

STUDENT

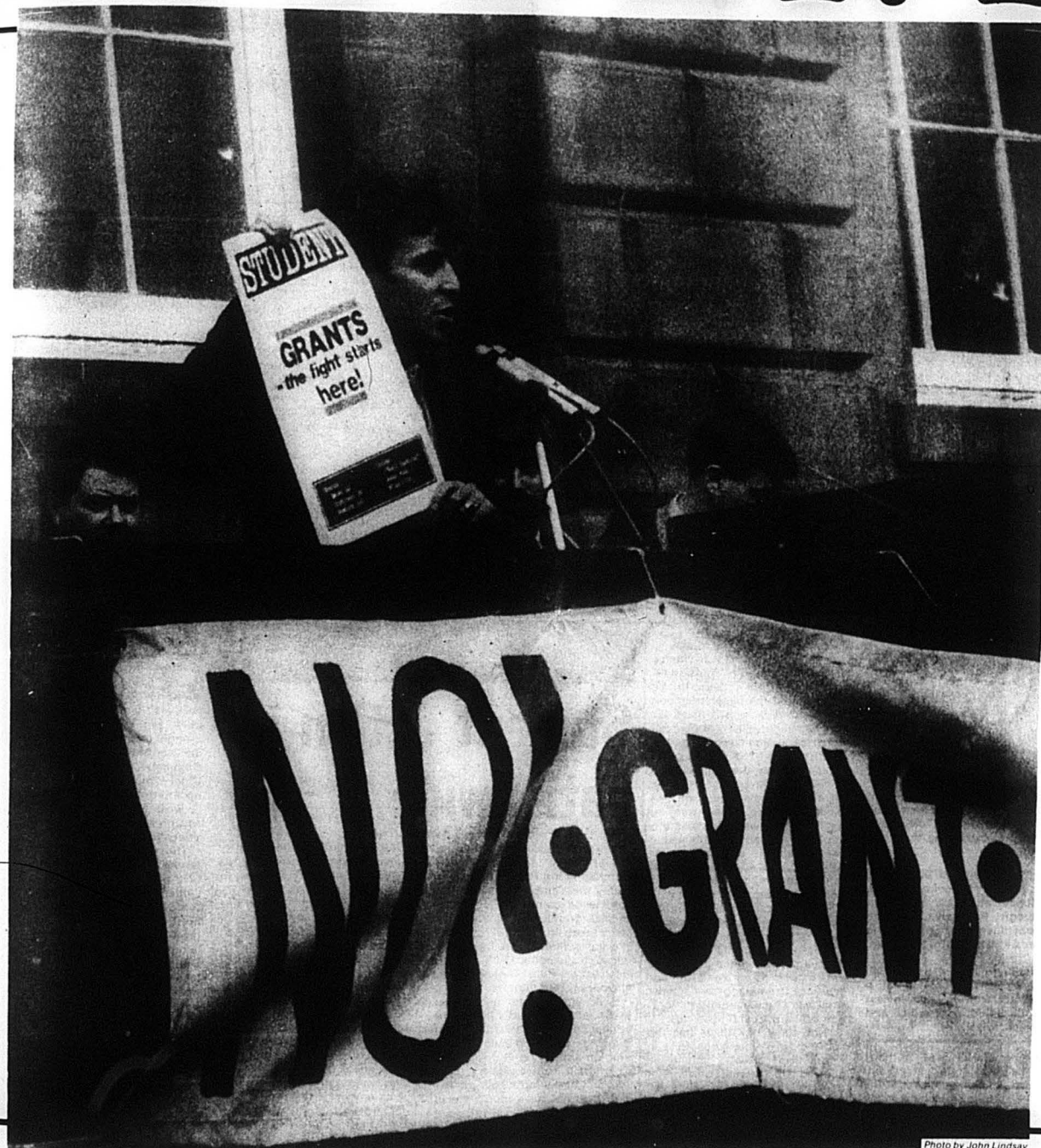


Photo by John Lindsay

and the fight goes on

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Not Quite Jerusalem

GRANTS NEWS

Huge turnout for Old College rally

"Education is a right — not a privilege. We must stand up and fight for the right to survive!" That was the clear opinion of all the speakers at last week's rally in the Old College Quad which attracted a crowd of almost 2,000 students.

The rally was organised by the University Students Association protest against the government's savage cuts in the level of student grants for 1985-6 and the cross-section of interests represented by the speakers showed how widespread the support is against the government's proposals.

Senior President John Mannix opened the rally and introduced Alan Smart, President of NUS Scotland, to address the rally first.

Mr Smart began by pointing out that protests this year were likely to be the most intense student activity ever. The issues at stake today are fundamental to the rights of free education. All sectors of higher education have been brought out in support of this protest going right across the political divide. Direct action must be taken — rallies, demonstrations, 24-hour sit-ins. We must show the Government that we are not passive lapdogs that can simply just be kicked around. If they want to kick us, we'll kick back!

Mr Smart stressed the crucial message which was repeated by subsequent speakers, students must get the message home: he said to the 400 or so Conservative MPs who are ultimately the only people who can throw out these proposals. "They also were never consulted about grant cuts. We must say to them, if you vote for these proposals, then we will vote you out!"

Campaign Diary

Tonight: Students' Association AGM, 7 pm, McEwan Hall. The Meeting will discuss a motion concerning the grant cuts.

Saturday: There will be a mass lobby of Malcolm Rifkind, Conservative MP for Edinburgh Pentlands, at his constituency surgery. Meet in the Student Centre at 9.15 am.

Wednesday: The evening will herald the beginning of a Library work-in, due to last until Saturday. Protest and revise, folks!

Graeme Carter was perhaps both the most controversial and the most welcome speaker at the rally. In a strong speech, he made no secret of the fact that he was a Tory supporter and proceeded to vigorously condemn the Government's grant proposals. "I thought things couldn't get any worse until I heard the Chancellor's statement on grants. It was a disgrace, and we must tell this Government decisively that things are simply not on. As a Conservative," he continued amidst shouts of "scab" and "support the miners", "I was appalled, angered and frustrated — but I will stand up and fight for what I believe in." He concluded with a defiant message to the Prime Minister: "Stop this madness, Mrs Thatcher. Enough is enough."

Jim Sillars intimated his delight "at being able to follow the young Lord Stockton" and, as a former Labour MP, was no stranger to large rallies. An experienced



John Mannix addresses the large crowd at Old College.

Photo by John Lindsay

orator, he served a damning indictment on the Government's education proposals. "Today a lot of balloons are going to be released, but the biggest balloon of all isn't here — and that's Sir Keith Joseph. His policies on higher education have been utter madness since day one! Thousands have the qualifications to come to university — yet the Government says they will not come!" He gave a clear warning that if this fight was lost then there would be a loans system within five years. "We are fighting for everyone. Education is the font of all decency and civilisation in this world, and we cannot desert it!"

EIS Field Officer Simon Macaulay spoke next of a new mood of unity against grant cuts, and delighted the rally by bringing the full support of the EIS. It was essential, he stressed, for everyone to work together against what was a fundamental deterioration of the education services.

"Not since the 1920s has the social class of young people been a criterion for who should be allowed to attend university." Striking a popular note, he observed that we "have a government more committed now to Trident, to Cruise, and to the defence of the Falklands than to the future of its young people!"

David Casson of Moray House followed with a brief but vigorous condemnation of the cuts, and the final speaker was Dr Henry Drucker from the University's Politics Department.

John Mannix re-emphasised the urgency for students, parents and staff alike to write to MPs and protest actively against the cuts. As 520 black balloons were released, representing £520 tuition fees which some parents will now be asked to pay, Mr Mannix stressed that the campaign had support everywhere, but it was vital that we, as students, should maintain and use this to reverse the grants cut proposals.

Devin Scobie

Moray House leads the way

Moray House may not be the largest of Edinburgh's colleges of further education but it has traditionally been one of the most active in its defence of students' interests. Napier College has about 4,000 full-time students and has not in the past been at the forefront of student activism. Both colleges, however, have responded quickly and decisively to the government's threat of grant cuts.

Last Wednesday saw the start of a three-day occupation of Moray House by its students. SRC president Peter Wishart later declared it to be their most successful occupation ever, with a "magnificent and united" response from the students. Every day last week saw some form of action at Moray House and whilst the Board of Conveners may not have entirely approved of the type of action taken, it issued a statement supporting the students' case. Action will continue with regular leafletting

and attendance at regional and national rallies.

"Napier College," said SRC President, Peter Robertson, used to be one of the most moderate of Scottish Colleges — it's now one of the most radical. "Last Friday at Napier's Sighthill campus there was a 100% shut down of student activity with some 2,000 students staying out, and places on a 53 seater coach to yesterday's London rally were filled in a matter of hours. Napier students have the full support of the staff unions, including EIS, SSHE, and the janitor's union and are showing the kind of solidarity necessary in the current crisis."

Both colleges plan further action, and last Friday both were in the forefront of one of the most significant demonstrations of students' commitment to fight the threat of grant cuts. More than 1000 students lobbied the Scottish Office, staged a sit-down protest outside the North British hotel and marched down Princes Street, disrupting traffic-flow for some three-quarters of an hour.

There was leafletting of the bemused general public who seemed mostly sympathetic, certainly there was little evidence of missiles being hurled at the "bloody students", and there were high hopes of a similarly positive response to yesterday's national rally in London.

Mark Percival



Student action is nationwide

The 1,500 or more students who gathered in the Old College Quad on Thursday and those who marched along Princes Street on Friday were only a small part of a nationwide campaign of protest against grants cuts. Action has been taken in over 130 colleges and universities. There have been rallies in Liverpool, Bath, Bristol, Newcastle, Hull, Durham, Colchester and Brighton.

Over 90 boycotts and sit-ins were also staged, including occupations of libraries and union buildings at Nottingham, Southampton and Oxford Polytechnics. This last is to last until the mass rally in London on Wednesday.

Protest has not been restricted to campus grounds. The offices of the DES in London were occupied by 700 students. In Edinburgh, 100 students, led by Alan Smart, Scottish President of the NUS, occupied SED offices last Tuesday, and in Aberdeen, Glasgow and Southampton students picketed local offices of the Conservative Party. Students on horseback from colleges in Leicester delivered a protest to Nigel Lawson's constituency of Blaby.

Smaller colleges also made their opposition clear: students of Bell College, Hamilton, for example, blocked the M74 on Thursday.

These events have been peaceful on the whole. Of ten students arrested in Glasgow on Thursday, only one has been charged, and an NUS spokesman said that the police caused chaos by arresting the stewards of the

march

One of the largest student rallies in decades was organised by NUS in Central London yesterday. In response to this obvious opposition, Sir Keith Joseph has pledged to meet NUS President Phil Woolas at the DES on Wednesday, 3rd December, not, he says, out of necessity, but out of courtesy.

Students at Edinburgh College of Art utilised their talents to the full to draw public attention to the latest cuts. A pair of scissors and dotted line hung down the centre of the college was a dramatic indication of the effects of Tory policy.

A banner of the Jolly Roger was hung from the Scots Monument for several hours before being taken down, and "drawing classes" were held along Princes Street with models dressed up as Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph.

A three-day occupation of the college was started last Tuesday night, and lecturers were refused entry on Thursday and Friday. Vice-President Jessica Barrow told *Student*: "The solidarity has been amazing, at a meeting of about half the students only two voted against the occupation and there were at least 300 students in the college at all times."

Future action will be less intense with students leafletting and writing to MPs. A petition which attracted over 4,000 names in two days will be sent to Westminster.

Iain Ferguson
Jacqueline Brown

Politicians divided

The recent cuts in student grants have brought a mixed reaction from local politicians. Rector David Steel said he did support students in their fight, but he hadn't been at last Thursday's rally simply because no one thought to invite him. Mr Steel was involved, however, in last week's Commons debate, when Liberal Chief Whip, Alan Beith, summing up anti-government feeling, urged "I wish for a change Sir Keith Joseph would put up a fight for our educational future."

Those who did attend last week's rally will have heard the SNP give their support to the student campaign, and on Friday the SNP leader, Gordon Wilson, continued their criticism of government policy when he addressed a protest by students at Dundee University. The SNP leader argued "the abolition of the minimum grant will place a heavy burden on many families."

The reaction from Tory officials has been less sympathetic. Although Mr Allan Stewart, Scottish Office Minister for Education, was not available, an official said that the Scottish Office fully supported government policy.

However Edinburgh MP Alex Fletcher denied that the next stage in higher education reform would be an introduction of student loans. He claimed that Britain had one of the best educational systems in the world, and that the Conservative Government was increasing expenditure. He added, "If the grant were doubled some students would still find the need to supplement their income," and suggested that in the present climate part-time jobs were a perfectly valid option.

Mr Michael Ancram, MP for Edinburgh South, held out for a more hopeful line this week, when he told *Student* that he had had considerable representations from students and parents, and would be pursuing the matter with the appropriate minister.

Lorraine Telford

Burnett blasts government cuts

Dr John Burnett, Principal of Edinburgh University, described as "repugnant" the latest grant cuts imposed by the government, and has suggested that loans to students, or service in kind to the state on the part of graduates, are viable alternatives to the current method of financing students.

Speaking at a Graduation Ceremony in the McEwan Hall last Saturday, Dr Burnett condemned the government for allowing the value of student grants to fall by 8% in real terms; for disregarding, and indeed increasing, the numbers of students who are not fully supported financially; and for introducing policies likely to discourage new people from going to University at all.

Dr Burnett described the current method of student support as anomalous. He said, "At 18, young men and women are now deemed independent, and fit to die for their country — provided that if they seek higher education they are apparently expected to be increasingly dependent on their parents."

He called for a resurrection of



Principal John Burnett speaks out against the cuts.

the proposed "great debate" on education, in which proposals for loans and other means of financing students could be considered.

Dr Burnett went on to express his disquiet at the government's plans to move money from grants to the Universities' research councils. He criticised it for not providing sufficient funding for postgraduate studentships, which he described as "The first and crucial step in the maintenance of the nation's research base."

In his conclusion, Dr Burnett said that a major way forward for Britain's economy is through the maintenance and growth of its research and development, based on education. He asked the new graduates, and guests alike, to consider the issues in education, and to make their views known. He said, "I do not seek acquiescence, but rather free, frank, and objective discussion of how best to educate the nation most efficiently and economically."

Alan Young

Media response quickens

Press, radio and television coverage of last Thursday's rallies across Scotland was largely disappointing, but as the outrage has grown against the government's proposed grant cuts for next year so too has the media interest in Scotland.

Along amongst the Scottish newspapers, *The Scotsman* has consistently given the grants issue prominent coverage with both ample previews of proposed rallies and demonstrations, such as last Thursday's Old College rally, and sensible coverage afterwards. *The Scotsman* quoted John Mannix on Friday as having been "delighted with the response" to the rally, and also highlighted the less peaceful demonstrations in Glasgow.

Dr Burnett's planned speech at Saturday's Graduation Ceremony was featured in both the *Glasgow Herald* and *The Scotsman* — the latter quoting extensively Dr Burnett's comments about the current proposals being "repugnant" — as was the Glasgow University Principal's address to a student rally last week. Sir Alwyn Williams, it was said, "delivered an outspoken speech" to a student rally amidst a background of strong student protest.

