Bunny fun outside the Caledonian hotels. The punters loved it.

by Tom Brady

The life of the city has been brightened this week by the arrival of the Edinburgh Students' Charities Appeal Rag Week and the presence of the Pink Panther, Bugs Bunny, Sylvester the Cat and the sight of hundreds of students marching through the city led by the sound of bagpipes and drums amidst the blazing of torches.

On Saturday morning, the ESCA fancy dress breakfast outside the Caledonian Hotel brought the first appearance of the Pink Panther and friends. The weather was kind as 15 or so students, organised by June Guthrie, dressed as strawberries and cream, and darted to the drivers of cars stopped at the traffic lights. A large yellow chicken pecked quietly at the pavement and accosted passers-by, whose general reaction was that the whole thing was "wonderful". One delighted old man said with a hearty laugh: "Lovely to see all the smiling faces you're making everybody laugh."

On Sunday afternoon, the teams - The Daffodils, "Allo Allo", The Dickheads, The Tonga Tittlengers, the "Return of the Erotico Six Pack" team, the Harrods Management, the Planter in White, the Baird Nellies and many others all assembled to push a hospital bed around the Meadows.

The track was about 800 yards long and four out of the six teams had to have their legs tied to each other. Prizes were issued for first, second, and best fancy dress and the event was sponsored, so that every 80 yards the teams went, they raised money.

As the teams prepared to depart, they were sprayed with eggs, shaving foam, flour, water, and tomato ketchup. "Herr Flick" of the "Allo Allo" team, looked unhappy Gestapo commendant as he left looking wistfully through his flour and egg-smeared spectacles.

The Dickheads departed to the tunes of "If you're feeling randy keep one handy", and "If you're gonna have it off put one on". The Tonga Tittlengers, dressed in German helmet, Salomon ski hat and banana skin, departed to the chant of "Tonga, Tonga, Tonga" and the Harrods Management team turned up dressed as Saudi Arabians complete with sunglasses and whips. The Rubbish II team from Brewster House took first place, the Ewing Planters second and the Baird Nellies collected the prize for best fancy dress.

The cartoon characters reappeared on Monday to tie the Sports Union President, Jennie Carlton, to the railings by the Pleasance and smear shaving foam on her face. "It's disgusting," she said, licking it away from her mouth. "Thank God I don't have to shave every day."

The papers and drummers leading the Torchlight Procession on Monday night also wore fancy dress. They led about 400 people, the majority of whom had torches, down the Royal Mile, over North Bridge and up Calton Hill to the tunes of "Loch and Side", "The Battle's O'er" and others from the "mental set".

As the sky darkened and the column flickered towards Calton Hill, the money collectors spoke to people watching from the pavement and stopped cars, and darted in and out of pubs along the way.

On top of Calton Hill a huge bonfire blazed and a man with a megaphone said: "If you could throw your torches on to the bonfire that would be great." Together with the fireworks, student Adrian Hallworth commented that the whole thing had been "a blazing success". Hamish Taylor, the general convener of ESCA, added that it was much better than last year when it had "pissed down with rain".

The only casualty of the evening was an emu who lost a leg, though it was rumoured to be down the back of his trousers.

Rag Week has so far raised £3,500.

Tories deny scandal

by Gary Duncan

The University Conservative Association have rejected allegations of electoral and constitutional malpractice outlined in a letter from the Students' Association Societies Convener to the Conservative President, Charles Prid­geon.

The letter states that complaints have been made against the Conservative Association suggesting that both Pridgeon and his predecessor as President, David Thomas, were elected unlawfully in the terms of their own constitution. The letter also suggests that the club may have broken its own rules by being selective in who it invited to attend the Annual General Meeting at which the elections of office-bearers take place. This could be construed as ballot-rigging.

In addition, the Societies Council complaint suggests that when the elections were held at this meeting, a tied vote resulted and the outgoing President (Thomas) used a "casting vote" in favour of Pridgeon.

The letter questions whether he could have done so lawfully since he himself was elected only by the Association's committee and was never ratified as President by a General Meeting of the Association.

Finally, it is alleged that the Association drew up a new constitution under which it held the AGM and the elections without ever putting the new rules to its members for ratification.

Prior to the writing of the Societies Council letter, Alastair McWhirter, an office-bearer in the Association, had resigned, in a move apparently connected to those actions.

Speaking to Student, Pridgeon and Thomas denied that they had never been lawfully elected as Conservative Association presidents, and dismissed the allegations. They rejected the suggestion that the committee could not appoint an interim President and said that both their elections were therefore completely legitimate. Pridgeon went on to deny that the notification of the AGM had been in any way selective. He plans to write a lengthy letter to the Societies Convener, Simon Thomson, dismissing the allegations. Student was unable to con­tact Thomson for a comment on the rebuttal from the presidents - legitimate or not.
Candidates stake claim

by Gary Duncan

With nominations for the annual EUSA elections due to close on Tuesday, only two more candidates for sabatical positions have emerged since last week's reports.

Jane Rogerson has confirmed her interest in standing for the presidency of the Association. Opponents so far declared for the post areDEAN Davies and Alasdair Reid, both former Science Students' Convenors. David Clarke, previously SRC External Convenor, and Andrew Hicks, an independent candidate and member of the Conservative Association, and Martin "Yossi" Ross. Rogerson is felt to be a strong contender for this position.

Chew-Low Wee has confirmed his intention to stand for Treasurer. A former Education Convenor, Wee says that he is "looking forward to the challenge of the Treasurer's job," should he be elected. His only declared opponent for the post is Tor Paraguay, a member of the Committee of Management of the Union and of the SRC.

Both candidates are seen as strong contenders in the election for this post.

There are no more candidates for the post of Deputy President, the previously declared hopefuls being Alison Roykings, Secretary of Potterrow, and Mike Lyttle, a member of the SRC and former member of the Conservative Association. No other student has shown an interest in becoming EUSA Secretary in the last two years. There are already four candidates for this position — Sally Greig, a former Student editor; Andrew Grey, of the Revolutionary Community, Mark Wheatley, President of the Liberal Club and Arts Students' Convenor; and Mike Lyttle, another SRC member and photographer for Midweek.

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Fares less fare

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The new card, which has been available since the last of March, offers a reduction of only one-third off second-class fares. Previously, cardholders had received 50 per cent off standard day returns, but there is now only a 34 per cent saving. A British Rail spokesman admitted the new card was "a worrisome affair," and explained that it was "standardising the policy of 34 per cent off all fares". This change, he said, was "a great honour for the Edinburgh Railcard. We have now to pay £2.80 instead of £1.65, as before." The Railcard still costs £12.00, and there is also a voucher which gives you £12 off an Inter-Rail card and Boatcard on sale with it. In addition, the card allows dis­counts in Greater London and throughout Network South-east. These concessions have been added so that the card has "wider appeal." The British Rail spokesman commented that, "People have to pay more percentage-wise, but the change on day returns doesn't affect long distance travel­lers."

