The Newspaper of UKC Students' Union
Tuesday 5th March 1991
No. 144

Editorial Meetings Every Monday 6.00pm Keynes J.C.R. III

FIRE

By Lazz Davy

On Saturday 23rd March at 4.20am alarm bells rang throughout Darwin. Contrary to what some students at first suspected, they were not being roused at the whim of a drunken student. A fire had actually started after Phil Windish (D) and his friend Camille Gingras had dropped off to sleep while a single candle burned on his television set. The television exploded sending thick black smoke flying across the room and lighting the curtains, a chair, and even the carpet. Luckily, Camille awoke before either of them were hurt. "I don't remember much," says Phil, "I was just dragged from my bed... there was smoke everywhere." Thursting a nearby fire extinguisher into Phil's hands, Camille ran to the porters' lodge to get help.

The night porter on duty, Barry Furnace, came to the rescue and bravely fought the fire, assisted by a number of students, especially Ben McAllister who not only fetched more fire extinguishers but also made sure all occupants of Q-block were woken and evacuated safely. By the time the fire brigade arrived Mr. Furnace had virtually put out the blaze.

Meanwhile, Darwin students slowly drifted down the stairs by the main entrance and were directed into the dining hall where they remained until 5.30am.

Thanks to Jo Allitt, who insisted an ambulance must be called, Camille and Phil were taken to hospital where they were treated for severe shock.

Although no one was hurt this time, there seems to have been some confusion over which exit to use and where to go. The evacuation also took longer than necessary as the fire alarm rang once and then stopped for a few minutes before starting for a second time - "We didn't know whether we were coming or going," says Claire Williams. A number of students actually slept through the whole incident, which is obviously potentially very dangerous. This could have been avoided if the University insisted that corridors selected a few people to wake everyone else in a crisis of this kind.

Gutted

The head porter of Darwin, Mr. D. Jordan, who has worked in the college since it opened in 1976, says it was "the worst fire we've had in Darwin... the room was completely gutted." He is basically pleased with student and staff response, and is thankful that the fire extinguishers used had not been seriously tampered with, (although Phil Windish says that the first one he tried puffed out after a few seconds). Mr. Jordan added that "in Eliot a student was found with 35 pence from extinguishers which she had presumably collected for a bet." Camille, Phil and possibly others own their lives to the fact that a check on Darwin extinguishers had been carried out the day before - 14 had been found to be vandalised. Ben McAllister pointed out that the fire had fortunately not been an electrical one as all the extinguishers contain water. However, he accepted that "looking at it the other way, the expense of refilling foam extinguishers if people mess around with them would be high".

£5 Charge

In reaction to the fire, the Master of Darwin, Dr. Peter Brown is distributing a circular reminding Darwin students of the gravity of the affair and notifying them of the fines which are incurred on anyone found to be 'tampering with fire extinguishers'. Furthermore, every student occupying a Darwin room will be charged a £5.00 deposit on collecting their key next term. From this money, vandalised extinguishers will be financed.

Candles have also been banned in the college. It is yet to be seen whether other college masters will react similarly.

This time no one has been injured, it is just unfortunate that it takes an incident of this sort to make people aware of the threat of fire. Hopefully, it will never happen again.

AND AGAIN...

Fire has struck UKC for the second time in less than a week. This time the location was Keynes College on Wednesday at 3 a.m. in the communal kitchen of a women's corridor. One resident whose room is adjacent to the kitchen awoke only to discover the kitchen full of black, acrid smoke. She immediately raised the alarm by knocking on doors, by which time the corridor was full of smoke, and she then succeeded in extinguishing the fire.

The fire brigade were called and although the fire was already out there were toxic fumes present which had to be eliminated. It was discovered that the fire had started in a plastic bin and is thought to have been begun by a cigarette.

The whole college was successfully evacuated and porters were praised. Yet the students were anxious that...
AND AGAIN...

Continued from Page 1

there were no alarms ringing in their vicinity. They judged the provision of fire alarms as inadequate as the only ones in the immediate area were the stairwell which was impossible to reach due to the fire. They expressed concern that "if the fire had spread past the kitchen, residents on the other side would not have been able to escape as fire exits would have been blocked." They said they wanted to see the installation of smoke alarms in corridors and kitchen.

When interviewed about the incident, the Master, Derek Crabtree, said that the fire brigade were satisfied with the fire safety precautions present within the building. Those feelings were supported by UKC Safety Officer, Anne Chadwick. Though Mr Crabtree did appear concerned about there being no fire alarm in the kitchen, which is a likely source of fire, and "the presence of electrical equipment poses a high risk." On the subject of smoke detectors he pointed out that they have numerous drawbacks arising from their sensitivity to steam and tors-}


tors. Brooklyn Court is a supreme example of this and those there are being bemoaned from study rooms. He wanted to clarify the fact that although it is highly commendable to put out a fire, it does involve a high risk and in all cases doors leading directly on to a fire should not be opened if at all possible.

Attacks

This fire was a frightening climax in a chain of disturbing events to strike this particular corridor. For the past few days it has been on the receiving end of something that can only appear as deliberately malicious attacks. It all began at the week-end when the students woke to find what appeared to be blood smeared on a bathroom wall. Then during the night the corridor was flooded due to someone allowing a sink in the washroom to overflow but turning the tap full on.

The Master was informed and the whole affair has since culminated in the fire, which is obviously being regarded as suspicious by the residents of the corridor. They are understandably worried about what all this is leading and commented, "Someone could have been killed."

"Incomparable"

The area is used by many people to gain access to other accommodation blocks and therefore is difficult to restrict entrance to. They expressed their concern that they "didn't feel safe at all" and put it to the Master that they wouldn't pay for accommodation which they felt had inefficient security. The Master spoke of the problem regarding fire safety and personal security and said that they are often "incomparable" in that fire precautions necessitate free movement.

On Thursday evening, the residents of this corridor chose to spend the night elsewhere away from any reminders of their harrowing experience. The police have since been informed and are dealing with the situation.

Kir-win

By Scott Knox

Last Monday saw many a cheering person in Keynes Lecture Room I, as Sean Kirwan was announced President elect of the Students' Union.

Taking 410 votes out of 623 Sean had quite a lead over the other candidates - Mark A Tomlinson and Steve Stenton. "I thought that it was going to be closer than it actually was," said Sean.

