

STUDENT

Edinburgh University Student Newspaper

This week
in

STUDENT

Retiring Rector

WITH ALL THE nominations for the rectorial campaign now entered, *Student* begins a series of features covering the campaign and the issues it involves. This week Devin Scobie interviews the outgoing Rector, David Steel, about his time in office.

—Page 12



On the Home Front—

THE MUSIC pages continue their examination of the Edinburgh music scene, with a visit to the Scottish end of the distribution cartel, *Fast Forward*. Also featured this week are reviews of *Pete Shelley* and *The Stranglers*.

—Pages 10 and 11

Contents

News	2, 3, 4
Comment	5
Letters	5
Film	6
Arts	7
What's On Guide	8, 9
Music	10, 11
Features	12, 13, 14
Sport	15
Cartoons	16
Crossword	16

ANC leader's signature fails to arrive

Mandela entry for Rector rejected

by Robin Henry

Nelson Mandela's nomination as a rectorial candidate has been rejected by the University because neither his signature nor that of his lawyer could be obtained in time.

Despite attempts by the Mandela for Rector Campaign to obtain a signature, who had not received one by the time the deadline had expired, on Monday at 9.30 am.

The University has said in a press statement that Mandela's nomination was submitted but was not accepted as a valid nomination by the three-man Scrutiny Committee.

However, John Mannix, the Senior President, who was a member of the committee, has said that there was no discussion of Mandela's nomination. The Committee was simply informed by Murdo Gillanders, the Administrative Assistant in charge of the Rectorial election, that they did not have the power to accept it. Apparently, the rule that nominations must be signed is laid down in the University's charter, which can only be changed by the Privy Council.

The rejection of Mandela's

nomination went against earlier indications that the Scrutiny Committee would be able to bend the rules, in view of the special circumstances of Mandela's case.

A consent form for the nomination was sent to Mandela via Lord Bethell, and although Mandela was not allowed by the authorities to sign it, he expressed his willingness to stand.

On February 6th, Mandela's lawyer, who has the power of attorney, telexed the campaign committee to inform them that a letter of consent, signed by himself, had been dispatched. However, this had not been received 12 days later, on Monday.

In a press statement, the Mandela for Rector Campaign said that the only possible explanation for the delay was that the South African authorities had intercepted the form, since it was believed that it was sent by registered mail, which should take less than a week to arrive.

The statement continues, "while the University had not received physically the written consent, it had received it verbally from a credible authority, namely Lord Bethell". Thus, they regard Mandela's disqualification as unjust, because the University refused to take into account the special circumstances of his nomination.

Of the candidates who have been accepted, Margo Mac-

Donald, Archie MacPherson and Richard Demarco have all expressed their regret that Nelson Mandela is not to be allowed to stand.

Margo MacDonald said that even so, Mandela's case would not go by default if she were elected, and she promised to seek Court's approval for a suitable gesture of support for the campaign for his release.

Archie MacPherson said that if Edinburgh University, through the office of Rector, could publicise Mandela's plight by such an honour, then he was 100 per cent behind it.

However, the strongest reaction came from Richard Demarco who said that he was so annoyed when he heard that Mandela was not to be allowed to stand, that he had decided definitely to fly to South Africa and see Mandela. "even if I am not elected Rector, I shall go", he said.

Teddy Taylor was unavailable for comment on Mandela's disqualification but has said that he ought to have accepted President Botha's offer for release if he renounced armed struggle against South Africa.

The Mandela Campaign are now seeking to appeal against the Scrutiny Committee's decision and have put down an emergency motion for next Monday's General Meeting criticising the decision against Mandela. **Comment p. 5.**

Edinburgh rejects VAT

by Jacqueline Brown

Nearly 10,000 signatures have been collected in Edinburgh's libraries to back the national petition opposed to the introduction of Value Added Tax on books.

The petitions were gathered last week at the Central Library by two senior members of the District Council's Recreation Committee and have now been sent to the National Book Committee in London who organised the petitioning.

The number of signatures has surpassed the expectations of the council: "There has been a massive response from the Edinburgh public," said Councillor Mark Lazarowicz, "which shows the strength of the opposition to the proposal, which would be a tax on knowledge."

He added that VAT would put up the price of books and newspapers and inevitably lead to a reduction in the numbers of titles published and the number that the council could buy for its libraries.

It is possible that local authorities would be able to apply

for a rebate on the books bought for libraries. The public would obviously not be eligible for this and the economic evidence is that book sales react immediately to price increases. Unknown authors and writers of specialised books would have problems getting published. Both the printing industry and small publishing companies — including Edinburgh Students' Association's Polygon Books — would also suffer a severe setback.

The District Council have also written to Edinburgh MPs to ask for their opposition to this tax.



Edinburgh students obstructing traffic in Princes Street last Wednesday in protest at the Government's cuts in grants. Later, the police made 11 arrests when some of the 200 demonstrators attempted to enter the Scottish Office. *Photo: Alastair Dalton*

Prejudice over Palestine

Last Thursday a group of people including would-be "Friends of Palestine" and a number of outspoken Israelis met in DHT to discuss "the problem of Palestine".

The meeting was addressed by a Palestinian refugee and included a film, *On Our Land*, as well as a talk about "Zionism and Racism" by Sir Donald Cameron. Both the film and the talk were geared to bring out the racial discrimination in both law and practice in what is now Israel against the 600,000 remaining Palestinians and the hundreds of thousands of refugees seeking re-entry and citizenship in their homeland. While one fervent Israeli speaker later insisted that the film was unrepresentative in that it concentrated on the notably beautiful kibbutz "Megiddo" and one particularly under-financed Palestinian village, Um El Fahl, figures quoted on the housing, education and health grants to Palestinian villages certainly bore out the visual claims of the film.

Feeling was running so high by the time the floor was opened for discussion that few pertinent points were both made and a "discussion" was certainly not to be had. While Israelis were not afraid to take the floor for several minutes at a time, insisting in spite of all the evidence of the film and the speech, that there was no policy of discrimination in Israel. **continued on page 2, col. 1**

Briefly...

Taylor-made for Rector

Teddy Taylor, the Conservative MP for Southend, has become the fourth and last candidate for the Rectorship. Mr Taylor, who was nominated by the Tory Club, was Shadow Scottish Secretary during the last Labour government and MP for Glasgow Cathcart until 1979. He is known for his right-wing views, particularly on law and order issues. **Full story, p.2**

Govt loan sharks

A Government Green Paper on education is to be published in the next few months is expected to propose radical changes in the way students are financed, and may include plans to introduce loans for honours students while continuing grants for those taking general degrees. **Full story, p.3**

We're staying Ok, yah?

CAMBRIDGE University academics have blocked plans by the University to draw up its own plans for compulsory redundancy procedures in advance of any government legislation. The University had wanted to introduce its own scheme allowing redundancy on grounds of financial exigency, but in a postal ballot done voted by 464 to 128 to stop the process.

NEWS

Teddy the Tories' boy for Rector

Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for South-end-on-Sea and former Scottish Education Minister, is the fourth and final candidate to enter the race for Rector which is now well under way.

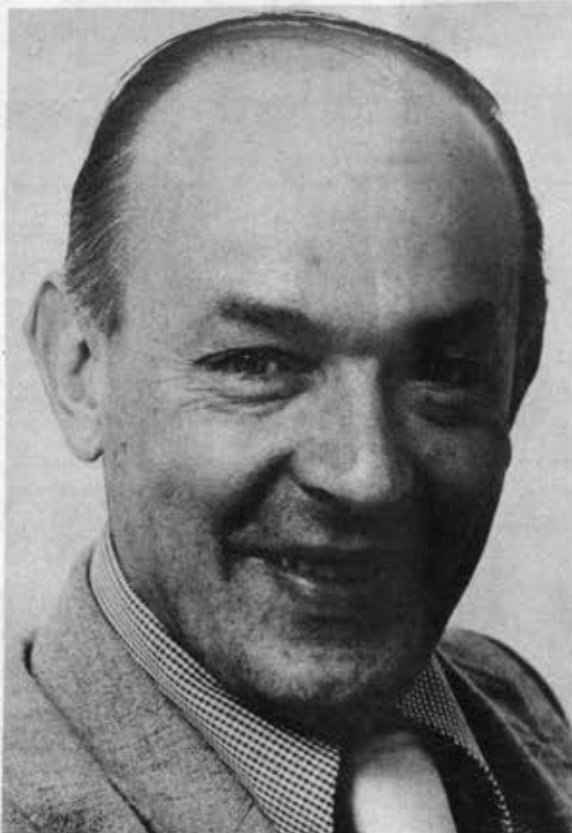
Mr Taylor has been proposed by Edinburgh University Conservative Association and, as a Scot, has had a long interest in education at Scottish universities. He was Conservative MP for Glasgow Cathcart until defeated in the 1979 General Election, and had been strongly tipped as a future Secretary of State for Scotland.

Former Social Democratic Club chairman and campaign secretary David Thomas explained at Monday's Tory Club lunch that Mr Taylor was keen to do the job, and had "a fair knowledge of the importance of the role which a Rector can play". Teddy Taylor, he said, would be able to represent both student policy and be in a position to relate to members of staff.

Although known as a right-wing conservative — despite a strong anti-Common Market stance — Teddy Taylor is standing as an individual and not under any party banner.

Mr Taylor himself spoke to *Student* on Monday and said he considered it a very great honour to have been invited to stand. "I have been around and know the education scene — which includes a brief spell as Scottish Education Minister — and I feel I have a good understanding of student affairs as a Scottish graduate myself."

"I do hope to be in Edinburgh for a good bit of the campaign and think that I will have the time to do the job. I come to Scotland at least every month, in connection with



Teddy Taylor MP

both family and business matters, and I do maintain an active contact with politics."

Teddy Taylor is known not to favour the introduction of student loans — an issue which both the current EUCA Executive and the FCS are known to support. He is

also expected to have the help of a number of well-known Scottish journalists for the campaign, including Michael Fry who stood unsuccessfully as a Conservative candidate for East Berwick at the last General Election.

Devin Scobie

Palestine

continued from front page, col. 4

many Palestinians, I was told afterwards, had been afraid of either to speak or even to turn up at the meeting lest they suffer for their PLO sympathies if they ever get their chance to return. This in itself seemed to sustain Sir Donald Cameron's account of the kind of state that Israel is — a state in which all Jews who were born in and nurtured by the West have automatic right to an Israeli passport and citizenship, while 400,000 refugees try in vain to return to their homeland.

A Friends of Palestine Society does exist within the University and more meetings of this sort, designed to increase awareness of the plight of the Palestinians and thereby to increase understanding between Palestinians and Israelis as to how they may go about reducing the bitterness between them, will take place.

Hester Kearns

Margo urges active Rector

Rectorial candidate Margo MacDonald has said the Rector should be willing to do more than spend two afternoons a week in the Rector's office, to ensure that the potential of the post is fully realised.

In a campaign statement, Ms MacDonald called on all the candidates in the rectorial election to give a clear indication of their interpretation of the Rector's role. She said: "With the exception of the Senate, there are no doors in the University closed to a Rector with the determination and diplomacy to pursue staff and students' interests."

Ms MacDonald believes the emphasis of the campaign should

be on University issues now that Nelson Mandela will not be standing for Rector. To that end, she has called for a reduction in the numbers of first-year students living in lodgings. She claimed that there is well-documented evidence showing that it is not unusual for first-year students in digs to experience adverse effects on their academic performance, and general well-being.

"The opportunities and mechanisms exist to enable a well-informed working Rector, in day-to-day touch with individual students, the Students' Association, and staff, to push priorities along a bit."

Alan Young

MacPherson offers vitality

Archie MacPherson has stated that he will be a working rector should he win the forthcoming election, and he believes that he leads the kind of active life which would give real vitality to the office of rector.

In his first campaign interview, Mr MacPherson said that he thought the theme of the election as a whole would be stating things which many people see as obvious "such as the immorality of 10 per cent graduate unemployment."

However, he is more than willing to argue about how best to "buttress Universities against many current government policies," and he said that his own basic stance in the campaign would be "education".

"Education is a continuing interest of mine. I took an external degree in Education Studies, I have been a school headmaster, and have given many lectures on education and its related issues," he said.

"I believe students need a rector who will act as ombudsman, who will be an intermediary between the various elements of the University, and who will produce vitality where needed."

Mr MacPherson believes his personality will have a part to play in the campaign. He said, "Obviously I'm known because of

my work on television. Having said that, appearing on TV is the thinnest platform any individual can have."

Although he appears to be highly thought of by the BBC management in London, Mr MacPherson said he will not be moving south. "I have very flexible working hours, and could devote much time to Edinburgh University. I gave a lot of thought to the implications of standing for rector when I was approached, and now I'm looking forward to debating issues in an educational arena once again."

As rector, Mr MacPherson said he would work within the remit of the Edinburgh University rectorship to increase the possibilities of getting Nelson Mandela released from prison in South Africa. "A working rector can carry the beliefs and morality of Nelson Mandela while doing the job," he said.

On a lighter note, Mr MacPherson said that if the campaign were to prove dull he would enliven it by "proposing a Knighthood for Aberdeen manager Alex Ferguson!"

Meanwhile, his campaign gets its official launch tonight (Thursday) in the Teviot Debating Hall at 7.30.

Alan Young

EUCA denies

Wet-busting tactics

The Edinburgh University Conservative Association (EUCA) has denied any association with a Federation of Conservative Students leaflet which appeared in the Main Library last week, and which called for student loans, voluntary student union membership, and the scrapping of wage and rent controls.

The leaflet takes the form of a Student Charter, and argues that loans would give students independence and responsibility. It asks why, if the NUS is such a good organisation, membership is compulsory.

The Charter also suggests that students are prevented from gaining low-paid employment because of wage controls. The FCS argues that fixed rent levels and security of tenure discourages landlords from renting out property, which means students suffer from a shortage of accommodation.

Despite accusations that there has been a marked shift to the right within EUCA, the organisation denies it had anything to do with the distribution of the leaflets. However, EUCA is affiliated to the FCS, and has recently backed the introduction of student loans.

Meanwhile, FCS chairman Marc Glendenning has called for "The Party" to introduce a loyalty oath, and Glendenning also says, "The Socialists will spare no effort to try and ensure that their stooges regain high office in our movement."

Part of the FCS fight against such a Socialist takeover of their movement is a series of lapel stickers being issued by the Young Monday Club. They variously extol the virtues of General Pinochet and President Botha as "Crusaders against communism", denounce the moderate Tory Reform Group as the enemy within, and promote their wearers as "Wet Busters".

Alan Young



One wet-busted Tory in the shape of ex-Prime Minister Edward Heath. Is Graeme Carter next?

PRE-UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE DIRECTOR 1986

This three-day residential conference is for V and VI year school pupils who are intending to carry on their education at a University.

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Loans threat to the best

A Government paper due to appear in a few months could mean radical changes in student finance, the most worrying of which is the introduction of a partial loans scheme for students wanting to take an honours degree.

The universities were expecting one scheduled Government paper in April, but sources in London suggest that an additional paper dealing with the question of loans could come out at the same time.

The introduction of a partial loans scheme may change the current format of degrees. Leaks of the new proposals suggest that grants would be continued for a new two-year general degree. But students wanting to do a further two years honours course or take professional qualifications, would then have to finance themselves through a loans scheme.

If such changes were applied throughout Britain, it would provide the opportunity to bring Scottish and English universities into line. Since the Leverhulme inquiry of a few years ago, the

Government has been examining ways to extend the honours degree in English universities from three to four years.

The National Union of Students has always been opposed to a loans scheme, pointing out that similar systems in America and Scandinavia have proved unworkable. The Government's argument follows the line that graduates with an honours degree would be able to pay back their loans, because their qualifications lead to more highly paid jobs.

However, the Government would need the co-operation of the merchant banks, but with many students on overdraft the banks are already operating their own loans scheme, which could sway their decision in favour of Government proposals.

After being forced to withdraw his plans for parents to contribute to student fees, Sir Keith Joseph has chosen the timing of proposing a loans scheme carefully. In April many students will be facing the prospect of degree exams, and so not as willing to take part in demonstrations or campaigns. Sir Keith's humiliating climb-down may mean that he will be determined not to give way again.

Lorraine Telford

Steel automates library

In his last public engagement as Rector, David Steel formally inaugurated the first phase of the automation programme in the University Library on Monday.

The automated service called EULOGIA is engaged in publishing a new catalogue of all its collections, which now consist of about two million items; it will also eventually make it possible for users to check whether any book or journal in the Library is available, and where it can be found. Moreover, the service will be connected via computer networks to anywhere in the world.

About 20% of the work has now been done, with the support of the Manpower Services Commission, but half the projected cost of £1.5 million still has to be found.

In his speech, Mr Steel stressed the need for more funds for the Library to offset both the fall of the pound against the dollar and the withdrawal of funds from the Regional Hospital Board in respect of the Medical Library.

