

FELIX

The Student Newspaper of Imperial College

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Kings Caught

BY ANDREW SMITH

Kings College students were involved in a reckless attack on Imperial College Union's (ICU) Traditional Bar last Saturday. Speculation continues that the raid was officially planned by members of the Kings College Students' Union.

In what has been described as a 'misguided mascotry retaliation', fourteen Kings students arrived in a minibus and entered the Traditional Bar via Da Vinci's, removing bottles of alcohol and a number of tankards. On finding the exit of the Traditional Bar locked, the attackers then broke the old oak doors in an attempt to make their escape.

The cost of the raid, which may eventually total as much as £2000, was incurred largely as a result of damage inflicted on the ancient doors. Several historical college tankards also need repair or replacement. Off-duty bar stewards and former IC students managed to apprehend four of the King's students; limiting further destruction and providing initial information about the incident.

Whilst a number of the students involved in the attack were in their first year at Kings,

it has been confirmed that the chairman of Kings' Student Representative Council (SRC) was one of the raiders. However, the Kings Students' Union President, Ghassan Karian, is now keen to describe mascotry as 'toss' despite displaying an interest in the activity earlier this year.

Ghassan, who following the withdrawal of Lucy Chothia is the leading candidate for University of London President, blamed IC for the attack. Speaking to *FELIX* he claimed that it was 'Imperial's fault', but later suggested that it was indirectly the fault of the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU). According to Mr Karian the event has its origin in the RCSU's taking of Kings' mascot, a stone lion called Reggie, last year.

He insisted that his Union was not involved, nor had they prior knowledge of the event. He also denied allegations that a Kings' minibus was used. Following the incident, which may damage his image in the Presidential race, the Kings' Sabbatical is now distancing himself from mascotry in general.

The ICU Executive Committee, meeting this Monday, will decide whether to press



Photo: Ivan Chen

charges immediately, or whether to delay a final decision. Lucy Chothia, ICU President, has made clear her preference that the people who organised the attack should take responsibility rather than, 'a few naive 1st

years'. The possibility of pressing charges is available because a security camera, erected after previous violent incidents, the minibus used in the raid and the offending students as they entered Beit Quad.

NUS Court Imperial Students

BY MICHAEL LUDLAM

Imperial College Union (ICU) may have moved a step closer to affiliation of the National Union of Students (NUS) this week. Representatives of the NUS spent the week talking to members of ICU Council in an attempt to persuade it of the benefits of joining the national union.

So far the NUS has offered an annual affiliation fee of £20,000, reduced from £40,000, to try to attract ICU. They have also guaranteed a saving of at least £11,000 on beer from the bulk buying group that the NUS operates, whilst further savings on shop items and spirits have

yet to be worked out. However, it is unclear how this will benefit those students using the Union bars as the price of beer served would not change. The £9000 shortfall from the affiliation fee would also have to be found from somewhere. Union sources suggest that clubs and societies' funding would be hit.

In justifying the extra £9000, the NUS have been keen to stress that it offers more than savings on alcohol. Speaking to *FELIX*, Steve Hay, NUS Treasurer said: "We offer a wide range of services, not just NUS services Ltd. [The company NUS operates with bulk buying powers]". They were also keen to

stress their political credentials and achievements in influencing government policy, though the NUS would continue to fight for student rights whether or not Imperial was a member. Other advantages of membership, say the NUS, would be free legal advice, available to the Union as well as individual NUS members. Although they would not pay for all court cases, "we support test cases that will improve the well being of students," said Sharon Hunter, Regional Worker for London.

If Imperial were to join the NUS it would have about six elected delegates to send to the National Conference, the NUS'

decision making body. At present there are a total of 900 delegates.

Critics of any affiliation plans see this as proof that Imperial would not have a particularly loud voice within the national body. There is also a certain amount of suspicion amongst students concerning the NUS' eagerness for Imperial to join. It has been suggested that it would be 'a feather in their cap' were ICU to say yes.

At present the process is still at a consultation stage but it is now clear that a referendum of IC students is very likely in the near future.

Merger Thwarted

BY ANDY SINHARAY

The creation of one of the largest medical schools in the country was thwarted last week as a bill to merge St Bartholemew's and the Royal London Hospital Medical Schools with Queen Mary and Westfield College (QMW) was defeated in the House of Commons.

The bill, blocked at the eleventh hour by Labour MPs lead by Bryan Sedgemoor, the Member of Parliament for Hackney and Shoreditch, could affect the already difficult merger of Barts with the Royal London and means that it is now unlikely to take place this year.

Mr Sedgemoor MP was concerned at the possible relocation of the medical schools in any merger. However, speaking to FELIX, David Jaynes, Academic Secretary at QMW said that re-siting of the colleges had not yet been considered. He added that current proposals would in fact have developed the Royal London's Whitechapel site.

Mr Jaynes did not seem surprised at the bill's failure. "We knew it would happen ... there have been doubts over the future of Barts and this arouses strong passions with an institution with such history," he

remarked.

Dr Julian Axe, college secretary at Barts, suggested that the issue had more to do with the future of the NHS in London being decided 'by MPs who believe that centralising is not the right option'. He felt that they were benefiting from working within the Tomlinson report of 1992, which recommended the merger of medical schools and the closure of hospitals in London. "There's a good synergy between London and Barts", he said. Merging would save money and would help to meet HM Treasury guidelines which recommend savings of 3% each year, over the next 3 years. Certain resources would have to be re-allocated to different areas, and in many cases staff positions would be created.

Representatives from the colleges are confident that the merger will go ahead anyway. QMW's principal, Prof. Graham Zellick, said: "We believe the bill will be passed and receive Royal Assent despite the blocking motion... detailed work continues and the three colleges remain firmly committed to the merger."

Julian Axe agreed: "It's just a question of when it's going to happen, rather than if ... and it could be something rather exciting."

And they're off!

BY ANDREW TSENG
NEWS EDITOR



The first event on the 1994/1995 sabbatical election timetable has arrived. Papers went up on Monday for the four posts: President, Deputy President (Finance & Services), Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and FELIX Editor & Print Unit Manager.

As we went to press, five candidates had declared themselves. The declared candidates are: for President: Kevin Ward, Physics; for Deputy President (F&S): Matthew Crompton, Geology and Annie Matthewman, Computing; for Deputy President (C&S): Maryam Yahyavi, Physics; for FELIX Editor and Print Unit Manager: Rachel Walters, Chemistry.

With one week remaining until papers come down, election speculation is still the focus of attention. Last week's academic affairs half day saw two Dep Reps, Sarah White of Geology and Miles Ambler of Chemistry, make speeches that some have seen as blatant electioneering. FELIX understands that Ms White is the reason behind the mass resignation of RSMU officials from the elections committee and she is therefore

likely to have strong RSMU support.

Rumours of Miles Ambler's candidacy have been surrounded by controversy. Mr Ambler only this week resigned from the elections committee, citing a conflict of interest. When randomly selected to be part of the committee and asked by Lucy Chothia, ICU President, whether he had a conflict of interest, Mr Ambler had originally denied that he was considering running for President.

Suggestions that Simon Govier, senior ICU steward and former FELIX business manager, intends to stand for Deputy President (F&S) have reached FELIX. When asked, Mr Govier gave a passionate but contradictory response. Paul Dias, the subject of much speculation, is also still at large.

Though five candidates have been declared, as we went to press only two of them, Rachel Walters and Maryam Yahyavi had been fully seconded. Ms Walters took less than a day to reach the required twenty seconders.

Papers come down next Friday, after which those standing will have to persuade the Imperial community that they should be given a sabbatical post when voting takes place on 6th and 7th of March.



Photo: Joe Silmon-Clyde

Once again Imperial College Dance Team met with success at the annual 'Sheffield Social', writes Michael Ludlam. They won many of the prizes, including the Knockout Trophy and the Team dances, continuing their domination of the event over the past few years.

News In Brief

BY ANDREW SMITH AND
RACHEL WALTERS

New Chairman for IC

The Governing Body of Imperial College is now officially looking for a new Chairman to succeed the Rt. Hon. Sir Frank Cooper, the present incumbent. A Search Committee, taking its membership from the Governing Body, has been created to form a short-list of possible candidates for the unpaid post.

The Rector and two academic staff members, Professors Julia Higgins and Lester Kerschenbaum, are among the seven member panel given the difficult task. Sir Frank has agreed to stay on as Chairman, presuming the Privy Council give their necessary assent, until a successor is found. He has however made it quite clear that he wishes to retire in the near future having celebrated his 72nd birthday two months ago.

While a candidate has not

been found for this highly taxing post up until now, it is hoped that a recommendation will be made to the Governing Body by the end of this academic year.

IC Reporter to Report

With an initial print run of 5,000 copies, the latest attempt to produce a regular Imperial College staff newspaper hits the stands this Tuesday. 'IC Reporter' as it will be known, will replace the now defunct newspaper 'Network', whose increasingly sporadic output finally ceased last March.

With the Press and Public Relations Officer, Vicky Browning at the helm as editor, and correspondents in every department, its four broadsheet pages is sure to be eagerly awaited by all Imperial College staff, who will each be given their very own copy.

The Rector of Imperial College, Professor Sir Ronald Oxburgh, is known to have been concerned at the lack of a staff

newspaper for some time and so the year long wait for this new publication is therefore somewhat surprising. The Rector wished the college funded paper the 'best of luck' and emphasised that college required such a bulletin to inform staff of college developments.

FELIX readers will be happy to know that Sir Ronald does not think that 'IC Reporter' will threaten FELIX's position but rather will 'complement' it with factual articles.

Half-Hearted Day

Ian Caldwell, Director of Estates, came in for close questioning during last week's Academic Affairs half day.

During a lengthy afternoon session, much discussion centred on the price of bread. Apparently Southside Shop prices are presently of great concern to students.

Mr Caldwell was also pressured over the shortage of college accommodation, parti-

cularly considering the influx of students the medical school merger will bring. He was asked to justify the length of time taken to replace the fire alarms in Linstead Hall which are still not fully operational – over a year after the installation was started. The need for the system was demonstrated last Friday when a small fire started after a student left a candle burning in her room.

Matthew Szyndel, Academic Affairs Officer for the RCSU and chief coordinator of the proceedings said he was 'relatively happy' with the proceedings. He said that the opportunity students had to question key college staff made the event worthwhile. "It's the people you've got there listening to the response that makes the difference."

Miss Lucy Chothia, ICU President, also agreed saying: "Communication between staff and the student body is really poor at the moment."

editorial

A Poor Start?

It's typical. The Valentine's issue comes along and my column shrinks to nothing...

Between the covers

We've tried to go for a romantic *feel* this week but hopefully we haven't totally swamped you with unwelcome attention – the Cat & Mouse may sharpen your taste a little for our regular opinion spot and those wishing to consult their horoscopes to find love (or avoid sappy media promotions) can check out Samantha's article on page seven.

On the love front, Kamran provides a solid slant on a subject given a lot of lip service. The centre pages hold his feature on mixed relationships in their grasp. Meanwhile, those masters of lips and fast talk, S-files, assume their role as pop-tarts to ask a few vaguely relevant questions and our new ace, Jeremy Thomson, gets off the blocks with a look at the Valentine myth. Cat's Tale

provides fiction for those who need it.

Basically I've been far too verbose recently so I'm going to sign off here and go home. Happy Loving Imperial College.

Oh, and get well soon Mark.

Credits

Editor	Owain Bennallack
Printer	Andy Thompson
Business Manager	Tim Bavister
Advertising Manager	Helen Randall

Editorial Team

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Cinema	Wei Lee
Clubs, Societies & Union	Piers Daniell
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Features	Kate Cox
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Music	Vik Bansal
News	Andrew Tseng & Rachel Walters
Photography	Ivan Chan & Diana Harrison
Puzzles	Tim St Clare
S-Files	The Team
Seven Day Guide	Jeremy Thomson
Sport	Juliette Decock and Mark Baker
Standby	Jon Jordan
Theatre	Joseph Barr

Editorial Assistance

Collating Last Week	Jon Jordan, Paul Dias, Rachel Walters
Helpfulness	Simon G., Tim & Tim, Rebecca

STOIC

Schedule week ending 17/2/95

What's the big idea then? Keith finally admits his true feelings to Darleen, but is it too late to save bouncer?

GBH Ex-STOIC chair-makes-film-for-tele ahoy

STOIC Shorts Honest, some new ones are being made

Elections '95 Continual coverage of the run-up to the 1995 iCU sabbatical elections (desperately needs people to help)

THIS WEEK ON STOIC:

THE STOIC DAY

12.00 WTBIT 30/31
12.30 Flicks II - The Film
Guide
12.50 Elections '95

THE STOIC NIGHT

18.00 Malasian Nite '95
(Part II)
(Hamlet I next week)

At other times of the day, STOIC will show the One O'clock News, Neighbours, Star Trek, TNG Mtv etc.... and will show 'The Muppet Show' to the JCR at lunchtimes if paid well enough.

All times subject to alteration without notice. Do not boil wash. Consult physician if symptoms persist. Contents are sold by weight not volume. This does not affect your statutory rights.

Any ideas? 3rd floor of the Union Building and left, or you can contact us at any time, on (0171 59)4 8104 or email stoic@ic, or via.

<http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/Pubboard/stoic/stoic.html>

Coming Up Next Week On STOIC:

Shrink - The interviews (the hattrick payroll in STOIC)

STOIC is The Student Television Of Imperial College

Cat & mouse

Private Lee Clegg, member of the Parachute Regiment, was part of a patrol which shot and killed the driver and backseat passenger of a car which sped past them as they patrolled a West Belfast street. He was convicted of the murder of Karen Reilly, a Belfast teenager, and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The public continues to be assaulted by press articles protesting at Private Clegg's continued detention in Wakefield prison. The *Mail* in particular has embarked upon a fairly blatant smear campaign

against Karen Reilly's family. The public's response has been amazing; the newspaper has already collected one million signatures calling for Clegg's immediate release.

