**STUDENT**

Edinburgh University Student Newspaper
Thursday 15th January 1987
20p

● Select Committee acknowledge student hardship

**MPs call for grants rise**

by Gary Duncan

MPs have strongly criticised the current level of student grants and believe there is an urgent need for a reform of the system.

The Conservative-dominated House of Commons’ Education Select Committee say, in a tough report published on Tuesday, that parents are satisfied that students are suffering an appreciable degree of hardship as a result of the current system, and they strongly criticise the Department of Education and Science for not doing its own research into students’ costs. In its own evidence to the committee, the department had admitted that the level of the grant was now thought to be inadequate for students’ needs.

The Select committee’s report goes on to call for a reform of the system, on the threshold at which parents have to contribute to be raised, and for a reduction in the size of the contribution mandated from parents with a middle-range income. The committee noted evidence that almost half of all parents paid either less than the full amount, or none of the contribution; they also considered the possibility of making such contributions compulsory.

Other recommendations call for the Education Department to make its own assessment of students’ costs, possibly based on a new index of student costs; a three-travel expense system; and a simpler application form.

The committee praise the principles of the current grant system, saying that it “has provided for students the educational opportunities of the nation.” However they deliberately did not consider the possibility of students having a say in their own future.

The Select committee understands that students have to contribute to the cost of education and that parents have to contribute to the cost of their children’s education.

New SAS flats share out

by Paula Collins

The Student Accommodation Service (SAS) has recently devised a new system, originally developed last year in consultation with the Students’ Representative Council (SRC), Accommodation Committee Last year, for the allocation of University grants.

This is in response to the problems which have arisen in previous years.

Mr Paddy Deaver, Senior Accommodation Officer with the SAS, identified two main problems: firstly, the keen competition for flat which had led to lengthy queues, and congestion in previous years; and secondly, the old system gave priority to final year students only, which meant that a mixed group with a majority of final year students had no priority at all.

The new method of allocations hopes to resolve the first problem by having a longer period in which to return application forms. They have been available from the SAS since Tuesday, and must be returned by 12 noon on Friday January 25th. Forms received after this date will be placed on a Reserve List, and those received after 1st April will be placed on a Late List.

The Main and Reserve Lists will be subject to a second innovation, the main change in the system: each student will be awarded a certain number of points, determined by year of study, in order to establish a priority system.

**UNDERGRADUATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st year students:</th>
<th>1 point</th>
<th>2nd year students:</th>
<th>2 points</th>
<th>3rd year if final:</th>
<th>4 points</th>
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<td>3rd, not final:</td>
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**POSTGRADUATES**

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<th>1st year (incl. 1st Year)</th>
<th>1 point</th>
<th>2nd year:</th>
<th>2 points</th>
<th>3rd and later years:</th>
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Applications will be listed in the order determined by a lottery to take place after noon on the 23rd continued on page two

**Principal appointed**

by Sally Greg

Edinburgh University Court has announced that Sir John Burnett’s successor as Principal will be Professor Sir David Smith, currently Sibthorpian Professor of Rural Economy at the University of Oxford.

Sir David, who will take office in October 1987, said of the appointment: “It will be a privilege and honour to be the next Principal of the University of Edinburgh, one of the largest and most distinguished universities in the country.” Coincidentally, Sir David succeeded Sir John Burnett as Sibthorpian Professor at Oxford, when Sir John left to become the current Principal of Edinburgh.

Commenting on the appointment, Students’ Association President Cathy Presland said: “I’m looking forward to meeting Sir David, and am sure he will do a wonderful job, guiding the University through these hard times. I can see Sir David and the Students’ Association working well together.”

Professor Sir David Smith is 56 and was born in South Wales. Married with three children, he was educated at Colston School, Bristol, then St Paul’s School, London. Sir David took his first degree at Queen’s College, Oxford, where he received a first class Honours degree in Botany.

After postgraduate work and military service, he spent 14 years at Oxford as a Fellow of Linacre and Wadham Colleges. This was followed by six years at Bristol University as Head of Department of Zoology and Professor of Botany.

In 1980 he returned to Oxford as Sibthorpian Professor of Rural Economy and a Fellow of St John’s College. His time at Oxford has seen him serve on its University Committee System in both academic and pastoral roles.

Sir David was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1975 and has received honorary degrees from both Liverpool and Exeter Universities.

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Principals say no to loans

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) has withdrawn its support in a mixed grants and loans scheme for students. This new policy means that the committee has now rejected its own draft proposals for such a scheme which were outlined last August, as foreshadowed last term.

This latest decision was taken as many of the committee's 60 members think that a mixed grants and loans scheme would deter poorer students from considering higher education.

The change in the committee's view reflects the stance taken by relatively London, Oxford and Manchester, which have campaigned against a loans scheme.

According to the Vice-Chancellors’ league, they need to educate a large number of people in any give level. It is necessary to attract students from particular occupational and age groups that were not adequately represented in higher education.

The Vice-Chancellors state that an improved grants system is not implemented then every student should have available adequate funds to meet their needs for maintenance. The committee had laid down several principles which should be taken into account in a replacement system.

• Students should not be denied money which is necessary of their family background.
• A mixed grants/loans system should be implemented if it deter students from low income families considering higher education.
• If implemented, a loans scheme should be at lower minimum reasonable rates of interest and repayment should be related to salaries.

Tory students call for grants with tax

by Emma Simpson

A grants and graduate tax system has been proposed by a group of Conservative students in preference to the student loans scheme advocated by some senior Tories.

The new system, put forward by the national Conservative Student Affairs Committee, would mean axing the parental contribution and every full-time student being entitled to a full grant. In return, they would be expected to pay something back once in employment, through a separate graduate tax.

