

Euro trashed:
A beginners guide to
a Year in Europe

Euro smashed:
France, Germany
and a happy EU

Lost in Space
gothic art in
Stockwell



FELIX

The student newspaper of
Imperial College

Issue 1041
November 17th 1995

MP Mellor Sinks Boat Club Plans

BY ALEX FEAKES

Plans for a new IC boathouse were shelved this week when local MP, David Mellor stepped in to support complaints made by residents. The planning committee threw out Imperial's proposals to extend the Club premises on Putney Reach, against the recommendation of the Borough's Planning Officers. IC Estates claim that political intervention swung the verdict ahead of the Borough's planning policy.

Frank Murray, the Estates Manger overseeing the project, represented IC at last Monday's Planning meeting. Speaking to *Felix*, he said that the Councillors turned down the application on the grounds of 'over-development of the site' and that the new structure would be 'too big for the location'. Stressing that Imperial had worked hard to assuage the fears and concerns of the local residents, he was surprised that problems which College had thought resolved were brought up again by their local Councillor.

The plans were dismissed by a single vote, four Labour Councillors supporting the application and half the Conservative Councillors abstaining from voting. Ian Caldwell, IC's Director of Estates, said that the result showed that the Councillors were putting votes ahead of sport and leisure provision for the Borough, highlighting 'the irony of the situation...with the large number of voting students living in Putney.' There were suggestions that the committee had put political motives ahead of the advice of their own Officers, with sources citing the fact that residents had petitioned the MP for Putney and Wandsworth, David Mellor, to influence the decision.

In a statement to *Felix*, Mr Mellor said that he shared concern with the residents over an opportunistic application for a development of this scale in a conservation area. He was also 'appalled at the condition Imperial College have allowed some of the buildings to sink

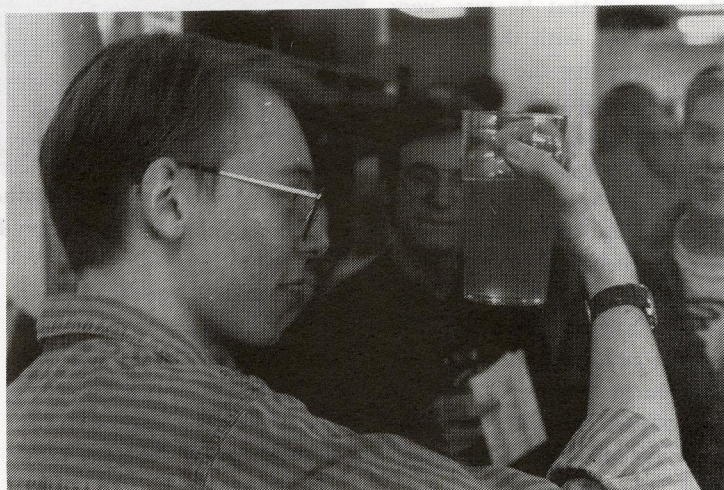


PHOTO: WILLIAM LORENZ

What the hell am I drinking?! The 1995 IC Beer Festival brought a dose of joy to the JCR this Wednesday. With a huge range of beers this annual event is quite possibly the best and most popular Rag event. *Felix* talked to a randomly selected participant who said "It's good that the Morris Dancers aren't here like last year." BY MARK BAKER

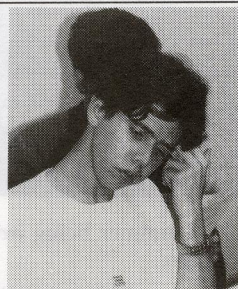
into.'

When asked later of his opinion on the decision, Mr Mellor said that he is 'delighted that the balance... between the interests of the rowing community and the interests of the locals is not to be destabilised.' The MP visited the area in response to letters from constituents, attended meetings discussing the plans, and finally wrote a letter to the Planning Officers opposing the application.

The extensive redesign of the site involved enlarging the training, changing and workshop space in the building, including improving the facilities for women, presently woefully inadequate. Helmholtz Villa, an adjoining house owned and leased by the College, was to be incorporated into the new structure, creating new accommodation for the staff and some students. The tenant of the house presented no

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in summary



Richard Willis defeated at the last

The former Rag Chair, Richard Willis, lost his appeal against disciplinary punishment. The second hearing confirmed the original decision, of bringing ICU 'into disrepute' Page 4

Medical School Principal Starts Work

Chris Edwards has taken up his new position as principle of the new BMS centre. He is faced with the challenging task of uniting the constituent medical colleges. Page 3

Clayponds Fears over Burglaries

IC authorities are increasingly coming under pressure to improve security at Clayponds after the residential estate suffered another in a series of burglaries. Page 4

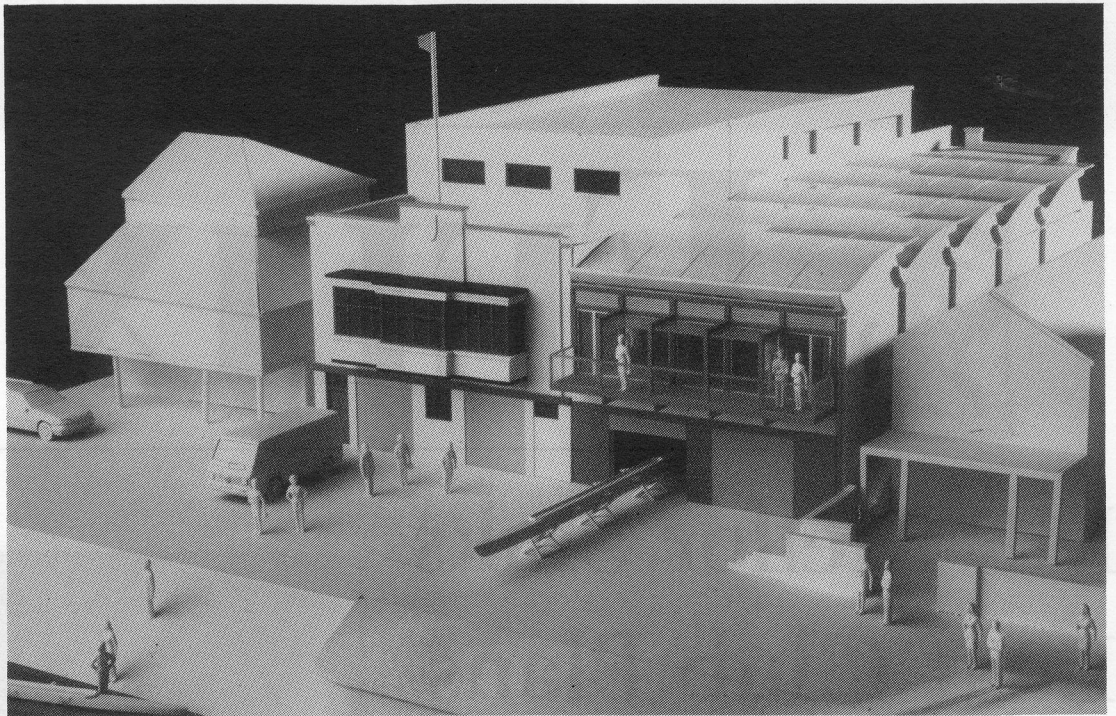
Tory Snub for IC

Continued from front page

opposition, accepting a move elsewhere, but some residents living on the Reach objected to the increased student presence.

The Boat Club coach, Bill Mason, said that he was 'very disappointed' with the decision after all the that the rowers and the College had done to meet the residents objections. He stated that space was tight already for the rowing club's hundred regular members, with 'the various squads having to work on a rota system to ensure that they all got adequate training. The current arrangements, especially for women members, were 'far from ideal', changing areas having to double as gyms for fitness work.

Mr Mason felt that issues



The model of the enlarged Boathouse. Residents were concerned over the increasingly detrimental environmental effect the Putney Reach Rowing Clubs are having.

PHOTO: ANDREW PUTLER

raised and dealt with long ago in the consultation process had been dragged up needlessly, slowing the process at the planning permission stage. He also felt that if the residents 'came and observed what [the Boat Club] do, they might be more

forgiving', especially given the success of the rowing teams so far.

The expansion was scheduled to be finished for the start of the next academic year, in time for the new season and a new intake of rowers, but any

delay will mean that new facilities will not be available when needed.

Mr Caldwell added that he still thought that IC's scheme was workable, and that the College would lodge an appeal against the ruling.

News in brief

BY ALEX FEAKES AND RACHEL WALTERS

Rug Thieves still at Large

Embarrassed Union Officials were called on to explain how Imperial College Union's front-door mat disappeared from under their noses on Wednesday night.

The mat went missing moments after midnight, when Union stewards were in the throes of clearing the bar of the midweek sports crowd.

Da Vinci's had been full of sportspeople drinking after their BUSA sports matches against Royal Holloway College, many clubs inviting their opponents back to the Union. Video footage from security cameras and gate stewards confirm that a huddle of Royal Holloway sportsmen left Beit Quad, carrying one of their drunken compatriots in a bundle,

at four minutes past twelve. The film clearly shows that both Sarah White (ICU President) and at least two union stewards were present at the time.

Sarah said that shortly after the Royal Holloway team had left, concerned students alerted her the absence of the doormat. However, the stewards on the exit said that they did not remember any large item of floor covering walking out of its own accord, or being assisted by any person.

Miss White was angry with the villains, saying that she 'found it hard to believe that anyone would want to take such a smelly and dirty piece of foot mat.' She urged the pranksters who stole ICU's front doormat on Wednesday night to return the item.

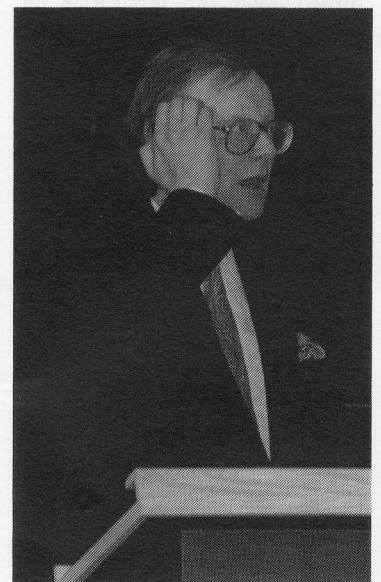
Sticky Wicket for Minister

John Selwyn Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, marked the official state opening of Parliament on Wednesday by visiting Imperial College as the guest of the Conservative Society.

The Essex MP touched on subjects ranging from unmarried mothers to rail privatisation, but was in particular quizzed on 'green' issues. On the topical item of nuclear testing he curiously felt that the French, by continuing to test nuclear weapons in the Pacific were "significantly contributing to the largest aid to freedom this century."

Speaking on environmental concerns closer to home, he picked out the privatised water companies for special praise, and

blamed poor air quality in Britain on continental traffic fumes blown across the channel.



John Gummer being irritated by Students.

PHOTO: WILLIAM LORENZ

Rag Chair Appeal Fail

BY TOM STEVENS

Richard Willis, ex-Rag Chair, has appealed unsuccessfully against the Executive ruling on his role in the Rag fresher's promotion.

The event aimed to attract freshers by handing out shots of spirits. It all went wrong when one over-enthusiastic student drank too much and was discovered nearly paralytic outside the Sherfield Building.

A Union Disciplinary held over the affair was fraught with controversy with some claiming it was held in an unconstitutional manner and even that it should never have been held in the first place.

In the face of criticism, Mr Willis was found guilty of 'failing to act responsibly as the organiser of an event' and of 'bringing the Union into disrepute.' He was fined £75 and the committee recommended a motion of no confidence should go to Council, a move that almost certainly would lead to Willis losing his position as Rag chair.

Mr Willis instantly took the story to *Felix* with claims of misconduct, and further that he had been expelled from the Union, a claim Sarah White later described as "absolute bollocks...there was no question of him being expelled."

Mr Willis resigned his chair, pre-empting a possible vote of no confidence and sought an appeal. Unfortunately for Willis the appeal committee which met last Friday failed to find fault with the original ruling; however it did concede that the fine was excessive and agreed to reduce it to £40.

Mr Willis was quoted as saying that the second hearing 'was very fair'. He accepted the board's recommendation to reduce his fine and agreed to abide by their decision.

The leaderless Rag Committee elected John Lambert as their new Rag chair on Wednesday, just in time for Rag Week.

Medical School Principal Moves In

BY JENNY RUDSTONE

Chris Edwards, a new member of the College management team, has joined Imperial as Principal of the Medical School. He started work only last week but feels he has settled in rapidly.

He comes to us after being Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Edinburgh for the last fifteen years, as well as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Provost of the Faculty Group of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine over the last four years.

Dr Edwards has also been on various Government groups in Scotland and may in the future be asked to represent both University and NHS interests from London-based groupings. He has also been a member of The Medical Research Council over the last four years and a Governor of the Wellcome Trust for the past two.

His role is to unite and provide leadership for all the students of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, the Royal Postgraduate

Medical School and the National Heart and Lung Institute, provid-

ing them with excellent teaching and facilities.



Conference Centre to Closed by Xmas

BY MARK BRIDGE

IC Conference Centre staff are reallocating bookings to other parts of college. The Southside suite will cease to function at Christmas to make way for the move of the health centre.

Work at the site will commence within four weeks from now. The project to convert the basement to General Practice specifications will be completed by mid 1996. The changeover is expected to be finished by October.

Speaking to *Felix*, Dr. Peter Dorward of the Health Centre explained that the current 14 Prince's Gardens site has small waiting rooms, narrow corridors and many staircases making access for the disabled very difficult. It also impedes the stretching of patients from the

college ambulance.

The centre currently has three nurses, four psychotherapists, a psychiatrist, an osteopath, a sports and a complementary medicine specialist as well as doctors available for consultation. This, coupled with the fact that the number of patients (currently 60% student, 15% staff, and 25% residents) is set to increase to ten thousand within two years, necessitates the move.

Talks between the Estates department, the Health Centre and the Health Commissioning Agency of Kensington and Chelsea (the quango responsible for funding healthcare in the borough) have lasted over a year and recently culminated in the announcement.

Funding was helped by government recognition that London

practices are generally run down compared with the rest of the country. Health Centre staff say that the building is generally in a state of disrepair. There are cracks and exposed wiring and the frequent requirement for staff to share rooms leads to an unsuitable working environment.

All the staff participated in the planning stages and have tailored their rooms and workplaces to their individual needs and preferences as well as to the functions they are going to be used for. Dr. Dorward expected this to allow '...people to thrive, performance to improve and efficiency gains to be made'.

The final plans, the fifth in a series of revised and amended drafts, incorporate a specific section for counselling as well as a larger waiting room.

