

A merger is announced

St Mary's Hospital Medical School Students Union (SMHMSSU) may finally become a constituent college union (CCU) of Imperial College Union (ICU), almost two years after the College and the Medical School officially merged. The provisional merger document, still under discussion, formalises the relationship which has formed between the Unions over the last year.

Relations between the two Unions had been strained after Nigel Baker, ICU President for 88/89 and Phil Drew, his counterpart at St Mary's, clashed over the position of the St Mary's Union. Their successors Neil McCluskey and Rhyddian Hapgood have had a better working relationship and have now agreed on a formal merger. The merger document has yet to be signed but it is believed that few changes will be made.

Mr McCluskey told FELIX that the document was 'a wonderful opportunity'

to initiate discussions and he commended Mr Hapgood and his fellow contributors for their hard work. Mr Hapgood, who helped draft the proposal, told FELIX that he thought it was 'very fair' and reflected how things were run this year. Although he expects a few 'teething troubles', he feels that medical students have a role to play within IC.

As a CCU, the St Mary's Union will still remain largely independent of ICU and will have its own separate source of funding. Some of this money will be donated to ICU for administration and the use of its facilities.

At present, the St Mary's Union has its own facilities at the Medical School, at Teddington Sports Ground and at the recreation centre at the rear of its student hall of residence, Wilson House. In future, St Mary's students will be given priority at these sites although they will not have exclusive access. Medical students will

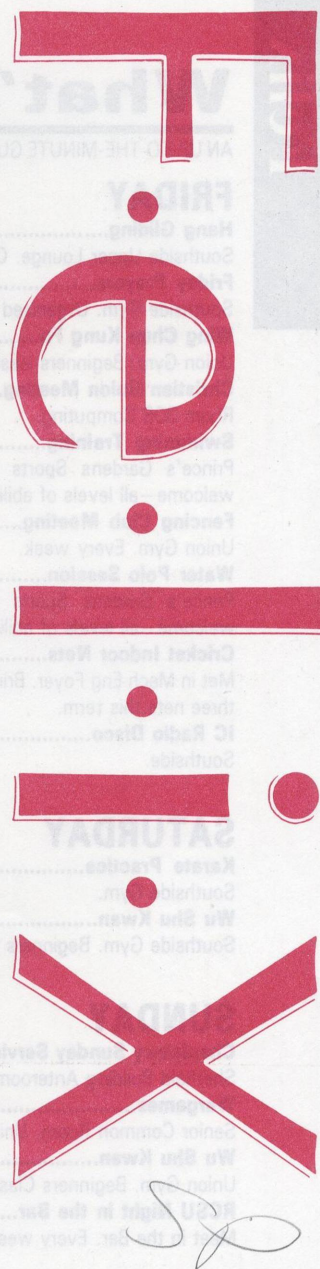
also be given first choice for accommodation at Wilson House itself.

Administratively, the two Unions will also remain largely separate with decisions affecting the St Mary's Paddington Campus taken at separate St Mary's Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs). Decisions affecting the whole of IC will still be taken at ICU Union General Meetings (UGMs) at which St Mary's students will be entitled to vote. The St Mary's Union President will join the ICU president, deputy president and honorary secretary and the presidents of the three existing CCUs on the ICU Executive. St Mary's Union will also be given a number of places on Council, ICU's main decision making body. The medical schools' existing representatives on the Wardens Sub Committee and the Board of Studies should remain in their posts.

Relishing the moment



Onlookers joined in as the rag team wrestled in burger relish to raise money at last Monday's Telethon. The Telethon, which ran for 27 hours, raised in excess of £24 million.



Issue 871
Friday 1st June



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.
- Friday Prayers**.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by IC Islamic Society.
- Wing Chun Kung Fu**.....4.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- Christian Union Meeting**.....6.00pm
Room 308 Computing.
- Swimming Training**.....6.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Fencing Club Meeting**.....6.40pm
Union Gym. Every week.
- Water Polo Session**.....7.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Cricket 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.
- Wu Shu Kwan**.....4.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners Class.

SUNDAY

- Chaplaincy Sunday 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
Meet 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.
- MethSoc Meeting**.....5.30pm
Chaplain's Office.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
Southside Gym with Vicky.
- 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.
- Karate Practice**.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
- Water Polo Session**.....7.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Latin American Dance**.....7.45pm
SCR. Beginners.
- Latin American Advanced**.....8.15pm
SCR.
- Medals 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.
- CathSoc Mass**.....12.30pm
Mech Eng 702. Followed by lunch.
- Sailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge for 'Guinness and Gossip'.
- Ski Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
- ICU Radio Modellers**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
- Riding Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
- Boardsailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge to sign up for Wednesday and weekend trips.
- Ents Meeting**.....1.00pm
Union Lounge.
- Student Christian Movement**.....5.30pm
Chaplain's Office, Basement Flat, 10 Prince's Gardens.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
Southside Gym with Alice.
- Amnesty Group Meeting**.....5.30pm
Brown Committee Room.
- ICU Radio Modellers**.....5.30pm
Mech Eng. Student training workshop.
- Christian Union Prayer Meeting**.....5.40pm
Huxley 411.
- Canoe 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.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
- Intermediate Ballroom**.....7.00pm
JCR. Dance Club
- Improver's Ballroom**.....8.00pm
JCR.

WEDNESDAY

- Sailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Outside Southside for sailing.
- Keep Fit**.....12.30pm
Southside Gym with Vicky.
- Wargames**.....1.00pm
Senior Common Room, Union Building.
- Midweek Service**.....1.00pm
Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road.
- Wing Chun Kung Fu**.....1.00pm
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- Ten Pin Bowling**.....2.00pm
Meet at Gloucester Road tube.
- 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 new 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 Prayer Meeting**.....8.15am
Chaplaincy.

- Audio Society Meeting**.....12.30pm
See Tuesday's entry.
- IC Fencing Club**.....12.30pm
Union Gym. Every week.
- Gliding Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
Aero 266. Come along to arrange your first flight.
- ICSF Library Meeting**.....1.00pm
ICSF Library (below Beit). Members can borrow from 1,700 books.
- YHA**.....12.30
Southside Upper Lounge. Sign up for weekend break. Everyone welcome.
- Balloon Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge. All newcomers and hardened balloonies welcome. Sign up for weekends in the clouds.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
Southside Gym with Alice.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
- Karate Practice**.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
- IC Radio Disco**.....8.30pm
Next to Southside Bar.
- ICCAG Soup Run**.....9.00pm
Meet Week's Hall Basement Kitchen. Deliver food to London's down and outs.

NEXT FRIDAY

- Friday Prayers**.....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.

QUIT!

If you would like to give up smoking come along to our presentation on the 'whys and hows' of giving up

MONDAY 11th JUNE

5pm

HEALTH CENTRE

(14 Princes Gardens)

Interested?

Contact Margaret or Jean at the Health Centre on extension 3091 or 3097

Film

The Punisher



The guy with the red pants and blue tights didn't do it. The vegetable man didn't do it. The dark guy with the pointy ears and black cape did. Yes, *Batman* has unleashed a flood of super-hero based movies on us. This *Punisher* movie is only the vanguard of a whole series of releases. *Captain America* is next, with rumours of *Thor*, *Dr. Strange*, *Spider-man*, *Wolverine* and *X-Men* to come. Comics themselves are just beginning to gain a sort of begrudging respectability in this country, but we are still well behind the French on this, who regard comics (bandes dessinée) as one of their official art forms. There have been many

factors in this transformation, including seminal works such as *Watchmen*, adult comics like the UK's *Crisis* and even the slow, steady work of writers such as Chris Claremont on books as *Excalibur*, *X-Men* and *New Mutants*. Unfortunately films so far have not really reflected this. How does the *Punisher* fare?

Well, fundamentally the background is the same. Man goes on punishing mission against criminals after some gangs kill his family. The details vary somewhat. In the comics he was a Vietnam vet, not a cop. His families death was an accident not a planned attack. These changes actually make the character work better on screen than the original would have. Another astute move was abandon the standard super-heroic skin tight costume to more likely combat attire.

The emphasis is slightly different too. Between numerous scenes of gratuitous violence (Dakka-Dakka-Aaargh-Splatter-Thunk) we have a portrait of a man tipped over the edge by the deaths of those he loves. He lives in the sewers and has a rather deviant tendency to meditate in front of candles while asking God if his actions are right ('I haven't had an answer yet. Until I do, the guilty will be Punished'). His ex-partner is pursuing him in an attempt to repay Frank's aid with overcoming a slight propensity towards alcoholic over indulgence. He is compelled to actually aid his enemies to help the innocent children (aaah).

There is also a plot. Something about a gang war and the Japanese Yakuza (like the mafia, but older) taking over. Its not actually terribly relevant, being merely an excuse for *The Punisher* to shoot things in



between his agonising.

Right. What do we have then? A dark and grim world, a bit like *Batman*'s Gotham City but more realistic, with a well motivated hero providing the special effects people a chance to indulge themselves with the deaths of some reasonably well motivated baddies.

Actually its quite an impressive film for its genre, far superior to the glut of Stallone/Schwarzenegger films, and a treat for (Over-18) comic fans.

Adam T.

Polish Cinema: Past & Present

The Barbican Centre may occasionally have a good idea for a theme for a cinema season. This probably isn't it.

The only reason for staging the films appears to be 'to complement Barbican Art Gallery's exhibition' by a Polish painter, Jacek Malczeski. One feels they would also have staged a series of concerts by Polish composers if only the South Bank hadn't beaten them to it with their Szymanowski season.

Hang on a minute, there might be a better reason: the 'films reflect some of the concerns, struggles and triumphs of Polish film-makers since the Second World War'. This presumably explains why one pre-war film has been included. Was this selection of films dreamed up after a particularly liquid lunch?

If you skip the 'theme', which is misleading and probably a deterrent, there are rich pickings here. The

programmers have tried to contrast the films of several directors who have produced work both in Poland and in 'exile'. Whether the films chosen accurately reflect the changing concerns of the directors because of their 'exile' is debatable. However the season starts with a strong programme from Roman Polanski (*Knife in the Water* and *Repulsion*, June 8th) and Andrzej Wajda (*A Generation*, *Kanal* and *Ashes and Diamonds*, June 10th). There are also films from Krzysztof Kieslowski, whose films based around the Ten Commandments are currently being shown on television (*A Short Film About Love*, June 9th, *Camera Buff*, June 16th and *A Short Film About Killing*, June 30th).

Whether the films accurately reflect what has been going on in Poland over the last forty years is debatable. Many claim to draw analogies between

their subject matter and Poland today (eg *Danton*, July 1st) and some of them are attempts to recreate an atmosphere of poverty and deprivation (*A Woman On Her Own*, 17th June). The choice of many films from the fifties and sixties certainly suggest that they are good enough to stand the test of time as films as well as social statements.

This season is worth a look if you like to have your thoughts provoked, although I strongly suggest you ignore the artificial links and simply enjoy some excellent cinema. The films are shown on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 8th June to 1st July in Cinema 2 at the Barbican Centre. Tickets cost £3.50 (£2.50 concessions) per film and there are subtitles for the non-English films.

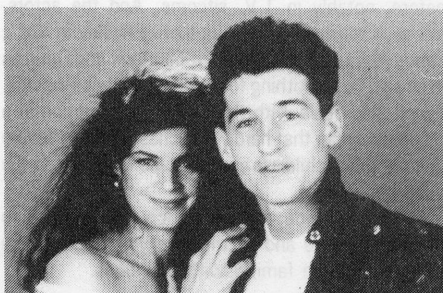
Liz W

Loverboy

Whenever a pizza firm receives an order for a pizza with extra anchovies the loverboy goes to work. Not only is Randy Bodek a delivery boy he is also a working male prostitute. This is, after all, Beverly Hills.

The customers are unhappy rich wives and they show their appreciation by paying for his return to college. He wants to go back to college to get back together with his girlfriend. The plot, however, thickens and confounds as his father thinks he is gay.

This all sounds like a good basis for a comedy but it falls wildly short of the mark. The director, Joan



Micklin Silver, seems to be too busy getting across the message that men are a load of bastards, and all their wives want is a bit of romance (even if it has to be bought). She may have a point but the film isn't funny enough, relying on a more physical comedy and a flying piano.