Sadly every media outlet made a point of highlighting the ten arrests which took place during last Thursday's Glasgow demonstration. *The Herald* noted that "mounted police were called to control the crowds after demonstrators had attempted to block several streets". Both BBC and STV news coverage remarked on the number of arrests, although nine of the ten were subsequently released without charge, and it is a worrying trend amongst the media that only violent student actions seem to bring issues like the grants campaign to the attention of the public.

Both the *Daily Record* and *The Guardian* afforded the Scottish protests barely 50 words each — a

surely unforgivable degree of coverage from *The Guardian* as the most popular "quality" paper read by students. When contacted by *Student*, their newsdesk said (falsely) that "we didn't know about the Edinburgh rally." Both papers mentioned the Glasgow arrests but failed to give any Scottish rally proper coverage, despite both papers having published lengthy articles outlining how serious the proposed cuts will be.

"The maintenance grant," ran *The Guardian* feature, "has lost at least 17% of its value since being first introduced in 1962... parents should not automatically be expected to pay such large contributions."

BBC Radio also covered both the rallies in Glasgow and Edinburgh, mentioning the number of similar protests across the country, and Radio Forth had a reporter at the Old Quad who somewhat optimistically stated that a crowd of 2,500 students had turned up to protest. Radio Forth also featured VP Graeme Carter, on Friday night, discussing the problem with Margo MacDonald.

Despite an almost universal lack of interest after the initial protests last week — except for highlighting a few unfortunate arrests in Glasgow — media interest is increasing noticeably around the country. More papers are featuring economic articles about the proposed cuts is increasing. The mailbags of Conservative MPs are bulging with angry letters as the scale of the problem did not strike MPs or their constituents immediately.

The pace of protest is increasing and the Government seems certain to face a concerted back-bench revolt. One Conservative MP for a university city, Michael Forsyth from Stirling, has already stated that he cannot support the proposed cuts.

Devin Scoble

New fund plan

A dramatic new plan to fund the entire Scottish education system through the Scottish Office, without local rate contributions, has been proposed by the CBI (Scotland).

In a submission to the review body for Scottish higher education, the CBI says the State must continue to be the main provider of higher education funds. The present system of diverse funding can be wasteful and inefficient, and accordingly hamper national planning, as defence is a national service, so should education.

The CBI believes that developing a highly skilled workforce is crucial and would support increasing the number of central institutions similar to the English polytechnics while "rationalising" non-advanced further education.

The CBI also questions university emphasis on PhD studies which do not really satisfy the needs of a "wider economic community". It would prefer more one-year courses that would add specific skills such as management to degrees completed by students. Universities could also use their expensive resources to the full, during the part of the year when they may well lie unused, for part-time courses, continuing education, and the exploitation of information technology. Counselling services for students should also be improved, say the CBI, in order to reduce a "terrible waste" involved in dropout rates.

Mr Bill Hughes, chairman of CBI's education and training committee, summed up the CBI's views by stressing, "We don't see the problem of finite resources getting easier. This increases the stresses and strains, especially when education is compartmentalised rather than a system. We need a structure which is understandable and it is very difficult to make things happen unless you have one body controlling that structure."

Devin Scoble

Grants motion on the agenda

Big night tonight at AGM

Tonight's EUSA Annual General Meeting at 7.30 pm in McEwan Hall is a chance for students to continue the fight against grant cuts by supporting the SRC Executive's emergency motion. Other items include: the Honorary Treasurer's budget for the year and motions concerning SRC restructuring, Union President Hilary O'Neill's proposed dismissal, VAT on feminine hygiene products, and Benjamin Maloie, an Apartheid Regime prisoner awaiting execution.

The emergency motion notes "the abolition of the minimum grant, the introduction of the payment of £520 toward tuition fees for those students who do not receive grants, and a major increase in parental contribution."

Further this motion states "that these proposals will lead not only to massive financial pressure on many students but will also prevent many people from being able to enter higher education at all. That the principle that all education be free to all no matter what their parents' financial status is, must be maintained."

This motion would resolve "to mandate EUSA to continue the massive publicity campaign to inform students of these proposals. That EUSA will actively support and encourage students to take part in any appropriate NUS national and local campaigns against these proposals."

A second motion proposed by Egan Hawthorn and seconded by Adrienne Terris calls for O'Neill's dismissal from office on the grounds that she has missed a significant number of meetings, was responsible for the Presidents' Ball financial losses by improperly organising the event, and is not available during normal office hours.

There were rumours that Hawthorn was to reduce the motion of dismissal to a motion of censure or even withdraw it entirely, but perhaps due to recent publicity it seems he had decided to go through with it.

Two years ago the Committee of Management set up a working party to review the position of Union President. The working party declared this position redundant and proposed a new

position, Deputy President, with more Association-wide responsibilities than only to the Unions.

An earlier version of this Deputy President motion came up at a previous GM, where speakers against the motion condemned it for taking power away from the Unions, and it did not get through. "But most people don't know the motion, and even if a student gives a somewhat confused speech, they can cause abstentions. The motion won't mean much if it's not passed quorately," says Senior President John Mannix.

Heather Lamont has proposed and Carol Ann Foy, seconded a somewhat controversial motion noting that since "sanitary protection is an essential paramedical supply for women," and "VAT is intended as a luxury tax," feminine hygiene products "should not be subject to VAT."

This motion would resolve the mandate the Senior President to write a letter stating this position to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as well as to reduce the prices of all sanitary protection sold in Union shops by 15%, to the price they would have without VAT.

Hasser Ebrahim proposed a motion which would mandate a letter to be sent to the South African Apartheid regime demanding the release of Benjamin Maloie. This motion notes "that Benjamin Maloie, a 28 year old upholsterer, poet and actor is awaiting execution in the Pretoria Central Prison by the Apartheid Regime," and that his confession to a policeman's murder, which was retracted in court, was given under torture.

The AGM is also the opportunity to debate the Honorary Treasurer's budget, available for review in the Students' Association Annual Report 1984. The budget outlines directives on where the finances are allotted throughout the SA. Another motion concerns revisions to the EUSA constitution, which would streamline the rather unwieldy SRC, and rearrange committees and titles to make the organisation more easily accessible to students.

Barbara Trautlein

and briefly...

Vice-Chancellor dies

The Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University, Professor Whelan, collapsed and died while addressing students during last Thursday's protests against the grants cuts. He was meeting students in what was described as a "cordial" atmosphere. The NUS has sent messages of condolence to the professor's widow, and to Liverpool University.

Book battle commences

As *Student* has recently reported, the Government is considering the introduction of VAT on books, and the NUS is organising a campaign against it. It has taken up the matter with the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the University Grants Committee, and a number of Parliamentary contacts. NUS has also given support to the

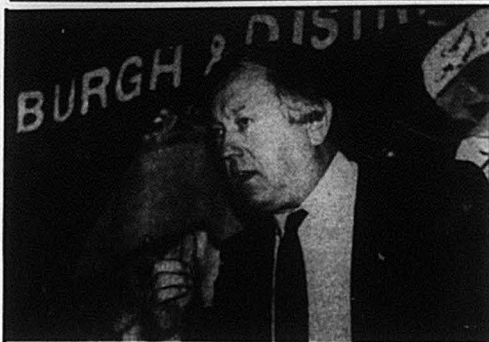
National Book Committee, which represents authors, producers, distributors, and users of books, in its effort to convince the Government not to impose a tax on knowledge and research.

Women's welfare

The SRC Welfare Committee is considering electing a Women's Officer to deal with sexual harassment and other women's problems. The officer would be an unpaid student elected from within the committee not through cross-campus ballot, perhaps by next year. Also, the Women's Group is to play a larger role on the committee this year, with several members being coopted to it.

"We should have someone visible to deal with Women's problems," believes Vice President (Court) Graeme Carter. "A lot of women may be inhibited to discuss problems of sexual harassment and attacks. Many Universities have Woman Officers already."

NEWS



NUM spokesman Eric Clarke demands more support.
Photo by Chas Ross

A Miners Support Group Open Conference was held in the Niteclub under the auspices of the Edinburgh Trades Council last Saturday at 2 pm.

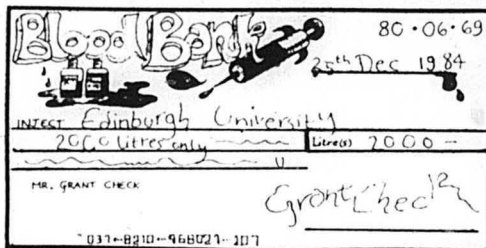
Approximately 150 delegates attended from Trade Union branches and local Miners Support Groups, and the meeting was addressed by Eric Clarke, General Secretary of the NUM Scottish Area, who argued that it was now more crucial than ever to support the miners.

The secretary of the Trades

Council then gave a report on how much had been collected for the miners in Lothian. He estimated that so far between £60,000 and £80,000 had been collected in money and food.

Lawrence O'Donnell of the EU Miners Support Group then reported that the group's had raised over £400 and its twinning with Polkemmet strike centre, when the conference was opened up to delegates to report back.

Chas Ross



Edinburgh's bottles banked

Did you know that if the entire amount of 'cullet' collected in Edinburgh in the last six years was placed on Princes Street it would cover the street to a depth of 20 feet!

For the uninitiated, 'cullet' is the name given to waste glass which has been collected for recycling. Edinburgh has collected 7,000 tonnes since it started the bottle bank scheme in the city in 1978.

Edinburgh was the first authority in Scotland to start a bottle bank scheme and since then other authorities have followed suit. In recognition of the city's outstanding success, Mr Ron Coe, Chairman of the Glass Manufacturers' Federation Environment Committee, last week presented a Commendation Certificate to the Lord Provost at a ceremony in the City Chambers.

A spokesman for the GMF stated that the 7,000 tonnes of waste glass represented the saving of 'the energy equivalent of 210,000 gallons of oil and had significantly helped conserve raw materials.' Edinburgh is the first city in Scotland and only the third in Britain to have collected this amount of glass to be recycled. The Cleansing Department are continuing the bottle bank scheme throughout the city so the next time you have a party save the bottles for the containers in Bristo Square.

Audrey Tinline

Insufficient action slammed by Glasgow

Paisley attacked over fascist

Concern was recently voiced that the presence of a British National Party member at Paisley College of Technology might provoke disturbances similar to those which have occurred at the Polytechnic of North London. But while Paisley student officials continue to report that there have been no further developments regarding the scare, the president of Glasgow University's SRC, Malcolm Clark, has harshly criticised the college's handling of the matter.

Paisley's policy is, that until the student concerned, Eric Brand, can be proved to be actively organising within the college itself, they will not take any steps against him. Although a campaign against racism has been launched recently, the only move made to support students worried about Mr Brand's politics in particular, has been the SRC's offer of assistance for any one wishing to transfer out of seminars or tutorials shared with him.

Mr Clark has already made it known that Mr Brand was spotted distributing BNP leaflets at a debate held at the Glasgow University Union a few weeks ago. Paisley's insistence that they cannot prove Mr Brand's involvement with any right-wing activities at their college, and their refusal to

take any definite action against him, is, says Mr Clark, 'a nonsense'. According to Mr Clark, Brand has been an active member of the BNP for eight years, writes for their publications, and has now been seen promoting their politics at an establishment outside Paisley College. His services to the party have been acknowledged — he has been described by them as 'one of (our) most dedicated and capable younger officers', and acclaimed for 'pushing the party ahead'. Paisley has ignored these facts, says Mr Clark, and he believes that the stance they have taken is irresponsible. 'There is a moral obligation for the Paisley SRC to take the situation in hand much more positively. Their 'general attack on racism' is a wet solution, and their offer of help to students wishing to opt out of classes shared with Eric Brand is unacceptable. The BNP has been known for violence in the past, so such a request would require personal courage on the part of the student — and that should not have to be the case.'

Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Paisley SRC President Liam McLaughlin has so far remained unavailable for comment.

Anne McNaught

Groaning graduations

It was a big day for Mums and Dads last Saturday when the graduation ceremony was held. It was a big day too for the gown-hire company who rent out the graduation kit at a tanner a throw. The titles of the doctoral theses get more and more absurd. David McCulloch got his BSc for 'Clinical Studies of erectile impotence in diabetic men'. He was, of course, *in absentia*. The roll call of General Ordinary degrees contained the names of some of this University's greatest wasters, most of whom were *in absentia*, probably in jail somewhere. Julian Nott-Bower, however, represented them with great style, stumbling through the ludicrous affair. He told me he felt like St Stephen.

Homesick, eh?

The days are drawing in, but the smart freshers can be relied upon to provide some light entertainment for us all. Have you heard their latest efforts to add an exotic Mediterranean appeal to their University City? They now talk of Ponte Stockio (Stockbridge), Villa Neuva (Newtown), Porte de Vaches (Cowgate), Via Prinsippe, Place Du George and Cote Du Matin (though none of them would be seen *mort* there.)

The man in black

The egregious Euan Hawthorn, former Teviot Row form captain, was only elected because his opposition, almost unbelievably, was even worse than him. He has table a vote of no confidence in our President Hilary O'Neill, at 7 pm in the McEwan Hall on Thursday we'll see if he has the bottle to see the thing through. Most of those who know the black-clad Euan well say that he'll chicken out.

Blind drunk dangers

Had you noticed the similarity in design of the hand basins and urinals in the George Square Hotel? Neither had I until I walked in to see the misunderstanding occurring right before my eyes. Look before you wash your hands.

Sexism of the week

Dish of the week is the sexiest socialist on campus, Dave 'Che' Roberts, who sells Socialist Worker around the DHT. All the girls want to join his revolution. Haircut of the week goes to Hugo Nicholl, who has his styled in the mode of a Chelsea Football Club player circa 1973.

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COMMENT

ENT-STUDENT-STU

As you can see from the news pages in this week's 'Student', the grant campaign is already making an impact. The local and national response from universities and colleges has been tremendous. The coverage in the media has been extensive and, largely, favourable. Our own rally in the Old College last Thursday and the NUS demo in Princes Street both caused a considerable stir among the public in Edinburgh. It's all wonderful stuff, but it isn't enough.

We must do even more. Taking to the streets has its place and can do nothing but good. It is effective from the point of view of increasing the public's awareness of what our grievance is and how strongly we feel about our mistreatment at the hands of this Government. The demo has its role, but it is a limited one. 'Student' has some suggestions about what else can be done.

Firstly, it is of paramount importance that each and every one of you write to your MP. Don't keep putting it off till when you have more time. Do it today! 'Student' says that Thursday, 29th November, is the day to write to your Member of Parliament. If you don't know his or her address then go along to the Association Offices, ask for John Mannix and ask him. Then go home (after the AGM of course) and write that letter. Don't wait for the official NUS postcard crap — it will have no effect. You MUST compose and write the letter yourself if it has any chance of working.

Secondly, get your parents/friends/teachers to do the same. All these potential votes will scare the shit out of your MP. That is the challenge; that is what you must do.

Thirdly, check that your tutors or lecturers are doing the same. Go up to them after the class and ask them. It will take 30 seconds of your time, but it could make a great deal of difference to the eventual outcome. If your tutor or lecturer hasn't written and/or won't, ask them why not. Pressurise them; these are their jobs as well as our grants that we are all fighting for. Tell them so.

MPs will be moved by lots of personal mail on a particular subject. Demand a reply to your letter or a statement in the House. These people are being paid to represent you. Make damn sure that you're getting that representation!

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Women strike back

Dear Student,

Ms Rigby made some rather extreme and uninformed generalisations in her "opinion" column last week.

