

FELIX



The Student Newspaper of Imperial College

No1025 22MAR95

Referendum on NUS: Next Term

ANDREW DORMAN-SMITH & LYNN BRAVEY

Imperial College Union (ICU) students will finally have the first chance since 1977 to vote on their Union's affiliation to the National Union of Students (NUS). With 1,000 votes needed to make the referendum valid, voting is likely to take place across college during the whole of the third week of next term.

ICU Council agreed to a referendum at their last meeting, despite earlier showing reticence, after members described how they gathered the necessary 200 petition signatures with considerable ease. Whilst it was clear that not all students supported joining, virtually everyone who was asked agreed that students themselves should decide.

Students will make their choice throughout college on the 8th and 9th May. Imperial College Union is expected to widely publicise the referendum, in an attempt to ensure the required turnout. Ballot boxes may even be taken to student Halls in the evenings.

To regulate the campaigning, activists have been encouraged to form distinct groups. Sarah Thomas, the new C&G President, has agreed to chair the Anti lobby, and George

Konstantinidis chair the Pro group. Initially a spending limit of £160 has been set for each campaign, but there has been speculation that the NUS and the Conservative Party will fund the respective activities: a move which could cause the figure to rise substantially.

Meanwhile, with Union Exec members and Clubs and Societies funds being barred from the forthcoming battle, IC's Conservative Society have been forced to remove part of their World Wide Web page. Two of their members printed highly opinionated articles on the "extremist and corrupt NUS": the vitriolic attack has now been silenced.

Feelings were exacerbated when the NUS failed to arrive on time to a widely publicised meeting on the 9th March. The meeting was supposed to provide a forum for discussion on ICU's decision on whether to join the NUS. The NUS representatives arrived at Imperial over an hour late, by which time most of those who had turned up had left in disgust.

Helen-Loiuse Windsor, a first year Chemist and ConSoc member, said: "We sat there for 40 minutes, then they didn't show up. Some bloke came in and said 'something else has come up so they're not coming'."



Imperial College Chaplain Paul Brice has proved to be a man with both a medium and a message following his first prize in an IBM creative computer competition, writes Jon Jordan. Paul entered the ambiguously titled 'Freestyle' section of IBM's 'Leonardo da Vinci Award', submitting his multi-media 'Virgin on the Unbelievable' show (originally written for the College carol service last year. He is pictured above receiving his trophy from Mr Simon Dyson, IBM UK's Director of Software. In addition to the trophy, Paul won an IBM Thinkpad notebook computer.

Merv Adams Mourned

Merv Adams, a PhD student in the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department, died from a heart attack whilst playing football for the Royal School of Mines on Sunday 12th March.

He was a seasoned Imperial student, having started his studies on the department's MEng course in 1989. Following his 2:1 degree he was sponsored by the Science and Engineering Research Council and Northern Telecom to study for a PhD. His innovative work in commun-

ications has led his death to be described as a great loss to the electronics industry.

A private and conscientious person, Merv came from Belfast and lived this year in Claypolds. He was planning to move into industry, having already presented a number of papers with his supervisor.

Eight members of his department together with one of his team mates attended his funeral last Friday. There are plans to have a Memorial Service to him in London later this year.

STOP!

DON'T FORGET YOUR EASTER SUPPLEMENT.

news&newsreview	one&two&three&four	editorial&credits	five
cat&mouse	six	incoming	six&seven
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three day guide: 3!?!	twentythree	sport	twentyfour

News Review Spring 1995

BY ANDY SINHARAY



It was in the midst of Beit Brawls, ex-miners earning millions, certain sabbs having lockjaw and KCL finding themselves a tad lacking in the stone lion department that college closed for the holiday. But no sooner had Santa Claus left South Ken, IC launched into a literally fiery new year...

January

Arson attacks, absent aero assessments and NUS affiliation were on the agenda...

FELIX 1016

Linstead was still recovering following an arson attack before Christmas. "The situation was tackled well," the warden said. (The now notoriously overactive smoke alarm system was still not running). ICU's new constitution got passed, despite various complications, notably the much-amended 'Mary's Amendment' while the fact that ICU itself could soon be in Sherfield met with mixed reactions. IC's ex-rector Sir Eric Ash became Acting Head of the maligned Student Loans Company, who say his experience is 'a valuable asset.'

FELIX 1017

As the OSC squeezed the world into the JCR to publicise International Week, Aero exam papers went AWOL, vanishing into the Christmas postal quagmire. 4th years relaxed as exams were postponed. If the summer papers were to disappear, an Aero chief mused: "I don't know what you'd do then, jump out of the window or something." An election fiasco loomed; premonitions of the results or turnout? Actually, not enough swipe card readers would be available. Our social guardian, ICU Council, got its members writing to MPs highlighting student poverty; in contrast it was reported that nationally, IC receives the most academic funding per student. But student fraud still remains a problem. Sir Eric clearly has his work cut out.

FELIX 1018

Another brawl, another venue: Queen's Lawn. In the wake of a catalogue of violent incidents, caution was called for when organising drink-related events. The first candidate in the sabb elections came forward with campaign manager - New Election, passionately persuading IC's electorate not to vote for any of the other candidates. Meanwhile, back in good old Beit, puzzled punters mistook a rape alarm test for a car alarm; albeit one emanating from a car on the first floor. It now seems anything could happen in IC's own Bermuda Quadrangle.

Birkbeck Safe

BY ANDY SINHARAY

Birkbeck College claims to have "not lost a bean" after being caught out investing in Baring's Bank. The merchant bank, which recently collapsed after over-extension in its derivatives trading, included some £6.5m of Birkbeck's investments. Fears had been expressed that the money could be lost completely.

Although initially reluctant to talk to FELIX, a Birkbeck spokesman later insisted: 'We have lost nothing'. He later confirmed that their money was intact, having been safely deposited in a clearing bank.

Arrangements were made last month with the National Westminster Bank to ensure that staff salaries could be paid. A £2m loan was made by the

Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), which has since been paid back. It is also understood that Birkbeck College will not now be making representations for compensation to HEFCE or other bodies.

FELIX was told that NatWest had been "very accommodating" and there is a sense of relief over the incident, which seems to be considered as past history. "From our position it was a bit of a non-event," Birkbeck insist.

Imperial's own bank is the NatWest, and IC's Finance Director Mike Hanson stressed that Imperial has had nothing whatsoever to do with Baring's. However, he said that prior to their collapse they were a "solid bank... and a good credit risk."

ICU Cash-Cut?

BY ANDREW SMITH

Imperial College Union's Clubs and Societies are set to curtail their activities next year with their funding likely to drop in real terms.

College's subvention, which makes up the vast majority of ICU's income has (after inflation) been cut, a move College blames on their overall financial position. While present budget proposals are still not formally agreed there is a working assumption that with IC taking a cut in their budget, ICU will have to do the same.

Speaking to FELIX Mike Hansen, Director of Finance, pointed out that with increased trade the Union Bookstore and other trading outlets should be able to increase funding. This is not being taken for granted by Union officials; the latest Union Finance Committee calculated its spending plans envisaging less money in real terms.

Two of the big losers were Rag and Community Action, losing just over 30% and 50% of their budgets respectively. With rising paper prices even causing

major printing problems for the News International, Imperial College's publications also look likely to be hit. Needing £4,000 to offset current paper price rises, UFC decided to only grant the a £1,000 rise. This is likely to result in either a decrease in the size of the publications themselves, or, suggests one insider, to force students to 'share' their copies of publications such as FELIX.

Having already agreed to pay for an extra member of ICU's finance staff, College's £8,500 proposed increase on their £558,000 subvention clearly will not be able to cover inflation. Due to taxation changes the Union also faces increased sports costs and a loss of revenue from gaming machines further adding to depressed financial situation.

While Mr Hansen stressed that present plans had yet to be approved by the Rector or the Board of Governors he defended the proposals. The Director of Finance stated that in his opinion Union had not been 'disproportionally disadvantaged' further suggesting that there was 'no reason to believe that other Union income will decrease'.

No New Election

BY JOHN SINNER AND
ANDREW SMITH

This year's newly elected sabbaticals almost lost their jobs before they began as last Tuesday's Imperial College Union (ICU) Council ran close to ordering a rerun of the elections.

With one member changing his vote during a second count, the decision rested with the Council Chair. John Durrell, permanent chair of ICU Council, took the pivotal decision of rejecting the motion, which condemned the elections and proposed a fresh ballot. Moments earlier Stian Ingebrethsen, the Aeronautics Academic Rep. and attending his first meeting, asked for an explanation of the motion. As a result, he changed his vote.

Piers Williams proposed the motion, seeking a rerun of the elections and asking Council to 'declare a vote of no confidence in the Elections Committee for failing to adhere to the constitution'. Piers, who manned the St. Mary's Union ballot box, cited two incidences where students directly asked him who they were block voting for.

The medics defended their action, reported in FELIX 1024, of distributing hundreds of 'sample voting papers' to their students, on the grounds that

Mary's voting procedures were different to those of ICU. This slip featured the names of the actual candidates as an 'example' of how to fill in the ballot papers.

Piers Williams, sitting on Council as Publications Board Chair, argued that these 'sample voting papers' signed by Claire Maloney and Rahul Joshi, St Mary's President and Vice President, constituted a form of Union 'media'.

The motion before Council also stated that the position of an ICU Exec Committee member on the Elections Committee was unconstitutional. The ICU President, Lucy Chothia, has now admitted that this is true, saying: "the Constitution was definitely broken". She earlier apologised: "I definitely made a mistake." Lucy insisted that this had not affected the result of the sabbatical elections.

After heated debate, a count was called, resulting in 15 voting for a rerun of the elections and 14 others insisting that the elections were constitutional. As the implication of having to rerun the ballot dawned, a more careful recount proceeded with the one change of vote resulting in a 14 all draw. John Durrell, Council Chair, was then called on to make the casting decision, saving IC from another election.



News Review
Spring 1995

February

Days of Beit bar break-ins, computer heists and yes, electioneering, as politicians came and went, some never to return...

FELIX 1019

"Shallow, abusive, personalised and inconsequential" said LabSoc guest Tony Benn, not of ConSoc but of the current political system. Elsewhere pro-Euro Tory David Hunt spoke to an audience of Euro-sceptic ConSoc members. A student was threatened with prison for alleged GBH (in a separate incident). Election fever began to not so much hot up as tepid up with rumours propagating wildly over who would be standing. 'FEELSIK' and 'FIDO' appeared: one claiming that DP(C&S) Ian Parish is an alien. ICU is in Beit Quad, remember.

FELIX 1020

Back in reality, Beit Quad powered back into the headlines with a vengeance after the Union Bar was raided by students of King's College London (KCL). Ghassan Karian, prospective ULU president and Labour councillor, also President of KCLSU, now believes mascotry to be "toss" (despite displaying an interest earlier in the year). The NUS also dropped by – to persuade Council of the benefits of affiliation. And Election 'Fever' rose from tepid to positively luke-warm as the first candidates signed up.

FELIX 1021

Confession! KCL's Cllr/President Karian admitted that he'd knowingly misled ICU over the bar break-in: he'd handed over the keys for the minibus used in the raid. Denying that he'd lied over the incident, he preferred to say that a 'collective cover-up decision' had been made. Students were denied a referendum on the NUS issue on technicalities, one being the upcoming sabb elections. (A technicality which had candidates declaring themselves all over the shop). Political inactivity of a different kind saw ConSoc snubbing another Tory MP. A furious Theresa Gorman wandered around college with no-one to meet her. ConSoc said there was a "breakdown in communication with Mrs Gorman's private office."

FELIX 1022

It was the turn of computing students to put their feet up, Aero style, due to a £30,000 theft of computers. Election papers came down, campaigning began in earnest, and the campus was deluged with a rain forest's worth of posters. Meanwhile, the C&G election preamble wasn't doing quite so well... Back at ConSoc, Lord Archer arrived, declaring the publicly advertised meeting private. Consequently his fascinating views of sex scandals, John Major and his own salary went unreported. Gliding Club also had their newest aircraft publicised with infamous inaccuracy...



Photo: Ivan Chan

Last Friday Imperial College saw the private launch of National Science Week 1995 (SET95) writes John Sinner. It features a series of events organised by the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Ministers for both Science and Technology and Agriculture, David Hunt and William Waldegrave, were amongst the VIPs who participated in the launch in a marquee in Princes Gardens, which even featured a presentation by IBM. As part of SET95, IC was the site for the 'BAYSDAY', pictured above, the British Association's Youth Section's annual event. It was open to 8-18 year olds and featured "Balloons, Bubbles and Boomerangs".

News Review

Spring 1995



March

In time honoured style, the elections reached a much needed conclusion; FELIX kept looking, however, and found more news elsewhere in an anarchic cross-campus battleground of computer rifling, International Night fights, vociferous fire alarms and a misquoted Gliding Club who have yet to be understood...

FELIX 1023

...but whose erratum is it anyway? Two conflicting letters from Gliding Club hit the letters pages leaving no-one any the wiser. Meanwhile the previously sane people who had mutated into election candidates were now fielding both flans and questions from the Mary's Medics. The C&G elections came and went with barely a whimper, and a 7% turnout: "less and late publicity" was one reason given. In another suburb of Election City, Ghassan Karian was elected ULU President, admitting that he'd occasionally tell "fibs" though promising he'd try to be honest most of the time. Elsewhere, JapanSoc boycotted International Night and criticised the OSC chair's handling of the event, saying that they didn't get early enough notice. "Nobody else had problems, nobody else has complained," the OSC chair Andreas Merishin said as he stumbled over pride on the way to a fall.

FELIX 1024-E

Results! Election fever finally came to a head as the visitors were announced to a crowded DaVinci's bar. Tears as well as alcohol flowed freely as winners and losers either celebrated or drowned sorrows: in between giving booze-soaked interviews to the assembled journos...

FELIX 1024

The morning-after-the-night-before, and the elections still refused to leave FELIX alone. The St Mary's Union defended the block vote, where students seem to have been openly advised on how to choose candidates (in stark contrast to IC where students seemed to have been openly advised on how to avoid voting completely). A mere 17% turned out. Against fierce background controversy, International Night was a sell-out success – although Andreas Merishin "didn't expect it to go so well". DoC was targeted once again by thieves, whilst the Linstead Fire Alarms screamed at the faintest whiff of smoke. The Warden said the "ridiculous" system was effectively "life threatening because nobody takes it seriously anymore." In another development, furious research staff were asked to waive rights after changes made to their terms and conditions by college.

FELIX 1025

Errm...

News in Brief

BY LYNN BRAVEY

OSC Makes Up

The Overseas Societies Committee (OSC) seem to have resolved their differences following huge rows centring on the organisation of International Night. A general meeting was held last week and it was agreed that next year's committee would receive training (which had not been given this year). The elections for the new executive will be held on the second week of next term.

