

STUDENT

Edinburgh University Student Newspaper

US Senator calls for new conventional defence strategy

Hart demands changes in NATO thinking

by Devin Scoble

"I have the honour to present the next President of the United States." It was with those optimistic words that the Rector, David Steel, introduced United States Senator for Colorado, Gary Hart, to deliver a public lecture at the University on Saturday morning.

Senator Hart was a leading contender for the 1984 Democratic Presidential nomination, and his brief visit to the University had been arranged through David Steel as his only Scottish engagement on a major European tour.

The Senator's lecture was delivered to a packed audience in the George Square Lecture Theatre, and many more were unable to get in. His lecture was both comprehensive and hard-hitting. "The title given to my remarks," said the Senator, "is America and Europe: Living Together? I am here today to talk about change and reform, so what I am about to say might better be called America and Europe: Defence Transition to the 21st Century. The Senator proceeded to identify the "breakdown of consensus" within Nato, and gave clear warnings about the future of defence strategy, and the urgent need to develop a new concept of conventional deterrence.

"Our requirement is for new policy approaches that are strategically sound and that also make our citizens feel confident and secure. I want to focus today on one such approach: building an effective conventional deterrent in Europe."

Senator Hart's answer was not simply to spend more money, or to proceed blindly to invest in new technology, but to develop a new cohesion of strategy between defence personnel, technology, and hardware. The alternative, he said, was "to spend large amounts on a small number of weapons likely to be unreliable and ineffective, and this is one of the areas where current Reagan policy is out of control."

In answer to a question from

Student at a press conference after the lecture, Senator Hart qualified this point when asked what he saw as the single, most effective, step Nato could take now to improve its defence position. "An improvement of its reserve forces. This ought to be done on a uniform basis throughout Nato countries, as some questions like the Dutch and West Germans are already doing. Nothing I have said relates to specific defence issues, but more of an international balance. Nato's current defence strategy is transfixed by technology. It is not concerned with the non-sexy, unattractive options like improving the reserve forces, but more in actual weapon technology and numbers."

The Senator's lecture concluded with a warning that "change is not a danger... our task is to manage change, offer our people goals, not memories, and we must speak to them, not of the 1940s, but of the 21st century."

Although working within a very tight schedule, he did allow time for a few questions from the large audience, and stated firmly in answer to one question that whilst he was certainly no unilateralist, he "would ultimately love to see the day where there are no nuclear weapons on earth."

Senator Hart did speak briefly to Student after his press conference, and said it was too early yet to state whether he would like to contend the Presidency in 1988. But when pressed if there was at least interest, he did remark firmly, "Oh yes, there is interest!"

Following a BBC interview in the Main Library, the Senator's large party had a brief tour of the city before a buffet lunch in the Old College. He then flew to London to continue his busy 11-day tour of Europe, during which he will meet President Mitterand in France, and Kremlin leaders in Moscow.

Most shrewd political observers have spotted Hart as a rapidly rising star of American politics. His near-victory over Walter Mondale in last year's Democratic Presidential nomination race showed this, and Saturday's lecture may well have been a unique opportunity for the University of Edinburgh to play host to a future American President. Analysis, page 12; Comment, page 5.



Gary Hart, satisfied with his welcome at the George Square Theatre. Photo by Matthew Griffiths

Briefly...

Free Ents policy success

JUDGING by the attendance figures of functions at Teviot Row, Chambers Street House and Potterrow last week, EUSA's recent decision to adopt a free entertainments policy appears to have been justified. Teviot Row was the most successful, with 893 people turning up on Friday night. Full story, p2.

PNL settlement hopes

THE TEN MONTH old dispute at the Polytechnic of North London over the education there of National Front organiser, Patrick Harrington, may now have ended because of a real threat that the college would close if picketing continued. An agreement seems to have been reached that Harrington will be taught separately. Full story, p3.

Yes to YTS

THE YOUTH Training Scheme is claiming success in its attempt to fulfil the government's undertaking that all registered unemployed 16 year-old school leavers would be offered a place on the scheme. Only 3,853 people are waiting for a place, compared to 4,300 the previous year. The Manpower Services Commission claim the YTS is now really established as the high-road to a job, further training or education.

Glasgow students strike over hall fees

by Alan Young

Students at Glasgow University's Halls of Residence are refusing to pay rent this term in attempt to force a reduction in fees which, they say, are the highest of any Scottish University.

However, Glasgow SRC President, Malcolm Clark told Student that the Government, and not the University, are to blame for the students taking such action. "If the government had increased grants by 50%, then no one would have bothered about the Hall fees," he said.

The students' protests will be stepped up next month with a month-long boycott of the

University catering facilities in a demonstration against their prices.

"This," said Malcolm Clark, "will exacerbate the University's cash-flow problems, and we hope that this link-up of two issues will be effective."

The protest against Hall fees was organised by the Inter-Halls Committee, which has set up at the students' request a withdrawal fund, into which students can pay their Hall fees until the protest ends. Clark said he expected all the residents to have joined the fund within the next fortnight.

In Glasgow University's halls, rent for a ten-week term stands at £354, compared to approximately £300 at Pollock Halls. Glasgow

University's accommodation officer responded to these figures by claiming that comparisons could be misleading, since the total package offered by Glasgow was different from that of other Universities.

Malcolm Clark argued that the students were not asking for huge reductions. "We want to negotiate with the University to agree on an average figure which would be acceptable, without any reduction of services," he said.

He said he expected the protest to go on for another two months. Meanwhile, Glasgow's Rector, Dr Michael Kelly, who supports the students' case, promised to raise the issue at this week's meeting of the University Court.

The Hart Alternative



FOLLOWING Gary Hart's Edinburgh speech, John Erickson, Professor in the Department of Defence Studies and a prominent figure in the 'Edinburgh Conversations' between East and West, analyses the US Senator's thoughts on NATO strategy.

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This week in

NEWS

EUSA defends Union changes

Free ents boost Union crowds

The Students' Association has claimed that the free entertainments policy announced at the beginning of term has been vindicated by the increase in numbers attending Union functions last Friday and Saturday nights.

On Friday night, 893 people turned up at the Teviot Row Toga Party, while the average figure when there had been an entrance fee was more like 450. There were similar increases in the attendance of Potterrow on Friday night and Chambers Street House on Saturday. Said a delighted Union President, Hilary O'Neill, of the success at Teviot. "Of course, people were coming in and out, but at least the place was full and there was an atmosphere to it — and some were even in togas."

Before the success of the weekend's events had become apparent the Association's Permanent Secretary, Dr Charles Fishburne, had already defended the decision to close some Union facilities by claiming that it was the only way to introduce the free ents policy.

In a letter to the editor of *Student*, Dr Fishburne, referring to a policy report on the changes drawn up by himself and Callum Calder, the Honorary Treasurer, claims that the purpose of the rationalisation of opening times was "to encourage greater use of the Unions by making entry to all regular weekly Union functions free"

The changes to be introduced are that Chambers Street House will now be closed on Wednesday afternoons and on Saturdays until 5 pm; the Park Room will be closed in the afternoons and in the evenings from Mondays to Thursdays (except for private functions); the Teviot restaurant will be closed on Saturdays and Potterrow will be closed on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

In his letter Dr Fishburne says, "It will be seen that these have been services which are barely used by students at all" and claims that "this decision was a positive one in response to the diminishing value of the student grant as reflected in the usage of our Unions, and not 'belt-tightening' as such".

When he suggested that the policy report, it was estimated that the Association would save between £10,500 and £11,000 per annum through these changes; since the cost of the entertainments programme is £21,000, the report concluded that if free entry was introduced, Teviot Row and Chambers Street would have to attract an estimated 150 additional people each every week — and Potterrow an extra 80 — in order to make up the remaining deficit of £10,000 to £10,500.

Dr Fishburne admitted that the free ents policy was something of a gamble — since it had to be applied for the rest of the year whether it was a success or not. However, last weekend's figures suggest that the gamble may well have paid off.

Robin Henry

Teaching unions merger imminent

Surprise talks between the Educational Institute of Scotland, the country's largest teaching union, and the Association of Lecturers in Scottish Central Institutions may lead to a merger of the two organisations before next session.

The meetings, recently revealed in the august pages of the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, are a result of the change in control of Napier College and Glasgow College of Technology from local council to central government next session. Whilst this may prove useful to the Colleges themselves, who will have more direct contact with the wonderful people in the education department, it will definitely be a headache for the unions representing teaching staff who could find themselves with four separate unions representing 2,000 members of staff.

Currently staff at the Colleges are members of either the Further Education Lecturers' National Section of EIS or the Scottish Further and Higher Education Association. If nothing is done

before next session membership will be split between ALSCI, the ASTMS, FELNS and the SFHEA. Got it? I reckon the Golden Age of Acronym Creation (GAAC) is here today.

The SFHEA was seeking a merger of the federation of unions including themselves and the Association of Lecturers in Colleges of Education in Scotland, as long ago as November, but ALSCI's recent meeting with FELNS more or less puts an end to that. Then again a number of SFHEA members indicated they would leave the association if such a merger were to take place.

It has been suggested that EIS could retain FELNS as an autonomous body within the organisation with ALSCI as another, resistance to this could conceivably come from the right-of-centre ALSCI who might not readily accept identification with the EIS's more left-wing image. This is all speculative, not to mention complicated, but it will be interesting to watch for the outcome.

Mark Percival



Joe Cool
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STOLEN JEWELLERY
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031 225 4881

Teachers refuse talks offer

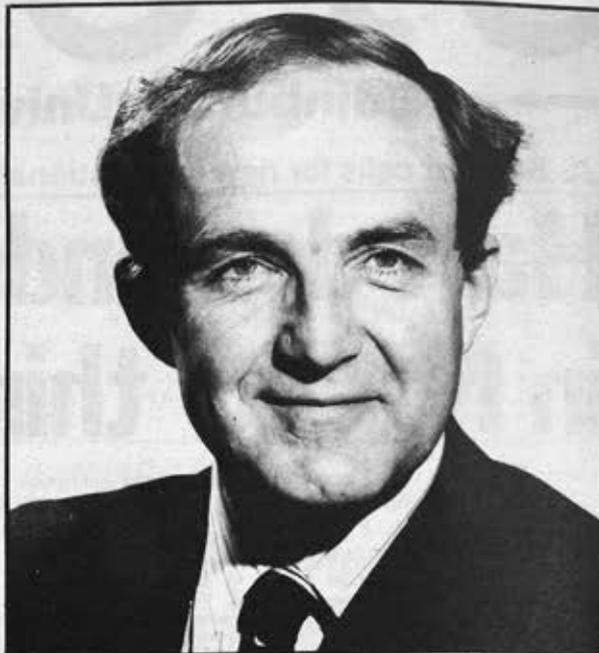
by Lorraine Telford

As teachers continue to threaten strike action in their bid for an independent pay review, attempts by Mr George Younger to hold talks with the Scottish teaching unions have failed.

Mr Younger, whose own constituency in Ayr is a major target for strike action, upset teachers by his suggestion that the Scottish Joint Negotiating Committee should examine both salaries and conditions of service together. Mr Younger claimed that in any form of employment the questions of pay and conditions of service are inevitably linked, and it was therefore unrealistic to discuss one and not the other.

The Scottish union's outright rejection to be involved in talks may have arisen from a misunderstanding of the type of work review Mr Younger proposed. When he suggested that teachers should take part in what he termed "schemes of personal professional development", Mr Younger claimed that this was a reference to in-service training and not, as teachers had interpreted, a proposal for continuous assessment of their work.

Writing to Mr Robert Beattie, joint secretary of the teachers' side of the SJNC, Mr Younger asked that they reconsider the possibility of talks. However, as this week begins a series of three-day strikes, and with the Scottish Office continuing to take a hard line, the chances of an early agreement between the two sides are slight.



Younger supports grants

THE SECRETARY OF STATE for Scotland, Mr George Younger, last year pledged his support for the student grant system, and said he was opposed to the introduction of a loans scheme.

According to the Association of University Teachers (Scotland), a

Gallup poll during the 1983 general election showed 81% of the electorate were in favour of adequate government grants for the education and training of young people over 16.

In reference to the poll Mr Younger said: "I am one of the 81%. I do not agree with student loans and the government has made it clear that it is not proceeding with loans."

Glasgow Guardian censorship fear

Glasgow University's SRC President Malcolm Clark set a dangerous precedent last month by attempting to ban an article in the University's independent student newspaper. This is a constant worry which most student newspapers regularly face.

The article was entitled "Is the SRC within the Law?" and discussed the SRC's position under the *ultra vires* laws with regard to the SRC's sending of mini-buses out to miners' picket lines. The university's Publications Board has since passed a motion condemning the SRC President for his interference in the newspaper's established editorial independence. This is the first occasion that the SRC has tried to control the contents of the university's student newspaper.

Mr Clark said that "the SRC has a responsibility to protect its own interests. I do not deny we're tampering with editorial control." The *Guardian's* co-editor, Christina Macaulay, said the news-paper "has a duty to the student body to tell the truth, whether or not it puts the SRC in such a bad position".

The SRC President, however, told *Student* on Monday that the article to which he objected was not the one which appeared in the newspaper. "I had been informed that the *Guardian* was going to print an article saying the SRC had broken the law, and merely phoned the printers to see if this was the case — which it wasn't." There was nobody available from *Guardian* to comment.

Devin Scobie

Western relief road controversy

Labour district councillors this week questioned a claim that accidents in the west of Edinburgh could be cut by up to 40% by building the planned Western Relief Road.

The claim had been made at the Parliamentary inquiry set up to decide whether to give Lothian Regional Council planning permission to build the Western Relief Road.

Labour Councillor Callan Woodward described the figures as "dubious" as the survey had included neither the Western Approach Road nor the Haymarket area, both of which would be busier if the proposed road were built.

The Labour District Council administration has always been opposed to the controversial Western Relief Road which, it is alleged, will bring unnecessary traffic into the city centre.

"Edinburgh is unusual in having a residential city centre, a feature which we wish to maintain. We are concerned that by bringing more traffic into the city centre it will be disrupted, as has happened in Glasgow," said Woodward.

The Labour administration was recently described as "incompetent" by the Conservative opposition when they rescinded planning permission to build a city bypass. The reconsideration was made after it was discovered that a roundabout would be built joining the bypass to the proposed Western Relief Road.

"We were advised that this fact could prejudice the Parliamentary

inquiry," said Councillor Russell Imrie.

"There is a great deal of public opposition to this road from the residents who will have a dual carriage way running past their homes; businesses will lose custom by being pushed off a main road, and from British Rail who will have to spend millions of pounds moving a piece of track."

There is a great deal of controversy surrounding the amount of ratepayers' money being spent on the long-running Parliamentary inquiry. Imrie estimated that the District Council will have spent around £¼ million and that the Regional Council will have spent more by bringing in consultants and experts.

The present inquiry, started on November 22, was promoted by the Regional Council for permission to divert the railway line. Imrie claims that the opposition have unfairly widened the perimeters of the objectives.

Imrie said: "This inquiry as it is a vast waste of public money — the Regional Council cannot get their evidence together which appears to change every day."

"The Western Relief Road has become a political hot potato and with elections coming up in May of next year the Regional Council will be unlikely to act if they do win planning permission."

The Labour administration do recognise the need for a city bypass and planning permission will be granted when the Western Relief Road controversy is over.

Jacqueline Brown

PNL saga ends as compromise is reached

In the face of a very real possibility of closure, the Polytechnic of North London has finally reached an agreement between its directorate, its student union, and National Front man Patrick Harrington.

The arrangement, which is hoped will bring an end to the 10-month-old dispute at the college, means that Mr Harrington will be provided with everything he needs to continue his course — including 500 library books and two lecturers — but within a building some distance away from the main parts of the college.

In this way, it is thought, Mr Harrington will have no cause to visit any other college buildings. In addition, students who would theoretically share his lectures are expected to arrange private classes with tutors, with the result that Mr Harrington will effectively be taught 'in isolation'. In return for this the students have agreed to stop picketing lectures.

