LAST Thursday night an Emergency Special General Meeting was called to debate a motion which if quartered, passed, demanded EUSA to call on the University authorities to dismiss the new Chaplain, Dr. Robert Anderson.

Debate in McEwan Hall, the meeting was unfortunately attended by only 255 students, where a majority of 300 votes had to be cast on the deciding side if any decision was to be binding on EUSA.

The motion proposed by Alexander and Kirsty Reid, also underlined the belief that the selection of Dr Anderson was made without serious consultation of the student body by the University authorities.

Three amendments were added, one by EU Lesbian and Gay Society, another on behalf of the Revolutionary Communists (RCP) and a further amendment on behalf of the SRC. Only two votes were taken at the meeting, and the first was to defeat the incorporation of the RCP motion, and the second was on the motion incorporating the LAGS and SRC amendments. The latter respectively asked for reaffirmation of EUSA’s commitment to the rights of homosexuals, and called on the University Administration to partially “distance themselves from his (Dr. Anderson’s) views.”

Debate had to be shortened because of the strength of feeling on all sides, and EUSA President Malcolm Mcleod ruled that only 8 people would debate further—4 for, and 4 against.

Those seeking the Chaplain’s resignation centred their debate on the ability of Reverend Anderson and his discouragement of students, particularly their right to pastoral care. Furthermore, they were concerned because the Chaplain represented the University in the wider Edinburgh community, his alleged controversial views would be seen as those of the University.

One student said that Mr. Anderson perpetuates the myths (ie ‘gay-bashing’) by the views he expresses and gives credibility to anti-gay movements, of whatever denomination. Another student implied it was all Dr. Anderson’s fault for failing to ‘hide his light under a bushel.”

Speaking against the motion, people argued that “what one does with one’s belief is different to what one believes,” and that Dr. Anderson’s aggressive or antagonistic views no way hinder his pastoral ability.

Also, it was put forward that if Dr. Anderson wasn’t given a chance (ie a year in office), then that could be a dangerous infringement of freedom of speech to oppose a man on the basis of your own prejudice.

After an hour’s debate, how-ever, a vote was taken with 102 for, 82 Against and 18 Abstentions. EUSA President Malcolm Mcleod congratulated everyone on a passionate but eloquent debate — “the best I’ve heard in five years at this University,” he said.

The Chaplain, who denies saying “what is alleged I said,” declined to comment upon the meeting.
Financial crisis overshadows Exchange

by Hamish McKay

THE University of Pennsylvania — Edinburgh University Exchange is in a state of financial uncertainty at present, with only twelve Edinburgh students being chosen for next year's venture. The Exchange, which began in 1976, is at the behest of a joint Anglo-American initiative, last year sent 15 students to the American Ivy League University. This year the last tranche of Edinburgh students, elected by Edinburgh University's General Council over the past 4 years, runs out.

Negotiations are going on at present on both sides of the Atlantic to attempt to secure funds, and the University is considering appealing to former alumni with advanced careers, who have previously benefited from "the Penn connection.

Dr Alan Day, of the American History Department, is instrumental in pushing students to go on the exchange, and laments to Student that he would like to see at least 20 to 25 students enjoying a summer year at the University of Pennsylvania.

The news comes at a time when Edinburgh University is attempting to raise student consciousness about the Erasmus programme, which is concerned with exchanging Edinburgh students with European universities.

Set up in 1997 the programme promises a certain fluency in a foreign language by the applying student, and provides top-up funding for the student, such as travel and cost of living.

Anyone interested should get in touch with Jan Hume, Overseas Co-ordinator, Old College (Tel: 667 1011).

LSE

A GREAT furor has broken out over the election of Winston Silcott, one of the so-called Broadwater Farm murderers of 1985, as Honorary President of LSE's student union. Mr Silcott, previously serving a prison sentence, was elected on the 27th April at a students' meeting. Silcott, who was elected on 27th April at a students' meeting, was arrested in 1976, at the behest of a Student Exchange is in a state of flux, as the University of Pennsylvania. The Muslims apparently ended their title for the rest of term.

The move doesn't follow in the wake of a big police drive to crack down on campus crime at Oxford, but rather in the wake of last term's strip-cabaret' controversy with a cartoon on the students' magazine continued.

Furthermore, the university will now return to nationally agreed rates of pay, Mr Boag confirmed, whilst his unionists were still not satisfied with the offer: "We have pre- viously benefitted from "the Penn connection."

Furthermore, the faculty that this marked the end of action at local level, but that the lecturers are still not satisfied with the offer. "Students have suffered enough," he said.

The threat was harmless, but the students' magazine continued to publish them no guarantee of future job prospects. The catering staff also informed Student that they won't merely be to keep going the present facilities, one manager said.

Meanwhile, EUSA President Malcolm McLeod told Student that it was an "opportunity to rationalise" Student Union structure. In line with official University thinking, he believed that a result of the Bristol Squares remains.

The University says that there is no possibility of that money coming from its own resources at a time when Edinburgh is part-way through a programme of balancing its budget deficit of £3.5 million by 1991.

Surely, the closure of the snack bar would be difficult for student to find somewhere to eat.

The University says that there is no possibility of that money coming from its own resources at a time when Edinburgh is part-way through a programme of balancing its budget deficit of £3.5 million by 1991.

Alex Carslaw, Secretary to the University, has said in the past that the closures and staff losses are "certainly not a vote of no confidence in the Catering Services management and staff.

However, catering employees have told Student that they feel the University has railroaded through the measures, leaving them no guarantee of future job prospects. "We will have to treat people like any ordinary members of the public for any future University post," said a former member of the University authorities, one manager said.

The catering staff also informed Student that prior to the University decided to close the catering unit there had been no discussion with their unions, NALGO and NUPE. At present both unions are negotiating for enhanced payment for the staff being made redundant.

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STUDENT

by Ewen Ferguson

30 SEPTEMBER 1989 is the date that sees closure of three of the existing catering services at Edinburgh University. Kings Buildings Refectory, Bristo Square Refectory and Old College Carry Out.

Redundancy notices were handed out to staff as from last Thursday, with three-quarters of the 70 full- and part-time staff to be laid off. The decision was taken after a student survey commissioned by the University authorities, over two years, revealed that there is a need for replacement and upgrading of equipment and facilities which would result in a saving of some £2 million."

As further evidence of the willingness of the 27 students quoted by the University is "misleading" it was written, "We are donating a new image for catering — it won't merely be to keep going the present facilities, one manager said.

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SCOTTISH QUESTIONS OUTLINED

SCOTTISH sabbaticals lob­bied Parliament during yest­erday's Scottish Questions. The petitioned MPs for a sepa­rate section of the Universities Funding Council in line with the recommendations of the 1986 report of the Scottish Tertiary Education Advisory Council.

EUSA President Malcolm Macleod said: "Michael Forsyth has been singularly inefficient and almost absent on lobbying for Scottish universities and financial support for Scottish students."

There was no mention of the special financial circumstances of Scottish students in the recent White Paper.

SCOTTISH university lecturers have voted to support the Camp­aign for a Scottish Assembly.

Policy on a single planning and funding body for higher education in Scotland was reversed as the Council of the Association of Uni­versity Teachers endorsed the idea in principle.

This follows years of resistance to similar proposals.

Pollock to get sculpture

by Cathy Milton

EU artist in residence, Hideo Fujuta, has been commis­sioned to create a sculpture for Pollock Halls at a cost of £2,000.

The two-piece abstract sculpture was rumoured to be an obscene representation of the male sexual organs. But, speaking to Student, the Senior Warden of Pollock Halls denied this.

Terry Cole said: "It is not very much like a phallic in my view." He added: "This is the first piece of sculpture ever commissioned by any section of the University Accommodation Service and we are all very excited about it."

The commission was unanimously sanctioned by the Pollock Halls committee of wardens and students and will be paid for out of student fees.

Next year's fees for Pollock Halls are to go up 7.4 per cent in line with inflation.

Government releases Funding proposals

by Liz Caodidy

THE Secretary of State for Education is proposing to link the funding of universities to the number of students on roll.

Kenneth Baker hopes that his proposals will encourage univer­sities to compete more aggres­sively for students.

At the moment, universities are funded jointly by a block grant from the Universities Funding Council (UFC) and an additional variable grant from local author­ity which fluctuates with the number of students on roll.

Under proposals released last week, the local authority, per capita grant will rise from £60 to £1,600 with a corresponding decrease in the UFC block grant.

Other proposals contained in the document provide for the cre­ation of four levels of fees, with the highest being £3,200 for more costly arts and medics and lowest being £1,600 for students on Humanities or Social Science courses.

Baker described his proposals as putting universities "on their mettle" since to compete effec­tively, universities will be forced to offer courses attractive to stu­dents.

Critics argue that the proposals will restrict the variety of courses on offer. One member of staff, who preferred to remain anonym­ous, said: "We could have a course in golf and I am sure we would recruit hundreds of stu­dents. But I am not sure we would do the university any credit."

EUSA President Malcolm Macleod criticised the proposals in principle but said: "In practice the University has no option because it must improve its finan­cial situation."

"It seems clear that the first casualty of these proposals will be the staff to student ratio which will substantially decrease. This will result in, for example, larger tutor­ial groups to the detriment of teaching standards."

Increased pressure on staff to teach will withdraw resources from research. In the longer term, it is the reputation of the Univer­sity that is at stake as well as the future of students.

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Festival Times needs reliable reviewers to cover every aspect of the fringe and Festival in August. We are looking for good writers who would be prepared to review at least one show per day for the three weeks of the Festival. Last year we printed over 400 reviews including theatre, film, cabaret and jazz. This year we want to improve on that number, so your enthusiasm is essential.

If you are interested, apply in writing, including details of your experience, to: TOM LAPPIN, Editor, Festival Times, EUSPB, 48 Pleasance, Edinburgh EH3 9TJ.

If you would like to find out more about Festival Times, come along to an informal meeting in the Student Offices at 48 Pleasance, on Thursday, 4th May, at 5.00 p.m.
SOME students sail through exams. Most experience varying levels of anxiety, while every year some unfortunately crack under the weight of the stress they feel.

The bitter irony is that almost everyone involved in education is fully aware that exams as a form of assessment are far from satisfactory and even blatantly unfair. All the worry and upset is to little effect.

Exams subvert education. Students are encouraged to "play the game" and "beat the system" rather than to think. This involves learning the minimum possible to get through the papers, trying to second-guess papers (all too easy when they are set by staff too bored to think up new questions) and then forgetting as much as possible the moment the cry to "stop writing" is heard.

As to injustice, the rationale for the exam system, is that by its nature it treats all students identically. Given the current social context this is clearly unfair. In today's society equality is not justice.

Beyond that, the exam system does not stand up to its own criteria for justice (which tends to ignore issues like class, race and gender). By setting students identities and there is no guarantee of answers that can be compared, the exam system seeks criteria for justice (which tends to be abstract and irrelevant to subsequent practice. And this seems logical. How could abstract academia ever have been thought to bear any relevance to the students life in the market.

Both aims are worthy. Everyone must agree that the raising of educational standards would be a "good thing" and also that the current educational system may not be the most adequate preparation for life - let alone for the market.

Yet in its emphasis on traditional examinations the government betrays its aims and reveals its basic ignorance of the educational process. How will standards be raised if we learn how to pass exams at the expense of our personal development and, worse still, are worse prepared to function anywhere, by developing examination skills we will never need again when we pass out of the educational system?

- Exams subvert education. Students are encouraged to "play the game" and "beat the system", rather than to think.
- Exams ignore issues like class, race and gender.
- Exams subvert education. Students are encouraged to "play the game" and "beat the system", rather than to think.

... the exam system ignores issues like class, race and gender ...

Baker, egged on by Thatcher, is also proposing to link university funding to the level of enterprise training within courses. This, they argue, will better prepare students for life in the market.

