of winter!

(If you feel you would like to take part in the sponsored slim, sponsor forms can be collected from the reception desk at the Sports Centre—it will at least keep you off the cream eggs for a while!)



ROWING VICTORY HENLEY!

Not content with winning at Daulbridge, a "very chuffed" UKC Rowing Club entered its first event of 1981 on Saturday, February 21: The Henley Fours, head of the river race.

This event is always very popular, not only because the Thames at Henley is a very good stretch of river to row on, but also as it gives clubs an indication as to how well their preparation for the regatta season is going.

The club, under the guidance of their coach Chris Perry has trained hard all term, building up in strength, stamina and technique, having either five or six training sessions a week.

As it was a processional race with the fastest timed boat winning, the crew had to drive themselves as hard as they could over the 2 1/4 mile course. The results published two hours after the race, showed that the University had won their Senior "C" category (in which there were 20 crews entered) and had also beaten crews of higher stakes (Senior "B" and Senior "A"). Their final position was 19th overall.

This is very encouraging as it shows that the rowing club has good potential for the regatta season which starts in May.

This success can be partly attributed to improvements in their craft. The new carbo-craft has quite definitely bettered the performance of the crew. This type of equipment can only be bought after careful investment of its sports grant, and sponsorship from the "Kentish Gazette".

With the advent of their new coach, and better equipment, the rowing club's performance is bound to improve, and hopefully this will continue if finance is to be maintained at a high level. Only then will we be able to see the colours of Kent University at the highly prestigious Henley Regatta.

Before the regatta season, some more processional races will be entered; the next being at Maidstone on March 15.

The crew: Adrian Mould, Deniz Rankine, Paul Hamer, David Curran and Steve Ito as cox.

Toby Trotter and Deniz Rankine

BEATEN AT THEIR OWN GAME

UKCSC9 UKC RFC 7

Those who had the pleasure and no doubt the pains from playing in this game will agree that here was a game played with great spirit and commitment by both teams.

The teams were evenly matched in terms of height and weight. The footballers (plains) had the edge on speed over the rugby players (stripes) in every department, while the stripes were far more experienced.

The game began by being played very quickly and aggressively by both teams, and the stripes looked more proficient up front, resulting in several penetrating runs by Terger on the wing. But the plains learned very quickly, and Reade at fly-half, by a fast move of the ball, broke well to set up several breaks for himself and his backs.

The first points came for the plains when Reade broke, chipped ahead but was impeded. A penalty was awarded which McCloud converted.

The game flowed well for a while with some impressive breaks from the stripes' back row, Flue and Maughan combining well to set up several breaks. Clarke looked competent and dangerous in the loose and line-out but was slowed down and eventually had to retire through injury

only to return later.

Injury forced a re-organisation of the stripes; Terger moving into scrum-half, Short going to full-back, and Wilson to the wing, with Steve Hooper at number eight. Soon after this Short converted to make the score 3-3.

Several fluid movements produced some exciting moments. Eventually, this resulted in Wilson scoring for the stripes' after pressure from the stripes' back row, despite some enthusiasm allowed Kane to spin the ball out again to Reade which allowed the plains to make ground.

In some loose play the ball was kicked clear only to rebound off Godber; Reade picked it up and darted through to score; the try was duly converted by McCloud.

Despite the stripes' attempts to score, some fast running and hard tackling by the plains' centres, especially Luckham, prevented any further score.

The result was 9-7, a very competitive and aggressive game, and a vast improvement in football/rugby relations. Perhaps a transfer fee could secure several of the plains to change clubs, as they definitely showed a great deal of potential. Thanks are due to the captains for organising and playing in an enjoyable game!

CREDIT TO KEYNES

When 8 teams played for the Indoor Inter College 5-a-side football trophy on Tuesday, 24th February, Keynes scored a resounding victory when both its teams reached the final.

Keynes 'A' beat Keynes 'B' 3-1 in a match of skill and dexterity, the result heavily influenced by Gerry Garby, of whom it was later said that "if he'd played like that all year, he would have been a regular first eleven player."

Arranged by the soccer club, the competition came off smoothly with Peter Stevenson (Canterbury and District FC) at the Sports Hall to present the cup and Referee Society Chairman Stan Harrison providing his services.