Meanwhile, the clock on the wall of "one of the largest and oldest university libraries in the country" appeared to be stuck at five to five, and despite the miracles of EULOGIA, I still can't find any books in the library.

Robin Henry



A Fish Out Of Water

Greetings, fellow dirt-hunters. As predicted in the last edition of this great column the goings on at the society party of the year, last week, would have turned the stomach of an embalmer. The 21st birthday of Decvad "Extra Manly Foetus" Pothericc (whose true identity must remain a closely guarded secret for fear of horrific reprisals by the moral majority) afforded the revolting sight of Charles "The Bottle Said It Would Work" Fishburne (permanent secretary and all-round big boss-chappie at EUSA) working his way around the assembled females, having "intimate" chats. Ever seen the look on the lady cat's face in the *Pape la Phew* cartoons? That's about it. Still, perhaps the *Thing* is being too harsh. Some women there were safe... Doovab's mum, his auntie, the one's in the next building... and as for Paul "Moleface" Hullah and John "Snake" March (of *Scratch In The Right Net*), who can say?

101 Ways to Con

Former person and vocalist with that well-known band the Screaming Blue Tories, Mike "University Challenge" Conway hysterically informed *Student* that, following his third prize-winning essay in *The Spectator*, he's been asked to write for the *Tatler*, that well-known society rag for Ychs and people with leather furniture. "I'll write for anyone that'll pay me", said the hyperactive Mr Conway, an ex-socialist. The *Thing* demands poison pens at 20 paces.

The Truth Will Out

Recently overhead was Margo "No stourist propaganda" McDonald complaining about some guy from *Student* hanging around down at Radio Froth. Could this possibly be lovable music editor Alistair "Friends of the DJ's" Dalton? Or may be just someone whose debonaire charm and good looks are similar to those of the *Thing*. When quizzed, *Student* editor Iain "Grossly Overweight" Cameron declined to comment or even be able to move out from behind his desk. ("Who is this fool?" - sylph-like Ed.)

Bivalves Can't Fly

At last! Bite your partners lip, 'cos now, for the first time in almost years, the Hon. Treasurer returns to this column. Callum "The Clam" Calder whose reticence has, in the past, been legendary, not so long ago decided to visit the Scott Monument (that's the pointy thing in Princes St that American tourists pay 60p to climb - no, not Hilary O'Neill). His little heart pumping wildly as he reached the balcony he suddenly noticed he had enough vertigo to fill a bucket. Several days later (or so it seemed) a combination of powerful friends and Simon "I think we should book Big Sound Authority" Nicolis pretending to be dead managed to prise the poor boy off. Think of him next time you're breakfasting in the Empire State Building.

Neil's Limp (. . ?)

Some of you will have noticed the way Neil "Sun tan from the chin up" Dalgleish walks. No, the *Thing* didn't mean that, in the aftermath of Smoothy Dalgleish's trip to beer-soaked Andorra he seems to have developed a limp. This column is in possession of reliable medical information proving that being Neil Dalgleish is more likely to make you limp than skiing. Makes you think does it not?

A whole column and no sign of a DP. Hah!

Carnival in a cold climate

The normal calm of Princes Street on a Sunday afternoon was shattered, if only for an hour, by the explosion of a mini-carnival last weekend.

Organised by EU Hispanic Society in conjunction with Heriot-Watt Norwegian Students' Association, the event was a fitting climax to the weeks of intense preparation by all involved.

The parade set off from Waverley Bridge and spilled down to Lothian Road, finishing up at the Grassmarket. Although only three floats actually took to the road the assembled revellers made up with noise and colour for what they lacked in size. Bemused passers-by looked on as harlequins cartwheeled behind the lively Norwegian brass band. The vivid costumes of the Queen Margaret Drama School added authenticity to the whole affair while the combined forces of Contos and EU Hispanic Society held up the rear with their irresistible Samba beat.

Carnival '85 was rounded off with a Rio Night at Cinderella Rockefeller's. Decked out in Brazilian flags and palm leaves, the club took on a truly continental ambience for the night. With Club Latino at the controls the music ranged from Brazilian imports to British exponents of Latin jazz. Two groups provided the live music in the form of Contos and another as-yet unnamed combo (what about "Cucumber Rumba" amigos?).

Paul Quinn



Carnival chameleon comes to Princes Street Photo by Dave Yarrow.

Napier appeals for funds

The Scottish Education Department is about to allocate an additional £14m, over the next three years, for engineering and technology courses in Scotland. Protests, however, have been voiced from Napier and Glasgow Colleges of Technology, as the decision has been made to exclude them from a share of the first year's extra funds.

The two colleges transfer from their present local authority control to the Central Institution sector in September, and the SED have said that once the move has taken place, they will be eligible for the additional revenue, beginning in the 1986/87 session. This means, though, that they will lose out on up to £2m each - this being the figure which the three colleges that qualify at the moment, have been invited to put in bids for. Napier and Glasgow are arguing that they should be included in the scheme from the outset, particularly since the transfers are

due to take place so soon, and in Napier's case, will create the largest Central Institution in Scotland.

The Napier administration, meanwhile is pleased with the progress being made towards the move out of local authority control, both financial and management. By April, an interim negotiating committee will have been set up to pave the way for the new governing body to change in, on September 1st.

Meanwhile, one decision which will have to be made by the new administration will be whether or not to continue the current practice of allowing students to have up to 21 hours of college tuition while remaining on Unemployment or Supplementary Benefit, and without having to pay any fees. Whether the SED will be as sympathetic over this as Lothian Region have been, remains to be seen.

Anne McNaught

Heseltine hassled by Glasgow unis.

Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine faced heavy protest when he visited Glasgow last week to speak at both its Universities. He was stopped altogether from delivering a speech at Strathclyde University in a protest organised by the University's student association.

More than 200 chanting students had blocked the corridors to prevent the Minister from addressing a lunchtime meeting of Strathclyde's Conser-

vative Association. Later that evening Mr Heseltine and Scottish Health Minister John Mackay faced a barrage of flour, spray-paint and eggs as they turned up at Glasgow University Union to speak in the centenary debate.

Student tempers were particularly high in Strathclyde when an association spokesman explained that they had officially sanctioned the blocking of corridors against Mr Heseltine.

Police at this stage advised the Minister that it would be "impossible to gain access to Strathclyde's debating chamber without the risk of physical violence."

The vice-president of Strathclyde's students' association described the events as "a disgrace", just as Glasgow's inimitable SRC President Malcolm Clark was entering fresh controversy with a letter to Scottish students.

In his letter Mr Clark urged students to "take up weapons" for Michael Heseltine's visit "in order to test deterrence" against present government policies. Students were urged directly to take up weapons such as spray-cans, eggs and tomatoes.

Mr Clark defended the letter by describing it as a "tongue-in-cheek" suggestion against Mr Heseltine's speech in the centenary debate.

Devin Scobie

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NEWS

Colleges dominate Edinburgh demo

A total of 11 arrests were made at the NUS demonstration in Edinburgh last Wednesday. About 200 students took to the streets to protest at the Government's grant cuts in a demonstration dominated by Edinburgh's colleges of further education rather than its universities.

This observation is borne out by the fact that nine of the 11 students arrested came from Moray House and one of the other two is a student at Stevenson College.

The demonstration began on the Mound at two o'clock on Wednesday 13th and moved to the east end of Princes Street where many of the students sat on the road and obstructed traffic for ten minutes. No arrests were made at this point as the protesters got up and moved along when instructed to do so by the police.

The trouble began when the demonstrators attempted to enter the Scottish Office. Police formed a cordon near the entrance to the building through which about 50 students managed to force their way. Eight of these were arrested and taken to Gayfield Square police station where they were charged with breaching the peace.



The sit-down protest by students in Princes Street, but whose side is Mike Devlin on?
Photo by Alistair Dalton.

The majority of the demonstrators who left the scene just as 50 extra policemen were arriving to reinforce the cordon. However, several students, predominantly from Moray House, went to Gayfield Square police station to inquire about those who were being held there. A further three of these were arrested, again charged with a breach of the peace.

An interesting aside to the incident is that the students from Moray House were given a telephone number to call in case of

arrest before they left their college that afternoon. Moray House would not comment on whether or not that could be seen as an incitement to the students to get themselves arrested in the knowledge that someone would be prepared to plead their case and have them released.

As yet there is no indication of when the next NUS demonstration is to take place but at least one is expected before the end of this term.

Michael Devlin

Disqualification attacked

GM motion backs Mandela

Next Monday's General Meeting will include an emergency motion accusing the University of being unjust in disqualifying Nelson Mandela as a Rectorial candidate.

The Motion was proposed by members of the Mandela for Rector Campaign, and says that the University did not take into account the special circumstances regarding Mandela's nomination. It demands that Senior President John Mannix write to the University Council to express the student body's regret at the disqualification. In addition, the motion calls for the right of the Mandela Campaign to participate in the hustings and debates regarding elections.

Pat McFadden and Susan Deacon of the EU Labour Club ask the General Meeting to note the continued central government attack on the freedom of local authorities to put into practice the policies on which they were elected.

They say that given the manifest inferiority of Edinburgh's housing and its poor recreational and leisure facilities as well as the government's lack of financial support for Edinburgh, the council

has an unquestionable case for justifying an increase in spending on these and other services.

The proposers of the motion ask the General Meeting to resolve to fully support Edinburgh District Council's stance in their fight for real local democracy and instructs EUSA to fully publicise the effects of Edinburgh District Council's budget proposals on the city; the effect of obeying government spending limits would have in terms of job losses and cuts in services; and Edinburgh's treatment by central government in comparison with other Scottish cities.

The General Meeting also contains a motion proposed by Welfare Convener Karen Wigglesworth which notes the probable forthcoming decision of Lothian District Council to ban the use of Sign Language in its, and calls such a plan "a denial of basic human rights."

The motion calls on the GM to mandate the Senior President to send a letter to Lothian Regional Council "expressing our and condemnation of these proposals."

Alan Young

NUS demands new grants system

As Sir Keith Joseph begins the promised government review of student grants, the National Union of Students has published its own recommendations, entitled "Grant Us a Living".

In their publication, the NUS attack the present grant system because of the decreasing financial support it offers to students. The continuing devaluation of the grant, means that more and more students are having to consider if they can really afford to enter higher education.

The report also points out that contrary to Sir Keith Joseph's advice last year, the opportunities for students to supplement their income by part-time or vacation work are now severely limited.

The type of financial support

envisaged by the NUS would be threefold. Primarily there should be a basic maintenance allowance. But in addition to this there should be separate expenses to cover the necessary travel, books and equipment for each course. Finally, student access to rent allowances and rate rebates should take the variations in housing costs more into account.

The NUS would like to see a future grants system administered not by local or government education boards, but by an independent agency. This agency which would also have the responsibility for establishing a student cost of living index to determine an adequate level of student maintenance.

Lorraine Telford

Briefly...

Alias Smith and Jones

AMONG the new appointments announced by Edinburgh University include one B. B. Schegelmilch (pardon) to Business Studies. Economics students can look forward to hearing from Miss A. Zervoyanni but, judging by her name, Social Administrations students won't hear much from Ms. F. E. Wasoff. With a subject such as Criminology and the Social and Philosophical Study of Law, one is surprised to learn that N. R. Hutton, MA, PhD, is temporary and part-time.

Republican Aberdeen

ABERDEEN University's students representative council has declared UDI and transformed the campus into the Independent Free State of Elphinstone. The entrance to the free state, named after the university's founder, Bishop Elphinstone, was patrolled by border guards who check specially produced passports during the one-day publicity stunt "to highlight the unwillingness of the present government to listen to the needs of students." The republic's constitution called for "increased grants, decent accommodation facilities for students and better employment opportunities for graduates."

Medic winner

A THIRD year medical student at Edinburgh University, Jeremy Platt, was the first winner in an essay competition run by the medical book publishers, Bailliere Tindall/W. B. Saunders and Revlon Health Care. He won \$1000 and \$2000-worth of books.

Manny, Lid, and Dirk D. Litt

CENTENARIAN politician Lord Shinwell, and actor Dirk Bogarde are among ten recipients of honorary degrees from St Andrews University. Lord Shinwell will receive Lid when the awards are made in July. Dirk Bogarde, who was educated at Allan Glen's School, Glasgow, and University College School, London, is to be awarded a D Litt.

We still like Arthur

LECTURERS' union leaders are to step up their backing for striking miners as the first anniversary of the dispute approaches, and as attempts at peace come and go. The executive of the National Association is to seek an increase in its collections of food and money, and the union's national council urged its 75,000 members to support solidarity action.

ODEON FILM CENTRE Clerk St.

FROM THIS FRIDAY

- ODEON 1**
The fate of a galaxy depends on a teenage video ace against an array of interstellar marauders
THE LAST STARFIGHTER (PG)
Separate programmes at 2.00 (exc. Sunday) 5.00 8.00
- ODEON 2**
The supernatural spectacular
GHOSTBUSTERS (PG)
Separate programmes at 2.30 (exc. Sunday) 5.30 8.10
- ODEON 3**
Don't miss the crazy comedy
MICHAEL CAINE BILLY CONNOLLY LEONARD ROSSITER
WATER (15)
Separate programmes at 2.20 (exc. Sunday) 5.30 8.15
Reduced prices for Students/UB 40's at all performances except Friday/Saturday evenings.

THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY FOR ONE DAY

The hottest Rock film you'll see this year
QUEEN/WE WILL ROCK YOU (PG)
in Dolby Stereo

QUEEN/THE WORKS (PG)
Separate programmes at 2.30 6.30 8.45
Reduced prices for Students/UB 40's.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT MOVIES AT 11.15 PM

- 23rd February Eddie Murphy **48 HOURS (18)** FLASHDANCE (15)
2nd March Pink Floyd **THE WALL (15)** MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (15)
9th March John Carpenter's **CHRISTINE (18)**
CLASS OF 1984 (18)
16th March **BLADE RUNNER (15)** **THE TWILIGHT ZONE (15)**
Reduced prices for Students/UB 40's

7:84

THEATRE COMPANY
SCOTLAND
presents

THE ALBANNACH

a version by

John McGrath
with music by
Eddie McGuire

of the novel by

Fionn MacColla
played by
Ossian

LYCEUM STUDIO, Cambridge Street,

7.30 pm

Thursday 28th February-Saturday 2nd March

Tickets £2.75, £1.75 conc. from

Royal Lyceum box office, tel: 229-9697

STUDENT

established 1869 published by EUSPB

More amendment amendments

Dear Sir,
We feel it's time clear up a few minor misunderstandings as regards the Association Constitutional Amendments passed at this year's AGM.

1. Re front page leading article (7.2.85) "Court stops SRC changes", Court didn't. Sorry, Student.

Those of you who read the University Bulletin will already know this. The new structure will be adopted as of the EUSA elections in May. Court requires us to change the wording of the description for the post of External Convener. Court, however, approved that the amendments should go ahead. The new job description wording

of the External Convener will go to a General Meeting for approval.

2. Deputy President is not a non-sabbatical position. Sorry, Robin.
3. So, Mr Goodare, the University Court has not thrown out the SRC's constitutional amendments, or even the Association ones for that matter. The result is that Julian Goodare has to go back and think again. Sorry, Julian.

Yours faithfully,
Hilary O'Neill Neil Dalgleish
Union President Honorary Secretary

Getting goaded by the God-squad at Pollock

Sir,
As a resident of Pollock Halls I take extreme exception, not only to the sea of irrelevant and unsolicited literature which is all too frequently mangled under my door, but to a particular leaflet I received this week from an unidentified Christian organisation.

Advertising a forthcoming Chaplaincy Centre meeting, and incidentally giving no indication as to whom or what the named speaker was, it contained an impressive list of distinguished persons who are no longer with us. Jesus Christ featured, in jumbo-sized letters, within a list which included Freud, Einstein, Churchill and Marx. To this list was added the caption "... he lives!" which struck me as tasteless and offensive. The clear implication being that Christ's message "lives on", whilst all the other great men were but mere corpses to be buried and forgotten.

Personally I am no more a devotee of Marx than I am of Churchill or Einstein, but I am sure to a great many people their particularly unique messages will live on in just as real a sense as that of Jesus Christ.

I am no atheist, but I resent very much that I should receive this unsolicited literature, from an unidentified God-squad, who are in great danger of alienating a great many people by giving the impression that Christ's message lives on where those of so many other great people of our civilisation do not.

Yours faithfully,
Devin S. Scobie

A democratic institution?

It is at the very least unfortunate that Nelson Mandela's nomination for the Rectorship should have foundered because it proved impossible to obtain his signature. But what is more worrying still is the way this decision was railroaded through the scrutinising committee.

Whatever this paper's feelings concerning the practicability of Nelson Mandela's candidature, it is impossible to think otherwise than that the manner of its rejection was deplorable. Certainly an election must be run by the rules, and it may well be that the Mandela nomination would in the end have had to be turned down (particularly in view of a possible late entry by supporters of Mick McGahey, who is certainly not locked up in a South African jail), but whose decision should that have been?