Academic and personal development must not remain sacrifices at the altar of politics, either national or departmental.
Student Unions and Associations have recently become the focus of an investigation by the government. Westminster wants to find out how our membership fees are being spent, suspecting that sabbatical pay all their time plotting revolution.

So far signs are that their investigation has revealed the opposite. Certainly a swift glance at EUSA’s accounts shows that the bulk of the Association’s money is spent on wages for staff who administer services to students — maintaining the unions and the welfare departments, hardly revolutionary activity.

Because the government seems suspicious of bodies like EUSA many students may find themselves in the uncomfortable position of wanting to defend an policy to the elected representatives of Teviot. Teviot Union would be too capable of running its own affairs as would any other Student Union.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Jones

---

Dear Student,

I read with interest the article “You may hate the Unions, the sabbaticals and all the other politicians whose naked lust for personal power may recall Stalin’s in some cases, and still defend the Association.” This is because the students who get involved with the Association are largely irrelevant. Irrelevance and financial constraints mean that the real power is wielded by veterans like Dr Fulburne and Mrs Leary.

Despite this, it is still important to vote, if students’ associations are to be defended from their enemies on the left and the right, in the interests of those students who need support.

The more students who vote the harder the government or anyone else will find it to criticise bodies like EUSA as unrepresentative or illegitimate.
Soccer Cash Wasted

The state of Scottish football — Tom Hartley questions the sue of available funds. Meanwhile Justin Thomson-Glover bemoans the lack of organisation of the meagre University tennis facilities.

SCOTTISH Football is in a miserable state. For Glasgow Rangers and Maurice Johnston there would be little to celebrate as yet another dry season comes to a close.

In the Premier League, gate receipts continue to grow but the fans outlay is not translated into more exciting football. Rangers collected their second league title under Souness and they alone this year have produced football of a consistently high standard. Souness is criticised for his extravagance in spending nine million pounds over three years rebuilding his side, but the results fully justify his outlay; burning pockets of excellence like McStay at Cetie and Collins at Hibernian there has been nothing to compare with the talent teams of Drinkell, Ferguson and Waiters.

Celtic are a big club in every sense, yet Billy McNeil, while Souness has had the initiative to spend, has not moved with the times. Not helped by the right-footed Celtic board, he has allowed the double of last season to last year to stagnate. Celtic, and other Premier Division clubs have to spend and become ambitious if they are going to earn the respect they say they want from the footballing public.

In a European context, Hearts had a good UEFA cup run this year which shone a light on their bus league form but what of next season? They celebrated at Easter Road last week when Hibernian secured a place in Europe for the first time since 1978. What an achievement to finish fifth in a league of nine! Hibernian fans should celebrate.

The facilities for tennis at Edinburgh University are pretty bad. It's always slightly embarrassing having to play on the KB courts with a visiting team. But now the situation has got worse.

During a tight match on Sunday against Stirling, two people arrived midway through the match claiming that they had booked one of the KB courts. This of course, is impossible since the Sports Convenor for the KB courts, S. Laing, should have booked all the courts until 6 p.m., for every University home match. Naturally this disrupted the match.

SUMMER CUP

As the quarter final stage of the Summer Cup approaches, fancied teams like Kev's XI and Law Soc are still going strong and look set for a confrontation in the final.

An impulsive Law Soc put out the Dental probes 2-1 in a hard fought contest, centre forward Andy Hounslow grabbing both their goals, while Trout Utd were overwhelmed by Kev's XI with Chambers, Lush, Woodbridge and Van Breugel contributing to the 7-1 scoreline.

Both Fraser House teams crashed out of the tournament earlier than expected. Fraser House A, last year's Sunday League finalists but playing without the injured fast-forward, were unlucky to lose 2-0 to Pat Nevin's Haircut while Dunka Fraser were demolished 13-0 by Get Fresh crew. Ewan Gilcrest scored a double hat-trick for the in-form premier division side.

In another high scoring game, the Apollos, helped by the home lighting Van Breugel overcame Talent BA, Trailling 4-3 with five minutes to go the Apostles missed a penalty but managed to force the game into extra time with a last minute goal. Despite the efforts of stopper Dave Fitzgerald, Talent's suspect fitness was their downfall and they sank to a 6-4 defeat.

The so far unconvincing KETKRI came through against Bootleggers but will have to improve if they are to overcome old rivals Cossie for a place in the last eight. Meanwhile it was a week of mixed fortune for the Seafood teams with Trout Utd's the best of it with three points against the Strollers in the first game of the season. Until Hibernian shows its extra-mural side rolled up for the intra-mural side to fritter the in-form premier division side.

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Skiing

A SQUAD of 14 skiers represented the University at this year's British University Ski Championships held at Aviemore during the Easter holidays.

Moira Langmuir (Edinburgh) won the ladies individual title, beating the ex-British team member Vanessa Harrison by a considerable margin in both the Slalom and Giant Slalom. Unfortunately Edinburgh did not produce amongst the male prize winners.

The Slalom was won by Robby Steel (Cambridge) and the Giant Slalom by his brother Andrew (St Andrews). Edinburgh's best result came from Gareth Rudd who finished fourth in the Giant Slalom.

Bill Manson, Moira Langmuir, Chris Lloyd and Gareth Rudd won the Giant Slalom team event for Edinburgh.

Fortune was on our side however since Strathclyde's top man Colin Grant managed to ski into Aberdeensh. A team member Dave McCall the day after, and both Edinburgh's B and C teams finished 7th and 13th respectively out of a total field of 16 teams.

The team Slalom competition was cancelled due to bad weather which left Edinburgh as BUSF Ski Champions for 1988-89. As well as the skiing some excellent social events were arranged including a Beer-tentering around Aviemore, five-a-side football and the traditional boat race. Edinburgh provided the winning team in each.

We would like to thank BP for their generous sponsorship and also the team of people from Aberdeen who organised the event.
RUGBY

THE University finished the season with an emphatic victory over what was not, on paper, a weak Graduates XV under the captaincy of Paul Harper. Although injury and other commitments robbed graduates of such talents as Simon Burns, Graeme Spawforth, David Leckie and Ian Stevenson, the team included such luminaries as Danny Casson, Pete Young and Dave Donohoe. McKinnon in particular seemed to cover every inch on the pitch, while Stewart was involved in a creation of several outstanding tries. In total the University scored 14 tries, including 4 by Ted Linchan and 3 from that man McKinnon. In reply Pamper Porter recorded the graduates solitary effort.

On paper it has been a highly successful season with victory in the Scottish Universities Championship, Sevens and 2nd XV Championship and the Essex Tournament in Paris (accomplished by the Freshmen). The University finished in the upper half of National League Division 4 and produced tremendous wins over 1st DivisionWatsons (16-9) and the highly rated Nottingham University in friendslies.

The club was well represented at representative level with University players turning out for Scottish Students, Scottish Universities, Scotland U-21, Scotland U-19 and Edinburgh U-21. Blues were awarded to Chris Kelly, Steve McKinny and Mclnness chipping in with some valuable wickets, the last one going to his team-mate when she won the sprinting championship.

In fact, opening bowlers in a Fiesta 2000 run out through the jumble of an out field to bat first. As has occurred in every match to date this season Edinburgh had soon put themselves in serious trouble; as the match was scored back 3 for 6, 10 for 59, 15 for 116 all out. Worsnop finished with 7 wickets for 9 runs, including a spell of 4 wickets for 6 balls, and Pearson with 3 wickets for 11 runs, completing a victory for the ESU by the vast margin of 212 runs.

Kerr hits century as Heriot-Watt collapse

CRICKET

WEDNESDAY'S Universities Championship game against Heriot-Watt assumed much greater significance than usual, as it not only needed to be won, but also immediately after the previous weekend's disaster at Dundee.

Captain Cook did not begin the day well, losing the toss to the Heriot-Watt skipper, who decided to let Edinburgh venture out through the jumble of an outfield to bat first. As has occurred in every match to date this season Edinburgh had soon put themselves in serious trouble; as the match was scored back 3 for 6, 10 for 59, 15 for 116 all out. Worsnop finished with 7 wickets for 9 runs, including a spell of 4 wickets for 6 balls, and Pearson with 3 wickets for 11 runs, completing a victory for the ESU by the vast margin of 212 runs.

These two, especially Kerr, decided early on that with the outfield not having been cut since last summer it was a waste of time trying to hit the ball around and that the ground would see them valuable energy to get the runs in 6's; Kerr hit 7, Thompson 1 and took Edinburgh to a total of 252 for 3 declared. Heriot-Watt bowlers had had little to cheer them since the fall of the 3rd wicket at 16 and looked extremely relieved when Cook called his batmen in for the declaration.

Edinburgh themselves would have been proud of the Heriot-Watt batting collapse. Robin Worsnop (the "flying root vegetable") and Tom Pearson completely routed them with an immaculate and devastating display of fast bowling in just under 60 overs for the paltry total of 21 all out. Worsnop finished with 7 wickets for 9 runs, including a spell of 4 wickets for 6 balls, and Pearson with 3 wickets for 11 runs, completing a victory for the ESU by the vast margin of 212 runs.

CRICKET

UNBEATEN until Saturday and confidently hoping (lay, expecting) to remain so for the rest of the season, the 2nd XI suffered a narrow but embarrassing defeat at the hands of the University Staff.

Nevertheless, opening bowlers Norrington and Roberton refused to be downhearted, and with Rob Mcleish in place with some valuable wickets, the Staff at 67 for 7 saw the game edging back into the student's favour. The Staff did eventually scrape the winning runs with 4 balls to spare, but the 2nd XI can at least take a little pride in their spirited defence of such a meagre total.

EUCC 2nd XI 95 all out

Andy Churchill 28

EU Staff Club 97 for 7

Mark Robertson 3 for 20

Rob Mcleish 4 for 32 (11 overs)

FOOTBALL

In a clash of the titans, the 1st XI destroyed Berwick Rangers Seconds, taking charge in the first half with Paul Garrett and Adrian Chambers both scoring. The pressure was maintained in the second half and led to the third goal from Olly Mast ering. Berwick managed a consolation goal, but the Firsts still had their best victory of the season.

OREINTEERING

EDINBURGH'S Yvette Hague finished an impressive 2nd in the Scottish Open Orienteering Championships this weekend.

Although she could not keep up with the pace set by Gillly Hare (Cleveland) whose brother Stewart won the men's event, Yvette's time of 59:53 was enough to keep her clear of C. Whalley from Edinburgh Interlopers.

MOTOR CLUB

THE treacherous lanes of West Lothian on Friday provided an excellent venue for EU Motor Club's NightBlitz rally, the longest, running navigational rally in Scotland.

The Expert class was won by Doug Cochrane and Ian Barclay in a Fiesta 1300, a result which follows on from their victory in the Non-Expert class last year, and helps keep them in contention for this year's Forth Valley Championship.

Staff did eventually scrape the winning runs with 4 balls to spare, but the 2nd XI can at least take a little pride in their spirited defence of such a meagre total.

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Andy Churchill 28

EU Staff Club 97 for 7

Mark Robertson 3 for 20

Rob Mcleish 4 for 32 (11 overs)

FOOTBALL

In a clash of the titans, the 1st XI destroyed Berwick Rangers Seconds, taking charge in the first half with Paul Garrett and Adrian Chambers both scoring. The pressure was maintained in the second half and led to the third goal from Olly Mastering. Berwick managed a consolation goal, but the Firsts still had their best victory of the season.

OREINTEERING

EDINBURGH'S Yvette Hague finished an impressive 2nd in the Scottish Open Orienteering Championships this weekend.

Although she could not keep up with the pace set by Gillly Hare (Cleveland) whose brother Stewart won the men's event, Yvette's time of 59:53 was enough to keep her clear of C. Whalley from Edinburgh Interlopers.

MOTOR CLUB

THE treacherous lanes of West Lothian on Friday provided an excellent venue for EU Motor Club's NightBlitz rally, the longest, running navigational rally in Scotland.

