Crime risk in freer markets: academic

By Jose Gibson

The risks posed by white-collar crime and organised crime must be factored into plans to develop Australia as a leading international financial centre, a Monash academic has warned.

Criminologist Dr George Gilligan, a Logan Research Fellow in Monash's Business Law and Taxation department, said the Federal Government and regulatory authorities must continue to be vigilant about the dangers as well as the benefits associated with greater liberalisation of financial markets.

Overseas experience, in the US in particular, points to increasing organised crime involvement in financial markets because the risk element is lower and returns are higher than in traditional criminal activities such as extortion and illegal gambling.

A specialist in white-collar crime and financial regulation, Dr Gilligan is heading a major research project comparing the processes and structures of financial regulation in six jurisdictions - Australia, China, Japan, Malaysia, the US and the UK.

"In particular, I want to gauge different national attitudes toward white-collar crime," he said. "Cultural processes, values and behavioural norms are very important because what might be considered corruption in one society or industry may be acceptable business behaviour in another."

Dr Gilligan said there was a large amount of literature on the formal structures of regulation in most advanced economies. However, there was "little empirical research on the importance of normative factors in the construction of regulatory systems and how they are operationalised".

London link for Monash

By David Bruce

Monash University will open for business in central London following an agreement with King's College London, a founding college of the 175-year-old University of London.

The Monash Centre will ultimately be located in refurbished offices at King's on The Strand, close to Australia House and the Australia Centre.

The new Monash Centre will be the focus of Monash's activities in the United Kingdom and Europe. Like the Monash campus that opened in Malaysia last year, the London Centre will be a key component of Monash's strategy of providing teaching, learning and research opportunities for its students and staff around the world.

Monash students will be significant beneficiaries of the arrangement. King's College, London, will join the Monash Malaysia campus in a major destination for Australian-based Monash students completing part of their course overseas. Conversely, King's plans to arrange that its students will have ready access to Monash courses in Australia and Malaysia. Monash and King's will plan joint courses and cooperate in the recruitment of students in Australia, Britain and around the world.

Monash and King's will build on current research collaboration and extend their areas of mutual interest.

News

Call to change business laws

A Monash academic has called for changes to Chinese and Hong Kong business laws.

Joining the big league

Monash law students will soon be able to work on major pro bono public interest and test cases.

Defining the indefinable

We need to find a better definition of racism in order to deal with it more effectively.

Musical cultures studied

An Afghan masters student's research could overturn ideas about some musical cultures.
A wall of computers on two Monash University campuses has been fed with a new software tool, creating an inexpensive supercomputer with multiple applications.

The Faculty of Information Technology has recently purchased a large Pentium computer cluster to support research projects in the schools of Computer Science and Software Engineering and Business Systems. The hardware, more correctly called a metacomputer, consists of 60 Pentium II and III processors on both the Caulfield and Clayton campuses, and the two halves are connected by the university's high-speed ATM connection.

The main idea is to marshal the capacity of inexpensive PCs, which are often idle, to create a supercomputing capability.

According to the head of the School of Computer Science and Software Engineering, Professor David Abramson, this technology is of interest to any organisation with a substantial computer network that has supercomputer-type problems to solve but lacks a budget adequate for a supercomputer. "Computer clusters are a viable way of achieving supercomputing performance at an extremely low cost. Not only do they take advantage of the rapidly falling prices of PC-based workstations, but they also allow the use and reuse of PC capacity that is exploited," he said.

"This will enable enterprises to squeeze more value from their hardware. For example, PCs in a company's suburbs could be used to run the engineering department's complex simulations overnight." Linking the hardware is the first step in building the cluster, followed by development of the software. Hardware resources must be handled, prioritised and scheduled for use on each machine. That's where the new software tool, Cluster, comes in. A network system with a large number of multiple processors, when configured with Cluster, will appear to function as a single, very fast computer.

State roadshow promotes biodiversity management

Dr Ralph MacNally, a senior research fellow in the Department of Biological Sciences, recently joined a statewide 'roadshow' promoting the results of the four-year study to audiences in Melbourne and regional Victoria. Dr MacNally had joined colleagues from the Museum of Victoria, Deakin and La Trobe universities and the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment on the project, designed to improve land management practices in the box-ironbark region of central Victoria.

The roadshow had attracted large audiences, he said. "The aim is to ensure research results are communicated directly to land managers, their public and private, to guide them in making better decisions about future land use."