Some weeks ago, the then Director of the Polytechnic, Dr

David McDowall, opted for early retirement, and Dr John Beishon was called in to try to deal with the disruption and court actions which have taken place following objections to the presence of a National Front organiser at the college. It was Dr Beishon who devised the plan for peace.

Speaking to the students, he strongly recommended that the union accept his plan, since continued disturbances might jeopardise the future of the college altogether, if the High Court declared it was time to intervene.

An emergency meeting was subsequently held on 10th January, and the peace proposal was passed. Once more, however, proceedings took place in an atmosphere of controversy — again over whether Mr Harrington's presence should be allowed. Mr Harrington said he wished to attend not simply to show that it was his legal right to do so, but because he wanted to "state his case", and possibly try to amend

any motion put forward. Dr Beishon, though, was concerned about the potential effects of his presence might have at such an occasion and obtained an injunction which barred Mr Harrington from attending.

Although until now he has been steadfast in his refusal to accept private teaching, Mr Harrington said he was happy with the outcome of the meeting and with the present situation, although he does not believe that it will prove successful on a long-term basis. "What has been brought about is a forced solution, and forced solutions never last."

A problem area may be the students' demand that former demonstrators should not be victimised, while Dr Beishon is adamant that he will go through with disciplinary actions arranged. Meanwhile, Mr Harrington is pressing for the conviction of 16 people involved in the previous picketing of his lectures.

Anne McNaught

Visit hospitals, Ancram told

An Edinburgh Labour MP has written to Scottish Health Minister John Mackay asking him to visit Bruntsfield and Deaconess Hospitals before coming to a decision about their future.

This is the latest controversy surrounding Lothian Health Board's decision to ask Secretary of State for Scotland Mr George Younger for permission to withdraw health services from both hospitals.

At a meeting of the full Health Board last Thursday the closure decision was approved by 11 votes to five. The Board plans to save money and open a new 180-bed unit for the elderly at Edinburgh's Royal Victoria Hospital.

During a three-month consultation period for discussion of the closure plan, organisations representing the public, doctors and other hospital workers expressed opposition. The main concern was that it will result in

long waiting lists, particularly in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children.

However, a chief administration spokesman said that he was confident that the additional efforts required of other hospitals could be sustained. Labour District Council will, nevertheless, be among many organisations appealing against the decision.

Edinburgh South MP Michael Ancram, whose constituency includes Bruntsfield Hospital, has had many letters asking him to fight against the closures. However, a Marchmont committee reported on November 2nd of last year that there was no reason for keeping the hospitals open.

Ancram intends to speak to George Younger and Scottish Health Minister John Mackay before deciding whether to support the planned closures.

Jacqueline Brown

University seeks commercial funding worldwide

The University's Development Fund Campaign (EDFC) committee has outlined its plans to stir commercial interest in the University's activities.

"The portfolio that has been made up describing the projects will not be a mass mailing pack," said Campaign Director, Ray Footman.

"We have graduate advisors in both Edinburgh and London recommending which companies would be worth approaching."

Fund Raising Director, Iain More, and his staff are appealing to Trusts and non-graduate individuals as well as to companies. This has already resulted in unexpected gifts. An anonymous donor gave £20,000 after hearing about the campaign.

However, such donations are exceptional and certain criteria are used before approaching a company.

"Naturally we have to be certain that the companies are large enough to commit themselves to giving Edinburgh University money," More told *Student*.

"We also consider whether they have any vested academic interest and moreover if they have any connection with Scotland, and Edinburgh in particular."

When asked about the difficulties of attracting companies to Edinburgh University, More said that this was particularly so in Britain where Universities have not previously been out-looking.

"We are also appealing to companies overseas — not only because they are larger but in

countries like Japan and America, higher education has been commercially subsidised for a long time. Edinburgh is the first British University to set up this kind of campaign."

The University's Principal, Dr John Burnett, has described the Campaign as "inaugurating a totally new trend in fund-raising." There is a general feeling that the business world is being offered some of the responsibility for education. More is appealing to companies with a large intake of Edinburgh graduates and who are concerned that education remains up to date.

As More said "Our objectives are long term in some senses. We are trying to effect a change of attitudes — internal and external."

Jacqueline Brown

Briefly...

Gie's a Jobcentre

EDINBURGH'S JOBCENTRE network could end up being expanded in the Government shake-up of the service. The Manpower Services Commission are looking for sites in Corstorphine and Lady Road to provide Jobcentres. Changes are likely in the existing service, where by Corstorphine and Lady Road could provide basic information, leaflets and job displays. Applicants would then pursue vacancies through the main centre at South St Andrew Street. Also, the number of expert staff available is likely to be reduced.

Money Advice Centre

Last term, I doubt if there was anyone around the University who had not, at some time, either seen or used the financial advice-giving facilities of the MAC and its volunteers. The Centre has now hopefully established itself in the eyes of the student body. However, the team of dedicated, trained volunteers who operate the Centre can always use extra help to ease the pressures of a timetable which involves MAC at Teviot on Mondays, Kings Buildings on Tuesdays, Student Centre on Wednesdays. MAC is looking for new volunteers to help develop and expand its operations. A training weekend will be held in February for new volunteers — so if MAC's work appeals to you then get in touch with Graeme Carter VP (Court) at the Students' Association Offices or ask the volunteers at the desks.



Moray House is once again embroiled in a bitter dispute with College management over the placement of Community Studies students. This time the students are fighting for the right to choose, or at least discuss, their own placement, instead of being told arbitrarily.

Last term the students won a battle against a management decision to cease student placement with voluntary agencies. This appears to have led to the withdrawal of student choice of placement. There has been an immediate response from the student body as a whole with an occupation and an almost complete stoppage of classes.

On Monday there was an important development as

members of staff from the School of Community Studies wrote to management expressing support for the students' case. According to the Students' Association President, Peter Wishart, Mr Gordon Kirk, the Principal, is becoming increasingly isolated. Mr Kirk seems less willing to negotiate on the points put forward by the students now than on Monday when he stated, "There will be no change except through the normal procedures".

Following a successful protest meeting on Tuesday, Peter Wishart claimed it would be a "ruthless fight to the bitter end".

Senior President John Mannix is to put an emergency motion to the General Meeting on the 28th supporting the students.

Mark Percival

Tories back Leith

As a report is considered which recommends that Scottish nautical education be based in Glasgow, with the result that Leith Nautical College may face closure, a letter has been sent to Secretary of State for Scotland Mr George Younger, in which the Conservative backbench committee, led by Sir Hector Munro, gives its support to the Leith college.

Sir Hector, who is a former junior Minister for Scottish Education, told *Student*: "We have spoken to a deputation from the college, and we watched a video programme which had been made by the college to show the facilities and teaching methods at Leith Nautical College. Altogether a very good case was presented in favour of retaining the college as it is. After all, the building is only a few years old, and cost £5 million to build."

He went on to say that at a time when most of Britain's shipping is on the east coast, he was most surprised at the proposal to phase out courses at Leith. "It is," he said, "really a most unusual recommendation for a local authority to make."

Anne McNaught

SAC oppose VAT

THE SCOTTISH Arts Council has unanimously opposed any move by the government to impose VAT "on the printed word." The council supports the view that the application of VAT to books, magazines, and newspapers would have very serious consequences educationally and culturally. This, says the council, would be on top of the problems caused by rising costs and by reduced spending on book acquisition by schools, universities and libraries.

Walk On The Wide Side

ON MONDAY LOTHIAN REGION'S highways sub-committee approved an experimental plan to widen Princes Street pavement and pedestrianise Rose Street completely. Between Castle St. Frederick St. the pavement will be widened by 10 feet, reducing traffic from three lanes to two on the east-bound carriage way. Work should begin towards the end of the year.

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NEWS

Tory students to dump Heath

Mr Edward Heath has refused to resign as life patron of the Federation of Conservative Students, and it looks as if the FCS are going to get round the problem by abolishing the office of life patron, which they want Mr Heath to give up.

The office of life patron is likely to be abolished at the FCS's annual conference in the spring, following a vote in favour of abolition at the organisation's half-yearly council in September last year.

Mr Heath has been critical of many of the government's policies, and was one of the critics of Sir Keith Joseph's proposals to reduce student grants. In a letter to the NUS he said he remained opposed to the parts of the package on which Sir Keith had not retreated.

In a letter to the FCS, in which he expressed his refusal to resign, Mr Heath rejected economic policies based on monetarism, and expressed regret that the leadership of the FCS appears prepared to "acquiesce in the fatalism of the

inevitability of unemployment".

Student was unable to contact anyone from the Edinburgh University Conservative Association, but the fact that Mr Heath addressed its members last May, and shared the platform with, among others, Vice-President (Court) Graeme Carter, would indicate their disapproval of their Federation's actions. Carter, it was, who made an impassioned plea to Mrs Thatcher at the Old College's grants rally to start refunding education.

FCS vice-chairman, Mark MacGregor described Mr Heath's refusal to resign as being "long-winded and boring". He continued: "It is people like Heath, Prior and Pym who betray traditional Conservative values, and with Mrs Thatcher we have returned to them."

Readers of Student may remember Conservative MP Edwina Currie describing the FCS leadership as having "one or two funny ideas". Perhaps this is one of them.

Alan Young



they were reserved for staff and press. As the speech was arranged for Edinburgh University I see no reason why tutors and reporters alike shouldn't get out of bed early like everyone else and queue. Even when Hart began to speak there were still empty seats.

Horse dealing

The stunning Joanna Boggon represents her country at University level in showjumping and dressage. But whereas the Sports Association will pay for freeloading trips for the Rowing Club and the Rugby Players they will not fork out for Jo's expenses to go to France to ride in an International. It's all the more ridiculous because unlike most of our other teams, Jo tends to do very well in competition. She came second in France, beating some heavy international competitors, all of whom, of course, had been sponsored properly.

Body talk

If you are going along to look at the giant video screens at the Pleasance, see the Eric Liddell bodybuilding centre too. There you can find all the people in the University who want to change the shape of their bodies. In most cases you can see why too.

Alan Eisner is someone who's happy enough with his body to want to show it off to the girl who works in Victoria Wines. As he doesn't know where she lives and she's playing it cool, the affair is literally driving him to drink.

The Christmas holidays have put the glow of love into both Sarah Raven and Ginny Illit's eyes. Everyone knows who Ginny's featuring with, but who does Sarah love?

Street walkers

Grants being as low as they are it's reasonable that students find part-time work during the term. However, I think that prostitution should be beneath everyone. I've noticed, lately, a rising incidence of this profession about the place. One particularly lucrative 'pitch' is the pavement on the corner of George Square and Charles St, opposite the Car Park. Alluring-looking girls and boys (yes, them too) stand there, eyeing every car that crawls past. The strange thing is that it's always the same guy who stops to pick them up. He drives a blue van and is into group sex.

Tutors and hacks

Did you miss Gary Hart too? Actually, through a case of mistaken identity I was allowed in. I posed as a CIA bodyguard. When I sat down in the theatre, however, I was surprised to see that despite the fact that the doors had been shut there were many spare seats. I asked who these seats were for and was told that

University report: tackling the cuts

In its Annual Report for 1984, published last Friday, the University has spoken out against government cuts in higher education and explained the various steps being taken to maintain standards.

Although the University has not suffered as much as many others from the cuts they have led to a staff short in numbers, and experience.

In the report, the University states that one hundred academic staff have taken early retirement and have not been replaced. Cuts in finance and research time has made recruitment of young lecturers difficult, although the government's "new blood" scheme, by which additional lecturers and researches are brought into the Universities, has been successful at Edinburgh. This University has received the highest number of "new blood" posts of any in Scotland.

However, the report warns that such a scheme cannot replace the loss of experienced senior staff, and expresses its disappointment that there have been few "new blood" posts for the Arts Faculty. This, says the report, can only exacerbate the difficulties of attempting to maintain the provision of a wide-ranging education one of Edinburgh's traditional strengths.

1984 saw the University move into the commercial market-place. The report describes the launching of UnivEd Technologies Limited, which aims to promote and market the University's expertise. The Wolfson Microelectronics Institute is also going commercial, and will be based at King's Buildings to prove micro-based high technology services to industry and commerce.

The University received a record number of research grants and



contracts, totalling over £12 million, including Edinburgh's largest-ever award of £3 million as part of the Alevey programme, which is looking to develop a speech-driven word-processor and work station.

Despite the cuts, the report records a probable end-of-year surplus of something over £1 million, principally as the result of increased income from investments.

The new commercial outlook of the University is further emphasised by the report, which records that the University is currently the subject of an efficiency study on management systems and method, under the auspices of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals.

The report says that the year was notable for the delivery of the

first Chancellor's Lecture, given by the Chancellor himself, the Duke of Edinburgh, on the subject of "The Tribal Factor". The Chancellor's Lecture is now to be an annual event.

The most notable Honorary Degree conferred during the year was that to Robert Mugabe, one-time guerilla leader and now Prime Minister of Zimbabwe.

The Prigipal, Dr John Burnett, expressed optimism for the future in the report. He wrote "I report with complete conviction that Edinburgh University is still a good place for scholarship, for learning, for talk and laughter and all things human but, above all, it has a vigour which ensures that it maintains that *genius loci* which every graduate assimilates and holds henceforth."

Alan Young



Dear Editor,
I've taken a couple of steps to try and alleviate my cash flow situation. Firstly, I've become a 'Student' seller which gives me some 'readies' for the weekend every Thursday. Secondly, I've written to my MP to complain about the damnable Tory cuts in education.
Here's a picture of me selling the 'Student'. Cash problems solved and all I did was contact the Manager at 1 pm on Friday in the basement at 1 Buccleuch Place.

Yours,
A Contented Student.

STUDENT

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Published by EUSPB

Hart breaks the mould

Though one might, selfishly, have wished for a rather more wide-ranging speech from Senator Gary Hart during his fleeting visit to Edinburgh last Saturday, there was no denying the pertinence of what he actually had to say. With the East-West dialogue finally reopening at the highest levels, it is essential that major political figures such as Senator Hart create input above and beyond the official 'talks about talks' scenario.

If the new determination to diffuse the current cold war is really to achieve anything, then surely Western politicians and military thinkers must begin to break out of the tunnel vision which the arms race has imposed in recent years. The Hart proposals themselves may or may not be valid — and Professor John Erickson has suggested in his commentary that some are dubious — but what is more important is the willingness even to think about alternative strategies for defending ourselves in the nuclear age.

While the Thatcher and Reagan administrations devote huge budgets to weapons systems such as Trident and the 'Star Wars' programme, there seems to be no recognition of the fact that full-scale use of the first strike capability is essentially a weapon of defeat, a final sanction to be utilised only when no other means of defence remains. It is logical therefore to go some way down the road with Senator Hart and the military reformists in an attempt to establish a conventional deterrent in which we can place real confidence, and which must inevitably lessen the necessity for nuclear arsenals of the current size.

Unfortunately, however, Senator Hart does not even have the opportunity of running for office for another three and a half years; Mrs Thatcher's reign will probably be not much shorter. Let us hope both she and President Reagan do at least listen to the claims for an alternative defence policy.

Staff

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1 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh 031-667 5718/9278

The illegitimate Ireland

Dear Sir,

I have just read Richard Henderson's letter on the RCP's showing of "Ireland: The Longest War". I never have and still do not support the Provisional IRA or any other political terrorists in Ireland. How can I support, as someone who is Irish, any group which attempts to advance its cause through the butchery of my fellow Irish men and women?

Yet, and this is a point I suspect "Unionists" will never grasp, I cannot support a mini-state in the form of Northern Ireland which was founded on the basis of the rejection of the legitimate aspirations of the Irish people as a whole and of at least 40% of the people of Ulster (by Ulster I mean all nine counties, not the rag-tag six). I cannot support a state founded on violence and the threat of violence — the UVF, the Specials and the Auxiliaries — and maintained in a similar manner. I cannot support a state or a party which has only

practised and advised discrimination against all those who do not support their politics, be they Catholics, Nationalists, Socialists or trade unionists. If this is denied, I suggest that, for instance, the number of skilled Catholics at Harland & Wolff or Short Brothers (both nationalised) is investigated, or perhaps the number of Catholic bank managers for the Northern & Ulster Banks, or the number of Catholics working for Ballymena District Council; the list is almost endless, or would be if Northern Ireland had any economy left.

