

# FELIX



The Student Newspaper of Imperial College

NOTICE COLLECTION  
No 1008 21OCT94  
NOTICE COLLECTION

## RSM Renamings

BY ANDREW DORMAN-SMITH

Senior academics at the Department of Mineral Resources Engineering (MRE) have called for further discussions over a plan to rename the department. Earth Resources Engineering has emerged as the favourite choice for a new name, after discussions between college officials.

The change has been mooted following a letter from the Professor John Archer, Pro-Rector, which asks for comments on the new title. Professor Archer, said that he has received only one *negative* response to his letter, and claimed that most of the department's staff agree with the proposal. But Professor Archer said discussions are continuing - despite the publication of an official college note which says the change will take place "shortly".

Professor Archer defended the plans to change the name of MRE, insisting that the change would improve the image of the department, and 'incorporate a philosophical redefinition' to reflect the 'flagship courses' the department has been running for two years.

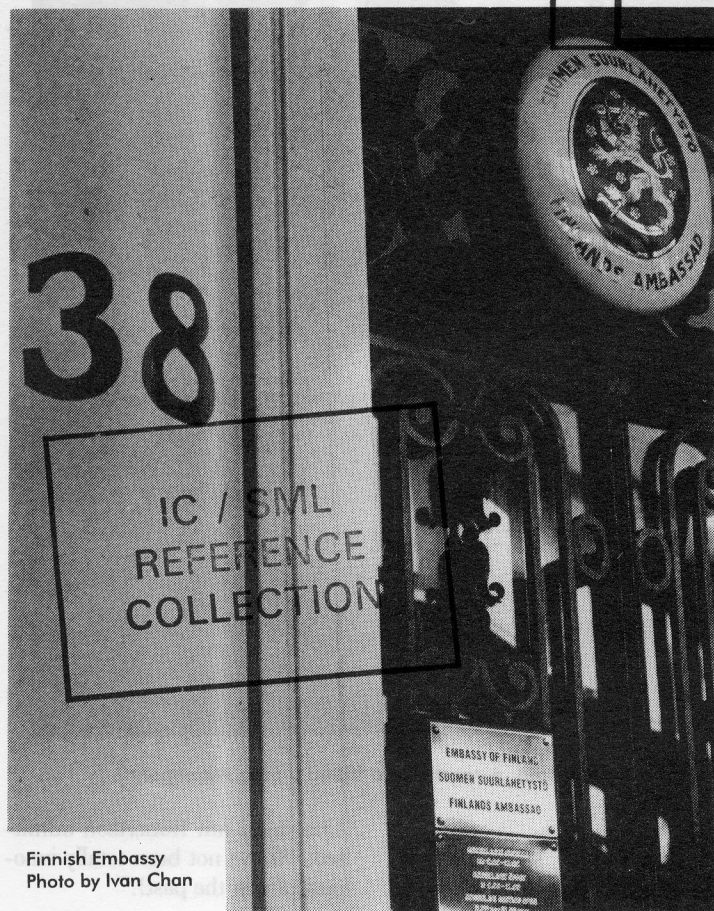
One of the Department's staff, Professor Shaw, Dean of the RSM, pointed out that the proposal has not been adequately discussed with students. He suggested that the issue should be debated by the Staff-Student committee. It was emphasised that most of the staff were away when Professor Archer's letter was issued, and that although a change had been discussed the

benefits of the proposal had not been adequately debated. Professor Shaw said the name of the Department itself does not overly matter, and said he was, "a believer in tradition". Professor Shaw would not say if he supported the name change proposal.

However, the new head of MRE, and Dean of the newly established Graduate School of the Environment, Professor Woods, is believed to think the proposal is a 'great idea'. His role as Dean will be to coordinate the departments of Imperial, and to present the benefits for research of the college in line with a review completed in May by Sir John Mason.

The other two RSM departments may also change names. The college's chief decision making body, the Management Planning Group (MPG), has suggested a change in name for the Geology department. The MPG has not specified a name but Earth Sciences seems to be the most likely name, though Geological Sciences has also been suggested.

A decision on this has not yet been made, and the proposal would officially be discussed at the next Staff meeting. Professor Worthington, Head of the Department of Geology, said there was a general feeling that the Department's name is a bit outdated, but insisted that if there is disagreement he has no intention of forcing the proposal. If approved, any change would be made on the same time scale as that for MRE, taking effect from (Continues on page 3)



Finnish Embassy Photo by Ivan Chan

## Ubercracker

BY MICHAEL LUDLAM

A hacker broke into Imperial College's computer network and from here caused disruption to the Finnish University computer network, it emerged this week.

During the summer a hacker from the United States managed to gain access to computers run by Imperial's Centre for Computing Services (CCS). Via the internet, an international network of computers, the invader was able to disrupt Finland's main University computer net-

work. It was only once Finnish authorities rang Imperial that the problem was chased and solved.

The computer, located in the Department of Biochemistry, was broken into permitting the hacker to become a 'superuser'. As 'superuser' the hacker could bypass all security mechanisms on the machine. "They could tell it to blow it's own mind away," said Sean Bennett of the Department of Computing. "This fault is one that is used time and time again by hackers to mess with the internet." (Continues on page 3)

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# Thieves Sweep Imperial College

BY RACHEL WALTERS AND LYNN BRAVEY

A two student crime wave was stopped in its tracks when a hapless duo found themselves locked inside the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering department last Saturday.

The youths, from Warwick University and the University of Westminster had to call security when locks supposed to keep them out kept them in instead. The two were so hopelessly lost that they had to describe their surroundings to college staff before they could get out.

When security searched their bags, the department's signing-in book, and an assortment of mail taken from the post-graduate pigeon holes were recovered. The students are being dealt with by their own University disciplinary procedures. Terry Briley, Deputy Head of Security, commenting on the event, stressed the need for identification before holding open swipe-card doors for strangers.

In another incident last Saturday, brass plates outside the Union Building were stolen.

Missing items include the ICU plaque, that was screwed to the wall adjacent to Beit Arch, and the FELIX sign.

Rag Collectors have been blamed for the disappearances which occurred during a Rag party. The party had been organised by Mencap to thank the Rag Collectors that had travelled from all around the country to London to participate in the IC Rag Monopoly.

The ICU sign was removed from the front wall of the union security lodge. The lodge is manned 24 hours a day.

One theft was foiled by a Union Steward. At approximately 11.40pm the steward noticed that the ICU doormat, which is usually sited in the entrance doorway of the Union Building, had been taken. Following a patrol the mat was located and locked away in the Union Office for safekeeping. It is estimated that around 1200 people attended the party. The Union has discussed the thefts with Mencap. Lucy Chotia, ICU President emphasised that they were not taking the idea of charging the charity 'lightly' but added that the sign 'obviously had to be

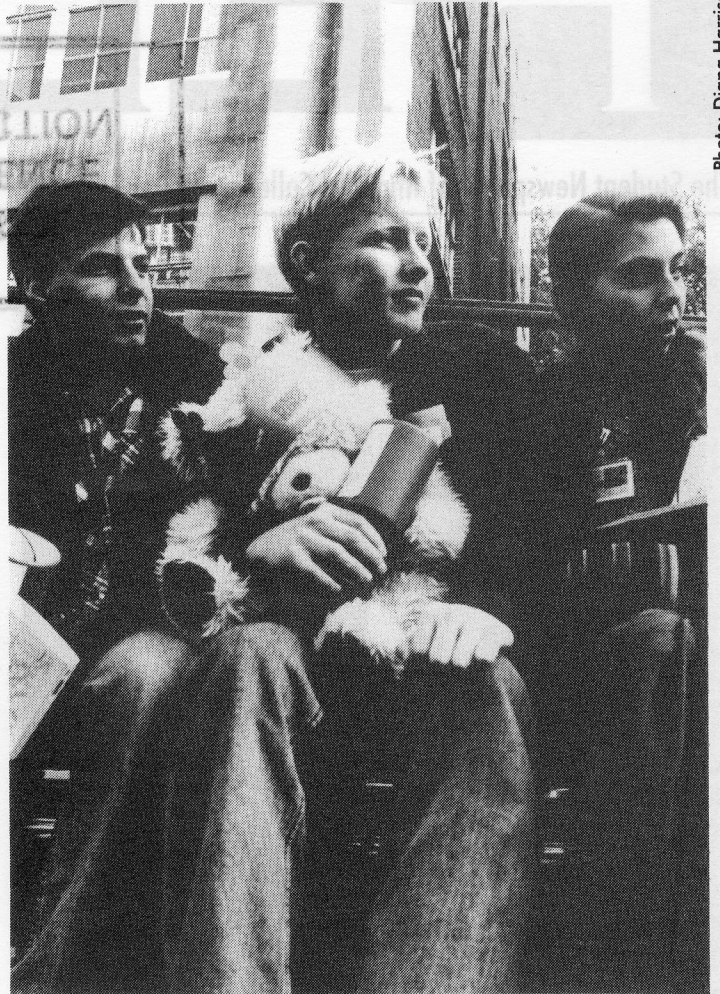


Photo: Diana Harrison

Playtime: A ragster and friend during Monopoly

replaced.'

Souvenir stealing by 'Raggies' is fairly common on these excursions and IC Rag

Chairman Ian Robertson admitted, "We've not been totally innocent of it in the past!."

# Medics Give RCS Problems

BY ANDY SINHARAY

The Royal College of Science's vintage fire engine, affectionately known as Jez, may be evicted from her present garage if plans to replace the old Chemistry building go ahead.

Although plans for the replacement of the building with a new Biomedical Centre have not yet been officially approved, the RCS Union and its Motor Club have expressed concern about the demise of the building, in which the RCS Union office is also based. In interviews with FELIX, Mr Jon Turner of the RCS Motor Club and the Mr

Charlie Bell, President of the RCSU both said that nothing definite had been heard. They added that any movement of the fire engine away from the College site would deny many students the opportunity to work on Jez in their spare time.