Dr Ralph MacNally

The state's box and ironbark forests have been severely depleted, with only about 15 per cent of more than a millions hectares of original forests remaining. According to Dr MacNally, mining, agriculture and forestry have all taken a toll on the natural environment in the past 150 years, and the conservation status of the native fauna is now of great concern.

The roadshow promoted a number of strong messages. These included the need to avoid any further forest clearance and to reduce the disturbance of ground layers such as fallen timber and leaf litter, the value of remnant bushland in farmland, the importance of retaining and encouraging the growth of large, old trees, and the need to protect forest gullies and drainage lines as rich areas for fauna.

"The most important message is that biodiversity management can't be achieved by just setting aside a few reserves or national parks," Dr MacNally said. "A regional and landscape perspective for management is needed to cope with a dynamic ecosystem that provides a kaleidoscope of changing resources for animals."

For copies of the project's information kit, contact Dr MacNally on (03) 9505 5642.

Monash researcher Dr George Gilligan. Photo by Caroline Alexander
Call to overhaul HK, China laws for businesses

By JOSIAH GIBSON

A Monash University academic has called for urgent changes to Chinese and Hong Kong business laws to remove uncertainties surrounding cross-border insolvencies.

Ms Alice de Jonge, a lecturer in Monash University's Business Law and Taxation department, said Hong Kong's economic links with China would remain the most important factor in determining the economic prospects of both.

However, as the two economies became more entwined, there was an urgent need to address questions surrounding the regulation of cross-border corporate activities, and in particular the interaction of company law and insolvency law, she said.

Ms de Jonge is researching the growing economic ties between mainland China and Hong Kong, which returned to Chinese rule in July 1997.

She is focusing particularly on the emergence of a new phenomenon - offshore companies - and their implications for foreign creditors and shareholders.

Offshore companies are incorporated in China under Chinese company law. They issue and list their shares, however, on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

According to Ms de Jonge, the offshore market is now possibly the most important gateway used by Chinese state-controlled enterprises to access foreign capital.

Chinese state-controlled companies often set up subsidiary companies to issue shares as a way of raising funds. Under Chinese law, these state-controlled companies can issue A and B shares, which are listed on Chinese stock exchanges, and H shares which are listed in Hong Kong.

"The offshore phenomenon exposes shareholders and creditors of the listed company to a number of risks and weaknesses which are specific to the activities of Chinese state-controlled enterprises," Ms de Jonge said.

"Many of these enterprises are technically bankrupt and others are on the verge of insolvency. The prospects for failure are real, not only for the state-controlled enterprise itself, but also for its subsidiaries."

With the 1997 handover, Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region within China, but retains its own legal system, inherited from its British common law past.

As a result, when a company fails, any legal proceedings are complicated by where the company's own legal system.

According to Ms de Jonge, a company incorporated outside Hong Kong - in China - can be declared insolvent by a Hong Kong court. And when the mainland-based company goes bankrupt, it also seems that a foreign creditor could be in the case initiate insolvent proceedings from within Hong Kong.

Given doubts about the efficacy of Chinese laws to protect foreign creditor shareholder interests, foreign credit creditors could try to seek protection through legal proceedings in a Hong Kong court, Ms de Jonge acknowledged. But at least two big problems could arise if this is attempted.

"First, there is no certainty about the attitude that Hong Kong courts would adopt to such cases, in the light of changed political legal politics for the 1997 handover," she warned.

"Second, even where a Hong Kong court does agree to assist insolvent proceedings, in the event of an offshore company must of company's assets will inevitably be located in the place of active incorporation mainland China."

"The only way to access such means on behalf of the foreign creditors would be to request the assistance of a mainland Chinese court - the very thing a foreign party may well be trying to avoid."

For more details on Ms de Jonge's research, call (03) 9903 2587.

Law students prepare to enter the big league

By FIONA PERRY

Monash law students will soon be working with barristers and solicitors on pro bono publico interest cases under a new program initiated by a Monash law student in conjunction with the Law faculty and the Victorian Public Interest Law Clearing House.

Under the program, fourth and fifth-year Monash law students can volunteer their time to work with legal practitioners on important legal test cases that affect a significant number of people, raise matters of broad public concern or impact on disadvantaged or marginalised groups.

