



FELIX

Issue 929

6 March 1992

Elections

Drop Soc

Imperial College Union sabbatical election candidates received a difficult reception from St Mary's students, and the relevance of ICU election rules are in question following Monday's hustings. The candidates fielded questions from a cynical audience which believed that the candidates' interest in St Mary's affairs was due simply to the election. ICU President, Zoë Hellinger, has called for a review of the election regulations following clashes between students and the electoral Returning Officer.

The anger of St Mary's students at the alleged lack of interest from IC was focused by a non-directed written question submitted to all presidential candidates. The question asked why none of the candidates felt it necessary to talk to Mary's students. It then further reminded the candidates of Ben Turner, a previous candidate who was defeated at the first ballot after remarking that St Mary's was unimportant.

Candidates were ridiculed when they claimed that they had an active interest in the affairs of St Mary's. Howard Jones, a Presidential candidate, was cross examined from the floor after replying that not only did he think it was important to consult with St Mary's, but he had also done so. Toby Jones, a Felix candidate, was later 'flangoed' by St Mary's Rag.

Angelo Gardini, running for President, replied that 'of course Mary's matters', at which point a member of the crowd called out, 'only when you want our votes'. When Mr Gardini suggested that St Mary's students should come to the IC Union office when they had problems, he was asked why he could not come to the St Mary's Union office.

Chris Davidson, running for President, said that any answer to the question would be seen as

electioneering, but that if anyone wanted to talk to him, they could do so after the Karaoke evening in St Mary's union building.

The candidates were also questioned on their knowledge of St Mary's affairs. Topics which came up repeatedly were Wilson House and the original St Mary's merger document, which was described by Mr Gardini as 'irrelevant'. Cries of 'vote new election' were clearly audible after Mr Gardini's questioning.

Problems with the restrictive nature of electoral coverage rules came angrily to the fore at the end of Howard Jones' directed questions. The established format of two minute speeches followed by written questions was repeatedly challenged from the floor during the course of the evening. Students criticised the limited number of written questions, which were vetted by the elections committee, and claimed the entire proceedings were undemocratic.

Turbulent scenes developed as students argued with the election Returning Officer, Steve Farrant. At one stage, Mr Farrant was referred to as a 'bureaucratic bastard'. Simon Stockhill, President of St Mary's Students' Union, removed the microphone from Mr Farrant to carry out a head count of those in favour of open questions from the floor. Mr Farrant later handed control of the meeting over to Mr Stockhill.

The dissension began when Mr Farrant objected to a move to open the hustings to the floor. To cries of 'why, why?', he pointed out that such a move was 'against election rules'. This interpretation was challenged by Ms Hellinger, who said that 'after two minutes per candidate, they (students) can ask (the candidates) any questions they like'. Ms. Hellinger then warned 'Steve, seriously, we're just causing



A number of Imperial Students hung from a tree in Hyde Park last Wednesday to raise money for an expedition to the Pamir Mountains in the former Soviet Union. One of the students said that the purpose of the expedition was to 'do some climbing' and explore one of the last wildernesses in the world. The expedition is hoping to raise £13,400 to fund itself.

annoyance', and was later heard to remark that it was time to review the election regulations.

Howard Jones told the students to vote for him or New Election. 'It's your only hope,' he said. In response to a written question, Angelo Gardini said that 'gay and lesbians ... have a damn hard time', and added that if anyone wanted to set up a gay and lesbian society, he would 'try and smooth the way for them'. Chris Davidson said that he was 'not doing it for the money...not doing it for the power'.

St Mary's students also raised objections to plans from some deputy president candidates to cut the price of beer. The Deputy President can only request that bar

prices be cut. They do not have the authority to enforce a price cut. St Mary's reminded candidates that they have a separate licence to that of Imperial College Union, and so the Deputy President has no authority in this field whatsoever. St Mary's students also defended their right to determine their own Entertainments programme.

Felix editor candidates were heavily slated for the newspaper's lack of interest in St Mary's affairs. The candidates were asked when Felix last published 'something positive'. The current Felix editor, Adam Harrington, later refused to comment on the criticisms raised by the St Mary's students. (iCNN)

Voting in all departments 9th and 10th March

We revolve with it

Dear Adam,

On Friday, the 28th of Feb 1992 the Overseas Student Committee (OSC) celebrated the success of its International Night '92. A true celebration of the cultural arts, the evening kicked off with a food fair in the main dining hall followed by a presentation of traditional and cultural items and dances, only to close to the beat of a live African band in the main dining hall. A disco was also in full swing in the junior common room for those who really wanted to 'get down' to it!

The food was excellent, the show was great, the crowd was supportive and no-one would DARE to say that they didn't have a good time. Only problem was that, taking a sweeping glance at the crowd, one could tell (using very little intelligence) that some sort of Overseas, or more Asian to that effect, 'thing' was going on.

The OSC did an extremely good job in publicity and so on and I recall the event was a sell-out. But sadly, however, I noticed that the crowd lacked in our European and even more so British friends. Ignorance can only mean colour blindness or illiteracy, as bright posters, in English, were posted all over the college weeks before the event. As for the tickets being sold out, I can only resort to '...if there's a will, there's always a way.' I don't mean gate crash or anything to that effect but if people were really interested, they would have made the effort to have enquired and obtained tickets much earlier.

I can only point out blatantly that we have an attitude problem on our

hands. It's not an Overseas Nite for overseas people only, it's for others to get to know the various cultures and traditions from all over the world. It's about understanding and getting to know people, appreciating their backgrounds and their values, and most important of all, having a good time.

If you're worried about getting bored out of your skull because you can't understand a thing that's going on, don't be! Take the trouble, ask

people around you, I'm sure they'd be more than happy to explain what's going on.

I sincerely feel sorry for those of you who missed out on this excellent event. Union events are on year round and the bars are open every night (besides there was a bar open there too!!) but an opportunity to see the cultures of the world together in one place does not come by often.

I would just like people to sit back

a moment and think about how much they know about the people and the cultures around them. We see them in the corridors, at lectures and even in the street, but how much do we actually know about them and their way of life. What is symbolic to them and what's not. I'm not saying that I know a lot, but I sure feel proud to know that I tried.

Remember, the world does not revolve around us, we revolve with it!

Sangaran Ratnam, Civ Eng 1,
(Malaysian)



Degrade

Dear Adam,

The RCS Annual Dinner on Saturday was a great success- the food, band, booze and especially Terry Pratchett's speech were second to none. Unfortunately a decision of certain male students to act completely thoughtlessly meant a strip-o-gram was ordered to appear just before the speeches. I don't care how funny the financiers found it, I didn't. As a female I felt degraded and incensed at their total lack of respect for any women present. I wonder why they bothered to dress so well, when they intended to stoop so low and spoil such an evening. Is there any wonder there are so few females attending I.C., when this is attitude that would greet them when they arrive?

Laurie McNamee

We're so lucky

Dear Adam,

It's that time of year again, isn't it? Sabbatical elections. Don't you just love 'em? We're so lucky this year to be blessed with such an overwhelming array of top-notch candidates jockeying for those celestial positions. In the past they have tended to fall into one of the following categories:-

- a) the joke candidate
- b) the candidate who has promised to address the current student issues and has appeased the minority groups traditionally targeted in the manifestos as post-graduates or St. Mary's (this year by far the largest

category).

c) the ex-CCU 'heavy-weight' who has honed their leadership and organizational skills beyond belief and who feels OBLIGED to serve the students until death do they part - commonly known as the 'has-been'.

d) the Union hack who has made every attempt to crawl up the arses of the 'influentials' since coming to college and has in the process completely ballsed-up their degree.

e) those who felt that they could make a positive contribution to student life and actually did. This group is exceedingly small and is in great danger of becoming extinct.

This year though the candidates together form a totally new category:-

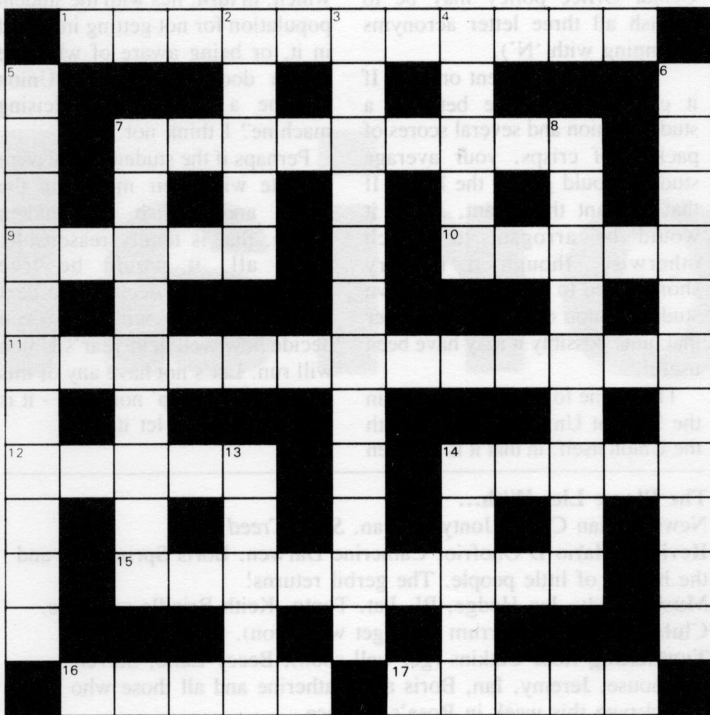
f) shite.

Categories (a), (b), (c) and (d) really get on everyone's tits but they tend to be victorious over category (e) due to lack of representation. So what can YOU do to ensure the continued effectiveness of the Union? Bugger all really. There are about a dozen professional full-time staff who currently coordinate a large proportion of the Union's activities in the financial, organizational and social areas.

Along with help from groups such as the Ents crew and Felix, and the multitudes of committees, the Union runs smoothly without sabbaticals. So why do we have them at all? Unfortunately I'd not have the answer to this, but may I suggest that you vote NEW ELECTION this time, if only to see whether it causes the drastic drop in services prophesied by the merry band of wasters who have great difficulty in believing that life does indeed exist outside the confines of the Union.

Yours with a decent job offer and degree prospects,

Christopher Adams,
Management Science



VerbosenWort 2

by Exfemused the Symmetry-Shatterer.

Across

1 Bearded ladies and fakir cures in this century? (5,6)

7 Baader-Meinhof assert their belief (nein).

9 If you write in, we might put you in charge of pens (5).

10 He was the voter, caught in *flagrante delicto* (5).

11 Rationalise colourful wordplay (10,3).

12 Take a short walk to find a demon eschewed (5).

14 Blackbeard lecturing from his tea-chest (5).

15 Campanologists give up to lavish praise (9).

16 Lauded contemporary looks down his nose (5).

17 I've lost my fox-fur! (5).

Down

2 Maybe I cried when he took that stinking hay (5).

3 You can see and hear them sing, but they're not in (5,7).

4 Sire a child perhaps? (5)

5 Police statement does not imply dictatorship (6,5).

6 Sail prices rise with sea level (7,4).

7 Did the Japanese send a flower to the War crimes trials, or too keys? (5,4)

8 Aliens stage production of *Don Quichote* (9).

13 Postpone until relation has notion to return (5).

14 Before I retreat, here's your surprise (5).

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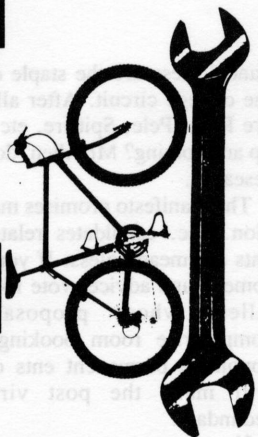
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International

Dear Adam,

It is now 4 o'clock on Saturday morning February 29, 1992 and we have just finished clearing up after one of the most successful International Nights ever.

Much to our surprise, tickets for the event were sold out a day before and yet we had a great number of people queuing to get in on the night. This in itself is quite an achievement, particularly when you consider that a mere team of about twenty people were minding the event and over 1100 tickets were sold.

The night began with the traditional food fair in the Main Dining Hall where numerous overseas societies within the college were given the opportunity to present their culinary skills. Although the attendance was so high, over 1900 portions of food were consumed and there was adequate supply for everyone who managed to find a ticket. I am particularly grateful to the vice-chairman of the OSC, Gil Barzilay and the two other co-ordinators of the fair, Yen Yang Lim and Rupa Patel for their hard work and time which they put in.

From the food fair, the crowds were drawn into the Great Hall for the Cultural Show. Here, a number of the societies sought to display their culture by way of dances, plays, songs and musical interludes. The Hall itself was full almost instantaneously and those who could not obtain tickets were allowed to sweat out their tears in the disco which was started simultaneously in the JCR. With over 100 people involved in the show it would be impossible to thank each one individually. I owe thanks to all of them for their patience and co-operation during all rehearsals and, of course, the performance itself. Without their dedication the show would never have been such a success.

Special thanks must go to the organisers, Geetha Ratnasingham and Nee Phua, the technical management of Chin, Esther and their crew and the hard working stage crew co-ordinated by Anjali

Saini. I must also mention the Indonesian society whose commitment towards the show was unbelievable.

The event concluded with the sounds and beats of 'KARIBA' (spelling?), one of the most lively african bands I have experienced (thanks Stephane) and the continuation of the excellent disco provided by IC radio in the JCR.

Adam, it is times like these that I really am proud of being part of such a committee. The massive effort produced by each one of the members over the past weeks has been astounding and the amount of work put in by each national society which took part was fantastic.

However, there are (as usual) a few matters of concern:

Firstly, I found it extremely discouraging and annoying to discover only a few days before the event that the union had suddenly decided to hold a disco on the same night. Sadly, even a low entry fee of 70p was not enough to affect our ticket sales although I am sure this was not intended.

Secondly, I still fail to understand why so few 'home' students take interest in the events which we organise. A majority of ticket holders were overseas students from all over London and I personally find it that the 'home' student population of this college takes such minute interest in our activities.

Although I hope this will change in the future, none of the new sabbatical candidates seems to have mentioned Overseas students in their manifestos.

Aside from these worries, I would once again like to thank all those who did attend this event and all those who participated and helped make it such a huge success. I, particularly, enjoyed organising International Night '92 and I encourage all those who wish to help next year to join the Overseas Students Committee in the forthcoming elections.

Yours sincerely,

Gaurang Chadha,
OSC Chair 1991-92

Survey Supplement

Terry Neville
Director of Finance.

I am responsible to the Managing Director for the management of the College's budget of £135m.

I have spent the last 23 years in University financial administration joining Imperial in 1984 as Chief

Accountant, becoming Finance Officer in 1986. I established the College's Management Information Unit and was its Director from 1985 to 1989.

Before coming to Imperial I spent 15 years at the University of Birmingham.

The newspaper of the Polytechnic of Central London, *McGarel* had a report this week on the theme of academic establishment name changing, one of the many bees in my bonnet. In defence of my indefensible plagiarism, I should say that *McGarel* seems to have done a lot of research on the subject and replication of the same would be pointless (please don't sue - we ain't got no money). In addition I have nothing to write about this week.

