Prentice delivers moons on cue

Voyager supports Uranus theories

A senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics has risen to world prominence after successfully predicting the findings of the Voyager probe in its recent encounter with the planet Uranus.

Dr Andrew Prentice accurately predicted the locations of a new moon and a new satellite belt, the chemical compositions and densities of the moons, and that the magnetic field of the planet would be found to be at an angle to its rotational axis.

He also provided an explanation of the astonishing 8 km high cliffs on the surface of the moon Miranda (centre pages).

He did so on the basis of his controversial model of the formation of the solar system.

His initial success in defining the locations of the previously unknown moon and satellite belt received widespread publicity in the United States and Britain, and he became one of only two scientists interviewed on national public radio in the US over Voyager's Uranus flyby.

Since the confirmation of Prentice's pronouncements on the densities and chemical compositions of the moons of Uranus, the editor of the prestigious scientific journal, Nature, has asked him to contribute a review article on his theory.

Proto-sun

"At the moment, my model is the only one that can satisfactorily explain the formation and composition of the entire solar system — and that's not too bad," he said.

The Prentice model is based on the 190-year-old ideas of the great French astronomer and mathematician, Pierre de Laplace.

In the early 1970s, long after Laplace's ideas had fallen into disfavor, Dr Prentice became convinced that they constituted the best explanation for one of the simplest and most curious facts of the solar system — all the planets travel in the same direction on nearby circular orbits almost all of which are in the same plane.

Laplace pictured the solar system as emerging from the contraction of a hotter, whirling proto-sun which once covered the whole of the space now occupied by the planets.

This proto-sun contracted as it cooled, whirling faster still and sloughing off doughnut-shaped rings of gas from its equator at precise intervals.

The rings were abandoned where the centrifugal force of whirling, which pushes material away from the proto-sun's centre — that same force which throws you around in a car as you turn a corner at speed — exactly matched the gravitational force pulling material towards the centre.

In the Prentice model, the formation of the outer planets and their attendant moons is seen as a re-run on a minor scale.

Turbulence

The theories of Laplace were discarded generally by astronomers, because there seemed no good mechanism for the shedding of the rings, and their consolidation into planets.

But Prentice thinks he has found the answer in "supersonic turbulence" — a concept first suggested by the Dutch physicist, Dr Dirk ter Haar, with whom Prentice worked at Oxford University.

Supersonic turbulence is a powerful form of convection, the circulation that occurs when warm fluid rises and cooler fluid rushes in to take its place.

Their place is taken by cooler gas falling towards the centre.

Few of Prentice and ter Haar's colleagues, however, actually believe in supersonic turbulence, which means that until now the Prentice model has not been widely accepted.

Initially it was published only after being rejected some 10 times.

That is why the latest test of the model's predictive power was so important for Dr Prentice.

And his success has gone a long way towards vindicating the concept.

"For the one value of supersonic turbulence, we have been able to explain the composition of the entire solar system," he says.

Soon after reaching the US in early January, Dr Prentice delivered a paper containing his Uranus predictions to the American Astronomical Society which was meeting in Houston.

The Voyager encounter was to be in late January, but already preliminary information was beginning to filter back.

Dr Prentice took the floor feeling more than a little nervous.

He had just heard a radio report that a new Uranian moon had been discovered, but he had no details of where it was or whether it squared up with his model.

After he had delivered his paper, an interested reporter from the Boston Globe approached him and together they rushed to the nearest newsstand for details of the newly discovered moon.

Dr Prentice had predicted new satellites or satellite belts at 68,000 km and 96,000 km from the centre of Uranus.

The new moon measured in at 86,000 km.

The reporter was mightily impressed.

A few days later, Voyager found a belt of satellites spread around an average distance of 68,000 km from Uranus.

So Dr Prentice had predicted the positions of these two to within 3 per cent — well within his margins for error.

Not all his colleagues fared so well. A team from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology predicted a new satellite would be found at precisely 76,222 ± 8 km from the planet, exactly halfway between the newly discovered bodies.

"It's a risky business, this predicting. "They couldn't have chosen a worse spot," he says.

But it was not all smooth sailing for Dr Prentice either.

Mathematical models are highly dependent on the quality of the information they are fed.

"Know then thyself, presume not God to scan
The proper study of mankind is man."

So said Pope, so I'll tell how
Where'er I went, from birth till now
I came across a strange tall bloke
With ginger hair and wreathed in smoke,
Who robots loves, and music, too —
I'm sure you'll find he's known to you.

Who is the man 'shrined in this rhyme? For the answer turn to our page nine.
From the information office in '86

MONASH REPORTER is one of a number of publications and services provided by the University's information office.

Although a part of the Vice-Chancellor's section, the office exists to service the needs of the campus as a whole.

First, MONASH REPORTER... This is primarily an internal publication, published nine times a year, and distributed throughout the campus and affiliated off-campus institutions.

It is edited by Lisa Kelly who can be contacted on ext. 2003, and who would welcome contributions, letters and ideas. Copy deadlines for succeeding issues are published on the back page of each edition.

Another major publication is MONASH REVIEW, a periodical devoted to publicising — mainly off-campus — the University's achievements in teaching, research and community involvement.