Meanwhile, the OSC are remaining tight-lipped about a fight which took place during Lebanese night on Friday March 10th. A guest kicked in a window in the Sherfield building and several students were reported to be involved in a brawl on the dance floor during the disco.

Security were active: Mr Terry Briley, Deputy Head of Security told FELIX: "We had a busy night keeping the peace."

Mines Election Results

Over a third of students voted in the Royal School of Mines Union elections held last week. The results were announced at 9.30pm on 14th March with the following people gaining posts. President Leonard Kolff; Vice-President Jason Clarke; Honourary Secretary Nick Brett; Honourary Junior Treasurer Omar Kheir; Foreign Students Officer Reidar Grevescott; Sports Officer Paul Webber; Pit Editor Julian Rees; Academic Affairs Officer Rosie Prophet; Beverage Engineer Harry Normand; Welfare Officer Willy Millard; Ball Officers Cerys Biancardi; Claire Huxley and Faye Matthewman; Ents Officer Myles Barrett; Publicity Officer Rennie Lloyd; Davy Bearer Andy Harrison.

Sabbatical Elect Ejected

Deputy President (Clubs and Societies) elect, Tim Townend, was asked to leave IC Union premises last Friday night after being involved in a drunken brawl.

The second year Mechanical Engineering student was reportedly throwing a rugby ball around the Union foyer when he

hit a fellow punter in the face, reacting aggressively to efforts to calm him. As FELIX went to press, it was not clear whether Union disciplinary action would be taken.

Elec Eng in Storm

Five students were hospitalised on Friday afternoon when a 9 x 3 plate glass window blew onto the front row of a first year electrical engineering lecture theatre.

Situations Vacant

The outlook for Graduate career opportunities is looking brighter following the opening of a new post within our own college. Imperial College is seeking an Assistant Planning Officer to "strengthen its existing academic planning team" according to an advertisement placed in this week's Times Higher Education Supplement.

Graduates holding a good honours degree in a numerate discipline should apply by 10/4/95 to Ms Michelle Hammond, Room 426 Sherfield Building.

CVCP Urge Rethink

A report from the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) published last week questions government higher education policy. Dr Kenneth Edwards, Chairman of CVCP, said that without a 'fundamental rethink of university finance', the present system would ultimately damage the quality of higher education.

The CVCP report analyses the recent higher education expansion against its funding background, urging the government to lift the current intake-cap. Although the government aim to have 33% of school leavers going into higher education by the end of the century, they will not lift the cap on intake numbers until 1998/99.

The amount of money available per student has fallen by 25% since 1989. Whilst the CVCP acknowledge that improved efficiency has helped to deal with the funding squeeze, they are concerned that it has caused academic staff wages to fall, and has lowered investment for the future.

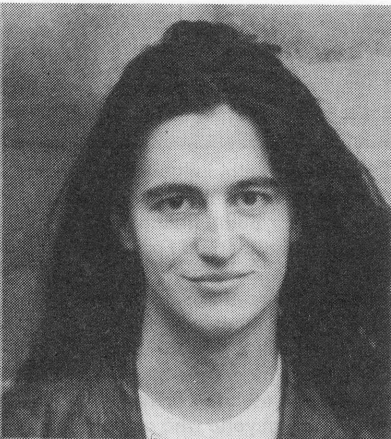
editorial

Tokyo Nerve-Gassing

It's Monday afternoon and somebody has just entered the office with an Evening Standard and the above news story. I'm struck by it – it seems so unreal, the plot of a James Bond film or a cyberpunk thriller. The archaic weapon makes the brutality even clearer. Somebody invented that gas to kill people, and seventy years on it still does.

Despite bans on chemical weapons we all know how to make them. It is banal to say that inventions cannot be uninvented, okay, it's also banal to talk about starving children. But could a poison gas never have been invented? Could successive scientists have refused to work poison gas?

This reminded me of a theme of Prof. Joseph Weizenbaum, of the MIT AI lab and now an active raiser of ethical-awareness. He asked attendants at the 'Philosophy and Ethics of



Science' conference held here last Saturday to consider whether the work they were doing was 'Noontime' or 'Midnight'. He agreed that there were grey areas but the argument that one might not know the results of ones work only means that one should abandon it. "I'm not the judge of ethical issues," he said. "I'm only asking you to at least consider what you are doing."

Because at the moment it seems that nobody does.

Death to the Easter Bunny
I'm sorry, I'm afraid I'm going to have to squash the 'Cadbury's

cream egg' debacle before one more person wanders into this office saying 'How do they get the cream' etc. The centre of the egg is first made as a solid and then coated in chocolate. Cunningly, an enzyme known as Invertase has already been added to the would-be-cream. This enzyme breaks down the solid over a period time to produce the creamy egg we eat today. The process can take up to two months... Santa Klaus anyone? (I also step on ants).

So this is Easter

It's finally dawning on me that I'll soon be out of FELIX. It's strange, it – of course – only seems like yesterday that I started. Eight issues of the thirty-three left! Good luck to everyone who has to face the end of their time at IC with examinations.

Thanks to all the excellent people who helped out with FELIX this term. Your continual enthusiasm never fails to cheer and astound me. The summer will be a fun one: I hope you all stick around for the final sundown.

Credits

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S-Files	Rebecca Mileham
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Sport	Juliette Decock and Mark Baker
Standby	Jon Jordan
Theatre	Joseph Barr

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Back to the Futurists

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Head of Security Responds... Marcus/Frater... Understandable ? OSC try a change of heart ! A Failed Candidate Comes Clean...

Edited this week by

Andrew Smith

Fire !

Response to Article "Fire Alarms Linstead" Felix 10 March 1995.

The College is morally and legally committed to ensuring the safest possible fire precautions for students and staff alike.

The standard of fire precautions is dictated by legislation and College premises are regularly inspected by the relevant Authorities.

The standard, sensitivity and sophistication of equipment used is dictated by the relevant British Standards.

The College is very much aware that the living style of students is different from those members of the public who normally reside in House of Multiple Occupation and Hotels. Every effort is being made to ensure as little disruption as possible and frequent meetings are held with the relevant Authorities regarding specific problems.

Life saving equipment is not installed unnecessarily, and the type and standard of equipment is directly related to the risk factor and legislative requirements.

There has to be a reason for an alarm activation, it is either a malicious false alarm, or a genuine incident has activated the system. The great majority of alarms to date have been caused as a direct result of cooking facilities, burning candles, joss sticks, and persons removing detectors. Although these incidents are a nuisance to occupants, they are caused by occupants, they are genuine activations and the fire alarm system is performing the function for which it is designed.

It is of interest to note, that during the periods when Residences are let to the public, fire alarm activations are virtually zero.

The College is making every effort to ensure the safety of students and staff in all environments, and the Fire Section of the Security Department seeks your assistance in this continuing commitment.

All suggestions and comments will be discussed and given consideration, however, College has no option but to work within the frame work of the relevant legislation.

Please remember fire, smoke and fumes can and do kill. Smoke and fume inhalation accounts for the greatest proportion of fire related deaths each year.

Upgraded systems are being installed to protect you. This type of full protection is new but

essential in Halls of Residence, we all have to accept a period of adjustment.

Keith Reynolds
Fire/Security Manager.

While no one doubts your commitment to safety, what is the point of highlighting the lack of alarms during public lettings if you say that you recognise that student occupancy is different? How can a system that has been activated due to ordinary cooking or because of showers be suitable for student halls? Using legislation to defend the changes is one thing, but is the prime objective of the new system the protection of students or the legal provision for the Accommodation Office to operate halls as hotels during student vacations ?

Fiam/Marcus !

Dear Felix,

Simon Baker, it seems, is doing himself a great disservice. In last week's issue he claimed to be unable to understand what, or my associate, were talking about; and yet his letter betrays the fact that he has a great understanding of our writings. He seems to know at least as much as I do about Yves Klein, and he is able to discuss the workings of Frater Fiam's articles with a high level of erudition. So why does he want to claim that I and the Frater are incomprehensible and meaningless? One can only assume that he is suffering from peer pressure, that his less than intelligent friends have spent the last year haranguing him about his love of intelligentsia. Thus, in a feeble attempt to gain some street-cred, Mr Baker has written this bizarre letter in which he firstly claims that Frater Fiam writes "purple prose which says absolutely nothing" then continues by explaining how he disagreed with the topic of the Frater's previous column. Surely if Mr Baker really found the Frater's articles meaningless, then he could not argue about the topics contained within them?

More importantly however, there are a few inaccuracies that I must rectify. Mr Baker's claim that I am the Frater is unfounded and blatantly untrue. I am no more the Frater than Kurtz is Conrad, and his writings are not my responsibility. On his behalf however, I must point out he never talked of the common cold as "some kind of pleasure inducing drug". He merely stated that they

provide "mental influence" which "can sometimes be useful.". And on another point, neither I nor my good and esteemed Frater are inclined to use Roget's Mega, or any other thesaurus, for we have no need of them.

I am well aware that the Frater's work is seen by the lazy and naive as "utter drivel"; however, anyone who actually bothered to read them carefully would discover that each one contains a wealth of information. Admittedly, much of it is hidden or described obtusely, but it is not beyond the means of the average degree student to see through such disguises. So if Mr Baker spent his time actually reading the Frater's columns rather than providing us with his poorly constructed witticisms, then he might just find that it is his life, and not just Felix, which is much improved this year.

Yours, Marcus Alexander

I cannot discuss Frater's incomprehensibility, as my claim to fame is never having read past the first paragraph of any of his epics, but then maybe I am 'lazy and naive'. Marcus though can be quite interesting, when understandable.

Kevin Speaks

Dear Owain,

As I haven't been elected, I had better come clean about my real policies :-

taxing of lectures in order to subsidize beer. Pay as you learn! use library resources as an extra form of heating in the union bar.

banning of the word "sex" in college unless a demonstration accompanies.

1/3 of male population should have a sex change, in order to keep numbers even.

pillows, blankets, and carpet slippers to be supplied to all lecture theatres.

mortgage off the Sherfield Building in order to buy a brewery. lobby parliament to introduce sheep onto Hyde Park.

This is in response into Marcus Alexander's article saying that no presidential candidates have any policies. I object to the St. Mary's idea that they can rule ICU. But I support Sarah White in her victory.

Kevin Ward
ICU Presidential Candidate
1995. (Lost)

Yeah go for it Kev !

OSC Fight ?

Dear Felix,

As overseas students at Imperial we wish hereby to thank Messrs. Sinner, Dua and Samarasingh for their highly informative and illuminating letter in Felix 1024 ('Night of the long knives').

Were it not for this letter, we would never have found out that three members of the exec. of our Committee consider that the exec. Chairman has a 'distinctly disorganised way of handling affairs' and a 'lack of communication', and makes public statements they claim are 'not true'. We would never have found out that they have been forming this opinion 'throughout the year'. And we would never have found out that, while they thought that 'this disorganisation became even more obvious during the last week of preparations for International Night', they failed for reasons undisclosed to tender their resignations at that time with effect after the end of International Night. This would have given them the opportunity to separate their responsibilities while still making their services available to the exec. for the organisation of International Night, and was the only decent course of action their stated opinion would have allowed them if discharging their duty to the people who elected them was their priority.

Were is not for this letter, we would have been unaware that we had elected to the exec. of our Committee persons so totally unconcerned with the status of that exec. as the representative body of Imperial overseas students that they would sign a letter alleging that its competence was compromised by a Chairman they consider lacking in the necessary skills, IN THEIR CAPACITIES AS ELECTED MEMBERS OF THAT EXEC.!

Thus we would never have found out that at least three of the people elected to represent Imperial overseas students seem to assume that the OSC exec. is an oligarchy entitled to use the capacities of the posts they have been democratically elected to in backstage machinations, and that the people they represent and are accountable to are either morons or so apathetic it makes no difference.

But who knows? They may be right, after all. If this Wednesday's Chairman's meeting of the OSC doesn't face these gentlemen with the logical consequences of their

actions by demanding their resignations with a full public apology to the people who elected them for using their mandate in such an undemocratic, underhanded and callously insensitive manner, and if it does not demand full public debate of the matters to do with International Night which allegedly led to the shambolic letter referred to above with full disclosure of the facts, the truth of the above assumption will be proven beyond doubt.

Yours etc,
Bernhard Bodmann,
George Karaolides,
Xavier Siemens
Blackett Laboratory

Dear Felix,

We want to apologise to both you and Mr. Mershin for handing in last week's 'Night of the Long Knives' letter. As your guest editor pointed out correctly, that letter was a mistake. We should have tried to settle our differences within the OSC in the first place, instead of dragging them out into the public and into Felix.

Following a discussion last Friday, everybody is reconciled and OSC exec will hopefully be able to work well until the end of this year.

John Sinner
Rahul Dua
Duncan Samarasinghe

Dear Sir or Madam,

First of all I would like to point out that International Night '95 was a sold out success and a tribute to the multicultural and truly international nature of IC's academic community. For this event to happen, students from all parts of the world had to work together, in order to introduce and educate a wide and diverse audience to the cultures of their home countries. It so happened that students coming from countries that have been in open or concealed conflict for more time than anyone can remember, worked side by side proving once more that it is the governments that do the wars and not the people.

The Overseas Students' Committee was in charge of organising the event and as it is only natural during the organisation of an event of such magnitude, there were arguments, anxiety, stress and some good laughs as well.

Referring to the letter in last week's FELIX: 'Night of the Long Knives', I must point out that the OSC exec. officers that signed the letter have apologised for acting at the heat of the moment and during an OSC exec. meeting last Friday we managed to resolve all matters that have led to their letter. I must admit that the stress of setting-up the largest-student organised event of IC got us and there was a

temporary breakdown in communication between some of us.

However, we are now back on line with a St. Patrick's Day Disco in the MDH (Sherfield Building) today, organised jointly with the Kensington Committee for Friendship of Overseas Students (KCFOS). entrance is £2 for OSC or KCFOS members if bought in advance from 14 Princes Gardens or £3 at the door. There are prizes to be won.

sincerely yours,
Andreas Mershin
Chairman, Overseas' Students
Committee
Imperial College Union

Dear Editor,

Last Saturday night the Hellenic Society organised a rather unusual event. Four bands namely Wild Angel, Arpa Cola, Gyalia Karfia (the Society's own band) and Christinas Band performed live in the ICU lounge. They gave us a wide range of music from "rempetika" (Greek popular music often described as the greek blues) to Hard Rock. We would like to thank the musicians for participating, the Jazz & Rock society and Dram Soc for their kind support and the audience for attending. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the OSC and its president Andreas Mershin for organising the International Night. We as the Hellenic Society

participated in all the events (food fair and cultural show) and we believe that it was a very nice and well coordinated team effort. We thus believe that the criticisms heard after the event (see letters to last weeks felix) are unfair for the OSC and for the effort they put in organising everything despite the various problems.

