



FOUNDED IN 1949

Felix

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

STOP PRESS

66 colleges occupying in protest over teacher unemployment.

No. 421

Friday 28th May, 1976

FREE!

Grants up 18 per cent

AP REHASH

THE RECTOR has decided to salvage the Alternative Prospectus (AP) by asking Rick Parker (ICU Academic Affairs Officer) and Peter Mee (College Registrar) to check the existing edition and produce a prospectus devoid of factual, punctuation and grammatical errors.

Should changes to copy be necessary then the sections concerned will have to be reprinted. FELIX editor and next year's IC Academic Affairs Officer Paul Ekpengong feels that due to the nature of printing the whole prospectus may well have to be reprinted at a cost of over £900.

The additional cost will be met by the College.

Originally it had been hoped to send out the AP with the College Prospectus, thus saving postage costs. This will now not be possible. The new AP will probably be ready for distribution in July and postage costs are thus likely to be around £600.

So the AP, which initially had a budget of £1,100 looks set to cost anything up to £2,500 all told. The full costs of the AP, are being met by the College.

Accommodation

For those who will be down in London looking for flats for next session, the Union is running a Temporary Accommodation Scheme. The Scheme runs from 18th to 25th September inclusive. Rooms will be available at the cost of 50p per night plus a £5 returnable key deposit.

All you have to do, if you wish to make use of this facility, is to turn up at the IC Union Office on the days concerned. You must also bring with you, a sleeping bag, otherwise it is the cold hard floor for you. Please do not bring all your luggage with you.

THE DEPARTMENT of Education and Science (DES) yesterday announced increases in undergraduate grants of about 18%. The new grant levels (with this year's figures in brackets) are £955 (£810) for college based students in London, £875 (£740) for college based students outside London, and £675 (£570) for students living at home. Last year the grant levels were raised by 22%.

Accompanying the grants increases are changes in parental contributions and in the amounts of Supplementary Benefit that students can claim in the Christmas and Easter vacations. From September onwards the starting point for parental contributions rises from £2,200 'Residual Income' to £2,700. A DES spokeswoman said that parental contributions will be reduced throughout the scale.

As expected students will no longer be able to claim supplementary benefit in the short vacations.

Further details of the award are not yet known.

Pessimism

First reactions to the award have been tepid and pessimistic: An NUS spokesman commented that 'the award would do little to shore up the ravages of inflation'. Over half their members would not benefit from the changes in parental contribution. They were also disappointed that discretionary awards remained unaltered.

Ex-ICU President Trevor Phillips was more profound. 'An 18% increase is definitely inadequate and at first sight students in London are going to face the same problems arising from an inadequate grant but only more so.

'To a degree it demonstrates the cynicism and bankruptcy of Government policy on public expenditure because, in spite of universal agreement that the grant level is too low, they (DES) appear to have reduced it even further in real terms.'

Comments from IC Officials were a little more optimistic:

'My immediate reaction' said ICU-President Peter Teague, 'is that it is a very good award.

18% is better than I expected, but a great deal depends on the details of the schemes for next year which I have not yet had time to acquaint myself with.'

On a more controversial note he added, 'I would rather have seen this extra money put towards abolishing the parental means test'.

A more reserved attitude came from the Rector, Sir Brian Flowers. 'I don't think it would be wise of me to comment in detail until I have seen the very long document which I understand sets out the terms of the new award.'

'I believe there is some amelioration of the threshold above which the parental contribution will be payable, but on the other hand I think there may be less opportunity for claiming supplementary benefits during at least the short vacations.

'Nevertheless the increase amounts to 18% which at first sight is better than I had expected.'

Hard times ahead

THE UNION was told last week that it is to receive a 10% increase in its block allocation from the Governing Body. This will mean an increase per capita of 5.3%. The Union had originally requested a 23% increase per capita and was most disappointed at the small increase it received.

However, the College itself, is only receiving a 4% rise in its grant although supplements will be given for College salaries increases.

The actual increase in the Governing Body allocation to the Union will be £7,892 but, on the latest figures, over half of this is accounted for

in increased staff salaries (£2,367) and increased NUS subscriptions (£1,680).

Increases in Sabbatical Salaries and Hall Rents account for another £1,000 thus leaving a total increase of £2,845 to cover increases on all other expenditure. The Union is still seeking clarification on, whether the grant includes £1,300 for next year's Alternative Prospectus or whether this will again be treated separately. If it is included, then £1,545 will be left for increases in all other Union expenditure.

