



# FELIX

Issue 920 11 December 1991



*Christmas Issue 1991*



**“I’m not a  
student. How do  
I pick up  
The Telegraph  
for 20p?”**

**Lie.**

**No forms. No I.D. No coupons. Just walk into any University or Poly shop  
displaying a Student Newsave sign, and you can have The Telegraph for 20p.**

**The Daily Telegraph**



# A Long Road

Strike action disrupted Imperial College on Wednesday, 4th December as manufacturing staff halted work in protest about the proposed sackings of security and messenger staff. They also lobbied the College's Governing Body, which will take the decision whether to implement the controversial plans (see Felices 917, 918 and 919).

The whole college closed down except for the QT snack bar in the Junior Common Room (JCR), and Southside bar, both of which are owned by the College. Most laboratories, libraries and computer terminal rooms were also shut or severely restricted by temporary security measures.

Most students seemed unaware of the action and continued to attempt work, but often could not due to library and laboratory closures. One student told Felix that 'the strike is a waste of time, why should they ruin my education?'. Another student, Daniel Lloyd Lucas, sympathised with the action but saw 'no point' in not going into College.

Sue Sharpe, secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance trade union (MSF), said afterwards that the strike went very well and claimed that the 'College was quieter than Christmas Day'. Dr Alan Taylor Russell, chairman of the Association of University teachers (AUT), said he had no gauge of the strike response but the college was 'very quiet' that day. The Rector, Sir Eric Ash, said that he felt he was unable to comment on how effective the strike action had been.

The Governor's meeting released a statement on Friday stating that the period of negotiation would be extended for 'one week but not more than one month', and promising to consider any proposal that took account of Imperial College's serious financial



MSF picket the Rector's residence.

situation. Steve Newbold, the management spokesman, said that details of the proposals on the table, saying that all offers were part of the consultations now taking place.

Ms Sharpe claimed that the Union's proposals were cheaper than the present system and would reduce the work force by natural wastage. Dr Taylor Russell said that savings had to be made but administration was also an area in

which cutbacks could be made. representations by Unions to the Governing Body had been significant. When asked about the viability of any alternatives Mr Newbold said there was a 'long road' to any agreement and he pointed out that the negotiating period had been extended and that a meeting was scheduled for next Tuesday (14th, December). He refused to be drawn on any of the

## Rape

## Alarm

The rape alarms in the ladies lavatories in the Union Building were found to have been turned off on Saturday night, after a woman was assaulted there. A female student found a man using the lavatory facilities and when he was asked to leave he attacked her. In response a rape alarm was pressed but no alarm sounded, after which the woman concerned managed to remove her assailant and take him down to the Union Bar.

Subsequently a dentist's appointment card was discovered which was believed to belong to the attacker, identifying him as Mr Dean O'Broin, born 23 March 1969. He is also thought to be part of Cardiff University Rugby Club.

A test on the rape alarms following the incident showed that three of rape alarm plungers were broken and would not work if they had been turned on. The Duty Maintenance officer was called to investigate, but felt that no work could be done to repair the system at the time due to the possibility of false alarms.

Deputy Head of Security Terry Briley commented that it 'was not directly his responsibility' but security should know 'what we've got, where we've got it and whether it works.' Mr Briley continued that a review of all alarms in college was taking place. Mr Briley could not comment on how long it would take to repair the Union rape alarms.

## Loans

There are still no firm plans to restart student loan interviews after Christmas. A member of staff in the grants and fees office told Felix that interviews had been 'fully booked until Christmas' and that the demand for interviews was 'greater than expected.' She added that 'no interviews are being booked into the new year'. At present there are only three interviewers to cover every student interested in applying for a loan. She advised students interested in applying for a student loan to telephone them after Christmas.

## Access Fund

Access funds are now available from room 344 in the Sherfield Building. Mr Tony Cullen, Assistant Registrar, said that the funds were open to all 'home students' able to demonstrate 'financial hardship'. European Community students may be eligible and should ask for further information from Sherfield 344.

Mr Cullen said £260,000 worth

of access funds would be available - a slight increase on last year. He added that £100,000 had been used 'very successfully' as bursaries to attract postgraduate students to the College. A similar scheme for undergraduates had been less successful, using about £10,000. This left approximately £150,000 that was now available to Imperial College students.

The number of applications is expected to be much higher than last year. Mr Cullen explained this was due to a 'greater need' and noted that 100 forms had already been picked up since they were released last Thursday. All application forms have to be returned by 1st February 1992.



# Alarmed Biology Relocation?

Two fire alarms went off in Tizard, Selkirk and Falmouth Keogh halls of residence last Wednesday during strike action by College staff. Security staff must check any building before fire alarms can be switched off and residents can re-enter. Temporary security had to be called, along with the fire brigade, when the first alarm went off at 6.45 pm. Another alarm sounded at 7.45 pm and temporary security were again required to restore order.

Although no-one was hurt, Southside residents complained that narrow staircases and the two main entrances to the four halls could have been blocked if panic had broken out. Dr John Hassard, Southside warden, said that the halls were a 'death trap' and questioned whether, if there had been a real fire, the residents could have been evacuated so easily.

Dr Hassard added that security 'didn't cope' with the situation on Wednesday and are in the wrong place to monitor the building if a fire does break out. He commented that there had been several arson

A new 'centre for biomedical sciences' may be built on the college campus in the near future. The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) is looking into the possibility of relocating from the Chester Beatty Laboratories on the Fulham Road. According to a letter from the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, to the Governing Body of the College, the ICR would like to move onto a University site.

attacks on the lifts in the Halls this term. He claimed to have written many letters to the College Estates division during his period as warden and had received no positive response.

Mr Ian Gillet, Safety Director, said he could not comment specifically on the incident last Wednesday, but said that due to the strike action the fire brigade would have been called to any fire alarm immediately. He said about fire safety in Southside was well within legal requirements and 'should be alright' if students obeyed fire alarms and did not block open fire doors.

The estimated cost of such a project is about £40 million, of which slightly less than half would come from ICR. The rest of the funding would have to be raised by the College and Sir Eric said in his letter that 'the chances of success' would be ascertained 'probably by Easter.' It is thought that the new building might be built in the space between the Science Museum and the Biochemistry and Chemistry

building.

'Parts of Biology - not all - would be associated with the new centre,' Sir Eric told Felix, and in the letter it states that this would 'allow a major increase in student residences' in the Beit Quadrangle. He said that there was 'a better than even chance of pulling it off' though discussions were still at an early stage.



Steve Farrant, Paul Thomas and the John Thomases just before they were arrested on the Nude Kamikaze Parachute Jump.

## Debt Due

College Administration is 'negotiating' with Hill Samuel, the merchant bankers, over the date of the repayment of a £10.72 million loan. According to the IC accounts, published recently, the debt was to be repaid on 31st December. Mr Terry Neville, IC director of finance, told Felix that the date 'has been extended a number of times already.'

The Rector, Sir Eric Ash, told Felix that this 'was just the way you

roll over debts' and that 'there was nothing evil about borrowing money or paying interest..Industry does it all the time.' He admitted that 'if we had succeeded in selling off Montpelier Hall' problems would have been eased, but that 85 hall places would have been lost. The Rector added that paying off interest and not the £10.7 million capital is 'only a problem if you have a leasehold - and Clayponds is freehold.'

## MegaCredits

**No I'm not about to resign but here's a Megacredit anyway.**

**Permanent Staff** ...against which I am permanently leaning: Rose @kins and &y Thompson. **News** Jonty Beavan, Stef Smith, Nina. **Graphics** Stef Smith and all those who have helped in ways forgotten. **Photography** Simon Govier, Stef (polymath) Smith, a Pályáudvar Bär. **Cartoons** Justin (Elvis Parsley) Webb and Andy (Alien Sex Fiend) Butcher. **Son of God**

**Editorial Staff** Concept: Prime Mover of All the Universe. Realisation: Herr Doktor Neuhaus, Mme 'Oooer' Mortley, Jan Hoj, Stefan Schmidt, Jonathan B, Isaiah Jones. Pun Editor: Tiny Tim. Nubile Women: Mrs E Beavan. **Music Reviewers** David (more pseudonyms than you have fingers) Spooner, Ian (Poddy) Davies, another Pályáudvar Bär, Ian (Pebbles) Hodge, Seb. **Sports** Editor Khurram Sair. **Reviewers**

Mathew Hyde, Sumit Paul-Choudhury, Mylan Lester, Iftikar Hussain, Simon Su and loads of others. **Holder of the Felicitous Purse and Creator Extraordinary of Vast Quantities of Waste Paper** Jeremy Burnell. **Collating Machine Tamers and Generally Nice People** James Grinter, Steve Newhouse. **General Contributors** Ian Hodge, Jennifer Argabright (who leaves for the USA today - goodbye: all the Felix staff wish

you the best), Sam (S) Cox, Toby Jones, John (Careers Office) Simpson, Emma Keeling, Tim Proctor, Troy Tempest, Dave Lane, Koph E Percalaita, Adam Tinworth, Michael Factor, Alison Pool, all the letter writers, all those who contributed stuff to the reviews or sports pages and anybody who has been forgotten again.



## Small Ads

● **FRAGRANCE SALE:** High class quality fragrances of the finest order at 'direct-to-the-public' prices plus a student discount. Why pay retail prices when you can buy the fragrance for the same price as the retailer? See Eddie in the JCR (lunchtime 12.30-1.30pm) on Thursday 12th December to make your order before the Christmas rush.

● **RACKET RESTRINGING** service. Badminton £7, Squash £10, Tennis £10. Call Jin Yee on ext 4331 or ext (80)437.

● **WANT TO SEE** a big gorilla? Want to hear a talking spider? Are you brave enough to join Captain Jack Dauntless in his fight against the Wicked Witch? Then you want to see Dramsoc's 'Little Miss Muffet' 5th-7th December 7.30pm. Concert Hall.

● **SET BUILDING**, lighting, make-up, costumes, riggers, stage crew, sound, etc, etc...Interested? Come and help with Imperial's biggest ever show—Grease (further details from DramSoc Storeroom, Union Bar Staircase).

● **WEST LONDON** Chaplaincy mugs are now available. Featuring a colourful logo and wacky slogans. £2.50, all profits go to LEPROA (a charity helping those who are suffering from leprosy). Contact Ben Irons, Chem Eng 4, to place your order or come along to the Oxfam Charity lunch, every Tuesday lunchtime 12.30-1.30pm in Mech Eng Foyer.

An up-to-the-minute guide to events in and around Imperial College. The deadline for entries for this page is the Monday prior to publication.

## WEDNESDAY

**Fitness Club.....12.45pm**  
Southside Gym. Intermediate.  
**Bike Club.....12.45pm**  
Southside Lounge.  
**Cycling Training.....1.30pm**  
Meet at Beit Arch.  
**Wargames.....1.00pm**  
UDH. All welcome.  
**Micro Club Meeting.....1.15pm**  
Top floor NW corner Union Building.  
**Kung Fu.....1.30pm**  
Union Gym.  
**DramSoc Improv Class.....2.30pm**  
Union SCR (old Union Office). Professional tuition.  
**Diving.....6.30pm**  
Swimming Pool.  
**Shaolin System**  
**Nam Pai Chuan.....7.00pm**

Each of the four Constituent College Unions (CCUs) are run in a similar way to Imperial College Union (ICU). There is an executive committee (exec) responsible for the day-to-day running of the Union and its affairs. This is made up of about eight people, but the top three, President, Vice President and Honorary Secretary are perhaps the most notable since it is they who wear the regalia and make up the top of the committee. The Exec is itself responsible to the General Committee (Gen Comm) which is made up of about thirty people who are all representatives of an area of the college, be it Departmental

## Careers Info

● **PLAN YOUR FUTURE** now. Many of the best jobs may be filled by Easter. Don't miss your ideal career by waiting until after your finals.

Students seeking vacation work next summer should visit the Careers Service and study the Vacation Training Scheme files which include details of opportunities provided by a number of employers.

The second closing date for the Milkround is on 13th December 1991. For further information come to the Careers Service, Room 310, Sherfield—open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

**Southside Gym.**  
**Basketball Club.....7.30pm**  
Volleyball court.  
**Kung Fu Club.....7.30pm**  
Union Gym. Wu Shu Kwan.  
**Libido.....9.30pm**  
Ents Club Night in Union Lounge.

## THURSDAY

**Fencing Training.....11.30am**  
Intermediate & advanced coaching.  
**Balloon Club Meeting.....12.30pm**  
Southside Upper Lounge.  
**YHA Meeting.....12.30pm**  
Southside Upper Lounge.  
**Postgrad Lunch.....12.30pm**  
Chaplains Office (10 Princes Gardens).  
**Fencing Training.....12.30pm**  
Beginners Training.  
**3rd World 1st.....12.45pm**  
Speaker Meeting. Clubs Committee Room, Union Building.  
**Fencing Training.....1.30pm**  
General.  
**Gliding Club Meeting.....1.00pm**  
Aero 266.



Representatives (Dep Reps) or club chairmen. All the departments of the college are represented by both their Dep Reps and Society Chairman. The Gen Comm is the main policy making body of the Union and all major decisions have to be passed by it to progress any further.

Each CCU gets its own money and is financially autonomous (that means it looks after itself). Apart from St Mary's, all the money comes in one lump sum from ICU (about £15,000 although it does vary slightly for each CCU). It is then up to the CCU's Finance Committee to decide what to do with it. The large majority goes to the Clubs and Societies, particularly in sporting activities such as rugby. The remainder is spent on Union Entertainments and other special expenditures such as the commemorative shields and pots

that each union keeps.

The CCUs are essentially arms of ICU, each of the CCU Presidents is a Vice-President of ICU and sits on that Executive Committee too. They not only act in passing on information from ICU but also in feeding back opinion from the more localised catchment of the individual college. This is probably the most important role of the CCUs as far as ICU is concerned since the sabbaticals have little day to day contact with students whereas the officers of the CCUs are still studying and are much more in touch with what the students want.

If you don't know who your CCU officers are then find out, track them down and have a chat—what do you think of the college day, security strike, etc, etc. The best place to find them is in their CCU office at lunchtime.

**Fitness Club.....5.30pm**  
Southside Gym. Advanced.  
**Midweek Event.....5.30pm**  
Chaplains Office (10 Prince's Gardens).  
**Dance Club.....6.00pm**  
JCR. Intermediate/Medals Ballroom & Latin.  
**Judo Club.....6.30pm**  
Gym.  
**Dance Club.....7.00pm**  
JCR. Beginners Ballroom & Latin.  
**Real Ale Society Meeting.....7.30pm**  
Union Lounge. Lots of good booze.  
**IC Shotokan Karate.....7.30pm**  
Southside Gym.  
**Dance Club.....8.00pm**  
JCR. Advanced Ballroom & Latin.  
**Southside Disco.....8.30pm**  
Southside Bar.  
**ICCAG Soup Run.....9.15pm**  
Meet Weeks Hall Basement.

## FRIDAY

**Hang Gliding.....12.30pm**  
Southside Upper Lounge.

**Conservative Soc.....12.30pm**  
Physics 737.  
**Rag Meeting.....12.40pm**  
Union Lounge. Everyone welcome.  
**3rd World 1st.....12.45pm**  
Committee Meeting. Southside Upper Lounge.  
**Labour Club Meeting.....1.00pm**  
Maths 408. Club members welcome.  
**Friday Prayers.....1.00pm**  
Southside Gym. See Islamic Society.  
**Kung Fu.....4.30pm**  
Union Gym.  
**C.U. Prayer Meeting.....5.00pm**  
413 Maths.  
**Christian Union Meeting.....6.00pm**  
308 Computing.  
**Swimming.....6.30pm**  
Sports Centre.  
**Fencing Club Training.....6.40pm**  
Club training.  
**Shaolin System**  
**Nam Pai Chuan.....7.30pm**  
Southside Gym.  
**Water Polo.....7.30pm**  
Sports Centre.  
**Southside Disco.....8.30pm**



# Jazz Café



For those of you who have yet to set foot out of Knightsbridge/Kensington, probably one of the trendiest places to visit and hangout is Camden Town. Both during the day and night, there's much to do and see and a place which is buzzing with sound and energy is the Jazz Café on Parkway, which is open every night and offers weekend lunches, with the beat of funky music and live acts whilst you enjoy the buffet lunch. The owner John Davner has done a brilliant job on the resurrection of the venue and most rate it along with Ronnie Scotts, but in my opinion it's a 'where it's at' or 'the happening place' and to support this, I spent Saturday lunchtime there eating and loitering to the music of *The Hip Joints* (who incidentally have played at IC), in their two afternoon sessions.