That decision surely lay with the committee specifically appointed to scrutinise nominations. Advice concerning the regulations governing the election is certainly the province of the administration, but the ultimate assessment of those regulations should not, and for the University administration to give a different impression could be viewed as interference with the democratic process.

The Mandela campaign, rightly, will not lay down and die. They have a legitimate grievance: on whose authority was the scrutinising committee directed as to which nominations were valid, before any discussion took place; why, in view of the verbal assurances given by Lord Bethel, were such directions so steadfastly given; and (most ridiculous of all) was the final decision then attributed to a committee which in fact had no say in the matter? Nelson Mandela may be a prisoner in South Africa, but it seems that the guardians of the Rectorship are also prisoners — of the rules.

The silly season doesn't stop

Dear Student,
I am Roland Rat Superstar (Hey, yerr) and I am pissed off with Kevin Gerbil's stupid campaign to get me elected to a backwater 'University' as rector. Fortunately I can't stand without my signature wot I won't give — no way. So, stuff Kevin with olives an' I have no support of his support for me. All he says is slander. Your rag is a wagon for his crap so print this letter or I'll send Anne Diamond round to fix yer.

On a pleasant note, I understand Edin Uni does mail order Phds — please send me the following: Astrology (so I can appreciate that space-waster on your back page), Maths, English, Gunfighting and French. Education is a good thing and I need some. Cheerio (until my next crappy single).

Roland R.

apartheid supporter and has even had a musical instrument named after him. Our campaign was primarily aimed at thwarting the inappropriate and, frankly, flippant selection of Margo MacDonnulle as a 'candidate' and hence vote for Nelson 'music to my ears' Mandela is at least as good as one for Roland. Please, come out of the woodwork Rat fans and VOTE!

Kevin G.

Pardon?

Sir,
With all due respect to my honourable and learned colleague the Earl of Marchmont, he is erroneous in claiming that *studentus horrendus* is a migratory species. He must have had *studentus publicus schoolius* in mind, of course; a species which flies many thousands of miles each year to places like the Bahamas, but during the summer months only.

Consequently, it must have been the more common *studentus horrendus* that he spotted on his peregrination, though it should be borne in mind that this is a species indigenous to The Pear Tree at any time of the year, somewhat diminishing his rather optimistic claim for a record of any sort.

Yours knowledgeably,
The Duke of Argyll
(Chairman of the Waverly Wildlife Association).

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Socialism and 'The Sun'

Sir,
I am very sorry that I appear to be too extreme for H J the floating voter and I'm also very sorry that s/he feels that the miners strike is about as exciting "as yesterday's chips". However, I feel that it's slightly hypocritical of her/him to imply concern over 31/2m unemployed, then show no interest at all in over 100,000 people and their families who have been living on £15 pw for the last 11 months.

I could go on and on about HJ's 'opinion' but I'll come to the point(s): I feel that H J pays a little too much attention to the media, in so much as although her/his opinions are avowedly socialist in intent, the idiom in which they find themselves being expressed is one hostile to socialism, set by a press owned by people who have vested interests in the return of a Tory government. For example, Labour will find it well nigh impossible to "get wise and learn to use it" (ie the press) or indeed to stop "reducing 'Socialism' to a punch bag for the worthless hacks of the 'Sun'" while news value is set within the community of journalists by a

consensus in which hysterically anti-socialist editors have a big say. Neil Kinnock could abolish poverty, reduce the price of food, issue free tickets to Scotland internationals, and achieve everlasting world peace — but the 'Sun' would still take an anti-pathetic stance. As for H J's allusions to the "totally unrealistic ranting of Ken Livingstone and his GLC's Woman's group..." well the GLC Woman's Group is chaired by Valerie Wise, not Red Ken, and even with a hostile press, the GLC are popular in London. Perhaps the 'Daily Mail' says that they're unrealistic but the majority of voters in London think not. In terms of the press, socialism can't win — but it can sidestep this with good public relations.

Finally, even the word 'moderate' itself was hardly in common political usage until the Tory-biased press put it there and as for H J's gem that there is no integrity on Labour's front bench, I think that s/he's getting the front benches a wee bit confused...
Yours,
Keith A. Davidson

Dear Student,

As chairgerbil of the campaign for Roden Rector I feel that I must inform your readership of recent disturbing events re Roland Rat. Having gone to great lengths over the last weeks to drum up support for our 'real' candidate, we were all very pissed off that Roland couldn't register without a signature. So, we have decided to endorse the only other proper candidate: Nelson Mandela. This means that all you Roland Rat Superstar fans out there must vote for Nely bakes instead. We understand that Mandela is very famous and a dedicated anti-

Student takes a slagging

Dear Editor,
I am writing on behalf of the many sports-men and -women in Edinburgh University, concerning the amount of journalistic space devoted to David Yarrow's reporting of non-University sporting events. In past months we have had reports on international Football, Rugby, Athletics and also a report on Ice Hockey.

Surely as a student publication whose readership is mainly students, then the sports pages should be used to cover and promote University sport.

I know for a fact that articles put forward by certain sports clubs have not been published simply because space has been taken up by David Yarrow's personal views on national sports events. These events are more than adequately covered by professional sports

journalists in the national press. As the 'Student' is published on a Thursday there remains very little interest in the previous weekend's national sporting activities.

I think the 'Student' dated February 14th is an example of the "David Yarrow's" sports pages phenomena. Out of six articles two are by David Yarrow. These two articles take up approximately two-thirds of the entire space devoted to sport in the 'Student'. Is this man, David Yarrow, looking for some journalistic award? If so, could he not contribute to University sport by attending University sports events and reporting on these, rather than attending the glossy international and professional events?

Yours etc,
A Concerned University sports person

Campaigning for collection

Dear Student,

EU Friends of the Earth, as part of their recycling campaign, have set up aluminium can (coke cans, beef cans etc.) collection points around the University. The sites are KB Union and refectory, DHT cafe, Pollock Halls (refectory), and the Student Centre. We are in the process of organising an aluminium can skip for outside the Student Centre, next to the bottle banks. Would anyone interested in setting up a collection point (a box or plastic bag) in their flats, local cafe etc please contact us.

We are also collecting newspapers and magazines at Pollock Halls and Blacket Avenue flats. Would anyone interested in collecting old newspapers and magazines please tie them up into separate bundles and taken them either to the laundry room at Blacket Avenue flats, or put them next to the aluminium cans at the refectory, Pollock Halls.

The success of these schemes depends totally on student participation. Would anyone interested in helping out please come along to our meetings (Thursday nights, 7.30 pm. Pleasance) or contact:

Iain Catto, Room 312, Grant House, Pollock Halls (for Pollock Halls enquiries only).

Douglas Low, c/o Friends of the Earth, 53 George IV Bridge: 031-225 6906

Janet Forbes, 13/7 West Nicolson Street: Phone 668 3415.

ARTS

Film

By the light of the silvery moon

Full Moon In Paris

Dir: Eric Rohmer
 Filmhouse; until 2nd Mar

A man with two women loses
 his soul.

A man with two homes loses
 his mind.

Thus goes the proverb which opens Eric Rohmer's *Full Moon In Paris* and underpins the action throughout... except that it is Louise (Pascale Ogier), a winsome interior designer, who finally loses her soul. The two men in her life, lover and best friend respectively, are tennis fanatic and new town planner Remi (Tcheky Karyo), and married journalist, self-styled wit Octave (Fabrice Luchini); the two homes, a new town apartment in the suburbs belonging to Remi, and a small flat in Paris for sleeping late after parties rather than travelling back out to Remi's place. However, this situation creates tension between her and Remi as he is not a partygoer (dancing being bad for his tennis,

or so he says) and is suspicious of Louise's motives in using her Parisian pied-a-terre. Meanwhile, enter handsome, young stud Bastien (Christian Vadim) and yet more complications for Louise who is irresistibly attracted to him. Louise, who has tried to indulge her whims to control others and found that three men into two beds won't go, is to be horribly hoist by her own petard when Remi makes a startling revelation of his own.

Full Moon In Paris is another very typical Eric Rohmer film, the third in his series *Comedies and proverbs* following on from *The Aviator's Wife* and *Pauline at the Beach* — typical in the flow of witty dialogue (for Rohmer's characters always love to talk and talk); typical in the geometric precision of what ostensibly seems a rather lazy plot. Rohmer has been criticised in the past for a certain ostentation and coldness in his scripts, but *Full Moon In Paris* is imbued with great warmth in its deliciously accurate dissection of emotional behaviour — and in one scene sly self-parody he has Octave self-admirably note down

one of his own remarks.

Yet, another dominating force in the film is that of Pascale Ogier who, appropriately enough, as well as playing an interior designer in the film also designed its sets. Indeed, we see her decorating her Parisian flat, so the fact that she also acted as art director brings a sort of psychological realism to her desire for such freedom. More significantly, she gives an exasperatingly appealing performance as Louise, the sort of girl who one minute you just want to throw your arms around, while the next you could quite easily slap in the face. Her award for best actress at the Venice Film Festival was well deserved.

However, in *Full Moon In Paris*, Rohmer has managed to extract winning performances all round. Tcheky is gruff and anguished, yet sympathetic as Remi, while Fabrice Luchini's Octave in his irritating egoism is a perfect foil for Louise. In a delightful scene towards the end of the film, Lazlo Szabo contributes an engaging cameo as an illustrator of children's books who explains to Louise the invigorating effect of



"This little piggy went to market..."

the full moon on all creative people.

All in all, *Full Moon In Paris* is another elegant soufflé of a film from Eric Rohmer, made with taste and style without sugariness (compare the schmaltz of Neil Simon, for

instance). And yet viewing the film is tinged with sadness, for Pascale Ogier died only two weeks after picking up her award at Venice. She was 23.

Trevor Johnston

The last Star Wars rip-off



The latest candidate for Rector.

The Last Starfighter

Dir: Nick Castle
 Odeon; from 22nd Feb

For a space adventure film, *The Last Starfighter* is astonishingly good at making viewers feel that they are caught in a time warp.

We have seen and heard this all before. The scenes, scores, plots and images of a decade's sf movies parade before us. Video games are actually recruitment devices in a galactic war; balding, worthy and boring alien goodguys scour the star systems for the few beings skilled enough to save the day from evil, though dignified, logs of wood which plan to trash the whole Milky Way; teenage earthling Alex Rogan is everyone's last hope. So it goes.

Nick Castle, best known as "The Shape" in John Carpenter's *Halloween*, at least directs the material with verve, and extracts witty performances from the cast.



The humour is the film's main strength and veterans Robert Preston and Dan O'Herlihy play their respective roles as wise-cracking lizards with panache. In fact, this humanised treatment of its alien characters is *The Last Starfighter's* most original quality.

Also notable are the film's glossy computer graphics which replace the usual model effects. They give a stylish, sanitized sheen to the deep space sequences, and are, it must be said, a cut above previous efforts in this field. The designs of the alien species in the film are also effective, my favourite being the shape-changing assassins which, when exposed, sport their eyes below their mandibles. Cute.

Nevertheless, no matter how well the incidentals are handled, the film is moribund because of its second — and third-hand character. It never rises above its sources or attempts to break the mould that it is cast in, and, as such, it represents the dying breath of this particular cycle of films. From now on, I trust, video game fantasy and galactic imperialism are out.

Recommended only as a stop-gap to entertain restless children or to occupy a wet Sunday afternoon.

Andrew J. Wilson

Birth of a Festival

Fringe Film Festival

At 7.30 this evening, in the Pleasance Theatre, the **Fringe Film Festival** is having an extraordinary showing of the classic 1920s silent movie *Pandora's Box*, complete with a specially commissioned score, composed and performed by Adrian Johnston. With this year's Fringe Film Festival not being held until November, **Simon Cartledge** went along to meet two of its organisers — Harald Tobermann and Della Penny — to find out what's going on.

"The event itself is primarily aimed at fund raising. But as the admission price includes free membership of the FFF, we hope to get in touch with people who are interested in taking part in any way. The film itself only lasts half hour and a half. It would be nice to meet people afterwards. Membership means reductions and mailings, so we can keep in touch with those who turn up."

Although November seems a long way off ideas for the Festival are well under way. This year it will be held in Adam House. Last year the FFF shared George Square Theatre with the Children's Music Theatre, an experience Harald Tobermann doesn't want to repeat: "That was simply horrid. All these brats were running about, mucking the place up. And because they were children you couldn't do much about it."

Ironically, the tentative theme of this year's Festival is to be "youth-ness". "We've got a faint idea why we're using the word 'youth-ness' and not 'youth'. The idea is to look at the images and the representa-



Louise Brooks, ace masseuse, in "Pandora's Box".

tions of how young people — no matter what age — are being represented in film, video and television, and to look at the films that are produced for this market. To coin a snappy phrase, "The one who controls the youth controls the future".

Why November? "The original idea was of course to have the FF parallel with the International Film Festival in August. But firstly, through the practical experience of having done it in that period — it's absolutely mind-shattering and exhausting. In November we'll be virtually the only thing going on. And secondly, for ideological reasons, that it's not good to add to the general consumerism of art. The FFF as it was conceived last year was an attempt to get away from consumerism a wee bit. Firstly by incredibly cheap prices

— for £2.50 you could get into all the shows — 30 films. And also to attempt to draw people and get them to talk, making a little bit more lasting and effective than the rest of the Festival stuff."

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THÉÂTRE

Happy Families



The Homecoming

Lyceum
until 9th March

The scene is of four male members of a cockney family in north London in the 1960s, complete with ghoulish wallpaper and musty furniture. The play is fairly good and worth going to see, although definitely a period piece, it is perhaps slightly more abstract than we might expect.

It is, amongst other things, a study of self-awareness, beginning for example, with a

classic confrontation between father and son totally oblivious to the humour of their relationship. Pinter gains many of his laughs from their habit of attributing their own faults or inadequacies to other people.

In to this world of cockney masculinity arrives a long absent brother, Teddy, now a doctor of philosophy, and his wife Ruth, and the play is largely about the tensions and revelations resulting from this.

The play moves increasingly away from 'reality' becoming ambiguous and bizarre. The characters' motives are unexplained and their actions as a result are absurdly unpredictable. The whole play takes one further step in to unreality as Lenny begins to dance with his brother's wife to the sound of slow jazz.

Teddy makes some feeble attempt to make her leave with him but she opts for the role assigned to her by his brothers, and the simple life of Joey's — to whom she has moved — brains. This is more than a condemnation of Ruth, it is Ruth as these men want her to be, a willing and available sponge for their sexual desires and emotional hangups.

The play ends with the uncle dead on the floor, Ruth snogging with Joey on the sofa, the father crawling across the floor towards them determined in defiance of his age to join in, Lenny smiling sardonically in the background and our doctor of philosophy meekly and without any dignity leaving them all to it.

Ben Simms

reminisce for hours without the use of props! His character is now manic and schizoid; a person, called a clown, performing his own life "from the first plip to the last plip". He strides across topics such as comedy and rips into the *paralysed pets* and so-called geniuses that have surrounded his life. Humour turned upside down, reduced to tragedy, and tragedy reduced to humour, full of slick, lines such as, *To be is better than not to be; that is the answer.*

His last act, and in it he seems to be struggling to reject that in his nature which sheds humour on everything and exposes crushing irony, in an attempt to pertain a raw tragic vision more akin to his situation. Almost absent-mindedly he slips in the pills of barbiturates and washes them down with a swig of vodka.

Ben Sims

Anarchic Zeal

Hard

Bedlam
28th Feb and 1st March

At the Bedlam Theatre next Thursday and Friday a new play takes the stage. Influences from Ben Jonson to Laurel and Hardy have shaped Eleanor Zeal's **Hard** or **The New Masque of the Adamantive Rock**. The action takes place in a royal court in an unnamed country, but the vices of the characters are easily recognisable. From the blind, harsh imminence of the play's Queen to the feeble door-mat of a daughter, these people can be seen and heard daily on the news at ten. The

sharp wit and subtle allegorical force of Ms Zeal's play have led to it being likened to Fo's *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and to *Spitting Images*.

The play is cunningly acted by a versatile and quick cast of three, each of whom plays a multitude of roles calling for quick changes of scene, costume and character. Not since the recent productions of *Revenge* or *Nice Wantons* has the comfortable Bedlam stage played host to such a variety of moods and locations.

Hard will be performed at 7.30 pm on Thursday and Friday, 28th February and 1st March, at the Bedlam Theatre, Forrest Road. Tickets, available on the door, are £1.50, or £1.25 concessions. They play, by the way, is EUTC's entry for the 1985 National Student Drama Festival.

H. G. Barker



Spirited Coward

Blithe Spirit

Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow
until 2nd March

The Citz is rather like that nursery rhyme about the little girl with the curt:

*When she is good, she is very, very good.
But when she is bad, she is awful.*

To everyone's relief this production falls into the first category. A mannered comedy in the Coward tradition, it is directed faithfully, almost reverentially by Giles Havergal.