A funny few minutes when the husbands find out and the hero nearly sells himself out to his mother but it gets confused as well. *Loverboy* has opened, but quite frankly, don't bother.

Mark Wilde.

Film

Harlem Nights

Film

This movie begins at a rate of one obscenity per six and two-thirds seconds but calms down as it approaches middle age to about one per fifteen seconds.

The film tells the story of Sugar Ray (Richard Pryor) and his unruly adopted son, Quick (Eddie Murphy) who have built up the most successful 'after hours' joint in 1938 New York. This makes them none too popular with gangland boss Bugsy Calhoun (Michael Lerner). Calhoun sends round his pet bent cop Phil Cantoune (Danny Aiello) to demand an inordinate stake in Club Sugar Ray.

The plot is twisting, but runs mainly around the cross/double-cross that ensues as Our Heroes try to outwit Calhoun and entourage (said entourage consisting of vamp Dominique la Rue and miscellaneous extras).

Despite featuring two of the world's hottest comedians this film still battles against all-star precedent and manages to be good; both Murphy and Pryor fend off the temptation to fall into a Jive Turkey cartoon character double-act and handle the straight parts with surprising skill, particularly Pryor. This may disappoint those who expected *Beverly Hills Cop* meets *Stir Crazy* and may account for some of the bad publicity the film received in the US. Visually the film is stunning with good cinematography and lighting bringing out the best in the period scenery. The *Amazing Machine* says 'the clothes were bloody good' and the soundtrack was better. The *Flying Gerbil* appreciated the decor and hopes Richie Vento and Sunshine live happily ever after (a numbers runner and the prostitute sent to distract him).



Although the film is not really a comedy Arsenio Hall (Murphy's sidekick in *Coming to America*) deserves a mention for his painfully funny 'Crying Man' who believes Quick has murdered his brother. Bonus points also to Eddie Murphy himself for doing absolutely bloody everything on the production side—writer/director/producer/star and generally responsible for the overall look and feel. Redd Foxx and Della Reese put in a creditable double-act as a pair of cantankerous geriatrics; Stan Shaw is good as the stuttering boxer (to the credit of those concerned the character is not

written to be made fun of) and Richard Pryor takes the film with his surprisingly good performance as an elderly club owner with humour and charm.

This film does not feature an excessive level of violence; the language is undeniably foul (the main minus point) and the plot, while not too surprising has the odd revelation.

The *Amazing Flying Gerbil Machine* gives the film four woofs and a potato.

The Amazing Flying Gerbil Machine.

Little Love

Theatre



There is much to enjoy in this tale of two dodgy doctors on the make with new-born babes as the commodity. In his private clinic, the charming Dr Francis Patience supplies wealthy childless couples with infants supposedly unwanted by their natural mothers. He and partner in crime, Dr Dark, sacrifice their ethics in return for considerable fiscal reward from the barren parents-to-be, while Staff Nurse Careswell looks on disapprovingly while providing a wry commentary on the proceedings.

Diana and John Hammersley are one such couple in search of a child. They make a deal with Dr Patience and Diana fakes a pregnancy complete with false padding and a spell in the clinic at the time of the 'birth' ie. the handover. But quelle surprise the natural mother suddenly decides that she wants to keep baby for herself. The ensuing chaos is cleverly written and

is pretty funny although author Stephen Fagan tends to resort to stereotyping his characters in order to milk maximum laughs from his audience: Dr Patience's dithering side-kick, the la-de-daa Diana Hammersley and Dr Patience himself are all characters we've seen before, notably in T.V. sitcoms. And the actors, although reasonably famous (Lord Briggsley in *Not a Penny More*, the woman in *Drummonds* and Douglas in *Chancer*), do nothing to break out of these moulds. Fagan also deals with the subject of adoption in a flippant manner that hardly broaches upon the severe anguish many childless couples experience during the adoption process.

But pathos aside, this production should appeal to a wide audience and by the time you read this the actors should be familiar with their lines.

Adrian Pagan.

Berenice

Theatre



Neil Bartlett's quite a 'wow' in English Theatre right now. He performs on the London Fringe and two years ago his translation of Molière's *The Misanthrope* was all the rage at the Edinburgh Festival. But he obviously chose to translate seventeenth century French playwright Jean Racine's *Berenice* on an off day.

Titus is emperor of Rome and loves Berenice but can't make his mind up whether to marry her or not, as for some reason Roman emperors may not marry royalty. There's also their close personal friend, Antiochus, who is also in love with Berenice and spends the whole two and half hours of the play (no interval) in the throes of moral dilemma, that is he dithers about. It's a tedious affair really as there's remarkably little else to distract one's attention while the actors wade through a script which is steeped in long speeches which do nothing to speed up the plot development which goes about as fast as the M1 on a Friday evening.

But Bartlett has done his best with the play. He's installed an interesting set of half-rhymes which, although not as effective as those he used in *The Misanthrope*, do save the audience from total boredom. Both the acting and costumes are unexceptional however and do nothing to save this snail of a play which really shouldn't be on at the National Theatre.

Adrian Pagan

Summers Holiday

Last week I went to an Ann Summers party. I was hoping to meet Miss Summers, since it was her party, but I was sorely disappointed. I have never been so shocked in my life.

Casually browsing through the catalogue, I was disappointed by the lack of tupperware accessories. What sort of party had I let myself in for, I thought? As a member of the Salvation Army I was rather bemused by the whole affair.

Why would anyone want to buy half a pair of knickers? Marks and Spencers sell whole pairs for less than the price of these 'crotchless' ones—what a con! The only thought I had was, where are all these three legged women? And the bras! Well, income support's one thing but I hardly think those would support my outings.

The more interesting part of the magazine was the battery powered section. Pictured below is the party sized unit, recently sold to the WI. The unit is powered by six car batteries and comes complete with three skilled operators.

One of my childhood hobbies. Ann Summers sells battery powered marbles, which are guaranteed to win. My children have already put in a bid for a bag-full. The advantage is, if you lose, they're attached to a string, just pull and run! The lady retold an amusing tale of a recent customer who bought the 'super magnet' version of the marbles and a pair of the aforementioned cheap-skate knickers. Embarrassment ensued as she met a slight contratemper with the metal escalator at Kings Cross.

The funny tea stirrers were even odder. Designed for teacups as deep as 12", the unusual toys buzzed around the table like tops. I have bought one for the kids for Christmas, I bet they'll never guess what it is, until I stir the first cup of tea with it! The lady had another interesting tale, which warned of the dangers of electrical interference from these devices, which are capable of picking up Capital Radio on odd occasions. The lady added something which said this implied something about the people who listen to this station.

Casually flicking further through I discovered a page on party food—jelly and cream and the like. I was quite tempted by the strawberry flavourings. The idea of edible knickers seemed a good one for those people who like to travel light, with a hasty snack on board. The oddest thing of all was the builders' cream for people who want their buildings to last longer. 'Erecto'



The world's largest tea stirrer, pictured above, has a left hand thread according to the sales woman.

made some particularly unusual claims and the cream for cleaning football studs was just plain ridiculous.

I found the sherry section especially interesting. That rare Fino, 'Spanish Fly' was on offer as well as a fine line in 'Blue Nun,' an informative video on drink in nunneries.

The fascinating section on terrorists from the North of Spain was very informative. I had no idea you could purchase a separate Basque all of your own. If the terrorist causes any trouble simply hang it with the suspenders that come as a set. Another unusual section was that on nets capable of holding fish tightly in their grasp. The legendary fishnet tights were available in all sizes, from cod to whale.

For the musically minded the magazine had a section concerning guitar strings. The edition in question was particularly uninspiring. 'Air on a G-string', was the only tune possible from the selection available.

The oddest moment of all was at the end of the party when the saleswoman asked us all to have a 'whip round'. I was just searching through my purse for some loose change, when she produced a large leather thong. The thong was just a typographical error however, and I escaped unharmed by the thing.

Keep your strength up!!

with.....

SAUCY NIBBLES FROM THE
SEXY SNACK BAR

In Beit Quad every lunchtime

Adam Tinworth describes how this week's papers approached Tuesday's emotive press conference after the Roermond shootings..

The dirt that stays in your head and not on your hands

Tuesday's Press Conference by the survivors of the shooting in Roermond gave the national papers the perfect excuse to print reams of articles that their busy hacks had time to research in the time since the murders. Pictures of Lyndal Melrose and Vicky Cross partners of Stephan Melrose and Nick Spanos, who were killed by the IRA, were available to fill the front pages, so the opportunity was there to be taken.

The only paper which chose not to cover the Press Conference, or even follow up the basic story was the *Financial Times* which focussed upon more fiscal matters as usual.

Every other national paper carried some aspect of the story on the front cover, save only the *Sport*. It relegated the story to page two, preferring to run a story on "Kim's Naked Secret" and a huge advert for its free Royal Jelly offer, complete with a picture of a scantily clad female. The story itself was told in a very bland, featureless style, with a retelling of the tragedy and elaboration in the form of quotes from the conference. Interestingly, Vicky Cross' comment that 'We were just sitting ducks.' was used twice and also as part of the headline. Perhaps the writer was of the opinion that the average *Sport* reader needs to be told things repeatedly before they make any impression.

The Sun goes all out for sensationalism. 'Just Like A Horror Film' screams the headline, misquoting Mrs Melrose who used the term "Movie". Mrs. Melrose was 'fighting back the tears' as her husband was 'riddled with bullets'. The rest of the article consists mainly of two long quotes from the conference, one from each of the women. Of all the papers, *The Sun* places most emphasis on ages, giving the age of virtually everybody involved, even telling us how long the Lyndals were married. On pages four and five, they ran some back up articles under the banner 'Slaughter of the innocents'. *The Sun's* main rival *The Mirror* uses a similar banner complete with masked figure—'Horror in Holland'—and even *The Express* has its 'Murder Of The Innocents'. The main article in the paper consists of a tribute to the murder victims from family, friends and colleagues. They even manage to find a capital punishment angle—'I'd execute killers' is the caption under a picture of Mr. Melrose (59). A small piece on Australian premier Bob Hawke's reaction, and a slightly larger piece on warnings to British holidaymakers abroad, finish off *The Sun's* coverage.

The Mirror's front page confronts you with two full colour pictures of the survivors, both looking on the verge of tears. This is a fair warning of the style of the rest of the pieces. While *The Sun* went for drama, *The Mirror* played it for horror. The gunmen unleashed 'a merciless 10 second burst of gunfire' and the survivors were 'waiting to die'. Its obsession with ages is nearly as bad as *The Sun's*. It places much less importance on the tributes to the victims, concentrating mainly on their promising careers as lawyers. Much more space is given over to Brits abroad and warnings and reports that the army are still not changing their policy on number plates. There is also a quote from an IRA fund raiser in Melbourne who hoped the tragedy would not affect the cash supplies to the IRA from down-under.

The Mirror also manages to pick up on the fact that a man who works in the same building as the victims, was gunned down in Essex ninety minutes before the

shooting. Unsurprisingly, they report that The Police have ruled out a link. *The Mirror* Comment writer devotes his column to telling foreigners that they should stop looking on the IRA as freedom fighters and treat them as 'the evil and cowardly men' they are.

The Daily Star (The Paper That Gives It To You Straight) prints a huge picture of the two ladies on the cover weeping 'For Their Lost Love' along with three small bite-sized paragraphs of information in large type for those who can't cope with the articles on pages four and five. The main article is another retelling of

the story with quotes. The only noticeable aspect is that it contradicts all the other papers in claiming that Stephen Melrose was packing away his camera gear, not setting it up. The parents/friends story concentrates on where the parents are to have their sons buried, while a third article compares Australians fund raising for the IRA to NORAID in the US. Further into the paper they devote half a page to a 'Top Boffin'—Prof. Paul Wilkinson (Director, Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and Terrorism)—and his proposals for dealing with terrorists in Europe.

They are the only paper to reprint a picture of the immediate aftermath of the attack.

The Daily Express seems to have decided to play up the courageous family in the face of IRA violence angle, with a nod to Worldwide Outrage, and headlines like 'Women united in grief bravely tell their story' and 'Mothers moving message to IRA's random killers'. The main spread covers most of pages one, two and three, the body article covering more ground using excerpts from the Press Conference and cut down versions of what appears in the other articles.