It is edited by Tim Thwaites, who can be contacted on ext. 3087.

SOUND is another information office publication. Sub-titled 'The official broadsheet of Monash University', this modest journal appears on average 35 times a year. There are no fixed deadlines, and items for publication will be accepted at any time by the information officer, Keith Bennetts, or the secretary, Ruth Keeler. They can be contacted on ext. 2007.

THE MONTH AT MONASH, the advertisement listing University events to which members of the public are invited, is another information office responsibility. Compiled by Georgia Tsioukis, the ad appears around the turn of the month in The Age and a number of suburban weeklies. In normal circumstances, copy deadlines are 5 p.m. on the third Thursday of the preceding month. The extension to dial is 2002.

Other information office services include:

- Press Cuttings, a regular compilation of news clippings dealing with Monash and the education scene generally. This is distributed two or three times weekly to all departments.

- This is Monash, the annual visitors' guide to the campus. The 1986 edition is now available.

- Press releases and publicity matters generally. The office is pleased to assist in the preparation of releases and to advise on publications.

The office also is involved in maintaining liaison with the Monash Graduates Association and with school tours of the campus. Georgia Tsioukis is the person to contact about these.

The 'Alex' goes on tap

The Visual Arts Gallery will hold two special exhibitions this year to mark the University's 25th Anniversary. The first, Selections from the University Art Collection, opened this week and will continue until Friday, April 11. The second will be a largely photographic exhibition of the University's cultural, political and social history. It is being mounted jointly by the gallery, the departments of Visual Arts and History, and is being drawn from at least 10 different photographic collections around the University.

A special publication, funded by the Silver Jubilee Committee, will be produced in conjunction with the exhibition, and edited by Bill Kent and David Cuthbert of the History department.

- Selecting photographs for the planned Silver Jubilee exhibition sponsored by the departments of Visual Arts and History are, from left: John Rickard, Jenepher Duncan, Bill Kent, Elaine Markus and David Cuthbert.

Annual service

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, the Right Reverend Dr Frank Little, will be guest speaker at the annual University Service, to be held in the Large Chapel of the Religious Centre on Thursday at 1.10 pm.

Members of the University Chaplaincy, Reverend Laurie Foote (Catholic), Reverend Philip Huggins (Anglican) and Pastor Peter Pfitzner (Lutheran) invite everyone to attend the service which will pay special tribute to the University's 25th Anniversary year.

The organ will be played by Associate Professor Bruce Steele (department of English), and Dr Alan Gregory will conduct the Education Faculty choir.

Disarming speaker

The Australian Ambassador for Disarmament, Mr Richard Butler, will hold a free public meeting in R1 (Rotunda) at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, March 12.

He will speak on his work at the conference on disarmament in Geneva (where he is chairman), on the work of the conference in general, and about the Australian Government's policies on disarmament and arms control.

MARCH 5, 1986
Sydney will host an international conference on health care, law and ethics because Monash visitor, Professor Margaret Somerville, told the Australians that the field of human bioethics is in the forefront of moves to reconceptualise policy, attitudes and legislation, with the machine being the subject of caring and technology.

"Countries have a tremendous interest in each other's approaches to the controversial and highly public legal and ethical issues raised in the medical context. There is possibly more universal interest here than in any other area, certainly in any other area of law," said the centre at Monash has given Australia an international identity in the field of human bioethics.

"There are more than 60 IVF units in France and some have never achieved a pregnancy, which is just horrific for the patients," she says. "There is under-treatment, over-treatment and proper treatment—and what we need is proper treatment.

"When you consider the success rate here, and we can anticipate it will continue to improve, the Monash team has something of value to sell."

Monash to moot for Australia again

When the successful Monash moot team broke up last year, it seemed that many years of steady progress towards the ultimate goal, the Jessup Cup, had gone for good.

"This model for many other relationships. It crystallises some of our deepest and most important values—or conflicts—and people can personally identify with situations or problems. With the new technology, medicine has become a field of quantity, not quality. Paradoxically, a lot of fears of earlier times, that hospitals were harmful places, were raised again by the 'miracle' technology. Instead of being places of neglect, hospitals became places of over-attention, with the machine being the subject and the patient merely the object. This is an outgrowth of emphasis on the rights of the individual; the application of principles and concepts of human rights to the medical milieu," says Professor Somerville.

"As a free and autonomous person the patient has a right to choose the action to be taken. This new phenomenon requires health care officials to change their own priorities; to give up their paternalistic authority and adopt a more egalitarian approach. Difficult situations can arise. For instance, this approach requires respect for a Jehovah's Witness' refusal to have a blood transfusion, even if that leads to the patient's death."

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Seaford Swamp should be developed as a waterbird sanctuary and major environmental resource, says a new report from the Graduate School of Environmental Science.

The report, sponsored by the Dandenong Valley Authority and the City of Frankston, says the swamp is a drought refuge for many wetland-dependent birds and is one of the few significant wetlands remaining in the metropolitan area.

Most species of wetland birds occurring in Victoria have been recorded there, and several species abundant at Seaford are not found at other nearby wetlands.

