



FREE!

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Deputy President's future uncertain

Mystery surrounds the future of Imperial College Union's Deputy President Alan Rose following emergency meetings of the Union's Investigatory Committee and Executive Committee last night. The closed meetings were called to discuss possible actions to be taken against Mr Rose who has overall sabbatical responsibility for the Union Snack Bar and Bar.

As was revealed in yesterday's special edition of FELIX, stock with a retail value of £35,000 in the Snack Bar and £6,000 in the Bar is currently unaccounted for this year. Both the

Snack Bar Manager, Mr Norman Jardine, and his deputy, Mark Anderson, have been suspended on full pay until their inquiries have been held. All the casual bar staff have also been dismissed from their jobs.

Some members of the dismissed casual bar staff are calling for a boycott of the Union Bar, until their names have been cleared.

A petition calling for an ICU Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss the Executive's decisions has been organised by ex-Snack Bar casual staff. It is being circulated around College lecture theatres today. Mr Jeremy Pauley, one of the organisers, told FELIX yesterday that he was 'worried about the lack of information' that had been given to Union members. They will need to collect at least 150 signatures before a meeting can be called.

Meanwhile, details of the decisions made by the Union Executive last night will be made public later today, after Mr Rose has been informed.

Rag Fête 'a great success'



This year's Imperial College Union Rag Fête was held last Saturday on the Queens Lawn. It was officially opened by Matilda Zeigler and Lucy Bayler of EastEnders. The photo above shows ICU President Sydney Harbour-Bridge mud-wrestling with a random female. For more photos see page 7.

Imperial war zone

A report published this week reveals that Imperial College has 'by far the highest number of Ministry Defence Contacts' of London's Universities and Polytechnics. The report was published on Wednesday by CAMROC, the Campaign against military research on campus, and concludes that virtually every London university and polytechnic has been carrying out military research in the last few years.

About 52% of the £4,500m total of government funded research and development in the country is funded by the Ministry of Defence, and a spokesperson for CAMROC said that 'we believe that this is not healthy for

continued on back page

FELIX



editorial

Thanks

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Dave, Chris, Pippa, Paul, Kamala and Sunny for staying up all night with me on Wednesday. It is entirely due to these six tireless individuals that we were able to bring out our flysheet yesterday morning. Cheers!

Secrets, secrets

I would have liked to have brought you up-to-date on much more information regarding the Union Snack Bar and Bar Staff in this issue. Many important decisions have been taken since our flysheet was brought out yesterday but the Union Executive have decided not to release any information until later this morning. I fully understand the need to inform those directly concerned before the press. For this reason I will probably be bringing out another flysheet next week if there are anymore developments.

Keys

I am becoming increasingly concerned by the number of people in this College who have collections of master keys from all over the campus. It is quite clear that College administration should seriously think about changing the locks throughout residences. The Union has already recognised the need to change all the barrels within the Union Building,

which I am assured will be done in the *very* near future.

Where do we go to eat now?

Now they've shut down the Union Snack Bar for five months where do we have to go for lunch in College? Kebabs and pizzas are pleasant when restricted to once or twice a week but this leaves the dire Sherfield Main Refectory or QT Burger Bar. People have suggested that FELIX open a food and drink outlet in our office because we have a fridge, a microwave and a coffee machine. Sorry to disappoint you, folks, but it's bad enough trying to get a paper out each week!

St Mary's

Congratulations to Phil Drew who has been re-elected as the St Mary's Union President. I look forward to meeting him next year and seeing how he helps to integrate the Medical School with the rest of Imperial.

Annual Reports

All Union Officers will have their annual reports printed in a special Executive News to be distributed in the middle of next week's FELIX. They should make jolly interesting reading!

If you think you may be a Union Officer, sit down and take several deep breaths. Then telephone me if you haven't yet written your annual report to let me know when it will be ready. If you are a Union Officer and you don't submit a report in time, then you will be submitted to the uncontrollable wrath of Chas Jackson!

Staff Meeting

There will be a staff meeting at 1.00pm today in the FELIX Office. We will be discussing life, the universe and the last issue of this year. Be there!

Jack

	a of EFFLIX, stock with a re-
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	
Typesetting	Rose Atkins
Printing	
Production Assistant	
Contributors: Paul Shanley, Martyn Salmon, Andrew Waller, Sumit Guha, M Al Birch, Delator, William Lumb, Yishu John Noble, Pete Higgs, Midget, Sunr Bourne, Adrian Grainger, Don Adling collators.	Matthew Salter, Noel Curry, Nanda, Roy, Steve Black, ny, Andrew Clarke, Adrian

RAG FÊTE PAFFLE

Claim prizes between 12.30 and 1pm today from the FELIX Office

Holiday for two:

P Jaitly (Physics 2)

Bottle of Dubonet:

Cosmic (Rag)
Bottle of Martini:

T Alper (Elec Eng 2)

Bottle of Wine:

S Heaps (Chem Eng 1)

Anne Diamond Jumper:

T Maule (Guilds)

Sexy Underwear:

N Fox (Physics 1)

T-Shirts

(Witches of Eastwick):

S Elliot (Physics 1)

(Roxanne):

Pat (Beit)

(Firkin):

Max (Mech Eng 1)

(Firkin):

J Barrol (Physics)

Football:

R Gee (ACC)

Books

(Howard the Duck books): V Moore (Sp Physics)

Mike (Rag):

(Flowers in the Attic):

A Skinner (Life Sci 1)

Nancy (Rag)

T Every (Civ Eng 1)

R Joseph (Astro)

(Talisman):

D Burns (RCS)

(Storyteller Book):

C Allen (Mech Eng 1)

(Maia Book):

C Allen (Mech Eng 1)

Pen:

B Goodwin (Mech Eng 3)

Rag Mags:

Andy Rogers

Cathy Allen (Mech Eng 1)

P Thatcher (Mech Eng)

S Bunny (Elec Eng 4)

Something:

Donnie (Mech Eng 1)









IC Radio go on FM

The Department of Trade and Industry granted Imperial College Radio a licence to conduct test transmissions in the VHF band on Wednesday.

The frequency allocated is 97.7MHz, with sufficient bandwidth to allow for stereo transmissions. The licence is valid for an initial period of three months. At the end of this period, it may be extended for up to an additional nine months at no extra cost, but it is not renewable. This means that IC Radio effectively has one year to conduct a study into FM, which should be ample time. They are allowed to conduct one test each day, of up to six hours duration.

Nigel Whitfield, who holds the test licence told FELIX this is not the start of an FM service. Exactly what form will be taken by the test transmissions has not been decided.

Ents final fling



Last Saturday's Exam Blues Ball raised £850 for IC Rag. Entertainments Chairman John Noble handed over a cheque for the amount to Rag Chairman Nigel Baker on Wednesday afternoon.

BOC UG

Challenge

BOC are running their third Undergraduate Challenge, a business

game which will take place in October

aimed at improve students' business skills. Teams of five students are

needed for the early rounds in

London. Imperial has had teams in both the 1986 and 1987 finals, gaining

the runner-up position last year. The

company is providing prize money of over £20,000, including £1,500 travel

fellowships for each member of the winning team. The game is open to

all students studying at Imperial who

will be in their final or penultimate

Entry forms are available from

New Dean

The Dean of City and Guilds College is to be Professor P Holmes of the Department of Civil Engineering. Professor Holmes, who is the Professor of Hydraulics, will hold the post for three years starting on 1st September this year.

Squatters

According to residents in Hamlet Gardens, squatters have returned to the area. Following the occupation of a flat over the summer, two more flats have been taken over. Flat 212 was unoccupied for some two months before squatters moved in during January. Since then, flat 135 has been entered over Easter through a window. When approached, the new Accommodation Officer, Loretto O'Callaghan, said that she knew nothing about it.

OBITUARY

Clive Dewey



Former FELIX Editor Clive Dewey BSc ARCS died at the beginning of April, it was announced earlier this week. Clive was a student of the Mathematics Department between 1973 and 1976 and Editor of FELIX during the 1976-77 session. Since leaving College, he acted as an agent for the SDP (Shepherd's Bush constituency).

Clive will be missed by all who knew him and his work on FELIX.

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Hexham 6.00

year during 1988/9.

Mr Toyboy The Overnight Man Judith's Fancy Saturday Night, **Sunday Morning**

Union 16

Hon Sex

Residence Insurance

I have begun to send notes directly to people when a cheque arrives or the Insurers require further information. This seems to work more quickly and more efficiently than putting a note in FELIX. I am currently engaged in an analysis of claims from August 1986 onwards, in the hope of throwing up figures in relation to known security problems and other possible problems yet to be identified. If such areas can be acted upon, hopefully the effect will be to prevent sharp rises in the premium or the success on each claim.

Club Insurance

This is an area which I wish to transfer onto the computer, particularly inventories. This will enable easier updates of club inventories at the end of each year, before the renewal premium is decided. All club captains and chairs can look forward to a request nearer the end of term for updates to their inventories.