The band have been together around nine months and are very funky in sound where each member is inclined to his own rhythmic movements and noise, which all join to form a unique beat and bass funk. They started well and Dave Prizeman on trumpet blew his heart out to a rousing welcome and worthy of any jazz hall of fame (if



there is one). The totally relaxing bass, Keith Pitts, held the music together in parts and gave the *Hip Joints* the underlying music beat. However the lead vocalist's rapping and singing occasionally to a minor extent detracted from the band's impact as musicians. Although in all fairness, he more than made up by playing some sweet solo sax intrusions which mellowed everyone out.

Sometimes the music took to the inclination of that South American

Brazilian style which was more than welcome, and with ponytails, baseball caps and hats (with the standard Levi's), these boys set people's feet into rhythm and motion whilst they enjoyed the late

lunch, around very art deco furnishings.

Definitely a place to go if you consider yourself to have 'street cred'.

Ajit Medtia.

## IC Radio 999 kHz

Time	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am	MUSIC JAM			
12pm	Dan The	Keith	Adrian	Dave
1pm	Man	Gareth Mitchell	Gareth	CLOSE DOWN
2pm	Music	Catherine Lows	Chris	
4.30pm	Jam	Music Jam	The Globe Trotter	
5pm	Spev & Dave	Flage	Jim Liz	
6pm	Omer		Neil J	
7pm	Nik	Richard Collins	Jon	
8pm	Steena (Arts)	Catherine	News Desk	
9pm	Rob	Marcus	News Desk	
10pm	Barney	Marcus	Me Mark Page	
11pm	RADIO LUXEMBOURG			

## Breaks, Bass & Bleeps 3



Well, the cover of this compilation promises 'Banging tunes for Hard



beat fans'. What can I say? If that's the kind of music you like then I

suppose you might buy it.

This double album gives you 16 tracks: at first attempt the holes in the middle of the records wouldn't fit onto the spindle (was my record deck trying to tell me something?). It offers you the 'delights' of *James Brown is dead* by LA Style, *Insomniak (Bassline trax mix)* by DJPC, and Reel 2 Reel's *We are I.E.*, to mention just a few. Unfortunately some of these tracks sound like somebody just got a synthesizer for their birthday. *I did - Lise*

The accompanying publicity promised 'an unmissable collection put together by the U.K.'s finest dance label'. But if you were a 'Hard beat fan', you'd have the original records already, wouldn't you? Right.

Tweedledum.



## Munich Philharmonic plays Abba Classics



Munich, or possibly Berlin.

### Album

The Munich Philharmonic was respected throughout the world. That was before they went totally loopy. I have convincing evidence right here. Fortunately for them, I'm mad as well. I love it. Thirteen absolute peaches of songs,

marvellously orchestrated. I think it's possibly the best CD we've ever had. It's karaoke for the upper class. Abba are the only decent thing ever to come out of Northern Europe, and this is the second most lovely thing ever to come out of Munich, and I think I know what I'm talking about even if you don't.

Go on, defeat Freddie's sick ploy to get someone to buy Queen records and buy this instead. If you don't like it, give it to your Mum for Christmas. Or my Mum.

Lise Yates.

## Pele/GNE - IC Union

### Gig

I don't know about GNE, I really don't. On record they come out really quite ethereal and lovely, but live, they're kind of uninvolved really. Bearable, well worth three quid for them alone, you boring bastards, but nothing special.

Pele on the other hand, are quite rocky and folky, in a poppy sort of way. I'd rather have half an hour of them than 2 hours of *Bad Manners* anyday. Shame that most of you lechers were there for Nicko's legs, and not for the tunes. Still, never one to shun it's readers, Felix has a treat for you on page 14, 'cause at least you were there. A lovely, early Christmas present, and I'm talking about Pele, you pervs.

Lise Yates.

## Blur - High Cool

### 12 Inch

Blur's Christmas chart hopeful, and

it sounds just the same as all the others. If you liked them, you'll like this. If not, you won't. In fact I'm beginning to suspect that *Blur* are actually just releasing the same disc over and over, and just changing the label.

Lise Yates.

Dan (vocals, guitar) and Matt (Bass) and Ian (guitar) are backstage at Thames Poly.

What do you want us to talk about? I dunno, just chat away.

Tell them about the new album Yeah, tell me about the new album.

Well, when we've released the first single, then we'll do the album.

How about that time when Toby got off with that bloke?, suggests Dan, and he took his clothes off and

Joan Jett, and all that?' adds Matt. I think it was Jefferson Airplane, continues Dan, and then, in an attempt to confuse me completely, says Remember that time when my Y-Fronts were written on by the brunettes, and then the next day, I forget I had them on, and I was in my mum's room and she saw them and said 'Where have you been without your clothes on?'

At this point we're interrupted by the return of Toby and Ian

a clue what you're on. You're hopeless, a hapless fuckwit.

What about Matt on Thursday suggests Dan. This girl came up to Matt after the gig and said 'how much are the T-shirts?', seven quid, and she said 'I haven't quite got enough', and then 'How about four pounds and something special then?', and Matt spunked in his pants Matt furiously denied this. I never did find out if she got the T-shirt.

And I was saying 'no, no, no,' continues Toby and then Matt comes up behind me and says 'Hello girls, how about some T-shirts for free?'

You were well out of touch in the last song on Saturday, Toby, says Dan.

Well, he responds, that's because you were all over the shop. It's alright for you, you just sing 'Woohoooooaaaaah'

There's no one in the crowd, says Ian. There's no-one there at all. He said when Rain played it was filled up.

Rain? interrupts Matt, we supported Rain. There only getting the gigs because of those tits on their posters and because they're on Polydor.

I told you it would be like this, says Toby. We thought of ringing up and saying, you know about this Monday, well Matt doesn't like playing on Mondays, so can we do a Saturday instead.

How about a Monday, and something special, volunteers Dan

We won't get as many as we did on Saturday. continues Toby, We had a laugh then. There was this girl at the door, and she said 'You'll have to pay two quid to get in.' and we said, we're the band, you can tell from our accents, we're Essex boys.

## 4 Pounds & Something Special

Lise Yates

Interviews Herb

it was a woman. I begin to suspect that this is not a completely true story. When Toby comes back, ask him something really deep, like about 1992 and all that.

What about Freddie Mercury then? he continues, Let's do 'Freddie's Dead' (by Fishbone) tonight. It's a bit sad really. Toby (drummer) used to be in Queen, you know.

Wasn't it the Blackhearts, you know

(guitar) from McDonalds. Ian doesn't say much. Toby, on the other hand, never one to keep quiet, says...

We saw the posters on the way up. They've got written on it 'Herb, the band who should have supported the Banderas'. Hey, what's that funny little tape recorder doing? Is this our interview? You bastards, you started without me.

He picks it up, and shakes a burger wrapper at it.

He'll o

What do you think about 1992, Toby?

I dunno, it's like the year after this one, isn't it? I'll haven't really thought about it yet, cos it hasn't happened yet, has it? I haven't got



## Lise Yates interviews Pele

### How did you sign to Polydor?

We're actually signed to M&G, which is a small part of Polydor, it's completely independent. Polydor have just given them a huge wad of cash to spend on us.

Before I formed the band I spent, like, three or four years busking round Europe, that's what I did, it's the only other job I've ever had is busking. I left school after 'A'-Levels, I had a lot of fun busking, but it's hard work, and the money's grim, you live hand to mouth, so I wrote these songs, and found the musicians, and that's it and we got just like a massive live following, and every record company under

La's. I think they're something special. But slagging other bands off is dead unproductive.

### What do you think of the current music 'scene'?

Shite. It's grim, isn't it? Grimly fiendish.

### Do you have any favourite bands at the moment?

Err, no. I like older bands, Van Morrison, Bruce Springsteen, The Jam, The Clash, The Waterboys, Billy Bragg. I don't think there's any real personalities left in pop music, so we're trying to put a little of that back into it, and that's the main thing, a bit of vibe, a bit of life and a few good fucking tunes.

### Do you have your eyes on the charts?

the set and on the album are going to be love songs. They just come out, it's just natural.

### How long do you see the band lasting?

Well, it's difficult, but we hope it's going to have some sort of longevity, that's why we won't conform to any musical trends, because trends die out. If we don't do that, if we just stick to our guns, sooner or later the pendulum's going to swing round to our way of thinking.

### Freddie Mercury

One of my best friends is a massive Queen fan, and I always really really hated Queen, and he got tremendous ribbing, he had the piss taken out of him all the time, 'cause I thought they were shite, pompous rock, and like Freddie Mercury was such a posing bastard, but when he died, I realised that I didn't actually hate him, I don't like a lot of other music more, I just thought it was so sad, and he was so brave, admitting that he was dying of a disease you shouldn't be dying of. I think it's so grim, and tragic.

### Do you think Queen will be Christmas number one?

Why not Queen, I mean, he did it for twenty years, and if Freddie Mercury hadn't been a rock 'n' roll star he probably wouldn't be dead now. I hate Queen's music, but I've mellowed in my attitudes towards them as people. We've had people slagging us off because they couldn't understand why we had a violin, and a Hammond organ, we've had people say that we're shit because of that, but you've got to take that on board, as a socialist, and you've got to give everybody a fair crack of the whip, except for grebos and Tories.

### So you don't like the Levellers then? I thought they'd be one of your influences.

I've never heard them. A lot of people have said 'you sound a lot like the Levellers', but they've never been one of my influences.

### Do you think that the Hammond organ's a bit of a cult thing?

The organ itself is a pain in the arse, because it's so big. They're a pain to transport, but nothing else sounds like them, and ninety percent of bands who say we've got a Hammond haven't, they've just got samples. It's just so natural. It's cool. We'll still have it in ten years, they'll probably have moved on to glockenspiels or something.

### Tell me about the album.

The album is out in March, and no word of a lie, it's fucking great. There's a track called Megalomania, that'll be the second single, that's going to be the end of January.

# Grimly Fiendish



the sun was phoning us up and saying 'send us demos' and we said 'no, if you're interested in the band you're going to have to come and see us.' And they all came, and some of them put offers on the table, and M&G's was the most right down the line, 'cause they let us design our own sleeves, and choose our own B-sides and producers. They gave us a free artistic hand, and enough money to do what we wanted to do, which was go out and tour and play everywhere.

### Do you think that there's a Liverpool scene, like with the Farm and that?

The Farm are shite. I've got no time for The Farm at all. The only Liverpool band I really like are The

Yeah, for fucking sure. We don't want to piss around being an indie group. We want to be fucking worldwide, like, 'cause we feel as though we've got something to offer, lyrically as well as musically, all of our lyrics actually stand for something.

The first single was a vehement anti-royalist song, well, more anti-aristocracy more than royalist. It's not based all on this little fucking daft dance beat, it's got substance in it, and you can still dance to it.

### Do you incorporate politics like that into all your songs?

No, I just write completely naturally, just whatever comes to mind, like Raid The Palace was written in ten minutes, I just like spewed it out. A lot of the songs in



**The 35th London Film Festival** came to town during mid-November, loaded with over 200 films from all around the world. Well, so many films so little time, and not enough dosh. There are big names, including *Point Break* and *Frankie and Johnny*, but the jewels of the Festival are probably obscure productions.

Let's kick off with what must surely have been one of the best films at the festival—*Urga*, directed by Nikita Mikhlov. *Urga* is a French-Russian co-production, filmed in Mongolia. Mikhlov weaves a goofy tale in which little of consequence ever comes to pass. And yet it captures the imagination like few other films I have seen. It really is a strikingly beautiful

A treat for Hindi film fans must have been the appearance of demigod Amitabh Bachchan, interviewed by the rather bland Derek Malcolm from the Guardian. Bachchan did his best to enliven the audience. Ah, but Amitabh, we must surely be eternally thankful for your very presence!

A lot of film critics (yes, we had spies in the Press Tent) voted *Raise the Red Lantern* as their favourite, and so did I (Su). This new film from Chinese director Zhang Yimou resembles his last, acclaimed, film (*Ju Dou*) in the way that both of them depict how women were suppressed under the patriarchal Chinese society during the early 19th Century. The story is set in the reputable Chen clan this

if it were not for 'Life on a string'. Compared with *Raise the Red Lantern*, *Life on a String* is not as commercial, but viewers will certainly be captured by the stunning photography offered by director Chen Kaige. It's about the magic of believing and the emotional struggles of being highly respected. The film, however, over uses symbolism, but this is really nothing compared with the magnificent scenarios. For someone who wants a feast for their eyes.

If Martial Arts is your favourite thing, then *Once Upon a Time in China* should not be missed. It's a typical action-packed film from Hong Kong, with surprisingly, political and satirical undertones and is about the legendary

with his family intending to introduce him to his son. Except for some open gay sex scenes, this is more suitable for the small screen. *The Grass Arena* is a real gem and certainly looks like a real film. Adapted from the fascinating autobiography of John Healy, it starts with his youth as a boxer because of influence from his violent father, then switches between his descent into alcoholism and his rehabilitation, and finally details his career as a successful chess player. With an unusual life-story, some outstanding performances and a neat direction, this film stands out miles ahead of the others. Highly recommended.

French film lovers should be satisfied with the varieties of French

# London Film Festival

film—Mikhlov making full use of the undulating Mongolian landscape and adding his own flighty images and dreamscapes.

In a lesser league, but very much knowingly so, stands Nicholas De Jacob's *The Refrigerator*. A spoof horror movie complete with morality twists, it concerns the all consuming desires of a refrigerator (i.e. the American or capitalist way of life). Eileen and Steve Bateman move into their apartment in a seedier part of New York, hoping to 'make it' without falling into all the associated traps of 'success'.

But very quickly Steve and Eileen are changed by the city, and their relationships are distorted by the aforementioned appliance... (coming to an ICA near you).

Two films from which one might have expected more were John Sayle's *City of Hope* and Errol Morris's *The Thin Blue Line*. Sayle's film (which may be compared unfavourably with *Do the Right Thing*) tackles the issue of race relations in a crumbling American city. The film tends to ramble since Sayle insists on representing every member of the community and thus diluting the whole effect. Morris's film just fails as a good thriller.

A guy on top form, though, was Paul Cox, with his follow-up to *The Golden Braid*—*A Woman's Tale*. The film deals unsentimentally but with complete passion with the advent of old age.

Mira Nair's superb debut (*Salam Bombay*) was followed up by her Hollywood debut—*Mississippi Masala* with tons of groovy music, excellent script, big names (well, Denzel Washington) the film should do very well at the box office.



time, where Songlian (played by the striking Gong Li again) is sent as Fourth Mistress to the master, and the film continues with the rivalries between the mistresses and the master's favourite until a shocking climax when one of the mistresses is found committing adultery. Instead of the wonderful contrast of colours like in *Ju Dou*, director Zhang Yimou this time uses space and decor to create the tense atmosphere in the BIG house. Sex has never been depicted in such a subtle but revealing way before, for example, when the camera focused on the facial expression of Songlian who is imagining herself being foot-massaged by one of the maids. A sophisticated thriller with an excellent cast.

In fact, it may be the film from China to be nominated for the best foreign film in the Oscars next year

Cantonese hero who has been portrayed in more than 90 Hong Kong films since the late 40s. Brilliant entertainment and it's already a box office smash in Hong Kong.

This year's Spanish box office hit (according to the producer himself), is also in the Festival. *Lovers* (aka *Amantes*) revolves around a young officer's relationship with his fiancée Trini (Maribel Verdu), who is still a virgin and his landlady Luisa (Victoria Abril), who offers him wild sex and love. Eventually he surrenders to Luisa and kills Trini to help Luisa to kill his fiancée. But then this is a real life story. Victoria Abril was awarded best actress in Berlin for this film, though in my opinion, Maribel Verdu offers a more remarkable performance. The Dutch film *An Indecent Woman* is another erotic drama who tells the affair of a married woman with a stranger. The special point of the film is that the story is told from the woman's point of view, and therefore there aren't any moral judgements which are always expected in other films.

There are also some made-for-TV broadcast films including *The Lost Language of the Cranes* and *The Grass Arena*. The former is about a family with a gay father (Brian Cox), who is a university lecturer and has been in the closet for many years, his secretive wife (Eileen Atkins) and their son Owen (Angus MacFayden). Strong performances are offered, particularly Brian Cox, when he is confronted with the truth that his son is also gay. The story however becomes a bit hilarious when the father deliberately invites his young, straight colleague to dinner

films offered, including *Aux Veu Du Monde* and *Merci La Vie*, both of which feature the up and coming actress Charlotte Gainsbourg. A special mention about the film *Aux Veu Du Monde* (directed by Eric Rochant) is that its main character is one of the best anti-heroes portrayed in film history so far. He kidnaps a school bus and thinks this will impress his girlfriend! The kids in the film offer a lively atmosphere to the film.

