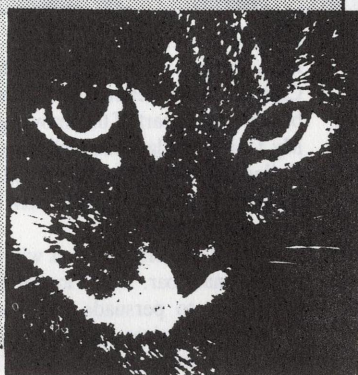


FREE!



Issue No. 800
Friday 29th April 1988

Felix

INSIDE

this 800th issue:

5 Libel and Blackmail

6 Science
including Fermat's Phoenix.

7 Room with a View

8 Preview of Saturday's Rag Fête
and all it has to offer

10 FELIX's 800
A mini feature on the life of The Cat and how College has changed with it.

16 Previews

18 Reviews

22 Letters

Report recommends reorganisation for IC Finance Section

Loads-a-money?

An independent report into the running of College finance has slammed the Finance Office for 'working in an environment of continual crisis without adequate computer systems of sufficient experienced staff.'

The Office, which deals with all College Research contracts and the payment of every Imperial College bill, has been having major problems throughout the year, with its new INTAC computer system.

As reported in FELIX last term, the Finance Section lost a great deal of information when the computer went down for four days. They have since been trying to retrieve their records and sort out the system.

The report by Management Consultants Deloitte, Hoskins and Sells states that there are 'serious inadequacies' in the accounting package which the College installed in the Summer of 1986. It says that the operating procedures had been tackled by 'extensive ad-hoc in house development' and the users had modified the original package so much that it placed undue reliance on the College resources. It is no longer possible to use the supplier's knowledge to fix any problems that now occur with the package.

The problems with this system have resulted in bills going unpaid for nearly six months and suppliers refusing to carry on delivering to the College.

One source told FELIX that the Refectories Section had to send out 'runners' with manually-drawn cheques in order to secure deliveries each day.

The report suggests that the College revert to a manual system for the rest

of the financial year until the confusion has been sorted out. It also suggests that the present computing system should only be used for basic accounting functions until a totally new accounting package, more suited to the College's needs, is installed for the 1989/90 academic year.

One of its other recommendations is that 'outside assistance' might be required in order to have the end of year accounts ready in time, which will cost the College even more money.

It says that the departments should take on more of the administration side of the finance system and recommends that a pilot scheme on Research Contract approval and Order Production should be initiated. The report indicates that this could be

done by de-centralising part of the Finance Section: 'a complement of 80 staff appears large to operate a computerised finance function in an organisation of Imperial's size'. It suggests that some of the staff could be transferred out to departments once the current problems have been sorted out.

It is unknown, however, how much the recent events have cost the College. As well as paying for the original accounting package and the extensive Management Consultants report, a great deal of staff time has been spent trying to work the new computer system. Academics and administrators have also had to spend time chasing unpaid invoices through the Finance Section, and explaining to suppliers about the problems.

It is also unclear as to how much a new computer system that could fulfil the College's requirements would cost.

Fire in Linstead

Phew, what a scorcher!

Linstead Hall in Princes Gardens was evacuated early on Wednesday morning after a resident's room was set alight.

Warren Duffin, a first year Mathematics student, raised the alarm when his coffee maker caught fire and spread to his curtains. The fire brigade was called but the blaze had already been put out using fire

extinguishers.

Eye witnesses told FELIX that there was a great deal of smoke billowing from the room.

Mr Duffin's curtains were badly singed and his coffee maker was destroyed. Also many of his possessions were soaked by the fire extinguishers.



editorial

Rag Fête

It's Rag Fête tomorrow and as an avid Eastenders' fan I can't wait to meet Donna and Elizabeth (I wonder why they couldn't get one of the hunky men as well!). FELIX is going to have a stall there where we will be flogging off our t-shirts and sweatshirts and a photographer will be going around taking pictures of you all which you can buy for Rag next Monday.

The best bit will be the Exam Blues Ball that evening. It's going to be my last chance to let my hair down before all my staff desert me to revise.

College Finance

I spent yesterday ploughing through the report on the organisation and management of the College Finance Office. I'm afraid I was not at all surprised by the conclusions that were reached. We all knew when the new computing system was installed that it had been badly thought out and the accounting package unsuitable. No doubt a few administrators will be given the push, if only sideways, to stop them from doing any more harm.

The worse thing to come out of this whole fiasco is the bad feeling that has built up between College and its suppliers, some of whom have not been paid for over six months. College currently owes the Print Unit in excess of £6000 for work it has done over the last year, so I hate to think how much the total debt is to outside suppliers.

It will take a long time for all of us to regain faith in the Finance Section.

Union Finance

It appears that the Snack Bar and the Union Bar have lost money, and been losing it for a long time. The Union Office are tight-lipped on the subject but concerned enough to call in the police. I agree that it is worrying that so much money should have gone astray (rumoured to be between £5,000 and £10,000, although nobody will confirm a figure with me) but they seem to have little regard for their snack bar and bar staff. One of my friends who worked casually in the Snack Bar one night a week last term was told that she had to see the police and was given no reason why. After several re-scheduled appointments, she was told that they no longer wanted to interview her. Again she was given no reason. Perhaps you think that such a loss deserves the utmost secrecy but they've thrown suspicion on all the outlet staff and made them all feel like they've done something wrong.

I do hope that they find out where this money has gone because such a loss affects us all as Union members and outlet users—which takes me onto a second point.

The portions are getting smaller!

The Union Office have told the Snack Bar that a portion is a spoonful of

salad. This is clearly outrageous because last term I got two spoonfuls. This is an effective 100% increase in the prices. I'm now still hungry after visiting the Snack Bar and I'm revolting (no jokes please). I no longer believe the Snack Bar to be 'good value' as it once used to be. The trouble with the Union is that it's been taken over by managers who are not concerned with students but with making a profit. They should be encouraging students to use the outlets not forcing them away because of irregular opening hours, minute portions and bad value for money. I'm now taking my custom to Waitrose.

Kebabs

I was very impressed by the quality of the kebabs they now serve in Southside. In fact I have been continually impressed by the rise in standards of the various College food outlets since Rob Northey took over as Refectories Manager. Again I'm concerned about the prices.

Now for the rant...

A few years ago there was a tendency amongst Union Officers to want to take over failing College outlets

because they thought they could run them better, rather than pushing College for a better deal. I know because I was part of that movement. My Union heyday was picketing the College Bars because we wanted the Union Bar. I think, on reflection, that we were wrong.

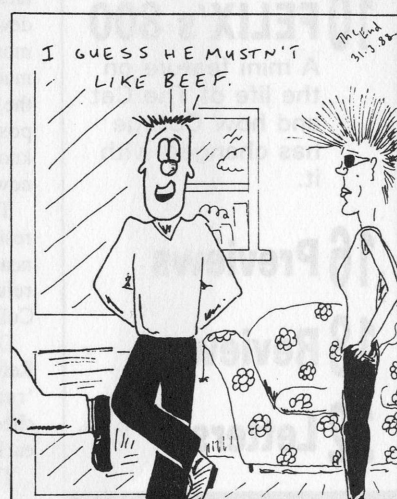
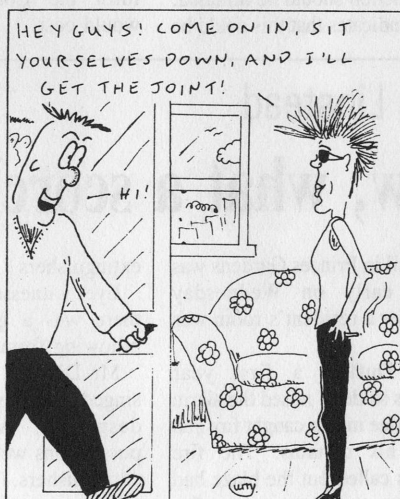
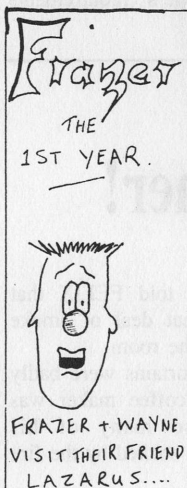
We now concern ourselves with *our* bar and snack bar. We no longer have the power to persuade College to lower their prices because we're trying to make the profit as well. The Union has employed two new members of permanent staff to cope with these outlets. It no longer has time to concern itself with the simple things like campaigning for lock changes in Southside, realistic prices in the Southside Shop, a better College careers service, lecturing standard, etc.

The Union is becoming curiously more and more insular rather than opening itself up. Today's Union is a union of secrets and publicity stunts. I don't think that the Union has done anything of real significance for the average student for years. I invite letters on the subject, especially from Union Officers.

Yours cynically,

[Handwritten signature]
XXX

Editor-in-chief.....	Judith Hackney
Business Manager.....	Chris Martin
Reviews Editors.....	Andrew Clarke and Sumit Guha
Clubs Editor.....	Andrew Waller
Sports Editors.....	Dominic Strowbridge and 'Hector' Sullivan
Science Editor.....	Steve Black
Features Editor.....	Kamala Sen
Typesetting.....	Rose Atkins
Printing.....	Dean Vaughan
Production Assistant.....	Martyn Peck
Contributors: Pippa Salmon, Kamala Sen, Noel Curry, Al Birch, William Lumb, James Papa, Paul Shanley, Martyn Peck, Chas Jackson, Yishu Nanda, Roy, Dave Clements, Nigel Baker, Steve Black, Phil Young, Adrian Grainger, Adrian Bourne, Delator, Chris Jones, Lloyd Ruddock, the Beans Boys, Andrew Clarke, Mac, Tony Jones, everybody whose articles were reprinted from previous FELICES in our 800th feature, Adrian Johnson, John Noble, Chris Martin, Chris from the Mech Eng Workshop and all the collators.	



SAO appointment



Loretto O'Callaghan has taken over from Anna Jones as the new Student Accommodation Officer. She will be available to help anybody who has accommodation queries between 9.30am and 5.00pm on the first floor of 15, Princes Gardens.

Union makes money from waste

Following a motion passed by a Union General Meeting last term, the Union is now collecting waste paper from all over College which it is hoping to sell to recycling companies.

ICU President Sydney Harbour-Bridge wants the revenue to benefit students. 'I'd like to see the money used to subsidise paper sales in the bookshop so that everyone benefits', he told FELIX.

Steve Easterbrook, a Computing postgraduate, is coordinating the scheme. He has asked people to pre-sort any paper into three categories: newspapers, computer paper, and other miscellaneous paper, which he will then arrange to be collected.

Meanwhile Westminster City Council have agreed to install bottle banks in College, probably outside each College bar.

If anybody is interested in helping with the scheme, they are asked to contact either Steve or Sydney on int 3500.

Students better off according to DES

Students income has risen by 5% in real terms since 1983, according to a survey conducted on behalf of the Department of Education. While grants and awards have fallen in value by 21%, parental contributions increased by 86% (£480) on average. However, a large part of the increase in income may be accounted for by the value of covenant tax rebates which are estimated to have risen an average from £65 to £211 and which have been phased out in the last budget. Also withdrawals from savings accounted for 3.5% of the total resources used by the average student, and the surveyed students expected an overdraft with a mean value of £341 (described as unreasonable by the Ministry for Higher Education) at the end of the academic year. The report revealed that spending on entertainment, alcohol and tobacco had risen by 48% since the 1983 survey conducted for the National Union of Students. There had been an 11% fall in spending on books and equipment.

New 'centre of excellence' planned

An Interdisciplinary Research Centre, to develop materials for future generations of computer chips, is to be set up at Imperial College. Plans for the centre are expected to be approved by the Science and Engineering Research Council at a meeting on June 15. The Research Council and the University Grants Committee are to provide funds of £8 million, while Imperial hopes to win another £2 million from the Ministry of Defence. Industrial investment is to be sought, and at least 20% of the activities of the centre should be industrial contracts.

The centre at Imperial will work on ways of growing ultra-thin layers of the materials used in making electronic chips (which include very pure silicon, gallium arsenide layered over silicon, and alloys of silicon with germanium) and on simulating how the materials will react when made into devices. Skills in areas such as physics, chemistry, materials and engineering will be brought together, and about forty research and technical staff will be employed, under the control of a director from industry. The centre is due to start operations on January 1 1989.

The Interdisciplinary Research Centre is part of the official Government strategy to develop national centres of excellence in important areas of technology, linked to universities. Other such centres include a superconductivity centre at Cambridge, and molecular sciences centre at Oxford, a surface sciences centre at Liverpool and an engineering design centre in Glasgow.

Health education

The College Health Centre is running a College-wide health education programme throughout this term. There will be videos and practical demonstrations on a number of health-related subjects. Each session will be from 1.05pm to 1.50pm every Tuesday in the Health Centre, 14 Princes Gardens, and all students are invited to attend:

- May 3 Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation. Introduced by Dr Alan Swann.
- May 10 Breast Examination and Cervical Smears (women only). Introduced by Dr Irene Weinreb.
- May 17 Travelling Abroad. Introduced by Dr Tessa Addenbrooke.
- May 24 Food for a Healthy Life. Introduced by Margaret Reddock.
- May 31 Alcohol Awareness. Introduced by Jean Chapman.
- June 7 Giving up Smoking. Introduced by Caroline Ricketts.
- June 14 Sex and Contraception. Introduced by Dr Raanan Gillon.

You'll never have it so good...

Special student fares currently available — BOOK NOW!



	from	
	o/w	rtn
New York	£112	£224
Boston	£133	£266
Los Angeles	£164	£328
San Francisco	£164	£328
Miami	£132	£264
Chicago	£133	£266
Dallas	£132	£264

Pick up our North America brochure for the complete low down on everything we can do for you in the USA.

- Fly out to the East Coast — and back from the West.
- See all the States from a Greyhound — from £65.
- Fly around at leisure with an airpass — from £85.
- Budget accommodation across the USA — from \$9 per night.

ULU travel

Imperial College
Sherfield Building
Prince Consort Road
LONDON SW7

OR Telephone Sales:
Intercontinental 01-581 1022
European 01-581 8233

A service of
STA TRAVEL
The Worldbeaters



Competition Winners—FELIX Office deluged!

What a surprise! A large number of people actually sent in entries for last term's word search. The lengths some of them went to in order to make them easily read were considerable—maybe we should have given marks for artistic impression. As it was, the Editor picked, blind, a completely random entry (it's all her fault). The lucky winner was: M Kakhi, 1 MED (translate that as you will).

Pick up your prize sweatshirt at the FELIX Office Friday lunchtime.



New phones for Halls

New internal telephone exchanges have been installed to serve Fisher Hall and Halls on the North Side of Princes Gardens. Tables 1 and 2 detail the phone numbers on each exchange, and how to dial from the main College exchange. These telephone exchanges are of the latest electronic type and support a number of extra facilities:

- To call a number on the main College exchange dial 72 followed by that number. For example, to ring FELIX dial 723515. There is only one tieline connecting each of the exchanges to College (see below for if it is engaged).

- If a local extension is busy, dial an

Level	House 12	House 14	House 16	House 18	House 20	House 22
3	402	408	414	421	426	430
2	403	409	415	420	427	431
1	404	410	416	422	428	432
G	405/7	411	417	424	429	433
B	406	413	419	423	-	434

Subwardens 401/418
Outside 435/436

To call from the main College exchange to Fisher Hall, dial 80 followed by the extension number required.

Garden Hall		Weeks Hall	
Room(s)	Phone	Room(s)	Phone
01-02	525	B1-B3	532
03-05	521	11-18	500
07-08	527	21-28	502
09	520	31-38	505
11-14	526	41-48	507
15-16	517	51-58	506
17-19	523	61-68	501
21-22	514	71-78	504
23-25	516	81-88	503
26	28	Security	508/9
31-33	513	Games Room	529
34-35	515	Outside	533
36-38	524		
41-44	528		
45-48	511		
49-414	510		
Security	508/9		
Lobby	536		
Games Room	535		
Laundry	537		
IC Radio	555		
Outside	534		

extra 6 to the engaged tone and replace the receiver. You will be rung back automatically when that extension becomes free.

- Dialling 6 also applies if the College '72' tieline is engaged. When you are rung back, simply dial the remainder of the College number—ie without the access code.

- You can distinguish incoming calls from the length of the ring. Internal calls within Fisher or North Side produce a long single ring whereas 'external' calls from College produce a short double ring. Engaged call backs produce an even shorter single ring.

- The special code 10 will automatically redial the last '72' number you dialled to College.

- Phones with recall buttons can transfer calls and connect together more than the normal two extensions together. This functions in a similar

way to the main College telephone exchange.

- Call diversion is supported, where you can send all your calls to another extension automatically. However this is rather anti-social in the context of a Hall of Residence. If calls have been diverted from your phone (intermittent dialling tone) dial 65 to completely reset the line. This also cancels any '6' callbacks.

Incidentally, all these facilities are also available on the other two existing Evelyn Gardens exchanges, but on these the most useful '6' callback facility has been disabled, for no apparent reason.

Summary of special codes

- 6 Callback on busy.
- 10 Redial last College number.
- 65 Cancel all call diversions and ringbacks.
- 72 Connect to main College exchange.
- 720 Call switchboard operator.

**All Union Officers
are reminded that
Annual Reports are
due into the FELIX
Office by 9.30am
next Friday (hand-
written) and
12.30pm Monday 9th
(on IBM PC disc).**

Gay News

Hi everyone! Welcome back to IC (and for the lucky ones, exams too!). I'm busy swotting this term, but if you're feeling adventurous, don't miss the **Stop Clause 27/28/29 March**. It's on Saturday April 30 (tomorrow), meeting at 12 noon at Embankment tube. See you all there!

PS1. We will probably march under the ULU banner—it's red, or else just listen out and you'll hear me for sure!

PS2. Thanks for all the fan mail, especially the sweet one in last term's last FELIX—I was touched! (Touched up?)

James Papa,
Gay & Lesbian Welfare Officer

Letter from St Mary's

I sat in the TV room feeling sicker and sicker. My heart pounded mercilessly against the frail cage enclosing it. Sweat poured from the palms, making the reflex gripping of the seat difficult, and I had to wipe my hands continuously. Cries of anguish could be heard from all in the room. Some people even crouched behind seats and could not look. The tension was overpowering, one could have cut the atmosphere with a knife.

When it was all over, the pale shattered faces stumbled out of the room and wandered off, aimlessly in all directions. There were mumbled words of reassurance, but all knew deep down in their hearts the truth that had been starkly shown, the naked truth that no one could now ignore.