Cancer video

As promised last term, there will be a video on cervical cancer in the Union Lower Lounge today. I have booked the room from 12-2.00pm and will be able to show the video more than once as it is only around fifteen minutes long. I also have information sheets from WHIC (Womens Health Information Centre). This event is open to women only.

Next year's Women's Officer will be Gill Knowles (Mech Eng III).

Linzi Wishart, Women's Officer.

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.

Second International Week: Letter a report from Grenoble from

At the end of last term I represented Imperial College and the United Kingdom at the Second International Week held at the Institut National Polytechnique de Grenoble (INP-G) in France from 20-27 March.

I had a marvellous time in Grenoble meeting students of technology from 12 other European countries. During the week the 30 or so of us spent together we were able to exchange views and attitudes on the cultures and educational systems in our countries which in itself greatly furthered one of the intentions of the week—to promote Europe amongst Europeans.

As well as touring laboratories in the prestigious INP-G we visited some local industries in the thriving science park and a Renault factory near Lyons. We participated in a debate with leading representatives of Grenobles industry about the European scientist/engineer of the future. We spent a day skiing in Prapoutel-well some of us trying whilst for most of the others skiing was very much a way of life. We sampled (numerous) wines in Beajoulais and were treated to a traditional regional meal of veal's instestines! But whether of the cocktail or dinner variety, parties were in abundance throughout the week. It culminated with INP-FIZZ, a 'gala' comprising fashion show, magic show, comedian, bands and discos attended by over 2000 people where we were addressed by the director of the INP-G and the mayor of Grenoble.

So having gathered that the week was intended to be fun (and at the expense of local Grenoble industry) the reasons for being there were very important. The First International Week was held in Stockholm in May 1987 to bring together students of Mathematics and Physics throughout Europe. In March 1988 Grenoble went further than this and invited students from the most prestigious science institutions in Europe and of any subject discipline to discuss how we as students and eventually professionals can contribute to achieving the 1992 goal of a 'free' Europe. And so after two days of heated boardroom type discussions BEST, the Board of European Students of Technology was born. (A multitude of acronyms were considered but each one discarded because it insinuated an unpleasantry in some or other language).

BEST is currently known as the EAU, the European Association of Universities, and is recognised by the French government as a non-political, non-profit making entity. It is run by students (those who have participated in the International Week) for students of technological universities in Europe. The founder members of BEST have compiled a set of aims:

1) To make available information about participating universities to interested parties.

2) To mediate between participating universities and establish recognised exchange schemes.

3) To mediate with industry to encourage the long and short term employment of European students and engineers.

Above all, to support student initiatives concerning European oriented affairs where possible.

BEST is still very much in the planning stage and will be discussed further at the next International Week to be held in Eindhoven, Holland in November.

On leaving for Grenoble I did not really consider what participating in International Week would entail apart from being just a free holiday. I am now aware that I and the students of Imperial College have an enormous responsibility. If it has been decided in Europe that Imperial is an institution worthy of recognition, its students must be worthy of Europe. We are all aware that this is an institution where apathy prevails and the fact that the response for people to participate in the International Week was abysmal exemplified it. The UK represents one of the largest populations in Europe. It would be a pity if the UK as represented by IC could not help to advance the cause of BEST and a 'free' Europe merely because of the apathy of the students.

A booklet on IW '88, the events of the week, the creation of BEST and the educational systems of the countries represented will be available in limited numbers in the summer. Anyone genuinely interested in furthering the cause of BEST and attending the next IW should contact me via the pigeonholes.

Ena Jawa (Chem Eng 3).

Friday 6th May 1988

Letter from St Mary's

Election fever comes to town! After the non-event of the IC elections here, interest is really keen with regards to our immediate representatives. This can be explained with the fact that in the past our SU has been our sole representatives, this choice of candidate is usually very considered.

Initial returns indicate the likelihood of a very high poll. In the region of 400 hundred people will vote on each alternative. With total student numbers of approximately 600, this turn out is respectable. The electorate have five chances to vote at varying times this week (3rd to 5th May).

There has been much debate in the corridors and recreation areas as to the correct candidate. Obviously each camp has their own band of loyal followers who will stick to the end, come what may. The encouraging sign is the debate rife among the 'thinking population'.

In all contested posts the standards are high, so any result will not adversely affect life here at St Mary's or our relationship with IC. The two big jobs, President and Secretary (Vice President) are contested in a two way battle for each. This increases the chance of a considered vote, though there is little to choose so absentions may be high.

The system is initially first past the post though in a three-way fight, if the result of the third placed candidate would have affected the final result, a re-run will be ordered with the last placed candidate ineligible to stand. This is a similar system to the 'level of preference' used in many other student elections.

For the candidates themselves, the time has been rather stressful. The programme included a hustings with free beer and wine available to those who turned up! Thus the meeting deteriorated as more alcohol was consumed. Heckling grew in decibels as the meeting proceeded, the chief culprit being the individual serving the free beer, who had liberally helped himself. Natural justice was done as later he was observed being violently ill in the toilets. Poor guy!

Libel



•NORMAN 'NUTBURGER' JARDINE, suspended Union Snack Bar Manager, was well aware that he was being investigated by a crack squad of Union officers last term. He was under no misapprehension about who was being watched when he was picking up his stock from Beit Arch. The SAS-style sniper in charge of operations slightly gave the game away. Who could fail to miss Dave 'Cosmic Ferret' Clements peering at you through binoculars from the Aeronautical Engineering Department foyer? Cosmic, eager to seem casual about his spying, then sat down and read a paper as Mr Jardine cheerily waved back at him.

- SI BICHARA is often to be heard on IC Radio, promoting their new 'Summer Sound'. However, if the truth be told it seems to be more of a 'Summer Silence'. IC Radio has cut ten hours from its weekday schedule, and a further twelve hours were cut from the weekends. Have IC Radio forgotten they are supposed to provide a service, or maybe it's just that they don't care.
- SATURDAY'S RAG FÊTE ended with the Rag AGM a the top of the Queen's Tower. Present was ICU DP-elect Chas Brereton who decided to show everyone what he's had to eat at the fête. Having devoured four Chaps curries, three ICCAG burgers and numerous pints of Fosters, 'Honker' Brereton felt highly ill. The resulting mess is said to have completely covered the top floor of the QT.
- CHAS BRERETON'S fatal attraction to the birds has been well documented in this column, but recently it seems to have been having an effect more literally in two counts. This weekend he tried to befriend a pigeon in Beit Quad, and the unfortunate animal was found dead on the ground a few hours later. What's more, on Monday the corpses of a further two pigeons were found outside the Queen's Tower. Is there a connection? I think we should be told.

Information required on the following topics:

blackMAil

- As no one took the hint last week regarding a CCU executive member, maybe I should elaborate. Why is RSM President Geoff Parsons officially registered with College as a Life Sci student ie an RCS member?
- 'The Return of Sydney': A revelation came to light recently regarding Ken Young, Southwell House Warden, offering Sydney Harbour-Bridge the Subwardenship of the aforementioned residence. I smell a rat because I can now reveal that Mr Young has been named as Mr Harbour-Bridge's running mate for the 1989 sabbatical elections. Was a deal stuck between the ICU President and the former RCC Chairman?
- The reason the ICU President didn't attempt to no-confidence his Deputy was that a counter-threat was made. Alan Rose said that if he was no-confidenced, he would in turn no-confidence Sydney Harbour-Bridge. Mr Harbour-Bridge withdrew his bid to oust his DP when he realised which bid was more likely to go through.

At Guilds recent Dinner and Dance, 144 tickets were sold at £65 per ticket. This makes £9360. Someone high up in Guilds stated that the D & D cost £13,000. They claim that the deficit was made up by the Old Centralians. At a recent RCS event, the OC's rep denied this, putting the figure nearer £100. Where did the other £3½K come from?

Can Guilds refute my allegations that it came from a secret bank account which has been set up to carry-over Ents profits? If so, are ICU aware of it?

Guilds May Ball looks set to lose around £2½K if it goes ahead. Sixty double tickets remain unsold. How can they cover such a loss if this slush fund doesn't exist?

On this subject, why are the Union turning a blind eye to so many illegal second bank accounts that are well-known by everyone?

Why did a female LSE student throw a drink over Guilds Motor Club hack, Adrian Bourne, last Friday night?

No one coughed up for last week's items of Blackmail so I've no option but to reveal names.

- 1) Mr Martyn Peck was the nipple-sucker.
- 2) Messrs Andrew 'Midget' Thompson and Paul Shanley were the interrogators. The transcript will follow.
- 3) Mr Paul Shanley (again!) was bought for £85. See libel for more details.
- 4) The two students who chatted up a Wimbledon prostitute were Mr Andrew Thompson (again!) and Mr Ben Hodgson.

This week's Blackmail:

- 1) Two people were caught bonking in the bell-tower of the Queen's Tower at Saturday's Rag Fête. Five pounds from each by Monday lunchtime enables me to forget their names. BONG!
- 2) 170 Queen's Gate held a party a while back. Two prominent members of the College hierarchy were in the toilet together. I'm reliably informed that no bonking took place but the lady in question did have her knickers down. The gentleman admits it but the lady is keeping very quiet. A fiver from Lady Godiva buys my silence.

