

FELIX

Issue 931 18 March 1992



Easter Issue 1992

Ball Aid

CCU Executive

Petition

'The London Ball' will take place at Wembley on the 4th April. Organised in benefit of the 'Terrence Higgins Trust' by the West London Institute of Higher Education, it will cost £30. Tickets are available from the Wembley Box office (081 900 1234) or the London Ball Hotline (081 579 8887).

Next year's executives of the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) and Royal School Mines Union (RSMU) have been elected. They are as follows:

RCSU President: Paul Thomas, Vice President: Flemming Heino, Honorary Secretary: Adrian Treverton, Honorary Junior Treasurer: Emma Holmes, Academic Affairs Officer: Sarah Lee.

In the RSMU, Paul Holmes has been elected President, Rebecca Fraser Vice President, Boris Plukofski Honorary Secretary. Duncan Walker is Sports Officer, Marianne Davies and Gina Mortley are Ball Officers and the Newsletter Editors will be Andrew Pennington and Richard Rowe.

A petition is circulating Evelyn Gardens addressed to Gordon Marshall and all the Heads of Departments. It complains about the poor state of the College halls, the time taken to make repairs, and the fact that a number of students had been threatened with legal action for non-payment of rent when it actually had been paid.

This follows a similar petition in Southside Halls which gathered 150 signatures.

Malaise

Warwick

Palatable

Outrage

Sir Eric Ash, the Rector of Imperial College, has been suffering from Malaria since returning from a trip to India three weeks ago. He has received hospital treatment but has been seen in College this week and is believed to be recovering.

The Student Union elections rerun at Warwick University, reported in Felix last week, have produced exactly the same results as three weeks ago. The elections for sixteen posts were annulled after the Labour club overspent by £31.40 on its campaign, (see Felix 929) and speculation was rife that the post of President might change hands. A student at Warwick summed up the whole affair as 'a complete waste of time and money.'

In a separate development, the Editor of the Warwick student newspaper, *The Warwick Boar*, faced a motion of censure over claims that the coverage of the election was biased.

The Deputy President Services of Durham University's Student Union, Mat Wrigley, has been elected as next year's editor of their student newspaper 'Palatinate.' Surprise has been expressed that 'an employee of the union who is no longer a student' could be allowed to stand, and there are reservations that Mr Wrigley could be compromised in holding both positions. The situation has arisen because nobody else has stood for the post, which is non-sabbatical. This might mean that the 44 year old paper would have to cease publication for the first time since its inception.(*Palatinate, Durham University*)

Students at Lillian Penson Hall (LPH), a London University intercollegiate hall of residence, are in 'outrage' about the proposed 11% increase in rent. This is a higher increase than any other such residence and follows cutbacks in all its services. Claims of 'mismanagement' amongst LPH administrators have led to demands that an outside body should study its accounts. (*London Student, University of London*)

The Bill

Queen Mary and Westfield College Student Union may be charged £14,000 by its College as payment for the occupation of the College buildings it organised in January. The occupation was in protest against a number of College management policies and was considered to be a success. Although *Cub*, the newspaper of the college, reported that this was a low fine in comparison with other unions who organised occupations, members of the Union said that they would be 'disgusted' if the fine went ahead.

Mascotry

A report in the latest issue of *Casey L. of King's College London*, details the raids on the City and Guilds Union and Mines Union (RSMU) offices in which Spanner, Bolt and Davy were kidnapped. The report states that Davy will be returned when Tim Cotton, RSMU president, 'learns to lose gracefully.' Mr Cotton told Felix that he was fed up with the whole affair, which was, in his view, a breach of a mascotry moratorium and which also resulted in the demolition of the RSMU office door.

Error

The Frank and Walters gig for April 3rd billed on page 24 has been 'relocated' from the advertised venue. The new venue has not been made known.

New Elections

Nominations reopened on Monday 16th March for the post of Honorary Secretary (Events) after New Election won the post in the sabbatical elections last week.

The papers will stay up across the Easter Holidays until Friday 27th March. Hustings will be held in the Union Bar at 6.00pm on Thursday 30th April with voting on 5th and 6th May. At the time of writing three candidates have put their names up. They are Adrian Edwards (Maths 2), Toby Jones (Elec Eng 3), who was a candidate for Felix Editor in the previous elections and Dominic Wilkinson (Biochem 3), a member of the ICU Ents team.

Dominic Wilkinson is being proposed by Graham Lawton, Ents Chair, and Toby Jones is proposed by Chris Stapleton (Aero 3). Adrian Edwards (Maths 2) has no proposer as yet. In addition, Richard Harrison, the present DramSoc President, is standing for the post of SCAB Chair (Social, Cultural and Amusements Board), Peter Collins is standing for SCAB Honorary Secretary, and Darren Holmes and Peter Stanley are standing for SCAB treasurer

Obituary

Andrew Fanshawe, a one time student in the Royal School of Mines, died this week in a climbing accident on the Eagle Ridge of Lochnager in the Cairngorms. He was 28.

Andrew, who attended IC from 1981-84 studying mining geology, has been described as 'arguably the most outstanding young British climber to have emerged' since the mid-Eighties. He began mountain climbing whilst a student at IC, and in 1984 he led an expedition with a team from Imperial to Ecuador, making the first ascent of the West Ridge of Altar Caldera. He will also be remembered for his 1986 expedition to traverse the twin summits of Chogolisa in the Karakoram. He leaves behind his wife, Caroline, who is also a climber.

Oxford

Oxford University Students Union have elected their new sabbaticals. The sabbs were elected on a party political basis, as are most National Union of Students (NUS) affiliated Student Union elections. After the count had been announced, Vicki Howe decided to take the Presidency, Nigel Huddleston took Welfare and Elliot Wallace took Vice President (Finance). (*Oxford Student, Oxford University*)

IC 1st

GROUP 1							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chem Eng	3	3	0	0	33	10	9
Italian	3	2	0	1	16	11	6
Pakistan 1	2	0	0	2	8	21	0
Computing	2	0	0	2	0	15	0
GROUP 2							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ICFC 2	3	3	0	0	46	12	9
Malaysian 1	3	2	0	1	25	25	6
Snooker 2	3	1	0	2	22	28	3
Bridge Club	3	0	0	3	17	45	0
GROUP 3							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cypriots	3	3	0	0	24	13	9
Islamic Soc 1	3	2	0	1	25	14	3
Singapore	3	1	0	2	17	20	3
Sri Lankan	3	0	0	3	12	31	0
GROUP 4							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Snooker 1	3	3	0	0	27	18	9
Sikh 1	3	2	0	1	16	16	6
Indian	3	1	0	2	27	20	3
Malaysian 2	3	0	0	3	2	17	0
GROUP 5							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lebanese 1	3	3	0	0	15	8	9
Sikh 2	3	2	0	1	37	17	6
Islamic 2	3	1	0	2	15	18	3
IC SEDS	2	0	0	2	8	29	0
GROUP 6							
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ICFC 1	2	2	0	0	37	7	6
Lebanese 2	2	1	0	1	9	12	3
Pakistani 2	2	0	0	2	5	32	0

Badly Tackled

After a case of alleged indecent exposure during the Imperial College Rugby Football Club (ICRFC) dinner last Wednesday, Ian Richards, the Snack Bar Manager has lodged an official complaint to the Union Disciplinary Committee.

The complaint concerns the alleged verbal and sexual abuse of temporary staff hired by the Union by members of the ICRFC. As a result of the behaviour, the kitchens in the Union were closed early and staff left with out clearing up after the dinner in protest.

Andrew Montgomery, ICRFC Captain, admitted there had been a case of indecent exposure but said that it took place during speeches when serving staff should not have been in the room. He said that the comments were 'good humoured and well intentioned' and that these were 'pissed idiots ideas of a compliment.' Mr Montgomery added that he was surprised that the staff took such offence and that

accusations of sexual assault were false.

Mr Montgomery claimed that many inaccurate accusations had been levelled at the Rugby Club this year. He continued by saying that Zoë Hellinger, ICU President, had told him she wished to make an example of the Rugby Club and stamp out sexism once and for all at Imperial.

Ms Hellinger later confirmed that she would take proceedings 'all the way' at the disciplinary committee to be held next term. She added that it was 'unacceptable' that supposedly intelligent men treated the Union as a 'spit and sawdust joint.'

As no one has been identified in connection with the incidents, the Union has decided to take each individual present at the Rugby Club Dinner through the disciplinary process. Anyone who is found guilty by the disciplinary committee could face a fine or ban from Imperial College Union.

Sports Refit

Imperial College Union has been asked to pay £650,000 towards the redevelopment of the Sports Centre by Imperial College.

Imperial College management wish to take the money out of the Harlington Trust. This is £2.7 million produced by the selling of gravel found under the College sports ground at Harlington. The

College management want to take money from the Trust as an interest free loan and ICU is rumoured to find this option unacceptable. Sources in the Union say that they wish to lend the money to College at standard Bank base rates or have a controlling stake in the way the Sports Centre is run.

Car Parking

Director of Estates, Mr Gordon Marshall, said yesterday that proposals for the future of the College car park would soon be finalised. Speaking to iCNN, Mr Marshall said 'we are still working on it, and I hope we will know where we are going fairly soon.'

The future of the College car park first came into question with the opening of negotiations on the future of the Messenger, Security and Car Parking services last November. Following the day of action on December 4th, the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, asked unions to consider the car park's future as separate from that of the Messenger and Security services.

With the signing of the contract awarding the Messenger and Security services in house now imminent, attention has turned to the car park. Fears had been expressed that College management

had already decided to privatise the car park, and that tenders had been advertised for and accepted while the messenger and security negotiations were continuing.

The delay in reaching a decision has been due to management 'considering the legality' of the proposals on the table, according to Mr Marshall. This is taken as referring to problems with corporation tax. Late last year, college unions accused Mr Marshall of misleading negotiators on whether corporation tax was due if the car park were kept as part of the security service. Unions regarded Mr Marshall's stance then as an attempt to force privatisation of the entire service. Questions were also asked about the car park profit figures put forward by Mr Marshall. Sources claimed that his figures were inaccurate to the tune of £75,000.

Up, up and Away

Changes in the rents in Imperial College Halls will be announced on April 30th, in the first week of the summer term.

It is believed that the rent increases will be kept to the rate of inflation. Mr Angus Fraser, IC Managing Director, is reported to

consider inflation to be around 5%. Jonathan Griffiths, IC Union Deputy President, is at present conducting negotiations with the Estates Division of college. He told iCNN that no increase in rent would be acceptable this year.



Princess Anne, Chancellor of the University of London, visited Imperial College on Tuesday 10th March, to open the a new Interdisciplinary Research Centre (IRC) in the Chemical Engineering Department. The Centre for Process Systems Engineering has been functioning since August 1989 and is deemed to be the biggest IRC so far.

Sports Refund

It has been rumoured this week that college staff will receive a refund of up to £10 on their yearly sports centre membership fees.

Ms Caroline Osner, IC Sports and Leisure Manager, is believed to have said that a refund may be given to all IC staff, reducing membership costs to £24. This compares to the annual student fee of £18, but it was rumoured that student money would

not be refunded because 'it would be too difficult to administer.'

Ms Osner has been on holiday this week and therefore unavailable to comment on the rumours, as has Mr Rob Coleman, Sports Centre Manager. Ms Val Straw, IC Facilities Manager, and Director of Estates, Mr Gordon Marshall, were also both unavailable for comment.

Room with a Queue

After last minute negotiations the number of rooms provided for storage in Southside Halls over Easter has been increased. Due to large block bookings for conferences many people will have to move from their rooms over Easter. This has provided an increase in the amount of storage required, but until the beginning of

the week only 14 rooms had been provided. This is a reduction from the usual number of 16 rooms.

Miss Nicky Fox, ICU Housing officer, is believed to have renegotiated the position so the full 16 rooms could be used. At present 10 rooms in Linstead and 3 in Weeks Hall are to be used for storage.

Mary's

Dear Adam,
Elections

Let me start by stating that St Mary's College Union is a CCU of Imperial, originally they were an individual unit but had to merge with other London colleges in recent years to prevent closure. Imperial gave them the support and they became our fourth constituent college.

St Mary's students should therefore be most grateful to our Union for without us they would not exist.

How is it then that they gave our electoral candidates such a hard

time at the Hustings on 2nd March.

There are a number of points I would like to pick up from the front article of Felix 929.

1. Mary's students believed that the candidates' interest in Mary's affairs was due simply to the election.

This is most probably true. When the colleges merged Mary's wanted to retain its autonomy from IC and they themselves have little or no interest in IC or its students. So why should we have an interest in them.

2. Candidates were ridiculed when they claimed they had an active interest in St Mary's.

What else could they say after being reminded that Ben Turner, the last candidate to say Mary's was unimportant, was defeated at first ballot.

Mary's obviously don't like the truth either.

3. When Mr Gardini suggested that St Mary's students should come to IC Union office when they had problems, he was asked why he could not come to St Mary's Union office.

Who do Mary's students think they are? When other CCU members have problems does Zöe have to go to their CCU office to help them. No. So why should Mary's be any different?

4. On the topic of beer prices being cut:

Mary's again show there separation from IC by having their own licence. Our Deputy President would have no say over their prices, but is he not their DP too? Apparently not.

5. Felix editors were heavily slated for the newspapers' lack of interest in Mary's affairs.

Look at last week's issue. Three articles about Mary's plus the cover story.

Felix reporters have enough trouble covering IC alone. Perhaps if Mary's made a contribution (or three) to Felix they would provide a coverage of Mary's affairs.

It seems that Mary's students resent their link with IC, and although they have five year courses, they should not be so quick to criticise those who are prepared to give up a year of their life to give something back to the union. They should remember if it wasn't for people like these candidates Mary's would not exist.

Lorna Mountford, *Physics 1*.

Spilt Grease

Dear Adam,

So many weeks after the original incident I feel I should speak up once again. Yes, I am the principal co-writer of the infamous Grease review.

It has been suggested that I should 'own up' to writing this review to encourage more of the people responsible for removing the Felices to own up as well. While

I'm at it I think I'll make a few points:

1. The figure of £8,000 was the one being described as the cost of the DramSoc production at that time by senior members of the Union. I cannot help being mis-informed.

2. Having been involved behind the scenes and on the stage of theatrical productions both amateur and professional I feel well able to

comment on a drama production and resent the comment in a letter in Felix 928 claiming that the review was 'sheer fiction'.

3. Apart from the monetary aspect of the review I stand by it completely as a fair, not a bad, review.

4. I know a lot of work went into Grease and I congratulate those involved for uniting the college over the week.

5. It is a shame that the review had to take place on the first night as, I hear, the final nights were excellent. However, I cannot accept

it being the first night as an excuse. It is the first night that makes or breaks a production—not many get a second chance.

I will take a great interest in future Dramsoc productions and will certainly review them if I am able. I have high standards—that will never change.

Yours sincerely,

David Henderson-Begg.

P.S. Advert: 1 bodyguard required to protect theatrical reviewer from irate society. Must be 6'6" and heavily trained in the use of firearms and martial arts.

Reality

Dear Adam,

In reply to Samin Ishtiaq, Felix 928.

For whatever reasons, if I understand you correctly, my intended meaning has been hopelessly distorted. I understand that as with all philosophies, understanding relies very much on being able to associate ones own ideas with that being read. I presume the model I presented is of fundamental difference to that held by Samin. I do not intend to clutter the pages of Felix with detailed descriptions of my own ideas but if Samin is interested, I shall try to clarify my original article.

To begin with there is a critical typing error. The fifth line should read 'One version I will call reality, the other O-space'. Reality is hypothetical space in which all things really do exist'. O-space is O's perception of this the space in which things exist (the real definition) since two people can have a concept of existence we extrapolate the state of Reality. However this misunderstanding I am trying to show is that observer

space is not Reality but reality. This is why people argue so hopelessly. reality has as many versions as there are observers while Reality is the common template. In the respect that the template, the perceptions are different there is duplication though no equation.

To understand how reality and Reality are related a mechanical description of perception is required. If the brain is the machine we can localise attention. There is xxx (illegible—TS) no way my brain can support an artificial reality. Alva-space, in which my brain is accurately modelled. I do however have a subjective model. I know I have a subconscious which I know little about which controls many of my actions including the hard processing involved in perception. My perception of how neural networks work really does describe 'message' simplification chose many modes leads to an on or off response. Having processed my information inputs I then have to process the patterns in this hardcore to have knowledge of what I have seen, felt, heard, smelt,

tasted, though, remembered, been doing and been motivated. This loop I presume gives consciousness. While I am doing this my actions have already been chosen and without feedback will commence. This indeed gets experimental results. My conscious knowledge and thoughts have no value except in the context of this processing I know nothing about. I cannot argue for or against 'a price' knowledge other than to say the hardcore and therefore meaning is genetically defined while the picture is environmentally stimulated, measuring the existence of reality. Since the meaning is genetically defined the way we perceive the world and all the questions and answers have already been fundamentally defined. However it will take the rest of human existence (until the next fundamental change in brain patterns by evolution) to explore our minds and mental make up—both science and art.

Turning to logic, our brains present to us a model of the world composed of definite units—can you relate this. Each unit has an irrational common sense relation to all the others. This meaning is I presume the work of our minds and therefore with 'reason', but to us

there is only a bland connection. There connections I referred to as a tree. The tree as it is presented to us really is lifeless. Play the 'why' game as I call it. Make a statement and question the meaning of iteratively. Eventually you will end up with a tautology. Try it one the questions you asked 'Why does O-space exist?'. I will start you 'what does exist mean?' I think and therefore I am 'should be your final tautology'.

As for 'idealistic' what do you want—how can any consciously denied model not be idealistic?

Returning to Reality how much have we insisted if our conscious appears to be sensibly defined by a 'machine' which is only a tiny part of Reality. To truly know every facet of Reality in unquestionable terms to really know what things are you would have to escape from Observer space and become Reality.

P.S. Observer space must be a part of Reality too.