Clayponds Burgled Again

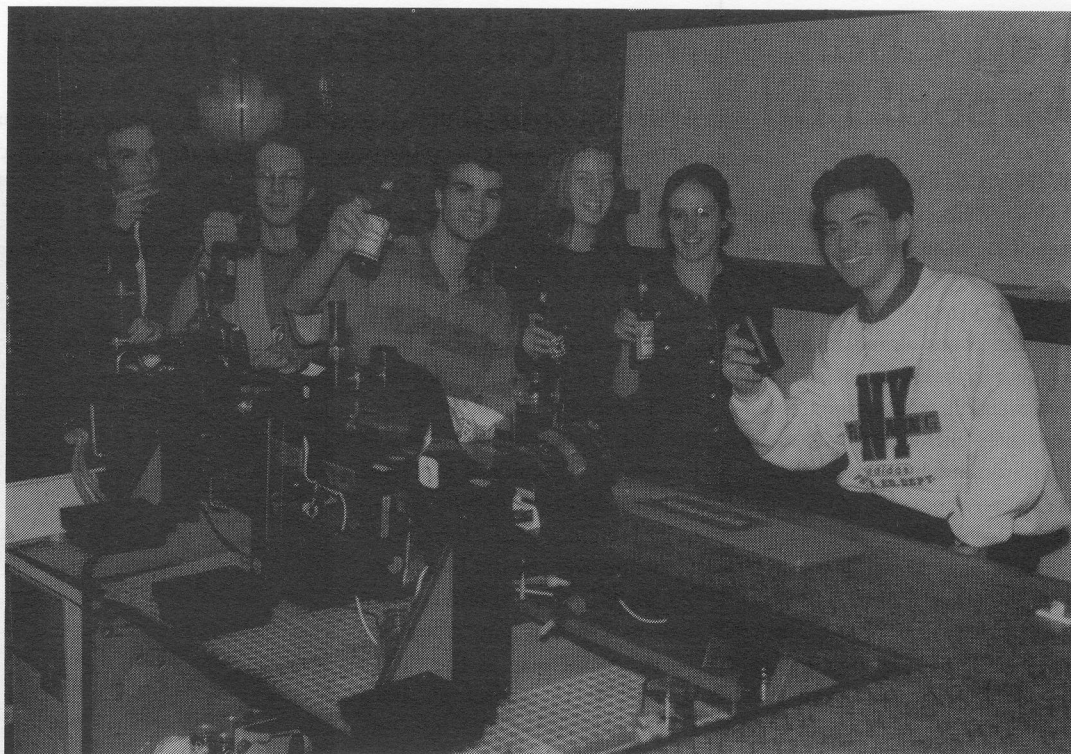
BY DIANA HARRISON

Security and well-being came under the spotlight this week at Clayponds, the College's residential estate in South Ealing. Recent residents' meetings have discussed the spate of burglaries which have hit the site since the summer. Residents have expressed fears for the safety of the students and postgraduates who have to travel some distance to the estate at night.

The meeting, held a week last Tuesday, saw angry exchanges over College's refusal to provide a security guard. The general feeling was that a guard who could be on duty for a couple of hours in the early evening - which has been identified as a particularly vulnerable time for the burglaries - would be a great help. Five days after the meeting, a ground floor flat on the estate was broken into via a window, provoking calls for more secure premises. Past discussions have led to the upgrade of the security system, including the use of passive IR detectors.

Travel between the flats and college has been increasingly a source of worry for the residents, especially at night. The path from the tube station to Clayponds passes between a high wall on one side and a council estate on the other. Harassment from children of the council estate has caused problems for some residents, with some students suffering stone throwing by the children.

At the meeting, the warden reiterated his support for the 'Clayponds Catwalk' scheme (known as the Clayponds Escort Service), where Clayponds residents meet each other in college so that they can travel back to the South Ealing flats together, a move welcomed by staff and students alike.



After much wrangling, College have relented on Linstead Hall's bar and allowed it to open for business. Excited Linsteadians, keen to make up for lost drinking time, made good use of the bar, celebrating in time-honoured fashion.

PHOTO: WILLIAM LORENZ

FK 'Kidnappers' Exposed

BY TOM STEVENS

Members of Selkirk hall were thwarted in an impromptu bid to raise money for the charity Children in Need, the result of a light hearted prank involving the removing of some furnishings from around the Falmouth Keogh gallery. Included in their haul were four tables, assorted pictures and wall hangings, six potted plants, a pew, two phones and a three seater sofa.

The party carried the objects up to the Selkirk gallery, leaving behind ransom notes wherever the items were filched from. The obligation demanded for the safe return of the items was a £50 cheque payable to the kidnappers nominated charity.

Arran, a member of the altruistic band, said that "at the time, it seemed the right thing to do." Unfortunately others did not share his views. The assistant subwarden, Kay Goodyear, threatened those involved with hall fines, and they were sentenced to undo their evening's work.



The motley crew of assembled flotsam gatherers, pictured here with their hoard on the Selkirk Gallery.

*“Without
the
best
people
we
cannot
be
the
best
firm”*

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Europe – the land on the other side of the tunnel, the place where people speak tongues and eat strange concoctions. Yet for some bizarre reason around a hundred Imperial students a year go to study there through the ERASMUS scheme. They spend about nine months exploring the ins and outs of a foreign city, to which all intents and purposes could well be on another planet. But don't panic or pull your hair out in frustration because you don't know what to expect. Just ask someone who has been before (and read this of course).

The main countries involved are France, Germany, Italy and Spain and although each place has its little quirks, there are generalities:

- Beer in pubs and restaurants is expensive – a sad fact but one you will (soon) learn to live with. A pint of beer is anything from £3-4.
- Beer (and alcohol in general) is extremely, even shockingly cheap in supermarkets. This means at most parties it's actually free. Look out for money-back on bottles – buying a crate is also much cheaper, and accommodation is cheaper than in London (OK, not exactly difficult to achieve).
- Food is generally more expensive, but this is more than countered by the accommodation.
- The vast majority of universities offer e-mail, but beware of confusing foreign keyboards. You may have to ask the computing department, or pay a small fee – but it is there if you look and you can log into Imperial - Y-talk here you come!
- The libraries have English text books – don't bother wasting space (or weight allowance) by taking them with you.
- It is worth taking your own lab coats, safety glasses, specialist equipment – they might expect you to pay for them.
- It's much cheaper for people in England to phone Europe than vice versa. Get your loved ones (oo er) to install Mercury – you'll save a fortune.
- Student unions do not exist in the same manner as here, it's far less centralised and organised – but 'parties' are arranged if you look for them.
- Halls of residence are not the social places they are here – no friendly re-apps to show you the ropes. Students live there for 4/5 years so it's very cliquy and you'll be shocked how all the rooms are personalised.

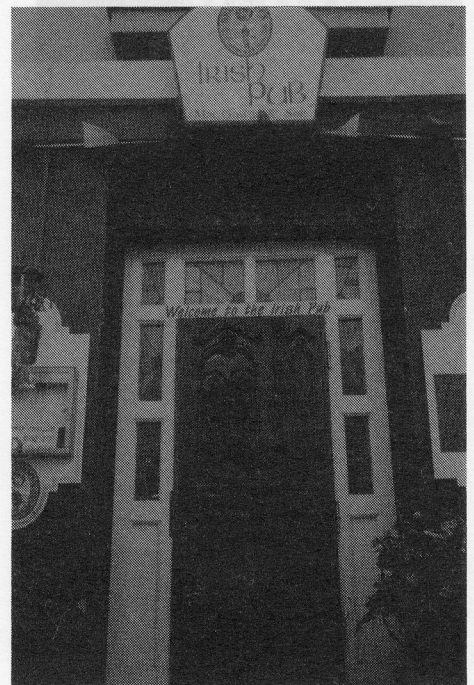
- Other ERASMUS students of all nationalities are very friendly, so get to know them – they're in the same boat as you are.
- Take your birth certificate, driving license, Imperial registration documents, passport photos (lots of them), student loan documents (if you intend to apply for the first time have your interview before you go), bank references and details of where your money is coming from i.e. grant cheques. Even a passport is useful!
- Credit cards and Eurocheque cards are handy; NatWest should offer a Eurocheque card free for a year. For France though 'Cirrus' is more useful.
- European postal services are not to be relied on. It takes approximately three (Germany) to five (France) days for letters to reach England or arrive in Europe and for a letter to reach Paris it needs a whole week. Yet in Italy it takes a staggering two weeks!
- It's easier to talk to other foreigners – they speak more slowly.
- Take your own bedding – or live in a hospital.
- Look out for the Irish Pub – they're everywhere and generally lively and a good laugh. (Also they tend to speak English and you can get pints of Guinness!)
- Look out for travel opportunities: special offers on trains etc. For example, Hannover to Berlin (takes 6 hours) for a mere £1.50 – honest! In Italy a "Carte Verde" is very useful. Public transport is excellent in general and throughout Germany at least, cycling is safer.
- The technical side of a foreign language can be picked up very easily.
- Take your own BluTac – it's unknown on the continent (take a suitcase and make your fortune!)
- Language lessons are usually available and definitely worthwhile (even if only to meet other foreign students). In France you will probably be expected to pay for these and then claim a proportion back.
- Enquire about the climate before you go – thermal vests in Germany may be advisable.
- Registration is a long, painful process – ask, beg, plead for help and save yourself weeks as your supervisor can jump the queue.
- Everyone asked said they'd definitely go again.

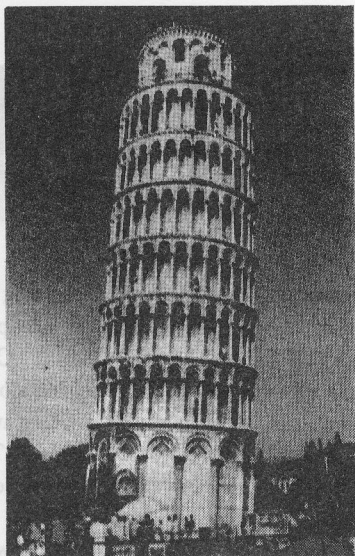
OK, so now you've packed your lab coat, thrown out your text book and installed Mercury. Take a look at the individual countries...

So you
want to
spend a
year in
Europe?

Spain

Sun, sand, sea and hot weather are on offer in this country of hospitality. One festive occasion not to drag yourself away from is "Fallan" (mid March), unless of course it is to go bullfighting. A constant supply of porn has also been cited as an advantage (they know who they are!) and an ISIC (International Student Identity Card) is very useful. The university canteens are cheap, but "nightmare chaos" rules in the queues. Everything is generally cheaper there, in fact.





Italy

The land of romance and dreams – or so people say. Florence is also perhaps the only city where people judge status by your footwear. It's time to throw out those DM's and invest in some kinky boots.

Italian universities often have few or no university halls, but they normally provide private accommodation for you. (Ask if bedding etc. is there for you.) Florence even goes as far as to subsidise the rent by approximately £35-40 per month. This money could be even better spent by joining one of the numerous small members only bars/restaurants. To join they only need a small fee and then the food, drink and general ambience on offer is superior to the alternative. Try "la Pentola d'Oro" in Florence for the best reasonably priced Renaissance food. Though the Italian student canteens do offer the usual European excellent value three course meals (around £1.20), the main difference is that theirs come with wine. A relaxed place, where they "don't do today what can be put off until tomorrow."

If you are (understandably) worried about term dates, accommodation, travel, money, etc. ask as soon as you are given a contact. Lots of people experience teething problems with flats / halls – they are sorted out very quickly. The general philosophy is "they'll do it but you have to ask."

Term usually starts a week or so later than here, but you may be expected to attend a language / introductory course there. After that holidays are pretty relaxed – find out what suits you and your course.

Travelling is tricky (persuade your folks to give you a lift) but flying is generally the least awkward, ask to be met at the other end. Be forceful – explain that you will have luggage, no idea of where you are and the lan-

France

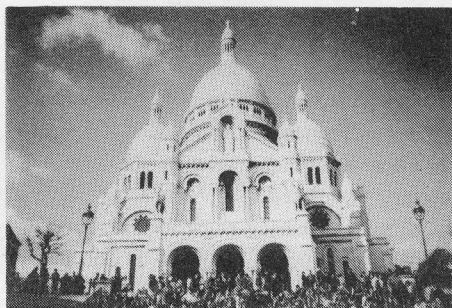
A lovely place! First things first – the French actually respect students! Imagine it – people who know that what you are doing (i.e. enjoying yourself) is worthwhile! (Yes, they are mad.)

The French also offer Housing Benefit – tricky to get around the bureaucracy, you will need to provide a full sized (has to be requested in England apparently) birth certificate, residence permit and bank references. But if you can stand "the Anneka Rice Treasure Hunt around Government Offices" you will have a significant portion (£40-£60 per month) of your rent paid for (take note Mr Major).

The system of "CROUS" or "restaurant universitaire" – which provides students with three course meals for around £1.50 is not to be sniffed at. The cooking facilities in Halls are admittedly limited, but then with meals available for that price – who cares?

Wine (as well as nuclear testing) is extremely popular. Look out for "appellation contrôlée" or a green top on a label for excellent cheap plonk.

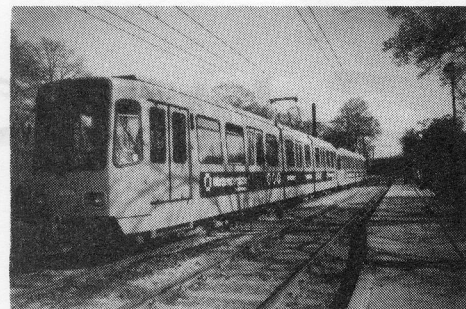
In France you'll need phone cards, have to visit EuroDisney and listen to 102.3FM for crazy English radio. Also look out for FNAC – a government record store of sorts which provides excellent lunchtime concerts. And if you are planning to visit the cinema in Strasbourg – buy your student ticket between 5:30-6:30pm.



guage level of a three year old. They will help.

Money is a bit of a gamble. Exchange rates mean that unless you're an economic genius you can lose out (or gain) whatever you do. Investigate credit and EC cards, but a bank account is usually necessary for one to two vital transactions. It can be cheaper to exchange your money in one bulk transaction. Ask someone to help out and find out the full facts before you go (look for hidden charges).

Life in Europe is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, which is not to be missed: the culture shock, the sophistication of European students (they have dinner parties), the way they celebrate their birthdays whenever it suits and not when they actually occur and



Germany

A bureaucratic nightmare of a country, but the local sausage and sauerkraut-eating folk aren't all that bad. When they party they do it's in style. Don't miss the "Karnevals" of February and many smaller curious customs both in and out of the universities. Erlangen has a particularly popular ten day beer festival in the beginning of June. They are great believers in cakes at 3pm (who's complaining?) and Sekt (German champagne).

They also believe in putting people of a common background together – so beware of only meeting foreigners. Germany philosophy hasn't grasped the fact that people want to learn German by meeting Germans. (Also be prepared to do your shopping in the mornings as having shops open after 3pm seems to be a sin.)