Yours sincerely,
Nikos Doukas
Publicity Officer, Hellenic
Society
Harry Hatzkis
Chairman, Hellenic Society

As readers are encouraged to write to FELIX it was good to see opinions expressed in the last issue. This week though as everyone seems to be rushing to retract and rebuff any and every criticism, I just feel that it is a pity that nobody is prepared to stand by their original views. All this insistence that everything is hunky dory in the OSC just does not wash considering previous comments. How can either the chairman or executive committee members both write and say such damaging things about each other and then suddenly be best of friends? It's all too much

Letters may be commented on by a guest editor, whose opinions are not necessarily those of the editor, and cut due to space restrictions. Deadline: Monday 6.00pm.

Cat & mouse

In Felix 1023 Marcus Alexander suggested the abolition of the CCUs. As active members of the RCSU, we would like to present the other side of the argument.

Marcus suggests that the CCUs are an "outdated anachronism". Perhaps we are just suckers for history, but if they were abolished, what would they be replaced with? Faculties of Science, Engineering and Mineral Studies? The same idea under a shining "new university" name? Remove the power from the hands of the students and present

it to the faceless administration?

There are, we suggest, three reasons why students aren't more involved with their CCU: (1) our union is so good we don't have to fight for anything; (2) the average IC student's workload is too high to bother once he/she is in a special interest society; or (3) students don't realise they can be involved - they see their CCU as cliquey club.

Perhaps students aren't aware of the services provided by their

support given by the CCUs because of the diversity of courses. CCUs enable first years to meet friendly 2nd and 3rd years on their course. Okay, you do this anyway through any old club or society, but how much time do you spend at a meeting discussing work? How else would you find out what lies ahead?

The eternal events problem mentioned by Marcus is a different matter altogether - attributable to lack of money

"Generally the CCUs need an injection of enthusiasm"

CCU. It's not just sports and mascotry - which incidentally, is not "sad", it's a lot of fun and a good rag fund-raiser. The CCUs cut IC into a less daunting size. Even though we are an all-science college, it would still be difficult for ICU to provide the academic

rather than lack of interest in CCUs. If a student only spends £15 a week on food, how can he/she afford £45 for one night?

Generally the CCUs need an injection of enthusiasm, and we believe the imminent arrival of St Mary's on the IC campus will do

this. Mary's has been a separate college until recently, and in many ways still is. Will Mary's fall down to the current CCU apathy level? Somehow, if the hustings are anything to go by, we think not. The minuscule turnout at IC hustings compared to Mary's show that perhaps we have an Imperial College apathy problem rather than a CCU one.

Constituent College Unions are fundamental to the individuality of Imperial College. We, the authors of this articles, do not see ourselves as "sad" and believe we have enough personality to stand up without any "silly scarves". However we are proud to be members of Imperial College Union and we are proud to belong to the Royal College of Science. "Apathy" is an over-used word, but don't let it deny us this unique privilege.

Helen-Louise Windsor and
Stuart Jenkins.

The opinions expressed in "Cat & Mouse" do not necessarily reflect those of FELIX or its editorial staff. If you want to make a contribution, contact FELIX on x48072 or come to the office in Beit Quad.

In the abstract world of mathematics, objects such as N , Z , primes, and triangles exist. If we have an idea, a theorem, then we are convinced that two such abstract objects are linked. A proof sets up the link; it provides a means of 'equating' the first object with the second. Implicit in the above statement is that the theorem exists before its proof: discovery always supercedes justification.

As we move away from this abstract world a chain of dependencies is set up. Logicians supply proofs for the pure mathematician, Pure mathematicians supply proofs for the applied mathematician and engineer. The more we get into the real world, the more there is the suspicion that proofs might be nothing more than a matter of psychology, of belief. Indeed, proofs have been defined as "...gas, rhetorical flourishes designed to affect psychology, pictures on the board in the lecture, devices to stimulate the imagination of pupils".

A proof is a reason, but they have to be justified too. In the case where a proof is a few lines long, this is easy. But what if the proof is hundreds of pages long, imports other proofs that too are hundreds of pages long, and uses concepts that no single person can fully understand? Andrew Wiles' proof of Fermat's Last Theorem is a case in point. Here it seems that proof can be defined as 'being accepted by a large number of eminent mathematicians'.

A similar case is that of computer generated proofs such as that for the Four-Colour Problem. The kind of exhausting, repetitive procedure needed could only have been performed by a computer program. Yet who is to check the code, the compiler, the hardware?

This more sociological idea of proof is unnerving: psychology and language always bring out notions of solipsism. Interestingly, the reason that proofs work may lie in the fact that proofs do not prove anything, they serve only to improve our conjectures.

Samir

Reference: Imre Lakatos. *Proofs and Refutations*. Cambridge.

F Frater Flam writes F

Your Frater has recently discovered yet another failing in the structure of this modern society; for it is a grave fact that in this world of no hardship, still the majority seem to suffer. This malaise which afflicts so many is one that is touted everywhere — on the streets, on the screens, and yea within even the pages of this own hallowed tabloid. This illness, this problem, this disease, is stress.

The concept of psychological stress seems a curiously modern phenomenon. One cannot recall, in the accounts of the ancient Latins, any mention of such an emotion (for, being largely 'of the mind', stress could most usefully be classed as an emotion). In the letters of Pliny the Younger, that revered epistolary master of old, one does not encounter discussions of the stressful lives of the Roman upper class. Yet your Frater does wonder if their lives could really have been more simple than those lived now? There seem to exist two almost contradictory elements in the generation of stress, both of which are largely accidents of modern culture (or, more accurately, the lack of it).

One factor is the seeming multitude of free choice with which modern man is confronted. Even in the realm of simple matters such as the purchase of nutriment, the average person must make countless complex choices. Each of these could have seemingly crucial effects on that person's health, time, finance and social life. And yet, these are the most minor of decisions which must be made. The modern man is given to believe that he must design every aspect of his life for himself, and this lays a burden of responsibility upon him that was never historically encountered.

This myth of self-rule that seems a major element in the build up of stress; and yet, as I ponder at my keyboard in the candlelit gloom of a raindark night, there seems no simple solution to this problem. I cannot imagine it being useful to abandon modern life, regardless of how damaging its trappings (how apt!) may ultimately be.

It is generally regarded as fact, however, that the overriding cause of stress is loss of control. That clasp latched upon the heart, that billet of lead around the neck, that tension in the hair that tenuousness suspends the sword of Damocles, that feeling is one like none other. It is the stress of discovering that one's life has finally slipped beyond control, that one's future is governed by the accidents of others. Again, this is in part to the modern primacy of belief in self-rule. However there is another more important factor, which lies in the obsessive secularity of the present Western society. When a person is subsumed within religion, their life is never beyond control; it is always under the rule of the deity. If a disaster occurs, that is 'the will of God'. If that person wants to control a situation, he shall pray. Thus, either his prayer will be answered (thus he will have retained control) or it will not; in which case he is still at fault, being punished for some prior misdeed.

Religion therefore can be an useful tool indeed. Magick, a more personal code, has similarly beneficial effects. One retains control by the conducting of rituals. If the desired result is not affected, it is a consequence of one's own lack of practice or skill. If the result is achieved, all the better. And thus, your humble and failing mage shall leave you anon. I wish ye well.

In the hierarchy of life, there seems to be a definite order. At the top are the world leaders, great scientists, students and so on. At the bottom, we have the dregs of society — advertising executives, social workers and Volvo drivers. Somewhere right at the bottom, just under traffic wardens, are early risers.

Everyone knows at least one. They're the kind of people who have a ten o'clock start but are up BY CHOICE by the crack of dawn. Below them, but just above the Pope by a mitre, a subspecies of early riser exists — the early morning jogger. My first sighting of one such was at 5am last summer walking back from a night out in the West End.

It was a stunningly beautiful Saturday morning in Hyde Park; blue sky, sun just rising over the London skyline, the birds choking from various nitrogen compounds. There I was, walking through the park in a vaguely homeward direction, when a tall, slim, long legged blonde clad in clinging lycra whizzed by me in a gratuitous display of fitness. It would have been a pleasant sight had the blonde not been male. Anyway, that experience did not change my life at all. If they want to be not only up and around when most civilised people are just about nodding off, but doing rigorous exercise as well, they're welcome.

After all, try and picture this situation: the sun has just dawned, Mickey's hour hand is pointing at 5 and you have just awoken in a warm, soft bed in the arms of your Significant Other. Do you (a) Get up, and go for a five mile run. OR (b) Go back to sleep. OR (c) Wake up your S.O. and suggest you do something that involves a gerbil, a quart of yoghurt, two sets of handcuffs and a sailor named Kenneth.

Don't get me wrong, I like exercise. I enjoy kicking a football around Hyde Park as much as the next Imperial student... I just don't have a masochistic streak the size of my ego.

Anyway, whinge over. But just remember, if you ever meet any, please invite them to any clubs/parties/orgies you may be going to. Because come next morning, it's one less jogger.

Head of a pin

Free Tickets

Storehouse

THE ARTS CATALYST AND SUPERNOVA

A LECTURE TO REMEMBER

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS OF SET95



"I saw some of those science week programmes advertised on the BBC," the security guard for my building told me. "I thought you'd be interested. Of course that means it's time for the rest of us to put on a video".

Science Week, called set95 (following on with impeccable logic from last year's set1), is here again. Hundreds of events, thousands of people... and something a bit different from The Arts Catalyst. Set up by two ex-Imperial students Nicola Triscott (Physics) and Vivienne Glance (Life Sciences), The Arts Catalyst is bringing scientists and artists together in a season of events under the title Supernova. Projects include a dance production *Talking the Sex of Angels* and a spoof lecture, *Professor A. A. Singleton Guinness* (win tickets below). In this month's *Physics World*, Vivienne asks: "If the benefits of science are so obvious, why are fewer students choosing to study it, and why are the EU and UK governments promoting weeks to its understanding?" She highlights as one explanation the often clichéd portrayals of scientists by the media. "Image is one problem, and artists and writers have tended to hinder rather than help, often representing the fears of science in reworkings of the Frankenstein story."

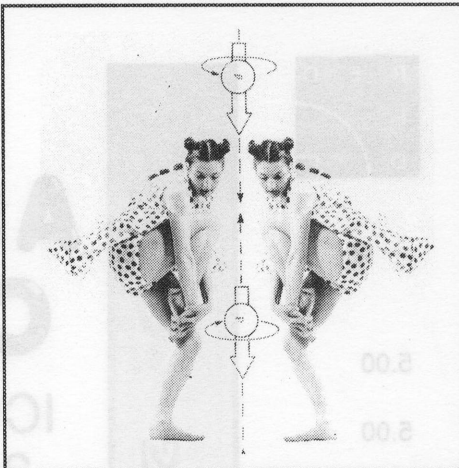
In an effort to overcome this image, The Arts Catalyst have commissioned a dance presentation called *Talking the Sex of Angels* as part of set95. The show is inspired by the language and concepts of quantum physics, and scientific input came from members of Imperial's theoretical physics group.

So don't put on a video tonight, try *Talking the Sex of Angels* instead. Or you can win free tickets to a "lecture" by fictional comedy character *Professor A. A. Singleton Guinness*. It takes place in the Pippard lecture theatre a week on Sunday.

They probably won't help you pass your degree in a practical sense. But they might rekindle your interest – which in the long run could be much more valuable.

S-files

Credits: Editor • Hilary



Is it a Bjork? No, it's Kerry Nichols in *Talking the Sex of Angels* on tonight at the Place Theatre.

set95

Friday Tonight

Talking the Sex of Angels

Dance production on the theme of quantum physics
The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Rd WC1
Tonight Wed 22 March 8pm
£8/£6 (0171) 387 0031

Science, Society and our Future

Rt Hon Ann Taylor MP, Shadow minister for Science
Royal Institution, Albermarle St
Fri 24 March 7pm
Free (0171) 409 2992

From TV Tennis to Virtual Reality

Illustrated talk on the history of computer games
Sat 25 March 11 - 4pm
Science Museum
Free

Interactive Television

Martin Freeth of the BBC explains all
Sat 25 March 1pm
Science Museum
Free

The Nose to Know

Demonstration of the world's leading Electronic Nose
Sat 25 & Sun 26 March 11 - 5.15pm
Science Museum
Free

Earth's Images

David Malone of the BBC talks about how the image of the earth from space has entered our cultural iconography
Sun 26 12, 2, 4pm
Science Museum
Free

Saturday and Sunday

£2 to IC students



In association with The Arts Catalyst

FELIX presents:

A special lecture by

Professor A. A. Singleton • Guinness

(Winner of the Nobel Prize for keeping science unsullied by art)

Written • performed by Jack Klaff • Pippard Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building • Sunday April 2 at 6.30pm

Tickets £2 to IC students / £3 concessions / £4 to everyone else • Tickets on the door or to reserve a seat phone 0181 241 7009

Competition

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A free ticket is on offer to the first five people to dance into the office and say "Only the S-files can save us" in a dynamic way!!

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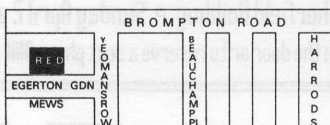
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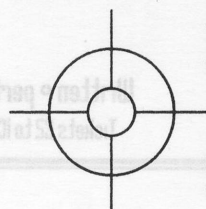


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•• FOXForceFIVE •••••

Ever met your idols? Stylus talked to the band but he quickly made a shocking discovery.

I could never have known that the band I loved would soon be no more.

I still remember first hearing them. It was yet another wet evening in Swansea and my brother was playing pool downstairs with a one-legged mechanic from Newport. "You can't lean on the table," I heard him scream as Hop-A-Long Higgins lined up another shot. My 'A' levels were only a month away and so of course I switched on the radio. John Peel was broadcasting: populariser of the real stars.

"I've haven't got an infection/Just a disinclination/To sleep with any person not asleep/GO TO SLEEP!". Fox Force Five's (F³) anthem to AIDS powered across the airwaves and straight into my heart. The Roses had cool, REM had oblique politics and The Sundays had Harriet Wheeler, but F³ had it all – wrapped up with xylophones, double-distortion, dreads-before-dreads-were-trendy and an album called 'Wank, Wank Wank: The Harmless (Armless) Death of Marti Pellow'.

It's difficult to remember just how revolutionary a band they were in those days. In a posthumous MTV address to the nation, Kurt Cobain admitted that recovering his first F³ album meant more to him than his entire Raincoats collection. Their influence on the grunge generation was all-pervasive. They were the first 'indie' to join a major, signing to Pacific in '88. They were the original slackers – whilst the masses listened to 'Nevermind', their 1991 double album 'I'm not going backwards, I'm going to McDonald's' provided the real soundtrack to the so-called Summer of Sloth. And whilst on holiday in North America they informed a young studio-worker and fellow party-goer, Eddie V, that "The best pearl jam served north of Carolina resides at Jessie&Red's, Newfountain, Seattle".