The group has suggested that a graduate who earns more than a minimum income should pay tax on a higher rate for a period of years. The period of repayment would be no longer than periods and at a rate of perhaps 4 per cent on top of the basic rate of tax.

Edinburgh Conservative University Conservative Club President, David Thomas, said the proposal "was quite similar to the loans scheme but it was well worth looking at as an alternative, and any changes that would restructure student finance would be welcome.

The committee has rejected its Shock, since it treaty to reflect on the recommendations that it has made.

The committee has been discussing the issue of grants for some years, and has come to the conclusion that the current system is not satisfactory. It has also determined that it should consider a new system that is more fair and just.

The Edinburgh University Postgraduate Society has said that it "will continue to support the existing system and will not be swayed by any proposals that are put forward in the future."

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Wraps come off new Potterrow

Last night, EUSA launched its new look for Potterrow, although many of the inmates noticed little difference. The Association's smallest union has been fitted with a new dance floor, new lighting system and new disco unit — and new ceiling tiles ... hopefully giving it a new lease of life to reverse the decline in popularity suffered last term.

by Paul Jeffrey

Direct Action

This week EUSA plans to announce its new anti-loans campaign. The campaign is going to be run in co-ordination with the NUS campaign as was the Festival Against Fowler last summer.

The NUS action is likely to involve a class boycott in week five of this term; a nationwide appeal for a demonstration in London, and then in week seven, some form of action in Scotland itself, probably incorporating a march and a concert.

Collaboration with the NUS is likely to entail a cash contribution from EUSA. This will, for instance, help provide subsidised travel for students to go to the planned demonstration in London.

Although EUSA action is still very much in the preparatory stage, Secretary Iain Catto said that they would be trying to keep students informed about prospective Government changes in policy. Information of the community charge, and benefit cuts, for instance, will be distributed in leaflet form soon.

Mr Catto maintained that fundamental to the campaign was the ability of EUSA to convince students that they do actually have the power to influence Government policy. The information campaign is to help inform students why it is important to protest. The slogan We've got Power has already been coined to indicate the resolve and conviction of EUSA in achieving this goal.

AIDS model

by Miranda Chitty

The 'lentiviruses' in sheep which bear similarities to the viruses causing AIDS in humans are to be investigated by a research team in Edinburgh University's department of Veterinary Pathology.

The Wellcome Trust has awarded a total of £400,000 to Professor Ian McConnell, Dr David Sargan and Dr Neil Watt, for the formation of the research team.

'Lentiviruses' are similar to the AIDS virus in that they lie dormant in the victim for a period of years before producing symptoms. During that time they attack the body's immune system, like the AIDS virus, by copying themselves into cell genetic information, and then infecting other cells by cell to cell contact. In this way the virus destroys the very cells which make immune responses. The virus is not recognised by the body's defences because it has assumed the characteristics of the host in making itself part of the cell's information.

The 'lentiviruses' are in many ways, a model for AIDS and are being investigated from this point of view. As Professor McConnell says, "The work of the team relates directly to the lentivirus in sheep, but it will have important implications for AIDS virus research in humans."

The research team is seeking to understand the genes which control the behaviour of the virus and its timetable of operation. They hope to exploit the lentivirus in sheep to pave the way for future immunologists looking for a vaccine for AIDS.

Council cash boost for technology transfer

by Miranda Chitty

The University of Edinburgh is to receive a £430,000 grant from the Edinburgh District Council to help pay for the construction of a new Electrical Engineering block on the King's Buildings campus, which will house a "Technology Transfer centre", to aid liaison with industry.

The extension was initiated by central government which is keen to see more Electrical Engineering graduates emerge from the University, as part of the national "Shift to Science and Technology Programmes". The district council's contribution to the project is designed to help Scottish Industry, with the top two floors of the three storey building being available for use by individual scientists to develop ideas with industrial or commercial potential. The space will also be used for office accommodation for UnivEd Technologies, the University's technology transfer company.

Sir John Burnett, the Principal of Edinburgh University said yesterday, "I am convinced it will be to the benefit of Edinburgh District, the University and Scottish Industry. It is exactly the kind of creative interaction that is needed to promote economic progress."

A turf-cutting ceremony took place yesterday at King's Buildings to inaugurate the project.

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(You must register with either your careers adviser or Mairi Eastwood at least 2 weeks prior to our visit)
Not the World Debates

by Jane Kelly

The official version: Edinburgh University Debates Committee followed up the World Championships with an auspicious international event all its own, sponsored by that great lubricating medium: the standard of debate competition. Indeed, as it progressed, the ruling academic body - the powers that be in some way related to the arcane workings of Britain's honours system - not least the Principal himself - if he had not been so honoured prior to, or soon after, his departure from Edinburgh - would almost certainly have had to considerably offend the powers that be in some way before he would be denied his retirement honour. Of his recent predecessors both Professor Hugh Robson (1974-77) and Michael Fowler accepted the retirement scheme organised by the University's Principal, Professor John Burnett - newly knighted.

The retreat of Britain's oldest English professor - the pub-crawlers' guide to orientation interest, ESSO, had been so honour'd prior to, or before he would be designated the Principal's honours system - not least the Principal himself - if he had not been so honoured prior to, or soon after, his departure from Edinburgh.

