

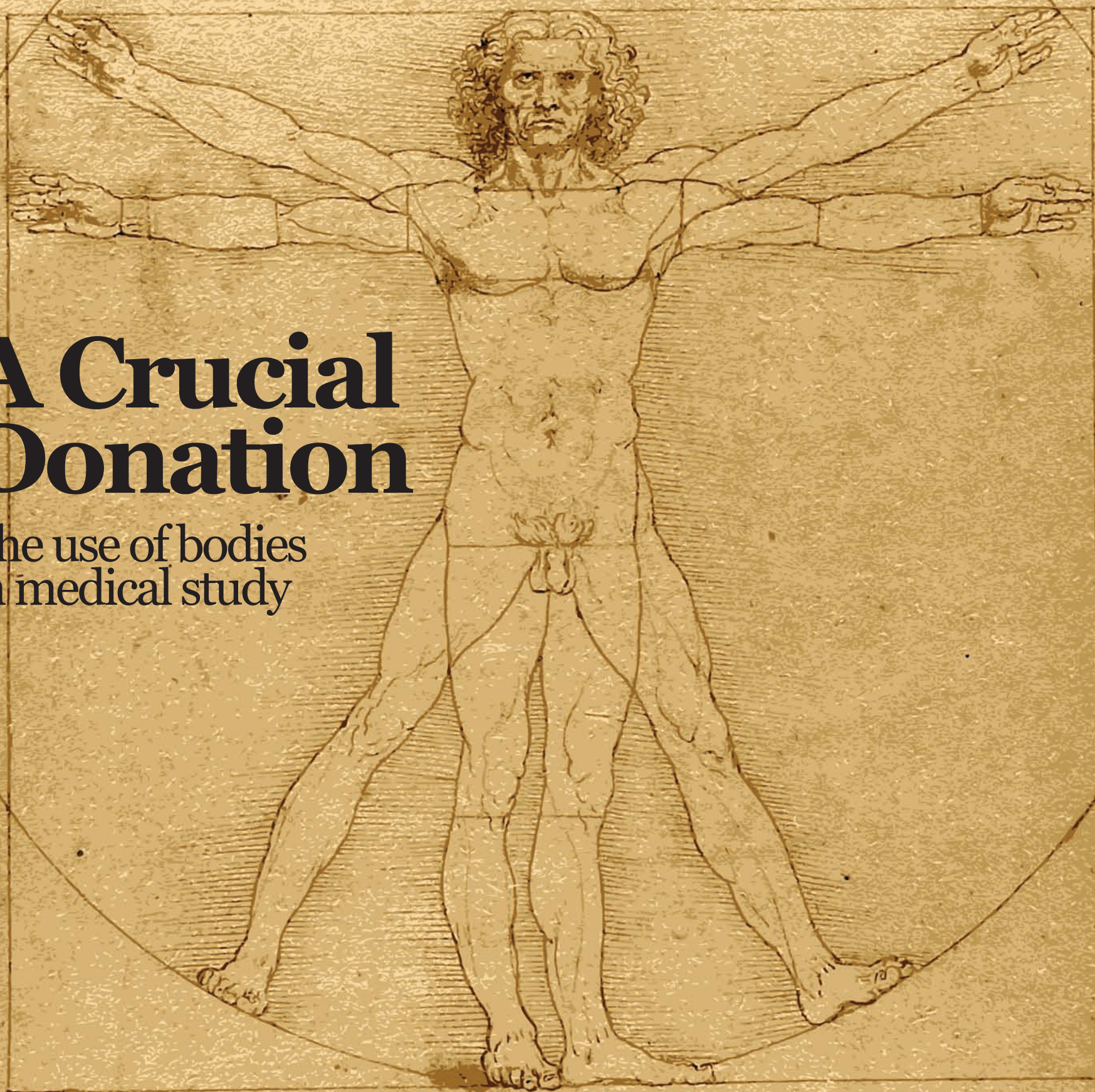
HONISOIT

SHHHH! (HE'S NOT WEARING ANY CLOTHES...)

WEEK 5 EDITION | 1 APRIL 2009

A Crucial Donation

The use of bodies in medical study



CAMPUS NEWS

USYD's United Front

>05

MISCELLANY

Reptilian Humanoids

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A Jab At the Hijab?

Raidah Shah Idil, Arts/Science

Dear Editor,

As a Muslim woman, I am disappointed by the inaccuracies cited in the article *Hijabi Haute Couture*. This article fails to give an accurate representation of the hijab and why Muslim women wear it. While there is a niche for the paradox of hijabi haute couture, the majority of Muslims reject it. The Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) did not have any concubines because it is against the teachings of Islam. After Revelation, hijab was obligatory upon all Muslim women, regardless of social status. Before God, all believers are equal.

For centuries, the criteria of modest dress and behaviour Muslim women as well as men has been extremely clear. In Chapter 'The Light', verse 31, God says: "And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what must ordinarily appear therof; that they should draw their veils over their bosoms and not display their beauty except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers... And O you Believers, turn you all together towards Allah, that you may attain Bliss." Despite what liberal interpretations of scripture argue, traditional scholars have agreed on the dress code for Muslim women: loose clothing which covers the body, except for the face and hands. External beauty is hidden to allow for more professional and respectful day-to-day interactions with the wider community. Suggesting that we wear it to attract men or incite envy is false. Immodest covering is a mistake on the part of the person, not the faith.

There is no Muslim monolith. Culture and faith intertwine throughout global Muslim communities – this adds to the richness and beauty of our

spiritual heritage. The way a Muslim woman dresses in Africa differs to how a Muslim woman dresses in Malaysia. There is leeway for cultural expression. Problems arise when cultural practices contradict Islamic values. For example: A woman wearing a form-fitting dress and a see-through headscarf isn't in hijab. That's apologetic fashion designed to kowtow to the Western concept of beauty. The essence of Islam is one of whole-hearted surrender to God. Muslims don't adjust Divine Law to suit them. We adjust to suit Divine Law. "We hear, and we obey." (Quran 2:285) So if the latest fashion trend is to wear form-fitting designer clothes and a see-through headscarf - arguing that it is hijab as God intended is as flimsy an excuse as the fabric itself.

As a Muslim woman, I believe that my hijab honours me as a woman. There is sacredness in preserving my femininity from public consumption. This cannot be appreciated from a patronising or Western-centric stance. Happily, not all is lost. The new wave of young Muslims who are returning to their traditional roots shows that through reconnecting to a rich spiritual heritage, a deep sense of worth and peace is found. A kind of serenity that no amount of Prada can buy.

Another Side

Steph NotD'SouzaInCaseMyAuntyReadsThis Economics Social Sciences II

Salut Honi,

Writing to say I loved, loved, loved Camilla Ibrahim's feature, *Hijabi Haute Couture*, in last week's edition. It was one of those rare articles that made you think – not because the author had recently discovered the 'Shift+F7' function and left the reader scratching their newly bamboozled noggin. It was just super interesting – Ibrahim unmasked a fascinating industry that is clearly at the heart of so many women's identities, the arch nemesis of others', and a stark contrast to my own. A real eye opener!

by Mr. Nick Purtell.

Mr. Purtell, editor of Honi Soit, and candidate for election as a member of the Union Board, responded to allegations of abuse of editorial privileges by saying, 'the full colour centrespread poster has absolutely nothing to do with the Union elections. It's just a coincidence. I'm a man of honesty and integrity. I believe wholeheartedly in an impartial media. In this case, of course, I am the impartial media.'

Mr Purtell's accusers were unavailable for comment. The most outspoken accidentally, tragically hung himself whilst putting out the laundry. The editors of this newspaper condemn and deplore any attempt to control the minds of our readers through propaganda. We shall seek such propaganda out and expunge it mercilessly, if we ever find it. Any of it. Anywhere. I tell you, we are really serious about this one. It's the principle of the matter. Vote 1 Nick Purtell for Union.

Published in Honi Soit, Edition 7, 1995

I'd also like to thank Camilla on two fronts. First off, you helped me decide on a research area for an upcoming government paper. Second of all, you've helped me pull my 14-year-old-Gossip-Girl-watching cousin back from the precipice of...well becoming a dumbshit. I came home the night I read the article and expressed my enthusiasm to her. Her reply, "Um...like...what? Hijabideewha?". After a little explanation, she (to her credit, very sincerely) told me that she was happy that these haute couture fashions were available to Muslim women, "...because I mean, it must get hot in summer right?". Shudder.

Caucusing up a storm

Tristan Winter, Science III

Dear Honi,

While I adored non-student Tom Robertson's searingly witty prose in your last issue (just joking), I wanted to raise a few issues about the main assumption his piece rested on. That is, that INDEPENDENT inevitably equals GOOD. Of course, in the normal run of things in our everyday lives, independence generally conjures up positive ideas of intellectual freedom or ideological integrity. But a certain trend raises an important issue.

There is an uncomfortable commonality among recent "independent" candidates. That is, money. You yourself ("hype"), and even more so your predecessors "ink", are known to be almost exclusively graduates of the most expensive private schools in Sydney (while possibly not *every* one of you, I think we can all agree that it's far above the university average). Doug Thompson, Courtney Tight and Pat Bateman all attended similar schools. Andrew Coleman's main election promise was to return his monetary stipend (how will he live!!! *cue parents*).

"Factions" that are based around coherent policy positions give a platform to people who don't have a personal fortune at their disposal -- the ones who might not have come from as privileged a background as you. They have people to campaign for them based on their beliefs and policy, not the connections they gained at private school or their mad Sydney Grammar-trained debating skillz. If you're going to be self-righteous, perhaps first investigate your own privilege.

Forgive Me!

Pat Stewart, Science III

Dear Damana,

I'm sorry for flooding your house. I can't really remember, but I think it happened somewhere between resting my feet on the drinks bucket and sliding across the floor at great speeds. Such insensitive treatment of your property was quite rude and I apologise profusely. Had it occurred to me that there isn't supposed to be water on the ground, I may have done something about it, but sadly that didn't happen until a couple of days afterwards, around the same that my

Editorial

Choosing interesting features often involves picking issues that are controversial, provoking a number of passionately held and irreconcilable responses. Last week's feature, *Hijabi Haute Couture* by Arab/Islamic Studies student Camilla Ibrahim was one such piece. We have heard criticism of the views expressed in the article, at times unreasonable; calling it 'defamatory' and 'islamophobic' and at others thoughtful and intelligent; Raidah's letter on this page.

This edition we continue to grapple with tricky issues; Alex Lee has spent weeks tracking down elusive interviews with employees of the USYD medicine department for her feature on the use of dead bodies in teaching and research in the faculty.

We were committed in January to bringing back a Campus News section in *Honi*; from an investigation into incompetency at the Con to this week's story on a collaboration between the Arab Students Society, Muslim Students Society and Australian Union of Jewish Students there has been plenty to keep us busy.

If you like our articles, please send us a letter and if you don't, send us one too. Either way, we're glad our work so far has people talking.

Katherine Connolly

memory returned. The words, 'ohhh shit' were uttered many times as the process unfolded. I hope you can find it in yourself to forgive me because I swear I'm not all bad. I could make you a mars bars slice. I'm pretty good at it. I would use extra mars bars, just to show how bad i feel for treating you so callously. Anyway, I'm heading to Carlsaw now. You should come by, but if I don't see you, I'll probably just leave another note explaining more.

SEND LETTERS & CONTRIBUTIONS TO
honi2009@gmail.com

Only submissions with your name, year and faculty will be accepted.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

A student general meeting has been called for Wednesday 1st April 2009, 1pm, Main Quadrangle, Room N205. To discuss the following motion:

1. The USYD SRC publicly condemns Israel's attack on Gaza.
2. The USYD SRC publicly endorses and partakes in the BDS movement.
3. The USYD SRC call on Sydney University to endorse and partake in the BDS Movement.
4. The USYD SRC endorses Palestine Solidarity Week.
5. The USYD SRC commits \$1000 annually to fund Palestine Solidarity Week, accessible by the Global Solidarity Officer.
6. The USYD SRC immediately issues a press release about this meeting and its decisions.

Authorised by SRC President, 2009.



FROM THE VAULT

With the final announcement of the Union Board candidates for this year's election on their way, *From The Vault* turned its glance to one of the more colourful electoral scandals of last century – quite literally. Nick Purtell, a 1995 Honi Editor, supported his campaign by using an edition's colour pages to create a lift-out technicolour campaign poster. He surely goes down in electoral history as creative, if nothing else. Can any of our candidates rise to the challenge?

Union Candidate in Media Scandal 'I'm innocent' says Purtell

By Nick Purtell

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY, Monday: The students of Sydney University were shocked to hear accusations of rorting and flagrant misuse of editorial powers

Honi’s Guide to... MacBank (and the coming collapse)

Dinuka Gunasekera sees a crumbling cookie



Down the toilet bowl

To some, Macquarie Bank represents Australian excellence in finance and to some it reflects the ideal graduate destination. To most, it represents just one thing - a great investment. Well, until recently anyway. With share prices collapsing from \$97 in 2007 to \$16 today, is this the end of the gravy train or just a temporary lull?

Thirteen years after raising \$1.3 billion, it is managing \$228 billion in infrastructure assets; airports in Australia, toll roads in the US and shopping centres in China. It is in the business of investing in infrastructure projects. Investing aggressively. It bought a motorway in Chicago for a billion dollars more than the next highest bid.

So where does the money come from for this massive investment?

It borrows heavily, makes the investments and then sells some of the investments onto their satellite funds, examples of which include Macquarie Airports and Macquarie Infrastructure Group. They then charge the satellite funds steep management and performance fees.

The toll-roads and airports generally don’t produce enough of a positive cash flow. The satellite funds make most of their profits when the value of the asset itself increases. They don’t sell the assets for a higher price; rather they aggressively revalue them on their books. This practice, known as asset price revaluation, is disallowed in the USA. In turn, the satellites get money to pay dividends to shareholders by borrowing against the “increased value” of their assets- a practice analogous to paying off one mortgage by taking out another after revaluing your house.

The satellites allow the Bank to outsource a lot of the risk associated with the model. The satellites deliver a steady stream of income to the Bank and take on the risk of having inflated asset values. The satellites are a buffer to protect against a downturn in the commercial property market.

This is no new revelation - everyone knows these risks.

So, what’s the problem?

The model counts on an interrelated series of conditions; banks willing to lend, investors willing to buy into new satellite funds, and increasing

property prices. (Oh, and having the media constantly remind investors that you’re a millionaire’s factory doesn’t hurt either)

Thanks to the economic downturn, none of those factors now hold true. This is why it has lost some 80% of market capitalisation. There’s worse to come. To date the Bank has been remarkably resilient. But remember, it has a layer of insulation- the satellite funds.

The funds themselves are listed on the market and have their own investors. These investors are increasingly unhappy to go along with having their capital reserves being milked. Left with divided shareholders, the funds will be increasingly unable to find new investors and be forced to sell off assets to meet cash flow obligations. This is when the gap between the value on the books and the real value will be made apparent. Recently, Macquarie Infrastructure Group put a toll-road in Britain, one of its biggest assets, up for sale. It is expected to be sold at a significant discount to what’s stated on the books.

Macquarie Bank, like Smiths, is the original and the best. They are (or were) so tasty that they inspired a number of copycats in Australia. Most well known amongst these is Babcock & Brown. Others include Centro and Allico Finance. Notice anything? They were all crunched into little pieces in the financial crisis.