Believed to be a world first, the program was initiated by a sixth-year Monash law/commerce student at Monash, Mr Michael Rush.

Legal practitioners and solicitors undertake pro bono work in addition to their private work, the program represents the first time university law students will have the opportunity to be involved in such cases.

Students will be chosen by legal practitioners according to academic knowledge relevant to a specific case and will be fully supervised in conducting legal research, formulating argument, drafting letters to clients and respondents and assisting in the day-to-day running of a case.

Mr Rush said the program would provide students with invaluable practical experience while they develop their legal skills.

"As more law students only come into contact with legal practitioners through their studies, this program will allow them to gain practical insights into the legal world, particularly large cases, enabling them to understand and apply the theoretical framework of law taught at university," he said.

"Students will be able to improve and consolidate their research skills and methods and better consider the suitability of a career in the legal profession, all while helping clients and society generally."

Mr Rush's own pro bono work experience led him to initiate a permanent program for Monash law students.

Last year he completed three weeks of pro bono work for his uncle, Mr Jack Rush QC, who was approached by the Public Interest Law Clearing House to work on the Solicitation Generation case.

"Earlier this year, Mr Rush did four weeks' research for Barrister Mr Matthew Townsend on a Freedom of Information application.

"Having students to do the legal work in these cases means that case costs are reduced and legal practitioners are freed up to do more pro bono work," he said.

"I think we've learnt more over the last five months doing pro bono legal work than I have in the rest of my law degree," said Ms Meller.
**Schools**

Course information sessions planned
To help Year 12 students make their VET choices before the application closing date in September, several Monash faculties are conducting information evenings for students and parents.

Engineering
Thursday 19 August - 7 pm
Leeds theatre 67, building 72
Clayton campus
Wellington Road, Clayton
For more information, call (03) 9905 3404.

Nursing
Tuesday 7 September - 7.30 pm
Nursing auditorium
Peninsula campus
McKinnon Road, Frankston
For further information, call (03) 9904 4300.

Tuesday 7 September - 7.30 pm
School of Nursing
Gippsland campus
Northeast Road, Churchill
For more information, call (03) 9902 6404.

Education
Monday 6 September - 7 pm
Building P
Peninsula campus
McKinnon Road, Frankston
For more information, call (03) 9904 4301.

VTAC applications
Students wishing to use the Internet to browse the VTAC guide and make an application can do so at any of the VTAC Access Points located at Monash.

VTAC Access Points are located at the Prospective Students Office on Clayton campus and in the main buildings of the Peninsula, Gippsland and Caulfield campuses.

For more information, call the Prospective Students Office on (03) 9905 3200.

Essay contest open
To help promote the study of Asia-Pacific relations and APEC in Australian schools, the Australian APEC Study Centre based at Monash will again hold an APEC essay competition.

The competition was initiated in 1995 to encourage Asian studies teachers and curriculum designers to include content of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in relevant studies in secondary schools.

All students enrolled in Australian secondary schools are eligible to enter the competition, which closes on 1 October. The first prize is a two-inflatable tent in an APEC destination.

For more information, contact the Australian APEC Study Centre on 03 9903 8757.

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**Body chemistry counts in counter pharmacy**

By Peter Goldie

What is a pharmacist? A drug purveyor and purveyor: A health professional—also a retailer, a counsellor. An information reference resource. And what makes a good one?

Witness two encounters with local pharmacists. In the first instance, I ask the assistant whether the pharmacist—working some feet above and to the left behind a high counter—would mind answering a question about arthritis medication.

After a few minutes, the pharmacist faces a computer entry and comes down the steps, taking a position well behind the counter. Before speaking... (and for no rational reason, I get the impression that the white-coated professional does not feel the question is going to justify the trip down the stairs."

Hello, is Tizantin, available in Australia in a slow-release form?" I ask, knowing it is in the UK because I've used it but have only found it in a twice-daily version here.

"No," the pharmacist replies crisply and turns back up the stairs.

I am left wondering what went wrong. While the information delivered was direct, I don't feel confident about it. Again, I have no rational base for this feeling, and not being able to make a judgment on it pushes me back to another pharmacy.

Across the one-level shop at the pharmacy counter, the assistant motions to a man dressed in casual discs and open-neck shirt, leaning in a doorway while speaking on the telephone. After he finishes his call, he turns his back on me and walks out the door where I perceive the health tones. I put the same question about Tizantin.

