

et

forestreet@telegraph.co.uk

## Brief's shot at the No 1 spot

his style in an unexpected way. Ronald Macdonald, heir to the chieftom of his clan and owner of the Boisdale restaurants in Belgravia and the City, is leading a campaign to have the anti-smoking mayoral candidates Norris and Ken Livingstone barred from every licensed establishment in London. But Forest, the pro-smoking lobby, is not supporting the campaign; it doesn't think Norris's heart is in a ban. "He's just an opportunist," a spokesman coughed.

### Just Rosey

THAT Stuart Rose doesn't half get about. The new boss of Marks & Spencer was billed on the guest list for 3i's swanky party at Claridge's on Thursday night, although we spotted him guzzling bubbly at the private view of the Royal Academy's summer exhibition.

It will be a comfort for M&S shareholders that the pressures of fighting off Philip Green's takeover are not interfering too much with Stu's downtime. But the oddest sighting was of a couple of silver-haired chaps squaring up to each other outside M&S's head office early on Friday morning. Eye-witness accounts of their banter are not suitable for a family newspaper.

NEIL MURRAY, the banking partner at Travers Smith Braithwaite, hopes to stun the City by becoming the first corporate lawyer to record a number one hit record (at least, we think it's a first).

Murray has teamed up with TalkSPORT, the radio station, to ape Dexy's Midnight Runners' tune *Come on Eileen*, retitled *Come on England*. The maddeningly catchy song has become the unofficial anthem to England's bid for Euro 2004 football glory.

Murray, who's lead singer of a band called 4-4-2 when he's not holding bankers' hands, is hoping to replicate the success of comedians David Baddiel and Frank Skinner, whose *Three Lions* was the de facto theme tune of the 1996 championships.

"Whatever you think about the cheesiness of this song, it has the edge over the others I have heard. And even the average fan will be able to remember at least three words," Murray says.

He has the backing of the *Sun* and its Page 3 girls (right). His record company thinks the song will shift 30,000 "units" in the first week, giving it a possible spot in the UK Top 10. Who said that lawyers have run out of new ways to annoy us?



in Yusuf of  
hibition

art in today's  
celebrations.  
park in Sus-  
I collect his-  
Jeep is now  
han normal."  
that the only  
in collected

ris

find that run-  
don cramps



breakingviews

## Papering over the cracks in Green's bid

PUNDITS are saying that Philip Green needs to offer more cash if he is to win

crucially on what sort of dominant shareholders one is dealing with. If they are