

MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS

And the big men fly – again



The winning toss? The way the 1999 Australian Football League season has opened, the outcome of that big day in September could be anyone's guess. Guessing, however, is far from the minds of Dr David Dowe, left, and Mr Torsten Seemann, organisers of Monash University's highly successful Probabilistic Footy Tipping Competition. For more details on this year's competition, see the story on page 8. Photo by Greg Ford.

Project to focus on Frankston youth issues

BY JULIE RYAN

An international research team based at Monash University's Peninsula campus will explore the needs and aspirations and issues of young people living in the City of Frankston.

'Growing up in Frankston' is a collaborative project between the Peninsula campus's Faculty of Education and the Frankston City Council to determine young people's perception of their environment.

The aim of the project, which stems from the Safer Cities and Shire project

that is part of the Victorian Government's VICsafe community safety and crime prevention strategy, is to improve the living standards of all people living within the community.

Project coordinator and education lecturer Dr Karen Malone said that tensions can arise in a community when young people are perceived to be 'loitering' or 'loitering' in public areas.

"For instance, shop traders can feel threatened, justified or not, if they feel that young people are spending unnecessary amounts of time in one location," she said. "But there is often

a difference between the perceived risk and the actual risk."

The key issue, Dr Malone added, was that for a community to feel safe, more than solving and reducing crime was needed – it also meant reducing the public's fear of crime.

The intensive four-month research project will focus on a 'needs analysis' of children in the local area aged between 8 and 18 years, with the aim of developing a comprehensive set of data outlining the ideas and perceptions that children and young people have about their environment.

Continued on page 2

Research helps drugs to better target cancers

BY KAY ANSELL

Nausea, hair loss and a greater risk of infection – these are some of the possible side effects of chemotherapy, the most common treatment for breast cancer.

For the one in 13 Australian women under the age of 74 who develop breast cancer, the treatment can often seem worse than the disease. Their bodies' immune systems come under attack, while only a minute proportion of the powerful drugs reach the tumours.

But a Monash University research fellow has developed a way of ensuring that certain drugs target the cancer while also reducing some of the severe side effects and the occurrence of secondary cancers.

The discovery could improve the lives of thousands of Australian women. Dr Tracey Brown has used a natural carbohydrate – hyaluronan – to carry the drugs directly to the tumour without increasing uptake of the drugs by the major metabolic organs.

Hyaluronan, or HA, is found everywhere, from human skin to a fowl's cock's comb, and whatever its origin, says Dr Brown, it has the same chemical structure and is not rejected by the body.

Dr Brown has worked with HA for eleven years, much of that time under the mentorship of Professor Robert Fraser. Working in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with PhD student Erin Hatherell, Dr Brown has been combining HA gel with the chemotherapy drugs methotrexate and taxol in experiments on mice.

The uptake mechanism is not fully known, but Dr Brown believes that two different HA receptors found in breast cancer tumours are able to facilitate drug entry into the tumour itself.

"We have shown that the major metabolic organs of hyaluronic acid – the liver, lymph nodes and spleen – don't seem to have any increased uptake of the drug, while the tumour takes up the drug at high levels," she says.

Continued on page 2



Research by Dr Tracey Brown and PhD student Erin Hatherell (standing) could improve the lives of thousands of Australian women. Photo by Christopher Alexander.

Inside

News

Dissecting the stalker

A Monash psychologist is embarking on a landmark survey of 5000 adults on the prevalence and impact of stalking in Australia.

Page 3

News

Centre in Green Chemistry

A Monash scientific initiative could lead to the development of waste-free products and processes in a range of industries.

Page 3

Features

Growing up with English plus

A Monash video gives helpful tips to bilingual parents on how to raise their children in a multi-language household.

Page 5

Arts

Artists' role takes centre stage

A theatre industry research project aims to shed new light on the relationship between audiences and the artists they pay to see.

Page 6

Simulator for Monash

BY DAVID BRUCE

Innovative technology from Israel is revolutionising the way students at Monash University are being trained in the field of medical imaging.

The technology, an ultrasound simulator based on an original aircraft simulator and developed by Israeli company MedSim, has been installed in the university's Department of Radiography and Medical Imaging at Monash Medical Centre.

According to Professor David Healy, head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the simulator, known as UltraSim, represents a major breakthrough in medical imaging training.

"Regular training for students in ultrasound has been extremely difficult to arrange in the past," he said. "Australia imports medical imaging experts because we cannot train them fast enough here."

"Acquiring the simulator is a huge step forward. It will enable us to provide students with the ongoing training and experience they need to be fully qualified."

Until now, Professor Healy said, students had to learn on real patients.

"The new equipment allows students to develop their ultrasound skills in a controlled environment, where they can be introduced



MedSim marketing director Mr Larry Shertz at the Monash launch of the ultrasound simulator developed by his company and based on an original aircraft simulator.

to a diverse range of 'patient' types and disease," he said.

MedSim marketing director Mr Larry Shertz, who was at Monash

early last month to launch the simulator, said there were currently about 100 units in use around the world.

New dean for Monash Arts faculty

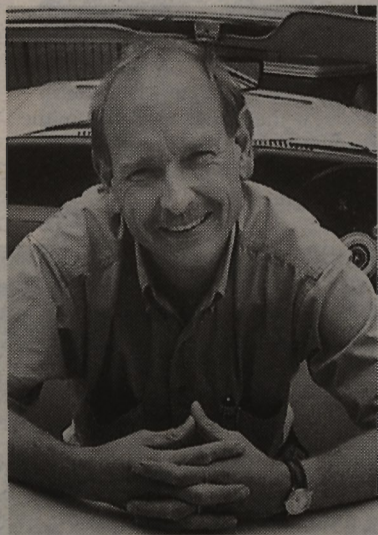
Monash University has appointed Professor Homer Le Grand as dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Professor Le Grand, who will take up his new position in July, has been dean of Arts at the University of Melbourne since 1994, where he was also involved in the university's peak planning and budget, curriculum, information technology and equal opportunity bodies.

Monash vice-chancellor Professor David Robinson said Professor Le Grand's appointment would enhance the national and international stature of Monash's Arts faculty.

"I am absolutely delighted to have secured the services of such a distinguished academic who, as Arts dean at Melbourne, has been a decisive leader. Professor Le Grand is an ideal person to lead Monash's Faculty of Arts through the next phase of its transformation," Professor Robinson said.

"This appointment will further cement the relationship between



Professor Homer Le Grand.

Monash University and the University of Melbourne, which, since the Melbourne-Monash Protocol was signed in 1997, has been an outstanding example of cooperation between two leading institutions."

Professor Le Grand's current research projects involve the examination of 20th-century scientific controversies. His work combines the disciplines of philosophy, history, chemistry and the earth sciences.

He believes this multidisciplinary approach is a vital part of a university education.

"I certainly think that combined degrees and joint degrees are the way forward. It is essential for students to combine professional training with their education and to be able to choose from a range of subjects in the arts and sciences," Professor Le Grand said.

"There are outstanding staff and students at Monash and I have no doubt the future for the Arts faculty is bright. To be a good university, it is absolutely essential to have strong arts and science faculties. Monash clearly has strengths in both of these areas and I am very much looking forward to becoming part of that university."

Focus on Frankston

Continued from page 1

"The first stage will involve interviewing young people from six neighbourhood areas in and around Frankston," Dr Malone said. "This will give us some idea of their perception of the issues they face."

"The participants will then be asked to depict their living environment through photographs, which often provides a more realistic view of their actual social, physical, educational and recreational environments."

The researchers will also spend a significant amount of time walking around the streets with the participants to get a first-hand understanding of where they spend their time.

"Each young person involved in the project will also be asked to take on a

research role of their own by interviewing two neighbourhood friends or family members," Dr Malone said.

Once the initial data has been collected and analysed, focus groups will be held to explore the major issues that are uncovered.

The research methodology being used by the team is based on the 'Growing Up In Cities' (GUIC) project of which Dr Malone is the Melbourne site coordinator. GUIC is an international UNESCO project first conducted in 1972 and repeated in 1994.