"No, no. We can only get the 25 mg and the 50 mg and it is not uncommon. You hear of new versions overseas and wait to see if they will be brought to Australia."

It held my interest; I got the UK version and he chatted for a few minutes, explaining why people may find slow-release versions of drugs more useful than others, and was generally interested in feedback. He would keep his eyes open for it.

Some question, same result, about the same time waiting for the professional. So why did I feel happy with the information, if not the outcome, as I left the second pharmacy (with my $67 ginseng purchase)?

The answers to this and myriad other questions surrounding the pharmacists—customer relationship are canvassed in a comprehensive study undertaken by Associate Professor Lesley Burrell and Tina Phang of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Monash University's Victorian College of Pharmacy.

The study rated and compared client perceptions of pharmacists'

"It has been suggested that sensation is the initial phase of the total perception process." —Report into client satisfaction with pharmacists.

It's the interpersonal, counselling skills, an environment regarded as key to the safe and efficacious use of medicines by clients and to the entire therapeutic process.

As the study says, "The perception that the patient has of the pharmacist, therefore, has a great bearing on whether the pharmacist is doing his or her required job." After interviewing 150 patients from 10 randomly selected south-eastern Melbourne suburban pharmacies, the researchers found that overall perceptions of interpersonal skills of the pharmacists were remarkably high, with an average score above 80 per cent.

They noted that the perceptions expressed in the 1998 study and the ratings were in line with the results of a similar study carried out in 1994, reinforcing evidence that the general public continues to rate pharmacists very highly on professional traits such as ethics, integrity and honesty.

The researcher focused on the element of good customer relations, "In today's industry, patients demand to know more about the medications they are taking. This may reinforce the view that the role of pharmacist as a consultant is as essential as the role of the dispenser."

The researchers say a combination of factors lead to a trusting relationship which optimises appropriate medication, including the ability to relate to the patient. The public's perception of "a good pharmacist" may depend not on how much information a pharmacist can divulge to a patient but whether the pharmacist has the ability to empathise.

The public already perceives the pharmacist as a health professional, but one of the public's most prevalent perceptions is that the pharmacist disappear behind a counter to work on the prescription, furthering the view of the 'secret of the prescription'. This attitude may then place a strain on good communication and counselling."
To fight it, we need to reimagine racism in these globalised times

To talk about combating racism immediately places us in a quandary. For many people, racism is something very real, tangible and evident in their daily lives. For others, it has been all but wiped out or at least is no longer a serious concern. To deal with racism, argues Monash researcher Ms Ruth Arber, we need to develop a better understanding of what this highly contested term means in contemporary Australia.

**OPINION**

The problem is that each time we think about what racism is, we argue about it and contest its definition. It never seems to be done.

In recent public debate, racism has become an epithet, a reminder of terrible things done in the past, somewhere else, a suggestion of horrors too horrible to mention. Stories of fighting racism as somebodies in the past, some things that we are not.

To imagine a world where there is no racism, we need to understand that racism is not just black and white, but a spectrum of experiences. As Professor Dooley says, it is not just about seeing someone in a different way, but about understanding the context in which they live.

The story of multiculture is underpinned by understandings that these racisms, and the hatreds, exclusions and discriminations which accompany them, are not evident in the times and places in which ordinary Australians live. It is in this vein that the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. John Howard, has frequently argued that "there are few nations in the world that can boast such a record of democracy, such a record of fair treatment, and such a record of harmonious blending together of people of different racial backgrounds" as Australia.

Embedded within this multichord story is the understanding that Australia has a proud record in the way it harmoniously blended peoples from all over the world. Racism, it is suggested, is rarely evident in Australia. This, the argument goes, we are haunted by the prospect that things are not right, that there's still something else. What needs to be done, then, is a reimaging of racism. We need to think about how to make it better, not just to wipe it out.

**Multimedia academic to promote new technologies**

Professor Lawrence Dooley has arrived from Wales to take up a key multimedia position within Monash.

While primarily based at the Gippsland campus, Professor Dooley will have faculty-wide responsibilities in the rapidly developing area of multimedia technology.

Professor Dooley said he hoped his appointment would promote new synergies for multimedia development within Monash.

The Multimedia degree at the Berwick campus of Monash already has both the arts and applications approach to multimedia, while there is a clear role for the other campuses to complement this by providing a technology-based focus.