Jez was donated to the students of the RCS in 1955 for what was described as her 'educational value'. Mr Turner said, "She's been kept going since - by students and ex-students, most of whom work for engineering firms. She commands that much loyalty...she really is a labour of love, and she's very pretty. She's not called Jezebel for nothing. People

get involved with the motor club and end up devoting half their lives to her."

He added that Jez could not be simply put 'anywhere', as tool space and maintenance facilities are required. The present garage is located directly beneath the RCSU office, and was specially extended to accommodate the vintage vehicle. The official presidential transport of the RCSU, Jez has already been present at the Fresher's Fair, the RAG Tiddlywinks and was even used as the jail van in the RAG Monopoly last Saturday. Jez will also be going to Brighton in November with Bo', City &

Guilds' veteran car.

There is concern too over the potential fate of the RCSU office. However, the Imperial College Director of Estates, Mr Ian Caldwell, assured FELIX that he is "sensitive to the needs of the Union". He added that though the current priority was to obtain official approval from the Higher Education Funding Council and the Department of Health for the new building, the RCS would be consulted in January. No work would begin until next summer at the earliest. "But we've got a responsibility to house them somewhere," he said.

## News In Brief

BY PETER LANIGAN, IAN DAVEY AND RACHEL WALTERS

(Ubercacker from page 1)

The hacker managed to shut-down part of the Finnish equivalent of Britain's JANet system by stopping all e-mail reaching it. It caused the Finnish network to disappear off of the computer map and is known by computer experts as, 'a major denial of service attack'. The problem was traced by a Finnish user who reported this breach of security. A high level Finnish authority then contacted Imperial College to ask what was going on. It is claimed by Professor Hynds, Head of the CCS, that the CCS have, "managed to make sure that nothing like that will happen again." However, when asked about whether improvements had been made, Mr Bennet replied: "None what so ever as far as I am concerned, no actions have been taken." Currently the present system is vulnerable to anyone who has a workstation on the internet and knows the name of the local network.

The experienced hacker, known in computer circles as an 'Ubercracker', 'nuked' the system

which means that they sent packets of information to a machine on the network. The machine at the receiving end in Finland, acting as a nucleus for the university network, contained a bug that can be manipulated to make the machine stop 'talking' to the network.

Currently all of the college's Unix based computers, except those maintained by the Department of Computing are running a system that is extremely easy to break into. The Department of Computing uses a system called Kerberos that is far more difficult to break into. It is not completely safe but anyone wishing to break into a 'Kerberosed' system would need a long time to do it and know exactly what they were doing. It improves security by providing extra protection on passwords that move around the various systems. "Basically, it makes things many times more secure than it currently is, and the College ought to be using Kerberos now," said Bill Sharp, computing support at St Mary's.

(RSM Names from page 1)

October 1995, it would show that the department wants to be involved in the new Graduate School.

Professor Worthington said the change would only be of 'marginal help' in the Research Assessment Exercise which the

department will undergo next year in its bid to get a Grade 5 rating, this would give the department more research money. The rating is seen as being vital to the financial well being of the department. Prof Worthington admitted that they were still not balancing their accounts, but with new lec-

### Union Disciplinary

Two students have been banned from the Union Building after a disturbance during Fresher's Week.

The incident occurred inside the Union Building on the night of the casino and the hypnotism show. It resulted in the involvement of security and Union Stewards.

The students, undergraduates in the Departments of Mathematics and Mineral Resources Engineering, appeared before a disciplinary committee shortly after the incident.

Dan Look, Deputy Union President (Finance & Services), said that the matter was being

treated as personal and would not reveal any names. He declined to comment further. It is believed that the students had been drinking heavily, and that the incident happened towards the end of the evening.

### Women's Problems

In a new initiative for the female population of Imperial College, security's women staff have undergone training by the Metropolitan Police in dealing with victims of sexual harassment and assault. Women make up 10% of the staff, which will enable at least two to be on duty at each shift.

tureships and the additional £200,000 per year that a Grade 5 rating automatically generates, it would make a balanced budget possible.

In the case of Materials, the third department of the RSM, discussions are taking place for a name which would better reflect its activities. Professor Maclean, the head of Materials, has insisted that a change is not imminent, and would be for 'marketing's

sake' rather than to reflect any philosophical change. He emphasised that undergraduate courses would continue, and pointed out that his is the biggest Materials department in the country. "Rumours of our death are greatly exaggerated," he joked, insisting that Materials will continue to exist as a separate department.

## editorial

### At the Mind's Edge

My brother recently had a motor cycle accident which left him with pins in his shoulder, left leg and right foot and, in addition, some very strange dreams. We were discussing general anaesthetics and I, a veteran of two operations, mentioned that the last time I had one I was looking into the assistant's beautiful blue eyes as she counted down (I giddy with gas and a mild infatuation) and I wondered why she stopped at 'seven'. "The operation is over," she replied and I spent a lazy narcotic afternoon puncturing the hours with brief islands of consciousness. My

brother, however, seems to have suffered rather badly. He speaks of hallucinations and tortured nights.

"I was in this woods, talking to a strange monk in an iron mask. I lay there for hours and it was only the hospital bed that gave it away: that I was dreaming." And: "there was this spaceman next to my bed all night. I kept screaming at him to go away but he just sat there. All night..." And, slightly comically I confess, he spent the Friday after the third operation fervent in the belief that he was an 'aircraft door'. He told me, quite genuinely, that he was surprised to be in hospital with all these other doors - since when did doors go to hospital? And why would a nurse call a door by its

### Credits

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Seven Day Guide Wei Lee & Ivan Chan  
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Collating Last Week  
Jon Jordan, Andrew Tseng & Helen Randall  
Helpfulness Steven Newhouse

first name?

What lies beneath the brain, beneath those neurones and deep in the heart of nothingness or soul? I sometimes wonder if there is a part of the brain dedicated to believing - some peoples convictions seem so bizarre and irrational even in daily life. I have a

theory that the much hyped virtual reality will not come through billion pixel displays, supercomputers or lasers writing directly on to the retina but by tapping straight into this 'belief lobe'. After all, LSD and even dreaming appear to do just that. But then, my reality always was virtual...

# The Great and Silent Debate

Owain Bennallack explores UGM's and Unions...

Last Friday saw the first UGM of term and the new constitution receive its first reading. It was passed. UGM stands for 'Union General Meeting': it is the forum which aims to bring together all the Union's members to determine policy and to vote on both mundane and contentious issues. At present every student in college is a Union member so the total number in attendance could theoretically have numbered several thousand.

*Around thirty people were present.*

There are many ways in which to continue with this article. The first would be to scream 'apathetic herds' at Imperial students in general. The second would be to blame the sabbaticals for mismanagement and the low attendance. Another would be to simply shrug wearily and say "well, that is the way of things nowadays". (After all, are students really apathetic, or would it not be truer to say they are simply not interested in UGM's?) All these approaches have been taken in the past by the Union, this newspaper and a host of taxi drivers - all have an element of validity. But to blame any particular body seems facile, given the long history of this saga.

Instead, I'd like to consider some of the root factors involved in the debate. Given the low attendance, it can no longer be assumed that people know, or even care, what the Union stands for and what exactly their relationship is with it.

## What is the Union?

The word 'Union' is an umbrella term denoting the student run organisation of Imperial College. Although funded by college it is the students who decide how the funds are spent. Broadly, the Union is responsible for Welfare, Representation and promoting and encouraging the interests of students in extra-curricular activities (ie. All the clubs and societies at Imperial). Further to these aims ICU also runs refectories (e.g. 'Da Vinci's bar'), the Union bookstore and employs permanent members of staff to manage some of the day-to-day running of this large operation.

So what does that mean? It means, in effect, that if you buy anything from the bookstore, if you belong to any club, if you have any academic problems that need addressing or any welfare issues, if you attended a Freshers' Week event, whatever, you have interacted with the Union. There are people who drink every night in the traditional

bar, perhaps play rugby or football for three years and abscond with first years annually at the first Ents night of the term but confidently leave college secure in the knowledge that they have had nothing to do with the Union. "Union? Bunch of hacks, never did anything for me..." they will confidently say at the (Union organised) commemoration ball.

All this is not meant as a piece of Union propaganda but to highlight that you are likely to be affected by the Union in some way whilst at IC, although obviously to varying degrees.

It is not true, then, to say that people have 'no interest in the Union'. In fact, it is rather that they have no interest in its running (the 'politics' for want of a misleading word).

## Why should you care about the running of the Union?

By taking an interest, in even a small way, students at least make the Union feel accountable for its actions. This ensures that students basic needs are always kept as a priority. In addition, by being involved you can make a positive contribution to student life. Your involvement could lead to anything from better entertainments to better staff-student relations. Everywhere the Union has a hand you can stick your own finger. Money is being drawn in your name too. You should know how it's spent.

But there are still many students in college who know all this, who are involved in clubs at a senior level and have even sat on Union committees but who consistently do not attend UGM's. Given that they are so numerous, and that the sheer number of those who do not attend is so large, perhaps it could be that the majority is right. Mob rule.

## Why should you NOT care about the running of the Union?

Firstly you could say that your interests are being met and so why change things? Your club has its money, your bar its beer. You may feel that there are other, more committed people able to represent your point of view already. Or that you have time to play hockey or watch bands, but you haven't time to take part in the finer points of 'hacky' policy wrangling. Fair enough.

Which brings us back to the beginning.



