

The Newspaper Of Imperial College Union

Founded 1949

IC buy the blues

IC Boat Club have purchased the boat that Oxford rowed to victory in this year's University Boat Race. The rowing-eight has cost £9,000 and has only been used 5 times: it cost over £14,000 when new.

The boat was ordered at the beginning of March by College Assistant Secretary Michael Arthur, and the money has come from the College Activities Loan Fund. It is planned that the money will be reclaimed from the Union and the Queensgate Trust-a fund to pay for recreational facilities at College.

Discussions started in January between the Boat Club, Michael Arthur and IC Union. ICU Deputy President Jackie Peirce could not make any assurances about any Union money being available to pay for the boat, as it would come from money

allocated for next year's equipment plan. Claims have to be passed by Union Finance Committee and the boat cost nearly half the total amount available to clubs and societies for equipment. Despite this, Michael Arthur ordered the boat at the beginning of March. When contacted by FELIX he said he had made "no assumptions" about where the money would finally come from although he did mention the Queensgate Trust and the Union Equipment Plan. He said that the money would be recovered "as soon as the Boat Club has the money to pay for it'

The Union sabbaticals were surprised to hear that the boat had been ordered, however, as they had not heard from the Boat Club and Michael Arthur since January and the Boat Club had not mentioned it at the last Union Finance Committee (UFC) meeting in mid-March. Jackie Peirce said she was unhappy about not being kept informed, and said that if the UFC decided it could not afford to pay for the boat then the Boat Club would have to find the money itself.

The matter is likely to be brought up at the next UFC to be held in a few weeks time, a number of Union officials are unhappy about not being informed about such a large expenditure and being presented with a 'fait accomplis'. They are also unhappy about the Boat Club claiming that they had lost the chance to buy the boat at the UFC meeting in mid-March when the Boat Club put in an increased claim of £14,000 to buy a new boat even though the Oxford boat had already been ordered.



Michael Arthur

New faces in **Presidential election: Excitement reaches** fever-pitch

There were three late entries in the ICU sabbatical presidential election this week. Roger Loughney (Physics), Junichi Imura (Met & Mat) and Symon Corns (Chem Eng) entered the race on Wednesday, only one day before the papers were due to come down. They join Ian Howgate (Geology) and Paul Bailey (Physics) who put their names forward before the Easter Holiday.

The contest is being rerun because of a decision by Elections Committee to invalidate last term's presidential election because the candidates had breached publicity rules.

The hustings UGM will take place at 1.00pm in the Great Hall next Thursday and the manifestos will appear in the next issue of FELIX. Voting is on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th May.

Firemen fight the soot in Hamlet Gardens

A Hamlet Gardens flat was severely damaged by fire last weekend. The fire broke out in the kitchen of basement flat 201 on Saturday evening at around 8pm. The flat was unoccupied at the time, and the fire was not discovered until 10.30pm when Andrew March, another resident, noticed smoke in the stairwell and alerted the Hamlet Gardens Warden Geoff Hungerford. Mr Hungerford attempted to enter the flat immediately, fearing that one or more of the residents might be asleep. There was so much smoke inside the flat, however, that he was initially unable to get very far inside. The fire brigade were called and arrived at around 10.50pm, when it was discovered that the fire itself was confined to a very small area in the

kitchen. The whole of the flat was full of thick smoke, though, and the walls, carpets and furniture were covered in heavy soot. Only one of the occupants had returned to the flat after the Easter vacation, and so not many personal belongings were damaged in the fire.

The landlords' representatives inspected the flat on Wednesday. The flat will have to be redecorated completely, and the cost is estimated to be in the region of £1000. This will be covered by the landlords' insurers. All but one of the students are still living in the flat, despite the extent of the damage. One of the occupants told FELIX that only a small number of personal effects were damaged. He added that the students had not been given any assistance in clearing up the

Forget the Empire!

In the mid 1970's I was a pupil at a junior school in the North of England. During my stay there I was continuously confronted with the imperial measurements. Having come back to the UK more than a decade (3.2 * 108s) later and now to a scientific and technological environment. I am quite surprised to see the situation unchanged. Over the past 1.43 * 10°s of my presence here I have had to cope with 'kg-forces'. Ib in atm. bar, A, in, ft, yd, miles, (long) tons. °F etc.

I shall not object to using years, weeks, °C, °of arc, metric tons etc as units in daily life. In many cases there is too much of cultural or historical background attached to these units. For scientific purposes I do however advocate only making use of SI units.

The examples mentioned in the first paragraph are only the tip of the iceberg. Not only do people frequently use non-SI units, often they use strange combinations, wrong abbreviations, no units at all or (possibly even worse) express

physical quantities in units belonging to another quantity (power in newton!).

Indeed industry does tend to stick to old units. It has often become virtually impossible to change (eg oil industry: pipe diameters), but do universities therefore have to preserve the old units too? Has science (possibly as a result of (supposed?) underfunding and subsequent industrial sponsorship) lost that much of its independence?

Britain is an island (and attempts to change this are not exactly being stimulated). Tourists like to see Lords, bowler hats, doubledeckers, and...inches. However, there is more to this world than tourism. Britain has vast scientific and technological potential. Maybe the best way to convey this to the British politicians is via international recognition. Surely one needs the Système International d'Unités to achieve this.

I suggest forget the empire and admit defeat to Napoleon!

E. A. Mante, Geology I.

Unfair Judgement?

Dear Dave,

Has Catherine Manolopoulos actually seen *Children of a Lesser God* or as she writes herself, did the music in the film stop her from thinking? Her review in FELIX 18 March leaves grave doubts as to her ability to gain any real insight into a particularly difficult subject.

To say that it is 'typical American crap' in her opening sentence and yet in the same paragraph tell us that the actors were actually deaf seems to suggest that it is far from typical. Can authentic deaf actors really make the film 'seem incredible in its badness' as she says, and if so, why?