At least, that's how they remember it as we laugh in the Queen's Arms. To my left sits Geordie, the goateed percussionist of the band. Opposite, chuckling wildly, is spectacled rhythm guitarist, poet and 'screamer' Peter Yang. (Once, touring as guests of seminal Japanese popsters The Boredoms, Peter out screamed his Boredom opponents to win himself twenty packets of allusive Lucky Strikes AND a four week stay in hospital). With his mane of dreaded hair bedraggled, Mr Zero looks more like a Conservative scapegoat than 'Most Fanciable Man in Holland' – *Oops magazine*. (Also playing lead guitar, violin and bugle. Michael Stipe once called him: 'Peter Buck without the glasses and E chords – oh and he has hair where Pete has a hat'). Finally, walking back from the bar comes Noah, self-proclaimed 'retro-vocalist and samplst'. Wingshield, their press officer, has

agreed to this coup of an interview only because F³ are 'in the area'. Why? It seems as good a place to start as any... but it quickly becomes the end.

Me: So how have Fox Force Five come to South Kensington?

Noah: Tube man

Me: But why?

Noah: No, tube man. Cathode-ray, TV, the drug of et cetera –

Pete: – We're filming in the Royal Albert Hall

Me: Really?

Geordie: Not exactly (as he removes his other shoe and places his bare feet on the table top).

Noah: More Virtual

Me: You're getting into new technology then?

Noah: Tube man...

Geordie: We're going to send it down one...

Me: The Albert Hall? It'd have to be rather large!

Mr Zero: Not the building – think, what do we do? We're musicians not builders

Noah: Builders build, they don't destroy man

Pete: We're gonna send the media down the tube

Me: Um?

Noah: We are going to end the Rock Business

Pete: It's what Zena would have wanted. [Ah Zena, the lost Fiver and first suicidalist]

Me: You are going to do what?! End rock? But I love rock!

Noah: Tune in man, chill out

Geordie: Not exactly end rock

Pete: Just the business

Noah: The whole slimy self-referential business

The conversation continued for hours but I cannot transcribe it for two reasons. Firstly, and most pressingly, I found later that I'd accidentally forgotten to rewind the tape. It hadn't recorded. But secondly, when FELIX allocated space for this article, none of us guessed that we'd be first to a revolution.

Fox Force Five told me over the next few whiskies that they were planning to create a 'standard library' of every aspect of a 'virtual band'. F³ would be translated into software: a digital band that could instantly adapt to changes in the music business scene and to the vagaries of the NME and Co. A band where the music would be created by a computer. Not a post-modern joke but a post-modern invention, it's only natural perhaps that they'd come to see how the wires worked. From 'in-jokes' – the most recent being Quentin Tarantino's fictional



Photo: Diana Harrison

Sunset: The last days of F³.

Clockwise: Noah Strohman, Geordie, Mr Zero, Peter Yang.

'Fox Force Five' television series in 'Pulp Fiction' – to sampled homages, (the Poppies 'Fox Force Five Will Eat Themselves'), they are probably the most digitised, cut up and regurgitated musicians since James Brown.

Still, to attempt to formalise the process by which the media influences the music – to make music without human input – is remarkable.

Let me explain more clearly: Fox Force Five as we know them will no longer exist. Using complex AI hardware, immersion systems from VR specialists New World and their entire back catalogue as input, they will produce a band that is in fact a computer system. It will produce music and lyrics with music press feedback rather than human musicians. Metres of footage shot over the next weeks in the Albert Hall will include 'blue space' (the special effect used by television shows such as *The Word*) as a key element. This will allow imaging systems to continually map the band on to new surroundings, be they Brixton Academy or Sun City. Thus, concerts will take place that never happened. Music made from the bones of human music will hit the airwaves having only been listened to by record executives. "The media, MTV and CD's – it will all disappear," said Noah (I think!). "Every band will eventually be replaced by the F³ computer. Only through real-life gigs will fans reach an authentic band. Only live music will count".

Thus the death of Fox Force Five will be the rebirth of music. **F**

Fox Force Five's final show takes place on Saturday, 1st April. Tickets from the usual outlets.

Health

is no longer just a medical matter. Nowadays it is recognised that social and cultural factors have provided a form of health management. A more holistic approach to health, in terms of prevention, promotion, cure and rehabilitation, places the physical and mental well-being of people as first priority.

The major health problems of the developing world stem from poverty. There are clear links between a poor environment and ill health. In the developed world the more common environmental hazards to health have practically all been eliminated, and so people tend to die from genetic diseases or cancers. As countries become more industrialised, some health risks are alleviated, and others become prominent. In many places, environmental factors are the greatest culprits, enabling some problems to be treated.

Health care, at its most basic level, does not require medical specialisation. It can be done through preventative health and welfare programmes, community nursing, and health education in schools. Basic health care programmes of this nature ought to be widespread. Sadly, they are not. There are still over 1 billion people in the world who do not have access to drinkable water, and nearly 2 billion do not have minimal sanitation facilities.

Environment

is the crucial factor in human health and disease. Around 80 per cent of all cancers, for example, are caused by environmental conditions, including diet and smoking. Since many aspects of our environment are under our control, arguably much disease is preventable by changing the environment. Managing the environment has a major impact on preventing illness and promoting good health.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, most deaths in the Western world were from diseases such as tuberculosis, smallpox, typhoid, dysentery and cholera. Many of these were dramatically reduced with the introduction of clean water supplies and improved sewerage systems.

Endemic infectious diseases also declined with better food hygiene, housing and working conditions. Advances in agriculture led to improvements in diet, which enhanced resistance to disease. Changes such as these had a far greater effect than medical treatments such as sulphonamides, antibiotics and vaccines.

In developing countries, however, infectious diseases still dominate. Since the major killers like diarrhoea, cholera and typhoid are transmitted via faeces, the most effective first intervention is to improve the water supplies and sanitation. The World Bank estimates that the cost of providing adequate water and sanitation services is about \$15 per

person per year. This seems a small price to pay for such an increase in quality of life, but it quickly mounts up when you consider that you would be catering for almost 2 billion people.

Next to these infectious diseases, you may wonder why AIDS is given such prominence as a major killer in developing countries. It is not yet a major cause of death

protected by clean air legislation, smokeless technology and use of alternative fuels. Air pollution is still a major problem in former Eastern European countries, however, where uncontrolled emissions of sulphur dioxide have led to high rates of respiratory illness and mortality. Air pollution has caused one-quarter of all respiratory-related deaths in Czech

worldwide, but it is a major killer in the most economically productive age-group. In some cities in Africa, the prevalence of AIDS is as high as 30 per cent. Because it tends to affect the young, the illness of an adult in a rural community leads to lower crop production, and a reduction in income and nutrition for the family. When whole communities are affected, cash crops are uncared for and become ravaged by pests. It is difficult for the health care providers to know what the best thing to do is. Prevention through education is difficult, and is limited in its effectiveness if not fully comprehensive. In Uganda, AIDS awareness is so high that many people assume they are infected. The people then decide that any change in their sexual behaviour will be too late.

Industrialised

countries face health risks of a different kind. In the early part of this century, smog was a major problem in cities. Incomplete combustion of coal and oil produced soot, sulphur dioxide and sulphuric acid. The populations of most developed areas are now

children in recent years.

Another type of smog in industrialised countries is that produced by motor vehicles which is accentuated by sunny climates. This photochemical smog consists of carbon monoxide, ozone and hydrocarbons, and can cause a range of health problems, from eye irritation to severely impaired lung function.

Another well-known pollutant from motor vehicles is lead, which affects the mental development of children and blood pressure in adults. Most industrial countries limit lead levels in petrol and use price differentials to encourage the use of lead-free petrol. This is leading to a decline in levels of lead in blood in urban adults. Governments have introduced policies that improve fuel quality, enhance engine performance and reduce traffic volume.

In developing countries, indoor air pollution is a far greater problem. Burning coal and wood for cooking in poorly ventilated homes increases the occurrence of chronic respiratory diseases, especially in women and children. In pregnant women, the noxious gases produced can cause still-births. Pneumonia, respiratory infections and even lung cancer can only be reduced by providing information about the potential harms, as well

as alternative liquid or gas fuels at affordable prices.

Another environmental effect that is causing worldwide concern is the depletion of the ozone layer. This has been correlated to the rise in the incidence of skin cancer in Western countries. The protective layer of ozone in the stratosphere absorbs ultra-violet

The best precautions are to wear protective clothing and wide-brimmed hats, and to avoid the midday sun. The use of sunscreen lotions is deceptive in that they rub off easily during movement or sweating; and although they may reduce the risk of burning, they do not protect against the immunosuppressive effects of UV radiation.

the dose and the risk of leukaemia failed to account for the clusters. Furthermore, no evidence could be found to support the possibility that the children's fathers had been exposed to high doses of radioactivity at work at the place prior to conception.

The research team investigating the clusters also studied the incidence of leukaemia in places earmarked as potential nuclear sites. These also had elevated childhood leukaemias, even though the nuclear plants had not yet been built.

Remote rural

areas, often the sites where nuclear plants are built, tend to have higher than average leukaemia rates. The building of a power station generates many jobs, and therefore attracts families from different areas of the country to form a town. It is known that areas with rapidly growing populations have higher leukaemia rates. The rapid mixing of a population inflicts on the people involved a sudden exposure to a range of infections. If these infections challenge an insufficiently developed immune system, leukaemia may result. Children are shielded from infections at a very early age, only to be exposed later when infections are imported by migration. It is probable that a range of environmental influences have an effect on childhood leukaemia.

Though most of us may not realise it, exposure to natural sources to radiation far

outstrips the danger from man-made radiation. One source of natural radiation is radon, a radioactive gas produced by uranium decaying in rocks.

The gas rises from bedrock through the soil to the surface, where it can collect in homes and buildings.

It is thought that radon causes up to 20,000 deaths from lung cancer in the US each year. In the UK, the figure is thought to be 2,000. In areas with geology likely to produce high radon levels (e.g. Cornwall and Devon) it is recommended that homes are regularly tested for radon levels. Measures like ventilating cavities under houses and sealing floors are used to prevent the radioactive gases becoming trapped in houses.

Many health problems affecting the world today are caused by environmental factors. By careful manipulation of the environment, the possibility of improving people's health is within our grasp. Peoples' perceptions of health 'risks' are not always correct, and it is important to establish the exact causes and dangers before trying different solutions. **F**

WARNING

Living on Earth can seriously damage your health

(UV) light, stopping it from penetrating to the Earth's surface. In the Third World, the main effect of increased exposure to UV radiation will be an increase in cataracts.

cancer tends to affect white-skinned people.

Skin

One in seven people who suffer from melanomas die from them. Melanomas can affect both the elderly and young people, and tend to be found on men's trunks, and women's legs. Since office workers are more at risk than outdoor workers, perhaps occasional high doses of UV radiation are worse than cumulative low doses. The UV radiation has two effects: firstly, it damages the DNA in cells that have been sunburnt; and secondly, it suppresses the natural immune system which would normally destroy unusual cells. The result is cancerous cells which are not prevented from spreading.

Ozone depletion is a recent phenomenon, and does not account for the fact that the incidence of melanomas is increasing faster than that of any other cancer. The cause is more likely to be increased affluence and holidays in the sun. Queensland, Australia, with its inviting beaches and plentiful sunshine has the highest melanoma rate in the world.

The depletion in ozone is intensifying the problem. A 10 per cent reduction in ozone would produce at least 300,000 additional cases of skin cancer and 1.6 million extra cases of cataracts each year worldwide. The consequences of excess UV radiation are more far reaching than this, however, because of its effect on the immune system, making us less resistant to infectious diseases.

UV radiation is not the only type of radiation to cause concern in the industrialised world. Nuclear radiation, in the form of radioactive leaks and waste from nuclear power stations, is often under media scrutiny. A television programme in 1983 publicised a cluster of childhood leukaemias near the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant. The link between radioactive discharge and the disease was unquestioned by many. Similar clusters were found around other UK power stations. It was never demonstrated, however, that the radiation doses received by the children were sufficient to cause the excess leukaemias. Calculations based on what was known about radioactive discharges, pathways of radiation in the human body, and the relationship between

by Lisa Rajan



IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS of the European Union (E.U.) to have established, by the year 2020, a political system as close to the citizen as possible. In this article I will try to outline my vision of the future European political structure, and give a blueprint for the European Parliament.

The Maastricht Treaty was intended to prepare the ground for an enlarged and powerful future European Union, but because it was drafted without adequate participation or feedback from the people of Europe or the European Parliament, it seems unclear and too complicated. In the end national interest prevailed, and the Treaty ended up being essentially a compromise. It failed to consider the average European citizen, who was left to swing between shallow Euro-scepticism and constructive criticism. The democratic deficit, arising due to the unmatched expansion of the Parliament's rights – compared to the pace of transfer of authority – from member states to the Community, did not seem to have been filled. By the end of 1992 it seemed as if something had gone badly wrong; a sharp crisis on European optimism was manifested

that the ministers participating in the European Council (the predominant executive organ within the E.U. structure) are elected only at a national level, and their decisions affecting the Union cannot be fully controlled by the other organs. This has been one of the front-line Eurosceptic arguments so far.

It is true to say that no state, whether national or supranational, can function without its citizens' loyalty. As David Hume realised in the sixteenth century: "power lies with the governed". The citizens of any state must be given ground to identify themselves with the state's governmental system and be sure that their interests are properly and adequately represented. The present system is seriously lacking in this respect, let alone the lack of a sense of common future and identity amongst Europeans; the combined effect has proved to be very dangerous.

There have been some moves towards transparency and democratisation within the European Institutions. The Treaty of Maastricht enhanced the European Parliament's powers with the privilege of consultation and the right of co-decision with

European Parliament.

The following steps must occur between before 2020:

1. There should be a gradual shift of power from the Council of Ministers to the Commission, which will ultimately act as the Government of the future United Europe.
2. The European Parliament must be allowed democratic control over the Commission and ultimately appoint the Commission itself.
3. Cross-border cooperation between political parties should be fostered, so that the elections for the Parliament will begin to change from being essentially a kind of national election, to ultimately become the podium where European parties are judged and elected to represent pan-european ideologies and interests.
4. The Council of Ministers should ultimately act as an advisory body to the Commission and the Parliament.
5. National parliaments should exercise democratic control within the states, thus complementing the parliamentary tasks of the European Parliament at a Union level. There

EUROPE IN 2020

in every possible way across the Continent: referendums, populist cries and the E.R.M. debacle.

