



FREE!

FELIX

No. 804
Friday 27th May 1988

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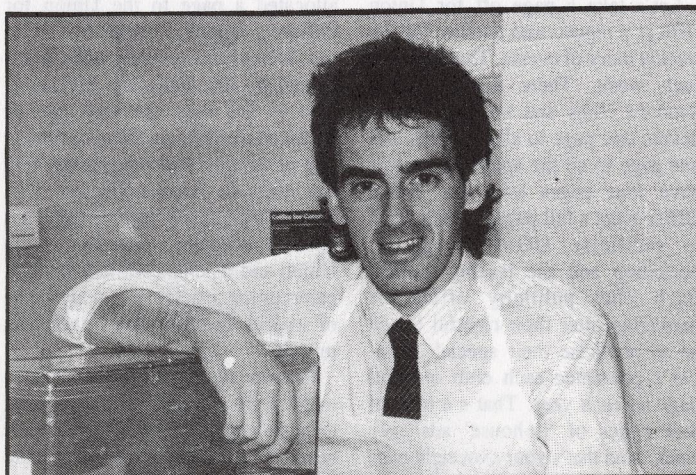
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SNACK BAR MANAGER SACKED

Norman on the dole

Mr Norman Jardine, former Union Catering Manager, was sacked yesterday afternoon following weeks of uncertainty. Mr Jardine was told in a letter from Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge (name changed in aid of Comic Relief) that he had been dismissed on the grounds of his mismanagement of the Union Snack Bar. Mr Jardine told FELIX yesterday night that, because there is no appeal procedure within College, he will be taking his case directly to an industrial tribunal.



Norman Jardine—before he was sacked yesterday

Deputy Catering Manager, Mr Mark Anderson, has been offered a new contract by the Union. He told FELIX that if he accepts the offer, he will be working directly under the new Union Manager, Mr David Peacock.

Although Mr Anderson has been offered a new contract, the Union Snack Bar will not open until the next academic year and a professional catering consultant has been brought in to help reorganise the trading outlet.

Mr Anderson told FELIX that he

had only learnt of Mr Jardine's sacking at 5.00pm last night and was still making up his mind as to whether he would sign any new contract. He said 'I think it's disgusting. I believe that the whole situation has been grossly mishandled. There are people who haven't been brought to answer for their actions when they should have been.'

The Union President declined to comment on the subject when approached by a FELIX reporter yesterday afternoon.

Geology on the rocks

It has now been confirmed that the Geology department at IC is considered to be a second class department. According to the University Grants Commission (UGC) review of earth sciences IC will lose approximately 80 full time student places and 10 staff places. They will also be looked upon unfavorably in future allocation of student numbers.

College has unsuccessfully protested these cuts since April when they were first announced. Prof Knill, Head of the Geology Department, is unhappy about the treatment they received from the UGC due to remarks made at one of the review interviews. The UGC based their decision on what they felt was insufficient collaboration between geology and the science departments. Prof Knill felt that insufficient weight was given to the substantial links with the engineering, and especially mining engineering, departments on which much of the IC work is based.

The IC Geology department is one of the top departments in the country when it comes to attracting research contracts. It has suffered from the fact that academically, IC has not been seen to be doing enough. Not enough papers have been published or cited in the right academic journals, with the proper credits to IC, to keep them high in this league table. This could be attributed to the fact that much of

continued on back page



editorial

It's been a jolly little week. It's been the kind of week when people skip into the office, give you a cheery grin and then hand you a letter slugging you off. If you want to keep up-to-date with the latest Union Office versus FELIX saga then turn straight to page ten.

The next three weeks' FELICES will be a little on the thin side due to a distinct lack of any copy and collators and that most of you have better things to do than read FELIX. Have no fear, I will not be sitting on my behind during this time as we are planning a mega-big last issue to come out on Wednesday 22nd June. Don't miss it!

Editorial Freedom

Why is my editorial freedom so precious to me and to you as members of this students' union?

Let me tell you a little story. Last summer Pippa Salmon produced an excellent Union Handbook to be sent to all Freshers in September. When she had finished all the artwork, she sent photocopies to the Union Executive for their approval. It's standard practice. The Executive were unhappy with several things: the article on women at IC was too negative they felt (it was written by last year's President Christine Taig); the gay and lesbian article wasn't sympathetic enough (it was written by last year's ICU Gay & Lesbian Welfare Officer); and they believed that the article on the Union Bar ought to have been more of an advertisement for the outlet (it was written by last year's Internal Services Officer).

Pippa agreed to make the changes to the gay and lesbian article, switched two paragraphs and changed two sentences in the women at IC article and allowed the Executive to re-write the Union Bar article under protest.

So Freshers read: 'A warm and friendly if rather dimly lit room, the Union Bar is a meeting place for friends or somewhere for a well-earned drink after a hard day's

lab/problem sheet or sporting day.' Sounds nice, doesn't it? But it doesn't sound like the Union Bar I know.

Another thought experiment for you. Certain Union Officers believe that all Union activities should be well-publicised in FELIX by means of full-page adverts. They say that as the Union is giving us £11,000 each year, this service should be free of charge. This subvention is enough for an eight page FELIX every Friday. The reason we can provide bigger FELICES is because we work hard for external advertising and the FELIX staff spend a lot of their spare time doing money-making external jobs. So the Union, that's you in theory, 'owns' eight pages each week.

Let's take a page off for Union Officer's reports and another for the weekly diary of events. That's six left each week. There are over one hundred clubs and societies. Let's devote one page to all the clubs and one page to all the sports. You now have four pages left. The Union Office want a full page ad each week to publicise UGM's, regalia, bookshop and the trading outlets. Each club publicity officer is hankering after their rightful boxed ad to publicise their special event. Let's guarantee each club one full page ad each year. That's a total of four pages of 'in-house' ads each week. And that's your own eight page FELIX.

It sounds all incredibly exciting but would anybody bother to pick it up on Fridays—and would anybody want to take a year out to produce it? Follow the experiment through to its logical conclusion—kill the Cat, create a Union Public Relations/Communication sabbatical who produces an information sheet, runs the Union's Print Unit, does all the Union's publicity, sits on the Executive and duplicates Union minutes in his/her spare time. Life would be so much easier for all the Union Officers and College administrators without the Cat on their backs: No one to point out their mistakes, inadequacies, dodgy

dealings and dirty tricks. We would all be blissfully ignorant about what was actually happening in College while we read how super-duper the Union Snack Bar was and what a nice guy the President is.

The Union represents students but, judging by regular attendance at Union General Meetings, consists of about 150 people. The Union is too insular, it doesn't appeal to the majority. The Union Officers make decisions for themselves and not the people they are meant to represent. However, the FELIX Editor has to meet the needs of the readership. In my manifesto I stated that FELIX ought to inform, entertain and criticise in order to do its job properly. I truly believe that FELIX had done all three things this year. From the little feedback I do get each week, most students enjoy reading FELIX (and all 4000 copies *do* get picked up). The only complaints I ever hear are from a minority in the Union Office who believe the Libel page should be replaced by a 'how wonderful we are' page.

FELIX is for the students, not for the Union Office, and a *good* Union President will use FELIX as a means of communication without insisting that the newspaper toes the Union line on every issue. Every week I have allocated a page to the Union for Officer's reports, notices and UGM ads. It has been severely underused, except by the Honorary Secretary, who is the only one who can be bothered to write anything to inform you of what he had been doing with his time (see Annual Reports, 13th May). I believe this year's FELIX has allowed adequate exposure to the Union and its clubs while providing entertaining articles on a wide range of student interests. Am I deceiving myself?

Certain Union Officers seemed intent at the Annual General Meeting to waste important time discussing the need for a FELIX Editor's Annual Report when we all came to find out the truth about the Union's trading outlets. They were concerned that figures quoted in FELIX were incorrect, but FELIX can only repeat what others tell its reporters. What point is there in FELIX distorting figures?

The whole argument occurred because I asked the President if he intended to write an annual report, and if it would be distributed in FELIX. Writing a report is part of his job description. I read it in the Blue Book (the Union's standing orders and policy document), so it must be true!

Why shouldn't the FELIX Editor write an annual report?

Well, I do! The annual report I write, however, is presented to Publications Board and not directly to a UGM (as are the rest of the reports). The distinction is that I am *not* an Officer of the Union. I make *no* Union policy and I have *no* power in the running of the Union.

