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Charter

One of the bodies expected to make a significant contribution to the forthcoming Students' Charter has produced plans for universities to opt out of current funding systems. The Adam Smith Institute, one of the most influential right wing think tanks, will next month call for universities to receive central government funding based on student numbers. If this plan were to be implemented, universities would be following the example set by grant maintained schools.

The proposals are being seriously considered in educational circles. The Adam Smith Institute established itself as a consistent setter of government policy during the Thatcher years. It played a major role in drawing up the recent health service and secondary school reforms, and was behind the introduction of the student loan scheme.

Madsen Pirie, director of the Adam Smith Institute, said that the opt out plans were a logical development of existing management systems. In the *Times Higher Educational Supplement* he said that 'universities have the local financial management but do not have the freedom of grant maintained schools. Funding them on a *per capita* basis per student would make the decisions made by individual students the key determinant rather than the decisions of a central democracy.'

Speaking to *i*CNN late last night, Mr Angus Fraser, Imperial College Managing Director, said that 'the implications of these plans need to be very carefully looked into. We would be concerned about the implications for a steady state college, as opposed to a rapid growth college.'

A 24 hour duty press officer from the Department for Education refused to comment, asking 'why didn't you call during office hours?' nperial Academic Affairs Officer. Bruish A contested election for Hous

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29 May 1992

The IC Union Boar Clup's U cight travel today (Fridity) Cocobaren la compete at l

New Hall of Residence?



Sir Eric Ash, Rector of Imperial College, and Stuart Lipton, a Director of Stanhope Properties, outside Furse House. After a guided tour of the Queens Gate Terrace property on Wednesday of last week, Sir Eric stated his wish to purchase the former Ministry of Defense Hostel. This building could house 200 students at a cost of £3 million.

Summer Hardship

The National Union of Students (NUS) is planning a series of summer campaigns on student hardship. Next Wednesday, the North West region of the NUS will be lobbying the House of Commons, with a speaker meeting 'afterwards addressed by university and polytechnic vice chancellors.

The meeting will also be addressed by the President-elect of the NUS, Lorna Fitzsimons, who warned this week that 'another summer of hardship would be unavoidable'. In the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, Ms Fitzsimons writes that she will be urging the new higher education minister, Nigel Forman, 'to publish swiftly the findings of the Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts enquiry into student hardship.' This report was due to be published before Easter, but this timetable was upset by the General Election campaign.

The committee made its only visit to an educational establishment when it called at Imperial College on the 15 January. Members of the committee met the Rector, Heads of Departments and Student Union representatives. At the time, Zoe Hellinger, Union President, said that she thought the committee was 'coming to the wrong college', as she did not regard Imperial College as representative of the higher education system. Evidence was also taken from the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux and from the National Union of Students. The Conservative Students' chairman, Rob Marvin, has already held a private 'constituency' meeting with the new minister.

News

The announcement of the name of the College's new Rector may be made on Friday 26 June. The Governing Body meets on that day to consider what informed sources indicate is 'a very short shortlist'. Contrary to earlier speculation, high level sources indicate that the Dean of St Mary's, Professor Peter

Richards, is not a candidate in the race. This follows earlier comments to IC Radio by Professor Richards, who said that he 'would have very serious misgivings' about the task of Rector. Management sources told iCNN that the task might go to an academic from abroad.

Danish Boat Race

The IC Union Boat Club's first eight travel today (Friday) to Copenhagen to compete at the Scandinavian Open Regatta this weekend. The club expects to race against crews that will attend the Olympic Games and the World Rowing Championships, both later this year. The Danish national

eight, who beat the prospective Great Britain Olympic eight three weeks ago, have invited Imperial College to race 'because the British squad could not attend.' IC currently has the fastest eight in the country that does not include any full senior international oarsmen. (IC Press office)

Rector Announcement Elections ratified at IC Union EGM

Imperial College Union (ICU) held .* and ratified. an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in the Junior Common Room (JCR) yesterday (Thursday). Elections that were deferred from the earlier 7th May EGM were finally held. Howard Jones, who withdrew from the ICU sabbatical elections earlier this year, was ratified unopposed as ICU Publicity Officer. Satheesh Pillai was also ratified unopposed as ICU Academic Affairs Officer.

A contested election for House Committee Chair took place between Steven Newhouse, current Social Clubs Committee chair and Richard Streeter, a member of DramSoc. Mr Streeter was elected

Earlier elections for Departmental Representatives (Dep Reps) of the Chemical Engineering and Physics departments were ratified. Stephen Graham was elected as Dep Rep for Chem Eng, and Duncan Robertson was elected as Physics Dep Rep. Objections were raised to the ratification of Samir Karia as the Department of Computing after allegations of incorrect election procedure. Following a speech by Mark Payne, City and Guilds Academic Affairs Officer, Mr Karia's post was ratified. The meeting was closed by the chairman, Joe Fernley, at 1.20pm.

Roger Bannister Elected to IC Fellowship

Sir Roger Bannister, CBE, DM, FRCP, whose election to the Fellowship of Imperial College was announced this week, was at a dinner in the Sir Leon Bagrit Centre last night. Sir Roger is one of four names announced for election to the Fellowship, along with Sir John Cadogan, Dr Alexander King, and John Smith who will be admitted to the fellowship at the Commemoration Day ceremony on 22 October 1992. Robert Wilkins will be admitted to the associateship on the same day.

Sir Roger Bannister is best remembered for his world record for running one mile in 1954. Sir Roger qualified as a doctor at St Mary's Hospital Medical School and was a consultant neurologist at the Western Ophthalmic Hospital from 1963-1985. He was chairman of St. Mary's Hospital Medical Committee from 1983-5, and has been vice president of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School since 1985

As former chairman of the Sports Council and former president of the International Council for Sport and Physical Recreation, Sir Roger has been elected to the fellowship as a 'distinguished medic internationally recognised for his blood pressure research', and for his 'outstanding sporting achievements and provision of sporting facilities for young people.'

Sir John Cadogan, CBE, PhD, CChem, FRSE, FRSC, FRS, has been director of research at BP since 1981 and is also director of BP Chemicals Ltd., and BP Venezuela. Educated at King's

College, he has been a Visiting Professor of Imperial since 1979. He was chairman of the Science and Research Engineering Council (SERC) from 1981-5, and has been president of the Royal Society of Chemistry since 1989.

Sir John was described by Imperial College Rector, Sir Eric Ash, as 'a very active member' of the Chemistry department. Apart from Sir John's role as visiting Professor, BP have also paid £250,000 to sponsor a chair of inorganic chemistry in the department. Sir John has been elected to the fellowship 'in recognition of his scientific eminence and ... his extensive service to the college through his with the Chemistry links Department'.

Glasgow born Dr Alexander King was a demonstrator in Physical Chemistry at Imperial in 1932, and was later a senior lecturer until 1941. He led the Imperial College expedition to Jan Mayen in 1938. A former head of the Cabinet Scientific Secretariat and Science Advisor to the Lord President, he has been a visiting professor at the University of Montreal and an Associate Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions in California. Dr King has also been a director for scientific affairs at the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and between 1974 and 1984 was Chairman of International Federation of Institutes of Advanced Study in Stockholm.

