Almost 1,000 students came from all over Scotland last Wednesday to protest against cuts in funding, loans and the Poll Tax. They sang satirical Christmas carols and handed Christmas cards and petitions to one of Malcolm Rifkind's private secretaries.

The demonstration was organised by EUSA, and students from Dundee, Aberdeen, St Andrews and Glasgow joined with Edinburgh students before marching from Bristol Square to outside the Scottish Office. Once there, 40 minutes of music and carols ensued.

However, it was obvious to some of the people in the crowd that it had not gone quite perfectly. One protestor commented that "there's no one leading it — they haven't even got a chair for someone to stand on". Perhaps this could explain why SWSS occupied such a prominent position in the protest and why what was supposed to be a musical demonstration degenerated into a "we can shout louder than you" football match scene: SWSS versus the rest of the students.

SWSS were at least slightly organised — they had a loud leader with a megaphone and a couple of songs; the rest of the students had anyone who fancied shouting above the SWSS. Who were they all fighting? The English government cutbacks or each other?

The EUSA carols had titles such as The Eight Years of Thatcher and Thacher the Blue-Nosed Tory, and such lines as "Education is our future. For all and not just you and me", "Little donkey, Kenneth Baker, you are such a fool" and "O tidings of closures and cuts". The Socialist Workers Students' Society added their loud voices to the protest, much to the disgust of some present, with other masterpieces, with whole verses like "Maggie Maggie, Out Out Out!" and "They say 'cut back — we say fight back".

Perhaps sensing that the protest was too tame, they also shouted about direct action - "Organise — Occupy — Kick the Bastards Out!". However, the only direct action taken that day was the handing in of the petitions and Christmas cards by the representatives from the universities.

Jane Rogerson, EUSA President, said that 4,200 signatures were on the Edinburgh petition supporting Aberdeen students. She also said that she had written to all the MPs in Scotland, and had received messages of support from about 40 of them.

This will be followed up with petitioning of Scottish Office staff it was found previously that many of them were for a Scottish Assembly and a question in the Commons by Nigel Griffiths, MP.

Overall the day was judged to be a success by all the Sabbatycals present. Sally Greig said, profoundly, that "it was good", and Jane Rogerson commented that it was "excellent, it's about time we started voicing our concern on educational issues. This has got to be built on".

Sing Out!

by Forbes McKay

Detail from Man at Dali by M. Gladstone, winner of the Photographic Society competition.
Beatified
by Tom Bradby

An Edinburgh University student has just returned from Rome where her ancestor was Beatified; one of the first British Catholics to be honoured in this way since the 1920s.

The service was conducted privately in English by Pope John Paul II.

Thomas Pincher, the ancestor, was one of 85 Catholic "martyrs" executed in Elisabeth's reign because of their faith. He had attended Balliol College, Oxford, before becoming a priest. Along with many others he was banished by the Catholic Church only recorded those who might later be considered for beatification.

Student was told that the reason for beatification being bestowed, even so long after the event, was in order to honour both God and the martyrs for what they had done.

The decision to bestow this honour is the result of a long and tortuous process whereby the cent. places are assessed, in a type of court case, as to their worthiness.

Along with 20 others he was tried and executed in Dorchester. In the and they were beheaded because the hangman could not be found and the local butcher had to carry out the executions.

One priest told the family on the plane going out that there had, in fact, been far more Catholic than Protestant "martyrs" but the Catholic Church took no consideration of those who might later be considered for beatification.

However, another study from our own Edinburgh University challenges the view that the type of pill used by a woman has an influence on her chances of developing breast cancer. The Edinburgh group appear to have found that low-dose pills put women at just as much risk of developing breast cancer as do high-dose pills.

Neither report is considered significant enough for the Family Planning Association to change current advice. It will continue to prescribe low-dose pills for most people.

Changing Values
by lan Robertson

The fact that it is easier to get an arts merit than in another subject will now be much more obvious.

This is because the Arts Faculty has decided to make a second class merit mark 55 per cent and a first class merit 75 per cent.

In the Social Science Faculty on the other hand the second class mark will remain at 65 per cent and the first at 75 per cent and the other sciences and law are expected to use the same system.

The difference in merits will not affect the standard marking of papers between the faculties; a 60 per cent essay in social science will still be the same standard as a 60 per cent essay in an arts course.

The result is that around 80 per cent of those in many arts courses will get merits whereas the figure for other courses will be considerably less; around 30 per cent.

The reason for the high number of arts merits is that the various departmental requirements for honours say that a merit in the required course must be gained.

Although the situation varies from department to department most need to give high numbers of merits to allow their honours places to be filled.

Dr Anderson who is in charge of the standardisation procedure, expects the arts merits to be brought into line with those from other courses next year.

Cancer Scare
by Cathy Milton

Women who take the contraceptive pill for a year or more before having at least one child run twice the risk of developing breast cancer; this is the finding of one recently published study from Oxford University.

The group studied women on the older, less frequently prescribed, high-dose pills and listed the following brands as being associated with a significantly increased risk: Gynovitar, Minilvn, Ovuline 50, Minilyn, Nencanor, and Evgyvon 30.

Dishy Teviot
by Cathy Milton

Satellite TV will be beamed into Teviot as of the end of this term. The Union won the service in a competition organised by Scottish and Newcastle Breweries by selling more of their products than any other outlet in Scotland.

The new service will be screened for the first time on December 18 to coincide with the much vaunted "Alive and Kicking" night.

In addition to the regular run of satellite TV, Teviot will be getting the "Premier" channel which puts out the latest film releases. There will be altogether five screens sharing the extra programmes in the Debating hall, the Sandwich Bar and the Park Room.

Mike Lyttle, Deputy President of EUSA, speaking to student, said it will be an added incentive for people to come into the building because we'll be able to put on Italian football on Sunday days." He attributed Teviot's success to "hard work through-out the year."
**Devolution: the debate goes on**

by Jane Kelly

“A debate of the fallen and the failed” was indeed a fitting epitaph for the demise of several ex-MPs, including Michael Ancram, Sir Alex Fisher and Gordon McAskill, and Liberal Democrat Brian Mesk, who met last week.

The topic for debate: “This House believes full independence is Scotland’s only future.” The Scottish National Party, who proposed the motion, fielded candidate Martin Wilson, the party leader, Stephen Maxwell, who was the young, potty new-boy whose rousing two-fold attack on Labour and Conservatives according to the Unionist opponents, enlivened a rather short debate.

Also at the university, a seminar of tutors has decided to cooperate with the Union in a campaign to warn students about the excesses of too much alcohol. Warnings about the “quiet drinking” style, which can turn into more and more drinking until a novice is aware of the university’s drive around the university in the season of long winter nights and Christmas.

Finally, the general gong for condiments at the university was nearly cut short when four grog of “Mates” condiments were stolen from a room in the grassmarket, which was discovered only when a student pranked under the name of “Operation Condoms” was discovered and only then by a rather short debate.

**The Graduates**

- **Report on Graduate Opportunities by Joanna Moody**

Two surveys recently carried out and reported in the independent media suggest that graduates a little brighter, in oil and business and the electoral will “go it alone.”

The SNP entourage looked to the future of the world, Sweden, Norway and New Zealand, as giving hope to Scotland in both English and American interference.

While the while two ex-Tory Ministers argued that Scotland should lead within the European Union, chiding the Lord Chancellor’s Scottish Martin Wilson, the party leader, Stephen Maxwell, who was the young, potty new-boy whose rousing two-fold attack on Labour and Conservatives according to the Unionist opponents, enlivened a rather short debate.

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The Government is set to cut housing benefit for the sixth year running, this time by £500 million.

The changes, which will be implemented on 4th April, will affect benefits paid to students and everyone else in the country who claims housing benefit.

The justification for the changes was to create a unified system which did not distinguish unnecessarily between supplementary benefit and unemployment benefit and could be clearly applied across the nation.