Edinburgh University's English Department has rejected proposals announced on January 4th which suggested an increase in their three-term, thirty-one week year to a four-term, forty week year, and cut honours degree courses from four years to three. The plans were drawn up by the University's Principal, Professor George McNicol, in response to an impending University Grants Committee (UGC) demand for an outline of its academic and financial objectives. The plans were designed to reduce the size of possible staff redundancies and avoid any possibility of near bankruptcy. Under the present system, expensive research, library, and recreational facilities like partially idle for some twenty weeks of the year. The system would most certainly be unpopular with other universities. Edinburgh University's principal, Sir John Burnett said that if Edinburgh's international reputation was to be upheld, such a system of the involvement of the recruit of more rather than less staff: neither would it be advantageous to students, in terms of the loss of quality of the shortened degree courses would be less than the four-year degrees.

With the rejection of these plans Aberdeen University forecasts the possibility of 150 staff redundancies and a drop in the intake of students by about 25% by 1995, unless the UGC provides extra money.

Council to block student flats

by Gary Duncan

The Lothian Regional Council's Planning Committee has objected to a development of student flats for Edinburgh University undergraduates on road safety grounds. The committee will be recommending to the District Council, which has the power to decide on the approval or rejection of the plans, that the scheme in its current form should be rejected. The flats, which would provide an additional 222 student places on the site of a disused factory in Sciences Road, were to be in built by Messrs Peatson and Company, who were also responsible for the existing Sciences flats. The committee's plans have given cause for concern over a narrow passage for vehicles, which it felt could be dangerous to students and other pedestrians. A spokesman for the District Council said that they had not yet been informed of this unanimous decision by the Regional Council Committee, but that they would be considering asking for further amendments to plans should these prove necessary.

Plan to cut vacations by ten weeks

by Paula Collins

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With the rejection of these plans Aberdeen University forecasts the possibility of 150 staff redundancies and a drop in the intake of students by about 25% by 1995, unless the UGC provides extra money.
Dear Student,

Your letter, which was published in your Student newspaper, raises important issues that I believe are crucial to the future of higher education. Your concerns about the impact of cuts on education and the need for more support to ensure that all students have access to quality education is well-founded.

In 1985, the House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology highlighted the importance of science education in the modern world. The committee recommended that all secondary schools should offer a full science curriculum, including physics, chemistry, and biology, to all students. This was in recognition of the crucial role that science plays in shaping our future and the need to ensure that all students have the opportunity to develop their scientific literacy.

However, the cuts to science education that you refer to have serious consequences. Many students are being forced to drop science subjects, and some schools are even considering stopping science altogether. This is a retrograde step that will harm the next generation of scientists and engineers.

I urge the government to reconsider its cuts to science education. We need more, not less, investment in science education if we are to meet the challenges of the future. The future of our economy and our society depends on a strong scientific base.

Yours faithfully,

Mathew Fitz

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Waged students?

Dear Editor,

I was very interested in your article about the wages of students. I believe that it is important for students to be fairly paid for their work.

In my view, students should be paid a minimum wage that is comparable to that of other workers. This is not only fair, but it also helps to ensure that students can afford to live and study.

I urge the government to consider raising the minimum wage for students. It is time that we recognized the valuable work that students do and gave them the compensation they deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Loretta Bresciani
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Students welcome letters from readers, but in order for us to publish as many as possible, please keep them short. Letters published in Student do not necessarily correspond with the opinion of the editor.
Hello, and a Happy New Year from your new columnist, still struggling to recover from that legendary Pogues gig all of a month ago. Anyway, good news seemingly in the form of a new venue for Edinburgh called the ... Venue. Sited where Jailhouse used to be, the new venue seems to have really surpassed the old, with plans to be open five nights through to Saturdays. Tonight sees the Deaf Heights, Crooked Lines and the suburbs' own Lip Machine in action. If you're thinking of going to this week's vital vinyl; the big screen highlight this week is Down by Law starring at the Filmhouse on the 18th, and featuring comedy acts off the streets of Waiters' World's most bigoted Falkirk. The Upstarts, James Jazz, tells me that the Filmhouse has a last minute deal special with the Blues Brothers and Absolute Beginners on Friday night. Absolute Beginners, I ask you ... I shall be at home listening to this week's vital vinyl; the new Microdisney LP, Crooked Mile. Everyone who is anyone has been whistling Towa Towa and People Just Want to Dream for the last year or so, and here they are on record at last, so if you've got any of those record tokens left over from Christmas, you know what to do.

A final note, an A&R man from Elektra records has asked me to recommend bands to him. If you would like to send me demos of your band, he would be very pleased to hear from you. See you next week with an exciting competition.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF

EDITOR OF FESTIVAL TIMES 1987

in writing to
The Convener, EUSPB, 48 Pleasance, Edinburgh EH8 9TJ.

Three more interesting shows begin on Monday with the Dave Howard Singers resurrecting the spirit of David Essex. The wonderful We Free Kings play on Tuesday, and Wednesday features more fiddles with the Painted Word playing their first Edinburgh show, and well worth seeing. With prices at around the E1-£1.50 mark, the Venue is worth encouraging. Look out for a more detailed feature in a future issue.

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Andy White toured Britain just before Christmas, and played in Edinburgh, supporting that Irish legend, Van Morrison. The show was well received by Morrison's devoted crowd, suggesting certain links with the older generation. "I have a lot of those records, but you'd be a better judge of my influences. Just as anyone writing in the 17th century would have been influenced by Shakespeare, these people are great, and we're well worth recognising." White has made his recognition more apparent on the cover of his new LP which bears a remarkable likeness to that which adorned The Other Side of Bob Dylan.

White tends to look on himself in the same vein as other great Irish balladmasters, poets or playwrights, like Yeats or O'Casey, all stirred up by their troubled land, and he shares many of their sentiments, angered and frustrated by the blindness of his countrymen.