"The GUIC project was initially aimed at exploring the differences between young people in developing and developed nations," Dr Malone explained.

The original research was conducted in Melbourne, Warsaw, Salta (Argentina) and Mexico City,

with the sites for the revisited project including: Buenos Aires, Salta, Braybrook in Melbourne, Northampton (England), Bangalore (India), Warsaw (Poland), Johannesburg (South Africa) and Oaklands (California).

Dr Malone said the 'Growing Up In Frankston' team's multidisciplinary approach would provide a much more in-depth analysis of the issues. Dr Malone's background is in environmental science, research assistant Mr Lindsay Hasluck is a social anthropologist, and Parisian researcher Ms Sadrine Depeau has strengths in urban design and environmental psychology.

For more details about the 'Growing Up In Cities' project, see the web site at www2.deakin.edu.au/guic

BRIEFS

Malaysia students set up server

Four Monash Malaysia computer science students have set up an electronic communication server for students.

The server, named YoYo, is modelled on a similar system used at other Monash campuses and provides students with general Internet services such as email, storage space, relay chats and computer tutorials.

The members of the group, Adrian Lo, Wong Kok Leong, Derrick Tan and Myles Milston, who are all in first year, said they hoped YoYo would encourage a sense of community among the students of the Sunway Campus.

The group is hoping the YoYo server will soon be extended to include newsgroups, Internet chat lines and telephony.

Fulbright award goes to Monash graduate

A Monash science honours graduate has won a Fulbright Award to study in the United States in 1999.

Nicholas Jones will undertake PhD studies in theoretical physics, focusing on quantum mechanics and general relativity.

An American recipient of a Fulbright Postgraduate Student Award, Andrew Zawacki, plans to work under the supervision of Dr Kevin Hart at Monash University.

Andrew recently completed a master of literature degree at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. He has a master of philosophy from Oxford University and a bachelor's degree in English from the College of William and Mary.

\$70,000 grant for civics project

Monash University's Faculty of Education has been given a \$70,000 grant to examine ways to improve civics and citizenship education in schools.

The Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs grant will support the initial phase of the extended professional development project, being developed by a team of academics from the faculty.

The project aims to enhance the quality and quantity of teaching and learning about civics and citizenship issues.

Part of the 'Civics and Citizenship Education: Discovering Democracy Professional Development' strategy which DETYA has funded nationally, the program will be offered twice to teachers between June 1999 and June 2000. Further funding will be provided for the delivery of the course across Victoria.

Careers fair the largest ever

More than 42 companies were represented last month at the largest careers fair ever held at Monash University.

The fair, which included the Economics, Commerce, Business, Arts and Law faculties, attracted more than 2000 students from all Monash campuses as well as distance education students.

Presented by Monash Unicomm and the Monash Student Employment and Careers Service (MONSEACS), the fair provides an opportunity for final-year students to register their interest with companies who want to recruit new graduates.

It also enables employers to provide students with information about their companies and to develop a profile within the university.

Drug discovery

Continued from page 1

Measurements showed optimum drug uptake occurred during the first two hours, with drug levels then falling to those normally observed during conventional methotrexate therapy.

"It's as if the drug hits, gets in there at increased amounts and starts to kill more cancer cells before the levels drop. This means that this form of tumour targeting could show differing degrees of effectiveness depending on the type of drug being used."

The finding is expected to mean that patients receive lower doses of certain drugs for a more effective result.

Another significant finding was that HA with methotrexate drastically reduced the levels of the drug reaching the gastrointestinal tract - which could minimise nausea and gastrointestinal problems.

In experiments, mice actually gained weight compared with a control

group. As well, the spread of cancer to other organs in the mice was greatly reduced and no new tumours were formed.

Most people don't die from the original cancer, says Dr Brown, they die from the spread of cancer, called metastasis. "In mice we injected with HA and methotrexate, we found a reduced number of secondary cancers."

Hyal Pharmaceutical Australia Pty Ltd is funding the project and is actively supporting further studies with the goal of entering clinical trials, most likely in conjunction with a commercial partner.

And while Dr Brown is so far happy with the results achieved, she wants to test her findings on more drugs and to eventually see significant shrinkage of the tumour itself as well as a reduction in side effects for patients.

At the very least, she expects the quality of life for breast cancer patients to improve: "You will, hopefully, feel a lot better when having chemotherapy."



Researchers Dr Karen Malone, left, Mr Lindsay Hasluck, and Ms Sadrine Depeau.

Study to examine the impacts of stalking

BY PETER GOLDIE

The year is 1840, the place London and Miss Angela Coutts has just lost on a legal technicality a court case in which she sought to have one Richard Dunn, Esquire, prevented from further "molesting, annoying and terrifying" her.

Her failure to emphasise in a written statement her fear of personal injury from Dunn after a year of harassment lost her the case. However, it prompted the judges to comment on the miscarriage of justice, saying, "Perhaps the law of England may be justly reproached with its inadequacy to repress the mischief and obviate the danger which the prisoner's proceedings render all too probable".

The judges continued, "We may naturally feel surprised if none of the numerous Police Acts have made specific provisions for that purpose."

Fast forward about 150 years, and a new word - stalking - is being attached to an old crime which to date has defied definition.

Since then judicial systems across the Western world have moved, sometimes clumsily, to define a broad group of offences encompassing specific or implied threats, and stalking has increasingly come under the spotlight accompanied by mass public interest.

Rosemary Purcell, a Monash PhD student, is one of those involved in studying stalking. Along with Professor Paul Mullen from the Forensic Psychiatry department and consultant forensic psychiatrist Dr Michele Pathe, she is analysing methods used by stalkers and their effects on victims, and is trying to identify what drives the stalker in his, (or, significantly, in her) pursuit.

A psychologist whose interests include obsessive compulsive disorder, Ms Purcell has co-authored a book with her colleagues, *Stalkers and their Victims* (Cambridge University Press)



Ms Rosemary Purcell is involved in one of the largest surveys ever conducted on the prevalence and impact of stalking. Photo by Christopher Alexander.

due for release later this year and is now undertaking one of the largest surveys conducted anywhere on the subject.

The ambitious study, which over the next 12 to 18 months will survey 5000 adult men and women randomly selected from the Victorian electoral roll, aims to address the limitations of previous studies on both the prevalence and impact of stalking.

One study by the Australian Bureau of Statistics suggests that 15 per cent of Australian women reported being stalked by a man, while in the US, the 1998 *Tjaden and Thoennes* study suggested that 12 per cent of women and 4 per cent of men had experienced stalking.

But Ms Purcell thinks these estimates may overstate the problem. "I think those studies have been quite inclusive and picked up a lot of what many people would describe as 'low-

level' harassment, which may not continue or necessarily be severe enough to result in fear or distress," she said.

Difficulties arise because the term 'stalking' encompasses a broad range of behaviours and offenders, 25-30 per cent of whom suffer from some form of serious mental illness. These include erotomania, the belief that someone is attracted to the subject, when there is no evidence to support this and even if the attraction has been clearly repudiated.

"As well as those perpetrators who are clearly mentally ill, there are others, also mentally ill, who mistakenly believe they are the victims of stalkers," Ms Purcell said.

"It is not at all as clear-cut as it may first appear and through our study and follow-up interviews we hope to fill some of the gaps."

Multinationals under spotlight

BY CHRIS GILES

A Monash lecturer has called for greater international legal accountability for multinational corporations that commit human rights violations.

Ms Sarah Joseph, a lecturer in constitutional and human rights law, said human rights treaties spelt out government duties but did not define the obligations of multinationals or private bodies. Abuses could result from activities such as workforce exploitation, lax safety standards, environmental damage or perversion of political processes.

"Currently, under international human rights law, a state is responsible for what a multinational does within its territory," she said.

"The problem is that certain multinationals can be much more powerful than the states in which they operate, particularly in developing nations.

"I'm not saying that multinationals are necessarily bad, because they're not all bad, but if they do abuse human rights, the legal mechanisms available are just not being used.

"One of the reasons for that is because multinationals are very powerful and some governments that are supposed to control them might be corruptible or just simply vulnerable.