"The individual species for which the swamp is most notable is Latham's Snipe, a relatively rare migratory wader which is protected by a bilateral treaty between Japan and Australia; and is typically present in quite large numbers each year," the report says.

The swamp's present 120 hectares in Mordialloc are part of the once-extensive Carrum-Carrum Swamp, which stretched from Mordialloc to Frankston until major drainage works began in the 1870s.

Together with agricultural and urban development, this drainage program caused the elimination of most wetland habitat except in seasonally inundated areas as at Seaford.

The authors of Ecology and Management of Seaford Swamp are Master of Environmental Science candidates Alister Donnelly, Carol Kunert and Paul Schlegler; their individual work has been supervised respectively by Professor Mike cullen and Dr Sam Lake of Zoology, Dr Bob Congdon of Botany and Mrs Andrea Lindsay of the Graduate School of Environmental Science.

Their 15-month study was aimed at developing a strategy to enhance ecological conditions while protecting flood storage capacities and providing compatible facilities for passive recreation and environmental research.

They have outlined a program of improvements to occur in three five-year stages. It would depend on the maintenance of higher water levels, therefore requiring the installation of pumps to deal with flood threats.

The first stage would concentrate on cleaning up, and measures such as perimeter fencing, vehicle barriers, weed control and the planting of buffer and bushland areas.

A major feature of the second stage would be the creation of a public access area on the eastern margins, with off-street parking, picnic area and elevated bird hide. Further habitat rehabilitation and creation of new wetland lagoons would also occur.

The third stage would involve the acquisition of private land on the northern and north-eastern margins to extend shallow wetland and bushland habitat areas.

It is expected that the expansion of facilities for environmental studies and Students should be encouraged to refer to our university exclusively by the name 'Alma Mater Monashia'.

For publicity reasons, higher officers of the University should be encouraged to express their regrets in the media that, despite sincere efforts, it has been impossible to attract the Venerable Bede to a sub-professorial position at this place of learning as Bede, out of sheer spite, passed away in 735; thus only one year before foundation.

I may be wrong, after all: how could Maimonides (1135-1204) know what the meaning of 'jubilee' was back in 736?

A Confused Reader

(Hans Lausch
Department of Mathematics)

Open-mouthed again

While it is good to know that a mathematical wordsmith has won the Monash University Prize for Poetry, 1985 (Monash Reporter, 9-85), I am puzzled by Professor Bradley's interpretation of Miss Sender's winning entry and quite lost as to why it occurred to the judges that she is a mathematician.

I would like it clearly understood that none of this department's courses involves the study of moments of emotional intimacy.

Contrary to what the judges saw, Miss Sender's poem is clearly about her fellow students.

"YOU OR ME"

Starling at no distance, mute, open-mouthed like a trout

with a dandelion skipping across the meniscus

on the other side of air,

behind those eyes that hold a mind's aimless inertia,

you chase, in pretraced tracks, a silent pitty's run.

My empathy is from my symmetry,

while unwinding, unbounding,

we grasp our reflection in a moment of beauty before vanity.

Joanna Sender

Chronic pain is a challenge

The management of chronic pain represented one of the great medical challenges for the general practitioner, said Dr John Murtagh of the department of Community Medicine.

It was a yardstick of the excellence of the doctor-patient relationship.

"When we challenge the authenticity of the pain we lose credibility and often lose the patient," he told members of the Australian Pain Society.

"We have to be careful not to surreptitiously create the 'good riddance' syndrome."

In general practice, the common sites and causes of chronic pain were: low back pain, neck pain, headache, the hip and knee, rheumatic arthritis and post-herpetic neuralgia (post-shingles pain).

Patients with such pain should be supported with proper care, responsibility and skill, said Dr Murtagh.

Doctors should promote a holistic approach by advising patients about nutrition, stress management and drug control, Dr Murtagh said.

"We should use physical therapy in preference to drugs and inactivity."

"This includes mobilisation and manipulation techniques, injection therapy, electrical therapy and muscle energy techniques; the best of these is an active exercise program."

Dr Murtagh was speaking last month at the Eighth Annual Scientific Meeting of the society, held at the Royal Southern Memorial Hospital.

Other Monash staff members involved in the meeting included Dr Jean Olley of Pharmacology and Dr Robert Helme from Prince Henry's Hospital.

MARCH 5, 1986
The existence of Universities of the Third Age was a salutary reminder of the true character of university education, said Victoria's new Governor, Dr Davis McCaughhey.

They showed learning for its own sake was a self-justifying activity like art and music, he told participants at the first Australian conference of the USA movement.

The conference, held at Monash on Wednesday, February 19, was the first official engagement for Dr McCaughhey after he had been sworn in as Governor the previous day.

This is an edited version of his speech.

There is, I confess, something appropriate that the first responsibility I fulfill on becoming Governor should be to speak at a conference of the University of the Third Age.

I am in the right age bracket and I have had something to do with universities during most of my adult life.

I feel, however, that my attitude may not be entirely correct.