There are all emotions which he takes alone to the audience, an experience which, he says, sometimes resembles "selling ice-cream in December". "It's a pretty daunting prospect at first, but once I've related it's natural. Having to play as a support, I'm under pressure for time, and I have to try and play an intense set for around half an hour, but when I play on my own it's a much more laid back event."

White's not a politician, but a singer, and with some well-constructed songs and some neat melodies, he can also call himself a musician. Though he plays with a full band on record, White performs on his own, a feature that gives his live shows added interest.

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I'm pleased 11

The Three Johns, obviously bowled over by the stunningly wonderful support band.

THE THREE JOHNS
ROTE KAPELLE

Potterrow

Well I liked the support band! People waiting expectantly at the front. Shock! Horror! The Rotelles will play some hoary old chestnuts, is there anybody who hasn't heard King Mod yet? Drop it now, I say! The tracks from the forthcoming 12" single on In Tape, taken from their John Peel session sounded fine and dandy. Crunching, acid fuelled rock 'n' roll! Who am I trying to kid?

The two Johns and a Phil - drunk as usual falling over themselves, the drum machine or the microphone stands. The Keys-tone Kops of comedy, a crazy caper around the Blues, Beefheart and the Sex Pistols. A whole lot more casual than Red Wedge, the Stakkanovite Johns plus on, everything Thatcher, although we weren't treated to the Tebbit Rap this time. English White Boy Engineer and Death Of A European proved that these Marxian/Lenin Jeffersons are Internationalist sharpshooters along the lines of Lee Harvey Oswald or Michel Platini. The machine-gun rattle of the drum machine, sounding as drunk as the rest of the band. The singer tries to get a word in edgeways and has to call a halt to succeed. The greatest rock'n'roll band since Gerry and the Pacemakers!

Andrew Tully

THE LEGEND/THE FIZZBOMBS/BABY'S GOT A GUN/BMX BANDITS

As a group for 20 years, the plastic factory presentation had all the atmosphere of an under-16 disco at the But'n'Ben. The punks looked as innocent and as young as Horace Broom while the walls were covered with famous psychedelic punk rock phrases like "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year". A positive pot-pourri of performances. First on, two of the BMX Bandits, Douglas is a star, or to like him to think. He's Tonight, as usual, it was his shirt that stole the show, a mid-seventies travesty! After singing a selection of Christmas carols, his shirt was joined by Nor.

Nick Perry / The Mott / Pete / Eddy / Goo Knows!!!

on guitar

wooo... a real rock star, about a real rock star, backed by a 20% lie

Andy White played in Edinburgh before Christmas. We went James Annesley along to talk to him.

Old cynics call him Dylan, whilst others call him Bragg, but few can deny the impact Andy White is having. He plays in a tradition much older then Route 66, armed with just a guitar and a few well-chosen words of striking truth, attacking the bigotry of Belfast.

Andy White toured Britain just before Christmas, and played in Edinburgh, supporting that Irish legend, Van Morrison. The show was well received by Morrison's devoted crowd, suggesting certain links with the older generation. "I have a lot of those records, but you'd be a better judge of my influences. Just as anyone writing in the 17th century would have been influenced by Shakespeare, these people are great, and we're well worth recognising." White has made his recognition more apparent on the cover of his new LP which bears a remarkable likeness to that which adorned The Other Side of Bob Dylan.

White tends to look on himself in the same vein as other great Irish balladmasters, poets or playwrights, like Yeats or O'Casey, all stirred up by their troubled land, and he shares many of their sentiments, angered and frustrated by the blindness of his countrymen.

There are all emotions which he takes alone to the audience, an experience which, he says, sometimes resembles "selling ice-cream in December". "It's a pretty daunting prospect at first, but once I've related it's natural. Having to play as a support, I'm under pressure for time, and I have to try and play an intense set for around half an hour, but when I play on my own it's a much more laid back event."

White's not a politician, but a singer, and with some well-constructed songs and some neat melodies, he can also call himself a musician. Though he plays with a full band on record, White performs on his own, a feature that gives his live shows added interest.

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I'm pleased 11

The Three Johns, obviously bowled over by the stunningly wonderful support band.

THE THREE JOHNS
ROTE KAPELLE

Potterrow

Well I liked the support band! People waiting expectantly at the front. Shock! Horror! The Rotelles will play some hoary old chestnuts, is there anybody who hasn't heard King Mod yet? Drop it now, I say! The tracks from the forthcoming 12" single on In Tape, taken from their John Peel session sounded fine and dandy. Crunching, acid fuelled rock 'n' roll! Who am I trying to kid?

The two Johns and a Phil - drunk as usual falling over themselves, the drum machine or the microphone stands. The Keys-tone Kops of comedy, a crazy caper around the Blues, Beefheart and the Sex Pistols. A whole lot more casual than Red Wedge, the Stakkanovite Johns plus on, everything Thatcher, although we weren't treated to the Tebbit Rap this time. English White Boy Engineer and Death Of A European proved that these Marxian/Lenin Jeffersons are Internationalist sharpshooters along the lines of Lee Harvey Oswald or Michel Platini. The machine-gun rattle of the drum machine, sounding as drunk as the rest of the band. The singer tries to get a word in edgeways and has to call a halt to succeed. The greatest rock'n'roll band since Gerry and the Pacemakers!

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Another one in the season of BO.

**FILM HOUSE**

a man trying to get away from jailbreak and escape to the prison, do the classic CROCODILE of Louisiana's swamplands said to ooze but that's beside the point. The tragically ironic tale of a shy, long-haired, ghostly bodysnatcher, and a murderer, police are turned on to the man she met at a diner.......