I asked Sean how he felt: "Never again, a lot of hard work and time goes into an election, however, I am very happy and very relieved, just wondering what is ahead of me now."

In August, 1991 is the date on which Sean will officially take over as UKC Students' Union President, replacing Bryan Davy. I asked Sean how he saw his role: "I don't want to be the figurehead of the Union, just a member of execut-ive. I didn't stand so that I could be an all-powerful con-quring hero."

Sean has many ideas for the Union. One such idea is that he hopes to help each portfolio within the Union to have a clearly defined role - "There are at the moment very thin divi-sions between each por-tfolio", says Sean. The aim of this would be that each portfolio could actively pursue their campaign within their defined role. Sean also hopes that each portfolio will have a week of action.

During the run-up to the President election, a lot of talk surrounded the subject of the Uni-union building: "Of the three candidates, I was the more realistic", views Sean. The sub-ject of the Union building is a question of awareness in both the University and the stu-dents themselves, as to the need for adequate services and entertainments. The Union can hopefully work with community groups on this subject, as this will build better relations between the students and communi-ty.

Finally, I asked Sean about his views on the National Students' Union. "Our membership is highly important, with such things as education cuts and the Poll Tax, students need to work together at national level to achieve their aims."

1st August will also see the other new sabbatics taking over; Anita Grover as General Secretary, Kate Wilson as Social Secretary, Liz McFadyen as Women's Officer, Conrad Toft as Treasurer, and Phil Rowley in the Sports Federation, pro-viding a new package for a new academic year.

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Day of "Action"?

By Gavin Clarke

Wednesday 27th February, one day before the Gulf War cease fire, was the Critical Lawyers Group’s ‘Day of Protest Against the War’. A day of events which attracted a low student turn-out.

The Critical Lawyers urged students to boycott lectures and seminars in opposition to the conflict and join in with a day of discussions, drama and video. However, despite the majority of students opposing the war, as found by the KRED ‘Gulf Poll’, very few actually turned out in support.

Condemning the war as ‘slaughter by laser guided technology’, Ian Grigg-Spall of the Lawyers Group, was optimistic that their effects could make a difference to events if enough people get together, which he felt was the point behind the whole day of action.

Reading out a list of demands, which included the condemnation of non-Arab troops in the Gulf and the right of Kuwaiti to self-determination, he concluded that “if enough people at the University of Kent will join in and support us in these demands and spread the word, that’s what we’ll get done politically”.

Despite this, the majority of attendees at the activities were overseas students, according to student Marky Smith, while a video on the Palestinian problem was sparsely attended. This left protesters wondering why British students felt so disinclined to get involved.

Some have pointed to a lack of awareness due to a lack of publicity, an allegation that the Critical Lawyers rejected, saying that at least 1,500 people knew having signed a signature calling for the stoppage only the previous week.

The Students’ Union itself, despite having several anti-war policies already, only supported the protest at a meeting of the Executive a few days before last Wednesday. Having been divided over the issue, Paul Hewitt, the Union could only support what a majority of students had indicated they had wanted by signing the petition, few of the Executive actually became involved, they said, however material equipment such as staging was provided, and Paul backed the action, saying, “I think it’s very good when people get involved and do things, so I welcome these activities by students”.

The attitude of those attending the activities was largely anti-war, with speaker after speaker from the Green Group to the Socialist Worker Party talking on environmental and human damage, and slamming the idea that it was a war of liberation of human rights.

“It’s simply about the right of Americans to consume oil at half the price, and twice the levels of the consumption of other peoples”, said Steve Dowe of the Greens. Andy Bell, a law student and member of the Critical Lawyers Group didn’t know what the solution was, but he added that “as people all we can do is protest the fact that we don’t believe in a ‘just war’ “. Many speeches were delivered to enthusiastic applause, but tempers flared outside the library in the presence of TVS film crews, as Josh Rice, an American student found himself in confrontation with what he called a “1960s reject spouting off rhetoric”. Josh, who has friends serving in the US army, could not see how to deal with Saddam Hussein in any other way, but added that he would still go to the public displays as a voice of protest. Did he feel the anti-war protesters were misguided? “No, they just see it from a different perspective.”
Annual General Meeting

By Tonya Foley

Last week’s Annual General Meeting in Keynes saw the presentation of this year’s Annual Report. Compiled by the Students’ Union, it gives information on the achievements of this year’s Student Union, for example, the Fair Rent and Catering Campaigns and prayer space for the Muslim students.

The meeting began with the presentation of the Annual Report of the Students’ Union, which was then followed by a discussion on the future direction of the Union. The motion was passed with a majority of votes in favor.

Social Secretary, Jason Phillips, argued for the need for the Union to continue to support and represent the students’ interests. He highlighted the importance of the Union in providing a voice for the students and ensuring that their views are heard.

Political

Lastly, the Motion was put forward to discuss the political perspective of the Union. The motion was passed with a majority of votes in favor.

The results of Friday’s voting:
- Treasurer, 337 people voted, of those 334 went to Conrad Toft.
- Sports Fed, Sabbatical, 382 people voted, of those 205 went to Phil Rowley.

Sabbatical line up

1990-91
- President: Bryan Davey
- General Secretary: Paul Hewitt
- Women’s Officer: Helga Swidenbank
- Treasurer: Neil Foster
- Social Secretary: Jason Phillips
- Sports Federation: Dave Lewis

1991-92
- President: Sean Kirwan
- General Secretary: Anita Grover
- Women’s Officer: Liz McHale
- Treasurer: Neil Foster
- Social Secretary: Kate Wilson
- Sports Federation: Phil Rowley

*Note: Sabbaticals Elect take over from 1st August 1991.*

Last but by no means least a big round of applause for S.O.C. for their hard work last week.


Women’s Officer Elect.

In August, Liz McHale, who is now a fourth year drama student, will be taking over from Helga Swidenbank as our new Women’s Officer. As she stood up to address the meeting, there had been no need for her to circulate a manifesto or give a speech at the hustings. In her own words this is ‘obscene’, as the majority of the students present were present for the purpose of voting in the election. Liz blamed the lack of competition on the low profile that some women’s issues take and hopes to increase their public profile so that women get involved in campus affairs. In her first and second years Liz sat CND on campus and is involved in the Women’s Group and a member of the Labour Club (although she applied for the job of Women’s Officer independently, wanting to represent women students despite their political, religious or other beliefs).