If there is any scandal, cover-up or dodgy deal going on in your department, hall, etc, don't keep it to yourself—tell Delator. All information is in the strictest confidence. Send to 'Blackmail', FELIX, Beit Quad.

Delator

P.S. If you are going to send in any smut, please give me all the details!

- WHILST ON the subject of Rag Fefe, the party in the evening saw Union President Syd Harbour-Bridge discussing his plans for the Union reorganisation. The poor soul who had to listen to the Bridge's monologue was one Sumeet Ghaie (pronounced GAY), a Physics first year. So interesting was Mr HB's lecture that Mr Ghaie fell asleep half way through the conversation!
- HAVING ALREADY been soaked in the stocks by Lucy Bayler, Elizabeth from EastEnders, Martyn Prick turned his attention to working on the tombola stall at Rag Fefe. One customer was heard to ask Prick: 'Why are you dripping wet?'. 'Oh, I got drenched by the Australian bint, who can't act, off of EastEnders', Prick replied.

Standing next to Prick's customer was an Australian bint, who can't act, off of EastEnders.

• SOME PEOPLE will do anything to raise a bit of money for Rag. Some will sell their names to the highest bidder:



....whilst others will sell their bodies to any old random:



Holbein House's favourite heartthrob, Paul Shanley, managed to get £85 out of Sunny Bains for a night of unbridled passion. If anybody else wishes to buy Shan's body, we're taking bookings this lunchtime in the FELIX Office.

Chris Jones

Why cats have nine lives

One of the problems with scientists is that they tend to study only those problems that are easy to study. So they tend to neglect things like old-wives-tales as unworthy of their consideration. 'Cats have nine lives' is rejected as a scientific proposition because it doesn't even seem to make logical sense. But, every now and then some brave soul sets out to investigate the truth behind such folk-knowledge. Two New York vets have just applied science to our folk knowledge about cats.

New York is a good place to study cat's relative number of lives since there are a large number of multistorey apartment complexes and therefore a wide range of distances for cats to fall. Conveniently people also fall from these windows so comparisons of the mortality rate can be made.

If you look at plots of injuries and deaths versus distance of fall then the differences between people and cats become really obvious. People never survived falls when they fell more than seven stories onto concrete. But only about one in nine cats falling less than 15 stories actually died (note the interesting ratio). Strangely, the number of injuries and deaths peaks at about 6 stories for cats: those falling more than 6 floors had fewer injuries.

Some of these facts have obvious explanations. People reach a terminal velocity of about 120 miles per hour after falling about 6 or 7 stories. Few survive an impact with concrete at that speed. Cats have a higher surface area to mass ratio and therefore reach a terminal velocity of only 60mph after about six stories. Cats also land better than people: they are able to twist rapidly into a position with all four legs facing the ground. People tend to flail about aimlessly and while they may land on their feet they will do so untidily: this does nothing for their chances of survival. Human babies aparently tend to land on their heads (though how the authors of the study managed to find examples of babies dropping out of tall buildings is beyond me). Cats dissipate the energy impact over all four limbs and this does wonders for their survivability.

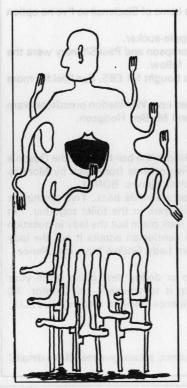
There even appears to be a sensible explanation for the mysterious peak in the feline morality rate at drops of 7 stories. Apparently cats relax once

UNDER THE SCOPE

by Steve Black

they have stopped accelerating (they reach terminal velocity at about six or seven floors). When they relax, their muscles are not so tense and they tend to hold their legs out horizontally. This increases their air resistance, slows them down and also provides a better impact position: relaxed bent limbs dissipate the energy better than rigid straight ones (this is what parachutists are taught). So cats falling more than seven floors are more likely to survive.

So there you have it: not all old wives tales are nonsense. Cats are more likely to survive falls than people. Folk wisdom even got the ratio right: cats are about nine times more likely to survive than we are. The only thing science has failed to come up with is an explanation of why so many cats and people throw themselves from high buildings in New York.



Better than science fiction

Science fiction only rarely produces really believable alien monsters. Even when it does, few of the creatures are as unusual as the strange beasties that inhabit Earth's extremities (deep sea fish, for example). But even our present-day ecosystems contain nothing unusual when compared to some ancient assemblages of wacky creatures.

Unfortunately for paleontologists (fossil hunters to you and me) few ancient creatures had the decency to die under the sort of conditions that turned the interesting bits of their bodies into stone. So the fossil record is dominted by the hard bits of things that take a long time to rot: shells, skeletons, teeth, finger nail clippings and so on. Usually the poor paleontologist has to reconstruct the rest of the creature using his imagination, though sometimes similar living creatures may be around to give him a clue. If the entire group of creatures has been extinct for 300 million years then any such reconstruction is likely to be unreliable to say the least.

Occasionally (we're talking very very infrequently here—say once every 100 million years) something happens that preserves a detailed record of a whole bunch of associated creatures soft parts and all. One of the most outstanding examples of this occurred about 520m years ago last November. A large undersea landslide consisting of very finegrained mud, buried a whole ecosystem almost instantaneously. The fossilised remains of this landslide is now called the Burgess Shale and is located in British Columbia.

The fine grained nature of the mud preserved soft body parts in minute detail. Some of the creatures can even be cut open to reveal what they had for lunch. X-ray pictures of the shale can also reveal subtle internal structures.

When the shale was first discovered paleontologists tried to fit the creatures they could see into the known categories of Cambrian (this is the geological epoch that lasted from about 600m to 500m years ago) fossils. However, recent detailed work has shown that the shale contains some very weird creatures that have never been seen anywhere else. In fact the creatures in the shale fit into about 18 broad categories (phyia to experts). 10 of these phyia are found nowhere else (all living creatures fit into about 35 phyia).

Some of the creatures are very very unusual and make the imaginations of science fiction writers seem feeble by comparison. One beastie, called for obvious reasons Hallucigenia, walked on seven pairs of rigid stilts, had seven feeding tentacles on its back each with a forked tip, had a heavy eyeless head and a gut that opened upwards. One assemblage of fossils shows a group of them scavenging a dead body. Another monster is called Anomalocaris. It was over one metre long (though they were probably still on Imperial units in those days) and shaped like a ray. It had long rippling flaps underneath a harder shell. Apparently it drifted along the sea floor grabbing unsuspecting bottom dwellers in its two jointed appendages and popping them into its circular mouth set on the bottom of its head. Several lucky trilobites have been found that survived an encounter with Anomalocaris with nothing more than

The Burgess shale appears to be unusual only in the quality of the fossils: many of the traditional hardshell Cambrian creatures are also found there. It's just that everywhere else the soft bits rotted before the creatures were fossilised. So life in the Cambrian was a great deal more varied than we could have imagined. There also seems to be no particular reason why some of the creatures survived while others died out. Indeed it looks as if the process of evolution throws up a lot of pretty bizarre experiments most of which will, purely by chance, fail. If things had only been slightly different then, then the world would be completely different now. So if we ever do discover life on another planet, it may well have fourteen legs, seven tentacles and no eyes: it certainly won't be what we expect.



Features ...

Examinations, Anxiety and Commonsense

Written, formal examinations have a hallowed place in academic life, and while, from time to time, educationalists have espoused alternative methods, they are widely accepted as the fairest and most efficient means of assessing students' knowledge and understanding.



by Don Adlington: Student

The written examination is not, however, by any means a precise instrument. It is certainly possible, for example, on individual papers, to come up with a 'fluke' result, that is a result markedly better than the student's actual ability would have led one to expect. It is also unquestionably possible to come up with results that are worse than either the student or his teachers anticipated, and which do not fairly reflect the student's ability.

The risk of systematically underperforming in a set of examinations is linked to two separate, but closely related, factors:
(a) an inadequate technique for playing the examination game, and (b) an inadequate recognition that a formal examination, like any other testing situation, can generate levels of anxiety which in themselves may have an adverse effect on intellectual functioning.

Playing the examination game

Examinations are to some extent an abstraction from reality, an artificial construct. They are a sort of game in which the participants are invited to demonstrate what they know, in writing, on a blank piece of paper, in a set time. An important component of the game is that the examiner is forbidden to give credit on any other evidence than that presented in the script. It is an astonishing fact that despite this elementary point, some students insist on abandoning common sense to the extent, apparently, of playing another game altogether. A common manifestation of this is the student who spends an hour and three quarters (out of three hours) writing, re-writing, polishing and perfecting one answer out of four or five required.

Another common departure from the rules consists in writing out the answer without properly reading the questions. There are two, equally devastating variants to this: (a) not selecting the questions which optimise the candidate's chances of scoring high over-all, and (b) misreading individual questions and subsequently writing an answer to a question which in effect is not there.

Some basic and well recognised components of a good examination technique are as follows:

Councellor 1. Read the question paper carefully, preferably twice. Errors of

perception are high correlated with heightened anxiety.

