

The
Students'
Newspaper
at Imperial
College

Issue
1105

30
January
1998

FIND OUT AT LAST

Who is Tony Mitcheson?

FEATURE

Have the sabbs done their job?

NEXT WEEK

Exclusive: John Hegley interview

Once More Unto the Polls, Dear Friends

NEWS TEAM

Only three months after the last round of elections, IC students are being called to vote once more. Four one-year-long union jobs are available, for which students are invited to run for election.

Sabbatical election papers have now been up a week, and four candidates have so far put up their names. Simon Cooper (Composites Postgraduate) and David Hellard (Computing/Maths II) are running for Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and ICU President respectively. Neither

candidate has a proposer as Felix was going to press. Felix learned on Wednesday that Jon Lambert, ICU Council Chair, would also be standing for ICU President but has yet to sign up. "I've got a lot out of the union for my four years here," he told Felix, "And it's something I want to do." He seemed sanguine that there would not be a repeat of last year's triple-election rounds. "Most of that after the first round was people seeing what would happen, and they did." He felt that his biggest challenge was "a whole load of medical students on campus, and we're stretched enough as it is." Mr. Lambert had yet to find a proposer or seconders, but said that "it was in the pipeline."

Two candidates are running for Felix Editor; Alok Jha (Physics IV) and Ed Sexton (Biology III). Both have been proposed and the latter is fully seconded. No one has signed up for Deputy President (Finances & Services).

Andy Heeps, ICU President, stated that the rules and regulations governing the elections would be available from him this afternoon (Friday 30 January), and has stated that the maximum a candidate may spend on publicity will be

£80. He also expressed a desire to change the format of the ICU Hustings (Monday 16 February) to allow more debating and questioning between the candidates.

On the subject of New Election, running for all posts, Andy Heeps explained that it was only there for students dissatisfied with all the

the March 1997 voting; despite two extra rounds of elections the voters still chose New Election. The top job was only filled in November by Andy Heeps, forcing his predecessor, Eric Allsop into a term of office of record length in order to administer the belated polling. "If you don't like a candidate, then run against them," Mr. Heeps suggested, expressing his hope that many students would consider standing for positions. In conclusion he said he wanted "a good, clean fight."

Prospective candidates must sign up by 6pm on Friday 6 February, on the papers on the first floor of the union building just outside the ICU office. Hustings are on 16, 18

and 19 February, with voting in all departments on 23 and 24 February.



Situations Vacant : the four current sabbatical incumbents sitting pretty Photo: Virginia

candidates, and that it shouldn't be run as a campaign. Last year saw the presidency remaining vacant in

Boat House Awash with Dosh

ANDREW OFORI

Imperial College Boat Club has been awarded £703,500 to support a major overhaul of its Putney training site.

The National Lottery Sports Fund has assigned the money to the club on a conditional basis; the contribution is presented as part of a contractual agreement that details the standards and objectives of the project.

The illustrious boat club is ranked amongst the top 5 in the country with its women winning 3 Henley titles last year and the men reaching the finals in 3 categories. The club, often viewed as inaccessible to the uninitiated, boasts a

number of former IC novices amongst its international athletes.

The Putney boathouse project will result in larger ladies changing rooms, new kitchen facilities, gym, a workshop and a physiotherapy room as well as 8 study bedrooms which will be preferentially offered to the boat club's student committee members. On completion this year, the new facilities will be available to local schools and Wandsworth leisure groups.

The club captain Jules Davenport referred to the grant as an "exciting development", adding that it provides an excellent opportunity for the "pre-eminence of the club to be improved".

continued on page three



Tory Rebel Speaks Out

ANDY SINHARAY

IC's Conservative Society played host to John Wilkinson, MP for Ruislip North, on Wednesday. In a half-hour long talk the former RAF Pilot, who first entered politics nearly thirty years ago, expounded his views on Europe, a matter which he described as "close to my heart".

He had voted against the then-Conservative Government on the Maastricht Motion in 1992, and had the whip removed after abstaining on the Second Reading of the EC Finance Bill in 1994. Mr. Wilkinson said that after the Danish anti-Maastricht vote, he had been compelled to read the Treaty for himself, which he felt made demands on the nation which had not been presented to the votes at the last election. "It was a dawn raid," he said. He also spoke of the "awful experience of losing a general election... [which was due] to our inability to come clean to the voters" on European policy. "I felt defeat was inevitable," he added, saying he felt the Referendum Party was right to call for a nation-wide ballot on monetary union.

Mr. Wilkinson went onto say that although the present government realises the UK economy is out of phase with the rest of Europe, he said he was happier with the current Tory line on the matter under Hague than under Major. In general he felt that closer European integration was expensive, not merely financially but also in terms of both power and sovereignty. The Common Agricultural Policy, he said, was an "international scandal... rigged, crooked, fraudulent... the EU runs the most highly protectionist policy to keep prices artificially high." This worked against trade with the former Communist states and the Developing World. Smaller states were better, he felt, as the voters were closer to their elected representatives. But in spite of what many consider to be Euro-sceptical views, he added that his objections were principally towards European integration in present form. He closed with the remark, "We have a vision of a community of states which accords better with our interests, their interests and the principles of democracy we hold dear."

News in Brief...

BIOCHEM BONUS BONANZA

A team from Imperial has won a national competition organised by the Young Entrepreneurs Scheme (YES), which aims to teach young scientists how to deal with investors and the City. Each team in the competition had to submit a realistic business plan, and the best two of each region were given the chance to convince a panel of judges of their suitability to run a company. The IC team, InCap Technologies, consisted of Sarah Cant, Viola Stoll, Kian Heng Ng, Alan Tang and Leonor Galvao, who patented an insulin pill after conducting research in America, Israel and the UK. InCap was selected as one of the best two in the region, and were sent to the Department of Trade and Industry for the finals. Here, they presented their ideas and business plans alongside five other finalists, and won overall. The Managing Director, Sarah Cant, told Felix that the whole experience had been extremely useful and

worthwhile, adding that she and her company had learnt a lot about all areas of industry.

TITS OUT FOR THE GENTLEMEN

King's College London have allowed a society based on the "appreciation of the art of the human form" to be ratified by their Sports and Societies Board. The 'Gentlemen's Viewing Society' is open to "all the members of King's, of all sex, race and religion", but is thought by some to be an excuse to watch hard core pornographic films. The Society has denied all allegations of being involved with porn, stating that they will run an historical course including examinations. King's Sports and Societies Board ratified the society, with those in favour including the President of the Jewish Society and the head of the Christian Union.

Students Driven Mad

JULIA HARRIES

A report in the Guardian this week claimed that 35% of academics have dealt with students with mental health problems.

The survey, commissioned by the funding council's 'Special Initiative to Encourage High Quality Provision for Students with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities,' was carried out at Hull University.

Many respondents were aware of their own limitations in dealings with mentally ill students. It had been noticed that many students, especially foreigners, are not keen on consulting university counsellors, since that would involve an admission of problems which they feel unable to deal with. Many are also afraid that such an admission may affect their progress or references. The confidentiality of counselling services can infuriate teaching staff, keen to monitor student progress and to see what support

is needed. Often, it is friends who are the first to notice problems like anorexia and bulimia. More problems arise when students refuse to allow families to be informed, as staff feel they cannot give support without parental back-up. Another potential problem lies in GPs not having patient case histories. When moving to university and changing GPs, records are slow to transfer to the new GP, leaving them unaware of past mental problems. GPs often provide access to other specialist mental health services. Academics' realisation of their inexperience provokes demands for greater pastoral care. The research shows the need for universities to redefine their welfare provision, and to ensure that academics have enough resources to properly help students. The researchers commented "We are a long way from achieving an atmosphere in which mental problems can be... effectively addressed".

Gas a Deadly Danger

ANDY SINHARAY

Students are being urged to check faulty gas appliances. According to the National Union of Students, ten deaths have occurred in student houses in recent years, due to the inhalation of carbon monoxide from faulty equipment. Students in privately-rented accommodation are believed to be particularly at risk as the NUS alleges that dishonest landlords, claiming to have safe boilers and heaters in order to avoid repair costs, have been responsible for student deaths. The winter weather encourages students to spend more time indoors and deaths are the most prevalent at this time of year. "Late January and early February is the peak time," an NUS source told Felix.

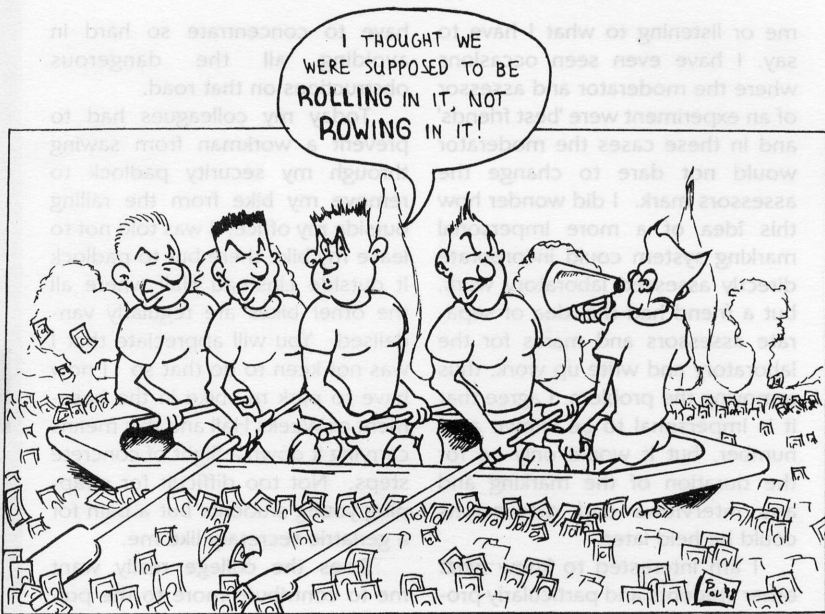
"We always take this very seriously," said Martin Thomson, Union Advisor at ICU. All landlords, he said are legally required to prove that all gas equipment has

been declared safe within the last 12 months, and the NUS in particular has requested that "all students should make sure they see this certificate now, or call the gas safety action line." Mr. Thomson also urged students to check that any faulty appliances had been checked, though to his knowledge there had been no serious incidents involving Imperial students and faulty heating. Mr. Thomson told Felix that though people have been concerned about carbon monoxide levels where detectors have picked it up, "I thankfully haven't come across anyone being ill due to carbon monoxide poisoning... we do have posters and leaflets available in the union office," he said, and he added that anyone worried about the issue is welcome to discuss the matter with him. Mr. Thomson can be reached on x48067. The gas safety action line can be called free on 0800 300363.

Life is "But a Dream" for ICU Boat Club

continued from page one

Bill Mason, the club's coach, was also pleased with the award, stating that the Lottery Sports Fund has "recognised we are a centre of excellence". He views the grant as acknowledgement of the club's impressive achievements and its consistency at all levels. The award makes up only a minority of the total cost of the project, leaving IC responsible for the remainder. Bill Mason answered accusations of disproportionate allocation of funds by referring to the gruelling work regime adopted by club members. He saw the project as just reward for those such as their internationals who train 15 times a week regardless of conditions. Mr. Mason feels the project will address current problems of



"overcrowding" and in some areas "primitive" facilities. The Boat Club's future prospects have been further enhanced by an offer from Carlton Television for an alternative boat race involving Imperial College and another force in British rowing in the University of London. Although plans are only at an "infancy stage" it is likely the event will be held 3 weeks before the Oxford-Cambridge race. The high profile event could attract lucrative sponsorship deals and boost recruitment. Bill Mason assessed IC's prospects in the race as "excellent" and is convinced the event will represent a "new dimension of university sport".

Sri Lanka comes to IC

AROSHA BANDARA

Paradise was brought to the Sherfield ante-room as the Sri Lankan Society staged a one-day exhibition on Wednesday 21 January. With exhibits ranging from batiks to photographs, posters and handicrafts, the display attracted a large number of staff and students alike. For those wishing to sample some Sri Lankan food, there was also a variety of snacks available together with cups of Sri Lankan tea.

For the organisers, the event was a resounding success. "This is a very important year for Sri Lankans," said society President Amjad Saleem. "We are celebrating 50 years of independence and this exhibition is only the beginning of a series of events to mark this occasion." The society also said will be hosting a charity dinner and dance

on the 7 February, raising money for essential medical equipment for a rural hospital in Sri Lanka. The dinner will be preceded by a cultural show followed by a disco that will go on into the early hours. The dinner itself is sold out but Sri Lankan Soc says there are still tickets available for the disco, starting at 9.30 p.m. Apart from this there will be a trip to the official reception held at the Sri Lankan High Commission in Hyde Park Gardens and outings to the other events being organised around London.

Sri Lanka celebrates its Independence Day on the 4th of February. Those interested in taking part in the various events taking place around this time should contact the Sri Lankan Society by e-mail (akb1@doc.ic.ac.uk) or visit the web site (www.su.ic.ac.uk/club-ssocs/osc/srilanka/) for details.



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Letters to Felix...

SEXISM RIFE

Dear Felix,

Firstly I would like to express my agreement with the editorial from last week [16 January]. I know that many students at Imperial College must be able to relate to the issue put forward, as I certainly can. London is a horribly isolating place at times and sometimes when the pressure is on, it is easy to feel overpowered and to see no way out of a situation. I too would like to see more services set up to keep in touch with students who are not attending college and to help those who are distressed. A good example of the problems with IC's counselling facilities is my own experience last year. It was just after my exams and I was feeling terribly distressed and isolated. I felt I had no one to talk to about it, and so I went to see two separate counsellors. One at Princes Gardens and one at the Union. Both were convinced I must have terrible financial problems- it seemed that was the only problem there could be! I agree that financial issues are something that counsellors have to deal with a lot in London and are very important, but these counsellors didn't even take the time to ask what was wrong with me before launching into their advice on Student hardship funds etc. The whole episodes made me feel like my visits were a waste of time and I ended up feeling worse than before.

My other reason for writing this letter concerns the marking systems at this college. My mother lectures at a university where they use a marking system in which each student has a number instead of using their name (rather like a library PIN number), this eliminates any problems with prejudice or discrimination (racial, sexual, or 'just don't get on' etc...) This system should be implemented for laboratory work (in tutorial work it is important for the tutor to assess individual students throughout the year). As a girl I am often speaking with assessors for laboratory projects where the assessor in question speaks mainly to the male student/s and rarely to me even though I am also doing the work or the experiment. At worse I have met assessors who will not even make eye contact with me or sit and chat to my male co-students without ever directing a word to

me or listening to what I have to say. I have even seen occasions where the moderator and assessor of an experiment were 'best friends' and in these cases the moderator would not dare to change the assessors mark. I did wonder how this idea of a more impersonal marking system could incorporate directly assessed laboratory work, but a friend had the idea of separate assessors and marks for the laboratory and write up work, thus removing the problem. I agree that it is impersonal to be known as a number, but it would only be for the duration of the marking and any interviews and discussions could be held later.

I am interested to know what other students and particularly professors think of my idea and whether it would be possible to implement it in the near future. From my point of view the prejudices in assessors marking work can make all the difference to a final degree result.