Something that has to be said about the Festival is that there are many substandard films like *The Soutaker* and *Liquid Dreams*. The only good thing about *The Soutaker* is its quotes: 'Led Zeppelin was wrong. There is no stairway to heaven'. It's even a compliment to say it's a piss-take of *Ghost*. *Liquid Dreams* has some stylish decor, but is let down by a poor script.

Enough bad words said about the quality of the films chosen. Here are some other films which have not been covered, but have very good hypes during the festival:

*Betty's Brood* (Scotland)  
*A Brighter Summer Day* (Taiwan)  
*Delicatessen* (France)  
*Hearts of Darkness—A Film Makers Apocalypse* (USA)  
*Proof* (Australia)  
*Toto the Hero* (Belgium)

I nearly forgot to mention the brilliant trailer of the Film Festival directed by Mike Leigh. Hopefully the London Film Festival will be even better next year.

I.H.

A. Limb with  
 Ex D.J. S. Su.



# Curly Sue



Curly Sue (Alisan Porter) is an adorable child, adopted by Bill Dancer (James Belushi) who's taken care of her since birth. They roam the streets, but they never steal or break the law (well not the good laws anyway). They prey on sympathy, and they get it in the form of steamy Grey Ellison (Kelly Lynch), a cold-hearted lawyer, after staging an accident in a parking lot, who buys them a meal. Alas, along comes her boyfriend and that's that, until Bill later gets knocked down for real, by the same person. Grey succumbs to a little voice in her head (that's right, she gets suckered), and she takes them home.

The film centres around he relationship with them, and slowly but surely a bond grows. Trouble comes in the form of Grey's boyfriend who isn't too hot with the situation. This is your classic rags to riches, lost to love tale. Told by John Hughes (who directed and produced such wonders as *Home Alone*, *Uncle Buck* and *Ferris Buellers Day Off* to name a few). The cast is exquisitely chosen. Alisan Porter being one of the most talented youngsters I've ever seen, and the film will really make a name for her, as *Home Alone* did for Macaulay Culkin.



Everything John Hughes touches seems to have an air of magic around it. He has made quite a name for himself and he never disappoints. *Curly Sue* is no exception and is destined for fame, currently No 1 in the box office in the States and is bound to be just as successful here. It doesn't really try to be as funny as his previous stuff. *Curly Sue* doesn't try to make any

pretences about itself—but it's heartwarming stuff and has John Hughes stamped all over it.

There is one problem with *Curly Sue*—sometimes it can get a little too sweet and mushy for your average University students, I'm warning you here—if you really go for this (and I must admit to being inclined to) then you'll lap this up. You'll get a lump in your throat,

tears will come to your eyes. If you don't or if you decide to go with someone who doesn't, you'll have a shit time. There's always room for another John Hughes film, especially around this time of year when everyone goes a bit soft. Great for the family, but if you're hard, give it a miss.

**Poo.**

# The Liar      Witches Abroad



The sleeve says of Adrian Healey 'He loves the delicious Hugo Cartwright, but is loved by the less than appetising Pigs Trotter'. These are the main influences on the late adolescent life of a boy who Stephen Fry seems to enjoy implying is typical of one in public school. True or not, he'd know better than I.

His tastes include fine wine, toast with lemon curd, an impressive repertoire of sexual deviances (and

also with other boys) and cricket.

All this hardly is preparation for the time following his expulsion from school including rent boys, cocaine and cheating at the noblest of all games. Even worse, he is then led into university, a lost piece of pornographic Dickens, violent murder, international espionage and a college fellowship.

It's a book which is annoying for its chronological fragmentation and excessively self-indulgent language. Also it may be a little too blatant for some homophobic types. Otherwise it's hilariously funny, unpredictable and frequently very cringeworthy. Certainly worth reading.

**Romeo.**



The arrival of a new book by Terry Pratchett is always greeted with glee by his fans. The most recent, *Witches Abroad*, is no exception. The novel treads familiar ground for those conversant with Pratchett's work, using several characters and situations borrowed from the earlier books. The plot is simple; three witches must travel to prevent a mad fairy godmother from warping the life of a poor kitchen drudge (Emberella). The

humour is dispensed with a heavy hand and if the jokes fall flat at least they come in large numbers. Dedicated followers of Pratchett's work will no doubt rejoice in all the panto-style gags and in-jokes but the casual reader may derive less amusement from the tired, stale format and weary reworking of other stories. This book bears all the hallmarks of a bored author pandering to an uncritical audience, particularly sad considering the promise of the first books in the DiscWorld series and the impact they had. Avoid this novel unless you are willing to suspend critical faculties and reread the earlier stuff.

**Nicholas Farrow.**



# Die Fledermaus - ENO



## Opera

Naked women and animals? At the Coliseum? We present sparkle, glitz and glamour - no, not the opera, but CHAMPAGNE. Simply add show-girls, masked balls and more champagne, as well as a liberal splash of farcical confusion, to give this operetta its fizz. With the amount of dialogue, it is really the

musical of 1874, an operetta.

'No-one likes a bat,' but it was as a bat (die Fledermaus) that Dr Faulke was disguised, had rather too much to drink and was left to sleep it off under a bush by his 'friend', Eisenstein. The Doctor was then left to return home publicly in costume to much jeering. This is the story of his revenge...

Eisenstein is due to be incarcerated for five days on a charge of insulting a ticket inspector whilst his wife's ridiculous courter is perched precariously on the sill outside waiting for his moment to

leap into his sweetheart's arms. Eisenstein's wife, Rosalinda, is perplexed by her sonorous suitor, but seizes her chance for a night with him by allowing her maid, Adele, the night off to visit her 'dying' aunt. These deceptions are just a ploy, by all, including Eisenstein, to secretly attend the ball that night held by Prince Orlofsky. As may be supposed, much comic foolery and deception ensues as husband and wife unknowingly flirt with their partners and assumed identities flow as freely as the champagne.

The production is everything that stars are born for. Feathered chorus-girls abound as does the glitter and, of course, the champagne. The audience do not escape this pantomime. The Prince's pet gorilla certainly startled most people in the front rows. Fenella Fielding (yes, that's her real name) provided an enlightening interval course in 'How To Prepare Apfelstrudel' (...and here is one I prepared earlier, with the obligatory wine - or was it Wien?) and we were cajoled through a game-show board into wearing masks. It was only to hide our identities and prevent incrimination following the

particularly wild party that ensued. Some dreadful character, having thrust empty bottle into every nook and cranny of a figurine's anatomy, had gone so far as to graffiti a moustache and glasses on her fair form. As may be imagined, everyone drinks plenty of alcohol and becomes VERY good friends.

The famed Lesley Garrett sings Adele. The prison officer, at least, was enticed by her high C's and she strips willingly for him - only to demonstrate her aptitude for acting, of course. Her voice is lively and excitable, if a little forced in the lower register thus making for a still more 'musical' operetta. But the heroine was Vivian Tierney (Rosalinda) with her outrageous accent and infallible voice. Also of note, if only for his shoddily disappointing entries, was the singing teacher (Anthony Mee), which made the character all the more hilarious. The orchestra was indeed danced throughout under Adam Fischer who made the inevitable waltz intoxicating as the girls and pony pranced on.

This is a wonderful show for an evening of laughter - don't forget the champagne!

Die Fledermaus continues until February 10. Tickets cost from £6.50 to £43 but standby tickets are available on the day of the performance at £4.

To a London student a market is a lifeline: cheap food, clothes and inexpensive presents can keep you going when the cash refuses to. To make the most of your one day travel card we tour London's best known markets.

Portobello Road is situated near Notting Hill Gate Tube Station and is most famous for its antiques market. This is held on Saturdays and due to its fame is also packed with tourists.

The antiques market is at the south end of Portobello Road sells a range of tacky 'antiques' and silverware at reasonable prices but cashing in are buskers and other tourist stalls. This part of the market is also crowded with pickpockets, so be careful!

The further north along Portobello road you go, the more like an ordinary market it becomes, selling fruit, veg and second-hand clothes. At the top of Portobello road the stalls merge with those from Westbourne Grove market. The atmosphere is good but if you look anything like a tourist, prepare to be ripped off.

Portobello Road also has the Electric Cinema half way along, as well as 'Strange Attractors', a shop

dedicated to the art of chaotic mathematics. The market is open every day except Thursday and so is always good for a visit.

One of the world's best known markets is Petticoat Lane but has become over popular with tourists

Petticoat Lane famous is at the Aldgate end of Middlesex street. It is a marquee covered with leather and sheepskin wear as soon as you enter the sellers will descend on you using the greatest hard sell tactics in the world to make you buy their

The market proper extends east and west of Brick Lane, with its main body selling standard fruit and veg and some furniture.

The East side is like a junk market with scrap yards and children selling their old toys in the

## Bricks & Petticoats

which has changed its character, to a series of souvenir stalls.

The first thing to remember about Petticoat Lane is that it doesn't exist, it is in fact Middlesex Street and the streets off it and is only open on Sunday mornings. The nearest Tubes are Liverpool St. and Aldgate, at the north and south respectively of the market.

During the winter, the market doesn't really open until ten o'clock because it's cold and the store owners can't be bothered. When it does open, beware the Tourist stalls selling Union Jacks and false policeman's hats. Past this there is a fruit and veg market and some second hand army and navy wear at good prices.

The leather market which makes

clothes. Stay cool and ignore the blatant sexism if you're female, remember they are desperate to sell to you, not you to buy from them.

Remember to hide your A to Z again; if anyone thinks you are a tourist the prices double. Also, as students you look like you're poor; try and bargain or pretend you don't have enough money, it can be worth it.

If you are in Petticoat lane then if you walk a little further east you will arrive at Brick Lane market. Here there is no way you would be recognised as a tourist; all that people want is your money. Brick Lane runs parallel but further east of Petticoat Lane. The tubes, again north and south of the market, are Shoreditch and Aldgate East.

street. There is also a large number of people selling very cheap items from large bags. These are not all entirely legal but if you want a very cheap cigarette lighter then take your own risks.

The west side contains a lot of hardware and sweet stalls. If you find it, there is also a large bike stall where the bikes are very cheap indeed. This may be due to the fact that most of the bikes are stolen but that could just be cynicism on my part.

Another reason to go to Brick Lane is the number of very cheap Indian Restaurants and sweet shops but these are not open on Sunday when the rest of the market is.

**Jonty The A&G King.**



The issues surrounding the continuing contretemps in the Middle East continue to rumble on. In the recent past the IC Anti War in the Gulf Society (now the 'Just Peace in the Middle East Society, ICJPME) hosted a debate on the subject between Mr John Gee, a member of the PLO-sponsored Palestinian Solidarity Group, and Bassem Al Jamal, a member of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO). Lee Matthews, treasurer of ICAWIGS, entered the conversation in a letter to Felix in issue 918.

Their interesting use of the word 'debate' is axiomatic of the double-

attacked by Iraq and not to fight back.

Yassir Arafat said last January: '...I say welcome, welcome to war...Iraq and Palestine represent a common will. We will be side by side and after the great battle, God willing, we will pray together in Jerusalem...the Iraqi fighters and the Palestinian stone throwers have an appointment with victory.' (Associated Press, 27 January 1991)

Arafat's support for Hussein should come as no surprise to anyone. When thousands of Chinese students were mown down at Tiananmen Square he said to the

legitimate leadership of the Soviet Union...success in your fight against the reactionism which has been present until today in the USSR and against imperialism.' (Corriera della Sera, August 22 1991).

Of course Yassir Arafat's support for brutal anti-democratic regimes around the world doesn't make him a terrorist. Neither does it in any way delegitimise him from being acknowledged as the only and true representative of the Palestinian people. The man of peace who recognised Israel's right to exist in 1988 and whose organisation, the PLO have given up their cowardly attacks on synagogue worshippers (Rome), kindergarten children (Metulla), athletes (Munich Olympics), American invalids (Leon Klinghoffer aboard the Achille Lauro) and so on.

I wish I could believe that the PLO has given up such actions. Unfortunately in several interviews since, Arafat has made his standpoint only too clear:

*'I did not mean to renounce... Actually, I only repeated what our Palestine National Council had accepted...I am still now committed to what I said in Cairo in 1985' (Venice TV, December 19, 1988).*

*'The PLO will not stop the armed struggle. I did not ask anybody to refrain from military operations' (Associated Press, Kuwait, June 6 1989).*

I would wholeheartedly agree with the IC AWIGS that it is the right of residents of the West Bank and Gaza to choose their own representatives. The PLO (in common with the Governments of all Arab countries) were not democratically elected. Until recently no Palestinian dared to oppose the PLO. Those delegates who met with Israel in Madrid live under death threat.

As long as Arafat will use the methods he used on Anwar Sadat of Egypt (Oct 6th 1981) or earlier this year to remove Salah Khalif, the former number two man in the PLO, he can claim to enjoy the support of all Palestinians.

The PLO are committed to the total destruction of the State of Israel. Quoting from their constitution, the so-called Palestinian National Charter:

*'Commando action constitutes a nucleus of the Palestinian popular liberation. Palestine, with the boundaries it had during the British Mandate, is an indivisible territorial unit.'*

*'The partition of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of the State of Israel are entirely illegal, regardless of the passage of time, because they were contrary to the*

# The Politics of War

Michael Factor,  
of the IC Jewish  
Society,  
introduces us to  
his views on the  
Middle East  
situation.



talk, distortion and outright lies which the PLO use to legitimise their message of hatred and violence through their sponsored propagandists in the media and on university campuses.

Mr Matthews compared the PLO with the African National Congress (ANC) and Yassir Arafat with Nelson Mandela; comparisons that are highly offensive to every African and indeed to every human rights sympathiser.

Israel is outside the Gulf, of course. It is somewhat ironic that the IC Anti-War in the Gulf Society should host speakers from the one organisation to support Hussein's invasion of Kuwait and should go to such lengths to condemn the only country in the Middle East to be

Chinese Communist Party General Secretary:

*'On behalf of the Arab Palestinian people, their leadership, and myself, I express the warmest, most sincere congratulations to you, dear comrade, on your appointment to General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, and take this opportunity to express extreme gratification that you were able to restore normal order after the recent incidents in People's China. I wish you, close friends, more progress in your endeavour to achieve the hopes, goals, aspirations, stability and security of our friends, the Chinese people.'*

And during the recent attempted coup d'état in the USSR:

*'Congratulations...to the new and*



*will of the Palestinian people and to their natural right in their homeland, and inconsistent with the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, particularly the right to self-determination.*

*The Arab Palestinian people, expressing themselves by the armed Palestinian revolution, reject all solutions which are substitutes for the total liberation of Palestine and reject all proposals aiming at the liquidation of the Palestinian problem, or its internationalism.'*

United Nations resolution 242 calls for the parties involved in the 6 day war to make peace and allows

## *double-talk, distortion and outright lies of the PLO*

Israel to administer the territories it occupied in 1967 until a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is achieved. When such a peace is made, Israel is required to withdraw its armed forces from territories it occupied during the 6 day war - not from 'the' territories, nor from 'all' the territories, but from some of the territories. The withdrawal from the Sinai following peace with Egypt both proves that, having secured a peace treaty, Israel is prepared to compromise on territory, and fulfills all its obligations under International Law. The 1979 withdrawal from the Sinai, returned 90% of the land captured in 1967 to Arab sovereignty.

Lieutenant General Thomas Kelly, the director of US Joint Chief of Staff, said during the Gulf War (Nov 5th 1991) that 'it is impossible to defend Jerusalem unless you hold the high ground...I look onto the 'West Bank' and say to myself 'If I'm the Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces, I cannot defend this land without that terrain.'

What Kelly was saying is not new. A 1968 report by the US Joint Chiefs of Staff maintained that Israel could not be defended unless it controlled a major part of Judea and Samaria. And in 1988, 100 retired US generals and admirals, including some of the most illustrious in the American military, asserted that the territories were vital to Israel security.

Of course Messrs Wong and Schrag were absolutely right in stating that there have been more Palestinians killed in the last three



years than Israelis. The PLO have clamped down hard on collaborators. In fact, over 500 Palestinians have been killed by fellow Palestinians. That is more than the total number of Palestinians killed by Jews and Jews by Palestinians since the so-called *intifada* began. They are right in saying that it is the State of Israel which should renounce violence and

state terror against unarmed Palestinian civilians...perhaps they are referring to the way King Hussein of Jordan massacred 20,000 Palestinians in their uprising of Black September 1970 which Israel, along with all other countries that value human life, did condemn.

Israeli soldiers in Gaza, Judea and Samaria are armed with tear gas, plastic bullets and

watercannons, the same 'weapons' used by European countries to control football hooligans. Under the Geneva convention any occupying power has to maintain law and order in the territories it is administering. Israeli soldiers have to contend with boulders, petrol bombs, daggers and in some cases, bullets. If, to safeguard their own lives, they fire live ammunition, even into the air, or are accused of indiscriminate use of plastic bullets they are arrested and court-martialled.