FELIX is financially accountable through Publications Board which in turn is accountable to the Union. Publications Board is a useful buffer. This is why I let Publication Board Chair Chris Martin answer questions asked about FELIX at both Union Council and UGMs. It is his job. I have no objections to answering questions asked directly to me at UGMs regarding my administration work as FELIX Editor and Print Unit Manager. I *do* object to answering questions on the content of FELIX. It is not for Union Officers to decide. The only power a UGM has over the FELIX Editor is the ability to censure or sack. If you think I haven't carried out my job description then throw me out, don't alter the nature of FELIX because of me.

So how do you as a student body stop me from printing what I like but nobody else does?

You tell me! That's what we have a letters page for. (I think it's appropriate to mention at this point that I have printed every letter I have received this year.) It is the letters page that should be used to point out inaccuracies, not at a UGM. We dropped 'The Baron' and its predecessor for precisely that reason. Perhaps, Blackmail will go that way too...

Believe it or not, I am quite a reasonable sort of person. I don't print anything which I believe to be untrue or libellous. It is very easy for certain Union Officers to accuse me of lying or deliberately misleading the student population, but the burden of proof should lie with them, not me. Every contentious news story is sub-edited by two different members of staff. I discuss major decisions with them—we bounce ideas off one another. I'm very lucky that I have such a good team behind me.

I think that 4000 of you know exactly what I have been doing with my time this year. Ask me for an annual report and I'll hand you the 29 FELICES we have produced so far. But do you know what your Union Officers have been doing on your behalf over the last ten months?

FELIX NEWS FEATURE

WUS not WUS— Where did your quid go?

Imperial College Union is a member of the World University Service (WUS), an educational charity which works for economic and social justice in the Third World. Last term, ICU decided to sponsor a Third World student on a course which would be appropriate to the developing needs of his/her native country, following the initiative of last year's President Christine Taig. The money for that student's transport, living costs, fees and residence was to be found by the Union and the College.

Originally College administration were keen to establish a South African Scholarship under the WUS scheme but it was realised that it could not be up and running until the academic year 1989/90. Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge (name changed in aid of Comic Relief) was keen to see some other student gain benefit from the Scheme before he left College.

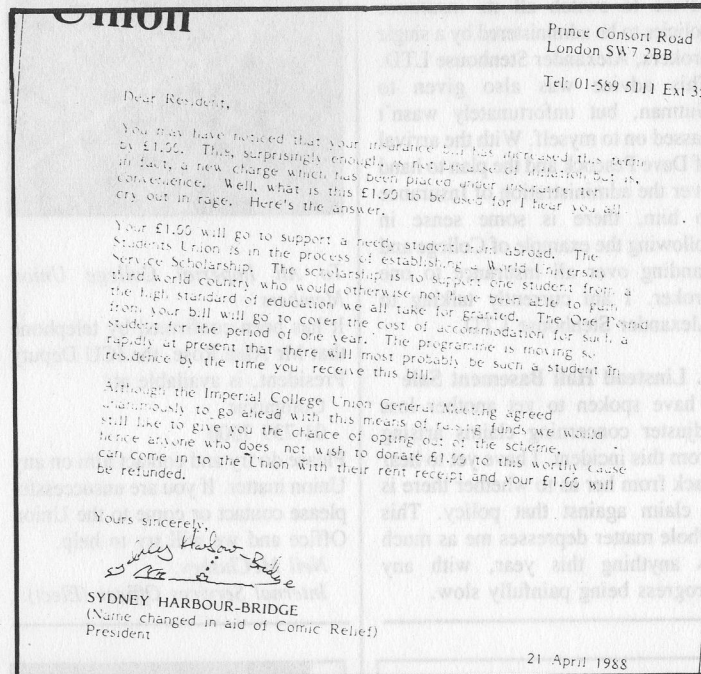
Three stages had to be completed before the WUS Scholarship could come into operation: a rent-free place in a hall of residence had to be negotiated; some means of maintenance had to be arranged; and tuition fees had to be paid for by some means or waived by College.

The first stage was relatively easy to accomplish. The Union agreed to guarantee one of the sixteen Union places in residence to the WUS student and Mr Harbour-Bridge got agreement at a Union General Meeting that the College Residence Account should pay for the room. He explained that just a pound on everybody's rent each year would enable a Third World student to come to Imperial.

The second stage has been more difficult to achieve. Mr Harbour-Bridge proposed that ICU Charity Rag should adopt the student as one of their supported charities each year. He believed that this would be the best way to pay for such a student's living costs. But nobody showed up to argue the WUS case at this year's Rag Annual General Meeting and the charity wasn't adopted.

The third stage is entirely up to the College departments who have been asked to waive their fees.

Despite the stage two hiccups, everything seemed to be going quite smoothly. In February, the Student Residence Committee (SRC) agreed that the Residence Account would pay for a room in hall. It was decided that a postgraduate student would live in Montpelier Hall and an undergraduate would take the first year in a shared



room in Evelyn Gardens followed by the remaining years in Beit Hall. It was also agreed that it would be effective from the point when the Union managed to support a student nominated by WUS. Each student would have their case reassessed every six months and be expected to be of good academic standing at the end of each year.

One significant decision that was made by the SRC was that they did not specify that the sponsorship had to be for a South African. The reason stated to the WUS was that they did not want to be tied down to South Africans, who may not necessarily be a needy group in the future. WUS agreed that the scholarship could 'potentially be available for any WUS nominees'.

It was shortly after the SRC meeting that Mr Harbour-Bridge decided that the 'free' room he had secured by UGM could be used this year for 'a needy case'. He nominated an Iranian MPhil student in the Civil Engineering Department.

The student arrived in this country nine years ago as part of the Westernisation Programme of the Shah of Iran. Since the revolution in his home country, he managed to continue his education by working illegally and gaining support from his parents in Teheran.

He was eventually thrown out of College accommodation because he could not pay his hall bills and spent three months living with Mr Harbour-Bridge in Linstead Hall.

In February, the Warden of Montpelier Hall and a close personal friend, Kevin O'Connor, managed to persuade a company to sponsor the student for a sum of £7,000 to pursue

members of the SRC that 'the WUS scheme would enable Mr X to continue his PhD until this time next year by which time he will have lived in this country for ten years and be able to apply for residential status and gain a full work permit'.

However, the Chairman of the SRC Brian Levitt was unhappy about the plan. In a letter to the President on 22nd February, he expressed his concern about the turn of events: 'A more fundamental objection is that SRC agreed, with reluctance, to the WUS student sponsorship on the basis that it would be used to bring a student from a Third World country to this College to be educated—ie that the scheme would benefit not merely the student but the country concerned. I cannot feel that either SRC or the Union Council would have agreed simply to use the money and the place to help somebody already in College, or already having received considerable help from the College and about whom there must be some doubt as to whether he will return to his own country.'

Despite Dr Levitt's objections, Mr Harbour-Bridge informed members of the SRC on 25th March that, as College Secretary and WUS had agreed to his plan, he had asked the Accommodation Office to give the student a place in Montpelier Hall.

At the beginning of this term, College residents were surprised to find an extra pound added to their insurance bill. A letter enclosed with the bills explained that it was to pay for a year in residence for a student. It also gave everyone the opportunity to reclaim the pound from the Union Office if they did not agree with the levy.

FELIX spoke to Dr Levitt yesterday. He said that he still had objections to Mr Harbour-Bridge's methods but realised that the student was indeed a needy case. He also emphasised that no student was obliged to pay the pound if they did not want to.

further research on journey times in London. This money was deemed enough to pay his fees and left around £1,500 for his living expenses.

Mr Harbour-Bridge persuaded both College and WUS that as students were prepared to pay for a Third World student this year, they would cover the cost of this student's hall bills for the next year. He told

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Editor-in-chief..... | Judith Hackney |
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| Clubs Editor..... | Andrew Waller |
| Sports Editors..... | Dominic Strowbridge and 'Hector' Sullivan |
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| Features Editor..... | Kamala Sen |
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| Printing..... | Dean Vaughan |
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Hon Sex Bit

1. Transport

There has been a Transport Committee meeting to discuss amongst other things the two major problems that I identified in my Annual Report. These are the operation of the transport system once the new job descriptions come into effect, and the future of the system, if the proposals on PSV licences go ahead. The first is the most immediate problem and the second the most serious. My intention is to hold a number of meetings and joint meetings until the problem is solved. I should be able to report back to joint Council.