Anon.

Physics III

DODGY DEALINGS

Dear felix,

Be on the look-out for people (2-men, early twenties) selling audio-speakers from the back of an N-reg white van.

The sellers are con-men trying to pass off equipment described by a HI-FI dealer as "absolute rubbish we wouldn't pay a penny for", as expensive, high-quality goods.

In particular beware of Omni-Audio products.

ON YER BIKE, SECURITY.

Dear Felix,

May I be permitted to have a moan in what I consider to be my "local rag". I cycle to work [in Prince's Gardens] but have to ride along Imperial College Road and the joke about nuns riding across cobble stones comes to mind and would make me laugh if I didn't

have to concentrate so hard in avoiding all the dangerous obstructions on that road.

Today my colleagues had to prevent a workman from sawing through my security padlock to remove my bike from the railing outside my office. I was told not to leave my bike there but to padlock it outside Linstead Hall where all the other bikes are regularly vandalised. You will appreciate that I was not keen to do that so I now have to park my bike in the basement of Weeks Hall and this means carrying it down a flight of concrete steps. Not too difficult for strapping young students but a pain for a geriatric secretary like me.

Does the college really want me to contribute more to the pollution and parking problems in this area? What is so wrong about parking bikes outside one's place of work on a pavement which can accommodate both my parked bike and pedestrians without any problem? Please don't tell me it looks unsightly because I could point out that the scaffolding around 9 and 10 Prince's Gardens looks twice as bad and has been there for several months.

Lorraine Davis

Residences Secretary

I too had my bicycle removed for no apparent reason when it was parked outside my office in Beit Quad. I have attempted to reclaim it several times, but the guards on duty consistently refuse to unlock the store.

Oh, and that scaffolding's not going anywhere [Felix 1093]. Ed

DOUBLE DOH!

Dear Felix,

Something I forgot to add to yesterday's letter [Felix 1104] is simply that, if the sports editorial was a joke then a) my original mis-sive becomes irrelevant and b) your sense of humour is really shite.

Cheers

Nick Oliver

Deadline for letters is 6pm Tuesday. Letters may be edited for length, but will not be altered or corrected in any other way. Letters may be signed or anonymous, but please show your swipe card when submitting them.

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Hybrid Sportsmen

The World According to Benn

FELIX

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Editorial

KEEP THE CAT FREE

This phrase is no doubt familiar to many members of college - it is of course the motto of Felix (dating from the first issue in 1949). It refers not to the price, but to our editorial freedom. It has been appearing less prominently in recent years, as myself and others have believed, erroneously it seems, that it could be taken as read.

Felix is *not* a college newspaper, nor is it a union paper, though it receives generous funding from ICU. It is an **independent students' newspaper**, it is registered as a public newspaper and its content is bound only by national law.

These facts are clearly not appreciated by many people around college, notably those students currently running the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU). For those fortunate enough not to have read the articles in question, here is a choice morsel:

"I cannot believe that Felix ... should publish an article about the death [of a chemistry student] on the morning of a chemistry exam

before the official announcement ... You do *not* publish articles unless you have been told that you can. If you cannot be *bothered* to do your research first ... you should not be allowed the responsibility to carry such stories until officially told you can by College or the Department concerned."

We *do* publish articles without permission from college, and to suggest otherwise is ludicrous - if we waited for them to give us news, Felix wouldn't be worth the paper it's written on. Besides, both the Director of Undergraduate Studies in chemistry and the College Tutor were aware of our decision in advance, and respected it without fuss. Perhaps if *you* had done a little research yourself, you would have discovered and respected the family's wishes to avoid mentioning the cause of death, as we did.

The point is that author of published material holds a great responsibility - a fact which I learned the hard way. Independence brings accountability. With reporting like theirs, the RCSU should be glad that they are not in the public domain.

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ICU Council

Tuesday 3 February at RPMS. Coaches leave from the Union at 5.30pm. Papers available from the Union Office, as ever. All welcome.

PS. Rumours of free beer and food abound.

Small Ads

Reapplicants wanted in Fal-mouth Keogh Hall

Applications are invited from lively, outgoing and responsible students for 1998-9.

Application forms from the Accommodation Office, 15 Princes Gardens. Deadline: Friday 27 February.

Wanted

Young men and women to play mixed hockey on the occasional Sunday. No skill required, everyone will get a game and a good laugh is guaranteed. Contact Ben on b.white@ic.ac.uk.

University of London Debating Society:

This House Would Out the Homophobe and Hypocrite

Guest speaker: Peter Tatchell. 7.30pm, Tuesday 3 February. Plams wine bar, ULU, Malet St. Free wine and snacks.

For Sale

Brand new personal handfree Kit for Nokia "banana" phone - all networks. £40 o.n.o. Contact Ian bongi@ic.ac.uk.



Burning Water

STEAK PUDDING

After the recent healthy dishes, I think we should have something a little bit more solid this week. Steak pudding is just steak and kidney pudding without the kidneys because they're yukky and horrible to play around with. If you insist on kidneys then be my guests and bung them in, I won't say a word.

Now, the only way to make a good pudding is to use suet. The beef type is unquestionably the tastiest (and is made from the fat surrounding the kidneys so there's another weird connection for you. I bet the FBI are into this up to their cheesy armpits) but for the health-conscious out there, vegetable suet (which, like margarine, is made from hydrogenated vegetable oil whose health credentials are being questioned at the moment) produces more or less the right consistency.

So here we go. I know, why not start with a list of necessary ingredients:

- 1 1/2 lb stewing steak
- 1 onion
- Suet pastry - 8 oz plain flour, 4 oz suet (shredded or chop it yourself)
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 pudding bowl, should be ceramic

Gosh! Complicated isn't it? Now time to get mucky.

Mix the flour, suet, baking powder and a pinch of salt in a large bowl, crushing the pieces

dip into some seasoned flour (flour plus any powdered spices you might have: pepper, mace, mustard, paprika, whatever).

Take the dough and divide it into 2/3 and 1/3. Roll the larger piece into a round about 1/4 in. thick and line your greased pudding bowl with it. Press the dough all around and make sure there aren't any creases which could pop up and spoil the effect.

Half fill the bowl with the meat strips.

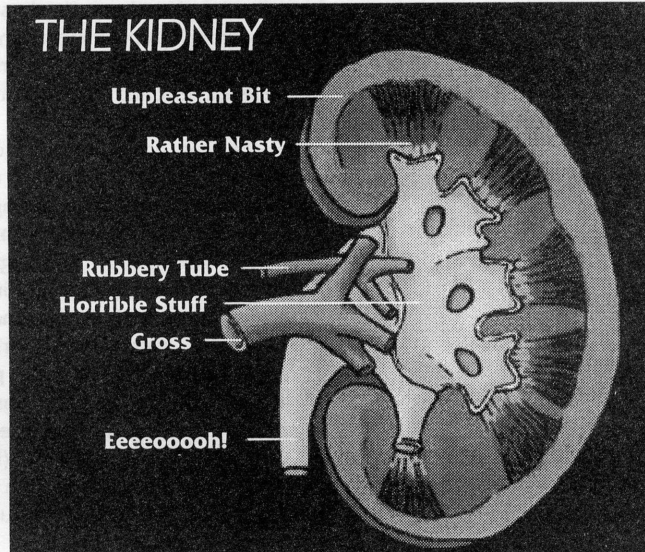
Chop the onion finely and fry it in some butter until lovely and golden brown, adding a hefty dose of pepper near the end. Place the onion in the pudding bowl with the meat, deglaze the pan with half a glass of water and add this juice too. Then put the rest of the beef in with a good pinch of salt.

Finally, roll out the remaining pastry into a round slightly larger than the bowl, moisten the edges, place on top and press the edges together well.

To cook your cardiac arrest in a dish, wrap it up in a tea cloth or two and place in a large saucepan with enough water to come 2/3 of the way up the pudding bowl. Boil for 3 hours.

Antoine

THE KIDNEY



of suet between your fingers to incorporate the flour. Once the texture is fairly consistent add just enough cold water to get everything to stick together and form a firm dough. Leave to chill.

Meanwhile, cut the meat into thin strips and

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Oh come on, you must be able to think of something...

Having a column is great. There really is nothing quite like the privilege of being able to air my twisted, bizarre and sometimes merely insane views on any subject I choose. Estimates indicate that our beloved student newspaper is read by approximately eight thousand people, giving me the potential opportunity to take a step towards shaping the minds of the future. Of course, I don't bother doing this, preferring to moan, whine and whinge about whatever has scratched me during that particular week.

This time, however, the creative half of my brain looks to be enjoying a little siesta. It seems that the bloke sitting up there who provides my inspiration has been kidnapped by a crack suicide squad from the other half of my brain, who are going to tie him up and torture him by forcing him to learn the Taylor Series Expansion. Unfortunate though this is, it has

left me with the more immediate problem of a column space that is so depressingly white it would easily pass the Daz doorstep Challenge.

I decided to take the afternoon off, planning to use it to regain some of the sleep I lost last night when two of my cruel flatmates forced me to play Worms 2 until the small hours. (They made me do it. Honestly...) Instead I find myself walking up and down the Felix office, watching the usual suspects come and go, and suffering from a very severe case of writer's block. As the afternoon draws on, and the editor's gaze darkens, I try many different ideas for subject matter, with no success. I refuse to bend under office-wide pressure; I will not write about the bloody sabbatical elections.

So I apologise for the lack of a depressing, heavily sardonic and misery-inducing piece this week.

Ali Campbell

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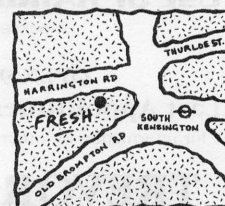
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Good to hear from my old friend Ashton McGregor, who the last time I looked was ICU Labour Club Chair. As with all final students, Ashton is a busy man, so clearly Peter Mandelson helped with the drafting of his letter in last week's *Felix*. I would, however, watch your back if you continue to ascribe any aspect of the New Labour doctrine to 'ethical socialism.' Starting with the Straw incident, it is impossible to believe that instructing the Solicitor General to issue a court order barring publication of his son's name represents a 'wholly responsible' attitude. Of course, he eventually came clean and found that honesty, albeit after the event, did him no harm at all. The suggestion that Robin Cook's shenanigans are 'of no consequence to the general public whatsoever' is a little naïve. When a member of the Cabinet uses public funds to pay for a mistress's travels, and apparently sacks a Foreign Office employee in order to give her a job, as

has recently been alleged in the *Daily Telegraph*, I feel it is very much the concern of the public. Furthermore, when one reads, 'families are the core of our society... the breakdown of family life damages the fabric of our society' on page 25 of the Labour manifesto, it reinforces the idea of double standards. I have never believed in 'trial by tabloid', choosing to read newspapers edited by those who have mastered multi-syllabic words, and it is certainly true that some of the tabloid tactics against both parties are reprehensible. Nevertheless, Labour should realise that the moral high ground is a very tricky place to occupy. As I indicated in my article, the fact that Robin Cook did the dirty on his wife is in

itself irrelevant, but when looks at the supplementary actions in this case, his behaviour becomes unacceptable, hypocritical and denigrates this important office of State.

While we're on the subject of the

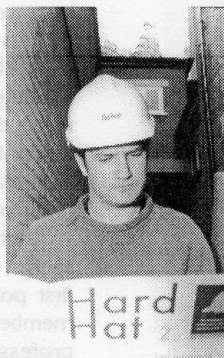
manifesto, Ashton, let me suggest that you pop across to Chemistry and read my copy. New Labour is not about 'remaining true to its socialist ethic.' Changing Clause IV can hardly square with what you

have said. Your leader said 'in each area of policy a new and distinctive approach has been mapped out.' You say on one hand that Labour won because of Conservative mismanagement of the economy (so bad that

Labour chose to stick to the spending plans), and then go on to say it was due to 'remaining true to its socialist ethic.' You can't have it both ways, Ashton. Dragging religious values into politics will always end in ears, for it inevitably degenerates into moralising and puritanism. Given the broadly non-religious nature of the country, it is never long before resentment develops. 'Back to Basics' was never my favourite policy of the Conservatives. After being shamelessly rebadged by Blair and Mandelson, it still holds little attraction.

Finally, it is nice to see that ICU is capable of keeping up with College trends, despite the greater fiscal firepower of the latter. I refer, of course, to the lovely new signs on the ICU Store. Radiant? Certainly. Informative? Without doubt. Straight? Well, two out of three ain't bad.

Simon Baker



Digs the Dirt

THE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO GETTING A FIRST with COLIN DALE

Part Two: Lectures

Can you hear me at the back? I said, Can you hear me at the back? Oh well, never mind, this week's installment is about lectures. These exist primarily as an opportunity for departments to keep their most incompetent members of staff occupied for a few hours a week. Also, by judicious timetabling (e.g. one at nine, and the next at five), students can be forced to spend vast amounts of money at College catering outlets in order to sustain themselves during the intervening periods. From a less gratuitously cynical point of view, they represent an excellent chance to hear the central ideas of your chosen subject presented by those at the forefront of advances in the field. But don't despair: it may still be possible to make constructive use of the time.

There are a variety of techniques used by lecturers to get the material across, but they rely mostly on boring and confusing the audience into a kind of hypnotic submission. As a rule, the content of a lecture is designed to be either insultingly obvious or beyond the comprehension of mortal men; never anywhere in between. The classic non-examinable derivation is a favourite crowd-pleaser. No self-respecting lecturer would ever begin without his trusty overhead projector, so named because any information displayed on it is guaranteed to go completely over the heads of those at whom it is projected. Their popularity arises from the fact that they allow almost infinite scope for getting transparencies upside-down, back-to-front and completely obscured

by chalk dust. Sometimes, you will arrive at the lecture theatre to find that they have dragged out an incoherent old buffer to talk irrelevant drivel at you for an hour (to replace the usual incoherent old buffer). This is called a guest lecture, and usually occurs after you have been waiting around for it all afternoon with nothing to do. Other special entertainments may be laid on. I once saw a brilliant farce in my lecture theatre, called 'Mathematics for Physicists'. The only character was a burbling physics lecturer whose ineptitude was so great that he had to cover four boards with corrections to his previous lecture. The protagonist has since been made a professor. Another time, I saw a graphic reconstruction of what it might have been like to visit an eighteenth century freak show. It was called 'Electromagnetism'.

But I digress. By mercilessly ripping the piss out of our respected staff I seem to have been forgetting my duty to give useful advice. In future I will make more effort to keep to the rule, 'business before pleasure'. So here are some tips:

You don't have to spend your entire course being threatened and intimidated by your lecturers. You need to show them who's boss. Try picturing them in their underwear. (Actually, no, that would probably unhinge you completely.) The best line of attack is to laugh heartily at all their jokes (if you can spot them). That'll really scare the shit out of them and they will do anything you say, even move the board up if you fall behind copying the notes.

Projectile banana skins are another tried and tested method of keeping them on their toes. However, there is one thing more scary than a dull unmotivated lecturer, and that's a highly enthusiastic one. He is quite a different beast. To deal with him requires careful planning and co-ordination. Take aim with tranquilliser darts making sure that you have friends sitting near the front ready to close in with nets as the drugs begin to take effect.

