



FELIX

The Newspaper Of Imperial College Union

Founded 1949

Hyde Park revisited

Only six IC students took part in yesterday's march protesting against the proposed 50% ULU cuts. About 250 in all marched from ULU in Malet Street to the offices of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

The march began at midday yesterday, when the protestors were addressed by representatives of ULU, the Association of University Teachers (AUT) and NUS National President Vicky Phillips. They then set off stopping traffic on Tottenham Court Road and Euston Road on the way.

Once at the UGC, ULU President Jane Cannon personally presented a petition of 12,500 signatures protesting about the cuts, while the demonstrators chanted outside in the rain.

Representing Imperial was IC

Union Hon Sec Dave Colley, who commented afterwards that "they didn't know any good songs."

NUS inaction

The National Union of Students held a demonstration on Saturday against falling student grants, student loans and the Tory government's education policy. The demonstration, which was held in Hyde Park, attracted between twenty and twenty five thousand students from colleges around the country. NUS president

Vicky Phillips told FELIX that this was the first stage of a long battle. She added "6.2 million students, who the government have upset and ignored, will be voting for the first time. For every one person on the demonstration hundreds could not afford to attend, but if the government dare to introduce student loans then we will all fight together."

ICU president Christine Taig, when asked about the demonstration said she thought the NUS was naive. She was too busy to go on the demonstration, but when asked said she was not impressed with Vicky Phillips' comments on radio and television. She advised all students concerned about grants and loans to vote for the Labour candidates in the forthcoming general election.

Rose romps home

Alan Rose of DOC will be next year's ICU Deputy President. Mr Rose was the only candidate standing for the post when papers came down at 5.30pm on Wednesday, and has been returned unopposed. There are two candidates contesting each of the other posts. Bill Goodwin and Ian Howgate are standing for ICU President and Symon Corns and Chas Jackson are standing for ICU Hon Sec. The two candidates for FELIX Editor are Chris Edwards and Judith Hackney. The ICU Hustings UGM will be next Thursday at 1.00pm in the Great Hall. Voting takes place on Monday March 9th and Tuesday March 10th. There will be ballot boxes in all departments. A special manifesto's issue of FELIX will be published next Friday, and there will be a results FELIX on Wednesday March 11th.

Mr Politician

"It's democracy they're afraid of" according to Mr Tony Benn MP, who spoke to a packed Great Hall on Monday. Mr Benn addressed nearly 400 students, at a meeting organised by IC Socialist Society.

The theme of Mr Benn's talk was that Capitalism has its power base in the Press and financial institutions. He said that the media divided society by setting up groups against each other, citing those in work and the unemployed, black and white, and Catholic and Protestant as examples. "We need", he said, "something as strong as Capitalism" in order to rebuild anything worth living for in Britain. Just as Capitalism has power outside Parliament, he added, the power of Socialism must be outside the Labour party. The Labour party's problems, he continued, had been caused by forgetting that democracy "is not what someone else does on our behalf".

Much of the questioning directed at Mr Benn was devoted to the subject of defence. Emphasising that his views were dissimilar to Labour Party policy, he continued that he envisaged



Beam me up Scottie

a non-nuclear Britain, and a consequent withdrawal from NATO, brought about by US pressure. Britain's ultimate fate, he believed, was to become a leading light amongst the non-aligned states.

Mr Benn went on to say that the United States was now an imperialist state, mirroring the British Empire he had grown up in. Its attempts at

destabilising the Soviet Union through arms supplies to Islamic fundamentalists in Iran and Afghanistan were, he said, "extremely dangerous".

When it was pointed out that a Soviet invasion had sparked off the war in Afghanistan, he retorted that Britain had invaded Afghanistan at least four times last century.

Weeks give way

The Weeks Hall rent strike has been averted. A resident's meeting on Wednesday was told by Student Accommodation Officer Lesley Gillingham that all the residents demands had been acceded to.

The meeting was told that all residents would be given an £8 rebate for the two weeks the hall was without heat and water, and that the repairs which had been demanded would be carried out immediately. The heating system will be renovated over the summer, five years overdue, and the kitchens would be upgraded, the details depending on demand for rooms next year.

Dave Colley, ICU Hon Sec, said that a Union holding account was ready in case of a rent strike as had been the case in 1974. A vote decided to cancel the rent strike, 39 to 0 with two abstentions.

On with the pointless grind

Dear Dave,

On the subject of UGM attendance, may I note the following:

i) Poor attendance is intimately connected with the general climate of apathy that reigns in IC.

ii) People tend to be more apathetic in the subjects that require their contribution towards a goal that serves the 'common good.'

iii) These subjects may be related to Union or other student activities, decisions on political matters and especially humanitarian work (eg Amnesty, Third World.)

The whole structure of studies is such that after three years far too many people feel sick and tired of their courses. As a third year I find myself under enormous work pressure. I think that for most of us there's no question of trying to get a good degree and spending time for other activities as well. We all knew from the beginning that IC would mean hard work, but we're not merely faced with hard work here, we're faced with over-crowded courses where trying to learn masses of information destroys the beauty of scientific thinking.

This results in something else as well: along with specific reasons such as those mentioned in Christine Taig's bit last week, poor attendance at UGM's and general apathy may be attributed to the fact that students of Imperial do not feel part of it. There is virtually no such thing as an IC community; we don't have the time (in the long run) to identify with IC or the Union; we don't belong to them.

As long as the course structure remains as it is, having as an aim to produce people for industry in the least possible time (ie with the least possible expenditure), both our interest in our courses and Union etc. activities will be in great danger, to say the least. It seems, therefore, that the work of the people in the Union—which is very important indeed—will go on finding no response or acknowledgement.

The few enthusiasts will have to work bloody hard for seemingly insignificant changes, for students that don't give a damn but who do need those enthusiasts. Abolishing UGMs and the like does not solve any of the problems. So the (serious) suggestion is that you have to go on no matter how pointless the task seems sometimes.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Moutoussis, Physics III.

Smug and self-righteous

Dear Dave,

Sorry to hog the letters page again, but I'd like to set Rob Brown straight on a few points he raised in his letter of last week, under the heading of 'In God he trusts.'

I do not wish to stamp my ethics on society, and it is not true to say that I have no time to listen to anyone else. Most of all, I am not merely insisting that my way is right, full stop. My ethics, as he terms them, are my own; not everyone would wish to follow them, and why should they? All I want people to concede is that my way is right for me, and for people like me, and that this doesn't need to affect anyone else. Is that so difficult? Apparently, at Imperial College it is: to moderate this attitude must be the most compelling *raison d'etre* of the gay and lesbian officer.

I would also like to say that I, and I am sure many others, found Mr Brown's quote from New Society smug and self-righteous in the extreme. There are lots of reasons why London's down-and-outs are what they are, and not all of these involve being "smelly, noisy, nauseous, drunk and drugged." People may be reduced to living rough in London by sheer misfortune, of a kind which might break the writer of that offensive article.

You stick to your God and your New Society, Mr Brown, and I'll stick to my 'ethics.'

Yours sincerely,
Andrew Bannister, Geology I.

"Arbitrary rules"

Dear FELIX,

I am not surprised that people are casually dismissive of God with people like Rob Brown (Letters, FELIX 764) as his self-appointed

messenger. People like him seem to want to reduce God to a series of rules mainly about what not to do with one's genitals. If that is not the case, why did he mention gays at all, as I fail to see otherwise the connection of his opening paragraph with the rest of his letter.

The Christ one reads of in the gospels has little time for those whose religion is merely preaching arbitrary rules, or picking out bits of scripture to reinforce their own prejudices. His message is one of social justice: how one wishes some of the self-righteous 'evangelical' Christians who abound at IC turned their attention to this major theme and left off their obsession with sex.

Yours sincerely,
Matthew Huntbach, Dept. of Computing.

Of terrorists and the ANC

Dear Sir,

With reference to Y Mponella's letter (FELIX 764) I believe it is unfair to imply ignorance purely on the grounds of holding an unpopular or differing opinion. Furthermore, he/she then expects to educate these so called ignorant people with a simplistic view of the situation which favours the ANC. I am writing to introduce a little reality into the argument.

Firstly, I accept the presence of refugees in neighbouring countries, unfortunately the ANC chooses to hide behind the civilians knowingly endangering the people they claim to represent. The governments of these countries are aware of the presence of these terrorists but do nothing substantial to remove them.

Secondly Y Mponella seems confident of the future. "I hope the ANC....when it comes to power." This seems to indicate a slide towards totalitarianism as, for instance, the Zulus appear to be forgotten. Could

it be because the majority of Zulus accept peaceful change and reform? Indeed perhaps most of the population favour reform, currently more black people are joining the police force than ever. There is no right way to end apartheid, just a best way by which the least people are hurt.

Thirdly, comparison with the Second World War is ridiculous. The ANC are not waging war, if they were they would not be burning civilians and leaving land mines for innocent people to stumble across. They do not consistently attack the armed forces, who expect the possibility of being killed, but instead intimidate the defenceless. This is my objection to the terrorism of the ANC and terrorism everywhere, so hopefully this also answers Andrew Partington's letter also in FELIX 764.

I would like to point out that the issue is being clouded by specific reference to South Africa, my first letter was an attempt to disregard the morality of apartheid and concentrate on the fight against terrorism. At least Andrew Partington understood this and wrote a relevant letter. As I have already said I do not have a low, but on the contrary a high, regard for human life, otherwise I would not want to see it protected from terrorists.


Almost everyone can envisage a situation in which they would kill, merely because some of us admit it more readily, does not make us extremists. Death is a good deterrent unless facing a Jihad, which the majority of terrorism isn't, as terrorists are generally out to further their own selfish ends and getting killed usually isn't one of them. This power lust is exactly the reason, for example, that if our forces withdrew from Northern Ireland the terrorist factions would not form a coalition or whatever else Andrew Partington expects them to do.

Lastly, I would like to apologise for assuming Ms Adenubi was a man. As you might have guessed I am far from brilliant with names; the odds were four to one in my favour and still I got it wrong.

Yours sincerely,
Mike Allen, Physics I.

FELIX is published by the Editor for and on behalf of Imperial College Union Publications Board and is printed by the Imperial College Union Print Unit, Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB (Tel 01 589 5111 ext 3515). Editor, David Jones. Business Manager, Jane Spiegel. Copyright FELIX 1987 ISSN 1040-0711.

MR CARTOONIST No.3 Boring Comic Strip

<p>This is Mr Cartoonist</p>  <p>He's a student at college in IC Land</p>	<p>You can tell Mr Cartoonist is a student</p>  <p>He thinks he's so trendy being politically and socially aware</p>	<p>Isn't it strange that Mr Cartoonist can't find any Mr Women?</p>  <p>Wrist Bandage</p> <p>NO. What does he expect being such a prat?</p>	<p>What boring drawings from offensive, pretentious opstarts will the editor let into the magazine next week?</p> <p>Mr Miner asks 'Is nepotism in Felix DEAD?'</p>
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By Mike, Mr Mining Geologist



Acid escape in Mines

At 12 noon on Monday this week, the ground floor of the old RSM building was visited by all three emergency services. Two fire engines with a mobile fire control unit were followed round to the rear of the RSM by two

ambulances and a police van. The services were called when an autoclave in the building exploded, causing a quantity of hydrochloric acid to be released. Two firemen dressed in protective clothing and masks to ward off fumes entered the building, only to be told by RSM staff that the situation was under control, and that no further help was required.

A spokesman told FELIX that the spillage had not been particularly serious, and that it had not been thought necessary to sound alarms in the building.

“The usefulness of an engineer is proportional to the square of the number of people he knows”

Sir Harold Harding

Cynical at first glance, but don't get us wrong. A nod, a wink and a funny handshake won't get even an OC onto the Board of Directors. That isn't what we are about. However, look at it this way. If you try to learn everything for yourself from scratch you will never learn enough. Much better to have access to other people's knowledge so you can take short-cuts.

Who was Sir Harold Harding? Well if you don't ask, you'll never find out.



OCs: A very special link

Old Students' Association Office, Room 303 Sheffield Building, Imperial College. Telephone 589-5111 Ext. 3026

Cardiff crisis

The financial crisis at University College Cardiff (UCC) has been deepening for the past few years. The college is about £5 million in debt at the moment, a figure which, a Price Waterhouse report says, could rise to £8.5-£11 million by the end of the decade. This situation has arisen partly because of the recent UGC policy which allocates money more on the basis of student numbers than the size and quality of research programs. Provincial universities, which are spread out and so have more duplication than city

universities, do particularly badly under the new system and UCC has been hit hard.