I must admit I found some of Ms. Rigby's comments rather distressing. The very fact that she uses the term "feminist society" is indicative of her complete lack of open-mindedness. There isn't actually a "feminist society" in this University — there is a women's group that meets in the Pleasance though, perhaps she ought to come along some evening — it might make her eat her words.

It seems pointless to try to attack Ms. Rigby's arguments. I'm afraid that on the basis of her very poor appreciation of the arguments for equality, she is beyond attacking. Something is seriously wrong if she feels qualified to write an article based on utterly misguided concepts of feminism.

She seems to think that

"equality" is all about having similar muscle development to men. Does she really think that we are all man-hating, undomesticated, self-centred animals? Can she honestly believe that the working woman gets a fair deal in every sphere of employment. Does the average working woman actually set out to prove her "New Womanhood" (whatever that was supposed to mean)?

Feminism does not and never will underestimate the arduous job of the Housewife/Mother. Ms. Rigby unfortunately sees it as both a "romantic ideal" and a "natural inclination". I must admit to being rather disillusioned by Ms. Rigby's article because I honestly believed that most University women had rejected the sociological doctrine of Enid Blyton — I now fear she is not alone.

Yours,
A member of EUWG

Soul warming anti-feminism!

Dear Mr Editor,

Oh! it warms my soul to hear Cathy Rigby speak up for women and their true role in society. I was wondering how much longer we were going to have to listen to violent, macho feminists with bulging muscles, those that roam the streets brandishing long sharp knives bent upon the idea of mass castration of the male population.

To answer some of your questions, the ones you asked yourself during the course of the Feminist Society talk; yes, you are dominated, no you aren't equal, of course you don't all want to work, and God forbid any woman from ever acquiring rugged playing proportions. I would never feel able to slide up to a group of girls and start talking about how many tries I scored and what powerful legs you need to play (at this point I would pause subtle like and stare deep into her eyes) if she was the same size as me, I mean, she could do anything, smack me round the face, and I would be powerless to respond. I'd just have to sit there and take it. I was only thinking the other day, when I'm not working out or fucking, about how it is that all women should really be small, you know, small enough to wrap my strong hairy arms around, you know, all the ones above 5 ft 8 ins. should be drowned at birth like they do in China, in fact I think they should make it hospital policy to keep a bucket of icy water in maternity wards just in case it's not a boy.

So glad you agree with me about management, it certainly isn't every woman that wants to be placed in a "highly commanding position commanding battalions of workers" in fact I reckon that no women really want to be in authority, and if they do they're only lesbian or feminist or

something equally dirty and deviant, it's like I say, pools never want to be in positions of power cause they're half women. Thatcher's alright though, I mean, you know, she's a soldier anyway, strong, warlike, tough, doesn't mess about with the little people, she'd do a lot of men I know proud.

Now that women as in a position where they can get a job, what more do they want, equal opportunity, equal pay! Yes, I suppose there are quite a few women doctors, lawyers or engineers around the University, but personally I'd never go to a woman to ask her if I was ill, or what sort of fine I could get for slapping my wife around a bit. I reckon that now that feminism has made it easier for women to get jobs and stuff, you know, to keep them busy or out of mischief, I think that men and women should unite and give the feminist movement a good kick in the crotch. You put your finger on the button toward the end of you piece, it is an instinct for women to do housework. I mean put a cloth in a woman's hand and she'll wipe.

The bit about kids was good as well. It's only right that the womah should stay at home and look after all those sons and heirs, change their nappies, so that when the dad comes home he doesn't have to smell it while he eats his dinner and talks to the kids, and tells them that when they're big and strong they will go out into the big wide world and bring lots of children into this happy society of ours.

Congratulations Cathy Rigby on your stand against that element in our society which would, given half a chance, disrupt and overthrow the role and importance of men.

Yours in a macho manner,
Alexander McMillan.

Case for Home Rule

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank the 'Proud Tory' in last week's paper for demonstrating so blatantly the need for Scottish Home Rule. No longer are these people extremists but represent the views of the leadership of the Conservative Party. The brutal treatment of higher education by Nigel Lawson should not blind us to the other vicious attacks on the population made by him. The council house building programme is being slashed despite a waiting list of over one million people. Prescriptions are to rise, and foreign aid is being cut in real terms. UNESCO is to be abandoned because Reagan has done so, and the miners' benefit is being cut yet again. Mrs Thatcher knows that the NUM could not pay £16 strike pay per week (no union could for a prolonged strike) but she is determined that the enemy within must be crushed into submission, in the same way that local democracy is being abandoned for the supposed good of the nation.

These cuts are to finance tax cuts but many of the worst hit people do not pay taxes, and even the better off members of society will be hit badly (I doubt if my parents' tax cuts will be as much as

£205). Two-thirds of these cuts could have been met by cutting Trident but the Government are to self-important to admit the waste of an independent nuclear deterrent.

Yes, 'Proud Tory', the SNP is a left-wing organisation pledged to the destruction of the UK. We see that only socialism and independence can save the Scottish people from Britain's inexorable decline. As far as the Fenians are concerned I thank you for the compliment.

Could I just make a couple of historical points to you, 'Proud Tory'. The Scots did not vote to join into the Union (Parliamentary Sovereignty is not an established principle in Scots Law), and the Scottish Parliament acted to gain economic advantage, something which could hardly be claimed now.

Finally, why was Graeme Carter, the Government's self-appointed conscience, so surprised at the savagery of the cuts? Thatcher, Lawson, Tebbit and Younger have been making savage cuts since 1979, so when will Mr Carter's conscience make him leave their squalid ranks and fight for all people not just students.

Yours in search of freedom,
Don MacCorquodale,
EUSNA.

Need for "Secular Society"

Dear Student,

The answer to Patrick Jarman's question at the end of his letter in last week's 'Student' ("Homosexuality and the Bible"): Is Yes — Christians do still read the Bible. And not all Christians take on board the "tolerant attitudes" of secular society. (Bishops have no monopoly on our belief!)

For this reason I entirely agree with Mr Jarman's point that the passage from Corinthians cannot imply acceptance of homosexuality. Both the Old and New Testaments make clear their total opposition to homosexual acts. But it is for this reason also that I

have to point out that Christianity most certainly does not condemn homosexuals to death. In the Christian view, there are no degrees of sin. One sin is as bad as another and "all have sinned". Does this mean condemnation for all? No chance — "there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through him the law of the Spirit of life set me free."

When the whole point of your message has been missed, it is not surprising that one feels the need to be part of a "Secular Society".

Yours,
David Cross

Poor Petherick service

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Student Community Action Group to complain about the poor service we have had from the printing department in the Students' Association offices and from David Petherick in particular.

On the 15th of October, the Monday of the second week of term, we went to see David to get some posters produced for our society and we were to collect the posters on the 19th October — only four days afterwards. What excellent service we thought — but we were soon to eat our words! They were not ready, but we could collect them on the following Tuesday. To cut a long, long story short, I went in every week, often two or three times for the next couple of weeks — they were always going to be ready the next day! On Friday the 9th November, the fifth week of term, we were given the posters, but they were not what we had ordered — we had asked for them to be produced on card, but they were on the thinnest paper and the motifs for the society we had asked for were lacking. We took the posters back on Monday 12th November and asked for them to be produced properly. The next day they were to be collected was this Thursday, the 22nd November, now week seven. Still they aren't ready, but we can collect on the 5th December — week nine!

We are not the only society to have suffered from the inefficiencies of this "service". CND and Amnesty for example now have their literature produced elsewhere and we certainly will in the future, for it has meant that for the whole of first term we have been unable to advertise satisfactorily any of the many events the Student Community Action Group have been having.

If this is typical of the type of service our Students' Association is giving us, the students, it is no wonder that students are disinterested in the Association and are "apathetic" towards Association activities.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Smethurst,

Publicity Officer,

SCAG.

No Fascism here!

Dear Student,

After several inaccurate news items and two ambiguous letters on the subject of Edinburgh University Conservative Association, it is time to put the record straight on several points.

(1) Andrew Ryland is not resigning the post of EUCA president because of pressure from other committee members. His resignation is due to the increased workload in his Politics course.

(2) Mike Conway did not "stab the president in the back". Conway has been a supporter of Ryland throughout his presidency.

(3) EUCA, SFCS and FCS Great Britain do not have any connections with Fascists or Fascist groups. As Conservatives we abhor Fascism, and endeavour to combat it, in all its various guises. Those on the far left of the political spectrum have much more in common with Fascists than EUCA. As Adolf Hitler once said, "There is more that binds us to Socialism than separates us from it."

(4) EUCA does not take advice on policy from members of the National Front, and does not support them in their leafletting campaigns.

George Shepherd
(A Real Tory).

ARTS

FILM

Ghostbusters

Hype... Hype... Hooray!

We have been hearing the title song for months now, the "no ghosts" logo is all over the place, reports cross the Atlantic informing us that it is currently one of the all time top ten money-spinners, and the most successful film in the history of Columbia Pictures — in short, **Ghostbusters** is the most hyped movie of the year. In deed, unless cinemas are sprayed with bubonic plague, it will probably do just as well over here as it has in the States. And, it is, of course, a wonderful piece of popular cinema entertainment.

The story goes like this — New York has a big problem, an

outbreak of paranormal disturbances, with ghosts, spooks and spectres all around the joint. Enter three zany para-psychologists, played by *Bill Murray*, *Dan Aykroyd* and *Harold Ramis*, who set up a company to zap the spooks called (yup) **Ghostbusters**. Apparently all the activity has something to do with one of their clients, *Sigourney Weaver*, who just happens to have gotten herself possessed (wouldn't you know it!) by a fun-loving Sumerian demon-god, *Gozer the Destroyer*, who has the rather wacky idea of a do-it-yourself end of the world, Sumerian-style. Is the world saved? Do our heroes come out top by playing that bloody song to dear old Gozer? ... I won't spoil it for you.

What I will let slip however, is that **Ghostbusters** is blessed with a great ensemble comic performance from the central trio, the interplay between whom is a joy to watch. This might well spring from the fact that *Dan Aykroyd* and



The Ghostbusters give their opinion of the title song.

Harold Ramis wrote the script and are obviously very much at home with their own material. There are some memorable one-liners — "I

want you inside me!" growls the possessed *Sigourney Weaver* — "Sounds like you've got at least two people in there already"

comes the reply from *Bill Murray* on the levitating *Ms Weaver* he ways "... she interesting, she sleeps above her covers ... Four feet above her covers!" Along with **Trading Places**, **Ghostbusters** reaffirms one's faith in American comedy as it has clearly defined and likeable characters integrated into a fairly absorbing story-line — it is far removed from the sort of scatological or not shambolic gross being churned out in great quantities recently. Special effects in **Ghostbusters** are as is to be expected, well up to par, with several adorably gloopy spooks and demons, and there is a wickedly parodic *Elmer Bernstein* score.

All in all, **Ghostbusters** is a great modern comedy, which it would be almost impossible to dislike. Because of all the hype I was naturally suspicious and come to scoff, yet I ended up converted — it could happen to you. Ah well, all together now ... "Who ya gonna call? ... **Ghostbusters!**"

Trevor Johnston

PARIS, TEXAS

If **Ghostbusters** is the major commercial release of the year, then without doubt *Wim Wenders' Paris, Texas* is the art house equivalent. Winner of the *Palme d'Or* at the *Cannes Film Festival* as a result of a unanimous vote by the jury, it broke all box-office records at *Filmhouse* when shown there during the *Festival* in August, and has received rave reviews from just

about every critic. I am not going to be any different — **Paris, Texas** is that good, if not better.

Wenders' masterpiece opens with *Harry Dean Stanton* as

Travis, being found in a small Texas town having wandered through the desert. Refusing to speak, his brother *Walt* (*Dean Stockwell*) comes from LA to collect him and the fragments of

his past life begin to be pieced together. Years before, *Travis* had been married and had had a son, but he had left her, and she left the child with his brother before disappearing. The course of the film deals with *Travis's* attempts to form a relationship with the son he hardly knew (played by *Hunter Carson*), and their subsequent journey across America to try to

trace his estranged wife (*Natassia Kinski*). A rather bald synopsis like this however fails to convey the quiet intensity of what is, in the end, a very moving film.

While some of *Wenders' earlier films* (*Kings of the Road* and *The American Friend*) considered the Americanisation of European culture, the situation here is reversed: we see the European influence on the US. The first person *Travis* meets is a thickly German accented doctor (*Bernhard Wicki*). *Walt's* wife is French (*Aurore Clement*), there is the continental allure of *Ms. Kinski*, and then there is the title of the film itself — **Paris, Texas** which for *Travis's* father stood for the romance of *Paris, France* in his relationship with his wife.

Images, in one way or another, and the power they have over people preventing them from making rational judgements, are what **Paris, Texas** is really all about! Just as *Travis's* father sees not the reality of his wife but some romanticised image of her, so *Travis* in the images of super-8 film of his wife, which will always be how he remembers her, has given a wedge between himself and her reality. When he eventually finds here this wedge remains, in the form of the glass booth of the tawdry peep-show where she has found work. In the film's climactic sequence, *Travis*, posing as a customer, tells her a story, their story — she realises this, and they

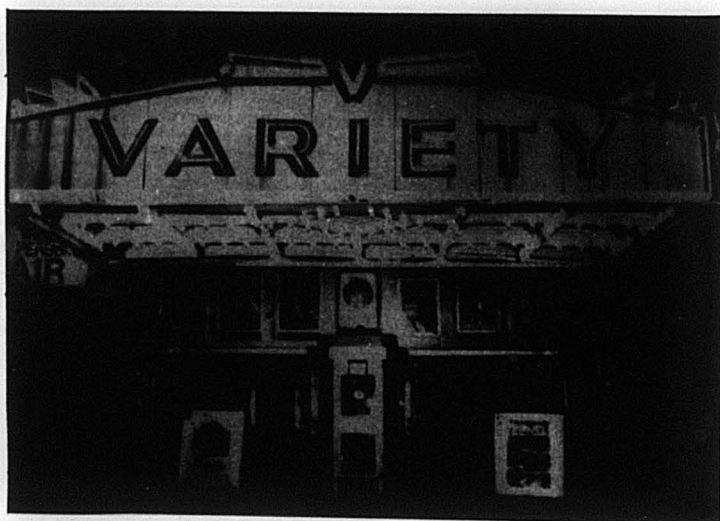


Happy Go Lucky Harry

both try through manipulating the lights to see each other through the two-way mirror. It is in vain however, they cannot fully see each other — the tragedy is that they never did fully see each other.

Paris, Texas will be looked on as one of the films of the decade. *Robby Muller's* pin-sharp photography makes every frame seem important. Performances from *Natassia Kinski* and *Hunter Carson* (a child actor managing to avoid terminal cuteness) are very good, but are overshadowed by a towering display by *Harry Dean Stanton*. A familiar face as a bit-part player he here grasps a lead role with great maturity — the ten-minute monologue when he tells his story is without doubt one of the most astonishing and moving pieces of acting in cinema history. He is of course working from a magnificent script by *Sam Shephard*, and this is without doubt director *Wim Wenders* finest film yet. It must be seen.

Trevor Johnston



Kellogs reveal their new promotional cinema.