The play concerns Charles, Noel Coward reincarnated right down to the cigarette holder, and the problems which confront him when his first wife reappears as a ghost, which understandably irritates his present wife Ruth. The situations which arise from this triangle spawn the predictable Coward witticisms.

The play is set in the forties, this time avoiding any cries of "Sacrilegious!" from conservative art circles. The sand bags surrounding the stage seem to be protecting the exquisite drawing room from the harsh realities of war, and thus an ambience of elegance and destruction is created.

Although a lighthearted superficial work, *Blithe Spirit* does require accomplished actors to carry off the comic touches. The pace occasionally flags, but this is due to the author's tendency to rely on wit and little else at quieter moments, rather than any fault in acting. Indeed the actors excel in their roles. The role of Madam Arcati, spiritualist and archetypal English eccentric, is splendidly exploited by Linda Spurrier who at times almost steals the show. Fidelis Morgan as Ruth is elegant yet bossy, with a nice line in sarcasm. However I found her performance too similar to her last one, as Elizabeth in *Mary Stuart*. She is in danger of being typecast

as a domineering shrew. The other roles are hardly demanding, although Claram Hinds does an admirable Noel Coward impersonation.

The play's wit is enduring. The audience loved the sardonic humour of Coward, epitomised by a seance when Charles is told a spirit wants to speak to him. "Tell them to leave a message," he replies dryly. The costumes and set were a delight to the eye, and the surprise ending was a good twist to a very amusing evening. The unusual reverence with which the Citz have presented this play would have pleased Coward.

Meryl Benstock



Hancock's Last Half Hour

Traverse
16th February

This play is a dynamic and very witty view of the final minutes in a clown's life in which the long surbonated personal-self struggles to reassert itself over the public-self. Jim McManus, who plays Hancock, rolls his proud stomach and prominent buttocks around the stage in what is a superb performance.

Hancock reminisces, always with his acidic humour, over his life and what others thought of it talking loosely, rapidly; intoxicated and brilliant. This is his final performance — how to

ÄRTNÈWS

St Andrews Festival

The St Andrews Festival is currently running in that town in Fife. Classical music, jazz, drama, art exhibitions and ballet are just some of the variety of events that run until the end of this week.

Scottish Youth Theatre

Applicants are wanted for a five week course in July and August in Livingston that coincides with the Scottish Youth Theatres 1985 Summer Festival. Courses in acting, directing, stage management and technical theatre are available to anyone between 12 and 21. Application forms and information from Scottish Youth Theatre, 48 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QR. Tel. 557 2224.

SYT at Traverse

The Scottish Youth Theatre are presenting three plays at the Traverse Theatre this week. All the plays are written by new, young playwrights and they run until 23rd at 8 pm every night. There is also a show at 3 pm on Sunday 24th.

Exhibs

Antina Verboom

Talbot Rice Art Centre
15th February-16th March

Antina Verboom is a successful Dutch painter who has exhibited throughout Europe and is represented in many private collections.

Antina's paintings uphold a strong 20th century Dutch tradition, stemming from the De Styl, a movement which subtracted the simplest lines from nature, the "vertical" and "horizontal".

Her art is about the abstracted exploration of the earth and man's response both physical and emotional to his environment, and "these emotions are expressed through line and colour".

Unlike De Styl, Antina's lines are not purist but more decorative and structural, and built from a knowledge and love of Gothic architecture which she studied when in France and Italy.



The architectural forms lead us all the way through the exhibition for example, the strong Gothic perpendicular arches in the foreground of LL26. These motifs are essential to all the paintings; they are the framework within which man and the environment is placed, and worked together with flat modulated movements of colour, directed by heavy beading suggesting Gothic stained glass, e.g. "Order created from Chaos"

SO33. RA37 upstairs and KK6 are softer images of the sea and landscape. Nature's abstracted forms are more dissipated than diluted, with calmer colours and broken brush strokes.

Try and see this exhibition, it is an education in colour and line, and an interesting test of our emotional responses towards these abstracted coded images.

Sophie Dawse

Nature at the National

The Face of Nature

National Gallery
6th February-28th April

This small exhibition of prints, drawings, and watercolours is located downstairs in the National Gallery. It gives us a glimpse of how different nationalities have interpreted landscape over a span of four centuries.

Varying styles and attitudes to the country around them are presented by Italian, Flemish, Dutch, French, English and Scottish artists. They range from being detailed depictions to quick sketches. A highly factual record of a particular place like Albert Cuyp's *View of Amersfoort* with windmills and church spires punctuating the flat landscape contrasts superbly with a rough sketch like Van Goyen's *A rustic bridge* or Gainsborough's *A clump of trees with cattle* where the artist immortalises with a few strokes

something which caught his eye.

Campagnola's *Landscape with Juno and Callisto* represents the era when landscape was a figment of the imagination; lush and sensual fairytale scenes inhabited by frolicking nymphs of classical antiquity. Rousseau's *A road across a heath* is desolate and bleak, with a pointless road leading to nowhere, evoking man's insignificance, and is typical of the nineteenth century approach to landscape as a vehicle through which emotions are expressed.

The exhibition is small and condensed (almost too closely packed together!) and does not have the fault of many exhibitions of trying to include as many paintings as possible. Turner, Delacroix, Gainsborough, Samuel Palmer, Rousseau, Fra Bartolomeo, Carraci, Pietro da Cortona and many more... so even if you are one of the most hard to please, something will appeal to your tastes!

Juliet Palmer

FILMS



Full Moon in Paris

ABC
(229 3030)
Beverly Hills Cop
1.35, 4.35, 7.35
(tickets £2.30)
Beverly really goes to town with this story of mountaineering with her friends Eddie Murphy, Bobbie and his amazing moving car

The Killing Fields
1.40, 4.40, 7.50
(tickets £2.70 £2.30)
Still, by far, the best film showing the true story of a NY Times journalist's friendship and search for his colleague Dith Pran in Khmer Rouge torn Cambodia. Take plenty of Kleenex and a shoulder to wipe your nose on.

Gremlins
2.30, 5.30, 8.30
(tickets £2.30)
Gremlins do for noses what plaster of paris does for drains. Ear trumpets are recommended as the noise of nose blowing is so overwhelming that the soundtrack is almost inaudible. What a shame.

DOMINION
(447 2680)
Beverly Hills Cop
2.15, 5.15, 8.15
Eddie Murphy is still hard at it in Beverly Hills. Must be having a good laugh. At least it's not New York. Bring your own truncheon.

Ghostbusters
2.20, 5.20, 8.20
Crufts comes to NY in this tale of a bald poodle striving for supremacy in the dog world. A nice piece of character acting by Albert the Dachshund as a fridge door.

Reuben Reuben
2.00, 5.00, 8.00
If you thought a trip to the dentist was bad, you'll just die of laughter when you go to this film. Tom Conti seems to enjoy himself anyway as a poet/drunard from Scotland on a lecture tour in the States.

ODEON
(667 7331)
The Last Starfighter
2.00, 5.00, 8.00
Starting Friday, this story is about a boy whisked off by a bunch of aliens to fight another bunch of aliens. Let's hope he really is the last one.

Ghostbusters
2.30, 5.30, 8.10
What? Still ghosts running loose in New York? You'd have thought they'd have busted them by now. Still, we can't all be perfect.

Water
2.20, 5.30, 8.15
Michael Caine fell about laughing when he read the script to this one — what went wrong? Catch up on your sleep by going to this film, alternatively drown yourself before you go.

FRENCH INSTITUTE
(225 5366)
Cordelia
Thur 21st, 8.30
A rampant DIY schizo along with a local sawdust sweeper (female of course) stands trial for the grisly murder of the village whittler.
Jour sa Vie
Tues 26th, 8.30
"Another bloody chess film" alias "An extraordinarily and intensely boring documentary on the world of international chess". Early queuing advised if you want a seat.

FILMHOUSE
(226 2688)
Full Moon in Paris
Thur 21st-Wed 27th
6.15, 8.30 (8.30 Sun)
Tears, laughter, infidelity, tragedy, dilemma. What will Remi do when he finds out that Louise is living a double life? Poor dull, dependable old Remi, faced with someone like exciting, fast, simply wonderful Louise!

Streamers
Thur 21st, 6.00, 8.15
"Altman confines his camera to the barrack room, occasionally peering through a window" — it's a surprise he hasn't been arrested yet.

Carry Greenham Home
Fri 22nd-Sat 23rd
6.40, 8.40 (and 3.40 Sat)
Why not? Wouldn't it just look delightful in the back garden next to the gnomes? A film about life at this infamous camp, shot over a period of seven months.

PLUS
Red Skirts on Clydeside
Documentary of the women's rent strike of 1915 in Glasgow, and the fashion separates of the time of course.

Comfort and Joy
Sun 24th-Wed 27th
6.00, 8.15
Several Glaswegians fling dollops of raspberry ripple gelato at each other whilst an interfering local DJ gets caught in the crossfire. If you missed its 99-week run at the Dominion last term, now's your chance to catch up on things.

FILM SOCIETY
(557 0436)
Fri 22nd, Pleasance
6.45 **The Man in the White Suit**
Alec Guinness (who else?) stars in this great 1951 Ealing farce about a scientist who invents a fabric that never gets dirty and never wears out.

8.15 **The Chess Players**
Yet another Indian film, this time Dickie Attenborough is acting not directing. Set in 1856 it is about two Indian noblemen whose over-riding passion is for that all-exciting of games — chess. Sounds jolly fun.

Sun 24th, GST
6.45 **Swing Time**
Unexciting 1936 Astaire/Rogers vehicle about a dance team with a romantic problem... sounds vaguely familiar, doesn't it?

8.40 **Flashdance**
"Fame" with, dare I say it... Filth! Oooops! Yes, the star of this film is actually a manual labourer. Doesn't do much to lift the film out of the squalor of "Fame" type clichés. Don't bother.
Wed 27th, Pleasance
6.45 **Les Jeux Sont Faites**
J. P. Sartre's epic, moving, supremely hopeful film of the relationships of two young human beings who having spent life as murder victims, meet in purgatory and fall in love.

6.25 **It's A Wonderful Life**
James Stewart does his best to make everyone's day by committing suicide but is stopped by some fool of an angel who drones on and on and on and...



Fun and games in Water

THEATRE

Theatre Royal, Glasgow
(041 331 1234)

The National Theatre
in **She Stoops to Conquer**
An all-star cast (Tom Baker, Hywel Bennett, Dora Bryan) in the NT's production of Goldsmith's play. Until 23rd February 7.15 pm also 23rd February 2.15 pm. Tickets £2-£8 from the box office. (Students standby £2)

Animal Farm
Peter Hall's acclaimed adaptation of the Orwell novel. On tour for the first time. 26th February to 2nd March. 7.15 pm Tickets as above.

Traverse Theatre
(226 2633)

Scottish Student Drama Festival
Four plays selected from the student drama on show at the 1985 St Andrews Drama Festival.
Play (1) Tue 26th-Thur 28th Feb 8 pm upstairs.
Play (2) Tue 26th-Thur 28th Feb 8.15 pm downstairs.
Tickets available from the box office £2.25 members, £3.25 non members.

Young Playwrights' Festival
New plays presented on tour by the Scottish Youth Theatre including *Pass the Parcel* by Angela Mullen, *Without a Doubt* by George Forrest, and *Kenny Grant's Doon the Water*. until 24th February 8 pm (3 pm Sunday) Tickets £2.25 (members), £3.25 non-members

Edinburgh Playwrights' Workshop

The Tropic of South Kenton by S. Duns presented in a workshop performance followed by audience discussion. 7.30 pm 26th February Tickets £1.25 (concessions 75p)

Adam House Theatre
Settimo Ruba Un Po Meno
Another jolly farce from happy-go-lucky Dario Fo, who's an all-round pretty wacky guy. So expect this to be like pretty alternative man. man. Thurs 21st and Fri 22nd Feb 7.30 pm Tickets £1.50 (concessions £1)

Pathelin
French medieval farce about a deceitful lawyer's attempt to trick the unsuspecting inhabitants of a small town. I shall expect the entire Law Faculty to attend and take notes! • Tickets £1.25
Mon 25th and Tues 26th Feb, 8 pm.

"The Brass Butterfly"
The EU Classical Society present this, William Golding's only play, a vigorous tragi-comedy which looks to the spirit of Coward, the legacy of the Ancient World and the evening of the Roman Empire. 7 pm. Thurs 28th and Fri 1 March. • Tickets £1.50 from Classics Library and at the door.

WHAT'S GUID UNIVENT

Thurs. 21st Feb.

"Genetic counselling and the community"
KB lunchtime talk by Dr Sandy Raeburn, Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Genetics, Sixth Level Common Room, 1.10 pm

Archie MacPherson for Rector
Campaign Launch at Teviot Row Debating Hall with lots of "well known speakers". 7.30 pm

Support the Miners
NUM speaker and three live bands: *Wee Yellow Rip*, *We Free Kings* and *Volunteer Slavery* at Moray House. Doors open 9 pm. Late Bar. • £2, £1.50 (unwaged/students), miners free.

Alternative Prospectus Team
If you have a flair for keeping calm during a crisis... then why not join this year's team? Meeting at 5 pm in EUSA offices.

Poetry Society
Readings by William Neil in Gaelic, Scots and English "A brilliant and much neglected poet." DHT 3.18 7 pm free!

Jazz at the Pleasance
The *Sidney Bathenheise Jazz Band* bring you the NEW sound of the roaring 20s and 30s on their long awaited first tour to Scotland 9-12. Happy Hour 9-10 pm • Entrance £1, members 50p

Springwell House, Gorgie
(337 1971)

Can't Pay? Won't Pay
TAG Theatre Company on tour in Scotland stop off in Gorgie with their production of the Dario Fo play. Saturday 23rd February 7.30 pm Tickets at the door.

George Square Theatre
The Hero is Back!
More of the damnably exciting exploits of the fearless Curly Withers. 20th-23rd February 7.30 pm. Tickets £2.25 (concession £1.75) from Bedlam, Potterrow and Pollock.

Bedlam Theatre
(225 9873)

Hard
The Edinburgh University Theatre Company's entry for this year's National Student Drama Festival. Feb 28th, March 1st 7.30 pm Tickets from the box office £1.50 (concessions £1.25)

Mon 25th and Tues 26th Feb 7 pm
Royal Lyceum Theatre
(229 9677)

The Homecoming by Harold Pinter
Confrontational family politics at the Lyceum. It's well performed, and quite funny, but it's up to you if you like Pinter or not. NB This is the one with cheese rolls. Until 9th March 7.45 pm. Tickets £1.40-£3.80 from the box office.

FILMHOUSE

PATRON: BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY 88 LOTHIAN ROAD

Cinema 1
Until Sat 2 March 6.15/8.30 (Also 4.00 pm Sat 23 and 2 Mar. Not 6.15 Sun 24)
Rumours, misunderstandings, flirtations and heart-hearted infidelity in Eric Rohmer's witty
FULL MOON IN PARIS (15)
'One of the very best films of the year... triumphant' *The Guardian*

Cinema 2
Fri 22 and Sat 23 6.40/8.40 (Also 3.40 Sat 23)
CARRY GREENHAM HOME (PG)
Made during seven months at the peace camp, this film records the events, friendships, discussions, and particularly the power and strength of this protest.
• **RED SKIRTS ON CLYDESIDE** (15)
Focusing on the 1915 Glasgow Rent Strike.

Cinema 2
Sun 24-Wed 27 6.00/8.15
Bill Paterson's wonderful performance as Dickie Bird in Bill Forsyth's
COMFORT AND JOY (PG)
A local radio DJ strays into a war between rival ice-cream vendors.

Cinema 1
Late Night Double Bill - Sat 23 at 11.00 pm
Woody Allen in
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S SEX COMEDY (15) +
ZELIG (PG) (Shown first.)

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION 228-2688
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS
(REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR STUDENT CARD)

**S ON
DE!
TS**

Demarco for Rector?
Campaign launch will take the Demarco Gallery, 100 St. Andrew St.

Magazine with no Name?
soon! This magazine for Halls will appear in the 2nd week of the summer term. All inmates. Contributors and volunteers should contact Room 215, Lee or Nikki, Rm 215.

22nd Feb.
Price will be unable to attend his paper for the North Studies Seminar today. He is heartily for the change in plan but he may be able to have next term.

Annual!
Dash for tickets to the Music, 49 Blackfriars at the door.

Refectory 9 pm-3 am.

MacPherson for Rector?
present this disco at St with Tom Ferrie, the Radio Scotland DJ at 11.30 am.

12.30 am.