No, this was not the latest horror video. This was a programme infinitely more disturbing. Doctors to be, the Horizon series really pulled out the stops on Sunday night, providing a feast of exam pressure with those who passed and failed in disturbing close-up detail. The anguish shown on the faces is real, 'I know because I was there'. Yes, I failed my exams (one of four) in summer and I opened that little brown envelope with my typed name on it.

One of the most disturbing facts was the number of people I failed to recognise in the programme. It does nothing to the confidence when you see people just as able as you being asked to leave the school. A couple each year (especially after the second year) fail to make the grade who really did want to be doctors and spent most of their life attempting to achieve their ambition.

It is not the same as Biochemistry or Physics, Electronics or Life Science. Medicine is a vocation, there is an undefinable element that makes people want to be doctors. I never decided to be a doctor, but I know now I could be nothing else. This makes the anguish and the failures so much more painful. One almost wept to see the faces of those who failed.

Maybe a good thing about this programme is that the pressure side of medical school is seen, and that it isn't all fun and games. If that greater understanding is revealed then there has been a benefit. I do wonder however, how many people will have been put off medicine due to that programme on Sunday?

KENSINGTON GORE SW7

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

● **AVID READERS** of the FELIX Small ads have probably noticed references to Yishu of Holbein House. All last term we read his poems to his secret admirer who was declaring love through these very pages. Unfortunately Yishu discovered the identity of this secret admirer over Easter—a male Mining PG—and was livid. He also discovered that FELIX Ed Judith Hackney had helped him out with one line of a poem. To get his revenge he baked her a cake, brimming full of port and brandy, and then proceeded to eat it all. I bet that really taught her a lesson, Yishu!



● **WACKY AL** Birch, IC Union's Internal Services Officer, has been playing the fool again. He decided to wind up 'naughty' Nigel Whitfield by sending him a mock telephone bill final reminder. Nigel, however, realised instantly that the threatening letter was the work of the devil and ignored it. Unfortunately Nigel's flat mate, Simon Bradshaw, was not so astute and became very upset upon reading the letter. 'I wouldn't have minded so much,' said Simon later, 'if it wasn't for the fact that Nigel was disputing the bill over a unit (an extra 4.4p)'.



"AND DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GRANT TO BE ENOUGH FOR A FAIR STANDARD OF LIVING?"

The Baron is dead. Before his death, he laid down plans for his successor—'Blackmail'. His last wish was for all cover-ups in College to be exposed. Wherever you are, Baron, you won't be disappointed...

blackMAIL

Information required on the following topics:

● Why has there been a mass exodus of Mining and Min Tec lecturers from College in recent months? Are Professors Shaw and Archer letting on all they know?

● Whose ideas was the Union re-organisation?

● Who are 'The Players'? Where is Lord Keogh?

● Which member of a CCU executive is a registered student of a different CCU? Will he be for the high jump if he is found out?

● Why does a photocopier salesman spend most of his life in the Union Office when they already have three machines?

● ASSA keys: Who is holding what? Who is on Geoff Reeves suspect list of unauthorised keyholders?

● Next year's elections: Who is the co-star in the Howgate '89 production of 'The Return of Sydney'?

● Why did the IC President decide not to No Confidence his Deputy after declaring he would?

● Why did College Welfare Advisor Linda Simmons quit her job so soon?

All information, of course, is in the strictest confidence. Send to 'Blackmail', FELIX, Beit Quad.

I hope to elaborate on all these stories, and more, in future weeks.

Last, but not least, this week's items of Blackmail. The rules are very simple. I find out something very embarrassing about someone. They then pay five pounds to Rag, via FELIX, or I publish. Cheques to arrive by Midday Monday at the latest.

1) A cassette has been sent to me with an admission of nipple sucking contained thereon. This indecent act occurred between an RCS hack and an Evelyn Gardens resident. Five pounds from the resident pays for the tapes destruction.

2) The tape also contains some extraordinary interviewing techniques by two 'friends' of the nipple sucker. One of these is the idiot who leaked the tape to FELIX in the first place. Five pounds, Messrs S & T, or I print a transcript of the interrogation.

3) Five pounds from the student who sold his body for a night of passion for only £85 over the holidays, or I print the contract that was signed.

4) Picture the scene: A busy Saturday night in a Wimbledon pub. Two IC students go on the prowl for a lady. Eventually they find one, albeit slightly inebriated. Said students stand to lose lots of credibility points if they do anything embarrassing. This is because one has a regular girlfriend and the other is standing for election for a College post this term. I can now reveal that the lady who was chatted-up is a well known prostitute in the Wimbledon area. Pay a £5 fine (each) or take a chance.

There will be more Blackmail next week.
Delator.

● **GUILDS PRESIDENT** 2nd Lt Dave Braincell has been in severe agony this Easter if rumours I heard in the Union Bar the other day are true. It seems that Dave has been suffering the pain of ingrowing hair on his buttocks. The poor soul, unable to sit down to revise for his finals, went to hospital to have the offending hairs removed by electrolysis!

● **SI BICHARA** has been voted the number one IC Radio presenter. This startling fact came to light when a copy of 'Shark' Si's CV was leaked to me. Further investigation revealed this poll was strangely unanimous having been conducted between only two people (Si himself and his girlfriend). That's probably double IC Radio's audience.

● **COLLEGE** Assistant Secretary Michael Arthur is finally leaving Imperial after many years loyal service to himself. He will be sadly missed by us all here at FELIX as he has given us so many reems of copy, wacky ideas and happy memories. Does the London School of Economics realise just what it's letting itself in for?

● **FOUND** by a College notable while cleaning out one of his desks, a strip of colour negatives of an adolescent girl in a shower. Anybody who finds they have lost such a negative can retrieve it from the FELIX Office next week.

● **WHO** is the strange person that has been ringing up Martyn Peck in the early hours of the the morning recently? This nocturnal caller giggles and plays music down the line. Martyn will not let on who he thinks it is, but once let slip he suspected it might be a fellow resident of all-male Holbein House.

● **SELF-STYLED** 'sex-kitten', Judith Hackney, has been airing her sharking fin during the Easter holidays. Whilst having a drink with hard-working FELIX staff, she decided to let her hair down. Union Bar regulars were shocked as she sprung on each of the three Union sabbaticals in turn, attempting to undress them. Having revealed the manly physique of ICU President, Sydney Harbour-Bridge, to all and sundry, she turned her advances to Honorary Secretary, Chas Jackson. Later, topless Mr Jackson was seen crying in his beer. Once again, Ms Hackney, 22, denies everything.

'Chris Jones.

Editorial:

Who gets educated?

A recent study of science ability in final year schoolchildren (See *Nature* 332 p195) suggested that the British are nearly the best in the world at teaching science. This seems to imply that our future as a high-tech economy is assured since our major competitors have children who came out of the tests with poor results. Don't believe a word of it.

The study involved standard tests on the basic concepts of Physics, Biology and Chemistry that were taken by 44,000 school children in their last year of schooling. All the children were doing science courses. Britain and Hong Kong come near top in all areas, Japan's children are middling and Americans appear to be morons. These appearances can be deceptive and our results actually obscure major holes in our educational system.

The major differences are that here only 20% of the population are still in school at the age range of the tests and those people are specialists. It is not surprising that they do well in the tests. In both the USA and Japan most people are still at school at the age, so, although their actual performance may be worse overall, far more people have some grasp of what the sciences are about. In Britain the people not doing the tests are likely to be utterly ignorant of the subjects involved.

Our education system is therefore widely regarded as producing better experts than anyone else, but the experts are too narrow minded on one hand and our general population is woefully ignorant on the other. Neither of these facts is likely to prove conducive to our national success in the long term.

If we want to build a productive high-tech future then we need a population that is educated enough to do our scientific and technical jobs. It is not enough to have a small band of experts to do all the technological dirty-work; the whole of the population must be well enough grounded in the basics of science to understand what is going on. One of the reasons why Britain's workers are less efficient than their competitors abroad is because they are more stupid. Once they have left school (as

likely as not with no qualifications) they never again set foot in an educational establishment. They don't know enough to understand the workings of the machines they operate and therefore they are never able to suggest improvements to them. Their lack of training also makes them less versatile and this prevents easy switching from one job to another. Instead of encouraging retraining, unions have often stood firm against changes in working practice fossilising their members

discovery if it was dangled in front of their nose.

British universities pride themselves on knowledge for the sake of knowledge. There is nothing inherently wrong with that except that it costs money that might be better spent elsewhere. As it is, our whole education system has been distorted to keep the universities supplied with experts. The cost has been a poorer economy and a general population wallowing in glorious ignorance. We cannot and must not let it continue.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



by Steve Black

lack of versatility.

But there are other reasons for wanting a well educated populace. If all the science is done by a small group of experts and nobody else understands what they are doing, the majority can easily become suspicious and distrustful of what is going on in their name. This is already happening. Many areas of science are mistrusted by the public because no one has taken the effort to explain what is going on and why.

Some of the public mistrust may be justified. Our education for specialists often produces the sort of dedicated expert who knows and cares about nothing outside his own field. Such experts have no real sense of public purpose. Even if they did have they wouldn't be able to communicate it to the public. We don't, however, need more applied research (or we might do, but that's another issue), we just need experts with a sense of their role in society. We need people who appreciate the use or possible use of their work. We need people who know what society needs and who are prepared to keep an eye open for science that might be useful. As it is we have a load of superbly trained experts who couldn't spot a useful

Historically the British school system has been based around the training of elites (like those who want to go to university) and it has become very good at it. But we have tended to neglect the rest. But, it is impossible to build a successful society out of Sun readers.

If the universities are to survive then they must convince the rest of society that they do something useful. They are hardly going to succeed at this if they hang on to their elitist traditions. If science is to survive in this country then we have to explain to the people; we have to tell them what we are doing in a way that they can understand. Then perhaps we will get the money to keep the universities in a healthy state.

Fermat's Phoenix

One of the most intriguing of the unsolved problems in mathematics was very nearly solved recently, but it staged a last minute recovery.

Fermat's last theorem has been the subject of more attempted proofs than any other theorem, probably because

of its intriguing simplicity. The theorem states that the equation $X^n = Y^n + Z^n$ has no whole number solutions when n is greater than 2. Fermat, a 17th century French mathematician, had a bad habit of leaving theorems lying around without proofs. By the end of the 18th century other scholars had solved them all except this simple one which therefore became known as Fermat's last.

Because of the simplicity of the equation many non-experts have attempted spurious proofs thereof, but these have usually proved to be complete and utter rubbish. Experts in many branches of mathematics have also been attempting proofs ever since the theorem was published, but these have been hardly any more successful. This has led to a considerable degree of caution among those who think they might have cracked it. The biggest breakthrough ever occurred a few years ago when some pretty weird results were applied in a new way to show that the theorem had only a finite number of solutions. The latest attempt at a complete proof was by a Japanese mathematician, Yoichi Miyaoka, who was so cautious that he didn't mention Fermat's theorem by name in the whole of the presentation of his results.

The supposed proof involved some very esoteric theorem-juggling between different areas of mathematics and was so complicated that probably only five or so other people in the world were capable of understanding it. It involved some translations of problems about numbers into questions about geometry and topology where some useful and powerful theorems exist that can (and have) solved very difficult problems in number theory before.

Unfortunately, one of the people who is checking the work has recently said that there is a balls-up in it. Somewhere in the translation process from numbers to topology, Miyaoka used a dodgy theorem. Now it may be that a suitable correct theorem exists, but he had assumed that another theorem would be generally applicable when it wasn't. More work is said to be needed.

On the other hand this is widely regarded as the best attempt at a proof for years and has broken new ground in translating numerical problems into other problems that can be more easily sorted out. So although this particular proof may be wrong (and we have to wait until the correction has been thoroughly checked) they may at last be going in the right direction.

Cookery Club



A gastronomic survey of the world

The summer is coming up. Many students will no doubt travel around Europe on Interrail, others might be more fortunate to find themselves in more exotic parts of the world. One should avail this rare opportunity for enjoying the cuisine of the host nation, yet one is not always sure what dishes to be on the look out for or equally importantly where to eat. I have negotiated with Judith a brief to write articles that try to address these issues.

I would like to write articles on eating out in Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Middle-Eastern countries, India and the Far East. I will try and cover the more popular student destinations before the others.

I am relying on the international community at Imperial College to give me the necessary information to be able to write suitable articles. Full credit will be given for any information that is used. I can be contacted on int 4412 or 4320. I will be most happy to meet anyone with useful tips at a time and place of their choosing. I depend on YOU!!

A Summer festival

The arrival of the summer means a significant change to the food we eat. A sample of the things that I will be making over the summer include a rich strawberry mousse, chicken tikka, and a sangria to quench the thirst.

Chicken Tikka

This simple dish became legendary in Holbein House when I served it at a barbecue accompanied with freshly made coriander chutney. The recipe is simple.

Ingredients:

8 chicken thighs
1 inch long piece of ginger root
4 cloves garlic
Juice of a whole lemon
1 tsp red chilli
1 tsp ground coriander
½ tsp turmeric

1 tsp ground cummin
½ tsp freshly ground pepper
½ tsp salt
4 heaped tablespoons of whole milk yogurt
1 tsp 'garraam masala'
(Garraam masala can be purchased at all Indian grocers. It is made by grinding equal parts of black pepper, cummin cinnamon, cloves and black cardamom pods. A little of this fragrant powder can be sprinkled over any Indian dish a minute before serving to impart it with a great aroma.)

Method:

1. Remove the skin from the thighs, and cut the pieces into two.
2. Prepare the marinade by finely chopping the garlic and the ginger, then blend it with the rest of the ingredients.
3. Add the chicken pieces to the marinade and refrigerate the mixture overnight.
4. Cook the chicken pieces under the grill on high heat until they begin to lightly brown. You might like to add a little of the marinade that is left over the chicken. Continue cooking on low heat until well cooked, basting with a little oil as the cooking proceeds.

Sangria

I was told how to make this regal concoction by Maria Issabella from Bilbao. She tells me that she makes a heavy duty sangria by adding Cointreau and other goodies to the standard recipe. Unless you want to get stone drunk over the summer I would stick to the recipe below.

Ingredients (for ten people):

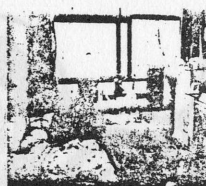
4 litres ordinary red wine
2.5 litre orange juice
4 oranges
2 lemons
2 bananas
2 peaches
1 large cinnamon stick
Sugar

Method:

1. Chop the fruits into chunks.
2. Add all the red wine to the fruits, the cinnamon. Add sugar to taste
3. Cover and leave to lie outside for 6 hours.
4. Add the orange juice to the mixture and refrigerate overnight. Drink it the next afternoon. I recommend that you then sit back to watch the cricket on the box.

The summer festival will continue in next week's FELIX.

Bye for now,
Yishu Nanda,
Head Chef, FELIX.



A ROOM WITH A VIEW



ICU Honorary Secretary Chas Jackson

Chas Jackson, Imperial College Union's Honorary Secretary was born in Todmorden, West Yorkshire in 1964. He admits to having enjoyed his school days although he says that he had a fairly traumatic childhood. He came to Imperial in 1982 to study for a degree in Chemical Engineering, which he finally obtained last year.

During his six years at Imperial, he has lived in a wide range of College accommodation and is presently occupying a single room on the northside of Falmouth-Keogh Hall in the Southside Halls of Residence.

His first year was spent sharing a room with two other students in Mining House, one of the Evelyn Gardens houses. He became very active in the House and was selected as a re-applicant for his second year.

For the next few years he lived in several flats in both Hamlet Gardens and Lexham Gardens.

He prefers living in the flats to halls or houses because he likes a kitchen to himself rather than having to share it with eighty other residents. When he does cook in Southside, which is about three times a week, he takes over the kitchens later on in the evening to avoid the peak times when twenty students are trying to cook on two cookers. He says that has no regrets about not having lived in Southside during his first year because it is much more impersonal than Mining House was.

Chas' room not only contains the

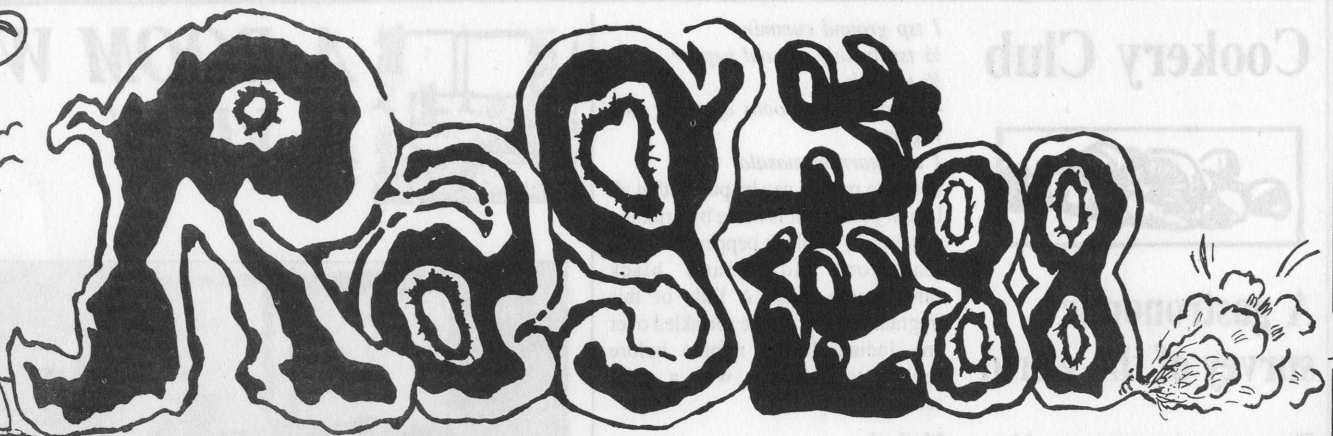
usual bed, desk, chair and sink but also a fridge, a stereo, and half a bicycle propped up against the wall. He says that the room is just beginning to reflect his personality after eight months. "It's very difficult to do anything with a Southside room", he claims. His major problem was trying to erase the personality of its last occupant. "I used to spend a lot of time in this room when Gutman (last year's Honorary Secretary) lived in it. I found it a bit hard getting used to the idea that it was now my room and not his."

His favourite possession is his pre-amp, an impressive instrument with a built-in oscilloscope that shows the waveforms of the music while it's playing. "It helps to impress the girlies", he jokes. He prefers listening to his large record collection when he got time to relax rather than sitting and watching the television on gallery level like most Falmouth-Keogh residents.