As a member of the Safety Working Party set up after the sit-in of 1989, Liz played a part in its achievements - the introduction of the late night minibuses service; the increase in security guards and porters; the availability of free rape alarms in porter’s lodges; better lighting in parking areas; and lockers on the windows of Parkwood rooms. She will continue to press for some kind of decision concerning late night entry into colleges where the guidelines given to porters allowing entry by ID cards ‘confuses the need for security and behaviour which is just sensibl[e]’.

The meeting was brought to a close by the President, who thanked everyone for their contributions and for making the annual general meeting a success.

Liz McHale, the new Women’s Officer

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Last but by no means least a big round of applause for S.O.C. for their hard work last week.
Dear Kred,

If L. Taitlow is going to write letters about the Gulf War (Kred, 26 Feb) she should get her facts right first. The paragraph last week reflects her ignorance of the basic historical facts of that part of the world.

i) The Al-Sabah family has been ruling Kuwait since the eighteenth century. Kuwait was never part of any entity called Iraq. Even during the Occupation of Kuwait by the US forces in 1990 and the subsequent annexation of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein of Iraq, the Al-Sabahs did not exercise effective control. When, in the 1980s, the Ottomans attempted to extend their imperial control down towards the Gulf region, the Al-Sabahs, seeing the threat to Kuwait, put their country under British protection. Iraq was created from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire more than two decades later.

ii) Given the above, one cannot talk of the "reclamation" of Kuwait by Iraq, since Kuwait was never part of Iraq. And why is it "clear" that the annexation of Kuwait was done with America's knowledge and approval? I know of no evidence to that effect. It was well reported before the invasion that Iraq was threatening Kuwait, but I think most people at the time thought that Iraq was just bluffing.

iii) With regard to numbers of civilian casualties, nobody knows the figures yet, and no doubt it will be some time before we do. However, I would like to say something about the "Allies" claim to high precision weapons, since this related to the first item above. There has been no public mention of the accuracy of modern weapons is far in advance of the weapons of World War 2. Laser and optically guided weapons were first used towards the end of the Vietnam War and immediately showed a greatly improved accuracy over the weapons used earlier in that war. The chief reasons for this were obvious. Accuracy is less collateral damage, i.e. fewer civilians killed by accident. In the Second World War, the inaccuracy of bomb dropped, led to the tactic of saturating an area with bombs, in order to be sure of hitting a target. I suspect we shall find, when this war is over, that the amount of images of bombs dropped after the number of civilian casualties will be considerably less than in World War 2.

iv) I would like to reply to all your other points, but some of them are so weak, I don't know where to begin. As far as "scuttling" the Russian initiatives are concerned, perhaps the Americans feel that, having got into this war, they want to produce a clear result at the end of it, one that will make the sacrifices worthwhile. (I don't know whether that is justifiable or not, but it is understandable). I personally can't see any outcome more likely to lead to a long-term American presence in the region than one in which the US did not win.

C.P. Kelsey (D)

Phone Home!

Dear Kred,

Are you happy? Are you angry? Do you want to see something happen? Well, write the letter dear Kred, and let your feelings be known.

Gulf Action

Dear Kred

Although some people in the University think they are learning a good cause their methods are pathetic and stupid.

I am referring to slogans such as "NOWAR and STOP THE WAR" written in permanent marker throughout Rutherford College. A student pacifist delivering anti-war leaflets justified the vandalism as "expressing themselves". (For some people it is a shame.

Although easier to remove, there also appears to have been a proliferation of stickers for various noble causes (such as BOSS stickers, Gayline, Nilseline). These stickers remain long after the use has expired and look untidy and dirty.

The University provides countless notice boards. Why don't these losers use them?

Your sincerely

Many Members of S4N

C.L.G.

Dear Kred

We, the undersigned, having read the letter from the Critical Lawyers' Group in 26 February edition, now realise that the group is a front for the Communist Party and an apologia for Saddam Hussein.

We do not recognise the state of Kuwait's right to exist.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Berry (D)

Tom A. Mataya (D)

The Italian Society

- Cinema Paradiso - Wed 6th March
- 8:00 pm
- KLT2

Is There Anybody Out There??

Have you got a few free hours? Do you know what to do?? Let us help you and the local community at the same time.

Join the UKC-AID Student Community Volunteers.

We are a group of students who are interested in helping the needy in and around Canterbury. Interested? You can find out more by coming up and seeing us in Rutherford, S4W1 (next to Rutherford Library) or by ringing us on Ext. 3429. We're there every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (2-4 pm).

COME ON! GET INVOLVED.

Shane Hodgson (E)

Jenny Prkic (E)

Portex Open Lecture

The Speaker of the House of Commons, the Rt. Hon. Bernard Weatherill, will lecture on "The Role of the Speaker of the House of Commons" on 8 March in Cornwall Lecture Theatre at 6pm. Admission free.

World Education and Development Group (WEDG)

Just a reminder... Helen Darbishire of Article 19 will be down on Thursday, 7 March, at 7.30 pm to give a talk about "Refugee and Citizenship" (KLT2). Be there or be an arse!

P.S. We didn't realise until it was too late that Amnesty International will be showing the film "Salvador" and "Cry Freedom" at the same time.

We urge you to support all the other Amnesty Week events, and remind you that it will be difficult to get Article 19 down again. In compromise, WEDG will be showing "Salvador" some time next term and after Miss Darbishire's talk, we can all make it over to "Cry Freedom". Sound like a fair deal?

The Italian Society Presents

- Cinema Paradiso - Wed 6th March
- 8.00 pm
- KLT2

EUROPEAN SOCIETY

"Looking ahead to 1992 - A German Assessment of the EC"

Talk by London correspondents for the Hessischer Rundfunk radio service.

Monday 11th March
- 7:30pm
- Elliot Croucher Room

Haircut £2.50

Feeling like Steffy from Scooby-Doo? In a new mood for a new look?

We will all have to do is show up at Elliot Pea broken Room at 7:30pm on Thursday between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm. Local, young, Italian hairdresser Gianna Reeves will do (dry or wet, no washing through) haircuts and trims for the amazingly low price of just two quid fifty! Perfect for the tastes and budget of students.

TAIZE

We are offering to organise a trip to Taize (in Burgundy, France) taking in Chartres on the way.

Saturday, 17th August: [Dep. early!]
- Sunday, 25th August: [Return later]

For young people over 15, some adults and families with children.