Brewster House Dinner Dance
In the Melville Castle Hotel.
• Tickets £5 Residents, £7.50 Non-residents.
JCR.
Stella's Baby
Live at the Potterrow!
Disco till 1 am.
Happy hour 8.30-9.30 pm.
Bring your own nappies. Free!
The Dance
Teviot has two discos till 2 am (what competition!)
Happy Hour 9-10 pm.

Sat. 23rd Feb.
"What should theology be doing today?"
Professor Jurgen Moltmann in dialogue with Dr Alan Lewis and Dr Ruth Page. Chaplaincy Centre, 2.30-5 pm.
Still Thinking
Live at Chambers St till 1 am
Happy Hour in Library Bar 9-10 pm
Cocktail Disco
In the Park Room till midnight
Happy Hour from 7.30-8.30 pm

EU Liberal Club
Disco in the Pleasance Bar for Members and their bestest friends. 8-12.

Sun. 24th Feb.
Catholic Students Union
AGM will take place 8.15 pm in 23 George Square. All members please attend.
"Existentialism in Camus and Sartre"
Vicky Elgar and Andy Ross get to grips with this all-engrossing subject. Teviot Music Room, 1.30 pm
Carvery
In Teviot Row House from noon to 6 pm; Live Folk Music in the evening!

Mon. 25th Feb
Poetry Reading
Scottish Lit. Soc. present two young Gaelic poets: *Aonghas MacNeacail* and *Catriona Montgomery*. Discussion to follow.
PGSU 20 Buccleuch Place, 7.30 pm
EU Third World First Society
The video "Hard to Swallow" will be shown as an introduction to their pharmaceutical campaign, providing the basic knowledge of the issues prior to the conference, organised by Oxfam, on 1st March.
7.30 pm, Somerville Room, The Pleasance.

Tues. 26th Feb.
LNC Skins Bananathon '85
At Annabel's Riviera Suite. All proceeds go to provide holidays for handicapped children. For more info phone 667 3304, 6-10 pm Sunday-Thursday. Ask for flat 514.
• Tickets £1
International Student Rugby
Scottish Universities v. Scottish Under-21 XV
3 pm, Inverleith
Chambers St
Happy Hour from 8-9 pm.
Come along for a laugh.

Wed. 27th Feb.
"The Lord's Prayer — and lead us not to the time of trial"
Talk by the Rev. Dr Kenneth Boyd, International Chaplain, Chaplaincy Centre, 1.10 pm.

Green Banana Club
In the Potterrow with a mega Happy Hour from 8.30-9.30 pm.

Thurs. 28th Feb.
"Architecture as a visual resource"
KB lunchtime talk by Dr. Ian Appleton, Senior Lecturer, Department of Architecture, Sixth Level Common Room, 1.10 pm.

Essays: Whose Assessment?
A staff-student workshop on the issues involved in marking essays. Please register in advance, if you wish to attend, with the Faculty Teaching and Learning Group, 1-2 pm, Conference Room, Main Library.

EXHIBITIONS

City Art Centre
"Working for Britain":
British Council exhibition
"Blue John": exhibition of pottery from Lauriston Castle.
"Adolphe Appia"
Actor, Space, Light.
Market Street
Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00

Collective Gallery
Selection of photographs by **Callum McRae**
52/54 High Street
Tue, Wed, Fri 12.30-5.30
Thur 12.30-7.00
Sat 10.30-5.00

National Gallery of Scotland
"The Face of Nature"
A selection of landscape drawings from the permanent collection which, if taking a panoramic view of time, is here for a long time.
The Mound
Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00
Sun 10.00-2.00

National Library of Scotland
Stone on Stone—
Reynolds Stone (1909-1979) keeps chipping away, a selection of designs and engravings.
George IV Bridge
Mon-Fri 9.30-5.00
Sat 9.00-1.00

Royal Scottish Academy
The British Art Show
Old Allegiances and New Directions, your last chance ends 24th Feb.
23rd February
Rose Funn-Kekey: Elevation II
A 24-hour performance from 3 pm, created round an architectural pinpoint where the performer will transmit between the spiritual and the temporal.
The Mound
Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00
Thurs 10.00-8.00
Sun 2.00-5.00

Netherbow Arts Centre
The Fixed and The Fleeing
A selection of paintings and woodcuts by Koert Linde
Exhibition of photographs by **Amy Wharr**.
43 High street
Tue-Sat 10.00-4.00

Open Eye Gallery
Exhibition of paintings by **Carlo Rossi**.
Accompanied by ceramics, executed by **Richard Bell**.
75 Cumberland Street
Mon-Fri 10.00-6.00
Sat 10.00-4.00

MUSIC

Crown Folk Club
Lady Glenorchy's Hall
Drummond Street
Friday 22nd Feb, 8 pm
The Knowe Odeil Band
• Tickets £1.50, members £1
• Bar!
Thursday 21st Feb
Waterloo Bar (Waterloo Place)
Miners' Benefit
Rote Kapelle
Nocturnal Vermin
Buba & The Shop Assistants
Caley Palais (Lothian Road)
Killing Joke
Ellery Bop

Moray House (Holyrood Road)
Miners' Benefit
Wee Yellow Rip
We Free Kings
Volunteer Slavery
Friday 22nd Feb
Art College (Lauriston Place)
The Indian Givers
Preservation Hall (Victoria St)
Government
Potterrow
Stella's Baby
La Sorbonne
Second Nature
Saturday 23rd Feb
Royal Highland Exhibition Hall, Ingliston
Wham!
Chambers Street
Still Thinking
Moray House
Dancing Bears
The Absentees
La Sorbonne
The Purple Gang
Preservation Hall
George Roy Jazzmen (2-4 pm)
Sunday 24th Feb
Hoochie Coochie Club (West Tollcross)
The Screaming Nobodies

Preservation Hall
Tam White & The Dexters
La Sorbonne (Cowgate)
Twisted Nerve
Monday 25th Feb
La Sorbonne
Your Dinner
Preservation Hall
Wales O'Keagan
Tuesday 26th Feb
La Sorbonne
Makossa
Preservation Hall
Mirrors
Rococo Club, at Annabel's (Semple Street)
Wednesday 27th Feb
La Sorbonne
Goodbye Mr Mackenzie
Preservation Hall
Charlie McNair (afternoon)
Playhouse (Leith Walk)
Eric Clapton
Chris Rea
Caley Palais
Misty in Roots



The Knowe Odell Band

Queen's Hall
(668 2117)
Thursday 21st February 7.45 pm
Edinburgh Quartet
John McCabe — piano
Arrija: Quartet No. 2 in A
Leighton: 7 Variations
Shostakovich: Quintet in G minor
Tickets £4 and £2.75 from Usher Hall

Friday 22nd February 10 pm
Late Night Jazz
Art Farmer and Brian Keddie Quintet
Tickets £2.50 (members) and £3.50 (non-members)

Saturday 23rd February 7.30 pm
Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra
Alisdair Mitchell — conductor
Colin Saddington — leader
Daphne Godson — violin
Liszt: Les Preludes
Glazounov: Violin Concerto
Cesar Franck: Symphony
Tickets £2, (students £1.50) from Usher Hall.

Sunday 24th February 1 pm
Canfilena
Vivaldi: Concerto for Violin and Cello and music by Scarlatti, Ferrabosco, Pergolesi, and Hebdon.
Tickets £3 from Usher Hall

Sunday 24th February 3 pm
Mondrian Trio
Mozart: Trio in B flat
Thomas Wilson: Trio
Brahms: Trio in B major
Student tickets £2 & £1.50 from Usher Hall.

Wednesday 27th February 7.30 pm
Sounds Classical
Maurice Checker with the Scottish Virtuosi and some talented young musicians. Performance will include works played on 19th century instruments from the University Collection.
Student tickets £2.25 & £2.75 from Usher Hall

University Music
Concert Hall
Friday 21st Feb, 7.30 pm
Piano Quartet
Kenzie: Piano Quartet in Op. 11
Glover — piano
Piano: Concerto in G
£2 (students £1)
Friday 24th Feb, 7.30 pm
Faculty Choir and Orchestra
Conducted by Julia Craig-McFelly
B Minor Mass
Friday 28th Feb, 1.10 pm
100th Anniversary
Coates — soprano
Townhill — clarinet
Lynch — violin
Coates — piano
Ly Songs
Net Pieces
Chamber Concerto
Free
Hall
Friday 22nd February, 1.10 pm
right — organ
Sonata No. 1
Luzerne Symphonie
Free
Hall
Khanov — conductor
Prince Igor
Symphony No. 6
80 student standby

THE PLAYHOUSE

Sunday 12th May £7, £6, £5
BARBARA DICKSON

February 27 and 28: ERIC CLAPTON—£7.50, £6.50
March 1: MAX BOYCE—£6.50, £5.50, £5
March 12-16: SCOTTISH OPERA—£2 to £3
March 29: THE TEMPTATIONS—£7, £6, £5

April 3-13:
GUYS AND DOLLS (National Theatre)—£4.50 to £8.50
April 14: JIMMY TARBUCK—£5, £4

April 15-18:
THE GEORGIAN STATE DANCE COMPANY—£7, £6, £5
(Half-price for Senior Citizens and Children)

April 18-19: CANNON AND BALL—£6.50, £5.50, £4.50
April 24: KING—£4, £3.50
April 26: MILLIE JACKSON—£7.50, £6.50, £5.50
May 23: RICKY SKAGGS—£6, £5

Get your tickets now from: Edinburgh Playhouse,
18-22 Greenside Place, Edinburgh EH1 3AA.
Access telephone bookings welcome on 031-557 2590.

MUSIC



Shock-headed Peter

SHELL SHOCK

Pete Shelley

Coasters

The Buzzcocks popularity waned whilst they were still at their creative peak, and the untidy split allowed Pete Shelley to combine a song he'd written in 1974 with a logical progression of style to produce *Homosapien*. Synthesizers and slick production had become increasingly dominant through the first two albums so there were a couple of options for live work (i) large band with Rick Wakeman array of Keyboards (ii) back to basics. It was option (ii) at Coasters last week — and guitars wrought a bloody revenge on songs that didn't know what had hit them.

Support band *Finl Tribe* thrust their wall of noise into a wall of Coasters apathy, whilst newcomers *Behind the Glass* oozed synthpunk potential (hello *NME* readers). A tape of percussive rumblings introduced the *Pete Shelley* set — I couldn't decide whether it was atmospheric or a dodgy backing track phoned in from the Urals. The band wandered on and abruptly began hammering out a riff it took me some minutes to recognise, even after Shelly bounced onto stage electric 12-string in hand. The

minstrel had returned, flanked by a distorted Buzzcockian guitar and a black-clad stappin' bassist, his Fender bouncing off his knees.

Coasters was busier than I'd seen it for some time and the hipsters in the crowd got a chance to groove on down to the sounds of *XVI*, *Never Again* and several completely new songs. Inevitably the guitars only approach didn't always work, but the strength of the songs shone through on tough versions of *Telephone Operator* and the *Homosapien* encore.

Throughout this, the "Coasters Entertainment Complex" (huh!) bouncers had kept a high profile, randomly plucking people from the bouncing throng at the front. I would've thought that a Pete Shelley audience consisting mainly of students would be unlikely to be full of knife-wielding maniacs. Maybe the muscle-boys felt alike a work out. Bastards, I say. Still, an unexpected second encore happened after the house lights had gone up and suddenly it was the first time in three years I'd heard *Something's Gone Wrong Again* live with the face out of the classic *I Believe*, and the Shelley voice was still there.

My faith in the truth of the punk revolution was restored by Pete Shelley last week. Let him restore your's.

Mark Percival

Choking to Death

The Stranglers

Playhouse

Four years ago to this very day, I saw my first rock concert: The Stranglers at the Glasgow Apollo; and of course, they were brilliant, a ruthless battering-ram of power that I have yet to see equalled by anyone. Sadly, four years on, The Stranglers themselves seem incapable of emulating those past glories.

Briefly, though, to tonight's support who were none other than current *Student* faves Ege Bam Yasi, whose unique visual qualities were rather lost in the cavernous Playhouse. However, you read how good they are last week and shall doubtless read more — remember, we hyped them here first.

Ege Bam Yasi could not, even by the wildest stretch of the

imagination be termed musicians — they are performers. The Stranglers, on the other hand, are all excellent musicians but tonight they did not perform. True, Jean-Jacques Burnel can still hop about on one leg and prove to one and all that he's the real king of macho heavy metal bass posturing, regardless of what Peter Hook thinks. Also, Hugh Cornwall's splintered guitar playing keeps its edge as does his acerbic wit, demonstrated in this little exchange with the crows: "God, you Scots are ugly!" — "Fuck off!" — "No, I was only joking; you're VERY ugly!"

Yet this was a band mechanically going through the motions, the Stranglers on autopilot. The set was liberally sprinkled with such hoary old classics as *Something Better Change*, *Peaches and Hanging Around* but there was not zest or flair in their delivery, with the band looking

tired and generally disinterested. Not surprising, really, when you hear some of the new "Aural Sculpture" material. The somewhat incongruous three-man brass section could not conceal the stupefying banality of such songs as *No Mercy* and the current single *Let Me Down Easy*.

Only *Death and Night and Blood* truly reminded me of the band to which I once thrilled; *Down in the Sewer* came close but, as throughout the gig, it was marred by J. J. Burnel's illegitimate children coming on stage to say "Hello" to Daddy and insisting on mimicking his karate techniques. Why are Stranglers' diehards such a bunch of chimps?

It wasn't really that bad but they've been so much better; The Stranglers in 1985 are a jaded parody of their former selves. Take some advice from an old fan — pack it in now, boys.

Keith Cameron



If it moves, funk it

Photo by John Lindsay

New York Pig Funkers

Rococo Club

Tonight the band are introduced as follows:

"Ladies and gentlemen the Rococo club proudly presents the legendary *New York Pig Funkers*" — impressive! yet justifiable going by their last performance . . .

We are told to dance — the music begins. The brass section punch a catchy little riff — and like an elephant fanfare the three glittering instruments rise and fall in unity. Donald Mitchell takes the focal position centre stage. His raunchy vocals rise above a perfect blend of syncopated percussion — cowbells, bongos, crepitant cymbals and keyboard chords. He sound slightly similar

to a muffled David Byrne or as someone later informs me, James Brown. A combination of the two and his personal vivaciousness can't be bad, however, enough of comparisons.

As the band play *Funky Swine*, Mitch leaps about energetically, taking time to beat the occasional rhythm on neighbouring drums, before returning to the mike: I am exhausted watching him!

The rest of the band are just as enthusiastic and treat us to another foot tappin' ditty *Hold On*. But do I sense the band tiring? As the familiar set rolls on I reckon the New York Pig Funkers are not in top gear. The stage does not help, its lack of dimension choking life from the band. Even so *The Flash* inspires me again, Katrina's backing vocals adding colour and atmosphere to the unmistakable Pig Funker sound.

The Magnificent Seven find new inspiration as they surge into *Meantime*, a catapulting jaunty piece which everybody, band and audience alike, appear to enjoy. Alas no encore follows but the performance overall justifies the dramatic introduction.

The New York Pig Funkers are a band to dance to and enjoy.

Jane Humphries

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Queen's Hall

The strength of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's long-standing relationship with the violinist Jaime Laredo was very much in evidence at last Thursday's Queen's Hall concert.

The concert began with Beethoven's youthful *Rondino for Wind*. The orchestra gave us an intimate, strong rendition and a notably healthy start to the evening.

While playing the violin, Laredo then directed the orchestra in Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 9 in C major*. Although the orchestra tried hard to compensate for the fundamental blandness of the work by approaching it with vivacity and ample technical flair, their efforts couldn't amount to much in the end.

The highlight of the evening was the first British performance of "Poem" for violin and string orchestra, conducted by the composer, the Icelandic Halldor Hallgrimsson.

The work is fascinating and stunningly inventive, being concerned not so much with rhythmic effect but rather the textural qualities of sound itself. Against a constantly changing scenery provided by the orchestra, the direct, full tone of Laredo's



Violinist Jaime Laredo

playing was deeply evocative.

Surely a step in the right direction for the Scottish Arts Council who funded the commission.

The final work in the concert was Beethoven's *Violin concerto in D major*. Working closely together, Laredo and John Tunnell (leader) managed to hold the orchestra together with firmness and sensitivity, although there were times when the wind section seemed to intrude and the overall balance was upset (in much of the first movement, for example). On the whole though, the work was deeply satisfying and through Laredo's restrained performance, the orchestra managed to humanise one of the great "unapproachables" of classical music.

Andrew Maud

Scottish National Orchestra

Usher Hall

The SNO under Andrew Litton (the Bruce Springsteen of conducting) presented an all-American programme last Friday which read as, and was played as, a selection of the worst of American classical music.

The one notable exception was Leonard Bernstein's explosive *Overture Candide* but even this was rather stale in execution.

As for Copland's Ballet Suite *Billy the Kid*, one could be forgiven for wishing the notorious outlaw could have been on hand to end the whole fiasco there and then as conductor and orchestra indulged themselves in a distended tafaftella which required a severe headache and double-vision to be properly appreciated.