I disagree with Ms Manolopoulos' appraisal of Sarah (Marileen Martin) she was in fact an incredibly bright student who forfeited her own abilities and refused to join the hearing world. She preferred to be a lavatory cleaner in a deaf institution because it was something she could do well in a

seemingly sympathetic environment. Her refusal to learn to speak stemmed from a tragic past history (was Ms Manolopoulos asleep whilst this was revealed?). Sarah was sexually abused when a teenager by her sister's boyfriends. Sex to Sara was a form of communication, and it was something she could do well without speaking (like cleaning loos!). Instead of bringing this sad fact to light, Ms Manolopoulos, portrays Sarah as a seductress, a mermaid no less. This is an unfair, misleading and sexist view of her nature.

In fact the whole review is full of unfair judgements and ill-thought-out comment. I suggest you re-read your work Ms Manopoulos it is an illjudged appraisal, your crass criticism and glib remarks make me doubt your worthiness as a critic.

Jane Hosking KQC College



Gay News Blues

It is three months since IC Union coopted a Gay/Lesbian Welfare Officer. I had expected that my original comments in FELIX of January 30th. that nearly no one is 100% heterosexual, would prevoke an angry response. The majority of people I have spoken to agreed with me, and nearly all the derogatory remarks I have heard have reached me second hand (I was quite proud to hear IC Radio playing Tom Robinson's 'Sing if you're glad to be Gay' as a dedication for me). A few days ago I met an IC student who thought that my editorial was a 'terrible thing to write' and was quite genuinely upset by the implication that he and other students should be able to recognise some degree of homosexuality in themselves.

I am still convinced that the men (and I shall restrict this to men for the moment) who go through adolescence without experiencing any physical feelings towards other men are in the minority. I am not trying to make out that we were all sharing beds as fourth formers (I did not attend a boarding school) but simply that sexual feelings are extremely complex and not restricted to a desire to penetrate other peoples bodies. I regard the progress the Union has made on the gay rights front as the major success of the year and I will support this wholeheartedly

as long as I am editor of the student newspaper. I raise the subject again for no other reason than to invite comment. This issue is not going to be forgotten and I welcome any correspondence.

Election fever grips IC!

Another round of sabbatical elections is upon us, and at the last minute several fresh faces have joined the presidential race. If another round of hustings and ballot boxes seems tedious, particularly in the middle of the exam period, then please consider the influence the sabbatical officers can have on the lives of all IC students. Good sabbaticals may seem to achieve little of consequence, but poor ones can really leave their mark. My advice on voting remains the same; decide which candidate is standing for the right reasons and please take the trouble to vote for

Credits

Many thanks to Dave Burns, Judith Hackney, Kamala Sen, Mark Cottle, Dave Williams, Hamster, Chris Martin, Andy Bannister, Francis Miers, Liz Holford, Neil Motteram, Sean MacRae, Steve Kilmurray, Jane Spiegel, Aaron Kotcheff, Steve Shackell and Rose Atkins.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The ICU AGM is on Tuesday May 19th.
Annual reports will be published in
FELIX on May 15th. All Union
officers/MSC chairmen who wish to
submit reports **must** hand them in to
the FELIX Office by 9.30am Monday
May 11th.

ELECTION PUBLICITY

All candidates for ICU President should see me as soon as possible if they require any printed publicity for the election. There will be a manifestos issue on Friday May 8th. Manifestos must be no more than 300 words long and will be printed with a photograph when supplied.

The deadline is 1.30pm on Tuesday May 5th, ie **Next Tuesday**. Manifestos which are submitted late will not be printed.

David Jones.

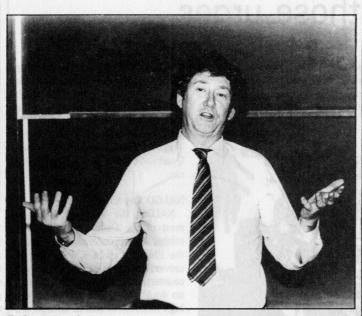
FELIX is published by the Editor for and on behalf of Imperial College Union Publications Board and is printed by the Imperial College Union Print Unit. Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB (Tel 01 589 5111 ext 3515). Editor, David Jones. Business Manager, Jane Spiegel. Copyright FELIX 1987 ISSN 1040-0711.

Parliamentary hang-ups

Mr Austin Mitchell, the Labour MP for Great Grimsby, addressed a Socialist Society meeting in Huxley 139 last Tuesday. In an eighty minute talk including a question and answer session, he devoted much of his time to talking about the economy. He said that in 1979 the country had had an historic opportunity, in the form of North Sea oil, to expand its economy without incurring a balance of payments crisis. Mrs Thatcher's govrnment, he said, had wasted that opportunity by destroying an unprecedented number of jobs and using the oil money to pay for the state debt. He stressed that growth was the key to a healthy economy and that it should be achieved, if necessary, by deficit budgeting and letting one's currency drop.

When asked about Labour's defence policy, Mr Mitchell said that he thought British nuclear weapons unnecessary, but he would prefer to get rid of them by negotiation rather than unilaterally.

On the election, he said that he did not think there would be a hung parliament, but if there were, and Labour were the largest party, it



Labour ready to accept power

would try to govern anyway without compromising its policies. When questioned about proportional representation, he said that he was

part of a growing minority in the Labour Party in favour of it, though it was not official Labour Party policy.

Princes amongst Kings

In the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the University of London debating competition, a beleagured IC DebSoc team triumphed over huge opposition, including the London School of Economics, and no less than five teams from Kings.

In the first round of rapid debates, the IC team carried the majority on the motion that 'This house believes that history is bunk', and successfully opposed the statement that 'This house believes that a man's place is in the home', scoring around 60 points out of a maximum seventy on

The semi-final saw them set against the LSE in the motion that 'This house would start again', a performance which took them to the final, against one of the many teams from Kings, which was chaired by KQC principal Stewart Sutherland, and judged by Lord Flowers and Lord Elwin Jones. The crucial motion was that 'This house has no faith in human nature', and the highly skilled IC team of Matt Desselberger and DebSoc chair Dan Salmons naturally carried off the prize, the Oxford Reference Dictionary, signed by the judges and presented by Lady Flowers.

