



Felix



NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

TELEPHONES SHOCK HORROR!



Union sexism

Dear Pallab

Would Gaynor Lewis really not object to a bunch of drunkards shouting "No women..." and "Get your tits out" at HER in the Union Bar? Would she be prepared to take strong action against the offenders even if the verbal abuse turned to physical abuse?

If this kind of incident took place in a public bar, the staff would almost certainly ask the offending drunks to leave; and in almost any private club, the people concerned would be disciplined or at least cautioned by the club authorities.

After being insulted more than once (sometimes threatening) in the Union Bar, by men in various stages of drunkenness who didn't like the way we looked, I and my friends, like the majority of IC students, prefer to visit a more expensive public bar where at least we can spend a quiet evening undisturbed.

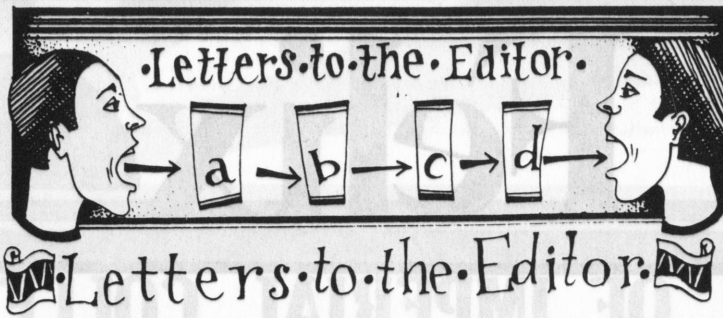
It's a great pity that most IC students are put off going to *their* Union Bar by the unpleasant atmosphere that sometimes exists in it. It's an even greater pity that our 'President', who freely admits to being uninterested in anything outside the Union, is not prepared to do anything about this either. It's a total joke; she is unprepared to take a stand on matters outside or inside the Union, so what is she there for? I totally agree with the view that she is not a representative at all, but merely an administrator.

Yours, in vain hope that things might improve next year,

Christine Taig
ME1

Dear Editor

I would like to express my disgust at the behaviour and attitudes of some members of this Union. First of all, Steve Bishop and Jim Boucher claim that their bigoted demonstrations in the Union Bar are merely 'friendly banter'. It is horrifying to think that these two engineers, products of this so-called 'Centre of Excellence' have received a training here which will encourage them to perpetrate the same revolting attitudes against the minority of female professional engineers in industry.



I am disgusted that our Exec have refused to discipline these two for this behaviour.

Finally, I am disgusted at our President, Gaynor Lewis, who apparently fails to see how serious this breach of discipline is—in fact it seems safe to say that she has done nothing whatever to benefit female students during her term of office.

What we are talking about is a vehement, personal attack on some of our students, just because they are female, by an all-male group of bigots. While there is one woman in this College who wishes to drink in the Union Bar, she should be able to do so in the confidence that she will not be personally insulted.

Moreover, while this behaviour is allowed to go unchecked by Union and College alike, I believe that it constitutes an assault on all female students and staff.

Yours
Diane Love
Physics PG

Dear Pallab

Whilst not accepting the factual accuracy of the article in the last issue of FELIX, or in Miss Love's complaint; I would like on behalf of the Links Club, and myself, to apologise for our behaviour on Thursday if we caused any offense to any person present in the Bar.

Yours
S Bishop

Look alike

Sir

Have any of your readers noticed the extraordinary similarity between Ian Bull the President-elect and ET?

I wonder if by any chance they are related?

Yours sincerely
Mr S Spielberg

All in the family

Dear Pallab

We the Counter Staff feel we have a right of reply to your issue, Refectory, 8/6/94. Your appreciation of the hard work put in by management and staff in the kitchen is commendable, it has not always been so in the past.

We do however, feel your criticism of Mr M Parsons, Deputy Manager to be unfair. He is in fact held in high regard by many of his staff, who don't incidentally, come from the one family in Fulham.

Yours faithfully
Celia De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Gloria De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Maureen De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Kath De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Elizabeth De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Vera De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Margaret De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Anne De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Marianee De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Rita De Lorenzo
Fulham SW6

Outdoor safety

Dear Pallab

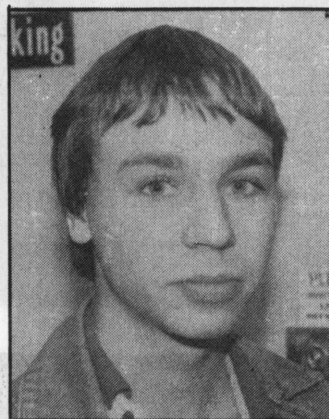
Mr Vacago's 'Opinion' (FELIX 676) is that members of RCC outdoor pursuits clubs should be 'forced to gain experience in a safe way'. Will the forthcoming safety guidelines be the nature of this enforcement, and is the *safe* way positively to encourage the decision 'no, not today' when confronted with a seemingly unsurmountable obstacle? Whilst I agree that an accurate risk assessment should be made in such a situation, and its acceptability judged, Mr Vacago is suggesting that clubs adopt this almost defeatist attitude of his: 'If in doubt, turn back.'

Just as physical endurance and fitness are increased by building up the severity of the exercise and stretching the body, so in the outdoors, sound judgement is *best* accumulated by making the effort to overcome the obstacle. If it results in failure, then the limits are known, but if success results, then what was previously not thought possible has been achieved, and one's own capabilities improved.

University-based outdoor clubs are often at the forefront of new exploration and advance, and their established members have a high standard of technical expertise, much of which may well not have been gained if the decision to 'go for it' had not occasionally been made.

He also suggests solo ventures be discouraged. In many ways these are safer than group ventures since, when alone, one is starkly aware of one's own limits, and when to turn back, as opposed to being

Continued on page 4.



E. T.



Ian Bull

.....Continued from page 2.

carried along, as part of a group, on a wave of enthusiasm, each relying on the others *reputed* experience, into a potentially dangerous situation. Numerous solo climbs and long distance walks have been safely and successfully completed.

If the clubs are to maintain their current high calibre, with regular meets and annual expeditions, then it is essential that RCC safety policy documents do not adopt the attitude of *forcibly* kerbing efforts to 'push the limits'.

Harry Lock
Caving

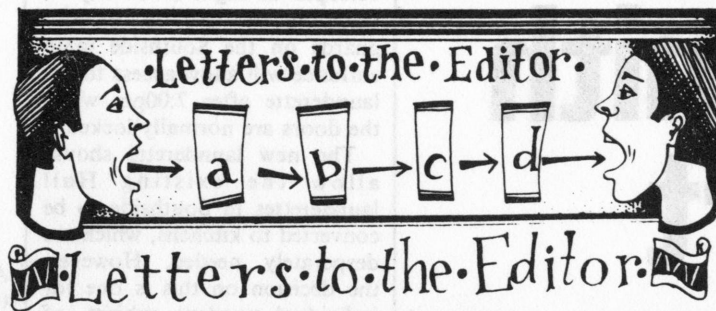
Going potty

Dear Pallab

This seems to be the last straw. Having already sought medical advice, I have been left with no other choice but to tell everyone in Imperial about my frustration in having to work with two bloody annoying women.

The first one of these women is called Gayer (or something like that). She is an Irish midget who claims to come from Wales. However we have been able to find out her true identity. Apparently she was born on 1 April 1962 in Ballina, Co Mayo and lived there for the first sixteen years of her life before defecting to London as a "Death to all trees that loose their leaves before 1 September". Unfortunately she has now managed to infiltrate IC Union and therefore has access to a lot of strictly confidential files. Her true identity was first discovered when she tried to pass herself off as a garden gnome in ULU swimming pool on 21 July of this year. On being apprehended by the ULU security officer she was found to have twenty-six varieties of leaves in the padding of her shoes. Also on 28 July she was removed from Princes Gardens for attacking a chestnut tree with a butter knife and shouting loudly in the air "Death to all trees that loose their leaves before 1 September".

The other so called woman is known in the trade as Yes Please Teller. The reason for the Yes Please is because she can never say no to a 16oz can of



Heinz Baked Beans. On one occasion she was seen to drink the guts of eight cans of this inebriating substance and the next day proceeded to march around the Union Office followed by a long green line. The smell being so intoxicating that one sabbatical and two staff had to be rushed to St Stephens Hospital casualty department to have their noses pumped out and their toe nails shorted by 2.2mm due to a gathering of brown blotches in these parts. On another occasion, after having eaten three puppadoms, two onion bajis, a meat phal, boiled rice and a nan bread, the fire department had to be called to release her head from a bowl in the gents bogs. On being freed she explained that the smell was so bad she had to stick her nose somewhere because she was almost overcome with the fumes.

Both these people are a menace to public safety and I do not think the public can sleep safely at night knowing they are still at large.

Yours, on the point of a mental breakdown,
The Right Honorable Secretary
Sean C Davis

I've seen the light!

Sir

As the sole upholder of private enterprise and free speech at Imperial College, I feel that it is my duty to expose the plot of a group of Soviet Bolshevik infiltrators who have of late succeeded in manipulating the glorious IC Conservative Society to their own devious revolutionary ends.

It is quite clear that Jonathan Gerson, the token wet on the Consoc executive, has over the course of the year been subjected to merciless intimidation and harrasment by those who wish to drag the

society into supporting a dubious range of trendy left wing causes. The principal instigators of this conspiracy, who doubtless have backing from the Kremlin itself, are the Stalinite J Martin Taylor and his Marxist cronie, Graham Brown. These socialist degenerates and their comrades have the sole aim of subverting, nay, perverting, our British youth from the fine upstanding moral values which have for so long been the pride of our country.

This kind of behaviour is, of course, not on, and I would urge all decent, patriotic IC spongers, sorry, students, to have no truck with this kind of corrupt nonsense, and jolly well tell the blighters to get stuffed.

Yours, in defence of
libertarian values,
'Blue Peter' Burt

Reformed character

Dear Pallab

I recently had cause to glance back through this year's issues of your worthy publication, paying particular attention to letters from such socialist luminaries as John Sattaur, Peter Burt and Robin Graham. Imagine my surprise on realising that these people whom I had previously dismissed as "frothing at the mouth Commies" are actually purveyors of common sense, and sound humanitarian philosophy. I now know that I have merely been a tool of the reactionary capitalist/racist/sexist forces led by the likes of Ian McGregor and Rupert Murdoch. I can see that there is a right wing conspiracy to subjugate us, turn us into an army of unemployed zombies, and lead us into war against President Cherenko. As I know tht President Chernenko is a peaceful man who merely wishes to protect his people from the evils of the free market, I am obliged to bring

this conspiracy to light, and to protest against it. My first act of protest will be to tear up my Conservative Party membership card, and to join the Labour Club and even Veg Soc.

Oh, what a fool I was to criticise FELIX as I have done. I see now that you too are a victim of the class struggle. As long as your overlords in the Union Office control the account book and the sherry cabinet, you will remain shackled to your phototypesetter in the dingy pit under Beit Arch. It is a credit to you that you were broad-minded enough to print my letters at all. Even my PSs had Fascist connotations. Asking for offers of 'drinks/jobs/marriages' is clearly decadent capitalist and anti-gay rights.

Smash Thatcher.

Ban the Bomb.

Hail Scargill.

Long live the whale.

The GLC shall inherit the earth.

Yours comradely
Jonathan Gerson

PS: If any of your readers know of any vacancies in a nice commune for a non-smoking, kind-to-animals reformed ex-Consoc dictator.....

Look Alike

Sir

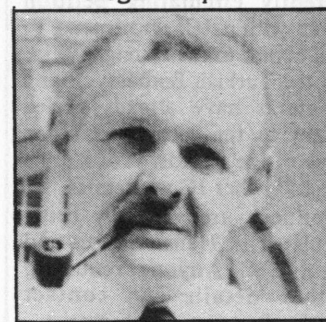
Have any of your readers noticed the extraordinary resemblance Roger Serpell has to Popeye?

I wonder if by any chance they are related?

Yours sincerely
O. Oil (Miss)



Roger Serpell



Popeye

John Smith in court

John Smith, the College Secretary, spent seven hours in the witness box last week at the Lands Tribunal, Chancery Lane, the "higher court" for rating cases. He was appearing as witness-in-chief for Imperial College in their appeal, with the Inland Revenue, against a rating decision made in October 1980 in favour of Westminster City Council.

The Council have increased the rates that the College pay on their premises from 3½% to 5-6%. Traditionally, universities and colleges have been rated at the lower level under the terms of the 'provincial memorandum', which favours educational premises over commercial ones. The Westminster City Council dispute the terms of this agreement, and those parts of IC bounded by Imperial College Road, Queensgate and Exhibition Road have been rated at 5% since October 1980. The College rate bill for 1982/3 was £1,967,000.