Dr King was the founder member

of the Club of Rome, and has been honorary president since 1991. The Club of Rome is regarded as the first major environmental pressure group, and its membership is currently confined to captains of industry. Though some of its earlier research work, such as 'The Limits of Growth', is reported to have been discredited academically, it served to place the issues of environmental protection on the public agenda. Dr King was admitted to the fellowship 'in recognition of his remarkable contribution at an international level to our understanding of the effects of science and technology on the environment'.

The election of John Smith, CBE, BA, to the fellowship of Imperial College has reawakened memories of his departure from the college in 1989. Mr Smith was College Secretary and Clerk to the Governors from 1979 to 1989, and was immortalised by some as 'John Secretary.' On his retirement, the post of College Secretary was abolished and replaced by the title of Managing Director, currently Angus Fraser. The current Clerk to the Governors is Peter Mee.

At the time, Mr Smith was reported to be unhappy about the appointment of his successor, and it was suggested that Mr Smith may have feared the appointment of a yes man. This has been strongly rejected by senior management sources, who insist that the college and Mr Smith parted 'amicably'. The appointment of Mr Smith's successor was handled through an agency rather than the College Personnel Department as the college reportedly felt that the agency would be better at 'headhunting a suitable candidate'. At the time, the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, commented that the title of College Secretary was 'archaic' and that the new title of Managing Director was chosen to reflect the overall managerial responsibility of the post. It is understood that the new title and subsequent job description were devised only during and after the interview process.

Mr Smith, who was fondly spoken of in IC Union circles, was Financial Secretary to the British Solomon Islands in 1970, Governor of Gilbert and Ellice Islands in 1973-6 and Governor of the Gilbert Islands in 1976-8. He has been elected to the fellowship 'in recognition of his dedication and tremendous contribution to all aspects of college life during his ten-year tenure ... at a time (1979-89) when Imperial College was undergoing a period of rapid and acute change in its fortunes'.

The Associateship of Imperial College will be awarded to Robert Wilkins, a technician in the Department of Physics from 1953-85. His citation 'recommends the conferment of the Associateship .. in recognition of his contribution to the Department of Physics over a period of 32 years.' The citation also praises his '(remarkable) expertise and originality in the design and construction of mechanical apparatus.' Mr Wilkins described the Associateship as 'an honour which I will be proud to receive.' This has been a sentiment echoed by the new Fellows-elect.

Presidents Hockey

'It was that time of year again when the challenge went out from the old boys and girls of IC Hockey Club. For the first time in as long as anyone can remember the College men's teams had a successful day. Unfortunately the College ladies only managed a good tan. With the old girls in full charge of the pitch.

The hockey was fast and furious with the teams taking advantage of rolling substitutions. Fortunately for College they managed to stop the old boys settling down and from controlling the game with their short corner routine. College played impressively as a team, something the old boys possibly lacked. Yet with a little more prior organising the old boys (Windy Millers) will be back in full strength for next year's game.

Thanks go to the present club executive and all the members, we wish them all the luck in the coming season. Special thanks go to Dr Hardwick and his wife for battling through the traffic, to umpire the games and provide a wonderful meal.

Any queries about the Windy Millers touring sides should be directed to Duncan Fitter on 081-692 5423.

Chemical Jubilee

Dear Adam,

Re: Chemical Engineering Jubilee Appeal.

I was pleased to see the note about the success of our Jubilee Appeal in last week's edition of Felix. Unfortunately, the jubilation expressed is still a bit premature! We have, indeed raised some £100,000 from alumni and close to £200,000 from industry. However, we are still in the midst of negotiating with other representatives from industry with a view to raising the balance and reaching our ultimate goal of halfa-million pounds. We hope to reach this goal by the end of 1992.

As you stated in the article, all the funds raised will be used to improve teaching facilities in the Department and to provide scholarships to a large fraction of our undergraduates.

Yours sincerely, Lester Kershenbaum, Professor of Chemical Engineering.

Accounting Exam

Dear Adam,

In your 8 May edition (Felix 933) you published a letter about the conduct of the Accounting and Finance examinations sat on Tuesday 28 April 1992.

The examination comprised two elements: coursework and an 'open book' written paper taken on 28 April. Regrettably there have been serious shortcomings in the setting of the question paper and in the requirements for course work. The examiners are fully aware of these.

No student has committed any examination offence, but understandably students who have been candiates for the examination will be concerned to know what action is being taken and how it affects them individually.

Although there was an irregularity in setting the question paper for 28 April, students will *not* be required to resit a revised paper. Only a small number of students, and most certainly from only one department, were likely to have been advantaged by the irregularity, so it would put unnecessary

pressure on students to require them all to sit a revised paper. Furthermore any students advantaged by the irregularity have done nothing wrong, so again it would not be equitable to require them to resit on their own.

The Board of Examiners will take fully into account the extent and nature of the irregularities in the conduct of both elements of this examination. To ensure that no individual student or departmental group of students is disadvantaged, the Board of Examiners will carefully assess the examination scripts and coursework in separate departmental cohorts. Students will be assessed against absolute standards and not in comparison with other examination candidates. and especial attention will be paid those candidates whose to performance is at or near the pass/fail borderline.

Steps are being taken to prevent any recurrence.

Yours sincerely. F V McClure, Academic

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Registrar.

llege rules, the Constituent ge Unions (CCUs) are tially autonomous, ic we can

It is well known that heat and humidity adversely affect the hypothalamus - this being a contributory factor to the occurence of so many riots and revolutions occur during hot summery days. Add to this that everybody in College is either suffering or knows somebody who is suffering exams at the moment.... the atmosphere in this office has been very stressful this week. Hence the lack of pages and bittiness of the entries. Many apologies.

I visited the QT snackbar recently. In my defence, I have to say that I was very hungry and I happened to be on the Sherfield walkway. I'm sure you understand - these things happen to the best of us. They have a good selection of sandwiches there, at a reasonable price (95 pence -reasonable in London). Yet you would not know that they were 95 pence unless you asked. In fact, after a brief scurry around, a number of items were observed to be unpriced. I asked a shop assistant what prices the sandwiches were which she told me - and then I asked why they weren't visibly priced. 'Students keep stealing the prices,' she said. Well, that's convinced me. 'Have you been here before?' she asked. I nodded. 'Well then, you should know what the prices are. Sandwiches are always 95 pence.' Yup. Until such time as the price goes up and nobody is notified of it until they reach the cash register. Hence it being illegal not to display prices. A letter was written to Felix earlier this year on this very subject and nothing has been done about it. The behaviour of the till staff at QT is not illegal, but very rude. The only communication made is an outstretched palm accompanying

editorial

the beep-beep-beepity-beep of the cash till. You have to study the till's readout whilst fumbling for change, only to receive a 'tut' when the exercise takes longer than five seconds. I would like to point out to the staff of QT that the clientèle of that establishment are responsible for the continuance of their jobs, and to the managers that customers deserve a certain respect. My money is not the QT's by right and if it is an unpleasant place to go to then I won't bother.