The whole subject of name changing ought to be viewed with amusement rather than anxiety - in addition to those already mentioned we have the following polytechnics transmutating - Hatfield to the University of Hertfordshire, Leeds to the Leeds Metropolitan University, South West to the University of Plymouth, Thames to the University of Greenwich, City of London to the City of London University (as opposed to the City University, which already exists), the Poly of North London to the University of North London, similarly for the Polys of East London and of West London. Bang goes my theory that Imperial will become the University of West London.

You may or may not be aware of various rumours whizzing about to the effect that Student Unions may

cease to be a 'closed shop' as part of the Conservative Government's continued campaign against all things Scargillesque. This is termed 'voluntary membership of a union' and would mean, in effect, that the funding which now automatically goes to Student Unions would go to individual students. Something like an extra £5 per year for each student - which could be used to join the Union or to buy x pints of beer, until the Government decides to cut this money as well. The reasoning goes that

a) all students are part of the NUS - the National Union of Students;

b) NUS is but one letter different to NUM;

c) both tend towards the political left;

d) closed shops contravene the laws of heaven and earth, therefore

e) they should be heavily stomped on.

There are a number of flaws in this argument -

a) not all students are part of the NUS, thank god. For instance, IC students aren't.

b) this is entirely true.

c) this is also true, but in the case of the NUS they are doing an excellent job of destroying themselves. They need no help. Anyway, being generally leftie is not a good reason to be dumped on - I draw your attention to the NHS

(I feel that the Conservative Party Central Office policy may be to abolish all three letter acronyms beginning with 'N').

d) I am ambivalent on this. If it came to a choice between a student Union and several scores of packets of crisps, your average student would go for the latter. If that is what they want, I feel it would be arrogant to preach otherwise, though it is very shortsighted to bankrupt your own student Union only to realise later that quite possibly it may have been useful.

The blame for such disinterest in the Student Union lies partly with the Union itself, in that it is not seen

as 'worth its salt,' the blame for which, in turn, lies with the student population for not getting involved in it, or being aware of what the Union does. Should the Union become a vast self publicising machine? I think not.

Perhaps if the students here were to vote with their money in the future and abolish the Student Union, that is totally reasonable. After all, it would be true democracy. You decide who next year's Sabbaticals will be - so you decide how well next year's Union will run. Let's not have any of this 'the Union is crap' nonsense - it is only crap if you let it be.

The Blame Lies With...

News Declan Curry, Jonty Beavan, Scott Creed.

Reviews Mario D'Onofrio, Catherine Darwen, Boris Springborn and the hordes of little people. The gerbil returns!

Music Poddy, Ian Hodge, PJ, Pat, Tonto, Keith Brindle and Lise.

Clubs and Socs Khurram Sair (get well soon).

Typesetting Rose Catkins (get well soon), Beccy Land, Steven Newhouse, Jeremy, Ian, Boris and Catherine and all those who helped type this week in Rose's absence.

Photography Richard Evers, Simon Govier, Stef Smith.

Printing Andy Thompson.

Business Manager Jeremy Burnell.

Articles Martin Heighway, Declan, James Grinter, Paul Brice and Ben Irons, Alex McLintock, the phantom cartoonist, Bernat Albinana, Third World First.

Collators James, Stef and Steve.

General contributors Toby Jones, Gina Mortley, David Henderson-Begg, Sam Cox, Penguin, Riled Chrissie, semidigested paquebots du dos and darkly sporulating prodigies.

Sultans of Ping

If you've got your ear to the ground, you'll have heard 'Where's me Jumper?' by Cork's *Sultans of Ping FC*. They're daft and they're a laugh & if you fancy lying on the floor kicking your feet in the air, then come along to the Sultans special showcase gig at the Union tonight. Advance tickets are only £2.50, £3.00 on the door. This is the most prestigious gig at IC since

Levitaton last year so haul ass down the lounge. As usual, there's a coke bar and disco.

Top boffins at Ents HQ have generated a random number between 1 and 500 on the ents supercomputer. If you buy this ticket, you will win a fab *Sultans of Ping* CD. You can't say fairer than that.

Strange God

Dear Adam,

I was interested to browse through the eclectic article by H.Lee (or Robert Pirsig of 'Zen/Motorcycle' fame). However, the concluding remarks, in particular, offered a strange view of 'God'.

What is the point of a 'God' who can't be defined, and absolute truth that can't be used? I know mysticism is becoming more

popular, but such thinking can never solve man's problems. If the answer to 'Is there a God?' is yes, but also no, as he/she/it is undefinable, we have not answered the question at all. Combine this with the lack of absolute moral values to line by and we may as well be humanists, and get arrested for selling dodgy videos.

Jon Jordan, Aero 2

Election stuff

Dear Adam,

It is inevitable, I suppose, that the name of ents will be bandied around by prospective candidates for the post of Hon Sec (events), and the proposals made by Messers Fenner and Allen are, I'm sure, well intentioned. However, it does irritate me that both candidates are so blatantly ignorant about an area of union activity for which they intend to assume overall responsibility.

Aled Fenner suggests that 'IC Events have been excessively biased towards' house/rave music. Well, Aled, for the record, by the end of

the year ents will have put on four carnivals (two of which included a rave), at least six gigs, three comedy nights, one rave and countless discos (which usually feature some rave music). Bias? Hardly. Mr Fenner, do some research.

Both candidates express a wish to see bigger acts at IC and Mr Allen correctly identifies the license as the primary obstacle. Neither realises, however, that a serious attempt was made to solve the problem and frankly, we can't. (If anybody is interested in the details I'll provide them.) As for 'up and coming

bands' these are the staple diet of the college circuit. After all, who are Rain, Pele, Spitfire, etc if not up and coming? Mr Allen, do some research.

The manifesto promises made by Hon. Sec. candidates relating to ents are meaningless. If you want some sound advice, vote for Nick Allen, whose proposals to computerise room bookings and appoint a permanent ents officer will make the post virtually redundant.

Yours,

Graham Lawton, Ents Chair

BitchWord 1

By Toot'n'Murph

Across

1 Bold As Brass, 7 Alleviate, 9 Satre, 10 Sabre, 11 All of the above, 12 Topic, 14 Owlet, 15 Salivated, 16 Time and Tide.

Down

2 Delve, 3 Seventh Heaven, 4 Reams, 5 Substantial, 6 New Election, 7 Antelopes, 8 Embroidered, 13 Calve, 14 Octet.

Sabbatical Elections are just around the corner, Monday and Tuesday of next week, so here is the *all-new* Felix guide to how to vote, and what it all means.

STV - Single Transferable Vote
At Imperial College, we operate a system called the Single Transferable Vote. A candidate needs more than 50% of the vote to win. If no candidate achieves this on first preferences, then the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and their votes distributed amongst the remaining candidates according to the second preferences expressed on those papers. This redistribution continues until someone achieves greater than 50% of the total vote whereupon they are declared the winner.

Just to confuse matters a little, each post also has the candidate New Election. If this 'candidate' wins the election then a new election is called, and the whole election process starts again.

You can make your vote more effective by expressing all your preferences. If your first choice has too few votes, or even more than the quota (when there is more than one vacancy), then your vote can be used to help elect another candidate. Please note that putting second, third, etc, choices on your ballot paper *will not affect the chances of your first choice* (think about it and you'll see how this is true).

Important points to remember
Treat each election separately, using '1', '2', '3', etc in each case. Only use numbers. Any other marks can invalidate your vote. Make sure you start at 1, and only use each number once. It is a good idea to put as many preferences as you can to get the most effective use of your vote.

Remember that your vote will only go to your second choice when your First choice is either already elected, or eliminated. Putting a

towards your second (and the rest) preferences.

Voting is taking place on Monday 9th, and Tuesday 10th March: that's the first two days next week. Ballot boxes will be present at St Mary's, all South Kensington departments, and Silwood Park, from 10am to 5pm on each day.

An Example Election
Here is an example with, of course, totally fictitious candidates. You are given a ballot paper for the

How and Where to Vote

second, third, etc, choice in no way affects the chances of your first choice.

If there are any points about the voting system which you still don't understand then please contact the Returning Officer, Steve Farrant, in the Union Office.

How and Where to vote
In order to vote you must have your Union Membership Card. You can then go to a ballot box, get your voting paper, and vote away. Remember that you must not cross your paper, you must number your choices in order of preference, placing a '1' by your first choice and continuing this numerical order until you have no further preference. If your first choice is eliminated, your vote will still count

post of president, as follows:

Ben	3
Bill	2
Weed	1
New Election	4

When the votes are counted up, they poll the following number of first preferences:

Bill	230
Ben	270
Weed	410
New Election	290
	1200

No-one has reached the quota of 601, so Bill is eliminated and his second preferences are redistributed. Of those 230 votes, 175 go to Weed, 25 to New Election, 15 to Ben, and 15 have no second preference. Giving

Ben	285
Weed	585
New Election	315
Non-transferable	15
	1200

Bye-bye Ben, and on we go again. The quota becomes 593 due to non-transferable votes (half of 1185, plus 1). Ben's votes are redistributed according to the next preference (those with 1st preference for Ben are assigned according to the second preference, those with 2nd preference for Ben are assigned by the third preferences). If those preferences have Bill, then they are assigned according to their next preference. Of those 285, 200 go to Weed, 35 to New Election, and 50 have no further preferences.

Weed	785
New Election	350
Non-transferable	65
	1200

Weed passes the quota and becomes president. Note that 65 votes were wasted, so be sure to express further preferences.

*Voting for
IC Union
sabbaticals takes
place on the 9th
and 10th March
- Monday and
Tuesday. Ballot
boxes will be in
all departments.
Please bring
your Union
cards*

Imperial College Science Fiction Society
proudly presents a science fiction convention:

Picocon10

Guests of Honour

Brian Stableford

David Langford

The Real Hitchhikers Guide
to the Galaxy

We will have this wonderful guide to the known universe present for your perusal. If you know something about Life that the Guide doesn't then you will be contracted as a guide researcher with your entry included for posterity.

There will be a video room open all day

We will also have a sf/fantasy quiz, and second hand books for sale.

Entrance: only £5 to non-icsf members,
£4 for icsf members (returnable to gophers)

Saturday 7th March 1992

(in the Union Building, Beit)
11 o'clock to 6 o'clock

Brian Stableford is a British author, and critic for magazines such as Interzone.

Dave Langford is SuperFan. Dave has won many Hugo awards as a fan writer. He edits the monthly fanzine Ansible, available at the 'Ton.

The state of the Halls of Residence is appalling, and the standard of accommodation, utilities, safety and security cannot, by any reasonable standard, be called 'value for money'.

Accommodation has been a major student problem this year. Students groups and hall committees have complained and protested about what they regard as a worsening crisis. Imperial Overseas Students Committee voiced their anxiety in a letter to the man with ultimate

responsibility, Gordon Marshall. The letter is quoted from above. On February 3rd, high level representatives from Selkirk and Tizard Halls took the death ride to Sherfield to meet with College management on the subject. They came, they talked, they were walked on.

It was put to Messrs Fraser and Marshall that the quality of Imperial College residences is such that students are not receiving value for money. Mr. Fraser said that next

year, all rooms in hall would be supplied with an inventory of contents.

Angus Fraser, Managing Director, and Gordon Marshall, Director of Estates, gave the hall residents the usual treatment. They listened to the question being asked, and then answered a totally different one.

Accommodation has always been a problem for the new Ash appointed (Ashite) management team. Angus Fraser was appointed in November 1989, after 'a year taking stock' whilst remaining on the board of his old company, Chloride. Gordon Marshall was appointed as Director of Estates eighteen months ago, though he was visible around IC before that.

Marshall came to prominence following the sacking of IC Business Manager, Tom Stevens, on 2 November, 1990. Stevens was responsible for the purchase of Clayponds, in South Ealing, and the simultaneous selling of Montpelier Hall, a postgraduate residence. The plan was that in separate deals, the College was to sell Montpelier for at least £7 million and finance the building of Clayponds, for £11 million. The Clayponds shell out went ahead, and then Stevens was sacked. No sooner had the axe fallen, Montpelier was taken off the market, so that the legal documents could be scrutinised.

When the college read the documents, they found that, under the deeds, Montpelier could only be used for educational purposes. This wrecked the Sherfield financial wheeze, and landed accommodation with a £20.5 million debt.

Is this why IC is throwing students out of their rooms over Easter? There is no better way to pay off the debt than to let rooms over the vacation at conference rates of between £18 and £25 a night. If students complain, they are told to go away and learn to read. Area residences manager, Graham Daniels, told iCNN that 'there isn't a problem here. These people (students) knew exactly what they were signing up for'.

If only the Estates Division had learned to read the deeds of Montpelier Hall. They had more time to do so than the average first year coming to Imperial, moving away from home for the first time, and willing to take any accommodation on any terms.

How much of the blame for the Montpelier fiasco can be placed with the Ashite management team? Angus Fraser was in his job for a full year. Gordon Marshall had been recently appointed as Estates Director. However, he was in the

This Old House

Declan Curry of IC Radio rounds up the recent accommodation problems



employ of the college before that - he was a consultant working with the Estates division that drew up the sale plans.

The situation has not improved since these heady, early days. The list of accommodation and accommodation related problems, the Magna Marshall, spirals upwards.

17 August 1990: Clayponds purchase, Montpelier sale announced.

3 October 1990: Clayponds contracts exchanged.

2 November 1990: IC Business Manager sacked.

16 November 1990: Montpelier taken off market, Estates shake up announced.

30 November 1990: Southwell ceiling collapses with student in room.

8 March 1991: Microwave fire at Garden Hall, dispute over Easter rents.

17 May 1991: Thefts at Falmouth Keogh and Tizard, threat of rent strike.

31 May 1991: Reports of 'unprecedented complaints about rent levels'.

30 September 1991: Free linen withdrawn, students charged for linen packs.

4 October 1991: Southwell residents claim maintenance promised over summer was not carried out. Mentions students spending 250+ man hours cleaning out rubbish, mending locks and repairing furniture. 118 minor defects and 19 major defects reported.

18 October 1991: Holbein slammed for 'squatter'-like conditions.

1 November 1991: Arson attack in Southside lift, Linstead students complain about food prices and quality.

8 November 1991: College Health and Safety proposals 'illegal'.

17 January 1992: Concern over Silwood Park food price increases.

31 January 1992: Uproar on 'business rates' plan for Easter vacation rents.

7 February 1992: Selkirk and Tizard Committees meet with Gordon Marshall.

21 February 1992: Southside thefts, concession on Easter rents.

The most recent altercation has been on the 'Easter business rates' proposal. The Conference and Accommodation Office sent letters to all students with 34 week leases informing them that they faced eviction at the start of the Easter vacation. Prince's Gardens students who wished to remain in their rooms over the holidays were subsequently informed that they would either be billed at £18 a night, or would be moved to other

college accommodation.