The decision on the AP will determine whether clubs, societies and Union Committees

receive a 2% or 4% increase on their allocations. With inflation currently running at 18%, ICU President, Peter Teague, says a curtailment of activity will necessarily result next year.

"RCC clubs will almost certainly have to cut their rate of subsidy and ACC clubs may have to restrict the number of teams or fixtures for each club", he said. Subsidization of social events such as Freshers Dinners and Formal Balls will be drastically reduced. Entertainments may also have to be curtailed.

All in all, the future looks bleak for IC Union in the next year.

Disabled students: some financial points

Being disabled can result in various additional expenses as a student. Here are some ways to relieve the financial burden:

Additional grant

An extra grant of up to £150 is available from local education authorities to any student who, as a result of his/her disability incurs extra costs. These costs must be related to study, for example, buying a typewriter or tape recorder, or additional rent for special college accommodation. The grant cannot be claimed in respect of diet or clothing.

Supplementary benefit

Thus usual proviso of availability for work does not apply to disabled students when claiming social security. However, if you are receiving a grant, your income will probably be too high to claim in term-time but you will of course be eligible in vacations.

Attendance and Mobility

Allowances

Disabled students are entitled to a tax-free sum of £9.60 per week if, in medical opinion, they are in need of part a continuous attendance. A taxable allowance of £5 per week is available for those who are unable or nearly unable to walk.

A further benefit known as

the "non-contributory invalidity pension" (phew!) can be claimed by those who are not able to work but have not sufficient insurance stamps to receive invalidity or sickness benefits. Students are not normally entitled to this, but each case is decided individually so there is no harm in trying!

Useful organisations

Certain voluntary organisations offer various services including reduced prices on study-aid equipment etc.

Places to contact are:

Disabled Living Foundation,
34b Kensington Hight St
Phone 602 2491
NUS Disabled Students Research
Unit 119 Wilton Rd, London SW1
Phone 821 1958

Any queries to me: Sue Kalicinski, Welfare Officer, IC Union via internal mail or contact me at the Welfare Centre, open 12.30 - 1.30 Mon - Fri at the top of the Union Building.

Sue Kalicinski

THESES TYPED

Anyone wanting theses or other material typed at 20p per side please contact DENISE WICKEN in IF Union or Telephone 352 8968 any evening during the week.

small ads

CONGRATULATIONS to Maynard Davies and Liz Wright on the announcement of their engagement. Much Love and every wish for their happiness in the future.

All their friends.

LOST

One green cardigan lost on May 24th. Answers to name of Joanna. Please return with reward to JI SMITH, Life Sciences 1.

FOR SALE

Complete RADIO CONTROL outfit for sale. Full guarantee. Suitable for any use requiring remote control, for example, model aircraft, boats, garage doors etc. Contact A JAIN, Physics 1, for details.

FOR HIRE

Lights for discos, parties etc. Strobes, UV's, projectors and others. Ring 733 4386 (evenings).

EXPEDITION

The IC Hindu Kush Expedition will be travelling overland to Pakistan on the 23rd June. We have three places available in our lorry. If interested, contact Denys Whitley, Civ Eng 3

HANDBOOK

There are still a number of clubs, societies and other groups who have not sent in their entries for the 1976/77 Union Handbook. If they do not do so very soon, then their club/society etc will not be included in the Handbook. All entries to the FELIX OFFICE.

PHOENIX

The arts magazine of Imperial College Union, PHOENIX, is now out. You can buy your copy from BILL GERRARD, DAVE FOXALL or from the FELIX OFFICE at the incredible give away price of 1p. Don't delay, get yours today!

STUDENT WELFARE CENTRE

The centre is open Mon - Fri 12.30 - 1.30pm for general information on legal aid, contraception, abortion accommodation, NHS benefits etc. Tube and bus maps given away. NUS discount handbook and Vac Job Index available for consultation. Also visits and holidays for overseas students.

We are at the top of the Union building.

PRIZE CROSSWORD No.37

ACROSS

1. Priest mixes elephant less the French hair.
9. Follow t and fall sick
10. Dispatch sounds cheap (½p)

12. Song or its carrier
13. A Syrian cloth of goat or camel hair, either way.
16. Sailor sounds grateful
17. Dlo ago
19. A rat bracken

21. Pronoun
22. Not Ajax activity
23. See 34 across
24. Frog before sap
25. Er
27. Cool to freezing
29. It has a page 3
30. Title for martyred Toulouse - Latrek
31. Head for which there are no pounds
33. Gate or signal post
34. See 35 down
36. Backward girl's name
37. 2001 number cruncher
41. Con 16,39 give in morning backing to a circle of altitude.

