



CRACCU

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FREE (You spoilt little shits)

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Indulgence

Hello boys and girls. How are you? Really? Well that is good to hear. Yes, we at Craccum are all fine too. Do you know why? Well it's because this week we don't have to bother about getting an issue ready for the week after Easter. That's right you'll have to go a whole 3 days without reading the worlds greatest piece of weekly literature extant. This means that we now have a week to do all our first term assignments that haven't been looked into at all yet. And you thought you had problems!

Anyway enough of this whinging frivolity, onto some serious shit. In case you're incredibly secluded or apathetic I think you should know that three (3) General Meetings were held last week. The first was a special G.M. called by the Engineers so that the proposed Constitutional Amendment by which the Engineers would only pay half their A.U.S.A. fees while maintaining full privileges, the other half of their fees (currently \$30) going to the A.U. Engineering Society. Naturally enough the Engineering students were pretty keen on this idea so they turned up to the Rec. Centre in force and had no trouble in getting the relevant motions passed. I hope all of you other students that didn't turn up realise that this means that A.U.S.A. will now be \$42,000 (approx) worse off. You know who's going to miss out on most of that money? Clubs and Societies to the tune of \$28,000 in fact. So next time you're up for a grant in connection with one of those expect to be given stuff all. Blame yourselves.

Tuesday's meeting lapsed at 2.00pm (conscientious students off to lectures!) soon after the Engineers block voted out the current Honorary Solicitor, ex- A.U.S.A. President, David Kirkpatrick. This was done with the help of Welfare Officer, Geraldine Ryan, giving very obvious directions to the Engineers as to which way they should vote. They obeyed almost entirely, and one feels, blindly. At the same time the Med students were voted to have their A.U.S.A. fees remain the same (i.e. 2nd - 5th years pay half-fees). Stick together, separatists.

It was pointed out later that day that while there was no Honorary Solicitor, no Amendments could be made to the Constitution, and that if this was not done within 14 days then they would have to be voted on again at the Winter G.M. Fortunately one of the leaders of the Engineers' 'revolt', Gerald Ryan, has a father who is a qualified solicitor and he was voted into the vacant position at Wednesday's G.M., naturally. It was pointed out that he was more likely to do what was best for the Engineers when their amendments came up. Great, except that the Engineers are only a small minority of the total student population (around 10%), what about the rest of us?

Fortunately several, but not all, other amendments were carried out before the meeting was found to be inquorate at 2.05pm. Most of these amendments corrected anomalies or loose ends in order to improve clarity and consistency throughout the whole Constitution.

I would point out that the behaviour of large sections of those in attendance left a great deal to be desired. The Engineers seemed intent on not allowing anyone but their own speakers to be heard, and it goes to the disgusting depths where even the mention of Treasurer Wayne MacDougall's name was enough to start up the boorish and loutish behaviour that they have become renowned for (let's hope it is only a very loud, minority of them).

There it is, the blurb for this week. Sorry it's a bit of a downer but it's important shit kids. Next time I'll try to be really funny, but I'll keep it pretty simple just in case you can't follow sophisticated satire and sarcasm.

EDITORS: Miriam de Graaf, Carl Fagan,
Simon Holroyd

Credits

Dems what's did fings for us dis week were:

Susan Potter, Richard Eltringham, Susan Nisbet, Daphna Whitmore, Aidan Howard, Mary McGeever, Craig Dickson, Helena G., Jonathon Bleazer, Cornelius Stone, Rani Taylor, Kerry Hoole, Peter de Graff. Tanx a lot guys and guynes.

And now here's some official people who do invaluable things for us:

Distribution : Carl Fagan
Advertising : Mark Barlow
Typesetting : Barbara Hendry
Printers : Putaruru Press



Quote of the Week:

Did you know that Visa Card is accepted in more countries around the world than Jesus Christ?
- Mark Barlow

Craccum is a source of free expression and information for Auckland University students and anyone else who happens to read it. Craccum is not the official publication of the Auckland University Students Association (even though it may look like it this week) or the University of Auckland. Neither of these necessarily endorse (what's this word mean?) or agree with opinions expressed in Craccum. If you read last week's editorial you'll know that us editors don't necessarily agree with them either, in fact, we won't even get a chance to actually read Craccum until the May holidays.

PART 2: "IF CLEANLINESS
IS NEXT TO GODLINESS..."

LOCKER 13

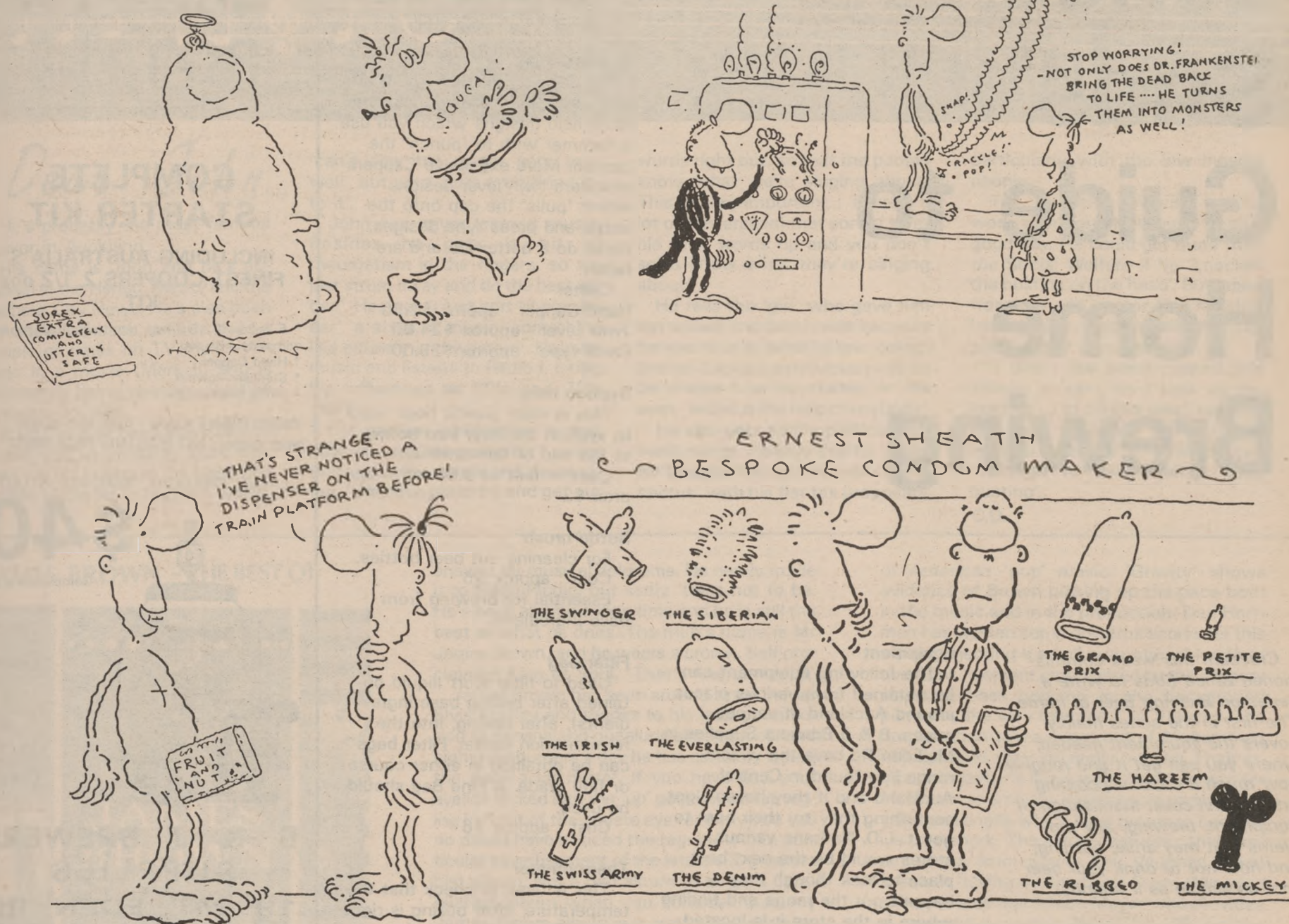
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CONTD...

A FEW TACKY JOKES ABOUT SEX.

(well what da you expect for free you spoil little bastards?)



Orientation this year, despite the weather, was one of the biggest ever. Along with the local artists that campuses support, sixty tours blazed their way through the country. Experienced bands such as Painters and Dockers, Ardijah and the Bats were joined by first-timers the Warratahs and Paul Ubana Jones, among others. Besides music, there was theatre, comedy, poetry and fire eating, making up the largest touring package ever staged nationally. The whole shibang is co-ordinated by the New Zealand Students Arts Council (NZSAC) - of which every University student is a member. The NZSAC co-ordinated 234 artists travelling nearly a quarter of a million miles over this Orientation alone! All this cost you \$1.12 each year - about half the price of a jug of beer.

While Orientation is the biggest event of the year, there is a steady stream of tours for Capping mid-winter and nearly every week at Lunchtime performances. For example, this year look out for 6 Volts, The Chills, Ans Westra exhibition and the first national tour in two years for the Topp Twins. And importantly there will also be a number of new groups having their first crack at playing away from home.

So basically you know what it does, but few actually know how it's run. The NZSAC is the largest national student body in the country, but employs only one full-time person. Sue Dempsey is that woman, and as Executive Director is responsible for the day to day administration of the national office. She also oversees and co-ordinates Arts Council tours and liaises with similar groups both on and off campus.

New Zealand Students Arts Council



Many campuses have employed full or part-time arts administrators to organise activities on campus and to enable more campus input into the activities of the Arts Council. So Sue both initiates projects and most importantly, provides

centralised back-up for each campus. All this is presided over by the Exec Board who give the Council political and artistic direction.

The Arts Council has been going for fifteen years now and in that time has done a hell of a lot. It has

toured international acts for students such as Hunters and Collectors, Hoodoo Gurus and just last year Billy Bragg. Right through its history it has helped New Zealand talent develop - notably Split Enz, Limbs and Topp Twins among hundreds of others. It is able to tour large acts because it is centralised, so promoters and bands can deal with one central professional body straight off. Also many smaller acts can get bookings out of their area and thus the valuable experience of new audiences. It is only because the NZSAC is a central representative body, that many of these tours happen. The experience of dealing with artists that the council has built up over the fifteen years is an important resource. This is a vital back up for campus administrators as well as outside groups wanting information. As a central body, the NZSAC can do much to promote New Zealand artists.

As well as tours and promotion, the training of student administrators in the arts is a big priority. Regular seminars in aspects ranging from funding, programming, marketing and time management to convincing volunteers that cleaning up sick after dances is fun! The better training of administrators has contributed to the increase in size and quality of campus arts programmes.

In training, promoting, touring, encouraging and as a resource base, the New Zealand Students Arts Council has tons of experience and expertise. So at the next dance or performance you're at, see what your half a jugs worth of Arts Council is doing for you.

Paul Horan

Lance Suds' Guide to Home Brewing

Craccum this week commissioned Lance Suds to write a series on Brewing Beer at home. The first in the series mainly covers the equipment needed, where you can get it and roughly how much it costs. Upcoming articles will cover sterilisation of equipment, brewing, any problems that may arise, bottling, and how not to drink your beer (not as simple as it sounds)

Firstly there are two main options open as to the method of brewing. The easiest way and fastest is the 'Beer Kit'. This is a can you buy (see later) that contains all the ingredients that have been already processed so all you have to do is to tip the contents into water and add sugar. (well almost there is a little more to it than this. Kits have a foolproof set of instructions)

The advantages of using a Beer Kit are :-

- 1) It's **Moron Proof**
- 2) It's **Fast**
- 3) There isn't as much equipment needed (see later)

the disadvantage is you CAN NOT vary the recipe if you don't like the end product from the available kits then, hard cheese.

The second Option is to make your beer from the base ingredients. If you love cooking, this is the way to go. If you love experimenting this is the way to go. If you want to brew a beer that you can truly call your own then there is no other way.

The following series will cover both methods so don't despair. So now here's the equipment needed. Under the title 'Equipment' I have put all the equipment that are once only purchases. In the next instalment of this series I will cover Supplies which includes consumables such as ingredients, bottle caps etc.

Equipment

The following equipment can be obtained from various places around Auckland at various prices. B & J Brewers Supplies in Mt Eden Rd have the widest range I've found in Central Auckland and if they haven't got something they try their best to get it. L.D. Nathans various stores would be the next best place to look though they haven't got the range and finding where in the store it is located (easiest to ask) they are cheaper than B & J's for some items. Some Foodtown stores and general grocery stores also have some of the items required. Some plastic shops have possible fermentation vessels, hoses, etc. but check they are OK for foodstuffs and scales, thermometers etc. can be obtained in the usual stores.

Essential Equipment

The following equipment is essential to brewing for either method mentioned above.

Fermentation Vessel.

Most home beer brewing is done in opaque plastic sealable containers. The standard size is 25 lt (5 gallons) this can be used to make about two and three quarter dozen per batch and most recipes and Kits are for making 25 lt batches. Other popular sizes include 50 lt and 75 lt containers. It is best if the container has a large lid as this makes it far easier to clean. The lid requires a hole to be drilled in it so a bung with an air lock can be fitted. It is possible to brew in an open container such as a plastic dustbin. For further details see the later instalment on brewing. It is also possible to use a brewing bag to brew in, this is also covered later.

Cost: 25 lt costs approx. \$30, 50 lt costs approx. \$50, 75 lt costs approx. \$60.

Airlock

An airlock is needed to let gas escape the fermentation vessel while brewing. There are various designs available some better than others. Glass ones are best for they are easier to keep clean, but are hard to find. Cost: Plastic approx. \$1.50.

Bung

This is a solid rubber cork with a hole drilled through it used to fit the airlock into the top of the lid of the fermentation vessel.

Cost: approx. 50 cents

Bottle Capper

For Capping Bottles. There are various types available including hand held designs which you use a hammer with to 'punch' the cap on. More expensive Cappers include a twin lever designs which 'pulls' the cap onto the bottle and press type designs, these do a better job and are faster.

Costs:

Hand Capper - approx \$2.50

Twin Lever - approx \$24.00

Press type - approx \$25.00

Syphon hose

This is clear plastic hose used to syphon the beer into bottles at the end of fermentation.

Cost: 4 feet of 9.55 mm - approx \$2

Bottle brush

For cleaning out beer bottles.

Cost : approx \$6

Essential for brewing from base Ingredients

Filter bag

Used to filter wort (liquid obtained after boiling base ingredients), after boiling, into the fermentation vessel. Filter bags can be obtained in either coarse or fine grade. A Fine Bag should be used.

Cost : approx \$6

Thermometer

This is used to check that the temperature, after boiling is right to put the yeast in and also to monitor the brews temperature during fermentation to check it does not become too cold for yeast activity. A long thermometer is more useful because this makes it easier to take the temperature in the fermentation vessel. The range needed is roughly from Zero degrees through to forty degrees C.

Cost: approx \$9

Muslin

Used to hold the hops in the boiling process.

Cost: approx. \$2

Scales

For measuring ingredients. A range up to three kilograms is suitable, sensitive enough to measure multiples of 5 grams at least.

Cost: \$10 upwards

Extra Equipment.

The following equipment is not essential but is useful for making beer faster and better.

Hydrometer

Used to measure the specific Gravity and therefore to calculate the alcohol content and help establish when the fermentation has proceeded enough to bottle the beer.

Cost: approx. \$6

Pressurised keg.

You can use a pressurised keg instead of bottles to store your brew in this requires a heavy plastic container, a valve and CO2 bulbs.

Cost: ?

Bottle washers

There are various types on the market designed to make bottle washing easier.

Cost: \$20 upwards.

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for home
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Plastic tap to fit brewing container

This is to pour the wort into the bottles. This saves the mess that syphoning always makes.

Cost: approx. \$2

Heater

If you want to brew in the winter it is necessary to keep the wort at reasonable temperature during fermentation as most yeasts will die if they get too cold or hot. There are various ways of doing this. You can put the brew in your hot water cupboard or wrap it in an electric blanket set to one or build yourself a warming cupboard with a 40 watt light bulb or you can buy one of the various heater systems designed for the job.

Cost: variable on the system used.

There are various other gadgets that make it easier and faster to brew but as they cost heaps I thought I would leave them out.

If you want further information about any of the above then there is a **Home Brewing Society** starting on campus who's members would welcome any enquiries. Contact Kerry at Craccum's office on the top floor of the A.U.S.A. complex or come along to our AGM **this Thursday** in the Lower Common Room at 7.00pm.

The next instalment in this series will cover the ingredients.

Cheers
Lance Suds

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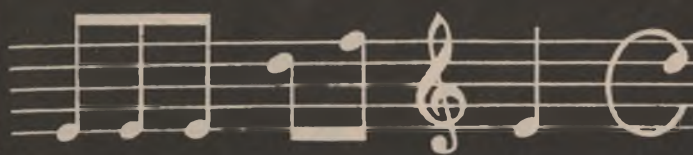


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Dear John...

He's probably the most famous busker in Auckland.

His name is John and he's appeared in the Herald, Metro, and the Harbour City News. He's also been on video, talkback, and at least a couple of times on T.V. He's even been in a movie (Mark II) and is constantly being photographed by overseas tourists.

If you've ever been down Queen Street you've probably seen him. He's the old busker in the black and yellow hat who, in his own words,

'can't play the guitar very very well', but who 'puts everything into it'.