"They might perceive that they are extremely dependent on multinationals' investment, so they feel that if they bring in stricter environmental and other controls, the multinationals

might leave. That perception itself could be enough to undermine any regulation that's actually in place."

Ms Joseph said future measures to make multinationals more accountable could include an international tribunal that could declare a corporation guilty of an offence and adversely affect its market attractiveness.

Ms Joseph will present a paper about her research at a colloquium on corporate liability under international law at Erasmus University, Rotterdam, on 29 and 30 April. She will canvass human rights obligations of multinationals, existing legal accountability and proposals for improvement.

She said her research coincided with recent campaigns against multinationals' human rights abuses, generated by organisations such as Amnesty International.

"The focus has arisen through increased consumer awareness or a possible backlash against globalisation," she said.

"Multinationals are the biggest participants in world trade and probably the biggest beneficiaries, so the whole system seems to have been devised to give them many rights but no duties.

"There's not a lot of research on what those human rights duties should be, so my work is at a very early stage.

"Although I've been focusing on abuses in developing countries, I think there is an impact in developed countries, too. It's probably just more invisible and that's why it's quite insidious."

Green chemistry centre a first for nation

BY SUE McALISTER

A world in which there is no industrial waste? It sounds like science fiction, but Professor Colin Raston is working towards making it science fact. And, he says, there's lots of interest from Australia and overseas in what his team is trying to achieve.

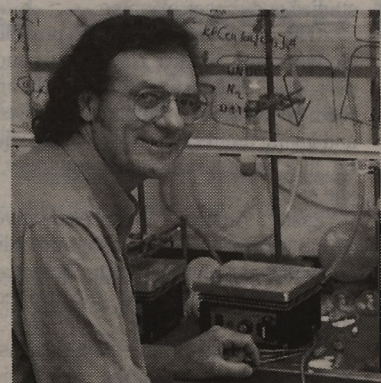
Professor Raston heads Monash's new Centre in Green Chemistry - the first such centre of its kind in Australia. To help secure financial backing for the future, the centre has just lodged an appeal for special research funding from the Australian Research Council, which, if successful, will provide funds for another six years, and possibly nine.

Earlier this year, the centre received \$150,000 in start-up funds from the Strategic Monash University Research Fund - Grants for New and Emerging Research Strengths, or SMURE. The centre also received \$100,000 from the university's Faculty of Science and \$5000 from the Faculty of Engineering.

Professor Raston says the money will be spent on the purchase and maintenance of equipment, as well as on personnel. There are currently 12 faculty staff members who have "embraced the principles of green

research" and another 12 research staff, including postgraduate students.

According to Professor Raston, who proposed establishing the centre in 1997, what the centre does is not environmental science. "Its work is driven by innovation, not regulation," he says. This means the centre won't be looking, for example, at ways to minimise the effect of chemical pollutants in river systems. Rather, it will be searching for ways to do away with the pollutants altogether, by offering environmentally safe alternatives to the chemicals and processes that gave rise to the pollutants in the first place.



According to Professor Colin Raston, the Centre in Green Chemistry is driven by innovation, not regulation. Photo by Shannon Mattinson.

As Professor Raston says, his team "is going right back to the start, looking, for example, at ways for certain chemical reactions to be conducted in water, which is benign".

The centre also wants to find ways of substituting re-usable resources for oil-based ones in chemical processes, to develop new analytical methods for monitoring the production of chemicals, to eliminate polluting by-products and to make products fully biodegradable.

"The ultimate aim," he says, "is no waste - we want 100 per cent of what goes in to come out as product."

The professor is optimistic about the future, claiming that "industries are embracing the notion of green chemistry, which can be applied to a wide range of processes and products. It's also a matter of community perception - green chemistry will result in scientists getting more public support."

The centre has already attracted interest from a range of Australian and overseas bodies, including 12 companies, four divisions of the CSIRO and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The centre is also linked with the Carnegie-Mellon University and the University of Alabama in the United States.



Ms Sarah Joseph is researching the human rights obligations and accountability of multinationals. Photo by Greg Ford.

Schools



Guide 2000 out

Monash's Undergraduate Course Guide for 2000 will be available from the university's Prospective Students Office at the end of April. All schools will be sent five copies, with an order form that allows them to order as many copies as they need free of charge.

Individuals can call or email the office and organise to have a copy sent to their home address. For details or to order, contact (03) 9905 1320 or email MCI@adm.monash.edu.au

New courses for the millennium

A number of undergraduate courses will be offered for the first time in 2000. Information about these courses is contained in the *Undergraduate Course Guide*, including phone numbers for further information.

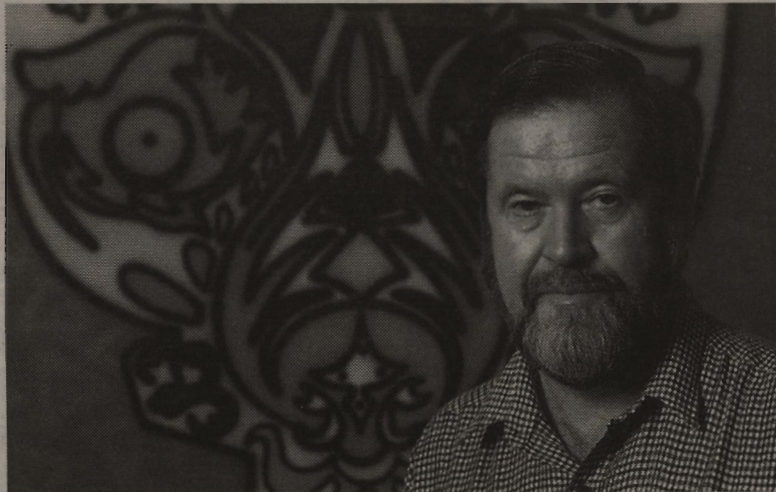
The courses are: Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Computer Science (Clayton); Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design)/ Education (Caulfield); Bachelor of Primary Education (Gippsland); Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical)/ Bachelor of Technology (Aerospace) (Clayton); Bachelor of Formulation Sciences (*related to Pharmacy) (Parkville); and Bachelor of Psychology and Management/Marketing (Caulfield).

Science Week '99

A program for Year 8, 9 and 10 students called 'Science at Monash' will be run for National Science Week between 3 and 7 May. The program includes daily science lectures and hands-on activities for approximately 250 students per day. A 'Courses and Careers in Science' seminar will be held on the evening of 4 May. Students from all year levels and their parents are welcome to attend.

For more information about Science Week at Monash, contact Ms Sandra McNamara on (03) 9905 4613.

Project will uncover some colourful tales



Professor John Bradshaw. Photo by Greg Ford.

BY CHRIS GILES

While Russian-born author Vladimir Nabokov continues to stir controversy with his 1955 novel *Lolita*, one of his earlier works aroused interest for an entirely different reason.

In his autobiography, Nabokov wrote of his and his mother's experiences with 'synaesthesia' – a condition of the senses which causes people to vividly see or associate colours with words, numbers or music.

It is a phenomenon described by the head of Monash University's neuropsychology research unit, Professor John Bradshaw, as "an unusual ability", found most commonly in left-handed females – about one in 2000 – and often in other family members.

Creative ability seems closely linked with synaesthetes and a surprising number are artists, poets and musicians, he says. Many claim to be poor at mathematics and directions, while others see every day of the week as a particular colour or admit to experiencing "slightly paranormal" feelings.

Since an article about the neuropsychology unit's proposed study of synaesthesia recently appeared in a national newspaper, along with an appeal for synaesthetes to make contact, about 200 people have responded from around Australia.

While some say they find the experience confusing, others find it pleasant and even useful, Professor Bradshaw says. One letter is from a waitress who remembers the orders of 20 people by automatically colour-coding their meals; another from a woman who colour-codes her shopping list.

All have said they would like to participate in a study to be headed

by Monash honours student Anina Rich, in close consultation with Dr Jason Mattingley and Professor Bradshaw.

"A large number of respondents said they were very excited to find that there were others like them," Professor Bradshaw says.