This is being seen as a test case, and local councils, universities, and colleges throughout the

country are looking at it with interest. If the decision goes against IC then other councils could follow the example of Westminster City Council, and universities and colleges would face massively increased rate bills. The financial burden would ultimately be borne by central government in most, but not all, cases. All universities, except Oxford and Cambridge, have their rate bills paid by the University Grants Commission. The total sum thought to be at stake is £40,000,000.

The case, now in its second week, is expected to finish before the end of the month but a result may not be heard until October 1984.

10:00pm at night seven days a week. In the evening, security guards on the Southside main entrance will allow access to the launderette after 7:00pm when the doors are normally locked.

The new launderette should allow the existing Hall launderettes in Southside to be converted to kitchens, which are desperately needed. However, the decision on this is one for individual wardens subject, of course, to sufficient funds being available.

The launderette was originally scheduled to open on 5 March, but this date now appears to have been wildly optimistic. Several subsequent opening dates were fixed but all passed without the long-awaited event. The latest delay seems to have been caused purely by lack of forethought by the College Security service. This means that the launderette has now opened just in time for the summer vacation when most students take their dirty washing home to their mother. No doubt the conference guests in Southside over the summer will be duly impressed with the facility although it is not expected they will make extensive use of it.

Hall to have warden

A warden is to be appointed to the Montpelier Street Hall of Residence for next session. The decision, taken by the Students Residence Committee, is in line with the new College policy of increasing the number of wardens.

Montpelier Street Hall was acquired in 1982 and occupies a prime site just off Brompton Road opposite Harrods. It is a postgraduates-only residence which accommodates 78 male and female students in small single rooms. There is also accommodation for three married couples. At present the Hall is under the auspices of the Weeks Hall warden and has a resident sub-warden. The new warden will live in the Hall, and so the post of sub-warden will be dropped.

Ex-student in jail

In February 1982 Haluk Tosun, who completed his PhD at IC in 1976, was arrested in Istanbul with 22 other executive members of the Turkish Peace Association (TPA). After a period of detention and a military trial, Haluk and seventeen others were sentenced to eight years hard labour, and the others all received five years. All 23 have been adopted as prisoners of conscience by Amnesty International.

Amnesty International are currently circulating petition forms within IC, and intend to send copies to the Foreign Office and the Turkish Embassy. Many signatures have already added weight to the action, including those of the Rector, Prof Kibble and 140 other IC academics.

Petitions are currently being circulated in Halls, Houses and refectories. Anyone requiring further details can contact Charles Penman, Mathematics.

New Laundry For College

The Central Launderette in Southside basement (opposite the refectory) opened a week last Wednesday. The launderette was completed a month ago but opening has been delayed whilst a TV security camera was installed. This final delay lasted twice as long as the two weeks predicted by College Security Officer Geoffrey Reeves when interviewed by FELIX last month.

The charges are 50p for a wash and 10p for drying, as predicted in FELIX earlier this term. All IC students are entitled to use the facility, but clearly only those living on campus are likely to use it in practice. Opening hours are 10:00am in the morning until



Lucky Laura O'Neil, Chem Eng 3, is the envy of all her friends after winning a fabulous FELIX weekend for 2 in Paris. The prize was donated by STA, the new College travel firm, whose manager Mark Fletcher is pictured above with Laura.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

On 31 May, subsequent to advertisements appearing externally in the national press, staff in Sheffield were notified that the College intends to appoint a Chief Accountant. In making this appointment, not one of the officers in the Finance department was consulted. Imposed decisions, whether made by muddled managers, mysterious masons or mafiosi, will always cause discontent since they automatically devalue those most closely affected by the decision.

Responsibility for the secrecy and non-involvement of the present staff can be firmly laid at the feet of John Smith. On 30 April he held a meeting of all administrative officers ostensibly to brief them on major developments within administration. Although a decision had been previously made to make the appointment and arrangements were in hand to advertise externally, no mention of the appointment was made at the meeting. Surely this was an act of monumental bad faith.

Why did John Smith need to keep the appointment secret? The only interpretation must be that he has something to hide. Perhaps he considers the position to be a sinecure and intends bringing in a friend or another ex-colonial service duffer.

Had Mr Smith or Mr Lloyd-Davies asked the officers in Finance they would have discovered a consensus that this appointment is irrelevant to the needs of the department. There is also a consensus that the list of main duties compiled for the new post is nonsense and that it will totally mislead any outsider applying for the job.

This latest crassness is not a one-off exhibition. Shortly after John Smith joined the College the previous Chief Accountant retired and an attempt was made to replace him with a young man who once worked in the Finance department. On that occasion the appointment was seen to be a catastrophe and there was a revolt on Level 4 culminating in a petition against the appointment. It is believed the College had to pay a considerable sum in compensation when they withdrew the offer of employment.

John Smith has paid lip service to the provision of management information. Why

does he not use the opportunity afforded by the retirement of Fred Hollingshead and Helen Hartley to organise Finance in a modern manner by creating separate financial and management accounting structures within the department? Unfortunately the choice of Chief Accountant as a title shows the anachronistic and old-fashioned thinking which is in operation. A quick review of Accountancy Age will reveal that organisations living in this century do not use this title any more.

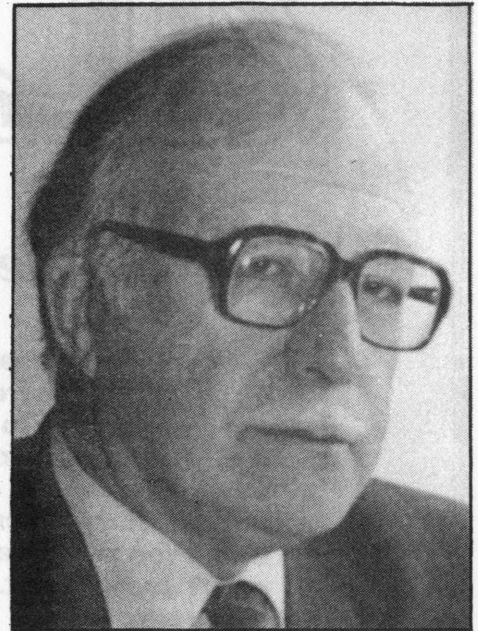
Increasingly it seems that the use of the word 'management' in relation to anything that happens in Sheffield must be considered euphemistic.

In support of the above statement it is possible to point out the manner in which John Smith has failed to pressurise Estates and Refectories into adopting an efficient managerial approach. For example, Victor Mooney has been forced to relinquish control of the Union refectory but John Smith should have compelled him to run it properly in the first place. Excuses which Victor Mooney makes about the design of the outlet and the consequent inadequate catering are only excuses and do not explain his own inertia in trying to meet student demands.

The Estates section has its own style, its head, Don Clark, is so busy that he has divested himself of his major responsibilities. He is so busy that he will be able to attend Reading University part-time to read for a business degree. He is so busy that, after an absence of many months, he has been able to attend the last two refectory committee meetings. Who is kidding who?

In as far as John Smith has any discernable management style at all, on current performance it appears as a cross between a Feydeau farce and a Grand Guignol offering.

It is ironical that even now the wealth of knowledge and experience available within the department has been ignored in the process of formulating future policy. As things stand the appointment of a Chief Accountant is deemed by many officers in the Finance department to be unnecessary and it could turn out to be yet another very expensive mistake.



James Chalmers Senior Assistant College Secretary—formerly a member of the Colonial Office working in Malaya, James Chalmers has been with IC for over twenty years. He began in Personnel, rising to the post of Personnel Officer; he was promoted in 1982 to his current position in Administration. His demeanour is one of unhurried confusion, he has an undeniable gift in his ability to muddy the clearest pool. His policy in dealing with any problem is to take the issue to a cool dark cellar and to leave it to mature for four or five years. He will, of course check the problem at respectable intervals to remove dust and mould. He is often able to surprise John Smith by the way he insists on allowing nothing to interfere with this rule. As James will always tell the interested connoisseur that many of his very best problems would cost the College several thousand pounds if they had to be solved now. But there is always the possibility that they have been solved too soon and that the price could have increased. However I feel that such a development is highly unlikely.

His technique in choosing a problem to deal with is quite exceptional. He removes a sheaf of papers from the random pile in his filing cabinet (or cellar as he likes to call it) and lingers over the date, 1974, '76 and '78 being especially fine years. The yellowing sheet is passed in front of light so that signs of mould or mouse excrement are visible, then the bouquet of crystallised gin and damp mould is inhaled. If selected it then joins one of the 14 piles that border his desk.

Many people consider that such skill is merely the worst aspect of an old duffer put out to pasture, amiably blundering with no great effort towards retirement. But to raise this base role to such an art is an achievement that leaves people like Jen Hardy-Smith speechless with admiration.

Look Alike

Sir

Have any of your readers noticed the resemblance of our Irish Hon Sec Sean Davis and a potato?

I wonder if by any chance they are related?

Yours sincerely
Mr K P Crisp



A. Potato



Sean Davis

The Mole

ALYSSES

Puzzles for the Summer Holidays

Welcome to the last Ulysses puzzles column. Next year I want to concentrate on getting my degree, so it's time to hand over to someone else. I'd like to take this final chance to thank Anatoly, Omar, Sharpshooter, Perola, Rupert Bear, Neil Thornton, Scaramouche, Rev, Achilles, Nick Williams and anyone else who has given me a puzzle, many thanks to Mend-a-Bike for sponsoring the puzzles and to everyone who has ever taken the time to try a puzzle. As there aren't too many people left now, and I've just finished my exams, the puzzles aren't too difficult. For the last time, good luck everyone, especially to my successor.

Last week's winner was Adrian Feasby of Maths 1, who was randomly selected from the eleven correct solutions.

The Interviewees

Three intelligent interviewees come to Primelia College. There is only one place left. They all seem equal, so the interviewer, sets a problem for them. The place will go to the first person to solve it. A mark is placed on the forehead of each of the interviewees, and the three are told that it is either black or white, and each is to raise his hand if he sees a black mark on the forehead of either of the other two. The first one to tell what colour he has and how he arrived at his answer will get the place. Each raises his hand, and after a few seconds, one of the interviewees comes up with the answer. What colour was his mark, and how did he work it out?

Riddle

Sir, I bear a rhyme excelling in
mystic words and magic
spelling celestial spirits
elucidate all my own stirrings
can't relate

What is it?

Use the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
6, 7, 8, 9 to make $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$,
 $\frac{1}{6}$, $\frac{1}{7}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{9}$ by expressing
them in fractions. Each
number must be used once
and only once in each.

Find three integers, A, B and C such that

A-B

A-C

A+B

A+C

B+C

are all perfect squares. Since there is more than one solution, find A, B and C so that A+B+C is a minimum.

All the puzzles carry prizes.

The Secret Life of the College Secretary

College Secretary John Smith used to be Governor of the Gilbert Islands, and hasn't lost his taste for the high life. He takes the train home each evening and arrives back at his home station at 5:00pm where he is picked up by his chauffeur to be whisked home before going off to live it up at the East India Club. Yesterday, he finished earlier than usual, and got back to the station at 4:00pm. He started to walk home, but met the chauffeur coming to meet him. He arrived home 20 minutes early. Assuming that the car always travels at the same speed, how long did he walk before meeting the chauffeur?



A STAFF REPORTER WRITES.....

GHOSH! — THE TRUTH!

Pallab Ghosh comes from the Far East of Hemel Hempstead. He came to IC in 1980 where he read physics before taking over as FELIX Editor.

Pallab is a man who possesses a charming naivety that only the unkind would term incompetence. He has unceasingly followed the Leaning Tower of Pisa school of pasting-up. His spelling and grammar betray his Bengali ancestry. He has never driven anywhere by car without crashing once on the way there, and once on the way back. But Pallab has made a genuine attempt to improve himself. He went on a hugely expensive typing course, but this only succeeded in teaching him the 'Eagle' method of typing. He hovers for some time before he swoops, one-fingered, onto the keyboard.

Pallab's first venture into the world of the media was when he made a video called *Captain Pulsar* at school. He was Head Boy at school (where he earned the soubriquet 'god') and so was able to produce, direct, and star in the film, which he inflicts on his friends on every possible occasion.

His first bash at being an editor was when he produced the *Wellsian*, the newsletter of the H G Wells Society. This was a great success and was critically acclaimed as being the best *Wellsian* ever produced. This led some people to believe that Pallab might do a good job of editing FELIX.