John has never learned music. Besides he gets 'a bit of rheumatism in the fingers, so we just strum away and do the best we can'. He says 'I just sort of play by ear', a style of music 'something like country and western'. He loves music and listens to Radio 1, citing his influences as 60's and 70's stuff.

His musical philosophy is that how you play the guitar isn't as important as the songs and the singing. 'We have gotta try and get our

words right out, so that the people know what we're singing about. This is very important... There's a lot of busters(sic) that sort of tumble their words up and you don't sorta know what they're singing about'.

He tells the 'girl' who gave him ten dollars and said it was because he was 'true to what he was doing', and he displays an obvious pride as he relates how he started on his own, 'without the help of anybody'.

He also gets a little political between songs. He says that he thinks Mr Douglas has got himself 'in the cactus' with his flat tax proposals,

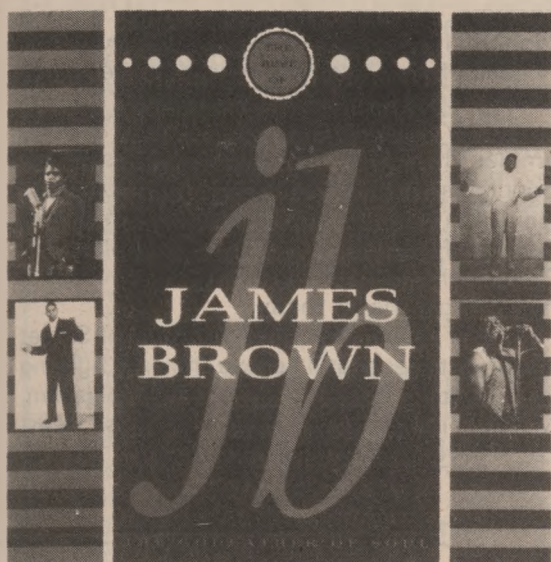
particularly with the low income people.

The financial rewards for his work aren't great. About \$15 on a good day. He could get more from the Social Welfare if he 'knocked the busting on the head'. But, apart from the odd one or two hassles, he enjoys it. And he believes the public don't mind either.

'I didn't like being pushed and shoved around, so I took up my busting... I'm 58 this year', he says, and he'll probably carry on for another year, as long as he can 'manage to keep going, keep busting'.

C.D.

JAMES BROWN - THE BEST OF



Taking a little time out from Radio B? and of course you don't want to subject yourself to (Oh my God!!!) commercial radio, with which some yuppie programming manager has decided is good for public consumption and more importantly the ratings! YEAH?! Well me too! Do you need some soul food to pick you up? Lift your spirits? Yeah? Well I have just the

answer for musical doldrums. He nearly made it to Neon Picnic, but sadly 'twas not to be. He's been around a long time and he is still the best at what he does. The man's name is Mr James Brown, and he wears a crown. Self proclaimed King of Soul. 'That's Me, James B.'

James Brown has been around since before Elvis Presley and thanks to his lack of addiction to banana and quaalude sandwiches, and eight hamburgers a day he has certainly lasted the pace a lot better. If you have had your eyelids flicked into the 'up' position whilst veging in front of the square eye recently you will no doubt have noticed the regularity of a particular advertisement of the latest J.B. greatest hist album. Not a bad album at all for a compilation album when you consider that any James Brown album is a pretty cool addition to your record collection. With perhaps one static gospel album he put out with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

His influence has been marked upon current musical trends, notably Prince, Terence Trent D'arby and Mr Mega Millions Michael Jackson to name but a few. James Brown has continued to find new energy and new approaches to old forms of music. His last solo outing was a huge success, the album 'Gravity' made the top ten in America which says a great deal for an artist out of the mainstream

of American 'pop' music. 'Gravity' shows evidence of Brown picking up the pace both in the music and in the production. Dan Hartman has written some powerful scores for this album, injecting a small but noticeably effective 'funk' element emphasised by the slippery slapstick bass popping in the background played by the very talented T.M. Stevens. The horn section takes a leaf out of Muhammad Ali's book as they are really punchy. Their erratic interjections leave well placed pauses for Mr Brown to emit the various screams, howls, yelps and snarls which have grown to become his trademark. The album features cameo appearances from Stevie Ray Vaughan, (lead break in 'Living in America') Steve Winwood on keyboards and Alison Moyet who provides a powerful sounding board for J.B. on the dynamic 'Let's Get Personal'.

The more upmarket approach on 'Gravity' has produced six songs of exceptional danceability, 'Gravity', 'Let's Get Personal' and 'Dr Feelgood' from side one, 'Living in America', 'Goliath' and 'Repeat the Beat' from side two are all phenomenal examples of Brown's ability to make people move, slide, groove and jive.

Do yourself a favour and get this album before it disappears into obscurity and becomes a collectors item.

Nick Hughes Esq

KARLHEINZ COMPANY

March 23rd
Music Theatre

The first Karlheinz Company performance this year proved to be a very worthwhile experience, as far as I could tell, for all those that attended (it was good to see the numbers up on last week, considering a certain review of that concert).

John Elmsly's 'Passacaglia' (piano, violin, cello, clarinet) was a good start to the programme. It certainly lived up to its name - a very cultured work evolved from the rather startling beginning, with some excellent uses of timbre, particularly the tonal similarities between the clarinet and violin, and the harmonics of the two stringed instruments. This also helped to create a very rich but slightly ethereal quality to the harmonies and colours. The abrupt but blended dynamic and rhythmic changes were very unified, and I felt that this was a cleverly-designed, well-performed work.

'Tritones for Horn and Synthesizer' (John Rimmer) revolves around a very restricted note pattern, yet Rimmer seemed to gain a great deal of change from this limitation. I felt that it was an expressive 'narrative' for some reason (the programme note says it is based on the Pacific Conch shell), and consider it one of the best solo instrumental/electronic pieces I've heard to date.

Renowned pianist Christine Cumming performed Elmsly's 'Three Pieces for Solo Piano'. The programme described these pieces as exploring the natural characteristics of the piano in a 'direct and concentrated manner as possi-

ble.' They certainly did this - when Cumming and the piano are in concert, they become a single being, and every ounce of her expression is evident in the music (as is every breath she takes).

These were followed by David Hamilton's 'Slices V' (baroque flute and crotales). I must admit that I am very partial to Hamilton's music, and so was perhaps a little biased at the beginning! This simple but enjoyable piece seemed to revel in implied harmonies, particularly noticeable in the major second interval at the end, but hovering during the pauses throughout the work.

'Paraphrase on the Dramatic Madrigall/Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda by Claudio Monteverdi', a work by Alexander Goehr (clarinet solo) was a dramatic work in all respects. However I felt the explorations of the clarinet's tonal characteristics were exhausted too quickly, and thus the remainder of the piece seemed to take a long time getting nowhere.

Warwick Blair (who completed his M.Mus in Composition during 1987) concluded the concert with 'Finale for Piano and Tape'; a very spectacular, fitting close to the performance. Right from the start it was exciting and ingenious, later turning percussive and almost dance-like in rhythm. This was undoubtedly in my mind the highlight of the evening.

Dave the choral fanatic

N.B. On Wednesday March 30th Uwe Grodd (flute) and Klaus Bomer (piano) will perform music by Schubert, Jolivet, Elmsly and Bizet at 5.30pm in the Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St. Prices: \$10/\$5 (concession).

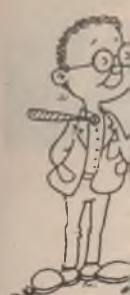
BBW ALTERNATIVE TOP 13



- 13 Love and Rockets - Welcome Tomorrow
- 12 Kathryn Tait - Factory Girls
- 11 The Tall Dwarfs - Slide
- 10 Bomb Party - Come on Get Closer
- 9 Indigo Underworld - Precious
- 8 The Woodentops - Get It On
- 7 Schooly D. - Housing the Joint
- 6 Pop Will Eat Itself - Beaver Patrol
- 5 Jane's Addiction - Pigs in Zen
- 4 Westworld - Silvermac
- 3 The Durritti Column - When the World
- 2 The Fall - Victoria
- 1 Manu Dibango - Makosa 87



CAPITALISM



What is capitalism? It is an economic and political system where individual rights (including property rights) are recognized, where *all* property is privately owned and where the only role of government is to protect these individual rights through the judiciary, police force and the military. People are free to do whatever they like, as long as they do not infringe upon another's rights. Men are protected against the violation of their rights, but are not protected against reality. ie: They are free to inject heroin into themselves but are not free from the consequences of their actions.

Taking this as our definition it is plain that capitalism has never existed in its pure form. This is why the American novelist-philosopher Ayn Rand calls capitalism; the unknown ideal. It has, however, existed to a greater *degree* in the past. Particularly in America and Great Britain, where it resulted in the great wealth producing and society transforming, industrial revolution. Because the capitalism of that time was backed up by inconsistent political ideas of altruism and collectivism, America and Great Britain have since been in decline as socialism has taken the ascendancy.

I have been talking about the political freedom of capitalism and this in itself is enough to justify it. But Capitalism, is also, economically superior to other social systems. The indebtedness of the USA and the current global economic conditions are often cited as evidence that capitalism has failed. In fact, it is socialism that has led to this state of affairs. Government borrowing, deficit spending, the erection of protectionist barriers, the separating of the money supply from the gold standard are all prime reasons for the current 'economic morass'. All these measures are *Socialist* measures which would *not* be enacted by a capitalist government.

THE OTHER VIEW

In response to Daphna Whitmore's article, 'Into the Economic Morass', published in Issue 2, Sheryl Jackson gives her opposing view on the nature of *laissez-faire* capitalism.

A misconception, that Marxist and Keynesian economists often use to denounce capitalism, is the theory of overproduction. This theory can only be countenanced if you adopt Keynes's assumption that an economy is demand led. That is; you take production for granted and simply worry about how to create demand for it. But *economic* demand, (the willingness and *ability* to buy a product at a particular price), can only be achieved through production. You can only have economic demand for a product if you have a good or service to exchange for it. Money facilitates this, but does not dispense with the necessity of it. Therefore the more you produce, the more economic demand you create. There can be no problem of overproduction. So the fundamental problems of economics are those of production. How to produce quicker, cheaper, better.

Free enterprise is the parent of those two devices; division of labour and technology, which have increased productivity enormously since the time of the industrial revolution. Thereby increasing demand and the standard of living for all.

Marxism raises the problem of alienation or the worker being separated from (among other things) the end product. A worker today, in Western, industrialized nations, expends half the effort for ten times the reward. As she is

actually working less, who does own 'the product'? It belongs to the people who were the brains behind the productivity, the people who took the risks, invested the capital, invented the technology, facilitated the division of labour. In other words, the entrepreneurs. The profits that they make are morally theirs and, economically, if they are left in the entrepreneurs hands will be reinvested into their businesses, thereby continuing to raise the worker's standard of living.

In a free economy wages are not determined by the employer's greed or the workers need. These have nothing to do with it. Wages are determined by the market in accord with the productivity of labour. The higher the capital investment per worker, the higher the productivity. The higher the productivity, the higher the wages. The higher the *real* wages. Spending power increases because productivity has increased.

Marxist economists invariably avoid depicting the socialist world they are advocating, and instead, expend their energies denouncing capitalism. However, they are not brave enough to criticize capitalism proper but concentrate on the easy targets of today's mongrel mixed economies. They conveniently pass off the historical record of the Soviet Union, Red China and other failed Marxist states by claiming that they are not *true* examples of socialism. Exactly, what socialist principles have those states not applied? None. On the contrary, the slaughterhouse of Stalinist Russia and the Cultural Revolution in China were *direct* results of socialist principles, not aberrations of them.

I find it bizarre that after 70 years of Soviet history, students still believe they are fighting for a better world by advocating socialism. Marxism is passe. Let's have some fresh ideas! Let's have *laissez faire* capitalism!



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BULLSHIT!



FOSTER'S SHOUT

Hi again.

Well last week was pretty hectic. The engineers have decided to try something new. We now give them half their AUSA fee back to spend as they deem fit. There are a number of pros and cons. Some people feel that this is a constructive move - ensuring AUSA gets off it's bum and does things. Others believe it's destructive because it weakens the associations political and financial bases.

Whatever the case students have to be careful they don't undermine their own Union - because we do actually represent your interests. If you believe we do not represent you then tell us, direct us through policy and help us. Don't just whinge about it and withhold funds.

This week provides a chance for you to have a say.

There are two positions for Exec; a Media Officer and a Cultural Affairs Officer. These exec positions are unpaid. There are also two referenda : one on student rentals the other concerning NZSAC (Students Arts Council).

There's plenty of info about them so get out and vote.

Easter looms. Have fun at Tourney, don't trash the place please, and come back with the shield. I'm off to Palmerston North to represent Auckland's S.T.G. at the National Wargames Convention. I'll be coming back with the shield, even if I have to make one of my own.

University Challenge isn't too far away. If you're keen for a go then pop into Reception and fill out a 'Unichallenge form'. We are the current champions - of course.

If you still don't know what papers to do or you don't like one you're in, you can withdraw and pick up another. Hurry tho' you've got 'till Thursday.

Otherwise good luck and start to do some work you lazy sods. Every hour you do now is one less you'll need to do for the exams.

Thanks to all those people who came on our crawl - I know some of you had fun.

Cheers
RAF

The Rule of Three

Last week instead of an SRC we had three general meetings to decide issues both serious and mundane. The meetings all reached a quorum, but only until those parties who had an issue to deal with were finished, and then deciding the more boring business became a bit more difficult.

On the Monday, a Special General Meeting was held to determine whether the engineers should be refunded half of their fees back to their own association, the engineers society. The meeting was heavily attended by engineering students (surprise, surprise) and so it was pretty much a one sided debate. The serious outcome of the meeting was not the loss of about forty three thousand dollars to the Students Association, but where on earth AUSA would find the money to patch up the hole in the budget. The 'in' thing to compalin about at the moment is how much money AUSA is wasting in its operating the Students Association. The buzzword is 'Ripp-off', with students under the strange impression that their own union is somehow part of some financial conspiracy designed to part them with their beloved dollars. According to the treasurer Wayne McDougall, there are no enormous holes in the budget, when a complete breakdown is made, there is no unjustifiable categories. So who's right? Is there gross overspending or are students just over-reacting? For anybody interested Craccum will be producing a special fiscal issue after Easter.

Tuesday, and the stage was set for showdown number two, the medical students defended the 50% privilege fees they currently enjoy. This was in the form of constitutional amendment moved by Wayne to increase their fees to the same level as everybody else's. OK. This time, I was in favour of the med students claim as they had been enjoying the discount for some time and as the case of both of them being partially self sufficient already and the distance from campus lowering the availability of student facilities had already been well and truly proven. Again, the meeting was well and truly stacked and the motion was completely defeated. That was fine, but the really shitty thing was once these campaigners for a fair deal had made sure that their money was safe they all fucked off, leaving the meeting inquorate and unable to finish some other equally important work that needed to be done. Thank you very much you pack of self righteous wankers, The Students Association is still providing services for you, even if you only pay half as much for them. The least you could do is turn up and help run them.

Day three, Wednesday, and the meeting was held for the last time. Surprisingly the meeting was quorate (any of you who have been here for a while will know that obtaining a quorum for any general meeting is virtually impossible, unless of course you threaten to cost students a bit more money) it soon became apparent though that there was a considerable contingent of engineers present. Why? Well because our ever helpful Welfare Officer Geraldine Ryan directed a flock of sheep-like engineers to vote against re-appointing our honorary solicitor. This meant of course there was no honorary solicitor and therefore the engineers reimbursement would take about three months longer to go through. Now why do you think the engineers would delay their own payment? The answer came during this last meeting, when who should be put forward as the new honorary solicitor but a Mr G. Ryan Senior. It was at this point that quite a few members were stunned into silence by this blatant nepotism and were even more shocked when the crowd went for it hook, line and sinker. I guess Geraldine is not such a Her-matically sealed head after all.