These largely consist of one telling of a universal negative reaction to the killings—'Even murderers' own backers are feeling sickened'—police plans to set up anti-terrorist bases in Europe. On the centre pages there is another two page spread including an interview with the mother of Stephan Melrose. Ironically you have to remove a supplement called 'staying alive' to read this.

The Mail writer, Tracey Harrison, initially gets a little over dramatic, despite the fact that the Mail is the only tabloid not to make the story its lead. Phrases like

'numbed and bewildered', 'ten seconds of horror that wrecked their lives' and 'voices breaking' flow thick and fast. Eventually the style settles down, and the article manages to combine the press conference, parents and tribute stories into one. The only other article is a discussion on potential steps to foil the terrorists.

Today takes a radically different approach, describing the press conference in a narrative style. 'I still don't quite believe it has happened. Her voice was barely audible because it is difficult to project your voice when tears are already in your eyes...' This spreads over the front page and much of page five in a chatty, yet tragic tone of voice that is easy to read, moderately informative but not very impartial. The inevitable tribute story and a comment column are also here calling for us to 'Salute these brave women'.

The Independent takes a factual angle on the front page (as ever) choosing the confirmation that there were two gunmen, not one, as the most important piece of news in the story. On page 2 they give further details of exactly what was said at the press conference, resurrect the debate on servicemen's cars and give the reaction of people living in the town where the murder took place and towns to which armed forces overseas bases are attached. They also link this with reports of the negotiations between Britain and Ireland and the Ulster parties and police attacks on Haughey on extradition policy.

The Guardian covers the basic facts of the story and the press conference on the cover, with further discursive articles inside. The most important of these is one that apparently crushes hopes that photographs taken by one of the victims might provide clues to the identity of the victims. Many of the other papers were claiming that this was very possible. The other articles are fairly standard—police in Europe and negative-reaction articles. The Austin cartoon makes reference to the events with a man finding 'Sorry about the murder' cards in a greeting cards rack.

Following on in a similar form is *The Telegraph*, with a factual piece on page one leading onto the rest of the articles on page three. The articles are fairly standard covering army number plates, warnings to tourists and international outrage. It devotes several column issues to media coverage of the shootings, the biggest section of which was about its own coverage. Rather tenuously linked in, are warnings that trespassing on military bases could lead to unfortunate shootings, after four youths were discovered wandering round RAF Barnham.

Covering things in a similar fashion is *The Times*, with the familiar format of facts on cover, rest inside. The police in Europe article is there, as is the greater detail on survivors comments and the outrage article, although this is confined to Australia. The article on Army plates is much more positive than the other, suggesting that army drivers may be able to obtain German plates, thus increasing safety.

The broadsheets show remarkable uniformity when presented with a story with little party political alignment. The same basic articles are repeated again and again throughout all the papers although the tabloids do tend to right things in their own inimitable style, especially the red masthead titles.

My opinion of these papers? As the *FT* would say, No Comment.



Free Conference Rag relish

Would you like to do something significant about the Global Warming? Learn how to verify an arms control treaty limiting sea-launched cruise missiles? Find out how long it will be before several adversarial nations in the Middle East get nuclear weapons? See how Soviet, American and Chinese workers (all drawn from places equivalent to Imperial College) approach the many problems which science can help address? The 2nd International School on Science and World Policy will be held in Princeton, New Jersey, between August 6-16. Students and staff from Imperial College will be working with people from all over the globe and political spectrum in learning about and attempting to solve these and similar problems.

The school follows on from the highly successful one held in Moscow last summer, organised and attended by nine people from Imperial College. Lecturers included key figures from the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Beijing Institute for International Affairs, and US and British experts on arms control and environmental issues.

The Princeton School will be even more international, and will draw on its own experts and bring in people from other countries as before. It will be hard work, but if the Moscow School is anything to go by, extremely enjoyable.

If you are interested in going to this school, or want more information, please contact Dr Jenny Nelson in the Physics Department as soon as possible. All travel, accommodation and most expenses will be paid for, but there are limited places available.

You might not have noticed, but despite being forced to cancel Rag Fête, things have still been happening this term.

Wednesday 23rd May saw Poppy the goat arrive for her regular shit on the Queen's Lawn—contrary to popular belief, she was not eaten at the last Rag dinner. Her bowels were fairly inactive for most of the day but, true to form, she eventually got up and dumped everywhere and refused to leave. Many thanks to Serita (Chem 2) who finally charmed her back into the van, and to Mark, Murray and most of the Guilds Motor Club for the transport. Pete Bowen (BioChem 2) correctly spotted the first dump and wins a massive prize (probably).

Telethon was the last event of the term, on Sunday and Monday (May 27 and 28). On Saturday a hardy bunch of collectors flaunted all the major collecting laws of the city and went on a 'Monopoly Board' pub crawl—a pub on each property on the Monopoly board (27 pubs). Unfortunately, the Tequila Slammer race in each pub didn't happen, so no-one gave themselves chronic liver failure. However, over £600 was raised for Telethon.

On Monday, Rag sent a small group of people, including Union President, Neil McCluskey, to the main Telethon site at Docklands to organise Mud Wrestling with a difference—in burger relish (brown

SUBWARDENS are needed from August in SOUTHWELL HALL

In exchange for rent free accommodation suitable for a single person, we expect to appoint a registered student who is socially active, concerned for students' welfare and happy to join a highly motivated and enthusiastic team. Application forms are available from the Students Accommodation Office and should be returned before Saturday 16th June.

sauce flavour). Participants were hosed down afterwards at the local Fire Brigade.

If you want to find out what's happening next year, come to the last Rag meeting—in the last week of term.

Richard Murray.

SUMMER VACATION EMPLOYMENT

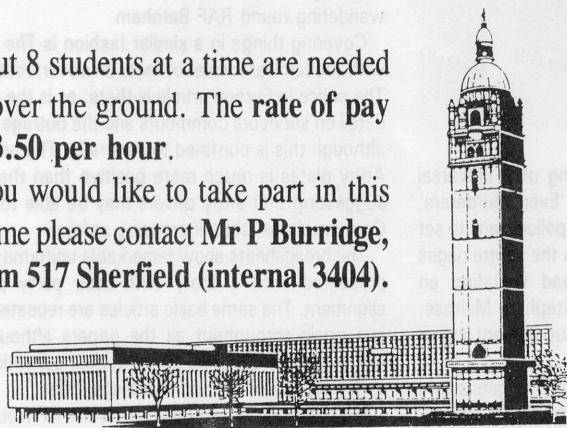
ESTATES SECTION

SPACE RECORD

During the summer the Estates Section will be undertaking an up-dating of the **College Space Record** which was produced some years ago. Students are needed from 2 July to 28 September 1990 to visit all usable rooms and areas of the academic and administrative buildings to check information against existing layout plans. The room classification and the occupying department or unit will be recorded at the same time

About 8 students at a time are needed to cover the ground. The rate of pay is **£3.50 per hour**.

If you would like to take part in this scheme please contact **Mr P Burridge, Room 517 Sherfield (internal 3404)**.



GUILDS COLOURS

Recipients of Presidential C&GU 'Union General Awards' were, this year:

Kevin McCann, Vice President

Rachel Smith, Hon Sec

Chris Greenwood, AAO

Cathy McClay, Ents Chair

Prof Patrick Holmes, Dean C&GC

Chris Horne was awarded his UGA by Gen Comm last week.

At the colours committee on May 4 the following were awarded colours:

Social colours		Sporting/Athletic	
Full	Half	Full	Half
Ayo Ajose-Adeogun	Graham Candy	Ayo Ajose-Adeogun	Rupert Astbury
Ken Ardali	Lachlan Clark	Ken Ardali	Caroline Daisley
Christine Bearpark	Lucia Clipstone	Shaun Forrestal	Aidan Douglas
Martha Black	Niall Davis	Dave Powell	Chris Eddy
Chris Browne	Cath Drake	Nigel Street	Ralph Greenwell
Shaun Crofton	Cath Edwards		James Hampson
Neil Dinmore	Steve Farrant		Pete Lewyckyj
Sean Doran	Andy Gray		Gavin Pearson
Chris Eddy	Ralph Greenwell		Richard Potter
Johnathan Edge	Paul Hampshire		Mark Putt
Karl Edwin	Richard Hardiman		Andy Rogers
Richard Evans	Steve Harrison		Darryl Shaw
Paul Ewing	Mike Hughes		Andrew Toone
Jow Fernley	Claire Kerry		Steve White
Shaun Forrestal	Steve King		
Chris Greenwood	Garry Knaresborough		
Tania Harrison	Steve McKeever		
Chris Horne	Henry Morshead		
John Impey	Dave Morten		
Kevin McCann	Warwick Mullan		
Cathy McClay	Craig Neave		
Tim Newton Smith	Dave Osborne		
Alex Norbei	Gavin Pearson		
Mike O'Connell	Malcolm Pigott		
Andrew Plant	Mark Putt		
Richard Potter	Neil Smith		
Dave Powell	Paul Wareham		
Colin Rogers	Christy White		
Andy Rogers			
Rahcel Smith			
Helen Smith			
Nigel Street			
Richard Vaughan			
Murray Williamson			
Adrian Winchester			
Tim Woolman			

Certificates are held by the Club Captains or available from the Guilds Office. Full and Half Colour Ties are available from the office shop



Annual Reports

Congratulations to everyone who submitted an annual report on time. The reports in this issue go to the annual general meeting of the union in June. I hope that this meeting will not back down and allow officers who have not handed in a written report to report verbally. Officers were requested to hand in their reports for this week in the last set of council minutes as well as last week's issue of FELIX; I do not believe the meeting should accede to the usual whines of 'not knowing about it,' in these circumstances. The only report which I find particularly notable by its absence is that of the Academic Affairs Officer (AAO). The work of the AAO should influence everybody's courses (whether it does or not varies between departments). The fact that an officer of this importance has not produced an annual report is disgusting.

Internal Affairs

Neil McCluskey has written to FELIX this week to complain at my treatment of Fiona Nicholas in last week's FELIX. I am not going to drag over last week's editorial, this is not what I see as being at stake. Neil has made veiled threats of something far more sinister

than just crying libel. He has decided to make this an internal matter. What does he mean by this?

Last Friday saw hasty talks in the Union Office. Amongst the whinges and whines were threats to stop the funding of FELIX for the rest of this year and to stop my wages. So much for IC Union encouraging a free press... The old chestnut of 'Make the FELIX editor report to a UGM,' almost certainly cropped up. The view is one which is widely held by most Presidents who are incapable of bearing any criticism of the Union or its sabbaticals.

Imperial College Union would like to be able to govern its own newspaper. 'We pay for it, so we should have control over it!' they always cry. The question which always crops up is, who is 'we'? The bunch of beaurocrats who term themselves 'The Union,' or the students of Imperial College? It is a sad fact that 'Union General Meeting, or UGM' now means 'A group of about 50 or so hacks who turn up to gas off their bigotted ideas.'

If a FELIX editor is required to report to UGMs he can also be forced to do things by one. How long would it be before FELIX was 'mandated' to print every clubs article it received (unedited) and every box-ad it received from the Union, no matter what the space limitations were? FELIX would become 'The Union Advertiser,' with page after page of clubs and ads. The news would be centred around the headline 'Well done IC Union, another winning idea,' and the editorial would be vetted by the Union President. Sounds unbelievable? Take a look at a number of other student newspapers around London. Most of the contents of them concern their unions' policies and meetings—even the clubs become second to the egos of the Union Officers.

I could never accept a move to make the FELIX Editor a PR man for the Union. FELIX is not here to tell the students what a wonderful thing their union is, when it isn't. The fact is, that the union is becoming

ever more secretive about its internal affairs. More and more documents are labeled 'confidential' and hidden away. Last year's budgets and actual spending are headed 'confidential' in the paper they are in, for instance. Students have a right to know about the financial affairs of their union if they want to. If FELIX is gagged by allowing the editor's hand to be forced by a UGM, who will be able to report and comment upon these matters?

A rather sudden Council

The Union has called a rather sudden meeting of Council, its second highest body to a UGM. I do not know what will appear at this meeting, but I have a strong suspicion that the aforementioned old chestnut will come into it somewhere. If you are a member of council and you oppose a state control of the press at IC, I would ask you to come to the meeting on Monday to let Mr McCluskey know what you think of the idea. The underhand approach of it all, sums up my fears for the future without a free press.