After my appointment was announced, and I had been interviewed by the press, a friend wrote to me, who had given some thought to the process of ageing. She said:

"But did you really say 'I never thought at my age anybody would ask me to do a job again'? Now, Davis, I have been talking for some years about how those sorts of sentiments are ageist and must be outlawed! It would seem that I still have some work to do."

So it would seem that I am being ageist, which is a wicked thing, like being racist or sexist.

On the other hand there is, I assume, nothing wrong in being a member of a particular race, or in being a man or woman; and I would suppose that there is nothing wrong in being of a particular age.

There may, as we shall see, be some advantages.

In any case I remember clearly, as I grew up from childhood through adolescence, being exhorted "to be my age". What does it mean to me to be my age now? and in particular what does it mean to speak of Universities of the Third Age?

Let me try to articulate some reasons why the juxtaposition of age, old age if you like, and the idea of the University is singularly fortunate: some reasons why we must all be glad that this educational enterprise attached itself to university-style teaching and learning.

The juxtaposition would, of course, come as a surprise to many: Do we not associate universities with the young? Are undergraduate students not customarily between 18 and 25 years of age, and postgraduate students under 30? Have we not customarily associated student life with the sowing of wild oats? Is our literature not full of such assumptions? Have students not either irritated their elders and betters or been tolerated by them, but frequently been regarded as irresponsible?

The only thing to be said in their favor is that they grow up, and a surprising number of them become respectable, even staid, members of society.

On the way they have learnt something, some at least of which is of value to the community in which they are placed, all of which seems to qualify them to earn a decent living.

But the great characteristic of true education, which is supremely true of university education, is that it is not so much a passing of on information as an introduction to the process of learning.

The university has always existed not to set about solving particular problems, or to learn how to brew it, but to teach people how to learn. How to do this is to read particular texts, how to learn.

This is not to say that only university graduates have these virtues, or that all university graduates have them.

Plenty of other people have seen the truth that the truly educated man or woman is one who has learnt how to learn: and regrettably some graduates have never understood that.

It is, however, a characteristic of university-style education that it tries to inculcate that attitude of mind, and it should be a characteristic of many graduates that no question is ever really closed.

Questions are to be asked and answers given not because they are convenient but because they are there.

The recent death of MacFarlane Burnet reminds us that some fundamental discoveries made by that remarkable man of science pre-dated their practical application by 25 years.

Those who knew Burnet will testify that, while by no means indifferent to human suffering and its alleviation, what drove him to ask the next question was a proper scientific curiosity.

Whatever may be said of other styles of education, however important they may be to us (and of course technical training, an appropriate know-how is essential to our survival as a country) one must be grateful to universities for having provided for us a better and fuller use of our resources of man and woman power, nevertheless we must retain in university-style education a preoccupation with the truth of the matter — indeed with the truth of a whole series of matters.

Michael Polanyi, the distinguished chemist and philosopher, argued trenchantly that if pure science is not pursued vigorously and singlemindedly, applied science will soon perish.

That is why universities have to be to a high degree autonomous, because you cannot from outside define or articulated in the next right question to ask: that arises out of the inquiries which you are already making.

An essential element in being old is that one has lived for some time. I am thinking quite specifically of the effect of having lived through certain critical moments in the 20th century and being given the opportunity to live through them again with more information and a fresh perspeception. Many of my generation have experienced this as they have watched the television program on the Spanish Civil War: an event of quite decisive and dramatic significance for those of us who had reached political self-consciousness in the 1930s. Or again the haunting program on Oppenheimer, the wealthy Jewish industrialist, bewildered as he is enmeshed in the tangled web of rising Nazism, bringing back to us the awful human dilemma: can things be as bad as they appear, or on the contrary is the worst being hidden from us? There can be, there should be, a depth of perception given to us as we retrace our steps; and that too is part of the university experience.

You of the Universities of the Third Age have a responsibility by example and by exhortation to remind us of the true character of a university, of the true character of learning as, like worship and art and music, a self-justifying activity.

How do you justify in terms of cost benefits to the community the performance of Mozart Symphonies?

The USA movement started in France in 1973. (The term third age, as used here, refers to the French idea of an active life phase which follows retirement.)

There are over 200 U3A campuses throughout Europe, Asia and North America and since the first Australian campus opened in Monash in October, 1984, others have been established at Hawthorn, Monash, Ringwood and Frankston.

The University of the Third Age at Monash — U3AM — can be contacted on ext. 2045.

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Selling careers to students

More than 20 employers set up stalls for a "careers fair" at Monash, believed to be the first of its kind at an Australian university or college.

They came from organisations including chartered accounting, business consulting, the public service, petrochemical engineering and mining industries, secondary teaching, banking, computing, insurance, actuarial and the motor industry — at the invitation of the Monash Careers and Counselling Service.

The idea was to make themselves readily accessible to students returning to the University in December to check results and to re-enrol.

The "fair", more properly known as an Employer Contact Centre, was integrated with the University's re-enrolment centre in the foyer of Robert Blackwood Hall.

Career counsellor, Bryan Barwood, said it was a big success, with several thousand students passing through the centre over the two-day period.

"The idea is to encourage students, particularly those entering second and third year, to give some thought to career planning at an early stage."