**LATE NIGHT**

**BLUES BROTHERS ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**

11.45/1.45 am Fri 15th Odeon

Need I say more about the Blues Brothers, and Absolute Beginners is Julien Temple's temple of dazzle jazz-pop/picture with D. Gowie et al.

**KING OF COMEDY**

PRZK'S HONOUR

6.15/8.15 Sun 18th GST

Scorsese/De Niro is superb satire of American TV, and Nicholson/Tomei, turned in mafia hit persons romance.

**OSTER FESTIVAL**

**THE LAST BATTLE**

6.45/8.40, Wed 21st, GST

Typically violent Peckinpah number with Rutger Hauer and John Hurt, is followed by Luke 'Subway' Basson's brilliant debut.

**CAMEROON**

ROUND MIDNIGHT

3.30/11.30/2pm 11, Fri & Sat night

Bertrand Tavernier's triumphant celebration of the late-night jazz scene in Paris. Superb music, superbly filmed. Don't miss it.

**DOMINION**

LEGAL EAGLES

2.15/5.15/8.15

Robert Redford, Debra Winger and Daryl Hannah in comedy from the Ghostbusters team. Rod Stewart features in soundtrack.

**GUNG HO**

2.30/5.30/8.30

You, me and the manager of the cinema know nothing about this, so go along and take a chance.

**ROOM WITH A VIEW**

2/5/8

Still going strong, the merchant-Ivy-Khabala version of Forsyte's classic. Bits now being taken when it will see in 1988.

**AC**

**HEARTBREAK RIDGE**

2.10 (not Sun), 5.10/8.10

Clint Eastwood does to American youth what Prince Edward could not, and whips Marines into shape, and then goes off and invades Grenada single-handedly. No show on Thursday.

**HEARTBURN**

3.45 (not Sun), 8.10

Jack Nicholson puts on a whole new accent, but Meryl Streep keeps the same old nose.

**THE MISSION**

2.05/5.05/8.05

Jeremy Irons and Robert de Niro bring lots of natives into the way of the Lord and promptly get persecuted from all sides. That'll end act one.
THUR 15 JAN

DEAF HEIGHTS CAJUN ACES
(To be confirmed)
The Venue (Old Leithouse)
Not even Lorna "giggy, sex-sym- boi" Henderson can think of any-
thing to write about this group.

THE ALICE HOUSE
The Cavern
Funky blue ads. Yet another
original description of a musi-
cal combo by our own multi-talented
Ralph.

DRIVING SIDWAYS
Television, St James Centre 8 pm
Free
A blues band to match the mood
and colour of students at this time
of snow and gales.

BLOCK BROTHERS
Preservation Hall
9 pm; Free
No, not "Blockbusters", chaired by
the fabulous Bob Holmes.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Playhouse
7.30 pm; 7.30 pm;
£4.50-£8.50 (conc available)
More tries to marry off his big-
nosed daughters while singing "If I
Were a Rich Man" as he stomps
through a hay-filled loft.

FRI 16 JAN

GOODBYE MR MACKENZIE
Mory House
"My hands are too extremely cold
to write." — No, that is not the
name of their first single.
PS: I didn’t write this, I don’t want
my reputation ruined. Love,
Ralph.

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS
The Cavern
Funky rock.

SNO
Laird Hall
7.30 pm; £2.80
Oscar Shumsky is soloist in
Brabham’s Violin Concerto,
Sibelius’s Pileas and Melisande,
and Enesco’s Symphony No. 1.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Playhouse
7.30 pm; £4.50-£8.50 (conc available)

SAT 17 JAN

MAKOSA
Preservation Hall
9 pm; Free

BOLD CORNORANT
Lord Darnley
3 pm; Free

PIANO RECITAL
Reid Concert Hall
7.30 pm; £7.75
Margaret Mills performs Schumann’s Op 12 Penta-
sides and Mozart’s C Minor Fan-
tasia.

SCOTLAND
Queen’s Hall
7.45 pm; £3-£8.50
Mozart’s Symphony No. 26 and
Piano Concerto No. 27 and the
Suite Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme
by Richard Strauss.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
See Thur 15

TAM WHITE AND THE DEXTERS
Preservation Hall
9 pm; Free
Ten-piece raunchy rhythm ’n’
blues combo.

BABY JONES
Lord Darnley
9 pm; Free
Popfolk. "Yes, poor Billy Jones is
designed to be eternally
categorised as PopFolk in the hal-
lowed pages of the great Student
newspaper." — Lorna Henderson,

REPERTOIRE’S WORKSHOP
Queen’s Hall
3 pm; £3-£5
Peter Strangr gives a master-
class for repetiters as part of
Friends of Scottish Opera’s sea-
son of events.

TUES 20 JAN

THE DAVE HOWARD SINGERS
The Venue
(To be confirmed)
Yes, Dave Howard doesn’t know
what’s going on in Edinburgh.

SUJAK
Preservation Hall
9 pm; Free
Another band with a bloody daft
name at the Prettie.

WED 21 JAN

WE FREE KINGS
The Venue
(To be confirmed)
Edinburgh’s version of The
Pogues on a bad day.

CHARGE
Preservation Hall
9 pm; Free

MONORON TRIO
Reid Concert Hall
9 pm; Free
First performance of David
Johnson’s Piano Trio along with
Mendelssohn’s Trio in D minor.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Playhouse
7.30 pm; £4.50-£8.50 (conc available)

BLACK ELVIS
The Venue
(To be confirmed)
Someone, somewhere is still try-
ing to sustain the myth that Elvis
was black.