- 2. Select the questions you are going to answer, put them in order, and write out a simple timetable, allowing the same time to all questions (assuming the same maximum marks for each). Allow fifteen minutes for the planning and five minutes at the end for finishing off. Some people find it helps to make quick notes on each question at this stage.
- 3. Be disciplined in adhering to the timetable. Recognise that the first few marks accruing to a question can be obtained far more easily than the last few—and it is the total mark which counts. If you get stuck in the middle of a question leave it and deal with the next one. You can always return to the unfinished answer later, and indeed the very act of disengaging from the difficulty may allow a resolution to surface which your mind is actually focussed on something else
- 4. Answer the easiest question first, so that you can proceed to the others on a psychological 'high'.
- 5. Don't be afraid to make rough notes in your answer book. When you are answering one question, ideas relating to other questions you are going to answer may come into your head—jot them down. Similarly on entering the examination room, and possibly before reading the paper at all, you may wish to write down very quickly salient points which you have memorised in your final preparation.

It is, of course, essential to rule out rough work very clearly, so that the examiner knows that it does not form part of your answer.

6. If you run out of time, tell the examiner so, and say which points you would have gone on to discuss if you had more time.

Dealing with anxiety

A degree of anxiety, accompanied by recognised physiological symptoms, is a normal reaction to testing and stressful situations. Everyone is affected to some extent and should be aware of it. You tell yourself that you are anxious, that it is natural, and that you can handle it. In doing that, you minimise the risk that the anxiety may escalate to a point where it becomes disabling. Again there seem to be some common sense ways of handling this problem.

Arrive early—far better be biting your nails outside the examination room, than sitting in a traffic jam in Earl's Court. Once you are in the examination room, sit down and relax for a minute or two before doing anything.

To a certain extent anxiety is contagious. If you feel that this is a hazard for you, then 'keep yourself to yourself' before admission to the examination room. It may also be worthwhile resisting the impulse to compare notes with all your friends immediately after an exam.

It is also a good idea in the examination itself, not to let yourself be thrown if your neighbours appear to be writing with more facility than you are. They may, for all you know, be writing rubbish, and in any case, inordinately long answers do not necessarily bring the best results.

The most common symptoms of anxiety getting out of hand, is an overwhelming sense of panic, a temporary breakdown of our rational and ordered response to a demanding situation. In an examination this may, for example, take the form of 'blanking out'—completely forgetting everything. The remedy for this is to switch off, close your eyes, and do nothing for a while.

This is far better than yielding too easily to the powerful impulse to resolve the tension by giving up altogether. When you feel that the anxiety attack has abated, try getting your mind working again by using a 'scribble technique'. Just write down—any words—which lead to other words, until you feel that your faculty of recall is available to you

A final point. If you have a history of becoming particularly anxious at exam times, or if for contingent reasons you think that you may do so this time, it would be sensible to talk to someone about it well beforhand. Tell your personal tutor or your senior tutor, talk to a doctor or nurse at the Health Centre, or come to see me. Just a small amount of practical help may make a substantial difference in the event.

Some material in this article is derived from a lecture given by Dr Robert Sharp of the Institute of Behavioural Therapy.

Features

Is depression getting you down?

Summer Term is upon us and for most the dreaded exams are once again a reality. Many students get the 'blues' now again about their course, lack of revision, personal life or financial worries. We feel miserable, headachy, irritable, constantly tired and may not even want to get out of bed. Usually these moods pass, but in some the phase gets worse. That's when there's a danger of sinking into depression.

The word 'depression', used by most in its loosest form to mean run down and sad, really means a series of very intense feelings ranging from being down-hearted to utter hopelessness and despair.

A severe depression can be dangerous. Once a person passes the point of caring what happens to them, they become apathetic and disregard all advice. The depression can disrupt the sufferer's life leaving them unable

to study, attend lectures or even leave their rooms. They can be full of selfpity, agitated, unkempt and, in extreme cases, talk of suicide.

Depression only becomes an illness when it goes on for an extended time and begins to swamp all other feelings. In Britain, depressive illness occurs in several million people at least once during their lives. It can occur in anyone at any age but students are particularly susceptible to the pressures of academic life and living on a student grant. Female students are more likely to seek medical advice for depression, whereas research has shown that men tend to 'hide' their symptoms behind illness, anti-social behaviour and alcohol.

There are two types of depression: reactive (non-biological) and endogeneous (biological) depressions. Reactive depression is an overwhelming reaction to external conditions which is the prevalent form at this time of year. Endogeneous depression results from biochemical changes within the brain and is usually independent of environmental factors.

There are many symptoms of depression. They range from sleep disturbances, appetite loss or increased eating, mood changes throughout each day, lack of sex drive, lack of concentration, loss of energy, loss of interest in anything important, low self-esteem, morbid thoughts and hypochondria.

Many of us have certainly felt all of these symptoms at some time but could you recognise whether your depression is just mild and short-lived or becoming a depressive illness?

The depression is only an illness when the symptoms start to control your life. If you recognise all the symptoms in yourself, try to think back to when you first began to feel them. Then find a friend who you can trust and who you know will listen to you. Tell them everything.

This may help you to sort out your problems by giving a different perspective to the situation. If you feel there is nobody who will listen sympathetically, then give Nightline a ring. Not only do they provide information on all aspects of being a student in London, but they have people who are prepared to listen and give good advice. Alternatively there is the Student Counsellor, Don

Adlington, who is available during office hours. You can also try to alleviate your symptoms in several ways: make plans for fun, buy yourself a treat or listen to some music, exercise—physical exertion makes both your body and mind feel better and learn to relax. These may seem reckless when you've got exams next week but you'll find you'll get so much more achieved if you can pull yourself out of the depression NOW.

Many depressions disappear spontaneously, but if none of the self-help actions work then you should go straight to your doctor. Don't be afraid that he will brush you off just because your illness isn't physical. Every doctor sees at least one person a day with depression or anxiety. Just remember that depression isn't mental illness.

When you see your doctor,

describe all your symptoms and the possible causes. He will probably give you a brief physical examination to put your mind at rest about any physical symptoms. He will then either refer you to a clinical pyschologist or prescribe anti-depressant medication. Sometimes even both.

If he believes that you are just overanxious about your exams rather than depressed, he may prescribe tranqulillisers.

If you are feeling down and it is really going to effect your exam performance, talk to someone now. The important decisions you should be taking will be depressed decisions and not the normal decisions you would make. If you don't confront your life and you let the symptoms take over then you can wreck your degree, your future career and, ultimately, your life.



You can 'phone NIGHTLINE, or call in, all through the night and talk about anything, upsetting or otherwise, in complete confidence.

NIGHTLINE open 6pm to 8am 581 2468

or call at 9, Princes Gardens, SW7

Previews





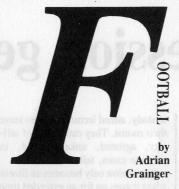
The McLaren domination of last Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix was quite remarkable in what is really a transitional year for the team and Formula One. Ayrton Senna's win (as predicted last week) puts real pressure on Alain Prost as they head for Monte Carlo on May 15th. Between them Prost and Senna have won the last five Monaco Grand Prix and it should be a fascinating struggle. More next week on that.

The two most important races this weekend are rounds of the Sports-Prototypes World Championship (SPWC) and F3000 International Championship.

For the SPWC teams Sunday's Autosport 1000 teams at Silverstone (on the A43 between Brackley and Towcester in Northamptonshire) represents the last chance to get in some serious racing miles before the Le Mans 24 hour classic next month.

The series so far has turned out to be a battle between the Tom Walcinshaw Racing Jaguar XJR-9's and the sole Sauber-Mercedes C9. The leading Jaguar of American Grand Prix driver Eddie Cheever and former British GP driver Martin Brundle has won the last two rounds of the championship at Monza, Italy and Jarama, Spain but trails in the championship, 25 points behind Sauber drivers Jean-Louis Schlezzer and Mauro Baldi who won the first round at Jerez, Spain and finished second in the other two races. Also appearing at Le Mans, but not

Silverstone, will be the factory Porsche team, with last year's winning trio of drivers: Derek Bell, Hans Stuck and Al Holbert. Jaguar have spared no expense to end Porsche's domination, entering five cars for Le Mans. One of Jaguar's fifteen drivers for the race (three per car) will be 1986 British Formula Three Champion Andy Wallace. On Sunday Andy will be driving his Ratt RT22 in the second round of the F3000 International series at Vallelunga, Italy. The first round at Jerez saw debut victory for both Johnny Herbert and the Reynard chassis. Second through to fifth were Lola T88/50S, designed in Huntingdon by IC graduate Mark Williams. 28 year old Mark completed his degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1980 and, having been interested in motor racing design since the age of ten, decided to look for a job in the field. The College careers service were less than supportive, advising Mark to 'get a proper job instead'. He obliged by going to work for a firm of consulting engineers but successfully applied for a job at Lola Cars in 1983. After working on cars for the American 'Indycar' series Mark took over responsibility for F3000 in 1985, designing the T950, which was a bit too slow to win any races. The T86/50 and T87/50 won races in 1986 and 1987 but both times the championship was lost to arch rivals March. This year appears to be better news for Mark and Lola as the Marches were considerably off the pace at Jerez. Lola should have the strength in depth to beat Reynard over the season and my favourites for the title are the French GBDA team, who are planning to enter Formula One next year, and will want to progress with style. Next week: Monaco GP preview and the start of the build up to the world's biggest sporting event.