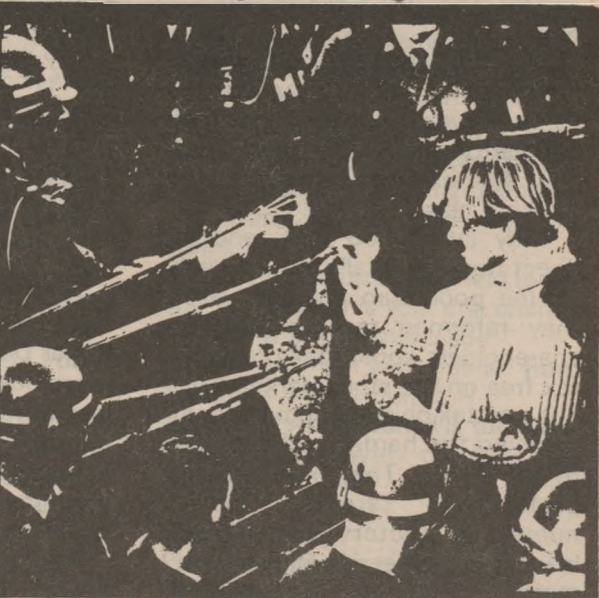
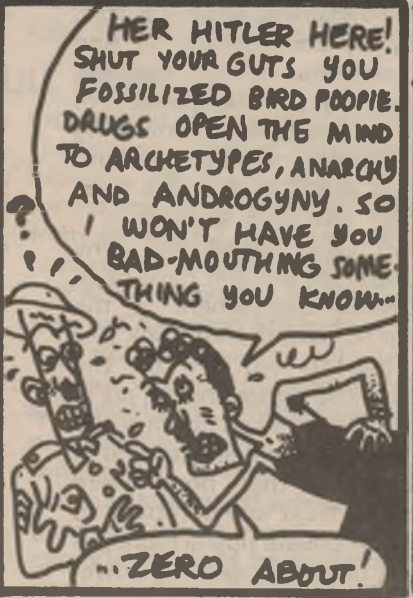
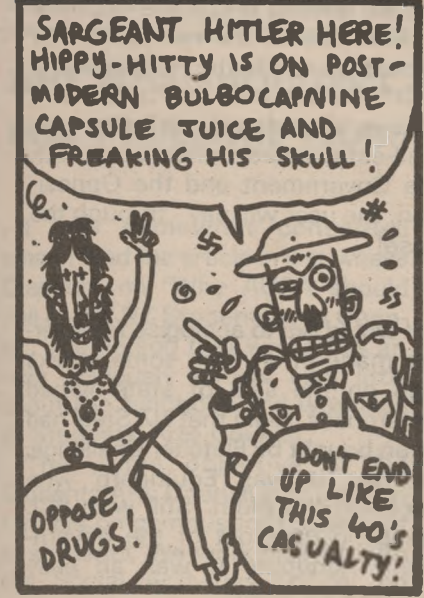
Back to the serious stuff, as thankfully enough students stuck around to get some important stuff done. Without too much discussion the position of Woman's Rights Officer was made constitutionally to be held by a woman only. Unfortunately, the position of Overseas Affairs Officer was lost and can still be held by any student. The constitution was altered so that where it said 'he' or 'his' it will now read 'he/she' and 'his/her'. The legendary motion that 'the speaker should not be heard' was abolished, so now you can speak your whole five minutes uninterrupted. After this, that the minimum notice needed for SRC to call a general meeting should be changed from three days to five or maybe more. Unfortunately the crowds must have got a bit bored (either that or it had just turned two o'clock) because they all decided to bugger off at once. The meeting became inquorate and everybody wandered off. Overall, this meeting was by far where the most productive work got done. But of course there is still more to do. For more details, the minutes will be available for scrutiny on the noticeboards by the bookshop in the quad. See you there next time.

Pssst!
Rumours..... Is it true that a certain ex-president is yet again in the shit about housing maintenance and this time the tenancy tribunal is going to get to hear about it?

the FUCKING HITLERS!



By: Spiegel and Schuster.



This Tuesday and Wednesday you will get the chance to vote for a new Cultural Affairs Officer and a Media Officer. Below are blurbs from the candidates for each position and details of how and when to vote.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

SINA BROWN

Kia ora kotou e nga iwi o te motu,
I am Sina Brown of Ngati Hine and Ngapuhi descent. I have attended this institution since 1985, and am currently involved in studying for a Law degree. When one takes a 'cultural' outlook on New Zealand society, important as it is to be aware of other cultural and minority groups, one must first and foremost give recognition due to the first culture of this land, the culture of Te Iwi Maori. An analysis of cultural affairs gives an intrinsic message of not just cultural diversity, but of the underlying element that we are within the land of a disposed indigenous peoples, the land of the Maori. Therefore primarily my aims would be to foster self esteem of the minority groups on campus, and give recognition to the status of the Tangata Whenua.

I also envisage to revitalise this position to make it relevant to the realities that we face today, whilst maintaining a degree of interest and excitement. I am aware that there will be some antagonism towards my 'ideas', and I accept that. It does not mean that I will discount any propositions to the contrary. Basically I am a person who prefers to see that an idea is carried into some form of appropriate action. So perhaps the only concrete 'promise' I can make is that I will work hard for this position if elected.

MEDIA OFFICER

NICK HUGHES

Hi! I'm Nick Hughes, and I am running for Media Officer. The position has been vacant for some time now and the ensuing confusion, anarchy and lack of communication has made it obvious the position needs filling by an effective and positive worker.

The reason I put myself forward is threefold; firstly I have been lurking around these hallowed halls for (Oh No!) five years now so the various channels, means and ways of progression through AUSA have become known to me.

Secondly, the Media Officer portfolio has been greatly reduced due to the privatisation of BFM Campus Radio. Therefore I feel I will be able to come to grips with the work involved far more easily. This is a vital factor as I have a large academic workload as well.

Lastly, and most importantly, three Craccum editors nominated me for Media Officer. This shows they have the confidence in me to do the job, and being that I will be dealing with these people the most, it certainly makes for good communication, co-operation and positive, effective working conditions. Thanks folks.

Please vote, if not for me, then for Michelle as I'm sure she is capable of doing the work, but for God's sake don't vote no confidence. Fight student apathy. Cheers!

MICHELLE HUNT



Hi! I'm Michelle Hunt, a second year BA student. I am standing for Media Officer because with the media playing such a large part in our lives, I want to try and make that part both positive and effective. As your representative on the student executive I shall endeavour to use my skills, experience and effort to the benefit of all students.

Last year my involvement with student affairs included being a student representative on the Theatre Management Committee, helping with the organisation of the marches Against User Pays, referendums and elections.

This year I shall continue to stand against 'User Pays' in Education. Being both a part-time employee of the Auckland Education Board and a student this is something that is not only directly affecting me, but also you and every other person involved in Education. As a result of the user pays policy, our NZ society is, and will continue to be, adversely affected.

Now is the time for us to act as a united force. We can only do this by being involved, working together as a combined student body, and using our available resources (especially the Media) in the most effective manner.

POLLING BOOTHS:

Wednesday March 29

Quad	10am - 7pm
Library	10am - 5pm
Engineering	11am - 2pm
HSB	11am - 4pm

Thursday March 30

Quad	10am - 5pm
Library	10am - 5pm
Med School	12pm - 2pm

Any AUSA member can vote, just show them your student ID card and they'll give you a polling form.

FORUM

Monday 28, 1-2pm in Quad

Here you'll have the chance to hear each of the candidates convince you how good they'll be for the job.

SLINGS AND ARROWS

by Archer

Who's Leading the Unpopularity Stakes?

Until now the most hated government in New Zealand has been the Forbes-Coates coalition government of the 1930's. It looks as though the Lange-Douglas government is now bidding for that title. It may well have earned it.

The Forbes-Coates coalition governed during the depression years. They cut wages in the public service by 10% twice, and they did away with the arbitration court because it was slowing down the process of wage cutting.

71,000 were registered unemployed, and probably as many again were not registered but out of work. Relief work schemes were known as slave camps, where unemployed teachers, carpenters, lawyers, and labourers were put to work on trivial tasks such as roadside tending. There was no unemployment pay without work, and the work was futile and the pay pitiful.

Now the Lange-Douglas government looks set to out-do the Forbes-Coates coalition as their popularity plummets with each new burden they place on the working class.

They introduced GST, and indirect tax which falls more heavily on the poor than the rich, while they reformed taxation so that shareholders could make fortunes tax free on the stockmarket. They put a surtax on superannuation, increasing the hardship already felt by the elderly. They have reduced preferential tariffs, forcing numerous factory shutdowns, leading to a great rise in unemployment - which has now reached 122,000. They privatised state-

owned enterprises - selling them at bargain prices to national and international monopolies. The Public system has been left to run down further, and Post Offices have been cut to the bone. Housing prices and rents zoomed enormously while many thousands of people now live in substandard housing, some at excessive rents. They introduced labour legislation designed so it can be used as a weapon for employers to compel workers to work harder for less, and opens the way for huge damages claims by employers against workers and trade unions. Farm subsidies were cut and that led to the threat of many forced sales of small farms. Education, like public health, has been left to run down and they are contemplating the introduction of the user-pay principle in education which would destroy the education system as we know it.

This is not all, what has been mentioned is only a sample, there is more of everything - bad.

And what became of the Forbes-Coates coalition? It became the National Party.

Take your pick, if you can distinguish between the two, as to who deserves the title more.

Pass Go. Collect \$200 million.

It's nice to hear Mr Lange or Roger Douglas assuring the world every now and then (though rather less now than then) of their commitment to people's welfare. Of course, there are cynical types around who tend to ask awkward questions, like, which people?

In which connection it is reassuring to note that the chairman of NZ's largest company, Fletcher

Challenge (market capitalisation at about \$4.8 billion) is head of the advisory committee which reports on the sale of state-owned enterprises to the SOE Minister Richard Prebble.

Anyone who was worried about the welfare of our big businessmen can now relax, in the certainty that their interests will not be neglected particularly those of the FCL empire. They were lucky, weren't they, to be right on the spot to buy Petrocorp when the British Gas bid fell through. The question is, will they be lucky enough to acquire some more of these NZ super specials, the state-owned enterprises, up for grabs, such as Air New Zealand or Telecom? Or maybe even Forestcorp, seeing they already own NZ Forest Products and Tasman Pulp and Paper, plus a great hunk of the building industry (the list is a bit long for this item).

Of course, Telecom might be considered a bit of a plum, as it will be the only postal service in the world in private ownership when it is sold. Actually, by coincidence, Sir Ron Trotter, chairman of FCL, happens to be 'aware of possible conflicts of interest in his position involving both Fletcher Challenge and Telecom - and SOE of which he is chairman.' (Ak Star, 16.3.88.)

If you were wondering why Postal services are and have been state-owned everywhere in the world up to now, do not think it is solely due to altruism by the world's big capitalists. Indeed no, it is simply that in each country the postal system has been so vital to all capitalists that none were prepared to trust any company to control it. A private postal monopoly would have tremendous power able to be utilised, as in all private

enterprises, for the profit for its owners. Just imagine, postal rates doubled, tripled or quadrupled overnight to boost the profits of one monopoly owning concern!

If you think that's not possible, or at least unlikely, just go back into economic history a little and see how the monopolist US railroad barons at the turn of the century jacked up freight rates so high they ruined thousands of farmers trying to market their products.

Funny thing is, the British magazine the 'Economist' appears to have had the same idea about monopoly. They say in an article headlined 'Adam Smith's Islands', 'there would be huge problems encouraging competition in monopolies like telecommunications and electricity distribution.' (NZ Herald 7.3.88)

The only difference we have with the 'Economist' on that point is in their calling us 'Adam Smith's Islands.' After all, Smith was the apostle of free competition. What we are getting is just the opposite - monopoly to the nth power. Or should we say, to the FCLth power?

Of one thing we can be certain, that in accordance with the now well-established principle of both the Government and the Opposition, the user will pay - through the nose!

I would like to apologise for an error made in an item some weeks ago on the sale of state-owned enterprises. I said that NZ Steel had been bought by Fletcher Challenge. In fact it was Equiticorp who received the plum. Still with FCL gobbling up most of the government handouts it was an easy mistake to make.

REFERENDUM RUNDOWN

Today, Tuesday 29th, and tomorrow, Wednesday 30th of March you get your chance to vote on the following referendums. Craccum gave representatives from both sides of either argument the chance to add to or review last weeks argument.

REFERENDUM 1: That AUSA tenants pay 80% of the market value for accommodation with annual adjustments to this figure.

THE TENANTS SPEAK

We as tenants recognise that an annual rent increase is required in times of constant inflation. However what we dispute with the Executive is the amount of that increase and the manner in which it is to be determined.

It is proposed that the rentals on student properties be directly indexed to the assessed market rental of these properties.

THIS POSITION IGNORES THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE SO-CALLED RENTAL HOUSING MARKET AND THE STUDENT SECTOR OF THAT MARKET.

The primary consideration of students seeking accommodation is cost - they seek housing in the cheaper end of the market, which is not necessarily suitable to anybody else but students.

The Collingwood Street flats owned and administered by the

A.U.S.A. were designed for students and designed to be cheap. With small boxlike bedrooms and a small open plan living area in relation to the number of people in the flat. They are not marketable in the general accommodation market; and should be leased accordingly.

The proposed fixed market index system does not allow for the irregularities of the student accommodation market. Nor does it provide any future flexibility in the setting of the rent. The Executive is at present complaining about its inability to change with the reality of the time. This proposal only further entrenches their administrative ability, with the ultimately likely affect of yet another future referendum required to repair their short sightedness.

This market index system for determining rental values will

ultimately result in the Collingwood Street flats becoming too expensive for students to live in. Not because the flats themselves are desirable to live, but because the land on which they are built are now a desirable area to live. When built the flats were in a typical student area. Yet with recent major housing renovation in the area it has now become an uppermarket area. This affects rental values as rents are based on the value of the land, buildings and likely 'market' rentals in the area.

The AUSA flats contribute a substantial profit to the association fund. It is suggested though that - (1) The flats are not profitable. It should be noted that Depreciation of the flats was deducted from the profit surplus; thus reducing this book figure.

(2) That we are being subsidized

by the AUSA to the tune of \$24,000 to \$48,000. These are not subsidy figures but the difference between our present rental and their proposed new rental; based on the unrealistic market orientated index. The flats already make a profit.

Is the AUSA just out to make a profit? Is this in line with their philosophy to the welfare of students? We feel that the AUSA should play a dominant role in the provision of student housing and pursue it with renewed vigour. Student housing is very much a vital part of student welfare.

We recognise that an annual increase is required but not in the short sighted way that has been proposed.

VOTE NO to force the AUSA to form a stable and co-ordinated approach to this important area of student welfare.

THE OTHER VIEW SPEAKS

This referendum seeks to address a fundamental unfairness, 63 students, chosen at random have their rent levels maintained artificially low by 13,000 students. AUSA tenants are not chosen on the basis of hardship - they find flatmates the same as other flats do. The only requirement is that they must be full-time students.

In March 1986 students voted that these 63 people should only pay 80% of the market value, with a rental ceiling of 10% above the accommodation grant, at the time, the rentals were well below this

ceiling.

Since that time, the Accommodation Grant has not increased. This has meant hardship for all students.

Since that time, rentals for all students, except for these 63, have moved up. For these 63 the rentals have stopped at \$41. Unless you vote for this motion, the rentals will stay at \$41, until the government increases the accommodation grant.

There can be no justification for a small group of students chosen at random to receive a subsidy from

13,000 students simply because the government repeatedly fails in its promises.

Even if the Accommodation Grant is increased by \$10, the ceiling would still be in effect, and keep rents down to \$51.70. How much are you paying each week? And rentals would then stay at that level until the next increase in the grant. How many more years will that be?

As students, you have an investment of over \$1,511,000 in houses. Those houses are giving a return on your fund of \$8,603 or just 0.5%. What is the interest rate you are

receiving on your bank account?

This referendum motion will retain the 80% of market value benefit.

It only seeks to remove a subsidy of \$48,000 caused by the effect of a ceiling which had no effect when the policy was put in place, at a time when the government was breaking its promises.

Any rental increase could not take place until June.

For fairness to all students, you must vote for this motion. Don't vote for excessive privileges to a minority. Vote for sensible management of your student funds!

REFERENDUM 2: That AUSA give notice of withdrawal from NZSAC (New Zealand Students' Arts Council).

WHY AUSA SHOULD PULL OUT....

Why do we need NZSAC if we have an S.A.O. and a C.A.O.? Think about it!

If you believe in NZSAC as a National Arts Council, if you agree with their style and their structure then do we need an S.A.O. or C.A.O.? Surely the AUSA can run these few arts events with 2 of the above - perhaps we should not bother with a C.A.O. or save more

money and not have a S.A.O. You should decide!

The Engineers said at their meeting last week that the AUSA wastes lots of fees on things like this. AUSA should restructure - NZUSA has and NZSAC did in 1986.

Do you go to these events?

We have our own music school, we have our own theatre (2 of them).

The Art Gallery is just down the road. The Mercury Theatre is just up the road. The Aotea Centre will soon be built.

And then we'll have arts events coming out of our ears. Why add more to it when the money can be spent on something more important. If we can't change it for the better then let's give notice of withdrawal. We can still change our minds later on but let's have that

option.

If you vote in favour of NZSAC then you have no sway over how they should run things, or what events come to Auckland.

I urge you to challenge this structure. If you are in favour of NZSAC but do not like the way the AUSA runs the arts at varsity then go to those SRC meetings and tell Hackshaw and Foster where to go.

Whatever you do vote!

WHY AUSA SHOULDN'T PULL OUT....

DON'T PULL THE PLUG!!

I was somewhat concerned when I read the article in last weeks Craccum on 'Why AUSA should pull out of NZ Students Arts Council'. The person that wrote this article obviously knows very little about the functions and workings of Students Arts Council.

The prime objective of NZ Students Arts Council is to put performers on campus for the benefit of students. We work closely with the Social Activities Officer on each campus putting together a

programme of activities, including Orientation, capping, festivals, exhibitions, and lots of lunchtime performances, using bands and artists from all over NZ, plus name international acts eg Billy Bragg.

If AUSA withdraws from NZSAC, how will Auckland Students suffer?

Firstly the level of activity on campus will drop quite significantly - fewer bands, smaller orientation programmes, less touring performers etc. To maintain anything like the standard of arts and entertainment you currently enjoy on campus, it would be necessary to employ another full-time SAO, which would cost far more than the levy

of \$15,000 you pay each year to NZSAC.

Without the support of Auckland Students (AUSA is the largest constituent), NZSAC would collapse. If you do withdraw, there's no turning back. There will be no Students Arts Council to move back into once you've recognised your mistake.

The issue of Auckland's withdrawal first came up at the end of 1987. A sub-committee was then set up to look into the working of Students' Arts Council. This committee never actually met. With no sub-committee recommendation and no debate on the issue

to go on, the AUSA executive hastily put this motion to referendum. The students of Auckland University were not consulted at any stage.

The referendum being held today and Wednesday is your one chance to have a say in this issue.

Vote NO to withdrawal from Students' Arts Council.