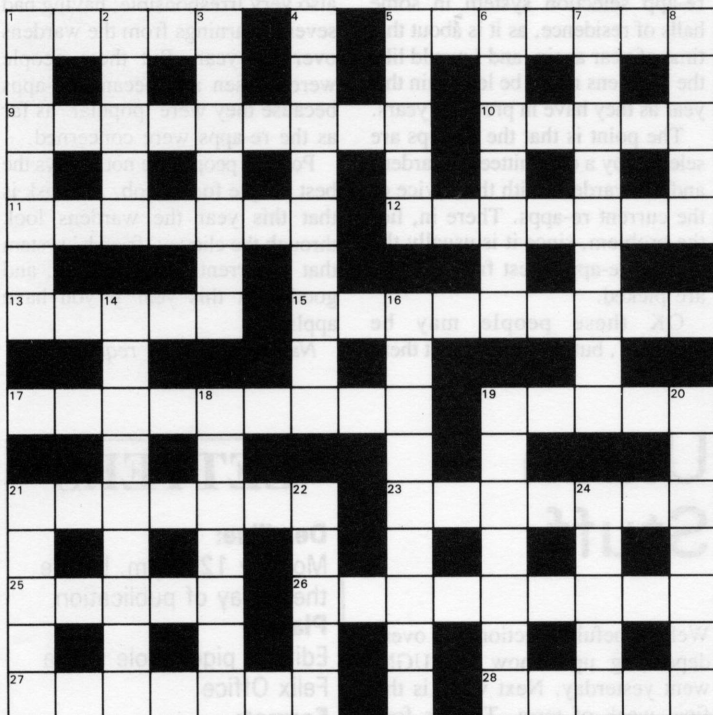
To conclude if this is all too much there are plenty more hypothesis on existence but are all mentally boring as they just label huge categories 'unknowable' e.g. God.

I hope this is clearer.

Alva Gosson, *Zoology 3*.

BitchWord 2 Accommodation

by Toot, Murph and the Bastard



Across

- 1 Back and forth with Imperial College five times.(5)
- 5 A crime a landmass could break.(7)
- 9 Sounds like a bookkeeper of acknowledged debts, infamous in celluloid.(9)
- 10 The clue comes out in mixed peel.(5)
- 11 Sounds like the spicy Western State I love.(7)
- 12 He ran quickly around a woman and bridged the gap.(7)
- 13,15 Is there no end to the sightless.(5,5,4)
- 17 I give up.(9)
- 19 One hundred years older.(5)
- 21 Understand vile bee.(7)
- 23 Enlarge a non-specific soldier.(7)
- 25 Atomic energy makes the internal conflict known.(5)
- 26 Threesome involved in maddening harm.(9)
- 27 The big one from Play School, after power shortage.(7)
- 28 Eric in capital form becomes a short editor, carefully fitted in.(5)

Toot, Murph and the Bastard

would like to take this opportunity to disclaim all responsibility for last weeks crossword; 'VerboosenWort'.

It's composer, 'Exfemused', has met a fitting end. He now works at Burger King.

Down

- 1 Twisted Tory tension, I hear.(7)
- 2 Dead language of life.(5)
- 3 Rage can cause extensive slaughter.(7)
- 4 Alternatively all but the ugly...(4,2,3)
- 5 ...in mass escape of fools?(5)
- 6 Stoned envy.(7)
- 7 One minister terminates trespassing twice.(9)
- 8 Artificial Intelligence guided from the rear.(5)
- 14 Rent again and again.(2-7)
- 16 Wet wet wets.(9)
- 18 Part of new testament melee.(7)
- 19 Vince on his plot.(7)
- 20 Derek and Edward are shortly to be wiped out in France.(7)
- 21 A verb with guts?(5)
- 22 Finish with Edward.(5)
- 24 Rushes out to buy books.(5)

VerboosenWort

Last week's 'answers'



Dear Adam,

I would like to correct part of Declan Curry's article. 'This Old House' in last week Felix (929).

The inaccuracy concerns the procedure for reporting defects in Halls of Residence. I have discussed this with both Gordon Marshall and Graham Daniels, and the correct sequence of events for a resident to follow is:

-Report the defect to the housekeeper who will inform the Maintenance Group in the Sherfield Building. The fault is logged on the computer system and given an incident number. The maintenance group will then fix the defect.

-If after a few days however, the fault has not been corrected, the resident should go back to the housekeeper to ensure that the fault has been logged correctly. The housekeeper will contact the maintenance group again and

hopefully the defect will be dealt with.

-If no action appears to have been taken after a few more days, the resident should contact either Graham Daniels or Pat Miller, the Residence Managers (ext 3553) and they will find out what is causing the delay and make sure that the defect is corrected.

It is also important to let the housekeepers know when the defect has been fixed to avoid any unnecessary work for them in chasing up the maintenance group.

If any resident does not wish to contact the Residence Managers personally, they can put a note detailing the problem in my pigeonhole in the Union Office and I will contact either Pat or Graham on their behalf.

Nicky Fox,
Union Housing Officer.

It Never Rains

Dear Adam,

Yet again Felix has failed to research its information properly. I am referring to the article by Declan Curry in last week's Felix which states the showers at Clayponds leak. As a resident of Clayponds I can assure you they do not, not even one of them, and I

think it is an unfair slur on the management to suggest it.

Martyn Reynolds, Physics 3,
Catherine Tombs, ME 3.

P.S. All the showers were disconnected last Wednesday.

P.P.S. The baths still work though—if you're lucky.

Postgraduate Affairs

Dear Mr Harrington,

As a member of staff much concerned with postgraduate studies both at College and University level, I would endorse many of Chris Riley's comments in Felix, Issue 928, and see no reason why he should be so contrite, issue 929, because some of his associates apparently over-reacted; maybe they had reason. The problems are not unique to this College: they are found throughout London University, are fairly common and sometimes severe.

Difficulties arise because postgraduates are often unaware of their rights and supervisors of their responsibilities—there is a fine line between neglect and giving a postgraduate enough independence to reach academic maturity. University regulations, for example, allow a postgraduate, with reasonable justifications, to change their supervisor; this can occur with or without the consent of the supervisor. If the student's support is tied in some way to the supervisor, as opposed to a

Research Council quota award to the Department, complications may, of course, arise but they are not insurmountable in this context.

One's overriding fear in this matter is, however, that comments such as those of Chris Riely may be used as ammunition by some to stand yet another worthy aspect of academic life on its head for no good reason. There is no doubt that there have been numerous preludes to this and postgraduate training has hitherto been spared only because of the intense focus on undergraduate studies. A few timely and intelligently applied constraints and adjustments are all that is really required to bring about the necessary improvements. May I advise my colleagues to start by reading, or re-reading, 'Research Student and Supervisor—an approach to good supervisor practice' issued by the SERC (June, 1989); these were once obtainable from the Registry.

Yours sincerely,
A.G. Dickerson (Dr),
Biochemistry.

Politically Correct

Dear Adam,

This letter is essentially one of apology; both to a specific individual, and to anyone offended by the last issue of Broadsheet. In that issue, the word, 'niggerbasher' was printed in an article, in relation to the aforementioned individual.

The use of the word was an 'in-joke' related to an entirely innocent incident that occurred on an RCS Rag Tour two years ago. Regrettably, to anyone who is not familiar with the joke (i.e. practically everyone), it would seem that the person was being glorified for his prowess in beating up racial minorities. This has already resulted in a threat of violence towards him, averted only by careful explanation. I would like to apologise to him for this and any unjustified damage to his reputation this may have caused. I also apologise to anyone who was quite rightly offended or disturbed by what they considered a racist comment in print.

Upon reading the last issue of

Felix, I was greeted with a cartoon that depicted me as a drunk, racist yob. This was quite interesting coming from someone who doesn't even know me personally. I may be a generally unpleasant person, but I am none of these things (not to my knowledge, anyway). However, the artist was entirely within their rights to criticise, and apart from the libellous nature of it, the cartoon contained valid points. When I edited the article in question, I failed to remove the offending word. Perhaps a more competent editor would not have overlooked this.

On the whole, I would rather be incompetent than racist.

Yours,

David Goddard,

Broadsheet Editor 91-92.

P.S. Although this letter is actually a sincere apology, I imagine that there are a number of zealots who will not be happy unless I am thrown out of college for some perceived lack of Political Correctness.

Corruption

Dear Adam,

I am writing this letter to elucidate upon the corruption of the re-app selection system in some halls of residence, as it is about that time of year again, and I would like the Wardens not to be led again this year as they have in previous years.

The point is that the re-apps are selected by a committee of wardens and subwardens with the advice of the current re-apps. There in, lies the problem, since it is usually the current re-apps 'best friends' who are picked.

OK these people may be 'popular', but the point is that there

have been candidates in the past, that were just friends with the re-apps and no one else. They were also very irresponsible, having had several warnings from the wardens over the year. But these people were chosen and became re-apps because they were 'popular' as far as the re-apps were concerned.

Popular people are not always the best people for the job. All I ask is that this year the wardens look through the cliquy 'friends' system that is currently in operation, and good luck this year if you have applied.

Name withheld by request.

Union Stuff

Well, hopefully elections are over, depending upon how the UGM went yesterday. Next week is the final week of term. There's free music on Monday night, the colossal bar quiz on Wednesday at 8pm in the Lounge Bar. This week's categories are sport, Blue Peter and Coronation Street.

Ents discos are on Wednesday and Friday. Jazz and Rock also take over the Concert Hall on Friday night. In the JCR there are records and sports gear sales on Monday and Tuesday.

Enjoy your last week of term, Cheers, Steve.

Finally—any nominations for Social Colours should be given to me by 3.30pm next Friday.

Dodgy Videos

Dear Adam,

This is only a short letter but I feel I must follow up on Jon Jordan's letter in Felix 929. Whilst I agree that '...such thinking can never solve man's problems', my aim is not to discuss the (in)validity of the good concept but to put him right on his last comment on Humanism. Humanists most definitely do not lack moral values. Religions do not have a monopoly on morals. Morals from religion are often, at best, riddled with inconsistencies and could even be

called perverted in some cases. Would anyone here agree that it is moral to sentence an author to death for exercising his right to free speech?

What humanists seek is to base their morals on rational grounds as opposed to the interpretation of 'Holy Scriptures'.

As regards '...dodgy videos', well, to each his own I suppose. Certainly selling such videos is not a tenet of Humanism.

G Maskall, Physics 2.

Bailey on the Fox

Dear Adam,

It is some time since I have written to you, but I felt I must write on the issue of fox hunting. Before and since Kevin McNamara's bill was thrown out in parliament, a hell of a lot of nonsense has been written and spoken on this subject. Being a landowner the only foxes I know are those that rip open black rubbish bags that inefficient councils dustman leave behind.

Foxes are vermin. No better than rats. I sometimes felt that I couldn't give a toss whether they are ripped apart by dogs, killed humanely or gunned down by the SAS provided that they do kill them. If they took a few domestic dogs with them who crap all over the pavement, all the better. However I wonder how

many of these people would criticise fox hunting if it was the past time of ethnic minorities and not a British tradition. They'd probably be the very same people who'd attack critics for being racist!

I must admit that I do find killing animals solely for sport distasteful.

I wonder what goes through the minds of these silly people in stupid red coats. There toffs gather together, have a couple of sherries and have a 'jolly' good time. I bet you would find a large number of them wearing the same school tie! However you can 'understand' why they do this. This lot are just emulating the example given to them by the Royal family. You see the Duke of Edinburgh and all the

other hangers on, go out shooting wild stag and pheasants.

If they want to chase and kill thick, second rate forms of life, why don't they start with Di and her free loading sisters in law, Fergie.

Lets not hear all this cant and nonsense about fox hunting keeping down the number of foxes. It does nothing to control numbers. In fact the Isle of Wight did not have a fox problem until foxes were introduced for the sole purpose of hunting. Why don't they just admit they love chasing things and killing them? Why don't they just tell the antihunting lobby to sod off?

I'm often criticised for being too inflexible but I have come up with a solution to this problem. Under my system fox hunting would be

banned and foxes would be replaced with the animal liberation front, the IRA and Jacques Delors. I'd even pay good money to see these undesirables ripped apart by hounds. Unfortunately this system has about as much chance of being enforced as getting a smile out of the women who serve in the Southside Shop.

Yours as always,

Alan Bailey

PS Who was that total moron who wrote that crap about the IC football team? If this cretin actually went and watched the teams play they'd see how much dedication and effort is put into playing. Who knows, Felix might even then support something the students do!

LETTERS

Deadline:

Monday 12.30pm, before the Friday of publication

Place:

Editor's pigeonhole in the Felix Office

Format:

Addressed to the Editor i.e. 'Dear Editor', or

'Dear Adam', not to any third party. All letters

should be signed by the author and authorship should be proved to a member of Felix Staff by the production of an identity card/union card.

Authorship can be withheld by request.

Letters will NOT be published if authorship has not been proved.

The Christmas holiday, and holidays in general, are a bonanza for hacks and fixers. Yet, come the 6th of January, when all return to the beer garden that is IC, the journo bounce back, fresh with cynicism, asking, 'OK, what fast one have they pulled this time?'. The 'they' is both the Ashite managers and the Union bods, who work with a similarity so close that they deny it, even though both teams have jugglers. To prove the point, just when you thought it was safe to leave the beer garden, and that Felix was no more, it's back, with a look back (in anger? contempt? amazement? drunkenness?) at the iCNN news this term.

The first fast one was the Sheffield Five (Ash, Fraser, Reynolds, Straw, Marshall) trying to fix up the Messenger, Security and Car Parking privatisation before anyone could notice.

*the academics,
sensing blood,
were in full
flight*

However, the plans rapidly came unstuck, or even noticed, so this term, the 'Quick Release Ball and Chain' award goes to Gordon Marshall, Head of Estates, for his rapid about-face on the proposals.

The original document suggesting a review of security was published on 19 April 1991, by Facilities Manager, Val Straw. By the time Gordon Marshall had re-drafted it on 27 September, the document read, 'in the light of this further review, it is considered necessary and desirable to pursue a radically different staffing strategy.' How radical? How different? Read on.

'It is proposed that staffing below the management/secretary level should utilise uniformed contract staff.' And whose signature was on the front of the new radical document? Gordon Marshall.

'Privatisation', said the unions. 'Outsourcing', said the Rector. 'You're sacked', said Marshall, to all Security, Messenger and Car Park staff. The academics, sensing blood, were in full flight. '...the new style of management could be inappropriate for an academic institution ... the style is in fact more akin to imposition', wrote the Chairman of the Academic Staff Committee. When Gordon

Marshall wrote casting doubts on the loyalty of long serving staff, the City and Guilds Dean, Professor Bruce Sayers, hit back. 'I draw your attention to the brutality, no impertinence, of Gordon Marshall ... writing of the anticipated 'loyalty' of bought in contract personnel. (This is) not the only ill-conceived component, there are even greater stupidities. These factory floor manoeuvres are wholly unworthy of IC.'

At this point, the Rector, sensing defeat, jumped back on the fence, so that Uncle Eric could come along and sort out a little difficulty in 'our community'. However, the

switching from subtraction to addition.

The irony was not lost that the man who wanted privatisation and an end to union influence will probably go from the college before the union negotiators. It could, of course, be argued that he should have gone earlier. Such a policy switch would have intimidated most. His selective amnesia could yet put considerable distance between his actions and their consequences.

In an interesting aside, how closely did you read 'The Survey'? (Felix 928). Keith Reynolds, Chief Security Officer, worked in the

Spring News Review



Strikers gather outside the Rector's house on Queensgate during the Security & Messenger dispute.

Governing Body had cottoned on to what the Ashites had done, and sent the Rector away with a firm slap on the wrist. 'The Rector was charged directly with looking at the problems of communication.' And that was something he couldn't contract out.

So it came to pass that the 'negotiations' (sic) continued on into term two. After some confusion, agreement was reached on 7th February between the Head of Estates and the Unions on an in-house settlement. The security service was improved, savings were made, and the unions kept most of their members in work.

Keeping them in line was a different job. There was a bit of grumbling about a sell out, but apparently the union leaders got the go ahead to sign. But sign they didn't. The calculators on Sheffield are still getting stuck on their sums. Maybe they are having difficulty

media industry before he came to Imperial. Val Straw, Facilities Manager, came from the communications industry. That's two out of five, though they aren't the only ones. According to London Weekend Television, Simon Westerman, Catering Manager, worked as one of their contract caterers. London Weekend Television recently contracted out their security services, to the unions, who set up a small company, and made a small profit into the bargain. What was the name of the union negotiator? Somebody Snow, I think.

More plaudits for Gordon Marshall, and the Estates division, and this time the consequences of actions are already beginning to show. The 'Dripping Dodgy Drainpipe' goes to the maintenance section of Estates. In a set piece example of crisis management, the dripping Clayponds showers were

*Declan Curry,
of the Imperial
College News
Network*

*(iCNN), collates
the major issues
of this term so
far*

cured by disconnecting the water supply. Hygiene optional. For all the other problems, see the last edition of Felix. The Ashites are so badly rattled this time that the article 'This Old House' was discussed at the College House Committee last

would not necessarily be able to stay in their rooms, and would be moved to 'non-business areas', areas not used for the conference period. But what if you wanted to stay in your own room? Then you could prepare yourself to pay

business beds, the Student Accommodation Office was doing its best to count the number of student beds that would be needed over Easter. 'We need students to help us to help them', they told iCNN, who weren't game for a

will be made available,' said Sheelagh Crampton, Accommodation and Conference Manager. Not so. Two students came on IC Radio as late as last Friday to complain about the lack of storage. 'Notices were put up to tell us officially that we were going to be given five storage rooms for 161 people living in Falmouth Keogh Hall ... Graham Daniels (Area Residences Manager, responsible for storage) has said that



One of the most boring pictures ever used for a Felix front cover. The Farranted Piano

week, and in great detail. Watch this space.

An offshoot of Estates is the Conference and Accommodation Office, who get the 'Judge Pickles' award for their grip on reality. Using the old 'give an inch, seize a mile' approach, they decided to increase still further the number of rooms allocated to the conference season, completely oblivious to the recession.

Completely oblivious to the purpose of student accommodation as well. And indeed to the extent of the student backlash. Such was the ferocity of the counter attack that the rarely spotted 'management

business rates.

By the following morning, Felix had put a figure on this, a mere £18 a day. This was greeted with outrage by students and others, provoking a barrage of letters from Accommodation & Conferences, which served to muddy the waters completely. Indeed, two weeks later, IC Radio reported, 'controversy still reigns over the

laugh. Then Conferences seemed to get their act together. Another statement: 'Blocks of rooms in Southside, Linstead and Weeks Halls will be set aside for business use, while the remaining rooms will be free for student use. Students will not have to pay business rates.' So how many business rooms did they actually need? 'Er, we're not quite sure.'

prepare yourself to pay business rates

he's not going back on his decision, and the 5 storage rooms are standing. He's not going to give us any more, and whatever we do is not going to affect his decision, so we do intend to lead a peaceful protest across the park to outside 15 Prince's Gardens in the next few days ... residents in FK feel pretty strongly about this, and there are enough people in hall willing to protest about it, we're willing to do something about it.'

A group willing to get up and do something are the entrepreneurial thieves who have exploited the 'walk-in crime' at the college. Prize

entrepreneurial thieves have exploited the 'walk-in crime' at the college

retreating in full flight' was observed in its natural state - panic. With panic came confusion. The left office didn't know what the right office was doing.