But even with docile lecturers you need to make a supreme effort to concentrate. There is only one sure-fire way to get anything out of a lecture at IC. But be careful: even possession carries a mandatory two-year sentence.

When your enthusiastic desire to copy down every valuable word of wisdom has worn off (i.e. after you've sat down), you will want something useful to do. I recommend an informative little booklet called *Ten Interesting Diversions Involving Pen Tops and Rulers*. You may also like to contribute to the ongoing and highly-informed graffiti debate about the relative merits of Guilds members and their sexuality by engraving the word 'Bollocks' into the desk.

But at the end of the day, don't forget that you will be examined on all your courses. Bribing the examiners is not generally a good idea. You will inevitably be sent before a special tribunal whose silence may cost up to ten times as much as your original offer. So on second thoughts I suppose you'd better start taking some notes. Any questions?



Andy Heeps

ICU President

On August 1st, Imperial College permanently changed. We stand on the brink of a new century, a century where the world's leading scientists, engineers and doctors will all come from Imperial College. This change is good. Good for ICU and good for the Constituent College Unions, as it provides the perfect opportunity for us to get what we, as a collective whole student body, need. However, this can only be done if we put dogma and previous disagreements behind us. Fresh momentum, fresh ideas and fresh initiatives can unite the student body against the useless bureaucracy that exists within Sherfield, and get results. These fresh ideas will

not come from any old 'Union hack'. The strength of ICU that currently exists needs a fresh face to provide strong leadership and prepare the Union for the many tough decisions that lie ahead. A new broom is required to sweep the cobwebs away, and to concentrate the work of ICU in the areas where you want it to be directed, not where a clique of CV-tillers think it would be best placed. ICU



should be inclusive, not exclusive, and provide a service, not prove to be a hindrance. As President, I will make it my priority to ensure that ICU provides you with the services you want. I don't want to see a Union divided, which puts Club Against Society, and Constituent College against Constituent College. I want a Union where my voice makes a difference, my opinions count, and my needs as a student of the country's leading college of Science, Technology and Medicine are met. I want this for you. This isn't some flash-in-the-pan bid for glory. I'm going to be at Imperial for a good time to come, and I want to see ICU work whilst I'm here.

Can you describe your job?

Although effectively 'the boss', my job is more akin to that of a puppet-master - keeping all the strings together, and making the Union move as a coherent single entity. Also the 'ultimate representative' of the Union, any Presidential hopeful should have a macabre passion for committees, because they take up half your time in the job. The President is also ultimately responsible for absolutely everything that goes on within the Union, from its finances and staffing to elections of Officers and making the office coffee in times of stress.

Not really as glamorous as it seems, the President is also the first point of contact for whining members of the public, moaning professors and disenchanted directors of Estates, but in the end it's all worth it because you really can make a difference.

Do you think you've fulfilled the promises made in your manifesto?

The promises I made were really

year-long promises, nothing short term, and I'm well on the way to achieving what I set out to achieve.

How do you feel about taking a year out of your studies?

This was the hardest decision to make actually, especially as I was coming away from the campus I was familiar with. But, then, I've got another four years to go, so it doesn't really feel as if it's going to make that much difference really.

Have you enjoyed the job so far?

90% of the time, yes I have. Of course, there are times when I feel I just want to walk away from it all, but then, everyone feels like that sometimes. I am generally happy with my job.

What advice can you give to anyone thinking of signing up?

People really shouldn't look on the sabbatical year as a fill-in job. I think the two most important reasons to do the job is to make a difference to the Union, and to provide services. If you want a easy year out, go travelling around India, go to Africa, don't be a sabb.



Rob Clark

Deputy Pres. (Finance & Services)

During my four years at Imperial I have noticed that there has been a steady decline in the numbers of students taking full advantage of all the available facilities offered by Imperial College Union. Many students automatically assume the Union will always be there to finance the clubs they join, and provide the services that they take for granted. The recent loss of the Union Book Store to Waterstones shows how quickly a Union trading outlet can be suddenly replaced, overturning many years hard work by staff and students committed to ensuring that the best possible service and widest range of stock are provided. I intend to stop this trend by strengthening the

Union's trading position within College. Increasing awareness of exactly what the Union has to offer students, so that every member understands the need for a strong and financially independent Union is also a high priority. Experience I have gained while running IC Radio and being a member of Union Finance Committee, Publications Board and House Committee, puts me in a strong position



to understand the Union finances. During the course of my degree I have also worked for an industrial research lab preparing laboratory test rigs and assisting in the tendering process for contracts. Additionally in the five months before Christmas of this year I was working as part of a scientific sales team with responsibilities for technical support, forecasting, market research and various other aspects of customer support and sales. I believe that over the last 4 years I have gained the experience to do the job of Deputy President (Finance and Services) well and I hope I will receive your support.

Sadly, Rob Clark couldn't be arsed to write us a job description. We were, however, able to keep him still long enough to ask him these questions:

Do you think you've fulfilled the promises made in your manifesto?

I deliberately didn't promise anything in my manifesto, but yes, I think I've done as much as any sabb.

Have you enjoyed the job so far?

Yes, I have enjoyed it. I've found it very hard work, but it's been very fulfilling.

What advice can you give to anyone thinking of signing up?

The best advice I can give is to remember you're a link in a chain, and you must allow people to carry your work on. You've got to be able to pass on information, so that things keep going.

The DP(F&S)'s main role is financial. They are responsible for all the money spent by the union (about £2,500,000 a year), a responsibility which consists mainly of preventing anyone from spending it. The services of the Union bars, catering, advice, minibuses etc. also come under their remit. The combination of these two branches results in them spending most of their life in some committee or another.

The DP (F&S) is also expected to keep a general eye on the union, hold the fort while the president's mind is on higher things, and to do their best to prevent College from pinching any more rooms.

I Promise to

Felix talks to the current ICU sabbs to find out what they're

Jeremy Thomson

Felix Editor

Tell me about your job.

It seems more like a hundred jobs than one, most of the time. Put simply, I have to ensure that a decent newspaper hits the streets every Friday. To do this I need to be an editor, a writer, a designer, a personnel manager, an advertising manager, a DTP expert, purchasing manager, director, secretary, print manager, computer tamer, postman, union 'hack', bin-emptier and hardest of all, a one-man complaints department. All this would drive anyone insane, but I've also got to try to remain calm and friendly to avoid scaring off contributors, and acting is not a strong point.

Have you fulfilled the promises

you made in your manifesto?

Let me have a look at it... Ah, it appears to be a complete load of wank. That'll be a yes, then.

Have you enjoyed the job so far?

In patches. I've always been a bit of a slacker, so working seventy or eighty hours a week isn't really my cup of tea. The job can also get highly stressful if you let it - your responsibilities are enormous and the deadlines are always looming. On the other hand, I've achieved a lot and it's good to know I'm working for a good cause, not myself.

What advice can you give to anyone thinking of signing up?

Think hard. The job is highly traumatic, and if you can't cope, you're very likely to suffer

Congratulations. You're reading a sabbatical election manifesto. You're better informed and more aware than 50% of the college population. Before I lose your attention, let's talk about the fun stuff...

ENTERTAIN
Music, theatre, the big screen, arts, books, clubs and more. Felix may be a student paper, but it produces up to the minute reviews to rival many nationals. I'll try to make this popular section more diverse and comprehensive. The apathetic among you may like to turn to the more light-hearted SFTW now, because the next part is serious...

INFORM
Great change is imminent at IC.

Whole departments and campuses are shifting in the largest developments since the 1960s. There is opportunity, but also risk that the needs and wishes of the students and their union will be further margin-



alised. I believe Felix has a duty to inform - so you know about the decisions that affect your life, and your opinions will be heard. If you've got this far, I suppose you really are interested. In that case...

INVOLVE
I want greater student involvement. Felix has a great deal to offer students directly. It provides opportunity for aspiring writers, photographers, designers, reviewers and columnists to see their work in print. It offers experience in finance, advertising, and research. It has excellent production facilities. It's a diverse social centre. Plus, it's the perfect place to eat your lunch-time curry.

I'm not making any specific election pledges. Instead, I promise to do the job to the best of my ability so that you get what you want. I believe that I can succeed, but I need your help. Make it happen!

nervous breakdown (which I don't care about), and severely, or perhaps permanently damage the newspaper (which I do). The real skill of the job lies in

getting on well with your staff. I am responsible for motivating unpaid, voluntary students to do the work of ten or fifteen full-time professionals. Good luck!

do my best...

up to and whether they kept their promises...

Interviews by Julia Harries

Charlie Joynt

Deputy President (Clubs & Socs)

So, what do you do, then?

Hmmm. I'm ultimately responsible for the running of the Union's many clubs and societies. With most of the administration duties borne by the C&S Administrator, the bulk of the work is regarding development strategies and representing the Union Clubs and Societies to College. Health and Safety, student training, provision of sports, giving advice - the list goes on - it's all in a day's work.

Do you think you've fulfilled the promises made in your manifesto?

So far, yes, I think I have. We're working on an ACC ball, amongst other things, but of course, I won't really be able to

say for sure until I've left the job.

How do you feel about taking a year out?

Fine. In my case it was an easy decision. It's given me far more enthusiasm for my course, as I've had time to take a serious look at things, and put them in perspective. People who are keener on their courses than I was will probably find it more difficult to make the break. I'm pleased to have done this, and I'm glad that I'll be here to see things go through, and to give any help to my successor.

Have you enjoyed the job so far?

Yes, certainly. I've been busy, but the work is absorbing and challenging.

What advice can you give to anyone thinking of signing up?

It is no surprise that much of our socialising is based around the societies that we join. We have over 180 clubs that we can sign up for, and most of us choose to be members of a few of them at the very least. With the mergers of the medical schools, and next year's integration of ICSM into the South Kensington campus, we must strive to broaden the width of the clubs on offer, and to increase the depth of participation in them. Particularly as Imperial is a science-based college, we must encourage social and artistic societies to maintain a healthy balance of interests. Many of our sports teams are excellent, with international

caps for many of our rowers, a BUSA win for fencing and



individual championship wins for members of the Karate club, to mention but three teams. With proper coaching, sponsorship deals, better equipment and improved sporting facilities, there is no reason why our sports clubs cannot improve tremendously.

ly. At Imperial, there is much emphasis on academic work, but we must balance this properly. All too infrequently do we have successful dinners and balls. Anyone who has witnessed Wednesday nights in the bar cannot deny that an ACC or RCC dinner would not be as successful as the already popular OSC 'International Night'. For me as ICU Deputy President, and all this will happen. I am enthusiastic and experienced in the organisation of clubs - as 3rd XV captain I am responsible for over 40 rugby players and have managed to field a 4th XV for the first time in recent history. I stand for your best interests.

Don't do it if you aren't motivated. You have to put in long hours and have to be on the ball, as problems crop up quickly and have to be dealt with quickly. I would suggest that anyone thinking of signing up should come and see me to get an idea of what they would have to do.

If you've read these interviews, and think you might like to have a go, the deadline to sign up is Friday 6 February. The current sabbs will be more than happy to chat to you about the jobs, as they're all rather hoping to retire on 1 August this year.



Who runs Imperial College? We can't really say. Even Simon Baker wasn't sure, but he knows a man who should be...

I'll be honest with you. I was slightly apprehensive about this interview. Firstly, I felt sure that Lynda Davies and her cohort of IC Secret Police wouldn't miss this time, and secondly I had heard from many people that the College Secretary was a tough operator. Still, we journalists are always prepared to suffer for our art, so I headed for his office in the inner sanctum of Sherfield, Suite Five.

Tony Mitcheson joined the College in May, having retired from the Army at the rank of Colonel. Selected from over 50 candidates, he was previously Planning Officer for UK Land Command at Aldershot, responsible for the administration of British front line troops, encompassing personnel, discipline, accommodation and supplies, managing a budget of £3 billion. His career began in 1961 with two years at Sandhurst, and latterly in 1967, he obtained a degree in History from Hertford College, Oxford. Before his final posting, he was responsible for all troops in southern England. He is married with two children and lists his interests as History, DIY and photography.

At first glance, running Her Majesty's Armed Forces seems a very different job to keeping this place on the straight and narrow. Asked how he had found the transition from overseeing a tightly disciplined body of men to looking after a disparate body of students, he said that he wasn't "sure if the students are the problem." Who could he be referring to? "It is different. It was described to me before I came here as like 'herding cats.'" Mr Mitcheson claims that there are many parallels to be drawn between the management of the two organisations, though I like to think the Defence of The Realm has the upper hand. Both are run on a committee structure – "the processes are very similar... [there has not been] much of a culture shock" – but he suggested that Army is probably "more focussed in its aim." He added, "there is a sense in which decisions are made more quickly", something which few would doubt. Is this a result of the way Imperial is run, or is it symptomatic of academic institutions in general? "No, I sense the decision making at departmental level is very fast. The problem lies in that the College is a very large organisation and is going through a fairly turbulent period with the medical mergers. From what I can see the structure is fine. It's more the sheer number of decisions to be made. It is the degree to which stand-alone organisations are having to be brought together which is the complicating factor." It is certainly true that there is a huge amount of decision making at IC, but how much of it is really necessary, as distinct from those which stem from inefficiency, bureaucracy and empire building.

It is fair to say that most members of College, both staff and students, will have little dealing with the College Secretary, so many of you will be wondering exactly what he does; it seems that even some senior Sherfield staff are a little unclear on this issue. This confusion is not helped by the fact that each Secretary seems to have a different remit. In recent times we

have had John Smith, the infamous Angus Fraser, Peter Mee and now Tony Mitcheson. While Mee and Smith were very much in the traditional mould, Fraser was referred to as 'Managing Director of IC', a role that won him so much respect from the academic community that he was effectively forced from office. So in whose footsteps does the present incumbent follow? Though he very wisely denies it, it seems that there are shades of Fraser. Mr Mitcheson described his job as consisting of four parts. Firstly, he is Clerk to the Governors, akin to the role of Company Secretary. This involves servicing the Governing Body and the Executive Committee, which normally would not be too arduous. However, things have livened up at the moment because of work relating to the Nolan and Dearing Committees and also the planned changes to the structure of the Governing Body, to be replaced by a much larger Court of 150-160 people, as you may have read about elsewhere. The College Secretary part consists of co-ordinating the administration of Imperial, though Mr Mitcheson was keen to point out that his role stops at co-ordination. The Sherfield directors – Messrs Caldwell, Hansen and McClure and Doctors Kimberly and Eastwood – are responsible to the Rector, which should clear up a little confusion in some parts of that building. The similarity with Angus Fraser stems from the assumption of control of ARCCS, the body that "manages" accommodation and residences, catering and conferencing. This confirms the suspicion that Mr Mitcheson felt that a Bursar was an unnecessary extra post. "By the time you've employed a Bursar, it's going to be pretty expensive... it was agreed therefore, that we wouldn't appoint a Bursar, and we would continue with me covering that role." He did add that "[the plan] has been shelved... it may be resurrected." Since he believes that the pressure of work makes him "reactive rather than proactive" in this role, it may yet rise from the ashes. The final part of his job relates to the Secretary of the School of Medicine, of which more later. Another rumour suggests that Mr Mitcheson's role will be restyled as Deputy Rector for administration, denied by the man in question.