What really happened on that night will never be clear. Arguments still rage as to whether the group of sixteen soldiers and a token police officer were ever

"Blatant smear campaign"

informed that they were to operate against joyriders. The trial was told that the soldiers were explicitly sent out to 'catch' joyriders. Clegg's supporters insist that they were never told this, and that the patrol were even warned to be extra vigilant against terrorists that night.

The *Mail* and *Telegraph* have glossed over the fact that the speeding car did not go

through an official checkpoint, the one they had originally set up having been disbanded earlier. The group of squaddies and sole RUC officer were walking along the road, guns at the ready, in what is known as a moving checkpoint. This is, in effect, simply a term that allows the patrol to stop passing vehicles.

There is no doubt that the patrol clearly realised that they had committed an unlawful killing, in that after the shooting they conspired to pervert the course of justice by claiming that the car had in fact hit one of the soldiers. The members of the patrol testified that Private Chris Aindow had been hit by the Astra, and so attempted to prove that they were in danger, even when the car was speeding away.

This testimony was not seriously questioned until the RUC officer belatedly, but with considerable courage, admitted that the car had never struck anyone. In an eleven-page statement to the court that convicted Private Clegg, the officer acknowledged that the patrol was never in any danger and that Private Aindow had allowed his leg to be beaten in an attempt to justify the killings.

Whether they knew they were operating against joyriders, or whether they really tried to stop the car legally does not matter. This act of injuring one member's leg proves that the whole group knew that they would never be able to defend what they had done as being operationally or legally acceptable.

Andrew Smith

My image of the paras is a product of those hard-nosed BBC2 documentaries that show a punishing regime of frightening peer pressure, and quite incredible brutality. I know nothing about the logic behind training, which includes sleep deprivation, laden 20-km runs, and the public humiliation and punishment of those who can't keep up. But the discipline and single-mindedness they exemplify seems to be the stuff that produced the fighting we were so proud of in the Falklands and Gulf Wars.

Private Lee Clegg shot an 18-year-old British girl in the back, in a deprived area of one of our largest cities. The incongruity of men trained for modern combat dealing with joyriding, a problem so symptomatic of

inner-city hardship, is quite overwhelming. In their barracks, the patrol constructed a celebratory model of the car they shot 36 bullets at. A notice read: "Vauxhall Astra. Built by robots. Driven by joyriders. Stopped by 'A' company".

But not only does this issue raise questions about the role of the army in the Province, it emphasises the very real need for a change in the law.

At present a soldier can be charged with murder, but not manslaughter.

The establishment seems to be reluctant to change this for fear it would become too easy for soldiers to be charged in the future. We have a situation where

Clegg's dreadful, but nonetheless unpremeditated, crime is classified in the same terms as the horrors perpetrated by Frederick West. The Court of Appeal and the House of Lords both said that the system would be a much fairer if the defendant could be

"Built by robots. Driven by joyriders. Stopped by 'A' company"

charged with the lesser crime of manslaughter, rather than murder.

Soldiers have been responsible for 300 killings in Ulster, ranging from armed members of the IRA to civilians and children. After the one other successful conviction for murder, Pte Ian Thaine was quietly released after serving less than three years. Normally, prisoners given life imprison-

ment have their cases reviewed after 10 years, and sentences served have usually been in the range of 12-17 years. There was an outcry last month when the Irish Republic released five IRA prisoners, despite the fact that the most serious offence was for the possession of firearms, and that all five had served most of their sentences.

One of the biggest complaints of the nationalists of Ulster is the lack of accountability of the security services who serve there. They use it as an excuse to perpetuate the bigotry and intolerance that inflict the province. We cannot possibly get any further with the peace process so long as such blatant inconsistencies in our system of justice remain.

Rachel Walters

Could you be an ICU Sabbatical?

To stand for a position in the forthcoming elections, simply sign up at the Union Noticeboard opposite the Union Office. You should talk to the current holder of the post to find out what the job entails.

Papers come down on the 17th February.

Also, if you want to run the campaign for New Election, come to ICU Council on the 13th February, in the Union Lounge.

I promised to be nice this time, and they let me try again...

Edited this week by Tim St.Clair

Burning Rubber

Dear Editor,
The installation of condom machines in Sheffield Building is a welcome move. However, "safe sex in the JCR" has been a possibility for several years. Since 1991 condoms have been available free from Imperial College Health Centre. This service has been advertised several times in FELIX and is described under the Health Centre entry in the Fresher's Handbook. The condoms can be obtained either by asking at the Health Centre Reception Desk or consulting one of the doctors or nurses. We also offer advice on all matters of sexual health.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Irene Weinreb
Imperial College Health Centre

Any comment I made here would be regarded as either (a) crude, (b) unnecessary, or (c) both.

On the Record

Dear Owain,
The "record turnout" to see Tony Benn (actually Labour's first event) that you reported in your last issue is entirely unsurprising. The curiosity of those attending is nothing more than a reflection of the irrelevance of his eccentric views to mainstream political debate. The severity of his criticism of the Labour Party must surely indicate that the event wasn't as great a success for the Labour Society as some might think.

The Conservative Society have in contrast invited six important M.P.s before David Hunt, all of whom have some real impact on the political process. Mr. Hunt was warmly greeted by those present and the comments in the questions round were all intelligent and constructive. It is certainly true that many of our members are concerned about the future of our democracy in a federal Europe, but I make no apologies for that. Labour in contrast are prisoners of the trade unions (that's Clause II, Mr. Blair) who see the expansion of the European Commission as an expedient albeit undemocratic way of achieving the reversal of the employment law reforms of the last sixteen years.

The Chancellor has himself acknowledged the unpopularity of the recent but necessary tax increases so it is misinformed to report David Hunt's echo of that as

a "veiled attack" on his colleague. Nor did he once mention that tax cuts might be necessary to win the next election. In summary, our party is still very active here and even if you don't agree with us on many issues, I invite you to take opportunities such as these events to address your concerns directly to people with real influence. Teresa Gorman, Lord Archer and Stephen Dorrell will be visiting over the next few weeks (see our posters) and Michael Portillo himself will be coming next term.

Ian Bayley
Conservative Society Chairman

I don't know about the rest of you, but I very quickly get bored with uncalled-for one-upmanship. How many ConSoc members went to hear Tony Benn? Come to that, how many LabSoc members went to David Hunt's presentation? The only way things will improve is by an objective exchange of ideas....

A Delicate Constitution

Dear Sir,
Last week's (Issue 1018 - Ed) article on the British 'Constitutional Crisis' deserves some kind of response in order to ensure that such blinkered, fatigued conservatism (small 'c') does not go unchallenged.

So the British citizen has lived a life as free as any other during modern times. In a society whose lack of accountable political institutions allows the political trend of the day to steamroller society into meekly accepting the implementation of whatever ideology serves their particular interest group best (the erosion of the fundamentals of our social structure and the rights of the individual, and the descent of the economy into an investment-starved grapple for short-term profit during the last decade is, depressingly, proof enough). In a society where any call for true democratic representation is sounded out by traditionalistic sentiments for an over-centralised, anachronistic system based largely on the accumulated prejudices and predilections of past centuries. In a symbolic head represents the last vulgar remnants of our feudal history, which we have not the courage to question for fear of denting our fragile sense of national identity, preferring to live in a Monarchist Britain Theme Park rather than facing up to the reality of the needs of our society and its

place in the world today.

"A freak show may be diverting to watch, but it is no place to live."

Craig Davies
Biology UG II

Umm... yes. Hang on while I get my dictionary, and try to untangle your sentences. Your points are well-made, if a trifle long-winded, and in principle I agree with you. I'm not sure about the decentralisation thing, but I expect someone will write in to explain it all to me.

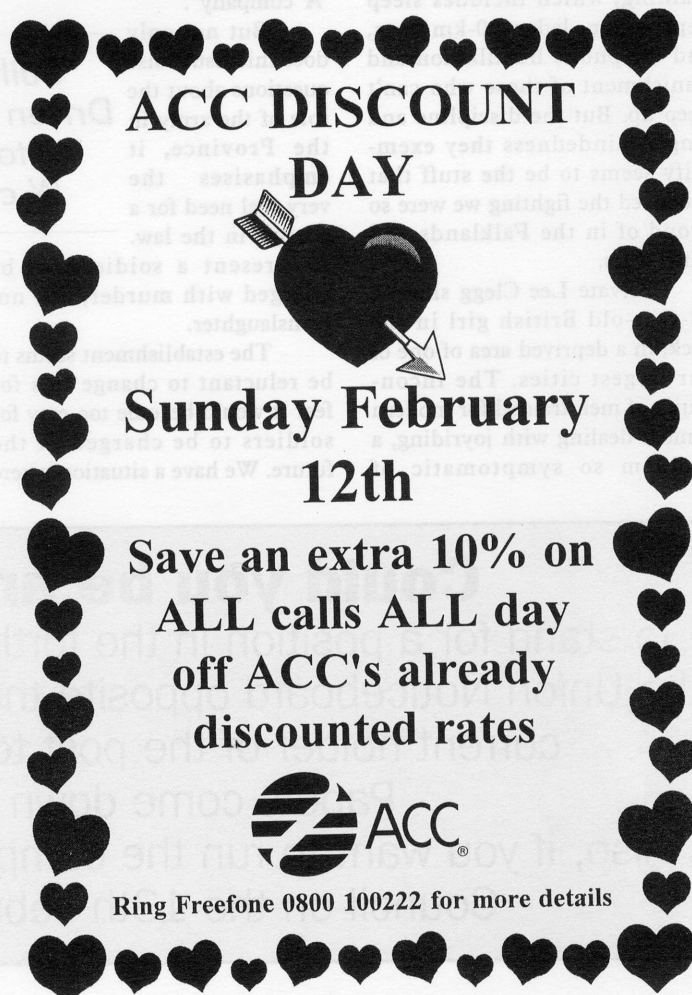
London Lives

Dear Owain,
I never thought I'd be writing to you in support of anyone's opinion, but after reading Kaizen's Cat&Mouse article about Imperial College Students' social lives, I decided that I should. Before coming to college, I had a huge decision to make - UCL or Imperial? A lot of people told me about the apathetic life especially at IC halls, so I figured that if I stayed in an intercollegiate hall, I can experience London and still get an excellent education. 'Till now it has been working fine. However, I

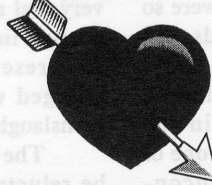
felt very bad when people on my corridor did not believe I went to IC for the first two weeks of me being here. I get looked at weirdly when I say that I go to IC in a trance or rock/indie club. Some people on my course haven't even heard of some of the most popular clubs in London, get totally stunned when I say I've been on a pubcrawl on a weekday (in my first term!). Maybe it's the type of people they are, since hard work and an awkward male:female ratio do not necessarily cause people to become like that. I may also have to be more considerate, but to many of them, my attitude is still GET WITH THE PROGRAM

A normal (I hope!)
City & Guilds 1st Year

I know exactly what you mean. When I venture beyond Hyde Park, (which, admittedly, happens only rarely) to see friends at other Colleges, I find myself apologising as I tell their friends where I study. As for the lack bemoaned by Kaizen, of cultivation of interest in art and literature at IC, I have recently started reading Shakespeare (only 99p a classic at a certain Cromwell Rd superstore!). It's not much, but it's a start....




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Signs and Wonders

Astronomers say there are now thirteen star signs. Unlucky for some?

Samantha Nagaitis reports...

"The **R**am, the **B**ull, the **S**ea-**V**enly **T**wins,
And next the **C**rab, the **L**ion **S**hines,
The **V**irgin and the **S**cales,
The **S**corpion, **A**rcher and **S**ea-**G**oat,
The **M**an that bears the **W**ater-**N**ot,
The **F**ish with **G**littering tails."

This is an ancient verse listing the twelve signs of the zodiac. The zodiac, a word derived from the Greek *zōdiakos*, meaning '(a circle) of animals', is used to predict your future, depending upon which sign you were 'born under'.

Love them or loathe them, these predictions, or *horoscopes*, are a large part of today's culture... and are about to undergo a radical change. Recent discoveries suggest that the star sign you once thought you were is no longer valid. A complete shift in the zodiac could mean that your true personality now follows the traits of the preceding star sign. For instance, if your birthday is on 30th March, instead of being a fiery, passionate Aries, you are actually a dreamy Pisces.

For many people this could be alarming. You may have been following the wrong advice – a bit of a problem if you have been quitting jobs, dumping partners and so on, happy in the knowledge that this temporary misery will eventually lead to a fulfilling and exciting future – it won't. So now you're thinking of throwing in the towel... better consult your horoscope... but which one?

Of course this could be enlightening. If your star sign predicts you to be introverted, hard-working and boring but you find it hard to fit into this model, it could well be that your new star sign says you are the vivacious, drop-dead gorgeous lurve-god you always knew you were!

So why the change? Well, astronomers claim there is a thirteenth sign, previously omitted from the original zodiac. The zodiac was drawn up by the Egyptians, who used it as a time-measuring device rather than a means by which to spot partners and pitfalls. It works by following the path of the sun through, initially, twelve constellations of stars. The days of the year were divided up

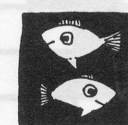
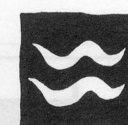
equally into twelve, on the assumption that the sun stays in each constellation for the same length of time. No-one ever questioned this because the stars come out at night, when we cannot see the sun.

According to the Royal Astronomical Society, the sun passes through a previously undetected thirteenth constellation, which leads us to this thirteenth sign of the zodiac – Ophiuchus – named after Asclepius, the Greek God of healing. This sign is inserted between Scorpio and Sagittarius in the original zodiac, so if you were born between November 30th and December 17th, you now have a star sign of your own – Ophiuchus. This results in a general shift and shortening of the other star signs. However, this isn't the only way in which the new zodiac will differ from the traditional one. The International Astronomical Union suggests that the year should not be divided up equally. Instead, the signs should be assigned different numbers of days according to the different sizes of the constellations.

The result of all this change is that the zodiac is now completely different, and very few people will keep their original star sign. But how do we, the horoscope-reading public, respond to such changes? The general consensus of people I've spoken to is, why change it? Many people feel that the personality predicted by their star sign is an accurate description of their true personality. Or is it that we change to live up to our star sign? And what about all the mugs, tea towels, T-shirts, books and personalised horoscopes that we've invested good money in?

