



Felix

Issue 982

3rd December 1993



***The Tales of Beatrix Potter comes alive
at the Royal Opera House over Christmas.
Find out more on page 16.***

Sports Merger To Go Ahead In July '94

BY JOE MCFADDEN

The two largest student sporting bodies in Britain are to merge in July 1994, creating a centralised sports administration.

The new organisation will be called the British University Sports Association (BUSA) and will replace the University Athletics Union (UAU) and the British University Sporting Federation (BUSF).

Imperial College (IC) and St Mary's are both members of UAU,

which handles team sports at the inter-university level in England, but not of BUSF, which organises regional events throughout Britain. IC students competing at this level would represent the University of London Union (ULU), which is a member of BUSF, rather than IC itself. Because the new organisation will take its constitution from BUSF, London colleges have had no individual say in the merger decision; only ULU could vote.

Charles Leary, Imperial College

Union's (ICU) Deputy President (Clubs and Societies), feels that one vote will not be enough for the 70,000 London students and 37 institutions. "I am unhappy that most of the decision making process went on in a meeting we had no vote in," he said.

Mr Leary explains that although St Mary's and IC would continue to enter separate teams, ICU will pay the total subscription to BUSA, invoicing St Mary's afterwards. Subscription fees depend on the

size of the institution, but a flat rate will be introduced as part of the merger, lowering the cost to ICU. St Mary's will be represented in BUSA by ICU, despite the fact that St Mary's has always been treated as a separate entity from Imperial.

Greg Jones, UAU Chairman, said that separate votes for IC and St Mary's is an area that we need to address, a sentiment echoed by Mr Leary, who stressed the importance of clearing up misunderstandings before the merger takes effect.

Prince's Trust Donation To Nightline



Kate Barlow accepting a cheque from The Prince's Trust

BY LYNN BRAVEY
PHOTO BY DIANA HARRISON

University of London Union's (ULU) Nightline has become the first student body ever to receive a grant from the Prince's Trust.

The cheque, made out to the value of £850, was presented at the Prince's Trust headquarters to Kate

Barlow, officer in charge of Nightline, by Tom Shebbeare, Director of the Prince's Trust headquarters. Barlow said that the money given would go towards training costs for volunteers, who have to spend a weekend away. She went on to say: "Nightline is very happy to receive the grant, this being the first time the trust has recognised students as

a 'needy' group. The Trust's aims are to provide money for young people to help other young people. They stressed that they will not be able to consider individual students for such grants."

The recognition by the Prince's Trust for the need of Nightline's services should help in the attempt to secure Government money for the scheme. Although John Patten assured students that 'student union reforms should not affect welfare services', Nightline could suffer from a possible defederalisation of the University of London as colleges currently support the scheme. This may not be the case following a split.

Nightline was originally set up in 1971 at Imperial College following four suicides in one year at the College. It moved to ULU five years ago and now provides a service to all students in London. It runs throughout the night and doesn't just deal with emotional problems; it has information on everything going on in London.

Guilds Treasurer Resigns

BY MARK SIMMONS

Dr Paul Ewing, Honorary Senior Treasurer of City and Guilds College Union (C&GCU), announced his resignation this week. Dr Ewing, a lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has been involved in the C&GCU for over a decade.

In a letter to Paul Griffith, C&GCU President, Dr Ewing wrote, 'I feel strongly about staff involvement in student affairs, but I do not want to carry on with the way things are being controlled by

Imperial College Union - I am really just a cheque signing machine. It's time to go'.

Imperial College Union (ICU) originally assumed the management of the finances of the Constituent College Unions' (CCUs) to reduce administrative costs, but Mr Griffith feels that this is becoming 'a level of bureaucracy you would not expect of a student union'.

In an interview on Imperial College Radio, Mr Griffith said, "It's been building up over a number of years. We're finding that more and more of our say over

what we do with our money is becoming less and less ours."

Speaking about the resignation, Mr Griffith told Paul Dias, IC Radio News Editor, that Dr Ewing is finding he is prevented from making basic decisions on where money should be going. "He feels that his job has been eroded as a result of the relationship between ICU and [C&GCU]."

In his letter, Dr Ewing wished the C&GCU every success in the future, saying, 'I have enjoyed my years as Senior Treasurer. Thank you all'.

Freddie!

BY MICHAEL INGRAM

A statue in honour of rock star Freddie Mercury could be erected in Beit Quad, if plans by 'Queen Productions' go ahead.

The company handles the affairs of Queen, the group fronted by Freddie until his death from AIDS in 1991. It has made an informal application to Imperial College for permission to build the memorial on College land.

The site was chosen last year after being surveyed by Jacky Gunn from Queen Productions. The company had previously been refused permission to build a commemoration at Freddie's home in Kensington. The surviving members of the band are 'very enthusiastic' about placing the tribute in what is 'the birthplace of Queen'.

Guitarist Brian May formed the band whilst studying at Imperial College. The first live show (without Freddie Mercury) was played in the Union Building.

Irene Drexler, a native of Hungary now in London, has been commissioned to sculpt the statue. She has been given a 'free reign' over what the tribute will depict. A wealth of research material (including videos and other paraphernalia) has been provided.

The request has, as yet, not been approved by Ian Caldwell, the new college Estates Manager, who entered the job at the end of last month. An official response may not be possible until after the next Management Planning Group meeting on 13th December.

Mercury died at his home two years ago this week, aged 45. The cost of the statue will come from his estate.

The Nightline telephone number is 071 436 5561

Expansion Plans for Medical Faculty

BY PAUL DIAS AND MARK SIMMONS

Imperial College could become a medical 'super-school' within two years.

Sir Ronald Oxburgh, Rector of Imperial College (IC), has made clear the prospect of further expansion of Imperial's medical faculty through the merger of Imperial College with Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School (CXWMS).

This move follows the recommendations in last year's Tomlinson Report on provision of health care in London. The report also suggested IC merge with three postgraduate medical schools, the National Heart and Lung Institute, the Institute of Cancer Research and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School as part of an amalgamation of all the current London medical schools into four main faculties. The merger would mean Imperial would play a significantly greater role in British medical teaching and research.

Imperial and CXWMS were asked by the Higher Education Funding Council for England

(HEFCE) to present joint proposals for the merger in the light of the suggested health care reforms.

The Rector, writing in the November Issue of Network, the IC staff journal, concluded that the biomedical field is one that is likely to offer enormous research potential for the future. In his opinion the College cannot afford to miss this opportunity to expand.

The College's reply to the HEFCE, entitled 'Strategy for

Medicine', describes in detail how the proposed merger would be implemented and how it would affect IC. The fundamental structural change would be the establishment of an expanded 'College of Medicine' comprising both graduate and undergraduate schools. Such a college would encompass all departments and institutes concerned with clinical and NHS-related activities.

Substantial building work would be required on the South

Kensington campus for undergraduate teaching facilities. The cost of the new biomedical buildings and associated libraries and lecture theatres is currently estimated at £67 million.

The merger would benefit CXWMS, currently experiencing potentially serious budgetary problems, but could result in the closure of its present facilities.

The earliest date for any merger would be August 1995.

Student Grants Cut

BY MICHAEL INGRAM

Student debts are set to increase next year as the Government cuts the basic grant by ten per cent. The reduction was announced by the Chancellor Kenneth Clarke in his first budget on Wednesday.

The reduction in the main rates of grant will be offset by an increase in the maximum level of loan. This will result in an effective rise in possible student income of four per cent. The loan repayment system will not be affected. Similar

adjustments will be made over the next two years.

The Government intends to make contributions to student income from grants and loans equal over the next few years. According to the Chancellor, the parental contribution toward student maintenance will be reduced.

The changes have met fierce opposition from various quarters. Lorna Fitzsimons, President of the National Union of Students (NUS) said, "the government must realise that students cannot take any more

debt". A spokesman for the NUS stated that 'we support a grant index-linked to the 1979 level'. The grant level was frozen several years ago, effectively reducing its value annually. Vice-Chancellors accused the Government of 'denying opportunities to well-qualified students'.

Speaking on IC Radio, Keith Bradley MP, Labour Shadow Social Security minister said: "This new cut in the grant will undermine [students'] confidence in entering higher education."

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A Weekend in the Life of Climbers and Cavers

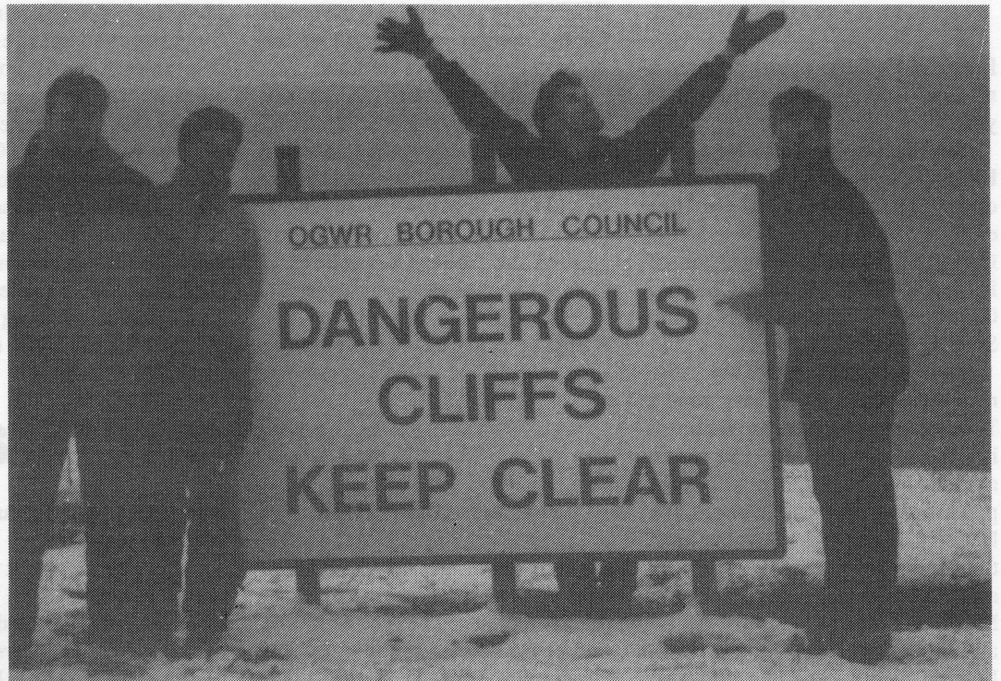
If only everything in life was as reliable as an Imperial College Union van. One van, hired externally, had no cassette player and would only tune to Tom Jones on Radio Wales FM outside of London. But the journey was made exciting by a brief encounter with a kamikaze rabbit on an icy 1 in 5.

While hardened mountaineers opted for a night outside, the cavers punished themselves by sleeping communally in the hut's married quarters.

Although we didn't reach the crag until midday, we climbed several worthwhile routes on sandstone until it got dark. The alpine 'neck' belay and super-solo were techniques most of us opted not to try. Others went down local caves and got thoroughly immersed.

A beery evening started with lots of wild plans for routes on Sunday and ended in confessions in the married quarters, lots of heavy breathing and other noises.