The fury provoked by this arrogant missive resulted in a letter from the Overseas Students Committee, again to Gordon Marshall. Making the point that overseas students would be especially inconvenienced by evictions, they rapidly switched from persuasion to threat.

We have never in the past been reluctant to recommend Imperial to fellow students from our home countries... however, if students are not allowed to stay in their rooms over the Easter vacation, at the same levels of rent that they currently pay, we will have to write to all Universities and funding bodies in our countries, to highlight this lack of consideration.

The 'Easter business rates' plans came on top of the continuing battle in Linstead over the food pricing system. During the 1991 summer vacation, in the absence of students, it was decided that Linstead Hall students would be charged for five evening meals a week, regardless of whether they were there or not. This contrasted with the arrangement in previous years whereby students could sign out for up to two meals a week.

The advantage of the previous arrangement was that it allowed students the flexibility to pursue their involvement with clubs and societies. Liz Holmes, Linstead Hall convenor, described the new regulations as 'unreasonable and unfair', and said that 'a few students are already considering moving out'. She also pointed out that the new scheme resulted in the wastage of at least 2,000 meals in the first term alone.

Initial suggestions from Gordon Marshall were rejected by Linstead residents. After much discussion, a modification of the old rebate system was introduced. Though an improvement, students at Linstead are far from completely satisfied. They join students at Southwell, which has a list of defects as long as your arm. Southside students complain about freezing cold rooms. The good news is that the cockroaches in Southside don't seem to mind the cold, though they are concerned about the lack of kitchen facilities.

Lack of heat is also a problem in Selkirk and Tizard Halls. Olave Hall has no hot water. Montpelier still has its postgraduates, but no heating or maintenance.

Clayponds, South Ealing, is the newest hall, and it has the most appropriate name. Why bathe when you can swim? The condensation problem has been solved by Gordon Marshall suggesting that residents leave their windows open. The one

snag is that this invalidates the insurance. Illiteracy, Gordon?

The shower doors in Clayponds leak, but this is not confined to Ealing. The Evelyn Gardens showers are also useless when you need them, and hyper-efficient when you don't. The ceilings find the law of gravity amusing; they keep falling down in mirth. One wonders when the laughter of falling masonry will be followed by the screams of a trapped student.

The minor problems can be solved by students reporting defects as and when they occur. The procedure is to report defects to the housekeeper, who will then report to the residences managers. If there is no action after three weeks, students are entitled to check the 'defects' book in 15 Prince's Gardens, and then report to area residences manager Graham Daniels (phone 3553 or 071-589-4051).

Students should also notify IC Union of any problems, through Nicky Fox, Housing Officer, or Jonathan Griffiths, Union Deputy President. The Union is pursuing accommodation problems at high levels in the college, and it is essential for them to have accurate information.

If you wish to do this yourself, you can contact Gordon Marshall on 3402, Angus Fraser on 3003 or 6016, or Sir Eric Ash, IC Rector,

on 3000. Angus Fraser can also be contacted outside of hours on 071. 589 9779. Again, please notify the Union of any correspondence.

It is also a good idea to let your department know of any accommodation difficulties. The best person to contact is your personal tutor, senior tutor, or head of department. Alternatively, IC college tutors are David Goodgame on 4549 or Julia Higgins on 8308.

Academic departments have become especially concerned about the IC accommodation crisis. They are now beginning to view it as a serious threat to IC's academic reputation, as well as a serious social problem. Academics and IC Union have acted jointly in the past to solve individual difficulties. With the ICU sabbatical elections currently running, it may be time to consider renewed action by the Union, and to demand firm suggestions from sabbatical candidates on how they would deal with the problem.

It is also time to look afresh at the workings of the Estates division, and at the manoeuvrings of the Accommodation and Conference Office. Time to consider their agenda. Time to work out if they are interested in housing students, or running a business. Time to evaluate their competence and overall suitability for the jobs they hold.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY

PRESENTS

LORD WADDINGTON
LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

TUESDAY 17 MARCH

1.00pm

MECH ENG 542

on 3000. Angus Fraser can also be contacted outside of hours on 071 289 9779. Again, please notify the Union of any correspondence. It is also a good idea to let your department know of any accommodation difficulties. The best person to contact is your personal tutor, senior tutor, or head of department. Alternatively, IC college tutors are David Goodgame on 4349 or Julia Higgins on 8208. Academic departments have become especially concerned about the IC accommodation crisis. They are now beginning to view it as a

'When I got lost on my way to the interview, still more than three thousand miles away from tropical East Africa, I knew then that I was going to need every last ounce of initiative to get through the Frontier expedition. And later, smiling like a martyr at the nurse at the Health Centre while she ladled vaccines into my upper arm, it was obvious to me that my physical and mental resources would be taken to the edge. Pain, hardship, deprivation, and missing Brookside, I was prepared for all that. I was ready to

restrained, but suddenly we had found ourselves in the thick of it (no not that), with wild (and I mean furious) chimpanzees charging about the forest canopy above our heads, shaking branches and whooping and screaming like they were holding an acid house party. Actually most of the chimps couldn't seem to make up their minds whether they wanted to be angry, to be frightened, or just to eat the fruit. Either way, it seems they defecate abundantly through all three of these states, so all was well

essential to the long-term survival of the Forest Reserve. Amongst a variety of other work, Frontier volunteers have been collecting dung samples from the chimpanzees on behalf of Makerere University Field Station who supervise behavioural research in another part of the forest. The samples are sent to Harvard University to test the hypothesis that the density of nematode worms in the dung is an indicator of how much stress an individual chimpanzee is suffering. If this is the case, the work will provide invaluable baseline data against which to monitor, in the future, the disturbing effects on the chimpanzees caused by the introduction of tourists into the forest. The level of tourist activity can then be regulated accordingly and disturbance to the wildlife kept to a minimum. Frontier's work at Kibale began in July 1991 and is expected to last for at least two years.

Other Frontier projects in Uganda and Tanzania are involved in similar kinds of conservation activity. These include the establishment of Tanzania's first Marine National Park around Mafia Island, and compiling species inventories for Tanzania's coastal forests. Work varies broadly from digging latrines and counting millipedes to map drawing and diving on some of the most pristine coral reef in the Western Indian Ocean. It is also likely that projects in other parts of the world will be initiated over the coming year. If you would like further information on the conditions of participation on one of the ten week expeditions and would also be capable of raising the contribution to expedition costs, please send a large stamped addressed envelope to:

FRONTIER/SEE
Studio 210
Thames House
566 Cable Street
London E1 9HB

Third World Frontier Projects

Ever wanted to collect chimpanzee dung? Then read on..

take the blows, I was set for the challenge. But fun? No one even hinted that I would have a good time as well. That's what really broke me.'

Melissa
Tanzanian Coastal Forest Project

The Frontier expeditions have been running in East Africa for almost three years now, and the Society for Environmental Exploration, which co-ordinates the expeditions, is constantly recruiting young people who have a taste for adventure, an ability to raise sponsorship and who won't get lost on the London Underground. Living conditions in field camps are rough and makeshift and expeditions demand versatility, tolerance, enthusiasm and initiative. These qualities tend to serve better than academic qualifications when it comes to manoeuvring a four-ton truck out of a ditch.

All expedition work is directed in the long-term towards the conservation and protection of natural habitats such as tropical forests, coral reefs and mangrove estuaries. Projects are developed in partnership with the relevant wildlife authorities and research institutions of the host country to ensure that the most urgent national conservation priorities are addressed. In order to be effective, the projects are set up on a long-term basis. Nonetheless, each expeditionary group has its own assigned objectives. Within that context there is an unending variety of tasks.

'Chimpanzee dung they said they wanted. Nobody, it seems, gets more excited about animal crap and zoologists. As a geography students my own enthusiasm was more

for the job in hand. I sneaked a look over the huge buttress roots that sheltered me and saw Simon crouched in the leaf litter frantically consuming leaves from a nearby shrub. Strange behaviour you might think for a civil engineer from Portsmouth, but in fact a gesture greatly respected by irate chimpanzees. Certainly the dung samples were going to be difficult. On the one hand, here was a prime opportunity to get some fresh samples, but on the other hand if one of us moved, the chimps, some of which were right over our heads, shrieked louder than ever. What could we do? Where could we get some shit? Just then I reached behind me for my rucksack, but instead of canvass my fingers met something warm and yielding and as they did so I was suddenly aware of a violently rich and fruity aroma. I spun around, and there on the lid of my rucksack were three generous splashes of something that looked like peanut butter left out in hot sun. By some miraculous stroke of fortune, one of the chimpanzees had actually dumped right on my bag, right by my side. Incredible luck. We needed dung samples, and they'd fallen right into our lap. And some people wonder if God is good. Does a bear shit in the woods?'

Jonathan
Kibale Forest Project

The aim of the Frontier Project in Kibale Forest in western Uganda is to establish, in conjunction with the Uganda Forest Department and Makerere University, a tourist and education centre on the edge of the forest. Tourists who will visit the forest to see the chimpanzees and walk the trails, will generate valuable foreign currency that is

This article was not intended to go in this week as we had no time to find the author. If whoever wrote it would like to be credited, could they please come into the Felix Office.

Fresh
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SOUTH KENSINGTON
071-823 8968

We have a fantastic offer for all you students, a cut wash and blowdry by our top stylist (which normally costs around £21) For only £11 Men £12 Women Check us out!

Perhaps you were one of the millions of people who dipped into their pockets and gave money to Comic Relief last year. But did you know that it only took 8 hours for the £20 million that was raised to flow back into Britain in the form of debt repayments? This simple fact gives the sad lie about aid.

It is time that we asked who really benefits?

Britain spent £1.68 billion on aid. If you were to judge, by Government statements, or disaster pictures on TV, you could be forgiven for thinking that this figure amounted to a generous flow to the needy of the 'Third World'. Perhaps the image that best sums up British aid is Lynda Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development, distributing sweets to the Kurdish children, as they stood shivering on the mountains of Iraq: a 'sticking plaster' solution to much more fundamental problems.

In reality, the total amount of world aid is half what Britain spends on its social services, and we are one of the World's meanest countries when it comes to aid as a percentage of Gross National Product (GNP). The target set, by the United Nations, is 0.7% of the GNP. At the moment, Britain falls far short with its contribution of 0.31% and no plans for achieving the full target. If you look at the quality and direction of British aid, it becomes clear that altruism is not the motivating factor behind the giving.

Most of Britain's aid is bilateral: it involves the direct transfer of money, goods, or services to the Third World. This is a double-edged sword. Aid is an effective way of influencing governments and furthering the interests of the donors, and is certainly not allocated to the poorest countries of the World. In 1985, the year of the Ethiopian famine, £18 million was given from the aid budget to repair a Gibraltar dockyard. The same year, each inhabitant of the Falkland Islands received the equivalent of £5,000, whilst India received only 15 pence.

Britain also benefits from 'tied aid', which amounts to about 75% of bilateral aid. By tying aid, donors insist that money given can only be spent on goods and services from their own country, and (you've guessed), it is usually much more expensive to buy products with tied aid rather than on the open market. Remember the Westland Helicopter crisis of 1986? That year, India was told that it had to spend £65 million, from its aid money on 21 helicopters. These designs were totally unsuitable for the Indian conditions: aid had been directed

towards helping an ailing British industry!

In 1986 Chris Patten, then Minister for Overseas Development, put it plainly when he noted that the aid programme was 'a significant part of our export efforts'. Apart from pure financial conditions, tied aid reinforces the dependency of the 'Third World' on rich countries. Governments are forced to import foreign goods and this stops them developing their own industries.

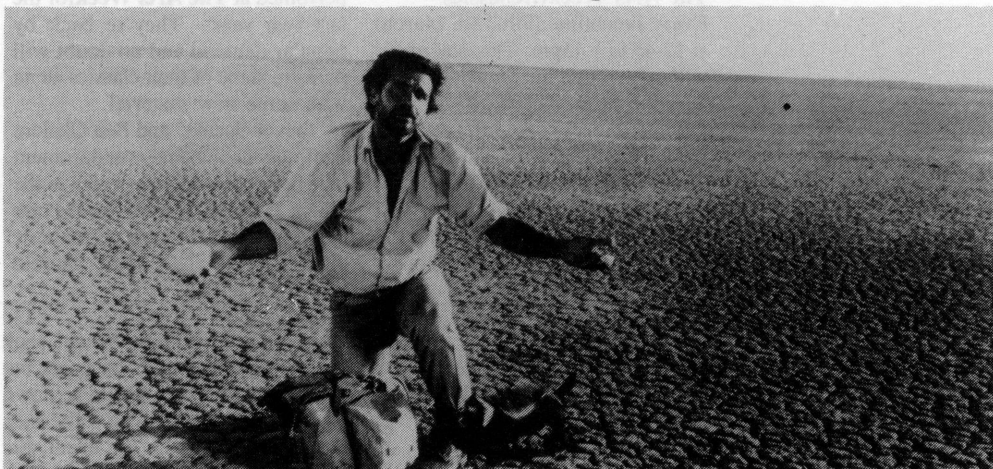
A second part of the 'aid web' is multilateral aid given, by Britain, to international bodies, such as the World Bank, and the United Nations groups such as the World Food Programme. Lynda Chalker, in 1990, boasted that British Companies received £1.75 worth of orders for every £1 that the

incapacitated that cities are blacked out for up to twelve hours per day. In India, many communities are protesting against the Narmada dam funded by the World Bank. It seems that past lessons have not been learnt.

Where do we go from here? By now, you may be feeling thoroughly disillusioned but it is important to remember that many of the non-Government agencies, such as Oxfam and Christian Aid, are being more critical of the type of aid they give. Local communities in the 'Third World' are also getting their voices heard, and the Government is increasingly being pressurised into channelling its aid more appropriately.

It is also worth putting the aid issue into perspective, and remembering that it is only a small

Aid; who really benefits?



Government put into the multilateral agencies.

Multilateral aid bodies tend to fund large scale, high technology, prestigious projects. It is hard to see how the benefits trickle down to the poor, whose lives are supposed to be improved by all this aid. Huge dams might provide electricity for those who live in towns, but the majority of poorer people in rural areas would probably prefer access to fuels, such as wood or charcoal. They might argue that sustainable forestry would be more appropriate to their needs.

Over the years, enormous sums have been spent on hydro-electric dams. These were heralded as the key to developing energy, for local industries, yet little account was taken of the livelihoods of the thousands who would be displaced as their land was flooded, or the environmental damage that such projects cause. The Peligre dam, in Haiti (one of the World's poorest nations), is a case in point. Only a few years after completion, this dam has silted up and is so

part of the overall picture, at present accounting for only 5% of all income in the 'Third World'. World prices for raw materials and debt repayments are what really determine how a country fares. In 1985 the total amount of emergency aid to Africa, from all sources, was around \$3,000 million in debt repayments, and £19,000 million was wiped off the value of African exports because of a price collapse on world markets.

It is these forces, rather than aid, that keep poor countries poor. Changes are needed in the richer more powerful countries where the heart of the problem lies. That is where organisations, such as Third World First, come in. By educating people on the root causes of poverty and underdevelopment, and campaigning for change here, a valuable start has been made. You too can help shift the balance of power!