"Some didn't know until they were quite a lot older that they were different from other people. They thought everybody else experienced the same phenomenal appearance of colour when a certain number, word, letter or name came up."

Professor Bradshaw says the unit's study will complement brain-imaging studies being carried out in England by Simon Baron-Cohen at Cambridge University.

"There's a question of how the brain links or 'binds' together the different qualities of an object – for example, a silver candlestick that may be considered valuable, metal, shiny, connected to romantic dinners and handed down as a family heirloom.

"It may be that synaesthesia is an abnormal form of binding – it's binding that has perhaps gone beyond the usual parameters.

"We do know that in the early days of childhood, up to puberty and adolescence, there's a phenomenon known as apoptosis whereby the brain loses or literally kills off lots of unwanted connections.

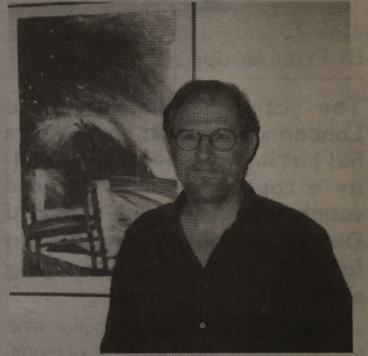
"It's a bit like a sculptor carving a statue from marble by knocking off, or getting rid of, the bits he doesn't want.

"That's how the brain seems to work. It starts off with a lot more connections than you need and these are dropped off during development. It may well be that synaesthetes have not lost these connections, but again, that's just a hypothesis."

Multimedia artist shares expertise

BY FRANCES MARTIN

The sharing of knowledge and experience between tertiary institutions was given a boost recently when Monash University and East Gippsland Institute of TAFE joined forces to bring Canadian multimedia artist Stephen Hogbin (right) to Victoria.



Internationally acclaimed for his work in the medium of wood, Hogbin is currently designer and maker-in-residence at Forestech, the new Timber Industry and Furniture Design Centre in Gippsland that is part of TAFE.

It is Hogbin's second visit to Australia, the last being in the mid-1970s when he was artist-in-residence at the former Melbourne State College. Delighted to be back, he hopes the general public as well as Monash and TAFE students have gained from his expertise.

Born in Tolworth, England, Hogbin studied at the Royal College of Art in England before emigrating to Canada in 1968. His idyllically positioned tri-level studio overlooks Lake Charles near Warton, Ontario, where he creates objects that vary in scale from small, individual pieces to large installations. He also works on public, private and corporate commissions, writes, lectures, conducts workshops, curates, and exhibits internationally.

"Although I am not a furniture maker, I do make furniture, in keeping with my original training," he says. "Broadly, I work at three levels, making small items such as bowls and giftware, furniture specifically designed for a client's needs and public art.

"The project I am working on at Forestech is a work-station. I call it 'four tables' because the pieces – a desk, stool, storage unit and shelving unit – all have horizontal surfaces. I am using cutting and rejoining techniques in its manufacture, and three kinds of Australian wood: sassafras, red gum and East Gippsland ash. It's designed to have domestic rather than office appeal, and I believe there is a demand for furniture of this kind."

Hogbin says that by observing this work in progress, students will get an idea of the processes involved as well as motivation for their own work.

The artist admits that he is learning too. "I am intrigued by Forestech," he says. "It represents a fresh way of thinking about our relationship to the forest that brings natural resource management, timber harvesting, furniture design and furniture making together. It is quite unique and somewhat alleviates the deepening concern about forests. I see it as an attempt to train a generation so that people can keep their jobs, keep the forest, and manage things in a sustainable way."



The Forestech building in East Gippsland. Photos by Frances Martin.

Mentoring scheme to help engineering students

BY FIONA PERRY

A new mentoring scheme launched last month by Monash University's Faculty of Engineering aims to ease two major transitions in students' lives.

The 1999 Engineering Mentor Scheme, sponsored by Esso Australia, will aid the transition from school to university and from university to the workforce by matching students with senior student and professional engineering mentors.

The scheme, comprising more than 300 mentors and students, will also offer students the opportunity to participate in professional development workshops, career training sessions, technical forums and social occasions with their mentors.

Women in engineering development officer Ms Ruth Schneider, who is also



From left: Esso Australia representatives Mr Stephen Schoemaker, Ms Penny Mason and Mr Brent Levey, Faculty of Engineering women in engineering development officer Ms Ruth Schneider and Faculty dean Professor Mike Brisk. Photo by Richard Crompton.

the scheme's organiser, said the scheme would provide students with invaluable assistance in both their studies and career planning.

"The mentoring scheme will provide students with positive role models and personal encouragement, helping them to persevere with their studies, and giving them an idea of what life will be like as a professional engineer," she said.

Esso Australia representative Mr Stephen Schoemaker said his company was excited by the potential of the scheme, and encouraged students to get involved.

"Good engineers have more than just good academic results," he said. "This scheme will allow students to develop personally, professionally, socially and technically, making them more employable as well as better engineers."

It is the first time that a Monash engineering mentor scheme has sought the expertise of professional engineers to act as mentors.

Faculty dean Professor Mike Brisk said participating practising engineers would benefit from the scheme not only by helping students to reach their goals, but also by having the opportunity to participate in professional development seminars and expand their professional network.

"The scheme will present a number of evening workshops and seminars of interest to professional engineers, in areas such as salary negotiation, setting up your own business or consultancy and time management skills," he said.

For more information on the mentor scheme contact Ms Ruth Schneider on (03) 9905 1830.

Video highlights bilingual homes



Professor Michael Clyne with Bee Ng, Francesco and Gianluca Cavallaro and Anamaria Beligan. Photo by Fran Hogan.

BY COREY NASSAU

There are more bilingual people in the world today than monolinguals, according to a Monash University linguist.

And with this trend has come an increasing interest among bilingual parents in Australia to raise their children to speak at least one language other than English, says Professor Michael Clyne, a research director in the Language and Society Centre at Monash.

A new video, *Growing Up With English Plus*, launched recently by the Victorian Governor, Sir James Gobbo, helps show them how.

Professor Clyne is just one of the researchers involved in the video, which explores the benefits and challenges of raising children bilingually.

"There are now more than 240 languages spoken in Australian homes, so it is inevitable that a lot of people will marry a partner who doesn't have the same language background as they do," Professor Clyne said.

"Typically in Australia, when one parent is a bilingual and the other parent is English speaking only, the established wisdom is that the language spoken in the home is going to be English."

Growing Up With English Plus tries to show parents that by passing on another language to their children, they are giving them a valuable asset and an important understanding of their heritage.

But while the video encourages a bilingual upbringing for reasons of maintaining culture and fostering cognitive development in children, it also recognises the challenges and the work involved.

"We wanted to use our research into bilingualism in such a way that it could help members of the community maintain their languages when they were unsure of how to go about it," Professor Clyne said.

Produced by PhD linguistics student and Bucharest Film School graduate Ms Anamaria Beligan, the video focuses on the bilingual issue in a clear and sensitive way.

"It's a sincere piece of film-making that does not gloss over the problems," Ms Beligan said. "It addresses both the challenges and the difficulties, and therefore I think it is a real resource for parents who intend to bring up their children bilingually."

The video highlights research and arguments from Professor Clyne and fellow Monash linguist Dr Suzanne Dopke, but most importantly it

includes the responses of parents and children to bilingualism in their home environments.

"We didn't just interview these people, we went into their homes, spent some time with them and tried to be as unobtrusive as possible when filming. We managed to catch some really candid moments," Ms Beligan said.

According to Professor Clyne, the centre's research on multilingualism in Australia has concentrated on how language has changed and what kinds of factors have caused people to stop using their first language and to use only English.

But attitudes in Australia were changing, he said, and many people now believed that the ability to speak more than one language was both an important asset for the individual and a valuable resource for the nation.

Since 1990, the Language and Society Centre has conducted regular workshops for parents who wanted to raise their children bilingually. The most recent one attracted 120 parents.

Professor Clyne said the video would make the information shared at the workshops accessible to a wider audience.

To order the video, contact the Language and Society Centre on (03) 9905 5450.