Students' Arts Council is the cost-effective answer to Arts on campus.

Sue Dempsey
Executive Director, NZSAC.
(Not Dead Wood yet, mate!)



In which we go hunting, and early

THE EASTER MYTH

One fine winter's day when Piglet was brushing away the snow in front of his house, he happened to look up, and there was Winnie-the-Pooh. Pooh was walking round and round in a circle, thinking of something else, and when Piglet called to him he just went on walking.

'Hallo!' said Piglet, 'what are you doing?'

'Hunting,' said Pooh.

'Hunting what?'

'Tracking something,' said Winnie-the-Pooh very mysteriously.

'Tracking what?' said Piglet, coming closer.

'That's just what I ask myself. I ask myself, what?'

'What do you think you'll answer?'

'I shall have to wait until I catch up with it,' said Winnie-the-Pooh.

Whilst Pooh may on occasion declare himself to be a 'bear of no brain', there is no doubt that this profound philosopher has grasped one of the fundamentals in life: 'if one wishes to find answers, one must go looking for them'.

According to Henry Ford, 'thinking is the hardest work there is, which is the probable reason why so few engage in it'. There are many questions to hink about. Some are trickier and more interesting than others. In this article I shall consider one of them.

THE EASTER MYTH

At this time of year it is appropriate to ask if there ever was such a person as Jesus of Nazareth. More importantly, to find out what did happen back then. Ultimately is the resurrection account based on myth or something more substantial?

OK. But why bother asking? In the words of a mountaineer 'because it's there'. I've noticed that people quite happily debate politics, sexual issues, racial problems, nuclear technology and other such important concerns as a matter of course, yet ignore this issue. Unfortunately this may lead to a constriction of the central nervous system, otherwise known as narrow mindedness.

Another reason for investigation is simply to enable us to understand the basis of the mixed blessing we call western 'civilisation', as it claims to derive its values from the events and teachings of Christ's life. Yet, perhaps the best reason can be found in considering Jesus Christ himself.

According to his biographers, he was a humble Jewish peasant hailing from a small nowhere town in an insignificant corner of the mighty Roman Empire. Up until about age 30 he spent most of his time in the family woodworking trade, along with his brothers, seemingly minding his own business (his Dad had left it to him in his will). He was unknown, with little to offer except a pair of calloused hands and a meagre existence. Yet astoundingly, in less than three years this crude Galilean rocked the small nation of Israel to such effect, that the religious authorities perceived him as a major threat, and contrived to have him executed by the Roman judiciary.

Strangely, it wasn't so much the huge following he attracted that disturbed them. There had been leaders before him who had set themselves up to overthrow the Roman invaders, only to be dispatched and forgotten. He didn't seem interested in armed revolution - it was the other things he said and did that outraged his enemies.

For one thing, his attitude to women was extraordinary. He respected them, accepted them as his followers and associated with them in public - unthinkable for a Rabbi of the times. He also mixed with lepers (the A.I.D.S. victims of the day), the despised Samaritans, and known criminals, including them in his disciples.

The young radical was known for speaking cuttingly about the evil he saw, calling the priests hypocrites and vipers; 'blind leaders of the blind'. Actions such as physically throwing out 'respectable' moneylenders from the church in the capital city, and persistently attaching divinity to himself made him highly unpopular with many of his contemporaries. In spite of this, he was not a violent man, exhibiting a deep, unusual quality of love and compassion for others.

At the height of his popularity he was covertly arrested, without resisting, and convicted on false charges. Deserted by his closest friends, he was flogged in the customary manner, led out of the city, and crucified. Finally, a Roman guard was posted at the tomb to foil any attempts to steal the body, for He'd claimed the grave wouldn't hold Him. So ended the brief, bright life of a simple Jewish carpenter.

Yet strange things occurred at that tomb. Three days later Jerusalem was abuzz with rumours that the teacher wasn't really dead, that the grave was empty. And six weeks later, the same ones who had run in fear of their lives began to spread a message it seemed no persecution could stop.

Clearly, there is more to Jesus of Nazareth than meets the eye. For he claimed to be God, to be the only help for a world that is rotten to its core. Concerning his claims, C.S. Lewis wrote: 'A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.'

If even a fraction of the claims made about this person are true, then they are well worth investigating.

In order to verify what explanation(s) best fit the facts we must, like Pooh, follow the tracks as best we can. There is a lot of evidence to consider; far more than can be adequately fitted into a 'Craccum' sized article. Nevertheless, if I don't at least make an attempt I could well be accused of being shallow.

The first thing to ask is 'Did Jesus even exist?' What if it's all just some big fairytale, like Rogernomics?

To some, it seems absurd to believe that the impact responsible for turning the entire Roman Empire upside down, and for providing years of employment for gladiators and lions, was based entirely on a mythical figure. I concur.

More importantly, there are many early writers outside the Bible who mention Jesus. Among them are the Roman historians Suetonius (AD120), and Tacitus, who wrote to AD 112 ... Christus, the founder of the name (Christian), was put to death by Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judea in the reign of Tiberius....¹

A number of others could be mentioned but as few people today seriously doubt that the Nazarene lived in history, I shall move on to a more relevant subject.

A LOOK AT THE BOOK

Can the books of the New Testament be trusted as reliable historical? Since they are the primary source for our investigations its helpful to know if documents written centuries ago can be justifiably referred to.

In any court, eye witness testimony of events is the most valuable evidence. Hence the 'Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, etc?' We find upon reading that the documents claim that sort of truth... Many people have done their best to write a report of the things that have taken place among us. They wrote what we have been told by those who saw these things from the beginning. ... Because I have carefully studied all these matters from their beginning I thought it would be good to write an orderly account for you so that you will know the full truth about everything....' as the account by Luke says.²

That's all very well, but perhaps the whole lot was written by a 34d century paper back novelist looking for a big cheque from his publisher. To reason this one out we need to look at some extra-Biblical information, starting with the various manuscript copies, and see what it can tell us. For starters, how many manuscripts (MSS) have we got to refer to? If what we've got today depends on a few obscure dribblings on the back of Egyptian shopping lists then its no soap as far as reliability goes.

Take for instance Caesar's History of the Gallic Wars, composed between 58-50 B.C. All we have to go on is some ten copies, with the earliest dating around 900 A.D.. Or the HISTORY of Thucydides (who?), which has 8 MSS surviving, with a 1,300 year span to the earliest copy that's been found.

Other old writings are in a similar position with Plato, Herodotus, Aristotle and other famous bods all suffering from a similar low profile, and a sad lack in the number of copies department. However, few historians worth their bread and butter would question the general authenticity of these works.

Coming to the New Testament is almost embarrassing in contrast. As to the date of the earliest part, whilst formerly skeptics could accuse the documents of having been written in the late 2nd century, archaeology has since disproved this hypothesis. The oldest fragment (of John) we now have dates about 130 A.D.,³ and due to this, it isn't unlikely that John's account was written in the late 1st century.

W.F. Allbright, who was one of the world's foremost Biblical archaeologists, said 'We can already say emphatically that there is no longer any solid basis for dating any book of the New Testament after about A.D. 80....⁴ Not all scholars would agree with this, but if we take the New Testament to have been written between A.D. 40 to A.D. 100, we'll be broadly in line with most modern critics.⁵

If we take the second best-attested work, Homer's 'Iliad' we find it was written around 900 B.C., with a 500 year time span to its earliest copy, with 643 MSS in existence. Contrast it with the New Testament, with a 30 year time span to its earliest fragment and over 24,000 copies around,⁶ and I, for one, would admit in terms of manuscript authority, the New Testament ain't too bad!

The fact that the eyewitness accounts were being circulated to very hostile audiences who were themselves eyewitnesses⁷, meant that the writers had to pay attention to facts or they would have been contradicted by the crowds. It's also interesting that they weren't afraid to show the occasional infighting, confusion and cowardice of the Disciples, in their works, which reflects on the honesty of the narratives.

Lastly, but by no means leastly, archaeology has consistently confirmed the accuracy of the New Testament from excavations in Jerusalem and other areas in Palestine. Sir William Ramsay, a renowned ar-

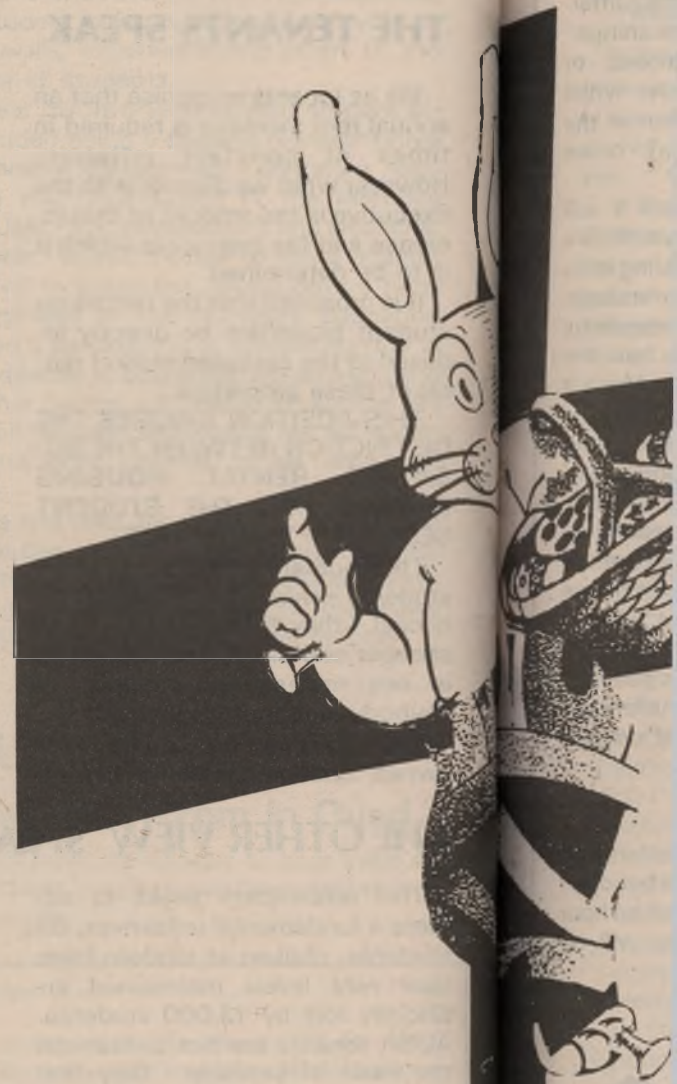
chaeologist, and no friend to the Bible, eventually concluded 'Luke is an historian of the first rank; ... this author should be placed along with the very greatest of historians'.⁸ Therefore, I shall leave it at that and, after one preliminary, get into the real nitty-gritty.

Some folks think that because miracles cannot happen, whatever did happen at the first Easter must have a 'rational' explanation. David Hume, a British philosopher is one such, suggesting that because the more often a thing has been known to happen, the more probable it is, that there is 'uniform experience' against miracles. Concerning this, C.S. Lewis says 'Now of course we must agree with Hume that if there is absolutely 'uniform experience' against miracles, if in other words they have never happened, why then they never have. Unfortunately we know the experience against them to be uniform only if we know that all the reports of them are false. And we can know all the reports to be false only if we know already that miracles have never occurred. In fact, we are arguing in a circle.'⁹ Hence, as all things are, (in theory) possible, I shall proceed...

INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS?

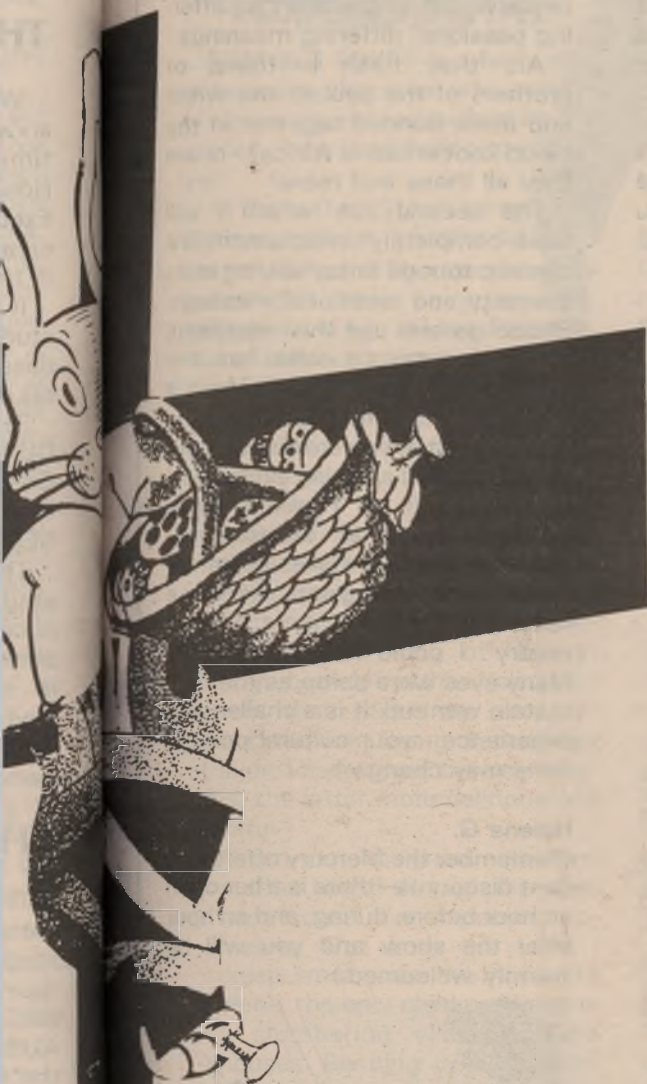
Here we come to the alleged raising of Jesus from the dead. A look at the setting following Jesus' arrest in more detail would be helpful.¹²

After a secret illegal trial int he dead of Thursday night, and other



dearly catch an Easter bunny ...

ASR MYTH?



boldly preach a message that was NOT popular.

A major point worth noting in thinking about this is that right from the word go, NOBODY DISPUTED THAT THE TOMB WAS EMPTY. Therefore, we must come up with hypotheses that explain how this came to be so: HE FAKED IT.

Jesus didn't really die, so the argument goes. He was just unconscious and revived later in the coolness of the tomb to emerge, present himself alive and(?)

Of course, this would mean he escaped from the tomb unnoticed by the guards, survived the loss of blood and convinced his disciples that he was the Risen King so well that after he finally kicked the bucket they went out and preached it to the world!

I find this hard to accept.

WHERE'S THE MAP?

This is a little better. If the women went to the wrong tomb then its only natural to put two and two together and make resurrection.

Unfortunately the same sort of problems abound. No Risen Christ, no reason to preach. Also, somebody knew where the right tomb was to shut them up if they did try it, by producing a body. Another No.

'DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?'

At last something more plausible! Because of the extreme psychological stress the followers were under after Jesus' death, it is not surprising that they began to 'see' their beloved Rabbi with whom they had spent three years in close contact.

This could well be true, as many people occasionally hallucinate their loved ones under certain conditions. The problem here is the conditions. Perhaps one or two would have had such 'visions' but what about the recorded appearance to 500 at once? Not only that, but the appearances were to a wide variety of people, in many different moods and many different locations. Some were mourning, some disbelieving, some were afraid, some were fishing, some were eating, some were travelling along a road. A wide variety of circumstances and personalities goes against the grain of normal hallucinatory experiences (unless this was the beginnings of N.O.R.M.L. in Palestine!)

The hallucinations themselves were also unusual, in that people had conversations with Jesus, touched him, watched him eat the fish they presented him and cooked some on a fire Jesus built. What's more, the hallucinations ceased very suddenly, never to recur.

And as with the previous suggestion, we have the problem of the (non) empty tomb. Surely no-one would take the story seriously when it could be shown the tomb was still occupied.

Unfortunately, it doesn't fit all the facts.

'LOOK INTO MY EYES...'

The most recent theory, to my knowledge, is an intriguing one presented in 'Jesus: The Evidence' by Ian Wilson (remember the controversial T.V. series?) He suggests that Jesus 'programmed' his post resurrection appearances through post-hypnotic suggestion. This looks promising. He recounts how some of the 'visitations' have the air of such phenomena, and how Jesus' miracles could be explained by this. Perhaps it would also account for Jesus' singling out the twelve from the rest of his multitudinous following, as 'easily influenced', or even as accomplices.

I think this is the most plausible of any explanation (almost!) at first

glance, but further investigation begins to raise problems.

For starters, he must truly have been the best hypnotist ever, as a huge number of people had to be deluded. And of course, did Jesus actually die? If he did, it seems he was mad. He was also not honest and truthful, as portrayed by his friends, but an insane deceiver (unless of course, he hypnotised the gospel writers into thinking nice things about him!)

If he did not die, in one week deceiving half a city into believing he had, and that the tomb was in actual fact, empty, was an incredible feat to say the least! A great number of 'trigger scenarios' would have to be organised in order to accommodate all his appearances.

Then we have the problem of the disciples. Even if they too were under post-hypnotic suggestion, why did they lead such costly lives, ending in martyrdom? It takes an incredibly powerful hypnotist to make someone permanently forsake their life goals as they did. Then there is Paul, formerly a vigorous opponent of the Christians, now in the vanguard of their activities - having never met Christ!

'Jesus The Evidence' itself seems to admit defeat! 'Post-hypnotic suggestion as an explanation for Jesus' resurrection appearances does not, however, account for the one apparent 'fact' of the resurrection story, the emptiness of Jesus' tomb and the evident inability of anyone to produce the body.'¹⁴

WOULD YOU DIE FOR A LIE?