Chas has a surprising amount of books on his shelves, most of which are science fiction or Chem Eng text books. His book collection and all his other possessions get more and more every year. He had to use a transit to move into his latest room even though he had junked quite a lot of stuff beforehand.

I asked him what his future plans were after he leaves Imperial? "To earn enough money to run a car", he says.

Features



Tomorrow's Rag Fête is, as usual, going to be the event of the year for anyone with a slightly off beat sense of humour. Eastenders fans can also thrill to guest appearances by Matilda Ziegler (Donna) and Lucy Bayler (Elizabeth) who launch the event on the Queen's Lawn at 2.30pm.

Although people with an aversion to soap operas are strongly advised to miss the opening, the rest of the day promises something for everyone. Keep fit by running up and down the Queen's Tower, eat a Chaps curry, pelt Union notables with wet sponges, buy lots of very old Rag Mags.... what tremendous fun for all the family, especially for those of a more barbarian nature. If you *really* want to get vindictive you can hire QTSoc to attack a friend. Preferably one you don't mind losing.

A little light entertainment will be provided by a display team from the Bomb Disposal Squad, who should also be equipped to deal with the explosions from the balloon throwing stall. Science fiction videos will abound, courtesy of Rag Fête organiser and ex-SFSoc chairbeing Dave Clements.

Turning one's attention to more practical matters, non-veggers may be glad to discover the burger and pig roast stalls, as well as the inimitable Chaps Curry emporium. There will also be a bar until five o'clock.

Gamblers will rejoice at the larger

number of ways to try their luck and win mind-boggling prizes. Rag proudly presents the tombola, the human fruit machine(!) and, of course, the Rag Raffle. Tickets for the raffle can be bought at the Fête or from an itinerant Rag Rep; the first prize is a weekend in Paris. The draw will take place sometime during the afternoon, as will the presentation of last year's Rag money.

The grand finale of Rag Fête is that great British institution, mud wrestling. Organised by Fiona Nicholas, RCSUV/Rag Chair elect/Ladies' Rugby Team supremo, it promises to be fairly messy. No doubt lots of well known exhibitionists will participate purely for the beautifying effect of mud, but there should be some scope for taking embarrassing photographs.

After everyone has removed mud from their hair, clothes and other places, there will be a big party in the Union Building, run by ICU Ents until the small hours.

Meanwhile, Raggies will gather somewhere in the Queen's Tower at 6.30pm for the Rag AGM. As well



Features

as electing next year's Rag officers, the year's charities will be chosen. Anyone with ideas about these is invited to contact Nigel Baker (the present Rag Chair) or Fiona Nicholas, via the ICU Office beforehand. Volunteers and anybody already involved with Rag Fête should also be at the meeting at 12.30pm today (ie Friday) in the Union Lounge.

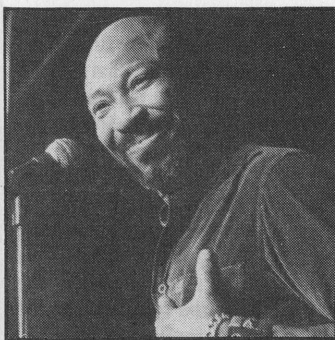
Lemming's Fate '88—go to the Rag Fête for a really wild time and to support Shelter, Quest for a Test for Cancer, BIBIC (for brain damaged children), the Terence Higgins Trust and Muscular Dystrophy.

The Exam Blues Ball

Tomorrow, ICU Entertainments are presenting their last carnival this academic year in association with IC Rag. There is an amazing live double bill in the Union Building, and cheap booze in the Union Bar, aimed at making Rag Fete 88 Day an effective antidote to those Exam Blues.

Playing live is the legendary *Geno Washington* and the brilliant *Rent Party* along with videos all night, disco, cocktails and a late, late bar.

Geno Washington, a former American GI, was a huge draw on the



mid-sixties R&B circuit, touring Britain and enjoying major album success, this influence on the soul scene was shown by *Dexy's Midnight Runners*' tribute to him with their 1979 number one 'Geno'.

It promises to be a great night. The doors open at 8.30pm and tickets are available from Norman's Snack Bar in the Union or the Union Office, priced at a mere £2.50 (£3 on the door, £2 for Ents cards holders).

Finally 50% of all proceeds go straight to Rag, so you can free yourself from revision for a good cause!

8.00am Pig roast starts to cook.

10.30am Science fiction videos begin in Sherfield.

2.00pm Stalls Open

including Treasure hunt, Tombola, Human fruit machine, Coconut shy, Chaps curries, Stocks, SF videos,

Rides on Jez the RCSU fire engine,

Hovercraft

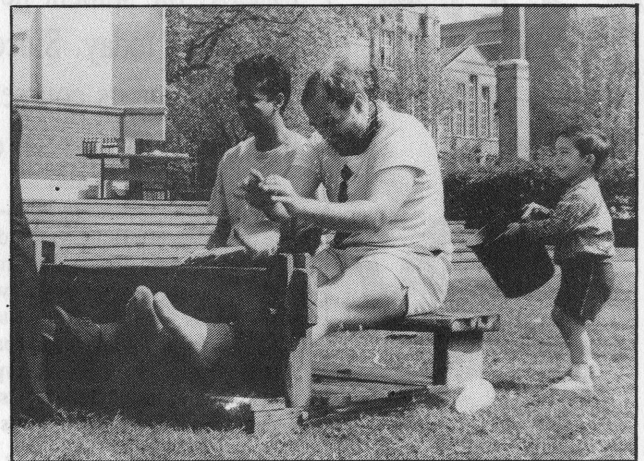
rides,

Hit-the-Hit

Squad,

Soak-a-Chap,

Pig Roast, Pimms stall, Bookstall, and Balloon throwing.



2.30pm



Official Opening
by Matilda Ziegler
and Lucy Bayler
of EastEnders,
Britain's favourite soap.

2.45pm Chas Jackson (ICU Hon Sec) and Ralph Greenwell (next year's Guilds President) first into the Stocks.

4.30pm Raffle Draw, first prize of a weekend for two on the Continent.

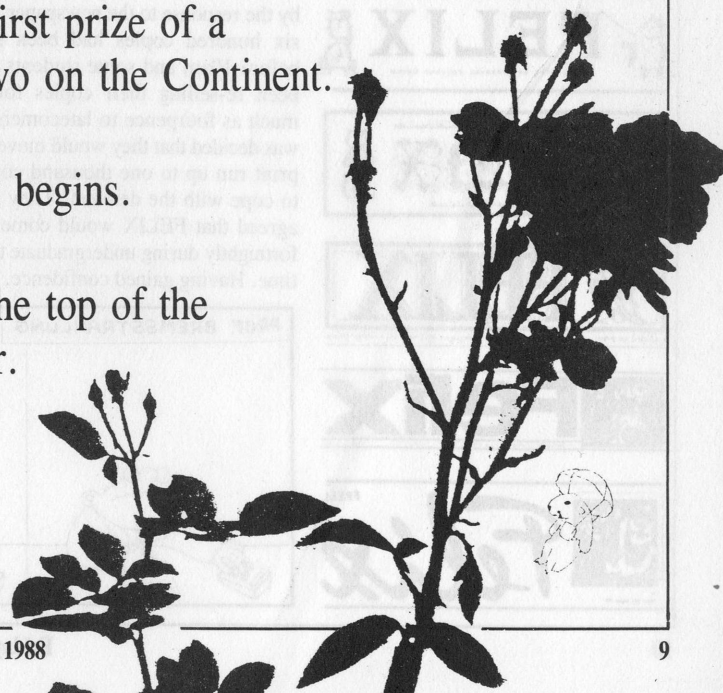
5.00pm Bar closes.

Mud Wrestling begins.

6.00pm Rag Fête ends.

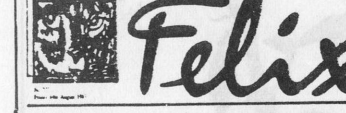
Rag AGM at the top of the Queen's Tower.

8.30pm Exam Blues Ball begins, Union Building.



FELIX

FELIX—800 NOT OUT

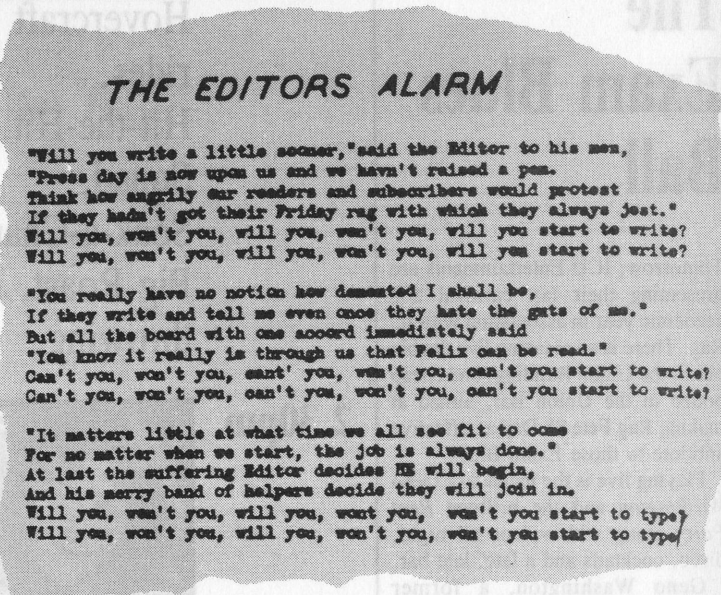


FELIX, the student newspaper of Imperial College, was born eight hundred issues ago today. Since its humble gestetnered beginnings, it has seen fifty-six editors steer its course from the kitten, wide-eyed and blinking, to the cynical, inquisitive full-grown cat of the nineteen eighties.

The first issue of FELIX was sold for three old pence on 9th December 1949. Only six hundred copies were produced as the new editorial team were unsure as to how a newspaper would go down at IC. It was typed, gestetnered by the College bookstall, and then sold around departments and from the Union Bar. The Editor, Ted Hughes, set the tone of the newspaper in his editorial, which he suitably placed first in the sheets. The aim of FELIX was to provide a 'commentary upon events and personalities' as a complementary source of information to *The Phoenix*, the Union's arts and literary paper which was originally started by H G Wells.

This first FELIX was much thinner and events orientated than today's are and it contained just one news story, about raucous behaviour at a Guy Fawkes night party. Out of its twelve pages, three were devoted to the boat club. The others contained Constituent College Union reports, an article on the Brighton Rally, a sports review, a diary of 'what's ons', letters and gossip.

The editorial board was delighted by the response to the newspaper. All six hundred copies had been sold before 10am and some students had been re-selling their copies for as much as fourpence to latecomers. It was decided that they would move the print run up to one thousand copies to cope with the demand. They also agreed that FELIX would come out fortnightly during undergraduate term time. Having gained confidence, Ted



Hughes decided to try and introduce more regular features into the paper. The second issue started off a series of 'profile' articles on leading Union and College figures and a regular 'Drinking Man's Guide to London' which reviews local pubs and taverns.

Ted Hughes edited the paper for the rest of the academic year and handed over to Clifford Hargreaves in 1950, having built up a loyal, fortnightly readership of one thousand students.

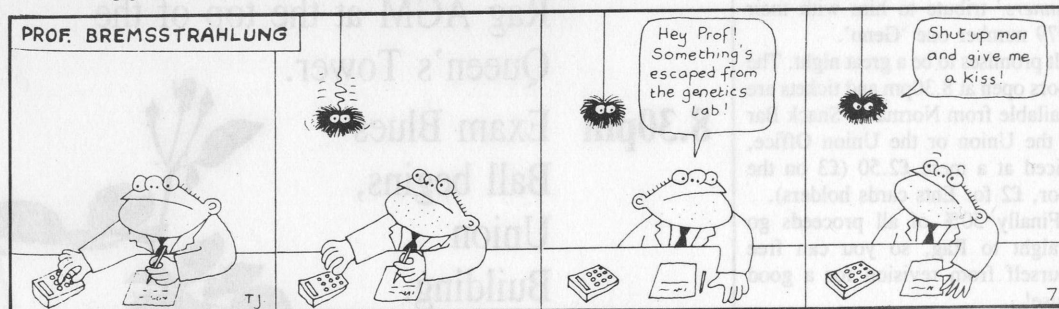
Cliff's first issue, FELIX no 10, was a turning point in the paper's life as far as its production was concerned. It was only four pages and the type was reduced, enabling just as much text to be fitted in those four

No 111 25th October 1957

pages as was fitted before on twelve. This was the first time that FELIX was printed, giving the editorial board the ability to reproduce photographs as well as line drawings.

In the spring of '51 John Midgley succeeded Clifford Hargreaves as Editor. By then the paper was settling down into the format it was to have throughout the fifties: sports at the back, news on the front, letters and editorial to the front and a series of opinion articles under the title of 'Viewpoint'. By its second birthday

No 380 28th February 1975



it had yet another Editor, S H Wearne, who had managed to bring the circulation up to thirteen hundred copies and still keep the price at three pence.

Five years after FELIX had started its life, money was beginning to get a bit tight. The Editor was reluctant to increase the cover price but funds raised by the FELIX Annual Hop



but top people
read **FELIX**

No 134 22nd May 1959

were no longer enough to keep the paper solvent. It was decided that FELIX should start accepting advertisements from local traders and banks eager to attract student custom. The revenue wasn't a great deal but it enabled the price to stay at three pence until 1957.

It was at this time that the new Union Building was completed and a FELIX Office was placed on its third floor. A member of the Editorial Board inhabited this office between 1pm and 2pm every weekday in order to receive news and articles. This room was also used by the production team to paste the paper up every other



TWO GIRLS NEEDED

FROM EACH DEPARTMENT
TO STAND IN THE RAIN,
WIND AND SNOW FOR
HALF AN HOUR EVERY
FORTNIGHT
SELLING
FELIX

Don't all rush at once
drop a note to Felix via
The Union Rack or con-
tact a
Member of the Felix Staff.

Sunday. The FELIX staff seemed quite happy with their new room because it overlooked Queen Alexandra House, whose inhabitants were notorious for leaving their curtains open when undressing!

The FELIX news pages were dominated by stories of the proposed demolition of the Imperial Institute to

allow a new, sprawling 'island' complex to be built. The College also announced its plans to develop the Princes Gardens site for new Halls of Residence and a sports centre.

FELIX was still being published fortnightly by very primitive printing methods by 1959. It was at this time of massive College expansion plans that the Union, staff and students began to express doubts about the way FELIX was produced. Several other London colleges had started up their own newspapers which were heavily subsidised by their unions and of a much higher quality than that of FELIX. It still cost 3d but was only making a profit of £2 each year. It was at this time that the FELIX staff faced the decision of whether to increase the price and the quality of the publication. There were also calls that FELIX should go weekly. These were rejected for two reasons: it was not possible for a student to get a degree and produce a newspaper each week, and they felt that College wasn't generating enough 'hot' news to fill a newspaper each week.

FELIX entered the Sixties guarded and cautious about its future. The staff realised that if FELIX was to compete with the College's broadsheets it would have to be printed on better quality paper, raise more advertising and charge 4d for each copy. There was still the inconvenience of having to send the artwork up to Lancashire for printing which wasted two days and made sure that most news was out of date by the time FELIX was published. Successive editors brought out news supplements in gestetnered form which were inserted into each copy before distribution to try to keep the paper 'fresh'. Throughout the decade they were hampered by unreliable printers who could not meet deadlines or could only print illegibly.

By 1967 new printers had been found which ensured FELIX always came out every other Friday. This necessitated FELIX moving up to tabloid size from its usual A4 format.

FELICES of the late Sixties were far more political than they are now. They featured news of Vietnam,

Why FELIX?

Everybody's heard of FELIX the cat. So why was the newspaper called after this American cartoon character? The truth of the matter is that nobody is really altogether sure why Ted Hughes, the first editor, decided on the name. FELIX was actually suggested by F C Ewells which is well-reported in the first issue but at no point does it say why everybody thought the name was an apt one. The most likely theory is that it was a bastardised version of Phoenix, which was a literary magazine produced by the Union twice a year and was the only Union publication up until that point. It is easy to see why a cartoon character's name should seem to fit so well when its brother publication is the high and haughty Phoenix, rising periodically from the ashes. The cat signified a sense of fun, entertainment, humour on one hand and on the other strength, conviction and curiosity.

2 - FELIX, DECEMBER 3rd 1976

IC 'perversion' - fact or fantasy?

The Rector and College Administration are in for quite a shock when they see next month's press cuttings (for IC), if this month's edition of *Lovebirds* is anything to go by.

For sandwiched in between the stuck pages of this new bastion of light-porn is an article on the sex life of us students at IC. Not that I mind when someone does a feature of my private fantasies, but when the lady concerned calls the resultant article 'The imps of perversion popping it off in South Ken', then I do start to take notice.

In point of fact I didn't have anything to do with this article, our ex-printers just happened to drop FELIX a copy. However, if you can identify 'Horny Jim' you may be able to shed some light on this amusing story.

Jim is the only IC student interviewed in *Lovebirds*, although publisher and editor Mary Millington says that she talked to more students when she came here 18 months ago (Eds note - The magazine is new and hence works a fair bit in advance).

What prompted her to write about the sex life of students? 'Well, most students are pretty articulate and interesting people, and I wondered why nobody had bothered to find out what their sex lives were for.'

In the 2 page article we

learn that Jim is tall and dark with a wiry body. He comes over as a conceited stud, 'When word got round that I was hot stuff you should have seen the numbers of girls that flocked around me. I was the screw of the year as far as some of them were concerned and I never lacked a girl to take to bed with me', says Jim.

Then something changed his attitude to sex and he became a 'maute male, with plenty of kinky sex habits'. Up till then Jim had had 'straight sex', but now started dabbling in group sex.

The rest of the article is a rather graphic portrayal of Jim's first group sex experience at Romford, Essex, with two bisexual girls - one an ex-girlfriend who also goes to IC.

'Well that was horny Jim ... students are sexy', says Miss Millington at the end. But is the article genuine. 'Yes' said the former nude model when contacted by FELIX. Certainly the photos outside the new Huxley Building of Miss Millington are genuine, although she neglects to mention the IC male/female ratio - but puts in that we have 4,000 students - and mentions no bars, etc where she met students.

There just remains the question of who 'Horny Jim' is. Details on a postcard

No 437 3rd December 1976

demos and police raids. The home-generated news was that of iniquate Union General Meetings, bitter Council arguments and a desire to encourage more women to come to IC, whilst denying them entry to the Union Bar.