SCOT
Queen’s Hall
7.45 pm; £3-£8.50
Haydn, Haydn and Haydn.

Sorry to be the bearer of bad
news, but do remember to regis-
tate for your degree exams at
the Registry, Old College.

Any Unisverts — please drop your
notices in the various red (so they
can’t be missed) boxes situated in
the Union Shops, or alternatively
put them into the Student Offices
in the What’s On tray.

WHAT’S ON STAGE

FILM
Yoosi, Fran Hughes
THEATRE
Lorna Henderson
EXHIBITIONS
Sandra Catto
UNIVENTS
Sandra Catto
MUSIC
Ralph Hasselgren

filmsoc...
FRANS WIDERBERG

Gallery of Modern Art; Until 11th Jan.

Upon entering this exhibition one is literally and physically surrounded by bright colour. The effect was dazzling; the paintings amazing. My response is not in detail or intensity, but the exact opposite; Frans Widerberg is a master of simplicity. In one stroke he can convey the entire form, be it human, animal or landscape of his native Norway.

His paintings are electric, alive. They hold a force which captures time. There is an existence of sensual and spiritual drive in his work, the scruffy naked human form engaged in various acts, alone or alongside the ominous shadows of horses. These beings are contained yet vulnerable in space; through these paintings one can question space, life and death - time lapses and is frozen. His influences are evident. He holds a special interest in fellow Norwegian artists, the most apparent is Edvard Munch, whose turbulent and emotive paintings are of strong comparison. He studied for a time in London in the 30s and cites various pioneers of British Art with affection; the visionary procress of Blake, Turner, Lucien Freud, Jacob Epstein and Francis Bacon, the 'Deep Blues' as he calls them. The links can be seen in various ways; the dealing of space, life, emotion and death.

He follows the idea that the Death Demon is a horse, thus the starkly static and cushioned forms of this creation; some are portrayed as agitated creatures that scream into space, others, motionless in a calm, invariably mounted by some faceless rider. These images are awash with a serene foreboding, and yet even echo theoretical undertones of the centaur.

Widerberg has a wide diversity of influence and even subject matter, but there is still one thing that links his work together, colour. His palette contains the minimum range of Earths, and yet the most symbolic. Red suggests matter, blue - the opposite. Yellow is energy, to demonstrate fire and friction. Together they provoke energy and are the life blood to his subject.

He is questioning the role of the human in life, on this world. How we are insignificant specks, faced with the enormity of nature. "Water/Mother" (1979) or the magnificent form of death "Rider/ Woman" (1982) and the infinite nature of the universe, where the soul floats in the heavens, the "star" (1982).

It seemed to be the audience's older members had been particularly enthralled to the pantheistic traditional Oh-on-I'm-watching-you. For them the whole evening was thrilling, frightening and exciting. But as an art form for the age range at which it is ostensibly directed, the painting seems to be losing its glamour. The production itself was imperfect in many respects but no worse than others I've seen. The young girl who acted Alice obviously had her heart in the part and was far clearer and more audible than most of her adult colleagues. She made a good heroine with whom the audience could identify. The real fault lay elsewhere, in a lacklustre and often confusing script.

The book's best lines were incompletely and occasionally incorrectly reproduced, and deduced merely with the Lyceum's own dialogue, which lacked the pathos and capacity to excite of Carroll's own, but intruded at odd moments to dent its effect. The conversation about Time at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party - one of the book's gems - was rendered only in part and interrupted by something invented by the producers, as if the actors had suddenly realised that their job was being lost on the audience (which it was) and that they ought to change tack and start calling each other nincompoops again.

Many people watching, of whatever age, had come to shout and scream, not to be dumbfounded by Carroll's complex symbolic logic. The storyline makes for an entertaining pantomime but most of the repartee is left out. The latter is mainly characterised by pure mathematics, but cannot even the precocious middle-class brats whose doting parents could afford the Lyceum's exorbitant prices.

Richard Scorer

Death - "the Death Demon is a horse"
A Negociant's we don't believe that quality should mean needing a second mortgage.

Quality, to us, is value. The name 'Negociant', incidentally, means a merchant, or trader. Negociant's trades in quality and value, and we have to set standards rather than imitate those of others.

The same philosophy applies to the dinner, the food (and its presentation), right down to the wines we serve at the bar. Our wines change every day, and include amazing dishes from Malaysia, Brazil, France and Indonesia, as well as some more traditional (but no less well prepared) food, needless to say, at sensible prices.

We also have a wide range of imported liquors, spirits and liqueurs from all over the globe, which you may choose to enjoy either separately or in combination in our cellar bar.

We hope you'll come along in the near future, and we're sure you'll love the place. See you soon.

NÉGOCIANT'S

45-47 LOTHIAN STREET, EDINBURGH
(Opposite Bristo Square) Tel: 031-225 6313

Monday-Saturday 12-2 pm, 6-11 pm
—OPEN LONGER SHORTLY—

It's a Brand New Year!
PARTING GLANCES

Filming: Bill Sherwood

The setting for Parting Glances is gay Manhattan. Nick, played by Jack Nicholson with his usual intensity by Steve Buscemí, is dying of AIDS. His former lover, Michael (Richard Danusig), now lives with Robert (John Bolger) who is leaving for Africa to take up a new job.

Michael doesn't want him to go, believing that is leaving to avoid coping with the fact of his illness. The truth is portrayed without sentiment or sensationalism, and that the gay community has adapted its behaviour to cope with "the plague" is evident. The film is about how people behave when they care about one another, and how they deal with terminal ill health.

If this sounds too smarmy for settled sexuals, don't be put off. It is intelligently made with moments of particular perception and humour.