2. Residence Insurance

For those of you who are interested, my analysis of the claims on this policy for the last two years has thrown up some interesting figures. I calculated the claims history for last year (Aug '86 to July '87) to be £15 218 on a premium of £20 169. This gave a claims ratio of 75%, which was too far over the generally acceptable 60% to avoid a rise in the premium for this year to £24 097, a rise of 19%. In order to compare this

year with last, I calculated the claims history for each year up to the end of the spring term. For 86/87 this was £11964 and for 87/88 it was £7892, a difference of £4072. The portion of the claims history in 86/87 arising from keythefts in Linstead was £3697. The close tally of these figures is quite remarkable. It seems to be demonstrated that real improvements in security can have a real effect on the premium. The increase in premium from last year to last would be about £2 per H 35 408 408 0 0 408 0 1 1 0 Hresident.

3. Other Insurance

About two years ago, College took advice to switch all its insurance policies to be administered by a single brokers, Alexander Stenhouse LTD. This advice was also given to Gutman, but unfortunately wasn't passed on to myself. With the arrival of Dave Peacock and the plan to hand over the administration of Insurance to him, there is some sense in following the example of College and handing over all insurance to one broker. I am currently talking to Alexander Stenhouse LTD.

4. Linstead Hall Basement Sale

I have spoken to yet another loss adjuster concerning claims arising from this incident. I have yet to hear back from her as to whether there is a claim against that policy. This whole matter depresses me as much as anything this year, with any progress being painfully slow.

Internal services (elect)



To All Imperial College Union Members

It has been confirmed by telephone that Mr Alan Rose, the ICU Deputy President, is available at:

Compuvac
01-739 7000

Please do try and contact him on any Union matter. If you are unsuccessful please contact or come to the Union Office and we will try to help.

Neil McCluskey,
Internal Services Officer (Elect).

THE FELIX MOTOR RALLY

will take place
on
Sunday 12th June
Teams of 4 plus
some means of
transport for this
novel treasure hunt
around London.
**Give names to
Judith by next
Friday.**

Summer Vacation Residence Forms

Now available from the
Summer Accommodation
Office

Closing date: Friday June 3rd
Unfortunately places are strictly limited

SUBWARDENSHIP

TIZARD & SELKIRK HALLS

Applications are invited for the posts of subwarden and assistant subwarden in Tizard and Selkirk Halls which are available from October, 1988. The role of subwardens is to assist the warden in the day-to-day organisation and to help promote the social life of the Halls. Applicants are provided with rent-free accommodation.

Applications with CV and names of referees should be sent to Dr M H R Hutchinson, Warden, Tizard and Selkirk Halls by June 6, 1988.

Bernard Sunley House
40-44 Evelyn Gardens
London SW7 3BJ
3rd Notice BSH Auction

Due to the forthcoming improvement work in the house in the summer of 1988, the house attic is having to be cleared to make room for workmen. There is therefore going to be a house auction open to members of the College on Saturday 4th June 1988 at 10am.

There are lots of goodies on offer so you are advised to attend. This also serves as a third reminder to all former residents of Bernard Sunley House who have left items in the attic, to collect them before the auction date.

See you on 4th June
The Wardens, BSH.

VACANCIES FOR WARDENS

A number of wardenships will fall vacant from September 1988.

Wardens receive rent-free accommodation in return for pastoral and disciplinary duties within the residence.

These positions are open to all members of the College.

For further details and an application form, please contact:

Rob Letham, Senior Personnel Officer
Room 502, Sherfield Building
Extension 3302

Closing date: Monday 6 June 1988



**KENSINGTON
GORE SW7**

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

● **STUDENTS VISITING** the IC Union Office on Tuesday witnessed an astonishing scene during the lunch hour. A little bird had informed the President that DP Alan Rose had not been in the Office recently because he was working for a computing firm. The treacherous bird also gave him the name of the company. The President, eager to see if the story was true, looked up the telephone number, rang it and asked to speak to Mr Rose. When Alan finally came to the phone, the President slammed it down and was seen pacing around the office for several minutes claiming that he was going to kill the absent DP when he next saw him. FELIX would like to see him try it. We're certainly not taking any bets on the outcome of the encounter. BIFF! SPLAT! WOLLOP!

● **MAN OF THE MOMENT** and FELIX Editor's floozie Paul 'I'm on the wagon—honest' Shanley embarrassed himself severely earlier this week. After a couple of drinks (well too many, actually), Mr Shanley, having lost his door keys, blacked out and ended up on a friend's sofa for the night. The next morning he became distraught when he thought that he had not only mislaid his keys but also his contact lenses. His anxious friend, concerned that Mr Shanley would have to wear his glasses (ugh!), rang around College to find out where the lenses could be.

The lenses were eventually found—in Mr Shanley's eyes!

● **HOLBEIN HOUSE'S** least favourite heartthrob, Yishu Nanda, has been living up to his reputation as 'Yishu the Octopus' again this week. Having continually pestered Sunny Bains for a night of naughtiness and being turned down, he resorted to an alternative approach. The lecherous Mr Nanda was last seen chasing Ms Bains around the JCR threatening to bare his hairy chest.

● **QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** comes from Alan Hepper, Guilds Hon Sec. On witnessing an argument between last year's FELIX Editor David Jones and reformed alcoholic Paul Shanley, Mr Hepper remarked: 'It's a battle of the wit and the half-wit'.

blackMAIL

Information required on the following topics:

● Why was last Thursday's AGM held in the Union Concert Hall where, if the meeting had been quorate, fire regulations would have been broken?

● ICU DP-elect Chas Brereton has moved into present DP Alan Rose's room in 96 Beit Hall following Mr Rose's departure. Mr Brereton is paying the full whack for his hall bill. However, the phone in the room is still fully operational. Who is footing the bill for all Mr Brereton's personal phone calls? On the subject, why has Mr Brereton moved into the room, when Mr Rose is still the official occupant?

● Neil McCluskey, our illustrious RCC Chairman, has given out details of where to contact ICU Deputy President Alan Rose should students need him. It seems to me that other officers may be needed at all sorts of times. Should the need arise to speak to Mr Harbour-Bridge or Mr Brereton, then their respective numbers are 3511 and 3512. Don't hesitate to ring these officers should you wake up at, say, four o'clock in the morning, with something on your mind. I just hope no one abuses this information...

● Everyone is dying to get into Blackmail these days. One notable has even agreed to give *Delator* details of his crude sexual practices. Tough luck, Mr B, I'm not printing!

Last week's Blackmail

- 1) The Phantom Soaker has paid his five pounds.
- 2) Slight problem here. I had intended to publish details of some confidential items discussed at the last Council meeting. However, Mr Harbour-Bridge threatened *Delator* with legal action if I went ahead. I should point out, though, that any student can ask for minutes of any Union meeting. Therefore, if you want to read some *top secret* documents, go up to the Union Office and ask for the minutes of Imperial College Union Council, May 16th 1988.
- 3) It was ICU Hon Sec Chas Jackson according to my source. If this isn't true, then perhaps Mr Jackson should have a quiet word with Mr Alan Hepper who provided him with the information.

This week's Blackmail:

- 1) Which Union Officer said, in the Union Office, on Tuesday 2nd February of this year; 'I'd love to meet students, but I don't get the time'.
- 2) *Delator* has received a letter from 'The Phantom Filofax Thief'. Enclosed was a page from a College notable's diary. Three of the entries are of particular interest:
Thursday 17th March: Amazing two hour session involving Jacqui and bar of Galaxy.
Monday 21st March: 6 month anniversary. Celebrated with amazing f*ck with Jacqui. She was amazing—lasted twenty minutes.
Friday 25th March: Made it five times with Jacqui.

These comments are all in 'Jacqui's' writing! A fiver each from 'Jacqui' and Mr Filofax or I reveal names.

Delator

PS. Don't let the dirt dry up.

● **NEWS REACHES** my ears of an interesting wager. ICU President Sydney Harbour-Bridge bet College Chief Security Officer Geoff Reeves an undisclosed amount. Mr Harbour-Bridge claimed that he could get his hand on an R37 within four days. For the uninitiated, an R37 is a master key that gains entry to most of the Sheffield Building and Beit Hall. After three days with no success, Mr Harbour-Bridge got desperate. He approached an acquaintance of his and asked to borrow his R37. 'Of course,' said the acquaintance, 'what do you want it for?'. 'Oh,' came the reply, 'I had a bet with Geoff Reeves'. 'F*ck off,' said the acquaintance.