The climbers were up bright and early, had a full breakfast and were outside in the falling snow push starting the van up a Himalayan mountain before the rest started stirring. We drove to the coast where it was decided not to climb immediately with ropes due to risk of avalanche and drowning at the bottom of an abseil. Instead, wicked bouldering problems were tackled at the beach, we ate pots of jam and cream at the tea shop and went to inspect further along the cliffs (where we found about three



bolted routes just as it was time to be heading back). A little rough driving (on purpose) and some navigation of sorts got us back in time to make a first ascent of the economy pork sausage mountain before the caving party emerged.

We travelled back to the sounds of Bob Dillan and the Jam. Oh, for Heaven's sake! A

ticket to ride in the other van please!

ICMC's traditional final trip of term will be to Bosigran in Cornwall. There is excellent climbing to be done just below the hut at this awesome winter resort. Anyone who'd like to go should sign up on the MC's notice board (by the climbing wall next to the JCR).

IMPERIAL COLLEGE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO DISCUSS THE INAUGURATION OF
IMPERIAL COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MALAYSIA SUBCOMMITTEE

CRUCIAL FOR ALL
MEMBERS TO ATTEND

TIME: 2.00PM

VENUE: 220 LT MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER 1993

ENQUIRIES: H. M. KHO (071) 373 6873

They Made Beautiful Music Together

We would like you all to share in a little known activity that has been going on all term. Unbeknown to most of the college, small groups of people have been getting together in any small room they can find, to make beautiful music together.

Now, we would like to invite the rest of college to witness the results. This is not an invitation to a show that would put Soho to shame, but to hear an hour of chamber music expertly performed at our concert. This will take place in the Read Lecture Theatre at 8.15pm on Tuesday 7th December. Works performed will include the Pachelbel Canon, and pieces by CBE Bach, Mozart and many, many others.

Admission will be free for members and £1.50 for everyone else. Tickets are available from Kim Dyos (see below). For £3 you can join on the night and gain free admission to further concerts and master-classes during the year, or play in a group if you feel like taking a more active role.

If there is anyone who would like to play in a group next term who has not yet joined, please contact Kim Dyos, Materials PG (EM group) to register your enthusiasm. We will do our best to arrange the type of group you want to play in.

Hope to see plenty of supporters at the concert on Tuesday.



ICSF is dead chuffed to announce the start of its video showings in Chem Eng LT1. These are no ordinary video showings; they're projected onto a whopper screen (so no, it's not just a bunch of anoraks grouped round a portable TV).

The first double bill is on Monday 6th December at 6pm in Chem Eng LT1. *Predator* is more stylish than most monster movies with ace visuals and bad one liners from Arnie Schwarzenegger.

The story concerns a covert rescue team sent on a mission which involves more than they know. They discover a trail of brutal flayings deep in the south American jungle. Tension is built up by director McTiernan's skillful use of thermal-imaging point of view shots as the Predator stalks the commandos and picks them off in various interesting ways. Fun, tense and a chance to see Arnie in his



Predator and Predator II

natural habitat.

The sequel is a more blatant actioneer, quoting heavily from Robocop and Aliens, but is hugely enjoyable and gives Danny Glover a chance to shine outside his Lethal Weapon buddy cop sidekick role.

The Predator comes to Los Angeles for a spree of violence (*He's in town with a few days to kill*) adding to the going carnage caused by King Willy and his voodoo posse. Watch out for a pretty damn scary subway chase and ultra-violet tracking of the Predator in a warehouse in particular. A very entertaining mix of two genres (buddy cop and monster movie). It's a fun film.

Both films are free to ICSF members with membership costing £3 including free entry to one of our 35mm presentations (watch out for The Exorcist at the end of term) and access to our library in the corner of Beit Quad with its 300 books and videos.

Japanese Endurance, Dating Games, Karaoke What More Could You Want?

After a lot of persuasion from our members, Japan Society is going to have a Bōnenkai End of Year Party on Saturday 4th December from 7pm 'til late. But it ain't gonna be just an average party, it's gonna be mega. So I want all you coooool dudes out there, and the rest, to be there.

It's going to have events for everybody. Naturally, as we are meant to show off our culture, we're gonna have the very traditional 'Endurance' game! This will be based on the highly infamous gameshow which was serialised on Clive James On TV. For those of you who don't know what it is, you don't know what you've missed. Ask anybody who's watched it. They'll all tell you how funny and excellent it is.

Of course, to hold this event we need 'volunteers'. They will get free drinks and food and there's gonna be a big, big prize. The more contestants there are, the more willing we are to put up the prize. For those who are interested,

please either turn up early to the party or contact one of the committee members. (N.B. It isn't going to be at all harmful and is going to be a lot of fun for both contestants and spectators.)

But this isn't the only event. We're also going to be holding a Japanese dating game. This was held last year and was extremely successful. Basically, it's a good opportunity to meet members of the other sex and possibly the girl/guy of your dreams. But, be warned, some of the committee members have been known to dress up as the opposite sex, especially our President. (Actually, he would be very beautiful if he was born a girl but, alas, he was born a guy.) Anybody who turns up can join in and it really is a good opportunity/excuse to talk to other people at the party. More details about how it actually works will be at the door.

Of course, this end of year party will not be a Japanese event without the infamous Karaoke. This is a wonderful chance for those who are

talented/brave/drunk/stupid enough to sing to their hearts content. A warning, though. If you see our President approaching the microphone, either tackle him or run for your lives.

There will also be a disco which will end this wonderful night allowing you to show off your wonderful moves and groove on down or just watch our committee members make complete dick-heads out of themselves.

And how much is this all going to be, I hear you ask? Only £1 for Japan Society Members or £1.50 for non-members. Excellent offer, I hear you cry. And it's promising to be an excellent event to end this term. For more details just contact one of committee members or look at our notice board (No. 56) which is just opposite the Union Bookshop.

Make sure you show up to the party on Saturday (tomorrow)!

Trailer Time at the ICU Cinema

Due to a distinct lack of films this week, we thought we'd trail some of the FilmSoc screenings during the last week of term.

Kicking off the week is the blockbusting feature with Harrison Ford as *The Fugitive*. Ford stars as the wrongly convicted Richard Kimble and Tommy Lee Jones is US Marshal Sam Gerrard, his relentless pursuer in this tense suspense thriller based on the hit TV series of the '60s.

Moving swiftly onwards, Filmsoc is pleased to re-screen the first ever film to be shown at the ICU Cinema. Michael Douglas is the extremely tense motorist 'D-FENS' (after his personalised license plate). Have you ever had the feeling that everything is going wrong for you? Your marriage? Sex life? Money? Job? Michael Douglas experiences this ten times greater than you in the film *Falling Down* (18) presented in wall to wall, ceiling to floor Cinemascope.

Later in the week, we all get a chance to see the gorgeous Sharon Stone in the bath in *Sliver*, The ever chunky, hunky William Baldwin is the love interest. You all like to watch, don't you?!

Look out for the Filmsoc posters for times and dates and details of our special price movie-binger tickets. Advance ticket sales available from ICU Union office (9pm - 5pm) otherwise box office opens 15 minutes before start of screenings and closes 30 minutes after the advertised performance time.

Next week: details of the other movies in our end-of-term movie mania: *The Firm*, *True Romance*, *Monty Python's Life Of Brian* and (gasp of breath, hang on it's) Stallone in *Cliffhanger*!

Sports Results

Rugby:

IC 1sts 21 - 21 Charing Cross
IC 2nds 15 - 13 Charing Cross

Chess:

IC II 5½ - 2½ ULU I
IC II 4 - 4 Kingshead IV

Rugby 1sts

I.C. 1st XV 21 - 21 Charing X

Imperial College were unlucky not to beat a reasonably strong Charing Cross side in this 'friendly' match. Imperial College scored through three well-worked tries by A. Sell, A. Montgomery and the referee. To avoid being biased, the referee scored for the opposition too!

Gangsters and Custard Pies

Splurge guns, sarspiralla, chorus girls and catchy chorus'! Yes, instead of waiting for the annual Christmas re-run of *Bugsy Malone* on BBC2, why not sample the new in-the-flesh production about to hit the boards over at St Mary's? Watch medical students dress up as children dressing up as gangsters! Oh, the irony of it all!

A plot summary. Dandy Dan's on to a sure thing with his new deadly weapon - the splurge gun. With this in hand he marches towards the empire of Fat Sam, who runs the Grand Slam Speakeasy. Fat Sam tries to resist but he's an old fashioned guy and his antique custard pies are woefully inadequate. So he calls on tough-dude-with-a-heart-of-gold, *Bugsy Malone*. *Bugsy* however is more interested in a young starlet, name of Blousey Brown. He saves Sam from a frame up but then Sam discovers his gang is on the rails, worse, down and out for the count. 'Bugsy,' he pleads, 'you gotta help me'. *Bugsy's* supposed to be going with Blousey to Hollywood, what'll change his mind? About 400 smackers...then the gooey pandemonium breaks out.

The production stars Ava Kwong as



Blousey Brown, Jim Coward as Leroy, Toby Shepard as Fizzy, Simon Walton as the fat man at the top, Fat Sam and Rob Hughes as affable hero *Bugsy Malone*.

Production of the musical has swept diagnosing illnesses and exams under the operating tables for a while, with over a fifth of the medical school being involved in some way. A great night out is promised. So get out your glad rags and catch the performance! Or who knows, maybe the cast will find a more sinister use for that splurge gun!

The Great Egg Race

Somewhere near to you, in the last two weeks of term, the Great Egg Race is hitting the college scene. If you believe you could be the next designer of a widget or the fuggelbinder then come along and test your designing skills.

There are six departmental heats when you will be designing something to save a stranded egg from the clutches of the evil Baron Schlumbog using paper, string, little bits of sellotape and any other bits and bobs we can find. You will need four or five people to enter as a team, just sign your names on the posters in your Departments. The date of the heats are as follows:

Aero Eng	Monday 6th December
Chem Eng	Tuesday 7th December
DoC	Wednesday 8th December
Elec Eng	Thursday 9th December
Mech Eng	Monday 13th December
Civ Eng	Tuesday 14th December

All the heats will start at 6.30pm and will finish around 8pm. Anyone is welcome to come along to spot which members of your

department have the best brains for the job and to see who will make it to the final.

The final is on Thursday 16th December in the Mech Eng foyer. There will be one team from each department; again everyone is invited to come along to watch and cheer on your team. The final will have a much harder problem to attempt to solve and this time you will be let loose on various power tools.

We have got some celebrities coming along to judge the final: Sir Hugh Ford, patriarch of the Motor Club, and Tomorrow's World marvel, Bob Symes. There will be a certain amount of food and drink around, but get there early as this will not last. The final starts at 6.30pm and the Egg Race Masters of the Year should be announced at around 9.30pm.

If you think you can solve any problem that you may be given, enter a team. Sign up in your department and make sure you turn up for the heat. No-one knows, maybe you have got what it takes to become Egg Race Masters 1993!

Rugby 2nds

I.C. 2nd XV 15 - 13 Charing X

Revenge after last year's disappointing defeat was taken on Charing X by IC 2nds. After a sluggish start, forwards and backs began to get together and a try just before half-time by Henry Middleton put us in front. Another try just after the break by Lee Jefferson stretched the lead and set up a frantic finish with Charing X piling on

the pressure with only solid defense keeping them at bay. Eventually, however, the IC line was breached, putting Charing X 13 - 12 up with only minutes to go. A last gasp attack by us led to a difficult penalty which was slotted over by the golden boot of Middleton to give IC a deserved win.