It is this hypocrisy from the Unionists, who celebrate their own violence every 12th July, with their bowler hats and sashes, which will allow the PIRA to continue what is the longest war until the eventual collapse of the Unionist state. But now if they were to read *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*.

For democratic socialism,
Adrian McMenamin.

Another side of the union story

Dear Sir,

Your lead article in last week's issue, and your editorial comment, on the new opening arrangements in the Union Houses has missed the entire point — which is to make entry to regular weekly Union entertainments free.

Considerable consultation took place over a period of several weeks. The Honorary Treasurer and myself prepared a report on opening times and dance ticket prices, which was discussed first by the Union Executive, then by each House Committee, then again by the Union Executive, and finally by the Committee of Management and Finance Committee. I would have thought that this was discussion "at some length".

Furthermore, that report made clear in the opening paragraph that the purpose of the rationalisation of opening times was "to encourage greater use of the Unions by making entry to all regular weekly Union functions free".

The next paragraph stated

"Experience has shown that the income of students these days is such that our free functions are better attended than our paid functions. However, the income from the paid functions... cannot be dispensed with unless sufficient savings are made, or increased income in liquor drawings, to cover the cost. We would propose that all normal weekly events in the three Union Houses be free... this proposal is conditional upon the savings being achieved through certain closures."

If one examines the closures which are made, it will be seen that these have been services which are barely used by students at all, and consequently will have little effect upon anyone, other than to allow us to make Union entertainments free.

The point is that this decision was a positive one in response to the diminishing value of the student grant as reflected in the usage of our Unions, and not "belt-tightening" as such.

In reply to the red herring introduced concerning the travel

company, may I point out that £26,000 has not been diverted from the EUSA budget this year. The Honorary Treasurer, in his statement in the Annual Report, pointed out that "over £19,000 is being transferred directly to the grant-aided accounts of the Association to cover rent, stationery and interest on a loan". That £19,000 is income to EUSA that did not previously take place directly from travel. The remaining expected £7,000 deficit is a very small one in the first year of major expansion with a view towards long-term financial security, and short-term considerable improvements in the service available to students.

Neither the office-bearers nor the Finance Committee, nor the Committee of management, nor, I think, its professional advisers, have been shortsighted.

Finally, on a more positive note, may I commend you on the new format and general style of Student.

Yours

Dr C. W. Fishburne,
Permanent Secretary.

Informed opinion

Dear Student,

Last week Andrew G. Ross wrote about the miners' strike "We are now observing the dynamism of the free market economy... it is no more than a shift in demand away from such industries to sectors of the economy which are more productive". Unfortunately, he does not say what these sectors of the economy are. I suspect he is referring to information technology.

It's strange that many people who normally react to the word 'revolution' with horror are intent on telling us that we are witnessing an 'IT revolution'. The implication is that 'IT' will save our economy and provide wealth and jobs for all. Unfortunately for this view, the degree of use of IT in industry remains far lower than with our competitors. Our native IT industry has a growth rate one-third that of the US, Japan, France and Germany. Last year the British deficit in IT was 2.1 billion pounds (government figures), one-quarter of which was hardware, the remainder software. A prediction for 1985 in the trade newspaper *Computing* expects "the myth of British superiority in software to be finally laid to rest, with several software houses folding". A report from the National Economics Development Organisation in September gave the UK IT industry 18 months before it becomes invisible.

Much of the blame for this can be laid squarely on the government. Since they have put such strict controls on the money supply, industry has not had sufficient capital to invest in new equipment. When the Tories came to power, they cut exchange controls and stopped preferential buying of British goods by government investment overseas. Needless to say, none of our competitors have taken such foolish actions. Now the government are cutting basic scientific research and the IT investment scheme. With Wall Street threatening to take more and more of our 'traditional' invisible trade, the "dynamism of the free market" seems to be doing no good at all.

If we are ever to achieve the 'post-industrial' society we are promised, we need a 'social revolution' to match the 'technological revolution' so that wealth and leisure time are distributed evenly, and we need British money invested in British industry. THAT is what the miners' strike is about.

Dave Berry,
Computer Science Postgraduate.

The worm turns...

Dear Student,

What meaneth the bleating of this sheep? *Student* and I have had our disagreements in the past, but when Master McGrath and his pals on EU Debates Committee single us both out for criticism in the same letter we can afford to bury the hatchet. Preferably in that young man's thick head.

So I am the only person in the University who might find the word "bloody" offensive? Well, it certainly is not a "nice" word, as he quaintly puts it, and I do find it distasteful — not least because it has now been so grossly overused that it has little offensive impact left and is thus virtually useless in written English. And while I won't deny that in moments of extreme emotional tension it has crossed my lips — a bad Saturday at Tynecastle, for example — I tend to shun its use. But does that turn me into some sort of limp-wristed prude, ready to swoon at the first syllable of unparliamentary language? I hope not. But even if I am I do not think I am alone. One of our more colourful English Literature lecturers saw fit to refer to a hypothetical lady in a lecture last week as having "big tits". He was discussing the poet Donne at the time. There were over 200 people in our first year class that day. He did not get a single laugh. You could have cut the tension in the frosty air with a fishscale.

I have seen fit to criticise the lifestyles of some members of the gay community. Thus, QED, I must be at once a right-wing Conservative, a prude, a freak and a

monster. Mr McGrath and his buddies (no pun intended) have already caused me severe embarrassment this session by their novel arrangements for organising debates. They now add insult to injury in the form of snide asides in letters to the press.

Student saw fit to criticise the Christmas debate. Its language was intemperate, but the sentiment understandable. Little children are starving to death by the thousand in Africa. Our country is divided as never before this century by a long and bitter industrial dispute. The lunacy of the arms race goes on. Debates Soc ignores all these affairs and instead organises meetings on matters of incredible triviality, pausing only to defend its action in highly ungrammatical epistles sent by one of its lackeys. My word! What will happen when *Student* dares to criticise some debate on a really important issue? Like the nationalisation of prostitution?

Come off it, wee man. Go back to those simmering ninny in charge of debates and get them to pay attention to the real world outside Teviot Row Bar. What have you done to clarify the great concerns of the day for us? Absolutely blo — beg pardon, sanginarily — all and next time be careful who you choose as your butts. Even we Christians have only one cheek to turn.

Yours sincerely,

J. M. Macleod.

P.S.: I realise all this will blow my meek-and-mild reputation to shreds. But I've enjoyed writing it.



Film

Leone's Epic Gangster Chronicle

Once Upon A Time In America

Dir. Sergio Leone; ABC

Once Upon A Time In America is without doubt one of the most eagerly anticipated films of the year. In development since the early '70s, in production for over four years, and at a cost of over 50 million dollars, this is a huge undertaking, running for a mere 3

hours 50 minutes, and with Robert De Niro as the lead (an event in itself).

The narrative is complex. Leone utilises a sort of patchwork structure jumping between 1923, 1933, and 1968 to tell the story of Noodles (de Niro) and Max (James Woods) from their boyhood in New York's Jewish lower East Side, through their developing careers in organised crime. This is framed by events in 1968, when Noodles, who has been living in obscurity for 35 years in the belief

that his betrayal led to Max's death, receives a mysterious letter summoning him back to the ghetto of his boyhood. Thus he engages on a quest for truth, on a series of meetings which are to reveal to him facts which change the way he has looked at his life.

Once Upon A Time In America is a film of often breathtaking sumptuousness. It appears that most of the budget shows on screen in the vast tableaux of city streets or beaches, or lavish brothels and opium dens, richly photographed by Tonino Delli Colli (who worked on Visconti's later films). Ennio Morricone's emotive and uplifting score resembles that of Leone's earlier *Once Upon A Time In The West*. Indeed, the latter seems to have toned down the stylistic excesses (remember the studied concentration on eyes, for example) which proved irritating in his "spaghetti" western trilogy with Clint Eastwood. De Niro gives (yet) another beautifully regulated, bitter performance, conveying (in the 1968 scenes) the anguish of a man who has spent his life haunted by betrayal. James Woods is typically jittery, unpredictable and intensely dislikeable.

Yet the film is so much more than a tale of hoodlums, it is Leone's view of America this century and of the American cinema. We see the destruction of early idealism by greed (the naivety of prohibition followed by a continuing decay) as Max's megalomania breaks up his partnership with Noodles; as



Noodles almost religious adoration of his childhood sweetheart (Elizabeth McGovern) turns to brutal rape; and in the idealistic union leader's corruption by organised crime. Leone uses these as a metaphor for the rot in contemporary America because of the all-consuming desire for personal aggrandisement.

He also considers the power of the cinema to change the way we look at history — the disgrace of organised crime is treated in a romantic way, these gangsters are made into heroes. It is not a matter of reality, but of *Once Upon A Time*... of the way things might have been rather than the way they actually were. Just as De Niro seeks to escape reality in an opium den, Leone is reflecting that cinema is really the opium of the collective consciousness in relation to the past.

All in all, *Once Upon A Time In America* is a massive work, in its ambitious themes and its emotional power. It is, one must admit, a long haul (even though it glides past), uneven, often repellently violent, and with the treatment of the female characters (either whores or madonnas) a major weakness — but the film as a whole is a memorable experience, and without doubt puts Leone in the forefront of world film-makers. A compelling evening's entertainment.

Trevor Johnston



I get this feeling of deja vu...

Computer Love

Electric Dreams

Dir. Steve Barron; Odeon

Many American films at the moment, heading for block-buster status, appear to be there for one purpose: to entertain the audience or as Steven Spielberg says, "to put the pop corn between your knees and let the screen take over your mind". *Electric Dreams* is no exception; there may be no ghosts or *Gremlins* on the loose but the effect is the same. With a startling speed director Steve Barron shows the imagination with an infinite amount of images. He shows humorously the white metallic world that we live in, in this micro-mad world.

So how does the story go? Well, there's this chap called Miles (I can't get my women) Architect, and there's Edgar (I definitely can't get my woman) computer. What?!

special computer, a computer that has feeling and in a wonderful transformation reaches for and finds the true meaning of love. Such is the main irony of the film. In a background of computerised paraphernalia, taking over man, a man's emotions take over a computer.

Not only are some of the images and camera angles superb, and the graphics spellbinding, but the film is genuinely affecting and as such is one step ahead of the Spielberg mega-epics.

Whether you're a computer freak from KB or not, the film is well worth seeing. For entertainment value and pleasant sloppy romanticism there hasn't been anything as good since *Splash* last summer. The acting is competent, and if you can ignore the occasional corny remark — well just sit back with the popcorn and...

Tom Bureau



A field day for Freudians.

The Brother From Another Planet

Globetrotter in Harlem

The Brother From Another Planet

Dir. John Sayles; Filmhouse

There is someone strange wandering through Harlem, someone different. Not because he is black, for that's hardly unusual in the area; not even because he is mute, but because he just happens to come from another planet. Yet nobody realises it — to them he's just another crazy man out on the streets.

This is the premise of John Sayles' new film, *The Brother From Another Planet*, a quirkily enjoyable little movie which would seem to mark a progression in its director's career. So far Sayles' projects have fallen into two distinct camps, the snappy schlock of his earlier scripts for *Piranha*, *The Howling* and *Alligator*, or the sensitive character studies of *Return of the Seacamus Seven*, *Lianna* and *Baby It's You*, but here he manages to combine the commercial appeal of the former with the serious intentions of the latter.

The Brother From Another Planet again demonstrates Sayles' flair for smart dialogue ("Nice talking to you," quips one wit to the silent alien) and oddy engaging characters — a drunk obsessed with germs from outer space, a teenage video game virtuoso, an office girl who only talks of her "relationships". There is a sort of impressionable looseness to the film, as Sayles is more interested in letting the pace amble along while the alien discovers the idiosyncracies of



Giz yer matric card, sonny!

modern life than in pumping along a tight linear narrative.

Indeed, the mute extra-terrestrial (a wonderfully appealing performance by Joe Morton) becomes a sort of sounding board for the people he meets, making the film at times seem like some oddball documentary (for those who have seen Jama Bokova's *Sunset People* for instance). This is a Sayles-eye

view of a world of video games, heroin addicts, graffiti, TV, and the exploitation of women. Racial oppression also forms a crucial part of this view: the black alien is pursued by two whites (one played by Sayles himself) from his own planet, for those of his race have been using Earth as a sanctuary through the ages — this is linked with a museum picture of two dogs chasing an escaped slave, and with the white pushers of heroin to young black junkies to awaken us to this continuing history of oppression.

Sayles' movie is not without faults (the narrative is wrapped up with an almost cynical disdain), but it has an offbeat, sherry feel to it that most other directors never come close to achieving. Some day he will make a very good film indeed.

Trevor Johnston



Exhibs

**Steven Campbell:
New Paintings**
The Fruitmarket Gallery
22 Market Street
12 Jan-23 Feb

**Genesis
according
to Campbell**

This is Steven Campbell's first one-man exhibition in Britain. Campbell was born in 1954 in Glasgow. He was accepted as a student by the Glasgow School of Art in 1978. Before this he had worked as a maintenance engineer in a Glasgow steelworks.



He won the Bram Stoker Memorial Medal at art college and also the Fulbright Scholarship which enabled him to go to New York where he now lives and works, travelling back and forth to Scotland.

Campbell's paintings depict a kind of no-man's land ("somewhere between Oxford and Salisbury") and he employs a series of stock characters in them. An avid reader, many of his works refer to the novels of P. G. Wodehouse, e.g. "The Berties". Other members of his cast include Van Helsing, the philosopher Bram Stoker's Dracula, and David Hume, the Scottish philosopher.

Dramatic gestures play an important and complex role in his work, e.g. "Gesturing Berties with United Monocles". Also many of his figures are reminiscent of those of Picasso's of the 1920's, a topic Campbell has in fact studied. His paintings are extremely large — generally 9 ft. high. They display a wealth of detail despite the face he paints what is in his mind, rather than what he sees.

Campbell is certainly a prolific artist. He aims to finish a picture in six days and the painting's animated surfaces reflect this hurried inspiration. As critic Stuart Morgan observes: "He attempts masterpieces certainly, but improvises them (like God) in six days." Campbell himself has commented on the past failure has played in this manner of painting: "The painting starts off as one thing, and if that doesn't work I try something else until a memory of all these things is in it but none of them is particularly true except the one I've picked to title the work. The picture is a summing up of all the mistakes; it's what's left."

Elaine Proctor



Through the Ceiling, through the Floor. 1984

**Shoulder
the Burden!**

**Antony Davies
The Printmakers'
Workshop**
13 Union Street
12 Jan-2 Feb

If you ever thought that print-making was an uninteresting form of art, then this exhibition will make you revise your opinion. Antony Davies, presently exhibiting his work at the Printmakers' Workshop, is a man who uses techniques of lithography, etching and drypoint, to express his disgust for man and his inadequacies.

As you walk in the door, the first set of work to meet your eyes is a selection of 16 drypaints 'Les



Miserables', based on life in Belfast. This is probably the least impressive section of the display. Nazis and fascists display slogans, tattooed over their bodies; skeletons leer out of the picture. Davies is lashing out at the negative destructive forces unleashed by political tension. The pictures are stark and shocking, but cluttered, and certainly on seeing the whole group, overwhelming. Like many men angry at society, Davies is over-eager to use all subjects and

In contrast to these, is the prints upstairs there is a greater control

of his subject matter. In his Rhondda series of six lithographs, the subjects are placed in houses, with the observer as it were looking in at them. The constraint this imposes orders the potential confusion of the various activities taking place. The emotion, however, is unaffected. Davies attacks the inadequacies of the social services, and of the Church. In his world, the television screens are blank, the baths are shaped like coffins, the people are miserable, dirty and sordid. Colours are strong, and Davies makes much use of the symbolic quality of each shade. In his series of "self-portraits", which in fact is a study of the universal Man, green is used for the stealthy mugger, yellow for the mercenary, red for violence — while the lover is depicted in orange — the covetousness and the violence of nature combined. There is no redeeming aspect of character; all the figures are hideous and contorted.