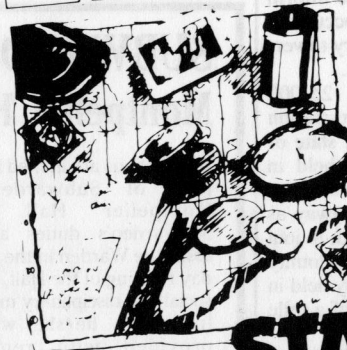
Unfortunately, the Government underfunding has been exacerbated by the principal, Dr. Cecil Bevan, whose management has been criticised. The UCC branch of the AUT, non-professional staff and the College Senate have all passed votes of no confidence in Dr. Bevan who is due to retire next year.

Since the Price Waterhouse report UCC has been asked to present financial and academic plans. These have cited freezes on new staff and library books and possible redundancies as ways of saving money. An overseer has been appointed to help implement any cuts. If the UCC account is not in the black by 1990 then a planned merger with the University of Wales will not take place.

Tuesday 3rd March
**RCSU Elections Party
 & Barnight**
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 Guest Band:-
HACKNEY FIVE 0
 All evening 6—late

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Garden mix

Dear Professor Ash,

I am writing to you on behalf of the residents of Garden Hall to express our dissatisfaction at this hall being an all male residence.

It is a view widely held within Garden Hall that the absence of female residents creates an artificial atmosphere which is less pleasant to live in than that of the other halls, all of which are mixed. It is generally felt that the presence of female residents would change this artificiality, since women usually exert a pacifying, civilising influence on others—as the other halls show.

To demonstrate the depth of feeling on this issue, I enclose a petition signed by over 90% of the hall's residents—an overwhelming majority—who agreed that, in principle, Garden Hall should cease to be an all male hall of residence.

Of course, there are practical considerations too. However, I am assured by the hall's Subwarden, Mr. Ivor Ellul, that he has already considered the problems which would arise and is satisfied they can be solved.

The residents of Garden Hall have made their views clear, and await further developments with interest.

Yours sincerely,

David Bottomley (Garden Hall
reapplicant for 1987/88).

FELIX fails to inform

Sir,

We would like to complain in the strongest possible terms about the inability of FELIX, and Imperial College Union in general, to inform students about anything occurring outside the walls of this ivory tower, known as Imperial College.

Last Saturday, around 25,000 students took part in a demonstration to protest about the current state of student finances. Although held in London, students came from all parts of the country, from as far away as Scotland and Northern Ireland, to join the march, which started at County Hall and culminated in a rally held in Hyde Park, only a quarter of a mile away from Imperial.

However, there was no mention of this major event in FELIX. Indeed, ICU seemed totally unaware of it, and consequently so were the vast majority of students at IC. The first we heard about it was when it was reported on the peak time national news on BBC1.

Admittedly, the rally was organised by the NUS, of which Imperial, rightly or wrongly, is not a part. But surely the individual should be able to decide whether or not to take part

in such a campaign, of the utmost importance to the average student. It is a severe indictment of the self-centred attitude (or could it be ineptitude) of ICU that they did not know about this event, and so we were denied the opportunity to participate.

This is by no means the first time that students at Imperial have been unable to take part in organised student gatherings, either on a national scale, as in this case, or simply for London based colleges, because of the failure of ICU and its relevant societies (eg Socialist Society) to tell its members that they are taking place.

Perhaps there was some official representation by so-called 'Union hacks.' But if ICU did know of the rally, then surely the Union has abdicated its responsibility to the general body of students by keeping this information from them. If they did not know of such an important expression of student views, then we would question the effectiveness of the Union as the representative body of Imperial Students.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Othen, Physics II

Robin Choudbury, Physics II

Richard Whatmough, Chemistry II

Daniel Walker, Elec. Eng. PG.

Ed's note

My apologies for the lack of publicity for this march. The reason was very simple—I forgot about it. If any of Messrs Othen, Choudbury, Whatmough, or Walker would like to join the FELIX news staff I would be delighted to meet them—give me a ring on 3515.

SUBWARDEN Montpelier Hall

Applications are invited for the post of Subwarden of Montpelier Hall. The Subwarden's duties are to assist the Warden in the day to day running of the Hall, and in social and disciplinary matters. In return, he/she will be provided with rent-free accommodation. The successful candidate should be a full-time post-graduate student at Imperial College.

Applications/Enquiries to:

Kevin O'Conner
The Warden
Montpelier Hall

The closing date for applications is March 6th 1987.

Felix

Because of the nature of the FELIX editor's job, and my bad planning, I frequently find myself returning to Southside Hall at around 4-5am. This is not something I choose to do. There appear to be many IC students who like nothing better than spending the entire night-time watching their friends playing space invaders. I can just about see the attraction of trying to zap the Martians/Venusians/Uranians before you get zapped, but how anyone can spend any length of time watching someone else play (sometimes in groups of around 12) has yet to be explained to me. Perhaps I am being too cynical (*Impossible!—typesetter*); perhaps this particular "IC intellect" is a result of too many thermodynamics lectures. Either way, the never-ending beeping from the wretched Selkirk machine is beginning to irritate me intensely, and if some act of vandalism is perpetrated against it in the next few weeks I will probably be responsible.

Sabbatical Elections

Next week is the FELIX manifesto's issue. All candidates must submit copies of their manifestos by 10.00am on Monday morning, with a photo if they wish to have one printed. There will be no question of late submissions being included. Anyone

who still has not seen me about publicity should do so as soon as possible.

Credits

21 issues gone, 11 still to come, and we still haven't finished collating before closing time. Many thanks to a very special group of people; David Burns, especially for cleaning the office—a man after my own heart, Kamala Sen, Francis Miers, Charles Robin, Andy Bannister, Chris Martin, Pippa Salmon, Neil Motteram, Mark Cottle, Judith Hackney, Chris Edwards, David Williams, Liz Holford, Helena, Chas Jackson, Grenville Manuel, Sundi, Sunny Bains, Steve Kilmurray, Bill Goodwin, Rachel Black, Al Birch, Nigel Whitfield, Gail Turner, Jane Spiegel, Pete Wilson, Christine Taig, Drain, Hamster, Rose Atkins and Steve Shackell. Thanks also to Dave Rowe for the meal I missed.

Debts

Mike Jones, all the RCS election candidates who wanted publicity on Thursday, and whoever decided that there were only seven days in a week.

David Jones

UNION BAR

Sat 28th Feb

FREE BEER

Buy a pint of Charles Wells 'BOMBARDIER' and we'll give you a bottle of 'IMPERIAL ALE' (bottled specially for IC).

Get one and a half pints for the price of one.

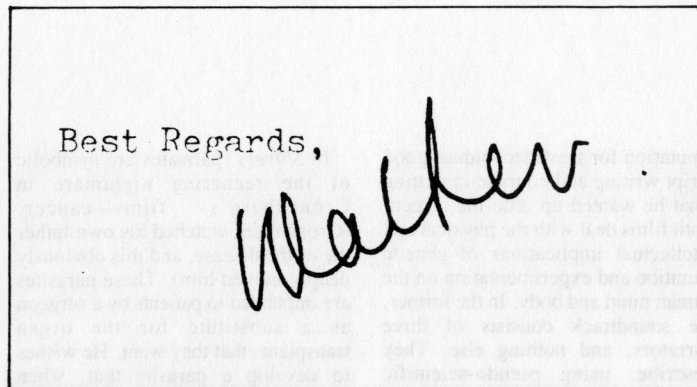
Walter's bit

Walter is pleased to observe that the construction of the new Department of Computing premier is proceeding apace. Not being a civil engineer he cannot comment on the design but to the tyro it does appear to be a case of rather large girders held together with rather small bolts. He can envisage the future case, in the event that someone has miscalculated, of the Department of Computing operating in one storey, two foot high, wall to wall steel pancake, although this would probably be preferable to their current accommodation.

Although next year's sabbaticals are immune to the power of the pen—for the moment—this year's are still providing their customary fun. Specifically, Mr. D.I. Colley, whose legendary hunger led him at one point to eat an election paper. The place has been alive with nasty rumours, and Walter being the gentleman he is, has recorded every one, hoping to distill fact from fiction. Alas, it is impossible! Which only goes to prove that one shouldn't listen to rumours, even if they *are* started by the current Honorary Secretary.

Walter is desolate, yes dammit

desolate, to observe this week that the actions in certain unmentionables in standing for sabbatical posts has robbed him of his main source of entertainment, as sabbatical



candidates are ipso facto hands off to the press. However, some events at the Union General Meeting seem to merit a word or three.

Walter was delighted to observe, in this plastic world, that some good soul proposed the abandonment of plastic knives, forks and glasses in the Union bars. He was rather less delighted to see the motion summarily thrown out.

On the subject of the Union bars, congratulations to the RSM for winning the football and the hockey, if not the rugby, at their bottle match against Cambourne last Saturday. No congratulations at all for inviting them back to the bars for a few drinks, although one result of this was to promote the fastest 20 yard dash yet recorded by Mr. Northey. On seeing a fire hose turned on his beloved pizza shack, he moved with a most

nothing...with the result that Mr. Colley started another ulcer, and Council on Monday heard a suggestion from Hurrican Christine that Cambournians should be banned. This, of course, came to nowt.

Walter apologises for this weeks lack of material, but informs his readers that things should warm up as soon as the elections are over. And you never know, we may yet hear from Southside shop, who have not yet responded to last weeks icy Walterian blast. Nor have they lowered their prices...

One final thing: Walter suggests that Mr. Royle should make contact with someone about his taste for flagellation. This someone must remain unnamed for the nonce, but in a few weeks...publish and be damned!

Earlier this week, Walter listened with interest to the sound of Mr Richard G. Fincher on IC Radio. He congratulates Mr. Fincher for such a remarkable performance in one so young, but he feels obliged to observe that if the young gentleman devoted himself more to his school curriculum and less to broadcasting, he would find himself better prepared when he is old enough to come to Imperial College as a student.

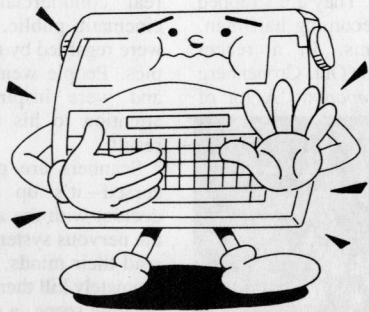
Finally, Walter would like to apologise to readers for his absence from these pages last week—gossip was short and column space was shorter: Et tu, Editor?

Backstroke

Computer shops have always suffered from people typing swear words into their display models and have them printed in large letters on the screen. Infuriated at having "Johnny is a w***ker" splattered in green all across the screen, they have decided to retaliate against this menace with a battery of countermeasures.

as "This person is a pervert."

Given the popularity of foreign films like *Diva* and *Betty Blue* amongst young aesthetes these days, an alternative theatre group operating from Islington has decided to stage a production of *Candide* in the original French with subtitles. Actors deliver their lines in French while extras enter



Each micro now comes complete with a 'swear-filter' which roots out any offending words and replaces them with more socially acceptable phrases such as "not very nice" or "Mary Whitehouse." As an additional deterrent a speech synthesizer can be hooked up which generates embarrassing messages such

carrying placards with the English translation.

James Houston of the group explains: "The play sounds much better in Voltario's original version, however, we want to bring the play to a wider audience, and the only way we can do it is with subtitles."

News, glorious News,

Last Tuesday, the first issue of Robert Maxwell's new London newspaper came out. The long-awaited *London Daily News* is printed round the clock at a rate of five editions a day. It is aimed at a sector of the market which is occupied safely by *The London Evening Standard*. The *Standard* which is owned by Associated Newspapers, whose chairman is Lord Rothermere, swallowed its only previous competition, the *Evening News* seven years ago and has been the only London Daily ever since.

In comparison with the *Standard*, I think it stands up very well. The first issue was noticeably thicker with sixty-four pages, but this may not outlast the extra effort involved with the launch edition. It is, in my view, a lot easier to find one's way about the *News* than the *Standard*, moreover, the headings are a lot bolder making it easier to pick up the snippets of news that are of particular interest.