Clinic to boost access to legal system

Monash University's Law faculty will establish a clinic to help family law clients gain access to the legal system.

The Federal Attorney-General, Mr Daryl Williams, is providing the faculty with \$200,000 over two years, with further funding of \$100,000 a year until 2002, for the establishment of a Contested Family Law Clinic.

The funds will be used to provide self-help workshops for people involved in contested family law proceedings.

The service will be available at the Monash-Oakleigh Legal Service adjoining the university's Clayton campus.

Monash dean of Law Professor Stephen Parker said that by providing disadvantaged family law clients with access to justice, the clinic would help address one of the most serious problems facing Australian society today.

"We are grateful to Mr Williams for his support in this crucial area," Professor Parker said. "The faculty will work with the community, practitioners

and the Family Court to ensure that those who cannot afford legal representation are given the basic tools and the confidence to represent themselves."

He said there were clearly many kinds of cases where representation by a lawyer was necessary in the interests of both the client and the Family Court, as well as of justice itself.

In addition, Professor Parker said, the clinic would provide Monash law students with valuable learning experiences as they were preparing to become the lawyers of the future.

E-commerce ... watch out for the next wave

While initial concerns about electronic commerce such as privacy and security are being addressed, law lecturer Jacqueline Lipton says there are new and more subtle issues about cyber-trading which need to be considered.

OPINION

The first wave of e-commerce raised some obvious legal concerns with issues such as privacy and security, authentication of digital signatures and protection of intellectual property rights in cyberspace. Now some more subtle issues are emerging.

A recent example involves the use of traditional payment mechanisms in cyberspace. One of the most popular payment methods in international trading has historically been the documentary letter of credit. Documentary credits allow parties to trade in shipping documents rather than goods actually shipped to ensure speedy and efficient payment.

A nominated bank will release funds to a seller on behalf of a purchaser on presentation by the seller of specified original shipping documents (such as a bill of lading, invoice and insurance documents). This prevents delays in payment while the buyer awaits delivery of the goods. It also substitutes the creditworthiness of a known bank in the seller's jurisdiction with



receipt by the purchaser. The electronic sale can take place almost instantaneously across great distances. The need to replace the creditworthiness of an unknown purchaser often in an unknown jurisdiction with that of a known local bank will increase.

Banks can no longer rely on standard form documentation requiring the presentation of shipping documents. In one case recently documented on the web, completely new wording was created for a credit used to pay an American company for the sale of its Internet domain name to a French company.

Rather than referring to shipping documents, the credit referred to original proof of registration of the domain name to the French company. The specificity of such payment conditions to the situation at hand suggests that documentary credits used in e-commerce may now need to be drafted on a potentially costly case-by-case basis rather than by relying on cheaper standard form documents.

Parties to electronic trading transactions should carefully consider whether documentary credits are a cost-effective payment method in this context or whether other alternatives should be used. If such credits are to be used for electronic trading, lawyers will need to think carefully about how best to draft them to suit the needs of the transaction in question.

Jacqueline Lipton is a lecturer and associate director of the Banking Law Centre in the Law faculty at Monash University. She has previously practised in banking and finance law at Arthur Robinson & Hedderwicks, Blake Dawson Waldron and the Legal Services Group of ANZ Bank.

"Parties to electronic trading transactions should carefully consider whether documentary credits are a cost-effective payment method, or whether other alternatives should be used."

that of an often unknown buyer in a foreign jurisdiction.

E-commerce creates new challenges for this popular payment method. For example, banks now need to accept electronically generated shipping documents and digital signatures in place of the historical paper versions. Provisions for this have recently been included in the UCP 500, a set of rules drafted by the International Chamber of Commerce, the organisation that helps govern documentary credits.

More recently, banks have faced situations where the goods sold are not tangible products shipped manually from country to country. Rather, they can be information products traded electronically over the Internet; for example, the electronic sale of computer software or an Internet domain name.

In such cases, there are no shipping documents to support payment, nor is there a delay between shipment by the seller and

New project to examine audience-artist links

BY FRANCES MARTIN

Are the interpretations of plays and performances by theatre artists being successfully conveyed to their number one critics – the theatre-goers?

That's one of the questions at the heart of a collaborative research project between Monash University and two of Australia's leading theatre companies, Playbox Theatre and Theatreworks Melbourne.

The project has attracted a large Strategic Partners in Industry Research and Training grant from the Australian Research Council, designed to link researchers and industry partners. Together with in-kind support from the theatres, total funding for the project so far amounts to about \$90,000.

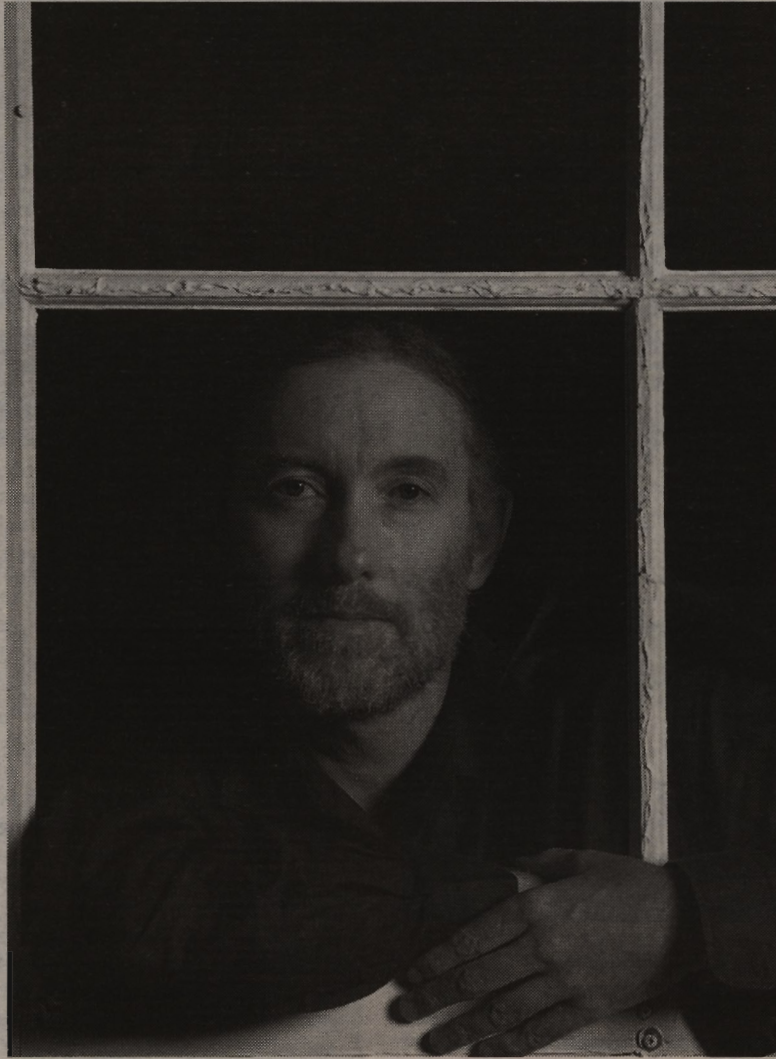
Monash lecturer in Drama and Theatre Studies Peter Snow initiated the proposal for the grant following a pilot study whose results indicated a need for further clarification of some important issues.

Artistic directors of Playbox and Theatreworks, Aubrey Mellor and Paul Monaghan respectively, agree that "it is of utmost importance to discover the extent to which the work of theatre artists coincides with its interpretation by theatre audiences".

Snow is enthusiastic about the project. "As far as I know, a systematic investigation into the relationships between theatre audiences and theatre artists has never before been done in Australia," he says. "So this will be a first. It is important for us to discover what artists are attempting to convey to audiences and if their intentions are successful. It is also important to find out whether or not audience expectations are being met."

Beginning in 1999, the three-year research project will entail monitoring six productions, three at each of the two theatres involved. Snow expects to distribute about 2700 questionnaires and interview selected groups from audiences attending the productions.

He will use observation and discussion to gather additional information. The study will also include assessments of work in production, interviews with



Peter Snow's research project will shed new light on the relationship between audiences and artists. Photo by Greg Ford.

theatre artists, including actors, and documentation of performances.

