



*What started with a bang . . .
and ended with a whimper?*



O-WEEK — THAT'S WHAT!

Fireworks showered the night sky with a spectacular sight and sound during an Orientation Week display (photo: Waverley Gazette).

But student Ernie Gibbs was seeing stars in broad daylight when he was down for the count of 10 after being knocked by a superball in a 'new games' activity. He gets a little help from his friends.

For more on the infamous superball and other Orientation Week pictures, see pages 6 and 7.

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In one area at least there are more jobs than graduates

Where are all the engineers?

Academics in Monash University's Engineering Faculty are concerned about the number of students entering their courses.

And while employment opportunities for engineering graduates are generally not at an optimum level, there is at least one branch in which there are more job vacancies than qualified people to fill them.

This is materials engineering, an area in which, reportedly, companies have been forced to hire personnel from overseas. Ironically, this year the intake into Monash's undergraduate materials engineering course has fallen to its lowest level.

Says Chairman of the department of materials engineering, **Professor I. J. Polmear**: "Judging from the work-finding success of our 15 graduates in 1976, the job vacancies advertised, and the inquiries I receive from firms about up-and-coming graduates, there is plenty of work.

"Yet enrolments in the materials engineering bachelor degree course fell below 10 this year."

The enrolment peak was 24, reached in 1972 (the year after the course began).

On the other hand, enrolments for postgraduate studies are higher than they have ever been.

Materials engineering covers metals, plastics, rubber and ceramics. A central theme of the course is a study of the relationships between the structure and properties of materials with a view to their economic use in a wide range of technology.

The demand for study in metallurgy

grew particularly during the mining boom of the 1960s. It has been pointed out that while the mining industry is not experiencing boom conditions now it is still doing very well and metallurgists are in constant demand.

The environmental cause and a consequent disenchantment with "science" generally have been suggested as reasons for a growing number of students turning towards study in the humanities.

But, as Professor Polmear points out: "We all realise that the world is becoming depleted of many critical materials. Materials engineers will be playing a vital role in managing and conserving the country's material, energy and environmental resources."

The Engineering Faculty feels it suffers a communications gap with school students in that many do not understand what an engineer does and what engineering study involves. This is despite production of brochures and the like, some of them highlighting the fact that engineering is as much a woman's profession as a man's.

Engineering staff also believe that more secondary students are doing the "soft options" at school and do not have the pre-requisite subjects to start the engineering course or are not adequately equipped to complete it.

As well as materials engineering, Monash offers courses in chemical, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering.

Spotlight on study leave

Study leave plays a significant role in three areas of university activity — educational, cultural and socio-economic — according to Monash University's submission to the Federal Government's inquiry into study leave.

The submission was forwarded last month to the Universities Commission in response to a request from the Minister for Education, **Senator Carrick**, for an up-to-date report on study leave, 'including any desirable modifications to the present study leave arrangements'.

It pointed out that the University had already embarked upon a re-examination of its study leave rules,

and it made out a strong case for the retention of this feature of university life.

In its preamble, the Monash statement quotes extensively from the 1975 annual report of the Carnegie Corporation of the United States, which offers a spirited defence of universities and the way in which their activities affect virtually all aspects of a nation's welfare.

It mentions particularly the Carnegie Report's reference to the "mischievous implication" that the declining value of a university degree is somehow an indication of failure on the part of higher education, and a reason for losing confidence in it.

Such a verdict, according to the Carnegie Corporation, rests upon three fallacious assumptions:

- That because the relative economic value of a degree to the individual is declining, the general economic value of university education to society at large is also declining.

- That the value of attendance at a university is to be measured principally in economic terms.

Continued overleaf.

Study leave

Continued from page 1.

● That the decline in the relative economic returns of higher education to the individual is necessarily a bad thing.

All three assumptions, the Monash statement says, can be easily refuted, and the Carnegie report does this in considerable detail.

Dealing with the arguments relating to the educational, cultural and socio-economic responsibilities of universities, the Monash submission says:

Educational

Educational functions of universities are obvious and should need little defence. They include higher intellectual development, professional and occupational training, the development of research abilities, a cultivation in students of a breadth, flexibility and autonomy of mind, and a questioning spirit, that will best prepare them for the responsibilities of democratic citizenship in a rapidly changing world.

Study leave plays a significant role in keeping the educational strengths of university staff alive and healthy.

Cultural

It often falls to universities, under the heading of liberal education, to keep alive the cultural traditions of our society. In addition, universities are important as conservators, custodians and critics of our cultural heritage, especially through their libraries and museums and the work of dedicated scholars.

Universities increasingly serve as cultural centres of their surrounding communities and once again in all these matters, study leave is vitally important in providing refreshment, renewal and stimulus for the continued active involvement of staff in cultural pursuits.

Socio-economic

The socio-economic functions of a university are many: the two of most direct significance in relation to study leave are the professional training and certification offered by many different university faculties (medicine, law, engineering, architecture, chemistry, psychology, geology, teaching . . .), and very importantly, the discovery of new knowledge through research.

The Carnegie report says in particular . . . "No element of the rampant anti-intellectualism of recent years has been more foolish, more indulgent of the emotions at the expense of reason, and ultimately more dangerous, than the negative attitude towards maintaining and strengthening the academic community's research capacity — especially in the basic sciences. We will surely pay for this in years to come."

★ ★ ★

According to the submission, the Act under which Monash was established defined two of the objectives of the University as follows:

- (a) To provide facilities for study and education and to give instruction and training in all such branches of learning as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes . . .
- (b) To aid by research and other means the advancement of knowledge and its practical application . . .

"The pursuit of these twin objectives of teaching and research can be considered as the special role of a modern university and is that which distinguishes such an institution from others which may exist to fulfil separately either one or other role.

"Knowledge is not static and its frontiers are never confined to the boundaries of any particular university or country. . ."

The submission continues:

"Colleges of Advanced Education now exist to instruct students in various subjects and disciplines at a level similar to that traditionally associated with training for a university degree, but their primary functions do not include advancement of the frontiers of knowledge.

"A few Institutes solely devoted to research exist in Australia together with the major research organisations of the Federal Government, but these bodies do not have a mandate to act as research training centres even for those interested in their fields of expertise. In particular, they are not expected to train graduate students in research methods in addition to their normal research activities.

"The dual roles of teaching and research of a university require therefore that its staff have the special characteristic of being competent both in teaching their subjects and in initiating and carrying out research within them. There is the additional responsibility that a staff member must be able to train others in the methodology of research in his particular discipline."

The submission says that all university staff, from professors to tutors find a need for ongoing study and intellectual concentration in order to remain effective teachers and researchers.

Expanding knowledge

"The branches of knowledge are continually expanding, very largely because of the research of people in universities all over the world. Knowledge is not static and its frontiers are never confined to the boundaries of any particular university or country.

"A university teacher has therefore a particularly heavy responsibility continually to review and upgrade his courses of instruction so that his students have access to the most up-to-date knowledge and ideas that exist in his area . . .

"One specific way of ensuring that new ideas, knowledge and technical expertise are continually gathered and utilised by university staff in their roles as teachers and researchers is to allow staff to proceed from time to time to other centres of study in order to work in libraries or laboratories there, or with groups of students and academic staff in order to exchange views with other teachers and researchers. This is a fundamental justification for the system of 'study leave' in Monash University, and no doubt other universities."

The submission acknowledges that the use of the term "leave" may confuse some in the community who will associate the activity with holidays or some form of respite from normal duties.

Not paid holiday

"We can only reiterate that study leave for university staff is in no sense a paid holiday. It is a period of intense study and research, generally undertaken overseas and usually at considerable financial cost to the staff member.

The submission emphasises that study leave is of particular importance to staff in an Australian university.

"The major intellectual centres, in virtually all areas of knowledge, whether "pure" or "applied", are still to be found in Europe and North America. University people in these areas have opportunities to meet one another at conferences or visit each other's institutions relatively frequently and inexpensively, and have access

to the finest libraries and other major resource centres. Such matters are invariably raised in discussion when we seek to appoint senior academics to Monash from overseas.

"If we could not offer study leave opportunities, our ability to attract and retain the highest quality staff would rapidly decline.

"This is particularly the case for appointments in the human disciplines. Likewise in science, engineering and medicine the opportunity for scholarly exchanges . . . provides opportunities for the most stringent assessment of research work being carried out in Australia.

"Australian academics aim at the same intellectual standards as their European or North American counterparts but cannot participate in the same easy exchange of visits or attendance at conferences as is possible in the northern hemisphere because of the considerable expense of travelling to and from Australia.

"Extended periods of overseas leave provide the alternative method of keeping Australian staff abreast of developments on an international level."

The Monash statement also makes out a strong case for study leave for administrative staff. It says:

"If the University wishes to be served by an administration which is sympathetic to the aspirations of academic staff, appreciates their point of view and has some understanding of the frame of reference of those recruited from other universities, it is important that senior administrators should have an opportunity of seeing something of other universities and have an opportunity for discussion abroad, in particular, with both academics and administrators to gain an insight into attitudes of mind in a wider university context than Monash and to see at first hand other solutions to common problems within a university community . . ."

On the question of the cost of study leave, the submission says:

"It has been argued by some outside the university system that the salaries

paid to staff on study leave should also be considered an expense to a university since the staff are not available to teach and do research at the university during this time. In times of financial stress it has been said that a university is 'overstaffed' if it can still perform its functions with some staff away on paid study leave. Salaries may be thought of as indirect costs of a study leave scheme from such a point of view.

"Both these criticisms stem from a misunderstanding of the functions of a modern university and the duties expected of its staff.

"The carrying out of research is one of the two prime duties of an academic. Even if part of such research is carried out away from his university he is still performing one of the functions for which he has been employed. Moreover, to gain further knowledge by study to keep his lecture courses up to date is also to perform the kind of function which any staff member must do continuously while at work in his own university.