As far as content goes, there is little to choose between them. They both opt for a similar mix of news and gossip and they both give a sound basis for Labour's claims of a 'Tory' press, with uncomplimentary reports on the 'loony left' councils, but the *Standard* excels itself with a long article by Norman Tebbit while the *News* redresses the balance somewhat with an article on the Greenwich by-

election sympathetic to Deirdre Wood, the Labour candidate.

Predictably on the issue of their own rivalry the *News* is loud and the *Standard* is silent. The *News* has a front page article on its own launch, an editorial claiming the *Standard* is 'running scared' and a long article on what it sets out to do. The only clue in the *Standard* that the *News* exists at all is an article describing the relaunch of the *Evening News*—Lord Rothermere's answer to the *London Daily News*—which doesn't even mention Robert Maxwell's new paper.

In the very important entertainments section, the *News* again comes off better. Its headings are a lot clearer, making it easier to find what you want and the cinema section contains a brief sentence on each film as well as the times, place and age rating. All the entertainment in the news comes out in a handy pull-out section. The theatre coverage in the *Standard* is, however, more extensive.

In spite of my rather low opinion of Robert Maxwell, I would recommend his paper above the *Standard*, at least for the moment. It is remarkably free from his odious values. If the population of London agree with me, the *Standard* will undoubtedly improve, to the benefit of all.

The Fly opened in London on Friday 13th February (and was reviewed in the FELIX issue of the same date). The director is a mild-mannered 42 year old Canadian dubbed variously 'The Baron of Blood', 'The Prince of horror and Dave 'Deprave' Cronenberg.

Canada must have been a hard place for an aspiring young film maker to become a success. There is no studio system in Canada to speak of, and this means two things; firstly, there are no big financiers who will put up money for films. Secondly, therefore, there are not many bankable Canadian stars to be found working in Canada.

The logic runs like this: only big budget films are successful, rewarding their backers with profits. Therefore a Canadian film is going to need more money than its group of small-time investors will ever be able to put up. The Government, in the guise of the Canadian Film Development Corporation will help by supplementing the budget. But now, since the film is using Government money, it must have Canadian leading players. And because there aren't many of these who are well known where it counts (ie: the USA, Europe, etc) the film, once made, is pretty unlikely to be successful. This partly-vicious circle hence imposes a limit, or 'ceiling investment' on what potential backers will put into a film. However, the circle is only partly-vicious because, by its very nature, it encourages selection of only the best from the directors working within it. And it was from this system that David Cronenberg emerged.

It was at university, with some student friends, that Cronenberg discovered the medium of film, delighting in its possibilities of expression. Even at this early stage his uncanny ability at blending together the macabre with scientific and literary themes is clearly apparent, especially in two of his first short films, *From the Drain* and *Transfer*. *Transfer* is described by Cronenberg, who wrote, photographed, directed and edited the film as 'a surreal sketch for two people—a psychiatrist and his patient—at a table set for dinner in the middle of a field covered in snow. The psychiatrist has been followed there by his obsessive former patient.

From the Drain has two men sitting in a bath discussing the changes that are occurring in the biology of both man and plants. Whilst one of these mutated plants comes up from the drain and kills one of the men the other merely watches, and then takes all that is left—a pair of shoes—and stores them in a cupboard, which is already full of shoes of previous victims. It becomes obvious that all this is a plot to prevent veterans talking publicly about 'the War'. Both of these films are strongly surrealist; the events pass before the viewer's eyes as if they were a dream.

Stereo and *Crimes of the Future* established for Cronenberg a

Blood Baron

FELIX film buff Charles Robin looks back at the career and films of the controversial Canadian director David Cronenberg

reputation for fresh technique, good script writing and courage in putting what he wanted up onto the screen. Both films deal with the physical and intellectual implications of genetic mutation and experimentation on the human mind and body. In the former, the soundtrack consists of three narrators, and nothing else. They describe, using pseudo-scientific phrases and long, intricate sentences, a highly organised and carefully orchestrated experiment in which "Eight category A subjects underwent pattern brain surgery to make them telepathic".

In *Crimes of the Future*, a dermatologist, whilst trying to cure lethal skin conditions caused by cosmetics, creates Rouge's Malady, resulting in the eradication of the post-pubertal female population. The soundtrack is the musings of the protégé of the scientist who caused the catastrophe, and the film has one section in slow motion—the closing sequence, where the narrator starts crying as he impregnates a five year old girl before she passes puberty and becomes a victim of the Malady.

With these two works 'tucked under his arm' Cronenberg made his way to the Cannes Film Festival—and promptly realised that nothing like what he was offering had ever been seen before. So he beat a hasty retreat to the French countryside and decided that he had to have something more 'commercially viable' to show to the public and communicate his ideas. With partial funding from the CFDC, *Shivers*' (also known as *The Parasite Murders*, *They Came from Within*) was made.

In *Shivers*, parasites are symbolic of the recurring nightmare in Cronenberg's films—cancer. (Cronenberg watched his own father die of the disease, and this obviously deeply moved him). These parasites are implanted in patients by a surgeon as a substitute for the organ transplants that they want. He wishes to develop a parasite that, when implanted in a host, could isolate the malfunctioning organ, consume it and then replace it, duplicating its function exactly and forming a symbiotic relationship with the patient. Unfortunately the surgeon's experiments have gone wrong, and the parasites grow and divide in the bodies of their hosts, secreting enzymes which turn them into sex-crazed machines. The parasite, literally an aphrodisiac crossed with venereal disease, is deliberately designed to be repulsive. Cronenberg exhibits an almost puritan disgust at the promiscuity of the inhabitants of the sterile starliner complex in which the film takes place.

Fast Company is something of a departure from Cronenberg's firmly established territory in the horror genre—it isn't even horror. The film is about drag racing—and drag racing—and drag racing. All tarted up with a little humour, sex and violence. Cronenberg says of it: "*Fast Company* is really about men and machines." The drivers put on cold, unemotional helmets that make them featureless robots. They are strapped into their cars, becoming half-man, half-car organisms. In a recent interview with Time Out, Cronenberg said of *Fast Company*: "A lot of

people think it's an anomaly, but it's as much me as *Videodrome* or anything else." The fact that Cronenberg ever agreed to direct *Fast Company* is probably more to do with his own obsession with motor cars and bikes.

The Brood, Cronenberg's fourth 'proper' film, was made just after his marriage broke up. In it, the science of 'psychoplasms' allows patients to release their anxiety and anger by manifesting the emotion in their bodies.

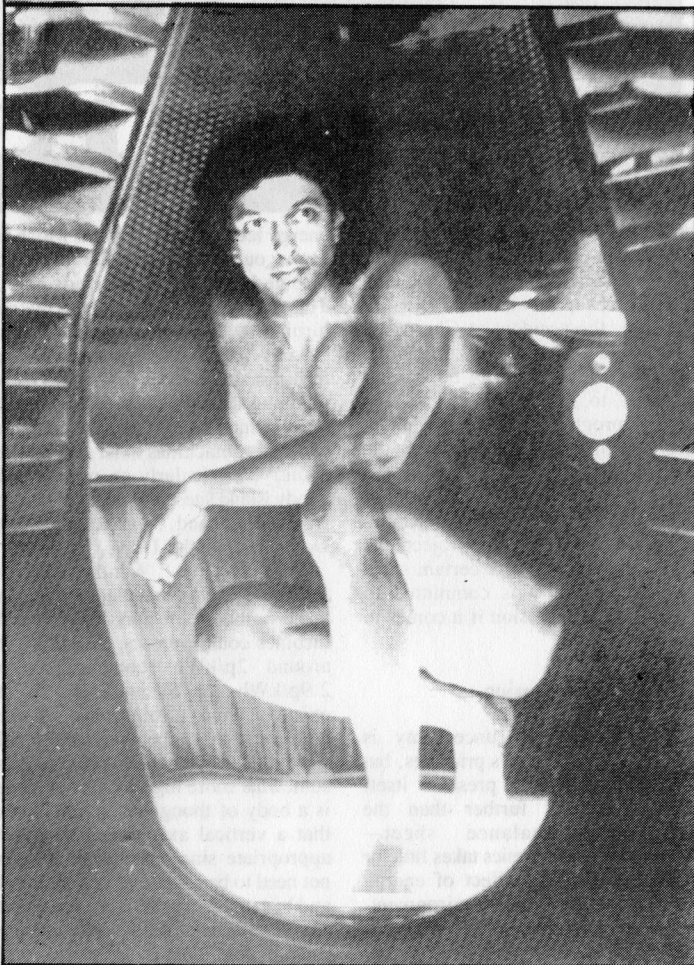
The film is an allegorical tale about the breakdown of a marriage. The frustration, fear and anger of the mother is manifested as a brood of murderous 'children of rage.' Cronenberg described the film as his own personal *Kramer vs Kramer*, in which the mother's emotion is expressed with immeasurably more force than Meryl Streep's custody case.



Scanners marks Cronenberg's first real commercial impact on the cinematic public. Before, his films were regarded by most as exploitation pics. People went to see *Scanners*, and were inspired to pay more attention to his earlier films as a result.

Scanners are people blessed (or cursed—it's up to the viewer to decide) with the ability to lock onto the nervous systems of other people, read their minds, control them, and ultimately kill them. In the celebrated opening scene, a scanner explodes a man's head. The film is concerned with the way in which these scanners (of which there are relatively few—about 200) have split into two opposing factions because of their powers. One group wish only to live in peace: the other group are virtual fascists. The hero scanner, Cameron Vale, passes from the security organisation ComSec who wish to use scanners as tools of espionage, to the



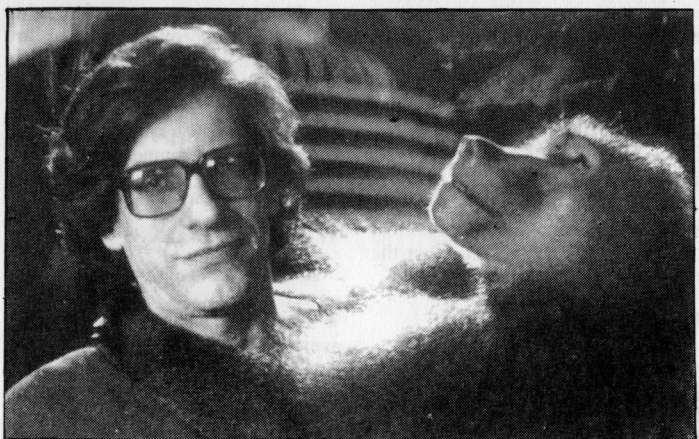


resistance and then to the fascists. As he investigates, he uncovers the elaborate plot of the fascists in which a drug, Ephemerol, (standing for Thalidomide?) is being clandestinely manufactured and given to pregnant women to produce scanner offspring. It is only at the end of the film that Vale discovers that the leader of the fascists is his brother. Their father was the pharmacologist who first developed Ephemerol as a pain killer for pregnant women, and tested the drug on his own wife.

Cronenberg artfully exploits the paranoia that is associated with obscure, faceless security organisations and pharmaceutical research. It also touches on another idea—invasion of the privacy of the mind.

Videodrome is undoubtedly what

made Cronenberg notorious with the press, public and censors alike. Explicit imagery runs rampant, burnt into the viewer's memory, unlikely to be ever forgotten; but then, that's the point of what Cronenberg always tries to do. *Videodrome* is a TV channel which seems to be broadcasting live, non-stop torture, all set in a single room. A TV station controller, Max Renn (played by James Woods) manages to pirate some of what *Videodrome* has to offer, and eagerly watches it. But he begins to suffer hallucinations, and, on investigating, discovers that he was deliberately fed *Videodrome* as an experiment. An additional signal is sent out under the normal TV signal, inducing brain tumors in the viewer. The result is hallucinations, the tone of which are influenced by whatever the original



programme was.

Cronenberg is cautioning us that no matter how we try to guard against it, what we see on television is increasingly becoming the source of raw experience upon which we draw in life. The film is his statement on his concern with the way we unthinkingly watch television, accepting it into our lives without ever considering its effect upon us.

