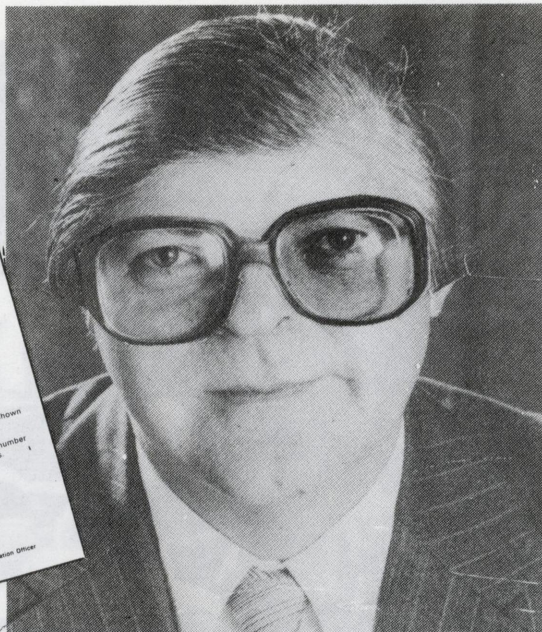


Council chaos hits poll tax rebates



Kenneth Baker, the man who claims Poll tax as his brain child

Chaos is expected in the implementation of the community charge, or Poll Tax, for Imperial College Students. Westminster city council (WCC) has assumed that all students are non-students until the students concerned send the council a photocopy of their poll tax rebate certificate, or make a personal call with the original certificate.

This is despite IC administration being required to send full lists of student names and addresses, and having done so. Mr Malcolm Aldridge, Senior assistant finance officer at I.C. said that the list is compiled from the same data as the poll tax rebate certificates, so in effect the WCC are asking for the same information twice. Mr Aldridge expressed incomprehension as to why the College had been told to send the lists in the first place as the data had been ignored by the City council.

The City council has sent out forms to students claiming that they are not students, causing much confusion. Dr John Hassard, warden of Tizard and

Selkirk halls, has advised students in his hall to write personally to the WCC to check that they are registered as students. Wardens of other college halls are giving similar advice. A spokeswoman from the WCC said that students must enclose a photocopy of the rebate certificate given to all IC students at the beginning of the year.

There are reports that the WCC are responding inefficiently to such enquiries, insisting that students are non-students and thus not entitled to the 80% rebate.

On being challenged, the WCC said they are being deluged with enquiries, but they must double check all the data. 'We have to have a formal certificate', a spokeswoman said. 'You must understand we are protecting students by doing this'. She claimed that, so far, the council has processed data from 1700 students—a fraction of the number living in Westminster.

Mr Aldridge commented that the silence from Kensington and Chelsea (K&C)

'borough council and Hammersmith and Fulham borough council could mean that they are dealing with the situation more efficiently or they haven't got their act together yet.

To follow this line of enquiry, K&C were contacted. They said they would also 'require all students to produce a copy or original of their entry certificates'. They said they were sending out the first of the relevant forms 'at the end of this week'. Hammersmith and Fulham also said that they needed the poll tax certificate—preferably the original as photocopies were often illegible. This is despite government guidelines which state that no student ought to part with this proof of studentship. The spokeswoman from Hammersmith and Fulham said that the documents were only of any use to community charge officers, and were not useful to students in any other capacity. The council added that they needed term dates as well as names and addresses.

Union loses £300 as office is ransacked

The union office was ransacked last Sunday night and £300 was stolen. The break-in caused a great deal of disorder in the office.

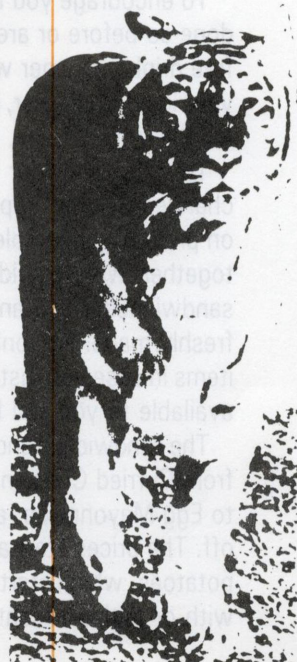
The intruders broke in by undetermined means and attempted to force open the key cabinet which holds keys to a number of safes and union facilities. They stole some money from the office of Mr Dave Williams, Union Deputy President, and then went on to steal £300 in ten pence pieces from a desk elsewhere in the office.

Mr Williams said that the money was from the change machine and games machines in the Union building. It has been kept in the desk since the safe under Beit Arch was removed to 'tidy up' before Princess Anne visited last year. Mr Williams said that there was a rumour that the safe had been dumped in the foundations of the new carpark in front of the Biochemistry buildings.

The union is looking into acquiring a larger safe, as Mr Williams claimed that

the change would not fit into the present one. The locks have now been changed, and a movement alarm may be fitted in the near future. Mr Williams said that since the beginning of the academic year, he calculated that there had been an average of one theft every three weeks. He added that the fairly high number of thefts in the union building was probably due to people knowing the general layout of the building.

Issue 857
Friday 2nd February



Union Snack Bar Restart Offer



On Monday February 5th, the Snack Bar will be given a new lease of life with the hope of attracting more of you to eat more of the things you want.

There have been problems in the past which we now hope have been resolved thanks to the hard work of the Snack Bar Manager, Ian Richards, and the catering committee. Losses are hoped to be turned around into minor profits but without putting up prices. In this way we can support and retain a valuable service to the Union that we can all benefit from.

To encourage you to come and try us out, whether you've done so before or are a new customer, we're offering you a free drinks voucher with every meal you buy, redeemable at your local Union Bar, just next door. This fabulous offer lasts for the whole week, so get the beers in while you can.

To cater for your needs and wants we've made a few changes that we hope you're going to like. The emphasis is on providing a complete carnivorous and vegetarian set meal together with a wide range of tasty fillings to pack out sandwiches, baps and baked potatoes, all of which will be freshly made. Not only that but, we've got a range of snack items in case you just want a quick munch. Most of the items available to you will be home-made by Ian and his staff.

The sandwiches and baps will have a choice of varied fillings, from Curried Chicken to Garlic Sausage and Cottage Cheese to Egg Mayonnaise, all with the option of Salad to top them off. The prices start at 55p but don't go sky high. The baked potatoes, which start at 60p, give you a hot and filling snack with or without meat.

Amongst the smaller things are fresh fruit, homemade cakes, hot and cold drinks and a selection of pies, so you can eat between meals!

Ian Richards has been running the show for eighteen months now and looks forward to seeing some new faces at the counter. He's a friendly face and easy to talk to, so if you've got any ideas or comments go ahead and have a chat.

Remember the Snack Bar opens from 9am to 3pm and from 5pm to 7.30pm, which means you can stuff yourselves the whole day through. Come along to the Union Building in Beit Quad and give it a try. It's there as a service for you but if you don't use it, you're going to lose it! The money is yours don't waste it.

SANDWICHES MADE TO ORDER

Choose from a range of fillings in a sandwich or bap:

Beef	Ham
Curried Chicken	Salami
Garlic Sausage	Tuna
Pilchard	Cottage Cheese
Cheddar Cheese	Egg Mayonnaise
Salad	Sausage/Bacon

Single, double or triple deckers freshly made
Why not try your own combination double decker
for less than £1.00

SUR

On leaving the cinema I thought; what the hell was that about? The film had no form, was not shown in chronological order; it was an amorphous mess. However on reflection my views changed.

SUR won the best director's award at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival. Director Fernando Solanas has taken a familiar plot and presented it in an entirely unique way. This is not a 'mass-produced formula' film, at no time does one get a sense of déjà vu.

SUR is set in 1983, just at the end of Argentina's military dictatorship. Floreal, who had been locked up for subversive activities, is liberated after having served five years. Although Floreal wants to return home to his wife and son, he is not ready to face them. So much has changed, and he is too full of mistrust, hate and fear.

During Floreal's imprisonment, his wife Rosi had been through her own hell, and in her desperation had become the lover of his best friend, Roberto, a Corsican, who had found friendship and purpose in Argentina.

Through a long night's journey into day, Floreal wanders through the dreamlike streets of the neighbourhood, which are strewn with banners and leaflets celebrating the return of democracy. As he walks, he meets ghosts of his past who help him recollect the moments, and people, of the years that marked his broken life.

SUR is divided into chapters, a prologue and four parts. Each stands separately, but together they form a masterpiece. Through these chapters echoes a feeling of finding one's self, Argentina finding itself after years of oppression, for the triangle of main characters represents Argentina, not just three people. It is interesting to note that during filming the director



suffered major kidney failure. This personal brush with death shows through in SUR.

The ending is left open to personal interpretations. Perhaps Floreal/Argentina have come to terms with the changes around them and overcome the fear and hatred within themselves. However I believe Floreal dies in prison. In his journey into the past he meets people who are dead but act as if they were living, so perhaps Floreal, although apparently alive, is dead.

But why not go to the film and draw your own conclusions?

If you're looking forward to Police Academy 7 and think that Lee Majors is a talented actor then don't bother to see this movie. However, if you enjoy thought provoking fresh films then SUR is for you.

SUR opens at the Canon premiere, Swiss Centre, Leicester Square on Friday February 2.

Charles Tomkins

Jesus of Montreal

This film caused a storm when it appeared at Cannes (where, incidentally, it won the Jury Prize). This was despite being, or more probably because it was, a deeply religious film: an actor (Lothar Bluteau) is brought in to revamp the Passion play that is annually performed at a Catholic shrine in Montreal.

He gathers together a sorry group of actors, currently working as a prostitute, doing voice overs for blue movies and lousy documentaries, and making a career as a model in bad commercials. Together they rewrite the play, basing it on the latest archaeological evidence which has been unearthed by the University's theology department. Funded by the Catholic church, the department is forced to suppress evidence the church finds 'unsuitable'. This includes the possibility that the 'Virgin' Mary was raped by a Roman soldier and that crucifixion was so horrendous that the early church did not portray it for five centuries. Thus the department sees the reworking of the play as an opportunity to indirectly publish censored facts.

Naturally, the play, although an artistic success, causes a storm amongst the trustees of the shrine who order the run to be brought to an abrupt end. Meanwhile the lives of the actors, in particular Bluteau, who plays Jesus, begin to mirror those of the parts they are playing. At an audition for a larger advert, Bluteau becomes angry at attitude of the self-satisfied casting directors and overturns tables and equipment, whilst later, at the top of a skyscraper,

a smooth lawyer offers him 'the whole city' in return for placing himself in the hands of the media machine.

Many of the analogies are more subtle than these two examples (which have been much quoted in newspaper reviews): the priest in charge of the shrine regularly visits one of the actresses who sometimes works as a prostitute, the publicity machine (TV and radio chat shows) distort and misrepresent the facts about Bluteau's life, and after Bluteau dies the other actors are manipulated by the lawyer into founding a theatre company which will idealise his life.

The film points up the hypocrisies of the followers of theatre (repeating the same tired, sugared congratulations at the end of every performance) and of the church in rejecting the truth ('What is Truth?' asks Pilate in the play).

This is a funny, witty film: the part where two actresses and one actor dub a blue movie has to be the funniest scene in any film this year (comedies included). The film is informed, with a sense of life, fun, happiness and tragedy which the religion it criticises has clearly forgotten.

It is sensuously filmed and an aural treat. Mostly in French, the subtitles are excellent and easy to read. Denis Arcand has produced a masterpiece. This is one of the films of the year and the only surprise is that it didn't beat *Sex, Lies and Videotape* (admittedly also a good film) for the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

Liz W.

Lock up

Frank Leoni is a model prisoner in a cushy gaol. Then, without warning, with only a few months left to serve, he is transferred to one of the toughest lock-ups in the country.

The reason? A sadistic governor has a grudge against him.

Well, Sylvester Stallone has finally found the perfect setting for his type of film. A prison filled entirely with men. There is but a single woman in the whole film—his girlfriend, whose only role is to wait patiently 'outside' for him, and to be threatened by the 'bad guys'. Meanwhile our hero gets to play American football in the mud, work in a boiler room (a chance to show his muscles off, covered in sweat), and have lots of good manly fun rebuilding a car. Of course his character is a nice chap—he only went to prison for beating up the thugs that beat up a sweet old man.

Meanwhile the wicked governor lurks in darkened rooms, fondles his electric chair and plots evilly.

Of course it all comes to a head when one of Sly's friends is killed, and his girlfriend threatened. Then, like any red-blooded American male, our hero rushes off for an ending full of self sacrifice, shock resurrection, several thousand volts, an electric chair and not a few guns.

The whole time the only sign of suffering he shows is a slight quiver of his top lip—what a man!

Corny, unoriginal and badly acted. Avoid at all costs.

Adam T.

Odyssey around Odysseus

By Beaty Rubens and Olive Taplin

Most people have heard of Odysseus and possibly his most celebrated exploit, the Trojan Horse, but this is a book that is much more than a simple jaunt into fantasy.

The story of Odysseus and his travels, the basis of many Sunday afternoon films with mystical creatures flying about all over the place, is based on a huge poem that would take nearly two days to read out.

Written about three thousand years ago by Homer, it narrates Odysseus' travels after being shipwrecked, and his consequent return to his wife after ten years of wandering.

The book itself explores the poem, giving evidence both for and against the truthfulness of the story.

Some people believe that much of the story is in fact true and that Homer did nothing more than write down basic facts with some artistic licence. Others shun this idea, saying that the story has very little, if any truth in it and that he wrote an adventure story loosely based on the local scenery.

After reading the book I was left with the impression that portions may well have been true, indeed much of it seem too coincidental for it not to be, but most of the story is nothing more than artistic licence.

Throughout the book analogues are drawn against another epic, a more recent one, James Joyce's 'Ulysses', set in Dublin and unlike the odyssey, lasting for one day only, rather than the ten year span of the

Odyssey.

Although passages of the original poem are contained within the book, it still manages to maintain interest in the subject by keeping text short and to the point. The text is punctuated by many quite attractive diagrams and pictures depicting scenes from the prose. In the centre of the book are sixteen colour plates showing some of the fine pictures of the landscape that is the suspected setting for the story.

Based on a radio series it is a very good book on its own and if the subject matter interests you and you want an easy, simple introduction into mythology then it may well be worth a read.

Ian Hodge.

Blackeyes

By Dennis Potter

It may seem rather strange reviewing a story that has just been screened as a somewhat controversial four-part series on BBC2. Having watched much of the series, I, like many other viewers, was left with a sense of bewilderment, with little idea just what Potter was trying to say.