"There is an added advantage of contact with others engaged in similar duties but perhaps having alternative concepts and ideas of value. This form of intellectual refreshment is made evident on return of the staff member to his home university.

Dual advantage

"The only function not performed for his university during his leave will therefore be actual teaching, but on the assumption that he will be better able to teach his subject on return from leave, this time away is of advantage to his university and thereby to his students.

"The university does not employ extra staff to replace those absent on study leave, and this is accepted by all staff.

"If there were to be no provision of study leave, teaching and research would suffer in the long term because of stultification of ideas amongst staff, whether or not present staffing ratios remained or were reduced.

"There would be a 'cost' to the public in that their university system would become inferior to those of other developed countries. The level of training available for the professions and for the nation's most intelligent young people would drop, to the overall detriment of the country."

For scientists

To the Editor

Sir: I would like to bring to the notice of all science technicians at Monash the existence of a professional institute to which they are entitled to belong, irrespective of the branch of science in which they are employed.

It is the Australian Institute of Science Technology.

AIST seeks to actively promote the status of the profession and the self-improvement of those people who have chosen a career in science technology.

The chief benefits of membership are the availability of information data and bulletins, a subscription to the journal *Science and Australian Technology*, and a cross fertilisation of ideas from meetings held regularly and attended by leading professionals in the various scientific disciplines.

AIST caters for all levels in the profession by having various grades of membership.

It is not a union and its activities do not overlap those of the General Staff Association or the Hospital and Research Employees' Association. There is certainly no competition between AIST and these groups.

Anyone interested in AIST can contact me in the biochemistry department on ext. 2482 for further information.

John Oldfield

. . . and singers

The Monash Chapel Singers have found a new conductor in third year Arts-Music student, Jackie Clarke.

The search is now on for new members, particularly students, in all parts.

The singers are preparing music to be sung at the induction service of the new Protestant chaplain, Derek Evans, to be held on May 12.

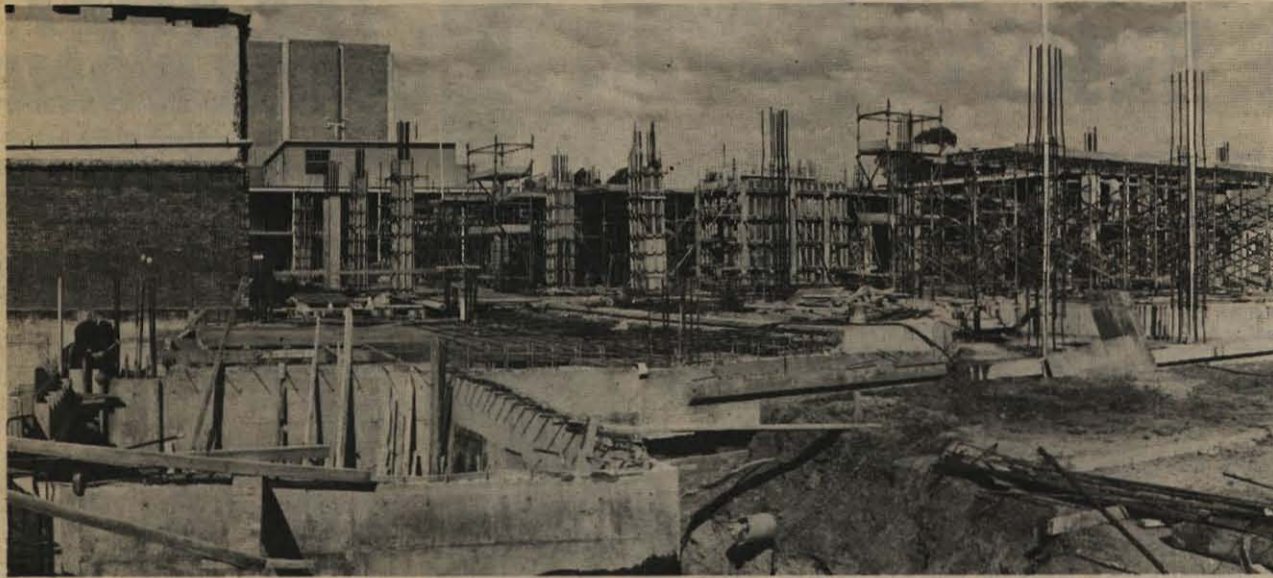
They will be contributing also to a program of mediaeval and Renaissance music and drama at the ANZAMIRS conference to be held at Monash in August.

A lunchtime concert in Robert Blackwood Hall in third term is planned also.

The Monash Chapel Singers meet for rehearsals on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Religious Centre at 1 p.m.

If you're interested in joining there are no auditions, just turn up at rehearsals. Contact Olive Heley on ext. 2100 for further information.

MEDICINE ON THE WAY UP



The first stage of the \$5.1m. extensions to the Medical Faculty — the construction of new solvent stores — has been completed.

Work on the major part of the project, extensions to the physiology and anatomy departments, started in October last year and is due for completion in May, 1978 (pictured).

The fully air-conditioned, four-level

extensions will house laboratories, offices, a new anatomy museum, and will feature an internal courtyard.

The existing histology theatre will be increased in size to seat 200 students, 40 more than at present.

The project builder is L.U. Simon Pty. Ltd. and the architects, Eggleston, MacDonald and Secomb.

Work has started on a second

campus building project also.

It is a link between the existing sports centre buildings. Estimated to cost \$400,000, the work is scheduled to be completed by the middle of August this year.

The extensions will house weight training and table tennis areas, a coffee bar, offices, a meeting room, control room and toilets.

Thai lecturers here on study scheme

Eight Thai academics — the majority of them women — are currently at Monash as first participants in a pilot Thai University Lecturers' Scheme.

While at Monash the lecturers will be aiming to increase knowledge and skills in their subject areas, academic administration and modern education techniques, in a bid to improve their effectiveness as tertiary teachers.

The scheme has been organised jointly by Monash University and the Australian Development Assistance Agency. It is similar to the Indonesian University Lecturers' Scheme developed at the University of New South Wales in 1969.

The visiting academics are Professor Thavorn Vajrabhaya (botany), Miss Pornpimol Senawong (linguistics), Miss Apinya Wongsekidakarn (mathematics), Mrs Paungpen Siriruga (zoology/botany), Miss Suwilai Remsrirat (linguistics), Mrs Puangpen In-taraprawat (English), Mrs Suwadee Phupradist (linguistics) and Mr Aneckool Greesang (education).

All speak English fluently.

They will be on campus for from four to six months.

Initial steps towards establishing the scheme were made several years ago by associate professor in chemical engineering, Dr Frank Lawson (currently on study leave doing research at the Colorado School of Mines in the United States).

Dr Lawson and other academics were concerned that many Asian students were returning home after study overseas to take up senior positions on academic staff immediately, particularly in the newer universities. Because of a lack of experienced staff these new graduates were being called



Lecturer with HEARU, Natalie Kellett, discusses a point with two of the Thai lecturers, Thavorn Vajrabhaya (left) and Pornpimol Senawong. Photo: Bruce Fuhrer.

upon to perform tasks for which they had little or no experience.

More recently a working group consisting of Professor K. C. Westfold, Dr T. Hore, Dr J. McDonell and Mr I. B. Tate has guided development of the scheme.

It has been devised in two parts: the lecturers will spend three days a week in a host department covering their own disciplines, and two days a week in the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit.

In the departments they will gain experience in academic administration

and teaching. They will be involved in such activities as the giving of tutorials and lectures, arrangement of laboratory classes and tutorial programs, hiring and training of technical and other staff, arrangement of timetables and setting of exams.

They may also be involved in research work or observe a project in progress.

HEARU has devised a program in which the lecturers will be examining modern educational practices at tertiary level, looking at such topics as course design and evaluation.

A NOSE FOR NEWS

For those who thought the term "newshound" was merely a figure of speech likening bright-eyed pressmen to pups or eager columnists to canines, here's some news.

It's far more literal than that, according to Sir Mark Oliphant who delivered the Oscar Mendelsohn Lecture at Monash recently.

Said Sir Mark: "My own feelings go deeper than love for the human soul to concern for every form of life, animal and plant. I share with my father the idea that when their branches wave in the wind the trees are taking their exercise; and when my dog sniffs continually at every object encountered on a walk, he is, in fact, reading his paper for the latest news."

What affects work habits?

What effect do features such as the architectural style of buildings and the size of departments have on academics' work habits and their social interaction?

These are a few of the questions a wide-ranging interview survey to be conducted on two university campuses by a husband and wife research team will attempt to answer.

The results may aid in the future planning of university buildings.

The researchers are Drs Bill and Margaret Foddy. Bill works in the sociology department at Monash and Margaret in the psychology department at La Trobe.

They will be conducting their ARGC-funded survey over the next few months.

The focus of their inquiry at Monash will be academics in the Arts, and Economics and Politics faculties. These faculties are housed in the 11-storey Menzies Building, with access to floors by stairs, escalator and elevator.

Data collected at Monash will be compared with data collected in the corresponding schools at La Trobe. These are housed in buildings of a quite different architectural style — low-rise, circular in layout, inward looking, with pedestrian walkway access.

Say the researchers: "Apart from the social psychological significance this study may have, it is hoped that it will also have a practical value.

"In the absence of relevant empirical evidence, tertiary education buildings have been designed generally without thought to the possible impact on the people who have to work in them."

A total of 300 academics at Monash, at the level of lecturer and above, will be approached to participate in the survey, and 200 at La Trobe.

TWO-WAY HELP

A new legal advice service launched recently on campus will be of double-barrelled benefit to students.

A joint venture between the Union and the Law Faculty, the service will be manned in the first instance by law students. These students' work with the service will form the basis of their final year subject, Professional Practice.