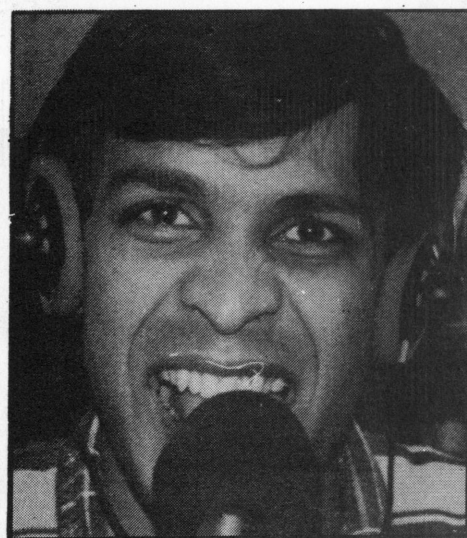
And so it was that he stood for election to that prestigious post. Almost immediately he was accused of electoral malpractice by his opponent. Suffice it to say that nothing was ever proved, and Pallab was elected.

It was while celebrating his election victory in the Union Bar that Pallab gave ample testimony of the shape of things to come by being violently sick into a bucket à la Mr Creosote.

Soon after term ended, and Pallab took office, he developed an embarrassing 'crush' on Gaynor Lewis, the Union President. After being spurned by Gaynor, Pallab took advantage of every opportunity to slag her off in the pages of his organ.

Pallab's naivety has already been touched upon but another characteristic, equally evident, is his gullibility. On one occasion he bet someone that not only did Orson Welles

star in the film *Citizen Kane* but that also, by means of trick photography, he was able to take the part of a small boy as well. Pallab continues to insist that Boris Karloff was completely deaf and dumb, despite the fact that Karloff was renowned for his fine microphone voice. This wouldn't be so bad were it not for the fact that Pallab considers himself to be a bit of a film buff. On one occasion, when trying to impress his girlfriend with his knowledge of film, Pallab was furious to find that every bit of information that he gave was contradicted by the man sitting next to them on the tube. Readers may think this article a little harsh on Pallab. But rest assured. We in the FELIX Office think that Pallab is one of the most charming and pleasant people we know, and we wish him all the best in the future, whatever it may bring.



Pallab Ghosh – FELIX Editor

★ **YOUR STARS** ★
by Gypsy John



LIBRA

(Sept 23—Oct 23)

You are very sympathetic towards others. You are a long haired dope fiend. You always attend political rallies and marches, whoever they are in aid of.



SCORPIO

(Oct 24—Nov 22)

You are a very domineering and opinionated person. You invariably get pissed at parties. You hate thermodynamics. Most Scorpions are physicists, the rest are unemployed.



SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23—Dec 22)

You have a vivid imagination and are always honest. You like dissecting frogs and rats. You eat spaghetti bolognese for every meal. Sagittarians are often perverted life scientists.



GEMINI

(May 21—June 21)

You are usually drunk and enjoy expressing yourself. Your friends think you are a busy-body. You brag about your machismo, but deep down you know you can do nothing well. Most Union hacks who pinch road signs are Geminis.



CANCER

(June 22—July 22)

You are a very patient person. You fall asleep during lectures. You have a large overdraft at the end of every term. Cancers are usually effeminate and go on CND rallies.



LEO

(July 23—Aug 22)

You are a very proud and trusting person. Others take advantage of you because basically you are very stupid. Estates section comprises mainly of Leos.



VIRGO

(Aug 23—Sept 22)

You are methodical, but your general appearance is a mess. You enjoy a large sherry with your feet up. Virgos are rarely virgins. Notable virgos are Gaynor Lewis and John Smith.



CAPRICORN

(Dec 22—Jan 20)

You are an upholder of IC tradition. This is because you lack imagination. Capricorns are easily influenced and many have actually died when told to go jump off the

Queen's Tower. CCU types are often Capricorns. Notable Capricorn: Michael Arthur.



AQUARIUS

(Jan 21—Feb 18)

You are an amiable person who needs to be around others because you cannot stand yourself. When alone you do weird things to your body (see *Phoenix-Ed*). Most Irish are Aquarians. Notable Aquarian: Michael Newman.



ARIADNE

(the spider. Feb 29.)

Little is known about this supposedly extinct birthsign. Strongly connected with the black arts. Christine Teller is suspected of being Ariadnian.



PISCES

(Feb 19—Mar 20)

Communists



ARIES

(Mar 17—Apr 19)

You have energy and great enthusiasm. Your studious tendencies are nauseating to others. You attempt, unsuccessfully to seduce young freshers every year. Arians frequently jump off high buildings without being told to. Notable Arians: Ian Bull, Hitler.



TAURUS

(Apr 20—May 20)

Taureans have a vivid imagination and are always trying new things. Your friends think you are a pervert. Most Taureans are black pro-whale lesbian single parents with left wing tendencies. They do very well in the GLC.

FELIX QUIZ

1. Who or what celebrated their 5th birthday this year?

- a) Hugh Southey
- b) IC Radio
- c) The expression on the Rector's face
- d) Mr Mooney's ham rolls



2. What is Gaynor saying in this picture?

- a) Rape!
- b) More!
- c) 'Gottle o' Geer'
- d) Must you open your bottle of Guinness like that!
- e) If you can find another one mine's a can of Fosters

3. What did the Union Office lose this year?

- a) Its temper with the FELIX Editor
- b) Diplomatic immunity
- c) John Passmore (*wishful thinking-Ed*)
- d) Jo Hewanikca
- e) Its usefulness

4. Who was in charge of IC Union this year?

- a) Christine Teller
- b) John Smith
- c) Jen Hardy-Smith
- d) Len Moulder

5. How many members of the Estates section does it take to fit a light bulb?

- a) 1
- b) 500. 1 to screw the bulb, 1 to supervise, 1 to hold the tools, 1 to make the tea, 1 to do the crossword and 495 to erect the scaffolding around it.
- c) None—you can't expect them to do anything as complicated as that!
- d) $— (\text{power of the bulb})^2 \times \text{Temperature}$
wages of person doing the job

6. Why was Ian Bull awarded a UGA?

- a) For his valuable contribution to IC Union
- b) His prowess with a badminton racket
- c) Because he is so ugly
- d) He's good in bed

7. Which section of College has been on strike for eight months without anyone noticing?

- a) Estates
- b) Switchboard
- c) Refectory
- d) Union Office
- e) Union Bar

9. What did Maribel Anderson do to Mike Stuart to raise £300 for Rag?

- a) Cut his hair off
- b) Cut his head off
- c) Smash him over the head
- d) Give him head

10. Which of the following have there been two of this year?

- a) Comprehensible sentences from Sean Davis
- b) Rooms that haven't leaked in the Fremantle
- c) Tasty Mooney meals
- d) Hugh Stiles' change of clothing

THE BARON OF CHEAPSKATE



By
Juvenal

an opportunity to be out of their office. Gormless Layon, the citizens' President, Pristine—the wicked witch of Southside and the incomprehensible Seanoff Levis completed the group.

It was with a tear in her eye that Gormless began to read her lengthy speech—quantity rather than quality was her speciality. However, fortunately for those present, Gormless became overcome with emotion, and gulping back a sob, she abandoned her speech and asked Pristine to pass the much treasured symbol for a much abused job—the President's crown. But to Gormless' distress, Balls' patience had suddenly come to an end. After waiting for so long, after so many tedious committee meetings, sucking up to so many of the Baron's seedy employees and having to put up with Gormless for nearly a year, a few seconds was simply too long to wait. In true, and indicative, Napoleonic style Balls grabbed the crown and placed it firmly upon his head.

"That's it," cried Paralytic, who was overjoyed that the whole turgid business had come to such a rapid conclusion.

"Southside everyone," he shouted. "A special barrel of mead has been laid on at the citizens' expense!" Such a cry was even enough to wake Eric Sloth from the slumber into which he had inevitably drifted and before you could say 'Jolly Hockey Sticks' all the menfolk were halfway down the stairs. Gormless and Pristine stood together—so suddenly

alone. Gormless could no longer control her emotion and burst into a fit of tears. For this was not how she had imagined the event ending. Despite Balls' recent truculence she had made a special effort—an extra splash of perfume, or two, an ultra-tight pair of jeans that caused her so much agony to put on and even her skin fitting jumper that she normally reserved for her elections. But all these endeavours had been in vain—now Balls was President. Gormless feared that she had nothing to offer—well almost nothing. Pristine, recognising Gormless' distress, offered her a word of advice from a very old hand:

"Don't worry Gormless. There's plenty more fish in the sea," she suggested comfortingly.

"Well you should know—you've had half of them," replied Gormless bitchily. And with her pride severely damaged Gormless began to make her way back to the Citizens' Office on her own while Pristine flew off to Southside.

Change was afoot elsewhere in Cheapskate that day. Leaning back in a most comfortable chair, with a 'cigarette' in one hand and a glass of suitably chilled wine in the other, sat Dave the Rave the new FALIX Editor. Despite being from the industrial homelands, from which Cheapskate had been so unfortunate to receive Ian Balls, Dave the Rave had contrived to change his manner to that of a country gentleman who would like to be editing a somewhat more august journal than FALIX. However, reality had it otherwise and Dave the Rave began to discuss his plans for the journal with one of his colleagues Huge Pigeon, who had replaced him as the Citizens' Media Representative.

"I think I'll introduce a society page," said Dave, thinking of all those nubile

It was a somewhat turbulent time in Cheapskate—a time of change and renewal. For many of the citizens had finished their examinations, and the revellers of the previous night were trying to sleep off the aftereffects—if not the memories. Yet their agony was matched, if somewhat differently, by those citizens who were still working away. However, for some of the delights of freedom were being enjoyed by those citizens who had been able to leave the kingdom. And there were those who it seemed would never leave.....

At the top of the Queen's Tower, some of Cheapskate's more resilient citizens were involved in a ceremony which was most indicative of the change and renewal—and how futile and ineffective it often was. For the pretender to the swivelling throne, the heir apparent for so long, was about to achieve his final goal. Various citizens' representatives stood, in a less magical circle, watching the coronation of Ian Balls as Citizen's President. Dave Paralytic and Eric Sloth, the page boys, stood behind the resplendant Balls holding the tail of his long, flowing and flea ridden gown. Mike Dress, who liked any excuse to put on a new frock and have his picture taken, stood at their side. His recently purchased blonde wig sat less than firmly on his newly polished head with its thin, wirey strands rustling in the wind. And, as ever, when they had



'Finding good staff these days is so difficult', mused Dave The Rave



'In Napoleonic style Balls grabbed the crown and placed it firmly on his head.

debutantes he would be able to meet.

"Oh, about the sports clubs and the like," enquired Huge with his usual boyish enthusiasm.

"Not quite, my dear boy," replied Dave the Rave. "Obtaining good staff these days is so difficult," he mused.

"And are we having a music page?" asked Huge earnestly. This suggestion was more than enough for Dave the Rave who, with a sudden flourish stubbed out his 'cigarette', finished his glass of wine to show his irritation. Glancing out of the window he noticed Gormless striding past en route to the Citizens' Office—and that very tight jumper.

"Megal!" said Huge, believing he was going to be able to write dreary music articles.

"Hardly," replied Dave the Rave whose mind was still rather occupied by Gormless' cleavage.

Huge just frowned and went off to find some other people to irritate while Gormless waddled—the jeans were too tight for walking—up to the Citizens' Office.

As ever, the occupants of the office were working busily away at their chores with the afternoon's horse racing illuminating the superfluous television screen. Len Pissmore, who had moved into the office while President and had never quite managed to leave, sat in front of it.

"Begora! Oi think oi've won—and it's 5-1 to be sure," he shouted, in his thick accent, while clutching a tankard of mead.

Drunk by the early afternoon—little had changed in the four years which Pissmore had spent there.

"Well done darling," replied Mrs Jolly Hockey-Sticks, who had become rather interested in the sport of kings in recent

times.

"How about it Ken—instead of wasting all that money on those clubs why not put a few hundred on the gee-gees?"

Mrs Sticks was addressing Ken Wheel, the Citizens' Money Expert, who spent many hours poring over vast ledgers.

"I don't think I've got the courage—Dutch or otherwise," replied Ken, Mrs Sticks was not always very quick at getting a hint, but she knew what Ken wanted and in a trice he had a substantial glass of sherry in front of him.

"Don't I get one?" asked Hippo Claybrain, who had appointed herself as the receptionist and spent most of the day sitting in the office planning what she wasn't going to do in her new post as Citizens' External Representative.

"Oh no darling," replied Mrs Sticks, "not while you're on duty—we can't all be tipsy or we might be helpful when we answer the telephone. Anyway, you'll be able to have as much as you want when you get elected."

"Yes—and I must start thinking about

my campaign," replied Claybrain. "I think I'll go for the 'I've no new ideas but I'm good looking' tactic." At which point Len Pissmore burst into a fit of laughter and promptly spilt his mead over himself. The general amusement came to a halt when Gormless stormed into the office.