LEGISLATION EXPLAINED

The Road Rules!

Michael Krasovitsky looks at how driving might cost you

Mum, Dad, I’ve got a confession. It’s been on my mind for a couple of years, and I’ve wanted to tell you, but, well, it’s hard. Ok, well here it is. I, um. Ok. I didn’t actually study for my Ls. Or my Ps. Or that other Ps. Yep, I’ve somehow managed to drive, take myself from point A to B, without any real idea of anything.

And I know I’m not alone. The road is full of rules, fines, points and limits. As young drivers, it’s especially important that we understand these rules, not because we’re necessarily worse drivers, but because we’ve got less demerit points to lose on our licenses, we often don’t have a spare \$243 to give to the RTA and most importantly, an enormous percentage of young people lose their lives on the road.

In 2006, 42% of deaths of men aged 15-19 were on the road. For the same age group, 29% of young women lost their lives on the road. These figures fell only slightly to 36% and 25% respectively for young people aged

20-24.

Clearly, it’s important that we understand the factors behind car crashes and road-related fatalities, however, in this Legislation explained, we’re going to focus on the other important, but often forgotten aspect of road warnings: non-fatal consequences.

Speeding, drink driving and driving under the influence of drugs are the three offences that most affect young people driving in NSW. Last year for example, 1074 young people in the 17-25 age group were “seriously injured” in alcohol-related crashes in NSW alone. While injury and death are clearly the most serious consequences of drunk driving and speeding, many other consequences are also evident. Following are two tables detailing how many demerit points you’ll lose, how much you’ll have to pay and, potentially, how long you’ll have to serve, if you’re caught speeding or driving under the influence.

If injury won’t scare you off drink driving or speeding, think about how many drinks you’ll be missing out on if you’re forced to pay one of these fines.

It’s the DUI convictions that really hurt; here’s what you could be looking at:

Alcohol Offence Consequences

Blood alcohol concentration of 0.15 or above
Maximum court - imposed fine: \$3,300 (first offence), \$5,500 (second offence)
Maximum gaol term: 18 months (first), 2 years (second)
Minimum disqualification of licence: 12 months (first), 2 years (second)
Maximum disqualification of licence: Unlimited
Immediate Licence Suspension

Blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 to less than 0.15
Maximum court - imposed fine: \$2,200 (first offence), \$3,300 (second offence)
Maximum gaol term: 9 months (first), 12 months (second)
Minimum disqualification of licence: 6 months (first), 12 months (second)
Maximum disqualification of licence: Unlimited
Immediate Licence Suspension

Blood alcohol concentration of 0.05 to less than 0.08 OR Blood alcohol concentration over zero for L, P1 and P2 drivers
Maximum court - imposed fine: \$1,100 (first offence), \$2,200 (second offence)
Maximum gaol term: No possibility of incarceration.
Minimum disqualification of licence: 3 months (first), 6 months (second)
Maximum disqualification of licence: Unlimited for repeat offenders
No Immediate Licence Suspension

News in Brief

After Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon apologized for failing to disclose the details of free trips he took to China, Defence spokesman Senator David Johnston remained concerned about the “exotic” defence technologies China is developing. There are rumours that the Defence Minister is actually Mao Zedong in a Joel Fitzgibbon suit, and has been plotting an Oriental takeover of the world! Spicy, like san choy bow.

Al Qaeda leader, Fahad al Ruwaily has returned to Saudi Arabia and surrendered. He told Saudi media, “I see now that the holy mission to launch jihad against the western world and install fundamentalist Islamic rule was actually a bit evil, like Mr Bush said! And the war on terror, yikes, it’s going really well, terrorism is seriously doomed. I had to throw in the towel on my head.”

A full inquiry into the war in Iraq will be opened after British troops complete their withdrawal in July. Britain’s Foreign Secretary, David Milliband, has stated, “We think an inquiry would be a good, since it seems that maybe it wasn’t an excellent idea, a bit daft, you know. Still, we’ve all got to keep our peckers up while our troops leg it and try not to pop their clogs, then we can put the kettle on and talk the hind legs off a donkey ‘til it’s sorted.” This has been received with some confusion by the international community.

Earth Hour will be observed by Australian politicians from both sides of the aisle, with many charming the SMH, saying they’d be enjoying dinner by candlelight. The Minister for Climate Change, Penny Wong, will be sacked the following day, since a successful Earth Hour pretty much means, “mission accomplished” on the climate change front.

The Australian Classification Board’s Website was hacked into last week and the culprits replaced the introductory text of the Board’s home-page with this: “This site contains information about the boards that have the right to CONTROL YOUR FREEDOMZ....We are part of an ELABORATE DECEPTION from CHINA to CONTROL AND SHEEPIFY the NATION, and therefore must be KILLED WITH LARGE MELONS during the PROSECUTION PARTIES IN SEPTEMBER. Come join our ALIEN SPACE PARTY.” We don’t have to make any jokes about this because it’s awesome on its own.

Theatresports kicks off another season

Alex Lee sports the scars of lunch at the theatre.



A sporting sandwich

Australia's longest running improvised comedy competition has seen a record number of new players stepping up to perform on Manning Stage in its first weeks back in 2009.

The co-ordinators of the weekly competition, Steen Raskopoulos and Ben Jenkins are taking the opportunity of a new year to make Theatresports less daunting for people who are interested in joining whilst giving more experienced players the chance to improve their improv.

"I think what's happened in the past with just letting people get on stage regardless of their skills or confidence has been a bit of a downfall for us.

The reason being that we had some players in the past who just wanted to get onto Manning and when they did, they just froze and didn't know what to do. After that they never came back.

"We are both encouraging people to be a bit more patient in terms of learning the games, being comfortable at the jams and making sure they will come back to improve their skills. The only way they are going to learn is to regularly perform on stage," says Steen.

Part of this new approach is getting guest teachers in to host "jams", the Theatresports workshops held in the Holme Building every Wednesday at 3pm. Featuring for the next three weeks will be Rebecca de Unamuno, a world champion Theatresports player and actor in such television programs as *Comedy Inc.* *Kath and Kim* and the *Chaser's War on Everything*.

Steen adds, "this is a big opportunity for anyone to learn more about themselves as performers and more importantly, take their improv skills to a new level. I have no doubt Bec will take a shy, quiet, little improviser and turn them into a rocketship. A big confident, charismatic rocketship."

Jordan McClellan is a second year Arts student who has been involved for one year. He describes starting Theatresports as "like if you spent several weeks watching a really cool party, and then you get invited to the party, and it's dragon themed. Like I expected fun, and I got super fun."

New Deputy VC for Sydney Uni

Giselle Kenny promotes her way to the top.



The Silver Fox

Professor Stephen Garton, current Dean of the Faculty of Arts, has been appointed Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney and will assume the position in July this year.

Vice-Chancellor Dr Michael Spence announced the appointment last week, following a rigorous national and international search.

Dr Spence praised Professor Garton for the "exceptional strategic leadership" he has displayed during his eight-year term as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, during which time Professor Garton

demonstrated a strong commitment to social sciences and inter-disciplinary study with the establishment of a new school of social and political sciences and the introduction of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Professor Garton also was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2003 for services to Australian history, holds a personal Chair in History, and is a prolific and successful author on a variety of topics, such as insanity, crime, eugenics, war, and social policy.

As Dean, Professor Garton also served on the Macquarie Dictionary Word of the Year panel for 2007 which selected 'pod slurping' (the downloading of large quantities of data to a memory stick). At the time this was announced, the selection panel noted that the expression's inventive and sensuous appeal had seduced them." *Honi* has no doubt Professor Garton will apply the same verve and enthusiasm to his new role as Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The Provost is primarily responsible for the academic performance of the University, the senior manager of the sixteen Faculty Deans, the academic budgets and the University Librarian. There have been no announcements as to Professor Garton's replacement, nor as to who will be Acting Dean until a permanent replacement is found.

Muslim, Arab and Jewish Students stand together to oppose S.A

Michael Krasovitsky looks at an unlikely alliance

Leaders of the Sydney University Arab Students Society, Muslim Students Society and Australasian Union of Jewish Students have united this week against a Socialist Alternative-driven motion condemning Israel's "murderous war" on Palestine.

Andrew Coleman, executive member of the SRC, has described the original motion as "racist and problematic". Though the Socialist Alternative has been unable to garner support for the motion amongst SRC councillors, a Student General Meeting has been called for April 1st, at which the faction hopes to harness the votes of students.

In order for a Student General Meeting to be successful, at least 200 students must express their support for the motion.

As *Honi* reported last week, a number of meetings have taken place between

Notice of General Meeting of the Student Body

A General Meeting of the Student Body will be held on Wednesday April 1st 2009 at a venue on the Camperdown campus to discuss the motion below:

Motion:

This General Meeting of the Student Body demands:

- 1. The USYD SRC publicly condemns Israel's [sic] attack on Gaza**
- 2. The USYD SRC publicly endorses and partakes in the BDS (Boycott, Disinvestment and Sanctions) movement.**
- 3. The USYD SRC call [sic] on Sydney University to endorse and partake in the BDS Movement.**
- 4. The USYD SRC endorses Palestine Solidarity Week.**
- 5. The USYD SRC commits \$1000 annually to fund Palestine Solidarity Week, accessible by the Global Solidarity Officer.**
- 6. The USYD SRC immediately issues a press release about this meeting and its decisions.**

groups where each expressed hesitation in supporting a motion that firstly they had no input in writing and secondly, which they felt oversimplified and generalised the fundamental issue.

Honi spoke with Jamel Rathborne, President of the Muslim Students Association at USYD. Jamel stated that he felt the SA motion "generalised" an incredibly complex situation, and further, that it presented "no real arguments". "We have more connections to the issue than the Socialist Alternative does," Jamel stated. "We tried to take it from the general to the specific, so that it would actually mean something to students".

Amani Frijat, President of the Arab Students Association at USYD expressed many of the same opinions as Jamel, citing "a hateful tone" and arguments that were "too general and meaningless" as her greatest criticisms of the motion. "We deserve a greater role in our own fight", Amani told *Honi*. "We see blame on both sides, and the motion should reflect this".

Jewish students have responded positively to the counter-motion. "It shows that there is great understanding among the students at Sydney," said Michael.

We, the representatives of the Sydney University Arab Students Association, Sydney University Muslim Students Association and the Australasian Union of Jewish Students:

- a) strongly oppose the motion under consideration;**
- b) are concerned with the intent, generalisations and wording of numerous clauses in the motion and;**
- c) are currently in the process of drafting a unified alternative motion that aims to address the issue itself and the concerns raised**

We, in our respective capacities, believe that we are better placed to address the concerns of all parties involved.

We therefore urge all students present to oppose the motion, in the knowledge that we reject the motion and will be proposing a unified alternative.

Signed 23/03/2009

"This is a measured, educated and thoughtful response to a problem which has continued to surface".

This week marks Palestinian Solidarity Week, a period which has, in the past, divided students into those who are "for" or "against" Palestine. This new motion shows that perhaps it's time to blur these boundaries and make cooperation the goal of student activism.

GAFFEMAN

Brazilian President, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has worked out the true cause of the global financial crisis. Standing with British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, da Silva blamed "white people with blue eyes." Brown is white, but brown-eyed, so only half responsible. Aryans worldwide have denied culpability, though did point out they are the super race.

Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso briefly forgot that his government was trying to stimulate investment in stocks, when he described stock brokers as "shady" and "not trusted." These comments were made in front of the president of one of Japan's leading trading firms. Afterwards government official commented later off the record, "What? Everyone is thinking it. Plus, Taro has previously publicly insulted teachers, old people and Alzheimer sufferers - at least stock brokers are actually shit people."

Gaffeman favourite, 72 year-old Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has admitted he thinks Barack Obama is a smoking hottie. Berlusconi responded to a journalist who noted the two leaders were dealing with the economic crisis with, "I'm paler, because it's been so long since I've been in the sun," adding, "He is more handsome, younger and taller." Gosh Silvio, Gaffeman doesn't think Barack swings that way, but it's cool that you haven't even noticed he's black.



Arriverdecì Gaffeman

Pick me! Pick me!

CAREERS Alison Lee, qualified careers advisor, helps with your CV

Your curriculum vitae is a summary of your hard slog of 20 odd years of school, university, casual jobs and your life outside of work and study. It will be scanned for 30 seconds, if you're lucky, by a critical employer who is making a short list of possibly hundreds of applicants for internships or graduate positions. Worse still, it could be scanned first by a software program seeking key words. The quality and content of these three to four A4 pages can open the door to an interview or slam the door shut. So, you owe it to yourself to develop a kick-ass resume that hits the short list and not the recycle bin. Some tips....

A consistent layout with good use of white space, bold for headings, bullet points, page numbers and footers will show you are organized, detail-minded and take pride in your work. Don't use a stupid email address.

Perfect grammar, spelling and use of capitals are vital. Hey, it might just be a typo but with many recruiters, it's one strike and you're out if they see "liased, business manger" or "there staff." Don't just rely on spell check; print off, read every word aloud then hand over to a fresh pair of eagle eyes.

Target your CV! To the job and to the company. Scrutinise the job ad, selection criteria, company website and check out employer profiles at www.unigrad.com.au. Determine the type of person and skills they want, the clients they have and the culture and values of their organisation. Then unashamedly tailor your CV so it addresses their needs.

"Soft" or "employability" skills such as teamwork, leadership, initiative, communication, problem-solving, planning and organising ability, willingness to learn, self-management, enthusiasm and cultural awareness are vital to every organisation. Prove you have these skills and qualities by giving

examples of how you successfully used them at school, university, in the workplace or wider community.

Are you an all-rounder? Involved in extra-curricular activities ie environmental, sports, arts, debating, public-speaking, volunteering, community? No? "Hmm..." thinks the employer.. "one-dimensional nerd with maybe the brains but not well-rounded and could lack people skills.." So, this is a wake-up call if you're not involved. These activities are highly valued by recruiters of graduates.

Talk yourself up with action words. When giving examples of tasks or achievements start with verbs such as, planned, organised, analysed, researched, promoted, implemented, negotiated, supervised etc.

What else makes you stand out from the crowd? Don't underestimate the importance of skills like a 2nd language, computer technology, technical skills, ability to use specific machinery or equipment, web or graphic design, ability to produce media releases, newsletters etc. List awards or certificates such as First Aid, OH&S or Life-saving. If you were promoted, supervised others, trained new staff, coordinated or planned an event give yourself credit for it in your CV.

Written a great CV? You now have your script for The Interview. Learn your lines. It's so much easier to talk about who you are and what you've done when you are aware of your skills and achievements and know what they want to hear. One last tip. Expecting a call from a potential employer? Listen to your voice-mail message!

More info? Examples of resumes, cover letters, tips on electronic resumes, resume templates, resume builders or wizards can be found at www.careers.usyd.edu.au

RANDOM TUTORIAL #0649

My enduring impressions of ARHT1001 are that my tutor was cute in a Seth Cohen, glasses-wearing kind of way and that Romanesque churches were generally less awesome than those built in the Gothic style. In addition to that, however, the course distinguished itself by running the best tutorial I've ever been to - a visit to the Art Gallery of NSW.

Hardly earth shattering, I know, to have an art history class toddle off the state's largest gallery. But to have your tutor there, talking you through room after room of works that are a bit samey and boring at first glance, was fantastic. Particular signs and allusions are everywhere in these works and are easily missed. Once we were told they were there, the narrative of the work and the comment it was trying to make became that much clearer and more interesting. Admittedly it didn't help that art history subjects seem to attract a particular kind of first year wanker, but most of us just switched off a little when those kids opened their mouths to ask yet another overwrought question.