The medical merger is clearly the biggest issue affecting the College at the moment. As I have said until blue in the face, this gives us the perfect opportunity to rationalise the whole way that the College is administered. Somewhat frustrated by the Rector's view on this, I was delighted to see that the new boy has an altogether more encouraging viewpoint. Acknowledging that they may be short term rise in numbers and costs – the new School of Medicine will cost £480,000 per year more to administer than pre-merger – Mr Mitcheson said that it should happen "over time... there obviously should be some scope for rationalisation, but that is obviously not the aim of the exercise. The aim is to achieve a better academic result." And what better way to achieve that than by diverting money from administration to teaching and research. An early sign of cost saving was the removal/resignation of Dr Julian Axe, the Medical School Secretary. Despite compelling evidence that the College Secretary is of the opinion that these posts should not be separate, he denied this. He believes that the differing needs of the School of Medicine will require the post to be filled. "That is not a permanent union", he said, saying that the post has already been advertised. "The aim is to achieve the best academic outcome by not duplicating structures where there is no need."

Rationalisation is a word that unsettles most people, save for those in Sherfield, who for most part are

SO, WHO IS TONY MITCHESON?



unaware of it. This may change. "There is no sense having two people doing the same job", he said, adding, "budgetary pressure on people will be to rationalise. If it's not to rationalise, then there's something seriously wrong." This seems to be a significant change of policy. Only last year, the Rector said that we had one of the lowest cost, most efficient administrations in the country. Mr Mitcheson continued by saying that we should "put decision making where the expenditure is created... if you do, you get downwards pressure and people do rationalise without a hand from above coming down to tell them to." If this is seen through to completion, we may see an end to arbitrary decisions coming from the centre that merely irritate people and tie the hands of the people who should have decided in the first place. Despite these points, the College Secretary feels that the administration here is "very good", which I suppose is no surprise. "Yes there will be cockups...I subscribe to the cockup theory, rather than the conspiracy theory", a view with which most of us agree. Less likely to find support is the idea that poor admin "could equally be because it has been forced below a certain threshold... you can force it too far down." The day that happens, sautéed Trilby will be on my menu.

One word that the College Secretary is very fond of is "communication", which is no bad thing and belies his military background. Communication, or the lack of it, helps to explain the tension between the academic departments and central administration. It is "one thing that definitely could be improved throughout the organisation." Steps to achieve this more effectively have already been put in place, involving among other things, residential weekends and Thursday lunchtime meetings with the Rector. If anyone wants to extend the invitation to student journalists, you know where to find me... The College Notice is a powerful weapon in the information arsenal for disseminating the decisions of the mighty, or so our newly arrived Secretary thought. You've never heard of one, and by you I mean all of you, from 1st years to Heads of Departments. Coming from the Army, this came as a bit of a surprise. "I was stopped in my tracks... when a Head of Department said, what is a College Notice?" He aims to sort this out, and although he admits that most of these are less than riveting, we might one day find out when some important decision is taken that affects us through a channel other than Felix. It is also hoped that Felix will cease to be the only conduit through which reports of the Messed-up Project Group (known in Sheffield as MPG) reach the masses, as their publication is "under discussion". As for Felix itself, The College Secretary feels that it does its job well, quashing rumours that he feels the cat should not be entirely free.

As regular readers will know, I am fulsome in my praise of the College's "commercial" activities. Indeed, if you ignore such outmoded measures of effectiveness as profit, customer satisfaction and management competence, they are among some of the best to be found in Western Europe. We are about research and teaching, not building management, not security and certainly not catering. Mr Mitcheson's views on contracting out were very encouraging. Though his is not convinced that things are as bad as many suggest, he said, "we should bear it in mind... you would be foolish not to keep all the various permutations and options in your mind. You would be failing in your

duty." This is in stark contrast to the Rector's opinion last May, and if things have changed this significantly, the College Secretary deserves four cheers. As he points out, if our existing operations are up to scratch, they have nothing to fear from market testing these non-core activities. "I firmly believe [they] are doing a good job, and therefore it should not be a threat." Once the medical merger has settled down, let us hope that these fine words are turned into actions.

Campus Renaissance is now firmly upon us, with the BMS nearing completion, and a host of other projects about to start, such as the Beit Quad refurbishment. This had led to a fair amount of disquiet in College on account of the disruption at a slightly higher level than that, but it is certainly difficult making omelettes without breaking eggs. The Estates' view that they do not have enough time to plan projects in such a way as to minimise such disruption - often a fair comment. The real test of this will be the level of inconvenience that the medics will have to tolerate when the Multi-Disciplinary Research Building goes up next to the BMS.

After just over two hours with Tony Mitcheson, I found myself fairly impressed, and I don't say that about many in Suite Five. He has been here for about eight months and, miraculously, has avoided 'going native', the fate that seems to befall almost all who enter the upper echelons of Sheffield, stripping them of their thoughts, hopes and dreams. Here is a man who seems unafraid to 'think the unthinkable', for whom change is not anathema. We need people who are not deflected from the right course, rather than those who get jumpy at the first sign of ripples on the Imperial pond. His experience of the Army, of which I was sceptical when I first heard of his appointment, looks very pertinent. Conversations with the denizens of Sheffield revealed him to be a tough cookie, who, once he had made his mind up, saw little need for confirmation by a thousand committees. I found him to be perfectly pleasant and far less defensive than some of his colleagues; either that or, Heaven forfend, I gave him an easy ride. Much rests on his shoulders over the next few years, and as long as he keeps moving in the right direction, we can expect major improvements. Not bad, not bad at all. And I'm not being a creep, Tony.

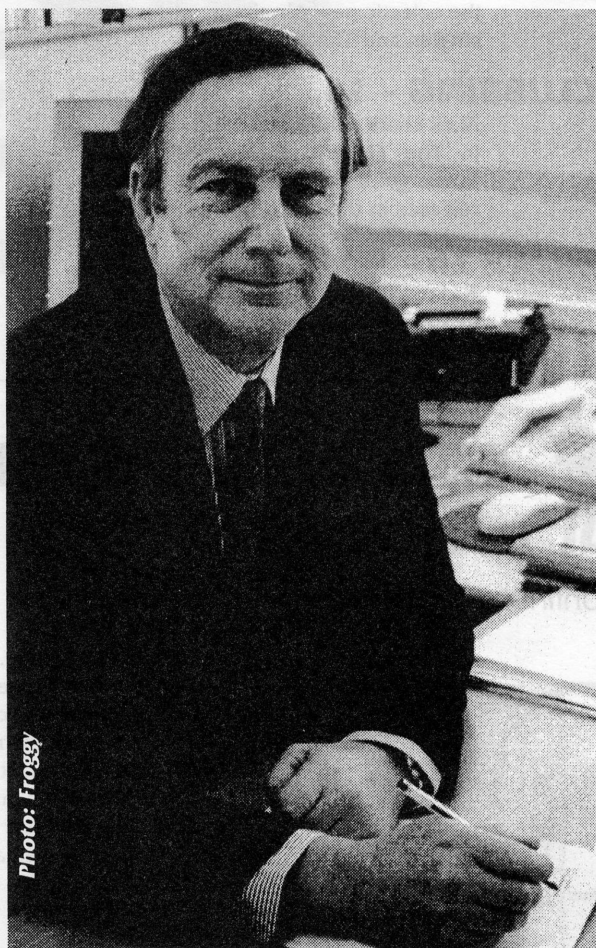


Photo: Froggy

"Yes there will be cock-ups...I subscribe to the cockup theory, rather than the conspiracy theory"

HERE FIND OUT

MUSIC - 12

Alok's hero ex-Stone Rose **Ian Brown** examined, good marks for the eclectic new **Air** album, piles of singles and **Tha Bomb!**

CLUBBING - 14

Al;ck chats acid, house and techno in **The Electric Cafe**, whilst Jo Public guides us through the latest releases in the world of dance.

FILM - 16

A Loyalist hitman goes nuts in **Resurrection Man** and an old boat sinks in some obscure art epic.

17 - BOOKS

Clare Ashwin reviews **A Cuckoo's Parting Cry**, a clever tale of adultery and deception through a child's eyes.

18 - ARTS

John Hegley gets the sympathy vote at the Bloomsbury, and The Barbican's American season continues with a look at **motorcycles**.

20 - FICTION

Caspar von Wrede's two parter **Raising Demons** concludes in a bloody demonic massacre. Nice.

All reviews are given a mark out of five as follows...



President Clinton



President Mandela



President Heeps



Presidents of the USA



President Chirac

No Stars President Bhalke

ALBUMS

IAN BROWN

Unfinished Monkey Business ★★★



King monkey, monkeyman or any other random name with 'monkey' in it. All of these have been used to describe the man who used to front some non-important band in the late eighties. Ian Brown took up gardening, DJing and did a bit of travelling after the disintegration of the Stone Roses back in 1996. He was convinced at that time that he had given up music for good. In his press release announcing the split, he called the music industry 'the filthiest business in the world' and said blankly that he was glad that he was leaving. A world was divided at this announcement. Some said, 'Hey, that's the bloke that can't sing, isn't it? It's a bloody good job that he's not gonna be making any more stupid noises in the future!' and then there was the cohort that were crestfallen. Ian Brown was a Stone Rose and he couldn't just disappear, could he? Well, he did.

For a while, anyway. While fellow ex-Rose John Squire was forming up a band which included buskers and other random musicians from York, Brown's exact location was unknown. Was he in Europe somewhere? Was he ever coming back? Was it true that he had cut his hair?

Rumours aside, he returned a few months ago to tell us that he was working on a project called *Under the Beach*, *The Pavement* - a reference to the French student riots in the sixties. What it would be like was anyone's guess - this is a man who is quoted as saying that he doesn't really like music in this country and any music he likes he has to import from places like Jamaica. Would his, then, be a reggae album (imagine lyrics sung in a cross between West Indian and heavy Mancunian)? Well, no. Brown chose not to add to the repertoire of excellent music in the vein of Bob Marley and instead returned with a sort of cross between science fiction-fuelled groove (*My Star*) as well as original funky groove (*Can't See Me*) with an essence of pop thrown in (can't think of a specific one here...)

Brown has given a lot of press time to this album, something whenever normally does. His face is, at the moment, on about three or four magazines and he even appeared on Radio 1. There are two themes to all his interviews. First is the 'true' story of the Roses break-up. This includes stories of Squire's cocaine habit and how that made him leave the band. The second is his resolute mission to tell the kids that cocaine is evil and that no-one should get into it. Very wise words indeed and ones

AIR

Moon Safari ★★★★★



Air are two French blokes who teamed up to produce a melting pot of an album, awash with a scattering of musical influences and it's probably the most appropriately titled album I've listened to in a long time.

If you're looking for a sublime, laid back excursion into the realms of toned down ambience captured within the space of forty four minutes, look no further. Air have blended together an astonishing array of mellowed down grooves and sweet melodies to create a masterpiece of drugged out magic.

The opening track introduces the listener cautiously to the album. Starting off with a subdued bass led groove and staying clear of anything more complex

or potentially mind-scrambling, they make use of moogs, organs, bass, strings and effortlessly smooth vocals.

Sexy Boy is one of the more upbeat tracks but still manages to maintain a relaxed coolness. *All I Need* has to be the best track and begins with a brilliant mix of acoustic guitar layered over another brilliant bass line. Beth Hirsch provides the perfect vocals which lifts the whole song, while every individual instrument remains within their role and never attempts to dominate, so you're not showered with a gratuitous solo of some sort near the end of each track.

Some of the songs, such as *Remember*, are played through what sounds like a talkbox or vocoder connected to the organ, producing an alien (sometimes robotic) sound and masking the words. Finally, *You Make It Easy* is the only true proper ballad, beautiful and poignant.

Sit back, relax and close your eyes. **M**

Jason

to which every 'kid' should listen. But what does that have to do with the album? Well, nothing really. But it does provide an interesting backdrop as you plug your way through the songs. And plug is exactly what you do. After the first three tracks, I was actually really excited and was looking forward to the next few songs. Could this be what the next Roses' album would have sounded like? Ian's voice was sharper and had lost some of the

softness that had graced his other recordings, but it was a good move. Then came the next nine or so songs. I couldn't believe how unmemorable they were. Yeah, there were a couple of nice ones, but the rest just involved some uninspired singing over some uninspired playing and song writing. I can't end by saying that Ian Brown is crap; he isn't. Just forgive him for this one... **M**

Alok

SINGLES

Vitro - Set It Down

Dance and rock combined, everybody's doing it so why can't Vitro. Works well, but this is far from original.

Ce Ce Peniston - Somebody Else's Guy

Pianos, quality female vocals, this is the David Morales Old School Radio Edit! Alleged club classic with an unmistakable hook.

Kinane - Business

Forgettable inoffensive dance that will sound great with the volume turned down to a minimum.

Dubstar - I Will Be Your Girlfriend

Dubstar have a way with words. Unfortunately it seems to be the same way with each single they put out. If she was better looking I might be able to forgive her.

Convert - Nightbird

This week's dance favourite. It's got it all. Basic formula, lyricless vocals, and the mixing man's dream of a constant beat.

Earl Brutus - Come Taste My Mind

Senseless Things music, new vocals. Highly acclaimed Earl Brutus may have more appeal, but their career will probably be just as short lived. However, they do win the cover of the week award. Look out for the tattooed man with the bra on.

UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH - Higher Than Reason

A Faithless looking cover with sub-standard indie-pop on the inner sleeve menu. If only all bands could be as good as The Verve

Dave Hollister featuring Redman + Eric Sermon - The Weekend

Starts off well enough, but soon goes downhill as it moves from hip-hop to swing. Another example of higher credible artists putting themselves down.

James

Smokin Beats featuring Lyn Eden - Dreams

Six smokin' tracks on this CD, including various remixes. This dance track is pretty good with a good singer on it, but too few lyrics, and some nice beats (!)

Headswim - Tourniquet

Hardly a departure from the norm, guitar-driven British indie music... lyrics are nice ... decent effort from these guys from their forthcoming album *Despite Yourself*. A bit like someone else, but who? We've heard it all before...

Family of Free Love - Days Like These

Decent uptempo record... but it sounds too similar to many groups nowadays. Good background music? Perhaps.

Dawn of the Replicants - Candle Fire

Thought this would be some kind of future-age music but it turns out to be more indie. Average... but it seems that there are too many indie tracks coming out trying to sound like the successful groups. It's a new turn on the usual songs about a woman. It could grow on you.

Superstar - Every Day I Fall Apart

Uptempo track with an irritating chorus that will stick in your head. The much sombre haunting tunes on *Every Second Hurts* is much different and much better.

Sounds of Blackness - The Pressure/Hold On (Change Is Comin')

The first track is a dance version of the Gospel sounds that this group is renowned for. A beautiful voice on top makes it good. The flip side has the lovely original version in all its glory. The Roger Troutman remix with the vocoder makes it much more upbeat and most people should like this one.