DOWN

1. Leader of capital seekers
2. The Sister
3. It grows upon heads
4. Ol
6. Cause of hot
7. Could it commit formicide
8. Jazzy Fitzgerald with 16 and 7 gives dance.
9. A top hat (slang) or to bind to secrecy
11. The weight of a vessel or vetch
14. A seated tramp?
15. Flying animal for sending leather flying
18. Vile immorality
20. 1/16 Rapee

26. Companions of Birdboot who floats on high
28. Sprite
29. Ice travelling yoghurt
30. Pre-plant it in leading role
32. A legal right to retain property
33. To trust in 2elshman
35. Look up 23
37. Radio meat
39. The French girl
40. Queer

The winner of Crossword No 36 was M Christee, Physics 3.

The £1 prize will be given to the first correct solution drawn out of the Editor's Hat at noon next Wednesday June 2nd. The Editor's decision will be final.

Solution to Crossword No 36

1	H	2	O	3	U	4	S	5	E	6	A	7	G	8	E	9	N	10	T
11	O	12	S	13	H	14	A	15	C	16	S	17	A	18	T	19	Y	20	R
21	T	22	I	23	S	24	T	25	A	26	C	27	T	28	E	29	L	30	A
31	C	32	E	33	E	34	R	35	L	36	R	37	E	38	D	39	O	40	C
41	H	42	R	43	C	44	S	45	P	46	L	47	A	48	I	49	N	50	T
51	P	52	D	53	E	54	C	55	A	56	L	57	C	58	M	59	I	60	
61	O	62	L	63	D	64	O	65	L	66	O	67	E	68	T	69	U	70	O
71	T	72	E	73	E	74	T	75	I	76	R	77	P	78	S	79	E	80	N
81	C	82	I	83	S	84	C	85	O	86	D	87	A	88	E	89	H	90	A
91	H	92	Y	93	P	94	A	95	E	96	T	97	H	98	A	99	R	100	L

LETTERS

Appalling complacency

Sir, — Having read concurrently, both the pieces which have appeared in the past two editions of FELIX on the topics of academic work and social activities at this College, I wish to air my own views.

Stephen Humby's article makes curious reading; he seems to be, indeed he states quite explicitly, that he is dissatisfied with College life at both the academic and social levels. He claims that answering the questions set on the worksheets is a moronic activity; a view with which your other correspondent, CG Miller, would seem to disagree, saying that the way to conduct one's work is to 'solve the problems a little at a time'. Obviously Miller is satisfied with the system, a complacency which I find appalling. Where Humby makes his error is in confusing the system of work with the subject being studied. It is the latter topic where I feel the discontent arises.

The contents of the various subjects are at the moment in this College, and in the science faculties of other colleges, devoid of real interest. There is no unity in a subject, no relationship, or else very little between courses in the same subject, which is bad. What is even worse is that there is no connection between the different subjects, especially in the physical sciences, the situation being slightly better in the biological sciences, though they could learn from the physical sciences and vice versa. Although I have chosen the example of science, I am sure that, in the very nature of things, similar remarks must apply to all the subjects studied at this College.

The method by which a subject is studied, that is worksheets, may or may not be suitable; it really depends on the individual student and sweeping generalisations in this respect are generally

unsafe; but the content of what is studied certainly needs to be overhauled.

Turning now to the social side of the life at this College, the position taken up by your correspondents appears to be the same: Humby dissatisfied, Miller satisfied. In the latter case, if Miller enjoys himself using present facilities, he has every right to continue to do so. Equally Humby has the right to say 'I do not enjoy the facilities'. However, writing about not enjoying them is not very constructive. If he wants something different he should get on and do something about it, not criticise others for enjoying what he does not, an attitude of mind which I consider churlish and smacking of dictatorship and sour-grapes.

A Postgrad. Student

Spoof articles

Sir, — In the past it has been noted that articles have appeared in FELIX which were pure inventions, of the author's imagination. These articles having no factual basis.

The first fictitious fancy,

which appeared some time ago, was taken to be quite humorous. However, the frequency of fairy stories, appearing in FELIX, has become alarmingly high.