In my opinion, changing the zodiac is useless. Although I enjoy reading about my fate as an Aquarius (especially when I found a book that spent an entire page telling me how gorgeously attractive I was!), I don't place too much emphasis on what it tells me.

We all know, deep down, that it's just a bit of fun. If horoscopes were true, it would imply that one-twelfth of the population will all have similar events



happen to them each day. You have to agree that's a ridiculous notion. And horoscopes are so often wrong. I've lost count of the number of times I've spent days waiting for 'the big romance of the year' or 'a large wind-fall of money'. In fact the horoscopes are wrong as many times as they are right – and this would still be true for my new sign.

My mother has an amazing talent for reading things into horoscopes that no-one else can. For example, if she read that 'Today you will suffer the consequences of something you did yesterday that you suspected to be wrong', my mum would probably say "Oh dear, I suspected that milk I drank yesterday could have been off... I'll be ill today then... better take the day off work." Milk? I would have expected it to mean illicit affairs or mild criminal action, not mouldy milk!

But back to the issue. I really feel astronomers should leave the zodiac alone. Of course, this has absolutely nothing to do with me reading up about Capricorn (the star sign that the new zodiac would make me) and deciding that I prefer the sound of Aquarius! Horoscopes are just a bit of fun, and astronomers should lighten up, get a life and keep their noses out of astrology.

Incidentally, my horoscope for this year says my love life will take a turn for the better, my career prospects will drastically improve, and I will pass my end of year exams – I have to believe this... horoscopes don't fail me now! **F**

The essential guide to the new signs

Star sign	Old dates	New dates
Aries	21 March–20 April	19 April–13 May
Taurus	21 April–21 May	14 May–20 June
Gemini	22 May–21 June	21 June–19 July
Cancer	22 June–23 July	20 July–9 Aug
Leo	24 July–23 Aug	10 Aug–15 Sept
Virgo	24 Aug–23 Sept	16 Sept–30 Oct
Libra	24 Sept–23 Oct	31 Oct–22 Nov
Scorpio	24 Oct–22 Nov	23 Nov–29 Nov
Ophiuchus	–	30 Nov–17 Dec
Sagittarius	23 Nov–22 Dec	18 Dec–18 Jan
Capricorn	23 Dec–20 Jan	19 Jan–15 Feb
Aquarius	21 Jan–19 Feb	16 Feb–11 Mar
Pisces	20 Feb–20 Mar	12 Mar–18 April



POLITICAL SCIENCE

Last term FELIX ran a news story about Manor Askenazi's campaign for 24 hour access to the Department of Computing labs. I would think that students, both undergraduate and research, would largely be in favour of it. And there are arguments that can be made, as long as one treats students as grown-up, rational beings, that access should not be restricted to the so-called normal working day.

Manor's campaign should only be seen as a seed, and should be taken up to open access to College totally. Why should only the Computing labs be open 24 hours a day? Open all the laboratories, the libraries, the shops, the bars, the restaurants. Let members of College access and use them when they want. The argument for the whole accessibility debate stems from this simple fact: students are adults (they pay rents, take out loans, have bank accounts, etc). If they want to ruin their lives by spending 24 hours drinking then let them. If they want to ruin their health by spending 24 hours in front of a terminal, then who is College to act as moral nanny? There are practical considerations to full accessibility, but these do not

discount the basic libertarian argument.

The whole issue is just an example of College being run by well behaved engineers: "A normal working day is between the hours of 9 and 5, why would anyone want to work at night instead?" Unfortunately, the 24-hour access campaign may fizzle out because Departments are largely populated by well behaved engineers: "It doesn't really effect me, why should I care?" The idea of doing something, anything, differently is alien. Why do you want to take this route, when everyone else takes that one and has always taken it, is the bewildered question.

The irony of the whole thing is that science is sold as a liberator; something which allows one to move ahead with new concepts. The argument of the science educators, "why do you want it like this, when it's always been done like that?", sounds like Middle England on Nick Ross. I originally started off by thinking that orthodoxy was a scheme, a dogma. But it's not: it's just escapism. "Yes, yes, it really will be alright once we all get back to those days of aunts cycling down the church lane in the afternoon sun."

Samin

Gatecrash

Guest columnists respond to Samin's recent accusations ...

Organised Piffle:

T.H.Huxley described science as "organised common sense". In the same vein, Bertrand Russell described philosophy as "organised piffle". Doubtless in order to exemplify this profound aphorism, Russell devised the parable of the 'inductivist turkey'. On the very first morning of the day that it was hatched, a young turkey noticed that the farmer brought him and his siblings food at 9:00 am. The same thing happened on the second day, the third day and so on, until one day the turkey induced that "We will always be fed at 9:00 am.". Sadly on that very same day, he had his throat cut, for it was Christmas.

Russell created this parable in order to discredit inductive logic. For the same reason this parable was adopted by Popper, and by all others who want to discredit the general validity of the scientific truth, objectivity and method. The parable was most recently repeated by Samin in FELIX (1018). Note that all these people failed to see that against induction they all the time argued inductively! But let this pass.

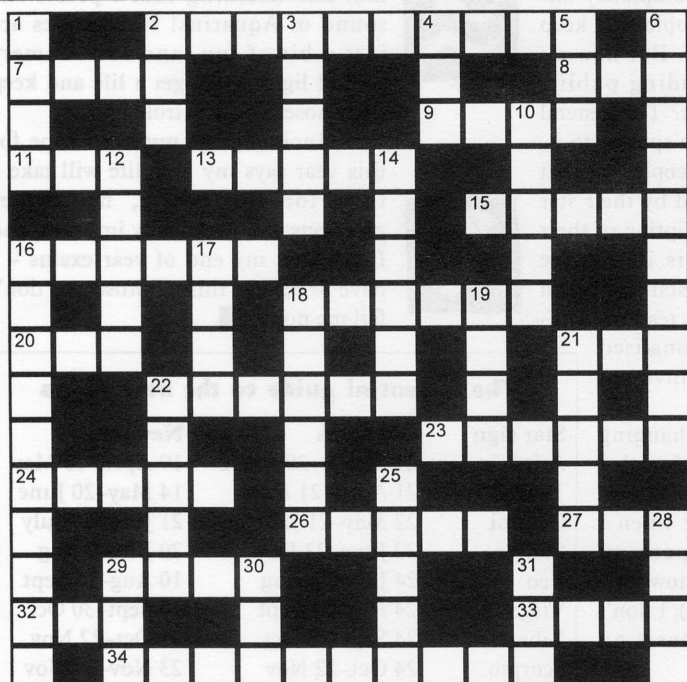
However, how sound is the 'logic' of the 'inductivist turkey'? Is it in the same class as the logic employed by Galileo, Newton, and Huxley? Is it as valid as the logic routinely used by surgeons performing successful operations, or by engineers who build real, successful aircraft?

Anyhow, even the likes of Russell and Popper, when it really mattered, abided by all inductive laws that needed obeying in order to stay alive: they never cut across the path of speeding trucks; they never jumped unprotected from great heights; and so on. Both Russell and Popper lived well into their nineties.

It may even be significant that in the parable, Russell had a turkey to serve as his spokesperson. We suspect that Russell's subconsciousness somehow played a role here. What it seems is that Russell's subconscious mind is crying out to tell us this: "I, Bertrand Russell, have the brain of a bird!".

We trust that there are many people in Imperial College who have developed cognitive faculties on a higher evolutionary plane than those of a bird, and who also have the wit to use them.

Theocharis Mookherjee Saridakis



Solution to last week's Crossword:

Across: 1. Abides, 9. Wristwatch, 10. Mirror, 11. Capybara, 12. Isoprene, 13. Adrift, 15. Worship, 17. Descant, 20. Images, 22. Twenties, 24. Surefire, 25. Arcane, 26. Convalesce, 27. Ribald. **Down:** 2. Brainstorm, 3. Decrypt, 4. Swerve, 5. Filched, 6. Stoppage, 7. Camber, 8. Thwart, 14. Fingernail, 16. Instills, 18. Catacomb, 19. Atheist, 20. Insect, 21. Greave, 23. Eraser.

Crossword by Nyami Nyami

Across:

2. Travellers gasp and sneer, confounded by first society (10)
7. Paste a lost father munched (4)
8. Period is broken-down for third person (3)
9. Grave man receives second letter (4)
11. Time for love and Spanish model (3)
13. Old king and his donkey go up in smoke? (5)
15. Time to yearn for spectacle (5)
16. Must hide on an air cushion, we hear (3,3)
18. See water above zero (6)
20. Lightweight and endlessly strange idol (3)
21. Knock out one fish (3)
22. Rodent in messy play-area finds hole (6)
23. Not off to look after cord (6)
24. Stiff, mixed-up young lady loses, say, the Spanish identification (5)
26. A missing star and the French back tale (5)
27. Remove a supporter for pen (3)
29. Beverage with crude work (4)
32. Mature as leave small change off leaf (3)
33. South Africa begins illegal cruise (4)
34. Foreigners take up bad tax and are cause of hostilities (10)

Down:

1. Blemish at start of security personnel's overtime tax (4)
2. In every salesman's back (3)
3. Side's reorganised vapour (5)
4. Forget the end of catch (3)
5. Chief is back, but not all there - makes you cry! (3)
6. Given persuasion from top tent, I am mixed up (10)
10. Crop I lost is puzzling (5)
12. At the end of the story, told untruth accidentally and gives up (5)
14. Kind queen is resolver (6)
16. Chart of light royal crown reveals turtle (10)
17. Rove about for all 6 balls (4)
18. State of brown-backed charger! (6)
19. Be gone from centre of award to company - move! (4)
21. Honour, initially from killing upstarts and backward rude man (5)
22. Two Greek characters heard in city (5)
25. Shown openly round Parisian green (5)
28. Spoken German agreement to the Franco-US university (4)
29. Time for each brew (3)
30. Relax and tell fib (3)
31. Donkey's backside is heard! (3)

A Valentine's Day Tale

by Samin Ishtiaq

It was a couple of days before Valentine's, and Nils, Paul and I were sitting in some god-forsaken pub in South Wimbledon. I blame Nils entirely for ending up here. Fulham is fine by me. Its pubs may be yuppyish (can I say that word in the caring, sharing 90s?) but it does have places like the Slug, where women in tight white jeans make eyes at you. Anyway, we were in this pub and talking lads' talk. This usually involves football, beer, and remembrances of drunken exploits in faraway places. At this time of the year it also involves women. But it's depressing to talk about Nils' women: his prospects are

dogs you have when you're a kid: the more you kick it the more it comes back. In disgust at its lack of self-esteem you would try to ignore it, but the bully in you wouldn't let you do that.

Besides these characteristics, Akshat was also a test-bed for Nils' Theory of Bullying. This ran as follows: if someone is weak then you should bully him, as this prepares him for the real world. In the spirit of true Inductivism, Nils had tried to establish his theory by bullying his younger brother – until he became bigger than Nils. As Akshat had reached the stage where he wouldn't grow any

more, we all thought that we were safe from this 'Mr Atlas' effect that would arise in experiments.

As soon as Ann's management course started we started to tease Akshat about Ann, saying that he had a thing about her. Of course, he didn't. In fact, it really was only possible to

fancy Ann after half a dozen pints of Santa Claus. Late in January Paul came up with a new tease. He said to Akshat that he would send a Valentine's card to Ann signed with Akshat's name. It was no surprise that Akshat took this threat very seriously, as Paul had upset a mutual friend by actually performing this action a couple of years back.

I suppose we could claim a first in Nils' Theory. Akshat was pushed, and proceeded to take a course of action that was devious and underhand. We had created a monster: Akshat was like the chartered accountant in *Shallow Grave*. Akshat's plan was to break into Ann's office on the eve of Valentine's Day and steal the card. He armed himself with gadgets to pick locks, gloves to disguise his fingerprints, dark clothes to blend in with the bleak academic surroundings, and an accurate underwater stop watch to time himself.

Paul didn't actually do anything about the card. (This wasn't the first time: his plans for dieting and exercise lie equally incomplete). But

Akshat, reading more into our gestures than was there, undertook his plan. On February the 13th, 1994, at precisely 23.15, with a prayer to all the gods that he could think of, Akshat broke into Ann's office. And at precisely 23.17, the new, lean n' mean, privatised security service caught their first intruder of the year. (They had to be sharp, you see, as performance indicators for this year determined their budget next year. Who says Thatcherism doesn't work?)

Events took a swift and rather cruel turn after that. I don't know the details, but Akshat apparently dug his own grave. He piled in a couple of lies that contradicted each other when led to their logical conclusion. For the sake of decency we three tried to intervene, but it was really all over by then. In a way Akshat got away lightly. He was allowed to stay on 'till the end of the year and take his exams. But his chances of getting a good reference were lost.

Akshat had originally wanted to go to some college in Massachusetts – I forget the name. After the incident he kept up the pretence that he was doing GREs and whatever else it is that Americans do to get into 'graduate school'. He said to everyone that there was no problem getting into this college; that all they wanted was a 2:2. Most of our class just went "yeah, yeah" and passed by. The end of the year came and Akshat disappeared. We never did expect to get any e-mail from 'akshat@mass.edu', so were not surprised when nothing appeared.

Ann still teaches the management course. Apparently, she wasn't even aware of the whole story, just that somebody had tried to break into her office.



There's a moral to this whole tale, but I don't know what it is. I originally thought the story was the funny side to Valentine's Day. But maybe it isn't that funny. ("Comedy + Time = Tragedy" wrote Woody Allen, for *Manhattan* I think.) Useful idiots abound (Akshat, Richard Gott) and it's fun to play tricks on them. But when it comes to the end...