These aspects get general support. However a "by-product" of the changes is that the benefit for most members of low paid groups will be cut.

This article deals mainly with the student situation. However there are three examples at the end of how three other low-paid group might be affected.

Student's Loss

The main change as far as students will be concerned is a cut in benefit. Changes vary: those on £23 per week would lose around £100 during the academic year while others on £31 will lose less than a tenner.

The first graph should allow a rough calculation of how much more effective rent will be.

The proposal for April 88 also affects student in other ways:

- The Housing Benefit Department will be forbidden by law from back-dating claims, so money will only be paid from the date the claim is registered.
- The benefit will be assessed on net income which should help those working.
- There will be a £600 capital cut-off: people with savings above this figure will not get any HB.

Michael Forsyth's View

While at the Young Conservatives Conference in Peebles (as an observer!) I had a quick interview with Scottish Office Minister, Michael Forsyth.

Although he is not in anyway responsible for Housing Benefit (he is University Grants, both of which are handled by British Ministers, he is, as the arch- Thatcherite in Scotland, representative of the strand of Conservative thinking that is in power.

When it was suggested that people on full grant could be frightened away from Tertiary Education by the financial insecurities Mr Forsyth replied: "I would find that very hard to believe".

He felt that "The position on housing benefit and community charge is that we have a very effective system of rebates and support to help those who are on low income."

With his wiser thin Parliament majority the presence of Strirling University in his constituency it is obvious Mr Forsyth was choosing his words carefully. However it was transparent that he did not object to the Housing Benefit cuts in principle or in practice.

Getting your HB

With 9,500 student claims in for the Edinburgh area and only 3,000 as yet dealt with it looks as though the system itself is under strain.

The graphs were compiled with data from the EUA housing benefit survey. While the graph for the '88 housing benefit is correct there is some doubt as to some of the '87 figures.

Not a Spy Scandal?

A report compiled under the latest British Government regulations.

by Tom Bradby

Four weeks ago on a cold March day in a country that was towards the east, though we are not allowed to say where, two men met another two men. Not all of the men were from one country but we are not allowed to say what the names of the men were, what they were doing or where they live.

Basically the two men and the other two men were not allowed to have been walking their dog (whose name we can't mention anyway) even supposing they had a dog, or more than one dog, which we wouldn't be able to tell you if we did know, but as we aren't allowed to know, we don't know (as far as anyone else is concerned) so we can't tell you anyway.

As we were saying these men were in the park doing something which we aren't allowed to talk about.

They were involved in an activity which we aren't allowed to mention but begins with "s" and rhymes with "singing", though as far as we can go as giving clues might be construed as constituting a confession. But as that wasn't a clue really what we are (rather, were) doing is (was) slightly ill-defined.

One of the two men from a country that is more towards the west people did in an activity that begins with "r" and rhymes with "rusie", though that sort of thing a lot of us wear, a grey coat and a tie. The other one from the same country (though we definately don't know where that is) was wearing a grey coat and orange tie.

Big Brother isn't watching you

black coats and black hats (though we didn't see this because we weren't supposed to be there).

The man in the blue overcoat handed over a parcel which looked as if it contained something which began with "M" and rhymed with "scribble". Though it obviously wasn't otherwise we wouldn't have been able to report it here.

This was definitively not conclusive evidence that the two men from the east were involved in an activity that begins with "s" and rhymes with "singing". But as it was clear the evidence was extremely secret and not the secret service because if it were we wouldn't report it.

Thus what has occurred is not conclusive proof of a spy scandal, although everyone acknowledge that there is now no such thing as a spy scandal as there is no such think as a spy. The two men from the west were definitely not homosexu­als and compromising photographs used to threaten them certainly do not exist.

All four of the men in question who were not out walking their dogs are mentioned in a book by a man called Mr Namshwichi-forever-allowed-to-mentioned who now lives in Australia and wears a hat with corks surrounding it.

The book is called "Ab­solutelycertainlydon'texist" and contains whole families of male rhymes with "Thatcher" (Gdd). All of them are rhyming with nothing at all. It contains 610 blank pages which do not describe in detail the everyday activities of the country we live in.

No one else is now able to read about this around the world which must be rather susceptible for there is about nothing whatever. In this country we are not allowed to read about the events of the day and only think about nothing by the benevolence of our Gov­ernment.

In short this article a story, that did not involve any scandal whatsoever, about four men in a park not walking a dog. It certainly did not concern any other activity which doesn't exist.

Other Groups Affected

In his evidence, Michael Forsyth stressed that "students have not been treated in any way more harshly than any other group on low income. This is true, but it is no safeguard.

Below are three examples provided by Edinburgh Council Research Unit of how the cuts will change benefit received.

17-year-old on a YTS scheme: receives £35 pw as his allo­cated benefit, £16.78 Housing Benefit to help pay rent and rates charge of £26.73. From April 1988 his benefit will reduce to £15.81, a net loss of £10.88 weekly.

Divorced woman with an 8-year-old child pays £250 gross weekly, receives £10 maintenance and child benefit. To meet the £170 weekly rent and rates charge of £26.13 she currently receives £22.54 Housing benefit. In April this benefit will reduce to £15.81, meaning an £6.73 a week to be found from somewhere.

A married pen­sioner couple who both receive basic retirement pension. He works pension: currently receives £172 pw to pay rent and rates of £26.14. This will increase with new calculation to £176.85. At £26.14 the pension was £20 instead of £9, entitlement would actually drop by £21 pw.
In a week in which the Government has instigated yet another media censorship row, this time over the proposed BBC Radio 4 series, My Country Right or Wrong, it is apt that Duncan Campbell should be giving this Friday’s Kenneth Allsop Memorial Lecture. Campbell has a long journalistic history of investigating, and often exposing, State defence issues, his biggest investigations, and often exposing, State defence issues, and often exposing, State defence issues, and often exposing, State defence issues...
The Chart That Counts

Yes, here they are, the charts of the year as lovingly compiled by the music hacks, giving you, the reader, a rundown of 1987's hottest sounds!

**Singles**
1. True Faith
   - New Order
2. Faith
   - George Michael
3. April Skies
   - Jesus and Mary Chain
4. Girlfriend in a Coma
   - The Smiths
5. The One I Love
   - The Fall
6. Lift the North
   - The Fall
7. Birthday
8. Town To Town
9. What, Love
10. Stranger Than Love

**Albums**
1. Strangeways Here We Come
   - The Smiths
2. Echo and the Bunnymen
   - Echo and the Bunnymen
3. In My Tribe
   - 10,000 Maniacs
4. Actually
   - Pet Shop Boys
5. Mainstream
   - Lloyd Cole and The Commotions
6. This Is The Story
   - The Proclaimers
7. Crooked Mile
   - Microdisney
8. Document
   - R.E.M.
9. Sign o' the Times
   - Prince
10. Tailor
   - The Go-Betweens

Another shock at No. 7 with The Sugarcubes — could this be the start of the Icelandic revival the music press has been talking about? I remain sceptical, but tune in next week for a review of Ricky Rejvikay and the Geysers cover of the old Magnuss Mun­nsson classic There Is No TV In Iceland On A Wednesday — Why?

Headlining the funny names attack in the charts is King Sunny D. The thing is, what do his friends call him? King? D? Piss-artist? Who cares? Moving swiftly onwards to the album charts...

The Smiths came, saw, got a bit naffed off, so split up, but dropped off to occupy the Stu­dent charts. What a wacky bunch they were.

Elsewhere, The Proclaimers launched Aucthemutych's charge for a world domination by storming the Student chart, and something called "The National Chant", while the Pet Shop Boys did songs with dodgy old 60s samplestesters, covered Elvis tracks, and generally didn't much smile, but still managed to hit the charts. A bit like The Smiths really.