It is the last Saturday of the football season when things used to be usually be decided. But with these play-off nightmares, some teams have three weeks to sweat it out.

Chelsea v Charlton

Stamford Bdg (Fulham Bdy tube) This is it. The crunch battle to end all battles. The fixtures computer must be laughing its little chips off. The state of the teams is simple. A draw or win for Charlton equals safety. A win only for Chelsea gives them security. Any opposite results puts the other team in the play-off position with third, fourth and fifth teams of Division Two. Chelsea were demolished at West Ham last week and looked a poor and desperate side. Charlton drew with Spurs to equal Chelsea's 41 point total, thanks to an equalising penalty and mostly feel confident. This should be a classic but might end up as a war. A neutral would love the amosphere, so be there or be square. I predict a draw and disaster for Chelsea.

Crystal Palace v Manchester City Selhurst Park (Selhurst BR)

This is a crucial game for the home team. Palace have had a great year but could still miss out on even a playoff place. They lost to Leeds last week but also beat Blackburn to keep up a challenge. They must win here and hope that Blackburn don't win their last game. If they finish fifth, they could be playing Charlton in the playoffs, a home, I mean away game, well actually it is the same! Man City are a good young side and I will tip them to win this league next year. Players like Lake, Redmond and Stewart are stars of the future and hold the key for light blue success. Palace should win this, but it will be close.

Millwall v Blackburn

The Den (New Cross tube)
Congratulations to the Lions on achieving a place in the top flight for the very first time. They have won the title as well, so this all looks well for the future among the big boys. The victory at Hull last week was witnessed by many thousands of

Millwall fans and they should turn out in force to greet their favourites. Blackburn, as I have said, are in a tussle with Crystal Palace, so Millwall could do their London neighbours a favour here. Archibald was absent last week and they could only draw at home with lowly Reading. I predict a home win and the possible end of the Blackburn dream.

Brentford v York

A Division Three game of no real promotion or relegation relevance.

Leyton Orient v Wolves

Brisbane Road (Leyton tube)

Yet another make or break match in this lower division matching. Orient must win to confirm a place in the play-offs and the real chance of a deserved Division Three place next year. Frank Clark must be hoping for the best possible performance. Wolves are champions. They have completed the first leg of their climb back to the top flight which I think they will attain eventually. Steve Bull has scored over 50 goals for them this year and his successes cannot be praised highly enough. Wolves fans have dubious reputations but they deserve the success that the team has provided. I will go for a hard-fought

All games are on May 7 (Saturday) with 3pm kick-offs.

Game of the Day: Chelsea v Charlton (go along to this one if you can afford the time).

ONE WEEK TO THE CUP FINAL!!

Bye for now, Adrian Grainger



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

Diary

What's On

FRIDAY

Conservative
Soc Meeting......12.30pm.
MF 569.

Debating Soc Meeting......1.00pm. Physics UG Commons Room, Level 2 Physics. New members welcome.

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

Christian Union......6.00pm. 308 OHC Computing. 'Self Discipline'. All welcome (follow directions from Physics Foyer).

Into the Night........7.00pm.
STOIC. Films, videos, chat,
'Countdown'. On all the
televisions in the Halls of
Residence.

Rock Soc Disco......7.30pm. Union Lounge. The big one. Free beer. 'Bop until your bits drop off!' £1.50.

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

Sherfield Building. As usual coffee is served after the service, come along for a great service! See West London Chaplaincy.

Wargames
Meeting......1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Artsoc Meeting.....12.30pm. 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 f1.50).

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

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

Intermediate
Ballroom.......7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Ballroom......8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

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

TUESDAY

Christian Union8.15am. Chemistry 231.

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.

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

Holy Qur'an
Recitation......1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic
Society.

Amnesty Meeting1.30pm. Brown Committee Room. FREE. **Islamic Circle5.30pm.**Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

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

Judo.......6.30pm.Union Gym. Sorry—no more beginners.

Caving Club
Meeting......7.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge.

Advanced
Ballroom.......7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club

Psychedelic & Indie Show.

Improvers
Ballroom......8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Canoe Club
Meeting......8.30pm.
Above Southside Bar.

Dai Rocking.......9.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz). The best in hard rock and not-so-hard rock music including the featured album every week with Dave Williams.



WEDNESDAY

Sailing......12.30pm.
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
Meeting......1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting..1.00pm. Senior Common Room.

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

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

Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

ICSO Rehearsal7.00pm. Great Hall. Last chance to cock up Star Wars, so be there.

THURSDAY

ICYHA Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

Arabic Classes.......1.30pm.Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Orienteering
Training.......5.30pm.
Union Gym. Social meeting
held from 6.30pm onwards.

Newsbreak6.00pm. STOIC.

ICCAG Soup Run....9.15pm. Weeks Basement Hall. Contact Liz Warren (Chem Eng 2).

11

Reviews

FILM

Making Mr Right (15)
Despite the title, this film is not a

Despite the title, this film is not a 'despondent-woman-creates-herideal-man' role reversal of the hilarious *Weird Science*—although rumour has it that it started out that way. Somewhere along the line a lovable android appeared—and the rest, as they say, is film.

Frankie (Ann Magnuson) is a highpaid, high-powered PR consultant in a 50s feeling, but present day Miami Beach. No sooner has she kicked campaigning congressman Steve Marcus (Ben Masters) off her client list-and out of her bed-than she is hired by the 'Chemtech Corporation', a high-tech robotics company, to humanise their latest project, called Ulysses (John Malkovich). Ulysses has been created by emotionless scientist Dr Jeff Peters (John Malkovich again) in his own image but for one slight difference—Ulysses has a heart. Ulysses is about to be launched on a seven year mission into outerspace to boldly go....But first he must be launched to the media to pay for it. This is where Frankie comes in.

Things start as they mean to go on.
Ulysses has never seen a woman
before, and, after investigating
Frankie's anatomy, promptly shortcircuits. The solution to this is simple,
as Dr Peters demonstrates—
unscrewing Ulysses head and pressing

his reset button. Meanwhile the rest of his body is heading off down the corridor to wreak havoc elsewhere in this 50s sci-fi movie style establishment.

The rest of the story centres on Ulysses' forbidden visits to the

outside world—wreaking havoc in a shopping mall with Dr Banks' date, the man-hungry lab technician Sandy (Laurie Metcalf) and later at Frankie's sister's wedding, having been bedded by Frankie's best friend, the nymphomaniac Trish (Glenne Headly), on the way.

Susan Seidelman, director of the over-hyped yet entertaining Desperately Seeking Susan, leads us through the mayhem in Miami Beach as Frankie sets out to change Ulysses but ends up realising how screwed-up her own life really is in the search for Mr Right. In this role Ann Magnuson (The Hunger, Desperately Seeking Susan) makes a splendid starring debut as the outwardly confident yet privately mixed up PR consultant—who slowly comes to the realisation of her love for the android.

John Malkovich (*The Killing Fields*, *Emperor of the Sun*), despite his previous serious parts, makes good measure of his dual roles as Dr Peters and Ulysses—two superficially similar yet very different characters—making us feel pity for the cold-hearted doctor and endearing us to the loveable android Ulysses.

Not up with the best, but never-theless it makes the grade for an entertaining night out.

Opens tonight at the Chelsea Cinema, Kings Road.

Matt Rampton.



_VIDEO-

The Belly of an Architect

This recent release has not only a very strange title, but also a fairly incomprehensible storyline. American architect Brian Dennehey, star of *Cocoon* is invited to Rome to produce an exhibition based on the work of Louis Etierne Boulée, a designer of the ancient city.

As his work progresses he becomes obsessed by the Roman architect, particularly by his belly, hence the title, and all this because it seems that they are destined to die in the same way, via cancer of the stomach.

Meanwhile his wife has an affair and gets pregnant, which upsets him a little and he has a brief fling himself. Everything comes to a head when at the opening ceremony the exhibition becomes the setting for his wife's childbirth, and his own suicide.

The film goes nowhere, and takes a long time over it. *Cocoon* was much better

-MUSIC-

Reading FELIX recently it occurred to me that, although popular music is more than adequately covered, classical music listeners are not catered for at all. In this column I hope to preview concerts at the major institutions of music in London—The South Bank Centre and the Barbican. I hope to point out a 'gig of the week'(!), generally provide for classical music fans and, I hope, encourage others to give classical music a chance.

There is no preview in the column this week, but I hope to include previews in future columns.

REVIEW

The Wasps Overture

—Vaughan Williams

Concerto for 'Cello & Orchestra

—Dvorak

Symphony No 4—Tchaikovsky

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the

Cambridge Corn Exchange,

Conductor Charles Groves, Cello

Paul Tortellier

The names of Paul Tortellier and the RPO combined to ensure the concert was a sell out—and the tickets were expensive. Although he is now 74 years old, the French master is surely the top cellist in the world, following the death of Pierre Fourniet a couple of years ago.