He armed himself with gadgets to pick locks, gloves to disguise his fingerprints, dark clothes to blend in with the bleak academic surroundings, and an accurate underwater stop watch to time himself.

always dark. (To be a Norwegian sounds unfortunate; to be an Imperial graduate on top of that begins to sound like carelessness.) "So, are you going to hire a black limo for Zoë, Samin?" Paul asked, referring to a mutual friend who often had more money than sense (and he didn't have that much money either). Some sniggers and then I countered with "But do you think Ann will get a card from Akshat this year?". The incident this referred to caused so much mirth amongst us that we nearly spilt our pints. In lads' land this counts as sacrilege, so I was promptly dispatched to refill the pork scratchings supply.



The Akshat incident happened last year, just around this time. Akshat was a colleague of ours and shared a Management course run by Ann (surnames, I think, will have to be excluded from this recollection). Akshat wasn't a friend. In fact, I don't think he could ever be anyone's friend. He was like one of those pet

The S-Files

Strange Attractors

+Potatoes

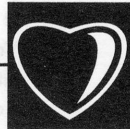
+A kiss is just...

+Roses are red

THE MUDDY RULES OF LURVE



WHAT'S IN A KISS?



THEIR ODOURS MET ACROSS THE CROWDED ROOM...



Come on, snap out of it, don't be so head-swellingly arrogant, science pups! Do you really believe that your misery in love is down to arrows and heartstrings?

If you know anything about science then know that science=life. And life=love, or sex anyway.

Many consider it one of life's great ironies that you must spend 50% of your time chasing after 50% of the population. This thought usually occurs around the age of puberty, when the otherwise diverting joys of asexuality become apparent. Have you ever considered that for some members of the animal kingdom those masturbatory stains to be hidden on the bedroom sheets equal the whole birth experience? For when a unicellular beastie gets the urge, he pops in two. Imagine!

Daughter: "I'm just having a shower."

Mother: "What was that groaning?"

Daughter: "I dunno, it was just air in the pipes..."

Mother: "Come on, I know what you're up to my girl..."

[Suddenly the one voice is two]

Daughter and granddaughter: "Oh mother, don't be so old fashioned!"

This week S-files is in love, with sex and sexuality (which may explain us temporarily losing our heads). Why are there two sexes? Cos twice the sexes explodes the chances. Take the humble potato for instance (mine's with salt 'n' vinegar). During the Potato Famine in Ireland, the spud was slain because it couldn't keep up with the times. The potato blight arrived but the potato didn't adapt, straddled to its DNA and left to desperately hope for a mutation. With two sexes, the new child instantly drops half its mother genes – and even more importantly it acquires a brand new half (leaving aside the Royal Family...) If the potato had been more sexual then perhaps it could have acquired genes to beat the blight.

The male chromosome has been derided as a female parasite, a big ungainly Y. But like a male in jeans and Y fronts, his virtues, though hidden, are ever so important.

S-files

We smell. Glands centred around our armpits, ears, eyelids, genitals, and lips constantly emit fragrant and alluring chemical messengers known as pheromones. But do we know how to interpret the messages?

Although BO is preferable to many of the Superdrug alternatives, the evidence suggests that we hate our natural smell. Anyone who has ever been left choking by a too-liberal handful of Lynx will know that there never was a greater misnomer than "deodorant".

But natural pheromones are widely used by other species to attract mating partners. Fish, spiders, pigs, tortoises and even millipedes make full use of their aromatic firepower – as well as their numerous other charms – to get their other half in the mood.

Why shouldn't we use the same cunning plan? Mysteriously enough, we mimic these lowly lifeforms rather more closely than we might have liked to think.

After scrubbing our natural odours away, we replace them with perfumes and deodorants that often contain natural or synthetic animal pheromones. What's more, the favoured pheromones are usually those that would have served as nostril tickling titillators to their original owners.

Musk, for example, has been used in both male and female perfumes for over 3000 years. Although musk-like chemicals can now be synthesised, musk took its name from the musk deer from whose intimate glands it was originally extracted.

All of which gives me a very original idea for a perfume advertisement...



By the time you're 25, you'll have seen 10,000 murders on screen. This may be nothing compared to the number of kisses you've seen, but that probably depends whether the last film you saw was Four Weddings and a Funeral or Reservoir Dogs.

Kissing first hit the cinema screen in Queen Victoria's reign, when even the slightest show of physical affection provoked outrage. In comparison, modern media leave very little to the imagination, but that didn't prevent huge interest when Roseanne and Sandra Bernhardt snogged on primetime TV.

Kissing is a human activity charged with meaning. The lips are richly supplied with nerve endings feeding straight into the largest area of the sensory cortex, and it is this fact that accounts for kissing's continuing popularity.

There's extra good news for slimmers as well, because according to Focus Magazine, "a really steamy snogging session can burn off up to 150 calories". This, apparently, is the equivalent of doing the front crawl for 15 minutes.

Or is that a euphemism?



LIP SERVICE
250 types of virus and bacteria
9mg of water = 0.711mg fats = 0.71mg albumen

Credits Co-ed: Owam and Hilary Lips: Catfish

Historical Accident Leaves Legacy of Pain

BY JEREMY THOMSON,
OUR ROMANCE CORRESPONDENT

Here's a problem – you have half a page in a large circulation student newspaper, a theme of Valentine's Day and two days. What would you do? How about paying a visit to the new Infinite Monkey House at London Zoo with a contract from IBM word processors (got to keep up with the times) and see what you come up with? Or maybe you would stumble through with the usual disjointed musings and 'just be yourself' Hollywood morals. Or possibly you could opt for the freshly tarnished camera tapping deconstruction of the medium angle, as I obviously have.

Accident

The first thing must surely to do a little background research. The facts must be known before they can be hidden and distorted again. Unfortunately the only fact available on the good St Valentine heralded by the dusty reference section of FELIX TOWERS was that his association with passion laden anonymous outpourings was a 'historical accident'. A historical accident? Did the mighty scholars of yesteryear falter in their relentless crusade for the truth? Did some sinner want to plant a proverbial

skeleton in Valentine's cupboard? Possible St Valentine was, well, a bit randy and got caught.

In Bed Staring

Whatever the truth may be, he has left a legacy. No other occasion has such a wide participation in an activity of pure and beautiful motive – simply to finally inform those who have been making your life a complex, inexplicable, delicious misery what you really feel because you were always too frightened. Anonymously. You send them a card or a letter with your most personal, vulnerable rantings to finally resolve the problem, but you don't sign it hoping that somehow they will know. You wish that your feelings could transmit on the sub ether and that when you next spy them and catch their eyes for that extra few milliseconds before turning back to your rugby songs or noisy celibate friend that you will have reached a new landmark in your relationship.

Yet in the back of your mind, as you lie in bed staring at the pink sky, you know that some suave confident type has whisked up your special person with no regard for their feelings only to leave them so much poorer and about as tall as whale droppings a few weeks later. If only you had told them – you

would never hurt them, you know how to really look after them. Unless you are that suave confident individual, in which case you are probably the cause of more confused internal brooding than, errr... metaphors fail me. Git.

We Crave

So why then do we indulge in an almost pseudo-religious ritual of twanging the heart strings? There is a theory that events like this evolve because actual religion is on the decline, but it's not a very interesting one. Could it be that it is the very uncertainty and doubt that we crave, the continual internal struggle, would he, wouldn't he, placing the very dearest motives of your life in the hands of luck? No, I don't think so. We are simply horribly timid and terrible at controlling the really important things in our lives. However brash, busy, enthusiastic and expert someone can get over football, physics or similar utterly trivial pastimes, when it comes to jobs, partners, friends, and to a lesser extent money, we blindly blunder into every obstacle in our path, choosing instead to focus our planning and thought to things of no real consequence whatsoever.

Maybe this is why politicians are so frighteningly incompetent...

Love Week at ICU

Tues. 14th
Valentine's Quiz. DaVinci's. 8pm

Weds. 15th
Club Spanque. Free. 9 - 1am.

Thurs. 16th
Cocktail Night with Blind Date.
DaVinci's 7pm

Fri. 17th
Bust-a-gut comedy. 8pm. £2.50
"LOVE"- a Friday night with a
difference. 9-2am. £1.



Mixed but not Shaken

Kamran Malik reports on mixed-race relationships

PAKI, WOP, CHINK, NIGGER, HONKEY, WHITE TRASH, SPIC, YID, or just plain "BLACK BASTARD!". These are names I've heard from time to time and quite often directed to me. "Just scratch the surface and you're all the same... RACIST!" yells Sanjay from *EastEnders* after some particularly nasty graffiti is directed at him. Racism exists. It's as impossible to get away from it as it is to change the colour of your own skin.

Another popular refrain of the racially challenged is "They're all right but would you want your daughter/sister/mother/brother/mate to go out with one?". Mixed-race relationships are a guaranteed way of getting a potential racist hot under the collar.

There is no better illustration of the 'scratch the surface' argument than when a loved one or relative shacks up with someone of a different complexion. I've seen perfectly reasonable people who have black and Asian friends turn into rabid neofascists at the drop of a hat just because their daughter or son is going out with "one of them". And the real pity is that it is usually the parents who, out of some misplaced protective instinct, get so excited.

I want to show how you can get involved with whoever you feel like and it can work. It just depends on how important the relationship is to you. I know plenty of mixed-race couples who are just ordinary people getting on with their lives. They don't wake up in the mornings and say "I'm in a mixed relationship so let's worry!", they just live ordinary lives. But for those who expect fireworks or just can't understand it, I'll try to explain this....

In order to understand mixed couples, the best thing is to talk to the experienced people, people who have done it or are doing it now. First I spoke to Louise, who used to live with a Punjabi Indian guy, Harjinder:

"I was kept secret from the parents for quite a while but then Harjinder introduced me to them and it was very weird. When I'd go to dinner at their house, his mother would ask 'Do you like the food?' and immediately say in Punjabi 'She should be in the kitchen cooking herself!'. Harjinder would tell me what she said afterwards. Maybe it's because I talked about pubs and clubs all the time. I don't think they were expecting that from a nice girl!"

How did people in the street react to them as a couple? "It was really weird because we lived in Cambridge, which is a pretty snobbish place, so people would stare at us. I remember one time we were in the laundrette and someone just stuck their head round the door and shouted 'PAKI!' and ran off.

Harjinder didn't care but I couldn't believe it; I ran outside and the person had just run off."

Being subject to racial taunts and abuse is just one of the new things experienced by a white person when they 'go out' with someone who isn't white. Josie and Osmaan have been living together for two years. They first started seeing each other four years ago but it's still taking some time for the parents to be told the whole story. I asked Josie why:

"My parents know about Osmaan but they still don't know we live together. Osmaan isn't allowed to answer the phone in case it's my parents."

What was your parents' reaction when they found out?

"My mum became horrified and extremely racist and prayed that it was just a phase I was going through. My Dad was just pissed off because he had to deal with my mum but I think he was genuinely concerned that I would get a hard time because of Osmaan."

And what about Osmaan and his parents? "Er, well I haven't actually got round to telling them yet." Why not? "I suppose I'm just running away from the problem. I know they

wouldn't approve because they want me to marry a nice Muslim girl and I can't cope with the hassle they would give me."

I asked Josie about how the public

reacted to them as a couple. "We don't get any hassle in London, which isn't surprising as there's loads of nutters to worry about. But Osmaan doesn't dare take me to Glasgow, which is where his family live, because he thinks people will stare too much. It is difficult when you notice the way people are racist. The first time it happened to me, I almost got us beaten up. The two of us were waiting for a bus late one night on Tottenham Court Road. I think there'd been a big football match because a load of fat hooligans passed us completely pissed. As they went past one of them yelled 'What are you doing with a fucking PAKI?' Osmaan pretended not to hear but I completely lost my temper and screamed 'Fuck off' or something. The whole lot of them turned on us and Osmaan just grabbed me and said 'Run!'. Luckily, they were too drunk to chase us. I was so shocked that the racism was directed at me that I over-reacted. I would never do that again."

These hassles exist but they are only anecdotes over a long period of time. Louise and Osmaan are a very happy couple, happier than most same-race couples I know. Let's face it, you can end up being beaten up by a yob

"One of them yelled 'What are you doing with a fucking Paki?'. I completely lost my temper and screamed 'Fuck off!' or something. The whole lot of them turned on us."

for your dress sense, and parents can dislike your partner for their hair colour. It's just a question of how far you let these prejudices rule your life. We only have look at Yugoslavia to see where getting exited about ethnic differences can lead us. To get some words of wisdom about mixed couples, I spoke to poet and "free-thinking intellectual" Benjamin Zephaniah, who himself has a Pakistani wife:

"I don't like talking to journalists about mixed relationships because they always seem to be looking to dig up dirt about the subject."

But what kind of reaction did he get when he got married?

"The reaction was very good and supportive all round. All our friends were very happy and my wife's parents were immediately won over by my charm. I showed some respect of their culture by learning a bit of Urdu and how to act in front of them."

What did he think about the argument that I've often heard from my parents: that races cannot intermarry without trouble and that you should not mix your blood?

"If you study genetics you see that the difference between races is genetically very small. The genetic difference between people coming from different countries is no greater than that between those from the same country. We are all from the same source in Africa anyway. You also learn that mixing of genes is important to produce stronger and smarter people. When you see the problems that inbreeding creates you can see that this is true. This [not mixing blood] argument is wrong because we are all race-mixing all the time."

But what about cultural identity? "I'm not saying a person should lose their cultural identity or let themselves be completely dominated by someone else's; they should be

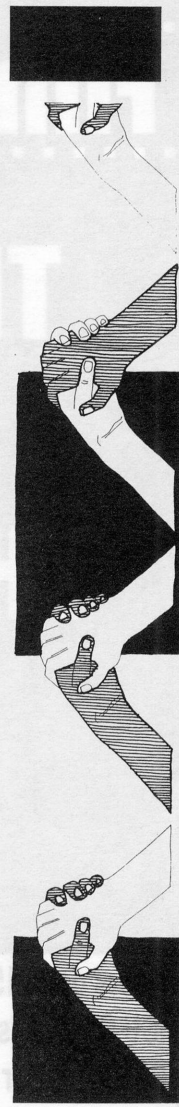
proud of what they are. When I was young we were all into Malcom X and black identity, but I think it's wrong to say any culture is greater than another."