He also stated that with the rapidly expanding education programs based at Gippsland, there was an outstanding opportunity to utilise the potential that the Internet and multimedia technologies afford for flexible learning and teaching including offshore programs, so advancing the Monash vision as a truly international university.

Professor Dooley said there had been a worldwide explosion in demand for multimedia, electronic commerce and information technologies, fuelled by easier Internet access and lower costs.

"The arrival in Australia of digital television in a couple of years' time and its inevitable merger with the web can only further increase this demand in all areas of Australian society."

The proposed new Monash Centre for Multimedia and Electronic Commerce at Gippsland is seen as a major part of this development, with one of the objectives being to offer a technology transfer gateway, which promotes and exploits multimedia and information technologies in both Gippsland and beyond.

It will provide a valuable interface between the university and local and regional sectors of industry, business, commerce and government.

Professor Dooley said evidence clearly showed that more than 50 per cent of new jobs created in Australia over the past five years were directed to business services requiring high-level interdisciplinary IT and multimedia skills, with all indications that such growth would continue.

Photo by The Visual Resource.
Monash University's Gippsland Centre for the Arts has been awarded the 1999 Student Theatre Production award based on a Shakespeare favourite, The Tempest, which will be performed at the Melbourne's Belvoir, Theatre in Melbourne from 11 to 14 August.

The production examines the characters and themes of Shakespeare's play and places the action in a distinctly Australian setting. Prospero and his daughter Miranda live in an isolated area of the central desert. In this dry and seemingly lifeless place, Prospero is given power by the spirits of the land to work on cultural projects for the good of mankind. With the spirit's assistance, Prospero prepares to leave the island on dance, theatre and drama studies and science. Cast members' experiences level vary, ranging from students on the verge of professional careers to others preparing for their first foray into theatre. Director Hilary Elliott is aiming to create a highly physical and visual production, aided by workshops on dance, costume improvisation and image making during rehearsals.

"A key aspect of the project is team work," she says. "Everyone involved has a commitment to the belief that the ensemble is at the heart of the piece."

What: This Island Life
When: 13-14 August
Where: Beckett Theatre, Malahouse
For bookings, call the Malahouse box office on (03) 9685 5111.

Finding a home away from home

The trio perform in the Drama Theatre at Clayton campus for one show only on 19 August. Combos Flaxen, Combos Flaxen – Charnorne Clements, Tony McGill and Shaun Murphy – recently returned from New York, where they performed sold-out seasons and were feted by the city's notoriously tough critics. Their trademarks are their tight harmonies and satirical renditions of well-known songs, mixing the best of Broadway with comedy and satire.

For bookings, call the Monash Box Office on (03) 9905 1111.

Artists give peace a chance

The 1999 Lucrée Peace Prize will be awarded on 13 August to an artist whose work best supports the theme that peace is always a better alternative than war.

The annual prize, awarded to an artist on paper, is open to Fine Arts students at Monash University's Faculty of Art and Design.

The prize honours George Lucrée, whose dedication to the cause of peace led to the creation of the award 20 years ago. The curator of contemporary art (international and Australian) at the National Gallery of Victoria, Jason Smith, will judge this year's award, which is valued at $1,010.

Alisa McGill-Young was the prize winner in 1987 and 1996 – the only artist to win in consecutive years. Alisa is currently studying for her honours degree in Fine Arts.

Her work and those of previous winners have formed part of the Department of Fine Arts collection. The 1989 winning entry, which will be on display in the Faculty Gallery in the Art and Design building until 3 September, will also become part of the collection.

The energy of 40 Monash University students has been harnessed for a challenging new Student Theatre production based on a Shakespeare favourite, The Tempest, an adaptation of the King Lear's Belvoir, Theatre in Melbourne from 11 to 14 August.

The production examines the characters and themes of Shakespeare's play and places the action in a distinctly Australian setting. Prospero and his daughter Miranda live in an isolated area of the central desert. In this dry and seemingly lifeless place, Prospero is given power by the spirits of the land to work on cultural projects for the good of mankind. With the spirit's assistance, Prospero prepares to leave the island on dance, theatre and drama studies and science. Cast members' experiences level vary, ranging from students on the verge of professional careers to others preparing for their first foray into theatre. Director Hilary Elliott is aiming to create a highly physical and visual production, aided by workshops on dance, costume improvisation and image making during rehearsals.