"What's the matter?" enquired Hippo, who could always tell when Gormless was upset.

"Oh, it's nothing," she sobbed, "I thought I'd come back and keep an eye on things—I am still President you know."

"Indeed you are," replied Mrs Sticks, "and you have got a meeting with The Baron in five minutes."

Gormless stormed out of the office in the same manner with which she had entered and headed towards the dreaded Surefield building where the Baron was being briefed by John Secretary.

"...and we have managed to off-load the dreadful loss-making gruel outlet to the Citizens and we have of course got some of our own people in the Citizens' Office to keep an eye on things," announced John Secretary to his superior.

"Oh, and who are they?" enquired the Baron.

"As usual the three sabbaticals," replied John Secretary, rather surprised at the naivety of the Baron's question. "So there won't be any problems—if I'm to get in the newspapers again I don't want any problems in Cheapskate. You know how sordid the papers can be—almost as bad as FALIX," said the Baron.

"There won't be any problems—I'll see to that," replied John Secretary in a most casual tone of voice.

"And it's time for the meeting—Gormless should be here by now."

John Secretary led the way and, as with everything else, the Baron simply followed.



John Secretary led the way and as with everything else the Baron simply followed.



TIM NOX

.....Three hours later, Gormless was still in the Baron's office. Pristine had been arguing with John Secretary for over an hour and the Baron was already fast asleep. Gormless had long since tired of trying to get a word in edgeways and was beginning to feel drowsy. Suddenly she was startled by a large white rabbit dressed in a checked shirt and faded jeans who ran into the room muttering "Eh, bah gum, gezondheid electronic cash register boolery woolery fat fryer disposables Handbook articles Baron's committee, I'm late, oh dear, I'm late."

It looked just like J Martin Boolery Woolery, the FALIX News Editor, but had two large rabbit ears and whiskers.

"He's not allowed on this committee!" screeched Gormless, and immediately leapt from her seat and dashed after him. Unfortunately she failed to notice two of the Baron's artisans who had lifted some of the floorboards and were gazing forlornly into a large hole in the floor. Before she could stop, she had fallen in.

Her fall was cut short when she came to a gentle landing on something soft and furry. She stood up and looked around—she was in a dimly-lit cellar with mould growing on the ceiling.

There was a squeak from her feet. She looked down, and then jumped back in alarm. It was an enormous furry rat with glasses and a big twitchy nose.

"Are you Gormless? Oh this is so exciting! I'm Jonathan Clockwork Ratperson," he pointed to a large key in his side.

"Pleased to meet you I'm sure," replied Gormless, remembering her manners. She held out her hand and shook her new rodent friend by his ample nose.

"Could you please tell me where I am?" asked Gormless.

"This is John Secretary's rat infested dungeon of course!" replied Ratperson.

"How curious! I've never been down here before. Thank you very much for breaking my fall, by the way."

"Oh, I'm so sorry for not being softer," said Ratperson, eager to apologise. "Come and meet my friend." He pointed to an enormous revolving cage on the other side of the dungeon.



Gormless in BLUNDER LAND

Inside the cage a large dishevelled rat sat crying its eyes out. The rat bore a strong resemblance to Michael Newperson. "Oh dear, don't cry, what's the matter with you?" asked Gormless sympathetically.

"Oh, my tale is a long and sad one, but I'll tell it to you anyway," he wailed. Looking at his tail, she thought it was rather long, but couldn't see anything sad about it. She thought about it for so long that the Rat's story appeared rather like this:

Michael P

Newman was banned from the Union for trying to stop what he thought was not right.

He said girls were degraded when nudes were paraded in rude publications and on Mines Porn night. "I'll be judge, I'll be jury," screeched Gaynor in fury, "I'll try the whole case and I'll ban you, you dog!"

Now he's IC's disgrace and he can't show his face so he just sits at home jerking off in the bog.

Gormless was rather perturbed about the strong resemblance the obviously fictitious tale bore to real life. In typical fashion, however, she washed her hands of the poor rat's problem and went on her way.

Soon Gormless found herself outside blinking in the sunlight in a beautiful garden. "AHEM!"

A loud and familiar cough made her look behind her. She was astonished to see an enormous magic mushroom with a six-foot caterpillar sitting on top of it, smoking a rather suspicious-looking hookah.

"And who are you, little girl?"

"Please sir, I'm Gormless."

"I can see that," drawled the Caterpillar, crossing and uncrossing his eyes and legs and yawning.

"Hmmm, you must be good for something. Can you recite poetry? Recite 'You are old, Mr Munchey' for me."

Gormless began.

"You are old, Mr Mooney," the Wicked Witch said, "And your hair has become flecked with white, Yet when posing for photos, you stand on your head; Do you think at your age it is right?"

"In my youth," Mr Mooney replied to the Witch, "I stood on my head all the time. I did so, what's more, without getting a stitch, So be off, or I'll boil you in brine!"

"You are old," she went on. "As I've already said, And have grown most uncommonly fat. And yet you maintain we are properly fed, Pray, how do you justify that?"

"In my youth," he replied, "I kept myself trim Chasing girls and avoiding my wife. And now, as you see, I'm no longer so slim, But that's usual at this time of life!"

"You are old, Mr Mooney," the Wicked Witch cackled, "And soon you'll be going for good. Yet still you keep hush about money when tackled, Don't you think it's a little bit rude?"

"In my youth," Mr Mooney replied to the hag, "I kept the books perfectly well! So keep your nose out, you impertinent bag! My books will cook with me in hell!"

All the time she was reciting, she grew more and more aware that the Caterpillar was very like the Baron and this made her confused.

"I'm afraid I got some of the names wrong," she said nervously.

"It was wrong from beginning to end," the Caterpillar pronounced. "What can I do for you?"

"I'd like to get back into the Surefield Building please."

"Have a bit of this mushroom, then. It will give you anything you want."

Gormless timidly broke a bit off the mushroom and nibbled it.

Suddenly her head exploded and she felt as if she was flying in all directions at once. When she got back to normal again, she was once more in the familiar corridors of power. Unfortunately, however she was quite lost, and getting more and more confused all the time.

She wandered this way and that for a good ten minutes before she found an office she recognised. There were two signs on the door. One said:

'The office of Tweedledong Lark', and the other:

'Tweedleheadbang Cameroon-Lark's Office'.

"How curious!" she declared. Confident she would be dealing with two complete idiots, she strode into the room without even knocking. And there they were, drinking tea and bickering as usual.

"It was my nice, new T-SQUARE!"



screamed Tweedleheadbang.

"And you broke it!"

"I never did!" shrieked Tweedledong. They were just about to come to blows when they both noticed Gormless and rather sheepishly sat down again.

"What can we do for you, Gormless?" they chorused.

"Oh, I just popped over for a word about the Citizens' Residences," she lied hastily.

"Sit down, dear," Tweedleheadbang fetched her a comfy chair while Tweedledong gave her a cup of tea.

And then, without more ado, they stood side by side in the middle of the room and began their report:

The Sun was shining in the sky,
Shining with all his might.
He tried his very best to make
The tiles look smooth and bright.
But this was hard for most of them
Had dropped off in the night.

The Painter and the Carpenter
Had walked for many miles.
They cursed like anything to see
Such quantities of tiles.
"If only they could be replaced,"
They said, "We'd be all smiles."

"Ten thousand tons of scaffolding
Were hired for seven years.
"Do you suppose," the Painter said
"We'll end up in arrears?"
"I'm sure," replied the Carpenter.
His eyes were full of tears.

"Oh Freshers, come and live in Hall,"

The Painter shouted out.
"A lovely single Southside room
Is great to boast about.
Don't fret about the fire alarms,
We'll fix them soon, no doubt!"

The FELIX Editor looked at him
And scribbled something down;
The FELIX Editor shook his head
And frowned a thoughtful frown,
Meaning to say, he plainly thought
The Painter was a clown.

But four young freshers hurried up
All eager for a place;
Each so determined to be the first
It soon turned to a race.
They pushed and fought and kicked
and shoved—
Sweat poured from every face.

Four other freshers followed them,
And yet another four.
And thick and fast they came at last,
And more and more and more.
Soon most of them were cut and bruised
And all of them were sore.

The Painter and the Carpenter
Walked miles, I've heard them tell,
Until they reached the derelict old
Fremantle Hotel.
And all the little freshers stopped
And one rang on the bell.

"The time has come," the Painter said,
"To stop and have a nap.
And talk of roofs and leaks and damp,
And how to mend a tap.
And why the rent here is so high
When all agree it's crap."

"But wait a bit," the freshers squeaked.
Turning a little grey,
"We can't move in to this old dump,
No matter what you say!"

"The sun's come out," the Painter said,
"Oh, what a lovely day!"

"It seems a shame," the Painter said,
"To play them such a trick,
After we brought them out so far
And made them trot so quick."
The Carpenter said nothing but
"I told you they were thick!"

While they were talking, Gormless had wandered over to the window and seen some sort of sherry party going on in the garden below. At last, something normal and reassuring after all those confusing adventures! As soon as they had finished, she thanked them hurriedly and ran out and down the stairs.

Soon she was back in the garden, and there she saw the strangest group of people she had seen that day. Somebody who could have been Pissmore's twin brother, but wore a top hat, and another big rabbit who was similar to Sawn Off were both trying to stuff a hippo into a teapot. Around them lay the remains of a picnic, but there was still a half-full bottle of sherry left. Gormless licked her lips.

"Oi! And who might you be, to be sure?" the Pissmore lookalike shouted belligerently.

"I'm Gormless," she replied.

"Begorrah, you'll be allright with us then! Oi'm the Mad Oirish Bookie, dis is the Mad Oirish March Hare and dis—" he poked the hippo, "is the hippo. WAKE UP YOU STUPID COW!" he bellowed in the hippo's ear.

"Please, Mr Bookie, I'm ever so thirsty."

"Get some o' the hard stuff down your throat," he said, offering her some sherry.

Gormless helped herself greedily. But something was wrong. She was giddy.

Everything was spinning round. And suddenly, Gaynor woke up.

She was in her office, being shaken by Sean, Jo Claydon and John Passmore, who were shouting,

"WAKE UP, YOU STUPID COW!"

"Get some more sherry down her throat. That should wake her up!" said Jen.

"Oh, Jen," Gaynor said, "I've had such a nasty dream that I was in a cruel land called Cheapskate where Christine was a witch, you ran the office and Ian ignored me all the time."

"Oh but darling—you are!"



GAYNOR LEWIS REVEALS ALL!

FELIX: What do you think that you've achieved in your year as President?

Gaynor Lewis: I think we've achieved quite a lot this year really, both in the services provided by the Union and the clubs and societies within the Union. We changed London Student Travel over to a Sport's Shop and introduced a new travel centre providing, we hope, a better service. The change, handover, in the refectories. We don't know whether it's going to be successful or not. Differences made in the transport system will be of benefit to a large number of students at IC. It will mean that a lot more clubs and societies will be using the transport system.

How do you feel that what you've achieved has lived up to your expectations at the beginning of year? Have you achieved everything you set out to do?

I think a lot of the things that we set out to do at the beginning of our year were to finish a lot of the previous year's business. One of the major objectives was the provision of the central launderette facility in Southside. We finished what Steve Goulder had started. This will be a great success. This was due to input by Union officers and the Rugby and Boat Club.

Although there have been delays in the Central launderette, things have gone quicker than last year.

You've come in for criticism in that you've concentrated on Internal Affairs as opposed to the External Affairs of the Union.

I think that we have officers to deal with every aspect of the Union—we have lots of support from sabbatical officers. I think the Internal Services of the Union were in a mess at the start of the year. I think you've got to take things slowly, one step at a time. You can't concentrate all the time on everything. There was interest this year among the sabbaticals to concentrate on internal affairs. I think that Peter Burt, the External Affairs

In this FELIX exclusive interview Gaynor Lewis talks about her successes and disappointments during her year as President and answers some of the criticisms levelled against her.



President Gaynor Lewis

Officer has done a very good job.

You mentioned the Union take over of the refectory earlier. You clearly consider this to be one of your major achievements.

I think it's one of the major steps forward taken by the Union—the decision was made by College to help us financially and in a supportive way. It has yet to be proven whether or not the refectory will be a success under Union management.

What would be the consequences of failure?

I don't know. It's not going to fail. As far as we see at the moment there is no need for that refectory to fail. If it does we'll have lost a fair amount of financial support by College and there will be problems with the staff that we appoint. It's up to the students to come and support the refectory.

Mr Mooney will leave in April 1985. Do you foresee any great changes in the refectory system after that?