For further information, contact Teresa Garlake, Third World First, 232 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1UH.

*Third World
First - what
does it do and
why? An
explanation is
offered*

The Arts Week..Gallery

Running for three weeks (2nd-20th March) **The Arts Week** will be using the Consort Gallery (Sherfield Ante Room, Ground floor) to exhibit the work of a number of Artists. The display will include prints, paintings and drawings. Simon Burder's work is ruggedly geological, an investigation of textures and structures in rocky landscapes. Jeffery Gibbons and Joanna Melvin produce abstracts of power and considerable feeling. Ruth Hogg makes prints containing

Arne, with Oboe, Recorder, Strings and continuo accompaniment, Friday: Bach and Telemann Sonatas for two recorders and continuo.

Alternatively listen to a string quartet and a flute duet who will be performing in the Union Building some lunchtimes during **The Arts Week**.

The Arts Week...Gigs

The Mech Eng foyer is hardly the venue you would expect for a Rock Band but that is what **The Arts Week** has arranged for Tuesday

be wild.

The Arts Week...Comedy

Comedians Mark How and Rupert Smith will be entertaining in the Union Bar on Wednesday 11th from 8pm onwards. then on Thursday and Friday lunchtimes (in the Union Lounge) Steve Turner will be the 'poet in residence'. Steve Turner has been at **The Arts Week** before and far from being a boring poet has entertained his audience with humorous poetry from his books. This year he will use material from his new book (soon to be published).

The Arts Week...Busking

Juggling, reciting poetry, singing, clowning, and all sorts of wacky entertainment will be happening round Beit Quad and the walkway throughout **The Arts Week**. Also on Friday in Beit Quad there will be burgers and hopefully (fingers crossed) a bouncy castle.

Many of the Artists who are performing or exhibiting their work are Christian, some perform at established events like Greenbelt. But don't worry they won't be ramming religion down your throat, just providing the entertainment. All the Arts Week events are free.

Ben Irons, WLC

(West London Chaplaincy)

The Arts Week

exceptionally subtle colour shadings. Possibly the most unusual work on show is that of Kaori Homma who works with layered mulberry paper - sounds interesting.

The Arts Week...Classics

Every lunchtime (9th-13th March) at 12.45 to 1.15pm. Classical music will echo round the Sherfield foyer near the SCR. The rundown is as follows, Monday: An informal Part Song Singalong, Tuesday: Bach Flute Sonatas with Harpsicord, Wednesday: Jazz double bass and piano duo, Thursday: A selection of songs from Shakespeare by Thomas

10th March. Classic rock tracks will be performed by the only band willing to play in a corridor.

Thursday 12th March (lunchtime in the Union Lounge) sees the return of 'Fresh Claim' who have performed at **The Arts Week** for the last two years. They're back by popular demand and no doubt will perform some of their classics along with some new material.

'Trevor Speaks' and Ben Okalore continue the musical entertainment on Friday 13th March, again in the Union Lounge. 'Trevor Speaks' are a duo much in the style of the now disbanded Fat and Frantic. Should



Art

Exhibition, All Day, Every Day
The Consort Gallery (Sherfield Level 1)





Classical Music

Daily, in Sherfield Foyer, Lunchtimes
Mon - Wed Lunchtimes, in Union Foyer





Poetry

Poet in Residence
Thur & Fri, Lunchtime, Union Lounge





Contemporary Music

Thur & Fri, Lunchtime, Union Lounge





Comedy

Wednesday, 8pm
Union Bar





Busking

Lunchtimes, around Campus



When the first 'Arts Week' took place, we were keen on poets but wondered how they would go down at IC, so we put them on with bands to sugar the pill. In the event, the poets have been a highlight of 'The Arts Week'. Last year we had three, and this year decided to invite Steve Turner back as 'Poet in Residence'. (Is this a new 'The Arts Week' accolade, I ask myself?)

Steve has just written a new book to be published next month by Hodder & Stoughton. Its called 'The King of Twist'. I asked for more info (thought I might get a draft), but all I got was the cover! Still, the content will be revealed, no doubt, at 'The Arts Week' so I suppose he doesn't want to give anything away - he might lose some punchlines!

'The King of Twist,' his fourth collection of poetry, combines the immediacy and humour of his earlier books with a sharper, more mature vision. In these new poems he takes on the fears and pressures that threaten to lead us into a dull conformity and explores the 'wise madness' that offers a way out. As NME said of his last volume: 'When you've read this book you feel as if he's given you something positive to hang on to in a world so

uncertain of its uncertainties.'

What the critics say of earlier collections:

'Steve Turner is witty, there is some sharp wordplay and he succeeds, I think because he confines himself to those subjects he feels involved in.' - Roger McGough

'Steve Turner's poems should be printed on bus tickets, beermats, matchbox labels, on giant hoardings across the city. They are gentle slogans for all the causes he believes in.' - David Ward, New Musical Express.

'Within a few pages I felt that in him contemporary London may have found a lyric writer in the way that New York has Steve Sondheim and Liverpool used to have Lennon...' - Peter Lewis, Daily Mail

I suppose that we should expect good quotes on the cover but, from an IC point of view, what else can we say except that last year we liked him so much that 'The Arts Week' has invited him back, not just again, but to do more! You can't get a better recommendation than that. Come and hear him on Thursday and Friday of 'The Arts Week'.

Paul Brice.

Trevor Speaks comprises Pete Ward and Dan Johnston, from Oxford Youth Works who specialise in doing live gigs for OYW. They are coming to 'The Arts Week' next Friday.

The **Fat and Frantic** concert during 'The Arts Week' 1990 attracted a large crowd and was very entertaining. Students had been raving about their music but their tapes didn't impress me at all. However, seeing is believing, so it is said, and I found them brilliant 'live'.

So when I was sent a tape of 'Trevor Speaks' and told that they're a bit like the above but better, I didn't expect to enjoy it. A straight tape recording of a duo without high-tech studio processing didn't appeal to me. I was to be pleasantly surprised.

'A Way of Life' is a good driving first number with good contrasts and the backing vocal mixed to feel

slightly distant, an effect I liked, though with too much reverb for me. The lyrics seemed to change direction after the first verse, but picked up on unemployment, and feminism. I guess they wanna change the world.

'In my Blood' shuffled along highlighting our unpredictable emotional responses to life. The rhythm haunted me - memories of 'America'?

'When I Meets I' is a good one. I seem to remember Pete Ward recording this before he met up with Danny, and being in a band that played it. Whatever the treatment, there is something about the verse which always grabs me, though I didn't like the strumming on this one.

'Warm Love' is about what it says, though I didn't catch some of the lyrics. There is a humorous replacement for them in the words sheet. A complete change follows

in the form of 'Squeaky Clean', a rip of narrow minded religious people. It sounds like a lot of fun so I look forward to hearing this one 'live' even though I'll miss the FX. 'Oxford Town' is where *Trevor Speaks* hails from. It poignantly plays the nostalgia and reality extremes of this world famous city. 'It's the pits..' is still ringing in my ears. This is obviously where they're at home, and presumably expresses deep feelings for some of their local audiences. This is perhaps *Trevor Speaks* at their best. Penultimately, 'Old Fashioned Music' drives incessantly. Impossible to listen to without the rhythm trying to escape from your bones. Here, here, to the old fashioned music in my soul. As for the last track. Maybe you'll make more of it than I could.

Needless to say, I'll be first in the queue for *Trevor Speaks* at lunchtime Friday 13th. With burgers in Beit Quad and two other acts in the Union Lounge as well (Ben Okafor plus Steve Turner, Poet in Residence), it promises to be one of the best events in 'The Arts Week'.

Paul Brice

Trevor Speaks

PicoCon 10

This Saturday Imperial College Science Fiction society (ICSF) are holding a Science Fiction convention. 'What's a Science Fiction convention?' you cry. I can tell you because I have been to the last two PicoCons and other cons around the country. Essentially a convention is a get together of like minded people. In this case we are the people who saw Terminator 2, Star Trek 6, and Red Dwarf, and read Terry Pratchett and Clarke and Asimov. We are also the people who want to visit space, build hyper-intelligent machines, or battle with the level ten mage after swallowing a bubbling purple potion. Alternatively we take pint in one hand, book in the other, and seek out authors to sign the aforementioned book, or offer the pint.

A usual feature of SF Cons (as they are called) is the Guest of Honour. Usually an author or artist, the guest of honour is persuaded to part with valuable inside knowledge in the form of a 'talk'. Since aeons ago this talk has been bribed out of guests of honour by lubrication with amber nectar. Two such guests who spring to mind are Brian Stableford and Dave Langford. Brian Stableford is a British author of some repute. His long career in novel writing is continuing with the recent publication of 'Empire of Fear' (a book about the bloody exploits of vampires) and the 'Werewolves of London' trilogy. He is also known for literary criticism in magazines such as Interzone and Million.

David Langford is also renowned for criticism, but of a less serious kind. Dave is on the other side of the reader fence. He has won several Hugos as a fan writer (a Hugo is the science fiction equivalent of an Oscar), more than anyone else in the world, as I am led to believe. They will both be giving talks at PicoCon this Saturday, in the Union Building, Beit.

Before I forget, PicoCon will cost four pounds to ICSF members, five to everybody else, which isn't much considering it goes on from 11 in the morning to 7 in the evening.

Apart from the guest authors, there will be an SF trivia quiz. Of course this quiz covers every aspect of real and unreal life, such as films, fantasy, Dr Who, Blake's 7, Star Trek and so on. (Whose birthday was on the 12th of January in 1992?). You can take part by just turning up, and finding a team to join. Hopefully, we will have a panel discussion on 'Self Criticism in SF and Fantasy', taking things like HitchHiker's Guide to the Galaxy and the work of Kurt Vonnegut as a starting point.

And that is about it. If you think you might enjoy an SF convention then come along. I guarantee you will. And if you can't make it this time round there is the National SF Convention this Easter. Illumination will be much bigger than our humble little effort and is partly organised by ex-ICSF chairentities.

(Oh, and it was Hal's birthday.)

IMPERIAL COLLEGE CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY

PRESENTS

RT HON
TOM KING MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE

TUESDAY 10 MARCH
1.00pm
MECH ENG 342

Last Christmas Martin Heighway visited the benighted country of Romania as part of an orphanage relief team

Romanian Christmas

Ex sometime visitor to the department of Biotechnology and now part time relief worker Martin Heighway decided to forgo the materialist crap that is the British Christmas and freeze his nuts off in North Romania for two months. This is not his story...

On December 25th 1989, Nicolae Ceaucescu, total dictator of Romania, art collector, hunter,



An HIV-positive orphan

shooter, fisher and mass murderer was taken from the house of justice in Bucharest, lined up against a wall with his wife Elena, and shot to death.

This was a particularly ironic death for the man who had liked nothing more than tramping around

the woods in the Moldavian hinterland, blasting innocent Bears, Wolves and other assorted furry creatures to death.

His wife was even more loathsome. Widely tipped to take over from her husband in the event of his demise, and for the most part, even more of an extremist than he was, she had acquired a reputation as an organic chemist of international standing. Having attended many symposia and being awarded many honorary degrees (including one from the Polytechnic of Central London) it was subsequently found that she was scarcely literate and had not even passed out of primary school.

The rest of the family all received long prison sentences, the exception being their son Nicu, who is of interest here because he graduated from Imperial College in 1971 with a third in Physics. Possibly the only honest member of the family, he now has gainful employment as boss of a hydro electric plant.

Following Christmas a situation not dissimilar to the French reign of terror was instigated. Large scale social disorder saw gangs of miners from the Romanian equivalent of the NUM wandering the streets proclaiming to be the Police of the post revolutionary republic. The reality was different. Hundreds disappeared in reprisals and score settling for 40 years of communist repression, and it was not uncommon to see people beaten to death in the streets. Particularly hated of course were the Securitate, the plain clothes secret police, instantly recognisable by their yellow number plated cars, the big brother that could beat and arrest you for major economic crimes such as possession of five American dollars.

Romania had always been the Maverick of the Eastern block states. The only Soviet satellite never to have foreign troops on its soil, Romania had constantly been at odds with its large neighbour. Publicly condemning the invasions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Ceaucescu had gained a reputation as a skilled diplomat by organising the Camp David talks in 1976 between Begin and Sadat. A state visit to Britain followed, accompanied by the Queen, who full of smiles in public, in private made references to 'that loathsome little man'.

Ceaucescu then chose to follow his own particular brand of communism. A staunch Stalinist, upon assuming power he immediately instigated a programme

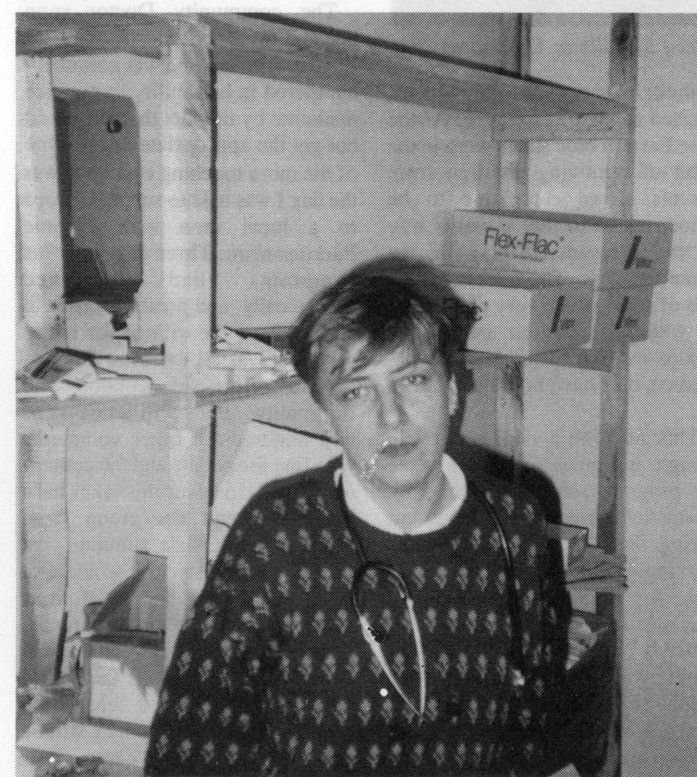
Possession of five American dollars was a major crime

of economic austerity. One of the most bizarre measures of course, was his policy on population. Romania is not a large country. It has a population of about 22 million, in an area greater than the UK. Its economy has always been heavily based on agriculture. In the 1970s Ceaucescu became obsessed with paying off the national debt. Agriculture was kicked up a gear and massive export of produce and goods was instigated. For a short time Romania became the only

country in the world not to have a foreign debt. Ironically, whilst small surges of democracy were occurring in other Eastern states (eg the emergence of solidarity in Poland), these states were not given economic help by the west, whilst on the say so of America, Romania was accorded most favoured nation status by the Western trade alliances. A condition of this

wiping their backside with Moses and Jesus.

