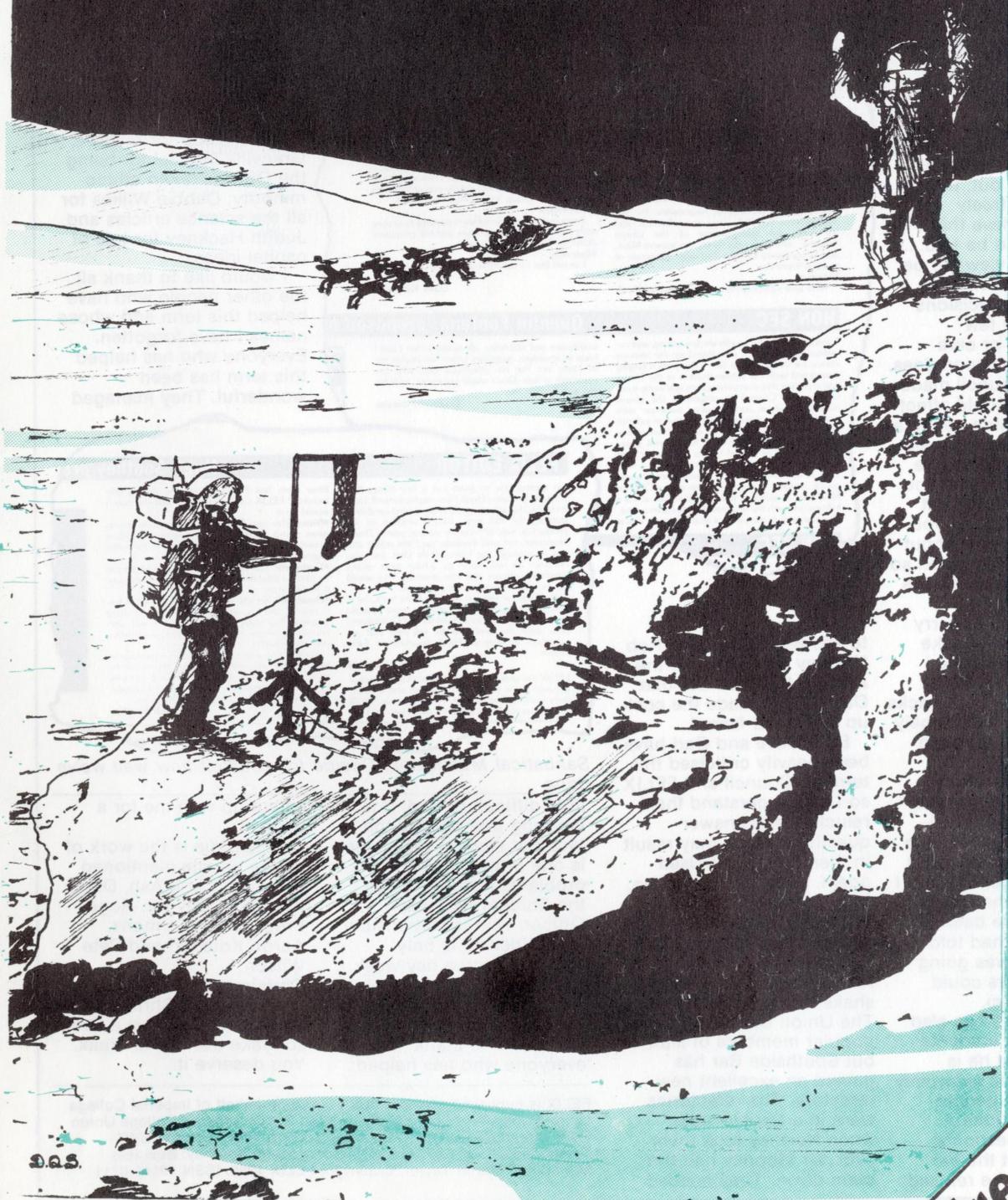


...MERRY
CHRISTMAS...



D.S.

FEELIX The Newspaper of
Imperial College Uni

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11 December 1985

No 724



Editorial

PRESIDENT

Carl Burgess pro

How can I sum up why Carl should be President in about 100 words.

He has shown his ability, to take on any job and do it excellently, as Rag Chairman and Rag Mag Editor he has revitalised Rag and will do the same for ICU as President. He has done a lot for IC, edited the RCS Handbook, was one of the founders of IC Wing Chan Club, represented I.C.U. at U.L.U. and college committees and has been the IC observer at the NUS conference.

But having said that he still exhibits the characteristics of the average student.

Greg Simpson

The job of President needs not only experience in sitting on committees but experience in dealing with people, both College Admin and students, on a personal basis. Sitting on high powered

committees such as Governing Body and Finance and Executive needs exact knowledge of the students' case because the President will be facing experienced negotiators. A strong President who will not be intimidated by such people is needed to put forward the students' case.

I believe that many students do not get involved in the Union because there is a gross lack of communication between the Union and the general student body. Consequently many decisions are made by a small body self interested parties behind closed doors. The excuse given is that if anybody wanted to find out, the information is freely available. I believe that students should be told what is happening about all matters before key decisions are made which affect them, in order for their views to be heard.

Carl Burgess

Sabbaticals

'Many decisions' wrote Union President, Carl Burgess in his election publicity, 'are made by a small body of self-interested parties behind closed doors. The excuse given is that if anybody wanted to find out, the information is freely available. I believe that students should be told...in order for their views to be heard.' Carl was right to attack the way decisions are made. Very few students know or care about what the Union does. On Monday Council made decisions that could affect the clubs of which you're a member, your residences or your academic course. FELIX attempts to tell you about the decisions that have been made, but you really need to know about the topics for discussion so that you can influence the decisions.

Carl has failed to carry out his promise to make decisions taken by the Union more open. Many Union officers, FELIX hacks etc have found it extremely difficult to keep in touch with what Carl is doing. They have been refused documents about the Bar takeover, for example. I think Carl has made some bad errors this term in his dealings with College and I am convinced that some of them could have been avoided if Carl had told students what was going on so that others could have advised him.

Dave Kingston has also tried to prevent students finding out what he is doing. He can be extremely aggressive when people question his actions. I asked him a question a week ago about the bar takeover which he refused

to answer. I then rang Rob Northey who gave me the answer. It turned out that Dave hadn't made the cock up that I had feared.

Both Dave and Carl have been heavily criticised this term by Council and FELIX so I can understand their reluctance to answer questions which may result in them being criticised again. They should realise, though, that in the long term ignoring students will cause them more problems.

Rob Northey
Rob Northey has certainly shaken up the refectories. The Union Bar has lost two popular members of staff but Southside Bar has gained an excellent new refectory. The refectories were in a terrible state when Northey took them over. Mr Mooney had run them down. They needed

firm management and Mr Northey has certainly brought them under control. Unfortunately, he has also irritated a lot of people in the process. Perhaps people should think about all the bad Mooney meals they've had before criticising Northey.

Don Ferguson

Student Services was in a appalling mess when Don Ferguson took over. Very few students had any confidence in the service being provided. Don appears to be a little less arrogant with 'ordinary' students than Michael Arthur was. Unfortunately, though, he is doing a degree two days a week. This means that he is a

Tony Churchill and Rosemary Hosking for keeping our machinery working; Dave Jones for worrying his way through a term's news pages; Bill Goodwin and Richard Smith for assisting him; Tracy Spalding, Kamala Sen and Jane Speigel for doing more than their share of naff jobs; J Martin Taylor for cooking the books; Chris Stapleton and Brian Morrison for snapping away; Sunny Bains for ensuring the Office is never dull; Chris Edwards for all those pieces of artwork I wanted the day before yesterday; Andy Vickers for being trendy; John Burgess and Sarah Kirk for being arty; Richard Ellis for deciphering the illiterate scribblings of the various sports teams; Mark Cottle for being the Office hippy; Nigel Atkinson and Pete Hobbis for being general heroes; Jim Clayden and Charlie Troup for reviews; Grenville Manuel for being the Office's token ethnic minority; Debbie Wilkes for all the science articles and Judith Hackney for lots of capital ideas.

I would like to thank all the other people who have helped this term and whose names I have forgotten. Everyone who has helped this term has been wonderful. They managed

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Dave Kingston p

Who is Dave Kingston?

Well, he is a third year Mathematician who has been heavily involved in the less glamorous side of Union life. He has been elected to so far as social rep., dep. rep., safety rep., and GOC delegate. He has also been awarded RCS social colours. However, he is aware of the problems presently confronting the Major Sub Committees in spite of his CCU roots and has a good knowledge of ICU, having been a regular face in the Union Office over the last 12 months.

That's why I am proposing Dave for Deputy President.

Hugh Stiles

The Deputy President is responsible for the management of ICU's resources - finance, and the use and maintenance of the Union building - as well as refectories, our mascot Mike, and being Safety Officer. The most important of these is finance.

Next year's Deputy President will have a difficult

job. Yet again the Union is facing a reduction in disposable income - the money spent mainly on clubs and CCUs. Already this has provoked arguments between the Major Sub Committees (the bodies who oversee most clubs' activities) and the CCU's over next year's funding. This rift is deflating this year's Deputy President from the job of trying to obtain as much money as possible from College. Quite clearly an end to this split is needed. A lead in this direction has to come from a Deputy President who has a wide knowledge of all aspects of ICU, yet is not tightly connected with any pressure group. I think that I fit the bill.

Refectories

Improvement in refectories is possible next year with a new refectory manager and the proposed JCR/Sherfield refectory swap.

Mascotry

I would like to see Mike appear in public more often.

Dave Kingston

HON SEC

Quentin Fontana proposed by

If you are looking for an efficiently working, well coordinated Union next year then I am the obvious choice for the ICU Hon Sec. The post is largely concerned with the administration of the Union and ensuring that every thing runs efficiently from UGM's and Council to organising the Union transport and as such requires someone with experience of working with people and an in-depth knowledge of how a university works. I have these qualifications having worked for several years before coming to IC and having been associated with universities in various capacities for a long time. A sabbatical post in IC Union is not as some people imagine, a simple extension of a CCU or MSK post, it goes much deeper than that as it is a full time job with the responsibility that goes with it. Commitment to the job is of vital importance as is

enthusiasm and reliability, all qualities that I feel I have in abundant quantities which will enable me to carry out the job effectively and with the minimum of fuss. Don't waste your vote, vote for me as ICU Hon Sec.

Quentin Fontana

FELIX EDITOR

Hugh Southey pro

I'm writing this to point out a few things that modestly prevents Hugh from saying himself. He is probably the only properly experienced candidate standing for this post, having worked on the production side of Felix for several years. This is important, not only because the Felix editor also has to manage the Union Print Unit, but also because he will have to advise next year's handbook editors over the summer. This would not be easy if he were inexperienced.

But Hugh is not just another Felix hack, he is very concerned about getting more people involved. Having edited Spanner and Guildsheet I have seen the problems, he will face and am confident to propose Hugh Southey for Felix Editor.

Mark Cottle

FELIX this year has not lived up to its full potential. It hasn't been relevant to students and it hasn't been lively and innovative. How often has FELIX ignored an event organised by your club or CCU?

How often has FELIX bored you during first lectures? FELIX can be improved and this how I would do it.

***News** This year FELIX has reported on boring news about College staff and ignored student activities. If I am elected FELIX editor the news pages will be relevant.

***Comment** The FELIX editorial can and should be used to influence College. I am prepared to use it for students.

***Humour** If elected editor I will ensure FELIX has a regular diary column reporting on anything amusing that happens in College. I will also encourage people to submit humorous articles and photographs.

Lack of space prevents me from continuing the list. However the improvements I intend can be summed by saying they are intended to make FELIX your newspaper rather than the newspaper of a few hacks and College administrators.

Hugh Southey

The Felix Editor is fully proposed and Sabbatical Manifestos: Decide for yourself how well we've done

little difficult to find. It is amazing that despite the fact that student residence is one of the major problems facing College, the Student Services Officer, who is responsible for residence, is only working a three day week.

Credits
FELIX this term has been a amazing team effort so I would like to thank everyone who has helped:

to put up with me for a start.

This issue is the work of all the people mentioned above and Eric Ash, Dave Kingston, Gaynor, Roger Preece, Dan Salmons, Aaron Kotcheff and Pete Wilson.

Christmas
Have a happy Christmas. A term at IC is always a strain so make use of the break. You deserve it.

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Sex Appeal

Dear Editor,
In a whole issue of FELIX dedicated to sex, I was rather disappointed to see the rather marginalised way in which homosexuality was dealt with I also felt that the subject was treated somewhat inaccurately and lacked sensitivity.

Prejudice against homosexuals does not, as your authors suggest, 'stem from grossly misleading impressions gained from a small proportion of the gay community'. It stems from the fact that we live in a society which consistently suppresses and distorts the images of lesbian and gay lifestyles, and from the fact that our society does not

validate any alternatives to heterosexual, reproduction orientated sexuality.

What in my opinion the article fails to put across is the sense that being gay in London can be a most rich and varied experience and that despite the problems of being 'out' in an essentially traditional and male-dominated environment such as IC, much support and company can be gained from getting involved in the organisations that exist. No matter how unsure or unconfident you are about your sexuality groups such as ours provide a framework for you to explore your feelings. I would like to welcome anyone along to our Thursday meetings at ULU in Malet Street, WC1.

It is ironic that, in an

article intended to represent homosexuality in the 'sex special', there is no mention of lesbians whatsoever. If it is hard for men to come out at IC due to the male-dominated males atmosphere, the problems for lesbians must be greater. Failure to even acknowledge their existence only serves to reinforce the difficulties faced by lesbian women and to reconfirm the way that straight men consistently fail to realise the women can be homosexual too.

I look forward to a more positive and constructive representation of lesbians and gay men in your paper in the future.

yours,
Jonathan Sheldon
Chairperson ULU Lesbian and Gay soc

week's letters page. It is all too easy to sit back and moan about something you don't like; rising up off your backside and doing something positive about it is considerably more difficult. Even so here is an opportunity for you to do so.

As you would have realised, if you had actually bothered to read the QT pieces, the society accepts articles from anyone — including non members. In fact we are currently holding 'write for QT' competition. The best submissions will be published in FELIX.

With the sense of humour you displayed in your letter and your well thought out ideas, it seems strange that you have not yet submitted an entry. However I look forward to receiving your submission with anticipation on a similar note, if you are unhappy with the contents of FELIX, there is nothing to stop you making your own contributions to the newspaper.

Yours sincerely
W R Goodwin

Van Mail

Dear FELIX,

(This letter had to be written in a very short space of time to meet the FELIX deadline. Please excuse its brief and maybe confusing nature).

At the end of October Balloon Club asked Quentin to book a Budget van for the weekend of 30 Nov/1 Dec since all Union vans had been booked out. A simple enough task(?) Q replied 'No need to book a Budget, I can let you have the 17 seater green minibus by swapping with other clubs'. Leaving the task in Q's hands I go away foolishly thinking all will be well for our late November trip and organise all the other fiddly bits one needs to.

As Nov 30 draws closer I go and check with Q that BC will definitely be able to use B97 OLE (the green van). 'Yes', says Q 'The green van will be yours, don't worry'. I check with Caving Club on Weds 27 Nov (the original bookers of B97 OLE) to make sure they know of the changes Q has planned. Of course, Caving knows nothing of Q's plans, but are agreeable to doing a swap anyway since they can make do with a smaller van.

On Thurs 28 Nov, with only one day to go until the weekend, Q tells me Mountaineering must take the green van and we will have to make do with a Budget van.

Confused by now? I was bewildered! On the morning of Friday 29 Nov I call Q to check we have a van. Q says, 'Yes, I've got

you a transit, but not a Budget one.' This sounds ominous! 'You will have to go to Old Kent Road to fetch the van I've booked you'. By now I had realised it was definitely going to be 'one of those weekends'.

Later, on Friday afternoon after a two hour expedition across half of London to fetch the van I discover Ford have brought out a new type of Transit disguised very cleverly as a VW Van. Being much smaller than a Ford Transit we just managed to squeeze the balloon into the van and off we go.

Just outside London, on the M1 the water temperature gauge shoots off into the red. The AA man comes to our rescue and discovers a faulty temperature gauge. Off we go agains determined to enjoy our weekend. Luckily we had no more trouble with the van apart from the drivers windscreen washer that did not work.

Conclusion

Balloon Club asked Quentin to book a van four weeks before it was needed. We were left wondering which van we would end up with and it was Rugby club who used B97 OLE on 30 Nov/1 Dec so goodness know what Mountaineering or Caving used as transport.

I wasted four hours collecting and returning the van. A van which delayed our journey and, in my opinion, was an awful thing to drive.

Which club will the phantom van swapper strike at next? It could be your club.

Mike Carpenter
Balloon Club Chairman

QT

Dear Mr Thomas,
I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of QT Soc, to reply to the criticisms you voiced in last

Christmas Wines from IC Cellar

As is our custom at this time of year we are able to make one or two offers to you from the cellar. These offers are for cash off-sales only.

First, for party drinking we have made a special purchase of **Pavillon Rouge** for sale by whole case only at a price of £21 per case. This is the equivalent to £1.75 per bottle. Stocks are limited so early ordering is advised.

Second, we have two selections to offer at greatly discounted prices.

Offer One

- 1 Bottle of Burdons Amontillado Sherry
- 1 Bottle of Niersteiner Gutes Domtal 1984.
- 1 Bottle of Vin de Table (Duboeuf) White
- 1 Bottle of Vin de Table (Duboeuf) Red
- 1 Bottle of Bordeaux Brut N V (Sparkling)
- 1 Bottle of Grahams Tawny Port.

Normal list price £22.95

OFFER PRICE £19.50

Offer two

- 1 Bottle of Croft Delicado Sherry (Dry)
- 1 Bottle of Alsace Riesling 1983
- 1 Bottle of Ch. la Bouade 1980 (Sauternes)
- 2 bottles Ch. Batailley 1979
- 1 Bottle of Grahams Tawny Port

Normal list price £29.95

OFFER PRICE £25.00

Offer 2 would be a very pleasing accompaniment for your Christmas Dinner, with a few helpers you should be able to drink it all!

All the above offers relate to the current wine list prices. The new price list is being prepared for release and should arrive before Christmas. You will be pleased to note with the advent of this price list the discount which will apply for personal use will be increased to 10% and will apply to mixed orders of 6 bottles of wine and single bottles of spirits.