Variety

A Film About Women and Power

If pornography objectifies women it might also be said to tyrannise the consumer. Apparently an open-ended adjunct of male sexuality pornography dictates, excludes even as it calls for attention. Film does much the same thing. A seamless story, the correct camera perspectives and one is both absorbed and embraced by the film. Yet even as one is welcomed into the flow of film one is denied anything more than a passive participation: film objectifies the viewer. Essentially both cinema and pornography are about money and objectification.

Thus whilst one might have expected a feminist film dealing with pornography to have offered an uncomplicated cry of anger it is not surprising to find that *'Variety'* not surprising to find that *'Variety'* (written by *Kathy Acker* and directed by *New York independent Bette Gordon*) is actually a film about the look, a film about film. Christine, a New York writer

desperate for work takes a job selling tickets at a porno-cinema. Gradually she becomes absorbed by the milieu in which she works. When a mysterious hood, *Louis* dates her. She follows him. Her search leads her into a subterranean world of shady money, pornography and racketeering drawing her towards conclusions which her journalist boyfriend is seeking.

Where *Christine* comes to conceive of herself with in the terms set by pornography *'Variety'* seems uncomplicated. Episodes, such as her trip to a ballgame with *Louis*, in which the US anthems forms the background for a sequence which moves from baseball team to a shot of a rocket launch to a coke ad (national-phallus-money), also suggest a facility which *'Variety'* actually denies.

In a manner which recalls *Godard 'Variety'* adopts the film noir theme of the gunist. Yet *Acker* and *Gordon* offer no conclusion to the search for the nature of pornography. *Christine's* pursuit of *Louis* seems to lead her to a

conclusion yet the film's progression denies her that 'pleasure'. She comes to know more than she did at the beginning but how much, and what, does she know?

Meanwhile we, the audience, may conjecture but we know even less, which is of course, the film's strength. The closing sequence (a brilliant noir pastiche) frustrates our desire for narrative satisfaction (film as orgasm). Within the film constant changes of camera view, the intrusion of mirrors, of advertising images, and of pornography, prevent us from creating complete constructs, from establishing comfortable points of view on to base conclusive judgements.

The result is a brilliant and challenging film, reminiscent of *Godard* at his restless best. An exploration of sexuality and money, of film and money, which, by refusing to offer conclusions forces us to a deeper consideration of pornography and our relation to the object film.

Bill Williamson

BURNOUT!

THIS THURSDAY!

THE NEW EDITION OF YOUR VERY OWN COMIC MAGASINE, ON SALE VIA STUDENT SELLERS AND UNION SHOPS

ONLY 20p FOR A GOOD SCALDING!

Putting A Plug In For Communism

7:84 Scotland Company
The Baby and the Bathwater
by John McGrath



Elizabeth MacLennan in her one-woman show plays a host of previously created characters and brings them together in this performance in order to exemplify our fears of communism and to prove that George Orwell did not throw the baby out with the bathwater.

We all know the cons of

communism, not only reflected in *Animal Farm* or 1984, but also from aspects of Russian life today, but the pros always seem to be lost in our fear of the dreaded system of

totalitarianism. This play offers us the Central American issue in order to show that the claw of the eagle is equally, if not more frightening than the paw of the bear.

The opening and final scenes of the play where Elizabeth plays Orwell, reflect what he himself would have said about the mis-

THEATRE



interpretation and manipulation of his works. Some satirical humour is provided by her stereotyped characters and the good old US of A is ridiculed by the reappearance of US Marine Chuck Eagleburger, an old character-part of Elizabeth's. Some emotive music was provided throughout by Carlos Arredondo, who fled from Chile and came to live in Britain, but there were times when it was all too obvious that the music was also provided in order that Elizabeth be able to change costumes. Two hours of politically relevant information can sometimes be too much, unless you have the right political frame of mind. A more lively performance might have helped such a heavy topic be more easily digested.

This was still another good example of the talent of Elizabeth MacLennan and the awareness of the 784 Scotland company to the important issues of the world. Today and there is no doubt that the play manages to leave the impact it intended, not only enlightening people on the Central American issue but also a word of warning about the propaganda used to condemn communism. If you are looking for a night of lighthearted entertainment, then this won't be what you want to see.

Margaret Maxwell

Jerusalem The Golden

Bedlam
Not Quite Jerusalem
by Paul Kember

If you haven't already seen 'Not Quite Jerusalem', then lay all else to rest sometime this week, and see it. If you read your 'Student' on time, then you've only missed one night of this stunning production, and still have six more opportunities to rectify the situation. But don't leave it too late, the Bedlam's a small theatre.

Written by Paul Kember, Not Quite Jerusalem was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre in 1980 by the English Stage Company. An instant success, the play won him the 'New Standard' most promising playwright award in the same year. It is about four disillusioned English youths, looking for a new chance in life, who volunteer to work on a kibbutz, attracted by its very remoteness and surrounding

extremely humorous in the process. The 'with-it' sex, sin, sun and song orientated Pete (David Hopper) bemoaning the lack of screwable material, along with the crude blockhead Yorkshireman Dave (Peter Craig) could hardly be in more contrast to the affected grandeur of the prim and proper, valium popping, pseudo middle class Carrie (Diana Curry). She immediately tries to side herself with the fourth volunteer, Cambridge drop-out Mike (Vincent Henderson), wishing to disassociate herself from these 'unbearably base' pair.

Vincent Henderson and Rose Smith, who plays his Jewish lover, put up impressive performances in their respective roles, forming the central pillar from which the rest of the play can hang. Ami (Forrest Williams) completes the cast, receiving the brunt of the English barrage of contempt as a result of his outspoken criticism.

With the Bedlam heavyweights

"A Monument in Holy Shit"

Noonday Demons
by Peter Barnes
Traverse Theatre
Until 9th December

The press release for this extraordinary play describes a 4th century saint in the Egyptian wilderness, fighting the frailty of his flesh, the doubts of his soul and the demons that are sent to him daily at noon — hence the title. A combination of this and a two-man cast might sound like hard work for the audience. Heavy-going though is one thing that 'Noonday Demons' was not — how could it be with such sprightly cabaret numbers as 'What's the Matter with Monks Today?', and such an excellent blend of sharp wit and sheer slapstick.

The storyline is not complex. Saint Eusebius is wrestling contentedly with demons in his cave (which contains nothing but his dungheap, "a monument in holy shit") when another man of God, clad equally scantily in charms and loincloth, tries to usurp his retreat. A battle of wits and fists follows, in which Eusebius so far forgets himself as to draw blood from Pior's private parts, ending with the death of the intruder.

The production made good use of every conceivable British accent to heighten the frequent changes of mood and pace, and wasn't afraid to use the occasional pantomime prop — like the maggots expelled in evil passion from their rightful place in Eusebius' armpits. Simond Donald

was particularly strong throughout as the original occupant of the faultlessly constructed cave. Even in the intimate atmosphere of the Traverse Theatre, where the front row was all of eight inches from the actors, his performance was totally convincing — so unfortunately was the body odour of which he complains when under the devil's influence.

'Noonday Demons' couldn't fail to appeal to any sense of humour, but is also a biting comment on religious hypocrisy and human fallibility. Peter Barnes said that his aim is to create "a comic theatre of contrasting moods and opposites where everything is simultaneously tragic and ridiculous" — he comes close here.

M.E.B.A.

EXHIBITION



The Printmakers Workshop

Wash-house, 23 Union St.
"Prints for Christmas"
(24 Nov-22 Dec)

The current exhibition at the 'Wash-house' is a selection of framed and unframed original prints by members of the Printmakers' Workshop. It is

especially interesting to see the ways in which the artists have considered the suitability of various techniques for their chosen subjects.

For example, Nanny Muller has chosen the medium of mezzotint with its characteristic soft and hazy graduations of tone and richness to produce the small picture 'Looking for Raphael'. It imparts to the work an evocative and mysterious air especially appropriate for this theme. In the

same way Alfonso Bytaules use of mainly aquatint in conjunction with drypoint gives his print 'Clouds over Hoy' an essentially atmospheric and brooding quality. Also the granular texture and blurred lines produced by this medium effectively depicts the smoky clouds as they hover above the undulating hills.

Ann Smith's composition 'Pregnancy' benefits from the characteristic spontaneity of line afforded by etching as does Pat Mallison's 'Mensea Island' which is rather 'Whistlerian' in style. On the other hand the premeditated medium of woodcut which obliges the artist to keep his design simple, imposes on the print a hard, angular quality has been used with bold, striking effect by Gwyneth Leech in the 'Artichoke Seller', Alex Nisbet exhibiting two works — 'The Studio Table' and 'Willow Pattern' uses the method of screenprinting to produce bold contrasts of shape and pattern in these still-lives.

One of the most beautiful works is Elspeth Lamb's lithograph 'Green Sea' which conjures up the depths of aquamarine waters. So, if you've any money left from your grant cheque you could splash out and buy a print for someone at Christmas!

Aeroplane Doctor

mystique. Misconceptions of a working holiday are soon dispelled by the bare faced reality of hard labour. Conflict arises quickly, between the loud-mouthed volunteers and the austere kibbutzenes, as well as amongst the English faction.

Not only does the play convey the frustrations of disillusioned youth, ensnared in a ruthless coöity, and their difficulty understanding an adapting to an alien environment, but it is also

in charge of direction and production of this second mainstream play, it should follow hot in the heels of the musical 'Working', due to its immensely comic nature. This is spearheaded by the hysterical Diana Curry and David Hopper, whose hilarious hypothesis on 'Colunteers' (yes, sex again) is an absolute winner.

If this play cannot overcome the apathy of Edinburgh students and sell out Bedlam, then nothing will.

Hugh Godsall



UNTIL DECEMBER 16th
TRAVERSE THEATRE
COMPANY in
JOHN BYRNE'S LATEST
ROLICKING COMEDY

CANDY KISSES

Tuesday-Saturday 8 pm; Sunday 3 pm

Traverse Downstairs

22nd November-9th December

WRITERS THEATRE COMPANY in

NOONDAY DEMONS

by PETER BARNES

Tuesday-Saturday 8.15 pm; Sunday 3 pm.

Also Sunday 2nd December 8 pm

ONE HELLUVANOVELLA

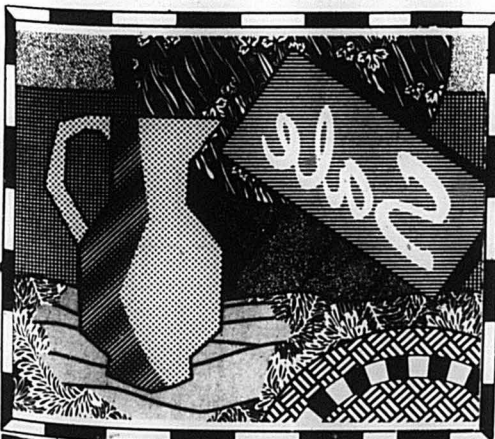
Dramatised extracts from a new novel by Malcolm Stewart

WORKSHOP ONE

369 CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION

A selection of small paintings by young Scottish Artists, organised by the 369 Gallery

Full details, including prices from
Box Office, Traverse Theatre, Grassmarket, Edinburgh
Tuesday-Saturday 10 am-11 pm & Sunday 2 pm-11 pm
or phone 031-226 2633



WHAT'S ON

Film



Hands off—they're mine!

Filmhouse

(228 2688)

Madame de

Friday 30th Nov-Sat 1st Dec. 7.00
The passage of a pair of earrings, given to Madame de (Danielle Darrieux) by her husband (Charles Boyer) leads through a series of improbable coincidences, to scandal and the downfall of Madame de (subtitles)

The Swing

Sunday 2nd Dec. 5.30, 8.00
The story of two Munich families at the turn of the century, set in spacious mansions, concentrating mainly on the daughters and their precocious loves and idealism

Best of New British Animation

Mon 3rd Dec. 6.15, 8.30
Compilation of various examples of contemporary animation in Britain, including work from six different studios and no less than eight student films

L'Amour par Terre

Tues 4th Dec. 6.00, 8.00
Geraldine Chaplin and Jane Birkin play a couple of struggling actresses who are discovered and invited by a rich and enigmatic playwright to stay in his chateau while rehearsing his new play (Subtitles)

Variety

Sun 25th Nov-Thurs 29th Nov
6.15 Sun, Mon 6.15, 8.30 Tues-Thurs
The story of a young woman's growing obsession with voyeurism and images of sex. Shot on location in New York, it follows Christine, a young writer into a world of pornography and crime

Videodrome

Wed 5th Dec-Sat 8th Dec
6.40, 8.40

The story of a cable station director who, in his search for sensational programming material, becomes fascinated by the output sex and torture of the Videodrome channel

Paris, Texas

Wed 28th Nov-Tues 4th Dec
The tale of a middle-aged loner Travis path back into society. A film which fuses Europe and America into a dreamscape of converging landscapes and emotions

Dominion

(447 2660)

The Natural

2.08, 5.08, 8.08
Robert Redford plays a baseball player making his comeback after several years absence from the game
Tickets £2.20

Comfort and Joy

2.20, 5.20, 8.20
Ice-cream wars in Glasgow feature in this latest Bill Forsyth comedy. Lively and entertaining.

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

2.00, 5.00, 8.00
Still hanging on in there, Indiana Jones battle his way through India. The only doom about this film is that it may never end!

Film Society

Friday 30th November.
Pleasance

Scotch Myths

6.45
A brief look at the portrayal of Scotland and the creation of a false identity for the nation. Music, humour and animation in the process

The Cheviot, The Stag and The Black Black Oil

8.45
A simplistic but forceful drama by John McGrath about Highland history since the 45 rebellion

Sunday 2nd December GST

Victor Victoria 6.45
Julie Andrews plays a Parisienne singer who becomes a success when she poses as a female impersonator, but finding that this causes some problems as far as her love life is concerned

The Meaning of Life

9.05
The most recent Monty Python film, consisting of a series of sketches describing the stages in the development of man. Compulsive viewing for Python addicts and well worth seeing as far as the rest of the world is concerned

Wednesday 5th December

Pleasance
The Scarlet Letter 6.45
Lillian Gish stars as the mother of an illegitimate child in puritan New England. A powerful film and one of the classics of the silent screen

Gunga Din

8.30
Based on the Kipling poem, the film is the story of three cheerful army veterans who meet adventure on the North-West Frontier. Described as 'one of the most enjoyable nonsense-adventure movies of all time'

Institut Francais D'Ecosse

(225 5366)

Lancelot du Lac

Thurs 29th Nov. 8.30
On his return from the quest for the Holy Grail, King Arthur's First Knight is beaten and believes that the reason for his failure is his impure love for Queen Guinevere

Caley

(229 7670)
Another Country
(from Friday 30th November)
6.00, 8.00
Seats £2 (£1 students)
Rupert Everett as a homosexual public schoolboy discovering left-wing tendencies in the film version of the West End play

ABC

(229 3030)

Philadelphia Experiment

2.05, 5.05, 8.05
John Carpenter film about an experiment that went wrong. They opened up a hole in time and now it can't be closed. Good sci-fi film from the master himself.

Tightrope

2.40, 5.25, 8.15
Someone in New Orleans is murdering prostitutes and Wes Block (Clint Eastwood), Detective Inspector with the city's homicide squad, is conducting the investigations.

Conan the Destroyer

2.00, 5.00, 8.10
Conan (Cringes) is sent on a mission to chaperone Princess Jehenna on a perilous journey to a castle in which he kept a key that will unlock a vast treasure of mysterious significance.