Jewish settlers have as much right to settle on Jewish-owned land on the 'West Bank' as they have to settle anywhere else in the world.

Any attempt to limit Jewish settlement on Israeli Government owned land would be an attempt to recreate the state of affairs in Arab countries today, and what was the state of affairs in Europe before the war, i.e. that of Jew-free zones, and Jewish reservations—ghettos, something no democratically elected Jewish Government could accept and be re-elected.

We should address ourselves to the plight of Palestinian refugees, and indeed to all deprived people.

The conference in Madrid will hopefully signify a new chapter, with Israeli Government officials meeting with Jordanians and Palestinians. It would appear that progress will be made towards some sort of compromise position mutually acceptable. If Jordan makes peace with Israel, territorial compromise is a serious possibility.

This is to be the last article on the subject of the Middle East that will be published in Felix this year. This includes letters. I understand that the whole issue causes strong feeling, but only amongst a small number personally involved people. It is precisely because of these two reasons that all 'debate' on the subject tend to be irrational, vitriolic, rhetorical and very, very tedious.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is far too complicated and too intractable for it to be given justice in a dilettante multisubject newspaper like this one. The only people who read articles like this one have almost certainly made up their mind and either completely agree or completely disagree. I don't honestly think the vast bulk of IC students could be bothered to read it.

This article was written rather badly as well as by hand. Therefore I do not accept any criticism of spelling or semantic mistakes.





# Dear Marge

According to Union policy, discreet and unavoidable sex is allowed in the Union Building. But what is the definition of being discreet and unavoidable? Here at Dear Marge the subject has often been debated and we have decided that the only times sex can be unavoidable is if a) the persons involved are at a dirty disco. The female thinking that the guy is rather tasty and the guy being

a little excited himself fall together on the dance floor and it accidentally slips in. Or b) if it involves the Union President herself. 'Any chance and she'll take it!' said Steve 'I'm really going to die for this one' Newhouse. Over lunch last Tuesday a young man did actually inform me that 'oh, well, I quite like Zoe!' he then added, just to dig the grave a little deeper, 'I used to have one

of her publicity photos from her election campaign stuck on my bedroom wall' Zoe the sex symbol! Who is this mystery admirer? Answers on a used condom to Marge in Felix.



## Be Lovies

Thought for the Day...

Why is it that when your pubic hairs grow the first time round they don't itch, you don't notice them growing and they just appear over night. When you shave them off for any reason (crabs, operations or aesthetic reasons(?)) they itch like

fuck, take ages to grow back and you're consciously aware of their presence! (Or lack of) And the final word is... It's crimbo time again and so down to the true meaning of christmas... get pissed, get stoned, get laid but for fucks sake be happy!

## Ooh-er Missus



I was wrong about you all last week... you're not really that apathetic as something has actually happened around the college. Yes, someone seems to have made some progress on the Tamsin front. Martin Highway was alleged to have spent the night in the young ladys hall, maybe even in her bedroom. Does this mean that the betting is over? The Mole, who kindly informed me of this event says that the 'two of them were seen leaving Garden hall on the morning of 29.11.91 together... but unfortunately both were clothed at the time.' Another reliable source has informed me that Martin has been known to spend nights in the Jez garage, does that mean that she is on his list of people to pork too? So let's have a review of the stakes:

Martin Highway 3:1  
Stuart Risen 5:1  
Howie 2:1 (fav)  
Ian (her man) 200:1 - no chance of him keeping her if she has all these men chasing her at the moment.  
Will 8:3  
Simon 4:1

We have the voice of Tamsin on tape stating that we can use the picture and that she doesn't care so here it is, the long awaited photo of the woman in red.

## Quotes for the week

'Bigamy is having one wife too many,

Monogamy is much the same thing.'

'Life is a terminal sexually transmitted disease'

'Sam is like a ice-cream, the deeper

you get into her the messier it gets...'

'I'm not feeling anything at the moment'

'Crabs is like puberty but worse'

'I need something hard to bang'

## Felix says Bollocks

And on to Rag... or rather the rag mag. The following quotes have been heard around college:

'Its all true' - A. Random

'Gee how swell' - A. Token American

'Its absolutely foul and disgusting-

I love it!' - A.N.Other Random

'Who wrote this - I'll buy him a pint!' - Me

'It is an insult to all human life, it shouldn't affect anyone at Imperial' - 3rd year Aeronautics Student.

We all would like to thank Martin Highway for an excellently disgustingly brillo rag mag - so get out there peeps and see how many places will ban it this year. Lets just say that Manchester banned it before it was even published!

## Letters

Dear Marge

Evrybody Hates Me. All the starf shout at me and all evrybody sez Im yoosless. Ive got three uvar sabatikuls working wiv me but they dont tork too me coz we dont loik eech uvar and wun carnt even speak propa inglish coz he cums from yorksha and thay dont even speak propa inglish up their.

We orl have nise offisis and we spend as much time as we can in them in case we see ani of thows smelli studints and wen the resephshunists carnt cope they orlways orlways orlways cum and arsk wun of us to help.

This is were the problem happins coz its not my job to resephshunize and wen i say so the staff get orl uppity and cross and corl me a 'jobswuth' watevar that is.

Snot fare coz that yorksha thing noes even less about deelin wiv starf than I do an barely noes wot to do wiv orl his money. I also have sin a large carrit like persin next dor too

me wat never dus anything eksept run rownd londin nakid. ther is also a tiny thing wot lives in the felix offis wot never seems to say anythin nise bout anibody.

I dont understand wots going on and im getting cross and pist of.

Yors distresst of the yoonyun offis.

Dear distrest,

I can see that here you have a pretty major problem, the only answer that I can give is...nuke the place from orbit - it's the only way to be sure.

Marge

Dear Marge,

I'm sorry Dave I'm afraid I can't do that

Hal.

Dear Hal,  
Screw you.

Marge



# Seasoning of Good Will

by Alison Pool.

**Spare a thought for the festive season's most prominent victim this Christmas.**

The turkey is a relatively late addition to the list of factory farmed species, but now represents the largest 'growth industry' amongst meat products. Once considered a luxury, turkey has become a convenience consumer product, largely since it was discovered that with added colouring and flavouring it will take the taste of almost any kind of meat, and is cheaper to produce. In the 25 years up to 1988 annual turkey production in the UK increased from three million to 33.5 million. Last year the Christmas market consumed 16.5 million birds.

For those familiar with the conditions under which most table chickens are kept, the situation for turkeys is very similar. In the most modern units approximately 20,000 birds are reared in one building, partitioned into four sections of 5,000 birds. Typical stocking densities are 1.25sq ft per turkey up to 8 weeks old, 2.5sq ft up to 16 weeks and 3.5sq ft over 16 weeks. These cramped conditions are nevertheless slightly better than those for chickens. This is mainly because turkeys do not scratch around in the litter which will therefore degrade more rapidly. The litter is not changed once over the full 26 weeks.

The foul ammonia-ridden litter causes burns and ulcerations. 'Genetic improvements' have led to faster growing and greedier birds which are fed on a high protein diet based on soya and grains. Often the birds' skeleton does not keep up with this rate of growth, to the point that 80% of male breeding turkeys become lame, suffering irreversible diseases of the hipjoints. Weak individuals are frequently trampled to death.

Due to this highly unnatural environment, turkeys, like chickens, take out their frustrations on their neighbours. Left to their own devices, they will devour each other. Instead of addressing the central problem, the factory farmer simply adds to the cruelty. Turkeys are routinely debeaked at five days using a red-hot blade. Sometimes the upper mandible is cut back so severely that the nostrils are damaged. No anaesthetic is used and the process, even if carried out properly, is thought to cause immense pain both during, and for

a long while after. Breeding turkeys suffer the same agony a second time at 14-18 weeks. Where debeaking is not carried out, the birds are kept in near darkness in order to pacify them.

The modern genetically improved male turkey is so heavy and broad-breasted that it is no longer even capable of mating with the much smaller female. Insemination is now almost entirely carried out artificially, causing much pain to both sexes.

At the end of their short 'commercial life' (a maximum of 26 weeks for a table turkey) the birds are transferred to the 'processing plant'. Simply being uprooted from such a fully controlled environment is a shock in itself. The fragile birds are insensitively packed into crates aboard lorries which sometimes offer no protection from the weather and which may travel unlimited distances.

At the processing plant turkeys are hung upside down by their legs

on a shackle line, and taken on a conveyor belt system to their deaths. The law allows turkeys to be hung in this way for up to six minutes. An average breeding male at the end of its 'useful' life weighs 60lbs, equivalent to an eight or nine year old child.

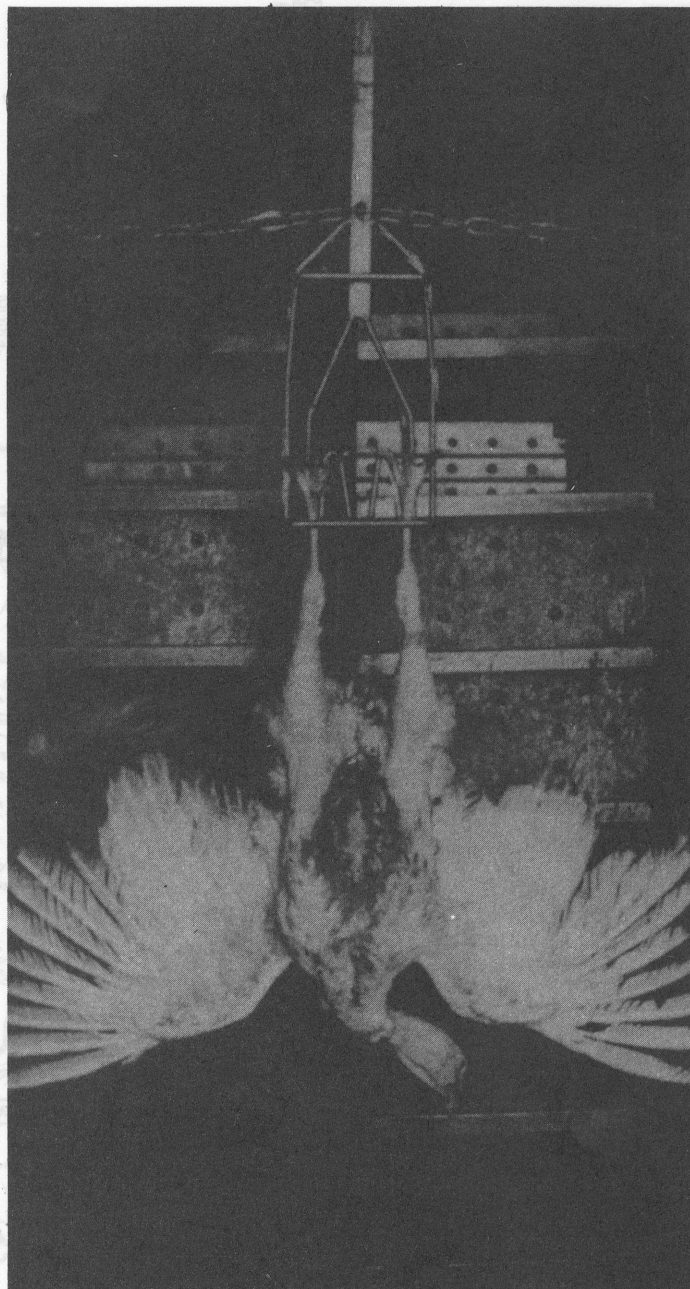
Eventually the birds reach a stunning apparatus. This usually consists of a water-bath charged with a low level electric current. Some ten to thirty seconds after immersion in the bath the birds pass on to the (usually automatic) throat slitter, before finally being dropped into a scalding tank.

There is widespread concern that many birds are not adequately stunned. Even though immobilised they may still be sentient. Low voltages of 80 to 90 volts are used deliberately because producers argue that birds do not 'bleed out' properly if they die before their throats are cut. Slight differences in size or minimal movement by the birds can prevent them from being stunned at all. For the same reasons the throat slitter may miss altogether, or cut across the skull. With more than 1000 turkeys passing through each hour, the back-up killer is unlikely to notice all of these 'accidents', which are, to varying degrees, everyday occurrences. It has to be assumed that thousands of birds came to an agonising end in the scalding tank.

Intead of wrestling with your conscience over the roast this Christmas, why not try one of the alternatives? The most ethical solution is, of course, the traditional vegetarian yuletide feast—the nut cutlet. For those of us not prepared to go so far, there remains the option of free-range turkeys. Though most suffer the same painful end, the quality of life leading up to this moment is vastly superior.

Most supermarkets do at least stock frozen free-range turkeys at Christmas. The most highly respected brand for free range poultry at the moment is probably 'Label Rouge' from France.

Anyone interested in animal welfare issues should contact the Environmental and Appropriate Technology Socceity or the following organisations: Compassion in World Farming, the RSPCA or, regarding poultry in particular, Chicken Lib. A recipe for nut cutlets is displayed on the ENTS noticeboard.



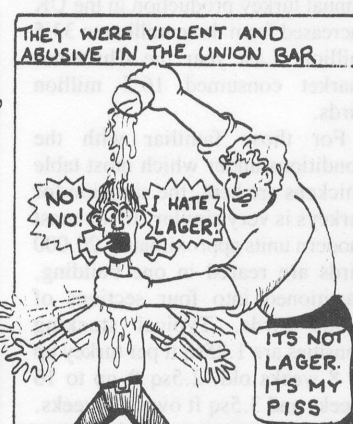
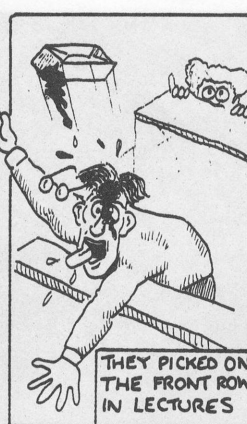
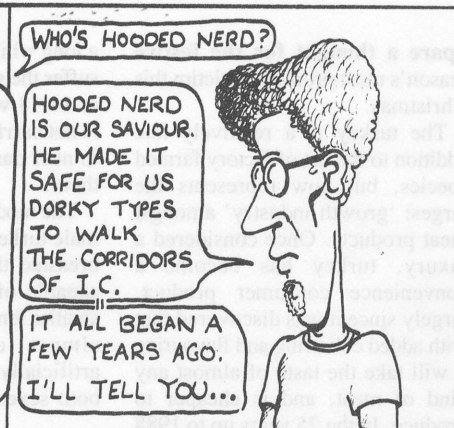
*A turkey awaiting slaughter.*



# 'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JELLY

## THE ORIGIN OF HOODED NERD

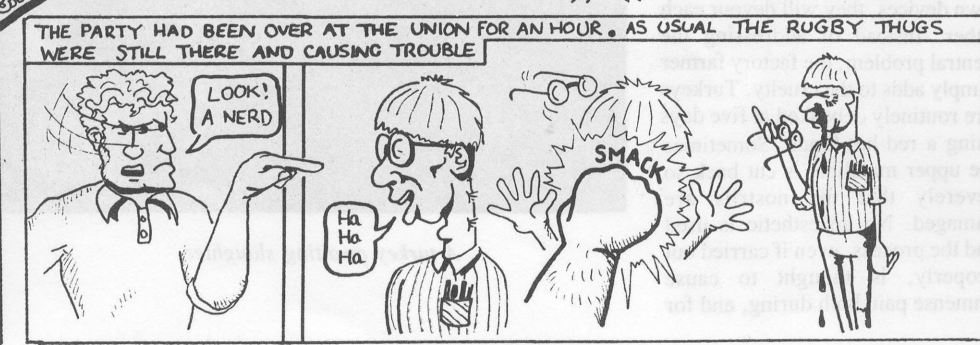
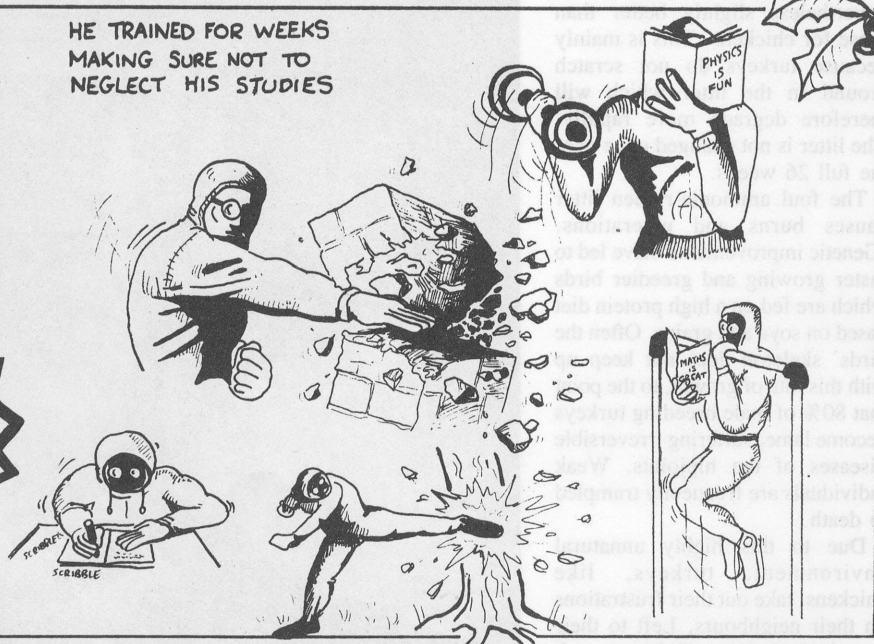
LATE ONE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON  
WHILST SHOWING AROUND THE NEW NERDS



THEY MUST HAVE CAUGHT THE ATTENTION  
OF ONE GUY THAT TERM, ONE GUY WHO  
WAS TIRED OF BEING PUSHED AROUND JUST  
BECAUSE HE WAS A NERD WHO ENJOYED  
STATISTICAL THERMODYNAMICS, TIRED OF  
RITUALLY BEING PICKED ON BECAUSE OF  
HIS ANORAK AND DOG-EARED COPY OF  
TRAINSPOTTING MONTHLY. THEY MUST HAVE  
SERIOUSLY PISSED HIM OFF.  
HE DECIDED TO TAKE ACTION!  
TO TURN THE TABLES ON THOSE DAMN  
PESKY YOBBS,  
TO BECOME

HE TRAINED FOR WEEKS  
MAKING SURE NOT TO  
NEGLECT HIS STUDIES

**HOODED  
NERD!**









# Water Polo on Canoes!

With visions of gold medals, fast cars, easy men/women and sponsorship from a well known prophylactic manufacturer we set off to Warwick. But the road to the top is not an easy one especially when Warwick University is in Coventry! We finally arrived and then the big moment... the debut of Imperial's crack canoe polo squad against Nottingham.