After *Videodrome* and the swiftly following censorship rows Cronenberg went on to prove that he can make a film without the gore and splatter that his name has become virtually synonymous with. *The Dead Zone*, his highly acclaimed film version of Stephen King's novel of the same name, has the most sympathetic character of any Cronenberg film (along with *The Fly*). The leading characters of Cronenberg's other films are hardly heroes. At best, his characters can be termed 'victims'—but very seldom heroes. In *The Dead Zone* we have Johnny Smith (brilliantly played by Christopher Walken), a young man who suffers a car accident and emerges from his coma some years later with the ability to discern the past and future of an object or person he happens to touch. He discovers that the girl he loved before the accident has married someone else, but nevertheless manages to settle down to a reasonably happy life with his father. He solves a murder mystery, saves a boy's life by preventing him from going skating on some thin ice at a local lake and so on. But one day he shakes hands with a junior politician, and sees him in the future as the President of the United States, insane, starting World War III. Johnny Smith cannot avoid his destiny, no matter how he agonizes over whether or not he is actually doing the world any good.



Probably the most public aspect of Cronenberg's career is his running battle with the censors of various nations. In England we have seen such phenomena as legal actions (admittedly unsuccessful) to prevent the retail distribution of such films as *The Evil Dead*. But we can look to Canada to see what real censorship implies. The Canadian public have been unable to see the full, unabridged version of *Not a Love Story*. *The Brood*, featured in a Toronto Film Festival, had the 'birth' scene, crucial to the exposition of the film, cut.

Videodrome, which won Cronenberg the 'Best Direction' award at the Genies (the Canadian Oscars) has been cut both here in Great Britain and in America. In

Britain, its video release was indefinitely postponed, even though it had already suffered three extensive cuts.

Cronenberg's response to the issue of censorship is one of deep conviction. As a film maker, he can only wish for his films to be seen—no matter how censored they are. Mary Brown, former head of the Toronto Censor Board, is firmly set against what she sees as 'the virulent Cronenberg epidemic.' According to her research, people are more concerned with what they would want to stop their neighbour from being able to see, rather than themselves. In an interview Cronenberg commented: "The virus is only trying to live its life, just doing its job. In fact I think most diseases would be shocked to be considered diseases. It has a very negative connotation. For them, it's very positive when they take over your body and destroy you. It's a triumph."

Whilst Cronenberg may be on sound ground when he advocates the right of the individual to see something for him or herself, he does seem to skate across thin ice when he says: "As an artist one is not a citizen of society. One is bound to explore every corner of human experience. You can't worry about what your society regards as good or bad behaviour. The artist has no sense of social responsibility whatsoever." Several questions spring to mind from this speech; if an artist is not a member of society then how is he qualified to comment on that society. If the artist has no sense of social responsibility, does this mean that Cronenberg would go on TV participating in a programme like *Videodrome*? If he thought it was artistic would he torture people on live TV? Just how far is he prepared to go? Cronenberg's films all deal with the thesis that man has arrested his own natural evolution, and will soon begin to control it himself, that the body will evolve on its own, leaving the mind behind.

He has been described as the opposite of Steven Spielberg. Films such as the *Star Wars* series, the *Rocky* series, *ET*, all tell us that we shouldn't change modern society—it is fine as it is. We will win out in the end. Cronenberg says that we shouldn't change society because if we tried we would only make it worse.

Perhaps what Cronenberg really strives for in his films is best summed up by his own words.

"We have created our own Universe. And therefore what's wrong with it also comes from within us. We carry around the seeds of our own destruction within us. For me the imagery of *The Creature from the Black Lagoon* was always perfect because the Black Lagoon is the dark pool of the unconscious and of course there are creatures within it. The exercise is to jump down into the Lagoon to see what is going on down there and to say 'hello' to the creature."

Environmental week at Imperial College starts on Monday. In the third of a series of articles in FELIX we present a survey of "alternative" sources of energy.

When the word 'energy' is mentioned to you, any of a multitude of concepts may spring to mind. If you are a physicist, perhaps you immediately think 'mc²'; if you are a life scientist, you may think of photosynthesis, carbohydrates and the Krebs cycle; electrical engineers might go for kilowatt-hours, power stations and transmission lines, whereas mining students, at the sharp end of the energy supply chain, will probably think of energy in terms of coal, oil, gas or possibly even uranium.

I mention all these possibilities simply to show that the work of almost everyone at Imperial involves energy in one or more of its conceptual or physical forms. But perhaps none of these ideas is the first to enter your consciousness. If your feet are firmly planted on the ground and not halfway up the ivory tower of scientific esotericism, the mention of energy to you might conjure up thoughts of that quarterly panic when the gas or electricity bill land on your doormat at the same time as the letter from your bank manager. If this is the case, then you are probably more aware of the relevance of the energy question to an average citizen than any of those whose minds run on the tracks of their chosen subject. Energy is money: it is one of the four inputs which govern all economic activity (the others are labour, capital and raw materials). To an economist, the value of a potential energy source lies in its ability to minimise costs.

What of the future?

So far, so good. But there is a great danger in assuming that a conventional economic analysis will always provide the 'right' answer as to which source of energy is best for society. The reason for this can be summed up in two words: future uncertainty. To those without a crystal ball, factors such as the price of oil and future electricity demand can, when projected into the future, at best only have probabilities assigned to them. And there are other unknowns: public opinion in the wake of nuclear accidents such as occurred at Chernobyl; changes in the government and resulting shifts in energy strategy; future advances in technology; the state of the world economy—the list is endless. All this makes the job of predicting the future patterns of energy supply and demand a particularly difficult and somewhat subjective task.

A typical example illustrates the problems involved. Those who have taken an interest in the Sizewell nuclear power station inquiry will know that the report, published a few weeks ago, expresses the economic attractiveness of the pressurised water reactor (PWR) as a probability: there is a one in 20 chance of a coal-fired power station being cheaper. However, in the two years between the end of the inquiry and publication of the report, coal prices have risen by a much smaller amount than was

predicted. As a result, a coal-fired power station looks considerably more attractive economically and may well be cheaper than the PWR. In addition, the accident at Chernobyl has had a major effect on public opinion, with a majority now being opposed to any expansion in the nuclear programme; the government may do its best to convince the electorate that nuclear power is safe, but it ignores people's doubts at its peril. Even if the government decides to go ahead with the project, its completion is far from certain since the Labour Party is committed to reversing this decision if it comes to power.

Beyond economics

The problem of uncertainty is present whatever one's priorities, but a further difficulty presents itself when we look further than the economist's balance sheet—conventional economics takes little or no account of the effect of energy supply and use on the environment. It is easy to see why: how does one put a price on pollution of the atmosphere, possible hazards from nuclear waste, visual impact, acid rain, and all the other ways in which energy conversion impinges on our surroundings? Such social costs are labelled 'externalities' by economists: in other words, they are external to the price system which governs the allocation of resources, and therefore cannot be incorporated easily into an economic analysis. Several methods of dealing with externalities have been proposed but they are rarely used in practice. The net effect is that the costs attached to environmentally damaging technologies do not reflect their true social costs. If they did, the more environmentally benign 'renewable' energy sources—wind, hydro-power, sun, tides, waves—would be seen in a much more favourable light, as would energy conservation measures. Indeed, conservation is the most environmentally sound as well as the most practical approach, since we can all help in the elimination of waste.

This is the background against which the value of renewable energy and conservation of energy should be assessed. We will now go on to consider some of the technologies involved, indicating the progress that has been made so far and what the future may bring.

WIND POWER

The UK may be deficient in sunlight, but it does not lack wind. For this reason, wind power may well be the most attractive of the renewable

energy technologies, a point which is borne out by the number of wind turbine generators that already exist. This year, a 3 megawatt (MW) wind turbine will be completed on the Orkney Islands, where two smaller turbines already exist. The CEBG is planning to build a 1MW turbine at a less windy site in Kent. A number of smaller machines exist around the country, particularly on remote and windy island sites, and many more are in use abroad, particularly in Denmark and the USA.

The British Wind Energy Association has calculated that, in large numbers on good sites, wind turbines could produce electricity at around 2p/kWh (compared with 2.9p/kWh for Sizewell B). Most existing wind turbines are of the horizontal axis type, like traditional windmills (though their appearance is somewhat more high-tech!) but there is a body of thought which believes that a vertical axis would be more appropriate since the machine does not need to be rotated to face the wind and because the generating equipment can be located at the base of the tower, thus reducing costs and making maintenance easier. A 160kW prototype has already been installed at Carmarthen; this design is ultimately intended to be used in a full-scale offshore machine. This is important, since there may be objections to siting large numbers of machines on exposed sites on land; offshore, this problem does not exist, although the cost is inevitably higher. The size of the offshore wind resource is immense: one estimate suggests that even allowing for shipping lanes and the like, offshore turbines could produce an amount of electricity equivalent to over half the UK's current consumption. Since the fluctuating output from wind turbines restricts their potential contribution to around 20% of our electricity needs, the resource is clearly not a limiting factor.

Much remains to be done to establish suitable sites for wind turbines, to improve their reliability and reduce their unit costs. But there is little doubt that large wind turbines could play a major role in a future electricity supply system, and with little or no environmental damage.

WAVE POWER

Here are some of the facts on wave power:

- The coastal waters of the UK have average wave powers which are among the highest in the world.
- A CEBG analysis has put the feasible contribution of wave energy to the national supply at around

10GW—about 1/5 of total demand.

- The fuel costs nothing and is non-polluting.
- Dept. of Energy studies have concluded that full scale devices would produce "no major deleterious environmental effects."
- Norway has 2 fully operational wave power devices delivering electricity to a local grid at an estimated cost of 2.5p per Kwh.

However, in 1985 the UK Government abandoned all research on wave power. Ignoring Norway's results, the estimated costs for wave energy have fallen in the last ten years from around 50p per kwh to below 10p per kwh. This fact together with savings from continued design improvement would seem to suggest that wave energy would soon be economic. But despite spending over ten years, less than a quarter of what was spent on the Sizewell case alone, all the UK has is a £2m report rejecting wave power whilst the Norwegians benefit from cheap electricity from 2 machines costing £1m.

SEVERN BARRAGE

Boon or burden? Although severely criticised for how it may alter the existing ecological balance in the Severn Estuary, the Severn Barrage may offer the most practical, innovative and clean approach to electricity generation this century. Based on the concept of tidal power, the Barrage would cross the Severn Estuary between Cardiff and Weston-Super-Mare, providing electricity by the power of the tides driving turbines in huge concrete caissons. Other advantages include a new road between Wales and England, creation of huge employment, a permanent watersports haven and absolutely no pollution. The only disadvantage would be that a few mud-nesting species would bow to Darwinian selection. In short, a fantastic prospect for the CEBG and the British windsurfer!

SOLAR PHOTOELECTRICS

The photoelectric effect (the direct conversion of light into electricity) has been known since the middle of the nineteenth century, but practical solar cells weren't developed until the 1950's, when expensive selenium cells were used on early US satellites.

Although the photoelectric effect occurs in many materials, only a small proportion of incident solar energy is converted to electricity. Most solar cells today are made from silicon, having a conversion efficiency of around 10%, which

means large arrays of cells are needed for significant power generation—10 square feet is needed to power one 100-watt light bulb!

Despite this, solar cells offer perhaps the greatest potential for worldwide application of all the renewable energy systems. Countries still developing electricity supplies could avoid all the paraphernalia of large power stations, transmission networks, transformers and the rest by installing clusters of solar cells supplying power to towns and villages as and when needed.

The biggest 'catch' is cost: at present solar energy is around ten times as expensive as nuclear, but such statistics can be misleading as they proclude distribution costs and environmental considerations. The inevitability of sunlight necessitates instantly available alternative generators or adequate storage capacity: either adds further to the cost; as does the need for d.c. to a.c. inversion. However, the problems are not unsurmountable: intensive research efforts to find new cell materials and methods of production are steadily bringing down costs, so that photoelectricity is expected to become competitive with conventional power generation by the turn of the century. In the UK solar energy is competitive in only remote low power applications at present, such as navigation beacons, but even here large scale generation should become a serious option in 10 to 15 years time.

Once installed it is the simplest power supply known. It is very reliable, needs no maintenance or chemical inputs, and may well outlive us all (and today's nuclear power plants!)