Orders can be placed at room 104 Sherfield building. In order to make the task of preparing your order please give 24 hours notice.

We would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas from all the Refectory and Bar Staff.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Keep fit club** has just started circuit training sessions in Beit Gym at 12.30pm every Wednesday. Free to members of IC keep fit club.
- **Weds 11 Dec**, Ten Pin Bowling Club Christmas Bowl. Meet 2.20pm in Chem Eng Foyer (Opp Beit Arch) lots of boozy prizes. All welcome and anyone can win—even novices so please come along and have a go.
- **Will all those people** with names beginning with C please clear all their bloody rubbish out of their pigeon holes!!
- **The Annual PP Soc** Coffee crawl is here once more! Meet by Physics Level 2 coffee machines at 1.30pm on Wed 11 Dec. Bring your own coffee change.
- **IC Ski Trip** 13-22 December. £199. Contact J Hockeridge, Chem Eng 1, via pig holes.
- **The Keep Fit Club** Christmas Party is at 7.15pm on Tuesday 10 December in Southside Gym. Come along as there will be lots of sherry and mince pies. Free to all members.

WANTED

- **Competent pianist/synth player** wanted for modern band being formed. Apply Dan Salmons, Physics 1.

PERSONAL

- **(Mis) Quotes** from the Rock Mechanics Section of the RSM.
- **I'm up to my balls** in greane and I've filled half a milk bottle!
- **If a cow comes** up from behind you when you are bending over it's very difficult to get your dip-meter in the hole!
- **I'll play with** whatever happens to be in my hand at the time!
- **I could do it** with a cow or a sheep but if it was a woman I'd run a mile!
- **Are you going down?** If not I will!
- **DTS** I love you! My dream Girl Panda eyes.
- **Remember** don't press the red button!
- **The life of Galileo** is boring me!
- **Crumbs!** Just who started this d club?
- **Do you like** being smeared with sumptuous chocolate sauce? If so contact P Femandex, Physics 3.
- **Coffee Machines beware!** Prepare to share and enjoy.
- **PP Man—coming** to save the Multiverse soon!
- **6, 38, 148 or even 26!!** Can you take it? If so come on the PP Soc coffee crawl. (Q—What's 42?)
- **...and all because** the lady loves chocolate sauce.
- **Once again PP man** will save the world from the Nutrimatic drinks machines.
- **RE4KB and KB4RE** (Even though she doesn't look well).
- **To the playgirl in 211!** How are things Julie.
- **Where did John sleep** after the beach party. Ask JK.
- **Wanted** 1 female for nice very young man. Contact MC Comp 2.
- **Wanted** 1 secretary from a massage parlour. Apply DG Maths 2.
- **Is IP** visiting Mickey Mouse when he takes his ruck sack walkies.

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Boring But True

IC Union has finalised arrangements for the initial takeover of the Union bar. At the meeting of Bar Committee last Wednesday it was agreed that the Union would assume control of the bar on Friday January 3 1986. Sabbatical Officers Carl Burgess, Dave Kingston and Quentin Fontana presented the details of the first stages of the takeover to Monday's meeting of council.

The date has been chosen to coincide with Refectory Manager Rob Northey's monthly stocktake. Once this has been completed the financial management and day to day running of the bar will become the Union's responsibilities. A separate account will be set up for the bar and the initial float will be funded by means of a loan from the Union's own account. ICU Deputy President Dave Kingston said that he expected this sum to be of the order of a few hundred pounds only. He explained that most of the stock would be sold before it had to be paid for. Money would not be needed to pay for a large quantity of stock at the outset. Some of the bar surplus will be fed back into the Union's own account by introducing charges for management and administration. Mr Kingston and Mr Burgess also intend that profits from the bar be set aside for refurbishment of the Lounge bar area and the bar itself.

Until the Union has obtained its own licence, bar staff will be recruited in consultation with Mr Northey and Mr Iwen Thomas, who will remain the licencees. At Wednesday's Bar Committee Mr Northey advised the Union Officers to appoint a bonded barman as manager.

Mr Kingston said on Monday that the Sabbaticals had been looking out for a bar manager for the last few weeks, but that no appointments could be made until Council had agreed to the detailed proposals for the takeover. Mr Northey told FELIX

last week that he would expect that float for the bar to be in the region of £5000. He also commented that the comparison of the profitability of the QMC and IC bars, as reported in FELIX on November 29, had been highly misleading since the QMC prices were substantially higher.

The first joint paper by Mr Burgess and College Secretary John Smith was not included on the agenda for governing body on Friday, following Mr

Burgess' request that ICU Council should first approve the document. The paper had been passed at the meeting of House Committee on November 6, but Council later instructed Mr Burgess to ask that it be temporarily withdrawn. Mr Burgess and Mr Kingston are hopeful that Council will be able to agree any amendments in time for the paper to be re-submitted to House Committee on March 5.



Nearly 400 people, including Professor and Mrs Ash and College Secretary John Smith, saw Dramsoc's production of Alan Ayckbourn's 'Bedroom Farce' last week. Above; Sarah Johnson gets her chance to polish Ciaran Hassett's bald patch.

Faulty Finances

Hamlet Gardens residents are complaining about a mistake by Student Services Finance Officer, Dave Parry, that means that they have recently received additional bills for this term. The students say that they have not budgeted for the extra rent.

Mr Parry forgot to bill the residents for the Christmas vacations, when he sent out this term's bills at the start of term. He also billed

some students living in single rooms as though they were living in doubles.

Mr Parry said that Student Services would wait for payment until the students could afford it. He criticised the students, though, saying they should have known how much their rent was. He also warned third year students that their degrees would be stopped if they didn't pay by the end of the year.

Comfortable

Chemistry student Andrew Healey was 'fairly comfortable' in Charing Cross Hospital on Monday, two weeks after he was admitted with Thallium poisoning. His condition is understood to be improving gradually, but he is still unable to move or to talk and has been breathing with the aid of a ventilator.

Road Closed

Princes Gardens was sealed off for over an hour last Thursday after a suspicious package was reported outside No 3 Ennismore Gardens. Police were alerted at around 7.45pm and immediately closed the road to all traffic and pedestrians. The package, a brown suitcase, was later discovered to contain only rubbish.

Women's Officer

Christine Taig was co-opted by Council as temporary Women's Officer on Monday evening. This follows the motion passed at the UGM last week calling for a change in the bye-laws, to create such a post. The change in the bye-laws is likely to take many months as it requires a two-thirds majority at two consecutive UGMs which are not less than 28 and not more than 40 days apart.

Regalia

The Union Sports Equipment and Regalia Shop is now losing money, with a drop in sales of 5% from last year.

Internal Services Chairman, Alan Rose, has said that unless the situation improves the shop will have to close.

Hockey

IC men's hockey first eleven were beaten 4-0 at Harlington in the last sixteen of the UAU competition. Club Captain Jim Ward told FELIX that the team didn't take its chances. This is the furthest IC have got in the competition.

More On Women's Officer

IC Union is to have a Women's Officer. A motion to create the post was passed at the IC UGM on Tuesday 23rd December. Proposing the motion, Debra Exall said the election of such an officer would be the first step towards an improvement in conditions for women at IC. Alan Rose, proposing an amendment to the motion, felt that the idea of a special Women's Officer would lead to the problems in question being ignored by the other officers, and suggested that an inquiry should be set up instead, the results of which would be presented at a future UGM. When the amendment was rejected, a further amendment was proposed, 'recommending that there should be both a Women's Officer appointed, and an inquiry organised'. This amendment was carried.

Another motion to deal specifically with sexism in educational was passed without question. Proposed by Union President Carl Burgess, the motion supported the efforts of the campaign for Women In Science and Engineering (WISE). ICU resolved to press the University of London to operate a scheme in the city, with each College Union promoting the study of engineering subjects by schoolgirls in its own adopted borough.

The final motion to be passed at the meeting listed women students as one of four topics to be investigated under the banner of Academic Affairs. Dealing with a wide range of subjects, J Martin Taylor's motion was initially accused of over-generalisation. However, a procedural motion forced the meeting to an automatic vote, and the motion was carried.

Two further items on the agenda remained undebated by the end of the meeting, including Michael Newman's motion on Union organisation held over from two previous UGM's. Tuesday's UGM was called to a close as the debate on this motion was about to start.

A Question of Degrees

Graduates of the College's four year engineering courses will be awarded Master of Engineering (MEng) degrees as from 1987. Most three year engineering courses leading to BSc(Eng) degrees will be redesignated BEng degrees at the same time.

The University of London's Academic Council has agreed to the necessary change in the University statutes. The changes are now at a consultative stage as required by the University of London Act 1978. Following acceptance by the University Senate the

statute changes must then be ratified by the Privvy Council. This long process means that the changes will not be in time for 1986 graduates to be awarded the new degrees.

The delay in getting the changes approved will lead to some obvious anomalies. Students graduating from four year courses in 1986 will get a BEng, whereas those graduating from the same course the year after will get a MEng. At the same time those on three year courses will get a BEng which went to four year course students the year before.

One More for the Road

Acting Union Bar Manager Dave Brennan resigned last week following the theft of over £100 of bar takings which were in his possession. The money was stolen at around 2.30pm on Thursday, after Mr Brennan had left the money poorly guarded for a few minutes. He submitted his resignation after discussing the matter with Refectory Manager Rob Northey on Friday.

Mr Brennan was on his way to deposit the takings in the safe in Beit Arch security office, after locking up the bar. He stopped briefly in the games room to speak with a friend and left the money on a shelf, in a sealed plastic bag, having removed it from his pocket to get out a packet of cigarettes. A few minutes later he noticed that the money had disappeared. Mr Brennan immediately checked the money had not been picked up by any of the Beit security guards or cleaners, and then alerted the Sherfield security office and Assistant Refectory Manager Martin Parsons. Mr Parsons and Chief Security Officer Geoffrey Reeves rang the police at 2.45pm.

Mr Brennan was interviewed by police on Friday. He told FELIX that the police were chiefly concerned with discovering whether he had taken the money himself. He agreed that the theft had been largely a result of his own negligence, but expressed severe displeasure over the attitude the police had taken. They had thought it unusual that he had borrowed a sum of £50 from College as an advance on his wages earlier in the week.

Mr Brennan spoke with Mr Northey later on Friday. Mr Northey expressed no ill-feeling towards Mr Brennan but explained sympathetically that he could not overlook the loss of the bar takings. Mr Brennan was given the choice of resigning or being sacked, and chose to resign. He is now working in the refectories.

Very Extremely Guilty

President Roger Preece was tried at the Guilds Christmas UGM in Mech Eng 220 last Tuesday. In his absence, Mr Preece was accused of many crimes, too many for the prosecuting Council to list but including; missing a dip in the sea at Brighton, referring to Boanerges, the Union's mascot, as a 'she', calling Mrs Ash, Mrs Flowers and forgetting Mrs Ash's flowers. Due to a schedule clash, Mr Preece was not available for the trial, but in his absence, a jury of six bad men and false found him 'very, very, very, extremely guilty'. He was then sentenced to a ducking in the serpentine. An amendment to the

sentence suggested that ICU Deputy President Dave Kingston was equally guilty. The judge agreed and conferred the same punishment upon him.

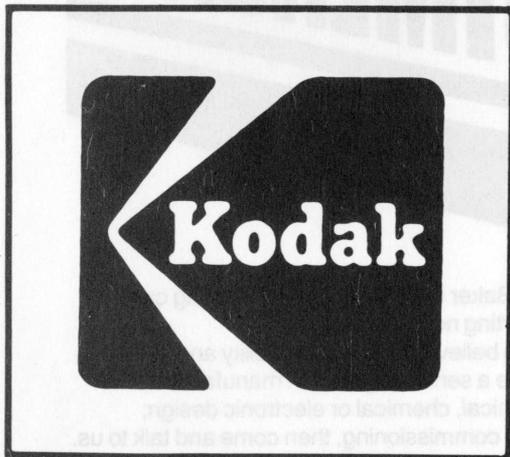
After the close of the meeting, most of those present moved to the Senior Common Room and bodily removed Mr Preece from a Union Finance Committee meeting. Mr Kingston was left behind as the Guildspersons felt he would not be able to control his temper. Mr Preece was then carried to the Serpentine and thrown in. Despite frequent protest, he was not too upset by the experience and managed to lead a resounding boomalaka.

No Chance of Success

Last week the controversial subject of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was debated in the Physics Department. Speaking in favour of the project were Dr Haines and Professor Southwood, both of Physics, and speaking against were Professor New and Dr Moss of Physics and Computing respectively. All of the speakers agreed that the so-called 'Star Wars' project had virtually no chance of success, and that the idea of a defence shield which could protect a whole nation was sheer fantasy. It was acknowledged that there are other reasons why the American military are

interested in pursuing this initiative, among them the need to support the defence industry. Those against the project said that it should be vigorously opposed on principle due to the political instability which it had already caused and would continue to cause as work progressed. Other worries about the project were based on the restrictions which might be put on groups in College for security reasons once military money had been accepted, and the worry that research done in the name of defence might in the end be used for offensive purposes.

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ENGINEERING-THE TOTAL CONCEPT

BELOW THE BELT

By Cy Nichol

Somewhere in this article it would seem appropriate to express some seasonal sentiments. So without further ado may I suggest that this Christmas you uphold the spirit of IC in carrying on ancient traditions and go down to Stonehenge and sacrifice a virgin/hippy/sabbatical or whatever else takes your fancy.

One of IC's oldest centres of tradition, dating back to the early twenties, is the Union Bar. Trust this erstwhile institution to come to the aid of sweating news editors this year by supplying plentiful controversy. And if I'm not mistaken there's more brewing in the pipeline. It would seem that at long last the Union will be running its own bar, and rightly so. The question now is how it will run in future. Even the most experienced union hacks seem at a loss to provide answers. It seems that rather than being wrested from the grip of a draconian college authority, Sherfield were almost glad to be rid of the bar, and, further, that they might see it as a way of foisting some of their other problems on to the Union. With the Union due to become responsible for the running of the bar in early January there is little news available on how this will be achieved. It was reported by witnesses that at a recent bar committee meeting refectory manager 'Honest Rob' Northey was seen chortling at Union deputy president Dave Kingston about the way he was 'running circles' around the hapless sabbatical. It seems that when the Union takes control it will be responsible for all aspects of the bar, and that at present Mr Northey is preparing to run the bar down to a minimum level at the end of term. This little problem is nothing to the one of finding someone to run the bar. Rumours about old barmen and friends of union hacks being selected before the job is even advertised to such an extent that I cannot even dream of suggesting any one of them

is true. At the moment the bar is in a sad state, the system of taking union cards for pots still breaks down, there seems to be regular vandalism and some of the people who might revive the atmosphere seem to have forsaken the place totally. The more unkind among us have suggested that the whole business has less to do with sound economic reasoning and a lot more to do with the pseudo-freemasonry that surrounds certain tie clubs. Further than this I do not intend to comment lest I be struck down by the 'curse of the bar' or found stabbed in the heart with my left trouser leg rolled up.

On to more mundane matters. After a while rumours about who's 'bonking' with who get remarkably tedious, and anyway I mustn't let the tone of this article fall too low. However there are exceptions, especially for people with cleaner-than-clean reputations. One such is genial Guilds president and notorious self-promotionalist Roger Preece. This is not to judge Mr Preece in any way, for as he says in the recent FELIX Sex special, it is the Christian way to follow the biblical teaching to the best of one's ability not to imply any absolute judgement. However the extent of Mr Preece's latest infatuation must raise some questions of a moral nature. The object of his attention is a young lady in Mines but beyond that it is not polite to be more precise. Friends have let slip that our hero has been making clandestine enquiries after the young lady for a considerable amount of time, although he called off trying to take her to an army dinner when he discovered to his dismay that she had a current boyfriend. However the course of true lust held strong and the dashing lieutenant persisted in his quest at every possible opportunity until he was recently disturbed by a close friend of mine with some of his clothes a touch awry, shall we say (this phrase is approved by the Felix Sex Editor as suitable for the general public). However the matter which has really brought this case to my attention is the prestigious cocktail party being thrown by Guilds to promote itself to (potentially generous) parties from outside college. The guest list has

been limited to a very exclusive list of Guilds students who are to be there to act as hosts to the various mayors, MPs and captains of industry. Surprise then to find that a certain friend of our illustrious president appears on the same list for what is 'a serious occasion for the promotion of the image of Guilds union and in no way a freebie for hacks'. When questioned about this Mr. Preece said he had decided that there was room for 'other students' to help out in an assisting role. Believe nothing on the basis of public image.

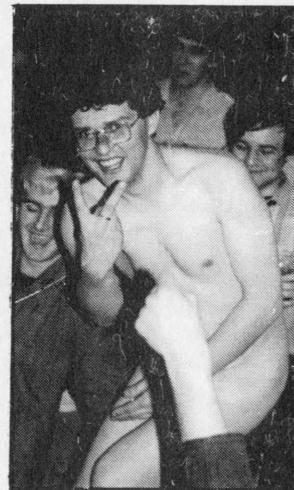
Speaking of misleading public image, IC closet romeo Dave Kingston has been letting himself in for it again. Apparently his life is being made difficult by the number of complaining students being sent to him by student services. It has been suggested by people with connections in that part of college that Dave's troubles are due to the fact that he has recently jilted one of the female employees. Not content with ignoring advice over the bar, it seems that sabbaticals are not aware of the well known sayings about 'women scorned'.

As this is a special edition I think it's about time some of our esteemed editor's excesses were brought to light (especially as he tells me to write some of this stuff). Hugh has recently begun playing hockey for the IC 3rd team which may well explain some of the content of the sports pages these days. But before you jump to any conclusions about our man's sporting skills I should comment that, from personal experience, 3rd team fixtures are very much a social activity. Now jovial Hugh is not one to shy away from being the life and soul of the party and has been seen on several occasions to be well 'refreshed' after matches.

More interesting still is the regard in which Hugh's driving is held by the team. After driving the team minibus to a recent fixture in Reading it was unanimously decided that IC Hon. Sec. Quentin 'would you buy a used transit from this man' Fontana should take the wheel on the return journey for the benefit of all present (including the minibus). Mr Southey is not rumoured to be thinking of a career running his own coach company.