Inflation was soaring in 1969 which meant that FELIX had to raise its cover charge to 6d. Again it found itself being criticised as a waste of money and trees. Some important decisions had to be taken by the Editorial Board and the Union about

HOW POPULAR ARE YOU?

... And now a revealing new personality investigation. Your chance to find out what people really think about you. All you have to do is answer the following questions honestly.

- What sex are you? Points
a. Male 10
b. Female 10
c. Uncertain 0
- What attracted you to Imperial College?
a. The £500,000(?) electron microscope -1
b. the college colours 2
c. the 13:1 ratio 10
depending on your answer to qtn. 1
- What has made the most impression on you so far?
a. The union bar (and vice versa) -1
b. The Albert Memorial 0(?)
c. The 13:1 ratio 10
(as for qtn 2)
- What is your idea of a 'good night out'?
a. Watching 'The Great Escape' for the fourth time -1
b. Reading Kohl & Tinn's '69 ways to hold the pick' -1
c. Something completely different 10
- What do people do when you enter a room?
a. Gather round like flies (to a dustbin?) 10
b. Stick a pint of Courage in your right hand -1
c. Leave 0
- What do people say about you when you leave the room?
a. She's got those 'come to bed with me' eyes 10
b. I wonder if she's started shaving yet? -1
c. I didn't know she'd come in 0

Optional question - an added bonus.

- What is your favourite colour of the following:
a. Red b. Yellow c. Tartan d. Pale
- this is the trick one

Now add up your points and turn to Page X to find out how you rate. (You are quibbly, insecure, observant, persevering and last but not least)

'I now get looks from boys who are passing by in the street!'

says Jean Scully of Liverpool.

'I had terrible problems with my acne and pimples. I never had any boyfriends. I tried everything. Then I discovered Jermokua. As you can see from the photo, I now have no problems at all!'

Draw your own conclusions -

JERMOKUA
The instant answer!



NEW FELIX CAT



No 337 30th May 1973

the direction FELIX was to take in the Seventies. It took two years to come to any firm decisions but the Union finally agreed that it would fund the production of the newspaper. Students would be able to read FELIX free of charge. It was FELIX no 302, edited by Olly Dawson, which was the first to declare itself editorially and financially FREE.

Half a year later a motion was taken to the Union's Council that FELIX should be published weekly and

incorporate all other ICU publications that had sprung up around it. It was also agreed that the Editor would have to become a sabbatical post in order to carry out the job satisfactorily, and it was accepted that the paper would have to drastically increase its advertising revenue.

On Friday 13th September 1974 FELIX entered a new era when it was printed for the first time by offset litho on the College premises. This was to be the era of faulty equipment,

endless nights and tired and emotional Editors. It was the final step in a series of attempts to make FELIX more immediate and accessible. Editor Mike Williams heralded it as a chance for a stronger FELIX and it was a period of intense optimism for everybody who was involved with the paper. The problems with the Print Unit were still to come.

For the next few years FELIX became a weekly twelve or sixteen page booklet, still with a heavy clubs and events orientation. It also brought out special issues such as its careers supplement, still with us today, the FELIX Motor Rally and photographic competitions. By the end of the decade the Union had invested in a litho and phototypesetting system for the Print Unit so that the FELIX Office was now producing the Handbook, Alternative Prospectus and the Phoenix. The Office had also moved down to a suite in Beit Arch, making the paper even more accessible to the average student.

It must have seemed that FELIX had everything going for it but both the Seventies and the Eighties have seen major clashes between Union Officers and the FELIX Editors. In 1976 a motion of no confidence in Editor Clive Dewey was proposed by both the Union and his own staff over his handling of the staff and the dire financial situation he had allowed the paper to get in after spending most of his budget on one issue in the Autumn

continued on page 15

ACCOMMODATION: FROM ONE HOSTEL TO HALLS, HOUSES AND HEAD TENANCIES

When FELIX was first published in 1949, there was only one hostel for use by IC students, Beit Old Hostel. Residents were not allowed overnight guests in any shape or form and were woken up by bells every morning.

Despite the addition of a new hostel in No 12 Princes Gardens for 24 men, hall capacity still lagged far behind demand and the Union complained that this was the reason very few students were interested in Union affairs.

College decided that it was time to build more accommodation and took on an ambitious plan to build halls of residence around Princes Gardens. The first hall was Weeks, donated by Vickers in return for guaranteed places for their engineering students. Unfortunately after Weeks had been built they discovered that the concrete they had used could be dissolved by water!

The next halls were Southside and Linstead with plans to build a sports centre and another hall on the Northside site—when the money ran out.

The only addition that has since been made to the site was an extension to Linstead made possible by a mystery donation of £350,000. Even the simple addition of this extension was fraught with problems when local residents demanded that the new building should be attractive!

VICKERS DONATE HOSTEL

WEEKS HALL IN PRINCES GARDENS TO OPEN IN 1959

PRESS PUBLISHED PIRATED PLANS

DURING MARCH IT WAS ANNOUNCED TO THE NATION THAT MESSRS. VICKERS LTD. HAD DONATED £150,000 FOR THE ERECTION OF A HALL OF RESIDENCE. THIS DONATION WILL ENABLE THE COLLEGE TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRINCES GARDENS SITE.

The new Hall will be known as the Weeks Hall will be built at the east end of the north side of the Gardens. It will accommodate seventy students and we understand that it is hoped to be opened in the autumn of 1959.

Vickers have also announced that they propose to award 15 scholarships for engineering at Imperial College with residence in Weeks Hall.

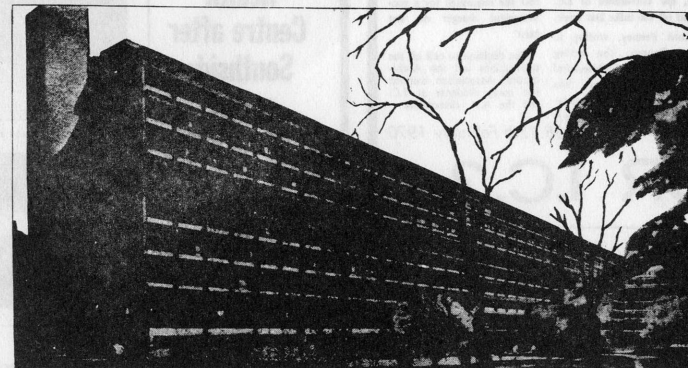
No 106 3rd May 1957

Linstead GAINS AN EXTENSION

£350,000 HAS been received by the College from a benefactor wishing to remain anonymous. It was revealed at the Union General Meeting yesterday. Mr Peter Teague, ICU President, announcing this, said the donation was for the purpose of providing an extension to Linstead Hall.

The announcement was followed by a sustained round of applause in appreciation of this splendid gift. The donation comes from the same source that provided a similar sum of money in 1963 for the building of Linstead Hall itself. The new extension will accommodate approximately 70 students.

No 409 30th January 1976



Artist's Perspective of the east side of Princes Gardens

No 271 22nd January 1969

THE RISE AND POTENTIAL FALL OF WEEKS HALL

IS WEEKS HALL about to fall down? The answer is :- in the short term, probably not, but in the long term it is quite a possibility. Ever since it was built fifteen years ago, Weeks has been dogged by the fact that the concrete block facings just under each window were continually crumbling and creating a potential hazard for passers-by. Contractors work on the replacement of the blocks started at the beginning of the summer at a cost estimated to be in the region of £40,000.

There is speculation as to why the blocks are falling apart. Mr. P.W. Thorby, Warden of Weeks Hall, suggested that it might be 'natural decay' from moisture etc., but several engineering PG's have suggested to FELIX that in fact the building may have been inadequately designed, the gist being that holes for the central heating pipes had to be drilled right through the concrete blocks and this tended to disturb the inherent tensile strength of the concrete.

As though this were not bad enough, misfortune struck Weeks Hall again when it was discovered that the concrete in the beams supporting the building was a special quick-drying high alumina type and it was concrete of this nature which, apparently, was thought to be responsible for the roof of a school collapsing about a year ago.

As a result consultants, Messrs. Clarke, Nicholls and Marcel, were appointed at a cost of £8,000 to assess the hall by means of physical tests involving deflectometers provided by the Civil Engineering

Department here at IC. It would appear that further internal reinforcement work on each room is a possibility which is not being ruled out. Meanwhile, it has just been learnt that Weeks Hall will be evacuated for at least the first term. Presumably the hall residents will be filtered into places in residence created by students who fail their exams and 15th formers who fail their A-levels. It is tough luck on those who are top of the reapplicants reserve lists though.

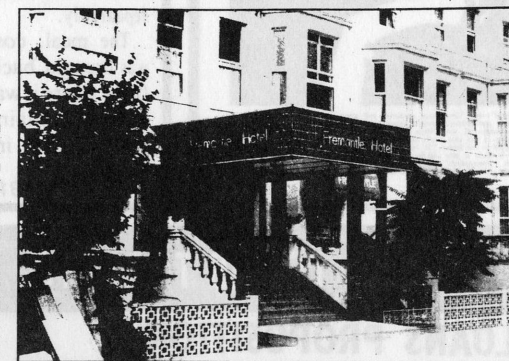
No 361 13th September 1974

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE FREMANTLE

Five Star Tenancy

The Estates Section of College is currently negotiating with the owners of the Fremantle Hotel in Cromwell Road for the use of the hotel as a new Head Tenancy which will provide additional student accommodation for the next three years. Conversion of the building is expected to start during the next few weeks and it will be completed in time for the new intake in late September.

The hotel, which is about fifteen minutes walk from College, will house about 160 students in single and double rooms. Although it will be let under the Head Tenancy scheme, it is large enough to be run in the manner of a conventional Hall of Residence, with large kitchens and a launderette.



To let - 500 res in W Ken 160 bdrms, h.k.c., private gdn at rear 15 mins comming from IC.

No 619 30th July 1982

Good Riddance

The Fremantle Hotel, which for the last three years has been used as Hall of Residence, was gutted by a fire on Wednesday evening. Fire Brigade spokesman told FELIX that over 50 firemen had been required to put out the blaze. He said that over 50% of the building had been destroyed. At the time of the fire nobody was living in the hotel.

The Fremantle Hotel was unpopular with residents during the three years that it was a residence. FELIX regularly ran stories about the poor condition that residences were forced to endure. Michael Arthur, the Student Services Officer of the time, did not deny that College was hoping to take on the residence for another three years.

After halls and the Evelyn Gardens houses, College started acquiring head tenancies in Hamlet Gardens and the Fremantle Hotel on Cromwell Road. Enticingly marketed to Freshers as a 'five star' tenancy, it was, in fact, pest-infested and rundown and most ex-tenants were seen cackling when it finally burnt down in 1985.

Hamlet Gardens has also had its fair share of criticisms recently. Although College are keeping some of the flats on next year, a large block will be lost, as will part of the Lexham Gardens head tenancy scheme.

No 718 25th October 1985

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE TO GO

The building designed by Thomas Colcutt to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887 will have to be removed to make way for the expanding Imperial College.

This is the implication of the answer to the recent questions in the House of Lords by the Chairman of the Governing Body, Lord Palmouth. The Government do not intend to let anything stand in the way of increasing the number of technical students.



The location of the new Imperial Institute has not yet been decided, and its date of removal has yet to be legislated. The press have already commented about the delay in the expansion programme, and this has given people a chance to ask for its preservation.

The Kensington Society, which treasures buildings like the Imperial Institute oppose this removal, although its secretary confessed to not having been inside the building. The Camden Hill group have not paid sufficient attention to Mr. Revere, who in the recent Reith Lectures pointed out that the ornament of buildings was purely subsidiary to its function. If they went behind this facade that faces the Royal College of Science they would realise that the fire hazard in the draughty wooden corridors, and the galvanised tin roof makes a mockery of the wedding cake frontage.

No 87 10th February 1956

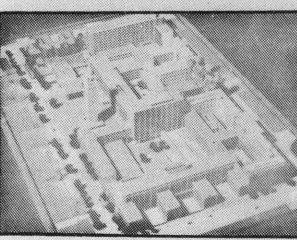
FUTURE SITE UNDECIDED

At the recent Scribner Club's dinner, the principle guest was Mr. John Betjeman, renowned as poet and journalist, and more lately as defender of architectural activities. Mr Betjeman was invited to make the first steps in the destruction of an effigy of Imperial Institute made of lozenges by Messrs. Mooney & Atkinson. He decided to destroy some of the redundant series at the back and not to damage the facade of the building.

In replying to the toast to the guests, John Betjeman expressed his great uprise and pleasure that students took an active interest in these affairs, and pointed out that generally it was the scientists and technologists who had far more sense of responsibility than the arts graduates in the mind of aesthetic nature.

No 94 15th June 1956

THE ISLAND SITE - LATEST MODEL



FIFTEEN MILLION POUND

For the last year the peaceful calm of Imperial College has been shattered by the roar of the air-compressor and the chatter of the pneumatic drill. The builders are in, and they will be staying with us for several more years. Between the years 1953 and 1962 the student population of this College will be expanded from 1500 to over 3000. To accommodate the extra numbers the College and Union Buildings will be added to, and in some cases, modified. It is a vast project, involving the expenditure of £15 millions of public funds.

During the past eighteen months four preliminary projects have been put in hand. One has been completed: a fourth storey having been added to the R.S.M. and Goldsmiths' extension of Guilds. The architects were Norman and Dawbarn. The Union Building (N. side of the Beit Building, close to the Albert Hall) is being converted from a two-storey building of 25,000 sq. ft. to a four-storey building of 50,000 sq. ft. Work began in July '54 and is due to be completed in July '56. A permanent refectory is already installed in the ground floor of this building. The architects are Sutcliffe and Partners with Sir Hubert Worthington as consultant.

No 79 4th October 1955

At the end of the fifties, College took on an ambitious building project aimed at removing the old Imperial Institute and replacing it with what we know today as the Imperial College 'Island Site'. All that remains of the original Thomas Colcutt building is the Queen's Tower.

The scheme was not without its critics, who included Sir John Betjeman who was invited to cut the first slice from an effigy of the Institute made of iced cake by the College Refectory staff.

It was not until the end of the sixties that the main College block, Sheffield, was due to be completed. After the Island Site, Blackett, and Roderick Hill Aeronautical Engineering Block had been completed, W2—now affectionately known as the Huxley Building—was built to house the ever-expanding Physics Department, Mathematics and Computing.

The most recent addition to IC has been the new Computing Building next to the walkway which should be opened any year now!

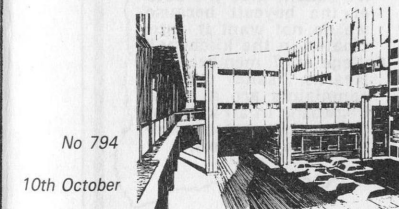
W2- Nearly there!

The move to W2 is now nearly complete and the building should be ready by the beginning of term. No date has yet been fixed for an official opening of W2 which is to be named the Huxley Building. W1 is being officially opened sometime in December and is being named, The Blackett Laboratory, after Lord Blackett, late Fellow of Imperial College. A memorial lecture is to be given at the opening. W2 will be occupied by the Maths, CCD and Physics departments. The new RCS office is also in W2 off the walkway. The old Meteorology department has been amalgamated with the Physics department and now the atmospheric Physics section.

Those using the lifts in the new Huxley building may have noticed the different labelling of levels on the outside and inside the lifts. On the outside the level numbers read 1, ..., 5, 6, 6M, 7 and on the inside they read 1, ..., 5, 7M, 7. The error is being rectified. The correct coding is the former. This is all in order that levels in the Physics building may correspond to those in W2 and vice versa.

W2 has taken two and a half years to build and by the time all costs are totted-up, will have cost in excess of £3 million.

No 394 13th September 1975



No 794

10th October

1986

Woodcut of planned Computing Building

MERGERS?

QEC Merger

A fourth CCU?

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the joint working party set up to examine closer collaboration between Imperial College and Queen Elizabeth College recommended that the colleges should form an "association with the intent of a merger at a later date".

No 599 4th December 1981

MEDICS FOR I.C.?

Report of Royal Commission

A medical faculty for IC is recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission on Medical Education published this month.

The Report recommends that the number of London Medical Schools should be halved by merging St. Bartholomew's with London University College with the Royal Free, Middlesex with St. Mary's, Guy's with King's College, Westminster with Charing Cross and St. George's with St. Thomas's. Each of these should have an intake of about 200 students per year and around 1000 total, and each should become the medical faculty of a London college.

If these recommendations are carried out the Westminster - Charing Cross combination would become the medical faculty of I.C.

No 260 24th April 1988

"Conditions do not exist for a merger"

After eight years of negotiations towards the merger of the Architectural Association with Imperial College, the Governors of I.C. called off the talks last week.

Lord Penney, writing to John Dennis, the acting President of the Architectural Association said that "the Association has raised fundamental issues, and events

have taken place in the course of the negotiations which have finally caused my colleagues and I to realise that the requisites for a successful merger do not exist".

The decision to call off the negotiations left the Architectural Association stunned and many students at I.C. and the A.A. dissatisfied.

No 288 12th February 1970

Working Party To Look At Merger With St Mary's

IC May Merge

No 739 9th May 1986

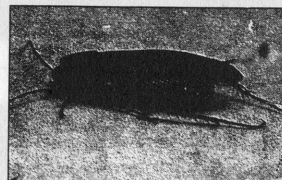
This August IC will finally merge with St Mary's Medical School, twenty years after the Royal Commission suggested that Imperial should have a medical faculty.

REFECTORY HORRORS

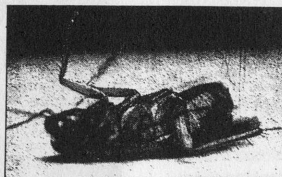
Student in Health Centre after Southside meal!

An IC student, Abid Ali Dost, a Chemistry PG, received a cut lip on Tuesday evening while eating a meal in the Southside Refectory.

He had been eating Pizza rice and salad in the main Southside Dining Room, when he cut the inside of his lip on a piece of glass approximately one centimetre long. The glass came from his meal, so he went back to the serving point with two friends. When he complained, he was told that a bowl containing the salad was chipped, and it was thought that the glass came from there. Mr Dost was taken to the Health Centre at 6:00pm for medical attention.