Odeon

(667 7331)

The Woman in Red

Based on the 1976 French film "Pardons Mon Affaire" "The Woman in Red" stars Gene Wilder and Kelly LeBrock in a comedy set in San Francisco about an average guy juggling wife and girlfriend and managing to make a right fool of himself too

1984

John Hurt as Winston and Richard Burton giving his last screen performance as O'Brien, in Michael Radford's version of the famous George Orwell novel. Very faithful to the original text.

Bachelor Party

Typical sexist film about stag-night escapades

3C

(226 5425)

Recent Scottish Independent Film

Wed 5th Dec. 7.15 pm

Fell From Grace

Controversial depiction of the efforts of a band of Highland Jacobites to shelter Bonnie Prince Charlie after Culloden. Directed by Ian Wyse

Lass Tak Di Sock

Attempt to make visible the history and present-day lives of women in the Shetlands. Directed by Rosie Gibson
Tickets £1, 50p from Theatre Workshop

Queen's Hall

Thursday 29th November, 7.45 pm

Icelandic Music

Flute: David Nicolson
Cello: Hafli Hallgrímsson
Guitar: Petur Jónsson
Music by Thorláksson, Svendsen, Hallgrímsson, Sigurjónsson
tickets £2.50, £3.50

Friday 30th November, 10 pm

Late Night Jazz

Morrissey/Mullin Band
The best British jazz funk band
Observer

Saturday 1st December, 7.45 pm

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Cello: Sharon Robinson
Piano: Joseph Kalichstein
Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor
Brahms: Double concerto for Violin and Cello, Op. 102
Beethoven: Triple Concerto in C major.
Tickets: £7.50, £5.70, £4.30, £2.90

Sunday 2nd December, 7.30 pm

Trial by Jury

and other things. A joint production with Scottish Opera and the Scottish Philharmonic Singers.
Students (members) £1.50, non-members £2.50

Monday, 3rd December, 7.45 pm

Piano Recital by Philip Fowle

Bach: Busoni: Chaconne in D minor
Schumann: Carnival
Liszt: Annales de Peterburg
Tickets £5.00, £4.40, £3.30, £2.20

Tuesday 4th December, 7.45 pm

Young Concert Artists Trust

Presentation Concert
Works by Haydn, Liszt, Prokofiev, Boccherini, Shostakovich, Paganini, Liszt, Debussy, Scriabin
Tickets £2.00

Thursday 29th November

EU Anti-Apartheid

Video on 'The Agony of Angola', 7 pm, the Language Laboratory, DHT. Meetings every Thursday 3 pm, at Seminar Room 1, Chaplaincy Centre. All welcome.

Poetry Society

A reading by Iain Crichton Smith 7.30 pm, Conference Room, DHT. do go — he is well known! Admission free.

Free Disco with Happy Hour from 8.00-9.00 in Chambers Street House.

Exhibitions

Fruit Market Gallery

Francesco Clemente
An exhibition of his stunning pastel pictures
29 Market Street
Mon-Sat, 10 am-6 pm,
Sun 2 pm-6 pm

French Institute

Images from Brittany
35 photographs in black and white by Gilles Hermand, Guy Hersand and Michel Therisnel.
A realistic report on life in the Ile de Sein.
13 Randolph Crescent.

Fortnight Gallery

Exhibition of new and collected jigsaw puzzles by John Mikiety.
Westcrosscauseway
Till 30th November
Open 11 am-7 pm daily

Scottish Craft Centre

White Christmas
A sparkling reminder that there are only five weeks to Christmas. A truly different collection of crafted pieces in shades of white. Bring your own ski-goggles.
140 Canongate
Mon-Sat 10 am-5.30
556 8136

Stills Gallery

Time
The infamous B and H Gold Awards, 100 award-winning photographs and illustrations reflecting this age-old theme, often in an interesting and refreshing way.
105 High St.
Tues-Sat 12.30-6 pm

Printmakers' Workshop

Christmas Exhibition
Lots of members' prints for Christmas on sale, together with a large selection of cards.
23 Union Street
Mon-Sat 10 am-5.30 pm
557 2479

Torrance Gallery

Christmas Exhibition
Starting on 26th November, a stunning show of watercolours, jewellery and ceramics.
29b Dundas Street
Mon-Fri 11 am-6 pm,
Sat 10.30 am-1 pm.
556 6766

Psychology Dept

Weightlessness and Gravity
Gwen Hardie, one of Scotland's most promising young painters.
Figure paintings of large figures and hands 7 George Sq. until the end of term.

Mercury Gallery

Christmas Show— "Small Pictures"
This fascinating mixture of works by gallery and younger artists provides the ideal answer to all your Christmas gift problems — all the works are for sale.
2/3 North Bank Street
The Mount
Mon-Fri 10 am-5.30 pm,
Sat 10 am-1 pm

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FILMHOUSE

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Cinema 1

Wed 28-Tues 4 Dec. 5.30/8.15 (Also 11 pm Sat 1)
PARIS, TEXAS (15)
This very beautiful, resonant and affecting movie looks and sounds quite superb. It brings magic back to the cinema — Guardian
It also broke all records at Filmhouse last time — don't miss it!

Cinema 2

7 pm
Fri 30 and Sat 1 Dec. 7 pm (Also 3 pm Sat 1 Dec)
Max Ophüls' Double Bill
MADAME DE . . . (PG)
Plus
LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (PG)

Cinema 1

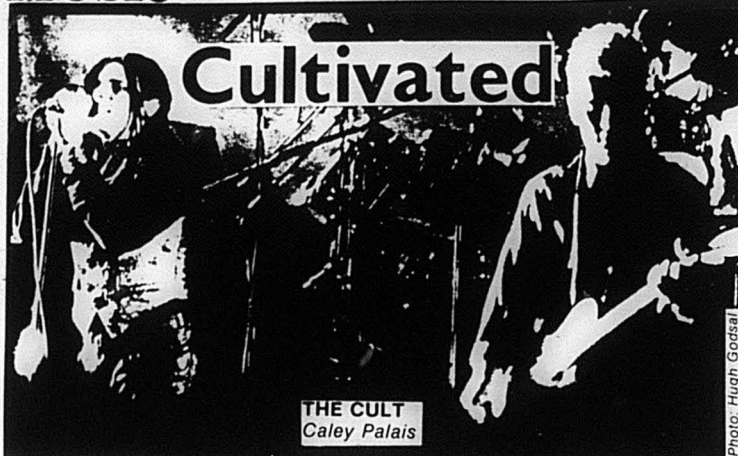
Dec 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11
As in previous years, we are pleased to present a selection of the new films from the London Film Festival
Sun 2, 5.30/8.0
THE SWING
Mon 3, 6.15/8.30
BEST OF NEW BRITISH ANIMATION (PG)
Tue 4, 6.00/8.30
L'AMOUR PAR TERRE (15)

Cinema 2

Wed 5-Sat 8, 6.40/8.40
Debbie Harry and James Woods in Krollenberg's
VIDEODROME (18)

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MUSIC



THE CULT
Caley Palais

Photo: Hugh Gossal

The name seems a little gratuitous, precocious even. Well, the least you can do is wait until they've played. At last. Another post-punk Gothic dream — but with a difference.

Here was passion, commitment, energy, but tempered by disciplined musicianship into a pure, surging stream of power and exaltation. So many of the bands in this genre are content to attempt the same effect by thrashing the hell out of their useless guitars, screaming barely audible clichés, and turning the bass up in the hope that a coherent structure may suddenly pop from somewhere. This usually results in a flailing discordant mess, provoking the presumably undesired reaction that of a contemptuous giggle.

The Cult are very different. They have considerable talent. The bass and drums brimming with self-confidence and precision propelled these quite stunning

songs forward; innovative yet never predictable. Ian Astbury's urgent, passionate vocal was a relentless howl, though it lacked range — and the initial effect wore a little thin as the rest of the band developed and grew more confident.

Billy Duffy more than made up for this in the guitar playing. Sometimes there was a poignant harmonic, other time a catchy riff, and occasionally a great shard of chords, like an ominous iceberg. Always astonishing and immaculate, it was a bubbling source of swirling joy and energy.

What was a little irritating was the way the band were so bafflingly at odds with the mood and temperament of the music. Their music was urgent and serious, they were a barrel of laughs. Astbury was quite content to say at one point, "Come on now, let's behave, this is a pop concert", and, at another, to take the trousers off an unsuspecting and

bewildered little punkie in the front row.

This was initially irritating, as I was beginning — I'll have to admit it — to get swept up in this Gothic nightmare. (Perhaps it was the dry ice that did it.) But then, I thought, this 'let's-have-a-laugh' attitude, displayed a quite daring self-confidence in denying the music its atmosphere, and relying on the strength of the songs themselves. A mercilessly abrasive version of *The Troggs' Wild Thing* further enhanced my respect for them.

There was, of course, the almost obligatory drunken violence and aggression in the audience that threatened to spoil things but, in spite of all this, the music surged forward through the adverse atmosphere to emerge as a triumphant, proud and exultant experience. Maybe the name isn't so gratuitous.

Siward Atkins

Skinned Alive!

If you have ever doubted the compatibility of pop music and politics then *The Redskins'* performance last Friday would almost certainly have laid those doubts to rest.

One could not possibly have ignored the political flavour of the evening, as we queued outside, sellers of *Socialist Worker* were prominent, whilst striking miners from Träntent collected funds to feed themselves and their families; two members of *The Redskins* belong to the SWP and a "Victory to the Miners" poster adorned the stage. Yet it was night to exercise the feet as well as the mind, for crucially the York trio's music is classy enough to get the message across.

Before the entry of our working-class heroes, we were treated to an all-too-brief set from *The Screaming Nobodies* who combined some psychobilly guitar with the brash cheek of their two singers. These chaps know they're good and must surely be destined for better times.

For *The Redskins* these times are here already and this perhaps affected the start of their performance — they seemed just a little too anxious, tearing into *Kick Over the Statues!* at breakneck speed and hence missing it up somewhat. But their act is soon organised and the ensuing *Unionise!* is a brilliant surge of collective strength that gets the feet stamping and fists shaking. Polemic meets pop and the inspiration runs from head to toe — magic!

The basic drums/bass/guitar formula is fleshed out by the brass of *Steve Nicol* on trumpet and *Lloyd Dwyer* on sax, giving the music of comrades *King, Hewes* and *Dean* a flavour reminiscent of '60s black soul as well as the more obvious hints of *The Clash* and *The Jam*.

Mainman *Chris Dean* — X. Moore to all you NME devotees — is less voluble between songs than

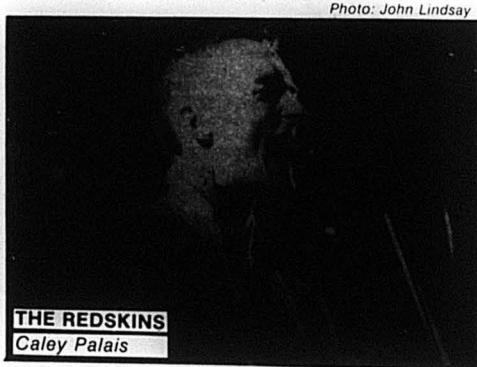


Photo: John Lindsay

THE REDSKINS
Caley Palais

usual, probably due to his throat complaint. Having played ten songs, *Martin Hewes* apologises that *Dean* cannot go on and that the show must end there. However, this is after we've heard, amongst others, a bluesy *16 Tons* followed closely by *Keep on Keepin' On!* The coal dispute is referred to constantly and the message is always one of *stand firm*, indeed of *Lean On Me!*, which sees all the Redskins' vital elements get together in one heady brew.

The young miner who spoke at the end encapsulated the emotion of the evening: in the face of barracking from some National Front hoodlums he pleaded for

support and solidarity, and was led away on the verge of tears by a consoling *Chris Dean*; the band encore with *Reds Strike the Blues!* and then there was no more.

Ultimately, I still have misgivings, notably the contradiction of *The Redskins'* politics and their recent deal with a major record company. It still smacks of "turning rebellion into money". Yet they make music as inspiring and moving as *The Clash* ever did, and their commitment is unquestionable. For these three *Redskins*, red is the colour and rock is the game; this is one flame that can't be dimmed.

Keith Cameron

LA.....	LIVE
SORBONNE	MUSIC
69 COWGATE	NIGHTLY
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	TILL
	LATE



OPERA

RIGOLETTO Playhouse

Composed at the time of the Italian Risorgimento, this is not the most subtle of attacks on the profligate lifestyle of the lazy ruling classes. Lusty dandies lurch from one buxom wench to another in search of entertainment. The Duke of Mantua offers his love as he might issue party invitations. Courtiers play cruel tricks on each other, and despite the bright music, an atmosphere of gloom and intrigue pervades the whole work.

Director *David Alden* has wholeheartedly entered into the spirit of things. Licentiousness, double-dealing and falsehood are evident in every action of his cast, from the duplicity of the Duke (*Michael Myers*) towards his supposed loved one *Gilda* (*Marta Szucs*) to the last sly glances of courtiers

and courtesans as they plot adulterous nights. If anything, Alden has chosen too many settings. Barely do the players enter the full spotlight, conducting the various activities in darkened rooms and smoke-filled parlours. This sombre atmosphere seems to coo up the emotion of both the cat and the music and as a result, it stifles the bustle of the score and renders unnecessary dull some of the longer scenes. None of this, however, prevents fine performances by *Rigoletto* (*John Rawnsley*) and *Gilda* (*Marta Szucs*). *John*, like Italian dough, is a heavy, the hunchback and his daughter correct the imbalance with moving performances of great artistry and versatility. The duets, which form the centrepiece of a sad and stormy relationship, are quite remarkable for their qualities.

Frederick Pro

Playing For Now

SWANSWAY THE INDIAN GIVERS Coasters

I had my doubts about this gig: I feared that the extreme hip-value of both *Swansway* and the upsurge in sleek and tasteful jazz/soul influence music, of which they are a part, would turn the evening into little more than an opportunity for band and audience to have a good pose.

As I sipped my third cocktail, doing my best not to fall off a teetering (but terribly cool) instrument of torture generously called a bar-stool, I saw little to prove my initial forebodings wrong the support band, *The Indian Givers*, were playing the kind of sophisticated muzak that hangs in the air of upmarket fast-food joints. A disappointment really as half the band are members of the infinitely more worthwhile *Juggernauts*, purveyors of goods, energetic rockability.

My eyelids were drooping and my thoughts turning towards a warm bed when *Swansway* stormed on and expelled all such thoughts from my mind with a startling and huge version of *Soul Train* — their one mini-hit up to now. As well as the basic line-up of a double bass and two vocalists, one of whom doubles on percussion, there was a crowd of a four-man brass section and a four-person string section: with this first song, and most of the others, the instrumentation was superbly balanced, providing a relentless beat and infectious brass sound which simply swept the audience away. All of the material had the same driving,



energetic feeling, notably their new single, *The Anchor*. In general, however, the material did not match up to the exceptional standard of the opening song. They were certainly very good but they did not have the mastery of their music which an excellent band requires.

One of their main defects was an extreme self-consciousness, demonstrated by a slightly paranoid insistence that "We're not jazz, we're not nostalgia, we're playing for now!" And, much as I did enjoy their set, I left feeling that "now" is right, in a couple of years when the soul revival has given way to the new style, and all the imitation *Ronnie Scotts* have closed down, then we shall see whether *Swansway* have got any more than one or two memorable tracks, whether they are any more than merely the order of the day.