The Last Issue.

The last issue of the year will come out on the 24th June. If you want anything in that issue, please submit it to the Felix Office by Friday June 12th. It would be a great idea if clubs and societies could get a short (200-500) word report of their year in by that time. It would be appreciated if these were in English, but this is not mandatory. Any features (with photographs, if possible) would be gratefully received. I hope that it will be a **BIG** one. There is the possibility that some Felix staff will be approaching individuals around college to put together a 'study of the human form' feature. They should ask permission to photograph, they should be able to prove that they are working for Felix, and they are not involved in a spoof.

Credits

Troy Tempest, Declan, Ian, Simon, Jeremy, Stef, Steve N, Poddy, Sam, Rose, Andy, Scott, the C&G executive, Catherine, Mario, Marge. The byzantine transliterative transpositions and sesquipedalian anagrams have been trying to get degrees recently, but many thanks nonetheless.



The Beit Memorial, which is to be placed in the new archway leading into the Union Quadrangle, is, I understand, very near completion. It is fitting that such a memorial should be erected as soon as possible after the death of such a great man in order that the memory of the College's greatest friend and benefactor may be preserved. For the benefit of those who are not acquainted with the facts, Sir Otto Beit assisted substantially in the building of the Royal School of Mines building and built the Old Hostel entirely, besides founding the Beit fellowship and assisting in many other scholarships. His last gift to the college was announced when his will was proved just over a year ago, it was a gift of £25,000. *Phoenix, June 1932.* editorial

the beep-beep-beepity-beep of the cash till. You have to study the till's reached whilst furnhling for change, anny to receive a 'tul' when the excertise takes longer than five of the staff of QT that the chentele of the staff of QT that the chentele for the continuance of their jobs, that to the managers that customers becare a certain respect. My noney is not the QT's by right and f it is an unpleasant place to go to hea 1 won't bother.

By college rules, the Constituent College Unions (CCUs) are financially autonomous, ie we can go bankrupt, be sued, and held liable for ultra vires (illegal) payments, just as any other student union or small company. This means that we could, if we desired, get our subvention direct from college (as St Mary's do) and also have complete budgetary freedom (we can spend our subvention as we see fit, with no reference to Imperial College Union, unlike Major Sub Committees). The result of this is that, in the case of financial discrepancies, the CCU President and Honorary Junior Treasurer (HJT) would be held responsible.

subsidies. In our end of year accounts it is not specified what ball subsidies are allocated to, so they could be considered to be a subsidy for the band and ticket excesses paying for the complementary tickets issued. In any case a £660 subsidy for our events which have a turnover approaching £20,000 (less than 5% subsidy) making it incredibly good value for ICU and the student's money which they handle. The main thrust of the Attorney General's ruling in 1983 was to prevent the payment of monies to political funds. On no occasion has City and Guilds made any payments to any political organisation.

regarding their forms for financial responsibility although there is a discussion document in circulation. It is then clear that ICU currently has no control over the CCUs expenditure. It is also unlikely that any such agreement, even between ICU and the clubs, would hold any water in a court of law. In industry, the perpetrators of a substantial financial 'cock-up' cannot be held personally liable for any of the money. The only retribution available to the company is to dismiss the person in question. Within a union, unfortunately, in order to dismiss the Chairman or Treasurer, its is necessary to pass a motion of 'no confidence' at a union meeting.

The City and Guilds Union

What does the C&G Union do? Is it redundant or is it an indispensable part of IC life? The C&G Executive Committee propound their views

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acquainted with the facts, Sir Otto Scir assisted substantially in the suilding of the Royal School of Mines building and built the Old lostel entirely, besides founding the Bett fellowship and assisting in the Bett fellowship and assisting in the Bett fellowship and assisting to the Bett fellowship assis



Because of the level of importance attached to the job of running a CCU's finances we are overseen by our own Honorary Senior Treasurer (HST) who is a senior member of staff.

Ultra Vires 'Payments

The payments for free ball tickets had been a long standing tradition with the unions of Imperial College, and at no point since 1983 when the Attorney General made the ruling was the legality of these questioned. The question of the legality of such payments has now come to light and, as a responsible union, we have not claimed any more of these

Financial Responsibility

As many people may be aware, ICU has attempted this year to introduce credit control for all union activities, which is undoubtedly a good idea bearing in mind previous bitter experiences. As part of the credit control system, ICU have introduced forms attributing financial responsibility to the chairman and treasurer of each of the clubs and societies. This means that all payments above a certain limit must be authorised by ICU. However, the CCUs have not reached an agreement with ICU Value for Money CCUs offer excellent value for money, in the case of City and Guilds for this year's subvention of £15,707 we offered Guildsheet and a full colour Fresher's Handbook, 6 departmental societies, a 1902 veteran car and a 1926 Neracar motorbike (used for charity collections), 2 hovercrafts, 2 active Rugby teams (who go on international tour each year), the best student Motor Club in the country (with over 200 active members, holding over 50 events so far this year), motor-karting (more than 80 people have been on visits this year), 6 freshers' buffets attended by over 700 students, dinner for the Heads of Department (where student views are discussed

ICU currently has no control over the CCUs' expenditure

on an informal basis), the Great Egg

race (where students from 5 departments competed in heats to get to the final, judged by Bob Symes), A dinner and dance at a top London Hotel attended by over 400 students, a May Ball attended by over 80 students, a Cocktail party attended by captains of industry promoting the college, a Float at the Lord Mayor of London's show (the only college to do so), bar nights with live entertainment, a Ladies' lunch, a Hallowe'en Boat party, Carnival (for rag), Casinos (throughout the year), and a 'Funky Chicken' party.

On top of all this, there are activities such as the backing of Grease, which would not have been possible without the financial autonomy of the CCUs as ICU did

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not consider the production to be a worthwhile risk. All this for the lowest subvention per student of any union at Imperial. Bearing in mind the facts before you, it is hard to imagine that so many successful events could take place in the shadow of alleged financial irresponsibility and recklessness (Felix 934, 15th May 1992). Indeed the number and magnitude of the financial transactions that take place throughout the year would suggest that the finances are being dealt with in an very responsible and diligent manner.

Yet another area in which CCUs make a vital contribution is in student representation, both to ICU and to College. This is particularly true in academic affairs. The CCUs co-ordinate and support a network of 15 departmental representatives (Dep Reps) and over 100 academic representatives (Acc Reps). Here are some examples of areas in which the members of this network have represented students over the

last year: development of staff student relations, involvement in student welfare issues, introduction of the extension to the College day, student loans and financial hardship, dealing with problems arising from lecturers and lecturing, student union deregulation and voluntary membership, the lecture evaluation questionnaire, library opening hours in the future, monitoring of teaching standards, development of study skills, provision of computing facilities, design and review of undergraduate courses, dealing with timetabling problems, academic staff training and development, credit transfer between different UK institutions, provision of remedial mathematics courses, discussion of quality issues within higher education. representation of women at IC, provision of humanities and management courses, discussion of IC undergraduate admissions policy, the role of IC in the European exchange and integration

of students, adherence of IC to equal opportunities policies, the viability of running modular courses at IC, provision of language courses, and monitoring of student workloads.