Like Potter's last television piece, *The Singing Detective*, *Blackeyes* contained scenes where reality drifted off into a fantasy world. However, at times the connection was not always as clearly made.

In order to further my understanding of the story, and its deeper messages I bought a copy of the book—from which the screen-play was adapted.

For those of you who did not see the series,

Blackeyes tells the story of a writer, Maurice James Kingsley, who, after a long period of inactivity, at the age of seventy-seven, produces a novel which instantly takes the literary world by storm. Known as *Blackeyes*, the novel is the story of a model, and her view of London's seedy advertising sub-culture.

It transpires that the source of much of the novel is his niece, herself an ex-model. Kingsley has, in a sense, stolen her identity and laid it out for an adoring public. However, fact begins to imitate fiction, the boundary becomes unclear, and the plot takes a sinister turn.

In the novel Potter challenges our male stereotypes of women and their role in society. The use of the

female form in the advertising industry comes in for particular examination, as does society's judgement of personality by physical appearance.

Those of you who did persevere to the end of the series might have thought that the end came somewhat abruptly, and indeed the book does bring the story to a much more conclusive end.

Reading this novel shows what an ambitious project Potter set himself in trying to adapt the story for television. A powerful yet often subtle message. Highly recommended.

Darren Austin.

Sins of the mothers

By Patricia Angadi

Ipligenia (Iffy) is the half-caste daughter of a prostitute and a duke. She is six-foot tall, weighing 17 stone, and has a personality to match. Rosemary is white, average and middle-class. They became close friends at school and this book tells of their lives, the man they share and their children. The story starts pre-war, and continues to the present day.

Iffy has dreams of becoming an opera singer, but prejudice seems to prevent that. During a disastrous marriage she becomes involved in her mother's trade, an occupation that will support her for a good part of her life. One day she meets Hilary, a struggling actor who is destined to become her on/off lover and Rosemary's husband.

Rosemary gives up her own acting career to become wife to Hilary and mother to their three children. Rosemary and Hilary live the perfect middle-class existence, while Iffy, and her son, live a wildly extravagant lifestyle of almost hedonistic pleasure. The children aren't quite what one would expect.

The book starts off with Iffy reminiscing in 1987, before slipping back to 1930 to tell of the events leading up to the opening, with the final section taking us from 1987 to the present day.

The events are related successfully by several of the main characters, most notably Iffy, Rosie, Hilary, Ceaser and Sally.

From each narrator we are presented a different, and often contradictory, viewpoint on the happenings.

Page 4

Each has misconceptions about themselves, and about others, so the whole picture is only slowly built up. The writing is remarkably good, convincing you that whatever viewpoint you happen to be looking from is the correct one, realisation of each character's faults not coming until a good way into the book.

Beyond the main thread of the plot a variety of themes are considered. The area of discrimination is touched on, but only briefly. Much more time is given to morality and society.

The morality aspect is approached from various angles: prostitution, incest, euthanasia are affairs all being covered.

Firm conclusions to any of the questions posed are not really reached, but then that is not really the purpose of the book. Instead we are left thinking about these questions, many of which can never be definitively answered.

Society is addressed by the contrast between Iffy's lifestyle and Rosie's. They are wildly different and the worth of each is assessed by the success (or failure) of their respective offspring.

Patricia Angadi has, in her seventies, produced a superb work, which has probably benefitted from the experience of her age. She raises matters that affect all of us, making for a book that is worthwhile reading for anybody who likes to think about their life, rather than just live it.

Adam T.

BBC Radio

On Monday night I went to see the pilot recording of a new radio comedy *Attack of the Little Things* at the Paris Studio. If it goes on air, it will be worth listening to.

The Paris Studio, on Lower Regent Street SW1, is an underground theatre where BBC radio shows are recorded in front of a live audience. It's recently been refurbished and is quite luxurious. As Jeremy Hardy says 'It's called the Paris Studio because it used to be the capital of France.'

So how do they fill the auditorium? By giving away **FREE** tickets! All you have to do is write to the BBC Radio Ticket Unit, BBC, London W1A 4WW, enclosing a sae, and ask for a list of coming attractions. Or, if you've run out of stamps, drop in at the studio, where they often have spare tickets.

Coming attractions include the return of *Unnatural Acts*, starting tomorrow at 7.45. It stars Jeremy Hardy, Kit Hollerbach, Paul B. Davies and Caroline Leddy, all extremely funny comedians. Other comedy includes *The Mary Whitehouse Experience* on Wednesdays at 9.15 and *And Now in Colour* starting on the 17th February at 7.15.

If you're more interested in quizzes, *Time Cycle* starting on Monday is a light hearted show. If you want to take part in the *ABC Quiz*, pick up an application form at the Paris Studio.

You prefer music? Ask the Ticket Unit for a list of recitals at the Concert Hall, Broadcasting House.

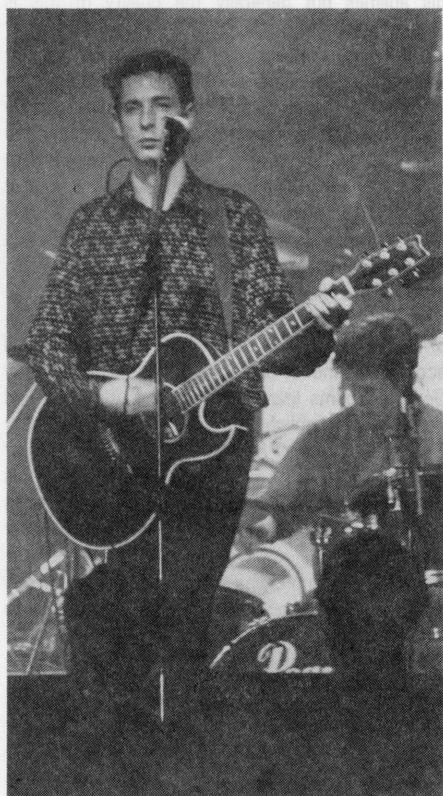
This is an excellent way to see the stars for the price of a tube ticket—you'll love it.

Toby Jones

New Year's Carnival

Black Tulips

An excellent gig apparently.



That Swing Thang

That Swing Thang added to the Carnival atmosphere with their infectious brand of swing/jazz. They managed to overcome sound difficulties and carry their music to the masses with flair and a plastic smile.

Those at the front were treated to energetic and

enthusiastic dance routines, including an impromptu performance from a very high ranking Union official. The band eventually left leaving their exhausted but still demanding audience to huge applause.

The Men They Couldn't Hang

The Men They Couldn't Hang took to the stage earlier than advertised, which accounted, perhaps, for the paucity of the audience initially.

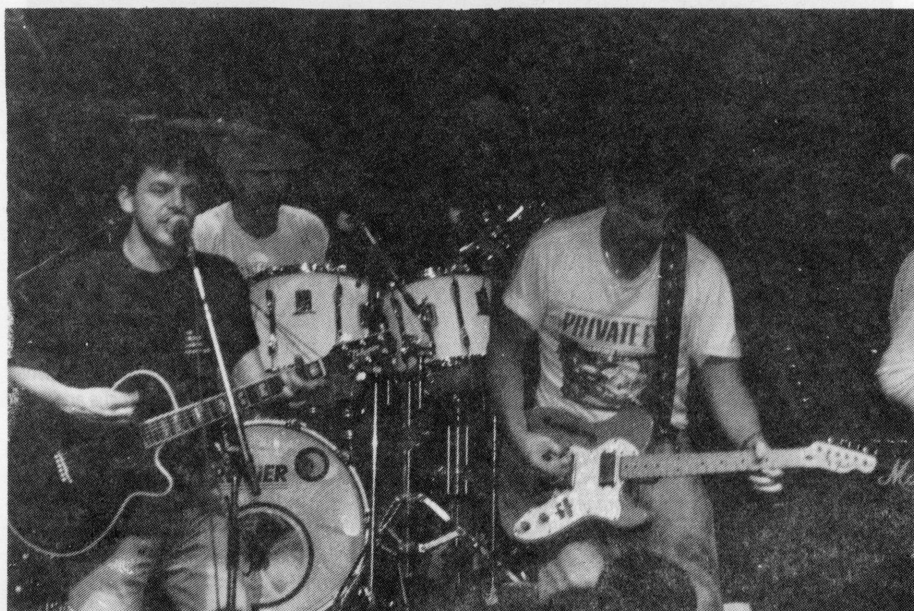
Once there however, the audience wasted no time warming up to *The Men They Couldn't Hang's* rock-folk mixture and went straight into a decadent flailing of limbs and thundering of bodies. On occasions the audience were more entertaining than the band themselves who, despite their dynamic sound, were less that captivating to watch.

The crowd went on undeterred and continued to display their complete inability to 'mosh' properly; a few brave souls even ventured onstage.

T.M.T.C.H. left the stage an hour later.

The party continued...

Reviews by Stone, Photos by Jeremy & Richard.



Indie Spectacular

The Indie Spectacular hyped in last week's FELIX took place last Friday in the Union Lounge. A good time was had by all. THE END.

That enuff?...No, I suppose not, well actually I should stop pissing about and write something constructive...

blah blah blah the Union Lounge...

The Septembers were initially greeted with a tiny gathering, most folks having retired to the bar, but their complex guitar sound soon edged across the foyer and the crowd grew.

They played a set of medium length and excessive enthusiasm; while the vocalist and the bass were hardly wallflowers they were overwhelmed by the guitarist, who bounded across, up, down and around the stage like a muppet on acid. The music style varied from traditional indie-pop to wah guitar the way the *Stone Roses* ought to do it.

Rain took to the stage in a haze of white guitar noise before exploding into a confusion of sexgoth bloodmusic. The crowd flagellated wildly.

No, actually this is all bollox. *Rain* took to the stage like it would bite them; if *The Septembers* were muppets on acid, *Rain* were cabbage patch dolls on dope.

'Some people say we're as miserable as fook!' announced the merry gentlemen on guitar. 'But we're not!' Miserable they weren't; stageleaping maniacs they weren't either. Their music, competent folk-tinged and (alas) forgettable came close to moving the

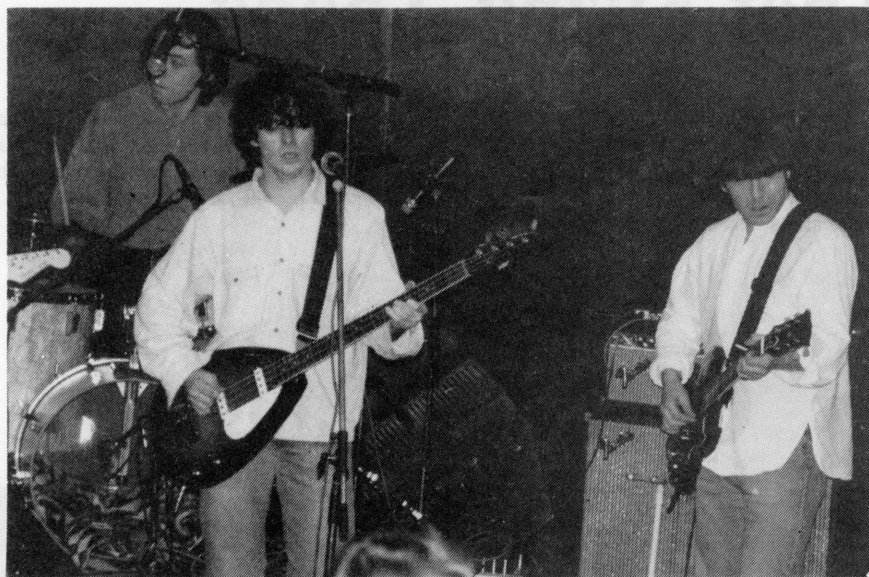


Rain

crowd on several occasions but it was only the finale and encore that energy seeped into the gig.

Rain and *The Septembers* both deserve to be much bigger than they are. Look out for them on the Fraggles Rock side of independence in 1990.

Stone.



The Septembers

Ride

—Feet First at Camden Palace
23.1.90

Feet First Night at Camden Palace has run for three successful years with alternative rock and indie music all night, plus an 'up and coming' band live every week.

The music includes the likes of *The Cure*, *The Cult*, *The Sisters of Mercy*, *Birdland*, *The Smiths*, *The Jesus and Mary Chain* and much, much more and recent bands have included *The Membranes*, *Medicine Factory*, *Neds Atomic Dustbin* and recent music media favourites *Ride*.

Ride have, of late, had attention focussed onto their EP *Ride*, but it has been their increasingly large live

following that has shaped their reputation so far, attracting substantial offers from the major labels. They finally plumped for the small but renowned Creation Records, early home of *The Jesus and Mary Chain* amongst others.

Like the *Mary Chain*, *Ride* take classic themes and turbocharge them; their live sound is harsh and occasionally slips a pure pop break in. Also like the *Mary Chain* they use noise, but whereas the former uses it as random backing, *Ride's* is more controlled; the songs erupt at strategic moments, igniting feedback like a blow torch.

Bop Station—Until Lisbon

Bop Station is the alter ego of one third year PhD chemist, Matt Duck who writes and records songs whilst not pushing back the frontiers of science. Stephen Morrissey he is not, but whilst it would be easy to fatuously dismiss *Until Lisbon* as self-indulgent and primitive the songs he writes are a cut above many by 'established artists' and there is as much to like or dislike about this as there is Morrissey's own brand of self exposure.

The primitive aspect cannot be denied. A four-track recorder in the bedroom is no substitute for a recording studio and at times vocal ambitions exceed his abilities but generally the quality of this is surprisingly high.

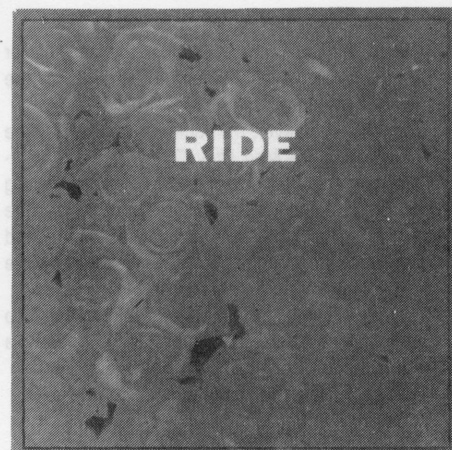
The music is basically unpretentious; guitar, Casioesque keyboard and drum machine where required. He sings songs associated with some emotional or sexual experience but the lyrics tend to be cryptic and the overall effect is soothing without being soporific. Claiming influences of the likes of Scott Walker, Momus, the French poet Jacques Brel (namedropped on the recent Marc Almond LP) and *Everything But the Girl's* Ben Watt (particularly *North Marine Drive*) it is plain that there is little to link it to mainstream styles. However at times it is reminiscent of Edwyn Collins, Tanita Tikaram and the whimsical acoustic sound of Anthony Phillips on the early *Genesis* albums (particularly on the title track and *Breathless*). Highlights are the retrospective *Boy Thoughts*, *Queen of Hearts*, and the delightful *Lost My Way*. Matt Duck is trying to flog copies of his debut cassette at £2. If anyone out there is interested contact him on x4664 or via the Chemistry PG letter racks.