Before and after Mooney Chip



Staple Diet

Claims that College meals are deficient in vital iron were disproved last Friday evening when Imperial resident Sue England found a 1 1/2 cm staple embedded in the surface of a pear at the hall evening meal. Having removed the object, Sue went on to eat the pear, part of the fresh



fruit dessert following a sickening main course of baked ham and chips. The pear was apparently tough skinned, but juicy.

Cockroaches!

No 574 30th January 1981

No 595 6th November 1981

Mooney - Gross error

Southside refectionary staff admitted on Wednesday that a dish described as Sauté of lamb in fact contained beef.

FELIX was alerted when a Hindu student allergic to beef phoned the office anonymously.

FELIX reporters then went to Southside and ordered a portion of 'Sauté of Lamb'. The dish was served, and the waitress replied that it was lamb when asked repeatedly.

The meal, costing 72 pence, was brought back to the FELIX Office where it was examined and found to contain large cubes of stewing steak in a thick beef sauce.

No 681 5th October 1984

COCKROACH MENU AT COLLEGE

STUDENTS at a London college protested angrily about the cockroaches.

They found them in the kitchens and in the halls of residence.

Some of the insects even scuttled around the common rooms while students watched television, says the magazine of students at the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

It was the last straw when three students found cockroaches in their vol-au-vent.

'Hog-wash'

Students are now planning to boycott the dining hall.

Student William Honeyborne said yesterday: "Sprays no longer have any effect because there are so many cockroaches."

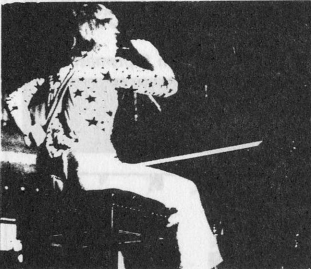
"We cannot give the date of the boycott because we do not want it anticipated in the kitchens." College staff member Jim Kearns, said: "These complaints are a lot of hogwash. In all kitchens there are a certain number of cockroaches."

No 588 19th June 1981

ENTS: UPS AND DOWNS

ELTON JOHN

in concert 24th February



To one of the largest audiences seen in the Great Hall, Elton John rocked his way through several really great numbers. Yet he didn't arrive on stage until about twenty to eleven when some of the audience must have been worried about his appearance. Yet after he did to a really warm reception from himself and his first 'Your Song' tip until then, the crowd in the Great Hall had been treated to first Urban Clearway, and later John's backing group Hookfoot.

Urban Clearway lacked a few things, one of them talent. And they might have been more at home in one of Ent's Saturday night hops. Still, perhaps this is under the audience did thank the group with reasonable applause. And so on to Hookfoot who gave a performance which clearly showed more talent and experience. Between them, they showed not much versatility as actual technique and coordination; their music was hard and had a likeable amount of rock influence. They gained a big response and only the fact that Elton John followed, limited the several shouts of 'more'.

The Concert's one fault was one that must limit many

such 'technical' events. Time & space a performance dragged as equipment, not very extensive in this case, was transferred in and from backstage. It seems a pity that these 'interruptions' must happen, concerts lose some continuity and atmosphere because of them. Hence the delayed appearance of Elton John on stage. Yet his performance made up for any other shortcomings, with a range of songs and styles, one or two from the LP 'Tumbleweed Connection'. Elton John has two rare qualities: one his voice and two, his way of jumping around the piano while still hanging out on the keys. With artists like this guy, Ent can't go wrong!

No 300 11th March 1971

Did you know that Elton John, Jimi Hendrix, Yes, Deep Purple and Pink Floyd have played Imperial College?

In 1949 The Ents Committee organised 'hops' in the Union Lounge every Saturday which were always well-attended, to the point of being over-crowded.

It was only in the early Seventies that Ents could put on big name artists such as Floyd: College allowed the newly-opened Great Hall to be used and they could guarantee full gigs every time.

The bubble burst when the GLC fire officers demanded that a barrier be erected in the hall at least 6 feet away from the stage. Ents could no longer use the Great Hall, only the Union Building, and could no longer afford to put on the big name bands.

LOANS THREATS

LOANS PROPOSITION BLUFF OR STRATEGY?

No 223 1st December 1965

ON THURSDAY IC Union is to be asked to "deplore any suggestion of returnable loans to students and demand full maintenance grants for students irrespective of parental income."

Keith Cavanagh, who is to propose this motion to the lunchtime Union Meeting, considers that the present Government is trying to provide education "on the cheap". This thought follows, most recently, from the move to increase the number of students in Training Colleges without extra expenditure.

The motion springs from a suggestion that loans should be introduced in a letter from the Department of Education and Science that found its way to the national press in early October. The problem it creates immediately is whether it was intended as bluff or as a feeler prior to some definite action. However, it probably heralds a hardening of attitude towards increase in student grants.

In view of the element of doubt, Mr. Cavanagh feels that, like NUS, ICU should act as though it is a serious consideration.

The threat of student loans has been with us for well over twenty years now. Successive Conservative governments have tentatively suggested them to test public opinion. In the Sixties grants were already under fire and have never increased as much as inflation each year.

With the swing of public opinion to the Right in the Eighties, it is almost a certainty that student loans will be introduced in the Nineties.

THE ROLLERCOASTER RIDE OF THE UNION

In 1949 the Union was housed in a two storey building on the northside of Beit Quadrangle and most Union Officers were more mature than today's, having all done their army service before going to university.

It was not until 1966, when the Union Building was twice the size and nearly one-third of the student population lived on campus, that students started to question why the Union President was elected by a handful of people and not everybody. Debate raged for three years until a referendum was held. Unsurprisingly the student body wanted more say in who was their elected representative.

During the late Sixties the Union became very much more political, as was reflected in the FELICES of that time and the Seventies were a time of great Union management expansion when FELIX Editor and Deputy President became sabbatical posts.



No 65 5th October 1954

Free Vote for President

The Case For

BEFORE considering the advantages of electing President of Imperial College Union by popular vote, there are three important criticisms of the present evolutionary method. Firstly, the President who is elected by a meeting of joint Council must feel more responsible to them than to the whole Union. This very indirect method of election means that the President seems far from the general body of the Union.

Secondly this system of election tends to produce a President from the oligarchy which runs Imperial College Union. This is backed up by most Presidents evolving directly from Council and not from the Union. Because of this too many members of the Union do not know of the future President until they are presented to them.

Thirdly, because of the system candidates are distanced from coming forward. It is a sorry state of affairs when Presidents are elected unopposed.

ULU is a prime example of what happens when the members of the ULU have hardly any say in the elections of the President and the rest of the executive. In order that IC does not degenerate as far as this, the President and Secretary of IC Union must be elected by a popular vote of the Union members.

The first advantage is that we would have a democratic system for choosing our most senior member. Secondly, and the more important reason, the President would be responsible to the whole Union, who had elected him. Conversely the Union members would realise that the President more realistically represents the Union in the office and outside IC.

In order to persuade the majority of the Union

to support them, the candidates would have to organise a campaign to make themselves known, to show their abilities and put forward their views to the whole Union. I doubt if any candidate would be elected on grounds of emotion. In fact potential candidates who were not serious are more likely to win over the relatively small Joint Council than the solid bulk of the Union.

By exercising their vote to choose the senior member of the Union, members of IC Union will be able to participate more in the Union when they realise their own and their vote counts. In this way I think that the apathy which besets Union activities could be curbed to the advantage of everyone.

E. Fortune.

And Against

Created issues and inter-collegiate strife. Are these the grounds on which we want to elect the President of I.C. Union? Do we want candidates to have to think up slogans like "Cheaper Mooney Means" that are impossible to put into effect? Do we want the Mines vote to hold sway over whether we have a President from Guilds or RCS?

A free vote for Presidency does not necessarily mean that these would be the deciding points, but only if issues like these arose would it be any different from the present system, where the final choice is made by Council—which is no more of a clique than the House of Commons.

The nature of the office makes it essential that the President is someone of proven administrative ability, with the respect of those with whom he must work and those in authority, and with an

intimate knowledge of the running of the Union. The present system ensures that the person who fulfils these conditions best will be elected. It is said that a great advantage of the proposed change is that popular Presidents will result. In theory this is an excellent point. But who are people popular? Because of the above points, or because "he makes Constituent Union Members laugh" or "he is a good centre forerunner" To become popular candidates would be forced to canvass intensively for two or three months beforehand. This would mean final year undergraduates (who are at present the majority of candidates) would not be prepared to stand. Do we want a free vote with some of the best candidates unable to stand—resulting in, perhaps, only one candidate in favour of this method? Candidates are forced to make rash promises which they cannot keep. They have to manufacture reasons why they are "different". He said also that nearly always the election reduced to Arts versus the Sciences, with the former more successful through greater numbers. He, as an engineer, belonged to a small faculty and would probably not have had a serious chance but for exam failures removing the two main contenders. Do we never want a President from Mines?

People who suggest that the present arrangement is undemocratic would be better employed doing their stirring about the method of government in this country. As the past has produced a Prime Minister can stagger on, even when the House of Commons is against him, so why should we have total democracy because the Union is above the President, who is only the chairman of Council?

Earlier this year FELIX interviewed 1700 students for a Kappa Poll. Over 57 per cent of the people for a Kappa Poll. Over 57 per cent of the people for a Kappa Poll. Over 57 per cent of the people for a Kappa Poll.

No 227 23rd February 1966

Referendum voters say; We want to elect our Union Officials

Constitutional referendum

Do you believe that	Yes	No	And
Constitutional reforms should exist	1221	491	30
ICU should exist?	976	77	39
Exec. should exist?	1241	434	65
ICU should exist?	781	922	39
President should have Sabbatical year?	968	708	66
President and Secretary should be elected by a vote throughout the college?	1322	398	24
Departmental reps. should be on council?	1064	603	75

Final results

Seven Vice-Presidents for I.C.U.

The Council of the Union has recommended that the President should be elected by a free vote of the whole Union. The Council also recommended that the President should be elected by a free vote of the whole Union. The Council also recommended that the President should be elected by a free vote of the whole Union.

No 274 6th March 1969

Southside bargain basement offered by College

SOUTHSIDE MOVE: COLLEGE TRIES AGAIN

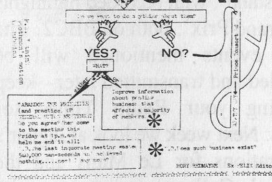
The projected move of Union facilities to Southside is again a real possibility after a meeting of the Southside Working Party and members of the Estates Section on Thursday afternoon. Most Union representation seem to approve of the plan as set out by the College, but they will insist on certain safeguards and guarantees before committing the Union.

The College proposals as outlined by Don Clark of Estates is that over the next four years, all Union facilities should move from Beit Quad to the lower levels of Southside, which are at present underused. The Post Experience Centre, which has been established in Beit, (This is a plan to run short courses for industry, and is expected to bring a large amount of money into College.) The move would start with the building of new sports facilities, including glass-backed squash courts, a new theatre and, once the Southside Shop has moved to larger premises, all the Union administration, and offices. No plans to move the FELIX Office have been put forward.

Union officers still have major reservations; they consider it suspicious that College should offer to undertake so much

No 629 26th November 1982

UNION MEETINGS ARE CRAP



No 261 8th May 1968

Money raised from the exploitation of gravel deposits under the College's sports ground at Harlington should be used to improve existing sports facilities, according to a submission to the Finance and Executive Council.

For over two years there have been plans to extract the gravel, which is expected to be worth over a million pounds to College. Substantial deposits are already being mined on adjacent sites, and the College has received estimates of the total income and time scale of the operation; it is College policy to put all such work out to tender. The original plans in 1980 were that the money should go towards improving student residence, but it has since been discovered by Union Officers that the grounds are held in trust by the Governing Body and that the intention of the original agreement was that all money raised from their sale should be used only to provide further sporting facilities for students.

No 630 3rd December 1982

MINERS

Harlington gravel has been news in FELIX throughout the Eighties. A detailed report of what the money should be used for was front page news in 1982 but six years on none of it has been spent on the students.

The Eighties have also seen the College keen to get their hand on the Union Building for the expansion of the Biology Department and as a centre for short courses. In 1982 College Secretary John Smith urged the Union to accept his proposals that the Union facilities be placed in the basement of Southside. The proposals were rejected.

The College was more successful in 1986 when, due to a weak Union Executive, the Bot/Zoo Common Room and Old FELIX Office in Beit Arch were given away to Biology because College had given the Union control of the Union Bar.

The Union is still in a strong position today with a completely new management plus the appointment of a Finance Officer and Union Manager.

term. There was bitter correspondence over his alleged bias. Eventually he was only censured at a Union General Meeting and it was agreed that a FELIX Business Manager should be created who would authorise any payments so as to avoid any further potentially disastrous financial years.

In 1979 FELIX was charged with 'profiteering' in its charges to Union clubs. In a bitterly fought FELIX Editor's election, one candidate John Shuttleworth 'exposed' the fact that the Editor was charging for paper plates and labour when all FELIX had to pay for was the paper. Shuttleworth went on to win and take the Union to court after he failed his summer exams and was not considered to be of 'good academic standing', one of the conditions of taking up a sabbatical post. He lost his fight.

The next controversial year was 1981 when Editor Steve Marshall also faced a motion of No Confidence at a UGM. There had been 'growing dissatisfaction' with his editorship which accusations of bias, misleading stories and personal vendettas.

The FELIX of the Eighties has had its share of controversies. It has been criticised as being stodgy and boring one minute, biased and critical the next. In recent years it has been forced out of Beit Arch to a basement in the north side of the Quadrangle in exchange for more sophisticated printing equipment and more space. It has always come out on a Friday no matter what accidents have befallen it. It has faced the threat of censorship by the Union. But it is still in the strongest position it has been for several years with an average of twenty pages each week.

FELIX has seen eight hundred issues come and go and since 1949 it has remained the newspaper of Imperial College provided by the Union to inform, criticise and entertain the students of Imperial.

The FELIX spirit taken from FELIX no 100, December 1956:

This Spirit of Felix is always evident. Some Editors produce "stodgy" issues, some were very frivolous. But I.C. news and views have always been faithfully recorded and the paper has always spoken its mind. The spirit has been passed on by successive Editorial Boards. They have worked as a team with an enthusiasm that defies analysis. Editors came and went - few could stand up to the racket for more than half a dozen issues. The team changed; some left, and others stayed on longer to initiate the fresh blood.

Now, "one hundred not out", we can foresee no end to the innings of our Reverend Cat. He is the much part of I.C. as is the New Union Building so long as readers feed him with news and views. Ted Hughes' pioneer work has been justified. "The success or failure of this paper depends principally on you, our readers," he said. For seven years you and your forebears have never wavered in your support, Felix thanks you.

Long live Felix!

J V Bramley

Monday 2nd May

This game is of new real importance with the distant position of a place in Europe for the Gunners being of some I suppose. They lost a brilliant Littlewoods Cup Final last week and this might throw them. Coventry are looking for top eight place for personal pride only and might prove tough opposition. A draw looks possible if Arsenal are still under the weather.

Selhurst Park (Selhurst BR)

Charlton looked doomed a few months ago but now have a lifeline to survive and they must win this to inject life into the battle campaign. Crooks netted twice more against Newcastle last week and has proved a valuable asset this year. Spurs aren't out of the relegation battle either yet and losing games 39 and 40 could put them in the play off position, so they must salvage something too. A hard fought score-draw is what I will predict.

Upton Park (Upton Park tube)

This can best be described as the typical end of season 6 pointer with relegation a possibility for the loser, with the added spice that the teams are local rivals and enemies! West Ham have thrown away their old form of play and look a desperate side, full of good players who won't score and an injury list longer than the team list. Chelsea had a bad run which put them in this position and a point here would suit them fine. I think that the Hammers will take the points in a scrappy but exciting game. (11.30am kick off).

Plough Lane (Wimbledon Pk tube)

I congratulate the Dons on reaching the FA Cup final and I am sure that they will do themselves justice on the day. The result of this game isn't really important but I am sure that each side will play as good as usual. Injuries must be avoided for the home side, so they must be 'Wise' Wednesday are in-form and a draw at QPR last week kept up their challenge. Wimbledon to win by the odd goal.

The home team to win with promotion only a mathematical hope...

Crystal Palace vs Blackburn.
West Ham vs Chelsea.

MOTOR

by
**Adrian
Bourne**

The fanatical Italian *Tifosi* will make sure that Ferrari will get a rapturous welcome as the Formula One circus returns to Europe for the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola, Italy, on Sunday.

Ferrari enter the race in their best shape for five years and a victory for local hero *Gerhard Berger* will elevate him to the status of a god, last occupied by the late, great, Canadian, *Gilles Villeneuve*, whose career and style Gerhard has remarkably matched.

Niether completed the traditional karting/Formula Ford/F3/F2 ladder that most drivers climb but quickly progressed from other areas of the sport. Villeneuve was World Snowmobile champion before moving into F1 straight from the American Formula Atlantic.

Berger started in Motocross, then Alfasud racing and a bit of European F3 before leapfrogging into F1.

One of Berger's first Alfasud races was at Imola in 1982, a support event to Villeneuve's last Grand Prix. Gilles was cheated of victory by 'team-mate' *Didier Pironi* when cruising to an unchallenged 1-2 for Ferrari and Gilles vowed never to speak to Pironi again. This would tragically prove correct, as Villeneuve was killed in an horrific accident thirteen days later at Zolder, Belgium, on 8th May.

Berger admits that his favourite driver of all time is Villeneuve and their styles have frequently been compared. Perhaps the best description I've heard is 'looking like an accident with somewhere to take place, but never happening'.

Like Villeneuve did, Berger should have scored his first win on home soil but his car faltered when he held a commanding lead. My only regret is that he drives Ferrari no 28, whereas Villeneuve's old number was 27.

Berger's greatest opposition will again be the McLaren-Hondas of *Alain Prost* and *Ayrton Senna* and *Nigel Mansell's* Williams-Judd.

The Dino-Ferrari circuit at Imola, named after Enzo Ferrari's fighter pilot son, is 3.1 miles with long straights, tight corners and silly chicanes. It is undoubtedly a horsepower circuit which should see the turbos well up in qualifying but it is also notoriously bad for fuel consumption which will hit the turbos in the race.

After the successful predictions in the last column (four winners and four second places), I'll put my head on the block again and go for Ayrton Senna to win, after the disappointment of being disqualified in the last two races, and Nigel Mansell to be leading atmospheric.

Some of you may have seen the excellent BBC coverage over the holiday of the British Formula Three and Saloon Car championships. Both are benefitting from the increased media attention with better sponsors and larger grids. Both series have races this Bank Holiday Monday (May 2), F3 at Silverstone, Saloons at Thruxton.