Previously, Monash students have been gaining professional experience by participating in a similar scheme at the Springvale Legal Service.

The law students will diagnose their fellow students' legal difficulties then consult staff members of the Faculty about the course of action to be pursued, so that clients can be assured of reliability.

Students seek aid over the whole range of legal matters — down to making wills — but their most common problems concern motor car accidents or offences.

Interviews will be conducted by the service each afternoon between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., except on Tuesdays when they will be conducted between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Appointments are necessary, except in emergencies, and can be made from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

The service is located in rooms 363/364 of the Law Faculty (ext. 3306).

ARMS SALES BAN 'RATIONAL BASIS' FOR WORLD PEACE

A universal ban on all exchanges of arms or components for arms between nations would be a rational, acceptable basis from which positive approaches to peace could stem.

Distinguished scientist and former South Australian Governor, Sir Mark Oliphant, said this while delivering the fifth Oscar Mendelsohn Lecture at Monash University recently.

Sir Mark said it would be easier for nations to agree to cease trading in arms than to disarm.

He said: "We have seen that the two major powers in the world today, the USA and the USSR are almost completely self-sufficient in weapons manufacture, and that for neither is export of arms an important source of national income. Of course this is not true of some American enterprises which would lose heavily if export of military aircraft, for instance, were banned. But special interests cannot be allowed to determine national policy, and must be disregarded completely in the overall drive for freedom from war.

"Such special interests do not arise in the Soviet Union, though I cannot imagine that pressure groups are entirely absent. Britain, West Germany, France, and perhaps Sweden, would lose important contributions to their balance of payments, but these nations are all anxious to contribute to practicable moves towards world accord.

"A ban on the arms trade does not impose disarmament upon any nation, particularly the great powers. All nations could go ahead producing arms for their own use, wasting precious technological and human resources in making very expensive equipment destined for rapid obsolescence. Overall, there would be little economic backlash.

"The developing nations would doubtless endeavour to build up their own capability to manufacture weapons, but this could be a very real spur to industrial development. Importers of arms could exert pressure to supply by withholding essential raw materials such as oil, but that would hasten the development of substitutes, which will become essential soon anyway.

"It seems, therefore, that it would be easier to agree to cease trading in arms than to disarm.

"The complete failure of the United Nations as a peace-keeping body, and disillusionment with the non-proliferation treaty, have led to discussion of alternative controls on the spread of nuclear weapons by the nations exporting nuclear technology. However, these are cynical exercises, as the rapidly increasing multi-billion dollar trade in nuclear reactors and processing plants is unlikely to be stifled by voluntary restraints.

"In fact, we are approaching rapidly a world situation in which so many nations possess nuclear armaments that it will be impossible to prevent these, and the means for delivering them, from becoming items in the arms trade. If we can stop that trade univer-

sally before that happens, there may be hope for the human race."

Earlier in his speech, Sir Mark said it was difficult to over-emphasise the terrible consequences of the supply of arms by the USA on the one hand, and Russia on the other.

He said: "Today, there are in existence nuclear weapons which could decimate the populations of every industrialised nation, destroying all means of production, all cities, and all essential services. A threat of invasion by a new form of influenza, of typhoid, or of cholera, strikes fear into the hearts of Australians. For some incomprehensible reason, there is little or no concern for the sword of Damocles hanging over our heads. This strange indifference is found in both governments and people.

"It must be remembered, however, that far more countries are now able to develop and manufacture major weapons of conventional kind than was the case 30 years ago. An enormous effort goes into such work, and to the manufacture under licence of weapons developed elsewhere. As with motor cars or refrigerators, the cost of manufacture goes down with the number made. So countries like Britain, France, West Germany, and Japan, are eager to sell their products abroad, and enter vigorously into the world-wide trade in arms.

ECONOMIC GAIN

"It has been pointed out by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the most reliable guide to world armaments, that 'the financial and technical resources devoted to the development and production of conventional weapons are far greater than those absorbed by the nuclear programs. The United States and the Soviet Union export arms primarily to those they believe to be their political or military allies, whereas other countries, particularly France and Britain, sell all over the world for economic gain.

"The arms trade with the Middle East was already large before the outbreak of the short Arab-Israeli war of October 1973. Since then, it has swollen tremendously. Each side was already armed with highly sophisticated weapons, Israel obtaining hers from the USA while Egypt and Syria were supplied by the Soviet Union. This 18 days war proved extremely costly, with 20,000 casualties and loss of weapons estimated to be worth \$US8-20m. Both America and Russia airlifted military supplies to aid the fighting.

"For the two major suppliers, this war was a valuable proving ground for their weapons, in actual combat. The use of guided missiles against tanks and aircraft, on both sides, indicated how vulnerable these are to attack with modern weapons. So, in the arms trade there is economic profit and technological lessons from their use. Hostilities in the Middle East, officially abhorred by both the USA and USSR were of great value to them both. Profit can come in forms other than money. It



Sir Mark Oliphant, Photo: The Age.

is clear that expediency, rather than morality, governs this terrible trade.

"Recently, on ABC-TV, traders in pornographic literature featuring young children admitted that their only interest was in the money it earned for them. If there was a demand for such filth, they were prepared to meet it, for profit. I expect that those who sell armaments are similarly motivated, caring not at all about the ultimate result. If this is so, then we can expect purveyors of nuclear weapons, operating clandestinely, will almost certainly appear, as have traders in hard drugs.

"It is not easy for any government to take a strictly moral stance over any of the weapons of mass destruction. If it spends money on measures of defence which it considers essential on the advice of its armed services, it is accused of war-mongering, of being dictated to by the nation's great allies. If war comes, as it can to the least belligerent of people, it is roundly condemned for having failed to make adequate provision for the defence of the country."

'ROGAINERS' HEAD UP HILL, DOWN DALE

Gather together a couple of compasses, a torch, warm clothes, a little food and sleeping equipment — and take to the wilds for 24 hours.

That's the invitation from the Monash Bushwalking Club which this year, for the first time, is staging the Victorian Rogaining Championships in conjunction with its 24 hour annual hike. The Victorian Rogaining Association is participating also.

The event will be held on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1.

For the uninitiated, rogaining (it's believed to be a word of Scandinavian origin) is the sport of 24-hour orienteering and is a test of cross-country navigation over open country and timbered hills.

The whereabouts of the exercise is being kept secret as one of the rules is that participants use only maps provided, rather than possibly more detailed ones which may be available. In past years rogaines have been held at Kinglake and Gembrook.

The event will start at 2 p.m. on Saturday when teams of from three to four people (considered best for safety) will set out on a loop of checkpoints, taking about four to eight hours to reach home base.

HOME FOR THE AWAY FROM HOME

A hospitality scheme which can offer as rewarding an experience to its family hosts as to its away-from-home student guests will operate at Monash again this year.

It is the Monash host family scheme which is sponsored by the Monash Parents' Group.

The scheme is seeking families with a Monash connection and visiting students who may be missing a home environment.

The scheme does not offer accommodation but hospitality which may take the form of a dinner invitation or involvement in other family activities.

Says convener Mrs Meredith McComas: "We do our best to match families with students, linking people with similar interests, after processing questionnaires we ask intending participants to fill in. Then it's up to them to become involved.

"The students who need a scheme such as this most are usually Asian and first year students, but not always. There are also visitors from interstate and out-of-town students seeking family hospitality.

"The Asian students particularly like families with lots of younger children."

Mrs McComas says a Monash connection is desirable in the host family, either one with a student member or a staff member.

About 70 to 80 students and families joined in the scheme last year, plus there were quite a number of ongoing participants.

Application forms for those wishing to join the scheme either as hosts or guests can be obtained from the Union Desk.

For further information contact Mrs McComas on 82 4884 (after 4.30 p.m.) or Mrs Joy Guerin on 82 1956.

There'll be hot meals waiting at the "hash house" and a friendly campfire atmosphere. Keen participants can orienteer on throughout the night. The purpose of the exercise for the real professionals is to visit as many checkpoints as possible until 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Participants can enter in four sections — men, women, mixed and beginners.

Monash has had success in other rogaines over the last few years and currently holds the intervarsity women's trophy.

Intending competitors have been advised that warm-up events will be held on Wednesday afternoons in Melbourne and that shorter orienteering events are also run most Sundays.

The cost of entry in the big event is \$7, which includes a map. Transport may be available to take participants to and from the rogaie, at an additional \$5. For entry forms or further information contact Rod Phillips in the chemistry department on ext. 3576.

And for the rugged indoor types who consider rogaining to have an element of lunacy — you could be right. The night of Saturday, April 30 is a full moon night.

Professor Endersbee tells graduates:

'YOU MUST SOLVE ENERGY PROBLEMS'

Energy resource problems were the most important facing today's graduating engineers, the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Professor L. A. Endersbee, said recently.

Professor Endersbee was delivering the occasional address at a graduation ceremony in which 160 engineering and two medical graduates received their degrees.

He said: "We all know that energy resources are limited, particularly oil and gas. Yet consumption is increasing and prices remain low. The industrialised world has built up a complex international economy based on cheap oil supplies, and no one nation is prepared to suffer the economic disadvantages of attempting to correct the situation independently. Australia is in this position. On present trends we are heading for disaster.

"There are no magical technologies in prospect that are likely to radically change the energy situation, but there are a very large number of individual technological changes we can make that will, collectively, lead to a significant improvement. The implementation of these changes, on a crash program of 15 years, contains enough challenge for all of our keen graduating engineers over that period, and of course there are many other tasks before us.

"The first steps towards these goals are to plan for the work, allocate responsibilities for government and industry, and prepare the organisations. One of the apparent obstacles to



Engineering isn't necessarily a woman's profession and this photo proves it. An obviously pleased Professor L. Endersbee (left) and Professor I. Polmear congratulate graduates (from left) Allana Stephens, Sally Nugent, Yvonne Hirsch, Ruth Ault, Jacqueline Dick and Jane Grice. Photo: David Holmes.

national planning and co-operation in Australia is the Australian Constitution, whose writers, for example, did not envisage an energy crisis in Australia in 1980-85, and the consequential need for commonwealth-state co-operation in that matter.