"It also gives employers the opportunity to establish a pool of potential recruits and to make themselves known to students.

"Students were very pleased with the enthusiastic response of employers to what is essentially a long-term project."

A similar exercise would be run in 1986, perhaps at mid-year and again in conjunction with the re-enrolment centre in December.
Moons come in on cue

From page 1

...tion on which they are based.

And once Dr Prentice had reached the US, he became very uneasy about the values he had used for the level of methane (CH₄) in the atmosphere from which the Uranian satellites formed.

The methane level is critical in determining the temperature at which methane solidifies, and hence the chemical composition of the satellites and how dense they are.

Dr Prentice initially used the best figures available in Australia and that put the band along which satellites form at a level which straddled the temperature at which pure methane could be expected to solidify (see graph).

This would create two classes of satellites — those forming above the solidification temperature in which methane would be incorporated only in a water-surrounded form, and which therefore would contain less than 10 per cent methane, and those forming below the solidification temperature, which would therefore contain more than 90 per cent methane.

The first class would be expected to be about 35 per cent more dense than water, and the second about 40 per cent less dense.

And that was the picture Prentice presented to the American Astronomical Society.

But before his paper went to print, just before the Voyager figures on density became available, he decided, in light of what he found in the US, that his initial assumptions on methane levels were probably incorrect.

He added a note to his published paper that if there was less methane around the temperature of solidification would be lower and all the moons would turn out to be denser than water.

And that is the way it turned out.

Miranda, the only moon measured individually, had a density of 1.22 ± 0.37 grams per cubic centimetre, which easily included the predicted Prentice value of 1.35.

The average density of the group Umbriel, Titania and Oberon (when gravity is taken into account) was found to be 1.44 ± 0.079 grams per cubic centimetre.

The magnetic field of Uranus at a significant angle to the rotational axis.

...Above. The initial Prentice predictions of the spacing and chemical composition of Uranian moons. Some are formed above, and some below the line of methane solidification. Below. The revised Prentice predictions. The triangles show where Voyager found a new moon, 1985U, and a new satellite belt, 1986U.

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When the former Dean of Science, Professor John Swan, was Pro-Vice-Chancellor, he “had a mouthful to say” to the truck driver who ran into the rear of the University car in which he was a passenger.

The incident, at a city intersection, was the only time that the Vice-Chancellor’s driver, Kevin Perry, had been involved in a car accident during all his years’ work for the University.

“The lights were playing up and a policeman suddenly stopped the traffic; Prof. Swan was horrified when the truck hit us,” says Mr Perry, who was last month awarded a 20-year National Safety Council Safe Driving Certificate.

He started here in 1962, as one of the team of general drivers, and became a personal driver at the request of the then Vice-Chancellor, Louis Matheson.

He drove the car that brought the present Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin, and his family to Monash, and has been driving them to official functions and other appointments ever since.

Mr Perry, 58, who lives just two streets from the University, spends weekends at his property at Tooradin where he raises and trains horses.

He is also known for his success with pigeon racing.

* Kevin Perry waits for his VIP passenger.

* University staff held a farewell function in the Union's Banquet Room in December to honour the retiring Comptroller, Mr Len Candy, centre, and the retiring Registrar, Mr Jim Butchart. Tribute was also paid to Mrs Isabel Butchart who has played an active role in fund-raising for the University.

* Above: The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Martin, was a patient subject when portraitist Brian Dunlop visited him last month for a sketching session. The sketches will form the basis of a portrait the University has commissioned to mark the completion of Professor Martin’s 10-year term as Vice-Chancellor, in January, 1987. Photo — Tony Miller.
A report on educational development in Pakistan has been published for distribution to organisations in the Third World, thanks to a subsidy from the Monash University Publications Committee.

Priorities in Educational Development in Pakistan — Projects and Training Programs will be distributed free or at low cost, through the UNESCO network, to educational institutions, ministries and libraries.

It is the report of an international seminar held in late 1983 at Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad.

This seminar followed a series of training programs in educational administration conducted at the Monash Faculty of Education by senior lecturer, Dr Warren Mellor, and funded by UNESCO.

The book was edited by Dr Mellor and Dr M. Ahsar Khan, co-ordinator of Educational Planning and Management at the Open University. It is published by the Centre for International Education and Development at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

The Publications Committee has also assisted in the publication of Dr Philip Ayres' essay, The Nature of Jonson's Roman History, in the prestigious American journal, English Literary Renaissance.

The essay was accepted by the editors in December, 1984, but it could only be included in this month’s special issue on Renaissance Historicism if Monash would meet the printing costs.

Other books published under subsidies from the committee include Comrie Relations: Studies in the Comic, Satire and Parody, edited by Pavel Petr, David Roberts and Philip Thomson, of the department of German, and published by Peter Lang, Frankfurt.

- Warren Mellor.

**Overseas writers first on lunchtime program**

Two international writers visiting Adelaide for Writer’s Week will be first on the program of Monash Lunchtime Readings for 1986.

Indian poet, Kamala Das, will read and discuss her work on Thursday, March 13; and English novelist, David Lodge, Professor of Literature at Birmingham University, will present excerpts from his acclaimed books, Changing Places, Small World, and the newly-published How Far Can You Go?, on Thursday, March 18.