Congratulations are in order for RCS Hon. Sec. Tom Melliar-Smith who has recently been told that his health has improved sufficiently for him to enjoy life to the full again (this follows a serious head injury he sustained during the summer). It would seem that Tom has taken full advantage of his new freedom for not only was he heard wandering around college last week claiming he had been raped but on Friday he was asked to take part in a police identity parade. Tom's friends would like to say welcome back and take it easy as you've got another eighty years at least.

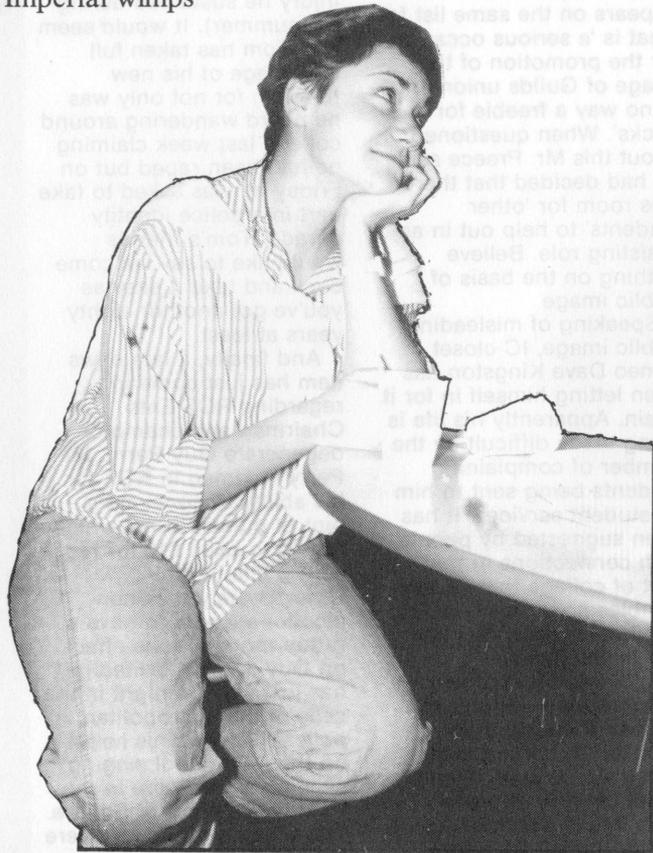
And finally, a late news item has just come in regarding RCS Ents Chairman and champion degenerate Guy Perry. Mr Perry is famed in RCS for his ability to consume a pint of human urine, which he did to raise £10 for rag earlier this term. Unfortunately common alcohol appears to have a rather more serious effect on Guy. I am informed he has just spent a night in the cells of the Metropolitan police following his arrest on the RCS 'carol singing' evening somewhere in the vicinity of Leicester Square. The officers of the law were kind enough not to bring any charges, being content to advise him to be more careful what he drinks in future.



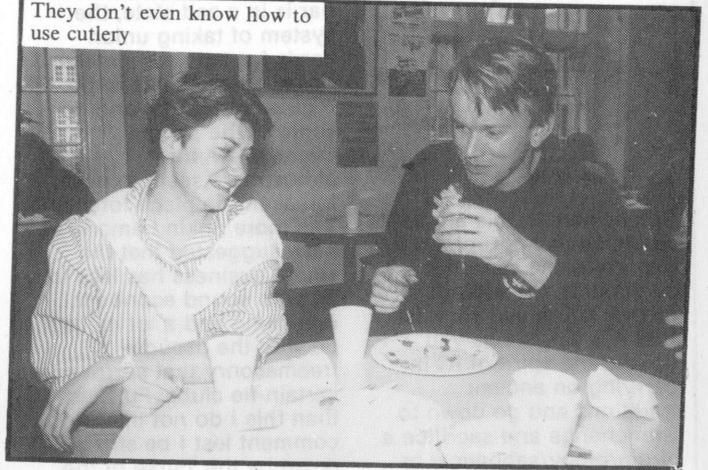
Hapless DP, Dave Kingston, really seems incapable of making a fool of himself. Several weeks ago FELIX ran a story entitled small is beautiful. FELIX threatened to expose Mr Kingston in all his glory if he failed to make a donation to Rag. We can now reveal that Mr Kingston was conned. Unfortunately in the photo Mr Kingston's private parts are covered.

In Search of Love

Poor Jane spends all her days surrounded by Imperial wimps



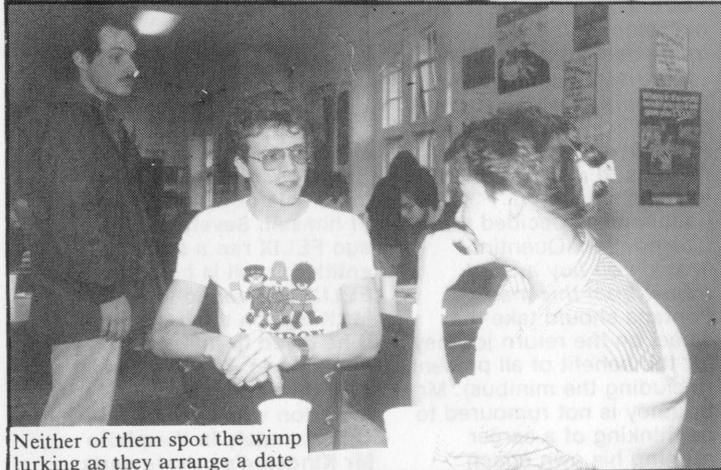
They don't even know how to use cutlery



Suddenly a real beefcake approaches



Dave is so hunky and she is bewitched by his sweet nothings

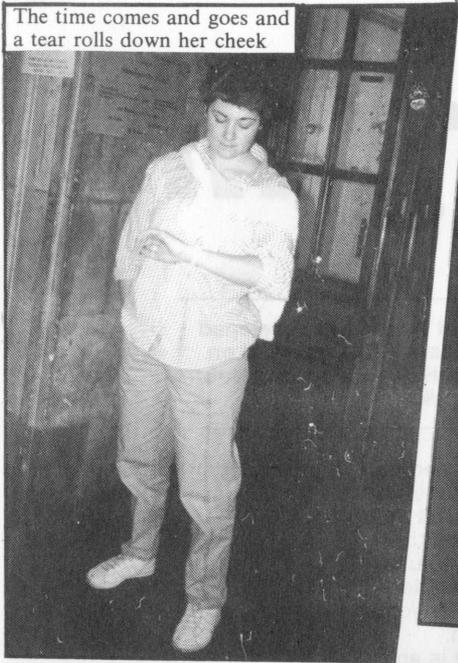


Neither of them spot the wimp lurking as they arrange a date

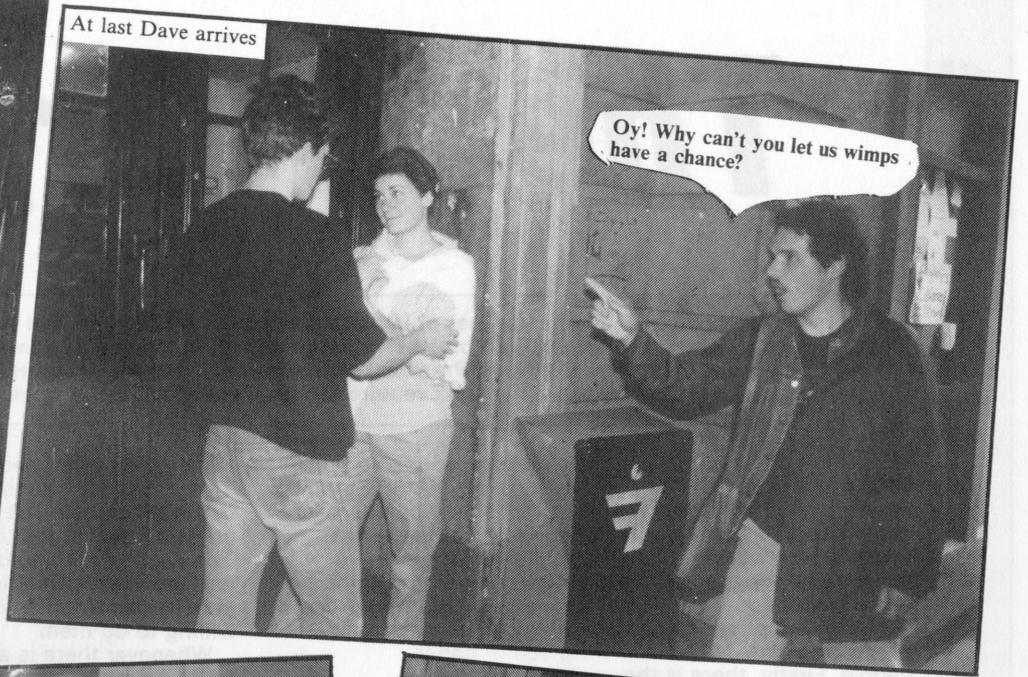


Jane's head is spinning as she longs for the time to come closer

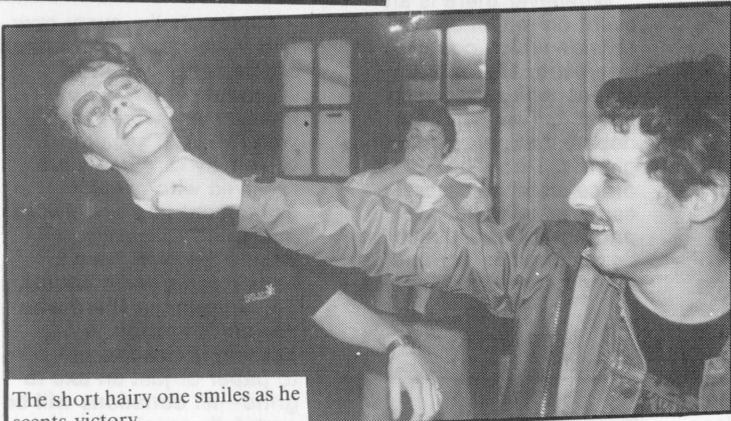
The time comes and goes and a tear rolls down her cheek



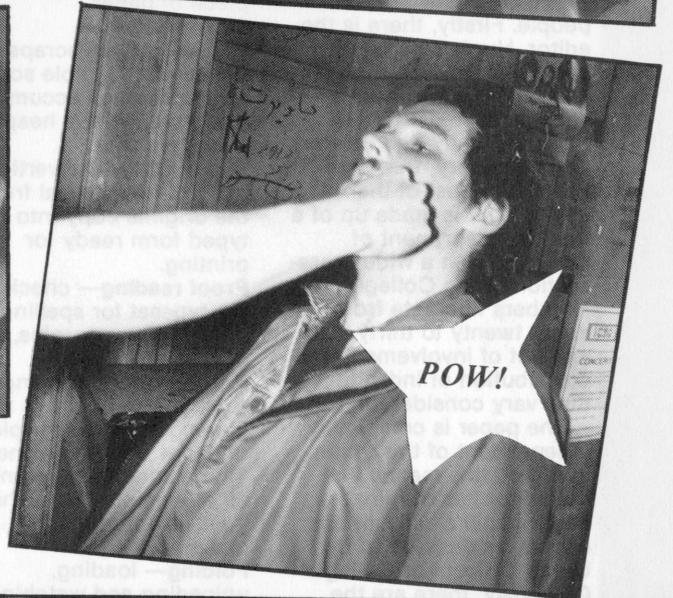
At last Dave arrives



Oy! Why can't you let us wimps have a chance?

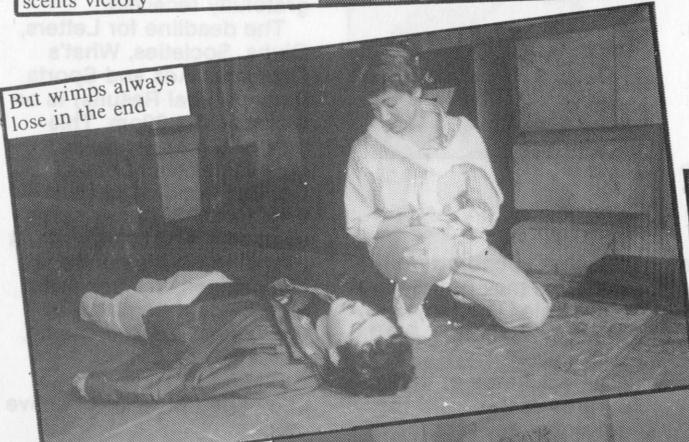


The short hairy one smiles as he scents victory

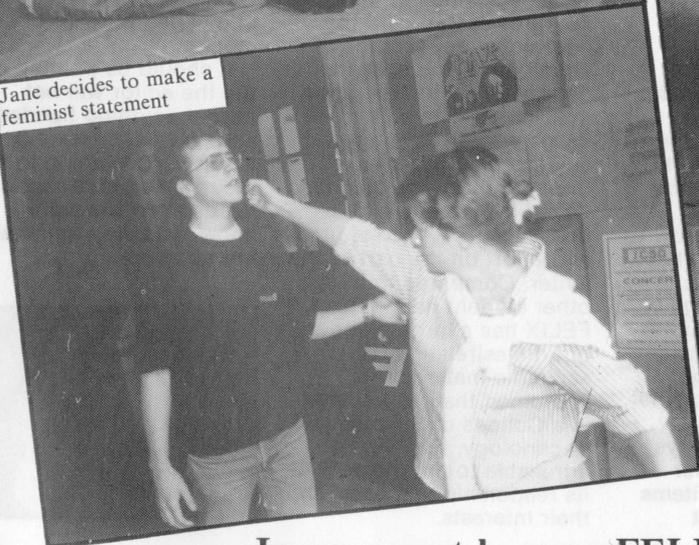


POW!

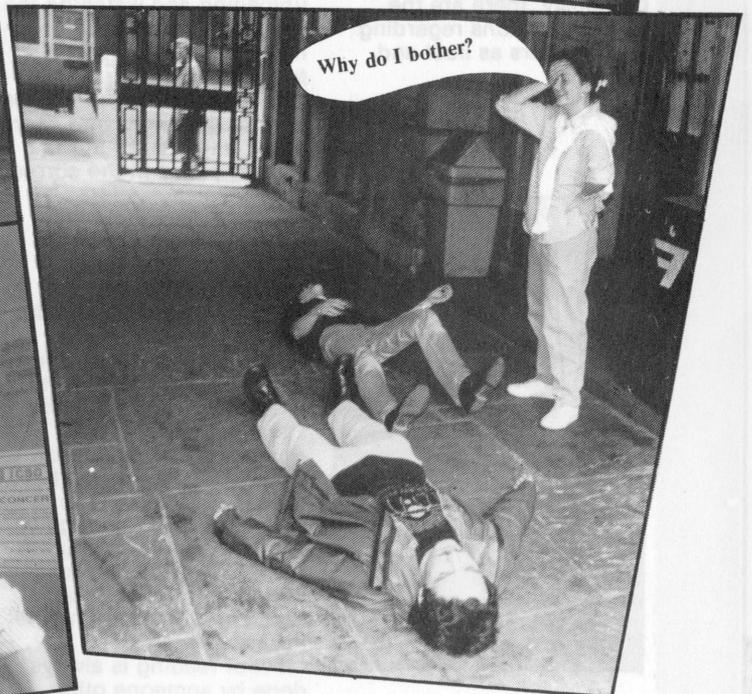
But wimps always lose in the end



Jane decides to make a feminist statement



Why do I bother?



In your next bumper FELIX THE WIMP RETURNS

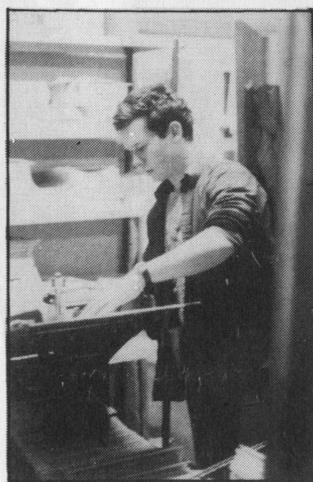
The IC Organ

FELIX has been the newspaper of Imperial College since 1949. In that time it has developed from a tatty broadsheet into professional newspaper. In the last 36 years it has reported on everything from new halls to President's streaking around the Albert Hall. In a special feature Jane Spiegel describes the work required to produce FELIX every week.

FELIX first came out in 1949 as an alternative to the Phoenix. Since then it has developed from a 'sheet' to the weekly students newspaper of Imperial College.

Today, the paper has a permanent staff of three people. Firstly, there is the editor, Hugh Southey this year, who is elected on an annual basis and has sabbatical status. Then there are Tony, the Printer, and Rosemary, the Typesetter. The rest of the FELIX Staff is made up of a random assortment of students from a wide cross-section of the College. Numbers fluctuate from about twenty to thirty. The amount of involvement and contribution of individual time vary considerably.

The paper is completely independent of the Union. In effect, this means that the editor has the final say in the paper's content and cannot be dictated to by Union Officers or College. Obviously, there are the legal obligations regarding such matters as libel and obscenity.



Folding

Before describing the goings-on in the FELIX office, it may be necessary to explain a few terms, which will crop up repeatedly, for everyone unfamiliar with the process of producing a printed piece of paper.

Some Jargon:—

Original copy—scraps of paper with illegible scrawls on them which accumulate in unseemly little heaps all over the place.

Typesetting—converting the written material from the original copy into a typed form ready for printing.

Proof reading— checking the typeset for spelling, punctuation, margins, size of type etc.

Pasting up— chopping the typeset into little bits and glueing them onto a piece of paper (extremely messy). This is then imaged onto an aluminium plate which goes into the printing press.

Folding— loading, unloading and watching the folding machine and hoping it won't chew up too many pages.

Collating— sitting at a table putting the pages into each other, end result—FELIX with all pages in the correct sequence.

FELIX is divided into a number of different sections. Responsibility for certain pages, such as, News, Arts, Reviews, Sport, and What's On is given to individuals. Often it is the same person who is in charge of a given section each week. Normally, they will ask other people to write parts of their page or pages. However, it is up to them to ensure that their section is typeset, proof read and pasted up in time for printing.

Proof reading is always done by someone other than the writer. Most items are proof read at least

twice by different people. This is done by whoever is in the office and isn't doing anything else at the time. The pasting up of Clubs and the What's On Diary gets foisted upon anyone willing to do them.

Whenever there is an event on in College or outside which could be of interest to students, someone is sent out to cover it. This can be a debate, talk, play, meeting, gig etc. Since the FELIX office also has several cameras, a keen photographer will also be despatched to try and get some interesting pictures.