**Six Geese A-Laying**

The dominance of the Manu­elian trio of New Order, The Smiths and The Fall is seriously challenged by rising star George Michael, whose hit single Faith rocketed into the Student chart with a bullet at No. 2, supplanting those pop pundits who favoured Spagno for the No. 2 slot. Still, let's hope we see more of this young man in 1988. His pros­pects certainly look good.

**CLOSE LOBSTERS**

**The Venue**

As somebody pointed out last week these Edinburgh audiences actually are some­thing else. This seems to be a city where sitting po­aced along the side is usu­ally as much "audience" as a lanyard for tricks. You can hope for; if some people do stand up and even clap occasionally then a band can take it that they're going down a real storm! At least in Belfast audiences are still interested enough to spit at the bands...

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LONNIE BROOKS
Queen's Hall

When Chicagian Lonnie Brooks done play the blues on his guitar, the people were a-shouting and snapping, almost even singing, and doing dance­moves in the back rows. What, we might have asked, does a black Chicago showman have in common with a crowd of Scottish ofays? Oppression? Seriously though, and Marxism aside, the storming reception that Lonnie Brooks received at least proves that the blues, that arcane fundamental of most that speak to, does not date. Neither, surprisingly, do the innumerable dichics which litter the music. As I said, Lonnie Brooks was an impeccable showman, holding the centre stage like B. B. King, which is probably just as well, since the rest of his group were firmly in the category of backing musi­cians. The best songs were those where the band laid back to let the Hammond organ sound come through, cool and crunchy, south Chicago style. Good music for contorting your face to.

**LIXX Preservation Hall**

What I supposed could be termed as "trendy student indie music" was thwarted at the Preservation Hall on Thursday night. The band Lixx were all too easily disarmed and categorised as another "boring Heavy Metal band". The guitarists hair , he'd be more at home at Don­nington Rock Festival than at the Venue while mainman Andy stumps about the stage yelling from time to time and playing great "licks" on his imaginary guitar. The music is similarly impos­sible to define but one salient point did emerge — this band cannot be lumped in with all the "jingle jangle" merchants who still remain in vogue in indie­land. Never Seen Before is still one of the best singles of the year, and live, free from the over-production of the record, it's amazing. Most of the set was from the excellent Foxheads... but Lixx is a new song, introduced by Andy as being "totally clean", that stood out dealing as it did with the discovery that it was just a position.

Again and again the Close Lobsters are showing that, almost alone among today's new bands, they have that something special to lift them out of the indie ghetto. Take them to your heart.

**LOOP Venue**

Ten years ago the DJ would have been hung. As it happened, music was then blinded when he played The Pistols' Holidays in the Sun immediately preceded by Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds.

"Lucy in the Supermarket with the Maracas" is even more appropriate for Loop, who, of all the new bands blending psychedelia with punk's hard­ edged realism, are alone in achieving something approach­ing the perfect union.

With obligatory nonchalance they create four pulsing walls of noise; formidable violence built around skeletal tunes, swirling with mind RPMs. Portions, the whole permeated by a thud­ding, ominously accelerating beat.

Without being Grebos they manage to make The Ramones rest of its look like vamps. The Stooges stockbrokers. Though totally unlikely and un­credible, apart from all of the usual acid rock mumbling about seeing God in every wart or blac­khead. Even the swelling col­oured spot stairs were a good projected onto the band began to look quite fetching after a few drinks.

At their best Loop ride helplessly on the thrill of the moment, their (presumably inane) lyrics mercifully swamped in the rush. Their dis­ziely decibelsizzle your synapses and numb your neurons. And the pregnant silence between songs, the head buzzing with primal images of liquid sheep and dead babies.

Ben Cooper
**Ding Dong Merrily on High**

As 1987 draws to a close, Dessie Fahy assesses the hopes and fears for independent music 1988.

It hasn’t been a good year for independent music. 1987, we were told, was going to be the year when the C86 generation, those bands that appear on the alt-times brilliant NME tape would break into the so-called “real” chart and take on the big boys at their own game. We didn’t really work out like that: the LPs that were made were, without exception, patchy, while only the blustering Age of Chance and the very derivative Mighty Lemon Drops got anywhere close to the Top 40. Where does independent music go from here?

The problem seems to be the incredible insularity of the whole independent scene. Even in the broadest stream of two fanzines and one record, all produced and read by the same small group of people. The bands themselves are not much better. Almost invariably they fall into two categories: Gothic Sisters of Mercy at the Mission, All About Eve or The Fields of Mephistophele; or Shop Assistants’ disciples Bluebells and The Mission. A fuzbox and a “girls” vocal set up that come in with “pure pop” (whatever that might be!). The remainder seem content to “shamble” along reaching the same small circle of people – it would appear that trying to make a good quality record so that more people can get to hear you flies in the face of that oh-so-important “indie ethic”.

The major labels, however, do have a part to play in this. Throughout the year they’ve been snapping up all the C86 bands, gobbling up the independent LP and if that LP doesn’t sell by the barrel-load they just dump them. This behaviour serves only to widen the gap between major and independent because of the distrust it creates among independent bands. A case in point is The Weather Poets who were kicked off WEA because of poor sales of their LP, as Peter Lister said, “it’s just because we don’t sell as many records as Madonna.” Are there positive signs, however, in the way some of the majors have allowed people like Geoff Travis and Alan McGee to set up subsidiary labels like Blue Guitar and Elevation. In this way bands don’t get swallowed up by a big corporation but still have the distribution behind them to get the records into the shops.

As the British scene has witnessed the most exciting and individual bands have come from outside Britain, especially from America. Two bands from that country, Throwing Muses and the Pixies, have made excellent LPs for 4AD while The Chills from New Zealand have been whipping up a storm all of their own. Add to that the fact that the most haunting record of the year, “Birthday”, was made by a band from Iceland of all places.

The Sugarcubes/All in All the British scene seems to be in a bad way. With whole cults as hardcore being imported to Britain the local bands and the British independent music is to survive, bands are going to have to be more receptive to all styles and artists. Bands cannot realistically demand more air-play if they remain content to make mediocre records and create minor ripples in their own little pond.

Let no one say that being on an independent label means you can’t make great records: just look at The Smiths. Their demise leaves a gaping hole in the Independent music scene and I can’t really see anyone who’s going to fill it.

Shop Assistants and Narodnik: casualties of ’87

Well music lovers, there isn’t exactly a lot going on tonight in Auld Freekie, but I suppose you could use the opportunity to get some really fierce exercise and go along with all the other fans of fitness who’ve been in training since the day after the last Runrig gig, to see that great band at the Playhouse. The people who know where it’s at, however, will be down at the Venue to see the up-and-coming jazz band Martin Stephenson dreaming of a White Christmas.

Defectors, a group of ten young Scottish punk rockers, whose album is apparently not in the No. 2 in the Japanese charts. This is their first Edinburgh gig, and they will be seen at the Venue to see them before they get too popular. The weekend sees the release of the }ericho album.

The Playhouse on Saturday night, and Fini Tribe with Tack Head at the Venue. Not exactly thrashing, huh? Sunday looks even more dismal with only Die at the Playhouse.

You’ve all heard of the compilation album – well now we have the compilation band. On Monday night at the Venue The Songwriter a rock band, will be playing.

The Caterans Shifting on Britain ‘Heh, Heh, The Membranes and The Beat Poets comprise the not-nervous-good, yet still managing to rise above the stuffy mediocrity of the record as a whole. It’s a valuable reminder of how dreary pop music can be.

**The Rainbow**

Moving on from the pure pop of the Blues Keepers, She Said To The Driver is simply sublime. Latin flourishes and atmospheric plinks and plons provide a backdrop to gently strummed guitar and melodic, restrained, relaxing vocals. And that’s the record. Uncluttered, space is given, more space, without being sparse. The songs sound like a 对话, and its... well... beautiful.

**Censorship Sucks**

**VARIous**

DDT LP

If you’re feeling terribly worthy, should buy this record and bail old Jello B out, but don’t put it on your turntable.