The saloon car scene is currently dominated by the Ford Sierra RS500: *Andy Rouse, Jerry Mahoney and Graham Goode* the likely victors. Class B will be dominated by the BMW M3, with a well known face in the Prodrive no 33 car. TV personality Mike Smith proved that he is a very serious and highly talented driver with third place overall in the recent Donington European race, despite the death of his race engineer on the way to the circuit.

Possible F3 winners include the Finn *Jyrki Jarvilehto* (known as *JJ Lehto*) *Martin Donnelly*, *John Alcorn*, *Roland Ratzenberger* (yes, really!) *Damon Hill*, son of double world champion *Graham Hill*.

On the rally scene the World Championships visits Corsica, island of tragedy for the last two years. In 1986 the brilliant young Finn *Henri Toivonen* was killed in the accident that led to the banning of the group B 'supercars'. Last year the co-driver in a showroom class Peugeot lost his life, showing that the ban was a hasty, ill-conceived over-reaction.

Expect the Lancia's to win again (they've won every round so far this year) with *Massimo Biasion* and *Markku Alen* the drivers.

Coverage of the San Marino Grand Prix will hopefully be live on 'Sunday Grandstand', with recorded highlights on 'Grand Prix', both on BBC2. The other events mentioned will be recorded and transmitted later—keep checking your Radio Times for details. Next week we look at Jaguar's preparations for Le Mans and the Imperial College connection with F3000.

F

OOTBALL

by
**Adrian
Grainger**

The end of the season is nigh with points at this stage vital for those teams pushing for promotion or pulling away from the dire disasters of relegation. There are two sets of fixtures as it is Bank Holiday weekend. Check press for KO times.

Saturday 30th April

Chelsea vs Liverpool

Stamford Bridge (Fulham Bay tube)
Chelsea are desperate for points in their fight against the play-off position, but a game against the newly crowned league champions wouldn't really be their ideal choice of game. Two goals late on against Cup finalists (my start of season prediction) Wimbledon gave the Blues a vital point last week but they won't be expecting that sort of charity from Barnes, Beardsley and Co. Liverpool to win. (I wish Dalglish would learn to speak properly though).

Crystal Palace vs Blackburn

Selhurst Park (Selhurst Park BR)

This second division tussle looks a classic with both sides looking for top flight football next year. Palace must hope that the sides above them slip up in order to make the play offs and a game against the side one above them is the best way of insuring that this happens. Blackburn recruited Ossie Ardiles and Steve Archibald to bolster their challenge and look set to at least share the points.

Millwall vs Stoke City

The Den (New Cross tube)

Millwall have had a great season and head the table, looking set to make Division One for the first time. A win would at least guarantee a play off place and four more points would make the dream a reality. Stoke are a good side and Mick Mills has a team for the future. They will return, but not this year. Millwall to take the points.

Brentford vs Doncaster

Division Three game.

Levton Orient vs Hereford

Brisbane Road (Leyton tube)

The battle for places in the Division Four play off places could hardly be closer or harder. Orient must win their last three games to make sure of their deserved place, starting off with a victory here.

What's On

FRIDAY

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.

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

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

Christian Union6.00pm.
OHC 308 Computing. 'Mission Work'. All are welcome, follow directins from Physics Foyer.

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.

Stop the Clause March12.00pm.
Embankment tube.

Rag Fête2.00pm.

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

Exam Blues Ball8.30pm.
In the Union Building. Featuring Geno Washington and Rent Party, plus disco and late bar. £3, £2.50 (adv).

SUNDAY

Chaplaincy Sunday Service10.00am.
Sherfield Building. Everyone welcome, please join us.

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Rock Soc Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

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

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

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

Guinness & Gossip 12.30pm.
Sailing Club meeting above Stan's.

IC CathSoc Mass ..12.30pm.
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.

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

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

Amnesty Meeting5.30pm.
Brown Committee Room. Everyone welcome.

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

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

Caving Club Meeting7.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

IC Radio8.00pm.
Psychedelic & Indie Show.

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

Canoe Club Meeting8.30pm.
Above Southside Bar.

Dai Rocking9.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz). 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. Meeting 12.30pm.
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!

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

Caving Club Meeting1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting ..1.00pm.
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.

ICSO Rehearsal7.00pm.
Great Hall. Everybody be there!

THURSDAY

ICYHA Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

Socialist Society Meeting12.45pm.
Brown Committee Room. All welcome. Contact Adrian Grainger (Maths 3).

Ski Club12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar. Sign up for lessons, racing team.

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.

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.

Orienteering Training5.30pm.
Union Gym. Social meeting held from 6.30pm onwards.

Newsbreak6.00pm.
STOIC.

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

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).

Reviews

FILM

Wall Street (15)

It is unfortunate in a sense that Michael Douglas has received so much hype for his role in *Fatal Attraction* and little, in Britain at least, for his magnificent part in *Wall Street*. Winning an Oscar is not easy, especially against such talents as William Hurt and Robin Williams, but I can say for certain that Douglas deserves it fully for bringing the character Gordon Gekko truly to life.

Gekko is a corporate raider, has the sole occupation of obtaining what he wants—usually money—when he wants, and using it in any way necessary to bring more capital gains. His office furniture alone could testify to his income, and we needn't even look at his art collection or beach home for further proof. From his first appearance, right up to his final one, Douglas makes it clear that no one and nothing is more important than being wealthy and a part of that one per cent of American people who own half of the country's riches.

Balance this with Charlie Sheen, a young broker who wants in on the faster world of higher finance, but not at any price. With the totally ruthless Gekko as teacher, however, anyone



can go astray, and the character of Bud Fox, once again made believable by superb acting, quickly does. We follow Fox's induction into the nasty world of money, and we are accompanied by Carl Fox watching also, and forced to bear witness to the fast rise and inevitable fall of his son. The scenes with Charlie Sheen opposite his father Martin are a delight to see and add further realism to this movie.

You have to be good to get to the top, and Bud Fox is. To stay there takes something more, complete disregard for everybody except

yourself, and only Gekko has that in this film. Fox is on his way out quickly, but if the good guys must go down, they always go down fighting. Revenge is sweet, and Fox does get a small taste.

Don't be fooled, there isn't a happy ending. Oliver Stone (director of *Platoon* and *Midnight Express*) does not provide a heart-warming couple of hours of entertainment. Rather he gives us a lesson. Not that walking over people is bad—Gekko is doing quite well. Nor does he say that you can do well if you're willing to take on Gekko and his rivals. Bud Fox

doesn't.

The lesson is that to play with the big boys you have to be one of them. If you're not then it's only a matter of time before you get your fingers burned. The big boys live by one rule: 'Bucks is everything,' Douglas tells us, 'the rest is conversation'. If you don't play by the rules, you don't play.

I couldn't help being reminded of *The Hitcher* while watching *Wall Street*. Rutger Hauer takes a full two hours to corrupt his innocent protégé, while Michael Douglas does it in just thirty minutes. The dealing shown is also reminiscent of the showdown in *Trading Places*, but *Wall Street* has no Eddie Murphy, no laughs, and no runners up.

The most striking quality of this film is its realism, provided partly by a wonderful cast, and aided immensely by the New York backdrop, ever present and always impressive. The business world exists, and no doubt there is a Gordon Gekko, or many, somewhere. Michael Douglas convinced me of that. In *Fatal Attraction* he proved that he is a star. In *Wall Street* he shows just what an enormously talented star he is.

See this film. I can guarantee you'll enjoy it. *Wall Street* opens tonight at the Odeon, Leicester Square.

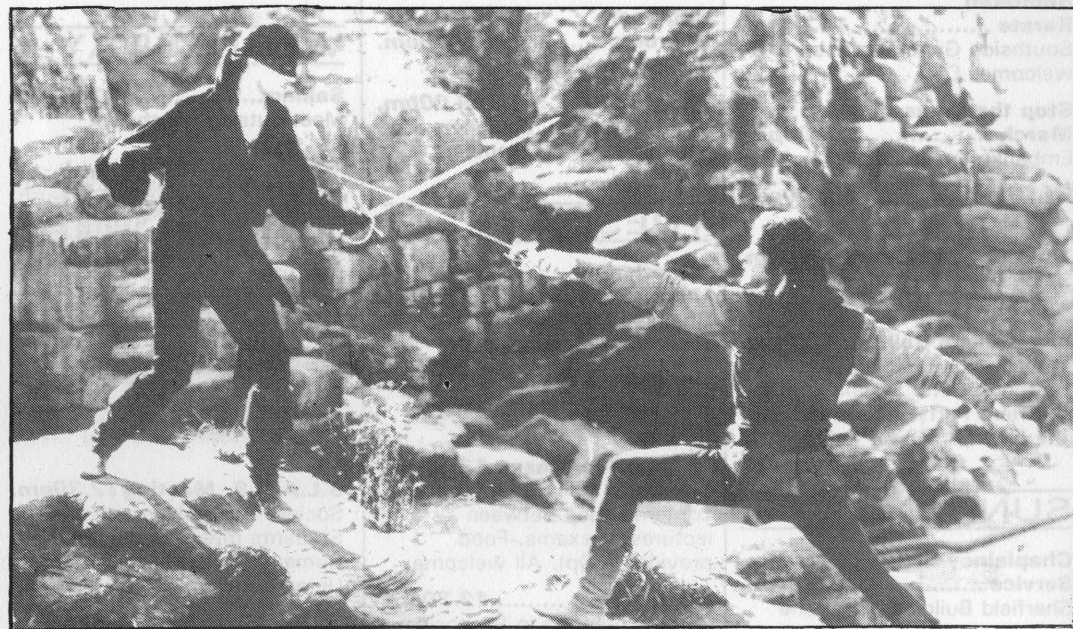
Andrew Clarke.

The Princess Bride (PG)

I suspect very few people over the age of ten would be attracted by the advertising for this film. After all, that tends to be the audience that fairytales are aimed at. The release during Easter indicates that perhaps the distributors and film makers consider this to be a children's film. But I would disagree.

Based on a book by William Goldman, (*Marathon Man*, *Magic*), it tells the story of the true love between a simple farm boy, Westley, (Cary Elwes) who is in fact as much of a hero as Indiana Jones, and Buttercup (Robin Wright in her first film role). They suffer from none of the problems of modern day true love—safe sex, mortgages and what to put in the children's packed lunches—but every conceivable misfortune of medieval times. Torture, kidnapping, a good deal of innocent violence and even a giant rodent of which James Herbert would be proud.

The baddies get their rightful punishment, the goodies get their various revenges, and in the end true love wins, as we were promised all along. It still sounds like a Disney cartoon doesn't it?



The adult element comes in the highly satirical humour, predominant throughout, and often very subtle. 'You just made one of the two classical major blunders' laughs the evil mercenary Vizzini, who has switched poisoned drinks while the hero's back is turned, 'The other is to start a land-based war in Asia.' The effect is reminiscent of *Time Bandits*

with a simpler story. Nothing complicated to distract you from the fun.

The cast are good, and special performances by Peter Falk, Mel Smith, Peter Cook and Billy Crystal as the wizard Miracle Max, with Jewish accent and made-up like Yoda, add a small touch of class.

This is a pleasant film, enjoyable

to watch, and made with tongue firmly in cheek. Above all it is nice to see another low budget British film appearing to challenge the big bucks Hollywood productions being incessantly thrown at us. *The Princess Bride* not only fares well against them, for entertainment value it beats many of them hands down.

Andrew Clarke

MUSIC

'Waiting for Bonaparte'— The Men They Couldn't Hang

When *The Men They Couldn't Hang* released their second album—*How Green is the Valley*, they produced one of the best LPs I've heard. It was difficult to imagine how they could possibly follow it. With *Waiting for Bonaparte* they haven't disappointed.

How Green is the Valley was a fiery collection of music designed to bring to the boil an angry rebellious side in all but the most passive listener. The latest album heralds a new era for *The Men They Couldn't Hang*. Gone are the political anthems of their previous two albums. Instead deeper lyrics concentrate on more subtle issues, notably on a nautical theme.

Amongst the fast-moving tales of smuggling, legacies and marine life is the obligatory slow ballad—now a trademark of TMTCH's albums. *Island in the Rain* takes off where *Scarlet Ribbons* and *Parted From You* have previously. A memory of lost love ghosting on an empty beach, this is a song that will strike a chord with anyone who longs for the past and what might have been.

A review of this album would be incomplete without mentioning the new single. *The Colours* is quite

simply a masterpiece—the last speech of a convicted mutineer on the scaffold. He gives an alternative definition of the Union flag:

'Red is the colour of the new republic,
Blue is the colour of the sea,
White is the colour of my innocence,
No surrender to your mercy'

Included with initial copies of the album is a song book containing music and lyrics of a selection of songs from all three albums.

If you only buy one album this year, make sure it is *Waiting for Bonaparte*—you won't be disappointed.

Paul Shanley

Ghostdance

After hearing their first compilation album, and looking at the audience queueing outside, I expected *Ghostdance* to be a hardcore goth outfit. Then, when they emerged, there wasn't a piece of black clothing to be seen on the band. They also had a very 'pop' sound, and with their vocalist's incredible voice, I wouldn't be surprised to see them getting near the top 40.

Mac

VIDEO

British films are often delightfully funny and almost always sadly realistic. *'Wish You Were Here'* is certainly no exception. What else could you expect from David Leland, the director of *'Mona Lisa'*?

Set in a small seaside town in post-

war Britain, and loosely based on the early life of Cynthia Payne, the film follows the transformation of 15 year old Linda (Emily Lloyd) from innocent adolescent to not-at-all innocent and very pregnant adolescent.

It's good fun, and provides extremely pleasant entertainment. This is one of that rare breed of film, a box office smash which is just as good when transferred to television.

Andrew Clarke

CUT THE KRAP

• Cut 'n' Blow Dry £5.00
Wednesday 10am onwards
in the Ents Room (above the
New FELIX Office)



M

USIC

Yeah, I know, so it's summer and that means exams and that means revision but come on, when has that really made any difference? I mean, there are priorities! Take the *Soup Dragons*. Now, admittedly I'd always thought they were pretty lacking when it came to sparkle, but when I saw them live they were actually quite good. But not good enough to deserve all the acclaim heaped on them by the music press last year. Their best music always fell just short of exciting, but a miss is as good as a mile, or so I'm told. Good as a support band but really just another guitar group. They're on at the Town and Country Club tonight.

Now the *Jesus and Mary Chain*. They really can deliver the goods and tonight they're playing an 'intimate' gig at ULU, which basically means if you go to the bar you'll miss half the show. But I always thought that the *Chain* went down better in the atmosphere of a smaller venue, so don't be put off. They're promoting their compilation of b-sides and out-takes, *'Barbed Wire Kisses'*, released last week. Moody, yes. Blunt, definitely; but this can really never disguise what it basically is: a collection of near-misses, not-quites. Put it this way; *'Sidewalking'* is the best thing on it, and the only other moments of consequence are *'Kill Surf City'* and *'Surfin' USA'*. And, at a pinch, *'Happy Place'*.

Sunday sees the return of *Throwing Muses* to the Town and Country Club. An extraordinary blend of psychedelia

and folk tinged with just about every other musical style you can think of. Supported by the equally good *Pixies*. Last time, these two bands together produced a gig which was heralded as the best of the year, and among the audience were many people of note from the world of music. Expect the same again!

Album Review:

'Lovely'—The Primitives

This classic album opens with the version of *'Crash'* which stormed the charts last term. A surprise for those of us who expected to hear the 1986 version which sounded like *Jesus and Mary Chain* would have had Debbie Harry sung for them. None the less, a pleasant surprise, for this was pop music at its best. The rest of the album was as expected. More Mary Chain-esque sounds with *'Spacehead'*, *'Nothing Left'*, *'Stop Killing Me'* and *'Buzz Buzz Buzz'*. While *'Carry Me Home'* is pure *Monkees*, *'Shadow'* is straight from '67 and *'Thru the Flowers'* and *'Ocean Blue'* approach *All About Eve*. *'Dreamwalk Baby'*, *'Run Baby Run'*, *'Don't Want Anything to Change'*, *'I'll Stick With You'* and *'Out of Reach'* represent the sound I expect *The Primitives* will be sticking to from now on, in the same groove as *'Crash'*. My only complaint is the absence of *'Really Stupid'* which is brilliant, but luckily this is on the b-side of the latest single, *'Out of Reach'*. To summarise? This is what pop music should be all about.

SQUASH

PG squash championships

Last year the inaugural PG squash championships were an outstanding example of competitive teams squash. The success of that tournament prompts me to organise one again in July this year.

I need to know how many departments are interested in entering teams. Please, feel free to put together a team from your department even though you might not be the PG rep in your department. The format the tournament will take depends on the number of teams entering. It will either be a round-robin or knock out format. Contact me by 5.30pm Friday May 6 if you want to enter a team. After that teams can only be entered at my discretion. I can be contacted on int 4320 or 4412. I will provide the details as they develop. One can expect teams to be awarded extra points for entering larger teams than a minimum permitted size. This is to reflect that the event is social as well as competitive.

A trophy will be purchased because the tournament has shown itself to be able to be successful. It is important that continuity be maintained into subsequent years. I would welcome anyone who might like to organise the event next year to come and meet the Captains of the present teams when the draw of the team matches is made.

The tournament will be followed by a party. The cost of financing the trophy, the tournament, and the party will be met from funds from the Union's Postgraduate Group.

Yishu Nanda,
Chem Eng PG.

VOLLEYBALL

Men's team wins promotion

South Thames II—0
Imperial College—3
2-15, 5-15, 8-15

'At the end of the day, Brian, it's the silver in the cupboard that counts.' Without slipping into Manager-ese too much, it must be said that 'the boys done good, Harry.' In this, the last local competitive match of the season, Imperial struggled to hold back an impending attack of mass apathy to beat South Thames College soundly. Although technically Varsovia can overtake IC on set difference in their remaining matches, Imperial are now assured of promotion from the muddy depths of the third division. This was a fairly uninspiring performance which consisted for the first two sets of one-spike points for Imperial, and South Thames winning a few from ricochets off their own intermittent block. Concentration faltered on promotion point, and it took five attempts to finish the job.