The following letter was received in the FELIX Office this week:

It was sad to note that, on your 'Blackmail' page in the last two issues of FELIX, some accusations of alleged activities of mine whilst at school. I was, at first, confused as to where these allegations could have originated. I then remembered, that in my second year at school, it was alleged by one of my classmates (to the rest of my English class) that I had cut off a few pubic hairs privately during a lesson. (A typical childish joke). I also remembered that Mr Andrew B Thompson, once of that class but no friend of mind, is now a first year Maths student and Bean's Club minion.

I ask you to note that, following the publishing of the allegations, I have received a tasteless slur stuck upon my pigeonhole in the Union Office.

These allegations, even if they did originate with Mr Thompson, are wholly untrue, damaging, and literally libellous. May I ask for you to publish a public apology to myself and a withdrawal of the above-mentioned allegations and suggest that your informants/columnists make some form of public donation to Rag as recompense. Otherwise I feel that I may have to take legal advice on the matter.

I sincerely hope I do not have to take the matter further, be it a formal complaint to ICU Publications Board or to a higher body.

*Yours sincerely,
Neil Motteram.*

We are terribly sorry for having allegedly labelled you Neil, old boy. Please take our unreserved apologies but our alleged source claims that it's all allegedly true. We are currently trying to find other members of that English class to hear their alleged versions of the story.

Chris Jones.

Unwanted rot

Cynical people used to suggest that car manufacturers deliberately designed their cars to rust so that people would have to buy more cars. The same attitude in the textile industry was satirised in the old British film *The Man in the White Coat* where Alec Guinness plays a scientist who invents an indestructible fabric: the work force of the company refused to adopt the idea because they thought it would leave them without future jobs. Their attitude appears to be mirrored by the book trade who seem to design their products to disintegrate after a set period of time.

The average paperback, even if looked after well, will fall to bits in ten years. This may be OK if the book is a Jackie Collins novel, but it is hardly acceptable if it is a textbook and contains useful information. Our stocks of scientific journals become consulted less frequently as they get older, but many still must be kept on open access in case some vital result is unavailable anywhere else. If they crumble to dust, vital information may be lost forever.

The problem is actually a relatively modern one. Sometime in the 1850s paper makers discovered cheap ways to turn wood-pulp into acceptable paper. This turned out to be considerably cheaper than cotton-rag. However, the machinery used for pulping the wood left the wood fibres too short (this lowers the structural integrity of the resultant paper) and the chemical processing of the pulp left the resulting paper acidic. Another part of the paper-making process placed another time bomb in the paper: one of the chemical additives decomposes with time to give even more acid. The acid eats into the structure of the cellulose in the wood fibres, making them brittle. These problems are exacerbated by the moisture from people's fingers, air pollution, unfiltered sunlight, central heating.

These factors turn most modern books into brittle fragile objects after a few decades. Really old books (published before about 1800) are still going strong and don't deteriorate unless they are handled too much. Libraries that want to maintain their modern books have a big problem. They could put them all on microfilm, but this is inconvenient and

expensive. So they have been searching for chemical methods of preserving the original bits of paper.

One solution involves neutralising the acids present in the original paper. This is easy for paper-makers to do since they can actually incorporate other chemicals into the original paper that neutralise acid as it is formed. But publishers tend not to do this since it costs more. So libraries need to get a method to retrospectively protect cheap book paper.

chemicals is mixed well the the process causes no noticeable change to the texture of the paper. Unfortunately it can cost £50 per book. If mass processing can get this down to about £6 per book then the method would be competitive with the American solutions (and it can be used on partly degraded books).

However, there is one good thing about paper rot: the junk mail that fills up my letter rack will eventually crumble to dust.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



by Steve Black

One chemical method developed for the American Library of Congress involves a spontaneously flammable chemical called *triethyl aluminium*. This may sound paradoxical, but the chemical's reactivity is the key to its success. The books are placed in a closed chamber, the air is removed and replaced by the volatile chemical. The chemical slowly penetrates the paper, reacting with anything remotely acidic and leaving enough alkali to neutralise any future acid penetration. The excess chemical is removed under vacuum before letting the air back in.

Unfortunately, this method works best on new books and does nothing for those already halfway to dust. So, the British Library commissioned chemists at Surrey University to develop a better method. They came up with something that both preserves and strengthens paper.

Again the books have to be impregnated with the preservative molecules, in this case *ethyl acrylate* and *methyl methacrylate* (perspex is a polymer of methyl methacrylate). An antacid can also be added. The books are then irradiated with gamma rays which cause the chemicals to polymerise and to react with the cellulose. This strengthens the paper by up to ten times, vastly increasing its durability. If the cocktail of

New hope for fatties

Beecham Pharmaceuticals have discovered the ultimate slimming pill. It encourages certain cells to burn excess food to produce heat. This should be sheer joy for addicts of Cadbury and MacDonalds.

Chemicals such as adrenaline (produced by the body in times of stress to make you ready to fight or run away) have been known to encourage useless fat burning for a long time, but they tend to give you heart attacks as well. Beechams chemists performed the trick of building a similar molecule which *only* caused heat generation without cardiac acceleration. And the molecule can be taken as a pill (unlike adrenaline and its natural relatives).

Unfortunately for the fatties, Beechams don't want to sell the drug or put it through full clinical trials. They say the market is too small. This might be true in worldwide terms, but the British obesity market is huge (no pun intended) and someone is sure to take the sales job up.

Left-hands die young

About one in ten people are left-handed. This small percentage makes it easy for the rest of us to ignore them. So left-handed implements are few and far between and the poor southpaws are made to feel they are in a persecuted minority. They used to comfort themselves with the knowledge that at least God liked them, but this had now been shown to be untrue: apparently he had made them so that they die young.

It has been known for some time that there appears to be a decrease in the percentage of left-handers in older populations. This might be explained by a previous generation of teachers who forced young children to write with their right hands, but left-handedness is impossible to completely eradicate. On the other hand there is some evidence that some diseases are more likely to attack left-handers (allergies and immune system problems are common).

To get some hard evidence on longevity differences, Diane Halpern and Stanley Coren (California State University and University of British Columbia) decided to look at *The Baseball Encyclopaedia* where dates of birth and death and throwing hand are all recorded. Their evidence confirms that right-handers live longest. Average life-expectancies are about one year less for the poor sinistrals (useless historical fact: our word *sinister* comes from the Latin for left and reflects the medieval suspicion of the unusual). The differences appear to be statistically significant by conventional tests.

Mortality rates appear to be the same until about the age of 35. From then on about two percent more left-handers bite the dust than right-handers each year.

Why should the poor sinistrals suffer this (slightly) speedier fate? It might be because they are genetically inferior to the rest of us. On the other hand (no pun intended) it is possible that most of the difference is accounted for by the greater likelihood of accidents in a world designed for right-handers. So the fact that left-handed scissors are difficult to find in the shops may actually be killing people. It's not that they are inferior, it's just that right-handers are in the majority.

FILM

Appointment With Death (Cert PG)

To say that this comedy thriller is typically formatted is something of an understatement. If you've seen *Death on the Nile*, *Evil Under the Sun* or *Muder on the Orient Express* then you could well claim to have seen this film also.

In the usual style of Agatha Christie there is a murder and too many suspects to count on one hand. Amongst all this is Hercule Poirot spotting the clues and sifting through to identify the culprit. As you expect he does this with all the pleasance and humour evident in his previous cases and the Belgian's portrayal by Peter Ustinov is predictably good.

The supporting cast boasts no less than seven other major stars, and with such strong competition, none of them have a chance to steal the show, from each other or from Ustinov. Particularly good is Piper Laurie (*Carrie*, *Children of a Lesser God*) as the wicked Mrs Emily Boynton, the obligatory murder victim. So convincing is Laurie that I couldn't wait for her to die. Equally proficient is Sir John Gielgud, providing Poirot's necessary sidekick for the investigation, in the form of Colonel Carbury. Ustinov and Gielgud are funny together, and undoubtedly the highlight of the film.