Wine tasting

Last week's FELIX carried a news story on the national wine tasting competition at IC. The comments of the Oxford team were those of a few drunken bad-losers in my opinion. The event was very successful and not a fix, as the Oxford team complained. Congratulations to Kevin McCoen and IC Wine Tasting for winning the contest, which they deserved after several years of winning the Peter Dominic national tasting competition for universities. Sorry to everyone concerned for last week's article, which I felt, on reflection, was somewhat negative.

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**Wherever you want
to go.....
We'll get you there
for less**

- Low Cost Flights on Quality Airlines
- Special Fares for Students
- Weekend Breaks, Tours & Group Bookings
- Well Travelled Staff to Guide You
- Over 100 Offices Worldwide



**WIN
TWO TRAIN TICKETS
TO BERLIN**
DETAILS FROM YOUR ULU TRAVEL OFFICE

ULU TRAVEL
Sherfield Building
Imperial College



ULU TRAVEL

**Pay for your
holiday in
just 9 days...**

ARE YOU WONDERFUL?

If you are smart, versatile and tireless, you can earn HUNDREDS of pounds in just 9 days from Saturday 30th June to Sunday 8th July.

Rates of pay are so good we're keeping them secret for the moment, but you can earn a small fortune if you're prepared to work all day and night.

Work will be hard and varied, including food preparation, counter service, washing up and portering.

For more details and application form, See Deborah in Room 106 Sherfield, Catering & Conference Department.

Wu Shu Kwan

The quarterly wu shu kwan grading took place on Sunday May 20. As usual the IC students showed high standard forms and fixed sparring rounds, especially the pasting given by Cath D to Leonard Ong. The pass rate of 100% reflects the first class teaching available. Congratulations to all the students that took part.

Cath Drake	3rd to 2nd grade (Brown)
Leonard Ong	3rd to 2nd grade (Brown)
Stuart Hughes	4th to 3rd grade (Maroon)
Rory Bannerman	5th to 4th grade (Maroon)
Bjorn Siedentopf	5th to 4th grade (Maroon)
Chas Brereton	6th to 5th grade (Blue)
John Davies	7th to 6th grade (Blue)
Mark Dawson	7th to 6th grade (Blue)
Paul Geeson	7th to 6th grade (Blue)
Youssef Lababidi	7th to 6th grade (Blue)
Elaine Samuel	7th to 6th grade (Blue)
Ken Shirakawa	7th to 6th grade (Blue)

Wu shu kwan is a full contact style of kung fu. Beginners class is on Sunday at 4.30pm in the Union Gym, new members are always welcome.



Opera

What are you doing this summer? How about two weeks on the Devon coast involved in any or all aspects of putting on a show?

Every year a group of people from Imperial College Operatic Society; singers, stage crew, orchestra and front-of-house staff (numbering up to 70 people) travel en masse to Budleigh Salterton, a small friendly seaside town on the south Devon coast. Once there we stage ten performances (this year *Ruddygore* by Gilbert and Sullivan) to large and enthusiastic audiences. What else do we do? Well, we also seem to have a very good time, the sun usually shines on us, there are lots of good beaches, picturesque walks (what is this, a travelogue?), temporary membership of the local tennis and croquet clubs and we have lots of parties and barbeques, including the infamous concert party where many people display hitherto quite unsuspected talents. We also give a charity concert at a local church, which gives people a chance to perform more 'serious' music. One evening we travel to Exeter for a formal(ish) dinner and dance which is always tremendous fun (and much cheaper than London).

And now for the really good news—accommodation, which is camping (inside or outside!) at a local school plus breakfast for two weeks is £40. Depending on how well the show does we give up to £20 refund after the show is over, so your holiday will probably cost only £20 (what you spend in the pub is your problem).

If this has whetted your appetite, then why not find out more, come along to our rehearsal on Tuesday May 8 at 7.30pm in the Union Lounge (ground floor Union building) where vile rumour has it there will also be things to eat and drink. If you are interested, but not in the singing side of things or if you are in the middle of exams then phone Sue Foister on ext 7406 or drop a note in the internal mail to OpSoc care of IC Union Office.

Page 10

Octopush

Putney arrived at the pool and soon began warming up for the match, eager for revenge after their defeat in their home pool. The first six minutes of the match showed how even the teams were, with most of the play concentrated in mid field. Eventually IC put in the first goal after a quick break from mid field. IC scored another goal before the end of the first half. During half-time rumours surfaced of the octopush equivalent of a hard ball by IC. Neither team were too worried though as the offence appeared to have turned out to Putney's advantage.

The second half was as hard fought as the first with numerous goals saved off the line at both ends of the pool. Putney finally managed to beat our defence with the final score ending up 3:1 to IC.

Phoenix

I'd like first of all to thank all those people who contributed this year. There were quite a lot of contributions this year, which should hopefully lead to an interesting Phoenix. Unfortunately it has also meant that I have been unable to include all material submitted. I hope no one will be too offended.

I am presently finishing 'The Phoenix' off and I hope it will be back from the printers around June 16, and ready for distribution in the last week of term. Anyone who wasn't able to get hold of one around College should come to the FELIX Office where there will be some extra issues.

Edinburgh

Summer is obviously a time to watch and partake in sport but there are many other past-times which are ideally suited for this time of year.

If you have a few weeks to spare during August, why not pop up to Edinburgh for the Festival? Imperial College Union's Dramatic Society, under the name Theatre West End, is running a Fringe venue on Prince's Street for the whole period. The actual Fringe Festival has become so commercialised over the last few years that there have been calls for a 'Fringe-Fringe' Festival.

Theatre West End usually has some really good (as well as some really naff) plays and revues on over the three weeks of the Fringe. DramSoc will be performing *Look Back in Anger* by John Osborne and we will need people to make up the cast and crew this year. If you can only spare a long weekend, the best time is between Weeks Two and Three so you can take in all the IC shows.

Edinburgh gets incredibly crowded for these three weeks, so don't bother going on the spur of the moment because you'll never find any accommodation once you get up there.

If you are chained to Imperial during August, you will probably get the opportunity to see the Edinburgh plays performed sometime at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

Please contact either Helen Roberts (ext 7459) or the DramSoc Storeroom (ext 3531) for more info.

Chaplaincy

It is a fact of life that, unless someone has either direct contact or a friend involved with a particular student society, the chances are they won't have heard of the society, let alone know anything about it.

On Sunday June 10 there will be an attempt to change that—at least for one society. A band and mini-orchestra will play at the usual Sunday morning meeting in the Sherfield Building, which is being thrown open to staff and visitors as well. If you can't get up in the morning, there is an Audio-Visual presentation at 11.30am

Chaplains—a bunch of Charlies?



You are invited to the
CHAPLAINCY OPEN DAY
10am, Sunday 10th June 1990
Senior Common Room
Level 2, Sherfield Building,
Imperial College

*A chance for you to find out more
about what we do...*



WEST LONDON CHAPLAINCY

Appealing?

Dear Mr Smedley,

Thank you for the coverage of UCL affairs in recent issues of FELIX. It would be better however if you used more competent foreign affairs correspondents in Bloomsbury and thus avoided a degree of inaccuracy and misinformation which resulted in articles falling well short of your customary journalistic quality.

The facts about building developments on the UCL site are as follows:

1. There is no planned sale of land to anybody.
2. UCL has been very successful in persuading the Medical Research Council and the Eisai Company to consider providing two new buildings for research in molecular and cell biology.
3. The sites of these buildings are currently occupied by an assembly of old buildings and used for various purposes, including some UCL Union activities.
4. I have initiated a detailed study of how best to re-provide—and hopefully in some cases to improve on—those facilities which will be lost.
5. We are also preparing plans for a new Union building.

On the latter point, we shall need to raise several million pounds. In the light of the interest of FELIX—shared by your readers I trust—in the welfare of UCL students, I hope I can rely on your help when we start the fund-raising campaign.

Yours sincerely,

Dr D H Roberts, Provost, University College London.

UCLU talks

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your interest and support during the recent discussion of UCL Union facilities to be lost as a result of new investment in UCL.

In reply to your article in Issue 868 (Friday May 11), we feel an update is in order. Two of the UCL sabbatical officers met with Dr Roberts the Provost, on Wednesday May 16 to discuss proposals to remove the Gym, Garage and Theatre Workshop. As a result of this meeting, during which the Union was able to put forward some positive proposals for the replacement of these vital facilities, the student body at UCL is much happier.

The Provost has expressed commitment to the replacement and amelioration of Union facilities in general. However, this is dependent upon the completion of contracts with the company, Eisai, which will be encouraged to support student activities by providing funding and space for the Union in the new building. Short-term accommodation of societies which use the threatened space at the moment will be paid for by the college and a new Union building, the object of a thirty-year-long campaign, could be forthcoming if other negotiations go according to plan.

Thus it appears that some of the fears of the students have been allayed. However, the Medical Research Council contract, due to be signed in the next week or so is the one which will crush our space and no money is forthcoming until the clinching of the deal with Eisai, due to take place in June. Pressure must be kept up to make sure students do not lose out even though the present outlook is reasonably good.

We will keep you informed of new developments.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Newens,

External Affairs and Welfare Officer, UCL Union.

Nightline fresh for ULU

Dear Dave,

I was glad to read in 'President's Report' that Neil McCluskey now agrees with me, that ULU is the right solution for a permanent home for Nightline. The approach to ULU is of course a matter for the President—ULU is run by the student body and not by Senate.

When I discussed the matter with Neil, I offered to seek support from the other Colleges. I was able to raise the matter with the Principals of King's College, RHBNC, LSE and the Provost of UCL. They were all agreed that ULU, by virtue of its central role, was clearly the most appropriate location for Nightline; they will support this solution to the problem.

Nightline serves an important role in the University. This College, in conjunction with the others, will continue to provide the financial support required to enable it to fulfil its function.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Ash.

Sue you too (Jimmy)

Dear Dave,

I write to thank you for your praise of me in last week's editorial. It is entirely undeserved as you would find out if you bothered to use your 'journalistic' capabilities. What is also entirely undeserved, unjust and downright ludicrous are your criticisms of Miss Fiona Nicholas, Union Honorary Secretary (Events).

Either you have a very short memory or your sources have no brains. During the Autumn Term Fiona was around every single weekend administering events and organising security for nearly all of those weekends. The Spring Term was almost the same. Unfortunately Fiona with all her work had caused herself to be physically ill. Even this though only prevented her from being around for a few weekends.

The Summer Term is traditionally quieter for the Hon Sec. Fiona justly deserves shorter hours. Yet even now, if you'd bothered to find out, Fiona is working hard on room bookings for the Summer, drafting amendments to job descriptions, tightening up the legalities of operating events and generally preparing the way ahead for next year's Hon Sec. Organisation and forward planning are top of the list with Fiona, certainly more so than other sabbaticals (myself definitely included), so maybe this allows her to organise a day, in a day. Fiona was the first person to offer me help when I started floundering!

Your criticisms of Fiona are maybe centred around Fiona's lack of reports to UGMs, FELIX and Council. Perhaps Fiona has decided to save the rain forests since no one seems to take a blind bit of notice of what she does do. This has certainly been the case in the past as no one yet has asked Fiona to give a full and formal report to any meeting. Where does the FELIX Editor answer for their follies, do they expect open criticism in FELIX? Hardly conducive to good relations.

If I were Fiona I would seek legal advice to see if there were grounds for suing. I'd hate to think what kind of misjudgements prospective employers could make on reading such tripe. Perhaps it may be better to simply make it an internal matter just to see who the FELIX Editor/Print Unit Manager really is answerable to.

Yours sincerely,

Neil McCluskey, ICU President 89/90.

Small Ads

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **Feel** like a revision break? Come and play football, rounders with the West London Chaplaincy. Tuesdays 7.30pm meet at Bandstand in Kensington Garden.

● **Library** book sale—Lyon Playfair Library. 9.30am onwards, Wednesday June 6. Lots of bargains. After 1pm any five for £1.

ACCOMMODATION

● **Fulham flatshare**—long or short let available now. Single room in large Fulham flat with 3 IC PGs. Non-smoker. Rent £47 pw. Call Anna 071 731 1375 ansaphone or 071 955 7087 day.