These are just a few examples of where student representatives have helped to form ICU and college policy, by the voicing of 'grass roots' opinion.

It would be a fair question to ask how much of the CCU funding goes into the maintenance of such a large network of student representatives. The answer is that it costs considerably less than a round at Southside. This is only possible due to the hard work and commitment of all those involved. It would be hard to find such value for money in any other area of ICU funding think about that when you next go for a pint.

As has been said the CCUs provide and run a vital academic affairs network. If the CCUs ceased to exist, student representation at IC would be seriously crippled (if it continued to function at all). No other system would be able to reach students and voice their opinions as effectively. This is because the CCUs have much closer ties to their relative departments, all the officers are current students (unlike sabbatical officers) and have relatively small catchment areas. The importance of academic affairs alone justifies the existence of CCUs. However, without the community spirit that is a direct result of the close communication between the union, the students and the departments that is unique to CCUs, IC would regrettably degenerate into the business like attitude already emanating from Sherfield.

Guilds Executive Committee.

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'it is hard to imagine that so many successful events could take place in the shadow of alleged financial irresponsibility and recklessness'



The Mambo Kings

1952, the Mambo craze sweeps America. The Castillo, Brothers, Cesar and Nestor, come fresh from Havana with their dreams of fame and love and their exciting, vibrant music.

The Castillo brothers struggle with America, attempting to make it whilst struggling also with the deep passions inside them. Cesar, (Armand Assante), has a lust for life and dreams of bigtime and this is surpassed only by the deep fraternal love for Nestor (Antonio Banderas). Nestor is sensitive and introverted. He is consumed and tortured by his unrequited love for a woman in Cuba. This comes to symbolise all he has left behind and is the basis for for 'Beautiful Mario of my soul', the song which brings them to the fame that Nestor does not really desire. He would prefer a little club where he could play his music as he meets his wife (Maruschka Detmers) for the first time.

The images of the film are colourfully intense, from the splendour of the clubs to the harsh reality of the brothers's daytime



work. It portrays the passion of the brothers really well.

In the end, the film is an alternative version of 'The American Dream': To start from

nothing, to get there, and then to see it all go up in flames. Then to start again, having to bear the pain. It is a tragic, love story.

Doctor Schlong

Daughters of England

Theatre

The plot of Daughters of England is based on the short story A Society written by Virginia Woolf. Four young women start questioning the value of books and their enquiries soon expand to question the entire body of knowledge and human achievements. This leads them to ask themselves 'Have men produced anything that is worthwhile?, 'Is it worth giving birth to men?'. The women vow not to have any relationship with men until their questions are answered. They begin a voyage of discovery visiting art galleries and theatres, questioning sailors, noblemen and scholars, until one of them meets a fascinating handsome Oxford fellow and breaks the promise. The break out of a war puts a sudden end to their search.

Although the idea is interesting, most of the dialogues sound slightly artificial and the play does not succeed in involving the audience. The acting was generally good and a few scenes stand out due to the very good performance of the only male actor David Schonman.

Hampstead. 19th May-28th June,

tuesday to Sunday 9.45pm, Sunday matinee 4pm. Tickets £4-£6.

Zorbas. • New End Theatre, 27 New End,

Ruby

Ruby is about Jack Ruby. Jack Ruby shot Lee Harvey Oswald. Lee Harvey Oswald shot John F. Kennedy, in November 1963. I was under the impression that almost everyone knew that. I was wrong. This film is based on his story.

Jack Ruby (Danny Aiello) is a small-time club owner in Dallas. Fact. He has mafia connections. Possible. Sheryl Ann Dujean, stage name Candy Cane, (Sherilyn Fenn, *Twin Peaks*) is a waif, a stray, and a stripper. Fiction. Candy Cane never existed. Therefore all of her actions never existed. And none of the consequences of those actions ever happened. Candy Cane never met the mafia, never went to Las Vegas, which meant that Ruby also never went to Vegas, never found out about the plot to kill Castro, which led to him killing Lee Harvey Oswald. So the entire structure of the film falls apart.

Why take a fictional story, base it on a real life character, who played a vital part in 20th century history, but still include fictional characters to link the story together, in a way that the past never did?

The film is also not very compelling. The first 75 minutes of the film drag. I thought six years had passed only 30 minutes into the film. The last twenty minutes pass in a rush, with the shooting of JFK, and the last four years of Ruby's life, which he spent in a Texas jail, were covered in two minutes. This is where the film should have started. Not where it should have ended.

Lise Yates

• 'Ruby' opens today in the West End.



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Magritte at the Haywood

EuroVision

The celebration of surrealists has always struck me as being faintly ridiculous; profound though it may be, my sensation has tended towards a gleeful iconoclasm, in the cartoon colours of Dali, the eroticism of Bunuel and Man Ray, and the extremities of Eluard, Satie, Breton. When I refer to extremities, I remain in the boundaries of realism, not surrealism. A 1936 exhibition rejected Francis Bacon's work as 'not sufficiently surreal'. I ask you. It's not what you know ...

...Am I a hero, for deriding nepotism? No. Heroes have character, not trendy God-killing pretensions that cover up paranoia. Magritte seems to me to have an uncomfortable understanding of the human condition and is able to depict this with a poignancy and wryness not befitting his affiliate cliche. Surrealism isn't big enough for him. Sorry, I'm a stranger here myself, and I don't have enough



time; I know hardly any of these, want to, but would hate them if I did. It is exquisite, lonely and romantic. They lack the vague passions of others, the effete anger and indulgent smirks. If you believe

this 'less than amazing attempt to adequately appraise Dear Rene', don't waste your time going to this exhibition; you're irredeemable. **D** A Spooner

A Slip of the Tongue

Theatre

John Malkovich has returned to the West End in Dusty Hughes' new play, A Slip of the Toungue. Set around the Velvet Revolution (around 1988) it is an examination of the mechanism of revolution through sexual and political power. Dominic Tantra (J.M.) is a dissident writer outcast by both the state and his peers. Through a series of sexual encounters with informers sent by the state to trick him into revealing his anti-state views, we build up a picture of Tantra, as a man persecuted and lonely.

The second act is post-revolution: Tantra has become a folk-hero and the focus of new-found optimism. This is where the play stumbles, after a taut and straightforward first act, Hughes strives to bring too many disparate themes together, creating a contrived framwork on which to base the play. It works well on a simple level-the limits of 'man'-but to read anything



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deeper into the play would be giving Hughes too much credit. Malkovich is superb, as is Ingeborga Dapkunaite, but no matter how good the acting, they fail to rise above the poor plot. A Slip of the Pen perhaps? John.