Before we heard The Man, we first were presented with a short piece written by one of England's greatest composers, Ralph Vaughan-Williams (who once studied further down Prince Consort Road at the RCM). The Wasps was written as incidental music to a Cambridge University production of Areslophanes' play of the same name. Although I'm not a great fan of English pastorale music, I was pleasantly surprised and the imitation of a wasp by the strings was interesting.

Dvoràk's cello concerto in B minor is arguably the greatest work for solo cello every written. Unusually, the first movement's two main themes are introduced before the solo instument is heard. The second of these, the 'prairie theme' was played with great sensitivity by the French horn player whose slight error in a top note would not have been noticed by those who

had not heard the piece before.

Then Tortellier entered with a repeat of the first theme, his arrogance in performance well suited the music. Tortellier's dazzling fingerwork makes watching him play, a real experience. And during long, orchestral sections the way in which he pushes away his cello, legs crossed and both hand resting on the floor makes one wonder whether he will make the next entrance on time!

Tortellier's playing wasn't all good. I felt his tuning was very heavy in places and he seemed to slide haphazardly into some of the notes. However, there was a lovely moment when the cello plays against solo violin and flute. Barry Griffiths (leader), Tortellier and the flautist played as if they were the only ones there.

After the concerto both Graves and Tortellier took four curtain calls, reinforcing the suspicion that these concerts are merely ego trips for the big names concerned.

A fter the interval, Tchaikovski's fourth, with its characteristic chords and fast, repeated passages for the whole orchestra brought a fitting end to a very enjoyable concert.

Society Page

OSC

Elections

Elections for the Overseas Student Committee will be held at 1.30pm Wednesday May 11 in the Chem Eng Lecture Threatre 1. Election papers may be collected from the Union Building. Job descriptions and more information may be obtained from the Publicity Officer.

ICYHA

Get out of London

There is an advertisement on the Underground featuring a photograph of an imposing Scottish mountain with a loch in the foreground, captioned 'Above and Beyond the Northern Line'. One such place of similar tranquil splendour is Gairloch, about 100 miles from Fort William on the North West coast of Scotland, destination of this year's ICYHA Easter camping trip.

For those feeling energetically disposed, the Torridon Mountains, the oldest and arguably some of the most impressive in the British Isles, were close at hand. We satisfied ourselves with ascents of Ben Eighe (972m) and Ben Alligin (922m)—they may not be quite the loftiest of mountains, but any lack of height is simply compensated for in the drama of the surrounding scenery. Unfortunately, in both cases our arrival at the summit coincided with that of a blizzard, so any planned ridge-walking was thwarted.

For those of a more sedentary disposition, there were low-level coastal walks by Loch Ewe and Loch Torridon, providing admirable opportunities to spend an indolent hour or two lazing on one of the many deserted sandy beaches, admiring the view, contemplating problem sheets undone, or keeping watch for that elusive sea otter (which, as a matter of interest, we never saw).

The total cost of the trip was £70 per person (including all food) and represented excellent value for a week spent in one of the more isolated corners of Britain—a pleasant change from the clamour of London.

BALLOON

Summer take off

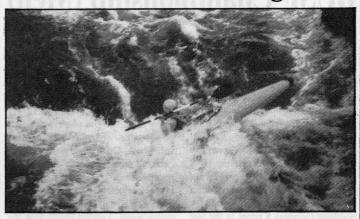
We are looking for anybody who will be around London during the summer (including all you postgrads) and would be interested in finding out more about balloons and helping to crew on some of our ballooning weekends all around the country. We also desperately need a few more IC van drivers. You need to be over 21, have a clean license for eighteen months and also need to take a (simple) IC van test which we can help to arrange.

Ever fancied flying? Now may be your chance! If you would like to know more about what we do as a club then read on. Better still, come to one of our regular Thursday lunchtime meetings at 1pm in Southside Upper Lounge (just ask around for the balloonists!). We will also be meeting (socially) Thursday evenings as well at 7pm (same place or in the Bar). You can also contact me via the RCC pigeonholes (in the Union Office).

As a club, we had planned two trips over Easter. In the end we only went on one trip (the second was cancelled due to rain, wind and low cloud) to Great Missenden, to what is called the 'April fool's Balloon Meet'. The



White Water Wetting



After the initial problems of not having anyone to drive the minibus, and a disappointing lack of numbers, we set off for North Wales at about 9 o'clock on Friday, the last day of term, for what was to be four days of excellent canoeing.

Saturday morning was wasted as four of the group were prevented from paddling the Aberglaslyn Gorge near Beddgelert by the local water bailiff, (access to good white water is quite a problem in England and Wales).

Instead we drove to Capel Curig and all six of us paddled the River Llugwy which was a bit more suitable for the less competent (or is it more sensible), of us.

On Sunday the prospect of the Fairy Glen on the River Conwy reduced the group of madmen to three. Fortunately three regular paddlers of this grade V stretch, (gradings of rivers range from I—flat water, to VI—nigh-on impossible) were setting off at the same time and helped show our three down. The river was rough enough to send Nigel (our Chairman) on the first swim of his paddling career.

Due to a lack of water in the area

we moved down to Bala where the River Tryweryn international white water centre is sited.

Monday was spent here—the dam controlled river providing non-stop grade III and IV water where many top canoeing competitions are held.

On Monday night we explored Bala Town itself (well café and pub basically) and on Tuesday we paddled the River Winion near Dolgellau. This time we didn't get kicked off the river until we had finished paddling.

A quick lunch stop and then on to the River Eden where the water (so I'm told) was disappointingly low, which saw an end to our canoeing activities.

If the recent article in FELIX put you off the Canoe Club, take heart, we try hard not to kill off our members.

In the near future a more placid weekend to Symonds Yat on the River Wye is planned. So, if you're interested in that, have anything to offer us, or think we have anything to offer you, come along on Tuesday nights, 6.30 in the Beit Quadrangle for a session in the swimming pool, or 8.30 in Southside Lounge for a drink and a chat.

weather forecasts for the Easter weekend had not looked good (depression and an approaching cold front) but undaunted we loaded up the balloon Thursday evening hoping for at least one flight in the morning. We also had to buy an OS map which our retrieve crew were missing and which was essential if they weren't to get lost when chasing the balloon around Buckinghamshire!

Friday morning we got up at 5am and drove down to Missenden for the pilot's briefing at 6.30am (we balloonists are suckers for punishment—it was a beautiful sunrise, if that's any consolation?).

The morning flight was amazing, the balloons bobbing in the gorgeous sunshine around us—could the weatherman have been wrong (again)? Friday evening was a little breezy for our liking. We decided to remain safely on the ground and watched as many others burnt holes in their balloons attempting to take off.

On Saturday the weather was perfect again and we had two superb flights. Then on Sunday morning we had our fourth flyable slot to finish off a great weekend.

Happy landings, Jan Vonka (Chairman).

Sport

VOLLEYBALL

BUSF Championship (Men)

Following strong performances in the London league, EVA Student Cup, and the UAU competitions, it was no surprise that London University would be represented by a supplemented Imperial side (of 10 players, 7 were from IC) there were very few talented players available from other colleges, it was generally assumed that London would be a weak team this year. This proved not to be the case, London found themselves in the same group as Scotland (winners 8 times in the last decade) UAU II and Wales, and faced immediate problems when facing Scotland ten minutes after a seven hour coach ride. London never looked awake, and struggled against an almost equally anaemic Scottish side to lose by 2 sets to 1. It looked bad: UAU II were allegedly stronger than either Scotland or London, as they suggested by beating Wales and the Scots, and London were in danger of having another lacklustre tournament. Fortunately, London met Wales next, and trounced them 15-2, 15-5 to boost confidence for the battle to come. UAU II were obviously not expecting much, On court, they behaved as if they had a right to a place in the final, which cost them dear. Five minutes into the first set, London were 10-1 up, and finished at 15-3. UAU were amazed, and had to show all their strength to block out the firepower of Walter Sextro and captain Steve Pickett and take the second set 15-11. In the third, several players picked a good time to play their best volleyball. On back court, Vincent Lebeault scurried about and retrieved impossible spikes, whilst the setters, Luca Grassano and Julian Puczyniec blocked (and set) superbly. After two match points, London finally took the game 15-13, and a place in the semifinal. Unfortunately, here Northern Ireland were too strong, and won 2-0 which was somewhat anticlimatic. The sweetener was the chance for revenge over Scotland, beaten by UAU I in the other semi-final, which London gladly took (2-0) for a welldeserved bronze medal.

Final placings:

Gold: UAU I
Silver: Northern Ireland
Bronze: London
4th: Scotland
5th: UAU II
6th: Cambridge
7th: Oxford

Wales

RACING

Paul Shanley

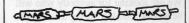
As predicted last week, *Doyoun was* the 'winner of Saturday's 2000 Guineas at Newmarket. Trainer, Michael Stoute, has doubts over entering his colt for the Derby. He seems concerned whether or not *Doyoun* has the stamina to step up an extra half mile for the trip at Epsom on June 1. Most bookies have now dropped the Aga Khan's selection from their show of betting. Ladbrokes, however, do quote 5-1, 'with a run'.