Next came Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, which at least had a nice theme, though Mei Brooks would probably have done more with it than Friday's combination.

A glimpse of the ultimate depths, however, came with the second performance of *Chamber Music for Orchestra*, by Robert Parris, premiered in Glasgow on Thursday, one can only assume, as a calculated insult to St. Valentine.

After that even Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, with our latter-day Gene Kelly back on his feet, was a respite of sorts with the playing spasmodically raising itself above the mish-mash prevalent for most of the evening. Great heavens, this was an awful concert.

Roderick A. Manson

Reid Memorial Concert

Reid Concert Hall

Though in memory of General Reid, it was the joint winners of the 1985 Tavey competition (a memorial, of a more vital kind, to a more recent distinguished member of the faculty) who provided the meat of this musical tribute.

Honours lie even between Jonathan Walker and Chris James for today's performances (though surely in future separate prizes could be awarded for performance and composition, at present judged together?).

Jonathan Walker captured the sonorities of Debussy's *Etude* well, though not reveling in its sensuous effect as much as he might. *Collines d'Anacapri* had an excellent atmosphere and its humour was well portrayed. His Stravinsky was a little too serious (in the *Piano Rag Music* Stravinsky is poking fun at as well as exploring, that idiom).

Chris James' striking settings of poems by Ezra Pound were given an admirably clear performance by Alex Weaver and the composer.



Graphic by Stella Collier

The balance of voice and piano is unusual — piano interludes frequently interrupting the vocal line. The use of long melismata on certain words, though a good idea, was overdone. None the less, these are very effective songs.

The obligatory piece by General Reid was neatly played by Pippa Grew, but the curious blend of flute and organ unsettled the performance. Torelli's trumpet concerto (played by Lawrence Haig) produced a better sound, but was a disappointing end to the concert.

Donald Wetherick



Thinking Forward

ON THE HOME FRONT

This week, *On The Home Front* looks at local record distribution. Charles Le Quesne talked to the directors of *Fast Forward*, the Scottish link in the Cartel

Records are big business — something that it is extremely easy to forget when discussing the relative merits of your favourite bands, whether they be **Wham**, **Marillion** or **The Primevals**. Like all serious businesses, it is well oiled and strictly organised to make the greatest amount of money possible.

At least, that is half the story; as we all know, not all recorded music today is even approaching what one could call 'commercial', and thank the good Lord for that!

CARTEL

Keeping innovation and originality alive are the independent record labels: from *Rough Trade* to Howe Street's own *Supreme International Editions*, they take the best local talent and give them a chance to make their impression.

Being more interested in the quality of the music and what it is saying, the approach of the independents is inevitably different, with political ideology and taste influencing their operation just as much as the profit motive. *Rough Trade*, for example, work on socialist lines, with all decisions being made by committee; obviously this does not always make for maximum efficiency, but it is certainly more sympathetic than the ruthlessly commercial and self-seeking methods and motives of some major labels. However, the independent labels too have to face the realities of financial survival — they too have to record, press and, most vitally, sell their records.

It is important that if anyone, anywhere in Britain wants to buy the most obscure independent release they ought to be able to get it from their local record shop.

Until the late '70s the all-important process of the distributing of independent records — all independent labels being localised — was performed by freelance distributors, who simply drove round the country with a stack of records trying to get the various shops to buy them. After this record distribution companies such as *Spartan*, *IDS* or *Pinnacle* set up shop with their own national networks. About three and a half years ago *Rough Trade*, the largest independent label, based in London, decided that the major independents from around the country should co-operate to form their own distribution network, to make the system easier and cheaper. So they joined up, first of all with *Revolver* in Bristol, to form *The Cartel*, which has grown since to seven bases around the country, each distributing records for several labels in their area, and it now deals with the great majority of independent records.

Recently **Sandy McLean** of the Edinburgh (Scottish) branch of *The Cartel*, *Fast Forward*, spoke to *The Music Pages* about how, why and if it works. *Fast Forward* itself has not been in existence for so long — until a year or so ago it was *Fast Product* but their financial backer, **Bob Last**, withdrew his support and the organisation folded. The last few months have clearly not been easy for them and, until very recently, all business has

CARTEL

been transacted in Sandy McLean's flat (a new office has just been opened up in *Alva Street*). *Fast Forward* only consists of two people at present, both of them directors — the other one being **Nick Haines**, who was almost continually on the

telephone working out the weeks orders while his partner explained *Fast Forward* to me.

FAST FORWARD communication

Fast Forward is something of an exception in the seven labels the control *The Cartel* in that, at present at least, it is not actually a recording label, owing to their precarious financial position after *Fast Products*' collapse. However, **Sandy McLean** and **Nick Haines** are just putting a label together at present, to be known as *Disposable Discs*, and have plans to make singles by **Rip**, **Strip** and **Fuckit** (or whatever their name has mutated to now) and **Robert King** (previously lead singer of the magnificent **Scars**) their first releases. Just for the moment though they are occupied with getting the national independent releases around Scotland and making sure that local independent records get national distribution.

The face of *The Cartel* with which I was presented was of an organisation which, because it consists entirely of the independent labels whose records it is distributing, really cares about the music, the musicians and the people who they are dealing with. It tries to create good relations with the shops to whom it sells, and generally endeavours to make the whole business more human. Very creditable too, and yet *The Cartel* has a duty to be more than just friendly, now more than ever. For there is no point in distributing records if they do not get sold, and as Sandy McLean admitted, the promotional side of the organisation leaves much to be desired. *The Cartel* has often been accused of being lacking when it comes to "crossing records over" from the independent to the national chart market. While the

independent ethic is very admirable, any band still wants to get into the charts, as this means selling more of their records. Individual independent labels have not got anything like the resources necessary for a nationwide publicity campaign, and thus *The Cartel* must become more ruthless and wide-ranging in its promotional side.

However, this is not, as was explained to me, particularly easy in a business which, like any other, has its fair share of corruption and prejudice. The difference between a band desperately scraping savings together for their first single, and barely able to pay the

The immediate future for *The Cartel*, both in Scotland and nationally, does not look secure. Just over the last few months the other large distribution companies have been running into trouble: two of the most important, *Pinnacle* and then *IDS*, have just gone bust, leaving *The Cartel* with a lot of responsibility and many new labels on their books. While this obviously opens up great possibilities, it also means that the whole independent business is relying on it. When I asked Sandy McLean how he saw the future of *The Cartel*, he seemed pretty confident that it would not follow the downward path of its

CARTEL

rent for some crumbling flat in Leith, and a nationally recognised new talent is minimal. Unfortunately, the 'breaking' of a band depends on a very few people — most of whom, despite the efforts of the likes of **Jesse Rae** and **Allan Campbell**, are still centred in London. Some, like Glasgow's *Postcard* label five years ago, get lucky and are noticed by some NME journalist who decides to push them — however, many more, just as deserving of attention, never reach the ears or attract the notice of the journalists or the DJs that really matter. Clearly this exaggerated importance on the taste of a select few is not healthy, merely encouraging scraping, fawning and, no doubt, bribery, which aggravates the situation still further. It is into this world that *The Cartel* must break, with all their political ideals and emphasis on the music rather than the money, if it is to survive.

competitors — "at least as long as *Rough Trade* doesn't go under".

Musically things do seem to be stirring in what many in London still appear to view as the dark depths of Scotland. **Jesse Rae** and **Allan Campbell** are doing their very best to wrench back a little musical autonomy from the metropolis so that Scottish bands with real talent, like **The New York Pig Funkers**, **Rip**, **Strip** and **Fuck It** or **James King** and the **Lone Wolves** can make it without going south. *Fast Forward*, as a member of *The Cartel*, has an important part to play in all this, in bringing Edinburgh and Scotland's music to the whole of Britain. Surely one cannot help but support them in this, hoping that they can at the same time, retain the ideals and indeed ideas that make the independent scene so worthwhile, and save us from being completely at the mercy of the likes of **Wham!**: "those fat boys with streaky hair".

LATEST!

compiled by Alastair Dalton.



Joan Ayr and Paul Blyth of The Laughing Academy.

• Radio Latest

Radio Forth (96.8 FM, 194m MW) features local music on Colin Somerville's programmes: *Scottish Waveband* on Mondays, 11 pm-2 am, and *Forth Street*, Tuesdays, 10-11 pm.

The former includes new releases from Scottish bands and a gig guide that rivals *Student's* What's On page. The latter next week includes interviews with **The Stranglers** and **Killing Joke**.

Radio Free City (95.6 FM) is Edinburgh's only remaining community neighbourhood radio station. Broadcasting from the west of the city, it now goes out 6-7 pm Monday through Thursday.

• Folk Festival Latest

This year's Edinburgh Folk Festival takes place between 29 March and 7 April, with events at the George Square Theatre and Queen's Hall, as well as at the Festival Club (aka Teviot Row), which will be open daily, 9 am-3 am. *The Music Pages* are looking for people to form a special Festival Reporting Team, to preview the activities and compile reviews. **Anyone interested in joining this team should come to the Student offices on Friday at 1 pm, or next Wednesday at 1 pm. Alternatively leave your name and phone number/address, or phone 667 5718.**

• Television Latest

The Tube tomorrow (Ch 4, 5.30) features **Marc Almond**, amongst others.

ORS 85 also tomorrow (BBC 2, 7.15) has **Tom Robinson** as guest presenter, and features Pete Wylie of **The Mighty Wah!** in Liverpool, and **QAX**, Janice Long's 'band to watch'. And **Timmy**, of course.

The Other Side of the Tracks on Saturday (Ch 4, 6.00) features **Ray Parker Jr** and **A Day in the Life of The Tube**. (Also the subject of a forthcoming *Music Pages* feature.)

Black Wax later on Saturday (Ch 4, 11.10) is a documentary about **Gil Scott-Heron** and his ten-piece **Midnight Band**.

Whistle Test on Tuesday (BBC 2, new time 7.00) has interviews with **Bryan Adams** (at the Playhouse on Mar 20) and with **Madonna** (by satellite). Also, playing live **The Ramones** and **The Roaring Boys**.

• Get Involved!

Our series of features on local music, *On the Home Front*, and on local bands, *Spotlight*, require people with interest in and/or knowledge of local music. **Don't hesitate** to get involved: come down to the *Student* offices (basement, 1 Buccleuch Place) and leave your name, or come to the editorial meetings at 1 pm on Fridays or the *Music Page* meetings at 1 pm on Wednesdays.

• Gigs Latest

Mar 3, Hoochie Coochie **Terry & Gerry**
The Bow Tie Daddies

Mar 7,
George Square Theatre
The Battlefield Band

• Scotland's premier folk band appearing at the climax of the Edinburgh Folk Festival. Their latest album is *Anthem for the Common Man*.

Mar 8, Art College
Del Amitri
Mar 13, Queen's Hall
The Associates
Apr 26, Playhouse
Millie Jackson
May 5, Caley Palais
The Alarm

Coming soon:
March Violets
Cabaret Voltaire
Boothill Foot Tappers
Swansway
Scritti Politti
The Clash
The Colourfield

• Independent Video

Edinburgh is not exactly teeming with music video makers, but one band who are active on this front is **The Laughing Academy**, who have just released their fourth video single. The members of this electronic trio are **Paul Blyth**, **Joan Ayr** and **Doug McMillan**. Their current release, on video only, is entitled *Suspicion* and comprises three tracks, *Drowning*, *Vertigo* and the title track. The video features familiar spots in Edinburgh (it was shot entirely there), such as the Meadows, Princes

Street, Scottish Widows... even the Main Library, which are mixed and juxtaposed with some interesting but not entirely clear special effects. **Paul Blyth** has previously made the videos which were used on the set of **Paul Haig's** tour last year.

The video is available in record shops, or by post from the address below, for £6.99. **Paul Blyth** would also like to hear from local bands who would like help or facilities for video making. Please write to: **BRAW Products**, 154 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh.

FEATURES

The happiest days of my life

David Steel was elected Rector of Edinburgh University in March 1982. He had already been a student at the University, a past SRC President, and a Liberal MP for over eighteen years. In 1976 he became leader of the Liberal Party and during nine years as party leader has seen the Lib-Lab Pact, the Falklands War, three different leaders of the Labour Party, and the rise of the Liberal/SDP Alliance. Mr Steel ends three years as Rector next month during which time the University itself has celebrated its 400th anniversary, and further education cuts have reached an unprecedented level.

"Looking back over three years it is difficult to judge a rectorship as good or bad. You cannot really judge by the number of brass plaques which have been unveiled as the office itself has changed so much in recent years. I suppose all I have achieved is to keep the Court in order — which is not very difficult — and to help the external image of the University." So reflected Edinburgh University's 41st democratically elected Rector at the end of three years in the loneliest position in the University.

The office of Rector is neither one of student or staff, but it is one which David Steel has enjoyed holding immensely. "The most satisfying thing for me has been dealing with the individual cases of students who have been unable to get grant payments from the authorities and so on. The University itself hasn't really changed during my three years as Rector, but I think there has been a very high level of financial discipline imposed."

Mr Steel considered what he felt the greatest change in further education as a whole had been since 1982. "I am sorry to say that it has been the drastic squeeze on the capacity of higher education to carry out its function, and I think this is something which concerns all of us in the House of Commons at the moment. A lot of us believe that, at a time when actual industrial employment is down, then that ought to be compensated for by an increase in investment in education. But the reverse is happening as education continues to suffer through cuts."

"... quite often there has been a clash between the requirement to be at the University and the requirement to be in Parliament. Quite often I've had to make the decision between the two ..."

"Being a Member of Parliament has helped overall," continued Mr Steel, "particularly when dealing with local authorities, Ministers and to a certain extent with the University. The biggest drawback is that quite often there has been a clash between the requirement to be at the University and the requirement to be in Parliament. Quite often I've had to make the decision between the two, but I know that when I took the job on."

Despite presiding over what have undoubtedly been three eventful years at the University, the outgoing Rector declined to single out any particularly amusing incident — preferring instead to leave those until his memoirs!

"I've greatly appreciated the experience over the three years, and it is a very difficult question to even single out a particularly memorable incident. I did, for example, enjoy opening the new research unit at King's Buildings, and I have enjoyed visiting some of the departments such as tropical medicine. I did appreciate very much all the functions connected with the 400th anniversary in 1983, and also the fact that we were able to rescue the day nursery from closure."

As the campaign to elect his successor gathers pace, Mr Steel considered carefully whether or not it was a good idea to have a "working Rector". The definition of the term itself has changed so much in the last twenty years and no longer is it understood to represent someone who would be around all the time to represent student interests on the University Court. This, he reckoned, had been rendered somewhat unnecessary by the greater power which directly elected student representatives have.

"To some extent, the very extension of student representation almost did the rectorship out of a job, and it would be a mistake to imagine that there is a task here to be done by the Rector as someone who is plodding around on a day-to-day basis. The rectorship is peculiar — in the nice sense — and a uniquely Scottish institution, and so long as it is used to promote the interests of the staff and students of the University, and perhaps to give the University a bit more publicity, then that is a role which the rectorship at Edinburgh now is."

Having so outlined the job of Rector, how he viewed the position of Rector after three years in the post, Mr Steel considered whether or not a candidate such as Nelson Mandela could adequately fill the role. "Obviously not, but if Mandela was elected then it would be for quite different reasons. There is a precedent for this type of election, but it is a choice which the staff and students alike must make next month."

David Steel was unsure whether or not the process of having an election campaign itself was right. It is a relatively new idea, and in past times it used to be the case where the appearance of a rectorship candidate at the University was a minus mark. The election itself, however, was definitely a good idea.

No Edinburgh Rector has ever served two consecutive terms, and Mr Steel did not wish to set a precedent. "Some people were kind enough to suggest I stand for another three years, but I said at least six months ago that I wouldn't." He felt the nature of the rectorship would make it a mistake for anyone to do more than their three years. In any case, he felt, the position had taken up more of his time than he had anticipated and it would not be fair on his political interests to continue for another three years.

"I do hope that people will remember my term as Rector as one which was fairly open, one where people could come and go, and one where he, as Rector, had accepted invitations from as many different student organisations as possible. In trying to do as much as possible, David Steel has tried to please as many people as he could — whether by having a



"I have enjoyed my term as Rector very much indeed. I shall look back on it and treasure it as a very good experience for me."

History of the Rectorship

Unlike the office of Chancellor, the office of Rector at Edinburgh University was not a creation of Parliament. It was first established in 1620 when the position was given to the Lord Provost. Mr Andrew Ramsey, who treated the title as a purely nominal addition to his existing duties for the town.

An Act of Council defined the purpose and function of the Rector in 1640. He was to be "the eye of the Council of the Town for universal inspection, and as the mouth of the college for giving information to the Council". It was also the function of 17th-century Rectors to supervise the Principal and professors whilst "labouring to compose them joyously and without scandal".