The last, but one, option we have is that someone took the body. This is highly likely. Or is it?

If the Romans took the body it is certain that when the followers began to spread the 'good news' they would have quickly moved to nullify the potential threat to the peace, with the news of where Jesus could now be found. Joseph, the Arimathean who gave up his tomb could have moved the body elsewhere. But there is the question of the presence of the guards. He is also noted as an honest man¹⁵ and would surely have told the other disciples. The truth will out, as they say. And again, no appearance of Christ to the disciples, no spreading the message.

The religious leaders had the most reason of all to want to let sleeping dogs lie. Jesus had caused enough trouble already. If for some unknown reason they were responsible for the removal, we can be sure they'd let everyone know about it at the merest hint of 'raising from the dead'. And the same would be true if they knew the Romans had it.

Yet we find in Matthew (28:11-15) the elders and the chiefs priests bribing the guards, telling them 'You are to say 'his disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were sleeping'. If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.' The reason for the guards needing protection from Pilate (the aforementioned Roman governor), is that in the legions, the penalty for sleeping at your post was death.¹⁶ Interestingly, if the guards had been asleep, how did they know it was the disciples that had stolen the body?

In part, I have already discussed whether the disciples could have stolen the body. It's worth noting that they were hiding behind locked doors when Jesus appeared to them.¹⁷ Only the women were out 'n' about. Hardly the picture of men who would risk an encounter with a Roman guard, break the Roman seal (thereby incurring almost certain death, by law), move the heavy (2 ton) stone and steal the body of their

Lord. That this dispirited, dejected group could then audaciously present as fact something they knew to be not, ultimately being killed for a lie, seems ludicrous.

Someone once remarked to me that Jim Jones' followers killed themselves for a lie. That got me thinking for a while until I realised that they believed Jones simply because he said it, whereas, if the disciples stole the body, they knew it was a lie. Strong tradition has it that Peter asked to be crucified upside down (in Rome) because he felt he was not worthy to die in the same way as Christ. You have to believe in what you're doing to do that!

A couple of other interesting things: the grave-wrappings were still in the tomb.¹⁸ Who, even if someone had moved the body, would bother to take them off? Secondly, the amazing conversion of Saul (he changed his name to Paul), who zealously persecuted the early Christians is very difficult to explain. Something radical must have changed him, for he also to be executed in Rome for Jesus' sake.

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS

The best explanation I have left is that which Jesus, speaking of himself, predicted: 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.'¹⁹

If there are other explanations, I am not aware of them. We can avoid the issue by saying 'Oh well, guess we just don't know enough about it', or, uncomfortable though it is, we can admit the possibility that something outside of the 'normal' experience interfered with this event.

In plain language, a miracle happened.

I don't wish to badger anyone into agreeing with me if they aren't convinced by the evidence I have presented. Go and check it out for yourself. I am not narrow minded (much) and am very willing to consider alternative points of view. However, as I hope this briefish discourse of waffle shows, there is evidence that maybe the long weekend isn't just about bunnies and beer.

Something incredible happened back then. Something that has relevance to today. Something worth considering. Something I can't escape from.

Whatever we think, we cannot ignore it.

J. BEAZER

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1. Mark 14: 61-64, Matthew 28: 19-20. John 8:58, 10: 32-33 to quote a few.
2. C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, II, 3.
3. Cornelius Tacitus, *Annals* XV, 44.
4. Luke 1: 1-4, see also John 19:35, 1 John 1: 1-3, Acts 1:1, 2 Peter 1:16.
5. P52, The John Rylands Fragment.
6. W.F. Albright, *Recent Discoveries In Bible Lands*, (1955).
7. See Ian Wilson, *Jesus: The Evidence*, page 43.
8. J. McDowell, *Evidence That Demands A Verdict* (1986?).
9. Acts 2:22, 26: 24-28.
10. W.M. Ramsay, *The Bearing Of Recent Discovery On The Trustworthiness Of The New Testament*.
11. C.S. Lewis, *Miracles*, Chapter 13.
12. Necessary reading! (Especially the last chapters of) all four gospels, Acts 1-2, 1 Corinthians 15: 3-8.
13. 1 Corinthians 15:6.
14. Wilson, Op. Cit. page 121. I do not wish to misrepresent him here, but I consider the argument following this quote to be extremely weak - see 1 Corinthians 15.
15. Luke 23:50.
16. George Currie, *The Military Discipline Of The Romans From The Founding Of The City To The Close Of The Republic*. (Abstract of a thesis published under the Graduate Council Of Indiana University, (1928).
17. John 20:19.
18. John 20:6,7.
19. John 2:19.

dubious activities which are expounded upon in an excellent book called 'Who moved the stone' by Frank Morrison (it's in the MacLaurin Chapel Library). Jesus was (again illegally) sentenced to death by popular vote.

After brutal treatment he was led outside the city, to die nailed on a Roman gibbet, the infamous cross. Almost all his followers had scattered in fear of their lives, except for a small group of women who were the primary witnesses of everything to follow.

That same evening a secret follower, a wealthy man called Joseph, was granted permission to take the body. He wrapped it in the customary manner, with about 30 kg of spice in the cloth and placed it in a tomb hewn out of solid rock, rolling a large and heavy stone across the entrance.

Because of Christ's claims that death would not hold him, the religious authorities arranged for Roman soldiers to seal and guard the tomb. The scene was set.

On the Sunday, the women arrived at the tomb at daybreak, only to find the guards out of action, the rock rolled away and the cave empty, except for the grave clothes. What's more, someone at the scene told them Jesus had risen and to go and tell the others! Subsequently Jesus appeared to many people over a period of 40 days, including 500 at one time.¹³ Then suddenly, he was gone again, and the remaining band of former defeatists began to

ARTS



FILM

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY

Some might argue that the slow pace of this British film makes it like a month in the cinema, but I found it a welcome change from the recent barrage of fast-paced thrillers and comedies.

The story is set in the beautiful Yorkshire countryside just after W.W.I. A young returned serviceman (Birkin - played by Colin Ferth) fresh from the trenches in France, undertakes a summer job of uncovering a 15th Century mural on the walls of a local church.

He meets James Moon (Kenneth Branner) another returned soldier who is also haunted by nightmares of the war. He too has a job that involves uncovering the past, as they each strive to rediscover some meaning in their lives after their horrific experiences of death and suffering in France. Birkin is scarred with a twitch and a stammer which gradually improves as the film progresses, symbolising the healing process he experiences in the country. The film is full of contrasting images of life/death, war/peace, the battlefield/the peaceful countryside, the horrors of the judgement mural/the beauty of nature, the young/the old, those alive/those dead. Moon sleeps in a grave-like hole in the ground inside his tent, while Birkin walks past the dead in the graveyard to sleep in the church belfry. Birkin's struggle to accept the place of death in the world is epitomised by his inability to cope with meeting a sick young child on her deathbed. One of the most striking contrasts, apart from these visual shots, is that between the staid and stolid Anglican parish and the fiery 'chapel' group nearby, the irony being that the chapel group's beliefs are more full of fire and brimstone yet their lives are full of genuine love and care. They are down-to-earth people who welcome Birkin into their homes. The children play gramophone records for him and watch in admiration as he works. The preacher/station-master even asks him to preach at a nearby chapel, despite his stammer. Yet even in the apparently 'dead' Anglican parish there is a sign of life - Alice (the lovely wife of the staid reverend). It is through Birkin's encounters with these people that he discovers a growing new meaning in his life.

This film calmly ponders the universal mysteries of life and death. The acting is excellent, with many familiar British T.V., drama, and comedy personalities. Take time out of busy city life for a gently philosophical rest in the country.

M.M.

NUTS

Cinema Two

Claudia's a nut. At least, that's what her parents and doctors think. Claudia is accused of manslaughter, and lots of people want her declared incompetent to stand trial. This means she'll



get 'put away' into a mental hospital. Claudia wants to stand trial and take her chances in the courtroom.

This is the basis of the plot of 'Nuts', a new film starring Barbara Streisand and Richard Dreyfuss. It could easily be a schmaltzy piece of garbage with a plot like that. But it's not.

It's success is based largely on the excellent acting from almost the entire cast, particularly in the two leading roles of Claudia, and her lawyer Lavinsky. The sets are very low key, and the lighting is subtle. With no flashy extras (except some minimal flashback) the drama is allowed to flow and develop on its own merit, which it does quite well. The central theme of the film is the powerlessness of Claudia up against a world controlled by men with a desire to shape her and the power to have a bloody good go at it. The power men have tried to exert (have exerted) on her is revealed as the plot unravels. Even the good guy 'invades' her. But Claudia is not just a helpless victim. Streisand's performance does justice to the character of a desperate woman who, even in her abysmal position, is determined to struggle to maintain herself. She simply (note: simply, not easily) refuses to let them mould her. Claudia may not have power, but she has heaps of strength.

The film also makes some comment on the hypocrisy of 'secure' psychiatric hospitals. For example, Dr Morrisson tells Lavinsky that they want to keep Claudia in the hospital because it's better than being locked up in prison. As he's speaking, a barred door is being shut between them. Some points are very reminiscent of 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest'. The criminals are locked away for a limited period, while those deemed to be 'nuts' can be 'committed' (without trial) for ever.

'Nuts' could have been crap. The plot could have degenerated. The relationship between Claudia and Lavinsky could have been particularly sloppy. Instead it's warm and believable. The themes do get thrashed a bit much, which makes some scenes very unconvincing (such as Claudia's speech to the prosecutor when she's on the stand). But, on balance, this possible failing has been kept under control, and the result is a measured film. Perhaps a little predictable, but well worth seeing. Recommended.

C.D.

THE LAST EMPEROR

Producer and Director, Bernardo Bertolucci

The first half an hour to an hour of *The Last Emperor* is like watching *Dune* all over again. The ostentation and complex ornamentation of the setting in the Forbidden City, and the customs and behaviour of the Chinese/Manchurian people is alarmingly alien. You are made aware of a culture that really does belong to another planet if you are a Westerner. It is simply astounding. When Peter O'Toole arrives on the scene portraying the Emperor's tutor, Mr Johnston, an exceedingly stereotypical Englishman superbly

played, there is a focus to the 'strangeness' and disorientation of this China provided.

To listen to the people emerging from having seen it, I might have thought *The Last Emperor* was going to be overlong and tedious.

Well, hardly.

It's a magnificent film - a magnificent history lesson. It's foreign features intrigue because they are made known to you, and not left obscure. It's long, but you should risk it. Don't listen to those too lack-lustre in themselves to be absorbed by such an incredible and diverse life story and tale of the fate of Manchuria.

I'm not going to weave a plot synopsis for you. It's too much the ball of yarn, one you should unravel for yourself.

The flow and editing are steady and consistent. The acting is perfect. You're only going to be disappointed if the film maker you wanted on *The Last Emperor* was Steven Spielberg....

Cornelius Stone

THEATRE

BLOOD KNOT

by Athol Fugard

The Gods - Mercury Theatre

March 12 - April 16

Directed by Miles Taylor

Designed by John Parker

This play is stupendous. An amazingly subtle play which works on many different levels.

Set in Africa this is a play about apartheid with a difference. No violent for or against political comments just two people playing out against a simple set the complex thoughts, emotions and dreams of their particular reality.

It is more a play about the emotional effect of life in apartheid Africa but also simply about two people - brothers (or are they?) of the flesh and of the country they are living in.

The play is warm and humorous and profound and deeply moving and above all human - it reaches both the mind and the heart and it is truly magical.

Set in South Africa in the 60's it tells the tale of two brothers, one black, one 'coloured' whose vision or version of their mother is as complex as that of the country.

The set is superb consisting of a huge scenic background painting of the South Africa countryside viewed from behind a barbed wire fence. Against this is the rude packing house hut in which the brothers eke out a poverty stricken existence. The simple set, made out of old materials has African trademarks to increase its authentic feel.

Both actors are stunning in their roles and show consummate skill transporting us into their world and indeed their minds - the way they perceive their complicated lifestyle. Oh but it is subtle, subtle, through daily life and spoken thoughts and dreams we are taken on a surprising journey which transcends politics and becomes pure humanity.

One brother, Morris, who has 'been away' and appears white, keeps 'house' and tends to his brother Zachariah, - who works for a large white company.

Morris is saving every rand to buy some land for a two man farm and it grows upon the audience just how deeply poor in the material sense these people are. The clock,

the aching feet of Zaccariah - the blood knot which ties them.... black, white, grey

The first half of the play builds up in a masterly fashion with humour, suspense and mystery; leading to a second half which is powerful, explosive and emotive.

In the first act the scene where Morris and Zaccariah find a common childhood memory of play and power in an old ruined car culminating in a 'flock of butterflies' is so skilfully written and brilliantly played it transports you a feeling of ecstasy.

But this play works on so many different levels, differing people will perceive differing shadings, differing passions, differing meanings.

Are they flesh brothers, or brothers of the soul or the white and black bonded together in the blood knot which is Africa? - or are they all these and more?

The second act, which I will leave completely unexplained, is a climatic tour de force, searing in its intensity and emotional message. Please go and see this wonderful play - for anyone who has the slightest interest in South Africa it is a must - as it is also for anyone who has not. If you are human treat yourself to this amazing experience. In the words of Frank Whitten (Morris) 'this is an extraordinary play in the way it makes seamless transitions between extreme naturalism and moments of pure poetry'. I could not agree more. Many eyes were damp as the final curtain went up. It is a challenging experience - your cultural perceptions may change!

Helena G.

(Remember the Mercury offers student discounts - there is a bar open an hour before, during, and an hour after the show and you will be warmly welcomed.)



MANIA

Little Maidment Theatre

April 6-9, April 13-16, 8pm

Sunday matinees April 10 & 17, 2pm

\$10/\$7 students

Presented by Theatre Workshop, Mania is the premier of a rock opera that tells the story of a manic depressive rock'n'roller who falls passionately in love with a schizophrenic, (making for quite a combination), following the trails of their misadventures to the final tragedy.

Full of energy and enthusiasm, this is a large production, involving about fifty people, about half of which will be on stage. There is a wide range of actors - diverse in age group and acting experience, from amateurs to professionals.

Mania is directed by Gordon Hall and written by Rob Simonsen, who also directs the music which includes two live bands.

With this kind of combination of performers, plot and music, Mania should be a pretty powerful show.

BOOKS

Recently, two adventurous authors from overseas landed on our doorstep. In Wellington, Canadian author, **Michael Ondaatje** and American author, **Edmund White** were cornered at their new-book launching and at interviews by Aidan Howard.



EDMUND WHITE

EDMUND WHITE is a fairly shy, unimposing character, who scarcely seems gigantic enough to be the author of the best-selling gay novel ever.

'A Boy's Own Story' is now in its 14th impression in England alone - in the U.S.A., the figure is almost incalculable! This painfully identifiable novel has elevated itself into a cult-book, not simply for homosexual communities, but also for all boys who commit 'patricide' by no more than not becoming the god-princes their fathers intended them to be.

However, 'A Boy's Own Story' was Edmund White's third novel. In 1973, White published 'Forgetting Elena', followed in 1978 by 'Nocturnes for the King of Naples'. Though both are rather 'fantastic' novels, their styles are very different, the first being disturbingly straight-forward and between-the-eyes, the latter more delirious and fanciful:

'I am not resigned. Like my mother I pace through the resonant house. I'm expecting someone. Out onto the lawn I creep, small under the moon. I'm alone, the only child outdoors in a slumbering village of old houses. Bending over the artesian well I press my lips to its cold flow... a suspicion of iron as faint as the trace of pears in a liqueur that seems all clear alcohol, the pears more conspicuous on the label than in the liquid.'

'Actually,' said White, 'I'm surprised you noted the difference in style. Most people ask me about threads that link all my books together, but I also see their style as different from each other... I'm looking for a style for another book. I rather like Cocteau's 'Les enfants terribles'; it's not an amazing book of his, but I do like its style...'

Between 'Forgetting Elena' and 'Nocturnes...', Edmund White penned 'States of Desire', a non-fiction almost travelogue of people's opinions and fears, religious attitudes and fantasies about gays throughout the United States. The only real problem was working out a Dewey number - was this Travel or Sociology?

With Dr Charles Silverstein, Edmund White produced 'The Joy of Gay Sex', published by the same company as 'The Joy of (Common or Garden-Variety) Sex' and its sequel, 'More of the (Return to the Son of) Joy of Sex'.

Whereas here, when 'Silverstein knew so much but couldn't write, so I said 'just write away and pass it on to me and I'll put it in a readable form and add my bits', when White released 'The Darker Proof', which was half his and half Adam Mars-Jones', 'we decided to write exactly what we wanted because our styles are very different. Adam's style is very documentary, while mine is more into fantasy.'

'There are two main pleasures for the reader: to see Life as we know it, writing about the real world like Updike does, or the other is invention. Americans, especially, aren't into invention. They see Art as Imitation, anything else they think is a mistake.' This, Edmund explained, was why it was so hard break through to the American market, while it has been easier in other countries, like England or Japan, and with women rather than with men.

'I think women are interested in male sexuality and in detail, too; like the Japanese, who want to know about the back of the lover's teeth.'

The launching of 'A Boy's Own Story' seemed to be a major turning-point for Edmund White, not only in its mass popularity, and, therefore, its financial rewards and prestige, but also because it was a new form of autobiography in the making, which really culminated in his subsequent novel, 'Caracole'.

White wanted to write about 'Life before Gay Lib'. The late '50s and early '60s are barren of books telling of how people on the fringes of society really felt.