● **Urgent** 2 people wanted for flat share in Hammersmith. Contact Guy or Boaz on 081-563 0232, flat 127 (evenings).

● **Two** single rooms available, 25 mins from College. Rent £53.50 per week from Oct 1 1990. Contact Simon Torry ext 4530.

VACANCIES

● **Project Managers.** California based Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Firm has immediate openings for environmental project managers and civil/geotechnical engineers. Positions require BSc, and min of 1 or more years experience in soil/groundwater contamination, landfills, field investigations, report preparation, and construction observation. Must have excellent written and communication skills. CV with cover letter and salary history to Dr Nick Homayounfar, Wahler Associates, PO Box 10023, Palo Alto, CA 94303: 010-1 (415) 968-6250. If interested phone the above number for further information.

PERSONAL

● **Taj & Matt**, Physics 2. Hope you get will soon from all in Physics.

1990 LIFE SCIENCES BALL
at

THE LONDON
ZOO

JUNE 30th 1990

280 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE
PRICE £25 PER PERSON

Cost includes

★ buffet dinner ★

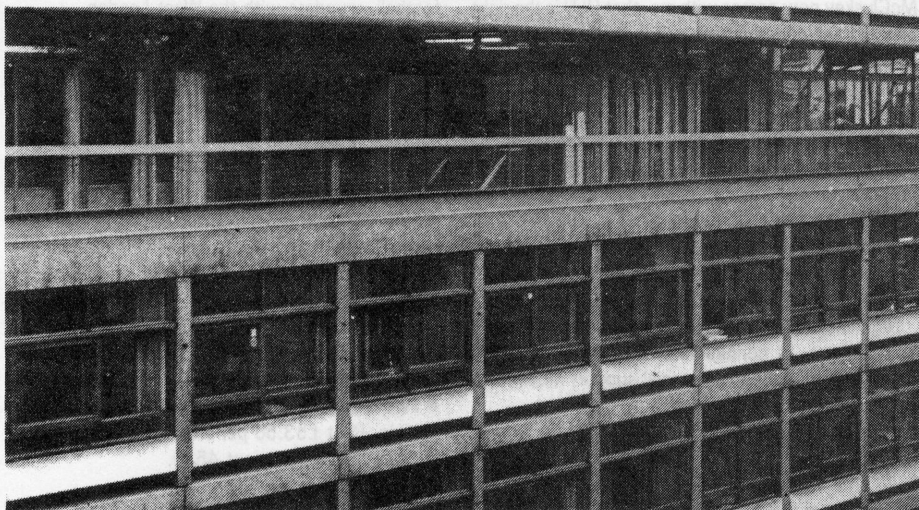
★ Pimms/Buck's Fizz Reception ★

★ Band & Disco ★

Send cheques made payable to 'The Dept Biology' by Friday June 22nd at the very latest to Helen Roberts or Neil Bolton, Beit West Wing, 2.3 or G.14

The Management reserve the right to vet all applications, and are open to bribery. The cost is estimated, and refunds may be made at a later date, depending on departmental subsidies.

Guards, guards



A security guard should soon be posted to a new security lodge at the Selkirk entrance to the Southside Halls, fifteen months after it was first agreed.

Southside warden, John Hassard, told FELIX that non-residents 'can and do enter' southside and that there is 'strong evidence' that outsiders were responsible for a spate of thefts and vandalism over the last two weeks. He feels that the security guard would put a stop to much of this and believes that the college authorities have 'fully accepted' the need and will now take action as soon as possible.

For many years, college chief security officer Geoff Reeves, has posted two men to Southside even though

officially only one was available. According to Dr Hassard, the position changed a few weeks ago and there will now officially be two security guards. One of these guards will work in the new lodge.

Mr Reeves told FELIX that several thousand pounds still need to be spent on the lodge to make it usable. This money would have to come from the residence account and, although Dr Hassard admits that money is scarce, the amount is 'irrelevant' when compared to 'the safety of Southside residents.' and works out at less than 'six day's rent income' from the Hall.

Going down

Applications to some college departments for next year are down. Physics and Electrical Engineering have slightly fewer applicants than last year but neither expect problems filling places. Applications to Mechanical Engineering are down by 5% despite a national increase of 1%. Admissions tutor, D.A. Robb blames the decrease on the 'London' factor: London is expensive and tends to intimidate prospective students. Mineral Resources Engineering are also doing no worse than last year according to Dr. Mike Smith, despite a significant drop in admissions nationwide.

Long term prospects do not look good, as the number of 18-year-olds is going down. Dr. T.C. Bacon of Physics admits to being 'worried'.

Smash!

A plate glass window was kicked in during trouble at Southside bar last Saturday. Rob Northey, College Catering Manager, told FELIX that the college knows who was responsible for the damage and that the 'gentleman concerned' has been presented with the £322 repair bill.

College Security Officer Terry Briley told FELIX that security will be 'taking a strong line' with offenders during the post-exam period.

Theft

£1300 worth of cash and cheques disappeared from the Union Bar over the weekend. Imperial College Union Deputy President Dave Williams confirmed that the money had vanished but told FELIX that 'the matter had been resolved satisfactorily'. He would not elaborate.

College Security Officer, Terry Briley, told FELIX that the money has not been recovered and that the police have been informed. An internal enquiry is also underway.

Scrapped

A rusting Volkswagen Beetle belonging to Imperial College Air Cooled Beetle Society will be scrapped unless the society starts repairs immediately. The beetle, which has been parked near Linstead Hall for the last two years, has had no work done on it and Mr Patrello, the Imperial College Traffic Warden, feels that it is wasting valuable parking space.

Mr Patrello also requested people who park their cars in the roads behind the Royal College of Science Union Office to stop. These roads belong to the Science Museum and the cars are also in imminent danger of a one way trip to the breaker's yard.

Flash!

Flashers have been reported on the roof of the Beit building. They are believed to have been revealing all to the inhabitants of the all-female Queen Alexandra Hall opposite. Chief Security Officer, Geoff Reeves, told FELIX that the offenders have not been caught and it is not known whether they are students or rather idiosyncratic visitors to the college. The flashers now appear to have stopped.

Scrooge at IC

Students in College halls will be required to pay for one week's residence during the Christmas vacation next year.

The ruling, which applies to all students in 31 week lets, will enable them to stay in the residence for an extra seven days and use the rooms to store possessions. Any additional time in hall will still have to be paid for.

Awards

The City and Guilds Union (C&GU) awarded its Colours and Union General Awards (UGAs), this week. This year's UGAs go to C&GU President Chris Horne, Vice President Kevin McCann, Hon. Sec. Rachel Smith, Academic Affairs Officer Chris Greenwood, Entertainments Officer and next years C&GU President Cathy McClay, and Prof. Pat Holmes, the Dean of the City and Guilds College.

Help?

In a last desperate bid to fill up a spare piece of the back page and therefore to further spare the acting news editor's hairline, his Smedleyness has kindly agreed to print the credits. He would, thus, like to thank: Adam Tinworth, Jason Lander, Ian Hodge, Jeremy Burnell, Richard Murray, The Amazing Flying Gerbil Machine, Adrian Pagan, Mark Wilde, Liz Warren, Benjamin Turner, Mylan Lester, Rose Atkins and Andy Thompson. Good luck to the following in their exams: Adam Harrington, Chris Stapleton, Toby Jones, DEL, Sarah, Simon Haslam, Ben Turner, Roland Flowerdew, Paul Shanley and Fruit.

ANNUAL REPORTS

to the

UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 19th June

6pm

The Concert Hall

Deputy President

This report will not be a catalogue of my successes and failures as I see them, that is for you to judge. It will be a record of the developments in the areas of responsibilities in which I hold court.

Trading

The DP's responsibility for trading comes through his chairmanship of the relevant management committee and thus the associated responsibility to Council. It is this area of the job that I have found to involve the highest degree of teamwork. It has been the most thankless and the most rewarding.

Bookstore

The old mascot and emblem of Imperial College Union was the Phoenix, it is that analogy which best describes the changes which have taken place this year within the bookstore. One year ago the College-managed bookshop was on the verge of insolvency; ineffective management control, poor product selection and non-existent stock control meant that radical change was needed. The Union which had now gained complete control of the bookshop management, took the risk-laden step of investing over £36,000 in the bookstore refit and electronic point of sale control system. Indeed during the course of the year further loans to ease cashflow have been given and repaid.

The conversion work took place over August 1989 and progressed well, bar a few constructional delays thanks to College estates. The new look 'Bookstore' opened in mid-September with a new manager and a new look which seemed to meet the overall approval. A number of operational problems arose early on in the term, these were unfortunate for all involved and in many respects were to be expected given the mode of the operation in place. I am assured that these have been sorted out now and everything will be fine for next October.

During the autumn term vigorous battles took place as College tried to fix a rent on the bookstore premises that looked like killing off a return of the Union's investment. Just as a deal was about to be struck, it was noticed in the Union Bye-laws (a document somewhat akin to the Tablets of Stone) that the Bookstore site is for the use of the Union rent free. A wee glass of sherry was had by all.

In February the 88/89 accounts were ready, they showed that the bookshop had made a £69,845 trading deficit, a large proportion of which was a massive stock write-off (we all remember the History of Persian Earthquakes!).

At the May meeting of the bookstore committee the half year accounts up to January 31st were presented. These showed an operating surplus of nearly £35,000, although sales were down, an improvement of nearly 4,000%. It certainly looks as though the Union IT investment is paying off. Current figures show that trade is now up on last year despite five weeks during which we were not open. However, due to large accumulated losses and continued cash flow problems, it will be around two years before the Union will see a significant return on its investment.

Although the manager had to leave us at Easter (due to family reasons) the store (now under the temporary guidance of the Union Manager) has continued plans for development and expansion, including a mail order enterprise and a theatre ticket agency.

Bar

The start of the year saw the presentation of the 88/89 accounts: these showed a significant improvement over any other year. It was on this note that we pressed forward, sound in the knowledge that the formula was right. It soon became clear that the financial pressures of students were finally beginning to hit their beer money: trade in Freshers' Week being 2% down (excluding effects from inflation). This is a trend which has continued throughout the year, there being only a 1% growth in cash sales. An increase in function trade has meant that credit sales have pushed the total sales figures up by 3%. This sales stagnation has not effected net profits which have increased by 24%. Please note these figures are based on the year to Feb 28th.

The bar has had its share of troubles this year, a fight in late October led to a prolonged and complicated disciplinary case, which showed the College to be totally spineless on such matters. On this point, the Union has decided to refer all future violent incidents straight to the police, it is a move being reciprocated in all College bars.

The hunt for an assistant bar manager resulted in a placement being made in January. Our relief soon turned to despair as the appointee disappeared at the same time as the weekends takings. We are unlikely to see any of this money again. The appointee has since been charged and is due to appear in court soon. After another recruitment drive in February, a replacement was found but didn't show up. On our third attempt we have found someone who seems to be settling in nicely.

A prolonged debate this year with Britvic Corona resulted in the Pepsi machine finally being replaced, the Union was eventually charged the correct price for soft drinks and given a full back-credit for the seven months of over charging.

Snack Bar

This year has been one of change and hopefully development of the Snack Bar. The start of the year saw the 88/89 accounts showing a £20.5K deficit and a realisation that this was the make or break year for the catering operation within the Union Building.

Initially, the year was spent trying to refine the product that we already had. Specialising on product control and making sure that the service was good were prime objectives. The first part of the year was helped by the encouragingly healthy function trade. However as the spring term dawned it became increasingly clear the formula that we had established was not working. It was at this stage that the relaunch concept was conceived. The idea of converting the snack bar into a sandwich bar came firstly from the catering manager. It was an approach that the committee embraced wholeheartedly. The marketing and publicity campaign was a success, a loss of £3,167 in January was reduced to £846 in February, a significant improvement.

It was apparent in February that there were a number of operational problems to be overcome. A task force was set up to tackle these. The Union Manager, dealing with those behind the counter, and a group of budding sabbaticals handling those in front of the counter. As things improved behind, there were two days of action in front.

As I write now, there are no trading accounts available up to May, however sales seem to be holding steady against the same period last year. A number of new initiatives are due to be introduced in the next few weeks, including a delivery service, ice creams, selling snack bar food in the bar and using the Bookstore as a supplementary outlet for snack bar rolls.