Anybody who bought a Young Person's Railcard before the 1st of March can exchange it for a new Railcard, which will be subject to the new levels of fare reductions.

FOREST reduced

ashes

by Jane Kelly

Health Week provided the forum for an informative and entertaining evening on smoking in public places, held last Thursday evening in Teviot Row House. The inclusion of members of the pro-smoking lobby, FOREST, and their vehement oppo­

More hacks in the running: Jane Rogerson, confirmed for President; Chew-Low Wee opts for Treasurer.

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Society without socialism

by Anjali Dalokia

The Government's main aim is to "create a participative, non-socialist, private enterprise-based society", saysveci Parkinson as he addressed the Edinburgh University Tory Club's Open Meeting in controversial style last Friday.

Mr Parkinson, after being introduced by Di Thomas, an Edinburgh Prospective Parliamentary candidate and ex-Tory Club President, delivered a brief speech to the small audience of around 40 on the Government's successes and future proposals.

On the issue of nationalisation, he accused the Labour Party of being "snobish" and predicted to "remove the vestiges of a socialist Britain... and settle the argument once and for all".

To the cheers of the Tory Club, Mr Parkinson launched an attack on the Labour and Alliance Parties, saying that they were "wrong and should be defeated". He asked society to "reject the authoritarian socialist approach" and declared emphatically that "no corner of the Thatcher Government will make socialism unthinkable".

Mr Parkinson then switched his attack to the Alliance and gained laughter from his supporters when he accused the Alliance of "hovering on the middle muddle".

Mr Parkinson summed up by saying: "Our political opponents are going to have to live with the changes, they're irreversible." The meeting then opened to question at which the less right-wing members of the audience tried to make their presence felt. Claire McIntosh, EUSA Deputy President, accused the Government of having divided society into "haves and have-nots". Mr Parkinson replied not with that view and declared that for the 13 per cent of the workforce that were "suffering" it would be a case of "impose welfare provisions and benefits which brought them "way before they get there".

Perhaps the most relevant issue for Edinburgh students was the future of higher education, raised by Adrian Lea, Community Affairs Convener, who speculated further to the University, raised by David Duncan, the future of Edinburgh University, whose conference faces a £4 million debt and bankruptcy by 1990.

Mr Parkinson replied that universities like any other had to make savings and should learn that they were not perfect. Mr Duncan then accused the Government of having a "clumsy" approach to higher education and Sciences and Arts, of which Edinburgh has a long history, "with which we are familiar" and to which, Mr Parkinson, who had previously said he was good in all polities at avoiding the question, replied that he couldn't really see that happening.

Threat to AIDS fight

by Graeme Wilson

The research to fight AIDS and cancer has been hailed as University Grants Committee (UGC) proposals to close half the veterinary schools in Britain. This is the warning issued by professor William Jarrett of the school of Veterinary Pathology at Glasgow University.

He was the team whose research on cats led to the discovery of the first AIDS-style virus, and consequently an experimental vaccine.

Professor Jarrett went on to stress the importance of animals frequently leads to advances in the treatment of human diseases, and argued that the UGC was "talking about saving trivial sums compared to what has been done and what is being done".

Edinburgh's Veterinary School is also involved in working on what Mr Kelly, the Associate Dean terms as "AIDS-related" viruses, as reported in Student last term.

However, Professor Jarrett's final complaint, that uncertainty over veterinary schools future could scare away potential investors, is one which could considerably have serious repercussions in the Edinburgh School, is it felt.

In these areas he felt the Council could improve and expand its testing programme, and drug counselling, as the majority of carriers at present are drug users. On top of this he stressed the importance of community care for the active cases, which could take the form of meals-on-wheels, home help and housing provision.

Dr Bath qualified his warning by saying that at present there are only six active cases in the Lothian Region compared to 731 in the whole of the UK, yet complacency at this stage would be disastrous.

Lothian AIDS plague

by Graeme Wilson

There could be as many as 300 active cases of AIDS in the Lothian health area by 1991 unless more action is taken by the authorities.

This is what Lothian councillors were told by Health Board's Community Medicine specialist, Dr George Bath. He suggested improvements in the areas of prevention and treatment through better communications between Council and Health Board, which are essential to both stem the flow of the disease and help the active cases of AIDS.

Yuppie drain from Civil Service

by Nian Munava

The Civil Service is losing top graduate recruits to the City and its high salaries, claim the Service's Commissioners in their recent annual report.

Although the fast-track "administration training course" for such graduates is generally successful, Nick Gurney, one of the Commissioners, says that "we are not attracting quite the same number of really top graduates." Included in this number would be engineers, scientists, computer specialists, accountants, lawyers, lawyers, economists, and actuaries.

A record number of 15 successful applicants turned down offers of jobs in the Civil Service. One solution, the Commissioners say, is to break down some of the Olive-branch only social divide which has made the intake from Oxford graduates only until last week. However, the main reason remains that the Whitehall salary is sometimes only half that of the City offer to the same high-flying graduate. Last year's "Big Bang" in the City and the rise in interest in commercial enterprise has increased vacancies in the City.

According to Edinburgh's Careers Advisory Service, inquiries by students with the enthralling new Chancellor have been made by American banks and merchant banks. There is still, however, interest in entering in Civil Service with students still taking the entrance the long procedure, which also possibly encourages graduates to pursue City careers.

Hitting the campus nationwide

by Our News Staff

The second issue of Enterprise magazine will be published next week by three Oxford University students who head Precedent Publications.

Editor Devon Scole told Student that following the overwhelming success of issue one, Enterprise was fortunate to attract generous commercial sponsorship and advertising.

"We are now Britain's only monthly student magazine, and we're here to stay." Following an issue, which was generously endorsed by University Rector Archie MacPherson, the publishers formed Precedent Publications.

Big name line up at press debate

"This House would prefer a fair press a free press" is the motion put to the students of Edinburgh University, the media, held this evening in the Tsvet Row Debating Hall.

The debate was chaired by John Hannon, BBC Newnight reporter and doyen of the bye-election journalists, John Lloyd, editor of the New Statesman, and Sheena Macdonald from Scotland Today.

There will be a free reception after the debate, which starts at 7.30 pm.
All night loans vigil

by Sophie Peterson

A twenty-four hour vigil outside the Scottish office has been planned by EUSA on the 5th day of May. According to David Duncan, EUSA, "we have had the 'logistical conclusion' to the various occupations and marches that EUSA has organized recently."

Running from 1 pm to 1 pm, the vigil hopes to attract students all through the night. The following days, 1 pm-1 pm, "100% of signatures, in the form of a petition from the general public, will be presented to a representative of the Scottish office. There is also a rally planned for the presentation of the petition - it is hoped in the run-up to the general election."

