

Valentine's Issue



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Naughty

Confusion and mutual mud slinging reigned at a recent Kingston Polytechnic Union General Meeting. Ms Ceri Hill, president of Kingston Polytechnic Student Union (KPSU), was the subject of a motion of no-confidence over allegations of misdirection of union funds.

The four sabbaticals of KPSU have access to a hospitality fund of around £1200 between them. The fund was abolished at the beginning of this academic year in favour of a pay increase which students of the polytechnic believe to be £1500 each. This decision was taken during a meeting of the sabbaticals and the Honorary Treasurer, who is appointed jointly by the union president and Dr Robert Smith, Director of the polytechnic.

Though Dr Smith was unavailable for comment, his deputy said that he believed that 'the Senior treasurer was satisfied with the situation and that the matter was closed.'

As the vote of no-confidence took place at the union general meeting a fire alarm was activated and both sides of the argument blamed the other for its occurrence, claiming that the vote would have been more on their side if it had not happened. The motion was defeated by a small majority of three during a vote of nearly 500 people.

Unlike those at IC, the KPSU sabbaticals do not get any funding to cover accommodation or expenses encountered during working for the union. Adding to the confusion at the meeting, Mr Jonathan Smith, Vice President (Communications and Sites), claimed that the financial decisions made by the Honorary Treasurer were confidential and that the sabbaticals were bound by an agreement not to discuss them.

Exhibition

An exhibition of art produced by the students and staff of Imperial College and St. Mary's will be held for a month from the 19th February. The works of art will be displayed in the anteroom to the college refectory on the ground floor of the Sheffield building.

All work must be given in to Ms Sarah Greenwood or Ms Caroline Brice by the first day of the exhibition. Application forms are available from the above (extensions 6801 and 5251 respectively). Works are on display to be sold, and the exhibition will levy a commission of 20%.

Ms Greenwood added that the exhibition was to show 'as much work from as many people as possible'.

Careers cost

Imperial College Union President, Mr Neil McCluskey, has sent a personal letter to the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, following the proposed Careers service cutbacks. The Rector believes that professional people are being used to perform mundane tasks in the careers library. Mr McCluskey has compromised by saying that, in his view, a maximum of half of the job could be given to students, whilst retaining the part of the role that requires a professional.

Mr McCluskey stated that the union was willing to fund this part of the post from the profits generated from the careers fair. It is estimated that it would cost the Union £5000 per annum.

Mushrooms Help!

The British Pugwash Group—an international group of politically minded scientists—are to screen the new Roland Joffe film 'Shadow Makers' concerning the development of the atom bomb, starring Paul Newman. The film will be shown on February 24th and will be followed by a discussion chaired by Michael Ignatieff and including other luminaries.

Free tickets are available from: Shadow Makers, Pugwash, Flat A, 63A Great Russel st, London WC1B 3BG or telephone 405 6661.

Inter-rail

British Rail has announced that Inter-Rail plus boat tickets for 1990 will cost £180 and will allow one month unlimited travel in 22 countries. As from this year Czechoslovakia and asiatic Turkey are included in the price.

A rail ticket alone will cost £155 and an 'Inter-rail Flexicard' which allows 10 days unlimited travel within one month will cost £145. Roll up and see a crumbling bit of the Soviet empire of your choice!

Damned lies

Mr John McGregor, Secretary of State for Education, has justified the use of an 'enabling act' allowing the Government to implement Student Loans by saying that changes can be made to the scheme more quickly.

He said that minor alterations to the scheme, for instance the deferral of repayments, may be brought in after a few years.

An enabling act, in this case, allows a government minister to implement Student Loans. The act does not contain any details so it cannot be amended to any extent in the House of Commons, relying entirely on Conservative Party decisions.

Corridors of power

A motion to unseat University of London Union (ULU) President, Chris Massey, may be defeated by procedural wranglings at the next meeting of its Council.

The motion of no-confidence, which was passed at a ULU Executive meeting on January 25th, has been amended in the papers for the General Union Council (GUC) by chairman Jim Coyle. Mr Coyle has ruled accusations concerning permanent staff out of order. He now intends to rule the entire motion out of order at the meeting next Tuesday.

The motion, proposed by ULU Vice President (Finance and Administration), Paul Kilvington and seconded by Imperial's Hal Calamvokis, makes a number of accusations which Mr Massey denies. Mr Massey has been accused of abusing Union funds during a trip to last year's National Union of Students Winter Conference and of having little regard for ULU meetings.