The picture falls short of the mark in two respects. Firstly, the initial scene-setting is too vague and drawn out, producing a sense of boredom



about the whole thing. Then having reached the murder, collected the clues and rounded up the suspects for his typically dramatic revelation at the end, Poirot lets us all down by giving a poor motive for each of the innocents and leaving the audience in no doubt as to the identity of the murderess a good ten minutes too soon. In short there is no tension in the film, and that surely is the most important element in a thriller.

What the film has going for it, aside from Gielgud, Laurie and Ustinov, is the pleasant backdrop of 1937 Palestine. The director Michael

Winner (*Death Wish*, *The Wicked Lady*) makes full use of the locations, from desert to casbah to ocean liner, and had the characters been more convincing I might have believed they were really on holiday there.

Appointment with Death is a pleasant film, quite entertaining if not exciting. It has the trademarks of the production-line company that Cannon have become through churning out pictures to fill its cinema screens, and as a result you'll probably prefer to read the book.

Andrew Clarke.

LIVE

All About Eve

This must have been the worst All About Eve gig I have ever been to. After losing my tickets, I finally got in due to the kind management, missing the first five minutes. I don't think I missed much though. The slow ones were okay, but it was the others that missed. They didn't nudge bottoms as they usually do, particularly *In The Clouds* and *In the Meadow*. Perhaps it was the venue, (filled with record company guests etc. just sitting there, destroying the atmosphere). Give me the Astoria or Marquee any day of the week.

Fields of the Nephilim

Town & Country Club, May 18. The Nephilim are a strange bunch: with cowboy hats and dark glasses, they appear to be very similar to The Sisters of Mercy. Also, their vocalist, Carl, has the same growl and I could hear very few of the words sung tonight. However, the Nephilim also play hard and fast, with their set containing many new songs, including their new single *Moonchild*. It was when their older songs emerged that the air was filled with 'snakey' arm movements and people sitting and standing on other people's shoulders.

It was absolutely brilliant.
Mac.



Previews

MOTOR

by
Adrian
Bourne

This weekend sees the start of the Formula One North American mini series, probably the toughest month of the year, with three hard races and no return to base.

Sunday's Mexican Grand Prix is followed in two weeks time by the Canadian event with Detroit on June 19th. The Circuito Hermanos Rodriguez, just outside Mexico City, is a 2.7 mile medium speed circuit with a twisty back section and a long start/finish straight entered from a banked 180° corner. The surface is notoriously abrasive and mid-race tyre changes should be the order of the day. Perhaps the most interesting topic will be not who wins but what the TV coverage is like. At Rio, the direction was its usual appalling standard, the technical quality bad and the BBC only showed highlights. Things improved markedly for Imola where RAI provided excellent pictures but the BBC goofed badly by showing the race half an hour after it had finished (much to the amusement of Radio 2). For Monaco, the BBC decided to show the whole race truly live but were let down by the poor direction from the Monagasques. The situation this weekend is likely to be even worse. As the football World Cup showed, the Mexican TV service is not technically brilliant and the directors simply do not have enough motor racing experience. An added disadvantage this year is the loss of the in-car cameras, mounted last year on the Lotus of Satoru Nakajima and the Brabham of Andrea de Cesaris. The French manufacturers of the cameras, the Thomson electronics company, want their name displayed on the screen when the camera is used, in much the same way that the Formula One timekeepers Longines-Olivetti get a credit for any timing information. However, the other sponsors won't allow this so Thomson have withdrawn the cameras.

Onto the race itself. McLaren lost valuable test mileage when they had to return straight home from Monaco to repair Ayrton Senna's badly damaged car rather than heading for Monza like many other teams. Having already destroyed one car this year, Senna is probably not the McLaren team's favourite driver at the

moment. Ferrari enjoyed a bit of a revival at the Monte Carlo, finishing second and third, but this is not entirely unexpected given that their private test track, Fiorano, is similar in character to the principality's streets. Williams finally scored a 1988 World Championship point when Riccardo Patrese finished sixth. The continued overheating problems of the Judd engine are hardly likely to be helped by the Mexican heat. Predictions: Senna to win, Thierry Boutsen (Benetton) top atmo.

Meanwhile, in the States, the world's biggest sporting event will be taking place—the Indianapolis 500 miles. Qualifying was dominated by the three Penske PC17 Chevrolets who occupy the front row. Pole position goes to Rick Mears with a four lap qualifying average of 219mph! Lining up alongside him are team mates and fellow former winners Danny Sullivan and Al Unser Sr. Fourth is my tip for victory, Mario Andretti, the 1978 Formula One World Champion, going for his second win at Indy. Other possible winners include Al Unser Jr, Michael Andretti (son of Mario), Dutchman Arie Luyendijk and Emerson Fittipaldi, another former World Champion.

Elsewhere, at Dijon, France, Briton Steve Soper looks set to continue his dominance of the European Touring Car Championship in his Ford Sierra Cosworth RS500, having won three of the four rounds already held.

Highlights of the Mexican GP will be on 'Grand Prix' on Sunday night with Indy hopefully to be shown later. Next week: Silverstone F3000, British F3 and Touring Cars.

Live on Arrival

Four of the most talented alternative comedians come together late on Saturday evenings for the next two weeks. Steve Punt, Flip Webster, Guy Jackson and Hugh Dennis entertain with a mix of sketches, satire, songs and sometimes painful observations on society. Billed as 'Your laugh in their hands', *Live on Arrival* appear at the Paris Theatre, opposite the Plaza Cinema off Piccadilly Circus. Doors are open 11.00—11.10pm, and the show is free but collect tickets earlier in the evening to be sure of a seat. If you can't make it, you can listen live on Radio 4 from 11.30pm, although this loses much of the sparkle of a live performance. Highly recommended.

What's On

FRIDAY

Circuit Training12.30pm.
Union Gym with Cross Country and Athletics Club. Everyone welcome. Free.

Islamic Prayer1.00pm.
The Union Building. See Islamic Society.

Christian Union6.00pm.
'God, our rock and strength'. Followed by games in Hyde Park. All welcome.

Into the Night7.00pm.
STOIC. Films, videos, chat, 'Countdown'. On all the televisions in the Halls of Residence.

Friday Feature7.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

IC Radio Disco9.00pm.
Southside Bar. FREE.

SATURDAY

Shotokan Karate10.00am.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

SUNDAY

Holy Communion10.00am.
Sherfield Building. West London Chaplaincy style. Have a break from revision.

Viewpoint7.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

MONDAY

Rock Soc Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of rock? Come along!

Artsoc Meeting12.30pm.
SCR Union. Come to sign up and pay your money for tickets for forthcoming events, eat biscuits and drink coffee. Free to members (membership £1.50).

Recitation of Holy Qur'an ..1.00pm.
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Society.

Golf Practice5.30pm.
Union Gym. See Golf Club.

Intermediate Ballroom7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Street Life7.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

Shotokan Karate7.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Beginners Ballroom8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

TUESDAY

IC CathSoc Mass12.30pm.
Chemistry 231. Quiet and contemplation between lectures or exams. Food provided (50p). All welcome.

Holy Qur'an Recitation1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Amnesty Meeting1.30pm.
Brown Committee Room. FREE.

Canoe Club6.30pm.
Meet in Beit Quad for training session in swimming pool.

Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Sorry—no more beginners.

Caving Club Meeting7.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

Advanced Ballroom7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club

Psychedelic & Indie Show ..8.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

Improvers Ballroom8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Canoe Club Meeting8.30pm.
Above Southside Bar.

Dai Rocking9.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz). The best in hard rock and not-so-hard rock music including the featured album every week with Dave Williams.

WEDNESDAY

Golf Meeting1.00pm.
Sudbury. Regular weekly meeting.

Caving Club Meeting1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

Shotokan Karate3.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Offbeat Practice3.15pm.
Union Dining Hall. 80p. See Dance Club.

ULU Meditation Group7.00pm.
Room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street. Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

Viewpoint7.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

THURSDAY

ICYHA Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

Socialist Society Meeting 12.45pm.
Brown Committee Room. All welcome. Contact Adrian Grainger (Maths 3).

Newsbreak1.00pm.
STOIC. IC's own news programme.

Arabic Classes1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Newsbreak6.00pm.
STOIC.

Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Sorry—no more beginners.

Street Life6.00pm.
IC Radio (999kHz).

ULU Lesbian Gay Group7.30pm.
ULU Building, Malet Street (Russell Sq. tube). For speakers and booze and if you're feeling adventurous a trip out to nightclub or pub afterwards.