In another series in Belfast, devoted less to people than surroundings, is presented a display of death and violence. A man lies dead, with a tank, the great pyramids and a graveyard in the background. A series of prints illustrating 'Peter Grimes' (a morbid poem about one man's sadism, social isolation and subsequent death) are equally negative.

Davies seeks in this display to shock the observer with the results of his apathy and lack of concern. In one of his rare humorous glimpses of society, a pompous lady purses her lips in 'Glad I'm British'. With a similar expression, a well-dressed woman, having gazed at the exhibition, turned her back on it and declared, 'Of course, the filth today is self-inflicted', thus incriminating herself of the very fault that Davies is mutely attacking, the wish to turn one's back and disclaim responsibility for the horrors that constantly occur around us. The exhibition will leave you emotionally numb — these prints are too much to be able to react to all at once — but I would certainly recommend a visit.

Helen Bell

ÄRTNEWS



Energy has been announced as the theme for next year's Benson and Hedges Photographers' and Illustrators' Gold Awards. The entrants' task is to interpret the given theme creatively, whilst demonstrating a high standard of technical skill.

The leading professional work in each medium will receive a Golden Trophy and £1,500, with the second and third entries receiving £1,000 and £500 respectively. The top student photographer and illustrator will receive the AFAEP and AOJ Student Gold Award Medals. Each will also receive £1,000. Twenty Highly Recommended awards will also be made for both sections.

Entry forms, which will include confirmation of the closing date for entries, provisionally set for late June, are now available. Benson and Hedges Gold Awards, 2 Endell Street, London WC2H 9EW.

Coming Soon . . .

The British Art Show, Old Allegiances and New Directions 1979-1984 — a major exhibition of contemporary art over the past five years — opens at the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh on 19th January 1985. The exhibition (to be reviewed in next week's Student) presents a unique opportunity to see the most significant and innovative development in British painting, sculpture, performance art, photography and video. In the meantime to ensure you don't miss anything, see What's On for details.



Wally Byrd

Coming at the Playhouse

The hit musical *Guys and Dolls* is undertaking a short provincial tour prior to settling into the West End. It runs from 3-13 April. Tickets start at £4.50. The Playhouse is opening its box office on Wednesday, 16 January, earlier than usual, in order to cope with the expected heavy demand for the tickets.



Outside Edinburgh . . .

Few Exhibitions of New Year at Third Eye Centre
350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow
(12th Jan-2nd Feb) Admission Free
TWSA—The National Art Exhibition — Josef Herman's "Memory of Memories"
Equal Rights Post Competition



BLACK OR WHITE?

THÉÂTRE

**Wild Sexuality
at the
Bedlam!**

**HAMLET
by Shakespeare**
Bedlam Theatre
Forrest Road
Jan 14-20, 7.20 pm

This production, although enjoyable, was very much a mixture of good, mediocre and bad. It was refreshingly tame and the co-directors Kerl Davidson and Patrick Marmion were right to avoid the temptation of doing something new with a play that stands solidly by itself. To an extent directors can 'ride' a Shakespeare play without a need to intervene, but there were many good touches which are clearly the imprint of this production. Notably, the blocking of Act II, scene II, where Hamlet has a humorous encounter with the three Players. The set is excellent; crucial in giving what is a relatively small stage for such a large play a sense of space.

Angus Wright as Hamlet stood out a mile from the others in his ability to act, and this created an imbalance which undermined the production. His performance was ill supported by the whisperings of Philip Bell as Barnardo and Caroline Richards as Marcellus, and many of the other actors



seemed to collapse in his company. Only Seward Atkins as Laertes, Oliver Shelley as Horatio and James Marsh looked competent beside him. Selina Kearon as Gertrude lacked real depth of character and Martin Ritchie as Claudius was pretty disappointing. Harriet Macdougall as Polonius adopted the mannerisms of a senile pensioner with the limbs of a teenager — "more matter with less art" was badly needed in her performance. Lastly, Sophie Chaik lacked certainty about her character Ophelia, until she had (all too comfortably) settled down in the wild sexuality of her madness. If there is a criticism of the co-directors it is that they had allowed their actors to spend too much time on learning their lines, and too little time on understanding the characters of their parts.

Ben Simms



FILMS



I wish I'd installed Calor Gas.

ABC

(229 3030)

Once Upon A time In America
(Tickets £2.20) 6.30 to 10.30 (with an interval).

Sergio Leone's superbly mounted and orchestrated epic tale of American corruptibility. Violent but compelling gangster classic with Robert De Niro and James Wood.

Gremlins

(Tickets £2.70 and £2.30)

2.30, 5.30, 8.30

Much acclaimed (though why I can't imagine!) Spielberg yarn about a bunch of horrible little creatures which run amok in the town of Kingston Falls.

Dune

(tickets £2.30)

3.05, 8.00

Confusing and, considering the vast sum of money spent on making it, not as good as one might have expected, film version of the celebrated Frank Herbert novel.

ODEON

(667 7331)

Ghostbusters

2.00, 5.00, 8.00

A surprisingly entertaining film with Dan Akroyd, Bill Murray and Harold Ramis finding themselves faced with more than they had bargained for when they go into business dealing with spooks.

101 Dalmatians

2.15, 6.00, 8.30

Popular cartoon classic returns to the screen.

The Party Animal

(Check with cinema for times). If you want to know what this film is about you'll just have to pay to see it!

(Student tickets £1.30 except Fri and Sat evenings in Odeon 2 and 3.)

DOMINION

(447 2660)

Ghostbusters

2.20, 5.20, 8.20

A surprisingly entertaining film with Dan Akroyd, Bill Murray and Harold Ramis finding themselves faced with more than they had bargained for when they go into business dealing with spooks.

Gremlins

2.15, 5.15, 8.15

Much acclaimed (though why I can't imagine!) Spielberg yarn about a bunch of horrible little creatures which run amok in the town of Kingston Falls.

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

2.00, 5.00, 8.00

Still hanging on in there, Indiana Jones battles his way through more adventure. The only doom about this film is that it may never end!

Tickets £2.20 (£1.20 for students to Cinemas 1 and 2 and first two performances in Cinema 3).

FILMHOUSE

(228 2688)

The Brother From Another Planet

Planet

Sun 13th-Sat 19th; 6.15, 8.30

Enjoyable film centring around a mute extraterrestrial trying to survive in Harlem.

Andrei Rublev

Sun 13th-Sat 19th;

7.15 (2.15, 7.15 Sat)

Eight imaginary episodes from the life of 15th century minor icon painter Andrei Rublev, seen here as a troubled visionary reduced to years of silence by the horrors that he witnesses. (Subtitled)

Student tickets £1.50.

Fall From Grace

Sun 20th-Tues 22nd

5.30, 8.15

Controversial attempt to chronicle the efforts of a band of Highland Jacobites to shelter the Prince after the Battle of Culloden.

PLUS

Culloden

A reconstruction of Culloden and its aftermath, in newsreel form with on-the-spot interviews and so on.

Three Crowns of the Sailor

Wed 23rd-Sat 26th

6.00, 8.30

A young man murders his tutor and on leaving the scene of the crime meets an Ancient Mariner-type figure who proceeds to tell him a dream-like story. A 'deep' film from Chilean exile Raul Ruiz.

Cartoons Spoof Hollywood

Sun 20th-Wed 23rd

6.30, 8.30 (np 6.30 perf on Sun)

Celebration of Hollywood's finest satirical animation, full of collector's items from all the best animators.

• Student tickets £1.50

FILM SOCIETY

Fri 18th, GST

6.45 Days of Hope

1926, General Strike. Fourth part of Ken Loach's study of the rise of the modern Labour Movement as it affected the man on the street.

9.05 Blackstuff

The original 1978 Play for Today on which the TV series "Boys from the Blackstuff" was subsequently based.

Wed 23rd, GST

6.45 Querelle

An overheated fantasy about a homosexual sailor with a mystical quest. Fassbinder's film really has very little to tell us.

8.40 Lianna

Reasonable film about a woman who leaves her husband for another woman. Subject receives good matter-of-fact treatment here.

French Institute

Vincent, Francois, Paul et les autres

Thurs 17th, 8.30

Fri 18th, 6.00

Yves Montand, Michel Piccoli and Gerard Depardieu star in this 1974 film about the life of a group of friends.

UNIVENTS

Thursday 17th Jan.

KB Lunchtime Talk, Sixth Level Common room, JCMB, 1.10 pm. "The XIII Commonwealth Games Scotland 1986" — Dr. Kenneth Borthwick, Chairman, The XIII Commonwealth Games.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Christian Unity meal at Chaplaincy Centre followed by talk by Bishop Alastair Haggart, Primus of Scottish Episcopal Church, 6.30 pm.

Jazz at the Pleasance

Contos the smart new latin-swing outfit play from 9-12 pm
Happy Hour from 9-10 pm
• Entrance £1 (50p for members).

Chambers St. House

Disco till midnight (how romantic)
Happy Hour 8-9 pm

Friday 18th Jan.

10.15 pm **Overnight Vigil** for Christianity Unity in Chaplaincy Centre Chapel concluding with worship and breakfast at 7.30 am on Saturdays.

Beerienteering

An inebriated 5-legged pub hunt. Meet Chambers St. (downstairs) at 7 pm.
• £1 entry per team of 4 (usually). Prizes!!! Mathsoc.

Potterrow

Disco and live band till 1 am (This weeks band is BTOC)
Happy Hour: 8.30-9.30 pm

Teviot Row House

The Dance
Two swinging discos: bop until 2 am. Happy Hour 9-10 pm.

Chambers Street House

Disco till 12.30 pm.

WHAT TO DO



Revolutionary moments

Mr Alan Rice speaks on avant garde jazz music in relation to Afro-American literature and society from 1955-1970. Lots of musical examples to keep you amused.

4 pm, Room 107, William Robertson Building, George Sq.

Saturday 19th January

Cocktail Disco

Teviot Row Park Room till midnight.
Happy Hour Cocktails 7.30-8.30 pm

Chambers St. House

John Peel Roadshow with Wild Indians & Fini Tribe
• Tickets £2

Sunday 20th Jan.

Methsoc: "Communications: Do they let us down?" Due to a lack of communication (!) the speaker is yet to be announced. Nicolson Square Church 7.30 pm.

University Chaplaincy Service at Greyfriars Kirk, 11 am.

"A Faith For Today: The Question Of Unity" — Bishop Mario Conti, Roman Catholic Bishop of Aberdeen.

Teviot Row

Open all day. Carvery in Teviot Row

Communications: Do they let us down?

Due to a lack of communication the speaker is yet to be announced. But do go along to the Nicolson Square Church at 7.30 pm for this Methsoc talk.

★ FILMHOUSE

PATRON: BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY 88 LOTHIAN ROAD

Cinema 1

Until Saturday 19 6.15/8.30 (Also 4.00 Sat 19)

John Sayles' brilliant

THE BROTHER FROM ANOTHER PLANET (15)

Joe Morton is wonderfully expressive as the black electro-wizard alien who arrives in Harlem, on the run from the hilariously sinister men in black.

Cinema 2

Sun 13 to Sat 19 7.15 (Also 2.15 Sat 19)

Andrei Tarkovsky's epic masterpiece

ANDREI RUBLEV (15)

Shown for the first time in its complete version.

And at 6.00 each day

ROLLER AND VIOLIN (U)

A rare chance to see one of Tarkovsky's earliest films.

Note: This is not a double bill. All tickets for ROLLER AND VIOLIN are £1.00.

Cinema 3

Sun 20 8.30 Tues 22 6.30/8.30 (Also 3.00/5.30 Wed 23)

A celebration of Hollywood's finest satirical animation

CARTOONS SPOOF HOLLYWOOD (U)

The first of three programmes, supported by an illustrated dossier.

Cinema 1

Wednesday 23 only, at 8.30

To celebrate Radio Forth's 10th birthday, a special charity presentation of Roland Joffe's

THE KILLING FIELDS (15)

in the presence of Bill Paterson and Bruce Robinson.

... incredible — exciting, terrifying and moving" — The Guardian.

Note: No concessions; all tickets £3.00. Proceeds to Radio Forth's charity auction.

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION 228-2688

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS

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EXHIBITIONS

National Gallery of Scotland

Turner Watercolours — The Vaughan Bequest

The annual exhibition of Turner watercolours at their best.
The Mound
Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00
Sun 2.00-5.00

National Library of Scotland

"Poet and Painter": Allan Ramsay, father and son, 1684-1784

"Stone on Stone"

Exhibition of the work of Reynolds Stone (1909-1979), the designer and engraver.
George IV Bridge
Mon-Fri 9.30-5.00
Sat 9.00-1.00

Royal Scottish Academy

The British Art Show—

Old Allegiances and New Directions 1979-84

The work of 82 artists and artist groups — painting, sculpture, photography and mixed media, with film video and live performances.

The Mound

Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00

Thursday 10.00-8.00

Sun 2.00-5.00

The British Art Show

Triptych Ballet

A mobile performance
Saturday 19th January, 11 am-5 pm; Sunday 20th January, 2-5 pm.

Richard Demarco Gallery

"The London Art Fair"

An exhibition featuring 16 Scottish artists and five Polish artists.
Jeffrey Street

Central Library

Child Poverty Action

Group Exhibition

George IV Bridge

Mon-Fri 9.00-9.00

Sat 9.00-1.00

Scottish Gallery

Paintings from the Artists Studio

— a celebration of the Scottish

Gallery's centenary

Paintings by Adam Bruce

Thomson, OBE, RSA, MRSW

(1885-1976)

94 George Street

Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30

Sat 9.00-1.00

Royal Scottish Museum

About Face: The Art of Creating

a Personal Image

Geology Serves the Nation: 150

years of the British Geology

Survey

Chambers Street

Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00

Sun 2.00-5.00

Printmakers Workshop

"Urban Portraits"

A series of etchings, lithographs

and mezzotints by Anthony

Davies.

Union Street

S ON DE!



Kalima.

Monday, 21st Jan.

UNAC - Work America
Presentation 7.30-10 pm. The Highland Room, Societies Centre. The Pleasance.
Compulsory for all those going to the work America Programme in summer '85. Even if you do not have a contact yet, it is worth coming along just to get the certificate to show you have been an orientation. Refreshments.
"The Burning Issue"
Preservation film to begin the World First and Friends of the Earth mega presentation: "Green Earth or Dry Desert Week".
"The Haunt of Man"
Environmental video and discussion. Blair Room, The Pleasance 7.30-10 pm.

Tuesday 22nd Jan.

Midweek Talk in Chaplaincy Centre "Living Questions: God - Why? Where? Why?" - Mrs Alison Wagstaff, Anglican Chaplain. 1.10 pm.
Open House 8-9 pm
Life and Environmental
Presentation. Slides and a talk by James Muller. 7 pm SR 2 Chaplaincy Centre. (Green Earth or Dry Desert Week).
Edinburgh Beatles Appreciation Society presents a Video Double-episode of full length feature films: "The Beatles" and the superb animated "Yellow Submarine" at 7.30 pm. The Sommerville Room, The Pleasance. Non-members welcome. All enquiries, phone 447 1000.