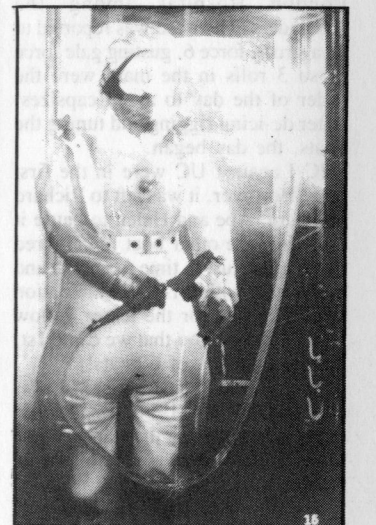
PASSIVE SOLAR HEATING

Solar power is a well known alternative source of energy, be it for small scale water heating or electricity generation. Passive solar heating has, up to now, remained the Cinderella of solar circles, which is a pity as it really works. Passive solar heating will heat your room by harnessing the sun's light as it streams in through your South facing window. To make it more effective these windows would be made larger and 'thermal mass' within the room would store the heat which is later given off during darkness. Everyone enjoys a sunny room, this method allows it to pay for itself! As there are no moving parts there is no maintenance, nor pollution, nor any kind of waste product. Costs are extremely low. Passive solar heating can pay for itself in a couple of years, even in our climate, as a coherent package can reduce fuel bills by 50%. Fuel savings of this magnitude mean that if each new home were built incorporating passive solar heating our need for power stations in the future would be greatly reduced. How does 2 less nuclear power stations sound? Passive solar heating is so good the government has financially backed its development. All that is now needed is for you architects and civil engineers to make use of it.

CONCLUSION

It should be clear from the above paragraphs that renewable energy sources are not 'noddy' technologies. They have been described as 'soft', but this refers to their effect on the environment rather than the nature of the engineering involved. What can

be said with considerable justification is that renewables are chronically underfunded in the UK: in 1985—86, the government spent over £170m on nuclear power R & D, but only £15m on renewables. Since much of this money goes towards making the technology economically attractive, it can hardly be argued that renewables are being considered on equal terms. A vicious circle is in operation: the less is spent on renewables relative to nuclear power, the less attractive economically they seem; and the less attractive they seem, the less is spent on them. One can only hope that a combination of environmental and economic enlightenment will enable the circle to be broken and the country set on the path of a sustainable, 'soft' energy future.



ENVIRONMENTAL WEEK

Finally, the most important bit. Next/this week (2nd—6th March) is Imperial College Environmental Week. This is your chance to learn more, not just about renewable energy (though there will be displays around the College on this theme) but also on the whole range of environmental issues. The aim is to increase your awareness of man's impact on the planet and what can be done to improve the situation—after all, many students at Imperial will end up in positions where their decisions have a major bearing on the environment.

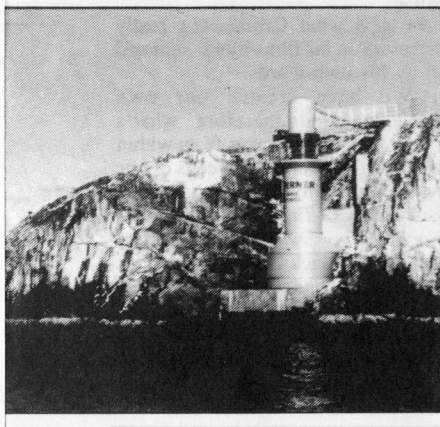
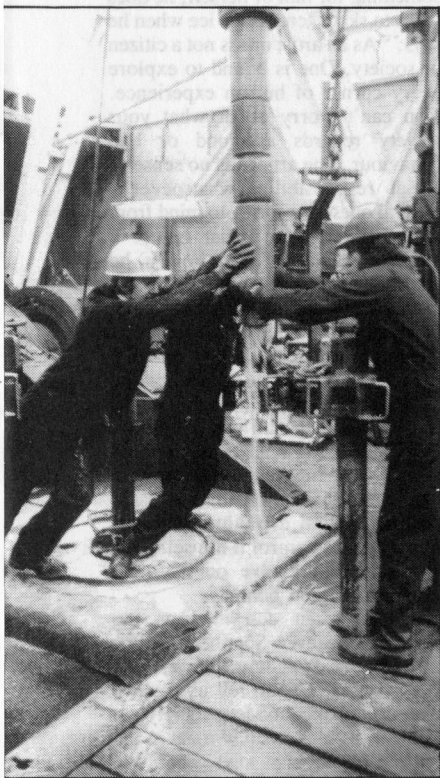
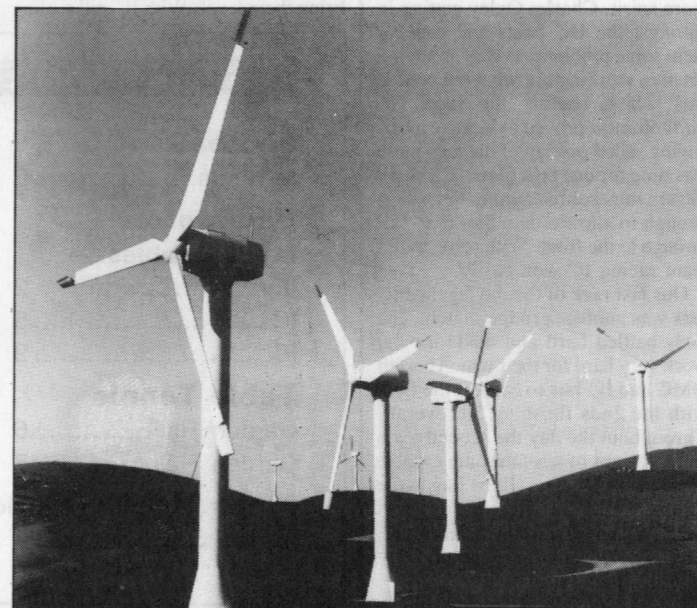
Events include:

MONDAY:
A debate between Kenneth Carlisle, MP (Con) and Chris Smith, MP (Lab) 12.45pm Mech. Eng. 220

TUESDAY:
A talk by Michael Meadowcroft, MP (All) 12.45pm Mech. Eng. 220

WEDNESDAY:
A talk by Jonathon Porritt, Director of Friends of the Earth 12.45pm ?????

PLUS: A stall in JCR, videos, films and exhibitions—see the posters around College for details.



Sailing
Saturday 21st Feb.
Castaway Cup 1987

Apostolous rides again

On the day of Saturday 21st February, it came to pass that the intrepid sailors didn't once again meet and compete in the annual varsity competition against London colleges for the hallowed Castaways Cup.

'Twas to be a tough competition that day with QMC, UC, Barts and London Hospital among the contenders. The wind was reported to be a strong force 6, gusting gale force 8, so 3 rolls in the main were the order of the day to avoid capsizes. After de-icing rigging and tuning the boats, the day began.

IC I against UC were in the first race. However, it was left to Richard and Sam, Ape and Helen to battle it out while the other boat re-captured its jib again just in time to get out and help finish with a 1-2-4 combination (which means for the lesser yellow wellies among you that we came 1st, 2nd and 4th out of 6 boats!)

The second race IC I sailed was also skilfully won, 1-2-6, despite once of the boats missing the start because it was full of water and missing a rudder.

The third race IC I sailed was against IC II and this was won with a 1-2-3 finish and, miraculously no gear failure!

As to who won the race against QMC just before lunch was much debated and although IC I skilfully gained 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions thereby winning on the water, the outcome was never fully decided.

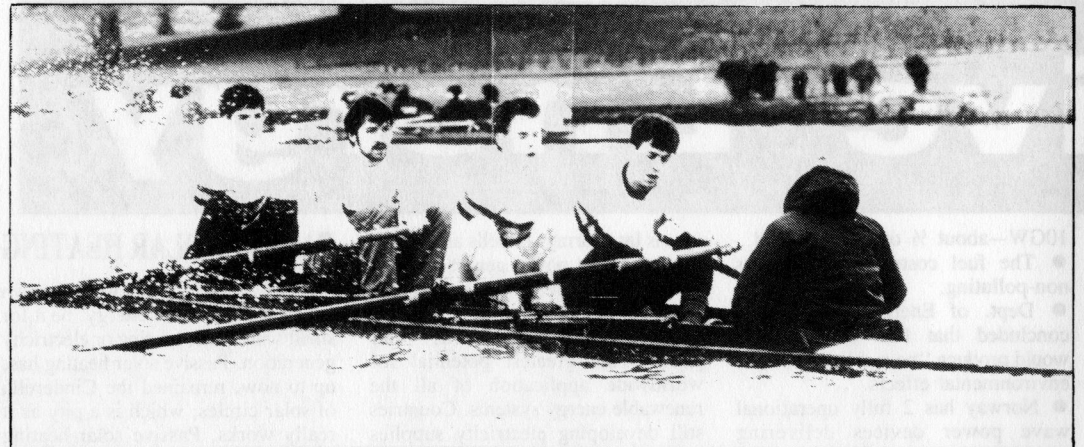
After lunch the course changed for the 3rd time leading to great confusion all round but we sailed on to qualify for the finals.

Under full mainsail, as the wind had dropped to a blustery force 5 by this time, it was to be IC I against QMC in the finals, the team with least points after 2 races would take home the trophy.

IC skilfully manoeuvred a good start although Ape collected 2 greens in the process (¾ point each) Richard gave out a green at the next mark and took one later on in the race. Dave gave out two greens to the opposition and we finished in the lead by ¾ of a point.

We swapped boats with our opponents for the final race and fought it out to the bitter end. We might have won the trophy is it hadn't been for one of the team getting tired of playing cat-and-mouse on the start line and going for a swim in the icy water instead. But then?...

1st Team: R Brimelow, S Page, A Leonidhopolous, H Udy, D Larkham, A Burrows,



IC 2nds

Small fry

After an early start on Saturday the IC 2nd sailing team gathered at the Welsh Harp for their major test of the year. How to beat sailors from all the other colleges in London University as well as our own first team? The event was organised with two round-robin series from which the best two teams would be selected to contest the final. This meant we had a lot of racing to do in one day. After a slightly shaky start against QMC (the eventual winners); where only Richard Jarman was able to offer any form of attack due to a near capsize by Charles Oxley; the team steadily improved until their last match of the 1st series against our own 1st team. By using aggressive starting tactics the 2nds were able to take two penalties from the 1sts but lacked the boat speed to be able to keep up and finished 4,5,6.

Having finished the first series without winning a race but coming very close in all the second series promised to be more rewarding. Again the team were out manoeuvred by QMC. Against UC we showed more spirit, Charles Oxley getting in amongst the UC boats and causing them some problems as well as having his own working out what the course was whilst leading the race. St. Bartholomew proved to be easy meat, having sailed one lap of the race there was time for one boat to make a slight pitstop thus confusing the opposition enough to allow Adam Storke to sail through to the front. With some useful team racing IC won easily.

Our last race of the day against IC 1sts was another grudge match. The 2nds battled hard and made the 1st work very hard for their win. This left QMC and IC 1sts to contest the final with the 2nds finishing 5th overall. Throughout the day the second team showed signs of what they are capable of and what IC 1sts will be like in the future.

2nd Team: C Oxley, A Stork, M Hunter, D Lucas-Clements, D Hobbs, R Jarman.

Mens Hockey
Middlesex League
IC 1st 1 3, UCL 1st 1 2

Stonham fires on all cylinders

On a day on which IC were decidedly off colour (partially accounted for by the activities of several players the previous night), they did very well to win an exciting, if slightly scrappy game by the odd goal.

Everything started according to plan with IC easily dominating the early stages. However, it needed an error from the UCL goalie for IC to open their account—Hari Vamadevan beating the UCL defenders to the loose ball and calmly slotting it into the open goal. IC continued to create excellent goal scoring opportunities, notably Justin Brooking scooping the ball over the cross-bar from 4 yards. It was half way through the first half when IC began to lose their way and the defence looked increasingly vulnerable to the hard running UCL centre forward. On just such a run by him a sloppy stick tackle by an IC defender in the 'D' (penalty area) resulted in UCL being awarded a penalty flick which was converted to bring them level. With IC still reeling

from this blow a UCL forward siezed upon a loose ball in the 'D', which IC had had ample opportunity to clear, to slip the ball past a hesitant Phil Choudhury in goal to make the score 1-2 at the interval.