A large part of the argument against Mr Massey has settled around his alleged attempts to discredit members of ULU's permanent staff. As ULU President, Mr Massey is not the employer of ULU employees, who are paid by the University of

Universities in Czechoslovakia are appealing to western Universities for help in rebuilding their education system. They particularly ask for information on the structures of student unions and lists of teachers who would be willing to lecture in English, German or Russian. They are also asking for textbooks, especially in mathematics, physics, electrical engineering and languages. The country has a deficit of photocopiers, and requests these too.

Anybody willing to help in these or in financial ways should contact Dr A.D. Caplin of Electrical Engineering (extension 6904).

Humanities

A lecture entitled 'How we French produce our engineers' will be given by M. Jean Chinal, the Counsellor for Science and Technology at the French Embassy on Tuesday 13 February.

The talk will take place in the Read Theatre at 1:15 pm.

Oh dear!

A critical article on the University of London has cited a study into the relationship between Senate House, headquarters of the University of London, and its constituent colleges written by last year's Imperial College Secretary, Mr John Smith. The feature appeared in last week's issue of the Times Higher Education Supplement.

The Smith report claims that there are gross bureaucratic inefficiencies in the cumbersome and elaborate system and that the constituent colleges are not consulted in most proposals.

The feature claims that the senate and its financial wing, the University Court, interfere in college matters and are unduly secret in their affairs.

London. He is not allowed to pass official comment on Union staff.

Mr Massey is concerned for ULU's autonomy from the University and stood on a platform of attempting to free the Union. He told FELIX that he denied the allegations of discrediting staff and added that the 'evidence' for the matter was subject to a libel action. He added that he was not in a position to hold an opinion on staff since he is not the employer. 'Even if I'm sacked, this will one be bubbling for a long time,' he said.

With dissent amongst the ULU executive Mr Massey has complained of papers disappearing from his office and being shown to permanent staff. He told FELIX that a major breach of ULU's constitution had been made when a permanent member of staff blocked the mailing of the papers for Tuesday's meeting under the instructions of a 'member of GUC.' 'The Union is in crisis,' since its autonomy has been infringed in this way according to Mr Massey.

Talking about his hopes to move ULU away from a commercial arrangement to one with a main aim of serving students, Mr Massey said, 'I often feel the student takes a back place in ULU.'

Strike!?

The Manufacturing, Science and Finance Trade Union (MSF) are contemplating strike action at Imperial College. The dispute is over seven members of College staff who may be made redundant following the abolition of their current jobs.

The staff were working for Imperial Biotechnology Limited (IBT) which is a company set up by Imperial College. IBT was sold to the Australian firm Burns Philp last year. The staff had worked for IBT for about eight years, providing technical support in the pilot plant. IBT informed the staff and the College on Wednesday 31st January that they no longer required their services.

Dr Trevor Langley, Managing Director of IBT, explained that revenue from the pilot plant in the form of outside contracts had fallen and that the plant was making a loss. He said IBT had seen no way to increase revenue and had therefore felt it necessary to cut both staff and costs. The staff now revert to being direct employees of I.C. and the college must find alternative employment for them within College or make them redundant.

Dr Langley denied that the staff had been treated brusquely. He said that IBT had employed the staff since August 1982 and had 'kept them on when things have been difficult before'. He claimed IBT had complied with the terms of their agreement with the College over the staff.

Mr Dollard, ex-chairman of Imperial's MSF said 'all the MSF wants is guarantees that our members will not be made redundant'. He said that if the College did not agree to this they would 'take the College and IBT all the way'. Plans include withdrawing all technical support to IBT, which is sited on the South Kensington campus, including power, steam, oxygen and mechanical services. Mr Langley said he had received no notice of this action, but that the College had told him that 'agreements and services would still stand'. He said that if the MSF did take action it would 'hurt some of the College services we maintain as well'.

If the situation is not resolved members may take secondary action with a strike in the spring with possible national MSF support and strike pay. Mr Dollard said that he 'hoped it came to that' because he believed that College was 'trying to establish a

precedent for making people redundant'. The decisions on the action were taken at a meeting of the MSF on Monday.

Mr Rob Letham, IC's Senior Personnel Officer, said that College was 'trying to make alternative jobs available, but couldn't guarantee that this would be possible'. He said that the staff were 'being given first shot at the most suitable jobs' and that they had approached the head of the Biochemistry Department, Professor Barber, as this was the department most relevant to their skills. He said that in the letter sent to the staff it was made clear that if they had not been found other jobs by the end of April, the College 'would have no alternative than to think about what we do next, which 'could include a severance



arrangement'. Mr Dollard said this amounted to a redundancy notice, although Mr Letham denied this.