The works adorning the walls of the AGNSW are wonderful. The excursion made us all realise that history plays host to centuries of amazingly talented people, who put great thought and many hours into producing wonderful work only to vanish quietly into only the most secluded areas the artistic past.

It was also interesting to realise that artists that were in vogue during particular time periods are now all but forgotten, while those artists who were scorned by the public and collectors alike are now those who we revere as masters. Apparently, gunning for the underdog is always a good call in the art world.

One of the best things about the tutorial was that once it was over, you were more than free to hang around and amuse yourself in the rest of the Gallery. I did so, blissfully forgetful of my other classes back at uni. The Gallery helpfully provides low, comfy leather benches to sit on and gaze about, looking at works from a distance. I'm by no means an art aficionado but there are few places more relaxing than a nearly-empty gallery, and the best thing was that given the course I was doing, wasting hours in the Gallery fell neatly into that time honoured category of Fake Work.

Bronwyn Cowell

LE BŒUF

Earth Power

Bronwyn Cowell etched this into stone during Earth hour

This past week, the welcome page of the USYD website announced that on Saturday night, the uni would be turning off "all non-essential lighting" for Earth Hour - which begs the question, why is such lighting on normally? When the CBD alone saves megawatts upon megawatts of energy each Earth Hour, one is moved to ask why someone doesn't switch those lights off every evening when they leave the office.

The existence of Earth Hour is a convenient, hassle free way to do something that is good for the environment in a restricted sense, but it also means that the public at large only engages with

the question of energy efficiency and economy for an hour a year. It's part of this incredibly irritating movement that says we can all tweak our consumption just a little bit, and call ourselves enviro-friendly.

Tom Friedman, the NYTimes' Foreign Affairs editor and author of "The World is Flat" shares my scepticism. In a recent lecture, responding to the trend of conscientious consumption, he noted that he is suspicious of a revolution where nobody gets hurt. In this context, that means a revolution where nobody has to sacrifice anything much and where we can live our lives mostly unchanged.

Turning off your unused lights shouldn't be trumpeted as some big gesture of love towards the earth - to frame it as such stops it being an everyday thing that people do just because. Maybe you want to argue that individuals and businesses do actually adopt such energy-saving behaviour for the rest of the year, but you'd be

wrong. Energy use year-round hasn't been reduced by the proportion you'd expect if people were treating every hour as Earth Hour.

The same thing bugs me about the 'green' editions most magazines and periodicals put out these days, full of 100% organic cotton, free trade T-shirts for the low, low price of \$70. Here's an idea - don't buy another t-shirt! You probably don't need it! Nor do you need that 300-page glossy magazine!

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying I'm some paragon of asceticism. I consume each and every day, with some gusto. But I don't do so labouring under the illusion that my consumption is actually helping the earth. So yeh guys, turn off your lights. Stop eating so much packaged food, and try to catch public transport more. If it is bothersome and time-consuming, that's good, because there truly never was a revolution where no one got hurt.

HAVE YOU GOT BEEF?
Email honi2009@gmail.com

Finally, while historically there has been a small deficit of women on board, they have also been overrepresented on the Executive, where the real differences are made. This goes to show that we have always had many talented women on board, and I don't believe a single one of them needed AA to make a difference.

>07 HoniSoit

YE OLDE RUMOUR MILL



More smutty WHIGS

The prospective candidate for the WHIGS, Christopher Ho has posted this fine piece of chalk drawing on the WHIGS Facebook group. In another photograph posted by Ho, the 'HUMP' sign on Manning wrote had been added to so that it read 'I HUMP WHIGS'; ingenious. *Honi* suspects that this May's election will once again see the WHIGS bringing the lowbrow to student politics.

Honi has a deep throat

Apparently our coverage of the infighting and spectacular management misunderstandings about the conditions for defamation at the Union's marketing and communications office (producers of *The Bull*) in a past edition has raised a couple of eyebrows and instigated a departmental hunt for the source of the leak, according to parties involved with the production of the magazine. *Honi* promises our readers that we'll keep our lips sealed on the identity of the snitch.

While the Mill is happy to continue causing a ruckus, we're more keen for *The Bull* to be given the support from the Union necessary to ensure that it not only stays afloat, but retains its identity as a student magazine, by students and for students – not merely as a marketing exercise by middle-managers.

National Day of In-Action

As the blue shirts of the SRC herded reticent students to Fisher last Wednesday, *Honi* was on the ground ready for some action to ignite a relatively placid student protest. Although numbers were not officially counted, we estimate that 200 people stood in the blaring sun as Noah White struggled to control wavering interest and a rogue sound system.

Arking up at Noah

An awkward moment occurred during the 30 minute rant off, when Noah introduced "your SRC Education Officer Elly Howse".

As she took to the 'stage', her first words were to irately correct her President and his mini-gaffe.

"I am not the only Education Officer, Noah, the other is Rosie Ryan over there. She is the tall blonde one," Ms Howse yelled, gesturing for Ryan to stick up her hand. Although largely ignored by the less hackneyed in the audience, *Honi* noticed NLS alumni wince at the correction.

However, the crowd were then treated to 6 minutes of entertaining and passionate oratory from Ms Howse, leading to us to ask: is she the next NLS candidate for SRC President? We hope so, because her charismatic and engaging personality is a breath of fresh air within these stale SRC offices.

We here at *Honi* have been hearing about rising discontent within the once formidable faction, and Ms Howse's defiant tone only deepens our suspicions of NLS disunity.

Alma at odds again

Perhaps the most 'active' moment of the day came when Socialist Alternative and *Rumour Mill* regular, Alma Torkalovic, tried to interrupt Elly Howse by invading the stage and commanding she rip up her ALP membership card.

The two titans of the left out-shouted each other for the audience's attention, with Alma's favorite lines including:

"Elly, if you really want to change education then leave the Labor Party!" and.. "This whole day is nothing more than a Labor Party caucus, and an NLS hackfest!"

While Elly's fiery rhetoric included: "SHAME on the Socialist Alternative

for not being involved today... You guys are doing nothing for education rights and you are a bunch of highly critical turncoats."*

As the NLS crowd rode their prize horse to oratorical victory, Noah White had had enough and tried to get Alma off the stage. When he reached out and touched Alma's arm, he got a right ol, "don't touch me Noah", which resulted in either Noah's confidence or his hand melting.

Following the exchange, new kid on the block and SUDS firebrand, Matt McGirr, ignited the crowd with his articulate and engaging tirade against the Socialist Alternative.

*As *Honi* readers would know, the Socialist Alternative did not participate in the NDA due to claims that the SRC was not comprehensively criticizing the Labour government's education legislation.

The Tom Green Experience

When an *Honi* source asked Tom Green of the WHIGS if he was running for Union Board they received a very odd response. Green is apparently too busy putting his ticket together for this September's SRC election. He plans to run a ticket called "The Tom Green Experience" featuring only candidates named Tom Green. He has so far found 3 prospective members. who fill his requirements.



UNION BOARD ELECTION 2009

Union Board Election Watch

Last Tuesday, the Union held a candidates information evening and *Honi* made sure to find out who picked up application forms afterwards.

Scott Brownless

Tom Lee

Michael Buckland

Michael Falk

Jonathon Ribot

Christopher Ho

Elizabeth Watt

Mel Brooks

Jessica Priebee

Peter Seith

Matt Sweeney

Justin Simon

Andrew Coleman

David Mann

THE COLUMN

This week marks Palestinian Solidarity Week, an important opportunity for Palestinian and non-Palestinian students to show their support for a two-state solution and to express solidarity with Palestine. It is an important week, one whose message is essentially of peace and understanding.

In the past however, it has been a signpost for overt and unnecessary protest and even violent outbursts on Jewish students. Two years ago, some Jewish students decided not to attend university for a whole week as the sight of people dressed in Palestinian militia uniform became too confronting.

In the same year, there were targeted bashings of Jews. It has thus been a week frayed with hostility and resentment and one which the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) finds deeply troubling.

Not only is the world becoming increasingly hostile towards Jews, but a growing anti-Semitism is clear on campus. Many Jewish students feel unsafe on campus, and while the vast majority of students are understanding, certain groups continue to espouse anti-Semitic sentiment.

At the inception of Palestinian Solidarity Week, AUJS calls on all Jewish students to get involved in eliminating anti-Semitism on campus! Let us have a voice and let us match the choir of anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic voices on campus! If you are a Jew and you have ever felt marginalised on campus, or even if you feel like it's time you got involved, please let us know! We must answer the continuing echoes of intolerance present at USYD.

On Monday, SARAH (Students Against Racism and Hatred), an initiative created by AUJS, NUS and other organisations was launched. SARAH is a pluralistic anti-discrimination aimed at combating all forms of discrimination on Australian campuses. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact AUJS.

Palestinian Solidarity Week should be respected as a legitimate attempt to express solidarity with Palestine. At the same time, it must be conducted ethically and respectfully, to avoid alienating those groups on Campus, such as Jewish students, who have been confronted with violence in the past.

David Krasovitsky

MISCELLANY



Vox Pops!

Katherine Connolly has a midday beer at Manning...

QUESTIONS:

1. Should you be in class right now?
2. How many beers have you had here this week?
3. Shag/Marry/Kill – Wentworth, Manning and Hermann's?

Pat
Arts II



1. No, but I missed one this morning.
2. About 20
3. Kill Wentworth; it's an architectural boner reduction, marry Hermann's; you could cheat on it and no one would care and shag manning; it would be a sexy orgy

Alex
Media/Communications II



1. No, but I missed one yesterday
2. Four Monday, three on Tuesday and about nine on Wednesday one today, so seventeen.
3. Kill Hermann's; its pretty much a dive bar, shag Manning; she would pleasure you well and marry Wentworth; she'd hold you close at night.

Diary of Dr. Seuss

Tim Whelan is feelin' like Seuss on Darjeeling

Whilst normally calm, I've been troubled of late;
The morals of kids have been left at the gate!

Where once reigned Roald Dahl, and Mem Fox, and me,
There's Bratz dolls, and K-Zone, and 'My Sweet 16'.

Now we 'let kids be kids', and my word it's a scam -
Now they refuse to eat Green Eggs and Ham,
They dismiss the proud Grinch in a manner coquettish,
And they think Hop on Pop's a Tasmanian fetish.

There was once a time when my books were the rage,
And troublesome youths copped a stint in a cage.
A time since long past; now they lie and they cheat
And to think that I saw it on Mulberry Street!

I fought and I wrote for impressionable minds,
To live and revel in more innocent times.
Though, granted, I did write when morals were set,
And 'Women's Lib' used to mean 'loosen up your corset'.

Still, it grates deeply when even the best
Educational shows, and Hi-5, no less
Who once taught our children with all the right trappings
But now just show bimbos; good for nothing but baffling.

But indignity, typically, doesn't stop there -
Now the Cat in the Hat needs a film-goer's stare!
Mike Myers gets cast with a shit-eating grin,
Just to get my stuff read over pop culture's din.

Well, I've had enough; for I'm sick of this pain
If I ran this circus; I'd bring back the cane
The eighteen year olds would do National Service,
With daily Seuss readings to instill them with purpose.

Society's gone; it's lucky I'm dead
The Cat in the Hat'd be compulsorily read!
If I was the Fuhrer, I'd make sure of adherence
Though I'd dress as the Grinch to keep up an appearance.

Hans
Med/Science II



1. Yes, I'm supposed to be in Nuclear Biophysics
2. I don't drink
3. Marry Hermann's; I can't get anything better, kill manning; I hate the trendoids that hang out there, shag Wentworth; it's where I buy my labcoats.

Alex
Architecture I



1. No, I haven't missed any class this yet.
2. Around 5
3. Marry wentworth, shag manning because it get rowdy and kill Hermann's because no one goes there.



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email: education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au or 02 9660 5222



MISCELLANY

Changing the world with the luck of the Irish

Ronan Harrington ark's up.



Paddy forgot why he bought these flowers

About three or four weeks ago, I read an interview in the *Irish Times* with a young entrepreneur from Belfast who is doing things differently. His name is Cameron Stewart. His goal is to make a million before he turns 20... and then give it all away.

He has founded Ark°, short for 'Acts of Random Kindness', a clothing company with a purpose other than profit. My roommate sent me the article as I was finishing another soul

destroying college application.

The concept immediately caught my eye - when you wear the Ark° logo, you perform one Act of Random Kindness. Buy someone a coffee, surprise you roommate with their favourite meal, help a drunk home. Kindness is the starting point, it's up to you how you Ark° on it. All proceeds from sales go straight back into organizing creative events that spread the feel good factor. Spontaneous free gigs, handing out chocolate in traffic jams,

the possibilities are endless.

I immediately sent him an email telling him about my background and offering to volunteer in whatever way I could. What started as a simple offer turned into a whirlwind correspondence full of ideas, dreams and plans of action, eventually resulting in me writing a twenty page brief for him called 'Taking Ark° Global'. On the strength of this he decided to come down to Dublin and penciled me in for a one o'clock meeting in the Long Stone Pub. Nine hours later we got up from the table. Three days later I get an email from him asking me to be co-Director of the company.

At 9am tomorrow, I plan to tell my boss that I will be quitting the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. It's a weird thing to do 'in these recessionary times', particularly when it's a great job with a decent wage that affords a comfortable Dublin lifestyle, not to mention that working on the Lisbon Treaty for the DFA doesn't look too bad on a CV. I'll more than likely have to forgo a nice reference for breaking my contract. Having said all that, big things have been happening, so I've decided to take a leap and trust it will work out.

I've spent the last 72 hours cooped up in my apartment with Cameron

strategising Ark°'s future, and the only thing we could accurately foresee is that Ark° is in its infancy, will be entirely defined by the people who bring to it their creative energy. I know a lot a companies try to portray themselves as a small family with the nauseatingly familiar 'come join us!', but in Ark°'s case, it's nothing but true, since it can't actually be any other way. Those who take Ark° forward from the start will be those who are rewarded when it gets big. Simple as that. We're going global and it starts right here. Every position is open for someone looking for a unique place to work.

So that's it, I suppose. I've a degree in Psychology, and wore Vans three months after everyone else, to be sure they were cool, and now I'm running a clothing company.

Visit www.arkchangeyourworld.com, buy a polo to wear now and then, and start your own revolution.

Ronan Harrington was a psychology student at NUI Galway, graduating top of the 2008 class. He can be contacted at ronan@arkchangeyourworld.com

Reptilian Humanoids; Just Another Conspiracy Theory?

Anna Leacock wonders if Godzilla is more than just a scary monster



I approve

We all secretly love conspiracy theories. Maybe because of their bizarre inventiveness, maybe to have a party chortle at the expense of those who believe them. They flicker on the radar for a nanosecond before retreating to die an ignominious cyber death. But the Reptilian Humanoid theory defies convention, boasting followers in 47 countries, 19 years after its inception.

So what exactly is this theory?

It's the belief that Earth is controlled by 7 foot, green aliens, variously called the Illuminati, the Reptiles and the Lizards. These Reptiles shape-shift upon drinking human blood, control every facet of our lives and allegedly have been on Earth for thousands of years. The theory's creator, English David Icke, believes he is a 'channel for the Christ spirit' to enlighten the human race about the Illuminati. Reptile Prophet? Just Ask Me.