Charles LeQueux

New Pork Funk!

NEW YORK PIG FUNKERS Satellite Club

New York Pig Funkers are tall, gangly characters, all accentuated cheekbone and shorn hair. Nervous esoteric glances are exchanged and everyone grasps or straps themselves to their instruments. Stage pause, an air of expectation: "What's this?" This is FUNK boy, move your ass!

Sublime basslines and an effervescent hip-hop rhythm underpinned a punchy brass front,

the vocals reassuringly low key. At first hesitant, they soon gathered momentum enough for a brash headline performance of about half an hour. Having replaced a broken snare-drum they re-assembled for a thunderous encore and then quietly dissolved into the crowd.

By all accounts this was a remarkable first gig, unfettered by pretension, the band's nascent genius won them the night and has cast a glimmer of hope on to Edinburgh's turgid live music scene.

Tom Marshall

ALL JAZZED UP

**BENNY CARTER/
HERB ELLIS**
Queen's Hall

GORDON CRUIKSHANK QUARTET Pleasance

The Gordon Cruikshank Quartet were the guests of EU Jazz Soc last Thursday evening in the Little Theatre Bar at the Pleasance, the latest challenge to Edinburgh's established jazz pubs. The quartet, consisting of saxophone, trumpet, electric piano and drums, had not appeared here before, but are well known locally as polished professional musicians and exponents of both modern and more traditional jazz. Although the audience was small at first, the bar itself is such an ideal setting (having been designed with frequent reference to photographs of 1920s and '30s night-spots) that a good atmosphere was easily achieved. As usual there was something of the feel of a subterranean cave about the place which is really not brightly enough lit, if the flickering of firelight can give a significant contribution to the overall brightness. But for damp weather such as Edinburgh provides in November, it does very well.

For the performance in question, I felt a little that more could have been made of the keyboards: competent backing was provided but not much else, which is a shame with such a versatile instrument. The lead was almost invariably taken by the saxophone, with trumpet solos interspersed, perhaps it is merely a reflection of my own taste that I think variety would have livened things up a little more. Both soloists played smoothly and well, however, keeping the characteristic easy melodies of jazz well in evidence. A pleasant evening in general, this Thursday Jazz Soc have produced *Swing '84*, one of my favourites and anything but lacking in variety. Perhaps if they have recovered from the administrative problems understood to have bugged them last year, we'll have a regular event not dictated by the commercial instincts of the Union but rather by students themselves — can only be a good thing!

C. MacFarlane

Last Friday night at the Queen's Hall we got two jazz greats for the price of one. According to the bill we were due for saxophonist **Benny Carter** only, but we got guitarist **Herb Ellis** thrown in, backed by three Edinburgh musicians, **Dave Newton** on piano, **Francis Cowan** on bass, and **Ken Mattieson** on drums.

The five mixed and matched their way through the evening. Carter sat out on some songs. Ellis on others, and on most all five played together. The evening didn't stretch any boundaries, most of the things they played had been played before in a similar sort of way. Herb Ellis was impressively skilful, but only occasionally expressive. Dave Newton was always competent, Francis Cowan produced some very lyrical solos, Ken Mattieson played with considerable sensitivity. The laurels for the evening, however, went unquestionably to Carter.

Benny Carter is now in his mid-

seventies, but he doesn't look it, and he certainly doesn't play it. He played both sax and trumpet with a sobbing vaudeville tone, and was the only one of the five to take things apart in his solos. At one point he paused to reminisce about a previous visit to Britain, some 30 years ago. He mentioned some names and some of the audience remembered them. Carter's pleasure was obvious, and the more he played the more obvious it became that, unlike the other four, he was playing memories as much as music. On *Lover Man*, *Honeysuckle Rose*, *Misty*, *Rosetta* and *What is this Thing Called Love?* he shone, he didn't take that many risks, but what he played was somewhat more than picturesque, and certainly more than the history he could easily live on, he wasn't only replaying the memories, but rewriting them a little as well. It was a pleasure to listen to him do so.

Tim Niel

MUSIC LATEST!

• Nobody's Back Yard

A week of events is taking place in Edinburgh this week to increase public consciousness of the political situation in Central America, which the USA regards as its "Backyard".

As part of the programme, *Rumours Night Club*, in Lothian Road (next to the *Caley Palais*) plays host this Sunday to El Salvadorean group *Yolocamba I'ta* for an evening of dance-orientated music as a representation of the cultural tradition of their country and region. *Yolocamba I'ta* show the importance of music as part of the lives of their peoples, and especially the struggle for self-determination against capitalist and North American oppression. *Yolocamba I'ta* provide good entertainment of an adventurous nature, using instruments such as wooden zylophones, rattles, shakers, maracas and drums. Their songs tell of love and war, yet highlight the positive side to their struggle.

The evening, entitled *Canto a la Patria Revolucionaria* (songs for the Revolutionary Homeland) which will be supplemented by delicious El Salvadorean food, starts at 8 pm this Sunday, tickets are £2.

• Test Dept

Yet another miners' benefit has been organised in Edinburgh, this time featuring well known noise innovators, *Test Dept*. What better group to represent the industrial culture of miners that this London Collective who specialise in the use of 'alternative' instruments, such as drills and hammers. "We don't call it music any more," they say.

Supplementing their bald industrial clamour is a sprinkling of polemic that is likely to be clearly directed here.

Last time they played the LRT bus depot in Annandale Street. How will the Assembly Rooms fare next Tuesday? The proceeds from this event (tickets £2) will be going to the Miners' Solidarity Fund.

• Unit 47

Power, Promotion and Publicity If you are in a band, this is for you. You may remember we ran a feature on Scotland's new national magazine last year, called *Unit 47*. Its sixth issue is due out within the week, and a vast improvement on previous efforts. I am now covering the whole of the East Coast for *Unit 47*, so I would welcome any info, gossip, demos, singles, publicity material etc. which your band (or your friend's band) may have to offer. Bribes gratefully received.

Don't just sit there, lift that phone! Ring me on 031-447 2122

Wendy Barrett

• Television Latest

A special St Andrew's Night edition of *The Tube* tomorrow (Mac Tube, Channel 4, 5.30) will feature *Tom Robinson*, *Al Jarreau*, *The Kane Gang* and the long-awaited video of *Over the Sea from Jesse Rae*. Remember last week's feature in *Student*? Essential viewing.

Next Tuesday's *Whistle Test* (BBC 2, 7.30) has live music from the manic *Screaming Blue Messiahs* and a feature on the re-emergence of politics in rock, including *The 3 Johns* and *The Redskins*. There will also be an interview with jazz guitarist *Pat Metheny* who has just recorded the soundtrack for John Schlesinger's new film, *The Falcon and the Snowman*, part of which will be recorded by *David Bowie* as a single next year.

• Radio Latest

Radio Forth's local music output centres around Colin Somerville's programmes — *Scottish Waveband* on Monday evenings, 11 pm-2 am, and *Forth Street* on Tuesdays, 10-11 pm. Next week, the latter will include interviews with *Indians in Moscow* and *Sideway Look*, both of whom are playing in Edinburgh. (See *What's On*.)

CLASSICAL KICKS



SNO Usher Hall

The performance of the *Sibelius Violin Concerto* began rather tentatively, but the soloist, **Joseph Swenson**, quickly gained in confidence, attaining a clarity of expression that was glorious in its self-assurance. The orchestra, directed by **Paavo Berglund**, surely the greatest living interpreter of Sibelius, built a solid and imposing soundscape over which the soloist soared brilliantly. This was a performance filled with a deep understanding of the meaning of the music which was, quite simply, magnificent in its grandeur.

Altogether too much is made of the alleged political aspects of *Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11* ("The Year 1905"), as Robert Simpson has observed when in reality it transcends such considerations. The first movement, *Palace Square*, was sympathetically conveyed, setting up a bleak and forbidding background with foreboding rumours of the musical drama that was to come.

Relief soon dissipated, however, as the sheer force of righteous indignation and oppression burst forth and threatened to overwhelm, with the tragic sense of innocence betrayed harmonising in the intensity of its conviction. The third movement, *In Memoriam*, came over as one of the great symphonic lamentations with the piercing torment and anguish of the viola melody being inconsolable until the fourth movement (*The Torsion*) proclaimed what amounted to an anthem of the betrayed. Consolation is found, at last, in the determination to bring things to right, at whatever cost, and the formidable sense of purpose that flowed throughout the performance found its fulfilment in a remorseless dedication amidst the chilling stillness. The whole performance was, both in terms of interpretation and quality of playing, something quite out of the ordinary.

Roderick Manson

Roderick A. Manson

.... WITH NO PLACE TO GO



Benny Carter

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FEATURES

Edwina Currie: the case for cuts

She thinks Keith Joseph is "a sweetie" and that he "really cares about education". She would make membership of student unions, and the NUS, voluntary, but believes students should be members of both. She supports the government's grants cuts, but thinks the policy was rushed, and that some parents are "justified in being cross". She is the Vice-President of the Federation of Conservative Students, but describes its leadership as having "one or two funny ideas". Alan Young talks with this formidable phenomenon.

She is Edwina Currie, a 38-year-old mother of two and Conservative MP for South Derbyshire. From the Marxist point of view, she is the perfect example of the individual who strengthens the Ruling Class by taking advantage of and illustrating its flexible boundaries to move into it from a lower social status—in her case that associated with inner-city Liverpool. The New Right of the Conservative Party see her as the epitome of the self-made person who, 30 years ago, would not have joined the Tories, but who is now able to do so thanks to the changes precipitated by that wing of the party.

Mrs Currie was in Edinburgh last

Thursday, and thought television news coverage of "students at demonstrations swilling beef" would do nothing to endear them to taxpayers of South Derbyshire, "who are financing their education". A much better way of protesting would be for students to sit down with their parents, work out how much the Chancellor's cuts are going to cost them, and then write off to their MPs. She argued that real influence lay with parents, but then went on to criticise the government for not meeting with the NUS. "It is representative of a large number of students, and the government should be talking to them."

Why, then, did she introduce legislation to make membership of the NUS and student unions voluntary?

"If student unions had to go out recruiting people to join, and persuading people who were hesitant, they would think twice about some of the things they get up to. I think taking a strong line, as the student unions and NUS do on political issues which is consistently left wing, simply means Ministers continually ignore them. That's a pity."

"Anybody who actually looks at the list of the parental contributions may find a happy surprise..."

She expressed hope that such a policy would not weaken student unions, and implored that students should be active members, but on a voluntary basis.

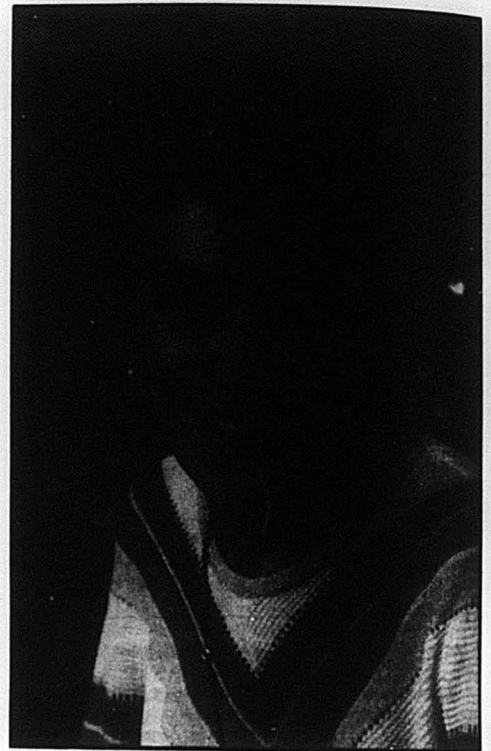
On the issue of the day, the grants cuts, Mrs Currie said that

there had been a lot of misrepresentation and misunderstanding. "Anybody who actually looks at the list of parental contributions," she said, "may find a happy surprise." She said that 69 per cent of families will be contributing less to the maintenance of their student offspring, which conflicts with the *Guardian* figures, which say that more than half of the parents with children in higher education will be paying more. The *Guardian* and Mrs Currie also disagree on the numbers of parents who will no longer have to contribute. Mrs Currie says 8,000 students will no longer rely on parental contribution, the *Guardian* puts that figure at 10,000.

On the basis of her own figures, Mrs Currie believes the cuts are not a national disaster, but she is worried that wealthier families will have to find an extra £700 a year per student, which will require financial planning on the part of those families. She said that she found "something odd about left-wing socialists and communists complaining about what's going to happen to those poor families earning a residual income of over £22,000."

The issue of the introduction of tuition fees has caused many to argue that the right of students to free education is in jeopardy. Mrs Currie responded to this by asking why students had the right to free education, then said under one-fifth of students' families will be liable for tuition fees. Fees range up to £6,000 for the government," she said, "and students are not cheap. But the vast majority of that money is still being found from the Exchequer. We all have to pay for education one way or another, and parental contribution and tuition fees do constitute a backdoor tax. But those families who will be paying tuition fees have had, as the Labour Party continually reminds us, their burden of taxation reduced from the marginal rate of 90% to 60%. Those families are still better off than they were."

However, as Alan Smart, President of NUS Scotland, said, wealthy parents do not mean wealthy students, and Mrs Currie



Edwina Currie, Conservative MP for South Derbyshire.

grants? "They would present exactly the same problems in terms of the economy as grants do at the moment. The money would be borrowed, rather than spent directly. It would be part of the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, and I don't think the Treasury would wash that, so I don't think it's on."

Before you breathe a sigh of relief, read on.

"I would prefer to see the government supporting some form of loans system, and it's really worth looking at other countries, none of which have a

of our priorities, and we were elected."

The possible imposition of VAT on books, newspapers and magazines looks like being the next big issue in education, and Mrs Currie admitted the proposal was being considered. She said that VAT on newspapers and magazines was probably going to be introduced next April, raising £225 million. She said if VAT was imposed on books, then there would be a strong argument for seeing some upgrading of grants, "because last year's books are out of date, you have to buy books, and as a science student, I knew the pressures."

Mrs Currie would like to see students independent from their parents and background, but not from what she sees as their obligations. "I would like to see students actively involved in looking at, and raising the finance for, their own activities." She denied that higher education was now a device to delay unemployment. She stated her belief that a fair degree of poverty during student life has always had to be endured, but that

"I would like to see students actively involved in looking at, and raising the finance for, their own activities."

graduate prospects of employment are still good. "Students are right to be worried about unemployment, but for most of them it isn't ever going to be a problem." As for the more novel ideas of the Federation of Conservative Students, such as the privatisation of universities, Mrs Currie is dubious. "The sheer effort of such a change, with little obvious benefit, is pointless."

Mrs Currie's parting comment was, "We've got to make students much more aware of the outside world, and to try to make courses more outward looking. They should be encouraged to take a much more sanguine view of life outside. They might then realise who's paying for it all."