THE JOURNAL OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

## Council votes to make itself supreme body Farewell to democracy?



Following a heated debate Monday night, Union Council voted to elect Union General Meeting (UGM) to a new status which would make it the supreme body of the Union. The motion, which was passed by a vote of 214 to 364, would mean that UGM would be the only body with the right to elect the Council and to elect the Executive Committee. It would also mean that UGM would be the only body with the right to elect the Council and to elect the Executive Committee. It would also mean that UGM would be the only body with the right to elect the Council and to elect the Executive Committee.

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What the poor turnout at the UGM on Friday could mean is that the new constitution is completely well-founded. After all, if no-one is attending UGM's then democracy isn't functioning and the semi-democratic council proposed in the new constitution (see FELIX 1006 for a brief explanation together with arguments for and against) could be the only way forward. Last Friday the attendance at the UGM was to degree made up of the would be members of the new council (A bewildered first year was even asked to stand as first year representative!)

Maybe it is too much to expect the student body to turn up to form a quorate UGM and vote itself out of existence. If the battle lines were more clearly drawn and there was a real body of opinion against the new constitution then maybe attendance would be higher. For instance, the old FELIX front page above is taken from January 1989 (only five years ago) and it reports on a motion quite similar to the new constitution: to remove UGM's as the supreme decision-making body. The result? 214 in favour and 364 against. Over six hundred people attended.

In an interview Lucy Chothia, Union President, admitted that last Friday's turnout was 'very disappointing' and said that there was a plan to get publicity out earlier next time. But she believes low attendance reflects more generally on student disinterest in the UGM system. Asked whether she should be actively going out into public forums such as the JCR and talking to students she said: "We'd love to go out into the JCR but if we did the Union would not run. I believe the most important thing is for the Union to function rather than for people to know that we are here and that we are great."

*The next UGM, in two weeks time, will seek to ratify the new constitution. Copies are still available from the Union office.*

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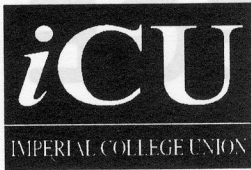
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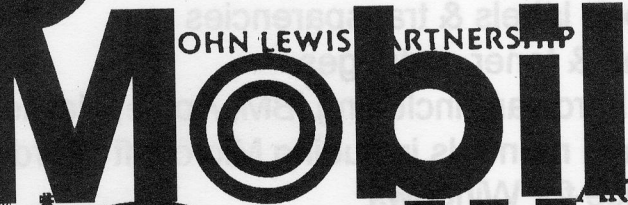


# CAREERS FAIR 94

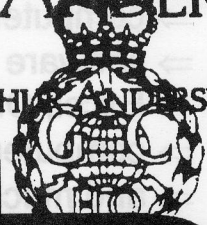
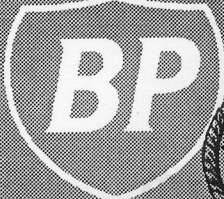
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### + Interviews

PEOPLE 1 PREJUDICE 0



### + FeedBack

ONLY THE S-FILES CAN SAVE US



The *S-Files*' first mega-interview. Six women from across the undergraduate spectrum gave testimony: Michelle Cole and Barbara Wensing from Biology II, Sam Nagaitis from Chemistry I, Cathy Harris from Computing I, Heather Turner from Civ.Eng.III, and Sarah White, Geology with Engineering Geology III. How do undergrad female techs feel about Imperial? Is it stale and sexist or switched on and sexy? Decide for yourself. Stay tuned for our Staff/PG followup special later this year.



#### Why did you do Science/Engineering?

**Michelle:** I wanted to do biology. It was the only thing I really ever wanted to do. My outlook on science in general is that there are a lot of boring people in it. I think they can't show their real selves for some reason.

**Barbara:** I think science is really interesting. If someone came up to me and said science is dull and uninteresting, I would beat them up! Some people think science is ...really really difficult, but I don't think so.

**Sam:** I just do what I find easy...I think, yea, I'd like to be a scientist wearing a white coat in a lab, finding cures and things.

**Cathy:** I wanted to be doing something hi-tech. Industry seemed unexciting and unappealing, whereas computers are the future...

**Heather:** I did some Civil Engineering work experience at school. People seemed to enjoy what they were doing, and it seemed interesting.

**Sarah:** I always knew I would be doing Science. My dad's an engineer. I'm not sure if I'm going to stay in science, though. I have to decide whether I'm going to stick with it or pursue a musical career instead...

#### Are IC academics sexist?

**Michelle:** Overall I think that in Biology, everything's okay, but occasionally...the male lecturers will look on you as complete and utter bimbos, sometimes, especially in practicals, where its easy, not to make a mistake, but for things to go wrong.

**Cathy:** They seem to be making a conscious effort, although sometimes they take things too far. 10 for effort.

**Heather:** On the whole, they've treated us exactly the same as the boys. I'd give them 8 or 9 for trying.

**Sarah:** Its not that the RSM is anti-female, as much as its pro-male. There's almost a macho aura.



#### Are male students sexist?

**Michelle:** When I first started, I thought the boys were looking at me, but now I think I was just being over-sensitive.

**Barbara:** Biology seems okay, but I think its different in engineering. I think you'd be more in the spotlight. I've never experienced sexism in the college, but I think there must be some. I think its not so much that people are sexist, as that people want to show others how smart they are.

**Sam:** I'm used to being one girl in a crowd of boys. I guess guys are sexist. They do try to wind me up, but I don't let it effect me, really.

**Cathy:** They give us a lot of attention because obviously there are so few of us - maybe too much attention sometimes. They don't have any real respect for us, .e.g. my swipe card didn't work initially. These guys had to grab it and try it for themselves before they would believe me. Most of the girls I meet are feeling the same way and feel we should you know put out a united front and face the sexist guys.

**Sarah:** When I first came to the RSM, I was very intimidated by all the guys in the class, most of whom were rugby, beer-drinking types. I guess we've learnt not to take much rubbish from anyone anymore. I am the RSM women's officer, so I guess I'll be dealing with these issues all the time now.

**:-) NetAccess (-:-)**  
Our net special last week has already stirred up a hornets nest of debate. The newsgroup *ic.general* has been debating the *S-Files* coverage, and some departments have either called to complain that actually, they have got *Mosaic* access (e.g. physics), whilst others are scrambling to set up their own web servers, (e.g. William-Penny lab). We'll keep you posted. Look out for our next big Net Special, focusing on *Mosaic*.

#### ★ Competition Winners

The following people were sufficiently persuasive when they hit the Felix office, shouting "Only the *S-Files* can save us!". Each won a pair of tickets to see the Future Entertainment Show at Earl's Court, 26th-30th of October:  
Yin Chien Yeap - Software Eng. III  
Michael de Luna - Software Eng. III

Give 'em hell, guys!!

#### Do you think you have any advantages over the guys?

**Cathy:** Boys... have their own thoughts and they believe them, and they're not willing to look at anything else.

**Heather:** I think I look at the wider context of a problem, I don't just solve the equation and see what the end result is. I think I am a more divergent thinker, rather than convergent. I think that if you're doing a project, you've got to be able to look at everything, whereas the boys tend to look at one specific thing.

**Sarah:** We tend to think round problems, rather than confront them head on...We tend to think of everything rather than just focus down on one part like guys do.

#### ✂ Credits

Editor: Dap Farside  
Reporter: Hilary Strip Pic: Ivan Chan  
Connections: Natasha Tree Pic: Benallack

# FIRST BITE

## Get your teeth into Radio

**BBC Radio** is launching its third nationwide search for young writers, so if you've got something to say and you're aged between 16 and 30, here's your chance to have it broadcast. **FIRST BITE** goes on air in September 1995 with up to 20 plays and a selection of stories. BBC Radio 4 produces and broadcasts over 400 plays a year to a daily audience that would fill the Royal National Theatre for a whole year. And for the 1995 festival, for the first time, Radio 1 FM is linking up with its own special category.

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**BBC** Young Writers' Festival



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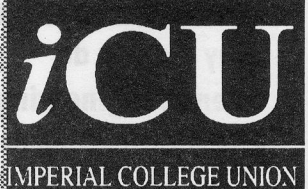
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Checking tickets, setting up UV tubes, stamping guests, reconciliation at end of night.

Staff needed Fridays and occasionally other days.

Training will be given. Phone Mandy on extension 48070 for more details.



## IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION JOB SERVICE

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

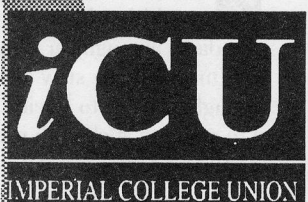
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Training will be given. Phone Mandy on extension 48070 for more details.





"Concerned" of Tunbridge Wells, on the demise of Beit Quad... Vote of thanks from Rag... A Failure writes... Doorgirl's answer...

Edited this week  
by Tim St. Clair

## The Beit Squad?

Dear Sir,

Despite only being an Imperial student for one fortnight so far, I read with considerable outrage the plans currently under discussion for the Beit Quad ("Confidential Drift", Felix 1007).

Whilst not particularly caring where the Union is situated, I nevertheless feel that the Beit Quad should remain for student/student-related use. The article suggested that the use of Beit Quad for conferences would boost their attendance, owing to its picturesque aspect. Are the students deemed unable to appreciate the Beit Quad and worthy only of the architectural finesse of Sherfield? It cannot be justified, students having to hand over their quad to conference delegates who would appreciate for all of three days. Moreover, to re-iterate the article the largest room in the quad holds three hundred, surely inappropriate for conference needs. Since conference attendance needs "revitalising" that is, they are not a pressing issue, will not Southside suffice?

We read of an "expected influx" of students in forthcoming years and of the associated acute lack of space to house them. In this light, it is outrageous for the College administration to consider converting the quad into accommodation for delegates during vacations in the main. With which party do the administrators' allegiances lie? The student body, or filling the finance departments coffers?