Both sessions begin at 1.10 pm in R3 (Rotunda).

The series of readings is again being presented with assistance from the Vera Moore Fund, the Dean of Arts, and the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

Phillip Martin of the department of English, who organises the readings, says the Literature Board is continuing to offer its support because it believes the series is worthwhile.

"It's not just for people associated with the English department — it's for all staff, students and members of the public who enjoy hearing writers read and discuss their work," he says.

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**WHEN DISPARITY MAKES DIFFERENCE**

**A report on educational development makes a move for Third World**

A potentially fatal disease normally associated with animals strikes down hundreds of Victorians each year.

The disease, leptospirosis, is often not recognised in time to prevent serious complications.

"It must be diagnosed in the first day or so," says Professor Sally Faine of the department of Microbiology.

"Unfortunately the symptoms are not characteristic; at first they look like flu, and most recover at that stage.

"Later, in severe cases, it becomes recognisable with typical symptoms including bleeding, jaundice, central nervous system involvement and liver and kidney failure."

Leptospirosis is worldwide and causes many deaths, particularly in developing countries.

Professor Faine, who has been researching it for more than 20 years, was approached in 1980 by the World Health Organisation about publishing information on control and treatment.

The manual, Guidelines for the Control of Leptospirosis, was offset from a manuscript produced in his department, and published under the WHO imprint in 1982.

It is a compilation of articles by 24 contributors from 11 countries, and is widely used as a teaching and reference manual.

Now WHO has recognised its value with editions in other languages, including Arabic and Chinese.

Japanese and French versions are also on the way.

Professor Faine says leptospirosis is very hard to detect in animals, and those which recover become carriers, passing bacteria out in their urine to infect other animals and humans.

People most at risk in Australia include farmers, dairymen, abattoir workers, rice and sugar-cane workers.

But cases recently recorded in this State include a Monash zoology student who contracted the disease while trapping native rodents in the Dandenongs during field work.

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**Books**

**Educational guide will be Third World gift**

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**Overseas writers first on lunchtime program**

Two international writers visiting Adelaide for Writer’s Week will be first on the program of Monash Lunchtime Readings for 1986.

Indian poet, Kamala Das, will read and discuss her work on Thursday, March 13; and English novelist, David Lodge, Professor of Literature at Birmingham University, will present excerpts from his acclaimed books, Changing Places, Small World, and the newly-published How Far Can You Go?, on Thursday, March 18.

Both sessions begin at 1.10 pm in R3 (Rotunda).

The series of readings is again being presented with assistance from the Vera Moore Fund, the Dean of Arts, and the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

Phillip Martin of the department of English, who organises the readings, says the Literature Board is continuing to offer its support because it believes the series is worthwhile.

"It's not just for people associated with the English department — it's for all staff, students and members of the public who enjoy hearing writers read and discuss their work," he says.

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**WHEN DISPARITY MAKES DIFFERENCE**

**A report on educational development makes a move for Third World**

A potentially fatal disease normally associated with animals strikes down hundreds of Victorians each year.

The disease, leptospirosis, is often not recognised in time to prevent serious complications.

"It must be diagnosed in the first day or so," says Professor Sally Faine of the department of Microbiology.

"Unfortunately the symptoms are not characteristic; at first they look like flu, and most recover at that stage.

"Later, in severe cases, it becomes recognisable with typical symptoms including bleeding, jaundice, central nervous system involvement and liver and kidney failure."

Leptospirosis is worldwide and causes many deaths, particularly in developing countries.

Professor Faine, who has been researching it for more than 20 years, was approached in 1980 by the World Health Organisation about publishing information on control and treatment.

The manual, Guidelines for the Control of Leptospirosis, was offset from a manuscript produced in his department, and published under the WHO imprint in 1982.

It is a compilation of articles by 24 contributors from 11 countries, and is widely used as a teaching and reference manual.

Now WHO has recognised its value with editions in other languages, including Arabic and Chinese.

Japanese and French versions are also on the way.

Professor Faine says leptospirosis is very hard to detect in animals, and those which recover become carriers, passing bacteria out in their urine to infect other animals and humans.

People most at risk in Australia include farmers, dairymen, abattoir workers, rice and sugar-cane workers.

But cases recently recorded in this State include a Monash zoology student who contracted the disease while trapping native rodents in the Dandenongs during field work.

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**Books**

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"It's not just for people associated with the English department — it's for all staff, students and members of the public who enjoy hearing writers read and discuss their work," he says. 
Ripping yarns served a social purpose

**BOOKS**

**IN REVIEW**

**From Brown to Bunter**

**By Peter Musgrave**

**Routledge and Kegan Paul, London**
(Subsidised by the Monash University Publications Committee)

For Australians past 50, the phrase "boys school stories" arouses deep nostalgia for the Magnet and Gem, published in England for more than 30 years up to the beginning of the last war. They were weekly papers, surely superior to "comic".