The upgrade of agriculture was concurrent with abolition of the traditional farming system and centralisation into 'agro-industrial complexes'. Fifth generation farmers suddenly found themselves living in tower blocks, stripped of their land. Of course, manpower was needed to feed the agro-



Dr Adriana in the drugless pharmacy

agreement was that Romania take and distribute 100,000 Bibles. These were subsequently taken, and recycled into toilet paper, which is a precious commodity in Romania. The recycling was inefficient, text was still visible in the paper, and Romanians used to joke about

industrial machine, and here we come to the most distressing episode of Romania's modern history.

A complete ban on birth control was instigated, accompanied with abortion being made illegal. Tax concessions and medals were

available to any woman who could produce 5 children.

It was not uncommon in peasant families for 10 or 12 children to be born, and abortion was merely driven into the backstreets. The most amazing case I came across in a local hospital was of a woman who had had 5 abortions in one year. she was lucky. Death from septicaemia was common, as was sterility. Almost complete absence of antibiotics and anaesthetics except for those stolen, smuggled or imported did not help.

The result was obvious. Thousands of births, massive incidence of sexually transmitted diseases and when the government finally got around to admitting to it, rocketing levels of HIV infection. Life in Romania is sometimes hard, brutish and short. Of course the orphanages began to fill up, as did homes for the mentally and physically handicapped. Perhaps more alarming were the institutions for adults. From my experience in these places it seems that

commitable offences included rape, insanity, alcoholism, having syphilis, not being married by the time you were a woman of 32 and not agreeing with the economic policies of the government. More frightening is the fact that these people are still there. After the revolution a large amount of paper shredding took place including many signed release notes. The orphanages were of a similar type. I asked some of the children Unde este ta familia? (where are your family), to which a standard answer would be Nu Stiu (I don't know). Those that did know did not have much good news ('My mother had a heart attack and a tree fell on my father's head').

The government had been clever. The orphanages and mental institutions of Romania are split up into possibly 800 sites dotted all over the country. Tucked away in the mountains, staffed entirely by the population of one village, who were anxious to keep their own jobs, a veil of secrecy was drawn over these places so that the vast majority of other Romanians did not know about them.

Staffed by the ignorant and the untrained, these places became breeding grounds for neglect and misery.

Indeed it is thought that even today there are some of these institutions in remote locations which have not yet been discovered by western aid organisations.

After the first television crews made their forays into these places a massive programme of fund raising and relief work was instigated. Indeed take a flight from

London to Bucharest today and the likelihood is that half the people on the flight will be going there for this reason.

Of course the initial days were not without problems. Large amounts of aid were and still are stolen. An associate of my views this philosophically as part of the problem when you 'send the hungry to feed the starving'. I have to agree, another friend of mine, who was the first British nurse into Romania after the revolution says that perhaps we should not moralise considering that every year £5 million worth of equipment is stolen from the National Health Service. Still it must have been disconcerting to have your equipment stolen the same night that you bring it, and then be offered it for sale to you the next day in the local market, as happened to several groups.

My first trip to Romania was last

I was reminded of the Nazi deathcamps

summer, with an expedition from the University of London St Johns ambulance group. The expedition included another student from IC and a large number from Mary's. I can only speak for myself when I say that what I found in certain institutions sickened me. Of course, never having been there it is possibly unfair for me to make a comparison but I was reminded of the Nazi death camps. The asylum at Costina—200 men and women, of all ages. Forced to sleep two or three to a bed, with no day care facilities at all. The prospect of a cold bath once every three to four months (there was no running water), and a change of clothes possibly once every six. Complete lack of sanitary protection for the women (they were in the habit of holding their hands over their vaginas to stem the flow of menstrual blood and then eating by hand from a communal food bowl). At first the dormitories were mixed—sexual abuse, rape and pregnancy were common. There had also been several suspected cases of murder. The toilets consisted of buckets which we slopped out frequently. Food consisted of a slop of whatever was available—rice, potatoes and pig fat.

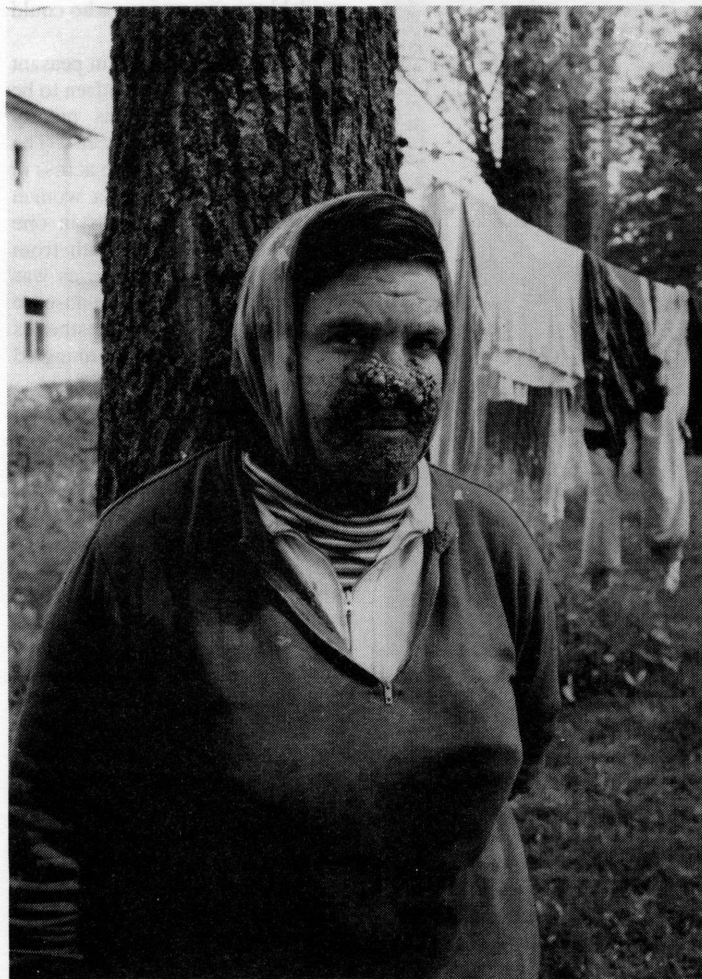
Above all the overpowering stench. It had not been uncommon for dead bodies to be left lying around for large periods of time. Yet again the thought crossed my mind of what the Allied forces did when they opened the gates of Ravensbruck and Auschwitz. In certain instances I could have quite happily machine gunned the lot of them.

The orphanage at Ionaseni housed 200 children with a wide range of physical and mental handicaps. When the first British group had arrived here they had been told by the locals 'It is better that you leave these children to die—they are nothing more than animals'. Several months later a convoy of trucks had been surrounded here by 250 angry villagers demanding relief aid for themselves. Some swift diplomacy resulted in loss of clothes and food in return for retention of essential medical supplies.

In the winter it had not been uncommon for one child a day to die here, exposed to the -30°C blast that comes straight from Siberia to the North. The bodies were saved up in the morgue for a mass burial on Saturdays. The death rate here was reduced by almost 100% by the simple expedient of putting some glass in the windows. Inside you might have been forgiven for thinking that the children were animals. Yet again with two or three to a cot it was not uncommon for children to be 8 years old and not be able to walk and speak. One of the more pitiful examples I saw was of a sixteen year old girl, whose age I incorrectly guessed at 8 because of her diminutive size, holding a kitten. She had just had a baby by one of the orphanage boys and had been told that she could keep the baby when she could look after the kitten.

Now of course the situation is different. An army of occupational therapists, speech therapists and doctors from Britain is working full time there and getting amazing results. Anyone who has seen the documentary 'Challenge Anneka' and seen the before and after results of the orphanage at Siret will be familiar with what a little hard work, patience and above all understanding can achieve.

My own institution for this Christmas was in a place called Zvoristea. Right in the North of the country, it sits about ten miles from the border with Soviet Moldavia. This part of the world is not having it particularly good at the moment. With the break up of the USSR, spiralling inflation, the Russian winter and an average wage of three dollars a month, life is more of an



A case of advanced syphilis in Costina asylum

existence than an enjoyable experience. The only people making any serious money are businessmen, priests, taxi drivers and whores (6 dollars all night for a good looking one so I'm told).

Set in this guagmire is the special school. Two hundred children including 80 orphans in vacation time. They get a basic education until the age of 16 when they are sent to another school to be trained in vocation skills such as metalwork or shoemaking.

A programme of relief work has ensured that for the most part, the children get enough to eat, and have shoes when they run about in the snow. The main problem in places like this is that the children lack the necessary mental stimulation to develop properly. As any biologist can tell you the human brain reaches its maximum level of sophistication at about the age of three. Absence of such basic forms of interaction such as play can have a profound effect on the child in later life. Romania has a particularly bad human right's record in this field. After the war the International Charter for human rights for children was set up, which included a clause stating that one of the basic rights for children was the right of play. Romania

(although she was not alone), refused to sign this clause. At the time Eastern bloc states were in the habit of removing children from parents at an early age to be indoctrinated in the 'socialist way of life'. Presumably play did not come into this. The effects of this sort of deprival are very distressing to witness. Children will sit in groups and rock to and fro for hours because they have nothing better to do.

This situation is not irreversible though. It is quite astounding to see the progress made in a child by giving them paper and crayons and asking them to be creative. The learning of life skills that we would take for granted is also very necessary, for instance how to flush a newly installed toilet, or that wiping your arse on the floor is not healthy. The education does not end there however. Persuading the supervisors not to beat the children with iron bars is also sometimes very necessary.

Christmas at the orphanage was fun and the New Year even better. The Romanian New Year has to be seen to be believed. The festivities last about a week. The entire country takes to the streets, dressed up as goats and bears going from door to door where by unwritten

law they must be received with hospitality, which normally involves large quantities of vodka or tsuica, which is Romanian plum brandy brewed illicitly in stills in the back garden.

In Romanian folklore, whenever a bear appears in a story it is always called Martin, in the same manner in which foxes are always called Reynard in France, or Brer Rabbit in Uncle Remus etc. For this reason I was soon christened by the

It was not uncommon for one child a day to die here

children as Mors Martin (old man bear). The villagers soon became used to the sight of 'the crazy British', roaming through the streets of Zvoristea, accompanied by droves of small children, screaming loudly, only stopping to torture local cats or make demands for sweets or ice cream.

The community Doctor soon became my good friend. A fluent English speaker, she was constantly hampered in her ability to practice medicine by the fact that she could not get the appropriate drugs. One of the more touching examples was the day I was able to supply L-Dopa to a local man with chronic Parkinsonism. Three days later his symptoms had improved dramatically, and presents started to appear from the village for me.

Alas it was all too soon time for me to return to London and 'normality'. But I will go back, as will hundreds of other volunteers who find the people and the country addictive. However this takes hard cash. To send the group from Mary's and IC last summer cost over £5000. This year it would cost more. If in the depths of your student debt you could spare the price of one pint of beer to help what is known now as the *fourth* world, you could rest safe in the knowledge that your money will be going to a very good cause.

If you think you could help out or would like to know more about what is happening in the Romanian orphanages please contact:

Martin Heighway,
C/O RCSU Office,
Imperial College.

or
Simon Stockhill,
St Mary's Union Office.

Imperial College justifiably considers itself one of the finest engineering and technological schools in Europe. In recent years it has increased its links with other universities in continental Europe and an increasing number of exchange students stay at our college, yet the student union and the student body do not have an organisation that can encourage and support further exchanges, and contact other student organisations, in similar universities on the continent.

An ideal way to start is to use BEST and its network as a working group within the Student Union. The Board of European Students of Technology is an organisation already in existence. It was founded several years ago, initially with Imperial College representation, but interest faded and college representatives were no longer present at meetings. BEST as an organisation grew stronger, though. It gained new members, organised the first summer courses and held several general assemblies.

Imperial College BEST group was set up at the beginning of this academic year. It managed to start functioning due to the kind financial support of the college's International Relations Office. This allowed us to attend the BEST general assembly held in Lisbon. The central structure of BEST and its 'Summer Programme' are being partially funded by the EC scheme TEMPUS. The local groups, which are the real soul and spirit of the organisation, need to finance themselves. BEST at Imperial College is up and running. We have had students from Lund, Lille, Tallinn, Paris and Barcelona visiting us, and we will be having students attending student festivals, seminars and careers fairs abroad. Naturally once the association is fully established within our student union, these opportunities will become available to a greater number of students.

The BEST group at IC holds the rotative Presidency of BEST and is the current secretariat, an information centre which is responsible for the printing of a monthly newsletter. BEST will provide a good opportunity for IC students to influence as well as participate in the links with students in continental Europe.

The Association

In April 1989, BEST, the Board of European Students of Technology was founded in Berlin by students of 20 universities from all over Europe, with the philosophy 'To promote Europe among Europeans'.

BEST is a non-profit, apolitical organisation meant to be an answer to the need for communication and exchange between technology students across Europe.

The Network

There is an established network of local BEST groups at the individual universities. Information regarding the possibilities of studying abroad for any given period of time is provided, and work is done to improve the international exchange opportunities by cooperating with university administrators, industry and the government.

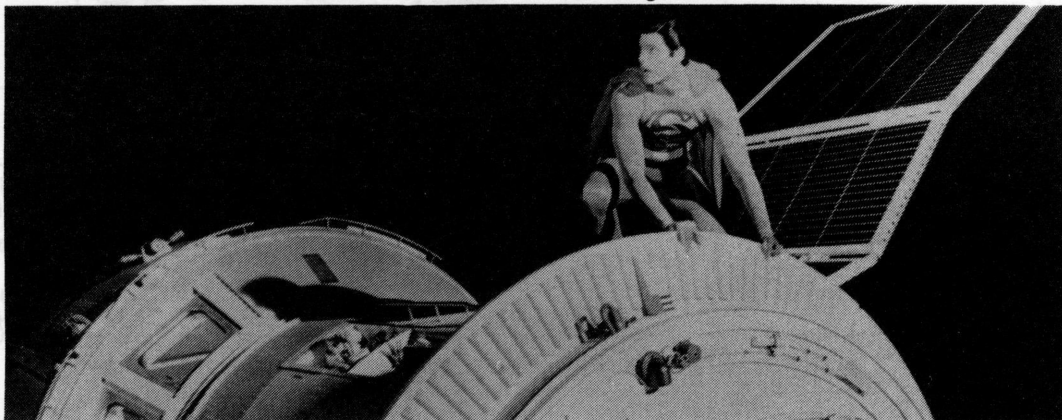
Practically, it provides permanent and live contact with the student

The 'Job-Shops'

Invitations are sent out to the local groups, allowing students to attend career's fairs held at many of the member universities. This provides final year students with the possibility of looking for jobs outside their home country, and others a chance of obtaining a summer job abroad, something which is becoming increasingly important as we approach 1993.

The Events

Continuous up-to-date information on 'What's happening in Europe!', including free invitations to most events: European weeks, student festivals, cultural extravaganzas,



unions of Europe's top technical and scientific universities. It can be a link with all our students enrolled in courses with a 'year in Europe'. Additionally it provides an increased 'East-West' cooperation at a student level.