**Catharine Byrne**  
**Biochem 1**

*Ta for the letter Catharine, but I think you're getting a bit wound up over not much - this isn't going to happen for ages, if it happens at all. And refurbishing Beit Halls for vacation visitors would almost certainly be welcomed by all residents, present and future. Just ask them!*

## Raggie Thanks

Dear Felix,

Rag would like to thank everyone who took part in Monopoly and Tiddlywinks. Special thanks to those on Jez and Clem, Ian, Dan, Dave, Richard and Steve for driving minibuses, and everybody who helped count money and Sam Scotcher for keeping Monopoly running smoothly.

We would also like to thank the A-Z map company and Waddington's Games for donating prizes.

**Ian Robertson, Tim Atkinson**  
**(Rag Chair, Rag Treasurer)**

*Geez guys, I'm outta breath - haven't either of you heard of full stops?*

## DramSocked

Dear Owain,

It is sadly not unusual or even undesirable for papers to print provocative stories that are only tenuously rooted in truth. Reality is so much more mundane than "imaginative" reporters would have us believe. We should not therefore be surprised at Rebecca Mileham's report (FELIX: 7/10/94) on the incipient dangers of Dramsoc to the academic health of the fragile Imperial student.

However, what sits rather more uncomfortably is the masquerading of what seems a rather distasteful and virulent personal offensive as a piece of objective journalism. Surely we are presented with something more suited to the colourful regions of an opinions page. Opinions are often proposed with maximum zeal and minimum qualification; they're nurtured on half-truths, as it is only their half that interests them. And the intrepid Miss Mileham certainly wastes little of her precious time burrowing for a balance, that would be sweaty, arduous work and one might arrive at rather different conclusions from those that

made this noble endeavour possible. For instance, I would be greatly enlightened (and not a little surprised!) if she could identify this whispering chorus of disapproval that "cite" and "raise doubts" about the commitment that Dramsoc "demands (!)" of it's members.

We should recognise that the problems of motivation in academia are not Society specific, but specific to the individual. Mercifully, priorities cannot be prescribed and each one of us may make of our time at university what we choose; Miss Mileham would probably call this dissipation, I rather like to think of it as an essential freedom.

The activities of the Dramatic Society are moulded by the enthusiasms of it's members. One cannot be dictated to in amateur theatre, PERSUASION is the ruling principle of any successful project!

It is a miscalculation, damaging to the integrity of your publication, to represent malicious rumour as truth...or was this just Feline mischievousness?!

Yours sincerely,

**Iqbal Khan**  
**Dramsoc President**

*Iqbal, Iqbal, Iqbal - what precise malicious rumours did this article propagate? Did you not fail your second year? Did the article not have quotes from an ex-president to the effect that DramSoc commitments caused him no academic problems? Face it - you're repeating 'cos you didn't put the work in. I should know, 'cos I'm doing the same thing - but I'm not blaming FELIX for it.*

## Get a Life...

Dear Poon,

It strikes me that your ignorant attitudes need educating. Rather than randomly abusing your President, perhaps you should direct your comments at the person that actually kicked you out.

Having suffered approximately twenty minutes of your pathetic and offensively unoriginal whingeing, I personally felt that your presence in Beit Quad lowered the standard of the whole event. As you would know, if you had a life, any other venue in London would have charged you more and kicked you further.

For future reference, your removal was instigated by the manager of the week's events, NOT the President. Also, if you expect to be welcomed at any late night bar, attitudes that take the piss are not to be recommended.

The Double-Six Club is a great night out for anyone with a sense of humour and bar extensions have to be paid for. Personally, I thought the action we took was totally reasonable. Blaggers never get very far.

I look forward to further abuse,  
**Fiona**  
**Biology 3**

*Way to go, Fiona! To be honest Ambrose, I'm surprised they put up with you for as long as they did. As for the apparent case of mistaken identity - let me help: L-U-C-Y spells "Lucy", and F-I-O-N-A spells Fiona. Now G-O A-W-A-Y.*

## Tim says...

All the letters on this page were typed exactly as they were written - spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors and all. This is apparently policy now, so if you don't want to look stupid, make sure you check through any letters before you submit them. Also, we'll give the letters a title if you don't. A few more paragraphs per page would help us when typing them out, too.

By the way, Anna Ley of Biology2, WHERE ARE YOU? We wanted to print your response to Glyph, 'cos it's much funnier than Helen's was, but you haven't turned up to verify authorship yet....

**Letters Deadline: Monday 6.00pm**

**Club**

**Fitness**

**iCU**  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

# AEROBICS CLASSES

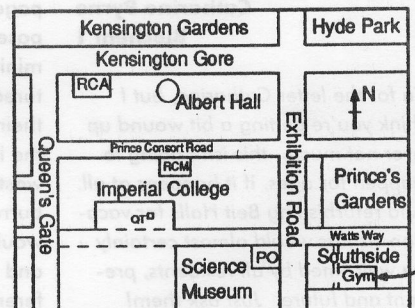
## Class Timetable

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Level</u>
Mon.	12:30pm	Body Toning	I
Mon.	5:30pm	Beginners	I
Tues.	5:30pm	Advanced	IV
Wed.	1:15pm	Beginners/Inter.	II
Wed.	5pm	Step	III
Thur.	12:30pm	Legs, Tums & Bums	I
Thur.	5:30pm	Intermediate	III
Fri.	5.30pm	Advanced Step	IV
Sun.	2pm	Intermediate	III

<u>Class Prices for:</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
I.C. Students	70p	£1.20
Studs. & I.C. Staff	£1	£1.50
Others	£1	£2

Membership: Students/Staff £5, Others £8

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**SOUTHSIDE GYM.**  
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CLASSES HELD HERE!

# A MECHANICAL ALTAR

I'm sitting in Fiction Records. I know that's the case because all around the walls are stacks of gold and silver discs which record the sales of various Cure albums. I'm sitting in a large leather sofa, holding a cup of tea and feeling ill. Upstairs are the remaining members of the God Machine whom I'm waiting to interview. The whole scenario is equivalent to a dentist's waiting room, except that instead of the Mail on Sunday magazine MTV shrieks from a nearby TV. A receptionist asks for my name, and tells me to wait as things are running late. A prematurely balding man sits down opposite. We smile palely at each other.

So why am I nervous? I try to persuade myself that this interview won't be problematic. I ignore the fact that the God Machine have been described as "one of the most difficult bands I've ever interviewed" by one of the most egotistical national press musos and forget that I spent all morning trying to make sense of a thirty page press pack full of every superlative in the dictionary. I try to ignore the gaping fact that after listening to their new album at least three times a day for over a week I'm still unsure whether I like it. But most importantly I attempt to expel the big one. The God Machine used to be a trio, but in May, Jimmy the bassist died suddenly of a brain tumour. How am I supposed to deal with that in a music interview? Once again my head starts to spin and I wonder what they've put in my tea.

Finally my time comes and I'm escorted upstairs to meet Robin Proper-Sheppard and Ronald Austin. They're never really what you expect from looking at the press pictures. Robin is slightly more eager: Ronald just looks big and dark.

The first part of an interview is always the most vulnerable bit. I set up my equipment while we make polite talk to try and work out how the next thirty minutes will go. I start off on a standard question; how would they describe their music? It's not rock or heavy metal but it has a classical feel to it in terms of construction and use of instruments. Ronald starts off but Robin quickly cuts in. "We've never been about being in a rock band" he says, except that it comes out like "wwwwe're never..." The man has a stutter. After reading at least a dozen interviews not one person mentioned it. I mean it's not important for their music but as a human attribute you can't really ignore it. Suddenly and stupidly I feel better and we can get on with the interview.

I ask another standard question about Robin's lyrics. They're pretty sparse and simple but the way he repeats them gives the songs a sort of polemic impact. You end up

The God Machine's second and final album 'One Last Laugh In A Place Of Dying...' was released after the death of their bassist. Tintin tried to tread carefully.

getting ground down by their sheer strength. Robin agrees, "I can define how I'm feeling in a relatively short space of time and even though people might not understand what I'm expressing, if it only takes me four lines...why not?" Except the strange thing is that in the flesh Robin talks non-stop. In contrast to his songs now he's neither sparse or simple and he doesn't repeat himself, he just creates closely intertwined arguments which back track to cover all flanks. Ronald the drummer mainly just sits in silence.

I ask whether they think an intensity comparison between them and Henry Rollins is valid. Robin starts up again. "I think that, this last album we couldn't have created a more pure album, just the whole approach, the whole execution of it, how we decided to approach it after Jimmy's passing away, we couldn't have done it any differently..." There it was, just slipped in. It took me a second to register but that was it, Jimmy had passed away. Obviously they had come to terms with his death or else they wouldn't have been doing interviews with student newspapers but nevertheless that, in some morbid way, was what I had come to hear. Later on it became apparent that the God Machine as a group were finished. The band that three Americans who had known each other from childhood and flown over to London to start up had finished. Without Jimmy the band is dead.

We cover some other topics; can music change the world? - "I know it changes me", Cobain and Vedder as the tortured messiahs of music - "they're expressing what they're feeling", Winnie the Pooh - "we have a song which is influenced by Winnie the Pooh, Winnie the Pooh is cool" and other stuff and I think that I've done ok. We end up talking about Nick Cave, who everyone thinks is brilliant, before I get to say "well thanks for your time I'm out of questions". I start to pack up and we small talk until Robin says, "what did you think of the album?" I sit there slightly stunned for a bit before I begin to squirm. "Well I've not had it for more than a week, and I don't really like heavy metal stuff." It's a bad mistake and one which I immediately realise. Robin fires back "we're not heavy metal", sharply because it's an accusation. Yeah I know that but what else do you call it - heavy instrumental driven rock with classical undertones and lyrical raw power? I keep squirming out of a direct answer and manage to escape to some degree but I still felt kinda annoyed. Who was being interviewed after all?