Phone boxes are fun. They're yellow and only accept incoming calls if they have a ringing phone symbol on the front – so hunt around for one. You will need a bank account to pay for rent and in Hannover at least you have to pay (£75 per semester) to be a student – but in return you travel on public transport for free and there is a variety of free sports lessons available. For an illustration in German efficiency try the university canteen (the "Mensa").

the lack of "The Sun" all mean it can be slightly bizarre. Yet life without the great British cup of tea in front of Eastenders all seems somehow worthwhile when sat in a bar at 4am.

If you have any questions then Adrian Hawksworth at the International Office (room 321, Sheffield) deals with non-academic enquiries. Your European Departmental Coordinator will deal with any academic problems.

Special thanks for contributions go to Karen, Alick, Graham, Karen, Walter, Tom, Alex, Clare, Tilly and Vicky. Written by Sarah Hickingbottom.

EuroBASH!

France and Germany make unlikely bed partners – their history would suggest an antagonistic and strained relationship rather than the cosy alliance that actually exists today.

The predecessors of Messrs. Kohl and Chirac for centuries sought to destroy each other, or at least stop the other becoming dominant. Today they stand over an artificial alliance built on a foundation of directives and red tape with frightening plans to integrate further.

France have found the rising tide of American influence in regional politics an anathema. This explains their central role in the EU and why, along with Germany, they are very keen to develop a common European defence and foreign policy strategy, let alone a centralised currency.

Historically Britain has had an aversion to formal alliances that bind it to collective security or centralised decision making. Despite this many believed that Britain had all but handed over sovereignty to Maastricht. Mr. Rifkind's affirmation that this Government will seek to promote the national interest, even when it conflicts with European harmonisation, is more than conference rhetoric or an appeal to nationalist tendencies at home. The single currency is almost certainly the target of the Government's fire but seemingly alone, it has a hard fight at next year's inter-governmental conference of the European members.

Clearly Mr. Major will hope to gain from his recent support of French nuclear testing (it is, after all, the only reason why he has isolated himself on the international stage). The "goodwill" visit by 8 French warships to London does suggest the development of a warming alliance but Mr. Major may be deluding himself if he hopes to come away from the IGC with more than a sack of Brie and some cheap wine from the French President.

The reasoning is simple enough. An integrated defence policy would have its heart in France, and in the central bank in Germany. Thus the hegemony that has escaped both countries for centuries would be complete. Their obstinate refusal to listen to pleas from Britain and elsewhere that sovereignty would be threatened is a consequence of their mis-

understanding of the function and definition of the nation state.

The principle functions of a nation are management of the currency and defence. Delegating both of these to a central European body eliminates democracy and places power in the hands of untouchable bureaucrats.

As everyone knows, it is impossible to have a centrally managed currency whilst at the same time maintain local economic control. It would take away the fiscal and monetary tools of a nation and the power to devalue its currency (a short term measure to compensate for loss of competitiveness). The ability to manage its own economic strategy by influencing the money supply and interest rates would be lost. Its introduction is nothing more than a covert act to create a supra national state.

Mr. Major may be deluding himself if he hopes to come away from the IGC with more than a sack of Brie and some cheap wine from the French President.

Similarly, crucial foreign policy decisions would be made at a European level and if they conflicted with local objectives, well, as they say in France, C'est la vie.

There are inherent dangers in defining a state as a populated space instead of a collection of people sharing a history, language and culture. The current conflicts in Europe are the results of early attempts to do just that. And it's not restricted to the Balkan region, nor just Europe. All over the world the ruling passion is a search for national identity, as Orwell stated, "The energy that actually shapes the world springs from emotions... which liberal intellectuals... write off as anachronisms". The end of the Cold War brought with it a throng of nations desperate for self expression and in turning towards Western Europe they failed to see it as the Charybdis to their former Scylla. As soon as these nations have got on their feet they will be absorbed into an artificial, centralised technocracy (again). In defence, the Franco-German elite point to the apparent desire of the former Communist states to join their party but over the years this coterie has sub-

tly changed the theme without informing the invitees. Most sensible people have no opposition to the original Treaty of Rome. Over the last ten years however, it has been slowly remoulded into a leviathan that is eating away at the hearts of individual nations. The European Parliament and Commission create laws and directives not because they are needed, but because that's what they were created to do. Any central European body should only be concerned with maintaining intra-European trade and freedom of movement between borders.

Most worrying however must be the failure of Messrs. Kohl and Chirac to acknowledge the unpopularity of Maastricht in their countries. The 1992 referendum in France produced a majority of only two per cent. Opinion polls in Germany suggest that more than two thirds of the population have reservations about being bound in a similar way. The Gallie arrogance with which Mr. Chirac so proudly pressed his Red Buttons will be displayed again when he rebuffs Mr. Major next year. Aside from confirming Britain's right to continue the opt out status it already has on key aspects of Maastricht, the French President will

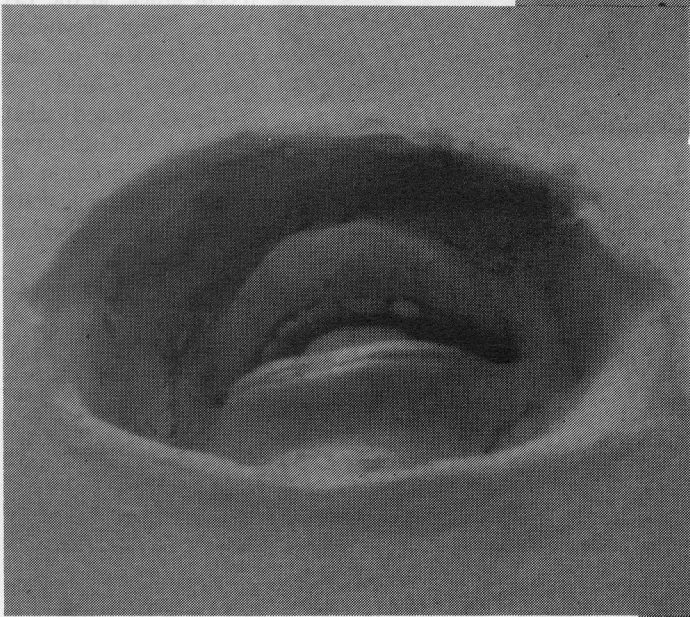
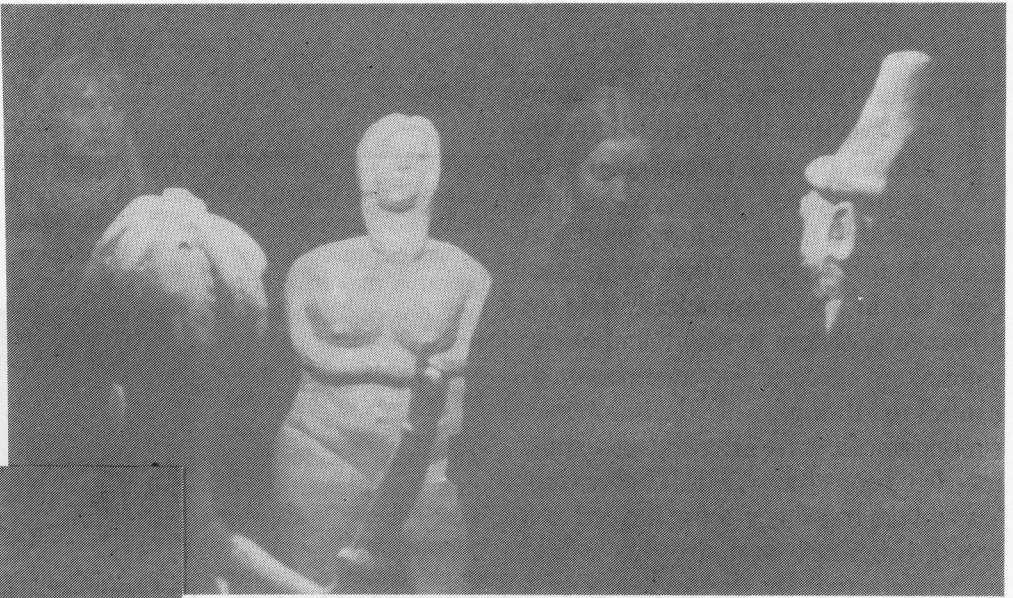
not support it on anything more controversial. As if in some Diplomatic confession in preparation for an unholy union, he has accepted collective guilt for the Vichy crimes and declared them the fault of the French 'state'. In doing so stepped away from the Gaullist tradition with which he claims to be associated. He may use the excuse of 'national interest' in explaining away his Imperialistic behaviour but he would not recognise it if Napoleon came carrying it on a silver platter across Le Place de la Concorde.

The policy to unashamedly pursue the national interest may be a last ditch attempt by Britain to remind both France and Germany what nationhood means and thus reverse the drive to closer integration. The flawed interpretation of it that Chirac and Kohl have developed may be simply expedient as it serves their similar ideals and goals. On reflection, it is not too difficult to see how the two of them, impervious to outside criticism and pursuing a marriage destined to fail probably are the best bed partners (in crime?) in the world.

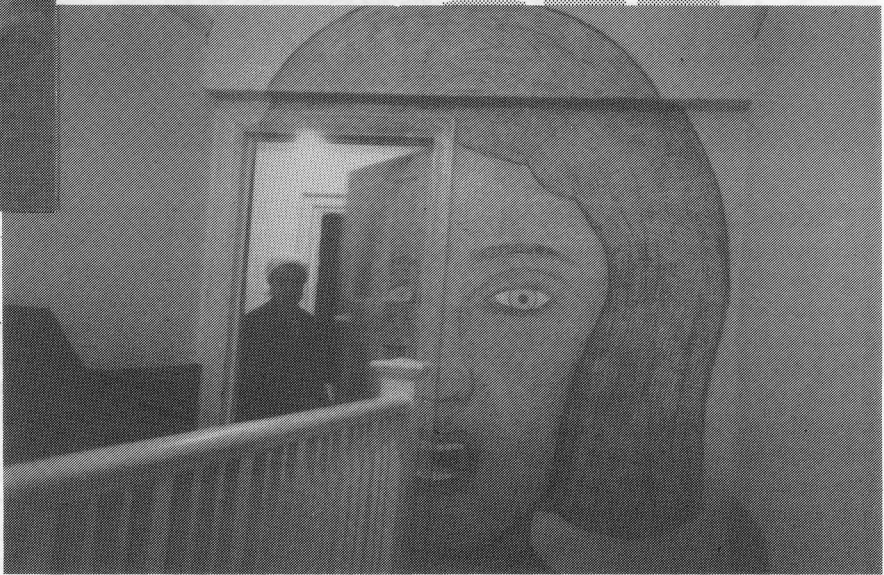
Written by Nooman Haque

fii

lost



gothic - lost in space, lorn court, lorn road, stockwell. Quite possibly the coolest space in the world. Totally free. Various artists. Go, for art's sake.



space

event: lost in space - gothic

jeremy

insight:

ben wilkins

theatre: angela hitler

babe magnet

column: simon baker

theatre: patriot in me

kalashnikov

column: michael ludlum

video: oasis

alok

album: coolio

BeA

album: anthrax

vik

album: saint etienne

lucas

singles: Mr Happy

film: heavy

kt

⊕ lff guide

jeremy

mr fogg: yemen

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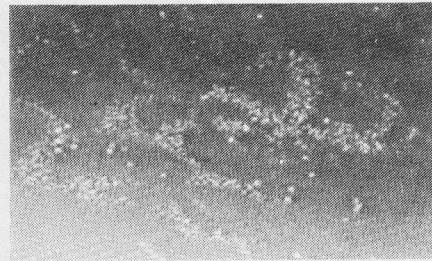
In the 1960s, people were becoming worried that their thoughts, behaviour and actions could be manipulated by messages. Messages that the conscious mind was not able to perceive. Their main concern lay in the commercial field of advertising, where it was felt that the technology existed for advertisers to control the thoughts of television viewers undetectably by inserting very short messages onto the screen. These visual 'subliminal messages' were flashed at a speed, brightness and size that would go 'undetected' by the audience at a conscious level. According to leading professional bodies, this kind of stimuli is capable of influencing our emotions.

part said that they had experienced a positive 'feel good' factor as a direct result of the game. A spokesman for Time Warner stated that Endorfun may have drug like qualities, but at least it's legal! Under the 1990 Broadcasting Act, both television and radio are prohibited to use subliminal messages that may "influence the minds of persons...without them being fully aware of what has occurred." Computer games however, are not restricted by this legislation.

Currently, the British Film Institute (BFI) have taken it upon themselves to carry out

however, have admitted to putting subliminal cuts of sexually explicit material into their films.

One recent release, "Jade" is said to contain such images. Its director, Michael Friedkin, was also accused of using subliminal cuts in his earlier film, 'The Exorcist'. In a recent article in the LA Times, Gene Reynolds, the President of the Director's Guild of America, noted that there are no Guild rules about the inclusion of

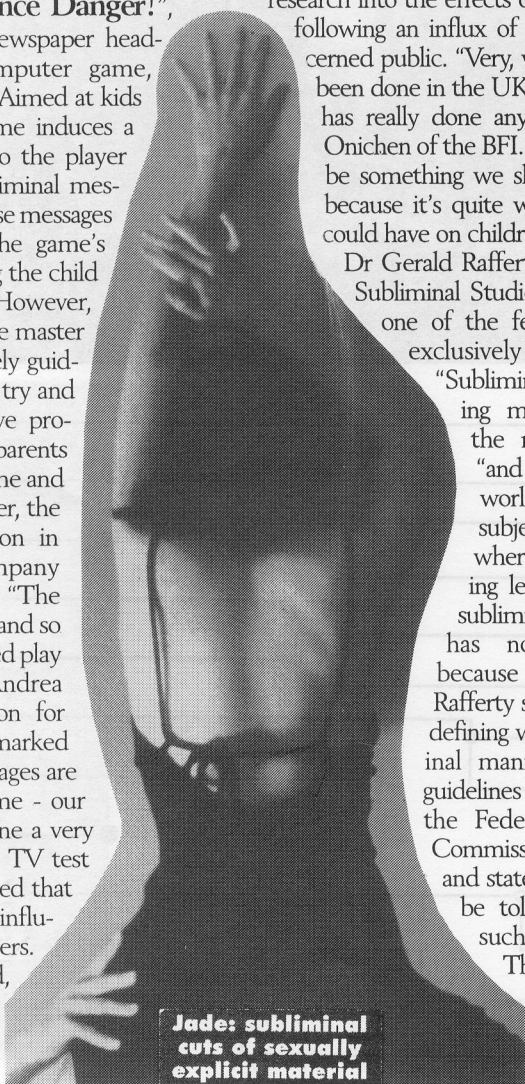


The word 'sex' is formed in a dust cloud in a scene in 'The Lion King'

subliminal messages in films. "We certainly don't have a policy against it, it's up to the individual

Who's Controlling Your Thoughts?