E.U. member states are required to be pluralist democracies; it should follow that any organisation they create will be democratic too, and indeed such a political structure exists alongside the instruments of economic policy in the E.U. But at present this political structure allows mainly for the representation of the member state, rather than the citizen. Hence it cannot incorporate any truly European opinion and perspective; instead discord and compromise between the states shape common policies. Citizens need a political system which provides a platform of expression and an executive arm for the majority opinion across Europe. Only then will a genuinely European interest play a role in steering the Continent.

The present structure is also accused of inadequate accountability and a lack of openness: too many decisions affecting the lives of ordinary people are taken in Brussels behind closed doors. One reason for this is

the Council in many areas of legislature. The Commission also decided to release to the public, to announce well in advance any new initiatives, and to broaden the consultation process during the preparation and drafting of legislation. These seem, however, quite inadequate and do not set the way from the period till 2020: "the institutional structure which results from the new Treaty contains such deficiencies that it is very doubtful whether the Union will be in a position to achieve its stated goals."

The intergovernmental conference in 1996 is an opportunity to deal with the shortcomings of the Treaty. In particular, the principle of subsidiarity must be clearly defined. Cooperation in the areas of Justice and Internal Affairs must be included and, most importantly, the European Parliament must be given the right of legislative initiative. Furthermore it is the joint responsibility of the Commission and the national parliaments to begin to draft the future European Constitution, containing an explicit and extensive reference to the future

should be a demarcation line between the Commission and national governments, set by legislation referring to the principle of subsidiarity.

Through scheme described above the E.P. will begin to act, both as a source of political will towards further integration, and as a forum where political differences over the Union's future can be aired. This will encompass all different perspectives over the future of the Continent. All new legislation should be as clear and concise as possible – to avoid the setbacks experienced with the Maastricht Treaty.

For me the most important short-term need for the future of the European Union, is to present a new pan-european perspective catering for all countries aspiring to share interest, opinion and beliefs over the crucial problems of the Continent. This would be a blueprint for the united Europe as a whole. **E**

Kyriakos Hatzaras
I.C. Delegation to the Europe "2020" Seminar
Chairman of the Society for European Youth

Death without Question

Michael Ludlam investigates suicide and the 'nameless people who disappear'

The date is April 8th 1994. The place Seattle. The body of a man in his late twenties is found in his house, dead from a self inflicted gun wound to the head. Not, unfortunately, an uncommon occurrence, except that this man was famous - Kurt Cobain. Famous for hating his fame; this the final rejection of

everything. He supposedly had it all; a wife, a child, millions of dollars. And the media turned his death into a feeding frenzy. It was if this kind of thing didn't happen too often. However in Britain in the week that he died around 90 people took their own lives. It is estimated that one thousand people kill themselves everyday worldwide. In industrialised nations such as Britain, suicide rates among young men are rocketing. If this was a disease, there would be a national outcry.

The attitude to suicide worldwide seems to follow a very British tradition: "We don't talk about that sort of thing". The phrase 'to commit suicide' sounds like it is a crime, as indeed it was in Britain until 1961. (It was only decriminalised in Ireland two years ago). There are stories in the 19th Century of people being revived after attempting suicide only to be executed. People were hanged for suicide. As recently as 1950 a woman was given a jail sentence for attempting to kill herself. Thankfully this bizarre way of dealing with those who give up on life has ceased.

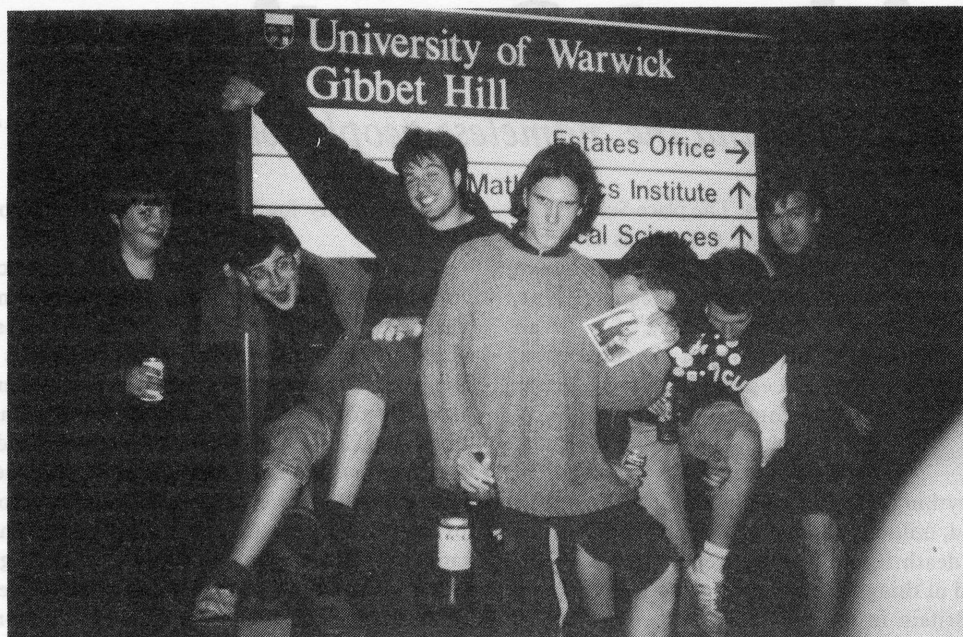
Sadly though, the secretiveness carries on. While there is no denying that suicide is an extremely personal act, there is a very public statement in each one. It is this public statement that is so often ignored. How many people talk to their friends about suicide? Not many I am sure even though I know that everybody reading this article has thought about it. Not necessarily their own suicide but certainly why someone else would take their own life. An odd situation that has arisen, we shun the act itself but have a strange fascination with the person involved. They become idols, made heroes and gods once dead. Sylvia Plath was virtually an unknown poet before she put her head in a gas oven and killed herself. Now she is famous, famous in her posthumous

life, and mostly for her death and fascination with it.

But for most suicide is not the final act. For many it is a cry for help, when there is no where else to turn. It is a last resort for those who feel their back is against the wall. It is a surprising fact that most attempted suicides are not intended to be final. Gender is an important factor: more women attempt suicide than men but men are approximately six times more likely to succeed. The choice of method for men is often a lot more final: guns and hanging. Women are more likely to take drugs. Men tend to be more determined while women can be easily persuaded from it. There is a story of a woman who on her way to the Severn bridge was stopped by a couple who asked her for directions. Able to tell them, she felt she could do something with her life, changed her mind and went home. For men crying for help is not a socially acceptable solution. Their methods are more often irreversible.

Measuring the rates of suicide is hard. It is generally accepted that the official statistics are only a fraction of the real figures. This is not helped by the Irish coroner who commented on one man's death: "Sure, he was only cleaning the muzzle of the gun with his tongue." However the statistics of student suicide are surprisingly accurate. It has always been assumed that students are more likely to kill themselves than any other group, however this is not the case. Universities are normally very coy about discussing student suicide, though one, Oxford University, has published a report which compared student suicide rates with Oxford City. It found that if all the 'open verdicts' of the equivalent age group were added then the difference with the student rate almost disappeared. Students have always seen to be more vulnerable than most other groups in the population because they are far more vulnerable to emotional and psychological problems as they come to college. For most college is an exciting experience, but for a small number it is far too hard to cope with, academic stress as well as interaction with other students can often become unbearable.

So who are all these people? If there really are a thousand people succeeding in taking their own lives how many are there 'failing'? Who are all these nameless people and where are they disappearing too? It is important not to look at suicide as something that you can eradicate. Suicide isn't a disease. There are no answers, especially for the friends and family left behind. It is something that appears to be so unpredictable and unstoppable that we are left helpless. Maybe if we weren't so taboo about suicide we could personally do something about it. **F**



Rag Tour: Members of ICU's Rag Team line up in leg-hair length order

Rag

Rag Review of Term

Keys: Chocolate, Keele, Pizza

Happy Easter everyone. Yes, it is the time of year when we all consume large amounts of egg-shaped chocolate and have four weeks free of lectures! This is also the time for a lesser known tradition the Rag review of the term. Once again lots of people have raised stunning amounts of cash for many well deserving charities and had a great time whilst doing this. Many students have also gained their Rag sweatshirts, T-shirts or mugs as incentives for collecting.

The term began well as some of the Rag Committee had been to the Keele Rag Conference and were this full of enthusiasm and new ideas when we got back to college. First of all we had a London collection for John Grooms (a charity for the disabled) which, despite the rain, raised a fair amount of money and earned our top collector of the day, Eleanor Tench, a Pizza Hut meal as a prize.

On the 4th of February there was the annual battle between the halls in the Hall's Dirty Dozen competition. The team from Beit Hall won and Chae Martyn was the winning collector, raising over £70 for SCOPE. The top collectors on this event also won prizes in the form of music and meal vouchers.

After a couple of weeks off collecting we were ready for the major event of the term, the Rag Tour, (see picture). This was a crazy weekend mixing Rag Mag selling to fellow students with socialising and generally having a good time. We managed to cover most of the middle/north of England Universities in a couple of days without breaking the

speed limit so thanks to Tim, Alaric and John Turner for doing the driving. All in all it was a very successful and eventful weekend and we raised the stupendously large sum of over £740 in the space of three days. For some reason the hard core Rag Tour posse who stayed until the Monday decided to show off their legs to the camera, hence the picture featured above.

Since then things have calmed down slightly but we have still been collecting amazing amounts of money for charity. On the 3rd of March some of us managed to persuade commuters in a few train stations to part with their cash and donate it to the Cystic Fibrosis trust. Then on the Saturday a few people trundled up to Oxford to go on a Rag Raid and raise some money for Oxfam.

This term was a good one for prizes as a couple of collections for the Royal Hospital for Neurodisability in Putney gave participating students the chance to win a three month Inter-railing holiday for two. The winner of this prize will be announced next term as they are not known at the time of going to press.

The Rag Mag editors for next years Mag were elected this term so this rather infamous publication is already being compiled. If you have any wildly amusing jokes then do let us in the Rag Office know, so the Rag Mag for 1995/6 can be as hilarious as ever. We have also elected a Treasurer and Secretary for 1995/6 and they are Jon Lambert and Mark Harrison, respectively.

Next term you can look forward to more Rag madness with the Rag Fete and Dinner among other things. Martin Jones is our newly elected Rag Fete co-ordinator so we wish him luck with organising the event! To find out more details of our events next term and/or to stand for any of the committee posts left then come to our meetings on Fridays in the Ents Lounge at 1.10pm.

Thanks to everyone who has taken part in Rag this term and we hope to see you after the holiday.

Feelsick?

What it you're ill over exams?

Keys: Doctor, Dentist, Genuine

Well, it's almost the Easter break and the dreaded exams (arrgh!) are looming. But what, I hear you ask, do you do if you get struck down with a (genuine) disease (examinitus does not count!).

If you think you are ill enough for its to affect your exam performance, this is what you should do:

- See your doctor as soon as possible. If your doctor agrees with you (they can tell if you're faking!), you can obtain a doctor's note saying so.
- Tell someone in your department. You should take your note to your personal tutor or senior tutor. It should then be placed in your records and, if necessary, taken into account in your exam results.

If you are ill during your exams and cannot attend them, you must ring in to your department and follow the advice above. It is also worth knowing that it is, in the case of dental problems, possible to get a sick note from your dentist.

So, stay well and good luck!

OSC

The Football Tournament Final

Keys: Iran, Pakistan, Powerful

As you all know an OSC football tournament has been taking place for the past five-weeks. After a few postponements, due to unfriendly weather conditions, the final match was played on Wednesday the 8th of March.

The two opposing finalists were Pakistan and Iran. Great skill and team work, from both sides, resulted in an action packed match that ended with a 2-0 score for the Iranians. The advantage came at the sixth minute into the first half when a brilliant move from the Iranian centreback, Hamid Fallah, resulted in their first goal. From then Pakistan's team strategy shifted to an all out attack searching for the equaliser. This provided them with a few very good goal scoring chances, especially in the second half. Fast and often powerful defence kept the score from changing. The second match-deciding goal for the Iranians came in the last minute of the match. This was a result of the slackened defence and low spirits of the Pakistanis.

Since a team photograph of the winner

cannot be shown their names are as follows: Ahmadreza Pishevor, Kaveh Ghayour, Hamid Fallah, Pedram Mazaheri, Ahmad Moheb, Mohammed Halali, Ali Sabzababi and Hector Dominiguiz.

Although throughout the course of this tournament, I, the organiser, was confronted with many more problems than I would have ever expected it all worked out fine in the end. I hope that all the players that took part in the event enjoyed it as much as I enjoyed making it. Although in the end there can always be only one winner (and a whole lot of losers!), the most important thing: it's just a game.

IQ

Imperial Queers

Keys: Vogue, Ignorance, Pride

We are IQ – Imperial Queers – the gay, lesbian and bisexual group of Imperial College. We're offering a place to meet socially whilst aiming to change the atmosphere 'on the walkway'. For too long it has been said "oh, well, IC is a difficult place to be gay..." We are changing that.

Why are some people so arrogant? Equality is so simple to understand, but these people don't think. As a result there is confusion and worse inequality – we are treated unequally, we suffer discrimination, we lose out. Some are content to judge and to discriminate, and have been for too long. It is time to bury those ideas forever.

IQ meets every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Brown Committee Room, or see us on <http://theory.doc.ic.ac.uk/pink> – IQ's world wide web pages. Come along and meet k.d. lang, Elton John, Huffy, Stephen Fry, RuPaul, Oscar Wilde, D:Ream, HHH Regina Fong, (and many many more) – perhaps.

IC Cinema

ICU Cinema gets High-Tech

Keys: Dolby, Surround, Wide

ICU Cinema has been closed for a couple of weeks due to DramSoc's production of *Volpone* but we've put the off-screen time to good use. With the ever increasing popularity of the Cinema, we felt it was time we upgraded the projection equipment in order to regain our position as the best student cinema in London (in fact we're now officially recognised as the best student cinema venue in the whole country). Firstly, we've replaced our lamp at a cost of £3,000 with a 1.6kW xenon discharge lamp which means the picture is now twice as bright as it was. Most noticeably, however, we have completely replaced our sound system with the aim of improving volume, clarity and high frequen-

cy response, and we have also taken the opportunity to install **Dolby Stereo Surround Sound** to match the latest multiplex theatres.

Everyone who knows what it was like previously is guaranteed to notice the improvement, and if there are any people who haven't visited ICU Cinema, why are you wasting your money going anywhere else? With plans for the screen to be replaced over Easter, we will match almost any cinema you care to mention, except that our screen is much bigger, at 29ft wide, and our ticket price is much lower (£1-£2).