If enough want to come, we travel by coach - otherwise by car or minibus.

Costing the travelling and a night in Chartres in a Youth Hostel has yet to be worked out.

Cost in Taize (full board, 7 days) per day:

- Adults over 30: between 60 and 100 FF
- Aged 17-29: between 26 and 33 FF
- Children: 15 FF

Approximately 10 FF to £1.

Please contact us immediately if you would like to come.


NOTICEBOARD is open to all campus societies to advertise meetings, entertainments, or other such gatherings that need advertising. Please get notices in at least week in advance, to the Mandela Building.

FILM-MAKING SOCIETY

SPRING FILM FESTIVAL AND JOHN RA AWARDS

You are privileged to be invited to a milestone in the international film-industry: the first Annual presentation of the John Ra Awards.

In conjunction with the "Johnny" awards, the Film-Making Society is proud to present its Spring Film Festival on Wednesday, 6th March @ 7:30 p.m. in Rutherford Lecture Theatre 1. The screening list includes such diverse subjects as comedy, music video, drama and a shockingly unreal exploration into the Christian religion. In addition to the John Ra awards, all films, we are also pleased to include VHS work in the repertoire of the Festival.

Among the categories of awards will be "best line" and "most obscene", and you are invited to decide on the "Johnny's" recipients. In addition to the award ceremony, punch and "snacks-of-the-star" will be provided.

If you have an ounce of interest in the thriving art culture of the University, and especially if you don't, this Spring's Film Festival promises to be one of the most enjoyable in a series of really fun screenings from the Film-Making Society.

Adam Sydney (E)

MULTI MEDIA SOCIETY: CULT TV & FILM AT KENT

Monday 11th March
- KLT1 8.00pm

An evening of Children's Tele-Fantasy featuring episodes of:

- STINGRAY
- UPO INTO THE LABYRINTH
- THE TOMORROW PEOPLE.

Lee Harris
- It's good to see the Student Union fighting for us, now.
International Women's Day at Kent University has, in the past, been a relatively exclusive event centring on radical feminist politics and the subjugated position of women within society in general and at UKC in particular. This year we have widened our approach and discarded (but not forgotten) a lot of the lofty theory. Instead, International Women's Day this year is designed to be constructive and enjoyable focusing on women's positive outlook and capabilities.

The activities available are relevant to any and every woman, in that they are not founded on ardent feminist beliefs but instead encourage women to enhance their natural strength, beauty and sensitivity. It might seem strange to some that International Women's Day at UKC is aiming to accentuate some aspects of 'womanliness' that are often derided. Feminists are supposedly meant to espouse these 'wake-up calls' which reinforce the idea of 'natural women' and the whole 'earth mother' image, but I think that these are in fact positive facets of women which should be highlighted.

The day starts at 12.30pm with a 'ploughman's lunch', which should only cost about £1.50. After this there are three workshop sessions consisting of a choice of:-

- Colour Harmonics - Colour plays an important part in our lives, some colours cheer you up, while others can depress or irritate you. Light and colour are powerful therapeutic agencies which can dramatically affect our health and well being. JAN SHEPHERD will be giving an introduction to colour harmonics.

- Assertiveness - LOIS ARNOLD, UKC's self-defence instructor will be taking a two hour long session exploring concepts of assertion, assertive rights and practical exercises.

- Yoga - Instruction will be given by UKC teacher, DOROTHY PARKER. (Bring a towel or mat!)

Aromatherapy - A talk and demonstration by SUSAN MOTTERSHAW a qualified holistic aromatherapist.

Shiatsu - Is a natural method of healing, which helps with stress, asthma, the immune system and general body awareness. VIVIEN HALE will give a talk and demonstration.

Homeopathy - MRS ROUROKE will be giving a talk about naturalistic methods of healing and preventative medicine. (This will only take place for two sessions - 10.00am to 2.00pm and 2.15pm to 5.15pm.)

Calisthenics - Is a form of light gymnastics, designed to promote strength and beauty. KAREN PETERS, a local P.E. teacher will be leading the sessions. (Bring a towel or mat!)

The event is women-only and through this hopefully the 'message' of International Women’s Day will subtly be put across - that all women can and should celebrate their positive attributes instead of sitting in a darkened room discussing their miserable situation.

- BE POSITIVE
- HAVE FUN
- COME TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, SATURDAY 9TH MARCH

Registration forms from Helga Swidenbank (Mandela Building) or Sue Ling (Sports Centre).

Streetproofing - Self Defence for Women

A Streetproofing programme will be presented by the Women's Self Defence Association for female staff on the afternoon of Wednesday, 6 March. The three main components of the programme are:- 1) Awareness and Avoidance; 2) Simple self defence techniques; 3) Advice on what to do, and what not to do, if attacked.

The three-hour session will commence at 2 p.m. and places are limited though further sessions will be arranged if there is sufficient demand.

To reserve a place, contact the Estates and Buildings Dept on Ext. 3613.
A.I.D.S. Week

WOMEN & AIDS

The concept of AIDS is now synonymous with PANIC, PROMISCUITY, HOMOSEXUALITY and much, much more ... AIDS has been used as a metaphor for social corruption, religious retribution and general moral decay.

Health educators and the government must realize that the single-minded message of chastity is no good. We must look to reality - individuals have sex - even women!

Women are often forgotten when the issue of AIDS is discussed. The emphasis of safer sex education has been largely from a male heterosexual perspective, by promoting the use of condoms. This serves to reinforce the message that sex is purely a matter of male penetration. This approach denies lesbian existence altogether. It is worthwhile remembering that of those known to be HIV positive with AIDS, and AIDS with related complexes, a significant number.

So, here goes some basic, unbiased info about AIDS, what it is, how it is transmitted, and the sources of support and counselling available if you think you have come in contact with the virus.

- Firstly AIDS is a syndrome not a disease - it can be transmitted through body fluids. It is infectious but not contagious. High risk activities include, sharing needles and unprotected vaginal or anal intercourse, and oral sex also carries some risk. Regardless of gender sexuality these activities put you at risk.

- Common sense and caution have a lot to do with prevention of AIDS. Condoms will not guarantee immunity, but until a preventative or curative drug can be found, the good old condom is your best option.

- Condoms are available from supermarket xts, chemists, pubs, vending machines etc. Free supplies and advice can also be obtained from Family Planning Clinics or the Brook Advisory Centre.