ULUtrave



- · Worldwide flights on quality airlines
- Special fares for students and academics
- European trains and short
- · Overland tours and holidays

...we'll get you there!

Unbeatable prices — unbeatable quality from the world's greatest student travel organisation

Enquiries and Bookings: 🏧 🏝 European 01-581 8233 Intercontinental 01-581 1022

ULU Travel Imperial College Sherfield Building



IMPORTANT-FELIX PHOTOCOPIER

As from Monday May 4th the Print Unit photocopier will be fitted with a costquard system, which allows only authorised users with their own user number to make copies. All regular users have been notified and should return their forms to the FELIX Office as soon as possible, preferably today, to be issued with a user number. It will be the responsibility of each club to keep their user number confidential—all copies made against each number will be charged to that account. Private copies can still be paid for in cash

President's Prose

Fighting off those urges...

Hello and welcome back to sun-kissed Imperial College. As I write this, there is sun streaming into the office and I'm having to fight off urges to go and bask in the warmth—surely a better option than working. In short, it's typical exam term weather...well, I hope those of you taking exams aren't too distracted by the heat—and I wish you luck. Meanwhile, a few things of interest.

The Great Presidential Election

Following the complete fiasco last term, the presidential election is being re-run. The Hustings UGM is next Thursday, May 7th at 1pm; voting takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday, 12th and 13th of May. I realise that an awful lot of people are somewhat preoccupied by academic matters at the moment, but if you can spare the time please come along to the Hustings and to vote. Nobody would choose to have an election this term but now we're stuck with it; so please try and take part.

On the same subject, if anyone can spare a few hours on May 12th and 13th and would like to earn a few pounds for guarding ballot boxes (it's not hard work and you can read/revise at the same time), come and see Jen or Dave Colley in the Union Office as soon as possible.

More Wild and Wacky things happening in the Union Building

On Wednesday from May 5th, Kate from Studio 35 on Marloes Road will be cutting hair for £5 a time in the Ents. Committee Room (above the new FELIX Office). We can certainly vouch for Kate—whether your style is wild and wacky or straightforward and respectable; she's responsible not only for my shorter cuts, but also for

Jackie's 'Glenda Jackson' look, Kathy's wild waves and Jen's spiky sophisticated image...however she's got nothing to do with Gutman's



unique coiffure! So if anyone, male or female, needs a haircut, come along any Wednesday.

If you're working so hard this term

that you can't find time for shopping and cooking, remember that the Union Snack Bar is open for lunch (10am—3pm) and supper (6pm—9pm) with plenty of hot food and fresh salads all at amazingly low prices. There's plenty of room to sit in Beit Quad and catch a bit of sun while you eat.

NALGO Pay Claim

NALGO, the union representing most of the College's clerical and related staff, is currently negotiating the 1987 pay claim. Clerical staff in universities earn far less than their counterparts in the private sector, and no doubt this partially explains the high turnover of staff at College. It's a vicious circle; in times of financial cuts to universities non-academic staff salaries are liable to suffer; but if the College is to run efficiently, good administration staff are essential and need to be paid accordingly. I only hope that the outcome of the claim reflects the vital role of clerical and administration workers in academic institutions

Missing Persons

I've had a letter from a woman called Joan, from Inverness. She's trying to contact a student from New York, probably called Eric. Eric is about 21, 5' 10" tall with mousey hair. He was in Inverness on 20th February and went to a disco there called "Dillingers", leaving at midnight. If this is you, or you know someone who might be 'Eric', come and see me as there's a contact address for you. Yes, this is serious and apparently Joan has a very good reason for contacting you!

That's it for now, have fun. *Christine*

NOTICE

Would **ALL** clubs and societies collect your mail from the Union or I will throw it in the bin! Also, could you fill in the details of next year's committee as soon as possible (details in your letter racks!).

Thanks,

Thanks, Kathy Tait

GAY NEWS



Sad to say, Robert Daniel has now left Imperial for ever—could be a wise move—but the work he undertook for the gay and lesbian students of the College lives on. If you check our noticeboard, on the left hand side of the foyer of the Union building, you will see that we are now meeting in the Green Committee Room on the top floor of the Union Building, every Wednesday at 12.30pm.

If you are gay or lesbian, and you've told people about it, well done and we'll be glad to see you. If you aren't, try turning up anyway. You'll find us a reasonably ordinary bunch, and you might learn a thing or two about us. But most importantly: If you are gay, and you haven't told anyone, please don't be afraid to come along and say hello. Most of us have been in that situation at some time; I will never forget what it's like to conceal part of yourself from everyone, even your closest friends. Don't worry about being seen on your way to the Green Committee Room: 98% of IC students probably don't know you, and I don't suppose that the other two per cent will realise where you are going.

Towards the end of last term FELIX received a letter signed only by 'One of the few' which saddened me tremendously. In tone it was the writing of someone who had almost given up hope of ever being accepted, or of being free to be themselves. If the writer of that letter is reading this, I implore them, or anyone like them, to turn up on Wednesday and tell someone about it. At the moment, that is about the only way you can make your life any better.

A final rousing chorus: I have always been quite happy about my sexuality. As a result of the support I have received, sometimes from the most unlikely people, I am now proud of it. Thank you all.

Andrew Bannister

Win a Parisian Weekend

from STAR The Worldbeaters

- The fervour of the STA competition is building up as the FELIX Office is flooded with entries each week you too can enter for the weekly prize of £10 travel voucher and the chance to win the grand prize in the May 9th draw.
- The second lucky winner was Andrew Dunn, Physics 3.
- The incredibly lucky third winner was Mark Ball.
- All entries to the FELIX Office marked 'STA Competition'. For further information contact either FELIX or Mark Fletcher, in the STA Office on level 2, Sherfield Walkway. Answers to the FELIX Office by Wednesday 6th for this week's draw. All pictures and questions will be repeated in next week's FELIX with the final deadline 5.30pm on the day of publication (May 8th).
- This week's questions are:
- 1) What part of College is this?
- 2) How many FELIX Editors have there been?