Each game was of ten minutes duration, five minutes each way with a two minute break at half time. Mike Wilkins said afterwards that the competition was a great success, with many non-team players taking part.

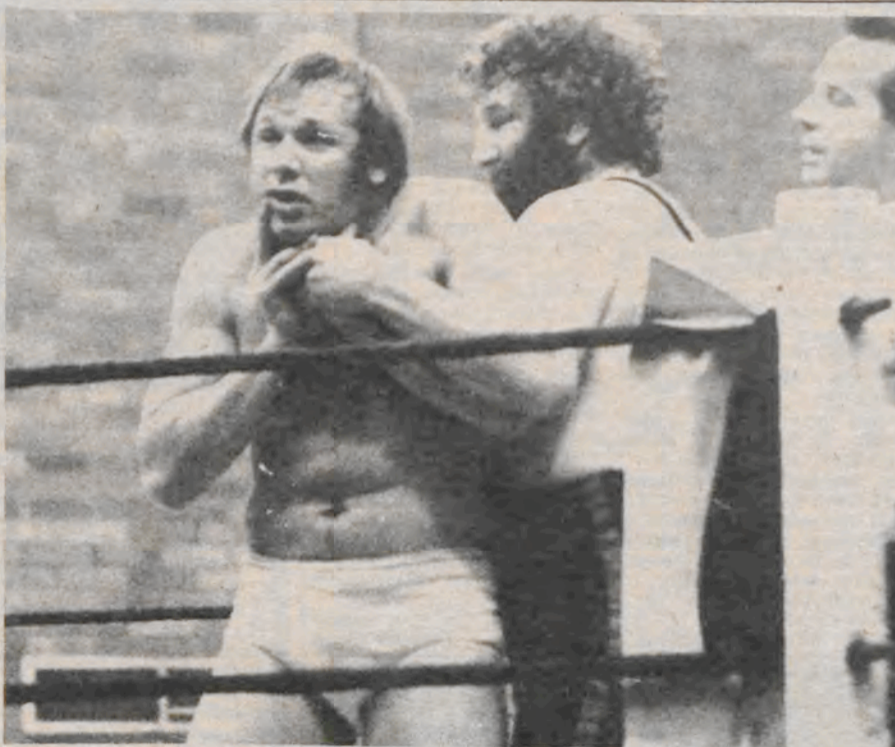
Semi-final results: Keynes 'B' 1, Eliot 0; Keynes 'A' 2, Darwin 'A' 1.

Disabled

In this, the Year of the Disabled, it is heartening to see the interest the Sports Centre is taking in trying to provide facilities to allow disabled men and women to participate in sport.

On Monday, March 2, a film about disabled people and sport was shown in Keynes Lecture Theatre 1. This was an introductory film and was hoped to introduce the disabled to the possibilities sport holds for them as an activity. On Thursdays at 6 pm, the basketball club is helping to set up a club for disabled basketball players in wheelchairs.

In allowing the use of the Sports Centre by the disabled, the university is fulfilling an important part of its charter. The man behind this new initiative is George Popplewell, who has had many years experience in working with the disabled.



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SPORTS FED OPEN MEETING

Anything Goes...

The Sports Federation held its second termly meeting on Tuesday, February 24. With more than half the various sporting clubs represented a lively discussion ensued involving in particular the resurfacing of the tennis courts, a merger of the surfing and sailing clubs and the question of charging students for using sports facilities.

Resurfacing

The tennis courts are now around ten years old. Because of their heavy use and the constant attacks of the weather, they have for the last four years been in a bad state of repair. The University has lent the sports centre £20,000 to resurface four of the tennis courts nearest to the centre. This will have to be paid back, with interest, over 5 years. The new courts will be all weather, and should allow play of a high standard.

Another side product of the new courts is the installation of lighting between Keynes College and the Parkwood path. This has been proposed for many years and at long last has been put into operation. Hopefully, with extensions being taken off the main electrical cable, it should be possible to fit floodlights in the future.