The Summer Programme

The BEST Summer Programme which took place for the first time in 1991 and was a great success, will continue through 1992. It is a Joint European Project supported by the European Community programme TEMPUS. It consists of a series of short intensive courses held during the summer period, which specialise in a specific field of science and technology. These are attended by students from all universities within the BEST network and include cultural and social programmes, enabling the participants to learn about and experience their surroundings.

The two main goals of the programme are:

- To increase the undergraduate student exchange in Europe.
 - To promote the importance of international cooperation.
- The practical benefits include:
- A unique two week cultural exchange with most European countries.
 - An opportunity to experience student life in a very different society.

sports competitions, international forums and debates. Just to name a few of the possibilities.

Student Exchanges

These can be of all types. In the past they have ranged from one day get-togethers to year-long studies. Some members have gone as far as to complete their whole degrees abroad.

In general, increased undergraduate student mobility has been achieved through closer cooperation amongst the different schools.

Cultural Awareness

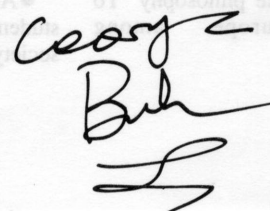
BEST has constantly been a mediator between cultures, uniting students with different backgrounds and with them their universities. Thus opening a wide and new array of ideas and possibilities.

Students have learned to better appreciate their own schools and have been inspired to strive towards a greater understanding of other students' lives.

Interested? Whether you fancy setting up a company in Estonia or would like to visit Portugal the 'BEST Summer Programme '92' is for you. For further information contact: Bernat Albinana, Chem Eng UG; Robert Schrimpf, Aero UG; Luis Dedliveira, Civ Eng UG; or just hang around for some more views...

Bernat Albinana, Chem Eng

BEST
Board of European
Students of Technology



Eggleston and Van Gogh

Exhibition

I have to admit my ignorance as I didn't know who William Eggleston was until now. He is one of America's most influential and pioneering colour photographers. He lives in the deep south and this is reflected in most of his work.

The exhibition features nine themes: Graceland, Southern Suites, Election Eve, Interiors, Wedgewood Blue, The Louisiana Project, Industry and an African Trilogy. I found there to be nothing profound in most of his work, it was sharp yet dull in content and composition. The work is all of a similar vein, the subjects being mainly objects of modern living and the nature that surrounds us.

To me this made for rather boring viewing. The intensity of colour in the photographs raises the subject out of its mundaneness and the quality of a 'snapshot'.

Eggleston is undoubtedly a professional with flawless



technique.

After walking round the Eggleston exhibition having studied each photograph intently and having given serious thought to it (believe me if you like), there was enough time to inspect the Van Gogh Exhibition on the lower floor.

The exhibition focuses on Van Gogh's formative years when he arrived in England at the age of 20, in 1873. At that time he was working for art dealers in Covent Garden.

The major part of the exhibition is a selection of paintings by Van

Gogh's favourite artists. Alongside these works are a few of Van Gogh's own. The pieces displayed are Peasant Heads 1884, Weavers 1885, A Pair of Boots 1886 and Road Along the Seine at Ansis 1887, together with extracts from his letters and personal memorabilia.

As you may have guessed, this exhibition boasts the credibility that his time spent in England helped create Van Gogh-the artist.

AGA.



These exhibitions are at the Barbican Art Gallery.

Roman and Mary's

Theatre

Last Friday I went along to see this play at the Theatre Offstage in Camden (I hate Camden). The Roman is the Roman soldier who guarded Jesus on the night before he was crucified and the Marys are Mary Magdalene and the B.V.M. (that's the Blessed Virgin Mary for you heathens). Anyway, kinda topical with Lent and all that (what's Lent cry the heathens!).

Well let me say first and foremost that this is an excellent play. I was gripped. It is mainly Mary M and the B.V.M. telling their stories. Mary Magdalene had a sad old time and suffered all the abuses that men can sling at a woman. And then she met Jesus. She describes the abuse and pain of her life with graphic and chilling words and her soft scouse accent is great (to be said/read in scouse). Well, I liked it anyway. She met Jesus and she felt clean again, and she saw love and warmth in his eyes.



Mary Magdalene and the BVM (title courtesy of Jojo)

It all sounds quite orthodox up to now. But Christians beware. Waly K. Daly has a new way of looking at the B.V.M. story and opens the question as to who Jesus was. Actually, the B.V.M. comes across as a cow of mega proportions. She certainly believed her son to be the son of God and was gonna make damn sure that all went according to plan (God's plan that is). The two Marys hate each other 'cos they both see Jesus in different ways.

I suppose this play could offend christians but personally I think a

challenge of ideas and beliefs is a good thing. Even if you're not into the theological significance of the theme, just go for the brilliant performances of Barbara Ewing and Helene Kvale, the moving soliloquies and the powerful writing.

£5 for us poor folk and the 31 bus takes you all the way. It runs until March 21 and performance is at 8.00. Offstage Downstairs is at 37 Chalk Farm Rd. Box Office 071 267 0457.

Darwen

Blood Wedding

Theatre

Except for the obligatory Chekhov and Brecht, productions of foreign plays are relatively rare. 'The greatness of a writer is in direct proportion to the power of his country,' said Louis Bunuel and so we miss out on brilliant writers just because they're not American or British (or Russian or German....)

Therefore, The About Time Theatre Company deserves credit for staging 'Blood Wedding' by the great Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca. But it is always a challenge to make a foreign play work and I'm afraid this production does not succeed.

In the play, a bride runs away with her former lover at the end of the wedding ceremony leaving behind her and the bridegroom's stunned families. Lorca had read about such an incident in a newspaper years before he wrote the play. He turned the theme into a highly poetic, surreal drama, and a very Spanish one indeed. The director, Yuval Zamir, is mistaken when he thinks he could eliminate Spain from the play and replace it with mere artiness. Its setting is half imaginary anyway, featuring characters such as The Moon and Death. If you take away its Spanish culture, its link to the real world, then how can you believe the story? I was left completely untouched. They murdered the play.

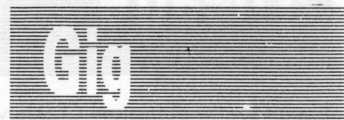
What makes it really painful is the acting (with the exception of Michele Hunter as the servant woman, the only *living* character on stage.)

Boris

• Blood Wedding, About Time Theatre Company, The Bridge Lane Theatre, Bridge Lane, Battersea. Ticket £8/£6 conc. Box Office 071-228-8828

I must apologise for the lack of any film reviews (namely 'Cape-Fear') - I hope no-one walked away with the press tickets. Back to normal next issue, I promise. On the point of film reviews - if someone wants to do one, come and see me in the Felix office on a wednesday afternoon between 2.00pm and 6.00pm (allowing me to get some lunch), and I'll tell you what I have available. It's first come, first served I'm afraid. See you soon - Mario (Reviews Editor).

Blue Salamander, Pheasant Pluckers - Fulham Swan



Blue Salamander was a pretty odd sort of rock/blues band. They were completely unprofessional at times and fluffed things the way a school band might, and than at times they plugged into a source of transcendental cosmic grooviness and you thought, hey, man, this is like, totally, like, you know, good shit. Their cover of 'House of the Rising Sun' was firmly in the Good Shit category, and their original material (when you ignored the screw ups) was most certainly Heavy Duty Good Shit, I reckon the best stuff I'd heard in ages. The lead guitarist, who was kind of furry, distinguished himself by playing some solos which wandered all over the place, but usually got there in the end, very much like a heavily tranquilised B B King, and that was kind of funny. And the versatile male singer/sax player/mouth harp player was a hip dude with shades who could have passed as a New York pimp. Said dude chose to put his vocal cords through the shredder

only on one song, which sounded superb as a result; the rest of the time he sang he was strictly school band level. The female vocalist was excellent. *Blue Salamander* are a band with a lot of potential, and I'd like to hear them again when they've got more practice under their belts, and when they have some more original material, hopefully of the same calibre as their present stuff.

The Pheasant Pluckers were the other end of the professionalism spectrum. They played rock ranging from heavy to hard to raunchy to rockabilly with incredible Frank Zappa tightness, with routines that were nevertheless often slickly improvised between band members. Technically, they were effortlessly capable at everything they did, and oozed competence. Pity none of the material they did really stuck out the way the previous band's did, but the people in the pub (a vaguely rocker crowd) seemed to appreciate the astonishing difference in standard, and asked for, and got, an encore.

Worth the two quid.

PJ

Black Magic Box

Right then, sweeties, an especially large box for you this week, because you've got an especially long wait until you next have a Felix to 'read.' Tonight, *The Sultans Of Ping FC* in the Union, supported by *Herb*. *Herb* are excellent. Ents are gits.

Why?

For scheduling this gig on the same day that the equally excellent, early Primal Scream-ish *Scorpio Rising* play at the Marquee, supported by *Sensitize*.

Tomorrow, those sweet, lovely popsters *Candyland* spend an intimately poppy evening at the Borderline, and Iceland's *Sugarcubes* sing a few numbers from their latest album, and a couple, no doubt, from the other two, supported by *Levitation*, who played here last year. Oh, how the mighty have fallen.

Monday night/Tuesday morning brings a bit of a treat to your TV screens. ITV proudly present *Raindancer*, one of London's finest unsigned bands on 'Stage 1.' The catch? It's on at 4.30 in the morning. Time to find a video, I think.

Tuesday brings a great selection of free entertainment, in the shape of the rather resplendent *My Life Story*, with an 'all-star supporting cast' (Hup!) at the Marquee, and *Trash*, a pop dream at QMW. Free. Take your student card, or they won't let you in.

Next weekend, *Red Hot Chili Peppers* promote their new single with a couple of dates down in Sarf London, at the Academy, one of London's nicest venues.

And finally, U2 saboteurs *The Joshua Trio* cause chaos at the Marquee, a week on Tuesday. Achtung Baby.

Poddy Music Ed.

TONIGHT

Sultans Of Ping FC, Herb.
IC Union. £3

'Right next to the Felix Office'

Scorpio Rising, Sensitize, Family Go-Town.

Marquee £5

Head North along Charing Cross road from Leicester Square tube. On your left.

SATURDAY

Candyland, Blues Traveller
Borderline £5

Turn right out of exit 1 at Tottenham Court Road, right, right at Foyles, right again.

Sugarcubes, Levitation.

Brixton Academy £8.50

Turn right out of Brixton tube, under the bridges, and then left at the traffic lights.

TUESDAY

My Life Story

Marquee Free before 8/£3

See above.

Trash

Queen Mary & Westfield SU.
Free

Turn left out of Stepney Green (District) tube, along the Mile End road, and it's on your left.

FRIDAY 13, SATURDAY 14
Red Hot Chili Peppers,
Rollins Band.

Brixton Academy
See above.

TUESDAY 17

The Joshua Trio, School Of Fish

Marquee £5

See above.

o, My diRe load 104.9

Some people consider me a sad case. There was a time when I showed great potential, I was without doubt heading for hipdom. I was seen dancing myself into a frenzy to the likes of the *Pixies* and *Jane's Addiction* in the dingiest of dives, the future was looking better than my bank balance and I'd even managed an approving smile from the forever elusive girl in the goth skirt. But in the end I gave up the ghost and blew it all for the pocket full of lullabies that is Melody Radio, the 24 hour easy-listening station that has more versions of 'The One Note Samba' than you could wave a shitty stick at.

Laugh at me, ridicule me, throw weighty items in my general direction but I'll be judged by He who is far greater than any students: James Last. Shopping mall music, elevator music, wallpaper music, call it what you want (please try your utmost to keep it clean) but more and more young ravers are turning to the right end of the dial

for the want of something a tinge more distinct. Aimed at the 'past it and over' age group Melody finds itself bridging the generation gap in ways that only re-runs of Thunderbirds can. Okay, some may argue that the imitation of the latter is not as obvious as that of the former from Radio 1 and Capital, these guys are positively human.

Melody is gonna be big, those cultured on high-speed rave music are going to tire themselves out and easy listening is where they'll go to find their solace, maybe. You think I jest, you think I'm one member short of a parliamentary think tank, you may be right but until you've tried it for yourselves you're not going to know.

Melody can be awful, songs full of the corniest of clichés, endless harmonies that make the Beach Boys out to be Nirvana in Hawaiian shirts and cover versions of perfectly reasonable songs bastardised beyond belief by some big band orchestra from the

Republic of Godonlyknowswhere, but it has to be said that bad taste has its charms and appeal.

Easy listening is every student's dream, it's cheap and accessible (most chains of Oxfam have buckets of the stuff), it's got alternative and weird written all over it (and a student who isn't trying to be perceived as either of these things ain't worth the paper his/her union card is printed on) and it's got guts for walking on the thin line between beyond a joke and the sublime.

Before this begins to sound like a promotion job I, Keith, of sound body and mind, advocate that Melody be piped throughout the underground, including the tubes themselves, that all telephone hold systems are on line to it, that all major chain stores use Melody to induce us to spend beyond our means and that you give it a going over.

Melody Radio is broadcast on 104.9FM.

Keith Brindle.

Thousand Yard Stare - Astoria

Gig

Arriving late (Due credit to London Underground for that) I entered the Astoria to find those crazy Corkish (?) maniacs, *The Frank And Walters*, halfway through their set. Consequently, I know not what *Sp'n* were like, or whether the *Frank & Walters* played their cover of 'Love Is In The Air.' Oh well. When I got in, they were halfway through the lead track of EP2, 'Fashion Crisis Hits New York', their purple and orange flares billowing in time with the music. Stepping up to the mic, they say

Frank and Walters - EP3

12 Inch

Another creative title from Cork's finest export, the EP opens with 'Happy Busman', which is about a guy called Andy James, who 'drives a bus' hence the busman part, and will 'make the whole world smile', hence the happy part. A very public spirited approach to life, and a bit of a stomping song. Followed on with 'Humphrey', who thinks everyone should 'study mime'. Another distinctly storming song, though not quite as good as the first track.

On the other side (if you buy it on vinyl, and remember, I do want you to buy it) is the bestest track yet, 'The World Carries On', and then 'If You're Still Waiting'. If you're still waiting, out of sheer politeness to the lecturer who you're not listening to, then make a mental note in capital letters to go out on Monday and buy it. Get into the orange and purple scene. I will be making spot checks on Monday afternoon, just to check that you have done as you're told.

Frankly, dear heart, it's Corking.

Lise Yates

●EP3 is released on Monday on Setanta/Go Discs. A flexidisc featuring 'Humphrey' and 'We are the Frank & Walters' is available from Setanta Records, 123 Shakespeare Road, London SE24, by sending your name and address, and two first class stamps.

'Waaaaa thaaaare Fraaaaaank aaan Waaaaaaters', which my experienced ear translates into an introduction. They add other such incomprehensible babble throughout the set. They proceed at an all but leisurely pace through 'Daisy Chain', 'The World Carries On' and 'Walters Trip' before ending with 'Never Ending Staircase.' *Frank And Walters* are something special. Can *Thousand Yard Stare* follow this?