Mr Angus Fraser, Managing Director of Imperial College, said that he was 'obviously concerned' about the threatened action 'particularly in the light of the efforts we've been making since the outset'. He said that he could give no guarantee that the staff would not be made redundant but that he felt the College had 'made considerable progress to avoid that'. He was 'optimistic that the worst fears of the MSF will not be realised'.

Mr Letham said he had received a letter from the MSF describing in general terms the action they were

planning to take and that the MSF had warned that they would be 'in dispute with College if College could not guarantee staff not being made redundant'. He claimed College was actively trying to avoid a dispute and had asked the MSF to co-operate with attempts to employ the staff elsewhere.

Mr Dollard said that the MSF were 'not interfering with anything which the College was doing which was to the benefit of their members' but added that 'Mr Letham might have good intentions but the road to Hell is paved with good intentions'. He added that 'not one member of the MSF or the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) has ever been made redundant. Aston University tried and the MSF binned them'. He said that the MSF would 'band together nationally' to support IC MSF.

Mr Dollard also accused IC of 'ripping off' the University Funding Council (UFC) by claiming money to pay the staff from UFC whilst accepting money from IBT for the staff's services. He said that the MSF would be writing to the UFC and to the Auditor General. Mr Letham said that the College did not get money for particular members of staff from the UFC. A spokesman for the UFC confirmed that the grant was awarded on student numbers and research based criteria and that once the claim had been granted the UFC could not dictate the College's spending policy. He said that if the College wished to contract out staff they were entirely free to spend any money they might save elsewhere.

Mr Dollard said the MSF were also planning to write to the University Technicians National Advisory Committee, the International Congress of Trade Unions and technicians at other colleges. He said they were planning to organise a mass rally at Imperial in support of their action.

Mr Letham said he hoped to avoid a confrontation and pointed out that 'people have to make their own choices about whether to accept alternative employment or not'. Mr Fraser agreed that 'at the end of the day they have a choice about whether they consider those jobs suitable or not'. Mr Dollard said, 'It's scandalous. IC has one of the biggest groups in the MSF. If they thought we'd stand back and take it, they must be the most incompetent managers out. They should be sacked.'

Party muggings

Violence and 'professional' drug pushing was witnessed at the Afro-Caribbean Society function last Friday. Students were assaulted and robbed inside and around the Junior Common room (JCR) late in the evening of the function. There was one reported mugging in the public conveniences of the JCR.

Mr Terry Briley, security officer at I.C., said that a private function held on the 20th January resulted in the police being called as drug peddling was obviously taking place. He claimed that possibly the same group who were responsible for this were involved in last weeks offences.

Robbers intimidated students, and the muggers were described as two large black men who probably weren't students. They did not use weapons and managed to steal only a small amount of money from the student concerned.

Mr Briley said that the 'police will be paying particular attention to future functions and college licences must be considered at risk'.

He added that it was the prompt action of the Bar Manager, Mr Mike Smith, in calling the security guards to close down the event that prevented anything more serious occurring. Mr Briley said he was

'gravely concerned' about both functions.

Ms Fiona Nicholas, Honorary Secretary of I.C. Union, said that the union was not accepting any further bookings from the Afro-Caribbean Society, though the event they had already arranged for next week would still go ahead, as it had been booked before the present troubles arose.

Mr Briley said that students have written to the police expressing concern at the lack of supervision which the functions exhibited.

Yaaba

In a village in Burkino Faso lives Bila, a young boy. He befriends an old lady, derided as a witch by the rest of the village, calling her 'Yaaba'—meaning grandmother.

Through his child's eyes we see a slightly stereotypical view of the adult world; with affairs, marriage break-ups and petty rivalries all going on around him. Then when his cousin catches tetanus from a dirty knife, in a fight, he has to appeal to Yaaba for help, yet only the village drunk believes in here, the rest maintaining their prejudices.

Idrissa Ouedraogo has directed a beautifully simple tale of life in an African village, which, although based

on a culture very different to our own, still relates to the problems of our society in a very relevant way.

As the story gently unfolds, we are presented with myriad examples of the stupidity of adult society, which it takes the eyes of a child, or a drunk, to see. Superstition, prejudice and love are all observed by Bila, initially with little comprehension, but as his relationship with Yaaba develops, so does his understanding of the world.