After an aggressive team talk from captain Jon Stonham IC came out into the 2nd with all cylinders firing. After much concerted pressure the inevitable happened and IC equalised, Hari Vamadevan neatly deflecting, on his reverse stick, a cross from the right past a surprised and rather slow UCL goalie. With IC now pushing all out for the winner, it left Phil Choudhury exposed at the back one occasion, but he responded well to make a quick interception with 2 UCL forwards bearing down on him. Just as it seemed a win would evade the grasp of IC, with numerous chances going begging, Jeremy Barsington bravely launched himself at a shot going inches wide of the post and superbly turned it inside the goal to give IC their much deserved winner.

SPORTS RESULTS TABLE

Football

IC 2nds.....2 S.O.P.....0

Badminton

Mens Doubles

IC.....2 Spartans.....7
IC.....5 Kensington Inst.....4
IC.....9 Whitton.....9

Table Tennis

Garden Hall.....6 Linstead Hall.....3
Garden Hall.....7 Weeks Hall.....2

Mens Hockey—Middx. League

IC 1st x 1.....3 UCL 1st x 1.....2

Rowing
Saturday 21st Feb.
Burway Head

Classic engineering

Last Saturday oarsmen from IC Boat club again showed their domination of rowing in the Home Counties. While the first eight trained at Putney, the rest of the club raced at Burway Head. Of the six categories that they contested the club notched up five victories and one near miss.

Sixty crews competed in the morning's fours racing. Imperial won three divisions. These included the overall winners, the Senior B winner (second overall) and, most spectacularly, the novice winners.

The most pleasing result was the win for our novice coxed four. These oarsmen began rowing at Imperial on October 1st and have already reached a higher standard than oarsmen from other clubs who have been rowing for years. The novices raced in an old, well worn boat, and are used to equipment failure: last week they lost to Brunel University when a seat broke. Victory again seemed to have slipped from their hands when the rudder fell off. The resourceful cox, however, was able to steer by dipping his hand into the freezing water. They completed the race and were delighted to beat Brunel and win the novice division, coming 13th overall.

The eights, racing again with a field of sixty crews, gained wins for IC at Senior A and Senior C levels. The Senior A eight (Imperial second eight), who had raced earlier in fours, included Chas 'no-nickname' Behrens, who had trained in the early morning with the first eight. They won their division easily, but were unlucky not to win overall, finishing a close second to Walton Rowing Club.

The Senior C crew finished 9th overall and are beginning to gather a ferocious reputation among the other clubs. Perhaps this is because of their cox, who recently overdosed on ugly pills.

Badminton
Mens Doubles
IC 2, Spartans 7

Doubles stay down

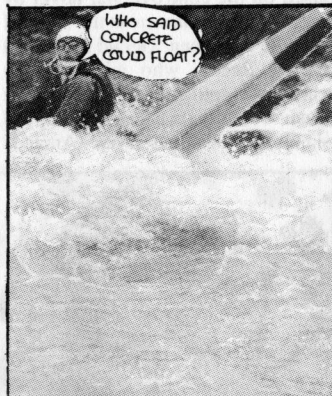
IC, having lost 2 vital matches in the race for promotion, came up against Spartans, the promotion favourites, for the second and last time this season. It was a match IC had to win.

The match started well with first blood going to IC's first pair, Simon Hughes and Sean Mulshaw. They had a close first game but easily overcame Spartans second pair in the second game. Our seconds then had a tough start against the opposition's first pair. It was a hard fought match but Gary Chapman and Graham Scott, having repeatedly got themselves into winning positions, just could not put the shuttle away. It was the same story when the 2 Richards, Etheridge and Langford, took on the thirds (2 members of the older (*illegible—typesetter*), one of whom had a lot of hair and shouted a lot!!)

The second round of matches started badly when Simon and Sean were beaten by the narrowest of margins by the Spartans first pair. It really could not have been closer, the score being 18-17, 15-18 and 18-17 against IC. It was a shame because exactly the same result happened when these two pairs met earlier in the season. That made the score 3-1 to Spartans and although Gary and Graham had two close rubbers with the opposition it was not going to be our night. The score progressed to 5-1 before IC won another rubber but the final score was 7-2, a result that will surely keep us firmly in the 3rd division.

Quote of the night by Richard Langford—when queried by one of the opposition during play as to whether he had broken a string, he replied, "No, it's alright it's only one!"

Results since then:
Kensington Inst 4, IC 5
Whitton 0, IC 9



Football
Wednesday 18th Feb.
IC II's 4, SOP 0

Blizzards and turkeys

On reaching that remote part of England known as Turkey Street, the IC lads refreshed their parts with half a pint of local ale and were then ready for an afternoon's business.

From the kick-off these spirited IC athletes took control of the game, however the Siberian blizzards were enough to put off the team's decisive touch in front of goal. Hence at half-time the scoreline remained blank. In the second half Thompson, aided by the slim figure of N MacDonald, tenaciously took control in the centre of the park once more. The lads having now become accustomed to Keelin's geordie accent, recognised his calls for the ball and duly set him on his way, creating havoc down the right. Indeed it was a fine ball from Laverick, putting Keelin through, whose floated cross was met by IC's injured skipper M Barro, which started the scoring for IC. Minutes later Barrow picked up the ball in midfield, ran tantalisingly at the defense, slipped a precise pass through for Hardy who slotted it into the net with his left foot.

From then on IC made things look easy. Wilson and Holland looked comfortably elegant in the centre of defense. Laverick and Dunthorne made great use of the flanks, and J Wreford the keeper wondered if he was going to be required to do something worthy of a mention in the College newspaper.

Semeria's persistent shooting led to IC's third goal, when his shot was deflected leaving Russ Hardy to arrogantly put away his second of the match. Goal number four came when Barrow passed to Keeling who then 'skinned' his defender with all the grace of an ex-Sunderland school boy and shot home emphatically—champion y' know.

Team: J Wreford, S Laverick, S Dunthorne, J. Holland, J Wilson, N MacDonald, P Thomson, A Keelin, D. Semeria, R Hardy, M Barrow.

Wargames meeting

Our AGM will be held at 6pm on Wednesday March 11th in the Union SCR. Papers for the posts of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer will be posted on Sunday 1st and come down on Sunday 8th.

Suggestions on the effective use of the rest of our grant would be welcome. It's your money; come and let us know how you think it would be best spent.

If you have any questions, any member of the executive may be contacted at our regular Wednesday and Sunday meetings.

Last week's clubs article

The last few weeks have seen two competitions in the dance club calendar. On Saturday January 28th there was the National Student Rock 'n' Roll Competition incorporated into an authentic 'swing' evening at Manning Hall, ULU Imperial entered three couples each couple having only 1 or 2 terms dancing to their credit. All of the couples danced well but special congratulations must go to Simon Deiyer and Dawn Fletcher on coming 5th and to Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst on becoming the British champions. Credit must of course go to our rock 'n' roll teacher Vicky Cunniffe for her hard work and dedication.

On Sunday February 8th five couples went to Cardiff to compete in a six-university ballroom and latin team competition. Despite some appalling judging we managed to pick up two 2nd places, one in the jive, the other in cha-cha, to give the team 3rd place overall. Thanks go to Dave Caballero for stepping in at the last minute. Special mention must go to Gill Knowles and Mike Carpenter who were unable to dance owing to injuries sustained by Mike in an accident. Both were extremely upset by not being able to compete, but thank you both for your keen support. Thanks again go to Vicky for coaching the team.

For details of competitions coming up soon, to which we'll be running coaches, and for details of classes please see the dance club noticeboard on the walkway outside the JCR.

Neil McCluskey
President

Orienteers fail to start

Due to slight (?) problems with transport on Sunday we didn't make it to the proposed event. Fortunately we got a lot of exercise on Saturday—by showing everybody where to go! (That is where the orienteering comes in.) The cross-country club had invited us to enter and marshal Saturday's Hyde Park Relays.

Results: The men's team ran their

6x3 mile relay in 107 minutes placing them respectably in the latter half of the field. The women's team, plagued by injury, managed to come somewhere above last, running the 4x2 mile in a total of 70 minutes.

Finally thanks to all additional orienteers who turned up for three cold, but entertaining, hours of marshalling duty.

Nicolas Roeg, director of *Don't Look Now* and *The Man Who Fell to Earth* has come up trumps once again with his latest film *Castaway* starring Oliver Reed and newcomer Amanda Donohoe. The story begins with a small ad in *Time Out*. Lucy Irvine (Amanda Donohoe), discontented with her job and life in London sees the advertisement. "writer seeks 'wife' for year on tropical desert island" and seizes the chance to fulfill her dream of escape.

However *Castaway* is much more than a film of sunshine, sea and idyllic scenery. These are merely incidental and what the story really focusses on is the relationship between Gerald (Oliver Reed) and Lucy. Happy at first in their new found freedom, they soon realise that this Garden of Eden is going to need a lot of weeding. Gerald becomes frustrated by Lucy's constant refusal of him sexually—a refusal built on her own frustration at his laziness. All this repressed sexual tension is brought to a head by the arrival on the island of two virile Australian men.

Both Oliver Reed and Amanda Donohoe give wonderful performances. Reed as the eccentric writer who takes great delight in reciting crude limericks while reading classics secretly, and Donohoe as the independent yet confused Lucy, prepared to go to any lengths to get what she wants.

The film is packed full of imagery, almost to the point of predictability, but this adds to its appeal and along with some wonderful photography, superb scenery and great music make it a film I would recommend going to see.

Helena Russell

Based on the controversial novel by Lucy Irvine, *Castaway* is the story of a middle-aged man, Gerald Kingsland (Oliver Reed), who advertises in search of a younger woman to spend a year with him on a deserted tropical island. He finds Lucy Irvine (Amanda

Donohoe), and they go. The controversy caused by the novel arose because it was thought that Irvine's portrayal of Kingsland was unfair. The film opens with a look at the lives of Irvine and Kingsland in London. Lucy works for the Inland

Revenue, she has a busy, tacky social life. Gerald is looking for the 'right' woman to accompany him, and frequenting pubs. Life in London is represented as fast and hectic. I thought that when the scene moved on to the island the pace of the film would relax, but this wasn't the case. When the couple are finally left on the island of Tuin, the film becomes preoccupied with the fact that Lucy won't have sex with Kingsland. This is fair enough as this is also a preoccupation of Irvine in the novel.

There is an attempt to give us Kingsland's point of view on this issue as well as Irvine's, which is fair enough too. While Irvine is gallivanting energetically around the island, making love to the sun and flirting with two young Australian hennens who arrive to deliver the Australian census forms, Kingsland sits at 'home' sweetly looking after his unproductive vegetable garden, reading his one copy of a newspaper, and a book on how to communicate better, and, when it is available, drinking beer. Whenever Lucy returns home Gerald calls her a bitch or tries to jump on top of her. But despite all this the couple develop a genuine affection for one another in their efforts to survive. The film tries to depict Irvine's intense emotional reaction to Tuin, and her frustration and sense of failure when Kingsland gives up on simply surviving and starts a business with the friendly inhabitants of a neighbouring island. The film tries too hard to be interesting in what seem to be inappropriate ways, that is, it packs too much action in, and in its attempt to be fair to both characters, makes too much of the character of Kingsland, he is endearing but unoriginal. Being fair is nice but it can be boring, the film would have been better if it had given more of Irvine's thoughts and left us to make up our own minds about her feelings toward Kingsland and the island. At least then it would have had a focus, as it is the film isn't sure whether it is about getting on with someone, lack of communication, sexual frustration, age gaps, or survival.

Catherine Monolopoulos



Two faces of "Castaway"

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South Africa

The media is full of news stories of events in South Africa in the sea of emotional response to apartheid. It is rare to find a clear, cool account of what the political trends in that country are. In his book *South Africa* Graham Leach, BBC Southern Africa Radio correspondent, has produced just that—an up-to-date guide to the complex situation behind the events in South Africa. He draws on his experience on the front-line, and his talks with key figures across the political and racial divide to produce a lively incisive account of recent developments.

Mr Leach provides vital background to South Africa's racial cauldron—the Afrikaner, the whites of British descent, the Zulus, the Xhosa, the Swazi, the Ndebele and the Sotho. He traces the rise of the Afrikaner, the development of the so called laager mentality, and the eventual emergence of apartheid. The Afrikaner, steeped in Calvinist tradition, saw no reason to doubt that apartheid was in keeping with scripture, for every race and nation would be performing the greatest

service to God and the world if it kept its own attributes.