I didn't know Mr Mooney was about to leave in April 1985. Mr Mooney's been leaving this College so long I can't remember when the first date was.

What's your opinion of the new Chairman of the Refectory Committee, Dr Simon Perry?

I think Simon Perry tries very hard. I have been disappointed that the Refectory Committee don't seem to be able to make decisions when called upon. He chairs the committee well on most occasions. When decisive action is called for we have felt that he's been slightly lacking.

Criticism has also come from those who perceive that decisions in the Union are made too high up without sufficient consultation of student representatives.

I think many decisions inside the Union are taken by the Exec due to lack of time. I don't think they are taken without consultation. I am sure you're referring to decisions regarding the telephones. It is claimed I made the decision myself that's not correct. I indicated what I thought the outline should be—I discussed it with more than one of the Union officers and more than one of next year's Union Officers, and this was accepted by many.

You have been critical of FELIX in your annual report for this year and in the first term FELIX made personal attacks on Michael Arthur and Student Services in general. Do you feel that these attacks were justified?

My comments about FELIX in my annual report stated that I was disappointed that I was continually having to correct inaccuracies in FELIX.

To whom did you have to correct these inaccuracies?

To students who came to see me after articles had been printed in FELIX asking why such a situation occurred. As

far as attacks on Michael Arthur are concerned I would say that on a number of occasions Michael has not lived up to his job as much as I would have liked him to do. I think that he should come in for criticism. But I felt that FELIX were continually criticising, sometimes without reason, sometimes with reason. Any criticism that we made of Michael Arthur on College committees was not taken seriously. This has caused problems as far as students are concerned. We've felt that we're flogging a dead horse because of the attitude of College administration after certain issues of FELIX.

FELIX has to be controversial—it can be controversial and work together with the Union officers rather than working against them at all times.

In some cases FELIX has reported well, in the interest of students—these reports have helped us a great deal.

Your award of a UGA to Ian Bull was controversial in that it was an award to a very close friend. Do you think that it was politically wise to make that award?

Ian Bull in his work as ACC Chairman thoroughly deserved a UGA and that was the policy that I used in deciding who I would award them to.

What confidence do you have in next year's three sabbatical officers?

I hope they will work together very well as a team. We, in fact, have four sabbaticals next year—I think they will work together well. I think that the experience that they've had in all their jobs amounts to more than we had at the start of our year.

Everyone who reads FELIX is anxious to know what happens to sabbaticals after they finish their term of office. Can you tell us what you will be doing next year?

Next year I will be working for Lloyds Bank on a Management Development course in one of their branches in the city.

SPORTS REVIEW

IC clubs strong as ever

As another year draws to a close the time has come to look back and reflect upon the achievements of yet another outstanding sporting year.

This year has been significant for our affiliation to UAU and subsequent brilliant performances by the Vollebyall, Water Polo and Hanging Gliding teams to carry off their respective trophies.

First a mention for the Water Polo Club. Back in December they got through to the UAU national final by winning the very closely contested Southern Universities Championship. They went on to clinch the national trophy in a dramatic deciding game against Loughborough with two goals inside the final minute.

The Volleyball team also had similar success, winning their UAU final 3-2 against Birmingham.



Ladies Rugby-a pushover

During the same week the Hang Gliding Club went to Swansea to compete in the first inter-university hang gliding competition. They came back impressive victors, having beaten Plymouth and Manchester Polys into second and third places respectively.

A special mention must go to the Basketball Club who before this year had not won a game for a season and a half. Under the



Breaking roofing tiles with Karate Club

inspired leadership of Tim Vink they went on to put all of this behind them by winning the London Colleges League, only losing one game in the process.

The Boat Club continued to uphold its brilliant reputation with notable performances at all levels. The best performance probably came from the first eight in the *Head of the River* race where they came ninth overall. This was the best performance by a college side since the 1960s.

The Sailing Club have also produced some consistent performances throughout the year. In February they regained the Castaways Cup beating QMC in the final and thus avenging last year's defeat.

The Judo Club excelled again this year with the men's team winning the annual inter-collegiate competition for the third year running and the ladies coming third in their event.

Turning to athletics, the 36th running of the Hyde Park Relay was again a great success despite the bad conditions with Loughborough and WLIHE retaining the men's and ladies' trophies respectively. In the ULU Track and Field Championships there were several notable performances by Imperial

athletes. In particular, there were triumphs from Thales Kasagonnis in the pole vault and Richard Johnson in the triple jump.

The Rugby Club failed in their valiant attempt to regain the Gutteridge Cup which they last won two years ago. They were knocked out in the semi-final by Westminster Hospital in a close match.

The Ladies Rugby Club hit the headlines earlier this year when they were filmed by LWT for *The Six O'Clock Show*. The match played against QMC was won 8-4 by IC's ladies.

The Badminton Club reached

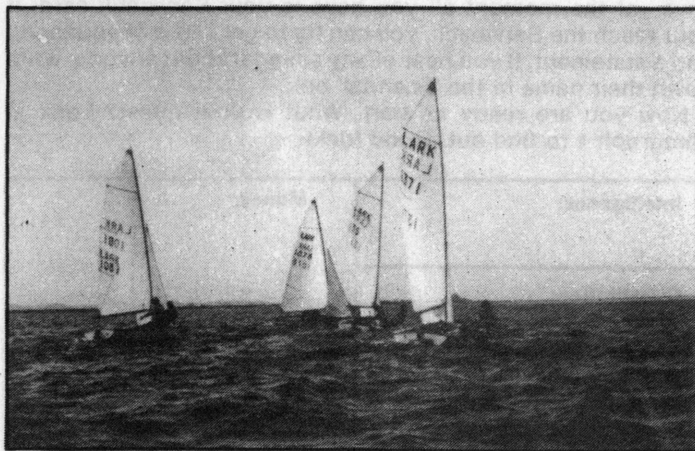
the ULU Knockout Cup Final for the third year running. The final hasn't been played yet, but IC are clear favourites to retain the trophy. Whilst not performing up to their usual standard in the league, mainly due to some dodgy match claiming tactics used by other clubs, all six teams finished in the top three in their leagues.

The Cricket Club have shown they would be in for a very good season if it would only stop raining! They easily won the UAU Southern Indoor Championships comprehensively beating UEA in the final.

Finally we come to the Football Club. On the whole it was a fairly uninspired year for the Football Club, the one bright spot being the marvellous cup run by the third team who were unlucky to lose in the final of their competition to a late goal from QMC Seconds. A special mention to the sixth team who must be the most underrated bunch of lads in the College.

Congratulations to all of the outstanding sporting achievements that have taken place at Imperial this year and FELIX would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the sports clubs the very best for the future.

Imperial is the best sporting college in London. Let's hope we can keep it that way.



A life on the ocean wave

First came Dungeons and Dragons. Then there was Runequest;

Now FELIX brings you an adventure on more familiar ground in...

Phonequest

Here is a *factual* role-playing game for all those Trolls, Goblins, Elves and Hobbits who are fed up with the fantasy world and want to try living the life of an everyday IC student.

If you have never played this type of game before, all you need is two dice, a pencil and a bit of common sense. On the other hand, if you are a seasoned adventurer, you will welcome the opportunity to pit your wits against FELIX Editor-elect David Rowe, Gaynor Lewis, John Smith, the NatWest servicetill and many other 'monsters'!

Read only the numbered paragraphs you are sent to in the text—reading any others could spoil the adventure. Begin by determining your intelligence and constitution.

Intelligence. Roll 1 die and add six to the score. This number is your intelligence. The higher your intelligence, the better you will fare in Battles.

Constitution. Roll 2 dice and add 12. This gives your constitution; a high score enables you to resist attack in Battles. If your constitution is reduced to zero, you become incapacitated and you are out of the game. You may increase your constitution by eating and drinking certain things. However, you can never increase it beyond its initial value.

Combat. You are frequently asked to 'do battle' with adversaries, and you are given their Intelligence and Constitution. First, roll two dice and add your intelligence. Then do the same for the 'monster'. If your score is higher, deduct two from the 'monster's' constitution. If the monster scores higher, deduct two points from your own. If both scores are equal, deduct two points from yourself and the monster. Repeat this round until one constitution has been reduced to zero—this is the loser. You may be asked to do 'one round of battle', in which case you do not fight 'to the death'.

To Start

Write down your Intelligence and Constitution in the boxes. Also write down your equipment. At the moment, all you have is a plastic Waitrose carrier bag—if you find anything on the way, put it in the bag and note it down. Write down the money you have—at the moment all you have is your Servicetill card. If you reach the Servicetill, you can try to get £50, a chequebook and a statement. If you hear of any scandal about anyone, write down their name in the 'Scandal' box.

Now you are ready to start. What is your quest? Look at paragraph 1 to find out. Good luck!

Intelligence:	Money:
Constitution:	
Equipment:	Scandal:

1

Your quest is a simple one; you are an ordinary student at IC and all you want is a phone. Of course, in order to obtain a phone, you will need a room in Hall. You will probably need some money too. Arriving at South Kensington tube, you go northwards up the tunnel. When you come out, do you go east to Student Services 23 or west to the Servicetill 53?

2

You fight:
John Smith
Intelligence 10
Constitution 8
If you lose, go to 51. If you win, go to 16.

3

You have selected the most delicious and nutritious part of the meal! Your constitution is restored to its initial value, and you stride out of the refectory with renewed vigour. Go to 49.

4

Congratulations! You have your Southside Room. As you return to the walkway, you cannot contain your joy. Suddenly you see a strange figure some way off. He appears to be yelling and leaping about. Do you run away 33 (lose 1 constitution point) or go and meet him 41?

5

The people at the RCA won't serve you because you are 'obviously an IC student'. This indictment of your appearance is such a blow to your ego that you immediately lose 2 constitution points. Will you go to Sheffield 44 or do without 25?

6

You sit down at a table which has an attractive mosaic. On closer inspection you notice it is in fact deeply ingrained with cigarette ash, tomato ketchup and green mould. Do you eat the soggy chips 14, the battered mince beef roll 20, the greyish viscous gray 29 or the plate 3?

7

You knock on Gaynor's door and enter her office. She asks you to sit down. When she discovers that you want a telephone, she refuses, explaining that there just aren't enough to go round, and that she doesn't upset John Smith. If you know any scandal about Gaynor, you may try to blackmail her 24. Otherwise you must do battle with her 28 or try asking her back to your place 11.

8

John Smith remains silent when you hint at the information you have on him. You are terrified, but dare not show any sign of weakness. Go to 16.

9

You tell Dave that you know *all* about his 'Hotel high jinks'. He turns ashen-

faced and tight-lipped, and invites you to the upstairs office. He tells you all the sordid details you need to know and gives you the FELIX Editor's pewter tankard on condition that you tell no one about his activities. You agree and leave 36.

10

There is a loud crack and an enormous blue flash. You are thrown to the floor by a nasty electric shock. Lose 2 constitution points. Storm back to Student Services and complain 46.

11

Gaynor agrees to your invitation—lose 1 intelligence point for asking her. Throw one die. If you throw a six, Gaynor enjoys your company and agrees to talk to Jen on your behalf. She suggests that you see Jen yourself 39.

If you throw 1-5, Gaynor is very disappointed with your performance. Her tears upset you so much that you lose 1 point of constitution. The following morning you decide to go and see Jen 39.

12

To get your chequebook, you must do another round of battle with the Servicetill. If you lose, repeat this round, or try thumping it 31. If you win, try to get a statement 27 or try thumping it 31.

13

You go home to your room and immediately fall asleep, exhausted after the day's activities. At 2:00am the fire alarm goes off for 30 seconds. Roll one die. Unless you score a six, lose 1 point of constitution. This happens again at 5:00am and 8:00am. Each time throw a die and deduct 1 point unless you throw a six.

When you wake up, you find that Estates, with alarming speed, have painted water-soluble double yellow lines around your bed instead of installing a phone. Go to Estates and complain. 40.

14

You are violently ill and lose 4 constitution points. Leave as soon as you are fit to walk again 49.

15

You battle
the Cashier:
Intelligence 3
Constitution 10
you lose, go to 51. If you win, raid the till and find £20 go to 6.

16

He authorises Estates to install your phone. Go to 13.

17

You enter Arthur's office—he is sitting with his feet up and he turns to look at you disdainfully. Then he asks, in his rather off hand manner, if he can help you. You ask him for a room. He sighs and explains how difficult it is to find accommodation in London (as if you

needed to be told) and that he might have been able to help you had you filled in the relevant forms in triplicate three months before you were born. You persist, and he concedes that he *might* have a room—he will check, but only if you have a chequebook and bank statement. If you do not have these, go to the Servicetill at once **53**. If you do, throw two dice for the result of the check—less than five: he tells you to get lost **46**; double six: he gives you the keys to a room in Southside **4**. Otherwise, you receive keys to a room in the Fremantle Hotel. If you refuse it, go to **46**. If you accept, go to the Fremantle Hotel **54**.