We recommend you come and see *Pulp Fiction* this week, which is in CinemaScope and we'll be running a Dolby Digital copy of it. See you there – don't forget ICU Cinema is the only London screen where you can bring drinks from the bar in, and remember to bring some cash for an ice-cream in the pre-film interval. And by the way, a tip: bring a pint up for the projectionist and you'll have a good chance of getting in free!

Film Soc

Forthcoming Attractions

Keys: Wellville, Amateur, Lion

The film society has had a small break from film showing whilst the Concert Hall was put to other uses. We now return with our legendary end of term extravaganza.

We start today with *The Road to Wellville* at 5pm, a must for all toilet humour fans. It caters for all connoisseurs of enemas, colonic irrigation and sexual deviance. Somewhat surprisingly, Anthony Hopkins excels in his role as Dr. Kellogg. Then at 8pm we bring you back to Earth, by showing movie heaven, Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction*. Incidentally this also runs on Thursday at 11pm and Friday at

5pm.

To make use of the cinema's new sound system we show *Speed* at 5pm Thursday. This thrilling, edge of the seat film is even more enjoyable, as the sound effects whirl around your head. Turn up and absorb the atmosphere. Stallone and Stone steal the show later on, with bangs of both sorts, in *The Specialist*. Our Sylvester is an explosives expert hired by Miss Stone to avenge the death of her family.

The contrasting film for Friday at 8pm is *Amateur*. The story begins when an unknown man is taken in by an unsuspecting ex-nun. There is no way she could be prepared for the assorted people she starts to meet as a result, including an ex-porn star and two hitmen. The actors put in sterling service and I can only agree with Time Out's advice, 'Enjoy'.

With an upgraded cinema (brighter picture and full **Dolby Stereo**) and *Pulp Fiction* again, what more could you want.

Leonardo

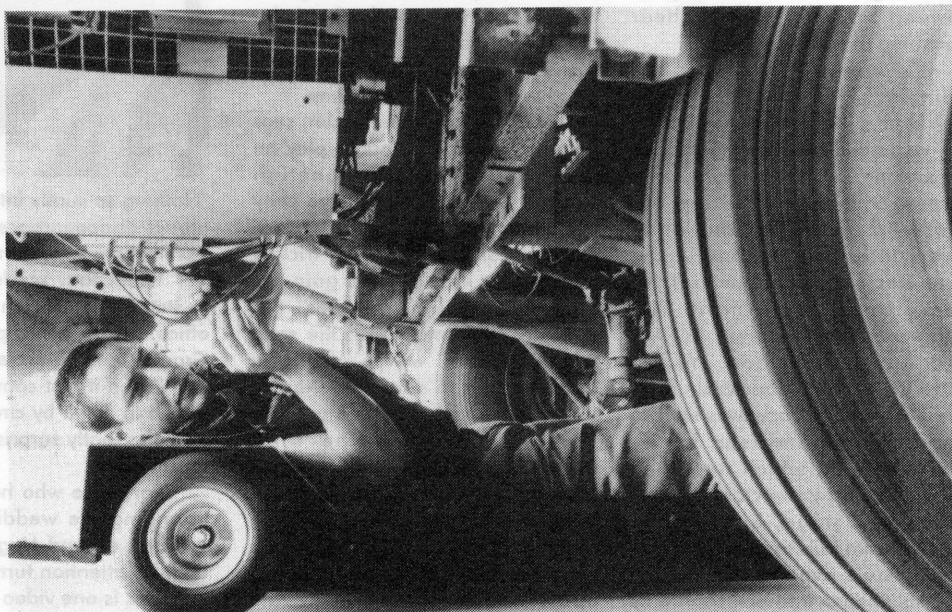
Humanities Art Exhibition

Keys: Sex, Drugs, Alcohol

The 1995 Staff Student Art Exhibition starts on 17 May and lasts till 16 June. We would like any work to be brought in on Friday 12 May, 3-4.30pm in the Sherfield Ante room. If this time is not suitable, please contact us.

This is just to remind you to prepare pieces during the holidays and to bring any other work. Any medium is welcome; oils, watercolours, sculptures, glasswork, etc. 2D work should be framed with clips or hooks ready for display.

Works of art displayed can be sold but 20% of sales goes to IC Humanities. For further information please contact Leonardo Society: ICU SCAB or leonardo@ic.ac.uk.



Confusion: 'If only I'd taken a course at Imperial', Jack thinks quietly to himself



and snacks for all...

I'm greedy, but I think of it as just a healthy appetite. I can eat anything tasty-sounding, anytime. But an impromptu picnic of chilli-marinated olives, a South African liqueur rather like Baileys, kangaroo meat, aubergine pickle and chocolate spread at the **good food show** two weeks ago made me distinctly queasy.

The show is a bazaar, with a couple of cookery demonstrations thrown in. This was a bit of a disappointment – what I wanted was Food and Drink's Jilly in her bondage-style finery screeching, What you get, though, is stall upon stall of promotions of the food you just don't buy at Sainsburys. Apple-flavoured, yoghurt-style soya pudding, anyone? And if not, how about that sizzling kangaroo meat, which tastes rather like gamey, chewy steak, or some Worcester

sauce, evening primrose oil, or dried pineapple (organic of course)?

I'm not ungrateful, though. You whisk round the stalls sampling – there's rather more of a crowd for wine, chocolate and free bagels – and subside into a cookery lecture with your churning stomach. There you're lulled into almost believing you might nip home and knock up that salmon en croûte and seafish platter, with homemade plaited rolls, naturally, for your deserving flatmates. It's a fantasy world for those middle-aged at heart, plus retired couples, all out for the trip and the tastes. **£**

The Good Food Show is held at Olympia, west London, every spring. Tickets (concession price) were £6.50 this year.



rings of terror

Whilst it may be becoming something of an over-used metaphor for the modern condition, the telephone's also a godsend for breaking up monologues. It acts in both capacities in **nightshift**, the so-called 'comedy-thriller' written by Stephen Dinsdale (Anorak of Fire).

Our heroine, the spunky Maisie (Sarah Brignall), heads in for another evening manning the lines for a minicab firm. As time passes, she deals with the normal rash of calls and pairs them up with the firm's ragtag collection of drivers, who may or may not get there depending on what's on telly. In between calls we begin to hear something of Maisie's life.

It's nothing out of the ordinary. Her social worker boyfriend's just walked out after four years and she's trying to give up smoking. She even starts on a retrospective task of listing her lovers, while various mundane callers interrupt her flow – she takes her chewing gum out for them. Until, well until The phonecall. It's abusive, but we never know exactly how. We just get to watch the colour drain from Maisie's cheeks as her eyes start to water in anger and fear. It's an uneasy feeling which has been utilised by many directors of both screen and stage, but it's one which seldom fails to grip.

Maisie's evening continues, digging deeper into schizophrenic bouts of terror and positive

thinking as calls of various persuasions ring in and out of her office. Yet there are no big issues to be made here. **Nightshift's** not a parable, merely a modern tale, well written and acted.

The ending has two decent twists to it but the tag 'comedy-thriller' never really fits. Perhaps the simple description of an 'one woman show' should be enough for us. Whatever you want to call it, **Nightshift** makes all the right connections and is well worth a visit.

I was a little wary of seeing Drumstick's production of **volpone** without knowing much about the play, but thankfully Ben Jonson's Elizabethan farce is not only readily accessible, it's also very funny.

The plot (and counterplot) sees Volpone feigning illness to play on the greed of several Venetian worthies, who each believe they are likely to inherit the 'dying' man's wealth, and are all tricked into giving him gifts to gain his favour. Much mayhem ensues.

Any criticisms? Well, the rape scene didn't work, perhaps because Jonson's female characters are all either caricatures or plot-devices, while the final confrontation seemed to lose its way a little. But the biggest disappointment was the small first-night crowd; hopefully the other performances will attract the large audiences a production of this quality deserves. **£**

THE MENU



Is kangaroo meat and chocolate spread a bizarre combination? KC delved and tasted at the **good food show**.



The telephone as a connection of life and death is explored in the comedy thriller **nightshift**. *Tintin* went mobile. Back home Joe watches dramsoc's **volpone**.



In an occasional yet fulfilling new column, Magpie relives big screen favourites as **four weddings** comes out on video.



Magpie finds that Einstein and love prove to be a volatile combination in the comedy **iq**. Meanwhile KT decides on what is and isn't a **just cause** and in the clouds, Jenny reaches the **drop zone**.



Can contemporary art cope with the big issues of modernity? *Tintin* takes a look at the **after auschwitz** exhibition.



A ragtag, bubble and squeak type week in **rotation**. Top ents people Luke and Mark combine, excitingly with music ed, Vik



In the return of english bop, Davros C.Crippledick welcomes **radiohead**, Vik kisses **emf** and **Stylus** spits and polishes the **boo radley's** bonedomes. In another world *helen-louise* fries **Apache Indian**, Jeremy flies with **mc 900ft jesus**, Vik pulses with **mindfunk** and Guy glides with **massive attack**.



The Patrick Wood – David Cohen push-me-pull-you rears into action once again to review the **ic symphony orchestra concert**.



hire for that special day



"Nothing so surely introduces a sour note into a wedding ceremony as the abrupt disappearance of the groom in a cloud of dust" – PG Woodhouse Yes it's back again, this time on video.

When **four weddings and a funeral** opened last year it managed to stay in the top ten for 22 weeks and notched up £28m at the UK box office. Everyone has probably seen it but now it's time to reminisce; Hugh Grant mouthing expletives, morning suites, brogues and top hats.

When it first came out I was sceptical about the film. However being forced to see it by circumstance of my own sister's impending marriage, I was pleasantly surprised. It was a case of perfect casting allowing the film to run itself.

For those who have yet to see the film it's about a group of friends attending the weddings and funeral in question, but with a subplot centring around Hugh Grant's inability to commit to any woman. Well until his attention turns to Andie McDowell that is.

This is one video to add to your collection. **£**

Four Weddings is available at video stores from March 27th at £14.99.



quantum states of heart

Einstein plays matchmaker in *iq*, a comedy about the romance between his niece and a mechanic. Having the cleverest man in the world don a pair of wings, a quiver and a bow seems a very unlikely story, and it is. *IQ* is one of the more unusual romantic comedies this year. Walter Matthau (Albert Einstein) completely destroyed my preconception of the real man.

The storyline has garage mechanic Ed (Tim Robbins) falling madly in love with Einstein's niece Catherine (Meg Ryan). As with all love stories there is always something blocking the path of love, and in this case it is James (Stephen Fry) and the fact Ed does not meet Catherine's requirement in the intelligence stakes. However when Ed meets Einstein and happens to tell him of his love for Catherine, Einstein plans to pass him off as a genius. With one obstacle out of the way James becomes the next target, though he, in turn, is out to prove that Ed is a fraud. As you can see, *IQ* has to be taken with a pinch of salt,

Matthau's make up is very convincing and seeing the greatest mind of all time letting his hair down is a bit of a laugh. Tim Robbins is more humorous compared to his previous roles but as usual he shows his acting versatility. The most disappointing performance comes from Meg Ryan, typecast once again as the lady looking for love. Stephen Fry plays a very British character; ie Stephen Fry once again plays Stephen Fry.

IQ does not tax the mind at all; turn up, sit down, pass out. Some scenes are hilarious and well

set up. In particular the Princeton backdrop adds to the atmosphere of the film and seeing Einstein on the back of a motor bike is a novelty no one can miss. Not!!

just cause tells the story of a young black man (Blair Underwood) who claims he has been falsely imprisoned for the rape and brutal murder of a young white girl eight years ago. With the help of his grandmother he contacts Paul Armstrong (Sean Connery), a Harvard law professor who is strongly opposed to the death penalty. Armstrong eventually agrees to see the man and so a story unfolds in which the convicted man claims he was kept awake and beaten until he confessed. What's more a religious psycho in the same jail admitted to him that he was the killer.

Armstrong begins to investigate and interviews the other prison inmate who claims to be the murderer – during which the man quotes a verse from the bible which was supposedly written to the parents of the murdered child while the man was in prison, are enough to secure the release of the wrongly convicted Underwood.

Everything seems fine until Armstrong receives phone calls which begin to point to the fact that he has just released a guilty man. Underwood, now free, begins to seek revenge on Armstrong's wife for her part in an earlier conviction.

The plot's unoriginal up to the point where Underwood is released, (innocent guy imprisoned, another prisoner claims to have



done the murder; it's a little too *Shawshank Redemptionish*) but the twist at the end make up for it, if not leaving you slightly confused as to who is guilty.

drop zone begins as two US marshals, Pete Nessip (Wesley Snipes) and his brother Terry (Malcolm-Jamal Warner), escort a convicted computer hacker, Earl Leedy, to a federal prison by plane. During a mid-flight hijack there's an on-board explosion; Pete has his prisoner snatched and fails to save the life of his brother.

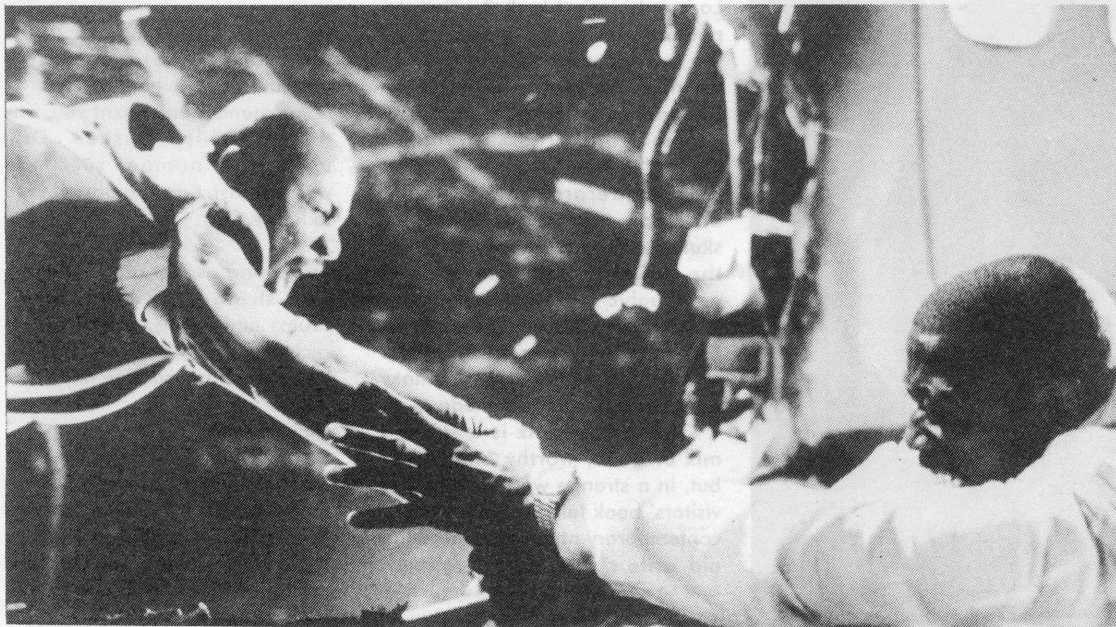
The film moves rapidly from one action sequence to the next, but the acting is mostly of the physical kind. This and the pace of

the film leave little opportunity for character development. For example hardly any time is devoted to Pete's grief over the death of his brother before he goes undercover in the world of sky-diving to find the people responsible. You see, Pete believes that the people involved in the hijack are expert skydivers who managed to make their escape by parachute.