Mr Leach outlines the major pieces of legislation under which petty and grand apartheid policy was enforced. He is, however, at his incisive best in accounting the country's most recent history—the changing face of apartheid. He takes us through the constitutional reforms, the schism that occurred in the Ruling National Party, the vehement opposition to such reforms from the right-wing parties, the emergence of the UDF, the dilemma faced by Indians and Coloureds in participating in Botha's plans.

Mr Leach allows the reader to try and assess whether the recent reforms are really an indication that the government is sincerely paving the way towards peaceful change. Can apartheid be dismantled peacefully or is violent revolution inevitable? How far would the whites be prepared to move in surrendering their power?

What form will a solution need to take? It seems that minorities would want to receive guarantees that they would not be disadvantaged,

suppressed or destroyed by the majority. How could this be done? Would a federal option be feasible? Would the blacks accept anything less than one-man, one-vote in a unitary state? Mr Leach feels that at the end of the day the most crucial factor for the whites may prove to be not so much the political guarantees they would require, but rather assurances about the nature of the economic system which would apply under a black-led government.

Does the slogan of Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana—"Seek ye first the political kingdom and all else will follow"—apply? Surely, while establishing political rights, economic and other matters should not be overlooked.

South Africa will remain a burning issue for sometime. Do yourself a favour and be better informed, about the paradoxes and ironies of Africa's richest land.

South Africa by Graham Leach is a Mehuen paperback, available for £2.95

Tishu Nanda, Chem. Eng. PG I

Arthur Miller has many hang-ups; mother-complex, Jewish-guilt, brushes with Communism etc, all of which he inflicts upon semi-autobiographical characters in his plays. This makes good, serious drama but also leaves the audience with a strong sense of déjà-vu.

The American Clock, at the National Theatre, describes the history of the USA since The Depression of the 1930's whilst also containing the 'usual' Miller themes. The concept and staging is excellent (although the continual use of the revolving stage by the NT and RSC is becoming dull) however, most of Miller's subtle language and social comment is drowned by the incorporation of music and songs from the period, and the camped up acting required to fill the huge Olivier auditorium.

The American Clock would make a superb promenade show (in the style of *Road* at the Royal Court) but instead we have to make do with a glossy, light, sleek musical show destined for the West End.

Liz Holford

American Clock

President's Piece

Elections

So, once more to the ballot boxes we go...It seems a bit of a shame that there are only a few candidates for the sabbatical posts this year—there's nothing like a good nail-biting election. I hope there'll still be a huge turnout at the Hustings UGM on Thursday: for those who haven't been to one before, this is your chance to have a good look at the candidates. Hear them telling you how much better than this year's lot they'll be. Laugh at their haircuts. Find out how much or how little they know about what they're taking on, or whatever. However involved in the Union you consider yourself to be you shouldn't miss this one—these people could end up speaking for you, spending your money, supposedly representing you. None of the sabbatical posts are easy jobs; no-one should walk straight into them.

I wonder if other student Unions have so few sabbatical candidates? Is it perhaps that the job prospects for IC students are particularly good, making a lot of potentially suitable candidates eager to go out into the big wide world and earn lots of money? It all gives me a slightly uneasy feeling. Were we fools to take on the posts in the beginning or are we just a hard act to follow?...

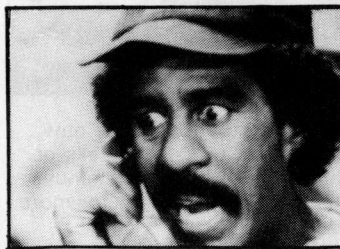
Environmental Week

Speaking of the big wide world...it's no secret that there won't be much of it left his time next century if humankind continues along its present course. I've never understood why people who speak out against the devastating depletion of the earth's resources, and the horrific pollution of the air, soil and water we depend on, are so often dismissed as woolly-headed cranks. (Mind you, as Schumaker said, what's wrong with being a crank?—It's a small, inexpensive tool that makes revolutions...)

A concern for the environment we live in doesn't just mean saving the small cute furry animals—it means

long-term survival for all of us. It is also something which cuts across traditional political barriers—as next week should show.

I'd like to wish the organisers of Environmental Week the best of luck; and I hope loads of people will take part. The least we can do as scientists and engineers is *think* about the impact of our work upon the future of the planet.



Secret Society

There is a strangely secretive atmosphere to this College sometimes. For instance—whilst the Students' Union is asked to produce quite detailed recommendations on the merger with St. Mary's, the campus Trades Unions hear almost

nothing—except rumours from their St. Mary's counterparts, who, it seems, are far better informed. They are left to worry about the effects of a merger upon their jobs and conditions. For instance again, the students at Silwood are unaware that their facilities are to be rented out to companies using the new 'Science Park' at Silwood, until somebody puts up on the noticeboard a copy of an agreement to that effect.

I wouldn't necessarily say that there is anything malicious about this secrecy; it just seems that it doesn't occur to anybody in the College administration to keep interested parties informed. This, despite constant assurances that we are all part of the 'College Community?'

This lack of information and communication is doing a great deal to damage any sense of community that the College has. Life would be a lot easier and more relaxed for everyone at College if those in possession of information didn't wait for aggrieved students and staff to come knocking on their doors before being prepared to distribute it.

Christine

I can think of few things to commend this universe to prospective entrants. To all unborn souls I say don't bother to get born here, it really isn't worth it.

The worst things about this time/place are the physical laws. To start with, there's a thing called the Theory of Relativity, which says that you can't travel faster than this incredibly dilatory thing called light,

Don't talk to me about life!

Anyway, if you have to choose this universe don't have anything to do with a planet called earth. It has very few things seriously right with it. It is an evil twist of fate, that on this benighted planet those nations that have best solved their physical problems make a virtue out of being unhappy. Happiness and enjoyment are crimes for which one must feel very guilty.

One of the greatest pleasures of any finite existence is communication with like minded beings, or friends. Indeed, of all the many millions with whom you could make friends, you are liable to meet just a handful. Very often you get into the exceptionally perverse situation of people knowing you well enough not to want to know you well. But in this madhouse, it does not do to pretend that one anything less than ecstatically happy. To check up on this, everyone asks everyone else how they are, at regular intervals.

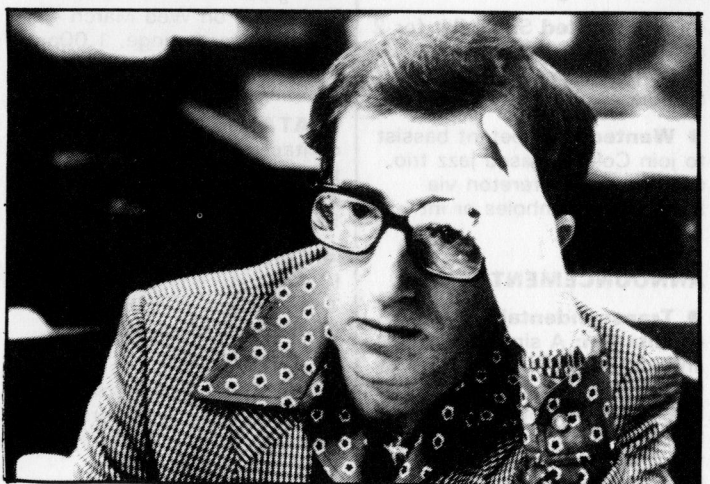
The obvious solution to this problem is for everyone to return to oblivion; but his won't do either. The most popular religion on the planet teaches that individuals returning themselves to oblivion, will end up, not in oblivion, but in excruciating torture for all eternity. And if you try to return to oblivion, people will go to extraordinary lengths to prevent

you. They will even do it by physical force! Whoever started project Earth used the highly unscrupulous technique of incorporating love of life, or more accurately, fear of oblivion (the so-called 'death') into the physical framework of inhabitants. This ensured the continued existence of the project. This devious trick has affected even such enlightened and dispassionate observers as myself. I am too frightened to return to oblivion of my own accord and so will not, barring

an accident, be returning for the time being.

Needless to say this article is highly sacrilegious and would be either roundly condemned or passed for meaningless rubbish were it ever published on earth. So for those of you unfortunate enough to get born in this awful place, the only pleasure I have been able to isolate, without unpleasant after or side-effects; is getting into a hot bath with cold feet.

Francis Miers



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which at a mere 3×10^8 m/s, rules out civilisations bigger than planets. Great for prospective hermits and compulsive prisoners...As if this weren't enough, there are the three laws of thermodynamics which say, respectively: "You can't win," "You can't break even" and "You can't play the game." The corollary of this is that, in the fullness of time, the universe will consist entirely of lukewarm lumps of iron.



Small Ads

FOR SALE & WANTED

- **Honda Civic** (S reg) 1238cc, silver, 5 months tax & MOT, Sharp stereo cassette/radio, good condition inside and out, average mileage, fully serviced. A very economical and reliable car. Only £750. Contact Vicky (int. 7445 or 9 Hamlet Gardens).
- **Colour TV**—second hand colour TV wanted. Please contact Fernando on int. 4841.
- **Graphic Equaliser** Sansui Se 300. Only 5 months old, immaculate, 7 bands per channel, black, £35.00. Phone: int. 3664, Tom.
- **Aiwa Personal Stereo.** Features: tape, auto reverse, recording, AM/FM radio, external microphone, noise reduction, metal/normal tape, carrying case, £40. Contact SIU, Elec. Eng.
- **Sanyo** speakers for personal stereo with built-in amplifiers out per speaker: 4W, £15. Contact SIU, Elec. Eng.
- **Moped** Honda (C reg.), no need to pass MOT for 2 years, road tax paid, comp. insurance paid until end of 1987, helmet included. Only £450. Contact SIU, Elec. Eng.
- **Flat wanted** Small flat for 2 mature male postgraduates, £120 p/w or less. Contact Freddie on 6989.
- **Wanted:** Competent bassist to join College based jazz trio. Contact Chas Brereton via Biochem pigeonholes or int. 7082.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Transcendental Meditation:** A simple, natural and effective mental technique to improve all aspects of your life. Come and find out more, this Wednesday at 1.00pm in the Common Room, Level 8, Physics Dept. Admission free.

● **Forms available** for new applicants to College halls or houses and/or head tenancy flats. Contact S.A.O. for more details.

● **Interested** in obtaining work over the Easter vacation. Contact Lesley, S.A. Officer for details

● **IC Micro Club** 1.00 pm Tuesday 3rd March. Huxley 340. INMOS give a talk and demonstration of their latest processor, the Transputer. Be there for a parallel experience.

● **ICSO**—Pure Hindemith, Liszt and Vaughan Williams. Turn up for real enlightenment. 8.00pm Great Hall 6/3/87.

● **Have you** bought your ticket for the event yet? For only £1.00 see the finest symphony orchestra in College—8.00pm on 6/3/87. See poster for details.

● **Papers** are now up for the WellSoc elections on March 2nd. If you want to stand you'll find the papers on our noticeboard by the video games room at the foot of the staircase leading to the Union Office. They'll be taken down at 12.30pm on the day of the elections.

● **Anybody** interested in helping run a theatre at the Edinburgh Festival 1987 and/or taking part in shows there? Talk/video on Wed March 4th, Union Upper Lounge, 1.00pm. No previous experience required. All welcome.

● **ATARI ST**—I would like to contact any ATARI ST users for software and tops exchange. Contact Xavier on 5974.

● **Torture**—help get rid of it. IC Amnesty 5.30pm Tuesday. Top of Union Building Brown Committee Room (unless otherwise stated).

● **Wanted:** Competent jazz bass player for piano/drums duo. Contact Chas Brereton (int. 7082) or Biochem pigeonholes.

● **IC Chamber Choir Concert** Thurs 5th March. £1.00 (including wine). 53 Prince's Gate.

● **CDs:** Could the guy who borrowed my scratched Nimbus CD please return it ASAP to Audio Club (Tuesday/Thursday lunchtime). Andy Belk, HEP Physics PG.

● **Tim** would like to announce that he will not be under the influence at the ICSO Concert—8.00pm—Great Hall 6/3/87. But will the bar prove too tempting—turn up to find out!

● **Minutes** and agendas are in Union Office pigeonholes for A.A.C., 2/3/87, 18.30, Union Upper Lounge—lotsa love, Dave.

