



Felix

The Newspaper Of Imperial College Union

Founded 1949

On The Streets

Imperial College has passed up the chance of another Hall of Residence. Early this summer, College officials viewed a property in Bayswater which had formerly been the Hong Kong students' centre. The deadline for tender has since passed, but Imperial has failed to make a bid to acquire the buildings.

College Assistant Secretary Michael Arthur said yesterday that the property was not really suitable for a Hall of Residence since the majority of rooms were designed as triples. Mr Arthur added that a very significant investment would be required to bring the buildings up to standard, and that this would

jeopardise all other accommodation projects for the foreseeable future, including the development of the new Hall on the north side of Princes Gardens. However, there is no shortage of applicants for Evelyn Gardens where most of the rooms are doubles and triples.

"Bloody Ridiculous"

Nearly 200 students are still looking for places to live after the Student Services office was swamped with applications for the remaining 100 college rooms. The majority of the places available will have been re-allocated by today.

In previous years there has been sufficient space within Halls, Houses and head tenancies to give rooms to students who arrive at college without arranging any accommodation. The Student

Services office said yesterday that the number of rooms available had fallen from around 150 for last year. This was in part due to a rigorous re-allocation of rooms which had been offered to students but not confirmed by them. The majority of the places now available had been offered to students who failed to arrive at the start of term. In a statement from IC Union yesterday, the situation was described as "Bloody ridiculous."

No Noise

The Rector, Professor Eric Ash, has sent out a letter to students in Southside asking them to tone down their behaviour and the noise they make, a theme which he repeated in his address to undergraduates on Monday.

Prof Ash warned that throwing objects out of windows and playing loud music could jeopardise the planning permission for a new hall of residence which may be built over

the sports centre in Princes Gardens.

The Union President is sympathetic with the Rector's requests, having received complaints about the noise levels in Evelyn Gardens.

"The College can't afford to upset nearby mews residents, most of whom have expensive solicitors," she explained.



Fremantle Hotel: One of the residences lost by IC

Over The Odds

Students attending Monday's New Year Party were charged an extra £1 for tickets owing to confusion over the price. Most people who turned up on the door expected to pay £4, but the cost was rounded up to £5 because of inadequate provision of a cash float.

The party had been advertised at two different prices, and the treasurer of the Entertainment Committee, believing that the cost was £5, had not taken steps to supply enough £1 coins to be given out as change. Ents chairman Dan

Phillips could not be contacted yesterday, though earlier this week he told FELIX how successful the event as a whole had been, and Union President Christine Taig said yesterday that 'We will have to make sure that it does not happen on Friday'. ICU DP Jackie Pierce said that she felt the price was rather high, particularly bearing in mind that the event had a 'semi-captive' audience, though she agreed that it was normal practice to raise the charge made at the door.

Big Noise

Police arrived at the Freshers' New Year's Party on Monday following a complaint from Queen Alexandra's Women's Hostel that the noise level was too high. The situation was quickly resolved by turning down

the band's PA system.

Loud bands appearing at today's Freshers' Ball will be placed in the Union lounge in order to prevent further complaints.

Life In A Northern Town

Dear Sir,

As an ex-student and Station Manager of IC Radio for two years (between 1981 and 1983) I like to keep moderately 'in touch' with what is going on at this College.

It was with some dismay, not to say anger, that I heard on IC Radio a news report containing an extract from the 'Welcoming' address to first-year students given by the Rector, Professor Ash.

In this speech, after stressing (quite rightly) the opportunities available to students at IC to visit a number of interesting museums in the vicinity, he summed up by asking them 'not to find themselves in some God-forsaken factory in the North of England somewhere' (his bad syntax, not mine) wishing they had taken advantage of the virtues of the South which he had just extolled.

This is indeed a welcome for students from the Northern counties! As a Yorkshireman I remember about halfway through my first Spring term feeling somewhat disenchanted with the attitude of several Southerners I had met. If Professor Ash had been the Rector at that time I would certainly have felt that I had made a mistake in coming here. Now, with my five-figure salary and my comfortable lifestyle in London (while many academically able friends are standing in dole queues two hundred miles away) I should perhaps be grateful for the naivety of my youth.

Perhaps not. After all it cannot be easy to live in some God-forsaken mansion in SW7 without ever having visited (or even recognised the existence of) the National Railway Museum in York, the National Museum of Film, Theatre and Television in Bradford, Steamtown at Carnforth, seen the Lake District or the Brontë Parsonage at Howarth or heard the Halle Orchestra or English National Opera North or even the Black Dyke Mills Brass Band!

But enough of my hopefully forgivable Northern indignation. As a graduate of City and Guilds College, which I trust still guards jealously its reputation as the finest engineering college in Britain, I find the Rector's remarks equally

infuriating if the target of the adjective 'God-forsaken' was the factory rather than the North. The idea that industry is a career to be looked down upon is one that many eminent people outside as well as inside the engineering profession (the Prince of Wales is one person who springs to mind) have been trying to eradicate for many years. Had such remarks as those I refer to come from the Chancellor of Oxford University (which I doubt that they would) then we engineers and scientists would no doubt spring to the conclusion that he was out of touch with the modern world. That they should come from the Rector of the Imperial College of Science and Technology is astounding!

If Professor Ash had urged his new students not to end up doing voluntary Service Overseas in some Third World hell-hole there would no doubt have been an outcry (at least I would hope so). I hope he realises that to make this sort of remark is just as offensive.

Yours Faithfully,

Neil Sykes B.Sc. (Eng) A.C.G.I

Entry Rules Attacked

Dear Dave,

I'd like to thank Beit security staff for their help at the New Year's Party on Monday. I believe there have been complaints about the union card check system operating at Beit Arch, perhaps I'd better explain.

The Union has only just been granted its own licence for the premises. This is not a full performance licence; our chances of getting one of those are less than zero, as the local residents are unhappy enough about us running two or three major events like this each year.

It is inevitable, on an occasion like Monday, that someone will complain to the police about the noise level in the area. It is also likely that, since our licence is new, we are being WATCHED anyway. There is no way we can afford not to comply with the licensing regulations; hence the card check.

Imperial College Union has a reciprocal agreement with virtually every local college. All the students from those colleges needed to do was to show their own union cards to be let in. OK, so there was a bit of a queue-better than the alternative, a court injunction stopping us from holding anymore parties of this sort.

Yours,

Christine Taig

Felix

College Accommodation

College administration have assured us that the former Hong Kong students centre was unsuitable as a new hall for Imperial. When FELIX contacted College's Assistant Secretary, Michael Arthur, we were told that the report drafted on the possibility of the scheme was classified as 'confidential'. It is difficult to see why, if the administration is genuinely enthusiastic about expanding IC's student accommodation, the report on a possible new hall should be restricted. Mr Arthur says that 'it was decided' not to pursue a policy of searching for and redeveloping existing properties unless they were eminently suitable. In the light of the rush for Hall places in which 200 students are likely to loose out, IC Union should demand to see a comprehensive report on the viability study carried out on the buildings. I am far from convinced that the project was looked at in any detail.

FELIX

Over the past few weeks FELIX has been produced because many of the regular staff are prepared to go without any sleep. They would like me to point out that if more people come and work on FELIX they may be able to get to bed before 6.00am. If you are even remotely interested in working for this amazing rag, please turn up to the staff meeting at 12.30pm today in the FELIX office (Beit Arch).