18

Chris Teller is sitting behind her desk, poring over a clandestine photocopy of an account sheet. She glares at you 'You look like an ordinary student to me. If you are, get out of my sight!' If you have a pewter pot, show it to her **22**. Otherwise, go to **47**.

19

There are two lines of attack on this difficult problem: go to the Union Office **47** or go directly to John Smith **21**.

20

The minced beef roll doesn't agree with you. You must do battle with it.

Minced Beef Roll
Intelligence 5 (NB: more than Cashier)
Constitution: 8
If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, go to **49**

21

You catch the lift in the Sheffield Building and go up to level 5. You find John Smith's office and knock on the door. A distant voice is heard to call 'Come in!' Trembling, you open the door. Lose one point of intelligence because your terror is affecting your ability to think. John Smith looks up from a bundle of papers marked 'Confidential'.

'Sit down. What can I do for you?' When you mention your telephone, he strokes his chin thoughtfully and gazes at you as if calculating how much you can afford.

'I don't suppose,' he asks slowly, 'you know of any sherry.'

If you have sherry, you may give it to him **16**.

If you know any scandal on John Smith, you may try to blackmail him **8**. Otherwise, you must do battle with him **2**.

22

Chris smiles engagingly and invites you in to sit beside her. Coily, she asks what she can do for you. But when you mention telephones, she throws her head back and laughs aloud. 'That's *much* too trivial for me to deal with! I'm afraid you 'll have to ask Jen or Gaynor.' Go to **47**.

23

You cross Prince's Gardens and go into the Student Services Office. You are met by a rather ugly thug with short ginger hair who growls, 'What do you want?' You reply that you have come to see Michael Arthur. The thug, Gary Turner, snarls that Arthur is too busy smart-arsing around College and adds with a sneer 'He never wastes time with snivelling little nobodies like you anyway.'

You must fight

Gary Turner:
Intelligence minus 5
Constitution: 4

You win (surprise, surprise!) and go to **17**.

24

Gaynor turns pale when you mention some of the things you have found out about her. She agrees to have a word with Jen. However, if you want to see this thing through, you might as well consult the real power in the Union Office **39**.

25

Unfortunately, you are now very hungry. Lose 2 constitution points. Do you want to go to the FELIX Office to dig up some scandal **50** or would you rather just go and see about the phone? **19**.

26

Jen turns pale when she hears you have been to see Dave Rowe. She immediately authorises Estates to install a phone for you. Go to **13**.

27

You must do one more round of battle with the Servicetill. However, now that you have requested a statement, its special high-security program has been activated, and its intelligence shoots up to 10. If you win, it dispenses your statement. Go to **43**. If you lose repeat this step or thump the machine **31**.

28

If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, she says she will have a word with Jen. Disgruntled, you go to talk to Jen yourself **39**.

29

The gravy sets as hard as concrete inside your digestive system. Go to **51**.

30

The homebrew is surprisingly nourishing and your constitution points return to maximum. You are also pissed out of your mind. If you choose to keep the pewter pot, put in your Waitrose bag. Go to **52**.

31

You thump the machine as hard as you can with your fist. Roll one die to see what happens. On a score of 6, it dispenses £50, a chequebook and your statement. Go to **43**. On a score of 1-5, the machine does nothing but the Bank Manager comes tearing up the stairs two at a time, screaming and shaking his fist at you. It seems you must do battle with him.

Bank Manager
Intelligence 6
Constitution 8

If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, look in all his pockets. You find £20 and a strange golden card. Insert this card into the Servicetill and it immediately spits out £50, your chequebook and your statement. Go to **43**.

32

Something on the table just inside the door catches your eye. It is a pewter tankard containing strong-smelling illicit homebrew. It must have been left by the previous occupant. Do you drink it **30** or leave it **52**?

33

You now have money and a room. You may wish to try to get your phone right away **19**. Alternatively, you can prepare yourself for the task ahead by either going to the FELIX Office **50** to see if you can glean any useful information or going to get something to eat **48**.

34

You must have more money than sense! Go to **6**.

35

You must do one round of battle with the

Servicetill
Intelligence 6
Constitution 10

If you win the round, it dispenses £50. You may ask it for a chequebook **12** or thump it **31**. If you lose, try the round again or thump it **31**.

36

Now you have some scandal which may be useful. Do you want to go and have a meal **48** or find out about your phone right now **19**.

37

You have foolishly elected to fight

Jen Hardy-Smith
Intelligence 9
Constitution 6

If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, finish off her glass of sherry—it restores your constitution to maximum. You may also steal Jen's 'treasure'—a full crate of Tio Pepe. However, you must now go and see John Smith about your phone **21**.

38

Hugh is visibly upset, and keeps bellowing 'I'll kill him!' You manage to calm him down, and find out that he has been viciously insulted by the FELIX Editor-elect David Rowe. Hugh tells you all about Rowe's 'Hotel High Jinks' at the NUS Conference. You file this scandal away for future reference and return to the walkway **33**

39

You go into Jen's office and find her sipping a glass of pale, dry sherry. You ask her if you can have a telephone in your room. She refuses point blank 'I'm sorry, dearie, you're just not important enough.' If you have found out any scandal about Jen, you may attempt to blackmail her **26**. Otherwise you must fight her **37**.

40

On the way, a tile falls from a building. Throw one die. If you score 1, go to **51**. If it is a 6, the tile misses. Otherwise it strikes a glancing blow and you lose 2 constitution points. You arrive at Hector Cameron Clark's office and do battle.

Hector Cameron Clark
Intelligence 4
Constitution 4

If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, return home. You find that a coin-op washing machine and tumble dryer have been installed in your room. Return to Estates office and fight

Don Clark
Intelligence 2
Constitution 4

If you lose to go **51**. If you win, return home. This time you find a gleaming new black telephone on your desk. Congratulations!

41

You recognise the stranger. It is Hugh 'Greystoke' Stiles! Do you run way (lose one constitution point, go to **33**) or stay and talk to him? **38**

42

Dave offers you information concerning John Smith for £20 and Gaynor Lewis and Jen Hardy-Smith for £10 each. You have three choices: you may pay for some or all of these and leave (remember to deduct the money from your score) **36**. If you have found out any scandal about Dave today, you may try to blackmail him **9**. Otherwise, you must do battle with him **45**.

43

You have everything you need, so go to Student Services **23**.

44

You go into the Sheffield Refectory and queue for half an hour; by the time you are served, there is only one meal left—it is soggy chips, battered mince beef roll and greishy, viscous gravy. You have no choice but to take it and you proceed to the till. The cashier adds up in his head and asks for £10. Do you pay up **34** or fight the cashier **15**

45

You fight

David Rowe
Intelligence 9
Constitution 4 (rather low due to his excessive 'smoking', drinking and screwing at the Union's expense!)

If you lose, go to **51**. If you win, drink his glass of red wine—your constitution is restored to maximum. Run upstairs and have a quick look round the

upstairs office. You find files marked 'John Smith', 'Gaynor Lewis' and 'Jen Hardy-Smith'. You also find the FELIX Editor's pot. You may take some or all of these. Go to **36**.

46

You are furious with Arthur, and do battle with him

Michael Arthur
Intelligence 4
Constitution 8

Note that his lack of intelligence is set off by the fact that Karen and Anna advise him constantly throughout the battle. His intelligence is thus effectively 8. If you lose, go to **51**. If you win take the keys to the *Southside* room and go to **4**.

47

You are in the Union Office and can see four doors. Do you go into the one marked 'Sean Davis' **55**, 'Christine Teller' **18**, 'Gaynor Lewis' **7** or 'Jen Hardy-Smith' **39**?

48

You need a meal: you have a choice of the RCA **5**, or Sheffield **44**. If neither of these suit you, do without **25**.

49

Congratulations! You have survived yet another Mooney meal. But beware—if you keep on taking such needless risks, you will come a cropper sooner rather than later! Do you want to go and find out about scandal in the FELIX Office **50** or go and find out about your phone **19**?

50

You go into the FELIX Office. There sits Dave Rowe, with one arm round a nubile young girl and a cigarette and a glass of red wine in the other hand. Roll two dice. If the total is 8 or more, you have succeeded in attracting his attention **42**. If you fail, you may go and see about a phone **19** or go and have a meal **48**.

51

Unfortunately you are seriously injured. Take a year out of College and start all over again at **1**.

52

All of a sudden, the lights go out—it seems that water has affected the wiring—do you go back to Student Services to complain **46** or attempt to change the bulb **10**.

53

You go along the walkway and arrive at the Servicetill. Insert your card. Do you ask it for money **35** or just bash it with your fist **31**.

54

You walk to the Fremantle Hotel (lose 1 point of constitution, it's a bloody long way down Cromwell Road!). You pull out your key and try to get it into the lock. It takes a good five minutes of fiddling to get it in. Fortunately someone who is coming out opens the door. You find your way up three flights of dark and rickety stairs. On the landing, you are overpowered by a strong smell of mildew (lose 1 point of constitution). You open the door of your new room and are hit by a torrent of water, which has built up due to the damp. Roll two dice. If you score less than 5, go to **51**. Otherwise you are thoroughly soaked and lose 3 constitution points go to **32**.

55

You go into Sean's office. He is standing with his arms plunged into the innards of a Gestetner machine. He looks at you blankly then pronounces in rasping yet lilting tones 'Begorra horrseyeesscorryhouse gestetnerdefonct meatphalanbread onyonbargeeze' and gestures vaguely with an inky roller. Obviously he thinks you've come to mend the Gestetner. Return to **47**.

NEWS REVIEW

The year at a glance

Summer Time Blues

The year started controversially for FELIX (as promised by the Editor in his election campaign). The first issue, in the summer vacation, severely criticised Michael Arthur, Student Services Officer, for overbooking of the Summer Lettings Scheme and alleged mismanagement. However the scheme was a financial success.

Also in the first issue, the censorship of both the Handbook and the Rag Mag by Gaynor Lewis and Christine Teller was revealed. In the freshers issue of FELIX the censored jokes and editorial comment were published.

London Student Travel was told to leave its office on the walkway during the summer after it was discovered the company was not paying any rent for the premises. The former travel shop was later re-opened by the Union as a regalia shop, misleadingly named the 'Sports Shop'. After extensive negotiations a new travel office has recently opened in the JCR operated by STA.

Faulty Fremantle

Residence issues were again at the fore with the long running Fremantle Hotel saga. Andrew Walker, the Fremantle Warden, resigned in November in mysterious circumstances. The real reason for him being asked to resign has never been revealed but it is widely believed that there were complaints from residents about the way he performed his duties as Warden. A great deal of animosity between Mr Walker and Michael Arthur, amongst others, became apparent during the row over the resignation. The situation was further complicated by the structural problems being experienced in the Fremantle, with allegations being published in FELIX that Mr Arthur was to blame for the situation.

The appointment of Mr Walker's successor was also controversial, the post being filled without it being advertised. Despite the continuing structural problems the Fremantle is being kept for another year during which time the landlords are unlikely to make improvements to the property since the property is likely to be completely gutted and rebuilt once the College's lease has expired.



Union President Gaynor Lewis having her name taken during Tiddlywinks.

Rag raises the roof

Rag had a good start to the year with a record amount being raised in the annual Tiddlewinks event, this year back on Oxford Stret after being held on Kings Road last year.



An IC Student cops it as part of a Rag fund raising event at Covent Garden.

Rag Week in November was also highly successful, although a planned mini Rag Week in March was something of a non-event.

The Rag Fete this term was a considerable success with a record amount being raised, largely from students paying to climb up the Queen's Tower.

A Rag raid by UCL students in February left a trail of damage in the Chem Eng department after a lecture was disrupted with flour and eggs being thrown. Twenty-two of the Guilds Union shields in the Mech Eng foyer were stolen, but later returned. UCL agreed to foot the bill for damage caused.

Crusading clown

The anti-pornography campaign led by Michael Newman has continued throughout the year. A motion banning porn events on Union premises was successfully defeated by Mines Union officers at the Freshers' UGM, but it was passed at a subsequent meeting. In order to be able to hold their annual Mines Revue, which includes a strip show, RSMU introduced a motion at the third UGM which specifically allowed any type of event to be organised by CCUs. Undaunted by the setback Mr Newman tried contacting several national newspapers, a move which resulted in a story in the *Daily Express* concerning

'blue' films being shown by RSMU. More recently Mr Newman was banned from Union premises for defacing Mines Newsletter artwork in the FELIX office which he considered pornographic. When the Mines Revue was held in March anti-porn demonstrators picketed the event.