In hindsight I realised that the interview had become a conversation and Robin actually wanted to know what I thought. Now I can tell you that the album's very good. I can't say whether you'll like it though. **L**



# Shelved adventures in a quiet place

Are libraries cool? Owain and Jon walk on a wild side

## LEVEL 1

The first thing to check escape routes. The windows are all sealed and there's security on the door so should the worst happen I'll have to call in the cavalry to get me out. Having left my portable satellite kit at home I head instead for the phones. There are two booths situated on floor one, just up the steps from reception. The first (01715815200) stinks really badly. It's a cardphone so maybe it's just the smell of the evil workings of plastic I scuttle to the next booth, just on the left as you enter the Haldane section. This one (01715895336) is much nicer, is a coin phone and probably a good place to find a companion as the walls are covered with messages from lonely hearts and there are quotes too. "The mind is a terrible thing to waste" - Martin Luther King. And I thought he'd been shot, he must come in to read NME in the cool music bit. And if the Guardian Media Supplement is occasionally stolen that's life.

Sneaking through the columns of fiction I notice how good they are for pretending to be a private detective spying on young girls reading Betjeman poems. That was my excuse anyway. In the north west through the stairwell I find steps to a secret door. Staff Only. Hmmm. There is a surreal lift sign asking you to note that if the lift has stopped someone may be trapped in it and just outside we discover the Audio-Visual room. This has laser discs, video players etc. and could be excellent; a great hang-out for the colleges' Beavis and Buttheads but alas its for 'college purposes only'. The agenda. Time to climb the stairs to level two.

A Humanities library at IC? A Music library? Yes, for decades Imperial has - like comparably specialised institutions, LSE and MIT - given its members the opportunity to read widely beyond their subject, and to develop their recreational interests. The Haldane Collection provides all this, and supports the taught courses and broader cultural activities of the Humanities Programme.

The Haldane Collection is on the first level of the Central Library, with a comfortable reading area overlooking the Queen's lawn. All members of College may borrow from its stock of 40,000 books, maps, music scores, and sound recordings, using the Central Library card. Opening hours are the same as for the rest of the Central Library.

The collection began as a student union fiction library (spurred on by H.G. Wells' exhortation to students to show that they were "not barbarians"), and the Union still has a role in providing fiction, as well as popular music recordings. With the formation of what is now

## LEVEL 2

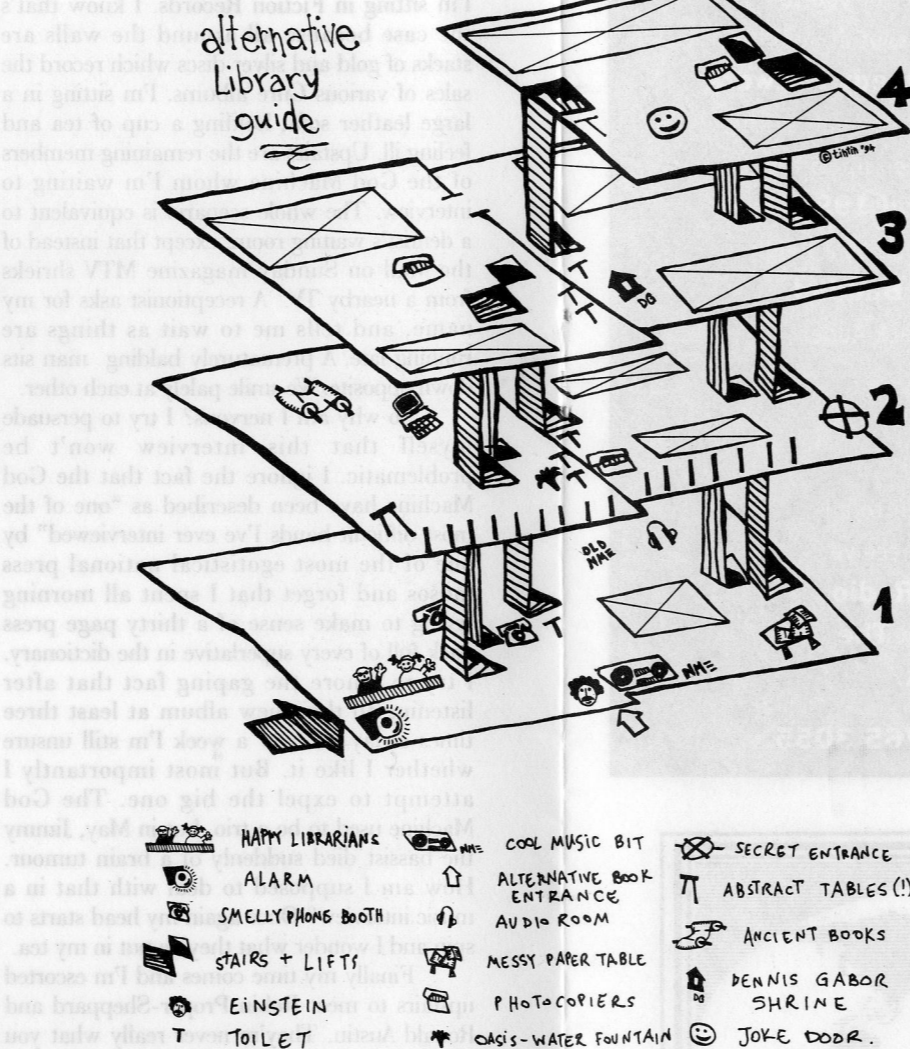
First stop for my erstwhile companion is the gents on the right. He considered them 'excessively pungent' but then he is a purist. The general periodical room on the west has an excellent wide corridor between desks and shelves for holding sports events overnight should you become trapped. The east side has secret doors to the north and the skeleton of the old Haldane to Sheffield bridge, now bolted up. The fortress-like windows here are great for spying on summer crowds on the Queen's Lawn and firing arrows through.

Within the quietness of the library the only place of action and sound is the photocopying room. A possible idea here could be to synchronise the copies for excellent strobing disco effects. Passing through into the old Science Museum library, there is a conference centre on the left full of STS students who seem curious when we appear at their door and scribble down notes whilst pointing. Keen minds. Just down and on the left in the Oasis. More toilets, a little degenerate on our visit, but the superlative water fountain is here! This has the prime revision tables are on the left. I saved my degree here.

Further down the wall live the amusingly titled 'abstract tables'. Good joke there but they look pretty normal to me. There is also a localised outbreak of electronic wizardry with the soon to be installed 8 machine worldwide web cluster. There's also stacks of microfiche readers, CD-ROM machines and other equally nameless yet 'democratic' systems.

the Humanities programme, the library began to provide course material, and assumed the name of Haldane Library, after R.B. Haldane (Viscount Haldane), who had helped bring about the merger of Imperial's constituent colleges. For several years the formerly separate Haldane Library has been part of the Central Library, and its present function is to support Humanities courses, provide other academic support material such as English usage, and to offer a wide range of extra-curricular reading matter on subjects of current interest, as well as music and other listening matter.

Subjects covered in the greatest depth are mostly those in which courses are taught, such as history, politics, philosophy and literature, as well as art and music. Travel and biography are well represented, and other subjects covered include sport, humour, popular medicine, psychology, feminism, crime, law, languages, and consumer issues. A mere list of subjects, however, does not do justice to the interest of the



## The Haldane Collection and You

collection, which embraces the wide-ranging, such as intellectual and cultural history, and the more peculiar. Recent additions to the new books display-shelf include, for example, Peter Gay's *The Cultivation of Hatred* and a comprehensively illustrated history of Tula samovars. I hasten to add that there is also a Vauxhall Nova manual and a guide to the West Yorkshire Way! We are always glad to have your suggestions for additions to the collection.

Daily newspapers and more than 60 magazines and periodicals are available for reading in the library. The latter include *Autocar and Motor*, *Radio Times*, *Newsweek*, and *Which*. There are also periodicals that support taught courses, notably history journals, and the foreign language magazines *Stern* and *L'Express*. "Non-book" holdings include maps (mostly Ordnance

Survey, but also some town maps and a new county street atlas series), and language courses on cassette, which may be borrowed. The Audio-Visual collection, including academic videos and video player, and the Patent Office Training Package (an easy-to-use introduction to patents) on video laser disc, is also situated in the Haldane Collection.

The Music Library of books, scores and sound recordings complements the energetic musical activity of Imperial. There is a good selection of books (shelved in the main loan books sequence and reference collection) and printed music, including chamber music parts, instrumental solos, vocal scores, and miniature scores. The most popular section of the music library is undoubtedly recorded music. Classical recordings of interest to both the new and the

more experienced listener are available on compact disc, cassette and LP, while jazz, folk and popular music (selected by a student union buyer) is mostly on cassette, with a CD collection beginning.

Books and all the materials mentioned above are listed in the Libertas computer catalogue, which is available over the network as well as in the library. There are additional handouts on materials that are difficult to trace, and the library staff will always be pleased to help.

The Haldane Collection is not merely a repository, but a venue for live events too. Watch out for Anne Harvey and Gabriel Woolf reading "This Excellent Machine", a programme of science-based poetry and prose on November 9, Joy Melville introducing her biography "Mother of Oscar" [Wilde], with actress Gerardine McDermott on November 28, and Josh Kirby, illustrator of Terry Pratchett's novels, talking about his work in the spring.

And finally the library staff. They are here

## databases and keyword anarchy

Books have always had an element of power associated with them. Censorship trials such as 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' meant that some books at least, had the kudos of hidden knowledge associated with them, things that the common man should not know about. Thanks to its computerised referencing systems the IC library provides an anonymous and fast service to find those useful handbooks for anarchy, illicit satisfaction and addiction.