The story broke on STOIC on 30th January, during a live interview with Loretto O'Callaghan, Student Accommodation Officer, who told David Henderson Begg that applicants for Easter accommodation in Prince's Gardens



Members of the House of Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts, who visited Imperial in January

claims printed in Felix on the 31 January that students could be charged £18 a day for staying in their room over Easter'.

While Accommodation and Conferences were busy with damage limitation and counting

What about storage space for those evicted or leaving voluntarily? Evelyn Gardens residents were told that they could leave their belongings packed in their rooms, then that they couldn't, then that they could. 'Adequate storage space

of place goes to the Turkish research assistant who needs no awards from us. He's already got a nine month sentence, and a deportation order to look forward to. In a canny move, he not only talked his way round the security

staff at the Royal School of Mines, he also talked them into helping him load a van with the stolen equipment. He was only caught when he returned the following day and was recognised by Deputy Security Chief, Terry Briley. The reason the man was recognised was because he was sacked from the School last October for a similar operation.

The security epidemic is in danger of making Felix look like a Metropolitan Police charge sheet. On January 17, over 20 thefts since the start of the year had been reported. Stolen items included wallets, cash, cheque books, two fax machines, a stereo hi-fi system, compact disc player, miniature television, mountain bike, his and her towel set, 24 piece dinner set, cuddly toy. The bike thefts prompted a visit from Inspector Knacker of the Yard, in the forms of PCs Colman and Law, who security coded cycles in the Sherfield building.

The Union building fared no better. £10,000 worth of trophies were stolen during the first week, and IC Radio reported the Union President, Zoë Hellinger, as implying an inside job. Inside Beit Arch, the new ritual of card checking was enacted, giving money to duty officers, causing disorientation among the non-sober and supposedly making us all safer.

Another theft of sorts was the removal of 3,500 Felices during the morning of 31 January. The

'Neighbourhood Watch' award this term goes to IC DramSoc, for their careful policing of what was written about them. Assisting the distribution of a two page glory spread about them, and then thieving a not-so complementary review, their policing tended to be a tad Stalinist, and according to the Independent newspaper, Stalinism

according to the Independent Newspaper, Stalinism is the favourite sport of IC President Zoë Hellinger

is the favourite sport of IC President, Zoë Hellinger. Zoë gets this term's 'Catch Me If You Can' award. After the removal (sic) of the Fallacies, she told IC Radio that she knew nothing. She added, 'there are a lot of words going round that it is Grease, it may have been anyone else, there were several other articles in Felix that could have surmised that they were annoying people.'

That was Friday. By the following Tuesday, Zoë had called a press conference to announce 'I admit to taking several piles of



Firemen were called in connection with a flood in the Chemistry building in February

Felices on Friday the 31st of January'. Not one for modesty, she added, 'it was a stupid thing to do, but it can't be undone and I'm sorry it happened'. She then challenged anyone who thought her actions would affect her position as Union President to table a motion of no confidence at the EGM scheduled for two days hence. Knowing full well that no-one knew the full facts of the case, this gauntlet throwing represented Zoë's craftiest move of the year. Surprising no expectations, she was still in her post by Thursday night, talking of her emotional tie ups, and expressing the wish that the affair was now over.

Talking of affairs, the Virgin 'Who's Been Sleeping With Who In

about are our new sabbaticals, for whom the £5k plus accommodation is enough reward, thank you. And what a dismal campaign it was. It started off by giving the impression of being quickly cobbled together, and the candidates really did nothing to dispel this over the course of the fortnight. Despite strong hustings performances from Chris Davidson and Jonty Beavan, it's a bit sad that the only campaign that had been firmly mooted well in advance was that of Toby Jones.

Another dismal aspect was the stupid election rules which still now prevent me from telling you how badly the Hon. Sec. candidates performed when they were interviewed on IC Radio. Suffice to say that one dried up and was told to go away and think things out, and the other boxed himself into his own suggestion box.

Thankfully we had New Election, which was the real surprise of the election. Not, I hasten to add because it won, but because of its competent performance under the direction of Returning Officer, Steve Farrant, who is the recipient of the 'Home Improvement' award. On the 18th January, Steve ordered the destruction of a union antique. The offending object was apparently not Jonathan Griffiths, but was a disused piano. Mr. Farrant said that he found some people 'hitting' the piano, and he told them that they could 'take a sledgehammer to it'. This he described as a 'throwaway comment'; eight out of ten cat

they could take a sledgehammer to it

Sherfield/Prince's Gardens' has had to be dropped this term, due to the change of ownership of the sponsoring company. This is a pity, as we had a really nice couple this term, and they weren't students.

People who won't be students next year, but who will still be



Paddy Ashdown, Leader of the Liberal Democrats, who spoke at a 'Youth and Student Day' at Westminster Central Hall in February

owners said they thought he was talking about his job description. Mr Farrant was banned from the union building for 24 hours, which he unofficially extended to 72 hours as he failed to turn up for work on the following Monday. The matter was referred to an executive disciplinary committee. Once they remembered who Mr. Farrant was, by watching Sky One, they decided to give him the benefit of the doubt and a large bucket of whitewash. By this stage, Mr Farrant had developed a pink elephant fixation about pianos; later in the term he spotted a chocolate machine

*we couldn't
have it both
ways, crying
poverty and
complaining
about the delay*

masquerading as one, and gave it the same treatment.

The 'Paper Transistor Award for Slavish Copying of the BBC' goes this year to IC Radio, beating off a determined challenge from STOIC. STOIC effectively sabotaged their chances of winning this award when they axed 'Going for Coppers', even though nobody noticed, especially as they wasted no time in restoring this drivelt to the schedule. IC Radio, however, decided to cover the General Election campaign long before it was called, as the smart money decided that the campaign would fall during the holidays.

The strategy was fairly simple. The economy was to be analysed in two interviews, one Conservative, one Labour. Then a member of each main party was to be interviewed, covering the three Imperial constituencies. Of course,



IC Union President Zoë Hellinger at the press briefing after the Felix heist scandal early in February

with the Peter Brooke interview running to over half an hour, the Labour candidate in the Westminster South seat was also questioned.

Rob Marvin, of Conservative Students, was first off. He described the recession as a unique coming together of economic circumstances.

Unique mismanagement, more like. When Andy Love, Labour candidate for Edmington, complained about minor differences between Labour

speakers being exploited, he was quite surprised to learn that the two quotes actually came from Neil Kinnock. It's not the first time Kinnock has contradicted himself. This was also the first candidate to state publicly that not only would National Insurance increases be phased in, but also pension and child benefit increases.

Then for the tour of the constituencies. Susan Broidy, Liberal Democratic candidate for Chelsea told IC Radio that she

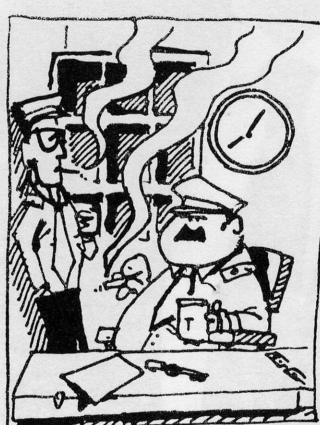
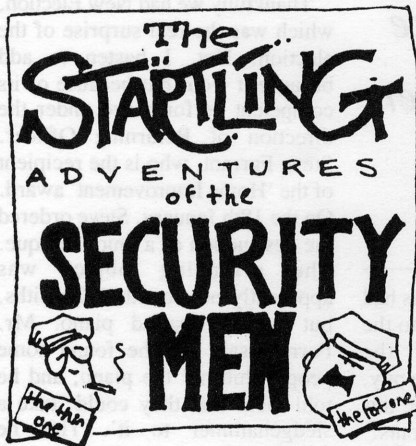
couldn't comment on LibDem economics because she hadn't been to the meeting yet. Ann Holmes, Labour candidate for Kensington, told us we couldn't have it both ways, crying poverty and then complaining about the delay. Peter Brooke said he would support a rival union to the NUS, and that he wasn't a candidate for the Speakership of the Commons. Charlie Smith, for Labour in Westminster, appealed to students to vote and to use the postal vote if necessary, something echoed by Union President Zoë Hellinger.

The 'Where Does He Get Them

*we're fairly
certain that this
will provide a
pathway to a
cure for
Alzheimer's*

From and Why Does He Bother?' award goes to Chris Riley, for gratuitous environmental slots. His speciality seems to be dolphins. Chris scored rather better on his coverage of St. Mary's medical stories, and positively drooled over the interview with Fiona Crawford, a member of the Alzheimer's research team that made its way across the pond.

The team had identified the changes in a protein which is responsible for Alzheimer's. Although these changes were not the cause of Alzheimer's in all cases, Fiona Crawford told IC Radio that 'because this protein has been implicated in the disease long before now, we're fairly certain that this will provide a pathway to a cure for Alzheimer's'. However, she did not think the team had got the recognition it deserved. 'Far from it. The only interest that was



Unashamedly snaffled from WC magazine. Written by Joel Morris and David McCandless.

generated was when we finally got through, when we finally started finding the mutation, but there should have been a lot more interest in the disease and in the research a long time before that'.

She rejected the claim that the move to the States was the end of the research. 'It's an expansion. There will still be members of the Alzheimer's teams in St. Marys, and we'll still be in touch with all the families in Britain when we move to the States. The move will include new families into the research and will expand the group. Everybody who has experienced Alzheimer's, either directly or indirectly, appreciate that it doesn't matter where the cure is found, but how quickly it is found is important.'

Another St. Mary's story was the proposals from the Dean of St. Mary's, Professor Peter Richards, to end the perennial problem of junior hospital doctors: too little training, too little support, too little sleep. However, the Chairman of the Junior Doctors' Committee of the British Medical Association condemned the proposals on IC Radio as not going far enough. Dr. Edwin Borman said that what was needed was a restructuring of the nature of the work. 'Currently what happens is that house officers are spending a considerable part of their day running around the wards doing things for which they are grossly overqualified, filling in forms, filing away results, taking routine bloods, doing routing ECGs. Medical students are doctors in



Defence Minister Tom King employs Mafia to accompany him during Imperial College's Arts Week.

training, and as such they should be doing the sort of work that doctors should be doing, so what we're looking for is one year in which they would be doing the sort of things which would actually be preparing them for being doctors, not for being ward clerks, or porters, or ECG technicians. We want to see this year run properly, and I'm afraid we haven't seen the proposals coming from Professor Richards yet.'

Yet, for the finest example of bickering, we return to the South Kensington campus. IC Radio reported on 6th March, 'Gervaise Loraine, better known as Jarv, has won the position of assistant bar manager after Ramesh Patel resigned his post earlier this year.

Mr. Loraine was appointed above 70 other people after the post was advertised in the national media. This now leaves the post of bar steward wide open, and the cost of advertising another post in the union bar has yet to be mentioned by sabbaticals, one of whom said, 'Jarv was by far and away the best candidate for the post. This claim has been rejected widely by students and staff in the students' union, who appear to be upset that Mr. Loraine had been appointed. It has been reported that Mr. Patel resigned after being forced to by in-fighting. As union staff have no right to speak under a student union staff protocol, they were unable to comment.'

No comment.



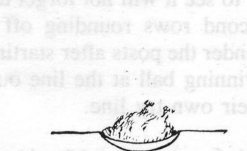
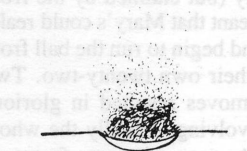
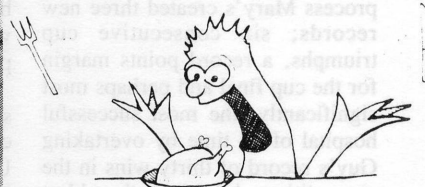
Northern Ireland Secretary, Peter Brooke, in a timid state after being interviewed by Declan Curry.

Credits

Rose, Andy T, Declan 'Hot News' Curry, 'HB Sauce' David, Simone de Govier, James, '£460' Steve, '£5' Sam, Steve F, Ian, 'mere pale shadow' Jonty, 'I wandered lonely as a front cover designer' Stef, 'Adios UB40' David, Jeremy 'Kapitaliste' Brunell, Mario D'Oignon, Catherine 'missing link' Darwen, le dessiner phantôme, Khurruum, 'Arbeit macht frei' Paddy, Scott, Farheed Khan, Jason 'moon' Lander, Tim Parsons, Evelyn Joslin, 'gurgling' Bec, Cindy Madden and Jennifer Simmons (sorry you were cut short), the circular jocular pocketed coracle and disparate prudish parodies.

Additional credits to David McCandless, Joel Morris and Memo.

THE HUNGER



by Memo

Mary's

St Mary's Hospital emphatically won the Hospitals Cup on Wednesday (4th March) beating University College and the Middlesex Hospital by 49-0. In the process Mary's created three new records; six consecutive cup triumphs, a record points margin for the cup final and perhaps most significantly, the most successful hospital of all time by overtaking Guy's record of thirty wins in the competition. All this in the oldest rugby competition in the world.

The match was played in a good spirit before a noisy, boisterous crowd. The Mary's cheerleaders, trumpeters and tango men led the touchline proceedings: the parading of the The Puffin recently re-acquired from the Middlesex team and the removal of an unfortunate Middlesex man's (as opposed to an Essex Girl's) clothes who happened to be caught trying to kidnap one of the Mary's cheerleaders.

Prior to the final, Mary's had scored thirteen tries, eleven of which were scored by a very quick back division, and as a result much was expected. At the start Mary's kept the ball close to their forwards and fifteen minutes into the game were already thirteen points up with a try each for Torkington and Hunt and a conversion and penalty by Butland (who had a poor game, by his own high standards, with his place kicking). By this stage the cup was won and after Morgan had powered over and two further tries were scored—the score at half-time was 27-0.

The first period of the second half saw some UC/Middlesex pressure but they never looked like breaching the Mary's defence. A pushover try by Kelly (but claimed by the front row) meant that Mary's could really relax and begin to run the ball from inside their own twenty-two. Two of the moves resulted in glorious tries involving virtually the whole team. Anyone who was fortunate enough to see it will not forget the two second rows rounding off a move under the posts after starting it by winning ball at the line out, near their own try line.

On Wednesday (11th March), St Mary's Hospital 2nd XV are playing in the 2nd XV Hospitals Cup against Charing Cross and are hopeful of victory after beating Kings 83-0 in the semi-final. In the next few weeks the Mary's sevens team will also bid for a hat-trick of victories at National Medical Schools Sevens Championships.

'A bunch of nice guys.' That is how someone once tried to describe the Imperial College 2nd XI association football team. The seconds have also been accused of being good-looking, intellectual, well-dressed and modest. They plead guilty on all counts.

This season, IC 2nds reached the second round of the UAU competition, the semi-final of the ULU cup, were placed fourth in Division Oe of the ULU league, and have been the top scoring men's team in the football club. These results are pretty good, considering that the seconds have had an unsettled side, having fielded 34 different players in the course of the season.

There have been regulars, of course, and a key player for IC 2nds this year has been Steve Shilling. Despite his occasional loss of reason, he is one of the best goalkeepers in the whole university. As midfielders converted to full-backs, Eamon McCann, Chris Morris and Andy Fenton have been essential in the team's tactic of playing from the back. Richard Burrows and Ian Finnerty have provided solidarity in the centre of defence.

Richie Dixon, the Nigel Clough lookalike, accidentally acquired by the side, scores spectacular goals as easily as he gets sweaty hands. Other midfielders, Captain Rakesh



Muthoo, Max Duckworth and Tellis Botzios are famous for their team talks, hair gel and showers respectively. Ben Adams and Mickey Plummer played very few games and their expertise was missed. The youthful Stuart Miller also made sporadic appearances.

The seconds have had a deadly forward line, with Jason Devoy capable of turning on a sixpence and top scorer Simon Barry incapable of smiling. However, Barry has scored almost twice as many goals this season as the whole of the 1st XI team.

The hallmark of this year's

second team has been its positive style, playing some beautiful possession football and placing an emphasis on teamwork. Football history is littered with cynical and negative attitudes, as typified by Austria and Germany in a 1982 World Cup tie. The Brazilian star Zico then said 'God should punish people who do these things'.

But punishment comes in mysterious ways. Three key players missed penalties in the semi-final of the ULU cup this year, denying the possibility of glory to their team, Imperial College seconds. A team almost as good as the talent within.

Boat Club

The Boat Club this weekend produced a highly impressive set of results at Reading University Head. The outright win over the Oxford University blue boat and three crews in the top ten underlines the college's position amongst the top three university clubs in the country.

The 1st VIII won the whole event beating Oxford by six seconds with only two other crews within thirty seconds of their winning time.

The 2nd and 3rd VIII beat all other UAU opposition to come 8th and 9th.

The men's novice VIII continued their unbeaten run with an impressive row for their fourth win this term.

The women's novice VIII came a close third in their category.

Forthcoming events include a possible race against Cambridge at

the Tideway Head of the river race in a fortnight, where 500 crews compete. The men's top squad aim to have three crews in the top thirty with the first VIII well within the top ten. The novice men hope to record our third novice win in five years.

Next term the 1st VIII, representing British universities, will go to the Japanese Henley Regatta to defend their 1991 victory over other international universities.

Top England rugby stars Roger Utley and Andy Ripley enlisted the help of ICBC 1st VIII members Steve Ellis and Ed Wild, with Olympic coach Bill Mason to attempt rowing for the first time, noting that they would require a lot of training to complete 20 strokes, let alone 20 minutes of gruelling head race...

Imperial

At the club dinner on Wednesday the Rugby Club completed its most successful season to date.

Having narrowly lost the defence of the Gutteridge Cup the previous year the team were determined to make amends. The team used an abundance of possession well to destroy Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School by 31 points to 4. Stuart Paynter kicked well and it was a pleasure to see both wingers scoring right in the corners. (Cheers Anton!) Stuart Paynter was deservedly nominated man of the match.

Having already displayed their supremacy in London and the SE of England, three days later the team travelled to Nottingham to take on Durham in the semi-final of the Commercial Union UAU championships.

Imperial's record did not bear

Dribblers Win League



The Dribblers took the league title in what was one of the most hard fought games of the season.

Both teams needed victory to take the title and it was KCH who surprisingly put the Dribblers defence under immense pressure throughout the first half. The defence, glad to have something to do for a change, coped amazingly and it was the Dribblers who finished the half on top with two goals from Permi and Jo and excellent defending from Arlene and Juliana.