Over the summer, a working group will be convened to plan a strategy for the marketing of the Snack Bar and other Union facilities. Hopefully their plans will not be scuppered through the ineffectiveness and inactivity of the Internal Services Officer and the blockheadedness, misguided loyalty and personal grudge held against me this year by the FELIX Editor. My last statements are probably going to attract (unsavoury) comments from the Editor of this Organ. I do not want to detract from my own possible failings but I stand by what I have said.

An area of catering operation that can be developed is the function trade. This requires a sizeable investment in both catering hardware in the Union Dining Hall kitchen, and in the quality of the UDH furniture. Work on this is currently underway.

In conclusion, I believe the Snack Bar has reached its lowest ebb and the tide is now changing. Next year's sabbaticals have the right formula from which to work from. Given good, planned marketing and refining of the operation there is no reason that the Snack Bar cannot be turned into an outlet with a stable performance figure. Whether this is negative (subject to cross subsidisation), zero or positive is still to be decided.

Finance

The Union clubs and societies have seen a significant improvement this year, thanks mainly to the new book keeping strategy and the Financial Procedure Document drawn up by last year's DP and the Union Finance Officer. A number of irregularities cropped up during the year, mainly concerning external bank accounts, these were satisfactorily resolved.

Unfortunately, there are a number of clubs which feel they have a God given right to operate, regardless of any budgetary constraints. This was brought to a head this year over the matter of the last issue of the 88/89 FELIX. Clubs must realise that if they overspend the consequence of this must be borne by the following year's officers—the Union will not bail people out. It is a lesson that the CCU's have learned to their cost and it is one that IC Union clubs must learn also.

The Union Finance Committee has been a joy to work with this year. Reasoned debate and understanding for common problems have been the order of the day. If next year, UFC can operate on such a level keel then the Union's money will be in safe hands.

The level of funding that the Union will receive next year still hangs in the balance. The College is pressing us to reduce our reserves. Although we accept that these are large, we have our own plan to bring about a reduction (plans such as the UDH refit, writing off the sizable snack bar deficit, and the Union Office computer upgrade). The loans made to the snack bar and the bookstore, to ease cashflow, underpin the need for a Union reserve of several tens of thousands of pounds. It all boils down to the right of the Union to assess its own financial requirements. It is quite laughable that, given the student management of our money, our liquid reserve is larger than that of the College!

Mascotry

This has been fairly quiet, RCS and Guilds have, as expected been the most active, both giving each other a run for their money. It was good to see Theta, the RCS mascot, out more often than last year. The spirit on both sides has been as good humoured as it should. Guilds handed back the King's College mascot, Reggie, to the Dean as the students were not interested. This was a real shame as Reggie is one of London's oldest mascots going back to the early 1940s. Sadly there was even less interest from Royal Holloway and Bedford. RCS eventually handed back Davy to the RSM, with RSM showing a surprisingly sportsmanlike interest in the proceedings. Nevertheless full marks go to all those who did raise the £500 to get Davy back.

Mike has made it to most UGMs this year, an added complication has been the evening UGMs which makes returning Mike back home a little difficult. Early in the spring Mike went for a trip around London with Davy and Theta, a number of interesting photographs were taken. The offer of a repeat performance still stands with C&G and RSM mascotry.

The highlight of the year must be the recovery of one of London's oldest mascots, Mary, from Queen Mary College. It was discovered in an antique shop in Portobello Road by Jim Sarsfield (a member of '22 Club and ex-RCS officer). The handover was negotiated by another old-boy, Simon Banton. In exchange RCS recovered a number of minor mascots stolen by QMC a few years ago. At least the spirit of mascotry still exists with some people.

Academic Affairs

This field of work was one in which I was totally inexperienced, and I saw it as one where most people had something to win or lose. In the past, Academic Affairs Officers such as Chas Brereton and Richard Spencer have pushed forward the bounds of Acc Aff at IC. The College Committees that I have attended with relation to Acc Aff have often proved to be the most interesting. They have shown me that IC does care, the thinking behind the courses is there. Certainly the Undergraduate Studies Committee is the most stimulating committee I have experienced this year. Its only problem has been the 'politic' way it has presented its finding to the Board of Studies, a committee so large very few members have the nerve to speak out against the Rector.

The Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) is a stark contrast to the IC Acc Aff Comm. The apathetic attendance and lack of foresight from its members proved to be the only dazzling aspect for its existence. The work of the CCU AAO's and a couple of dep reps (but notably not the IC AAO) are the only elements which raised it from the absolute mists of obscurity.

This year saw the presentation of the USC report on the Life Science Division and the Chem Eng departments, which were surveyed last year. The LSD report was quite damning (if one was prepared to read between the lines). I am glad to report that the Biochem department is changing its Undergrad course to accommodate the recommendations I am still unconvinced by the action to be taken by Biology.

The problem of illegal timetabling was a considerable one at the start of term. Most departments were most responsive when questioned on the

David Williams

matter. However, when challenging tutors, the unsubstantiated claims in FELIX did significant damage to the credibility of our case.

The significant steps forward this year taken by the College have been the increased commitment to lecturer training and assessment and also the expansion of the Course X with a year in Continental Europe.

The steps backward have been the loss of student intellectual copyright on inventions made at College, and the progression stop (which prevents a student moving forward to his next year of study if he owes a payment on a hall bill).

One of the most informative projects that I undertook this year was the conference which I attended in Paris. All this year the Union has funded visitors to European student meetings. BEST, or the Board of European Students in Technology, was set up to further the development of the 'Erasmus and Comet' foreign study and work experience programmes. IC is involved in both of these schemes, it is considering dropping this support due to lack of interest from IC students. If you do fancy studying or working abroad for a few months do contact your senior tutor. It is fantastic opportunity. If IC pulls out then the chance for the other Europeans to visit here will be lost.

Postgraduates

Early on in the session, attempts were made to stimulate interest in a postgraduate group. Nothing was forthcoming until the Spring Term when we saw the emergence of the Women's Postgraduate Group (since made an official subcommittee of the PG Group).

The work of the College PG Studies Committee has been mostly concerned with the rubber stamping of course name changes. However, it has done a great deal of work assessing the role of the research supervisor. It has become evident that the level of supervisory control varies greatly, and that the minimum standard is unacceptably low. This is of special interest to overseas students who are generally not used to British levels of Postgraduate study. I am happy that the work being done in this field has the correct objectives and I hope the committee will not compromise its principles and that the rest of College, particularly the departments, have the convictions to carry them through.

House

Building

Although not directly within my job description, House has accounted for over 40% of my time this year and has always been the most frustrating. This year has seen a number of major projects come to fruition—replacement of the Gym floor, removal of the dumb waiter, building of the top floor toilets. Before the end of the year I hope that the Concert Hall will be refurbished and structurally improved and the top floor redecorated. The old kitchen above the FELIX Office is also due to be refurbished and turned into a Rag/ICCA office, this is to accommodate the American College which is taking office space and classrooms on the top floor.

Regular maintenance of the building has been a problem all year, this is largely due to the well intentioned, though inefficient, operation of the residence maintenance section. I understand that they are over-stretched for their resources, but if this is the case then why can't the load of the Union Building be shifted onto central estates? For a period of the second term they seemed to manage faults quite effectively, swiftly and without trouble.

Security

Theft of personal property proved to be a considerable problem in the first term. From talking to College security I have learned that there are specific gangs who tour colleges in the freshers' period because they are such soft targets. Better use of duty officers and improved security of areas such as the gym changing rooms all help to combat crime, but the best prevention of all is individual vigilance.

College Committees

Governing Body and Finance and Executive Committees. These have proved to be useful committees for getting to know people, though most of the business has already been 'decided' before the meeting. Nevertheless, the Union has been able to establish a number of compromises when it has come to the crunch.

House Committee

In a change to its terms and conditions the Union now has to report on its bar and catering operations to this committee.

Conference and Catering Service Management Committee

A few years ago it was decided that the MDH would be refurbished. If College did this many people would come here for conferences with the result that their hire fees and food bills would pay for the cost of the redecor. Instead, all of the students that eat in QT and drink in Southside have paid for it.

Comments and reflections

Otherwise known as the depraved rantings of a cynical old fool...

Dave Williams.

P.S. Thanks for the help and support of everyone I have had the pleasure (that certainly narrows it down!) of knowing and working with this year. For the moral guidance of Justine and immoral misguidance of the '22 Club.

President

1. Introduction

You'll be pleased to know that I've no intention of killing half the Amazonian Rain Forest by writing a lengthy annual report. If any of you wish to know any more about what I've been up to then purchase a bound copy of FELIX, read UGM papers or read Council papers. I believe an annual report should contain recommendations useful for the future welfare of students so here goes...

2. Accommodation

2.1. Committee structure

This is definitely the area where I've become most exasperated with the college hierarchy and pathetic committee system. Three committees namely, Residence's Security Working Party, Wardens Sub-Committee and Student Residence Committee (SRC) sit and discuss exactly the same subject matters with no power at any level to do anything that involves spending money!! The policies that SRC does make either get flaunted or the persons responsible for enacting policy are too incompetent to carry them out.

Recommendations:

i) The committee structure is re-worked to give the committees actual responsibilities and powers. They should be allowed a budget and then be able to prioritise the areas where that budget is spent.
ii) Feed-back from students on their reaction to the residences should come from College Welfare committee and from the use of surveys.

2.2 Rents

Myself and others have fought a hard battle to keep the rents as low as possible achieving only an average 2.8% increase for 90/91. The Rector has realised that students would not want to come to London if the reality is portrayed as accurately as it should be. The halls are inadequately maintained which is resulting in two things; i) If rents rise to high students are not getting value for money and may as well move elsewhere. ii) The halls attract much needed external income from conference bookings. It is unfair to expect the students to bail out the college's lack of foresight so...

Recommendations:

i) The College takes the money its is building up in its appeal not to buy a new halls of residence but to refurbish its present stock. Having done that then reorganise the presently inadequately facilities of the accommodation office so that it can let the premises profitably during the vacations.
Get rid of Olive House as soon as possible. It loses over £100k a year, that's equivalent to giving 42 free places in Southside!

2.3 Private Rented Sector

At the beginning of the year I drafted a paper recommending the introduction of an office to deal specifically with accommodation in the private-rented sector. The idea was to set up a database of the present accommodation students use and then to maintain contact with the landlords to ensure that the flats/houses are retained by IC students. The office would also provide a central service to students saving them hours of hassle, leg-work, phone calls and sometimes legal battles. The accommodation office gave the idea a poor reception, mainly because Miss L O'Callaghan feared for her own job!! I was persuaded by the new Business Manager, Mr Tom Stevens, that the office should be located in the present accommodation office but he would need time to assess the situation. He's still assessing it!!

Recommendations:

The Union goes ahead with plans to survey the students and set-up the office independently. The survey I believe should be carried out in November so that the information can be compiled and the office set up in time for the summer term when students need the help.

3. Welfare

3.1 The distribution of information with regard to student welfare has taken the form of several campaigns, the most popular of which was the benefits and rights week early in the year. The Union Welfare Adviser, Yve Posner, has been kept busy throughout the year with case problems, personal callers and telephone enquiries.

Recommendations:

Next year's President organises all prospective campaigns during the Summer vacation to ease the running of them. A benefits and rights week should still be held and Paul Shanley's idea of giving financial advice should be included in this campaign.

3.2 Next year students from both home and overseas will face financial hardship through a combination of low income and lack of state benefits.

Recommendations:

The college has set up by October 1990 a hardship fund into which Government access fund and a slice of overseas students fees should be placed. A panel should be responsible for disbursing the funds to students strictly on a needs basis. The Imperial Trust should be encouraged to attract funds specifically for the hardship fund.

4. External Affairs

4.1 Loans

After fighting hard unfortunately the loans are in. I honestly don't think that college helped the students one iota until it was too late. My thanks to Governing Body members who did finally help by writing to MPs.

Recommendations:

Every single student should be encouraged to take out a loan whether they need it or not. Those people who don't need it could possibly be persuaded to invest their in say the hardship fund where a slice of the high interest earned could be used to supplement the hardship fund.

4.2 Local Council Elections

The attempt to get our own councilors on to the local council has had a very good effect. Talks are about to start with Councilors for the Knightsbridge ward with a view to improving relations and to sort out some of the difficulties we presently have. With a full election campaign attracting more external voters I believe it is possible to get our own councilors elected.

