



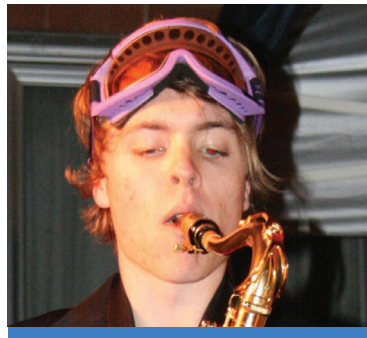
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# woroni

The Australian National University Student Newspaper | 1948 - 2008

8 May - 22 May 2008

## “Protect the torch!”

Over the break, thousands of protesters and pro-China supporters descended on Canberra for the Torch Relay in a show of force that boiled over into intimidation and occasional violence. *Woroni* investigates this strong display of nationalistic pride.

Tom Stayner  
Tom Swann  
Special Report

On the morning of 24 April, tens of thousands of people and more than half the ACT police force descended on Canberra's streets for the sole Australian leg of the Beijing Olympic Torch Relay. Organisers had expressed concerns in the weeks leading up to the event about the possibility of violent scenes of the scale of those on the previous Paris, London and San Francisco legs of the relay. But the torch was carried through its full course, with only seven arrests and minor cases of disruption in its path.

ACT Chief Minister, John Stanhope, claimed afterwards that the relay was “an outstanding success”, adding he was “absolutely chuffed” about the absence of a major incident. Torch Relay Chairman Ted Quinlan claimed the estimated \$2 million bill, and widespread disruptions to the national capital, were well worth the honour of hosting the ‘Journey of Harmony’. “Australia has shown the world again that we can organise an event better than anyone”, Quinlan said. The event's success was also recognised by media around the world, with the BBC reporting a “smooth run for Australia's relay”.

But for many who were there, these logistical achievements were largely beside the point. What was supposed to be a peaceful celebration of international goodwill and the ‘Olympic



spirit’ was, at many points, anything but a peaceful celebration.

### Atmosphere of tension

Tensions throughout the day were palpable between up to 20,000 pro-China supporters and a smaller assortment of protest groups, most notably pro-Tibet activists. As the morning progressed, the chants and antagonism boiled over into public displays of intimidation, verbal abuse, and physical violence.

Organisers were already calling for calm as the sun rose soon after 6 a.m. on the relay's starting point in Reconciliation Place. Chinese supporters traded angry chants with protesters from the Eastern Turkistan Australian Association, and scuffles broke out to the sound of “China, forever” and “China, terrorists”. Police moved through the crowd and separated protesters from pro-China groups, who shouted “One

China” and slogans in Chinese from behind a fence as pro-Tibet activists arrived.

As the crowds dispersed, antagonism between pro-China supporters and protesters continued. Calls of “liars” and “bullshit” could be heard against shouts of “free Tibet” and “Who's the murderer? Hu Jintao”. Police told the outnumbered pro-Tibetan protesters to stay together, as they could not guarantee their

safety.

### Scuffles and violence

After the torch passed the first time around through Constitution Avenue, one ANU student and pro-Tibet protester, Andy Lee, was involved in a scuffle with pro-China supporters on Commonwealth Bridge. “I was hit when I tried to take a picture of the man who stole [my friend's] flag and threw it over the bridge”, Continued Page 2





# woroni

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**Nationalists clash: from Page 1**  
Lee said. He was “disgusted” by the aggressive behaviour of many of the pro-China supporters.

While the pro-China supporters greatly outnumbered other protesters, allegations of violence came from both sides. Davidson Ng, a second year student from Hong Kong, claims he was attacked by an Australian activist who was making racist comments towards him and his friends. After an exchange, Ng claims the activist threatened him: “he said, ‘Do you want me to break your glasses?’ then elbowed me in the face”. Ng says the activist was taken away by police after the crowd turned against him.

Organisers of the relay were widely reported in Australian media as claiming that instances of conflict were very isolated, a view shared with representatives of the Chinese supporters. ACT Stateline suggested otherwise by running a story the next evening composed entirely of footage of verbal and physical altercations from the day. Some people, meanwhile, managed to avoid the aggression. Ailsa Robertson, an Australian student who was just there to see the “unique event”, says she didn’t see any unrest. “I didn’t feel as if the Chinese supporters were there against Tibet, but just that they were supporting the Olympics.”

While ‘4.24’ (as it was known to many Chinese students) was not entirely marred by conflict, it was clear that most people were there to make a passionate statement about China. The large numbers of Chinese supporters, in particular, surprised relay organisers and the Chinese community alike. This raises the question: how, and why, did Canberra become the venue for such passionate displays of protest and patriotism?

**Bringing the “Red Sea”**

It has been widely suggested that the Chinese embassy had a role in bussing the thousands of students to Canberra for the relay. ACT Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said he had “absolutely no doubt” that the embassy helped to organise the large pres-

ence. “I don’t know the nature of the links or the organisation but I know there was contact between the embassy and Chinese representative groups”, Stanhope told the Daily Telegraph. When asked by *Woroni*, the Chinese embassy in Canberra denied that they had any organisational role in the event, saying that the students organised themselves.

Zhang Rongan, from the ACT branch of the Chinese Students and Scholar’s Association (which includes groups from ADFA, UC and ANU), says the CSSA only liaised with interstate groups to disseminate information about the event. In Sydney and Melbourne in particular, smaller groups of Chinese supporters came together of their own accord, he said, and paid for the buses themselves. The supporters’ material such as flags and banners were in some cases

## “It was clear that the real intent was to do more than simply wave flags and watch the torch”

donated by the Chinese business community.

Of the interstate Chinese students *Woroni* spoke to on the day, many said they had paid their own way to Canberra. However, some said that their transport and accommodation had been paid for, and *Woroni* has learned of a number of other buses from Sydney that were provided free of charge for Chinese students. Furthermore, a letter leaked to Crikey from the Australian Chinese Youth Exchange Promotion Association (an non-profit organisation sponsored by the Chinese Embassy) assured Chinese students that “the organisers will pay the costs in advance”. It also advised students, “when speaking to outsiders, firmly maintain that this is entirely a spontaneous activity” and to “maintain a smiling face”.

Geremie R. Barmé, a professor of Chinese history and culture at the ANU, says that there have previously been links between the Chinese embassy and organisations such as the former Chinese Communist Youth League, which has now dropped

the word ‘Communist’ from its name. Rongan Zhang denied that the ACT CSSA and the Embassy are closely linked: “[As far] as I know, there is no straight relationship. The embassy can’t ask the association to do something for them; it won’t happen”. He said there may be an exception with some postgraduate students who are financially supported in Australia by the Chinese government.

**Protest and counter-protest**

Regardless of how the Chinese turnout was organised and where the money came from, it was clear that the real intent was to do more than simply wave flags and watch the torch. Their presence was a counter-protest. What motivated so many Chinese supporters was the intention to “protect the torch”, as the call went out on CSSA posters and websites, and overwhelm

the criticisms and concerns represented by the protesters. As one Chinese supporter put it, “we [wanted to] win by voice”. It was this intent that, in some cases, boiled over into intimidation and aggression.

Why did the Chinese supporters feel it necessary to express their patriotism by overwhelming perceived anti-China protesters? The Beijing Olympics hold a special and significant meaning great significance for China and Chinese people. As Zhang Rongan explains, this is the first time that China, a nation with one sixth of the world’s population, has hosted such a large international event. He says it is a “recognition by other nations that China has joined the international family... it really means something”. The lead up to the Games has, however, proved a focal point for international concerns and criticism about China’s human rights record and recent actions, especially in Tibet.

Some international leaders, including Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, have publicly addressed the issue of human

rights in Tibet. Rudd is unique in having done so in Chinese and in the Chinese capital of Beijing. However, his remarks, made in a speech addressed to students at Peking University on 9 April, went unreported in China, says Professor Barmé, where the media is largely state-owned and without independent critical voice. But the subsequent protests and disruptions to the torch relay in London, San Francisco and Paris, greatly surprised and upset many people in China. The Chinese media, unable to play down or ignore the events, appealed to an “international conspiracy” against China”, as Professor Barmé puts it. Outside of China, the protests had the effect “propagating the righteous outrage of the international Chinese community” that had developed in light of suggestions of boycott.

A response from many Chinese has been to claim, following statements by Chinese authorities, that the Olympics should be apolitical. Zhang Rongan insisted “the Olympic torch is not a political toy”. This has long been the official response of the IOC to controversies the Olympics often generates, espoused by many in recent weeks, not only those affiliated with China. But as ANU nationalism expert Dr Ben Wellings points out, the Olympics, as “competitions are organized between national teams or individuals”, are inevitably bound up with national interests and identity. Dr Wellings says, “the politics of nationalism has often intruded into the Games, and although the Games themselves are hosted by cities, these bids are supported by national governments, so that any host city is really a proxy for the nation”.

Dr Wellings describes the “legitimizing function of nationalism” as motivating and normalising behaviour of one group in the name of their nation against another. Expressions of nationalism are usually highly “organised”, he says, but can play different roles. “Nationalism can be part of a liberation movement; at other times nationalism can be used to silence criticism of a re-





gime. It was this latter use of nationalism that was conspicuously on display" at the relay. Professor Barmé says Chinese supporters would be reluctant to see themselves as nationalistic, but notes that many commentators have described "a sort of 'export authoritarianism' masquerading as Chinese patriotism."

Professor Barmé explained that "the issue of the Olympic Torch Relay has now become one of Chinese global pride, integrity and national unity." The 'sacred torch', as the Chinese government and media has called it, has been a focal point not just for international criticisms of the Chinese government, but a focus for support from patriotic Chinese, as was clear among the banners and slogans at the relay.

#### Tibet and the disputed truth

While many different protest groups were represented at the relay, including Amnesty International, Uyghurs (from Xinjiang or Eastern Turkistan), Vietnamese and Chinese pro-democracy groups, the issue of Tibet was foremost. Underlying the conflict of interests and opinion was a conflict between conceptions of the true history of the Tibetan provinces, its relation to the present nation of China, and the nature of actions there by and against the Chinese government.

While activists argue that Tibet is oppressed and subject to human rights abuses, many Chinese people believe this has been distorted. Portia, a Chinese student from Sydney University, echoed the views of many Chinese students at the relay. She described the "Free Tibet" message written in the sky during the relay as "rubbish", saying, "We just want to tell people the truth". Davidson Ng says, "as we've learned in our textbooks back in China, Tibet has always been a part of China". He said the Australian students who protested in favour of Tibet do not understand the history, and therefore had "better not comment".

Many Chinese students also feel there has been unfair reporting in the West of the issues surrounding Tibet. Professor Barmé

says the Chinese supporters saw themselves as expressing their "patriotic sentiment in the face of deliberate distortions of the real situation in Tibetan China, resulting from the 'Western media' demonisation of the People's Republic of China and the way it had handled the March disturbances in Lhasa and elsewhere." Claims that the Western media is biased and distorting the facts against China, can be found across recently set up websites, such as [www.anti-cnn.com](http://www.anti-cnn.com), and Chinese forums. Ascertaining the truth has been all the more difficult since the Chinese government banned foreign journalists from going into many of the Tibetan provinces. This means the main sources of information are from Chinese media.