The second half was more even until a sudden penalty gave the

Dribblers a 3-0 lead. Super runs and dodgy finishing from Permi (the goaly was big and fat and took up the whole of the goal area) maintained this score line until KCH managed to snatch back a goal to put them back into contention. However, a final goal from Permi put the Dribblers 4-1 ahead and out of reach of KCH. With only five minutes left both teams were exhausted and it seemed like all the action was over...or was it?

No, it couldn't be, surely the teams in their state of exhaustion were not seeing things. But no! The players now realised it was no

mirage, it surely was Ethel and she was running, yes running, up the pitch with the ball. She charged past the lone defender and headed for the goalkeeper. The crowd erupted in a frenzy, the players stood and watched in disbelief.

A whole year of standing on cold, wet, muddy pitches had driven the poor girl mad and she was behaving in a way never witnessed before. Charging down the pitch with the defender hot on her heels she took it past the goaly, the crowd went mad, the team fainted and...the ball dribbled slowly off the pitch. Alas, it wasn't to be the goal that had eluded the poor woolly hatted one all season. We could be tight and say this isn't strictly true, Ethel scored a goal last term. Shame it was in the wrong goal though!!

Exhausted and hungry but still on form. The Dribblers secured their place as top boat racers in London by beating not one but two teams. First up for the hammering were KCH. Caroline was still struggling to get over the shock of Ethel's run which allowed KCH to sneak ahead

but IC's back four, Emma, Lindsay, Eleanor and Rachel, dashed all hopes of a KCH victory with an easy win.

A mixed bag of supporters were next up for the challenge and what a sad bunch they were. Felix's very own photographer led the team with a pathetic half pint (call yourself a man?). But the girls, in true style, polished off their drinks in record time to win by a drink in hand.

The captain would just like to congratulate the team on their performance this season. Apart from winning the league they also got to the semi-finals in the cup. It's been great playing with you all. Extra big thanks to Sara and Ethel who, despite my sarcy reports, have had a brilliant season and helped in the running of the club.

Good luck to you all next year!!

The first Felix of next term will come out on Friday 1st May. All reports or articles should reach the Felix Office, Beit Quad, by 12.30 Monday 27th April if they are to be included in that issue.

Rugby Report

comparison but their fifth consecutive south-east group title and six previous wins in seven matches overall, with an average of 34 points a match, threw down a challenge which Durham picked up ponderously.

David Fleming, playing alongside Andrew his twin brother, ran in a twelfth minute try from the base of the ruck, from the drive by Fowler of Rosslyn Park and Montgomery, the influential scrum half in Imperial's progress. His kicking was insistent and impeccable, trusting Durham backwards into a cauldren of defensive uncertainty.

Paynter, having been charged down earlier in the game, regained his confidence to add a penalty goal for Imperial soon after half time.

Imperial's quart size pack compared to their opponent's pints

turned Durham's faces the same shade of Palatinate purple as their jerseys until a final fifteen minutes of long awaited fluency overturned Imperial's worthy seven point lead. Durham now play Loughborough in the final at Twickenham on Wednesday 18th March.

Roger Gilchrist was elected captain of ICRFC for next season at the AGM last Monday, John Fowler was voted player of the season and Stuart Paynter voted the most improved player.

The club would like to thank those who turned up week after week to support us. The groundsmen at Harlington Mick, Phil and Keith, and especially the staff of the Union Office for both their help and support throughout the season.

Played 19, won 13, lost 6

Points for 439, points against 165

Interstellar

'To boldly go where no one has gone before'—Science fiction or science fact? Is Interstellar Travel really practice? If so, how long before it will be possible for man to head off to the stars.

Ideas about Interstellar Travel range from slow moving colonies travelling at about 10% light speed using fission/fusion explosions; to

swifter craft using matter/anti-matter and other exotic propulsion systems.

On Saturday March 4th at 7.00pm in Elec Eng 403b Ian Crawford of UCL will be ICU—SEDS guest for a lecture on this topic, followed by a discussion of the possibilities.

Rifle and Pistol

Last week saw IC's intrepid pistol team actually get round to shooting some matches. Firstly there was standard pistol against ULU Pistol Club. We beat them by 928 to 880 with neither side shooting particularly well—more practice needed I think. Over the weekend the Cambridge University squad came down to shoot precision centrefire. This idea had to be abandoned at the last minute when we realised we hadn't got any centrefire targets! We decided to shoot PPI instead which is much more fun. Both teams shot well, considering the short notice, and Cambridge narrowly beat us, the final score being 774 to 800. We

will demand a rematch, the honour of IC is at stake (or something like that).

The rifle team have not been doing so well since they have been skulking around in dark corners ever since last term when they shot against Herriot Watt in the first round of the British Universities team rifle competition. Suffice it to say we got absolutely bloody hammered. Beaten by almost 100 points! Special mention must go to club captain Tim Griffiths for the lowest score of the season (and possibly of this century) although he at least had an excuse—the sights fell off his rifle halfway through the competition!

Indoor Soccer Tournament

There was a factual error in my article last week. The Lebanese Society was not suspended by the OSC as was reported. I would like to apologise to all concerned and hope that everyone can now let the matter rest. The Lebanese teams have since been reinstated to the IC Indoor Soccer Tournament.

As for the tournament itself, 5 teams have now successfully qualified for the second phase, to be held on Wednesday 17th March. They are IC FC2, Chemical Engineers, Cypriots, IC FC1 and Sikh 2. With 3 games still to be played (at the point of writing), five teams are contesting the remaining 3 places: Lebanese 1, Islamic 1, Indian, Snooker 1 and Sikh 1.

Each qualifying team shall be seeded according to the number of points attained and their goal-difference. Then the team seeded 1 will play the team seeded 8. Similarly, the remaining fixtures shall be Seed 2 vs Seed 7, Seed 3 vs Seed 6 and Seed 4 vs Seed 5. The

winning team from each match will go on to play in the semi-finals. If the better seeded team wins their respective games, the semi-final line-up shall be Seed 1 vs Seed 4 and Seed 2 vs Seed 3. The winning semi-finalists shall then contest the final.

The tournament champions shall be presented with a shield, engraved miniature trophies for each player plus a cheque for £75. The losing finalist shall receive runners-up medals plus a cheque for £30. Cheques for £10 shall be awarded to the losing semi-finalists. As the tournament is organised by the OSC, there shall also be a trophy for the best placed OSC team.

It is hoped all games shall be played on Wednesday between 9.30-1pm. If this cannot happen, then uncompleted games shall be played from 4pm onwards. May I take this opportunity to thank all the teams for entering the tournament, and wish the teams in the knock-out stage the best of luck.

Khurrum

Wed, 11.3.92					Score
4.00-4.30pm	Cypriot	vs	Singapore		8-5
4.30-5.00pm (re sch)	Indian	vs	Snooker 1		P-P
5.00-5.30pm	Islamic 1	vs	Sri Lankan		12-5
5.30-6.00pm	Islamic 2	vs	Lebanese		0-3

Thurs, 12.3.92					Score
3.00-3.30pm	ICFC 1	vs	Lebanese 2		10-4
3.30-4.00pm	Malaysian 1	vs	ICFC 2		5-12
4.00-4.30pm	Sikh 2	vs	IC SEDS		20-2
4.30-5.00pm	Snooker 1	vs	Malaysian 2		3-0
5.00-5.30pm	Snooker 2	vs	Bridge Club		12-7

Sat, 14.3.92					Score
6.00-6.30pm	Indian	vs	Sikh 1		P-P

Mon, 16.3.92					Score
6.00-6.30pm	Lebanese 1	vs	Islamic 2		3-0

Tue, 17.3.92					Score
1.00-1.30pm	Indian	vs	Snooker 1		
1.30-2.00pm	Lebanese 1	vs	IC SEDS		
2.00-2.30pm	Indian	vs	Sikh 1		

Malaysia Nite 1992, Flight MH002

On the 22nd of Febuary 1992, the Malaysia Soc (ICMS) celebrated the success of its second ever Malaysia Nite in the history of the society. The event which was attended by Malaysians and their friends from London as well as all over the UK, succeeded in its aim to introduce Malaysian culture to all those present.

Guests were first treated to dinner at the Union Building (Beit Quad) before being ushered to the Great Hall where the cultural show was held. Dinner consisted of a variety of Malaysian delights ranging from 'Ayam Masak Merah' to Bingka (a type of cake). This was a thrill for the adventurous and a delight to those who had acquired the taste over the years. It was indeed an irresistible spread of exotic food.

Content. Guests were then herded to their seats int he Great Hall before the cultural show began. A brief introduction to the show by hosts Azwan and Ellene was followed by a dramatic opening ceremony, which lived up to its expectations as the theme for the evening suggested—a fictitious flight to Malaysia, flight MH002. Guests were enthralled with a take-off scene in a place, complete with captain's instructions. The evening then kicked off to a brilliant start with the two man band of Azmi and Malek pounding away on their keyboards.

This was followed by a traditional dance 'Kuda Kepang', depicting men on horseback which kept the crowd captivated with their illustration of the spreading of Islam by Javanese men in the interiors of Java. Han M.K. was on next with his item on Chinese calligraphy. Accompanied by narration and soothing Chinese music, it proved to be a hit with the crowd. Next up was the 'Wan Bulan' or the flying dance which is usually performed by the youth int he village of the East Coast of Malaysia after the harvest. Incidentally, the 'wan' or kite is also the logo of the national airlines, Malaysia Airlines.

The crowd then joined in the 'Acoustic Jam', singing and humming away to familiar Malaysian tunes and oldies. 'Bongai' a graceful dance presented by four talented young women of the ICMS gave the crowd a chance to catch their breath while enjoying this form of traditional dance called 'Inang'. The graceful 'Doongal' dancers then slid into the shadows as the pantomime began. An eerie performance relating to death, the soul and whatever comes next. Meanwhile a raffle was held in between each performance.

The second half of the evening began with the main item of the day—the 'Ukle Mayang' a traditional dance which visualised the romance between a young



fisherman lost at sea and a mystic princess. This intriguing dance/drama was followed by a sketch based on a typical village setting and the conflicts between an adopted and real son. A colourful fashion show with a live display of 'Batik' kept the crowd enthralled as the climax of the evening drew nearer.

The grand raffle—a return ticket to Malaysia was won by, well it is still mystery—the chap didn't turn up so his friend collected his prize on his behalf! The two man band

was on again, before the entire cast got up on stage to sing 'Rasa Sayang'—one of our traditional ways of saying goodbye. A few verses of 'Pantun' or poems were also recited, bringing messages of friendship and happiness to end an evening which will be treasured by all those present.

The ICMS would like to extend gratitude to all the guests, members and their friends who helped make Flight MH002 a success. We hope that you will be with us again next year for another enjoyable evening.

The End...

'Another bright morning in gentle, breezy Martinique, French Caribbean. On the blue-sea horizon, just sensed by the averted gaze, white triangles lie etched. Slowly, as the morning wears on, they waft nearer.

After 36 hours of continuous racing, the fleet is still too tightly packed to diminish the tension felt on deck. Sails are quickly changed, then more waiting, watching the sea, looking for gusts, eyes straining against the bright dawn

success. The Old Centralians back us unequivocally, with strong words and commitment of funds. Marketing are enthusiastic supporters, convincing us that we can do it.

Now we were not to be stopped. Evelyn: 'We've got to go!'

The Long Night...

But no one else was interested. Weeks passed. Mail returned, kind patronising refusals, 'hands tied...', 'budgets spent...', etc etc.

The OC's agreed to support us in

Acknowledgements so Far...

Our sponsors: the Old Centralians for their belief right from the beginning, the Harlington Trust for their last minute leap of faith making it all possible, to the Rector for his encouragement and enthusiasm, to Professor Ley and the Chemistry Department for their nurturing incentives, and lastly to Marketing for their professionalism and for giving us our credibility and teaching us so much.

Others: Zoë Hellinger and Jonathan Griffiths (Union), Peter

The Jet Sea Cup Challenge 92

light. The lead boats are still fighting hard, and with one mile to go, the race is still anybody's...

The Beginning...

It was a rainy, dull afternoon in London when the crazy, insane, mad idea was first spoken of. To do what? Sail in the French Caribbean in a yacht race? Yea, sure. Next stop the moon.

But some had vision, (or stupidity!) enough to believe that it could be done. They decided to go for it: 'only those that risk are free'.

The Idea...

Fly - to Guadeloupe. Race to Dominica through the little islands. Then, overnight to Martinique. Finally, the climax: an olympic triangle race off the coast of Martinique. Altogether, nine days of racing.

The Team...

The whole yacht club, plus these members: Severine Vadon (from last year's winning boat), Evelyn Joslin, Richard Sem, Emmanuel Gringarten, Tim Parsons, Emmanuel Omont, Thor Askeland, Tony Rasmilovic, Andrea Michellotti, Jean-Christophe Normand, and Lynda Davis. A diverse mix of French-, English-, Italian-, Australian-, American-, Swedish-, and Norwegian-motivations, skills, and experiences. Only five will finally compete in the race—but the efforts of all were needed during the long, dark winter.

First Blood...

So, we had our 'file' complete with colour photocopies and maps, with all the different angles covered in both French and English exhortations, refined with help from David Norburn of Management, and made complete through Lynda Davis of Marketing.

Immediately, we have our first



November. Winter passed with no further commitments of help. Some felt let down, spirits flagged, the routine of work, reports, labs, and experiments re-asserted itself. Hopes faded as time passed.

Instant Success...At Last...

Nearly three months later, sheer bloody-mindedness and perseverance was recognised, as it sometimes is. The Rector, Marketing, the Harlington Trust and the Chemistry Department all succumbed to our relentless pleading and fast talking. Our political naiveté and inexperience notwithstanding, the college decided the outside world could no longer be waited for.

Mee (Registrar), Roger Knight (Institute of C&G), John Archer (Pro-Rector), NatWest for our overseas transaction charges, Michael Gallis, occupants of 438 Chemistry, Karen Peploe (Press Office) and most of all, to Lynda Davis of Marketing who deserves to go with us (so somebody give her a ticket, OK!).

The Rush to the Race...

And so we leave for the French Caribbean, to compete in front of European TV, press, and corporate sponsors, against teams from major French École Superior, the only international competitors, the sole UK representatives.

We leave on March 27th.

**Tim Parsons,
Evelyn Joslin**

*A guide to how
to get
sponsorship, as
well as a sea-
going adventure.
By Tim Parsons
and Evelyn
Joslin*

'These islands are richer than I know or can say, and I have taken possession of them in their Majesties' name.' So wrote Columbus to the monarchs of Spain and Europe. Of the people who lived on the Caribbean Islands he said: 'They are yours to command and make them work.'

1992—if you have not yet heard marks the quincentenary of Columbus' landfall in the Americas. The anniversary is generating big business: More than 200 books on Columbus-related subjects are scheduled for release this year; two Hollywood films are being made; not to mention the

raw materials that fuelled European industrialisation. Today, Latin America continues to feed and work for Europe. Cotton, coffee and bananas, are raised on huge plantations wasting the environment, while descendants of the indigenous population work in appalling conditions.

Trade barriers forged in Europe and the US ensure that Latin America contains a producer of raw materials and cheap labour. The net transfer of resources away from these poor countries is further ensured by increasingly high prices for imported manufactured goods and technology, and also by interest

local community. This was not the sort of example that the US wished the rest of Latin America to follow. To emphasise this the US government funded guerilla warfare, and led a total economic boycott of Nicaragua (backed by Britain). The financial squeeze was too much for the Nicaraguans, and last year, by a narrow margin, the Sandinistas were voted out. However, internal pressure to maintain the gains of the revolution is still great.

Less publicised is the fact that America is also responsible for having installed the present military regime in Guatemala due to a

ignorance amongst people of the North. For the majority of people in Latin America the legacy of Columbus is poverty. Many do not accept the legacy and struggle to maintain their traditions and seek social justice.

March 22nd to 29th is Central America Week—a celebration of the resilience of the people, and the survival of their culture. During this week people in towns throughout Britain and Ireland will be making links with people working for their own development in Central America.

For our part Third World First has invited Margarito Ruiz, a Mexican Maya-Tojolbal Indian, and leader of the Independent Organisation of Indian Peoples to come and speak on Thursday 19th March (the week before Central America Week), 12.45pm Huxley

relationship between natives and non-natives based on justice.

The size of the indigenous population in Latin America is substantial. A minimum of 10% (over 40 million) are generally considered pure Indian, ethnically and culturally, and a much higher proportion are half-Indian. In many regions within countries indigenous populations can constitute 90% of the population. They are present in every Latin American country, except in most of the Caribbean where they suffered early extermination.

These survivors of the European colonialists' ventures are still subjected to discrimination, exploitation and oppression, and are generally in the lower echelons of society, deprived of influence and power. As one Mexican sociologist put it, 'The Indian Question is essentially one of internal colonialism. The Indian communities are Mexico's internal colonies... Here we find prejudice, discrimination, colonial types of exploitation and dictatorial forms.'

Latin American indigenous peoples reflect a rich diversity across the continent, and live under often very different conditions. They do, however, share five centuries of common history, and a deeply held aspiration for land (taken away from their ancestors first by the colonial powers, and now by the national landed elite, and multinational companies), autonomy, and culture. Margarito Ruiz will be addressing, amongst other matters, the indigenous question.

Margarito Ruiz Hernandez

Margarito Ruiz is an indigenous leader of the Maya-Tojolbal Indians. He is a well known figure in the field of indigenous rights in Mexico, and beyond.

After the Andean countries, Mexico is home to the highest number of indigenous people in Latin America, with an estimated 8-10 million Indian peoples, made up of over 56 different ethnic groups. The Mexico Solidarity Group therefore decided that it was important for a Mexican indigenous voice to be heard in Britain, and invited Margarito Ruiz as a visitor during Central America week. He is in Britain for two weeks, giving talks and taking part in conferences on indigenous rights, 1992 and the 500 year campaign, land issues, human rights, and rural development.

Margarito spends a lot of time travelling and visiting groups within Mexico, and has also been a representative at international meetings. In 1991 he was in Spain



CHRISTOPHLE COLOMBE D. Larmann 1992

several times as a conference speaker. This will be only the second time he has spoken in Britain.

Amongst other posts, Margarito Ruiz is the General Secretary of the FIPI (Frente Independiente de Pueblos Indios), which is a grouping of over 26 indigenous organisations from throughout Mexico. It was formed in 1987, and has been at the forefront for indigenous rights in Mexico as well

as promoting rural development projects in its member communities.

He is involved in a number of other organisations, and has been a Deputy (MP equivalent) for the PRD, a broad left/centre opposition grouping.

All that there is left to say is that Margarito Ruiz will be speaking on Thursday 19th March, 12.45pm in Huxley LT130.