- AIDS counselling is available in confidence from the Medical Centre, also from the following:

  East Kent AIDS Helpline 0843 298610 (7.00 - 10.00pm Mon - Fri).
  East Kent Body Positive PO Box 79 Margate Kent.
  Terrance Higgins Trust 071 242 1010.
  Services For Women Margret Pyke Centre 15 Bateman's Centre Soper Square London W1 071 734 9351.
  Positively Women 5 Sebastian Street London EC1V 0HR 071 490 5501.
  Praed Street Centre Praed Street Clinic St.Mary's Hospital London W2 INT 071 725 1549/6486.

BE CAREFUL!

AIDS WEEK - 4TH TO 8TH MARCH

Helga Swidenbank
Women's Officer

LESBIANS AND AIDS

Until recently, few lesbians in Britain had considered that safer sex practices and HIV risks were relevant to them. But it is becoming increasingly clear that we, just like everybody else, need to take an honest look at what we do, how we do it and who we do it with. Lesbians can and do get HIV (the virus that can lead to AIDS), through sharing drug equipment, risky sex practices and in other ways. We can also get herpes and other sexually transmitted diseases - the risk of which can be greatly reduced through, yes, you guessed, safer sex.

Oh here we go, I hear you say, another lecture on what to do and not to do in bed. How much information have you seen heard on lesbian safer sex though? Exactly. So read on. (I promise not to make it too clinical).

"CAN WE TALK?"

Most people get a bit fidgety when talking about sex. Research has shown that lesbians are even less likely to talk with each other about sex and even if they do, they sometimes lie for fear of rejection or ridicule.

Just as prejudice thrives on our silence about our homosexuality, HIV thrives on our silence about sex. It's vital to try to tell the truth to our partners and friends, and not condemn each other's sexual habits.

Suppress the truth, and you're helping to spread the virus.

OK, LET'S TALK

The HIV virus is transmitted through blood to blood (including menstrual), or vaginal fluid to blood contact. Any sort of sex that doesn't involve these shouldn't be risky. Mutual masturbation, massage, body rubbing or any other sort of external body contact with unbroken skin is okay. Using your fingers inside someone is okay provided you don't have cuts or sores on your hand - if you do, or your partner has her period, wearing a thin latex glove will make it safer.

Another form of protection is the dental dam. It's a square of latex, originally designed for use by dentists. They are about 15cm square, very stretchy and a little tougher than a condom. The risk from open cuts or sores on oral sex can be much reduced by using a dental dam, basically you stretch the latex across the sex organs and stimulate them through it - but don't get carried away and forget which side is which: try marking one side.

Sex toys, such as vibrators or dildos, are safe as long as they're not shared. If you want to share one, put a condom on it between users or wash it in very hot soapy water. Be careful - putting large things inside you (flats, some toys), or using them roughly can cause bleeding, which adds greatly to the risk.

The thing that matters is blood/blood or vaginal fluids/blood contact. There are a lot of other things you can do erotically involving fantasy, talk and teasing which can keep your sex life fun!

If you don't forget - safer sex is not just about AIDS; it can prevent hepatitis, herpes, thrush and many other STD's. So if you want to stay healthy and make your partner feel it too, use your noggin!

Vicky Wevell
Lesbian Rights Officer

* Cotrell & Co. 15-17 Charlotte Street, London, W1P 2AA, 071-580-5500, sell dental dams by the box (36 to a box) by mail order or over the counter. Latex gloves in boxes of 25. Call for prices.

Some supermarkets (Asda) and chemists sell thin latex gloves "for those mucky jobs."

Safety Report

Yet again the man on the bicycle has struck again. At 11 a.m. on Thursday of last week, a man riding a bicycle along the Park Wood footpath (towards Woodlanda) assaulted a woman student. The woman was grabbed on the bottom in an aggressive manner. This is the fifth incident I have been informed of, all of which are strikingly similar. The man was wearing a blue jacket, jeans, and had curly blonde hair.

Due to the regularity of these incidents, the police have been contacted, that if you have either had a similar experience, or know of the individual concerned, please contact the police or the Women's Officer.

There are practical measures which the police advised, firstly to carry a rape alarm, which can be used to notify, or scare someone away, and if you are attacked to make as much noise as possible in order to alert people around you. These measures are very minimal and probably won't prevent this incident from recurring, however, they may help catch this man, who thinks it's acceptable to assault women in such a way.

Helga Swidenbank
Women's Officer

Students' Union BOOKSHOP

OPENING TIMES

TUESDAYS, 12-2 pm

THURSDAYS, 12-2 pm

We buy relevant course texts at 40% of the cover price and sell at 60%
POLY TAX INCREASE

The only lunacy of the Poll Tax, and its unworkable nature, has become blatantly obvious in the last year.

The Poll Tax is now costing over £2 million to collect in Canterbury alone, or to put it another way - £20 per charge payer. When it costs this on average, you can see the lunacy of trying to chase up non-paying students.

A survey of 300 students at Christchurch in Canterbury showed 31% still have not paid any Poll Tax. The number not paying at UKC is not likely to be a small number, since many students who started paying instalments have stopped in realisation that many of their friends have paid nothing, and nothing has happened to them.

The City Council has so far ignored the problems of enforcing payment. Some students have totally disappeared by not registering their new addresses and the enforcement office has run after them. There have been virtually no students taken to court so far, and those that have, have usually been mistreated for non-payers and their cases adjourned.

Even if a liability order is issued on a student, enforcing it is difficult. Wages arrestment is impossible - grants are exempt from this type of enforcement. As the vast majority of students are no longer eligible for benefits, the City Council is unable to deduct payment from benefits also. Price has proven an option that local councillors who hope to re-elected, are not prepared to use.

The concept of the Poll Tax was designed to decimate local authority services, and to redistribute wealth to the richest in the community. It was Maggie Thatcher's most ideological attack yet. The poor would pay a greater percentage of their earnings on the Poll Tax than the rich. Therefore, they would vote for cuts in services and therefore for Tory councils. It was planned from the start that they would have the most loss by service cuts, they would vote for them because they could not afford to pay for decent services.