'In 'The Beautiful Room is Empty' (White's latest), Maria is the one involved in feminist politics. I wanted to look at the movements of feminism and of bohemianism and black power.' These were the movements, White was claiming, lead up to the consciousness which became the great Stonewall stand, the birth of the latest Gay Lib movement.

'In London, a young man, who had just read 'The Beautiful Room is Empty', came up to me to say how it had urged him to take a stand on Clause 28 (an English anti-homosexual bill).'

'Caracole' is the novel between 'A Boy's Own Story' and its sequel, 'The Beautiful Room is Empty'.

'There is a comparison to Nabakov's 'Ada'. I see 'Ada' as Nabakov's most unapproachable work and I think Caracole is also quite unapproachable to a lot of people... There is a synthesis of world culture, Nabakov's Russian to American and mine from American to French.

(Edmund White now lives in Paris. 'I had always loved the idea. I used continental language while I was in the U.S.A. and now that I live in Paris, I don't use French... We all have an unconscious map of the world with a particular centre. For me it was Paris... Paris is the clearing house of the art world; it's where an architect from Norway can meet an architect from Czechoslovakia or a writer from New York can meet one from Rome...')

Because 'Caracole' was very personal and used a lot of invention, readers were split over it. 'There was one dowdy saleswoman who came up to me tearfully and touched my arm and said 'Thank you for Caracole' and other people have told me that they thought it was awful, the worst thing I've written... it sold 10,000 copies in England (more than what he thought it would)...'

'An autobiography is bound to be one person, the narrator or the protagonist. In 'Caracole' I get to be a girl and an old Don Juan and all sorts of different people... I can disguise people too, in these types of books. The character of Walter is a friend of mine, Richard Sennett

(an American sociologist) and Mathilda is Susan Sonntag... she used to be a friend, but she doesn't speak to me after this book.'

Artists get swamped with that hideous question, 'Where do you see yourself in ten years' time?'

'Well, actually, I've never been asked that.'

'Oh well, where do you see yourself in ten years' time?'

Apart from the Cocteau-esque book already mentioned, 'I have two more books in the 'Boy's Own Story' series, one dealing with the 'seventies and one with the 'eighties, particularly AIDS in the 'eighties, the relationship of sex and death. I'm also working on a biography of Jean Genet... I want to be seen as a writer like I am in England; in the U.S.A. I'm seen as the gay writer.'

MICHAEL ONDAATJE

The other author I interviewed is MICHAEL ONDAATJE, to which many will say 'Who?'

It is true that Ondaatje is fairly unread in this country, which is a colossal shame.

Michael Ondaatje was born in Caylon (now Sri Lanka) in 1943. His Sinhalese and Tamil history is seen in the tones of his flesh, his Dutch heritage in Ondaatje's name, but his works are undoubtedly Canadian.

In 1954, Michael Ondaatje went to school in England at Dulwich College 'which the English call a 'Public School' and in North America we call a 'Private School'. It was a big shock coming from Sri Lanka, from the railway carriage classrooms, to an English school... which was where fairly well-to-do families liked to send their children when they were about 10.'

In 1962, Ondaatje moved to Canada. 'I never really saw a point in time when I could say that I was a Canadian until I was in Canada for 3 or 4 years and I went back to England. It took all that time. I don't think you can go to a country and just start writing as if you'd always been there. I really don't like 'Airport Poets'.

'I feel like I am a Canadian writer. Canada didn't make me anything, but I don't think I would have been a writer if I hadn't have come to Canada.'

Ondaatje first made a name for himself as a poet, the first book being 'The dainty monsters', released from captivity in 1967, the year Ondaatje started teaching at the University of Western Ontario.

In 1969, there was 'The man with seven faces', one of three books turned into plays, followed by the book that made it for him.

'The collected works of Billy the Kid' is a collage of poetry and prose, published in 1970. 'I had been inspired by comics in Sri Lanka as a child... What I wanted to do was to break Billy out of the kitsch and the campiness of the '60s.'

It did that, it was due to the astounding success of '... Billy the Kid' that Ondaatje became known throughout North America and, for avid readers, the rest of the world.

'Billy the Kid' was the second book to become a play. In this collage, we find poems, supposed extracts from newspapers, first-hand accounts of Billy's life from friends, relatives and loved ones and an 'Exclusive Jail Interview', all convincingly crafted by Ondaatje's left hand!



Two books later, Michael Ondaatje had published 'Coming Through Slaughter', a story of a turn-of-the-century, New Orleans jazz trumpeters, Charles 'Buddy' Bolden.

Even though critics and essayists call this a novel, Ondaatje doesn't, at one point saying 'I no longer know what a novel is' and at another calling his latest book, 'In the Skin of a Lion', his first novel.

I asked him about the stepping-stone development from an almost prose-like poetry in his early days to a poetic prose now. 'I have expanded the field of my writing to incorporate new areas, rather than 'develop'... a poem is whispered; it's to one person and it means something to one person. A novel speaks into a larger bucket...'

'I don't like poetic language in a novel, but I do like people to be able to read a novel in the same way as a poem, to move through it in the same way...'

And on poetry? 'Today all the true energy of poetry is happening elsewhere than the United States or England... Here in New Zealand, Bill Manhire is as good as any writer anywhere else...'

A short respite from the energy-draining activity of writing came in 1982, when Ondaatje wrote an autobiography of his strange life and background. Called, 'Running in the Family', it takes a not-so straight-faced look at his history, and yet the book could so easily have been a new novel in its lush descriptions if it weren't for the fact that we know it to be an autob. Now, after these literary confectioneries and a few others not mentioned, Michael Ondaatje has released 'In the Skin of a Lion'. An unmistakable novel this time, we are lead into a type of worship of labour.

Centred on the gritty, hard-working life of Toronto in the 1920s and '30s, a reader is swept along by one of the easiest styles I have ever come across to read.

It took Ondaatje over eight years to write 'In the Skin of a Lion' and the fact that he has not put a time constraint on himself has helped enormously.

A help is also the fact that he still doesn't feel himself to be a famous or well-read author. 'Sometimes I think that I only have ten copies of my books distributed overseas and whenever I travel the publishers just move the copies on ahead of me.'

But if large publishing houses wanting to publish his works isn't enough to convince him, perhaps the fact that Michael Ondaatje is one of three finalists for the \$50,000 Flitz Prize (Pulitzer Award) (the most widely known in the world) will...

THEATRE

'EDUCATING RITA'

Arena Theatre Company
Concert Chamber, Town Hall
March 18 - April 9
Mon & Tues 6.30pm
Wed-Sat 8.15pm
\$18/\$12 students



When I started to think about writing this review it was a toss-up between some really vitriotic prose or something more gentle - less condemning - because, let's face it, New Zealand theatre is struggling at the moment and needs all the support it can get. It would be ironic to write from a purely subjective viewpoint because as Frank says in the play, all criticism must be objective. It was sacrilege for Rita to even begin to criticise E.M. Forster's 'Howard's End' from a Marxist viewpoint. Art and literature are apparently allowed to ignore poverty.

'Educating Rita' would be a perfect candidate for such a radical stance (gosh, how daring of me!). Rita is the working class heroine who teaches Frank about the realities of life outside the university. Frank gets his 'just desserts' by being sent to Australia by the very establishment that he used to represent and be a part of. However that's a rather simplified version of

the play with some major flaws which I won't go into here.

In case you were wondering, I'm not going to compare the original play with the film. That won't serve any purpose since they are really two different art forms. I will use this opportunity, however, to say that Michael Caine is a Capitalist Mercenary who takes any movie part offered to him just for the big bucks (he 'starred' in Jaws III didn't ya know), and readily admits that money has made him very happy.

'Educating Rita' is a reasonably good play. Despite the surface comedy there is some genuine social commentary. It can be seen in the contrast between Rita's life and Frank's self-imprisonment in academia; and, in Denny's (Rita's husband) treatment of Rita. Denny fails to recognise that Rita is an individual with a life and mind of her own, and not just a reproductive machine.

Both actors gave fairly good performances. Darien Tackle's performance had an appropriate balance between comedy and drama. She did take some time to warm to her part, probably because it was the first night. (Her black and white striped furry coat was wonderfully kitsch). David Weatherley's failed drunk was portrayed visually through props and the obligatory slapstick-drink routine. Some of his lines did seem flat and unemotional, especially when he expressed his concern for Rita. Darien Tackle and David Weatherley have worked together before but it seemed that figurative spark was missing, essential for a two-character play.

Personally the evening was only OK. The rest of the audience (the majority of whom were over 40, for some inexplicable reason) seemed to enjoy themselves. Anyway, they

laughed when they were supposed to. (Yes, some of the jokes were very droll, and predictable). I wondered how many of them noticed those underlying social and political messages? One man did remark that Frank and Rita were playing a game, which was true in the sense that Rita forsakes her honest, emotional response to art and literature for a more orthodox and objective one just to pass the exam at the end of the year.

One last moan. At the end of the play Rita sits Frank in a chair facing the audience; with her back to us Rita slowly and provocatively slips off her raincoat... to reveal her clothes. She then takes the scissors saying that she'll take ten years off Frank, and starts to cut his hair. Blackout. I cringed when this 'routine' began and so did the male person sitting next to me. It is not part of the original play and it only serves to unconsciously reinforce the sexist attitudes of Rita's husband.

Whether you will like 'Educating Rita' or not will depend on your reasons for going to the theatre. If you go only to be entertained (in the true sense of that word) then you might want to go and see it. If you go to have your way of thinking provoked, challenged or shocked then you could do without it.

POETRY

The arts editor is awfully sorry that there isn't room for poems this week as I have to give preference to arts events that are happening at the moment. But don't despair, as soon as there's a free space I'll print them.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT



THE BEST OF FRIENDS

With a student population of over 14,000 as well as all the other people who make up the community, Auckland University has become a city within a city.

Plenty of people - but it's still possible to be lonely; to feel shut out from acceptance and understanding, and never to hear that sweetest sound in all languages, one's own name pronounced with affection.

How can we escape from loneliness? Sometimes the very steps we take seem to isolate us more - as, for instance, exhibitionism, trying to make an impression, or self-justification, proving that we are always right, or toadyism, fawning self-deprecation.

Friendships mostly happen serendipitously between people who neither over-sell nor under-sell themselves. To make friends, you don't need to be super(woman).

ART

ALAN CAMPBELL'S ANTARCTICA

Auckland Museum
March 31 - April 10



American artist, Alan Campbell's studio for the last ten weeks has been a one-man tent in the frozen wastes of the Antarctic. From this fragile shelter, in the midst of winds in excess of 30 knots, he has observed Antarctic life through a perspex window in his tent and produced a collection of watercolours and pastels which Aucklanders will be among the first to see.

Campbell was selected as the official artist for the US 1987-88 Antarctic Program because of his level of experience, and the emphasis of colour and light in his paintings. 'The works will not be scientific illustrations, but my own free interpretation of the elusive and at times surrealistic sights, sounds, and sensations of this most magical and mysterious of places,' he says. The US National Science Foundation, though scientific research is of primary importance, are also aware that there is much more to be discovered and interpreted than can be conveyed in purely scientific terms.

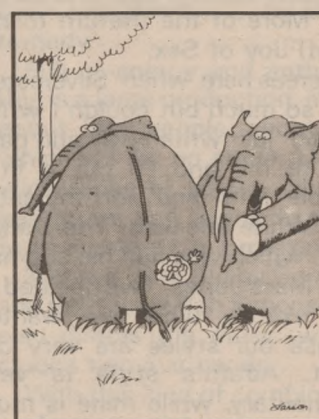
You don't need to be inordinately clever. It helps, of course, if you are friendly yourself. And it also helps if you can smile and be a bit outgoing. Acceptance of other people and acceptability in yourself is a big plus.

And for friendship to grow and develop, sensitivity, understanding, and respect, both for yourself and for the other, are important ingredients.

University life and student years provide maximum opportunities for the development of friendships - both long-term and deep, and also of a more casual kind. Indeed, the friendships formed here may be among the most precious things you take away from University life.

'Oh the comfort, the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe with a person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but pour them all out, just as they are, chaff and grain together, and a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping, and with a breath of kindness, blow the rest away.' (George Eliot)

Contributed by J M K for the Auckland University Chaplaincy



"Whoa, Frank... Guess what youuuuuuuuuuu sat in!"

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PSYCHOTRONIC MOVIE CLUB!!!!

Does your favourite movie have a giant rubber insect in it? Is Judge Wapner your hero? Did you stay up all night to watch 'Killerfish'? Have you seen 'The Eye Creatures', 'Eraserhead', 'Astrozombies', 'Teenagers From Outer Space', 'Blood Orgy of the She Devils'? Could you star in an Elvis Ninja movie? 'Lawnmower Bikers in the Supermarket'? Be an extra in 'Attack of the Mutant Pus-s ckers From Hell'? 'Disco Vampires on LSD'? 'Revenge of the Sausage Roll From Venus'? 'I Was a Teenage Squid Ring'? 'The Pustule That Ate New York'? Could you write a script for these?

Now, did you answer yes to any of these questions? Yes? Well, so what?... Join the Psychotronic Movie Club, put your name etc. on the noticeboard by the Library overbridge.

MARK ONE COMICS

... are producing The New Zealand Comic Gazette, deadline for material is 22nd April. Anything you got, they want. If it's a comic -- they'll print it. Be in! Address: 98 Albert St, Ak. 1., P.O. Box 27-365.

THEATRE WORKSHOP AUDITIONS

For 'The Romans In Britain', by Howard Brenton. To be produced in the Maidment Theatre, June 13-25. Large cast and production crew needed. Auditions:
General - Sun March 27 10am - 4pm.
Individual - Mon March 28 6pm - 10pm
Tue March 29 6pm - 10pm
Wed March 30 6pm - 10pm
Venue: Marae Room, AUSA. Information: Tommy Honey (Director)
H: 394-815, Bus: 32-725.
Stephanie Wilkin (President) 396-884.

HOME BREWERS INAUGURAL

A.G.M.

Can you get BEER for 35 cents a bottle? Interested? Come along to the First Annual General Meeting of the Home Brewers Soc. to be held in the lower common room at 7.00pm on Thurs. the 31st of March. Whether you already brew or are interested come along our aims are :-

- getting cheaper brewing supplies through bulk buying.
- improving the quality of members brews through exchange of ideas.
- to have field trips to various breweries to observe techniques.
- internal competitions to establish club brew masters.

The Meeting will include a small tasting session and other refreshments will be available.

E.U.

Worship - Tuesday 29th, 1.00 - 2.00pm, Maclaurin Chapel. Prayer meetings: Mon - Fri 8.25am, Rm 144. Everybody welcome.

MOTORCYCLE CLUB NEWS

After the Orientation ride, interest was expressed by several members in hiring the Pukekohe Race Circuit.

I have delved into this and have surfaced with the following information:

The track is available on April 12 (Tues) from 11.00am - 4.00pm OR April 18 or 19 at same times.

The cost would be approx \$20.00 per bike, depending on numbers: about 15 people needed to make it economic.

Anybody interested can contact me at ph 600-123, or 3rd yr. Chem. Common Room, or leave a note on the noticeboard.

Let's have some feedback soon please!!

Steve Bagshaw
(Secretary)

ATTENTION ALL WINDSURFERS

Are you a:-

- * (i) Wave Sailor
- * (ii) Speed-Slalom Freak
- * (iii) Ocean Cruiser
- * (iv) Beginner
- * (v) Combination of the above
- * (vi) Unknown variety ??

- How about getting together with fellow Boardheads to form a UNIVERSITY WINDSURFING CLUB? If you're interested please contact Mark at 658-594.

NEWMAN CATHOLIC SOCIETY

So what's happening here at St. Andrews hall? Well there's a mass and meal here at 6pm every Wednesday - we'll keep you informed about speakers at St. A's as part of our Wednesday evening thing. Also coming up is a car rally and beach party on March 19th. It begins at 11am so bring yourself along (and your car if you've got one).

And lastly, our orientation camp is happening on March 25-27th at Hunua Falls, so see us here at St Andrews for further information.

GAY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

All enrolment cards for Unigays were lost in the enrolment process - so if you handed one in, either give your name to the people at AUSA reception, come along to our Friday meeting (4pm in Room 144 of the Student Union) or phone our contact number Ph 604-914 - Richard or Paul.

Ed's Note: It appears many clubs' white cards have disappeared. If you filled one (or more) out get in touch with the club(s) concerned or you may miss out!

TRADE AID

Dr Satyesh Chakraborty, the founder chairman of the Equitable Marketing Authority of Calcutta, India, will be speaking in the University Hall of the Old Arts Building on Tuesday March 29 at 7.30pm.

WOMENS HOCKEY

Practice - Wednesday 30th.
Division One - 8.00pm
Division Four - 8.45pm
Senior Reserve - 9.30pm

STUDENT LIFE

Meeting April 7th (Thursday), 1.00pm, Functions Room. Speaker: Stephanie Long. Topic: 'Sex: Why Wait?'

Inter-Discovery Group and Action-Social April 9th (Saturday).

ED's NOTE: Sorry no further details provided.

UNIVERSITY FILM SOCIETY

Wednesdays, 6.30 in Library Lecture Theatre B15.

This week: A Vincent Ward double, 'In Spring One Plants Alone' and 'State of Siege'.

Next week: 'Colour of Pomegranates' (U.S.S.R.).

The week after: 'Melvin and Howard' (U.S.A.).

New members welcome.

LOST

One Silver Fish Skeleton Earring, 2" long. In the University grounds. Finder please Ph Anne-Marie 397-610.