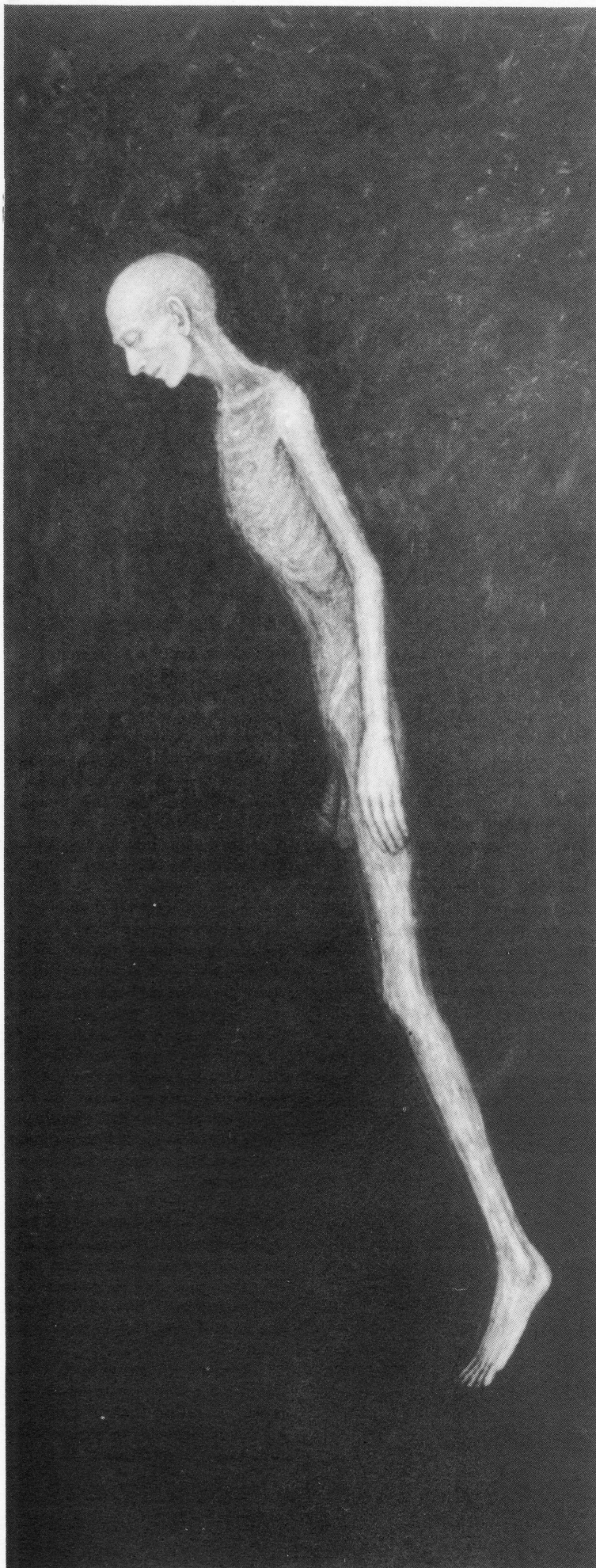
Because of the sky-diving scenes, *Drop Zone* will undoubtedly be much compared with *Point Break*. Nevertheless, the sky-diving scenes are still exhilarating to watch and are perhaps the closest you'll ever get to experiencing the thrill of the sport without having to carry out the jumps yourself. One can't help but smile at Pete's initial skydiving attempts and at the petrified Earl Leedy repeatedly being forced to skydive as a means of getting him to cooperate with his kidnappers.

Following his previous roles in such films as *Passenger 57* and *Demolition Man*, Wesley Snipes is surely emerging as an action hero who is comparable to Stallone and Schwarzenegger. Indeed, he plays the part of Pete Nessip with great aptitude.

There's no denying it, *Drop Zone* is a no-nonsense, no-brains-required action flick; if action is what you desire, I can guarantee that it will not disappoint. **S**



drop zone



no lists

Two statements concerning art and the holocaust confront you on entering **after auschwitz**. The first, "to write a poem after Auschwitz is barbaric", may give the exhibition a title but it also opens the way to its main criticism. The holocaust, as an artistic concept, is something so powerful that too often it is used to promote bad art, rather than good art being used to confront the ghosts of the past and spirits of the future. The other phrase is, "how is one to speak of it? how is one not to speak of it?". Between these two lies an dilemma which few artists appears to realise.

Some of the exhibits fall into this trap. A single suitcase, with the title 'this suitcase is aryan', has no meaning outside of the exhibition. Indeed the only power it possesses is drawn from the fact that it's in an exhibition about the holocaust. As an artifact it says nothing universal about the why or how. In part this kind of failure is inherent in the exhibition's philosophy too. As a contemporary exhibition, After Auschwitz only uses art made within the last decade. Yet the most powerful images tend to come from those artists like Zoran Music, who actually endured the camps themselves. Music's figures are grotesque and twisted, in a way that the younger artists' perfection and skill seems to belittle.

Perhaps it's fitting that the most powerful image in the exhibition is a photograph, considering that this was the medium which revealed the camps' existence to a disbelieving world in the first place. H. Langenheim's black and white photographs revisit the husks of the concentration camps as they are now. The best print, 'entrance to undressing room of gas chamber and crematorium II', shows the flooded steps leading down underground. It's more arresting than any pictures of skulls or deserted shoes because the buildings remain fixed in geographic and historical terms. Whereas suitcases need frightened masses to give them meaning, the significance of buildings of mass destruction is held in solitude.

After Auschwitz is a strange mix of good, worthy and trashy but, in a strange way, reading the visitors' book tells you more about contemporary attitudes. Where the old write about 'not forgetting', one youngster put; "how much is Spielberg getting?"



rotation

A bit of a mix and match this week as **DJ Luke** and **Mark Almond** junkie / ents manager **Mark** go above the line and **Vik** travails beneath...

freakpower - tune in, turn off.

The music to the new Levi's ad on re-release. Pretty good 'shaft' type funk outfit with lots of dance by numbers remixes.

luscious jackson - deep shag

This is a sexy, melodic little piece of whimsy. A lo-cal Go- Gos.

supergrass - lost alone

Groovy yellow vinyl! Sub Pop! Big sideburns! Overhyped! Undertalented!

kingmaker - you and I

Kingmaker become Pulp without the wit or style, which is going to put Cud out of a job.

teenage fanclub -

mellow doubt

Yes it's mellow but thankfully there's no doubt that this is three minutes of pure pop genius.

terrorvision - some people say

Some people say that these Yorkshiremen are the best thing since Emmerdale. I would have to agree.

black train jack - handouts

Surprisingly melodic outing from this New York punk crew. If you've been suckered by the likes of Green Day then this could (and deserves) to appeal to you.

china drum - barrier ep

Apparently, Green Day's favourite band. Not much of a recommendation I grant you, but this heavily Hüsker Dü-influenced number succeeds where most Bob Moïld-copyists fail miserably.

morphine - super sex

Two-string bass, saxophone, drums and vocals; sounds like a recipe for a bonafide disaster but they somehow manage it.

boy george - funtime

Boy George covers Iggy Pop/David Bowie and ends up sounding like ZZ Top. What's even MORE bizarre than that is that I kind of like it. (Nurse! Take him away.)



invasion of an old wave

Coldly left on the substitutes' bench whilst the British press went in search of the scene that celebrates bugged all, **radiohead** found solace in an enraptured American public. Hopefully then, *the bends*, (this, their second album) will see them finally accepted here at home.

Radiohead's *Strength* lies in their ability to lead you unsuspectingly down a sleepy path and then lob in a grenade – 'my iron lung' being a stunning case in point. In fact it was the absence of these twists, turns and bloody sharp edges that made their first album, 'pablo honey', such a non event.

There's no worries of that sort here though. Thom's dangerously quiet falsetto is swathed in six string barbs. There are few rhyming couplets; these songs are twisted stories from a suffering soul, a continuation of the angst of their millstone 'creep' – finally being laid to rest. Listen to 'fake plastic trees' and then tell me that they are a one song band. Listen to any on, and all of, this album.

So, this is big. To say that this is stadium sized is an indignity (U2, Simple Minds, James – go home, you poor country cousins). Why then do I fervently hope that they remain sweat filled divers as opposed to open air anonymous? Maybe because to be cut like this when claustrophobic is all the more poignant. (9)

emf are one of those bands known more for their antics off the disc than on it. Appearing on the front cover of the *Daily Star*, taking ecstasy, stuffing limes under their foreskins and so on... The elements of the list are diverse and interesting, if occasionally less than impressive. And that's not a bad way to sum up the musical offerings on their eclectic but very good third album, *cha cha cha*.

'perfect day' is the perfect opener. With a chorus that will reel you in and using everything from party whistles to a big guitar solo, this rocks in the best clichéd meaning of the phrase. But, it's the mid-album duo of 'shining' (with the inspired backing of a forty piece part of the London Symphony Orchestra) and 'bring me down' where they really shine. Both are epic, rock anti-ballads that build from humble beginnings into rich, anthemic finales.

Alas, the second half of the album is not nearly as good as the first half. 'bleeding you dry' is trance-dance dirge, while a few others are a bit too experimental for their own good. Thankfully, things don't end on a downer; 'glass smash jack' comes brimming with a quickfire rap, machinery-sounding guitars and some spoken word verse courtesy of Stephen Fry.

If they can stem their lapses into over-diversification then maybe EMF will surprise us all with a classic album. In the meantime, this will do nicely. (8)

Facing a clear choice between their big brassy pop sound and further giant steps down the road to experimentation, the **boo radley's** seem to have opted firmly for the former. *wake up boo!*, their new album, is a collection of songs-to-be-sampled for early morning breakfast shows. Obviously, the title track is an anthem to anti-insomnia: the perfect way to wake up your room mate. But other songs ponder slumber to the extent that sleep seem to lie just beyond the end of each track; a canyon waits to swallow the light of these songs.

That's about the only dark edge to the album though. Martin Carr appears to have left off the sideline Mercury Rev listening to concentrate solely on his Beatles and Beach Boys collection. At times it's almost embarrassing, with Sice veering dangerously close to poor Lennon impersonations as opposed to being inspired.

In summary, it's a disappointment, in that way that judging pop music usually returns such a verdict. Perhaps after the genius of 'giant steps' they needed a breather – 'wake up boo!' is an album of breathers; like fresh air but with transparent content. (7)

Apart from being totally anti-racist and an all round nice guy, I knew nothing about **apache indian**. Until I got his new album, *make way for the indian*, I'd only ever heard the single 'boomshackalak'. I warn you now – if you like that single, you'll probably hate this album.

There are three bright moments on the cd. 'boba' sounds like one of my mum's south american new age tapes – kinda mellow and uplifting. 'born for a purpose' starts off sounding like 'strawberry fields' and ends up as reggae, while 'boomshackalak' is a funky-deep-groove-sex thang. However, the vast majority of the other eleven tracks are typically tuneless rap songs, which to my untrained ears sound just like shouting over a drum beat. (6)

Many bands are like chameleons – they change their musical colours to suit the corporate surroundings. One could accuse American metallers **mindfunk** of being such a case. After all, there are a number of tracks on their third album, *people who fell from the sky*, that are not unlike 'dirt'-era Alice in Chains compositions. 'seasick' is the perfect example; its mellow, drug-hazed vibe underpinned by a dark, haunting streak that emanates from sludging guitars. But to dismiss Mindfunk in this manner would be to do them a disservice. Although this album is not an easy listen, ultimately you get the feeling that it could end up being a rewarding one. (7)

I had no idea what **mc 900 ft jesus'** new album, *one step ahead of the spider*, would be like, but I'd heard the name somewhere before. Indie? No. Rock? No. Rap? Jazz? Getting closer. Don't be put off by the MC, the adjective for this album is cool. Saxs and flutes whirl and soar over gentle hypnotic beats on the first, 12 minute track 'new moon', creating a chilled out, trance-like ambience.

The down side to this album is that it tends to be similar stuff all through, a common blight on most contemporary music styles. This is late night atmosphere music, an accompaniment to other activities. Would I buy it? Well, I might record it. (7)

Tricky's version of **massive attack's** 'karma coma', entitled 'overcome' is beautiful: a mysterious floating melody with barely intelligible but definitely gorgeous lyrics laid over languid backbeats. Unfortunately Massive Attack choose to throw away the melody in favour of sort rapping and rely on the instrumental backdrop. Of the nine remixes on their new ep, *karma coma*, the Portishead one is the nicest, with its sparse, inspiring guitar lines, but ultimately losing the tune was a bad idea. (6)



radiohead

imperial college symphony orchestra



photo: Patrick Wood



britten's babies

Violinist Madelaine Mitchell has a pretty impressive CV. Her speciality is contemporary music: she has had pieces written for her by James MacMillan and Michael Nyman, and there are plans for her to premiere works by Górecki and Robert Saxton. The Elgar concerto which she performed at the recent **icso concert** is perhaps, new territory for her. Although warm in the central Andante, her tone was occasionally wiry in the outer movements and her attack sometimes a little scrappy.

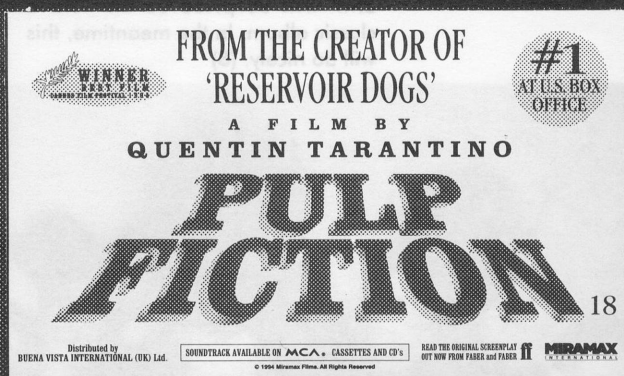
ICSO have played Elgar before, but never with such a fine string section. There may have been a few people in the audience unaware of the track record of Richard Dickens and his players, but any misgivings they might have had would have been immediately reassured by the strong surge of the opening tutti. Neither orchestra nor soloist gave in to the temptation to wallow in the more nostalgic passages. Further rapport between Mitchell and ICSO was perhaps inhibited by a lack of opportunity for instrumental dialogue in Elgar's writing.