***Bugsy Malone* is being performed from 6th to 10th December**

A Questionnaire Of Sport

This questionnaire is geared towards all users of Imperial College's sports facilities, whether they be competitive or recreational. There will be a sports strategy laid down in the next year and the results of this survey will form the base for that strategy. Whether you compete on a sports team or just kick a ball around with some friends please fill out this questionnaire.

As an incentive, we can offer a range of prizes including a months pass to any one activity in the Sports Centre, T-shirts and Sweatshirts. The deadline for the prize draw is 31st December 1993. The winners will be announced in the 10th January edition of Felix.

**Please answer each of the following questions
by circling your response.**

Name

Gender: Male Female Postgraduate Undergraduate

Nationality:..... Department:.....

Which of the following sports do you play?

Badminton	Golf	Sailing	Tennis
Basketball	Hockey	Shooting	Track / Field
Cricket	Martial Arts	Skiing	Volleyball
Cycling	Netball	Squash	Waterpolo
Fencing	Orienteering	Swimming	Weights
Five a side/Football	Rugby	Table Tennis	Other

Is your involvement in sport: Recreational Competitive

How often do you participate in sporting activities? Often Rarely Never

Do you play on any College sports teams? Yes No

Do you use any University of London sports clubs or facilities?

Yes No

What facilities do you use at the Sports Centre?

Rifle Range Swim Gym
Sauna Squash None

Comments:

Have you played at Harlington Athletic Ground?

Yes No

Comments:

Do you use either the Union Gym or Southside Recreational Hall?

Yes No

When applying to University did you consider sporting facilities as a criterion?

Yes No

Would you participate in single sex sports provision and for what reason?

Would you like coaching/taster courses? If so in which sports?

Is there a lack of suitable sports/sports facilities at Imperial College (please specify)

Further Comments

Please put your completed questionnaires in the boxes on the reception desks in either the Union Office, 1st Floor, Union Building or the Sports Centre, 7 Princes Gardens

Shankarabaranam - A Cultural Extravaganza

The International Tamil Society will be presenting *Shankarabaranam* as one of its main cultural events on Saturday 11th December 1993. A feast of young, talented artistes are waiting to make this performance a great success and to capture the hearts of the audience.

A variety of entertainment will be provided including a traditional Veena recital, Karnatic vocal, Bharathanatyam (dance) and pop music, Tamil style!

Veena is an ancient, divine stringed instrument well known for its captivating and peaceful melody. It consists of four main strings which are plucked to produce music and three side strings which provide the Thala (beats). Featured will be the London Veena Group on six veenas, accompanied by the Miruthangam, Moresing, and Ghatam.

Karnatic classical music is an ancient, south Indian music originated from Karnataka - a state in India. It involves the interaction of the voice with other stringed and percussion instruments such as violin, miruthangam and ghatam.

A vital accompaniment to all Karnatic music is the miruthangam. It is a percussion instrument made of a wooden trunk and two leather heads. It is held across the lap and played in a horizontal position.

The moresing consists a flexible iron strip called the tongue which is fixed on to a ring. The



cavity of the mouth acts as a resonator when the curled end of the tongue is plugged. Despite the fact that it is difficult to play, it produces a delightful and pleasing effect when played alongside the miruthangam. The ghatam is a mud pot used to provide rhythmic accompaniment and is an ancient time-keeping instrument.

Bharatha Natyam (translated as dance of India) is the purest and oldest form of Indian classical dance. It is a very attractive dance depicting postures of sculptures and art forms which can be seen on the walls of Hindu temples. The dancer dances to the Nattuvangam (beats) which coordinate with the Sathankai Natham (rhythm of the bells) which he or she wears on the feet. The overall beauty of the dance lies in the blending of the Bhava (expressions), Raga (music) and Thala (rhythm) in harmony and communicating to the audience feelings and emotions of the dancer.

The show will conclude with Tamil pop music. This is an item where east meets west. Many eastern and western instruments will combine provide a great climax to the evening.

This is the first major cultural event to be held by the newly formed International Tamil Society and we hope to gain a lot of encouragement and support to make this event a great success!

Touché Away!

On Saturday 13th November the Fencing team went to Reading University to compete for the UAU South Central title. The other participating universities were Thames Valley, Reading, RHBNC, Kingston and Portsmouth. Our foil team were Jeffrey Wong, Tim Wynn and Poomjai Nacaskul. The epee team were Jeffrey Wong, Tim Wynn and Chris Ince. Finally, our sabre team were Shafik Saba, Chris Ince and Sean Jauss.

Imperial College won this division by a solid margin, allowing us to compete in next month's South championships. The results were:

Event	vs Reading	vs RHBNC	vs Th. Valley
Foil	5-4	8-1	6-3
Epee	3-6	4-5	4-5
Sabre	6-3	4-5	6-3

Boat Club Results

On Saturday 27th November, Imperial College took part in the National Indoor Rowing Championship at Bracknell, Berkshire.

Deciding to concentrate on the new team event rather than individual glory, the squad of twelve dominated the event with an average time over 2500 metres from the top rowers of 7mins 51secs, which demolished the opposition, including Under-23 World Champions from the

The total number of victories were compiled to determine the winners: Imperial - 47; Thames Valley - 40; Reading - 39; RHBNC - 36.

(Kingston and Portsmouth did not show up for some very important and secretive reason!)

Thanks to all the team members for a great effort and loads of enthusiasm. Special mention goes to Shafik Saba for an exceptional performance and for coming on such short notice; Tim Wynn for a great performance and for driving most of us to Reading and back; Jeffrey Wong joining the team at the last moment; Poomjai for his exciting fencing; Chris for being Captain of this miscellaneous group and finally myself for writing this silly article which is little more than an advertisement for the club!

The South division title is on 8th December and we will try to win it with equal fervour.

University of London Boat Club and the Reading University Boat Club.

A stunning individual time of 7mins 42secs from newcomer Alistair Middleton, second only to Olympic Champion Matthew Pinsent, was the highlight of a great team performance that netted the club the prize of a £700 brand new Concept II Ergometer rowing machine.

Volleyball

IC 3 - 2 City

The Imperial College Volleyball Club travelled to City University on Wednesday evening for their first UAU game of the year. City, who had beaten Brunel last week 3 - 0, had an impressive line up consisting of National Division players and an International England player.

The warm-up started with some intimidation from City's England player. Balls he had casually hit over the 2.44m net bounced around our feet and into the ceiling.

We won the first set 15 - 12. Joel Ikoal got his customary yellow card when he questioned one of the referee's decisions. The second and third sets were lost by us, despite the valiant attempts of Robert Stravens at drawing the opposition block on his many dummy runs.

We entered the fourth set doubtful of winning. However, some incredible hard hitting by Peter Desing and Joel easily outshone City's international and won us the set 15 - 3.

The fifth set was the best one we played. The winner of this set would win the game. Good blocking by Shervin Badamshi and Sebastian Fanlan, of City's international (not bad, considering some two to three feet height difference between him and us), caused him to lose his nerve, hitting balls out. This allowed Peter and Joel to attack, slamming ball after ball into the ground. This set also saw good play by Piotr Stanczyk. We won that set 15 - 9 putting us into the next UAU round.

Imperial College Alumni Association Malaysia

Currently the second largest overseas student group, Malaysian students have had a long history with Imperial College, perhaps for more than half a century. A rough estimate will put the number of graduates from this institution at between 600 and 1200. Trends show that the figure will rise in the years to come.

Degree courses in the British universities are traditionally renowned for their depth and rigour, so much so in the case of Imperial College. Obtaining a degree from this prestigious university is just a beginning. The graduates of Imperial College will bear a similar outlook and share common identities. They will appreciate the values, friendship, environment and educational training they received.

Over the years, Malaysian Imperial College graduates have been striving to set up an alumni association. Their efforts have seen a measure of success with the formation of the Imperial College Alumni Association Malaysia (ICAAM) and its pro-tem board, headed by Datuk F.S. Lau.

The advantages of having an alumni are multi-fold. The most fundamental and important of all is that it helps to strengthen the relationship amongst graduates. By organising events like reunions, graduation ceremonies and dinners, as well as the publication of regular magazines, ICAAM will be able to overcome the geographical distances and provide an effective linkage. It will also foster the exchange of ideas and information among the members.

In addition, ICAAM can assist the graduate in job-seeking, or by providing discretionary grants and employment advice through their various trusts and wide ranging contacts within industry. More routinely, ICAAM will provide information and assist any potential students who are intending to study in Imperial College. Working in parallel with the Malaysian Society, orientation days and talks could be held.

Also, as a learned society, it will inevitably contribute towards the achievement of excellence in the profession through the activity of its membership. Indeed, it will find itself



Celebration Dinner for the participants of the Hibiscus Evening 1993 held by the Malaysian Society

concerned with issues that have a direct bearing or consequence on the professional community as a whole.

The benefits of the alumni are not restricted to its member alone. Imperial College will also see the fruit as they will be gaining valuable recognition in the eyes of the Malaysian public, thereby increasing the number of potential students (for example, two current Government Ministers of Singapore were from Imperial College).

In this country, the Government support for higher education has been on the decline. Coupled by the tight spending brought by the current downturn in economy and the ever fiercer competition among the universities for students and staff, many universities have been led to re-assess the worthiness of their old boys.

For instance, the 1992 Annual Fund, managed by the Imperial College Trust, managed to raise £98,000 for the College. This goes to show that the alumni can play an

important role in helping the Alma Mater achieve its goals.

Imperial College has long been a beacon for advanced study to the Malaysian students. As in many parts of the world, an Imperial College degree commands a great deal of respect; the graduates find themselves identified with the respected community within the larger fabric the society.

We believe that the trip of the Rector, Sir Ronald Oxburgh, to the Far East this week, aiming primarily at strengthening the alumni relations in the region, augurs well for the inception of ICAAM, which is awaiting the approval from the Registrar of Organisations in Malaysia.

The Imperial College Malaysian Society will be holding an Annual General Meeting on 'The Inauguration of the ICAAM Subcommittee' at 2pm, LT 220 Mech. Eng., on Wednesday 8th December 1993

Rock Around The Clock

Anyone near the walkway at 6pm on Saturday was in for a shock - forty unkempt, wild-eyed figures lurched out of the JCR and vanished into the night. Was Michael Jackson re-shooting the Thriller video in Imperial College? Or perhaps the Imperial College Voodoo Club was having its first meeting! (...And are they RCC or SCC?)

These zombie-like figures were actually the survivors of a 24-hour sponsored dance in aid of the BBC's Children In Need Appeal. Last year the Dance Club raised over £900 for the Sesame Institute; this year we have returned to our usual charity and hope to beat that total.

It all started very quietly at 6pm on Friday with a dozen of the die-hards who would dance for all 24 hours. By 8pm (elegantly late as

usual), we were up to about 30 and were soon joined by contingents from Cambridge and ULU clubs. We had thrown the event open to all; some danced for a few hours, others much more. We'd kidnapped the Cambridge minibus in the car park, so they stayed until the end.