David Duncan sees the vigil as "symbolic of student determination" and is no to let the loans issue die away. He sees the fact that loans proposals have been dropped from the Conservative's election manifesto as a sign of the students success, but he is not convinced that the Conservatives will not raise the matter again or attempt "to sneak it through quietly."

The Scottish Office reaction was one of concern at the fact that EUSA has chosen the Scottish Office as the location for the vigil. A representative of the Press Office said that the students were "free to vigil," but "was surprised" they chose the Scottish Office as it had "nothing to do with loans."

If students feel it to be a part of the vigil through certain hours of the night of the 5th, they are welcome to lead the vigil, but they will be the one responsible to use your name on some of the posters publicizing the event.

EUSA’s Health Daze

by Miranda Chitty

In last week’s Health Daze, organised by EUSA, it became clear that stress, depression, smoking and eating habits are issues that most concern health-conscious students at Edinburgh University.

Health Daze was held on two days, last week and on the day it which students were helped through information desks, leaflets, and a deodorant-lager promotion, to see through the health ‘daze’ of the fitness freaked eighties whilst finding a suitable way of looking after their health.

Defend the dons

ABERDEEN: A massive campaign has been set up at Aberdeen University and the city’s community called “Defend the Dons.” The university is trying to stop the University Grants Committee decision to cut £2m from Aberdeen over the next three years.

“Defend the Dons” is a joint campaign supported by university staff and the SRC. Aberdeen District Council has decided to cut £2m from Aberdeen over the next three years.

Defend the students

According to Professor James R. Parrett, who holds the University of Oxford’s Professor of Parasitology, the students have a reputation for being demanding and that to with either them or their unions could be ridiculous, though almost certain.

The policy, Professor Parrett maintains, should not take the Association for a ride."

The student organisation is being led by Duncan, Head of the Student Centre, which is responsible for, amongst other things, the council, that the council employees, from gardeners to street cleaners, should keep their eyes open for passing nuclear convoys and report any suspicious “suspicion reporter, they would do while going about their day-to-day work.

Thatcher fears student campaign says candidater

by Miranda Chitty

NUS President, Vicky Phillips, speaking yesterday in the Chaplaincy Centre, to coincide with Scottish Labour Students campaign day told students that a Labour Government would “inve in education” by scrapping loans, restoring grants to their 1979 levels and giving a grant to every student for every education at the age of sixteen.

Ms Phillips claimed that since 1979, 25,000 places in higher education had been lost, and that the parental contribution to grants had risen by 20%.

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Dear Editor,

I am writing to complain about our current press feature on Patrick Evans.

Your opening paragraph probably sums up the most obviously preposterous and fairly irrelevant that I have ever read. "Art this century has probably become more dull than in any other." Fascinating stuff. Unfortunately, the logic behind such a statement escapes me completely. In just what ways can the art of the 20th century which includes the creation of both film and television, be construed as "dull"? Other considerations apart, your definition of "art" is obviously so narrow as to be useless.

I take it that such an arbitrary judgement was made in the name of "entertainment"-a vague concept which you do not bother to elucidate. "Playwrights, poets and painters have neglected more than ever before, their duty to entertain their audience." No, but not novelists, songwriters, actors, dancers, film directors or popular writers. What a question! Why? Your notion of the artist's "duty to entertain" reveals not only a lack of genuine appreciation of the complex relationship between art and society but also a nauseating "holier than thou" attitude to artists in general.

Indeed, it is a world where people would give the Saturday night queues at the Odeon a miss and instead choose to travel with a babby Travere to see the Evans latest. That this isn't (and probably never will be) the case is a little to do with the aesthetics of the artistic products in question but a great deal to do with the actual politics of art. This is an area which you might more profitably investigate because at the moment your arguments consist of a hark of invented snobbery and philosphic non sequiturs.

Furthermore, you tend on more than one occasion in your comments on the politics of theatre, to slag one of the com- philosphic non sequiturs.

and some performance artists of the 70s did do so for a special experimental purpose: to examine the possibility that convention was stifling insensitivity. They did not do so in the name of "Art", but in the name of"obscenity or dullness. They did not operate to your reduction of the relation between art, entertain to the British press as any damage to the British press as any
gary duncan
make the same point, by printing spy allegations from Peter Wright's memoirs. The first edition of the Sun Sunday MANAGER Loretta Bresciani NEWS Gary Duncan Miry, Christ Anjali Dhakal EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS Lorna Henderson Angela Stuart

Dear Sir,

In the Kenneth Allsop Memorial Lecture last year James Naughtie from The Guardian complained that his paper never had one policy on an issue when two would do. A fair press should not be afraid to commit itself to a position without unwarranted preconceptions and reports it in an informed and intelligent manner.

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the tables. The Go-Be's departed to a deserved ovation, returning to the stage moments later for the inevitable encore.

I left the Hooch a convert.
Jack Mathison

superb songs Robert, but that hair. .

THE GO-BETWEENs
Hoochie Coochie

The Go-Betweens are a band who have been the subject of much eager discussion, but until tonight they have remained very much on the periphery of critical awareness. It was curiosity more than anything else which inspired me to go along to the Hooch to find out what all the fuss is about.

Rock rebels release one minute, spaghetti western heroes the next. Are the Bears the ever growing crowd eating out of their hand, best moments being Big Surprise, the single Gotta Get Out Of Here and its B-side She's My Girl, very robust live number in comparison with the limp-wristed and insipid vinyl version. They encored with Pretty Vacant, conjuring up memories of last year's performance of same, which almost caused the Chambers street dance floor to subside into the foundations of the building.

The Dancing Bears live are always hugely entertaining, a fact which prompts the question why the hell are they still bumming around our loathsome unions in tour with a whole host of non-descript bands. These bears should be massive. They have a single out and an album forthcoming. Buy them, and give the Bears the break they deserve.
Jack Mathison

The venue for tonight's gig was perhaps rather ill-chosen. the masses who wanted to see the Go-Bes would have been far better accommodated in a larger hall, and it all made for a rather sticky, claustrophobic atmosphere.

However, the natural charm of the band shone through. Armed with a vast array of varied material the Go-Betweens oozed sheer talent and sensitivity. Their presence and repertoire of bouncy pop songs won the hearts of the large crowd. They are commercial in the nicest possible way and if the morgals at Radio 1 fancy they sense they would dominate the air-waves.

The sound quality was very good, giving prominence to the distinctive violin accompaniment which adds something special to the band's music, being used to convey Poguesian danceability, quirky melody and even tender melancholy in songs like Part Company.

The gentler moments were complemented by numbers like

You Tell Me where Wedding Present inspired raucous guitar breaks are the order of the day, although the most enthusiastic reception was predictably reserved for recent single Right Here which had them dancing on

Amanda and Robert Part company, for Love and Money fans and for true Love and Money tradition the song is pretty dull and monotonous. However I do feel a bit sorry for a group who have released and re-released their entire repertoire and are still waiting for a hit.