Although project results will especially contribute to audience research and performance theory, Playbox's Simone Lourey also anticipates that they will inform all areas of the theatre industry, including theatre companies, the media and funding bodies. In addition, there will be a run-on effect in theatre studies and theatrical production.

Ultimately, the public will benefit too. People will not only have more of

an idea of how the theatre industry works in conjunction with theatre audiences, they will also have a greater awareness and understanding of the ongoing role that theatre plays in the Australian culture.

At the end of the project, written reports will be presented to the theatre companies involved and Snow expects the information to be disseminated throughout the community.

Anyone interested in being part of an interview group should contact Peter Snow on (03) 9905 9033.

Plenty of passion, magic and melodrama in store

The catastrophes, double crosses, superbitches and melodrama of soap opera are all sent up to hilarious effect in the latest Monash Student Theatre production, to be performed during this year's Comedy Week on the university's Clayton campus.

Unbridled Passions, an outrageous spoof on soap operas written and directed by student Richard Wied, will be performed daily at 1 pm from 19 to 23 April.

The 30-minute performances will take place in the Student Theatre Space, at the western end of the Union Building.

Tickets are \$5. To book, telephone Monash Student Theatre on (03) 9905 3108 or book on-line from the Student Theatre webpage at www.monash.edu.au/students/msa/stc.htm

Coming up in May, mixed ability dance group will weave its magic in two performances for Disability Awareness Week at Monash.

WEAVE, whose members have wide-ranging national and international experience as performers, choreographers and directors, will showcase their unique performance style in two shows on 5 May at 1 pm on the Menzies lawn, and at 8 pm in the Student Theatre Space in the Union building on Clayton campus.

Formed in 1997 as an Arts Access initiative, WEAVE performed last year as part of International Day of People with Disabilities and is appearing at the National Recreation and Disability Conference this month.

Entry to both performances is free. To book for the evening session, contact Monash Student Theatre on (03) 9905 3108.

Alex 'sons' reunite



A reunion of 'sons' of the Alex from left: Graham McGuffie, Keith Tucker and Ross Mollison with former Alex director Phil A'Vard. Photo by Christopher Alexander.

Three 'graduates' from Monash University's Alexander Theatre have teamed up for a lavish new production of *Swan Lake* next month.

Arts marketing specialist Ross Mollison, theatre production manager Keith Tucker and scenic artist and set designer Graham McGuffie have been engaged for the English National Ballet's Australian tour of the ballet classic.

In a dramatic twist to Tchaikovsky's masterpiece, the ballet will be staged in a spectacular arena setting at stadiums in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane, rather than on-stage.

It is the first time the trio have worked professionally together despite sharing a background at Monash's Alexander Theatre, three among the stream of showbusiness hopefuls who used to turn up on the Alex's doorstep seeking work.

Tucker, who has worked on many large-scale Australian productions, is production manager for the *Swan Lake* tour, which is being marketed by Mollison's firm, Mollison Consulting.

"It's funny that we were all brought together by the Alex and now here we are, years later, working on a major international production," says McGuffie, who has created the ballet's massive sets.

Former Alex director Phil A'Vard says the door was always open to the 'walk-ins' – mostly Monash students with little experience but lots of ideas and creative energy.

"We made sure there was always work, whether paid or unpaid, for those who really wanted it", he recalls.

And while many came and went, a few stayed on, working their way through the ranks toward successful careers in show business – including working on one of the biggest international arts events ever to be staged in Australia.

Swan Lake will be performed at the Sydney Entertainment Centre from 13 to 16 May, Melbourne Park from 20 to 22 May, Adelaide Entertainment Centre from 28 to 30 May, and Brisbane Entertainment Centre from 4 to 6 June.

New artist-in-residence at Caulfield

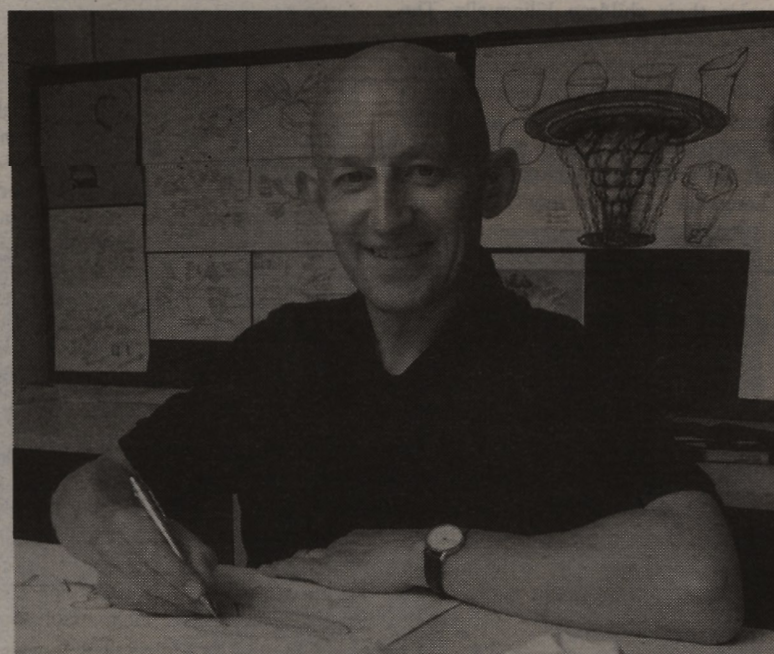
Monash University's Applied Arts department has a new artist-in-residence, with the arrival of Gordon Burnett from Grays School of Art, part of the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Burnett, who will focus on metals and jewellery, will be working in the new Art and Design building at Caulfield on a research project titled 'Craft Realtime Walkabout', designed to be an exploration of craft in different cultural contexts.

"The approach is to immerse oneself in a different culture and then respond to that study by creating new work," he said.

The artist will consider the relationship between his own craft background, past and present Aboriginal culture and the craft of 200 years of European white settlement. Burnett will also investigate museum collections and talk with practitioners in Sydney, Canberra, Adelaide, Wagga Wagga, Tasmania and New Zealand.

"Once I have investigated the various sources, I will then respond



to the findings in the form of artifacts," Burnett said. "I am aiming to create work that can be widely understood and crosses cultural boundaries."

The research will lead to an exhibition to be held in late October at the new gallery on Caulfield campus.

— COREY NASSAU

Poets on show: from nonsense to greatness



Rare Books librarian Mr Richard Overall. Photo by Elizabeth Dias.

BY DEREK BROWN

The essence of modern Australian poetry is on show at Monash University until mid-May.

The Modern Australian Poetry exhibition, in the Rare Books section of the Main Library at Clayton campus, includes more than 100 items and has taken Mr Richard Overall, Rare Books librarian, more than six weeks to put together.

"We are constantly searching for additions to the Rare Books library, and with this exhibition in particular a lot of the material had to come from people who were around at the time, sometimes the poets themselves," he said.

Periodicals, published books and photos of poets from the 1920s to the present day are included in the exhibition.

And with such items on display as Patrick White's 1937 collection, works by modern poet Alicia Spence, and an elegantly printed and illustrated volume to a spiral notebook with poetry handwritten in text, Mr Overall aims to show the full range of modern Australian poetry.

One of the earliest items in the catalogue, Mr Overall says, is a 1923 text by Bert Birtles titled *Black Poppies*. It includes a sexually explicit poem, 'Beauty', which was originally published in the University of Sydney student newspaper. The author was

later expelled from the university on the charge of "committing misconduct in writing a poem".

Each item has its own story to tell, and Mr Overall hopes the exhibition will show that the world of Australian poetry has always been "interesting and a little controversial".

The exhibition also touches on one of Australia's most notorious literary incidents when, during the 1940s, Harold Stewart and James McAuley wrote a series of nonsensical poems under the name of Ern Malley in an attempt to discredit a shift to modern free verse in poetry.

"It was a very elaborate ruse," Mr Overall said. "They created Ern Malley as a working-class author who died young from a mysterious disease, leaving behind a number of manuscripts. They tricked Max Harris, an editor of a poetry magazine, into publishing them."