The Phoenix, ICU's literary magazine, was published earlier this term. For the first time in many years it caused some controversy by including a story describing scenes of rape and violence, written by none other than the aforementioned Michael Newman.

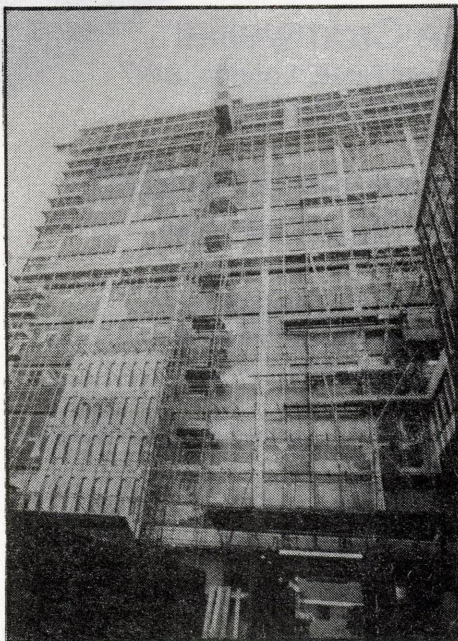
Bot-Zoo Tea Party

Another story given prominence in FELIX during the autumn term was the campaign to re-open the Bot-Zoo tea room. Due to staff shortages the tea service had been discontinued last session, but a campaign led by Peter Burt, last year's Life Sci Dep Rep, impressed on the head of department, Professor Wood, the strength of support for re-opening the tea room. Despite earlier statements that the department could not afford to subsidise it the pressure brought by the campaign paid off and the service resumed early in the spring term.

Estates Fiascos

The bungling of the Estates Section of College has come in for some critical coverage in FELIX this year. The re-cladding of the Electrical Engineering building was started in November, six years after the problem of loose tiles was discovered. The potential trouble which may result from lack of routine maintenance on College buildings was featured in the *Times Higher Education Supplement* in January.

The repeated delays in the completion of the new launderette and gym facilities in Southside were also featured in FELIX. The gym changing rooms were completed early this term, but the gym itself still leaves much to be desired. At present it is only used by one Union club. The launderette finally opened last week, over three months after the original completion date.



The Elec Eng building which became famous for its deciduous tiles.



Mews residents complained about this kind of behaviour in Southside.

NUS Nonsense

The perennial NUS issue this year took a new form. Council decided to send two observers to the Christmas NUS Conference, a decision which was overturned at a later UGM. The UGM motion called for the practice of sending delegates to certain conferences to be reviewed. When the 'Rodgers Report' on conferences was published it found that ICU should continue to send delegates to these conferences, and subsequently a UGM approved the sending of two observers to the NUS Easter Conference. A report of their visit appeared in FELIX early this term. Delegates were also sent to the International Conference of Students of Technology (INCOST) in Helsinki at Easter. A good time was had by both of them, it seems. This conference is likely to be held at IC next year.

The NUS president came to speak at a UGM and was well received, although no moves to get ICU re-affiliated were started. It seems there is still little support for the idea of re-affiliating amongst IC students, but no doubt the issue will be raised again as usual next year. The number of big name political speakers was down on previous years, although Home Secretary Leon Brittan came in February.

The Southside Halls of Residence have been the subject of several stories. At the start of the year new regulations agreed between College and the Mews residents were introduced to cut down on noise from the building. The fridges on the landings were ordered off by the fire inspectors, but in the absence of a practical alternative position they have merely been moved into the side landings. Although originally a temporary solution this arrangement has now been in operation for over four months. More recently the new fire alarm system has been the cause of annoyance to residents by frequently going off for no apparent reason, often in the middle of the night. And the decision to fit electronic keycard locks to improve security in Southside has had design setbacks and they are still not installed.

The new telephone system to be installed by the start of next session was reported in FELIX in November. Controversy surrounded the decision by Gaynor Lewis to

remove outside telephone lines from IC radio and STOIC whilst increasing the number of lines in the Union Office. IC Radio have now been promised a local line only, but the situation is still not resolved.

In the spring term a College notice on the management of residence was issued by College Secretary John Smith. He announced the appointment of a Managing Surveyor to look after the maintenance of all residences. The new post was created on 1 May and is held by Peter Hallworth, formerly a surveyor in Estates. Also in the notice was the decision to put wardens back in the Southside Penthouse flats. It was only emerged recently that this will not be effected for at least another year.

Concern was expressed that the College's stated policy of reducing the subsidies it effectively gives the residence accounts would lead to high rent rises. The rise announced in May, however, is in line with the grant increase of 4%. But no assurances were given about future years by Mr Smith when he addressed an open meeting on residence policy in February. The College has agreed to acquire at least 125 additional residence places to replace those to be lost when the Fremantle lease expires.

Refectories

Refectory matters have not been in the news much this year, with two exceptions. Firstly the Union Bar was equipped with a microwave in January. However, the failure of the Refectory management to provide a menu and price list has led to the service being under-used. It is hoped that the situation will soon be remedied and that a range of hot food will be available all evening in this bar.

The other refectory story, and possibly the major story of the year, is the Union takeover of the refectory in the Union Building. This outlet has been losing money and custom for several years and College had hinted that it might close. The Union put forward proposals in March for the takeover, and these have been approved by the College. Plans are presently being drawn up by the Union officers for the opening of a new-style snack bar outlet next term. This is undoubtedly a major challenge to the Union's resourcefulness; but if successfully carried out the potential advantages of having a Union-run refectory are considerable.

Caribbean

The Caribbean immediately conjures up an exciting, exotic image for most people who also immediately think "too expensive for me". Not so though. With airfares from £335 return and hotels from £71 per person, per week, twin sharing, you can now peruse some of Errol Flynn's old haunts and search out your own treasure!

In Barbados, as most bars operate 'happy hours' at different times, drinks and food are within your price bracket and with the wonderful climate and beautiful scenery you'd have to work hard not to enjoy yourself.

Although public transport is very cheap and a great way to meet the friendly, hospitable locals, it doesn't cover all the island so the hire of a car could be considered. 2 to 4 people travelling together benefit from the reduced rates in hotels and make a small car affordable.

So:

CHECK your bank balance

CHECK your friends

CHECK IN at the Travel Office, Mark and Janick would love to see you, and have a good holiday.

SMALL ADS

FOR SALE

●35mm Practika MTL3 only £35. Contact N Myers, Life Sci 2 or flat 2. 25 Lexham. Tel: 373 8399.

●Dark wood chest of drawers. £15: Dark wood dressing table £15. All good condition. Buyer collections. Valerie Phillips, 603 4073 after 6pm.

●Wordprocessing/typing of theses and reports undertaken at competitive rates. CVs wordprocessed and stored on disc for 1 year—job application letters handled by mailshot. For details contact Mrs Luther, 903 4806 or P K Luther, Huxley 736, int 2146.

●Guitar/amp, Strat copy 3P/U. 15w practice amp (batt/mains), fuzz box, phasor box, leads all for £100. Golf Clubs, Doral Osprey/Anon grips Irons 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, PW, SW Woods 1, 3, 4. £75. Chris Gordon, 740 9416.

●Sony 3000 video camera RRP £770 will accept £350ono. Wayne Clarke. Bookshop or 244 9729 after 5:30pm.

JOB

●Vacancy for 2 assistants to help run Science Museum test bed over summer. The job entails talking to visitors, answering questions on exhibits and carrying out maintenance on exhibits. £87-97 p/w depending on age. Applications in writing to Dr A W Wilson, Science Museum, Exhibition Rd, SW7. Closing date 27 June.

●Casual work for PGs writing up. Contact Eurocars, 723 1821.

●£30 for 2 days work
Cleaners wanted Mon 2 and Tues 3 July for Tizard Hall. Contact Student Services for further details.

●Job available: Forecourt cashier required by Eurocars London Ltd in Bayswater. Hours by agreement with the manager. Has employed IC students before. Suitable for writing up PhD students. Phone Mr S Tiwana, 723 1821.

ACCOMMODATION

●Final call for 3 people to complete mixed flat for 8 in Hamlet Gdns next session. One single and one double room available. Contact M Hudson, Mech Eng 748 3655 or C Cole, Chem Eng, 741 7095.

PERSONAL

●BE4 wimp of the decade: All members of the team (tied). Golden Nismo award to S W Neild.

●Malcolm Preen—is it me you're looking for? PS Speedway stunts your growth and seriously damages your reception.

●Guy William Tancread Frederick Cooper, (AKA Big 'T' of Southwell) Happy 20th Birthday on 15 June. The King has been deposed, Long Live King Coops (that is if the photos turn out). Wish I was there to take them. See you on the 22nd. Love 'J' of Liverpool.

●RIP Andrew Barron, Chem PG who died of ruthenium poisoning after licking Prof Wilkinson's boots.

●Holt He-Man, next time you feel in a silly mood give us three days notice and leave ninety's inside thigh alone.

●Hillman Imp loves Spotty Bike of Hildyard Rd.

●Ninety wishes to start a Brendan Shine fan club. Anyone interested?

●Is it true what they say about girls who wear dungarees?

●Gorgeous Gareth—Take the initiative (or I will)—Ravenous Ruth.

●Jim Boucher: Many congrats on your engagement to Sue. Best wishes X of Paris.

●Imperial College Postgraduate Group. There will be a General Meeting of the group on Monday 9 July at 5:30pm in the Holland Club. All Postgraduates welcome.

What's On

1800h 53 Princes Gate opp Mech Eng
Christian Union games evening—Kensington Gdns. Everyone welcome.

1415h Careers Lib, Rm 311
No Job—what next? An informal seminar for final year students. Information and advice will be available together with a discussion on how to evolve a plan of action to be followed. Numbers will be limited. Please apply to Miss E Bundy, Room 309, Sheffield.

FINALISTS!

Please return all books records and tapes before leaving

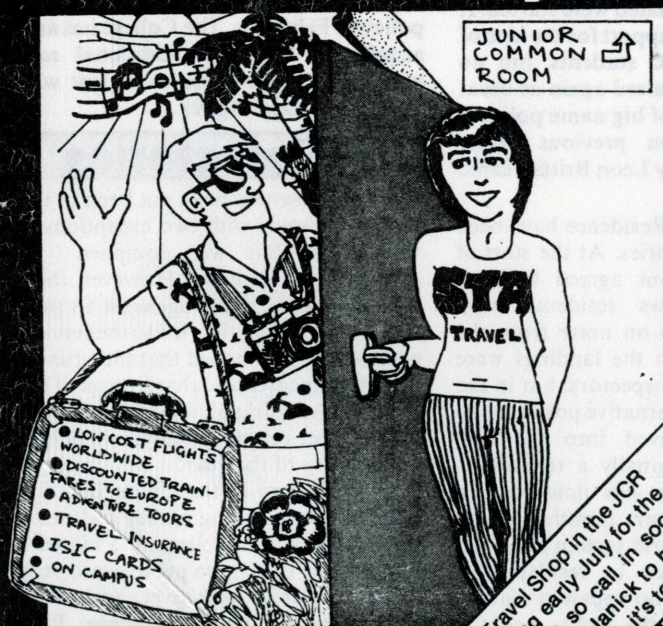
UNION BAR

WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE
CASTLEMAINE LAGER

50p/can

Competitions & Prizes

ULU Travel is now on campus



IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION
THE JUNIOR COMMON ROOM
SHERFIELD BUILDING
PRINCE CONSORT ROAD
SW7 2AZ

The STA Travel Shop in the JCR will be closing early July for the Summer break so call in soon and see Mark or Janick to book your holiday before it's too late!

Marlboro Nightrider Promotion Party

The Cromwellian

3 Cromwell Road, London, SW7
(01) 584 7258

On Tuesday June 26th
10.30pm till late

Match your skill against the
Nightrider Formula 1 Simulated
Motor Racing Circuit

Lots of prizes, games, competitions, giveaways

Drinks £1.00
Cocktails £1.60

Admission £1.00 with this ticket

Benefits over the Summer

Unlike the Christmas and Easter holidays, there is no element included in the student grant to cover maintenance over the summer vacation and therefore if you are unable to get a job between July and October you will be eligible to 'sign on' as unemployed in the area in which you are living.

There are three main types of benefit: unemployment benefit, supplementary benefit and housing benefit.

They are not mutually exclusive and therefore it is possible to receive two or all three types of benefits simultaneously (but only up to a maximum of approx £27+ rent a week for a single person).

1. Unemployment Benefit

To be eligible for this you will have to have paid or been credited with Class 1 National Insurance contributions on earnings of at least £1,475 between April 1982 and March 1983. This will give you a basic rate of £27 per week or a little less if you do not quite meet the contribution conditions. You will automatically be given the claim forms for unemployment benefit when you sign on (see 'How to Claim' below) but take your P45 and a note of your National Insurance number with you.