Sometime ago a letter was written showing concern about the gossip column 'TITBITS'. The article did stimulate intrigue, but did not carry the author's name. The column was considered an excellent innovation, but it was thought personal opinions might be expressed, that in all fairness required the author the name him or herself.

We wish to express two opinions. One is that, although most of the improbable (and in retrospect humorous) literary flights of fancy, so far appearing, have been harmless, there might one day appear an article that could have unintentionally serious consequences. It is also our opinion that the credibility of FELIX is at the moment suffering, and will continue to do so, from the insertion of invented articles in the paper.

We hope you respect our views, and consider them with the seriousness we feel they deserve.

Yours Sincerely concerned,

E McAuliffe LSI
P GRAY Civ Eng I
CA BOWEN Chem 2
CR HAIGH LSI
D POSNER EE2
K BOUGHLEY EE2
C MILLER Q1

REPLY FROM THE — ED

(Your opinions regarding spoof articles have been seriously considered and I fully agree with your reservations about such articles appearing in FELIX. However, all spoof articles are carefully vetted to ensure that they are not vindictive, unpleasant, libellous or boring.)

They are an attempt to relieve exam blues by taking a light-hearted look at things. I therefore hope that the credibility of FELIX has not suffered as a result of carrying out one of its prime functions which is to entertain people while, of course, providing them with news and information — Ed.)

IF Only..

A good old English wedding

THERE IS NOTHING so good for exam depression which seems to spread like a flu epidemic, than to hear about a good old English wedding; a wedding that brings tears to mother's eyes; and masked relief to father's. But not all weddings run as smoothly as that. Let me tell you about a wedding which except for a few minor calamities passed off just as rehearsed!

Right on time, the vintage Rolls drew up outside the church and my sister climbed down supported by my father's rather shaky right arm. Everything ran quite smoothly until after the service, when I had to sign the register. Of course, there was one small problem; the vicar only had a right-hand pen so an entirely new technique had to be employed if the phenomenon of a left-hander emerged.

We tried the left edge of the pen; then the right to no avail until with the nib completely reversed, a spidery scrawl slipped across the page. Naturally this farcical

situation took place in full view of the congregation and an audible tilter was by now rippling through friends and relations.

The first embarrassing situation past, I returned with the best man to the front pew.

Praying posed another problem. Seated on the pew, I could not understand why the kneelers were so far away from the pews. Desperately trying to recall school days when I was reluctantly compelled to kneel confined in a space of nine square inches for the purpose of praying, this spacious area overwhelmed me.

Not satisfied with following the example of the best man and my sister who knelt with some grace upon their knees, I took two steps forward, pulled out my kneeler and was about to place it on the floor when the best man exploded in a stage whisper:

"What the hell do you think your doing?", which I thought was most irreligious.

However, it did not end there. Oh no, the fun had

only just begun. I suddenly became aware of the insupportable weight of both my sister's and my bouquet; so I gave Anne's to the best man who placed it on his seat and needless to say would have sat on it if I had not laughed at the appropriate moment and snatched it from beneath him. After all, crushed orchids would not have looked very pretty in the wedding photos would they.

Suddenly it was all over. I handed the bouquet back to my sister, arranged her train and was just thinking how well we had all done when I looked up to see the bride and groom already 40 yards away from Sara and I.

This was really going too far. She had warned me about the danger of treading on her train, but this was too much of a dig. She was making her lack of confidence in her accident prone sister all too apparent for all the world to see.

Personally, I think for someone who has made her entrance to a party by walking into a (swimming) pool fully-clothed and nearly drowned taking a swimming test, I did quite well. I did not fall into the font anyway, which was quite on the cards.

Paula Marriott

FELIX

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Reviews

Music

Unrecognised talent

KINKS — SCHOOLBOYS IN DISGRACE (RCA)

I DUNNO, it seems to me, that over the last seven or eight years, the Kinks have lost out in one way or another. Let's face it, anyone mention the Kinks and people immediately think back to those great singles of the sixties that flowed from the pen of Ray Davies. Yet, they have been largely ignored by the majority, not gaining anywhere near the success with their albums that they deserve. The thing is, Davies has always written good songs. Considering for instance the Kinks' rock opera 'Arthur' was a far better attempt at this abused fusion than the acclaimed shambles that was Tommy, there is no reason to believe that 'Schoolboys in Disgrace' will achieve the mass sales it deserves.