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Lost in Japan

BY DEREK BROWN

While lecturing in Australian universities at the university and raising issues with his Japanese students, such as World War Two, treatment of indigenous Japanese and poverty, Dr Gerster was often faced with a sea of blank expressions.

But isn't because the Japanese students were ignorant of the issues, he pointed out, but rather that the Japanese education system had taught them to avoid confrontations.

"In Australia we are encouraged to criticise government policy and to debate social issues, but the Japanese work to maintain harmony even if it means suppressing unwanted truths. Many will insist that there is no poverty when there is a great deal, or deny the presence of AIDS when it clearly exists," he said.

"I suspect that my book, which is quite critical of some aspects of Tokyo University and of Japanese culture, might upset some people I know there. I live in Japan, but I am not blind to its faults."

Dr Gerster, who has written three books and published in both Australian and Japanese newspapers and journals, will appear at the Melbourne Writers' Festival this month.

August

11-14 Student theatre production - The Island Mine, an adaptation of Shakespeare's The Tempest, Malthouse Theatre, Contact the Malthouse Box Office on (03) 4050 5111.

12 Centre of Southeast Asian Studies - Demonstration and discussion of Randa, West Samatun folk opera, as community entertainment and medium of cross-cultural communication, by Indhaya Mahjiddin and students, Seminar room 5002, Malthouse building (11), Clayton campus, 11.15 am.

13 Lunchtime concert series - A concert of Hindustani classical instrumental music, Religious Centre, Clayton campus, 1 pm to 2 pm.

12 Centre of East Asian Studies - Print culture and national consciousness in post-war Taiwan, by Mark Harrison, PhD candidate, Monash Asia Institute. Seminar room 8007, eighth floor, south wing, Menzies building (11), Clayton campus, 4 pm to 5.30 pm.

13 Music seminar - Two studies on double emigration and creativity: Wolfgang Franckel in Shanghai (1939-1973), by Adjunct Professor Andrew D. McCredie, Monash, Elizabeth Burnich Rossouw, GM, Performing Arts Centre, Clayton campus, 4.30 pm.

13 Making Music Series - Monash Sinfonia, Viva Voce and Monash Women's Choir, conducted by Toshiyuki Kudo (Japan), Music Auditorium, Clayton campus, 8 pm.

14 Making Music Series - Monash Sinfonia, Viva Voce and Monash Women's Choir, conducted by Toshiyuki Kudo (Japan), Music Auditorium, Clayton campus, 8 pm.

19 Centre of Southeast Asian Studies - Seminar Modern: Songs and films of Benjamin S. from Jakarta in the 1970s, by David Hanson, School of Library and Visual Communication, Seminar room 5002, Menzies building (11), Clayton campus, 11.15 am.

19 Lunchtime concert series - Performing arts songs and lieder, by Angela Brewer (violin) and Angela Ollar (piano), Religious Centre, Clayton campus, 1 pm to 2 pm.

20 Accounting and Finance - The evolution of management accounting, by Professor Lukman Mis, Griffith University. Room AI 37, Clayton campus, 11 am to 1 pm.

20 Egg Estate concert series - New Monash Orchestra and Monash Sinfonia, with guest conductor Volker Frohse (Germany) and a program of concerts including Shostakovich's Concerto for Piano and Trumpet, Bach's Concerto for Oboe and Violin, Prokofiev's Concerto for Two Pianos, and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 8. Performance Centre, Clayton campus, 7 pm. Booking: (03) 9955 9054.

September

1 Lunchtime Concert Series - West by South, Monash, Parkville, Sutherland, Brod, Holmland, Hamilton, Benjamin (piano solo), with Darryl Const and Anne Gilby (cello). Religious Centre, Clayton campus, 1 pm to 2 pm.

3 Music seminar - Interrelationships between composition and improvisation in twentieth-century Australia, by Ms Jennifer Game-Lepata, Monash. Performance Centre, Clayton campus, 1 pm to 2 pm.

INPRINT

Russian Postmodernism: New Perspectives on Post-Soviet Culture

Michael N. Epston, Alexander A. Genis and Sholomkhornd M. Posen


Throughout the communist era, Russians were subjected to decades of censorship and other forms of cultural repression that isolated Russia from Western literary and artistic movements. But as the authors of Russian Postmodernism: New Perspectives on Post-Soviet Culture note, "this situation is changing as we enter the nineties." For the first time, they say, "the West is paying attention to the abundant creativity and diversity of Russian culture." This book explores the cultural impact of Russian postmodernism in the arts, literature, and film.