UNION BAR

GUEST BEER FOR MAY ROYAL OAK (84p per pint)

FRI 8th
CHEAP FOSTERS/ENTS PARTY

SAT 16th

CHEAP WETHEREDS/ EXTERNAL COMEDIANS

ALL TERM

¾ litre bottles of Stein lager for out of hours drinking (just £1.80 each)

HAIR BRAINED

Cut 'n' Blow Dry £5.00 Wednesday 9.00am to 4.00pm in the Ents Room (above the New FELIX Office)

SUMMER JOBS

Assistant Managers, Cleaners and Night Managers required for July, August and September on the Summer Lettings scheme and SAC.

Good wages, free accommodation and bonuses. Information and application forms available from the Student Accommodation Office

Closing date for applications: Friday 15th May 1987

Accommodation for academic year October 1987—June 1988

Fully furnished, self contained flats and houses available for groups of 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10. Available in South Kensington, Fulham and Putney. Prices from £32 per person per week, exclusive of bills. Some single and some double bedsits also available. Bookings taken now, no payment until October.

Please ring for viewing 385 9882, 731 0292, 731 4073 any time during the day

BIG CONNECTIONS

The Pimlico Connection 1987/88 UGC backs IC scheme to encourage others to set up similar student 'tutoring' schemes

"It was a tremendous boost when I overheard one pupil saying that she'd learnt more in one lesson when I had been explaining things to her than she'd learnt the rest of the year". This comment by one of this year's IC tutors sums up much of the satisfaction and sense of achievement

participate in teaching Science, Maths and 'CDT' at both secondary and primary level in ILEA schools, with Holland Park School currently providing about half of the tutoring places. Over seven thousand pupils have now experienced tutoring by UC undergraduates and show, through annually completed questionnaires, continued benefits from such tutoring.

In 1986/87 nearly fifty students from eleven different departments spent their Wednesday afternoons, up At least half of the current tutors have never had any intention of teaching but have been attracted to the scheme primarily by the opportunity of having real practice in trying to communicate scientific ideas at a simple level, alongside professional educators. This, combined with insights gained from visiting multiethnic inner-city schools with fellow students, provides sufficient motivation for most of those who become tutors. There are some, of

teachers in the scheme, to learn about the ILEA's 'SMILE' Mathematics programme, and gain some idea of the fairly challenging role of a tutor through simulation games and discussion with former tutors.

As part of its scheme to improve the dwindling supply of school teachers in Mathematics, Physics and Technology, the UGC has agreed to fund an IC proposal by Dr Goodlad to fund a Research and Project Development Officer from September

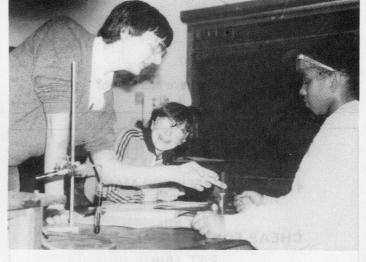


that encourages students at Imperial to join the College tutoring scheme; known familiarly as the 'Pimlico Connection'.

In 1975/76 the Pimlico School became the first of six schools to have a tutoring link with Imperial. Dr Sinclair Goodlad had arranged for twelve third-year Electrical Engineering students to investigate the feasibility of undergraduates acting as 'tutors', by assisting teachers in 'combined science' classes. The initial, three-year phase of research was funded by the Leverhulme Foundation as part of Dr Goodlad's ongoing research into 'study-service' in the UK and USA.

Now completing its twelfth year, this IC tutoring scheme has enabled nearly seven hundred students to until the end of January, in five schools. Nearly a third of the tutors were female, providing useful 'rolemodels' for pupils who often associate science exclusively with men.

More information about the IC tutoring scheme and applications for 1987/88 is available from the Humanities Department, 53 Prince's Gate. The 'Pimlico Connection Society', a students' union society, will have at least one meeting during the term to welcome its new committee and any prospective tutors/interested students. The Society usually meets in the Electrical Engineering building. This year's officers are Keith Bell of Chem Eng 4 (Chairman and Treasurer) and Richard Bleasdale of Elec Eng 4 (Social Secretary).



course, who wish to see whether their ideas of being teachers stand up to the test of reality or not. It can be really useful to know if one is *not* suited rather than spending a postgraduate year of teacher training to find out. Or, as one of this year's tutors put it:

"The Pimlico connection scheme helped me make up my mind about not teaching. My reasons were complicated, but at least now I'll not pursue my career wondering what teaching would have been like. I do now have some idea. Anyway, regardless of this I think the experience of the scheme is very valuable in itself."

All prospective tutors are encouraged to attend a training session on the first Saturday of the Autumn term to meet some of the 1987/89. This appointment will draw on the unique experience gained at Imperial to increase awareness, nationally, of how such tutoring schemes can operate, and, if possible, to establish at least one other, similar, scheme in London. The post is likely to be suitable for a teacher on secondment, as advertised this week in The Guardian.

No experience needed. Why not join the 'Pimlico Connection' now! David J Berry

(Staff coordinator of the scheme during Dr Goodlad's current secondment)



Blue Velvet is a strange film. It is also a violent and controversial film. But despite the more obviously provocative aspects of the story it was the underlying weirdness that struck me most.

The plot concerns a boy who finds a severed human ear in some long grass behind his home. Not content with just reporting it to the police he becomes nosey about a woman living nearby, Isabella Rosselini, who is somehow implicated. Rapidly he Perhaps this is done deliberately in the hope that people will construe their own hidden meanings. There is certainly a strong theme of good versus evil but there are other facets which simply left me dazed.