Credits

Thanks once more to Judith Hackney, Chris Edwards & Mark Cottle, Mole, Chris Martin, Bill Goodwin, Kamala Sen, Liz Holford, Simon Lewis, Sarah Kirk, Grenville Manuel, Nigel Whitfield, Pete Wilson, Jane Spiegel, David Rowe, Hugh Southey, Christine Taig, Aaron Kotcheff, Colin Palmer, Rosemary Hosking & David Downs, plus Pete Hands and Dave Clements.

David Jones

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Tiddlywinking down Oxford Street

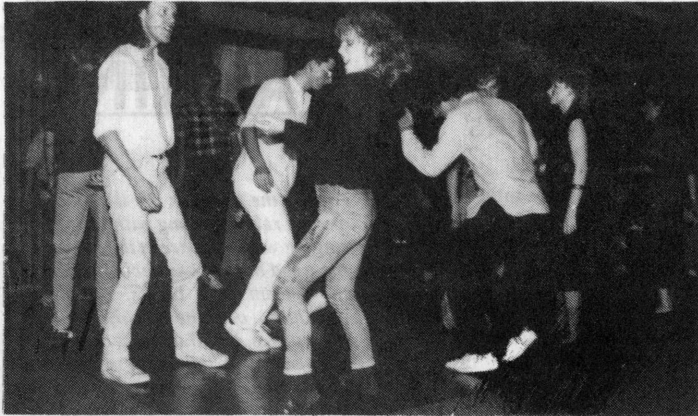


Tiddlywinking

down Oxford Street

Meet outside CCU
Offices at 9am.
Saturday 4th October

Pay as you enter



Students attending Monday's New Year Party were charged an extra £1 for tickets owing to confusion over the price. Most people who turned up on the door expected to pay £4, but the cost was rounded up to £5 because of inadequate provision of a cash float.

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FELIX NOTICE ONE

The copy deadlines for FELIX are as follows:

★What's on entries, small ads, club articles and sports reports in before 1.30 pm Monday.

★Letters and opinion articles should be in before 1.30 pm Tuesday, other deadlines should be arranged with the editor.

Please note that these will be rigidly adhered to.

FELIX NOTICE TWO

There is a staff meeting today (Friday) at 12.30 lunchtime in the old office. Anyone interested in learning more about FELIX will be very welcome. There is also a cheese and wine party at 6.00 pm.

MEGABRAIN

Many people came and told me how easy the beginning of term puzzle, Room Roulette, was, but were there any answers given in to the FELIX office by Wednesday? No. The deadline is now *next* Wednesday, 8th October, 1.00pm, the same as this week's puzzle. So get those answers in, you might be the only person who enters, and there's still £5 to be won!

Money for old dates

"Fancy some money for old rope?" said Tim Skint, famous financial disaster area.

"Oh yes, is this another of your completely unfeasible money-making schemes?" I said.

"No, no, there's nothing to this one. I've got hold of this pile of old calendars, all we have to do is Tippex out the old year, add in 1986, and we can flog 'em at a profit. The days match, look at my birthday for instance — it's on the same day of the week back then as it is this year."

I expressed my dubiousness about the project and pointed out a problem.

"Yes, but look at my birthday. Back then it was on the same day of the week as yours, but this year it was on the day of the week before it was then."

"Ah," he said. "I see the problem. Oh well, at least you can make a FELIX problem out of it."

"How's that?"

"Well, if you add the two days of the month of our birthdays you get the same total as adding the two months. Also if you multiply the two days of the month of the birthdays together the digits of the answer are the relevant months. From that information it is possible to tell the exact dates, in full, of both our birthdays."

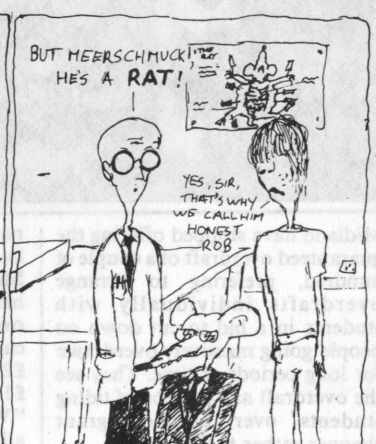
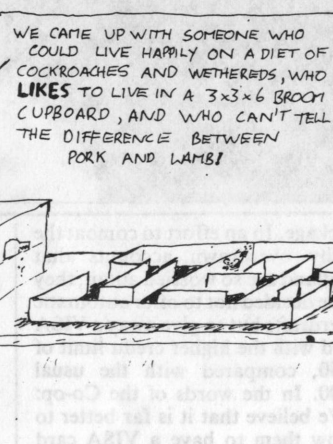
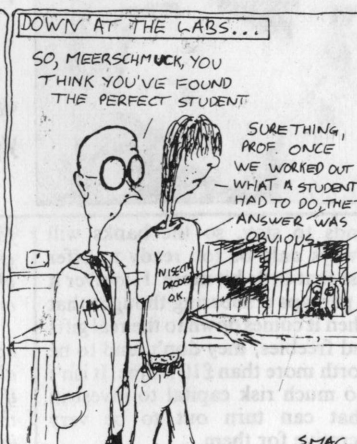
So that's this week's problem. There will be a £5 prize for a randomly selected winning entry picked after 1.00pm Wednesday 8th October. Entries to the FELIX office please. One last point, you don't need to look at any old calendars to solve this puzzle—good luck!

IF YOU FEEL UNSAFE

about getting home after the Freshers Ball tonight, then go to security (Beit Arch) on the half hour, 11.30 onwards, and we will get you home, or give you a place to sleep. IC Students Union.

TALES FROM THE BUNKER

THE START OF A NEW TERM, AND UNIVERSITIES ARE TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO COMBAT FALLING ATTENDANCES, AND INCREASING GOVERNMENT CUTS...



Banks

the qualified "yes"

Chris Edwards on the gift horse of student bank accounts

No sooner do you receive that little chit from UCCA telling you which college has accepted you, than the banks start to trip over each other in the mêlée for who gets the most student accounts opened with them. Handbooks arrive bulging with inserts promising free clocks, money, overdrafts and credit cards, and the Sunday supplements miraculously sprout full colour two-page ads extolling the virtues of bank accounts.

However, despite all the glowing promises, the glossy booklets and prose borrowed from washing powder adverts, the offers they make bear remarkable similarities, even if the philosophies differ.

The incentives tend to remain around the area of £10 in your account when it's opened, a £200 guaranteed overdraft, no bank charges and the ubiquitous cheque and autobank cards. NatWest currently leads the field with 34% of the market with this sort of combination along with their proud boast of having the largest number of branches on campus as well as autobanks.

Midland, once the furthest behind with a lacklustre package and little publicity, have managed to pull into second place by offering choices of cassette tapes, quartz clocks and money backed up with a National Express Coach discount card and cheaper traveller's cheques. However

Lloyds used to suffer from an over-gimmicky presentation with competitions and cheap subscriptions to New Scientist, but very little in the way of solid help or tangible gifts. However they have now fallen into line with the NatWest system, offering £10 in the new account and a £200 guaranteed overdraft.

"Bad boys" of the student market, Barclays have unsurprisingly fallen back to 4th place with a market share of 18% following an active boycotting campaign by unions around the country. Who wants to be a victim of the new apartheid for Barclaycard users? They have also suffered from a no-nonsense campaign spurning free gifts, concentrating on their services, which are also just like the NatWest system. But in an attempt to revive their flagging performance they have tried a late entry with a cheap *filofax* Clone.

Operating without the stigma attached to their big brother in the VISA syndicate, the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Co-operative Bank have stepped up their own package of incentives to capitalise on the advantages of giving away credit cards with nowhere to use them. The Bank of Scotland has opted for the Nat West formula, but the Co-operative Bank, riding on its policy of lower bank charges has come up with a different approach to the traditional

discipline of a regular monthly statement."

The Co-op would prefer to "educate" students into using credit cards as much as possible. However, a quick glance at the interest rates and the surcharges on VISA cash advances (currently about 1.5%) compared with the standard overdraft rate for students, even on large overdrafts, reveals that the credit card is an expensive way of borrowing money, which even the Co-op's promises about lower bank charges cannot hide. Credit cards have a monthly interest rate of 2%, which adds up to 26.8% over a year, while overdrafts rates tend to hover around the 11% mark per annum. Think about it.

The fact that all of the banks are prepared to offer these incentives, and in many cases bend over backwards to give students large overdrafts (at least up to the £1000 mark), is an indication of how much they prize having those accounts. Students of today tend to become the executives of tomorrow with charge cards and five figure salaries — all useful capital for the banks to draw on. They also tend to take out bigger loans from those same banks. People tend to be loath to change bank accounts, and it is often difficult once you begin to become overdrawn to any extent. The net result is that once a bank has a customer, that customer

CREATIVE BANKING

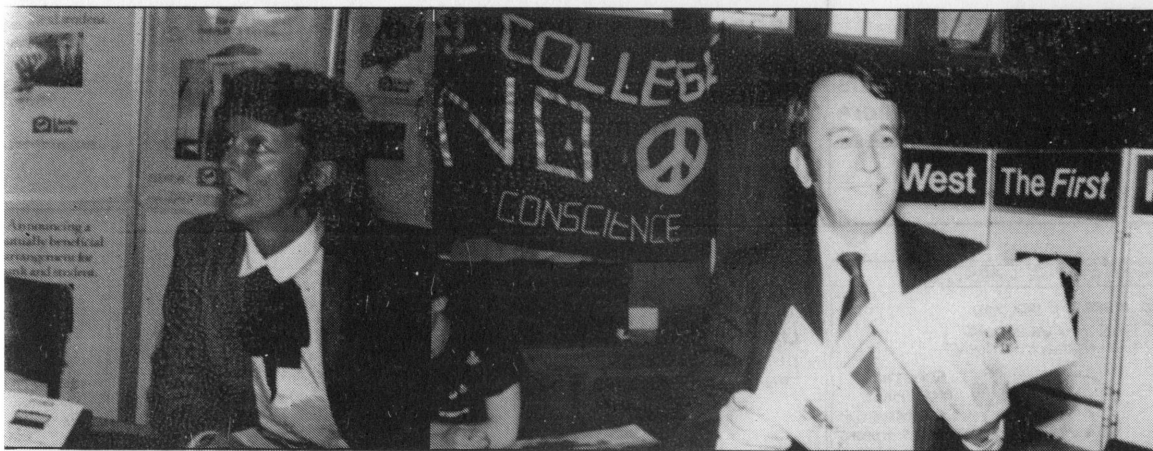
Among the things in life that one can always rely on, along with the phone ringing while you are in the bath, and the good ones always being taken, is the truism that banks, and bank managers are there only to help themselves, and if in the process they happen to help you, then so be it, but this is not their primary aim. With this firmly in mind I invented the concept of creative banking.

Creative banking is the process of mutual use, and abuse, where the balance between bank and customer is redressed. If I seem a little callous in my analysis of the situation, then bear in mind that with over two hundred thousand students at universities and polytechnics in this country, the banks handle nearly two hundred million pounds of student money, and the interest they make from that.

What is more, creative banking can be fun. Really. Speaking as one with a wardrobe full of free alarm clocks, statement holders, and pseudo-leather cheque-book holders, I can vouch for this. The basis of this Creative Banking is to open as many bank accounts as possible, and credit card accounts as well, and play bank against bank. The initial advantages are obvious; as many free gifts as you can manage, or up to fifty pounds in sweeties paid directly into your account. As you now no longer need an LEA Grant cheque to open an account, being a customer of all seven banks is a possibility. Also, between seven hundred and a thousand pounds of overdraft facility will come in handy for budding entrepreneurs everywhere for buying those TSB shares. And if a bank gets upset about your use of its overdraft

By
Peter Wilson

"as many free gifts as you can manage"



Midland have stopped offering the guaranteed overdraft of a couple of hundred, preferring to arrange overdrafts individually with students in a bid to cut down on people going massively overdrawn for long periods of time. They see the overdraft as a method of tiding students over between grant cheques rather than a loan.

package. In an effort to combat the badly overdrawn accounts that Midland are so worried about, they have decided not to offer automatic overdrafts but to give away a VISA card with the higher credit limit of £250, compared with the usual £100. In the words of the Co-op: "We believe that it is far better to allow them to have a VISA card with a modest credit limit and the

tends to stay, so the banks will always only be too ready to offer just that little bit more. However it is perhaps a sobering thought that when it comes down to the real gifts and freebies, they don't tend to be worth more than £10 a time. It isn't too much risk capital to invest in what can turn out to be very lucrative for them.

facilities, then appease them with a cheque written on one of your other cheque books, or with cash drawn on one of your many credit cards.

It is important to open all accounts at the same time because, although banks are unlikely to check if you hold accounts at other banks, they do ask, and I am reliably informed that fraud is very naughty and one should not do it.

Foreign Fields

by Don Adlington



Of British universities only Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial College have established formal arrangements for considering student expedition proposals and providing practical support, invariably accompanied, for those proposals receiving approval, by a grant.

The Exploration Board is a College committee comprising academic staff, representatives of the Old Students Association, and five students. It has a chairman, treasurer and secretary appointed by the Rector, and an equipment officer who looks after the Board's store and issues equipment on loan to expeditions. The regular income comes from the College, from the Imperial College Union and for the past three years we have also had most welcome financial support from the National Westminster Bank.

Since 1955, the College, through its Exploration Board, has supported 112 expeditions, involving many hundreds of students. Imperial College expeditions have travelled to virtually every corner of the world. They have climbed high mountains; explored deep caves; traversed deserts and arctic regions; worked in equatorial forests and on remote islands. They have used virtually every means of transport including sledge, ski, mule and canoe. All these students have come home feeling that they have accomplished something of lasting value in terms of their personal development, and which for many of them could only have happened in the context of a properly organised expedition.

What kinds of things do student expeditions do? Expeditions approved by the Board in 1985 and 1986 may give some idea (though you would in fact have to look over a number of years to get a proper view of the range of possibilities):

1 a group of geology students travelled to the Baltistan region of

the Karakorum in North East Pakistan with the primary aim of making a large scale geological map of a particularly interesting area in the continental collision zone.

2 two final year chemical engineers, joined by two colleagues from Kings College, carried out an entomological project and an ecological study of an extensive region of the Western Sahara.

3 seven members of the Mountaineering Club travelled to East Africa to climb in Kenya and Tanzania.

4 three students from the Mineral Engineering Department undertook an extensive Landrover journey through large tracts of Africa, visiting many gold and diamond mines, with a view to studying location differences in mining across the continent.

5 five second year biologists carried out a six week scientific programme working from the Royal Society's Field Studies Centre in Borneo.

6 eight members of the IC Caving Club spent two months caving at high altitude in the Rocky Mountains.

There is, of course, no reason at all why students should not go off and do exciting things in other countries entirely without reference to the college, and very many do so. If the intention is to have an expedition, however, as opposed to an adventurous holiday, there are we believe some enormous advantages in using the Exploration Board. In the first place expeditions gaining the Board's formal recognition have the status of official College ventures and may use the College's name and considerable reputation in this field in their approaches to other organisations for financial and other help. They will have easy access not only to the body of expertise available in the College, but also eminent authorities in a wide variety

of settings outside the College. The Board's approval almost invariably carries with it a monetary grant, and most expeditions borrow equipment from our stock, which would otherwise have to be bought by the members themselves. The Board also ensures excellent insurance cover at no cost to the students themselves.

The disadvantage—if such it be—of seeking the Exploration Board's support is that there is a certain degree of formality involved. Expeditions are expected to submit coherent proposals with well defined objectives and, on return, a comprehensive report. The Board's treasurer maintains a degree of control over expeditions' financial accounts and over insurance arrangements.

If you have the germ of an idea (and that's all you need to begin with) for an expedition in 1987, we would be very glad to discuss it with you at an early stage. Simply ring Dr Schroter (Chairman) on Int tel: 4083, or me on Int tel: 3041

(Don Adlington, who is the Student Counsellor, is also Secretary to the Exploration Board).

For the past few years the Exploration Board has taken the first three slots in the regular Tuesday lunchtime lecture programmes, attracting outstanding speakers, and large and appreciative audiences. Our three speakers this year are as follows:-

Tuesday 7th October 1986

John Porter, just returned from K2, on 'The 1986 K2 Expedition'.

Tuesday 14th October 1986

Richard Crabtree 'Living and working in the Antarctic'

Tuesday 21st October 1986

Tony Waltham 'Through the Limestone Mountains of China'.

All talks, accompanied by slides, are at 1.15pm in the Pippard lecture theatre, fifth floor, Sherfield Building.

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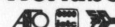
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★ Films ★

Another film in which music plays an important part is **Good to Go** which unlike some of its predecessors actually has a reasonable narrative.

Set in Washington, a group of local lads are trying hard to get some recognition for their Go Go music (heavy funk) but they are constantly hindered by the activities of a few rowdy Angel Dust takers and a racist policeman. Detective Harrigan is a man who falsifies police press statements to implicate the club in which the band plays and tries to damage the black community. Into the area comes aging Art Garfunkel desperate for a good story to rescue his career. When he discovers the truth about the area, he is prevented from publishing and chased by Harrigan.

The film is fairly well made with excellent acting from all except perhaps a few of the musicians but it does show a tendency for gratuitous slow motion and a fascination for feet, though perhaps in a movie about such foot tapping music this is not without reason. The soundtrack, and not just the music, is very well used and there is a neat plot device at the end to curtail any sentimental heroism in Garfunkel's revelations. The film is a powerful insight into the black American community where one in two lives in poverty, one in two teenagers is out of work and where homicide is the leading cause of male deaths, it's just a pity that this particular fictional community's saviour was white.

'There are no points for 2nd place' and 'though we are not at war, we must act as though we are', thus the instructor sums up the philosophy of the US Navy's fighter weapons school, known as **Top Gun**.

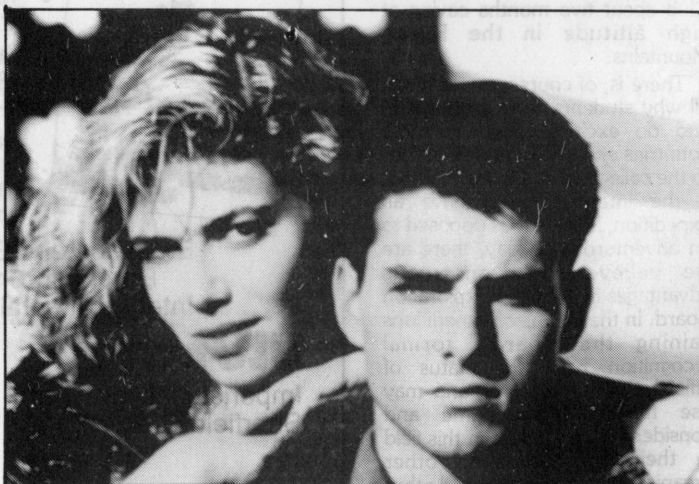
When some Americans looked at the statistics for kill ratios in the most recent conflicts they discovered that in the Korean and 2nd World War the US were shooting down 15 enemy planes to every one American, in Vietnam this was down to about 5:1. Having decided that the reason for this was the modern pilots reliance on missiles rather than dog fighting skills the fighter weapons school was set up to correct this. **Top Gun** is a film based around that school, and when I tell you that the film is wholeheartedly endorsed by the Pentagon you'll probably realise that it won't be by this liberal reviewer.

Tom Cruise (**Risky Business**, **Legend**) plays an unorthodox flyer, Maverick, who gains a place at the school where he is arrogantly determined to be the best. He is

assisted in this quest by his navigator, Goose (Anthony Edwards) and he is hindered by his opponent Iceman (Val Kilmer) the antithesis of Maverick and his navigator, Slider (yes, I'm sorry they all have silly names it's all part of the 'whoop-whoop, alright, yeah, yo!' mentality required for the American military). The love interest is provided by Kelly McGillis (**Witness**) as an astrophysicist. Her first official introduction is via a shot of her black-stockinged legs in a tight skirt, such is the rôle of women in the film. In fact the first appearance of a woman in the film is a pair of legs in a bar and even Ms McGillis' character, Charlie, is not saved from the rôle of supportive partner by her status or qualification; the well being of the pilots is all that matters.

It is interesting that all the combat situations shown at the school show the Americans as the aggressors, but when it comes to reality, the final crisis situation sequence at the end, the E. European block was shown to be at fault. Once again unfortunately the Eastern block is portrayed as an evil aggressor behind dark visors.

Apart from in my view, its highly suspect ideology, the film does have some stunning photography, courtesy of Jeffrey Kimbal, and this is wholly in keeping with director Tony Scott's strong visual sense. The action sequences are very impressive, with a couple of sloppily edited exceptions. The love scenes are awkwardly handled and are not helped by unsuitable music. Most of the film has a driving rock score that is entirely appropriate for the macho activities portrayed. Nevertheless it's a well made and entertaining film, I even began to quite like Maverick, the arrogant little jerk, in spite of myself, it's just a pity they have to be quite so jubilant about killing people.



R E V I E W S

About last **Night** is a film based on David Mamet's play **Sexual Perversity in Chicago** but obviously the producers weren't going to release a film with that name and along with the title has gone some of Mamet's incisive comment on American society, though not all of his sharp, realistic dialogue.

Rob Lowe and Demi Moore star as two independants who do not normally go in for stable relationships and find out what happens when love takes over. It's a fairly sanitised film with none of Mamet's disturbing revelations but with the great redeeming feature of Jim Belushi, who has all his brother John's capacity for degeneracy but a far greater acting ability.

— Theatre —

This new comedy deals with the life of Franz Kafka in the finite detail the man utilised to question his own world.

In a variety of settings and theatrical styles, **Kafka's Dick** follows the evolution of this great 20th century writer; and examines his relationship with fame, immortality and oppression. Had Max Brod, Kafka's oldest and closest companion obeyed his friend's dying wish, there would have been no Kafka. Brod had promised to burn all Kafka's writings.

The opening scene (1920's) combines the paranoid melodramatic Kafka with the 'Jewish New York' humour of Brod. This setting is only by means of an introduction, for as Kafka talks of his dreams of the future, the scene rapidly changes and the action moves to the present day living room of the typically middle-class white household of Linda, a housewife, and Sydney, an insurance broker, conveniently obsessed by Kafka. The normality of this situation is shattered and devastated by a series of strange happenings. It is not usual for Max Brod, who is dead, to arrive at the front door carrying a wet tortoise that metamorphoses into Franz Kafka. The possibilities this raises are endless, but Bennett wisely chooses to explore Kafka's

disillusionment when he discovers that Brod has not burnt his work, and that he is in fact, highly acclaimed and famous. The appearance of Kafka's evil father, Hermann and his impotent mother press the underlying issue of Kafka's paradoxical desire for immortality and oblivion still further. Finally, an amazing set change accompanied by much dry

ice finds all the characters in heaven, but this is still only part of Kafka's dream-like delve into the future, and he concludes... 'Heaven is going to be hell' as he drifts back to the 1920's.

Kafka's Dick is at times very funny, and Alan Bennett has found a true balance between various styles of humour and a far deeper intention.



Books

If you like travel books you'll love it, if you don't you won't, but unfortunately I don't think that **Kevin and I in India** is likely to be a bestseller. Were it written by Clive James or Daphne Du Maurier maybe; however this collection of anecdotes, though amusing, doesn't really hang together. Frank Kusi's book does have a wealth of fascinating details, like the hotel massage men, sunrise over the Ganges or the illegal demolition teams that knock down buildings in the middle of the night to avoid police detection, but it is all very much from a Western view. It would be useful for anyone contemplating visiting India, as it gives descriptions not only of all the shrines, temples and tourist spots you might come across, but also all the tricks and dodges that the con-men use. Costing £4.95 it is published by Impact books.

If its cheap or free books you're after, don't forget the Oxfam shop on Ken High St, plus the Gloucester Road Bookshop, a brilliant second hand shop just South of (you've guessed) Gloucester Road Tube Station. Finally, while hunting for a housing benefit form I bumped into an excellent library on Hornton Road—just off Ken High St by the Macdonalds.



100 Years Of The Phoenix

This year marks an important centenary in the history of Imperial College. In December the **Phoenix**, the annual literary magazine at IC, will be 100 years old.

The **Phoenix** was founded in December 1886 by the science fiction novelist H. G. Wells, one of the College's most illustrious graduates. Since then it has seen a string of talented, and sometimes notorious, editors. In 1942, the editor was one G. Wilkinson, now Professor Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson, FRS, head of the Chemistry Department. Patient research has shown that he is the only **Phoenix** editor to receive a Nobel Prize (so far).

In the 1950s David Irving became editor. He left the college under a cloud, and came to prominence recently as a neo-Fascist historian, in the Hitler Diary controversy.

More recently, editors have included the novelist S. J. Marshall, who also edited **FELIX** (1980-81). Marshall brought a new level of professionalism to the **Phoenix**, and set the standard for subsequent issues.

Unlike **FELIX**, the **Phoenix** has seen its share of women editors, the latest being Diane Love, who was a PhD student in the physics department until recently.

The magazine has published

contributions from staff at the college, as well as students. College security officer Geoffrey Reeves has become well known for his contributions in comic verse, and Dr Bernard Lamb, of the life sciences division, for his humorous, and sometimes satirical, prose.

This year the editor is Chris Edwards, Chemistry 3. Chris says that there is just time for students to send in contributions to the **FELIX** office: short stories, poems, photographs and essays—all are still required.

The **Phoenix** will go on sale in November, and **Phoenix Centenary Week** will be from 24 to 28 November.

The action-packed week will include: on Monday 24 November, a special Wellsoc lecture; on Tuesday, a lecture in collaboration with the department of humanities; on Wednesday at lunchtime, a careers seminar for students interested in pursuing a career in writing; on Thursday, a launch party for the Centenary edition of **Phoenix**; and on Friday, a Grand Buffet Dinner in 170 Queensgate, the Rector's official residence. More details will appear in **FELIX** in coming weeks.

David Rowe

Opportunity Knocks

Hugh Southey

The first Imperial College Union General Meeting (UGM) is next Tuesday at 1pm in the Great Hall. DON'T MISS IT. It won't be like the Constituent College Union General Meetings that you had the chance to go to on Monday. It is your chance to run the Union. It is your chance to debate motions about real issues. It is your chance to find out exactly what your sabbaticals do.

Imperial College Union General Meetings are (hopefully) well organised meetings which have some influence on College and control the Union. They start with a reading of the minutes of the last meeting and a discussion of the matters arising. This is normally uncontroversial and is normally completed in five minutes.

The sabbaticals are then expected to report on what they've done since the last UGM. They will prepare a written report and then make additions to it verbally. This really is your chance to question your sabbaticals because when they've completed their verbal

additions you can quiz them about any aspect of their job. Sabbaticals are paid by you so it's worth trying to find out if they are really working for you.

At some UGMs the Honorary Secretary reports as Returning Officer. This means that he organises elections for Union posts.

CCU Presidents and other officers then make reports. These are usually just a list of facts.

The most controversial part of the meetings is usually the motions which are detailed after the officers reports. Anyone can submit a motion about anything. If you want to submit a motion all you need to do is submit a motion to Union Honorary Secretary Dave Colley a week in advance.

This order of business can be changed by procedural orders but I'll explain how these work at the meeting.

Believe me, IC UGMs are important. They can change your residence, bar, lectures so try and attend.

Jolly Hockey Sticks!

Christine Taig

As Freshers' Week goes on, the shadows under my eyes get bigger and blacker and my temper gets shorter! I hope you've been having a good week and that your stamina's better than mine.

Overseas Freshers' Reception Day

More than 200 people came along to the Overseas students' reception last Sunday organised by the Union and Lesley Gillingham, the College Welfare Adviser. This is the first time the Union has organised such an event and it seemed to go fairly smoothly. Thank you to everyone who turned up, I hope you enjoyed yourselves. If you've got any constructive criticisms, do let me know. Thanks also to everyone who helped out, especially Norman Jardine, for dealing with the food, which brings me to the subject of...

The Snack Bar

From Monday October 6 'Norman's' will be open in the evenings as well as lunchtimes, for snacks and meals. The bar will also be open, so now you can eat and

drink in comfortable surroundings in the Union Building—good stuff, at low prices! To celebrate, come along to the Opening Night Party on Monday where you'll get extra-cheap food and drink and entertainment into the bargain.

On a more practical note, we are trying to keep the new decor in Norman's in good condition. Please help by sticking posters—with Blotack only-on the textured vinyl covered walls **not** on the paintwork; don't stub cigarettes out on the floor or the tables-use the ashtrays! and please help us to keep the snack bar end of the room a non-smoking area. Thanks.

Attention all poverty-stricken students

Monday night was great fun-I enjoyed all of it except cleaning up at 4am. If anyone wants to help us to clean up after tonight's party, we'll pay you good money. There's also work available in Norman's especially from 9am onwards, so anyone with a free morning would be more than welcome. Come and see Jen or myself in the Union office if you're interested.

Finally

Kari Suvanto, Physics first year, you left your Union card behind on Monday night collect it from the Union Office.

Have fun tonight-see you there/on Monday/at the UGM.

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Photo Soc

A new club is being formed at College: the Photographic Club. If you are interested in photography, whether you are a beginner or an advanced amateur, and want to improve your skills or meet other photographers, then join the Club. We will be having competitions and an exhibition at the end of the year as well as outings to various places and workshops. We also hope to have lectures from professional photographers. If you are interested come to our meeting in the Senior Common Room 12.30pm to 2.30pm on Thursday October 9th and see Alan Fourn, Geology 1.

Chess

A fair amount of interest has been shown amongst the freshers for the Chess Club. There has also been a great deal of interest amongst regular participants of the Club from previous years.

The Club is not only interested in those veterans who can play seemingly without flaw but also those who enjoy the game irrespective of their standard. The idea of a club at university is to enable people to participate in activities that they would otherwise not have the chance to try. The Chess Club has many attractions in that it enables players of any standard to improve their game and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere. The players are able to meet new people both in and out of the College, in a sociable atmosphere which is often lacking in other clubs. (I shall not mention any for fear of

insulting your intelligence and the other clubs). The Chess Club is not only involved in playing plain chess as you might imagine. It also tries to diversify with such things as lightning chess tournaments simultaneous exhibitions and different forms of chess (cross chess, cylindrical chess and others).

Notably the lightning chess tournament is being held on October 9th. I would very much like to see you there and if you would like to discuss any aspects of what I have written or of chess please do not hesitate to approach me (Haldane Broby Life Sci, Treasurer Chess Club) at the lightning tournament.

Third World First

Unknown to many at Imperial College there exists a small but thriving group called Third World First. The group is active in organising meetings, socials and campaigns for the Third World. During the term there will be meetings exposing the work of Rio Tinto Zinc; Friends of the Earth will be talking about the decimation of the Tropical Rainforests. We have a campaign week organised for October 27th followed by a two day fast.

There are close links between Third World First and other pressure groups such as APTECH and joint meetings are planned with overseas student groups. Third World First is supported by a hard core of dedicated people but it needs more. If you are interested in what's going on in the World come to our first meeting on 7th October or contact me or Helen Udy.

Andrew Weller Met and Mat 3 or Helen Udy Life Sci 2.

Student Services would like to thank all those students who helped over the summer with organising and running the overseas students' day, assisting in the office and generally being useful.

SSGA's are awarded to Mark Cottle, Rose Horley, Dave Jones (for tolerance), Tom Melliar-Smith and Alan Rose.

Services Colours are awarded to:

Alan Clarke, Nick Green, Rob Perry, George Plumbley, Estelle Simpson, Hugh Southey, Briget Webster, Andrew Winterton (who did more work before getting on the payroll), Chris Martin (for driving to Ascot) and Hairy Bob.

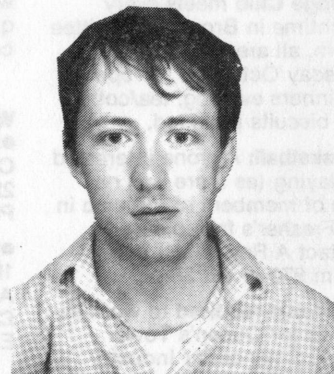
And the special black coffee award to Carl Burgess, for taking the day off work with a hangover and spending ten hours working in Students Services instead. Thanks from Don, Lesley, Dave, Julie, Maire and Andrew.

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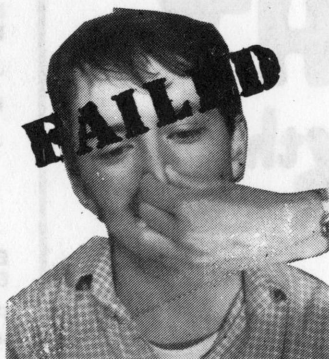
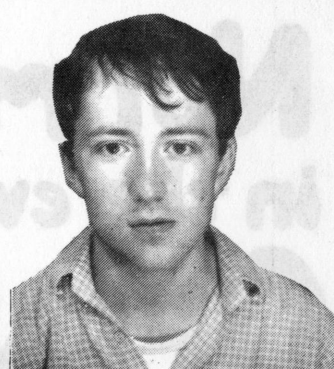
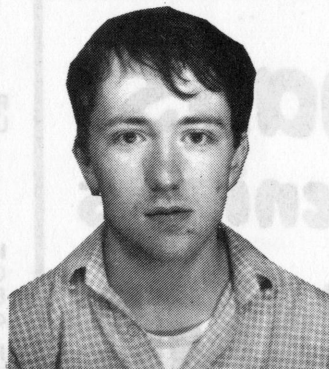
Grief

Lust



Pain

Anger



You too can learn how to act the
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Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

●**Free! Champagne to be won** for the lucky person who picked up the winning ticket at Freshers Fair at the Wine Society's introductory tasting. 6.00pm Union SCR Tuesday.

●**Hungry students:** we're paying good money for cleaners after tonight's Freshers' Ball. See Christine Taig or Jackie Peirce in the Students Union Office today.

●**Bridge Club** meets every lunchtime in Brown Committee Room, all are welcome. Tuesday October 7, 6.15pm Beginners evening, tea/coffee and biscuits provided.

●**Basketball:** Anyone interested in playing (as there was no sign of members of the club in the Fresher's fair) please contact A Rey. Mech Eng Room 570 or ext 3645.

●**Students required** to work as guides for Queen's Tower during Science for Industry week, October 13 to 17. £2.00 per hour, contact Michael Arthur on internal 3017.

FOR SALE

●**Austin Maestro 1.3i 1984.** Excellent Condition. £2,950. Tel Int 7777.

●**Motorcycle:** Honda CB 125 TDC superdream. "A Reg", silver, 14000 miles. Top Box, carrier and panniers. Well maintained and recently serviced. New EBC front brake, new ferodo rear brake and new pirelli rear tyre VGC. £800 ono, phone 422 7935.

STOLEN

●**Cheeseplant** from Linstead Hall last year. Friday June 26. I will pay £10 for it back, no questions asked!!! Please contact H Smith Min Tech 2.

WANTED

●**Bass Player** for Schrödingers Cat, College band. Tel John, 229 5680 evenings or via Physics UG Letter racks.

●**Motorbike** (pref trial style) 100cc or less, or trial moped. Anything considered under £300. Contact Andy Belk High Energy Physics PG, Int 6779.

PERSONAL

●**Negs** Loves Daisy.

Whats On???

FRIDAY

Freshers' Carnival 8.00pm
Union Building. Furniture, Hondo, Menticide and special guest stars Norman and the Nutburgers, featuring Charles "accountants are human beings too you know" Troup. Also discos, food, drink and films (including Repo Man). Absolutely the event of the week!

Introductory Wine

Tasting 6.00pm
Union Senior Common Room this is your first opportunity to come along and see what the society does! A wide choice of basic but interesting wines to taste. The winner of the champagne will be announced. £1.50.

Underwater club 6.30pm
Underwater club introductory meeting (look for signs in Beit Quad). Also sale of masks, fins and snorkels.

Beginners Ballroom 7.00pm
JCR

Intermediate Ballroom Dancing 8.00pm
JCR

SATURDAY

Tiddlywinking down Oxford Street 9.00am
Meet CCU offices to pick up licences and tins. Street collection down Oxford Street to raise money for the National Society for Deaf Children. You must attend!!!

Guilds Pub Crawl 6.00pm

SUNDAY

RCS Barnight 7.00pm
Union Bar

MONDAY

ICCAG MEETING 12.30pm
Green Committee Room (Union Building), top floor turn left out of the lift)

RSM Geology Freshers' Reception 7.00pm
Union Upper Lounge

Beginner's Ballroom Dancing 7.00pm
JCR

Ballroom Bronze Medal 8.00pm
JCR

TUESDAY

Exploration: The 1986 K2 Expedition 1.15pm
Read Theatre Sherfield Building, lecture by John Porter.

Judo 6.30pm
Union Gym, all welcome.

IC Caving Meeting 6.00pm
Above Southside Bar, slides illustrating the activities of this lively club, including the slides from this summer's Canada expedition.

WEDNESDAY

IC Caving Club meeting 1.00pm
In the Union Snack Bar, everyone welcome.

Jazz Funk 2.00pm
JCR

Rock'n'Roll 3.00pm
JCR; All classes 70p.

RSM Barnight 6.00pm
Union Bar, Barley Dozen Meeting

Marxism Today 7.30pm
Room 321 Sherfield, readers group discussion on 'The Crisis in State Education' speakers include Brian Simon, a former Professor of Education at Leicester University. All welcome.

THURSDAY

ICCND informal meeting 1.00pm
Southside Bar (Upstairs).

Lunch-hour Concert 1.30pm
The Music Room, 53 Prince's Gate. Margaret Powell ('cello) and Michael Dussek (piano).

Judo 6.30pm
Union Gym. All Welcome.

Sub aqua club 7.00pm
Sports centre. Test drive an aqualung; come along to the pool (Princes Gardens) and have a go at breathing underwater. No qualification/experience required, just a swimming costume and a T-shirt.

Metallurgy and Material Science Freshers Reception 7.00pm
Union Upper Lounge

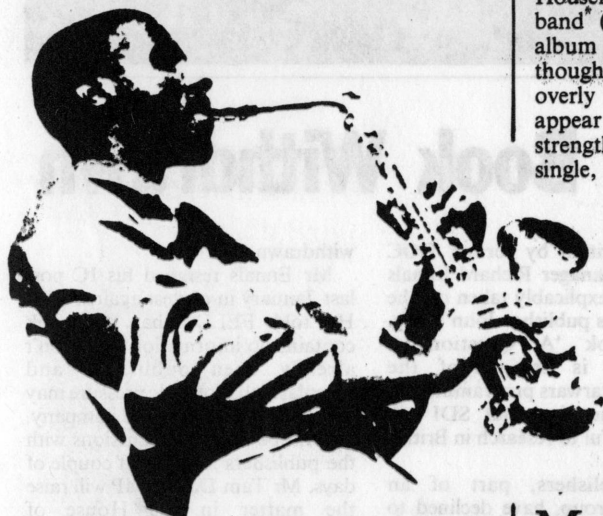
Norman's
in the evenings
OPENING
NIGHT
monday 6th 6pm

* cheap food + drink
+ free entertainment
Union Building - Ground floor



Down & Out

Down & Out is yet again looking forward to forthcoming events around London. There are many events taking place in the next seven days and D&O takes a quick look at the best of them. These aren't necessarily the most expensive and some of them are free. Like, er, on Saturday 4th:



The Men They Couldn't Hang are playing at a FREE Anti-Fascist Rally on Cable Street, E1 at 5pm. Though not on a par with the Pogues in terms of record sales, they easily match them live, with there version of Rawhide needing to be heard to be believed.

There are some very good bands playing this week who don't charge the earth, such as The Hank Wangford Band, a gynaecologist with one hell of a stage act, performing at the Half Moon, E15 for just £3 on Saturday 4.

On Sunday 5, at the Marquee, plays The Larks, (who are incidentally playing in College on October 23 thanks to Uncle Dan, the Ents man), it costs just £3.50, they have a few things to say about the world and when I saw them everyone had a really good time. Honest John!

There are still a few hundred £5 tickets left for New Order concert at the Albert Hall to be

sold on the door for Monday 6th. Manchester's leading Indie band (since the Smiths signing to EMI) never seems to break through into the main stream proper. They have kept up a low live profile this year but return with the new term and this gig is not worth missing.

I mustn't forget my favorite group of the moment, the Housemartins, who are playing at my favorite venue of the moment, The National Club, on Kilburn High Road, NW6. Also soon to be appearing there are the Smiths and Billy Bragg. Er, back to the Housemartins, sorry. Easily the fourth best band (in Hull) with an absolute monster album behind them, deservedly I say. I thought their album, London 0 Hull 4, was not overly publicised by Go! Discs, but didn't appear to matter as it charted on its own strength. The highly original video to their single, Happy Hour, certainly helped them break through to the Top Ten and wider public recognition, but they deserved it. Since they came up through the clubs, and weren't a product of a record company's imagination, they know how to entertain their audience, and create a superb atmosphere when playing live. Well worth going north on the Jubilee Line next Thursday (October 9th) at only £4 (£3 concs).

Mega events to look forward to over the coming month include Everything But The Girl at the Royal Albert Hall on the 14th. ZZ Top at Wembley Arena for 4 nights from the 20th. The Smiths are at the National Club on the 23rd, the Brixton Academy on the 24th and the Palladium on the 26th. If you really want to see The Smiths, buy your ticket quickly as they're nearly sold out on all three dates. The Stranglers are at Wembley Arena on 3rd November. For a mere £7 or £8, it could be something to tell your children in years to come as they never cease to excel when playing live and should be well worth the visit.

Over at the Barbican, they're showing what I consider some of the wackiest films in recent times, and well worth seeing again, or for the first time, depending on whether you

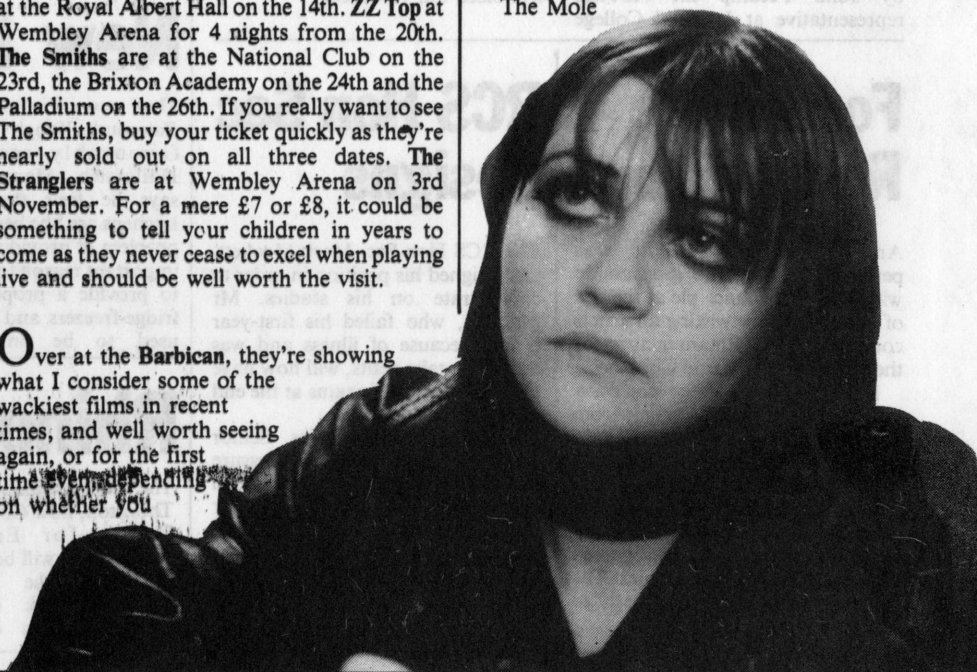
went to see then when they first came out such as A Private Function, Brazil, and Dances with a Stranger. Much as it might seem a maze of concrete, Cinema One in the Barbican is quite easy to find as long as you don't take the short cut down the corridor to your right, up the steps and along the walkway because you usually end up where you started, or more likely, somewhere you've never been before. Students can get in for £2 and you can always find something entertaining to watch there, if only lots of people lost, looking worried and wishing they could remember how to get out.

For the Arty Farty ones among you, and there is no reason why you should exclude yourself from that description, there is an exhibition over the road at the Royal College of Art, who also serve very nice food by the way, showing the role of post-war design, paying particular attention to a exhibition held at the V&A 40 years ago to encourage high standards of design. If you feel more energetic and can get further than Kensington Gore, you could make tracks over to Trafalgar Square and visit the National Gallery for FREE. They're showing (until November 23) 140 paintings, drawings and prints of the early years of Dutch landscape, called Dutch Landscape: the Early Years surprisingly. You might not think this is your cup of tea but, how can you tell till you get over there and see it yourself, all it takes is some of your time.

If you fancy going down the South Bank before Sunday, ie Saturday, there is the last night of the National Theatres excellent production of Animal Farm but never fear if you can't make it, it will return after its World Tour. But taking its place is Pravda, the funniest play in town, so don't feel any reason not to boogie on down there, ie near Waterloo Tube station, or somewhere in that approximate vicinity.

You might of noticed that I didn't mention the Hawkwind Autumn Tour at all, unlike some. I just thought I'd point that out.

Good burrowing
The Mole



Pie In The Eye For Welfare Advisor

Lesley Gillingham, the Student Welfare Advisor, was flanned during the Undergraduates' Reception on Monday when five raiders dressed in Guilds Hit Squad livery stormed the stage. Four members of the IC Union Executive were also flanned. The Guilds office later refused a request by Rag Chairman Man Tai Tseung for a 'hit' on the Post-graduate Freshers' Reception.

Miss Gillingham is understood to have been quite upset by the incident which took place despite the Union Executive's endeavours to present 'a mature image' at the reception. She is particularly concerned that the raiders did not ask her permission for the 'hit'—a customary service when members of staff are to be the target.

Union President Christine Taig, who described the attack as 'childish' and 'irresponsible', said that further steps would be taken should the Hit Squad step out of line again.



Starwars Journal

Following the passing of a motion condemning the Starwars program at its annual delegate conference on the 13th of May, the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staff (ASTMS) has begun moves to widen the Star Wars issue.

A special Starwars edition of the ASTMS Journal which has a circulation of 400,000 will explain some of the problems and fears surrounding the starwars programme.

The Supplement is being collated by John Fecamp the ASTMS representative at Imperial College

from information supplied by the Peace Groups, FELIX and other sources. 'We need to convince people that Starwars is morally wrong', explained Mr Fecamp, who is anxious that ASTMS members should not be forced to work on Starwars without being given the option of alternative work.

Clive Jenkins, Chairman of ASTMS is adamantly opposed to SDI, which he described to FELIX 'As an absurd immoral concept which will either kill us all or else will bleed our resources'.

SDI Book Withdrawn

A book written by former DOC Research Manager Richard Ennals has been inexplicably taken off the presses by its publisher John Wiley.

The book 'A Question of Initiative', is critical of the American Starwars programme and expresses the view that SDI will prove harmful to research in British Universities.

The publishers, part of an American group, have declined to say why the book has been

withdrawn.

Mr Ennals resigned his IC post last January in protest against SDI. He told FELIX that the book contains no information that hasn't already been published, and speculates that outside pressure may have been placed on the company. He will be holding discussions with the publishers in the next couple of days. Mr Tam Dalyell MP will raise the matter in the House of Commons.

Forced Resignation

An engineering student was persuaded to resign his sponsorship with Royal Ordnance plc at the end of last term, after writing an article condemning arms manufacture for the Christian Magazine Chi Rho.

It is unclear how the company obtained a copy of the article from the magazine, which has a circulation of five hundred. A spokesman from the student's department told FELIX that information on students' extra curricular activities is not passed back to sponsoring companies. The student concerned declined to comment on the incident.

RCS Hon Sec Resigns

The RCS Hon Sec, Mark Mockett, has resigned his position in order to concentrate on his studies. Mr Mockett, who failed his first-year exams because of illness and was unable to take resits, will now have to take two sets of exams at the end of the second year.

FELIX asked Physics Senior Tutor Dr Engel whether pressure from the department had been placed on Mr Mockett to resign. Dr Engel pointed out that Mr Mockett's entry into the second year was not conditional on his resignation.

New Kitchens

The new Kitchens installed in Falmouth Keogh Hall have been favourably received. Peter Hallworth, Managing Surveyor, says he feels that the staircase kitchens are 'the best solution' to the problem of providing amenities. An important reason for the change was to provide a proper place for the fridge-freezers and refuse bins that used to be on each landing,

conflicting, with the fire regulations. Residents now have one smaller kitchen between twenty-six people rather than a large one between seventy-two.

Whether the same scheme will be followed in Tizard and Selkirk is not yet resolved. Student opinion will be sought and the matter will have to go through the Hall Committees, said Peter Hallworth.

Rhino Rescue

The first assignment for Dr Iain Thornton, now Chairman of the IC Centre for Environmental Technology, will be a Rhino Rescue project at the Lake Nakuru National Park in Kenya. Dr Thornton, an environmental

geochemist, will collect samples of soil, water, and vegetation eaten by the Black Rhinoceros in the hope of finding the reason for the high incidence of the cobalt deficiency which is afflicting the Rhino population in the area.