It comes as no surprise then, that the Poll Tax increase to £333.13, £66.63 for students (£33 for Parkwood/Blues, £67.20 for students) has been accompanied by cuts in services. 374 jobs to be cut before the end of this term. Careers Advice, Discretionary Awards (it is unlikely any Kent school children will be funded through law school in future) and other parts of the education budget. This is despite the fact that the government needs less cutting expenditure than any other Local Education Authority in Britain!

The message we must return to the Government is clear. Your Poll Tax is not welcome. We can't, and won't pay it. We must also make sure they understand meddling with it will not be enough - it must be scrapped.

If you are free over Easter, come to the protest on London 23rd March, and let the Government know how you feel!

Bryan Davey

STONKER REVEALED

It must surely by now have come to everybody's notice that 15th March is Red Nose Day III, known to its friends and admirers as "The Stonker". Most of you have probably come to realise that plans are afoot on campus. Well, here's what's happening...

Following the shocking success of its Children in Need appeal last year, U.K.C. Radio will be co-ordinating the fun, working in co-operation with the University, the Union, RAG, Oxam and other organisations, with a large-scale campus-wide fund-raising effort planned, as well as some incredible juvenile stupidity.

Contrasted D.I.A will be cut and about with buckets, doing what they're best at, making fools of themselves! Meanwhile, fun and games during the day, as organised by the athletic and sophisticated RAG contingent, to include a team relay Space Hopper Race from college to college and hopefully the "It's A Knockout" contest postoned once upon a White Rag Week. Should snow fall on 15th March, one thing that will still go ahead will be the UKC Radio Stinkshow in Eloc ICR from 12.00 - 5.00 p.m. with numerous stillness and live sketches performed by assorted campus personalities.

Taking over from the STONKSHOW during the evening will be a Stonker of a Comic Relief Gig from the Jazz and Blues Society.

You can keep on top of everything [00-ERI-Ed] by staying tuned to U.K.C Radio on 998kHz, at any point during 15th March, midnight to midnight, as a dedicated bunch of loonies present a special sponsored 24-hour session, with music provided for the U.K.C. Top 200 of all time, to be conducted around campus soon and with free entry into a draw to win ££££ of records, and dollops of freshly squeezed comedy and juice new, cutting across the airwaves!

Obviously, loads more will be developing as THE STONKSHOW draws nearer, and both UKC Radio and RKG will be keeping you posted. In the meantime, look forward, get a Stonker and prepare for some serious fun!

Further information: Ian Wickens.

RAG A G M

Date: Wednesday 13 March 6 p.m.

Place: T.B.A. on Poster

WE NEED YOU! Everyone is welcome to attend in order to find out what's going on in the coming year.

V, important so come down and bring friends, relatives, etc.

Following which is the RAG AGM Dinner for all those interested at Sweeney Todds.

WOMEN AGAINST WAR IN THE GULF

Women Against War in the Gulf was set up by an all female group as a response to the exclusion of women and their commitment to the opposing sides. The group aims to incorporate all women, regardless of their roles and aims, to present a front which is specifically geared towards women's attitudes to war which differ vastly from men's - women appear to be more conscious of all the tremendous waste of resources which are vital to the welfare system and also the reality of death which is often glossed over in the media. There also seems to be a slight hangover from the Greenham Common women's media sensation which often renders all-women protests and movements 'attractive' in the eye of the media.

WAWG believes the jargonised repartee of the war, coupled with the sudden appearance of a so-called 'expert' is geared towards men, and the media as an instrument of the conflict, thereby simultaneously excluding many women who are simply "not interested" in the repetitive, pseudo-autoritative, semi-scientific drivel which fills our screens for hours on end.

WAWG suggests that a similar approach is taken to those campaigns against abortion for example, naming to other women in supermarkets, schools, colleges and in particular stressing the deplorable shift in priorities within the NHS, which means that 'non-urgent' operations (including abortions) are put behind (provided made for) potential war casualties.

WAWG claim that unlike CND's simple moral revulsion against the use of force, a more effective approach must be taken which encompasses opposition of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, but also sanctions which they believe are just as detrimental. In effect all aggression is opposed and contrasted with neglect of third World countries for instance.

WAWG has maintained a permanent vigil outside the Foreign Office for the last few months and also regularly links up with Palestinian, Turkish, Iranian etc, women but also works around the country at a local level.

In Canterbury there has been a gathering of women against war in the Gulf every Saturday at 12.00pm outside Marks and Spencers.

Personally, I believe that there are several problems with the inaccuracy of WAWG's opinions, but any anti-war forum which is women only can only be a step in the right direction.

After the recent progress in the Gulf, W.A.W.G have stated that their two original demands, namely that "all troops are removed from the region and that the people living in the Gulf have a right to peaceful life", have not been met and will continue to protest and place a letter in the national papers about Western economic and political interests, to point out the environmental impact and the economic cost of the war which envolved money being diverted from pubilc provision.

Some marches on the 8th and 9th March are still going ahead - for more details contact...

Clare Wilson (E) EO Women's
FEATURES

record reviews

45s

Single Review: by... The Cloth Ear Co-op

Single of the Week:
Slowdive: "Morning rise" (Creation) 12". This is the one! In an otherwise drab week these songs glint like dew and have me reaching for enough adjectives to fill a cauldron and make cliché stew. Stately and languid, each track redefines itself, creating a cohesive whole and evoking the time of day of the title. They may not yet be redefining musical boundaries in the way their heroes (My Bloody Valentine) have, but this is more than enough for now. Recently inducted in the "half-decent band play UKC shock" hall of fame, Slowdive manage to amount to so much more than the sum of their parts, touching you in that space normally reserved for headaches. (Strangely, that was meant as a compliment.)

New Kids on the Block: "Game" (CBS) - These kids don't make very good records, do they?

Dinosaur Jr: The Wagon (Ranac y negra) - The title track wouldn't have sounded out of place on "Bug", and I'm told it's the strongest on their latest album "Green Mind". Pastable but disappointingly so. The b-side's "The Little Baby" though, is something worth getting out of bed for, with its starts and stops, it seems blissfully unaware.

33s

Rick Astley - 'Free'

After being pleasantly surprised by the first single from Rick Astley's new album, I had hoped for something a little more innovative than his efforts with M's. Stock, Aitken and Waterman. Unfortunately, "Cry For Help" is the most outstanding track on the album and even this is much improved by the presence of a backing gospel choir. Even with the assistance of Elton John and Level 42's Mark King, most of these tracks are bland and all too familiar. However, there are a few nice touches, the brass and piano arrangement that ends "The Bottom Line" and the odd sax solo for example. Wherever Rick Astley disappeared to, he brought back with him a fine head of hair and a group of musicians, leaving behind the stagnant artificiality of PWL Records. OK, so 'Free' isn't my idea of an essential album, but what it does have in its favour is that it sounds like it was worked on by people more concerned with producing popular music than getting parabolics to part with their cash.