Conversely, Chinese perceptions of international concern have relied largely on portrayals in the Chinese media. Professor Barmé says, the official Chinese media has "encouraged a kind of by-proxy witch-hunt to determine which among the foreign countries of 'the West' are 'panda huggers...[or] dragon slayers', adding that many Chinese "have no idea that the constant news of human rights abuses coming from China has formed over some time a very negative backdrop to the recent Tibetan issue".

#### Ongoing issues

The controversy surrounding China, the Beijing Olympics and Tibet, which manifested in the unrest in Canberra on April 24, will no doubt continue in the lead up to and during the Beijing Olympics in August. Days after Canberra, amidst the ongoing controversy surrounding the Torch Relay, the Chinese government announced it would renew dialogue with representatives of Tibetan leader-in-exile, The Dalai Lama. How events will pan out is uncertain, but it is clear that many at the ANU - staff and students, Chinese and non-Chinese, supporters and protesters alike - will be watching closely.

*Prof. Barmé's comments in full at <http://thechinabeat.blogspot.com>*

*Additional reporting by Scott Walker, Leah Ginnivan & Charles Prestidge-King*

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Public liability insurance strikes again

The ANU Sport and Recreation Association (SRA) was left in a difficult position before the break with public liability insurance once again becoming an issue for the university.

All off-campus activities were left in an uncertain state by the SRA's general policy and had to

be covered temporarily by the ANU for two weekends.

The ANU Mountaineering Club suspended gear hire for a weekend, but club activities taking place on campus remained unaffected.

This announcement comes just weeks after the postpone-

ment of 2008's Inward Bound after approval was not given for the event by all parties, but the situation seems to have resolved itself, with a new policy being signed by the SRA and broker Willis, by means of the University's Insurance Office.

### Chubb calls for student income support reform

In a speech on higher education policy reform given earlier this year, ANU Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Chubb once again highlighted the need for reform in student support.

Discussing measures to improve the quality of graduates, Chubb said that support meant, among other things, "minimising distractions", mentioning the need to "think creatively about how to ensure that all students are able to meet basic living costs while studying".

With an ever-increasing proportion of students engaging in part-time and casual work, and the amount of hours worked per week rising steadily, university study can only make it to second priority for some.

The question of student support, Chubb said, was a long overdue one, with the last review being carried out in 1992.

His most controversial comments on the topic lay part of the blame at university leadership: "I think that most of us Vice Chan-

cellors should hang our heads in shame, with the way we have supinely adjusted to the fact that student support systems over the last decade have been eroded, and eroded, and eroded in the way they have. And we've done so not only supinely, but quietly."

*A full podcast of Professor Chubb's speech can be found at:*

[http://info.anu.edu.au/Discover\\_ANU/News\\_and\\_Events/Public\\_Lectures/\\_Ian\\_Chubb.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/Discover_ANU/News_and_Events/Public_Lectures/_Ian_Chubb.asp)

### ANU astronomer honoured

Professor Brian Schmidt of the Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics has been appointed as a Foreign Associate of

the American National Academy of Science, one of only five Australians this year, the first group since 2000. The Academy, start-

ed by Abraham Lincoln in 1853, is widely regarded as one of the most prestigious science organisations in the world.

## ANUSA launches new welfare fund

The ANU Students' Association is this term launching the new ANUSA/ Degree Welfare Fund. The fund aims to help student who are in short term financial hardship with the provision of a voucher for the ANU Food Co-op.

Vice President Madeleine Firth said "the idea was born after Degree Café expressed interest in helping students who were facing financial hardships. We then consulted with ANUSA Welfare Officer Bronwyn Evans, and decided the best way to help student was to make sure they could afford to eat"

The scheme will be funded entirely by the Degree Café and its patrons. Owner Frank Grzic will match the amount of tips the café receives monthly, and donate the total amount to the fund.

"This is a great way to fund a

scheme such as this" Firth said. "Students who have spare change can help out those not so fortunate by leaving a tip at Degree".

Students experiencing short-term financial hardship and wishing to use the scheme will apply to the Students Association for an ANU Food Co-op voucher and a toiletries pack.

The Food Co-op are also contributing to the scheme by providing the groceries at a 20% discount on the retail price. "This will allow the fund to help a few more students each month" Firth says.

The fund will be launched on the 15th May, coinciding with the ANUSA's Student Poverty Week demonstrations. A free breakfast will be served in Union Court between 10am-12pm. All students are encouraged to attend and find out how the ANU-

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### Exam scriptbooks anonymous, but not essays

After countless years and relentless pestering from student representatives, the University Education Committee has decided to introduce anonymous scriptbooks in all examinations where it is considered feasible.

From next semester, the Uni-

versity guidelines for examinations will recommend that scriptbooks be printed without requiring a student's name.

Considered a key equity principle in the face of perceived bias from lecturers, the Students' Association has made anonymous

marking an issue for many years.

However, the new guidelines will not apply to essays, and mid-semester essays in Arts (for instance) will continue to require a student's name.

Anonymous marking is standard at the College of Law.







Leah Ginnivan  
Opinion Editor

## OPINION

### LETTERS

**Woroni would like to correct our story Another Liberal Intervention (10/4). Aaron McDonnell was apparently not asked to resign as President of the ANU Liberal Club but rather did so of his own volition.**

Dear Woroni,

Reading the article in your last issue on the potential changes to right of return of hall of residences residents ('UAS Considers Culling Weak' Woroni 10 April) what disappoints me the most is that in the last four years, Marie Wensing has apparently learnt nothing.

I was around the last time this policy reared its ugly head, back in 2004, and our complaints from back then are as equally applicable now. This policy is ill-conceived and has serious holes. It is not enough for UAS to discuss it as 'in development'. They should not even raise it until they have established how it will operate and how it will not disadvantage students of the ANU.

The student accommodation crisis is symptomatic of the wider affordable housing problem that is affecting the entire of the ACT. On Mrs. Wensing's watch, the ANU has done very little to engage with the outside community to provide viable solutions to this problem. It has instead taken the expensive solution of dumping students at hotels, at

rents they can barely afford and effectively cutting off any other form of support.

The solution UAS proposes? To create a system where students will be evicted from Halls. This is not a pessimistic view of the policy being speculated, but a realistic one. If UAS is serious about getting first years into halls, then this will require students to be removed from their halls for no other purpose but to free up a bed. The talk of 'considering personal needs' is all well and good, but in reality will lead to either the arbitrary determining of who stays, which will be obviously unfair, and creating a set of bench marks that will alienate large slabs of the student population.

Let us take as an example the 'participation quotient' that your article discussed. This would naturally disadvantage students that do not commit as much time to extra-curricular activities available at the halls of residents. One obvious group this would affect is a large part of international students, who make up a large part of the two largest communities, Burton & Garran and Fenner Halls. Surely Mrs. Wensing is not suggesting that students who rightfully value their academics, or those students who testify to our university being 'world class' by coming half way around the world to study here, should be evicted? I particularly fear for the second group, who are naturally disadvantaged in the rental

**Continued next page**

# Every drink tells a story

The crackdown on binge drinking ignores the cultural significance of booze.

David Butler  
Columnist

I heard a drinking story recently - you know the one. There is only one. It's the one where -blank- got soooo messed up, (blind, maggot, mute, retarded, para, etc), with -blank-, (who was equally off chops, spastic, lagged etc) at (insert establishment or occasion here), while they were drinking (insert detailed list of beverages consumed, not neglecting quantities). Anyway, the point is that they were soooo, sooo drunk, to the point where they were unable to function in some sort of humorous situation where functioning is required, or something. It varies slightly. I was sitting at dinner with a bunch of particularly green public service grads (tax), and they were telling their own feeble versions of

the story. One after another, after another, talking so much that they either didn't notice or didn't care when I steered the wine bottle over in front of me and monopolised it. It was necessary. And besides, who was I to interrupt their version of the story.

I'd been telling my own version a couple of nights before. I thought I was past telling the story until I was sitting in a bar with some good friends and this particular bar set me off thinking about something that had happened there a while back, and then I said "Remember that night when we were here and..." and then I couldn't stop it. It helps (though it's not essential) when you're telling the story to have other people who were there and who can take it up at points, and weave it even richer than you could by yourself. They're not so bad, those stories.

But now the Rudd Govern-

ment is trying to stop Australians telling the story. As part of a federal campaign to target binge drinking the Government is doubling the existing taxes on so-called alcopops, such as Vodka Cruisers and Bacardi Breezers. The tax on each drink will rise from roughly 46 cents a bottle to 92 cents.

**"The government must realise that without this story, many people won't have much to talk about"**

Whether increasing the tax on alcopops will curb binge drinking is a matter of some debate. Malcolm Turnbull has come out strongly for the opposition with a range of arguments against the new tax. Turnbull states that such a tax would fall largely on low-income earners, and that if the Government is serious about

reducing binge drinking it should put the emphasis on education programs rather than taxation.

There is also the extra \$500 million of yearly revenue that the Government will net from such a tax, most of which it says will go into preventative health strategies.

The style of drink that Rudd

has in his sights, the alcopop, demonstrates that this is not a measure to target all binge drinking, only the binge drinking of young people. The excessive consumption of alcohol is something that occurs on nearly every level of our society. It's more an ingrained part of the Australian culture than a nasty habit of the

young. The very limited nature of this attack on binge drinking makes it difficult to believe that Rudd is genuine.

What good is raising the taxes on alcopops when many bars and clubs sell two dollar basic spirits? Is there any more substance to this measure than a symbolic stab at binge drinking which also happens to gain an extra half a billion dollars each year?

Today's youth didn't begin telling this story; we're merely continuing it. The story has been told for generations, and the people telling it now grew up hearing its structured rhythms and witnessed the effect of its bonding social glue. If the Rudd Government wants Australians to start telling new stories then it must realise that Australia's youth didn't begin this. It must realise that without the story, many people won't have much to talk about.



**Continued from last page**

market with landlords unwilling to rent to people who will not be as permanent as domestic students.

Of course, to go the flip side would be to undermine the 'experience' that Mrs. Wensing wants first year students to have. This is a lose-lose policy for UAS and students. That's why it was abandoned in 2004.

UAS's solution to the ACT accommodation crisis is to add more students to the pool looking for rental accommodation in a market experiencing critical

shortages. Combine this ill-conceived plan with the UniLodge disasters, the large number of international students without accommodation on arrival in Australia at the start of this year, and the fact that UAS wastes its time on moralistic crusades such as the alcohol policy, demonstrates that UAS, the office with which we charge dealing with the greatest problem our great university faces, is in desperate need for repair. I would be so bold as to suggest that only one tool is needed for this job: an axe.

Yours, Timothy Caddey

Dear *Woroni*,

I was disappointed to read your scathing review of 'The Chaser's Age of Terror'. It is my belief that your reviewer had a preconceived dislike of The Chaser and so was unable to give a fair and unbiased report on the show. I believe that *Woroni* readers expect and deserve to read reviews by neutral sources, if these are not available then there is no point in having a review.