In previous lives, Icke was a goalie for Coventry City and a Green Party spokesman (until the Greens enthusiastically kicked him out when he started spouting his Lizard theory in public). Now an accused anti-Semitic and author of eleven exceptionally profitable, theory-spouting books, Icke devotes his time to wildly popular world lecture tours.

So what do the reptiles do?

Ambitious little suckers, they control humanity through fear and negative emotions by creating global, protracted conflicts. Check out Icke's website on how the Rothschild alien race set up the Gaza conflict.

According to Icke, Reptiles control us through imprisoning our minds in a fourth dimension, which needs energy produced by our own negative emotions - particularly fear. The Reptiles then feed on this energy. However, the dimension is weakened by the lower frequencies of our 'love' energy. Icke argues that we can fight the aliens by starving them of our negative emotions, especially in halting violent campaigns.

Sound like an Nimbin inhabitant on something totally natural, limply waving an anti-Bush flag? Our loveable Texan is duly described as a 'Satanist, mind controller, torturer of children and adults, paedophile, major drug runner and Reptile' (emphasis added). As usual, Bush gets it all in the 'nads.

The most powerful international positions are held by these unsociable

foreigners, among them Bill and Hillary Clinton, the Rothschilds, Mikhael Gorbachev, Kissinger, and confusingly, the powerless Queen Elizabeth II.

Inexplicably, the theory has attracted followers who do not solely live in troglodyte caves and wear hemp underwear. Many of his lectures to spread the reptile word are attended by audiences of over 2500. In 1999, the director of the organisation 'Parents Against Ritual Abuse' reported 12 clients had claimed they'd seen abusers turn into reptiles. At the University of Toronto, he received a standing ovation after a four hour speech explaining his theory. Over 30 000 prints of his newest book *The Biggest Secret* were sold in the first two months.

How has this theory become so popular?

It may be a combination of his powers of public speaking, the sleek image of his products and website and the fact that Tom Cruise doesn't support his group. Icke argues his popularity attests to the legitimacy of his theory, as people find his postulations echoing in their own lives.

Although the theory totally lacks credibility, it does promote the belief that caring about others is the most important activity. In our fig-tree shadowed grounds, this is an unpopular mentality. Students scramble to be renowned for their superior intelligence, witticisms and CV that used up a whole printer cartridge. It's interesting that an

absurd theory involving aliens and child sacrifice promotes the one value which is most likely to make our lives fulfilling.

Not that I'm saying we all need to dig out our hemp underwear and watch the nauseating Cher video on the Icke website. The overwhelmingly contemptuous response to the alien theory just made this reporter consider the irony of sneering at Icke devotees when one's own main activity is desperately trying to gain the approval of others through intimidating them with perceived intelligence.

Not that David Icke is any better, generating flourishing paranoia and fear among his followers and simultaneously promising their devoted efforts will expunge that emotion from Earth. But ruminations aside, let's dig out our laser guns and tin foil helmets.

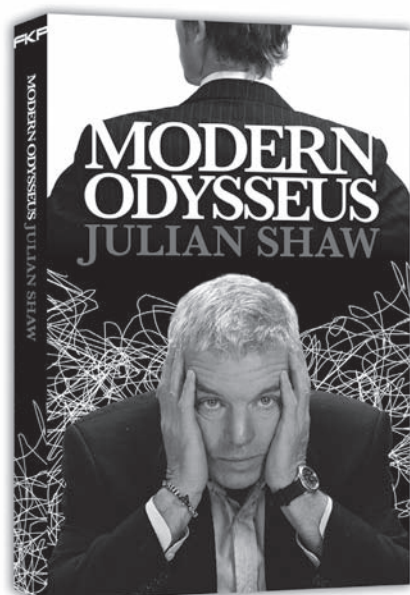
Icke's Australian tour is scheduled this year.



Want to look at my hemipenes?

Modern Odysseus: Julian Shaw's movie-book fable for our time

Danika Armytage goes on a medium-bending Odyssey with SCA student Julian Shaw.



In 23 years Julian Shaw - currently undertaking a Master of Film and Digital Image at Sydney College of the Arts - has achieved an impressive lifetime's worth of achievements. At 15 he began writing for premier film magazine *Filmink*, and before he'd finished high school he was flying between Sydney and South Africa filming his feature documentary 'Darling: The Peter Dirk Uys' story which has since won the an Inside Film award and had rave screenings at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Julian's latest conquest is his book *Modern Odysseus* released this month, a "movie in book form" - but what exactly does that mean?

What is a 'movie in book form'?

It means a novel, but one with photographs throughout the text that help to tell the story and enrich the experience for the reader. Almost every page of *Modern Odysseus* has a photograph, so it is an extra strand to the narrative. The key thing is that the images are not telling you what



to think - they are hopefully generating even more ideas.

Modern Odysseus plot, in a nutshell?

The story is about a corporate burn-out named Thomas Dedal, and this character is played by Colin Friels. Thomas picks up Ulysses on the 16th of June 2004, and it jolts a message straight into his consciousness: he knows he has slowly killed his own imagination. He gives himself one day to bring it back to life. *Modern Odysseus* is his journal of that day, as he goes on an odyssey through real and imagined events, looking to write a perfect fable for his time. So this is like a movie reel where most of the frames have been shaken out - readers

can create the movie in their mind.

What has been your road to this book?

It has been an incredibly difficult journey - you don't get to finish a book without a bit of madness and without being obsessed. I just could never, ever let go of this story, it haunted me. I created the character of Thomas during the separation of my parents, and admittedly his struggle with the corporate world is inspired by my Dad. The whole corporate milieu which is the backdrop of this book comes from what I have observed through my childhood - it's a venal, ugly world but also one ripe for satire. So this is a book that peers into that soullessness, sure, but that is not hard to do to be fair. I hope the book goes one step further: I guess it is a passionate story about reclaiming your spark if you've let it die, and it is saying there can be something more than living on the slick surfaces of life.

What can we expect to see in the book?

The text, photographs and drawings are by me, so it is a big epic story told through many different media. I can't tell you where it goes, but I don't know anyone who hasn't been surprised by the twists and turns it takes.

Why have you chosen to reproduce these pages here?

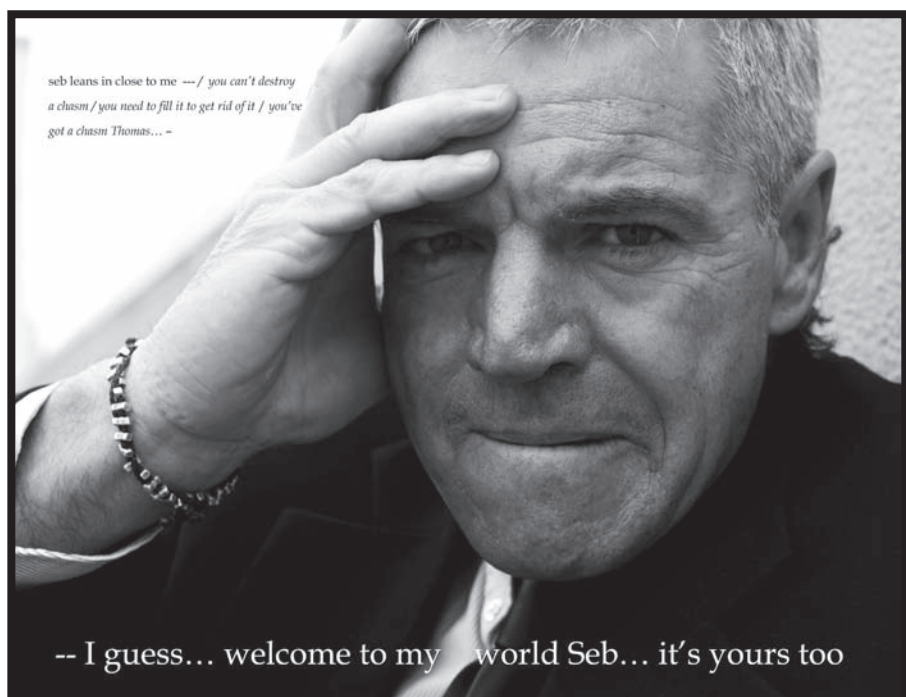
Here you can see the character of

Thomas as played by Colin Friels. Colin really had to do as much as you would in a film shoot for this - it went for a whole week, and he had to sob, scream, strip down, make himself sick and even learn some dialogue. Sometimes scenes were blocked out and run like a film shoot, but as in the close up image here it was often about accessing one emotion and one look which would say it all. The young blonde guy is Sebastian: he is Thomas' alter ego, and he is the one that Thomas goes on the journey with. I guess the trick of the book is that the original Odysseus explored the world outside, but Thomas is exploring the space inside.

What's next?

I am completing another incredibly personal film project: *All Blacks Don't Cry*. It's about the All Black John Kirwan and his battle with depression. I'm playing John which is daunting but also a dream come true, as he was my childhood hero and his story is one that fills me with inspiration. At this point in my life I am only tackling projects that mean everything to me - I can't seem to work any other way for now. HS

For more information on *Modern Odysseus*, head to www.modernodysseus.com.au.



A Crucial Donation

The Use of Bodies in Medicine at the University

Associate Professor Kevin Keay doesn't seem like a man who takes himself too seriously.

When I first meet the Associate Professor and Head of Anatomy and Histology at the University of Sydney, he is wearing shorts and thongs and the walls of his office are adorned with colourful pictures. But when he learns the topic of my article, he is suddenly completely serious.

"Our Body Donor Programme is absolutely crucial to what we do here," he tells me, leaning forward in his chair.

"Without the generosity of these individuals who wish to donate their body, we couldn't play a part in the advancement of medicine and we couldn't train the people who will be our surgeons, dentists or physical therapists."

Despite a vague recollection of ticking an organ donor box when I got my licence, I had never thought about what I wanted to do with my body after I died.

I decided to talk to a few people who have used donated bodies in their education to find out more, and help make up my mind.

What are the bodies used for?

Bodies are used for teaching every day in the Anderson Stuart building not only by the grad students of medicine, but by undergraduate science and medical science students enrolled in the Anatomy course. Over at the Cumberland Campus, the

science.

In the classroom, students observe prosections, which are dissections that are prepared to demonstrate anatomical structure. For example, a region of the thigh may have the skin and muscles stripped off to reveal the bone and tendon attachments underneath.

Kate, 22, is a first year med student, and describes to me what an average anatomy prac involves.

"There are usually about four stations that we move around in small groups, and each station has a few prosections, as well as models, bones or radiography images. Each station has an objective, so we know what structures to look for, and tutors are available in case we have trouble locating it. At the end of a prac is a short spot test to make sure we've learnt something."

Medical studies have found that working with bodies can be quite emotionally distressing for students, but at Sydney it doesn't seem to be a problem.

"I think the donors are incredibly courageous"

In fact, many responses showed that it was the other way around, with students finding their own attitude detached and clinical when they encountered their first body.

"It's actually hard to equate the isolated body organ lying in front of you with a living person," Kate says.

Joel, a third year Med student, and Jason, in his first year of Physiotherapy, both agree that limited facial recognition makes it easier to see cadavers as a learning aid rather than a person.

Remembering the first time they worked with heads, Joel described the experience as "quite confronting",

After death, the body is delivered to the University within 24 hours

but points out that desensitisation is vital not only as a skill for doctors but to allow himself to concentrate on the incredibly complex task of learning the anatomy.

"All students are verbally educated about respectful behaviour, and we take a moment in all classes to reflect on the value of the donations. At the same time," Keay adds, "we are training doctors, so it's about maintaining the right level of clinical detachment."

Everyone involved in the faculty know what is at stake if there is any misconduct. The University's licence is governed by the NSW *Anatomy Act*, and any deviation from the strict practice guidelines could mean the licence is revoked. The fate of the UNSW anatomy department is an all too recent reminder of what can happen if the donors are not accorded the proper dignity, respect and anonymity that they deserve, when the University's licence was taken

resource", says Katherine Wilkinson, co-ordinator of the programme.

To donate your body, you are required to sign a Donor Offer Form at the University and complete a health questionnaire. Although after death your family can override your decision to donate, your body cannot be donated to the University without your written consent.

After death, the body is delivered to the University within 24 hours, and stored for a year before it is used in the classroom. Unless specified by the donor that the body can be retained by the University for future study, the University completes examination of



deceased remains after two years and arrange a simple burial or cremation service, incurring all related costs.

History

The Discipline of Anatomy was established in 1890. A picture in the University's photo archives shows how much the department has changed since then, with an image from 1919 of medical prosectors in bow-ties with a decaying skeleton on a table, propped up by bricks. Another

THE FATE OF THE UNSW ANATOMY DEPARTMENT IS AN ALL TOO RECENT REMINDER OF WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF THE DONORS ARE NOT ACCORDED THE PROPER

discipline of Biomedical Science use anatomical specimens to teach those studying the health sciences, such as physiotherapy and exercise and sports

"Over time I've become more comfortable and I now find it easier to think of them as people."

away for reasons of "mislabelling".

Who donates their body?

Members of the public can elect to donate their body to science through arrangements with individual institution's programmes.

At USYD, the Body Donor Programme is run through the Faculty of Medicine, and receives 40 to 60 donations each year.

"The people who decide to donate usually hear about the programme through their doctor or friends who decide to donate. They generally have a strong interest in advancing medical science. Some have a medical condition that they believe would provide a useful teaching

picture from the 1920s hangs in the Anderson Stuart building of two skeletons sitting at a table, followed by another shot showing them getting progressively drunker and sliding off their chairs.

When the Professor shows me this irreverent shot capturing the timeless nature of student life he physically shudders. "Attitudes have changed a lot since then."

To prove this, he takes me into the museum of anatomical specimens, which is closed to the public and only open to anatomy students.

To enter the museum I pass through two huge heavy, wooden doors with "J.T Wilson Museum" painted in gold.



University of Sydney



For some reason I expect it to be at once gloomy and sterile.

Instead, I am taken aback by how bright it is, by the light pine furnishings and the open layout.

On one wall is a huge mural of the original Anatomy Act of 1901, with the



preamble in bold to remind students of the special privilege granted to them “by the generosity of community-minded individuals.”

The oldest specimen in the room is a dissection of a heart, by Dr. J.H.S. Lightoller in 1908. The amazing thing about the art of prosection is that although attitudes have changed so much since then, the methods have not.

“When I’m an old person I’ll consider donating my body to the University”

“We follow a certain method of dissection,” Keay tells me. “There is a

very specific order to how everything is done, so when a surgeon is

this year, producing a prosection of the knee.

“The prosection competition was offered to the 32 final year medical students who had completed the seven week full-body dissection course. The difference between dissection and prosection is that dissection means using the body to learn anatomy – revealing one layer, learning that, then cutting away to reveal the next. You eventually end up with just bones left.

“Prosection is more artistic – you are making a window to present a particular structure as a feature for learning to be displayed. Prosection takes a lot more time.”

So do we even need to use bodies to study anatomy?

Every student I speak to is adamant that we do, though not every Australian student gets this privilege, with a study in 2000 showing that a student in 4 of the 11 medical schools in the country could feasibly go through their entire degree without seeing one dead body.

Students in the Sports Sciences have even less opportunity to work with bodies.

Victoria is studying Exercise Sports Science and Nutrition, at Cumberland and tells me that students from Macquarie University have to come to USYD’s health sciences campus once a week to use its cadavers.