Art Centre

"Own Romantic Town"
A selection of works showing Edinburgh through the eyes of the artist.
"Hours of Edinburgh"
Works from the City of Edinburgh Galleries and Museums.
"Craft Fellows"
A selection of multicoloured geometric patchworks by Alice Tognenini and a display of designs and plans for three Victorian clocks by the same artist.
Eye Gallery
Works by Alex Stobie and Angus: selection of works in glass.
10.00-6.00

MUSIC

Playhouse

Leith Walk (557 2590)
Saturday 19th January
Hits of the 60s
featuring Gerry & the Pacemakers.
Sunday 20th January
Meatloaf

Tuesday 22nd January
Chaka Khan

Coasters

West Tollcross (228 3252)
Thursday 17th January, 9.30 pm
Oxfam Gig For Eats: Ethiopia Appeal
Twisted Nerve
Laugh? I Nearly Died
Little Big Dig
Men of Clay
the Bicycle

Hoochie Coochie

West Tollcross (225 1938)
Kalima
Friday 18th January, 11 pm
• A new Manchester six-piece, previously known as **The Swamp Children**. A sophisticated jazz sound and yet another **Factory label band**.
Sunday 20th January, 11 pm
The Primevals
Glasgow's "Sons of Eddie Cochran, spiteful pyromaniacs specialising in short fuse rock." (*Sounds*).

Waterloo Bar

Waterloo Place (556 2839)
Thursday 17th January
Practical Dreamers

Moray House

Holyrood Road (556 5184)
Thursday 17th January 1985
The Swamp Club
featuring **The Dancing Bears, Napalm Stars, Accoustic Youth, Dancers of San Martino.**

Wednesday 23rd Jan.

Campaign for a working Rector
All those interested in supporting **Margo MacDonald** for the Rectorship is invited to this nominating meeting.
8 pm Teviot Row House Balcony Room.
Midweek Service in Chaplaincy Centre "The Lord's Prayer - Hallowed Be Thy Name" - Father Denis Geraghty, Catholic Chaplain. 1.10 pm.
EU Liberal Club
Andrew Anderson talks on European Liberal parties, Balcony Room Teviot, 1 pm. All welcome.

British American Liaison Society
Scottish History Society
Business Society
Campaign for Fair Votes Society

Preservation Hall

Victoria Street (226 3816)
Thursday 17th January
After Eight Mince
Saturday 19th January, 2-4 pm

George Roy Jazzmen

Sunday 20th January
Tam White Dexters
Monday 21st January
Great Shakes

Tuesday 22nd January
After Eight Mince

Wednesday 23rd January
Charlie McNair

La Sorbonne

69 Cowgate (226 5641)
Thursday 17th January
Bobbin' John
Friday 18th January
The Lionhearts

19th January, 7-11.30 pm
Political
Asylum, Accoustic Youth, Napalm Stars, Tempo House, Suspended Moves & Chicos Plasticos.
• Entrance £1.50, £2.

Monday 21st January
Her First Talkie

Tuesday 22nd January
24 Hours

Wednesday 23rd January
DOA

The Satellite Club

West Tollcross
Every Friday and Saturday
Goombay Beat reggae and soul
9.30 pm-3.30 am

Potterrow

The infamous Green Banana Club
til 1 am.
Happy Hour 8.30-9.30 pm

"A Green Earth or a Dry Desert"
Tape shoe show SR 1 Chaplaincy Centre 1.15 pm

NOTICE TO SOCIETIES

The following societies are to be declared defunct. If anyone has any objections or wishes to start up the society again, please contact the secretary of Societies Council at the Societies Centre, 60 The Pleasance:

- British American Liaison Society
- Scottish History Society
- Business Society
- Campaign for Fair Votes Society

The Primevals



Queen's Hall

(668 2117)
Thursday 17th January 7.45 pm
Edinburgh Quartet
J. B. McEwen: Quartet, Threnody
Tippett: Quartet No. 1
Smetana: Quartet in E minor 'From My Life'
• Tickets £4.50 and £2.75

Friday 18th January 10 pm
Jazz Night
Eddie Thompson Trio with Carol Kidd, Britain's most inventive swing pianist has the top vocalist guesting.
• Tickets £2 (members) £3 (non-members)

Saturday 19th January 7.45 pm
Jesus Lopez-Cobos conducts the **Scottish Chamber Orchestra**

Respighi: Ancient Airs and Dances: Suite No. 1
Milhaud: Le Carnaval de Londres
Milhaud: La Creation du Monde
Ravel: Ma Mere L'Oye
• Tickets - £1.80 student concession.

Tuesday 22nd January 7.45 pm
Young Concert Artists Trust Presentation Concert
Timothy Wilson and Steven Naylor
- comto - tenor and piano

Jane Salmon and Catherine Edwards - cello and piano
Jonathan Rees and John Lenehan - violin and piano
Purcell: If music be the food of love (arr. Britten)
Schubert: Litanei; Die Wandere am dem Mand
Wol: Nun Wandre Maria
Michael Howard: A Hymne to the Virgin; Cationes Ludithae
arr. Britten: *Three English Folk Songs*
Martinu: Variations on a Slovak theme
Chopin: Sonata in G minor Op 65
Ledair: Sonata in D major Op. 9
Brahms: Sonata in D minor Op. 108

• Tickets £2

Sunday 20th January 3 pm
The Operas of Richard Strauss
including *Capriccio* described by Rodney Milnes, presented by Friends of Scottish Opera.
• Tickets - students 50p.

Usher Hall

(228 1155/6)
Friday 18th January 7.30 pm
Scottish National Orchestra
conducted by Sir Alexander Gibson
Bruckner: Symphony No. 8
• Tickets £1.80 student concession.

University Music

McEwan Hall
Friday 18th January 1.10 pm
Herrick Bunney - organ
Herbert Howells - Sonata
J. S. Bach - Prelude and Fugue in F minor.
Admission free.

St. Cecilia's Hall

Tuesday 22nd January 8 pm
Edinburgh University Chamber Music Club

Reid Concert Hall

Thursday 17th January 7.30 pm
Schola Cantorum
Britten: Choral Dances from Gloriana
Slogedal: Motets
Liszt: Via Crucis
• Tickets: £2.50

If anyone is interested in reviewing the above or other concerts (with a view to free tickets!) please come to the editorial meeting, Friday 1 pm, and ask for Helen Bell.

THEATRE

King's Theatre

229 4840
Sinbad the Sailor
Until 2nd February 2.15 and 7.45 pm

This is the last show at the King's before it closes for restoration.
Tickets £2.50-£5.50 from the box office. Concessions available.

Bedlam Theatre

225 9893/9873
Hamlet
14th-20th January 7.20 pm
Murder, lust, betrayal, incest, blackmail. Fun for all the family!
Tickets from the box office.

Royal Lyceum Theatre

229 9697
The Miser
16th January-9th February 7.45 pm
The first production in the new Lyceum season is Alan Drury's translation of Moliere's classic.
Tickets £2-£4.80 from the box office.

Adam House Theatre

B. Jwulf
19th January 7.30 pm
The oldest prose work in English literature, performed in an adaptation by Julian Gover.
Tickets from the English Language Dept. (8.01 DHT) or at the door.
£2 or £1.50 student concessions.

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MUSIC



THORN IN THE FLESH

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL

Coming to the Caley Palais on 24 January

One of the most irritating aspects of 1984 was the insistence of the national music press in seeking to hang a convenient label around the necks of **Everything But The Girl**.

Were they jazz or pop? Or were they both (or neither)? Who knows (who cares)? What I do know is that you have the chance to decide for yourselves a week today when the Hull duo take the stage at the Caley Palais.

Tracey Thorn and **Ben Watt** are not much older than you or I — having both graduated in English at Hull University only last summer — yet they seem to have packed lots of music into a very short space of time. Before meeting and forming **Everything But The Girl**, they each had contracts with the late lamented **Cherry Red** record label and were involved in their own individual projects. Ben's **North Marine Drive** LP certainly merits a listen, whilst Tracey was a member of the **Marine Girls** whose **Lazy Ways** LP branded her firmly as a purveyor of scratchy, acoustic, lovelorn pop. She also released a solo LP, **A Distant Shore**, from which the minor

classic **Plain Sailing** has just been reissued. Got all that?

Yet the real breakthrough for Ben and Tracey came when they teamed up and covered Cole Porter's timeless **Night and Day**. The record's lightness and simplicity attracted much attention with no less than **Paul Weller** giving the pair his seal of approval, even to the extent of joining them live on one occasion to add authenticity to a version of **The Jam's English Rose**.

Nevertheless, in those early days jazz was not mentioned very often in connection with **Everything But The Girl**. That big debate began last year with the long-awaited arrival of their debut LP **Eden** on the **Cherry Red** break-away label **Blanco Y Negro**, which saw Ben and Tracey accompanied by two members of jazz outfit **Working Week** plus a horn section.

For me, **Eden** was the record of summer 1984, its delicate pop with just a hint of jazz backing the languid, warm voice of Tracey Thorn. However, the music may be laid back but the lyrics certainly are not, dealing for the main part with sexual politics and the hope of a world where man and woman are equal. Tracey's feminist commitment stands out clearly in such lines as: "Being kind is just a way to keep me under your thumb", from **Each and Every One**, their second single and one of last

year's finest. **Mine**, the third 45, tells the tale of a girl being left holding the baby and then coming to terms with it: "You must give the child a name sometime/Well you mean his and what's wrong with mine?" The music is always restrained and low-key, almost at odds with the domestic tragedies being revealed.

The most recent EBTG single, **Native Land**, is a pop single, no question about it, and the next LP will apparently take a similar direction. Hopefully we'll hear a few of these new songs next week, as well as — and this is a personal hope — their heartrending version of **John Martyn's** plea for peace **Don't You Go**, which along with Ben Watt's **Soft Touch** goes to show conclusively that **Everything But The Girl** cannot be dismissed as two students strumming wistfully in a Hull bedsit. Rather, at their best, they can rival **Costello** for awareness of social and personal politics.

If nothing else, **Everything But The Girl** have achieved success without succumbing to the vagaries of "the system". Tracey and Ben refuse to appear on **Top of the Pops** where they would only be surrounded by the show's forced gaiety and rampant sexism. Agree or disagree, their sincerity is touching, as is their music; I hope to see you all there.

Keith Cameron

What's New in 85

• 1985 Releases

Watch out for these new records, sure to shake out the last of the Christmas dirge:

The Armoury Show, who supported **Simple Minds** at **Barrowlands**, Glasgow recently, have a new single out, **We Can Be Brave Again** . . . Edinburgh's **Popular History of Signs** also have a new single, **Ladderjack**, with album (**Comrades**) and tour coming soon. Other Scottish bands with new records include Aberdeen's **Alone Again Or** with **Drum the Beat (In My Soul)**, **The Associates: Breakfast** (to be followed by an album called **Perhaps**) and the **Jesus and Mary Chain**. East Kilbride's answer to **Test Dept.** their first single is called **Never Understand**. Apt.



Billy Mackenzie of **The Associates**

The Smiths' second proper album, **Meat . . . Is Murder**, is out in February, while **Paul Young's** new LP, **The Secret of Assassination**, follows. **Chaka Khan's** new single, **This is My Night**, will precede her **Playhouse** appearance later this month. Meanwhile, **Joan Armatrading**, appearing there in February, has a new album out at the same time.

While it seems no rescheduled **Culture Club** gig will be arranged for Edinburgh in a hurry, the band have released another perfect ballad as a single: **Mistake No. 3**. **Tracey Thorn**, has re-released her solo single, **Plain Sailing**, and **Everything But The Girl** come to Edinburgh at last on 24 January. **Robert Plant** is back, in the guise of **The Honeydrippers**. Their first single, **Sea of Love**, is already a hit in the States (eh, Mike?). **Terry**

Hall (ex-Specials, **Fun Boy Three**) and his new band **Colourfield** have a single out (following their eponymously titled debut) called **Thinking of You**.

Big Sound Authority have their debut single produced by **Robin Millar** (who also works with **Sade** and **Everything But The Girl**, amongst others). It's called **This House (is where you love stands)**.

And finally . . . support Ethiopia the alternative way by buying the superb benefit single by South African trumpeter **Hugh Masekela**, called **Pula Ea Na (It's Raining)** . . . and oppose the **Police Bill** currently going through Parliament with **Ranking Ann's** GLC-funded single, **Kill the Police Bill**. Happy New Year!

Alastair Dalton

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29th Street Blues

Penny for the guys



29th STREET SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Queen's Hall

The 29th Street Saxophone Quartet are **Bobby Watson** and **Ed Jackson**, both on alto sax; **Rick Rothenberg** on tenor; and **Jim Hartog** on baritone. Of course such a line-up ought not to be capable of variety, according to everything we've heard before they ought to be firmly stuck in big-band horn chants and incapable of generating anything in the least original or interesting.

In fact, as things turned out, the very restrictions of the line-up forced them to employ new methods. For a start, without a rhythm section of any conventional sort, they had to generate rhythms for themselves and still leave space for melody, solos and expression. At this they were adept, most often using **Jim Hartog** to provide the nearest they needed to a bass-line. Sometimes they did play the sort of horn chants you can find in **Glen Miller**,

but if such a thing surfaced it was immediately burlesqued by a period of frantic improvisation. They always avoided shapelessness; and **Watson** in particular exploited rhythm to make the lack of conventional melody at first unimportant and eventually a release.

Most important they have no respect for what we think of as jazz. These people obviously never read a liner note in their lives; they feel no need to bother with what **Charlie Parker** would or would not have done 'according to some critic or other'. Any style they adopted, they adopted sceptically; and so it was surprising and yet appropriate when they broke into vocal percussion for a rap in the middle of **Hotel De Funk**. In short, they did anything they liked, and the audience liked it.

Tim Niel





Mozart at the Queens Hall! ©

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Queen's Hall
Saturday 12th January

It was with eager anticipation that I reached my stalls seat in the Queen's Hall. The all Mozart programme promised much and I was not disappointed with what followed.

The concert began with the *Symphony No. 24 in B flat, K182*. This is dated 3rd October 1773 and precludes an important period in Mozart's symphonic career. The work itself is not terribly ambitious and is sparsely scored, but is well fashioned, full of the sort of orchestral devices used at that time to arrest the listener's attention. The second movement is very lyrical and this quality was highlighted by the SCO. The symphony is rounded off by a jaunty 6/8 finale. The SCO played very competently and was well directed by the French conductor, **Yan Pascal Tortelier**.

With the audience's musical appetite suitably whetted, the distinguished American violinist, **Oscar Shumsky**, joined Tortelier and the SCO in a performance of the *Violin Concerto in G major, K216*. This is the third of a series of five Mozart wrote for his own use

in 1775 in Salzburg. The concerto is a marked advancement on its two predecessors, despite the strings being only supplemented by a pair of oboes and horns. Both these wind sections were well controlled by Tortelier, whose balanced approach to this work was very satisfying to hear. One felt that Shumsky needed a little time to warm to his task in the first movement, but he soon held the audience's attention, especially when he launched into a full-blooded cadenza with much double-stopping and virtuoso pyrotechnics. Indeed, that felt a little out of place in such a euphonic and uncomplicated piece.

In the second movement, Shumsky really shone. His violin appeared to sing and floated the beautiful melody over pizzicato strings. The last movement was a happy Rondeau with a Hungarian tune in the central episode. Shumsky had thoroughly got the measure of his music by now and the audience left for the interval clearly delighted by what they had heard.

After the interval, Shumsky was joined by his son **Eric** to perform the *Sinfonia Concertante in E flat for violin and viola, K364*, written in 1779 after Mozart's unsuccessful trip to Paris. The effects of the Mannheim orchestra (the best in Europe at the time) have clearly manifested themselves in this composition, with a line

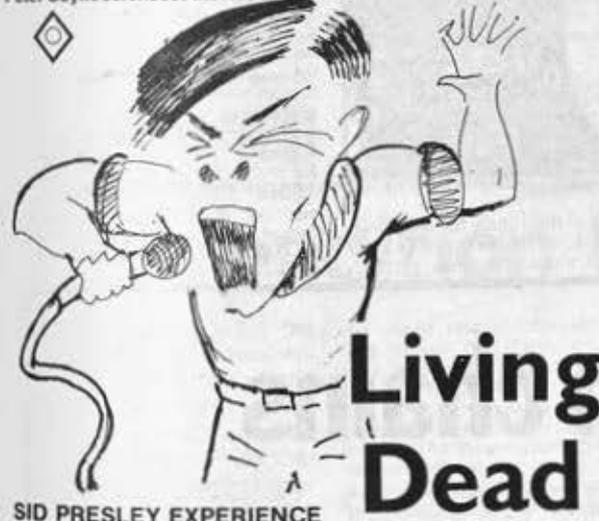
crescendo at the end of the orchestral statement, and other brilliant passages throughout the work. At all times Tortelier balanced the various elements of the orchestra with the dark timbre of **Eric Shumsky's** viola and the brighter tones of his father's violin.