• A Slip of the Tongue is running until 8th June at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Tickets from the Box Office (071-379 5399) are £13-£20 and £9.50 for student standbys.



Since childhood, Gary has been a great fan of the Eurovision Song contest. He is now writing a novel about the love story between the Roman Emperor Hadrian and the Greek youth Antinous. When he convinces his promiscuous friend Kevin to accompany him to the 1992 Eurovision Song Contest in Rome, all the ingredients in his life are bound to break loose, jumble up, and lead through the chaos to a happy ending.

Tim Luscombe's Eurovision, put on by the London Gay Theatre Company at the Drill Hall Arts Centre, just about manages to contain the resulting mixture by shifting at breakneck speed through a good many scene changes. This is made possible by ingenious use of props and stage movement. The parodies of Eurovision songs and their choreography are hilarious. Some of the scenes (ghosts who can only be seen by certain characters, a possessed woman speaking in two voices) require serious acting, and they are well achieved. The play manages to present homosexual love as just another instance of human love, subject to the same eternal problems. I found it highly entertaining. Anybody who ever watched the Eurovision song context is bound to enjoy it. MUS

• EuroVision will run until June 6 at the Drill Hall Arts Centre (Box Office: 071-637 8270). Performances start at 8pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Tickets are £8 and £9, £6 concessions.

The Bush Theatre, Shepherd's Bush Green, opens its series of rehearsed readings on Sunday with 'Duet For One' by Tom Kempinski. The original cast of Frances De La tour and

David De Keyser are reading (Simon Callow is expected back to do Kiss of the Spiderwoman). All tickets are

£5, but phone to reserve as it's going to be very popular (081 743 3388)

The Rose Theatre, (above the pub on Fulham Road), is currently playing 'Shadow Of A Gunman' by Sean

O'Casey. Concession tickets cost £4.50 and it starts at 8pm. Finally,

at the Finborough Theatre (again, above the pub on, yes, you guessed it, Finborough Road) Grave Dancer is playing. It starts at 8pm and tickets, for students, are £4.50. 081 373 3842.

He was one of those talkative barbers; I could see it by the size and shape of his mouth. I felt out of temper that day, owing to the fact that, in spite of my morning dose of Kruschen salts, I had missed my train to town.

'It's a rotten day today sir!'

'Yes, it is. And it was a lively day on the 1st, 3rd and 7th of this month, but the 2nd and 13th were particularly rotten. And if the weather doesn't change it will be rotten.....'

He blanched a little, clutched his scissors more firmly and started again.

'It's quite unusual weather for ...

'Yes, that's so. In 1894, this time of the year it was positively putrid. So it was in 1066, 1776 and 1803.

At the Barbers



A writer in 'The

November 1923

consequences of

ridiculing his

Phoenix' of

experiences

the dire

barber.

and I beleive, although I'm not sure, in 1887. I remember reading what a fine crop of weather they had in 1733...or was it 1735?'

He said I had little to learn about the weather, and it must have been quite a space of time occupied in removing six hairs before he commenced again.

'Dear, dear, remarkably dry your scalp is, Sir.'

'Yes, I always wear a hat when it's raining. My grandmother used to say to me: 'A damp scalp leads to water on the brain...'

'Now, Sir, there's a remarkable thing here. If you wet the scalp with it, it gets quite moist and so makes the follicles to expand and the capsular glands to contract and expand with rhythmic pulsations, and this promotes a luxuriant growth of hair...'

This was all said in one breath, but I did him when his wind gave out.'

'That, good heavens! Why I rub some in everyday before dinnerhave done for years. So did my poor father, too!' Clip, clip, clip, for quite a minute. Then came a most dramatic discovery.

'I say, Sir, I am sorry to see this. Would you believe it, Sir, you have quite a bald patch coming; in fact the hairs are disappearing as the patch becomes balder.'

'Is that so! I must have caught it off the cat. They always moult in the summer. I daresay I shall be alright in the winter.'

'Perhaps you are right, Sir. But I have a fine thing here, Sir, Cox's Concentrated Concoction of Coffee Grounds, as used by the Chick a Chuk Indians. Only 10/- for a bottle, and it makes the follicles expand and the capsular....'

What! Do you keep old Cox's

he was entering into the fun of the thing.

'A little honey and flowers?' And then before I could answer—

'Ah, yes, you of course use that.' 'Yes,' I answered feebly.

'Don't you find it attracts the bees, Sir? Bay rum?...'

'What nothing, Sir? Let me press you. Something has just come in today, Sir, splendid new pomade, called 'Linolia'. I'm positive you haven't used it...What, you have? Impossible, Sir.'

Before I could protest he was rubbing it in hard with a fierce joy, and was soon brushing my hair back. Being in a hurry, I hardly glanced in the glass, but jammed my hat on and rushed home. When I got home everybody stared.

'Well, what's the matter?'

'Been having your hair cut,' asked the wife.

'No dear,' I answered sweetly, 'I've only had it stretched, marcel waved and the fringe trimmed.'

'Oh, I see,' she retorted, 'I thought perhaps you'd been to the french polishers, your hair looks so beautifully shiny and smooth—in fact we can hardly see the individual hairs.'

'Is that so?' I quoted. 'New stuff—barber put it on—just in that day—splendid, isn't it?—Linolia is the name.'

'Lin....what?'

'Linolia, L-I-N-O-L-I-A.'

'Linolia!—that's the stuff we use to polish the oilcloth.'

'Nonsense, my dear; he couldn't have used that. Yellow stuff in a blue tin - pleasant smell of.... of turpentine, I think.'

'That's it. Mary, fetch me the tin.'

The tin was brought, and everything pointed to that being the stuff he had rubbed in. At any rate it took me hours to get it off - nasty chap that barber - he must have had one of those nasty, spiteful, revengeful natures.



- 8 -

old-fashioned people left who used it. I rub some in every day before tea, while the kettle's boiling.'

stuff? I thought I was one of the few

This silenced him for some time, but I could see his eye roaming over his bottles, but he remained silent till the hair arranging stage.

'Now, Sir, how do you like your hair done? And what do you like on it? Can I rub some of this cream on it—it enables the follicular glands to capsulate and opens the pores...'

'Yes, yes, that bald patch; we must keep the pores shut or else the hair will fall out. Can you split that group of six into, twelve, roll them out flat and spread them out like a star? Or is it too late in the season to transplant a few from the back? I know it's a bit late for lettuces...but hairs?'

He looked fierce, and retorted:

'We used to do that, Sir, but the man who did it was a German, and now he's gone. But I can paint a few there if you like.'

This was getting interesting, for

ICSO - Promenade

Friday saw the promenade concert of the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra (ICSO). It was good to see a programme of well known works interspersed by lesser known pieces such as Butterworth's 'A Shropshire Lad' and Rachmaninov's second Piano Concerto.

They opened with the overture to 'The Thieving Magpie' by Rossini. It was great to see so many members of the orchestra enjoying themselves, and Richard Dickins's conducting showed real Joie de Vivre. It is a shame that the French Horns were a little weak in the solos. I think it was nerves.