Director David Lynch was also responsible for *Dune* and for the black and white cult film *Eraserhead*. The second of these is possibly the single weirdest film ever made and would perhaps give some clues to the man's thinking if anyone could figure out

beginning to look a little old fashioned these days. To compensate in this film we have a nice ecological plot about saving whales and a liberal distribution of humour. This is not a picture which will strain the mind.

Home of the Brave is effectively a concert video by performance artist Laurie Anderson. Ms Anderson is noted for her weird and epic live shows. This film is a recording of a live performance of the album of the same name in front of an audience in New York, and features guest appearances by avante garde writer William S Burroughs as well as a number of notable musicians. Laurie Anderson is best known for her hit O Superman and also had chart success with the single Language is a Virus which concludes the film. Home of the Brave sees the perhaps inevitable influence of oriental style showing up in the music. But perhaps the best aspect of the film are some odd humourous links between numbers. Whilst the beginning and end were better than the usual bland concert photography I felt the pace slackened mid-way through. Nevertheless this is worthwhile if you're into art rock.

Reviews

Blue Velvet is showing at the Lumiere and in Notting Hill Gate Star Trek is at Leicester Square and all over London Home of the Brave will open at the ICA in June

THE GOOD, THE BAD OR THE UGLY?

becomes embroiled in a disturbing and violent relationship and in a sinister conspiracy centring on Dennis Hopper. Hopper plays perhaps the most repugnant psychopath ever to be written into a film. The controversy centres on his relationship to Isabella Rosselini who plays perhaps one of the most disturbed women in film.

This is not a soft porn video, unlike 9½ Weeks which also dealt with SM overtones; where there is violence it is portrayed as warped and disturbing. The real problem is to figure out whether the film is in any way allegorical. The small town middle American setting is shown in an almost surreal way and many of the turns of the plot do not make sense.

what it was about. Although *Blue Velvet* is a fairly low budget film its subject matter makes it heavily debatable.

In complete contrast the continuing epic of the Starship Enterprise in the form of Star Trek IV is definitely light entertainment. This episode sees the usual bunch of galactic heroes hurtling back to the wild and primitive 20th Century to save Earth in the future. This is obviously a very neat trick if you can do it. It is of course giving little away to say that the good guys scrape back into the future neatly in the nick of time to save the day so that Star Trek V can begin with everything intact. It must be said that 23rd Century spaceships are



Letting us down?

If there is one thing one can be sure of when Mr Bowie announces a new album it is that it is likely to be quite unlike anything he has done before. Never Let Me Down is now different in this respect. Unfortunately the album is distinguished from his previous works by a complete lack of musical originality and turgid lyrics.

Mr Bowie has attempted to join the social awareness bandwagon with songs about nuclear war, AIDS and drugs. He succeeds only in producing some very clichéd songs which quite

frankly are very dull indeed. His Glass Spider fairy tale monologue for example is reminiscent of the Diamond Dogs introduction, but seems shallow in comparison.

In spite of the ten or so musicians credited on the album cover the music sounds very computerised and overproduced to the point where it grates. Yet here and there there are touches of the genius Bowie once was. I think Bowie still has the potential; whether or not it will be reawakened remains to be seen.

R2D2

New Spandex for Old Clichés

The Queerboys—Marquee

The Marquee Glam-Gang were out in force on Saturday, the occasion was an up-and-coming British rock band, The Queerboys. They have over the past year built up a strong reputation and following. They already command the attention of established rock musicians from the likes of Hanoi Rocks, The Babysitters, Tormé and UFO (the bass player, Nigel, is Phil Moog's nephew).

Their style is tough rock 'n' roll, with the blues rythms of the early Rolling Stones, to the hard rock melodies of Kiss or Aerosmith.

The audience loved every note and movement of a band that have the real potential to strike their own mark as a British name in a, now, American dominated rock world.

From the opening song, That's Right, through old favourites like Sex Party, Pretty Girls and 7 O'clock, they held the audience in a web of excitement and sheer good time rock 'n' roll.

They are currently on a small UK tour and will be back at the Marquee on May 23rd, BE THERE and enjoy yourself.

David Williams

I.C. ENTS PRESENT

HOOKLINE & SILVERFISH

DAVE PUPPY AND THE HAPPY DOGS



AUDITIONS

BENT

by Martin Sherman

TWO WAY MIRROR

by Arthur Miller

THE COLLECTION & THE LOVER

by Harold Pinter

Sunday 3rd May......1.30pm Wednesday 6th May.....1.30pm

IN THE UNION UPPER LOUNGE

BRITISH TELECOM VACANCIES

SPECIFIC NETWORK AND STRATEGIC PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES

The merging of switching and transmission technologies and the commitment of BT to modernise its network and provide customers with new features at competitive prices has led to a re-appraisal of the network structure.

A major division in BT, UK Communications, has recently been set up to establish the economics of various options and to take these forward to specific implementation plans. The work will have a high profile in the business and will provide successful applicants with exceptional career opportunities.

We wish to attract the best graduates available and are interested primarily in motivation and intellect, thus a scientific degree is not essential.

Contact John Green on 01-829 3337 for further details. All applications on a Standard Application Form to be forwarded to Geynor Cannings, UK Communications Personnel, Room 1119, 151 Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BA, Freefone 2237, by May 15 1987.

BRITISH TELECOM VACANCIES

Women's VIII's Head of the River, 14th March, Mortlake to Putney

Miracle Workers

The most important annual eights event between Mortlake and Putney took place on Saturday March 14th. Imperial women's squad, comprising 9 dedicated members?? selected 8 oarswomen and a cox to enter as a ??? crew. They stomped home 61st out of an unusually large field of over a thousand. This was a quite remarkable result for a crew of such mixed experience although they were aiming for the top sixty.