"But the writers did not envisage the Snowy scheme either, and that project was built, simply on a promise of co-operation between national and state governments. Basically, preparedness to co-operate for common purposes is an attitude, or state of mind, and we can't legislate for that."

At a personal level it could disrupt a team and render it ineffective.

"Closed-mindedness" could occur also because of intensive specialisation: "the specialist not seeing beyond his own field," he said. The result could be a breakdown in communication with disastrous results.

He continued: "In our society, the unification of various technical and

Professor Endersbee told the graduates that the greatest of all sins of the professional man was arrogance, or "closed-mindedness".

professional skills to a common task is a central problem. The skills are not self-co-ordinating. They must be brought together by continuing and conscious effort. It is incredible that each development in our scientific and technological capacity, by the intensity of the specialisation involved, tends to increase disunity rather than common purposes. Each step towards specialisation imperils our society by the consequential loss of our sense of common objectives and purposes.

"We see this in the University. We have separate faculties and departments for our various disciplines, but few integrating subjects that bring specialists together. The students tend to grow apart in the University as their studies progress, and move even further apart as they move into professional practice.

"The problems of communication are compounded by the specialised nature of the organisations employing professionals — hospitals, health departments, water authorities, manufacturers, mining companies, and so on.

"These communication difficulties lead to controversial issues, sometimes of significant dimensions, such as the Newport power station issue. Here we see an issue involving an electrical authority, a gas company, an oil company, the conservation groups, unions, government, and individuals.

"When the lines of communication break down, the results can be disastrous. Very often there are individuals who see these difficulties arising, yet they become torn by a conflict of loyalty — the conflict of loyalty to an organisation versus loyalty to a common purpose outside the organisation.

"When the lines of communication break down, the results can be disastrous. Very often there are individuals who see these difficulties arising, yet they become torn by a conflict of loyalty — the conflict of loyalty to an organisation versus loyalty to a common purpose outside the organisation. When doubts like this arise, one should turn to one's profession.

LYNDAL IS ADAMANT: NO THEATRE CLIQUE

Newly-appointed Director of Student Theatre, Lyndal Jones is determined not to let a theatre clique form at Monash. She believes the campus should be "saturated with theatre" involving a maximum number of people.

Lyndal remembers her own days at Monash: "I was involved with no theatre while I was here. As a kid from the country I was far too nervous and intimidated. I'm determined not to let that happen to others."

She has ambitious plans for student theatre this year. While praising plans for a number of "very fine productions of well-crafted plays to be staged throughout the year," Lyndal has nominated several other dramatic areas she would like to see developed.

She says: "I would like to begin experimenting in new styles of theatre and to develop a more popular theatre. Also I would like to encourage an exchange of theatre with other campuses so that we are fed new experiences and there is as wide a range of alternatives available as possible."

Speaking about the avant-garde

drama she would like to encourage, Lyndal says: "This would be very flexible work, not necessarily scripted, with emphasis on imagery and using the actor's body. Performance spaces would be used flexibly, too, and the audience would meet such drama with no expectations, as regards length for example."

In developing a more popular theatre, Lyndal is anxious to find out the interests and concerns of all students.

She says: "I want to provide theatre which will entertain students, and express for them, and to others for them, the things they may not have been able to."

This would involve working in liaison with other specific interest groups such as the Monash clubs and societies. But Lyndal wants to delve deeper than this, "to find out and deal with the concrete issues which disturb students."

"Theatre should represent people; it should anger and excite," she believes.

First up, Lyndal has been invited by the Monash Players to organise theatre

workshop performances to be presented towards the end of April.

Lyndal graduated with a B.A. Dip. Ed. from Monash in 1971. She taught in Ballarat and became actively involved in drama there at the (then) State College of Victoria at Ballarat.

In 1974 she was awarded a Myer Foundation Grant to study children's theatre in England. This was the start of a rewarding two years in which she immersed herself in dramatic work (chiefly mime and puppetry), performing throughout London and in Edinburgh and East and West Europe.

One of Lyndal's more unusual engagements was as a clown roaming through and entertaining a huge crowd at an outdoors Rolling Stones concert south of London. Managing to keep a smile on faces when Mick and the boys were four hours late on stage should be a fine recommendation in itself for her.

Footnote: Lyndal can be contacted in the student theatre office on the ground floor of the Union building at the foot of the west stairs, or on ext. 3108.



Lyndal Jones . . . 'no cliques'.

Ballroom dancing takes a giant step forward

Ballroom dancing has Monash students in a whirl.

The University's Ballroom Dancing Society reports a boom in membership and attendances of well over 100 at its regular dances.

Two of the three classes it is running this year for beginners have already been booked out. The other has only a few vacancies and a fourth class is planned to start in second term.

Club officials Jenny Peters and Jurgen Strauss, of the chemistry department, say the surge of interest first became noticeable two years ago.

Since 1974 the club's membership has grown by more than 200 per cent to a current figure of 320.

A greatly expanded program of both ballroom and square dances has been scheduled for this year. (The square dances attract even larger attendances.)

Entrance fee is 50 cents for members of the society and 80 cents for non-members. The society asks that those joining in the fun wear neat casual dress and contribute to the supper at interval by bringing either a plate of food or some soft drink.

Membership of the society itself is \$1 a year.

Syndicate buys wine overseas

A syndicate has been formed at Monash to bid at overseas auctions for fine European wines and arrange their shipment to Melbourne.

The syndicate organiser, Paul Hudson, says it is able to do this at considerably less than the Australian retail price. Typically, costs can be halved.

The syndicate bids at Christie's and Sotheby's auction houses and purchases from established wine merchants.

Rare wines, not generally available in Australia, are obtained from time to time also.

The wine syndicate is seeking a larger membership so that a greater variety of wines may be obtained and costs further reduced. Membership is free.

VINTAGE ADVICE

Details, including cost, of the wines available may be obtained from Paul who is also willing to advise on the best vintages and on which wines offer best value. He can be contacted in the physics department on ext. 3685 or 729 4097 after hours.

Syndicate members include Lindsay Aitkin (physiology), Adrian van den Bergen (chemistry), Richard Gates (ex-psychology), Peter Hanks (law), Graeme Heyes (CSIRO chemical engineering), Andy Hsieh, Jay Kent (both chemistry), Dennis Perry (psychology), Richard Presser (materials engineering) and Bill Webster (psychology).

Paul Hudson and Andy Hsieh recently won one of the Expovin wine competitions, organised by The Australian and Expovin.

Would-be dancers attending the beginners' classes pay \$6 plus the fee for society membership. This entitles them to 17 one-hour lessons.

At the end of the course they are usually competent in all the standard ballroom dances. These include Latin-American, old-time, and modern varieties, as well as most modern rock "steps."

The society holds two dances most months in either the Cellar Room or

Main Dining Room of the Union, starting at 8 p.m.

The program for the remainder of the year is: April 7 (square dance), April 29, May 13, June 17, June 24 (square dance), July 8, July 22, August 5, August 12 (square dance), September 9, September 16 (square dance).

Further details about the society and its activities can be obtained from Jenny or Jurgen on ext. 3580.

'MOMENTOUS YEAR' FOR MONASH CLUB

The year 1976 had been momentous in the history of the Monash University Club with completion and occupation of its new premises, retiring club president, Mr W. Mann, said recently.

Mr Mann was delivering his report to the club's annual general meeting.

He said that the club building had been completed without any undue delays and within the budget, "a most satisfactory result in view of the difficult times in which the project was undertaken."

In recommending a 20 per cent rise in the subscription fee level established two years ago, Mr Mann said: "Members will realise that this increase is rather less than the rise in the Consumer Price Index over that period and will be comforted to know that the new subscription is substantially less than that required by some other university clubs."

"At this stage in its history, questions of finance are as critical as they are ever likely to be. With a newly-completed building involving a substantial loan, and the launching of a full club facility including catering, as

well as liquor service and the associated administrative and maintenance costs, we are concerned with a significant business enterprise with all the management problems which that entails. The committee has watched carefully the cost structures involved, and is confident that the club is financially viable. But a great deal will depend on the level of trading activity, in other words, on the usage of the club by its members."

The office bearers for 1977/78 are: president, Mr M. Butler (ADP); vice-president, Dr I. D. Hiscock (zoology); secretary, Mr R. R. Belshaw (education); treasurer, Mr H. J. Skinner (finance); committee members, Miss C. Antrim (library), Mr P. D. A'Vard (Alexander Theatre), Mr M. J. Cummins (union pharmacy), Mr J. T. Guthrie (zoology), Mr M. F. Hart (zoology), Mr P. E. Kilbride (law), Mrs P. E. Muskens (main library), Mr R. M. Wilde (maintenance).

CREATIVE ARTS CLASSES START

Many classes in the Union's creative arts program for 1977 start early this month — but it's not too late to enrol where vacancies still exist.

The courses are open to Monash University members — University students and staff and Rusden students. If classes are not full when they are due to start, non-Union members may enrol also.

Many classes will be held in the early evening this year to suit a maximum number of people.

The creative arts program is a comprehensive one covering about 20 activities. These include sumie (a philosophy and technique of painting brought from China to Japan 1500 years ago and developed to perfection as a Zen discipline), weaving on a four-shaft loom, watercolor painting, life drawing and painting, stained glass work, practical sewing, jewellery design and making, macrame, pottery, spinning, tapestry weaving, typing, leatherwork, singing and ear training, singing, piano, flute and classical

guitar tuition, pioneer furniture making, and home nursing.

Watercolor painting and tapestry weaving have not been offered previously in the creative arts program.