Throughout his songwriting, Davies has had a sort of tongue in cheek dig at the Establishment, this album being no exception. It takes the concept of a young lad's trials and tribulations through his school life. He quickly becomes a social misfit, later gets himself into trouble with a naughty girl and is finally expelled by the headmaster, all of which leaves him feeling bitter towards the Establishment for the rest of his life. A bit crass you might think, but Davies of course, treats the whole affair with tongue firmly in cheek.

I could write about how melodic the individual songs are, how they fit into the concept perfectly, how clever the

lyrics are, but as a concept it should be judged as a whole, and all I can say is it works perfectly, another fine Ray Davies effort that will hopefully achieve for the man the recognition he warrants. For the fact remains that only perhaps Ian Drury of the Kilburns has got anywhere near the Davies sense of the English melodrama, and he too may sadly be overlooked by the media. These two are truly *English* singwriters, — in so much as one never finds them indulging in any sort of Americana, like so many of their British contemporaries who attempt to Americanise their songs and end up achieving that strange mid-atlantic feeling-wetness.

Ian Morse

SURPRISE SISTERS (Good Earth)

WITH THE success of the abysmal Rock Follies television series, there seems to be a vogue toward all girl groups. The Surprise Sisters were perhaps put together specifically with the ambition of complimenting the accomplishment of the Little Ladies. The result anyway is a polished, if slightly processed, sounding debut album.

This record is much better than that which is high in the charts at present. For a start the songs are better — but then the songs on Rock Follies are atrocious anyway and these girls actually can sing, something alas, that cannot be said of the Little Ladies.

Billy Wright and soap?

The album starts with the best cut, David Gates' 'Watch Out'. Given an intelligent Philly sounding brass arrangement, it gives a first impression that the Sisters are in fact a white soul act, but not really. It becomes apparent as you listen to the record progress, that the songs become more diluted, until you reach about halfway through the second side when they become little more than middle of the road pap, resembling more a sort of bleached Pointer Sisters, they (the Surprises) lacking the drive and range of the American outfit.

I doubt very much if the album will bring them any great success and indeed the late seventies will bring any form of revival for all girl groups, like the fad achieved twenty years ago, when the likes of the Kaye Sisters, the Vernon Girls, Allisons and the wonderful Beverly Sisters adorned the hit parade. Who could ever forget the Beverly Sisters? Particularly the one who married the great Wolves and England captain Billy Wright (105 caps). Who then together achieved further greatness advertising cold tar soap on television. Those were the days

Ian Morse

Ecstasy for all

Daavid Allen: Good Morning

FOLLOWING THE demise of the planet Gong, Daavid Allen, Gilli S'myth and a host of PHP's, octave doctors and other gentle folk have taken refuge on the Balearic Isle of Majorca. Whilst on this sunny isle, they, together with a Spanish band called 'Euterpe' carried on producing the euphoric music that Gong under their influence used to produce.

Side one is a collection of spacey folk muses which seem to bear a distant relationship to early Kevin Ayers styles.

Side two has one track in the same style as side one and then launches into a time called 'Wise man in your heart' with Mike Howlett on bass, Pierre Moerlin on drums, Pepe Milan on glocken speil and Gilli with space whisper. The style is that of 'Love is what U want' from 'Angel's Egg'. Is this track a fond farewell to the much beloved planet?

This is followed by a bloomdido type sax entree into 'She doesn't she...', a happy melodic track relating how 'The real pot head pixie has learnt to speak spanish'. Of course, this album will not only be enjoyable to filthy drug addicts, perverts and schnizophrenics, but you too could derive a state of ecstasy from this beautiful pathway to Nirvanah.

Gnome

Lunch am served

IT OBVIOUS DAT de summer am 'ere, 'cos o' all de forin trendies walkin' about wid de Kojak shades an' de elastoplast on de bonce f'om not bein able to see de overhangin' staircases in de South Side.

I hearin' dat de inmates o' de Multi-national Hall in downtown Bloomsberry complainin' 'bout de beens on toast. Dey dam lucky, nex thin' dey be wantin' dem taken outta of de tins. De Mooney got de right idea, recyclin' de fodder f'om de plates so no one noticin'. Mus' taken years to get de dish washin' machin' set up right. Now dat I am strugglin' to afford a bowl o' rice in de Union refectory I noticin' dat de Felics staff swillin' down de Bowjollay an' de Lobster Termostat win de birds f'om de Penthouse Club. Although I yam not expectin' payment fo' dese lit'ry masterpieces o' nerve shatterin' prose what I am cobblin' together, aftah all, they am priceless, I would 'preciate a few expenses like de wear an' tear on de wax crayon an' de bus fare on de No 14 f'om de Malet Street.