The Expert class was won by Doug Cochrane and Ian Barclay in a Fiesta 1300, a result which follows on from their victory in the Non-Expert class last year, and helps keep them in contention for this year's Forth Valley Championship.

Staff did eventually scrape the winning runs with 4 balls to spare, but the 2nd XI can at least take a little pride in their spirited defence of such a meagre total.
Janice gets Jumping Gold

ATHLETICS

ATHLETES from Edinburgh have been busy at both SUSF semi-finals (Stirling) and BUSF Championships (Derby) this past week. Both men and women’s teams easily qualified for the cup final this weekend.

At BUSF both teams gave respectable performances, the women finishing 4th and men 6th. The two teams won 1 gold, 3 silver and 4 bronze medals.

Three medals were won on the first day of the championship. Neil Thin ran superbly to help a group of three break away in the 200m. Edinburgh, the defending champions, had a weakened team, due to an injured Adrian Bond, but triple-jumper Ian Holly stepped in at the last minute.

Rolo Smith continued throwing well and won bronze in a competitive shot competition. His throw was 13.78m however was below the brilliant personal best he throw in Stirling of 13.16m.

Sadly Jamie Henderson was unable to retain the 100m he won the previous year but did manage to keep the silver with a time of 10.57.33. Rolo Smith continued throwing well and won bronze in a competitive shot competition. His throw of 13.78m however was below the brilliant personal best he threw in Stirling of 13.16m.

At this point Rosie Carter, a physiotherapist from the PE Department, must be mentioned for the invaluable help treating injuries and preparing athletes for races. She gave up her time to accompany us voluntarily and ended up being used and abused (?) by Loughborough athletes more than us. She must have been good because Jamie kept going back for massage sessions!

The second day started off well with Dave Hitchcock getting 2nd in the 400m hurdles. Janice Ainslie then secured our only gold medal in the long jump with 5.90m on the first jump. The finale was the mens 4x400m. Edinburgh, the defending champions, had a weakened team, due to an injured Adrian Bond, but triple-jumper Ian Holly stepped in at the last minute.

Dave Hitchcock blasted off on the 1st leg, handed to Ian, who ran his fastest ever 400m in 52.2 to keep the team in contention. Tom Blackie ran a good leg to keep the team in 4th place. Jamie Henderson then started the last leg 5m down on the 400m silver medalist but he ran an incredible 48.19 to pip him on the line by 30th of a second to gain bronze medal position.

Many other athletes also made their respective finals getting valuable team points. These included Jean Booth (100m), Ian Harkness (200m), Ian Harkness (400m), Ian Harkness (800m steeplechase), Cathy Kitchen (800m) and Tom Blackie (800m).

Chris Day

Fun on Tiree

SAILBOARDS in action on the west coast.

WINDSURFING

THE SCOTTISH Universities Sports Federation has recently staged a funboard event on Tiree, organised by Edinburgh University and sponsored by 7th Wave, Mach Enterprises, and Ski-Surf Ecosse.

The event was held from 12th to 14th of April in the last week of the Easter holidays, and was attended by someone from every Scottish University. Slamón and drag racing were planned together with an expression session. Unfortunately the wind never arrived, though it was there in the three days prior to the event.

The first two days of the event were spent waiting for the big sails ready in case the wind picked up to the minimum of 11 kts for racing to commence.

After spending time surfing - both on the water and down sand dunes - and playing football, it was decided to hold some fun races on the final day. In order to make the racing more interesting, it was held on the loch with short boards, small sails, and a wind speed in single figures. A freestyle competition also provided excellent spectator sport.

Highlights of the week for those who dared was a spot of night sailing, and Will Warburton (Strathclyde) a regular “cheese roller” at Sussex Windsurfing, for a perfectly executed duck- dive in by car headlights.

Wipeout prizes were awarded to Andy McIlwraith who added an extra conscience to his board whilst night sailing, and Will Warburton who lost a front tooth while surfing.

Thanks must go to all the locals on Tiree who were so helpful and supportive of this venture - especially Ken the landlord of The Lodge who gave us so much useful advice, Glyn of Mist Wave (a newly opened watersports shop which stocks many windsurfing spares) for stepping in at short notice with a rescue boat, to Dan can the postman who lent us extra buoys, and to the local school who lent us a blackboard. Sincerely thanks must also be given to Ian Hill who readily accepted the offer of being race officer, and who put a lot of effort into the job, made harder by having to keep competitors happy when there wasn’t any wind.

Next year the event is planned to last for five days, and will be even bigger. It is hope that one of the major manufacturers will be able to offer a supply of identical boards. Any queries should be addressed to E. MacKay, c/o Edinburgh University Sports Union, 48 Pleasance, Edinburgh.

EUSA ELECTIONS HUSTINGS

- Thursday 4th May
  11.15 p.m. DHT Refectory

- Friday 5th May
  11.00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1.15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3.00 p.m. Library Coffee Room

- Monday 8th May
  11.00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1.15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3.00 p.m. Library Coffee Room

- Tuesday 9th May
  11.00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1.15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3.00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
  6.30 p.m. Pollock Refectory

- Wednesday 10th May
  11.00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1.15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3.00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
  8.30 p.m. Teviot Row Debating Hall (Mega Hustings)
I

The deeply troubled, cannibalistic musical climate of the late eighties pleads plagiarism and unoriginality has given way to the glorification of the past and the sterility of the present. But a ray of hope shot through at the beginning of 1989 in the shape of ‘Jesus Jones’. The single Info/Freako was by far the most colourful debut this year. It mixed hip-hop technology and rock ‘n’ roll basics to create a lush frenzy of song, that almost scraped the f lifecycle sacred confines of the top forty.

On the way through various interviews and reviews (42 have appeared) Michael Aitken, alias Michael has picked up a reputation for arrogance and egotistical behaviour in keeping with the rock ‘n’ roll lifestyle. This along with the ‘next big thing’ they’ve managed to acquire (through no fault of their own) has set them up for an inevitable critical backlash.

After arriving fashionably late, in that self-indulgent rock ‘n’ style, Michael apologises profusely for the delay and confesses in me that it’s because they were ‘skateboarding in Livingston.’ He says this with a wicked glint in his eye and ushers me into the backroom. On the table are well over a hundred cans of beer, not to mention wine, spirits etc. Michael eyes this lot smiling and sheepishly asks the Venue manager if they are any honey for his voice. Very rock ‘n’ roll I must say.

So seated comfortably (with honey) I endeavoured to talk him about arrogance, ego mania and lazy journalism. ‘I’ve been accused of conceit and arrogance?’ No, no, they’ve got it all the wrong way round. It’s not a slag at all. In fact that’s one of the great things about rock music, all the great stars, look at Jagger, Bowie, Lennon, John Lydon and Elvis! It’s a pre-requisite or rock stardom I’m afraid. I’m not going to sit and say what kind of person I am, am |? I don’t think about it really.”

“Do Jesus Jones, possessing that pre-requisite, see themselves as the ‘next big thing’?

“It’s fine that people say that to me. Obviously, like anybody, I’m quite happy to be called the next big thing. It might make the future a little harder, but it gives us something to work towards. I suppose the journalism is a bit shabby though. Just because they don’t know anything about the band they assume so much. But most of the reviews have been okay and we wouldn’t let it bother us anyway.”

So Jesus Jones is opposed to the ‘vain singer backed by his musicians’ that the press would have us believe?

“Well, yes. I write all the music and they’re all my ideas, so it’s my band really. But it’s not as if there are all session musicians. We are a band in the traditional sense and we exist in our own little space.”

Michael then finishes his cup of tea and I attempt to clarify this statement, asking where exactly it Jesus Jones’ own space in the rock spectrum?

“A rock to die for isn’t it?” I don’t want to know because I think that as soon as you see yourself fitting in somewhere: you begin to compare yourself to people and you get stupid traps for yourself. We’ve never said we’d be a chart band, or a hip-hop band, or a thrash band. That’s pretty important to us because we do feel we’re pretty much in a field of our own.”

Therefore, do Jesus Jones think that they are unlike any of the bands coming up through the ranks at the moment?

“I think we are similar to certain bands. Certainly not the likes of The Sundays. There just doesn’t seem to be any sort of overbearing ambition. There aren’t any of the bands who want to come over as massive and really that’s what we want to do. The Pixies make brilliant music but they don’t seem to want the same type of fame as Jesus Jones. We’ve made no bones about that.”

Michael strongly denies money being important as regard the outlook of himself or the band.

“Money’s never been important. That comes from being on the dole for years and playing in bands. Okay. We want this fame thing but only playing the sort of music we want to and the music we play is extremely important to us. For me at least fame and quality must come hand in hand. I wanted the money in the position we’re in now so we could get Stock, Allen and Waterman to produce our records. That seems to be the mark of desperate artists. We want to do it on our own terms. God what an awful cliché.”

Rock and roll saviours or sampling charlatans? Jesus Jones have been described as many things in their short musical career.

Keiron Mellotte soon discovered the arrogance and egotism of singer Jesus H. Jones, pop’s newest Messiah, is no more than another music press fallacy.

And with this I’m forced to agree. Jesus Jones are tip toeing between the legalistic moralistic and Michael ‘influenced more by particular scenes than by particular bands.’

‘See the Jesus Jones sound as a collection of those ideas: Technology, guitars, hip-hop and pop, all thrust together. But how far does it add to the age old tradition of the guitar?’

“There’s no reason why they can’t live together (musically) and that’s the Jesus Jones thing. The guitar is the archetypal rock instrument, where as sampling is such a brilliant tool! you can achieve all the sounds you’ve got in your mind when you’re writing.”

Although musical purists call it plagiarism Michael will defend this stance all the way.

“I don’t believe music belongs to anyone. But I’m not going to give you all that crap that there are only so many songs because that’s a load of bollocks! Info/Freako never really belonged to me. I only arranged the notes and I heard it’s been sampled already which is great. A real honour. I don’t believe in all this Peter Waterman ‘sample me and I’ll sue rubbish.”

“We use the sounds as basics to move on from. I don’t think you’d recognise them from other records.”

An example of these theories in action can be seen in the awesome 12” mix of Info/Freako, a sheer breathtaking ride across one man’s paranoia.

“In writing a song like this, you have to do things by feel. You get the boat going and the guitars in there and the rest becomes obvious. Like the car skidding to a halt, because I knew I had to stop there. All you need is imagination.”

This comes across in their live show where all their theories are put in practice. Michael claims that this is Jesus Jones in the raw. Bigger and better than on record and twice as exciting.

So seated comfortably (with honey) I endeavoured to talk him about arrogance, ego mania and lazy journalism. ‘I’ve been accused of conceit and arrogance?’ No, no, they’ve got it all the wrong way round. It’s not a slag at all. In fact that’s one of the great things about rock music, all the great stars, look at Jagger, Bowie, Lennon, John Lydon and Elvis! It’s a pre-requisite or rock stardom I’m afraid. I’m not going to sit and say what kind of person I am, am |? I don’t think about it really.”

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With a new single Never Enough in the offing and the planned recording of the album for release in August (“hopefully”) Jesus Jones have a bright future in the world of pop. So I ask the man himself what the future holds for the next few years.

“Gigging, recording records and skateboarding. Definitely the skateboarding and headlining at Barrowlands, we want to do that. It suits Jesus Jones perfectly. The humour, the intimacy and the big stage.”

The humour, I am questioning, are Jesus Jones not a serious bunch of bozos?

“No, no. We’re the blackest parody of a rock band like Spinal Tap, everything we do is laughably funny.”

Michael is indeed a happy soul, the most unarrogant and agreeable person I’ve ever met. Perhaps journalists just mistake the shining contentment in his eyes for a wicked glint, as indeed I did. But they are, he reminds me “just a bunch of wankers any way!”

Second coming or False prophet? You’ll have to decide for yourself but Jesus Jones is definitely a figure to watch.
JESUS JONES/PLANET POP/SAND KINGS

Calton Studios

WHEN the Sand Kings went on stage the first thing I thought about was the Soup Dragons. But from the moment they began to play I decided this was a lazy comparison.