ICAG Soup Run9.15pm.
Meet 16-18 Prince's Gardens.

TENNIS

London Cup:
Imperial College 2nd team—1
LSE—2

This was the London intercollegiate tournament quarter final, and due to the format of only three rubbers, immediately required winning from from the three pairs. Unfortunately, since this was the first second team match of the season, the form was slow to come.

Our first pair, K Cheung and J Van Vlyman went down 6-2 6-1 to the LSE first pair, which contained a German who was 'as hot as s**t' (quote from J Van Vlyman). The second pair of M Lavelle and V Buttereit lost 6-3 6-1 to their opposite number while the third pair of Termanini and Harrison had a shaky start but won 1-6 6-2 6-2 to restore a little pride to the team.

The second team is still in the UAU so we may taste success yet...watch this space!

On Sunday May 22 IC were playing the University of East Anglia at Norwich. After surviving 3½ hours of Andy Hill's driving IC knew it was their lucky day. IC, having arrived 2 hours late (funny that happened last year), found UEA in a very determined mood. Andy Hill and Mark Lavelle, obviously still shakey from the journey lost a close first match to the UEA first couple. Julian Jones and John Roberts won their first match comfortably against the UEA 3rd pair whilst Paul Skipworth and Mike Morcos had an excellent victory 6-2, 7-6 against the UEA 1st pair. So 3-3 going into the final round IC needed to win 2 out of the remaining 3 matches. Although battling well Hill and Lavelle lost very quickly 6-0, 6-1, putting a lot of pressure on Jones and Roberts to beat the UEA 1st pair. Playing like men inspired they succeeded winning 7-5, 6-3. This left Skipworth and Morcos with the relatively easy task of beating the UEA third pair. Through numerous double faults and general poor play they lost the first set 6-4. They struggled to win the second 6-4 and, finding themselves 4-2 down in the final set, needed inspiration. This came from their team-mates and playing some excellent tennis they took the next 4 games to win 6-4. This excellent victory leaves IC unbeaten in the UAU so far. IC look forward to reaching the national quarter finals on Wednesday against Sussex. Thanks to Hill for some excellent driving.

ICCAG

Van drivers needed

We will be continuing with the soup run every Thursday night over the summer holidays and are suffering from a severe shortage of Union Van Drivers. We leave from Week's Hall Basement (17 Prince's Gardens) at 9.30pm and get back at about 11pm having handed out our quota of tea, sandwiches, etc. and enjoyed a good gossip with residents of Lincoln's Inn and the Embankment.

The playgroup will also be carrying on every fortnight and our activities so far include Kate's rendition of a mad cat and Nicola's guitar selling ability. Who knows what is to come?! Jobsquad and a variety of voluntary work is available in or out of London at all times and if anyone is interested then I have all the details.

So if you want a more varied summer holiday or if you are a hard working postgrad. Without a summer holiday then please get in touch with me via the ICCAG pigeonhole in the Union Office or my own in Computing.

Alistair Goodall (DOC 1).

Peck's RACING

Next week sees the big flat race of the season, the *Ever Ready Derby*. Being run at Epsom this year, it promises to be a great race over the classic 1½ miles. The present going is fast, which should favour the likes of *Unfuwain* and *Minster Son*, but the running of the new favourite *Red Glow* will be something of a mystery. He pulled out all the stops when beating *Keefah*, *Glacial Storm* and

Sanquiro in the Mecca-Dante at York. That was on good ground, but he struggled when failing to *Minster Son* in April. However, *Red Glow* is by the great *Nijinsky*, and I believe that he can win on Wednesday, with *The Charmer*, who was running on well when second to *Doyoun* in the 2000 Guineas, following him past the post.

Recently, *Minizen Lass* has clocked up a hat-trick of good wins under penalty, and may well be running in one of the class races later this season. *Diminuendo* was travelling well when winning at York against reasonable opposition, and looks good for the Oaks on June 4th. *Siesta Key* also won easily when beating one-time Derby hopeful *Alkharif* by 6 lengths at Bath.

The other Derby looming is the *Daily Mirror Greyhound Derby* on June 25th. This promises to be a great contest between *Curryhills Gara*, *Summerhill Gem* and *Fearless Ace*. Heats began on Tuesday night, and continue on Thursday and Saturday. Odds at present are 16-1, 14-1 and 20-1 respectfully, but I feel that *Killouragh Chris* at 33-1 represents good each-way value.

Having stuck my neck out, I hope that you will be stacking a little of your grant on the Derby, and we'll see next week if I was right.

IC RADIO

As seen in last week's FELIX, we do have a show every Monday at 8am and Wednesday at 1pm. And our jingle machine is a human called 'Dangle Pringle, the amazing bilingual human jingle machine'. There will also be a sports review, weather report, Miles' Handy Tips, Letters Page, Chrissie FELIX, Dangle, Random Call and Phil, Anna-Marie and Fez.

Cookery Club



A gastronomic survey of the world Nigerian Connection

This week we go off the beaten track to take a brief look at the dishes of Nigeria. I am grateful to John Durodola of Mech Eng for providing me with an interesting discourse on Nigerian cuisine. He made every dish sound tantalising.

The gastronomic jewel—'Moin-Moin' (pronounced with the n's silent).

This is a special steamed dish in which soaked, ground beans are cooked in a tomato and chilli sauce.

Shrimps, fish or liver can be added. I would savour the taste of this dish accompanied by plain boiled rice. John told me of a Swiss lady visiting Nigeria who became enthralled by its taste and took a recipe back to her home town where it took root as a 'piece de resistance' in the local cuisine.

Pepper Soup (very common in East Nigeria)—This soup is eaten with nothing to follow. One simply has the soup, drinks some water and wanders off. The local Nigerian herbs impart the kidney, liver and meat broth with properties that are reputed to keep the piles at bay. This soup is an institution in the country and must be tried.

'Fura & Nono' (North Nigeria)—John insists that there is nothing more soothing to drink in the fierce heat of the Nigerian sun than this preparation of fresh milk (nono) and ground corn (fura)

Dodo—This is a dish made by frying plantains over a low flame. It is usually eaten with rice or beans in an onion, tomato and chilli sauce.

'Alewa'—A sweet made from sugar cane that is worth trying.

The Great Tuber Dishes

Anyone who has lived in West Africa knows the importance of tubers as a

staple food. The yam or the cassava base is always accompanied by a soup with vegetables and meat added. The choice of base is usually either pounded yams, 'Amala' (made from yam powder), 'Eba' or 'Gari' (made from cassava flour) or 'Futu' (made from cassava flour). Amongst the choice of soups to accompany the starch base one can expect to find Egusi soup (a major ingredient is a special Nigerian Melon) and Okra soup.

Places to eat in Lagos

Tam-Tam on Broad Street, behind Leventis Stores.

Restaurant Museum Kitchen, Tafa-Balewa Square. The Tinubu Square area is a good place to find good cuisine at affordable prices. Traditional Lagos food can be tried in the Isale-Eko area and in the Race Course area.

Inexpensive evening meals may be enjoyed in a number of 'Bukaterias' on Awolowo Road in Ikoyi even though this is a posh area of the city.

What Next?

The gastronomic survey will be taking a look at eating in Athens, Italy and America as soon as I have received enough to write about.

Bye, Yishu.

Letters

Disgraceful AGM

Dear Judith,

I'm not the type of person that normally writes letters, let alone complaining ones, but after today's AGM I feel forced to put pen to paper.

After witnessing the disgraceful behaviour of Union members both off and on the platform, I wasn't the least surprised that St Mary's have decided to call off further negotiation with ICU. Surely the reason for having somebody in the chair at these meetings is that they can decide who is going to speak and when they speak, so that the meeting doesn't become a free for all. This isn't to be taken as a comment about the Chairman, who appeared to be doing his best to keep order, but about those people who don't realise this and whenever they heard something they disagreed with felt forced to immediately shout out their response without waiting for the speaker to finish. As I recall, our Union supports freedom of speech, which I have always understood to mean that everybody has the right to speak without interruption (time permitting), whether other people agree with what they are saying or not; after today's meeting it appears to me that some people think that freedom of speech relies upon the ability to shout down anybody with different opinions or beliefs to your own. I think that history has shown that the latter version can frequently lead to confrontation and violence; and where possible should not be used for the discussion of important matters. How can we expect to hold our Union meetings in this manner, and not put students off of attending them?