The slow movement is both unrelenting in key and mood, building up to intense feeling towards the end (perhaps Mozart reminding himself of the recent death of his mother in Paris). The sombre sound of the viola was particularly well exercised here. At least the audience was entranced. The final joyful rondo in yet another example of how easily Mozart integrates the wind band into the whole work, a skill learnt from serenade writing in Salzburg. As before, both soloists and orchestra remained sublime to the end, caught up in the web of delightful music.

The public clearly appreciated the splendid playing of the Shumskys and applauded loud and long. They were rewarded with two encores of violin-viola duos (Mozart again), which served to round off a highly successful and entertaining evening. The concert showed how well the SCO play Mozart and how fortunate the audience was to be able to hear the excellent playing of the Shumsky family and fine conducting of Tortelier.

William Perceval-Maxwell

Peter Coyne serenades the Hooch.



SID PRESLEY EXPERIENCE

Hoochie Coochie Club

After four hours stuck in a sweaty cinema, I thought I'd nip off to the Hooch and stretch my legs to **The Sid Presley Experience**. Their credentials seemed nearly in order: **Early Elvis**; **Jimi Hendrix Experience**; not too sure about **Sid Vicious**, mind, but when I'd watched them on *The Tube* on Friday, like most bands on that programme they suffered from a dreadful TV sound. There was little or no bass, resulting in a tinny, spineless sound. Then, "*Hup, 2, 3, 4*" came across as an inane and mildly irritating dirge. Live it possessed considerable power, the dubious, militaristic lyric notwithstanding.

However, soon after this they inflicted a couple of scratchy 12-bar instrumentals on us, giving rise to doubts about the quality and quantity of their material. As it turned out, their best song was a cover: a rip-snorting version of **Lennon's "Cold Turkey"**, and by the end of the set they were repeating themselves.

Still, they meant business. Their no-frills approach and obvious commitment to their (limited) material eventually won over most of the audience, but I felt that they seemed locked in a '76 timewarp. **The Sex Pistols** sounded precisely like this eight years ago, and possessed a damned sight more charisma. On Sunday we were told by lead singer **Peter Coyne** that we were "a fit bunch" (cue mutterings of "sexist beast" etc.) and that **Boy George** and "all his bum-chums" were "wankers". Great stuff, Pete.

Peter Carroll

SNO-FALL

(AND RISE)



SNO
Usher Hall

The **Berlioz Roman Carnival Overture**, a brilliant orchestral showpiece (even if the composer did say so himself) was given a sparkling performance, with the cor anglais solo a particular delight.

Unfortunately this was followed by a *Suite from Bizet's L'Arlesienne*, beginning with a theme in which the orchestra made no pretence at variation and, with a minor respite in the Minuet, stayed that way. The choice of the *Saint-Saens Cello Concerto No. 1* as centrepiece must be questioned with soloist **Steven Isserlis** looking more than a little concerned — as well he might, having been called in at short notice to replace **Paul Tortelier**. Nevertheless, the performance was satisfactory, if inconsequential.

The second half was a considerable improvement, opening with the enchanting *Vocalise* by **Rachmaninov**, sympathetically interpreted and evincing an almost ethereal beauty. It was followed by the last great work **Rachmaninov** created, shortly before his death, which left Hanson the only great romantic composer alive in America; *The Symphonic Dances*. These were given an impressively robust, dynamic performance but one could not help feeling that a more cohesive programme would have made for a more enjoyable evening.

Roderick A. Manson

LATEST!

Compiled by Alastair Dalton

Get INVOLVED!

A New Year, a New Term: the ideal moment to get involved for the first time with Student's Music Pages. We need people to review concerts of all types, and photographers able to develop their own film. In addition, this term we will be publishing a series of features on Music in Edinburgh, and so we'll need extra people for research and interviews. If you're interested in any way in getting involved, come along to the Student Offices (basement, 1 Buccleuch Place) at any of the following times: Fridays at 1 pm (editorial meetings), Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes, and Tuesday evenings — and ask for one of the Music Editors (**Alastair Dalton, Roy Wilkinson, Peter Carroll**). Alternatively, leave a note with your name and address/phone no. in the Publications Board office (first on right, ground floor).

• Folk Festival 1985

This year's Edinburgh Folk Festival is to be directed by **Battlefield Band** manager and former member of **Boys of the Lough, Robin Morton**. It will run from 29 March until 7 April with concerts in the George Square Theatre and Queen's Hall, and other events in the Festival Club (Teviot Row).

Workshops, cailidhs and concerts take place in the Festival Club over the first weekend (29-31 March), while Folk Club Nights and major concerts happen 1-7 April. Details of these concerts will appear soon.

There will also be a Folk Club Competition, with "substantial prizes", and a Song Writing Competition. Entries for these should be in by the end of January, and further details are available from **Robin Morton**, Shillinghill, Temple, Midlothian EH23 4SH.

• Television Latest

The New Year has brought an encouraging number of weekly rock programmes to our screens: *The Tube* (5.30, Ch. 4) features live music from **Spandau Ballet, Chaka Khan** (who will also be at the Playhouse on Tuesday) and **Verna Lindt**.

Also on Friday, the new series of **ORS** continues (BBC 2, 7.15), with guest presenter **Kim Wilde** and **Heaven 17, Scary Thieves** and **Jazawaki** (Janice Long's "band to watch").

On Saturday *The Other Side Of The Tracks* (Ch. 4, 6.00) has interviews with **Bronski Beat**; and also **Benny and Bjorn of Abba** about the musical *Chess*. **Whistle Test** on Tuesday (BBC 2, 7.30).

Whistle Test on Tuesday (BBC 2, 7.30) features **Terry Hall's** band **The Colourfield** and **Big Sound Authority**, as well as **Alannah Currie (Thompson Twins)**, talking about women in the music business.

• Gigs Latest

30 January The Daintees

Hurrah!

Micro-Disney (Coasters)

5. February New Order (Caley)

8. ESCA ALL-NIGHTER: Avalon (Napier Coll., Sighthill Union)

21. Killing Joke (Caley)

• Tickets from *Ripping Records*, South Bridge.

30. March Dick Gaughan (Queen's Hall)



Dick Gaughan

• Radio Latest

Colin Somerville is *Radio Forth's* local music man. His programmes go out at 11 pm on Monday nights (*Scottish Waveband*) and 10 pm on Tuesdays (*Forth Street*). The former features new releases and information about what's happening on the Edinburgh live music scene, while next Tuesday *Forth Street* will be looking back at a decade of Scottish bands, in conjunction with *Radio Forth's* 10th birthday, which happens that day.

Radio Free City is one of Edinburgh's alternative community radio stations, which broadcasts on Sundays between 11 am and 4 pm on 95.6 FM with local news and music.

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A question of defence

For the hundreds who last Saturday morning forsook the standard jaunt to Tesco, Safeways, Asda, the local Scotmid, or those who surrendered the precious weekend perk of just lying abed, abundant compensation for sacrifices real or imagined came with Senator Gary Hart's original and powerful lecture in the George Square Theatre. "House full" notices went up with a speed which was as astonishing as it was disconcerting, a tribute both to the Senator's person and to the relevance of his subject. Professor John Erickson investigates the implications of Senator Hart's beliefs.

In my view and demonstrably that of the massive audience Senator Hart was wholly justified in taking up a major theme — how not to be "defended to death" — which induced serious argument without mind-numbing clichés or emotional capitulation and pertinent technical detail without recourse to the military metaphysics and arcane language so beloved of the "defence specialists" or "strategic experts", call them what you will. Indeed, the immediate burden of Senator Hart's remarks was that the "experts" have propounded and pursued policies in the name of collective defence which literally frighten to death those supposedly to be defended, not to mention their military unworkability, while it is not so much the military buccaneers (even if they abound) who pose a threat,

Doom-laden

but rather the military budgeteers who "solve" problems simply by throwing money about. Inter-aliated consensus on defence requirements and popular confidence in their effectiveness can only erode even further under these conditions, deepening NATO's self-induced crisis. Build, build, build, buy, buy, buy — for what? More of the doom-laden same.

Apart from insensate or

obdurate blimpishness, there can be no serious refutation of Senator Hart's argument (put with admirable restraint, given the circumstances) that under NATO's present doctrine, force posture, budgetary preoccupations and the sheer political flapdoodle about actual war-fighting — the real crunch, the chances of developing an effective conventional deterrent — are extremely slim. The problem, put starkly by Senator Hart, is to raise the "nuclear threshold", to increase conventional capability so as to postpone at least, if not actually to avert, the use of nuclear weapons in a steadily escalating ladder — battlefield, intermediate (theatre) and strategic nuclear weapons. But, one may reasonably interject, is not raising the nuclear threshold the avowed purpose of introducing advanced conventional weapons (ET), "smart" weapons? Senator Hart does not seem disposed to regard this combination of "gadgeteering /budgeteering" as a reliable solution and it is certainly possible to reinforce his misgivings by pointing out that this "credible" conventional option might itself be that which prompts a Soviet nuclear response. In other words, there is no solid basis for assuming that these weapons can of themselves replace nuclear weapons by way of credible deterrent.

Senator Hart proposes to infuse genuine credibility into NATO's

conventional capability by internal reform rather than by turning to more and more exotic weapons and ever larger troughs of money. I take it also that the Senator espouses "forward defence" by conventional means. Under these conditions NATO must contain surprise attack, hold any initial assault, erode Warsaw Pact air capability, old Pact "follow on" formation (assuming they exist) at risk, disrupt Pact command and control (C₃), sustain NATO's own C₃ — in short, absolutely

of combat units the Senator is on the firmest possible ground, for such steps would virtually preclude the Pact attaining the "dangerous ratio" (2:1 in brute terms) and also compensate for NATO's lack of depth, not to mention its chronic maldistribution.

But the methods might raise some eyebrows: the Dutch system, hmm? Five corps as a result. Really! As a onetime sergeant in the British light infantry regiment I endorse the Senator's

support. And light infantrymen, for all their virtues, can't fly. As for tactical quality, the argument was brilliantly put and is incontestable together with the plea for workable doctrine and a shake-up in the military-educational (sic) system. Slavish reliance on fire-power (hose-pipe warfare) and attrition (meat-grinder warfare) means little when a potential enemy has the bigger hose, or a larger mincer.

But here I found the thread of the argument loosening. Manoeuvre action as opposed to fire-power and "slugging it out", certainly, but the next step is "deep strike". How deep is deep? Leipzig, Warsaw, Minsk... That conundrum of the initial encounter was not resolved: if an effective conventional capability holds the initial thrust why go

Deep Strike

"deep" (save for local counter-attack), while if that capability is lacking from the outset then there will be neither the purpose nor the power to strike deep. Equally, while Senator Hart expressed real fears about nuclear proliferation, talk of stretching the French nuclear deterrent into a Franco-German compact brought me no reassurance. I am sure the Russians would just love that cosy little arrangement. Yet manifestly Senator Hart is the man of the moment to talk with the Russians, as he will shortly do, to find common ground on "sufficient defence" (*dostatochnaya oborona*) and no more. At least the Senator does not see us, the Europeans, as merely military helots and showed us a deep thinking political man imbued with human feeling. And attention all aficionados of *Spitting Images* with its saga of the lost brain of the President. They should know that we found it here in the George Square theatre one Saturday morning in the presence and person of a man admirably fitted to be President, positively exuding brains.



Senator Hart leaving George Square Theatre.

ensure force survivability. In his suggestions to increase NATO's operational reserves and number

view of their utility but all infantry (light or heavy) does like substantial medium artillery

South Africa - still in chains



South Africa can only maintain its current unjust regime because of European and American complicity in, and acceptance of, the domination of its black majority by its white minority.

Recently, however, there has been some cause for hope that this situation may change. Senator Edward Kennedy has associated himself with the African National Congress (ANC) through his recent contact with Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela. His meeting with her was well publicised and afterwards he referred to her as: "a source of inspiration for all people who care about freedom".

Apartheid Condemned

Senator Kennedy was not, however, allowed to visit Nelson Mandela, imprisoned in Robben Island Maximum Security Prison. Before leaving South Africa, Senator Kennedy stated that he would "return to the United States as a strong and vigorous opponent of apartheid".

Senator Kennedy is not alone in his condemnation of apartheid. The Rev. Jesse Jackson, a rising

star in the Democratic Party, is an outspoken and vehement critic of apartheid.

Senator Gary Hart, recently referred to by our Rector David Steel as "the next President of the United States", was found to be voicing his opposition to apartheid during his visit to Edinburgh last weekend.

Senator Hart said that he supported human rights throughout the world and found apartheid abhorrent. He stated that he was in complete accord with Senator Kennedy, and finally said: "I myself have demonstrated outside the South African embassy in Washington but I haven't been arrested yet."

Without wishing to be too hopeful about such comments, they do inspire some confidence. Although far from being rousing denunciations of apartheid, they do, critically, indicate a changing mood within America towards apartheid.

These politicians have recognised that there is political capital to be gained from their opposition to apartheid. Even the President, Ronald Reagan, was forced to concede that apartheid as philosophy was both unjust and immoral.

Much more, however, can and must be done by both Europeans and Americans to voice their rejection of apartheid. Sympathetic words are not enough.

The situation inside South Africa can be changed, and that change can be influenced by us. We can be hopeful and continue to oppose such an indefensible and increasingly disgusting regime such as that evident in South Africa.

No Easy Struggle

It isn't going to be an easy struggle but we must persevere. If you too oppose apartheid, then please note that there is an active Anti-Apartheid Society in the University. We meet every Thursday at 5 o'clock in Seminar Room 1 of the Chaplaincy Centre. Non-members are always welcome at these meetings.

Mark Wheatley and
Alan Nesbitt,
EU Anti-Apartheid Soc.

The Features Team are always ready to receive features or opinions on any subject. All aspiring writers please come to The Basement, 1 Buccleuch Place on Fridays at 1 pm.

Don't tax reading

The tax man cometh

The government has made no secret of the fact that it is considering removing the zero-rated status of books in the next budget and imposing a positive rate of Value Added Tax, almost certainly at 15%. Many of you will by now have signed one of the petitions condemning these imposition of VAT on books but perhaps there are still some who are not aware of the implications of such a move. *Deidre Watt*, Chairperson of the Student Publications Board, explains in greater detail.

For more than 125 years all Governments, including successive Chancellors of the Exchequer, have rejected proposals to impose a tax on knowledge, books and reading. Like Britain, Australia and New Zealand have rejected sales taxes on books. Ireland has removed VAT on books entirely. In 1981 the European Parliament resolved that "exclusively economic criteria should not apply to the book industry and trade, because of the

student grants, and higher unemployment benefit because of lost jobs. In a letter received from the Customs and Excise VAT Division it is stated that in response to lobbying campaigns "the Chancellor of the Exchequer is making it quite clear that the Government favours a shift in the burden of taxation from taxes on earnings to taxes on spending." What this amounts to is that VAT does not distinguish between rich and poor, unlike income tax, so it will be the less well-off people who will suffer; this means people such as students, low income earners and the unemployed.

The implications for education are very serious. Students will need an extra £15 million in increased grants to compensate for VAT on books or they will be able to buy fewer. University libraries who are already buying 1 in 4 fewer books than five years ago will have to pay the full increase, and will be able to buy many fewer books and learned journals unless their grants are increased. Public and school libraries may get the tax back, but they will face higher prices and choices will be diminished.