Oran Juice Jones featuring Stu Large - Players Call

The self-styled player from the 70s in full mackin' mode with this nice tune. Changing his player ways, singing this song for his girl, this is wonderful. The flip side has the track *Let's Stay Together*, where he gets back together with the woman he cast off from the earlier track. Unusually, it's just a beat with him talking with his girl. Back to the old school.

Above the Law - Adventures of...X.O./Clinic Niggaz

Clever laid back production by Cold 187um complementing the incisive lyrics from the California's Above the Law. Well worth checking out.

Usher - You Make Me Wanna

This R&B track has been massive in the clubs for a while, finally gets its UK release packaged with three mixes as well as the original hit, which was number one in the US for the summer and is a contender for that title over here. Produced and written by Jermaine Dupri, it should appeal to everyone, for its uptempo style and catchy lyrics. A definite must - have. **M**

Roni

THA BOMB!

Whats up !!! The return of the Tha Bomb, I'm back! Hope you all caught the last issue of Felix with the special review of the year, a whole fucking page - I must be moving up in the world. Yeah, I know it woz a bit late but that was nothing to do with me, I had it finished before Christmas, but the boys at Felix had some problems and you all know how the story ends. But hold up the story don't end, due to lack of space the 'phat selection of 97' missed out last week, but here it is now! The essential selection - if you disagree, I don't give a fuck - you need to have these tunes, if you ain't got dem get your arse into gear and get them.

I ain't got much time so just a quick few things.....Usher, blowing up all over and now even over here, released last week and goes straight in at number one, whats' happening? Everybody in the know woz chatting 'bout this years ago and the record company seems to have got the message and released it. Its success has been huge but its only been out a week and it'll be interesting to see whether it holds up or just drops out of the charts. Those who know me know the way I feel about Will Smith, funny guy, but why does he continue to release this pop style music, out this week is 'Getting Jiggy With It'. It's doing the rounds in the clubs and will proba-

bly do pretty well in the charts, but really its poppy shit. The Brit Awards - Method Man's gonna be there, doing his thing on a duet with Texas, she's sings he raps, any good? I'm gonna wait to hear it, and then decide. 'No, No, No, No' by Destiny's Child this did the rounds late last year, and I hear it and hated it, but its slowly grown on me and got to admit I may have been wrong, if you checked it and didn't like check it again, and thrust me the more you hear it the better it gets. Alright well I gotta go, so much more shit to tell y'all, but I just don't have the time.

See Ya Next Time

Milen

Tha Bomb - Phat Selection of '97

Mo Money, Mo Problems - Biggie feat. Puff & Mase

I Can Love You - Mary J Blige feat. Lil Kim

In My Bed (So So Def Remix) - Dru Hill

Feel So Good - Mase

Big Bad Mama - Foxy Brown

Ladies Night - Lil Kim, Missy, Left Eye & Angie Martinez

Can We - SWV

Don't Leave Me - Blackstreet

Feelin You - Yvette Michelle

Hypnotise - Biggie

You Make Me Wanna - Usher

Nothin' But The Party - True

On and On - Erykah Badu

New York - Rakim

G.H.E.T.T.O.U.T. - Changing Faces

Supa Dupa Fly - Missy Elliott

Let Me Clear My Throat - DJ Kool

Pony - Ginuwine

Never Seen Before - EMPD

Toss It Up - Tupac

You Bring Me Up - K-Ci & JoJo

Digital - Golie and KRS-1



No Diggity - Blackstreet

Triumph - Wu Tang Clan

Gotta Get You Home - Foxy Brown

Step Into My World - KRS-1

Don't Wanna Be A Player - Joe

Put Your Hands Where My Eyes Can See - Busta Rhymes.

CLUBSCENE - THE UNDERGROUND MUSIC GUIDE

the electric café

The mid 1980's saw two styles of music from America causing a stir over here in Europe. One was the abstract, conceptual electronic music from Detroit which became known as techno. The second, from Chicago was more party-orientated; a hybrid of gospel, soul and disco. This was house.

Both found their way to our shores at approximately the same time. However it was house that made the biggest impact, initially. The early records of the genre were not only nightclub smashes, but even found their way into the pop charts. Steve "Silk" Hurley's *Jack Your Body* is a notable example. Detroit techno was equally as important to the development of modern electronic music, but that's another story.

During this period, Chicago was a party paradise. The records fuelled the party scene, and the party scene inspired more artists to put out new records. DJing developed from changing records to mixing, scratching, and other turntable techniques. Single-handedly, one city lit a flame that would fire up the dance floors of the planet.

The original innovators (Frankie Knuckles, Farley "Jackmaster" Funk, Adonis, Fingers Inc., Marshall Jefferson, etc) were creating in the true sense of the word. Here was a totally fresh approach to making music - samplers, synthesizers, drum machines. There were no rules to be obeyed, and the only limitation was the imagination of the creator.

Don't get me wrong, I don't think that music is stagnant nowadays, but we probably won't see such a complete transition, executed in such a pioneering way for a long time.

One of Chicago's main house labels at this time was Trax. Many of the original artists claim that if it wasn't for Trax we wouldn't have been able to enjoy musical

mer musician himself, put his faith in their talents. Thus Trax was born.

The late 1980's saw House move into new pastures. Acid captured the mood of trancing to dance. Described as the second generation of house, it consisted of a slower and more psychedelic groove.



Adonis

Trax enjoyed a string of hit records and many of its top artists are still going strong today. One might expect Trax to have decided to obtain some of the commercial rewards it deserves and sell its tracks to a major label for large sums of money. But this is a difficult prospect for a label whose foundations were built on innovation, and the spread of records for the sake of a musical message.

This brings us onto Trax UK, a label set up to introduce this music to a new generation of party-goers. A series of ten inch singles have aimed to highlight the importance of the original tracks in today's rich spectrum of electronic music. These are all available now. If you would prefer to pick up some classic tracks at a reasonable price as opposed to paying extortionate prices for the original pressings then they come highly recommended from the Electric Cafe.

I really admire the concept behind Trax UK for another reason. It would be so easy to just put out the old classics and market them as being "cool then, cool now!". Of course, this would be seen by many as counter-productive to the cause of progress and change, myself included. The past does contain our roots, but sticking to it can be a very negative thing.

From its beginnings in 1996, Trax UK decided to keep its approach fresh and inter-

esting. So, to complement the ten inch eps and two albums (*The House that Trax Built I and II*) of old material, some of the best of artists of today were commissioned to remix give it a new edge to this work.

You will find the Advent, Claude Young, Felix Da Housecat and the Basement Jaxx, all accomplished remixers and artists on a series of twelve inch eps. They have been entrusted to keep the spirit and philosophy of the label alive and healthy.

Trax is shaping today's music in its own way. By bringing together such a diverse range of artists to remix and release on one label, it is pointing to the fact that categories and cliques didn't play a role in the early days of house music. A message for today, perhaps?

It's reassuring to know that the past and future of house music is in such good hands.

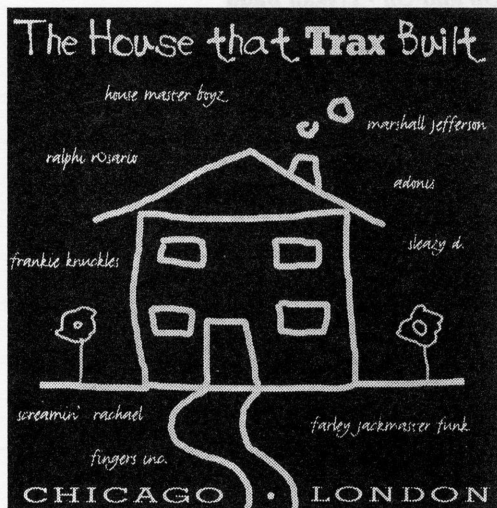
*I'm lost in music - I'm lost in sound
Too far gone, ain't no way back
As I hear the sound, I wanna go
underground
As I hear the sound, I wanna move...*

Adonis - *No Way Back*

Listen to the Electric Cafe (Monday 02/02/98, midnight to 2am and Tuesday 03/02/98 10 to 11pm) for a special hour devoted to the past and present of Trax records.

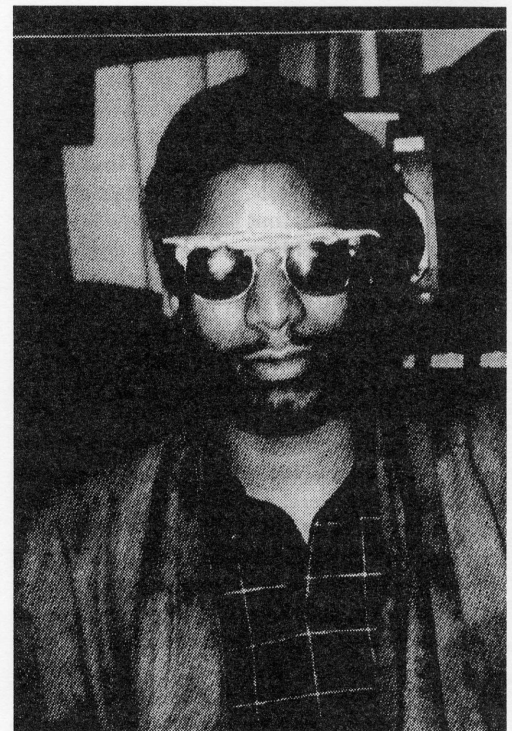
Many thanks to Angie @ Trax UK for invaluable help in compiling this report and the show.

Al;ck



moments such as *Your Only Friend* from Phuture, Mr Fingers' *Washing Machine*, Adonis' *No Way Back* and Farley "Jackmaster" Funk's *Love Can't Turn Around*.

Trax was the collaboration between Larry Herman, a successful entrepreneur, and the young artists and DJs who had so many ideas, but no capital to produce them. Larry, a for-

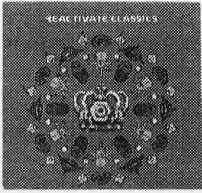


Marshall Jefferson



CLUBSCENE - COMPILATIONS

REACT CLASSICS ★★★★★



This compilation is released on the 2nd of February and covers the best releases on the React label over the past seven years. It is available in either a mixed tape or CD, unmixed double CD or sextuplet vinyl set.

DJs Daz Saund and Trevor Rockcliffe mix it up in a back to back style, these two internationally renowned DJs mix the album to perfection.

I did not realise looking at the play listings how many true classics there are on this compilation. I did not know the names, but as soon as I listened to this CD I recognised tune after tune, from back in the days when I just called everything Hardcore and you'd get Techno Trance tracks played along side Drum & Bass tracks.

There are some massive tunes from the early rave scene on here,

such as D-Shake's *Techno Trance*, GTO's *Pure (energy)*, B-Sides *Magic Orchestra*, Fierce Ruling Diva's *Rubb It In*, Quadrophonia's *Quadrophonia*, Second Phase Mantasm, CLS *Can You Feel It*, to name but a few.

As you progress through the CD things get more up to date with tracks such as the almost timeless *The Age Of Love - The Age Of Love*, Adfahrt: *Come Into My Life* and Marimon's *Schoneberg*. So this is a collection of some of the biggest tunes over the past seven years, many of which you'd have a job trying to find on 12".

So for those vinyl junkies out there, the vinyl pack is a bargain, as this really is full of classics. Not like today, where every new release is hailed as a classic before it has even sold a copy. And for those of you who went out raving in the early 90s, there is plenty on here to bring the memories flooding back.

A definitive collection of the Techno Trance sounds since 91', just showing how much influence the React label has had over the years, and they are still going strong. *Jo Public.*

KI-OKU ★★★

DJ KRUSH & TOSHINORI KONDO. (R&S)

This album brings together DJ Krush of Japan, a well respected figure in the Hip-Hop community and Toshinori Kondo, both from Japan, a leading figure in the Jazz scene and a professional trumpeter since leaving school. So we have a hip-hop-jazz fusion thing going on.

DJ Krush once again delivers a wicked assortment of cold chilling beats, breaks and scratching, true hip-hop flavours as always. This has a very strong jazz flavour, which is sometimes too much for me, but it all blends together very well.

MU-CHU slows the pace from hip-hop to a more down-beat tempo, a totally laid back number, with a various array of sounds used to soothe the soul, and the trumpeting skills of Kondo used to full advantage.

The pace is lifted again quickly with FU-YU, a head-nodding foot-tapping, funky hip-hop thing, I found the trumpeting a bit too over-powering, slightly spoiling it. The pace is slowed again with

SHOH-KA, mellowing things out, with the slow rolling beats.

BU-SEKI finishes things off in a fine style, excellent scratching & manipulation of records, strong crisp beats, but once again, for me to much jazzy trumpeting. Which you may have noticed by now.

I found that the more down-beat tracks worked the better, than the faster hip-hop style tunes. Maybe this is simply due to the trumpeting being not so overwhelming and intrusive as with the faster tracks.

It's a shame they went for such a full-on jazz direction, instead of some of the tracks having a jazz influence, all the tracks are well and truly jazzed up. I must say it surprised me just how jazz up this album is, after hearing much of DJ Krush's previous work.

This album seem to be aimed at jazz lovers more than hip-hop / breakbeat lovers.

Jo Public.

CLUBSCENE - SINGLES

EXPERIMENTAL

Finitribe
Frantic Remixes (Infectious)

The CD boasts a wider range of remixes to the vinyl. The sad thing is that I prefer them all to the original. From the menacing drum'n'bass soundscape conjured up by Scissorkicks tot he dreamy dubby downbeat creation of Cut La Roc; from some acidic old skool electro by A1 people to to loads of crazy beakbeats from Microspeech; from the murky depths of Witchman's haunting downbeat adventure to some blunted hip-hop breaks by Laidback. There is something here for everyone but the purist.

Ryuichi Sakamoto
Anger/Grief remixes (Ninja Tunes)

A prelude to the veteran Japanese composer's album of modern instrumental music, this ep boasts some of the wildest musical experiments that I have ever witnessed. Amon Tobin creates a viciously dark drum'n'bass piece out of Grief that left me breathless. Anger has been included in its original form, a confused barrage of sound that hits the listener from all angles. The remixes include fierce breakbeats from Rare Force, an undecidable "Orchestra vs sampler" contest from Chocolate Force (aka T-Power) and Talvin Singh's amazing tabla'n'bass effort, a pacy piece of genius. They say anger drives and inspires the best of a breed. Here's the evidence...

TECHNO

Orlando Voorn presents the Stalker
Blast EP, pt 2 (Fierce!)
Released Feb.

Part 1 features mixes by Freddie Fresh. This EP boasts the production talents of Soma's Funk D'Void. His interpretation of *Blast* is characteristic of his sound; smooth, deep and harmonic. My favourite tracks are those offered by Orlando on the flipside (*Phunk=Phunk* and *Burning Passion*). Both are abstract, quirky and yet extremely danceable pieces of music.

Lee Grainge
Island Life EP (Human)

Three stunning tracks on the debut outing for this label. *Evil Knevil* creates a big atmospheric sound; an electronic collage that will fire up your imagination. *Winter* is a softer ambient piece. *Skating on Thin Ice* is a lovingly-crafted offering, deeper than the first two. It is obvious from this ep that melody and mood are important to Lee. Music like this doesn't often appear so don't waste your chance.