"Video Game Trance Danger!", exclaimed the recent newspaper headlines as the new computer game, *Endorfun*, was released. Aimed at kids as young as 11, the game induces a 'feel good' sensation into the player through the use of subliminal messages. Almost 100 of these messages are concealed within the game's soundtrack, mesmerising the child into a trance-like state. However, phrases such as "I am the master of my life", "I am divinely guided" and "I don't have to try and please anyone else" have provoked outrage amongst parents who condemned the game and its producer Time Warner, the largest media corporation in the world. The company openly admits that, "The gameplay is so addictive and so immersive, that continued play is guaranteed." Andrea Simpson, a spokesperson for the American giant, remarked that the subliminal messages are just a "hook on the game - our marketing guys have done a very good job!" A recent live TV test of *Endorfun* demonstrated that the game did have an influencing effect on the players. One young girl claimed, "[I] wanted to carry on playing the game." All the children who took



Jade: subliminal cuts of sexually explicit material

research into the effects of subliminal messages following an influx of inquiries from a concerned public. "Very, very little research has been done in the UK. It seems that no one has really done anything", explained Liz Onichen of the BFI. "It looks like it should be something we should be getting into, because it's quite worrying the effects it could have on children."

Dr Gerald Rafferty of the Institute for Subliminal Studies, California USA, is one of the few scientists working exclusively in this field.

"Subliminal messages are causing major controversies at the moment" he claims, "and there is currently a world-wide interest in the subject." Unlike in England where we have a broadcasting legislation pertaining to subliminal images, America has no such regulations because they have, as Dr Rafferty says, "a very hard time defining what would be subliminal manipulation." The sole guidelines were introduced by the Federal Communications Commission for TV and Radio, and state that the public must be told beforehand should such messages be used.

These guidelines do not apply to the movie industry which is a private enterprise. Certain directors,

director", he said. "I don't know the ethics of it, but it can certainly be used to manipulate an audience."

A Powerful Tool.



During the Second World War, the American government used intensive 'flash silhouettes' to teach sailors to identify a wide range of enemy ships and aircraft. Each silhouette lasted for 1/100th of a second.

Following the treatment, the sailors found that they could recognise 2000 silhouettes.



Animators at Disney have been accused of using subliminal messages in their blockbuster movies. The American life league maintain that in one scene in 'The Lion King', the word 'SEX' is formed in a cloud of dust (see picture above).



In 1957 an American cinema intermittently flashed the message "Eat Popcorn" during the showing of a film. - Popcorn sales increased.

By Jeanette Gouldbourn and Carlo Massarella



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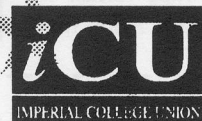


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Union Building. Beit Quad
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theatre: angela hitler habe magnet

Contemplating a play about the evil of the Hitler family, I could only worry about how approachable this piece would be. Its slow start of a mime to opera set the pace for the first forty minutes, with an empathy for the characters taking a considerable time to build.

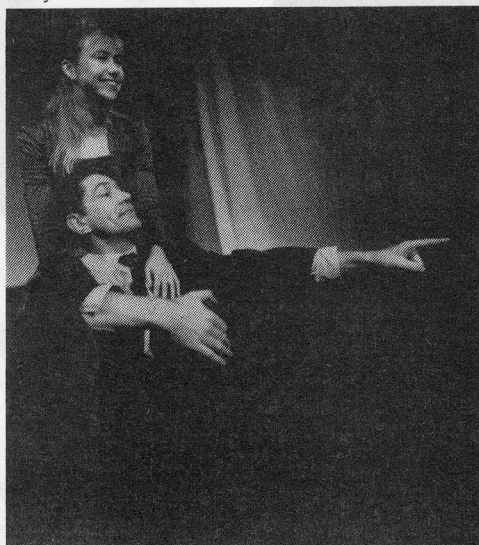
We were given the premise of a nephew of Adolf Hitler returning to investigate whether he was really dead. In the process he discovers Angela Hitler (a cousin of Adolf) and her housemaid, testifying to a fictional Nuremberg Court. Through a process of flashbacks he also jumps to conversations he had with Angela Hitler's daughter (Adolf's niece) many years ago.

Confused?...I was for a while too. It is important to understand how someone could be as evil as Adolf Hitler, and this play exposes some of the (true) things that happened; his own physical abuse suffered during childhood and the sexual abuse and eventual murder he inflicted on his niece. Amongst these disquieting facts we see the still living bias of Angela Hitler - she remarks at one point to her nephew, "your blood is not pure, it is staining our tablecloths."

The play draws to an abrupt climax as Angela Hitler begins to believe that Adolf may

actually have committed some of the acts he stands accused of.

This play said something noteworthy, but despite some convincing performances, the actors could not hold together a fragmented plot on an almost bare stage. I went away thinking 'that was surprisingly unmemorable' - not the sort of intense drama I had expected it to be. At £6.50 (if you get a student discount) I would avoid this unless you really want to know the story behind Adolf Hitler's atrocities.



simon baker

By the time you read this, the Commonwealth Conference will have finished. This esteemed organisation, for which I have considerable respect, is not usually the source of hot news. Not this year it would seem, following the French nuclear tests and more recently, the executions in Nigeria, a despicable act of an evil regime that cannot go unpunished. To that end, there have rightly been calls for Nigeria's expulsion and trade sanctions. I shall not repeat my views on the French tests, but offer a possible explanation of John Major's singular support for our Gallic cousins. As far as I remember, we were quite late in our response to the first test and certainly later than Germany. It is therefore possible that by not condemning the French, John Major is hoping to curry favour with Jacques Chirac, drive a wedge between France and Germany and reduce the prospect of monetary union and greater federalism in Europe. Before the leadership election, I would never had thought that he was capable of such a master stroke. Perhaps he still isn't. But if I'm right he's a damn sight more clever than we give him credit for.



undoubtedly are. Nevertheless, let me offer some possible solutions. As I have said before, smokers are more than welcome in the JCR. Come along and while away the day trying to stain those nasty little signs yellow to the point of illegibility. Better still, since the JCR is already crowded, the College could free up some more space in Sheffield for the more productive activity of these displaced students. The 'Philip Morris Reading Room' has a nice ring to it.

Elsewhere, the Linstead bar debate continues, culminating in the attendance of a pro-Rector at a hall meeting. We read that he heard the case for re-opening and acknowledged the somewhat hasty action taken. He goes on to say that 'he would have preferred to close the bars of both Linstead and Southside'. Professor Swanson, a word of advice: even at the most apathetic university in the country, the closure of Southside bar for a matter of minutes would almost certainly result in an outbreak of war, with a barricade on Watts Way that is both vandal-proof and a bit better at halting cars than its predecessor becoming necessary.

When your humble columnist is not lovingly assembling words for your delight and delectation, he likes to 'hang out' with the young people, dancing to tunes from the hit parade. To this end, I attended 'Club Alien' at The Rocket on Friday. A most excellent evening's entertainment was provided. I cannot recommend it highly enough.

bridge lane theatre
0171 228 8828

bridge lane, battersea: take bus no. 345 or 49 from south ken. tube.

angela hitler, until 2nd December at 8pm. (Not Mondays), full price £8.50, students get in for £6.50 on tues/wed/thurs

hammersmith apollo
0171 416 6022

queen caroline st; hammersmith tube
riverdance- the show by bill whelan. mon- sat 8pm, sat mat 2.30pm. £18.50-£27.50 plus £1.75 booking fee. booking until feb 10.

queen's theatre
0171 494 5040

shaftsbury avenue; leicester sq. tube

prisoner cell block h by david mcvicar; can fragile english flower lily savage survive the perils of wentworth detention centre? musical spin-off from the cult tv prison saga. mon-thurs 8pm, fri & sat 6pm & 8.45pm. £7.50-£24. booking until jan 13.

"...our poor friends in physics have had their place of nicotine nirvana closed."

barbican 0171 638 8891
barbican tube
a patriot for me by john osborne
fri, sat, mon-wed 7.15pm, £7 -
£22.50 until 22 november.

national 0171 928 2252
south bank, embankment tube
volpone by ben jonson - rep
until january £9.50- £22.50

almeida 0171 359 4404
almeida st N1 - angel tube
venice preserved by thomas
otway - mon to fri 8pm sat
matinee 4pm £6.50 to £16.50,
concs £6.50. until 2 december.

albery theatre 0171 369 1730
st. martin's lane; leicester sq. tube
five guys named moe
jazz musical by clarke peters - mon-
thurs 8pm, fri & sat 6pm & 8.45pm.
Tickets £5-£28. booking until jan
13.

"I can
only
imagine it
must be
like going
to a Swiss
finishing
school full
of geeky
boring
women"

xiii

theatre: a patriot for me

kalashnikov

The most striking thing about 'A Patriot For Me' is the scale. Lavishly produced with a cast of forty, the costumes as well as the props reflect the decadence of turn-of-the-century Austro-Hungary.

The choreography of the scene changes is impressive, as almost all the cast appear and swap scenery behind some incidental act. Originally refused a performance licence in 1965 for its frank portrayal of sexual relations, both straight and gay, John Osborne's play tracks the

career of army officer Alfred Redl (James Wilby).

Displaying widespread homosexuality in the Imperial armed forces, it seems more than coincidence that the piece should resurface at a time when the British armed forces are facing the same issue – a connection reinforced by the appearance in the programme of a foreword from Stonewall's director.

Nevertheless the glorious extravagance of the production, crowned with an amazingly camp ball scene, absorbs you as you pick out the familiar faces from television and the four hour epic flies by.

michael ludlam

London is the place of extremes. It is the most amazing multi-cultured mix of men and women from all over the world. Ah, but then there is Imperial. The place that is so different from the rest of London, not because it isn't a mix of peoples, but because it is predominately full of one gender: the male one. I realise that I haven't just made a startling new revelation to most of you, but it really is something that you can't help noticing. Where else can you find so many men all alone in one place?

I was promised that college was going to be in the 'real world' but it isn't. The real world just doesn't have four times the number of men than women. In the 'real world' there just slightly more women than men. In the big wide world outside of this college, including just about every other college and university in Britain there is more or less an equal number of men and women. But here there aren't.

The reason for this imbalance is simple. We all go to a science college. And for as long as anyone can remember, boys have been good at making things go tick and blow up, and women have done all the artistic stuff. Unfortunately this attitude still prevails... and sucks. Women and men are equally intelligent – given all the same incentives I think there would be as many women doing science as men, and as many men doing 'arty things' as women do.

Like it or lump it, Imperial College is going to be male dominated for a long time to come. But things are getting better. Each year more women come here, so the percentage of women at Imperial has risen to a giddy high of twenty seven. However, this still means there are three men to every woman, accounting for the large surplus of spare testosterone that floats around South Kensington. Let's talk at the basic level, without becoming too crude: there just aren't enough women to go round and somehow this odd situation has created special types of people that seem to only exist at Imperial.

Firstly, it takes a special type of tough woman to come to Imperial, and I admire those who do brave it. I can see it would be hard for many women to have lots of friends here. If you are a woman at this college you are without

doubt being constantly chatted up. Trying to comprehend this situation the other way around, I can only imagine going to a Swiss finishing school full of geeky boring women. The prospect seems vaguely enticing at first, but it would drive me up the wall within a week. It must be so intimidating for women here knowing that just about every bloke they talk to is somewhere on the wrong side between normal and sheer bloody desperate. And while the attention is, I am assured, flattering it can hardly be particularly comfortable.

Imperial seems to attract various types of women, but two in particular. Firstly the female equivalent of the male geek. Unattractive and sexless, the type who works so hard that they know little about the outside world. Then there are the women who come here who choose Imperial because of the imbalance which makes them that much more desirable. They are the ones who enjoy knowing that there are plenty of men to choose from and that their choice is endless. It is such a shame this little ploy does not work. Didn't anyone tell them that a considerably large proportion of this college comes from the male geek factory?

So while most of the men at Imperial are definitely available, only a tiny minority are in the least bit desirable. Let's be honest with ourselves guys, we are hardly a model show for the rest of mankind. We can't really be proud of our show of bristling attractiveness. It also requires a special type of man to come to Imperial—one who knows that his early twenties will be spent single and competing with at least two other men for a woman. It is a sad thought—wasted youth and all that.

This observation of the imbalance in college is hardly a new one. Never a day goes pass when some reference is not made to the lack of women (and lack of 'decent blokes') attending IC. Every year the same arguments come back time and time again. The thing is, there ain't a great deal you and me can do about it. I'm afraid to say it, but it's true. College themselves are the only ones who will be doing anything about it, because they are the only ones who can. And so while they get along with the arduous task the rest of us will just have to keep on whinging about it. Ah, we do it so so well.

video: oasis - live by the sea^{alok}

Oasis seem to love touring. They love the rock 'n' roll lifestyle, the hotels, the idea of throwing televisions out of random windows because, in Liam's words, "I can pay for it," and, of course, the gigging.

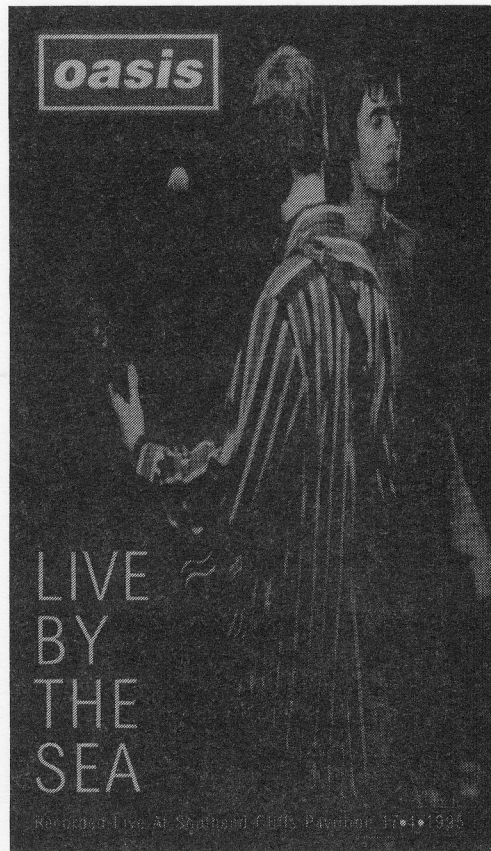
The setup is almost unheard of. Noel, lead guitarist, stands completely still. Bonehead and Guigs (rhythm guitar and bass guitar) stand completely still. And Liam, well, erm, he stands still too. None of your Jimi Hendrix style licking the guitar here or Mick Jagger style jerking around on stage. Each member of the band has a spot to which they are glued and they stay there. It's not that they can't do two things at once. Rather, it's the fact that, in their minds, the show is *them*, not what they do.

The confidence that this band has is staggering. Their cocky, "We're the best band in the world", attitude has got them very far indeed and they don't need to perform like circus animals to entertain their audience. Their power is in their music. Straight rock 'n' roll - no messing around with pop or any of its sub-genres.