Though, depending on the event, this may not always be possible. The films are developed by FELIX Staff themselves.

The existence of the Features section and the occasional appearance of Opinions and Specials depends very heavily upon individuals. The editor keeps a file with ideas and suggestions for features. Some of these are planned weeks in advance and involve a great deal of time and effort on the part of the writer. Compared to many other student newspapers, FELIX has a large number of articles relating to scientific matters. It is presumed that, as Imperial is a College of Science and Technology, this will be agreeable to the majority of its readership and cater for their interests.



Occasionally, every now and then, rarely, an opinion article is handed in by someone who has no involvement whatsoever with FELIX. These extremely rare items are received with great excitement and are always published (basically, it means the staff have a page less to panic about). So, anyone out there who has an obsession, a passion, a need to put pen to paper or just an axe to grind—all donations will be gratefully received.

The deadline for Letters, Clubs, Societies, What's On, Small Ads and Sports (except Final Results) is on Monday at 1.30pm. This part of the paper relies entirely on members of College handing in their original copy (those scraps of paper). Predictably (?), it seems to be always the same Clubs and Societies who present items for inclusion. This is a shame, especially since this College has such a large and varied number of active clubs.

It should be pointed out the the editor will not accept anything handed in anonymously. However, anyone not wishing to have their name published, only needs to let the editor know, and their name will not appear.





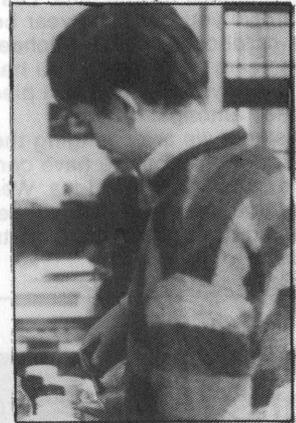
The news—that most fickle of creatures—can be a bit of a headache. The sources are haphazard, random and variable. Many news items originate from a rumour or a garbled version of something which could have happened, but then again perhaps it didn't. This term has been dominated by the continuing saga of the Union Bar. The process of covering this story is not very different from any other item which is considered to be newsworthy. A lot of time is spent telephoning people who never seem to be in. If they are in, it can be extremely difficult to get a

coherent answer to questions. At other times when a budding reporter is sent out to speak to one of the 'stars of the story', conflicting replies are brought back to the office. However, most people are very helpful when it comes to answering questions. Finally, the headlines have to be written. The suggestions invariably tend from the ridiculous to the absurd, with not much in between. Once the headlines are done, the office receives its weekly tidying up followed by the last print run, folding and then collating.

The people working on FELIX cannot be placed into nice, neat categories. Their involvement varies from a couple of hours a week to those individuals who are permanent fixtures and have become part of the office furniture. Their interests and opinions on politics etc differ

considerably. What makes them do it is a mystery. One suspects the availability of tea and coffee has a crucial role to play and that the withdrawal of this sustenance could lead to industrial action of the most severe nature (Ed, take note!). This would be an undesirable state of affairs.

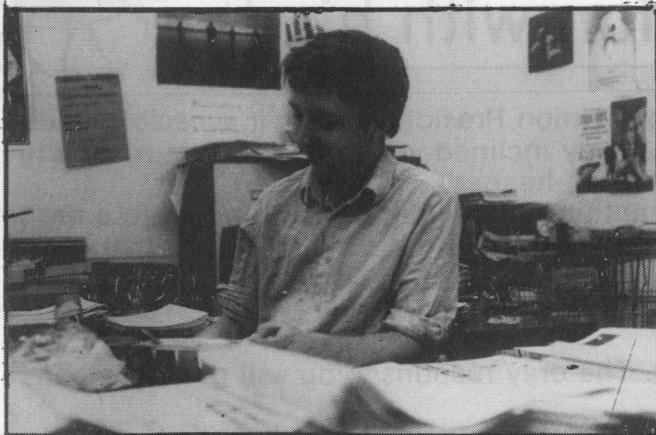
The contents of FELIX can be divided roughly into two halves. One half is determined by the editor and the people who work regularly on FELIX and is decided at staff meetings, the other half is solely under the control of the rest of college. All students have the opportunity of contributing to their paper, either with articles etc or suggestions. This way they can influence the contents and ensure that FELIX contains things of interest to as large a number of people as possible.



Making coffee.



Concentrating over a paste up.



Ed - Hugh Southey

Production Timetable

Friday

pm

- deciding which features are to go into the forthcoming issue
- If possible, typesetting features

Monday

am

- Start typesetting letters, club news and features

1.30pm

- a crucial time, the deadline of most items.
- deciding the number and layout of pages

pm continued

- more typesetting, proof reading and the first pasting up

Tuesday

- lots of pasting up, the first page is printed
- how much news is there? Is there any news?

Wednesday

- pasting up, again, apart from the news
- follow up any existing news

Thursday

- the news is finally all written, pasted up and printed

pm—a variable time

- folding and collating

Friday

am

- distribution (the editor charges around College with the Sainsbury trolley)

Saturday and Sunday

- outside printing eg CCU news sheets, club and societies' newsletters.

FELIX is not renowned for its generosity when it comes to free gifts. Last year we didn't give you one. The year before, you got a cardboard cut-out Michael Arthur. In the years before that, you had a contraceptive smartie and a piece of seaweed amongst others.

This year we are changing the tradition! For once, we have come up with a completely new idea. We are giving you a present that will keep you occupied throughout the Christmas holidays....

Merry Christmas From

STA TRAVEL
The Worldbeaters

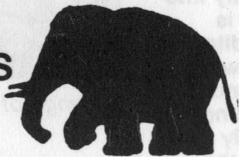
Merry Christmas From
FOURTH AVENUE

Merry Christmas From

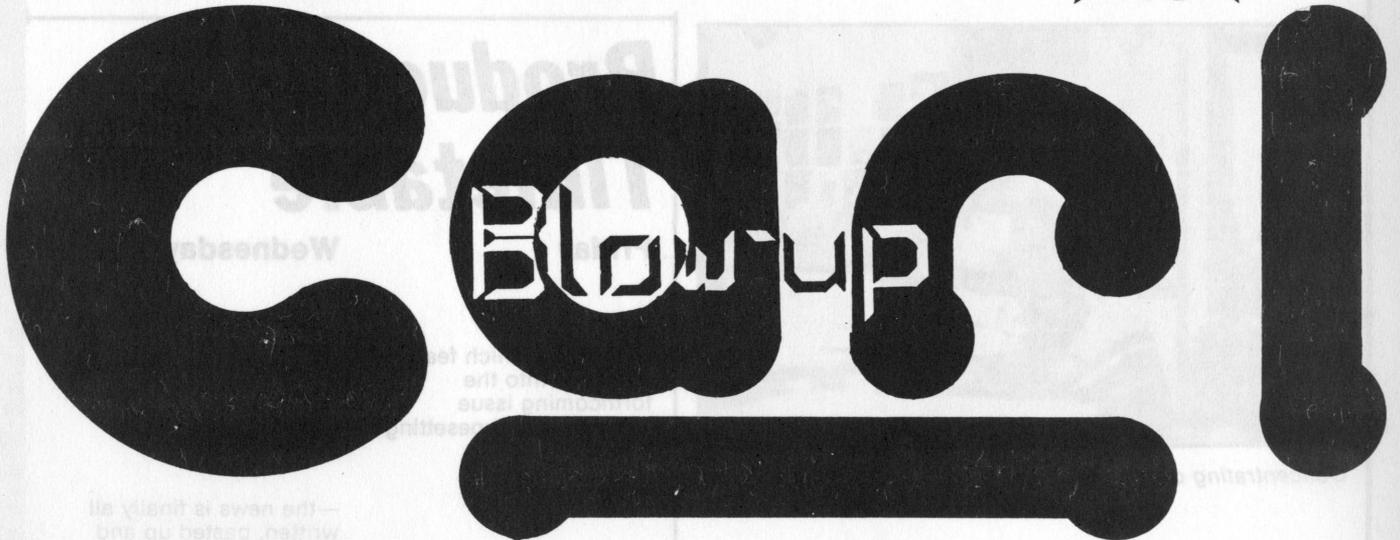
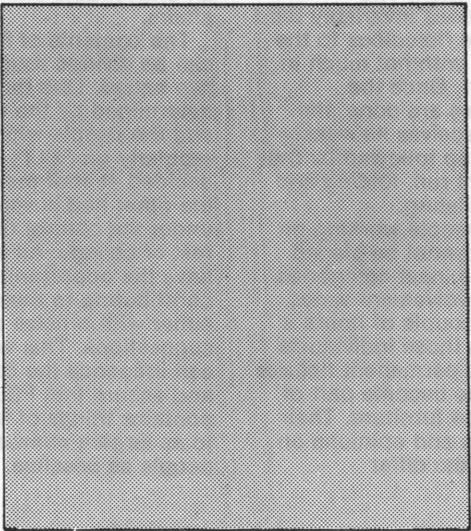
CASTLEMAINE
XXXX

AUSSIE'S No.1 LAGER.

Merry Christmas From



KWALITY
TANDOORI RESTAURANT



Have fun with him!



At least you can no longer complain about your Union President being inaccessible - you can carry him with you everywhere! If you're that way inclined you can blow him up at any time, though the attention might make him a little big-headed!

Your Blow Up Carl will behave just like the real thing. Blow him up and tie him to a broom handle. Then tell him he has an important meeting to go to and he will fall over - just like the real thing!

Fill him up with Lager and stick a pin in him to wake him up. He will piss all over your room - just like the real thing!

Try to open him up so that he will talk to you. The only response you will get is a steady stream of hot air - just like the real thing!

We are so confident that you will enjoy playing with your Blow Up Carl, that we are offering a £5 prize to the person who suggests the most interesting/witty use for him.

Suggestions must reach the FELIX office before Wednesday 8th January.

Look Back In Anger

Overworked FELIX reporter Bill Goodwin takes another look at this term's news.

The news in this term's FELIX has undoubtedly been dominated by the Union bar. Strong feelings were first aroused when Refectory Manager Rob Northey miscalculated bar price rises. Two weeks later Bar Manager, Doug Armstrong and barman Brian Ellison resigned after an argument with Mr Northey. Mr Northey was critical of their arrangements for the bar facilities during the freshers New Year's Party; he felt that an extra can bar was needed. Mr Armstrong and Mr Ellison said they had put a lot of work into the bar and pointed out they had taken almost £3374, which was a record for the New Year's Party. They felt that Mr Northey's comments could only be taken as a vote of no confidence and thus they felt obliged to resign. Ugly scenes followed when students in the Union Bar learned of the resignations.

At the next UGM it was decided to organise a seven day bar boycott to demonstrate the Union's dissatisfaction. The boycott proved very successful and College Secretary John Smith agreed to plan a Union takeover of the Bar with IC Union President Carl Burgess. Later it transpired that he wanted the Botany-Zoology common rooms and the Lounge for conversion into lecture theatres. The Biology Department required the rooms so that academics from Ashurst Lodge could be accommodated when the Lodge is sold.

Meanwhile another barman, Tony McVey, failed to open the Union Bar one Saturday and was promptly sacked by Mr Northey. Mr McVey claimed that his absence was due to a mild form of food poisoning.

Agreement was finally reached between the Rector, Professor Ash, and Mr Burgess over the Union bar's future. The Union will be taking financial control of the bar on January 1. In

return the Bot-Zoo Common Room will be converted into a lecture theatre, and the Union Dining Room and Senior Common Room are to be hired out in the mornings to the Biology department.

Professor Manny Lehman's decision to accept a contract for research into software for the 'Star Wars' project was more than a little controversial. Many members of the Computing Department believed that the software required would either prove too complex to work, or that it would be unsafe; the greatest danger coming from the errors in the program which could remain undetected until the program was executed. Head of Department, Professor Bruce Sayers was concerned that work on SDI would divert scarce resources away from current projects such as the Alvey program. Professor Lehman agreed that SDI would not work, but explained that the politicians would not believe this until it had been proved by research. He took the stance that SDI research was essential and would have enormous benefits for society.

The exploits of the 'Phantom Soaker' dampened many an ego this term. The Soaker is reputed to have tipped bin liners of water over more than 30 gentlemen as they sat in cubicles in the College conveniences. Among those caught 'with their trousers down' were IC Union President Carl Burgess and Chief Security Officer Geoff Reeves. Mr Reeves made unprintable threats against the Soaker, when and if he should be caught. Two letters signed by the Soaker were delivered to FELIX. They were in different styles of handwriting; only the earlier letter is believed to be genuine. Despite Mr Reeves' attempts to analyse the hand-writing, the identity of the Soaker remains a mystery.

Southside hit the headlines once more this term. Strong feelings were aroused over the kitchen facilities. Residents complained about the modification work in progress. The original intention was to install kitchens on each stairway, replacing the old kitchens on the gallery level with bedrooms. These proposals had been agreed by the Student Residence Committee the previous year. The Southside Hall Committee claimed that the residents had not been consulted enough, and expressed their concern that noise and smells from kitchens would interrupt the Hall's social set up. Residents of Southside signed a petition supporting an alternative idea, proposing to extend the original kitchen by placing the tables and lockers elsewhere. Carl Burgess supported this petition, which was delivered to Peter Hallworth, the Managing Surveyor of Residences. Mr Hallworth eventually agreed to its proposals. Falmouth Keogh Hall, however, elected to opt for the

stairway kitchens.

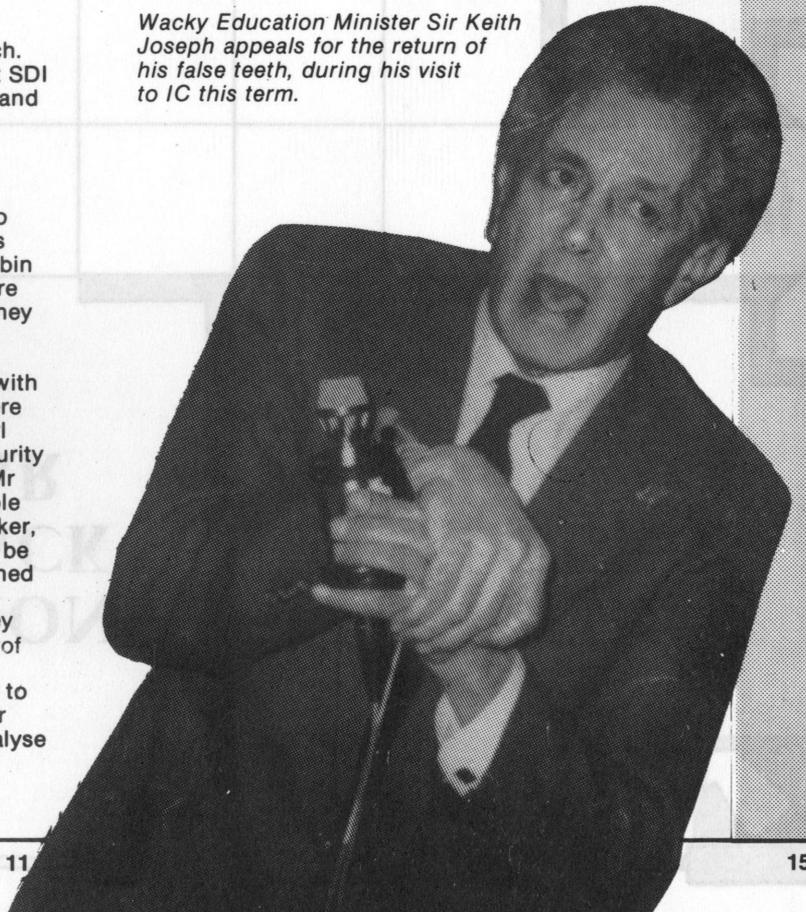
Much uproar was caused by the Union's ban on this year's Rag Mag. It was described by Mr Burgess as 'shocking, disgusting and appalling'. The president of City and Guilds, Roger Preece, warned that Imperial could become 'more renowned for its obscenities than for its excellence' if the Rag Mag were released.

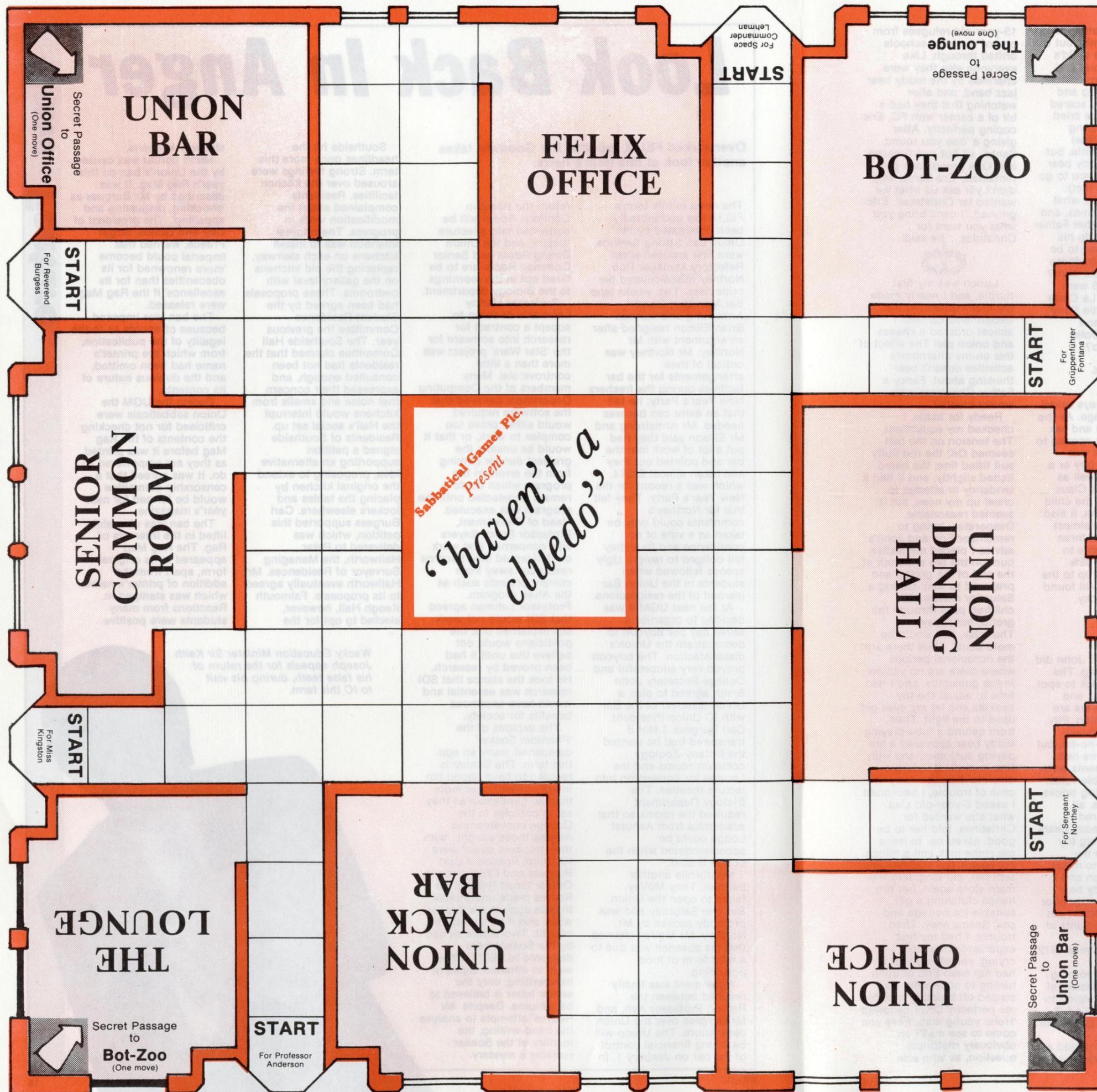
The ban was imposed because of doubts as to the legality of the publication, from which the printer's name had been omitted, and the dubious nature of its contents.