The LP falls into three basic categories, the not-very-good, the plain bad and the fantastically badly. Sadly the majority falls into the dreary middle category, which includes the hum-drum Fastels, Meat Whip-lash and a lot of other stilted-sounding albums with even sillier names. Hats off however to the Oi Polloi and their sublime No Filthy Nuclear Power, truly a breath of fresh air, way surpassing all expectations of dreadfulness. With each listen new layers of depth are revealed to the patient listener, a monument to the morons, I’ll bet that first records could be this bad the worst ever. Well played lads.

The Caterans Shifting on Britain ‘Heh, Heh, The Membranes and The Beat Poets comprise the not-nervous-good, yet still managing to rise above the stuffy mediocrity of the record as a whole. It’s a valuable reminder of how dreary pop music can be.

Blaire Drummond

**Swamptrash**

**IT MAKES NO NEVERMIND**

DDT LP

My only previous experience of Bluegrass, Cajun, Creole(?) or whatever you call it, was a video for a song Gripple Creek on the Whistle Test a few years back. And the Beverly Hillbillies theme: that’s it, I’m ignorant, which probably why this album is so appealing.

It’s fresh, fast and fun and shows that these boys from Edinburgh can swing with the Earl Flatts and Lester Scruggs of this world.

If the idea of an urban Scottish band playing authentic swamp music sounds ridiculous, then just have a deck at Reubin’s Train — the vocals, the yee-hahs, the manic banjos, mandolins and violins, are all perfect. Why, I’d gladly sleep in my car if that’s the kind of music it provides!

Any pretensions to being real Southern boys, with real Southern accent (Robert, and names (Elmore James indeed) is strictly tongue-in-cheek. No na mũi indies here. Now please excuse me while I go and park my some bongs and wet gut.

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**7.30 pm McDiarmid Hall Ball**
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**SAT 12 DEC**

**CHAMBERS STREET**
Saturday Disco

**Another, and this time it is the absolute chance for a night out before the exams.**

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**SUN 13 DEC**

**CATHOLIC STUDENTS UNION**
7.30 pm George Square, Student Mass with Music. All welcome.

**UNIVERSITY CAROL SERVICE**
To be held at Greyfriars Kirk at 7 pm on Sunday 13th Dec — music with Savoy Opera Group and Musicians Society Brass and Wind Ensemble. Readings by student and staff God rest ye merry...

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Teviot Middle Reading Room
Conservative Lunch

**CATHOLIC STUDENTS UNION**
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**EXHIBITIONS**

**GALLERY OF MODERN ART**

**SCHILD ROAD**
566 0211

**GIACOMO MANZU**
Until 3 Jan

**Paintings of delicate abstract artist - a first major exhibition.**

**STILLS**

**105 HIGH STREET**
567 1142

**THE ACTUAL BOAT until 16 Jan**

The photographic postcard 1900-1920. A delightful exhibit with a rather adventurous title, to say the least.

**FRUITMARKET**

**29 MARKET ST**
225 2383

**ALAN JOHNSTON**

Until 10 Jan

Support your local artist — exhibition of delicate abstract works (blond or brilliant?) reflecting the landscape.

**THOMAS STRUTH:**
**UNCONSCIOUS PLACES**

Not, as you might think, Potter on Saturday night but the streets of Edinburgh; Munich, Rome, Tokyo and Paris, as captured by the lens of Struth in this the artist’s first major exhibition.

**TUES 15 DEC**

**EUCN**
Seminar Room 2, Chaplaincy Centre

Meeting all attending.

**EU MODERN DANCE SOC.**
Chambers Street Union Bal­
Room Contemporary 6-7 pm

**WED 16 DEC**

**MIDWEEK SERVICE**
Chaplaincy Centre
1.10 pm

MARILION TICKETS
19th Dec. Edinburgh Playhouse
See ZoeButler, Electrical Engineering, KB Rm 126, 6611 1981 Ext. 3679 or 665 2486 (St. Patrick Street).

**KENNETH ALLSOP MEMORIAL LECTURE**
This will be given by
**DUNCAN CAMPBELL**
of the New South Wales and "Zircon" programme. 7.30 pm Lecture Theatre A DHT Support a

**SAT 12 DEC**

**CHAMBERS STREET**
Saturday Disco

Another, and this time it is the absolute chance for a night out before the exams.

**TEVOT UNION**
Park Room Jazz

**SUN 13 DEC**

**CATHOLIC STUDENTS UNION**
7.30 pm George Square, Student Mass with Music. All welcome.

**UNIVERSITY CAROL SERVICE**
To be held at Greyfriars Kirk at 7 pm on Sunday 13th Dec — music with Savoy Opera Group and Musicians Society Brass and Wind Ensemble. Readings by student and staff God rest ye merry...