Ultratubes vs Pierre
Horspielmusik 03 (Horspielmusik)

Four tracks with unpronouncably long German names. However the music is great! You'll find hard techno with strange frequencies wiggling around, rhythmic electro, minimal funk and cybersonic craziness. Check this out.

HOUSE 'N' GARAGE

Gus Gus. Sasha mix.
Polyesterday Out Now.

Sasha gives this tune the deep- breakbeaty house treatment, plenty of time-stretches, echoing vocals & strong break-beats. This track also has a trancey feel to it, but not as hard as I would have expected from Sasha, it never really seems to get going, just rolls along. Not really a floor burner, more of a pleasant journey.

Marco Zaffarano. The Band.
(Silver Planet). Out Now.

The Way Out West mix is truly great, the best work they've done in a while in my opinion. They have transformed the track into a wicked break beat affair, almost sounds D&B at first, but goes in perfectly with a standard house tune. Clever drum patterns, squelchy sounds, stretched b-lines, time-stretches, tight precessions and trancey tendencies. Totally refreshing.

Beanfield
Electro-Kraut remixes Vol 1 (Compost)

Will these remixes spoil an already great piece of music? In the capable hands of two lams we have two top quality tracks. Mr Pooley smooths away the edges, leaving a slick piece of early morning house music. Mr O'Brien injects his quirky breed of electronic jazz, and maintains the depth. Also check the DMX Crew for a mel-low piece of subtle electro. *Al/ck*



REVIEW

Controversial Timing for Terrorist Release

RESURRECTION MAN

Starring: Stuart Townsend

Director: Marc Evans

★★

Sky magazine is going to have a lot to answer for if people believe their quote that this is "The first great film of 1998". This is by no means a bad film, but to recommend it to everybody in the way they have will result in many discontented audiences.

The film portrays the life of Victor Kelly, leader of the notorious Shankill Butchers. The gang was feared throughout Northern Ireland during the late seventies after murdering 19 people. Although alleged to be Loyalist their victims included five Protestants, demonstrating the purely psychotic nature of their enterprise. Most violent of all was their leader, who built a reputation by dispensing slow tortuous deaths at random.



Stuart Townsend. Scary.

Stuart Townsend is given the dubious pleasure of playing this unlikable character. He seems to relish the role, however, and is almost worryingly effective in his chilling portrayal. As Kelly descends

further into insanity Townsend becomes more and more believable, but unfortunately the storyline fails to maintain interest. The only reason to keep watching is to enjoy seeing him receive his

comeuppance. No time is spent on the motives behind his violence but we are given an insight into his family life and the bizarre admiration he commands from every female he encounters.

This week is probably not the most fortunate time to release a film about Loyalist hitmen. However, director Marc Evans will not be upset if this causes some added publicity. Some of the scenes in the Welshman's second major film seem to have no purpose other than to cause controversy. This is a shame as the time would have been better spent explaining some of the reasoning behind Kelly's actions. An examination of the background to Ireland's problems might have added to our understanding of Kelly's behaviour. It may also have turned the film into something more memorable than just another violent feature about a particularly ruthless killer. **F**

Chris

TITANIC COMPETITION...

TITANIC COMPETITION...

TITANIC COMPETITION...

TITANIC COMPETITION...

TITANIC

Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio
Kate Winslet

Director: James Cameron

★★★★½

Surely no synopsis is required here. Just in case: poor boy meets rich girl, they fall in love and end up getting wet.

The question is whether this is done well. The answer, predictably, is that it depends on what you are seeking. If you are looking for either a love story or hectic action then you'll have seen superior films. If, however, you want an epic combination of the two then this is unmissable.

The most impressive visuals in *Titanic* are surprisingly not found in the sinking scenes but in the meticulous reproduction of the ship's interior. The audience receives a real impression of both the luxury found in first class and the appalling work conditions in the engine room. The love story is given a full two hours to develop before the inevitable CGI sinking scenes begin, but these are not quite as exceptional as the hype would have us believe. But no matter, for by now the audience actually cares what happens to the leads and that alone is something special. **F**

Chris

Win tickets for *Titanic* courtesy of

ODEON KENSINGTON



No questioning the film of the moment. Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet star in James Cameron's epic tale of the unsinkable *Titanic*, the most expensive film of all time. It should come as no surprise therefore to learn that the Odeon Kensington has provided five pairs of tickets to see the film along with five posters for our weekly competition.

To enter, simply e-mail felix@ic.ac.uk with the answer to the following question by Tuesday

Which other James Cameron film was also set at sea?

The winners of last week's competitions knew that Burt Reynolds starred in *Smokey and the Bandit* and that *Robocop* featured the line "You have twenty seconds to comply."

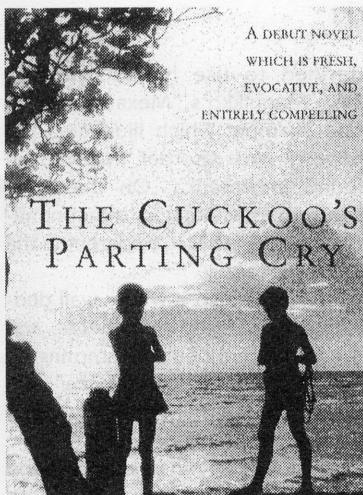
Nikoo Saber, Alice Ogden, Ah-Wong Jacqueline, Ng Wei Han and Vivien Ma win tickets for *Boogie Nights*. Andrew Vivian, Ben James, Daniel Thuysbaert, Sinan Isilay and Pablo Arrighi get to see *Starship Troopers* for free.



FICTION

THE CUCKOO'S PARTING CRY

Anthea Halliwell



This is the story of one hot summer in the 1930's through the eyes of an eight year old girl called Fidge. Her narration tells of fishing trips in the bay, picnic lunches and a new found friendship with a boy called Chaz. However her innocent remarks about life around the bay reveal a disturbing undercurrent of deception and adultery amongst the adults in her community. Whilst Fidge concerns herself with her amusement in the day and the opportunity to escape from her vindictive elder sister Cly, there is tension building up around her. Fidge combines a naturally inquisitive

nature with spirit and seems to pick up pieces of the puzzle but being eight years old doesn't always realise the relevance. The real story is what is happening around Fidge.

This is a cleverly constructed novel with only snippets of information coming through Fidge, but the reader can deduce more of the story whilst leaving Fidge in confusion. The reader wants to ask questions, but an eight year old looks for different answers, hence this is an unusual novel where reading between the lines is as important as the text on them. Anthea Halliwell manages to successfully

reveal her characterisations to the audience but not eight year old. This is an enjoyable read that is well constructed with strong characters and intriguing storyline. Perhaps a different genre to your usual read but I would advise you to give it a try.

Clare

Published by Black Swan

Price £5.99

Out now.

We've all been naughty boys and girls, apparently. Our Home Secretary, Jack Straw (a previous NUS President), says that we are in the grip of a 'profound sense of cynicism'. He has the sense not to blame us for it: it was the Tories' fault of course, their record of self-serving indulgence in Government is actually at the root of the problem. This is however an admission of sorts that the present Government has not yet dispelled what they had hoped to do earlier, allowing them to regain the trust of the people to govern more effectively. Tony Blair has enlisted Jack Straw to bring this message to the people. Straw has been 'New Labour' since before 'New Labour' even existed - calling for the scrapping of Clause Four while John Smith was in charge. Other contenders to bring this message across have fallen by the wayside: Gordon Brown and Robin Cook have had unfavourable media attention recently, and John Prescott is said to have enough on his plate already.

Jack Straw has a job on his hands. Tony Blair has called for post-honeymoon speeches by colleagues as a result. Although his popularity is still as high as ever, his party's showing in the polls displays a growing sense of unease among the public. But why should this be? After all, our economy is doing wonderfully, rather better than the rest of Europe (who are presently mutilating their economies to fit EMU criteria that

we could achieve fairly painlessly - should we want to). Labour majority in the Commons is as stratospheric as it was in May. Britain is showing a resurgence in popularity abroad - the Government should be laughing.

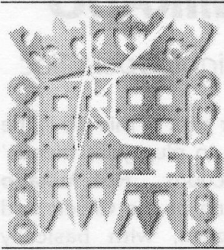
Perhaps the problem lies with inexperience in Government, and we are simply witnessing the teething troubles of what will be a perfectly competent administration. I would suggest that it goes deeper than that. In many ways Labour are still behaving like an

Service work for them, tried to replace them and it hasn't worked. The aforementioned assistants are hired personally by the minister. If he rises, so does the assistant. If the minister is fired, then the holiday is over for the assistant. This breeds faint loyalty for the Government at large - witness Gordon Brown's 'boot boy', Charlie Whelan, and his foul-mouthed insults hurled at Downing Street which came to the attention of the press last Autumn.

Other problems with ministers

with her on a trip to the States? (Although she did pay the flight herself). That and the figures spent in 'modernising' ministerial offices - £17,000 for air-conditioning here, £65,000 for redecoration there, and it doesn't make for happy reading in Downing Street.

However it taking the issue down to the level of student politics (dare I say it) for the media to despair too much at ministerial spending. Some of the inverted snobbery by ministers (the Chancellor refusing to wear black tie for City dinners) makes the justification of expenditure more difficult, but the root cause of much office redecoration at least was the Tories' refusal to spend much on it, for fear of being accused once again of extravagance. Paddy Ashdown's rather pompous calls for 'a certain frugality ... even meanness' should be ignored. The Government of a country such as ours should at least be able to provide offices and accommodation for its most senior members in a style which their position deserves. On the subject of the spin doctors and political assistants, Tony Blair's message to the Cabinet not to get bogged down and to see the wider picture will hopefully not be ignored. It would be a pity if the Government was brought down with completely self-inflicted political wounds.



Hamish Common

Westminster Eye

Opposition party. When they arrived in Government they set about changing some fairly fundamental ways in which the machinery of Government itself works, and it seems some of these decisions would have benefited from a little more forethought as to the long-term consequences. The effective replacement of civil servants by political advisor, spin doctors (call them what you will) has meant a slight improvement in day-to-day media manipulation, but when hell breaks loose, stories got out of a hand and press attention increased. Ministers, rather than learning to make the Civil

have been their lack of appreciation of the public effect of their actions. When the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, spent £650,000 of taxpayer's money on his own apartment, he should not have said that public will thank him for it. Perhaps Peter Kilfoyle, the Public Service Minister should have thought twice before ordering his chauffeur to drive 200 meters from his Whitehall office to Parliament, then pulling over to the side (on one of London's busiest roads), shouting to an old friend: "Look at this - great isn't it? Want a lift?" What was Cherie Blair thinking when she flew out her personal hairdresser



ALL THE ART THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

JOHN HEGLEY AND NIGEL

Bloomsbury Theatre

Makes little sense" said the Luton News after one particular hometown gig. You can see where they are coming from to be honest. His introverted, childish yet surreal and probing comic verse is generally viewed as utterly bizarre, like an Guardian reader's Ivor Cutler.

From French knock-knock jokes (*Frappe-frappe. Qui est là? Jean. Jean qui? Gendarme*) to observations from his childhood (*My father always told my sister that she shouldn't play with her food. He said that carrots do not make very good friends*) and searching, pleading poetry, his styles subjects are diverse to say the least, from his gentle love of potatoes to his declarations on religion and quirky tales of unrequited love. As a performer, he is as you might expect, nervous, awkward though throughout retaining control, and he is endearingly unafraid to make a fool out of himself; able to carry the flopped line with a muttered excuse which usually manages more of a laugh than the intended punchline. Hegley meanders around the stage, from the lip to a lectern, on then to a blackboard on

which he charts his journey geographically as he describes his life story in verse and song, accompanied by the ever deadpan Nigel on the Portuguese guitar. A brief attempt at improvisation left him floundering just before the break, but he coasted the second half after a slide show of his simple, hilarious line drawings and novelty potato items. A lot of material was from his recent compendium *Family Pack*, including classics like *The Difference Between Dogs and Sheds*, *The Play* and *Coming Home For Christmas*, but he also demonstrated a good amount of new works. His regular appearances on Mark Radcliffe's old Radio 1 evening show ensured a fairly full theatre, but I feel that both he and the audience would have benefited from a more intimate venue.

Shown the appreciation he deserves, Hegley can charm and delight. He didn't quite pull it off at the Bloomsbury, but he was still alright. Apologies...

Mr. Trout

[Look out for an interview with John Hegley by Mr. Trout next week - Arts Ed]

SIGHTINGS - NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC ART

Institute of Contemporary Arts

Go and see this presentation by a new generation of artists from around the globe. All sorts of avenues are explored and a range of influences are apparent. Some of the artists have enhanced their work using the computer technology which is becoming a trademark of the ICA. This has been interwoven with traditional landscape scenes to create a truly contemporary snapshot.

It is a little annoying to find only a few exhibits from each artist; Especially when some of the work is obviously from a wider series (and it's good).

As you walk around the display panel in the "Lower Gallery", you are confronted with a piece by Paul Seawright; huge, filthy hands, clear down to the smallest wrinkle. This British photographer manages to create allure out of his seemingly harrowing subject of streetlife. The immense scope of this exhibition allows pieces such as this to be viewed next to work inspired by Alice in Wonderland, with a slightly twisted edge of course, after all this is modern art.

Several of the artists have

decided to use human subjects, Esko Mannikko's "Mexas series" is one example which illustrates the poverty and disorder that can be found in America. On the other hand, themes such as the continuation of life are also apparent in the same pieces.

There is also a whole wall dedicated to a study of icebergs, and the series entitled "Attempting to deal with time and space" will make you laugh even if you don't want to stop and ponder.

Although you could spend hours in this gallery, trying to understand every significance of each photograph. Many of the studies are interesting at just one glance and they encourage at least a minute or two of contemplation. With a few exceptions, these artists have managed to avoid the pretentious contrasts of some modern artists and the result is a neat exhibition.

Demelza

Institute of Contemporary Art
The Mall, SW1, Charing Cross tube
Showing until 15 March

INSIDE

Carol Robertson and
Helen Sear



Yes, but is it art?

Photo: Virginia

The new exhibition in the ante room gallery is about a million times better than the previous one. This is the best thing I can say about it. Sure, it's very pretty, but is it ART?

The exhibition really is completely innocuous stuff, consisting of some geometric patterns, photographs of bird-cages with light shining behind them, more photographs this time of fossils, all the sort of thing that you'd expect to see in a kitchen or a bathroom, not an art gallery. It's very middle class, tasteful art. I liked everything, but only in a passive way. It's not art, not really. It didn't prompt any strong emotions or reactions from me at all, which surely is the point. At least "blanket", the previous one, made me cross. "Inside" is a fairly restful exhibition, so if you've had a long day, go in and gaze at the pictures, and feel waves of inertia wash over you. Otherwise, don't bother.