During the UGM the Union sabbaticals were criticised for not checking the contents of the Rag Mag before it was printed, as they are empowered to do. It was agreed that a censorship committee would be formed for next year's magazine.

The ban was ultimately lifted in the interests of Rag. The Rag Mag appeared in its original form, apart from the addition of printer's name, which was stamped in. Reactions from many students were positive.

Wacky Education Minister Sir Keith Joseph appeals for the return of his false teeth, during his visit to IC this term.





Sabbatical Games Plc.

Present

"haven't a cluedo"

The Great Incompetence Game

Momentous happenings are afoot at Imperial Manor. Head Butler, Governor Smith has agreed that one room in the manor can be taken over by one of his staff. Six people are in the running: Reverend Burgess, Miss Kingston, Grüppenföhner Fontana, Sergeant Northey, Professor Anderson and Space Commander Lehman. Eight rooms are under consideration and there are six possible items which could be placed in the room by the successful applicant: a case of sherry, a rape alarm, the Mines coffee machine, a pizza-oven, a blackboard and a particle-beam weapon. Governor Smith has already made up his mind but hasn't told anyone what he's decided. The object of the game is to discover which combination of person, room and article has been selected, so that the owner of Imperial Manor, Emperor Ash, can be informed of the decision.

Any resemblance between this game and another well-known board game is entirely coincidental. However the rules are pretty much the same. For those unfamiliar with them the rules are summarised below.

They are twenty special playing cards to go with the game representing the six persons, eight rooms and six articles, which are printed on a separate sheet of card inserted in FELIX. You will also require a counter for each player and a dice to play.

Variations on the basic rules can be used as desired. For example, after the Reverend Burgess has entered the Bar he subsequently moves diagonally from side to side. If fewer than six play, Miss Kingston and Grüppenföhner Fontana can safely be left out — this does not affect the game in any way.

Rules

1. Each player (two to six can play) chooses one of the six characters and places a token on the appropriate starting square. Each player also needs paper and pencil to make notes against a list of the rooms, persons and articles appearing on the cards.
2. The cards are separated into those representing rooms, persons and articles and one of each type is selected (unseen by any player) and placed in an envelope. The remaining cards are shuffled together and dealt out face down to the players. Some players may have a card more than others — such players have a slight advantage.
3. Players move around the board from their starting positions on the throw of a single dice. Miss Kingston plays first, followed by players to the left in turn. Tokens must be moved in straight lines (not diagonally) and may not land on or pass over occupied squares. Players may enter rooms only through the doors marked on the board, but an exact throw of the dice is not necessary. However, any unused dice units are lost on entering a room and the move ends. Any number of players may occupy a room at the same time.
4. Each player attempts to discover the correct combination of room, person and article corresponding to the cards hidden in the envelope. Cards in the player's own hand can, of course, be eliminated immediately. In order to eliminate further cards players enter one of the various rooms where they can suggest a possible combination. For example, a player who enters the Bar may then, on the same turn, make a suggestion using the words "I suggest that (Reverend Burgess) has gained control of the Bar and will install the (Mines Coffee Machine)". Brackets indicate that any other article or person (including those characters not in use by any player if less than six are playing) can be substituted as best suits the player's enquiries. The room, however, must be the one that the player's token is in at the time. While making the suggestion the player moves the token representing the person named into the room where the suggestion is being made. It is not replaced after the suggestion, the player whose token it is continues to play from the new position.
5. After a player has made a suggestion the player to his/her left examines the cards in their hand. If they have one or more of the cards corresponding to the room, person or article named in the suggestion they **must** show one to the player making the suggestion. They should not show the card to any other players. If they hold more than one of the appropriate cards they can show the one of their choice.
6. If the first player to the left of the one making the suggestion does not have any of the three cards named then he/she must say so and the enquiry moves on to the next player, and so on. As soon as the player making the suggestion has seen one card, however, the turn ends and no further enquiries are made or cards shown.
7. The player who made the suggestion will thus see one card held by another player which can be eliminated from his/her enquiries. But players can deduce further information from the suggestions of others and their movements on the board. In addition, players may make suggestions including a room, person or article for which they hold the card in their own hand. Players should take care not to show their cards to other players, and deliberately peeping at other players' cards is definitely not on.
8. Players do not have to throw the dice on their turn, they may choose to stay in the room they are in for as many turns as they wish or they may use the secret passages marked on the board. Once the dice is thrown, however, a move must be made. Only one suggestion may be made per turn and once it is made a player may not then move on that turn. Movement, either by the throw of the dice or via the secret passages, must be made before any suggestion.
9. If after a suggestion is made no other player possesses any of the cards named, then the player making the suggestion has either found the correct combination of cards or has one or more of those named in his/her own hand. If the latter applies the player does nothing and play continues as normal. Otherwise the player opens the envelope and checks the cards inside. If the suggestion is not correct after all then one of the players has overlooked a card in their hand and deserves a good bollocking for ruining the game. If the cards in the envelope are those named then the player making the correct suggestion is the winner and should seek an immediate meeting with the Rector to put forward their suggestion.



EXCLUSIVE!

Santa - the whole truth

If it's job security that you're after then don't become a Father Christmas in a chain store when you graduate. You'll be unemployed for 46 weeks every year, to say nothing of the chance of catching measles or having some 6-year-old throwing up on your false beard. Surely no-one in their right mind would sit in a draughty grotto listening to an apparently endless queue of children reeling out their Christmas present lists (approximate value typically £15,600), would they? Gren Manuel went to Debenhams, Harrow, to interview two of their red-suited experts, and also to try the job on behalf of FELIX.

I hope Father Christmas isn't in decline, but I can't be sure. Some stores have a no-platform for Santa policy. Thankfully this isn't the case at Debenhams branch in Harrow. Admittedly in previous years old FC has arrived at the store for the first time in a horse-drawn carriage accompanied by a marching band, but may be that is just a little too much.

Certainly his Grotto is a delight this year. They have a teddy bear jazz band standing, wrapped in mufflers, in a snow covered forest playing the Basin St. Blues. Their arms, heads hips and even cheeks move as they strum and blow their way towards the 25th of December, illuminated by a tasteful light display.

And at the end of the grotto? Well, it's the man himself, old Father Christmas, grinning behind his whiskers and yo-ho-ho-ing, dispensing little gifts and reminding children that if they're not good little boys and girls then they won't get any presents.



John is an expert Santa. He's been behind those whiskers for four years at this store alone (although not without breaks, obviously), and also does other Santa-ing. He's dispensed coal to pensioners for the National Coal Board, and when he was in the RAF he used to arrive at airbases with his sack to find queues of little scrubbed faces: the children of the airmen. He's obviously at ease with children and they love him for it.

Eric has been Father Xmas for nowhere near as long. He turned up to Debenhams a few weeks

ago trying to get a little temporary work on the run up to Xmas, and was offered the red suit. He admits to being 'surprised'. He was not formally trained for the job, but commonsense goes a long way: don't talk down to the children; when one Santa goes for lunch arrange the transfer so it is impossible for any child to see two Santas at once. He soon got all but the most petrified children out of their shells.



And what of those chain-store-Santa myths? Do children attempt to pull the beard off? Well, they couldn't if they tried. It is attached by a piece of elastic, and this means it requires a gently guiding influence to stop it from riding up your face. With one hand resting gently on the whiskers no brat is going to reveal the bare flash beneath.

The other legend is that of cantankerous Santas; the job being given to a nasty old man who drinks far too much at lunchtimes and arrives late only to breath beery fumes all over innocent, angelic four year olds. John had worked with one before. 'They had to get rid of him, of course.'

Although some children run giggling into Santa's arms, this is not as common as you might think. After all, parents are rightly concerned that their son or daughter should not talk or accept gifts from strange men: Santa Claus, giving out presents wearing a ridiculous fake wig, fits that description very well. Thus many children, especially younger ones, are hesitant. However Eric and John proved masters at starting the youngsters talking, sitting them on

their knee and getting them to take their thumbs out of their mouths (the child's mouth that is). I sat and watched these pro Santas during the morning and they had few very scared children, and none cried. Of course very young children (two or less) understood very little, but they loved the teddy bear jazz band (I defy you to go and not tap your feet).

They were asked what they wanted for Xmas, and then always told that Father Christmas would do his best, and reminded to be good. And what do these budding capitalists want? The class of 1985 want Transformers, A La Carte Kitchens, 'My Little Pony', A-Team figures and Cabbage Patch Dolls. Whither Meccano?



They were always asked their name and age. As the gifts were in age and sex categories Santa needed to know whether he was talking to a little boy or a little girl, and as well as being good Santa Claus technique to call the child by his or her name, it also tells you the sex (almost always). After just three weeks Eric was able to guess age with a 95% success rate, but up to the age of seven he still found telling the sex tricky.



Neither Eric nor John did much yo-ho-ho-ing. The little ones are quick to spot a lack of sincerity, and natural yo-ho-ho-ers are few and far between. Pity. A little boy specifically asked Eric to yo-ho-ho, but that's the only time he's done it. The presents were, for 75p, remarkable value; Plasticene, building bricks, dolls, writing sets, all packaged in big red envelopes with teddy bears on, and put into big toy baskets. Much to my disappointment no metal badges were given and I thought the Teddy bear stickers were a pretty poor substitute. I wouldn't take £10 for my 'I saw Santa at Shepherds Store, Gateshead, Christmas 1972' badge.

So I spent the morning watching the professional Santas at work, helping to keep the toy baskets full, and trying not to get in the way. During one particularly quiet period a large group of streetwise

13-year-old refugees from one of the local schools drifted through. Like everyone else they were charmed by the teddy bear jazz band, and after watching that they had a bit of a banter with FC, Eric coping perfectly. After giving a 'See you round, Santa', all but one breezed out. One precocious girl remained; 'Ere Santa, why didn't yer ask us what we wanted for Christmas'. Eric grinned, 'I can't bring you what you want for Christmas...' he said.



Lunch was my first hurdle, and I nearly made my first mistake. At the Debenhams canteen I almost ordered a **cheese and onion pie!** The effect of this on my afternoon's activities doesn't bear thinking about. Fancy a Father Christmas with smelly breath?

Ready for battle, I checked my equipment. The tension on the belt seemed OK; the red fluffy suit fitted fine; the beard itched slightly, and it had a tendency to attempt to crawl up my nose, but it seemed reasonable. Desperately trying to remember Eric and John's advice I placed my festive bum on the big armchair at the end of the grotto, and prepared to wait. During a Saturday maybe 400 children pass through the grotto, but today, Thursday, 100 would be more usual. Thus there are the occasional periods where there are no victims in the gunsights, and I had time to adjust the toy baskets and let my eyes get used to the light. Then, from behind a tuba-playing teddy bear appeared a fee paying customer, and with Eric in mufti standing a discrete distance away in case of trouble, I beckoned. I asked 6-year-old Lisa what she wanted for Christmas, told her to be good, asked her to leave me some milk and a mince pie beside the chimney and sent her, blinking, into the main store again, her tiny hands clutching a gift suitable for her age and sex. Seems easy. Then trouble. I had my first experience of a child crying, something that I had not seen Eric or John having to cope with. He started off toddling towards me perfectly OK, I bellowed 'Hello young man, have you come to see me?' (an obviously rhetorical question, as who else





would someone go into Santa's Grotto to see?), he burst into tears, did a 180 degree turn, and ran bawling back into the folds of his mother's coat. It can be difficult enough to stop a young boy from crying, without being prevented from communicating with him by a fake set of white whiskers and an ill-fitting wig. Later, after a little advice from Eric, I coped much better with my second cryer. Give them the present, start the conversation and keep it going, on your own if need be. Natural curiosity soon surfaces (why does he look so funny?), and soon enough they'll be telling you what you ought to be dropping down their chimney.



Again another pause. You can't get out a book, or have a quick game of darts during these lulls, you just have to drum your gloved fingers against the arms of the comfy chair. Next was a group from a nursery school, 15 of them lining up in their little blue pom-pom hats - some brash, some not, one crying, and two teachers straight out of Joyce Grenfell record. They sang me *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* and I shook them all by the hand. I liked that bit especially.

Sometimes the children were outgoing and extrovert, their parents standing well back. I could sit them on my knee, talk to them, ruffle their hair; great. 'Thank you Father Christmas', after I gave them a gift, 'Merry

Christmas Father Christmas'. 'Merry Christmas Nicola', I'd say. Some were less sure, looking at their mother and hiding their face in their hands. All the children thanked me for the gift, though some required a little prompting from their parents.



FCs work one hour on, one hour off (it says so in the Elf and Safety at Work Act), so it wasn't long before John knocked on the plywood of the grotto wall. I waited for a pause and then darted into a side door, with John appearing seconds later to resume the task... I removed the whiskers and asked Eric how I could improve. My main problem was confidence, or the lack of it, as Santa is supposed to be big, bouncy and bombastic. Even though I was not nervous my lack of confidence in my ability sometimes showed, although at first when he told me this I was surprised that anything could show through the nylon whiskers that covered 85% of my face.

My spare hour was spent looking round the toy department at some of the toys I had been asked for. Most were TV advertised, made of plastic, and expensive. Not a single child had asked for a board game, or a train set; strange. My hour as a sabbatical Santa passed quickly, and soon I was back in the whiskers. I thought that being wrapped up in all that rig would make me hot, but this was not the case, although if

the grotto was full of people then presumably the temperature would rise considerably. However I have a genuine (non-nylon, non-removable) beard, and maybe FCs with no facial hair of their own find the whiskers less easy to wear..

As my confidence rose I felt I became a better performer: 'Do you know what reindeer eat?', 'My, you have a nice red scarf on'. One little girl even kissed me.



I gave one little chum the wrong sex present, but Eric was on hand to do a swap. Then, as I got into the groove, Eric left, and I was on my yo-ho-own as the children crept, strolled and ran into my Grotto, though none attempted to pull my beard. Surprisingly I never once felt that the parents were being dragged into the grotto unwillingly. If both parents were there then they typically stood holding hands, grinning, as I told little Martin what it was like to live at the North Pole. Once or twice I got hints from the parents what to say. Some parents wanted me to give more specific guidelines on the sphere of behaviour upon which modification must be enacted, prompted and mouthed, about going to bed on time or eating cauliflower. I was asked if I was going to be at a particular school party. The parent nodded furiously, and so I felt confident in saying that, yes, I would be there.



And what were the clients like? The age range I had to deal with was from 8 months right up to 11 years. Obviously those of 8 months didn't get much more than a hairy grin and a present, but some older children didn't have English as their mother tongue, and I felt rather helpless as they looked up at me, expecting me to say something. After all, a Father Christmas who couldn't speak English would have confused me when I was seven. Soon (maybe too soon) my stint was over. I returned to normality by removing the red coat and white beard, and trotted round the grotto entrance where I chatted to Santa's friend

operating the till at the entrance to the grotto. They do get occasional complaints that the teddy bears don't play very festive tunes, but I was pleased to find out that no-one had complained about my conduct, though one mother had commented that I did look rather *young* for a Father Christmas. As Eric has a daughter older than me, and John is retired I suppose that my only-slightly-older-than-teenage looks don't quite fit the bill. Just wait until I get a nice long white beard though, and I'll be first in the queue for jobs next Christmas.



You could say that chain store Santas are a cynical gimmick reinforcing the capitalist consumer ethic in impressionable children. You might even believe it. More fool you. I don't think that the Le Grot de Santa comes even close to making a profit for Debenhams once all the overheads have been added up, but they aren't a charity, and I guess that they believe that it justifies itself in the increased toy sales. However I believe that this is at the expense of other stores, and doesn't arise from children putting more pressure on their parents for more expensive presents. I certainly saw no signs of anguish on parents faces when their pride and joy reeled off a long list of wants, though I don't know whether it was because the parents had coolly decided not to get little Crispin a full size slate bed billiard table or they thought that the £1500 was quite reasonable for a Christmas present. Things might have been different in this respect if I had been a santa in Liverpool instead of Harrow.

FC at Debenhams, Harrow, provides a good service. Surely only a real Scrooge would deny children and their parents 10 minutes in Santa's Grotto once a year?. Merry Christmas..

Yo-ho-ho

FELIX would like to thank Santa Eric, Santa John and all of the gnomes and fairies at Debenhams.



Where to go

The majority of European ski resorts are in one of the 'Big Four' ski countries: Austria, Switzerland, France and Italy. There are of course many other countries where you can ski—package tours are available to Spain, Andorra, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, and it's also possible to ski in Norway, West Germany, Greece, even Czechoslovakia and Romania. Of course you can also ski in Scotland, but unless you live nearby it isn't much cheaper than a package tour to the alps, and the weather and skiing aren't anywhere near as good.

Leaving aside the more unusual destinations, let's consider the characteristics typical of resorts in each country.