Classes are conducted by skilled craftsmen or experienced tutors.

For a brochure on the program and enrolment inquiries contact the clubs and societies office on the first floor of the Union (ext. 3144/80).

Bionic gardener

Monash gardener Stanley Harrison, with his right foot rebuilt — and feeling, he says, like the Six Million Dollar Man — is back at work on campus.

Stan lost his heel in a brush with his motor mower in December.

He asks 'Reporter' to convey his sincere appreciation and deeply-felt thanks to everyone at Monash for their concern and kind thoughts during his time in hospital.



ABOVE: Jenny Hoskings leaps into the academy recreation association. Gary Jenkins looks on.

BELOW: That's not volleyball! But these "new ball up and over the net."



WEEK A HIGH FLYER!



year on a trampoline, courtesy of the sports and

imes" enthusiasts manage to bounce a fairly hefty



"A happier Orientation Week with wide interest sustained right up until the end" — that's how organisers saw this year's familiarisation program for new students at Monash.

There can be no doubt it was a week with bounce, as these photographs by Herve Alleaume clearly show.

The Orientation Program was launched by the University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor R. L. Martin, who told new students in a welcoming address that they were joining a community which regarded freedom of thought and expression as essential ingredients of its lifestyle.

Professor Martin said: "Each of us has a special responsibility to ensure that these basic freedoms are protected."

During the week thousands of students took up the invitation to meet informally their departmental staff.

Monash clubs and societies were reportedly well pleased, too, with interest shown. They were strongly represented at desks in the Union

building and many organised special activities which drew large crowds.

Perhaps the most spectacular event of the week was the fireworks display on the Thursday night which showered the south-eastern suburbs with a sight and sound said to rival even Moomba itself.

Politics was a major drawcard on the Friday when 350 people attended a Liberal Club meeting addressed — in more than one voice — by political impersonator, Paul Jennings. Shadow Treasurer Chris Hurford addressed the ALP Supporters' Club on the same afternoon.

A special part-timer's introduction to the campus and a barbecue were held on the Saturday and, to keep it in the family, it was the parents' turn for orientation on a following Sunday in March.

The orientation committee is anxious to receive criticisms — and even compliments — on the orientation program from interested persons. Contact the assistant to the Union warden, Caroline Piesse on ext. 3101.



ABOVE: That's the PM, or look-alike Paul Jennings, with Liberal Club member Nicolette De Roos.

LEFT: Second year student Sue Scott rallies first years to an O-Week activity.

BELOW: "Romeo and Juliet" set designer Graham McGuffie shows the set model to first year arts students James McDougall and Margaret Meyer.



If Uni students have problems — so do their parents. Here the Vice-Chancellor prescribes o . . .

RECIPE FOR UNI PARENTHOOD

"Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if ever, do they forgive them."

With this sombre quote from Oscar Wilde, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, alerted parents of first year students to some of the problems they face in the new relationships that will develop in the year ahead.

Professor Martin was speaking at the 1977 Parent Orientation, organised by the Monash Parents Group on March 20.

But his message was not as bleak as the Wilde quotation suggested, and he offered an eight-point plan of action to help parents cope with the tensions that might arise.

- He suggested:
1. Try to provide a sympathetic line of communication, available at all times, irrespective of the nature of the crisis or stress.
 2. Try to recognise the difficulties of increasing maturity and increasing independence and the inconsistencies that these sometimes produce. ("For instance, he goes out without

telling you where he is going or when he will be home, and tomorrow you will find his muddy football clothes on the bedroom floor requiring immediate attention before the next game.")

3. If a student is living at home, he or she requires a maximum amount of freedom, and especially a good deal of flexibility in trivial matters. House rules should be minimal and as realistic as possible.
4. It is a good policy to develop an interest in the student's sporting and other activities, without too much intrusion. ("It is often easier to talk about football or squash than about girl friends.")
5. No pressure on study. ("We are inclined to be overanxious about study in our desire to see our sons and daughters successful. Success does not depend on the amount of work done, but rather on the correct mixture of efficient study patterns, sport and social life. Every student should be encouraged to achieve a good blend of all three.")

6. Co-operation with home entertainment. ("Encourage your children to bring their friends home — it's a helpful adjunct to family relationships.")
7. Tolerance: "Students are great theorists and idealists and often become deeply involved in causes . . . parents need much tolerance and understanding."
8. It will help if you are knowledgeable about the University and its work. Encourage your student to bring home University publications during the year.

More than 1100 parents and relatives of first year students attended the Orientation.

They engaged in discussions with the deans of the faculties, enjoyed a barbecue luncheon provided by the Monash Football Club (which made the most of its opportunity to launch a recruiting drive for 6 ft. 6 in. ruckmen) and toured the University grounds.

The Parents Group now plans a dinner for first year parents. This will be held on Saturday, May 7.



BOOKS and WRITERS

Shades of Bohemia in rare collection

Monash University's Main Library now owns copies of more than half the total number of works published by the best-known Australian private press, Fanfrolico Press.

Twenty-six volumes printed by Fanfrolico Press, together with several volumes on its history, formed the first exhibition from the Library's rare books collection to be held this year.

Fanfrolico Press operated as such from 1925 to 1930. It evolved from the Hand Press established by John Kirtley in Sydney in 1923.

In the same year, also, Kirtley met Jack Lindsay, son of the famous artist and author, Norman Lindsay. It was to be a fruitful association. Later in 1923 Kirtley printed Lindsay's *Fauns and Ladies*.

The two collaborated further and, for the printing of *Lysistrata* in 1925, the name of the press was changed to Fanfrolico, a concocted name with connotations of the character of Sydney's artistic society in the 1920s.

In 1926, after publishing only several works, Fanfrolico moved to London, but it was a change in location for sensible business reasons only, and not in spirit.

Fanfrolico in London was Sydney transplanted, with access to a wider readership, better distribution, assured paper supplies and the like.

Kirtley dropped out of the venture in 1927 to be replaced by another Australian P. R. Stephensen, who was in turn replaced by Brian Penton (an Australian also) in April, 1929.

Jack Lindsay was the mainstay and dominating personality of the enterprise and, through him, so too was his father in a way. Son Jack and father Norman, separated in age by only 21 years, were (at the time at least) firm friends and both members of Sydney's bohemian society. Many Fanfrolico texts were enlivened by Norman's drawings.

Fanfrolico's choice of works reflected the Lindsays' vivacity as well as classical interests.

In reprinting a number of works of early English poets which had not been reprinted before, the press provided a valuable service.

Included in the Monash collection is a copy of *The Parlement of Praters*, considered by Stephensen to be the press's best work. It received special mention and exhibition by the First Edition. Clubs of London and New York.

Norman Lindsay illustrations are reproduced from Fanfrolico's edition of 'Women in Parliament' by Aristophanes.



REVIEW

J. Rickard, *Class and Politics: New South Wales, Victoria and the Early Commonwealth, 1890-1910*, Australian National University Press, Canberra 1976. Pp. 371, illustrations.

A genial look at colonial politics

Here is an instant massif in the more or less carefully cultivated but pretty flat terrain of published doctoral theses. My slight acquaintance with the author led me to expect something more agreeable than average, but I had not bargained on this formidable explication of what were arguably the two most important decades in the history of European society in Australia.

It is a long while since I read a book which demanded such unrelaxing concentration — not even paragraphs can be taken for granted — even though the quality of the writing is infinitely superior to the dull scrum of thesis-English. If this is what comes of mixing spells in business and the theatre with academic life the recipe can be strongly recommended to all postgraduate historians.

The result is, I believe, one of the most important contributions to Australian history of the past decade — much more so, for example, than

Humphrey McQueen's *A New Britannia* and immeasurably better researched. It is a highly sophisticated chef-d'oeuvre, not a jeu d'esprit. Though it ranges over ground recently covered by Bede Nairn and Ron Norris, among others, it draws on much original material.

Indeed, though the conclusions may not themselves be very original, it transforms our understanding of these years by giving as much attention to employers' organisations as to the trade union movement (refreshing, given the strongly Labor bias of most of the historiography hitherto). By so doing it greatly enhances our understanding of the dynamics of political developments in the period, from the birth of the colonial labor parties to Deakin's fusion of the federal anti-labor parties in 1909.

The central argument is that in the period 1890-1910 "class emerges as the major determinant of political loyalties in Australia." Not only did

class consciousness intensify but by 1910 the pattern of two-party parliamentary politics was set. Certainly by then the lineaments of the 20th century federal political ballgame were already discernible. And who could fail to be struck by the analogy between the reactions of Victorian governments in 1903 and 1976 to the rail strike and Newport black ban respectively?

In marshalling his argument Rickard is impeccably impartial, not to say aloof. My main reservation is whether the 1890s really represented quite as dramatic a "turning point" (a favourite word) in working-class consciousness as he suggests. From my own now distant (and largely abortive) M.A. research into the effects of urbanisation on working class behaviour during the second half of the century. I see a steady growth in such consciousness (and effective power) in the 1870s and 1880s regardless of the maritime strike of the Depression which followed.

I doubt too whether the division of society into "classes" and "masses" (page 288) was ever widely accepted in Australia: they were certainly not the terms in which David Syme and *The Age*, for example, habitually editorialised about colonial class relations. Rickard's scant attention to class mobility is likewise surprising. Though the myth exceeded the reality it can hardly have stopped altogether during the 1890s, even if the movement was then more commonly down than

John Rickard is a senior lecturer in the history department at Monash University. His work is reviewed by Noei McLachlan, formerly reader in history at the University of Melbourne and now professor of Australian history at University College, Dublin.

up. And has it really been a negligible factor in this century when middle-class suburban ideals have palpably permeated working-class attitudes?