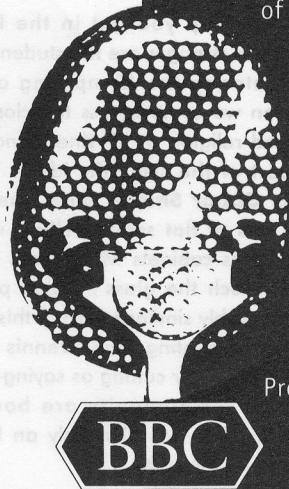
I used the on line keyword facility to try and build up an inter-reference of particularly interesting ideas. I played around for a bit before trying the sensual keywords combinations of SEX-RUBBER and SEX-OIL but to no avail. SEX-TECHNOLOGY had three close matches but unsurprisingly these were all along the lines of genetic engineering or women in science. The first useful answer appeared when two vital underlying concepts were put together. SEX-DRUGS resulted in 'Drugs and Sexual Function' by M.Davies. Alas the only copy was held at St. Mary's. After that there was obviously only one way to go. however SEX-DRUGS-ROCK and ROLL only managed to track down E.Stanford's 'the rock and roll years...the Riddles designed War Department'. Staying with substance abuse the next sequence was simpler. ADDICTION-DRUGS combined to give three good leads; the journal of 'Addiction', the 'British Journal of Addiction' and Sonnedecker's 'Emergence of the concept of opiate addiction'. Finally in nihilist gloom I tried ANARCHY-DEATH which surprisingly came back with the hopeful answer of 'Anarchy and Culture; the problems of contemporary university' (Hal 375). They'd obviously never been to IC.

to enable you to make the most of resources (including databases) and to answer your queries, so please ask them! They can help you use the library systematically, assist in tracking down particular topics, and if necessary refer you to sources elsewhere. Like anyone else who has invested in education and professional training, they gain satisfaction from using their experience and building on it, and in turn provide a better service. So, if by your sixth visit, you're still asking for the time or a pencil sharpener, and they appear a trifle glazed, try asking them to pursue quotations, illustrations, or the topic that eludes the keyword index. Those who ultimately get the most out of libraries are the ones who learn to use them systematically, engage the help of the staff, and, of course, browse. The first person to let me know who wrote *Back to Bolivia* can have October's *Private Eye* when we've finished with it!

Dr Janet Smith *Haldane Librarian*

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# OPEN MIC AWARD



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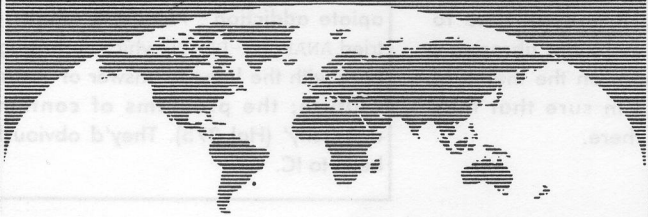
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*Euroweek, May 1994*

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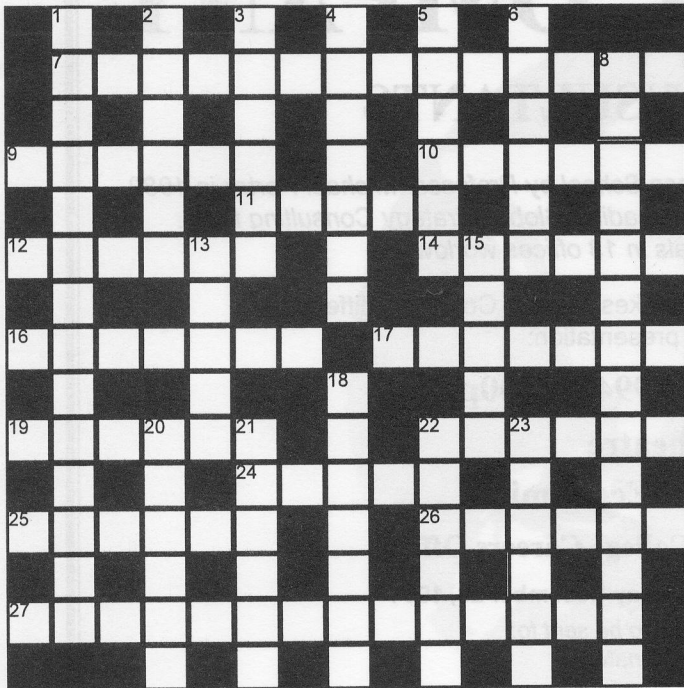
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## Crossword by Catfish



### Across

7. Agreements that fashionable new sets are chic to open show. (14)
9. The record? Both sides are about the limit! (6)
10. Lob out one example, reflecting the force. (6)
11. Go astray or make a mistake (5)
12. Carelessly, reserved without first couple being acquainted. (6)
14. Weave north legend to a crowd. (6)
16. Support her husband, after a point. (7)
17. The prize will go to waste. (6)
19. Melodramas are each for watching. (6)
22. Many returned to serve outside generator. (6)
24. Boat staff admit nothing. (5)
25. Wished bore would finish first time. (6)
26. Dave came back in an agitated state. (6)
27. Cyclic poem has hopeful start,

and becomes influential stuff. (14)

### Down

1. A game figure at the lads' dance. (4,4,6)
2. Notice sage use of proverbs. (6)
3. Inherited talent in the bakery business, say. (6)
4. Drone of drill is boring too! (3-4)
5. Reorganise a seaside town. (6)
6. The hunter broke her law. (6)
8. Go-between in child's game. (3,2,3,6)
13. Escape point is not decent, I hear. (5)
15. Instrument is your first - it's fiendish! (5)
18. Article is written in cheap, sloppy style. (7)
20. Sister is outside a church, noticing the detail. (6)
21. Movement respond to charge. (6)
22. Dug up the last sets of jeans. (6)
23. Beginner has no bad habits. (6)

## NEW WORLD ORDER

Last year China, the largest remaining communist country, had the highest economic growth in the world. This seemed quite surprising especially since the Soviet Union and its satellite states proved that communism did not work. The boom in China should be attributed to its reformist leader and elder statesman Deng Xiaoping, who turned 90 this summer. In recent years Mr. Deng has retired from his official posts and China-watchers have maintained a death watch, expecting his imminent demise to set in motion political transition and perhaps disorder. Some expect the sort of vicious fractional conflict over succession that is typical of communist states, leading to the fall of the Communist Party. In its place some see the emergence of democracy, others forecast a military takeover. For yet others, a breakup of China seems imminent.

They are all mistaken. China is different from the Soviet Union in many respects. There are many reasons to suspect that China's present party leadership, headed by party chief Jiang Zemin, will prevail in a post-Deng era. First, it has pursued an aggressive policy of economic reform. These include key institutional changes such as

banking and fiscal reform and revamping China's foreign trade system. Secondly, the resurgence of economic reforms since the beginning of the decade suggest an unusual degree of agreement amongst the leadership. A close analysis of the seven member Politburo Standing Committee (China's main ruling body) can clearly demonstrate this: six of the seven members are reformers. Third, with the exception of Deng Xiaoping, the party elders whose quarrels seemed to dominate politics in the 1980s are a declining force. Death has already taken a toll on their ranks. Four of the eight key leaders died in the last two years, all of them conservative.

In short, China's leaders comprise an activist leadership that is not weak, fragmented and waiting for Mr. Deng's passing or its own demise. The communist regime indeed faces daunting problems of transforming China's economic system and governing a rapidly changing society. China will not see a decline such as the Soviet Union has experienced, but is more likely to thrive and prosper becoming one of the world's leading economic powers. The Communist Party is going to become the sole party in a one-party state, where economic freedom will be universal and political freedom non-existent.

AITA

**Columns:** At present this page is in a state of flux, but it will eventually crystallise into a semi-rigid structure providing our array of columnists and opinionators with bi weekly slots for their outpourings. **FF**



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## Monopoly Madness

This Saturday saw over a hundred Imperial Students rampage through the streets of London in Rag's second big event, *Live Monopoly*. Teams of four to six people ran around the various sites on the monopoly board (which aren't as close as they previously thought!) solving clues along the way, while trying to raise loads of money for Mencap.

Bonus marks were gained for treasures picked up along the way, which included a load of Macdonalds balloons, a tax disc from a Bentley and a Policeman's helmet. Points were also gained for carrying mascots including a variety of teddies, a traffic cone called Colin and a large Spanish onion. An extra twist was added by the roaming Jail Van, (Jez the R.C.S fire engine), which whisked competitors off to remote parts of the board.

This year the event was particularly close fought with all teams competing with amazing enthusiasm and collecting staggering amounts of money bringing our total for the day to over £1000. The winning team was Team Bollocks who turned up looking particularly hungover and thus lost a member along the way.

A good time was had by all who took part, both during the day and later on during the free party, where they mingled with Raggies

from as far afield as Swansea and Edinburgh. Prizes for the top teams and collectors will be handed out at the Rag Meeting.

### Not a Mickey Mouse Collection!

Tonight we have a license to collect at the 'Walt Disney's World on Ice' at Wembley Arena, for Turning point, the Drugs and Alcohol rehabilitation society. Now whilst I know you probably aren't thinking 'Wow! Disney on Ice!', the show is good fun in its way and is a chance to collect an awful lot of money in a short time (last week one collector got over £100!). If you want to do this please come to the Rag meeting today at 1.10pm in the Union Lounge, opposite Da Vinci's.

### Over Land and Sea (and Canterbury)

Yes folks, IC Rag offers you the chance to visit the historic City of Canterbury tomorrow, completely FREE. Not only will we be collecting huge sums of money for BIBIC (the British Institute for Brain-Injured Children), but also paying a visit to local university, where you can see what might have been if you hadn't come here, and possibly nick the odd sign (only joking officer/editor/Rector).

Places on the raid are very limited, so if you want to come along, come to today's meeting and sign up quick.