Alan Young

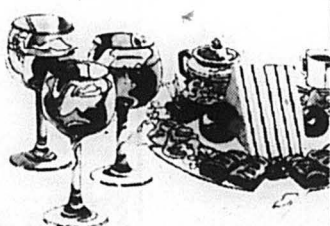
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1972: Graduated MA (Oxon) in Politics, Economics and Philosophy
1972: Leaves London School of Economics with MSc
1972-81: Teaching and lecturing in Economics, History and Business Studies
1975-84: Member of Birmingham City Council, chaired committees on Social Services, Housing and Health
1983: Elected Conservative MP for Derbyshire South

did admit she was not happy that over half of all students at some point rely on a bank overdraft, partly because over half of all students do not receive all their parental contribution. "It brings back shivers of memories when I was a student, and supposed to be on a full grant, but it didn't work out that way. If I hadn't had a scholarship, I don't think I could have managed. I was a university landlady for four years, and I know what it's like when students can't afford the rent because the family is not forthcoming with the supposed contribution."

Mrs Currie outlined what she sees as the alternative to the current method of financing students. "We have to find some system in which the two sources of income, which are at the moment the government, through grants, and parents through their contributions, are expanded to include other sources of income. Industry, commerce, and the banks should all become involved. Many students have had bank loans without wanting one. I think we should formalise that so that the banks can be encouraged to be much more supportive of students."

What about loans from the government to replace student

system like the UK. Our current system is by far the most generous, yet we have a lower proportion of students going to university than most of those countries. Ours is also failing to encourage the less well-off in society to go to university — before the war, 25% of students were of a working-class background, now only 19% are. I would like to see a system whereby the government assists students, perhaps by guaranteeing loans, perhaps by making special arrangements for groups that won't be earning a lot of money in the future, though we still need them, such as social workers. We could make loans interest-free, so that inflation actually helps students by reducing the value of the repayment. I suspect that something is on its way, so we might as well do it properly."

When it was put to her that the government could afford many worthwhile things if it abandoned the purchase of the Trident missile system, Mrs Currie said that Trident was the nation's security, ensuring that interviews like this could be carried out. "We have elections to decide what the country's priorities should be. We made it clear that Trident was one

FEATURES

Redskin Revolutionaries

Do music and politics mix? The redskins are a band who definitely combine the two. Chas Ross tracks them down for a pow-wow.

The Redskins have recently signed to Decca after a couple of years of incessant gig playing and two singles on independent labels. The first single, *Lev Bronstein*, "a snappy little tribute to Leon Trotsky" (Chris Dean), was followed by the better known *Lean On Me*.

The Redskins are Chris Dean (guitar and vocals), Nick King (bass) and Martin Hewes (percussion). As two of them are in the Socialist Workers' Party, politics takes a very high profile in their music.

Banned in London, they were formed out of a northern band called *No Swastikas*. Their long tour stopped in Edinburgh on Friday night.

Politics are obviously very important to you: what exactly are your politics?

Dean: Very simply, if you need a job, you should have a job. If you need a home, you've got a home to live in. You've got a right to a decent education, you've got a right to a decent standard of living, you've got to have access to leisure and culture, and not to be treated like a piece of worn-out newspaper that just gets crumpled up and thrown in the bin.

On a more complex level, how you actually achieve that — then we say you certainly don't achieve that through pop groups. It is the working class, and working-class organisation itself, and only that, which can achieve the kind of society where finally everyone has a job and a decent home.

When there's a miners' strike, the biggest industrial conflict for



Hear no evil, Speak no evil

Photo: John Lindsay

ten years, then we support it from the start. We agitate — not just talk about it, not just play miners' benefits, but we get actively involved outside of the band, collecting money for the miners, arguing why people should be supporting them, going on picket lines, joining miners' support groups and all the rest of it.

M. Hewes: Briefly, its anti-racism, anti-sexism and working-class control over their own lives.

Do you think putting your politics across in the form of music is effective? Will people be listening to your songs?

King: I don't think that you get an audience for the politics. I don't think we draw people on revolutionary politics, but if we can say to people, we have this way of changing society, we can't give you a detailed manuscript on how to do it, but Socialist Worker can, and Marx and Lenin can.

Dean: Some people listen to it

more than others. But I think what's much more important is being seen by an audience supporting and arguing for the miners, getting miners on stage to speak, having collections for the miners — all that changes ideas more than just the lyrics in the songs.

King: I think your normal everyday person who's not involved in political activity in any sense, I don't think you can have very much effect on them. If that's their commitment to any kind of level of political activity, listening to a pop record, I don't think you're going to have that much effect on them.

But people who are actually active, but maybe aren't active in the right way, we can point out the right way to do things. And maybe we can have some effect on people, because they are not in isolation, they are active amongst other people who are politically minded, which is really good.

Do you think your politics hindered you getting a record contract?

King: Yes and no, people were maybe wary of it, but if they can make you sell.

Dean: It does make it harder, but you can do it. Like Virgin made a formal offer, it went up to Richard Branson... too political.

Warner's made a much bigger offer than Decca did, it went back to the managing director, Rob Dickinson, who said no way, too dangerous, we can't touch 'em — and they didn't sign us.

So it does make it harder, like we're going to get more carefully watched on television in future after *The Tube*.

But at the end of the day, they see the bucks, and if they can make them out of you, they'll sell it. So the record company hasn't tried to influence your music and politics?

Dean: Yes, of course, they try to all

the time. They do suggest that some things are too political. But we were well prepared for that.

I mean part of the reason it has taken so long to do *Keep on Keepin' on* is because they wanted to do it again and we didn't. In the end we did, and that's an example of musical intervention.

They didn't want "Victory to the Miners" on the posters, but we got it on them, you win some and you lose some. The important thing is not to stop yourself short on it. As a band you should use platforms — you do it intelligently.

What would you say your musical influences are?

Dean: Costello is an inspiration when he gets his arse out, and so's Dammers, and Weller was for a while. Our music is like badly played Northern Soul with punk-rock guitar behind it. It's more old stuff like 60s soul, Tamla, bits of R and B, anything with a tambourine in it.

King: If you are honest about it, there's so many influences, like everyday experience is an influence as well as what you hear on a record.

Was the band formed to put the politics across, or would you have formed it anyway?

Dean: It's impossible to say. I wanted to play and knew that if I was in a band, I wouldn't want to sing "Wake me up before you go-go".

It certainly wasn't us three sitting down and thinking, right, we're going to infiltrate the music business.

It was a band but of course it was fired by the politics. You can't split them. A lot of people have said about the miner on *The Tube* — that the best thing about it was actually seeing a band get a miner on, which no one had thought of doing before.

At this point the Redskins were summoned for a soundcheck, and so ended the interview. The same night they were to be seen putting across their ideas on socialism (and how to achieve it) to the assembled masses at *The Front*. Chas Ross

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Nicaragua's state of health

Kate Dawson examines the post-revolutionary remodelling of the Nicaraguan health services.

To many students *Sandinista* means *The Clash*. Most young people in Nicaragua owe their freedom to the revolutionary movement. The Sandinista as a movement led to a young revolution overthrowing the 45-year-old dictatorship in 1979.

In that fight, the Somoza government destroyed four hospitals, incapacitated a further nine; the health care capacity in Nicaragua was reduced by an estimated 90%.

Now, the young democracy (two-thirds of Nicaragua's population is under 24, voting age is 16) is struggling to rebuild its Health Care Service.

Changes in the redistribution of resources are undeniably impressive. Land reform, good supply and sanitation programmes have led to a drop in infant mortality from 120 to 88 per 1,000 births and life expectancy is rising. These are crude indicators of the population's health status.

Nicaragua has been named by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a model for health for the whole of Latin America. The reasons for this success seem to be with the high level of community participation in health matters, and a political and economic commitment to improve the nation's health. Nicaragua spends 11% of its gross national product on health care (cf. Britain 3%).



A queue at the polls for the first free elections in Nicaragua.

nurse-practitioners, auxiliaries.

Due to the (literal) decimation by the Somistas of the health sector, reconstruction has had to be extensive. The huge training programme has concentrated on a range of paramedical workers: midwives, health educators and "brigadistas" (village health workers). This is particularly practical where 50% of the population live in rural areas.

The brigadistas are the key primary health care workers

trained in care, sanitation and education. They often come from the communities in which they work.

Many of the new medical students are those same people who took up arms in the revolution and retain their commitment to building up a new and healthy Nicaragua community.

The training of para medical and medical workers is expanding as is the need for community health centres.

The Edinburgh Medical Students' Council are holding a bed-push on 1st December (Saturday afternoon) to raise money for such a health care centre in the Nicaraguan town of Belen. It will serve a population of 23,000, present facilities being a two-room shack. £35,000 is needed for the centre, plus further funds for basic equipment. Donations will be gratefully received.

Kate Dawson

"THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETING IN YEARS"

EUSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TONIGHT 7.30 MCEWAN HALL

A



She stands on the stage.
Shouts and cries fill the air.
"Scratch her, bite her,
Kick her face in.
Yah, boo. Not fair."

Democracy prevails at EUSA. That is why absolutely ridiculous and pointless motions such as the one calling for the recall, i.e. sacking, of the Union President, Hilary O'Neill, are allowed to reach a meeting of such importance as the AGM. Attend, support her, and show the proposers of this motion how childish, petty and ignorant they are. EUSA supports the UP. Make sure you do.

G



The balloons are angry.
Filled with anger,
they fly to the heavens,
and thrash against the
pearly gates. The gates
remain shut. God?
She isn't listening... yet.

The fight goes on. The rally was a success, we have shown our united support. But the fight has only just begun. We need to continue our support and co-ordinate our action! Stage 2 is the AGM. You can decide what EUSA is to do next. We must pass the **NO!** cuts motion quorately to prove that we care about the future of our own and especially of other people's education.

M



Red tape strangles and clutches at our very life-blood. The time has come for man to say "I will be free!" and throw off the chains of outmoded bureaucracy.

EUSA tries its best to serve you, its members, in the best way it can. For years, the same problems have restricted our success — our own structure has caused bureaucratic hold-ups and ineffectiveness. Finally a solution has been found. We can simplify the system so that it's clear, efficient and effective.

Unfortunately, the only way such a change can be made is if the necessary constitutional amendments are passed quorately. Help us to serve you better.

UNITE

LET'S FIGHT

LET'S WIN

3 WEEKS INTO TERM...

Dear Dad, Sally,
You father - I was delighted
to hear from you - at last, and to
know that you are enjoying
Edinburgh so much.
Please do let me hear from you - did you have to eat much
fish? I ate a blocking pink one -
piper's wife says I am a bit
stupid - I ask you! You know I get
headaches - what the poor postman
thought I did was to bring what
on earth passed you to find
such an awful birthday card to
Aunt Madge? That type of
humour may be alright for you
but Aunt Madge's 70th birthday.
Your father is becoming quite
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University Students' Association, Student Centre
• Usher Hall Box Office.

SPORT

MENS' HOCKEY

National League Highland 1
Edin. Univ. 7

It is not often that eight goals are scored in a national League hockey match but when seven of them are scored by Edinburgh it is verging on the miraculous, not to mention the ridiculous.

It was with heavy hearts that the boys set forth for the arctic wastelands of Inverness. Lindsay Rainey had played his last game for the club. Mo was small. Mo was a man. A man of true determination and, above all, devotion to the sport he lived for — he isn't dead but plays hockey instead. In case you still don't believe the hockey reports, Mo, thanks for everything! (and you were the captain £4.50).

Without an experienced first team keeper Edinburgh could have expected the worst on their arrival in Inverness. With a minute to start the "worst" seemed to come inevitable as Highland at least. Now only a team of 10 dots drives over 100 miles to Inverness just to lose a hockey game. The Edinburgh side did not pass eleven dots, as they had substituted. Despite this, the great "back" began.

Several near misses quickly followed, notably from Syd Reid, but the match but who couldn't even if it had a leath round neck. Then a touch of class from Captain Fowle produced a perfect equaliser. Noticing that the Highland keeper was admiring the scoreboard behind his goal, he led for a long corner to be taken quickly. When the ball reached



him he fired a first time shot past a bewildered and embarrassed goal keeper into the net.

Five minutes later the Uni were in front. McFarlane's short corner strike giving the unfortunate keeper no chance. Wyatt added a third with some cool finishing (man) from a narrow angle and Highland, so confident after their opening goal began to lose heart. Control was firmly in Edinburgh's possession and goals came thick and fast. Edinburgh's fourth, a penalty stroke from McFarlane was closely followed by a McLeod tap-in to make the score 5-1. Gray opened his account for the club with a well taken sixth goal from a superb cross by "Fingers" Loughlin.

Highland's day of misery was completed when Wyatt scored his second goal and the University's seventh being put clear by Gray.

Trips to Inverness, on paper, seem ready made for disaster. Saturday's was an exception. Who knows? There just might be life after Lindsay.

Squatt

RUGBY

EU Pick Up National Award

Congratulations are due to Edinburgh University RFC for being named "Junior Team Of The Month" by *Rugby World* magazine. This award, which brings the team three Mitre Multiplex matchballs and a commemorative pennant, is the most significant of its kind in British rugby circles. It was won in the face of stiff competition from Askean's, Stourbridge and Ealing, none of whom however could match Edinburgh's triumphant romp through October when they won all eight of their fixtures. The teams which Edinburgh beat in October to go to the top of Division IV of the Schweppes League were Lenzie, Alloa, Grangemouth and Aberdeen University. The remaining four victories were in inter-University matches against St. Andrews, Heriot-Watt, Stirling and Aberdeen again. At the time of writing Edinburgh are still top of Division IV with a hundred per cent record and scoring an average of 20 points a game.

Keith Dinnie

ICE HOCKEY

Puck Off!

Ice Hockey is a sport which most people may be familiar with only through watching "on TV" titanic struggles between the USA, Soviet Union, Canada and Czechoslovakia. On a more local level it is not so well known that Edinburgh has its own professional ice hockey team. They are called Murrayfield Racers, their home is Murrayfield Ice Rink and they are currently top of the Heineken Premier League.

Last Sunday I went along out of curiosity to see the Racers play File Flyers, and came away from the match quite amazed at the level of excitement and entertainment. The most striking thing for a newcomer to the sport is the sheer pace of the game. Both the Racers and the Flyers set out to attack from the start and this adventurous spirit paid off for the visitors, who ended the first period with a 6-4 lead.

The second period was much tighter and more physical, with some crunching collisions. There doesn't seem to be any rule preventing you from slamming your opponent into the fencing around the rink... or maybe it's just the referee has enough sense to keep well out the way.

Racers pulled one goal back in the second period to make it 6-5, thus setting the match up for an epic third and final period. When Tony Hand equalised for the Racers with just two minutes left the home support erupted. An old, grey haired gentleman who was sitting next to me jumped out of his seat in excitement and fell into the row of seats in front of us, and had to be pulled back up. Then, with 47 seconds to go, the scores level, Lynch completed his hat-trick and clinched the game for the Racers with a perfectly placed shot. By now the pandemonium was such that nothing that was being said over the loudspeaker could be heard. The atmosphere was akin to that at Murrayfield last season when Scotland finally ground down the French.

If you have never been to a live ice hockey game before, then I would urge you to go to the Racers next home game, on Sunday 2nd December against Durham Wasps. Face-off is at 6.30 pm, entrance is £1.80, and buses 12, 26 or 31 will get you there.

Keith Dinnie

WOMENS HOCKEY

This weekend was one of mixed fortunes for the University side. On Saturday the 1st XI met Gymnasts at Peffermill (in what can only be described as arctic conditions!) to get in some practice for their important league game the following day.