The whole Oasis ethic is carried through in this video as they tear through their seventeen song set with the kind of confidence that only bands who have been around forever should have. They know that every song they play will be received with a thousand cheers.

Liam has a rapport with the audience that most singers could only wish for and he knows it. He has that, "I know everyone loves me but I'm pretending not to notice", look constantly on his face. As usual, he dedicates 'Slide Away' to the "ladies in the 'ouse", and 'Live Forever' to "everyone, including me."

Noel's three song acoustic set (in this case,



two and a half due to the fact that he couldn't remember how the last half of 'D'yer wanna be a spaceman' went) is gently beautiful and yet still powerful as it complements the electrified parts of the concert. The finale of 'I am the Walrus' follows an energetic version of 'Supersonic' and is, as always, eight minutes of organised madness.

Get this video, turn out the lights and play it with the sound way up. Oh, and if the ceiling doesn't collapse and you don't cause an earthquake, then you've not put it on loud enough.

album: coolio - gangsta's paradise^{BeA}

Just in case you haven't listened to the radio or watched MTV for the last few months, the title track on this album went straight into the charts at No.1. And it's quite good in its chilling, even haunting groove and scary-voice lyrics. A rare enough example of a good tune selling loads, and a good way to shift copies of an album.

Unfortunately, the album doesn't live up to its title track. A host of special guests provide the odd good moment, but most of the time the backing tracks are badly done or just copies of the original R&B and funk tracks.

Coolio seems to have forgotten his rap sensibilities. The old school influences are apparent but he has lost his flair. Only the title track and tracks such as the group jam, 'Exercise Yo Game', rise above the tedium. Buy the single and save your money for albums by the guests instead. (4)

albums: round-up

Squeeze - 'Ridiculous'. There's nothing really wrong with this album except that it is a little boring. It's the same old pop formula; tried, tested and old hat. It's a shame 'cos they used to be quite good. (4) - *Lucas*

Various - 'Planet Dub'. Children of the Bong, Astralasia and Eat Static all contribute excellent ambient soundscapes. Unfortunately, the rest of this double LP is monotonous with never changing bass rhythms. (5) - *Mr. Happy*

Next Step Up - 'Fall from Grace'. A pretty boring metal album. The band play confidently but there is little variation while the singer sounds like he had a bad case of sore throat during the recording sessions. (4) - *Ian*

Various - 'Triphopriy II'. This compilation uses the tactic of having remixers (e.g. Portishead) who are far more famous than the original artists. It's worth it because this a nice warm up record for any night out. (7) - *Pixel*

listings:^{ahead}

david bowie - morrissey - 17
nov - wembley - £25

chumbawumba 17 nov - forum
- £8.50

o zzy osbourne + fear factory - 18 nov - brixton academy - £14

the beautiful south + lighting seeds - 21, 22 nov - wembley - £15

les negresses vertes 22 nov - shep bush empire - £10

emmylou harris and the daniel lanais band 23 nov - shep bush empire - £tbc

runrig 23 nov - royal albert hall - £13-£15

hue and cry 23, 24 nov - jazz cafe - £tbc

carter usm 24 nov - shep bush empire - £9.50

m people 24-26 nov - royal albert hall - £12-£17.50

candy dulfer 25 nov - shep bush empire - £tbc

the charlatans 25 nov - brixton academy - £10

aztec camera 26, 27 nov - shep bush empire - £12.50

paul weller 27, 28 nov - brixton academy - £16.50

teenage fanclub 30 nov - forum - £8.50

blur 2, 3, 13 dec - wembley arena - £14, £12.50

bootleg beatles 3 dec - hammersmith apollo - £15.50, £13.50

wet wet wet 4, 5, 6 dec - wembley - £23

alison moyet 6, 7 dec - royal albert hall - £15

handy hint - to avoid irritating £2-3 'booking fees' try to buy your tickets from the venue or ULU (malet street) in cash.

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competition: oasis video

Okay, so you've read the review and know the hype.

How about re-living the recent Oasis tour experience (minus the clogging up of most of West London, of course) by getting your hands on a copy of the Oasis live video, courtesy of Beatwax press? The first person who comes into the FELIX office with a list of 10 bands that Oasis rip off grabs the swag.

singles: Mr. Happy

blur - the universal
Cool intro, nice ballad. The B-side is an amusing dance remix of 'Entertain me'. (And here's a very entertaining old picture of Dannon.)



space - money/kill me
'Money' is superb - like Portishead with a male vocal. Unfortunately, 'Kill me' sounds very dated.

the real people - every vision of you
An average guitar-pop sound that doesn't do anything for me.

the inbreds - you will know
Low-fi Canadian indie. Dated again.

s - dirty sunshine
Odd dance/rock fusion from an innovative band. Better than most crossover acts of this type.

right said fred - living on a dream
This is the Fred at their best. Another country pop song that will no doubt be a favourite at Radio 1.

she - superman
From the first 30 seconds, I love this e.p. Very much like Pavement and Sebadoh and definitely worth looking out for.

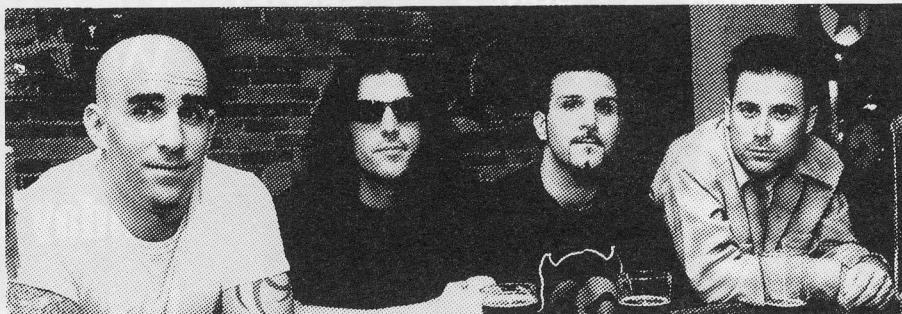
gorilla - shutdown e.p.
Good hardcore sound. Reminiscent of Helmet but maybe lacking a bit of originality.

therapy? - diane
Yet another average single from the band who have released more average singles than anyone else.

coco & the bean - western ways
This has to be single of the week. It consists of a weird mixture of ambient and jazz with a great female vocal.

album: anthrax - stomp

442_{vik}



Welcome dear readers to the weekly column that attempts to introduce you to bands who you have either: a) never heard of, b) never wanted to hear of, or c) will possibly never want to hear of. Oh well, you can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink. Not unless you keep trying and give it a swift boot up the rear end, that is.

And so this week to those loveable thrashers, Anthrax. Let's clarify a few things at the outset. They don't bite the heads off chickens. They don't think they're hard. They have never have spouted misogynistic nonsense. They sung about the plight of American Indians before Rage Against the Machine had reached acne age. They wrote the theme song to 'Judge Dredd' in 1987. They were one of the first metal acts to delve into rap territory, culminating with the ultimate amalgam of cross-genre superpowers in the 'Bring the Noise' single with Public Enemy. In other words, they're what you'd call innovators, avant-garde, the sort of people who put the carrots in front of the donkeys and then watch them try to catch up.

'Stomp 442' is Anthrax's seventh album but sounds as charged and powerful as the car engine that it's named after. Opener, 'Random Acts of Senseless Violence', not only has a delectable song title, but is a perfect melange of apocalyptic images with its morse code guitar intro, air raid sirens and scything riffs. Indeed, as the album proceeds, the listener is led through a myriad of emotions, each song serving as a postcard of fear and violence. The aptly named 'Riding Shotgun' is a galloping bronco of a song while 'In a Zone' takes you to a great height and then drops you in one fell swoop with its gargantuan, descending chorus.

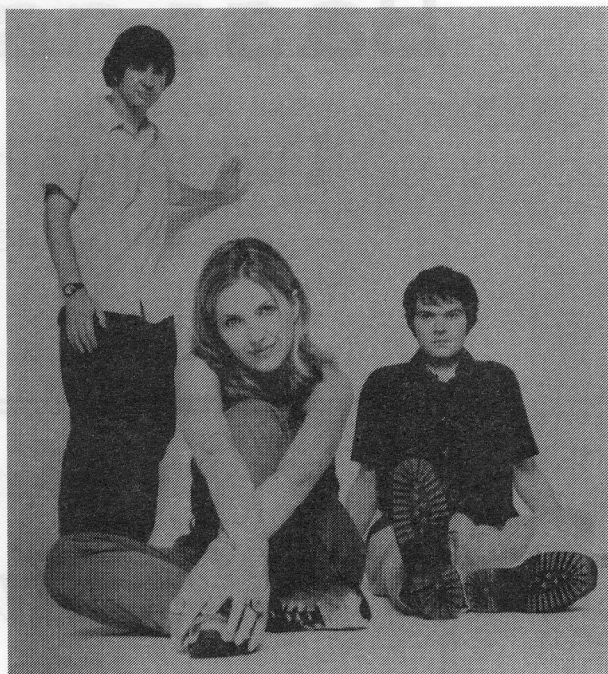
The album closes with 'Bare', a plaintive and downbeat musical discourse, replete with bongos and bowed guitars. This is the necessary calm after the storm and reminds you that this is one metal band who don't just bang their heads against a wall every day. The last line John Bush croons is, "But mostly I wonder why". And I'll leave you to wonder why I couldn't think of a decent way to finish off this review. (8)

album: saint etienne - too young to die_{lucas}

When I first heard St. Etienne, my heart fluttered and my head went into the clouds. I was in lurrve (not that I fancied Sarah Cracknell, you understand). 'Avenue' had just come out and I wrote a rave review for it in these pages (that was '92).

Today I'm slightly disappointed. It's not that their blend of techno-pop has dated. It's just that like, say, The Carpenters, their music cannot be taken in big doses - it has to be rationed. And this causes me pain. I want to be on a permanent adrenaline high from singles like 'You're in a bad way', 'Who do you think are?' and 'Hug my soul'. Throwaway kitsch, of course, and therefore repeated listens in a short space of time tend to be, well, disappointing. Maybe it's asking too much. Maybe I should turn to some serious drugs instead.

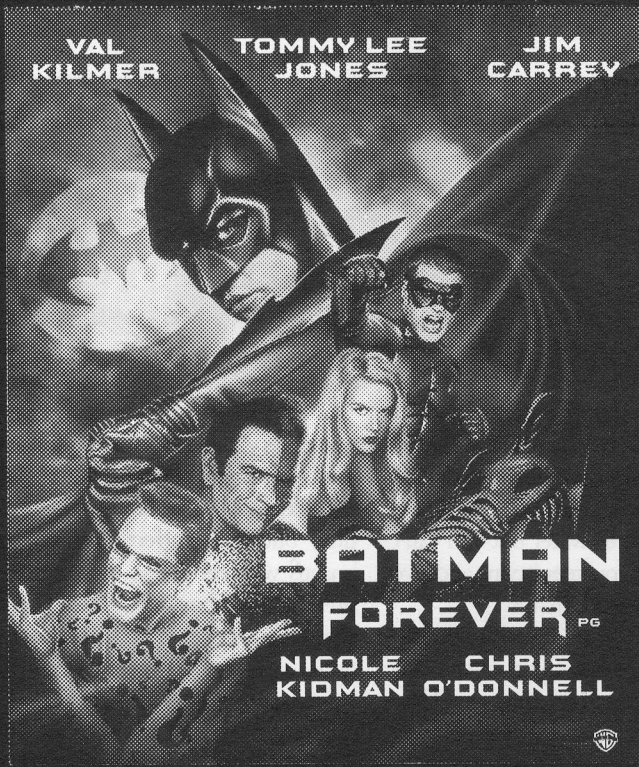
Anyway, this album has all the Saint Etienne singles. As well as those mentioned above, there's 'Join our club', 'Hobart Paving', 'Pale Movie', etc. It also has the rather good new single, 'He's on the



phone'. The only blot on the landscape is 'I was born on Christmas Day'.

Saint Etienne are the embodiment of cool, where style is of paramount importance and where substance is not sacrificed either. They are both exciting and refreshing and, on an aesthetic level, intriguing. You should know by know if you want to buy this album...(9)

FilmsOC Presents...



Wednesday 22nd: 8:15pm

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Sunday 19th: 5:30pm, 8:15pm

Innocent Lies

Saturday 18th: 8pm

Reservoir Dogs

Wednesday 22nd: 11pm

The Usual Suspects

Thursday 23rd: 6pm, 8:30pm

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celluloid guide: this week

odeon kensington
0426 914666

the scarlet letter

12.55, 3.25, 6.25, 9.25

living in oblivion

2.30, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45

to die for 2, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45

crimson tide

12.45, 3.40, 6.35, 9.30

french kiss 1.40, 4.20, 7, 9.40

a walk in the clouds

2.05, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35

tube; ken high street. £6.50,

£6, £3.50 before 5pm

mgm chelsea

0171 325 5096

french kiss 1.35, 4.15, 6.40, 9.30

crimson tide 1.10, 3.50, 6.30, 9.15

to die for 1.40, 4.15, 6.40, 9.20

farinelli 1.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.25

tube; slone square then bus

£6, £3.50 students and before 6pm

renoir 0171 837 8402

the neon bible 2.40, 4.45, 6.50, 9

land and freedom

1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50

tube; russell square

£6, £4 1st perf, £2.50 students

minema 0171 369 1723

carrington 6.15, 8.45

tube; you can walk it

£6.50, £4 matinees

festival guide: this week

friday 17

nft1: l'amote molesto 1.30 & 6 the

convent 3.45 interview: pedro

almodovar 9

nft2: good old daze 1.45 & 6.15

the written face 4 & 8.30

museum cinema: le franc 6.30

foreign land 8.30

saturday 18

nft1: citizen langlois 11am it's a

long way to the sea 2 new british

shorts 4.15 interview: john mills 7

beyond the clouds 9

nft2: the gas inspector 1.45 zar gul

4 end of an era 6.30 some kind of

life 8.45

museum cinema: tba 6.30

le franc 8.30

sunday 19

empire leicester square: closing

night gala: casino 7.30

nft1: comedy & animation 11am a

walk on the wild side 2 wild bill: a

hollywood maverick 4.15 rendez-

vous in Paris 6.30

nft2: augustin 11am a foreign land

1.45 some kind of life 4 under the

dominion tree

6.15

xvii

film: heavy_{kt}

Heavy is set in the backwaters of upstate New York in a roadside cafe - 'Pete and Dolly's'. It is a place where some of life's losers seem to have congregated: Victor (Pruitt Taylor Vince) - Dolly's son who still lives with his mother and cooks her an elaborate fried breakfast every morning, Delores (Deborah Harry) the waitress who tends to offer Victor more than just the customers orders, and Leo - who spends each evening at the barside. Into this steps Callie (Liv Tyler) a pretty college drop-out who becomes the new waitress. Victor is so smitten with Callie, though unable to overcome his intense embarrassment whenever she pays him any attention all he can do is watch her leave work every night with her boyfriend (Evan Dando).

