

LETTERS

■ YOUR views are important to us, but please try to keep your letters brief. If necessary, we will reduce the length of correspondence, and all letters are published at the editor's discretion. Please include your name, address and a daytime telephone number.

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: THE EDITOR, THE STAR, YORK STREET, SHEFFIELD, S1 1PU.

Nursery boost
DAVID Blunkett should welcome the Government's advertising encouraging the uptake of nursery vouchers. The Government is providing £165m of new money to fund places where LEAs have failed to meet the needs of parents. This will include an estimated £1m to Sheffield which should fund nearly 900 new places.

John Harthman,
Gisborne Road, S11.

Snow no excuse

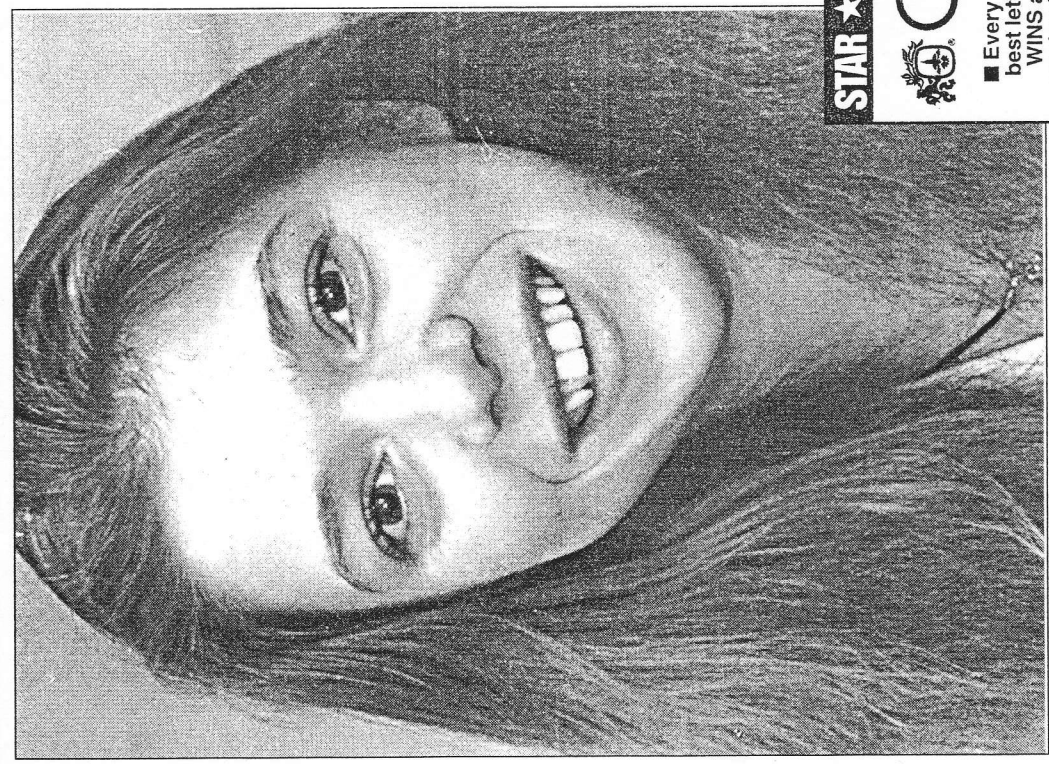
REGARDING snow, Sheffield was gridlocked with people trying to get home early. Why? Forty years ago, I never missed school because of snow.

Mike Whittle, Jaunty Avenue, Sheffield 12.

Failed

THE use of tables to measure the quality of teaching in our schools is rubbish, as many parents pay for private tuition in order that children obtain the grades to progress to further education, as the 'state' has failed.

A Land, Beighton.



Graduate Sylvia Brown is shocked

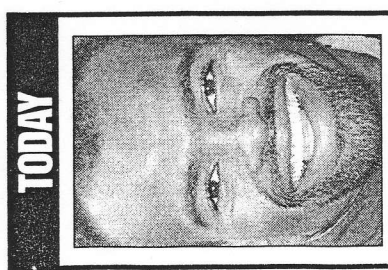
Slave Labour

A S a recent graduate, I have been shocked by my experiences of the new Job Seekers' Allowance. It forces you into dead-end jobs that are often little short of slave labour!

Then you find yourself trapped into the job which simply wastes your talents and abilities. You have no power to escape and little time to seek alternative employment. Is this the best way the Government can

Jobseekers leads to a dead end

find to cut down figures on the unemployment register? Instead of taking from those who have little or nothing, why doesn't one see investment into the creation of good and well paid jobs? The only thing being created by this allowance is more and more homeless! Aren't there enough people on the streets already? Miss Sylvia Brown, The Fairway, Lodge Lane, Sheffield S10.



TODAY

BIRTHDAYS

KRISS Akabusi (pictured) athlete, 38; Lucy Gutteridge, actress, 40; Terence Frisby, playwright, actor and producer, 64; Keith Miller, cricketer, 77; Randy Newman, songwriter, 53; Stephen Roche, cyclist, 37.

QUOTE

"I said, 'I like his tie'. This is an absolutely ludicrous reason for being dismissed"

— Woman juror sacked by the judge in the O J Simpson double death case in California for commenting on a law clerk's appearance.

THOUGHT

A STATEMENT and a