

STUDENT PLAY EXPLORES ISSUES, FINDS NOTHING

THE CAST and crew of student play 'I Am Your Womb', which came to the end of its run yesterday, have concluded that the play's 'brave exploration of issues of gender, ethnicity and identity in contemporary Iran' has been ultimately fruitless.

Lead actor Josh Eisenthal claims, "I got involved in this play because I wanted to see just how much a group of white, middle-class Oxford students could say about what it means to be an aborted foetus in an au-

thoritarian regime. As soon as I uttered the line, 'You can oppress me, but you can't deny that I am black', I realised the answer: nothing."

Writer and director Ewan Philips defends the production. He told us, "People think just because we didn't have anything remotely insightful to say that we wasted their time. But in this fractured and godless reality, perhaps the most meaningful thing you can say is 'I have nothing meaningful to say'."



ROWLING REVEALS: 'HERMIONE WAS BLACK'

SPEAKING at a book-signing in Oxford earlier today, J. K. Rowling shocked readers by announcing that Hermione, the young

female lead in her cult hit the 'Harry Potter' septology, was in fact black.

The announcement is the fourteenth personal detail

that Rowling has revealed at a conference since the last of the books came out last Summer.

Other revelations included the fact that Snape was a semi-professional flamenco dancer, Tonks had cystic fibrosis and Lord Voldemort is a hermaphrodite.

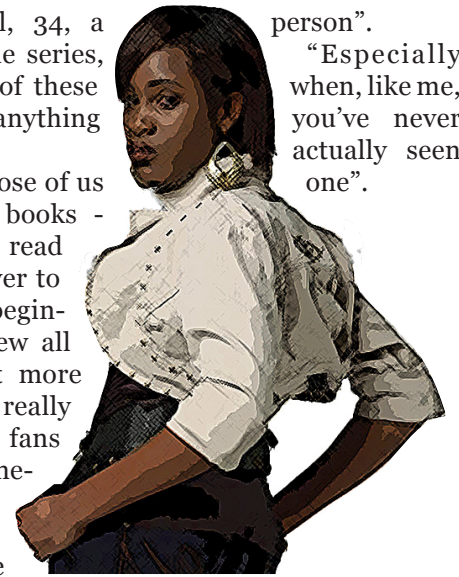
Lauren Doornal, 34, a life-long fan of the series, insists that none of these revelations are anything new.

She told us, "Those of us who've read the books - and I mean really read them, not just cover to cover, but from beginning to end - knew all of this and a lot more already. If she really wants to shock fans she should say something really controversial, like 'These books are

for children'. That'd shut us up."

When asked why she permitted the film-makers to cast white local girl Emma Watson in the role of Hermione, J.K. Rowling defended herself by insisting "it is very easy, in the heat of the moment, to mistake a child for a black person".

"Especially when, like me, you've never actually seen one".



US TOURISTS STUNNED BY 'QUAINT, OLDE WORLDE' MCDONALD'S

THE OXFORDSHIRE tourist office has been inundated with praise from visiting conference guests and tourists for the 'superbly well-preserved' McDonald's on Cornmarket Street, the Oxymoron can reveal.

According to duty manager James Peterson, cries of 'Look! They don't even do Supersize! It's like stepping back in time!' were commonplace.

Derek Stoller of Balti-

more, who spent three weeks living in Worcester college accommodation over Easter, enthused: 'I can imagine Henry VIII walking in here and ordering a Fillet-O-Fish during the Civil War'.

"It's amazing to think that even in a city like Oxford, you can be eating the most up-to-date innovations in technology despite being in the most ancient and traditional surroundings".

QUAD DESTROYED IN NAME OF 'SAVING LIVES'

A PATCH of grass on St Peter's College quad was reportedly 'completely ruined' and 'left looking like a compost heap' last week, as a fire engine was

thoughtlessly driven across it.

The fire fighters, who saved approximately sixteen lives and prevented an accommodation block from being burnt to the ground, were described by the Junior

Dean as 'careless vandals with absolutely no respect for college property and tradition.'

Said one gardener, 'Damage to a lawn of this extent could take weeks to put right.'