Err. Not really. As they take the stage, and run through the opening chords of 'Junketing', a girl behind me says 'This is it, yeah?' That's the problem with being so close to Essex, I guess. *Thousand Yard Stare* run through their album in a

pretty workmanlike manner, sprinkled with extracts from their earlier EPs not included on the album, flavoured with the odd comment such as 'ssshh, you're spoiling the vibe', and wrapped up in 'Wideshire.' They return for two encores, the first containing 'Comeuppance' and 'Buttermouth', and second something else. But the *Frank and Walters* blew them away. And most of the previously unaffiliated crowd agreed with me. (Survey results from a poll of 1 person, margin of error +50%)

Lise Yates

●The album 'Hands On' is out now, and was reviewed in last week's Felix.



Frank, Walter and Walter



This is Spinal Tap

Trash, Helium Divers - Euston Rails

Gig

Helium Divers are a musical sleeping tablet, a sort of physical manifestation of Dylan The Rabbit, a sixties hangover as it were. Their songs contain lyrics such as 'When Rosemary falls, she falls in my garden.' I detected a distinct hint in some of their songs for a yearning to be Eric Clapton, and the occasional lapses towards those perennial Felix darlings, *Airhead*. Not bad really. Not as bad as *Airhead*, anyway.

Trash, on the other hand, are quite sure who they want to be. They are certain, sure, positive, inflexible even, in their desire to be *Jesus Jones*. The difference between this and what their predecessors desire, is that *Jesus Jones* have only ever influenced one other band (*EMF*), and that *Trash* managed to keep me awake. Not really too much to ask, is it?

There was another band, but they were reduced to dust by their support. *Trash* are worth seeing.

Lise Yates

Spinal Tap - Bitch School

7 Inch

This must go down as the most successful piece of press in history. It is absolutely amazing, after their previous twelve albums (so they tell us) this single is released a couple of weeks before the new 33 entitled 'Break like the Wind', oh what lovely people. This may seem amazing but that is nothing compared to my reaction upon listening to this piece of vinyl history, I actually quite liked it! It may not be the most open-minded song around, you probably wouldn't have guessed that from the title, but they can actually play. Despite the loss of a drummer when he spontaneously combusted in Japan, an a keyboard player that met an equally fiery end the band lumbers on. One question remains, is this *Spinal Tap*?

Pebbles

●*Spinal Tap*'s new album, 'Break like the Wind' is due out in approximately three weeks.

Finance Business and Investment

On 27th February, Ernst and Young, a leading firm of Chartered Accountants, invited societies from Imperial, LSE, Kings and UCL to participate in their 'Tycoon' business game. Naturally, the Imperial College Business and Investment Society (FBI Soc) dominated the event, not only by providing the largest teams, but by winning the competition! But before we gloat, we'll explain what the business game involved.

Each team of 6 students had to bid for 20 properties in and around central London, ranging from Mayfair to the Isle of Dogs. They then had to decide what they were going to build on their acquired properties e.g. an office block or a hotel. Next, they had to persuade a Planning Permission Officer that he was born to approve their

designs. However this was a bit harder than it may sound considering the officer was drunk out of his skull! Once this near-impossible feat was achieved, each team had to bid for construction materials after which they had to construct their buildings. Next, they had to negotiate with the Estate Agents to attract clients to rent their properties. And to add to all this, all teams had to constantly beg for loans from (as usual) a rather unsympathetic Bank Manager! At the end of the game, the team which made the most profit (by having the most valuable buildings and the lowest debts) won. The game did not require previous financial knowledge and experience, just skills used every day e.g. bribery and schizophrenia.

The first FBI team, FBI1, began well, acquiring two properties at low prices (even though at one point their members bid against each other!). However after that, they followed the 'BCCI Handbook of management'...

The second FBI team, FBI2, also began well, but faltered at the construction stage, where, due to a shortage of materials, they were forced to build a 20-storey office block completely out of glass and with no roof!

The third FBI the very drunk Planning Permission officer £2million to light his cigarette!) and delicate 'interpersonal' negotiations with the Bank manager, they succeeded in making the largest profit and, as a result, won the competition.

Since the competition, FBI1 have become administration of the Mirror Group Pension Fund, FBI2 have accepted the offer to construct the Channel Tunnel, and the very two properties FBI3 acquired have been bombed...

Final result 1) FBI3 2) Kings 3) LSE 4) IndSoc (Imperial) 5) FBI2 6) LSE 6) IndSoc 7) UCL 8) FBI1 9) Kings 10) LSE

Our Thanks to Ernst & Young for giving us a good time and commiserations to all the other societies who participated. Ernst & Young will be holding a Business Quiz and free buffet (worth £5 per head) on Thursday, 13th March in Room 340 Huxley at 12.30pm. Find how much (or how little) you know about business - prizes will be offered to the winning team.

Sailing Away

This year has been monumental for the IC sailing team, we have actually been winning some races!

Our crowning achievement was last weekend, with the first team travelling down to Exeter University. We were sailing in the Exeter Excalibur competition, sailed in Lark dinghies, and were rewarded with a well earned second place. On Friday, everything seemed to go wrong on the transport front, but we eventually made it down, albeit rather squashed. On Saturday, we had some fun getting used to the tide, but easily won our first three league races against Reading, Bristol and Exeter. On Sunday, we faced our two most challenging opponents. We lost to Plymouth Poly after a disastrous start, including a broken tiller. Qualifying for the semi-finals depended on our last race, against

the Starcross team, consisting of ex-national champions and university team racers. After another terrible start, we pulled ourselves together, kept cool, and capitalised on our opponents' mistakes. With some fine team racing, we fought our way into a winning position, which we held until the finish.

Having qualified for the semis, we faced Oxford II, winners of the other league. They had won all their races, but we trounced them nonetheless. So in the final, we faced Plymouth again, and despite a valiant effort in the second race, could not recover from a bad first outing, and so claimed second place, and some rather nice prizes!

The other big event this term has been the London 'Dick', with 24 teams competing on our home venue, the Welsh Harp Reservoir near Hendon. In a tough league, we

won all but two of our races, but the quarter finals were abandoned, so we didn't go through. The second team, consisting of helms Liam Moloney, Ben Hancock and Ben Daverson, plus various crews put up a spirited performances, and were unlucky not to beat London II and Oxford II.

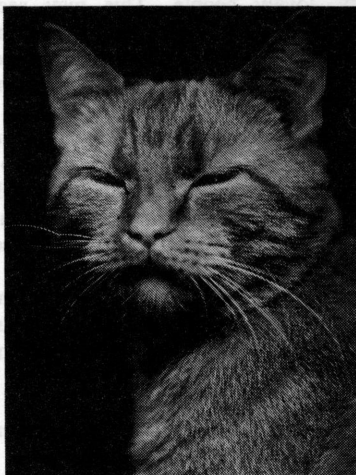
Last term was also successful, we started the year with new boats and a lot of enthusiastic team racers. As the term wore on the days become colder, some couldn't cope but a hard core of dedicated sailors remained. The main event was the London 6 Pack again sailed at our home venue, the Welsh Harp. The first team stormed through the leagues, beating teams from London, Brunel, Southampton Institute, and Southampton, and sailed a fine race to beat Bristol in the quarter finals. However in the

semi's we come up against the mighty Southampton firsts, and exited from the competition losing two straight races.

Last term's other important event was the Student National Championships, hosted by Plymouth Poly. Winds varied from nothing to quite a lot, and after two days racing, Angus and Mike ended up 27th, with Liam and Ben D 37th from 84 boats. A special mention should also go to Robin and Ben H, both at IC but sailing for London, coming 13th overall.

All in all, IC's teams are in better shape than ever, we have only lost to one university team all year, and have high hopes for the University Team Championships, hosted by London in April.

Mike Dunbar



VOTE TOBY JONES 1

Voting: All departments 9th & 10th March

FOR A FELIX WORTH STEALING

IC Orchestra

Tonight Imperial College Symphony Orchestra will give its second performance of the academic year. The programme consists of Britten's Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes, Mahler's 4th Symphony and the lively Polovtsian Dances by Borodin. The orchestra will be conducted by the musician in residence at Imperial College -

Richard Dickens. The soprano soloist in the Mahler symphony will be Marie Vassiliou.

The concert will start at 8pm in the Great Hall, Sherfield Building. Tickets are available in advance from the Haldane library priced £1.50 for students and £4 for adults. Tickets will also be available on the door priced £2.50 for students.

I like New York

This week, Film Soc present 'The Fisher King', which is a recent box office hit, starring Jeff Bridges and Robin Williams, and directed by Terry Gilliam.

When New York radio DJ Jack Lucas (Bridges) accidentally drives a listener to commit mass murder, by an off the cuff statement, his show ratings and career fall apart. Three years later he is rescued from suicide and muggers by a deranged tramp called Parry (Williams) whose wife had been killed by the murderers provoked by Bridges. Parry, a former history professor has two ambitions: to retrieve the Holy Grail and win the heart of Lydia, played by Amanda

Plummer. Bridges feels he can redeem himself by bringing Lydia and Parry together.

It is a spectacularly visual film, both romantic, despairing and lunatic. Come along on Thursday 12th March at 7.30pm to Mech Eng 220, and let Film Soc transport you to a world fantasy and intrigue, that even a thermodynamics lecture can't emulate. Entry is 80p for members and £1.80 for everyone else.

As a post script, may I pass the committees appreciation to our members who have supported Film Soc in their droves this year. We hope you've enjoyed the films as much as we have.

Paintball: Up Pompey

Another month, another tournament. Sunday March 1st 1992 saw the 3rd Annual Student Tournament in Fareham (somewhere on the coast). Imperial's 'borderline psychopaths' were there, and in numbers, to dispossess Portsmouth Polytechnic of the title they've hogged since the tournaments started - that of 'National Student Champions'.

Not satisfied with just the one team, Imperial sent two. Pitted against them were Portsmouth Poly, Bristol University, Luton College (see FELIX 14-2-92), Godalming College, West Kent College and Aberystwyth. Eight teams in all, and it would have been nine if the Wales team had bothered to turn up. Nevertheless, there was still at least one Welsh team to thrash the leeks out of (and yet more leek-thrashing will occur, I expect, at Twickenham tomorrow).

And so to the paint jobs. Imperial I, despite a sterling performance in the unofficial student tournament last month, were only seeded third. This served only in putting more pressure on the hot favourites, West Kent. It also heightened Leo 'Happy Boy' Hume-Wright's 'bad feelings'. The curtain-raiser for the event turned out to be the match between the Imperial teams. Imperial II started in grand style, holding IC I off (for a while) and even being ahead on body count. A small miscalculation (small in comparison to, say, a sperm whale) on their right side let IC I's 'Vague Boys' through to grab the flag. Sixty points to IC I, and a further thirty points time bonus.

Scoring for the tournament didn't follow the normal 'points-per-man' rule, but relied on speed of victories for bonus points. Therefore, a victory in less than five minutes gave a total of 100 points, in less than ten minutes 90 points, and so on down to 60 points for a (fresh and) clean victory.

While IC I had a bye, IC II bounced back from their initial defeat by creaming (steady on Mr Keogh) Aberystwyth convincingly. Quite a stunning result given the Welshmen's performance in the latter stages of the tournament. Portsmouth signalled their intentions of keeping the cup with a 100-point result against Bristol (the day's cannon fodder).

As for IC I's performance, it got better as it went on, and on, and on (Ariston?). A point of note was IC I's performance against the Welshmen. At that point, it looked

like a closely contested battle for the top three places - between IC I, Portsmouth and Aberystwyth. IC I's last two games were against them, and so the final outcome of the placings would depend on IC I's ability to finish in style. And it nearly didn't happen against Aberystwyth.

In an action which nearly won him the 'Ponce-of-the-day' (I mean, major, big-time cretin points) award, an Aberystwyth player reached into the IC I base to secure the flag, while holding his own flag which he had just appropriated from the recently-departed Brett 'I'm screaming in more ways than one' Iverson. Bad move. Own goal. Both flags were in the IC I base, and so IC scored an easy sixty points from the jaws of an imminent embarrassment (of the defeat kind, and possibly the nappy kind too - right Luke?).

IC I's last game was crucial to IC II. They needed to beat Godalming in less than five minutes, and hope that IC I did the business against Portsmouth, to get into the placings. As it happens, it happened. IC I demolished Portsmouth in a mere 115 seconds, losing no one, and IC II trounced Godalming, leaving IC I top of a very sorry, wet (did I mention the Bangladesh-standard rain levels?) pile and IC II tying with Portsmouth Poly for second.

In an intense but extremely satisfying decider, IC II came through for second place.

And so Imperial College mauled Portsmouth's ego by entering the tournament for the first time and carrying away the top two places. More gold-coloured things for the trophy cabinet, and general kudos (no, not something you do in white jammies in the gym) and back patting to all those who turned up to kick some bottom. And for once, not IC II's collective bottoms (nice bottoms that they are too).

An extra-special mention and grateful thanks to those raunchy love-machines the 'Vague Boys', Kevin 'I have an armoury as big as my ego' and Tony 'I'm too sexy for the lot of you but I'll sleep with you all anyway'.

Final placings (max 700):
1st Imperial I 610 points.
2nd Imperial II 330
3rd Portsmouth Poly 330
4th Godalming College 320
5th West Kent College 310
6th Aberystwyth Poly 290
7th Luton College 90
8th Bristol University 65

THE F.B.I. SOCIETY

&

ERNST & YOUNG

proudly present
BUSINESS QUIZ
&
FREE BUFFET

(worth £5 a head)

On: Thursday 12th March.

At: 12.30pm prompt!

In: Room 340 Huxley (Maths).

Pit your wits against a top team from Ernst & Young, as they put you through their special, fast-moving quiz. The questions will be varied and there will be prizes on offer for the winning team.

the words 'waves adieu' suggested I was quitting my project. Although the sub-headings and illustrations were entirely inappropriate, responsibility for the substance of the text is entirely my own.

Consequences

When I wrote the article on the pitfalls of doing a PhD, in Felix last week, issue 928, I never realised the repercussions it would cause. The misunderstanding has caused a great deal of embarrassment and aggravation both to myself and staff in my department.

The article was sub-headed and illustrated by the editor and could have cost me my PhD project since

I had not appreciated the effect it would have on readers who had constructed what was intended to be generalised comments as specific criticisms of individuals. This was genuinely not intended and I deeply regret the bad feeling which has resulted.

I spent two years trying to get funding to come and work at Imperial under my present supervisors and turned down several PhDs at other Universities during that time. As a result of a

first eighteen months of hard work, from myself and my supervisors, my own PhD research is at a very exciting and enviable stage and I am perfectly happy with the facilities and supervision in my department.

The comments in the FELIX article were intended to be a generalised summary of the types of problems which are experienced by research students and supervisors attempting to get the best out of a system which is chronically underfunded. British research is kept going in large part by the goodwill of all concerned staff and students. I am afraid the article has done nothing to improve this goodwill. I hope that if nothing else it will serve to focus the attention on the need for everyone in the university research system to stick together and pull in the same direction for better support.