Lowlife (Hoochie Coochie)

Surprisingly sober for once. Lowlife managed to turn in a lively support set, still sounding slightly Joy Divisionist, but brightening things up with a gentler melodic feel on newer songs. Look out for their new LP.

Brie contributesthe week: Caroline Ednie, Alan Graven, Craig McClear, Tom Lappin, Matthew Catling.

Apart from the fact that The Weather Prophets do a version of Stones In My Passway, the very thought of which makes me cringe, they are one of the better of the new pop herd. Pete Astor's voice is something of an irritating croon sometimes, and their press coverage has been a touch too enthusiastic, but with songs like Almost Prayed, Wide Open Arms and In My Room they should be worth seeing. They're plugging their new LP Mayflower at the Venue on Friday.

When I was just a tiny little Annette my favourites were the Tiredrop Explodes, all that fateful snobbery (I think it was the Southend Cliff Pavilion) when Julian Cope threw a tantrum because I was talking during Tiny Children. This tantrum went on to the basis of his entire solo career.

Queen's Hall on Saturday. Worth going just for Bouncing Babies.

Fans of daisy rock 'n' roll and Led Zeppelin might be interested in Zodiac Minimarp and The Love Reaction playing together in Got ters. Teetering between the boring and offensive, it you're going, a leather jacket is probably okay.

Possible highlight for all you disco people out there (there must be some!) is The Pretty Polly Party Night at the Amphitheatre in Lo thian Road tonight. Lots of fun with Radio Ford DJs, competi tion to win clothes in Elfin' Hairs and go along in a Pretty Polly product (!?) you get a free pair of lights. Special guest are the Detroit Emeralds. If you would like a free ticket to this splendid occasion come along to the offices in the Pleasance today and tell us why

Dr Robert (Swoon) Playhouse Fri day.

My little sister is currently infatuated with Dr Robert of The Blow Monkeys, playing at the Playhouse this Friday. Personally I find their music slightly less appealing than the "Wendy" Bad die/Chris Waddle single, and I've never seen Dr Robert smush in a free kick from 30 yards out either.

Support band is Goodbye My Melancholy which gives us another chance to sneer at Martin Metcalfe — ha ha.

Any The Student playlist
The Weather Prophet: You Uper The Grace Of Living When You Lie (12" side)
The Jesus: Five Colors: Ro y Diddley Is Jesus (7" free single with April Skies)The Go-Between: The Clark Sisters (Hoochie Coochie Live highlight)
The Railway Children: The Railroad Road (LP "track")That Pete Enelmier: Big Decisions (12" side)
The Smiles: Is It Really So Simple (12" side)
My fears of flour and eggs distributed liberally all over the audience seemed to be confirmed as I was immediately confronted by a mass of foot long quiffs lubricated by five hours of serious drinking before the group appeared, more pissed than the audience.

Accompanied by hideous fair-ground music King Kurt came on stage declaring their intention, a Scottish first, "To mix a snakethee in the human body." This involved strapping the eager volunteers to the "wheel of misfortune", pouring pints of cider and lager into their mouths and spinning them round at breakneck speeds. If the audience gave the thumbs down, a custard bath was then given. Alas the male contingent, afraid of getting their quiffs spoiling their quiffs, were round at breakneck speeds.

The singer has a neat line in evolution and general pregnant pauses during Win's 50-minute appearance were filled with such advertisement atrocities as, "Now hands that do dishes can be soft as your own. Geffen green. Fairly Liquid" and "Martini — the right one!".

Well, it got the waxwork crowd to sing along anyway, — if Win's performance wasn't enough, Brush blasts of bass, staccato guitars and the lead singer's wide-ranging voice, all meshed up together in Shampoo Tears and You Baby Too, managed to just melt the wax. Just but it worked. We've Got the Power (McEwan's lager TV ad music, for the ignorant among you) to get the floor moving. No wonder the Indiana Jones lookalike on keyboards had to mop his brow, and wring out his shirt, his fingers were moving so fast. He must use Fairly Liquid. Then a final encore of Un-American Broadcasting (I think) and more sleazy backing-vocals by the Big Black Man on guitar accompanied by Indiana Jones. And that was it, short but sweet, as the ad for Cadbury's Matchsticks goes. And no, I wouldn't have given a Castlemaine XXXX for anything else.

Do you feel that the Music Pages need to be improved? Do you feel that they are lacking something? Do you think that that something could be YOU? Then come to the meetings on Wednesday at 5.30 pm and put things right. The Tomato Cellar.

With classic songs like I Love You Like I Love Dolly Mixtures, And Isn't The Rain Like Puppy Dog's Kisses? and their mastery of the pure pop tambourine, Fizzy Gosh and the Girly have come to the forefront of the Edinburgh scene.

Fizzy Gosh and the Girly are as sweet and innocent as ever, playing all three of their first five times apiece, culminating in their hit single, Baby, When You Left Me. Have You To Take All The Oranges Smarties? Pure pop Spangargh...

The Tomato Cellar.

Do you feel that the Music Pages need to be improved? Do you feel that they are lacking something? Do you think that that something could be YOU? Then come to the meetings on Wednesday at 1.15 pm and put things right.

**Metal**

**Slayer**

*The Playhouse*

*WwOOGAARIIIH*! Death to false metal! Death to any metal! Welcome to the car smash! Thrash-metal, speed-metal or hardcore-metal, it doesn't really matter. Slayer just shit on everything, heavy metal or rock! They make Deezer. Poodle sound like the old-age pensioners they always were. Faster than a speeding bullet; a drum riser bigger than a nuclear reactor! Watch your small council house and a noise let, a drum riser bigger than a nuclear reactor! Faster than a speeding bullet; a drum riser bigger than a nuclear reactor! Faster than a speeding bullet; a drum riser bigger than a nuclear reactor! Faster than a speeding bullet; a drum riser bigger than a nuclear reactor!

A thousand foot long quiffs greeted the band, without any quiffs, the boys were a quarter of the length. My personal favourite was the little called Chemical Warfare.

Andrew Tully

**Winsome?**

Davey Henderson: A little too commercial?

*photo: Oliver Linn*

Win Coasters

"Only the crumblest, flakiest chocolate! Tastes like chocolate never tasted before!" Famous? That's not surprising; the intro, conclusion and general pregnant pauses during Win's 50-minute appearance were filled with such advertisement atrocities as, "Now hands that do dishes can be soft as your own. Geffen green. Fairly Liquid" and "Martini — the right one!".