Also any other budding artists out there in College, get yourself some exposure by sending material to FELIX; it can't do you any harm.

C.D.L.

Ride—Ride EP

Ride's vinyl sound is equally impressive as their live sound; while necessarily lacking the power of the live sound, the tunes and guitar work have more chance to show themselves. This debut EP contains four songs: *Close My Eyes*, *All I Can See*, *Chelsea Girl* (no *Simple Minds* connection) and the phenomenal *Drive Blind*—each song worthy of release in its own right.



Watch them grow.

Stone.

Birdland

Syndrome 18.1.90

The *Birdland* 'Bulldozer' tour rumbled into the Syndrome destroying everything destructable in its path and leaving chaos and gratified fans in its wake.

So far *Birdland*'s tour of small venues had led to mayhem and destruction similar to the early *Pistols* gigs, and the comparison doesn't stop there; *The Pistols* attempted to sensationalise by creating scenes of mayhem; *Birdland* in their choice of venues with an average capacity of two to three hundred, three months after a sell-out and extremely lively gig at the 1,600 capacity Astoria Theatre, was bound to cause frustration amongst fans.

A cheap rock stunt? Well it worked, didn't it?

The support set *See Rider* were pretentious sods who left after five minutes with problems.

Birdland walked onstage and the crowd were already in a state of frenzy; within thirty seconds of fun, fun, fun all had surged forwards destroying steel crash barriers and almost pushed over the speakers before arriving largely unscathed, but totally crushed at the stage.

Futile attempts to move the crowd back were rendered impossible by the destruction of the barriers, whose only use now was to act as a ramp onto the stage.

A brilliant set, comprising of tracks from singles *Hollow Heart*, *Paradise* and *Sleep with Me*, plus covers lasted about thirty minutes.

The band overflowed with energy; Richard directed it through his singing, greatly removed from the record sound, much more natural, like a Coventry bawl; Kale attacked a poor defenceless mike stand and killed it. The Syndrome had escaped relatively lightly and as the band left the venue, staff knelt and prayed for no encore, but *Birdland*, being consumer friendly but environmentally hostile, bounded back into an encore.

The guitar/bass intro spelt trouble, but the cry of 'This is a Patti Smith soooong' drove it home. Everyone lost their heads including the band, Richard also lost his shirt and Kale his guitar somewhere in the drum kit!

Twas a classic—you just had to be there...



White Zombie —God of Thunder 12"



After the promise of 'a powerful blend of soul crushing grunge' they slip back into the oblivion of heavy American rock leaving only disappointment in their work.

Their sound is unoriginal, the song is....what song? They shout a few words, moan a few and as a token gesture grunge a few on the last track.

Never do they face their music and attack it with a whole-hearted attitude such as other grunge metal bands like *Killer* or *Napalm Death*.

In the space of fifteen minutes while they redefine the word tedious, they also try other clichés and useless gimmicks such as a vain attempt at seriousness or climactic noises in the background.

Only for the braindead or soon to become.

The Right Stuff —The Girls All Go 12"



Well this record just comes at you—roll beat first, then rock vocals, rock lyrics, rock chant, rock guitar riffs and the ever complementing backing 'oooooh's'; being the 'Ipcress Mix' just makes it painfully longer.

Having decided it is a commercial rock record just about says it all.

On the flip side it changes from pop rock to bluesy rock, reminiscent of *U2* (ie crap lyrics) but at least Bono's voice is (was?) more suited. Whether bad mixing is to blame or not the track is sparse and at times almost devoid of any evident motivation.

The final track *Song for Blind Alley* makes it all worthwhile; though still sparse, a mellow guitar is more evident, showing an evident vocation for mellow rock. Even the final track doesn't make up for the first two, but if they continue in a direction as shown in *Song For Blind Alley* then there is hope yet.

They might....but mightn't...

Skid Row—18+ Life 12"

Just another American rock record, you could, if you strayed far enough, find it anywhere in the American charts, it's all the same 'innit?

The first two tracks are the same really...I wouldn't tell them apart and probably wouldn't care. But then...

A pretentious live speech between tracks on the flipside displays the misplaced power of rock music as Sebastian Balm, lead egotistical brainless moron, gets the crowd to chant 'fuck you' as a retort in the face of a conflict of opinions.

They follow this with a sorry revel in their own arrogance; you can almost see their egos grow as the crowd responds.

An American rock record gone sour.



Fur's Winner

The winner of the Psychedelic Furs competition was James Joyce from Aero I. The answers were:

1. Which two members of the band are brothers and what do they play?

Tim Butler—Bass
Richard 'Rep' Butler—Vocals

2. Who designed the cover of the band's first album?

Andy Warhol

Tie Break: How many singles have the *Psychedelic Furs* released since they formed?

14

He will receive two tickets for the *Psychedelic Furs* concert at Brixton Academy on Feb 6.

Your trusty FELIX music pages have taken a turn to the indie of late, due to the fact that the new music editor is an indie pop/thrash mad banana and likes to got to loud indie gigs, slam dance, stage dive and many other horny things.

Do you want to see your music pages wallow in indie pop forever? If not say something or do something.

Free tickets, free records and the title 'apprentice FELIX rock journo' will all be yours and more!

Contact Del in the FELIX Office.

This Week

● **The first successful foetal heart surgery** has been carried out at Guy's Hospital. The operation involved inserting a balloon into the heart of the foetus and inflating it so that its previously blocked aortic valve was cleared. However two operations were required before birth. On the first attempt the balloon burst while inside the heart and is still lodged there but has not yet caused any problems. The second operation though was a success and a third operation after the boy was born made sure that the valve was fully opened.

● **The number of homes affected** by the build up of the radioactive gas, radon, is thought to be three times as many as previously estimated. This is the main conclusion of a report published last week by the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB). Previously the NRPB believed that 25,000 houses were affected mainly in areas of granite foundation rock such as South West England and North East Scotland. The new value is said to be 75,000 dwellings. The gas seeps up through cracks in the rocks into houses and accumulates due to better draught proofing and less ventilation in modern buildings. The Board's new estimate follows revised maps charting the presence of the gas however it is exaggerated since the action level has been halved.

The NRPB says that 2,500 deaths each year from lung cancer are directly attributable to inhalation of excessive levels of radon gas. This cause of lung cancer is second only to smoking.

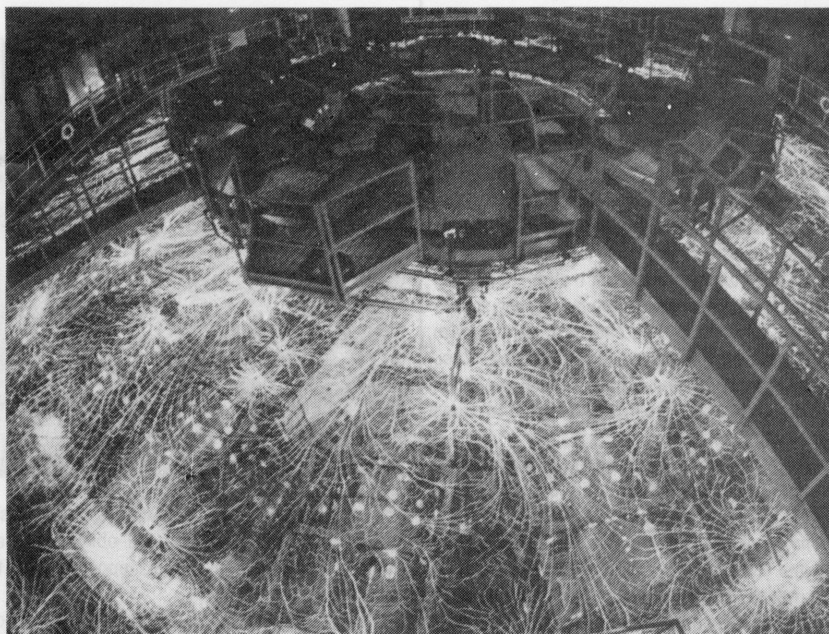
● **An American consortium** set up by seven companies to manufacture dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chips was abandoned last week. Their intention was to provide computer manufacturers with a viable alternative to the Japanese monopoly in this field. The venture failed, however, after insufficient investment and commitment from the American computer manufacturers to buy the chips.

Meanwhile IBM still intend to manufacture new high memory integrated circuits with the compact synchrotron, Helios, being built by the British company Oxford Instruments. This is an electron ring producing X-rays which will be used in X-ray lithography. Most present production techniques rely on ultraviolet light or electron beams to 'etch' tracks and junctions into the silicon. The resolution is dependent on the wavelength of the radiation used. By using X-rays it is possible to make the circuits smaller and thus of a higher density allowing for larger memory on a single chip.

● **A new electromagnetic gun test site** planned to be situated in Kirkcudbright (in Dumfries and Galloway) will be funded jointly by the US Department of Defense and a division of the British Ministry of Defence. These guns rely on the electromagnetic force acting on an armature, which accelerates it along a conducting barrel to propel a projectile. The idea is to develop the technique as an alternative to using explosives since the potential launch speeds are far higher. Scientists working at Fort Halstead have built prototypes which have fired a 3mm ball bearing at a speed of 4.2kmh^{-1} . It is thought that this type of gun could be installed in a tank within ten years.

Confusion

by Simon Haslam



Water covering the particle accelerator at Sandia National Laboratories discharges electricity as the machine fires its beam towards a fuel pellet.

With the ultimate demise of any hopes for room temperature fusion, as proposed by Pons and Fleischmann in March last year, our attention once again turns to 'hot' fusion.

Fusion takes place when light atoms join together with the resulting nuclei having a lower mass than their constituents thus releasing energy according to Einstein's famous equation $E = mc^2$. The fuel normally used is deuterium often known as heavy hydrogen since there is one extra neutron in the deuterium nucleus than in the hydrogen. Tritium is also used which has two extra neutrons in the nucleus and has the ability to release more binding energy but is very unstable.

Environmentally, fusion is far sounder than fission where large atoms are broken apart. These large atoms, such as Uranium, tend to be highly radioactive for a long period of time. Although high energy neutrons are released by fusion the radioactive nature is far less dangerous than fission. The possibility for an out of control chain reaction does not occur since as soon as the compression of the fuel is lowered fusion processes stop.

There are currently several methods employed to achieve the goal of a controlled fusion reaction. Firstly huge magnetic coils are arranged around a doughnut shaped, toroidal vessel, creating a very high magnetic field. Atoms at high temperatures experience such high thermal energies that the bonds between electrons and protons disassociate, forming a sea of electrons and nuclei known as a plasma. Such a plasma, contained in a high magnetic field can undergo fusion processes as significantly energetic nuclei combine to form larger ones.

One example of an experiment in this area is the Joint European Taurus (JET) situated in Abingdon, Oxford. This is part of the European fusion programme, which has a budget of £250m per year. JET has cost around £600m over its 12 year life; a small fraction of these resources.

Some researchers believe, however, that the first objective should be to build smaller vessels to aim for 'ignition,' that is to have enough energy produced to sustain fusion events; the so called energetic breakeven. This energy emission would be orders of magnitude away from what would be required for economic power generation from fusion. The

limitation of the Taurus approach is the maximum magnetic field produced by conventional electromagnets today; science needs stronger magnets to contain these plasmas.

Inertial confinement is also being developed. The technique involves the compression of a fuel pellet causing an implosion then leading to fusion. One method used is to fire an intense pulse of laser radiation at a tiny capsule of heavy water from all directions. The resulting thermal and electromagnetic effects cause the pellet to implode as its shell burns away. Such a reactor exists in the Rochester Laboratory in America. A neodymium laser produces 24 beams which are split using lenses and mirrors into 250,000 individual rays. A pulse of less than 1 nanosecond (10^{-9} seconds) duration causes the temperature of the fuel to rise to between 10 and 50 million degrees. This is only successful and entails fusion when the energy density striking the $\frac{1}{4}$ mm diameter capsule varies by less than 1% in all directions. At present this machine can only meet a minimum of 3% variation.

In order to make such a reactor viable on a commercial basis fuel pellets would need to be fed continuously through the target area several times a second. The power output would then be dependent on the rate at which fuel pellets were supplied rather than the size of the laser. Present lasers, however, can often only be fired a few times per day otherwise they overheat. High powered, semiconductor lasers built from arrays of chips which are not economical at the moment, may well be so in the future.

Lasers do have more than one rival as a means of inertial confinement. One such case is the use of high energy particle beams. Another American laboratory at Sandia has built such a machine (see figure) where protons are focussed onto a spot with an energy density greater than 10^{16} Watts per mm^2 .

Many research scientists believe that the first commercial plants will be possible within forty years, twenty years with a concerted effort. They have been making claims like this ever since the first research some forty years ago.

As natural resources become more scarce alternative means of power generation will become increasingly necessary and in many respects this will be the fusion establishment's greatest ally.

The Rector's decision to remove the post of Information Officer from the Careers Advisory Service was rash and ill thought-out.

The worst cut by Steve Meyfroidt

Introduction

It was recently decided to 'squeeze' the Careers Advisory Service (CAS) by removing the key post of Information Officer. This will, at the very least, ensure a massive reduction in the service provided to students, and could, in the long term, lead to a decentralised CAS run by the departments. If this were to happen, many students would be forced into research or engineering through a lack of expertise within such a departmental CAS.

The CAS at Imperial College has undergone major changes in the last few years. From being a disorganised service used by few it has undergone extensive improvement to become a useful facility used by 80% of students. Backed up by the London University facility at Gordon Square, IC students have a comprehensive Careers Advisory Service.

Money

£15,000 was spent over the Summer, refitting the CAS. The office houses a library with extensive information on paper and on video, and has a computer running careers guidance software. Private companies will pay to use such a facility—currently, £13,000 is pulled in.

Now, after all the refurbishment and reorganisation, the Rector has decided to remove the post of Information Officer, currently paid about £10,000, without whom the service will no doubt fall apart. Needless to say, private companies will not pay to use the facilities of a failing CAS, and so £13,000 will be lost. The Rector seems misguided when he calls this a cost-cutting exercise.