Using that retrogressive Byrds guitar sound coupled with gitty solos and REM type harmonies that made them an enjoyable live act. Did I say enjoyable? I meant bloody brilliant!! Back to basics with integrity and no shitty cliches.

Planet Pop however were not very good at all. As their name suggests they were more than a little the influenced by the BSs but they lacked any of the latters wit. Finely gelled quiffs and built up shoulder pads were strictly uniform so that they looked like rejects from a 2000 AD comic strip. Posturing, posing and generally being crap, they managed to empty half the hall into the bar.

Then from what seemed like nowhere Jesus Jones exploded with a blur of colour and sound. Dominating the now packed hall with their strong stage presence and they were in terror form.

The set was blistering, chock full of razor sharp potential singles and powerful rockers. Infor Freako was a gigantic, aggressive and positively organic pop outfit. Burst of staggering proportions Broken Bones with its strangely sampled line of “Do I love you – no?” reverberated hypnotically around the hall. Whereas I Bet You Know All The Answers was intense with a Morrissey-like humour and a killer chorus hook.

Although their secret is the marriage of synth and guitar, the guitar sound definitely dominates the live set. Frenzied guitar work was only matched by brilliant sampling and the strange use of the stroboscopes which created a really weird visual effect upon the luminous colours the band wore.

The crowd moved enmass clearly impressed by the Londoners; singing along with Infor Freako, a fact that astonished young Michael into speechless silence and believe me this is very rare.

In Never Enough he sang “So you’re happy but that was never enough” — well I was happy in fact I was ecstatic — but despite a crowd baying loudly for more there was no encore. Still this was without doubt a landmark gig for the gig of the year.

Keiron Meltote

PHOTO: Blaire Drummond

PIXIES

Queen’s Hall

IT WOULD be both humungously tacky and humungously appropriate to fill this review with phrases like Gigantic and a Big Big Love, but that is what a night with the Pixies can reduce you to. A level-headed, articulate reviewer can be transformed into a moody, glibbering blober. Tonight the Queen’s Hall was held in a Boston Stranglehold as the Pixies staked their claim for world domination. Asphyxiation has never been such fun. But first things first...

The evening began passably enough by the pounding ghot dance of the Wolfgang Press, but their show was literally over shadowed by a rather neat lighting effect which threw the lead singer’s shadow all the way up the wall behind him.

This was accompanied by strobe lighting flashing for a completely illegal length of time, probably resulting in scores of zombified Pixlies stomping unconsciously to the nearest record shop and buying lots of Wolfgang Press discs before waking up and wondering who was being sick in their speakers. Actually that’s rather unfair to the Wolfgang Press’ lead singer who spent most of his time perfecting his impression of Nick Love circa 1980. But we weren’t there to see the Wolfgang Press, were we? On came the Pixies and Kim Deal made a small genuine surprise and embarrassment as the crowd bayed in frenzied expectation and punched each other appreciatively. “Welcome to Scotland” said Charles Francis and launched into Debaser while the crowd launched into anything they could ever so seamless and smooth that the next result is an encore of -4AD—and generally and generally and generally.

The Tossing Mirrors will be here in June, and Charles Francis looked an endearingly unlikely hero with his prescience, receding hairline and blue and white striped shirt, while Joey Santiago remained unnoved and unamused except for a spot of tap dancing on the table just off the front of the stage during the guitar flip-out of Banshee. They returned for a four song encore and the front half of the crowd dissolved in a communal sweatpool of excitement for me to mix half a dozen more metaphors.

The Clannad experience is like switching on Radio 3 by mistake; a tapu­taneous silence and then restrained applause greets the end of each number.

The band seemed to be at great pains to assert modesty instead of taking advantage of the enthusiastic response for this member of the audience — “Um, well this next piece is entitled, um, well I can’t remember it’s name but the singer sang it with someone famous from over the water,” announced the bass player and seeming leader of the band.

I would advise them to take a crack course in slouching, puppy dog abuse.

Charlie McVeigh

I would guess most people hadn’t heard any of Niagara’s music, which would account for the lukewarm response to the first few songs. But, by the end of the set, the enthusiasm was such that the band played three encores. The guitarist’s solo was the most self-satisfied I have ever heard. He displayed a security that often seems to be lacking in the traditional heavy metal “solo spot”. The man’s technical ability is beyond doubt.

You’ve all heard the songs I Will Be There, No Conversation and Walking Provoked that Niagara are an accomplished and popular hard rock band from Spain, slightly more than a handful of audiences numbering 1000s of people rather than 10s. However, Niagara are not the kind of band who will balk at playing to any audience. They didn’t worry about who hadn’t turned up, they just gave their all to those who had.

Duncan Carson
The Sun Dissolves While Man Looks Away From The Unborn Child Mesmerized by the new Technologies by Eduardo Paolozzi.
Over the past year or so people seem to have been going a little environment mad. But how much do we actually know about what is going on? Jaci Douglas has been perusing the literature.

Apart from the more dubious effects such as the spreading of the deserts and more extreme weather conditions, there is another critically important consequence — the rise in sea level. This has actually already happened with about a 15 cm rise during the 20th century, but most of this can be explained by the thermal expansion of the sea water caused by the increased temperatures. A little extra water has been "added" to the sea from the melting of glaciers although, paradoxically, actual ice sheets seem to be increasing in size. But this still does not make up for the 30 cm or so that could be added within the next 40 years following an increase of 2°C. The rise in sea level could be enough to cause flooding of major cities such as London, New York and Shanghai as well as complete low-lying countries such as Bangladesh and The Netherlands.

The increase in CO₂ that is causing this temperature rise is mostly due to the burning of fossil fuels but it is also aggravated by the clearing of tropical rainforests. Deforestation is in fact escalating the problem by removing a major source of excess CO₂ absorption. Over the past 30 years, CO₂ levels have risen by 11 per cent and although there are 100 million hectares of rain forest left, it is being cleared at an enormous rate with east Asia alone.

Two gases in the air, especially carbon dioxide (CO₂) remain constant then an equilibrium is established and temperatures do not fluctuate too much. The problem occurs when humans begin to upset this natural balance which acts like a giant piece of glass in a greenhouse which allows the sun's rays through but prevents them from escaping, reflecting them back to earth (apparently this is called thermal infrared radiation absorption), causing a rise in temperature. The basic greenhouse effect is actually a natural feature of the world, helping to keep the earth 33°C warmer than it would be otherwise. But as long as the amount of gases in the air, especially carbon dioxide (CO₂) remain constant then an equilibrium is established and temperatures do not fluctuate too much. The problem occurs when humans begin to upset this natural balance and increase the CO₂ content which exaggerates "the greenhouse effect" with catastrophic results arising from an increasing global mean temperature. Over the last 100 years or so, this rise is thought to be about 1°C, which may seem minimal but when one realises that there is only 5°C between us and the ice age, one understands the dangerous game we are playing. Figures about to be released are expected to confirm that 1998 was the hottest year on record, beating the previously hottest, 1987.

A good analogy is of a tub filled at constant speed by a tap. The tub has a hole in it which allows the water to escape at the same speed as entering so the level (like ozone concentration) remains the same. But once you start to tamper with the size of the hole then the equilibrium is upset and disaster could result. Present concern is that ozone is being destroyed (by chlorine in the atmosphere) faster than it is being made, and a "hole" was discovered in 1982 over the Antarctic, with speculation of another one now present over the Arctic. These holes have been strongly linked to CFCs because of their high chlorine content and the rapid increase in their usage over the past decade or so. CFCs found in refrigeration processes and computer aerosols are extremely long-lived; some remain in the atmosphere for up to 100 years. As the ozone layer is not very substantial (in fact if it was squashed evenly over the globe it would be just 3 mm thick!) and so small disturbances can have huge effects. Apart from the warming of the earth and those effects similar to those caused by the greenhouse effect, skin cancers and eye problems (such as cataracts) can result from this unprotected exposure to ultra-violet radiation. DNA, the basic protein of life, is liable to be mutilated and destroyed by ultra-violet rays as are many commercial crops. Action needs to be taken to prevent any further destruction of the ozone but ideas to try to reverse the effects include spraying fresh ozone over the hole(s) with a giant aerosol can!

Although both these issues are extremely important, it must be stressed that there are many many other problems that must not be ignored merely because they receive less publicity or seem less "glamorous" than these.

Acid rain, a disastrous effect that Britain plays a major part in causing, has still not been greatly reduced and the destruction of vegetation, stone and men, and the poisoning of fish and wildlife, still occurs. Yet like all these problems, it is preventable but would cost a lot of money that most governments are not willing to spend (it would cost Germany £15,000 million just to clean up its waters and soils).

So it is time for all countries to realise that, yes, there are other major issues that require attention and finance but surely the preservation of the world should receive equal if not more consideration.

But don't be disheartened, and remember that although the bulk of the clean-up needs to be on an international scale, you buying "ozone friendly" hairspray and converting to lead-free petrol could make all the difference. At least you will have got your priorities right.
MORE than three million experiments were carried out on animals in Britain in 1987. As yet figures are unavailable for 1988.

Edinburgh University does not deny that experiments on animals take place in some of its departments but according to a spokesman: "Only a small amount of animal research goes on at Edinburgh compared to other places. The vast majority of it is part of medical and veterinary research and none is undertaken for drugs companies."

Since the introduction of The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 which came into effect on January 1987, the use of animals in experiments throughout the country has been closely monitored.

Scientists working with animals are now required to document details of every single experiment carried out on an animal and the exact species used. Another change in the system is that embryos are now counted as separate animals. A major part of the Act is the introduction of a two-tier licence system. An establishment firstly has to obtain a licence to actually carry out experiments and then has to obtain a further licence to carry out certain experiments. For an institution to obtain such certification it has to have a named veterinary surgeon to provide advice on the health and welfare of the animals.

When a scientist applies to carry out an experimental procedure they will be required to state the "bundling of pain" the animal will suffer and why an alternative method not involving animals cannot be used instead.

These days several alternatives do exist. Computer simulation means that animals can be saved from experiments. Human tissues are now being used when possible. Not only do other options save animals but they often prove less expensive too.

According to Professor Kelly, Head of the Department of Pharmacology, the department only undertakes experiments which have some meaning for Man. He disapproves of unnecessary animal research, such as research for new shampoos. The department does not take part in "negative data experiments" where a large number of animals are used to test a product's effectiveness. Instead the type of research carried out is such that "you see something happening." 

The department have experienced a certain amount of hostility from students. Some refuse to attend experimental demonstrations and, in first year at least, students are not forced to watch the experiments. It is not only students who are concerned — one member of staff is also opposed to vivisection.

A large proportion of the department's allowance is spent on the care of the 500 or so animals there. Seven technical assistants make sure the animals are fed and also depression. Psychiatry and senile dementia, brain injuries occurring at the time of birth — especially in premature children — is a thermostatically-controlled incubator similar to that are reduced wherever possible.

Strict government regulations specifying the conditions for the animals have to be followed. Each type of animal is kept in a separate room with air-conditioning and sterile surroundings, and at a specific temperature.

Under the new act the site of cages in which animals are kept have to be of specified dimensions. Cages of stainless steel or aluminium, can cost up to £2,000 each.

Within the department the number of animals killed are reduced wherever possible. If an animal can make a full recovery after an experiment it will be saved. There is a thermostatically-controlled incubator similar to that used for small babies.

One third of the department's research is into brain damage caused after a stroke and into drugs which can reverse the damage caused.

Other areas of research include work on AIDS, psychiatry and senile dementia, brain injuries occurring at the time of birth — especially in premature children, and also depression.

Professor Kelly states that funding is a problem. "It is the cost of the research which puts us under pressure, not Animal Rights groups."