### Trick or Treat at Covent Garden.

Our next big event will be a collection at Covent Garden market and the nearby Tube stations, on Saturday 29th October. Since this is around Halloween we will be collecting in fancy dress, with a prize for the best costume as well as the top collector. We also have Macdonalds vouchers for all those who take part and of course all money collected will go towards our own incentive scheme.

To do this collection just come along to a Rag meeting, or meet on the day at Rumours restaurant in Covent Garden (the collection will be between 10am and 6pm).

*Don't forget the Rag Meeting! It's today at 1.10pm in the Union Lounge (opposite Da Vinci's).*

## Wine Tasting

The IC Wine Tasting Society is for everyone who enjoys drinking wine, and meets at 6pm every Tuesday evening in the Union Dining Hall. Each week we discuss a different topic, and taste wines relating to this. No prior knowledge is necessary as for each tasting there is a speaker who is an expert from wine industry.

This first tasting of term was a very entertaining look at wine tasting technique, and an introduction to different styles of wines from all over the world (some cheap enough for the average student to afford and some not).

The next meeting on Tuesday 25th of October will be one of the best tastings of the term and we strongly recommend you pay us a visit. It is on Spanish wines, and the visiting speaker will be Penny Drinkwater, a member of the Guild of Wine Writers and an international wine judge. She is the author of a book about cooking with garlic and has appeared on T.V. on "Eat your Greens". Along with wine, she will make for an enjoyable evening.

## Earth Girls Are Easy

On Tuesday 25th October at 7pm in the concert hall, icsf are well pleased to dredge from the vaults that perennial classic 'Earth Girls Are Easy'. It's been a long time since I saw this myself, so if I just limit this plug to the phrases 'What do you get if you cross Close Encounters with Grease?', 'Geena Davis in a swimsuit' and 'A very hairy Jeff Goldblum in a swimsuit (and Jim 'The Mask' Carrey too, if that's your bent)' it'll all make so much more sense.

*Admission is the paltry sum of £1.50 to icsf members (£3 membership which includes your first film free plus access to our library containing over 3000 books and videos) or £2 if you can't join because your anorak's in the wash.*

## Serial Mom and Bad Girls

Serial Mom, the mother from hell, is coming to ICU Cinema this Sunday at 8pm. The director, John Walters gets disgusting with the positively inspired casting of Kathleen Turner. She plays the perfect Mom of a perfect family, who turns to serial murder mayhem to preserve some perversely inverted family values. This film makes the Tories Back To Basics policy seem liberal. On Thursday (same time and place), we have Bad Girls. Andie MacDowell, riding high with the success of Four Weddings and a Funeral, helps to buck the trend of male orientated westerns. Helping her in the attempt are Madeleine Stowe, Mary Stuart Masterson and Drew Barrymore.

STUDENT INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

**SIS**

Events for the forthcoming week:

24th October  
**C I L Training**  
Is your degree enough?

26th October  
**Arthur Andersen**  
Present your Case  
A business game on their premises

27th October  
**British Steel**  
An applications/interview talk with a difference

Please check the posters and your newsletter for further details

The Patron: HRH The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh KG KT Director: Rhiannon Chapman Chairman: Sir Bryan Nicholson Secretary: Lesley Thornley Incorporated under Royal Charter Principal Office: 3 Carlton House Terrace London SW1Y 5DG Registered as a charity No 28003

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# BUST-A-GUT COMEDY CLUB



## LEE & HERRING'S FIST OF FUN

with special guest Pete Baynham

**fri 28th Oct**

**FREE BOTTLE OF NEWCASTLE BROWN ALE  
TO THE FIRST 50 THROUGH THE DOOR.**

doors 8pm show starts 8.30pm  
Admission: £2.50 (£2 ents cards)  
ENTRY ONLY TO DISCO AFTER  
COMEDY £1 (before 10.30pm)

**iCU**  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

# THE FINANCE SOCIETY PRESENTS AN INSIGHT INTO INVESTMENT BANKING AT

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## **Salomon Brothers**

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Victoria Plaza  
111 Buckingham Palace Road  
ON  
Wednesday 2 November

Candidates must submit a CV and covering letter by Monday 24 October. Address to the Finance Society, Salomon Brothers. Please mark envelopes clearly with "RETAIN AT UNION RECEPTION" and your name, department and year.

## *City & Guilds College Association* **Career Networking Reception**

*at the National Liberal Club*

*Meet past Guilds Students already working in  
Engineering, the Professions and the City*

## **Tuesday 1st November**

*Wine & Refreshments*

*FREE to CGCA Members*

*Student CGCA membership is only £3*

*More information from the Guilds Office, Level 3,  
Mech Eng or Room 301, Sherfield Building*



## THE MENU



In a case still to be heard by the RSPCA the single reviewers are accused of cruelty to an endangered species. Yes *Alice the Cuddly Panda* is forced to listen to Shampoo. How evil?



*tintin* is whipped up in the shockwave of the **jon spencer blues explosion**, *Vik* tackles the medium obscurities of **Motorcaster** and **Die Toten Hosen**, while *Cool-Hand Luke* sees **Fun-da-mental** live at North London Uni.



We get two for the price of none as *Fiona* checks out Friday nights at the imaginatively named **9 Club** and then goes midweek at **Starsky and Hutch**. Hurray for bushy wigs!!



Patrick Wood takes on **Das Rheingold** and **Die Walküre**, part of Wagner's Ring Cycle



Serial lawyers are on the cards as *magpie* looks over the new 'Grisham film' **the Client**, and *tintin* relives the g(l)ories of Camelot as seen in the awful **Lancelot du Lac**.

## rotation: panda panel



**Terrorvision** - *alice what's the matter?*  
[k]; I love the intro. Yeah, really good track.  
[hl]; Suffice to say it's Terrorvision and therefore completely and utterly brilliant. Alice the Panda got well into this too!

**Superglass** - *caught by the fuzz*  
[hl]; sounds like blur - catchy.  
[k]; it reminds me of Madness or early '80s punk

This week's singles are put to the expert ears of *katharine*, budding hack *helen-louise*, and, erm, *alice the toy panda* (oh dear).

**Manic Street Preachers** - *she is suffering*  
[katharine]; this is distinctly boring. I could listen to it but the b-sides are better...  
[helen-louise]; the melody is beautifully heavy. The b-sides are more dancey.

**Porcupine Tree** - *moonloop ep*  
[hl]; slow, spacey and laid-back. Music to listen to when you're stressed about work...  
[k]; haunting, kind of ambient but the singing gives it a different dimension. I could fall asleep to this... but that's a compliment.

**Shampoo** - *viva la megababes*  
[hl]; I think there's something wrong with their grammar. It's so bad that it's brilliant. I do like the East 17 cover  
[k]; Totally mindless, repetitive, unmusical and they've got irritating voices. I'll still go around singing it though - yuk!



## muddy waters dammed

Music used to be impolite. It didn't say 'thank you' and 'please'. It didn't say much at all, it just kicked you in the stomach and stole your wallet. But that was punk and this is now. And now we're post-modern. It's something that the **jon spencer blues explosion** appear to have understood. Their new album, 'orange' comes in lower case characters on a shiny silver cover of marketing purity. Inside is a coiled stream of immediacy. Put it on and you're prepared for action as jon shrieks out and cuts in to action.

So is it Blues? Not the traditional sort 'cos history's dead. No, this is post-modern blues in the same way that Come are; intense with all the right riffing but seemingly little content. But if you want some self-referential treatment, get a load of the 'blues X man' complete with Tom Waites backgrounds vocals and slashing chord structures. A fashion statement? Swing out with 'bellbottoms'.

Of course this isn't really a problem. 'orange' is a young album, which is as full of swaggering rock as instrumental wit as nervous energy. The first time you let it go, Whamm, it's a (9). Equally significant is when this sort of classic album is reduced to an (8) by any play thereafter. (8)

Start listening to **Motocaster's** second album, 'Stay Loaded', and you'd be forgiven for thinking that this was merely a good excuse to play songs influenced by cult guitar bands.

'The Buddha' sounds like The Fall with balls, while 'The Habit' builds on a riff taken from the Jesus Lizard school book. That's something Motocaster should definitely kick since as the album progresses too many of the songs suffer from the, 'Oh, they're going to ram a single, filthy riff down my throat' prediction. Still it's quite interesting listening, what with the Nirvana-style harmonies on 'Uranus' and the metallic jam of 'Motorolla Blues'. But they'll have to plunder a bit more effectively next time if they're going to rise above the glut of power-chord laden, American trios doing the rounds at the moment. Third time lucky? (6)

It will be umpteenth time lucky for German band **Die Toten Hosen**, if they break through in this country with their stop-gap, mini-album, 'Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is'. They're trying their best, mind, mixing melodic punk ('Lovesong'), Midnight Oil-style socio-political anthems ('My Land') and out-and-out mod ('Long way from Liverpool'). Unfortunately the guitars and drums are mixed way too low to allow for any real bite, but they have a sense of humour and this should see them going down a storm when they tour with those japesters, Terrorvision. (6)

So it goes. Freshers' Balls must be mass-produced to ensure the maximum amount of tedium, guaranteed every time. It doesn't matter where they are, they all have the same identikit stink of cheap beer, cheaper thrills and the obligatory bargain-basement lust.

**Fun-da-mental's** onslaught of right-on rap did its best to keep us interested, but they were always on to a loser. They got up; they got down; they wriggled around while they were down (the kids looked politely interested). They sweated and screamed; threw in musical influences with wild abandon and generally rapped their PC little hearts out.