For the rest, I wonder whether Rickard's evidently genial and optimistic view of human nature is quite a match for the machinations of the Victorian Legislative Council (page 102) or for that archvillain of professional politicians, George Reid, whose very theatricality clearly endears him to the author. And, though Rickard occasionally puts his knowledge of the British background to effective use, I would like to have seen a careful comparison of the emergence of labor parties in both countries and of their impact on existing liberal parties.

Still, Dr Rickard has, by tracing the relationship of state and the new federal politics, contributed a valuable new perspective to this traumatic period, and his book will certainly be indispensable to well-informed discussion in both HSC and university classes henceforth: teachers and students please note.

Graham Erbacher talks to Monash's writer-in-residence and finds . . .

An involved observer of the human comedy

"I never write for publication. I write because I can. The idea that my books are set for university or school study horrifies me. They become textbooks and students hate me. Having a captive audience appals me."

So says Christina Stead, celebrated Australian author, who is spending nine weeks on campus as writer-in-residence.

It is a warm Monday at the start of Christina's stay at the University. She sits overlooking a busy forum area from a seven floor height in an as-yet-bare room. Bare, that is, except for a typewriter in which rests a sheet of pink paper.

Christina indicates that it could be the start of a new work.

She says: "Since being at Monash has been the first time I've felt like writing in quite a while. This is an attractive campus and I'm surrounded by interesting people.

"I feel separated from things that are not creative.

"I just couldn't work in Sydney during the summer. The heat knocked me. I've been able to sleep right through the night for the first time in ages since being in Melbourne.

In ideal conditions Christina works swiftly.

She wrote *The Salzburg Tales*, without revision, in a very short time after a visit to the city of Mozart's

birth, her fluency carried on by "the harmony of the composer."

The south of Spain proved another ideal creative location and Christina wrote *House of All Nations* in a similar manner.

"Everything suited me there. I would pull down the shutters and work every day," she remembers.

By contrast, her most difficult work was *The Man Who Loved Children*.

"It was aggravating writing that. It deals with my family life," she explains.

Christina returns to her comments on creative motivation: "I know people don't believe me but it's quite true: I never write for publication.

"After I have written, the publishers come along, and the public relations people, and the journalists.

"But art has nothing to do with that.

"I don't read my work after it is published either. It gives me no sense of achievement then.

"The moment of achievement is at the start, when it begins to come out. By the finish it's usually been such an effort that I'm jolly glad it's over.

"When it's done it's done; it's dead. "I really don't care if anyone reads my books and I'm appalled at the thought of captive university or school audiences."

Christina continues, smiling: "Of course every now and then a cheque arrives from a New York publisher or someone and I'm delighted. But I make no connection between these windfalls and my writing."

Born in Sydney in 1902 Christina worked in her early years in this country as a teacher ("I was given a class of 'deviants' — I don't know what they'd call them now") and an office worker.

By 1928 she had saved enough money to travel to England where, two weeks after arrival, she landed a job in a London bank. It was here she met the American she later married, Bill. (He died recently).

They moved to Paris and then on to New York. Christina spent the war years in the United States, travelling back to Europe on one of the first "victory ships." She found a "shattered, starving continent."

Since the war she has lived throughout Europe ("France was our base") and in New York.

Christina says, almost apologetically: "I like New York. People here talk in horror about the muggings. I know it is no excuse but I point out that the much-admired Renaissance cities in Italy were grim, crime-ridden places."

Christina returned to Australia in 1969 and took up a position as fellow-

in-creative arts at Australian National University. She went back overseas again and came back here two years ago.

She intends making Australia her base now "unless something surprising turns up elsewhere, you never know". Trips to Perth, Brisbane and New York are planned before the end of the year.

"I believe that home is where the heart is," she says. "In that regard I have always been home."

Christina has been a recent writer-in-residence at Newcastle University but sees the role developing differently at Monash.

"It is too early to talk at any length about it, but basically I am here to stimulate and help people who wish to write. I would hope they would come up and talk with me. I know something about writing and might be able to assist."

Christina believes that her books are all quite different. They are all based, however, on real situations involving real people. "I can't write fantasy," she says.

Is there a recurring theme?

"All my writing concerns the human comedy. I am an involved observer," she concludes.

TRIBUTE TO POET

A James McAuley Memorial Fund has been established to honor the distinguished Australian academic, poet and critic who died late last year.

The fund will endow an annual series of public lectures, The James McAuley Memorial Lectures, to be delivered by eminent speakers in various areas of the humanities.

Donations to the appeal can be sent to the University of Tasmania, Box 252C, GPO, Hobart 7001.

'The coast is always there . . . isn't it?'

REVIEW: C. Smyth, A. Cadwallader, S. Coldicutt, S. Morison, D. Mugavin, L. Suda, S. Trist, G. Wescott, *A Coastal Retreat*, Public Interest Research Group, 1977, pp 270, illustrations.

A Coastal Retreat is a book from the young and environmentally literate to the old and not so old who behave as if it does not matter.

Each new generation of Australians must grapple with the problem of absorbing their cultural inheritance and adapting it to the needs of the times. Many Aboriginal generations did this all through the major environmental changes of the last part of the present ice age. Many of them lived on the coast. They were among the first Aborigines to have their culture destroyed by the invading Europeans. The coast was and is a focus of human activity. The Europeans, although at first hostile to the Aborigines and environment alike, have so centred their activity near the coasts that now, for more and more of us, the needs and wants satisfied by the coastal environments are inextricably placed among those things that we will, either consciously or sub-consciously, pass on to our children.

It has usually been fairly easy and pleasant stuff to pass on. The coast is always there — just down the road. We can see it anytime. Go and live right near it perhaps. Our fathers and grandfathers hardly needed to give a thought to the proposition that their use of it might cause such changes. Such changes that future generations would one day ask what should be done so that there would be something left sufficiently unchanged that both they and their children could share something of the way they related to it.

That question is being asked here, now, and especially by a new generation of environmentally literate Victorians. It is a very general question and the answers can only be teased out by asking detailed questions born of an appreciation of environmental diversity, and of the administrative constraints upon sound environmental management. These constraints we have inherited from the times when administrators were primarily con-

cerned with tasks other than environmental protection and catering for demands and pressures on public land for recreation.

Some of the questions and answers are to be found in *A Coastal Retreat*. They were posed and investigated by the authors: a group from the Victorian Public Interest Research Group Ltd., a non profit independent organisation comprising Public Interest Research Groups at Monash University, the University of Melbourne, RMIT and an off-campus group; Public Citizen. The investigation began in 1974, and was multi-disciplinary in scope. The report, published last month, and edited by Monash geography graduate, Chris Smyth, does credit to PIRG. It is a worthy successor to the Dandenong Ranges Report (PIRG, published in 1974), which won its editor (Monash geography graduate Penny Goldin) the Robin Boyd Environmental Award of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

Public confusion

The multi-disciplinary approach of the PIRG team has enabled them to discuss the background and range of issues that need consideration before recommendations are made: the natural systems, the pressures and problems of man's impact, and administrative arrangements that exist to manage the public lands of the coast. The book points out the administrative dilemma very well — "a large number of separate Government

The reviewer is Dr J. Peterson, senior lecturer in the geography department at Monash University.

bodies with a finger in the pie": a cumbersome arrangement that, moreover, creates confusion among the general public "we question whether people should be required to understand such a complex system. A democratically controlled system which serves the people should, where practicable, be comprehensible to those people. We suggest that on the coast this simplification is both practicable and necessary."

The book makes specific recommendations for the two main study areas (Peterborough-Torquay, and Cape Patterson-Shallow Inlet) and an overall recommendation urges the authorities responsible for Crown Land Management to take back the responsibilities they have for so long been foisting upon the local and vulnerable committees of management.

It is very satisfying to see private citizens and citizen action groups playing a part in defending the integrity of public lands and their surroundings: there is probably no other way of ensuring that this will be done. It would be churlish of anyone to criticise the very few technical errors in some of the diagrams and the proof reading and not rejoice in the evidence that our culture does not only pay lip service to the importance of constructive criticism but includes young people who can also produce it.

Patrick McCaughey reviews

a prize acquisition:

MATHESON PORTRAIT 'MOST NOTABLE'

Fred Williams' portrait of Sir Louis Matheson is one of the Monash Art collection's most notable acquisitions.

Fred Williams is perhaps the most widely admired living Australian painter. For many he stands equal with any artist the country has ever produced. And this high opinion is shared outside Australia. Currently the Museum of Modern Art in New York is holding a one-man exhibition of his watercolors, the first time an Australian artist has been honored in this way.

Fred Williams is best known as a landscape painter. The Matheson work is his first commissioned portrait although he has painted informal portraits of friends and acquaintances throughout his career. So Monash is gaining a fare as well as important new work by the artist. It joins a major early painting, "Landscape with Green Cloud," which Williams has lent to the University for a number of years.

Williams agreed to accept an official commission out of a deep-seated admiration for Sir Louis Matheson and his achievement in creating Monash. The very fact that Williams is not an official portraitist gives the Matheson portrait its lively quality.

Official portraiture has been a disaster area for years. All those frozen faces and waxen images have become the boring stock-in-trade of commemorative official portraits. (Monash

has a masterpiece in this genre in the portrait of Sir Robert Blackwood, mercifully hidden amongst the shadows in the foyer of Robert Blackwood Hall).

What usually makes official portraiture so tedious is the standardised, conventional pose in which the sitter is transfixed. By contrast, Williams has managed an unusual pose for Sir Louis Matheson. The subject turns within the painting towards the viewer as though about to greet him. The slight swing of the body is enough to animate the figure without making it stagey.

Whatever opinion one holds of the degree of likeness in the portrait, there can be no doubt it is of a living person and not a marmoreal representation as though the subject already had one foot in the grave.

CHARACTER REVEALED

With the pose and the large scale of the work, Williams has managed to combine something of the impressiveness and presence of the official portrait with an informality of address to the viewer.