After some impromptu flamenco in the first half, in the form of the soloist's rather audible foot tapping, the second half finished with the sensuous ballet music of Ravel's 'daphnis and chloe suite no.2'. Before this was Britten's 'sinfonia da requiem'...

To the unversed reader, classical music critique might seem to be tuned to a pointless note demanding wasted effort to understand. So I'll leave that to the pros and programs. To me an orchestra is like a living organism, the musicians its cells. When a cell malfunctions the entire organism suffers. ICSO performed Elgar alongside Madelaine Mitchell, an alien body, and it showed. But the second half brought redemption. A chest-thumping opening drum-roll announced the fluid waves of sound which where to ensue. Benjamin Britten's 'sinfonia da requiem' was executed with torturous vigour. The 'opus no. 20' spends the majority of its duration faltering its players, before the (brief) crescendo at the end, leaving you petering on the edge of a rhythmic cliff. A round of traditional applause provided a short prelude to 'suite no 2' of Ravel's 'daphnis and chloe'. Only my ignorance prevents me from citing the name of the flautist who played the most beguiling solo, as an entree to the gentle chorus. Bury the complex triads and white mohair scarves I say! **S**

FilmsOC Presents...

Doors open 15 minutes before time stated.
ICU Cinema is no smoking but drinks from
Da Vinci's bar are welcome. E&OE; ROAR



Thursday 23rd at 8pm

Wednesday 22nd at 8pm

AMATEUR

Thursday 23rd at 11pm

Friday 24th at 5pm



THE ROAD TO
WELLVILLE

Friday 24th at 8pm

Wednesday 22nd at 5pm

Buy an ICU Film Card & save 50% on 1994-1995 entry.
You get your first film free but bring a passport photo.
Accompanied guests and students who cannot show union / swipe card.
Film Card holders. £1
Other IC or ULU students & staff. £2
£10
£3
£10
£3

The
FELIX

TINY
WEE

3

WEDNESDAY

D

THURSDAY

A

FRIDAY

Y

Guide

EVENTS

Exam Stress help 1pm
Session led by psychotherapist Claudio Calvi at the Health Centre.

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

End of Term Bash 9pm
Bar extension to 1am, two bands, free before 9pm, £1 after. Til 2am.

SG Southside Gym
SL Southside Lounge
UDH Union Dining Hall
UCH Union Concert Hall
EL Ent's Lounge
GH Great Hall
TTR Table tennis room
LT Lecture Theatre

REGULARS

Roller Blade Soc 12.15pm
Meet at SL for hockey.
Motorcycle club 12.45pm
weekly meeting. SL.
Micro Club 1pm
Meeting. Top floor, Union.
Aerobics Class 1.15pm
Beg/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.
Jazz Dance 3.30-5pm
Beginner. Southside Gym.
Aerobics Class 5pm
Step level III. SG.

Stop Smoking 12.15pm
Health centre.
Aerobics Class 12.30pm
Legs, tums & bums. SG
Conservative Soc 1pm
Meeting. SL upper.
Gliding Club 1pm
Meeting. Aero 266.
Jazz Dance 5-6.30pm
Union Dining Hall.
Leo Soc 5.30-7.30pm
Art classes. CivEng 101.
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Intermid level 3. SG.
Christian Union 6pm
Rm 308 Huxley.
IC Choir 6.15-8pm
Rehearsal. 342 MEng.
Dance Club 7pm
Autumn beginners. JCR.
ULU Lesbian & Gay Soc 7.30pm
Rm 2D, ULU, Malet St, WC1. Freedom FM - new station discussed.

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.
Free Minibus Service 11.30pm-2am
from the Union.

CAREERS

Careers Office
Rm 310 Sheffield, Open 10am-5.15pm, Mon - Fri.
Missed the Milkround?
Don't panic. Careers office is contacting employers. See them after your finals.
Summer Vacation Training UROP
Apply for opportunities
Penultimate years-
Sort your life out now - try our new computer.

SMALL ADS

Wanted-Levellers
Carry Me EP and any other rares. Jeremy ex 53771.
Flatshare
Single room to let. Lexham Gdns, 10 mins from college. £70 week exc. Contact Daniel 0171 373 3723 d.shields@ic.ac.uk

MASS
MEDIA

The Real Holiday Show 8.30pm. C4. China. Has to be better than BBC's 'Wish You Were Here'.
Room 101 10pm
BBC2. Jo Brand adds her hatreds to the immortal filing cabinet of hell.

Crime Watch UK 9.30pm
BBC1. Have you seen this car? Have you seen this man? Are you this man? Do you suffer from nightmares? Sleep well...
Alien Nation 8pm
C4's naff alien drama.

The Jack Dee Show 10.30. C4. The 'ard man of comedy grows again.
Beavis & Butthead 12pm
C4. Metasyntactic variables highlight impending bourgeois mediocrity within the social satisficer element of the genre, I guess.

FILM

ICU Cinema
Road To Wellville 5pm
Pulp Fiction 8pm
Sirens 11pm

ICU Cinema
Speed 5pm
The Specialist 8pm
Pulp Fiction 11pm

ICU Cinema
Amateur 5pm
Pulp Fiction 8pm

MUSIC

Back To The Planet
With XFM 107fm
London Astoria 2 tube; Tot Court Road 0171 434 0403
tickets £6

Jon Lucian
Jazz Cafe
5 Parkway, Camden Town 0171 344 0044
£12.50
22-25 March

Radiohead
+ Marion
Forum
Highgate Road, NW5 tube; Kentish Town 0171 284 2200
tickets £8.50

ARTS

I.Q.
MGM Trocadero 0171 434 0031
tube; Piccadilly Circus 12.25, 2.40, 4.55, 7.10, 9.30 tickets; £7, Mon £4; Tue-Fri before 6pm £4

Little Women
Odeon Leicester Square 0426 915 683
tube; Leicester Square 12.35, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45 tickets; £7, £8, £9, before 5pm £3 OFF

Prêt-à-Porter
UCI Whiteleys, Queensway 0171 792 3303
tube; Bayswater 12.00, 2.45, 5.45, 8.45 tickets; £5.75, Mon-Fri before 3pm £3.50

After Auschwitz
Royal Festival Hall 0171 921 0600 til 17 April
Southbank, SE1. Free.
This is arguably the most difficult historical issue to tackle. Many have drastically different views, some would rather let it lie. The exhibition may have suffered by being too gentle, but is still undeniably touching. See Standby.

Nightshift
Riverside Studios 0181 741 2255 til 25 Mar
Crisp Rd, Caroline St, W6 Tues-Sat £7.50, £6 concs
Stars a bimbo slacker who 'works' in a mini cab firm. The antics of the firm are mixed with her personal struggles in an animated production. See Standby.

release dates
Drop Zone 24 March
Just Cause 31st March

Comedy Store Players
The best comedy set in town, with loads of acts. Happy hour 6.30-7.30pm £8. Haymarket Hse, Oxedon St, SW1.

Ideal Home Exhibition
For those that have one, it's on at Earls Court from 26 March to 9 April, £9.

That's it. You can all go home now. See you next term.

" ! "

"People will call me lazy, a slugabed. I prefer to think of myself as suffering from Wakelessness."
Louis Theroux in The Idler

"Mother was delighted when I went up to Oxford. She was disappointed when I left after graduating."
Jeffrey Archer. He does not even have an A level.

"No one owns life, but anyone who can pick up a frying pan owns death."
William Burroughs

Word for the
Week 3 Days
Defenestration

Meaning: The act of throwing someone or something out of the window
Example: The rising cost of pick axe handles coupled with Sandy's latest pay cut totally defenestrated his plans for world domination
(PS, Tim Townsend - was I right or was I right?)

Get
Ready

for the
summer
madness
of FELIX!

you've never seen
anything like it
before...

Fire Alarm
Notice

From April 22,
following
discussions with the
Fire Authority and in
close liaison with
Departments and
Centres, the Fire
Alarms in all
buildings on the
main campus will go
straight to evacuate
when activated.
There will be NO
intermittent signal.

FELIX

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AT HOME

IN TOWN

EVENTS
MISC

Fencing

11-12th March 1995



This weekend saw several of the Fencing club in action. In Saturday's Portsmouth Open, the men's foil squad all reached the last 32. **Alex Davies** fenced particularly well, going on to his first final place, eventually ending up seventh.

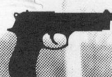
Final Imperial placings were:

- 7th **Alex Davies**
- 29th **Nick Manton**
- 30th **Jeff Won**
- 48th **Lawrence Gould**

On Sunday, Imperial sent a team to the national student novice foil competition in Reading. They were unlucky to draw the eventual winners in the first round, and because of the unusual format of the competition were relegated to the plate competition. In the last 16 they defeated Cambridge 'A' 6-3. Next came two closely fought matches against UEA and Royal London Hospital, won 5-4 (after being 2-4 down) and 5-3 respectively, with **Jamie** winning both decisive matches. This put them into the final against RHBNC 'B'. **YK**, who hadn't yet fenced his best, got it together and won his three matches with the loss of just one point. This left the score at 4-4 with one left to play. In the last fight, **Ambrose** jarred everyone's nerves by letting his opponent claw it back to 4-4, before winning the competition on the very final hit of the day.

Congratulations go to the whole team; **YK Chan**, **Jamie Harle** and **Ambrose Poon**.

Pistol



After a long absence the Pistol Team returned to competition in the University Championships. Against some heavy (and rather mature) opposition, the team battled through, as **Chin Wei**, **Rich** and **Chris** showed some class in the Standard event, **Chris** strangely shooting better in the rapid section than the slow. Good performances in the Police Pistol and the McGuern from **George** and **Allan** kept us going to the end, and to an exceptional fourth place. Thanks must go to **Nick** for all his help and **George** for organising all the kit.

Hockey

IC Mens 1st vs UCH



UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE
TODAY'S THE DAY we were GOING FOR GOLD to clinch the title. But WIN, LOSE OR DRAW, we were going to put in a BLOCKBUSTER performance.

During the COUNTDOWN to the start, **Capt. J** said "If you PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT, follow my MASTERMIND plan, we will WIPE-OUT the opposition."

The first ten minutes passed and scores were still BLANKETY BLANK, but then we got the BIG BREAK when **Bill T.C.** managed to STRIKE IT LUCKY and hit the BULLSEYE. SUPER MARK ET SWEEPER Damien added to the tally with two goals each. The Great Big Queers tried to CALL OUR BLUFF, but failed dismally as we fired home another four. Half time? YOU BET!

After the TURNABOUT, we continued to prove that EVERY SECOND COUNTS by converting another five easy chances. One of their famous players drove down the end of the line and the CELEBRITY SQUARED the ball and they scored. BUT WHO'S LINE WAS IT ANYWAY? The PRICE WAS RIGHT as **Capt. Attitude** bore down on the goal. He was hacked down and screamed "IT'S A KNOCKOUT" and a flick was awarded. **Son of Satan** stepped up, but goalie **Subzero** cried "HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU" and prepared himself to take the penalty. The 64 MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION was 'will he score?' With CLASSIC CONCENTRATION and the crowds shouting "DO THE RIGHT THING," he slot- ted it in the top left corner, making the final score 15 TO 1.

Perhaps it was just a walk over, 3-0, but hey - THAT'S SHOW-BUSINESS!

IC 3rds vs QMW 2nds

Early days are here, **Goran** passed his port. Shorts in the sun, with **Oil Barman**. **Bruce** threw it with his first blow, the heavens opened and **Blinky** blunked. Then, retired for a quick half, the hail reigned supreme, pull your curtains apart and let rip, shame about the goal eh! interesting little ones for **P.D.File**, cakes for **Jaffa**, but no holiday at butlins. **George** had his **Michael**

Sport	IC Team	Score	Opposition
Hockey	Mens 1 st	3 - 0	UCH
Hockey	Mens 3 rd	0 - 2	QMW 2 nd

removed, **Son of Rent Boy** enjoyed a good battered sausage. Shame about the other goal eh! End of season, sigh...

Windsurfing



Escaping London via Cromwell Road on this late Friday afternoon, the Windsurfing team together with a few ULU fellows was heading towards the promising South Coast. Far away from the pollution, we were all seeking fresh air and ... fish and chips.

The numbers of windsurfers grew higher as we settled down on a caravanning camp-side in Gosport: Nottingham University students were already waiting for us behind a pint of bitter. The whole group was about to be divided into three caravans. In spite of a lack of good taste, the plastic roses on the table made us spontaneously feel "home sweet caravan."

The first day was sunny and a steady wind was blowing above our heads. A feeling of satisfaction emerged as we started to play with our fluorescent sails, trying to impress the roaring sea. But the following day mother nature was due to keep us at bay, allowing only the most experienced of us to brave its rage. Meanwhile a good bunch of reckless swimmers had an early February bath.

After such intense efforts, we went back with an empty stomach. Although **Chris** offered to cook a six course meal, none of us would have missed "Blind Date". while eating the spaghetti bolog- naise **Paul** arranged for. At the end, we clustered in caravan eleven where a memorable contest was about to take place. By turns, the words "contenders, ready!" gave the starting signal to a competition between northern and southern students. The aim was to test their respective skills to empty pints. London won with a short advance.

That was finally a pretty good week-end that should provide good memories. We are all looking forward to the next one at easter. So if you feel like joining us, come along to one of our meet- ing at 1.00pm on Tuesdays in Southside's upper lounge.

Rowing



As the end of term approaches, Imperial rowing squad have once again proved themselves to be worthy of their position as one of the country's top clubs. Thus far Imperial have claimed twelve Head Pennants, the tally only being slowed by poor water condi- tions, causing numerous races to be cancelled.

Most recently two eights from the men's squad went to Reading to race the Oxford blue and reserve boats. Despite Oxford's courageous efforts neither of their boats could compete with the strength of the Imperial eights.

Saturday saw the women race in the Women's Head of the River Race. The three crews all per- formed well with the first eight finishing 14th overall and improving on last year's finishing time. The men have their chance on the 25th March, and with all the crews looking very promising it is hoped that some good results will be obtained.

The rest of the season looks set to be a very prosperous one, all the pieces are present and as long as they fit together the future is bright, black and blue.

Orienteering



A dedicated band set off to Highclere Castle on Sunday, and got lost navigating to the event, which didn't bode well. However, the warm sunny weather encour- aged everyone to put in a little extra effort and some good results were achieved. **Mark** shot round the red course in less than an hour. **Carol** and **David** were closely matched on the blue, with **Carol** just sneaking in ahead. **Hans** had a run-in with a branch and **Matt** attempted to blind him- self. The rest of the club were obviously out to enjoy themselves.

We staggered to the nearest pub and sat outside, drinking to the arrival of spring. Orienteering as it was meant to be! By the time you read this, we'll have been to Anglesey to compete in the British Championships. Tails of woe... to follow.