**MON 14 DEC**

**EUCA**
1 pm

**TEVOT UNION**
Teviot Middle Reading Room
Conservative Lunch

**CATHOLIC STUDENTS UNION**
6 pm

**Basement Kitchen of 23 George Square.** All welcome. Fellowship meal.

**EU MODERN DANCE SOC.**
Chambers Street Union Bal­
Room Modern/Jazz

**Performance workshop 8-10 pm**
£1 per person

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Not, as you might think, Potter on Saturday night but the streets of Edinburgh; Munich, Rome, Tokyo and Paris, as captured by the lens of Struth in this the artist’s first major exhibition.
HOUSE KEEPING
Mon-Fri, 2.45, 6.40, 9
Two orphaned sisters are sent to live with their eccentric aunt. The relationships between the Awayward aunt and the bewild­ered girls is explored sensitively and on many levels by Bill Forsyth.
ERASER HEAD AND CRAZIES
Sat, 12.15
Late night horror.
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
Sun 13.00
POLTERGIST I and II Fri 11
Teenage anxiety hits a peak in this double bill.
OUT OF AFRICA
Sun 20, 1.15 pm
This beautiful, but disappointing film.
FILMHOUSE
88 LOTHIAN ROAD 228 2688
LET US HOPE IT'S A GIRL'S
Thurs 17, 1.30, 2.30, 6.30
ITALIAN FILM
Sat 12th, 6.30
Italian film — a country is abandoned by her aunt she has to cope with erratic film­ists in a feminist film which celebrates, femininity without cliches.
DEATH IN A GREEN GARDEN
Thurs 17th, 18.30 pm
chucked from an Italian film, "ubased revo­
Dona HERNLDA AND HER
Mon 14 Tues 16.30, 8.30
Mexican film about a manger — a cinq in which macho stereotypes are subverted.
TREFOIL MUSIC
DE TOWEHAT'S ON
THURS 10 DEC
ZERO ZERO
Music Box, Victoria St; 220 1708
9.30 pm; Tickets £2.50, £2
Thrash an hour or two in some heavy rock.
ROMAN HA
Venue, Calton Road; 557 2073
7.30 pm; Played to a popular a audience a few weeks ago.
G-SPOT TORNADO
Bermuda Triangle, Coasters West; 229 3552
9 pm; Tickets £1.50
Casual dress not appropriate apparently.
HOLD THE FRAME
Preservation Hall, Victoria St; 220 3611; 9.30 pm; Free
Acceptable rock.
NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS — BENEFIT CONCERT
Assembly Rooms, George St; 228 1165
Lost its topical appeal a bit? We Free Kings.
RUN RIG
Playhouse, Greenside Pl 259 2550
Scots of a Scottish tour by the rustic Gaelic folk. rockers.
Guests: Spirits of the West.
FRI 11 DEC
SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA
Usher Hall, Lothian Rd; 228 1155
7.30 pm; Tickets £2.50-£3.00
Robert Paterson conducts Ravel's "La Valse" and Saint-Saëns "Cello Concerto.
THE AMBASSADORS
Potterrow
The Green Banana Club present an evening of reggae.
SAT 12 DEC
SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Usher Hall, Lothian Rd; 228 1155
7.45 pm; Tickets £3.00-£8.00
Christmassy atmosphere provided by Bach's Suite No. 4 in D and Christmas Oratorio parts 1-3.
Philip Ledger conducts the Scottish Philharmonic Singers.
PRIVILEGE
27 Nov-12 Dec; 6.45 pm
Tickets from £2.70
Last week to see this presentation of Noel Coward's brilliant play about a tempestuous couple, Amanda and Elyot, who being a bickering marriage happen to re-meet again in a hotel in the south of France, eighn honeymoon with a new partner.
PLEASANCE THEATRE
Tel. 031-228 1155
An offer for £3.50 includes wine and cheese, cheese and beverage.
SUN 13 DEC
SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE
Queen's Hall, Clerk St; 660 3456
2.30 pm; Tickets £6 (£3 conc.)
Scottish "Four Seasons" by Viv­
edi includes the "Ou­
vort" and Mozart "Diver­
timento in E flat. Jonathan Rees
EDINBURGH QUARTET
Queen's Hall, Clerk St; 660 3456
7.45 pm; Tickets £4.50 (£1.50 conc.)
Includes Shaun Dillon's "Vio­
Quartet" with Mary-Anne
sting on violin, Bar and restaurant.
MARTIN STEPHENSON AND THE DAIKENTS
The Venus Calton; 557 3073; 9.30 pm
Tickets from Virgin Records Special guests Silde, who sup­ported Deacon Blue at Teviot during Fresher's Week.
CLEVE GREGSON & CHRISTINE COLLISTER
EU Folk Club, Osborne Hotel, York Place; 8 pm­11 pm
Song and guitar.
TRENT TERENCE D'ARBY
Playhouse, Greenside Rd; with a smooth, velvety voice. He would better with a bit more roughness and but a sophisticated performer.
WE'RE ALL OVER..." Look out for HANDEL'S MESSIAH, sung by Edinburgh Royal Choral Union on the 2nd of January 1888 at 12 noon in the Usher Hall. Tickets may be purchased on the day of the performance by students, by students on production of matric card. The CLYDE VALLEY STOMPERS perform with FIONNA DUNCAN on Sun­day 20th December at 8 pm. Tickets from the Queen's Hall Box Office.
SNO:
Scottish National Orchestra concerts at the Usher Hall on Friday evening may be purchased at £2 on presentation of matric card.
BRUNTON THEATRE
NTH HIGH ST, MUSG. 665 2240
SLEEPING BEAUTY
16 Dec-16 Jan; 7.30 pm
Christmas pantomime season well under way with this produc­tion remaining with us well into the New Year.
The KNIGHT O'THE RIDDLES
25 Nov-12 Dec; 7.45 pm
Tickets £2.25 for psev­dovers. World premiere, the theatre premier, the theatre premiere of David Purves's second play, about the two sons of the King of Scotland and the mysterious Cheerness. The King is in search of "true love" and happiness.
KING'S
2 LEVEN STREET; 329 1201
7 Dec-20 Feb; 7.30 pm
Tickets from £4.50
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK
The most expensive and the longest running pantomime. What more can I say?
Diverse Styles

FOUR ARTISTS
Richard Demarco Gallery

Richard Demarco is currently holding a four-man show which sets itself as an exhibition of four artists, Yvonne Hooker, her watercolours explore the loss of the traditional medium of the artist, the generation of personal and social rebellion and the advent of the new medium of the canvas, her watercolours are rendered in a style that is often described as "abstractive". She uses a mixture of vivid and subdued tones, creating a sense of depth and movement within the canvas. Her works are characterized by the use of bold, contrasting colors and the incorporation of dynamic shapes and forms. The exhibited works are a testament to her skills in capturing the essence of her subjects and creating a visual dialogue that engages the viewer.

Lovers Surprised by Rudolf Calonder

Richard Demarco says, "it's basic, not aesthetically pleasing, and for me that is the problem." He is right, and the exhibition of his work is a powerful reminder of the limitations of his artistic vision. However, it is also a testament to the power of his work and the impact it has on the viewer. His works are a mirror of our current times, and they are a reflection of our current society.

STILLS GALLERY

The Photographic Postcard 1912-1980 until 5 January 1988

Forgotten are the days when photographic postcards were the most popular form of communication. They were used to send pictures of significant events, places, and people. Today, the exhibition displays a collection of postcards that capture the essence of the past. The postcards are a testament to the art of photography and the way it has evolved over time. They are a reflection of the society that created them and the people who were part of it.

TRAVISCE THEATRE

8 December

"Simeon Solomon was short, red-haired, ugly, Jewish, homosexual. He knew everyone; Morris, Pater, Swithin, Rossetti, Hopkins, Burne-Jones, Wilde. He liked to paint young men; young men with wings, naked young men." This is the story of this uncommonly brave man who refused to be "apologized", and has been almost obliterated from the history because of it. He has been combined in a remarkable piece of theatre, with the contemporary experience of homosexuals. Today, his works are branded as lepers once again, having to cope with the social ostracism that the physical suffering of AIDS has inflicted upon the thorough persecdted community.

THURS 10 DEC 1987

Alan Johnston's exhibition at the Fruitmarket

FRUITMARKET GALLERY

until 10th Jan

Upon walking into the lower gallery of the Fruitmarket, one immediately feels the same powerful atmosphere of the "Rothko Room" in the Tate Gallery. Johnston's paintings, rather than drawings, consume the eye, as their shapes and sizes surround the viewer and constantly reverberate against each other; references crossing and recrossing the space in which they occupy.

Impact is emphasised, not only by the contrast in size (some of minute detail and scale, others of monstrous dimensions that completely engulf the viewer), but by the overall use of minimal colour. Black, white and the neutral colour of unbleached canvas are diffused by subtle or heavy use of charcoal and pencil; drawing mediums are both blended and bitten. The whole exhibition is a series of contrasts, not just an environmental, but as an architectonic installation.

Movement. The latter provokes a picture portrait of four draconian, early women librarians brandishing their umbrellas surrounded by angelic schoolgirls who hold "Votes for Women" placards, and titled, "Could we but rule".

Many subjects however, were more resistant and the use of props and backdrops was widespread. Frequent examples include: the wooden prop representing the disparate figures of a policeman, clown and social sardine seated in a tub, on which is inscribed, "barnes of fun" such portraits would be sent to relatives, friends and sweethearts.

Postcards were much as the telephone is now. Within the exhibition, they are accessible to the modern layperson who does not necessarily have any interest in the history of art.

Sung Kang

A VISION OF LOVE REVEALED IN SLEEP

Traverse Theatre, until 5 December

"Brilliantly composed, the play is constantly generating multiple layers of meaning. Nudity is no sensuous stimulus; it is confounded instead by the huge pail of golden wings, an abalibert-white figure in a swathe of scarlet allik a pre-Raphaelite painting. The icon melts to become artist's model, in turn, a startling evocation of human vulnerability. The gay man becomes an emblem for the persecuted, for love, and a type of Christ, gaining dignity by association and giving the work an ultimate and universal significance."

No attempt is made to "cosmetise" homosexuality; neither is there an easy sentiment, no "well, the Greeks did it": the breaking questions of us and of the world are

Consisting of rhythmic char-coal strokes encircling the eye. The effect is somewhat enchanting, calming and enigmatic.

None of the works are signed, and all are untainted, thus emphasizing the existence of the artist, this "anonymity" produces pure visual experience, the nature perceived of spatial depth; the fundamental elements of Johnston's work. We are bound not by an object or any coherent image to act as a focal point, but by the act of seeing. Undoubtedly, the few bronze and plaster sculptures on display behave as a mild contrast, yet complement, to the flat pieces, their three-dimensionally manipulating spatial depth in a totally different way.

The basis behind these pieces, however, as experience, not only of landscape, but of its relationship to the artist, "a total visuality of experience, a total sensibility in seeing which governed all classes of space, interval and time".