The character of Sir Louis Matheson as revealed by Williams is surely one of remote affability. For all the benign smile the figure is strangely removed from the viewer, isolated as it is in the large, empty field of the painting.

Most arguments about contemporary portraits always revolve around



Fred Williams' portrait of former Monash Vice-Chancellor Sir Louis Matheson.

the likeness of the portrait to the person. The Matheson portrait strikes me as a quite remarkable likeness in the vigorously modelled face and head.

Not the least achievement is the easy way Williams has solved the problem of painting somebody in spectacles. Most contemporary portraitists falter and fall when it comes to painting the reflections of the glass of the eyes behind the glass.

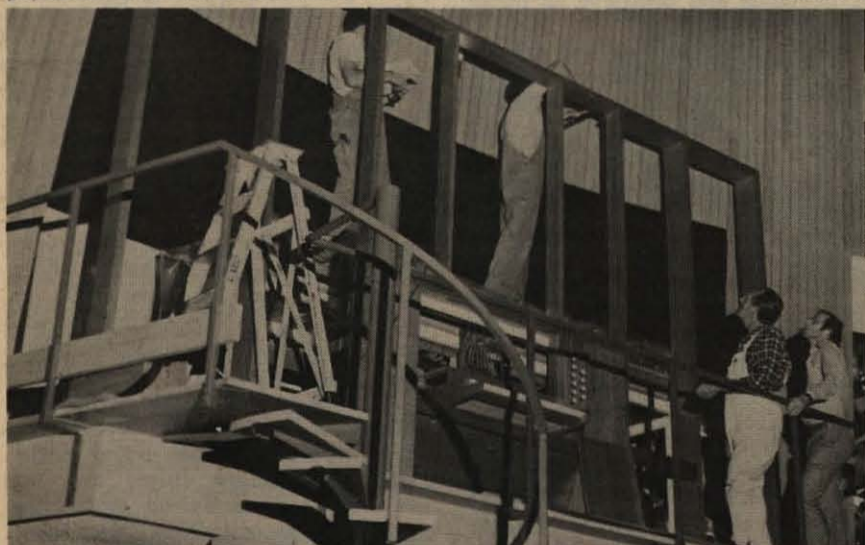
The question of likeness in portraits, however, is a passing one. Only a contemporary who knows

the sitter can judge how accurate or inaccurate it is.

The important element in any portrait is the sense it gives you of a living presence contained within it. On those grounds I believe the Williams' portrait will be seen as one of the most distinguished portraits painted in the 1970s in Australia. Its enigmatic quality contributes greatly to that sense.

Monash is indeed fortunate to have acquired such a work.

● Patrick McCaughey is professor of visual arts at Monash.



Instrument maker Ron Sharp (right) and painter Fred Brown look on as carpenters Ian Armstrong and Trevor May help install the organ.

ORGAN INSTALLED

Installation is currently underway of an organ in the Religious Centre.

Built by Sydney musical instrument maker, Ron Sharp, the organ will take two months to install. The first notes will be heard from it in May.

Ron Sharp is building the organ for the Sydney Opera House, which, on completion, will have been a 10 year job. Examples of his work can be found also in Ormond College and Knox Grammar School.

The Monash organ took two years to construct. Weighing two tons it has two manual keyboards, one pedal keyboard, 16 stops and nearly 1000 pipes.

It has a mechanical key action and electric stop action.

The organ was funded chiefly from donations to the Religious Centre appeal.

It is being installed on a platform above the entrance to the main chapel.

UNION BOARD CHANGES STUDIED

A special committee has been set up by the Union Board to consider arguments for and against changes to the Board's composition.

Establishment of the four-man committee follows a recommendation made by a general meeting of the Union in September last year to the Board that its present composition be changed.

The committee's members are Professor D. A. Lowther (biochemistry department), Mr P. H. Costello, Mr P. Flanagan (both MAS), and Dr E. Sonenberg (maths department).

At present the Union Board's composition is: the Vice-Chancellor or his nominee (chairman); the Comptroller's nominee (honorary treasurer); the chairman of the MAS administrative executive; the honorary treasurer of the MAS administrative executive; general student representatives elected by MAS members (3); a University Council representative; clubs and societies representatives (2); sports and recreation association representatives (2); a staff association representative; a general staff association representative; a Monash research students' association representative;

and a part-time students' representative.

There are 16 members in all.

Proposals for an alternative structure for the Board, or for a continuation of the present structure, with supporting arguments have been invited. They should be addressed to the secretary to Union committees, Miss M. Clark, c/- the Union.

Submissions should be marked "Composition of the Union Board" and the name and address of proposer should be included.

Closing date for submissions is Monday, April 18, 1977.

MONASH REPORTER

The next issue of Monash Reporter will be published in the first week of May. Copy deadline is Tuesday, April 26.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, (ext. 2003), c/- the information office, ground floor, University Offices.

Third-year Arts/Law student GREG PARKIN was at the English department's production of *As You Like It*. Here's how he saw it . . .

When Monash became Arden Forest

A splendid English department production of *"As You Like It"* played to deservedly large audiences at Monash during March.

Richard Pannell produced this popular Shakespearean comedy in an appropriate outdoor setting. It was a delicately interpreted yet robust performance avoiding a "preciousness" which could have marred such an occasion.

The cast's diction was superb, the delivery was (on the whole) remarkably accomplished, and the pace lively, without being rushed.

"As You Like It" is a play of both pageantry and rustic idyll. Both aspects were enhanced by the magnificent costumes which, in keeping with the rest of the production, were obviously the result of a great deal of work.

It is difficult to single out individuals from such a fine company but there were several performances which cannot go unmentioned. William Rowe accurately portrayed Orlando, capturing his bravery and gentility as well as his strange naivety. Chris McInerney brought a wonderful voice — fruity with the comic suggestion of a warble — to his role as Touchstone. The scenes in which this wise fool parodies academic philosophy were highly enjoyable. Glenda Jones conveyed the delightfully artless grace of Celia, showing both her pertness and innocent good nature.

Rosalind is, at once, more warmly emotional and yet sterner than Celia, with mettle which Shakespeare could only show as transvestism. Julie Houghton is a marvellous actress and she sustained the passionate gaiety essential to Rosalind's character.

Particularly impressive was Mark Minchinton as Jaques, the eternal analyst who draws lessons from life while barely participating in it. It would have been easy to caricature this role for broad comedy. But instead of being merely miserable and sententious, this Jaques had a cynical but still sober view of the world. It was his perspective, not his logic, which the audience rejected. (The world can only seem a stage to someone who has renounced his role).

"As You Like It" is often labelled "a problem play". Serious questions are certainly suggested in the text, and by recognising them this cast was able to present something more subtle than the "joyous celebration of life" truism.

But solemn issues should not be dominated. "As You Like It" consists largely of improbable contrivances moving the plot towards the final wedding masque. The play is a secular sacrament of love, not an intellectual study of it. This delightful production never allowed us to forget that.



Rustic idyll at Monash. (Photo: Waverley Gazette)

Report suggests some . . .

New approaches to theatre

The future of campus theatre — its organisation, administration and financing — is currently under review at Monash.

This follows release of a report prepared by an ad hoc working party set up by Council to enquire into theatre at the University. Council has now asked the Vice-Chancellor to gauge the opinion of interested bodies on its recommendations.

Among the report's chief recommendations is the appointment of a Director of University Theatre to assume guidance of both the Alexander and student theatres.

The report sets out by defining a policy guideline for the University's involvement in theatre which it recommends as a basis of future action.

The report says: "It is the working party's view that the University should undertake some commitment to the promotion of University theatre and that it is proper and desirable that the University policy should be one of encouraging, initiating and giving help where needed to forms of theatrical activity based on its campus which:

- aim to involve members of the whole University community, either as contributors to performances or as regular theatregoers, or

- involve joint participation by professional actors, directors and technicians with members of the University community, or

- are directly associated with specific courses of study, or

- provide a community service through consolidating the University's role as a cultural centre, by offering educational resources or by making facilities for participation in theatre available to people from outside the University, or

- encourage professional actors, directors and technicians to establish and maintain associations with the University in ways additional to those described in the second point."

The report recommends that the first three areas be given priority for financial support while the others should be funded principally from the box office or external grants.

A major change recommended in theatre organisation is the appoint-

ment of a Director of University Theatre to head a Theatre Services Unit.

Besides liaising between a number of established theatre groups and organisations on campus, this Unit is seen as having three main functions:

- the servicing of productions (giving advice on such matters as likely audience, performance space suitability and sources of expert assistance; and supervising a future workshop/storage area).

- the promotion of theatre (through general advertising and PR; conducting audience surveys and developing programming guidelines; and encouraging increased active involvement of student and staff in theatre projects).

- the initiation of new projects such as workshops in theatre arts and the occasional presentation of productions either independently or jointly with student and staff groups.

A Director of University Theatre position is seen by the working party as having two advantages over the present Director of Student Theatre position.

Positive commitment

Firstly, the report claims it would require a positive commitment by the University as a whole, instead of reliance on goodwill and support from the Union alone.

Secondly, the nature of the proposed position is seen as being such as to reduce the probability of abrupt changes in interpretation of the Director's role. The working party believes the terms of the DST's appointment allow a personal interpretation of the role to some extent.

A Director of University Theatre would have a wider field of operation than the DST and the emphasis would be more on advisory, co-ordinating and promotional functions than artistic direction of individual productions.

As a major administrative change, the report recommends that the Alexander Theatre Committee should be re-organised as the University Theatre Committee, with a considerably wider role.

The report envisages the University Theatre Committee administering the proposed Theatre Services Unit, a theatre guild, the Alexander Theatre, the Union Theatre and the Alexander Theatre Company.

"If film production developed on campus it may be appropriate for the committee to foster this activity," it adds.