Looking back over this league season, it has been a time of learning to play consistently against weaker opposition, not always successfully. The difference in standard between

the opposition has been enormous, especially between the London league and national student competition, to which Imperial have not always been the most adaptable team. Against better funded student teams with external coaches, though, IC have acquitted themselves very well this last year. In a truly horrible draw in the EVA Student Cup, Imperial eventually took fifth position, having lost in a very close battle against the mighty Loughborough. In the UAU, Imperial won the regional competition, not dropping more than six points in any set, only to lose once more to Loughborough in the semi-final to take fourth position. Despite these two losses, it must be remembered that these positions were achieved by knocking out some of the consistently strongest teams in student volleyball, notably Leeds, Cambridge, Sheffield, Newcastle, and Bristol Universities. With losing only two of the first team squad come June, however, Imperial must be looking to do even better next season, and to finally push volleyball to the forefront of Imperial sport.

London Volleyball Men's League Div 3 West

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
1. Imperial College	12	10	2	32	12	22
2. VK Acton Impulse	12	10	2	32	14	22
3. Varsovia	10	8	2	28	11	18
4. S Thames Poly II	10	4	6	17	22	14
5. Flying Arrows II	9	2	7	10	22	11
6. Homenmen II	8	2	6	10	20	10
7. Eternit Wharf II	10	0	10	5	30	7
8. ULU (withdrawn)						
9. W London Inst (withdrawn)						
10. Hounslow (withdrawn)						

RACING

Regular followers of the racing column may have noticed an element of cynicism creeping into the last one of the Easter term. I make no apologies for this—anyone who lost as much as I did at the Cheltenham Festival would have acted similarly.

Also, FELIX has received flak on two points: firstly, that racing is the work of the devil—'FELIX is a bad influence on easily-led students by encouraging them to whack their grants on the ponies'. Secondly, that racing is very much a minority interest within the College.

My reply to this is quite simply—'Bollocks'.

This week sees two classic races of the flat season. The 1000 and 2000 Guineas. Unfortunately, the 1000 Guineas was yesterday and I'm writing this last Tuesday. So I can't tell you who won—what do you think I am, psychic? The 2000 is a different matter. There may be nine runners but that doesn't alter the fact that it is a one horse race. *Doyoun* is in no danger here and is odds-on favourite with all the bookies. It's certainly not worthy of a bet and represents bad value for money. The 2000 Guineas this year is a race to avoid.

Saturday saw *Desert Orchid* score a resounding victory in the Whitbread Gold Cup. His win capped a perfect month for trainer David Elsworth. Having trained National winner *Rhyme 'n' Reason*, he was named on Saturday as Piper Heidseck Trainer of the Year.

Sharp Reminder, winner of the Leicestershire Stakes on Saturday is fancied for The Greenland Stakes at the Curragh on May 14th. The four-year-old just won by a neck from *Sharblask* over the seven furlong course. Trainer, Ray Laing, intends to drop down a furlong for the Irish meeting. He thinks that his selection will run a better race over the shorter trip as he was clearly suffering in the last furlong at the weekend.

This weeks tips appear on the news pages.

Shan

FELIX 800



From FELIX no 446

THEATRE WEST END

Acting at the Fringe

AUDITIONS

TONGUES & SAVAGE LOVE by Sam Shepard
DUSA, FISH, STAS, AND VI by Pam Gems
RUMBLINGS by P Gbbs

Theatre West End Productions

Sunday 1st May at 1pm
Wednesday 4th May at 1pm
Meet in the Union Dining Hall

There will be a reception for everyone interested in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe on Sunday, May 1st at 7pm in the Concert Hall.

Auditions for the Theatre West End Productions which will be performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August will take place on Sunday May 1 at 1pm and Wednesday May 4 at 1pm. Meet in the Union Dining Hall.

The three plays for which auditions are being held include *Dusa, Fish, Stas, and Vi* by Pam Gems. This tragicomedy explores the friendship between four women living together in London. Although their personalities and goals differ vastly, they share a bond of love and unspoken understanding.

As well as following this very

special relationship, the play examines the position of women in modern society, displaying beautifully the difficulty in reconciling the traditional role of wife and mother with that of the independent career woman.

Rumblings by Peter Gibbs is a comedy for five men and a woman. It highlights the pettiness of office politics as well as greed and suspicion in individuals generally.

It is set in the not too distant future where unemployment stands at six million and England has become an area of increasing seismic activity.

The action takes place in an office where all jobs are effectively redundant; however, official redundancies are restricted to 3% of the workforce per year, selected by a computer. As the date of the selection approaches, earth tremors damage the computer, and thus the office is disrupted.

Tongues and Savage Love by Sam Shepard and Joseph Chaikin are a double bill for a cast of no set sex, as the two pieces explore aspects of that emotion of many faces, love.

Tongues is an exciting orchestration of percussion and human voices describing their feelings and past experiences.

Savage Love is a collection of poetry expressing different views of love and its effect on people.

For those people who are interested in attending the Edinburgh Festival as part of Theatre West End in the technical or artistic aspects, there will be a reception on Sunday, May 1st at 7pm in the Concert Hall. Come along and eat, drink, and find out more about that eighth wonder of the world, the Edinburgh Festival.

WATERSKI

It's the season of 'knock 'em dead'!

Well summer's here again! The season of 'knock 'em dead' beachwear, 'I won't be home again tonight, Mum' beachparties, and 'if I say no I mean yes' beach-bunnies, is back! And hopefully (just for a change) some glorious weather! But how are you going to make the most of your free time? If you were thinking of staying in London (heat-sink of the universe), why not think again? Why not break out and enjoy yourself in the smog-free countryside of Burghfield Waterskiing Club?

Whether you want to try a new sport, further a current interest, or you just want to pose on or by the water in your new 'genuine, latest, US designer' beachwear, the Waterskiing Club is for you. Not only will you be taught to ski or helped to improve at waterskiing, but you'll get the chance (weather-permitting) to improve that all-over tan!

It's a truly exhilarating experience skimming across the water at high velocity—so why not give it a try? If you or any of your friends are interested, come see us on Mondays at 12.30pm above Southside or contact us through the pigeonholes.

(Car owners particularly welcome! Open to members of staff as well).



KEEP FIT

AGM/Cheese & Wine Party

All Keep Fit Club members should attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday May 3 at 7pm straight after Diane's lesson. We will hold elections for next year's Exec. It will be held in Southside Lounge.

Free cheese and wine too!

The copy deadline for all clubs articles is Monday lunchtime



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

RACING SOC?

Interested?

We're hoping to form a racing society, hopefully up and running by the start of next academic year. There seems to be a lot of students (and staff) in this college who like a bet or two on the ponies, so it seems natural to form a horse racing club.

The aims of the club will be:

- To organise subsidised trips to race meetings around the country.
- To obtain group discounts on magazine subscriptions, Timeform, racecards, etc.
- To encourage sensible betting.
- To promote horse racing as the fine, upstanding sport that it is.

Anyone vaguely interested, please reply to Box 721, FELIX, Beit Quad.



ASSISTANT SUBWARDEN FALMOUTH KEOGH HALL

A vacancy exists for an Assistant Subwarden in Falmouth Keogh Hall from late September. Falmouth Keogh is a mixed hall and the appointment attracts rent-free accommodation suitable for a single person. Applications are particularly invited from postgraduates, although undergraduates and junior RAs can also be considered. All applicants should have at least two years remaining at IC.

Application forms are available from the Student Accommodation Office, 15 Princes Gardens.

Extended deadline for applications: Wednesday 4th May

Librarian suggests common sense

Dear Madam,

Although I am informed by my colleagues that replies to letters of criticism in FELIX are not printed, I refer to the letter from Julian Hanson in your issue no 798 of March 11.

The problems on the fourth floor of the Lyon Playfair Library are those of ventilation and air circulation and are due mainly to the design of the building which has insufficient window space. The fans were installed to try and improve the intolerably stuffy atmosphere which builds up when many of the seats are occupied. It is for this reason that they should not be turned off, but can be turned down. If the person Mr Hanson approached did not know how to do this, I am sure another member of the Library staff would have been willing to help, especially in the extraordinary conditions which he describes.

The radiators are individually adjustable and may be turned on and off by the readers as they wish. Our use of heating energy is in fact low, as it is rare for more than one or two radiators to be on at any one time. On this occasion it seems that the readers sitting near the radiators wanted them turned on. Likewise, windows are usually opened and shut by the readers close to them.

I suggest Mr Hanson turns off radiators which he finds too hot, and closes windows when rain is coming in. This is what most library users do, and have done for the past eighteen years.

Yours sincerely,

Janice Yeadon, Life Sciences Librarian.

CU militants

Dear FELIX,

I am glad my letter (FELIX 798) has received three well-written replies. That was its intention! Firstly I have to say I do disagree with evangelical Christianity both aesthetically and intellectually, and I see no reason why I should not publicly argue against it in a robust manner. Christ himself went as far as to call his theological opponents 'whited sepulchers' and 'a brood of vipers'.

'Christian Union' is misleading. I am sure most people assume it to be a union of all the College Christian societies: I certainly did when I first came to College and heard of it. What would we think of, for example, a 'Athletics Union' which in fact excluded all but long distance runners? Nothing the CU puts out indicates their form of Christianity is only one interpretation, and not that shared by the majority of Christians worldwide. As a non-evangelical Christian I am deeply offended by this, particularly when people assume I am 'one of them' until I go into deep theological arguments as to why I find the CU as tiresome as they do.

Also I have never seen or heard anything from the

Christian Union about those who leave the poor to suffer being rejected from God's Kingdom no matter how much they cry 'Lord, Lord'. This theme runs throughout the Gospels, but of course it doesn't fit in with the CU's theology. It is significant that those who replied to my letter used arguments from the Epistles (which are really about Christians should follow Jewish laws on diet and circumcision) and ignored Christ's own words.

On the American TV evangelists, what I meant by linking the CU with them is that both reject traditional worship and church order in favour of a (and in the light of my previous paragraph, I still insist, selective) Bible study approach. All sorts of strange sects and movements have grown out of this approach—that is why I consider it dangerous.

I distrust the CU because it appears to be a Christian version of the Militant Tendency. Its members operate within other churches, but seem to owe their real loyalty to the CU. Having attended both CU meetings and meetings of extreme left-wing parties, I am struck by how similar they both are. In both there is a superficial air of friendliness, but an underlying strong psychological pressure to conform. Both are about drumming the right line into their members with very little opportunity for real thought or discussion.

My real concern is for Christianity. I believe that the CU probably puts off as many as it attracts. If it were to call itself something like 'The Evangelical Movement', and make it clear where it stands organisationally and theologically I would not be nearly so antagonistic towards it. I also have to say that the CU succeeds because at least it puts a lot of work into promoting its views, even if it sometimes uses unfair methods, and perhaps other Christian groups ought to put more effort into promoting what they stand for and attracting new people.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew Huntbach (Dept of Computing).

SAO problems

The Student Accommodation Office has asked us to print this letter concerning students & private lettings:

Dear Ms McKay,

I write to advise you of the problems my staff are experiencing with students from your College, who visit this office without prior appointment and persistently ring demanding accommodation. Some students telephone on a regular weekly basis and when told not to do so again they become angry and aggressive.

My office is at present very understaffed and the workload is increasing more every day. Students who visit this office state that they are told to do so by the Accommodation Office, this may not be the case, however I am sure you will appreciate that the limited number of vacancies that occur for Students Lettings means that it is not possible to meet demands required.

Perhaps you would care to relate to all students who may enquire as to Trust Accommodation that visits to this office and persistent phone calls are not permitted, and preference will definitely not be given to students who present themselves at this office.

The waiting list for student accommodation remains closed, and I will advise you as to if and when the list is likely to re-open.

Yours sincerely,

R K Taylor, London Western Regional Manager.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **The HG Wells Society AGM** will be held in the Clubs Committee Room (top floor Union Building) on Thursday at 1pm. All members welcome. Nomination papers are up in the Union Foyer for next year's committee.

● **Discount tickets** for Jaqueline's Nightclub available in the Union Office courtesy of IC Wing Chun Club.

● **Coming soon:** The ULU Rock Soc Disco, 6th May. At Imperial. Free beer. Watch this space...

● **Bumper Bank Holiday Bean's** Run. Monday May 2. Runners leave Holbein House 7pm. All welcome.

● **The big one:** ULU Rock Soc is here. Mega Rock Disco, May 6, Imperial Union Lounge, Bar, Free Beer and more.

● **Anyone** who has paid for Silwood tickets please collect from RCS Office.

● **Friday 13th** May the force be with you.

FOR SALE

● **Yamaha CD-X5** player. Perfect condition, £165. Contact J C Fitzmaurice (Chem PG) int 4639.

● **Trolley** (46" long x 20" wide). Floor level. Has strong metal frame. Very useful for small business or a school. As new, £24. Contact V Collins int 6208.

PERSONAL

● **Simon** heaps, but not after a good Pote.

● **To Mr P D Ewing;** we don't know what you think, but personally we think it's rather beautiful. Love ME1.

● **To my big breasted** chemist love; JCR on Friday, 25th, 10.30. You miss yours, I'll miss mine. Yours forever, Steve (I'm the one with black hair, and have I got a medal to show you!). SOMF, please.

● **J Russell**—it's so small it just isn't funny.

● **AAC** latest betting: Amin/Kathryn 33-1, Martin G/Becky 10,000-1, Dave B/Stuti Evens 10-1, Daren/Sue 100-1, Martin/Any Life Sci female fresher 8-11 fav. Guess who's doing the book!?

● **We report** with great sadness the death, on March 31 1988, of the Imperial College Spectroscopy Group. The cause of death, at age 106, is believed to have been severe malnutrition.

● **S.H.B.** is T.A.H. right about the bondage?...Ask Ian.

● **Q. Do the Irish** soundproof all canvas in Wales? **A.** No, it was moose to mouse rescuscitation.

● **Engineer** seeks Aussie landmark to build partnership.

● **Syd:** Not all scrap iron is unloved. Even when it's statically indeterminate.

● **What is it** that women find so funny about PK's body? The Penthouse Club.

● **Attention** all ball goers, only a few more Silwood Ball tickets left. Price £50 from the RCS Office.

● **Sydney Harbour-Bridge** you are a hero and we think you are wonderful. Neil and Liz.

● **Heavy Metal** mania—next Friday.

● **Holbein beware!** Lord Rayleigh is amongst us Vive le Rhino club.

● **The** bloody horn is charging.

● **£10 reward** for return of Ents Chairman pot lost beginning of March last term in the SCR, contact Rich Homan (Chem Eng 4). No questions asked.

● **Who** are the biggest creeps in Weeks Hall?

● **How many** Union Officers pay for their Union van hire?

● **Does** anybody care?

ACCOMMODATION

● **For this term.** Single room in Fulham (nr Earls Court) rent around £25 per week (after rebate). Contact Steve Kilmurray, c/o IC Union Office.

Accommodation for October

Nothing to pay throughout the summer. Deposit given now secures accommodation for Oct 88.

Fully-furnished flats in South Ken, Fulham and Putney. Flats for 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 sharers. Prices from £36 per person. Fully furnished houses in Fulham for 7, 8 & 10 sharers. Prices from £36 per person. Fully-furnished bed-sits in S Ken and Earls Court. Single bed-sits from £25 per person and doubles from £26 per person. Telephone Marisa or Silvana: 731 4073, 731 0292, 546 8159.

Wot no Baron?

Dear Judith,

I was somewhat surprised to read in your editorial last week that you are about to cancel The Baron of Cheapskate. I have been reading it weekly since I started College and would be disappointed to see it go.

Your editorial said that the column will be scrapped due to 'popular demand'. I take this to mean that you don't think that very many people read it, and that you have something better with which to replace it. I think that you are underestimating the number of people who read The Baron. It's readership is certainly not limited to those people who appear in it. I know a lot of people who have never appeared in The Baron, but who read it regularly, both for humour and information. I think that if you were to compare the number of people who read The Baron with those who read other regulars, such as the sports page, racing column or music reviews, you would find that The Baron is far more popular. If you have to cut anything, maybe it should be one of those rather than The Baron.

I think that The Baron is an excellent parody of college and student life, and scrapping it would be a major loss both to FELIX and to its many faithful readers.

Yours sincerely,

Gavin Spittlehouse (DOC 2).

Thanks for the letter, Gavin, but the Baron has been dropped for now, due to pressure of exams, etc., etc. He's still in cold storage, though, so don't be surprised if he pops up once more this year!

UGMS: the chips are down

Dear Judith,

With regard to your editorial (FELIX March 23), I would like to make the following points concerning UGMs.

Firstly, although UGMs have appeared quorate this year, this has seldom been the case. They merely seem to be because there are usually at least 300 people in the JCR at lunchtimes anyway. The fact is, at UGMs this year, most of the students deemed 'present' are just eating their lunch and couldn't give a toss if there is a meeting going on or not. When abstentions and votes cast are counted, they rarely total 150, let alone 300.

Secondly, regarding the location of UGMs: The JCR obviously won't do, nor would any other place where the quorum can be fiddled in the way I have described. UGMs were traditionally held in the Great Hall. Was this to cope with the vast numbers of students desperately trying to fight their way in, to get a seat so that they could pay close attention to what was going on? Somehow I doubt it.

This leaves a dilemma: If UGMs are held in the JCR, they are quorate until everyone has finished eating their lunch and get up to leave. If they are held somewhere farty like the Great Hall, no one bothers turning up anyway.

One solution is to lower quorum. It seems to me, however, that it is low enough already and dropping it further would make UGMs even more unrepresentative. Is it not an indictment of how boring student politics has

become if a college of 5000+ students cannot muster 300 for a meeting once a month?

The ideal, of course, is to make UGMs interesting. If Joe Student attends a lively and, dare I say it, *fun* UGM, he may well go to the next one, possibly with a mate or two. It appears to me that people are turned off for a variety of reasons: Union Officers giving lengthy, boring reports; Sabbaticals attempting to sabotage meetings; faulty PA system; arguing political factions; constant challenges to the Chairman's ruling; speakers ranting on for hours; etc, etc...

I don't know the answers, but I do have a few questions:

Are UGMs properly advertised?

Why do the Union hierarchy appear unbothered by the apathy that exists at ICU?

Why are students so apathetic to their Union anyway?

UGMs are the only forum for students to hear the people they voted in explaining what they do with their time, despite the idea put forward by one sabbatical recently to abolish them altogether.

One of the reasons I stood for the post of next year's UGM Chairman was to try and break down the barrier between students and 'those people sitting up there at the front' at UGMs. However, given the level of disinterest at IC, could anyone really care less?

Cheers,

Paul Shanley.

Endurante?

Dear Judith,

Student life at some Italian universities is reputed to contain features that might make the Imperial student raise an eyebrow. We refer to the well established Goliardia tradition that many student there undergo.