Johnston is playing upon our emotions and fantasies to evoke line. One piece, Number 11, by the inclusion of a diagonal line, is playing not just with the viewer, but with verticity itself, and suggests possible new areas for development.

Completely naked, Neil Bartlett, the solo performer, holds his audience spellbound by hours as he ranges through his dream-experience of homosexual love. Bartlett's staccato, clipped, as the rudimentary circular shape in Number 11, the acrylic line contains minute scratchings of a hard pencil and is mounted upon a background
A Musical Triumph

EU MUSICAL SOCIETY
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Queen's Hall Sat. 5th Dec.

The first piece in this well-chosen program was Dvorak's symphony No. 9, the American. The entire piece was played with real force, each thematic interpretation controlled by hanging together, the underlying power of the strings predominating throughout. Under the baton of the brilliant Chris Bell, every musical phrase, every nuance, seemed to be the expanse of an entire section of the orchestra. The final movement climaxing with a furious flourish.

In beautiful contrast was the next piece, Stravinsky's Firebird Ballet Suite. Again the violins predominated in the first movement, the magical beginning, with an undercurrent of threat interpreted through glib lines giving it an otherworldly quality which pervaded the entire movement.

In sublime and Dantian fashion, the infernal dance of the things wild, was given in a such a frenzied and near demonic manner that one could only marvel at the King Kaschie amongst the contorted chaos and musical pan-demion. In stark contrast, the ensuing lullaby demanding (and was duly given) a delicate and haunting performance, leading up to an enthusiastically executed finale.

Ravel's Bolero was the final treat of the evening. Despite the fact that this is perhaps one of the most difficult pieces for an orchestra to perform in a venue as relatively small as Queen's Hall, the orchestra gave their all, resulting in an almost flawless and mesmerisingly resplendent Irish. Then a moment's silence and the applause that said it all.

Carole A. McMurray

Sorry this isn't the musical demion

BUTLEY
Bedlam: 1st-5th Dec.

Butley masquerades as a brilliantly funny play but it is only a good play about an English lecturer who just happens to be brilliantly funny. This may seem fair enough to many, but I call it cheating.

The production was much the same. It worked because the play was entertaining; otherwise it was unremarkable.

The play is set in Ben Butley's office and, in the space of a day, his social life disintegrates. His wife and his homosexual lover both abandon him, his friends desert him. The voice of the flute was assured, picking up the beginnings of the repeated melody, gradually building up into the familiar Spanish-Arab familiar orchestral climax. Chris Bell's wholehearted and passionate guidance. Reaching a cacophonous crescendo, the music finally exploded into a mesmerisingly resplendent Irish. Then a moment's silence, and the applause that said it all.

Carole A. McMurray

KENNETH ALLSOP MEMORIAL LECTURE
FOR 1988

DUNCAN CAMPBELL
of the NEW STATESMAN

On Friday, the SNO offered us an unusually enterprising and interesting programme of Hon- eggers, Ravel and Edward Harper. As is usual on such occasions, the Edinburgh con- cert-going public stayed away in large numbers presumably daunted by the prospect of hearing something unfamiliar. Those showing sufficient interest to attend this concert, were rewarded by three well- and well-sung and integrated performances.

The main curiosity of the programme was Arthur Honeg- gers last work, his Christmas Cantata. Written during illness as he approached death, the work's festive air in its rework­ ing of traditional carols is con­ trasted with more sombre, reflective passages to great and often quite moving effect. In his performance, the contributions of baritone soloist Kurt Widmer and the SNO Junior Chorus were particularly praiseworthy.

This was preceded by a per­ formance of Harper's short occasional work Intrada which we had to a celebratory reworking of the music of Monteverdi, with the eventual quotation from Orfeo given an added tinge of irony. In this arrangement of symphony orchestra received a clearly articulated performance from the orchestra.

The highlight of the evening was in the performance of Ravel's Ballet, Daphnis and Chloe. Bamber drew some beautiful playing from the orchestra in this the most sen­ suous of scores. Taking the Dublin Daphnis at a quite electrifying pace, he ended the piece spectacularly.

Colin Moodie

The characters were rather pre­ dictable. Constanste changed her mind that one minute someone was a British soldier and then next a priest; the British often confusing to say the least, but Charles Brook­ man, Martin Castledine and George Biddleman were well with their often conflicting characters. Maisie (Katherine Attwood) was the best written and the best acted character. She not only showed both compassion and common sense, but also managed to keep them without appearing weak.

Anne Marie Middleton
THURS 10 DEC 1987

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Happy Hour Again...

Lara Burns and Tim Daniells down a few pints in their investigation of students’ drinking habits

Everybody knows that students are people who spend most of their time and money getting drunk. But what is the popular opinion? Myth or reality? - We set out to test the theory that students don’t count, and arts students are on heads, interviewing a few and the University.

For starters, most people only seem to go out drinking two to four times a week. Some however then they only spend under a tenner on alcohol. The average first year though spends more than other years. Like the one girl who manages to down seven pints a night, every night — and for some reason the strain of being in the Social Sciences Department seems to drive people to drink as well. Scientists probably drink homeowners, anyway, so they don’t count. And students are too stoned to make it to the bar.

Another exception to these low alcohol figures was a law student who spends £40-£50 per week to fun an overdraft. But despite him, most people do find that their financial constraints cause them to cut down during the course of the term, although they generally still manage to spend more money bolting here than they do at home. We all know the dire financial circumstances of your average student... after all, the standard maintenance grant only allows you to buy roughly seven pints per term.

According to Gordon the barman at the pear tree, ‘They spend it all in the first week, don’t they, then they’ve got nothing left for the next two months’ and talking to most of the bar staff of the typical student pub around here (Briseis, Greyfriars, Bantermans, Oddfellows, etc), whose real names we’ve altered for the purposes of anonymity, this opinion was confirmed.

In freshers’ week, people seem to go around in a permanent alcoholic haze: ‘They go round with this idea, absolutely spare,’ explained Thelma from the Chambra’s bar, ‘It’s not that they necessarily drink more in freshers’ week, but they do get more drunk.’ Why? Probably because they don’t really like the taste of alcohol, and aren’t interested in the effects it has on them, they just force it down themselves, because they ‘like being sociable, being with friends.’ Come on people, who are you trying to kid? Only two weeks out of the hundreds we spoke two admitted that they went drinking ‘to get pissed’, or ‘get drunk’, and unless your definition of ‘being sociable’ is ‘to down 26 pints in a drinking competition before supper’, ‘Flower of Scotland’ in rounds, and then trying to get off with the parsmaidman, then we don’t believe you.

So we went and asked some more pub staff to see what they thought about student behaviour. Harriet at the freshers somehow had the idea that we’re ‘the best behaved students in the whole of Scotland’ but then we went back to Oddfellows that they disdained for students were clear: ‘Students — they think they’re being sociable, they think they own the place, but they’re a real pain!’ (see what we mean)

Civilised’, was how Fred from Bantermans described his clientele, forgetting about the Student staff who regularly meet there, ‘there’s no jive-box to interrupt their intellectual conversations,’ he added. Well, maybe they discuss Nietzsche in Bantermans, but at Oddfellows they’re a wacky bunch. Jeremy informed us there that they like ‘silly drinks, y’know, everything ‘o’ black, or sometimes snowball in a pint’

Generally though, the consensus is that students are a well behaved group of moderate drinkers. Draw your own conclu-

Week Nine and where you’re likely because they’re not used to it’ says Bill from Potterrow’s valley. ‘OK, so why do they drink? Obv-

ious Edinburgh Uni students are a very sociable crowd, have all those alkie students gone?