After a closely contested (and bloody cold!) first-half, Gymnasts had the lead by one goal. Unfortunately, despite some good attacking moves, the University conceded a further three goals due mainly to a lack of concentration (or perhaps it was the fact that we had all forgotten our thermals and were therefore suffering from frostbite!). The highlights of an otherwise very forgettable match were undoubtedly the hot showers (mmm!) and Jenny's jammy pieces!

On Sunday afternoon, we encountered some extremely loquacious opponents who amused us throughout the match with their gentle good humour.

In a tough competitive game Edinburgh undoubtedly had the upper hand and a goal by OUR ELDEST TEAM MEMBER, LILIAN MONAHAN, gave us a one nil advantage at half time. A lack of concentration led to a Boroughmuir goal shortly after the pass back, but EU forwards battled bravely (an appropriate choice of words!) to win several penalty corners and a penalty stroke which unfortunately was missed by an elderly frail player with failing eyesight.

However, despite this setback, another goal deflected into the net from a fine shot by Lynn "the Umpire's favourite" Maison, gave us the lead. Unfortunately, the Edinburgh defence was unable to withstand a further bout of pressure from the opposing forwards and after much effort (not to mention swearing!) we were forced to concede the goal which robbed us of our victory (sob!).

AF



CRICKET

Don't forget the winter cricket nets to keep you warm and thinking of those summer days. Nets take place on Thursday, 7-9.30 pm for men and 6-7 pm for the ladies. Both nets are at the Pleasance.

Edinburgh win Universities Championship

LACROSSE

Saturday 6.10 am and Edinburgh University Team were up and fighting (against a nap) ready for anything (preferably bed). Surmounting such incredible odds, as the hour and the weather, they struggled on, through drowsiness, to the delights of Aberdeen and the Scottish Universities Tournament.

Undaunted, the team lolloped through their four matches against mixed (male and female) and unmixed ("just" female) teams alike. The ease, elegance and excellence (should I go on?) of their game was reflected in the decisive scores (mere details).

Emma Dickens

FINAL JUDO REPORT



3 winners out of 4 boosted this term's profit to £48.07 to a £1 stake.



If **Badsworth Boy** is fit he won't be beaten in the Tinglecreek Steeplechase at Sandown on Saturday. At Newcastle the same day **Peaty Sandy** looks about to return to winning ways in the Ladbroke's Trophy Steeplechase provided the going remains soft. On Friday, don't miss Musso in the Pond Steeplechase at Sandown.

Colin Wilson
Judo Club Capt.

On the eighth day . . .

Edinburgh University 38
Harris FP 9

On the seventh day God rested. On the eighth he awoke, refreshed and revitalised and on that day, amongst the heavenly choir, God deemed in his wisdom to create Larry Ritchie.

As you can see it is becoming hard to remain impartial about Edinburgh University RFC. But Saturday's 38-9 victory over Harris is certainly cause for celebration. Not only did the tries come liberally, but two were scored by "Harry" chosen one Ritchie, which heralded the end of his two and a half years scoring drought. Before Ritchie even got on the scoreboard Hunter had already put Edinburgh into a 9-0 lead, with 10 penalties and a drop-goal. It is a comfortable cushion and one that allowed Edinburgh to push forward. An up and under led Ritchie bulldozing over the line score his first try of the day, and though Hunter had a difficult task, he eventually converted to send Edinburgh into a commanding 15-0 lead.

Bouncing the blues away

Is there a sport devoid of the looking European committee decisions of soccer, the physical rigors of boxing and the art of hand gliding? And a sport that combines the dexterity of football with the bravery of the aerodynamic ecstasies of hand gliding? Could this sport, dare I suggest, trampolining? Some argue that the thrill of bouncing up and down

Harris made some strong counter attacks, powerful scrummaging near the EU line allowing scrum-half Alexander to touch down for a try. Full back Lacey was lucky to convert, the ball hitting the post before going over. Perhaps God had divinely intervened on his behalf as well. With another Hunter penalty Edinburgh ended the half 18-6 ahead.

The second half was controlled far more steadily by Edinburgh. Although Harris full back Lacey scored a penalty, Edinburgh put together some good moves, one of which resulted in Ritchie's second try as he touched down in the corner. Hunter's conversion attempt was unsuccessful. From then on EU totally dominated, tries coming from Stevens, who outstripped the Harris backs, Spawforth who touched down under the posts, and finally Wallace. Lawson converted twice leaving the final score standing at 38-9.

In difficult weather conditions EU must have been well pleased with this result, which sees them remain safely at the top of the table.

Kenneth Addly

with one or two frills in between is rather primitive. Nevertheless the University Trampoline Club which meets on Tuesday nights is thriving as students take the chance to bounce their midweek blues away. And with the likes of Jim Clark coaching the apprentices to new heights (excuse the pun), the sky is surely the limit.

David Yarrow

2004: A POLITICAL ODDITY

(with apologies to G. Orwell)

ANDREW SMITH

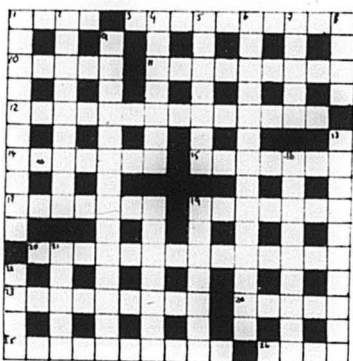
It was a bright cold day in December and the clocks were striking thirteen. Neil Kinnock, his chin nuzzled into his breast in an effort to escape the acid rain slipped quickly through the glass doors of Falkland Mansions, though not quickly enough to prevent a swirl of Party leaflets from entering along with him. Once inside he made his way slowly up the stairs to his flat on the seventh floor. His face was old and haggard, battered by nearly thirty years of political conflict, yet he still maintained a twinkle in his eyes of the Welsh valleys. With great difficulty he managed to open his front door and entered, coughing. It took him a few minutes to regain his strength as the television screen blared out a

host of statistics about production and employment. A woman's face stared menacingly at him with eyes that seemed to follow him everywhere around the room. From the window he could see painted in huge lettering on the side of the Party headquarters, three slogans of the Party:

INEQUALITY IS EQUALITY
MONEY IS STRENGTH
SOCIALISM IS DEATH

He slumped down into a chair and began reading a newspaper. It was the *Daily Mail*, the only one allowed to be published by the Party. The headlines proclaimed massive victories for British forces on the Russian front. "We are on the verge of an historic epoch," said Big Sister. "The British Empire will last a thousand years."

Student presents no. 2 in our probing crossword series. Test your skills, amuse your mind



ACROSS

- 1 The peaks of mental psychosis (4)
- 3 Student of the universe with predictable results (10)
- 10 Director of Studies to be found poaching trout (5)
- 11 Stayed the same as United Nations! Lynched about a hundred (9)
- 12 Measure of total ability (10,4)
- 14 A similar baby's new suit, perhaps (4,3)
- 15 Ship wreck of immense proportion (7)
- 17 Six not trump and the king holds two points for the wine merchant (7)
- 19 The clown who brought decay on sea-side construction (7)
- 20 Arch-leature of cathedral overhangs (7,7)
- 23 Scant supper with no pretensions (6,3)
- 24 Heats up in a hurry (5)
- 25 Horse that missed the race because of engine trouble? (10)
- 26 Des returns from the underground worn-out (4)

DOWN

- 1 Kind of girl that's pretty and alluring (10)
- 2 Irish lass north of nobleman (9)
- 4 What one is reading at University? (7)
- 5 Funny kind of pet Eric got after Bill's settlement (7)
- 6 Conservative inclination that's not quite true (4,2,3,5)
- 7 Pledges to be eaten when green (5)
- 8 It's cheeky when a prude goes topless! (4)
- 9 Men of music a bit tipsy in London (6,3,5)
- 13 Severe gluttony sounds quaint in America (5,5)
- 16 White flower that confuses Russians and Communist leader (9)
- 18 Tenant takes note to come in again (7)
- 19 Prepare to leave and grow old for a bundle (7)
- 21 No return after dad fiddled increment (3,2)
- 22 Mean alternative to prayer's end (4)

MATRANGO



A tear began to well up in Neil's eye. He thought back to those sunshine days of his political childhood when he had just become leader of the Labour Party. The future seemed rosy, he was only six points behind in the opinion polls and the miners' strike was merely a twinkle in Arthur Scargill's eye. *The Guardian* still hadn't employed professional typesetters and Parliament resided at Westminster as opposed to the East Ham boxing club. "Those were the days," he mused sadly to himself. But oh how the years had changed all that! The miners were defeated by 1990 and the Labour Party banned. Who could have foreseen the SDP joining forces with the Conservatives and the Liberals voluntarily disbanding? No one could have counted on a land powered not by coal or electricity but by the hot air expended by Tory backbenchers going "Hear! Hear!" during question time. History is a harsh master, as insensitive as Mrs Thatcher's skin. However, Neil's melancholy nostalgia turned to fear when he remembered Room 101. Room 101! Margaret Thatcher's office where countless brave men and women had attempted to defy her inexorable will. But resistance was impossible. Neil remembered seeing a photograph once of Francis Pym and Peter Walker together. But they no longer existed. They were unpersons. It was this very photograph that Norman Tebbit had held before Neil's eyes as he lay in the torture chambers of the Conservative Party Central Office. When Tebbit threw it into the incinerator all ties with the past were broken. An icy shiver went down Neil's spine as he recalled the calm and relaxed manner in which his interrogator explained the workings of Ingcon (English Conservatism).

"If the Party says unemployment is zero, then it is zero. But I believe in the possibility of nuclear disarmament, free trade unions and England winning the World Cup."

"You are insane," said Tebbit coldly. "You are suffering from dangerous delusions."

"Then, the next General Election is just a myth?"

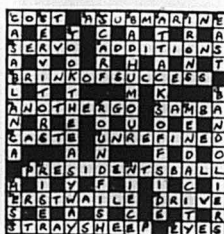
"Yes, Neil."

"And the possibility of a Labour government?"

"Whoever controls the future controls the past. Whoever controls the past controls the present. Whoever controls the present controls the media. And since we own Saatchi and Saatchi we will never be defeated!"

Neil was left an almost broken man. Yet he still clung to his cherished belief in a socialist utopia. "Hope lies with Channel 4. If only there was some way to get 'Spitting Image' back on TV, I just know we'd get back in power." But it was not to be. He was grassed on by his neighbour's son who was a member of the Party's youth branch (FCS) and never seen again.

Last week's solution



WEE FREES

Lift offered to Bradford (or anywhere en route). Leave Edinburgh 9 am, Sat, 1 Dec; return Edinburgh, 11 pm, Sun, 2 Dec. Share petrol. Phone John on 556 9743 (evenings).

Glanjamrie is now out and available from Union shops; 75p. The sub-cubist tablecloth that rhymes.

7:84

THEATRE COMPANY SCOTLAND

THE BABY AND THE BATHWATER

A new play by JOHN McGRATH

Monday 3rd-Saturday 8th December — 7.30 pm
LYCEUM STUDIO, Cambridge Street

Tickets £2.50, £1.75 conc. from
Royal Lyceum Box Office, tel. 229 9697.

Monday 3rd: Benefit for Scottish Health Centre
for Nicaragua

"Entertaining and stimulating" — Glasgow Herald
"Elizabeth MacLennan... another tour de force"
Morning Star

"Carlos Arredondo... splendid" — Scotsman

Alan Harvey continues his story of the 'self-made' hero on Route 28.

The Great American Highway Story: Part Two

Most of the townsfolk were still at the church when I got there. Farmers, most of them, by the look of it: simple, God-fearing, children of the soil, with gold watches, diamond tiaras, and bundles of securities lining the holes in their Guccis, with large investments in big engineering, space technology, and the munitions industry, with apartments in Acapulco, and degrees from Harvard in methods of evasion. Simple rustics to the core. A small, plump man, all decked out in his Sunday best, was acting as spokesman and he was talking to me. He looked very uncomfortable. I was a stranger, but they needed me even they didn't want me. He outlined the problem, the town was being terrorised by a mob of vagrant low-lifers, and then he made his offer: "Will you help us? Can you reason with them? Chase them off? Do what you have to do, and you can take what you need."

It was none of my business, I told myself, none of my business at all. I had to do was turn around and walk away. My thoughts went back to the old man's eyes calling out in fear, and I looked at the faces of the townsfolk, imploring me to help them: men, women, and children were all depending on me. Turn around and walk away, after all, what had the ever done for me. Turn around and walk away. I heard my voice clearing the hollow atmosphere of the church, "I'll help you," I said.

I guess I cut a pretty heroic figure standing there, one man alone protecting civilisation. Funny how things turn out: back at school whenever the other kids wanted a laugh they used to flush me down the toilet or set fire to my hair, and now here I was, a regular wandering hero of the highways. Wandering heroes are very cool: Clint Eastwood, Y. Bryner, Obi Wan Kenobi, Mad Max, and me. When I first mentioned it to my careers officer, he just laughed in my face and told me to get a job in an office like everybody else, but I'm glad that I struck out on my own self-made hero, that's me alright.

Anyway, to return to the situation in hand, I borrowed a motorbike with a full tank of gasoline, and then I signed some autographs. Since unkind rules oblige me to have No Name, this was a lot more difficult than you might think, but I just signed them all "Love from Elvis" and this seemed to satisfy most people: indeed so convincing was my forgery the someone thrust a microphone into my hand and before I knew what I was doing I had burst into "Blue Suede Shoes", "Hound Dog" and many many more, including "Songs You Have Loved" by Neil Diamond, 24 time Pop Classics from K-Tel, and "Lovers" — a double album, no available in the shops.

After this entertaining but somewhat lengthy diversion, it was time to get down to the business of the day. The townsfolk follow me to the edge of the town, from where we all looked out across the desert, out towards the middle distance where the highway etched out a grey parabola on the grey landscape around the town, sealing it in and forbidding passage, the road that I had come from, Route 28. I revved the engine a couple of times for dramatic effect, and then I rode off, alone, towards the highway, the stuff of which legends are made. Somewhere behind the cactus, Leonard Bernstein was conducting the New York Philharmonic in some very stirring music, and a whole gaggle of Hollywood directors flew overhead in a helicopter, taking notes for their next productions. Excuse me now while I get all metaphysical with you. It was out on the end of the world and the end of reality that I met the hillbillies, where the setting sun blurred all the outlines of good and evil. It was the greyest of areas. The leader was a giant wearing dungarees and a bandana, and he stepped forward to face me as soon as I pulled up.

"What do you want?" he asked, his voice was slow, it was like listening to an ox.

"Time," I replied, "and space."

He weighed this up and looked about, sniffing the scent of the cactus flowers in the evening air.

"What about life?" he asked eventually. I shrugged my shoulders and looked about, sniffing the scent of the cactus flowers in the evening air.

girl with icy blue eyes, in jeans and a T-shirt, wandered up and tilted her head while she looked about, sniffing the scent of the cactus flowers in the evening air. With all this sniffing, it could have gone on all night and I hate long endings. I tore open my brain for something significant to say.

"Life," I said, "like those townsfolk? Call that life? No, that's just pay rent until death closes the lease. I don't want life." I turned to the girl.

"What about you? C'mon babe, wrap your legs round these velvet rims and strap your hands across my engines." The girl got on the Harley and as we turned to leave, the hillbilly and I nodded at each other because we both understood what the other had to do. As I looked back towards the town, the mist came down and it disappeared, and with it went my past. Out there on the edge, the present doesn't exist, and so there was only one thing to do: keep moving. I let out the clutch and we stirred up the dust, riding into my future.