A lot of what was said was untrue and ridiculously unsupported. I attended one performance

of the show and witnessed a show full of the well loved antics of The Chaser. Yes, some of the material was shamelessly ripped off from their TV show, the team ridiculed themselves for that along with the incompleteness of their cast, deciding to make jokes of themselves rather than simply state the facts, but isn't that what people go for?

As to the statements about technical problems, whilst I cannot vouch for the other performances, I watched a well stage managed, smooth show, during which many people struggled

to remain upright due to their laughter at the sketches AND at themselves when being 'insulted'.

I would suggest that your reviewer learns to relax a little and laugh at the person they see in the mirror. It's good to be different but, it is also good to enjoy life and not go to events and report on them if you have already decided not to like it.

Yours, Alister Waters

**Send your (short) letters to [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au). We may edit for size or spelling.**

# Burning for Change?

## Torch relay protests can achieve something.

**Isidro Steger**

*History Honours Student*

The torch relay protests have aroused heated discussion about the mixing of politics and sport.

This is not the first time this has occurred in Australia. In July 1971, the all-white South African Springboks rugby team toured the country. Demonstrators disrupted matches in all capital cities, actively trying to stop the matches.

Then, as now with the torch relay, people opposed to the protests argued they would achieve nothing. In fact, the anti-apartheid movement, part of a global sports boycott of South Africa, did achieve something. It was able to isolate South Africa firstly through sports, and then politically. I am not arguing that Springbok tour protests forced apartheid to end, in the same

way that the torch relay protests will not end the Chinese occupation of Tibet.

What the Springbok protests showed, was that disruptive and aggressive protesting (like we saw in the torch relay) at sporting events, does influence government policy. Following the protests, the Australian government hardened its stance against South Africa. The torch relay protests can do the same; they can show the government that Australians do not accept tacit support of Chinese policy.

A counter argument to this bandied around in 1971 with the Springboks, and now with the torch relay- is that militant demonstrations will only harden Chinese resolve and negatively affect Tibetan people. This in my opinion is completely wrong. The isolation of South Africa, first in sporting and then political terms was effective. It led not to an internal backlash, but to

true attempts at reform. Without external pressure, of which the torch relay protests and upcoming Olympics are key, China will not change what it views as its 'internal policy.' Human rights today are an international issue, as was apartheid in 1971.

The protests surrounding the

## "The threat of an Olympic boycott has commentators arguing that sport is above politics. It is not"

torch relay should not be seen as an isolated event. Politics and sport cannot be kept separate. China and its torch relay named the 'Journey of Harmony' was politicised well before the protests began. It is not the protestors that are politicising sport, but the organisers. These Olympic Games are to 'showcase' China, in the same way rugby players from South Africa were

'ambassadors of apartheid.'

People have a right to protest. Whether they have a right to actively disrupt sporting events, be they a rugby match in 1971 or events at the Olympics, is debatable. However, historically aggressive protesting techniques such as those seen in the torch

relay are more effective. Why? They bring more media attention to the issue, more people to the cause, and force the target (South Africa in 1971, China today), to realise the global community is not oblivious to its policies. Yes, there may be an internal backlash against the protestors, as we saw in Canberra last week. But pressure from 'without' was key in effecting change in South Af-

rica, and will be key in addressing China's human rights issues.

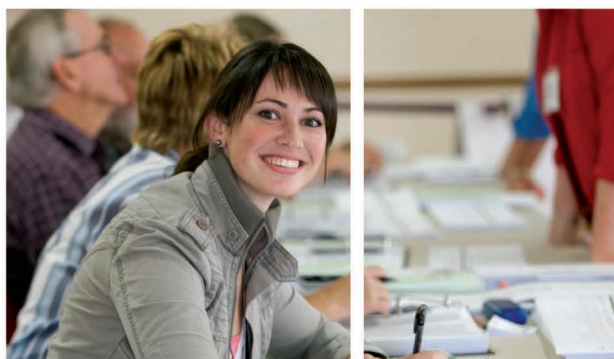
The mixing of politics and sport will always be a contentious issue in Australia. The threat of an Olympic boycott has commentators arguing that sport is above politics. It is not. The Free Tibet movement is correct in targeting the torch relay, as it symbolises both China's growing power, and the West's acceptance of China's policies. The attempts at disrupting the torch relay have brought more attention to Tibet and Human Rights, than a peaceful protest with placards ever could. The use of sport to convey political problems is always attacked in Australia. Following the Springbok tour, the Sydney Morning Herald wrote, "Sport in Australia is sacred: protest is not." 37 years later, this still rings true.

*Isidro Steger is a History honours student, writing his thesis on the Springbok Tour protests.*



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# Not enough Centrelink? Too much debt? Have sex!

Failure to provide adequate student income support may be driving Australian students into the sex industry.

Jane Outteridge  
Woroni Special Investigation

"Let's talk about sex baby, let's talk about you and me". Salt-n-Pepa weren't afraid to talk about sex, and 17 years on, it seems neither are Australia's university students. Trading sex for money – it's one of society's oldest occupations, and university students aren't immune from its 'easy money' appeal. Evelyn-Manju Fanchette (2007) introduced ANU to the concept that when it comes to the sex industry, we really are talking about 'you and me': people in your tutorials, next to you in lectures, living across the hallway in college or queuing for a computer in Chifley.

There are 14 commercial brothels and 42 private operators registered with the ACT Office of Fair Trading in 2005, employing an estimated 200 active sex workers (*The Canberra Times*, 25 June 2005). Of these, there may be around 50 university students working in Canberra's sex industry. Talking to some of Canberra's brothels, most said they had one or two university students working for them at the time, with most having employed University students in the past. These figures do not include students who may be involved in the industry through stripping, peep shows, lap dancing, or any other of the exotic delights on offer in the Fyshwick or Mitchell area.

But as special as we like to think we are, with our suburbs devoted to bringing sexy back, this trend of University students working in the sex industry is not a Canberra phenomenon alone. In Sydney between 25 and 50% of sex workers in brothels surveyed were university students (*The World Today*, 2 April 2004) while in Melbourne, one in ten managed to balance the demands of sex work and university studies (*The Sun-Herald*, September 11 2005).

So the obvious question at this point is why are university students turning to the sex industry? The answer is just as obvious – money.

Dr Sarah Lantz (2005), author of *Students Working in the Melbourne Sex Industry: Education, Human Capital and the Changing Patterns of the Youth Labour Market*, says that we're just victims of our current social environment, and that students are turning on the charm and taking off their clothes as "...a pragmatic response to increasing education



Student employer? One of Canberra's many adult entertainment venues Robert Wiblin

costs and a reduction in government income support".

So it turns out we're a practical bunch at the root of it (no pun intended), entering the sex industry driven predominantly by financial need, bought on by a lack of government financial support, the increase in university fees and charges, the inability for the family to financially support the student, and a trend for insecure work practices in

dependent on someone else through their university career, and two to three times more likely to rely on assistance in the form of cash gifts and help with bills.

Although the answer to these financial woes is usually a job in the traditional university employment sectors like waitressing, retail or clerical work, these industries are known for their low wages, long hours, and "flexible" hiring and firing practices.

## "Why do university students find themselves in a position where it's necessary to sell a pound of flesh to fund their education?"

the youth labour market (Lantz 2005, pp. 389).

These financial trends have resulted in a student body where, according to the *Australian University Student Finances 2006 Final Report*, in 2006 62.2% of full-time postgraduate students were forced to use their savings to support their studies and 41.8% of full-time undergraduate coursework students had a total annual income of less than \$10,000. It's no wonder that university students have learned to be financially resourceful. Female students, arguably those most likely to turn to the sex industry as a source of income, were most likely to be financially depen-

Employment in the sex industry offers flexibility, shorter working hours and higher wages (Lantz 2005, pp. 392). The nature of the job however brings with it a whole potential set of downsides – burnout and exhaustion, the increased threat of violence, both psychological and physical, and an increased risk of depression, anxiety and isolation (Lantz 2005). These mental health issues can take root in the inability of many students working in the sex industry to disclose their occupation to friends and family, for fear or as a result of stigma, harassment, rejection or persecution (Lantz 2005, pp. 396).

Discussions with students

about their views on the sex industry being an employment option for university students elicited mostly positive feedback. Whether these opinions would be so positive if the sex worker was a friend or acquaintance is debatable. Students spoken to understood why a university student would work in the sex industry:

*"It is probably the industry which best accommodates the needs of uni students. Wages to hours work ratio & the odd business hours spring to mind"* –Gus

*"Whatever pays the bills. As long as she's (he's) working in a safe, clean and healthy environment, what's the difference between a student working in the sex industry to anyone else?"* –Matt

*"I do believe the sex industry is an OK choice of employment for uni students. As long as it was the individual's choice to be there then that is fine as it is their body and their decision."* – Christina

Those against the sex industry as a form of student employment made reference to the potential dangers faced in the sex industry:

*"Sure, the money appears to be quick, good and easy enough, but the potential emotional, physical and social damage that it could*

*cause should hopefully ring alarm bells for those considering this trade....I don't think it is right for university students to pay their fees in this way. They obviously have brains, so they should be using them to think of smarter ways to get rich!"* –Julia

The point of this article isn't to berate those who choose sex work, or congratulate those who do. The question that you probably should take from this article is why university students find themselves in a position where it's necessary to sell a pound of flesh to fund their education. The universities would argue that there are grants, scholarships, bursaries, and loans available to those students who are financially insecure. The government maintains that they provide adequate income support to struggling university students.

The existence of university sex workers is, however, evidence of the failure of these measures to support students who are most in need. With the increasing pressure for highschool leavers to gain tertiary qualifications, something needs to be done to support those students who aren't from Vacluse, Toorak or Forrest. This writer respects the right for students to choose to work in the sex industry, but concludes with a thought: is it a choice when your financial freedom depends on it?



# Residents threatened with eviction

**As previously reported, the accommodation crisis has reignited the debate over returning residents. While UAS deliberates, *Woroni* examines the issues in depth.**

.....  
**Tim Vines**  
.....

As the ANU struggles to honour its 'First Year Guarantee', residents returning in 2009 may have to justify their continued residency under changes being proposed by the University Accommodation Services.

At one Residential Hall in 2008 there was a 7:1 ratio of applicants to vacant rooms and sources from other Halls suggest a similar shortage of rooms, leaving first years with little option but to live in the Rex Hotel or the International Hotel School or accept a place at UniLodge. Both the 'overflow' accommodation options and the expensive UniLodge have been criticised for their lack of pastoral support and social activities, undermining the spirit of the guarantee which is to allow all students to experience at least one year of residential living.

With Canberra's notoriously tight rental market – with a vacancy rate of less than 2% – the first year guarantee has been seen by Vice-Chancellor Ian Chubb and UAS as a crucial selling point in marketing ANU to prospective interstate and international students. Something

had to give and UAS decided it was to be the implied right of return for current residents.

UAS has often contended that there was no 'right' to return, yet the Halls' handbooks make several references to 'returning residents', or residents applying to return the following year. One Hall's handbook cautions residents that disciplinary proceedings may jeopardise their chance of returning the following year. Further, the practice for allocating rooms to new and return-

made significantly more difficult by UAS's reluctance to reintroduce its former 'rental guarantee' scheme. With almost 30% of ANU students living in a residence in 2005, compared with a national average of 16%, any move to force out residents after 1 or 2 years will increase the pressure on an already saturated rental market.