Probably nothing we have met since in print has given us so much simple fun. In Magnet, the heroes of Greystairs — Harry Wharton, Frank Nagent, Hurree Jamset Ram Singh (who would arouse readers' shrivels against racism today) and Billy Bunter, that quintessence of greed, cowardice, ineptitude and stupidity, acted out a fantasy which, strangely, we could identify with from our different circumstances on this side of the world.

In Gem, Tom Merry's gang at St Jim's included that comical fop, Arthur August D'Arcy — a Sopperom indeed! — but, without a Bunter, ran only second. It never occurred to us that the stories, as serials, books and single yarns, produced a stream of boys' wealth and wider literacy arose.

We didn't care who wrote the stories. We didn't wonder for a second how they came to exist. It never crossed our minds to ask what part they had in their tradi-
tion and society. We never stopped to ponder the effect they might be seeking to have on us.

Peter Musgrave, newly-retired Pro-

fessor of Education, was not so content to leave these and similarly fruitful ques-
tions alone.

In *From Brown to Bunter* he studies British boys' school stories from the early 19th century to beyond the last war, working largely at Cambridge.

For us Magnet-Gem buffs, with our treasured memories, Professor Mus-
grave has a chastening message. These stories, far from being at the height of the art, and central to the genre, were not only given biographies of ma-
jor writers, and summaries of the most important stories, but reaches farther to describe how each major book was received in its time, and its effects.

Not content with that, he relates single works, and the broad stream of
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Dangers in tying the reward to the product

In an occasional address to Monash graduates in December, Mr Hugh Stretton, Reader in History at the University of Adelaide, looked at why academics’ rewards and incentives seem to be attracting more public interest and criticism now than for some time past.

Academics probably average no greedier or more generous than anyone else in society, but they do not want to be paid for what they enjoy, whatever it happens to be. Where outside earnings are customary, they want them to be examined impartially.

The point is that the work doesn’t appear to vary with those circumstances.

In a few departments, some of the opposition may still be acutely in conflict with more productive research, and of course with teaching. In social sciences in one direction there are special dangers in tying the reward to the product in any direct commercial way.

Most of these disciplines are selling, among other things, social beliefs and persuasions. The most cajolable social research still has to be selective in the questions it asks, and the directions of its usual analysis.

To this can be added you can research the current leaders of the Builders Laborers Federation (if you have a command over their protection) with perfect objectivity.

You can research the living and working conditions of the union’s members.

You can research building costs on the rates of profit.

It is easy to conclude that our trade-unions are more greedy or more generous than anyone else, and their distribution of these resources is likely to be persuasive in one direction or the other. But the book’s account of ideological taboos is drawn for those who work with Szelenyi author exiled in 1974.

With all that to drive or inspire or constraining faith, you heard it from someone better: you really to go whoever pays us to write the book in the first place. But most of us go on with our double-double-dipping.

Some academic books pay like that and others don’t. That consideration has very little to do with most of the research choices of most academics most of the time. We could commercialise more of the options if we tried, at least to a Californian extent. But there’s no need, and no good reason to expect better performance if we do.

Most of the best of both natural and social science has been done by salaried people without direct market incentives. It would be easy to say why: to describe in terms familiar to everyone here the complex and diverse motivation that inspires the best work: the desire to be famous, to be promoted, to reform the world, whether from love of some of its people or hatred of others, and the joys of art, craft, invention, discovery, and self-expression.

● Exiled

I could describe all that, but I’d rather you heard it from someone better: specifically from one of the foreigners. FAUSA now wants to prevent our hearing, or working with, or learning from.

Some of you know George Konrads’ and Ivan Szelenyi’s democratic socialist analysis of communist Hungary, The Intellectuals on the Road to Class Power, published in German and French and English some years after the discovery of the manuscript had the authors exiled in 1974.

Why did they put personal safety, freedom, careers and their families’ futures at risk, just to write an unorthodox book?

One paragraph in the book says why. It says it is of disdained intellectuals in general, not of themselves in particular. It almost certainly underestimates their own courage and generosity and desire to put the world right.

Those who worked with Szelenyi through his years of exile in South Australia knew that he worked about twice as long, twice as hard, twice as well and about twice as generously for his students and colleagues as anyone else about the place.

But the book’s account of unorthodox thinkers’ motives is quite hard-headed, and it’s my favorite metaphor in all the literature of social science. I end this address, and thank you once again, by reading it to you.

Imagine an ardent hunter who after prowling around for ages in potato fields successfully stumbles onto a game preserve whose keepers have not allowed anyone in living memory to hunt or even photograph the game. He can be certain that even without a crack rifle and a peerless eye he can still acquire these trophies which will give him the reputation of a matchless nimrod and make him the toast of every field-and-stream show.

Similarly, the intellectual who sets out to explore the reservation of ideological taboos is drawn to forbidden territory not so much by an indomitable heroism which shrinks from no danger as by the prospect of any easy bag, and by the reward not only of the abstract but theoretical and intellectual discovery but of domestic and even international acclaim for his original achievement.

With all that to drive or inspire or tempt us, we don’t actually need market temptations too.