As the film progresses, Dolly dies and we see Victor trying to come to terms with having to take control of his own life without his mother. Despite all this Victor continues to fantasize about Callie.

The director James Mangold wanted to make a moving, quiet film, minimizing the

words and making those that are spoken inarticulate. This makes it hard for the viewer to maintain concentration as there is nothing to renew the interest - should you lose it.

The film doesn't feature anything significant, just Victor moving from 'a state of possibility to a state of intense possibility'. Victor's problem with communicating with any woman at even the most basic level makes you feel at times embarrassed for him.

Having said this, the film has been highly praised at this year's Cannes Film Festival and also features in the London Film Festival. Liv Tyler received considerable acclaim for her part as Callie, but how hard can it be for a 17 year old girl to act the part of a 17 year old girl? Along those lines, who ever told Evan Dando that he can act? Too many singers (Deborah Harry, Evan Dando included) seem to think they can act as well as sing, often with disastrous results. Dando just acts moody and strums his guitar so the role was hardly taxing.

The director wanted to tell a story about the people he grew up with, loved and admired, it is a pity he didn't live somewhere more interesting.

film: unzipped_{jeremy}

Arriving late, as one should, I arrived in the middle of the adverts. Some designer or other - "Isaac Mizrahi's Summer collection is now available". Oh joy.

It goes on. Waifs on cat walks, stubby blokes on New York balconies, the usual stuff. The designer wanders around, goes into newsagents, reads his own reviews. Gets Depressed. Eh? Hardly kicking sales techniques. This is because it is not some post modern advert, it is the film.

Flicking between close-ups of Isaac's bantering mug, strutting models, someone's gran and some fairly daft clothes, the picture loosely tells the tale of the creation of a collection from inspiration to flirtation. Filmed in black and white, the film occasionally jumps to a colour shot to bring out the true lunacy of the designs.

Perhaps this is a little unfair. The adventurous style does somehow work, and brings you to a friendly closeness to Isaac and his work. In summary, it is not a bad film, but the pretentious effeminate characters are expressed too strongly to meet widespread appeal.

film: mute witness_{jeremy}

A really enjoyable, though slightly silly action/murder thriller, but without Hollywood's incessant explosions and typecast heroes and bad guys: A woosie american director is shooting a murder film in the Moscow studios, when he, his wife and their mute special effects helper, get embroiled in a real murder mystery. Enter policemen, KGB agents, sub plot and twist after twist in the story. It has comic moments, but also has enough emotional scenes to suspend the disbelief.

This is one of the few festival films I have seen that has prompted audience applause during the production, with plenty of laughs too. Anthony Waller's premiere, he handles the audience brilliantly, the tension is raised with inventive turns, then released in an amusing or make-you-jump way. Clichéed as it might sound, you never know what's going to happen next.

This film is going to be very popular, and what's more, it's British.

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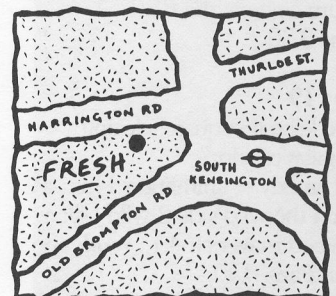
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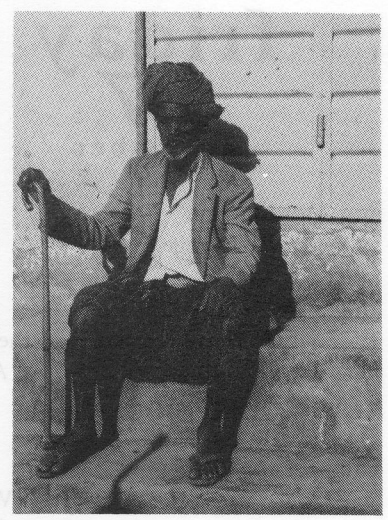
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Mr fogg



On board Egypt Air flight 786 to Sana'a we get rather primitive graphics on screen showing the plane's progress. It seems to emphasise the apparent confusion surrounding the area to which we are going; at various stages the map is of Europe and the Mediterranean, then Africa, then Asia, with our location each time appearing as a dot in the corner as it approaches Yemen. Begin to panic as we come into land as every woman on the plane begins to whip out heavy shawls and veiling. Those who were already modestly covering their hair are transformed into amorphous black Darth Vader style creatures, and even those who were flouncing around in a fairly liberated fashion cover all their bright clothes to leave only their faces showing. We are left with the rather intriguing sight of a long black shroud with a pair of three-inch white stilletos peeping out from underneath, and a shiny plastic handbag thrown over the bit I presume is her shoulder. Begin to panic I will get stones thrown at me in the street.

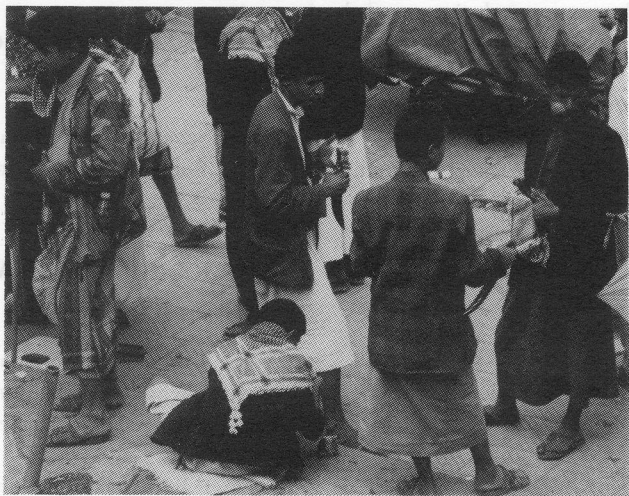
The poor excuse for an airport is actually a large barn full of people, chiefly men wearing skirts and camouflage jackets. Perhaps more alarmingly, they all appear to have daggers hanging in a faintly phallic fashion from their belts. I am soon to discover that these provide a massive amount of conversation as status symbols amongst the young men of Yemen. As they laze around during the afternoons, ritual knife one-up-man-ship (dagger envy?) is very definitely the order of the day. "Hey, have you seen the length of my blade? It's got a three inch curved tip!" "Yeah, but just look at the jewelled hilt on mine!"

Thoughts of "is it entirely wise to turn up in one of the lesser Gulf States at 10 pm with nowhere to stay?" are swept away by the spectacle of the situation: everyone seems to know each other, and their friendliness is quite remarkable. Someone has found a thick, expensive looking wallet in

immigration, and the shouted exchanges across the clatter of the baggage carousel try to establish whose it is. The general consensus seems to be that it is ours: clearly only a stupid Westerner would lose such a thing. We have to enter into a fairly heated discussion before we are able to persuade the assembled crowd that we don't want it.

Somehow, an hour later we find ourselves happily drinking tea with Izat, the proprietor of a 400 year old converted palace, paying a rather less grand \$4.50 to be put up for the night. He is alarmingly friendly, though perhaps not really what we had in mind for the typical Yemeni: we want to talk about the local politics and about Arab culture, he wants to discuss the Princess of Wales. We ask to hear of the struggle amongst the Saddam-led states, he wants to know about George Michael's recording contract.

The whole experience is tempered by the huge amounts of qat we are pressurised to consume. It seems Middle Eastern ways of getting ones' kicks require rather more effort and endurance than we Westerners have come to expect. There's none of this injecting with the purified material: here you're expected to chew



whole branches of leaves for hours on end, until you've not just got the hallucinogenic effect, but a very stiff jaw as well. The pleasant feeling has to be weighed against walking around all day with tennis ball sized pockets of the stuff tucked into

a swollen and distended cheek. Still, we get to hear more about the country, and Izat gets to catch up on George's deal with Sony.

yemen:
chiefly full of
men wearing
skirts and
camouflage
jackets

friday 17 november

Rag Meeting

1:10pm. Ents Lounge. (R)

Pakistan Society

3 - 5pm. Basketball practice in the union gym. Bring trainers! Contact Kashif, Aero II, k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk. (R)

Ents

8pm. A double header of pleasure. We kick off early with the NME / Coca-Cola POP QUIZ - your opportunity to win hi-fi gear, books & games & go on to win Eurotravel tickets at the grand final. Entry is FREE to all.

Then indulge all your favourite fringe-flicking fantasies in a night of pure "Indie" & pop with all the COMMON PEOPLE. Expect to hear lots of your Britpop, American guitar, pure pop favourites & come ready to sweat! Entry is free before 9 or if you've got an Entscard, £1 otherwise.

f r i d a y

IQ - Imperial Queers

On Tuesday 21 Nov, IQ welcomes Matthew Parris to its meeting to talk about his life, as an MP and now as a political journalist. He has written a number of books about politics and has appeared on television and Radio 4 more times than Ned Sherrin (well almost).

Now an openly gay man, Matthew Parris was a backbench Tory MP, and some people say that he came out during a speech in the House of Commons. But what is the truth about this, and did anyone notice? Find out how accurate political rumours are and hear what it is like working at Westminster. Brown Com. Room, 7.30pm.

the
week
ahead

saturday 18 november

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield. (R)

French Society

1:50pm. Invites you to see "La Haime - Hate" at Lumiere, Leicester Square. £2.50 for members. Bring Student Card.

s a t u r d a y

INDIAN FILM GROUP

Proudly Presents



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AAMIR KHAN

URMILA

In Cinemascope and DOLBY STEREO
Wednesday November 22nd

At:

ICU Cinema
2nd Floor, Union Bldg.

Doors Open at 2:00pm.

Tickets £3 in advance; £4 on the door.

Tickets available in advance from Samir Karia, Bobby and also from committee members in the JCR.

Proceeds go towards the Charity "World Vision".

World Vision is a Christian, humanitarian agency, which works among the poor regardless of Religion, Caste or Community.

Contact: P. Narwani, I. Vora, G. Verma,
S. Massood, P. Patel.
E-mail: i.vora@me.ic.ac.uk

sunday 19 november

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield
Contact gliding@ic.ac.uk
Come to Thursday meeting first. (R)

Fitness Club

2pm. Intermediate Aerobics (R)

Ents

1:30 - 3pm. Sunday Lunch available in Davinci's.

3pm. STANDING ROOM ONLY - live football on the Big Screen, well QPR v. Coventry. Davinci's.

8pm. Darts Competition - open to all. Union Bar.

s u n d a y

Leonardo (Fine Arts) Society

Leosoc, as it is known by its members, is aimed at those of you who are artistically inclined... or wish to be! We provide art classes to anyone who is interested. You DO NOT have to have any previous experience in art... trust me! That's what we're here for... to *teach* you. At the moment we're doing mostly sketching and painting in acrylics. We hope to be getting water colours soon. Every now and then we have other events such as glass blowing (had it just week), silk painting, batik painting, origami, etc.

The classes are held once a week, Tuesdays 5.30 to 7.30pm, in Civ Eng 101. We have had requests for lunchtime classes, but unfortunately that is just not possible with all the time constraints. We have also had requests for Thursday classes. If you're interested in the Tuesday classes, just turn up. If you are interested in the Thursday classes, sign up on our noticeboard (#49 along the Sheffield walkway) and we'll start classes if there is enough demand.

Membership costs £4 for IC students and £6 for staff and others. This goes to buying art materials for the classes. Each lesson costs £2 which goes to paying the art teacher.

E-mail leonardo@ic or ms3@ch
Pigeon hole ICU SCAB

monday 20 november

Student Industrial Society

12 - 2pm. Tennis room, upstairs in Union building. (R)

Fitness Club

12:30pm. Beginners Body Toning (45 mins)
5:30pm. Beginners Aerobics
6:30pm. Intermediate Aerobics (R)

Jewish Society

12:15 - 1:15pm. Bagel Lunch. SCR, Union.
Info : jsoc@ic.ac.uk (R)

Ski Club

12:30 - 1:15 pm. Southside Upper Lounge. (R)

ArtSoc

2:30 pm. Union Dining Hall.
Come and sign up for our many trips. (R)

Concert Band

5:15 - 6:45 pm. Great Hall, Sheffield. Any ability. (R)

Cross Country

5:00pm. Circuit training. Union gym. (R)

Squash Club Night

8 - 10pm. Sports Centre. Come along for a chance to play different people and make new contacts. (R)

IC 2nd Orchestra

7 - 9pm. Great Hall. All welcome (R)

ICCAG

8:15pm. Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. (R)

Ents

7pm. STANDING ROOM ONLY - Live football. Southampton v. A. Villa.

m o n d a y

Exploration Board

Students planning expeditions for 1996 should note that the Exploration Board meets on Wednesday 6th December. Written proposals must be submitted at least a week before to the Secretary, Don Adlington, 15 Princes Gardens [ex 49430].

tuesday 21 november

Cathsoc

12.00 pm. Sir Leon Bagritt Centre.
Level 1 Mech Eng. (R)

IC Sailing Club

12:45 - 1:45pm. Come and see us in Southside Upper Lounge, to arrange a sail, have a gossip, etc. Everybody welcome! (R)

Circus Skills

5 - 8pm. Come along and learn to juggle!
Union Lounge.
More info : sdh@ee.ic.ac.uk (R)

Fitness Club

5:30pm. Advanced Aerobics (R)

IC Bridge Club

6pm. in the Clubs Committee Room,
Union Building. (R)

icssf

7pm. ZZ9 Plural Z Alpha, the Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy Fan Club, will be giving a talk & showing some vids. STOIC Studios.

12:30 - 1:30pm. Our Library is open every day, with over 3000 books, vids & graphics. Come along and read something!

<http://www.ph.ic.ac.uk/moontg/> (R)

IQ

7:30pm. Talk by Matthew Parris
BCR. *see left*
Further Info: pink-help@doc.ic.ac.uk or
<http://pink.doc.ic.ac.uk/IC/> (R)

Canoe Club

7pm. Beit Quad. All levels welcome, and free instruction. (R)

OpSoc Rehearsal

7:30pm. Sandy Wilson's *The BoyFriend*.
UCH. (R)

Ents

8pm. The best way to earn £50 - no hard work, no boss - all you need is a head full of mindless trivia. BAR TRIVIA £50 Cash prize. Davinci's. Bring your own pen!

t u e s d a y

wednesday 22 november

IC Sailing Club

12:15pm. Meet outside Southside to go sailing. (R)

Skate Society

12:15pm. Southside Lounge. (R)

Third World First

1pm. Talk by Lazarus Tamana. SCR in Union, *see next page*.

Indian Film Club

2pm. "RANGEELA". ICU Cinema, Union Building.

Fitness Club

1:15pm. (R)

IC Symphony Orchestra

7 - 10pm. Great Hall. (R)

Ents

8pm - 1am. Wicked wild party time! FROLIK! FREE. A reminder - however hard you celebrate, please try to keep the noise down when you leave. Cheers.