The Service

According to a recent survey, 80% of undergraduates use the CAS. Most of these (85%) use the Information Room, helped by the Information Officer. The majority of students found the service convenient when they used it, though a third thought it understaffed.

Using the office directly may involve researching a wide range of careers using the extensive information provided. The Information Officer is a key part of this side of the service. She organises the library and can help students find exactly what they need, whether in a book or on one of the many videos available in the Information Room. Indirectly, the CAS provides the information found in departments; the departments themselves have little to do with this service. Again the Information Officer helps to provide departments with the necessary leaflets and booklets.

The Rector proposes to use occasional



What you stand to lose—the careers library

completing their three or four years here. This being the case, a departmental careers service would fail to provide half the students with the service they require. Tutors would push unwilling students into research or the engineering industry, and would be unable to help those wanting to enter, for example, accountancy or publishing.

Summary

Imperial College needs a comprehensive CAS. Students come to IC for reasons of prestige, and are just as likely to leave science as to continue in their subject area after graduation. The Rector should wake up to this fact and give the CAS the backing and finances it needs to serve the wide range of IC students. He certainly should not be trying to cut back on this vital service.

postgraduate help to replace the Information Officer. Untrained, occasional labour can in no way replace this important post and, unfortunately, without it the CAS will probably grind to a halt.

Departmental Services

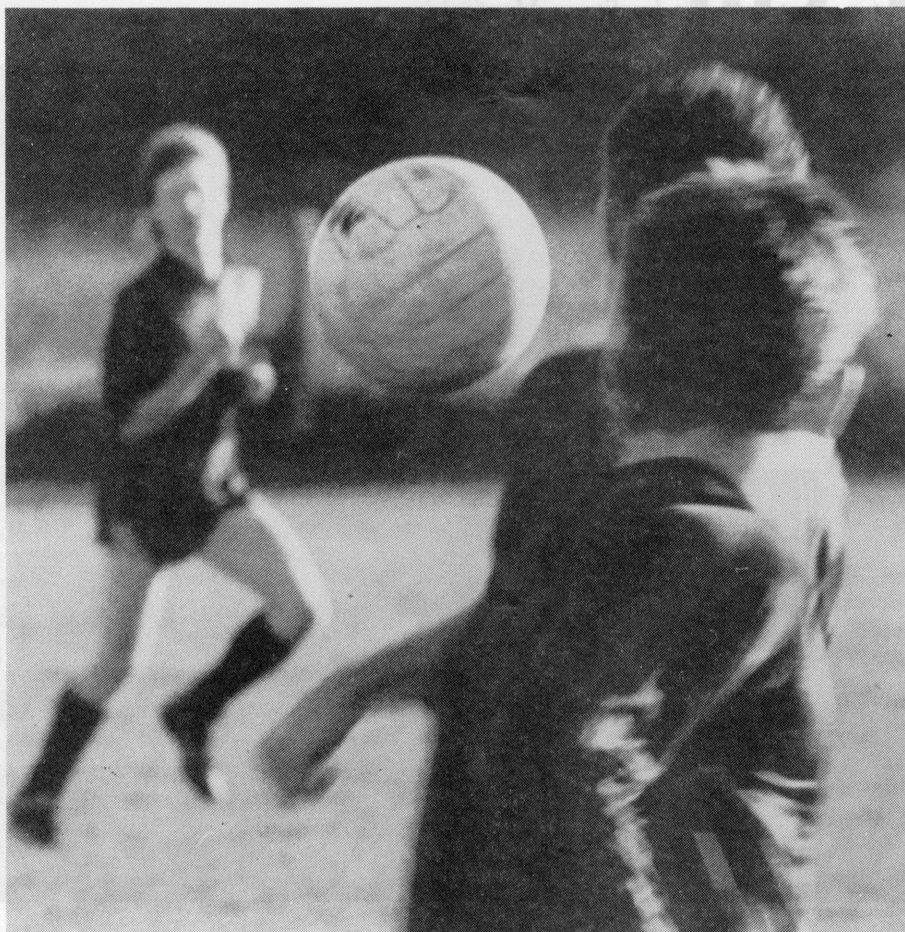
The Rector's attitude to the CAS is hinted at by the comment he made two weeks ago that 'we don't have a desperate need to find jobs for obscure departments.' This suggests that he expects all graduates to drift into the obvious jobs in research and industry. In this case, there would be no problem in closing down the centralised CAS which deals with all possible careers, and replacing it with advice from tutors in individual departments. Unfortunately, the Rector's attitude does not reflect the fact that about 50% of graduates want to escape from science after

The Imperial College Union Handbook

Imperial College Union needs a student to edit its Handbook. The editor will be paid for six weeks during the holiday and provided with a free room in hall.

The Summer work involves a large amount of production and editing. The FELIX editor will be available throughout the production period for help and advice on all aspects. This job is not just one for FELIX hacks. If you fancy working towards producing a publication over 90 pages thick, which you will be able to call your own creation, why not pop into the FELIX Office for a chat to find out more?

The Delator Column by Paul Shanley



The recommendations contained within the report by Lord Justice Taylor only confirm what every soccer fan and pundit has been saying for years.

The main proposals in Taylor's report; the bringing down of perimeter fencing, improved catering and toilet facilities, closer crowd control using closed circuit television etc are a matter of commonsense.

Taylor breaks new ground in recommending new criminal offences to cover pitch invasion and the chanting of obscene or racial abuse. Again, these seem to be perfectly reasonable suggestions. Why weren't they implemented before?

Perhaps the most controversial measure is the suggestion that all grounds should be made all-seater stadia. This has come as a culture shock to many. The British are accustomed to standing to watch soccer, just as the Europeans are to sitting down. I would not give up my place on the terraces if offered a seat in the stand. West Ham United carried out a survey to this effect last season. The overwhelming message from supporters was 'We prefer to stand'.

It's a question of atmosphere. No doubt, our way of thinking will change. Following Hillsborough, Liverpool unveiled plans to turn the Kop into an all-seating area. Uproar followed. Scousers have now accepted the idea, even though they are opposed to it. In 1981, Coventry City's Highfield Road ground was converted to all-seated. Two years later, the terracing was back. Fans had expressed their disapproval and so the club had bowed to public pressure.

The Taylor Report was followed by the infighting of Who Pays the Bill?

The government claims that the conversion to all-seater stadia, improving of refreshment areas etc should be met fully by the clubs themselves. They cite

the £70m in transfer fees last year as an example of how affluent the League clubs are. This is quite incorrect. Only a handful of the 92 clubs made a profit last year. The transfer fee money travels in a closed circle. Viewed externally, no income has been generated.

There is a sum paid to the Football Trust each year. The Trust is a body that provides funds for both amateur and professional clubs to carry out ground improvements and maintenance. The money derives from the pools companies—£7m is direct from the pools; a further £10 comes from Spot the Ball. This is a drop in the ocean compared to the estimated £130m needed to provide seating, let alone other ground facilities.

It is time that Treasury coffers were dipped into. Soccer is a national pastime. The government must in some way provide for that, just as it does for the arts (albeit not enough).

The betting levy on football pools generates £300m per year. That money could be put to good use in funding the proposals in the Taylor Report.

So much for Taylor. What other improvements should be made? Clearly, the drop in football attendance figures is due to something more than just social effects. Punters are being turned away. Why?

There are a number of ways to make soccer more attractive to prospective supporters without alienating existing ones. The remedies lie with the clubs and the Fans.

At a basic level, clubs must remember that fans are paying customers. When a consumer becomes discontented with a product or a service they receive, they shop elsewhere or they stop buying the product altogether.

A few ideas

- Matchday programmes should be printed by the same company with each one tailored for the match concerned. In this way, all weekend games have a common core of the programme with an outside section dedicated to the individual game. This scheme worked well in the American Soccer League up until its demise. The 100-page full colour programme cost \$1 and it made a profit.

- Pre-match and half-time entertainment should be laid on. This gives fans more value for money and encourages them to arrive earlier thereby avoiding last minute crushes at turnstiles.

- The ruling banning plastic pitches should be revoked. This would enable clubs to make better use of their grounds. At least one London side has raised the possibility of this. Wimbledon's scheme was to field First Division football on a Saturday. The Sunday would see the ground open again for American Football. A second division of the American Football League is being discussed to allow European teams to do this. The idea is unfeasible without a plastic surface.

- Whole sections of grounds should be turned over as family enclosures. Group bookings could be catered for in this way.

- At a national level, there should be changes made to the rules of the game to make it more entertaining. This will meet with disapproval amongst the traditionalists. But football has changed before. As times evolve, so must the rulebook.

- The quality of refereeing must improve. This can only happen if referees are made professionals and paid at a decent wage—not expenses only.

- Courts must impose stiffer penalties on fans who misbehave—particularly abroad. There is no point in clubs mounting excellent security and surveillance techniques to catch offenders if judges subsequently act leniently.

- Minor competitions such as the Simod and Xenith cups should be dropped. This would increase attendances at more important fixtures and enable players to be match fit.

- The FA must impose stricter penalties on players who offend. It must also give the clubs themselves the power to punish players harder (the maximum fine a league side is allowed to impose is two-weeks wages—roughly the fee for opening a supermarket).

- Players who commit violent offences such as striking an opponent off the ball or using the 'professional foul' should be subject to major disciplinary action. The idea has been mooted of giving an extra cautionary power to referees—the so-called 'Black Card'. The level of punishment should, of course, depend on the offence. It is not unreasonable, however, to expect a player caught decking an opponent to have to sit out the rest of the season on the touchlines.

These recommendations are the tip of the iceberg. It is time for the League and FA to set up its own 'Taylor Enquiry'. Maybe if that happens, British football will once again be the envy of Europe.

Eurotunnel—the environment

Whatever your views on the future impact of the Channel Tunnel on Britain's economy, it is impossible to deny that its construction has had a huge effect on the natural environment of Kent.

Last Thursday Dr Liz Culbard of Eurotunnel gave a talk to the Environmental Society about how the company has been trying to meet the environmental challenge.

As far back as 1985, when the Tunnel project was still receiving a bumpy ride through Parliament, the Eurotunnel company approached 130 environmental agencies in an effort to assess the possible visual impact, as well as noise and dust pollution of the proposed project.

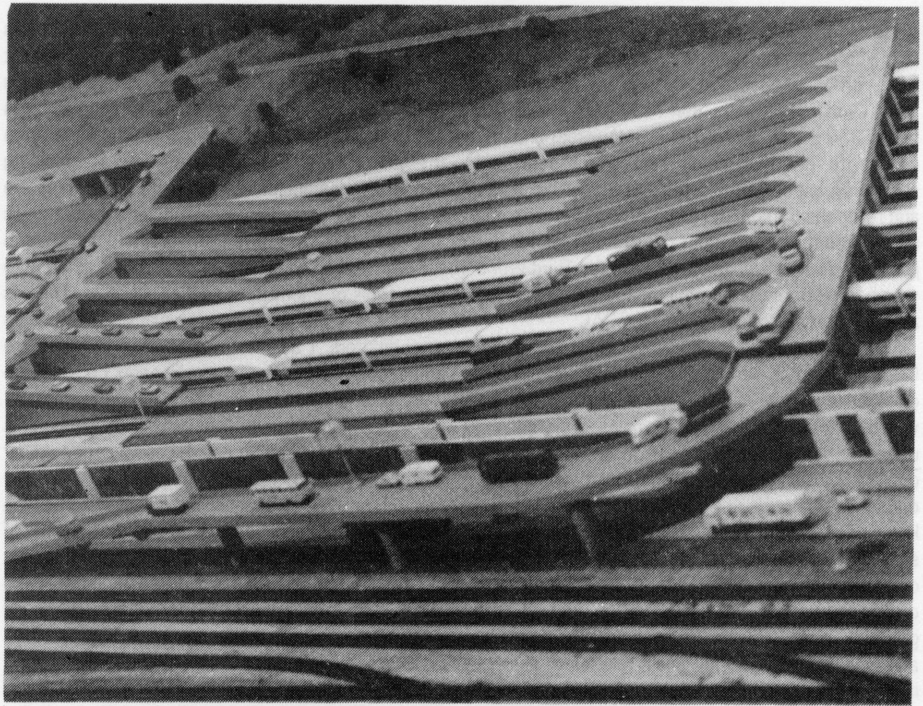
They were mainly concerned with three areas, all designated areas of special scientific interest—Shakespeare Cliff near Dover; Biggins Wood, which is an area of ancient oak/ash forest, part of which has already been lost through construction of the M20; and Holywell Coombe, which is of interest because of its marshy habitat and archaeological finds.

Shakespeare Cliff has been the centre of environmental concern before. It was here in 1982 that a transformer, left over from the 1974 attempt to build a tunnel, leaked 200 gallons of PCB, a toxic pollutant. An estimated 1500 tonnes of chalk cliff side was contaminated, with the clean up operation costing around £2½ million. So, bearing in mind this tainted history, Eurotunnel has had to try and meet the stringent demands of the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC) and other environmental bodies.

The environmental management has fallen broadly into three categories: assessment, conservation and long term monitoring. Assessment has meant studying possible damage to ecological populations as diverse as spider orchids and bats. The latter could be drastically effected if, for instance, rabies was carried to Britain—one of the more sinister possibilities of the Channel link. Chemical pollution effects can be assessed by fresh water stream surveys.

Archaeology has figured greatly in the conservation work that has been carried out. Over the areas of countryside scheduled to be lost in the building of the terminal etc, hundreds of trial pits were dug. Finds have provided a detailed picture of continuous settlement in the area from Neolithic hunter/gatherers, to slash and burn agriculture and finally settled farming communities. A picture of bad land management also emerges, with denudation and soil erosion causing settlements to move with striking similarity to the effects of deforestation seen in Brazil today.

Another scheme has concerned four grade 2 listed



buildings including a mill listed in the Doomesday Book which has been relocated, timbers and all.

Perhaps the most ambitious of all the conservation schemes is the transplanting of Biggins Wood. The large trees were cut down and then the topsoil skimmed off and relaid in an area further from the construction site. Regrowth has begun but the ground is further downslope and so wetter than the original site. Only time will tell if an ancient wood can adapt to such dramatic change.

In geological circles too, the Tunnel project has unveiled some valuable information. The tunnel has been realigned from its original course to preserve a geological formation of interest. To do this the area was 'peppered' with boreholes and a memoir will be written with the information they revealed.

Eurotunnel have had to commit themselves to monitoring plans far beyond the building time of the tunnel. At Shakespeare Cliff spoil from the tunnel has been used to create 35 hectares of new land. The effect on algal communities of accidental release of this spoil into the sea was monitored for about a year before both the company and the NCC agreed that a single natural cliff fall could release up to five times as much sediment, instantaneously.