2. Supplementary Benefit

Originally conceived as a 'safety net' for those unable to meet the contribution conditions for unemployment benefit but now provides the principal source of income for a large proportion of the country's unemployed including most student claimants. Eligibility is primarily dependent on the claimant's ability to sign on as available for work in the area in which they are living. There are two rates of benefit: householder and non-householder. 'Householder' implies someone who is individually responsible for all household expenses but even if you share a flat or house with others but have your own room, meters, etc. it may be possible to argue that you are maintaining a separate household. If you think you have been incorrectly classified you can appeal (see below). The basic rates for Supplementary Benefit are: householder £26.80; non-householder £21.45.

How to Claim Unemployment or Supplementary Benefit

On the first weekday of the vacation go down to your local unemployment benefit office (addresses in the phone book) and sign on as available for work. They will tell you any future arrangements for signing on, get you to fill in a number of forms and give you a B1 claim form which should be taken or sent to the local Supplementary Benefit Office. You may be called for an interview by this office and you will need to take with you proof of identity, recent bank statements and your rent book/tenancy agreement/letter from your landlord (Student Services if in

In these days when money is tight and the DHSS is even tighter you need to know all you can about your entitlements if you're not going to get screwed. In this article Student Services Welfare Adviser Karen Stott explains the ins and outs of the benefits game.

College accommodation).

Anyone receiving supplementary benefit is entitled to free NHS dental treatment, glasses and prescriptions. So if you think you might be needing any of them ask about claiming whilst you are at the DHSS office.

3. Housing Benefit

Responsibility for meeting housing costs now lies with local housing authorities. There are three types of benefits:

a) *Certified Housing Benefit*—for those receiving supplementary benefit and so called because eligibility is dependent on receipt of a certificate of entitlement from the DHSS. Under this benefit you may receive 100% of your housing costs.

b) *Standard Housing Benefit*—anyone can apply. The basic rebate is 60% of your rent and rates on weekly earnings of around £60 for a single person with additions or deductions if your income is above or below that level.

c) *Housing Benefit Supplement*—an addition to standard housing benefit for those who apply but narrowly miss qualifying for supplementary benefit on income grounds.

Students can apply for housing benefit in term time and vacations although term time eligibility is limited. During the summer your entitlement will depend on your circumstances. If you are unemployed and receiving supplementary or unemployment benefit, you should get 90-100% of

your housing costs back through certificated housing benefit or through standard housing benefit and housing benefit supplement. If you are working, you may still be able to claim some money back, depending on your income, through standard housing benefit. Since standard housing benefit can be paid during temporary absences from your normal 'home' you may also be able to get some help if you have to pay a retainer on your term time accommodation over the summer but you will need to convince the housing authority that your term time address is in fact your 'home'.

How to Claim Housing Benefit

If you are claiming Unemployment or Supplementary Benefit then all you need to do is to make it clear to the people dealing with your claim that you wish to claim Housing Benefit. They should then send you all the appropriate forms to be completed and returned to your local housing authority.

For standard housing benefit call into the local housing authority office (usually based in the Town Hall) for the area in which you are paying rent, or for boroughs around College, come into Student Services and collect a housing benefit application form. Your claim will be dated from the day on which your completed forms are received by your local housing office and you will need to submit proof of your rent and proof of your income with the application.

The housing authority do have the power to reduce the amount they pay if they consider your rent to be excessively high. If you think they have used this power unreasonably you can appeal (see below). If you are trying to use standard housing benefit to reclaim money that you have to pay as a retainer on your term time accommodation, then you *must* submit a claim to the relevant housing authority in London.

Some points to note with claiming benefits

Holidays: Housing Benefit can be paid during temporary absences but you should let the housing benefit office know your plans. For unemployment/supplementary benefit you can complete a holiday form which will allow you up to sixteen days away within the British Isles without losing benefit but you must sign on again as soon as you return. If you go on holiday abroad you will not be entitled to any benefit whilst you are out of the country and you must start a completely new claim as soon as you return.

Co-habiting: When an unmarried couple live together as husband and wife they are treated as a married couple for benefit purposes. The official reason for this regulation is to be fair to married couples, but since a married couple receive considerably less benefit than two single people it is easy to see another reason for the persistence with which this regulation is followed up. If you are classified as co-habiting only one of you will be allowed to make a claim with the other person being treated as your dependent. To avoid being classed as a couple you will have to prove that the two of you live totally independently as regards rent and other bills, and you will usually need to prove you have your own rooms. If you feel you have been unjustly classified then appeal (see below).

Appeals: If you feel your benefit has been incorrectly or unfairly assessed don't be afraid to appeal. With both supplementary and housing benefit you have the right to appeal to a supplementary benefit tribunal or local authority review board whichever is appropriate. However, delay in asking for a review could cause you to lose your right to appeal. So if you are unsure about your benefit write to the relevant authority as early as possible asking for a full breakdown and indicating your intention to appeal if necessary. If you want to know more about the appeals procedure, Student Services can give you an outline of what happens and represent you at a tribunal or review board if you so wish. We can also help you check your assessment to see if an error has been made and help with chasing up unpaid benefits. Just call into the Student Services Office, 15 Princes Gardens, any weekday between 9:30am and 5:30pm or call us on 589 5111 ext 2033.

Karen Stott
Student Services

Nearest Benefit Offices for College Residences

Evelyn Gdns, Earls Court Sq, Fremantle Hotel and Cale St	
Unemployment Benefit	Wyfold Rd, Fulham SW6 385 2241
Supplementary Benefit	Waterford Hse, Waterford Rd, SW6 736 3399
Housing Benefit	Kensington & Chelsea Town Hall, Hornton St, W8 937 5464
Halls of Residence	
Unemployment Benefit	same as Evelyn Gdns
Supplementary Benefit	Same as Evelyn Gdns
Housing Benefit	Westminster City Hall, 83 Victoria St, SW1 828 8070
Hamlet Gdns & Sinclair Gdns	
Unemployment Benefit	200 Shepherds Bush Rd, W6 603 3456
Supplementary Benefit	Charles Hse, 375 Ken High St, W14 603 4633
Housing Benefit	Hammersmith & Fulham Housing Centre, 77 Glenthorne Rd, W6 748 3020
Lexham Gdns	
Unemployment Benefit	Same as Hamlet Gdns
Supplementary Benefit	Same as Hamlet Gdns
Housing Benefit	Same as Evelyn Gdns

FOR THOSE NOT LIVING IN COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION: You can 'sign on' at any Unemployment Benefit Office (addresses in the phone book under 'Employment Offices') and they should be able to tell you which is your appropriate DHSS and Housing Benefit offices. Alternatively, Student Services has a list of the offices relevant to each London postal district.

Editorial

One Last Rant

Now is the time in the year when the FELIX Editor gets a chance to survey all he sees and have one last rant before he loses all his super powers and is transformed back into an obscure nobody once more.

The Union

This year has been a fairly ordinary year for the students union. Things have been kept ticking over, the clubs and societies have been as healthy and active as ever and there have been a few improvements in services without any real improvement in the lot of ordinary students. The Union's greatest problem, has been that as a body it has been irrelevant to most of its members. Most UGMs, even in the first term have been barely quorate; what an indictment it is when not even 300 people out of a total membership of 4000 are interested in the Union. One can hardly blame them when all they get is a list of what Union officers have already done on their behalf. There has not been one single decision put to a UGM, not one issue that a UGM's views have been consulted. The Union can only become relevant and of interest to its members if it ceases to be as autocratic as it has been this year and allows its ordinary members to take an active part in decision-making and the running of the Union.

Gaynor Lewis

Gaynor has been a very pleasant and approachable President. She has worked hard and conscientiously throughout the year and has always tried to be helpful to everyone that comes to see her. I have been critical of her this year because she has not been one of the most able Presidents. She came into the job without much experience of the Union or College and has suffered for it. She has not been able to take a broad view of the Union and this has led her to make some very ill-informed decisions. Coming in fresh faced to College committees has meant she has continually had to be on the defensive, responding to proposals put forward by College and hardly ever putting Union initiatives to College. College are always ready to take advantage of inexperience and weakness. She has been fortunate indeed to have Christine Teller, a woman of much experience, as her Deputy this year.

Residence

It is often said that Imperial College offers more accommodation for students than any other College in London. Never the less it can only guarantee to accommodate its students for one year in a House or Hall. At any other university or college this would be a disgraceful situation. With the exception of its Princes Gardens Halls, Imperial College offers some of the most overpriced sub-standard accommodation around. The state of some of the Student Houses is appalling and students are often crammed into rooms like sardines.

Michael Arthur was given the job of increasing the number of residences for students. What did he come up with? The Fremantle Hotel. A residence which is ill-equipped, falling apart and costs nearly £30pw!

At a public meeting on Residence this year College Secretary John Smith said that 'the amount of College accommodation could be

increased by 1000 over night'. But he felt that this would be 'uneconomical' and 'infeasible'.

The Union should not settle for a paltry one year out of three or four in College accommodation. College can get more accommodation if there is sufficient will. Pressure from the Union could increase accommodation by 1000 overnight.

Academic Affairs

Academically most students get a good deal from College. The workload is often high but most of the courses are the best of their kind in the country. The only black mark in this otherwise rosy picture is the teaching ability of some of the lecturers. These people may be brilliant in their field but have little idea of how to teach. Lecturer training is resisted by College because Imperial is primarily a research centre. One can understand the dilemma faced by departments; on the one hand their reputation depends on attracting the best scientists in the world, on the other they have a responsibility to provide good courses for their students. Some departments do make an effort to take teaching performance into account when judging promotions and making sure lecturers are doing their jobs properly but this is by no means universal. The Union should be lobbying strongly next year to get some sort of uniform policy in this area from the Rector.

College

It is often said what a good position we are in in terms of student representation on College committees. However when it comes to making really important decisions, all pretence of cooperation and consultation goes out of the window. Admin are always prepared to ask Union representatives their opinion on certain issues at College committees and, as demonstrated with the mid-session price increase, is quite willing to ignore them completely when it suits them.

Unless College continue to pay little more than lip service to the Union then we can only come to the conclusion that student representation amounts to bugger all at this place.

It is worth remembering that some of the greatest successes the Union had against College in the sixties and seventies were when the Union threatened disruption and demonstrations. Everytime the Union has threatened refectory boycotts in the past in protest against price rises the College have climbed down immediately. If College aren't prepared to cooperate with the Union then they must be pushed, prodded and shouted at until they do.

And finally

And now, the end is near, and so I face the final curtain..... This year has flashed past so quickly, it seems just yesterday I was preparing to embark on editing FELIX. I promised to make FELIX more controversial, more lively and more entertaining. A lot of people haven't like some of the things I have said but I felt a number of things needed saying straight. It is clear from her interview with FELIX that Gaynor is in broad agreement with me on a number of issues. Unlike the President I don't have to be tactful or pull my punches. When Gaynor says she thinks Michael Arthur isn't doing his job as well as he should she really means he's an arrogant windbag who's far too interested in sucking up to his bosses in College than helping students.

Producing FELIX every single week of the term is a hard and arduous task and it is impossible to put your best into every issue. Over all I have been pleased with FELIX this year and I hope you have enjoyed reading FELIX as much as I have enjoyed editing it.

Have a nice summer!

Pallab Ghosh



•Top Row: David Rowe, Jon Jones, John Burgess, Ulysses, Hugh Stiles, David Jones.
•Middle Row: Tim Noyce, Hugh Southey, Len Moulder, J Martin Taylor, Matt Fawcett.
•Front: Nigel Atkinson, Peter Rodgers, Maz Fellows, Diane Love, Nick Shackley, Pete Hobbis.

•Plus: Tony Atkins, Claire Moss, John Scott, Lynne James, Steve Brann, Malcolm Gray, Steve Goulder, Simon Neild, Guy Riddihough, Carolyn Aldred, Dave Parry, Nick Thexton, Rich Archer, Pete Coleman, Jonathan Gerson, Peter Burt, Karen Stott and Steve Barnett.

My thanks to everyone who has helped on FELIX this year. It's been great fun working with you all. It would be impossible to pick out a few people since every one has worked so well this year. However a special thanks to J Martin Taylor for (usually) being so reliable with the news and being a constant source of amusement throughout the year. Jon Jones for pasting up so reliably all year. Tim Noyce for producing his marvellous cartoons on demand so regularly for two years. Maz Fellows for typesetting and all her help throughout the year. An extra special thanks to Peter Dawson who has been working 14 hours a day all this week printing this issue.