When a similar proposal to subject returning residents to a prove it or lose it scheme was raised in 2004 residents planned

Bruce Hall's Common Room Committee recently organised a community forum and President Laura Wynne has drafted a submission to UAS. The document makes reference to the 'priceless contribution' later-year residents make to the 'quality of collegiate life'. Other students have suggested that continued residency be dependent upon good academic results, or a tiered tariff system which would see later-year residents charged more than their junior comrades. Yet none of these solutions addresses the difficult situation residents will face if forced to enter the rental market.

Furthermore, determining criteria against which to judge the quality of a resident's contribution is a not insignificant challenge. Since the proposal was first raised in 2004, Halls have been formalising previously unofficial roles in order for later year residents to demonstrate their contribution and continuing importance when reapplying, recognising the difficult situation Heads will be placed in if they need to decide who stays, and who goes.

But is the less confrontational approach of the residents of 2007 than those of 2004 a signal that

residents have resigned themselves to the assumption that residents' wishes will always be outweighed by whatever the University decides is in their best interests? Alternatively, with tariffs at catered Halls now exceeding \$270 per week, perhaps residents are simply too busy with increased hours of part-time work and study.

Finally, questions have been asked why UAS has even raised the spectre of a later-year exclusion policy. Minutes of the University Council meeting held on March 28 show that while the Council noted the crisis in Canberra accommodation it recommend the university examine 'alternative building structures'. Nowhere was the suggestion of a 'prove it or lose it' policy discussed. It appears that UAS and the Office of the Vice Chancellor have not collaborated on this proposal. Moreover, with the 2004 Report of the Quality Review of The Australian National University recommending that ANU aims to be: 'a small, elite, residentially-based university', any policy which seeks to undermine of the 'residential experience' by excluding later-year residents would run counter to this desired goal.

## **“Something had to give and it was to be the implied right of return for current residents”**

ing residents first allows current residents to apply for their old room or another within the Hall. Only after the internal process of room allocation do the Heads of Hall inform UAS of the expected number of vacant rooms for the next year.

Nonetheless, with the University and UAS unwilling to reconsider its guarantee to potential first years, the responsibility to deal with the 'accommodation crisis' in Canberra has fallen upon current residents – a task

protest action to disrupt ANU's and the Halls' Open Days. A University Avenue 'Tent Embassy' was seriously considered. This time the response has been a more muted 'but how will it work'? With no selection criteria or even details as to whether a blanket exclusion would apply to residents seeking to reapply after their 1st, 2nd or 3rd year of residence, there is a growing concern amongst students that their views are being ignored by UAS.

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# Does it pay to be dumb?

Brainpower may not be as beneficial as it seems.



Joy Thompson  
Research

Humans are one of the least impressive candidates for planetary domination. After all, we are weak, maladapted to many of the world's ecosystems, and would never be able to outrun the land's top predators. Instead, it's usually agreed, we gained an unprecedented degree of evolutionary success through sheer brainpower.

So, if our brains are what make us so successful, why isn't the creativity and learning ability characteristic of human intelligence, not to mention the large brain accompanying it, more common in nature? Of course, it's difficult to measure intelligence in animals, and complex learning ability isn't completely unique to

humans, but most animals have managed perfectly well over the millennia with tiny brains. If intelligence were really a foolproof route to evolutionary success, we might expect big brains to be in the majority of species.

Perhaps we need to rethink our perspective of intelligence. To begin with, the evolution of intelligence may result from the struggle of the less fortunate to survive, through these individuals having to work harder for their lives, rather than the simple reproduction of the most 'successful' individuals. Also, for some species at least, the cost of intelligence may outweigh its benefits. For instance, a number of experiments have shown that super-smart fruit flies don't live as long and die more rapidly when put in challenging situations.

Fruit flies may seem like an unlikely choice of subject for investigations on learning ability, but they are one of the best model organisms for studying evolutionary processes, being easy to keep, breeding prolifically and, most importantly, having a short generation time. This allows changes in a population

to be observed over a practical time frame. Three years ago Tadeusz Kawecki and collaborators took advantage of this to create a line of fast-learning flies. They taught the insects to associate a particular chemical scent with unpleasantly bitter-tasting food, and only bred those that learned to avoid the scent.

While these flies were unquestionably better at avoiding noxious stimuli, their improved ability to learn came at a cost in other areas. For instance, they did not succeed against a line of normal flies when competing for limited food. Another line of flies, bred to associate a scent with the violent shaking of the bottle in which they were housed, were similarly frail and died more quickly than other flies when deprived of water.

Most fascinating though, is the correlation between the learning ability of the second fly line and a shorter lifespan. When Joep Burger and colleagues compared the lifespan of normal and smart flies, they found that the smart ones had a lifespan on average 15 per cent shorter. They also found that another line of flies, selected for longevity, were

40 per cent worse at learning in early life than normal flies.

It is thought these drawbacks of higher intelligence may reflect the investment of energy in maintaining more neural connections and, perhaps, a larger brain. However, some negative effects of increased learning ability may come from the laboratory environment, especially its impact on longevity. Since organisms with a longer lifespan have more opportunity to learn, for instance, it seems counter-intuitive for greater learning ability to be correlated with shorter lifespan. In any case, Kawecki and Burger's results suggest that while greater intelligence may enhance survival in some situations, it can be detrimental in others. Natural selection would only favour increased intelligence in populations where its total benefits are greater than its cost. If such environments are comparatively rare, perhaps this is why most animals have remained with comparatively small brains over time.

Such results force us to rethink our perspective on creativity, learning ability and all the other mental processes supposedly 'es-

sential' for our evolutionary success. It may be better for us to describe intelligence as one survival strategy among many. Even though it may allow an animal to discover a better food source, a way of keeping warm, or a way of attracting more potential mates, creativity can still lead to time being wasted on experiments that don't work. It could also be downright dangerous: humans are close to the limit of a trade-off between ever-increasing brain capacity and females' ability to give birth naturally.

It's also true that creativity and innovation are used to solve problems most often when things are going badly. This seems to be true for human endeavours as well as across the natural world, and animals that would otherwise be evolutionary losers tend to innovate the most. For example, if you were a low-ranking individual in a group and had less access to food, searching for novel food sources might be the only way for you to survive during a drought. Perhaps the evolutionary story of human intelligence isn't one of brilliant individuals outstripping others after all, but of losers struggling to survive.

# Bad marketing, just as nature intended

Fetishisation of nature is a ubiquitous but stupid modern trend.



Katja Grace  
Health

The spectacular range of foods and almost-foods a modern economy provides can make shopping difficult. This is especially true if you try to integrate health, price and power relations of indigenous peoples near the upstream processing plant into your choices. For customer convenience many firms decorate their packaging with irrelevant and misleading claims to poorly defined virtue. This allows all ethical and health factors to be easily replaced with a smugness quotient, assessable in a glance.

Perhaps the most popular claim to merit is naturalness. Everything from soy carob to absinthe comes in 'natural' vari-

eties. You can become naturally artificially attractive, with *All Natural Cosmetics*, or be a natural artificial blonde. Experience with volcanoes, syphilis, and underage pregnancy doesn't seem to arouse qualms about 'what nature intended'. Nor does the idea, popular amongst academics, that nature is a physical system rather than an anthropomorphic being in the business of selling purist pasta.

Perhaps people avoid lab chemicals on the off chance they're toxic, rather than invest nature with some magical authority? This fails to account for the feverish enthusiasm for naturalness. It's more likely to be the other way round; fear of synthetic colouring induced death is caused by automatic suspicion of anything unnatural.

Do you know why it's important to buy *Natural Alpine Goat Yoghurt*? Do you have any idea what threat unnatural goat yoghurt carries? It must be serious because 'natural' is the largest word splashed on the package. Cancer? Inauthenticity? Discom-

fort at the obvious wrongness of synthetic alpine goats?

Affiliation with nature doesn't seem to imply anything about ingredients. *Cold Power Advanced Rainforest Concentrate* is a washing powder "inspired by the beauty and natural wonder of the world's tropical rainforests" but otherwise identical to other washing powders. *Nature's Earth Corn Chips* contain nothing beyond the usual fat and carbohydrate. Other products parade the naturalness of their flavourings while keeping their other ingredients synthetic. 'Naturals' hair products appear to be so named in honour of a few drops of macadamia oil added to the usual chemicals. *Diet Waterfords' Natural Mineral Water* doubtless ensures you drink real water while *Natural Kleenex* tissues presumably guarantee you're blowing your nose on natural forests, not fraudulent and poisonous plantation timber.

It's hard to argue with these claims because nobody knows what naturalness is. Apparently international migration of excep-

tionally packaged plastic bottles of processed ex-biotic chemical goo originally from valleys of mechanised monoculture via harmonious computer controlled supply chains is natural. Advertising naturalness on television is natural. Mimicking food flavours presumably isn't.

Unprofessional looking packaging seems key to the illusion of naturalness, perhaps because of the subconscious reassurance that your product was made by hippies using organic soyabean sputum they lovingly grew in the hinterlands of their corn starch tents.

Naturally unhealthy 'natural' products a hint that the value of naturalness is merely the warm glow of wholesome ecological approval. Natural confectionary, cake and soft drinks promise to substantiate your figure with clean, uncontaminated fats, while natural cigarettes will clog you with only the carcinogens that Gaia lovingly provides.

To be fair, there are more ridiculous claims to gastronomic virtue than naturalness. Foods

'full of country goodness' guarantee disappointment. A mechanism for the abundant goodness in regional areas to be transferred via organic matter to your bowl is elusive, and reputable data is lacking on how long country goodness can persist in the presence of 'urban badness'.

These cases mightn't be so serious, but unquestioningly embracing naturalness as equivalent to goodness can be lunacy when the topic moves beyond consumer products. Discussions of the appropriate place for condoms, ages of consent, homosexuality, rape, unindustrialised societies and women shouldn't devolve into arguments about how we would 'naturally' behave without the benefit of reason and civilisation. When people refuse chemotherapy and hold out for a more 'natural' cure it is clear that our bias against modernity can have serious consequences.

Other primates are report to also hold mixed feelings about technological progress. It's probably only natural. Unfortunately that doesn't make it good.



# Welfare State of the Association

**Madeleine Firth**  
ANUSA Vice-President

With our esteemed President currently in the Netherlands investigating student life in a (formaldehyde-free) shipping container, it falls to me to update you on the comings and goings of the Association.

I hope that you all had a safe and productive holiday, and got some break from uni work. We here at ANUSA however had little break and worked hard over the two weeks. The results, as you will read below, are that we have some fantastic new initiatives to announce.

Those of you who read the most recent State of the Association will be aware that anonymous assessment has been a priority of ours this year. For those of you who have ever read a *Woroni* from previous years, spoken to a former ANUSA representative or been harassed by a budding student politician during the annual ANUSA elections, you will know that anonymous assessment has been a priority of every ANUSA administration for as

long as anyone can remember.