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of a brown canvas Great Outdoors backpack removed from my office in the Zoology Dept. (Rm 166 Thomas Bldg) on Thursday - named on inside, with N.Z. flags on outside and on pocket, and 4 environmental buttons on Pocket flap (a distinctive yellow one with 100% slug, Nuclear Free N.Z. World Peace Council, and Greenpeace) please return to Mary Sewell in Zoology or via custodians as it is of great sentimental value.

(P.S. I would also like my walkman and Suzanne Vega tape back too).

ROLECON 88

To all Roleplayers or would-be Roleplayers, Rolecon '88 is in New Plymouth on Anzac weekend, April 23-25. Get your registration forms from AMERICA cubbyhole at AUSA reception or contact Alison Comer, ph 607.447.

THEOLOGY FORUM

Saturday 9th April, 10:00am - 12 noon, in the Maclaurin Chapel Hall.

'The people of the Book' - How does Islam see Jews and Christians? Presented by Dr Eric van Reijn.

MONDAY MOVIES

Movies screening at 1.05 in the Maidment Arts Centre each Monday during term time. Admission \$2, Concession Card \$8 (includes first film free).

April 11: Morning After

CHRISTIAN FOCUS

'Feminist Theology', Enid Bennett, a lecturer in theology at St Johns, will give an introduction and overview of this subject.

Friday 8th April, 1.00pm, Clubroom, Rec Centre. All welcome.

CORSO ON CAMPUS

What's happening in Nicaragua? US invasion and economic issues update, Exec Lounge 1-2pm Tuesday 29th March.

NIUEAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Meeting to plan yearly budget. Tuesday 29th March, 1pm Rm 143.



A new group is starting up on campus this year. It is

STUDENTS FOR THE N.Z. ENVIRONMENT

We will look at such topics as lead in petrol, packaging, chemical additives, native forests and the future of nuclear power in the Pacific!

Interested in joining? Put your name on the list on my office door, rm 109 on the first floor of the student union.

Mary Atkinson
Environmental Affairs

SPORT



Lincoln '88

The flame will be lit on Friday Night at the Opening Ceremony in the Oak Room, at which anyone can attend. Following that, the Tournament gets underway the next day with a majority of the events in action.

Who will win the Easter Tournament Trophy for 1988? Logic suggests that Waikato, the current holders, would be unlikely winners - they won on home territory in 1987 - but will probably be fielding a much smaller team this time. Otago, the Winter Tournament champs, are likely to be hard to beat. Canterbury will feel as if they are at home. Lincoln has never won the Trophy, but will field competitors in every event, so who knows - we could be in with a chance!

Athletics

This is being held at the Grass Track at the University of Canterbury. The competition will start on Saturday at 9am. You can enter up to four per event, except relays where only one team per campus is allowed. You are expected to wear your university colours at this meeting. The events are as follows:

Men	Women
100m	100m
200m	200m
400m	400m
800m	800m
1500m	1500m
5000m	5000m
10000m	10000m
110m Hurdles	100m Hurdles
400m Hurdles	400m Hurdles
3000m Steeplechase	4 x 100m Relay
4 x 100m Relay	4 x 400m Relay
4 x 400m Relay	High Jump
20k Road Walk	Long Jump
High Jump	Shot Put
Long Jump	Discus
Triple Jump	Javelin
Pole Vault	
Shot Put	
Discus	
Javelin	
Hammer	

In addition, there may also be a road race timed for Sunday Afternoon, probably around the Lincoln Village area. Easter Monday will see the North vs South Match. Up to four will be selected for each event; except the relays. However, anyone can compete, even if not selected. The programme for this will also start at 9am, but will of course be shorter in duration.

Cricket

The One-Day cricket competition starts on Friday, with three days of section play, and the finals being played on Monday. This year, the competition is being held at the University of Canterbury. There is a possibility of an NZU team being

selected to make a tour in November. This depends on the standard of play by the cricketers. Also this year, it is intended to run a womens competition. This really depends on the interest but it would be good to see it take off. Lincoln will enter a team, but it remains as to whether the other campuses are game or not.

Debating

Lincoln College is the venue for the Debating Competition. The programme runs for three days: Saturday: Mixed Universities Competition Sunday: Officer's Cup (Impromptu Debating) Monday: Sir David Beattie Cup (Impromptu Speaking) There are two in a team and contest up to four rounds before semi-finals, and then the finals.

Fencing

The Chch Teacher's College is the venue for the Fencing. Friday and Saturday will feature a training camp, to be run by some of NZU's best fencers. The remaining 2 days are competition days. There are three events: The Epee The Foil The Sabre Each event is expected to be hotly contested.

Rowing

The rowing will be held on the Saturday at Kerr's Reach and The Estuary. All events except the 8's will be rowed at Kerr's Reach, starting at 9am and finishing at 3.30pm. The scene will then shift to The Estuary for the 8's, for the tide at 4.30pm. The Regatta is being run in accordance with CRR and NZARA rules. This year's events are:

Men	Women
Senior eight	Senior eight
Senior four	Senior four
Senior pair	Senior pair
Single sculls	Single sculls
Intermediate eight	Novice eight
Intermediate four	
Novice eight	
Novice four	

An International Regatta is being staged in Brisbane in May and an NZU team will be attending. This is an added incentive to all rowers and those interested in the trip must complete the nomination forms (see sports officer)

Shooting (largebore)

The venue for the shooting is the West Melton Army Range. The shoots are over 4 x 10 shots for the Haslem Shield on the Saturday. The shots are over the following distances:

- 1 x 300m
- 1 x 500m
- 2 x 600m

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ON CAMPUS

This starts at 8am. The Easter Monday will feature the traditional NZU Match.

Swimming

The Swimming is on the Saturday evening at the QEII pool. It will be run under NZASA rules and the NZU Swimming Council are providing the officials for the meeting. The events are as follows :

Men	Women
100m Freestyle	100m Freestyle
200m Freestyle	200m Freestyle
400m Freestyle	100m Breaststroke
100m Breaststroke	100m Backstroke
200m Breaststroke	100m Butterfly
100m Backstroke	200m Medley
200m Backstroke	Freestyle Relay
100m Butterfly	Medley Relay
200m Medley	
Freestyle Relay	
Medley Relay	

The Medley order is as follows : Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle. Each campus can enter up to 2 competitors per event, except the relays, where only one team is allowed. More details on arrival to Lincoln College or through your Sports Officer.

Tennis

The tennis is being held over at the Lincoln Village Tennis Club courts. The Competition will run for the three days (Saturday to Monday) and in the event of poor weather, we can use the Lincoln College courts to make up the time.

There are two competitions, on each for men and women. Each team consists of 4 players, ranked 1 to 4. They play a single and a doubles, a total of 6 matches in the tie.

Table Tennis

The Table Tennis for 1988 will be held at Gillespie Hall on the second floor of the Student Union Building at Lincoln College. The aim is to run the competition over 3 days, Saturday to Monday, with an NZU match on the last day.

The competition consists of six events which are: Teams event, Mens Singles, Mens Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Womens Singles and womens Doubles. Teams consist of four men and two women and the teams competition is a round robin. Each tie consists of 21 matches. All matches are the best of three sets to 21. On arrival, the competition will be fully explained to all the competitors, as well as the draw.

Volleyball

The Volleyball will be held in the Recreation Centre at Lincoln College. The teams, of which an NZ Army team is included will be split into 2 sections in both the mens and womens competition. Winners of each section will play in a final on Monday. A possible vs probables match may be played time permitted. The play will start at 9am each day at the Centre.

Some of the country's best players will be on show at Lincoln in both competitions.

Waterpolo

QEII is also the venue for the Waterpolo. The competition will be held at varying times of Saturday, Sun-

day and Friday at the pool. The competition will break for the swimming competition on Saturday evening. Teams of up to 11 players may enter the event, where there is a mens and womens competition. Much interest will be in the Bendigo Cup, a relay for the Waterpolo players only and consists of 7 members in a team. Only a length of the pool is swum by each member of the team.

Windsurfing

This growing sport is being held at Lake Ellesmere on the Saturday and Sunday of the Tournament. It is being run in conjunction with the Canterbury Funboard Association and promises to feature some of NZ's best but it also caters for the absolute beginner as well. There are 3 events :

- Coarse Racing
- Slalom
- Speed Trial

If the wind is right, and the chances are pretty good, then it makes for a great days windsurfing.

Ironperson

The test of stamina for those, and there are plenty of you, who enjoy a challenging event. Definitely not for the poorly conditioned athlete, it is a 2 person relay, each person doing 2 stages of the four from Port Hills to Lincoln College. It's timed to start at 9.30am on Sunday :

Person 1: 6p7km cross country run to Lake Forsyth.
6km paddle across Lake Forsyth to Birdlings Flat.
Person 2 : 33km cycle to Lincoln College
9 km run around Lincoln College
For the crazies who wish to attempt the whole thing, You're welcome, but ensure that you inform the controller beforehand that you are doing so.

Sports Dinners

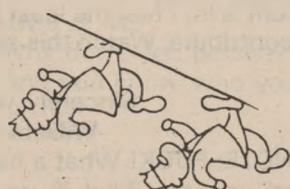
Most of the sports will have their own dinner arranged, but in the Dining Hall at Lincoln College there will be a mass dinner for most of the sports on Saturday Night at 8.30pm. More information on arrival.

Other notes

All students are advised to bring sleeping bags if you are staying on campus or being billeted.

The swimming and the Waterpolo is being held in conjunction with the NZ Masters Competition, so bear with us if we run into timetable problems at QEII.

The draw for your competition will be updated on your arrival at the Tournament. Go to HQ to check your sports draw and to pick up your Info kit.



BNZ UNIVERSITIES EASTER SPORTS TOURNAMENT

WARNING

We will not tolerate any unruly and disruptive behaviour during the tournament. Any student found acting in such a way will be removed from campus, disqualified from the tournament, and referred to the Students Association for further action. Fines will be imposed on students by their associations.

The sports and the socialising can't be missed at Lincoln this Easter - get into it and sign up for Tourney.

Contact your local Sports Officer for details on these events.

Hi there folks. Hope you have an excellent trip en route to the 1988 BNZ Easter Sports Tournament. You've come to the right place.

Even for those not staying on campus, it'd be worth checking out the range of popular (mainly Mainland) talent we've got lined up to relieve the stresses and strains of competitive sport. You won't get a better deal in town!

Would be troublemakers and April Fools be warned however - we've also got some surprises lined up for you...

Sports Bars will be open daily, Friday through Monday, from 4pm - 6pm in the Student Union Building.

Official Opening - 7pm, Oak Room, Student Union Building, Invitation Only.

From 7.30pm, we'll have a local hero - **Chris Moore**, to entertain you, spiced with clips from a special music video compilation shown on the big screen. Featuring **Los Lobos, Midnight Oil, Crowded House, et al.**

... **Welcome to Lincoln University Campus**

The traditional 'Sports dinners' are organized through the individual controllers. An opportunity for you to try the range of pubs and eating houses in and around Christchurch, or indeed the flash faire at the Dining Hall on campus.

To be Confirmed - **Late Nite Disco back at Varsity. 10pm - 1am.**

8pm till late, Gillespie Hall, Student Union Building, 'Streetlife' Jazz/Blues/Rock band and 'Chicago Smoke Shop' Blues band currently based in Wellington.

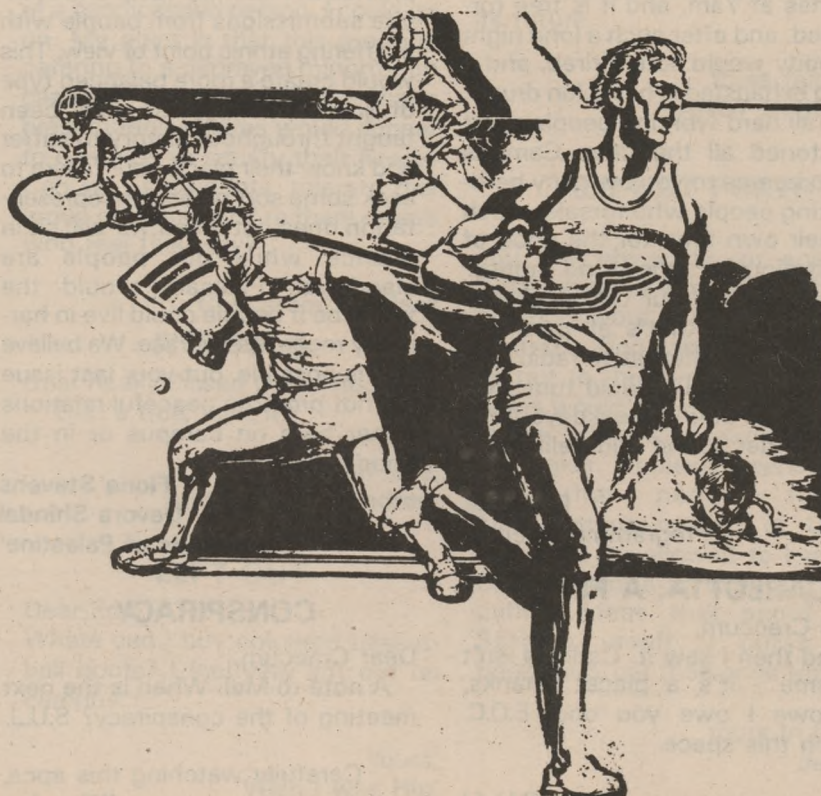
And it's farewell from us...

From 7.30pm, in the Student Union Building, 'Showcase of Lincoln talent' - see what we've got to offer. Followed by: 'The Bedouins' - popular Rock and Blues band.

Admission to all events is covered by a bulk ticket at the ridiculous price of \$10. Otherwise door sales will apply at \$\$ specified for each event.

Here's to a good time being had by all.

Cheers,
Kate





Rave On

Before you smart arses out there get bitchy at the fact that quite a few of the Raves that have been printed are over the stated 200 word limit, I will point out that any letter raises an important point or replies to a previous letter of a serious nature then I feel it should be published in the student interest. I repeat last weeks note about not applying the same leniency towards letters of superfluous or trivial nature. But please (begs on hands and knees with soulful look in eyes) try and keep them under 200 words if you possibly can, and on ONE (1) side of paper (double spaced) only, otherwise I (or hopefully someone more able) has to re-type it, and it takes too bloody long, OK! Don't disturb my karma, or you'll drive me to drink (!!).

RADIO STANDARDS...

Dear Craccum,

I am usually an avid fan of the classical show played every Sunday morning on Campus Radio. Unfortunately however, I made the regrettable mistake of tuning in one hour early on Sunday the 13th March, and I heard some awful music on an otherwise sane and sensible but slightly 'out of it' (as they say) station.

Questions: Why did the disk jockey only announce songs every 45 minutes? Do people really want to listen to Reggae Music, Maori chants and South African music on a Sunday morning? I think not. Also, and may I say not surprisingly, a few of the tunes in particular were unintelligible (perhaps some foreign tongue) and peppered lightly with obscene and unnecessary language. Is it mere coincidence that the D.J. sounded like he was 'on' or had recently taken hard drugs? C'mon guys, who's responsible? Have standards fallen this low unnoticed, or have others heard the rot creep in?

A High Idealist

... AND THE REPLY

I gather from your letter, that aside from listening to the Classical Show, you generally don't listen to Campus Radio BFM. The aim of our station is to provide Auckland listeners with alternative music that would never receive commercial radio airplay such as 'Reggae Music, Maori chants and South African music...'

Your question about ethnic music leads me to wonder if you are either racist or simply dislike black music. This particular show that you turned into is known as the 'graveyard shift'. This show starts at 2am and finishes at 7am, and it is free formatted, and after such a long night anybody would sound tired, and if being exhausted is being 'on drugs', then all hard working people must be stoned all the time. Campus Radio comes to you by many hard-working people who forsake much of their own time for the good of the station for little or no money.

You listen to our Classical Programme, well that's all part and parcel of our alternative radio service. Maybe you should tune into our station during weekdays for a more tamer sound and delivery.

Domanik
Programme Director

CARLOTTA: A PLACE

Dear Craccum,
... and then I saw it. Carlotta isn't a dame - it's a place! Thanks, Marlowe I owe you one. E.O.C. Watch this space.

Mel (S.U.J.)

JEWISH REPRESENTATION

Dear Craccum,

As your paper insists on running articles such as 'Oppose Israel's Apartheid', which are left unsigned and attributed to a political group (is this a link with South Africa?), we find it necessary to forward another point of view.

Firstly, Israel does not enjoy historical, ideological or military links with South Africa. The S.A. govt is as anti-Semitic as it is anti-black African. The two governments could hardly be called 'partners in crime'. The whole article consists of extremely fragile comparisons between two completely different cultures with unrelated and even opposing backgrounds.

Secondly, the Jewish people can also trace their settlement in Palestine as far back as 638 B.C. and there are extant records documenting it even further back than that. In 1947 the U.N. approved the immigration of Jews into Palestine. Although this had been thus internationally approved, the Arab nations decided to take international law into their own hands by initiating policies of intimidation and terrorism. The existing tension and conflict today is a result of this continued harassment.

Thirdly, we suggest that some of these 'Friends of Palestine' look a little closer at the racial disharmony right here in New Zealand. This disharmony was perpetrated by their European ancestors and continues today in their bureaucracies, media and job markets. It is easy to point the finger at international trouble spots in order to avoid the real issues at home. It is more courageous to admit that things are far from perfect here on our own doorstep. The issue of commercial trading with South Africa is particularly relevant here.