Educational books should clearly be exempt from tax, but it is quite impossible to distinguish between an educational and a



Paradise Lost?

leisure book. Would a gardening book be classed along with mathematics textbooks as educational or leisure? At least 75% of books sold have clear

Effects for EUSPB

educational value, and every book read is an aid to comprehension and literacy. Currently 6% of adults are still functionally illiterate; VAT on books will

certainly make this problem worse.

Publishers will also be seriously affected by such a tax. EUSPB not only publishes *Student*, we also publish books. Publications Board is unique in that it is run by students, but we are a small publishing house and as such would be threatened with closure if VAT was imposed on books. We are not a profit making industry and would not be able to survive

drastic price increases. Scottish culture in particular will suffer from this tax because many of the Scottish publishers are small and it is very difficult for Scottish authors to be published in England, especially unknown authors.

Indeed, first-time authors will find it increasingly difficult to be published because first novels rarely make big profits, which is what books will have to do in the face of price increases. Books of specialist and minority interest will also be less likely to appear in print because they rarely yield profit.

Bookshops will be threatened by VAT. Many small bookshops

Bookshop Closures

currently work on net profit margins of 1%. If book prices rise by the estimated 20% sales will go down by at least the same percentage. As a result many of them will have to close down causing unemployment. Larger bookshops are required by investors to make a reasonable return on their investment. They will be forced to give their space to more profitable products, reducing their stocks of books and thus give the public less choice.

Clearly imposing VAT on books is a disastrous idea, but we have to make this known to the people who will take the decision. We have to pick up our pens and once more write to MPs, party leaders and Nigel Lawson. We can also use the General Meeting on Monday 28th January to let people know how we feel; be there and vote for the motion condemning VAT on books. It is a tax on knowledge, education and learning. We only stand to suffer if it is ever introduced.

Why tax knowledge?

specific nature of books as products which directly affect the interests of the citizen in the cultural, educational and information fields."

So why is the Government considering taxing knowledge?

The Government estimates the yield from books at £85 million a year. If VAT is imposed on book prices will have to radically increase. Less people will be able to buy books and this means that the actual net yield will certainly be even less, after allowing for reduced sales, increased public sector book budgets, higher

HELP FIGHT VAT ON BOOKS

Expedition India

On Saturday night the New York Pig Funkers will play a benefit gig at the Potterrow to help finance an expedition to India by second year medical students to investigate infant feeding. Justin Crean explains the aims of the trip.

A project has been organised by six second year medical students who hope to carry out an investigation into patterns of infant feeding in the major urban slum of Dharavi, Bombay, during the summer months. The project has been requested by a Dr. Kothari, Professor of Preventive Medicine in Bombay who will use the results to launch a campaign to promote breastfeeding in Dharavi — the largest slum in Asia with over 600,000 people in one square mile.

In India, over 10% of children will die before their first birthday — almost all of these deaths are related to malnutrition. Studies by

the World Health Organisation have shown that children who were bottle-fed during the first three months of life were three to four times more likely to die than children who had been exclusively breast fed for the same period. The simple reason is that breast milk provides an ideal and inimitable food for infants up to six months of age. It contains all the nutrients required by the infant in the correct proportions, at the correct temperature and even mal-nourished mothers produce milk of good nutritional quality. Most importantly, breast milk is absolutely free from contaminants which occur during the preparation of bottled milk in slum conditions. Indeed, breast milk actually contains substances which protect against diarrhoeal infections and other illnesses.



UNICEF considers that over one million lives per year could be saved if all children were breast-fed in the early months of life. Furthermore it is estimated that approximately one third more protection is provided by the contraceptive effect of breastfeeding than by all other contraceptive measures. It is suggested that in India alone, the number of births per year could be reduced by five million if breastfeeding was "effectively carried out."

Much attention was focused on the disastrous trend from breast to bottle feeding following the Baby Milk Action Coalition's campaign to curb the ruthless marketing

practices in the Third World of the multinational baby food manufacturers. Equally important influences on infant feeding include urbanisation and industrialisation and the consequent changes in work patterns, family structures and value systems in developing countries.

Our survey will take the form of a questionnaire which has been formulated with Professor Kothari. We aim to establish how many infants are being breast fed exclusively, to what age and which

foods are given when breast feeding ceases. We will also examine the main reasons why some women care not breast feeding and which factors have caused them to discontinue breast feeding early. The work will be conducted by six separate groups — each comprising of a project member, a local translator and a local guide. Over eight weeks of field work we will yield a total of 1152 completed questionnaires on which to base our analyses. We have allowed time for interruptions caused by the prevailing monsoon and the celebration of local festivals.

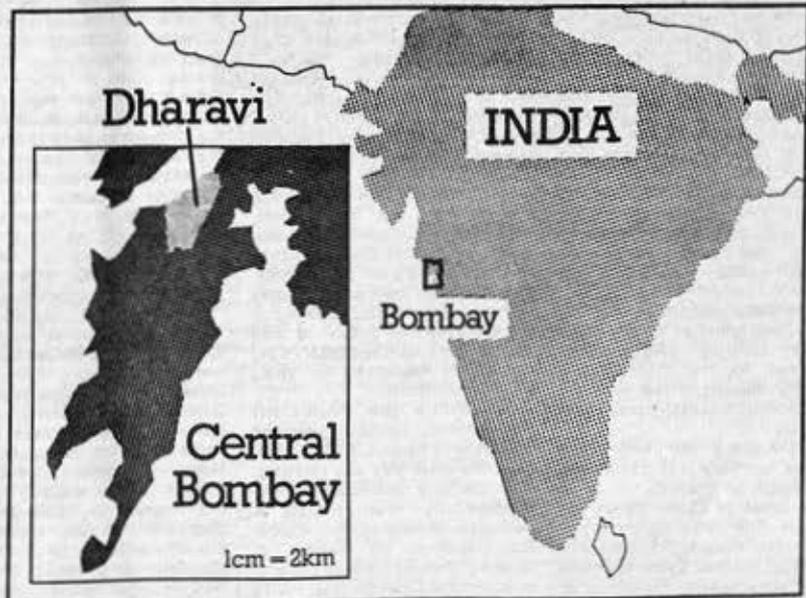
Our final report will be sent to Professor Kothari, to interested parties in India, the WHO and UNICEF, to the Medical School in

Edinburgh and on request to our sponsors.

To run the project, we require a total of £8,600 which we hope to receive mainly from charitable trusts and companies — we have already received £2,000 from an Edinburgh University fund for medical students. We also expect to raise £1,000 from a Prize Draw to be held in the summer term.

On Saturday at the Potterrow — 'the New York Pig Funkers' and 'Close to the Bore', as support, will perform a benefit gig for the project. The Pig Funkers were described as "nascent genius: an effervescent hip-hop rhythm underpinning a punchy brass front." They are an extremely good band. Tickets on the door £1.

- U.K. project members-
- Justin Crean
 - Simon Ling
 - David Pearson
 - Rosemary Stewart
 - Jane Wilson
 - Simon Shaw



FEATURES

Red Ken's fight for London

In 1986 the government intends to abolish the Greater London Council, handing over the running of its services to a system of unelected joint boards, quangos, and local boroughs. It is a move which will have far reaching implications for the lives of Londoners and which has already proved itself unpopular with large sections of the public.

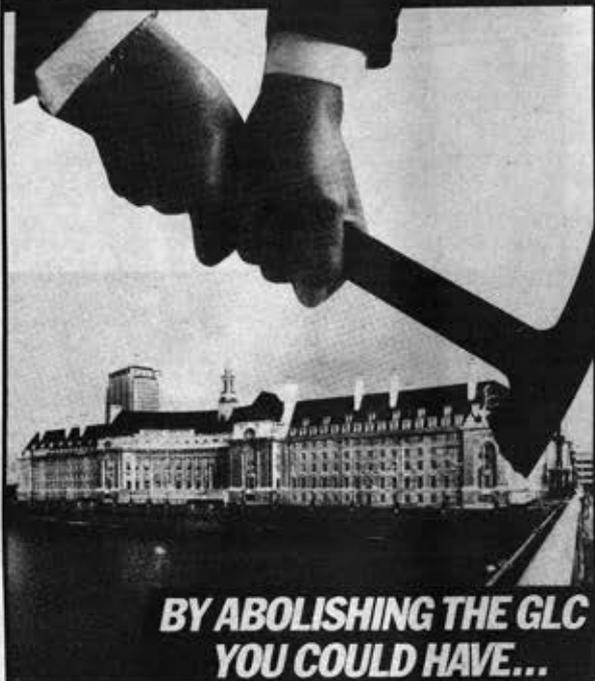
The purported reason for the government's abolition of the GLC is, of course, that of economy and efficiency. It is felt that the GLC has become too vast and unwieldy an organisation to function effectively. More importantly, it has been "over-spending" for years. The government's solution is to abolish the GLC and to introduce rate-capping—that is, enabling Whitehall to set the level of rates in those local authorities it feels are imprudent, over-generous or just downright subversive in their distribution of funds. The aim is create a more streamlined local government for London, providing a cheaper management of public affairs and giving more power to the local boroughs.

Tories' ulterior motive?

But the anti-abolitionists suggest an ulterior motive of the Tories in disbanding the metropolitan counties. They see abolition in terms of a powerful right-wing government changing the law in order to wipe out a democratically elected body which presents an alternative to its policies. And indeed, for a Prime Minister who likes to speak so pompously of preserving Britain's democracy from mass violence

and terrorism—see her "enemy within" speech about the miners, for instance — Mrs Thatcher certainly seems to be ignoring our great democratic tradition in this instance. The present Labour-controlled GLC was elected with a majority in 1981, yet next year the government will scrap the authority without giving any choice to those most affected, the people of London themselves. Regular opinion polls in the last year have proved the majority of Londoners wish to maintain their GLC.

THE GOVERNMENT IS GIVING YOU A CHOICE...



BY ABOLISHING THE GLC YOU COULD HAVE...

The GLC: waiting for the hammer to fall

There is moreover, the question of whether abolishing the GLC will lead to a more efficient form of local government for London. The collection of boards and quangos that the government propose to take over the control of London's affairs hardly inspires confidence. More likely it will cause a fragmentation of services that can only decrease efficiency. The creation of more local government bodies will require complex administrative arrangements between the London boroughs if vital city-wide services are to be run successfully. Mrs Thatcher's claims that abolition will save

money is, in fact, largely unsubstantiated; incredibly, for such an important undertaking, there has been no prior consideration of the proposals by an independent commission or inquiry.

The truth is that Mrs Thatcher and her team know that it is not by creating a more efficient organisation that money will be

saved. Abolition will save money because it will enable central government to impose its will on the running of London. Under Ken Livingstone's regime, the GLC has fiercely opposed the spending cuts which the Tories have tried to force upon it. Such cuts, they claim, would result in an unacceptable deterioration in the living standards and conditions of Londoners. Last year, the GLC was ordered to reduce its expenditure by a staggering 34.6% and incurred severe penalties from Whitehall for failing to do so. But once the summary dismissal of such opposition has been carried out in 1986, there is nothing to prevent the government enforcing these proposals.

No choice for London

What we can safely predict as the result of abolition of the GLC, therefore, is not a more efficient service but merely a decimated one. It is hard to imagine how the axing of one-third of a local authority's expenditure can be undertaken without considerable reduction in the standard of services available. Much has been made in the past of the GLC's supposed extravagance in funding left-wing, "trendy" minorities, such as blacks, women's groups and gays. But even if one accepts that such community groups are unworthy of funding, the fact is that they total a mere 5% of GLC expenditure. The vast majority of funding goes on housing, transport, education, and the other public services. Cuts in

these areas mean higher tube and bus fares, more expensive school meals, an increase in homelessness and a deterioration in housing conditions, already such a serious problem in inner London. Inevitably, thousands of jobs will be lost.

So what are the GLC doing to resist the planned abolition, and what are their chances of survival? The advertising campaign has been a boisterous and imaginative affair, and one that Saatchi and Saatchi themselves would no doubt have been proud of. The policy behind the campaign has been to impress upon Londoners the vast extent of GLC services to the city, and to present them with a somewhat apocalyptic vision of what will happen if the GLC is demolished: One slogan even suggests that your house is more likely to burn down if the GLC goes! The latest publicity device is a huge birthday cake situated on the Thames South Bank, celebrating 20 years of the GLC. Inside is a room where one can obtain an endless supply of anti-abolition posters and badges.

The most encouraging achievement of the campaign so far was the defeat in the House of Lords last summer of the Metropolitan Councils paving bill, a decision which brought the euphoric declaration from Red Ken that the Lords had "won the right to survive". But this was at the most only a temporary setback to government plans. The GLC now hope to delay legislation until the next general election in 1987 or '88. However, with the increasing likelihood of the Conservatives staying in power after the next election, it would seem their efforts are in vain and London is doomed to become the only major capital in Europe without a democratic city-wide local government.

Cuts in services to come

John Burton-Bowen

Ireland - trapped by the past

Despite all attempts to claim otherwise, the divisions which run through the people of Northern Ireland, are fundamentally religious. The present strife may be partly understood as the expression of three and a half centuries of distrust. While lack of political initiative does not help solve the problems of Northern Ireland, such an initiative could not be enough.

In the sixteenth century, what had been Celtic (and Norman) Ulster fell to James I following the defeat of the Irish clan chiefs. In leaving for Spain, the O'Neills ended two generations of struggle to preserve their way of life; to prevent such an embarrassment from occurring again, the English mapped Ulster and allotted to various landowners large tracts of it. The country was divided into twelve and ceded to twelve London guilds — as a result, it became called Londonderry. During these years there was also a massive influx of Presbyterian Scots, fleeing religious intolerance by the Stuart kings; broadly speaking these were the ancestors of the Ulster Protestants of today.

By the end of the century, the settlers had largely displaced the population of Irish Catholics in many areas of Ulster. When the refugee Catholic King James II brought his campaign to Ireland in search of sympathy, the towns of Ulster were notably Protestant in their allegiance.

Following a number of violent uprisings by the Irish, "penal" laws were enforced to prevent Catholics from owning land or practising their religion. In consequence, the settlers in Ulster assumed control of the province's wealth and were to remain in this position through the industrial revolution to the present day.

When independence was granted Ireland in 1921, the prevailing loyalties of six of the counties of Ulster dictated they should remain a part — albeit self governing — of Britain. While the IRA waged war in the Republic over this decision, the Northern Irish Protestants prepared against the possibility of the reversal of the decision.

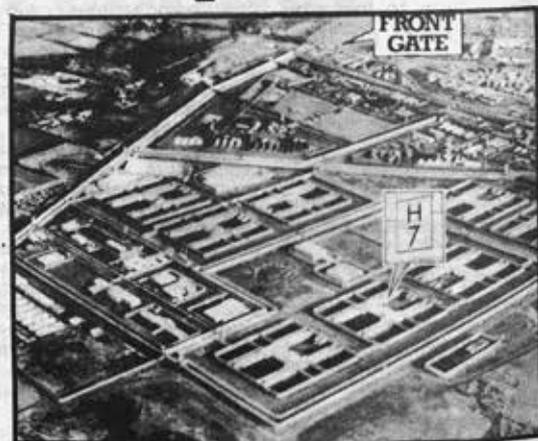
To Catholics in the six counties, the partition was meaningless, they had suddenly become expatriated Irish. Few Catholics recognised British sovereignty, they had their own schools, they would not sign oaths of allegiance for entry to the police or civil service. Even their elected MPs did not attend Parliament for years after the partition.

Meanwhile the Protestant population consolidated their hold on Northern Ireland. A large force of police reverts was recruited and electoral boundaries were dramatically manipulated to minimize Catholic representation. Discrimination in matters of housing and employment became so widespread that the early 1970's saw Catholic unemployment

almost three times the Protestant figure. It was the inequality of civil rights that led to the first marches in Belfast, during the late 1960's.