So it is with great pleasure that I can announce that at the most recent University Education Committee attended by both Jamila and myself, the University adopted assessment guidelines which stated "that the University require student numbers only on examination script books".

This is a huge win for students. We must acknowledge the hard work done by previous ANUSA administrations, particularly by

Anna Verney and Claudia Newman-Martin last year.

What this will mean for students is that examination script books will no longer have a space for a name, and will only require your U-number. We genuinely believe that this will allow for a much fairer examinations process, hopefully resulting in less need for appeals and complaints.

(I would like to remind students at this stage that if they feel

they are entitled to special consideration they may lodge a special consideration form before or as soon as possible after their exam, this will in no way affect that process.)

The good news for students does not end here however. On the 15th May ANUSA will be launching our new ANUSA/Degree Café Welfare Fund. This is a great venture ANUSA has been working on over the past month with Degree Café and the ANU Food Co-op.

The fund will provide Food Co-op vouchers to students experiencing short-term financial hardship. It will be available to all full-time undergrads. To apply, simply speak to the President, Vice President or Welfare Officer the ANUSA office, or call our welfare fund number on 0488241492.

Finally, ANUSA is currently working with several other groups around campus to draft a student bill of 'rights and responsibilities'. This will be somewhat akin to a best practice document, and will outline both what the university can expect of students, and what we expect of the university. It will cover matters ranging from assessment, examination practices to appeals to student services and support.

Many student bodies have a document such as this one, (sometimes called a Student Charter, or Student Bill of Rights), and we believe it will be really helpful in negotiating with the University not only this year, but in the long term.

This is a long term project that will take the rest of the semester at least. We are hoping for submissions from as many students as possible and will keep you updated about how the submission process will work. In the meantime if you have any ideas you can email Jamila at [sa.president@anu.edu.au](mailto:sa.president@anu.edu.au).

I hope these new initiatives are as exciting to you as they are to us! As always please get in touch with ANUSA if you have any comments or suggestions. I look forward to seeing you all at the Welfare Fund launch on the 15th.

## Notice of ANUSA Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Students' Association will be held in the ANU Union Refectory at 1pm on **Thursday 29 May 2008**. At this meeting the President's Report will be presented and the Treasurer will present the budget for approval. The 2009 Student Diary Editor will also be elected. Nominations to the ANUSA Administrator by 5:00pm Wednesday 28 May.

## SRC Notice

Next Student Representative Council Meeting at 6:00pm on Tue 13 May, ANUSA Offices.

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## Nominations Open - ANUSA Disputes Committee and elections Probity Officer(s)

At the Second Combined Representative Council Meeting on Monday 19 May the members of the Disputes Committee and the elections Probity Officer(s) will be elected. Nominations to the ANUSA Administrator by 5:00pm Monday 19 May.





# Feminists should embrace chivalry



Cathy Haines  
Culture

Any mention of feminism in a university publication is instantly yawn-inspiring for an audience and instils terror in an author. Thinking of something original, or even just true, to say is the equivalent of offering your life as a worthless sacrifice to an entire symposium of deities. Or taking part in a till-death-do-us-part tennis match. But I made the mistake of suggesting I could at a *Woroni* meeting, and, in good form, the editors insist that I live up to my claims.

The very fact that it has become nigh on impossible for anyone to say anything about feminism surely contains the crucial point. The entire philosophy of women's rights (and perhaps rights generally) has permeated our moral climate and lifestyles in such a way as to have gained full licence. Accordingly, its authority has a kind of inviolability that puts a protective skin over any of its vices. Feminism is not dead; but our ethos does take, if not its benefits then certainly its importance, for granted.

For most people in our university culture, feminism exists out of gratitude and respect, as a prerogative defence of standards with no substantial momentum. Contemporary 'events' - International Women's Day, V-Day - are designed to celebrate and encourage The Cause. They have real achievements, especially in raising money to send to women's crisis centres overseas. But for most of the ANU population, traditional 'feminism' operates as

an outline of the cultural principles by which we assume we can behave.

I am acutely aware that feminism is the one of the most important political movements in the history of the world. I would be betraying my sex to say anything otherwise. We had a national Summit calling for 50% of its participants to be female; which is an enormous achievement, given that thirty years ago it would have been a battle to make it 10%. But this is at the expense of competing males, regardless of their merits. I am consequently conscious that despite what feminism has accomplished, its moral requisites are in danger of over-riding other, equally important, cultural conducts.

If a rotting corpse (other than my own) exists in this scenario, it is surely analogous to the proverbial caveman whom Valkyire-like feminism is prodding with an electric rod, but whose muscles have long since seized spasming.

Do we really feel he is going to regain vitality, and rise to beat her over the head with a club and drag her into the cave by the hair? Or send the witch back to the kitchen and her washing up? Or - and perhaps this is the more interesting question - do women secretly half-wish he would? Maybe that's why she is still prodding - to inspire a response.

Feminism is really good at acknowledging Neanderthals and giving them attention. It is true that men are often degenerate morons, but women are sometimes fake and fickle. Both act in defiance of their own conscience, and in pursuit of self-interest. This does not mean that our relations necessarily are unequal, degrading, or based on a power struggle; but rather that we ignore our actual patterns of interaction by insisting that they be so.

Feminism forgets about the classic, out-of-fashion bourgeois gentleman who behaves according to notions of honour and

chivalry. Her doctrines would scorn him; insist on being offended by him. Yet, the man who offers his jacket, or carries the heavy bag, or pays the bill, still quietly prospers. His humanising manner of real interaction survives amid the screaming match of ideology. In fact, his respect is the reason feminism is able to succeed at all. More than anything else, we should, quite simply, thank him.

I hope that, as well as remaining assertive about ideals, our generation will openly allow the course of our lives to be governed by relations, inclinations and experiences. Not to prevent us from having PhDs, or becoming astronauts, world-leaders and philanthropists, multi-millionaires or crane-operators, but because feminism has provided a platform from which we are able to fulfil ourselves humanly during those achievements; including as men and women. That is something everyone can be excited about.

## London Underground in Canberra



Bradley Kunda  
Music

Event: *London Circuit*  
P.J. O'Reilly's, Canberra City  
8:30 Thursday 15th May, 2008

Canberra may soon witness a potential resurgence of indie music in an attempt to revive a hitherto neglected part of the local music scene. Undergraduate students Tessa Forshaw, Katie Quarmby and Gemma Nourse are embarking on an ambitious project called *London Circuit* to bring what is at the heart of the London underground music scene into the Canberra limelight.

According to Tessa, the London music scene is a lot like Canberra's: "a lot more accessible, a lot more chilled, everybody's a lot more friendly...it's all very about the music." Tessa explains "it's got a beautiful folk scene...soft music, lyrics and melodies that are actually quite substantial. But more than that, there's a lot of what we call 'electrovamp'...which is like 'indie-electro' in English," a sound associated with the likes of *The Magic Hands*, "not heard everywhere else."

London Circuit will offer lo-

cal bands and DJs the opportunity to gain performance experience and exposure, as well as gain access to people who are "advanced in the industry who they can play with to gain some credit," says Tessa. "We want to provide a network so that artists don't have to leave."

"There is such a huge demand for [independent music] in Canberra...there are some amazing artists but there is no avenue as it is for them to...get themselves out there, so really we want to...create...an amazing night where people can go out and really enjoy the music...and also so that these bands and DJs can get...some exposure" says Tessa. "I think that Canberra doesn't recognise...the high calibre of artists here," adds Katie.

*London Circuit* draws its influence in part from Streetparty, Melbourne's indie nightclub organisation that helped take the likes of Midnight Juggernauts from a room of six to an audience of thousands.

The project is ambitious and important for promoting access to a significant and broad range of music in the local community. The organisers of *London Circuit* have realistic aspirations, however. "We don't want to change the scene," says Tessa. "It's about fostering what's already here," adds Katie. Tessa continues, "We don't want to exploit it or commercialize it either." The project is non-profit, and the organisers are looking for potential spon-



sorship opportunities to allow them to break even and use any remaining money to create a website. Tessa adds, "we're hoping the Students' Association will want to get involved but we're not sure really where that's up to yet."

As for the future, *London Circuit* is considering expanding into a management company, and there is talk of a festival: "we're going to hold probably two more of these nights this year and we're looking at holding a festival in March next year," says Katie. "That festival would essentially be a celebration of great Australian music," adds Tessa.

The inaugural *London Circuit* gig kicks off at P.J. O'Reilly's, the first chosen venue for the project, on 15 May. Samson will open at 8:30pm with headliners PhDJ and solo artist Wons Preehly in conjunction with Canberra's *The Magic Hands* to follow. Also on the bill is ANU band *The Trivs*, *Terrorvision* and local and interstate DJs to take the night into the wee hours. Drinks will be cheap and tickets are \$12 at the door or \$10 if pre-booked at london.circuit@gmail.com.

## Forgetting Sarah Marshall

Jonathan Fisher  
Film Critic

★★★★

I could easily open my review of *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* with the comment that "if you liked *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and *Knocked Up*, you'll love *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*." But I won't, because that would be telling you what I think you'll like, rather than what I like, and that isn't my job.

*Forgetting Sarah Marshall* was written by and stars Jason Segel, who plays Peter. He composes music (or at least, moody synth sounds) for a show called *Crime Scene: Scene of the Crime*. He has a good life - an easy and well-paying job and a good-looking girlfriend named Sarah Marshall (Kristen Bell), who is the main star of *Crime Scene*. Sarah thinks Peter lacks ambition and drive, which he refutes by saying he's writing a rock opera. Segel is so good as Peter that he manages to say the phrase 'rock opera' with a straight face and get away with it. After Sarah dumps him, Peter goes to pieces. He tries to pick up these pieces by having casual sex, but finds that nothing is helping him get over her. He heads to Hawaii for a holiday, and as nightmares would have it, checks into the same hotel as Sarah and her new superstar rocker boyfriend Aldous (played hilariously by UK comedian Rus-

sell Brand). But there is a ray of hope for Peter - the gorgeous hotel receptionist played by Mila Kunis, who sympathises with Peter's situation. He also makes friends with others at the hotel - a surfing instructor played by Paul Rudd and a Christian couple on their honeymoon are both so funny that they could have starred in another movie all by themselves.

This is another Judd Apatow production, and like the other films to come out of his comedy steam-train, it features several beautiful women flocking to a man of decidedly mediocre attractiveness. Some people get annoyed by this, but it is merely a starting point. If you look at the understanding, compromise, patience and forgiveness required in making these relationships work, the pairings seem a little less unlikely. And yes, this is another randy-but-warm romantic comedy about a guy coming to terms with growing up and taking responsibility. It might be an old formula, but it's rarely done this well. This one works as a masterclass in where *The Heartbreak Kid* went wrong.

At its raunchy core, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* is about emotional vulnerability and forgiveness, balancing sensitivity and raunchiness so well that we only realise how good it was after we leave the cinema. We all do really, really dumb things that we never forgive ourselves for; which makes it nice when others actually do forgive us.