By Janice Broadstock

10 things the Queen never does...

Ten Things the Queen Never Does

There's been a lot of idle speculation recently about the personal habits of various members of the Royal Household, particularly the Queen, behind closed doors. Most of this is pure malicious fantasy. As a former agent in the KGB I spent three years at Windsor Castle as Her Majesty's deputy bed-pen assistant and as such I can hereby reveal ten things that the Queen NEVER does.

The Queen NEVER:  
1. Blows her nose and then looks into the handkerchief to examine what came out.
2. Picks the black bits from in between her toenails, rolls it into little balls and flicks it at the corgis.
3. Sniffs her underwear to see if it will do for tomorrow.
4. Sets light to her own farts.
5. Wrinkles her nose at George Bush's farts.
6. Leaves a State dinner in honour of Chancellor Helmut Kohl purely to goosestep in the corridor, saying "don't mention the war" a lot.
7. Treads in doggie.
8. Throws bread rolls at the Duchess of Kent during Royal Banquets, whilst commanding her peers to inaugurate a food fight.
9. Sticks two fingers up at the BBC cameras just seconds before her Christmas Day message is televised.
10. Tucks autograph hunters to "** off and leave me alone!" (with the single exception of Alistair Burnett).

It is, however, sadly true that Her Majesty DOES apparently cheer and say "silly bastard" every time Captain Mark Phillips gets thrown by his horse during the showjumping.

Grasshale Beadle

P.S. The Sturly Road Gang apologises for the recent absence from KR10 but they're all REALLY behind on easy deadlines - you know how it is!
FRIDAY 8th MARCH ELIOT JCR

£3.50 ON THE DOOR £2.50 WITH ENTS CARD.

Toured as special guests of RIDE.

'Eclipse' EP awarded single of the week in Melody Maker and Sounds, and entered the Indie charts in Nov. 1990
The women’s volleyball team continued their winning streak on Wednesday when they took a cup match against Strood. The team won in three straight sets: 15-2, 15-10, 15-0.

The opposition left little to be desired and were not much competition for the UKC women. Nonetheless, despite playing a much weaker team, Kent played reasonably well. Good enough anyway, to take the match.

Much of the credit goes to Barbara C. and Erin for their consistent services, each serving seven points consecutively without much resistance from the other side. The final game point came from the other Barbra who served an ace (see point being when the ball hits the floor and the other team is left standing stunned).

In the last set the team had extra encouragement to win when the coach Nick exclaimed if we won 15-0, he would buy them all a round of drinks. So saying, in true form and style, the team swept the board in the last set and Nick coughed up a heavy round of drinks. Thus ended a slow-moving, somewhat boring cup game.

This continues a 2-year winning streak for the Kent women, whose only loss this season was in the knockout pool of the Southern Regional UAU. Enough said about that game! Also this season, the women have kept the trophy as champions of the Brunel University Tournament.

Players in the match on Tuesday were as follows: Jane C, (C), Broza, Erin, Katie, Rose, Barbara C and “ginger-headed” Barbara.

Jane Lawrence and Brona Byrne

Election of the Sports Federation

This year, for the first time ever, the Sports Federation is to hold an election for the posts of ordinary members on the Sports Fed. Executive Committee. Six candidates are standing for five positions, and they all want you to vote on THURSDAY, 7 MARCH.

If you joined a Sports Fed. society this year you are entitled to vote for five of the six. They are the following:

- Veighan Carter (Football)
- Alyvia Dias (Karate)
- Adam Anthoney (Cricket)
- Simon Kelly (M.Hockey)
- Sam Kellett (Netball)
- Andy Lee (M.Hockey)

The rest of the committee is already set, with no-one being opposed for the various positions. Congratulations and good luck in their year of Committee.

- Justin Williams (M.Hockey) Secretary  
- Charles Macdonchice (Rugby) Treasurer  
- Karl Brookhurst (Football) BO Finance

The Sports Fed. Committee is important to all societies. Make sure you use your vote on THURSDAY. Voting will take place in each of the colleges, between 12-2 p.m. and 5.30-7.30 p.m.

Rugby

The Rugby 1st XV remain mid-table in the Courage League after an 11-6 defeat at Whitstable followed a good performance.

Hockey

In their latest league fixture the Men’s Hockey side defeated Reeds 5-0. The Ladies 1st XI lost 4-3 in a friendly to a Mepham side who are a division above them in the League. The next day the Ladies Indoor Hockey side finished second in their Southern UAU group. They have therefore qualified for the National finals, at Lancaster, on 10 March. Their progress to the final against Exeter, which was lost 7-3, included a semi-final win against Southampton (6-1).

An unbeaten record stretching as far back as the start of the 1989-90 season was decisively broken last Wednesday when the Rutherford College football team soundly defeated the Keynes side 3-1. A remarkably restrained Keynes team, which admittedly at times displayed some good football, were harassed from the moment the referee blew the whistle at kick-off. Never allowing the Keynes team to settle, Rutherford soundly earned a 2-1 half-time score-line.

Despite a strong but fruitless comeback in the second half, Keynes were defeated by a Rutherford team who could boast both physical and stylish football. The game drew spectators in the last ten minutes with the Elliot team providing impressive services; Rutherford earned their victory just before the referee blew with Keynes scrambling back to fill a defenese empty of defenders. The final whistle brought handshakes in all round with the Keynes team adding their customary sportsmanship. A stirring performance by the Rutherford team in all departments.

Carl Fender (R)

‘CLIMB FOR CASH’

UKCFC’s return from their snow imposed break resulted in three wins over the weekend- and a considerable boost to the title challenges.

The 1st XI battled as much against the elements as the opposition, as they travelled to Snowdown for a PCN Kent League match game. Despite the absence of Ben Louis, the side gained a comfortable victory, with goals from Steve Catter and top scorer Richie Taylor.