We had hoped to put on a series of workshops to break up the hours. Unfortunately, the 'flu had decimated our trainers. Instead, we resorted to silliness. At 3am, we started a Disney hour, with highlights from The Jungle Book, The Little Mermaid and Aladdin (Prince Ali is a quickstep). In exchange for showing us some old-time dancing, we taught Cambridge some 1920s Lindy Hop and the Stroll (a close approximation to dancing whilst asleep).

The survivors of the graveyard shift of 4.10am were joined by the Dance Team for their regular Saturday morning practice. Under strict orders not to show off their routines in front of Cambridge, they still managed to look horrifyingly energetic (at least those who hadn't been up all night).

By mid-afternoon, we were being re-joined by those who had danced until the early hours, then retired to bed. There were over 40 of us for the final dance...not the Last Waltz, but Rock Around The Clock. (Yes, it's corny, but we couldn't find a copy of I Could Have Danced All Night)

Thanks to all who took part and their sponsors.

Book

Russian Salad

by Julia Watson

Moscow in 1986 sees the beginning of Mikhail Gorbachev's new regime. This is a stimulating time for people like George Mason, Russian correspondent for a British newspaper. For his wife, on the other hand, the main concern is to cope with life's everyday problems: beetroot may be very nice but you soon get fed up with it if you have it seven days a week.

Russian Salad is about the life of the Masons amongst the foreign community in Glasnost Moscow. Everyone learns to live with the restrictions; even the Diplomat's shop does not sell onions. They also adjust to being under surveillance from the KGB. Some take it light-heartedly and start requesting light bulbs from the 'walls', others learn to argue by writing!

The first half of the book lacks any story, making it an unexciting read. However, when something major finally happens, it and the consequences make the book more interesting.

This is definitely not an action book, but if you can make it through the first half and all the shopping trips it's worth reading.

JD

Price: £5.99

Published by: Bantam

Book

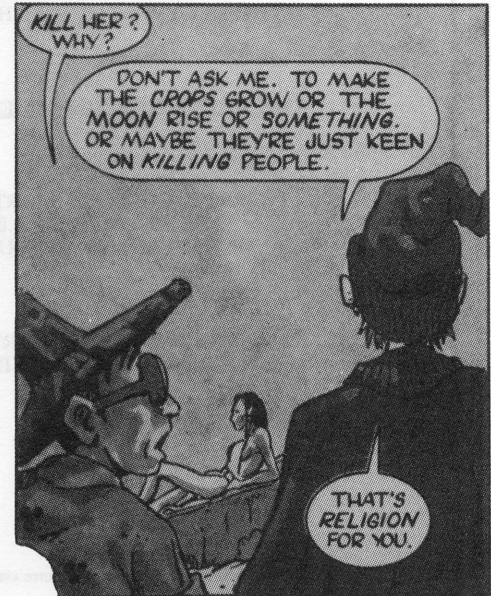
The Light Fantastic (The Graphic Novel)

by Terry Pratchett

How many adaptations are better than the original? Not many, that's for sure, and this isn't about to buck the trend. Not that it's particularly bad or anything, you just can't help comparing it unfavourably with Pratchett's original. And let's be honest, only fans of the discworld books are likely to buy this.

For those who joined the programme late, *The Light Fantastic* was the second book in the seemingly never-ending Discworld series and featured the adventures of the hapless wizard, Rincewind, and the even more hapless Twoflower.

Most of the plot is there (and, more importantly, most of the jokes), but it's inevitable that some of your favourite bits will have been missed, especially since Pratchett's humour isn't visual - a problem when trying to translate it into comic form! For example, it's all very well describing the 'expression' the Luggage has, but how do you draw the damn thing? The art is beautifully painted, but doesn't succeed in grabbing your attention.



The bottom line, I guess, is I can't see anyone enjoying this much unless they'd read the original.

Joe

Price: £7.99

Published by: Corgi

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But as to those who
Rejected Allah, (to them will be said):
"Were not Our Signs rehearsed to you?
But ye were arrogant
And were a people given to sin!

"And when it was said
That the promise of Allah
Was true, and that the Hour-
There was no doubt about its (coming),ye
Used to say,' We know not what is
The Hour: we only think
It is an idea, and we
Have no firm assurance."

Then will appear to them
The evil (fruits) of what
They did, and they will be
Completely encircled by that
Which they used to mock at!

It will also be said:
"This Day We will forget
You as ye forgot
The meeting of this Day
Of yours! And your
Abode is the Fire, and
No helpers have ye!

THE GLORIOUS QUR'AN (45:31-34)

The Imperial College Islamic Society.

diary

3rd Dec - 9th Dec

Friday 3rd

Fencing Club Meeting.....12.00pm
Union Gym. All standards welcome.

Labour Party Presents:
'The Rise of Fascism in
Europe'12.00pm
Talks and discussion with Anti-
Racist Alliance representative in the
Brown Committee Room, Top
Floor Union Building.

MathSoc Meeting1.00pm
A talk by Dr Pretzel on 'Colouring
Maps' in Room 340, Huxley
Building. Free admission and all
welcome.

Friday Prayers.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by
Islamic Society.

Rag Meeting.....1.10pm
Ents Lounge, Union Building.

Atmosphere.....8.00pm
Top tunes from the Ents Posse. Bar
extension until 1am.

Imperial College Symphony
Orchestra Concert.....8.00pm
Programme includes: Shostakovich
Symphony No. 5 and Rachmaninov
3rd Piano Concerto. Tickets £4.50;
£2.50 students, £1.50 in advance.
from the Haldane Library or
Humanities Dept (Mech Eng).

IC Radio:
S&M, It's Orgasmic.....9.00pm
Tune into 999kHz AM for dubious
humour, great sounds and ICR's
soap 'St Mary's - The Ins And
Outs Of Doctors and Nurses'.

Sunday 5th

Sunday Service.....10.30am
West London Chaplaincy presents
interdenominational worship and
teaching. Regular meeting.

Volleyball Club.....12.30pm
Kensington Leisure Centre, Walmer
Road. Women's and Men's training
session. Regular meeting.

War Games & Roleplaying
Club1.00pm
Table Tennis Room, Union
Building. Regular meeting.

Monday 6th

Fencing Club Meeting.....12.00pm
Union Gym. All standards welcome.

ArtSoc Meeting.....12.30pm
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

Flamenco Lessons.....5.30pm
Union Lounge, Beit Quad. Regular
meeting. For more info contact
Pablo on ext 4999. Beginners and
advanced welcome.

Dance Club.....5.30pm
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

Chess Club6.00pm
Brown Committee Room, Union
Building.

ICSF Presents: 'Predator' and
'Predator II' Video.....6.00pm
Chem Eng LT1. Free to members,
membership £3.

IC Radio Christmas
Pub Crawl7.00pm
Start Southside (Upper Lounge) at
7pm. Back to Southside for last
orders. Unmissable for members.
All others welcome. See Radio
Station for further details.

Tuesday 7th

Christmas Fayre.....all day
Union Building. Get your pressies
here. Huge range at great prices.
Da Vinci's open all day.

CathSoc Mass12.00pm
Sir Leon Bagrit Centre, Level 1,
Mech Eng. Followed by lunch.

Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Regular Meeting in Southside
Upper Lounge.

Sailing Club Meeting12.30pm
Meeting in Southside Upper
Lounge. Regular meeting.

Liberal Democrat
Society Meeting1.00pm
Every week in Southside Upper
Lounge.

AstroSoc Meeting5.30pm
Lecture on 'Low Tech Astrophoto-
graphy' by L. Macdonald in
Physics LT2. All welcome.

Yacht Club.....12.30pm
Meeting in room 101, Civ Eng.

Ents Meeting1.00pm
Ents/Rag Office above Traditional
Union Bar. Regular Meeting.

Boardsailing Meeting.....1.00pm
IC Sharks meet in Southside Upper
Lounge. More info from James
Mayhew, Mech Eng pigeonholes.

Dance Club.....6.00pm
Beginners class in the Junior
Common Room. Regular Meeting.

Mission Impossible7pm
IC Radio's weekly round-up of
science, technology and medicine.

Girls Basketball6.00pm
Meet at Southside. For more
information, contact Julie on ext
3681 or 071-584 0029, room 25.

IC Chamber Music
Society Recital8.15pm
Read Lecture Theatre (Level 5
Sherfield Building). A wide
variety of music will be performed
including works by Pachelbel and
Mozart. Admission: £1.50 (free to
members). Tickets in advance
from Kim Dyos ext 6018.

Mountaineering Meeting.....9.00pm
Regular meeting in Southside.

Wednesday 8th

Imperial Parachute
Club Meeting1.00pm
Regular meeting in the Table
Tennis Room (top floor, Union
Building).

War Games & Roleplaying
Club1.00pm
Senior Common Room, Union
Building. Regular meeting.

Tenpin Bowling Club2.15pm
Meet in Aero Eng foyer for a trip
to Charrington Bowl, Tolworth.
Transport is provided. Current
activity: Handicapped Trios
League.

Circus Skills Society.....3.00pm
Union Lounge, Ground Floor,
Union Building. Regular meeting.

Club Libido.....8.00pm
Union Building. Proceeds to
World Aids Day. It's free. Bar
extension until midnight.

Thursday 9th

STOIC Lunchtime
News Training1.00pm
Come up and see us on the top floor
of the Union Building for further
details. Free to members. Non-
members £2.50.

ICYHA Club.....1.00pm
Regular meeting in Southside Upper
Lounge.

Girls Basketball6.00pm
Meet at South Kensington Station
or Fulham Cross School, Munster
Road at 7.00pm. See Tuesday's
Diary entry.

Christian Union.....6.00pm
Meet for food at 6pm. Meeting
runs 6.30pm- 8pm, room 308,
Huxley Building.

Tenpin Bowling Club6.15pm
Meet in Hollywood Bowl,
Tottenham Hale (Victoria line) for
Handicapped Singles Jackpot
League.

Dance Club.....7.00pm
Beginners Class in the Junior
Common Room, Sherfield
Building. Regular Meeting.

STOIC: 'Into the Night'
Training.....7.00pm
Set building, learn to use and
maintain all the video and audio
equipment, interviewing and
talkshow practice. Top floor,
Union Building. Free to members.
Non-members £2.50.

Jazz & Rock Club Present Live
Music in the Lounge.....8.30pm
Union Lounge, Union Building.
Free admission.

Happy Hour7.00pm
Da Vinci's, 20% off all drinks.
Plus the triumphant and long
awaited return of 12-string Steve!

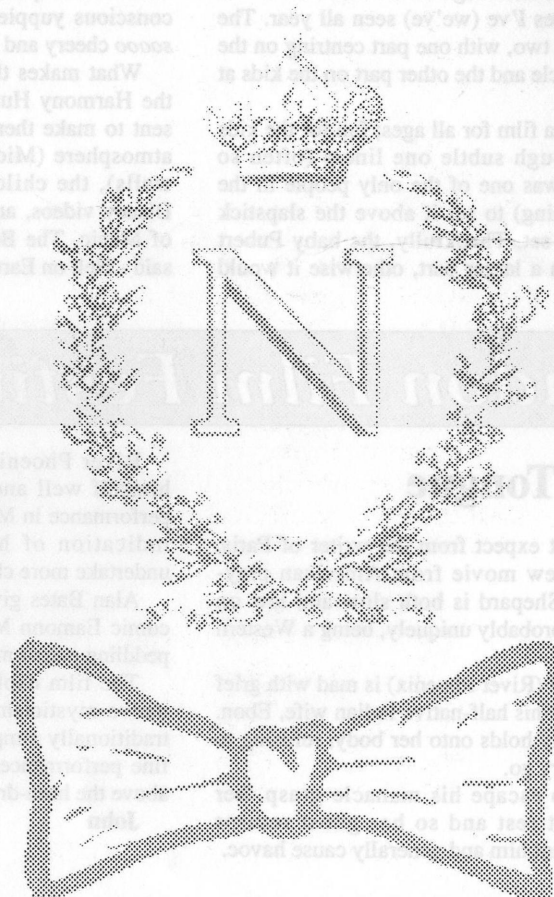
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6.00pm, **Friday** prior to publication
Letters: 6.00pm, **Monday** prior to publication

Supply the following information by
6.00pm on Friday:

Day, time and title of event, room in which the
event is to be held

diary
entries

Cinema

Addams Family Values

Starring: Angelica Huston, Raul Julia, Christopher Lloyd, Joan Cusack, Carol Kane.