Go West, Young Man

'For the majority of people in Latin America the legacy of Columbus is poverty.'
by Farheen Khan.

countless television specials being planned, lavish exhibits and official celebration in at least thirty countries.

In the US, the centre of the celebrations will be 'Ameriflora '92', a \$100 million international flower show being built in Columbus, Ohio. And the excess does not stop there, there is to be a symbolic marriage between the statue of Columbus in Barcelona, and New York's Statue of Liberty. Not one to be left out, our very own city of Birmingham is to supply the ring. Liverpool, also, is planning the launch of a flotilla of 15th Century style ships, in a mock up of Columbus' departure from Spain.

The first island that Columbus 'hit' in the West Indies, was that of Hispaniola, now known as the Dominican Republic. He set the pattern for the explorers and colonialists who followed him when he initiated the extermination of the Tiano people who lived on that island. The Dominican Republic is now indulging in gross celebrations, including the construction of a colossal lighthouse in honour of Columbus. It is said that the lighthouse, if switched on, will plunge at least half of the island into darkness, as the island does not generate enough electricity to meet the needs of both the island and the lighthouse.

In 1492 an estimated 100 million people lived in what we call Latin America, compared to only 60 million in Europe. Within 80 years, only 10 million people remained in Latin America; the rest succumbed to disease, or were killed in wars and massacres brought about by the Europeans.

Many of those who survived were enslaved, and, along with enslaved Africans were forced to produce



payments on debts that annually consume large portions of the countries' GNP.

The injustice of the system is all too apparent for the peoples of Central America, but any attempts to create a more just society working for itself, rather than for the rich countries of the North, have in the past been sabotaged.

The reforms in Nicaragua under the Sandinistas are a well known case in point. The Sandinistas' most significant policies were those concerning redistribution of land. Land used for cash crops was bought for the landed elite to be redistributed to villagers (campesinos), supposedly leading to the farming of food stuffs for the

similar history of attempted land reform. In the early 50s the American banana company, Chiquita, owned around 55% of potential arable land in Guatemala. They used only a small percentage of this for growing bananas, and vast areas of land lay unused. A democratically elected government decided to distribute this land to small-holders for subsistence farming. This piqued Chiquita, which in turn led the US government to install the current regime in the 1954 CIA coup.

Many in Central America have now realised that change cannot be achieved in their own countries without first changing the attitudes of the governments and the general

Building, Lecture Theatre 130.

For further information about events occurring around London, or in your local area, write to:

Central America Week,
82 Margaret Street,
London W1N 8LH.
Telephone 071-631 5173.

Resistance and Survival

Native organisations in Central America, South America, Mexico, the US and Canada have been organising education campaigns and public protests against official Columbus Quincentennial celebrations since 1988. Their aim is to expose the hidden history of colonialism and build a new

JOB PANIC

Don't Worry - Help is at Hand

The way you present yourself will be vital to getting that first job.

Individual advice from an insider on how to

- apply to firms on spec
- write an effective CV and covering letter
- make the most of an interview

Full package including 10 copies of CV, information pack and practice interview for £20

Call Julian Hamm on 071-585 2103 for a chat

The Bottle match. The Bottle match. A name redolent with accidental mysticism, and esoteric tradition, the origins of which is lost in the merged mists of a thousand nights in Union bars. What is this thing that connects the Camborne School of Mines (CSM) and our very own Royal School of Mines (RSM)?

Some would say that this connecting *thing* was merely the M4, for the most part, but nay, 'tis more concrete, more lasting, than any stretch of mere motorway. How many of you remember seeing the blue and white stickers of the CSM,

Some contestants' preparatory self sacrifices reach masochistic proportions - oh, the agony of practising not drinking for a *full 90 minutes* at a go. In recent years non rucker buggers have also had the chance to trek down to sunny Cornwall to play football, hockey and now even squash as part of the weekend of competition.

To begin at the beginning - 10.00am Friday 21st February 1992. The start of another memorable Camborne Weekend. Raring to go, the minibus chafing at its brakes outside the Mines Building, such was the enthusiasm!

leave without Jason Brewer, who was at the time climbing into a car full of Sharons and Traceys from Essex. Fortunately there was not enough room for him in the Ford Capri and he did make it down to Camborne to do his bit for his college. The excruciatingly tedious journey to Cornwall was enlightened only by some more intracoach rugby and a lovely view of some footballing bottoms in the supporter's coach as they passed us on the motorway.

Newquay! Du Stadt meiner Traüme! Those glorious Cornwall sights; the plush luxury hotel we

The Bottle Match

Felix's flying eye, Sam Cox, tagged along with the RSM to the Bottle Match. Written mainly by Sam Cox, with poetic and verbose, nay lyrical, interpolations by the Felix Editor.



still visible in some of the more obscure parts of college? How many of you know what the 'Bottle Match' actually is? For the uninitiated, the 'bottle', as it is imaginatively known, is a bottle which was displayed in our Union Bar until a few weeks ago. It is the trophy for the second oldest varsity match alive in this country and to gain this bottle the RSM and CSM men's Rugby 15 have to go through a gruelling 90 minutes on the pitch. This match is almost as important as the England versus Australia final of last year's Rugby World Cup - for some it is even more so.

The organisation! IC students late again! Such tradition! We began at the beginning - 11.00am Friday 21st February - but who cares. We finally got away.

The 'lads' put in a bit of practice at the Newport Pagnall service station, remembering how to chuck and catch the rugby ball, while the supporters and football bus performed the far more important function of filling up with vittels for the six-and-a-half hour journey ahead. Well fed and watered we piled back into the coaches (the wheeled variety - the alternative is probably illegal) and attempted to

weren't allowed anywhere near, surfers on the beach and the sex shop which looked as though it had been set up in someone's back room. The Ladies Hockey team, the Football team and the supporters were dumped off in the cheapest looking and smelliest hotel in the town, which did have a lovely view of one of Newquay's many bays as a consolation. Oh lucky us! The rugby team and the Men's Hockey team headed off to a much quieter petite bijoux residence-ette and a good night's rest. After all theirs was the important game.

Springtime. When a young man's

fancy turns lightly to thoughts of love. The hotel offered optional ballroom dancing for those with a fancy for the elderly and 'confused' (read 'senile') woman or man. Kevin, being the true gentleman that he is, rescued a lonely damsel and took to the floor in such style he almost knocked her off her zimmerframe. While such frolicsome antics were afoot, the squash teams were already beating Camborne 3-2 for the trophy. Congratulations are in order to all who played. At this point those who played should have been named, but somebody ran off with the list of names from the Felix office. Many apologies to all concerned.

A night out on the town for some and a night of psyching up and tactical talks for others. And the first official RSM Ladies night out on the town. We took the place by storm - well almost - and we did beat the locals on the pool table at the nearest watering hole.

Saturday morning - 7.30 am - and the ladies are raring to roll. A full English at the hotel, then bags packed and minds in gear we piled into the minibus, complete with four supporters, and headed off for our all-important Hockey match. A tight-lippedely, teeth-grindingly,

buttock-clenchingly close game and an immense amount of fun for all involved. The 0-0 draw meant that the RSM managed to retain the Goldsmith's Trophy from last year, even if it was only by default. No injuries incurred on our side although Lisa managed to send off their star player with a suspected broken nose within the first five minutes. On being questioned about the incident, she told waiting reporters that 'it was an accident, honest.' Well, we believe you Lisa

'All fat and flabby'

even if thousands wouldn't. Again congratulations to all our players.

Men's hockey next and another very close game. The RSM lost 1-0 but I'm sure that it was the Neanderthal savagery of the opposition in attacking Greg that was at the fulcrum of the failure. This meant that he had to leave the pitch to get his eye glued back together again at Truro Hospital. Paul Smith gave a storming performance in goal, saving the CSM penalty flick with great

finesse. Unlucky for the team but a much better score than last year's 9-1 loss.

I was unable to watch the next competition, Football, but I did get a chance to have a break and a pleasant chat with the nurse at the hospital. I assume that the RSM men did OK, as we won 3-2. Congratulations to them all and I must say I'm impressed that you all managed to make it to the game after staying up virtually all night and disturbing a couple of young ladies at the hotel. Curtains to be politely drawn, over such shennanigans.

And so now to the *magnum opus*, the clash of the Olympians. That the very rock beneath Cornwall should shudder at the pounding of such Titans! The star team was dressed in a very sexy new strip, replete with lovely legs and the mandatory well-preened hair on Kurt Budge's head. So to the 'Bottle Match.'

I am left speechless with admiration at the manner in which the supporters played out their role. Hods of really loud obnoxious singing, loads of beer consumed and a generally wholesome spirit. As for the players - they were under a lot of pressure from the start. The Camborne team had the weight in the scrum ('mainly because they were all fat and flabby' - Gina), and they had the upper hand from the moment they scored their try after about five minutes of play. The RSM team fought back though with a superb try by Jason Brewer, set up by Kenny, but sadly the conversion was missed by only a few inches. The penalty goal by CSM gave them the match but not so much by skill as luck. 7-4 to CSM but still an enjoyable game. (They say that there is more to be gained from the playing than the winning - I'm not so sure myself - Ed) Man of the match from my point of view goes to Kenny, who can only be likened to speedy Gonzales when on the Rugby pitch.

The player's dinner was the usual riot, butter fights before the starter, loud singing throughout and trifle fights over dessert. I think a good time was had by all although to be quite honest I was not totally coherent for the most of the evening in question, but I am sure I'm not the only one.

Huge congratulations go to Steve who organised the weekend, things went pretty smoothly although I have to pass on a rather esoteric message on behalf of the Ladies' Hockey team - 'we would have liked more warning that our match had been moved from 12.00pm to 10.00am, with love and hugs.'

In my capacity as Felix trivia editor - a new post created especially for me, which will

probably expand to take over the rest of the paper - I will round up a few of the plethora of *faux pas* of the weekend. Honourable mentions must go to -

a) Kevin Short and Dave Maynard, who spent the best part of an hour cheering for RSM at the wrong Rugby match. It was no, until half time that they noticed they didn't actually recognise any of the players and that neither of the teams were in RSM college colours.

b) Richard Lloyd for losing his crutches on the Friday night and having to 'borrow' a walking stick from the owner of the Hotel in Newquay. The reason he was on crutches in the first place is a bit of a *faux pas* too - he had dislocated his kneecap 10 days before the bottle match was due to take place. I don't think he was a very happy bunny at all that weekend.

c) Nick Correy for passing out at the player's dinner before the first glass of wine had even been poured. He then completely missed his meal and lay comatose in the foyer for the majority of the evening. While he was in repose, Rob Peters who was keeping an eye on him thought that maybe the hotel foyer pot plants were feeling a little hungry and so he fed them the remainder of his half chicken.

d) The CSM egot called Paul who agreed to swap his pure silk CSM Colours tie and tour hat for one of our very lovely RSM hats.

e) Paul, the Norwegian RSM bod, who spent the whole weekend 'Tangoing' people because he'd seen the advert on the Friday morning just before we left RSM and thought that it was the best thing ever. Therefore do not be surprised if a number of people walk up to you in the bar on Wednesday evening and slap you around the cheeks for no apparent reason - it seems to have become a bit of a trend.

f) Dave Maynard (again) for hopping out of the minibus at the side of the road to go for a piss and being so inebriated that he fell over into fits of laughter and needed three guys to help him back up again. Shortly after this, Rob from CSM ripped his boxers off him without even attempting to undo Dave's trousers, Dave then proceed to wear them around his neck for the rest of the trip home.

g) Kenny for setting fire to Gina's leggings in the back of the mini-bus and causing the young girlie to go into a state of shock.

h) Me for agreeing to write this bloody article for Felix in the first place. (That's enough of that - Ed).

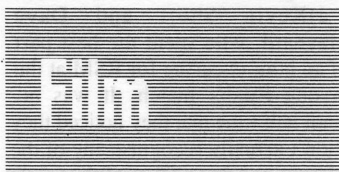
And so a final warning to all - next year CSM will be here, so watch out and remember - **You have been officially Tangoed!**

Fresh

HAIRDRESSERS
15A HARRINGTON ROAD,
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 !

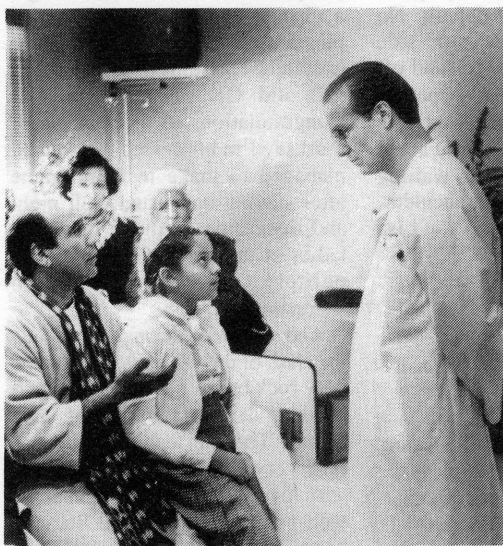
The Doctor



William Hurt (*Children of a Lesser God*, *Broadcast News*) is Jack MacKee, a successful member of a thriving practice, who has a very nice life, plenty of money, nice car, beautiful wife and kid, a luxurious home and all the opulent trappings of prosperity. The only thing missing is true compassion for the patients in his care. But Jack sees things from a very different light when he is diagnosed as having cancer of the Larynx.

As the difference between merely treating a patient and caring for them become clear to Jack, he meets a young woman named June (Elizabeth Perkins—*Big, He Said, She Said*)—a patient he meets while attending radiotherapy, whose uncommon strength and spirit becomes the catalyst for his own recovery and the understanding that a healer must first know about heart before operating on one.

The film is based on the book 'A



taste of my own medicine' by Dr Ed Rosenbaum, a successful physician who was diagnosed as having cancer.

It is a very moving film, heartwarming to see an ignorant man going through such change, and touching that someone like June—whose brain tumour was found too late to save her, someone in a worse position, can have so much more strength and



understanding, and many more of the qualities that make us human.

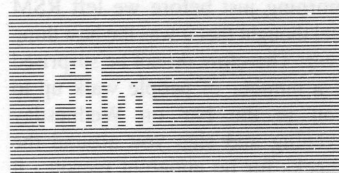
There are even those moments of inane humour, like the singing of 'Big Girls Don't Cry' around the operating table, or when Dr MacKee, instead of taking his students round the wards, gets them to put on gowns and be patients prescribed illnesses for seventy odd hours!

The Doctor doesn't open in the

West End until the first week in April, but I'm told you can send away for tickets in the *Radio Times*. Try not to miss this film, it may be a tearjerker, and if you are not compassionate you will hate it, but it does strike some truths, which hopefully it won't take us all situations like this to realise.

POO

Fried Green Tomatoes



Wandering around the underground you'd be forgiven for thinking this film was going to be a monster hit, (what with posters that size), it isn't, but it certainly isn't poo either, a bit of a weird one this.

What we are getting for our money is really a story within a story. In the present day Evelyn Couch (Kathy Bates), an overweight woman in her early forties is in a rut. Her husband's aunt, bedridden in a nursing home, throws blunt objects at her. Her only friend is a newly met resident of the nursing home, feisty octogenarian, Ninny Threadgoode (Jessica Tandy), who enthralls Evelyn with tales from her home of Whistle Stop, Alabama. This is where the story within a story bit comes in: Fifty years back, Ninny recalls, Iddie Threadgoode (Mary Stuart Masterson) ran the Whistle

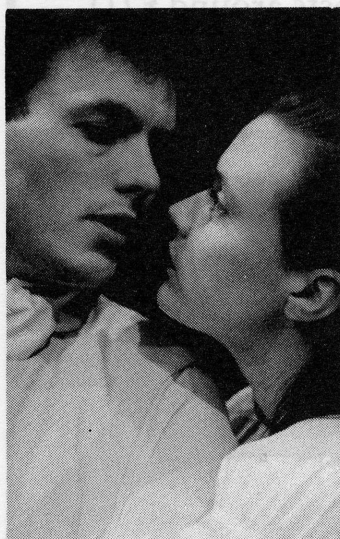
Stop cafe (fried green tomatoes a speciality). The story is quite long, starting with Iddie's troubled childhood, moving through her finding a much needed friend in the form of Ruth (Mary Louise Parker), a demure, good-hearted young woman who suffers one tragedy after another.

These stories - which Ninny relates to Evelyn in her visits the nursing home - provoke Evelyn - she starts taking control of her life with often amusing consequences.

Like the best of tales, 'Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe' connects with experiences we all share; wedding and funerals, recreation and retribution, morals, memorable meals and of course, the occasional murder. The main thing I hold against this film is that it's a tad too long, but where it succeeds is in the lack of bitterness evident in 'multiple' story films, and its wry sense of humour. It's another one of those not for the non-compassionates I'm afraid, but it is extremely well put together, oh, the music is ace.

POO

Cabal and Love



Having sat down in the audience, you're thrown back in time: 1784, a principality in Germany.

It takes time to get used to the

setting of the 18th century, but then you get gripped by the intrigue of satire, class-borders dividing lovers, despotism and rebellion. The conflict of lovers divided by society, the questioning of the social system and the doctrine of divine rights combined with a revolutionary spirit are typical features of the 'Storm and Stress' era, when young poets like Schiller supported the 'new' ideas of parliamentarism, human rights, freedom of spirit and 'creating genius'.

Theatre Manoeuvres provides you with basic background info in their programme. The company is bravely promoting classical foreign plays, which would otherwise not be seen here. It is well done in the case of *Cabal and Love*.

The situation in Schiller's time is a far cry from our society today, so it's difficult to identify with some elements of the play—except for the love story of course.

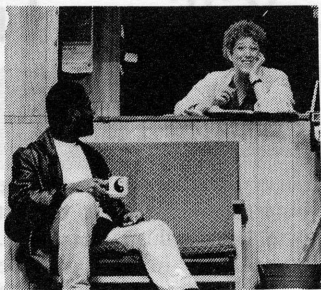
Cabal and Love, Lyric Studio, 10-28 March, Hammersmith, 8pm. Tickets £6.30. Tel 081-741 2311.

Pico.

Goin' Local

Theatre

The intrepid track through a subterranean concrete nightmare to reach the Theatre Royal Stratford East (do not travel alone) is apt preparation for the squalor and sadness eloquently examined in Trudi Iholi's new play *Goin' Local*. Through an incessant stream of black humour, the futility and pathos of the character's situation is adroitly displayed. A cast of 14 engage in some flawless acting complementing a detailed and well-written script. The majority of the ... inaction occurs in the decaying office of an east-end-minicab firm 'Can-do-Cars'. The pathetic telephone controllers, Nora, a stunning performance from Kate (Company, Only Fools and Horses, Smith and Jones) Williams, works an eighteen hour day, 'for life's little luxuries' and presides over the drivers. Her motley crew comprises of ex-convicts, tranquiliser addicts, pot-smokers, alcoholics and at the



helm, their boss, the white-socked, portable phoned, east-end wide-boy, Lol (Glyn Grimstead). Customers come in all shapes and sizes, most notably the menacing cold-flashing crook Boy Boy (Louis Hellis). A bouyant script and impeccable performances manage to distract from the lack of plot until the unlikely, unfunny ending. This, however, fails to mar an enjoyable, thought-provoking evening worth attending for the throw-away one liners delivered with verve and panache by an accomplished company.