Due to a slight unfamiliarity with the rules we eased ourselves into the first half of the match by striking fear into the hearts of our opponents - and quickly conceded five goals. Having got the hang of the sort of skill, cunning and outright violence necessary to succeed we stuffed them in the second half, only conceding one other goal!

By now our reputation as ruthless goal mongers had spread. The intimidation ploy obviously worked in our next game as Bangor put away the first goal. This fired the killer instinct in our team and caused a most unprecedented pass to occur which produced our first ever goal!

Both teams needed the full half time break for shock counselling



from poolside psychiatrists. In the second half Bangor, still a bit dazed, scored a second goal pre-empting a slick equalising counter

attack. But Bangor had an ace up their sleeves and proceeded to break down into tears. It worked! With the compassion shown by our high

calibre players we let them slip in their winning goal and bang went our Johnnies!

John Kent, Biology III.

## Drib Drib Broomball Swimming Champs

Back to last years form, the Dribblers were severely let down by several players. As a result the Dribblers only had eight players, one of whom had been run over earlier that week (Ethel) and another who should have stayed in her sickbed (Sharon).

Despite these minor inconveniences (including the absence of Captain Permi - who surprisingly chose to play in an FA Cup match instead) the Dribblers lived up to their recent reputation of being amazing - until Sussex scored. Suddenly the Dribblers found themselves 2-0 down at half time.

After a rousing team tactic talk by acting Captain Sara and a change in defence due to illness, the Dribblers held their stance for another 5 mins, before conceding another five goals during the second half.

Had the Dribblers had any forwards the result would have been very different as the midfield/defence had some stormin' near misses. Everyone played well especially Chandra in defence. Thanks to those who did turn up to play, it was a cracking attempt and at least we didn't cancel the game at the last minute.

Broomball is a game played on ice in flat shoes with a large orange ball and sticks with triangular plastic bits stuck to the ends. This seems really silly, well it is, but it's great fun.

The first IC (ULU) Broomball Club event took place last Friday (29th Nov) at Broadgate icerink. After muzzling the goalies and fighting for the trendiest padding, the teams of four were ready for action.

The yellow team won - this might have been due to the fact that they had the most experienced players or that they were good. The red team were excellent on attack and Jenny of the blue team was a real demon. Keith and Chris decided that acrobatics on ice was much more fun while Suma spent a lot of time on her bottom. Goal scorers were Keith, Jemmy, Dave, Brian, Terry and Dave.

If you're feeling energetic the why not come along to one of our meetings on Monday's at 12.30pm at the Southside Upper Lounge. And if you don't feel energetic come along anyway and be a good goalie - you don't have to move much. If you are interested then contact Rachel Garrard, Physics III.

Gina Marquess.

After a long absence from the UL Championships, Imperial managed not only to field a team but to win the overall team trophy for the first time since the early eighties.

The first round of the competition took place on Monday 18th November. It soon became apparent that IC and UC were the only teams in condition and the end of the round saw IC coveting a four point advantage over their rivals.

The second round on Thursday 21st November saw UC desperate to keep hold of their trophy. A passionately fought duel ensued with many of their swimmers making valiant last ditch efforts to

preserve their teams honour. IC were having none of it however, and after decisively winning the relay events, we extended our lead to twenty points over UC, with St Georges Medical School finishing third (despite only having one swimmer!).

The IC team consisted of Gillian Bennett, Lisa Jeffries, Stuart Collins, Danny Halls, John Kent and James Ralph. Any one interested in swimming competitively for either the college or for the university should contact Danny Halls (Materials) or John Kent (Biology).

## Close Encounters

7pm Tues 10th Dec, Mech Eng 220

ICSF's last film of the term is a Spielberg classic. Roy Neary witnesses unidentified flying objects in the night skies near his Indiana home. He tries desperately to understand what he has experienced and find the meaning of the mysterious visions planted in his mind. He is joined in his quest by Jillian Guiler, a woman whose son

has been taken by aliens. Together they are drawn to a mountain peak in Wyoming and there all their weird obsessions and premonitions become crystal clear.

Films intended for next term include 2001, Predator II, Terminator II, and Bladerunner (all in Cinemascope hopefully). Films are £1 to members and £2.50 to non-members (including free entry to first film).



# Mighty Seconds

IC II played an important league match against St Mary's Hospital on Wednesday 27th November. Captain Rax Muthoo took some extraordinary measures for the special occasion. He drove the minibus carefully (staying well clear of diesel pumps), drafted in footballing supremo Dave Buckle to replace the injured Nigel Clough and even convinced the referee to give a pre-match team talk.

The game itself had a peculiar beginning, with Imperial's vintage left-back Stuart Miller experiencing a Van Goghian moment of folly. Not content with blasting the ball towards his own goal, he passed it to an oncoming opposition player after goal-keeper Steve Shilling had saved his suicidal shot. It took a

defective net, a firm referee and a conjuring trick from canny Eamon McCann to deprive St Mary's of a legitimate first goal. However, the opposition's cynical football style, typical of medical schools, coupled with a loud and hostile crowd (later booked by the referee), put the most intellectual team at IC under pressure and eventually gave St Mary's the lead.

In the second half Imperial gained confidence and composure with Simon Barry scoring two goals. But the team dramatically weakened soon after, when Buckle suffered a bloody head injury. He was sandwiched between two opposition skulls and had to leave the battlefield clutching his bucket. IC were still shocked by the loss of

their heroic warrior when St Mary's grabbed the equaliser.

Shilling pulled off stunning saves, Richard Burrows and Ian Finnerty defended with authority, and Tellis Botzios fought hard in midfield enabling Imperial to keep the score level till the end. After the game some members of the opposition kindly offered to medicate Buckle's injury but this was politely declined due to the apparent state of intoxicification of the former. Ironically, the matter was eventually stitched up at the St Mary's Hospital casualty department.

The 2nds were back at Harlington on the following Saturday. They maintained their unbeaten run of seven matches by defeating

Goldsmiths College III by 6-2 in the quarter finals of the ULU Upper Reserves Cup. It was a classic game of two halves with the score standing at 5-2 at half time.

There was a forceful performance by Chris Collinson, while the recovered Max Duckworth and Nigel Clough were a welcome sight on the field. McCann was a catalyst in many passing move which brought back memories of Holland 1974. Muthoo scored a goal, Jason Devoy got two (including a superb lob) and Barry managed his second hat-trick of the season. Once again he experienced the magic of the Cup, and the road to Motspur Park is just round the corner.

## Emphatic Fourths?

Last Saturday saw IC IV complete the double over IC V in emphatic style. Piyush scored an absolute peach of a goal from just outside the area giving IC IV the lead early on in the first half. The game saw new firsts with Femmi Davis managing to get a shot on target and a pre-match talk from the captain that everyone understood.

IC IV sat on their lead in the second half rarely venturing into the other half. Some players such as D Buckle resorted to time wasting, by

pretending to have a heart attack. But this proved to be unnecessary as IC V only managed to get one shot on target, despite their territorial advantage.

Over the curry at the end of the game, the team decided that victory would have been even easier had the captain included himself in the two substitutions made at half time. The captain just smiled to himself and made a mental note of the number of penalty points that would be needed at the club dinner.

## Conquering VI

Last Saturday IC VI conquered Royal London Hospital II to gain only their third league victory this year. Disregarding previous defeats like 17-0 and 6-1, IC VI played well to overcome a weakened 10-man opposition. Even with a damp team kit Omar Jamal and Sam 'The Greek' Karam managed a hat-trick each while Roy Okel also scored two; Ray displayed an amazing

reluctance to ever pass the ball once he had obtained it, as did James Wilton-Ely.

The defence played well throughout most of the match, although one outstanding moment came when Tom Parker placed the ball superbly past his own goalkeeper, Dave McCluse, to score his first (own) goal of the season.

### SPORTS RESULTS

#### FOOTBALL

##### ULU Challenge Cup:

IC I 7-1 Kings College Hosp.

##### ULU Upper Reserves Cup

IC II 6-2 Goldsmiths III

##### League:

IC II 2-2 St Mary's Hosp.

IC IV 1-0 IC V

IC VI 8-2 Royal London Hosp.

IC I 2-3 UC I

IC II 7-1 MXUCH I

IC IV 6-2 QMWC IV

IC V 4-1 KCH II

#### WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

##### UAU:

Dribblers VIII 0-7 Sussex XI

#### CANOE POLO

##### Competition:

IC 0-6 Nottingham

IC 2-3 Bangor

#### NETBALL (League)

Imperial 32-29 RHBNC

**ICU Bookstore—sale starts 6 Jan 1991**

## League Proposal

Over the past term, member societies of the Overseas Students Committee have been playing each other in friendly 11-a-side football games. As a result of these matches, the OSC decided they would attempt to organise a league for next term, encompassing all the OSC societies that would be willing to participate. And from funds available, they would provide a trophy and medals for the winners.

However, upon hearing this, I thought it may be an idea to open up this league to all members societies of Imperial College Union (with the obvious exception of the football club). If such a league is set up, it may then be possible to entice outside corporations to sponsor it. This would go some way in alleviating some of the setting up and running costs of such a league, whilst also offering the sponsor(s)

a good opportunity to gain a lucrative advertising market.

The league would most likely consist of two groups, with the top two teams from each group playing it out to find out who would be Champions. At present we have eight OSC societies interested in participating. Hence there is room for more teams.

So if you think your society possess a brilliant football team and would like to get involved in such a league next term, then please come forward. All you have to do is to get in contact with me before 1pm Tuesday 17th December. This can be done by either leaving a message in my pigeon hole in the FELIX office or by electronic mail (khs@doc or VAXA::UMACG97). More details will follow in future FELIX issues.

**Khurram.**



They sat hunched up in a nearby tunnel while Carefree explained the inner system.

'There are three groups of people in the system. The dorks are the lowest, followed by the geeks, the schmucks and finally the jocks who have all the top jobs. The citizens can change their trend rating by improving their trend points which are adjusted after their regular visits to the party meetings where they perform rituals such as alcohol

maintain justice.'

'But what about the executives? the people outside the system?'

'That's what I'm trying to do! I'm trying to overthrow the government, to stop their terrible ways!'

'Yes! I'll help you, I want to overthrow them too!'

Stress was really pleased. Finally in this chaos there was something he could follow wholeheartedly.

Carefree smiled.

suits and are at the edges of the inner system! They'll definitely then help me overthrow the government and replace it with someone who'll stop the menace of the pale ones.'

They both slept, unaware of reality.

Stress was walking along a big black metal tunnel. It was slippery and shiny and he kept falling. He knew he wanted to get out of this dim tunnel to the light beyond but the faster he tried to go the more he fell down. But by standing still he seemed to move towards the end. There seemed to be something blocking the exit, letting only a few shafts of light through. Stress examined the object. It was a large sphere with a clock and a sign reading 'killer chemical cocktail'. As the clock ticked to zero, Stress realised that the object was a bomb and started running back down the tunnel. A massive explosion shook the tunnel throwing him to the ground. As he staggered up and looked behind him he cried out and ran on. Behind him the pursuit cop happily gave chase.

**'GET UP YOU STUPID SCHMUCK! YOU NEED SOME LUCK YOU NEED TO DUCK YOU NEED TO WAKE UP!!!'**

Stress turned to look ahead and found he had already reached the end of the tunnel and found it was worse than the tunnel. As he fell out and headed to the ground far below he twisted to see the pursuit cop leaning out of the tunnel which was the barrel of the gun of a larger pursuit cop leaning out of the tunnel...

The laughter of the pursuit cops deafened him as he hit the ground.

# The Inner System



## Chapter 8;

## Explanation.

## The sizzling

## Christmas

## chapter by Troy

## Tempest.

## Snuggle up in a

## fireside rocking

## chair with your

## sherry and

## mince pies.

retention, fights with electric guitars and disaster dancing, different classes have different uniforms and modes of transport. The dorks don't have a transport vehicle, they have to run everywhere in brightly coloured tracksuits. The geeks have skateboards, short shorts and baggy short sleeved t-shirts. The schmucks: BMX bikes, sleeveless t-shirts and thigh-length shorts. The jocks: rollerskates, cut away t-shirts and knee length shorts. Everyone must wear sunglasses to protect them from the UV lights that illuminate the system.

She paused and frowned.

'We don't run the system on our own.'

'Yes, I noticed the others.'

'Robots and machines do the work, hallowglams maintain the ideal citizen state for us to strive towards and the superheroes

'That's great! Later I'll take you to the nightclub where you can meet the others who'll help us defeat the authorities. Now it's time to sleep. Here's a pill.'

Carefree pulled out a small red pill and handed it to Stress. He cautiously swallowed it. His eyelids drooped and he sagged back against the wall. Carefree popped one in her mouth and spoke aloud to herself.

'Wait 'til they find out in the group that the pale ones are wearing

# Free Condoms

The Imperial College health service is one of four local general practices taking part in the Riverside Health Authority 'Free Condom Scheme'. Usually, condoms can only be

obtained free of charge from Health Authority Family Planning Clinics. However, until Spring 1992, the Health Centre is giving away packets of condoms. Initially, you will need to see a doctor or nurse, but thereafter packets can be obtained from the Health Centre reception. The 'Free Condom Scheme' will be used to discover whether;

1. It is appropriate for general practice health centres to distribute condoms.

2. Doctors should be able to prescribe condoms on the National Health Service.

To this end, questionnaires are being distributed with the condoms. The questionnaires are anonymous and information cannot be traced to the respondents. Please help the Health Centre staff to collect data, by completing and returning them.

I.C. ENTS  
presents

**gyroscope**

**an end of term rave**

**Wednesday 11th December**

**in the Concert Hall**

**Late Bar, Entry £3.00**

Plus: Friday 13th December

**CHRISTMAS LIBIDO**

**Union Lounge, 9pm till late, 2am bar**

**FREE**



909 Thursday  
25 July

Next week the College Governing Body will meet to discuss the ever present problem of student accommodation. Under discussion will be the formation of a company, separate from the College, under the Business Expansion Scheme (BES) which is intended to raise a fund of money from the staff of Imperial College and their friends. The money raised under the private company will be used to purchase existing accommodation from the College, which will be bought back after a minimum period of 5 years.

On the 10th July HRH Princess Anne visited the College to open two new centres of technology on the South Kensington site. The Bagrit Centre will carry out work on biomedical systems drawing on the combined knowledge of Imperial and its partner St Mary's Hospital; the other newcomer was The Centre for Toxic Waste Management.