Austria

There was a time when skiing holidays were synonymous with Austria. The country has a special undefineable atmosphere which means that, despite the increase in popularity of other countries, Austria is still the most common destination for British skiers. The typical resort is a small village with a dozen or so ski-lifts and good skiing for beginners and intermediates. There is an increasing tendency for neighbouring resorts to share lift passes with the skiing areas linked by interconnecting lifts or ski buses. The reputation of the ski-schools is very high. Since the villages were there long before skiing became a form of recreation, they have a life of their own, unlike the soul-less French ski stations. There are also a few largish towns which act as ski resorts, notably Kitzbuhel and Innsbruck. The ubiquitous apres-ski is the best there is—the Austrians know how to enjoy themselves and how to make their visitors feel welcome. For a good all-round holiday, especially for beginners, Austria takes some beating. However, its skiing is often at comparatively low altitude and may fail to provide sufficient challenge and scope for the more advanced skier. Other minus points are the high cost of living in Austria, compounded by the lack of alternatives to hotel or pension accommodation—self-catering is almost unheard of in Austria.

Switzerland

Like Austria, one of the traditional ski countries. Resorts do tend to be larger than Austrian ones, and suffer some of the same limitations—a single cable car from the village to the slopes, or ski areas spread out along the valley some distance from the village. Swiss skiing is often higher than in Austria and there are some superb areas—Zermatt has the highest cable car in Europe at 3880m (12600 feet) to the summit of the Klein Matterhorn. Facilities are generally superb and perfectly maintained. Unfortunately skiing in the world's most civilized country isn't cheap, although some self-catering is available. Count on an extra £50 on the holiday price compared with France, before you even think about the prices in the resort. It hurts every time you get your wallet out.

France

The French pioneered the concept of the purpose-built ski-station, examples of which include Les Arcs, La Plagne, Courcheval, Val d'Isere, etc. Perched high in the previously uninhabited mountains, they open up vast tracts of superb skiing terrain. Being designed and positioned solely for skiing, they are right slap-bang on the slopes with no cable-car ride up from the valley.

Accommodation is available in hotels, but most popular are self-catering apartments. The most obvious advantage of this is

On The Piste

Skiing holidays are becoming ever more popular and, despite being notoriously impoverished, large numbers of students find their way to Europe's snow-clad peaks every year. For those contemplating a first trip, or choosing their own resort for the first time, Ramsbottom's answer to Franz Klammer, J Martin Taylor, tells you where to go and how.



Early morning skiing in virgin powder snow.



Tower block apartments at La Plagne, France



A cable car suspended high above Cervinia, Italy

cheapness but there is also much more flexibility since you're not tied to hotel meal times, and there's no restriction on bringing in your own booze from the supermarket (given the bar prices this saves a small fortune). Evening entertainment is usually what you make of it—being in an apartment you're automatically in a group, and apartment parties are the 'in' thing. Other than that there are bars, restaurants, discos, etc which are often half empty in the late evening. For all abilities the purpose-built centres offer an unrivalled range of skiing—often more than even the best skier can cover in a week. Many resorts are linked, so a day's skiing can take the form of an excursion on skis. For the ski fanatic they are unequalled and for the beginner there are also advantages—skiing from your doorstep (anyone who's walked even a short distance in ski boots carrying skis will appreciate this), and the well designed lift system reduces queueing (if at the end of the aforementioned walk you have to join an hour-long queue for the cable car, you'll appreciate this too). For example, in Tignes if you ever have to queue for more than ten minutes you get your lift pass price refunded.

Italy

After becoming very popular a few years ago Italy has declined as the price differential with other countries has narrowed. However, it is still a popular destination and is reasonably priced. Most Italian resorts give the impression that they just 'happened' rather than being carefully planned as with the French purpose built resorts, or having strictly controlled development as with the traditional Austrian or Swiss resorts. Many consist of a small old part, which is usually in a bad state of disrepair, and masses of modern hotels all around. Apartment accommodation is often also available, especially in larger resorts such as Cervinia and Courmayeur.

One Italian resort popular with British Skiers is Sauze d'Oulx. I'd definitely give this one a miss. The Brits who go there are the same ones who fill the concrete tower block hotels of the Costa Brava at a different time of the year. A Benidorm of the alps is not my idea of a good ski resort and although the skiing is surprisingly good you probably won't get enough sleep to appreciate it.

When to go

Undergraduates may be constrained by vacation dates to a week over Christmas or New Year, or around Easter. However, these dates tend to be the most expensive, especially the former. The price of skiing holidays performs a double hump through the season, starting low pre-Christmas, shooting up over the holiday period, falling to the cheapest time in January, rising for school half term before a less marked fall in early March leading to a rise for the end of the season at Easter.

First of all don't, whatever you do, go pre-Christmas. I know it's cheap, but you'll probably find most of the resort's facilities haven't yet opened (the swimming pool will always be empty!), and the snow may well lack a firm base layer. The Christmas vacation should be alright if you can afford it, although the resorts will be packed and the days are short and cold. For a budget holiday go mid-January—it can be bitterly cold, but there will almost definitely be plenty of snow, uncrowded slopes and it is very cheap. Early March is also fairly cheap, and it is warmer with lighter evenings (hence more precious hours on the slopes). Easter is a bit risky for snow, but this depends on how

early in the year it is. Easter 1986 is quite early and so should be okay.

The temperature varies enormously from early to late season. At Christmas and in January the temperature rarely approaches zero (from below that is!) even in strong sunshine. The sun is weak, hence you don't tan easily. But at Easter it can be relatively hot, and sun-burn can be a real hazard, so take some high protection sun cream (at least factor 6 or 7). If you're not sure about withstanding the cold you're better off plumping for a late season trip.

Equipment

Unless you're a proficient skier there is no point in buying your own equipment. For your first trip all you need is good ski clothing, since all your skiing equipment is best hired in the resort. For a beginner you shouldn't bother with anything flashy, just mid-length skis of between shoulder and head height, depending on build. The base should be reasonably gouge-free. The bindings should be easy to step into and release yourself from, and they should be specially adjusted for your weight and ability.

The most important item of equipment is boots. If your feet are cold and uncomfortable you can't ski—it is as simple as that. When trying boots on, clip up both of them properly and walk around the shop for a few minutes. If you have any doubts ask to try another pair—this is common practice, you aren't being an awkward customer. Return them for another pair later in the holiday if you find you have trouble on the slopes.

If you are considering buying some equipment after one or two weeks skiing experience, boots are the item you should go for first. Spend at least an hour in the shop wearing the boots you intend to buy. If you can find a comfortable pair, nothing else really matters. Personally, I swear by Salomon boots, but then I may have funny feet.

You will require special ski clothing, ie. a ski anorak and ski pants or salopettes. If you're going in mid-winter these must be of a high quality. If this is your first trip try borrowing from a friend, since ski clothing is not cheap. If you are buying it is possible to keep the cost down by opting for less fashionable makes, like Rodeo (C&A). Ski resorts are a poseur's paradise so expensive fashionable ski clothes such as Ellesse and Killy abound, but aren't necessary, especially for beginners. It doesn't matter what label you've got on your designer one-piece ski suit if you can't move without falling over you're still going to look a complete wally!

You'll also need good quality special skiing gloves, ordinary gloves are no good at all. Don't skimp on this item or you'll regret it—having cold hands is almost as bad as cold feet. In addition, you'll need a ski-hat, sunglasses or goggles, some good quality ski socks and several thin sweaters including some polo necks (rather than wearing thick sweaters, you should wear two or more thin layers).

We are well placed for buying ski clothing and equipment. Kensington High Street has branches of Alpine Sports, Snow & Rock and C&A, while Brompton Road has Sun'n'Snow and Harrods. There are also larger branches of all the ski shops in central London.

Learning to Ski

Ski instruction is a vital part of any skiing holiday, at least until you have several weeks of skiing experience under your belt. The teaching method varies from country to

country in accordance with the policy of the national ski school. The Austrian method, which is probably the most traditional, is especially good for the less confident beginner. The Austrians have a reputation for high quality instruction with instructors who speak good English, which is undoubtedly deserved. French teaching uses more modern methods designed to allow faster progression to more advanced techniques, which may suit the more impatient. Their instructors, being French, tend not to speak such good English. Similar comments apply to the Swiss. Italian instruction tends to be of the 'follow me' variety, where the class is expected to keep up with the instructor whilst he flies off down the slope for long stretches at a time showing what a good skier he is. No doubt there are good Italian instructors but the overall standard is probably lower than in other countries.

The French in particular have developed new teaching methods available only in certain resorts. The best known is ski evolutif at Les Arcs, but there are other schemes. I personally wouldn't recommend those, since there is no real short cut to skiing proficiency, but if you think you may lack perseverance they may make the first stage of learning a bit easier. These methods involve starting on considerably shorter than normal skis and increasing the length through the week.

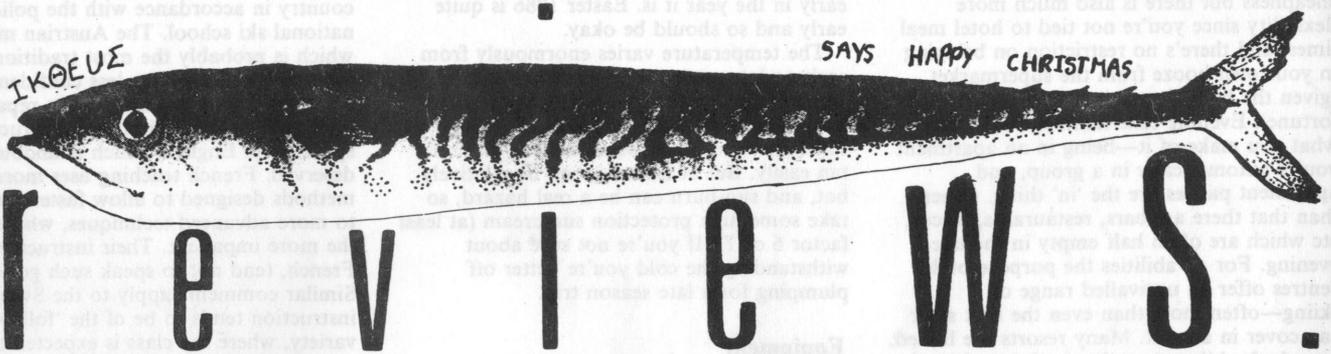
If you are going skiing for the first time a course of lessons on a dry slope is well worth considering. Whilst skiing is an utterly marvelous sport once you can do a bit, struggling to get used to having a plank strapped to each foot and generally falling about all over the slope is best done before setting off on holiday. You can start at the same level as someone who has been skiing before, after a few hours instruction on a dry slope. The best slope within easy reach of IC is the Blue Sky Slope at Uxbridge, and the Ski Club organise trips there every Tuesday and Wednesday. Personally I think there are few things as boring as dry slope skiing once you've achieved a reasonable standard, but for learning the basics they are extremely useful.

Fitness

Any reasonably fit person should cope with a skiing holiday without problem especially at beginner's level. For more advanced skiers fitness is more vital since they ski faster and harder than beginners. However, a few gentle exercises never did anyone any harm and may help prevent you stiffening up whilst on holiday. I can't include a guide to pre-ski exercises here, but a few weeks of standard physical jerks before you go will help. If you play any form of sport regularly you should already be fit enough without special exercises.

Skiing is Wonderful

There are few people who don't enjoy a skiing holiday, and more and more people are getting the bug every year. When I first went skiing many years ago recreational skiing was in its infancy, ski boots were made of leather and had laces, and skis were wooden with screwed-on edges and cable binding. Since then the sport has changed out of all recognition. It has devotees from all walks of life, and is no longer seen as a pastime for the rich. It has all the necessary ingredients of a great holiday—sun, fresh air, fantastic scenery, physical activity, not to mention the apres-ski! If you've never tried it, you almost certainly wouldn't be disappointed.



Yes, it's that time of year again. Not only is it the season of good will, but it is also the season of peak cinema attendances in Britain and as such the time for the distributors big releases, often big summer hits in America (summer being their peak time). This film is not one held over from the summer, it's the highly seasonal *Santa Claus, the Movie* (Odeon Leicester Sq). (The movie presumably being added to avoid confusion with any other Santa Claus).

This 'movie' is a fine example of American cultural imperialism, extolling the delights of capitalism, and even portraying Coke and McDonalds as desirable commodities. Santa Claus himself is a large, benevolent American ruling



over a kingdom populated by small subservient British Elves and the deprived child in the story is, of all possible kids in the world, a healthy, white, intelligent, American child. The music is often sickly supermarket songs and the sets and costumes are largely twee. That's the intellectual response, the emotional response caused me to sit through the film with damp eyes, a lump in my throat and a stupid grin on my face. I'm sorry I couldn't help it.

The story in this case concerns a childless toymaker and his wife who are magically transported

to the North Pole to enable them to deliver toys to all the children in the world. But as the population increases this task becomes harder and Santa chooses a helper, Patch, cutely played (as ever) by Dudley Moore. Patch's attempts to help go wrong and in his self-imposed exile he teams up with the unscrupulous BZ. When once again things go wrong, largely due to the evil BZ (boo, hiss!!) it is up to Santa Claus, Joe, an orphan, and a nice guy, to save the day.

Unspecial Spielberg

The remarkable Steven Spielberg has his name associated with two major recent releases, *Back to the Future*, reviewed later, and *The Goonies*. His obsession with kids has

finally let him down; the children who star in this story, and who are meant to be seen as cute, only come across as annoying and even frequently crude.

Because their parents have seemingly given us hope of saving their dockside homes, it is left up to their offspring to do something about it on their final weekend together. The seven saviours are: Mikey, the fairly weak leader, Brad, his sadistic brother; Chunk the lovable, clumsy fat one; Mouth, fast talker;

Dale, resourceful would-be James Bond and token ethnic minority, oh and I nearly forgot two token girls, Andy and Stef, whose only purpose is to provide the sexist cinema stereotypes as the screamers and the love interest. (Actually that's not quite fair, the writers have graciously allowed Andy some musical ability, well I suppose that's sufficiently genteel for girls to do).

Fortunately for the *Magnificent Seven*, Mikey's father, the local museum curator happens to have a treasure map in the attic, which then leads them off on the trail for One-Eyed Willie's booby trapped treasure and across the path of the baddies (Who are not only adult, but also foreign, oh dear, oh dear). I kept finding myself wishing that the evil Fratelli's would catch Indiana Junior and the assembly of goons.

A scene early on sets the standard of humour for the film when the gang desperately attempt to replace the genitals that have broken of a small Greek statue. This then leads to more below the belt jokes as the bad guys are repeatedly hit in that region, hysterical. To summarise, it I haven't already made it clear, *The Goonies* is neither funny nor exciting, and I'd like to think that if it wasn't for Spielberg's name it would never have been made. Steven Spielberg has also produced *Back To The Future*, an infinitely better film about a time travelling boy. The problems of

causality, so much enjoyed by writers of science fiction, are used largely for comic effect as Marty, Michael J Fox, is



transported in time to 1955 when his parents first met. This choice of time not only opens up all the possibilities of affecting the future, but also allows for some interesting Freudian ideas as Marty's mum fancies him.

No time like the present

The comic ramifications of this situation are effectively, but not excessively, exploited and the final climax is very excitingly portrayed by director and co-writer Robert Zemeckis

The particular pleasure of this film is the balance; between character acting and believable reaction, and between the credible and the incredible. This is





the Christmas film. (Empire, Leceister Square Plaze)

The man who was responsible for the highly stylish *Bladerunner* and *Alien*, Ridley Scott, has done a great deal of research into mythology for his latest film *Legend* (Leicester Sq Theatre), an epic fairy tale. This research concentrated particularly on the

Living legends

occurrence of a Jack o'the Green character in Northern European mythology. However all this effort is wasted as Ridley Scott appears to have expended all his effort on creating the right visual style, albeit an astonishingly beautiful one, and very little effort on plot and characterisation, a point not helped by the casting of the rather poor Tom Cruise as Jack.

The main thrust of this tale, like all good fairy tales is that the battle of good and evil, embodied in this case by the Lord of Darkness, played by the marvellous Tim Curry whose gorgeous voice is suitably demonic for the role. Because the Lord of Darkness is fatally allergic to sunlight he plans to rid the world of the unicorns that maintain the harmony and light and plunge the land into darkness. Unfortunately not enough care was taken

over the development of these characters or the plot so the film comes across as vacuous, but a sumptuous feast for the eyes. Although this is due largely to the remarkable visions of Scott, it would be remiss to fail to mention the impressive sets and incredible make-up particularly on Tim Curry and Robert Picardo as Meg Mucklebones.

Finally of the films aimed largely at children is an unusual one, **Tuff, Turf**. It is unusual because it alienates the audience that it is obviously aimed at and to whom it would appeal

most by virtue of the graphic violence at the end and the subsequent 18 certificate. The violence is the precipitation of the designs of the new kid in town, from a rich background, on the local gang leader's girlfriend. Although it is a well-worn story and director incorporates some clever ideas, and some of the

Tough enough?

scenes are very involving, but there are also some truly dire moments, such as when our hero serenades the girl at the country club.

It's an average sort of film, but unfortunately for it's normally imaginative distributors, Blue Dolphin Films, it is likely to be unfairly ignored in the face of Christmas competition. Happy Christmas, all. Jim Claydon.



Jim's 12 favourite films of 1985 (in no particular order);

- Once upon a Time in America* 1984
- Amadeus*
- Stranger Than Paradise*
- Heimut*
- The Purple Rose of Cairo*
- Wetherby*
- Witness*
- Subway*
- Mishima*
- When Father was away on Business*
- Vigil*
- Back To the Future*
- Dance with a Stranger*

AGONY

Elem Klimov has recently received a lot of publicity, in the film world at least, for his recent anti-Nazi film *Go and See* shown at the film festival. But until that film is released it is possible to see some of this talented film maker's work in the form of the nine year old *Agony* (Camden Place, Chelsea Cinema). It has taken so long to reach the screen here because the Soviet authorities felt that this story of Rasputin portrayed Tsar Nicholas II too sympathically.

The film is set in 1916 when Russia was a particularly corrupt and unjust society, with merciless exploitation of the workers, police tyranny, hunger and devastation. Against this backdrop, the Tsar felt that only a miracle would save the Empire and enable the generals to crush the rebels as they had done in 1905.