I rememerin' las' year askin' de Mooney why him makin' de financial

loss what makin' Brit Leyland's deficit lookin' like de Parkin' Fine, an' him sayin' 'But, yo' Majesty, Sir, de studes won' eat de crap.' 'Don' give me de legal jargon' I sayin', 'git out dere an put de chips on while I go an' eliminate de competition by chuckin' de Chateau Molotoff '75 through de grease stained window o' de local Iti resturan' shoutin' Mafia an' de clientele runnin' f'om de Hot Pot like de rats f'om de sinkin' ship. Also bin a high occurence lately o' de colonial studes eatin' de leather covers o' de priceless tomes, in de Haldane libry.

Only thin' I fancyin' 'bout de Mooney food halls am de chlick on de ICR cash till. I buyin' de pile o' sarnies, roundin' de corner an' seein' her. Wid one bound I were at her side, mah hot bref brushin' her ear. 'You dam handsome bugger fo' de student leader' she sayin', '38 pee, an' do yo' wan' de top off de coke'. But duty am callin' so I havin' to rush back to de Union an' ring up de Capital Hit Line to git dem to hit de Earls Court Pots, only to find dey playin' de records 'stead o' pokin' de .38 through de letter box to order.

TP



Cross Country

"The most unfortunate team"

Recently two members of IC Cross Country Club travelled to Holland to take part in a long distance relay race through several countries. Here is a report from Rich Harrington one of those intrepid runners:

On Thursday 6th May at some ridiculous hour that we scarcely knew existed, 'Alf' Garnett and myself, pretending to be Internationals, and valiantly forsaking the UL athletics championships left Brixton and crossed into The intense heat produced many sunstroke casualties, including one of our team and nearly one of our female superstars (she collapsed just as she finished her leg, but was immediately revived by a posse of more-than-willing pseudo medics).

The last leg of 12.5km followed a restart and our runner came in 4th, to the finish at the sports stadium of Enschede University, to the sound of a brass band and motor cycle escort. Overall we finished 8th in a time of 12 hours 34.43, and were presented with a prize for 'the most unfortunate team'. The race was won by a Nijmegen team in a time of 10.54.20.

The whole event was brilliantly organised by the hosts at Nijmegen (as were the associated celebratory activities). It created a unique atmosphere throughout which compelled us to promise our return next year.

England to catch a train to Dover. Here we joined a motley bunch from Reading, Surrey and (inevitably) Brunel Universities to take part in the Batavieren road relay in Holland.

The race consists of 24 legs of between 5 and 12.5km (covering a total of about 120 miles) and begins at midnight on the Friday/Saturday from Nijmegen University (which managed to produce 22 teams for the event!!) By the third leg our team had a lead of about a kilometer over the 2nd of the 62 entrants. By 03.00, the race had passed from Holland, into West Germany over the Rhine and back into Holland, and it was soon after the border that CU number 1 occurred. One of our number followed a member of the Eindhoven team who failed miserably in an attempt to navigate by the stars and added 4 miles to his stint, dropping us several places, to mention but a few. CU's 2,3 and 4 involved our minibuses failing to deposit runners for leg x in time to take over from those running leg x-1.

At 06.45, the first of 3 restarts took place. The times for the teams so far were recorded and the 10th leg runners all set off together. This was my stage, and I covered the 8.9km in a time of 31.06 to come in 8th. In the heat of the day, Alf ran his leg of (a very long) 9km in a time of 34.45 to finish 5th fastest for the 17th stage.

Richard Harrington

Orienteering

Navigational problems

LAST WEEKEND a small group from IC made the long journey to North Yorkshire to compete in the British championships. The team left Wandsworth early on Saturday morning, confident of being able to produce good runs in the event on Sunday; however, after experiencing great difficulty in finding a route out of North London to the M1, it was decided that further training in navigation was required. With this in mind, the team left the motorway at lunchtime in an attempt to find a pub, selected from a certain well-known publication. This time the navigation was perfect, and the team continued the journey in high spirits.