Cookie Monster.

● Theatre Royal Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford East E15. 081-534 0310. Stratford tube/BR. Monday-Saturday, 8pm, £3-£12, £2 concs (ends April 4).

CrackWalker

Theatre

The Gate Theatre goes Beyond Europe this season. The first in this series of contemporary plays from quite a long way away is the Canadian *Crackwalker* by Judith Thompson, to be followed by a Nigerian and Argentinian play in April and May.

Crackwalker takes a look at the lifestyles of the urban underclass of Kingstown. Therese lives on doughnuts and doesn't like to be called a retard, so her friends avoid that phrase. Alan is her boyfriend, and later, husband. He hears voices in his head. Sandy and Joe are their friends. They are 'normal'. Joe beats up Sandy, who beats up Joe. Then there is an Indian hanging around, who is friends with no one. He is always drunk or high and hates all blacks and Indians.

There are some great scenes in this, like when Alan proposes to Therese (in a doughnut shop, where else?). He had never known a girl

like her, always laughing... 'But sometimes I cry'. - 'Yes, but you cry just like you laugh.'

The acting was quite good, although I thought Sandy was a bit too stylish and actors are always lazy with accents. (You can't exaggerate an American accent.)

Still, Kathy Burke as Therese alone would make the show worthwhile. Also the way they make use of their little room is amazing.

Boris.

● *Crackwalker* will run until April 4 at Gates Theatre, 11 Pembroke Road, Notting Hill. Tickets £7 from Box Office on 071-229 0706.



★ ★ Coming Soon ★ ★

Due to the Easter break looming, and no Felix for ages - I thought I'd cheer up your revision blues by commenting on the plethora of films - either too late to be in this issue or on general release over Easter.

Top of the 'let me see' list is probably 'Bugsy', just missing this issue, opening in the West End on 20th March. With such a strong cast, led by Warren Beatty - this film should have no problem pulling in the crowds - it's meant to be pretty hot stuff too, well the Gerbil didn't slag it off anyway.



Shining through, starring Melanie Griffith and Michael Douglas, chronicles the daring adventure of a Brooklyn born secretary, who puts her life on the line for her country etc,etc, all set against the sweeping tapestry of the second world war. Opens on the 20th March.

Provisionally set for release on 27th March is the long awaited 'Freejack', a rivetting sci-fi thriller so I'm told, which tells the story of a young race car driver who miraculously escapes death in a crash, only to awaken in the year 2009 running for his life. Starring Emilio Estevez, Anthony Hopkins and, would you believe, Mick Jagger!

Also on the 'meant to be good' list is 'Deceived' starring Goldie Hawn - and it's not a pseudo comedy! A psychological thriller with deceiving aplenty - probably. Opens in the first week of April.

Other Big name movies hitting these shores soon are 'Rush', who's actors names escape me, 'My Own Private Idaho' - Keanu Reeves, 'Medicine Man' - Sean Connery,



and of course 'Biggies' like 'Cape Fear' and 'Hook' and the excellent 'The Doctor' Well I think that's most of them, there are a couple more which the Big Bronze Bap says to avoid, nevertheless there should be enough here to keep you happy. Have a great Easter, forget revision for one night and take an old friend out to see a film. See you in the Summer. Oh before I go, I must give a thousand thanks to Catherine and Boris for their priceless help this term -

Thankyou.

Mario D'Onofrio (Reviews Editor)

Apology

● Apologies must go to 'The Vincent Van Gogh Foundation, Vincent Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam' for not having given them for our photo of 'A Pair of Boots' last issue - May the fleas of a thousand camels infest my armpits.

Concrete Blonde - Walking in London

Album

Well, this is quite pleasant. Not that I often listen to pleasant music, but this is fairly nice for a change. From the name of the band, I suppose you've guessed that at least the vocalist is female. And that she wants to be Wendy James.

Actually, more of the album sounds like Tanita Tikaram, but there are a couple of *Transvision Vamp* masquerades. And 'It's a

Man's World' sounds like Alannah Myles.

She doesn't sound like Tammy Wynette on the country and western attempt 'Ghost of a Texas Ladies Man'. It's a pleasant voice. Radio One would probably like this album. It may not be stunningly original, but it's pleasant fare; easy on the ears whilst avoiding nondescript blandness for the most part. Yeah, it's quite good.

Freddy Cheeseworth.

● 'Walking in London' is available now, on IRS/EMI.



New Model Army in front of a model town.

New Model Army - History

Album

NMA have been around now for over ten years, doing wonders for the clog industry. This album covers many of their singles. The album shows what it has taken to give the band such a devout following and why, even though they have remained out of the limelight, they are supported on their seemingly never ending tour dates. The songs, which are often very political (*51st State*, *High Wall*) are delivered with feeling both lyrically and musically. It

makes a great change from everything from Rave to Baggie. They have described themselves recently as Hippies with Attitude but I assume this is because of their age/ideals and not to do with their floweriness. The album's good if you have not heard much from them before but I expect the fans are waiting for an album of new material. An album of mostly oldies after a live album seems to suggest all that touring is wearing them down.

Louse.

● 'History', a retrospective of all NMA's EMI singles, with two new songs, is released on March 23.

Bleach - Killing Time

Album

From the first chord of 'First' to the dying feedback of 'Tangle' the best way to describe this is *interesting*. That should in no way be considered an insult, if anything to the contrary. Salli Carson's vocal make you sit up and listen while the guitars and drums provide a sort of backing that is worth listening on its own. This is most definitely not easy listening though. If you want

to get the full and rich rewards several listening are required, not a record to put on for *background* relief. I can't believe that people actually buy records simply to put on and then go off and do the hoovering. Anyway, after getting that little one off my chest, I can strongly recommend this piece of vinyl as a worthy addition to the more discerning record buyers collection.

Pebbles

● 'Killing Time' is now available on Musidisc.



Carter: In their own little hole.

Carter USM - The Only Living Boy in New Cross

12 Inch

On first listen, the new *Carter* single sounds like a cross between 'Sheriff Fatman' and 'After The Watershed'. Should I have expected anything else? Perhaps, perhaps not. On further listens, it wobbles its way out from this starting point and into a new corner, but still not too radically different from anything they've done before. Chrysalis will be happy. The fact that 'Rubbish' s chart placing was lower than the other two chart singles yet again proves that quality has no guarantee of recognition.

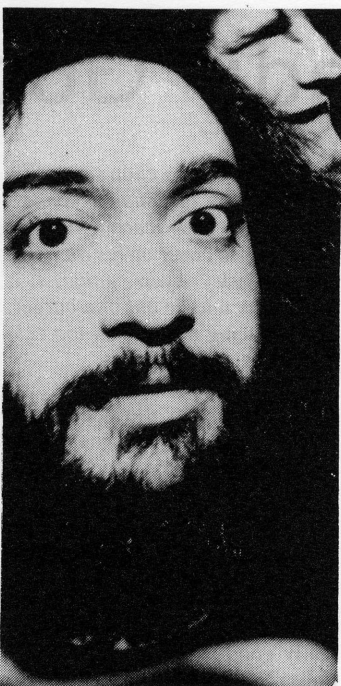
On the other side lurks a cover of *The Smiths*' 'Panic', not really such a radical cover as that of *Pet Shop Boys* or *Inspiral Carpets*, and I wonder why they bothered. 'Death

By Stereo', as the introductory sample says.

And, at last salvation is reached. The best track on the single (12" only) by far is 'Watching The Big Apple Turn Over', which, as you've probably guessed, is a song about New York. The best track by far, more orchestrated than any of *Carter*'s previous releases, although it does show a disturbing tendency that *Carter* may have given up taking the piss out of the *Pet Shop Boys*, and decided that they want to be the *Pet Shop Boys*. Flip the single before it's too late, Mr. Chrysalis. *Carter* need to climb out from their own little hole before they dig their own grave.

Lise Yates

● *The Only Living Boy In New Cross* is released on April 13, 1992 - *The Love Album* is released on May 5, both through Chrysalis.



American country Soundgarden.

●Soundgarden play a short UK tour to coincide with the release of 'Jesus Christ Pose' on March 30, on A&M.

The Cure - High

12 Inch

There is absolutely no doubt that this will be a hit, simply because *The Cure* are massively popular, and all the people who were going to buy it have already done so. They're also liked by the BPI, winning best British group in a year when they didn't actually release any new material. But why? Most of their material sounds exactly the same, which may have been different for a while, but this is no improvement on any of the songs

Soundgarden - Jesus Christ Pose

12 Inch

Oh dear. Oh dear, oh dear. This has really done it. The next issue of *Felix* will be flooded with letters from religious types, and it's all my fault. What's more, none of them will have even heard the song. The lyrics are actually more or less immaterial, as they can't actually be heard above the solid wall of noise emerging from the speakers. And a most agreeable solid wall of noise it is too.

12" and CD formats carry a *Black Sabbath* cover. 'Into The Void', which had its lyrics changed due to a protest letter from a Red Indian. Somehow I think *Soundgarden* are trying to follow this precedent. Provocative gits. Nothing but trouble.

Lise Yates

Soup Dragons - Divine Thing

7 Inch

Oh, what a heavenly thing this is. The cover is a weird and wacky montage that probably has some deep and thoroughly philosophical meaning, but it's all lost on me. Deep is one word you most definitely could not call the record though. It makes you want to bounce up and down, do an impression of Timmy Mallet on a controlled substance, and generally feel happy. They may counter this and suggest that I have missed the boat, but who gives a shit. I like it and will probably be the second record I play the next time I'm feeling depressed. (The first being 'Smile' by *Levitaton*.)

Pebbles.

●'Divine Thing' is released on March 30 on Raw TV/Big Life.

Manic Street Preachers - Slash 'n' Burn

7 Inch

One of the better tracks from the 'Generation Terrorists' album with some wicked lyrics. 'Kill to live, kill for kicks', oh what naughty boys. Backed by 'Motown Junk', which if I recall was an early single that crashed 'n' burned, and 'Ain't Goin' Down', perhaps the slowest track they have ever released and definitely the most suspect number on the ep. Too quiet by half and I do wish they would learn to spell. What more do you want, blood? Well there's some of that on the front and back covers. Happy?

Pebbles

●'Slash 'n' Burn' and the album 'Generation Terrorists' are available now, on Columbia.

Sultans of Ping FC - IC Union

Gig

Firstly, I'd like to congratulate BJ on his thorough checking of stamps at the *Sultans Of Ping FC* gig, extended even to turning away Shane McGowan of the *Pogues*, until he too had one.

Support provided by the ever lovely *Herb*, tonight sporting a new bassist and a few new songs. *Herb* are indie pop, *Herb* are funny, I've told you all this before.

The Sultans Of Ping FC appeared

to be labouring under the illusion that they were at an art college. This would be enough to earn them a bad review. Still, who cares? The sight of Irishmen dressed up in drag, pretending to be *The Clash* or *The Jam*, singing about Ken Barlow, and that of at least some of the crowd lying down on their backs and kicking, in the true *Sultans'* tradition. The stagediving was what pushed me over the edge then. Feeling that, logically, I must be under the influence of some strange and previously undiscovered hallucinogen, I left.

Lise Yates.



The Cure: Not high at all. Quite low down in fact.

Eats a Bunny

For those of you staying in London over the break, here's a box to keep you amused while you haven't got any lectures to go to. For those of you not staying in London, may I suggest a visit to Norwich in the last week of the break to see *Carter*. You might be able to see them in London as well, but I don't know where. Or maybe I do, but I'm not telling you, nonetheless.

Right, from the top... *Boo Hewerdine*, acoustic guitar, not much else, and *Because*, ex of *Furniture*. Brilliant, mind. *Trash* = *Jesus Jones*, *Jacob's Mouse*, current music press darlings.

The Jazz and Rock club night should feature about eightish college bands in the union concert hall. Admission, and other such trivial details are unknown to me, but I do know that *The Pheasant Pluckers* and *Blue Salamander* will be amongst them. Failing that, out in the big wide world live *Mega City 4*.

On the 24 (sold out) and 25 March, *Shakespear's Sister* deny the fact that they're 50% Banana, and bring some *Candyland* along too. There's already far too much of them in this issue, so no more. Equally, on the 25th, *Scorpio Rising* try to organise a gig that ents can't schedule anything against. This time they're being attacked by *Shakespear's Sister*. Not your month, is it, lads?

Next up, it's *Ride*, *Going Blank* at the Academy, where *Creation* appear to have taken up residence for the week, with the well sold out *Primal Scream* the next day. If you haven't got a ticket, may I suggest you go to the Marquee, and laugh at Mark Shaw, previously of *Then Jerico*, getting blown off stage by his support, *My Life Story*.

Out There, in April, *Claytown Troupe* plug their new album, and then *The Frank And Walters* play at the Fulham Gardens which used to be the Hibernian or vice versa, the whereabouts of which no-one seems to know. Don't ask London Transport, they don't know.

Back at the Academy, now that *Creation* have moved out, leaving behind only the recently departed *My Bloody Valentine*, along with *Jesus and Mary Chain*, *Dinosaur Jr.*, and some other lightweights.

Nothing happens for two weeks then. Why don't you go and see your parents? I'm sure they'd love to see you. That's what someone said to me. When you've seen them, scrounged some cash, been

fed, and restocked with heaps of food, wander back, maybe to the Marquee for *Rosetta Stone*, goths, or *EMF*, with some special guests, at the Unexplainably small Underworld. Maybe even do some revis-

Poddy, Music Ed.

19 March

Boo Hewerdine, *Because*. £6. Mean Fiddler.

Trash, *Jacob's Mouse*, etc. £5.

Marquee

20 March

Jazz & Rock Club night. IC Union

Mega City 4, *Midway Still*. £6.

Astoria

24,25 March

Shakespear's Sister, *Candyland*.

Town & Country Club

25 March

Scorpio Rising, *Family Go-town*. £5.

Powerhaus

26,27 March

Ride, *Mercury Rev*. £7.50. Brixton Academy

28 March

Primal Scream, DJs. Brixton Academy

Mark Shaw, *My Life Story*. £6.

Marquee.

2 April

Claytown Troupe, etc. £5. Marquee

3 April

The Frank & Walters, etc. Fulham Gardens/Hibernian.

5,6,7 April

Jesus & Mary Chain, *My Bloody Valentine*, *Bleu*, *Dinosaur Jr.* £12.50. Brixton Academy

17 April

Rosetta Stone, etc. £5. Marquee

21 April

EMF, Special Guests. £7.50. Underworld

Candyland: God

5.30: The appointed time for the interview. Pat and I are in the *Borderline*. *Candyland* are not. *Candyland* are in two separated vans, both lost in the one way system of the West End.

6.15: Two-fifths of *Candyland* are here. The rest of them are not.

6.30: The appointed time for the soundcheck. *Candyland* are struggling down the stairs into the *Borderline*, with huge flightcases of equipment. Somehow or other, it has transpired that Pat and I are also carrying cases.

6.45: *Candyland* are attempting to put all their equipment on stage. Considering that their equipment takes up an area the size of Hyde Park, and the stage is the size of the traffic island on *Prince Consort Road*, this is a major task. *Felix Tod*, the singer/songwriter walks past me, and says 'God says no to fast food.' The significance of this remark escapes me.

8.00: Soundcheck over. *Candyland* are being fed. The support band are soundchecking now. This means that their food has been left unattended on the table. A

bad idea. *Felix* is eating a tortilla from one of the support band's enchiladas, and rearranging the vegetables to cover up his misdeed. *David Wesley Ayers*, guitarist, is cutting the middle out of a burger, and replacing the bun on top. 2½ hours late, we start...

How, when, why did it all start?

David: A few years ago, I came over from the States, and wanted to form a band, and I found Felix on the steps of a mosque. I tell right away that he was an absolute nutter, but he had really good lyrics, he had these scribbles, about forty pieces of paper falling out of his pockets, really good stuff.

Felix: We come from all over the world, Diid from Somalia, MC from Jamaica, Colin from Southend, and me from Scotland. I was a fireman, and I came down to London on the day of Live Aid. And then the other members of the band came along. Colin used to work in The City, and all the money he managed to swindle from The City bought all our early equipment.

Cowboy Junkies - Albert Hall



From the balcony in the Albert Hall, we could just about see the waif-like figure that was Margo Timms, the *Junkie's* vocalist. But when the band picked up, there was no doubt who was controlling the show. A voice like that is more than spine chilling, becoming ghostly in its power to transfix. Equally eerie was the subject matter of the songs. Whilst always ethereal, there was also a hint of reality that let you know the *Junkies* had been there themselves. No Rhinestone allowed here.

The set was interspersed by stories about touring, playing dice, dedications to family; even one for the balcony 'Thank you for coming tonight, we didn't think we'd fill it'. To choose 'Cause Cheap is how I feel was slightly mocking though.

Although any song that contains the lyrics 'Your body for my soul, fair swap 'cause cheap is how I feel', can't be anything other than intense.

The highlights of the opening set were the sassy *Townes Blues*, displaying the early blues influences, and the rejoinder *Cowboy Junkies Lament*; written by Townes Van Zandt. And then it was over, or so it seemed. After one hour of pain, rejection and despair, Margo was saying 'Well it's been really cool...'. But then they returned for another ¾ of an hour and two encores. Included, this time were the much requested *Misguided Angel* with its almost disastrous ending and the most ambitious cover of all time—*The Velvet's Sweet Jane*. This time re-covered in the original Lou Reed disjointed style. Then they were gone. Margo wrapped herself in a shawl, waved and wandered off after the rest of the band. Who needs volume anyway?

Jon Jordan.

says 'No' to fast food

You played the British Music Weekend, at Wembley Arena. What's it like playing this stage compared to that one?

F: The weird thing about playing Wembley isn't that your playing in front of thousands of people, it's that you can't really see them, that's the strangest thing.

D: It's just like playing in a black hole or something.

F: And it takes about quarter of an hour to walk across the stage, which is a bit too much like hard work to me. That's why we like playing places like the Borderline. I just stick my feet on the spot and can't go anywhere.

8.15: The support band have started to check their drums in the background. Consequently things get a bit difficult to hear. We start to eat their burgers.