The 2nd XI made heavy work of a meeting with bottom of the League side The Beckett. Unable to get out of first gear, the side never dominated the game, as they really should have done. Allan Flavie gave the 2nd’s an early lead, but defensive errors allowed the Beckett to repeatedly keep an interest in the game that eventually ended 4-3. Captain Denis Nicksen netted a hat trick, to take his tally to 14 for the season.

3rd XI captain Mark Murphy was pleased to see his side return to from, as they beat Selling Sports- adequate revenge for a 6-1 mauling in the Michaelmas term. Murphy was forced to re-shuffle the team, and pushed himself into a midfield role- which paid off handsomely as the skipper netted two goals in a 4-1 win. Mitchell and Grassam added the other two, particularly pleasing for the latter on his return from a long injury lay off.

Football

Chamonix - Easter 1991

There are now two places vacant on the ski holiday to Chamonix this Easter.

Dates: 22nd to 31st March.

Cost: £295 including all accommodation, 7 day lift pass, insurance and coach travel.

Chub members will get amazingly good deals on ski and boot hire (about £15 for both). Interested? Contact: Alison - Ext: 7011 or Emma L - EUNB or Dave Lewis - Sports Fed Office.

The Jazz and Blues Society proudly presents an evening of live Jazz Wednesday 6th March

Darwin J.C.R. 8 o’clock

£2.50 on the door
COBDOWN COP-IT

The University Men's Hockey 1st XI resumed their season on Saturday 23rd with a convincing 7-0 defeat over visitors Cobdown. Lacking match practice, due to the recent poor weather, and the absence of stalwart centre-back 'Trumph' Parsons, the game was approached with a degree of caution but within ten minutes of the push-back, the striking power of 'Thatch' Lawrence proved decisive as Kent took an early two goal lead. With his debut at centre-forward, resident public relations and police liaison officer, Don Lack, combined well with Taylor and Brown to dominate a game played mostly in the opposition's half. Through bad luck, though, and a lack of quality upinning, the half-time whistle blew with no further additions to the scoreline.

As the second-half loomed and with a resounding, thought-provoking and intellectually stimulating team talk behind them, we re-started confident that our two goal lead could be extended further still with little fear of conceding anything but the occasional free hit. Things were going well but no significant breakthrough was achieved until a Cobdown defender forgot that playing hockey deliberately with his own feet, in his own 'D' controlled an offside worthy only of a penalty-flick. Up stepped Mr. Crumps himself, penalty-shootout 'Doughnut Berry' who ensured that what Gary Lineker did for England in Italy he could do for us in Canterbury. Unfortunately, though, the big match pressures proved a little hard to handle and what resulted, technically, was a good flick was only marred by the fact that it missed the actual goal by a good few inches. Things at this point started to get worse as Paul Brown decided to disagree with the umpire's decision over an alleged stick-tackle replying "What the ****..." and promptly found himself "sin-binned" for the next ten minutes. He quickly redeemed himself returning to the field to score a fine hat-trick - a feat only surpassed by the amount of times Marcus Taylor didn't score given the wealth of golden opportunities offered to him.

As Simon Kelly rounded off the scoring, Kent finished the game well satisfied in the knowledge that not only had they moved into third place in the League but that promotion to Division One was a distinct possibility. [Scores: P. Brown [3], R. Lawrence [2], M. Taylor [1], S. Kelly [1]]

CAPTAIN W. ANK.

UKC Does the Double

Women's Indoor Hockey - Southern UAU Tournament, Sunday, 24 Feb at UKC.

The UKC Hockey Club will now be represented in both the Men's and Women's National finals, which are to be held in both Leeds and Lancaster respectively, during the next three weeks.

On Sunday UKC hosted the Women's Indoor Hockey Southern UAU tournament, entertaining teams from Sussex, UCL, Southampton and Exeter. (We, played hockey against them while the "Gumbay snack bar" entertained them)

The home team managed to make hard work of their group ties, beating a comparatively weak team from UCL 3-2 and only managing a draw with an even weaker side from Sussex. Nevertheless, they managed to get through to the fourth round of the national finals in Lancaster on 10 March. Kent were now ready to show what they were made of. They needed to win inside the net to qualify, having a 21st birthday, also put the ball in the bank of the net on a number of occasions (too many to count)!

The rest of the squad were: Kerry Major, Sarah Boddy, Vickie Negus, Clare Newman, Troy Griffiths.

The squad would like to say a big thank you to coaches Nigel Darby and Andy Major who have given us a good deal of time to coach us - without them we would not be half as successful. Fingers crossed for Lancaster!

S Boddy [E]

Table Tennis

UKC's Ladies Table Tennis team travelled to Birmingham for their UAU semi-final against Nottingham University. A team of Rachael Cheffy, Karen Cleverly and Lai Miin Ng performed well at this high level and were unfortunate to lose 3-2.

Sports Federation's COLOURS BALL


(Closing date for ticket sales 20/3/91)

The Sports Federation's COLOURS BALL


(Closing date for ticket sales 20/3/91)

SOCCER CLUBDISCO

On Saturday, 9 March, the Soccer Club will be holding a Race Night and Disco in Rutherford JCR. The evening will commence at 7.00 pm with the first race getting under way at 7.30 pm, thereafter races are every 20 minutes. The eighth and final race will be at 9.50 pm and following this, between 10 pm and 12 midnight, there is a disco.

There are a limited number of tickets, priced £3.00, which are available from the Sports Fed. Office or College halls on Friday, 8 March (lunch-time only)

Richard Taylor
Football Club Social Sec.

as a young player, picking up an injury or just becoming entirely burnt out. He did, however, play in the youth and reserve teams for Aldershot, his home town, while the club were in the Third Division. His boxing career runs quite differently. He has never done any boxing before coming to UKC but capitalised on the excellent opportunities at the University:

"In my first year I just enjoyed training under the guidance of David James and Peter Lee, but last year began competing to give the training some purpose."

His almost immediate success is made more understandable when you consider that David James, who will be familiar to those who do circuit training, is an ex-national boxing coach, and supervised the British team at the 1968 Olympics in Tokyo. Chris was second in last year's UHBA championships, a feat that he repeated this year having moved up to heavy-weight. He missed the BSSP's with injury but still represented the UAU last November against English polytechnics.

When the soccer season ended in May he be thinking only about his final, and next September will join Kent Constabulary, with the intention of becoming a physical training instructor. His acceptance here was, it must be said - impossible. They had brought enough to be interviewed by the man who organised the police soccer team.