In the afternoon, a training event was held with the IC team limiting their activities to very slow and easy running round one of the shorter courses. All the team managed to miss their chosen start times, due to the fact that their watches were adjusted to British summer time, whereas the event was being run at some arbitrary Yorkshire mean time, approximately 7 minutes in advance of real time. After the event, Alan Leakey attended the British Orienteering Federation AGM, leaving the rest of the team at the campsite to attempt to put up the tent; without the assistance of tent pegs: we are still puzzled as to why Alan needed these at the AGM.

Sunday's event, held in Cropton Forest, near Pickering, ran to a more standard Orienteering time (a few minutes late compared with BST), and thus all the team managed to arrive at the start on time, after an energy-sapping struggle with the tent. The forest was fairly hilly, and soft underfoot, with

large areas of brambles and dense undergrowth making a lot of the going quite tough. A good network of roads and rides simplified navigation on the longer stages, but on these stages there were always several possible routes to choose between.

David Rosen had another very good run to finish 4th, 4 minutes behind winner Geoff Peck, in a time of 90 mins 15 secs for the 12.8km course. The four major international selection races of 1976 have now been completed, and David has finished in the first four places in each of these, and he thus has a good chance of being included in the British team of five for the World Championships in Aviemore in September.

As the 'A' class was restricted to 60 competitors, Alan Leakey and Rob Allinson competed in the B class, over a 9.8km course: both had good runs to finish 43rd and 50th in 92.13 and 95.29 respectively. Ian Isherwood, in

his first championship race, ran the 7km C course in 86.45, finishing about 50th: this was a very good run after some disappointing performances in recent weeks. Of other UL runners in the event, Alastair Doyle was 27th in the A class in 102 mins, a good performance for him, and Clive Reid 57th in the B class in 97 mins 55.

The team, by now highly proficient in navigation, managed to find another pub on the way home in which to celebrate their good runs. It was here that Ian earned his new nickname, 'the Cucozade kid'. Our thanks go to the event organisers for a very fine event, and to several northern breweries for their very fine refreshments.

Cricket

NELP overwhelmed

ALONG THE East India Dock Road into Barking travelled the 1st XI to play the North East London, Polytechnic last Wednesday. IC skipper Tom Ghosh won the toss and decided to bat. In what was to be a 40 over match but after 31 became a 35 overs match, supposedly because of poor light. IC then accumulated 190 for 8, significant winnings coming from Maurice Throbb (59), Tom Ghosh (31) and Nick Morton (28).

NELP never looked as if

they would score at the required rate of over 5 runs an over so some players were given the rare opportunity of bowling by the generous Captain. Eventually however NELP were dismissed for 127 with two recognised bowlers taking most of the wickets; notably Dave Millard with 4 for 26 and Dave Bramley with 3 for 28.

Team: T Ghosh, D Millard, V Brown, N Morton, K de Silva, A Paul, S Godding, J Coates, D Bramley, P Jeffs, A Han.

'VOICES'

ARE NEEDED IN THE

BBC's BENGALI SERVICE BROADCASTS TO THE SUBCONTINENT

We are always on the lookout for new talent in Broadcasting in Bengali. Our programmes - Current Affairs, Drama and a wide range of general interests - need a variety of contributors. Some are needed for just reading Bengali scripts

but the work is mostly translation and reading; standard BBC fees are paid.

We shall be holding auditions during June. If you will be in London during the next academic year and are interested please write to me giving your name and address, telephone number and brief details of your educational qualifications, present studies and previous experience of broadcasting if any.

EXTERNAL ECLAIRS

AS YOU PROBABLY know by now, trainee teachers all over Britain are occupying their colleges after the ball was set rolling in Scotland a fortnight ago. You may not realise why rational and normally moderate students are taking such drastic action. They want to draw the attention of the public to the Government's cuts in teacher training and in teaching numbers, which mean that up to 80% of students leaving colleges this summer will not obtain jobs in teaching – or probably in anything else.

It is not often that the entire student movement is united on one issue but this is the case over Education Cuts.

Even the Federation of Conservative students reject the position of the Tory Party on this matter, although some of their membership privately admit that they see no alternative for the Government. It seems senseless to discard these teachers who are so badly needed in schools. After all, only a fraction of the population enter Higher and Further Education, but everyone goes through Education between the ages of five and sixteen, and so this is where scarce resources should be concentrated.