Well, it got the waxwork crowd to sing along anyway, — if Win's performance wasn't enough, Brush blasts of bass, staccato guitars and the lead singer's wide-ranging voice, all meshed up together in Shampoo Tears and You Baby Too, managed to just melt the wax. Just but it worked. We've Got the Power (McEwan's lager TV ad music, for the ignorant among you) to get the floor moving. No wonder the Indiana Jones lookalike on keyboards had to mop his brow, and wring out his shirt, his fingers were moving so fast. He must use Fairly Liquid. Then a final encore of Un-American Broadcasting (I think) and more sleazy backing-vocals by the Big Black Man on guitar accompanied by Indiana Jones. And that was it, short but sweet, as the ad for Cadbury's Matchsticks goes. And no, I wouldn't have given a Castlemaine XXXX for anything else.

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**Bitchy**

*FIZZY GOSH AND THE DESPERATE GIRLIES*

*The Tomato Cellar*

With classic songs like I Love You Like I Love Dolly Mixtures, And Isn't The Rain Like Puppy Dog's Kisses? and their mastery of the pure pop tambourine, Fizzy Gosh and the Girly have come to the forefront of the Edinburgh scene.

Formerly Taladah and the Fair-, and briefly known as Boo Boo and the Shoplifters, Fizzy Gosh herself is a member of No-Not-All-Goth, Serious-German-Name, Tuesday-Night-Anarchist, who have released a couple of singles as impecunious as their name. Currently Fizzy is planning a heavy metal band with a former member of The Skunk 'n' Kidney Thrashboys, because "We don't think we've got every market covered yet."

Tonight Fizzy and the Girly were as sweet and innocent as ever, playing all three of their first five times apiece, culminating in their hit single, Baby, When You Left Me. Have You To Take All The Oranges Smarties? Pure pop Spangargh... (reviewerdragged away screaming). The Nobend!
The PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC OBSESSIONS

Fri May 1, 6.45, 8.15
Silent film about the trial and execution of Joan of Arc. The second is a powerful drama about a "half-woman" falling in love with Eads!- 

PUMPING IRON II: THE WOMEN MARLENE

George Square Theatre Sun 3rd May, 6.45, 8.45
Double bill thriller ... a man searches for the truth of his brother's death and a journalist discovers a conspiracy that he wishes to keep him well left alone.

CAMO

Home Street, Tollcross 294 PM
REPO MAN

SUBWAY

May 1, 11.15 pm £2
Yossi was ecstatic about the first - "It's brilliant! Brilliant! Brilliant! What more can I say?" The second film is set in New York and features a street trade in New York.

WINTER KILLS

DEFENCE OF THE REALM

George Square Theatre Wed 6th May, 6.45, 8.30
Double bill thriller ... a man searches for the truth of his brother's death and a journalist discovers a conspiracy that he wishes to keep him well left alone.

FOR THE EYES AND EARS OF ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

Grindlay St.

MAY HOME SIZENAGERS

MON-SAT; 10-4

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

In its 161st year the Academy takes an example of its variety of concepts in painting, sculpture and architecture.

OPEN EYE GALLERY

2 Market St.

Mon-Sat; 10-5 pm

The worlds of the talented cartoonist Bill Tidy, whose drawings have appeared in "Punch", "Private Eye" and the "Daily Mirror" provides an interesting change from the plethora of watercolours covering most of today's galleries.

FINE ART SOCIETY

70 Cumberland St.

Mon- Fri; 10-6, Sat; 10-4

JOHN B. SUTTER/DOUGLAS DAVIES

NATIONAL LIBRARY

George IV Bridge

Mon-Fri; 9.30-5; Sat; 9.30-1; Sun; 2-5 pm

THE ART OF ILLUSTRATION: BANK'S FLORILEGIUM

Remarkable collection of prints taken from botanical studies during the Captains voyage of exploration which display interesting 18th century printing techniques.

Odeon

106 Hanover St.

Mon-Sat; 11-7 pm

Students are welcome at the Orchestra concerts all of the tickets are available for £1.50, plus £1 for students.

SNO

23 Union St.

Mon-Sat; 10-5.30

MARCUS REES ROBERTS

Selections from four sets of recent etchinas.

RICHARD DE MARCO

ART COMPETITION: GARDEN OF EDEN

Hand in now to the gallery or forever hold thy piece.
WED 29th April
Rag Raids, the traditional pilgrimage to other major towns.
FR 1st May
Slave Auction, Chambers Street Union, 9.30 pm; Auction at 9.30 pm.
SAT 2nd May
Trampoline display and bands in the morning at Princes Street Gardens. Floats Procession at 2.30 pm, leaving from Regent Road — colourful decor and fancy dress, ponies, bands and many others.
Full Can Dance — best night of the year: full can free entry — disco bands and late bar; £2 without full can.
SUN 3rd May
The Pearl Assurance Hall Marathon and Fun Run, 9.30 am. Details and entry forms from ESCA offices, 19 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh.

THUR 30 APR
THE BALFOUR AND MANSON DEBATE
Teviot Debating Hall, 7.30 pm.
This House would rather have a fair press than a free press.'

EU MUSICAL SOCIETY AGM
Chaplaincy Centre, 5.30 pm.

KB LUNCHTIME TALK
Sixth Level Common room, 1.10 pm.
Mr. Douglas Dunn reads a selection of his poetry.

ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY
Ground Floor Lecture Room of the Archaeology Department, George Square. Recent developments in cyclic Archaeology.

THE SHUMASCHER SOCIETY
The Highleast Poolness, Highplain. "Agriculture from an International Perspective".

EDINBURGH BISEXUAL GROUP
Lesbian & Gay Centre, 60 Broughton St. 7.30-8.30 pm. "Self Image".

EU FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
Cheviot Room, Pleasance 7.30 pm. "Green Politics".

FRI 1 MAY
CHAMBERS STREET
Happy Hour 5-7 pm; Free Juke Box; and its open to 11 pm. What could anyone want?

TEVIOT UNION
2 am
Happy Hour 9-11 pm

RACE TO PARIS
The Travel Centre offers 20% discount to hitchers on their return home. Ask for details.

SAT 2 MAY
CHAMBERS STREET
Happy Hour 7.30-9.30 pm; 2 bars; disco; free jukebox, open till 11 pm.
FRIDAY NIGHT . . . SATURDAY MORNING
Poptarrow Happy Hour 8.30-9.30 pm.
EU FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
Meet 9.30 am outside Grant House, Pollock. Help with the float for the procession.

THUR 30 APR
PRINCESS'IDA
King's Theatre, Leven Street, 7.30 pm.
Presented by the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Edinburgh. Extra dates Friday and Saturday.

SCO
Queen's Hall, Clerk Street, 7.45 pm.
With the Scottish Philharmonic Singers. Conducted by James Conlon.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT
St. Cuthbert's Hall, Cowgate, 7.30 pm.
EU students in a programme of music for small ensembles. Even if yours are normal-sized, go along. Tickets at door. 

DRIVING SIDEWAYS
Top o' the Walk, St James Centre 9 pm.
Blues, boogie and jazz.

SPIRITS OF RHYTHM
Basin St, Haymarket Terrace Evening.
Upstairs in riverboat bar, trad jazz.