The problem, you see, is that live Fun-da-mental are distinctly average. They're so earnest that you really want them to be better, but like so many rap acts, they promise a twenty-dollar smile but only ever give you spare change. (5)

## chills

For people with too much taste for Hammersmith Palais, here are the first of my recommendations for IC's late night dancing crowd. On Fridays, **Barely Breaking Even** at Club 9, is a must. By far the best local club, at £4 for NUS/UB40 this is truly a bargain. Surprisingly unpretentious for Kensington, it also gets my top award for friendliest door woman – congratulations Bijal! – and the welcome extends thru'out this excellently decorated venue. The ground floor chill out room plays jazzy tunes to chat to; move downstairs for the action. Drinks are standard club prices: £2 a shot or £2.50 for beers, so you may well want to fill up at the Union before grabbing a few friends and piling over for some excellent danceable funk and boogie tunes spun by DJs Ben, sweet Pete and Leslie O. I defy anyone to keep off the dancefloor here, and exhibitionists wear white as it's lit with UV. Superb wall hangings and a wandering saxophonist add the perfect finish to this packed out, fashionable club.

Club 9 is situated at 9 Young Street (just off High St Ken). Hometime munchies are available all night just round the corner at Crispins.

Midweek, **Starsky and Hutch** upstairs at Ronnie Scotts, Soho, is a personal favourite. A complete lack of pretentiousness coupled with everybody's best loved 70's Funk make this the ideal venue for its young sociable party crowd. DJ's Andy G and Kris spin what are, in my opinion, the best funk tunes in town. A roomy seating area makes conversation easy, and you'll find plenty of it, while the dancefloor is rarely empty. The staff's student friendly attitude is indicated by the free jugs of cold water available along the bar and the generous drinks prices (£1.60 for Becks to £2 for stronger beers). Lap up the free whistles and lollies, while those best dressed in 70's gear win free copies of Telstar's new Acid Jazz CD. Mention my name and entrance is JUST £3. Night buses are 10 minutes walk away at Piccadilly, and there are a plethora of late night eating places nearby, with Bar Italia opposite and Compton's wonderful sandwiches round the corner. Grab a crowd and have a great night out. ☺



## teutonic upgrading

The first half of the Royal Opera's new Ring cycle is a failure. But that's certainly not the whole story. Richard Jones' new productions of **Das Rheingold** and **Die Walküre** are more courageous and interesting than the last two Wagner offerings from this house. Prettified and empty stagings of *Der fliegende Holländer* and *Die Meistersinger* won critical raves in other quarters, and Jones too could have played safe. Instead he has rejected the winged helmets and all the Tolkienesque paraphernalia usually associated with these works. He'll have known the risks he was running and sure enough a river of vilification poured down from the gallery when he took his curtain call.

There are some good ideas. Alberich wears his ring on a huge detachable fist. When he turns into a dragon, he is hoisted into the air like an enormous jack-in-the-box, with his trousers uncoiling below him. The giants Fasolt and Fafner are Siamese twins, their torsos joined.

In *Walküre*, Fricka makes an effective departure in a lead-coloured limousine that looks like a life-size Monopoly token. There is certainly room for humour and even mockery (Wotan's spear is a one-way street road sign), but Jones seems to have been unwilling or unable to trust in the potency of Wagner's own ideas. It's as if he's decided that these days we're all too sophisticated for this dungeons and dragons stuff, and he simply fails to think of anything exciting to do at great moments such as the descent to Nibelheim or the deaths of Siegmund and Hunding. Bernard Haitink and his orchestra seem unconvinced and the playing only intermittently rises above the perfectly acceptable. The net result is that what are potentially some of the greatest passages in opera fall unforgivably flat. The good news is that the singing is excellent, particularly that of John Tomlinson's Wotan and Ekkehard Wlaschiha's Alberich. ☺

further details can be found in the seven day diary



## affirming situations

While 'the Firm' and 'the Pelican Brief' failed to capture John Grisham's writing, **the Client** is probably the best of the adaptations so far onto the silver screen.

Its plot revolves around Mark Sway, an eleven year old boy who knows too much. When Mark and his younger brother, Ricky, sneak into the woods for a smoke, they see a man attaching a hose to the exhaust pipe of his car with the obvious intent of committing suicide. The man turns out to be a Mafia lawyer who, during his last minutes, tells Mark about a killer and the whereabouts of the body of a prominent Senator.

A federal prosecutor named 'Reverend' Roy Foltrigg (Tommy Lee Jones) wants Mark to tell him where the body is hidden, while the Mafia want him to keep quiet. In desperation Mark goes to a lawyer, Reggie Love played by Susan Sarandon, for help. She takes on the FBI and manages to deal with their subversive techniques to persuade Mark to tell them everything.

As a screen play the *Client* is extremely close to the book, and has more suspense than other John Grisham adaptations. If you have read the book you will be surprised about the film. It has an excellent plot that is little changed.

If you wanted to know where Monty Python got the idea for their classic film, the *Holy Grail*, from the film to endure is **Lancelot du Lac**. Although it strangely managed to win the Cannes festival in 1974, (interesting the *Holy Grail* was released in 1975), its 35mm reissue can only be assumed to be a horrible faux pas.

The opening scene cuts to a broadsword fight. One knight manages to chop the other's head clean off, which results in a veritable fountain of gushing red water. Next the victorious knight swings at someone else's helmet – cue for more fountains of red water spouting everywhere. By this point the assembled critics in the press showing were howling with laughter and I was waiting for some smart aleck to start on the *Black Knight* sketch; "well it's only a scratch", "only a scratch I've just cut your arm off" etc.

Basically it's the worst french film I have ever seen. ☹



## Reports

### Netball

IC 1st vs UCL 1st

The first quarter was close with both teams eager to make a good start. However UCL began to pull away, taking advantage of our lack of experience in playing together, and soon established a good lead.

Despite IC winning the last quarter and keeping a positive attitude right to the end, UCL went on to win the match.

With many first and second team fixtures coming up, we look forward to seeing any keen players at practices, Thursday 12 - 2pm on the netball court next to Linstead Hall.

### Football

IC Men 1st vs UCL

It was with high expectations that IC made the long trip to play UCL on Saturday and we were not to be disappointed. After 10 minutes, IC's superior skill and determination led to our first goal of the match. Decoy runs by the full-backs Ben Willis and Rich Craig left the opportunity for Wai Kwok to send an inch-perfect cross to Tim Lewis who headed the ball Shearer-like past the helpless keeper. Some strange refereeing led to Mike Jarvis stripping on the touchline, however the last laugh was with Mike as the Ref felt distinctly under-endowed. After 10 minutes of more possession football, we felt it was time to extend our lead and after a Giggs-like sliney (?! - Ed.) by Ike Ombala, he found himself in space 25 yards out and sent a spectacular curling shot into the top right corner: two - nil. A third goal came soon after when Tim Lewis again headed the ball home after a delightful cross from Bill "Kebab".

The second half consisted of the IC back four soaking up pressure and the midfield and attack breaking regularly to try to increase the lead. Some dreadful finishing by Wai and Bill only stopped them. Hopes are now high for IC in both the UAU and the League.

### Football

ICW AFC vs UCL

As per usual, the Dribblers were short of players, by two this time, having been let down by four ladies. Never the less, we went out on the pitch hungry for goals.

Neither team scored for about 30 minutes, until a deflection off our right back's knee went passed our keeper, who was new to the job.

We held up very well in the second half, putting the pressure on them, but unfortunately missed several chances. Despite some excellent defending, they scored 4 more goals. Late in the second half, Erica ran up the left wing, beat their keeper and put the ball in the back of the net. We managed to gain a few free kicks and corners, but they didn't pay off.

Thanks to all who played, 100% effort!

### Rugby

IC 2nd XV vs UCL

For the second week running we couldn't quite put a performance good enough to win a UAU group match. Conceding two tries in each half, IC could only manage two scores of their own in the last quarter of an hour.

Christophe Sugden powered his way over from a metre out after some good work by the pack. The second IC try came courtesy of Mark Wishart after a scintillating run by Aled Bowen. Unfortunately this was not enough and IC succumbed by the margin of 22-12.

Sport	IC Team	Score	Opposition
Football	Men	3 - 0	UCL
Tennis	Men	6 - 0	UCL
Football	Women	1 - 10	LH/QMW
Football	Women	1 - 5	UCL
Netball	Women	13 - 44	UCL
Rugby	2nd XV	12 - 22	UCL

## Extra Time

I'm the brand new Sports Editor for **FELIX**. The idea, for this year, is to have one page in every issue dedicated to the sport results for the week. Because results which are one week out of date are of less interest, the sport teams will be operating to a different deadline than for those submitting articles. The sport page will be done on the Wednesday evening to go into the issue 2 days later. This means that current results can be reported. It also means that I need to be certain that I will be given enough material to fill a page as by then most of **FELIX** is already printed and there is no margin for change.

As you can see, there are 2 parts in the page:

One part is presented as a table with the results. Hopefully, we will get **all** the results, for **all teams in all sports** played during the week. This hasn't been the case this week, but thanks to all those who have given us their results. I hope that more teams will do so next week. All that I need is a phone call on Wednesday evening (before 8pm, so that I can finish the page before 3am!) telling us your sport, team, opponent's team and the score. For those wondering about the order the teams appear in the table, this is how they are arranged: The winning IC teams go above the losing ones, and in each category, an

alphabetical approach is used.

The other part contains the reports of the matches. These refer to the results in the table. This means that the reports for those who play on Wednesdays have to be given in the same day! Those playing earlier in the week have a bit more time but I still need the articles by Wednesday evening (before 8pm). The length of the reports will have to depend on how many I receive.

I know that I'm not giving much time for people to write up, but I'm afraid this is the price to pay in order to get up to date results printed. I also need to be 100% confident that I will have enough materials to get a full page done by the end of Wednesday (I won't be writing such a big editorial every week, so I need more articles!). If it is not the case, then that will be the end of the Sports Page. It is not easy to get a page done at the last minute and it requires a lot of organisation.

If you've got any comment or want to ask anything, come and see me in **FELIX** or just leave a message if I'm not in.

**Juliette Decock**  
*Sports Editor*