The Government have of course been surprised by the falling of the birth rate and

have opted to maintain the status quo rather than to use the resultant surplus of teachers to reduce class sizes throughout the system. Last year, the number of teachers in maintained schools increased by 16000. The predicted intake for each of the next five years is only 8000 – a decrease of 50%. In addition, the increasing graduate unemployment means that teacher training students have to compete for jobs with a greater number of graduates from the Universities.

A year ago, the DES expected to attain the teacher-pupil ratios put forward by the ninth report of the National Advisory Council on the Training and Supply of Teachers (NACTST) and the ten percent increase put forward by the 1972 White Paper, "A Framework for Expansion". It now seems doubtful whether even these aims will be reached – and prospects of removing all classes in excess of thirty seem even more remote.

D Everett

ICPGG- a new breath of life needed

DOES IC need a postgraduate groupe? The answer is, I believe, most emphatically, 'yes'. The form it should or will take is far from settled.

The group has struggled by this year, but for the majority of this time it has had no chairman, few active members and even fewer meetings. Credit should be given to Richard Upton, who has kept the very threads of the group together. He originally intended to be the treasurer but found himself, by default, wearing the hats of chairman, secretary and treasurer.

On the social side, the group has organised a successful theatre trip just before Easter and is at present preparing for its summer extravaganza. The latter will take the form of a magical mystery tour on the Thames with transport in the form of a boat with disco, bar and food even. This should happen on a balmy summers evening early in July.

This year has also seen the setting up of a working party within the College to consider the future direction of PG education and the position of and the needs of the PGs in the College. This working party has three PG members and is due to report soon.

Externally, as well, PG education has been under close scrutiny from all sides. The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the SRC and the Parliamentary Expenditure Committee have

all produced reports on postgraduate education. The implementation of the recommendations of these reports is imminent and could cause many changes in the system as we know it. Not all of these recommendations are, I feel, in the best interests of students or of education.

PG's must take an interest and an active part in the making of decisions concerning their future and education. In a college with such a large PG sector as IC has, it is amazing that over 1500 postgrads make so little impact and that their combined voice is so pathetic.

Most postgrads at IC give the impression of being here to work and work only. We are here to work but surely there are other things to be gained from one's time here.

The IC postgraduate group must be put back on its feet. You can make a start next week by coming to the AGM on Wednesday 2nd June at 1.00pm in Elec Eng 408.

See Mr Upton, the one man exec.

Hear reports on the PG world for the past 12 months.

Elect some officers for the next year. (Why not be one yourself?)

Buy a ticket for the river boat party.

All this and more.

ICPGG needs a new breath of life. If you are an IC PG come to the AGM and help us to give you a postgraduate group to satisfy your every desire.

Rick Parker

EDITORIAL Alternative Prospectus

THE DECISION to re-edit and reprint the Alternative Prospectus (AP) must, I suppose, be welcomed, particularly since College are to foot the bill. Nevertheless it is rather presumptuous of College to seek to edit a student publication when they have continually refused to permit students to edit their Prospectus (barring the IC Union section).

The College Prospectus does have factual errors in it, and fails to give prospective students a full picture of what going to college entails. Besides forgetting to mention that most students find some, if not all, of their courses and lecturers boring, the prospectus gives a false financial outlook.

Students coming to IC this October have been told that they 'can expect to pay, at current prices, about 25p for breakfast, 30p for lunch and between 25p and 50p for an evening meal'. No mention can be found in the Prospectus of the quality of IC refectory food. Next year's Freshers certainly are in for a shock.

The same Prospectus quotes temply hall rents as Linstead (£80.25, Southside (£52.75) and Beit New Hostel (£50.25). Rents will in fact be £145.60, £105.60, £105.60 respectively.

The paltry disclaimer 'The information given in this Prospectus is that current to going, to press, May 1975, and is subject to alteration' does nothing to nullify the College whitewash.

All in all College officials and academics should not throw stones at the first AP when they themselves live in a glass parapet.

Despite this, one fact does stand out; the AP is a needless waste of money. If the College were prepared to tell prospective students the whole truth there would not be a need for a student Prospectus.

There are two possible ways out of the current hypocritical situation. Firstly a joint College and Union board should edit the College Prospectus with each party having equal say. This would remove the need for an AP. Secondly the Prospectus could be altered to include the official College section and on solely student-edited AP section. Both ways would save College money. Correspondence on this subject is welcomed.

Paul Ekpenyong

PROF BREMSSTRAHLUNG