What about the reaction he and his wife get on the street? "I never get any trouble; in fact, people come up to me, because my wife is a Pathan and they're a warrior race, and say 'Wow man, how do you do it?'. And what kind of advice would he give to younger mixed couples? "Just take it easy and don't worry. I think people should solely judge people on who they are."

There is a great pressure to conform in any society. We all want to fit in to a certain extent. However, in immigrant communities the pressure is greatly increased. While this is understandable to the extent that cultural values such as language or art should not be eroded, I think it places unreasonable demands on the generations to follow, particularly as far as relationships are concerned.

In my own family, one of my sisters married a Sikh guy. This produced a more extreme reaction than if she'd married a white guy. They married happily but were never accepted by some members of the community.

It is unreasonable to assume that you can emigrate to a country and not be affected by that country's values. If my parents decided that I should live and grow up here, then I can't pretend that I'm still in Pakistan, like many Pakistanis in Britain do. I get very irritated by the kind of cultural fascism which permeates arguments about mixed relationships. I'm not advocating giving up language and culture and becoming completely bland. It's such a great sight to walk around London and see so many different cultures mixing and living in apparent multiracial harmony; but scratch the surface...? **F**



Calling all Sabbatical Election Candidates

If you require ICU Print Unit to produce election publicity for you please come and see us ASAP. The deadline for artwork to be **printed** is:
Monday 13th February

We also offer a competitive photocopying service that will run throughout the election period.

If you are standing for any of the posts we strongly advise you to contact us this afternoon, before you go elsewhere.

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We require an eager student, preferably a first or second year, to be trained in the art of printing.

The successful candidate would work with large oily machines in the bowels of the Print Unit, and his/her duties would include assisting the full time printer in printing, cleaning the machinery, finishing (collating and stapling) and any other jobs that needed doing!

**Wages would be at the
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Love Lines & True Lies

Love U 2 Bits, Miss
Sweetie.
♡ Mr Lump

MATT PARKES
Heart's SPARKE
My Heart
SCRAP heaped
still
on the other end of the phonE
waiting.

Howay Lindsay Man;
A Reaaly Reaaly Reaaly

Yours Keegan
Mallam Shite.

Jane – Love you loads.
Marry me! Rachel

Oh Victor!
Roses are Red
Blue things are blue
I've got glandular
fever

And I really fancy you
– But I've got so
much work to do I can't go
out with you under any
circumstances whatsoever.

Love Kinky

To Emma (how's the fog?), I
truly love you, my one and
only! Be my Valentine! Love,
your Cheshire Cat!? (Keep
smiling)

Wilber,
Bouncy Squirt
Wibble. Love always
Henrietta

Khalid T.,
Sometimes being friends
is not enough...
Love ?

I
still can't get you out of my
head
L

J.H. – You sexy thing... R.M.

Self Seeking Random 1641

Mandy – Absence makes the
heart grows fonder – Rx

Teach Me to Live,
Oh daughter of Fortitude.

*I love you lonely people. Your
star will shine. Check the
columns and buy the drinks...*

Jane – Remember
Lemington Spa?

Gary, Bert & Ivan. (Muscle
men extraordinaire)...

*I'd love to spend a night
with you here when you're
on...*

-x- Curly -x-

NitNit,
Let's get together
some time, skin-wise?
Bicky

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
I heard you like solvents,
So I've sent you some glue...

Dr John, I know I've made
you miss appointments,
(Management of that
resource, time, is not my
strength),
But if I can make a simple
value judgement–
The utility'd be mine if
you'll do lunch!

SCHWEETU
I see the Spring morning dew
on the lush green grass
I see the sun rise and set all at
once and all the colours in
between
I see a thousand starts
twinkling ever so brightly
while the moonlight gently
trickles over a waterfall
I see all this my love
when I look into your eyes
Because I love you
Forever

To the sweetest little
biologist in the garden:
My tongue is tied
My stomach's in knots
Won't you tug on my
heartstrings
And straighten me
out?
A new face

Mark,
You've spun my head
around my heart.
Jane

Like daffodils, we come out
in Spring. Call me? James,
K.

Nasreem
Let's go to my place
Who sez that size ain't
important?
Kashif A.
(of Room 312)

To the beautiful women in
JMC2,
Love is like
wildflowers. It's often found
in the most unlikely places
(try DoC!)

Love,
Secret Admirer

To the gorgeous woman in
mining engineering.
Do you know the effect
you have on me, Miss B?

You're on my mind
when I eat, sleep, drink,
All the time
I want you!
Please come and see me
in Fisher or Computing
I love you now and
forever

Asif T.

To mummy and baby Taz,
Love you both forever,
Daddy!

Saira
You're my little fluffy
snugglebum
You sexy motherfu***r!
Muazzum

For Jackie Reynolds (Chem
II)

Hey little thing, let
me light your candle, 'cause
mama I'm sure hard to
handle now, yes I am!
– love the Rev. fingers
bonehead

Elle'bee.
I'll be coming around
the mountain when I come...
Yasser

Catfish,
Why do we kno(tie-
ourselves)ts like this?
An. Ominous

B my sweet honey
I love you now and
forever, and I've never been so
happy
love Bert Senior

To Miss T:
i want U
b-kuz i dReam of u
i haTe u
b-Kuz i love u
i cAn't love u
b-kuz i Hate u
i can't have u
b-kuz i want you

O(+>

Dear A
I hope we have a
wonderful day together.
All my love, always,
M

Dear Akshada, Alefiya,
Aneesha, Anjana, Bisan,
Christiana, Karishma,
Mary, Nishali, Preeti,
Reshma, Rupa, Sam and
Viv,

Just for you:
With love on
Valentine's Day
S.R.

To: A lion
From: The Patrician
Quam vellem tecum longas
requiescere noctes
Et tecum longos pervigilare
dies!

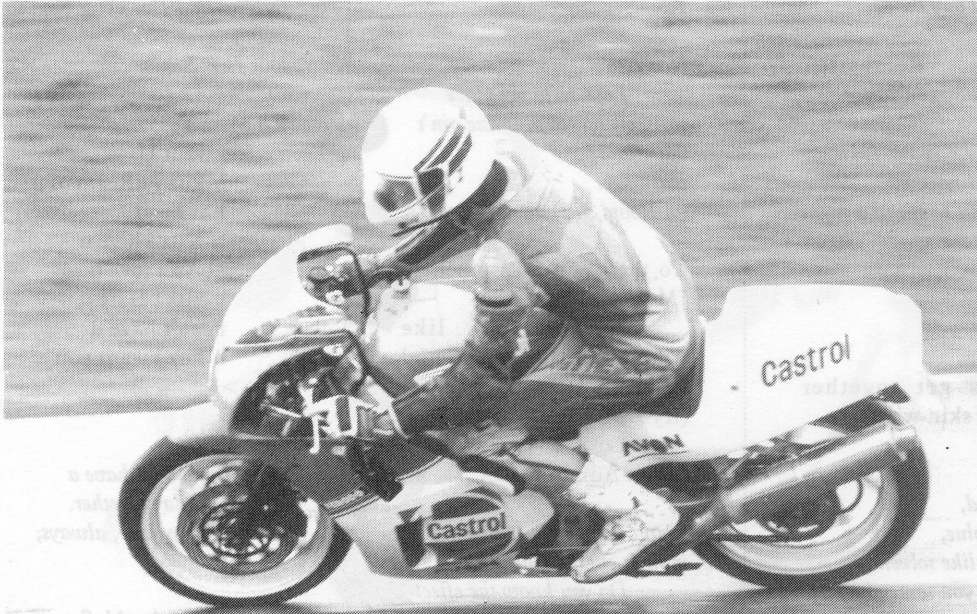
Dear Ed,
I intend to make you laugh
for many moons to come,
and hope that never a cross
word shall come between
us...
Your little darlin'
(happy now?)

P.D,
You've shifted my
baseline too far this time. Be
mine, lay me out!
Q.X.

Xtra Curricular Death Threat

What you should realise about Union Clubs and Societies

Keys: Telegraph, Bristol, Snowdonia, 1000ft



Nerves: Some of the Union Clubs and Societies' more dangerous sports

On Saturday, 28th of January the Daily Telegraph devoted two full pages to an incident that occurred in, what could be considered, familiar circumstances. Colette Fleetwood was a student at the University of the West of England (Bristol). Colette joined the Universities Fell Walking Club. On her very first Club trip, to Snowdonia, Colette died.

I do not want to place the blame on anyone, but I will give a brief account of what happened. Colette was inexperienced in fell walking, she attended the trips "pre-meeting", and then the Club set off for the Welsh mountainside. As explained in the Telegraph, Colette and her friend found the Club atmosphere unapproachable (something common amongst our Clubs) but decided to go on the trip anyway keeping to each others' company. It was reported that appropriate precautions were not taken considering the weather, clothes and equipment. Colette was placed in a group walk that was much too difficult for her ability. She was told that the route consisted of "some scree with a bit of scrambling". The Telegraph reports "there was no 'safe' route to the summit". Colette lost her life when a gust of wind blew her off a snowfield and she fell 1000ft.

The article explains that the university vice-chancellor met Colette's parents at the memorial service; "After expressing his condolences, Morris told them [...] that the university and union were 'completely separate'

and that the accident was 'a matter for the students' union'". The University of West England (UWE) funds its' Students' Union in the same way as Imperial College. The Students' Union receives a "block grant" from the parent college. I would be extremely disappointed if Imperial College reacted in the same way as UWE. Imperial College Union has a very close relationship with the College and we believe that this link would not disappear in similar circumstances. At this college the Union works very closely with the Health Centre and Safety Unit. We are available to give advice and help anyone. See the numbers at the end of the article.

Sports like mountaineering and fell walking regard themselves as having an ethos of "individual initiative and self reliance". If students wish to take part in these activities then they decide so as adults, understanding the risks. Before going on a trip everyone **must** be made aware of the risks involved. In Colette's case, she was not aware of these risks, and placed her faith in the expedition leaders. The leaders of our Clubs could be considered responsible for their members on expeditions.

I am writing this because I am *shit* scared of a member of college being involved in an accident. It may not have happened so far, but accidents do happen and the after shocks tremble for a long time. Whenever you consider going on any trip or activity, please make sure that you are happy with the

arrangements. Make sure that you feel comfortable. If you are in doubt then stand up and **shout**. Life is too sweet to waste it away on being scared to ask questions.

Full copies of the Telegraph's report are available from me, Ian Parish, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), in the Union office.

Phone numbers:

Ian Parish

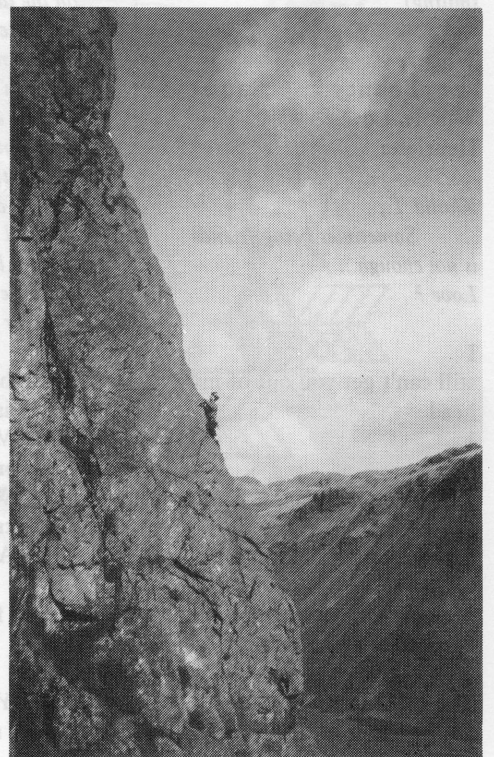
Office: 0171 594 8060, 58063 internal

Home: 0171 594 8063, 48063 internal

Ian Gillett (Safety Director)

Office: 0171 594 9420, 49420 internal

Mobile: 0860 333 615, 23 350 internal



Leonardo

Change in Lesson Times

Keys: Shading, Drawing, Art



Due to popular demand, we have decided to start our art classes **earlier** as of next week (Tuesday, 14 February). That means we are starting the classes at 5.30pm and finishing them at 7.30pm. The venue is still Civil Eng Building, Room 101 and the classes are still on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The style of our classes has also changed (so no more white bottles!). This term we are following a timetable (check notice board no. 49 on Sherfield Walkway) and for the first part of each session, the tutor will cover on or more of the following: shading, perspective, figure drawing, colours, etc. The remainder of the lesson can be devoted to either continuing to experiment on that day's topic or working on an individual piece (maybe even for the Staff Student Exhibition in May this year). The purpose of this individual work is for the teachers to help you learn more of the various techniques as you work on them. The teachers are there to help you so please ask them if you have any questions.

The cost of the lesson is a mere £2 and material is provided but you are welcome to bring your own if you like. Membership is £3 for students, and £6 for staff. For those of you who received our newsletter, please do return our survey.

For more information, please email leonardo@ic, or leave a note in our pigeon-hole in the Union Office (SCAB H-Z).

Dance Club

Dance Club's Trip to Sheffield

Keys: Cha-cha-cha, Jive, Win

By 8.15am, Saturday 4th February, most of the 46 members of the IC Dance Club Team, along with a few supporters, were gathered in Beit Quad. It was the morning of the Sheffield Social, the first of the 3 annual student dancing competitions, and we had six years of titles to defend. The four hour trip up to the octagon centre passed to the overwhelming smell of hairspray, the application of obscene quantities of makeup, and last minute repairs to costumes. Once we'd arrived and had found our tables, the rituals of getting dressed began, whilst Christine began the task of doing the hair of the modern team. The floor wasn't overly fast (slippery) but was very solid, making it hard work

for the quickstep and jive couples.

At 2.30pm the competitions started with the open section. Here we had a great deal of success, winning or reaching the finals of nearly all of the student competitions. Next was the team walk on, where we should have been called the Imperial Army, with nearly double the number of competitors of any other university there. Battle commenced with the team match, followed by rising excitement, and finally the knock-out.