The action is played against a backdrop of the African landscape; dry, empty plains dotted with the occasional tree or bush. In this background the human seems to be just about the only animal, living life close

to nature, which we are all part of.

Beautifully shot, acted and simple but enthralling, it is little wonder that this film won the International Critics prize at Cannes. See it now!

Reviews Department handy tip of the week— *Yaaba* is only showing at the Renoir, Brunswick Square (nearest tube Russell Square). The cheapest way to see it is to go to the earliest showing (2.35pm daily) and wave your ULU or ICU card about. That way you'll get in for a mere £1.70 instead of the usual £4.

Adam T.

Rooftops

'Good view, low rent, plenty of light: just what everybody in this city wants.' Where is this ideal property? It's a rooftop, high above the streets of Manhattan's Lower East Side.

In this area live several kids who have no family to depend on, and make the best they can of life. For entertainment they go to an empty lot called the 'Garden of Eden', where they dance, laugh and generally have a good time. Here they also 'combat dance', trying to force each other off a raised platform, through acrobatic movement, without touching each other.

Foremost among the dances, is a chap improbably named 'T', who falls in love with Elana, when she visits a friend in the Garden of Eden. Unfortunately she turns out to be the look-out for a drugs dealer—who, coincidentally turns out to be the same drugs dealer who is trying to drive 'T' from his home, so he can use it to peddle his evil merchandise.

So we have a 'heart warming' tale of kids with problems; one kid's mother is a prostitute, another has a father brain-damaged through boxing and even 'T' is an orphan. Unfortunately the whole thing is terribly predictable. Love triumphs through adversity (yawn), revenge for a murdered friend (snooze), baddie gets



his come-uppance (snore).

Of course all this is interspersed with dance scenes and played against a background of music, mostly by David A Stewart of the *Eurythmics* and *Pink Floyd* producer Michael Kamen.

To give the film its due, the dance sequences are beautifully choreographed, and the music is good. The

acting and photography are competent and the atmosphere of the Alphabet City nicely caught. But the plot and script are so cliché ridden that the film must remain one for devotees of this sort of film only.

The film is showing at Canon Haymarket, Oxford Street and Chelsea from today.

Adam T.

Blaze—Opens 23rd February

Set in the state of Louisiana, *Blaze* recounts the scandalous romance of Governor Earl K Long and stripper Blaze Starr. This unlikely combination of a 65 year old married politician and a 28 year old flamboyant girl, along with Earl's progressive ideas, rocked the Southern political machine.

Fannie Belle Fleming (Lolita Davidovich) was born during the depression and was raised in the hills of West Virginia. It was her encounter with the Quonset Hut club in Washington DC that first introduced her to a life of stripping and gave her her stage name—'Blaze Starr'. By the time she met Earl Long in 1959, she had a reputation for her flashy and daring stunts on stage.

Governor Earl K Long is played by Paul Newman. At the beginning of the film, I didn't think that he was a good choice as it's difficult to see 'the Earl', as Long was known, rather than the actor. His grating voice

didn't help either. I never really forgot that it was Newman on the screen, but as the story unfolded, it didn't matter.

Lolita Davidovich has a hard time holding her own with Newman, but is undoubtedly the star of the film. She is helped by *Blaze's* innocence and honesty which make her shine next to Earl Long.

Blaze is based on a few chapters from the autobiography *Blaze Starr: My Life As Told To Huey Perry*. It's not a strict historical documentary—the circumstances surrounding Long's short stay in Mandeville State Hospital have been simplified for the film, and the romance has been polished. Even so, the research into the era has paid off, with a film that is as enjoyable to watch for the colourful background as it is for the machinations of the statesmen of the time.

Before television, politicians didn't have to worry

about their personal lives being scrutinised. Besides the dark dealings and the vote generating walkabouts, it was considered natural for them to visit strip joints, and Earl does. One night he meets Blaze and tries to bed her like all the other girls. When she stubbornly refuses, he sees her as a lady worth pursuing, and slowly they fall in love.

If the political times are one fascination, another must be the costumes. *Blaze Starr* herself, who appears in the film as Lilly, still has a lot of her original dresses. These formed the basis for some, er, *interesting* costumes which liven up the film.

Blaze is an enjoyable film which isn't too taxing on the brain. If you're undecided on what to see, you won't go far wrong with this.

Toby Jones.

Family Business

The publicity photos suggest this is a hilarious gangster movie. It isn't. *Family Business* is a sympathetic exploration of the father-son relationship. Taken as such it will not disappoint. However it is unfortunate that this publicity was needed to draw the crowds as it will lead to disenchantment with the film.