ZODIAC MINDWARP AND THE LOVE REACTION
Coasters
Sex-drenched mutant rock 'n' roll, for sex-drenched mutants preserv- ably. With The Batfish Boys.

HUNGRY YEARS
Preservation Hall 9 pm.

BILLY JONES
Lord Darnley 9 pm.
Free

EASY PICKINS
"The Canny Man's 8.30 pm.
Free

AMMO
Gates 9 pm.
Free

FRI 1 MAY
ROADRUNNER
Preservation Hall. £1 after 9.30 pm. Blues-influenced band (aren't they all?) from Alloa.

SUN 3 MAY
PETUR JONASSON
Queen's Hall 1 pm.
Young Icelandic guitarist — playing works by Torrgeir, Porsell and internationally famous Hallgrimson. Tickets £1.50 (concession).

TAM WHITE AND THE DEXTERS
Preservation Hall £1 after 9 pm.

INDIAN SUMMER
Preservation Hall Beginning of a regular Monday Night in the Presse.

TUE 5 MAY
NAPIER COLLEGE ORCHESTRA
Queen's Hall 7.45 pm.

DRIVING SIDEWAYS
Preservation Hall Free

CHAROSCURO
Reid Concert hall 8 pm.
Light and shade. EU students present a programme which includes a Bach Cantata, two Brahams Songs for alto, violin and piano and a theatrical piece for seven wind instruments by Max Richard. With Per Adams, a professional recorder player. An exciting evening of Baroque and 20th century music.

WED 6 MAY
CHARLIE MCNAIR'S JAZZ AND PRESERVATION HALL
As if you needed to be told . . .

WHAT'S ON STAFF LIST
FILM
Jo Lurie
THEATRE
Fran Hughes
EXHIBS
Frans Hughes
UNIVENTS
Linda Kerr
MUSIC
MORE
Charles Rennie Mackintosh

City Art Centre; until 2nd May

This exhibition is not only celebrating Mackintosh's principal work, but also and quite importantly, his work as a designer.
That famous letter stated his opinion that the aims of the war had changed from a war of defence to a war of attack, that men's lives had been wasted for the sole purpose of smashing Germany.亦而 booming to drift along until Mother becomes obsessed with finding a husband for Laura. The mother is well played by Ann Scott Jones, with a convincing portrayal of the faded Southern belle smothering her offspring with a love that is in fact destroying them. Ann Jones did well to catch the tension between the overly comic nature of the role and its underlying tragedy. Andrew Price was slightly less successful in the pivotal role of Tom, failing to communicate the internal tensions inherent in the character.

Eventually Tom accedes to his mother's requests and brings home an all-American regular, Jim O'Connor, played with vigour by Stuart Price. In the event, Laura and Jim relate to each other surprisingly well, with Jim showing some real concern for Laura's welfare and Laura's brittle fantasy world.

Smith and Sharpe the Mafioso-type villain, all contribute to the atmosphere of mystery. Thus the action continues with a whiff of suspense and a touch of "takao" as we encounter the various victims such as a Lolita-like showgirl.

Robson has indulged in the intricate and the ridiculous, producing a brilliant, scintillating effect. What the play lacks in depth of plot it makes up for in the precision of its timing. Gangster spectacle or Chandleresque thriller, this production by the Cumbernauld Theatre Company is pure entertainment. Don't miss the next production, "Checking Out", which will be in Edinburgh in the coming autumn.

Mona Arain

THE G GLASS MENAGERIE
Royal Lyceum, until 16th May.

The Royal Lyceum Theatre Company have chosen Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" with which to round off their Spring Season. "Menagerie" is a much less satisfying work than Williams' later and more mature "A Streetcar Named Desire", with which the company enjoyed such success last year. "Menagerie" fails to have the devastating effect of "Streetcar" but this is due to the limitations of the work rather than the quality of its production. It is a play which relies more on atmosphere than plot and which, ultimately, seems to go nowhere. On the other hand, it could be argued that this limitation is inherent in the subject matter; these are people who never did get anywhere.

The play is heavily autobiographical, centring around a genteel yet impoverished Southern family living in St. Louis. The mother is a neurotic tyrant who tries to control the very action of her two children, Tom and Laura. Tom is a frustrated writer, stuck in a dead-end job in a warehouse, who goes to endless movies to escape both mother and work. His sister Laura, played by Emma Dingwall, is a dreamy cripple who learns her escape by playing with her glass menagerie of ornamental animals, with a mind that appears to be no less frail than her body. What all the family share is that they are all outsiders, all in some way fundamentally cut off from the world and each other. However, they are all somehow man interred in Craiglockhart in a hospital for the mentally disturbed. Sassoon had at this stage already sufficient literary reputation as a poet and a soldier for him to deserve political embarrassment; Owen on the other hand was labelled a coward by his colonel and was completely unknown as a poet.

Shears and Michael McGrath were brilliant in expanding the main themes of this play: the influence of the urbane established Sassoon on the timid but fiery Owen. Also, the dementia of Sassoon wondering if his outspoken pacifist views were a subconscious attempt to avoid fighting — and in the end needing to go back to France. Owen, always wondering if he was a coward, feeling that he did not have the right to talk about the pity of war if he could not face the terror of war. The dilemma for both of having only the sphere of war in which to prove yourself to yourself, but at the same time abhorring the carnage and filth of the inevitable path.

There will probably never be another realistic and innocent war poet such as Rupert Brookes with his "Glory" and "Honour", because poets like Sassoon and Owen made a mockery of that naivety. Their poems reveal the Armistice. Days faces at the Cenotaph for what they are — attempts to justify the deaths rather than remember the dead.

Laura's brittle fantasy world even managing to forgive his breaking of her most prized possession: a tiny glass unicorn. This central scene was finely handled by both actors. Emma Dingwall's portrayal of the brief moment when it looks as if Laura may manage to escape the brittle fantasy world of glass for the real world of other people, and the subsequent shattering of those hopes, conveying real pathos.

Scott C. Styles

NOT ABOUT HEROES
King's Theatre; 23-25 April.

"Not About Heroes" is a play about the relationship between two great poets. Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon. Owen spent a year in France before he was sent to Craiglockhart War Hospital in Edinburgh, suffering from shell shock. There he met Sassoon. Siegfried Sassoon, interned there after writing a controversial letter to The Times. That famous letter stated his opinion that the aims of the war had changed from a war of defence to a war of attack, that men's lives were being wasted for the sole purpose of smashing Germany. This was enough to get this perfectly healthy and courageous man interred in Craiglockhart in a hospital for the mentally disturbed. Sassoon had at this stage already sufficient literary reputation as a poet and a soldier for him to deserve political embarrassment; Owen on the other hand was labelled a coward by his colonel and was completely unknown as a poet.