The Mourning of John Lennon

Anthony Elliott


John Lennon - Beatle, peace activist and songwriter - stands out as one of the most significant cultural figures of this century. For the generation that grew up with him, Lennon has become both a record of the unfulfilled dreams and a scatophag for disillusionment.

The Mourning of John Lennon is a detailed study of Lennon's life and work, from Beatlemania and the Fab Four to Yoko Ono and avant-garde films, in which the author analyses the various facets, both psychological and social, that have shaped John Lennon as a modern legend.

Relating to Lennon's theories on repression, regression and creativiry, Dr Elliott explores the way we, as a society, have used Lennon as a symbol to express our own internal conflicts. Dr Elliott is a research fellow in the Department of English at Monash. He is the editor of Popular 2000 and The Blackwell Reader in Contemporary Social Theory and coeditor of Psychoanalysis in Contexts.

All books listed in "INPRINT" are available or can be ordered at Monash's four on-campus bookstores:

- CTSU (Canfield) (03) 9951 3277 - Clayton (03) 9951 3113 - Gippsland (03) 5122 1777 - Peninsula (03) 5793 4922

MONASH NEWS AUGUST 1999
ARTS 7
New report aims to lob injuries out of tennis

BY COREY NASSAU

Sports lovers around the world felt for tennis ace Mark Philippoussis when he was forced to retire from a commanding position in his quarter-final match against Pete Sampras at Wimbledon earlier this year.

The Australian tennis star was hopping for the ball when he felt something click in his left knee. Tests later revealed he had torn a cartilage.

Such an injury does not surprise Ms Erin Cassell of the Monash University Accident Research Centre (MUARC), who is well aware of the relationship between lower limb injuries and the physically tough world of competitive tennis.

Ms Cassell has co-authored a new MUARC report, 'Lobbing injury out of tennis: A review of the literature', aimed at helping reduce the incidence of tennis injuries. The report reviews formal research literature and informal sources that describe measures to prevent tennis injury, and assesses their effectiveness.

Tennis is the third most popular sport in Australia behind aerobics and golf, attracting more than 362,000 participants over the age of 15 each year.

But for a non-contact sport, it is highly competitive and physically demanding.

"The sprinting, stopping, starting, bending and stretching nature of the sport puts repetitive stresses on the musculoskeletal system and requires both aerobic and anaerobic fitness from players," Ms Cassell says.

Over-exertion results in players placing increased demands on their bodies, according to Ms Cassell, and this is what causes most tennis injuries.

"There is a great pressure, particularly among the younger players, to practice hard to meet high expectations of performance. This translates into players placing unrealistic demands on their bodies, which often results in injury," Ms Cassell says. "More than half of the injuries are to the lower limbs, and most of these are to the knees and ankles."

Tennis requires a variety of physical attributes such as speed, power, endurance and balance. Without proper conditioning, warm-up programs, appropriate footwear and attention to environmental conditions, the likelihood of injury is increased, Ms Cassell warns.

"Both the competitive and social player should undergo a conditioning and training program to cope with the demands of play and reduce the risk of injury," she says.

For copies of the report, contact the Monash University Accident Research Centre on (03) 9905 108.

Tennis injuries are not restricted to amateurs, as top player Mark Philippoussis learned to his dismay at Wimbledon this year.

Teams shape up for AUG

Monash University will field a strong team at the 1999 Australian University Games in Perth next month.

The competition, the biggest sporting event staged annually in Australia, traditionally attracts the cream of Australia's university athletes and provides a competitive proving ground for future national champions.

Fifteen Monash teams have qualified for this year's games, which will run from 26 September to 1 October. Monash won the competition in 1996.

The men's teams that have qualified include basketball, Australian rules football, hockey, rugby union, tennis, touch football, volleyball and waterpolo.

Qualifying women's teams include hockey, netball, soccer, tennis, touch football, volleyball and waterpolo.

Both the men's rugby union and the women's hockey sides came top in their qualifying rounds.

Monash will also field teams in aerobics, athletics, diving, judo, kendo, swimming and taekwondo, and could win related entries into two other sports.

The Monash University team is expected to comprise 280 students and support staff.

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