Environmental impact has figured strongly in the

design for the English terminal. Buildings are to be low key and their surroundings landscaped, so that the imposing beauty of the scarp scenery is still the focal point of the area. Local authorities keep a close check on design, as each phase of the surface construction has to be separately approved by the local planning authority—a problem not encountered in France.

Dr Culbard's talk was interesting and informative about a side of the Tunnel project in which emotional argument on both sides has often overshadowed the facts. Unfortunately her defensive attitude toward questions made the debate a little one sided. One point that did emerge was that there is a communication problem between British Rail and Eurotunnel over the high speed rail link; the cause of the most heated exchanges in Parliament and the media so far. In two years, according to Dr Culbard, British Rail have not approached Eurotunnel with a view to learning from the environmental problems already encountered. Also, British Rail have not yet finalised the exact course that the rail line is to take, which will again cause hitches at the Eurotunnel end. Is this lack of communication an omen for the future? If it is, then P&O will be laughing.

Clare Davis, Geology 3.

International week

This year, too, the International Night on Friday 16 February will be one of the big events. Taking place in the JCR and Main Dining Hall, starting at 6.30pm, it will feature the International Food Stalls, where you will be able to enjoy a variety of foods and drinks from all over the world: Korea, Indonesia, Italy, Greece, China and many, many more! This will be followed, at around 8pm, by the Cultural Show; a fast paced demonstration of some of the cultures of the overseas students at Imperial College.

For the more party-inclined people the International Night will bring two bands to Imperials College: the Afro-Caribbean Disco with *Breaking Point* and the Brazilian Carnival, where the Latin-American music of *Sun Tropical* will perform—both of which are said to be brilliant! Doors open at 9pm.

Naturally, the party lasts until 2am, with bar until 1.30am.

We hope you will all come and enjoy yourselves!

THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE OVERSEAS STUDENTS
INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

BAR until 1.30am
PARTY till 2

AFRO-CARRIBEAN DISCO featuring
»**BREAKING POINT**«

BRAZILIAN CARNIVAL featuring
SUN TROPICAL

DOORS: 9 pm

AND
6.30pm INTERNATIONAL FOOD STALLS (JCR)
8.00pm CULTURAL SHOW (MDH)

FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY
JCR & MDH, SHERFIELD BUILDING, IMPERIAL COLLEGE

TICKETS FROM IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION
£3.50 in advance £4.00 on the door

With a reputation for a week of bedhopping and torrid sex, CRAC courses are graduate courses held over the summer.

Free food and drink!

Attention all SERC sponsored PhD students. About now you will have received a leaflet advertising the SERC-CRAC graduate schools. It is not to be thrown away even if initially you don't fancy it because it is free (£330 if you are not SERC sponsored) and any chance to get that much out of our esteemed sponsors must be worth it. CRAC is actually a charity and being the Careers Research Advisory Centre it is us who are the recipients of this charity. So it is not just the elderly, the handicapped and the Third World who benefit from that word although I don't foresee a Live-Aid style concert in aid of CRAC.

The purpose of the graduate summer schools, or CRAC courses as we veterans call them, is to open our eyes to what we can do. We academic scientists who beaver away with chemicals or lasers discovering useless things about Life and the Universe, often miss out on everything. We are blind to the useful talents our studies give us. I ask you, how useful is the knowledge gained from squinting at our narrow scientific discipline for three years? But the communication, writing, decision making and organisational skills we use every day and take for granted are actually quite useful too. Yes, that is all a Management Consultant does, take data, analyse it and advise people on what to do next, avoiding responsibility for it in case it is crap yet still making a big wedge in the process.

Still not convinced? Well for five days you can forget work, go somewhere different, meet exciting new people and interact with them. This has apparently given CRAC courses a reputation for a week of bedhopping and torrid sex. I missed all that but I drank a lot, got a great suntan and had FUN. What happens is that you play at different types of management, from research through personnel to being an EEC minister or management consultant. This is done as part of well worked out exercises and situations where everyone gets a chance to contribute and achieve something through teamwork, an experience notably absent from your average PhD.

Ultimately it doesn't matter if you cock it up as it is only an exercise but everyone gets so involved that pride becomes paramount. CRAC tutors are always on hand to comment on teamwork and group progress and to ensure that the groups don't stray too far from the task in hand and degenerate into a screaming bunch of egomaniacs, although the arguments are often heated. Also present are industrial executives and graduates who have a few years experience in the workplace and can be helpful but are as likely to make fools of themselves as the rest of us. There is a business game too which is usually selling boilers or computers. I defy anyone to try and lose more money than I did with my own Phoenix Boilers Co in three short days.

Venues range from student halls of residence (it is amazing just how bad Southside is compared to other university halls) to conference centres where the meals are served by penguin suited waiters. They are completely informal and have none of the pressure of company vacation courses. This probably sounds terribly overstated but the experience is incredible and exhausting. I spent a week recovering from mine and no one ends up disappointed.

Similar to this are the Company vacation courses. Ostensibly PR exercises to give students (both UG and PG) the chance to 'experience' what industry is like they also afford the opportunity for companies to size up students and vice-versa. Hence your expenses are paid, you get put up in a nice hotel and there are a couple of decent scoffs bunged in to give a favourable impression. For this, J student must dress up relatively smart, behave himself by not taking too much advantage of the free bar at the reception, and ask moderately intelligent questions when the opportunity arises.

Procter and Gamble do not have any recruitment aspect but give all successful applicants a second interview anyway. The emphasis is along the same lines as CRAC, involving exercises to demonstrate various aspects of management and group working

but as is to be expected the bottom line is always relevant to P&G. They also throw in a site tour and a chance to talk to some 'young' managers over dinner. It is all jolly good fun, designed to persuade you that P&G is a dynamic managerial company (which of course it is) and that you want to work for them.

ICI recruitment course (subtle working in the title) do not have any recruitment aspect but in The Exercise (deciding how ICI goes about taking over the Eastern Block) all the ICI people take notes on each group and only some people get second interviews afterwards. This course is much more a polishing of the ICI corporate image than P&G i.e. each group explains its business areas whilst we try not to look too bored. They show us videos on ICI and the environment and we try not to laugh too much as the CFC plant outside spews another 100 tonnes of acid rain ingredients into the atmosphere. (It's only steam coming out of those chimneys, honest!) They give us dinner with both junior and senior management. We try not to enjoy the venison too much in case we give away our lack of table manners or spill gravy on the tablecloth. This is of course jolly good fun and the only price is that you are under scrutiny, but that is only to be expected in the circumstances.

In truth, any course is valuable experience as it gives one the opportunity to find things out at no cost. In fact the expenses fiddles can make it lucrative if the course happens to be some distance away. They are good fun if you go with the right attitude, not being determined to arselick and impress but to observe and compare notes with the other students, and of course stay up late and drink a lot. They are worth the time as an aid to sorting out the wheat from the chaff in the recruitment mill. Ultimately though it's something for nothing and no student can turn down an offer like that.

C.D.L.

The Independent on Sunday

The Independent first appeared, fully formed and completely opinionless, over three years ago. Its stated aim, to be a 'quality' newspaper on a par with those great bastions of what was once Fleet Street: the Times, the Telegraph and the Guardian. After a somewhat shaky start, it flourished, a haven for refugees from Murdochism. Not even its worst enemy would deny that the Indy has done well against stiff and hostile opposition and not even a deaf-blind hermit could have failed to notice the hype. The Independent has spawned. The Sunday Indy has been born.

On the face of it, Indy 2 should have been born with the publishing equivalent of a silver spoon in its mouth. It was entering a market until recently dominated by the over-opinionated Sunday Telegraph, the defoliating Sunday Times and the rapidly-deteriorating Observer. But there was a cloud on its horizon in the uncomfortably identical shape of the Sunday Correspondant.

The Correspondant and the Independent are very similar beasts. The respective news pages are accurate but unexciting, the features well written but uncompromisingly uncontroversial and the columnists

far too well informed to say anything remotely silly. Both are definitely 'serious' newspapers. Even the designs seem similar. The news-stand just ain't big enough for the both of them.

Both compare well with their opponents, both are large but nowhere near as colossal as the paper-boy flattening Sunday Times. Neither seem to suffer from the petty vindictiveness which the Observer calls investigative journalism—I personally do not give a damn who owns Harrods. Both make the tabloids look like the newsprint loo paper.

There are small differences. The Correspondant produces a magazine, the Indy, tabloid-sized pull-outs à la Saturday Guardian. The Indy comes in three parts, the Correspondant in two plus mag.

Anyone can see there is going to be a war. The two papers will fight for the hearts and filofaxes of the same group of ad-man's 'ABC1's. Unless one changes, either one or both may collapse leaving us the unsavoury choice between Worsthorne, Trelford and Neill.

JL



Retrospect on Rushdie

The 'Satanic Affair' is now well into its second year, and Salman Rushdie has just entered his second year of hiding. Neither side (the Muslim world, nor Rushdie and his publishers, Penguin) has shown any sign of compromising.

The problem is ultimately of cultural conflict—people in the west and people in the Muslim world simply have very different values. Each has its own, distinct outlook on life. Even in today's 'global village' there is a massive gap in the attitudes of the western person and those of the Muslim one. What someone in the west might regard as tolerant, progressive or liberal could easily be seen to be simply wrong, immoral and yes, even satanic by the Muslims.

For the west, the question the whole affair raises is whether Salman Rushdie (or indeed anyone else) has the right to express his or her views under such pressure from a large part of the world. Freedom of expression is a key issue in western philosophy. However this freedom has never (not even today) been granted totally—Voltaire was deemed to be blasphemous, D H Lawrence immoral, James Joyce probably both (his work wasn't published here until years after it had appeared on the continent). So it would seem that even one of the most fundamental 'beliefs' of the western world is subject to social sensibilities, dogma and prejudice—it is hardly well defined or clearcut. Thus in our age of disbelief *The Satanic Verses* seems tame enough. However, the story might have been very different, if we were at the beginning of the century and the subject matter of the *Satanic Verses* had been Christianity. The same moral dilemma (to publish or to not to publish, freedom or suppression) would probably have received quite the opposite response. So our own moral outlook has changed dramatically in just a few decades. Is it surprising then, that a large number of people coming from a very different faith, civilisation or history, living in another part of the world hold beliefs contrary to ours? Surely not. And if there is a clash of beliefs how should the time-bomb be defused?



The Islamic world has never had much experience with anti-religious literature. What little has been written, tended to be heavily veiled, so that the anti-Islamic interpretation could be easily ignored. What Salman Rushdie has done is to make an entry so dramatic that it has set the Muslim world aflame. Islam teaches its followers that God, Allah, and His prophet, Mohammed, are the core of a Muslim's life. They must be placed above everything else, including one's own life—Islam must be defended to the death. It is this sense of faith which has forced Salman Rushdie into hiding (that in itself being a kind of victory for the Muslims). Islam is a powerful, dynamic religion. It was never apathetic or static—even at its birth it

was preparing for conquests.

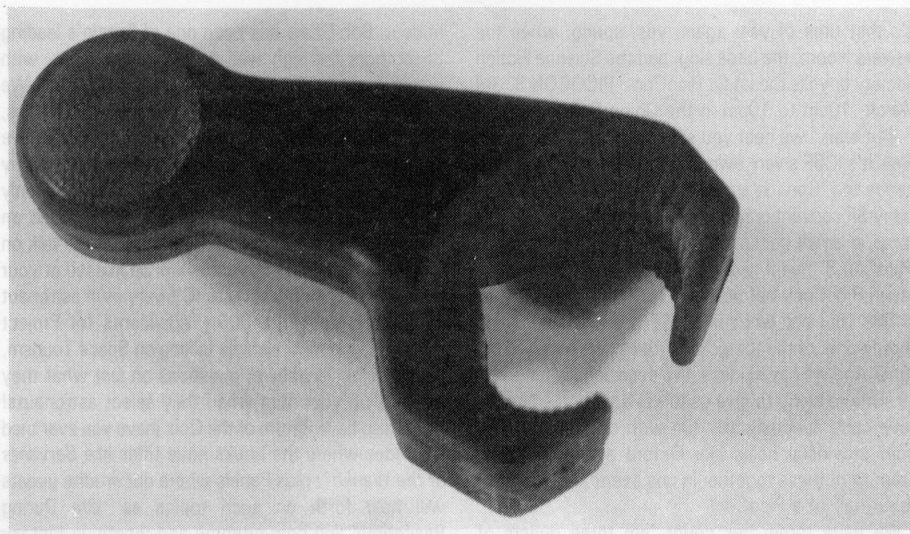
At present both sides seem as inflexible as each other. Personally, I believe there is room for compromise, if humanity wants to live with itself there has to be. I feel this way probably because I am part of the 'confused generation' which is part of both cultures—both east and west.

Unfortunately this view is not a widely held one. It is unlikely that anyone will give way in the near future. The best we can hope for is that the Rushdie/Muslim timebomb will defuse by itself, after a long enough passage through its sad history.

I Hussain, Maths UG.

Competition

This week's competition is to guess what the object pictured here is for. There is a £5 prize for the closest answer. If we receive more than one correct entry, the winner will be drawn from the hat. Entries should be handed into the FELIX Office by 2.30pm today. In the event of nobody guessing the object's use correctly, there will be a prize for the most amusing use suggested.





Kelman



Vincent



Nicholson



Kewney



Jenkins

Breaking and entering

A few weeks ago a debate was held on the title 'Should Hacking be Illegal'. On Wednesday 17th January a number of involved parties gathered at Imperial College. They included Judith Vincent from the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), Guy Kewney from Personal Computer World (PCW), Emma Nicholson MP, leading barrister Alistair Kelman, and Jolyon Jenkins from the New Statesman.

Mrs Nicholson put forward the 'Anti-Hacking Bill' early in Spring 1989. The Bill was hastily drawn up but though there was much interest in it, it failed to become an act of Parliament.

A report by the Law Commission later that year, proposed that the following should be made illegal:

- (i) Unauthorised access to a computer;
- (ii) Unauthorised access to a computer with intent to commit or facilitate the commission of a serious crime;
- (iii) Unauthorised modification of computer material.

When the Government made no movement towards acting on the recommendations in the Queen's speech, Mrs Nicholson, among others, pressurised Michael Colvin M.P. to introduce a Private Member's Bill based on the report.

Speaking first, Mrs Vincent thought that it was impossible to differentiate between innocent and abusive hackers. She recommended a series of

penalties in line with the offence, and so seemed to back the report.

From PCW Mr Kewney agreed to the need in increased legislation, but in the area of freedom of information.