Julia H

Ante Room Gallery, Sherfield
Until 11 February

HOT MIKADO

CXWMS Light Opera Soc

Another perk of this job is the ability to plug your friends' productions. **Hot Mikado** is a re-working of the Gilbert and Sullivan original, with basically everything changed except for the plot, which is tortured and very complicated. The music is in the '50s/'60s rock style, with famous songs such as "Three Little Maids From School" scored to sound more like the Beverly Sisters. If you like musicals, this should be a gem. It's going to be very colourful, with orange, pink and blue '40s zoot suits. There'll be a review of it in next week's issue, so watch out for that, and do go and see the show, I'm sure it'll be great.

Arts Ed.

Hot Mikado
Union Concert Hall
3 - 7 February
£5, £4 students.



Not at all insignificant, actually

Photo: Seeta

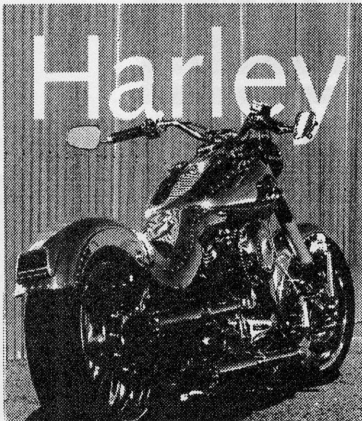
Talking about plugs, I really enjoyed DramSoc's production of *Insignificance*. Their next production will be "A Chorus of Disapproval". Watch this space for more details....

Arts Ed.

MOTORCYCLE MANIA

THE ART OF THE HARLEY

Barbican Art Gallery



A Harley-Davidson yesterday

The Harley Davidson motorbike originated from the garage of a Mr William S. Harley and a Mr Arthur Davidson in 1902. The first bikes were robust and purposeful machines intended to withstand the rough roads of turn-of-the-century America.

Around 1945, the first customised bikes started to be produced and from that point on, the

honest iron workhorse of America was lost in a sea of chrome, ape-hanger handlebars and fatbob tanks.

The 'Art of the Harley' follows the history of customising through its many different styles, from 'bobber' (a basic stripped down look) to 'chopper' (HUGE front forks) to 'lowrider' (short-arses only). The latest styles are all about enclosed car-type bodywork with streamlined curves and vivid paint-jobs. The 'Ferrari Bike' is impressive, if completely over the top. In total, there is an assortment of about thirty customs, each with a quick note about their customisation. The names, however, are worth the journey alone: 'Hogzilla', 'Flight Deville' and 'Tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan', all with high amusement value.

Unfortunately, for genuine biking fans like myself, there seemed to be an absence of what one could call 'real bikes'. The bikes on show were clearly never meant to be ridden on the roads and were more

art exhibits than functional motorbikes. Harley's claim that their bikes offer you a 'man and machine riding experience' was not realised in this exhibition. The blurb intended to convey the ethos of the tattooed outlaw - a person in control of their own destiny etc., but looking at the glitzy, razzmatazz of the bikes on display, I was unconvinced. Frankly, these customised bikes are as born to be wild as a very nervous laboratory mouse. A typical owner is more likely to spend the afternoon polishing their 'Frisco-style' tanks than actually riding. The mere thought of salty British winter roads must set their arms twitching for the Turtle Wax and chrome cleaner. A quick glance round established the identity of the clean-cut Harley follower: a bunch of middle-aged Sloanes, including a couple in squeaky clean leathers who obviously hadn't been riding anything more rebellious than a black cab that day. To confirm my scepticism, the gallery funnelled us into a well-stocked shop selling

branded T-shirts and jackets. Is the Harley image all just one big marketing exercise? Despite the flamboyance of the display, the exhibition is actually enjoyable. The craftsmanship is simply superb, so forget the fact that you are looking at a motorbike, and let your eyes feast on a banquet of glittering chrome and technicolour paintwork. It is worth going just to immerse yourself for an evening in a sea of quite sumptuous if slightly lurid colour. Go on, let your eyes live, and give them a break from the sensory deprivation of college concrete grey. For just £3, with student ID, it's a bargain.

As to what I think of the 'art' of the Harley? Not much better than a candy pink XR2 with smoked glass windows and a Max Power sticker...

Ben Rogers

The Art of the Harley
Barbican Centre EC1
Tube: Barbican
Until 26 April

International Night '98

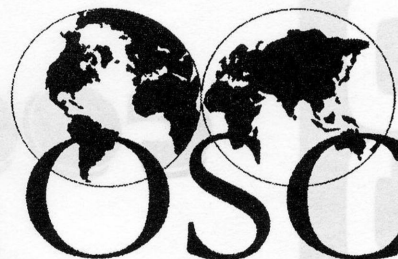
Compères required

The Overseas Students Committee is looking for compères to help host International Night, which takes place on Friday 13th February.

So if you think you are charming, confident, witty and not afraid of performing on stage -

Come along to auditions to be held in the Great Hall on Sunday, 1st February at 1.00 pm.

or contact N'Diorel on 0956 59 02 05, or e-mail n.ba@ch.ic.ac.uk



ICU Entertainment

Fri 30th

Indiepop for the masses

common people

& live music from SELLOPHANE SUN
Plus cocktail bar. 9-2. Free b4 9

Sun 1st

Standing Room Only
VILLA v NEWCASTLE 4pm

Tues 3rd

BAR TENNIA
Win £50 cash or crate of lager & Bs. 8pm

Weds 4th

XCS

Two rooms of midweek mania. 9 - 1.
Free b4 11

Thurs 5th

COCKTAIL NIGHT
DaVinci's 5pm



Raising Demons

by Caspar Von Wrede

The concluding part...

Ron was holding the back of his neck with both hands and blinking rapidly in an effort to prevent the tears which were threatening to well up and overflow his eyelids. Earlier, Dan would have laughed inwardly at the heroic efforts that Ron was making to prevent himself from crying, but now he felt an unknown empathy for him. They all craned up to look at the base of his neck, gently removing his hands.

"It's not a sting," said Zed. They saw a small, very red mark, about half an inch across.

"I wonder if-"

"SHIT!" This time it was Marco. He was bent over clutching his cheek with both hands. "Oh my GOD, that hurts," he rasped, his eyes firmly screwed shut.

Dan and Zed looked around, panic-stricken. "This isn't funny," half-whispered Zed, the shrill of hysteria very plain in his voice. All of them were in a half crouch, except for Ron, who had shut his eyes very tightly in a bid to exclude himself from the world.

Suddenly they heard the snap of a breaking branch in the hedge that ran the length of the field they were standing in. A voice called out.

"Ha ha, how does it feel? Can't the little brats take pain like grown men?"

Dan straightened up. He was swearing repeatedly under his breath. Two figures leapt out of the hedge and started sauntering towards them. One of them was lazily waving a black air rifle with telescopic sight at them.

Dan, Marco and Zed immediately recognised them. They were known as Bill and Butch, and were physically almost exact opposites of each other. Bill was tall and slim. He had pale skin and very black, gleaming, long hair which was swept out of his face. He was offensively good-looking. Butch was shorter and stockier. His face had been savaged by acne, leaving prominent scars on his cheeks and still lingering around his mouth and on his forehead. His hair had been shaved off and was only just re-emerging in the form of a brown dusting on his scalp. Bill was carrying the air rifle.

"That's assault, you bastards," shouted Dan. He was dismayed to hear that his voice was shaking.

Bill and Butch came towards them. Marco and Ron still had their hands over their injuries. Bill walked up to Dan and stopped half a foot in front of him. He bent down until their noses almost touched and then said, very softly, "just watch how you address your betters".

Bill straightened up again and looked around. "What are the little faggots doing here, I wonder?" He met Butch's eye, who gave an idiotic guffaw. "Digging holes? How cute."

"Leave us alone," said Zed, who had taken off his glasses and was furiously polishing them with the hem of his jumper.

Bill turned to him and was about to take a step towards him when Ron spoke.

"What have we done to you?" He asked. Dan closed his eyes and wished himself a long way away.

Bill smiled. "Well if it isn't Plug, I'm surprised you managed to string a whole sentence together there, Plug, with nothing but shit between your ears." Ron remained expressionless. His mouth was not open.

Dan became aware of a single emotion that was beginning to fill his mind. It was hate and anger, somehow fused, and it was sweeping everything else out of his consciousness, cleansing it like a fire. Dan didn't try to stop it, it was beautiful somehow, deliciously frightening. He had never felt anger like that before and suddenly he was looking Ron in the eyes. He willed Ron to feel the same, to drink his anger, to infect him, and that is exactly what happened. For the rest of his life, even though he never mentioned it to anyone, he truly believed that this is what happened. Dan would become a scientist, to his own mild surprise, but he had always been a rational thinker. What happened in that moment was not rational. In his later life it would embarrass him to think about it, or even contemplate what happened, so much so that he eventually managed to block it out of his mind. What he believed was that somehow, for one fleeting instant, his and Ron's mind touched and that during this moment he was sucked bare; in the next moment his mind felt as empty as a vacuum.

Ron took one step forward and began to reach for the spade. Bill calmly levelled the gun at him from the waist.

"Watch it, moron, or I might just have to remove your last brain cell."

Ron picked up the spade. Butch shuffled uncomfortably. Dan calmly took in everything. He was thinking like a machine; there was no fear, no hate, no anger. He knows he can't shoot Ron at this range, he thought, from over by the hedge the pellet wasn't going to do much damage, just leave a bruise. But from this distance it's going to puncture the skin and'll have

to be removed surgically. He could tell that Bill was thinking furiously, even though his face was as expressionless as ever.

Ron very slowly began to raise the spade; he was standing about six feet from Bill and holding its shaft halfway up with both hands. Dan was aware of Zed's and Marco's breathing beside him; it was quick and shallow.

"Er, Bill-" began Butch.

Bill ignored him. "Drop the spade, dude," he said gently. Ron was still raising it. Its shaft was parallel to the ground. Bill was pointing the gun at Ron's thigh when he pulled the trigger.

A fraction of a second before the gun gave its mechanical cough, Ron moved the spade down to cover his thigh. The pellet was harmlessly deflected. There is no way that Ron could have reacted so quickly to that shot, thought Dan, he moved before the shot was fired; he anticipated it. Bill grabbed the barrel of the gun with both hands and set it swinging in an arc that would connect with Ron's head. With an almost supernaturally fast motion Ron raised the spade up to his face and harmlessly gathered up the rifle's blow, then using the momentum he had gained from the gun he slashed Bill across the face with the blade of the spade in one fluid movement. Bill sank to his knees making a kind of gurgling sound. None of them had ever seen so much blood before in their lives. Ron calmly raised his weapon and again it connected with Bill's head. The stroke was short but powerful. No time wasted, just getting right down to business. Like a natural. Bill died.

Butch overcame his paralysis and started running, he almost tripped, but made it. Ron didn't notice. He was still laying into Bill, with that same alien mindless, efficiency. After a full minute he stopped. Bill was unrecognisable. Ron turned towards Zed, still holding the dripping tool. Zed hitched in breath to scream, but nothing came out, just a dry, choked cough.

Ron dropped the spade and without turning back began to run across the field. Marco was standing very still, his eyes firmly shut. Zed tried to take off his glasses but his hands were shaking so much that he dropped them. Dan was watching Ron, running away into the distance. His movements were smooth and cat-like, foreign, like something from another world.



DIVERSIONS FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

at home

in town

events

Top bouncy indiepop from the **COMMON PEOPLE**, with live music from Sellophane Sun. Plus Cocktail Bar & chill out room. 9-2. Free B4 9.

Womens minibus after bar closes

club & soc events

IC Real Ale Soc
Brewery trip. Email RealAle@ic.ac.uk

club & soc regulars

Parachute Club
Noon, Southside Lounge
ICU Labour Club
1pm, Southside Lounge

radio & TV

The Simpsons
BBC2, 6pm
TFI Friday
6pm, C4
Blackadder
9pm, BBC2
Friday Night Armistice
9.35pm, BBC2
Frasier
10pm, C4

music

Green Day
Brixton Academy
£10.

Boring Old Buffers
Windsor Arts Centre
8.30pm, £6

fri 30

sat 31

sun 1

mon 2

tue 3

wed 4

thr 5

STANDING ROOM ONLY –
Villa v Newcastle.
DaVinci's big screen.
Bar from 1pm

STANDING ROOM ONLY –
Celtic v Aberdeen
DaVinci's big screen
Bar from 5pm

STA BAR TRIVIA
Win £50 cash or a crate of lager.
Questions start at 8pm.
ICU Council
RPMS, coaches leave 5.30pm, in front of building. All Welcome.

XS
Two rooms of midweek mania, with pop & main stream dance in dB's. 9pm-1am (midnight bar) Free B4 11/50p after

Womens minibus after bar closes

DAVINCI'S COCKTAIL NIGHT
The best sex on the beach in Kensington. 5-11pm

Midget - LIVE acoustic session
Northside Studios, IC Radio 2pm
Come and have a cup of tea with them

Wanted: Someone else to do this page. You get requests and complaints. See Julia in the Felix office for more details. Go on, you know you want to really.

IC Radio: Tom's Monday Lunchtime Show
Midget's acoustic set. 12am til 2pm

Exploration Society Presents Paul Harris: Hot foot photography
Bio W2/W3
Want to spend summer in the States?
Come to the BUNAC Orientation Session
Mech Eng 220.6.30-8.30pm
Free national Express Card with membership (£4)

ConSoc
Gillian Shepherd visit
1pm, Rm 342/542 Mech Eng

ICSF
Circle Line Pub Crawl, meet 12.30pm, Union Bar

ICSF
Ton Meet.
Meet 5pm, Union Bar or at Jubilee pub, Waterloo

Jazz and Rock Society
IC bands night. dBs
First Band on at 8pm

ICU Rifle and Pistol Club
11am til 3pm, Sports Centre

ICU Kung Fu club
4.30-6.30pm, Southside gym

ICU Kung Fu club
4.30-6.30pm, Union gym
Artsoc
12.30-1.30pm, UDH
ICU Ski Club
12.30-1.30pm, Southside lounge
ICSF
Babylon 5 Videos in Library

Yoga
12.15-1.30pm, Southside gym
Audio Society
1-2pm, Brown Committee Room
S+G Outdoor Club
1pm, Southside
CAG Soup Run
Meet 8.15pm, Weeks Hall

ICU Rifle and Pistol Club
1pm til 6pm, Sports Centre
ICU Skate Soc
12.05pm, Southside Lounge
CAG visit to Parkcare Nursing Home
Meet 2pm, Beit Arch
AstroSoc
Physics Common Room. 1.30pm

IC Real Ale Soc
Meeting, Union Bar, 6.30pm
Christian Union
6.30pm, Bio W2/3
IC Choir
6.15-8pm, 342 Mech Eng
ICU Skate Soc
Night Skate
ICU Chess Club
7pm-10.30pm, Brown Committee Room

Ben, Ben, Karl and I will be watching....
Game On
BBC2, 9pm
I'll be recording
Brideshead Revisited
C4, 9pm

Teletubbies
7.40am, BBC2

Ben Elton
Mark Goodier's show
9am til noon, Radio 1

Charalattans: In Concert
10-11pm, Radio 1

Sesame Street
12pm, C4
Light Lunch
12.30pm, C4
Eastenders
8pm, BBC1
Green Day
Evening Session
6.30-8.30pm

Teletubbies
7.15am, BBC2
Eastenders
7.30pm, BBC1
Crash
9pm, C4

Friends
10.30pm, C4

Not that I watch TV, I'm far too busy doing these pages

Brookside
8.30pm, C4
Vicar of Dibley
8.30pm, BBC1

James Taylor
Barbican
£25-£15

Midget + Glitterbox + Idlewood
Garage
8pm, £5

James Taylor
Barbican
£25-£15.