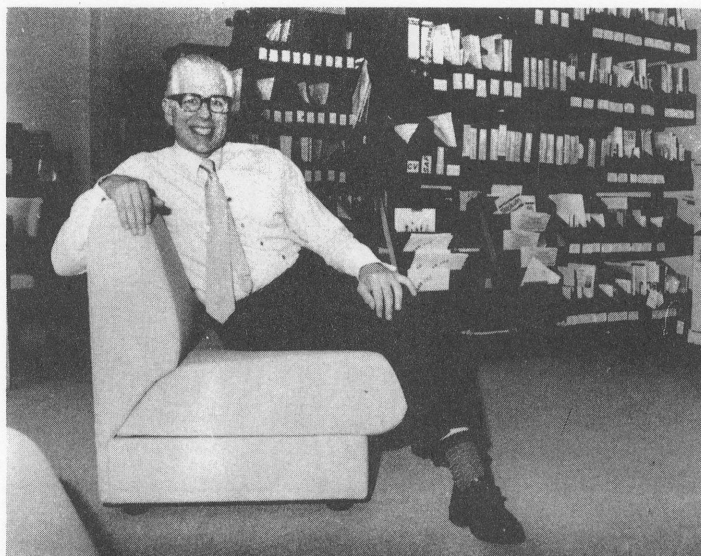
Yve Posner, the Union Welfare Advisor since the beginning of 1989, has resigned her post. John Simpson joined the College Careers Service as its new Director and we were all sad to hear that the No.33 bus would no longer stop in Prince Consort Road. Sumit Paul-Choudhury, half of the Felix Reviews Editors, was placed runner-up in the Daily Telegraph's Young Science Writer Awards for 1991.

910 Monday  
30 September

The new Welfare Advisor for the Union, Stefano Ruis, has seen a 50% rise in the number of people seeking help and advice. Students have endured greater hardship over



HRH Princess Anne visits College.



John Simpson, appointed director of the College Careers Service in July.

## News Review

this summer period due to the lack of summer jobs adding to the toll imposed by the poll tax and the loss of housing benefit. Commenting on this issue Mr Ruis said that 'The so called compensation for the loss of housing benefit (ie Student loans) does not really address the issue.'

Over the summer a group called Academics For Free Speech (AFFS) produced a four page A5 leaflet promoting their anti-semitic views. Covering the findings of Fred Leuchter, an American expert on execution, it claimed that the mass extermination of the Jews during World War II could never have happened. Felix was informed of the existence of the leaflet after a local newspaper in the north east of England called our office to find out if we had any knowledge of the production. On the back of the leaflet a credit claimed that it was 'Printed and Published by Academics For Free Speech, Imperial College, London.' Terry Briley said that 'Special Operations', one of the Governments security departments, were interested in the case as it was tantamount to 'an incitement of racial hatred'. Sir Eric Ash commented that 'There are a lot of nutters at Imperial College, but I cannot believe that it came from here.' amongst other things.

The Mechanical Engineering building was evacuated yesterday at 5.15pm after dangerous levels of hydrogen sulphide gas were produced in the drainage system. The drains were being cleaned by a private company who poured 93% sulphuric acid into them to clear a blockage which reacted with matter that produced the dangerous gas. The building remained empty for 8 hours.

The ever tight accommodation service has decided to supply bed linen to home students no longer. The decision was made by College accommodation management who instructed Housekeepers to sell linen packs to home students. Originally, overseas students were also to be sold linen but after the intervention of Jonathan Griffiths, Deputy President, this decision was reversed.

£12,000 of College kit was stolen in one evening together with other things. Jill Gibbons has been appointed as the new Union Bookstore Manager.



Penguin in post tiddlywinking celebrations.

911 Friday  
4 October

A furious reaction has been received from the student body concerning proposed changes to the Sports Centre in Princes Gardens. Amongst the possibilities are the conversion of the gym and weights room into a café or lounge area, and the inclusion of saunas, sunbeds and

*The Felix news team round up what has been preoccupying the news pages this term.*



.....*News Review continued.*

jacuzzis. The proposal seems likely to be partly funded by the student and staff users of the centre. Time put aside for clubs or societies may also be cut or moved to inconvenient times. The controversy is further heightened by the wish of the college to open up the centre to the general public even more. In a written note from Gordon Marshall, Director of Estates, referring to the 'Kensington Sports Centre', he says that the College intends to make the centre self financing if not profit making. The manager of the Sports Centre said that he understood that the £300,000 renovation would be financed by a loan from College but did not deny that prices to students would rise. The Athletics Clubs Committee (ACC) said that it believed that Mr Coleman was not remotely interested in student facilities and had said so on more than one occasion.

Security at Imperial College is to be tightened up with the installation of electronic pass card doors. The system will be put in place in the early part of next year if approval is given by the heads of departments who are currently reviewing the proposal. The system will provide everyone at IC with an identity card with their details encoded upon it and this will act as a pass key to all or most areas of College outside of normal hours. During the course of a normal working day the cards will not, as yet, be required. The card will enable the system to record the movements of students and staff around the college and possibly hinder particular individuals' movements by programming their number into a computer. Mr Briley, College Security Officer said that the precise details of the system depended on which one College chose. Jonathan Griffiths, Deputy President, said that 'I can't see how it can be detrimental to anybody.' - (see issue 917)

Forged £10 notes have been passed to Union facilities in the past two weeks. Andy Flanagan, Union Bar Manager, said that such notes are presently flooding many parts of North and West London. Police said that the forgeries had no connection with the £5M haul of £10 and £50 notes made in Harlow, Essex, in the last few days and no similar reports had been received from traders in the South Kensington area.

The ICU Dramatic Society won a £3,000 lighting desk following their entry into a prize draw while running Theatre West End at the Edinburgh Fringe. After their return from the festival the society had £9,000 worth of equipment stolen from the Concert Hall.



*Student loans - a fact of life?*

Lush cancelled the gig planned for 9th October in the Union following their discovery that the Union did not have a full entertainments licence and Mandy Hurford, Union Manager, estimated the cost of the Union refurbishment at £60,000.

## 912 Friday 11 October

A man in the Lounge Bar claimed that he had been approached by a drug pusher trying to sell him ecstasy or speed. After the incident the person informed the Deputy President who called College Security, they in turn called in the Police. The suspect was searched but the Police found no illegal substances, and he claimed that 'it was a joke'.

Violence flared outside Southside last Saturday when four people attempted to leave the bar. Helen Roberts said that she had left the bar with three friends and been confronted by about ten men. The men hurled abuse at Ms Roberts and her friends and then attacked members of her group. One of them suffered injuries to the face and stomach and the other was pinned to a car and punched in the back.

A disgruntled College employee threw a beer barrel through the window of a car last Wednesday and later trashed the car owner's office in the Sherfield Building. The crime wave continued with theft of personal items, a Naga computer processor worth £1800 from Civil Engineering, a resuscitator and phials of amyl nitrate ('liquid gold') from the College ambulance, four bicycles and an attempted theft of a motorbike.

Dr Jaafar Dhiah Jaafar, a former research assistant at IC is suspected of being a major force behind Iraq's nuclear weapons program as he holds the position of Vice President of the Baghdad Atomic Energy Centre. Dr David Websdale of the Physics Department doubted

however that Dr Jaafar's training was suitable for the development of atomic weapons.

## 913 Friday 18 October

The Imperial College Union Careers Fair proved to be popular with the 70 or so companies that attended this week. The majority of the companies, including Price Waterhouse, Rolls Royce, and British Telecom, thought very highly of the event which had an estimated attendance of 5,500 students.

Holbein House residents are complaining of the state of disrepair of its accommodation including the furniture and fittings. One postgraduate student said that 'we are expected to live like squatters'. The College plans to close the hall at Easter for the rest of the year. Mr Graham Daniels, Residences Area Manager, said that he is considering Holbein a priority case and will be initiating a project to 'rectify major faults in showers' but admitted that faults cannot be fixed over-night, a point proved in Holbein for at least the last seven years.

Imperial College's Caroline Fox, Director of Personnel, unveiled a document on the College's Equal Opportunities Programme which

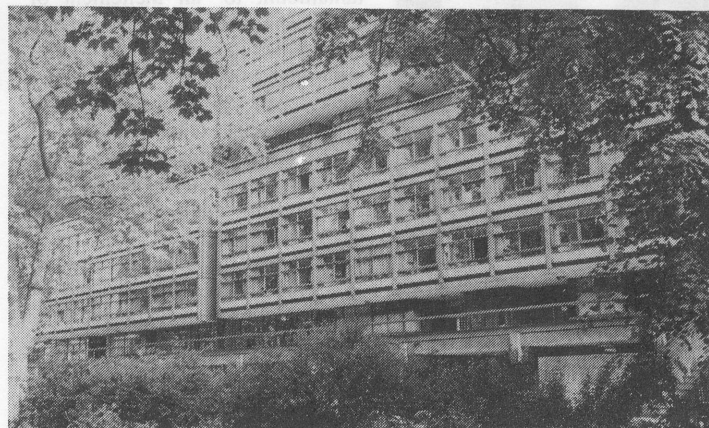
lays down policy on the advertising of job vacancies and interviewing procedure. Rob Letham told Felix that 'we want to show we care about the people we employ' and said that although he didn't know how the programme would be implemented he expected feedback by November - see issue 917.

A motorcycle was stolen, as was a cash box with £150, and an attempt on a new Ford Sierra. Rag has raised £11,290 so far, but no connection has been found.

## 914 Friday 25 October

A first year chemistry student, Stephen Dorman, was seriously injured during an attempt to kidnap the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) mascot last Thursday. The accident which involved a vehicle being driven by a City and Guilds Union member ran over Mr Dorman's leg and caused a compound fracture. An ambulance was called and the Police interviewed the witnesses to the event. After being taken to hospital the leg was operated on twice. The incident has called into question the current state of mascotry at IC and preceded a meeting on the subject. It is expected that from now on mascotry between the CCUs of the College will take part upon campus only. The Police have reported the driver for reckless driving and driving without due care. Mr Dorman asked the Police not to press charges and said that people in his view took mascotry far too seriously.

Student loan applications have risen since last year and has caused a long waiting list for interviews currently lasting up to November 25th. Last year students across the country borrowed an average of £338 under the loan scheme, but to date 30,000 people have applied for £570 or more. The Government has viewed the increased up take of the scheme as an acceptance of the idea but Tony Cullen, Assistant Registrar said that this year 'student loans are a fact of life', whereas



*Southside halls - fun and games, violence and arson.*



'last year they were more of an option'.

Doctor Keith Barnham of the Physics Department has announced the results of his research in to an improved solar cell. In the improved cell thin layers of semiconductor material only 50 atoms thick are added to the surface to form 'quantum wells' which trap higher energy electrons than normal. The process is so effective that a cell with 50 quantum wells is twice as efficient as one with 30.

The Rag total is now £12,700 and many people are suffering because grants from Local Education Authorities (LEAs) are late. More thefts occurred including another Naga computer, and still no connecting evidence has been found.

## 915 Friday 11 November

A fire started in a lift in Southside at about 2am last Saturday is being treated as arson by the Police who investigated the incidence. It is believed that this incident is the third attempt to cause a serious fire in the building in the same location and possess a serious threat to the inhabitants of the hall. A letter from the warden of the halls, Dr John Hassard said that if the fire had been discovered five minutes later it would not have been extinguished. In this instance one end of the hall was filled with smoke from burning plastic. Residents are said to be furious about the lack of safety in the hall which is a culmination of faulty fire alarms, missing fire extinguishers and the presence of only one security guard.

A dispute has arisen between some of the clubs and societies treasures and the Union because of a document that they must sign making them liable for fiscal losses incurred by their organisations. One treasurer has resigned and three other people have yet to sign the document which also includes the head of each group.

Following the accident last week during a mascotry attempt all vehicles are banned from being used during such an event. A meeting of the CCUs about the incident concluded that since vehicles are 'harder than even rugby players' they should be totally excluded from mascotry. Various other changes have been made to make the matter more of a sport rather than a battle and improve the situation rather than to end it, as proposed in a letter from Sir Eric Ash.

Welfare week was a flop. C+GU attended the Lord Mayor's Show and Kate Dalton was elected as their

new Hon Sec. Violence broke out at last Friday's 'Rain' gig and Graham Lawton, Ents Chairman, put this down to a long running dispute between people attracted to bar extensions when events had been planned.

## 916 Friday 8 November

Imperial College has been forced to back down on its proposed changes to the College Safety Council responsible for Health and Safety at work in all areas of College. The changes which meant overall voting control lay with Management nominated representatives only was found to be technically illegal under the Government Health and Safety regulations. The procedure was severely disliked by the trade unions within college who threatened to break away and form their own safety council. Management said that the council only 'advised' the Rector so any changes had no real effect. This reaction was hotly contested by the unions who declared that 'Safety is not negotiable'.

At the UGM held yesterday less than 30 students attended posing the thought that 99.6% of the student body are totally content with the operation of the Student's Union. The Government announced the Council Tax as replacement to the Poll Tax. Police reported dodgy LSD tabs spiked with strychnine and the C+GU blood donation session attracted 109 donors.

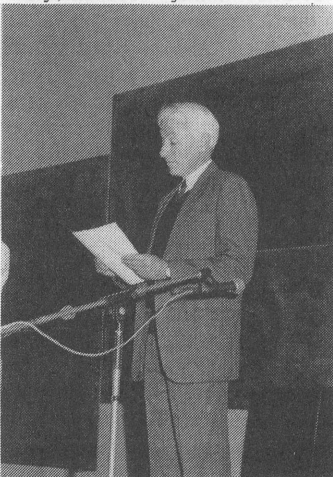
## 917 Friday 15 November

Security guards, messengers and car park attendants currently employed by the College are to be replaced by a private firm, it was announced by Gordon Marshall, Director of Estates. In a letter sent to staff by Mr Marshall he stated that due to a 'need to modernise systems' the College was proposing to 'contract out of the whole of this area of operations'. Derek Dollard of the Manufacturing Science and Finance Trade Union (MSF) called for the unions to 'shut down this place on the day of the Governing Body meeting (4th December).....subject to the result of a ballot, of course.' No consultation has yet taken place with the unions or staff and although the proposal is now open to discussion for a period of one month it was stated that College is unlikely to change its decision, according to Marketing Director Steven Newbold. Staff may be redeployed within college or the University of London, allowed to take voluntary redundancy or have compulsory redundancy forced

upon them. Sue Sharp, ICMSF Secretary, said of the situation that 'it didn't look hopeful'.

The Fire Brigade were called out last Friday when Departmental Superintendent, Colin Rogers, set off a fire alarm to clear the Mechanical Engineering Building. Mr Rogers was manning the messengers desk while a trade union meeting was taking place and set the alarm off to clear the building prior to locking up for the weekend. Sherfield security was not informed of his method before-hand and assuming a real alert called the fire services. Mr Rogers told Felix that 'he did not think anything when he saw the fire engines, since fire engines are continually driving up and down Exhibition Road' and added that on reflection he was 'acutely embarrassed' and would 'do it better next time.'

The final stages of the Claypond site is to be sold to Imperial College Residences PLC (Impress - a BES scheme) when building is completed in about two weeks. The Rector announced that he intends to guarantee accommodation to women for the whole length of their study, even if they live in London.



Rector, Sir Eric Ash, at question time.

## 918 Friday 22 November

The Rector, Sir Eric Ash, fielded questions from students and staff in an open meeting yesterday. The Rector was accompanied by Angus Fraser, Gordon Marshall, John Archer and Steven Newbold, all from the College hierarchy. People asked about the financial stability of the college which was described as 'stable' although the reserves were 'zilch' and they questioned the replacement of security staff. The Rector would not be pressed on this matter and would not pass it on to any of the other directors. He said that student numbers countrywide should be increased and that some working through college was a good idea, as in the States, adding that student benefits over the summer

were diabolical.

Staff members of the major trade unions have voted for strike action on the date of the Governing Body meeting on the 4th December to protest against the colleges proposal to contract out security and other services. Many academics have begun to support the dispute and some, including Professor Bruce Sayers, Dean of City Guilds College, have sent letters to Angus Fraser, Managing Director, and the Rector.

Following allegations of drug peddling in Bernard Sunley House a janitor faces disciplinary proceedings. Two students have also been suspended pending the result of their tribunal. The warden of the hall, Linda Donegan released a statement about the incident and added that it was her duty 'to safeguard the welfare of the students in my trust and also the reputation of the College'.

## 919 Friday 29 November

Imperial College Union decided at an EGM yesterday to support the strike by trade union members on the 4th December. The College did not see the point to this action and the Rector commented that it was 'rather bizarre' that students felt they could achieve anything by not going to lectures. Further letters have been sent by academic staff on the matter and discussion continues between the various groups - see news in this issue.