Enter Rasputin, powerfully played by Alexi Petrenkov, an illiterate Siberean peasant, ex-horse thief, and wandering monk. Curing the sick and uttering strange speeches he rapidly acquires the complete confidence of the Tsarina and hence wields great influence in the Russian court.

The film uses a mixture of documentary footage, black and white and colour film to intelligent effect, and the

Ra Ra Rasputin

shots of faces particularly are impressively composed and lit. A film with a title like *Agony* readily lends itself to abuse by critics and I'm sure that alot of my colleagues will make some witty comments about it, probably in reference to it's length, two and half hours, but I didn't find that time dragged and I was quite impressed, though I don't expect that this will be everyone's idea of a good night out. David Hare usually writes very intelligent works, *Wetherby*, *Pravda*, and his recent adaptation of his own stage play, *Plenty* (ABC Shaftsbury Av) is no exception. It contrast's the desire of it's impatient lead, Susan, to move on against the unfulfilled optimism of post-war Britain. Through the use of some cleverly sketched characters the insidious class-consciousness and snobbery



of the British is brought to light. An example of the high quality of both the acting and also the writing is the charcter of Sir Andrew Charleson, whose brief, but brilliant appearance epitomises the restraint and sense of propriety that Susan finds so frustrating.

Following her experience with the French Resistance in the War, a time when she felt that she could see the

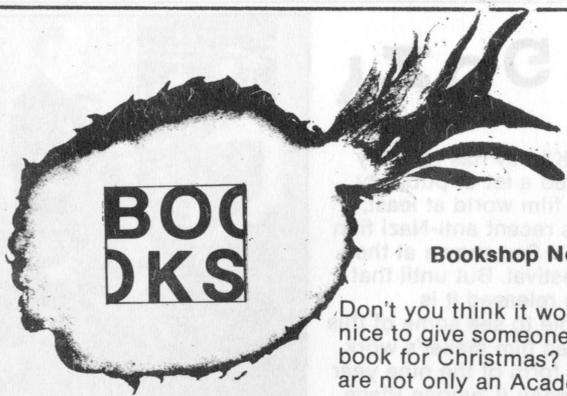
Lie back and...

best of people in an hour, she longs for a change that she feels can happen in the new Britain. But failing to find any change or the passion she felt with Lazar, Sam Niell, during the war, she settles for the sympathy and comfort of the diplomat Raymond Brock, Charles Dance. Hare's decision to concentrate on the world of diplomacy emphasises the qualities in the British

...think of Britain

which so annoy Susan and in which, as Sir Andrew says, the British lead the world.

The characters are all very well played with John Geilgud as a senior diplomat, Tracey Ullman as a friend providing some laughs, and Sting, as the lower class sentimental lover, very capably delivering the epitaph, 'You people are cruel and dangerous. You fuck people up'. This is a shrewd observation as the characters are largely unpleasant and unsympathetic, giving the audience little to identify with. But inspite of this the wonderful photography and skillfully understated direction by Fred Schepisi manages to involve the audience in this fine film.



Bookshop News

Don't you think it would be nice to give someone a book for Christmas? We are not only an Academic

Bookshop; we do stock general books as well. Most of the current best sellers are in stock; choose your subject, we have fiction, humour, cookery, travel, dictionaries; plus a wide range of general reference books. If you can not find anything suitable we sell book tokens from 25p (not that there are many books at that price). These are exchangeable in most bookshops in the British

Isles. We also sell a range of stationary items, Parker Pens, gift stationery, Christmas Cards and wrapping paper.

If its not books you're after, why not sportswear? The Sports shop has some of the 1986 Speedo swimwear and barrel bags, the new design sweat shirts, squash and badminton rackets, shoes and all the College Regalia. *Have a good Christmas*

Virago Modern Classics

A couple of cool dudes ride into a sleepy Mexican town off the Santa Fe trail -but these are Catholic missionaries and they've come to save souls, not rustle cattle. **Death Comes for the Archbishop** by Willa Cather is an imaginative telling of a true love story. A man's love for God, for his brother and for the peasant people he serves are portrayed sensitively and accurately.

Father Latour's ministry takes him from his homeland, France, to Ohio and thence to New Mexico. There are fascinating insights into the life of settlers and farmers, but the Indians remain aloof and mysterious, bitter over iniquities committed by the white man. Social injustices such as wife battering were not things that the priests seemed particularly concerned about. Both this book and *Under the Volcano* rely more on drafting out characters than plot, but the pace of the contrast with the frenetic pace of *Volcano*.

The harsh yet beautiful

This week two books set in Mexico are reviewed. They'd both make ideal Christmas presents...

Mexican scenery is described with clarity -the rites of the desert, contorted juniper trees growing on brick red hills and bright green cultivated valleys. There is no climax to the novel; all events whether they are the building of a Cathedral or the cooking of a leg of lamb are treated with equal solemnity.

The whole story leaves one with a feeling of serenity: It is available at Waterstones, published by Virago price £2.95.

Malcolm Lowrey's *Under the Volcano* is more intellectual, being the type of book that you read four times and still find new underlying metaphors in. It is a brilliant exposition of a drunkard trying to hide from guilt and death, in which everyone should recognise themselves.

The story is timed in the panic of November 1939, underlined by the presence

of German submarine officers, and all the way through run subtle threads of tension and fear. The alcoholic ex-Consul dies falling down a ravine on the Day of the Dead, when the Mexicans take food to the graves of their departed. While his ex-wife, Yvonne, and his brother-in-law are looking for him during a thunder storm, the Consul in delerium releases a panic stricken horse which charges at Yvonne and kills her. With a peculiar sense of déjà vu you realise that the same horse entered the story earlier, and that all later events are foreshadowed by former decisions. The Consul shooting wooden ducks at a fair is the same man who kills his wife, the same who never had the guts to say 'I can never forgive you deeply enough' to her.

Stream of consciousness takes over as the Consul collapses into drunkenness;

the mescal that he takes is also a narcotic and used as a drug by Indian mystics. Towards the end the story is that of the Book of Job; no-one can observe the suffering of man who hates himself and remain silent. The various strands of hate and love, sexual imagery, drunkenness, black magic, death and damnation are drawn together as the Consul crashes down towards the trees.

This wonderful book is published by Penguin, costs £3.95 and is well worth reading.



Well Christmas time is here again, and for some of you that may mean being invaded by hordes of screaming nephews, nieces and cousins. I suppose you could escape by taking residence in the bar of your local pub, but if your mother wants some peace and quiet while she's stuffing the turkey why not take the little brats to see **The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4?**

I know what you're going to say -something along the lines of 'but that's bleeding kids stuff, all that pantomime and secret diary of Adrian whatsit.' Well, I'd tend to agree about the

THEATRE

pantomime -I mean, who really wants to watch Russel bloody Grant poncing about on stage wearing someone else's dress? But the fact remains that you'd be wrong about 'Secret Diary'. It does appeal to both kids and adults (and even students!). Even my parents, who only

usually like anything that's about four hours long and happens to trace the history of the British Empire from start to finish, enjoyed it. So there you go.

I suppose that's enough about my parents, so how about the play? Well, for those of you who haven't read the book, basically it tells the story of a year in the life of Adrian Mole - how he copes with falling

in and out of love, spots, his dog running away, his parents splitting up and his poetry being rejected by the BBC. The observations on the problems of adolescence are incredibly acute, so at times you'll be left squirming with embarrassment as you remember the time when....

The script follows the book fairly faithfully, so it's extremely funny. Some of the musical numbers made me cringe a little (the only accompaniment being a poky little synthesiser), but the set and cast are very good.

All in all a very good time to be had by all the family.

WYNDHAMS THEATRE
CHARING CROSS ROAD LONDON WC2 BOX OFFICE 01-836 3028



Apple Computer U.K. Limited welcomes all Imperial College staff and students to the worldwide AppleTM University Consortium

Imperial College has joined eight other British academic institutions in the Apple University Consortium – a worldwide partnership of Universities with members in Europe, Canada, Australia and America.

The Consortium members are working with the Apple Macintosh personal computer on the development of University related software applications and the exchange of ideas and experiences of computer assisted learning.

Imperial College departments already using Macintosh include Mechanical Engineering, Computing, Electrical Engineering and Cultural History.

In addition, Imperial College is expected to feature strongly in the International Conference being hosted by Cambridge University next March, when academics from all around the world will be meeting to share and discuss their experiences of working with Apple's revolutionary personal computer.



As a result of Imperial College's membership, staff and students have the right to purchase Apple Macintosh personal computers at highly preferential rates.

To find out more simply telephone Dr Sean Crofton or Max Wright on extensions 6174 or 6193 at Imperial College 01-589 5111 or telephone Hayley Smith at Apple 0442 60244

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**See Imperial College's own Macintosh Office in
Room 785 of the Mechanical Engineering Building**

Hockey

Ashford 0 IC 1sts 1

The first half saw IC dominating the midfield and excellent moves down the right wing created many chances. However the attack, led by goal-shy Justin 'Bullet' Brooking, found the finishing touch elusive. The defence played superbly and achieved the remarkable feat of conceding no short corners. Special mention to Paul Smith's stopping ability which stood out from the rest of the defence. In the second half IC threw everything forward desperately seeking the winner. Even Jon Stonham meandered into the oppositions 'D' before resisting the temptation to shoot. In the dying seconds, Ian Parker showed a momentary flash of brilliance and scored a blinder.

IC 2nds 0 Harrow Town 3

Things looked grim for the Seconds when HTS turned up having gained 13 points from 15 in the league so far. They looked much worse when the opposition managed to go one up in the first 7 nanoseconds of the game.

Not to be deterred by this very early set-back the Seconds promptly gave away a penalty! However, the gods of chance smiled benignly down upon team captain Phil Choudhury who pulled off a somewhat fortunate save. The ball ricocheted off various parts of his body in a vaguely random order without encroaching over the goal line.

Throughout the game the Seconds seemed to be at a bit of a disadvantage in so much as certain members of the team found it very difficult to stop the ball. This was in fact due to certain gravitational anomalies in the curvature of space. These phenomena were particularly in evidence around the region of space-time occupied by Jim Ward. It appeared that whenever a Hockey ball entered this zone at a fairly pedestrian velocity it underwent an infinite acceleration whilst its volume shrunk to zero. This was apparently the reason why Jim found it almost impossible to stop the ball.

SPORTS



Hockey

Saturday 30

Middlesex League

Mens

Ashford

IC

2nds 0

IC

Harrow Twn

1sts 1

3

ULU League

Ladies

IC

1sts 7

St Georges

2nds 0

Friendly

AHSS

4

IC

3rds 0

Sunday 1

Friendly

Mixed

IC

3

Goldsmiths

2

Badminton

Friday 29

Cup

IC

10

Chelsea

1

Football

Saturday 30

ULU League

LSE

1sts 2

IC

1sts 3

IC

2nds 0

UCH

1sts 1

LSE

3rds 0

IC

4ths 1

IC

6ths 0

Inst of Ed

4

Guys

1

RSM

1

Football

LSE 1sts 2 IC 1sts 3

IC got back to winning ways beating LSE for the third time in competitive matches this season. With conditions very slippery underfoot it was always going to prove hard for defences with the LSE keeper having a first half he would want to forget. With LSE reduced to 10 men after a sickening clash of heads (Lawrence Covill 3 stitches, LSE defender 6 stitches) IC began to make their one man advantage play, controlling the midfield and playing one touch football.

IC's first goal came when the LSE Keeper was deceived and wrong-footed by Tom Dutton's 20 yard drive. A second was added when full back Chris Engberg joined the attack, again beating the LSE keeper at the near post from the edge of the box.

LSE's substitute finally appeared at half time and they came out a rejuvenated side pulling one back after 10 minutes. IC regained their two goal advantage almost immediately with Tom Dutton firing home from 18 yards for his second goal of the game.

With 15 minutes remaining a goal mouth scramble following a corner led to LSE again pegging back the defeat to one goal.

Water Polo

After a high spirited trip to Bristol, the Imperial College water-polo squad started their first round tournament of the UAU Championship poorly going down 5-4 to Surrey

In the second game against Southampton University IC played to their full potential putting in four goals before half-time. In the second half several substitutions were made with Johnston replacing Eastman, Mayall replacing Richardson and Jackson and Crowther going in in place of Langman and Davis respectively. The final score in this confidence boosting game was 11-2 which reflected Spooner's wise decision to rest his tired first seven players.

The crucial game of the tournament for IC was played against the other favourite team, Bristol University. Paul Richardson gave away an early goal but vindicated his place with some solid defending later in the first half. Strong pressure from IC resulted in a 7-3 win with goals from Nigel Williams, Nick Ireland and Eastman.

With this hard match out of the way a win against Bath University was required to qualify as leaders of the regional group and this was obtained with a 4-0 result.

Cross Country

Midway through the season, the Cross-Country club are maintaining a slender lead over Surrey University in the London Colleges League. This is thanks to a good turnout at the last race at Shooters Hill, where IC had enough for 2 mens' teams and (amazingly) a full ladies' team. Bryan Gamblin ran well to finish 9th and the rare appearance of Paul Brooks-Johnson and 'megastar' Mike James ensured a solid first team performance. Sue Waters ran well again in the ladies race, which also featured the IC orienteering captain getting lost!

At the Stag Hill relays, IC came a very creditable 4th, just failing to beat University of London. In the recent GLC championships, the IC Captain and bar race world record holder, Jon Lea, managed to get us disqualified before the start.

See the noticeboard for next term's fixtures, which include the Hyde Park Relays and terminate (sic) with the Holland trip.

Badminton

IC 10 Chelsea 1

Trying our best to ignore the rain dripping on to the side of the court, the mens singles with Philip (Tan) against the (legendary) JK Wong (Chelsea) got under way. This turned out to be a very good game, indeed, with superb badminton from both sides, but with HK Wong just managing to win eventually 12-15, 15-3, 15-12.

Unfortunately for Chelsea, their brilliant start didn't last long. IC ladies polished off their ladies doubles to win all 3 rubbers. The men followed suit winning all 3 men's doubles, and the mixed doubles were won by IC.

So, the final result was a 10-1 victory for IC, putting them into the 2nd round of the KO Cup, where they will meet LSE on Saturday. *Team: Ladies: Robin Martin, Sarah Threadgold, Helen Gregory, Susan Yates.*

Men: SL Tan, Borhat Popat, Dave Heaps, Steve Francis.



Hockey

IC 1sts 2 WLIHE 0

IC dominated most of this game on a very wet Harlington pitch. West London found it very difficult to penetrate a well co-ordinated IC defence, whereas the IC defence penetrated WL's with ease. This led to Jon Stoneface scoring his annual goal, the second half was much of the same with Nick Hope converting a much deserved goal.



IC 3rds 0 Reading 3rds 3

An understrength IC team went to Reading at 9am and were beaten comprehensively. Despite this everyone enjoyed the day. The only performances of note were those of Judith Hackney and Mark Cottle who were persuaded to turn up by an extremely pissed captain (despite not having played hockey for several years) at the previous evenings FELIX dinner and played with commitment.



Last Weekends Results



Hockey

Weds 4 Dec			
UAU			
IC	1st		0
Sat 7 Dec			
IC	1sts		2
IC	2nds		0
Reading	3rds		3
Sun 8 Dec			
Indian Gymkana	1st		9
QEC	Mixed		4

Rugby

Sun 8 Dec			
Ladies			
St Georges			0
Surrey			0

Badminton

Weds 4 Dec			
UAU			
Ladies			
IC			5

Football

Sat 7 Dec			
RSM			4

Netball

Sat 7 Dec			
Kings	1sts		34

Ladies

Rugby

Hooray! I'm sure that word says it all for all you Virgins out there. Yes—we've finally lost our virginity and we won a match—in fact, we've won two! This epic event occurred on Sunday, December the 8 when we played in a mini-tournament in Cobham.

Our first match of the day was against Surrey, who we creamed, 12-0. It was a proud moment for Vicki (Foghorn) Williams who scored her first try ever. Jackie (Shorty) Peirce also scored a try, as did Kate the Nurse (a visiting player).

Our second match was more competitive, but the ball was in our possession most of the time and the only try of the match was scored again by our dear Foghorn (with the help of about 5 nameless others,

QEC 4 IC Mixed 0

Fresh from our singing and dancing (?) activities the night before, the IC mixed team were beaten by QEC. Their first goal was a brilliant set-piece. Our centre-back Chris Harrison passed a beautiful ball to Ann Jackson who slotted it home nicely in her own net. After that QEC scored 3 dubious goals; the only consolation being that our result looked good compared with the 1sts.



Thanks to all the people who have written sports reports this term. Hope you have a happy Christmas. Don't get too pissed
Richard Ellis, Sports Editor



Leeds Univ			4
Willies			0
Barnes	3rds		7
IC	3rds		0
IC	1sts		0
IC			0



IC			4
IC			12

Bristol Univ			4
--------------	--	--	---

RFH			1
-----	--	--	---

IC	1sts		27
----	------	--	----

who helped push it over the try line). St Georges came very close to a try in the opening moments of the match, but one of our clever lasses touched it down, thus saving the day.

The tournament (which, incidentally, we won), was topped off by a communal bath, into which Captain Anne made a dramatic entrance. We were most entertained by a rousing version of 'Paradise by the Dashboard Light' sung to us by Sue, Annette, and Dina, and also by darling Sue losing her soap (we don't know where).

Anyway—Merry Xmas virgins, and a sordid new Year! See ya in a couple of weeks.

Badminton

IC Ladies 5 Bristol 4

The closest game the IC Ladies have played so far, with the 2nd pair having an extremely tense game against Bristol 3rd pair, which they eventually won 15-8, 7-15, 15-12. Thanks to Robin Martin, Sarah Threadgold, Sarah Yates (Captain), Helen Gregory, Anne Pedley and Julie Hutt.

Football

RSM 4 RFH 1

RSM go marching on! Imperial College's top football team extended their unbeaten run to thirteen games (ten wins and three draws) from the start of the season. To kick off the fortnight we got a valuable point away to 2nd placed Guy's, Amin Jafar grabbing the goal, then drawing 1-1 with LSE in the quarter final of the ULU cup, Pete Seddars scoring and the game being abandoned in extra time. It was a magnificent performance by RSM against some rather dubious tactics and we would surely have won had it not gone dark. Any chance of ICU providing floodlights at Harlington? Any road, we stayed top of the table as we won our last game before Christmas, 4-1 against RFH; our goals came from Amin Jafar, Big Head Brook, Chopper Wardle and an own goal, and only a ridiculous penalty awarded by fat stupid G... man beat Andy Hands.