5:30 - 8:30pm. SPORTSNIGHT SPECIAL
DaVinci's catering offers curries, chilli, & Dish of the Day for just £1.

Conservative Soc.

1pm. Mech Eng. 748. Rt. Hon. Tom King.

w e d n e s d a y

Jewish Society

On Monday 20th, we are holding our third Bagel Bash, with a guest speaker giving a twenty minute talk. All Welcome. Also, on Saturday 9th December, we will be holding our annual Shabaton. Come along on Monday for more information.

the
week
ahead

Third World First

Third World First's opening talk this year will be presented by Lazarus Tamana, president of the Ogoni Community Association in Britain. He will be discussing the persecution of the Ogoni people which resulted last weekend in the suspension of Nigeria from the commonwealth following the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Nobel Prize nominee and founder of MOSOP (The Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People), along with eight other human rights activists.

The Ogoni people have come into conflict with their government over the issue of oil. The accumulative effect of unregulated extraction of petroleum over several decades by the Anglo-Dutch corporation, Shell, has caused widespread environmental damage. The livelihood of the local population, mostly subsistence farmers and fishermen, has been directly affected. In return they have received little compensation from a government which receives vast sums in oil revenue.

Frustration has led many to protest. In response, the Nigerian government has conducted a major military clamp down in the region and stands accused of widespread human rights abuse. Last weekends executions are just the latest incident in a long-running campaign of suppression.

If you would like to find out more, please come along to the SCR in the Union Building at 1pm, on Wednesday 23rd November.

Lebanese Society

Presents **The Lebanese Party 1995**. Friday 24th November, IC Main Dining Hall, 7pm. Cost is £10 members, £14 non-members. For tickets please contact: S. Younis (ChemEng 4), S. Nasr (Materials 2), I Avdos (ChemEng 4), E. Sahyoun (MechEng 4), or Tel 0171 373 3302.

stoic

12:00pm **The Ski Show Report**
Get of piste with all the latest in Ski related accoutrements on show at the 1995 Ski Show from Olympia.

12:30pm **Wash and Go**
Milestone documentary about London's oldest coin operated Launderette.

12:45pm **My Life Story**
Music from an up-and-coming Camden Town Band. This was their concert as performed live at IC Union.

1:30pm **Level 3**
A big budget entertainment series with novel games and features such as 'Celebrity Exam Results', and your chance to win a rare prize in 'Bottoms Up' - not to be missed.

ON FRIDAY AT 12pm....
CHILDREN IN NEED SHOWBIZ EXTRAVAGANZA

Entertainment and games with a diabolical sense of humour, with the best of intentions.

next
diary
deadline:
noon,
November
20th

the
week
ahead

thursday 23 november

Yacht Club Meeting
12:30pm. Lecture Theatre 2, Physics. (R)

Fitness Club
12:30pm. Die Hard Circuit Training
5:30pm. Beginners Aerobics

Gliding Club
1pm. Aero 266. (R)

Consoc
1pm. Southside Upper lounge. (R)

Christian Union
6:30 - 7:45pm. SCR in the Union.
(Right above the bar). (R)

Explosoc
6pm. Jack Jackson lecture: 'Exploration for a Living.' (see earlier)

Ents
5pm. No calypso, no frills, just the best value **COCKTAIL NIGHT** in London. Davinci's.

friday 24 november

Rag Meeting
1:10pm Ents Lounge. (R)

Islamic Society
Friday Prayer
1pm. Southside Gym. (R)

Fitness Club
5:30pm. Advanced Step Aerobics

Ents
It just keeps getting better... **BUST-A-GUT COMEDY**. This week's acts are the lightening comic mind, 1995 Perrier nominee & soon to be Hollywood star **BOOTHBY GRAFFOE**, possibly the funniest man to be named after a small village. Supporting him is **ED BYRNE**, plus the Open Mic entrant. A top night out guaranteed & it's yours for £2.50 or £2 with an entscard. Plus you get free entry to "CLIMAX" our after show club night. Otherwise entry is £1 / Free to entscard holders.

t h u r s d a y

f r i d a y

LETTERS TO FELIX: REPLIED TO THIS WEEK BY MARK BAKER

Small animals bite back

To the Editor,

The author of the piece "Why I love killing small animals" might have adopted a deliberately hackle raising ("numbskull") style, but the issue is an emotive one and such articles do little to harbour useful dialogue between camps or to get people thinking at all. Comments about hunt saboteurs were bigoted and simply rude; This was crass writing.

The point underlying the article, however, deserves a response. The environment, and the resources within it, represent both local livelihoods and a national resource which, increasingly threatened, has to be properly managed. Such management may necessitate culling particular populations and controlling pest species. Bloodsports are rarely, if at all, part of responsible management of the countryside; and all too easily the latter is used to justify the former. Moreover, animals cannot be considered as simple material resources. Animal welfare and the humane treatment of animals are, I believe, important issues; don't treat animals with kid gloves - but recognise the needs of livestock and wild species and ensure suffering (and environmental damage) are minimised.

What is repellent about hunting is that it ignores these issues; the fox is hunted for the pleasure of the hunt. (On the subject of stress, prey species are alert to the threat of predation much of the time, but the author misses the point that stress is an acute response; prey animals do not habituate to the condition. It is easy to imagine running in terror from an attacker - it is a homologous response in the fox. A protracted chase by a pack of dogs and mounted huntsmen - possibly in exhaustion - might well be considered unnecessary suffering.) Presumably, it is the

physical challenge of the hunt that is enjoyed, not the kill, but that is just as near-sighted as eating plucked, gutted and packaged supermarket chickens - there is no understanding of the natural history of the fox, or any care for it. I doubt if many members of a hunt have a close working contact with the countryside; a proportion, I am sure, live in towns. As a form of pest control, bloodsports seem highly inefficient; let estate managers and farmers control pest populations.

It is not a matter of wanting a sanitised countryside of "fluffy animals" but of striving for a working knowledge of rural communities and ecology and a respect for animal life.

David Wembridge
St. Mary's Hosp. Medical School

Dear Felix,

With regard to the feature in the last issue "Why I love killing small animals." I do not wish to comment on whether or not blood sports are morally or socially defensible but rather on the tone in which the article was phrased.

Nearly every paragraph contains an attack on the personalities of these stereotypical hunt saboteurs which has no bearing on the actual argument which the writer purposes to discuss.

It is unfortunate that any vaguely political argument in the pages of this newspaper or on the wider national scale is reduced to a person jibe at the opposition. Greater attention to the actual issues under discussion would lead to a more fruitful debate and describing one's opponents as being "unwashed", "Greenham Common descendants", "yobs", "bent-double dirty faced and all facial appendages pierced" is a petty-minded and pathetic recourse for those who do not have the ability to properly defend their stance.

I. Fraser Jenkins
Physics 4

I'm very happy to say that I agree entirely with these two letters - I'm rather surprised we haven't received more replies of outrage concerning the article. Would anyone care to redress the balance with an anti-hunt view?

Indeed, if anyone would like to write a feature on any issue of this nature then please come in! We want to hear from you...

Nooman Says: My article was clearly an exaggerated and seditious support of bloodsports. Mr. Wembridge is correct in assuming that it was hackle raising and I praise him for noticing that there were some real points in there. My aim was to show that it helps neither side involved in such issues to bury any sensible points they may have under a mountain of abuse. I was compelled to write after my experiences at Brightlingsea earlier this year, where I intended to explore the issue of veal exports objectively, and met instead a tirade of violent rhetoric directed not only at the lorry drivers but also their wives and children. The use of stereotypes, alarmist tones and personal attacks should not be condoned by anyone.

Smoke without fire

Dear Felix,
Physics Department Blackett
Passive Smoking

With reference to your "News Team" on the above, the notices on no smoking were up a week before, giving plenty of time for comments. There are two items I would like to comment on: passive smoking and the state of the floor. I would think it would be a good idea to have a notice which reads: "Please use the ash-trays and bins provided." **Passive smoking**

We agree to "Health Damage", they are the reason why there is no smoking in cine-

mas, in buses, planes, etc. Often fines would be implemented to enforce this.

State of the floor

Would you treat your home like the floor of Blackett?

I am not against smoking, but it is time for the college to have a proper policy and not just monitor for the sake of it. Perhaps a policy to provide an indoor, well ventilated, room for smokers. Let the smokers have the responsibility of keeping it clean, not the cleaners, they have more than enough work already.

Archie W. Wallace
Electrical Safety Technician
Physics Department

Dear Felix,

With reference to your front page article about the Physics smoking ban, I must say say up font that I am a non-smoker, always have been, guess I always will be. I, for one, am glad that the foyer smoking area has ceased to be, I could witter on about the improvement to my breathing etc. or regale you with stories of others who were in a similar plight, I could go on to mention the relief of the cleaning staff at not having to clean up the disgusting mess that would confront them each morning, not to mention the dangers of passive smoking or the psychological effect it must have had on visitors to the department, who, at times, must have thought that they were walking into a London "peasouper". But we are all intelligent adults and know most, if not all, of the reasons why the ban was inevitable. However, there is still the problem of the smoking community who have been left out in the cold, so to speak. I feel that if all parties involved got together, an answer can be found that would respect the wishes of both smokers and non smokers in the department.

S. Cleverly
Physics

I occasionally walk through Physics so I'm quite happy that the smokers have moved outside (although I haven't seen the "crowds" that were foretold). However, I accept that smokers have a right to smoke - somewhere - but not near me if possible. Perhaps the secret tunnels under IC do have a use after all - just a thought.

Sarah says...

Dear Simon Baker,

Apparently you are a columnist, not a journalist, so you don't need to check your facts before writing things. If you had bothered to do this before writing your column for *Felix* 1040 I might have told you a bit more about my involvement in the 'ideological sack' that is New Solutions. I think you could safely call it more of a brief fling than a steady relationship - I've attended one meeting as a private individual in my own time, not the Union's, received a few e-mails and most importantly, I've actually bothered to read the policy document concerned. I find this makes expressing an opinion on the subject a lot easier, and perhaps if you spent a bit more time researching and less time indulging in scurrilous gossip about Ghassan's political aspirations your opinions would be a little more relevant. Perhaps you could manage a nice little article outlining the policies of the two main campaign groups - New Solutions, who back a system of income contingent loans, and Campaign for Free Education, who want a return to 1979 levels of grants and benefits, and then we could all share the opinions of IC students on this one? I value the fact that my NUS affiliated colleagues have actually bothered to ask a troublesome misfit like ICU to help them on this one, and it would be really nice if I could do my job and represent the true feelings of IC students about funding. Unfortunately, I need to know what these are first.

As to whether sabbaticals should be concerning themselves with the machinations of the NUS, unfortunately, overtly political or not it is still the only even vaguely representative student body in the country. They have to develop a realistic funding policy and get it adopted by a political party in time for the next election or student hardship will become an even larger problem than it is already. I for one do not intend to stick my nose in the air and refuse to take part what will probably develop into the most fundamentally important debate ever to affect Further and Higher Education just because of silly political differences. So please, let's worry about the campaigns, not the ulterior motives and party politics of the campaigners, who in the end are just trying to promote an end to student hardship, however it's achieved.

Sarah White
ICU President

Perhaps this should have been directed at Nooman Haque, who wrote the article in question, but I take your point. I myself have no great love or hate for the NUS, but I believe it is vital that in these times of change for students we must have a body that can represent students on a national level. If we do not then we must take pot luck with government (either Labour or Conservative) policy and suffer the consequences.

Alarmed, of Selkirk

Dear Ed,

It was interesting, even if not reassuring, to read that the fire alarms in Southside will continue to be tested until the end of November. What I am wondering is why these 'necessary' tests often seem to have taken place between five and six in the afternoon when everyone is returning from lectures and either wants to

get down to some work or simply sit down and relax. Why can't all these tests take place at more acceptable times during the day?

It is also interesting to note the misfortune for us students that all the problems have starting occurring and require repairing and testing just as the high-paying summer guests have left and we have moved in.

Paolo Cuomo
Selkirk Hall

Having enjoyed the regular fire alarms in Garden Hall last year I have no small degree of sympathy for you. Yet again it seems that Estates have handled the issue with their usual degree of mismanagement and preference for conference guests over students.

But think yourself lucky that you have not yet endured a drill at 8am in the pouring rain, after a week of 3 false alarms, just to test that the system was working. Why is it that every year we are subjected to more false alarms? It's not what I call progress.

Hizb-ut-again

Dear Felix,

I was perturbed to find, once again, a "Hizb-ut-Tahrir" propaganda leaflet in my Physics Department pigeon hole today. Its contents were the expected anti-Israel, anti-democratic hot air that this militant society constantly spouts.

To distribute such material at any time is, in my opinion, at the least utterly misleading, but in the light of recent events in Israel, it is unforgivable. Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres have, in the last few years, been treading a treacherous path in attempts to make peace with their ever-hostile neighbours, particularly the PLO - former sworn enemies and terrorists. That Rabin devoted himself to this task is only now all too clear.

Meanwhile, the bombard-

ment of Israel by the Islamic fundamentalists has never stopped. These suicide bombers, convinced that their despicable acts will guarantee them a place in paradise, are spurred on by the likes of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, whose militaristic goals and propaganda sound ominously similar to those of Hizb-ut-Tahrir.

Please note - I am not a Jew, and although I spent the first six months of this year working in Israel, most of the people I was associated with were Arabs. Some of them have become very close friends of mine, and I know that each of them would back me up on everything I say here.

I am not suggesting that Israel has never made mistakes in its handling of some situations - there is no such thing as a perfect government or people. But I would suggest that their record is certainly no worse than that of its neighbours; or especially the Muslim fanatics, whose ultimate aim continues to be the total destruction of Israel, at any cost.

I would urge everyone at IC to distance themselves from extremism of any form, but particularly the violent, racist organisation that is Hizb-ut-Tahrir.

Name withheld by request

I won't attempt a detailed reply as I admit to not know enough about the issue. But I was saddened to see Hizb-ut-Tahrir distributing leaflets so soon after the tragic death of Yitzhak Rabin, who was one of that special breed of leaders who was willing to sacrifice everything for peace.

Letters may be commented on by a guest editor whose opinions are not necessarily those of the editor.

Deadline for letters: 6pm Monday

Please bring your union card for identification.

THE FELIX WEEK

the indispensable guide for Felix contributors and helpers

monday, high noon
clubs & societies
articles deadline
monday 1.20pm
reviewers' meeting
monday 6pm
letters deadline

monday 6pm
news meeting
wednesday 1pm
features meeting
thursday night
collating
friday morning
another Felix hits the street...

Imperial College Union Print Unit

Part Time Work

We require an eager student, preferably a first year, to be trained in the art of printing. The successful candidate would work with the machinery (two lithographs, a collator and a guillotine) of the print unit, and his/her duties would include assisting the full time printer in printing and finishing (collating and stapling). No qualifications are needed, other than being enthusiastic and willing to get your hands covered with ink!