Director: Barry Sonnenfeld

From the opening credits onwards, the film looks great. With the high quality of both the sets and the direction, you are forced to suspend your belief in what is normal and find yourself willingly entering the world of the family Addams. I always found the cult TV series mediocre and preferred instead the blunt humour of the Munsters. But this, the second *Addams Family* movie has lost nothing in the transition to the big screen and has indeed gained greatly in status.

There's a new member to the Addams, the baby Pubert, arriving amongst the opening credits. The kids are jealous, the uncle's lonely, the hand is rollerskating. A nanny is hired, uncle falls for nanny (who's after uncle's money), kids realise the nanny's only after their uncle's money, nanny gets kids packed off to summercamp...and so the stage is set for one of the funniest movies I've (we've) seen all year. The plot is split in two, with one part centring on the nanny and uncle and the other part on the kids at summercamp.

Definitely a film for all ages; fun for the kids but with enough subtle one liners (often so subtle that I was one of the only people in the cinema laughing) to set it above the slapstick *Home Alone* set. Thankfully, the baby Pubert was not given a larger part, otherwise it would



They're really rather spooky and utterly quite kooky - The Addams Family and their Values

be in danger of stealing the show. From the moment that he is born with slicked black hair, pallid Addams complexion and that cute little Addams moustache, up to when he is recovering with a hangover (still in cot, but with shades on) from a wild party, you can't help but like him.

The person that does steal the show must be the daughter, Wednesday. Placing her and Pugsley (their son) in an o.t.t. summercamp was a scriptwriter genius. Camp Chippewa is hell on Earth for the pair, full of the offspring of class-conscious yuppies with the two leaders being sooooo cheery and friendly as to make you puke.

What makes the camp complete, though, is the Harmony Hut where naughty children are sent to make them nice. With its nice friendly atmosphere (Michael Jackson posters on the walls), the children are sent here to watch Disney videos, and such horrors as *The Sound of Music*, *The Brady Bunch* and *Annie!* As I said - Hell on Earth.

The problem with sending something up so much as to go completely over the top, is that you often lose the humour (Mike C. take note). This, however, holds on to it with skill and style and makes for an hilarious finale.

With great performances and a pacing so steady and smooth, the ending arrives all too quickly. Perhaps the only down point is the character of Uncle Fester (Christopher Lloyd). Between us we didn't think his costume was as naturally realistic as that of others and that his mannerisms weren't quite right for the character. Having these things niggling throughout the film doesn't help, especially when it is one of the central characters of the film, but it takes nothing away from the film itself. With neither of us having seen the first film, we can't tell you if this was better or worse, but we definitely enjoyed it immensely.

Bonnie & Clyde

London Film Festival

Silent Tongue

As you might expect from the writer of *Paris, Texas*, the new movie from American playwright Sam Shepard is both slow and low on plot, despite probably uniquely, being a Western Ghost story.

Talbot Roe (River Phoenix) is mad with grief at the death of his half-native Indian wife, Ebon. He obsessively holds onto her body, refusing to let her memory go.

Unable to escape his manacle grasp, her spirit cannot rest and so her ghost returns angrily to haunt him and generally cause havoc.

River Phoenix, in his final film, acquits himself well and with his highly acclaimed performance in *My Own Private Idaho* gives an indication of how he perhaps desired to undertake more challenging roles.

Alan Bates gives a bold performance as the comic Eamonn McCree, a travelling showman peddling patent medicines.

The film exploits our notions of primitive native mysticism in an attempt to bolster the traditionally simplistic Western. However, the fine performances are unable to raise this film above the hum-drum level of a tired genre.

John

Child's Play

This is a German film examining a thirteen year old boy's disillusionment with life.

Embarking on the path towards adulthood has already been focused upon and many clichés can be found in the film, which does have some good moment. The characters, too, are completely stereotypical and therefore somewhat uninteresting. This comment applies to males, females, children and adults.

The film captures the ill effects of life in a far-from-ideal family and environment, but not quite well enough to make it worth seeing.

Amir Rehman Khan

ICSF are showing *Predator* and *Predator II*. See page 5 for details

*The President
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to attend the
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on the*

5th February 1994

*Tickets available from City & Guilds
Union Office (level 3, Mech Eng)
at £88 per double ticket*

*The first twenty tickets will be sold at £80
from midday, Monday 6th December*

Opera

Lady Macbeth (a new recording)

It was 1936, Leningrad opera-goers were flocking to *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, and the young Dmitri Shostakovich seemed to have managed the delicate balancing act of writing an original masterpiece which pleased both the public and the Communist Party ideologists. But, as David Fanning points out in his essay on the opera, successful satire is in the eye of the beholder and one scene, the *Pirates of Penzance*-style caricature of an ostensibly Czarist police sergeant, was too close to the bone for Stalin.

The opera sank almost without trace and has only recently begun to regain its initial popularity, despite the composer's attempts to restore the work to grace with his bowdlerised rewrite of 1963. (In the revised version, although she still poisons her father-in-law and strangles her husband, the eponymous Katerina Ismailova no longer goes so far as to commit adultery. There's family values for you.)

Thankfully both available recordings are of the original version. Mstislav Rostropovich's 1979 EMI set is good, but Myung-Whun Chung's new Deutsche Grammophon (DG) recording is preferable. While Rostropovich and the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) can, where necessary, command an abrasive edge

which eludes Chung; their somewhat dry, immediate sound cannot match the warmth, depth and dynamic range DG give the Orchestra of the Bastille Opera. And Chung brings more suppleness to the many passages of rich sensuality that fill the score - music described as 'pornophony' by one contemporary commentator. The situation is similar as far as the title role is concerned: Maria Ewing for DG is warmer and more flexible, while EMI's Galina Vishnevskaya is steelier.

Chung is sometimes too smooth though: as depicted by the LPO for Rostropovich, the horrible Boris Timofeyevich seems to clump on in hob-nailed boots whereas, for Chung, he might as well be gliding on in a tutu for all the notice the first bassoon takes of the phrasing. DG's Boris, Aage Haugland, deserves a better introduction than this; he is outstanding among a fine cast whose acting has surely benefited from the run of stage performances which preceded the recording.

Of the two sets, it's Chung and his singers who have the full measure of the crucial scene, grotesque and also eerily beautiful, in which Boris forces Katerina to swear fidelity to her departing husband (disc 1, track 3).

Rostropovich is better in the black comedy of



Shostakovich in his twenties

Act III; more relaxed than Chung in the police station scene, tipsier in the wedding festivities. Here, incidentally, EMI are generous with their sound effects, which include breaking glass as the toasts are drunk. Elsewhere, such as in the hypnotic first meeting between Katerina and Sergei, her lover-to-be, it's Chung who generates greater atmosphere.

Patrick Wood

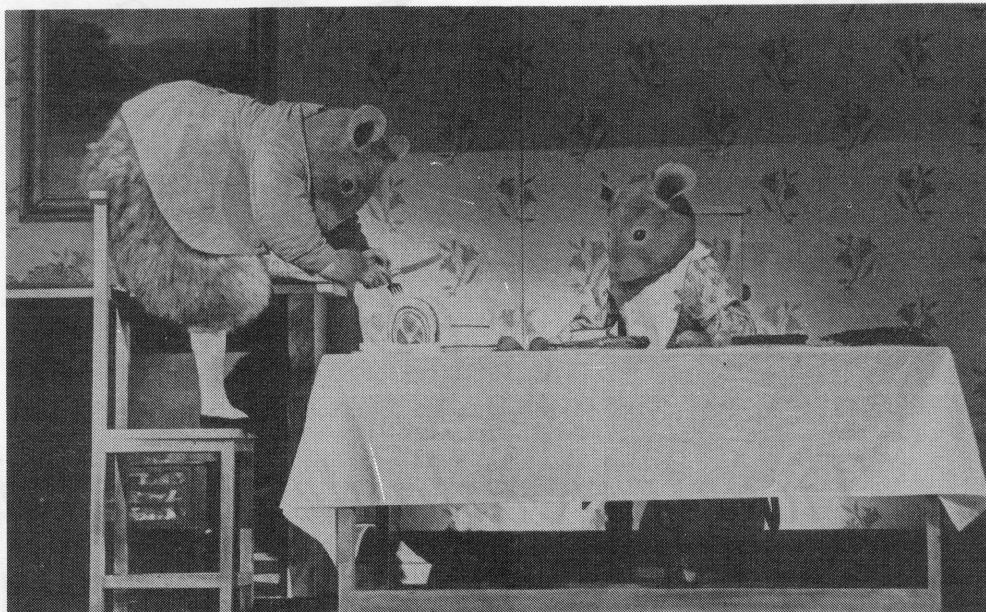
Tonight in the Great Hall, ICSO play Shostakovich's awesome Fifth Symphony, his response to official criticism of Lady Macbeth.

Ballet

The Tales Of Beatrix Potter

Ballet Imperial was created by George Balanchine in 1941 to the music of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 2 and has been in the Royal Ballet's repertory since 1950. Although exquisite, the dancing did not have the synchronised precision expected by this demanding viewer. This revival of the 1950s' version, as I was told by an elderly ballet connoisseur who was seeing the mixed programme for the third time this season, would have done Balanchine proud (in terms of the costumes and interpretation, at least).

If the first part of the evening dragged, *Tales of Beatrix Potter* was as delightful as anticipated - a pure and unashamed love for Peter Rabbit, Squirrel Nutkin, Jemima Puddle Duck and Pigling Bland kindled in childhood of course helps. The costumes are sheer magic, the cast very brave to pirouette elegantly in costumes very hot to dance in and barely possible to see out of. The mice in assorted sizes are endearing, with their tails coiled and tucked neatly to one side. The exceptions to this are the incorrigible Tom Thumb and Hunca Munca who revel in



Those incorrigible mice, Tom Thumb and Hunca Munca, get up to all kinds of mischief.

being naughty.

Another famous tale of a tail is of course that of Squirrel Nutkin dancing up and down like a sunbeam whose impertinent riddles try the patience of even Old Brown, the owl. The ample Aunt Petticoes tearfully sends two of her fine piglets Pigling Bland and Alexander to market, whereupon the dashing Pigling Bland stumbles upon Pig Wig, a sweet shy Black Berkshire Pig. The romance struck amidst some beautiful piggy

ballet results in a wedding even Beatrix Potter didn't envisage!