They are all somehow man interred in Craiglockhart in a hospital for the mentally disturbed. Sassoon had at this stage already sufficient literary reputation as a poet and a soldier for him to deserve political embarrassment; Owen on the other hand was labelled a coward by his colonel and was completely unknown as a poet. Michael McGrath and Michael McGrath were brilliant in expanding the main themes of this play: the influence of the urbane established Sassoon on the timid but fiery Owen. Also, the dementia of Sassoon wondering if his outspoken pacifist views were a subconscious attempt to avoid fighting — and in the end needing to go back to France. Owen, always wondering if he was a coward, feeling that he did not have the right to talk about the pity of war if he could not face the terror of war. The dilemma for both of having only the sphere of war in which to prove yourself to yourself, but at the same time abhorring the carnage and filth of the inevitable path.

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Napalm in the morning

Platoon

Dir: Oliver Stone

Platoon is about the Vietnam War. Yes, I know. It’s about the Vietnam War. But not that Vietnam War, and certainly not Vietnam as we know it, but as the soldiers experienced it, 100% illogical. Kirk, who wears a silly hat, and who has a humpback, predictably saves the day. He is the only one who understands the enemy. He is the only one who can communicate with the enemy. He is the only one who can understand the enemy. He is the only one who can save the day.

They are the voyages of the starship Enterprise, in its fifth year mission: to boldly go where no man has gone before. Dee Dee, da dag dag dag.

In that famous opening scene, we see a huge alien space probe, fetchingly labeled as a "blue whale." The probe is a mile long liquorice stick. Spock, the logical one, is sent out to investigate. He is a Vulcan mind-meld with a dewy-eyed blonde. They are a perfect couple. They are the perfect couple. They are the perfect couple.

"Every thing is fine and can they have it?" Kirk, who wears a silly hat, and who has a humpback, predictably saves the day. He is the only one who understands the enemy. He is the only one who can communicate with the enemy. He is the only one who can save the day.

The Fourth Protocol

Dir: John Mackenzie

The Fourth Protocol is remarkably similar to every other Cold War film. It is a film that one expects to see from Fredrick Forsyth’s book, if it is the usual combination of politicking and dastardly Rambo with thin American accents. Michael Caine, who is obviously in this film for a pay day, is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter. When his MI5 bosses let him down, he is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter. He is a plotty plotter.
Not a load of rubbish

He is normally seen wearing from the cockpit of a Boeing 747 or beaming at the camera whilst speeding across the Atlantic. He was recently voted scruffiest businessman of the year, his latest stunt was climbing the tallest tree in London and his ever-present smile has been recorded for posterity as resembling Shergar as he passes the winning post. Who could this man of so diverse talents be? The big man of Virgin, Richard Branson, was in Edinburgh on Friday to launch the opening of UK2,000 Scotland.

Unfortunately, UK 2000’s reputation has not reached many people yet. Despite a lot of camera clicking by Fleet street journalists, plus a lot of smiles and smiles from Mr Branson, the general public is not too clear as to what the scheme actually entails. If you do already know about UK 2000, well done; if you know that it’s anything other than a clean-up Britain campaign then you’re doing really well. Unfortunately Mr Branson and his crew of — to quote the Guardian, “hope­-fish”, the press has been none too helpful in trying to educate the public as to just what it is he is trying to do. The aim of Friday’s schedul­ing we get to clear it from the start in Scotland.

Apart from being a litter cam­paign, the mass media has dismiss­ed UK 2000 as being a token effort by the government to be seen to be giving the unemployed something to do while merely being a rehash of the seemingly endless schemes of other schemes: YOS, YOzs, Restart, Community Programme, etc, etc, ad nauseam. And of course you can’t forget the bit about exploitation. Fortunately this scheme has the advantage of being totally beyond the grasp of the government, and to prove the point, Labour, the Liberals, SDP and the Unions have given their hallowed bes­sides.

The aim of the scheme is to give the long-term unemployed a worthwhile training working on a project to improve the environ­ment. Of course many conserva­tion and environmental groups have been doing just this for years, the advantage of this par­ticular scheme is that it brings to­gether the various voluntary groups, who working individually are limited as to what finances they can raise and consequently what influence they can have.

It also drags in both local authorities and private industry into the arena. With finance and co-operation from both the pri­vate and the public sector the programmes that the various vol­untary groups are already work­ing on can be expanded and new projects which would be too demanding in terms of main­tain­ed and cost to any individual group, can be realised by a joint effort directed by UK 2000. For the first three years the govern­ment provides the basic funding and after this initial period the idea is that sponsorship from the private sector will finance training and other costs.

So Friday saw the launch of the campaign in Scotland. Unfortu­nately, Student didn’t arrive in such style as the other VIP’s. And it wasn’t necessary to read the same tag I was given to guess my humble origins, the plastic bag gave away the student identity.

Nevertheless, despite my incon­gruity one gentleman from the Scottish Wildlife Trust was still unperturbed, a born optimist: on learning I was from Edinburgh University he selected the opportu­nity to plug for sponsorship. Personally I thought we came nearer the receiver than the donor.


As would be expected of someone once nominated in Britain’s three best-dressed men, when Cecil Parkinson turned up to the opening of the Conservative Party seems to have been doing just this for years. The advantage of this par­ticular scheme is that it brings to­gether the various voluntary groups, who working individually are limited as to what finances they can raise and consequently what influence they can have.

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The launch itself was impres­sive — both the various voluntary organisations represented and Richard Branson came across as being genuinely very committed to the project in the first eight months of the campaign in England 200 projects involving 1,400 trainers and volunteers have been put into action and in Scotland 100 projects involving several thousand people are plan­ned.

The Community Programme Initiative on Tourism and co­ordinating the efforts of the Scot­ish Tourist Board, MSC and CBI (Scotland), it is expected to cost 1,000,000 in tourism projects in the first year. The Landwise pro­ject in Scotland aims to develop derelict areas and children’s playgrounds. Other projects: tree-planting, the creation of wood­lands, revitalisation of inner­ cities, the setting up of working museums—a co-ordinating working museum in Wigan being an exam­ple in England, improving the parks and areas and many more. So maybe it does go beyond the picking up of litter. Overall, the latest projects is recycling, and if you want a thoroughly clear conscience when buying your latest LP, then buy Virgin — the paper they use is recycled and soon will be the album sleeves.

So, after a delightful lunch, and a few more speeches RK 2K — to­ drip into the jargon, was launched. Fleet Street seemed to be coming over to the idea, Richard Branson was still smiling, and hopefully the enthusiasm really will translate itself into a proper training. It is a long-term unemployed leading to per­manent jobs. And what’s more, we should even see an improve­ment in the environment thrown in for good measure.

Parkinson’s Disease

Ian Robertson looks at the son’s suit and makes an assumption

Opinion

As would be expected of someone once nominated in Britain’s three best-dressed men, when Cecil Parkinson turned up to the opening of the Conservative Party seems to have been doing just this for years. The advantage of this particular scheme is that it brings together the various voluntary groups, who working individually are limited as to what finances they can raise and consequently what influence they can have.