The Hamsters
Torrington
8pm, £6

Monsoon Bassoon
Barfly Club at Falcon
£5/£3.50

Spacehog
Dingwalls
7.30pm

Texas Thunder
Bleak House Woking
8.30pm

Libido
Feet First at Camden Palace
10pm, £5

Jazz Sheilas
Jazz Bistro EC1
7pm, £3

Space
Shepherds Bush Empire.
£11

David Sanborn + Maria Schneider + Danish Radio Jazz Orchestra
Barbican
£20-£9.50

Catatonia
Electric Ballroom
£8

Smoke City
Jazz Café
£8.50



film

Titanic

Odeon Leicester Square
11.55, 3.50, 7.50
Virgin Fulham Road
12.15, 4.15, 8.15
Odeon Kensington
Fri-Sat 11.25, 3.25, 7.25, 11.25
Other 12.25, 4.25, 8.25

The Wings of a Dove

Odeon Kensington
2.00, 4.30, 7.00
Virgin Fulham Road
1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40
Minema Knightsbridge
3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00

Boogie Nights

Odeon Kensington
Fri-Sat 1.40, 5.05, 8.30, 11.55
Other 2.30, 5.30, 8.55
Virgin Chelsea
2.05 (not Sat, Sun), 5.15, 8.30
UCI Whiteleys
2.15, 5.30, 8.45

Devil's Advocate

Odeon Kensington
2.40, 5.45, 9.00,
(Late Fri, Sat 12.10)
Virgin Trocadero
1.00, 5.00, 8.20
Virgin Hammersmith
3.00 (not Sat, Sun), 6.00, 9.05

Starship Troopers

Odeon West End
12.15 (not Sun), 3.05, 6.00,
8.50
Odeon Marble Arch
6.00
ABC Tottenham Court Road
9.10

I Went Down

Odeon Kensington
4.45, 7.10, 9.45
Virgin Fulham Road
3.30, 6.20, 8.50
Virgin Trocadero
3.30, 6.10, 9.10
(Late Fri, Sat) 11.40

Spice World - The Movie

UCI Empire Leicester Square
1.50, 4.05, 6.40, 9.05
Virgin Trocadero
12.10, 2.20, 4.30
Virgin Chelsea
Sat, Sun 12.20, 2.30, 4.40

arts

John Hegley and Nigel at the
Bloomsbury
Bloomsbury Theatre, W1
£9/£8
See Review, pg 18
Interview: NEXT WEEK

Cyberealism
Photology
24 Litchfield St,
Nr Covent Garden

Mario Benzedrine's Pop-Up
Apocalypse
Etcetera Theatre Club
Camden **Last Night**

Brendan Lyons
Basement Gallery
Boundary Road, Maida Vale
Last Night

Art Treasures of England
Royal Academy of Arts
Piccadilly, W1
Review next week

Sightings-New Photographic
Art
Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall (til March 15th)
Review page 18

The Tempest
The North Pole Theatre Pub
Greenwich
£4/£6
Review next week

Shopping and Fucking
Queens Theatre
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1
£10
Review next week

CXWMS Light Operatic
Society Presents.....
Hot Mikado
Union Concert Hall, 7.30pm
£5/£4
Review next week

Alex Katz-25 Years in Painting
Saatchi Gallery
Maida Vale (til June)

Hot Mikado
Union Concert Hall, 7.30pm
£5/£4
As promised: The Art of the
Harley
Barbican Art Gallery
Review page 19

Hyaenas in Petticoats
National Portrait Gallery

Hot Mikado
Union Concert Hall, 7.30pm
£5/£4

Easy Access for the Boys
The Drill Hall
Goodge Street, W1
£6

clubbing

Air @ Bluenote
1 Hoxton Sq. N1
10pm-5am. £10/ £8 Conc.
Info 0171 729 8440.

The Gallery @ Tummills
Clerkenwell Rd, EC1
9.30pm-3.30am. £8 all
night
Info: 0171 494 2998.

Club 4 Life @ The
Gardening Club
Covent Garden
10.30-6am. £12 / £10 mem-
bers, NUS.
Info: 0171 4973154.

Freedom @ Bagleys Film
Studios
Kings Cross,
10pm-7am. £12
Info: 0171 278 2171

Sunflowers @ Aquarium
Old Street
9am-6pm. Free b4 10am £5
nus/ £7
Info: 0171 7299779

Earth Tribe @ Fridge Bar
Town Hall Parade, Brixton.
SW2 Free all night
8pm-12.30am
Info: 0171 326 5100

Club Tropicana @ The
Gardening Club
Covent Garden.
9pm-3am. £5 / £3 mem-
bers. Drinks £1 9pm-11pm.

Swaraj @ The Bluenote,
1 Hoxton Sq.
10pm-3am. £5 / £3 Conc.
Info 0171 729 8440

Unda Vybe @ The Fridge
Bar
Brixton
9pm-2am. Free.
Info: 0171 326 5100.

Space @ Bar Rumba
36 Shaftesbury Avenue.
10pm-3am. £5 / £3 Conc.
Info: 0171 287 2715.

Lavish @ Tummills
10pm-4am. £5 b4 11.30. £7
after
Ultimate B.A.S.E @ Velvet
Rooms
Charing Cross Rd. WC2
£6 10pm-2am
Info 0171 734 4687

HOROSCOPES

Sagittarius (23/11 - 23/12)

Justified suspicions or accusations on your part appear as a disrespectful abuse of trust to the accused. Motivated by genuine concern for others, the influence of the unconventional yet extroverted Page of Swords enables the mediation of this disturbing conflict.

Capricorn (24/12 - 20/1)

Fascinated by an enigmatic or reclusive acquaintance, you attempt to solve the exciting mystery by liberating the natural character beneath the superficial veneer. However, the alert Ace of Swords warns of unexpected repercussions due to interference and misplaced influence.

Gemini (22/5 - 21/6)

The worldly High Priestess accounts for your intense comprehension of universal duality. Through attentive observation, you realise that prevention and protection are better than cure, ensuring a cycle of blossoming health and prosperity.

Cancer (22/6 - 22/7)

The sensual Knight of Cups announces a fundamental period of discovery and initiation, culminating in the craving for a novel environment or situation. Hence the adoption of an original perspective as you assimilate an influx of messages and information.

Horoscopes

with

Nana

Aquarius (21/1 - 18/2)

Your executive talents and leadership qualities, enhanced by the influential King of Cups are threatened by the vindictive behaviour of spiteful individuals. Bravery is always simple from a safe distance, so remain vigilant when confronting the mutiny.

Pisces (19/2 - 20/3)

Conservative self-preservation is the ultimate law of nature, but in some cases the element of risk and the thrill of fortune serve as beneficial stimulation. Through the lucrative Wheel of Fortune, an imminent gamble marks a definitive modification in your life-cycle course.

Aries (21/3 - 20/4)

Under recent strenuous circumstances, you must carry out prevalent warnings and threats against manipulation and exploitation in order to assert your status. Indeed the powerful Emperor calls for immediate decisive action and creative initiative.

Taurus (21/4 - 21/5)

The vulnerable Five of Cups suggests a profound fear of commitment based upon obstacles or emotionally traumatic experiences. Avoid crying over spilled milk, therefore invest your energy in the foundation of constructive plans and principles.

Leo (23/7 - 23/8)

The truthful Eight of Pentacles encourages excessive integrity as you honour your promises. Despite slight twinges of regret, you reap the glorious rewards of recognition, gaining the deserved respect and admiration of your entourage.

Virgo (24/8 - 22/9)

The presence of the domineering Queen of Wands signals your ingrained desire for professional success. However your ruthless and authoritative attitude masks a vulnerable need for the sincere attention and affection of friends.

Libra (23/9 - 23/10)

In an attempt to hastily close the chapter on an unpleasant incident, numerous loose ends are left untended. The deceptive Moon indicates that old sins cast long shadows, so face your mild faults with realistic candour.

Scorpio (24/10 - 22/11)

Pain forces even the most honourable of individuals to speak and act falsely. Inspired by the benevolence and sympathy of Temperance, you forgive the faults of others whereby revealing the generous and bountiful nature of your character.



Goaly Spirit

ICFC I v LSE I

The Firsts went into the game against LSE flying high following last Wednesday's superb 4-1 win at Kings, Mikael Askerdal, was ruled out with a groin injury, while Donal Keane was retained in goal.

The first half was disappointing as Imperial failed to show their superiority. Indeed they went a goal down after Jules Porreca needlessly gave the ball away to an LSE striker who ran through to score. It was LSE's only shot on target in the whole game. Imperial fought back and were soon level. Warren Brayn had a left-foot drive blocked by the LSE goalkeeper, but winger Richard Pratt was well positioned to equalise from the rebound. Pratt might have put Imperial in front shortly after, but 1-1 at half-time was probably fair.

The second half started brightly and Alex Marcos should have put Imperial in front on more than one occasion. LSE sporadically threatened on the counter-attack, but did not manage to create a single scoring opportunity. Psycho brought on Germund Knutsen as Imperial looked for a winner near the end, but a draw always looked the more likely outcome. The sides clash again on Saturday when the Firsts will look for more creative ideas up front.

ICFC I 1 - 1 LSE I

ICFC II v UCL III

A nearly full team - the only regular absent was Felix 'Toadfish' Schroeder, an upset stomach caused by a dodgy pie putting our Teutonic Terrier out of the action. Within minutes of the start, Chris' nightmare '98 continued as he palmed a shot to the ground at his feet, from where it was blasted into the back of the net.

It became clear that we were the better team. A ball from Pat gave Si some space, He strode forward towards the retreating UC defence. A neat through-ball released Pistol Pete who placed a shot over the keeper.

We took the lead when Andy Ferguson's free-kick squirmed through the UC wall and was duly buried by Si.

Andy continued his superb form at right-back. James was forced to send an abusive opposition player off, increasing our grip on the game. With UCL pressing for the equaliser a superb break saw Martin put the game out of their reach with a typical poacher's goal.

With promotion looking a realistic goal and the huge BUSA booster against Kingston next week, these are exciting times for IC AFC seconds.

ICFC II 3 - 1 UCL III

Oxford scum must die!

ICWHC I v Oxford

Well we forgot our balls, the men wouldn't go with us, and had to borrow theres. Things weren't going looking too hot, but then, while the subs were gossiping and setting up a sweepstake on the final score (17 - 0?) Scouse Git (the 2nd's top scorer) sneaked craftily into the goal giving us a monumental 1 - 0 lead. This paved the way for the rest of a storming game.

Super super defence and sex goddess goalie saved the day more than once.

Half time and congratulations all round. Well, we are shit hot after

all (and we play pretty well too!). Anyway we told ourselves how great we are.

Second half, and Patsy stormed on to the pitch and into the goal. Are our talents neverending? I think not. Anyway we won 2 - 0. All in a days work for the super sexy babes who are the IC Hockey birds! But we were on top form and have never played like such heroes .

Much singing and a dodgy pit stop on a not so hidden layby and now we're pissed in the Union. Well there's a suprise. Watch this space as we gradually conquer the universe - and it will happen. Be afraid, be very afraid.

ICWHC 2 - 0 Oxford

ICHC I v St BARTS I

U.L. cup semi final

Still hung over from friday night exploits, we set about far too early on sunday morning in our quest for absolute domination of London hockey. Having rightly been accused by the rest of the club of being arrogant, it was time to prove that men shall be men.

The warm up was done in the changing room as it was too cold for us to warm up outside, A rousing team talk by captain in the Bol got everyone focused. St Barts had won the BUSA merit group 1 and

so were favourites for this tie. However, we had other ideas. 5 minutes played, Sid the Sexist 'you can't get class like that' cannily chipped the goaly and all their defenders on the line to open the scoring. A straight bullet-strike short corner from Chicken Bol, and a beautiful execution of a break by Sid the Sexist seemed to settle things.

The second half saw Spag. Bol (no relation to the captain) jump on their goaly, allowing blue underpants to flick the ball into the top corner:4-0. We gave them a goal at the end. **ICHC I 4 - 1 St Barts**

ICHC II v UCL III

Play started and due our their vigour, we were awarded a penalty flick. Goran totally fluffed the shot, The rest of the half was total and utter pants, those with skid marks too. half time, 0 - 0.

After an enthralling team talk and some inspired substitutions we actually managed to move out of reverse gear into some semblance of forward motion.

Goran, who decided to rectify his earlier miss, managed to shaft the ball into the net. UCL took much chagrin from this and pressed for an equaliser.

After a couple of goal mouth scares, which were calmly dispensed by Bill, I.C. strode up the pitch and Shaggy stroked the ball into the net, having now lost his big thing. 2 - 0.

Nuff said. We won. Roll on I.C. 2nds, Portsmouth here we come.

ICHC II 2 - 0 UCL III

Results

Hockey

ICHC I 2 - 2 UCL I
ICHC II 2 - 0 UCL III
ICHC III 6 - 1 Wye
ICWHC II 2 - 0 Oxford

Football

ICFC I 1 - 1 LSE I
ICFC II 3 - 1 UCL III
ICFC III 3 - 0 Wye
ICFC III 2 - 0 SOAS
ICFC IV 3 - 2 UCL
ICFC V 3 - 0 RHUL V
ICFC VI 2 - 2 LSE VI
ICFC VI 1 - 3 UCL VII

Rugby

C&G 17 - 0 RCS
RCS 7 - 10 RSM
RSM 55 - 21 C&G

Basketball

ICBC II 77 - 15 RFH

Truly Scrumptious

I would like to apologise for the woeful nature of this headline - Jacob.

RCSRFC v Fulham & Hammersmith

When the RCS rugby executives arrived at the Union at 12 all that was to be found was a barren wasteland. After much moaning and groaning in the middle of Prince's gardens by spew tannoy, a small army of 13 ventured down to the "Hurlingham Park International Arena."

The game started by 'Nipply' crashing over the line in true scrum half style(?) after effective rucking. The second came rapidly after our elusive No. 8, not prop, picked up and burst through away from the scrum half, popping to Nipply who used his amazing passing capabilities to give it to Jon "Alex?" Bound

who scored under the posts. A few stupid mistakes and lapses of concentration enabled the "Hammers" to get back into the game.

In the second half, continual pressure from the lycra clad, vased up PVCed scientists ended with penetration of the opposition's banner by our star guest player Buffy. The next try came from the scrum half's awareness of the game in missing the fly-half, giving Hoggsy no choice but to 'hoist the Gary Owen' which he then recovered and popped to Telfa who dived and stretched to put the ball down for a "good five pointer"(PJ). They then scored a try due to our lack of personnel. Man of the match, for the breaks and wobbling of his belly was Spew.

RCSRFC 28 - 13 Ham & Fulham.