I had wondered what such a large city (it housed 30,000 people at one time) was doing in the middle of such an inhospita-

dent’s in the whole of Scotland’ (17), but then we went back to Oddfellows down at the pear tree whose dis-

dain for students was clear: ‘Students — they think they’re being

Facing me was a armchair in a courtyard or

I was visited Jordan this summer and, like so many other tourists, was bowled over by Petra’s beauty and

Cats smiled at me, but, even so the ruins of the city I could imagine that Petra had suffered at the hands of a terrible divine curse which had driven all the people out, wrecked their homes and left their tombs as a testimony.

Moses uttered such a curse when he entered the promised land. He cursed the Chosen People access to their land during their flight from Egypt.

By noon the sun had risen blinding us from the sights. We pottered around buying jars of coloured sand and Bantermans silver but soon the heat and fatigue drove us back to the comfort and air conditioning of the Royal Petra Hotel.

Many people have become obsessed by Petra. I was told the British ambassador feels a need to visit it at least once a month. I was certainly deeply moved by my visit and as I write this article I cannot help making plans to go back and visit what Dean Burgon described as ‘A rose-red city half as old as time.”

This week Travel Bug goes to the Jordan city of Petra. James Bethell samples this ancient city of

Since, it was rediscovered by John Burkahardt on August 22nd, 1812, the ancient city of Petra was amazing to artists, poets and tourists who have fecked there to ponder at such a unique archaeological monument.

I visited Jordan this summer and, like so many other tourists, was bowled over by its beauty and

The city in summer means that it is imperative to arrive at dawn. The fierce sun which beats down on the Jordanian desert has a blinding white light that makes the colours of the sandstone indistinguishable.

Red-eyed from the night before and still shaken from the traumatic experience of being driven by Jordan’s answer to Nigel Mansell, I arrived at Petra in a pensive mood.

So what are the sights in Petra that they have built a large, sprawling American hotel nearby. We stopped there briefly to be cheered up by the air-conditioning and a cup of strong Arab coffee. Nothing could have contrasted so profoundly with the natural grandeur of Petra as a western hotel decorated with lavish bad taste.

There are no cars allowed in Petra so one must either ride a donkey and underrunished Bedouin nag, or like you, walk. The entrance to the city is by way of a narrow ravine, it was caused by a fault in the rock. It is almost like a secret city. Indeed, before John Buckhardt no European had been to Petra for six hundred years.

The ravine ended abruptly and I found myself in a courtyard or well. Facing me was a high, ornate entrance to a tomb. It reached at least one hundred feet up the side of the cliff.

Like most of the remains in Petra no stones or bricks were used in its making, its columns, tiers and friezes were simply carved straight into the rock.

The hue and subtility of the col-

I

Humping across Jordan.

City in the Sand

All this trade had provided for the Nabateans who had popu-

lating Petra the resources to build for themselves magnificent tombs.

There were Beduoin living in these ancient man-made caves until recently. In fact our guide stated categorically that he was born in one of the caves and even showed us the place.

The city is now deserted since the government “restored” the bedouin. Walking through the ruins of the city I could imagine that Petra had suffered at the hands of a terrible divine curse which had driven all the people out, wrecked their homes and left their tombs as a testimony.

Moses uttered such a curse when he entered the promised land. He cursed the Chosen People access to their land during their flight from Egypt.
LET'S HOPE IT'S A GIRL

Filmmouse

Dr. Mario Monicelli

Mario Monicelli's Let's Hope it's A Girl is quiet, sensitive and gently humorous, if a little lengthy film. It lets us into the life of an Italian countrywoman living in the Tuscan farmhouse of her estranged husband. Together with the sensitive housekeeper she copes admirably with the problems of family life. Her numerous relations have called her a spaceball of her husband’s foolish mistress, her own love, Renaldo, her filmstar sister, and a geriatric uncle who makes telephone calls out of tin cans and knits socks for horses.

It is a feminist film but never do you feel preached at by morassical, dungeast-dad "wimmin". The men are indeed portrayed as incompetent and insensitive; they can never find their shoes, are continually bumping themselves and are unable to operate the simplest of machines. However, their shortcomings are noted and treated with a certain sympathy. They are insensitive; they can never find the warm circle of feminine companionship that they gain comfort and realise their own ability to cope with mutual problems.

For the serious film-goer there is the clever use of visual symbolism, otherwise the film is not\n
able for the realistic humanism of its acting. Frequently the actors reveal as much through their facial expressions as by what they say. This is often the way humour is communicated turning what could have been a long two hours of soil-searching drama into a likeable film — a celebration of feminism without any of the feminist clichés, and worth seeing.

Sarah Warburton

BIGFOOT AND THE HENDERSONS

Cannon

Dr: William Dear

"Slightly smaller King Kong meets average American family" would perhaps be a more apt title for William Dear's amusing but unoriginal film. The loud monster movie formula is faithfully followed: "civilian" (the pre-occupied Henderson family) discovers legendary and ferocious monster (Harry a rather affable Saskatchewan). But the humans soon realise that his is a tragic situation; a monstrous blind painiless eye is a gentle, loving creature — that shows a sign of humanism, Potent stuff!

The Hendersons discover their monster when they run him down in their station wagon. George Henderson (played by John Lithgow) decides to take the "catch" back to Seattle as a prize. Harry quickly gratifies himself by recovering consciousness and causing chaos in their suburban home.

At this point you begin to realise that the film and humour is principally aimed at the family audience. However, some thoughtul points on man's mindless destruction of wildlife, for example, is worked into the script along with the lightweight gags. Harry's wonder-

derful expressive face supplies the lightness of the laughs.

Unfortunately to keep the pace of the action snappy Dear limits his shots of the stirring Rocky Mountains to tantalisingly brief snaps.

The film quickly moves away from the scenery becoming slightly lost in a time-consuming chase through the city after Harry who has left the family. Inevitably the "magnificent" Hendersons (or is it Amber

sons?) find Harry just before the panicising, bloodthirsty citi-

es of seattle and a long, sug-

ary farewell ensures as they return the disarming Big Foot to the wild.

Although the hour and a half minutes taken to reach the pre-

dicable climax could have lost twenty minutes without too much pain Dear succeeds in making a solid, enjoyable family move. Just the sort of thing to drag your little brother over to during the Christmas holidays.

John Fairholm

Overall, Spaceballs is a disappointing film. Mel Brooks past record is a yardstick which is capable of much better efforts than this. The film suffers by comparison with those it is trying to copy. The Special Effects are not comparable with those in most serious science fiction films.

Spaceballs suffers because of a poor script. There simply aren't enough jokes. Brooks puts in two cameo-roles as President Skroob of Spaceball and as Yogurt (the Yoda-like figure). Even he can't save the picture.

If you are a fan of the Star Wars series and like schoolboy humour — go and see Spaceballs. You'll probably have quite a good time. If not, forget it.

Roderick McLean

The film is about a group of rebels led by Lt. Tuck Dendleton (Dennis Quaid) entering in a miniaturised form — in a pod — the body of a supermarket shop assistant Jack Putter (Martin Short — Three Amigos). The rest of the film consists of the fun and frolics of the Lieutenant in Jack Putter's artichokes, guts and organs. This is where the film succeeds most. The
Watt turkeys!

Edi Uni 1st XI 4 H-Watt 1st XI 4

After the previous Saturday’s encounter in the East of Scotland League, the Uni found itself again facing the local Tech last Wednesday in the University Leagues with the Boys amassing five out of a possible six points. In what is widely regarded as the biggest derby in Scottish football, it actually ended up being a real feast of entertainment on a day when a drama seemed disappointing to the Edinburgh outfl.

The pattern of the game was simple enough. The Edinburgh keeper (who shall remain nameless) would give the Watt an easy goal but then we would run up the other end and equalise after half an hour, and that four times we equalised. Any- way, less about our keepers, that about our goals!

The first time came in 23 minutes. Lucknow won the ball in the midfield before playing it square to Slater at right-half. His under-take split the Watt defence letting Stolz in on a one-one-one. That was not being content with this, allowed the Watt defence to get back before beating them all and scoring. They don’t call him “Simple Ball” Stolz for nothing. Then at 2-1 down the Watt defence equalised. The final whistle went at half time.