The idea of a Rector, in the modern sense, did not occur until the 19th century when the idea of a Rector was wrested from the Town Council. Until 1858 the position was regarded as a perk for the Lord Provost, emphasising the control over the then town's college. The Scottish Universities Act of 1856 gave the first parliamentary recognition to the role of students by providing two representatives on the University Courts; one elected as Rector, the other appointed as his assessor.

For almost a century from 1858, the students of the University elected a series of national public figures. Gladstone was elected in 1858, and his successors included Thomas Carlyle, the Earl of Rosebery, Lord Kitchener and Sir Alexander Fleming. Lloyd George was elected Rector whilst Prime Minister in 1920, and his successor, Stanley Baldwin, became Premier whilst still Rector at Edinburgh.

railway engine named after the University (as he managed to do for the Railway Society), or speaking at this year's Myne's Court Burns Supper. "None of these things are crucial to the function of Rector, but what else has he to do but be about and be available."

On a lighter note, Mr Steel

Sir Winston Churchill served three years as Rector, from 1929 to 1932, and like all others before, 1954 regarded the position as a public honour rather than a working position.

The 1954 election saw the emergence of the idea of a "working Rector" — a precedent which remained. This was someone who would combine the dignity of the office with an active involvement and participation in the affairs and interests of the University. Sir Sydney Smith and Dr James Robertson Justice were the first such "working Rectors", and the outgoing incumbent, David Steel, was SRC President in 1960 when he presided over the installation of another Liberal Party leader, Jo Grimond.

Malcolm Muggeridge served a single brief and inglorious year after the 1966 election where his lack of intent to take the rectorship seriously became obvious from his comments after his election.

Thereafter Kenneth Ailsop served three years, appointing the immediate past SRC President George Foulkes (now a Labour MP) as his Assessor. The period of worldwide student unrest in the late 1960s and early 1970s saw two consecutive student Rectors — including Gordon Brown who also became a Labour MP.

Magnus Magnusson was elected in 1976, and was followed by the Very Rev. Anthony Ross in 1979. The outgoing Rector David Steel confessed not to have enjoyed his own campaign, when he was elected with a comfortable majority in 1982, but reckons to have thoroughly appreciated his three years following in some very distinguished footsteps.

confessed to being a "Spitting Image" fan. "It is extremely important in any society that those in positions of prominence or power should be open to ridicule — within reason, of course! I find it very entertaining and don't mind appearing in it, although I know a lot of people do find it offensive." Looking beyond next month,

and the end of his three years in office, the leader of the Liberal Party considered his own political future, and that of the Alliance. "I hope very much that the trend which emerged in the 1983 General Election will develop further. In 1983 the Liberal/SDP Alliance received 25 per cent of the votes cast, and I do not exclude the possibility that the Alliance might win the next election. I think the mood in the country could be very different from what it was in 1983, and possibly a move against the present government. But I don't know. We may not, but I am certain that we will make a substantial increase in the number of votes we had last time."

"I am no devotee of astrology, but the astrologists all tell me that things look very good for the 1990s and tell me just to hang on, maybe I will!"

The outgoing Rector decided wisely against leaving any "pompous-sounding message" to the students at Edinburgh who have known him as Rector. He did suggest that perhaps they ought to count themselves lucky that they are students, and students at this university. "Edinburgh is quite different from most universities because of the fine city it is set in, and of its histories and traditions. That is something which you simply cannot build overnight, and I think students should treasure their time here."

David Steel has generally been considered as a good, working Rector who has always done his best both to be available to students and staff alike, and to represent the interests of the University on a national level. Whatever happens after he leaves the square, while Rector's office in Buccleuch Place his future looks secure, if uncertain, in the centre of British politics.

"I have enjoyed my term as Rector very much indeed. I shall look back on it and treasure it as a very good experience for me. It has also taught me a great deal about the up-to-date problems of the universities, and I hope that is something which will stand me, and the University, in good stead for a long time."

Devin Scobie

Wanted

Enthusiastic features writers for next term's issues of Student. Anyone interested please come along to Buccleuch Place on Fridays at 1 pm.

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Ecology - the acid test

The last few years has seen a phenomenal growth in the number and size of ecological environmental groups known collectively as the Green Movement, and yet many people still assume that ecology is the exclusive domain of bearded eccentrics: it's an assumption that, if we are interested in survival, must be changed. Consider these facts:

Rain forests: Since 1950 half of the world's rain forests have disappeared. Rain forests are vital in maintaining world environmental and climatic stability, they are the world's richest biological resource. Every year a further area of rain forest about one and a half times the size of Scotland is chopped down, frequently leaving a desert or barren soil.

Population: The present human population is over four billion. It took us 100,000 years to reach that figure. Another four billion are likely to be added within the next 50 to 100 years.

Acid Rain: Within the next ten years a large part of the Black Forest in West Germany will die, destroyed by acid rain. Many of Scandinavia's lakes are already "dead" through acidification, and Scotland's lochs and streams may go the same way. Britain, the largest exporter of acid rain in

economic system, rather like a tarted up juggernaut, is hurtling on all bright lights and glitter, full of new gadgets, with us as passengers. The fact that a large proportion of the world's population are suffering untold misery to keep us on the road may not trouble us: the fact that we are travelling faster and faster without any real idea as to where we are going or how to stop, may cause us some unease: the fact that we are destroying our resources and the environment upon which we and our juggernaut depend, should scare the living daylight out of us.

Of course the problem isn't just political, it's also personal. Most students will enjoy the market economy set up, it's all rather exhilarating with new toys and machines, and money to be made, and anyway if you get out of the juggernaut you'd be left behind. Much easier to stay inside, to be cynical or apathetic or dis-

Ethiopia (Band Aids are good for small cuts not gaping wounds), if survival, and on a reasonably pollution free, lifeform rich planet, is what we want, then a change in lifestyle and attitude is essential. That affects things like the car you buy, your attitude to food (hamburgers need a little beef that needs a lot of wheat that Ethiopians need), your willingness to use and help with recycling facilities, and your attitude to the destruction of local woodland.

Students are in an ideal position to find out what is going on (and finding out and doing nothing is as much use as a complacent intellectual and moral "ostrich act"). If you don't like what you find, argue, write, vote, act, at a local and national level, for change. Get involved now.

Tom Ballantine

Some addresses:
Friends of the Earth
(Scotland)
53 George IV Bridge,
EU Friends of the Earth
Janet Forbes
13/7 West Nicolson Street
Tel 668 3415.



Western Europe, is the only West European country refusing to join the "30% Club" set up to achieve a one-third reduction in sulphur dioxide emissions (the major cause of acid rain).

The Countryside: Between 1969 and 1974 the use of fertilisers on the land increased by 40%. Since 1945 25% of Britain's hedges have been destroyed. About 2,000 miles more are destroyed every year. Since 1947 50% of Britain's ancient semi-natural woodland has been destroyed (the Nature Conservancy Council predict there will be no such woodland outside nature reserves or other specially protected areas by the year 2025).

Expenditure on the Countryside: The Nature Conservancy Council budget for 1978-79 was £7 million. In 1978-79 the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food gave out grants to farmers to "improve" farms, worth £540 million.

These misfortunes may strike us as being of only indirect personal importance, but even if we do not live in Bonnybridge or Sellafield, Bhopal or Ethiopia, we are all affected, and will be more so, by ecological recklessness: through the food we eat, the water we drink, the countryside we live in or visit and the air we breathe. Furthermore, it is worth remembering that, whereas political mistakes sometimes can be put right, ecological mistakes usually can't.

All Tarted Up With Nowhere To Go

Like it or not, the western market

Amid the current "wave" of student demonstrations there seem to be few people aware that these particular protests and other generally associated activities are destined to achieve precisely nothing. Student protests are quite simply a miserable and pathetic force. But what is more disturbing is that they are in so many ways symbolic of the grovelling subservience to authority of the vast majority of today's student population. Today's students are marked by a total lack of imagination and initiative, an adherence to tired and worn-out ideologies, and an unsavoury obsession with the career ladder. The only solution to the psychological ailments within the universities, and the attacks from outside on liberty and education, must be violent protest on the streets.

Outrageous? Perhaps. Yet, for those who genuinely want to take positive action: action likely to prevent some of the worst aspects of the new right-wing policies actually coming into effect, the plain fact of the matter is that there is little real alternative. The failure to realise this unpleasant truth stems from the current intellectual sterility in universities and from a failure to understand the nature of power in Thatcherite Britain.

Thatcherism is contemptuous of any criticism and will only listen to brute force, i.e. anything which poses a threat to its own interests. The alleged "Tory climb-down" over grants was not the result of a few banner-waving students but the even fewer letters to Tory MPs which came from influential contributors to party funds. And, although the miners' strike has been essentially a failure, it bears out the same cynical yet fundamentally sound conclusion regarding the necessity of violent protest. The miners have failed due to their mismanagement of force, and their lack of understanding of the elements of power which have maintained Thatcherism for so long. A brief look at the strike ought to show why student violence could succeed.

The miners have failed in their challenge on the government by pursuing two separate "goals". On the one hand there is the industrial dimension and, on the other, the ideological dimension. But the miners, by beginning the dispute on essentially industrial grounds, were starting out on completely the wrong footing since they did

Opinion

Power and Protest in the 1980s—why future student demonstrations must be violent

not have the means to defeat the government singlehanded (due to the large amount of stockpiled coal). Thus to sustain the dispute violence was first required (though naturally this does not mean they were the first to use it), then an extension of their argument into the ideological arena. However, by using "limited" violence, yet at times disclaiming it, and by conducting an ideological attack on the government (which was not wholeheartedly supported by the Labour movement) while proclaiming the whole matter to be an industrial dispute, they have hopelessly compromised themselves.

What lessons, then, does this have for us? The main one concerns, obviously, the use of political power and it is important to recognise the differences between the miners' situation and our own. Firstly, the miners' main weapon, the ability to cause power-cuts, was not there. Secondly, the media was against them, which undermined their ideological attack. Thirdly, the success of the ideological attack depended upon unity in the Labour movement. Finally, violence from working class groups is easy for a government to dismiss under a "threat to democracy/trade union power"-type argument. However, for students things are somewhat different. First of all their power rests on street violence pure and simple. This in itself is effective, but it is in the danger of it spreading that its real potency lies. Secondly, student violence still has a certain romanticism (due to the fact the "60s generation" form a large part of the media), and so in its public appeal is treated differently from "working class violence". For this reason the third point is that the media would actually serve students' interests in blowing any situation into a major event. Finally, unity of purpose in any student revolt is in many ways unimportant since its

great strength lies in its very chaos.

Of course, having spelled this all out it is obvious we are not living in the sixties any longer. Student protest is less likely to occur, particularly at Edinburgh University! Nevertheless, the very unlikelihood of student violence taking place in Thatcherite Britain actually increases its potential shock value. Moreover, Edinburgh's situation contains many advantages over other universities.

In broad terms this university can be considered a bastion of conservatism due to the outward (and deceptive) veneer of the bourgeois careerists. Thus any violence could not be simply dismissed as the work of "trendy lefties" as would be the case with other universities. As to the actual violence itself the university is not a campus affair which would make police control far harder. And, most significantly, the streets around the University are extremely narrow in places, making them ideally suited to the building of barricades. What is more, the area around the University is that of tourist/Festival Edinburgh, a very susceptible point of economic interest.

Violence is both necessary and capable of achieving far-reaching goals. But first of all a change in attitudes to violence is vital. The Left's failure is the failure to understand crude power politics, and its pacifism is both dangerous and disarming. Dangerous in that it fosters illusions about the nature of power, and disarming in that it denies people their only effective means of political action. A change in attitude to violence must become the first plank of a new revolutionary doctrine.

But is any of this actually possible? I doubt it very much. Not because students have any particular moral objections but because idealism is dead and bourgeois careerism rules unchallenged as the dominating social value. With idealism dead, independent thought dies too. And without independent thought people become the slaves of society rather than its architects. The current inability of any significant sections of the student community to take any effective action against the government is the obvious outcome of an intellectual and moral sterility, the effects of which are likely to remain for a very long time.

Alaric Searle

FEATURES

Gateway to self-respect

An organisation which holds a democratic meeting to decide whether or not *Student* should be allowed to visit it is something different. When that meeting is held behind closed doors in a dim, green room in the presence of Scotland's most famous reformed criminal, that organisation is shown to be something special. *Jenny Dunn* and *Alan Young* report.

The man is Jimmy Boyle; the place is Abbeyhill; the organisation is the *Gateway Exchange*. Last November, having been in existence for only three months the *Gateway Exchange* was elected as one of the Edinburgh Student Charities Appeal's fourteen beneficiaries, and it will receive a proportion of the money raised throughout the year. The money will go to a unique self-help organisation which does for drug addicts, alcoholics, the unemployed, and ex-prisoners what social workers and government departments cannot — gives them a chance to rebuild their lives and regain their self-respect. Above all, the *Gateway Exchange* is creative, and its art gallery, displaying the work of those in the organisation, is renowned throughout Edinburgh.

Evlynn, with spiky hair and Art College education, played a major part in the meeting *Student* attended, and she said "Unlike a one-issue self-help organisation such as *Alcoholics Anonymous*, we are not too intense, and we do not have too many people of the same background with the same problems." She explained that different people with different problems can interact in different ways. So, for example, the unemployed can help drug addicts in a way that fellow addicts cannot, and both groups have something to learn from, and something to teach, alcoholics.

The first impression one might have on walking into the smoke-filled room was that here had congregated the drop-outs and misfits of society. However, a friendly "Hello, pal. There's a seat for you over there" from Jimmy Boyle soon dispelled any such ideas. What took place was a discussion encompassing the philosophy of the *Gateway Exchange*. There are plans for an art exhibition by the *Gateway*, to take place in Norwich. After discussion it was agreed that a suggestion put forward by another visitor to the meeting — that Youth CND should be allowed to hold a meeting on the *Gateway* premises — was accepted. Everyone at the meeting shared the view that CND is too orientated towards the middle class, and the breakdown of such social divisions is an essential part of the *Gateway's* thinking.

For helping many of the community's problem people, the *Gateway Exchange* is rewarded by support from local organisations and businessmen. As well as ESCA's donation, it has been the recipient of £500 from the Evening News, Various education trusts, and private individuals, all contribute to the upkeep of the *Gateway* itself. It receives no public funding, and this is deliberate policy, vital to its continued existence. Having spoken out against the treatment of prisoners at Peterhead Prison, it received a visit from two government officials, who threatened to cut its grant. This situation is both humorous and illustrative of its independence, since it receives no government grant whatsoever.

That independence is paramount in maintaining the unique flavour of the *Gateway Exchange* — the fact that it is principally about people, not about paperwork. As a consequence the people there can do what they want, when they want: no-one can close them down.

Because so many of the *Gateway's* members have had

some experience of what one described as the "Penal Institution Conveyor Belt", their views on the prison system are worth listening to. Those views are almost revolutionary. In its brochure, the *Gateway Exchange* describes the penal system in this country as "a festering sore on the face of society". Jimmy Boyle and others at the *Gateway* feel that the conditions and regime in which prisoners are incarcerated simply makes them more bitter and hardened in their attitudes. They call for the prison service to become more accountable to the general public and to genuinely encompass rehabilitation. They believe (and try to take action to ensure) that individuals on release should be equipped with the skills for directing their energies in socially beneficial ways. In making contact with prisoners, the *Gateway Exchange* makes it clear that prisoners should only approach it if they are interested and willing to make a genuine break with crime. It offers the help of all sorts of people to enable them to do so.

Some people might think the *Gateway Exchange* is a ghetto for drop-outs and failures — society's rejects. Evlynn, again: "People will find us if they want to. We would rather 'spread the word' than achieve wide publicity. People shouldn't go on second-hand view. We are sensitive to people coming for the first time, and we make a point of remembering them." Most people who have been to the *Gateway* will make point of remembering it also.

Southside story

Nestled between the Fortnight Gallery and what looks like a disused warehouse on West Crosscauseway lies the office for the Southside Association. *Naomi Marks* went along to see exactly what this association is.

The Southside Association was originally established 12 years ago when a large number of proposals were being put forward for changes in and around the Southside locality. Amongst others, these included plans for a 6-lane main road running through the area and the demolition of many buildings. Obviously, these proposals were controversial and there was much opposition from residents and local organisations. It was out of these panic conditions, in which various local groups worked together to fight the proposals, that the Southside Association was born.

Today its role has changed somewhat but it remains essentially a voluntary, co-ordinating body for groups and associations within the community such as tenants-rights and welfare associations. It is an independent organisation, answerable only to the local community although its two full-time workers are funded by Lothian Regional Council. Like many similar organisations the Southside Association has no specific function, its aim being to give people the information and advice they need for self-help



The Gateway logo: a human figure emerging from life's trials with dignity.