A door to the Union Building was completely removed by three members of the Royal School of Mines Union by ramming it with a British Rail trolley, during the night of a bar extension marking the end of Rag Week. The cost of the damage is estimated at £400, some of which is hoped to be reclaimed from the three students.

Steve Farrant and Paul Thomas were cautioned by Police during the Nude Kamikaze Parachute Jump event for Rag. Natwest announced that their customer service area would be expanded and refurbished. The drug disciplinary actions continued and Freddie Mercury died.

**The Felix staff wish you a lousy Christams and a suicidal new year.**



## Arab Eats Babies

Dear Adam,

I am worried by the increased number of pro-Israeli students in college who are feeling threatened. First there were Gaby Pell's repeated expressions of concern over the invitation of a PLO speaker to a college event. Furthermore, an incident on Thursday 28th November made me realise the scale of the problem.

While manning the Friends of Palestine stall in the JCR, as part of the international week organised by OSC, I was thinking about some research I am currently doing.

'This is in Israel' I heard someone say. I raised my head and saw a young student (seemed like a fresher) holding up a hand embroidered bookmark and waving it in my face. By the time I had managed to blurt out 'sorry?', he was asking;

'Are you claiming this?' For a fraction of a second I thought he was talking about the bookmark... 'cause if you are, then I'm very distressed!'

Then it all fell into place. The bookmark, which was no longer being waved around, had Jaffa embroidered on it, with two Palestinian flags either side of it. He was concerned that our society took the stance that Israel should be destroyed, and that even the parts of Israel recognised by the UN, like Jaffa, should be taken over by Palestine.

By that time one friend had offered to call him an ambulance, while another suggested that he saved his breath until the peace talks resumed in Washington. He left, presumably as distressed as he was at the start.

What he had failed to notice was that the whole exhibition avoided political stances, especially in the current state of flux in the Middle East, and concentrated on culture (crafts, music, food etc) and the human rights issues, such as health, education and imprisonment without trial. (The offending piece of material, which was promptly removed, was part of the Medical Aid for Palestinians catalogue, a charity for which Pauline Cutting was working when she was in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.)

That being our objective, which I think the exhibition achieved, we did not want discussions with distressed students on the day, but I think the issue must be raised, in the interest of student welfare in the college.

A couple of points to Mr Pell, before I reveal the frightening truth.

1. You say that the PLO has never been voted for by the Palestinians, could it perhaps be because the Occupying Israeli government, in all of its love for democracy, has not allowed elections?

2. You say '...that in the large majority of cases, the killing of Palestinians has been carried out by their own kind, for collaboration, rather than by Israelis.' In a situation of military occupation, such as was the case with German forces in France throughout World War II, what do you suggest is the percentage of deaths of civilians due to suspicion of collaboration, 50%? 70%? 90%? Even the, stupid as your unconfirmed statistic may be, had there been no occupation by Israel, do you not even entertain the thought that the life expectancy of a Palestinian may have been slightly higher?

3. Under military occupation law in the West Bank and Gaza, a 12 year old boy may be jailed for no reason, and most have been. The current Israeli prime minister is a self-confessed terrorist. Given those facts, I suspect that being imprisoned in Israel has little to do with the murder of innocent civilians.

4. As regards the re-establishment vs the creation of a state, don't be such a pedantic git. You can argue till you are blue in the mouth that there never was a Palestinian state. The fact that there have been Palestinians, as a majority of the population for longer than there has been a state of Israel in the region. This does not make Israel non-existence, it is here now as a state, with UN recognised borders.

Wake up, and forget the dogma that you have been spoonfed. Israel was not established solely on some legitimate claim, and divine promises; people had to be murdered or forcibly removed from their homes, politicians manipulated, and UN peace negotiators blown up. Let us face the reality of the situation, and save the whole region further bloodshed. Enough of those stupid historical arguments.

As for the frightening truth about our claims, and the distress they cause, you can make the obvious conclusions from that piece of embroidery. It can only mean one thing.

We are an evil bunch of mad

## Student Loan Moan

Dear Adam,

I would like to raise a point about a very widely discussed issue—that of Student Loans—that doesn't seem to get too much publicity.

It would seem that, short of a revolution or possibly a general election, student loans are here to stay. They are going to become a fact of life if they are not so already.

However, the major problem facing most students is not having to pay back a loan, but having enough money to survive on. It is certainly the biggest pain in my neck at the moment. So why not make more money available in the form of loans, such that students, in the short term, have a feasible amount of money instead of the purely hypothetical amount they have at the moment, yet the government can satisfy all those doctors and stockbrokers out there

by maintaining that the money will be repaid?

Of course, this means greater short term expenditure (so I've probably just answered my own question) but no increase in long term spending other than the inflationary one already present. An extra £500 or so would probably do (fat chance, I know) and considering that everyone who graduates earns fat wedges of cash within days (honest, they do) an extra £2000 over a four year course becomes fairly trivial against an expected debt of £6-7000 which will be with undergraduates in the future.

I dare say I'm not the first to try to publicise such an idea, but amongst all the unleashed rage it seems to have been overlooked.

Yours idealistically,

Paul Davison, Physics 2.

## Rag Resignation

Dear Sir,

We feel it has become necessary for us to publicly explain our position over the recent resignation of the Rag Chairman, Marc Ellis.

Despite the overall success of Rag this year there have been many organisational problems. Prior to Rag Week, the Chairman was talked out of resigning and stated that he would communicate more with the committee and would delegate tasks to them.

During the course of the next few weeks it became clear that none of these problems had been resolved. We again met with the Chair to discuss with him what the problems were. The meeting ended by the

Chair saying that he would officially resign the following day.

It was clear to us that evening that he would not change his mind nor would it be a good idea either for Rag, or for him, to continue in his position. It was for this reason that we did not sign the letter from the committee asking him to reconsider his position. We feel that if Marc Ellis were to be reinstated the situation would again degenerate, to the detriment of Rag.

Rag meetings are continuing as normal, and Rag will continue its activities throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,

Will Stallard, Acting Rag Chair,  
Sarah Goodchild, Rag Treasurer.

Arabs, who would do anything to destroy the peace loving and insecure state of Israel. We have never in our hearts accepted the presence of Israel, and will fight on until the last child to destroy it. We are so vicious in fact, that Israel needs to possess nuclear weapons as an ultimate protection against our terrorist attacks on civilians. We produce such ingenious evil leaders, ones who will destroy Israel by blowing up places, and invading other Arab countries. Plots so obviously well hatched to destroy Israel, it is surprising none of them have worked so far.

All Arab students in this college are on a secret mission to acquire the know-how to destroy Israel.

Back home our families breed more terrorists to send them against the hopelessly outnumbered Israeli army, so that we can recover Jaffa, and swim in a sea of blood, since we obviously enjoy that sort of thing, being Arabs (I personally eat two babies every day).

Between you and me, Israel is being far too gracious in actually making an effort to talk to us, and only using tear-gas, plastic bullets, live ammunition, and a policy of beating and terror to stem the flow of our violence. The ultimate solution is for them to round us up, and...

Yours sincerely,

Amin El-Kholy, Doc PG.



# Judo Injustice

Dear Adam,

I am driven to bring a grave injustice to your attention. Due to yet more examples of incompetence by IC Union, in particular the ACC (Athletics Clubs Committee), the Judo Club has been denied half of its weekly training sessions.

The Judo Club has been training in the Union gym on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for at least ten years. Despite reconfirming these times at the start of term as usual, the Union has seen fit to deny the club use of the gym on Thursday evenings in favour of the Football Club who already train in the volleyball court at that time.

Unfortunately, unlike football, judo can only be practised indoors, using mats which are stored in the gym. Efforts that I have made to point this out to the Union have been ignored, no one wanting to accept responsibility for the cock-up. I'm really starting to wonder whether this is simply stupidity on the part of the Union or just plain apathy. As it stands, I cannot see the Judo Club surviving much longer if it is reduced to training

once a week, a pity as it is the second oldest Judo Club in the country. Members of the Club not only represent the College but also fight for London University and compete in national events. They deserve better treatment than they are receiving from the Union.

Unless the Union wakes up to the situation and actually does something for once, I will have to consider training with, and

representing another college, such as UCL. I cannot bring myself to represent a Union that does not give a shit about its students.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Jones, Biology PG and Captain of Judo.

cc. Mark Landon ACC Chair  
Eleanor Gibson, ACC Secretary  
Zoë Hellinger, ICU President

## Posters Torn Down

Dear Editor,

Hearing of all the acts of vandalism around the college recently, I would like to highlight another aspect of this cowardly crime.

The IC Islamic Society held an Islamic Week between 18th and 22nd November. This consisted of a series of talks on different aspects of Islam, which were open to all members of this college. To publicise for this event we had posters all over college. However it is sad to note that most of these

posters were torn down soon after being put up! This cannot be accredited to the wind or other natural forces, as even our cabinet in the Sheffield Walkway was deliberately opened and posters inside it ripped down.

So, can I ask whoever the person(s) involved to stop this vandalism, and if he would like to express himself openly I am very willing to talk to him personally.

Yours disappointedly,

Sarmad Qureshi, Maths UG 2.

Islamic Soc Publicity Officer.

## Run Out

Dear Adam,

It saddens me to admit it, but incompetence seems to have raised its ugly head at the Careers Service. It would seem that the whole concept of this service would be to aid students in their attempt to get jobs. This they have done, with a helpful series of presentations and seminars. However, one would have thought that central to the pursuit of a job would be the completion of an application form. Then why is it that the careers service has **run out** of standard application forms in the appropriate boxes (some of which are apparently redundant—'Some of those boxes have been there since the beginning of time.', was the explanation I received)?

When I suggested that the careers service at this centre of academic excellence could maintain a reserve of say 500 SAFs, I was met with a dismissive laugh and 'Yeah I suppose so.'

Am I living on the right planet?

Yours etc.,

Ben Gladwyn, Physics 3.

## FELIX THE CAT II - THE END OF THE W SAGA! (ALMOST!)





This issue has been a complete nightmare to bring out. Everything that could go wrong has - particularly the front and back cover which was a stonkingly good idea but had problems in execution as you may notice. Having visited the circus troupe 'Archaos' this week I have been sorely tempted to run away with them and meet a fiery but glorious end by flame thrower.

The primary intent of the centre page 'Son Of God' section was to entertain, not to cause offence, though I'm sure it has done the latter as well. I tend to be an extreme follower of the notion of free speech - that nothing is too sacred to make fun of. This does not necessarily mean that I have no respect for people with religion, though it does mean I have no respect for religion *per se*. Reactions from religious people to such blasphemy - as they see it - can range from the acceptance that other people have different views through praying for my soul to the totally ridiculous second hand rhetoric and bible quoting which is indicative of a complete lack of original thought. I hope that you find it fun.

#### Oh What A Hat He's Got

Fleming Heino has very kindly acquired a small cotton baseball cap for me to eat. I am working through it tiny piece by tiny piece as anything larger than four square centimetres at a time gives me

indigestion. Any suggestions as to how to ease the eating would be very handy - I've already tried *Pizza à la chapeau avec mal à l'estomac* and the popular drink *Chapeau liquidisé à la beaucoup de visitations au toilette*. I shall be calling in my debts when I've finished it.

#### Revenge of the Fir Cones

The College management has been heavily criticised in the national media recently. In addition, the fact that the security situation went to a strike is highly indicative of a confrontational approach on their part. Two letters from concerned academics have found their way into the Felix office, the general tenor of which indicates that College management acts in a heavy handed and overbearing manner. They seem incapable of accepting the validity of any other point of view. Sir Eric Ash told me that in his view the generalised criticism which has come his way is of no use as it addresses no specific points. I feel that it is fairly obvious what these specific points are: the College administration rarely communicates with the lower echelons of College and when it does it ignores them. Proof? The halls of residence have needed better security for a long time. A year or so ago there were a series of rapes in other college residences, and an attempted rape at a St. Mary's hall (Wilson house I believe it was). The

wardens have been asking for more security as a major priority for ages. And nothing happens. At the beginning of this year a lift was deliberately set on fire in Southside - we don't know whether it was a resident or somebody from outside, and nor shall we because there were not enough security guards to keep unwanted visitors out. The college day - when the administration was persuaded to hold a student referendum they completely ignored the result. The Management's responsibilities obviously include fiscal management, but not to the exclusion of all else.

#### Felix dinner

It seemed like a good idea to arrange this year's Felix dinner in a country pub somewhere - at the moment the prime location is Chalfont St Giles at the northern end of the Metropolitan line in South Buckinghamshire - and as I would like to reconnoitre the pub beforehand but do not have time to arrange things before Christmas, it will occur, if it occurs at all, at the beginning of next year, and it is possible that the price of the meal will be subsidised with the option of a mini-bus there and back for

those who require it and a youth hostel nearby for those who don't.

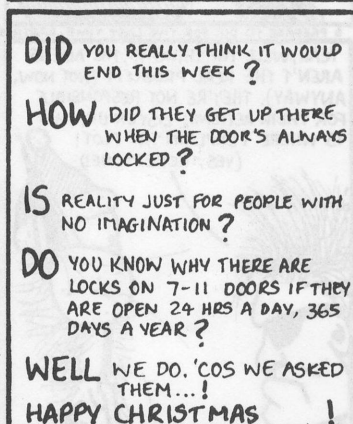
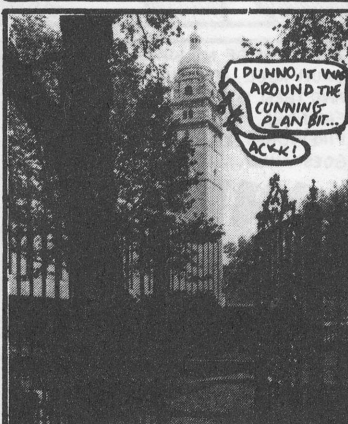
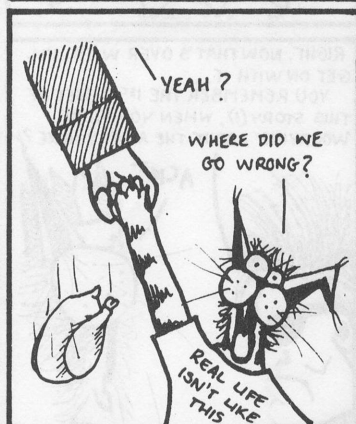
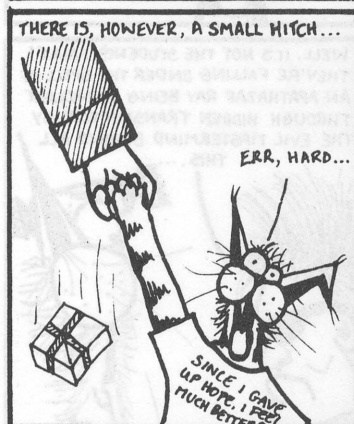
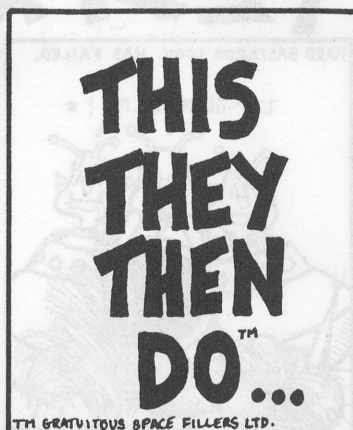
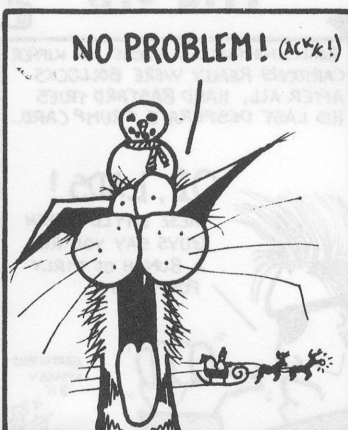
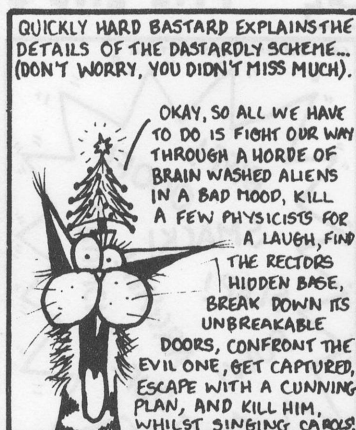
#### Chère Marge

Je n'ai pas essayé la langue Française pour un long temps. Et maintenant pour quelque chose totalement différent....

Nous avons un section nouveau dans ce journal-ci. Ce section est pour tous les pièces de gossip que vous avez mais que vous ne pouvez pas mettre dans les actualités. Si vous avez quelque chose pour y emplacer c'est possible d'ecrire une lettre, sans ou avec nom, et le mettre dans le hole-de-pigeon avec 'dear Marge' y ecrit dans le Office de Felix. J'espère que vous le trouver utile.