Mega-coaches Richard Evans and Tim Lohmann (of Lohmann Rowing Club) worked miracles with those who only started rowing in October, and attempted to correct the odd crew member who had been rowing badly for years. Despite only being able to row together as an eight on a few occasions, exceptionally hard training throughout the winter paid off. Good

spirits in the boat and excellent coxing from Diana Montgomery resulted in a row worthy of a crew of higher status.

Oxford is not the only crew to impart muscle from the States. Colleen Kaleta arrived at the last minute to train for the race, just as -Mandy Phillips was recovering from serious illness to take up her place in the bow. Charlotte Evans and Alison Lapp overcame a sizeable problem by being incredibly fit. Amazing performances also from Bridget Farnon, Pam Evans and Kathy Marriot. I was in the boat as well.

The squad is now anticipating an outstanding regatta season.

Bow: A Phillips, A Capp, K Marriott, B Farnon, C Evans, C Kaleta, P Sansom, R Thomson (Str), D Montgomery.



Dance Club

Off Beat Performance

The end of last term saw the highlight of the dancing calender for Imperial College Dance Club.

On the 28th February the Southern Universities Ball was held, hosted by Southampton, with Imperial taking two teams of four couples to compete. Despite strong opposition, notably from Cambridge and Oxford Universities, all but one of our couples successfully progressed through three heats to reach the semi finals. A particularly encouraging and enthusiastic performance was given by Steve Mercer and Alice Jacques, who had only started dancing this year but still managed to get through to the semi finals of the jive competition. Our finalists included Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst in the jive, Simon Denyer and Rachel Conder in the quickstep and also Ruth Steadman and Sharad Somany in the cha-cha-cha. They were placed 5th. 7th and 6th respectively. Success was

achieved when, performing our version of "Greased Lightning", Imperial College won the offbeat competition at the end of the evening.

On March 14th the Inter-Varsity Ball was held at Bristol with competitors coming from as far away as Edinburgh to compete.

Imperial took 4 couples along to compete and also their victorious offbeat team. A sparkling performance by Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst won them 2nd place in the final of the jive, with two other couples reaching the semi finals.

Yet again the offbeat team was placed 1st after a somewhat complacent performance, but with an exciting interpretation by Will McDonald and Sarah Rogles.

Special thanks must go to Vikki Cunniffe, our dancing instructor and her husband, Harry, for services rendered

Simon Denyer, Publicity Officer

Water Polo

Secret Weapons

On Sunday 15th March at 3.00pm, teams from Tizard and Selkirk met to contest the inter-hall gala. Due to Linstead hiding outside for an hour, Selkirk and Tizard displayed their prowess in water polo, until Linstead could be enticed to wet their feet.

The gala commenced at four o'clock with Linstead taking an early lead through ULU swimmer, Steve. As the gala proceeded, Selkirk fell by the wayside, largely due to their female contingent being too demure to show themselves. Tizard crawled up, and as the last relay was announced, there was just half a point between Tizard and Linstead.

Tizard's secret weapons—Shark Fin (John) and Oppy (Simon) led off for them, giving an early advantage, which was held by brilliant performances from Pete 'Submarine' Gilbert and Aquatic Emma. Team captain Nikki splashed the next 25m, followed by 'the unknown swimmer' Neil. Gremlin Gizmo (Ian) set up the final leg for Kipper (Dave Wall) to seize the championship for Tizard. A special mention must go to Tracy, who showed style with the inflatables, thanks to Andrew and James for their organisation (although they lost—ha ha).

Dramsoc

Edinburgh Auditions

Preparations are now well under way for the 1987 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. As well as running one of the biggest venues in the festival DramSoc will also be performing three plays; Bent by Martin Sherman, Two Way Mirror by Arthur Miller and The Collection and The Lover by Harold Pinter. Auditions are in the Upper Lounge at 1.30pm on Sunday 3rd and Wednesday 6th May. All are welcome, no previous experience required.

OpSoc

Marathon

This weekend, from noon on Saturday, OpSoc will be performing all of the 13 Gilbert & Sullivan Savoy Operas one after the other, in aid of this year's rag charities. The event will take place in the Union Concert Hall until sometime on Sunday afternoon, so please come along and watch, sing, or donate, or all three if you like. Don't miss this exciting non-stopera!





COLLEGEBURY TALES

The Editors Tale

The only true certainty is the absence of news. The rest is just void, the vultures of popular opinion, the missing Baron, desolation. A thousand editorials flash from the rollers, desperate pleas to the deafening silence of dumbness.

I walked through the union building today. The audio circulation pushed wisdom from my mind. The words of reform banished to a vegetarian plate. the mushrooms of futility. They gnawed at my toes, stamped on my head, chided, pushed and abused. Demanding the gods of revelation, the idols of sport, the dread cold emptiness of rhetoric. They stared at me, but I was invisible. A name on the page, never a face to them. My words, their daggers, all the pointless bickering are naught to the clock on the wall, the endless clack clack clack of the folding machine.

My preprocessed, digitised, electronic thoughts spew from

unconscious machine to unconscious machine through woodpulped interfaces of pretence. And I realise the terrible limitations, the paralyzing insurmountable inadequacies of the situation, life in a papyrus fortress. Maming truth, the fog of competition closes in on the struggle for revelation. Why do we strive for enlightenment but crumble beneath petty terrestrial considerations? So much to do, so little time to accomplish nothing. Crucified on an ever rising hill of peurility, sterility, inadequacy and triviality in a barren wasteland of mindlessness and ineptitude, I swing from their hooks of insanity. Inane requests seeking an orgasm of ego enrichment assault my tower of truth. The power of the press versus the forces of ignorance, a titanic struggle of coherence against a whirlpool of the unimaginative dregs of academia, form my raison



Glass in hand, I await the triumphant arrival of another Friday. Eyelids strain to reach the new day, the next edition, reaction, interest, some cognition. They never really care, and I am doomed to try again and again. I coax shock, aggrievement, the food of feedback, shouting at an abyss of apathy. Collating the wit and wisdom of another week, they struggle to muster the last vestiges of enthusiasm from their rapidly shrinking minds. Nicotine doped, caffine stoned, bleary eyed automatons shuffle, shuffle, shuffle the dwindling piles of revelation, as they crawl towards the birth of a new edition. I stare across the print room, as the ink flows, and the paper rips through my mind. I do my job. I survive amid this paucity of imagination, talent and reality. The only certainty in a sea of delusion is that there is never ever any news.