Although synthetic representations of the human body are available, they all agree that it is no substitute, due to anatomical variations one finds in a real specimen compared to the

THE SUCCESS OF A UNIVERSITY SUCH AS SYDNEY IS BUOYED BY MANY CHARITABLE DONATIONS, BUT THERE IS A VERY DIFFERENT KIND OF DONOR THAT MANY STUDENTS DON’T KNOW ABOUT. PEOPLE WHO DONATE THEIR OWN BODIES TO THE UNIVERSITY FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH. ALEXANDRA LEE INVESTIGATES THE ISSUE.

“idealised images of human anatomy available in textbooks.”

“If you are operating on a patient you must have seen for yourself the relevant anatomy in a number of cadavers to appreciate the relationships to other structures and any variations that may be normal or pathological. Learning with real bodies is absolutely essential,” Joel explained.

A personal choice

Despite having gained immeasurably from their own contact with donated bodies, reactions are mixed when it comes to the decision of making a personal donation and signing up to the programme themselves.

Jason and Joel are both hesitant out of concern for their family. Kate points out that as young people, “we don’t like entertaining the thought of death.”

“I think the donors are incredibly courageous to agree to post-mortem dissection for the education of students. Unfortunately, I don’t know if I possess such courage. However, as people age they tend to become more comfortable with the inevitability of death and the fate of their remains, so it’s something I’ll have to re-evaluate over the years.”

As the whole body is used, the University doesn’t accept donors who donate their organs. Victoria is listed as an organ donor but is positive towards the idea of donating her body for research.

“After having benefited from other people’s donations and knowing that

proper care is always taken when dealing with cadavers, it is definitely something I would consider.”

For Ineke, studying medicine has made her think a lot more about the quality of life people have before they die.

She says her attitude is “fairly practical” toward mortality.

“I’m an organ donor currently and hope that my organs would be useful to someone if I died tomorrow. When I’m an old person I’ll consider donating my body to the University.”

Back in the museum, there’s a display of a hand pristinely preserved with a window in the flesh so you can see the veins, intricate and delicate.

I look at the label: 1924.

And I realise, it’s not ungraceful or dehumanising at all.

In fact if anything its re-humanising – an affirmation that no matter what your spiritual beliefs are, the way our bodies work is nothing short of amazing.

If my lasting legacy could be to educate those who come after me of the value of life, well, there are far worse fates than that. HS

PROPER DIGNITY, RESPECT AND ANONYMITY THAT THEY DESERVE, WHEN THE UNIVERSITY’S LICENCE WAS TAKEN AWAY FOR REASONS OF “MISLABELLING”.

operating on a patient he knows exactly where everything is, he knows that if he lifts up one layer, what will be underneath.”

“It requires amazing skill and precision to create work like this,” he beams.

Prosection is a highly regarded skill in anatomy, and the University of Sydney boasts some of the best. The Prosectors Competition was set up by the founding chair of the Department of Anatomy, J. T. Wilson, and continues to this day.

The value of prosection

Ineke is in her final year of medicine, and is hoping to do surgery when she finishes. She was one of nine students who underwent the prosection course

USING OUR BRAINS

There is a great need to study human brain tissue but it is impossible to study the cells of a living human brain without causing great damage. This is why Using Our Brains was established in 2002 as a donor programme that all members of the community to give their brains to medical research. Robyn Miller gives me the low down on this important program.

Who can donate their brain?

UoB accepts donations from anyone aged 18 or over and our donors come from a broad range of age, educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. Gough Whitlam signed up as the first

donor, other notable donors include Amanda Keller and Dr. Karl Kruszelnicki. Normal or ‘control’ brains are vital for comparative studies and need to reflect the same patterns and differences in lifestyle, age and experience as the abnormal cases.

Why do people donate?

Generally people are interested in donating their brain to benefit research and the community. About 20% of enquiries come from the families of people with neurological illnesses.

Do people have to choose between brain or organ donation?

In NSW people can be brain donors and organ donors, but they cannot also be full body donors.

What are some of the outcomes of your research?

One very helpful outcome has been the mandatory enrichment of bread flour with vitamin B (thiamine) to minimize brain damage in those who abuse alcohol.

Go to the website www.braindonors.org to register your interest or call Using our Brains on 9351 2410.

YOUR MUM



FISHER BOOK REVIEW

Will Atkinson gets critical on
Bernard Levin and John Simon.

It seems more and more the case in student media that reviews and coverage of the arts aren't so much an important feature of the publication, rather, a way to simply and quickly fill white space. Why? They're easy to write, often delightfully self-reflexive, and they mostly disavow reasoned argumentation for a good old-fashioned vent, precisely what we feel like on a Sunday afternoon after an extended clusterfuck of a week. Reading the previous Fisher Book Reviews, you could almost be led to think that we don't even get around to reading the books we set out to critique anyway. Well, the ones that this author has contributed.

What about the case of the critic reviewing the critics, though? I've been having a look at the oeuvre of several famous critics (or notorious, depending on if you're even half-way related to previous targets of their wrath). Part of the appeal of people like Bernard Levin and John Simon is the scintillating creativity they have at their disposal to make a point – one that may be harsh, or right on the mark, but that is so well made or plain insane that you can't help but be drawn in.

Levin, in his role as a theatre reviewer, brings to mind two incidents that characterise this point neatly. Aside from being punched in the face by a disgruntled lord live on national television, whilst hosting a show (for being 'ungentlemanly' in his critique of the attacker's actress wife) and soldiering on marvellously, he remains famous for a 500 word review of a play, where exactly 500 words were used to describe 'how nice' the lead actress' dress was...

John Simon has assiduously cultivated the persona of the worst person in the world, a pantomime villain par excellence around Broadway for fifty years. Apart from his pronouncements on the role of critics – 'why should we eat shit, when we can eat caviar?', his preoccupation with the physical deficiencies of his victims flies over being characterised as lazy reviewing and virulent personal abuse into a high art form: he described Barbara Streisand's nose as '[cleaving] the giant screen from east to west, [bisecting] it from north to south. It zigzags across our horizon like a bolt of fleshy lightning'.

Do people who write like this have any value anymore? Though they seem more outmoded every time you open a review, they have an inspiring spirit of insouciance and cuttngly accurate prose that you can't help but crack a smile at.

Protesters Protest Protest of Protest at Protest

The Socialist Alternative's march against the National Day of Action was interrupted last Wednesday by members of NLS speaking out against the SA's veto of the National Union of Students event.

Chanting "socialists don't care about students", the protesters stayed hot on the heel of the SA, who in turn were holding placards yelling "NUS doesn't care about Palestine" as NUS marchers marched on a Federal Government conference in Darling Harbour, yelling "the government doesn't care about students".

The three groups gained momentum on the walk from the University of Sydney to the Convention Centre and marched around it, until the NUS protesters caught up with the stragglers from the NLS and got confused about what group they were in. The groups then walked round in one big angry circle for quite some time, until a protestor realised he was yelling "Israel are murderous dogs!" as Kay Dook found herself holding a "Reform Youth Allowance" placard.

During an impromptu caucus at the protest, one of the factions put forward a motion making all members of the SRC sit an exam that ensured each student representative was committed to defending students rights. Those who supported the implementation of this assessment then split off from their original group, forming their own Pro-Test protest.

This aggravated matters even more as the protest circle began to turn on itself like a blue-shirted Ouroboros, allowing Julia Gillard to make a hasty getaway, yelling the parting line "More like National Day of Faction!" out of the window of her limousine.

Unfortunately the Deputy Prime Minister's zinger fell on deaf ears as the protesters became distracted by a knife fight that broke out between Elly Howse and Alma Torlackovic, a dispute described by SRC General Secretary Russell Schmidt as "oddly arousing."

Boogy the Night Away

Earth Hour has once again run as a success, with millions of people in Sydney turning off their lights and a pedal-powered concert in Melbourne.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said, "Earth Hour is a way for the citizens of the world to send a clear message. They want action on climate change."

Particularly vocal support for the initiative came from James the Boogeyman.

"It's my busiest time of year," he said. "No one sees me coming!"

Criticised for using the event for evil, rather than good, James responded: "I do my bit for the environment, you should be talking to my mate Sasquatch – in terms of carbon output he's got a Big Foot print."

MORE FUCKED THAN THE ECONOMY

No. 426 - Copycat Fritzls

Old man Josef got life last week, and now other barbaric fuckers are getting caught.



Italian Frizl: For 25 years, he raped his daughters and made them watch.

Columbia Fritzl: Raped his daughter since the age of 9, and fathered 8 children by her.



You guys are fucked.

HONI
EXCLUSIVE

NATIONAL DAY OF
ACTION

ALL
NEW!

MAD

HE'LL SAVE YOUR LIFE.

MEGA EPIC
RAY GUN
Targeting the
hetero-
normative!

ULTRA CLAW
Keeps you safe from
the Government

100%
FASCIST
FREE

RIGHTS
DETECTOR
Reclaim them!

WELFARE
WARRIOR BELT
Everyone will get
K-Rudd's \$900

Equality Boots
Crushing illegal
course fees!

SCIENCE STUNTS

HOW TO PUT ON A SHIT SUDS PLAY

AIM

- To waste three hours of your obliging friends' lives by forcing them to sit through a poorly-acted, under-rehearsed wankfest on hard, uncomfortable plastic chairs (Thanks Doug!).
- To make dead playwrights turn in their graves or make living ones wish they were turning in their graves.

EQUIPMENT

- 1 x Script to be treated with great indifference.
- 8 x Actors direct from the last SUDS play to be staged. And the one before that.
- 1 x Cockroach to creep across stage at highly inappropriate moment of great dramatic suspense but secretly cause the audience much joy.
- 1 x University maintenance worker to operate overly loud leaf-blower outside at highly inappropriate moment of great dramatic suspense but secretly cause the audience much joy.

METHOD

1. Write it yourself: the ultimate fail-safe. Be sure to pack it with plenty of ten-page monologues imbued with deep 'themes' and 'values' relating to your 'Introduction to Philosophy' lecture. Reveal way too much about your secret depression or psychosis and make your friends forever wary of being stuck in a confined space with you.
2. Be one of the three people of the year who is not SUDS President Chris Hay to direct a play. You're bound to fail in comparison. That guy is like a freakin' prodigy or something.
3. Invert the genders. "Ground-breaking!" says the director. "Horrifying!" says his audience of one.
4. Give the slot to Kip Williams and allow him to sit on a chair for an hour and stare at the audience. Some will cry. Most will leave.
5. Rely on 'Brechtian theories of minimalism' to legitimise the tragic lack of set.

CONCLUSION

It was found that while a shit SUDS play left some in the audience questioning established theories of theatre, most were simply left questioning their will to live. Interestingly, the high level of shitness had no bearing on the self-satisfaction achieved by the director.

Wacktivities!

Competitive beard and moustache growing

Will Atkinson gets into the thick of all things hairy



Ever since I was in Year Eight, where the first tell-tale signs of facial fuzz emerged above my top lip, I've had an interest in the way people style their facial hair.

It seems both a strange thing to do, let alone be interested in (Roald Dahl once wrote of his confusion about this 'dirty habit', questioning why anyone except criminals would want to hide their face) and a hobby that is so inbuilt into our fashion sensibilities and physical make-up that it's plain ordinary. I tend to think that my interest is related obliquely to my general inability to grow anything convincing beyond a few days of red-and-brown stubble: like professional sport, it's a hobby that can inspire through being a spectator, not necessarily competing.

Contributions to the beard world at this University are generally a mixed bag. Amongst the better known looks being rocked by a few of the boys are

the 'unwashed anarchist', predominately the domain of, well, unwashed anarchists and the Honi editors after a wild-eyed Sunday night in the SRC, as well as that seething multiplicity of facial designs that deny close categorisation, but fall neatly under the aegis of 'please look at me, I'm a hipster'. Some contributions are merely a result of forgetting to shave for a week, that aside, it can still be said that beards and moustaches are loaded with more meaning than we'd expect.

The World Beard and Moustache Championships only serve to reveal the patchy state that we're in when it comes to competition growth. Held every two years around the world, the competition is a forum for facial hair culture across the world – a melting pot of beards united in the spirit of fierce competition. One only has to read the categories competed in to understand the reach of the beard and moustache in human

consciousness– from the frozen shores of Alaska for the 'Alaskan Whaler' beard category to my personal favourite moustache category, the Hungarian, an extended version of the famous handlebar.

What can we take from this competition? Nothing more than the knowledge that truly cool people are individuals – able to do as they please and be comfortable about it, no matter the amount of wax required or odd looks on the street. If I had half the confidence of these rutting examples of masculinity, I'd be lying on the Manning beer balcony with a full Imperial. At this juncture, however, it looks like I'll be sticking with the Schick.

Other competitive Beard and Moustache tournaments include The International German Championships, the European Championships, the Beard Olympics and Superbeard.

HONI TOP FIVE Shoes in Politics

01

> Krushchev at the United Nations

On 12 October 1960, during the height of the Cold War, Nikita Krushchev, General Secretary of the Soviet Union, controversially took off his right shoe during a meeting of the United Nations General Assembly and banged it vigorously on the table. This was to make explicitly obvious his anger at the words of Lorenzo Sumulong, head of the Filipino delegation, that the Soviet Union has denied the people of Eastern Europe their "civic and political rights".

02

> George Bush's Head

On 14 December 2008, al-Zaidi interrupted a George Bush and Nuri Kamal al-Maliki press conference by throwing his shoe at the then-Head of the Free world. Slow-to-act security guards gave al-Zaidi enough time to throw his second shoe and shout "This is from the widows, the orphans and those who were killed in Iraq!" Hitting someone with a shoe is a major insult in Iraq; it is meant to indicate that the person is as low as the dirt.

03

> Height of Fashion

In the grand tradition of French monarchs of the past, Nicholas Sarkozy has become famous both in France and abroad for penchant for heeled shoes. In order to compensate for his 5'5" stature, Sarkozy wears shoes with at least a 2-inch heel. Dubbed the 'Effet de Sarkozy' (Sarkozy effect), heeled shoes have taken off in France, with many of Sarkozy's shoes being designed by top French designers.

04

> 2,700 Pairs and Counting

Also referred to as the "Steel Butterfly", Imelda Marcos is the widow of former Filipino dictator Ferdinand Marcos and one time member of the Filipino house of representatives. An influential and corrupt public figure, Imelda Marcos used public funds to finance her shoe habit and by the time of her husband's dismissal in 1986 was the owner of over to buy over 2,700 pairs of luxurious designer shoes.

05

> Only the Left Shoes Made on Strikes

So goes a saying in Japan, after a famous strike at a shoe factory in the Shikoku province in the 1960's. The workers at the factory were unhappy with their pay and attempted to strike, but local laws prevented the closure of the factory. To get around this, and still force their employers' hands, the shoe-makers resolved only to make left shoes until their demands were met.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report of the SRC President, Noah White//president@src.usyd.edu.au



Thanks everyone who came to the National Day of Action last week. It was a big success and we managed to generate significant media interest in the issue of student poverty and student income support reform. We managed to have the issues covered on Triple J, 2UE, 2GB, Channel 7, Channel 9, the ABC, in the Australian, the SMH and even the Sunday Telegraph!

And it wasn't just here in Sydney that students made sure their voice was heard. Huge numbers of Students from Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra and Adelaide all participated. The vast majority of universities participated in some way. Students, nationally, were united in support of student income support reform.