Three big names star; Matthew Broderick, Dustin Hoffman and Sean Connery. They play three generations of the McMullen Family in this low key comedy drama.

What happens? Connery is a small time crook, who has brought up his son Hoffman to be a criminal. Hoffman, however, wanted a middle-class upbringing for his own son, Broderick. Thus Hoffman left the *Family Business* to become a meat wholesaler. Unfortunately at the age of 23, Broderick decides to rebel—he rejects the values of his father and assumes the criminal standards of his grandfather. It is apparent that Hoffman's middle-class morals are merely a pretence, at heart he is a thief. Hoffman is then emotionally blackmailed into a robbery with Broderick and Connery. Surprise, surprise, Broderick gets caught. Up to this point the film has been plausible—but Broderick's capture is utterly unconvincing. When he hears the sirens in the distance he freezes—unlikely for an MIT undergrad.

The rest of the film concerns itself with the dilemmas facing Hoffman, the trial and Connery's demise in gaol. These scenes were touching and helped enormously by the acting. The film relies heavily on the stars to bring the very two-dimensional script alive.



Connery and Hoffman are both experienced screen players, but Broderick never seems out of his depth. He has great presence and certainly holds his own. Broderick is being nursed to stardom by Tri-Star Pictures, the makers of *Family Business*. This is the first of three movies that will broaden his appeal. Soon, in *The Freshman*, he will co-star with Marlon Brando—quite a casting achievement.

Despite the film being a vehicle for Broderick and having a preoccupation with Hoffman's height and nose size, the film deserves consideration. It is also

good to see Connery playing a Scotsman and for once not having to draw on his wide range of accents.

Somehow, although enjoyable, the film misses the boat. It doesn't know if it is a comedy, drama or tear-jerker...I am sure the big names will ensure box office success, but I feel this may turn out to be another *Ishtar* for Hoffman.

Family Business opens at the Odeon Leicester Square and other selected theatres today.

Charles Tomkins.

Honey, I Shrunk the Kids/Tummy Trouble

Wayne Szalinski (Rick Moranis) has been beavering away in his attic building a size reduction device, to the detriment of his marriage. Unfortunately, the machine doesn't work. Then one day, while Wayne is away being ridiculed by the scientific establishment, one of the kids from next door hits his baseball into the attic, jolting the machine. When the kids go to



retrieve the ball, they get that horrible shrinking feeling...Life isn't easy when you're a quarter of an inch tall, as the most common-place objects become threats.

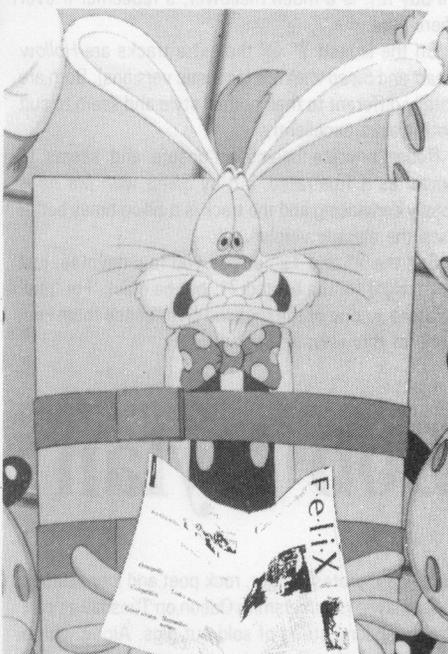
All the ingredients for a kids' movie are here. The prolific Rick Moranis, recently seen in *Ghostbusters II* and *Parenthood*, does a great job of portraying the splendidly dotty scientist, and Matt Freuer, best known as Max Headroom, is equally good as his sports mad neighbour Big Russ Thompson, who is incapable of understanding his kids. There is the teenage couple, whom everyone knows are going to end the film in love, the punk kid who becomes nice by the end, and the couple of 'cute' animals (namely a dog and an ant (?)).

The real scene stealer though, is Robert Oliveri as Nick Szalinski. A beautiful bit of casting—he actually looks like Moranis, his film father and he gets all the best lines: 'I don't think we're in Kansas anymore, Toto', 'I don't think we're in the food chain anymore, Dorothy'.

The whole thing comes together as a very amusing whole. The adults make total fools of themselves as they search for the missing kids and the children themselves provide the drama as they ride bees and ants, fight off scorpions and camp out in a lego brick.

The special effects, as one would expect from Industrial Light and Magic, are superb, which is just as well, as without them the film would be laughable.