● **Reapplicants to Southwell House**—due to the large number of reapplicants it has proved impossible to notify people individually. The following people have been selected to live in Southwell House next year: D. Conybeare, H. Crowley, N. Currey and N. Dyer. The reserve list, in order, is S. Ingram, C. Benham, S. Nevgi and K. Cook. Because of the reduction in the number of places we have rejected many excellent candidates, and can only offer apologies if you are in this category.

● **City & Guilds Rag**—Shoe Shine Stall, Friday 27th Feb. Mech. Eng. foyer, 12.30—2.30.

PERSONAL

● **Friends of Dorothy**—next meeting is at Queen's Tower (subtle punctuation clue for all you boring het's)

● **Brain**—I love you! From a special friend of Dorothy. Oh Toto!

● **Morse part 3:** Pay-day-to-day (dah-dah-di-dah) is Q.

● **Mr Cartoonist** says what problem?

● **Mike Jones** Geology PG—a man who obviously has a few problems of his own.

● **Now you see them**, now you don't—sabbatical candidates.

● **If fuck off!** is good enough for Billy Connolly it's good enough for Mike Jones.

● **The Welsh Dragon** in Linstead is a Scott.

● **Can you** bear last weeks news? Read Jackie.

● **Dear DramSoc Hack**—in case Man Tai forgets—thanks for, 14th and 20th whatever you did, be sure it was invaluable—from the Rag Hack.

● **Lonely Rag Meeting** seeks enthusiastic students for fun and frolics in the Union Upper Lounge, 12.45 Friday.

● **Q:** When does 16=6?

● **A:** When a potato counts coaches.

● **Thank you** to all you wonderful young potatoes who helped last weekend with IC Rag, especially Dave, Paul, Andy and Mole from DramSoc, and Emma (the guinea pig), Mike I-havn't-a-silly-surname Condon, Mike Copperwhite and Rachael who all endured the pleasures of sleepless nights avec moi. Ta velly much, Spud.

ACCOMMODATION

● **Two single rooms** in house in Wimbledon for rent. Lease due for renewal end of June. £113 per month plus bills. 5 mins from wimbledon tube. Tel: 543 3824 (evenings).



FELIX

What's On

FRIDAY

Rag Meeting.....12.45pm.
Upper Lounge.

Friday Prayers12.55pm.
Union Building, Halaal food provided. See Islamic Society.

Christian Union.....6.00pm.
Music Room, 53 Prince's Gate. Paul Boughton speaks on "Money." Buffet meal provided. All welcome.

Fencing Club6.00pm.
Beginners and experienced fencers welcome.

Guilds Motor Club ...7.00pm.
Rally on OS map 185. Marshals meet from 7.00pm in Civ. Eng.

Band & Disco8.30pm.
Canterbury Hall, Cartwright Gdns., WC1H. Band—Jivin Instructors. £1.50. See R. Steedman.

SUNDAY

IC Wargames.....1.00pm.
Union Dining Hall.

Guilds Rugby 7's ...00.00pm.
Sunday 1st not last Sunday.

MONDAY

CathSoc AGM12.30pm.
Chem. 231. The AGM will be preceded by Mass and Lunch. Anyone wanting to stand for the committee should see Jon How (int. 3618)

Environment Week.12.45pm.
Mech. Eng. LT 220. Kenneth Carlisle MP (Cons) and Chris Smith MP (Lab) on their party's policies in relation to the environment.

IC Concert Band.....5.45pm.
Great Hall. Penultimate rehearsal—please arrive on time!

Beginners Ballroom .7.00pm.
Dancing Club in the JCR. 70 pence.

WellSoc Speaker Meeting.....7.30pm.
Physics LT1. Ian Craft talking about "Assisted fertilisation—what does it mean?"

Medals Class.....8.00pm.
Dancing Club in the JCR. 70 pence.

TUESDAY

Prayer Meeting.....8.15am.
Christian Union in the Union Upper Lounge.



Mass12.40pm.
Chemistry 231. All Welcome.

Environment Week.12.45pm.
Mech. Eng. LT 220. Michael Meadowcroft MP (Alliance) speaks.

Transputer Demonstration1.00pm.
Huxley 340. Talk and demonstration of the Transputer by INMOS. All welcome. See IC Micro Club.

Holy Qur'an Recitation1.00pm.
Prayer Room (9 Prince's Gate). See Islamic Society.

IC Amnesty Meeting5.30pm.
Brown Committee Room (venue may be different and will be specified on posters etc.) See Boshier—Chair of IC Amnesty.

Beginners Rock 'n' Roll5.45pm.
Dance Club in the JCR. 70 pence.

Judo.....6.30pm.
Union Gym. Beginners Welcome.

Intermediate Ballroom.....7.00pm.
Dance Club in the JCR. 70 pence.

Celestion Loudspeakers7.30pm.
The Holland Club Function Room. Everyone welcome. FREE. See AudioSoc.

Cricket Club7.45pm.
Spring term nets at Lords indoor cricket school. 9—10pm every Tuesday. Meet 7.45pm Mech. Eng. foyer. Sign up outside the Bookshop. See Gareth Fish (int. 6289) or Rob Kelly (int. 4642).

Improvers Ballroom .8.00pm.
Dance Club in the JCR. 70 pence.

Nigel On The Wireless9.00pm.
Aural Titillation on IC Radio. 999Khz Medium Wave.

WEDNESDAY

Environment Week.12.45pm.
Elec. Eng. 408. Jonathon Porritt, Director, Friends of the Earth. A general talk.

Holy Qur'an Explanation.....1.00pm.
Prayer Room (9 Prince's Gardens). Talk given by Dr Darsh. See Islamic Society.

Circuit Training.....12.30pm.
Beit Gym. Free to Keep Fit Club members. £1.00 membership. See J Day

Transcendental Meditation ...1.00pm.
Common Room, Level 8, Physics Dept. Your last chance this term to hear about this simple natural technique to improve all aspects of your life. FREE. See P. Newman, Physics 6659.

Edinburgh Festival ...1.00pm.
Fringe 1987. Union Upper Lounge. Meeting for anybody interested.

Imperial Workout.....1.00pm.
Southside Gym. Please wear something comfortable and bring training shoes. £1.00 membership, 50p per lesson. See J Day.

IC Wargames Meeting.....1.00pm.
Union Dining Hall.

10-Pin Bowling.....2.20pm.
Chem. Eng. Foyer. £4.00

Rock 'n' Roll Routines.....3.00pm.
Dance Club in the U.D.H. 70 pence.

Tap Dancing.....5.00pm.
Dance Club in the Lounge. £1.00.

ICSO Rehearsal7.00pm.
Great Hall. Guess who's getting worried—final rehearsal panic—be there.

Iranian Society7.30pm.
ME 220. Iranian classical music—Tar & Setar. £1.00 (with union card).

Social Evening.....8.00pm.
Main Refectory, Sheffield. Ballroom, Latin American and Rock 'n' Roll. 70p students, £2.00 non-students. See Dance Club

ICSO Rehearsal10.00pm.
Queen's Arms. Unwind after the last 3 hours' panic.

THURSDAY

Youth Hostelling Club12.30pm.
Meeting in Southside Upper Lounge.

Fencing Club12.30pm.
Union Gym. Professional Coaching for beginners and experienced fencers.

BUNAC12.45pm.
JCR. Everything you want to know about working and playing in America.

QTSoc.....1.00pm.
Emergency General Meeting convening committee.

Arabic Class1.00pm.
Prayer Room (9 Prince's Garden). See Islamic Society.

ICSF Library Meeting.....1.00pm.
Green Committee Room. Access to our vast Library, Organisation of future events and news from all over the SF World. Members Only.

Imperial Workout.....6.00pm.
Southside Gym. Please wear comfortable kit and bring running shoes. £1.00 membership, 50p per lesson. See J Day

Judo.....6.30pm.
Union Gym. Beginners Welcome.

Lesbian/Gay Society 7.30pm.
ULU Building, Malet Street. Womens' group meet in Rm SE, Mens' group in Rm 3b. Different speakers/events each week followed by trip to pub.

ICCAG Soup-Run.....9.15pm.
Weeks Hall Basement—normally back by 11.30pm. See Derek Hill, Physics III.

Bleak House

The future looks bleak for married students with children at the Imperial College Field Station at Silwood Park. Eleven flats, almost completely occupied by overseas families, will be lost when Sandyride House and its cottages are sold.

College has proposed to use the money obtained from the sale, and a £10,000 loan to build two new blocks of accommodation. One block will comprise of 6 two-bedroom flats and the other will contain 14 study bedrooms.

The Union Silwood Park Working Party on the future development has expressed its concern to College about the loss of family accommodation and claims that the decision is biased

against overseas students. They point out in their report that 70% of the overseas students at Silwood are married and over 75% of the married students have children. At present, 10 families live outside Silwood, at distances of upto 30 miles due to the inflated rents around the site. The Working Party also has questioned the need for more single student accommodation as the Silwood population has been decreasing due to the loss of Ashurst Lodge. It has been suggested that accommodation for the Technology Transfer Centre's short course students should be provided by the College and that the true purpose behind the extra single accommodation is for this reason.

Current long term students are housed in second rate accommodation.

The Union has proposed in the Working Party's report to College that long term students should be moved to the new block and the old blocks refurbished and used to house the short course students. They also want to see the farm converted into flats for married students with children to replace those lost in the Sunnyside sale.

Mr Hector Cameron Clark, Head of Estates Section at Silwood Park, told FELIX that the College were not required to provide accommodation for married students. This is a UGC decision and College are only following this judgement.

Coffee break

Coffee machines in Geology, Elec Eng and the RSM common room were broken into last Friday lunchtime. FELIX spoke to RSMU coffee machine attendant, Suresh Thalange, about the raid in which £100, a weeks takings, were stolen.

A man who left the vending company under suspicious circumstances was identified to police as being seen around the RSM that lunchtime. RSMU have not been notified of any developments yet.

Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz-

The Royal College of Science Union Hustings took place yesterday lunchtime in front of a packed audience. Several hundred people did not turn up to witness nine interesting and varied election speeches given by nine interesting and varied people.

The post of President is being contested between David Jones (Physics) and Clare McErlane (Physics). Andy Pugh (Physics) and Fiona Nicholas (Life Science) are standing for Vice-President, Gordon Brignal (Physics), Dave Smedley (Physics) and Julian Moore (Physics) are standing for Honorary Secretary.

The election is by College-wide ballot next Monday.

Not cricket at Sussex

Sussex University Student Union is under attack from the college administration, which aims to take full control of student funding. The move follows a ten day occupation of the university administration building, Sussex House, by a group of nearly fifty students. The students were protesting about cuts at the university, which would involve 90 job losses, the closure of libraries, and the closure of the post graduate school.

A spokesman for the union admitted that during the course of the demonstration nearly three thousand pounds worth of damage was caused, but added that this was confined to doors which had been forced open on entry, and filing cabinets which were broken open at a later stage. The contents of these cabinets were found to include files on politically active students at the university. All the

students involved in the action now face disciplinary hearings, and could face penalties ranging from a £100 fine to expulsion from the university.

As a result of the incident, the union was fined £74,000 by the university administration, which has left them with no funding for the remainder of this year. The union is financed on a monthly basis from the college, under the control of the university's finance officer. The heavy fine imposed means that the union is now effectively bankrupt.

The council of Sussex is said to be intent on stamping out "destructive student militancy", as revealed in a letter sent out to all students and staff from Sir Denys Wilkinson, the Vice Chancellor, and Sir Anthony Trafford, chairman of the council. The council is planning wide ranging changes to the union constitution to

give it full control of where the union spends its money. Mr Alan Simpson, union Vice President, is reported as saying, "The most important outcome of these proposals will be that students will no longer be able to decide which activities should be supported."

The aim of these financial measures as seen by the university is "to see that more of the funds are used to support societies and sports activities rather than general political activity." Sussex Union has set up the Falmer Fighting Fund to provide finance for the rest of the year and demonstrations are planned to coincide with the forthcoming NUS Easter Conference. When contacted, the Sussex union spokesman was playing cricket. "There's not a lot else to do with no money about."

Survey

The vast response to the IC Union survey is causing severe problems in processing the statistics. The current bottleneck is entering data on to computer file. The Student Accommodation Office has only one Rainbow Computer available for data entry which means results may not be fully entered until Easter. A report on the results will be prepared by the authors of the survey for sometime next term.