Being united at a national level is what is needed for a strong campaign. There is no use for students from the 39 Australian universities to be shouting with 39 different voices asking for 9 different things; we would never achieve anything.

This is why I think that it is important that there exists a national representative body for students that the University of Sydney SRC is actively engaged in. The National Union of Students was set up in the late 80's in response to the introduction of HECS and the SRC has been a member since that very first year, a very active member. In fact, out of the last 15 presidents, 7 have been from Sydney Uni.

The way the NUS works is that a campus representative organisation (like the SRC here) joins by having a referendum. Then, every year elects a number of "delegates" depending on how many students they represent (we elect 7). These delegates attend a conference at the end of the year where policy decisions are made and the next year's activities are set for the NUS. National Office Bearers and a team of National Executive members are also elected to run the organisation.

It would be very hard for the SRC to, by itself, influence the Federal Government's actions and policy decisions since we only represent a small slice of Australian students. The NUS's strength comes from the fact that it represents over 800 000 students from 32 of Australia's 37 public universities. The NUS is funded through "affiliation fees" collected from member organisations every year. This used to be proportional to the number of equivalent full time students the organisation represented but since VSU, the NUS has had to make allowances for organisations that have been hit particularly hard and now collects "affiliation fees" equal to an agreed amount negotiated between the NUS and each member organisation.

Essentially this has meant the our national representative body has been one of the organisations hardest hit by VSU, having its income cut by 83%, in other words it operates on a budget, one sixth the size of what it was.

Even with such a reduced budget the NUS has been incredibly effective over the last few years, successfully having Domestic Undergraduate Full Fee places abolished, being instrumental in the set up of the new federal youth advisory body, the Australian Youth Forum (there is even an ex-NUS president that sits on the body) and achieving a decrease in the amount of HECS payable for science and maths students.

The NUS has also lead the campaign against VSU and for the introduction of the new Student Services, Representation, Advocacy and Amenities legislation which will protect student representation and life on campus (see my report from week one). This legislation, which is being vehemently opposed by the liberal opposition (they see an active student voice as a threat to any possibility of a conservative government) would, in my opinion, never have seen the light of day, if not for the NUS.

In what is a bit of an ironic twist of fate, the NUS stands to gain very little from this legislation, nor do other representative organisations such as the SRC, which have done most, if not all of the groundwork for the fight against VSU. It will be the large service Unions that will gain the most from this new legislation (with the biggest benefactor in the country, almost undoubtedly being our very own USU), the organisations that have been hesitant to lift even a finger in support of the campaigns run by the

NUS and the SRC.

If you would like to find out more about the NUS visit www.unistudent.com.au.

NOAH'S KITCHEN

As promised, this week I will be providing a recipe for Lasagna.

You will need:
The 1kg of Bolognese sauce you froze last week (if you didn't you can make fresh Bolognese sauce using my recipe last week)
1 box of Lasagna pasta sheets
3 cups grated cheese

For the Béchamel sauce, you'll need:
3 Tablespoons butter
About 3 Tablespoons plain flour
1 ½ cups cold milk
One cup grated cheese.
You will also need a baking dish, approx 20x30cm.

To make the Béchamel sauce, melt the butter on a very, very low heat in a small pot. Add the flour slowly, stirring until all the flour is absorbed but the resulting paste is still oily. Slowly add the cold milk, stirring until gravy, like consistency is reached. Then melt 1 cup of the grated cheese into the sauces. Add salt, pepper and nutmeg to taste.

Make sure the Bolognese is completely thawed and divide into three equal portions so that the layers of the Lasagna are consistent. Spread one of these layers out on the bottom of your baking dish, then drizzle a quarter of the Béchamel sauce over this and cover with a layer of pasta sheets. Repeat this twice more so you have 3 layers.

Cover the top layer with the remaining Béchamel sauce and then sprinkle a generous amount of grated cheese over the top. Cover the Lasagna with al-foil and put into a preheated oven at 200 degrees and bake for 30mins, remove foil and bake for another 15mins or until golden brown on top.

EDUCATION REPORT

Report of the Education Officers, Elly Howse and Rosie Ryan//education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

Last Wednesday university students across Australia marched to protest against the government's failure to provide fair student income support, support student organisations and provide an accessible higher education system based upon learning and quality, not profit. Thanks to everyone who came along and got their feet on the streets, it was a great day for students!

What's happening in higher education at the moment?

Julia Gillard, federal Minister for Education and Training, is proving persistent in her attacks on higher education. Howard did everything he could to degrade higher education in Australia. The Rudd Government is not only continuing the neglect but is finding new and more sinister ways to turn universities into profit-driven institutions based on neo-liberal ideologies.

They are doing this through deregulation of course places and demand driven funding which threatens to dramatically decrease course quality through overcrowding. Also under threat

are departments such as humanities, science, teaching and nursing and rural and regional universities.

Angry about this? Want to know more?

Come to the Education Action Group every Tuesday at 1pm on the shady lawn next to Fisher library (you'll see it if you walk up from Victoria Park). Anyone can come and we'll listen, discuss and plan for more events on campus.

What else is happening on campus?

If you think higher education is having a hard enough time at the moment, just think about the indigenous communities in the Northern Territory who have been racially discriminated against by both the Howard and Rudd governments since 2007 through the NT Emergency Response Legislation (the Intervention).

Apparently both governments believe that indigenous Australians can't control their money or their children so a paternalistic, de-

humanising and blatantly racist act of legislation was passed under the guise of 'protecting children'. What this means is that if you're an indigenous student from the NT studying here at the prestigious University of Sydney, your Abstudy payments are quarantined by the government. You can only spend your allowance in specific stores.

Got \$200 per week to pay in rent? Too bad! You have to spend it where the government wants you to. According to the government, non-indigenous people can manage their Centrelink payments but indigenous people can't.

Are you angry about this too?

The Anti-Racism Collective meets at 12pm every Monday on the Law Lawns. The major focus this semester is on stopping the NT Intervention, so if you don't know much about it or mainstream media has made you believe that it's a 'necessary thing', you should definitely come along.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Report of the General Secretary, Russel Schmidt//gen.sec@src.usyd.edu.au



"Pull here for Arts degree" reads the witty inscription above the roll of toilet paper in the dingy Fisher stack. LOL. No doubt some overzealous commerce student wrote this and kudos to them, I laughed. For all we know Julia Gillard penned this hilarious little quip during her recent stint in Sydney. It seems that every week I end up writing about money and this week will be no exception, except this time it's money you won't be getting thanks to Gillard.

The problem with tertiary education is that the turnover is too fast; none of us were around for the 'good old days' (sans the dude in the front row of your philosophy/English/history lecture). I remember vividly when I was in a first year tutorial with more than 30 people and the lecturer shook

his head and muttered, "when I did my degree this class would not have had more than 10 students on a good day. And my degree was free." To me this highlights the incrementally diminishing standards that we need to fight against.

Today (last Friday to you) the front page of the Australian announced that the Rudd Government's 'razor gang' was going to hit tertiary education funding and \$7 billion that was flagged for education is now at risk. You simply cannot improve university quality to 'world class levels' without more money. About two weeks ago my report focused on why deregulation was a flaming load of crap and spoke about how more targeted money was required to fix tertiary education. I'll continue in

that vein for a while.

To complement this, earlier in the week the Australian published figures for educational enrolments; they're up 6.5% overall. Up 20% in education. Up 12% in engineering. Up 10% in law. Hmmm the perfect storm, more people, less money; that's sure to lead to better quality degrees!

Deregulation of universities is tantamount to privatising tertiary education. Those who argue for privatisation traditionally do so under the guise of providing greater choice; in this case letting students decide. Education and especially public education isn't a commodity. Without a massive injection of money, an injection of money that was meant to justify deregulation mind you, we

will be left floundering in mediocrity as the rest of the world charges off into the figurative high quality educational sunset. What is the value of choice if you get the esteemed privilege of choosing between an overcrowded, shit quality law degree or a crap quality, overcrowded commerce degree? Or perhaps a shit degree at Sydney University or a crap degree at UTS? If you're choosing between shit and crap, you're still gonna come out covered in poo and what of that Arts degree come toilet paper? It's off chillin' with the tooth fairy and the bogeyman in the land of imagination because it wasn't 'viable' to keep it around in the brave new deregulated world. Cheers Julia.

WOMEN'S REPORT

Report of the Women's Officer, Tamsin Dingley//womens.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

So it's week 5 and we're all at starting to remember why holidays are good and semester is bad- oh the enormous workload! For those of you devoting time to women's activism on campus, and indeed to reading this article, it's much appreciated.

In the coming weeks Women's Collective will be getting new Stop Violence Against Women shirts, and launching the Thursdays in Black campaign which is a silent protest to stop violence against women. We'll also start running our self-defence workshops. In addition, we will be launching our Sexual Assault Information Campaign about preventing sexual assault and how to report it, what to expect, and your rights if you are sexually assaulted. We'll be having a few working bee's

in the coming weeks to make badges, patches, banners etc so come along if you're in an artistic mood. Dates and times will be posted to the women's e-list. If you're not on this list and would like to be, email me.

Part of our violence campaign will be directed at men as a way to ensure we do not move the responsibility of preventing sexual assault onto women. Sexual assault is a gendered issue and men need to be involved in the solution! After our non-autonomous discussion group last week- in which women and men discussed the implementation of this campaign- we are in the process of producing some literature and posters etc. More discussion will be happening to shape the interactive part of this campaign, which will

hopefully include compulsory workshops for college men.

Women's Honi is coming out soon and submissions are now open! Send in poems, articles, rants, jokes, photos and art to tamsindingley@hotmail.com. We'll also be having a Women's Honi launch party so let me know if you'd like to be involved in the organising.

Furthermore; during week 7, the Queer Collective will be running heaps of events and workshops as part of "Pride Week". If you want to be involved, email Morgan at: morgan.snow90@yahoo.com.au.

On the Thursday of Pride Week, we will be collaborating with the Queer Collective to run a queer film night

for queer or queer friendly females. More info will be posted to the lists and advertised around campus

Women's Activism on campus is collaborative and all input is valued so if you have something to say, idea, questions or comments please email me and let me know. Also, if you can't come to collective meetings (damn those clashes!) I'd be happy to meet women for a coffee and a chat so don't be shy!

ASK ABE

SRC HELP: Level 1 (Basement) Wentworth Building, City Road Entry 9660 5222 or help@src.usyd.edu.au

Hi Abe,

A couple of friends and I have decided to move into a flat together. We hope to find somewhere near Uni so we can save on travel. We think we'll be able to afford most things, but just wanted to know if there was anything we could do to get some financial help.

Gang of Three.

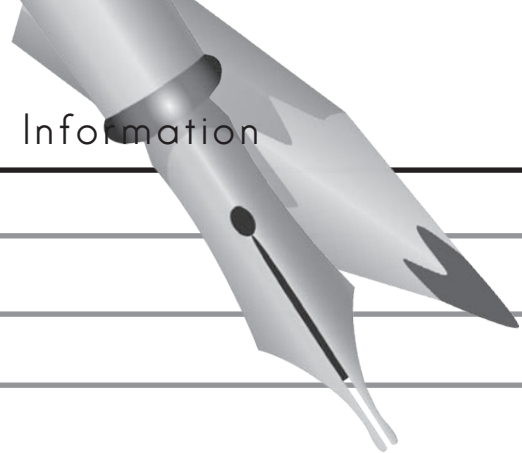
Dear Gang of Three,

The Department of Housing has a scheme called RENTSTART. This is where low income earners (under about \$450 per week) can have part of their bond paid for them, if they are on the lease. This is not a loan - you don't have to pay it back <http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au>. You do have to be on a regular income, like a part time job or a Centrelink payment, and have less than \$1000 in the bank. If you are on a Centrelink payment you may be eligible for Rent Assistance. Just get a rent certificate from Centrelink. Talk to an SRC caseworker if you need help getting cheap furniture or have trouble paying your bills. They're always happy to help.

Abe.



This column offers students the opportunity to ask questions on anything that may affect their "welfare". This can be as personal as a question on a Centrelink payment or as general as a question on the state of the world. If you would like to ask Abe a question send an email to help@src.usyd.edu.au. Abe gathers his answers from experts in a number of areas. Coupled with his own expertise on dealing with people, living on a low income and being a dog, Abe's answers can provide you excellent insight.



The SUPRA

www.supra.usyd.edu.au

SAAO Corner

From the week beginning Monday the **23 March 2009** we will be offering drop in appointments of 30 minutes on Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm, Wednesdays 10am - 12pm and Thursdays 2pm - 4pm. These are times that students can walk in and expect to see a Student Advice and Advocacy Officer (SAAO) straight away or after waiting for a short period of time.

During other times appointments can be made with a SAAO by:

* email: Send an email to help@supra.usyd.edu.au. This will be forwarded a SAAO who will endeavour to respond within 24hrs. If possible, please include a telephone contact number in your email so we can get back to you quickly.

* Telephone: Call the office on (02) 9351 3715. Many initial queries can be solved through a conversation on the phone.

* In writing: Send a fax to (02) 9351 6400 or post your letter to SUPRA Raglan Street Building (G10) Darlington Campus UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

* Website: Fill in the online form at http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/Adv/Contact_a_SAAO.html

Students Beware: Employer of Choice Reviews University Harassment Procedures

Recently the University of Sydney was one of over a hundred Australian businesses named as an Employer of Choice for Women by the Federal Government's Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA). But don't be misled – this does not mean it is a perfect place to work or study. As many students unfortunately know, the University is not free from harassment and discrimination and the University's moves in recent years to review its harassment and discrimination policy must be viewed with suspicion.

What 'Employer of Choice' Means

As an Employer of Choice, the University can cite this 'accolade' in its recruitment advertisements and other promotional material. EOWA sees this citation as a way for a business to differentiate itself. Yet twenty-one of the other businesses named were tertiary institutions.

What impressed EOWA about the University? It commended the University for offering one of Australia's leading paid maternity leave schemes, for its Women in leadership program and its Women in Science project.

However, being an Employer of Choice for Women does not mean that there are perfect conditions for women staff. It only means that the University is better than some other organisations in Australia and is meeting minimum government requirements.

While EOWA has a vision of a perfect future, its requirements for an employer of choice is for the employer to deliver improved outcomes for women and the business. Note the word 'improved'. One specific EOWA requirement is that the 'Pay equity gap between average male and female salaries at each level of the organisation is less than the national gender gap identified by ABS research (currently 17%).' This is a long way from EOWA's vision of the future where women will receive equal pay for their equal work contribution.

EOWA's Harassment Requirements for 'Employer of Choice'

And what about harassment? EOWA's prerequisite is that organisations demonstrate that sex-based harassment training is conducted for all staff (including management, contract staff and casual staff) at induction and refresher

education or update is received by all staff every two years. There is a huge leap between this and their vision that women will not be harassed. Education is one tool, but excellent harassment procedures and policies are essential to ensure complaints of harassment are handled fairly, confidentially and in a timely manner when they do arise in the workplace.

Harassment Review and the University of Sydney

Harassment and discrimination affects students as well staff. For some months of last year, if you had looked for the harassment and discrimination resolution procedures on the University website, you would not have found them! How helpful and fair is that if you were facing harassment and wanted to know what might be done about it?