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In his speech, Cecil “confided” that from 1947-50 he had been a member of the Labour Party, but had left because it was “too idealistic” and “in practice it didn’t deliver”.

However, while idealism in an absolute sense may be fruitless and an overly-optimistic society inefficient, we cannot afford a closed society to abandon altruism and all our ideals for unbridled consumerism. The first speaks to Parkinson’s Disease. Beautifully presented platitudes hiding injustice and debilitating rifts in society. The main problem facing many people is which brand of consumer fetishism to indulge in. Tell people that there is no problem and they’ll be quite happy to believe it.

Just like Cecil Parkinson — the policies he presents are immaculate turned over. However, the reality behind them is much more shabby indeed.

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Just like Cecil Parkinson — the policies he presents are immaculate turned over. However, the reality behind them is much more shabby indeed.
Mike Harding is currently on British tour. Prue Jeffreys spoke to him about class, condoms and alternative comedy.

"I met Mike Harding on a Saturday afternoon in March at the start of his nationwide tour. We were sitting in the foyer of a nice Edinburgh hotel, sipping tea, eating sandwiches and talking largely about condoms. It seemed an unlikely setting for an Irish Catholic, Manchester-born comedian whose humour is noted for its earthiness and directness. In his time, he has been a dustman, bus conductor, road digger, bookshop assistant, and boiler-seller. He also has a degree in education, but has never been a teacher, probably because, as he later commented, he finds people in authority "lamentable".

It is this varied background which provides the source of much of his comedy, comedy which is rooted in laughing at the incongruities and hypocrisies of everyday life. This brand of humour is now known as alternative comedy, but this was a phrase unknown in the 70s, although that was precisely what Mike and his contemporaries were doing. So does he see himself as one of the founders of alternative comedy? "To some extent you could say that the regional comics as we were called—Billy Connolly, myself and Jasper Carrott—were doing something which had basically come out of the folk clubs—a comedy rooted in the music hall tradition and not in the stand-up comic, Bernard Manning, Jimmy Tarbuck style. It wasn't someone wearing a flax suit and velvet bow-tie, leaning on a microphone and telling naff jokes. Perhaps the carder of the four of us paved the way to some extent to what has happened since."

"But I think a lot of new alternative comedy has to do with Cambridge Footlights, Edinburgh Festival and Not the Nine O'Clock News, that sort of stuff. That I think is a result of the effect people of us like me had."

So were you all making a collective effort to develop a new brand of comedy? "Not really. We were doing a rather similar sort of comedy—satirical songs and stuff—but we were all ploughing our separate fields. I didn't meet Billy until 1971 at the Edinburgh Festival although we'd been passing each other on the motorway for years. People were tired of shows like The Comedian with stand-up comics telling the same one-line gags. We were made to living for ourselves, but I'm not a regional person."

In his current tour, Mike is doing 78 shows in 53 venues. It has been called "colourful", "controversial", "disarming" and "passionate", and even though he insists his humour is not regionally restricted, his popularity varies from venue to venue and he admits his dislike for certain areas.

"I do think London is bullshit city; and do find that the south of England has its fair share of wisty

FESTIVAL TIMES

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On a tour around the capitals of the countries where the game is played, EU Shiny Club had a victorious visit to Dublin, playing Trinity College. This annual tour is a gruelling event and undertaken only by the sort of men who break Tonka toys and eat three shredded wheat. Former veteran of three tours, Jimmy Divine, could not usualy face the consequences of previous visits; but I can safely report that both boys are doing well. "Minx" McFarlane undertook to fill this void and to keep the spirit of procrastination alive, making a swift raid with a female friend in Belfast between switching train stations and extending his rabbit-like mating habits to encompass one of the less sightly elements of Dublin nightlife who was playung hostess herself as a real lady-killer, temporarily hospitalised one collagen before being told that while to knock a girl out and drag her off was an acceptable courting ritual in Beauty, it didn't work in Dub­ lin. Hero of the day was "Deputy Dougie" Ross, who notched up a few goals and kept the whole company in good cheer with a huge repertoire of songs. The evening was spent in quiet contemplation of the victory with only one ex­ecution from a hostelry which was less than continuous even before the team left. But Dublin has lots of bars. . . .

Next day "Quiet Man" Maguire joined the party to play TCD hurl­ing team. It was a great game with "Godly" Grant in fine form and Ralph "Lovelyham" almost having his name changed (not by deed poll, but by hurling stick) to Ralph "My nose is all over my face". Seven goals were pushed past the Trinity defence without reply. Devilish though they were on the pitch, the lads showed an even more callous disregard for the barrel of Guinness supplied for the game by their hosts.

Ma Pint!

Despite (or perhaps because of) last week's disparaging reports about the Scottish climate, the new cricket season started banging on time; or rather it would have done had Edwards not been delayed for almost an hour.

Edinburgh lost the toss and bat­ted and as the Strathclyde team would have expected from its rise in recent years, Edinburgh batting began to dom­inate. A confused figure in full regalia stood for a brief time, and with the help of Dan and a merci­ful breeze, Hillend. Glasgow proving respectively in the slalom. The British Universities Championships once again man­aged to keep Ainscow's publi­cans smiling. Beer drinking, fancy dress, cabaret and night­life figured. 12 noon: Moira and Tania proved SUSF not to be a rather drunken anchor (Scott). Their performance was not up to its usual high standard — please stay sober next year scot! —

The highlight of the social events turned out to be the boat race. Unfortunatly we must have missed the excitement of the fisticuffs bet­ween switching train stations and extending his rabbit-like mating habits to...
... sees the light

The Church celebrates this story in a wonderful and weird way. Musée, costume and architecture all combine in an exotic and desperate attempt to make us believe. When the Church can no longer fund itself on box office takings, the Arts Council will undoubtedly step in. The Easter's performance might even pick up a Fringe award.

Quite what this marvellous ritual achieves is another question. Already Groundling can bear people scribbling indignant about his cysts etc. Almost 100 years after Nietzsche noticed the death of God, it is still taboo to attack religion. This is probably explained by some deep-seated superstitious fear of rotting in hell. But religious beliefs are no different from any other kind of beliefs, and if it is fair to attack people for believing that blacks are stupid, or for believing that women are inferior to men, then it does seem reasonable to ask why people should believe in Christianity.

Traditionally, Christianity, like most religions, used to explain the majesty of creation. Inquisitive peasants, worrying about the death of God, it is still taboo to think about their problems, even if they would be better off out of it.

Going to church allows people to feel that they belong. Just as Hell's Angels hold rites involving orgiastic sex, and saw-off shotgun, Jesus's Angels perform rituals with bread and wine. Both ceremonies allow us to feel some sense of communion. So there is hope after all.

Personally, Groundling would rather go to a party.