"Ironically, the poems - though deliberately made to be critical of free verse - are among the finest of the period."

What: Modern Australian Poetry

Where: Main Library, Monash University, Clayton

When: Until mid-May

Who: Rare Books section.

For more details, contact Mr Richard Overall on (03) 9905 2689.

What's on

A round-up of free arts events and activities around Monash campuses.

April

15 Poetry exhibition - 'Modern Australian Poetry', an exhibition of books and periodicals on modern Australian poetry. Rare Books section, main library, Clayton. Until mid-May.

15 Monash Gallery exhibition - 'The persistence of POP', Monash University Gallery, Clayton. Until 24 April.

15 Lunchtime concert - 'The grand tour', a selection from baroque Europe, by Snakewood. Music Auditorium, Clayton, 1.10 pm.

16 Music seminar - 'The jazz era in Australia during the 1940s', by Mr Graeme Pender. Room G38, Performing Arts Centre, Clayton, 4.30 pm.

19 Lunchtime concert - 'Great jazz artists', presented by Tim McMillan (guitar), Justin Ashworth (bass) and Ross Crowley (percussion). Hexagon Theatre, Gippsland, 1.10 pm (George Jenkins Theatre, Peninsula on 20 April).

21 Lunchtime concert - 'Monash Sinfonia', the works of Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Vivaldi and Skalkottas presented by the Monash String Chamber Orchestra. Clayfield Room, Caulfield, 1.10 pm.

22 Lunchtime concert - 'Organ Symphony' by Saint-Saens, presented by the New Monash Orchestra conducted by Andrew de Quadros with organist John O'Donnell. Robert Blackwood Hall, Clayton, 1.10 pm.

26 Lunchtime concert - 'Monash Sinfonia'. Hexagon Theatre, Gippsland, 1.10 pm (George Jenkins Theatre, Peninsula, 27 April).

29 Music seminar - 'Afghan classical music', by Mr Ahmad Sarmast. Room G38, Performing Arts Centre, Clayton, 9.30 am.

29 Lunchtime concert - 'Traditional and contemporary music', presented by Monash University's mixed choir, Viva Voce, and the Monash Women's Choir. Music auditorium, Clayton, 1.10 pm.

May

3 Lunchtime concert - 'Baroque and contemporary recorder and piano combinations', presented by Louisa Hunter-Bradley (recorders) and David Bartholomeusz (piano). Hexagon Theatre, Gippsland, 1.10 pm (George Jenkins Theatre, Peninsula, on 4 May).

6 Lunchtime concert - 'Beethoven sonatas', presented by cellist Alfred Hornung and Russian-born pianist Igor Machlak. Music auditorium, Clayton, 1.10 pm.

10 Lunchtime concert - 'Russian ambience', the works of Prokofiev, Rachmaninov and Scriabin, presented by Deniz Braun (piano). Hexagon Theatre, Gippsland, 1.10 pm (George Jenkins Theatre, Peninsula, on 11 May).

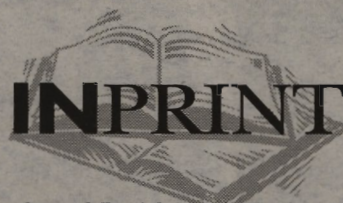
12 Lunchtime concert - 'Dome contemporary gamelan', an exploration of a unique blend of Javanese music with Western and non-Western traditions. Clayfield Room, Caulfield, 1.10 pm.

13 Lunchtime concert - 'Music of Andrew Previn', presented by Vivienne Hamilton (soprano), Alan Hardy (flute), Roseanne Hunt (cello), and Len Vorster (piano). Music auditorium, Clayton, 1.10 pm.

14 Music seminar - 'Mon traditional music', by Mr Linh Le. Room G38, Performing Arts Centre, Clayton, 4.30 pm.

19 Lunchtime concert - 'Beethoven and others', works by Beethoven, Colasanti and Krommer, performed by I Fiati Italiani. Berwick Student Lounge, 1.10 pm.

25 Lunchtime concert - 'Classical works', music by Mozart, Haydn, Elgar, Farries, Schubert and Pachelbel, performed by the Amabile Quartet. Berwick Student Lounge, 1.10 pm (Cossar Hall, Parkville on 27 May).



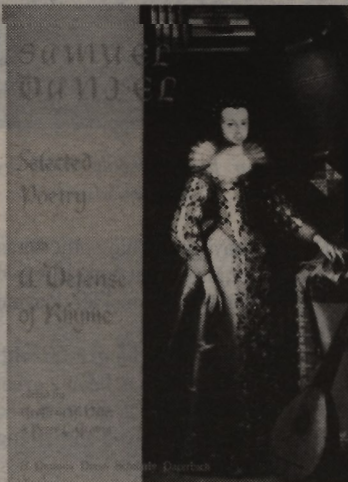
Samuel Daniel:

Selected Poetry and A Defense of Rhyme

Edited by Geoffrey G. Hiller & Peter L. Groves
Pegasus Press (RRP \$39.95)

Samuel Daniel: Selected Poetry and A Defense of Rhyme is the first fully annotated edition of work by the Elizabethan poet Samuel Daniel.

Through the introduction of the editors, Dr. Geoffrey G. Hiller and Dr. Peter L. Groves, delve into Daniel's career as a Renaissance poet in England, discussing his imaginative approach to writing and his status as an intellectual of the era.



Samuel Daniel reveals the innovative and influential nature of Daniel's poetry and includes highlights such as 'Musophilus' which looks at the role of the writer and the intellectual; 'Delia', one of the best and earliest sonnet sequences; and the theoretical work 'Defense of Rhyme' which discusses the status and validity of the vernacular metre.

Dr. Geoffrey G. Hiller and Dr. Peter L. Groves are academics from the Department of English at Monash University.

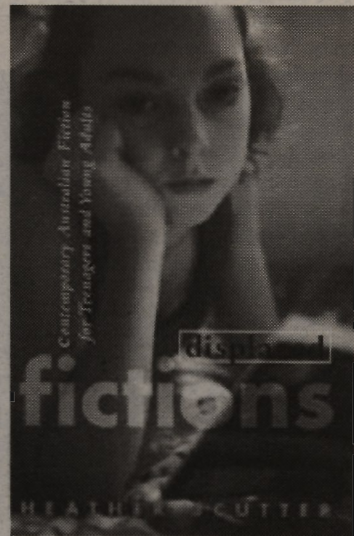
Displaced Fictions:

Contemporary Australian books for teenagers and young adults

Heather Scutter
Melbourne University Press (RRP \$29.95)

Helen Scutter believes that we do children and teenagers a disservice by not teaching them to critique texts, imaginative or otherwise. In *Displaced Fictions*, the author produces a critique of young adult fiction from 1980 to the present day and encourages adults to really examine young adult fiction rather than treating it as sacred.

Scutter's authoritative voice analyses some of Australia's most prominent texts for young adults such as John



Marsden's *Tomorrow when the War Began*, Sonya Hartnet's *Sleeping Dogs*, and Victor Kelleher's *Did-Do!*

Although controversial, *Displaced Fictions*, puts up a reasoned argument for a reassessment of the texts written for the youth market.

Dr Heather Scutter is a lecturer in the English Department at Monash University.

She has coordinated the Children's Literature units at the university for the past six years and writes a weekly column on children's books in the *Herald Sun*.

All books featured in 'Inprint' are available or can be ordered at Monash's four on-campus bookshops.

• CITSU (Caulfield) (03) 9571 3277 • Clayton (03) 9905 3111 • Gippsland (03) 5122 1771 • Peninsula (03) 9783 6932

Flaming Ostrich eyes 1999 footy title

By COREY NASSAU

The world's longest-running probabilistic sports tipping competition is on again and the Monash University organisers, who coincidentally came first and second in last year's competition, are keen to defend their title.

But with 350 enrolled tipsters competing under aliases which include Bluebadger, Muesli Boy and Flaming Ostrich, there is no shortage of tough opposition for the eager organisers.