The University responded when SUPRA voiced its concern about this at the Student Associations/Senate Liaison Committee meeting in October last year. As a result, if you now click on the harassment and discrimination pages under the University's Staff and Student Equal Opportunity website, you will see that the procedures are accessible, but note that they are under review.

At that same October Committee meeting SUPRA was told that the review was being undertaken to simplify procedures and encourage early resolution. The University advised that the Office of General Counsel was reviewing a draft. An exposure draft of new procedures would soon be available for consultation with SUPRA and other stakeholders before finalisation.

In February 2009, SUPRA was directed to a staff member who advised that they did not know when the draft procedures would be distributed for comment and could provide very little information on what changes were proposed. SUPRA followed up with a further question about the review to the Student Association/ Senate Liaison Committee meeting in March. SUPRA was advised that Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education) Anne Brewer was now handling it as part of a larger project - the 'Workslate' Project on Complaint and Dispute Handling, Grievance and Misconduct Proceedings.

How much longer will students need to

wait for new clear and fair procedures? SUPRA's view is that such a review needs only to make minor amendments to the existing procedures, along with more resources. The existing procedures were developed many years ago through a highly reputable, external organisation, the Anti-Discrimination Board conducting a review that involved significant consultation across the University. The resultant procedures were designed so that a senior officer, the Manager of Harassment and Discrimination Resolution, based outside the faculty structure, dealt with complaints. This was to ensure complaints were handled by an expert in harassment and were dealt with in a consistent, fair and timely manner. The procedures may at first glance have seemed complex but many transparent options in dealing with harassment complaints is appropriate.

Shamefully though, despite those procedures still officially being in place, the University has gone back to its old pre-1997 ways. The position of Manager of Harassment and Discrimination Resolution has been abolished. Now, if a student makes a complaint to the University that they are being bullied by a member of a Faculty, it is referred back to the Faculty to investigate. Talk about conflict of interest!

Furthermore, many academics and administrative staff do not have the training and skills to resolve situations of bullying, so they can be very reluctant to become involved. When they do become involved, they are often ineffectual at stopping the bullying or making any difference. So if you do find yourself being harassed, seek advice at SUPRA.



Postgrad Pages

All students, but women in particular, need to feel comfortable that if they make a complaint about H & D issues that it will be dealt with quickly and fairly. In recent years there has been insidious and backward changes to the procedures originally developed in conjunction with the reputable Anti-

Discrimination Board of New South Wales. A review is indeed needed, but it must not risk fairness and transparency for the sake of simple procedures.

Ann Turner,
Student Advice and Advocacy Officer

Israeli Defence Force Soldiers Blitz ID Cards on Campus

Last Thursday there was a commotion on the footbridge as Israeli Defence Force soldiers blocked the campus entrance with automatic rifles, stopping students for ID cards, and for details of their timetables and movements for the day. Why, I hear you ask, would the IDF be interested in the movements of Sydney University students?

Of course I.D.F are much too busy running checkpoints in Palestine to come onto campuses here in Sydney. The soldiers were in fact costumed members of the cross campus group, endorsed by SUPRA, Students For Palestine. I was on the end of the IDF rifle where Palestinians too often stand, and even knowing it was just theatre, the felling of terror was chilling.

Non-uniformed students then handed me leaflets explaining the purpose of the exercise, and some up-coming events. As the leaflet explained, “the purpose of Israeli checkpoints is to control and restrict the movement of Palestinians within the Palestinian Territories, as well as into and out of them. Checkpoints violate the lives of Palestinian civilians. Passing through or circumnavigating the checkpoints takes time and money, and have often prevented ambulances and other medical emergencies from passing, leading to countless Palestinian casualties and deaths.”

One of the organisers of the event, Patrick Langosch, said “we simulated the checkpoint here today to remind people of the terror Palestinians go through day to day just to move around their own land. We wanted to grab students’ attention and invite them to get involved in the campaign. The tactic seemed to work!”

Many students were rightly frustrated by the “checkpoint”, and many hung around to discuss the issue of Israel’s occupation of

Palestine with sympathy for the Palestinians, particularly those whose homes, families and lives were destroyed earlier this year in Israel’s siege on Gaza which stole more than 14,000 lives. Some students played along with the performance, dropping to their knees, emptying out their bags and throwing their hands up in the air. Several students stayed to help leaflet for upcoming Palestine Solidarity Week events.

I too joined in leafleting the surge of bottle-necked students. Many left their names to get involved in Students For Palestine, proving that this issue is still very much alive for students on the campus at Sydney Uni.

“Palestine Solidarity Week” is shaping up to be lively and inspiring. The student general meeting to discuss a motion of support for Palestinians will be held Wednesday April 1st in the Quad General Lecture Theatre! Be there to show your support and get involved with the campaign!

Check out the Students for Palestine website:

<http://studentsforpalestine.wordpress.com>

Cipi Morgan
SUPRA Publications Convener



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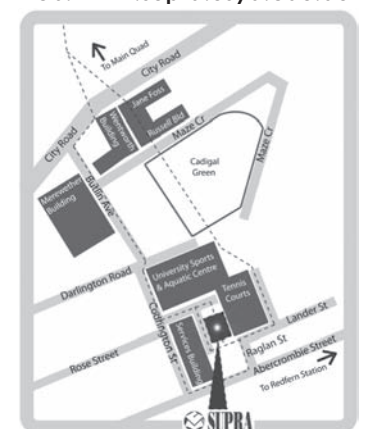
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Email: admin@supra.usyd.edu.au
Web: www.supra.usyd.edu.au



What's coming up at SUPRA (see www.supra.usyd.edu.au for more information)

Mon 30 March	Palestine Solidarity Week
Fri 3 April @ 6pm	Queer Network Film Screening @ SUPRA - <i>The Life and Times of Harvey Milk</i>
Mon 20 April	Postgrad Week - Details soon...
Coming Soon	SUPRA Elections for the 2009-10 Council



THEATRE

Travesties

Dear Sir Tom Stoppard,

Oh Tom. You are too clever for your own good. Did you know that? I just saw your play, *Travesties*, performed by the STC at the Drama Theatre in the Opera House. And I have to say, it was pretty good. The acting was good, the design was brilliant and there was a revolving stage. As expected with STC audiences, about 80% had greying hair, haw-hawing away to demonstrate they got the more literary of your jokes.

I wouldn't have thought that you could explore Dada, World War I trench warfare, early C20th Fashion, Bolshevism and Modernism through the lens of an Oscar Wilde play, but you did. Your genius intertextuality kept us happy on so many levels; and those of us who had read the (*Importance of Being Earnest*) enjoyed your allusions and rhetorical horseplay all the more. In fact you are probably just a little too fond of that sort of thing; your editors should grow some balls and tell you your plays are just too long, Tom. I'm sorry, but it's true.

You'll be pleased to know that the design was exceptional. The set, costumes and lighting had just the right blend of whimsy, theatricality and realism that exactly complemented the tone of the piece; ditto, the direction. Your verbosity is aptly represented in the set, the density of the language is alleviated by song and dance routines, the intellectual comedy enhanced by delicious costumes and energetic slapstick.

The actors, too, acquitted themselves with grace. Jonathan Biggins, that mainstay of Australian comedy for the middle-class, middle-aged-spreaders was delightful in the main role of Henry Carr, whose reminiscences from later years frame the action. Toby Schmitz was divine in the role of Dadaist poet Tristan Tzara, even from my squinty position 6/7ths of the way back. In fact my only other criticism was that the theatre was rather too large for the nuanced work the actors were doing, but that's the fault of Cate and Andrew. The supporting cast was all excellent, peopled with James Joyce and Lenin, and a saucy librarian.

Australian theatre needs work like this. An exemplar of the most exceptional literature of modern times, it is unashamedly theatre for intelligent people. The five people beside me who left after interval are clearly not those people. I'm not going to claim that I understood everything you set out to do, but I appreciated it all the more because I didn't.

Sincerely,
Vivienne Egan

CONCERT

James Morrison and Emma Pask

Wading though a horde of picnicking retirees on the lawns of Taronga Zoo, I had doubts. With a crowd this old, no doubt grandparents of indie kids rocking on at the Abercrombie, I was certain the evening's entertainment was to be similarly geriatric. I found my group, planted the rug and popped the cork on a good bottle of red. The setting was fantastic and the wine went down well, most of it before the show began. How very Mosman.

We were planted front and centre in a natural amphitheatre toward the bottom of the zoo, packed to capacity with jazz enthusiasts nibbling on salmon blinis and guacamole. With a good view down to the harbour, the sun dipped below the horizon and the lights on the domed stage faded down. Out came the band. James Morrison – certainly Australia's most acclaimed jazz musician, arguably of any genre – picked up his trumpet and blasted out a few upbeat numbers, then introduced his people with a series of shockingly poor dad jokes. Needless to say, the dads in the crowd loved it. Audience rapport, tick.

Throughout the two hour set, 'Australia's finest jazz players' (as they were introduced) lived up to their collective title. The band – sax, percussion, drums, bass and rhythm guitar – played a couple of improvised solos throughout, each as remarkable as the next.

Singer Emma Pask, spotted by Morrison fronting a high school jazz band 15 years ago, is a husky mezzo-soprano, fusing the timbre of Ella Fitzgerald, Madeline Peyroux and Norah Jones. Her musicality is almost as outstanding as Morrison's, and the pair's onstage chemistry was excellent. A remarkable cover of 'Georgia' and 'Autumn Leaves' was followed with Morrison's musing of a way-back Ray Charles duet, leaving the audience spellbound.

In the second half Morrison delivered a string of trumpet and trombone solos, a bluesy Fur Elise, and some samba-infused Broadway hits. A playful turn on the auto-tune keyboard, which matched spoken input with notes played, provided backup vocals to Pask's lead in a couple of subsequent tunes.

By the inevitable encore, the crowd was enrapt, and so were we. Morrison is a seasoned (if a little daggy) professional, and a superb live performer. The coked-up main act at the Abercrombie could learn a lot from him.

4/5

George Downing

CINEMA

Family Demons

Recent trends toward big-budget gore flicks have left "horror" a little neglected in the Australian film industry. Financers tend instead to back quirky dramas that have the potential to compete internationally.

So with little support and a self-financed \$6,500 budget, Ursula Dabrowsky shot *Family Demons*, which premiered last week in Sydney as part of the "Night of Horror International Film Festival".

Best described as a psychological horror, *Family Demons* sees an abused teenager kill her alcoholic mother, who returns as an evil spirit to continue the girl's mental and physical imprisonment.

I entered the cinema a little sceptical. It's hard to convince cynical audiences that they should be afraid of what's on the screen, especially on a budget. Running for 80 minutes, the horror conventions employed are at times a little comical; the zombie hands escaping dirt graves and high-pitched violin chords kept me smiling wryly and seemed to confirm my cocky assumption that this might just be an amateurish nod to an underappreciated genre.

Then something amazing happened. The film took a turn, picking up pace and suspense and culminating in a twist that I am not too proud to admit I didn't see coming. Somewhere along the way I was forced to allay my pretension and enjoy the plot development. The film left me convinced that arguments about small filmmakers being unable to compete with Hollywood in this arena are completely flawed – audiences don't need big-budget special effects and trickery to connect with horror. Indeed, a return to simplicity and low-budget creativity is perhaps what the genre needs, to avoid the closure of playing ideas out to their entirety and instead leaving audiences with a sense of unease, with something to mull over as they lie awake that night.

The fact that this film made it to the screen is an admirable achievement in and of itself; produced, written, directed and edited by the same person in a labour of love spanning almost three years. The young Cassandra Kane is outstanding as the film's lead, convincingly panting and looking fearful for the film's entirety. Kane is well supported by Kerry Reid as the deranged mother and Alex Rafalowicz of *Shine* and *Look Both Ways* fame. *Family Demons* now travels to the "Bram Stoker International Film Festival" in England while trying to find a distributor. I hope for your sake, and the film's, that it does.

3.5/5

Paul Mackay



V Festival = Promo Heaven

Jonno Seidler got Festered.



"My festish for Lesbians and Midgets"

I've always vowed that being a creative, dole-bludging type, I would never whore myself out to a major corporation.

But let me tell you, after this weekend, if there's one brand I'd love to sell out for, it's Richard Branson's Virgin. *V Festival*, a music extravaganza put on by the phone/flight/space mogul is a brilliant exercise in product placement, advertising and complete consumer decadence.

Vowing to 'Right Music Wrongs' via a gigantic ad campaign and website, Virgin once again ramp things to n'th degree, like it's a totally normal day at the office. Average punters can pick up free Coke Zero and Lipton Ice Tea, have their photos taken with hot Jagermeister girls (moral panic alert!) and party in the Red Bull Flight lounge. Branson and co. also make sure this isn't one of those wanky 'we need lots of Aussie groups' shindigs – most of the bands are British (better) while the national Battle of The Bands side-project, 'Garage to V', still yields great results year after year.

But the best part of V Festival occurs if you're a Virgin Mobile customer. This guarantees you access to the Louder Lounge, which is truly a spectacle in and of itself. To make you look like a million bucks, Tony and Guy Hair, Napoleon Perdis make up and professional photographers treat average slobbs like gods. The drinks are free, as is the backstage barbie and the real toilets complete with expensive hand-wash, mints, deodorant and sunscreen. Customer satisfaction and unique gimmicks means that most people here barely notice the massive set times fuck up, besides, they're all losing their shit when 90s hero Vanilla Ice actually materialises and performs, pretty much because Branson told him to. Even the stage branding ('This', 'That', and 'Other') is kitsch – no stone is left unturned at what is truly a shining example of how to treat your crowd.

It takes a lot to make me feel like I'm a ten year old at The Easter Show again, but this pretty much takes the cake. So Virgin, if you're hiring, I'm ready when you are. Just don't send me to the moon; I'm kind of scared of heights.

THE POSTCARD

Grandiose Desert Design

Sriram Srikumar sent us a courier pigeon from Dubai



What would happen if you gave men a desert, lots of money and cruelly cheap manual labour? They'd build unnecessarily tall towers, large shopping centres and a bloody ski ramp in the middle of the desert, apparently. If human stubbornness and male ego were a city, it'd be Dubai.

I arrived at Dubai on Sunday morning which is the first day of the week here, Friday (prayers) and Saturday mark the weekend. My view of the pleasantly peaceful desert oasis fell apart pretty quickly. The traffic jams are legendary, our taxi driver told us it was so bad that office goers regularly drive into work at 4AM and sleep in the car, so as to avoid the traffic.

Maybe because of the surrounding desert or the large amount of construction going on (it was physically impossible to not look at a construction crane), the city is shrouded in a perennial dust cloud. Through this mystical haze, you realise that the city is full of spectacle. The world's only 7-star hotel, the world's tallest tower and the Palm Jumeirah resort (islands built into the shape of a palm tree) all live up to the hype. For those inclined to stay indoors, there are the shopping centres. "Shopping

centre" is a loose term. One contains an indoor ski-ramp and another hosts an aquarium to rival the world's best. This includes a glorified fish tank that was about two storeys tall and full of sharks, sting-rays (I was patriotic, I didn't admire these) and other large fish.

And it seems people from all over the world come to admire. Dubai has one of the most multi-cultural populations I've observed: North Africans, Russians (the ones I saw were definitely mafia), Europeans, Chinese, Indians, more Indians and, of course, Ay-rabs. Our local guide told me that Dubai is a honey-pot which surrounding businesspeople and celebrities just can't resist.