# Mountainous range at Drill Hall



Emily Birks  
Art

Philip Hughes: *Mountains of the Mind*  
Drill Hall Gallery until 11th May  
Wednesday – Sunday 12-5pm

Ever heard of the Drill Hall Gallery? No, neither had I, until a friend suggested I take a look at some of the exhibitions on there. It is only a short walk from Union Court and the School of Art and contrary to the name, the Drill Hall Gallery holds neither military displays nor exhibitions on power tools. Instead, the ever-changing gallery space is filled with shows by contemporary artists, who are usually Australian. Until May 11th, one of the exhibitions is the work of landscape artist Philip Hughes.

British-born Hughes has lived a nomadic life, and has always been in awe of the natural beauty of his surroundings. This exhibition focuses on seven mountains of particular significance to him.



*Buchaille Etive Mor from head of Glen Etive* Philip Hughes (2005)

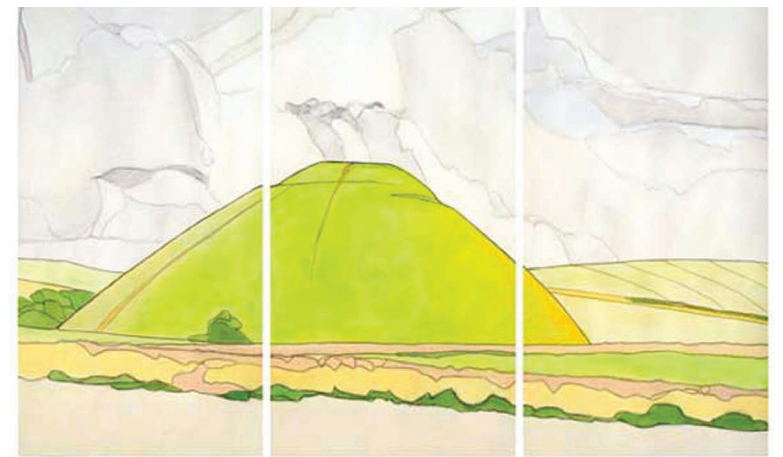
Mountains from the Scottish Highlands, England, Antarctica and numerous mountains in France, where Hughes tries to spend six months of every year, all feature in a show in which Hughes illustrates the effect of light and season on the landscape.

A friend commented that the works are reminiscent of the way maps of the world are shaded. Flat planes of colour are juxtaposed to build up dimension. In some of his works, Hughes uses bright purples and oranges which seem as though they would be out of place in the verdant landscapes of England and France, yet the paintings still seem cohesive and representative. Instead, the bright colours give a sense of drama to what would otherwise be serene mountain scenes.

Particularly interesting are

paintings in the Mount Carrara series. Hughes was appointed the official artist with the British Antarctic Survey for a period of eight weeks in the Antarctic Summer of 2001/2002. He and two others camped in the 24-hour light at the base of Mount Carrara on Sky Blu, a remote part of the Antarctic plateau. Looking South from Blue Ice Bowl, a panoramic view of the plateau, shows the Antarctic's desolation, yet seems peaceful. Above Sky Blu, based on a photograph taken when flying over the mountain, seems unreal. The mountain peaks look like slashes in an otherwise pristine landscape. Hughes kept sketchbook journals of his expedition, and several pages are on display here.

In fact, Hughes uses a sketchbook effect in several of the



*Silbury* Philip Hughes (2008)

paintings in numerous series. Notes about the time, weather and happenings of the day appear in the composition. Where landscapes are constantly changing, it gives greater perspective to the image, putting it in a real time setting, a fleeting moment that cannot be recaptured.

One such example of this 'journal' is in the Silbury series. Silbury is the largest man-made prehistoric 'mountain' in Europe, located in Wiltshire, England. Its purpose is unknown, though it is not a tomb, like other man made mounds. However, it must have been important to those who built it, because it was a huge undertaking. Perfectly conical in its shape, it is imposing on the landscape without being unattractive. It is at the centre of numerous ancient monuments, such as the Avebury stone circles, and

Hughes has always been fascinated by it. As such, he chose to do a series of triptychs. All of them originated on the same day at two hour intervals, and show the mound from different angles and in changing atmosphere. Several of the works also note the conditions in journal form at the base of the composition.

The exhibition flows beautifully, leading you in loops around the gallery space from one series to the next. There is a small exhibition space at the back of the larger gallery displaying more of Hughes' work, which could be easily missed by the less curious of visitors. However, take your time visiting this exhibition, make several 'laps' of the space, because you will find you'll notice aspects you missed the first time. Such is the detail and intrigue of Hughes' work.

## Lars and the Real Girl

Lyndsay Dean  
Film Critic

★★★★★

The premise of this movie could so easily turn into another perverted sex-crazed look at the closet use of internet-order plastics. Thank God it doesn't. Instead, screenwriter Nancy Oliver delivers a touching and memorable film about courage, healing and community. For this to be Oliver's first stab at the movie world is rather incredible and heralds her as a name to be watched.

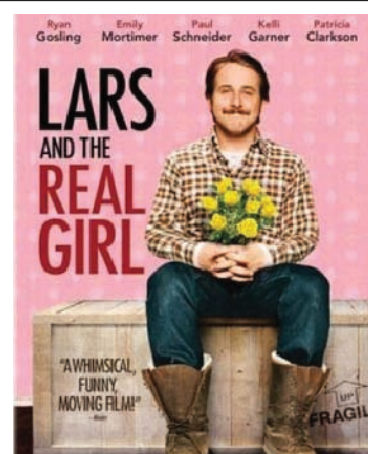
*Lars and the Real Girl* focuses on the serious issues of mental illnesses and family guilt, and yet newcomer director Craig Gillespie manages to find moments of true hilarity without making light of the situation. Lars is never the victim of mockery. He's never ridiculed, and while this may seem unlikely in our harsh, judgemental world, it's precisely this mortified tolerance that makes Lars endearing.

When 'socially challenged'

Lars Lindstrom (Ryan Gosling) informs his brother Gus (Paul Schneider) and sister-in-law Karin (Emily Mortimer) that he finally has a visitor the pair are justifiably elated. Very soon they realise that Bianca, a Brazilian missionary, is in actuality a mail-order sex doll with whom Lars has fallen in love. Gus and Karin seek psychiatric help only to be told to play along in order to help Lars overcome his delusion.

While Oliver's script shines, the true genius lies in the brilliant acting. Schneider is outstanding as the horrified older brother, while Mortimer's Karin is the supportive rock that keeps everything from falling into vindictive disarray. Leading the way, however, is Gosling in yet another award-worthy performance that shows he's anything but just man-candy. Gosling doesn't need many words to express Lars's engaging vulnerability. His expressions are priceless and his tics hit all the right notes. Gosling brings Lars so much alive that we are seduced by his childish charm just like everyone around him.

Gillespie makes a wise deci-



sion in keeping the audience third party to Lars's delusion. If we were to see Bianca through Lars's eyes, if she were to move or talk, then I fear we would condemn Lars. Granted, while this film (and I quote a friend) "isn't cutesy indie – it's just weird," we still find ourselves rising above the awkwardness and connecting with Lars in a profoundly deep manner.

This film takes a sure risk by walking the thin line between poignant and farcical, but defies all critics and comes out triumphant. We willingly shoulder Lars's burden for him because, like his family and community, we find ourselves loving him unconditionally despite his faults.

## Writing Serial - Pt IV

Jessie Adams

The young girl turned away from the school receding into the distance. Instead she made a promise to the auburn crown of her mother's head in the front seat that from now on things would be different.

Her parents weren't talking, their heavy silence almost discharging in the car like a storm. Out the window, the world was a fun house that had the punch line badly timed. The people flying by on the side walk of town were wispy and fragmented, lonely couplings who had missed the joke. Grace couldn't hear their chaotic exchanges over the drone of the engine. She couldn't make out their faces under a darkening violet sky, pregnant with clouds of metal.

What does it mean to be a victim when everyone's guilty, she thought, unsure of how to rouse herself to speak. All her words seemed lost, like a lover swallowed by a cruel sea.

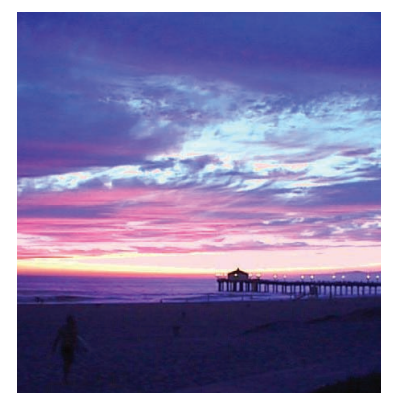
Mother's knuckles were as white as pearls on the steering

wheel. Dad began to tap distractedly on his knee, perhaps considering which road to push his young daughter down now that the alternatives were slowly evaporating. He felt ashamed of his words to his wife that morning. The world may be too busy to understand a girl like Grace, he reasoned, but it was only because no one deserved her, couldn't see.

She was too precious.

"I don't blame you," Grace finally whispered, her voice as soft and striking as chimes in the wind.

Submit your continuation to  
woroni@anu.edu.au.





# Big Night Out in the Quad

Did the bands live up to expectations? - Page 15



## Band Rankings

Johns XXIII
Bruce
Burton & Garran
Fenner Hall
UniLodge
Burgmann
Ursula Hall

## Agony Aunt

### Woroni dishes out advice on university life's little problems

Dear Agapanthus

I am in love with my lecturer. I reckon he loves me, but just doesn't realise it yet. We were made for each other. Aunt Agapanthus, how do I convince Ben Wellings that I can be the London Bridge (the metaphorical road, leading the way to ultimate happiness) to his Eiffel Tower (a metaphor for his warm, kind – as opposed to cold, steel – heart)?

Unlucky in Love and Lonely at Night, *Acton*.

Dearie me UiLaLaN,

Many's the time I hear wenching, pardon, wrenching stories from young (and not-so young) women in a similar position to you. Mr Wellings is a dream-boat, I'll grant you; the Colin Firth of the Social Sciences. Whereas other lecturers introduce themselves with the preamble "and yes, I am married", Mr Wellings unwittingly sports a pheromone-laden cloud of mystique, much like the inky cloud a sexually available octopus mars the eyes of its would-be suitors with. Or something. I dropped Bio at age fifteen to pursue my studies in contemporary Europe. Sigh. But let me speak perfectly frankly, as friends do: your pursuits are misguided.

What I'm trying to say here, UiLaLaN, and forgive my boldness - is he's probably had enough of girls like you. Euro-frippets

gaily chit-chatting away on the downfall of Christendom etc, etc. Please. You probably have resorted to cheekily spritzing your essays with a little spray of Britney Spears Curious, no? Come now. He's a gentleman of class, a man of taste. What could you - as opposed to me, say - teach a man who critiques prevailing orthodoxies with his eyes closed?

I wish to preserve your feelings, I really do. But I must inform you that Mr Wellings once wrote to me (and the readership of *Nations and Nationalism* 8(1),2002, 95-109, admittedly) a heartfelt ultimatum he lovingly entitled 'Empire-nation: national and imperial discourses in England': "in order to understand something of [me]..., it is necessary to...[join me] in a tariff-free union...to feed into each other...intimately...sweating in the sultry nights of this venal, cynical city."