Many thanks to all the team—don't come back too fat after Christmas and we'll win the League and Cup.

Squad: Andy Hands, Oyster Olsen, Tim Hardwick, Chopper Wardle, Keith McScotty, Bob, Ged McTurk, Brook, Curly Woodward, Steve Riding, Chris O'Brian, W O Wen, Amin the Pak, Pete 'Bullet' Seddars and Byran the Tree.

All you 2nd team lads keep turning up as well, we'll try and get a few games for you next term.

Cave

Canoe

Football

Imperial College's new Cave Canoe Football Society begins its trials next week. As many of you will know this popular Welsh sport played by two teams of canoeists in a cave using a leather football and various caving gear (lights etc). Will anybody interested in this event please contact either K Bonnick Geo 2 or I Pennington Phy 3.

Deputy President's Discourse

Rape Alarms

So far this term over 200 personal rape alarms have been issued and are still available from me in the Union office, free of charge to women students.

On the same subject those of you who have been in the ladies toilets in the Union building will have noticed a series of big red buttons. These are alarms and are connected into the Union Office Belt Security desk and Union Bar. The siren is a persistent and nagging two tone affair. If you hear it go off DO NOT HESITATE to go and investigate.

Room Bookings

These can be a pain in the arse at times. When you book a room, for heaven's sake read what's on the back of the booking form, and allow time after the event to clear up.

Personal Security

A number of people are having their property stolen. Quite frequently this is because things are left unattended. Don't leave your bags, wallets, calculators etc alone or your room unlocked when you are out. I came across one case of a student who had left his door wide open for at least an hour. What an idiot!

Security Guards

The Union Building security guards generally do a good job which is surprising considering the amount of shit they get from some idiots. People cause the guards no end of hassle when they are going about their business yet still expect them to help if it is needed. The security guards look after your best interests. Respect them for that and help them.

Christmas

Finally I move on to a happier note. Christmas is coming up soon and no doubt you still have some presents to get. Why not buy someone a book from the Bookshop or some regalia from the sports shop. Both of these shops are owned by you, the students, this helps you in the end.

Happy Christmas.
Dave Kingston.



Dave Kingston

Dramsoc

For the first time in a Dramsoc exclusive we have a talk from the principal of the renowned Webber-Douglas Academy, one of London's premier acting colleges. So if you want to know how to get into an acting school or anything about the acting profession, come along at 2.30pm today, to the Lower Lounge. It's entirely free, and absolutely everyone is welcome.

Wine Tasting

On Wednesday 20 November the (Wine Tasting) Society hosted the IC heat of the Macallan Junior Malt Taster competition, a prestigious annual inter-university scotch whisky tasting competition, which was won last year by one of our members.

The event involved a talk and slide-show given by an internationally known whisky expert, Mr Wallace Milroy, followed by a blind-tasting of 5 malt whiskies whose region of origin and brand name were to be determined.

The heat winner was Nick Battersby (EE1) who received a bottle of 18 year old Macallan malt whisky and goes forward to the national final, to be held in January at a top London Hotel, there he will meet the winners of 15 other University heats.

The final prizes will include 6 bottles of whisky, a substantial cash prize and a visit to the Macallan Distillery in the company of the Production Director.

Amnesty International

The forgotten prisoners—a campaign to release a prisoner of conscience.

Who is going to defend you if a totalitarian state decides to imprison you without trial, tortures you, threatens you or your family with violence or even death, just for speaking your mind? Who is going to fight for the thousands of men, women and children who 'disappear', murdered because they did not happen to agree with their governments' opinions? In nearly half the countries in the world, some or all of these things happen. It is the responsibility of everyone to stand up and fight for human rights: If people do not, they are liable to lose them.

At present, the IC Group of Amnesty International is campaigning for the release of one such prisoner, who is serving five years in a 'corrective' labour colony in the USSR. Ivan Starovuit's only crime was to peacefully exercise his right of freedom of religious belief guaranteed under article 18 of the United Nations' International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which was ratified by the Soviet Union in 1973.

While a lot of pressure from ten persistent individuals can be very effective in improving the condition of prisoners like Ivan, governments respond much more when many people write in to complain about human rights abuses against particular individuals. For this reason the IC group of Amnesty International is launching a campaign to get everyone in College to write one letter to the Ukrainian authorities, mentioning article 18 and asking for the release of Ivan Yakoulevich Starovuit. It need only be a short letter.

If you want to find out more about the case before writing an information sheet can be obtained either from the FELIX Office, Union Office or by telephoning Charles Penman 5777.

Address for letters:-
Ukrainskaya SSR
g. Donetsk
Oblastnaya Prokuratura
Prokuroru

Ski

Two weeks running an article by the Ski Club..well, after our tremendous success at the last dry-slope-race, we are all psyching-up for the next event (Mid-January). However, our first team is desperately seeking a female skier of reasonable ability interested in racing and winning.

Could any girl interested please contact Martin S Steber (Comp 2) via the Pigeon holes.

Model Aircraft

'Hey, Shei, you seen this?'

'What is it, Bobby?'

'ICMAC want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—even us in the Close'

'Isn't that nice—look especially those who have paid their membership subscription.'

'Look, Shei, why don't we get Karen and Damien membership for Christmas—they'll like that...'

'I'm sorry Tom, you have power, wealth—everything I could possibly want, but ICMAC have *more* to offer me.'

'Heather, I can get you fuel, third party insurance and even a six-channel transmitter—just marry me'. 'I don't need your help—I want to try to fly by myself.'

'Hey, Harry, look—ICMAC wish everyone a Merry Christmas—that's nice'.

'Huh! Students—I own two houses in the close you know. They don't mean us old folk—they didn't send Edna or me a card last year, and I'll bet they gave one to them theiving Corkhills. They only really mean the members of ICMAC—I know—I worked on the railways for forty years and all that students want is discounts and freebies. It's me, the taxpayer, who pays for them to get drunk every night and...'

What's On

Today

1230h

Beit Gym
Keep Fit Circuits. Free to members of IC Keep Fit Club. Membership £1

1300h

Consort Gallery
Christmas Carol Service. West London Chaplaincy carols and drama.

Above Southside Shop
Micro Club. All members have all access to our computers and word processing facilities membership £2.

Southside Gym
Keep Fit Please bring suitable clothing and jogging shoes.

SCR
Wargames meeting

9 Princes Gardens
Islamic Society prayers

Lower Union Lounge
Caving Club meeting

1315h

Brown Committee Room
Rubber/Duplicate Bridge

9 Prince's Gardens (basement)
Islamic teachings course series D: Muslim Beliefs.

1330h

Physics Level 2
Annual Coffee Crawl bring your own coffee change.

1400h

Mech Eng Foyer
Make Kids Toys for handicapped children.

1430h

Lower Lounge
Acting talk by the Webber-Douglas Acting Academy. Everyone welcome.

1900h

Junior Common Room
Advanced Dancing Class

Great Hall
IC Orchestra Rehearsal

2000h

Junior Common Room
Medals Dancing Class

2300h

999KHz, 301m
FELIX Radio Show. Unpredictable, spontaneous, humour and music.

Thursday

0100h

301m, 999KHz
All night show. Listen to IC Radio from dusk 'til dawn.

1230h

Huxley 413
Christmas Lunch. Anyone very welcome.

Mech Eng Christmas Party Tickets from Soc Reps.

Union Upper Lounge
Audio Society collect today records ordered on Tuesday.

Mines B303
Scout and Guide slideshow.

1245h

JCR Sheffield
North American Stall Information on BUNAC work and play in US this summer.

Southside Lounge
Riding Club meeting. Christmas lunch — homemade mince pies and delicious mulled wine. Admission 75p for members.

1300h

FELIX Office
Drink-a-sherry-dry. Your chance to drink as much sherry as you can before supplies run out for £2. All profits to Rag

Southside Upper Lounge
Balloon Club meeting.

9 Princes Gardens
Islamic Society prayers

Green Committee Room—Top floor of Union building
SFSoc Library meeting. Access to the SFSoc library of over 1000 titles, plus discussion and organisation of future events.

1330h

9 Prince's Gardens
Quranic Recitation

1730h

Aero 254
Gliding Club Meeting. Arranging lifts to Lasham, videos & films.

1745h

Mech Eng 342
Imperial College Choir. Rehearsal.

1800h

Bot Zoo Common Room
Christian Union Meeting

Southside Gym
Imperial Workout wear something comfortable and any type of training shoe. A towel/exercise mat is also useful.

1830h

Union Gym
Judo training. An informal session

1930h

Volleyball Court
Basketball beginners training.

Union Crush Bar
Real Ale Society meeting. Taste Theakston's Old Peculiar and Bateman's Mild.

Room 2E, ULU
ULU Gay and Lesbian meeting

2000h

JCR
Physics Life/Sci Party. Biggest Christmas party of the year. IC Radio Laser disco. Schrodinger's Cat performing live. Admission £2 on the door, £1.50 in advance.

2115h

Weeks Hall
ICCAG Soup Run, tea, soup and meeting London's down and outs.

Friday

0100h

301m, 999KHz
All night show. Listen to IC Radio from dusk 'til dawn.

1230h

Union Upper Lounge
Orienteering Club. Meeting to organise social events for the weekend.

1245h

Volleyball Court
Basketball shooting practice. For all players; to teach beginners how to shoot, and help more experienced players improve their shooting.

1300h

JCR
ICCND Bookshop Buy your posters badges and cards. 10% discount to members.

Union Building
Islamic Society congregational prayer.

Beit Gym
Keep Fit Please bring suitable clothing and jogging shoes.

1830h

Volleyball Court
Badminton Club. Everyone welcome.

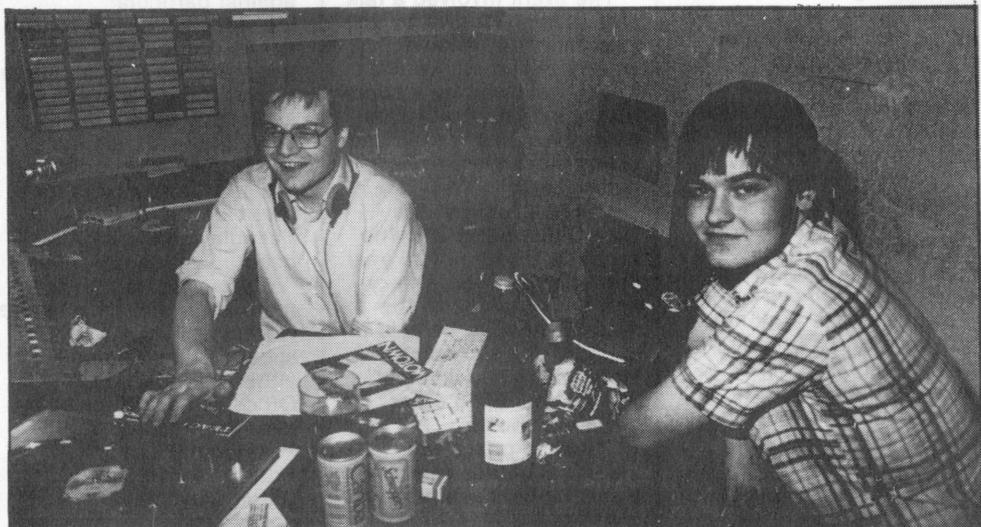
2030h

Southside Bar
Southside Bar Disco

Saturday

0100h

301m, 999KHz
All night show. Listen to IC Radio from dusk 'til dawn.



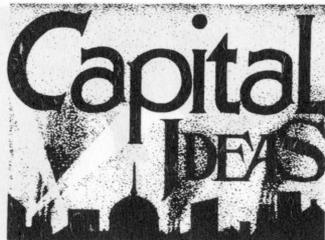
IC Radio will be broadcasting all night on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights.

Christmas Madness?

The GLC presents a 'Christmas Party for the Unemployed' on the 21st December from 3-11pm. The GLC are subsidizing your ticket by £6 so that you can see the likes of Gregory Isaacs, Imagination, Madness, Marc Almond and Frank Chickens all for the incredible price of £2! All you have to do is make your way to Finsbury Park and find a space in the Big Top there. It'll be heated with the necessary bars and food so why not have one last fling before they get rid of the GLC next year. Tickets are available from County Hall—remember your Union Card otherwise they'll charge you £8!

ICA Magic

Pantopera
On at the ICA at the moment is a revamped version of the 'The Magic Flute' which would make Mozart turn in his grave. In true panto



Capital Ideas makes a welcome return to FELIX this week with a whole page of ideas of what to do over the festive period. Whether you want to be cultural or just see a good band in the near future then this page for you....

tradition there's 'cross-dressing' with the prince played by a woman and his female clown played by a man. Don't be too shocked by the image of two men gazing into each other's eyes and professing love 'til the end of time. The 'Magic Flute' runs to 29th December and starts at 8pm each day. Well worth the £5. Tel 930 3647

Haz Bean

Do any of you remember Nick Lowe's 'Cruel to be

Kind' released in the late '70's? Well he's finally decided to quit the road after several years backstage in the pop world. He'll be playing his farewell gig at the Half Moon, Putney on Friday 20th December, if you're planning to stick around in London over Christmas then it's well worth checking this one out. All enquiries on 01-788 2387.

Banging

More Music! The Marquee is one of the few music venues in the heart of London which does reduced admission for students so all you IC headbangers should have a field day tomorrow. 'Terraplane' plus Chris Ford and Martin Bell are being let loose at 7pm for the whole night. Bang away! Ring 437 6603 for details.

Panto Piece

For a traditional panto then one of the best on in London this Christmas is 'Beauty and the Beast' at the Old Vic. It runs from 17th December through to 25th January 1986 with special rates. If you want to go back to your childhood and get lost in 'a wonderland of magic and mystery' then ring 01-928 7616

Hogmonay

Stuck for somewhere to go on New Year's Eve? Can't quite make it up to Glasgow this year? Well the Hank Wangford Band is taking over the Mean Fiddler in Harlesden for the whole night. Dance the night away for only £6. Tel 01-961 5490

And College...

Tomorrow sees perhaps the best Christmas party around College and despite the name it's open to every IC student. It features two bands 'Scrodingers Cat' and 'Duo', which are both highly recommended. The former earning an unprecedented 3 encores at the recent RCS Smoking Concert. Afterwards there's the legendary IC Radio Disco led by Ed Cartwright and Captain Scarlet hot off the streets of New York. I don't know how many of you went to the Freshers Party after the Life Sci Dinner in October but most agreed that it was the best party around College for a long time. This

one promises to be in the same mould. Don't miss it. Tickets are only £1.50 in advance from the RCSU Office.

Arty Farty

Serpentine Gallery: A chance to see some of the paintings and stage designs of celebrated artist Yolanda Sonnabend as part of the Arts Council Exhibition. It's running right through to January 5th 1986 and is open daily 10am-4pm. Admission free.

Hayward Gallery: A homage to Barcelona and Torres-Garcia/Grid-Pattern-Sign (Pretentious Titles Inc!) The Hayward Gallery on the South Bank tries to recreate the feel of Spain on the banks of the Thames until 23rd February next year.

Personally I'd rather go to Spain this Christmas because they don't sell cheap Bacardi in the Hayward! Ring the recorded information service on 01-261 0127 if you can't afford the air fare!

Victoria and Albert Museum: Don't be put off by having to pay to see all the delights on your doorstep. It's only 50p and you get a pretty badge as well (*Ed-Go in for free. It's your museum*). Why not spend the whole day browsing and get your money's worth.

Hats from India—colourful headwear from caps to crowns until January 1986.

Kevin Coates—contemporary jewellery until 9th January 1986.

Shots of Style—Great fashion photographs chosen by David Bailey until 19th January 1986.

Knit One Purl One—Fashionable knitting ancient and modern until August 1986.

Ring 01 581 4894 for more info.

Booking

Now Booking:
Haze and Twice Bitten, Greyhound, Fulham, Jan 2.
Barry Manilow(!) Wembley Arena, £12-£20 Jan 4,5,6
Sting, Royal Albert Hall, £7-£8 Balcony, Jan 20-26
Clannad, Dominion, £5-£7, Feb 1
Ozzy Osbourne and Ratt, Hammersmith Odeon, £5.50-£6, Feb 19-21
Depeche Mode, Wembley Arena, £6-£7, April 16

thursday 12th december
in the j.c.r.
join the

physics & life sci christmas party

featuring
fresh from new york
i.c. radio's
ed cartwright
and
captain scarlet
with
schrödinger's cats
live on stage!

tickets
£1.50 in advance
from R.C.S.U.
(£2.00 on the door)

...hark the herald angels sing.

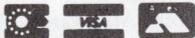
Buzz Off for Christmas



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THE
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BAR

FELIX
OFFICE

BOT-ZOO

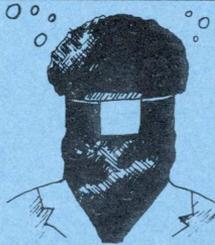
UNION
DINING
HALL

UNION
OFFICE

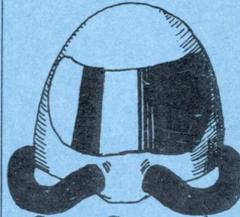
UNION
SNACK
BAR



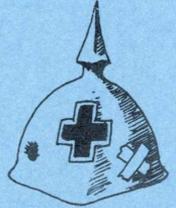
Miss Kingston



Reverend Burgess



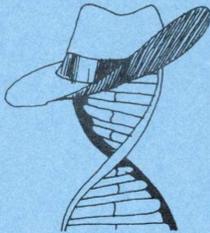
Space Commander
Lehman



Gruppenführer
Fontana

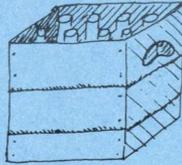


Sergeant Northey



Professor Anderson

Case Of Sherry



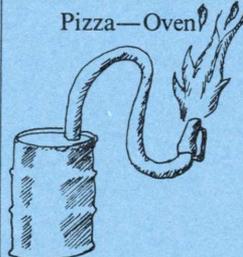
Rape Alarm



Mines Coffee
Machine



Pizza—Oven



Blackboard



Particle—Beam
Weapon