For all this exotic spectacle and glamour, Dubai definitely lacks something. There is no sense of identity or history. The city has been built purely for an aesthetic wow factor. It's as though you've visited (an admittedly impressive) theme park. Nothing's quite real. You get the feeling that the city spends much of the time distracting its inhabitants from the fact that they're in the middle of a desert.

STUDENT INK



A Time and a Place

GASTRONOMIST



The Price is Rice

Mark Di Stefano got Thai'd up on King St

Newtown Thai restaurants are the ultimate example of a neo-liberal market system. With an outlet on every corner, the price of a substantial Thai meal for lunch has been supplied and demanded all the way down to \$6-6.50.

Inherent in this kind of market is the race-to-the-bottom aspect of open and unregulated trade, whereby price will continue to drop in response to competitive forces. But with this comes pressure on restaurateurs to cut costs and keep a high turn over of plates.

In Newtown Thai's case, this sees low quality meals, students huddled around undersized tables and a terribly low level of customer service. Expect to be yelled at by young Thai girls whose neutral expression is one of total efficiency and anger. Expect for 1 in 5 Chicken Pad Thais to be heavy on the tofu and sans chicken. Expect to be waiting for over an hour for a meal, whose critical components only need 86 seconds of searing in an ageing wok. And last week, that is where I found myself. Waiting 86 minutes for a Beef Pad See Eiw at one of the bigger restaurants on King St, Thai La-ong.

Every time I asked for a status update, I got a half smile of "yes, yes", and a "promise" that it would be out soon.

By the time it did come out, my friends were impatiently looking at their watches and counting down the seconds until their next tutorial started, while I looked at what could only be described as an abomination of a dish.

I told my compatriots that I was going to staunchly protest the service, quality and lingering queasiness of my meal, and not pay, and that they could not get away with treating students like communist era field workers shuffling in and out of a subterranean mess hall.

But as I got to the counter, and a smiling lady asked for our \$6, my hand snuck its way into my pocket and plucked out three shiny coins. I paid because it was only \$6. I paid because I have had some fantastic meals before. I paid because I hate those who don't. I paid because I didn't fancy myself in a verbal with the King St. Matriarch.

As I stumbled out onto the street, totally dejected at my Thai meal from hell, I looked right, down King St and decried capitalism.

There sits now proudly Thai-La-ong 2. Global Financial Crisis? Welcome to the Newtown Thai Boom.

Femme-Fashion Anusha Rutnam



It is a sad truth that 'feminism' and 'fashion' are two words seldom uttered in the same sentence. One reason for this regrettable state of affairs might be that the image of the somewhat aesthetically challenged, bra-burning Second Wavers is still the go-to in the popular media whenever 'Feminism' is mentioned. Or perhaps to blame are the many feminists who have condemned the fashion system for a being a teensy-weensy bit sexist, suggesting it reduces women to mere consumer objects. Whatever the case, there is in fact a rich sartorial history associated with the feminist movement which deserves recognition.

To the horror of many a Prudy Rudy, the late 19th century saw the appearance of bifurcated garments (i.e. pants) on Western women, raising many questions about the relationship between gender identity and clothing. Although the 'Yeah, I do have legs, so suck it' look would remain taboo for some time,

by the 1930s the actress Katherine Hepburn and director Dorothy Arzner were gam-ing it up on film sets (the former favouring the high-waisted paper-bag style that has recently enjoyed a comeback.)

Also in the early 20th century suffragettes took to the streets to demand the vote, their physical and political strides moving in opposition to the binding clothes they wore. Photographs from rallies of the time are made all the more poignant by the fact that the women involved are garbed in corsets, ankle length skirts and gargantuan Edwardian hats. Indeed the pop-tards who are now sometimes labelled as being part of a 'third-wave' of feminism, also wear corsets, though they tend to favour latex over linen.

Coco Chanel is often credited with being a feminist designer, and it is true that her clothes offered women a hitherto unparalleled freedom of movement, and new ideas about femininity in the 1920s. In 1985 Vivienne Westwood came at us, like a beam, like a ray, like a buzzard, with her Mini Crini collection. With their exaggeratedly curvaceous silhouettes the clothes were a challenge to the heavily shoulder-padded styles that at the time, were favoured by women entering the corporate world. Westwood noted 'I've never thought it powerful to be like a second-rate man'. Damn straight, V-Dubs.



Sprinting Across Campus

SPORT Bronwyn Cowell looks at the sporting talent coming out of USYD.

Sydney Uni has a proud tradition of sporting achievement. Our sports fields and lectures halls alike are routinely trod by talented, hard working sportspeople, many of whom go on to high profile national and international careers. You'll recognise these future stars when you see them. Well-sculpted, fit and vital, they bear little resemblance to the bleary-eyed, caffeine-inoculated USYD masses. They also tend to wear backpacks that helpfully identify them as members of *Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness' Elite Athlete Program*.

This scheme, begun in 1990 and now supporting roughly 300 students, offers talented athletes amounts of \$1,000 - \$5,000 to put towards the cost of their degree or their particular area of sporting endeavour. Students can also access scholarships offered by Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness (SUSF) in conjunction with the various residential colleges, to help with the big chunks of moolah one has to part with in order to live on campus. If the athlete is super-talented enough to make it to big national or international competitions, SUSF will help cover whatever travel costs they can.

On top of this sweet cash handout (Rudd ain't got nothin' on SUSF) the athletes have access to a veritable smorgasbord of sporting and academic support. When it comes to honing themselves into ever-meaner streaks of pure talent, they can take advantage of free membership to the

Uni's sporting facilities, as well as a professional strength and conditioning service. They get discounts on physio and massage at the Sports Clinic and can access the assistance of a sports dietician to help them identify just how much they should carbo-load.



Running late to PHIL2615

You can also forget the dumb jock stereotype propagated by teen movies and rugby league press conferences. Our cricketers, rowers, runners et al. have got some serious brains, and the Elite Athlete Program offers academic support including tuition and personal development seminars to make sure their athletes can count on some form of earning potential once their knees give out in their early thirties.

So who are these people? *The Athlete Guide for 2009*, provided to participants of the Program, proves

that Sydney Uni sport is absolutely nothing to be sneezed at. Stuart Clarke, an Australian fast bowler with close to 100 test wickets, has just started Grad Law after completing a Masters in Commerce. Tom Clarke plays for the Waratahs and has an Environmental Science degree up his sleeve (along with what one imagines is a fine set of biceps). Sarah Stewart won a bronze medal in wheelchair basketball at the 2008 Olympics and studies Philosophy at the same time. While most of us can't manage to stagger out of bed for a breathless 20 minute jog, these guys juggle a degree with the exhausting training required to be a top-performing athlete.

There isn't much of a culture of supporting our sports teams at uni, at least not compared to the fanatical devotion college sport attracts in the US. That kind of hero-worship might be going a little far, but sitting in the shade beside our main oval, watching big sweaty rugby players run around in the sun isn't the worst way to spend an afternoon.

The Elite Athlete Program attracts top talent to our uni and makes sure they don't stumble under the heavy load of study, work and training. Say what you will about spending cash on a small elite, but after hearing what these guys go through just to get a degree and play the sport they love, it's pretty hard not to come away very impressed... and thinking more seriously about going for that jog.

Aussie Soccer

SPORT Antony Faisandier gives the A-League the red card.

With the creation of the A-League in 2004, football has burst on to the Australian sports scene with all the enthusiasm of a poor cousin who is now slightly less poor. This has certainly been an improvement - prior to the A-league the average attendance at top flight domestic football matches was less than 4000 - but that is not to say that all is rosy.

Originally I intended to write a brief history of the A-league, but there are more important questions confronting Australian football. The core supporters of the A-League are fanatical - anyone who has seen the Cove in full song can't argue with that - but its appeal has struggled to expand beyond this group.

The question is therefore, why do the majority of Australian football fans owe their first allegiance to international clubs? Why is it more common to see an Arsenal jersey than a Sydney FC strip?



Look. A ball.

The reality is this: football is an international game, and in Australia it is exclusively an international game. Modern international football offers a glimpse at glamour and celebrity unrivalled by anything in sporting history. Soccer has been the cause of war, as in the famous *Football War* between Honduras and El Salvador in 1969, and the great conflict resolver. It has saved struggling economies and united complex populations behind one great hope.

Australia, however, doesn't seem to understand this. Domestic football for us is just a winter code, the same as any other. It has scandals (Aurelio Vidmar is an early frontrunner for best press conference blow up ever), it does north-of-the-border multi-franchise prostitution just as well as the Superleague ever did, and it has, for a time, been run by John O'Neill. That's not glamour football, that's just another version of every other game we invest our time in - and on that front it just doesn't have the history and tribalism to ever really take off.

COLLEGE Wesley Informal v2

Eugene Julio "The Alligator"

Troutsmith cracks a chilly UDL.



The crowd enjoying a few quiet ones

As if Paul's College Informal wasn't enough, Wesley College's *Carnivale* kicked off Wednesday 25 March. Wesley have traditionally offered their annual festival-cum-fundraiser late in Semester 2 (the cringe-worthy 'Westock'), but 2009 saw the inclusion of a paradigm-shifting day/night fixture on the college's front lawn. The novelty factor paid dividends.

The event earned full marks for their coy ingenuity under the much-maligned licensing restrictions handed down by the party-pooper likes of Newtown Police and the

glorious city of Sydney Council. One aspect of this creative approach was the extremely late announcement that the event would be BYO - a strictly unintentional measure and a direct result of an administrative bungle whereby the alcohol licence (that bit of paper someone need to sign) wasn't actually submitted by the due date.

Oops.

Monumental fuck-ups aside, this proved to be a real selling point for the evening and did more good than harm. The College's bottom line will suffer big time though - "informals" are the principal stream of the College's social revenue (read: beer money). Not good in the middle of a GFC.

But back to the party... the somewhat optimistic opening hour - 3pm - was largely ignored (uni and all) and it wasn't until 6pm that partygoers deemed it necessary to arrive, fashionably late to boot. BWS Newtown evidently did their best trading day of the year as beers and tax-avoiding-malt-based-RTD's were shipped though the gates and kept chilled by the provided eskies and ice - a crucial provision for any wild picnic.

The crowd revelled in the company of Brazilian mascots, Mardi Gras girls (and boys), Capoeira dancers and some people too cool to dress up at all.

Surprisingly, the 'Carnivale' theme played well to the crowd.

As the nightfall enveloped the college, and the novelty of tipping iced water over enthusiastic freshers wore thin, headlining acts convened on stage. Established house/electro DJ *Hook 'N' Sling* was first up, playing an enthralling set that had the place pumping. But the best was saved till last with the artful (get it?) *Art vs. Science* - indie heroes in their own right and a great choice for a party such as this. The band, comprised of ex-Sydney Uni College kids, took it right back where they started from and brought the house down. The dancefloor erupted and for those brave enough to convene, a sweaty and packed mosh was had by all. Seriously, it got hectic. Wow.

And what College informal would be complete without a performer sculling a beer then thrashing out a guitar solo - a truly legendary moment. I want that guy's babies. Dare I neglect to mention the inflatable penguins, all three of them, for making it out there.

Well that's it from me, Eugene Julio "The Alligator" Troutsmith. Until the next on-campus caper, seeyoubye.

Across

- 1. Personal best initially dies, broken, on two feet (6)
- 4. In bed, I'm simply delicious with soy sauce (3, 3)
- 7. Not a Melbourne afternoon secret paper (1. 1. 1.)
- 9. Minus two? (5)
- 10. Ran right between the eyes, 50-50 winning streak (2, 1, 4)
- 12. You sit on me and can produce me daily? (5)
- 13. Car collision with enough damage from above (7)
- 14. Land on a silencing agent, perhaps (6)
- 15. A nationality buff? (6)
- 17. Suave doctor with a swollen ape inside (6)
- 20. Prizes open first signs of damage (6) 25. Belgian city is an idiot (7)
- 27. One who lives has one? (5)
- 28. Not an old, cloudy power (7)
- 29. Even raw logs are basic life forms (5)
- 30. German day, you're it? (3)
- 31. Mr, try a messed up sacrifice (6)
- 32. This crossword writer man went after the bottom of Greta Garbo (6)

Down

- 1. A road operation? (6)
- 2. Full of French "yes"? (7)
- 3. Princess Ovum Luggage primely let it slip (7)
- 5. Dig the news? (5)
- 6. Malcolm X not calm, red hot actually (6)
- 7. Why you couldn't keep your eyes open if you were completely awake? (6)
- 8. Light match for good advice? (3, 3)
- 11. One is in rising lava. Help! (5)
- 14. Omniscient hound returns (3)
- 16. He is, without a second, possessive (3)
- 18. Take the guts out and see (hear) after the beginning and the end of a race (5)
- 19. Tell someone about the sherry (6)
- 20. Off & on, girl goes back where liquid gold is found (3, 3)
- 21. Warns of avenue in a musical (7)
- 22. Mere rag transformed into a ruby, for example (4, 3)
- 23. Wine guns? (sic) (6)
- 24. A ventable organ? (6)
- 26. "The 14th, the 13th and the 5th," said your foe (5)

WEEK 4 ANSWERS

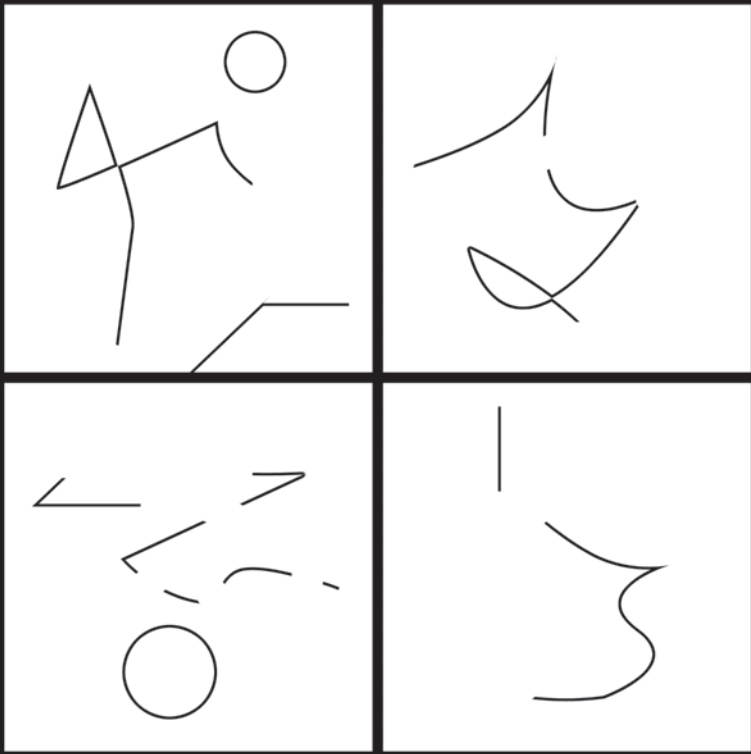
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Mr Squiggle



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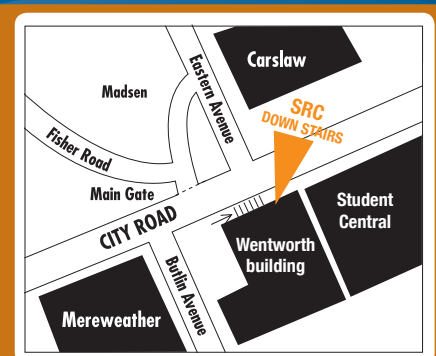
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