Andrew Zolinsky performed on the piano. Rachmaninov is an acquired taste, some might say, but you can't fault Zolinsky's performance. The Carmen Suite was made by the beautiful oboe solo

'So you're back.'

The lepton was inhaling smoke from a strange contraption strapped to his side. He looked almost catatonically laid back. It was sending Stress in high and higher levels of frustration and anger.

'Yes, I'm back.'

Stress was gritting his teeth so hard he thought they would break.

'And you found the information?' 'Yes, the mechanism is set into the statue in the inner system stadium.'

'Thought as much.'

YOU KNEW!

The lepton lifted is lips and shone his teeth.

'The purpose of the mission wasn't in the target of your search but what it would do to you."

'You've been playing GAMES with me??"

'No, I've been giving you the chance to work things out for yourself. How do you feel now?'

'I don't care about ridding myself of the military chemicals.

I just want to activate the mechanism."

Another splitting of the mouth. 'I thought you wanted clear

perception?" 'I know enough.'

You can never know enough to make a decision."

'I do, Will you let me activate the mechanism?

in the Entr'acte which led nicely into the Toreador Song. The Butterworth was a competent example of English orchestral music and demonstrated the excellent dynamic control of the Orchestra. They gave a rousing, lively performance of Wood's 'Fantasia of British Sea Songs'. With a little encouragement from Dickens, the audience joined in with 'the traditional merriment associated with the last night of the proms.' Though lack of Union Jacks and, I imagine, knowledge of the words, meant that they got through 'Land of Hope and Glory' without the audience wailing away. I'm sure we were all relieved.

Finally, we were treated to Tchaikovsky's 1812 overture, complete with simulated cannon shots (indoor fireworks and loud bangs) and church bells (tubular bells).

FOB and Darwen

• The orchestra will be travelling to Hungary this September. If you would like to support them by becoming a patron please contact Ainslee Rutledge on X7282.



The Library

I looked into the library. For my eyes, huge oaks pummelled into eminent, elegant folds and deep, nutty walls. There sits anger in these strewn books, mistrust in untidy texts, decay in nonsense notes; someone's pious, indulgent retreat.

and a meerschaum smouldered thoughtfully, a mind smoking behind it's unvielding facade and glowing with fresh invention. It's for Me! to smile at, to guard against, to issue sensibilities, adore and bastardize as I conceive, unto me, a like mind.

I marvelled at the painstaking chaos and compared it to my own clutter, three and more year-old thoughts tossed carelessly aside to warp and age. The leaves brown'd and layered with deadness: It was too ideal, and in my projection I dismissed it as design

The motive, coy to my mistaking, but silently laughing with all others, was to share. Still with absent occupant, a prison of wisdom with none confined! How Hateful! Why be elsewhere? In disgust, I slammed it shut and tossed it to the floor; the dust rose like the loathing in my head.

D A Spooner 1992





Sure. But to do it you have two choices. You must either shoot yourself with the truth gun set to positive, the setting you've used so far. It will give you the clear perception to judge rightly what to do. Or you can set the gun to negative and shoot yourself, giving yurself the anger drive to force yourself to carry it out.

Stress hesitated before his reflection in the mirror lenses.

'I can't have both?' 'Not possible. Well, which one?'

Stress looked at the weapon in his hand and thought of the effects. He paused, clenched his teeth and turned the switch to negative. He put it to his head and pulled the trigger.

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'The only way to get at the pedestal is by playing in the thunderball game taking place in an hour. We're disguising you as a player in one of the teams.

The rebel assistant fed him the information as he covered Stress in a wolf suit. Stress took the data in without comment, he was beyond thought, his mind swelled only for action.

'The thurnderball players have all taken chemicals to regress their gene structure back to primitive animals, your team is the sector one werewolves. We'll plant you in the team on the way to the stadium. Good luck!"

The animal mask went over Stress's head.

Chapter 18:

Decision by Troy Tempest.

Felix

So what's been happening this week then? Tuesday afternoon saw another fine example of Zoe Hellinger being under the beck and call of DramSoc. Moose (Ms for short) Hellinger clearly demonstrated that she really is their very own 'puppet on a string' by abseiling down the side of the

Marge's Column



Union building. It's a shame that the regular type students do not have such control over our illustrious presidential type person. Her other comrades seem rather thin on the ground though. On the same afternoon she was seen sitting* basking, most un-shark like, in the last of the evening haze. This act of lethargic horizontal exercise was singularly occupying her precious time on the otherwise empty plains of Beit Quad. Is this her severe lack of character or the bad choice of underarm deodorant in these days of sweltering heat? Our readers must be told.

The summer orgy of '92 seems to have been done and over, or leg over which is far more appropriate. Coming in as the clear winner by all accounts was your very own Marge. A result to fill you with confidence, knowing now that your columnist is fully qualified. Yes, I am completely and utterly depraved rather than deprived. The participants of this particular 'session' have gone back to their regular lives as boring first year Physicists and such like. But, while we rest, others have taken up on the idea of a total week of deprivation and debauchery, not to mention the whipped cream and cornflakes! Perhaps, for those of you requiring inspiration and a push start, you would like to pick up a copy of your very own purity test. Four hundred questions to tickle your taste buds which you can pick up by popping into the Felix office at anytime and pay for a photocopy themselves it's the safest bit.

Rachel 'I'm Rag Chair Soon' Mountford seems to have been a very naughty young girlie recently, and the betting stakes have changed drastically:

Alex Taverner, who requested to be removed from this list for the sake of his beloved wife to be (and his beloved genitals) - 2:1 (fav); Vinay Rai, obnoxious RCS/Guilds/ person/thing - depending on who wants him - 100:1 (I have just been informed that he 'has absolutely nothing to do with us, we're trying to get rid of him' by a spokesperson for the RCS. We are awaiting a comment from Guilds); Daniel 'my name is not Polish it's German' Katzenellenbogen, non horizontal jogger - 4:1; Marge 'I don't do it lying down I only do it on my head' - 3:1; Stuart 'Oh my God I don't believe she's doing this' Rison -5:1.

I think that's about it for this week as Declan 'reporting live from outside Westminter' Curry has informed me that the rest of this page is needed for an advert, so now...

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN ENERGY The Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne

in collaboration with

Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, London Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule, Zurich Ecole National Superieure du Petrole et des Moteurs, Paris Universidad Politecnica, Madrid Rheinisch-Westfalische Technische Hochschule, Aachen

is organising a 2 year course (with opportunities for part-time paid industrial training) on

Energy: technology, economics and management

in Lausanne, Switzerland from January 1993 to December 1994. The course leads to the Maîtrise of Specialisation in Energy Studies.