**Wages at £3.45 p/h.
Call 58072 and ask for Rachel or Andy.**

Jeremy says: "it's dead good."

FELIX

FOUNDED 1949

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beer

Great stuff. Can't recommend it highly enough... although that one that tasted like flat Guinness mixed with Ribena left me a little uninspired - perhaps even a trifle sickly. But, hey, it was a great Beer Festival. Didn't they do well!

Perhaps I was imagining things, but the attendance didn't quite seem to be what it has been in years gone by. Maybe everyone was in Linstead...

I was a fraction alarmed to see the following advert in this month's *Rasp!* I think we should be told.



Street, which was quite far enough, I can tell you. Especially when I discovered they've put up all those poxy little Christmas trees again. And tinsel too. Yuk. Hideous stuff. How on earth is that meant to make you feel inspired to go out and spend lots of money and revel in the commercial spectacular? Bah Humbug.

americans

Now, I wouldn't like to suggest that I am capable of anything resembling fiscal understanding, but this Clinton and his amazing expanding budget deficit really is quite something. Surely there must be some IC Americans out there who could explain how the hell you ended up in this kind of a situation? Well?

sarah

I'm sorry sweetie, but it really was *very* funny when you came down incredulous that *anyone* could fail to notice a 6ft long rug being carried out, and then discovered that you were one of them.

How we laughed.

bright lights

I did stray from IC once this week: yes, I made it to Oxford

EDITORIAL TEAM:

NEWS: ALEX FEAKES FEATURES: MARK BAKER
fii: JEREMY MUSIC: VIK BANSAL CINEMA: WEI LEE
PHOTOGRAPHY: WILLIAM LORENZ & IVAN CHAN
SPORT: JONATHAN TROUT PUZZLES: CATFISH
SCIENCE: BEN WILKINS CLUBS AND SOCIETIES: SANDALS

COLLATING LAST WEEK:
BEN, INKY, TIM & MARK

Crossword by Clansman

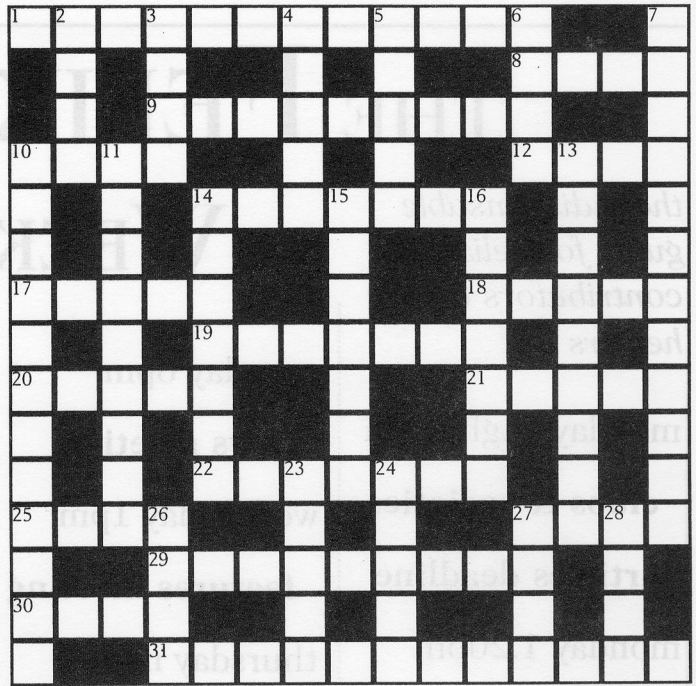
Across:

- 1. Arson sequel has a bad effect at the end of King's road (6,6)
- 8. Rugby player takes a little look at Greek letter (4)
- 9. Good golfing with club made from this East Indian tree (9)
- 10. Italian football team has no anorak - painful on the finger? (4)
- 12. Petrols bad for the earth (4)
- 14. Rebukes taxes that exist first (7)
- 17. Time for backward fiber to take the footpath (5)
- 18. Keep watch for poet lost on river (5)
- 19. Being against question is pre-historic! (7)
- 20. Abnormal tour includes Eastern perimeter (5)
- 21. Sport with back retreat is

- inscribed! (5)
- 22. Small knife used to cut off hair of the Spanish (7)
- 25. No males is a good sign? (4)
- 27. American journalist is being exploited (4)
- 29. It's about time to cook pear pies as hors d'oeuvre! (9)
- 30. Taboo makes a little noise! (4)
- 31. English flower is put down in the south-east Pacific (6,6)

Down:

- 2. Car is in pantry, we hear! (4)
- 3. First murder victim is found in a lab, electrocuted (4)
- 4. Soar around large orbit of the sun (5)
- 5. Deprive of intellect for international body with first three(5)
- 6. Badly made toboggan ages! (4)
- 7. Completely gone before first



- getting educational degree for coming into adulthood (5,7)
- 10. Burnt some good French arrangements with nuclear missiles! (7,5)
- 11. Child tells terrible lie about being immature (9)
- 13. Type of credit payment nails awkward prototypes (9)
- 14. A foreign country has a stupid king in a bus (7)
- 15. Appearance of gas antagonist? (7)
- 16. Leave head of Russian state with many! (7)
- 23. Spy is a man! (5)
- 24. Before people rush in, obtain requests first! (5)
- 26. Declare morning in the north-east (4)
- 27. Mountains of uranium and aluminium? (4)
- 28. First woman before northern equality? (4)

Answers to issue 1040's Elimination:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| a. Pull punch | b. Main, Horizon | o. Bike, Wagon |
| b. Intend, Tinned | i. Fort, Fought | p. Natural selection |
| c. Sky, Moon | j. Mirror image | q. Tit, Rotor |
| d. Plain sailing | k. Solid, Jailhouse | r. Baby face |
| e. Canned laughter | l. Pop culture | s. Top brass |
| f. Hard, Difficult | m. Diving, Bottoms | t. See, Observe |
| g. Curve ball | n. Ghost town | |

...and the word left over was *Water*.

Careers Information

There are two CAREERS TALKS this coming week at 1.00 - 1.50 pm in college.

Tuesday 21 November: "The Civil Service" by Barbara Habberjam, Personnel Division at DTI, in the Clore Lecture Theatre.

Thursday 23 November: "Getting a Job in Civil Engineering" by Chris Rickards, Regional Training Officer at ICE, in Civil LT 207.

All students are welcome to attend. No need to book - just turn up.

"How to write the perfect CV -

A session for postgraduates" is an Interactive Workshop run on Wednesday 22th November from 2 - 4 pm in Huxley Room 344.

Sign up in the Careers Office.

For more information and careers advice come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sherfield Building, which is open between 10am and 5:15pm Monday to Friday.

Tuition

Tutor wanted to help or monitor two boys of 13 and 14 years of age to complete their homework in Knightsbridge.

Contact: Mr V. Malik
Telephone:0171 5845842

Crime Prevention Week

PC Clive Coleman will be in college Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm in the Sherfield anteroom to offer advice on crime prevention and personal safety. He is anxious that students should be particularly aware of the risk of bike theft at college, and will be offering a free cycle coding service.

Room to Rent

Shared home in Fulham, £237p.c.m. Telephone: 0171 7367824 / 0171 5948223

Stand Up Comics

LIVE TV is looking for stand up comics for its new live comedy show "Stand Up Live".

LIVE TV is Britain's first national cable station reaching one million homes in the UK.

We are offering a chance to go on national TV, a name listing in a national newspaper, and a free video of your performance.

If you think you can perform a stand up routine for about 3-4 minutes please TELEPHONE:0171 293 3900, and ask for LIVE COMEDY, or send a tape to Stand Up Live, LIVE TV, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DJ

Badminton Ladies Go Down

With the mysterious disappearance of Szun Szun before the game, IC's Ladies badminton team were down to only five players, as were Royal Holloway, which meant that, due to the bizarre nature of the sport, five of the nine matches were void.

Whilst the "smashing" form of Mighty Mo and Crazy Chan was not enough to overcome the strength of RH, Blabbermouth Bhabuta and Nippy Nakayama played superbly to win both their matches. Due to "technicalities", though, these valiant efforts proved to be in vain, as IC went down 5-4. Never mind, blame it on Szun Szun.

The men's side enjoyed a comfortable 8-1 thrashing over their RHUL counterparts. Upon their eventual arrival on the

pitch, IC had all the early possession, but due to some fancy footwork from RH, and some highly dubious umpiring decisions, they took the lead. "Chip Shop", though, rallied the team, and IC forced the draw with two corkers from "Yokel" and "Curtains". Has anyone seen "Rab"'s pants?

IC Vth's Comeback

IC's fifth team took on RLSB's 3rd XI last Saturday, and an apprehensive start saw Bart's unlucky to be only 2-0 up at the half time oranges. A stirring team talk inspired first Ryan to score from a narrow angle, then a twenty minute hat-trick from Nigel turned the match entirely.

A docile 'keeping error and a very poor last ten minutes denied RSM II a deserved win. Two great goals from Mauritz and a delicate chip from Dave looked to have given them the victory, but an exposed lack of pace at

the back gave Wye the equaliser.

The RSM first team though weighed in with their best performance of the season to trounce QMW III 4-1.

Fencers Take Division by Storm

Imperial's men's fencing team clinched the divisional title on Wednesday by beating Royal Holloway 17-9. Previous wins over UCI (18-9), King's (17-10), and QMW (15-12) ensure IC a good seeding for the knockout rounds, and with a full strength squad, they must be amongst the favourites for the title.

The women's team have fared less well, having had problems in fielding a good team. They did manage a hard fought victory over QMW, finally triumphing 10-8. Credit is due to Linda Little, whose dedication this season has been noted.

IC Girls out- muscled in hard encounter

The time had come for IC's bi-annual battle with Royal Holloway. Sporting flack jackets and helmets we ventured on court to find that, once again, there were to be no referees.

The new look team played well in the first quarter to lead 8 - 6. Holloway caught up in the second, though their centre seemed to pay more attention to the legs of IC's goal-attack than to chasing the ball. The game remained close until the last quarter, when Holloway's greater physical presence finally took its toll, and they extended their lead to an unassailable 34 - 25 margin.

The game was at times flowing but Imperial were still not hardened enough to beat RH.

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DOWN ?



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Sifu A. Sofos 1995 AD

For further information come

to classes at the Union Gym:

Wed 1.30-3.30pm

Fri 5.00-7.00pm or call 0181 808 5232

FELIX SPORT

Second Fifteen Earn First Win

A makeshift team pulled off their first victory of the season with a gritty performance in a very scrappy game which was marred by a lot of dirty play. Superb discipline and organisation from the pack, led by Matt "welterweight champ" Anstead, and consistent back play led IC to dominate Royal Holloway from the opening whistle. Despite the dubious presence of Pie-eater Perks and an unknown Kev-baller, Imperial arrived at the break with a 7-0 lead. After a fine John Evans try from some well worked back-row play, Evans himself made the conversion, and from then on Imperial always looked the better side.

The second half gave IC the

wind advantage, which they used to good effect in pinning back a resurgent RHUL side. A further try, this time from Fitz von Esser, finished the scoring, although the result would have been a great deal more impressive if it wasn't for IC's newest recruit from the the Royal College of Music dropping the ball whilst over the tryline on two occasions (allegedly).

A superb all round effort, for which credit must go to IC's back row supremacy, and fine defensive work in the backs. The game was unfortunately abandoned with only minutes remaining due to the insatiable desire of RHUL's team members to go joy riding in ambulances.

Ladies Continue

Winning Run

The women's football team took an early lead through a long range effort from Amber which proved too difficult for the goalkeeper to handle. Despite heavy pressure from Holloway's girls, IC's american goalie Kendra's positioning was sound, and the score remained unchanged at half-time. After the break the Imperial side held it's shape well, allowing Eva to score (only one this week?)

With a "particularly obnoxious" coach urging RH on from the sidelines, IC let their concentration slip, permitting RH's large striker through, putting themselves under great pressure in the worsening conditions. IC's ladies held on though to record their fifth BUSA win, taking a 100% record through to the second round.

Virgins Deflowered

After a somewhat lethargic start, the Virgins found themselves ten points behind a strong Holloway side. Stirred into action, the IC side fought back, and spent the remainder of the first half encamped in the opposition's half. This was continued in the second half, but sustained Imperial pressure was not converted into points, thanks largely to committed defending from RH. A freak break minutes from the final whistle saw Holloway take the score to 17 - 0. By all accounts though, the lovely Virgins were very unlucky, and the scoreline was a very poor reflection of their excellent efforts.

ICBC win yet again

Saturday, the fifth of November, saw 462 crews of all abilities compete in the four and a quarter mile Head of the River Race. It was dominated by the Great Britain squad who took the top five placings. However, the performance from ICBC earned a mention by the "Telegraph" newspaper as being "most impressive". IC's rowers finished the day as top club with three winners pennants, and of these the Senior 1 coxless fours was the fastest sweep oared boat of the day, and included Simon Dennis and Lewis Atteral, who were selected for Britain for last August's World Championships. The other two pennants were for the Senior 2 and Senior 3 coxed fours, the former stroked by Pete "The Meat" Wilson who performed the same role in last year's victory in the Thames Cup at Henley. To their great credit, an IC quadruple scull finished sixth overall, beating all Notts County and London RC entries. All in all, IC eclipsed the presence of all the other student boat clubs, including this year's Boat Race squads, and I am told that they will improve even further in the coming season.

SportsNews

England manager Terry Venables' job looks safe for now after a handsome 3-1 win over Switzerland in Wednesday's friendly match at Wembley.

Australian leg spinner Shane Warne took four for 54 as his country beat Pakistan by a resounding innings and 121 runs. These are in addition to the seven wickets he claimed in the first Pakistani innings.

Results

FOOTBALL

MEN'S
IC V 4 - 2 RLSB III
RSM 4 - 1 QMW
RSM II 3 - 3 WYE
WOMEN'S
IC 2 - 1 RHUL

RUGBY

MEN'S
IC 11 - 15 RHUL
IC II 12 - 0 RHUL
WOMEN'S
VIRGINS 0 - 17 RHUL

HOCKEY

MEN'S
IC 1 - 4 RHUL
IC II 0 - 2 RHUL
IC III 2 - 2 RHUL
RSM 1 - 0 UCL III
WOMEN'S
IC 1 - 0 RHUL
IC II 0 - 3 RHUL

BADMINTON

MEN'S
IC 8 - 1 RHUL
WOMEN'S
IC 4 - 5 RHUL
IC 7 - 9 ADDISON

BASKETBALL

MEN'S
IC 76 - 44 UCL
IC 70 - 98 QMW
IC 76 - 85 LSE

NETBALL

WOMEN
IC 25 - 34 RHUL

FENCING

MEN'S
IC 17 - 9 RHUL
WOMEN'S
IC 10 - 8 QMW