The half-cracked theories which AIDS arouses in people's minds are illustrated by some pre-eminently Robert's leaving party who waxes lyrical about the givers of both pleasure and pain. Nick is made to look like a mountebank.

The anecdotes of Outback Man meets Big Apple Man are highly amusing, but it would spoil the fun by detailing them. So what is it that makes it such a good film?

As Paul Hogan claimed on TV recently, it makes you feel good. Allow me to illustrate. Installed before the TV with a couple of films of the amber nectar, I discovered that "Rooftop" was alive and well and living in Melbourne under the name of Australian Rules Football. It makes American football look like a ballet class.

The Aussie commentator summed it up - "Wouldn't you know they'd go and spoil a damn good game by discovering a set of rules?" This is Mick's view of life - he can understand the upfront US rule of life, but he can't see the need for them.

He typifies that marvellous stress free, laidback, devil may care attitude - its Australia II rubbing salt water into the wounds of the Newport Yacht Club, Pat Cash destroying the ice cool Swedes for the Davis Cup or Malcolm Turnbull dragging Sir Robert Armstrong over the coal. Remember - this is the country that gave us Mad Max. As they say Down Under, no worries, mate.

Oh, and by the way, a tenner on Blondie and American TV beating hell out of the opposition for the America's Cup.

Sally Greig

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET: PART 2

Odeon

Dir: Jack Sholder

I suppose it had to happen. The desire to be sequel so any successful movie appears to be irresistible. Wes Craven's Nightmare on Elm Street was a racy, and frightening horror film. The sequel is not, to put too fine a point on it, a heap of excrement.

Where the first was a brilliantly paced and restrained picture, Part 2 lacks tension, style. It is (apart from another tongue gag) original, and should have been more talented for leading the sequence to age-old cliches and pitfalls. It could be Porky's Meat Hallows.

We came out of the film and saw around reminiscing about the first film for half an hour, which can be a good sign.

It does have its moments. A budge, and I quote from the press blurb, "has an anxiety attack and turns into a Roman candle."

Yoni and Jem

Katrina and Jane

Three fifths bad...

CROCODILE DUNDEE

Odeon

Dir: Peter Farquhar

G'day. Before I begin, I'd just like to declare an interest. A definite pre-Aussie angst, an Australian Affection within my own make-up. In short, Oz is tops, chor. But they set up cliches and undermine the scene of his life in middle class, professional America, Heartburn has some funny moments but one thing is for certain. Jack Nicholson doesn't have enough scenes, or perhaps he is very highly missed in the only in which he doesn't appear.

As well photographed as one would expect in such a major picture, this will probably receive a sprinkle of Oscar nominations, especially for "the song of the year" by Simon & Garfunkel. Heartburn is a definite zero.

Two hated people...-

Yoni Scribble

There is a fine scene in a gym sup- ply store with someone being harassed by anime imaminate objects. The special effects are great, hero transforms into Freddy (shouldn't give the plot away) and out-Aliens Alien.

The structure is incredibly messy. The strength of the first film was the slow blur between dream and reality. Here the definition is vague from the start. The tale is badly told, with dubious morality and no insight. The climax is anti-climactic and de- trimentally trite.

The inevitable tag for further sequelizing made me want to scream. There is no reason to be sequel so any successful movie appears to be irresistible. Wes Craven's Nightmare on Elm Street was a racy, an intelligent, witty and genuinely frightening horror film. The sequel is not, to put too fine a point on it, a heap of excrement.

Perfectly healthy resident of Toorak.
SAM Speaks

At Risk.

At-risk individuals are those who have been at risk of HIV infection and are asked not to donate blood, as blood donations are heat-treated, the recipients who have been at risk of HIV are asked not to donate urine, at birth, or by breast infection. Although the prospects for vaccination are limited, the vaccine is much less infectious than the virus, it is now clear that the vaccine could be spread between women if they are infected. Those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency viruses types 1 and 2 (HIV-1 and HIV-2) are at risk.

Various studies that selectively attack and kill certain cells of the immune system (T and B lymphocytes) that are pivotal to the host's defense against common and usually trivial infections, are detectable in blood, semen, breast milk, saliva, tears and snot.

Individuals who participate in certain activities with infected persons are at risk of HIV infection:

- Intra-vanous drug users, who share syringes and needles.
- Homosexual men who have anal intercourse, and who have unprotected vaginal or anal intercourse; women who are at greater risk than men.

"AIDS. The outlook for patients with the former is poor, but only two years within a diagnosis of AIDS.

With respect to its sexual transmission, it is now clear that the virus is much less infectious than many other sexually transmitted organisms, but there is some evidence to suggest that the sexual activity of the sexual partner, for example gonorrhoea, may facilitate HIV infection.

Infants of infected mothers may be infected whilst they are within the uterus, at birth, or by breastfeeding. As potential blood donors who have been at risk of HIV infection and have donated blood, as blood donors are routinely screened for HIV antibodies, and as blood products are heat-treated, the recipients who have been at risk of HIV are asked not to donate urine, at birth, or by breast infection.

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Six million adults in Britain are innumerate. Paul Jeffrey visits the Edinburgh Walk In Numeracy Centre to see what is being done to relieve this problem.

"The prior probability of centrist opinions is a part of natural law."

This view is that of the education authorities, according to Jim tackle the difficulties experienced in increased control by students, so that they become educated in the way they desire. He feels that otherwise people wishing to receive an education would be "marginalised," they become exceptions in society, at the back and call of a parentless university, I run (one who require further educational aid are regarded as unnatural, in some way.