The result? We lived up to our reputation and swept the board winning the knock-out, and the A, B and C team competitions, mainly by a consistently high performance by everyone, especially Ivan and Sarah 2nd with Jeremy and Lorna 4th (waltz), Satin and Mansi 3rd with Nick and Barbara 5th (cha-cha-cha), Bryan and Annya 1st with Jo and Jacqui 5th (quickstep), Peter and Karen 1st, David and Liz 4th and Nevil and Ruth 5th (Jive).

By 12.45 we were all back on the coach, where the celebrations continued for about 1/2 an hour until everyone fell asleep, or discussed tactics for SUDA in 3 weeks or IVDA in 4.

Congratulations to all the team, and thanks to everyone who helped to get us there, especially Christine for the hair, and Vicky and Dorothy who coached us up to a winning standard.

Film Soc

Films This Week

Keys: Exorcist, Browning, Fiction

No, hold on a minute there is absolutely no need to worry. Yes that's right **Pulp Fiction** is still showing at ICU Cinema. Okay, so you may have missed the last two nights but there are still three performances of this ultra-brilliant film remaining. The shows tonight are at 8pm and 11pm, so it is possible to have a fun evening with your friends and then welcome in the wee small hours. Saturday sees our last show of **Pulp Fiction** at 8pm but the night is not over once the credits for this film have run.

Oh no, don't even think about missing the monster movie, that is the Saturday Late Show. While people think they are being scared by Interview With A Vampire, we give you the chance to see the film that set the standards of all horror films made since, **The Exorcist**. **The Browning Version** is at 8pm on Sunday, included amongst its cast is Greta Scacchi who you may have seen in Presumed Innocent last Saturday Night. If she's lucky though she may not die in this film, which features a teacher at crisis point, must have been the one of those that used to teach me.

Ents

That's Entertainment

Keys: Cupid, Regurgitate, Love

Valentines week and I've got my sack for all the cards I'm going to get (er, did I hear the word 'not?'). To mark the romance in the air, ICU Ents have gone a bit hearts, flowers and Cupids, so get sexy for the week ahead.

Monday - Live Football

Nothing very romantic about... Big Screen Live Football. Da Vinci's, 7pm.

Tuesday - Pub Quiz

Dan gets even more sexy than usual (yes, it is possible!) with a night of questions with a leaning towards love and sex. £50 cash prize for the winning team, courtesy of STA Travel. Da Vinci's, 8pm.

Wednesday - Club Spanque

Drinking, dancing and tapping off (a quaint northern term), at Club Spanque. 9pm-1am, Union and free.

Thursday - Lovey-dovey Cocktails

A special lovey-dovey cocktail night. Where else can you experience Valentines Kiss and Sex on the Beach without leaving the Quad. If we get enough response, a very special one-off Blind Date. (We still need 10 gorgeous pouting students, 5 of each sex, to take part. Contact the Union Office!). Da Vinci's, free.

Friday - Comedy, Disco

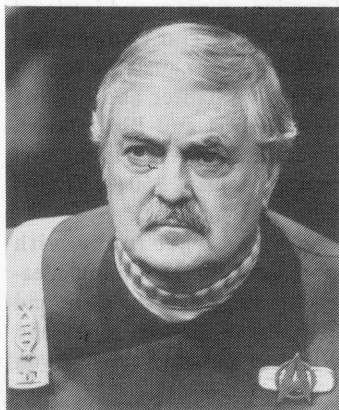
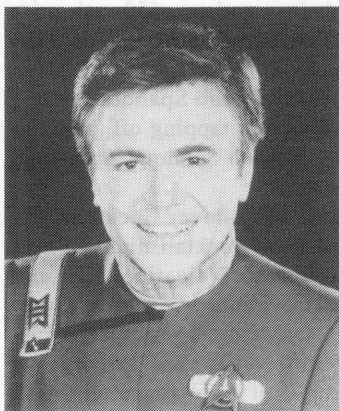
A full night of passion, mystery and intrigue! Starting early with Bust-a-Gut Comedy, featuring Chris and George (an anarchic combination of quick witted banter and blazing silliness), Julian Barrett and Phil Davey. There's free Newcastle Brown Ale to the first fifty in the door, and it's just £2.50 (or £1.50 if you've got an Ents Card!).

Then, get sexy and get funky with 'Love', a night of unadulterated adult pleasures, with romantic things on the door, and a very special love lounge chill-out zone - and it's still £1. So go out and find the one you love!

And don't forget - next Friday, 24th, is an evening of explicit bad taste, starting with the regurgitating skills of Stevie Starr, then going off on a high-tack groove of 70's and 80's pleasures for the disco. So get in the mood, raid those Oxfam shops and get seriously aesthetically challenged.

Articles for Xtra Curricular

If you would like an article to be included in the Xtra Curricular section, please bring it along to the FELIX Office. The article must be submitted on the Friday before the issue is due to come out, and preferably on disk. Articles with pictures will take priority over those that don't if space is limited. If your article is more than 300 words then you should give advance warning.



THE MENU



In the neverending story that spans more generations than Genesis, **star trek** returns to the large screen. Maggie applied his wrinkle cream and shouted out "she caaani take it captain" with the rest of the stargazers.



If love is the air, divorce is probably trying to creep under the door. Joseph Barr got knotted watching Strindberg's aptly named **the dance of death**.



According to Fiona it's not just thin that's in. Striding today's catwalks is the **supernerd** – calling everyone in the huxley building this could be YOU!!!



It's a girl, it's a boy, it's a big fat tub of joy. Yes after last week's enforced absence (due to illness), **rotation** returns in the safe but tenderly soft hands of Alok (he uses fairy liquid!)



Back in anatomy class, tanya never got beyond lunch – James checks out the new **belly** album. Vik gets a natural high listening to the **senseless things** and **dream theater** whilst tintin has a most pleasant experience with **Victoria Williams**.



doctoring the spacewaves

In **star trek generations** the Next Generation crew arrives on the big screen to the joy of trekkers, trekkies and trekettes.

Thanks to the cunning of the script writers, the plot revolves around the Nexus, a place where all your dreams come true, which allows both new and old captains to meet. And so Captain Kirk, with Captain Picard, returns to the good old days saving the universe once more.

The prologue to 'Generations' starts with the grand launch of the Enterprise-B, this time with Captain Kirk attending as a guest and not as captain. As usual the scenes have that wry humour indicative of the original series as Kirk desperately wants to get back into that captain's chair again. The prologue then ends with the disappearance of Kirk into the Nexus and the arrival of Dr. Saron (Malcom McDowell) onto the scene. The film then jumps some 80 years to the future where the Next Generation crew have to deal with Dr Saron's dastardly plan to return to the Nexus.

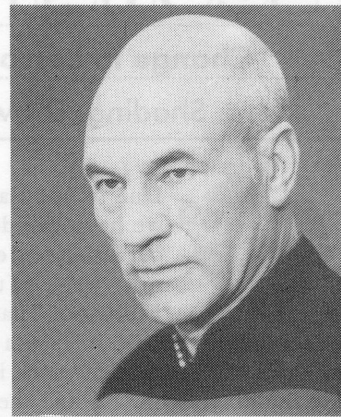
The original 'Star Trek' was more of a western in outer space, and when Next Generation came to television it relied on special effects, scientific words and political correctness. 'Star Trek Generations' is pretty much on the

same lines as the television episode: 10 minutes being devoted to the minor characters and numerous subplots and before leading back to the final show down; Malcom McDowell verses Captains Picard and Kirk.

The film sets are exactly the same, though the use of moody dark shadows and the wide screen attempts to hide the fact nothing has changed. Undoubtedly filmed straight after the last of the television series, 'Generations' kills off the possibility of any more original 'Star Trek' films and bridges the gap to a new series of Next Generation films, (with the added bonus of obtaining a couple of bob on the merchandising).

'Generations' feels just like an extended television plot but all the characters have major scenes devoted to them although these are mostly unrelated. The most notable acting comes from Malcom McDowell as he is in an unusual role, though it does show that there are still acting roles available for bolder men.

If you are a fan of the television series you will not be disappointed with 'Generations'. Just like the television episodes it flows well for the two hours duration, the special effects are spread thickly throughout the film and it keeps you watching. 5





tied

Valentine's Day is upon us once again. People often live in a mild state of tension and fear; hoping that for the first time in years they will receive a small token of love from a secret admirer. If, like me, you have prepared yourself for another barren day, then you may be able to seek some comfort from August Strindberg's play, **the dance of death**, running at the Almeida Theatre.

The play, written in 1900, is a deeply pessimistic insight into marriage at a time when there was generally no 'get out clause'. It centres around an aging couple living on a small island off the Swedish coast who are nearing their silver wedding anniversary. John Neville (who played the Baron in 'the Adventures of Baron Munchausen') is the arrogant Captain and Alice (Gemma Jones) is his emotionally tortured wife. Together they seem to have reached the conclusion that they were destined to bring each other misery.

A recurrent theme throughout the production is that both Alice and the Captain are constantly belittling the other and blaming them for a marital life of suffering. When Kurt (Anthony O'Donnell), an old friend, arrives on the island it appears as though a cease-fire could be reached. However, the manipulative couple only succeed in corrupting the arbitrator and creating even more pain.

Such is the bitterness of Strindberg's characters that one is not sure if the play is a tragedy or a comedy. Indeed, at times the production is quietly amusing and the audience is even encouraged to laugh. Strindberg was of the opinion that men and women are bonded by sex, not love, and that it was normal to dislike, even despise one's partner.

There is, however, a more humane and sensitive side to the characters. This allows a sympathetic tolerance to prevail and it is here that the actors come into their own. John Neville, in particular, gives a brilliantly controlled performance of a clearly unstable man.

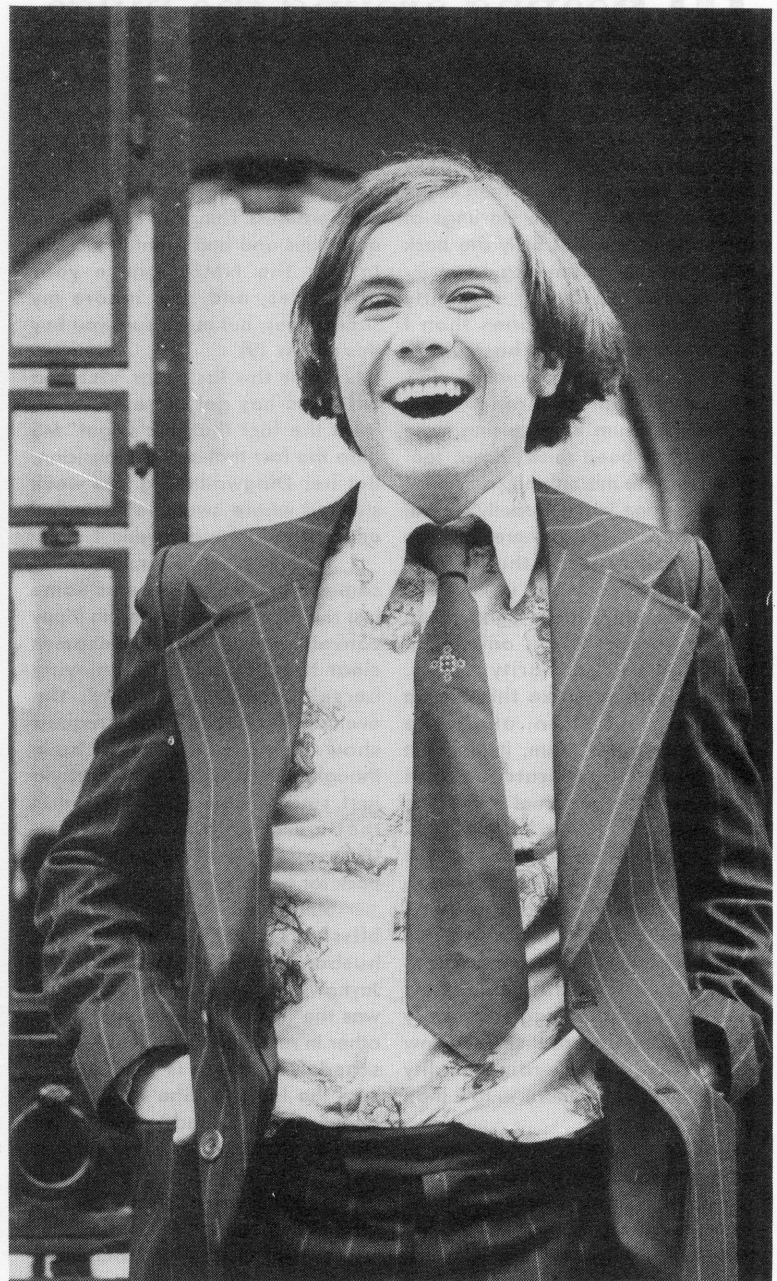
Maybe, because I'm a romantic or just somewhat naïve, I find Strindberg's portrayal of marriage hard to swallow and I disagree that it has to be so miserable. If, however, I fail to receive any valentine's cards this year I may reassess my view. ⑤



geeks

How is it that when The Nerd has finally become fashionable, IC still manages to remove 'The' and relegate the 'N' to lower case? Face it, 95 is the chance to make the place famous. With male model pay packets on the increase, and the men's fashion industry booming, more and more opportunities are arising for the pigeon toed and concave-chested nerds. IC, here you go ... forget the merchant banking, Marcus Schenkenberg (Calvin Klein jeans boy) is taking £1,000 for a single show. And who could be more perfect for the Nerd model of 95 than the typical IC boy. Precision training.

But seriously, there's a big market for real people right now, and the less butch or physically attractive you are the better your chance of success. Models One are on the look out for thin, beautiful, girlish models with bobbed hair ... sound familiar? If not then try Paris where to be the rage is to be 5 foot 2 with pink hair and a goatee beard. (Oops, getting a little too daring for IC there). In France, apparently, 'idiosyncrasy' is a valued trait. I'm sure that the occasional smile could lift even downright weirdness to equally dizzy heights of fame and fortune. Student hardship could be a thing of the past. IC, instead of being the blot on ULU's social landscape, could become an icon not just of education but of style. Women, allegedly, may even start sending their knickers thru' the post. Yes, I said 'women'. ⑤



rotation



Round and round he goes like a spinning top ... the week's releases according to Alok await your pleasure.

supergrass - mansize rooster
This is brilliant! Nice to see another gem from Supergrass after 'caught by the fuzz'.