Playschool, the horse that I now see in my nightmares is in the news again. Last week's Sunday Express alleged that a new undetectable drug is in use. The report claimed that the diuretic was used on David Baron's colt on St Patrick's Day. This allegedly explained his poor showing in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. The Jockey Club rejected the report on Sunday following analysis of a urine sample taken from the horse.

Finally, a reminder that we're hoping to get Racing Soc off the ground for next term. Anyone interested, please reply to Box 721, FELIX, Beit Quad. The tips for this week are on the news pages.

What can you buy for £35,000?

- 175,000 Mars Bars—At 3000 calories a day, this lasts 45 years, 37 weeks.
- •210,000 condoms—These hold 6,720,000 pints of lager.
- 10 Union Presidents' salaries.
- •41,176 pints of Becks. To take these back to Evelyn Gardens from the Union Bar would take 43 round trips costing £172 in taxi fares.
- 564 return flights to Dublin.
- Enough matches to stretch 1000 miles which is a very long, long way indeed.
- Feed half the population of Milton Keynes for a year. Why anyone would want to do this is unclear.
- Buy a triple room in Bernard Sunley for 45 years including vacations.
- Stock the new 'FELIX soft drinks and pastie shop' for an awfully long time.
- 564 colour TV licenses (564 more than in Evelyn Gardens).
- Fill Jen Hardy-Smith's sherry cabinet 7.3 times.



Cookery Club



I live to eat

Gastronomic Survey of the world—Part 1

FRANCE

A visit to France is an opportunity for one of life's great gastronomic adventures. I will restrict my comments to Paris because my personal experience of eating in France does not extend into the Provinces. There will be the opportunity in future editions of FELIX to extend what I have to say here. Any useful info can be passed to me on int 4320 or 4412.

On a student budget I would give priority to exploring the world of fromageries and charcuteries.

Fromageries

It is important to remember that some of the dedicated fromageries buy their cheese from the farmers and age it in their own cellars on straw. I would recommend that you search out the ones that specialise in raw milk (unpasteurised) cheese (fromage au lait cru). The cheeses that I tried covered much of the spectrum:

Camembert—The favourite cheese in France. You will find a raw milk cheese Camembert very creamy. Brie—Even though it might be a

familiar cheese, it must be tried in France.

Munster.

Livarot.

Bouton-de-Chevre—Small diskettes of goat cheese.

Vieux Lille—A strong pungent cheese.

This was my favourite. I liked it so much that I brought back a couple of pounds of the stuff. I would often end the day by having some on bread, accompanied by a cognac.

The adventurous amongst you might want to go through a 'degustation'. This is a sampling of

the cheeses from every branch of the French cheese spectrum. It can be a single sampling accompanied by an explanation of the background of every cheese encountered or it can be an elaborate multi-course meal consisting only of cheeses. One starts with the light ones and finishes in a finale of blues.

The degustation at Andrust Fromagerie (41 Rue d'Amsterdam, Metro-Liege) was brought to my attention. It might prove a little pricey as this establishment is one of Paris's top fromageries.

Charcuteries

You should be able to find one quite easily. Here, you will find the opportunity to make a selection from a range of hams, patés and sausages. Many charcuteries will provide tables where you can sit down to enjoy your selection with some bread and house wine

I found that I was quite lost when asking for things. Any knowledge of French food terminology will prove a saviour. I am giving a very short list of terms in the hope that the charcuterie you visit will have the products that I mention.

Boudin noir—Pork blood sausages. Jambon d'Auvegre—Raw, salt-cured smoked ham.

Jambon de Bayonne—Raw, salt-cured ham.

Lard-Bacon.

Saucisson sec-Air dried sausages.

The Chedeville at 12 rue du Marche-Saint-Honors (Paris 1, Metro Tuillerie) has a reputation for stocking a very wide selection of prepared meat. You might like to go to this one if you are in the area.

You will have done yourself a great favour if you manage to explore this small niche in the French gastronomic domain, in between seeing the Louvre and the Musee d'Orsay.

Bye for now,

Yishu.

PS. Don't forget to bring me some Vieux Lille.

Special tip: You must must try 'Pain Poilane au Levain naturel'. This is a very special sourdough bread, first made by the Paris baker Lionel Poilane. This should be able to be purchased at most boulangeries.

FELIX

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to Ken, Nigel, John, Rhys, Paul and Dave on completing the Bean's Run Monday night.
- The engagement is announced between Paul Shanley of Bean's Club and Judith Hackney of FELIX. Telegrams via box 462.
- C&G May Ball -- Friday May 20, tickets £42 still available.
- Baby Sitter needed. 21 Yeomans Row SW3. £2 per hour, one baby boy (16 months), probably 1 or 2 evenings a week, supper supplied if needed.
- Any remaining pre-1982 Rag Mags are going to be re-cycled. If you want any please contact Fiona Nicholas through the Biochemistry pigeonholes or through IC Union Office.
- Italian speaker required for regular conversation. Contact Paul Smith, Management School, Room 423, int 7017.

PERSONAL

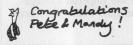
- Cheers! Paul & Judith
- Which came first, the random or the rucksack?
- Rhino Club: Sod off. The Gauntlet Club.
- Spot the odd one out: Cosmic, Bradshaw, Waghorn, Brereton.
- We lied. They're all completely random.
- What goes faster than Superman? Chas 'honker Rregeton's lunch
- How comes PK gets all the publicity? Andy, Penthouse Club.
- Last week's lack of entertainment in the small ads was due to exam pressure. Sorry. The Penthouse Club.
- Belated Happy Easter to all you ladies out there. The Penthouse Club.
- The Penthouse Club wishes to formally announce its new status as a soveriegn state. We have been forced to take this unprecedented step to avoid paying this term's room bills.
- Dai Rocking? More like Dai Bonking! Penthouse Club.
- Congratulations Paul and Judith—The Bean's Club.
- Is Pressy-Boy really gay?
- Can S&N really be serious?
- I did not say this-The Rector.
- Long live Prophylatic-press, king of the airwaves
- Will Neil really strip on the radio, or will he fall off like everyone else?
- Tune into IC Radio on Mondays at 8am.
- PS. Southside now get IC Radio. Poor sods.
- Don't know what to do wiv your biro after filling in part of your housing benefit form? IC Amnesty meets Tues 1.30pm, Brown Committee Room.
- Think Tarbuck's new chat show is totally evil? Then campaign against torture with IC Amnesty, Tues 1.30pm, Brown Committee Room.
- Got a good sense of direction? Find your way around mazes? Then can you make it to Brown Committee Room, Tues 1.30pm?
- Fed up with people chucking peanuts at you in lectures then campaign against torture with IC Amnesty, Tues 1.30pm, Brown Committee Room.

LOST

• Could who ever picked up my Levis red label jean jacket after Geno Washington in the Union on Saturday night please contact me via Mech Eng pigeonholes. Cheers. Paul Thompson, Mech Eng 3. PS. I've got someone's Next jacket that was left over at the end of the evening.

ACCOMMODATION

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





Militants reply to Huntbach

Dear Matthew

Thank you for your latest 'insight' into the 'sinister CU militants'. I'd be quite interested to know where you get your information from. It's quite obvious from your letter that you could not have attended any of the CU meetings that I've been to. Like an 'extreme left-wing party', with 'pressure to conform'! Maybe you refer to the 'statement of faith' that voting members are asked to sign. Most evangelical Christians should have no problem agreeing with it, and it ensures continuity over the years. Without it may be like giving over an art gallery to be run by a group of Philistines; its content would soon cease to reflect its name.

I have used the term 'evangelical Christian' purposefully; I agree with your point that 'Christian Union' is a misleading name. This is being looked into, and will hopefully result in its amendment. I don't quite see how this lends itself to such a bitter attack on the CU body as a whole though.

There's an open door at all CU meetings and Bible studies, all are welcome, only voting membership is restricted as above. Should you attend such a Bible study, you will discover that discussions are free and open. There's certainly no pressure to believe anything. People share their views of scripture, basing their thoughts on the word of God, not on feelings of tradition. You see, as evangelical Christians, we believe that the Bible records the word of God, and so we look to it, through God's spirit, for written guidance and authority. Tradition relies upon handing down the key and important aspects of Christianity from generation to generation. Both of these beliefs have potential pitfalls. The former misinterpretation, the latter-a small deviation from the correct path some time ago can result in a large deviation now. Evangelically, misinterpretation can be reduced in the light of what the Bible says as a whole. This provides a firm foundation from which we can understand more of the character of God, and learn how to live lives pleasing to him.