Cryptic words indeed, from an enigmatic man. My advice is this: back off. You are out of your league, gal-pal. What could he possibly see in such callow youth? I ask you this as a friend. Go get your degree, a makeover and head over to the Infomatics School for some more eligible young men.

Love and kisses!

Send your crisis to Aunt Agapanthus at [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au)



# Debating Society has a comeback



**Mathew Bock**  
DebSoc President

After a long stint in the wilderness the ANU Debating Society has returned to a position of prominence both on campus, and nationally.

You may not be aware, but last year debating almost died on campus. Over the course of the year, numbers of debaters dwindled until the ANU Debating Society (DebSoc) struggled to fill even one debate. So bad was the state of membership that, on a still, cool October night in 2007, the forlorn and frustrated Acting President resolved to move a motion to dissolve the ANU Debating Society.

For the 'old hacks' on campus, this was hard to swallow. In its heyday the ANU DebSoc was one of the largest, more influential and most active of societies on campus. It had significant resources and funding, including its own office on campus. A quick perusal of the list of previous ANUSA Presidents shows that



Victorious DebSoc members flank High Court Justice Michael Kirby Courtesy DebSoc

many were DebSoc committee members. A significant proportion of students from the ANU that received Rhodes scholarships were from DebSoc as well. Outside of campus, DebSoc has always shown that the ANU really is one of the top academic institutions in this country - at

the Australian Championships the ANU has triumphed more times than any other university.

How DebSoc came to be teetering on the brink of collapse, is neither here nor there. But what is exciting is that the ANU Debating Society has been rebuilt, and has returned.

This year the DebSoc has a record number of members sign up. Interest in the Society had grown so much that on the first night of debating Manning Clark Lecture Theatre was filled to capacity for the first time in the Society's history.

But perhaps what we're most

proud of has been the quality and passion of the new DebSoc recruits, as evidenced at this year's Australian Intervarsity Debating Championships in Sydney. At this year's championships we had the best ranked speaker in Australia, Claudia Newman-Martin, along with a swag of the top 20 speakers.

Furthermore, three teams ranked in the top ten -- ranking forth, fifth, and ninth. Not only that but we also provided one of the highest ranked adjudicators in the country, Society Vice President Sarah Lynch, who sat on the grand finals panel. We've had these grand achievements in the Society, even though for most of our members this is their first year of debating at University.

The Australian Championships also proved that DebSoc is bigger than debating, with its entire contingent of more than 50 people of all experience levels providing the kind of team atmosphere that is difficult to find anywhere else.

The moral of the story? Anyone can get involved in debating. Any level of experience, any level of confidence, and any level of language ability.

If you're interest in joining the ANU Debating Society -- contact us at [anu.debating@gmail.com](mailto:anu.debating@gmail.com)

## Moving Mountains and Distressing Denim

**Matt Teran**  
Canberra

I'm late. My boss will purse her lips. I strut down Northbourne like a maniac, my hands thrust deep in the front pocket of my hoodie, my fingers fumbling with the battered iPod I hold captive there. I am welcomed into the Canberra Centre with a gush of heated air which seems to melt away the last remnants of heavy blue blankets, vegemite toast, and clear mint toothpaste.

I trace my way through the warren of window dressings and sleepy, slightly ajar roller doors, and finally I arrive. I'm fumbling with the door and searching my backpack for my name badge, when for no apparent reason I look up. And there it is - the wide triangular window that channels light lovingly upon the shopfronts of Starbucks, French Connection, Socrates, and that random old lady fashion outlet, Fays. But for the first time I notice that this window onto the streets of Canberra, this humble panel of glass marking where

the little world of the mall ends, in fact serves a greater purpose - it frames the north-east face of Mount Ainslie which looms over the centre like a theatrical cardboard cut-out.

Suddenly I am overwhelmed with the feeling that, well, this mountain and this window were meant to be aligned. One could claim the window was in fact designed to frame this peak, but

**"I vowed to not wash them for six months to allow the denim to take on the contours of my lower half"**

my intrusive existential moment insists there is more to it. When the centre was conceived and its location decided upon, accidentally or not, this particular peak and this specific window came into line. This arrangement, this most comforting vision of symmetrical organisation, was, dare I say, destined to emerge here. It was as if in the beginning someone had bundled together Mount Ainslie, the window frame, the glass panelling, the architectural ambition, the fil-

tered sunlight, and all the other innumerable elements of this site, carelessly tossed them in the air and watched them settle in their right positions, the positions they were always meant to occupy.

I'm back from my mental dalliance, my hand poised to swing through the great expanse of glass door before me. And then I look down. I behold my lat-

est love - my Nudie Jeans, the jeans I was destined to discover in Sydney and spend an obscene amount of money upon in order to be the hippest thing in Canberra. I vowed to follow the tag and not wash them for at least six months to allow the denim to take on the contours of my lower half. How it works is a mystery to me, but even after just a few weeks of wear I can feel them begin to hug my waist just right, give a little over my bum, fall carelessly over my calves like a

second skin, and relent to the creases of my joints, the stride of my walk. And quite unexpectedly I am transported to a different, perhaps more troubling place. I'm in control. These jeans are what I make of them. And the more I work my limbs into them, the more I wear them and abuse them and manipulate them, the more I create the fit I want/deserve/aspire to possess.

I push the door and enter, amused and little annoyed. I hear the voice of my boss saying something wholeheartedly pleasant with a distinct dose of disapproval on the side. The rest of the day sucked. So if you, dear reader, should don your Nudie Jeans and stumble upon this spot in the Canberra Centre where the various delights of mocha frappachinos, pretentious fashion, old lady style, and childhood bemusement intermingle, tilt your gaze up slightly. Do so and relish the sight of a summit framed in glass and sunlight, for I suspect maintaining this gaze is more comforting than pondering the jeans you will probably stretch out of shape and regret the high price you paid. Trust me, for I am your townie, and I love you.



Had a party? Been to a university event? Send your social snaps to us at [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au)



# woroni events

Send your (short) events to [u4303222@anu.edu.au](mailto:u4303222@anu.edu.au) by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

Inclusion is subject to editorial discretion

**musica: indie night**  
**London Circuit.** Wons Phreely, The Magic Hands, The Trivs, Samson, PhDJ, Terrorvision, John Oh. PJ O'Reilly's @ 21:00, Thurs May 15. \$10 tickets @ door.

**rap meeting**  
ACT Writers Centre presents **Rapid Fire:** a monthly meeting for young people with an interest in rap. Gorman House, Ainslie Ave, Braddon @ 18:00, Fri May 16. FREE but RSVP on [admin@actwriters.org.au](mailto:admin@actwriters.org.au).

**unya competition**  
United Nations Youth Assoc. presents **Security Council Competition.** Copland 30 @ 11:45, Sat May 24. Register with: [actsecretary@unya.asn.au](mailto:actsecretary@unya.asn.au). Members: \$5. Non-Members: \$10 CASH PRIZE

**nuts meeting**  
National University Theatre Society presents **General Meeting.** Script Library, Upper floor of ANU Arts Centre @ 17:00, Thurs May 8.

**bob carr: book signing**  
Dymocks presents **Book signing of "My Reading Life."** Dymocks, City Walk, Civic @ 12:30, Thurs May 15.

**law revue auditions**  
**ANU Law Revue Auditions.** Law Common Room @ 18:00 on Thurs May 8 and Fri May 9. Scripts handed out on night 0419403016.

**israel week**  
ANU Jewish Society presents **Israel Week.** Mon May 12 – Fri May 16.

**close the gap bbq**  
ReconciliACT presents **Close the Gap Day BBQ.** Union Court @ 12:00, Thurs May 8. FREE.

**play: pink floyd's the wall**  
SUPA Productions presents it at the ANU Arts Centre @ 8pm, Fri May 9 – 24. Bookings at [www.supaproductionsinc.com](http://www.supaproductionsinc.com)

**unicef inaugural general meeting**  
**New society for ANU.** Thurs May 15<sup>th</sup>. For more info contact: [sarah\\_joy\\_linton@hotmail.com](mailto:sarah_joy_linton@hotmail.com)

**play: rebel without a cause**  
Free Rain presents play directed by Anne Somes. Canberra Theatre Courtyard Studio, May 1 – May 17. Bookings@ [www.canberratheatre.org.au](http://www.canberratheatre.org.au)

**forum: slavery**  
The Oaktree Foundation ACT presents **End Child Slavery Canberra.** Shine Dome, Gordon St, Canberra @ 18:00, Fri May 16. [b.hermann@theoaktree.org](mailto:b.hermann@theoaktree.org)

**mother's day party** Mix 106.3 presents **Mother's Day Party in Park.** Glebe Park, cnr Akuna St & Bunda St, Civic @ 11:30, Sun May 11. Free STUFF/BANDS. Elvis Impersonator.

**parliament house open day**  
Australian Commonwealth Parliament @ 9:00 – 17:00, Sat May 10. Tours, 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony, documentaries screening.



Some students, including a group from the ANU Law Revue, decided to made light of the torch relay protests (far left). At least one ANU student, a Woroni writer (left), was injured by overzealous Chinese nationalists making good use of their flag poles.



# What the well-dressed man is wearing

**Gentlemen. Boardshorts, runners and unwashed jeans are out. Ladies prefer the clean, considered look of the man who uses the mirror. Woroni sets the standard with the first in our series on student fashion.**

**Sarah Webster**  
**Fashion**

The “hero” of P. G. Wodehouse’s much-loved Jeeves series, Bertram, once contributed an article entitled ‘What the Well-Dressed Man is Wearing’ to his aunt Dahlia’s (his good and deserving aunt) publication ‘Milady’s Boudoir’. In honour of the Wooster memory I offer a long overdue follow-up, to address the distressing emergence of the culture of aesthetic apathy demonstrated by the gentlemen of the ANU.

Covert observation has uncovered two simple truths about what the well-dressed ANU man is wearing – it is considered, and it is clean. There is a disturbing misconception among the masculine element that even a vague interest in personal style is tantamount to an admission of a life-

time of closet flower arranging and menstruation. Revise this view. Upon beholding an intelligent and pleasant young man, a young woman will consider his personal presentation - it can make or break the deal, and this is where the real masculinity-money is made.

“He has demonstrated that he has the capacity to understand style. Does he care? Yes. Is he clean? Yes. Does he look like a girl? No.”

Take this upstanding gentleman, whom to protect his identity I have chosen to refer to as ‘Rockstar’. ‘Rockstar’ has captured the perfect nexus. He has spent a good four minutes considering his outfit and by virtue of this simple act has demonstrated that he has the capacity to understand style and apply it in his own context. Does he

care? Yes. Is he clean? Yes. Does he look like a girl? No. There are countless Rockstars on campus, and you deserve a piece of the action.

I have some suggestions.

For example, rigorous research has revealed the staggering confusion many men appear

to be experiencing concerning the roles that certain items of clothing should be playing in their lives. Correct, for example, this inclination to use board shorts to blur the line between “swimwear” and “acceptable for casual daytime wear”. There is no crossover between these two genres of clothing, just as there is no crossover between “gym

wear” and “casual wear”. I refer here to the idea that it is appropriate to wear runners as a casual shoe. Incorrect. We call them runners for a reason.