Club Merger

Next they moved on to consider a proposed merger of the windsurfing club and the sailing club. Andy Dodgshon seemed to favour the continued separation of the two clubs, and the establishing of links with the windsurfing school at Lydd. This would enable far more students to learn at relatively cheap rates, in a controlled situation.

William Garnett, however, opposed this saying that within the sailing club there were already several members who

were experienced windsurfers. If the two clubs were to combine, on all matters of finance, safety and accountability to their members, both clubs would be better off.

John Maughan questioned the financial aspect of the union, feeling that with the sailing club having a larger membership and therefore a bigger say in committee matters, it may use the windsurfing funds for its own purposes. The decision of the merger was deferred until the windsurfing club, who were not represented, could put their point of view.

Sports Facilities Charge

Next the question of charges for the booking of courts in the sports hall was discussed. The Exec opposed such a move, believing it wrong that recreational facilities should be charged for. Mr Garnett objected to this, saying that a small charge would help to cover part of the expenditure on new equipment. Again the decision was deferred.

Van

As to the question about the van, patience in the main criteria. The Sports Fed have been advised to buy carefully, otherwise they could find themselves spending money on a "bargain" that will break down within a few weeks of purchase.

The final issue was that of the demand for an allocation of increase in union funds given to the Sports Fed. It was agreed that an increase from 20 per cent to 25 per cent would be proposed and the meeting ended with a plea from Andy Dodgshon for a good turn-out at the UGM by all Sports Fed members.

LETTERS

ROYALANCE REBUFFED

Dear Sir,

I take great exception to the letter decrying climbing in the last issue—from a non-existent C. Royalance of Darwin. I assume that this person objects to the fact that people occasionally have to be rescued. This idea is present in a letter to the "Daily Mail" headed "Danger Money"—"everyday I read that people have to be rescued from the tops of mountains... all at great expense... such individuals should by law be required to take out insurance cover against such rescues being needed". This is wrong; the mountain rescue teams are all volunteers and any funding comes from donations. Most climbers will put their change into the collection boxes in pubs. Climbing may indeed be said to be an irrational activity, as indeed can all sport, for the fact that they provide pleasure not goods—this depends on the way you look at it. Churchill said in 1909: "The people were no longer merely content to alternate between bed and factory; in short they demanded to live." So C. Royalance why not ban all sport, so that we can all "do something constructive".

Climbing and the associated risk provide relief from "the stench of the shopfloor and of the examination treadmill". This because one achieves unification of body and mind which is unattainable in today's society's "constructive activities"—only in sport. In climbing this unification is particularly satisfying because the penalty of a mistake, as in boxing is no light one.

To your credit, C. Royalance, I accept that the inclusion of "the value of climbing" is determined by the possibility of crumpled corpses" in an earlier article was a little strong, but it in no way reflects a heroic attitude, but conveys exactly the attraction of climbing.

So, C. Royalance, feel free to sit in your fictitious Darwin Room working/abusing oneself while the rest of us try to lead a more balanced existence. But take heed from the old saying: "Those who can do, those who can't teach". I'm sure you can C. Royalance, so why don't you instead of criticising those who "do".

Yours faithfully Kenneth Middlemass

PITCHES POSITION

Dear Sir,

Further to your article on pitches in the last issue I think you ought to know what has happened.

The number one hockey pitch that was destroyed by weedkiller and mis-management has now been taken out of use. A temporary pitch to replace it for the first half of next season is to be marked out on the outfield on the number one cricket field by the dri-pla hut. This, coupled with repairs to the number two hockey pitch, should mean that the hockey teams next year and in future will have decent pitches.

With regard to the other pitches then the major problem remains that of drainage. However, at the last meeting of the Playing Fields Liaison Committee, plans were drawn up to remedy this. The limiting factor is one of finance as the total cost will be, to say the least, not cheap.

But I would like to assure all those involved in field sports at competitive or recreational level that action is being taken to improve the pitches. Of course the problems of nature lie behind much of this. Until we have direct contact with the Almighty, so to speak, then there will always be a few snags.

Yours sincerely, Andy Dodgshon, Sports Federation Chairman

RUGBY CLUB PYJAMA
DISCO, FRIDAY, MARCH 13
8 TILL LATE — ELIOT JCR