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This view might appear a bit hark. This day, especially as an inability with numbers has far less social stigma attached than a failing with reading and writing. However, the role of mathematics in society, and how we see ourselves, might be publicly appearing to care about those less fortunate in society did act as one of the main motivating factors behind the establishment of EWINC (Edinburgh Walk In Numeracy Centre) in 1981.

Ralph Jannson, a member of the maths department of the University was the primary instigator. With the University Settlement and a Lothian Region grant, combined with its status as a volunteer education centre, EWINC was capable of responding to a very wide range of numeracy related difficulties. The tutors at the centre are all there on a voluntary basis. Their motives are similarly diverse - school teachers, students, housewives and ever increasingly unemployed people come to EWINC to offer their services. Their motives are similarly disparate - it might simply be a desire to get away from the children at home, to do what they were of course, the most important. The pupil will be taught on a one to one basis, and the initial reaction he receives is crucial to the conduct of a particular session. It is the relationship between the pupil and the tutor which is fundamental to success, and the tutor admittance of not being able to do something which 'most other people' can do is not always easy. Thus, it is essential to try to boost the pupil's confidence, by chatting, offering cups of coffee or whatever means are necessary to make the pupil feel wanted.

Having established a basis of trust, the learning process may begin. Once again, confidence should be aided whenever possible (it is captivating to be confronted by a direct "No" when suggesting an answer, for instance, so alternative means of indicating a wrong answer are often better). By using the computer available, worksheets, or visual examples, the teaching proceeds. Interestingly, often the straight written sum is preferred by a pupil, as this offer the chance of tangible achievement being recorded, and acknowledged, a further boost to morale.

"Physical terror when I see a phone bill."

Lending a hand at EWINC leads people to getting involved. It could even be regarded as a cheap form of having a good time!

The actual business of tutoring has to tread quite gently initially, as the very action of coming into EWINC is for many people, a matter of considerable courage.

Being one of Edinburgh's leading men of letters, as well as wit, raconteur and bon vivant, there was always a fairly high pitched Buddhist who was ever going to miss the chance of seeing some of the world's best young debaters in action. So when the ESSO Edinburgh International Drama Festival, known in Bristo as the Fringe, arrived in town I was one of the first to book my seats.

As everyone knows, however, debate competitions aren't really about language skills, the ability to argue and amuse at the same time. New they have been about fresh teams during the four days they were in Edinburgh, the contentment of the University being treated to a succession of booze ridden events and parties in the company of some national and ex-hacks has been backs and would-be backs. Perhaps most admittance must be reserved for the Glasgow team. Whilst other teams were prepared to let their drinks get the better of them arguing over whether cucumbers were more satisfying than the Glasgow lads never let up for a minute.

Since the first two days were concerned with the traditional Scottish fare offered by Dario's (the pub which is a busker's heaven and an ideal place to use to make) and the beer-drinking competition (admirably won by Scotland) the final day meant dressing up like a Moss Bros. dummy in some poor bunch arguing over the merits of government secrecy. And what a bedraggled bunch they were. First up was an Australian still bearing the scratch marks from a close encounter with Lisa Kendall. Perhaps the most amusing was All- tant was the ferret faced little mudam from the Eva Peron finishing - type of contrarive sec- reted about my personage (of course, since it was not mention- in the invitation, I did not). Having finally found her goal (one would have thought that in such unhealth- 

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Out of the dust . . . and into the limelight . . . change of fortunes that England's cricketers have experienced this winter in Australia has been nothing less than astounding. The home team has simply had no time to recover from the onslaught engineered by the arch enemies under the command of Mr Gatting.

Gatting has had his problems with bowlers, and it seemed for a time like the typical English bowler was to be thwarted by the Australian batting. But he is still able to arrive 15 minutes late at his office with out affecting his routine, and it is evident that his opposite number, Mr Bill Brown of Australia, has piped the news of high-quality Australian cricket. So it was that Gatting had to face a four-ball over to defy their critics.

In short, Gatting has led his men out to Australia as underdogs, presumably devoid of all self-confidence, and the upshot of the prolonged shock of a whitewash in the Caribbean, and the subsequent underdog status to India and New Zealand. With the subsequent tour, he has led his troops in admirable fashion, even though England's visit to Australia was with the intention of beating the Ashes, with the result that his hitherto feeble cricketing team performed to a reasonable extent. Therefore, it is assumed that there is little chance of a change of fortune that will be experienced by the English cricket team.

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However, this outcome has led to a change of fortune that has improved their prospects for the future. The Ashes match against Australia has been won by England, and this has given them a much-needed boost of confidence. As a result, England's prospects for the future are now much brighter than they were previously. The English cricket team has shown that they are capable of winning against the best teams in the world, and this has given them a much-needed boost of confidence.

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The Year Runs Out in Leeds

**SPORT**

**The Hounds**

Someone fire the bloody gun! A full race calendar took the Hounds right up to the end of term and beyond with two races at the end of 1986. Firstly, the Leeds exploits. Our superstar, Callum Henderson, finally arrived blithely ignorant of the captain's orders, and usually behind him by three marks. Mark will now no longer be enjoying EHU & HI team in the Outer Sanctuary (New term! Russell Boyd is 29th, two places behind Mark, and Dave Arnold followed on in 36th. A tough race by any standards.

**Relegation**

Well, yes, it happened. The world is over, as the Univer-

siety men's team languishes second, bottom in one of the relegation places after the first half of the season. This somewhat unfortunate state of affairs is due almost entirely to one man, and incredibly that man is an Englishman. His name, Bob Lynch.

The above mentioned misfortune, hangovers, the selected few in Marchmont (first floor, 48 Pleasance) or place for squash...

**STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICE**