

FREE!



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Felix

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Too good for students?

The Student's Union at Silwood Park is fighting to obtain accommodation promised by College administration for its full-time postgraduates following the sale of Sandyride House. Sandyride, a five acre property, was acquired by the Sherfield Trust in 1970 in order to provide accommodation for married overseas students but was sold so that new upgraded blocks could be built. Two of these blocks will be completed within the next two months but Silwood Administrator Mr Keith Fisher is no longer willing to guarantee that all these places will be available to full-time Silwood students.

The two new blocks contain six two-person flats and sixteen single rooms. College Secretary John Smith told FELIX yesterday that the flats will be occupied by married students from Sandyride and that the single rooms will be used this summer to house short course students. Mr Fisher said that no decision had yet been made as to who would live in the single rooms after the summer.

Silwood Union Chairman Willy Munro is concerned that Mr Fisher is not prepared to guarantee these places, especially as the Union had been led to believe that the sale of Sandyride would create more accommodation for full-time students. He wants as many students as possible from William Penney Hall, another Silwood residence which is going to be refurbished this year, to be moved to the new block as soon as it is completed. Mr Munro believes that this will give current Silwood students the immediate benefit of the improved facilities that the new block will provide plus give sufficient places for short course students.

Mr Fisher has told the Union that he will not accept this plan because

he doesn't feel that the William Penney rooms will be of a high enough standard to be used for the post-experience short course students. Mr Munro has condemned this attitude as the new block has kitchen facilities which the short course students would not need. William Penney, however, has very poor kitchens and would be much better suited to short stay tenants.

Mr Fisher will not make a decision on this matter until the two blocks have been completed. Mr Munro, with the backing of the South Kensington Union, wants College's House Committee to promise that the block will be made available to the William Penney residents as soon as it is ready and that priority will be given to full-time students in the future.

Mr Smith told FELIX that the refurbishment of William Penney would take up to a year to complete. He also said that there were plans to make the main house into a conference centre when the Biology Department moves out and more short course accommodation would be built.

Will we CU again?

Christian Union (CU) were thrown out of Imperial College Union last Monday when ICU Council ruled that their current constitution violates ICU by-laws.

As reported in FELIX last week, clauses in the CU constitution had been objected to. These clauses required all members to sign a statement of belief, required committee members to sign a further 'doctrinal basis', and stated that any speaker at CU meetings had to 'have views in accordance with the doctrinal basis'.

The ICU by-laws state that Union facilities should be open to all IC students, and this had hitherto been interpreted to mean that any student should be allowed to join any club or society. At the Council meeting, CU put the case that an exception should be made to this rule. They had been in contact with the University & College Christian Federation (UCCF) who insist that Christian Unions within the federation must conform to their membership and speaker restrictions. Should these be lifted, CU could not continue to receive UCCF support.

Council also refused to allow the CU access to their allotted Union funds for the remainder of the year as they were no longer considered to be a valid Union club, but yesterday's Union Finance Committee (UFC) voted to let them keep all membership monies and donations which they had deposited in their account this year. CU treasurer, Athos Ritsperis, said that he had heard 'conflicting reports' about the status of CU's funds for this year and would not attempt to withdraw any money until the matter

continued on back page

The simple bare necessities of life

College Welfare Adviser Linda Simmonds looks at the facts and figures of housing benefits for 1988-89 in a follow up to her article earlier this term

The new system of assessing Housing Benefit is almost upon us. As I explained in the article which appeared in last term's FELIX, the changes are part of a wide ranging 'reform' of the social security system which among other things will replace supplementary benefit with Income Support.

As far as Housing Benefit is concerned, however, the main changes affect the method of assessment NOT who is eligible. Most students, therefore, will still be able to claim HB. (The main exceptions will be as at present, those living in college halls and houses and most overseas students).

How to work out your Housing Benefit after April 1st 1988

1) Have you capital (ie savings, property, stocks and shares etc) worth more than £6,000? If so, you will be ineligible for Housing Benefit. If you have capital of £3000 or less,

then it will be ignored (ie it will have no effect on your claim to HB).

If you have capital between £3,000 and £6,000, £1 will be added on to the figure used to calculate your weekly income for every £250 (or part thereof) you have between these figures.

2) You now need to work out your weekly income net of tax. This includes money coming into you regularly from any source (eg grants, bursaries, sponsorships, covenants, parental contributions, earnings from part-time jobs, plus any income generated by capital under 1) above).

If you are on a standard undergraduate maintenance grant of £2,330, this will work out as income of £52.92 per week in 1987/88 once the amounts for books and equipment and travel have been deducted.

Any earnings which you receive from part-time jobs will have a certain amounts disregarded for purposes of this calculation. These amounts are:

Single claimant: £5 per week
 Couple: £10 per week
 Lone parent or disabled: £15 per week
 Now deduct £17.80 (this corresponds with the student reduction in eligible rent).

3) Work out your weekly rent and rates. If your rent is inclusive of heating, you will have to deduct an amount for this from your rent. If you do not know how much the heating element is, the local authority will deduct a standard amount (currently about £7).

For calculation purposes your rent will be divided into rent and rates. If you do not know how much your rates are, they are usually 25-30% of the total rent.

Deduct £17.80 from the rent element. No deductions are made from the rates.

4) The amount of Housing Benefit you get will depend on the difference between your weekly income and an Applicable Amount which is made up from two elements.

a) A personal allowance related to age; whether the claimant is claiming as one of a couple or not; and whether the claimant has children or not.

b) A premium related to family status, disability and whether the claimant is a pensioner.

In this article I will not quote the Applicable Amounts for those with children or disabilities; please ask at the Welfare Centre for details.

Applicable Amounts

Single claimant:	
aged under 18	£19.40
aged 18-24 inclusive	£26.05
aged 25+	£33.40
Couple:	
both aged under 18	£38.80
at least one aged 18+	£51.45

Once you have worked out your applicable amount you will be ready to do the calculation.

5) The calculation

If your income is equal to or below your applicable amount, you will be entitled to maximum HB. This will be:

- 100% of rent
- 80% of rates

If your income is above your applicable amount you must:

- Deduct 65% of the difference between your applicable amount and your income from the maximum rent HB.
- Deduct 20% of the difference from the maximum rates HB.

Example

A 20 year old undergraduate student's only income is his/her grant of £52.92 per week.

S/he pays a weekly rent exclusive of heating etc of £40, including rates of £10 per week and is not one of a couple.

1) Applicable amount:

in this case it will be £26.05

2) Weekly income:

£52.92 - £17.80 = £35.12

3) Eligible income:

£40 - £10 - £17.80 = £12.20

4) Calculation:

Difference between Applicable Amount and Income = £9.07

Entitlement to Housing Benefit

HB for rent:

100% of eligible rent £12.20
 Less 65% of £9.07 -£ 5.89
£ 6.31

HB for rates:

80% of rates £ 8.00
 Less 20% of £9.07 -£ 1.81
£ 6.19

Total HB £12.50

In this article, I have only been able to give a brief outline of the new scheme, if you need further information please ask at the Welfare Centre at 15 Princes Gardens.

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When computers want to store large amounts of information, they almost always have to use some form of magnetic recording medium. Recently, however, optical methods have started to become more common. Recent announcements from ICI and 3M are likely to accelerate the move to optical storage.

Optical methods can pack much more information into a given space than magnetic devices. For example, an ordinary Compact Disk can store almost a gigabyte (1,000,000,000 bytes) of information or about 1000 floppy disks' worth. This is big enough to store a large encyclopaedia and a large dictionary, indeed such things are already available for microcomputers. Disks cost about £100 and the drives (which can play your music CD's as well) about £500. Scientists will probably use them to distribute things like *Chemical Abstracts*, which normally takes up about three metres of bookshelf every year. A single CD is rather smaller than this and can be searched rapidly by computer.

The trouble with CDs is that you can't put your own information on them. You can get writable optical discs, but they cost horrendous amounts of money and they still cannot be erased (though when you have a gigabyte this is rarely a problem). But 3M have developed an erasable optical disk based on thin films of rare earth metals. Lasers write to the disk by warming a small spot while the disk is in a magnetic field. This changes the magnetic state at the spot, which is detected by its effect on the polarisation of a weak laser beam. The process is reversible and so the disks can be repeatedly reused, just like ordinary magnetic floppies. They estimate that the cost will be about £2 per megabyte, about ten times cheaper than conventional hard disks.

Considering all this, it may seem strange that ICI has recently announced a new mass storage medium based on paper. Well, it's not ordinary paper, but a plastic sandwich of a dye polymer. It costs about the same as good quality paper to make. Information is stored by burning holes in the dye using an infra-red laser. The cost of information storage works out at less than 1p per megabyte (compared to floppy disks at about £1 per megabyte for very limited capacity). The paper can be made in vast sheets and cut into disks or long strips.

Again, it is not erasable, but it is so cheap that hardly matters. The only problem is that no one has built a storage device based on it yet. When they do, a single reel of digital paper

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



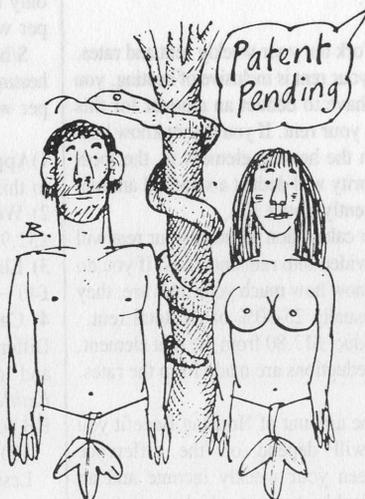
by Steve Black

Plastic paper for computers

tape will store about one terabyte of information (this is about fifty times more than the sort of magnetic tape used as mass storage on mainframe computers; conveniently, it is about the amount of satellite data NASA expect to process every day by 1995).

Whether digital paper will ever make its way into the microcomputer market depends on how cheap laser-based disk or tape drives can be made. Hopefully, whatever comes along will be cheap and more robust than the average floppy disk.

Patenting Life



If the creationists are right about world history, then American Law insists that all farmers should be paying royalties to God.

The US Patent and Trademark Office has recently announced that it will accept patents on genetically altered animals and plants. Such things are now possible for ordinary mortals as well as the Almighty. This has caused some degree of

consternation among religious figures, who reckon that fiddling with life in this way is a breach of God's copyright. However, since He forgot to stake his claim with the patent office, no legal action is possible.

On the other hand, environmentalists have found other legal ways to object to genetically altered beasts. They have found various dodges to prevent field testing of a genetically altered bacterium in California (the bug had had its genes altered to prevent it making a protein that caused crop-damaging ice crystals to form). The environmentalists were worried that a Frankenstein bug might be released that could cause more trouble than it cured.

We now know how to make genetically altered animals as well as bugs. But according to the American Patent Office '...unauthorised acts of reproduction of patented animals would seem to be an infringement of patent law...'. This seems likely to cause some annoyance to farmers, who will have to enforce strict sexual segregation on their beasts or pay royalties on the resulting progeny. (*Nature* 331 p651)

Cancer and the Voters

The State of California held a referendum last year on a law that tries to completely ban carcinogenic chemicals from the environment. It won overwhelming support, despite opposition from scientists.

The law insists on tight control on chemicals known to cause cancer or birth defects (for example, companies using nasty compounds have to post warnings in public places). This may seem reasonable, but it is the strict definitions in the law that make it dubious. They may indeed also make it ridiculous.

The law was promoted by a widespread fear that dangerous chemicals were being leaked into public water supplies, or used as food additives and so on. The ogres of the chemical and electronics industries were thought to be taking a cavalier attitude to public safety. Such an attitude has been worsened by the secretive behaviour of the offending companies: if they had taken the effort to keep people informed then they might never have aroused public disapproval.

The strict limits enshrined in the law are going to make it difficult for some companies to operate at all (even though the Governor has interpreted them as loosely as possible). The law effectively assumes that any compound is dangerous if it causes cancer or birth defects in animals at any level of exposure. This ignores much of the evidence suggesting that animal experiments overestimate the danger of many compounds (there are some classic examples of this: penicillin kills hamsters and aspirin kills cats).

The law's real mistake is that it assumes that all nasties are man-made. There are plenty of pretty horrible compounds that are perfectly natural. Many food products contain small amounts of deadly natural nasties (but not enough to do any damage) that the law does nothing to regulate. Anyway the biggest source of man-made cancer is not the indiscriminate efforts of the chemical industry, but individual choice. People choose to smoke tobacco and to eat unhealthy diets, they are not forced to do either. But no environmentalist is trying to ban cigarettes from sale, or to force MacDonaldis to put health warnings on their burgers.

Editor's Bit

One of the problems in California is that the scientists never bothered to tell the people what they were doing and why, so the people got suspicious. Scientists have got to tell people what they are about or this sort of thing is bound to happen.

A good place to practice is here. This very space in FELIX could be yours. If you have a good news story or a good feature article, send it to me (Chem Eng letter racks, the FELIX Office, or phone int 4642). Several people have promised me features on various topics, but very few have, as yet, materialised. If you have anything, I suggest you get it to me before Easter, you won't have the time afterwards.

And, if anyone wants to be Science Editor next year, now is the time to start thinking about it.



Alternative

Andrew Daghish reveals the truth about paper recycling, life, the universe and everything....

The truth has been revealed at last!

'Simply recycling half the paper in use in the world could meet three quarters of the demand for paper...'. Hence, by recycling all the paper in use in the world, 150% of the demand could be met. This means that, since demand is, within the limits of the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle, not going to shrink to two thirds of its present level in the time it takes to recycle the paper, there is a 50% increase in the amount of paper in existence, ie, for every ton, say, of paper recycled, the recycler receives 1.5 tons. This has staggering implications.

First, on a level of vital importance to every student, indeed most of the population, one need never be short of money again! Simply by recycling two five pound notes one will receive three in return! This should see a huge rise in demand for paper money, but this will have no long-term effect on our forests because the required amount will soon be in circulation due to students spending 'excess' recycled paper money.

However under no circumstances should this be attempted if you are already in debt, since:

Final amount = (initial amount x 1.5)ⁿ when n = number of recycles. Hence starting in debt only increases the amount of money one already owes, at a rate potentially far higher than anything credit card companies have yet been able to invent.

It should also be noted that applying the 'recycle' principles to your cheque book will probably only result in catastrophic debt, since cheques have still to be drawn from your account. However, they could still be useful if one is the type that insists on writing cheques and one is down to one's last two cheques.

This in turn has important implications on Government economic policy. It is obvious that any government allowing its citizens

to recycle money indiscriminately (eg, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Israel) will be the victim of rampaging inflation. It becomes obvious that the success of the Government's economic policies are due in fact to their success in suppressing the illegal recycling of paper money, something that many governments have failed to do (eg, central European nations between the wars). This also accounts for the increase in general crime: the police forces have been diverted to tracking down recyclers, who take great pains to conceal their endeavours, at the expense of tracking down other criminals.

Further proof of this is provided by history. A study of rates of inflation reveals a discontinuity which cannot be accounted for by mere increases in prices. For many years historians have thought this indicated the birth of inordinate greed in people, otherwise known as capitalism, but recent studies in the light of the discovery of recycling has led to the realisation that the discontinuity occurred at the same time as the introduction of paper money.

However, this theory has effects potentially far more profound than those on mere fiscal policy; it is final and irrevocable proof of the type of

3) the spontaneous generation theory.

The third theory is similar to the first, ie, a universe constantly expanding from its centre. The difference is that the first postulates an initial massive explosion followed by an increasingly widespread and less dense universe, whereas the third pictures the universe as constantly gently expanding, with more matter coming continually into existence spontaneously at the centre. This is in fact a special case of the type of universe we live in.

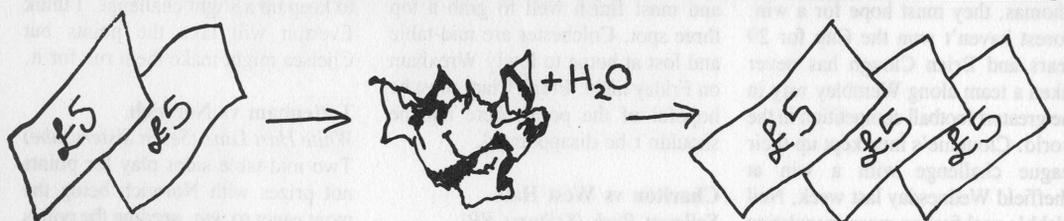
In fact, the universe is constantly expanding but it has more than one centre, and the number is variable. The centres are waste-paper recycling machines, and each represents a universe (microcosm) in its own right, with bodies orbiting it and the other heavenly bodies (waste-paper baskets) constantly. The case previously postulated could well come about in due course in our own universe when the operation has become centralised in the interest of greatest economy and efficiency.

Of course, this all violates the conservation of mass, which was shown to be a load of bunkum by Albert Einstein anyway. Recall that at extremely high velocities the mass

changed to negative velocity, ie, the particle does work on itself on decelerating. Of course work has to be done on the particle in the first place to accelerate the rate of recycling to unusually high levels.

Perhaps the most important application of recycling is to the fossil fuel crisis. Even now, chemists the world over are searching for ways of converting paper into oil economically. So long as this can be done without burning more than one third of the paper to provide fuel for the conversion this will be viable, the remaining paper being recycled using some of the oil to provide more paper than initially, and the remaining oil being sold. Ecologists are interested in turning excess recycled paper into trees. CERN has shown interest in generating other elements by nuclear fission and fusion, using paper oil to power the electromagnetics initially, followed by fissionable heavy paper elements when enough have been generated. Again this should be possible within current recycling limits (a 50% increase) although some chemists have recently reported improved yields².

Of course, this has been and is being opposed by commerce, especially the paper industry, which fears a vast slump in trade, and, more sinisterly, by governments on economic grounds although the CIA is known to be a proponent of recycling, to destabilise the economies of the target nations. The KGB is believed to be behind the economic crisis in Israel, and attempts have been made on the South African one, which is more resilient due to the heavy usage of gold. The Australian government has stated it believes itself to be the first to take steps to fully insulate its economy following the introduction of plastic money earlier this year, but leading chemists have pointed out that oil (from paper) may be converted to plastic. This, however, is just forgery.



universe we live in. The three basic theories advanced thus far were:

- 1) the expanding universe, or 'big bang', theory
- 2) the oscillating universe, or 'big bang gnab gib' theory

of a body tends to infinity. This could be due to the increased rate of recycling, suggesting that each particle in our universe is a microcosm. The mass is decreased to normal on slowing down as mass is

References:

1. Easterbrook, S, FELIX, 1988, 795, 6.
2. Bullshot, A L L & Grummond, H J Scientific Discoveries, 1987, 12, 1

Previews

STAGE

On Tuesday March 15th, at or around 7.30pm the world will be taken over by a mad scientist. With any luck, this will happen nightly, until the 18th when the curtain falls for the last time on *The Physicists*, this term's production by the Dramatic Society.

The Physicists has a simple plot like a Bond movie. Three really freaked-out ex-physicists are bidding their time in a lunatic asylum by killing their nurses in order to take over the world. After that, comparisons with Bond movies are a bit stretched. There are a couple of guns, an evil villain and a couple of fights. There is also a particularly blinding love scene and quite a few good gags, but you never find these in Bond films.

As director of the play, the first three have been more than enough trouble for me. Guns are enormously effective stage props; they look evil, actors look evil with one, but only occasionally do they make the evil noise they were intended for. I

remember vividly my experience of a failing stage gun. After two minutes on stage as a Nazi, having trained my gun on the male lead for the whole of this time, I was about to trash him. With an evil smile on my face, I pulled the trigger and the damned thing jammed. Quick as a flash, I hurled myself at the still unsuspecting male lead and began choking him with my left hand, beating his head with the gun butt and shouting obscenities. Later on, applause all round for quick thinking, but the impression left in the audience's mind must have been 'do you think the gun didn't go off? If that guard had intended to beat that prisoner's brains out he really should have come on with a mace.'

No such problems with Phillip Stevens' performance in the Agatha Christie thriller put on by Southgate Amateur Dramatic Society. Phillip, the evil villain, was about to trash some toad, so he pulled the trigger, no bang; Southgate Amateur Dramatic Society—no beginners at the art of standing up in front of a lot of local dignitaries with make-up on and looking and sounding like total

dicks—had a spare gun, which the stage manager had backstage. She pulled the trigger and nothing happened either. Meanwhile, back on stage, things are getting a bit silly. Phillip in a flash of inspiration starts tipping the wink to the other fellow who, after a few words, falls flat on his back. Phillip, with a wry smile, spins to face the audience and says 'poisoned by God!'. That's theatre!

Stage fights can be a trifle hazardous too, especially if there's a bit of needle in the cast. What with the adrenalin of performance, anything can happen and on one occasion it did. Again, it was Southgate Amateur Dramatic Society who were the perpetrators.

This was that stupid scene in one of those Fling Henry's where Falstaff had been given to George Bailey, a retired actor, who ran five hairdressing salons, a couple of boutiques and, as was revealed in the Sunday national papers some weeks later, a small child prostitution ring. The Director who thought a little drunken rough and tumble would liven the scene up, hadn't counted on

George having a grope around the codpieces. Master Snare was played by an earnest rugby-playing bank clerk called Alan who took his masculinity very seriously. George had made a number of not unfavourable comparisons between Alan and L'Escargot, the winner of the 1976 Grand National. George had often tried to satisfy his curiosity in rehearsal, and Alan had always leapt to his feet screaming 'Oi! What's your game?'. The director hoped that there would be no such repetition on the night. There wasn't. Master Snare hit Falstaff so hard his front plate swung into the air as it sailed into the front row and Mistress Quickly had to pour a flagon of mead over him so he could continue the scene. That's theatre!

So come along and see *The Physicists*. There's no guarantee you'll get your wing-wang felt, but you'll have a good laugh, and you never know, if you meet some of the cast before the show, you might be able to appreciate the play's Aristotelean structure, but only if we let you. See you on the night.

Richard Debris.

FOOTBALL

It is the quarter final of the FA Cup this week, the last home advantage round and only two wins to Wembley. I must apologise for an error last week concerning Liverpool's fixtures. This was due to false information from Bryan 'Pompey Biker' Pitts. There are incredibly eight matches in London including five all first division games.

Arsenal vs Nottingham Forest

Highbury (Arsenal tube)

This is the tie of the round involving two of the top five teams with a strong chance of a Wembley victory. Arsenal are already there in the Littlewoods Cup and after last week's 2-1 win over near neighbours Spurs and the exceptional form of Michael Thomas, they must hope for a win. Forest haven't won the Cup for 29 years and Brian Clough has never taken a team along Wembley way in the greatest football competition in the world. Cloughie's men kept up their league challenge with a win at Sheffield Wednesday last week, Neil Webb's goal fueling more speculation of a transfer to Italy. I am going to plump for a draw, probably 1-1.

Wimbledon vs Watford

Plough Lane (Wimbledon Park tube)

The Windies had the three W's, well this game pits together two of the first division's three W's in a Cup clash.

Wimbledon are the only top flight team never to have graced Brent's number one ground. They reached this round last year for the first time after smashing Everton, but a bad performance against Spurs ruined them. A good win, although not exciting, against Luton gave the Dons a grounding for this week, with that man Fashanu notching up number eighteen. Watford sit at the bottom of the first division and should really be concentrating on keeping their top league status instead of flirting with Cup exploits. Wimbledon should make history and roar into the semis and then go one step further.

Leyton Orient vs Colchester

Brisbane Road (Leyton tube)

Orient lost again last week and their promotion hopes seem to be going a burton. They are ten points off the top and must finish well to grab a top three spot. Colchester are mid-table and lost at home to lowly Wrexham on Friday night. Frank Clark must be hopeful of the points here and he shouldn't be disappointed.

Charlton vs West Ham

Selhurst Park (Selhurst BR)

Charlton gained a valuable point at Derby last week but their survival bid seems impossible. They look set to return to the Valley next year, their old ground may give the team a new goal to savour. West Ham have a very talented side but have been hoying some steady crap recently towards

their fans. Injuries have not helped and their desperate search for a striker to partner Cottee is a real sob story saga. A dismal draw against Oxford last week only typified things, Stuart Robson being the only light. I think that the Hammers will get done, for a change....

Chelsea vs Everton

Stamford Bridge (Fulham Bdy tube)

John Hollins' job at the Bridge is most definitely on the line, and without a victory since Halloween, times are more than hard. They were 2-0 up away at Coventry last week but still only came away with a draw. The league champions are twenty points off the top and this must really hurt. They were knocked out of three cups in eight days recently, so their season is certainly over. They scraped a 1-0 win at home to Newcastle last week to keep up a slight challenge. I think Everton will take the points but Chelsea might make them run for it.

Tottenham vs Norwich

White Hart Lane (Seven Sisters tube)

Two mid-table sides play for points not prizes with Norwich being the more eager to win, needing the points to pull away from relegation danger. Spurs lost on TV last week and look OK but a little disjointed, Bobby Mimms in goal having an awful game. The Canaries beat Manchester United last week with Scot recruit Robert Fleck banging home the winner. After a good season last year,

things have gone very wrong since then. Tottenham to grab the trois points.

Millwall vs Crystal Palace

The Den (New Cross tube)

This is a much awaited game of the day in the second division between two promotion hopefuls from the capital. This division is really hotting up with play-off places wide open. These sides are third and fourth, so this is a real six-pointer. Millwall could only manage a draw at Shrewsbury last week whereas Palace picked up maximum points at home, Wright getting one more; that's 21 now. This will be a real ding-dong battle and a prediction is only for the brave. A draw!

Brentford vs Bury

Griffin Park (Brentford Central)

Steve Perryman's Brentford have thrown away any slight promotion hopes they might have had, finalising in a 4-2 defeat at Walsall last week. I remember Bury (the shortest club name in the league) losing 10-0 to West Ham and are now having a mediocre season. They have ex-international Sammy McLlroy and old baldy Noel Brotherstone in their squad. Brentford to pick up at least a point.

My last four for the Cup

Liverpool, Arsenal (just, maybe after a replay or two), Wimbledon and Luton. (Bye, bye Pompey).

KORFBALL

Going to seed

British Student Championships

On February 27 London University Korfball Team (including six players from Imperial) travelled to Sheffield for the British Student Championships. Seeded first, they completed early victories against Bulmarsh College (who?) 8-0, Sheffield University 11-1 and Lancaster University 8-1. UL then faced third favourites Brighton, last year's winners, started well with an early goal and ruffled UL who took their time to find an equaliser. Goals were exchanged quickly and at half-time UL turned around leading 3-2. By the second half UL had regained their rhythm and two well-worked running-in shots produced goals. Brighton rallied again but UL kept control and ran out winners 6-3 in a keenly contested game.

In the semi-finals UL faced Oxford University, and, after a tentative start, UL romped home by 10-2. The game was no preparation for the final, which cannot be said of the other semi-final. By common consensus the game between Brighton and York was the most exciting student game seen for a long time.

After Brighton defeated Oxford for third place, the scene was set for the final everyone was expecting: London versus York. York scored, immediately with a long shot, although London soon equalised. The game then slowed from its initial frantic pace, with Catherine Foster and Jacky Knowles (IC) playing brilliantly in defence to prevent York using their strong girls for goals, and the whole team settling into a more tactical game. UL scored goals through Helen Grainger, top scorer of the tournament, Russell Norton (IC) and Patrick Wright (IC) and turned around at 4-3. At no point in the game was there a difference of more than one goal, and violent defence from all combined with controlled attacking which resulted in a 6-5 lead to UL with three minutes left to play. Conscious of the barracking UL received for time-wasting at an earlier tournament, UL continued to attack defensively. The last three minutes were played at such a pace that no one really noticed the final whistle go. Relief! We'd regained our lost title, but it was just too close!

RIFLE AND PISTOL

Such a card

Wednesday March 2, the date for the Rifle and Pistol Club's match against Reading University. The first part of the match was to be rifle and shot over two cards. After the first card time was running short so the second card wasn't shot and the scores on the first card were doubled. With the best six scores counting this gave a fairly close score out of 1200 of:

Reading	1098
IC	1122

A quick substitution of Mike Lacey for Anne-Marie set us up for the pistol part of the match. This too was shot over two cards, the best six to count. Good performances by Paul Deeks, Ian Draper and Roger Winskill and scores of 9 and 13 out of 100 by Reading giving pistol scores out of 1200 of:

Reading	274
IC	218

A good all round performance by the team of Paul Deeks, Andrew James, Ian Draper, Mike Lacey, Nigel Ford, Roger Winskill, Ann-Marie Bruinsma, James Primrose giving a final score of:

IC	2040
Reading	1370

A little bit upset at being so soundly beaten Reading then challenged us to a rifle match against their 'A' team to be shot at Bisley and Reading. This will be shot next term so look out for the report.

Finally, there are still a few places available for our trip to Bisley on Wednesday March 16. If you are interested (and a member) come down to the range and sign up. If you're interested in learning to shoot we always welcome new members and will be quite happy to teach you the basics so come and join.

HOCKEY

Six of the best

Six-a-side hockey is a game played on a full size pitch but with only six players, it is similar in style to seven-a-side rugby, requiring a high level of fitness and tactical ability, at least that's the theory. IC sent two sides to the ULU sixes tournament (Sunday March 6), a first team and an 'all star' second team. The early games were on a divisional round robin system, 4 divisions made up of the 20 teams taking part. IC all stars drew their first game against St George's Medical School and then went downhill not winning a game.

Meanwhile however IC 1st were doing a little better beating Charing Cross by 3-1 with a couple of good goals from Paul Skipworth and one from the dynamic Hari Vamadevan. Sound defensive play by Guilds ensured a 0-0 draw and 6 very frustrated players. IC went on to win their group winning 3 out of 4 games and 1 draw. There were however a few tense moments, particularly when John Stonham scored in a tight game against St Thomas's II, a good goal scored in injury time and one he'll no doubt keep reminding us of. In the last eight IC palyed RHBNC II who they defeated 2-0 in a game which they always had the upper hand in. Of particular note was an aerial shot from the hard working Justin Brooking which set up a good goal for Paul Skipworth, who also scored possibly

the best goal of the tournament, a flick over his left shoulder and a sweet half volley, into the right hand corner of the goal. The crowd went wild. I was unable to see their semi-final against QMC I, who are IC's main rivals for the ULU League title this year, but it was at this stage that they stepped up a gear, scoring 3 good goals and totally out-classing their opposition. And so to the final against QMC's old boys who included a present IC undergraduate Brendan Farmer.

IC went in front early through a goal from Vamadevan, who had been curiously quiet before and then had several more very good chances to seal it in the first half but failed to find the net. Into the second half it became more a game of attrition with few chances and some very hard tackling from both sides, but the result was never really in doubt. The final whistle went and IC were champions. Sources close to the side decribed their performance as 'masterful' and quotes like 'we're all stars' were audible in the bar afterwards. My juvenile little quips aside, it was a very good victory, something we've not managed recently despite very good sides in the last couple of years. It must in the end go down as a team result although a couple of players, John Stonham and Paul Skipworth, were outstanding and occasionally brilliant.

BASKETBALL

Inadequate

The OSC All Stars have won the first International Week Basketball Tournament after beating Greece 86-55 in the final, while IC Basketball conquered the 3rd place by defeating Cyprus 54-32.

All the games were of unusually good quality for British universities, due to the very professional attitude of all the teams, referees and officials. It is a shame that the College does not have an adequate gym with the minimum required size or, at least, that the necessary equipment is not properly maintained and cleaned.

The full results were as follows:

Monday Feb 29

IC Basket—38 Greece—52

OSC All Stars—86 Cyprus—38

Thursday March 3

Cyprus—32 IC Basket—54

OSC All Stars—86 Greece—55

SAILING

Crew cut

IC vs Eyesores

Last Saturday, IC sailing team raced against Eyesores at the Welsh Harp Reservoir in Wembley. Although IC were sailing well, they were narrowly beaten in the morning races by Eyesore's superior racing. However after a change of helms IC managed to improve their performance. Some stunning sailing by Sam Page, sadly handicapped by her inexperienced crew helped IC to pull ahead of Eyesore's team. Consistent sailing by Jenny Burton then brought IC level with Eyesore, her crew, the captain, proved to be rather argumentative and hindered Jenny's beautiful helming so teams were once again changed.

IC then raced ahead, and thanks to Ape sailing the correct course, finally beat the Eyesores in the last races.

Reviews

FILM

Barfly (cert 18)

Barfly starts with a fight and ends with a fight. Anything could have happened in the middle and the result would have been exactly the same.

Henry Chinaski (Mickey Rourke) is a society drop-out who prefers the low life of seedy downtown LA to the 'unreality' of the outside world. His life revolves around the bottle and he is at his happiest when attempting to beat his enemy, Eddie the bartender, into a pulp. Understandably these fights do not satisfy his artistic needs so in his spare time he writes poetry and short stories.

Enter Wanda (Faye Dunaway) a very cynical drunk who is a bit crazy. Naturally they fall in love, albeit a strange kind of love, thriving as it does on infidelity, violence and abuse (Wanda must be the most bloodthirsty handbag wielder in cinema history).

Barfly is a strange mixture which leaves you puzzled at times. It is not typical of the glossy production audiences are used to these days, reminding one more of a low budget remnant from the early seventies with the music of *Booker T and the MGs* and a yellow tinge to the film. Whereas there was a kind of glamour in Mickey Rourke's sleaziness in *Angel Heart*, here there is none.



Henry is stark and coarse. He is fat and greasy, a modern-day Quasimodo without the social graces. 'Why do you act like a bum?' asks Tully Sorenson, a rich literary editor, 'Because I am a bum,' replies Rourke. The part must have been written for him.

The idea of reconciling this image with that of a sensitive writer is asking too much. Likewise, it is impossible to believe that the attractive, refined Tully Sorenson should fall for his charm, or lack of it. Henry beds her

then and she comes back clamouring for more.

Very little else happens. The performances are good but the film is altogether too low-key for there to be much else to appreciate. Ultimately it disappoints because so little happens and everyone seems quite happy about the fact, especially Henry who celebrates his lack of achievement by picking a fight with Eddie.

Don't waste more than £2 on a Monday night to see this one.

Steve Roberts.

Someone to Watch Over Me

Someone to Watch Over Me is another in a batch of recently released sex-related thrillers such as *Fatal Attraction*, *No Way Out* and *Stakeout*, and it suffers from comparison with the rest of the pack. It hasn't the excitement of *Fatal Attraction*, has none of the intrigue of *No Way Out* and can't match *Stakeout* for humour. Having said this, it is the maturist attempt amongst the bunch, and deals with morality better than *Fatal Attraction* ever pretended to; if not as well as was possible. This makes it more of a pity that it doesn't work, as there has recently been a dearth of well-written adult-oriented films which also manage to entertain as well as occupy the mind (a la *Angel Heart* and *Mona Lisa*).

The story concerns itself with the relationship between a newly promoted cop (Tom Berenger, last seen in *Platoon*) and a witness to a brutal murder (Mimi Rogers) that Berenger is protecting, and how this relationship is threatening Berenger's marriage to his cop-wife (a show-stealing performance by Lorraine Bracco).

The problem is that although the director, Ridley Scott (of *Alien*, *Blade Runner* and *Legend*) knows how to make a film look good, he doesn't develop the relationship between the working-class Berenger and the high-class Rogers with enough conviction. It originally resembles Bob Hoskins and Cathy Tyson's mis-matched love-hate encounter in *Mona Lisa* (especially when it rips-off the 'lower-class man who doesn't know how to look classy getting bought clothes by the rich fashion-conscious women' routine). However it improves as the emotions simmer below the surface, and Berenger's wife can detect the change in him, but it finally collapses to a level barely above soap opera, as a weak script finally manages to bring it down.

The action side is handled more confidently as a villain looking like a psychopathic Victor Mature brings a tension to his scenes, that the rest of the picture sorely lacks. And it is reassuring to see the grimy streets of New York back in the thriller after a period of neglect, but not even they can detract your attention from the fact that the plot aspires to the level of a run-of-the-mill cop-show.

There are treats for the eye (especially when the smoke machines go into overtime for the night scenes) and treats for the ear (i.e. Sting's rendition of the title song during the credits), but I left wishing that they'd been something more for me to watch over.

Noel Curry

STILL SHOWING

Fatal Attraction (cert 18)

If you can cope with the initial tedium of this film while it (very slowly) builds up to the exciting if predictable climax then you'll probably come out feeling that it deserves its six Oscar nominations. I couldn't and didn't, but that puts me in a minority of one. See it for yourself.

Robocop (cert 18)

Possibly the most violent movie due out this year, and no doubt the biggest hype. A shocking version of 'the future of law enforcement', destruction interspersed with black humour, sadness and a series of emotionally disturbing scenes. The only thing our hero can't deal with is the business politics which created him.



No Way Out (cert 15)

A spy thriller, set almost entirely in the Pentagon, with brilliant performances by Kevin Costner and Hine Hackman. The nail-biting finish will have you on the edge of your seat, and the final scene is a real stinger.

Cry Freedom (cert PG)

Attenborough's poignant study of apartheid in South Africa, concentrating on the story of Donald Woods and his friendship with Steven Biko. Everything about this film is

right, its style and execution especially, and though I found it perhaps a touch too long, it is no surprise to see it is still showing in Leicester Square after three months.

White Mischief (cert 18)

A fairly pointless film based quite loosely on a true story of murder amongst the upper-middle classes during their African holiday. Any of you planning a visit to see Greta Scaachi romping nude for an hour—you'll be quite disappointed.

Andrew Clarke

MUSIC

LIVE

Luxuria

Unanswerable Lust

Howard Devoto, ex-*Buzzcocks* and *Magazine* frontman is in partnership with guitarist Noko in his latest venture *Luxuria*.

I'm glad to see he still retains his rare grasp of the English language. These songs are narrated rather than sung in a whining drawl. Side A contributes nothing being too grandiose and pompous.

Side B contains all that is worth listening to. 'Celebrity' is the most outstanding with its flashing guitar. Mlle however is a bit over the top lyrically—quoting Marcel Proust!

Luxuria are playing the Town and Country Club on March 13, which is definitely worth going to.

(Beggars Banquet)

Silos

Cuba

The *Silos* it would appear from the sleeve, (which also depicts a nude man playing guitar on the reverse) hail from the USA. I'm afraid to say that the sleeve is the most exciting part of this album. Drawing American vocals combine with simple guitar riffs and a monotonous drum beat to produce an almost wimpish sound. Bands like this have British equivalents in Indie acts of *The Chesterfields* ilk.

The title 'Cuba' may lend your record collection a bit of credibility though.

(Ediesta)

The Lilac Time

Well this is typical Indie pop, light and frothy, but unusually the vocals are very strong making this rather good. Their style reminds me of *Deacon Blue* charting at present with 'Dignity', I'm sure the singer is Steven Duffy, responsible for the hit 'Kiss Me' a few years ago.

The best track is 'Return to Yesterday' which is infuriatingly catchy and was I think available on a single. 'Rockland' is a bit of social political criticism, but delivered up in this style will anyone notice? I doubt it.

(Swordfish)

Pink Peg Slax

12 Songs Never Recorded by Frank Sinatra

Similar to a number of bands, *The Chevalier Brothers* and *The Jivin' Instructors* spring to mind, this is pure Rock 'n' Roll. If your taste is for honky-tonk piano, R 'n' R guitar and a thumping double-bass this will go down very well.

A band worth going to see because of the atmosphere at a gig which can't be captured on vinyl.

(Ediesta)

Woodenfoot Cops on the Highway—The Woodentops

If you have ever seen the *Woodentops* live you'll know the energy that Rolo and his chums can generate. Energy that was not really captured on their first slab of vinyl 'Giant'. This time however the boys have come good.

'Woodenfoot Cops....' is proof that dance music can be tuneful and doesn't have to be cribbed (ie sampled) from James Brown. But that's not to say that its dated at all, Rolo is definitely moving with the times—this man's no stick-in-the-mud.

The surprise track of the album is 'Wheels Turning' which has a wailing heavy-metal guitar over that *Woodentops*' acoustic strum. The highlight for me though is the single 'You Make Me Feel'. A juicy pedal steel guitar and beautiful lyrics combine to produce a truly heavenly song.

Oh yes, last week's review of *Cleveland* contained a comparison to McCarney (who's he?). Thankfully they sound nothing at all like the aforementioned; it should have read McCarthy, the jangle-popsters from South London. But then you all knew that, didn't you?

Brad Blundell

The Fall

HMV Oxford Circus

This appearance was rather unusual for *The Fall* who aren't associated with commercialism. The store was full of people packed in between the racks of Bruce Springsteen CDs. They played six tracks five from the 'Frenz Experiment' (Beggars Banquet) and one I'd not heard before. After a little trouble with the microphones the full blast of Mark E Smith's vocals were released, these overlay the repetitive guitar riffs to create a hypnotic effect. Hecklers shouting out for their favourite songs were put down with the reply 'never heard of that one'.

I'm not sure everyone appreciated the humour of some of the songs, the start of 'Carry Bag Man' being hysterically funny but provoking little reaction.

If you missed this go and see them at Hammersmith Odeon on March 18, even if it is only for the experience.

F.A.B.

VIDEO

The Living Daylights

Timothy Dalton's first attempt surpasses all previous Bond movies by a long chalk. Action, adventure, an Aston Martin and Marian d'Abo. What more could you ask for? A clever plot to keep you guessing right to the end. That's in there somewhere too.

The Secret of My Success

A simple story of everyday folk. Country boy meets city girl, they fall in love, and in the intervening moments they take over a multinational company. It could happen to you or me. Packed with humour, and very enjoyable, yet shallow in comparison to Michael J Fox's two major successes, *Back to the Future* and the Pepsi commercial.



Platoon

Oliver Stone's Oscar-winning story of one young boy's experiences in Vietnam. Possibly the best attempt since *The Deer Hunter* and certainly not just another war film. Touches of humour and some stunning camerawork make this a must.

Raw Deal

There are no cyborgs, alien hunters or cavemen in this film. There's no acting either. Schwarzenegger attacks the film with his 'let's just have some fun because I can't act' attitude, reminiscent of *Commando*. He also attacks most other things in sight.

The Fly

Jeff Goldblum, co-starring with an anonymous insect, in a remake of the sixties horror movie of the same name. The humour comes almost as thick and fast as the gore, in typical Cronenberg style. Don't be fooled—this is a love story, and your heart will flutter when your stomach isn't churning.

Andrew Clarke

Diary

What's On

FRIDAY

Rag Meeting12.35pm.
Every second Friday. Union Lounge.
All Welcome.

**Conservative
Soc Meeting12.30pm.**
ME 569.

**Circuit
Training12.30pm.**
Union Gym with Cross Country and
Athletics Club. Everyone welcome.
Free.

Orienteering12.30pm.
Brown/Green Committee Room (top
floor of Union Building).
Arrangements for following Sunday's
event.

Debating Society1.00pm.
Level 2, Physics Common Room.

Islamic Prayer1.00pm.
The Union Building. See Islamic
Society.

**Christian Union
Meeting6.00pm.**
OHC 308 Computing. 'Who needs the
family?'

Into the Night7.00pm.
STOIC. Films, videos, chat,
'Countdown'. On all the televisions in
the Halls of Residence.

ICSF Video7.00pm.
Union SCR. ICSF present 'Dark Star'.
30p to members.

**Guilds Motor
Club7.00pm.**
Kart Garage. Scrutineering for
tonight's rally.



Tang Soodo4.00pm.
Union Gym. Beginners welcome. £1
members.

Folk Club Singaround7.00pm.
Union SCR. Open to musicians,
singers and enthusiasts. Free.

**The Saturday
Rock Show8.00pm.**
IC Radio (999 kHz). Hard rock music
presented by Kamal Kaushal.

SUNDAY

**Wargames
Meeting1.00pm.**
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Guilds Motor Cluball day
Cadwell Park, Lincolnshire. Circuit
trip—see Jon Stout today if you are
interested.

ICCAG AGM12.30pm.
Rag Office. Please come along and
vote.

**Rock Soc
Meeting12.30pm.**
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in
any form of rock? Come along!



ICSO Concert8.00pm.
Great Hall. 'The Nutcracker Suite'
plus works by Brahms and Holst.
Tickets £2.50, £1.50 (students), £1
(advance).

SATURDAY

Tennis Club Coaching10.00am.
Imperial College Tennis Courts.
£1.50.

**Shotokan
Karate10.00am.**
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome.
£1.

Curry Soc12.30pm.
Weekly meeting. Southside Upper
Lounge.



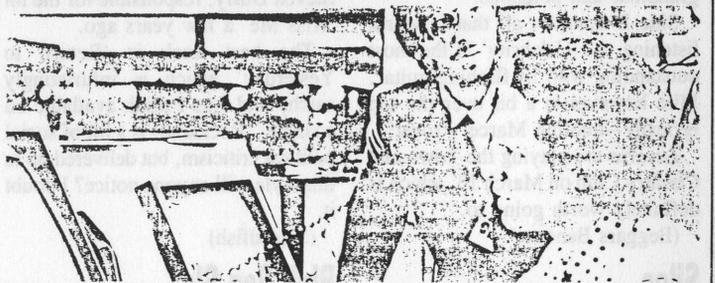
**Parachute Club
Meeting12.30pm.**
Union Lower Lounge. See Max Hunt
von Herbing (Chairman).

IC CathSoc Mass12.30pm.
Chemistry 231. Quiet and
contemplation between lectures or
exams. Food provided (50p). All
welcome.

Boardsailing12.30pm.
Regular meeting in Southside Lounge
to organise trips.

Ski Club12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar, sign up for
lessons and recreational skiing.

Lunch Hour Debate1.00pm.
Mech Eng 220. 'This house believes
Britain needs South Africa' proposed
by Mr Jan Castelyn from the South
African Embassy.



Artsoc Meeting12.30pm.
SCR Union. Come to sign up and pay
your money for tickets for forth-
coming events, eat biscuits and drink
coffee. Free to members (membership
£1.50).

**Recitation of
Holy Qur'an1.00pm.**
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic
Society.

Golf Practice5.30pm.
Union Gym. See Golf Club.

**Intermediate
Ballroom7.00pm.**
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

**Shotokan
Karate7.00pm.**
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome.
£1.

**Beginners
Ballroom8.00pm.**
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Tang Soo Do9.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome.
£1.00 members.

TUESDAY

Guinness & Gossip12.30pm.
Sailing Club meeting above Stan's.

QT Soc Meeting1.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge (or Pizza
Bar). Plot-hatching extravaganza!
New members welcome.

Amnesty Meeting1.30pm.
Elec Eng Foyer. No boring gits
allowed. FREE. See Guy Simms
(Maths 2) or Monique Yeo.

**Holy Qur'an
Recitation1.30pm.**
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Islamic Circle5.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Wine Tasting6.00pm.
Union SCR. A tasting of white and
red wines from the Bourgogne.
£2.50.

Canoe Club6.30pm.
Meet in Beit Quad for training session
in swimming pool.

Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Sorry—no more
beginners.

Rocky Horror7.00pm.
ME220. See article on club's page for
full details.

**Caving Club
Meeting7.00pm.**
Southside Upper Lounge.

**Advanced
Ballroom7.00pm.**
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club

'The Physicists'7.30pm.
An Imperial College Drama Society
production. See article for details. £2.

IC Radio8.00pm.
Psychedelic & Indie Show.

**Improvers
Ballroom8.00pm.**
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

**Canoe Club
Meeting8.30pm.**

Diary

Above Southside Bar.

Dai Rocking9.00pm.
IC Radio (99.9kHz). The best in hard rock and not-so-hard rock music including the featured album every week with Dave Williams.

WEDNESDAY

Sailing12.30pm.
Meet outside Southside.

S.L.A.G.S. Meeting12.30pm.
Society for Lesbian and Gay Students meets in the Green Committee Room (top floor Union Building). Come along for a chat if you don't mind people thinking you're going to a Wargames Society meeting!

Ski Club12.30pm.
Above Southside Bar. Meet for trip to dry ski slope for lessons and recreational skiing. Bring gloves and thick socks.

Golf Meeting1.00pm.
Sudbury. Regular weekly meeting.

Caving Club Meeting1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

Beginners Rock n Roll2.15pm.
Union Dining Hall. 80p. See Dance Club.

Shotokan Karate3.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Offbeat Practice3.15pm.
Union Dining Hall. 80p. See Dance Club.

ULU Meditation Group7.00pm.
Room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street. Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

'The Physicists'7.30pm.
An Imperial College Drama Society production. See article in FELIX for details. £2.



THURSDAY

Amnesty Letter Stall1.00pm.
JCR. The best thing to happen to the JCR since the Big Bang. FREE

(donations welcome). See Guy Simms (Maths 2) or Monique Yeo.

Newsbreak1.00pm.
STOIC. IC's own news programme.

SFSOC Library Meeting1.00pm.
Green Committee Room, Union Building. Borrow books from our vast library, help plan future events. Members only.

Lunch Hour Concert1.30pm.
The Music Room, 53 Princes Gate. Margaret Fingerhut (piano).

Arabic Classes1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Gliding Club Meeting5.30pm.
Aero 254. Arrange trial flights, lifts to Lasham, talks and then to the bar.



Newsbreak6.00pm.
STOIC.

Film7.00pm.
Mech Eng 220. Eddie Murphy and Brigitte Nielsen in 'Beverly Hills Cop 2'. A foot-tapping, lip-smacking, finger-licking, mind-blowing, crazy film. 50p members, £1 non-members. See IC Filmsoc.

'The Physicists'7.30pm.
An Imperial College Drama Society production. See article in FELIX for details. £2.

ULU Lesbian Gay Group7.30pm.
ULU Building, Malet Street (Russell Sq. tube). For speakers and booze and if you're feeling adventurous a trip out to nightclub or pub afterwards.

ICCAG Soup Run9.15pm.
Weeks Basement Hall. Contact Liz Warren (Chem Eng 2).

FRIDAY

Orienteering12.30pm.
Brown/Green Committee Room (top floor of Union Building). Arrangements for following Sunday's event.

Islamic Prayer1.00pm.
The Union Building. See Islamic Society.

Into the Night7.00pm.
STOIC. Films, videos, chat, 'Countdown'. On all the televisions in the Halls of Residence.

SATURDAY

Shotokan Karate10.00am.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Tang Soodo4.00pm.
Union Gym. Beginners welcome. £1 members.

SUNDAY

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Rock Soc Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of rock? Come along!

Curry Soc12.30pm.
Weekly meeting. Southside Upper Lounge.

Artsoc Meeting12.30pm.
SCR Union. Come to sign up and pay your money for tickets for forthcoming events, eat biscuits and drink coffee. Free to members (membership £1.50).

Beginners Ballroom8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Tang Soo Do9.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.00 members.

TUESDAY

Christian Union8.15am.
Chemistry 231. See Steve Clark, Christian Union.

Guinness & Gossip12.30pm.
Sailing Club meeting above Stan's.

IC CathSoc Mass12.30pm.
Chemistry 231. Quiet and contemplation between lectures or exams. Food provided (50p). All welcome.

Boardsailing12.30pm.
Regular meeting in Southside Lounge to organise trips.

Ski Club12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar, sign up for lessons and recreational skiing.

QT Soc Meeting1.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge (or Pizza Bar). Plot-hatching extravaganza! New members welcome.

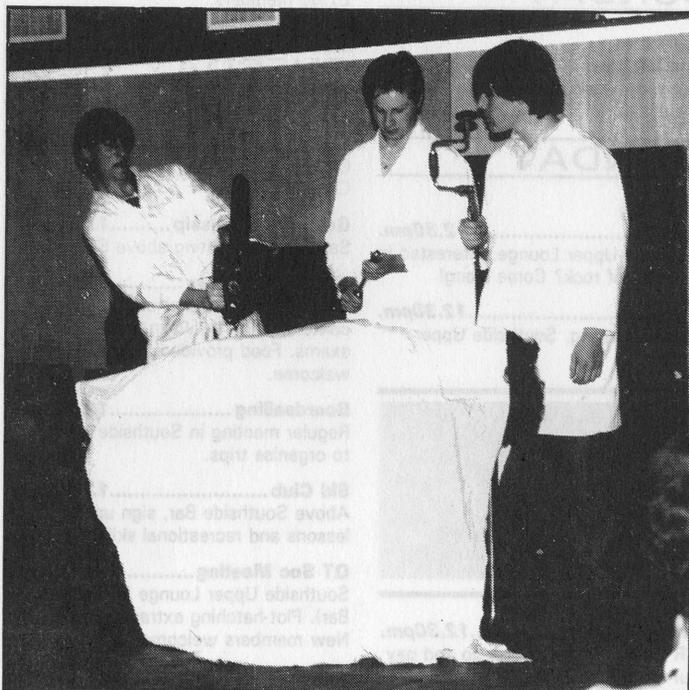
Amnesty Meeting1.30pm.
Elec Eng Foyer. No boring gits allowed. FREE. See Guy Simms (Maths 2) or Monique Yeo.

THE PHYSICISTS
A Black Comedy by Friedrich Durrenmatt
I.C. Union Concert Hall
Prince Consort Road SW7.
March 15-16-17-18
Tickets £2.00 Time 7-30



ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

The Elec Eng Revue



Questions: Which London show last week attracted more ticket touts than Les Miserables and Phantom put together? Was it really true that some Elec Eng Revue tickets were changing hands at three or four times their face value in spite of the efforts of Beit security to break up the racketeering?

Well, that was as maybe—the fact was that the Electrical Engineering Department's Revue of 1988 was the sort of occasion at which Fergie herself would have wanted to be seen. The anonymous undergraduates who were willing to pay the exorbitant ticket prices for this charity bash were provided with food, drink, top class variety and the chance to mingle with anybody who is (was) anybody within City & Guilds.

Dean, Head of Department and academics sat helpless as shaft after shaft of wit were played out at their expense. After this irresponsible outburst by members of staff and student sketches were no more complementary. Culture was mercifully injected into the rowdy proceedings by the talented staff string quartet who added chamber music to an evening of chamber-pot humour. Even Duncan 'stand up' Royle in his contribution stooped to telling jokes about bewildered toads and ejaculations.

A great time was had by all and many thanks must go to all the people who helped set up and tidy up and to the student and staff performers who were pathetically brilliant.

DANCE CLUB

The result of the Dance Club's efforts so far this term have been somewhat varied due to the rather 'unpredictable' judging experienced at the South Universities Ball.

Having said that, it has been an exceptional year in terms of the number of people competing for the Club.

This upsurge in interest resulted in the need for three teams, each having four couples, many of them newcomers this year, and puts the Club in a strong position for the coming year.

The National Students' Rock 'n' Roll Competition was held at Imperial this year and proved to be a very successful event. Defending national champions Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst (Imperial College) were 'dethroned' by Steve Mercer and Nicky Stanmore, also from Imperial College, who after hours of dedicated practice, gave a very convincing and in some places breathtaking performance to take first place, with Neil and Dinah coming second.

A few weeks later a full team travelled up to Hull to take part in a warm-up competition before the Southern Universities Ball.

The evening belonged to Steve Mercer and Nicky Stanmore who were placed first in both the Jive and Rock 'n' Roll competitions. Newcomers to the Club Jason Woo and Lily Saw came third in both the Cha-Cha-Cha and Rock 'n' Roll events but, unfortunately for the Club, were unavailable on the night of the Southern Ball.

An inspired performance by the members of the B team who went into the competition one couple short, secured them the B team trophy for which many thanks must go to Richard Seymour who provided a

calming influence over his partner's emotional performance both on and off the floor.

The stage was now set for the Southern Universities Competition being held at Cardiff. The final results did not match those anticipated but a high proportion of our couples made it through the semi-finals.

Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst had their revenge for the previous week's results and danced to first place in the Jive with David Barker and Alice Jacques giving an inspired performance to get a third placing. In the Cha-Cha-Cha Thomas Puetz and Joanne Wade, a new partnership this year, came fourth and also won the Newcomers Trophy for this event though Joanne's artificial fan gave the impression that she was entering the final stages of some tropical disease.

Special mention must go to Hugh Hamilton and his partner Shuko Noguch who beat both A and B team couples into the semi-finals and also won the Newcomers Trophy for the Waltz.



The evening ended very well for Imperial when they successfully defended their Off-Beat title with a thigh-slapping country and western style performance to that Doris Day classic 'Whip-Crack-Away'.

Thoughts now turn to the Inter Varsity Ball being held at Liverpool on March 12 and whether or not the Off-Beat team can repeat their winning performance and retain the title for the second year running.

This report would be incomplete without thanking Max Kallios and Sartaz Ahmed who, with literally a couple of hours tuition, completed the C team Cha-Cha-Cha and managed to get through to the second heat—could this be the beginning of an invincible partnership for next year and the start of Max's infatuation with tight black cat-suit bottoms?

FILMSOC

He's back!

Eddie Murphy is back as Axel Foley. Quick to answer the call of his old Beverly Hills buddies, Rosewood and Taggart, he's up against Brigitte Nielsen, illegal arms dealers and a series of robberies known as 'The Alphabet Crimes'. With music by Bob Seger, Harold Faltermeyer and many more, and shot at Playboy Mansion West it's sure to be action packed, so see you in Mech Eng 220 at 7pm on Thursday March 17. Only £1 non-members, 50p members, membership available.

AXEL FOLEY IS BACK.
BACK WHERE HE DOESN'T BELONG.

EDDIE MURPHY
BEVERLY HILLS

Cop II 15

THE HEAT'S BACK ON!



CHOIR

Choir tackles Verdi despite Bulow's condemnation



When Verdi presented his Requiem in Vienna in 1874, the German composer Hans von Bulow condemned the work to such an extent that Brahms was moved to study it 'Bulow', he proclaimed, 'has made an ass of himself; Verdi's Requiem is a work of genius.'

Verdi was prompted to write the work by the death of a friend the novelist Manzoni in 1873. The work is highly theatrical. The dramatic music alienated many to whom a Requiem should be an affair of sombre sadness and austerity. Most listeners respond to its vibrant grandeur, drama and sincerity. The work contains huge variations in colour and mood, and is highly demanding for both the choir and

orchestra. The hushed mystical tranquility of the opening contrasts with later whirls of sound, torrents of brass and booms from the bass drum evocative of the horrors of the final Day of Judgement.

Verdi initially performed the work in Milan with a choir of 120, but a choir of 12,000 sang when he reached the Albert Hall on tour in 1875. The Requiem is shortly to return to South Kensington in the proportions of the original performance IC Choir with a full orchestra will be bringing the work to you in the Great Hall on Friday March 18 at 8pm, so you can judge it for yourselves. Tickets are available from the Haldane Library, from Choir members or on the door. It'll certainly be a lively evening!

CHINESE CHESS

Fame and fortune?

Do you want to run the most prestigious society in the whole of College? Do you want to become a famous personality around College and have your name etched prominently into the history of this institution?

If so, you won't be interested to know that Chinese Chess Society requires five people to run it next year and the posts of chair, vice-chair, treasurer, secretary and publicity officer are up for grabs at the general meeting on March 22 at 1pm in Elec Eng 403b. Persons wishing to stand for these posts should forward their name, and the names of a proposer and two seconders to Chris Eardley via Elec Eng pigeonholes asap.

AMNESTY

Letter writing

On Thursday March 17, the IC Amnesty Group will be holding a sponsored Write-a-thon in the JCR, from 9.30am to 5.30pm. We will be writing letters for prisoners of conscience (people detained anywhere for their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion, provided they have neither used nor advocated violence) from all over the world

(more than 25 countries at present), from left-wing, right-wing and non-aligned countries as Amnesty is totally apolitical. Please come along and give us your support by sponsoring us and/or by signing a letter, petitions and postcards!

If you would like to take part in the Write-a-thon (not necessarily for all of the 8 hours) please contact Guy Sims, Maths 2 for sponsorship forms.

FOLK SOC

Sing-a-longa SCR

ICU Folk Club has been resurrected from the death it died in 1981, but is still dependent on enthusiasm from continued survival. If you're into any sort of folk music, then this is the club for you. Our aim is to promote the playing and enjoyment (and singing) of folk music amongst students.

So far this year, members of Folk Club have performed at the Holland Club and also during Rag Week in SCAB Nite and the RCS smoking concert.

We meet every Tuesday lunchtime at 1pm in Huxley 140—far from the madding crowd so no one can hear us. Anyone who plays anything is welcome.

This weekend, on Saturday March 12, we are having a 'singaround' in the Union SCR (the room above Norman's) from 7pm-11pm. If you play bring your instrument, if you sing bring your voice and if you don't do either then bring your enthusiasm.

SCI FI SOC

Horror rocks ICSF

Rocky Horror Picture Show
Tues March 15, 7pm, ME220

No need for any introduction to this film! Every year ICSF have shown the full and glorious Rocky Horror with rampant audience participation, and this year we combine with RCS Ents to present the absolutely full thing, Rocky Horror with audience participation (details available), reductions for suitable costume and a party afterwards in the Union

Lounge for those of such inclinations!

All included in the ridiculously low ticket price of £1 ICSF/RCS members (bring ID), £1.50 rest of the world, add 25p each if not in costume.

Also, tonight ICSF are showing—by incredible popular demand—Dark Star (on video) in the SCR at 7pm, entry 30p to members. If you've never seen this film, catch it now at this bargain price.



Letters

Wasted energy

Dear Sir,

I am writing to complain about the large waste of energy in the Lyon Playfair Library. As a Life Scientist, I work on the fourth floor of the library under increasingly difficult conditions. The major problem is the air turbulence caused by the electric ceiling fans. These cause papers and books to be blown about and make working within five metres of them impossible. The reason why the fans are employed, and indeed why windows are left wide open, is not because of the large mass of bodies within a small space, but because the central heating radiators are too hot to touch.

Thus, large amounts of energy are being wasted daily by the College in a pointless manner. Surely this could be avoided by the use of simple thermostats set at a reasonable temperature.

I cannot speak for other floors in the library, but on the fourth floor, large areas of working desks cannot be used because of the fans, rain blowing in through open windows or the intense heat from radiators. Therefore, cramping of many people into small areas of desks occurs, particularly on Wednesday afternoons, while other areas are completely unpopulated due to the adverse weather conditions! The problem is compounded by undereducated librarians who do not know how to control the fans. When asked politely if the fans could be turned off, a librarian replied, 'they cannot be turned off, they can only be turned down. And I don't know how to do it!' Does this mean that the fans will be left on until Armageddon!

This is a very real problem and I know that a lot of people feel strongly about this—not only the poor working conditions, but also the energy wastage.

Something must be done about it!

Yours sincerely,

Julian R Henson, *Life Sci II*.

Answering the opinion

Dear Judith,

The author of last week's opinion article makes a horrific and perverted travesty of history by attempting to link the Nazi policy of systematic killing of the Jews which resulted in six million murdered, and the conditions of the refugees in Gaza, Judea and Samaria.

It is indeed true to say conditions in the camps are poor. When Israel entered these areas in 1967 the inhabitants were found, after 19 years of Arab rule, to be living in the same abject squalor and misery as had existed in 1949. Today the camps are administered by the UN whose budget has been cut in recent years as the Arab countries have refused to pay the sums requested of them. One day's oil revenues of Saudi Arabia could solve the whole problem.

Notwithstanding this, Israel has engaged in a consistent effort to improve the living conditions. Since 1970 every refugee who wishes to leave the camp is given a plot of land, chooses his own type of dwelling and construction plan and becomes the full property owner once the building is completed, his property being registered in the Land Register. The new neighbourhoods are built on State land

with water, sanitation, electricity, roads, Mosques, schools—proper housing and infrastructure. To date the scheme has enabled 80,000 refugees to leave the camps.

A little known UN Resolution has been adopted annually since 1971, stating inter alia that 'Israel desist from the removal and resettlement of Palestine refugees'. This year only Israel and USA voted against the resolution. Is it not ironic that those who preach about the need to overcome the plight in the camps have repeatedly lent a hand to UN resolutions which would, if implemented, perpetuate the problem?

Mr Akhtar asks 'What was preventing (Israel) from solving the problems in the last thirty years?'. He conveniently forgets that Israel offered Gaza back to Egypt as part of a negotiated deal after the Six-Day War. The Arab response was the three noes of Kartoum—no talks with Israel, no recognition of Israel, no peace with Israel. Furthermore, under the Camp David framework signed on 17 September 1978 the Arabs of the administered areas would live a transitional period of five years under the autonomous administrative council. The accords include an invitation to Palestinians and Jordanians to enter into direct negotiations aimed at securing peace. Sadly the offer was not accepted.

The PLO has eliminated itself as a negotiating partner not least because of some 8,000 acts of terror, mostly against Israeli civilian targets, causing the deaths of over 650 Israelis and the wounding of thousands more. Its charter states its aims—'the Arab Palestinian people...reject all substitutes for the total liberation of Palestine'. 'Armed struggle is...the overall strategy, not merely a tactical phase'. Today the PLO has not altered its goal one iota. It continues to deny Israel's right to exist. Its ambiguous rhetoric thinly disguises its glee whenever its killers murder Jews—whether they be a crippled pensioner on a cruise, a defenceless middle-aged woman in Larnaca or a baby in Nahariya.

In describing the recent unrest in the administered areas Mr Akhtar does not publicise the murder by Arafat's 'Force 17' of an Israeli salesman, Shlomo Sakal. The car accident referred to, happened two days later—the accident was unintentional and the Israeli driver concerned will stand trial. Israel is not a totalitarian regime based on the rule of gun but a democracy based on the rule of law. When its security forces are faced by violent mobs, hurling fire-bombs, rocks and knives, then self-restraint gives way at times to self-preservation. But that too is subject to the rule of law. The Israeli soldiers involved in the burial of the Palestinians are being court-martialled. Distressing cases of brutality by Israeli soldiers are breaches of and represent the antithesis of government policy.

I condemn any and all excessive force. In contrast Mr Akhtar condones Palestinian violence. Morality which is selective is not morality at all. Where indeed are the protests at the sieges and massacres of refugees in the camps of Beirut and those of Yarmuk, Heleb and Darah in Syria? Suffering in Beirut does not of course justify hardship in Gaza—but those who omit to mention the former reveal anti-Israeli not humanitarian motives.

Surely history records few people so consistently misled by their leadership as the Palestinian Arabs. From the Grand Mufti of the 30s and 40s to Yasser Arafat of today, rejectionism and maximalism have gone hand in hand with threats, intimidation and assassination of Palestinian Arabs who espouse policies of negotiation and compromise. The one-sided criticism of Israel by Mr Akhtar just fuels the obstruction of those who preach violence. Only by making these elements impotent might the voice of Palestinian Arab moderation be heard. When that happens the peace process will begin in earnest.

Yours sincerely,

Neville Nelkon, *DoC 2*.

Small Ads

PERSONAL

- **Vote** for me! Oops, too late.
- **Join the SPARO's** NHI Beit.
- **Cath** thinks working in Soho is more profitable than singing on the tube.
- **Diana**—you've stained my feet with Guinness
- **Did** they learn you to walk before coming to UNI, Sarah?
- **Helen R**, will you shave my pubic hair off please? K E (I admire you from a distance).
- **Want** your underwear frozen? See Fiona and Edith.
- **Fiona & Edith**, can we have the whips back sometime?
- **Yishu**, Yishu, How my heart bleeds for you, your poem has given me much inspiration, I now only desire for our unification, Yishu my darling, the time will come, I really fancy your sweet little bum—Sam.
- **There** once was a sailor who'd blush, whenever a girl had a crush. Poor boy'd be last, to run up his mast, just to avoid the great rush.
- **ICSO** play the Nutcracker Suite tonight—but who's the Sugar Plum Fairy?
- **Get** totally Brahmsed tonight with ICSO.
- **Does** Simon use a different coloured condom on his thumb. 34 Mad Gardeners.
- **The 4.20** from Evelyn Gardens is now arriving at 'Room' 22. 34 MG.
- **Remember** Room 'XX' is a 'Heart to Heart' bonk-free zone. 34 MG.
- **Mark and Matt** celebrated the 322nd anniversary of the Great Fire of London on Wednesday Feb 24. 34 MG.
- **Notice** to our bored housewife: We apologise for the disrupted milk service over the last two weeks and hope to restore the service asap—The Dairy (!).
- **Thank you** Clive and piss off.
- **Thursday** lunchtimes boring? Stuck to know what to do with those two hours? No? Well come to see the totally fab IC Amnesty letter stall anyway, JCR, 1pm.
- **Torture** get up your nose? Dictators get on your four asterisks? If you can't face someone nicking your supply of Australian lager then come and help Amnesty protect innocent people from far worse—1pm Tues, Elec Eng Foyer.
- **Get** awake, get a brain, get a life, get a ticket for the 'Physicists'. March 15-18, Union Concert Hall.
- **Will** you survive...
- ...The Physicists' the most explosive play in the history of IC.
- **Will** all DoC 2 students please stop reading this and pay attention to the man at the front of the lecture theatre—RB.

● **Probably** some of the best wines in the world...guaranteed to reach the parts that Claret does not.

● **Seeing** as you only read this bit, may I direct your attention to the notice about Physics sweatshirts in the Announcements section.

● **We** the accused, wish to express our concern that the Mad Gardener seems unwilling to address himself to the burning issues of today.

● **Matt** Stratton is innocent.

● **The** Mad Gardener is a weed. Root him out.

● **F MW** says 'Oh no it's not!'.

● **Vote** for Sartaz, Hassle Soc. Publicity Officer elections.

● **Sartaz** Promotions Agency. Hassle ads special this week. Sartaz, Physics 2. 'It works'—Amin El-Kholy.

● **Cath**, he still wants to know. Do you do it like the other girls from the valleys—like a bunny?

● **Don't** step on my blue plastic shoes.

● **Hairee**, a good weekend—hic. Look forward to the next (when you recover).

● **Welcome** to England, Carrie. Be my belated (by three years) valentine (for a day at least).

● **Hope** you had a happy birthday, Louise. Can you remember it? But don't go, we all need you. From the four four party (and what a party!).

● **The Penthouse** Club require beautiful women for research into new ways of being nice to people. Also perhaps a few physiotherapists or gymnasts as controls.

● **Haggis-Hunting** Soc is holding a familiarisation session for F-14 bimbos at the Hampshire Hog. A subsidiary of the Penthouse Club.

● **We** made the Baron at last!

● **Now** the elections are over, can we mention Dave Williams? The Penthouse Club.

● **Will** the next FELIX Editor respect our traditions? The Penthouse Club.

● **Jan(et)** and John: Book 2. Jan runs the house. John helps her. Jan drinks the wine. John drinks the wine. We all drink wine. Jan likes John. John likes Jan. And I'm afraid that's as far as it goes.

● **Anyone** for tennis? Imperial Tennis Club coaching. Contact J Van Vlymen, Mat Sci 2.

● **W + M, M + W? W + S, S + W? S + M—No!**

WANTED

● **A person** to translate a Geological Spanish paper into English. Fee negotiable. Box No. 640.

FOR SALE

● **Mini Clubman**, S Reg, black, sunroof, radio, lots of recent work (with bills), runs well, MOT November, Tax to end April. £700 ono. Special offer for members of IC: £100 off!! Phone Howard on int 4528.

Pecker up?

Dear Judith,

With reference to Martin Peck's election proposal which appeared in FELIX dated March 4th, we should like to raise the following points:

1. Mr Peck has never been elected to a position on the Rocksoc committee.

2. Mr Peck has consistently failed to support Rocksoc events.

3. Mr Peck has not attended a single Rocksoc meeting this term.

We would therefore like to object in the strongest possible terms to Mr Peck's use of our society to further his political ambitions.

*Love, light and peace,
The Rocksoc Committee.*

PS. We shall shortly be reading omens from Mr Peck's entrails.

Savage challenge

Dear Judith,

Imagine our surprise when we read in last week's FELIX that the Penthouse Club go sharking every Friday night.

We of the Gauntlet Club also don our fins every weekend and hereby challenge The Penthouse Club to a 'Jaws Evening' on the Friday night of their choosing. Police Chief Brody will be informed.

A word of caution: One person in Southside last week got severely savaged by a black fin and lost all feeling from the neck down. Luckily, he saw the funny side of it.

*Cheers,
The Gauntlet Club.*

Sinister CU

Dear FELIX,

I am glad that questions are being asked about the 'Christian Union' (FELIX 796). What annoys me most about this movement is its name, presumably adopted in order to trick us into believing it represents all Christians.

The orthodox Christian view is that Christ founded a movement and left his spirit working in that movement. That movement which became known as the Catholic (meaning 'universal') Church, later collected together various writings which were circulating to form the Bible. So the Bible is the product of Christianity, not vice versa as the CU claim.

Taken outside the context of the Catholic church (which I take to include not only the Roman Catholic church, but also the Orthodox churches, and others which maintain the history, traditions and teachings handed down to us from the first Christians and developed by centuries of prayer and contemplation) the Bible is an obscure jumble. If one accepts the Bible as the sole source of authority (as every member of the CU must) one is no more a Christian than one would be a true follower of any other religion if one picked up its sacred books and developed one's own religion based on them. Indeed, what justification do the CU have for rejecting the Gnostic gospels and other works that were not included in the Bible, if they reject the Church that compiled it?

In fact the CU take a peculiarly selective view of the Bible. That view started when people like Martin Luther criticised the Church for appearing to sell salvation for cash, using flashy imagery, and over-focussing services on the individuals leading them. It is hard to believe that people like Swaggart, Baker, Robertson, and the other American TV evangelists, of which the CU are the British wing, trace their origins to Luther's protests (hence 'Protestant').

The most important Protestant belief is 'justification of faith alone'. This means rejecting the whole of Christ's radical social teaching on helping the poor and so on, as useless (strangely they do not seem to hold the same view on sexual matters). That is why their declaration is so important to the CU. If you do not accept it, no matter how good your life, you are doomed. To them, Mother Theresa of Calcutta will go to Hell. It is no wonder that right-wing politicians the world over have taken up this religion with enthusiasm.

Having seen the CU in action at three different universities, I am convinced they are a sinister force which ought no longer to be tolerated by other Christians whose name they abuse.

*Yours sincerely,
Matthew Huntbach (Dept of Computing).*

Money takers?

Dear Judith,

My attention was recently drawn to the front page of last week's FELIX and the story entitled 'Moonie-rakers'. On reading the story, which purported to be informing IC students about CARP, I could not but feel a tinge of déjà vu.

On checking my archives, I discovered why. Almost all the 'factual' material about CARP was lifted straight out of a two-year old copy of FELIX; this despite most of the material in that copy having been challenged as inaccurate or misleading, in a letter from the then UK-CARP Director, printed two weeks later.

Therefore, for the sake of those who were not privileged to be readers of FELIX at that time, I'd like to raise a number of points again.

1. CARP and the Unification Church.

CARP is a movement for students who are concerned about resolving the problems of society and the world. For this reason, meetings and seminars are organised on diverse issues. Attendance and/or membership is not restricted to members of the Unification Church. Furthermore, Reverend Moon is clearly identified as the founder of CARP in two introductory leaflets (copies enclosed with this letter) distributed on campus by CARP members.

2. The 'Brainwashing' Myth

The charge that the Moonies practice brainwashing techniques has been fully discredited by recent sociological and psychological studies (see especially 'The Making of a Moonie' by Dr E Barker of LSE). An attempt to uphold a similar charge in court (made by HM Attorney General) was recently dropped on account of what amounted to an absence of any credible evidence.

3. 'CARP is a sinister organisation'

There is nothing secretive about CARP. Members are always happy to try and explain aspects of Unification, the philosophy of CARP, to the best of their ability. CARP no more 'feeds on the loneliness and unhappiness of people' than the NHS does on their ill health.

*Yours sincerely
Dr C Turfus, Director CARP-UK.*

Will we CU again?

continued from front page

was settled. He also foresees difficulties in paying the expenses of speakers who have already been booked for the remainder of the term.

In a committee meeting on Wednesday CU agreed to put a motion, removing the contentious clauses from their constitution, to a Union General Meeting. They are also investigating whether or not survival would be possible outside IC Union.

Members of the Christian Union are unhappy as they feel insufficient time was spent in discussing the issue: only eleven days elapsed between the UFC meeting where the issue was first raised and the Council which expelled them from the Union. They are also concerned that they were not kept properly informed about the situation facing them. Had they more information, they said, they could have presented a better case to Council.

Shan's Dodgy Sporting Tips

NAP: **Missing Man**
Sandown, 2.35 Friday
NB: **Aston Express**
Chepstow, 2.30 Saturday
Powerful Paddy
Market Rasen, 3.15 Friday
E/W: **Sprowston Boy**
Sandown, 2.45 Saturday



The Royal School of Mines Journal 1988

The RSMJ (1988 edition) will be printed in June this year. The RSMJ is a must for anyone who wants to be kept well informed of all aspects of academic life in the Minerals Industry and life at the RSM. As has been the case in previous years we are continuing to add new features and ideas to the Journal and this year is to be no exception.

Further information please contact either: Frank Lucas (Editor) or Barrie Holt (Business Manager) c/o Royal School of Mines Journal, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BP Tel: 01-589-5111 (ext. Frank 3524 / Barrie 6472)

To be sure of obtaining your 1988 RSMJ order now through the above address £5.00 (including P/P) Life subscriptions £150.00 Cheques payable to: RSMJ

Geology on shaky ground

The University Grants Committee has recommended changes which would reduce funding to IC's Geology department. A review committee, set up to suggest reorganisation of earth science courses throughout the country, has divided geology departments into three categories. Within each type, departments have been split into two groups: the first to receive increased resources, the second to get no increase or a slight reduction. Imperial is classed in the second group of category 'I', which is meant to contribute to interdisciplinary as well as mainstream earth sciences, concentrating on multiple rather than single honours. East Anglia and Lancaster are in the first group of this type. The other categories are 'M', in which departments provide teaching, including single honours, and

research in mainstream earth sciences, and 'J', which indicates universities offering joint honours and service teaching but which do not have expensive research equipment. Group '1' of type 'M' includes Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool, while Group '2' includes Durham, Cardiff, Leicester and Glasgow.

A great deal of controversy surrounds this review. *New Scientist* recently published a story claiming that some oil companies had been shown a letter stating that IC's Geology department was to be axed completely; and *The Guardian*, March 10th, quoted Dr Peter Smith, scientific editor of *Geology Today*, as saying the review had been 'watered down by a few people protecting their vested interests'.

Election results ratified

Nigel Baker is to be Imperial College Union President next year. Chas Brereton and Ian Morris are Deputy President and Honorary Secretary respectively. Bill Goodwin will be FELIX Editor. All the election results were ratified at yesterday's Union General Meeting. The following students have been returned for Union posts next year: Elizabeth Warren (ICCAG Chair), Fiona Nicholas (Rag Chair), James Papa (Welfare Officer), Richard Spencer (Academic Affairs

Officer), Paul Watkiss (Ents Officer), Neil Motteram (External Affairs Officer) and Neil McCluskey (Internal Services Officer). Paul Shanley was returned unopposed as UGM Chairman after Sydney Harbour-Bridge withdrew from the election.

Four Departmental Representatives have also been returned: Sarah Vant (DoC), Isobel Fairclough (Geology), R Garland (Civ Eng) and Athos Ritsperis (Maths).

Free speech fracas

The highly criticised new legislation, Section 43 of the Education Act, recently brought in by the Government to safeguard freedom of speech has been shown to be unworkable following an incident at Wolverhampton Polytechnic last week.

The Polytechnic's Conservative Students Association invited South African Embassy Secretary Louis Mullinder to address a private meeting on 'Dismantling Apartheid'. A fight broke out when several students interrupted the meeting and the student union subsequently withdrew membership from two Conservative students for organising the meeting. The Polytechnic's director is now taking legal advice as

to whether he can force the Union to reinstate the two students. If he is successful, this could have serious repercussions for all British students' unions.

This incident has led to calls by right-wingers for tighter restrictions on student unions and guaranteed free speech in all universities in the new Education Reform Bill.

Meanwhile Wolverhampton Polytechnic's director Michael Harrison has insisted that the current legislation is unworkable because they had done everything to ensure that trouble would not occur but it still did. At the moment, he said, 'there is no means of enforcing free speech and no penalty for a breach of it.'

It's a con

Two con-women have been operating in the Evelyn Gardens residences. They have been persuading students to pay £15 a month as part of a financial planning service they claim to offer students. Both women were seen using the same car but different company names. When they were challenged in Holbein House, they said that they did not know one another and that they had been given permission to canvas by Imperial College.

New societies

Imperial College Union Computer Graphics Society and Imperial College Union Air Cooled Volkswagen Society became the latest additions to over one hundred active clubs now run by ICU when their constitutions were passed at Monday's Council.

Auction

A charity auction and raffle, held at IC Science Fiction Society's convention Who?Day3 last Saturday, raised £111 for research into Cot Death and £74 for IC Rag.*

UROP

The 1988 Directory for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme has just been published. It contains over 150 offers and copies are available from Departmental Vacation Training Representatives or from Mrs Ibsen, Room 713, Electrical Engineering.

The University of Delaware is offering five summer vacation bursaries for research at Delaware and applications should be in by the end of this term. The bursary is worth \$1500 for ten weeks but students have to find their own fare. Mrs Ibsen has a Delaware UROP directory which gives the areas of research available—they cover all of science and engineering. Students wishing to register should see Prof J C Anderson, Room 804, Electrical Engineering. Those with good academic records in their department have the best chance of being selected and decisions will be made during the Easter vacation.