I have deliberately avoided writing about the issues which caused the furor (ie the Union Bar and Snack Bar) as I believe that they should be discussed at an organised question and answer session with all those involved and interested present, and perhaps a bit of patience from all those who have questions to ask or points to make. Who knows, maybe if we can do this successfully and show that our house is in order St Mary's will consider re-opening negotiations?

I remain, etc.

Eddie Kiernan MRE1.

True or false?

Dear Judith,

I hope you enjoyed 'Feeliks'. I apologise for the few copies which went out anonymously (under 100) but when the original was printed it was intended as a private joke with a small circulation. After we made the decision to produce a large number of copies I agreed to put my name to the document.

'Feeliks' was produced to highlight the poor quality of news reporting in FELIX over the past few weeks, especially when referring to Union matters. You have left yourself wide open to accusations of bias and selective inaccuracy and have no real defence. Your consistent badmouthing of the Union President in supposedly accurate, objective and impartial news reporting is indefensible.

In last week's leading story you expressed clear opinions over the attack on yourself by Neil McCluskey and Nigel Baker whilst purporting to cover the AGM as news. It

is a matter in dispute as to whether the meeting could direct you what to do and expressing an argument in favour of your side during a news story is a clear breach of your job description. The editorial is the place for opinions. There again, does anyone take your editorials seriously anymore?

ICU Union is your employer. A general meeting of ICU is recognised as the authoritative voice of the Union until such time as its quorum (that is, how representative of the students the meeting is) is challenged. This you chose not to do, so you implicitly recognised the AGM at that time as the voice of your employers. Surely an employee cannot ignore a mandate from their employer which in this case did not interfere with Pub Board's beloved concept of editorial freedom.

Dear Judith, please, whatever lies, breaches of confidence, one-sided rants and anything else you may choose to put within the pages of our beloved newspaper, please keep your news reporting fair, unbiased and free of opinion. Otherwise surely all the Union's confidence in its employee may be lost forever. I am quite willing to go to the expense and hassle of producing 'Feeliks' if I feel there is need.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Motteram, ICU External Affairs Officer,
Editor of 'Feeliks'

It must have taken you so much time and effort to produce 'Feeliks'! I'm sure that all those students really appreciated it. Just for your information, I chose not to misuse the call of Quorum. Perhaps I will in the future...

The only fan letter

Dear Miss Hackney,

Before you come to the end of your term as FELIX Editor, I would like to compliment you on the standard achieved while you have been in the chair. I have read FELIX since the first issue (with some gaps), and have seen it go steadily downhill until during some of the last few years it was something of which university students ought to be ashamed. But during your tenure I have noticed a big change for the better, in both content and presentation (the number of spelling mistakes and other evidences of limited literacy has been reduced).

I hope FELIX will always be a vehicle for independent but responsible reporting and comment; but it can be that without being scurrilous, obscene or illiterate, and I think that you have done a good job.

Best wishes for your future,

Yours sincerely,

Alan Swanson.

Correction

Dear Judith,

I wish to correct any misconception which may have arisen from the paragraph in 'Blackmail', Friday 20th May, concerning responsibility for the reorganisation of the Union.

The facts are:

Mr Harbour-Bridge initiated and drew up the 'White Paper' referred to and only subsequently was I involved.

Yours sincerely,

Jen Hardy-Smith, Union Administrator.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **Environmental Soc** is looking for a keen and active leader for next year. We have a good list of contacts already so get in contact with R J Heap, Life Sci pigeonholes.

● **FREE** IDC ribbon cable, in lengths 10cm to 2m. Contact STOIC (int 3518) or Al Birch (int 3624).

● **Wanted** for Hall of Residence: Your redundant or faulty computer VDUs. Will collect. Contact Al Birch (int 3624).

● **Biochem Bookstall**—Biochem Soc are starting a bookstall. Calling all 3rd and 2nd years we want books you want to sell! Contact Nick Steele, Biochem pigeonholes.

ACCOMMODATION

● **Accommodation** required from June 30th. Walking distance to College. Single room preferred. Contact Pippa Salmon c/o FELIX Office.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

● **For sale:** Creek Cas 4040 amp £85, Rega Planar 2 with Goldring G1010 £100, B&W DM110 speakers £75, Heybrook HBS1 speaker stands £30. All in good condition contact Martin Doble, Elec Eng 3, 741 5661.

● **Wanted:** Thai speaker for help learning Thai for summer holiday. Contact Verity ex 4519 or 785 2872 evenings.

PERSONAL

● **Shoe number** in May 2, 1986 ad will confirm that it could only be by me Zev-Green Jacket. Pentax ME Super B3976260 L1152185. Included in the 10000—see my ad at this Gatwick News, May 28 1988 were Thatcher and British Royal Family with Oldfield in March 1981. FELIX—May 23, 1988.

● **Who** is the Phantom Soaker of Beit Hall?

● **Ann** doesn't accept credit cards, only cash (no word to the tax man).

● **Is there** a CD player in NH90?

● **My ads** in FELIX, Newspaper of Imperial College Union London, May 2, 1986, page 5, will later be falsely claimed by my future double 'Blue Jacket' and subverted for demonic purposes by the Special Mideast Envoy. Zev—Green Jacket—NYS Drivers License B18556 50264 083987 29 former address Vigilant Hotel—Pentax ME Super B3976260 L1152185—FELIX, May 27, 1988.

● **For massages** and other specialists contact Chas B on the telephone number as advertised in the Albert Hall phone box.

● **My apologies** for my mistake in the small-ad last week. It should not have read NH90, but NH96 which is my room. From Chas B.

● **To Chas** Mars Bar B—it's my secret as to how I manage to fortify my door to prevent your amorous advances with dolly.

● **I Kevin** Humphries, NH72, would in future like to be referred to simply as

Letter to the floozie

Dear Shan the Man,

Glad to see that you've finally put pen to paper and actually put your name to it. Makes a change from the usual anonymous contributions. It is however a pity to see that you still view fiction as fact and facts as lies. If you wish to quote from Council either wait until the minutes are produced or record the meeting on tape. Do bear in mind though that sound recorded evidence is not admissible in court.

In your letter you hold Sydney personally responsible for a number of motions being passed at the meeting. May I remind you that there are nearly fifty members of Council, of which over thirty were present at the meeting, all of whom have individual votes. Can Sydney really be personally responsible for the way in which these people vote?

You accuse Sydney of 'orchestrating' Council. As far as I am aware Sydney did not threaten any members of Council, he did not bribe any members of Council, nor did he blackmail any members of Council. What he may have used is something called charisma, that, combined with enthusiasm may have persuaded people to see the logic in his arguments. Any person tabling any motion at any meeting tries their hardest to persuade the other members at the meeting to pass that motion. What I think you hold against Sydney is that so often he succeeds. Can I detect a little envy of Sydney being able to do this where you can't?

Yours,

Neil McCluskey, Sydney's Side-kick.

PS. What is better Sydney's Side-kick or Judith's Floozie?

False or true?

Dear Judith,

I read with interest Paul Shanley's letter in FELIX 803 and am pleased to see that FELIX workers such as Paul are continuing to uphold the principles of true and accurate representation of the facts in their letters as well as in the paper in general. However, I do feel that it is necessary to bring some points to your attention where Paul's habitual high journalistic standards seem to have slipped a bit.

Item 1: The referral back of the Pub Board colours and the whole issue of Pub Board colours, was not brought up by Syd H-B (né Howgate) but by myself. The issue of the content of FELIX did not even enter my consideration, but merely the fact that the award of so many colours within a small body (such as Pub Board) is degrading the value of IC Social Colours for everybody.

Item 2: The addition of preparation of Council/UGM papers to the duties of the appropriate chairman was necessary since nobody was responsible for these essential duties as the job descriptions then stood. As for a job description changing after election, that is one of the risks of office.

Item 3: While Mr Shanley would like to imply that only a select few people he dislikes made all these supposedly flawed decisions, he should remember that both the above items, and that of Mr Tyler's social colours were taken by majority vote by the whole of Council. Unlike FELIX,

Council is still democratic. It should be noted that Dave will still receive IC social colours this year via his award of a Guilds UGA.

To close this part of my letter, I believe Mr Shanley has deceived the populace of IC by this misrepresentation and distortion of the facts.