A superb ballet for children and (I rather suspect) adults who have never quite grown out of the tales of Beatrix Potter's world. Highly recommended.

Rekha Nayak

At the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2. (071) 240 1911. Tube: Covent Garden Until 8th January. Tickets from £2 (upper slips).

Don't forget: The Sports Questionnaire has a prize draw

Theatre

The Mayflies

A parody of the Greek myths, *The Mayflies* was first performed in this year's Edinburgh Festival and is the comic story of the consequences of divine (and modern) intervention in the city of Maeflos in the 8th Century BC.

Zeus, the supreme deity, aided by his loyal servant Death unleashes his wrath on mortals to punish them for accepting fire, stolen from Heaven by the Titan, Prometheus. Zeus sentences mankind to die at sunset like mayflies who live only from dawn to dusk after indulging in an orgy of procreation. The trouble (of course) begins when Zeus orders the creation of Woman in the mould of Aphrodite, the goddess of Love, to be unleashed on errant mortals.

An excellent and very strong cast of three play the dozen or so parts of gods, heroes, villains and ordinary mortals, male and female. Aphrodite, played by Kate Terrence, was at times the queen of vamp and at others, a bored, spoilt teenager. Julian Protheroe played a rather guileless Hector, lover of Phoebe. Particularly enjoyable was Priestess Hermione, also played by Kate Terrence, desperately looking for a fall from grace before sunset.

The versatile costumes designed by John O'Callaghan who works with Vivienne Westwood are both comic and effective. Hector's costume of chainmail, presumably worn in the Trojan War, seemed to be made from silver lurex and Aphrodite's cape was what can only be described as the colour of lust.

Don't look too deeply for a moral; the play is more an exercise in style which is, by the way, very enjoyable. Written in the form of 'poetry' in the Homeric style and mixed with modern day colloquialisms, there were curious and humorous shades of Margaret Thatcher in Aphrodite and Del Boy of *Only Fools And Horses*, in Zeus. It did take the audience the whole of the short first act to become accustomed to the style. A much longer second act gave us time to enjoy it.



The play seemed to fall short on one important point: omitting the underlying message, essential to good satire. Abuse of power and the existence of suffering may be just another manifestation of the futility of existence, but this does not sustain a credo. One could possibly equate the activities of the gods with those lesser gods, politicians, but that would somehow

encumber the enjoyment of this essentially light-hearted play. It's just good fun, more in the style of a *Carry On* film.

Rekha Nayak and Ariana Sen

Attic Theatre, The Ballroom, 103 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19. 081 542 6141. Tube: Wimbledon. Concs £4, £5. (Membership £1).

Theatre

Strip

Strip is a play that deals with extremes of experience; and regrettably it's extremely tedious. Jo (Fionna Padfield) and Gunter (Archie Koffgaard) gradually reveal their respective perversions: he has a penchant for sado-masochism, she gets on on stripping. If this sounds promising, read on...

It turns out (after some time) that a desire to dominate is Jo's reaction to an inferiority complex and she finds nakedness on stage a powerful expression of it. She revels in the control of her body and, through that, the control

of her spectators. Gunter, however, is cool and analytical throughout; he yearns release from the control of his mind and the rationality which tempers his existence.

The playwright (also Fionna Padfield) is advocating exploration of one's perversions; and rather simplistically she isn't held back by any complications of real life, for example, the real changes inherent in all this (especially for women). But that's not really the issue here; the point is that the sado-masochism which is the emotional climax of the play, in fulfilling the character's desires of domination and submission respectively, ultimately liberates them from their obsessions; a process of purification.

An old proverb says 'One showing is worth one hundred tellings', or 'A picture is worth a thousand words'. It's a shame that most of the plot is narrated in long tiring monologues rather than acted out. All speech is directed at the audience, rather than between Jo and Gunter.

Call it subtlety underplayed if you like, it's like watered down Berkoff and would work better on radio. Go and see Mike McShane in the main theatre instead.

Mike

Lyric Studio, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W6. 081 741 8701. Tube: Hammersmith. Concs: £5 (1hr before performance starts).

Gig

Teenage Fancub and the Juliana Hatfield Three

Cambridge Corn Exchange

She comes in happy, the quintessential college girl; Evan Dando's overshadowed siamese twin, if you believe all we write. From last year's solo outing comes an all new lineup. If you carefully observe, there are three people on stage and only one has the initials JH. They start playing and it's obvious that we'll have to work for our atmosphere tonight. *Juliana's* stage presence is not huge, she's pretty static and the rest of the trio don't add anything. Just let the music talk.

The usual instrumental surface of every indie band from the Corn Exchange to Ulan Bator is being embraced on stage. Only what has been labelled as “girlie squeaky vocals” propel us to something higher. Maybe the phrase could be softened but, as a description we can relate to, it’s spot on. The whole vocal package is strung in a way that you don’t get from any testosteroneed perspective. The swooping drawn out joy at the end of a chorus or the scraping rhymes and undulations become alive and treasured. You don’t need the Riot Grrrls to have feminine music, you only need a woman.

The songs are mainly from 'Become What You Are', latent with self fulfilling improvement

and only the piquant ‘Everybody Loves Me But You’ pokes through from a solo past. For someone of her poster lauded dimensions it’s a strange title but that’s the path she travels. A world underpinned with melancholy and introversion. We never gain what we think we want and even when we do it flees away. That’s what gives the gig a poignancy, because it’s not good and yet is an honest statement. I will her to be good and the fact that she isn’t reflects more on me and my perceptions.

“Are you cold out there?” Someone in the crowd tries to reply. In fact he tries several times but *Juliana* can’t hear and a light embarrassment falls. This is real voyeurism because it’s the heart of her personality standing there in a spotlight of dysfunction. The end of the set, as on the album, is ‘I Got No Idols’, a song against the groupies we long to be. Another self-depriving statement which asks us to be honest and that’s what live music is all about, leaving some of your soul in the mind of the audience.

Teenage Fanclub are the mirror reverse of what's gone before. They can hold the stage in the palm of their plectrum and yet they're not

aiming as high as self analysis; that they're alive is enough. When things go wrong with the sparkie plugs and sockets the show stays on in that happy way. Norman smiles and leads and you know this is as enjoyable for him as it is for us and probably more. The first half is excellently solid. The hard graft of supertrivial guitars in overdrive. Don't knock them but don't expect either. As benefits their status as the lovelies leading the 'rip off' brigade there are covers; Dylan's 'Tamborine Man' and something from Gram Parsons, but not a note sounds like their supposed stylised mold Big Star, of course.

The second half does limp though. The provincial teenagers down the front are losing their jumping shoes. A cut of twenty minutes would have created a rounded beast of vintage but we are given something which ends up a little deformed. Give due where it lives though they end with the traditional and similarly majestic 'Everything Flows' which even two members of the Posies can't detract from. A song from their first album gives old life to the dogs, a reminder that development can atrophy.

Tintin

PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY • PARTY


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"All You Know Is What You See..."

So says Juliana Hatfield in *'I Got No Idols'* and Owain reluctantly concurs.

How does a dreamy shoegazer meet his stars? We roared here in a rocket fuelled on speculation, liquid anticipation, burning our seconds above the Cambridge snow. A thirty minute touchdown on the surface of another's reality. And I don't mean she's a goddess and I don't mean I'm an undiscovered marvel - I'm just trying to make friends. Tintin has a different philosophy and we expound and pound each other in the pub next door for hours after. But first the interview.

Juliana Hatfield, ex *Blake Baby*, ex her own woman ('Hey Babe' her sole solo outing), now a third of the much praised and purchased *Juliana Hatfield three*. 'Become What You Are', their debut album, is like an expanding bubble of bubblegum pop; bright, light and deceptively sweet. Listen harder and find the saccharine, the additives, the aftertaste. Cryptic? Juliana is as she seems, but not as you might see her.

We are talking in a vault high above the rafters of the Cambridge Corn Exchange. She appears bored, shy, interested, restless and exhausted all at once and fidgets and slams her boots near our tape recorder too often for comfort. Listening later, the mic has picked up other-roomly sounds; footsteps outside, cars passing, the *Posies* in the massive hall below. But it can't record the glances, the angle of her head, the shape and timbre of a person's tone. Just the way she says the usually thrown away phrase 'I don't know', as if caught in a Faustian moment of indecision. I'm won before we start.

And she's lost. I pass her a *Felix* to sample. "Let's see if there's anything about me in here," she smiles and flicks through to a *Lemonheads* review wherein I describe her backing vocals as 'squeaky' and 'girlie'. I blurt out something about meaning the way she just pops up on the tracks being intrusive and even beneath her, but she insists it was Belinda Carlisle and rather than argue we move swiftly on. How's the tour going? "Good, yeah, I got sick as soon as I got to England." The start is aimless; we have to talk a while before she begins to open up. Tintin asks if it's hard singing such personal songs.

"Nah, because they're not real songs. I made them up." She pauses. "It's really a compliment that you believed them...sucker!" So it's more in the tradition of old transportable lyrics? "Err, yeah. If I kept a diary, I wouldn't want anyone to read it. That's why I don't have a diary. I don't want people to know how I think. So I'm not going to put my diary in my songs you know?"

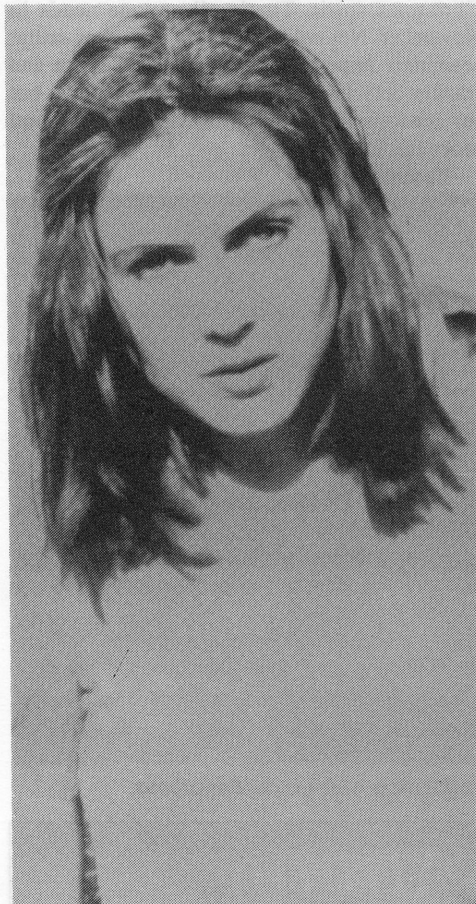
She continues, "I like music because it's in the air. I like music because no-one can take it away from me - I could write it down but I don't, it's in my head. If my house burnt down or the world blew up I'd still have my songs."

Years ago Miss Hatfield belonged to an audacious band of child prodigies, *Blake Babies*, described recently by NME as one of their greatest ever oversights. Juliana is non-plussed about the release of a *Blake Babies* compilation.

"Well, I don't really care about it, it wasn't my idea. I dunno, I guess they're trying to capitalise on it."

Juliana, am I doing you justice? This wasn't an interview, it was three unheard soliloquies. Maybe you were just bored.