The civil rights movement began as a student campaign with many Protestants among its ranks, before long, however, it came into conflict with the police, the Protestant working class (who stood to lose most) and the Stormont Parliament. In the face of Protestant paranoia, violence erupted at many marches, resulting before long in innocent deaths. Out of this chaos a resurrected IRA emerged and the issue of Irish Nationalism came to the fore once again. At this point the civil rights issues almost vanished, the Protestants attacked Catholics in Belfast and drove them from their homes. The disinterest of the Royal Ulster Constabulary led Catholics to barricade them out of the ghettos, which were subsequently labelled "no go" areas.

British troops, initially drafted in to protect the Catholic population, were cast in the role of an army of occupation as the violence grew. Eventually Stormont was dissolved, and Northern Ireland came under the direct rule of the House of Commons, a move which helped palliate majority tyranny but merely exacerbated the discontent of the nationalists. Significantly, the Catholic population preferred to vote for an IRA hunger striker than a Protestant loyalist when given the



The H-blocks

choice.

The election of Bobby Sands served to illustrate the extent of Ulster's wounds. It has been a loyalist fallacy to regard the violence as a "security problem" — a Catholic fallacy to see it as a crusade for Catholic representation. The truth lies somewhere between. IRA need for a political justification was fulfilled by the call of Nationalism — confused references to Marx and socialist theories are misplaced here — and granted a mandate by Catholic fury at the impotence of democracy to help them.

What perpetuates the violence in Northern Ireland, is the sense of

identity each side engenders its members with. To solve the crisis in Northern Ireland it would be necessary to break the Catholic church's grip on education of its population and similarly destroy the pageantry of Protestantism which boasts of the domination of the Catholic population. In order to achieve such an end, Northern Ireland would have to be ruled totally without the consent of the people. Until this happens, the violence which occurs will occur again and again.

The author does not wish to apologise for the bias afforded by his personal experience.

Tom Marshall

BIG IN JAPAN

The Japanese are the up and coming sports nation in the world.

Their golfers, despite occasional bunker difficulties and the unforgotten vendettas of those R&A members 'who fought in Burma', have done consistently well in the British Open. Their skiers are improving all the time and show continued enthusiasm despite never getting into the top ten, and their endurance as Clive James goes to pains to point out is never found to be wanting.

Japan's table tennis players have however always been respected. (It is with watery eyes that we remember the talent of Wanawanz and Nayqanzin). So it was with great anticipation that the table tennis enthusiasts of Edinburgh moved in on the Assembly Halls last Monday to see the Japanese take on the flower of Scotland.

Now table tennis isn't one of Scotland's strongest sports. We all played it like made before our eleven plus or CE but then got sophisticated; sniffing the bat fluid and using bat handle to permanently cripple the little brother's hamster. Few are enthusiastic enough to continue playing through our teens and thus genuine ability in comparison to other countries is rare.



It is also sad that to the man on the street, table tennis will never be a great spectator sport, as there appear to be more unforced errors, in comparison to say, tennis. These errors, of course, are largely not unforced but due to the opponent's ability to deceive with spin.

The match was a joy to watch, though sadly, Scotland lack the skill and experience of Japan and with No. 1 David Hannah (who plays in West Germany) sadly out of touch we went down 5-0. But we can't win everything!

David Yarrow

Somewhere to hide from the snow

With the sudden onset of winter in full force University sport was decimated at the weekend.

Therefore, if people wish to stay fit or just for enjoyment they should go down to The Pleasance. There they will find a wide range of activities in which to participate and get rid of some of the weight that might have been put on over the Christmas and New Year holidays (with too much drink, perhaps). You could just go to the

multi-gym to build up your muscles, or you could play a game of squash in one of the eight warm, glass-backed courts to be found next to the hall. Finally, there are the varied sports which take place in the hall including volleyball, basketball, trampolining etc.

At this time of year it is a good place to visit and hide from the cold weather; and you can always waste all the hard work you have done and go for a pint afterwards at the Pleasance Bar.

R.M.

MENS' HOCKEY

After a successful first team Edinburgh men's hockey team will be aiming to consolidate upon such a promising start to the season. The Universities' League was sewn up before Christmas and currently lying fifth in the Scottish National League Division 3 hopes of promotion are high. Good luck to them and to all of our University teams in their forthcoming matches this term.

Sir Lester.



Fresh from a four week winter break in Barbados courtesy of last term's winnings, Sir Lester informs us that **First Bout** can win on his hurdling debut in the first race at Lingfield today. Wherever **Egnog's** trainer decides to race him this weekend, he will prove good each-way value. On Saturday **Star of Screen** looks extremely leniently weighted in the Coral Golden Hurdle Qualifier at Warwick.



The Editors would like to apologise for the lack of a full page colour-spread on Lacrosse.

Instead they hope that "F----- Simon-debatable gender-McGrath" will prove a suitable substitute. We'll do our best next week at Babe — ok sweetie.

ICE HOCKEY

Vikings Easily Repelled

Well, it really was a weekend of revelations. In order of increasing sensation value we saw:

(a) Senator Gary Hart prove that original thought and American politicians are not incompatible.

(b) Hibeas win.

(c) Ice Hockey shown on Grandstand.

One should be grateful for small mercies, I suppose, but it seems strange that when the BBC at long last deigns to show some Ice Hockey they choose an average league match between two mid-table teams. If the sport is only going to be covered once in a blue moon then it should be a really top class match for the public to see.

The Christmas period was not very merry for Murrayfield Racers. Chris Kelland, the captain, missed games through injury and Larry Gaudet, one of the North American imports, went home. The team lost four games in the space of 21 days and thus plummeted to second place in the league.

Last Saturday Southamp-

ton Vikings, bottom of the league and without a win all season, came to Edinburgh and tried to overcome their lack of technique by playing with undisguised brutality. This resulted in a tough and scrappy game. With tempers threatening to explode at any moment the players were too tense to play well, and a not very memorable match ended with a 10-3 win for Racers.

Things are now hotting up in the Heineken Premier League. The top three of Fife Flyers, Murrayfield Racers and Durham Wasps are being caught up by the Redskins and the Rockets. With no team looking invincible I'd go for Durham Wasps as likely champions come April.

Dates to note — Saturday 23rd February, Racers against Wasps will be shown live on BBC1, face off time 1 pm. Jan. 27th — Racers v. Flyers at Murrayfield ice rink. This match is the Celtic-Rangers of British ice hockey. There will be a big crowd and a great atmosphere. Be there!

Keith Dinnie

BOAT CLUB

'Potent Entry' Pulls Through

Our boat club have been busy since the last time I wrote, with three notable events to date.

The first last Wednesday consisted of an impromptu scratch regatta, designed to get all the new club members to know and row with everyone else. What could have been a good afternoon was somewhat numbed by the sub-zero temperatures, but generally some form of amusement was found by most.

The next big event in our calendar was the annual Long John Toun Head of the River race on the limpid waters of mother Clyde last Saturday. Glasgow RC provided the event, Long John the Whisky sponsorship, us our boat (more or less) and as always at Glasgow the elements came up trumps with the weather. We arrived in rain, rigged our boat in rain, rowed in rain, and returned home in rain, with some fine making of trailer and Londoner by Mr D Sansome, our latest edition to the Old Slopian army (Floreat). Why do we bother doing it? Could well be the first thing which springs to mind; certainly it was a recurring question on Saturday, not least of all when gasping for breath halfway down the course.

In short, the answer must be to

put on performances like the first crew achieved. Having been described as a "Potent entry" in *The Scotsman*, the King and company were driven down the course under the iron rule of Miss Seonaid NTOT Vass to finish a creditable 7th overall. The second crew, commanded by our redoubtable red Scottish flame McGregor, at one time wondered whether they would be able to sample the delights of the event at all, as the very boat they had been promised the use of by a local club was removed from right under their noses. Having been subsequently promised the use of assorted other boats, they finally took one and departed somewhat late to seek fame and fortune upstream. Unfortunately, the tussle proved all too much and the finished a disappointing 32nd overall.

However, we were just glad to be able to send crews to race, even if the only boat we had was a battle-scarred clinker, as after our trailer crash a few weeks ago it looked like we would be out of action for a long time.

PS: Sorry for the delay in printing. — Ed.



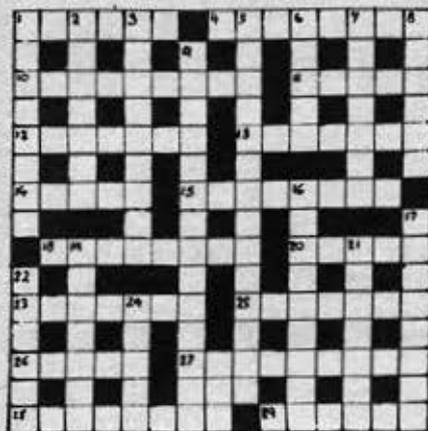
A warm sunny day's racing last summer. (Remember last summer?). Whilst racing can be laid low by wintry weather, the betting market for next summer's big races is as active as ever. **Morning Devotion** is currently on offer at 50-1 for the 1,000 Guineas which looks exceptional value. Alternatively, if horses for you are stupid beasts who always fall at the first in the Grant National, why not make your "fortune" in other fields. For example, successfully predict the month when one pound equals one dollar and, courtesy of Ladbrokes, a 350% profit on your stake will be gained. In Football, the wide open **First Division Championship** looks a good betting medium with **Everton** on offer at 2-1 and **Spurs** at 9-4. **Manchester United** are priced at 7-1 to win the FA Cup which looks a tempting offer for such a skilful team with the ability to rise to the big occasion. For those optimists among you **Telford United** can be backed at 3,000-1. In Tennis, **Wimbledon** this year looks a strictly non-profit making event. **John McEnroe** is priced at 4-6 to win the men's title and **Martina Navratilova** is even worse value at 2-5. **Golf** freaks will find **Tom Watson** 6-1 favourite for the **Open** with the best priced British player **Nick** — "I've lost my nerve again" **Faldo** looking a poor bet at 12-1. For those who pretend they know the rules of **American Football**, **San Francisco 49ers** are currently **Evens** to win the **Superbowl**. Why not have a flutter on your particular favourite and help yourself forget about all those cancelled matches, and boring Saturday afternoons.

Sir Lester



Come down to the Pleasance and enjoy yourself this winter!

X-WORD



Last week's solution



Across

1. Neat source of timber. (6)
4. Billets for four divisions? (8)
10. Praise again and advise others of it. (9)
11. Mince as the Scottish dish. (5)
12. Try to entice after return of little thanks. (7)
13. Distressing Cameron love story. (7)
14. Follow the points and instigate legal proceedings. (5)
15. When stretched, former wife looked after things. (8)
18. Put off by little Diana's pamphlet. (8)
20. He plays professionally. (5)
23. To employ fewer gives no practical value. (7)
25. Genetic deformations create dumb workers, I hear. (7)
26. It spins backwards and forwards. (5)
27. Capital expression for classical scholars. (9)
28. Clan has help up before abusive attack. (8)
29. Keeps urging while breakfast is cooking. (4, 2)

Down

1. Very loud headline indeed! (8)
2. Repeats aloud secret I abused. (7)
3. Cat surrounds member from the creamery. (9)
5. Footnote that takes pains not to exaggerate? (14)
6. 1,000 to follow genuine monarchy. (5)
7. Men chance decapitations to heighten value. (7)
8. Deck-chair on a Mediterranean cruiser? (6)
9. Exclusive place for a decent chap's shillelagh. (10, 4)
16. Local item in close shave. (4, 5)
17. Newly arrived student who's a bit keen perhaps. (8)
19. Frozen supper and a refreshing drink? (4, 3)
21. A strike would topple them! (7)
22. Rotten place to clear out. (6)
24. Mistake Eric ran risk of recording initially. (5)
19. Frozen supper and a refreshing drink? (4, 3)

OBLIGATIONS

Since ancient times the old ones prayed
And great cataclysmic thunderings rolled,
Their great guns of morality
Boomed across the empty shore:
Screaming with the futility of their existence.
Shouting at the empty heavens . . .

Black sky, black earth, black sea
Until silent, swift a dove from above,
Its flight white wings reflecting humanity's hope.
A flashing silver — then gone without wind.
Gone is their purity. Welcome.
To our dark, modern masturbator.

Rex Artlogy

Fiction Factory

On a Thursday, as the fellows of the Round Table bumble rotundly out of The Silver Bell hotel, to busy themselves in a search for car keys, smug in the knowledge that somewhere an adequate percentage of their annual income rests securely in some celestial bank-vault, as these things happen, I swear on my mother's grave, the old Co-op window winks at the sun.

'Twas the night before Christmas, this Thursday night, and what a long and shadowy night to have stretched from the Boxing Day of last year to the Christmas Eve of this. Snow lay not upon the ground; rain fell, pell-mell, skipped on car bonnets and slicked down the High Street, black as a whale's back. Water streamed off the camber, gutters wash, drains were clogged. So too were the minds of the crowd, running from the rain in shopping-bag contortions. What to buy? Whisky and brandy, beer and lemonade. 'Remember the lemonade for Gran's advocaat shandy!'

was in all ways a guided Lily. She dripped with pearls and oodles of jewellery. Only one thing marred a perfect marriage; Lily had a drink problem. The problem was that her husband kept the gin under lock and key.

This Christmas Eve, Tom's committee had made their rounds, and all but a few gifts remained to be given out. He sat with his pal, remembering faces and thinking of things he might give away.

'I'll find a few trinkets upstairs, and tomorrow morning I'll pop round to the old dears with a bottle of sweet sherry.'

That concluded the business and soon Tom was alone in the house. He went upstairs, climbed the ladder to the loft and began to search in the old dressers and chests of drawers: the furniture of a dozen lives bought as job-lots. When Lily arrived home, creeping in with her brown bag of secret booze, she heard footfalls in the attic. She began at once to pour her gin into empty bleach bottles saved for the purpose, hidden under the sink. She had to hurry; Tom came slowly down the stairs. She met him in the hall. He was white as candlewax.

'What's the matter?'
'There's an old woman upstairs.'
'Upstairs?'
'An old woman. She's dead.'
'Dead?'

'She's worse than dead.'
Lily ran upstairs, looked and ran back. She asked if he were unwell. Then he spoke with a voice that echoed in the space where his soul used to be: the old woman's feet were in her old shoes, her torso was in a fur coat hanging in the wardrobe, her hands were in er gloves in separate drawers of the dresser, her head wore a hat in a hatbox on top of the wardrobe. All the while Tom wore the expression of a man that finds that he has been worshipful of the wrong god, a man that finds an irony in the phrase 'guilt-edged securities'.

I've heard it said that the body is the house of the soul and that weird things go on in attics. And I've heard and read that guilt is a poor foundation for the house of God. Some say they felt the hill squirm that Christmas Eve. But these are old wives' tales and you people don't believe in ghosts and what can such as me tell you who have never drowned? Just shut the wardrobe door before you leave.

Iain Ferguson

AstroStudent

TAURUS

- 1 Normally has a thick neck.
- 2 Eats a lot.
- 3 Loves sleep.
- 4 Is consequently often very fat.
- 5 Obsessed with touching (everything and anything).
- 6 Likes the colours green, brown, purple and pink.
- 7 Often has dark hair and cow-like brown eyes.
- 8 Looks a bit like a bull.
- 9 Moves slowly and deliberately.
- 10 Loves singing (even if not good at it!).

Good Points

- 1 Patient
- 2 Steadfast
- 3 Very sensual
- 4 Good at cooking

Bad Points

- 1 Lazy
- 2 Obstinate
- 3 Over-possessive
- 4 Stubborn
- 5 Clumsy

Famous Taurus Signs Taurus normally gets on with

- 1 Adolf Hitler
- 2 Sigmund Freud
- 3 Queen Elizabeth II
- 4 Barbra Streisand
- 5 Karl Marx

- 1 Virgo
- 2 Capricorn
- 3 Cancer
- 4 Scorpio
- 5 Pisces



THE OIL— THEY KNOW ABOUT THE OIL...*

NEED ANY HELP?

NEW CALEDONIA

EPISODE TWO

Smith & Wilson

TO BE CONTINUED.