Chris Riley.

Careers Advice.

Job Seeking after the milkround.

Enrol in the Career's Service for this seminar on Wednesday 18 March at 2.30pm.

Postgraduates.

Do you have special needs which are not being catered for by the present Careers Service

programmes? Have you visited the Careers Service? Drop in and speak to a Careers Advisor between 1.30 and 2.30pm or phone 3251 for advice or an appointment.

Second Years.

Start thinking about your future now. Do you want to stay on and do an M.Sc or a PhD or aim for a career in industry or the professions? call in to the Careers service for information and advice.

Vacation Work.

Students seeking Vacation Work this Summer should visit the Careers Service and Study the Vacation Training Scheme files which include details of opportunities provided by a number of employers.

For further information come to the Careers Service, room 310 Sheffield - open from 10.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Small Ads

● 7th March 92. ICSF presents PICOCON. Guests Brian Stableford and Dave Longford

● American Professor seeks possible house exchange. Offers: three bedroom house about 30 minute commute to both Rutgers University and Princeton University. Requires two bedroom house reasonable travelling distance from Imperial College. Contact Monika in Hub Office for more details.

● Spanish Tuition. Native Speaker. Beatriz 081 977 3455

● Bodysculpture 2000 rowing machine with electronic display £50. David extn 7539 (day) or 081 842 2533 (evenings).

● ICSF AGM and Elections: Wednesday 18th March, 1.00pm, ICSF library. Possible book buy soon - call into library for details.

● 3½ second is all it takes to vote for Jonty Beavan 1 as Felix Editor
● Vote for a Classical Felix, vote Jonty Beavan 1 for Felix Editor

LUNCHTIMES

Monday 9th

Consort Gallery
Around Campus
Sheffield Staircase
& Union Foyer

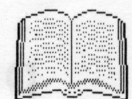
- Art
- Busking
- Classical Music



Tuesday 10th

Mech Eng Foyer
Sheffield Ante-Room
Around Campus
Union Foyer
& Sheffield Staircase

- Rock Band
- Paintings
- Busking
- Classical Music



Wednesday 11th

Around Campus
Consort Gallery
Sheffield Staircase
& Union Foyer
*8pm Union Bar

- Busking
- Paper on Paper
- Classical Music
- Comedian



Thursday 12th

Sheffield Staircase
Sheffield Dining Hall
Union Lounge

- Classical Music
- Framed Feelings
- Poet: Steve Turner
- Band: "Fresh Claim"



Friday 13th

Sheffield Staircase
Beit Quad
Consort Gallery
Union Lounge

- Classical Music
- Burgers and Bouncy
- Visual Stimulation
- Contemporary Music:
"Trevor Speaks"
Ben Okafor
- Poet: Steve Turner



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.

FRIDAY

Hang Gliding.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Conservative Soc.....12.30pm
Physics 737.
Rag Meeting.....12.40pm
Union Lounge. Everyone welcome.
3rd World First.....12.45pm
Upper Southside 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.
Stoic on Air.....7.00pm
Horror Films.....7.00pm
'History of the Corset,' 'Venus in Furs' and 'I, Marquis de Sade.'
Royal College of Art. £2 and £1.50.
Shaolin Kungfu System Nam - Pai - Chuan.....7.30pm
Southside Gym. All welcome.
Water Polo.....7.30pm
Sports Centre.
IC Symphony Orchestra.....8.00pm
Sherfield Building. Mahler, Britten, Borodin. Tickets £2.50, £1.50 (advance) and £4. From Haldane and on the door.
Southside Disco.....8.30pm
Southside Bar.

SATURDAY

Kung Fu Club.....4.30pm
Wu Shu Kwan in Southside Gym.
IC Shotokan Karate.....10.00am
Southside Gym.
Ladies Tennis.....12.00pm
At college courts. Membership £6. All new members welcome.
Cycling Club.....10.30am
Meet at Beit Arch.

SUNDAY

West London Chaplaincy Sunday Service.....10.30am
Anteroom Sherfield Building.
Live Role Playing.....10.30pm
Victoria Station. Gates to platforms 11-12.
Men's Tennis Team Practise.....11.00am
College Courts. Players of any ability. Annual membership £6. New members welcome.
Catholic Chaplaincy Mass.11.00am
53 Cromwell Road.

Wargames.....1.00pm
UDH.
Fitness Club.....2.00pm
Intermediate.
Kung Fu Club.....4.30pm
Wu Shu Kwan in the Union Gym.
Catholic Mass.....6.00pm
53 Cromwell Road.

MONDAY

The Arts Week.....Lunchtime
Art - Consort Gallery; Classical music - Sherfield Staircase.
RockSoc Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Broomball Soc.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Parachute Club.....12.30pm
Brown Committee Room.
Yacht Club Meeting.....12.45pm
253 Aeronautics. New members most welcome. Sailing most weekends!
Basketball Club.....5.30pm
Volleyball court. Men's Team.
Fitness Club.....5.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners.
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. R'n'R/Latin. Adv/Medals.
Afro-Carib Meeting.....6.00pm
Concert Hall.
Swimming.....6.30pm
Sports Centre.
Stoic on Air.....7.00pm
Dance Club.....7.30pm
JCR. Beginners' Rock 'n' Roll.
IC Shotokan Karate.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
Water Polo.....7.30pm
Sports Centre.
Dance Club.....8.30pm
JCR. Latin Beginners.

TUESDAY

C.U. Prayer Meeting.....8.30pm
Chaplain's Office
The Arts Week.....Lunchtime.
Rock Band - Mech Eng Foyer; Art - Consort Gallert; Classical Music - Sherfield.
Jazz & Rock Club Meeting12.30pm
Southside Bar TV Room.
OXFAM Lunch.....12.30pm
Mech Eng Foyer. Bread, cheese and pickle lunch. £1.00.
Riding Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Boardsailing.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
AudioSoc Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Cheap records and equipment hire.
Radio Modellers.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
Cathsoc Mass.....12.30pm
Mech Eng 702. Followed by lunch.
Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge. Put you name down for this year's ski trip.
Sailing Club.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
Environmental and Appropriate Tech.....12.45pm
See club for details.
AstroSoc.....1.00pm

Upper Lounge.
STOIC News.....1.00pm
PhotoSoc.....1.00pm
Southside Lounge.
Ents Meeting.....1.00pm
Ents/Rag Office. Up two flights on the East Staircase, first office on the left.
Legs, Bums, Tums.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by Fitness Club.
Radio Modellers.....5.30pm
Mech Eng.
Fitness Club.....5.45pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate.
Amenesty International.....5.30pm
Clubs Committee Room.
Wine Tasting Soc.....6.00pm
Union Dining Hall.
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. Improvers Ballroom and Latin.
Canoe Club.....6.15pm
Beit Quad store or 8.30pm in Southside Upper Lounge.
Judo.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
Stoic Nostalgia Night.....7.00pm
Imperial College in the sixties, seventies and eighties.
Dance Club.....7.00pm
JCR. Adv/Medals Ballroom & Latin.
Yoga.....8.00pm
Southside Gym.
Caving Club Meeting.....8.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge.

WEDNESDAY

The Arts Week.....Lunchtime
Art - Consort Gallery; Classical Music - Sherfield.
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.
Yet more Stoic.....7.00pm
Shaolin Kungfu System Nam - Pai - Chuan.....7.00pm
Southside Gym. All Welcome.
Basketball Club.....7.30pm
Volleyball court.
Kung Fu Club.....7.30pm
Union Gym. Wu Shu Kwan.
The Arts Week Comedian.....8.00pm
Union Bar.
Libido.....9.30pm
Ents Club Night in Union Lounge.

THURSDAY

Fencing Training.....11.30am
Intermediate & advanced coaching.

The Arts Week.....Lunchtime
Art - Consort Gallery; Classical Music - Sherfield; Union Lounge - Poet Steve Turner and Band 'Fresh Claim.'
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.
Homelessness in London...12.45pm
Talk by speaker from SHAC - London Housing Aid Centre. 3rd World First - Clubs Committee Room.
Legs, Bums, Tums.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Every week.
Gliding Club Meeting.....1.00pm
Aero 266.
Fencing Training.....1.30pm
General.
STOIC News.....2.00pm
Fitness Club.....5.30pm
Southside Gym. Advanced.
Midweek Event.....5.30pm
Chaplains Office (10 Prince's Gardens).
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. Intermediate/Advanced Ballroom & Latin.
Judo Club.....6.30pm
Gym.
STOIC. Into The Night.....7.00pm
'Exceptional Evening Entertainment'
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. Improvers Ballroom & Latin.
Southside Disco.....8.30pm
Southside Bar.
ICCAG Soup Run.....9.15pm
Meet Weeks Hall Basement.

NEXT FRIDAY

The Arts Week.....Lunchtime
Art - Consort Gallery; Classical Music - Sherfield; Beit Quad - Burgers and Bouncy; Union Lounge - Bands 'Trevor Speaks,' Ben Okafor, Poet Steve Turner.
Horror Film.....7.00pm
'The Flesh Eaters,' 'Death Curse of the Tartu.' Royal College of Art. £2 and £1.50.

The next big issue of Felix will come out on Wednesday 18th March. This is the Easter Issue, which will be a biggie if enough stuff is available. If you have anything to submit, do it by Tuesday 10th at the latest, so that the issue can be planned. There may be an election results flysheet next week, depending on circumstances.

Rector

IC Managing Director, Angus Fraser, confirmed last night that the post of Rector for Imperial College has been advertised in this week's 'Nature.' The advertisement will also appear in today's 'Times Higher Education Supplement', the 'Economist', and in an American journal.

Mr. Fraser pointed out that the post of Rector is due to be vacated in the immediate future, and that advertising the post is not of unusual significance.

C&G Poll

The City and Guilds College Union held elections for its officers on Tuesday 3rd March at which Kate Dalton was elected President; Mark Jackson as Vice President; Sarah Welsh as Honorary Secretary; Andrew Kernahan as Honorary Junior Treasurer; Joshua Burrill as Entertainments Chair; Geoff Maxwell as Publicity Officer; Lucia Clipstone as Old Centralians Rep and Louise Moss as Guildsheet Editor.

A source in the City & Guilds Union Office said that the results were 'pretty much as expected' and there had 'been no surprises'.

Genes

The Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust has announced that it is to fund a gene therapy project in St. Mary's Hospital to the tune of £1 million. St. Mary's, a constituent college of Imperial College, is said to be blazing an alternative trail for gene therapy with the announcement of the new project. Professor Bob Williamson, senior geneticist at St. Mary's, said that 'we have got to be prepared to follow any approach in this field'. (iCNN)

Phones

British Telecom may have lost hundreds of thousands of pounds in a fraud discovered at Nottingham University. It is believed that people from all over Nottingham had been using two faulty payphones in a University flat since the beginning of the academic year. Last year a number of people were heavily fined at Warwick University after a similar incident. (Warwick Boar, Warwick University)

A New Chair

Imperial College's Centre for Environmental Technology (ICCET) has created a new Chair in UK Environmental Law. This is being sponsored by the international law firm Denton Hall Burgin & Warrens. Denton Hall has undertaken to fund the Chair for five years at a cost of £250,000.

Professor Richard Macrory, a

barrister with interests in pollution regulation, planning procedures and environmental assessment, is to become the first holder of the Chair. He is a specialist advisor in environmental law to the House of Commons Select Committee on the Environment and was the first chairman of the UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA).

Rugby Tackle

The Dean of St Mary's Hospital Medical School, Professor Peter Richards, 'rugby-tackled' a thief last Monday. Professor Richards told Felix that 'I saw a young man just coming out of my office... and when I asked him what he was doing... he made a dash outwards.' Professor Richards then 'went for his legs' and the thief was then taken back into the Dean's office where he was questioned.

The thief then made for the window, at which point Professor

Richards grabbed his shirt, which came off. After a chase around the 'moat' which encircles part of the building, the thief made off, only to be caught later by a St Mary's student. He has been charged and was found in possession of £60 from the Dean's wallet and a number of credit cards.

The Dean said that he had not been seriously hurt, but had suffered a few bruises from the tackle. He thanked all those who had helped him catch the thief.

Disaffiliate

The largest eight colleges of the University of London are attempting to gain independent status and are said to be afraid that their titles and reputations are in danger from polytechnics who will be able to gain university status in the near future. It is believed that any institution having a 'lesser' name would be perceived as a 'lesser' institution.

These plans have angered some of the other institutions in the University of London who fear its break-up. The colleges involved

include Imperial College, Birkbeck, Goldsmiths, Queen Mary and Westfield, Royal Holloway, University College and the London School of Economics.

The plans are aimed at allowing the institutions to use the title of university in any fund raising activities or when discussing mergers with other institutions. At present it is felt that many people are confused by the titles and the polytechnics' plans to change names will only add to the confusion.

Doctor Proposals

The Dean of St Mary's Hospital Medical School, Professor Peter Richards, presented new proposals for junior doctors in the British Medical Journal today. Issued on behalf of the Council of Deans for UK Medical Schools the proposals are said to include several radical recommendations.

At present medical students who have passed their degree course, spend one year as junior doctors before becoming fully registered with the General Medical Council. The proposals detailed in the British Medical Journal plan to increase this period of working as an intern to two years, and decrease the length of the university course by

one year. A move that would reduce student debt and ensure that junior doctors could not work 90 hours weeks common among Interns.

The cost of the scheme has not yet been fully worked out, but it is believed that removing the need for overtime would offset any cost involved, together with the obvious benefit of improved patient care.

Simon Stockhill, President of St Mary's Student Union, said that the move was part of a rationalisation of the way Medical courses are run. He continued that the proposed changes would be controversial, and would require an input of money from Government.

Poll Fail

Warwick University Students' Union will be holding a new election for some sabbatical and non-sabbatical posts, as Candidates representing the Labour group overspent their election budget by £30.

Members of the Labour camp were in tears when the decision of the Election Committee was announced last Tuesday night. The new election could have serious repercussions for the Students' Union. The winner of the last election for President, Ian Corfield, may lose his post as there was only 200 votes between him and his nearest rival, Kevin Turnbull.

Overseas

Hundreds of overseas students lobbied the Houses of Commons last week complaining about exorbitant college fees and their forced exclusion from political activity. Douglas Wong, Communications Officer at Manchester University, told the *London Student* that even lobbying parliament could jeopardise their visas and that overseas students were only allowed a visa if they had £5000 in a bank account. He said that the reason given was that this was the cost of living in Britain and added that it was notable that the home student grant was half of this. (London Student)

Speakers

Two speakers were stolen from the Lounge Bar on Tuesday. The pair are worth about £120 and the owners, 'Positive Promotions,' say that they may close down their other operations in the Union if they do not get them back. This includes the juke box and the games room machines. Any information would be gratefully received on 0860 792116.

Bar

Gervaise Loraine has been appointed as the new Assistant Union Bar Manager. Mr Loraine will transfer from his current position as Bar Steward and was selected over 5 other people after the post was advertised externally. It is believed around 70 people applied for the position.