Their distinctive guitar-based sound is well used so that not all of the songs sound exactly the same. This lot will go far.

rockers hi fi - what a life
On this cd single, there are five versions of this song (lucky me) and they all sound the same. Mind you, it is actually quite catchy. I found myself trying to imitate the ridiculous singing quite often. Sad I know.

del amitri - here and now
Ah ... good old Dell A nice almost country-style ballad performed in good old Del style. Gets a bit boring after the third or fourth time but worth listening to if a friend's got it.

shampoo - delicious
Another class song from the queens of pop music. With its sweet tones and wonderful lyrics, it leaves you feeling fulfilled and at peace with yourself so you can face up to another demanding day. Oh bugger! Some men in white coats are putting me in a very restraining jacket here ... help

sheryl crow - strong enough
Sheryl has a brilliant voice and this song is a good example. Nice, calm and relaxed - perfect for those times you just can't be bothered doing those last six problem sheets you promised yourself you would do ... soon. The cd also has 'all I wanna do' live in Nashville on it and that is especially good.

beating around the bulge

Few who read the music press even occasionally could have failed to notice the attention given to **belly** and particularly to Tanya Donelly about a year ago. Since then Oasis have become the new darlings of the Indie Scene, but Belly are back with their new album *king*.

There are fewer instantly graspable 'poppy' tunes than I expected, but this is basically a good thing from the point of view of continued listening. The trademark drum emphasising indie rhythm has been toned down too. However, the main thing you notice is the change in Ms Donelly's vocal style. The bite is still there, but she stays much closer to the melody, and more often or not in key! The band also plays more tightly than before, though this is only to be expected as familiarity grows. These changes make this album quite a progression, and while some will dislike them, it makes it easier to concentrate on and appreciate the very real talent this band have.

My only real criticism is that occasionally you feel that too much attention has been paid to detail and that some of the edge has gone. However listening through to the brilliant final track 'Judas My Heart', this little niggle is easily forgotten as you realise just how good Belly are at writing quality songs, which owe more to folk than indie. (9)

The **senseless things'** fourth long-player, *taking care of business*, shows the Things honing their sound to paradoxically incorporate more of their favourite bands whilst sounding even more like themselves. The likes of 'Christine Keeler' and 'Role Models' are the perfect examples, melodic pastiches which plunder from the treasure-chests of the New York Dolls, Soul Asylum and, of course, the Replacements, but which rock in a big, bold, and completely non-brassy kind of way.

Elsewhere, 'Dead Sun' shows that they still know how to play punk, but then that was always a natural and organic part of their sound, not some new-style fad that they picked up on just after the gutter music press did. Meanwhile, '16-18-21' and 'Page 3 Valentine' open up even more avenues, marrying rhythmic movements to scything guitar riffs with Mark Keds' familiar rasp articulating his polemic thoughts on religion, love, icons, and all things relevant over the top. No apologies are made for using that well-worn cliché: every

track's a winner.

With a songwriting prowess like Mark's it's small wonder that he's currently being courted by lesser bands who have taken from the Senseless Things in over-liberal quantities and had greater success. Ignore the NME, ignore your prejudices, and hey, ignore my superlatives, but make sure you buy this album. (9)

Over the last year **Victoria Williams** has got more attention from the fact that she's 'got' MS than the fact that she's a musician. But her Dingwall's gig last week showed where sweet relief ended and the real woman begins.

Whereas on record she can sometimes come across as some lost remnant from a California hippy convent, live it quickly becomes clear that she's simply enjoying herself. Towards the end, the evening developed into a request show. Some artists might have thought this demanding but Victoria just smiled and said, "oh yeah that's a good one" and did it. Unsurprisingly she had to come back for two encores.

Still before that point domestic bliss was ensured as Victoria's husband, Mark Olsen from the Jayhawks, turned up – apparently it was the first time they'd seen each other in months due to their touring schedules. Which is nice way to sum the lady up. She wasn't sure he was there so had to ask, "Mark are you here?". "Yes", he said and they sang a couple of songs together. Anyone else and it would have sickening (and totally false).

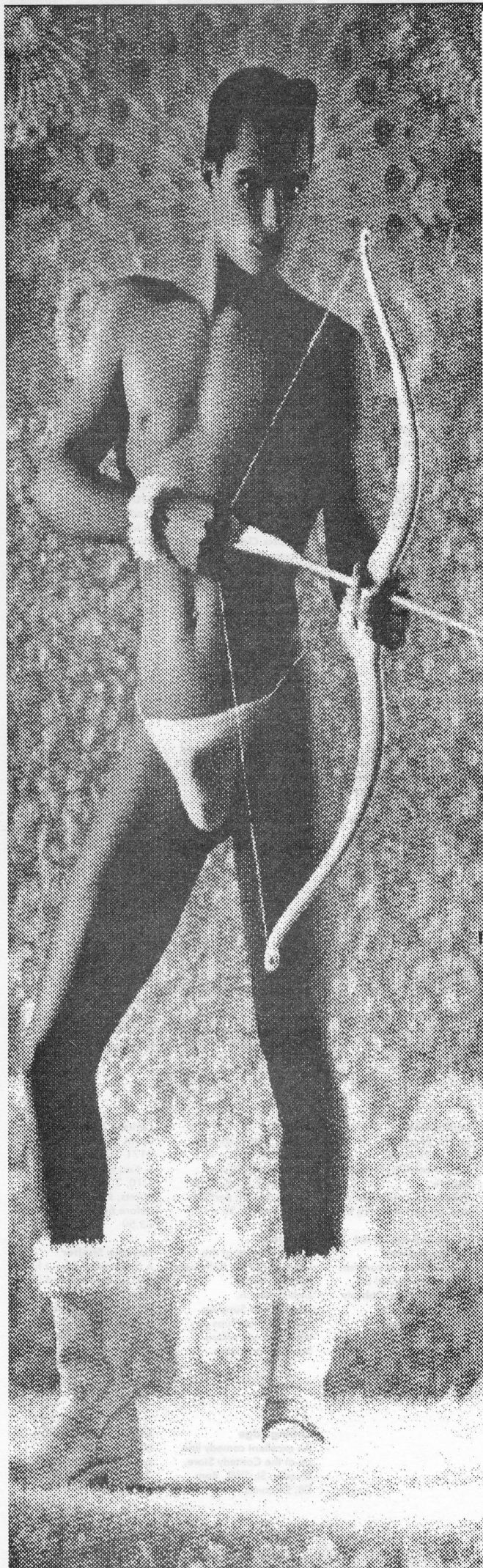
In light of all the shenanigans your intrepid music reviewer had to endure to get into **dream theater's** gig in Ronnie Scott's, it was a good job it was worth the effort. A one-off affair in relaxed and intimate surroundings, this was apparently designed to allow the band to play a number of their favourite cover versions with an even greater number of special guests. And so we were treated to a whole spectrum of influences – from U2's 'Red Hill Mining Town' to Marillion's 'Easter' (with Steve Hogarth and Steve Rothery) right through to Metallica's 'Damage Inc.' (with Napalm Death's Barney on guest vocals). In between there were healthy Rush and Yes workouts and an amazing musical jam featuring Yes' Steve Howe. All in all the band did absolutely no harm to their burgeoning reputation as the most accomplished group of musicians in the world. ☺



FREE CINEMA TICKETS



To go with our Valentine special, **FELIX**, in association with Beetwax, is giving away 5 pairs of tickets for the film 'The Shawshank Redemption', starring Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman for this Sunday morning (12th Feb). To win these tickets all you have to do is to come to the **FELIX** office today, with your partner, showing signs of affection with him, her or it. Be quick as they will soon be gone!



ICU

IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION
BOOKSTORE

*"Roses are red ,
Violets are blue ,
ICU BOOKSTORE
has just the card for
YOU."*

*Cards for the
"fluffybunnikins" , romantics,
& humourous lovers
of the world.*

*Show someone you care
with ICU BOOKSTORE
on Sherfield Walkway..*

FRIDAY

Atmosphere 9pm-2am
Da Vinci's. £1.

SATURDAY

Live Rugby 1.30pm
5 Nations matches at Da Vinci's. R.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

Premier League 7pm
Big screen live football at Da Vinci's. R.

TUESDAY

Bar quiz 8.30pm
Big Cash prizes. Da Vinci's. R.

WEDNESDAY

Islamic Society 1pm
"Divided we stand - a talk on unity". MEng 342.
Chinese Society 6-8pm
Seminar on Hong Kong current affairs. Pippard Lecture Theatre, Sherfield.
Club Spanque 9pm-1am
Free. UB. R.

Labour Club 12.30pm
SL upper.
Islamic Society 1pm
Friday Prayers. SG.
ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

Gliding Club 8.15am
Lasham Airfield. Come to Thurs meeting if it is your first time.
Roller Blade Soc 10.45am.
Ramp skating at Brixton. Skate Park. SL.
Roller Blade Soc 2pm
Skating and Hockey in Hyde Park/Kensington Gdns. SL.

Gliding Club 8.15am
Lasham Airfield. Come to Thurs meeting if it is your first time.
Wargames Club 1pm
Table Tennis Rm.
Roller Blade Soc 2pm
Skating and Hockey in Hyde Park/Kensington Gdns. SL.
Aerobics Class 2pm
Intermediate level III. SG.

Aerobics 12.30pm
Body Toning level I. SG.
Artscoc 12.30pm
Meeting. UDH.
Exploration Soc 1pm
Meeting. SL (upper).
Ski Club 1-2pm
Meeting. SL (upper).
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Beginners level I. SG.
Concert Band 5.45-7.15pm
Any Ability. GH.
IC Dance Club 6pm
Rock and Roll. UDH.
Bridge Club 6pm
Rm 345 Huxley.

Cathsoc 12pm
Informal mass and lunch, Bagrit centre. MEng.
S+G Outdoor Club 11sh
Meeting. Welcome. SL.
Yogasoc 12.15pm
Beginners' classes. SG.
UCO 1pm
Bible study. Mat B432.
Leo Soc 5.30-7.30pm
Art classes. CivEng 101.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.
Wine Tasting Soc 6pm
£5, £4 memb. UDH.
Dance Club 6pm
Autumn beginners. JCR.
LBG (Lesbian & Gay Group) 7.30pm
Brown Committee Rm. UB.
Caving Club 9pm
Meeting. SL (Upper).

Roller Blade Soc 12.15pm
Meet at SL for hockey.
Motorcycle club 12.45pm
weekly meeting. SL.
OSC 1pm
Meeting. CCR.
Aerobics Class 1.15pm
Bag/inter level II. SG.
STOIC 1.30pm
Production meeting. Stoic Studios.
Hoverclub 1.30pm
Old Chemistry.
Ten Pin Bowling 2.15pm
Meet outside Aero Eng.
Aerobics Class 5pm
Step level III. SG.

+Regulars - Please tell us if you want an entry reinstated, changed, removed or almost anything else by the Monday morning the week before it happens. Thanks. *Jeremy T.*

Bottom 9pm
BBC2. The two invincible layouts indulge in the usual squalor and mutilation for the last time tonight.
The Mrs Merton Show 11.15pm BBC2. Paul Merton's wife plays an innocent but spiny host.

The Peter Sellers Story 9.45pm BBC2. Arena looks at the life of the famous goon.
Why Bother? 9.40pm
Radio3. Creepy interview spoof.

Rick Mayall Presents 9.45pm ITV. Rick plays this drama comedy dead pan while Lee Evans nervously steals the show.
Ferris Bueller's Day Off 11.35pm BBC1. Dumb but entertaining film.

The Importance of being Earnest. 7.45pm
Radio 4. Wilde's classic cunning play of no consequence. Contains the famous lines about the handbag.

Visions of Heaven and Hell 9pm
Explores the frightening future of technology.
Adventures in Jazz 10.03, Radio 2. Jools Holland starts a new weekly look at young jazz.

Star Trek T.N.G 6pm
BBC2. Ideal pre-dinner viewing.
Weird nightmare 1am
C4. Oddly titled tribute to Charles Mingus.

ICU Cinema 8 & 11pm
Pulp Fiction. £2, £1 members.

ICU Cinema
Pulp Fiction. 8pm.
The Exorcist. 11pm.

Throwing Muses
+ Come
Shepherds Bush Empire
tube; Shepherd's Bush
0181 740 7474
tickets; £8.50

Flamingoes
+ Gouge + Love Family
Garage
tube; Highbury & Islington
0171 607 1818
tickets; £6

Morrissey
+ Marion
Ilford Island
train; Ilford BR
0181 514 5500
tickets; £12.50

Skyscraper
+ Out Demon Out
Splash at Water Rats'
tube; King's Cross
0171 278 3879
tickets; £3.50

Godfathers
+ Speedway + Manbreak
Garage
tube; Highbury & Islington
0171 607 1818
tickets; £6

Caspar Brotzmann
Garage
tube; Highbury & Islington
0171 607 1818
tickets; £6

Star Trek: Generations
MGM Fulham Road
0171 370 2636
S. Ken tube and then bus
1.15, 4.00, 6.50, 9.35
tickets; £6, Mon-Fri before
6pm and students £3.50

Leon
Odeon Kensington
0426 914666
tube; Leicester High St
2.55, 6.05, 9.15
tickets; £6, £6.50, before
5pm £3.50

Heavenly Creatures
Lumiere, St Martins Lane
0171 379 3014
tube; Leicester Sq
2.05, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50
tickets; £6.50, £7.50, 1st
perf £5, concs 1st perf £3

Dallas Doll
Metro, Rupert St
0171 437 0757
tube; Piccadilly, Leicester
Square
tickets; £6, concs (Mon
and 1st perf Mon-Fri) £4

Amateur
Renoir, Brunswick Sq
0171 837 8402
tube; Russell Square
1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.45
tickets; £6, 1st perf £4
with concs £2.50

I Like it Like That
MGM Fulham Road
0171 370 2636
S. Ken tube and then bus
1.10, 3.40, 6.10
tickets; £6, Mon-Fri
before 6pm and students
£3.50

Yves Klein
Leaps into the void.
Hayward Gallery
0171 928 8800
Runs until 23 April
£5, £3.50 concs.
See review section.