The department is keen to develop links with school children. Over the past few years they have responded to "fairly abusive" letters from children criticising their work by inviting them to see the animals for themselves. Many have accepted and have written thank you letters afterwards.

Animal Welfare Groups have been campaigning for an end to experiments using animals since the beginning of the century. Yet millions of experiments continue. Katka Krosnar spoke to people on both sides of the argument.

A senior member of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine feels that research involving animal experimentation is too important to give up.

"The benefits of animal research for human and veterinary medicine are impossible to calculate. Certain kinds of problems are resolvable only by animal research. The plan is to be as productive as possible, and to use the minimum number of animals.

"The faculty as a whole is concerned with the use of studies involving animals to advance knowledge, such as that of normal functions which have been disturbed and damaged by disease, and what can be done to restore normality in animals. The work bridges into human medicine. Very often in human work the nature of studies is not possible in human subjects."

In Veterinary Medicine too the numbers of animals used are falling.

"Individual research workers are using fewer animals than ever before. People don't like killing animals so we don't do more than we think is necessary."

There are many societies which have been set up to try and protect animals in this country.

The Scottish Society for the Prevention of Vivisection have been campaigning for an end to animal experimentation since 1912.

Mr Les Ward, Director of SSPV believes that the new Animals Act is not enough.

"We are not totally satisfied with the Act. We must try and abolish certain experiments. Morally there is no justification for using animals in research. But realistically this is not possible. Instead we want to ban useless experiments such as those duplicating certain drugs, and psychological experiments which have no importance. In the case of MS and cancer research we understand why animals have to be used, but we want animals to be replaced even for these purposes."

"We were originally campaigning for total abolition of animal experimentation but we have had to compromise our principles to get something done in the short term."

The St Andrew Animal Fund, a sister charity, aims to find alternatives to using animals in experiments.

"The number of animals used in research is falling and has been for a number of years."

"A great deal of this is due to the cost of keeping animals but a great deal is also due to the pressure," Mr Ward adds.

"When we are talking the phone rings and Mr Ward begins to discuss the rehousing of a young dog, with the caller. This is just one of the many roles the society does. He has been successful — someone has agreed to take the animal.

"Some successes include the rehousing of macaques at Edinburgh Zoo several years ago."

"Under the new act prosecution is also possible if animals are abused, or if scientists exceed their project licence."

When a scientist applies to the Home Office for a project those they are required to state the level of severity of pain they will inflict on the animal; "mild", "moderate" or "substantial". Higher bandings of pain will only be permitted for certain experiments.

A spokesperson for Edinburgh University Animal Rights Society estimates that £3 million is allocated to research involving animal experimentation within the University.

"I don't believe humans have the right to use animals for their own use. There are so many viable alternatives such as computer models, epidemiology studies and clinical studies. Those people who experiment on animals are too blind to see what they are doing. Academics consider us to be loonies but Animal Rights are not campaigning in their own interests," the spokesman said.

"Things are changing. I believe that in my lifetime animal experiments will be abolished all together."

It is difficult to know whether there will ever be an end to experiments which cause suffering to animals but it does seem unlikely.

A Home Office spokesman says that it is not easy to look to the future:

"Today we believe animals are needed to test certain things but for mildness, not severity. A balance has to be achieved so that an animal is not used unless it is absolutely necessary."

Through, there is no specified ultimate target to the number of animals used in future, the government want the number of animal experiments "at a minimum, while safe-guarding the public."

In 1987 there were a total of 386 different places in Britain carrying out research using animals. These include Public Health Laboratories, Universities, National Health Service Departments and Government Departments.

It is hard to imagine that scientists would ever agree to stop performing experiments using animals. Compromising on principles and beliefs on the part of both the research scientists and the Animal Welfare groups does seem to be having some success. It remains to be seen whether the science and technology which improves the life of humans can continue to bring about changes without the need to use other animals in the process.
If you hear strange bangings in the Pollock room above in the middle of the night, or if a disembodied hand moves up your lecture notes, when you’re not looking, who ya gonna call? Well you could try Robert Morris, Britain’s only parapsychology professor, resident here in our very own University. Maxton Walker went to talk to him. Meanwhile Toby Scott ventured into the bowels of the department to find out what happens there in the darkest hour of the night.

I suggest the media hinders more than it helps because it conveys so much error information. We do have a certain subject. But does this media attention help or hinder the work?

Skepticism is like, probably, I’d add with a smile, “I should speak more for the States than over here.”

There is also the subject of a certain book — The Amityville Horror — which still leaves me wondering under the door on the darkest nights. The book was something like: “More terrifying than The Exorcist because it actually happened!!!” The story, for those of you who still sleep above the bed covers, concerns a family who moved into a house in New York State in the seventies, which had been the scene of a grisly series of murders when a man went berserk and shot his wife and children one night. According to the story, the new family started to experience a plethora of paranormal occurrences. Hallucinations, levitations, black movements, claps of the middle of the night — all the usual things you get when you move into a house that housed infamous mass murders in fact. But what part did the actually play in that haunted house? And was the story not all it purported to be? “Most of what I did do to take apart some of the significant and interesting things that books like this give us is to make a lasting contribution when I was able to get the outside the door for the New York Times and compare it with what was described in the book. I found absolutely no truth at all. It was impossible to regard a large room that, supposedly, held the parapsychology in the Amityville house during the last night. There was no rain in the New York City area on all that day. I got wired into the weather by the fact that there was a place in the book where it was described as snowing despite the fact that the temperature said it was far too warm for snow. Eventually managed to help fill in the picture that it is only a matter of a work of fiction.

I was now all ed, University Psychology is unique in having the Arthur Koestler Chair of Parapsychology, the only one of its kind in Britain. All well and good, we say another first for our venerable pin. Unfortunately, to justify their existence here, the parapsychologists have to do research, which means they need subjects which played right into the hands of a sub-editor (Ed — thanks a ton of bundle) who needs articles, which is why I found myself lording around inside the psychology building on a cold, windy Friday night. My rendezvous was to be with Mr Lofur Reimur Gudmundsson, a parapsychology postgraduate who had advertised for “subjects.”

Lofur Lofur ap peel appeared out into the building. He was young, woolly and indubitably Scandanavian. First he had to be signed into the building and was promptly disappointed when Lofur had to see his hand to pick up the pen. Updated. I was given a cup of tea and sat down for the first test, to discover my degree of belief in parapsychology. As a barmy outfit, I scored very lowly. Lofur, this time carefully putting on a pipe, gave me two more tests to determine my superstition (low again) and my opinion of what I did was to try to take apart some of the logical inconsistencies, flaws and problems in the book, but I did make a lasting contribution when I was able to get the outside the door for the New York Times and compare it with what was described in the book. I found absolutely no truth at all. It was impossible to regard a large room that, supposedly, held the parapsychology in the Amityville house during the last night. There was no rain in the New York City area on all that day. I got wired into the weather by the fact that there was a place in the book where it was described as snowing despite the fact that the temperature said it was far too warm for snow. Eventually managed to help fill in the picture that it is only a matter of fiction.

I set up five Lofur came, pipe in hand and a grin on his face. He looked the computer then at me. He spoke. "Hi, Odd." Whether he was referring to the computer or me I was only guess, but after setting up the game again, he left.

This time, with no idea if I was hitting or not, I really tried. I tried concentrating on the screen, on the space bar, on the wall, on the ceiling, on each box in them. I was beginning to sweat badly when at last the test ended and I gave my nose. Five, I qualified. I can see the door but in the darkness hit the wall at 70 miles speed instead. Magnetically, Lofur materialized.

"That’s really interesting. This is what we call psi-pinning." That was what I call spooky. At this point, I was supposed to reveal my journalistic intentions and quit instead, I felt. I’ve got some points of view that are very inaccurate. Outside I stood to one side by thinking about it. The shots didn’t hit but a car behind me moved preposterably. It had definitely been something that they had put in a wall and sugar.
Hidden away from the public gaze, in the basement of the French Department in Bute Place, is the Centre for Communication Aids for Language and Learning (CALL), Megan Yates ventured further to investigate.

CALL is part of Edinburgh University's Department of Education; at the centre a team of specialists work together to develop ways in which to apply microtechnology to the needs of disabled people whose communication is impaired. The team consists of a speech therapist, an educationalist, a psychologist and an electrical engineer.

Paul Nisbit, the resident engineer, is working on the "smart wheelchair" for physically disabled children who are unable to manage the joystick of an ordinary electric wheelchair. Independent mobility is an essential part of growing up. The reduction in opportunities for a physically disabled child to play and explore, as compared with an able-bodied child, mean that the physically disabled child is exposed to fewer stimuli and has less experience and control over his or her environment.

Experience and control over his or her environment is at the root of intellectual abilities and begins to behave as a person within the human world in general. This process of increasing understanding of oneself and one’s environment and the physical and communicative activities.

It is through play that the ordinary child learns much about one's abilities and begins to behave as a person within the human world in general. This process of increasing understanding of oneself and one's environment and the control of one's own actions is at the root of intellectual physical and communicative activities.

The wheelchair with which Paul Nisbit is working is a standard electric wheelchair onto which a composite microprocessor-based system has been built. Because of the different skills that physically disabled children possess, each wheelchair can be adapted to meet the particular requirement of each child. There are several "user tools" from which the composite microprocessor-based system is built. These tools reflect the various needs of an electric wheelchair user.

The eldest, Terry, is 17 and suffers from cerebral palsy and dystonia, resulting in poor limb and hand control but good head control. He started using the chair with a head switch and in addition now uses a hand squeeze tool. The smart chair has made him independently mobile and enables him to choose where he goes and extend his range of activities.

The bumping tools demonstrate the cause and effect of collision that the that the tools recognise the act of collision, and react upon that action. However, it is not always good to encourage collision just in order to turn, and the look ahead tool prevents this whilst giving the child an idea about length and spatial orientation. The chair is being tested by several children of different ages and disabilities, who come from the Westerlee School for Spastics in Edinburgh.

The level of autonomy of the chair is variable and can be adjusted to suit the individual skills of different children. The workload is shared between the child and the chair, the balance depending upon the skills and confidence of the child. The bumping tools demonstrate the cause and effect of collision, in that the tools recognise the act of collision, and react upon that action. However, it is not always good to encourage collision just in order to turn, and the look ahead tool prevents this whilst giving the child an idea about length and spatial orientation. The chair is being tested by several children of different ages and disabilities, who come from the Westerlee School for Spastics in Edinburgh.

EUSA ELECTIONS HUSTINGS

- Thursday 4th May
  11:15 p.m. DHT Refectory
- Friday 9th May
  11:00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1:15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3:00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
- Monday 9th May
  11:00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1:15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3:00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
- Tuesday 9th May
  11:00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1:15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3:00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
  6:30 p.m. Pollock Refectory
- Wednesday 10th May
  11:00 a.m. JCMB Coffee Lounge
  1:15 p.m. KB Union, Potterrow Bar, Teviot Room, Chambers St Bar
  3:00 p.m. Library Coffee Room
  8:30 p.m. Teviot Row Debating Hall (Mega Hustings)
Making Waves

I AM sure that the belief of the general mass is that science and the "arts" are two separate and unmarriageable subjects. However, in conversation with Dr. Murray Campbell, of the Edinburgh University Physics Department, there seems to be at least one incontestable refutation of this belief.

Many of the great physicists — and Raman (of Raman scattering fame) do not appear to have been uncultured individuals. Blinded to everything but abstract theory. Indeed they had a great interest in the subject of music and contributed much to the physics underlying musical sound. Dr. Campbell is no exception to this. He has always been interested in music and plays many instruments, in particular the trombone in the Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra and sousaphone in a jazz band. He even thought seriously about taking music rather than physics when he left school.

Around 1910, while still a lab demonstrator in the Physics Department, he became involved in a research project in which he was sure many students were unaware, namely a series of lectures given by physicists to the Music Department on the subject of acoustics. Since that time, there are some instruments which may be of great interest to musicians, such as why in certain circumstances a piano needs to be deliberately mistuned slightly (to allow you to modulate from one key to another); and requires a reasonable amount of sound absorption, and although many of the students have a background in mathematics, some students fall over backwards kicking and screaming when you mention a logarithm.