PAN AND TILT

FELIX

All clubs wishing to have a regular entry in the What's On section **MUST** fill in a new form for this term—all old forms have been discarded. Clubs who wish to place a large number of separate entries may obtain a small supply of forms from the office. What's On's will not be accepted unless filled in on the correct forms.

Deadlines for submission are as follows; clubs articles, sports reports, What's On, Small Ads by 1.30pm Monday. Letters and opinion articles by 1.30pm Tuesday.

HUSTINGS UGM

Don't miss round two of the great ICU Presidential Election scandal. Win a holiday in Greece in the "spot the joke candidate" competition.

Great Hall, Thursday, May 7th at 1.00pm

What's On

FRIDAY

SFSoc Dr Who Video 7.30pm. We will be showing "Ambassadors of Death", one of the most acclaimed of the Jon Pertwee Dr Who stories. 50p to members, membership available. See SFSoc.

IC Ents Concert8.30pm.
Union Lower Lounge. Dave
Puppy & The Happy Dogs—
supported by Hook Line &
Silverfish. £1.50. See IC Ents.

MONDAY

Above Stan's, Southside. Sign up for next week's waterskiing.

ICCAG Meeting12.35pm.
Rag Office. Meeting to organise stall for Rag Fete. See T Scott, Physics III.

TUESDAY



Forget Exams Nite8.30pm. 'til 1.00am. The Lounge. Hookline and Silverfish & Dave Puppy and The Happy Dogs & Bar 'till midnite & cheap beer. £1.50, free with Ents card.

SATURDAY

Continues until sometime on Sunday afternoon (see clubs and societies).

Fresher's Revenge8.00pm.
Party at Hughes Parry Hall. Live band, disco, cheap bar. King's Cross or Russell Sq tube.

SUNDAY

OpSoc Rag Marathon II

The saga continues...come and support and donate to this year's rag charities.

DramSoc Auditions ...1.30pm.Upper Lounge. For the Edinburgh Festival. All welcome. See Mike Foulds.

WEDNESDAY

Turner Gallery Trip....1.30pm.Meet Beit Arch. Visit to new
Clare Gallery trip with gaggle of
art non-conisseurs. See ArtSoc.

DramSoc Auditions ...1.30pm.Upper Lounge. For the Edinburgh Festival. All welcome! See Mike Foulds.

THURSDAY

Balloon Club
Meeting.......1.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge. All

Southside Upper Lounge. All welcome. DNA. See Balloon

Back to the Future...7.30pm.Mech Eng 220. 50p members £1 others. See FilmSoc.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Edinburgh Festival Fringe August 1987, Auditions (no previous experience required). May 3rd and 6th, 1.30pm, Upper Lounge. All welcome.
- ICENTS present a 'bands and booze' night. Forget exams, get down, get pissed. The Lounge, Friday 8th May, 8.30 'til late (bar 'til 12.00).
- Imperial College Staff
 Cricket Club invite new
 members. At present we have
 academic, technical and security
 staff, postgraduate students and
 research assistants in the club.
 Beginners and experienced
 players are equally welcome. If
 interested contact Kevin Cope
 int. 4126 or Rashmic Patel int.
 4344.

LOST AND FOUND

- Could the person who found an umbrella in Chemistry Lecture Theatre B on Friday 13.3.87 please contact Andrew Daglish (Chem I). Thank you.
- Missing—Zipped holdall containing car tools at the back of RSM. Contact T Allen int 6445.

PERSONAL

- The last radio show of last term—Thanks to Richard, Jon, Kev, Simon and Steve for keeping the show going and for everyone who was in Steve's room listening to us. With love, Lindsey and Ivy.
- So I listen to Meatloaf now and again; but I can handle it.
- Curry, Curry, Curry, Mark Curry...Wrong.

- My Son ask for thyself another kingdom, for that which I leave is too small for thee. (King Philip of Macedonia, 339 BC).
- There will be an inaugural meeting of BottomfondleSoc on Wednesday next week in the Deputy President's office.
- U RUBB OBRONF BIYA NIE, SEPA!
- Lost one smelly, arrogant room-mate. Found one helpful, gorgeous, considerate member of BottomfondleSoc.

ACCOMMODATION

- 2 or 3 bedroomed flat wanted for postgraduate students. Contact Alfred on int. 6989.
- Earls Court, 1 min tube, 2 bedroom, 1 double, 1 twin, kitchen, bathroom, lounge, 2nd bathroom, available now until 10th September £542 per calendar month. Contact C Harris int 5946 or int 3670 evenings.

FOR SALE & WANTED

- Interest-free loan wanted. Prompt repayment promised. Contact Tony Ruines on int. 4368.
- Second-hand colour TV wanted. Contact Fernando on int. 4841.
- Unused Philips car radio with preselection facility plus used Pioneer TS-160 dual cone speakers (20W/channel). Offers complete but will split if necessary. Call R Coutts (Pure and Applied Biology) int 7416/7440.

Austin Allegro 1300cc SDL for sale. March 1980 (V-registration) 4 door white saloon. One owner, regularly maintained, radio, MOT to March 1988. £550 ono. Contact Christine Wright on 3312.



No BT, no comment

An intense environmental conflict is set to explode in Prince Consort Road.

Last week British Telecom decided to replace the old red telephone box between the RSM building and the RCM, with a brand, spanking new one of the smoked glass and aluminium variety.

However, City of Westminster Council, have moved quickly deeming it to be of "architectural or historical interest", and thus protecting it with a building preservation order.

The Council told FELIX that the telephone box now has at least six months grace whilst it is considered by the Department of the Environment for inclusion as a listed building.