The general feeling is that it is better for people to help themselves and for this reason it is difficult to give examples of its achievements in concrete terms. Workers from the organisation help run the Southside Youth Club situated in the old James Clerk School and it has help set up mother and toddler groups and lunch clubs for the elderly. At the moment one of its chief priorities is to build and establish a day-care centre for the elderly which is vitally needed in the area. The main set-back to the project is lack of funding with an estimated £80,000 needed.

It is very easy to forget that the Southside area is a thriving community with a great deal of community feeling. Being only 10 minutes from the city centre and having a large student population along with an equally large

number of single professional people living in flats this fact is often overlooked. However, the Southside is home for a substantial number of families and a great deal more elderly people. Whilst local people recognise the need and indeed want better housing facilities there is a great deal of feeling against a policy of 'pushing' people out of the area. What is hoped for is more sheltered accommodation and council housing plus the allocation of improvement grants for existing accommodation. At the moment a housing report, prepared by two community-work students on placement at the Southside Association, is being considered and it is hoped that the city council will respond to the proposals put forward for the needs of the area present in it.

It is in this way that the Southside Association acts as an umbrella organisation being able to co-ordinate the activities and put forward the wishes of a number of self-help groups. As well as this, however, the office itself is open to give advice and help to individuals on a Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning.

This part of its role is very often an important one, for as well as being a centre for notifying people of public meetings, local events and development plans for the area, it is often a last resort for people requiring help and information. During the short time I was in the office there was not only a visit from a gentleman wishing to take advantage of the cheap-rate photocopying service but also an elderly lady who, feeling unable to confront the housing authority herself about problems with a council house swop, had turned to the Southside Association for advice on what to do and where to go. As a last resort, if necessary, one of the workers at the Association will represent people unable to put their own case forward.

It was suggested to me that there was a certain amount of resentment towards students in the area but perhaps this is inevitable considering their transient existence in the area and minimal involvement in the community. It was, however, also suggested that this was a pity since students do have much to offer to any community. The office is there to give advice to anyone (even students!) regarding welfare rights, housing problems and the like and will willingly display publicity for events both inside and outside the University.

Archie Speaks

Not long ago, when the Scottish football team was floundering in the lower regions of a European championship table, we tended to defend our natural pride with remarks like "Well, at least we can play rugby". Now, after

Now, after Paris, perhaps the reverse is true, and if Scotland can get a point in Seville next Wednesday the sad deterioration of a once proud rugby team will pale into insignificance.

With Archie MacPherson being in Edinburgh to promote his rectoral campaign, there was a chance to ask him about the Scottish team and the remainder of the domestic season. How then did he rate our chances next Wednesday night?

"The last three performances by Scotland have been the best three consecutive displays by any team I've seen in recent years. But Seville will be very difficult — the toughest game of the lot."

Will Archibald play a role against the Spanish? "That would depend on how Mo Johnston plays against Aberdeen." Is there not an argument that it would seem unwise to play Archibald against a defence that knows his game so well? "Maybe, but you can't ignore a man who's consistently scoring in the Spanish league. Whatever the case, if Scotland get a point we can start looking out for the Mexico brochures."

And if we get to Mexico? "If you can play in Mexico you can play anywhere in the world," Archie insisted. "I was there last year and the heat is unbelievable. Also, due to European TV concessions, the matches will be played in the hottest part of the day. You really have to look towards Argentina or Brazil to cope with the conditions."

A rather unmemorable domestic season is nearly in its last quarter. "I'm sure Aberdeen will win the title, even although they're not the team they were two years ago," commented Mr MacPherson. "They've come through a transitional period with relative ease largely because of the problems Rangers and Celtic themselves are experiencing."

What is wrong with the "Old Firm"? "I think finance is a major difficulty. Rangers and Celtic no longer possess the resources relative to other clubs that they used to do."

And the Cup? "I know Aberdeen are desperate to win the Scottish Cup. To do so four years in a row would be a remarkable achievement and this could be an inspirational factor." The draw for the next round presented Hearts with the possibility of entertaining Aberdeen at Tynecastle (providing the Edinburgh side can dispose of Brechin in the fourth round replay).

Archie MacPherson has had many great goals to commentate on during his years with the BBC, out of which he cites two as being particularly memorable. "Kenny's goal at Anfield against Wales nearly broke my larynx and I'll never forget Archie Gemmill's goal at Mendoza. There were 50 TV commentators sitting in a row at the stadium and when the ball crossed the line, all 50 of them jumped and raised their arms. I'd never seen that before."

We can only hope that after Wednesday night Archie might be able to add another goal to his selective list of favourites, and Arconada another goal to his equally selective list of blunders.

Dave Yarrow

TAKE IT TO THE TOP!

There are few events that fire the imagination more than an attempt on Everest. It is always a battle against the odds, some are won, many have been lost. Next month, Mal Duff an Edinburgh mountaineer leads a team aiming for the greatest triumph of all — the North-East Ridge route. Mal spoke to *Student* about the most important expedition of his life.

The formidable North-East Ridge route is the last unclimbed route of the world's highest mountain. Many will remember the dramatic pictures of the only other expedition to attempt the North-East Ridge. That expedition, led by Chris Bonington in 1982 was abandoned in tragic circumstances after claiming the lives of two team members Pete Boardman and Joe Tasker. Mal's attitude to the tragedy is necessarily practical "Obviously it's very sobering to think Joe and Pete died of exhaustion — the thought of them is there, but not from a practical point of view because every single route that has been taken up to the top of Everest has experienced human tragedy."

The North-East Ridge route is so formidable a climb because the real difficulties and dangers such as the treacherous "pinnacles" section are to be found so high up — above 26,000 feet. They come at a time when exhaustion is beginning to take its toll on the climbers. Such dangers are increased by average temperatures as low as -36C and wind speeds on the summit of up to 60 mph. Nobody can survive long above 22,000 feet, even with bottled oxygen. The cold, combined with the wind will defeat even the most modern down clothing, and the body dehydrates very rapidly at altitude. A climber needs up to 8 pints of liquid a day, a time consuming job when all drinks are prepared by melting snow.

"It won't be easy, the ridge is over two miles long. It involves hard technical climbing over 26,000 feet; extreme altitude where the slightest movement demands the utmost physical and mental effort. However, our team is young, strong and experienced. We have collectively over 40 major expeditions under our belts, including seven successful ascents on 8,000 metre peaks."



Everest — Is it about to lose its last unclimbed route?

The expedition team, which includes the first British woman climber to attempt Everest leaves England on March 6th. Awaiting them at base camp will be over five tonnes of equipment and provisions, including 65 kilos of medical supplies and 3 tonnes of foodstuffs. Among the latter can be found 1,500 Yorkie bars and 200 litres of wine.

By far the best help the expedition could hope for has been available in the form of Mal's good friend Chris Bonington.

"Chris has passed on much good advice and information to me. He has given details of the weaknesses of his '82 expedition and we've tried to ensure that they won't happen again in our expedition. Perhaps the best advice he's given to us is to take more lead climbers so on this expedition there will be ten in all. One of these is Allen Fyffe whose experience on the South West face in 1975 with Chris should prove invaluable to us."

This experience seems even more vital when one considers the unusually short time that the team has been preparing for the climb.

"We got the permit six months ago. The normal time for

preparation is 18 months but our training has been intensive."

As if climbing the mountain did not present enough problems, when the summit comes within striking range Mal will be faced with the task of deciding which two climbers will actually make the final assault.

"Although the final decision will be mine, all personal ambitions I may have will take a back seat. Basically it will be the two fittest at the time who will make the final climb."

Weather permitting the final ascent will take place sometime in May though Mal puts it rather better.

"We'll climb either until we're knackered or the monsoons come — whichever happens first." Hopefully, by then the "ultimate" climb will have been completed and an unclimbed ridge route will no longer exist. All planning is now complete. However, one thing the 16-strong party needs, cannot be planned for or taken with them — that little bit of luck. Let's hope they will find that final ingredient on the slopes of Everest.

Andrew Wyatt

Women's Hockey Braving the freeze

Despite the arctic conditions of the last week or so, the women's hockey team have been in action on a few occasions

A week past on Sunday the venue was a very hard pitch at Peffermill for a league match against Trinity. Having beaten the visitors indoors on Wednesday, the University were all set for a repeat performance and started well when Alison touched in a shot from a short corner (somebody must have told her at last that the centre forward is supposed to score goals). However, lack of concentration and the visitors coming to terms with the pitch meant a couple of quick goals and the University was struggling, but — doctor to the rescue — Lynn scored a cracker from all of 16 yards.

Wednesday meant another hard pitch, this time out at Steps where the team maintained their

unbeaten Unis league record by beating Strathclyde 2-1. A rather lacklustre performance though, with the highlight a good opening goal from Clare Jameson on promotion to the firsts.

Sunday saw a changed indoor side (due to the Dental Ball) in Stirling for the Scottish Unis indoor tournament. A relatively easy section saw Edinburgh come out on top with 4-0, 9-1 and 8-3 wins against Stirling, St Andrews and Glasgow.

The semi-final was against Aberdeen and after a tight game the full-time score was 1-1. In extra time our elderly player with failing eyesight redeemed herself somewhat from an earlier penalty miss by scoring the winning goal. The final against Dundee, however, didn't go according to plan and the undoubtedly more skilful Edinburgh team went down to a much harder (and larger) side.

O.A.P.

Men's Hockey Indoor Tournament

Edinburgh men's indoor hockey team went to Dundee at the weekend in search of the Universities indoor title.

Their qualifying group looked simple enough on paper and an initial 6-0 victory over Stirling seemed to confirm this. However, the next match against Strathclyde proved a struggle with Edinburgh scraping through by a 4-3 margin. Despite a 4-3 defeat by Heriot-Watt in their final qualifying

match a place in the semi-finals had been secured.

The semi-final against Aberdeen proved disappointing and Edinburgh slipped to a 9-6 defeat. Aberdeen went onto win the tournament with a victory over Dundee in the final.

Throughout the tournament, no Edinburgh player managed to strike top form. Some consolation was gained however in the form of Ashly Whittome, whose performances when brought on gave promise for the future.

Andrew Wyatt

An Unreal ending

The so-called sprit of sportsmanship fell to new depths at the Pleasance on Sunday when the final of the Intra-Mural 5-a-side football competition was abandoned in farcical conditions.

The final, between the "Green Barons" and "Unreal" was abandoned after both teams squared up to each other as if awaiting the bell to start round one. The fault cannot be laid at the feet of anyone but "Unreal" — a team of near pensioners whose temperament unfortunately did not match their age. In earlier "rounds" their off the ball antics such as kicking an opponent already on the floor had made them unpopular with those watching. In the final itself, their failure to control themselves after niggling fouls resulted in an

ending that no one could have wished to see in Intra-Mural sport.

The whole aim of intra-mural sport has always been to promote sport for sport's sake, the emphasis lying on enjoyable competition with winning, as far as is possible taking a back seat. However this fact was lost on the "Unreals" who appeared to consider it was a World Cup Final they were playing in and not a Sunday afternoon 5-a-side.

Whilst it is true that the standard of refereeing in the final was not particularly high, if the true spirit of Intra-Mural had prevailed this should not have mattered. Unfortunately "Franz Beckenbauer" at the heart of "Unreal's" defence did not share this view. As a result, the last match "Unreal" will play in Intra-Mural 5-a-side ended in farce. It's so easy to smile when you're winning — isn't it lads . . . ?

Andrew Wyatt

Cross Country Win

In a thrilling finish Calum Henderson from Edinburgh University won the senior and junior men's event at the 9th annual City of Edinburgh races.

In the race, one of Scotland's top cross-country events, Calum won by just one second, beating Edinburgh Southern Harriers' club mate Colin Hume in a superb sprint finish. Calum's time for the 5,500 metre event was 28 minutes and 48 seconds.

The victory was a tremendous achievement. Competition was undoubtedly stiff — the total entry was 740 competitors which was up by 38% on last year's total. This proved once again the high status that the event has now reached. Competitors from 59 clubs took part ranging from Aberdeen to Darlington.

The main event won by Calum, had 200 entrants and was an excellent rehearsal for the Scottish Championships to be run at the same venue this weekend. Hopefully, the result will also remain the same.

Andrew Wyatt

Sport in Brief

Pool

Congratulations to the Grant House team who lifted the inaugural Pollock Halls pool competition last week. The team of Grant, Angus and Dave beat Salisbury Green 5-1 in the final.

Sir
Lester



This week's three selections all seem to possess good each way chances. If Greenwood Lad takes an early lead in the 2.30 at Kempton, with his lightweight he should prove difficult to catch. Durham Edition also possesses a sporting chance in the 1.45 at Doncaster. Finally Winart looks capable of pegging back front runner, Harry Hastings in the Ladbroke novices hurdle race final, also at Doncaster.

International Student Rugby

Next week marks the climax of the season for the Scottish Universities XV when fixtures against Scotland Under-21 and Welsh Universities take place.

The preparation undertaken in France and Spain over the new year will be put severely to the test. However, the preparations went well with victories over such clubs as Barcelona (37-19) and Thuir (23-7).

The match against the National Under-21 XV takes place on Tuesday 27th February at Inverleith (kick-off 3 pm). It is an ideal opportunity to view the best young players in Scottish rugby. Indeed the Scotland team contains in its ranks many players of 1st Division and District experience such as Waite (Kelso),

Oliver (Hawick), Hynd (Jedforest), and Richardson of Edinburgh Academics. No doubt they will be anxious to improve upon Scotland's record of one win out of three since the fixture commenced in 1981-82.

The Universities team is based on the Edinburgh pack. The back line looks especially potent with talented footballers Brennan (Strathclyde) and Spawforth (Edinburgh), Thorpe, Stevens, Alderson, Leckie, Hunter (all Edinburgh); Ferguson (Dundee) and Mitchell (Aberdeen) are all retained from last year's side.

All in all the game promises to be exciting and entertaining, with the student side perhaps starting as slight favourites because of their greater cohesion as a team.

Watch this space next week for a preview of the Scottish Universities v. Welsh Universities fixtures.

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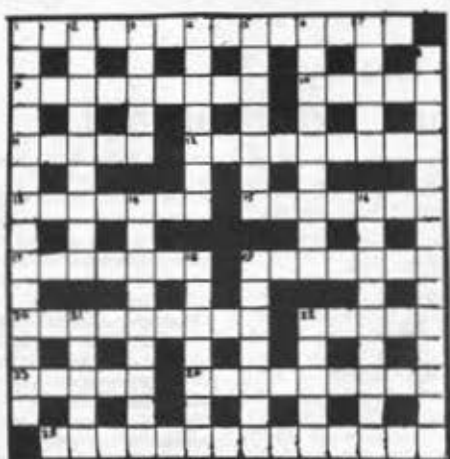
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EPISODE SIX

X-WORD



Across

- Where the maniacally loon-man might be. (4, 2, 3, 3)
- Last week's lover was a real card! (9)
- Tree planted by British flat. It's sustainable! (5)
- Prude upset by con-man. (5)
- Agreement to let out for a good while. (4, 5)
- Charges follow on horseback in the east. (7)
- Rescue class taking before the M1 roundabout. (7)
- Spot of publicity for a listener with a silence. (2-4)
- Little Billy's last titty and not going back in Salfordshire. (7)
- Top garments that could be great. (6)
- He got overtaken control from approx 3 14159a stars. (5)
- Superfluous members of the film crowd. (5)
- A plaque, an error, a well said! (6)
- The appliance of inner warmth. (7, 7)

Down

- Edifice of the University founded on the philosopher's stone, perhaps? (5, 4, 5)
- The determination of Shakespeare? (6)
- Secret dinner without a star. (5)
- Sweet nothing. (7)
- Nora Lee sorted out the lady. (7)
- The very earliest communication card? (9)
- Start at the bottom, go through the alphabet from beginning to end, climb a Swiss mountain, then come back down to the dance-hall. (5)
- Time to cook a soft-boiled breakfast. (5, 5, 3)
- Unwilling to cut another tatty. (9)
- Worker on jaw producing fact. (9)
- King George of Canada decapitated in Spain. (7)
- British thumb is fixed with metal. (7)
- Alice's cookie invitation to dine. (3, 2)
- A girl and Philip before father. (5)

Last week's solution

Across: 1. Edinburgh Castle; 8. Traverse; 9. Renew; 11. Reave; 12. Succulent; 13. Aspiration; 16. Silt; 18. Nile; 19. Burns Night; 21. Excuse; 23. Lunna; 25. Taint; 26. Alastair; 32. General Election.
Down: 1. Entertainment; 2. Iran; 3. Basketball; 4. Roads; 5. Half Crown; 6. Atrium; 7. Finkering; 10. Without Reason; 14. Policeman; 15. Throat; 17. Analytic; 20. Oater; 22. Easel; 24. Man.

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SCOTTISH STUDENT DRAMA FESTIVAL
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Kirkcaldy College
27th & 28th February Downstairs

WHITEWASH
Jordanhill College
28th February Upstairs

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