Fourthly, the two letters to the editors comparing Israel with Nazi Germany were so offensively polemic they did not warrant a critical analysis. As we have both lost relatives in the Nazi Holocaust and were raised with a deep knowledge of that era we find these letters to be no more than a form of vicarious intellectualism. They smack of self-righteous non-involvement.

Finally, if you are going to print this sort of biased material at least provide a) historical facts and b) invite submissions from people with a differing ethnic point of view. This would create a more balanced type of journalism. Jews have been taught throughout history to suffer and know their place. Your failure to seek some sort of Jewish representation does not mean we will sit in silence while our people are slandered. Pleasant would the world be if people could live in harmony regardless of race. We believe this is possible, but your last issue did not promote peaceful relations either here on campus or in the Middle East.

Fiona Stevens
Devora Shindal
'Friends of Palestine'

CONSPIRACY

Dear Craccum,

A note to Mel: When is the next meeting of the conspiracy? S.U.J.

Carefully watching this apce,
Killer Joe

GUILTY

Some really fancy mansion in Remuera has a doghouse in the back lawn, and I live in the basement apartment.

Dear Craccum,

I hope that all the silly arseholes who voted labour last year are felling really guilty now. Their policies are designed to take money away from those who need it (me!), and give it to the Brierley's and Hawkins'. The poverty-stricken student vote has been told to go suck dogshit and IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT. Haven't you worked out LABOUR stands for Lange's Always Bashing Opponents Up Rectums. It doesn't matter what you do, we're stuck with a govt that happily shits on students and licks it's own arse clean. Wake up, people, there's no way Roger Douglas is going to give you a cent.

Rabid Natman

President Jim McLay Fan Club

SHIT ON IT, BUDGIE!

Dear Craccum,

My budgie is very intelligent: - he doesn't eat your paper - he SHITS on it. He told me he might read it if you'd write something interesting. He says the paper would benefit from people getting out of the Craccum office to look at the REAL world and then writing about it.

Love, kisses and monstrously big whiteys,
Floofy and Urenui (Budgie)

ED's NOTES: 1. We can't get out of the office because we have to re-type your letters and try and co-ordinate all the other shit, as well as go to lectures (up to 7) and do part-time jobs! We have had an extremely welcome influx of helpers recently who we hope to get reports from on the world... out there. (I bet you aren't one of these keen helpful people)

2. Your budgie (feathered kind) may end up as a budgie (cafe variety) if he doesn't watch what he's eating.

WORDS TOO LONG

Dear Craccum,

How the hell did Psycho (Craccum 8th March) fit so many words with over 8 letters (19) into his 2 paragraphs. Anyway, how the hell can he complain about enrolment, he was too busy chatting up my friend Anglia (real name), and I'm still waiting at Shadows for my drink.

Psycho-killer

P.S. He's a fucking B.Com. student P.P.S. Give him a shave, he needs one.

P.P.P.S. Smile if you had a naughty today.

GIVEN THE BOOT

To Whom it may concern,
Seeing the rather sad state that Craccum is in, I feel the least I can do is contribute. Watch this space.

Sincerely yours,
William Boot

ED's NOTE: FUCK! What a helpful bastard you are Billy! If we had more like you there'd be sod all for us left to do.

Andrew J.

TO RAPE & KILL

Dear Craccum, & 'Unsigned',

Rape is not primarily sexual, but a vile attempt to humiliate and subjugate another. Personally, I would like to see rapists have their vitals removed and sent off to Siberia to cool down. I realise, though, that this raises some practical problems like who would pay, and what airline would take them.

Also, I would concede, it's not too compassionate. But then neither is abortion. One doesn't alleviate the psychological and emotional trauma of rape by extending that cruelty to someone else. One compounds it.

I do not mean to downplay the distress experienced by the victim who carries her baby to term, but suggest that in the very very few cases where rape results in pregnancy this is the lesser evil, the more compassionate option for mother and child both. The child need never be unwanted, as a quick glance at the years-long adoption waiting list can determine.

As for the assertion that a woman should have control over her own body - I concur. If she wants to chop off an arm or nose, fine. But mutilating the body of another is a different matter. The fact that you happen to provide nutrients to that developing child does not give you the right to claim it is a part of your body, and then clip it off as if it's a useless toenail.

And of course it's not as easy and painless as getting a manicure at the local salon. You actually have to destroy the life that's moving around and sucking its thumb inside.

How then, 'unsigned' and 'yours in compassion' do you do this? By poisoning and burning him with saline solution. By stabbing her with sharp instruments and chopping her hands and limbs and pieces of face which, once dismembered, can be sucked out and dropped into a pail. Welcome to 20th century compassion.

Yours with tears,
GRAHAM BLAIKIE

A.J. STRIKES BACK

Dear Craccum,

I read with disgust the unsigned reply to my letter regarding pool fencing. Obviously she skim-read the letter and the underlying messages went straight over her head, and quicker than a seppo to a free lunch she loads her pen and discharges an illegible, hysterical reply.

Could she not see that the 6 deaths per year were irrelevant compared to the 10,000 abortions? The 6 deaths will not register on the percentage scale for deaths in N.Z. per year. Secondly, the responsibility lies with the parents and not the pool owners, and the costs associated with preventing the 6 deaths heavily exceed the benefits received or to be received.

Thirdly, my attack on the H.L.R. Bill does not reflect narrow-mindedness but my hate for these dim faggots who leach off the system.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate her on her subtle attack on capitalism. That's the spirit-blame anything you don't like or understand on America, not only did they make the dinosaurs extinct, but they also created communism. Didn't you know? Yeah - jerks aren't they? But they are not as much of jerks as those in the Western World who tend to forget that without them World War II may have ended rather differently.

BROWN

Dear Sir,
Gordon Brown in which many - Zi contains and displ the issue
Mr Brown hysterical his views, ing (or u statement Israeli pi eminently to be mad my diction of govern dictators tionalism, To the ind ple, pover den, Israe - it denies and they citizens u rule.

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Mr Brown (secret pe cent peop transform could be f official Isr year revea ternal sec years abo torture us from Pale report wa an investigi coverup se Palestine bus were Shin Bet. quoted as not above you have order to g the Gesta
Who ne when you 'Defence by withou Palestine gunned c Within the have repo ing Palest Nazis sho first), a coverage young Pa



BROWNE

Dear Sir,
Gordon Brown's letter of March 15, in which he rejects the Nazi Germany - Zionist Israel comparison, contains numerous inaccuracies and displays a clear ignorance of the issues concerned.

Mr Brown uses emotive, even hysterical, language in expressing his views, yet is apparently unwilling (or unable) to back up his statements with facts. The fascist-Israeli parallel is in my view eminently suited; the comparisons to be made are many. According to my dictionary, fascism is 'a system of government characterised by dictatorship, belligerent nationalism, racism, militarism, etc.' To the indigenous Palestinian people, poverty-stricken and downtrodden, Israel is indeed a dictatorship - it denies them basic human rights, and they live as second-class citizens under iron-fisted military rule.

Israel is also characterised by belligerent nationalism; namely Zionism. The Israeli regime is racist (on 10 November 1975, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring Zionism a form of racism by a majority of 72-35). Israel also happens to warrant that last epithet, militarism. It has the most powerful army in the Middle East, it is also the only Middle East nation in possession of nuclear weapons (remember Mordechai Vanunu?), and its expansionist ambitions date back to the time of the birth of Israel as a state, with the annexation of the Arab half of the UN-partitioned Palestine (1948-49). Since then, Israeli expansionism/imperialism has continued unabated, for example in the occupation of the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Golan Heights and in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. This neo-colonialist mentality is inherent to Zionism; Jewish settlements have sprung up like mushrooms in the Occupied Territories. For Mr Brown's benefit, one does not gain 'extra territory' merely by repulsing invading armies (did Israel invade Lebanon in the process of 'repulsing the invading Arab armies?!').

Mr Brown writes 'at least Israel's (secret police) doesn't drag innocent people from their beds to be transformed into soap'. Nothing could be further from the truth; an official Israeli report published last year revealed that the Shin Bet internal security services lied for 16 years about brutal methods and torture used to extract confessions from Palestinian prisoners. This report was only ordered as part of an investigation following the 1984 coverup scandal after two captured Palestinians who had hijacked a bus were beaten to death by the Shin Bet. One security officer was quoted as saying: 'The Shin Bet is not above the law, but sometimes you have to deviate from it a bit in order to get the truth'. Shades of the Gestapo?

Who needs a secret police force when you have an army like Israel's 'Defence Force'? Hardly a day goes by without news of rock-throwing Palestinian demonstrators being gunned down by Israeli troops. Within the last couple of weeks we have reports of Israeli soldiers burying Palestinians alive (at least the Nazis shot or gassed their victims first), and the infamous TV coverage of Israeli troops beating young Palestinians with rocks in

OFF(?)

order to break their bones. Mr Brown has obviously never bothered watching the 6.30 news.

Current Israeli PM Yitzhak Shamir was himself a leading member in the notorious Zionist terrorist group the 'Stern Gang' - I wonder if it comes as any surprise to Mr Brown that this infamous organisation in 1941 actually proposed an alliance with Nazi Germany?

Thank you,
Richard Court

JAKE THE GIT

Dear Craccum,

What a load of shit you printed about the Engineers two weeks ago. It's about time that raving faggot MacDorkal stopped opposing everything that he is not involved in. The thing is that the Engineers are right, and so were the Med Students when they got their fingers out and counted up how much wastage that faggot causes and took that wastage off their fees. Anyone worth their barrel of rum would see the sense in the Engineers' claims. Whoever is behind this inspired claim (and I do know who - not me, I'm not even an Engineer!) has a mind similar to Einstein's and Mussolini's (mix the two together and see who you get).

Lastly, I would like to point out that you said 'How often have you seen an Engineer with a broken leg using the Disabled Students Officer?'. Well, to tell you the absolute truth - never! But if I had it isn't included in the A.U.S.A. fees - so there!

I think your next article relating to this affair should be 'Read all about it! Wayne McDougal - raving butt slammer'.

Yours Woolly,
Jake The Great

P.S. Perhaps McDorkal is favouring the Gays and Lesbians, and it is a well known fact that Engineers and Med. Students HATE faggots. Corruption is at large in the A.U.S.A. ED's NOTE: If you're going to quote something, Jake the Git, get it right! It should have read, AND I QUOTE - 'Have you ever seen an engineer assisted by our Disabled Students Officer when they break a leg?'

ED's NOTE 2: Your tone and vocabulary justifies the view that most University students have of Engineers. Are you sure the rest of the Engineers are impressed by the misconception that you are perpetuating?

PERSISTENCE REQUESTED

Dear Craccum,

please forgive me, I'm a first year student, but I wish to report on an amazing behavioural pattern which emerged during the Orientation festival. I speak mainly of the many male students who dashed madly around the Orientation functions, asking every girl they didn't know to have sex with them, but are never to be seen again if the answer is 'No'.

Why don't you persist?

And you know who you are!

RIP
Frankie

(2 concerned female students)

NEGATIVE ORIENTATION

Dear Craccum,

I am about to be extremely negative about this year's orientation. Basically it was pathetic. I thought that the main aim of an orientation would be to involve as many people as possible.... especially first year students. Two of the main get involved events were ballsed up. The organisation of the Jelly Wrestling amounted to 'turn up at the Rudman Gardens with a few cans of jelly and a plastic sheet big enough for 8 people', you can't seriously expect people to want to wrestle with Mark Barlow (imagine what would happen to your credibility). A Jelly Fight could have involved many more people, and what happened to organising teams? Similarly the Giant Monopoly.... how do you expect several thousand students to get involved on a several metre square board, or was the aim just to create an opportunity for Foster & Co to make spectacles of themselves.

In the last Craccum it was stated that orientation cost \$11,000.00, if anybody can explain where this money went I would be amazed, especially since many events had an additional charge. It is also very dumb that Painters & Dockers, Sneaky Feelings, Frank Chickens, The Bats (who got the largest 'bill' on the Orientation programme), and many more good bands played at the Gluepot, a small venue considering the number of students, and a venue where legally 90% (?) of 1st/2nd year students can't get in. Is this just a money spinner for the Gluepot? I could give positive suggestions e.g. silly sports day, but that could take several more pages.

Philip

SEXUAL ACTS

Dear Craccum,

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction at the affiliation of the University Film Society to the Student Body. This body is supposed to represent us. Yet here we have a situation where a small group of perverts have gained access to student funds and facilities, and yet their activities are an affront to the morality of the average student. Their two Wednesday evening screenings in our B15 Lecture Theatre to date have contained, in the case of the first movie, footage of explicit sexual violation of a handicapped person. I could go on. My point is that this group is catering to a depraved minority on campus... and the rest of the year's presentation of films would appear to continue to satisfy their needs. Can we as students, tolerate this group on campus? Are there others who feel this way?

Concerned Student

IT'S TRUE

Dear Really Pissed Off of Rudman,
That's true, isn't it?

Much love,
Andrica and Mondrew

LEFT OUT

Dear Eds,

Where can I buy coloured basketball boots? I feel very left out on campus.

Yours,
'Wish I was Hip'

MISGUIDED?

Dear Mr Craccum,

Excuse my ignorance (please!) as I am only a poor naive first year, but could you please tell me why the cafe 'assistants' (or is that word a sin?) are so rude to poor little me? I mean, I am paying good New Zealand currency (which means a lot to me) for what I buy. And I may be mistaken, but I had a strange idea that students owned these cafes - in any case they are run for us, aren't they?

Besides which, I am always very polite (my mummy brought me up well). I say please and thank-you, I put my rubbish in the overflowing bins without being commanded (eek! I thought this place was non-restrictive), and if I flick my ash on to the floor it is only because we are not supplied with ashtrays!

Maybe I am misguided in my first-yearhood but perhaps some other disgruntled customers will write in - who knows, maybe we could be treated like humans in the future and get the service and respect WE PAY FOR! (I'm sorry, I know that last bit was a bit strong, but I don't think mummy will tell me off - I didn't swear. But I am rather Pissed Off).

Yours Rather Sincerely and
Faithfully,
Mummy's Dearest and Eldest Boy

UNIVERSITY PEN FRIEND

Andrew Stubbins
Unit 4, Student Village
200 Norfolk Park Road
Sheffield
S2 2UA
ENGLAND

Dear Sir,

I am a second year student studying a BSc Hon in Information Technology at Sheffield Polytechnic, England. I have recently contacted the New Zealand Embassy in London regarding 'University Pen Friends', resulting in your address being given.

Would it be at all possible to arrange a correspondence with a female Pen Friend from your University. I would be very interested in discussing various topics such as World affairs, Sport, Politics, Music etc. The chance to hear the views of someone from a different country would be very stimulating, especially to see how different people view the world and its future.

Yours faithfully
ANDY STUBBINS

RED-HOT POKER

You are obviously an agent of Satan. Anyone who denies the true and only word of God, as expressed in the King James Bible, should be put to the torch. Your evil opinions would change bloody quickly after a few applications of a red-hot poker. Godless arseholes like you that pander to the blasphemous ravings of Darwin shouldn't be allowed to live. True believers unite to wipe out these unholy ideas that spout from Satan's vomit. I curse thee Beezlebug, get thee gone from me.

Yours In Christ,
Jesus II

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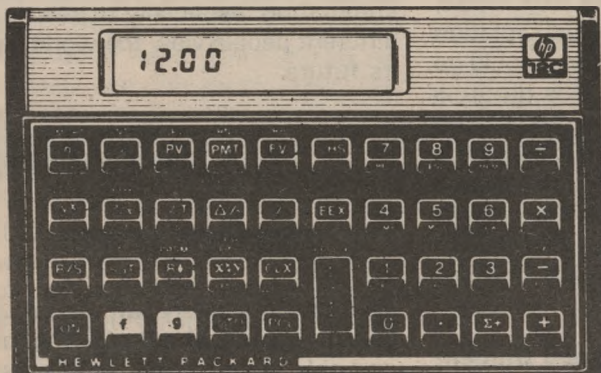
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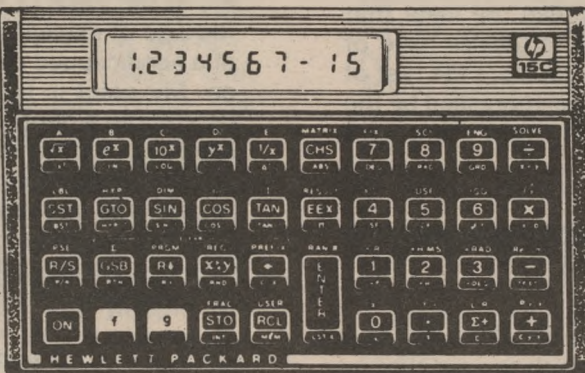


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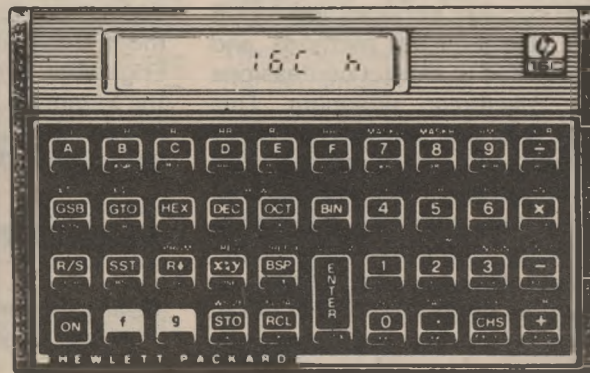


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