Killer Joe
Shepherds Bush Green
Theatre 0181 743 3388
Last day. 8pm. £9.50, £6
concs.
See review section.

Camden Arts Centre
is showing exhibitions:
Rita Donagh
Works consider the Irish
political situation.
Veronica Ryan
Compartments/Apartments
metal sculpture.
0171 435 2643
£2, £1 concs.

Royal College of Art
'Make Believe'
An exhibition of contemporary
international art
including Willie Doherty
and Piers Wardle.
Daily 10am-6pm
Just next to the Albert
Hall. Free.

The Deed
Grace Theatre at the
Latchmere Pub, Battersea
Park Rd, SW11.
Until 5 March.
Tuesdays to Sundays
£6, £4 concs, Tues pay
what you can afford.
See review section.

Gimmie Shelter
A trio of plays about fighting,
acceptance and lifes' losers.
Bird's Nest Theatre
32 Deptford Church St.
SE8. 0181 964 2255
7.30pm £6, £4 concs.

Performance Motor Show
Grand Hall, Olympia,
Kensington. For all Car
loonsies. Until Sunday.

Rugby Union 3pm
Harlequins vs Bristol at
Twickenham. 0181 892
0822

Hard Edge 7.30pm
A St Valentines Day Poetry
Massacre. Red Lion, Gt
Windmill St, W1. £3,
£1.50 concs.

Cutting Edge
An excellent comedy line
up at the Comedy Store,
Oxendon St, SW1. 8pm
£8, £4 concs.

Lobby of Parliament
NUS leads lobby on
issues of student rights.
2.30pm, Houses of
Parliament.

THURSDAY

Cocktail Night 6-11pm
Cocktails from £1.70. Da Vinci's. R.

Aerobics Class 12.30pm
Legs, turns & bums. SG.
Gliding Club 1pm
Meeting. Aero 266.
Get Fit with Louisa 1pm
Aerobics. UG.
Jazz Dance 4-5.30pm
Advanced classes. SG.
Leo Soc 5.30-7.30pm
Art classes. CivEng 101.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Intermediate level 3. SG.
Dance Club 6pm
Absolute beginners. JCR.
IC Choir 6.15-8pm
Rehearsal. 342 MEng.
Dance Club 7pm
Autumn beginners. JCR.
Motorcycle club 7.30pm
Bike run round London. SL.
ULU Lesbian & Gay Soc 7.30pm Rm 2D, ULU,
Malet St, WC1.

The Bill 8pm
ITV. Reasonable drama on
the most frightening section
of the population. I don't
mean criminals.
Book at Bedtime 10.45pm
Radio4's daily production
eliminates the effort of
reading.

Duckman 11.45pm
BBC2. Almost really good
adult spoof cartoon. The
Simpsons is better.
Beavis & Butthead 12pm
C4. Like err... watch it,
and stuff.....

UCL Cinema 8pm
The Browning Version.

dEUS
LA2
tickets; to be confirmed
NOFX
Astoria
tickets; £6.50
for both gigs:
tube; Tottenham Ct. Road
0171 434 0403

Senser
Forum
tube; Kentish Town
0171 284 2200
tickets; £7.50
The Dharmas
High energy folk-rock at
UCL, Malet St, WC1.
Support college gigs!

Eat Drink Man Woman
Renoir, Brunswick Sq
0171 837 8402
tube; Russell Square
12.55, 5.25, 5.55, 8.30
tickets; £6, 1st perf £4
with concs £2.50

Coming out today:
Shawshank Redemption at
the Odeon Leicester Sq
Holy Matrimony at the
MGM Piccadilly

The Public Lavatory
Outside Christchurch
Spitalfields, Commercial
St, E1. Wed-Sun
noon-3pm. Until 15
March.
by Mary Anne Francis.

Anthony Gormley
The Turner prize winner
discusses his work with
Andrew Brighton at the
Tate Gallery 10am. £3.

NEXT
FRIDAY

RCSU UGM 1pm
Ents Lounge, Union.
Comedy Night 8pm
Featuring Chris &
George, Julian Barret and
Phil Davey. Newcastle
Brown giveaways. £2.50,
£1.50 ents. EL. Afterwards
'Love' disco and romance.

Labour Club 12.30pm
SL upper.
Islamic Society 1pm
Friday Prayers. SG.
ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

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Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

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Rag Meeting. EL.
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Advanced Step level IV. SG.

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Advanced Step level IV. SG.

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Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting. EL.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV. SG.

Guide

Times

R Regular Event

Places

SG Southside Gym
SL Southside Lounge
UDH Union Dining Hall
UCH Union Concert Hall
UG Union Gym
EL Ents Lounge
GH Great Hall
TTR Table tennis room

SMALL ADS

Careers Office
Rm 310 Sheffield, Open
10am-5.15pm, Mon - Fri.
Careers Info.

Milkround Closing Date
Six is Monday 6 Feb. Apply
before 4pm. Details of interviews
outside Careers Office.

**Test Practice - Preparing
for Psychometric Tests.**
A short course, Wed 15 Feb
2-4 pm, Huxley 344. Sign up
in Careers Office.

**Summer Vacation
Training**
Apply at Careers Office for
UROP opportunities

Pianist Wanted
For Opsoc's musical revue
20/21 March. 081 461 1694

Restraining
For tennis, badminton and
squash raquets in college.
Contact Jinyee ex 55680

**Student Interviewers
Wanted**
To conduct interviews on final
year students at end of Feb.
Earn £4- £5 per hour.
Contact Annie
Matthewman, 081 459
8767

Elsewhere

Arty Party
Freedom Cafe is exhibiting
the winners and the weird
entries to the Stella Dry
Mixed Media competition.
The brief said simply 'strong
yet light in taste'. The winner
shows a woman laying on
a bed with a bottle of
Stella and a dictophone. It is
named after Joseph Pujal,
famous for his ability to fart
well known tunes. No prizes
for guessing what the dicta-
phone is being used for.
60 Wardour St, W1.

RIBA
Hans Scharoun
The German modernist
architect.
66 Portland Place, W1.
Free. Also:
Products of Desire
Architects have always
had an odd fascination
with chairs. This mostly
furniture based exhibition
shows many. No sitting.

**Word for the
Week**
Fipple
Meaning: the mouth-
piece of a wind instru-
ment.
Example: Just before
the anaesthetic took
hold and the surgeons
began to remove the
fipple from his trachea,
Sandy decided to give
up both trampolining
and playing the
recorder.

Local Special!

Special Express Lunch Menu

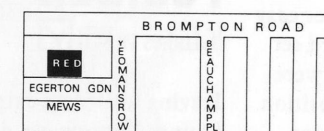
served between 12:00 to 2:00pm and 6:00 to 7:00pm

at **RED** of Knightsbridge 0171-584 7007

The best Chinese without artificial colouring and flavours.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| A. | Crispy lamb with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| B. | Sun Sing Chicken with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| C. | spare ribs with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| D. | Aromatic Crispy duck with pancakes | 5.00 |
| E. | Buddha pot rice (vegetarian) | 5.00 |
| F. | Beef in black beans with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| G. | Special fried rice (prawn, pork etc.) | 5.00 |
| I. | Singapore noodles (prawn, pork spicy) | 5.00 |
| J. | Hot and Sour fish with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |

Take away to your offices is also available



RED 8 Egerton Garden Mews Knightsbridge SW3

STUDENT INDUSTRIAL
SOCIETY

Election Time!

Yes, the SIS elections are taking place.

All positions are up for grabs.

All welcome

TODAY !

Venue: Union Lounge

Time : 1pm

Free Buffet!!!

Volleyball ☒

IC vs West Sussex

A six man squad left Imperial on Tuesday to play West Sussex University in the second round playoffs of the BUSA tournament.

It was evident from our performance in the first set that we had been subjected to non-stop talk Radio **Shervin Badamchi** for the 2 hour journey.

West Sussex had to do little to take the set from us. Slowly getting accustomed to the low ceiling, a hostile crowd of 20 girls and the sight of the coach of the next round's opposition sitting in the audience furiously taking notes, we played as if in a daze.

The next set was also finished in record time, despite judicious use of Time Outs by captain **Robert Stravens**. Again we didn't put up a fight, slipping under easy attacks. We entered the third set 2-0 down, knowing that we were capable of beating this opposition. But we had lost the confidence needed to finish our carefully choreographed attacks. Still in shock from the first 2 sets, we lost the third and the game with it. Some good play by **Ed Duffus** only delayed the end. "Our 4 best players couldn't come," we explained to them. Thick random poly we said to each other on the way back when **Shervin** paused for breath. The other players were **Sebastien fauzan**, **Piotr Stanczyk** and **Manfred Kraes**.

Orienteering ☺

Last Sunday's event was at Burnham Beeches, near Slough. We had very late start, so everyone got a lie-in, to such an extent that some people missed the bus.

William and **Matt** staggered around the 13km, M21 long course in respectable times of 100mins, only to find it had been won in 65mins. **Carol** staggered around the 9.3 km, W2IL course and got a gold standard. **Hans** stormed round the M21 short course but failed to get a gold standard, while **Shao Wei** also had a successful run. **Henza** and **Jenny** had fun on the Orange.

The day's highlights: muddy puddles. The day's lowlights: we didn't finish in time for the pub.

Badminton

IC men II vs Reading ☑

The first pair **H.S. Ooi** and **D. Hart** played well winning all three games, despite a slow start. **J. Kwok** and **H. Huay**, the second pair, did their part, winning only one game because **R. Huray** retired hurt in the last game. The experienced third pair, **C. Lim** (captain) and **A. Saw** played in their usual manner, only losing against the opposing first pair.

IC Ladies Ist vs U.E.A. ☑

An excellent result for the ladies team, taking us to the third round of the BUSA tournament. Well done to **Wendy, Danielle, Kate, Claire, Elaine** and **Barbara**.

Football

IC Ladies vs KCH ☑

Having waited an extra half an hour at Victoria, we discovered we were one player short. Undaunted, we made our way through the wilderness of south-west London to the KCH ground.

With a little extra effort from everyone, we were all over the opposition. Despite the chances available, nobody could finish anything off in the first half.

Star guests **Paula** (centre back) and **Juliette** (right forward), who scored the second scorcher, did well—as well as **Linda**, the QPR keeper we borrowed!

Woman of the match, **Paula Bates**, opened our scoring in the second half with a great shot, ripping apart KCH's defence.

Our usual keeper, **Thurka**, didn't let anyone past her on the right, matching **Emily's** (left back) performance. **Eleanor** in a new position, right mid-field, and **Helen** in left-mid performed superbly. **Ioanna** was a great help for **Maryam**, covering the centre of the pitch.

Paula B. said "the best chance they [KCH] had was the clearance **Maryam** made". The afore mentioned also scared the keeper, who did not know what her teammate was up to when she conceded that corner.

Thanks to all those who turned up. Well done! We deserved to win.

Sport	IC Team	Score	Opposition
Badminton	Men II	6 - 3	Reading
Badminton	Ladies I	7 - 2	U.E.A.
Football	Ladies	2 - 0	KCH
Football	Men II	5 - 4	RHLMC III
Squash	Men I	3 - 2	LSE
Squash	Men IV	3 - 1	St Mary's I
Football	Men VI	1 - 2	RLHMC
Volleyball	Men	0 - 3	West Sussex

IC 2nd vs RHLMC III ☑

On Saturday 4th February, the Pie-eaters extended their winning run in the league to 6 games. Royal Holloway were absolutely gulted when we beat them 5-4, with "Nixo" scoring the winning goal with 5 minutes to go. Dodgy middle eastern geeler **B. Kebab** also claimed a hat-trick.

IC II vs QMWC II ☑

Wednesday the 8th saw a 9 goal thriller. "Silver Fox" **John Day** got a hat-trick and **P. "slag" Siverns** put someone in Hospital after breaking his ribs. As usual **Scott Osbourne** and **T. Hallet** took the piss at the back and **C. Lord** looked as sexy as a mountain goat. "Banana" **Fouskos** was his usual self, although more polite than usual to the opposition. **Tai** stood in and looked more than comfortable as a debut slag.

Two glorious performances promise much—IC II are second in the league and in the semi-finals of the London Cup.

C'mon lads lets not loose that loving feeling!!

Squash

IC I vs LSE ☑

The IC squash steamroller continues! On Wednesday, the IC Ist team beat LSE 3-2 to move into the third round of the BUSA knock-out tournament. Despite various coughs and colds, not to mention some very "creative" refereeing, **Sonaar Shah**, **Craig Robinson** and **Aman Zafar** won their matches, making up for **Adam Waddington's** and **Adam Bettinson's** losses. **Craig** deserves a special mention as he was lucky enough (?) to be called into the team at the last minute and won the crucial 3rd game.

IC Men IV vs St Marys Ist ☑

We won 3-1 against St Marys and the individuals results were as follows: **Nick** lost 2-3, **Dave** won 3-0, **Garry** (captain) won 3-0 and **Alex** won 3-0.

Highlights of the match were; the girl (**Charlie**) who played for St Marys at number 4 against **Alex**, the fish'n'chips in the union afterwards and the pub in Paddington that stayed open until 1 o'clock, serving drinks.

Cross Country

London Colleges League ☺

Despite the atrocious weather conditions and the absence of West London Institute to mark the course out, Imperial took up the challenge running with zealous velocity, but not quite as fast as their post-race departure to the nearest pub.

A late burst from **Ollie** was not quite enough to catch the super fit flyaway **Andy**. Exceptional performances were shown by **James** and **Gerald**, but were was our fifth runner? Outstanding placings from **Emily** and **Kay** should ensure that the women will be league champions again.

Men:

Andy Overend (14th)
Ollie Brown (15th)
James Tindal-Robertson (22nd)
Gerald Johnson (34th)

Women:

Emilie Collins (3rd)
Kay Macdonald (6th)

Saturday 18th February

Hyde Park Relays: Marshalls needed. Anyone interested should sign their name on the cross-country notice board, under the main staircase in the Imperial College Union building.