Goliardia derived from the Latin 'Golia' meaning excellence at everything, was a term used to refer to students. The traditional view held by many at the time the term was coined was that a student should be outstanding at studies, be physically robust, and be aware of contemporary Italian culture. Being a student at university was considered to be adequate proof of the former. Italian students devised many light-hearted tests to determine the other qualities mentioned. Passing any one of the various tests of character earned the students the accolade of Goliardia (member of the Goliardia).

1) The arena.

In this event all the competing candidates are made to enter a ringed enclosure in nothing but their underclothes and on all fours. The only form of motion allowed is crawling. The contestants are eliminated when they have their posterior bitten. The contestant managing to avoid suffering this humiliation emerges victor.

2) The juke box.

In this event the contestant is placed in a man size cupboard with a slit in it. Other students put money through the slit and request a song to be sung. Failure to satisfy the audiences' high expectations of the singers result in the juke box being shaken violently.

We urge students at Imperial to borrow a leaf from our Italian counterparts. In particular we urge Fiona Nicholas to introduce the Goliardia tradition as a part of the Rag tradition. There will be no dearth of ideas about what students here could be made to do to earn the accolade of Goliardia.

Yours sincerely,

Luca Zullo,

Yishu Nanda,

Chem Eng PGs

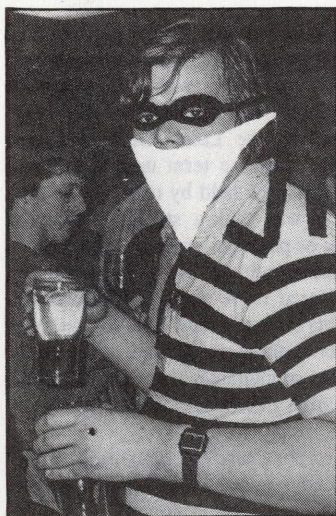
ICU calls in the police

Imperial College Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge has called in the police following a large loss made by the Union Snack Bar and Union Bar over the past year.

The discrepancies came to light following the appointment of Reggie Blennerhassett as Union Finance Officer. It appears that a large sum of money has been unaccounted for.

The police have interviewed all the Snack Bar's and Bar's permanent members of staff but nobody has been charged.

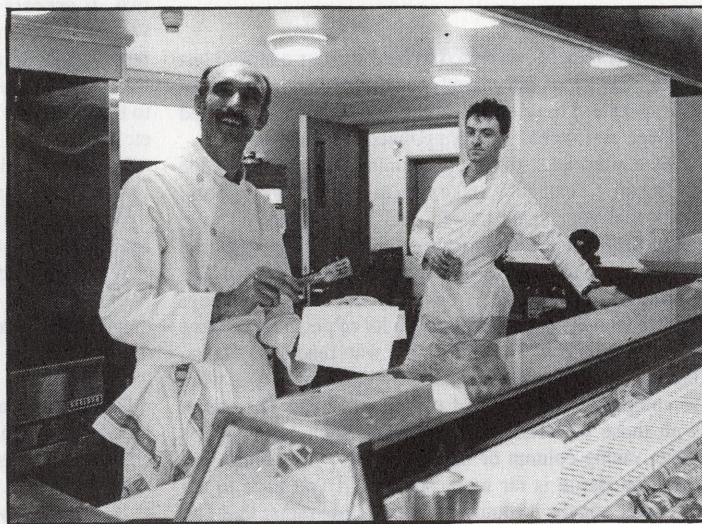
Some of the staff are unhappy about their treatment and the lack of support they have received from the Union. One member of staff, who asked not to be named, said that a lot of bad feeling had been created by the President's action and that they had been called before the police without being informed about what was going on. Deputy President Alan Rose refused to comment on the situation because it is still being investigated by the police.



New optician

The Health Centre has a new visiting optician, Mr D Raz, who will visit the Centre on Thursdays. Mr Raz also has a local practice in South Kensington at 8 Old Brompton Road. The Health Centre also has a visiting acupuncturist, osteopath and Alexander Technique teacher. The Consultant Psychiatrist continues to attend each week.

New Kebab Bar opens, offish



College have opened a new Kebab Bar on the ground floor of the Southside Halls of Residence. The new outlet cost £36,000 to build which Refectory Manager Rob Northey described as being 'cheap' for a catering outlet. Mr Northey doesn't expect trade to pick up until next academic year and sees this term as a trial period for his latest venture. The Kebab Bar is serving food during the Southside Bar open hours along with a limited range of drinks.

Up in smoke?

An advertising campaign based on research from IC's Department of Civil Engineering has been cancelled, following complaints from the College.

Professor Robert Perry is undertaking an investigation into indoor pollution caused by three components of tobacco smoke. The project was partly funded by the Tobacco Advisory Council, which commissioned a campaign reassuring the public about the effects of passive smoking. Professor Perry is the Head of the Public Health and Water Resources Engineering Section, a fact which is included in the campaign.

According to Professor Perry's work, even a room with a visible tobacco haze contains less than two per cent of the permitted workplace level of inhalable particles. He also found that average carbon monoxide levels were less than five per cent and nicotine levels less than four per cent of the allowed exposures.

A letter to the Council from Professor Perry concluded the findings 'put into some perspective the relative contribution of

environmental tobacco smoke' to indoor air quality. An extract from the letter, including the Imperial College letterhead, was used in the Council's advertisements. However, College Director of Public Relations, Iain More, said the advertisements 'did not reflect the message the research produced.'

Professor Perry agreed that the concentrations of the three components which were studied were relatively low, but added 'there are another two hundred down the line and they include ones which cause irritation and distress to non-smokers'. He also remarked that an understanding of the components of smoke was different to understanding their effects on health.

Iain More described the settlement with the Council as 'amicable' in what was a complicated disagreement. Although about half the College's research funds come from non-Government sources, he had had no other problems with sponsors' references to Imperial College in their publicity.

A Tobacco Advisory Council representative has been quoted as maintaining the Council's right to promote the Professor's findings if Imperial were in agreement, adding 'we still think the research is sound'.

Government cracks down on NUS

The Government is to carry out an extensive study of the role of student unions in universities, polytechnics and colleges. The survey, which is to investigate the costs, organisation and legal status of the unions, will be paying particular attention to the National Union of Students.

Education Secretary Kenneth Baker said, in a written answer to the Commons, that the Government was concerned that the money paid to student bodies should be used to provide services for students and not for politics. It also believed that many students did not want to be represented by the NUS, though trying to limit membership to individual choice, as some Conservative MPs suggest could prove difficult. This is because many students are affiliated to the NUS through their local students unions, and restricting the rights of these unions to affiliate to the national body would raise complex legal issues.

The NUS is unconcerned about the survey, which they think will only vindicate the students unions, and the NUS, and demonstrate the importance of the work they carry out for members.

Royal visit

King Olav of Norway was the guest of the Department of Mineral Resources Engineering two weeks ago when he came to Great Britain on a state visit.

The King was shown around an exhibition on 'Energy for the Future', sponsored by the Norwegian State Oil Company, by Professor John Archer and meet students from Norway who were studying for a degree in Mineral Resources Engineering.

Shan's Dodgy Sporting Tips

Carlisle 2.45 Tina's Song
Plumpton 4.45 Mr Caractacus
Carlisle 4.25 Tender Whisper

**IC ENTS PRESENT
IN AID OF RAG**

THE

EXAM BLUES BALL

featuring the legendary

GENO WASHINGTON

and

RENT PARTY

plus disco, late bar, cocktails, and videos

IN THE UNION BUILDING

50% of all proceeds go straight to Rag

TICKETS:

£2 (ents card), £2.50 (adv), £3 (on the door)

from Union Office & Norman's

DOORS OPEN 8.30pm

SATURDAY 30th APRIL

THE EXAM BLUES BALL

WHERE	WHEN	8.30—9.30	9.30—10.30	10.30—11.30	11.30—12.30	12.30—2am
CONCERT HALL			RENT PARTY		GENO WASHINGTON	
UNION LOUNGE		DISCO				
S.C.R		VIDEOS				
CRUSH BAR		COCKTAILS				
BAR		LATE BAR				



Emergency Flysheet

Thursday 5th May 1988

Felix

FREE!

£35,000 stock unaccounted for—Police called in

Union Staff Suspended

The Manager of the Union-run Snack Bar and his deputy were yesterday suspended on full pay and the outlet closed until further notice. This action has been taken following a police investigation into substantial losses which have been occurring over the past two years. At the same time, the casual staff in the Union Bar, where stocks have also gone missing, have been told they no longer have jobs.

The gross profit deficit in the past nine months of trading has been around £35,000 from the Snack Bar, approximately half its turnover, and £6,000 from the Union Bar. This means that an average of £130 per day has been lost in the Snack Bar and £20 per day in the Union Bar. Union President Mr Sydney Harbour-Bridge told FELIX yesterday that such losses could not be accounted for purely from petty pilfering.

The workers in both outlets are extremely unhappy about the way that they have been treated. They claim that they have been given no information about what has been happening, and were told by the Union Office that they had appear at an interview by Police Officers without an explanation. They feel it is unfair to effectively sack all the student casual staff of both outlets without any evidence that they were involved in any criminal activity at all.

The losses were noticed when the Union appointed an accountant to keep the Union Snack Bar and Bar books in January. Before this, Jen Hardy-Smith, the Union Administrator, was handling the invoices and payment for the outlets, as well as her normal duties, but had

no responsibility for checking any details or keeping detailed trading accounts.

The accountant quickly identified that the Snack Bar was making a

substantial trading loss, and, on further investigation, that the Union Bar was also making less profit than it should. This prompted Mr Harbour-Bridge to call in the police for the first time. They advised that a stocktaking system be introduced to discover where the losses were occurring.

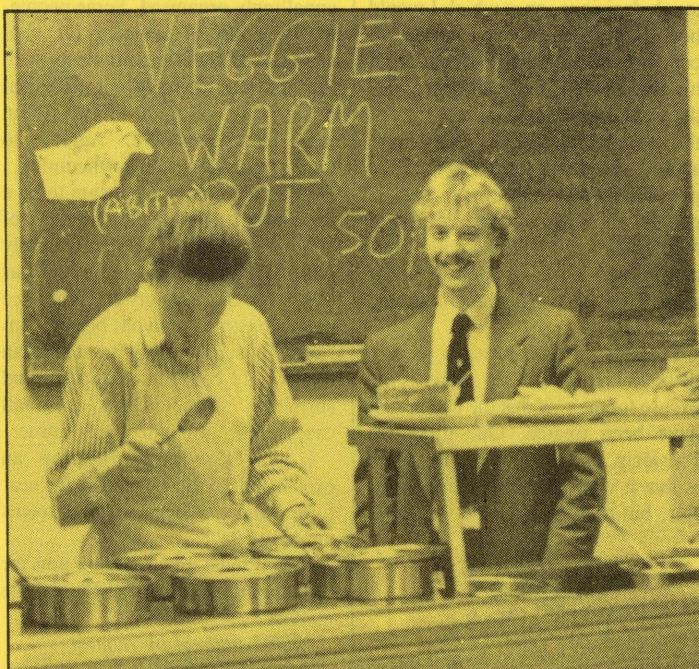
The outlets continued to make a loss throughout the Spring Term so the police were called again and

recommended that a 'stake out' team watch the deliveries of goods each morning. A team then spent two weeks watching the entrance to Beit Quadrangle but discovered nothing of significance.

A second stocktake was carried out at the end of last term which showed that goods were still disappearing from both outlets. The police decided to carry out interviews with all the Snack Bar and Bar staff two weeks ago. A number of staff were seen but no conclusive evidence was unearthed. A few members of the casual bar staff admitted to petty thefts, indicating that they believed it to be 'common practice'. It is still to be decided if they are to be prosecuted. The police did, however, recommend that the entire staff be dismissed if the huge losses are to stop.

When the accounts for 1986/87 were returned from the College Auditors last week, seven months overdue, it was discovered that the Snack Bar had made a loss of £3,000 and not a profit as was previously believed. The Union Bar had also not lived up to its expected profits.

Once the scale of the losses had become apparent, a meeting of 'interested parties and Union officials' was called on Tuesday evening to discuss 'the future of the Union's Snack Bar and Bar'. The 'investigatory committee' recommended that the casual bar staff



IC Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge keeping the Union Snack Bar open last night, after the suspension of the Manager and his Deputy earlier in the day. The Snack Bar will not be open again before October.

continued overleaf

continued from the front

be dismissed and the Snack Bar closed until the position of its permanent members of staff had been reviewed. ICU Deputy President Alan Rose, who has overall responsibility for the Union's trading outlets, was not told of Tuesday's meeting and was only informed of the decisions that had been made yesterday morning. Mr Rose was said to be extremely concerned that he had not been present at such an important meeting or kept informed of crucial decisions which had been made.

The casual bar staff were informed of their dismissal yesterday morning on the grounds of pilfering.

Both Mr Norman Jardine, the Snack Bar Manager, and Mr Mark Anderson, his Deputy, were sent letters by the President yesterday afternoon. In them Mr Harbour-Bridge said that they had been suspended on full pay in view of their 'acknowledged misconduct' of their handling of stock. When they were told of their suspension, they were escorted off Union premises.

Mr Harbour-Bridge told FELIX that the Snack Bar would be closed until the beginning of next academic year. He is unwilling to re-open the Snack Bar if the inquiry decides to reinstate the permanent staff, and there would be nobody to run the

outlet if they did lose their jobs. The Union Bar will also be closed for the duration of the Summer vacation. He said that this would enable vital refurbishment work to take place in both outlets.

The Union Bar will be run on skeleton staff for the rest of the term as no more casuals are to be employed. The present Union Bar Manager Adrian Johnson has agreed to stay on as Deputy Bar Manager and a new permanent bar worker is to be employed. Meanwhile both Mr Harbour-Bridge and Honorary Secretary Chas Jackson will be helping Mr Johnson run the Bar. Mr Jackson told FELIX that the Bar would be working on restricted opening times. He said that it would not be open during weekend lunchtimes and three nights a week. Mr Harbour-Bridge said that he was 'very grateful to Jelly (Mr Johnson) for being so reasonable about the whole thing.' He added that all the Bar locks had been changed yesterday.

Mr Harbour-Bridge said that he could only justify his decision on the basis that £35,000 had been lost from the Snack Bar and £6,000 from the Bar. He said that he could have sacked the staff who were suspected of petty pilfering but if he had got the wrong people it 'would have been far worse' than sacking everybody.



editorial

You may have been surprised to see a FELIX out on a Thursday rather than a Friday. This is a special flysheet issue to keep you up-to-date on the events as they occur in the Union Office, Snack Bar and Bar. There will be a normal size FELIX out tomorrow with more news as it happens.

I hope that you have taken time to read the news story. It is important to remember that *nobody* has been charged by the police for theft yet. There are a great deal of interesting theories flying around the Union at the moment but none of them has been substantiated. I hope that most of us still believe in 'innocent until proven guilty'.

I think that Syd and his

'investigatory committee' have acted as they believe is best for the Union (in the long run). They made some tough decisions, ones which I would not have liked to have made. It concerns me that the justification of his actions was purely monetary. He does not seem to have considered the people involved. They have sacked the innocent to get at the possible guilty. They have sacked people who have worked very hard for the Union; who have put a great deal of extra time and effort into their jobs. They have split the Union into two.

Possible theft is always a very difficult situation, but there is no excuse for the way that the Union staff have been treated. One thing the President, and the Union, must learn is that it is important not only to be fair, but to be seen to be so.

Adrian Johnson
XXX

LETTERS Boycott!

Total lack of communication

Dear Judith,

I write with reference to the recent police investigation relating to the Union Bar and Snack Bar, which investigated losses from these outlets.

While I accept that the circumstances prevailing could not continue as they were, I feel that the manner in which the investigation was conducted was an outright insult to the many people who have worked hard and consistently over extended periods of time in these outlets.

There has been a total lack of communication between the Union Office and the staff, and this has created much bad feeling. For example, this must be the first time that staff members in any institution have been forced to book appointments with police officers. None of the staff were informed by the Union Office of the reason for their interrogation, and so the information we eventually managed to glean resulted from unsubstantiated and often ambiguous rumours. This was information that should have been presented by right to all those concerned, preferably in writing.

The whole charade has been appallingly organised. Some people, in the midst of revising for vital exams, had their appointments with the police retimed on several occasions, only to have them cancelled completely. Again, no explanation has been forthcoming.

The final outcome appears to be a decision to sack all the members of Union Bar casual staff, staff who rely heavily on money earned in the Bar to live on. Surprisingly enough, once again no explanation has been given.

The ex-staff are now treated as an object of constant scrutiny and suspicion, suspicion that is in all cases, both unfounded and untrue.

I look forward to hearing an explanation of these events in the near future, though I must say this seems unlikely.

I would also like to thank you for the support given by FELIX in these matters.

Name withheld by request.

Dear Judith,

Today we were told that following the discrepancies found after stocktaking for the period Summer—Xmas '87 subsequent to which a brief police investigation was carried out, a blanket dismissal of the Union Bar staff has been executed.

Whilst an investigation into the losses is obviously warranted, sacking everybody in sight is not going to solve the mystery and only serves to punish those members of staff who are innocent. Many of us were not even employed for the majority of the period over which the loss was incurred.

Apart from the loss of much-needed weekly income essential to supplement the insufficient London grant, this also puts an unjust slur on the characters of many honest students. Are we likely to get a job elsewhere in College after such indirect libel?

Not everyone was interviewed by the police and yet everyone was dismissed. Is this fair treatment? It is known that the losses accumulated over a period of time (prior to '88 although it has been put that it still continues)—the sum involved, about £6000—to penalise recently employed staff seems non-sensical.

Jelly is now the only member of staff still working—it could not function without him and the plan is to employ outside temporary staff which will cost the Union more and implies that no IC student is trustworthy enough to work in this bar. We feel that this whole affair has and still is being handled badly, and if we cannot be reinstated then those of us who are innocent would like our names to be cleared along with an apology for the off-hand manner in which we have been treated.

We understand the Union's position in this matter, but feel that this is not the right course of action.

Until this is cleared up, we would be grateful if all IC students, staff etc would boycott the Union Bar (if only to make Jelly's job easier!).

Yours faithfully,

Debbie Nolder, Cath Maxwell & Jeff Lloyd
on behalf of the Union Casual and Bar Staff.

PS. We apologise if any of the above is factually incorrect, but no one seems to know the truth, the whole truth or anything remotely true!