"But a factor which has been of great value in communication is the fact that both Dr. Campbell and Dr. Greated play in orchestras and groups — quite often alongside some of the music students. One of the things which may be of great interest to musicians think that physicists don't even understand these points. Then nothing they say will be worth listening to. In the Scottish Chamber Orchestra we have been very successful in discussing the way instruments work."

"The courses to come together in the subject of acoustics. James Mills spoke to Dr. Murray Campbell of the Physics Department about the science of music."

Murray Campbell's personal research has been in atomic physics but has more recently been involved in that of musical acoustics. Clive Greated (Director of the Fluid Dynamics Group) is also very interested in the acoustics of musical instruments and collaborates in these lectures to the music students and these two men are joint authors of The Musicians' Guide to Acoustics written last year as a text for the course. And because of their keen interest in the subject their joint research work is of a serious nature.

"Now one might have thought being a classical branch of physics, that research in the subject was almost exhausted. This is not true. A lot of work was done by some very eminent physicists. Indeed, Dr. Campbell says, "Just about everybody who makes a big contribution in physics also seems to have been interested in music." But around the 1930s, '40s and '50s, there seems to have been a bit of a lull in research and then a resurgence. This was probably particularly due to the growing sophistication of electronic techniques which started to make it possible to do more subtle and advanced measurements than had been previously possible. Experimentalists are now able to measure much quieter sounds and using frequency analysis can look at the details of the harmonic spectrum at a node. A lot of the things which people made uninformed guesses about previously can be studied experimentally. Another example could be determining whether the thickness of a trombone wall makes a difference to its tone quality or whether silver plating (commonly used) makes a difference. These questions are not yet fully answered. Several research papers in acoustics journals within the last three to four years differ on questions such as these.

"Synthesizers are also used as part of the lecture course because it is not just about classical instruments but what is the nature of musical sound. Why is a particular sound smooth and mellow whereas another is rough and harsh."

"The quality of synthesizers has improved drastically over the years. But will we ever be able to produce electronically a really convincing reproduction of classical instruments? Dr. Campbell's view was that with modern sampling techniques (almost like making a digital recording of a musical instrument and replaying it) it is already possible to get very close but there are still a lot of subtleties in real instruments. This is really not a very interesting pursuit. Instead, Peter Nelson, at the Music Department, is much more interested in using synthesizers to produce sound which conventional instruments cannot.

"The lectures at the Music Department seem to have been a great success. A lot of effort has been put in but it is obviously not easy for people with such different subjects back grounds to communicate satisfactorily. Unto this end, the lectures which may be of great interest to musicians, such as why in certain circumstances a piano needs to be deliberately mistuned slightly (to allow you to modulate from one key to another); and requires a reasonable amount of sound absorption, and although many of the students have a background in mathematics, some students fall over backwards kicking and screaming when you mention a logarithm."

"But a factor which has been of great value in communication is the fact that both Dr. Campbell and Dr. Greated play in orchestras and groups — quite often alongside some of the music students. One of the things which may be of great interest to musicians think that physicists don't even understand these points. Then nothing they say will be worth listening to. In the Scottish Chamber Orchestra we have been very successful in discussing the way instruments work."

"It is obvious that much effort has been made to make this course a success. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all lecturers had such devotion to teaching their students?"

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**THIE TRIFFIDS**

**The Black Swan**

*Island LP*

MUSically, The Black Swan displays all the attributes of the various players in the saloon scene on the album cover: the confidence of the card sharp, the saucy grit of the female "entrepreneur", the smooth aural attack of the bar musicians. This confidence we see in the way the album wields zingers from style to style, as each track rolls before us careering for any idea of an overall feel or "concept" like Cale's ever sought. The saucy strut types the Triffid's readiness to plunder musical forms, their own and others, and their determination to use these to their own ends. Again, the smooth aural attack indicates how easily they carry it all off. For The Black Swan is a towering piece of vinyl.

At times, The Triffids can appear oh-so-genteel. The sub-marine beat of *Falling Over You* ushers in a tale of love-iseek reminiscences but with an added twist: as the reminiscence has trouble remembering exactly when his affection struck him. The counterpoint of this song is the most exciting music of the late 1970s because of its competitive macho direction of black music.

**LET'S get one thing straight at the outset: this record is important, very important. De La Soul have extracted the waltz of* perhaps the female interpretation of David McComb's starry-eyed, the intent and seething anger of the song* Spinning Top*; the Latin/European influences on the way. Despite a title surely stolen from a Slayer record, the *Sideshow* story* aplenty of vinyl.**

**THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG**

*Silvertown* *TommyBoyLP*

This is truly a motley crew of sounds and styles ranging from the tacky *Rain, Steam And Speed* with its purring, braying undertone to the excellently Man from Delmonte-ith *Down All The Days*, the groups despondently past Big Country and Waterboy influences on the way. Still unable to champion their political stance, but refusing to ram those ideals down your throat, *Lobosons Get Them Home*, has a storyline straight from *Kesey's Casualty's Nest*. But with Nurse Ratchett being replaced by the US government, the concept of politics loses its ficticious appeal and becomes one of frightening realism.

Despite a title surely stolen from a Slayer record, *Heating And Damnation*, is incomparably more. Very buoyant but satanic with some moody and moving tinkling piano, this more than compensates for the few dodger numbers on this interesting if somewhat inconsistent album.

*Jaci Douglas*

**FRAZZER CHORUS**

*Sue* *Virgin LP*

**IS THIS LP sufficientlycoffee table? One hopes so. Certainly it has been formulated for that richer, softer taste. Sue can in fact become a far part of everyday life as the ubiquitous coffee break, and equally pleasurable. It's a rare and wonderful occurrence when a writer's perception of life allows him to draw from day-to-day life as a source of inspiration. Lyrics of this kind speak in a language familiar to all, to provide something instantly homespun, whilst talents like Neil Tennant seemingly revel in the banality of our existences. Frazier's Chorus is perhaps destined to lose their adorable naïvety and become gamped up in a heavily lacquered bubble gum production. Yet Sue is not all sugar and sweetness. Forgetfulness has a genuine air of melancholy - unbearable tragedy on such a small scale that the insensitive would barely notice. And the aptly named *Storm* sets up a close, claustrophobic heat and tension which is unleashed in a downpour of snare drum before finally fading away. A sensitive work overall, packed with homely comforts.**

*Alun Graves*

**DE LA SOUL**

*3 Feet High and Rising* *Tommy Boy LP*

LET'S get one thing straight at the outset: this record is important, very important. De La Soul have single-handedly altered the direction of black music. Until now Hip Hop has arguably been the most exciting music of the latest eighties despite (and perhaps because of) its competitive machete stance, but it expressed through sexual legitimation or a dubious brand of streetwise black nationalism. The energy generated by the big beats and raps, however, is quite something. The message, is comparable to the feeding frenzy of the early punk, whose more precociously Hip Hop has unified blacks and whites on the dancefloor without the much-hyped violence which it is supposed to incite. De La Soul have extracted the excitement and energy of this music but they have traded in the prehistoric ethoid code of Hip Hop for "the daisy age": a naive, sophisticated mock-hippy revival in rap form.

Anything goes in the heady atmosphere of **3 Feet High and Rising**: from minute long conversations, in French, about breakfast (*Transmitting Live From Mars*) to a frantic, non-sexist appraisal of the male organ (*Buddy*). On *Jenifa Taught Me* we have a tale of first love which could not be out of place on a Smiths album. The beat stays funky throughout, augmented by joyfully iconoclastic sampling ranging from the sublime (*Orfeo*) to the ridiculous (*Liberace*), leaving Coldcut looking square. De La Soul have beaten Hip Hop at its own game and now the writing is on the wall for all to see: "This is the Daisie Age."

*Charlie McVeigh*

**ROBERT HOLMES**

**Age of Swing**

*Virgin LP*

FOLLOWING the resignation of Jerry Kidd, the Red Guitars were joined by Robert Holmes, who was instrumental in their LP Tales of the Expected, the disappointing follow-up to their brilliant Slow to Fade debut. Holmes's solo LP shares many of the characteristics of Tales of the Expected. Gone is the majestic guitar sound of the early Red Guitars, to be replaced by a better produced but more bland mix of synthesisers and "civilised" guitars.

The LP starts well with *Age of Swing* which is very moody and atmospheric, possibly the strongest track. Unfortunately Holmes seems to follow this formula throughout the whole album, with layered synthesisers and lush production contributing heavily to the sound. Holmes's songwriting ability is no doubt very professional, but I found that the songs failed to grab my attention—they lack the certain spark that forces you to listen to them.

Perhaps the best word to describe *Age of Swing* would be inoffensive. If Holmes is in intent to middle of the road background music then he has achieved his purpose admirably, and if you like that sort of sound then this LP is perhaps worth a listen. Otherwise switch it off.

*Mark Moffat*

**DIE WARZAU**

**Land Of The Free**

*Fiction 12*

FROM Chicago, the home of House, comes Robert Holmes, who unlike the other bands from their area boycott James Brown in favour of more European influences. The same aggressive vocals as Nitzer Ebb and the same bombastic, heavy-sounding as Front 242 are very prominent. Unlike those bands who sell their politics in ambiguity, Die Warzau are much more overt. The title song and especially *Five Guineas* displays all the attributes of the varied Smiths album. With Holmes' songwriting ability is unlike the other bands from their area, and lush production contributing to the sound. Holmes's songwriting ability is no doubt very professional, but I found that the songs failed to grab my attention—they lack the certain spark that forces you to listen to them.

Perhaps the best word to describe *Age of Swing* would be inoffensive. If Holmes is in intent to middle of the road background music then he has achieved his purpose admirably, and if you like that sort of sound then this LP is perhaps worth a listen. Otherwise switch it off.

*Mark Moffat*
ULTYSSES EPIC
An epic reading of James Joyce’s Ulysses looks to be entering the Guinness Book of Records staged in the Bedlam, it was received with widespread acclaim.

ULYSSES
Bedlam Theatre
28-29 April

THE formidable task of staging a production of James Joyce’s “Ulysses” was undertaken at the Bedlam last weekend, a continuous performance which lasted for almost three gruelling but exhilarating hours. The production succeeded in all its aims — it raised approximately £1,000 from friends of the eArth, broke the world record for the largest performance of a single work, and it paid tribute to the unique genius of James Joyce.

The performance was divided into fifteen separate acts, structured around the chapter divisions of the book itself; each part was narrated, dramatised and interpreted by a different group of actors and directors, the majority of whom were Edinburgh University students and staff. The text of “Ulysses” was the unifying force of the performances, but each act was interpreted according to the individual ideas of the directors and cast, resulting in a fascinating and challenging variety of dramatic styles.

The first act, directed by Colin Tzean — who was also responsible for designing the idea of this performance was a relatively conventional approach to the text it relied on the actors to convey the force of the words rather than on props, imagery or improvisation techniques. The problems of narrating pages of conscious and unconscious thought, expressed in densely packed imagery, were overcome by using various acts to echo the strengths of the central characters. This device was particularly dramatic in the final part of the act — with the actors speaking almost as one but also replying and responding amongst themselves, creating the effort of words, wrapping themselves around each other.

The ensuing acts employed various dramatic devices to interpret the text — actors sitting on a darkened stage shining torches as they spoke, a cast relying on spontaneous improvisation, the audience being blindfolded in order to concentrate on listening to words — all of which made for a production of diversity. The members of the audience, whether they saw one act or the majority of the performance, were unanimous in their acclaim: an unique achievement was enhanced by the talent and originality of all involved.