Launched in 1995, the Monash University Probabilistic Footy Tipping Competition provides eager punters with a novel method of betting on the Australian sporting institution that is football. Competition co-organiser Dr David Dowe is pleased with the number of entrants for this season.

"Entrants have had to choose between three types of competition - normal, probabilistic or even Gaussian tipping, but the probabilistic

competition has been the most popular so far possibly because it's the most novel," he said.

Dr Dowe, a senior lecturer at Monash's School of Computer Science and Software Engineering, sees the competition as providing a greater challenge than the more traditional footy betting competitions.

"With a probabilistic entry, you put a value on each team's chance of winning, so it becomes a game of what sort of odds you're willing to bet on rather than just who will win."

The aim of the free-to-enter competition, the only Australian competition run in this way, was to add variety to the usual office tipping exercise. It has inspired a third-year computer science project option entitled 'probabilistic sports prediction using machine learning'.

"This project option has been very popular, and one student is now doing part-time work for bookies in Hong Kong," Dr Dowe said.

Mr Torsten Seemann, winner of the 1998 competition and final-year PhD student in computer science,

is in charge of maintaining and developing the competition website.

"The trick is not to be too overconfident, even when a top team is playing the bottom team. If you start off being a little conservative, you have a better chance of climbing the ladder to victory," he said.

"People who are good with statistics tend to do better in the competition because they are more realistic than average footy-crazed fans, who tend to be too confident of a particular team's chances of winning."

The competition is run entirely online, making it easy for competitors to enter their weekly tips and keep in touch. It is also being promoted among secondary school students, with monetary prizes going to the top 10 student tipsters.

So the question remains - can an outsider break the stranglehold of the organising team?

"You've got to be in it to win it," Torsten said. The website is at www.csse.monash.edu.au/~footy

Crunch time for star

By PETER GOLDIE

A liquid lunch with Paul Trimboli, Australian soccer hero and Monash graduate, involves a few cafe lattes, which shouldn't be confused with yours because his is non-fat milk. Of course.

There is something disturbing about being close to a sporting icon of Paul Trimboli's stature. Affable, self-effacing and generous about his colleagues' achievements, he smiles frequently and has those piercingly clear eyes which seem to be the preserve of the super-fit.

Two things unnerve: not only does he possess an easy assurance, almost serenity, but he possesses it here at lunch in the process of outlining all that the next few weeks have in store for him.

First there is the National Soccer League (NSL) and the countdown as his South Melbourne team remains hopeful of winning their second championship title in a row. With training six days a week and interstate flights, it will be a trying time.

Trimboli has played for the Australian Socceroos 36 times and scored 12 goals in internationals.

And then there is his 'day job' with accountancy firm Kieran Liston and Co, where he has worked since graduating from Monash in 1993. His professional life involves cramming for his final CPA module, with his exam due in a just a few weeks - about the same time he is hoping to be playing in the NSL grand final.

"No, I've checked and they will not be on the same day", he chuckles, recalling 1997 when he played an NSL championship in Sydney on a Friday night, lost the game, returned to Melbourne and got up to face an exam on the Saturday morning. "It was a bit difficult mentally to get myself up that day," he concedes.

How does he find combining a sporting life at national level with a professional life and study?

"You can really pack a lot in if you want to and if you organise yourself," he says. "But it's great to have a sympathetic boss like mine who is right behind my soccer."

"I think it also gives me a more balanced outlook on the world because it lets me step away from soccer. If you do one thing for too long, you lose track of what's going on around you,



A man for all seasons: Monash graduate and soccer star Paul Trimboli. Photo by Joe Sahijak/Sport.

especially in sport where there's so much emphasis on success and failure."

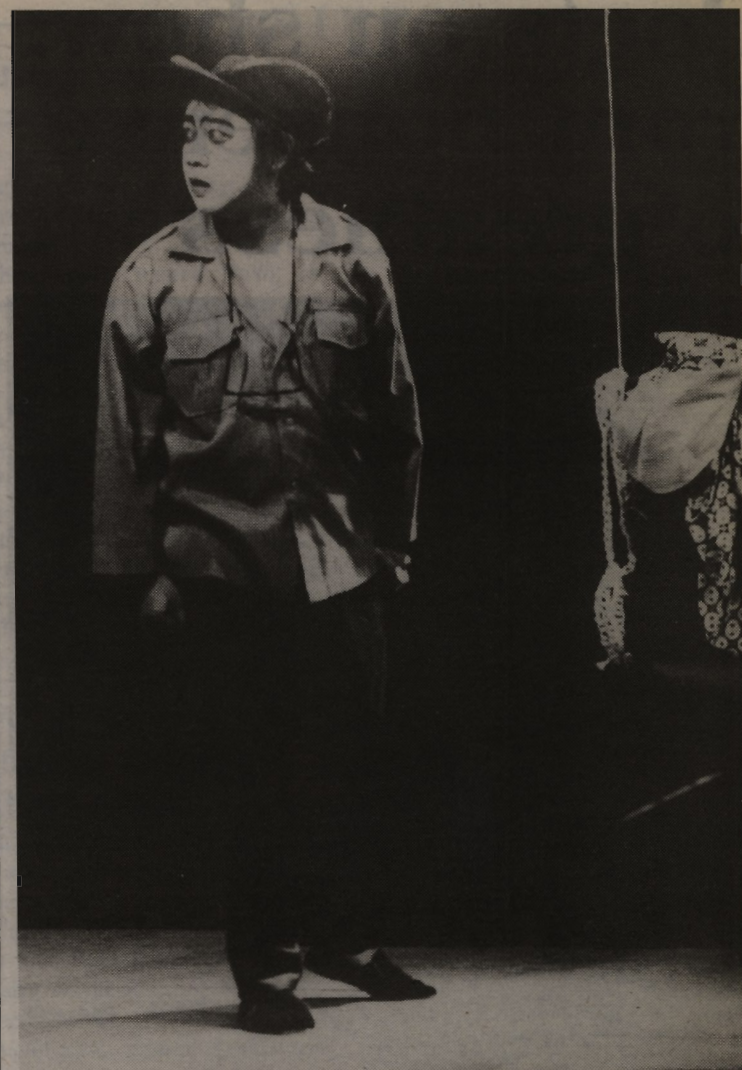
He knows something about success on the field. He's been with South Melbourne for two national championships (1991 and 1998), had League Cup wins (1990 and 1996) and has twice won the Warren Medal (1993 and 1998), so any decision to leave would not be easy.

But win or lose the upcoming NSL championship, Trimboli must make choices at the end of this soccer season - his contract is up after 12 years with South Melbourne, nearly a lifetime in modern sport.

He is not saying anything other than to confirm inquiries, but says it would be a "big thing" to consider leaving South Melbourne.

"Twelve years is a long time with any club," he says. "It has been a great relationship; the club has given me so much and I hope I've given something back over the years."

"There are opportunities opening up around Australia for full-time soccer players at professionally run clubs. But I would have to consider such a move very carefully. Leaving accountancy for soccer this late in my sporting life may not be the wisest move."



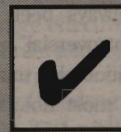
Indonesian theatre group Gandrik provided a valuable insight into Indonesian culture last month with a series of packed performances at Monash University. The troupe managed to promote its message of social and political debate in Indonesia despite the restrictions of the Soeharto era.



Education Credit Union

More to Offer!

Are bank fees eating up your savings?



Over 90% of our members pay no fees.*

*excludes government charges

For further information contact:

Peter Weston on 9905 4132 or Rod Leach on 9854 4644

Ed Credit

Kew: 9854 4692 Monash Clayton: 9905 4130
Burwood: 9889 3766 Free call: 1800 138 403
www.edcredit.com.au info@edcredit.com.au

MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS

Published by Public Affairs, Monash University
Edited by Josie Gibson (03) 9905 2035, fax (03) 9905 2037
or email josie.gibson@adn.monash.edu.au
Views expressed by contributors in Monash News are not necessarily endorsed by Monash University.

Printed by Westgate Park Print Centre, Port Melbourne, Victoria.
No responsibility is accepted by the printer for anything contained in Monash News.
For media inquiries, contact David Bruce on (03) 9905 2040.