You're touring with Shakespear's Sister this month. How did you get onto that bill?

F: We just phoned up their manager, and suggested that we're the best band to support them, and they listened all the music, and consequently they liked us. What we liked about them is that they're like us, just a credible pop band, that's just what we want to be. We admire people from *Massive Attack* through to *Talk Talk*, and *The Cocteau Twins*. We've never had anything in common with the shoegazing scene or even the baggy scene, I mean, last year everyone was staring at their shoes, and we had nothing to do with it.

In many ways, a band can reflect how your life has actually been :- In our first reviews, they said that I as a performer was self-destructive, and that's what I've been accused of all my life. One of the reasons I joined this band was that for all my life, I've never been part of any scene, and it seemed like the only solution to this is to build a scene all around myself, and my friends. That's what we want to do, is to start our own scene. And sometime I see the way that this band is, as if it's come to mirror whatever has gone on in my life, and the other people in this band's life.

What's the deal between Polydor and your record label, Fiction?

F: All the control stays with Fiction, they just did a deal with Polydor to get better distribution,

a better service for the people who buy his records. Creatively, Polydor have no influence. Fiction help us with all our decisions. I think as a band, they'd like us to be less commercial - when we asked someone we really liked to remix our record, they said 'Maybe he's a bit well known as a remixer.' It's like the other way round to usual, I mean, we try and persuade them that we want to do a video, and they say 'Are you sure?'

You've just finished a tour of America. What was that like?

D: We spent six weeks in a van, a Dodge van, and in our last week there, we were on our way to Minneapolis, on an 800 mile drive, and our van came off the road, and rolled five times, and destroyed all our equipment, and our tour manager perforated his jugular, so we quit then.

F: We went to L.A. and that was a bunch of wank. Americans didn't understand the idea of rave at all. To them it was just a disco, but it used to mean a lot more to us, at least before the marketing me got hold of it. A lot of our songs are inspired by the early rave stuff, 'Rainbow' and 'Fountain' were inspired by tracks by people such as Marshall Jefferson and Jamie Principle, where people combined an emotional feel, together with a very mechanical feel. We want to be a band with an emotional feel, like *The Smiths*, but we didn't want to do it with jangly guitars.

And we went to Salt Lake City, where the mormons are, and the Book Of Mormon is everywhere. We told the crowd we were going to do some Osmonds covers, and immediately, half the crowd ran down the front, and started screaming, and half of them went to the back, and gave us this really dirty look. It was as polarised as that. It's really strange there. People are madder there, due to all the suppression; the town is one of the cleanest places you'll ever go to, but the people have really cracked due to living in such a well-ordered society. People are really mad there. It could have been the fact that we gave out 3D glasses during the show. We were trying to do shows in 3D.

What are your songs about?

F: There are songs about all kind of things. With 'Fountain', everybody thought it was about ejaculation, and it wasn't, but we decided just to say 'yes' when



Candyland and the amazing flying Felix.

people asked us.

'Bitter Moon' is about being a musician, waiting for inspiration, and the feeling that your life was being cursed by a moon, or an evil eye, or whatever.

And what 'Rainbow' is about, though if you were Radio 1 we'd tell you something different, it's about tripping. The lines 'maybe I should take a train...', comes from when I was about 17 I spent some time in India, to do some charity work, but I was useless. I never helped anyone at all, I was so sick all the time, and that was would happen. I would lie down in the aisles of the train because I was so sick. In the song, there's all this chaos and destruction happening, and the guy, he's just saying so calm and cool, but you don't know whether the apocalypse in the song is real or imagined.

9.30: Blues Traveller, the support band, have sold out the venue with all their fans. Blues fans. All the Candyland fans are stuck outside.

F: I wish we had a hip hop band supporting us. Hip hop is the new blues. If *Public Enemy* aren't a blues band, I don't know what is.

●Candyland support Shakespear's Sister on their tour, now. The album 'Suck It And See' will be out soon.

Lise Yates and he whose name is Pat interview Candyland.

Somewhere, buried deep inside that part of the subconscious visited only by exceptionally nosy psychiatrists, must lie our basic need to panic. Over just the last few decades, we have worried our collective way, from the Red Menace and Nuclear holocausts, through to chronic overpopulation and AIDS. It seems that people have always needed that 'little something' to keep them awake at night.

What all these paranoias shared was a basis in truth surrounded by a mass of myth and speculation. The same is true of the current favourite: the nineties nightmare of catastrophic global warming. We are told that, if mankind does not cut back on the use of fossil fuels,

records show changes in conditions from year to year and we all know that the weather can change suddenly, from clear and dry, to cloudy and wet in a matter of minutes. All these changes, on all these different timescales, are (for want of a better word) completely 'natural'. The atmosphere is nearly, if not totally, chaotic.

If mankind is changing the climate, the effects will not be easy to see amid all the background noise. There will definitely be no steady increase in temperature. There will be no simple obvious signs. We do not even know exactly what to look for or even if we have seen it already.

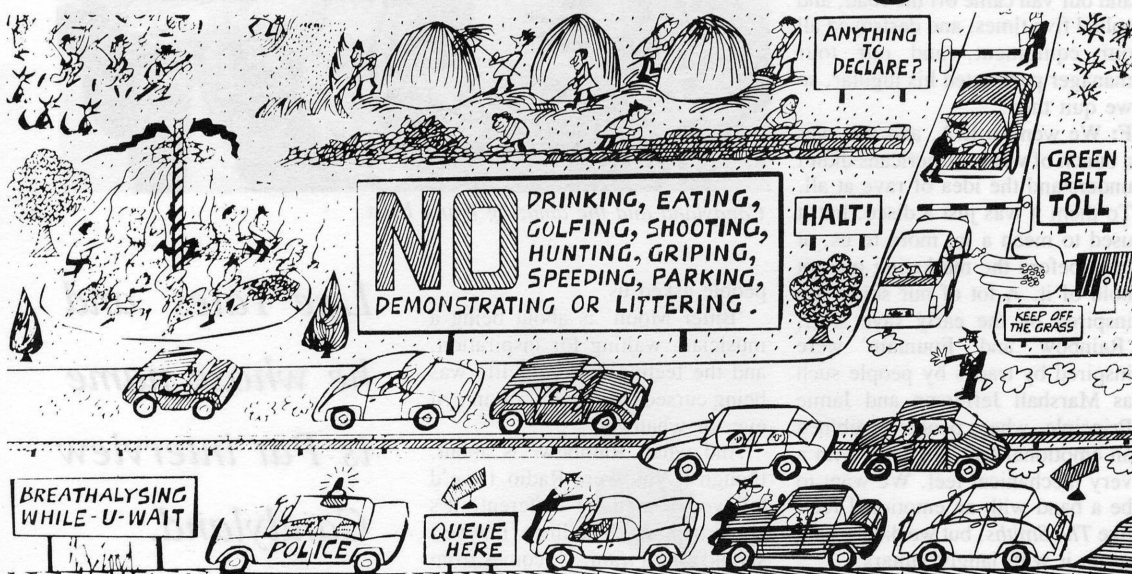
That last point is especially important. Whatever you may hear

who believe that any change will be gradual and that mankind will be able to cope. At the other, there are those who look at the carefully balanced ecosystems of the tropical rainforests and the masses of ice at the edge of the Antarctic and predict mass extinctions and an inundation of 'biblical' proportions.

We do not yet fully understand the way the atmosphere and oceans behave. Until we do, it would be wise to treat any predictions of climate change with a certain amount of scepticism; equally it would be a serious mistake to say that human activity is NOT leading to global warming.

It should be remembered that, supporting all the predictions from the most conservative to the frankly ridiculous, there is a perfectly valid and coherent theory. There is some evidence to back it up and, ignoring all the arguments over the details, it is remarkably straight forward.

Global Warming I



Part I. Jason Lander, one time IC student and now a meteorologist at Reading University, looks into the turbulent atmosphere.

the consequences could be catastrophic, not just for us, but for much of the life on this planet.

This is an extreme view, based as much on imagination as investigation, but at its heart lie hard facts and carefully thought out scientific theories: the trick is finding them.

Global warming is, according to the most simplistic theories, a wholly man-made problem: we burn fossil fuels and the temperature rises - simple cause and effect. This is, not to put so fine a point on it, ill-informed 'ecobabble'.

The climate, or 'average' weather, of this planet has never been fixed. Geological records show that the Earth has undergone huge changes in surface temperature with a whole series of ice ages, each tens of thousands of years long, separated by warmer periods like the present day. The century, or so, of man-made

from some quarters, there is little evidence that we have witnessed the first signs of climate change. Certainly, the theory that the Great Storm which hit Britain in October 1988 was a direct result of increasing temperatures, an idea reinforced by a recent Government-inspired advertising campaign, is very much a matter of dispute. It would be equally valid to say that a warmer world would lead to fewer such storms, not more.

It gets worse. If we accept that global warming is a reality, and we do see a large increase in the global average temperature, we have no real idea of what this will bring. We know that if the global average temperature increases, the polar ice caps will begin to melt and sea levels will rise. We know that a change in the distribution of rain will affect the distribution of plant growth. What we do not know is how drastic these changes will be.

At one extreme, there are those

THE THEORY

If mankind is causing global warming this must be due to an enhanced 'greenhouse effect'. The key word there is 'enhanced': the greenhouse effect is neither a new theory nor a controversial one. It is the greenhouse effect that keeps the surface of this planet warm enough to live on.

Like any complicated machine, the Earth requires a constant supply of energy and the source for almost all this energy is the high frequency, short wavelength, radiation from the Sun. Yet back of the envelope calculations, equating the energy supplied by the Sun with the energy which must be radiated away by the Earth simply by virtue of its surface temperature, suggest that this temperature should be around minus 20 degrees Celsius.

The factor that is missing from the back of the envelope, and which makes the planet habitable, is the action of the atmosphere.

All bodies must radiate energy. In the vacuum of space, this energy can only be in the form of electromagnetic waves: waves with characteristic frequencies and wavelengths. Physical theory says that this frequency must be related to the surface temperature of the body: a warmer body will emit radiation of higher frequency and shorter wavelength. The radiation reaching the warm Earth from the much hotter Sun will be of shorter wavelength than that emitted from the planet itself.

All gases can absorb radiated energy but will not absorb all frequencies of radiation. In particular, certain gases in the Earth's atmosphere, the so-called 'greenhouse gases', are largely

transparent to shortwave solar radiation but more opaque to the long-wave, infra-red, radiation emitted from the planet's surface. These gases effectively trap the outgoing radiation in the lower levels of the atmosphere and so keep the surface warm.

The most important of these gases is not, as is frequently supposed, carbon dioxide (CO₂), but water vapour. Not only is water vapour spread throughout the lower atmosphere but there are also, effectively, inexhaustible reservoirs of the stuff 'locked-up' in oceans and polar ice-caps. It is the fact that the temperature on this planet is such that water can exist as solid, liquid, and all-important vapour, which means that this temperature (and life as we know it) can be sustained. Would be philosophers can make of this what they please.

Even though it is pipped for the place of chief greenhouse gas, by water vapour, the effect of CO₂ certainly cannot be neglected. CO₂ is a strong absorber of long-wave radiation. There is no dispute that mankind has been pumping

THE UNCERTAINTIES: THE AIR...

Water vapour is, as I said, a 'greenhouse gas' and so is partially responsible for warming the lower atmosphere. Yet paradoxically, it is a cosmic fluke that, on Earth, water can also exist as a solid and liquid which helps keep the temperature stable.

Air cools as it moves up through the atmosphere, and the water vapour within it condenses out to form clouds.

At the simplest level, clouds can reflect the shortwave radiation from the Sun back into space, stopping it ever reaching and warming the

The properties of clouds are also affected by industrial activity. It is a peculiarity of the atmosphere that clouds will form more readily in 'dirty' polluted air. This is simply because the water droplets need something to form round as they grow, and in polluted air there is a large supply of convenient, floating, muck.

Mankind produces a large amount of this dirt in the form of sulphur compounds which, like CO₂, come from the burning of fossil fuels. Unlike CO₂, however, the sulphur compounds act to cool the planet by changing the way the clouds absorb and reflect radiation.

research. The uncertainty is such that most researchers split the greenhouse effect into a clear-sky effect, about which they are fairly unanimous, and a cloudy-sky effect, where they cannot always agree on the sign, let alone the magnitude, of any temperature change.

...THE PLANET...

The oceans can also greatly affect the climate. The atmosphere and ocean are not independent but linked. It is impossible to describe one without considering the other.

Ask an oceanographer why the flow in the Atlantic is as it is, and they will reply that it depends on the distribution of the wind. Ask a meteorologist why we see these winds, and you will be told that it is intimately related to the surface temperature of the ocean. It is only recently that attempts have been made to describe the atmosphere and ocean as a single system.

It has long been known that water is far more effective than air at storing and transporting heat. A large fraction of the energy transported, some say as high as 50%, around the planet is

*This is
ill-informed
'ecobabble'*

significant amounts of the gas into the atmosphere continuously for well over a century. It can be argued, with a horrible plausibility, that this must lead to the trapping of more and more of the outgoing radiation and an inevitable increase in the surface temperature.

It is not just CO₂. In recent years, even more potent greenhouse gases have been introduced, including the ultimate chemical bad guys, the 'ozone-guzzling' Chloro-Fluoro-Carbons (CFCs). According to the simple theory, this can only make matters worse.

The simple theory seems damning, and if it were all that mattered, global warming would be understood. This is far from the truth. The simple theory is based on the idea of a balance between the radiation absorbed by the atmosphere and the energy supplied by the sun. It neglects the fact that the atmosphere is constantly moving, transporting heat, water vapour and other gases up and down and across the surface of the globe.



*Like driving
with the
accelerator
down and the
brakes on.*

surface. Nothing is ever that simple: clouds can also emit outgoing long-wave radiation back down, trapping heat. That is why a cloudy winter night is generally warmer than a clear one.

Whether clouds warm or cool depends on more than just the time of day. The height and thickness of the cloud, its temperature, whether it is made of liquid water or ice, and the size of the droplets making it up, are all highly significant. Some recent work from the National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in the United States predicts that a small decrease in the average size of cloud water droplets in the lower atmosphere could completely counteract the currently predicted greenhouse warming.

One expert, from the United Kingdom Meteorological Office, has described the effect of producing copious amounts of both as rather like 'driving with the accelerator full down and the brakes on at the same time'.

It is worth mentioning that one of the few ecological measures agreed upon, by the majority of industrialised countries, is a reduction in the sulphur emissions which are known to be responsible for acid rain. To continue the motoring metaphor, this is akin to releasing the brake. It is ironic that in reducing one environmental problem, we could easily be worsening another.

The study of the effects of cloud is a relatively new branch of climate

transported by the oceans. Yet the study of the ocean has always lagged behind that of the atmosphere.

This was partly a practical problem; the atmosphere is easier to study than the ocean simply because you cannot breathe the ocean. But there is also the matter of priority. People, from farmers to fighter pilots, need to know what the weather is going to do tomorrow. It had always been assumed that, as the basic patterns of ocean temperature and circulation vary comparatively little from day to day, the small changes which do occur have little impact on the atmosphere. In the short term, this is largely true. In the longer term, when studying not the weather but the climate, these slow variations can make all the difference.

The work which has been done has revealed that the movement of water throughout the oceans is every bit as complicated as the movement of air in the atmosphere.

Most atmospheric phenomena have equivalents in the ocean. Atmospheric cyclones and anticyclones, the large-scale rapidly rotating masses of air which so affect the British weather, are very similar in structure to so called ocean gyres. Jets, the geographically fixed regions of fast flowing air or water, can be found in both the atmosphere and the ocean.

The greatest difference is in the scale of motion. Ocean gyres are of orders of magnitude smaller than atmospheric cyclones: tens of kilometres rather than thousands. The water in gyres and oceanic jets travels at speeds of a few centimetres per second compared with the tens of metres per second for atmospheric flows. The slow speeds do not make the ocean circulation any less energetic than the atmospheric flow: water is typically one thousand times denser than air and even a slowly moving mass can have a lot of clout.

What the lower velocities

The effect of life on the biosphere is phenomenal

involved in ocean circulation do mean is that the ocean responds to any forcing much more slowly than the atmosphere. The oceans can act as the planet's long term 'memory'.

The oceans are more resistant to change than the atmosphere and it has been suggested that their presence will actually delay the onset of any greenhouse effect global warming. The downside is that even if man and his industry were to disappear off the face of the Earth tomorrow, it would be centuries before the atmosphere and oceans recovered. It is rather like pushing a large mass on a trolley. It may take some time and effort to get it moving but when it is, it becomes very, very difficult to stop.

So far, this has been a rather parochial discussion of climate change dealing only with changes in the planet itself. I have ignored the variations in the amount of solar radiation reaching, and powering, the planet. There are also small changes associated with the slight eccentricity of the Earth's orbit, but these have periods of only a year. It is believed that it is longer term changes, the tilt of the planet, the

shape of the orbit, and solar activity, that affect the climate.

Among the first people to investigate this idea was a Yugoslav astronomer, Milutin Milankovich, working during the 1920s and '30s. He calculated that these long term variations could, over the space of a hundred thousand years, account for variations in sunlight of as much as 20%. Experiments running for thousands of years are not yet possible, but work has been done to investigate how well the Milankovich theory works in the shorter term. Not all climate researchers are that taken with the results.

Recent work comparing changes in the average Northern hemisphere land temperature, with variations in the solar cycle, shows an

astonishing correlation. The link is so strong that it implies that radiative effects are almost the sole cause of climatic variation.

Considering the accuracy, and general applicability, of both sets of records, many researchers are inclined to put the size of the correlation down to a statistical fluke. No one is arguing that the effects of changes in incoming radiation are negligible.

...AND LIFE ITSELF
Even the most complicated, sophisticated, theoretical models of our planet, must be gross simplifications of what happens in the real world. Most large scale climate models are effectively dead: they ignore the influence that living

organisms have on the planet. But even ignoring man and all his industry, even ignoring all things animal, the effect of life on Earth, the biosphere, is phenomenal.

On land, forests can act as gigantic wind breaks sucking energy from the atmosphere. Growing crops can alter the rate at which water evaporates, and affect rainfall, and leaf cover can reduce the amount of radiation reaching the ground. Conversely, changes in temperature and radiation can alter the growth of the plants. The rainforests, in particular, can thrive only in a climate that changes little throughout the year.

It is possible to add the effect the plant-life has on the atmosphere to the models. It is considerably more difficult to include the effects of the

constantly moving up and down, between the dark, inhospitable depths and the surface.