Fiona MacKinnon

NEW WORK FROM 44
SCULPTURE & DRAWINGS BY
LEILIA GALLOWAY & TONY COPPER
389 Gallery
Until 27 May

THE current interest in the relationship between art and science can be seen in this joint exhibition of sculpture and drawings. Both artists are highly conscious of their materials; Cooper manipulating sheet metal while Galloway contrasts this hardness with her more fragile paper and wire structures.

There is a sense of physical decay about Cooper’s welded and corroded pieces; a feeling which seems to clash with their rounded, entrenched forms. Such cloud, for a visit on a wet afternoon.

Despite the appeal of such eerie science, it lacks the impact and solidity of free-standing structures. In this respect, Galloway’s drawings confront you more directly, although their “organic” shapes strikes me as rather cold. Cooper’s drawings, resembling fading fossils, are such cloud, for a visit on a wet afternoon.

The scientific theme again emerges in Galloway’s drawings of molecular, “through the microscope”, structures. Stylish, but rather cold. Cooper’s drawings, on the other hand, are sculptures, resemble fading fossils. They are science; it lacks the vitality of life. This piece might not be seen by many, being displayed in the attic-like upper floor of the gallery. Not an exhibition to rush out and see but fine for a visit on a wet afternoon.

Julie Taylor
EDINBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Queen’s Hall
29 April

REINHOLD Gliere’s Concerto for Coloratura (soprano and orchestra) contains a vocal piece all but the most accomplished singers should vehemently refuse to perform. This point became painfully obvious as Fiona Mitchell, the featured soprano, attempted to do justice to the difficult andante and allegro movements in the Russian composer’s work. Flat high notes, a shrill upper register, and a distant absence of a fluid continuum, or musical line in many phrases all combined to make Ms Mitchell’s performance an unfortunately disappointing and uncomfortable tableau.

Conductor Aladair Mitchell admirably led the Symphony Orchestra through the unashamedly sweeping romanticism of Arnold Bax’s Tinker in the first selection of the evening. The Cornish coast is evocatively expressed in the passionate strains of this piece. Especially fine was the string section, which had a deep, warm character, while the horns tended to be played with a shade too much harshness for the flowing melodies. Similar to other romantic composers, Rachmaninov in particular, this work by Bax was a pure joy to hear as performed by the Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The programme’s second half featured Brahms’ Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Opus 98. One of the composer’s lesser-known symphonies, the orchestra smoothly moved through its heavy, dramatic melodies while creating a thoroughly enjoyable interpretation of the work. Charles Edde and Alastair Thompson, the oboe section, featured prominently in the first movement, due to their skillful execution and the lingering quality they brought to the work’s melodic line.

While a touch more polish would have been highly effective, the programme was very sound overall, and provided the audience with such a fine evening of beautiful music.

Jen Beer

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Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra’s performance resulted in a pot-pourri of highs and lows.

The programme’s second half featured Brahms’ Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Opus 98. One of the composer’s lesser-known symphonies, the orchestra smoothly moved through its heavy, dramatic melodies while creating a thoroughly enjoyable interpretation of the work. Charles Edde and Alastair Thompson, the oboe section, featured prominently in the first movement, due to their skillful execution and the lingering quality they brought to the work’s melodic line.

While a touch more polish would have been highly effective, the programme was very sound overall, and provided the audience with such a fine evening of beautiful music.

Jen Beer
Troubled Seas

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE
Kings Theatre
until 6 May

ALL of Edinburgh's bourgeoisie, it seemed, had trooped to Kings Theatre last Monday to watch one of those wholesome pieces of light entertainment and perennial favourite of the mid-die-choses — The Pirates of Penzance.

The plot is too innate to expend excessive numbers of brain cells describing. Suffice to say, it reads like a grown up fairy tale: a group of pirates (astonishingly enough, from Penzance) pursued daughters of a Major General into wedlock — all merely a vehicle on which to hang the finger-tapping, tongue-tripping songs by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Given the excellent production of Iolanthe produced by the same, newly-formed production last year, expectations were raised for the Pirates. Unfortunately, from Penzance (yet to be sooper) it was astonishingly unprofessional and shapeless. The acting was amusingly insipid; again the same old keys-tone cops (by now something of an institution in the history of British theatrics); yet again the same comic routines. What would Jonathan Miller have done with this operetta, as well as with his Mikado?

The notable exception in this season of mediocrity was Eric Roberts as the spritely Major General who pranced and frolicked with the energy of a spring lamb whilst all around him, scenery littered precariously and secret doors swung open unintentionally, making for, at times, an astoundingly unprofessional and scrawny production. It was all fodder for the brain — nice songs, shame about everything else. The work lacked originality, again the same old keys-tone cops (by now something of an institution in the history of British theatrics); yet again the same comic routines. What would Jonathan Miller have done with this operetta, as well as with his Mikado?

What really brings me to the fervent hope that the D'Oyly Carte's production of "The Mikado" (yet to be presented at the King's, at time of going to press) is a more polished and inspired performance.

Sung Khang
Chamberie

St Michael

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MARKS & SPENCER
NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET 4

Odeon
Dir: Renny Harlin
FREDDY: Krueger, payback is a bitch, and you're the archetypical boogeyman. With his demonic laugh and familiar outline silhouetted against a backdrop of haunted houses and nightmarish landscapes - he is scary.

Worse still, he is immortal, unbeatable and an imaginative anti-hero, capable of terrorising the world for as long as he wants to live. He is the ultimate nightmare character, capable of fulfilling the deepest, darkest desires of his victims, and he is all too willing to indulge those desires.

However, the special effects were rather good. It was typical "body horror" which played upon the audience's psychological fear of anything happening to their own bodies. The film was ruthless and graphic, depicting flesh eating victims and dismembring limbs. Realistic it was, but enjoyable it certainly wasn't.

Watch out for the humour, Bond and you miss it. Nevertheless, in the true tradition of good horror films, there was a smattering of one-liners. Actually the whole film might have been part of some hugely successful joke. The absurdity of the children's deaths continued until the last one, when it became apparent that the film was not finished. The final scene was a putting off hanging up his hat and glove, which, it could be argued, it is not.

Debra Winger and Tom Berenger feature in the forthcoming thriller Betrayed.

Vicki Ridley
President

FILM SOCIETY EGM

THE Edinburgh University Film Society is sad to announce that for financial reasons it has had to cancel the remaining film shows this term. The last film projected was A Bout de Souffle on Sunday April 30th. The reasons for this unpleasant situation will be discussed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society on 8th May 5pm to be held in the Pleasance Theatre at 6.45 pm.

However, this seems to be a good opportunity to make a brief outline of the difficulties that have been faced over the past year.

The processes of planning and budgeting for the Film Society are made a year in advance of the coming season. While precise forecasts of expected revenue in first term are not possible, it is possible to arrive at a pessimistic working budget on which one can reasonably base one's budget of expenditure. In fact in October '88 the Film Society did unexpectedly well in membership figures. However, despite this, the Film Society's planned Budget already implausible plot with an unbelievable romance between Winger and her prime suspect, Tom Berenger, a certifiable nutcase who instructs his sickeningly cute children in wholesome topics like anti-Semitism and gunplay.

To make matters worse, neither film has any time for the blacks themselves, who I can only assume, with the anachronistic eyesight of the showing, were rather good.

RACISM is the common denominator of two forthcoming releases, Alan Parker's Oscar-nominated Mississippi Burning and Costa-Gavras' Betrayed. Both films attack deep-rooted prejudices in the American heartland, questioning the perhaps dubious ideal of America as a Land of Hope and Opportunity for all.

Parker's film dramatises the real-life murder of Civil Rights workers at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan in the early sixties, and follows the turbulent investigation into their deaths headed by FBI Agents Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe. Betrayed has Debra Winger as a modern-day FBI Operative infiltrating a White Supremacist Movement intent on wiping out anyone who does not conform to their vision of genetic perfection.

Not surprisingly, both films have aroused fierce controversy from all sides, the main criticism being that they deliberately avoid the issues they raise. Parker pushes the Civil Rights Movement out of the limelight, concentrating on a backhanded buddy-buddy relationship between Hackman and Dafoe. Costa-Gavras saddles his

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The present year's committee has been aware of this situation and has striven to minimise its effects on this year's programme and to ensure that it does not harmfully affect plans for next year. In the end the Film Society has been forced to cancel the final and another half weeks of a twenty-six week programme. While this is a great pity, the cancellation of some extremely good movies I hope that Film Society members will not be too upset by these unavoidable changes. They have been kept to a bare minimum and at a time when attendances are traditionally low due to exam fever, sensible and responsible budgeting is not a mysterious art but a matter of careful planning and solid hard work.

Plans for next year, including a provisional programme, will be presented at the EGM. Large all Film Society Members to attend this Extraordinary General Meeting, announcing to Cambodians will be shown after the meeting.

Note: admissions to the EGM is for Film Society Members only, David Szabolovszky

Any Budding Barry Norman?
FILM SECTION MEETINGS
WEDNESDAYS 1.40 pm AT THE STUDENT OFFICES

Debra Winger and Tom Berenger feature in the forthcoming thriller Betrayed.
A

N article in Observer Scotland recently told of a pirate computer game now circulating in Glasgow called "Pakibash": the year is 2092 and the world has been "invaded by Pukis". The operators of the game, as "Ku Khus Jo", has to wipe them out.

Incredible to believe in this so-called enlightened day and age that we would think so, but such complacency is unfounded. Although Scotland has always considered racism an English disease, the Scottish Council for Racial Equality has figures which document racism and show that more than 80 per cent of blacks living in Scotland have suffered abuse.

The extent of the myth of a non-racist Scotland was shown in January when two Somali students were set upon by a group of whites in the Cowgate in Edinburgh. The attack left one student dead and the other hospitalised. This murder was not in fact the first of its kind in Edinburgh, last year an Asian shopkeeper was killed in Rodney Street.

Racist attacks and incidences of abuse are on the increase in Scotland, and black people face problems of isolation and discrimination, both individual and institutional. Last week's Independent student supplement carried a distressing piece about racism experienced by South African students here at Edinburgh University, and last year the Observer told a similar tale.

Not surprisingly action is being taken against such infringements of justice. The Lothian Black Forum was formed to that blacks could organise and campaign against racial abuse, and in a recent action the organisation said: "There comes a time when people say enough is enough, there has been a significant change within the black community — a tremendous feeling that something has to be done."

Racism is unhappily a structural feature of British society, created and maintained through a system of domination and subordination. It is a product, not only of ignorance or prejudice, but power, and is conditioned by the historical development of capitalism.

However, acknowledging the extent to which bigotry is embedded in our society is a vital step in beginning the fight against it, and Edinburgh University has started to do just that.

Indeed, from then I felt a strong need to apologise for the colour of my skin; I really did end up believing that I was to blame for the racial prejudice I endured. Not so much on the outside — I was ready to say when people were hostile, but internally I wanted to be on the right side of the whites. I would deliberately discard as friends the Asian students in my class, for fear of being seen as "one of them". But how do you hide the colour of your skin? It took me a long time to realise I couldn't, no matter how ridiculous it seems now. So great was my desire to be appreciated as Neeraj rather than "neeraj" that I began to search your own heart so these hurdles can be truly faced.

From that point on I was forced to accept that the pigmentation of that most external part of me, my skin, made me not only different, but inferior to my contemporaries, as if I carried the most awful blemish upon my person. I began to dream of the day when I could fly into lands of the sun and return with the most enlighened and refined skin." Ku Klux tan?"

Incredible to believe in this so-called enlightened day and age.

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But in other ways I consider myself to be lucky. I've got through, and emerged from the other side a stronger, confident individual, feeling positive about life and colours included.

What disturbs me is the realisation that these thoughts are not unique — many others grow up feeling far more inferior than I ever did. My sister used to cover herself in talcum powder — such was the yearning to change colour. And this year in 11-year-old cousin of mine confessed she couldn't face the prospect of going to India — she didn't want her skin to get darker — she has

enough problems as it is.