'I think that there is a definite shortage of legislation on the subject of what information is, who is entitled to hide it, and who is entitled to see it,' he stressed.

He went on to suggest that 90% of computer crime is committed by internal staff, rather than external hackers as the CBI maintains.

Before politics, Mrs Nicholson worked with computers for 23 years, and hence her interest in the subject. She was dissatisfied with the £1000 maximum fine for hacking related activities, even though cases of £75,000 damages have been reported.

She advocated tighter legislation, particularly in the area of personal information. She raised the question of ownership of such information, citing the case of 'smart cards' (electronic credit cards storing your health record), where taxes would need to be raised to employ high security methods of protecting personal data.

Where ownership of the information is in question, personal data is vulnerable to abuse. Should taxes be raised to employ high security methods to protect against misuse?

However, she conceded in saying, 'I would not suggest that legislation against computer hacking will stop computer hacking; what I am saying is that it indicates a barrier beyond which society does not believe an action is socially acceptable.'

The barrister, specialising in copyright laws, was concerned that increased legislation would lead to innocent young computer users being lured into criminal activities.

For present cases, the law can be worked around any inadequacies, so that malicious hackers can be prosecuted. He held that it should be up to computer manufacturers to produce secure systems to a set standard, stating 'The major problems that we have ... are there because the world has built itself around an insecure standard: the IBM PC.'

The journalist likened hacking to trespass, which is not a criminal offence. His opinion was that the law report was poorly argued, and that in any case, information can be gained by far simpler means than hacking.

At the conclusion of the debate, voting revealed that a majority were not in favour of section (i). Many were confused on section (ii) but all were in favour of section (iii): the criminalisation of 'unauthorised modification of computer material.'

PrickoCon 8

By Simon Bradshaw (Train-spotting club Hon Sec)

It's that time of year again; yes, spring, when the flowers bloom, the birds sing, and the Science Fiction Society unveils the latest PicoCon—PICOCON 8, 3rd March, 10am to 10pm in the Union Building.

'But wait,' we hear you say, 'what is a PicoCon?'. Well, it's ICSF's very own Science Fiction Convention. Hence the 'Con'. It's also very small compared with many SF conventions (but as we shall see, nice things come in small packages)—hence 'PicoCon'. As for 'PicoCon 8', we'll give you a clue. There have been seven PicoCons before now...

'OK, OK, but what is an SF convention?' Think about some of the things ICSF does. We show films, right? And we have videos. We occasionally have real SF authors along to give us talks. Now and again we have quite seriously silly fun with our counterparts from provincial holes like Oxford and Cambridge. Cram all of these together in one event and you have about half of a PicoCon!

We have three, yes count 'em three guests of

honour. Bob Shaw has been one of Britain's leading SF authors for nigh well upon twenty years, with works like *Orbitsville* and *The Ragged Astronauts*. We hope to be hearing one of his 'Serious Scientific' talks, which are neither scientific or very serious! Dave Langford is a Fan writer, book reviewer and very funny writer—*The Leaky Establishment* is probably the only comedy set in an atomic weapons plant, based on some of his experiences at Aldermaston! His talk on 'Fun with Senseless Violence' will be missed at your peril... Dr Patrick Collins was IC's very own astronaut candidate; out of 10,000+ applicants for Project Juno he came fifth. He'll be talking on Space Tourism, but is willing to answer questions on just what they do stick up your bum when they select astronauts!

We also have Return of the Quiz (have you ever tried Charades where the books have titles like *Servants of the Wankh?*) plus Panels where our erudite guests will hold forth on such topics as 'Life During Peacetime' and how crummy and repetitive fantasy

writing has become. We'll be raising money for Rag via a 'Turkey Reading', where some of the worst purple prose ever written will be orated for you until enough people bid money for it to stop! Later on there will be a Filk Concert—no, that's not a misprint, 'Filking' is SF folk singing, sort of like an RCS barnight, only more so. On the subject of bars, we should have the Union Bar open from 11am to 11pm, so there's no excuse for any sobriety.

If all this is a bit much, we have a fairly continuous video programme, both film and TV favourites. There will be a dealer room, with book and game stalls, and a selection of computer games for the incurable zappes. We aim to provide something for everyone interested in SF, and this year we hope to be the best PicoCon by far. Value for money indeed—just £4, or £3.50 if you cough up before the day, eg at a film or library meeting.

So, make a date with PICOCON 8.

And now in an attempt to produce something you'll remember after the first lecture on Friday..

How to be a stude

2. Stude Music

Well you're a student now, so throw away your *Smash Hits*, your *SAW 7"* singles and your *Bros* posters, grow up, grab a copy of *'Sounds'*, *Pink Floyd* LP and some tour posters. Yes we're talking 'student subculture'.

So you ask, 'what do I listen to so as not to be (shudder) untrendy?'

a) Classical music. This is so 'out' it's 'in'. The great thing is you can bullshit to your bottom's content about it's depth and meaning and the composer won't contradict you in a magazine interview. It's also a good investment, some of Mahler's early picture discs fetch up to £30. Be warned though, groups rarely supply lyrics with albums and many ballet-othèques have shut due to rumours of acid concertos.

b) Old shite. Most low profile 60s groups fall into this category. Make sure you choose a group with a dead singer, and say things like 'Modern music is too commercial' or 'there's no lyricism' or 'Yes, but listen to *Transformer* for a timeless classic'.

The genre is best represented by the lyrics of Lou Morrison of the group *The Velvet Papas Airplane Revival*:

Riding down a sun baked highway

With a bad moon staring at my woman

Fuck me where did all these purple parrots come from?

c) Heavy metal. To be a 'Metal' fan, you must grow your hair very long (not washing it helps too), wear leather jackets and black t-shirts with pictures of zombies, sheep skulls and semi-naked women. You don't have to listen to anything, because you should look so hard that people don't ask you about the music.

d) Obscure stuff. This is where it's at. The live



bands, indie bands, singles bands. All you need is a band like *Mick No-one* and the *Esoterics* that no one's heard of, and won't do except through you. Things to look for are an independent label (this is so you can complain when the band move to a major lable), a stupid name eg *The Left-Legged Pineapples*, and records that don't reach the top 1,000 and even John Peel hasn't heard of them. It is important that whichever band you pick you must insist they are doing 'something revolutionary' to the music industry.

The exception to the above is of course that

ultimate of stude bands, those doyen's of the bedsit pop; *The Smiths*. In the words of Morrissey the Messiah:

'Britain make me so sad

You won't love me

And I've messed up my life,

But at least I'm rich and famous ha ha ha'

That's all for this week and remember folks: punk is not dead (it just smells that way).

Danny Shiu

FREE food!

FELIX will be conducting a survey of the food outlets in College over the coming week.

We want three volunteers, who are independent of FELIX and IC Union and are not employed in any of the College bars or food outlets. In return for your comments on the food served in a selection of eating places we will pay £2 per day for all 5 days next week. The survey will consist of a 'blind' purchase from each outlet, ie the serving staff should not know you are working on the survey. Photographs will be taken of the food and the surroundings. In order to maintain a consistent approach within three different groups in college, we will require one male undergraduate, one female undergraduate and one postgraduate.

The first three students within these categories to come into the FELIX Office (far left corner of Beit Quad, over Prince Consort Rd) will receive free food for a week, courtesy of FELIX.

Sailing

Eleven teams travelled to London to compete in a team racing event hosted by Imperial College Sailing Club and the City University. Racing went well on the first day of the two day event, with Bristol and Southampton winning their leagues. The Imperial team performed consistently throughout the day despite working under great pressure to organise the racing at the same time as competing.

Strong winds on the second day forced the team racing for the finals to be abandoned, and more adventurous sailors ventured onto the water at Queen Mary SC in City's Laser 2s for some seriously fast and very wet sailing.

The final results were therefore calculated on the basis of points scored in League matches on day one.

1st (Joint): Bristol and Southampton
3rd: Swansea

FilmSoc

This Thursday IC FilmSoc is showing the most controversial film of last year, *The Accused*. Jodie Foster gives a harrowing performance as a girl who is violently raped in a bar and who goes on to prosecute not only her assailants, but also the customers who stood and cheered during the assault. Kelly *Top Gun* McGillis is equally good as the put upon attorney assigned to defend her.

It is a powerful film, pulling no punches as to Foster's plight both during and after the rape and indeed the film climaxes with a flashback to the crime itself which is shown in graphic detail. I defy anyone to come away from seeing this, unmoved.

Wine



We'd like to start this weekly piece by congratulating Katie for correctly identifying five out of eight mystery wines during last week's Blind Tasting. We're sure that she'll enjoy (or has enjoyed!) her prize: ch. Grand Puy Ducasse '84, a classed growth from Pauillac, Bordeaux.

This Tuesday's event was a tasting of red wines from one of the oldest wine producing regions in France; the Rhone Valley. Oddbins supplied wines ranging from the light and fruity £2.49 Cotes du Rhone '88 to the £11.99 Cornas '84—a deep and tannic wine which will continue to improve for at least another five years; a wise investment in one bottle was made by Union Deputy President Dave Williams. This week's favourite, though, was Paul Jaboulet Aine's Crozes-Hermitage '87 costing a mere £4.39.

Keep an eye out for posters advertising next week's tasting and for the Valentine Special Champagne and Sparkling Wine Tasting on February 13. Don't miss the forthcoming cross-channel booze-cruise at the end of term; see Lynda Matthews, Chem Eng 4, for details.

CHEERS!

Rag

The next Rag event this term is the Winged Fellowship Collection tomorrow in London. Winged Fellowship are a charity that helps disabled people, their main operation is to provide special holidays for them. Come to the Rag Meeting this lunchtime in the Union Lounge to find out more.

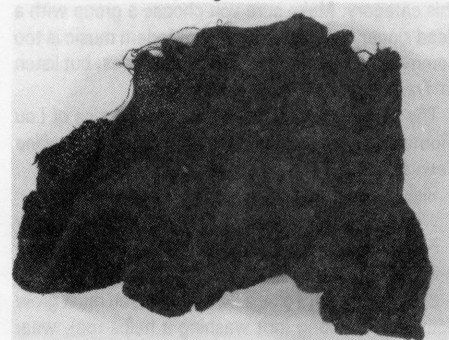
'Son of Rag Week' will be from February 13 to 17 and there will be Milk Tray deliveries and Barbershop-a-grams will happen around Valentine's Day and there will be a 'Love Bar Quiz' on the night of the 14th.

For those of you of a less loving nature; Grim Reaping and Gnoming will be operating throughout the week. A new game of Killer may be started (see RCS for details). There will be another Hypnosis Lecture on Friday 16 in the Great Hall, doors open 7.00pm.

Son of Rag Week will finish with Monopoly II on Saturday 17 in aid of BIBIC and should be even bigger and better than before.

I would also like to mention that nominations have been opened for the positions of Rag Mag Editor and Rag Mag Business Manager; anyone interested should come to the Rag Meeting today.

Hal Calamvokis, Rag Chairman.



Saint Valentine ISSUE

FELIX will be taking FREE St Valentine's Day messages next week. We will carry a love page and a jealousy page for any parting messages. All messages should be submitted by Tuesday February 6th, 5.30pm. You can leave an anonymous message (just this once!) in the 'messages' folder on the door of the FELIX Office, although the Editor reserves the right to edit anything he considers to be obscene.

Football

New College II (0)—1

IC II (3)6

IC II convincingly put New II in their place with a comfortable victory. First half one-way traffic resulted in three goals. The first, an explosive run and shot from G Phiri, was the pick of the afternoon's efforts.

The next two came from corners, both volleyed in from close range, by a New College defender and G Phiri (again) respectively. P Nelson, who wanted a mention, also came close with a header.

The second half continues in much the same way. R Martinez added a fourth following a solo run down the right wing. Soon after, M Wilks was invited by the referee to have an early shower. However, IC down to ten men added two more goals. One confidently put away by J Fordham following goalmouth pinball and the other volleyed in from close range by E Coates.

New II got their consolation in injury time, when a gust of wind, catching a New College attacker off-balance, was rewarded with a penalty.

LSE—0

IC 1sts—1

It was a day for both goalkeepers to remember as IC came away with victory by the narrowest margin. Skipper Pip Peel delivered the killer blow just before the break, hitting home a low drive through a crowded penalty area.

IC had the best of the first half playing some fluid football. Mike Patton was inches away from connecting with a diving header and IC had several other good chances scrambled away before taking the lead.

The second half saw a more subdued IC coming under pressure as they defended their lead. However, they attacked well on the break and would have scored again but for the brilliance of LSE's keeper. First he acrobatically pushed out a Pip Peel volley then dived full length to save a fierce shot from Mike Patton as well as denying Pat Fancot from close range. Not to be outdone, IC keeper Si Holden denied LSE an equaliser blocking with his legs when the front man was clean through.



UC V—0

IC IV—7

IC IV—3

LH II—0

Returning fresh from the Christmas break, a revitalised fourth team proved that their position third from the bottom in the league was a travesty of justice.

After Mubarik Chowdhry had missed more chances than there are 'E' numbers, and captain Simon Turner had missed a penalty, IC finally scored after 25 minutes. This opened the floodgates with goals from Bah Tamanji, Chris Collison, and eventually Mr Chowdhry before UC gained a penalty. This was due to Sam Tanawy who was playing with a monumental hangover after the Rugby Cocktails at the Carnival the night before. This was his crowning moment and he took all the credit with some pride.

Needless to say Steve Shilling made a lightning save to whitewash UC for the first time in their season.

LH II, one of the weaker teams in the league, tried to spoil IC's game by picking fights with anyone who ventured in their half. Trouble really started when Bob Ndumu put IC ahead.

The ref then twisted his back and had to referee from the half-way line. With this improvement in decision making, IC added further goals from Mubarik Chowdhry, who has found his scoring touch, and Narinder Sangha with a feeble shot the keeper decided wasn't worth the effort.

Sam Tantawy, having set up the second goal, suddenly realised he was playing shots from everywhere on the pitch but narrowly failed to score.

Ladies football

IC Dribblers—0

St George's—0

Sussex—11

IC Dribblers—0

The Dribblers brightened up a cool, grey Sunday afternoon in Wimbledon Park with their new, dazzling green and white hooped kit—it's just as well it's green as, although our footballing skills have improved, we still haven't quite mastered the art of snorting out of one nostril onto the pitch and have to make do with shirt sleeves. St George's obviously have the same problem as they also wore green and, contrary to popular belief, the dragon was not slain but appeared larger than life in their midfield! It was a funny ol', hard fought, end-to-end sort of game of two halves and the girls did well to hold them to a draw. Credit must go to the defence and the amazing, fish-like qualities of our girl-wonder keeper—young Willomena Thompson! What more can I say except: 'Don't miss next week's enthralling episode—The Dribbler'd Day Trip to Brighton.