You inferred that quotation from the epistles wasn't good enough, and that Christ's own words were ignored in previous replies. Isn't this somewhat naive? Have you ever read the epistles? Evidently not very thoroughly as you consider them only to give advice about Jewish laws on diet and circumcision. I agree that these things are written about, but along with many other important issues. The Corenthians, for example, needed correcting because they took the freedom aspect of Christianity too far, in that they were causing other, easily-led people to misunderstand the true nature and purposes of God. This is that God, through his Son, wants to know everyone personally; helping them, by his Spirit, to live lives pleasing to Him, and consequently helpful to others here on earth. Jesus said that 'I am the way, the truth and the life: No one comes to the Father except through me'. He also says (in Matt 7:21:23) that not everyone who says to Him 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. He says this about those who do things which look Holy and Righteous on the outside, but inside are deadunknown to God. The Pharasees, for example, were wrong in that they thought they would keep the Mosaic Law, and forget about their friendship with God, and in this way

attain salvation. Jesus knew this, and is why He calls them a 'Brood of Vipers', 'Hypocrites' etc in Matt 23. They looked Holy, but they did things for me to see in order to boast, not for the Glory of God.

A 'Christian version of the Militant Tendency', a 'strong psychological pressure to conform'. If your 'real concern is for Christianity' then show the nature of Christ at work by at least finding the truth about the CU before writing against it.

Yours sincerely, Neil Robinson, Physics 2.

Bugger all similarity





Michael Arthur

Loads-a-money

Dear Judith,

Have any of your readers noticed the blinding similarity between College Assistant Secretary Loadsamoney and Friday Night Live star Michael Arthur?

I wonder if, by chance, they are related?

Cheers,

Sally Hupena.

PS. Do I get five pounds?

They're coming to take him away

Dear Judith,

Congratulations on lifting the news stories about the 'New Optician' and 'Health Education' (FELIX 800) from the April issue of the Imperial College Gazette. It's a pity that whoever skimmed through looking for articles missed possibly the most important announcement, at the top of page one, on the appointment of the next Dean of City and Guilds College.

While I'm putting pen to paper, why have the windows to the FELIX Office from Beit Quad been covered from the inside by red paper? Is it to make the place even more intimidating for normal students so keeping it extremely cliquey inside? Or is it perhaps to stop the legendary 'FELIX spirit' escaping?

Yours observantly,

Adrian Bourne, Physics 2.

PS. A quote from one of your editorials (FELIX 794) 'if you have any criticisms about the contents of FELIX, please write in straight away.'

15

Imperial war zone

continued from front page

the economy and a nation at peace. There should be a redirection of money away from the military towards civil science.' In comparison, the pressure group Save British Science, is calling for an immediate cash injection of £100m into university science.

The main concentration of IC Military-funded research contracts are in the departments of Aeronautics and Mechanical Engineering, although there are significant numbers of contracts in Electrical Engineering and Metallurgy.

Prof. Spalding's work in the Computational Fluid Dynamics Unit comes in for special mention, as it is funded by the nuclear weapons research establishment at Aldermarston, and concerns the theory of a nuclear explosion and has a key role in the theoretical design of nuclear weapons.

The recently announced Interdisciplinary Research Centre (IRC) at Imperial into future generations of electronic computer chips is hoping to have £2m coming from the Ministry of Defence, with the remaining £8m coming from the University Grants Committee and research councils. The plans for the centre are due to be confirmed in June.

Grants from the USA Department of Defence at Imperial totalled \$128,000, in 1985, the last year that figures are available, spent in departments including Aeronautics, Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

The only SDI, or "star wars" research contract known was at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, as part of a contract with other universities throughout the country. There has been widespread opposition to the Star Wars programme amongst academics, and a pledge against it has been signed by 60% of academic staff in departments most affected nationally.

The report 'Military Research in London's universities and polytechnics' is available for £3.50 from CAMROC, 190 Burdett Road, Bow, London E3.

St Mary's results

Mr Philip Drew has been returned as next year's St Mary's Hospital Medical School Union President by an overwhelming majority. His Secretary will be Mr Graham Price.

This will be the first executive to be part of the Imperial College structure as the fourth Constituent College Union and Mr Drew will be a member of the Imperial College Union Executive.

Mr Drew, who is this year's St Mary's President, won convincingly again, with 239 votes to the 68 votes of the challenger William Lumb.

The contest for Secretary (and Vice President) was a little closer. Here Graham (Frank) Price (BSc) gained 175 votes, with the 2nd year candidate Andrew Klava polling 106. Mr Price will have to deal with mail, general enquiries, minute taking and keeping the St Mary's Union Office in order.

The only other two posts to be rested were those of Information

Rep, who is charged with keeping the Student Body informed, and Assistant Social Secretary. Votes cast were in the following order:-

Information Rep

Kirsty Foster (2nd Yr) 64 Nichola Salisbury (2nd Yr) 75 Meherengise Cooper (BSc) 132

Assistant Social Sec

Matthew Davies (3rd Year) 160 Maria Waters (2nd Year) 110

There were 6 posts elected unapposed this year. Shane Clarke (2nd Year) was returned as External Affairs Officer, David Vaughn (2nd Year) as Social Secretary, Rhydian Hapgood (2nd Year) as Treasurer, Nicholas Stafford (2nd Year) as Accomodation Officer, Paul Banwell (2nd Year) as Sports Rep and Tom Simpson (BSc), Mark George (BSc) and Robert Young (2nd Year) as Bar Managers.

Central Stores saga

College's decision to close Central Stores has been strongly criticised in a report published this week by IC's Joint Trades Union Committee. The report was prepared by six members of the Committee who have specific knowledge of the Stores.

Although the Committee agreed that the present system was unsatisfactory and not fulfilling its customers' needs, it disputed the College's conclusion that the Stores should be shut. The report identified several common shortfalls in the service and proposed solutions to the problems. These problems include the large number of items 'temporarily out of stock', low turnover of some lines of stock, inadequacy of Stores catalogues and wasteful organisation of space and staff.

The report recommended the appointment of a College Purchasing Officer, who would be able to remove obsolete stock and consult Departments and administrative sections in order to investigate their needs. Ordering and stock control could be run on a new microcomputer system, eventually leading to electronic mailing of customers

orders. It was also proposed that the counter opening hours be extended and the Catalogue include more detailed descriptions.

The Committee justified the expense of these measures by pointing out that there had been very little investment in the Stores over several years, although there had been losses of staff and space over the same period. The report concluded that these initial expenses would be outweighed by, an increase in efficiency, which would provide the most cost-effective service for the administration and Departments of the College.

Appointment

Dr Raanan Gillan, Director of the College Health Centre, has been appointed a Visiting Professor of King's Queen Elizabeth and Chelsea (KQC) ollege, London. The post is in reconition of his part-time teaching KQC's Centre for Medical L wan Ethics.

Union squashes debate

Imperial College Debating Society was left unable to put on the planned debate on South African trade, yesterday, due to a last minute request from IC Union not to go ahead. Hoping to have a balanced debate on the subject of sanctions, the Debating Society had attempted to get a main opposing speaker to Jan Castalyn of the South African Embassy. However, Anti Apartheid have a policy of 'no platform' and therefore wouldn't provide a speaker. Also unwilling to share a platform with Mr Castalyn were the Zambian, Zimbabwean and other African embassies contacted. The Labour Party couldn't provide a speaker due to a problem with communications at their headquarters and the District Elections which occurred on the day of the debate.

Therefore the Debating Society asked Sydney Harbour-Bridge to be the main opposing speaker which he was willing to do until he received a phone call from national Anti-Apartheid last Friday evening. A meeting of IC Union Executive on Wednesday decided that it would delay Union participation until the Council meeting on May 16-after the day of the debate. An attempt was made to continue with a general discussion on the freedom of speech which the Debating Society committee thought was at stake. A picket of College Anti-Apartheid members asked people not to go into Mech Eng 220 where the debate was being held. The President of the Debating Society, Lynda Matthews spent forty minutes asking them to go into the debate to explain their point of view, as they would not have to share a platform with a representative from the South African Embassy. However, they said that they were totally against participating.

Mark Gialanze, Vice Chairman of the Debating Society said 'the role of the Debating Society is at stake. Should we or should we not promote discussion.' The Society hopes to hold a debate next term when they can find someone willing to oppose a speaker from the South African Embassy.

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DUR CHANCE TO VO

Compiled by BRITAIN'S STUDENT RADIO STATIONS

Last year Britain's Campus Radio Stations asked for	r your help in compiling a
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Student All Time Top 50 Album Chart.

It proved to be an enormous success and led to national press coverage and a radio special with David Jensen.

Following its success we would now like you to vote for your all time favourite singles.

The first fully completed entry form drawn from the entries received after the closing date will receive a £25 record token.

The next 100 fully completed voting forms drawn will each receive a limited edition Nescafé Francé summer T-Shirt!

All you have to do is vote ... vote ... vote!

Please state your Top 3 All Time Singles in order of preference:

We'd also like to know the following:

All time favourite GROUP

All time favourite MALE SINGER

All time favourite FEMALE SINGER

All time favourite LIVE ACT

All time favourite LP/ALBUM

All time favourite MUSIC FILM

All time favourite ALBUM COVER/DESIGN

Please fill in your voting form now and return it to your Campus Radio Station by not later than May 27, and it will be entered in our prize draw! Thanks for your help.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

compiled by Britain's Student Radio Stations in association with NESCAFE®