How ironic — when I think back to how others would not pass the test. The infuriating aspect was that I possessed all the necessary attributes to make a success of my life: I had worked hard to achieve some degree of honour in society, and therefore could not comprehend the tainted view that some folk might have of me. Born and bred in West London, I was a perfectly capable student: hard-worked and obedient to my superiors — almost a model pupil. I tried earnestly to get on with all those around me — I wanted to be happy in the world and desired the same entitlements as others. Yet I still looked out on the world and felt hostility towards me, first encountered at the tender age of 4.

In the school playground a classmate enquired of me: "Is that your colour skin or just a sun tan?" Confused and taken aback, a friend replied on my behalf: "Don't be stupid, of course it's a sun tan." A few weeks later when someone else asked me the same question, the same friend retorted: "Don't be stupid. Of course it's her real colour skin."

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Racism is unhappily a structural feature of British society, yet the tendency is to dismiss it as a problem which does not occur here in Edinburgh. However, a recent student murder has proved that it does. Above, Leti Volpp, Neeraj Malthora and Martha Braggins discuss racism in the city, whilst below, Neeraj Malthora tells of her experiences.

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Claire Short, Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood, is one of today's new breed of no-nonsense socialists. She is also no stranger to controversy. Her Private Member's Bill, proposing a ban on the tabloids' page three girls, managed to threaten the national's sexual prejudices and resulted in a chauvinistic Tory backlash. However, as Briony Seargant discovered, Ms Short remains unrepentant.

"The House of Commons is a very weird place. I don't think any normal human being ought to feel too at ease here. Part of me sometimes thinks what a mad job this is. I don't have any life of my own."

Claire Short escapes momentarily from discussing what she is very good at — PRACTICAL issues — to reflect on the never-never. But it is a fractionary diversion. You're just getting curious, and she's already returned to the political agenda. "As we're out of power in central government, at the moment it's really a question of trying to highlight the issues and to embarrass the government into taking action."

Claire Short, Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood, is part of the no-nonsense brand of diligentia that features so prominently in today's British socialism. More conscientious objector than political dynamo, you might have been forgiven for disregarding her as the usual left-wing package of defensive worthiness — you'd taken her in at all. It's certainly true that her time and conversation are submerged in political ideology: "One of the overwhelming issues that concerns women is the question of low pay, 40 per cent of workers in Britain are low paid. A third of them are women. Things are getting worse and worse with the government deregulating more and threatening to get rid of the water councils."

Short continues, reeling off the statistics and proving her point. But her political mission doesn't end with mere socialist platitudes. Her Private Member's Bill she introduced managed to threaten the most deeply embedded sexual prejudices of the nation by proposing a ban on the tabloid's page three girls. Despite the fact that the proposal failed to get through the Commons' motions, Short is optimistic about its overall effect towards a shift away from Britain's tin- and-arse stronghold.

"There's an enormous ongoing debate on the whole issue. I certainly wouldn't call it a censorship Bill. 84 per cent of British newspapers is owned by three men. It's about imposing some minimum standards of how women can be depicted in a press that isn't free. I've received more than ten thousand letters from women who've written to say they've hated these kind of meetings for years but never dared to tell anyone or object because people would say 'You're a prude.' Someone even wrote in to say that her husband brought porn into the house and made her act it out and that she wasn't going to do it anymore. So although we haven't changed the law, I think the debate has made lots of women feel much stronger. I actually think we've won the argument and that it's now a matter of time."

Was she surprised at the strength of opposition she received at the time? Ms Short is relatively philosophical. "Certainly there was a group of Tory MPs that responded in a dreadful and disgraceful way. Of course, it's never pleasant to be jeered and giggled at, to have crude remarks made about your body and so on, but the House of Commons can be quite a harsh, cruel place anyway, so there it was. Some of the press coverage the following day was of the same sneering kind but then I used to get literally hundreds of letters in any one day from people who were concerned about me, which massively outweighed any discomfort I felt on the day."

Claire Short obviously sees the Labour Party as the only genuine avenue for the expression of women's rights. She waxes lyrical about the party's controversial intention to set up a ministry for women. "We're committed to having a department in the centre of Whitehall where women's issues can be discussed and acted upon. There would also be regional consultation networks where women all over the country could push their agenda forward through to a powerful voice in Whitehall."

Her energetic approach towards improving the lot of Britain's 52 per cent is impressive, but please let's not pretend that Labour has welcomed the struggle for liberation with open arms. Those macho unions have rested on their chauvinistic laurels as much as their counterparts in the Tory Establishment.

Fortunately, Clare Short doesn't attempt to deny this. "I think there's no doubt that the style of the trade union movement up until the recent past has been very male — lots of men at meetings with their red ties rather than blue ties and lots of men on platforms telling everyone else what to do. But a major shift is taking place, partly because there has been an enormous growth in women's employment. There are now more women in trade unions demanding changes and demanding to be represented. There's no doubt that the old macho image still exists, but many of the big unions are now running campaigns to try and recruit more women. Things are definitely improving."

Short's candour is quite refreshing, veering miles away from the slick clichés that make up the new executive Labour image. Issues are pro-women and anti-Thatcher at all times for this politician. It appears that her arguments know no grey areas, even on the subject of Scottish independence:

"Well, the SNP talk about independence, but it's very much muddied in its social programme. What we all need is more control over the day-to-day affairs of our society — housing, social and cultural activities and so on. The world that we're going into will be breaking down international barriers, and I think it would be sad to see Scotland going off alone. It's really not a realistic scenario. I can understand the expression of anger in Scotland, but I think what Scotland needs as a nation is lots of self-government, just as we do in the regions."

"The West Midlands region has been devastated by the Thatcher years and we want more control over it. We're not a nation but we would want more regional government paralleling Scotland's greater self-government. But I think if we broke up into all these separate units, we'd all go down in isolation. The final decision is up to Scotland but the links between the two countries are so continuous and there is so much common as well as separate history. Personally, I think it would be very sad to break that link completely."

It's difficult to argue with such reasoned practicality. But this seems to be the essence of Clare Short, who, immersed with a barrel of hard-bitten realities more than Westminster rhetoric. As MP for one of the securest Labour seats in Britain, she may well have cause for self-satisfaction regarding her future. She admits that: "The only way I'd be thrown out would be if my local party decided they were fed up with me, but we all get on very well. So the most realistic scenario is that I'll carry on being an MP for the next 20 years or whenever I retire."

At the same time, she has committed herself so completely to opposing the hell out of the government; that any suggestions of complacency are laughable. "Because we've got this hostile government, the string of defeats we get in the Commons can be depressing."

The string of defeats we get in the Commons can be depressing. Part of me's just got a yearning to scurry off somewhere and be a more normal human being. You could go off and have a more enjoyable personal life. Part of me's just got a yearning to scurry off somewhere and be a more normal human being but then I might win something for my constituency, and it all seems worthwhile — I feel I have to continue."
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8pm-1am; Chambers St Union; 50p
Happy Hour 8-9 pm
Still necks. You can tell I'm lost for words but
writing this crap gets very box-ticking after two
years of writing and you can tell, can't you?

THE BLITZ
Evening; Teviot Row Debating Hall; Free? hurling
the cattle in.

THURSDAY 4th May
SHAG
11pm-3am; The Mission, Victoria Street £1.50.
A swellington, ellusive ilume of true love and
sensational... chart music, smoking and beer.

ROCK 'N' ROLL CLUB
10.30pm-4am; Shady Ladies, Cowgate; £1.50
50s, 60s, 70s. Numbers are so confusing.

ROCK NIGHT
5pm-1am; Chambers St Union; 50p

FRIDAY 5th MAY
THE ADVENTURES OF TIN-TIN
10pm-4am; the Mission, Victoria Street £2.
May your back always sway, Tin Tin.

THE BACCHUS
10pm-3am; Wilkie House, Cowgate; £2
Viva la casa.

THE RENAISSANCE
10pm-3am; Bermuda Triangle, Coasters.
West Tollcross, £1.50.
Obviously for intellectuals.

POTTERTON
8 pm-1 am; Student Centre.
Oh my... Scandal, scandal — it all started here
you know. Gosh dithes.

REGGAE CLUB
10.30pm-3am; Shady Ladies, Cowgate, £2.

SATURDAY 6 MAY
KANGAROO CLUB
10.30pm-4am; The Mission, Victoria Street £2
But will Jass Dunnovan make a guest appearance?
Ooh it's so exciting.

THE HOCH
10.30pm-4am; Coasters, West Tollcross, £2.50

ROCK CAFE
10.30pm-3am; The Venue, Calton Rd.

THE SOLOUR SYSTEM
10pm-3am; Shady Ladies, Cowgate £2.

OUTER LIMITS
10.30-4am; Coasters, West Tollcross £2.
Before 12pm; £2 after.
San Francisco.

MONDAY 8 MAY
COMSOC & AIESEC
SDS Filmhouse, the Pleasance 8 pm.

CHAPLAINCY CENTRE
Kings Buildings hunchtime talk. 6th level common
room UMB, 2.10 pm.

UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC ENTRANCE — what has gone
wrong? and the ever popular.
Prayers in Chaplaincy Centre Chapel 5.15 pm,
THURSDAY 5 MAY

DAN BLOCKER EXPERIENCE Negociants, Lothian Street, 225 6313 There's this really nice Norman who, if you have a table but no seats, will carry seats over for you. From another table — yuh! Haven't a clue what the band are like! downstairs, Free.

SCAN SOUL DISCO Venue, Calton Road, 557 3073 (f) admission.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Queen's Hall, Clerk St, 668 2013 Stravinsky, Beethoven and Mozart, 7.45 pm. Phone for details.

FRIDAY 6 MAY

IVORY KICK Negociants, Lothian Street, 225 6313 Ivory Kick, don't take the mick or else you will be sick! Downstairs. Free.

IVORY FRIDAYS MAY 1-26 £1 admission.

THE KITCHEN at Birgin Records Student concessions available.

BERY BERY, tb.--u· t~· t'ft~vent deligths of traditional Hungarian music in

QUEEN'S HALL, CLERK STREET, 668 2013

STUDENTS, £1 after 9 pm.

SUNDAY 7 MAY

INTENSE DEGREE Venue, Calton Road, 557 3073 Sounds a bit too academic for a relaxing night out. £2.

DEACON BLUE VICC, Glasgow Coach from Virgin Records, for all you Chocolate Girls out there.

JOHNNY SUNBEAM Preservation Hall, Victoria Street, 226 3816 Deja-vu? Free!

MONDAY 8 MAY

JOHNNY SUNBEAM Negociants, Lothian Street, 225 6313 — Beam me up Johnny! Oh no, that's Scotty isn't it? — I knew it was too good to be true that I'd actually think up something new to write.

BARRY BARKY, BIG GENERATION, HE BUSINESS Venue, Calton Road, 557 3073 — £1.50. Presented by The Bhythm 'n' Boogie. Free.

SWING SHIFT Preservation Hall, Victoria Street, 226 3816 Free.

TUESDAY 9 MAY

TEX FILL-Channel Street, 225 6313 Negociants, Tex, No, make it live. Downstairs. Mine's a

ROOTSIE TOOTSIDE BLUES BAND Preservation Hall, Victoria Street, 226 3816 rhythm 'n' Blues. Free.
NEWS

RAG WEEK

Young Tory Critical of NHS reform

by Zoe Pagnamenta

THE Chairman of the Scottish Young Conservatives, Mr Stephen Morrison, criticized the Government's handling of NHS reform at a meeting of EU Conservatives at Tavistock on Monday. Mr Morrison referred to Government Health Service policy as "administrative updating" rather than real reform. He called for a way of providing decent health care, then it should be a risk the Conservatives would have to take.

Mr Morrison concluded his talk not by talking about the NHS, but referring to the Student Union at London School of Economics (LSE) as "that den of socialist vice" saying "that's what comes from not having to pay for student insurance." His remark follows the election of Winston Silcott as Honorary President of LSE.

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