The Burgh started the second-half with an air of expec- tation. As is expected there was not another soft goal. Stolz however, equalised again in 32 minutes. At this stage a 3-3 draw looked to be on the cards but the Burgh pounced on the Watt and was having none of it. So 82 minutes gone, 4-3 to the Watt.

Enter Calum Forskoh. Forskow picked up the ball in the left-back position with three Watt men and laid off the given pass. Five minutes were needed to run 50 yards (without getting challenged obviously!), looking on we saw that Gowan was getting too old and fat so had a go himself. He proceeded to cut a delicate right-footer to the top corner of the Watt goal. So the 1st XI now go into the Christmas break on top of the League. It was not an easy position from that position that we can only throw it away rather than lose.

The 2nd XI game was fought in typical Celtic-Rangers fashion. Scotch. Heriot-Watt goal had shown signs of returning to form by benefiting people who tried to score and telling Dave Kiely he would break his nose after the game. It came therefore as sweet irony when he scored the only goal of the game. The problem is that he punched the ball in from right-back and not to give the Uni a 1-0 victory.

Finally, the Colts won 2-0 and my sources tell me that Warren had not got a goal in quite some time, but as I did not see it, I refuse to believe it. So at the half-way stage only the Colts are on top and the Uni finds itself in the enviable position of not having lost a wed- nesday match in any of the leagues — long may it con- tinue. Merry Christmas, Doc.

Spotnik’s Seven

On Saturday afternoon the earth around the Peffermill Bordello moved for the 1st XI as they climaxied the first term with a 7-0 trouncing of Gnock. Jo Power initiated this orgy of goal-scoring with a driving finish from the edge of the G, pardon O, then it was up to Spunki, Johnny Watters, MacDonald, Heithon Tinto and Cathariss Dunlop to span over the remaining six. Spotnik’s goals were characteristically well-balanced and supported by Heithon and Catty who captain never actually found the main goal, but his contribution means that he and Spunki have high hopes for her in the future.

EUVCH 7

So it was with newly enlarged heads that the Uni took on the supposedly superiors Burgh Gymnasts on Sunday. It didn’t take Ms. Leas long to put c-4 into the Watt. Then there were Spunki, chickens with a pulverising too, a crowd-pleaser if ever there was. This surprising 3-0 victory leaves the Uni feeling plus teemal. There was a short contract in quality between the 1st and 2nd, the former the fastest stage time of the day — a very notable performance considering the depth of quality of the opposition.

This meant that Russell Boyd too over in the unusual position of first, and he did well to finish the stage in fourth still ahead of some of the better runners. There was no chance for Daniel in this race, coming in 211 miles behind. Despite the efforts of Jon Wright who did two legs, Captain Harkness who is quite light. Everyone else, Spunki, who was first, and Mark and I Guild we could not finish a B team.

GARNOCK 0

The weekend saw the Noddy Running Club hit the delights of Leeds for the Yorkshire Bank Relay. Nine Hairies and three Radcliffe Harriers joined in the low-read of sleeping in to be at Waverley at 7 am in order to get to Leeds by 12.30 — some journey.

The course for both womens and mens races was up and down the footpaths of a local park near Leeds for 2 1/2 miles and 2 1/4 miles respectively. The womens race opened with an indifferently run leg from C. Macaulay. However, Johnnie B MAL (considering the lack of really testing hills) and a fine debut run by S. Ashelford completed the first lap.

The mens race provided a sharp contrast in the present running levels of the Hairies. The A-team were lead off by Scottish England who finished up well bringing the team in 6th. It was at this time that the lack of the mens team became apparent as we returned to the start line. The mens team travelled from Robert Whitehouse (in who avoiding a dog ran into a tree), William Parry and Lance Watkins could only finish 18th (out of 100) and 6th respectively. The B team were well on top with the first leg, second and third legs and the last three legs. Despite the valiant efforts of Jon Wright who did two legs, Captain Harkness who is quite light. Even the world’s best, Jonnie B MAL and I Guild we could not finish a B team.
The new editor rearranges the Student offices.
(The Vigorous Imagination, Autumn '87)

Okay Yah, where is Edinburgh anyway?

Say hello, wave goodbye.
(Archie MacPherson, outgoing Rector)

Malc takes the bitter pill.

(Medics' protest, Spring '87)

Check out that girl at the window!

The KB bank robber!

For Edinburgh University students only. Listings with reference numbers can be followed up by going to the Student Accommodation Service at 30 Buccleuch Place.

ACCOMMODATION

Single rooms in flat from January in Bernard Terrace (off South Clerk St), Colour TV, video, freer, washing machine, £110 pm. Tel 667 7632.
Single rooms available for non-smoking postgrad, male preferred. Own room in quiet flat, shared with other mature person in Merchiston, £130 pm including bills. Phone 031-229 0677; just keep trying! Or try 0396 83 349.
Large single rooms available in SAS house 10 minutes from KB, Rent £75 pm. Phone 441 5471. Address is 21 West Savile Terrace.
Two single rooms at 25 Warrender Park Ter, for non-smoking females, £29 pm. Phone 229 5739.
Single room available at 44 West Nicolson Street, 1FR. Quiet room only yards from George Square. Rent £119 pm. Phone 667 2022 or call round.
Single room at 24 Howe Terrace, 1FR. Prefer someone over 21 years old, £160 pm. Available from 23rd December, although earlier entry is negotiable.

A Mate for life
(Brian Rondson clean-up scheme, Summer '87)

What are you laughing at?
(Ben Elton, Playhouse Autumn '87)

It's tough in the Teviot lunch queue.

Just talking around again.

MISCHEVIOUS

Attention! Would the student (male, American?) who was using the typewriter in the Societies Centre on Thursday 26 November please return Annie's old faithful dictionary. It has sentimental value.

For sale: Black suede jacket with tassled fringes, in excellent condition. Only £60 ono. Tel 667 1971 x 131. Or call at Room 201, Breviate House, Pollock Halls.

WANTED

Female preferred for a single room at 25 Gayfield Square (1FR), £106 pm. Available end of December or beginning of January. Phone 667 1081 x 2944 and ask for Maja. Ref no 105.
Single room available at 49 South Clerk St, 3rd fl. Rent 667 0841. Ref no 112.
Single room for male/female at 140 Marchmont Road, £135 pm. Available from 12th December. Phone 441 9459.
Three single rooms available at 8 Gilmore Place, 3rd and subsequent years preferred, £114 pm. Available until 1st May 1988. Phone 667 2504.
Two females wanted for a double room in a very centrally located flat, big kitchen, large bedroom, great shower! £70 pm. Phone 667 8893.
Female wanted for a single room at 18 Buccleuch Place (2FR). Would include non-smoking flat with children. Non-smoker preferred. Negotiable rent (telephone rate for anyone who doesn't mind baby-sitting occasionally). Available from 8th January. Phone 667 8755.

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Chamoix leather massage. Good hand action and elbow grease assured.
See LW. Rm 512 Grant House, Pollock.

Clowns wanted for kids Christmas party on 19th December (1-4 pm). Transport provided to Dean's Community High School in Livingston. Please contact Eric asap in the SCAG office, Pleasance (leave a message). The dafter the better!

Help! In Edinburgh there are large numbers of childless couples seeking help from infertility clinics. One form of help is Artificial Insemination by Donor (AID). If you could help please send a stamped addressed envelope to Mr T. B. Hargreave, Consultant Urologist, Dept of Surgery/Urology, Western General Hospital.

'Student' classified section is a free service to readers. We welcome accommodation, "for sale" and other small ads. Ads should be kept to a maximum of 30 words and may be handed into the 'Student' offices, 48 Peace-

All the best people get it every week.

Student INFORMATION SERVICE

PHOTO FINISH

Student looks back over the year with some weird and wonderful photographs.