The other two misconceptions I would like to touch on are; firstly, that wearing clothes that were last washed in preparation for the Y2K fallout makes you look hardcore, and, secondly, that an item of clothing that is unusual is automatically cool. Both of these approaches to outfit choice will tend to excite ill-disguised confusion and comment, both of which, in fashion circles, we classify as ‘bad attention’.

I in no way suggest that all of the Well-Dressed-Men should be wearing the same thing, neither do I wish to imply that you aren’t all total catches already, I merely wish to advise that concessions to the principles of consideration and cleanliness could go a long way. Goodnight, and good luck



# Mild Night Out

David McGill  
The Verdict

Thursday May 1st saw the second annual 'Big Night Out' band competition held at Bruce Hall. After the success of last year's event, tickets sold fast and I could feel the crowd buzzing with anticipation as the first band took to the stage.

This year the entrants competed for far more than bragging rights and a few free drinks at the Moose – they battled it out for the inaugural 'Big Night Out' shield and those all important Arts shield points. With much more than pride on the line every hall and college (even Burton and Garran) turned out their best talent both on stage and in the mosh-pit.

Most bands showed some impressive instrumental talent and more than a few embraced the rock and roll image by smoking their brand of choice on stage. Some bands – Fenner and Ursu-

la – looked more like high school music classes with their eclectic mix of instruments. The vocal accompaniment however, was what set the bands apart; the Burgmann College band decided that knowing the lyrics and keeping in time were not essential, while John XXIII band placed volume above anything else. Choosing songs that did not suit their vocal style seemed to be a common theme amongst most bands. Too much jazz/funk/blues left most people confused as to where one band started and another ended. That's probably why when the UniLodge band started playing the first few bars of 'Scotty Doesn't Know' the crowd showed its enthusiasm. Unfortunately, the Ursula Hall band did not get the same reception when it murdered *The Killers'* "All these Things That I've Done."

In spite of the hype, or perhaps because of it, the night did not seem to produce the same result as the year before and I began to wonder what was missing. Perhaps it was the choice of "beer" that was served or the fact that one too many bands decided to

## SCOREBOARD

### BASKETBALL

ANU BASKETBALL CLUB:

Women's D Grade: ANU 32 d CLC Gininderra Rats 16.

Mixed: ANU 68 d The Late Game 12.

### INDOOR SOCCER

ANU LUNCHTIME COMPETITION:

Round 7: Newells Old Boys d B&G; Abod d Sneakers; SRA Uninted d Texas Rangers; Arpillera d CJ's Angels; Kinky Gone Wild had the bye.

### VOLLEYBALL

ANU LUNCHTIME COMPETITION:

Sixth Round: Springer Final Thoughts d Mean Machine; Dig Deep d Wallyballs; SVH Bombers d The Dreamtime Kings; Velociraptors had the bye.

Seventh Round: Springer Final Thoughts d Wallyballs forfeit; Mean Machine d Dig Deep; Velociraptors d SVH Bombers; The Dreamtime Kings had the bye.

"take it down a notch." When the judges' decision was announced, to the obvious disappointment of a large portion of the crowd, it was clear they too felt that most bands had missed the point (or at least their point) of the competition: John XXIII College certainly didn't enter a band that is going to win an ARIA anytime soon but they knew how to pick songs that they could pull off and that at least some of the crowd would dance to. They were also perhaps the only band to inject some theatrics into their perfor-

mance.

Basically, if you have to stand outside for five hours in May then you're going to want music that you can jump up and down to. This year, for some reason, most bands decided people would rather hear renditions of Simon and Garfunkel or *The*

### TOUCH FOOTY

ANU LUNCHTIME COMPETITION:

Seventh Round: Burg Cats d ANUS Touch; Return of the SRA d Run Straight Johnnies; Darts d Hairy Fish; Off Constantly d Harrods Sports Peewees; Fenner Cobras d Johns; Young Libs d Living the Dream; Halal Butchers d Harrods Sports Magpies.

Team	Played	+/-	Points
Young Libs	6	36	21
Magpies	6	28	19
Halal Butchers	6	16	19
Johns	6	19	17
Burg Cats	6	10	17
Fenner Cobras	6	2	17
Return of the SRA	6	14	16
Darts	6	-4	15
Living the Dream	6	20	13
Run Straight Johnnies	6	-2	13
PeeWees	6	-18	13
Off constantly	6	-12	9
ANUS touch	6	-38	9
Hairy Fish	6	-25	8

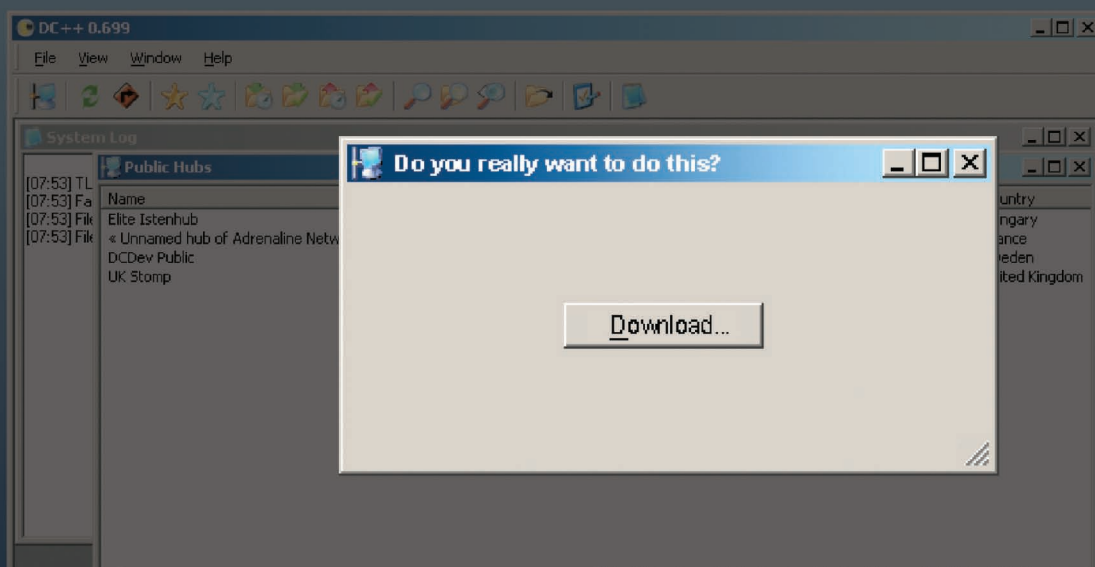
*Beatles* than keep warm by making arses of themselves. Perhaps next year Social Interhall Committee should consider holding the event indoors (Refectory, for example); then at least when someone starts singing "Moon-dance" everyone who doesn't have a girlfriend can sit down.

# Piracy is a crime.

## Illegal downloading of music, software and video is stealing other people's work.

Remember to check copyright restrictions!

More information at <http://information.anu.edu.au/copyright>







# Judo Gold at Shoalhaven

ANU's Duncan Sutherland and Jon Valentine take honours at Shoalhaven Judo Championships

Peter Chung  
ANU Judo Club

Duncan Sutherland and Jon Valentine, both green belts, represented ANU at the recent Shoalhaven Judo Championships. Both were successful, bagging a silver and gold medal each.

The day started early for the two ANU competitors and while traveling to the coast, it was obvious that both competitors were a bit nervous before the competition. Both had to fast to make their weight categories. Luckily for them, the bouts were scheduled a few hours after the weigh-in, giving them time to eat, drink and prepare for competition.

In the 66 kilo division, Sutherland suffered an early loss to the Australian youth champion. He learnt from the loss and displayed improved balance and grappling skills to overcome his next two opponents and secured the silver medal.

In the 73 kilo division, Valentine easily beat his two opponents securing wins and the weight class championship.

Despite being tired after their initial bouts, Sutherland and Valentine both backed up and competed in the open weight division. This gave them the opportunity to pit their skills against opponents of any weight category. Sutherland pinned a 73-kilo player for a win and then



Jon Valentine applies an armlock Courtesy ANU Judo Club

was able to trap a heavier 81-kilo competitor with a skilful arm lock.

Meanwhile, Valentine easily beat his lanky opponent and se-

cured the second spot in the final. Sutherland seemed to be more fatigued Valentine, having endured more bouts and receiving a knock to his nose in an earlier

bout. When the ANU club mates contested the final they both demonstrated great fighting spirit. Sutherland, the lighter of the two, took the match by throwing

Valentine with a spectacular "inner thigh" throw.

The ANU Judo Club was thrilled with the result, as were Sutherland and Valentine.

## Interhall Sport: Fenner's in the game

Scott Bolton  
Sport Reporter

The first term of the year may not have been Inter-Hall Sport's busiest but it certainly provided some excitement. After swimming, cricket and hockey Johns XXIII have come out on top of the point's ladder. The blue and white army from Daley road scored top points in the hockey competition and came out equal 1st with Fenner for cricket. After some intense games and epic struggles during first term, students up and down Daley Road have taken to the field for round two.

In term two the exhilaration of Inter-hall sports intensifies with softball, basketball and rugby league beginning. Tipped as one

of the most exciting and busiest sporting terms, the colleges are beginning to gear up for an all out slog fest to win back college pride. This term will see the colleges pitted against each other in

### "The Bunnies are off to a good start"

3 seasonal sports and 1 weekend event. The seasonal sports hold great importance because they earn the college more points on the Inter-hall sports shield, the coveted annual prize. Johns have held the Inter-hall sports shield for quite some time and all the other colleges are eager to claim it back for themselves.

One College that is hot on the tails of Johns is Fenner. This year is looking like it could be Fenner's chance to make history

as the Bunnies attack the sport with a hunger that has not been seen for some time now. Equal 1st in cricket and 3rd in Hockey has meant that the Bunnies have got off to a good start and will put

pressure on the Johns squads.

B&G are likely to come into their own in term two. Although they had a slightly disappointing first term with lower than expected results in cricket and hockey, the largest college should be looking forward drawing from their huge numbers to overwhelm the opposition in the seasonal sports.

As term two brings to us new sports, it will also bring a new college to the competition.

UniLodge have now begun competing in Inter-Hall competition and word is that they have aspirations of sticking it to the established colleges. There have recently been elections for the UniLodge sports representative and their inclusion in the competition is being met with open arms.

Softball, Basketball and Rugby League are the major seasonal sports on offer this term. Last year there was quite an even matchup between the colleges for both men's and women's basketball, something that is likely to be repeated again this term.

However, all eyes will be on the blue ribbon events for this term. The Girls will bat and pitch for domination in the softball, while the boys will clash heads in the league. These two events co-

incide for five weeks of the term and the standings in these sports may be a major factor in the sports shield later in the year.

Despite the postponement of IB, the college residents will get to have a bit of a run with Road Relay being held later in the term. The Relay consists of the colleges entering a team of four males and four females that run over distances of 1500 and 3000 meters. The run should prove to be a good warm up for some who would normally compete in the IB, which we hope, will be held later in the year.

Although Johns may have the lead in the points at the moment, it is any colleges' race. All sportspeople are heading into term two with a two-week rest behind them and all have a keen eye on the prize. **Sports results inside.**