Recommendations:

i) The Union proceeds with talks with the local councilors but not to let certain college dignitaries muck it up by pushing for change too quickly.
ii) The Union puts up candidates for the next local council election and mounts a six month campaign to win.

4.3 NUS Affiliation Referendum

Unfortunately this did not happen this year due to certain members of the Conservative Society using the constitution and bye-laws to scrap the referendum vote. I believe open debate should be held about the pros and cons of joining the NUS.

Recommendations:

i) Next year's President invites the NUS to come and debate the future of the NUS at IC and straight after hold a referendum.
ii) That the decision to do this should be an Exec decision and should not be interfered with by minority activists.

5. Overseas Students

In this area I have been distinctly quiet, my thanks to the Overseas Students Committee Chairman, Mr W Van Hutten, in covering this area. Overseas students face one specific problem that of entering into and embracing a foreign culture. The rest of their problems I believe are very similar to home students though they are exacerbated by the pressure from their fee paying bodies (governments, sponsors, etc.). I think the only way to overcome the problem of alienation is to make friends quickly once here. To this extent the student overseas societies are very effective but they are not a much widely publicised as I would like to see.

Recommendations:

i) All overseas incoming students be given a host to guide them through the first few weeks of being in the UK.
ii) Lists of overseas student societies be sent to prospective overseas students so that correspondence can be struck up with an aim to clarifying the problems of studying and living at IC.

Neil McCluskey

6. St Marys

Relations this year have been much better than last. Basically nothing has been done apart from extending and accepting invitations to committees, parties and functions. Now I think the time is right to start discussions on matters such as:

i) What does college expect the two student unions to do?

ii) What do the student unions expect or want from each other?

Until these questions are answered it is pointless thinking up grand schemes to merge the two bodies.

Recommendations:

i) Find the answers to the questions

ii) Carry on enjoying each other's company and parties!

7. Athletics

7.1 Harlington

After several years, several discussions, loads of meetings, gripes and groans an Astroturf is at long last being installed at Harlington. The pitch should be ready by October 1990. Along with the installation of our own, come promises of a second astroturf to be financed by the council at Harlington. This bodes well for the future of Harlington being a dual corporate/college facility thus generating some income from a not highly used facility.

Recommendations:

i) College presses ahead to install a second astroturf and to invite local schools and companies to become corporate members.

7.2 Harlington Trust

Still the arguments carry on as to who decides to spend what, where and when. Meanwhile the Trust stands at £2.2 million with only the astroturf having been considered so far. The Imperial Trust has now set precedents that it wishes applications for sports facilities to go to the Harlington Trust. At last the proper use of the Trust:

Recommendations:

i) The Harlington Trust be used for sports and athletics facilities until such time as they are up to standards required by the competing teams.

ii) The Harlington Trust be used to develop

a) Sports Hall at South Ken (see the ACC report)

b) A health club underneath Southside

c) The sports centre so that its facilities are up to date and a pleasure to use.

That concludes my report to the students of this college. I will be making further reports and recommendations to other bodies including the incoming sabbaticals.

For the last part of my report I would like to say a few thanks;

First and foremost to Karen for putting up with me doing a job with shitty, anti-social hours; maybe now we can get back to normality and reality!

To Yve Posner and Jackie Scott for running the Welfare side of the Union.

To Hal Calamvokis for his immense help on the loans issue.

To Tom Yates for his much needed advice and assistance in the local council elections.

To Fiona, Dave Williams, Dave Smedley for being understanding, sympathetic and supportive at all the appropriate times.

To the Rector for being the Rector. The experience will stand me in good stead for my future career (care assistant in a mental hospital!!!).

To Bob Westaway, Peter Mee, John Smith, Angus Frazer, Ken Weale and all the treasurers, Sir Frank Cooper, Pat Holmes, for being open, honest and available to talk to and help where possible.

Lastly and most certainly not least thanks to all the staff of the Union; Jen, Michelle, Pat, Reggie, Louise, David, Yve, Jellie, Ian, Yvonne, Rose, Andrew. You've all been marvelous to work with even though I haven't been the most perfect of bosses!

Neil McCluskey President 89/90

Honorary Secretary (Events)

Commemoration Ball

The venue of the London Dungeon was a very popular one and consequently the event was a complete sell-out. 400 people ate and a substantial buffet and boogied the night away. The seven foot giant who dressed up as Dracula was a little too realistic and bit several people (including me) but apart from that everything went smoothly and the Ball broke even. I would recommend that if the venue chosen is a distance from the Union and in an area not frequented by taxis then a coach be provided to bring guests back to the Union. Also this was the first year that insurance was taken out against damage being done and I would urge that this practice is repeated in future years.

Room Bookings

Room bookings only became part of the Hon Sec's job description this year and had previously been treated in rather a haphazard manner. It is a time consuming business and I would estimate that it has taken up about on third of my time. The rooms are very much in demand and the Union has the potential to make the system a very lucrative one. To facilitate this development, I have compiled a room bookings directory which will make Murray's job a lot easier and also written a new set of terms and conditions after consultation with College security, the Union Bar licensees and Rob Northey.

Elections

This section of my job has been hit by the general student apathy that is currently affecting Imperial, with fewer candidates trying for posts. The sabbatical elections produced their usual batch of petty bickering and this was mainly due to an archaic set of election rules which can be interpreted in as many ways as there are candidates. Therefore myself and this year's Elections Committee will be doing something about the situation and writing an unambiguous version. One thing that is completely certain about this coming year's sabbaticals is that the staff in the Union Office had nothing to do with their choice and any accusation to the contrary is frankly libel.

Publicity

Numerous poster raids were run this year but only a few fines were dishd out. This probably had something to do with House Committee upping the fine per day for an out of date poster from 5p to 25p! There are no guidelines laid down as to what the Hon Sec should consider 'offensive' so I have had to rely on personal opinion to decide what should grace the walls of the Union Building and the Sheffield Walkway. Ben Turner's infamous 'Great

Tits' poster offended a lot of people and for this I am sorry. I think that after doing science 'A' levels and a science degree, I have become immune to sexism. The lady I spoke to from NALGO suggested that a meeting be arranged between the Hon Sec and a representative from that Union to discuss the content of publicity emanating from IC Union and I think this would be a good move for Murray to take.

Entertainments

The Ents Committee have not only worked hard this year but have also taken an extremely professional approach to every event that they have organised. There have been times when they have had to put their own safety at risk (see 'Crime') and still they have managed to keep a mature attitude. BJ and I have not always seen eye to eye but we developed a very reasonable working relationship nevertheless. I very rarely saw any of the bands on offer as I was acting as security but I heard most of them and we enjoyed a variety of styles ranging from heavy metal to reggae to ska to funk.

Crime

Drugs reared their ugly head several times during the course of the year and were accompanied by violence and vandalism. The police caught onto this and warned us that we would put our bar licence in jeopardy if we weren't more careful. A clampdown on room bookings and general event security followed and we saw little or no evidence of drugs again. Unfortunately I fear that they have just moved elsewhere on the campus. Alcohol makes some people prone to violent acts and we saw a nasty fight in the Union Bar involving a bar stool as a weapon. There was also the incident involving two blokes who tried unsuccessfully to get into an Ents event for free and then proceeded to attempt to beat up two members of the Ents Committee and the Duty Officer. The situation got out of hand and the police were called. Unfortunately the message lost something in translation and a patrol car, 3 Astras, a dog van and about 20 policemen arrived on the scene seconds later. The explanation from me to them was, almost certainly, the most embarrassing time of my year! I developed a very good relationship with PC Law, the local community bobby and he assures me that this is a very safe area in which to live, with no sexual attacks on women reported over the last year. However, knowing that many women in College (both students and staff) live out of Westminster, I organised a self-defence evening. Despite publicity the evening was poorly attended but the graphic demonstration and TV programme were extremely useful to those who did.

Fiona Nicholas

Other Bits

The CCU Dinners were great fun and, without exception, I enjoyed them all. I apologise for the standard of my jokes but I did at least try and suit them to the style of dinner I was attending. The biggest mistake I made was letting Beef 'look after' me at the Geology Dinner. The hangover was horrendous! We enjoyed a lot of American presence at our events and particularly memorable was the Hallowe'en Party when the fancy dress was fantastic. Mark Edwards, who is responsible for entertainments at the AIFS deserves special mention as he was a great help with publicity to the American students at his establishment. Exec Initiative was an experience. 'Initiative' consisted of hiding between four of us a total of £70, three credit cards, a cash point card a tool with which we managed to break our chains. We did a pub crawl and collected money and made our way back on the train. I was sold as a slave for £60 and ended up cooking for a dinner party of nine maths students. As I enjoy cooking, this was not too much of a hardship.

The Christmas Caper was fun and the Union's contribution was a stand making stained glass windows. We must have delighted at least twenty children.

Conclusions

I have enjoyed my time as Hon Sec and I think it has taught me a lot about people and life in general. Students have found me approachable and have, on the whole, come and talked to me if they think that I have done something wrong or taken, according to them, a strange decision. There has, almost always, been an explanation.

Thanks

This is the sickly part of any report but essential, I'm afraid:

BJ for being BJ. Emma Skitt for being a fantastic Ents Treasurer and a nice person. The Ents Crew for being a laugh to work with. All the Duty Officers, especially Mylan and Doug. Ian Morris for teaching me about photocopy salesmen. Terry Briley for being a constant source of advice. Jelly for being Jelly and also for having the driest sense of humour in existence. Dramsoc for some good parties. Neil and Dave Williams for putting up with me in the office. All the Union Office staff, especially Jen and Michelle. Tom Yates for being disgusting. Nick for being.

All that remains to be said is 'Good luck, Murray!'.

Fiona Nicholas

Welfare Officer —Jackie Scott

My first job was the editing of the Union Welfare Handbook. As it hadn't been updated for at least four years editing turned into totally rewriting. With a lot of help from FELIX, and Yve (who wrote all the technical bits about Benefits etc.!!) we managed to produce a well-presented, and readable booklet. As a lot of the Benefits are no longer paid to students the handbook will require an insert updating it for next year. The Welfare Officer will be employed over the Summer for this purpose, and also to plan the Campaigns for the coming academic year.

Of this year's campaigns the Benefits and Rights Campaign was probably the most successful. This was due to the fact that it took place right at the beginning of the academic year, and it was planned during the time that I was employed over the Summer. When term began it became impossible to find sufficient time to plan Campaigns as thoroughly as was necessary, or to be available on the day, as I was stuck in lectures and labs!! Yve and Neil therefore did most of the planning and organisation for all the campaigns that took place after that. The problems were exemplified by the Stress Campaign planned for the beginning of this term, which never took place, due to a lack of time to allow the necessary planning, by myself, Yve or Neil. Although I did manage to find the time to write an article in FELIX on the subject, between finals and my final year project.

I have spent a certain amount of time this year trying to get College to sort out the problems in the Union Building concerning Alarms. The only Alarms at present are in the Ladies toilets outside the Union Office, but further alarms are required in the toilets on the central staircase and also in the Union Gym changing rooms, (a particularly isolated area) I wrote to Angus Fraser and received a reply to the effect that the matter would be looked into, Dave Williams has received quotes for the work but nothing more has been done. I hope it is a matter which next years Deputy President and Welfare Officer will be able to see through to completion.

A major problem this year has been the difficulty I have had in finding enough time to complete the job as well as I would have liked. Maybe next years Welfare Officer could look into giving the ordinary members of Welfare Committee more responsibility for the planning of Campaigns. If the two ordinary members helped out practically, instead of just attending Welfare Committee then hopefully the Campaigns could be run without so much dependence on help from the President and Yve.

Jackie Scott.

Publications Board —Doug King

Fortunately it is really easy to write an annual report for Publications Board as I don't have to do much and you can all see the results anyway.

FELIX has built up a really dedicated staff this year under Dave Smedley's leadership and has created a really sound base for future years. Dave's other big achievement this year has been to get the print unit on a sound financial footing and running as a professional business. A lot of credit must go to the FELIX permanent staff. The place wouldn't run without Rose Atkins, and Andy Thompson has become totally invaluable after starting the job at the beginning of the year with no idea of what he was letting himself in for.