One other matter raised by FELIX 803 I feel needs comment. It is suggested in a news article that a UGM has no 'practical power over the FELIX Editor' other than dismissal. This matter is contentious and the above statement is a matter of opinion rather than a factual statement. News articles are not the place for the statement of editorial opinion. It is my belief that the part of the FELIX Editor's Job Description stating that they are 'Responsible to the UGM for...' means that a UGM can ask for reports from the Editor. Whether this is the case or not, I believe that someone who spends of the order of £10,000 of our money, and has their salary paid by us is honour bound to tell us how that money has been spent. While I support the principle of editorial freedom so dear to the hearts of Judith, Paul and all the other FELIX hacks, I also support the principle of editorial responsibility, and there has been precious little responsibility in FELIX this year, as many of the items in Blackmail, for example, prove.

I hope that the spirit of FELIX that has prevailed this year does indeed die with the arrival of next year's editorial team.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Clements, SCC Chairman 87-88.

Item 1: As far as all of us remember, it was Mr Harbour-Bridge who brought the subject of Pub Board colours up and it was he who made the formal proposal that they should be referred back. Point of information—Mr Harbour-Bridge was present at the Publications Board meeting the week before when Chris Martin announced how many colours had been awarded and he made no complaint. It was only when he saw who had been awarded the colours that he objected to them.

As far as the rest of your points regarding FELIX, please read my editorial.

Second class?

Dear Judith,

As ex-residents of Rayleigh House, we've suffered considerable inconvenience from visiting estate agents and having to move in the middle of the year. Not only this, but our new accommodation is very inferior and more expensive.

The final straw came when we received our new bills (May 16th) which overcharged us by £70 and also demanded a second key deposit, though our original deposit has yet to be returned to us. We went to the Accommodation Office to point out their £120 mistake and were treated as if the offence were ours. Having been given only two days to pay this bill, we inquired what would happen to people from Rayleigh who had not received bills. The aggressive reply was that we all had received our bills on May 9th (not true).

The impression we got was that mentioning Rayleigh House opened up an old wound. We are sick of being treated like second class citizens, after all, it's College Accommodation that's making mistakes, NOT US!

Annette McGrath and Lara Sherwin.

'Egg-Head'.

● **Mike**, NH1, has it ever occurred to you to tidy up the s**t you leave in the kitchen?

● **Chas**, does the DP's job description mention kinky massage or are you using some initiative.

● **PM**—you hold the next and I'll shoot in eight miles.

● **Brian**—why do you keep that brush in your pocket? From a concerned staircase.

● **The only** 'Defening' thing, was the roar as the pool 'Chumpion' lost. 34 Mad Gardeners.

● **Q:** What's a Kenyan's favourite breakfast food?

● **A:** Peaches-and-cream-a-waffle! 34 Mad Gardeners.

● **Come** to the five star Garden Hall Hotel, for your own choice of weather and scenery. Glorious sunshine outside, waterfalls in the second floor kitchen and arctic showers in the bathrooms. 34 Mad Gardeners.

● **To Her** I'll pop in and see you later, love Him.

● **SK**, if you and the Boys want another hand or favour scratch my back and I'll...enjoy it! SL.

● **Good luck** to the train spotters appreciation club next week. From the 2.21 from East Croydon.

● **Bedsoc** announces: Friday night was good but Saturday morning was better.

● **Bedsoc** do not appreciate fire alarms.

● **Don't** unscrew you leg for Bedsoc.

● **The Beach Boys** are in Bed—soc. Good vibrations.

● **Get Physic-al** in Bed-soc.

● **Wickets** and stumps: Four-play for Bedsoc.

● **Bedsoc** prefers the solid state.

● **NH2W**—the married wing!

● **Q:** What have Neil Motteram, Neil McCluskey and Ian Howgate's Haemmerhoids all got in common?

● **A:** None of them can drive a tractor.

● **LOST**—large quantity of pubic hair. If found please return to Neil Motteram c/o Randomsoc.

● **Coming** this Monday and Wednesday is the even better 'Fast Trousers Show'.

● **Why** has Pressy-boy gone home?

● **Because** he can w**k better there than at home.

● **Introducing** Spenser Lane—Mr Awesome himself.

● **Introducing** Neil Press—Mr Awful himself.

● **So tune** in to 999kHz medium wave at 8am on Monday and 1pm on Wednesday.

● **I didn't** want to say this—The Rector.

● **Who knows** Helen from Chem Eng 1.

● **Coming soon**—The Philippa Rowe Show.

● **Mr Ents**—do I detect a note of sarcasm in that smile?

● **Thinking** of failing your exams? Join Dropout Soc. FELIX.

Geology on the rocks

continued from front page

the work done at IC is for industry and so is not published as widely, and is often credited to the sponsor.

The Rector has said that he intends to fight the cuts by inviting industrialists and journalists to College to gain their financial and moral support. It is thought that such an audience will be more sympathetic to the department and its 'applied' style.

Attempts are also being made to lobby MPs.

Student recovering

Neil McKenzie, the Microbiology second year student suffering from meningitis, is recovering slowly in St Mary's Hospital. The illness has left Mr McKenzie paralysed in one leg and deaf, but a hospital doctor said he is hopeful that the deafness will be temporary.

Anyone who knows Mr McKenzie is very welcome to visit him at any time during the next fortnight, in the Samuel Lane Ward in St Mary's Hospital. He will then be moved to another hospital for at least three months.

Mr McKenzie will now take a year out from his course, sitting his exams next summer.

Syd attacked

Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge was said to be in a stable condition last night after an ex-student attacked him with a pint of iced water in the Union Bar. The student was asked to leave immediately after the incident by Union Bar supremo Adrian 'Jelly' Johnson.

The ex-student, Ms Sunny Bains, told FELIX that she felt the urge to pour her drink over the President after he had refused to talk to her earlier that day.

Course notes

The Department of Humanities is issuing full course notes for the Modern Literature and Drama Course and the Communication of Scientific Ideas Course. Students who wish to read up either course over the vacation can collect copies from the Humanities Office on Level Three of the Mechanical Engineering Building.

Peck's Dodgy Tips

- 2.30 Haydock **Rising Dexy** (Nap)
- 4.00 Haydock **Orient Line** (NB)
- 3.45 Doncaster **Lunar Bid**
- 2.00 Haydock **Blues Indingo** (E/W)

Ra Ra Ra

Doctor Ranaan Gillon has been elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, it was announced earlier this week. Dr Gillon is the Director of the College Health Centre.

Pub Board books back

The Publication Boards books have finally returned from the College Finance Section. The books were sent for auditing last year and were due back in November 1987.

BOOK NOW...

or summer may pass you by....

| | return price from |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Athens | £99 |
| Istanbul | £99 |
| Milan | £92 |
| Paris | £49 |
| Tel Aviv | £159 |
| Bangkok | £400 |
| Delhi | £394 |
| Hong Kong | £504 |
| Los Angeles | £328 |
| New York | £224 |

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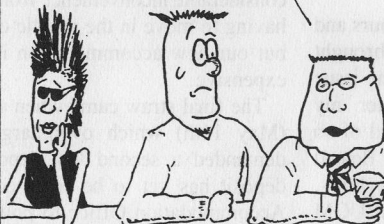
FRAZER

THE 1st Yr.



SNOTTY PINK BABY RHINDS IN A TUB OF PURPLE CUSTARD.
No. 13

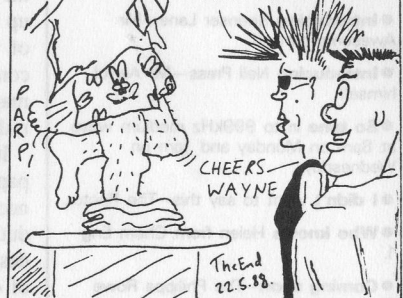
LOOK, I'M NOT SEXIST OR ANYTHING, BUT IT'S JUST COMMON SENSE THAT DRINKING CLUBS SHOULD BE MALE ONLY.



IT'S A SIMPLE BIOLOGICAL FACT THAT MEN CAN HANDLE DRINK AND WOMEN CAN'T. IT'S NATURE!



TWO-HALF-PINTS OF SHANDY LATER...
ROLL OUT THE BASTARDS... BLEUGH!#!
I'M KINDA GLAD THAT I'M NOT ALLOWED IN THIS CLUB.



CHEERS WAYNE

The End 22.5.88.

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