Tintin blunders in with a quote from the press



describing her as fermented from 'illicit beer, chocolate and Biactol' - the girl next door (with pimples.) "What?" she exclaims. It's not his own phrase he blusters back. "Oh." If she gets this involved in a conversation with two no good studes, is it any wonder she's rebuffed the studs, or is described as difficult, tortured, a bit mad?

"Was she nice?" my little sister asks later. Look Rhian, she's a human being - am I nice? People are not drawn on flat paper...

"It's not my fault if people try to paint me as a cartoon character. I don't put a lot of effort into my image." She pauses, breathes in, slams her boot down. "I'm just trying to come across as a complete person, like anyone would." But the press don't like their copy standard A4. She says they're jealous, basically, "of people having fun making music. They put so much passion and hate into writing about bands and who's going to be the next big thing and it's like, who cares? It's really not that important."

She says she doesn't read the press so she doesn't care how they colour her. But isn't that part of her game? If she sings songs that aren't

real then she's fair target for their fantasies?

"Well, I've real feelings and stuff but I just discard them," she objects. "It's not like I'm some cold-blooded writer." All this press talk was irrelevant, she really is above it, or sideways removed from it. And that's why she's precious, because she's just living her life like you, me or Joe sixteen. We go back to serious music talk.

"Yeah, I gave up the solo stuff because it was just too much hassle to audition people. Plus, I don't trust myself to do the right thing."

The title 'Become What You Are' was stolen from a book she reveals with a blush. No, the fact that the other band members only appear on far distant plains in the group photos doesn't come from her. And no, she doesn't listen to or even like her own music much. I mention a rather bitchy comment I read which disallowed her from sadness because she was rich and attractive. Her reply is slow and thoughtful; the weight of the room is on her shoulders.

"I can't help the way I look or that I wasn't living in poverty," a long pause, "ever...I suffer, just in different ways to some other people. Everybody suffers." The way she says this, so honest I know I won't be able to relate this back in London, that they'll think me overblown or blown over. I let slip the dreaded name of Evan Dando and our noble pact is broken.

"Evan," she corrects. "Ah, Evan, like in Heaven!" I say and mention his comment that it would be better to mess up with drugs then make another ten *Lemonheads* albums.

"Ahhh," she giggles. "Well, I don't think they've made a bad album yet." (Of course she's going to be biased, being an old head.) The conversation gets rolling and informal and it almost doesn't matter that both me and Tintin are here (a mistake, we decide later. Impolite, possibly rude.) We plug our favourite new bands and collide spectacularly with a mutual love of *Madder Rose*. Hmmm, NME claimed they stole all their best ideas from *Blake Babies*.

"That's a bunch of bullshit - they don't sound a thing like the *Blake Babies*. I read that and I was like 'What the Hell?' We toured with them and they're really cool." We talk about fans.

"You'd be surprised. Some people follow bands around the whole country. Wackos." Then later, "I didn't really mean wackos." Can't she let anything go?

We tell her of our visions of rescuing her from a Cambridge scrum of admirers and sycophants but she insists she's never recognised. In order to raise her profile Tintin suggests a quick photo.

"Oh, I don't want to," she says, recoiling into her chair. "Okay, okay," says Tintin soothingly. We worry about our rock star and she's just human, worries about what people might think of her, what you might read. There's no twist in that uncertainty. We end and say our farewells. It all went wrong.

I don't want to be a journalist.

"I was born of people's needs and what they don't wanna believe"

Gig

Radial Spangle, Idaho Powerhaus

For those stranded in the spiritual wasteland, *Idaho* are the valium for your tortured mind. Vocally related to RHP's Mark Kozelek, Jeff's voice emotes but with depth beyond belief. Its pain stretches and soars, drives valleys through mountains of stone-cold rock and leaves the earth quaking in its wake. And yet, it still manages to leave a glimmer of hope to even the barrenest of deserts. Lost souls, listen carefully,

Idaho have spoken.

And they aren't just a case of self-pitying, muddled geniuses deepening their sociopathic stances and thriving on moping misanthropy. Sure, they have lived life, but the essence here is that they're looking for a way out. But anywhere will not do. Somewhere special, perhaps. Somewhere special...

With tinsel wrapped around their mic-stands, *Radial Spangle* loll around with a goofy Christmas spirit. That's all anyone needs in November. Not unlike Mercury Rev, they sculpt seemingly impossible shapes in solid space and frankly defy logic. It's this absurdity I like, but for reasons best known to herself, Shannon looks flustered. Poor girl.

Camille



Idaho get laid back and spaced out in the wilderness which is the Powerhaus.

Album

Sidi Bou Said Brooooch

Throwing Muses comparisons still dog their tracks, but the only real similarity lies in the self assuredness of their debut offering. The album bristles with musical invention, recalling even the mighty Pixies at times, as it veers from nursery rhyme spookiness to guitar frenzy. Their political stance is not evident in the lyrics but half of the album's cover is given over to the Women's Environmental Network, an organisation presently targeting the environmental threat from the disposal of sanitary towels. This down-to-earth attitude has attracted the attention of Chumbawanba and the end of 1993 finds them supporting the agit-pop superheroes at the Brixton fridge. Be there! (8)

Ridley Dash

Released on Ultimate

Album

The Orb Live '93

Releasing a live album is simply not good enough for a band like *The Orb*. They exist to push back our musical boundaries, not to sit back and play safe. So how come they get away with it? It's not simply a hard copy of an *Orb* gig, more of an instrumental voyage, taking in performances at Tokyo, Copenhagen, and Glastonbury, revisiting and reworking tracks from their back catalogue.

Excellent sound quality does not allow the crowds to intrude into the worlds they create as they transform and blend everything under the sun into their own musical heaven. Full marks seem inevitable, except for the sneaking suspicion that they could be doing this one just for the money. (9)

Ridley Dash

Released on Island

Album

Dread Zone 360 Degrees

'360 Degrees' comes across as a fairly commercial sounding record and certainly it has its moments. The Moricone inspired 'The Good, The Bad And The Dread' is quite interesting, but ubiquitous and dissimilar are the words that come to mind, and from a wordless tiny mind such as mine, that could very well be an insult.

Dread Zone, it would appear, are all former members of Big Audio Dynamite, which means very little to me outside of the fact that one of them was married to Patsy Kensit instead of me. On that sour note, this one receives a yawning thumbs down, and an all expenses paid trip to the Gulag of boring parties. (4)

Glyph

Released on Creation

Album

Kingmaker To Hell With Humdrum

Well it's not crap, but only just not crap. One side of Radio 1 sessions and one side of new studio songs does not an album make. However, *Kingmaker* haven't made a good record for at least two years now and some schools of thought would have you believe that even that one was dreadful. The problem is that they had to stop being good upon the arrival of Suede, in favour of being 'interesting' (a peculiar niche occupied by people like the Trash Can Sinatras).

Oh who cares anyway? Go and read a book instead. Broaden your minds as opposed to lining the pockets of this little matriarch. (6)

Glyph

Released on Scorch

E.P.

Slowdive 5 EP

This new EP takes *Slowdive* in the direction that they were inevitably heading for. 'In Mind' almost strips them of their traditional guitars, replaced with a sparse electronic atmosphere to which Rachel Goswell offers her usual distant vocals. 'Country Rain' is a pretty good finale, and I didn't even mention the word ambience.

Yuen

Released on Creation

Who is Juliana Hatfield? You can find out on page 19

Reform? Not on your life.

At long last, the Government have announced their intended reforms for student unions. Do you want to know what will happen to your club or society? Read on....

Reform?

The Government have long resolved to 'reform' student unions. Their aim is to make them more accountable, to stop any mismanagement that may exist and above all to give students a greater choice in whatever collective involvement they wish. Sounds good, doesn't it? But how are they going to go about it?

You may have known that the Government wanted to make certain activities open to all students. These are 'core' activities and they can be funded using public funds. Currently all of our Union's activities are funded by public funds.

As for the rest, they are 'non-core'? This would be on a 'voluntary opt-in basis', to coin John Patten's phrase. You want to take part in a non-core activity? Then you pay your own way. That may seem fair to some, but what is a legitimate 'core' activity?

To put it simply, core activities break down into four main areas:

- Sport
- Welfare
- Internal Representation
- Catering

If your club, your society or any student activity doesn't fit into one of these areas, then not a penny of public funds could be spent on that group, no matter how worthwhile it may be. If your activity does fit into one of these areas, then you should expect less money. Why? Implementing these reforms means bureaucracy, which means time and time means money. That means less money for the residual 'core' clubs.

The Reform Bill is going before the House of Lords. In it, the Secretary of State asks the Lords to allow him to choose, at a later date, what he considers to be legitimate student activity. It isn't even described in the Bill what will be

legitimate to fund and what activities will not be.

What can we do?

Write. Write to your MP here at college and at home. Tell your MP what you think of the Bill, how it could ruin your club, ask him to question the Minister and to report back to you. By now, the Union will have started its campaign to inform Members of Parliament of the value of student unions. If we all write to our MPs then we can change this Bill for the better. Listen for details at your club meetings, in your department and in your hall of residence. At the same time, our Union officers are contacting MPs, ministers, local council members, business leaders, anyone and everyone who can help us to keep all of our clubs, teams, societies.

For further information, contact Andrew Wensley on extension 3501.

Elimination *by Sphinx*

Eliminate two words from the right hand columns for each clue on the left. Which is the word left over?

- a. Become angry at this temperature ?
- b. Two words with Union
- c. Leaving ticket
- d. Two star signs
- e. Angry nation on the run ?
- f. Two homonyms
- g. 1/1 to 31/12
- h. Unannounced examination of skin condition ?
- i. Two synonyms
- j. To unlock life support ?
- k. Pooh sees it !
- l. Two anagrams
- m. Nuclear argument
- n. Two going with runner
- o. It should keep you in your seat
- p. Two with April
- q. What a gambling artist does ?
- r. Petting in the swimming pool !
- s. Two linked with spirit
- t. Group of bondage shops ?

1. Key
2. Out
3. Red
4. Bean
5. Bear
6. Belt
7. Card
8. Draw
9. Fool
10. Jack
11. Lots
12. Fall
13. Spot
14. Year
15. Chain
16. Cheap
17. Check
18. Cross
19. Early
20. Front
21. Level
22. Libra
23. Peach
24. Point
25. World
26. Breast
27. Cancer
28. Random
29. Safety
30. Stores
31. Stroke
32. Boiling
33. Country
34. Showers
35. Student
36. Whirled
37. Witness
38. Calendar
39. Skeleton
40. Surgical
41. Premature

The answers to last week's crossword are over the page

Editorial

I was talking to my dad earlier in the week. He told me that he was having problems with the hard drive on his computer, which meant that he was unable to access any files. This got me thinking about the fact that none of the *Felix* computers (and we have three) have been backed up since we got them.

After this conversation, I said to Rose (who works in the office) that we really ought to back up the machines and that I'd do it over the weekend. The machines have been known to crash every now and again, but nothing really major, we'd just lose the odd hour or two's work. So I guess we'd never had a reason to think too seriously about it before. I know, I know, it's the one thing you should always do - save everything regularly, just in case! But anyway, I was all set to sort it out this weekend.

Do you believe in fate? Is everything going to happen, no matter what you do? I'm a great one for telling everyone else not to tempt fate. So why don't I listen to my own advice for a change? I should have kept my big mouth shut!