#### Letters

The Rag situation has changed somewhat since the letter entitled 'Rag Resignation' was included. Marc Ellis (Penguin) has become acting Rag Chair with the possibility (at the time of writing) that he will become Rag Chair once again though this depends on an election. Therefore the letter is now invalid, but unfortunately was printed before the present situation arose.



EXTRA SPECIAL XMASSY THANKS TO: JAMES, EDDIE, ANDY, ROS, TIM, LIAM, RICHARD, JOHN, MATT, BEORN, JEREMY AND EIRIK FOR FLOORS, SDFAS AND DUVETS, JAMES, EDDIE, DARREN AND ADAM FOR SUPPORT, ADAM H FOR PATIENCE, GOLDEN VIRGINIA, RIZLA, ZIAPPO, COCA COLA AND HENRY J BEANS FOR MORE SUPPORT, AND TO THE MOST INCREDIBLE PERSON I'VE MET IN A VERY LONG TIME FOR EVEN MORE SUPPORT, HAPPINESS, SILLY GRINS, HUGS, AND FOOT MESSAGES...

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# CLAYPONDS SOUTH EALING

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*Accommodation available  
from January 1992*

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# THE **Son** OF GOD

Wednesday, December 25, 12 Anno Augustus 1 Sesterce

**Beautiful Bounty in the  
sizzling soaraway  
SON OF GOD**

## BINGO!

Win your very own 2CV chariot! (Page 2)

# VIRGIN ON THE RIDICULOUS!

## God's love child wrecks stable family

**DOCTORS** are baffled by a claim of **SEX** with **GOD**. **MARY DAVIDSON**, 14, has just given birth to a bouncing baby boy, without ever having had any **HANKY PANKY**. She says that she is still a **VIRGIN**, even though this is plainly **IMPOSSIBLE**.

**SHE** says that she had a **VISITATION** from **GOD** at the passover parade and that **SHE** definitely wasn't **PASSED OVER**. According to Mary, she was out delivering passover eggs when **GOD** appeared in front of her and told her that she was going to have a baby.

'HE was a perfect gentleman' said Mary, 'and **NOTHING** happened between us'. 'I just found myself **PREGNANT**', she added.

*Bill Goodwin*

Her husband, Joseph, then her fiancé said he wanted to 'Keep it in the family' and refused to comment further.

In a press conference after the birth she complained about the 'poor standard' of accommodation in the area. She had to share a room with an Ox, an Ass, and three Kings who were in town to pay homage to Herod's newborn son.

The birth took place in the early hours of the morning but within minutes they had decided on a name; Jesus. 'We felt like giving him a modern name, a name people will remember.'



**Satanic sects Sanhedrin shocker exposed in an exciting EXCLUSIVE on page 4.**



## THE SON OF GOD SAYS

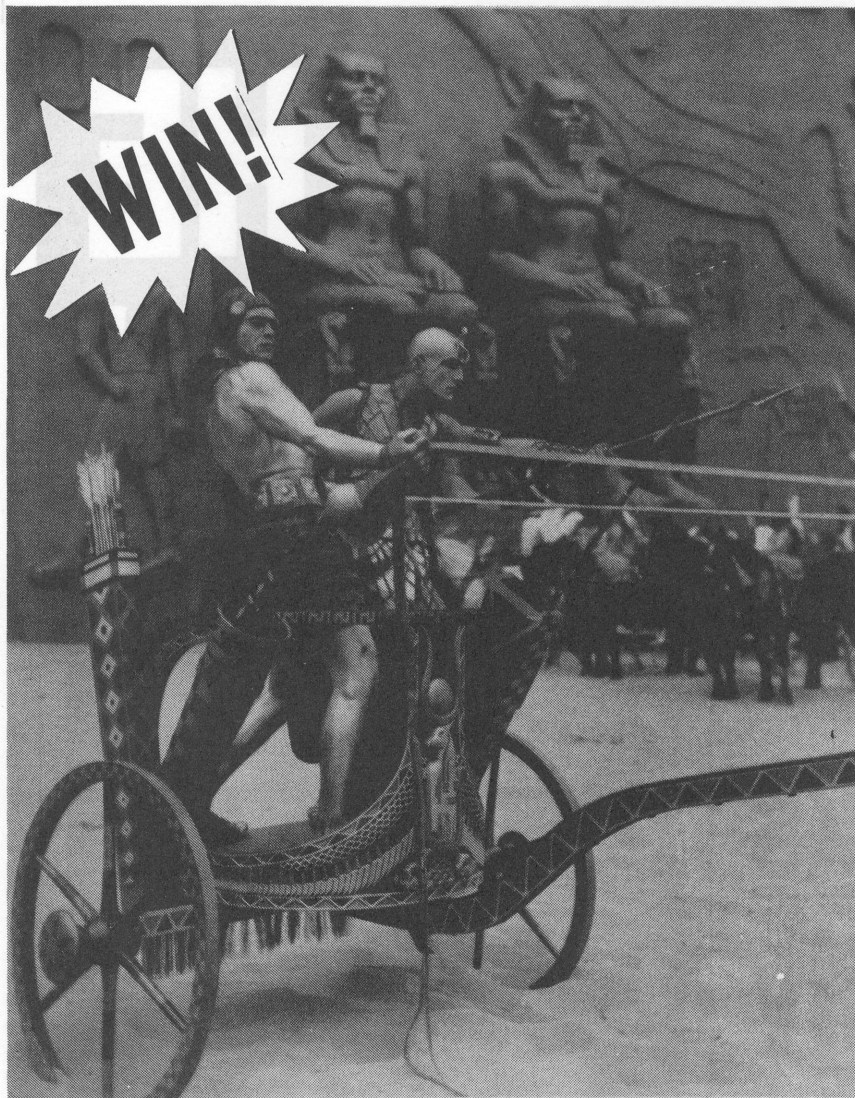
### Boys will be boys

**Herod has ordered the death of all male children in the Judaea district.** Male children grow up to be male adults and it is an indisputable statistical fact that males cause the most violence.

It is a sad but necessary action to kill all male children if the government has evidence to show their danger to the state.

Those whingeing parents who have had their children filleted should stop complaining and get down to making some more.

**We should congratulate Herod in his selfless protection of the state, but only question why he stopped at boys.**



### **SHOW THEM THEIR PROPER PLACE!**

**Once again a female has been found guilty of extramarital sex.**

Mary Davidson claims that she received a 'visitation' from the prime mover of the Universe and became pregnant.

We live in a modern, civilised and rational world and this is obviously untrue. **Women are the spawn of satan and those following the dark path should be stoned to death.**

### Go home, bloody foreigners!

**Three 'wise men from the East' visited Palestine this week.**

These so called Kings say they were looking for a small child in Bethlehem to worship him as the new Messiah.

Who are these madmen?

High Priest Caiaphas said that 'the sons of Israel will find their own Messiah and we don't need jumped up coolies in posh clothes to do it.'

**Oriental paedophiles (perverts who 'like' children a bit too much) are a danger to children and should be drowned in the Jordan.**

**WIN!  
SUPER  
BINGO  
PRIZES!  
WIN!**

This TOP OF THE RANGE, sporty, convertible chariot COMPLETE with sharp, shining spikes, a YEARS SUPPLY of HAY and TWO MUSCLE BOUND charioteers (horses not supplied).

IT'S EASY - all have to do is pick up your special SON BINGO card from your local papyrus merchant and match the numbers every day in your SUPER SIZZLING SOARAWAY SON OF GOD.





# A VIRGIN MARY?

★ **MAMMOTH** Mary  
Magdalen's melons  
would mellow any fella.

★ **MOUTHWATERING** Mary,  
38,24,36, lists her pas-  
sions as cooking, wearing  
veils and windsurfing on  
Lake Galilee.

★ **MERRY** Mary Christmas  
says when she grows up  
she wants to meet her  
perfect man and bear him  
many children.

★ **WELL** I certainly  
wouldn't mind her bear-  
ing something for me!

## Isiah's Horoscope

Capricorn (23rd Dec - 20th Jan)

You become convinced that Wood Engineer-  
ing at Imperial College is not worth writing  
a book about and will accidentally found a new  
religion. Your favourite food are mince pies  
and your lucky colour is white.

Aquarius (21st Jan - 19th Feb)

You will witness a visitation by a man of-  
fering round mince pies and singing Max  
Bygraves' greatest hits. Fortunately a double-  
glazing salesman will call at a convenient time.

Pisces (20th Feb - 20th March)

This is not a good week for plans of world  
domination. Your personal army will revolt  
and a UN peace keeping force will set up camp  
in your kitchen. Your Christmas Cactus  
flowers.

Aries (21st March - 20th April)

Understanding household appliances will  
seem easy this week, so set your video for the  
whole year. Quite how you'll feel in three days,  
when your fridge defrosts in a suicide bid, is  
another cookie crumbling.

Taurus (21st April - 21st May)

Mars, in the house of Pluto, twinned with  
an expectant moon could mean an unexpected  
call from a tall dark stranger offering a record-  
ing contract for your new song. Or it could  
be a flock of flightless waterfowl complaining.

Gemini (22nd May - 21st June)

A surprise visit from the Pope may be  
delayed if you don't replace that carton of  
milk. You will discover friends in strange  
places who nurse you in your hour of need,  
but ultimately Jupiter dictates that you have  
to come to terms with not meeting a religious  
notary this week.

Cancer (22nd June - 23rd July)

Although you feel like putting your feet up,  
this is the perfect time to practice your sport-  
ing activities. You may be disappointed not  
to be picked for the forthcoming international  
tournament but darts is a cut-throat game.

Leo (24th July - 23rd Aug)

You have vivid dreams of black macs and  
squirty cream but by a stroke of luck you are  
not certified. Venus in the ascendant is cer-  
tain to bring good fortune this week in your  
quest to sweet talk a horoscope writer. Or  
cartoonist.

Virgo (23rd Aug - 22nd Sept)

Becoming a photophobe and staying in bed  
seems a good idea this week and could result  
in relationships entering a closer phase. Freak  
local hurricanes could spoil your enjoyment  
if left to fester - take the advice of a diminutive  
friend.

Libra (23rd Sept - 22nd Oct)

It's your turn to receive a surprise gift this  
week from a superior. This should give your  
business life the spark it needs, but be warn-  
ed that it's difficult to know what to do with  
a gift certificate for a frontal lobotomy.

Scorpio (23rd Oct - 21st Nov)

A suspicious package delivered to your  
home will be mistaken for an X rated video,  
causing your rabbit to become paranoid. This  
cloud has a silver lining since your home  
movie business starts to take off.

Sagittarius (23rd Nov - 22nd Dec)

Slowly your week turns from being  
understandably random to frantically vague  
as relationships get more confusing than ever.  
A seemingly solid barrier will become just a  
technical hitch with the invention of  
cheesecake.



# THE Son OF GOD SPORT

## CHARIOTS OF FIRE

Nonus Integritus reporting from the Coliseum, Rome.

In the final gripping confrontation of the Chariot Racing season the Roman Rollers were narrowly defeated by the Palestine Pillagers in a thrilling BLOOD BATH.

### Slur

The Game nearly resulted in a draw, when proceedings were halted for half an hour due to unprecedented bystander casualties. THIRTY FOUR ticket holders were mown down in a spontaneous pitch invasion after Roman Rollers STAR Olympus Dickus received a slur to his SEXUALITY from the opposing team captain. Two linesmen were also amongst the fatalities when a runaway chariot ran into boar roasting stand setting fire to their togas and causing untold damage to Caesars new erection.

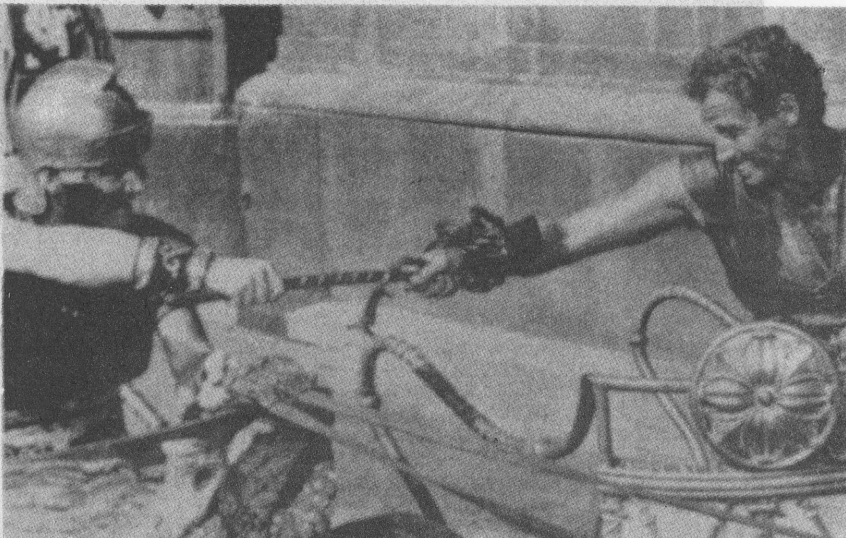


### HIGH SPIRITS

The President of the Ancient Roman Sporting Empire, Antiquitus Flatulartum commented on the incident 'it's a shame a little bit of high spirits should hold up such a fine game.'

The Roman Rollers Team Captain said 'if it had not been for the other team crossing the line first we would clearly have won.'

**Final Score: Palestine Pillagers 34, Roman Rollers 32**



Olympus Dickus rolls over Pillagers.

## Saucy Satanic Sects Scandal Secrets

The Captain of the Guards raided a seemingly innocent stable in the quiet suburbs of Bethlehem last night, writes our Middle East Correspondent, Yasser Al-Bazouka. The soldiers arrested three visiting academic men from the Far East here on sabbaticals, on charges of bestiality and CHILD MOLESTING.

The Men were discovered after acting on information from local shepherds, regarding the losses of flocks. "We were all looking up at a strange image in the sky," said Amos Somerset, one of the shepherds "and when we looked down significant numbers of lambs were missing".

Following the trail of ripped fleece, guards traced the three men to an insignificant stable in the grounds of a Bethlehem Hotel. To the guards' horror they had stumbled across a SATANIC RIGHTS ceremony involving, animal sacrifices, small children and little furry animals.

Residents of the hotel had complained earlier in the evening about the bleating, wailing and screeching coming from the stable. The three men, aged 19, 34 and 56, later described the events as "common practice, down our way. We didn't know ritual sacrifice was banned in this country. That's the problem with these oppressive societies."

## LifeSTYLE

TAKE a peep into the private world of the top stars with our exclusive LifeSTYLE file. Every week, **SONSPORT** brings you everything you want to know about one of chariot racing's big names. This week it's Olympus Dickus.

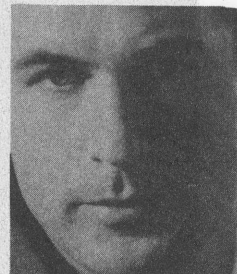
### Personal File

**FULL name:** Olympus Shortus Dickus. Date of birth: November 3, 26 Anno Caesarus.

**Birth place:** Capernaum Palestinae.

**Dad's job:** Slave dealer to the rich and famous. **Home:** I live with my parents in a small two up two down in the outer regions of the city. **Chariot:** I have a four horse model with a pair of fluffy dice. **Married:** No.

**Bothers and sisters:** I had two sisters but my fathers sold them to the local governor. My six brothers Bigus, Hairlus, Longus, Bentus, and Queerus all live at home as well. **Nickname at club:** Randinium, I have a reputation for being a womaniser.



Gifted Socket Attachment?

OLYMPUS DICKUS

### QUIZ FILE

**WHAT was your ambition as a child?** To ride a in a chariot race in the olympics. It came true last year when I rode in front of the Caesar and came fourth for the Romanus Rollers.

**Who was your boyhood hero?** Triggirus Equus, he was a fantastic rider and someone that I always looked up to.

**What had been your biggest thrill in life?** Does that include things

other than chariot racing? **What is the best part of your job?** Well, I don't think I can talk about that here.

**What is the worst part of your job?** The dust gets in your eyes and the manure really shits up your hair.

**If you won a million denarii on the pools, what would be the first thing you would buy?** A new chest wig, the old one is getting a bit worn out now.

**What other sports and hobbies do you enjoy?** When I'm not racing I like to spend a lot of time in bed, although its far from relaxing!

**What job do you have after you stop riding chariots?** Set up a stud farm with my father, I'm sure I'd come in more than useful.

### Fav File

**Food:** Anything Fishy.  
**Drink:** Anything fishy  
**Film:** Ben Hur  
**Film star:** Billy the Fish  
**Animal:** Fish  
**Comedian:** Chubby Brown