The theatre guild would be a body which provided financial support — by underwriting, subsidy or both — to productions.

The committee's income would be made up of the present recurrent funds budget to the Alexander Theatre; a contribution from the Union equal to its present outlay on the DST position and on theatrical equipment in the Union Theatre (excluding Union grants to clubs and societies); net hire revenue from the Alexander and Union theatres; and a recommended additional allocation from recurrent funds equal to half the total operating cost of the Theatre Services Unit. (The initial budget for this Unit is estimated to be about \$24,000 on 1975 costs.)

In considering the University's theatre venues, the working party's report recommends that a consultant be engaged to study the feasibility of re-developing the Union Theatre as a suitable small theatre. This would probably mean the construction of suitable dressing room space and a flexible stage area. The report suggests that the Union and Alexander Theatres should be freed from use as cinemas (except in the case of anticipated large attendances) by the equipping of one of the Humanities lecture theatres with 35mm film projection facilities.

A further recommendation is for the provision of a workshop and storage area, together with an office for the Theatre Services Unit, in any building proposed for the area between the Alexander Theatre and the south extension of the Humanities building.

Romeo and Juliet in an 'Oz' setting



Judith Crooks (Juliet) and Reg Evans (Friar Laurence) rehearse a scene from the Alexander Theatre production of Romeo and Juliet.

Wizard over the road

There's no need to chase over the rainbow if you're off to see the wizard.

This month the yellow brick road leads to Rusden State College Theatre where a student production of the musical *The Wizard of Oz* will be performed from April 15 to 30.

The production, featuring an original song by **Chris Dickens**, will have a cast of 25 third and fourth year students from the college.

It is being directed by **Charles**

Slucki and Jane Hughes.

A bonus magic show will be presented during the interval.

Most performances of "The Wizard of Oz" will be timed for children with special school matinees. Limited number of tickets will be available at the door for these performances.

Tickets are available for 8.15 p.m. evening performances on April 20, 22, 26, 29 and 30, and a 2.15 p.m. matinee on April 23.

For bookings contact the drama department at Rusden on 544 8544.

A man with an ambition to stage all of Shakespeare's plays will direct "Romeo and Juliet" at the Alexander Theatre this month. It is No. 25 in his series, leaving 12 to go.

He is **Harold Baigent** ("Baige" to his friends), former drama director with the Council of Adult Education, whose Victorian Shakespeare Company will be presenting "Romeo and Juliet" from April 13 to 30. There will be 17 professional actors in the cast and the production will cost about \$16,000.

Although Baige claims there is a "lot of rubbish" left in the remaining 12, he believes "Romeo and Juliet" is far from this.

He says: "I've left this play until now because I've been frightened of it. It's a difficult play in that there's a core technical problem of its leading female character being 14 years old. It is also one of Shakespeare's early plays, in rhyming couplets. This presents difficulties for the actors."

Baige says he has looked for a way "to make the play's universal themes speak through the centuries" and be immediately graspable by a young Australian audience in 1977.

He says: "There is nothing in Shakespeare demanding how the play should be done, so he offers me the world."

The result is a "Romeo and Juliet" set in an Australian country town such as Bathurst, dominated by two large and divided family groups, and "lots of unemployed young people just itching for something to do."

Baige sees Capulet as the retired conservative grazier type, the sort of person who might be president of the town club.

But Capulet is now living on capital and inflation is harming him. He is most anxious to introduce Paris — from a propertied family doing quite nicely, thank you — into the family.

On the other hand, Baige sees Montague as a nouveau riche town dweller, full of enterprise and business acumen. The sort of person irked because he has been denied membership of the club, perhaps because he is Jewish.

Presiding over the city is the governor figure ("Note I didn't say Governor-General") who rather leans towards the Capulets.

Baige says: "The point about the play is that in a world divided by hate, greed and jealousies, there is no chance for the success of a complete involvement such as the love between Romeo and Juliet."

Baige emphasises that this interpretation is only a guide for his direction. It will not be overt in the production.

He says: "I've done it so that the actors can make sense of their lines and believe in their roles, see their characters as real people. Only if they make sense of it will the audience make sense of it."

"I have re-interpreted it, then, for a purpose. I don't believe in gimmickry with Shakespeare, being different for difference's sake."

Baige says he will not alter the text but he will cut it, from about 2¼ hours to 2 hours.

Once a purist

"I was a purist once — I even did a 4¼ hour *Hamlet* — but no more," he says.

"When Shakespeare wrote 'Romeo and Juliet' he was still learning his craft as a writer. At times, the text falls into artificial poetic grooves which go against the play's theatricality."

Two husband and wife teams will appear in the production. In fact, Romeo and Juliet themselves tied the knot well before the first rehearsal even. The lead parts will be played by **Chris and Judith Crooks**. Chris is a drama lecturer at the Victorian College of the Arts.

The second married couple in the cast are **Bill and Susan Zappa**. Bill, a drama lecturer at the College also, plays Mercutio and Susan, Lady Capulet.

Baige is hoping for a large young audience at his production. He believes that Shakespeare should be banned reading in schools but that "students should be taken to every Shakespearean play staged."

Of the 12 plays left for Baige to direct there is at least one other he regards as far from rubbish. In fact, it is the one he regards as the finest: **King Lear**.

He says: "I would like to direct 'King Lear', play *Lear* three nights a week and the *Fool* the other three. The only trouble is I can't find an actor with the courage to alternate with me."

Bookings are now open at the Alexander Theatre for the "Romeo and Juliet" season. For further information or reservations phone 543 2828.

APRIL DIARY

- 5: **BLACK STUDIES LECTURE** — "Aboriginal Health", by Dr Malcolm Dobbin. Presented by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. **Lecture Theatre SG01**. 6 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3348.
- 5: **SEMINAR** — "Relaxation". Topics include student stress, relaxation techniques, application to medicine and stress in interpersonal relationships. Presented by Monash Interperson Club. **Conference Room, Union Building**. 8 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3126.
- 13-30: **PLAY** — "Romeo and Juliet", presented by The Victorian Shakespeare Company. A provocative new production by Harold Baigent. **Alexander Theatre**. 1.15 p.m. and 8 p.m. Admission: adults \$5.50, students \$2.80. Group bookings available. 543 2828.
- 15: **CONCERT** — Bartok Quartet presented by Musica Viva. Works by Mozart, Bartok and Beethoven. **RBH**. 8.15 p.m. Admission: Adults A. Res. \$5, B. Res. \$4; students \$2.
- 15: **LECTURE** — "The Formation of the Solar System", by Dr A.J.R. Prentice. Of special interest to 5th and 6th form students. Presented by Monash Department of Mathematics. **Lecture Theatre R1**. 7 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2550.
- 16: **SATURDAY CLUB (Red Series)** — "Geoffrey Goodsound meets Dr Wrongnote and the Horrible

Honkytonks", presented by Victorian Opera Company. An introduction for children to the performing arts. Repeated April 23. **Alexander Theatre**.

- 16: **CONCERT** — Brash's Lowrey Spectacular featuring Kay Pine from the USA introducing the new lowrey symphonic organ. **RBH** 7.45 p.m. Admission: adults \$2, children and pensioners free.
- 17: **CONCERT** — Myer Youth Concert Series featuring the Melbourne Youth Orchestra and the Melbourne Youth Choir. Conductor — John Hopkins, soloist — Tanya Hunt. Works by Shostakovich, Dvorak, Mozart and Faure. **RBH**. 2.30 p.m. Admission free.
- 18: **LUNCHTIME CONCERT** — Loris Synan (mezzo soprano), Margaret Schofield (piano). Works by Strauss, Schubert, Poulenc. **RBH** 1.15 p.m. Admission free.
- 18: **SEMINAR** — "Ethnic pluralism and its consequences in Yugoslavia today", by Professor Vid Peczak, University of Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. Presented by Monash Centre for Migrant Studies. **Rooms 245/250, Education Building**. 7.30 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2872.
- 19: **BLACK STUDIES LECTURE** — "Aboriginal Legal Service", by Margaret Berg. Presented by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. **Lecture Theatre SG01**. 6 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3348.
- 22: **PUBLIC LECTURE** — "Do We Think or Just Think We Think", by John Wyndham. Presented by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Oakleigh. **RBH**. 8.15 p.m. Admission free.
- 23: **KERONCONG NIGHT** (light Indonesian ensemble music) with dances from West Java and Bali. **Union Theatre**. 8 p.m. Donation: adults \$3, children \$2. Bookings: Mrs A. Idrus, 231 5035; Mrs S. Pattiselanno, 95 9391; Mr M. Slamet, 341 5466.
- 26: **BLACK STUDIES FILM** — "Protected", presented by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. **Lecture Theatre SG01**. 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3348.
- 26: **LAW LECTURE** — "Recent developments on S26(a) and 26AAA of the ITAA," by Kevin Pose (University of Melbourne). **Law Faculty**. 8 p.m. Registration (for series of taxation law lectures) \$60. Inquiries: ext. 3365, 3303.
- 28: **CONCERT** — Alan Stivell **RBH** 8 p.m. Admission: adults \$7, students \$4.
- 29: **CONCERT** — Festival Strings Lucerne, presented by Musica Viva. Works by Bach, Pergolesi, Haydn, Stravinsky, Ringger and Mozart. **RBH**. 8.15 p.m. Admission: adults A. Res. \$5, B. Res. \$4; students \$2.
- 29: **LECTURE** — "Continuous Curves", by Professor G. B. Preston. Of special interest to 5th and 6th form students. Presented by Monash Department of Mathematics. **Lecture Theatre R1**. 7 p.m. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2550.
- 30-MAY 1: 1977 **ROGAINING CHAMPIONSHIPS** (24 hour orienteering). Presented by Monash Bushwalking Club in conjunction with Victorian Rogaining Association. All beginners welcome. Inquiries: Neil Phillips, ext. 3792.