Yep, you guessed, the machines crashed big time. Not just your usual little system error or anything like that. No, instead we get a major hard drive failure. And this was at about 5pm on a Thursday afternoon, one of the busiest and

most stressful times. This particular week, we still had a fair bit of work to do on the issue and every bit of text needed was stored on that machine.

I'm not particularly computer literate at the best of times. I know how to get out of some situations (which usually involves pressing the 'reset' button!) but a serious fault on the hard drive worried me slightly. So, I thought I'd ask one of the DoC folk who frequent the office.

It was then that I found that fate had dealt another cruel blow - all the computer geniuses who hang around the office were either ill in bed with 'flu or were out at some computer show for the afternoon. Could it possibly get any worse, I asked myself?

But all was not lost. IC Radio is known to have one or two computing-type persons lurking in their vicinity. So I gave them a ring and spoke to Steve. His reply was "Shit! I'm on my way." This didn't sound good. But I needn't have worried. Steve sorted it all out in about ten minutes - what a hero!

I'm just keeping my fingers crossed (I'm not all that superstitious, honest) that nothing else goes wrong before you all get your mitts on this issue.

CAREERS INFORMATION

There are three Careers Talks this coming week in different venues at 1.00pm - 1.50pm.

Tuesday 7th December: *Opportunities with Physics* by Professor Nigel Bell of ICCET in The Clore LT 1.

Tuesday 7th December: *Environmental Careers* by Professor Nigel Bell of ICCET in The Clore Theatre, Huxley LT 213.

Thursday 9th December: *The Second Interview* by Gloria Barber, Graduate Recruitment Manager of Abbey National in The Clore Theatre, Huxley LT 213.

All undergraduates and postgraduates welcome. No need to book - just turn up.

Improve Your Applications And Interview Skills is a Short Course for all on Wednesday 8th December from 2pm to 4pm in Huxley Room 344. Sign up in the Careers Office.

Summer vacation training opportunities are now available in the Careers Office. Apply by 10 December to IAESTE for placements overseas. Apply to UROP for research opportunities.

For further information come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sheffield. Open from 10am to 5.15pm Monday to Friday. A Duty Careers Adviser is available for quick queries from 1pm to 2pm daily.

SMALL ADS

Tizard Hall photos from 92/93 can now be collected from the Security Lodge in Southside.

To IC Radio members: Christmas Pub Crawl. Mon 6th. Southside (Upper Lounge) 7pm. Route maps and times of arrival at pubs available in ICR. Attendance preferred.

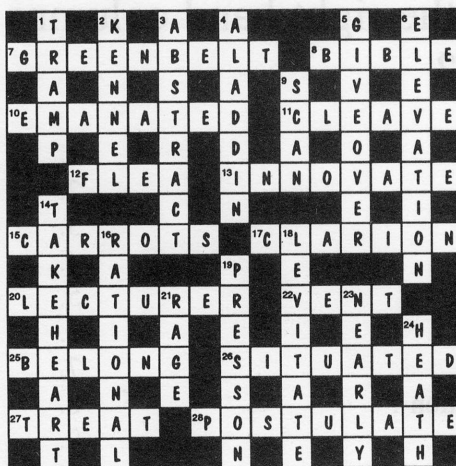
Student Accommodation: Single room in Fulham. £48 per week includes kitchen, bathroom, shower, washing machine, lounge (TV, video). Easy bus/tube/cycle. Phone 071 386 5582.

To non-IC Radio members: Come and join in with the members on the annual IC Radio Christmas Pub Crawl. Mon 6th Dec. Starts Southside 7pm. See Radio Station (next to Southside Shop) for details. All welcome.

IC Choir Christmas Concert: Haydn: Harmoniemesse; Honegger: Une cantate de Noel; Vivaldi: Magnificat. Friday 10th December 1993, Great Hall, Sheffield Building at 8pm, £5.00 (£2.50 for students)

Carer workers urgently needed for short term Christmas bookings. Top rates of pay plus board and lodgings. If you have four to six weeks or longer free over the Christmas period why not come and live-in with an elderly or disabled person in their own home. They need your help now. If you have a caring attitude telephone Eileen or Margaret now at *Care Alternatives* on 081 946 8202.

Answers To Last Week's Crossword



Credits

Andy Thompson
Rose Atkins
Simon Govier
Steve Newhouse
Mike Chamberlain
Diana Harrison
Juliette Decock
Rekha Nayak
Jon Jordan
Patrick Wood
Owain Bennallack
Andrew Tseng
Joe McFadden
Lynn Bravey

Michael Ingram
Mark Simmons
Paul Dias
Sphinx
Kin Wei Lee
Penguin
Charlie Leary
Steve Dunton

Collators last week:
Steve Newhouse
Owain Bennallack
Penguin
Jon Jordan

We apologise for not creditting Paula Collens for writing some of the Aids Awareness article in last week's *Felix*

Election Congratulations

Dear Beccy,

I would like to congratulate Steve Haborough on his victory in the City and Guilds Vice Presidential elections. Undoubtedly his experience will prove invaluable in performing his function. I wish Steve all the best for his term of office and I shall be happy to provide any assistance possible.

Finally I would like to thank those enlightened people who took the trouble to vote

for me. I'm sorry to disappoint you but the golden age will come. And remember I am still the sultan of Brunei aswell as a non-executive director of Shell.

Yours,
Benjamin Maxwell

P.S. A Werthers Original to the first reader who can get me in the sack with that new bird in Neighbours. Or a pint if you're Brian Clough

The deadline for all articles and features is 6pm on Friday

Bent Review

Dear Felix,

On 26th November you published what purported to be a 'review' of Martin Sherman's important play 'Bent'. As the play ended on November 28th, it did not give those 'with some interest in the subject matter' much time to see it, especially observant Jews such as myself who are unable to attend the theatre Friday afternoons and Saturdays.

Adrian Thurston the reviewer accuses 'the eternal Jewish intellectuals' of hijacking the holocaust, which was, he informs us, 'the persecution of political prisoners, criminals and gays'.

I have never heard of any Jew deny that communists, gypsies, homosexuals and others were persecuted in the holocaust. Martin Sherman, the author of this play, focusing in on persecution of homosexuals, is himself Jewish.

Maintaining that the 'butt of Nazi hate was not the Jews', and that there were 'certain privileges and luxuries only allowed to Jews', is the sort of revisionism practiced by 'historians' such as Irving, who is rumoured to have once said that "the holocaust never happened, and it's a shame Hitler didn't finish the bloody yids off".

I have never heard of any concentration camp survivor talk about the luxuries of the camps, nor have I read any account, first hand or otherwise that described the death camps in those terms.

Now the only reason any Jew has in stopping the world from forgetting that the Holocaust happened is to prevent a reoccurrence; - something which does not seem so unlikely when observing the anti-Turk activity in Germany, and the disgraceful treatment of Bosnian Moslems in former Yugoslavia.

If people submit offensive and ignorant racist articles, which you feel are worthy of publication, could you please print them in a separate column, as I would rather skip them out and just read the normally excellent reviews.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Factor, Materials IV.

It's The Pits!

Dear Felix,

The Editors of PIT would like to express their support for Beccy, at a time when many people are signing petitions condemning her. Whilst Felix has been tediously boring this year, people should remember that Beccy is the Editor not the writer.

If you want an interesting read start submitting interesting articles or shove it up your poodle hole (sic).

Lots of love,

Ed and Gareth.

P.S. PIT Christmas Special out two weeks today (3rd December).

Union Building Lift Is Vertically Challenging

Dear Beccy,

I have never been particularly good friends with the Union lift. It never invited me to any of its birthday parties, and always refused to buy a round in Da Vinci's. But it's gone too far this time. I'm not sure what I've said to it, but it has a distinct grudge against me. Two weeks ago, it pretended it had amnesia, and couldn't remember which floor was which. The only one it could get right was the ground floor, where I always get in anyway. I don't really like walking up three flights of stairs to STOIC from the first floor, especially when I know the lift is quietly following me up, laughing to itself in the safety of its shaft.

This in itself was not too bad, until I found the lift had a real grudge against me. Three times in the last two weeks, it has found it necessary to do my bidding and take me down to the ground floor, but then to refuse to open the doors. I wasn't too pleased, as you may imagine. No amount of cajoling, stroking, hitting random buttons, breaking down in tears, and many other tricks of the lift user's trade would budge the doors. So I tried something I'd never done before whilst sober. I pressed the alarm button. Some hope. Five minutes later I was still inside, becoming seriously late for my tutorial or something. Then, out of the blue, our user-

friendly (not) lift decided to wring some blood out of its heart of stone. It deposited me on the first floor, leaving me to walk down the last flight of stairs. But when I reached the bottom, even more of a surprise met my eyes. Security officers peering into the lift doors, Union staff shouting in to find the person who rang the alarm, firemen with cutting gear forcing the doors open... You'd never have noticed they were missing. Nothing there. Not a sausage. I'm not counting the chuckling coming from the shaft as the lift shot up to the top floor for its next victim.

Surely someone must have noticed the alarm being raised... Surely someone in the Union Office must have taken some notice of me when I told them the lift had trapped me each time it happened. Surely something should be done about it?? Mind you it did take them two weeks to mend the door so it could tell when it was about to rip your arm off as it closed and went up. Will it take a death, from arm-ripping or claustrophobics trapped in there for days on end without food, water or clean undies?? Or will someone finally take notice of this lift trying to tell people how ill it is and how it needs early retirement so badly??

Bryan Crotaz, EE2.

Aids Day - A Success for ICU

Dear Beccy,

It is estimated that at least 40 million people will be affected by Aids at the end of this century. Aids effects everyone, so it's important that we mark World Aids Day. This year we had stalls, a fire eater, benefit disco and article in Felix.

On behalf of ourselves and Paula Collens we would like to thank everyone who helped during the day to organise the events: Ian and all the bar staff for their hardwork and support and for donating the barrel of beer; Yvonne and the catering staff for their help and donating 5p from every drink sold in Da Vinci's; the Union staff, especially Michelle, Ali, Sam and Charlie for manning the stalls; the Fire Eater for freezing in Beit Quad; the Ents kiddies for the benefit gig; and last but not least each student who wore their red ribbon and contributed to the day.

With your help we're sending a large donation to the Terrence Higgins Trust to help in the battle against Aids.

Thanks to everyone.

We love you all!

Nicky Fox, ICU Welfare Officer.

Min Kavlak, Union Adviser.



A fire eater outside the Union Building marking World Aids Day last Wednesday.

Photo: Simon Govier

Christmas Fayre

GET ALL YOUR PRESENTS HERE

GREAT GIFTS, GREAT PRICES..

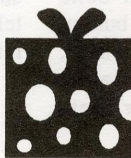
IN THE UNION DINING HALL & THE ENTS LOUNGE

*Jumpers, Clothes,
Electrical Equipment,
Batteries, Computer
& Video Games*



*Xmas Cards, Books
from Giles, Far Side,
Diaries, Jewellrey*

*West Country
Woollen Goods,
Jumpers etc*



*Wide selection of
CDs current chart
hits to
golden oldies*

*Silk Clothes -
from
Bomber Jackets
to Shirts.*



*Posters, Prints,
Holograms,
& Postcards*

*** TUE 7TH DEC * 8AM-5PM ***

More stalls to be confirmed

BAR OPEN ALL DAY

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IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

FELIX
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