The Council spokeswoman said that she didn't like the new boxes and that it was council policy to preserve the old style boxes wherever they are in keeping with the character of their

surroundings.

BT were unavailable for comment and it is unclear whether or not it will affect the price of their shares.

Museum staff strike

Museum clerical staff are to go on strike on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th May in a demand for higher pay. Since 1980 when the Government terminated an agreement linking salaries of civil servants with those in the private sector, their pay has decreased by 20% in real terms. To remedy this the CPSA (Civil and Public Service Association) wants the average pay of its members increased by £20 from the present average of £88 a week. The Treasury is only prepared to provide a 4.25% increase (£5.75 for most people). Over half the 140,000 membership of the CPSA voted by a margin of 2 to 1 to strike, so from the start of next week staff in Government departments such as Health and Social Security and Custom and Excise will take action. Administrative and secretarial staff from the Geological, Science and Victoria and Albert museums join them on Thursday and Friday. Branch secretary Philip Shaw said that the strike would not cause serious disruption to the running of the museum but would inconvenience the management. He pointed out that CPSA members were not noted for being militant so that the vote to strike was an indication of how bad the situation is. Christine Taig, IC Union

New man for IC

ICU will be taking on a fourth member of Union Office permanent staff. College administration have approved the post of a Union accountant, who will have responsibility for looking after all the Union books and preparing the accounts for the auditors. The Union Office is to be extended into the

Upper Lounge to provide extra office space. The new job description will be finalised shortly, and it is hoped that an appointment will be made at the end of June. College Secretary John Smith is keen to see the Union Office permanent staff expand to five at the end of next year, when the area of greatest need has been identified.



Mark will be back next week

Money for Union gym

The Union Gym, on the second floor of the Union Building, is to undergo major refurbishment over the summer. The money will be available because of a re-arrangement in the way that maintenance of the Union Building is funded.

Previously the Union has been given money for furniture and equipment, but major maintenance and redecoration has been the responsibility of the College. John Smith, the College Secretary, is proposing that the Union be given an increased amount, about £25,000, to pay for all decoration in the Union Building, apart from major structural and electrical work.

As part of the changeover, the College may pay for the refurbishment of the Gym, including sanding the floor and modernising the changing rooms, at a cost of about £7,000—although a similar refurbishment of the Union Dining Hall and kitchens on the first floor will be paid for from the Union fund.

There is a possibility that wire will be placed over the windows in the Gym, thus allowing the playing of ball games, and the floor being marked for fencing and badminton, instead of fencing and basketball as it is at the moment.

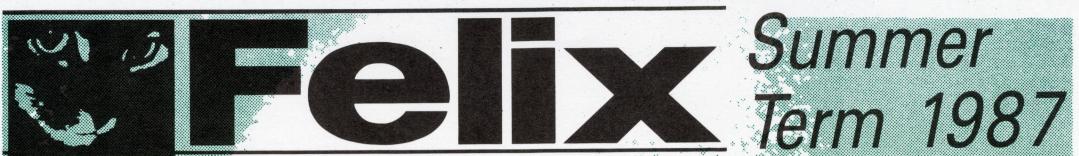
Long term plans on the completion of the proposed sports centre include fitting a permanent mat to the floor and making the Union Gym suitable for more specialist uses.

200 in new houses

College will be acquiring 200 new places in house-type accommodation for next year. Subject to confirmation of planning details and financial support, Michael Arthur, College Assistant Secretary, hopes to sign contracts this week. Although the new places will not be available until October, it is hoped they will allow all first years to be offered places in residence.

It is expected that rents will have to rise more than usual for all College accommodation to cover the financing of the project.

Meanwhile, College are planning to install an additional warden in Southside. This will mean the loss of one of the penthouse flats which would otherwise be available for student use. The Union Executive are unhappy that this decision has been taken by the administration without any consultation or explanation. They believe there will always be a desperate need for such accommodation.



						UIIII	1001
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	27 April Term Starts	28 New Moon	29	30	1 May RCS Silwood Ball	2	3 Dramsoc Edinburgh Auditions Sun Rises 5.28am Sun Sets 8.27pm
2	4 Bank Holiday	5	6 Dramsoc Edinburgh Auditions	7 ICU Hustings	8 FELIX Manifesto issue	9 Rag Fete	10 Sun Rises 5.16am Sun Sets 8.38pm
3	11 Council	12 ICU Elections Voting in all Departments Pippa's Birthday	13 ICU Elections-Voting in all Departments	14	15 FELIX-Annual Reports UGM	16 FA Cup Final	17 Sun Rises 5.05am Sun Sets 8.49pm
4	18	19 ICU Annual General Meeting	20	21	22	23	24 Sun Rises 4.55am Sun Sets 9.00pm
5	25 Bank Holiday	26	27 New Moon	28 Ascension	29	30	31 Sun Rises 4.47am Sun Sets 9.09pm
6	1 June	2	3	4	5	6	Whit Sunday Sun Rises 4.42am Sun Sets 9.16pm
7	8	9	10	11	12 President's Dinner	13 HM The Queen's Official Birthday	14 Sun Rises 4.40am Sun Sets 9.21pm
8	15	16	17	18	19 Governing Body lunch Glastonbury Festival	20	21 FELIX Cricket Match Father's Day Longest Day
9	22 Joint Council	23	24	25	26 Jackie's Birthday End of Term New Moon	27 Big Exec Party	28 Sun Rises 4.43am Sun Sets 9.24pm

Opening Times:

Lyon Playfair Library

Term Time Monday to Friday Sunday

Vacation Monday to Friday 9.30am to 9.00pm 9.30am to 5.30pm

9.30am to 5.30pm

Union Snack Bar

Monday to Friday

10.00am to 3.00pm 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Union Bar

Lunchtimes Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat Wed & Fri Sun

12.00pm to 2.00pm 6.00pm to 11.00pm

5.30pm to 11.00pm 7.00pm to 10.30pm