Didn't we have a lovely time the day we went to Brighton?? British Rail apologised for the inevitable Sunday delays and so we had no time for a pre-match paddle in the sea and play on the fairground. Instead we trekked up the mountainside in search of the football pitch—why can you never find a sherpa when you need one?

Eventually the match kicked off and the scenes that followed were reminiscent of the Boys vs Masters rugby game in Monty Python's *The Meaning of Life*. Ninety minutes and eleven goals later the Dribblers limped, hobbled and were carried off in search of some beers to celebrate the fact that, despite being literally walked over and sat on by eleven gruesome girlies, we'd still managed to qualify for the next round of the UAU thanks to Brunel pulling out. They'd obviously heard how big and mean the Sussex girls are and how

difficult it is to get food, drink or a half-time orange out of them! We must thank our lucky stars for the miracle of the twenty beers, four bowls of soup and three garlic mushrooms, performed by the staff of Pizzaland! Despite the scoreline we still managed to smile, sink a few beers and sing a few songs as well as annoying bus conductors, Russian spys and strange women but that's another story!

Rifle

IC's Rifle Team beat teams from Loughborough and City with an amended score of 1000.530, the highest score out of the 51 teams, in the first round of the inter-university rifle team handicap competition. IC will shoot against Dublin 'B' team in the second round.

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Grovel

Dear Dave,

Your editorial in last week's FELIX made certain comments about the Alternative Prospectus which I find very worrying. To begin with, you say that the Rector is 'very naive' to believe that the AP is honest student opinion. Well, the exact reason for producing an AP is to form a supplement to the College Prospectus from the students' point of view, so the Rector is perfectly entitled to think it is so. To say that the AP is not achieving that, is to cast doubts as to whether it is worthwhile producing it at all.

You justify this by saying that 'the AP is written by Departmental Representatives under the watchful eye of the Senior Tutors'. I was responsible as the Maths Dep Rep for producing last year's AP entry and I can assure you that your allegation is quite false. I had the freedom to write whatever I felt was necessary, and this I did after consultation with all the reps in the department.

The incident you refer to two years ago when departments 'slammed down' on the 'truth' occurred only because the AP contained factual inaccuracies, and was nowhere near as dramatic as you seem to make out.

Last year's Academic Affairs Committee put a lot of time and effort into producing an accurate and representative AP and it hurts to see you brush all that away in a single paragraph.

Athos Ritsperis, ICU Academic Affairs Officer.

Reply:

I wonder how the editor of last year's AP feels as you brush him away. Ramin Nakisa spent most of last year's Easter holiday producing the AP and a lot of time before pestering Dep Reps for articles. As an editor he performed admirably, but there is a limitation to what is possible with the material provided.

I still affirm that the AP can never give a true picture whilst it is produced by current students. This year's supplement will probably be produced by Neil McCluskey and I shall be only too glad to assist him. We, after all, have nothing to lose.

As for your comments on the AP supplement two years ago: the departments complained of 'factual inaccuracies'. Funnily enough they took offense to the editor's personal feelings as well. Your comments in this area make me wonder who you represented as Dep Rep: the students or your department?

Praise him

Dear Dave,

Among all the excitement of last week's UGM, the high point for most there must have been the wonders of Emmanual Saradakis' speech for the motion of voluntary membership of the NUS, as far as I can remember. Anyhow due to the poor attendance at UGMs I feel his eloquence may be more appreciated at Speakers Corner. I hope he and those who know him see this letter and encourage him to do so, as Speakers Corner could do with a change from the usual religious nuts there. Finally has Emmanual any plans to stand for a sabbatical, as he shows great interest in ICU affairs?

Please, please, please could you allow him to write a reply to this as many of his fans are missing the great insight his comment brings to matters.

Yours,

Chris Browne, Elec Eng Dep Rep.

Knight takes pawn

Dear Dave,

Should/could one employ post graduate students in the Careers Library? I do not so much want to argue this specific case as to explore the wider issue. But let us stay with that library for a moment. Of course, a pg cannot replace a professional trained information officer. But many of the tasks in the library do not require any great depth of specialist knowledge. There are letters to write; literature to catalogue; bins to be filled with company literature; there is a policing function—video tapes have been known to walk; telephones to answer; students need to be directed to the appropriate file to deposit application forms; etc etc.... These tasks have to be done. If they are done by ancillaries it leaves more time for career advisers to advise.

Why caricature the concept? Obviously a pg should not do such a job for more than one session per week. But five hours *can* be found even, in the high powered frenetic research life which is essential for success. The rates of pay can be commensurate with the responsibility of the task. Post graduate students are less experienced than their elders—of course. But in my experience they can often see a problem from a new angle—suggest new approaches; they can provide enthusiasm and commitment.

We will explore further whether the Careers Library can gain from their secondment. I am convinced that more generally, the College could gain enormously from a greater use of student help.

Yours,

Eric A Ash.

Why oh Wyatt?

Dear Dave,

It is disturbing that students in general fail to consider the indirect or 'invisible' effects of their actions. For example, when assessing loans against grants, few even consider the fact that under grants, tax-payers on average income subsidise the costs of high-flying students, when they themselves received no direct benefit from Higher Education. The real debate must be: 'Are the social costs of grants worth their benefit to the country as a whole?' To choose grants over loans for short-term financial reasons is at best selfish and inconsiderate.

Of even more current importance is the proposed ACC motion on ICU paying all sports travel expenses. The motivation for this is purely selfish and takes no account of where the money is to come from, namely non-sports societies. Disproportionate amounts of ICU's £200,000 budget for clubs and societies already go to sports activities. Sports clubs have added benefits of capital resources, most notably the sports centre. Should they receive even more money at the expense of their fellow students? Did the proposer of the motion even consider this?

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Wyatt, Maths 2.

Imperial is a con

Dear FELIX,

Re: Last week's letter from the Rector.

The Rector must count himself the luckiest man in the College today as he surely spends nothing of his time actually finding out what it is like to be a student at IC. He may like to ponder as he struggles over his pennies whether his hallowed institution is what he thinks it is.

The fact is, that on subjective evidence gathered while studying here, Imperial is failing miserably to live up to the expectations of the undergraduate population. There seems to be a general malaise, a cloud of despair that lingers whenever the conversation turns to College life. And nobody can ever identify what the problem is. But it will not go away.

Various accusations have been launched at 'the College' and 'the Department'. The claim that the work is too voluminous does not wash, in my view. I have friends at Oxford and Cambridge where the workload is higher and more rigorously applied: there is no lack of enthusiasm for College life there, however.

The dullness of the lecturing, the obsessive 'cleverness' of the problem sheets (certainly in Electrical Engineering), the complete 'unreality' characteristic of lab work that we are subjected to: these are all contributory factors.

But what really gets up my nose is people in positions of authority pretending the undergraduate population are here to be trampled upon and pushed around freeing up vital resources for money-spinning opportunities. The result is a group of very intelligent, very talented people who have seen their dreams crumble to dust—wasted opportunities, every single one of them. For me it is criminal. To recruit some of the most gifted students in the country, and once they are here, pretend that it was all a big joke. 'We were only kidding—we didn't actually mean that this was a University. It is just a repository for lost dreams. If you would queue on the left, hand your dream to the cashier, and we will give you a degree in return. And please don't enjoy yourself. If you want to do that, well you can just fuck off.' The sad result of studying at Imperial College is disillusionment, cynicism and an overwhelming desire never to have anything to do with science or engineering again. Anyone who tells you otherwise is either lying through their teeth or they are visiting the metaphorical brothel around the corner.

Yours sincerely,

Name withheld at editor's discretion.

Ignorant bigots

Dear Dave,

We are told that the NUS are a collection of small-minded, ignorant bigots too self-obsessed to even realise the outside world exists.

IC would have fitted in so well.

Yours,

Jason Lander.

Temple of the left

Dear Editor,

Re: 'Imperial's communists'.

As I was mentioned in the same article as a member of the Ceausescu's, I thought I would take the opportunity to make it clear that the British Communist Party supports democracy and opposes tyranny—under whatever guise. We want a decentralised, green, multi-party, equitable and dynamic society.

All the best,

Nina Temple.

Very moving

Dear Dave,

As its author (and I *did* sign the original: my anonymity I assume was an editorial decision), I have a correction to the writing about the new IC Student Christian Movement group printed in last week's FELIX. Namely, for 'magical' read 'illogical' near the end of the first paragraph. I must word-process next time.

This is actually quite a significant change. The section in question should read.

'...believe in God...Well yes I do, but not like that, much more, well in a more sort of vague, illogical but kind of practical sense.'

My point is perhaps (the interpretation is yours!) that faced with the world's idea of logic, believing in an all-encompassing, suffering God and all that that implies is patently crazy.

So why does it work?

Understanding God comes not from logical argument, but through the day's experiences, good and bad, and from God's love in real people.

Yours,

Robert Cumming, Physics PG1.

No more please

I am sick to the back teeth of the way some people seem to be abusing the letters pages of FELIX as a ground for 'spreading the word.' If I receive one more letter which attempts to moralise on the basis of what is written in the Bible or seeks to promote Christianity through some means I shall sacrificially burn it in front of the author. I am warning the God Squad now—there is a limit to how much religion you can stuff down people's throats in a student newspaper; this is a newspaper for everyone after all.

Before you start, Mr Saridakis—don't! I am sure I hate the smell of burning paper as much as you do—Ed.

Not very moving

Dear Dave,

I feel drawn to reply to the article last week on the Student Christian Movement. The article failed to describe a notable feature of the organisation: it is predominantly left-wing.

Without any explanation the article blames this government for peoples' 'preoccupation with money'. This is totally unjustifiable. The root cause of the materialistic attitude in our society is the belief that the responsibility for other people's problems does not lie on the people but on the government. This belief causes people to contentedly wash their hands of the problems around them, and work solely on their own self-advancement.

Thatcherism tries to change this attitude and and awaken a sense of individual responsibility for yourself and those around you. The blame for the 'preoccupation with money' does not lie with this government, but in people's belief in government full-stop.

Yours sincerely,

Dylan James, Maths 2.

Beit plight

Dear FELIX,

We would like to draw your attention to the plight of Beit Hall residents.

On Saturday 20 January, the Union Lounge was yet again hired out to a private party, playing loud 'acid' music until 2am Sunday morning, and still disturbing the peace of Beit Quad at 3am. We would not complain so loudly if we hadn't been kept awake until gone 4am the night before (the New Year Carnival). Surprisingly, it is not the first time such things have happened. We would therefore like to ask the Union to sympathise with the Beit Hall residents and to take more care when hiring out Union rooms to non-College activities. We would appreciate if our sleep is not disturbed for too long, too often, especially during the week when some of us have to get up for 9.30am lectures.

Yours,

Beit Hall Residents Committee.

OBN winner

Dear Editor,

I and no doubt many others take the strongest possible exception to the juvenile attack made upon the HUB Office by Paul Shanley.

While he demonstrates some grace in accepting that Clare Ash is unpaid, he completely fails to recognise the many and diverse roles the HUB Office plays in College life.

I have been a member of College for many years, and regret that only over the past four years has the lack of communication and general social contact been realised.

The importance of this was recognised by Lady Ash, the necessarily supported by paid secretarial staff, the College now enjoys and indeed benefits by the activities of the HUB Office.

Yours sincerely,

R Adams, Senior Departmental Representative.

Small Ads

ADVERTISE IN THE FELIX SMALL ADS SECTION
FREE IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF IMPERIAL
COLLEGE UNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **Auditions** for Cloud Nine. Sexual politics in Victorian Africa and Thatcher's Britain. Boogie on down to the DramSoc storeroom, Sunday 4th Feb, 2pm.

● **Jewish Society** will be meeting on Tuesday Feb 6th from 1.30pm to 2.30pm in the UDH (1st floor Union Building). Joey Garfinkle, the UJS London Region Fieldworker, will be speaking. Everyone welcome. Contact Andrew Preston, new chairperson (Maths 1) for further details about this and other meetings.

● **ULU Malet Street** offers Osteopathy and Massage from qualified practitioners. For details please contact ULU reception or telephone 580 9551.

● **RCSU trip** abroad to Amsterdam. 23-26 March. £70 including travel and accommodation. Details from RCSU Office ext 3526.

● **Holbein 87/88** reunion, Sat 10 Feb. Hoop and Toy 8.30pm. Call Henry for info.

● **Tuesday 13 Feb**—City & Guilds Union will be holding their annual Field Cup. Teams of 4-6 who are interested in competing should sign up in the Guilds Office now!

FOR SALE

● **VW Derby** 1300 GLS, 1981/W, original regatta blue metallic, 66,000 miles, 2 owners from new. Very good condition, four speaker stereo, economical, unleaded. Recent clutch, brakes, alternator, plugs. Available after MOT 15th Feb. First refusal to students at £1,295. Andrew Bannister, Geology 3 or FELIX Office on ext 3515.

ACCOMMODATION

● **Available:** Single flat in West Kensington—near to W Ken and Barons Court tube stations. £60 pw without HB. Contact J Lander, Physics 3.

● **Single or double** room available in shared flat in Hamlet Gardens from early Feb. £44 or £56 per week plus bills. Rent rebate up to £24 pw. Contact Andy Bannister or Robin Knight, Geol 3, or Peter Brent, Phys PG.

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The Snack Bar

I can already feel the Union Office hold its breath as I type the word above. My predecessor spent a large part of the year attacking the outlet and consequently running it down. I do not intend to start an all out onslaught.

The Snack Bar has lost a lot of money over the past eighteen months and the Union has paid dearly for its mistakes in the refurbishment and general revamp of the outlet in 1988. It has taken a lot of time to realise that a snack bar is exactly what it says it is; a place which provides snacks. The kitchens in the Snack Bar are under-equipped for large scale hot food production, and the cost of meals in this range is too high to be profitworthy. The relaunch of the Snack Bar as a Sandwich Bar is a wise move in my mind. The plans which Ian Richards, the manager of the Snack Bar, has shown me provide strong hope for good, filling, economical food in the Union Building. I hope that everyone who has moved away from eating in the Union Building will take advantage of the introductory offer and try the 'Caterpillar Cafe' once more.