It is only in the spring, when the oceans are at their calmest and the plankton remain close to the surface, that large amounts of CO₂ are absorbed. Dr Woods argues that, if a warmer world were to mean more turbulent oceans, the annual period of calm would become shorter, the plankton would be unable to absorb as much gas, and the enhanced greenhouse effect would be enhanced still more. There is evidence to suggest that the 7 degree warming, that ended the last ice age, was due, at least in part, to creatures too small to be seen.

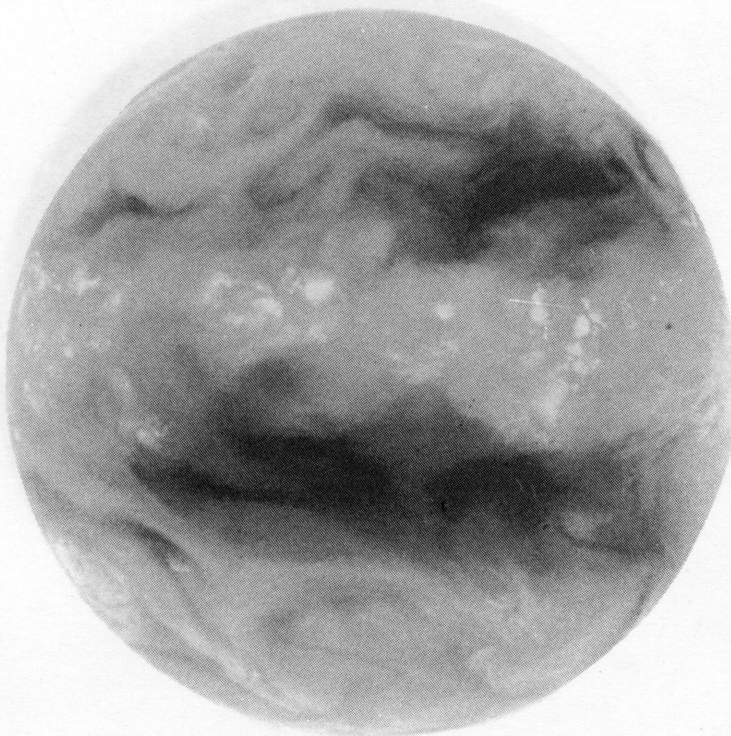
There will be some changes that no-one can predict. Changes, not in the atmosphere or the ocean or the biosphere but, in the Earth itself. It is known that the huge quantities of dust and ash, thrown out by volcanic eruptions, can cool the surface of the planet. There was much talk about the global cooling

The most important factor of all: the politics of climate change

caused by the recent eruption of Mount Pinatubo, in the Philippines, and it has been argued that it was an 'artificial winter', produced by the dust from a colossal meteor strike, that wiped out the dinosaurs.

Climate research could easily degenerate into arguments along the lines of 'what if this...', 'what if that...': anything you can do, we can find a perfectly valid counter-argument. Theories are no good without either observational, or experimental backing. Experiments are impractical as there is no lab large enough to hold a thirteen-thousand-kilometre wide ball of rock. It is for this reason that climatic experiments must resort to simplified mathematical models, and computing, with all the problems this brings. The only way we can discover what happens on the real Earth is through observations, and these too have their own problems.

In the second of these articles, I will look at what this evidence is, what experiments have been done, and what could be the most important factor of all: the politics of climate change.



Please note that to gain the full experience of this article, you must plug your nose and drop the London accent. We advise this due to the fact that expert linguists (a Scouse, a Swiss, and a wanna be 1/2 American) tell us that we have a nasal sound.

We weren't quite sure what to expect when we scouted out London Semester at Long Beach State. Supposedly cultured and educated people (actually, just stiff) told us what to and not to do as well as what to and not to say. In short, we were told exactly what London and England were like from people who thought they knew. What we found is a whole other story...

Everyone at home told us to beware of the food and the people! They told us to 'try everything—but don't get your hopes up; the height in English food is the availability of foreign foods.' We were told to avoid English stuff and to go for Indian or Thai. 'English food is bland, thick, and you'll hate it.' We were advised to get a flat with a kitchenette so we could do our own American cooking lest we starve or toss our cookies! Agreed! But we have some favorites: rashers, crumpets and breads, tea, cider, snakebites (with blackcurrant, or course!). However, Coke, Rosarita, Campbells, and Heinz (note: Heinz

with a 'zee', not a 'zed') need to take some full on cooking lessons. Give me a break! There's no way on earth they even begin to taste anything like they were meant to! You guys totally need wine coolers, wanker roasts, In-n-Out burgers, and 24 hrs Denny's to get the full American flavour. But then again, we ain't in Kansas no more, Toto, even though certain companies think they are!

We were also warned that all English people were cold, and that it was perfectly fine to refer to them as Brits. Not! First of all, 'Brits aren't cold! We found that most of the people we've run into (once or

several times), have been kind, warm, and, yes, even helpful—honest! When Cindy and I get lost—London, Bath, Brighton, or wherever—people just seem to know and walk over to us and either point us in the right direction or take us there (I've often wondered if we just look like totally pathetic dweebs). Sainsbury's is also an eye opener—trying to describe Crisco to a 'Brit' can be quite exasperating, but they always listen, and usually laugh. By the way, Crisco is not something that one *does* or *doesn't* do, unless it's in connection with mud wrestling or twister. Even trying to find plain dry white cake

mix can be a most excellent adventure. The best example of this warm kindness can be seen in my recent adventures in Russia when my wallet, money and credit cards were stolen. People I barely knew were offering me use of their credit cards and cash—for whatever I needed! Not 'at home! No trust or such concern there when it comes to strangers and money. On that same trip, after my companions had a bit of Jack Daniels, peppered vodka, and champagne it was announced that 'Brits' was not a real word, and kind a 'annoying ya' know—you know like, yanks and American or Beefeaters and yeoman.

LA Women invade London

By Cindy

Madden and

Jennifer

Simmons, who

are now taking

English lessons



ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE CHARITY CRICKET MATCH & BALL

Saturday May 2nd

PIMMS TENT & CROQUET
all afternoon

BOUNCY CASTLE
& BUCKING BRONCO
all night

CAPITAL FM ROADSHOW
5pm 'til 7pm

CAMPAGNE RECEPTION
SUMPTUOUS MEAL
TWO BANDS
DISCO 'til the early hours

FREE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM
SILWOOD

ONLY £70 DOUBLE TICKET

FROM RCSU OFFICE OR ICU OFFICE



Truly Frightening

Many Imperial students will be unaware of the recent advances that have been made in a sinister research programme being carried out at a secret laboratory complex in West London. Felix can reveal in the following **exclusive** article the nature of these studies.

The experiments involve development of spores thought to form effective biological weapons. Discoveries made at IC have enabled scientists to grow these spores on mass. Incubating laboratories have been given the secret codename 'the bathrooms', and disguised with ordinary bathroom fittings.

Water appears to be a key factor in the process. One senior insider said 'Ooh, init shocking? Water floods all over the floor and behind the bath and it starts it all growing, dunnit...'. She added mysteriously 'but why are you asking me love, I'm only the cleaner.' *Cleaner* - clearly being a pseudonym for a senior laboratory technologist.

In a callous trial of these new weapons students are driven into the laboratories, or 'bathrooms', to be infected by spores. They are then subjected to cruel demands for money referred to by scientists as 'rent'. Once infected few students resist payment, deluded into believing that they face a long, slow, painful death if these requests are challenged.

Scientists at Porton Down, the Government's biological and chemical weapons research unit, claimed 'We don't know what the hell you're talking about. Try calling a plumber for God's sake.'

The site, code name CLAY-P-ZERO-nds or CLAY-P-0-nds, has been likened to the area round Chernobyl. One student claimed 'You can't go near the place now, it's like - ZONE 3 - too far out man... far out, you know what I mean?'

Name and address suppressed by Official Secrets Act.

So the last issue of the term comes around again and they have given me a whole page... fanfare of trumpets please. I have survived another term without being sued for libel, which really is quite a surprise all things considering. However, this may be changed by this issue as some very interesting details have come to light regarding some rather important college management type people. As you would have read in the news round up for this term (if you haven't read it you really should, Declan did a storming report and is in danger of being sued himself if you ask me), the 'Who's sleeping with who in Sherfield/Princes Gardens' award has had to be dropped. Could this perhaps have something to do with

on and are usually so thick that they let even the most confidential news out after only a few G&T's. How do you think we found out about this scandal in the first place. Should I name them? Have I any integrity at all? Do I want to be at College next year? I can honestly answer yes to all three of these question but as they are a conflict of interests all I can say is Mr G and Ms S, you got away with it this time!

What I can report on though is my fellow Felixites. Declan Curry deserves a mention, anyone who is capable of spending 36 minutes in conference with Peter Brooke, secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is worth a mention especially as I won the sweep stake

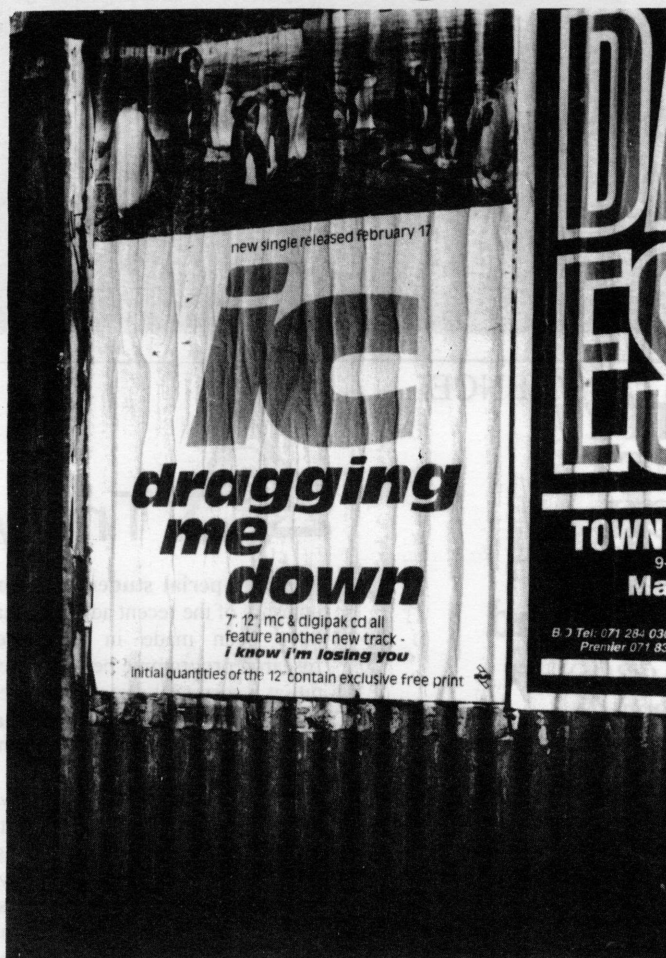
astronomical, that they wouldn't make it to the interview due to a bomb scare on the underground (again) and all times ranging from one minute to one hour. As we understand it Declan has managed to wangle a job working for the BBC over the summer so you never know we may see him standing outside Westminster yet!

And now, the sloppy bit...

It was leap year this year, and it seems as though romance was definitely in the air for some. Simon Gibbons (RCS VP) and Sarah Goodchild (Rag Treasurer) are now pledged to be wed, but who popped the question? When confronted in the bar recently both of them denied asking the other but rumour has it that it went something like the

The Dear Marge Column

*In the final
arrivederci of
the term, Marge
lashes out at all
and sundry, and
damn those libel
writs!*



the fact that the two non-students involved are both married and one gained her job by somewhat dubious means? Or maybe it is just because Felix has gained some journalistic integrity over the last few months and is no longer attempting to stir up the shit with the largest wooden spoon available? We could find out for definite by ringing Mr. G's secretary - they always seem to know what's going

held in the office for how long he would actually last in the interview room, although after hearing Declan's interview technique I wouldn't have been surprised if Mr Brooke had had to leave because of nervous stress. My ticket was 35-39.59 minutes, other possibilities were that Declan wouldn't get past security, that the time it would take for Declan to read out the first question would be

following:

Simon: Sarah, you're looking worried.

Sarah: Yes, will you marry me?

The big question is what was she looking worried about? Her forthcoming election campaign, the ladder in her stockings, the time of her next lecture or something else? Answers on a post card please to the Felix office; we might even be able to find a prize for the most imaginative answer. Still on the subject of 29th February, Simon and Sarah were not the only two with the irresistible desire to do something completely barmy, two people got married! And they were drunk at the time - exceedingly so as we have heard. It was the day of the FKH booze cruise to France, they were in France and obviously in love, not necessarily with each other, but they were in love. She popped the question, he said yes (foolish man), they found a registry office and **kaboom** they were man and wife. We have had reports that they were so drunk they don't remember doing it, but if you ask me, to be that drunk you would normally have to be passed out in a corner. Oh well, congratulations to Mr and Mrs Chris Collinson of Falmouth Keogh Hall. What I want to know now is - has it been consummated yet, and if so how does Yasmin's long term boyfriend feel about all this?

I really have nothing more to say except to all those people out in the quad on Friday night / Saturday morning - that was not at all discreet and unavoidable! (*It was Marge herself - oh, the hypocrisy of it all* - Ed)

Happy Easter to everyone and for those of you who do beleive in the Easter Bunny, enjoy your eggs!

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

WEDNESDAY

- Fitness Club.....12.45pm**
Southside Gym. Intermediate.
- Bike Club.....12.45pm**
Southside Lounge.
- ICSF Meeting.....1.00pm**
AGM and Elections in ICSF Library.
- 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.
- Libido.....9.30pm**
Ents Club Night in Union Lounge.

THURSDAY

- Fencing Training.....11.30am**
Intermediate & advanced coaching.
- Balloon Club Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Upper Lounge.
- YHA Meeting.....12.30pm**
Southside Upper Lounge.
- Postgrad Lunch.....12.30pm**
Chaplains Office (10 Princes Gardens).
- Fencing Training.....12.30pm**
Beginners Training.
- 'Central America Week'**
- Meeting.....12.45pm**
Clubs Committee Room. Organised by 3rd World 1st.
- 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.
- Step Fitness Club.....6.30pm**
Southside Gym. £1 for students. Excellent fitness training.
- 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.

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**
- Shaolin Kungfu System**
- Nam - Pai - Chuan.....7.30pm**
Southside Gym. All welcome.
- Water Polo.....7.30pm**
Sports Centre.
- Southside Disco.....8.30pm**
Southside Bar.

EARN ££££s Part-Time

by introducing a highly successful new discount club to your friends

★ No stock to handle

★ No sales to make

It's brilliant and it works

Full Details

Phone: 071-627 3046

Small Ads

- EXTRA Cash for men or women working part time or full time. Telephone 071-627 3046.
- ICSF AGM and Elections: Wednesday 18th March, 1pm, ICSF Library. Possible book buy soon—call in for details.
- WANTED—Old but servicable laboratory equipment is desperately need for hospitals in Romania. Equipment required includes: counting chambers, colorimeters, flame photometers, small centrifuges, microhaematocrit, blood gas analysers, microscopes. If you can help please contact Sue on extension 7424 or 7502.

editorial

'I'm not a Scot, but you only have to go to Scotland to see how Scottish it, in fact, is.'

This stunningly inane comment, or one very similar to it (I didn't have time to write it down), was made by a senior British politician on the midday news last Sunday. The fact that it was the Prime Minister who said this is irrelevant, it could very well have been any politician. The only reason I bring up that it was the PM is because I asked myself why we elected him as PM, only to realise a few seconds later that we didn't.

The five main strategies politicians use during their skirmishes with the media include the *Complete and Utter Denial*, the *Rottweiler Strategy*, the *'I think the question that is important is...'* *Evasion*, the *Furious Argument* and the rarely seen *'Man of the People'* directive.

Remember that a politician is playing to an audience, and in 'the Denial' the audience is assumed to be plain thick, which correctly targets a large percentage of the population. Example:

Interviewer: 'Will you negotiate with a third party if there is a hung parliament?'

Politician: 'Well, as we are going to win the next election, this situation will not arise.'

Interviewer: 'Your party has a reputation for raising taxes to fund the public sector...'

Politician: 'No it doesn't.'

Subtlety does not play a major part in this ploy. Next, the Rottweiler 'Maul the Interviewer' Attack.

Politician in mid-spiel: '..... and I say again that under no circumstances will we...'

(Interviewer makes sounds of getting word in edgeways)

Politician: 'no, no, let me finish this point, you can have your say when I've finished.... you didn't interrupt Mr Bloggs of the opposite party when he had his say....' etcetera.

Interviewer: 'Will your party increase the funding of public transport if it gets into power?'

Politician: 'I am *shocked* that you attempt to make political capital out of such tragedies as the Clapham Rail disaster. Absolutely appalling. Two of my constituents were seriously wounded in that episode - I know because I saw them in hospital....'

This ploy is intended to make the audience empathise with the poor, beleaguered politician who is only trying to do his job but is being brutally and maliciously attacked by

self-important journalists. Thirdly, the Evasions.

Interviewer: 'What is your party's position on Scottish devolution?'

Politician: 'Firstly, let me make it quite clear that our party wholeheartedly supports the objects and ideals of European Union. I, myself, have travelled across the EEC to study the economic health of small nations.....' (etc).

Interviewer: 'Is your umbrella stripey, or does it have spots?'

Politician 'I don't think that is really the issue at stake in this instance, but what I do think is important is that when the right circumstances arise, we will play our cards close to our chest, we will defend the sovereignty of these islands and we will *not allow* the economy to be hijacked by unscrupulous quick-buck fly-by-nights....'

The reason for taking this path could be that either that the politician doesn't know the answer but won't admit it, that the question is somewhat sensitive so he or she won't answer it or that he or she is determined to say something on a particular subject and no jumped up little toad of a journalist is going to stop them. The 'Furious Argument' cannot be scripted. It involves two politicians shouting each other down simultaneously. The benefits of this are twofold - the interviewer can't ask anything and the listener can't understand anything. Next the 'Man of the People.'

Interviewer: 'Your party's economic policies have been damned as unworkable widely in the press. How would you respond?'

Politician: 'I was born and brought up in a run down street in a dismal midlands town. My father was killed in a mining accident and all twenty of us children were brought up by our one legged mother - the other one was lost when a German bomb destroyed our home - it wasn't much but we called it home - so don't talk to me about economics. In fact, in 1968.....' etc.

This latter shot actually included some evasion and attack as well, and said nothing of any relevance. A pretty good example. The basic premise of a politicians answer is to take as long possible, thus reducing the opportunity for the interviewer to object or issue further questions. Their motto is 'senatorus silenti senatorus mortuus' - a silent politician is a dead politician. Watch out for them. They are coming your way soon.

FELIX

Issue 931 18 March 1992