Michael Pett, who was awarded a Doctor of Medicine at the December graduation for his thesis, Mortality among former national service men, already has B.Med.Sc., M.B. and B.S. from Monash, and an M.P.H. from Harvard. His sister, Harriet Fett, graduated B.A. at the same ceremony, which was also attended by their mother, Dr Ione Fett, senior lecturer in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, who has an M.A. and Ph.D. from Monash.

MARCH 5, 1986
Learn more about California exchange

An opportunity for Monash students to spend an academic year at a US university will be given a boost on Wednesday, March 12, with the arrival on campus of Professor Sam McCulloch, the University of California student exchange scheme's Director for Australia.

Under an agreement negotiated between the Monash University Council and the Regents of the University of California, up to five undergraduates or graduates will be allowed to continue their academic work at the University of California without payment of tuition fees for one academic year, beginning in January or March, 1987.

The agreement also enables a similar number of University of California students to study at Monash.

Professor McCulloch will be available for consultation about the scheme in the Main Arts Building on the first floor of the Humanities Building on March 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Any Monash student in the scheme would continue to be a candidate for a Monash University degree, and, depending on the choice of subjects, it would be possible for studies taken at the University of California to be credited towards that degree.

IMPORTANT DATES

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in March:

- First Term begins
- First Term ends for Medicine I, II and III
- First-year begins for M.Eng.Sc. by coursework.
- Orientation for parents and mature-age students (family day) 12 noon.
- Orientation for parents and mature-age students 12 noon.
- Last date for return of T.E.A.S grants
- Important dates for students in March:
  - 1st: Monday
  - 2nd: Monday
  - 3rd: Monday
  - 4th: Monday

Students will be selected on academic grounds, and on the basis of their aim in discrimination to study at the University of California.

Each student will be responsible for his or her travel, living and incidental expenses.

These are estimated to be at least SUS10,000, excluding return air fare and assuming on-campus housing.

Inquiries should be directed to the Academic Services Officer, Mrs Joan Dawson, Registrar's Office (ext. 3011).

Catalogues for the nine campuses of the University of California (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz) may be seen at her office.

Applications for the scheme close on Wednesday, 23 April, 1986.

Conference on 'rules' for AIDS

* From page 3

"A separate question is whether it ought to be sold, and whether it ought to be sold by a university," says Professor Somerville. "I think the sale is very acceptable because the money is coming back to help further research."

She says the IFV program is one where there should be great emphasis on letting patients down gently after treatment failure.

"I have a lot of belief in the psychological component of medicine, and no area is as fraught with psychological components as the IVF one."

"There is a great risk of anger, disappointed expectations — and sometimes a law suit — in dismissing a patient after failed treatment."

"People generally don't sue when they feel they have had a good relationship with their doctor even when things have gone dramatically wrong — they sue when they feel physically and psychologically abandoned."

"If they are suddenly dropped they try to re-establish a bond with the doctor, if not through their relationship, so a proper 'de-briefing' is very important."

Professor Somerville will be a speaker at a national conference on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome at Clunes Ross House, Melbourne, next month.

The conference, organised by the Centre for Human Bioethics, and titled AIDS: Social Policy, Ethics and the Law, will look at questions of discrimination, confidentiality required for blood tests and the kinds of advice that should be given about avoiding or dealing with AIDS.

"We have to be extremely careful in using the law, so that it does not do more harm than good," says Professor Somerville.

"We must keep in mind that the overall goal is to keep the disease from spreading.

"A law which carries something symbolising alienation or stigmatisation might defeat the whole purpose."

(The conference will be held on Monday, April 7, and registration can be made through the Centre for Human Bioethics, ext. 4083 or 3373.)
One small step...

This is the first in an (possibly) occasional series on car parking spaces which offer food for thought. Even the powers-that-be felt uncomfortable about the obvious discrepancies between the "Disabled parking" designation and the in-built obstacles, left, so sometime during summer vacation the problem was remedied.

MONASH REPORTER
The next issue will be published in the first week of April, 1986.

Copy deadline is Friday, March 21, and early copy is much appreciated.

Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly, Information Office, University Offices, or ring ext. 2003.

Chess club champions await your move

The events listed below are open to the public “RBH” throughout stands for Robert Blackwood Hall. There is a BASS ticketing outlet on campus at the Alexander Theatre.


3: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE FORUMS - "Beginning the course" - students’ past experiences and course directions.

MARCH 12: "Experiences of the course" - present students’ perceptions.


6: RELIGIOUS CENTRE - Service to mark 25th Anniversary of the University, with guest speaker, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, the Rt Rev. Dr. F. T. F. Liddle, organist Assoc. Prof. Bruce Steele, and the Education Faculty Choir, conducted by Dr. Alan Gregory. 1.10 pm. Inquiries: ext. 3160/1/2.


16: MONSTER GARAGE SALE - Monash University Parents’ Group invites sellers and buyers to get together in the Humanities car park from 8 am to 1 pm. Inquiries and reservations: 570 3337, 876 1609.


17: LUNCHTIME CONCERT - "Words by Langlois" - pianist presenting a special program of works following a tour of France and London. R.B.H. Admission free. 1.15 pm.

21: BLOOD BANK - Ground floor, Menzies Building. From 9 am to 3.45 pm.