Having said this I feel it is only fair to point out the failings of the Union over this outlet in the past. Whilst the Snack Bar has been losing money every day, too much attention has been spent on petty points, like the fine details of menu selection. The Union Catering Committee has only just approached the main problem—people have not been eating in the outlet, and it has been selling food at a loss. People are not driven away by the decor or a particular dish they do not like, they are put off by high prices and small portions; something the Snack Bar became famous for last year. The final realisation that you do not make food that has sold badly before and that you cannot sell prepackaged food cheaply has finally dawned.

The crux of the problem is the plethora of meetings which decide how the snack bar is run. Ian Richards has been almost helpless to make any changes to the outlet without first visiting these committees. He sees what sells and what does not, and yet he has had little say in menu selection within catering committee. If the Union has had one major failing over the Snack Bar it must be that of its bureaucratic quagmire which slows the development of any Union outlet. If Ian is to manage the snack bar, let him manage. After all, if this relaunch fails, who stands to lose their job; Ian or the Union Sabbaticals?

Peter's book for the week

Peter Hallworth is Managing Surveyor of Residences and looks after the upkeep of halls of residence and the Union Building. Each week I have been metaphorically awarding him a book. This week's book is the *Pied Peter of Hamlet*, perhaps Mr Hallworth would like to invest in a flute now, I've heard he is very good on the violin.

The Careers Service

I invite any letters for comment on IC's impending loss of the Careers Library. If anybody has a spare £10,000 please could they let the Rector know.

Sabbatical elections

If you want to be a sabbatical, you must be mad. Being mad is fun, however. Anybody thinking of standing for a sabbatical post should let me know if they have any special requirements such as specially coloured paper or inks.

Sabbatical videos

I have been asked to plug STOIC's live transmission of this year's Hustings UGM and their election video facilities. Anybody interested in making a promotional video for their sabbatical campaign should contact STOIC on 3518 before February 27. (I'll stick a bigger plug in next week—Mr Lester has given me a 13 amp one, but the wiring's dodgy.)

Credits

Many thanks to Toby Jones and Jeremy Burnell for a lot of help this week; Adam Harrington for News (somebody come and help him before he fades away); Adam Tinworth, Charles Tomkins, Liz Warren, Ian Hodge, Darren Austin and Toby for Reviews; **STONE**, Del and Chris Leahy for music; Jeremy Burnell, Chris Stapleton, Richard Evers, Roland Flowerdew, and Simon Elliot for photography; Simon Haslam for Science (could everybody who has offered him an article, please hand it in); Steve Meyfroidt for the careers article; I Hussain for Salman Rushdie; Paul Shanley for Delator; Paddington Bradshaw; Jeremy and Toby for the Hacking debate; Clare Davis for Eurotunnel; last week's collators Jim Lucy, Adrian Pagan, Hamish from Rag, Bryn Evans, Toby Jones, J D Griffiths, Ultan McCarthy, Ashley Unitt, Colin Davidson, James Larkins and Jeremy Burnell (for the last time). Finally, thanks to Rose and Andy for putting up...etc..

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THE PLACE TO EAT

What's On

AN UP-TO-THE-MINUTE GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND IMPERIAL COLLEGE

FRIDAY

- Hang Gliding.....12.30pm**
Southside Upper Lounge. Come and get high.
- Rag Meeting.....12.35pm**
Union Lounge.
- Friday Prayers.....1.00pm**
Southside Gym. Organised by IC Islamic Society.
- Wing Chun Pung Pu.....4.30pm**
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- Christian Union Meeting.....6.00pm**
Room 308 Computing.
- Wimmin' Training.....6.30pm**
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Fencing Club Meeting.....6.40pm**
Union Gym. Every week. This week six-foot double-slatted.
- Social Dancing.....7.00pm**
Union SCR. Organised by Dance Club.
- Water Polo Session.....7.30pm**
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability. Seahorses provided.
- Cricknet Indoor Nets.....7.45pm**
Met in Mech Eng Foyer. Bring your whites, we have three nets this term.
- IC Radio Disco.....8.30pm**
Southside.

SATURDAY

- Karate Practice.....10.00am**
Southside Gym.
- Rag Collection.....10.30am**
Meet in Union Snack Bar for the 'Winged Fellowship Collection' in London.
- Lu Shute Pan.....4.30pm**
Southside Gym. Beginners Class.

SUNDAY

- Chaplaincy Sindy Service.....10.00am**
Sherfield Building Anteroom.
- Wargames.....1.00pm**
Senior Common Room, Union Building.
- Wu Shu Kwan.....4.30pm**
Union Gym. Beginners Class.
- RCSU Night in the Bar.....7.00pm**
Meat in the Bar. Every week.

MONDAY

- RockSoc Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of Rock Music? Come along and have a beer.
- Cross Country & Athletics.....5.30pm**
Union Gym. Jogging in Hyde Park and socialising later in Southside.
- Keep Fit.....5.30pm**
Southside Gym with Vicky Vale.
- Improver's Ballroom.....6.00pm**
JCR. Dance Club.
- Beginners Rock 'n' Roll.....6.45pm**
SCR.
- Swimming Training.....6.30pm**
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Advanced Ballroom.....7.00pm**
JCR.
- WellSoc Speaker Meeting.....7.30pm**
Physics LT1. Dr P T Smith will give a talk entitled 'Psychology of mathematical creativity'.
- Karate Practice.....7.30pm**
Southside Gym.

- Water Polo Session.....7.30pm**
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Fat American Dance.....7.45pm**
SCR. Beginners.
- Latin American Advanced.....8.15pm**
SCR.
- Medalions in Ballroom.....8.00pm**
JCR.

TUESDAY

- Audio Society Meeting.....12.30pm**
Union Senior Common Room. Cheap records, tapes and videos. Order on Tuesday and collect on Thursday.
- Sailing Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Lounge for 'Guinness and Gossip'.
- Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Lounge. Sign up for racist, dry slope skiing and trip to Frogland.
- ICU Radio Model.....12.30pm**
Southside Lounge.
- Riding Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Lounge.
- Boredsailing Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Lounge to sign up for Wednesday and weekend trips.
- Ents Meeting.....1.00pm**
Union Lounge.
- Student Christian Bowel Movement.....5.30pm**
Chaplain's Office, Basement Flat, 10 Prince's Gardens.
- Keep Fit.....5.30pm**
Southside Gym with Alice Springs.
- Amnesty Group Meeting.....5.30pm**
Brown Committee Room.
- ICU Radio Modellers.....5.30pm**
Mech Eng. Student training workshop.
- Christian Union Meeting.....5.40pm**
308 Computing.
- Wine Tasting.....6.00pm**
Union Dining Hall.
- Canoodling Club.....6.00pm**
Meet in Beit Quad or we can be found in Southside Upper Lounge from 8.30-ish. Beginners welcome.
- New Beginners Ballroom.....6.00pm**
JCR.
- Ludo.....6.30pm**
Union Gym.
- Snakes & Ladders.....6.45pm**
Onion Jim.
- ICSF Meeting.....7.00pm**
ICSF Library (under Beit Arch). 'Matter Transmission—does it matter?'.
- Intermediate Ballroom.....7.00pm**
JCR. Dance Club
- Improver's Ballroom.....8.00pm**
JCR.

WEDNESDAY

- Sailing Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Outside Southside for sailing. In the puddles
- Keep Fit.....12.30pm**
Southside Gym with Vicky.
- Cycling Club Training.....1.00pm**
Meet Beit Arch.
- WellSoc shows 'The Prisoner'.....1.00pm**
Union SCR.
- Wargames.....1.00pm**
Senior Common Room, Union Building.
- Midwife Service.....1.00pm**
Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road.

- Wing Chun Kung Fu.....1.00pm**
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- One Pin Bowling.....2.00pm**
Meet at Gloucester Road tube. Beginners only
- Wutan Tai Chi Chuan.....3.00pm**
Union Lounge. Instructor Hong Chun Lai. Martial art for all ages and sexes.
- Ladies Only Water Polo.....6.30pm**
IC Sports Centre. Enthusiastic nubile members welcome—any ability.
- Wu Shu Kwan.....7.30pm**
Union Gym. Experts class.
- FREE DISCO.....9.00pm**
In the Union Lounge Nightclub until 1am.

THURSDAY

- Christian Union Meeting.....8.15am**
Chaplaincy.
- Audio Society Meeting.....12.30pm**
See Tuesday's entry.
- IC Fencing Club.....12.30pm**
Union Gym. Every week.
- Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
See Tuesday's entry.
- Methanol Society Speaker Meeting.....12.30pm**
Chemistry 231. Everyone welcome. Free spirits.
- Sliding Club Meeting.....1.00pm**
Aero 254. Come along to arrange your first slip.
- OAP.....12.30**
Southside Upper Lounge. Sign up for weekend break. Everyone welcome (frame park available).
- ICSF Library Meeting.....1.00pm**
ICSF Library (below Beit). Members can borrow from 1700 books.
- Balloon Club Meeting.....1.00pm**
Southside Upper Lounge. All newcomers and hardened balloonies welcome. Sign up for weekends in the clouds.
- O'Sullivan Lecture.....5.30pm**
Mech Eng Main Lecture Theatre. Alastair Morton, Co-Chairman of Eurotunnel will be speaking on 'Civil Engineering and Public Policy'. All students are welcome to attend.
- Keep Fit.....5.30pm**
Southside Gym with Alice.
- Pluto.....6.30pm**
Union Gym.
- FilmSoc show 'The Accused'.....7.30pm**
Mech Eng 220. 50p members, £1.50 others.
- Karate Practice.....7.30pm**
Southside Gym.
- IC Radio Disco.....8.30pm**
Next to Southside Bar.
- ICGAG Soup Run.....9.00pm**
Meet Week's Hall Basement Kitchen. Deliver food to London's down and outs.

NEXT FRIDAY

- Slag Meeting.....12.35pm**
Union Lounge.
- Friday Pryers.....1.00pm**
Southside Gym. Organised by IC Islamic Society.
- Swimming Practice.....6.30pm**
See Monday's entry.
- Water Polo Session.....7.30pm**
See Monday's entry.
- IC Radio Disco.....8.30pm**
Southside.

Ambulance collection

'A substantial sum' was collected during the midday stoppage in support of the Ambulance workers last Tuesday 30th. Mr C Stringer of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance trade union (MSF) claimed that 200 to 300 members of trade unions and more than a hundred students of IC took part.

There was a peaceful march down Exhibition road and part of Cromwell road. The trade unions have expressed their gratitude to all who took part.

Guilds protest for ACGI

The City and Guilds Union have decided to take action following the City and Guilds Institute's (C&GI) proposal to bestow the qualification 'Associate of the City and Guilds Institute' (ACGI) on students not of Imperial College.

Mr Chris Horne, president of the C&GU claimed that the proposals were very unpopular and detracted from the value of the qualification at a time when engineers were not highly regarded in the country.

At a C&G UGM last Tuesday it was decided that the C&G executive should write to Fellows of the C&GI, and possibly to the Prime Minister, the Lord Mayor of London, to the professional Institutions, the Engineering council and the founder Livery companies of the C&GI. The union believes that the effort to publicise the proposals will expose the detrimental effect that they will have.

Mr Horne said 'ACGI always ought to be a statement that I'm an IC Engineering graduate.'

Welsh rarebit

The Princess of Wales will open the 'Activities Centre' at the Natural History Museum on February 7th. The centre is directed mainly at school children. Lady Diana is the patron of the museum.

ULU to sack President?

The president of the University of London (ULU), Mr Chris Massey, received a vote of no confidence from the ULU executive on Thursday January 25th. The executive claim there is poor communication between the president and the rest of the union, and they question his use of union funds.

Mr Massey is confident that he will not be asked to resign at the General Union Council which will be held soon. He told Felix that he thought 'the executive are wrong, I feel their reasons are misplaced and inaccurate' and declined to comment further on the issue.

Amnesty letter signing



Imperial College's Amnesty International group has managed to get 72 letters signed and sent to officials in Turkey concerning the case of one of Turkey's political prisoners, Mr Alaatin Sahin.

The group at IC have been campaigning on his

behalf for a year, claiming that there is no valid reason for Mr Sahin's detention. They believe that pressure can be brought to bear on Turkey as the country desperately wants to join the EEC.

Humanities lecture

A lecture arranged by the humanities department will take place at 1:15 on Tuesday 6 February in the Read theatre, on level 5 of Sherfield. Professor Christopher Frayling from the Royal College of Art will be talking under the title 'Monsieur Eiffel's Tower—a Centenary Celebration.'

Students charged fees

The University of East Anglia is to fund its expansion by increasing the numbers of its students by 25% and charging some students the full cost of a course.

There are also proposals to allow students to take degree courses of less than three years duration and for lecturers to teach in the evenings to maximise the numbers of students with which they come in contact.

They may encourage outside organisations to sponsor courses; a spokesman for the University is reported to have said that the courses will tend to become more vocational in the future.

Britain's bottom

A report in the 'Independent on Sunday' claims that Britain has about 22% of its 20-24 age group in tertiary education, a lower figure than Italy, Spain, West Germany, France, South Korea, Israel, Sweden, Canada and the USA.

The same report claims that Britain also has a lower funding of education expressed as a percentage of household consumption than all of these countries except Spain.

Bar brawlers let off

The College Disciplinary Committee has heard the case of three students involved in a brawl in the Union bar on 27th October last year, in which one of the students had to go to Hospital to receive stitches.

Mr Howser and Mr Geeson of Maths II and Mr Finnermore of Life Science II were all found guilty of breaking student regulation five, which means they were charged with conduct likely to bring the college into disrepute. The injured parties decided not to press charges, so the case will not be taken into the criminal justice system.

Mr Howser was banned from union bars and facilities until June this year, Mr Finnermore was banned until the end of this term, and Mr Geeson was banned until the day of the tribunal, which was January 24th. All were reprimanded, and all are entitled to appeal to the Rector, probably claiming provocation.

More on loans

The Government's Student Loans scheme will cost the Treasury £533 million in the years 1992-1993, compared with the £328 million that the Treasury will give to local authorities to maintain or replace schools.

Graduates will be required to repay the loan (of up to £420 a year—or a total of £1260 for three years) in instalments as soon as their earnings reach 15% below the national average. Interest will be paid equal to the rate of inflation, though the Government has not made it clear which index it will use to determine interest repayable. The economic outlook for the near future is not considered to be good, even according to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr John Major, so inflation is expected to rise and job opportunities to fall.

Opposition M.P.s have complained that the Government is still being too vague on the details of the scheme.

THE Arts Week

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from 12.30pm



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Keith Thompson

rock
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Steve Turner

humour
music
poetry



WED
7th
Feb

Griff Pilchard
Fresh Claim

funk rock
punk humour



THU
8th
Feb

The Imploding Hampsters
Sandra Pollerman

jazz
clown



FRI
9th
Feb

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