Full details from:

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Elaine Taylor Centre for Cognitive Systems William Penney Laboratory Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine London SW7 2AZ Tel: 071-225 8930 Fax: 071-589 7953 Mme L. von Gross Cycle d'etudes postgrades en energie Laboratoire de Systemes Energetiques EPFL Lausanne - DGC Ecublens CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland Tel: 010 41 21 693 2484 Fax: 010 41 21 693 2863 An up-to-the-minute guide to events in and around Imperial College. The deadline for entries for this page is the Monday prior to publication.

FRIDAY

Hang Gliding......12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. Conservative Soc.....12.30pm Physics 737. Rag Meeting.....12.40pm Union Lounge. Everyone welcome. 3rd World First.....12.45pm Upper Southside Lounge. Labour Club Meeting......1.00pm Maths 408. Club members welcome. Friday Prayers.....1.00pm Southside Gym. See Islamic Society. Kung Fu.....4.30pm Union Gym. C.U. Prayer Meeting......5.00pm 413 Maths. **Christian Union** Meeting......6.00pm Sports Centre. Fencing Club Training......6.40pm Club training. Stoic on Air.....7.00pm Shaolin Kungfu System Southside Gym. All welcome. Water Polo......7.30pm Sports Centre. **Imperial College Choir** Great Hall. Beethoven 'Mass in C', Poulenc 'Stabat Mater', Fauré 'Cantique de Jean Racine'. Tickets on the door-students £2.50. Southside Disco.....8.30pm Southside Bar.

SATURDAY

Union Lounge.

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

SUNDAY

West London Chaplaincy Sunday Service......10.30am Anteroom Sherfield Building. Live Role Playing.....10.30pm Victoria Station. Gates to platforms 11-12. Men's Tennis Team Practise 11.00am

College Courts. Players of any ability. Annual membership £6. New members welcome. Catholic Chaplaincy Mass.11.00am 53 Cromwell Road.

Wargames 1.00pm UDH.

Fitness Club.....2.00pm Intermediate.

Felix 936

Kung Fu Club......4.30pm Wu Shu Kwan in the Union Gym. 53 Cromwell Road.

MONDAY RockSoc Meeting......12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. Broomball Soc.....12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. Parachute Club......12.30pm Brown Committee Room. Yacht Club Meeting......12.45pm 253 Aeronautics. New members most welcome. Sailing most weekends! Basketball Club.....5.30pm Volleyball court. Men's Team. Fitness Club......5.30pm Southside Gym. Beginners. JCR. R'n'R/Latin. Adv/Medals. Concert Hall. Swimming 6.30pm Sports Centre. Stoic on Air.....7.00pm Dance Club......7.30pm JCR. Beginners' Rock 'n' Roll. IC Shotokan Karate.....7.30pm Southside Gym. Sports Centre. Dance Club......8.30pm JCR. Latin Beginners. TUESDAY C.U. Prayer Meeting......8.30pm

Chaplain's Office Jazz & Rock Club Meeting12.30pm Southside Bar TV Room. OXFAM Lunch.....12.30pm Mech Eng Foyer. Bread, cheese and pickle lunch. £1.00. **Environmental & Appropriate** Technology Society.....12.45pm Southside Upper Lounge. All ideas welcome. Riding Club Meeting......12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. Boardsailing 12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. AudioSoc Meeting.....12.30pm Southside Upper Lounge. Cheap records and equipment hire. Radio Modellers.....12.30pm Southside Lounge. Cathsoc Mass.....12.30pm Mech Eng 702. Followed by lunch. Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm Southside Lounge. Put you name down for this year's ski trip. Sailing Club.....12.30pm Southside Lounge. AstroSoc 1.00pm Upper Lounge. STOIC News.....1.00pm PhotoSoc 1.00pm Southside Lounge. Ents Meeting.....1.00pm Ents/Rag Office. Up two flights on the East Staircase, first office on the left.

Legs, Bums, Tums......1.00pm Southside Gym. Organised by Fitness Club. Radio Modellers.....5.30pm Mech Eng. Fitness Club.....5.45pm Southside Gym. Intermediate. Amnesty International......5.30pm Clubs Committee Room. JCR. Improvers Ballroom and Latin. Beit Quad store or 8.30pm in Southside Upper Lounge. Judo......6.30pm Union Gym. Stoic Nostalgia Night......7.00pm Imperial College in the sixties, seventies and eighties. Dance Club......7.00pm JCR. Adv/Medals Ballroom & Latin. Yoga8.00pm Southside Gym. Caving Club Meeting......8.00pm Southside Upper Lounge.

WEDNESDAY

Fitness Club12.45pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate.
Bike Club12.45pm
Southside Lounge.
Cycling Training1.30pm
Meet at Beit Arch.
Wargames 1.00pm
UDH. All welcome.
Micro Club Meeting1.15pm
Top floor NW corner Union
Building.
Kung Fu1.30pm
Union Gym. Diving6.30pm
Swimming Pool.
Yet more Stoic7.00pm
Shaolin Kungfu System
Nam – Pai – Chuan7.00pm
Southside Gym. All Welcome.
Basketball Club7.30pm
Volleyball court.
Kung Fu Club7.30pm
Union Gym. Wu Shu Kwan.
Club DMS9.30pm
Ents Club Night in Union Lounge.
Dance Music Society.

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. Legs, Bums, Tums......1.00pm Southside Gym. Every week. Gliding Club Meeting.....1.00pm Aero 266. Fencing Training.....1.30pm General. Fitness Club......5.30pm Southside Gym. Advanced. Midweek Event......5.30pm Chaplains Office (10 Prince's Gardens). JCR. Intermediate/Advanced Ballroom & Latin. Southside Gym. £1 for students. Excellent fitness training. 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.

Small Ads

• FOR SALE: Sailboard Masterclass 295, semi-complete (mast food, fin skegs), good condition. £75 ono. Jonathan Moffett, Dept of Computing, ext 5092.

 VACATION ACCOMMODATION: Ouiet area-Lexham Gdns, Lounge (TV/Video), Bathroom, Fitted Kitchen (incl washing machine). 10 mins college, 2 mins Sainsburys, 5 mins Glou Rd, High St Ken, Earls Ct. July to end Sept. £35 p/w.

•SINGLE ROOM: Quiet area-Lexham Gdns. Lounge (TV/Video), Bathroom, Fitted Kitchen (incl waching machine). 10 mins Glou Rd, High St Ken, Earls Ct. Available September. £65.

Careers Info

• Job seeking after the milkround: Enrol in the Careers Service for this seminar on Wednesday 3, 10, 17 or 24 June at 2.30pm.

Penultimate years: Start thinking about your future now. The Careers Service is well equipped to help you with information and advice. Speak to a Careers Adviser between 1.30 and 2.30pm or phone 3251 for advice.

Finalists: Start job hunting when your exams finish. Don't rely on the Summer Fairs. Make speculative but well targetted applications.

For further information come to the Careers Service, Room 310 Sherfield-open from 10am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Pub Board Chair Resigns

David Henderson-Begg resigned as ICU Publications Board Chairman on Wednesday saying that 'recent events make it impossible to continue in my capacity as chairman.' Imperial College Union President, Zoe Hellinger, reacted with regret to the letter, saying that it was a 'shame' that the resignation had occurred.