IC Radio has seen some major technical improvements this year with the upgrading of much of their network and equipment. A new studio has been fitted out on the Northside and Prince's Gardens increasing their production capacity as programmes can now be recorded without interrupting broadcasting. Interest in the station has really taken off this year with a large increase in membership over previous years. Thanks to Matt Reeve and his band of stalwarts for directing things down there.

STOIC has, as usual, been run by a handful of hardened enthusiasts, but through a high public profile, filming at all major events, they have managed to recruit a fair number of new members. Much of the year has been spent making technical advances, for instance the live simultaneous broadcast of the election hustings with IC Radio. A lot of money has been spent on new equipment this year so the future looks rosey. The number of SCAB performances they have been asked to film can only endorse the quality of their product this year. Thanks to Ian and Rory and their crew.

I would like to thank all the publications and the rest of the Pub Board exec for being a really easy going bunch and making my job so easy that I really can't think of anything I've had to do worth writing about.

Pub Board AGM and elections are on Tuesday 5th June at 6.30pm in the Union Dining Hall.

Doug King.

Industrial Relations Committee —Nick Lay

No—I'm not concerned with negotiating sabbaticals' pay, but with encouraging a closer relationship between IC Union, its clubs and societies and industry. Or so I thought this time last year. In fact most of the Committee's time has been taken up with running the Careers Fair, which the Union took over from the Industrial Society last year. As a result, the Careers Fair made a surplus of around £20,000 which has been used to finance students using the College Nursery, new equipment for the Careers Office, travel expenses for attendance at European student conferences and computing equipment for IC Union and the CCUs.

Due to the amount of time devoted to decisions on what the Careers Fair earnings should be spent on and concerns over the accountability of the Committee, IRC next year will solely act as a 'sorting office' for claims and make recommendations to UFC which will make the final decision. The aim this year (and I hope next year) is to fund projects which will either be impossible to fund any other way or benefit a large number of students or encourage relations between students and industry, especially in Europe. Ideally projects would fall into several of these categories.

The transfer of funding decisions to UFC should allow the committee more time to act as a 'think-tank' and to catalyse closer (and more lucrative) links between the Union and industry. At the time of writing, there have been no nominations for this post, so if you are interested in an interesting and practical post in the Union, please see me. Perhaps a new name for the Committee should be your first move!

Nick Lay.

Transport Officer —Mylan Lester

The fleet has stayed at seven vehicles which is considered optimum. An unprecedented number of bookings, especially at weekends, has resulted in a few people not getting a van when they wanted one. A van may be leased in to cover these bookings in the first term of the year. The old green heap (OLE) has been scrapped and a new van purchased (YRK).

A number of changes to the administration of the fleet has led to increased efficiency and a better understanding of the services offered. A few disciplinary matters have come up and these have mostly been concerned with late returns, late payments and extremely dirty vans being returned. These offences are being tolerated less and less and I would advise all drivers to re-familiarise themselves with the regulations.

It is now thought that the harmonisation of EC driving regulations will not effect us as badly as we first thought, although details are still not fully known.

Mylan Lester.

Internal Services— —Chris Stapleton

This year, we have seen a dreadful struggle to salvage the Union Snack Bar, which is not yet over, as well as the dramatic refurbishment of the book shop and the loss of a good manager to a better offer.

ISO is one of the worst jobs you can do. You sit on more committees than any of the other officers and it takes up a lot of your time. Most of this is spent going nowhere. In its present form it is merely a powerless deputy to the deputy president elect, which is pointless. If someone is going to look after the business/service outlets then there is no point duplicating the job.

I therefore recommend that the post as it stands is abolished and a new one formed with the same general interests. It should have a different emphasis and power to make firm decisions. This matter is not one for a committee but for the deputy president elect, who should decide what form the help he requires should take. This may be in the style of a management committee with the equivalent ISO taking the chair.

That's the main bulk of my report. A few words now to answer some of the criticism that I have had.

I only took up the job after no other takers had chosen to do so. This was after three opportunities. My only real interest lay with the snack bar as I knew I had no time to do the whole job. It was better I thought to have someone doing something than nothing in this area.

The majority of the criticisms put before the union general council last were unfounded. The solo efforts described by the deputy president are not true. I have done a lot of work but recently due to exam and course work pressure I have been unable to do anything for the union, or Felix for which I am the editor elect!

Chris Stapleton.

Social and Cultural Amusements Board —Joseph Andrews

On the whole, I feel that it has been a successful year for SCAB. As well as being very impressed by the activities of the constituent clubs this year I have been encouraged by the steadily thawing relations between SCAB and the Choir.

SCAB has run two main functions:

- To oversee the expenditure of the performing arts societies at College and to present claims for subsequent years to the Union for appraisal (or otherwise).
- To run Scabnite, a kind of variety show, which raises money for Rag.

The expenditure side has run very smoothly this year—a lack of selfish societies seems to have been the key.

Scabnite was enjoyed by those who watched it, but in all honesty the audience could have been very much larger. I take most of the blame for this, as I did not order any tickets for advance sale, but part of it must lie with Guildsheet's Ray Week League Table which placed Scabnite at the bottom. My objection to this table is on the grounds that all Ragweek events try to raise money for charity and some of them sell out. The League Table means that the overflow from a packed Hypnosis Lecture won't go to see Scabnite instead because it is not rated as highly. Fortunately, Scabnite did make a small profit for Rag this year so all's well that ends well.

As far as the individual clubs and societies are concerned, most would appear to have enjoyed a productive nine months.

Chamber Music have had a busy year putting on several very enjoyable concerts and a piano masterclass. The emergence of an extremely promising piano quintet is also encouraging.

Choir have had one of their most successful years ever, the high point of which was probably the Alumnus Day concert at the end of 1989 which attracted over 700 people.

Dramsoc have done very well this session to lift themselves from being a despairing society, with few members, into one which puts on plays as well as creating events in the Union Building. As usual Dramsoc is off to Edinburgh in August for the Festival.

Filmsoc's year has been a fraught one as the exec struggled to fight off final year exams on the one hand while, on the other, discovering that their most trustworthy supplier of parts for their projector had developed chronic senile dementia. They still found time, remarkably, to put on some films, including the perennial favourite, *Betty Blue*.

Jazz and Rock club has swung between highs and lows all year. The saga of soundproofing the practice room still drags on but the cabaret evening organised jointly with Dramsoc and RCSU was hugely successful and will probably be repeated.

Opsoe started the year shakily and their Christmas Show had to be cancelled, but bounced back in February with a rousing production of Gilbert and Sullivan 'Utopia Ltd'. For the umpteenth year running they are off on their summer tour to Devon.

Finally, Orchestra have had one of their best years for a while. Although the annual weekend at Silwood Park was lost, the music has been of a high standard, pieces such as Bernstein's West Side Story and Schostakovich 10 being tackled.

That's it. Best wishes to my successor.

Joseph Andrews.

Athletics Clubs Committee —Ben Turner

Sport for competition, or merely for fitness and pleasure, has continued to gain strength at Imperial College this year. The number of clubs operating actively as part of the ACC has increased with the addition of Cycling, Shaolin Kung Fu, Yacht and Tai Chi. Several clubs have introduced a women's section, including Ladies Football, Water Polo and Basketball, as well as an attempted revival of Ladies Rugby.

Successes in the Universities Athletic Union (UAAU) competitions and against other University of London (UL) colleges are greater than ever before.

Fencing and Boat Club have both achieved the accolade of national UAAU Champions. Four Boat Club members are in the Great Britain trials for the World Championships. Hockey 3rd XI reached the semi-finals of their UAAU competition, as did Badminton 2nd team and Tennis in the winter tournament. Ladies Water Polo came runners-up in the National Universities Tournament in their first year of operation. As usual, nearly all of the Rugby, Football and Hockey teams qualified for the last sixteen knockout rounds of the UAAU.

Many teams at IC form the backbone of UL teams. In Judo, UL reached the semi-finals of the British Universities Sports Federation tournament supported by three of our competitors. IC's teams dominate the sports scene in London, with Rugby 1st XV winning the Gutteridge Cup, Hockey 1st XI winning the UL Division 1 title, and Football 2nd XI taking the UL First Division title.

Teams from many clubs will be touring European countries this summer, including France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and Norway. A specialist team from the Yacht Club entered the Spi Dauphine Race, an international competition in the south of France. Although not finishing high in the leader board, a massive amount of sponsorship was raised by the team members and IC received wide exposure amongst European companies and universities. The IC team was voted the team that was the best representative for their sponsor by 'Le Figaro'.

Policy was passed at a UGM to restructure the travel subsidy for representative sport. Although approved by the students, the funds are not yet available from College to carry out this scheme.

A lot of time has been spent dealing with matters concerning other universities. I must mention Simon Holden, ACC Vice-Chairman, who not only performed the onerous task of coordinating all of the UAAU matches, but also dealt with several problems arising from our teams' away trips to other campuses! Simon and I have been involved in discussions to restructure the UAAU competition, which will have a wider implication on the whole of student sport in Britain.

Several ST Mary's students are competing as part of IC clubs, including Boat, Fencing and Ladies Water Polo. The general feeling there though is that most clubs do not want to integrate with their IC counterparts.

So, with what is arguably the best university sporting record in the south of Britain, where are the facilities to attract undergraduates of high competitive standard; to enable teams and individual competitors to train for greater success; to provide a sporting arena for the more 'casual' participants, such as Overseas Students Committee clubs' sports nights or inter-hall or inter-CCU competitions?

I'm afraid that the sad discovery during my year as ACC Chairman is that Athletics, and extra-curricular activities in general, have a low priority in College circles. As a result, we must use a Volleyball Court which is a crumbling hall in a condemned building (incidentally the hall is not large enough to play matches, so the Volleyball Club is forced to hire facilities in Brixton); Badminton have no place with sufficient clearance to train and play matches than the Great Hall; we have a Sports Centre which is required by the Governing Body of IC to recoup 80% of its expenditure through income, thus restricting the plans of the management there (compare this with St Mary's swimming pool which does not charge for student admission); we have a sports ground that is a mess in the wake of the extraction work there—the contractors have not fulfilled their obligation to reinstate the pitches to a good standard within the agreed timetable, with the result that the ground will not recover for years.

On a more positive note, Ian Spooner, who will probably take over from his father, Cliff, as Sports Centre Manager, has introduced the possibility of building a sports hall on the site of the tennis courts in Princes Gardens. Not the multi-million pound multi-storey complex envisaged several years ago, which never had a chance of receiving planning approval. Just a sports hall—four walls, a roof and a floor surface to provide a start to the improvement and provision of the facilities the students badly need.

Harlington gravel has begun at last to bear fruit, but it has taken five years of sustained effort and pressure by ACC representatives, especially members of the Hockey Club, to have an astroturf pitch laid down at Harlington. Work is under way now and the pitch should be completed by the end of the summer.

I'm not going to pretend everything is going well when it isn't. IC has the worst facilities for sport amongst any of the universities in the UAAU, but sporting success is an essential aspect of representation and competition to an institution that prides itself on its high standards, and is a good selling point to potential undergraduates. So College, get your act together, and help us to develop the facilities that we deserve.

Ben Turner.

Social Clubs Committee —Stephen Parkus

It has been a fairly uneventful year, in the SCC microenvironment. The new methods of submitting claims for club grants certainly looks more efficient, but seemed of little practical use to various people besides myself, other than for advancing bureaucracy in the Union. The SCC was nevertheless forced to accept, and clubs made every effort to fit in. Well done to them! The video stolen last year was replaced in the first term this year.

Other than that, I have tried to reduce the burden of Union politics and bureaucracy on club chairpeople. I have kept SCC meetings relatively few, relatively trouble free and relaxed, and blissfully short. I think it is not appreciated that a lot of work is done in/for the Union by students with a lot of other equally pressing responsibilities. Having been in my final year, I have tried to balance my time appropriately, and I take the lack of criticism as approval.

I would like to say thank you to all the SCC chairpeople for their cooperation, and to my exec for their support: Simon Bradshaw, Spenser Lane, Nikki Fox, Lisa Kestenbaum, and Amanda Baker. Spenser especially put in a lot of work as HUT, keeping the books up to date, sorting out financial problems, of which there were many, and thus making things much easier for me.

I would also like to wish good luck to the new team for next year, chaired by Spenser Lane.

Finally it remains for me to bid farewell.

Stephen Parkus.

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