Mr Henderson-Begg cited 'immature behaviour' on the part of 'union officers' as a reason for the resignation. He later named Jonathan Griffiths, ICU Deputy Prsident, and Steve Farrant, ICU Honorary Secretary, as these union officers. He also accused union staff of being 'unprofessional.' Unionpresident Hellinger said that she did not think that 'these are the real reasons' for the resignation. She also added, 'I'd like to talk to him about it.'

Ms Hellinger also pointed out that there is a procedure for dealing with staff complaints. 'If anyone has problems with staff, they should come and talk to me or Mandy (Mandy Hurford, Union Manager). If a student afterwards thinks that the procedures are unsatisfactory, then action can be taken against the relevant sabbatical.' Jonathan Griffiths, (31), recently returned from study leave, was shocked by the resignation. 'We all stood by him,' he said.

In the event of the resignation of the Publications Board chairman, the secretary becomes acting chair. This year's secretary, Philippa Love, has already been acting chair this year. The previous Pub Board chair, Richard Eyers, resigned in February, following the 'Felix theft' scandal. Ms Love is reported to be upset at this current resignation and Felix has learned that she may resign as Pub Board secretary.

Speaking to *i*CNN in the Felix office, Mr Henderson-Begg was adamant that 'the real reasons for the resignation were contained in the letter.'

St Mary's Election Results

St Mary's Hospital Medical School Students' Union (SMHMSSU) recently held elections for its executive. 305 people voted, out of an electorate of about 590. Mark Swan was elected president, Michel Erlewyn-Lajeunesse was elected vice president with responsibility for external affairs, Chris Sweeting was elected treasurer and Catherine Ashworth was elected as secretary unopposed. The new executive takes office on 1 July.

Those St Mary's election results in full: President: Farhad Islam, 98; Mark Swan, 193. Vice President: David Caldicott, 111; Michel Erlewyn-Lajeunesse, 169. Treasurer: Chris Carey, 75; Maria Robson, 80; Chris Sweeting, 130. Secretary: Catherine Ashworth, elected unopposed.

Squatting Criminalised

The Home Office has announced that it has received over 200 replies to its consultation paper on unauthorised occupation, or squatting. The paper was published in November 1991 and invited views on whether squatting should be criminalised.

The current legal position is that squatting is a civil offence, as it is regarded as a dispute between individuals. In England and Wales, squatters can be prosecuted with trespassing. Owners can reclaim their property by obtaining a possession order from the courts, a process which can take several months.

The consultation period ended during the General Election campaign, on 31 March. The Conservative Party manifesto pledged to criminalise squatting -'we will create a new criminal offence of squatting, to give greater protection to the owners and occupants of shops, commercial premises, houses and flats.' The manifesto read 'squatting is nothing less than the seizure of another's property without consent. Having consulted widely on the subject, we have decided to extend the criminal law dealing with squatting.'

This suggests that the government, or at the very least the Conservative Party, had already come to a decision before the end of consultation. Julian Woolfson, a spokesman for Conservative Central Office said yesterday that there was a difference between the view of the Government and the view of the Party. 'Now that the election is over, the Government will consider the consultations.'

The National Union of Students has condemned the consultation document as 'staggeringly inaccurate' and 'insulting'. Imperial College Union President, Zoë Hellinger, said that squatting was not a problem at Imperial, but could become one. The University of London Union (ULU) recently held a workshop on squatting.

Biology Restructured

The concerns over recent changes in Biology course structure have prompted Dr John Brady, of the Biology Department, to explain that the removal of courses from next year's second year is because much of the material has been covered in this year's first year. Dr Brady told first year biologists that they would now have a choice from three fields, Microbiology, Plant Science and Animal Science. He added that some courses will be common to all fields because 'regardless of their final degree, everybody coming out of the Biology course must have a proper background in molecular biology and population biology." Commenting on the lack of consultation with students, Dr

'Gardens' to close?

The College Catering Manager, Simon Westerman, was last night unable to comment on rumours that the Gardens restaurant in Southside is to close. Mr Westerman is reported to have proposed the idea in a discussion document submitted to Imperial College Bar and Catering Committee. Mr Westerman is also reported to have proposed the moving of Belushis Pizza Bar and Southside Bar to the

Money-go-round

Imperial College Union Finance Committee (UFC) last night approved the funding of three computers for the Union Office of the contingency fund. This is the first phase of a plan to completely computerise the finance office and provide a computing facility for societies. This would allow Imperial College Union to offer the same facilities as the Constituent College Unions who provide computer facilities for their union officers and societies.

One Union computer will be dedicated to the use of societies, with the second being used to run an accounts package for the Major Sub-Committees (MSCs), thus allowing the computerisation of their accounts. The final computer will be used by Stefano Ruis, ICU Welfare Advisor, to aid him in the preparation of welfare advice and the creation of a welfare database.

Steven Newhouse, SCC (Social Clubs Committee) Chair, said 'it is about time that Imperial College Union (ICU) offered these facilities for their societies'. He further added, 'it will make the job of the MSC Treasurer much easier as less time will be spent on niff-naff paperwork.'

Brady told Felix that 'unfortunately this is inevitable. Do we ask A-level students to design their curriculum?' but added that there would be 'choices at every level.' Questioned on the new course structure, Georgina Mennim, the Biology Departmental Representative said 'in a way having less apparent choices is bad. However, there will be more resources available, for example, in practicals.' She also said that although the changes might seem unfair 'compare this with the current second year and you shall see the course has been changed but the content hasn't.' Student reaction has been reported as 'varied.'

Sherfield Building.

Plans for the reform of Linstead catering are also reported to be in existence. It has been suggested that these involve moving Gardens to Linstead, or moving Linstead Catering into Gardens. Dr Jan Bradley, speaking to *i*CNN last night, said that she had read documents and that she had made it clear that Linstead residents would be opposed to such a move.

In other business, the Film Society presented a claim for a pair of 35mm Projectors. The claim had been on last year's Social Cultural and Amusements Board (SCAB) 5 year plan, but had been delayed by last year's Deputy President, Benjamin Turner. Half of the money for the original claim of £6013 was provided earlier this year by the Imperial College Trust. At the time UFC was unsure if it could fund the other half of the claim and postponed the decision until later in the year. In the interim it had increased to £6750. All money to fund the claim is now available.

Controversy still surrounds the eventual location of the projectors. *i*CNN understands that FilmSoc is planning to put the projectors in MechEng 220 where they show films at present. They are under considerable pressure to move to the Union Building if raked seating is to be placed in the Concert Hall over the summer. This would give the Union its own stereo cinema complex. The decision on the summer refurbishment will take place at the next House Committee meeting on June 8th.

Felix is produced for and behalf of the Imperial College Union Publications Board and is printed by the Imperial College Union Print Unit, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB. (Tel: 071-225 8672). Editor: Adam Harrington, Business Manager: Jeremy Burnell. Copyright Felix 1992. ISSN 1040-0711.