A good, if undemanding film, which is worth considering if the coursework is getting you down. Mind you, it's worth paying the admission just to see



the *Roger Rabbit* short *Tummy Trouble*. A hilarious romp, with Baby Herman swallowing a rattle and being rushed to hospital ('St Nowhere'). Of course, we have the usual chaos of any cartoon. Mind you, I'm probably biased as it features a cameo by my all time favourite cartoon character, Droopy.

Adam T.

Miracle Legion/The Breeders/ The Candyskins

Islington Powerhaus

To say that the *Candyskins* lack a certain enthusiasm for their art is an understatement. They look like they would have more fun clocking into the factory on a Monday morning. This is quite surprising. Where the attitude is all sneer, the music is sweet and pure jangle-pop. The *Candyskins* have toned it down to a fine art. 'Here we come, walking down the street.' The *Candyskins* sound like the *Monkees*.

Speaking of such similarities, the first thing you'll notice about the *Breeders* is that they sound a lot like the *Pixies*. The second thing is that the singer looks a bit like, could almost be...actually is Kim Deal, bass player with the aforementioned combo, doing her own thang as it were, and unavoidably flexing her monumental *Pixie* muscles in the process. Oh, and the blonde lassie on the left is Tanya from *Throwing Muses*.

A good recipe for adulation, you may think. And

that's half the problem. It's a tribute to the *Pixies* that the *Breeders* went down so well. It's also a tribute to Ms Deal herself; she may be the star pupil of the *Black Francis School of Songwriting* but the *Breeders* are a damn fine band. The forthcoming Allini (who else?) produced album should be a corker. A rare and unexpected treat.

However impromptu the *Breeders'* appearance should have been, news like that has a leaky tendency. *Miracle Legion*, once crowned the new Rickenbacker messiahs in the wake of *REM's* uneasy and unaccessible *Fables* and their own near-perfect *Surprise Surprise Surprise*, take the stage with a couple of sizeable mountains to climb. Trimmed down to an acoustic two-piece, they're not making life easy for themselves.

The opening lines of *The Heart is Attacked* seemed shaky and nervous. *Miracle Legion* don't even look

capable of a decent assault on the foothills. Soon though, they were in full flow, Mark Mulcahey prancing around the stage like a demented pansy, that beautifully fragile voice positively soaring. He may look like a lumbering village idiot but close your eyes and he's an angel. Mulcahey's voice provides all the excuses you want for placing *Miracle Legion* head and shoulders above other state-of-the-art *REM* substitutes.

Much of the back catalogue was given the acoustic dusting down that night. This really suits some songs (like the gorgeous *Little Man*), though many more ache for a real band. *Miracle Legion* were playing to the converted, and we loved it, but they're not winning many new friends. Please, please come back guys, but please, please don't forget to bring a band next time.

Graham L.

Birdland

Never could they get their live sound, where they are so successful, down onto vinyl. They even sound different, Robert actually tries to sing and loses his sincere Cov accent and the guitar, bass and drums sound like a relic from *The Ramones*. *Sleep with Me* is nice enough and definitely has commercial appeal as proved by its entry at 39 in the Network (Mainstream) charts. But for anyone familiar with the earlier sounds of *Paradise* or *Hollow Heart* this just doesn't compare.

Wanted is better-but not good enough.

All Over Me is very heavy but lacks everything.

Finally *Stay*, previously available only on 1000 copies of a mispress of *Paradise* (if anyone's got one, I'll buy it!), is a much mellower, a redeemer if ever there was.

On the limited 7" EP the extra tracks are *Hollow Heart* and *Sleep with Me* (acoustic versions). Both are totally different to their normal style and seem to suit both tracks excellently.

Robert's voice begins as unsure and seems to waver as if frustrated, but by *Sleep with Me* he is totally convincing and the track is a zillion times better than the electric version.

Sod the 7" and 12" unless you're a devotee, just go straight for the limited 7", but be quick. For 'real' *Birdland* a copy of the *Birdland Live*, or see them live; none of this vinyl is a substitute.



7" and 12"

The Trudy

Camden Palace
6/02/90

They have to be seen to be believed. Even the limited stage at Camden Palace was, well, psychedelic with swirling lights and two 3 foot balloons. Was that a drummer or a multicoloured alien from the planet Moron?

The zany music got even the Camden crowd dancing dangerously from the first note. Then suddenly, Melissa (vocals) was miraculously teleported to the mike, and what wasn't she wearing? She is renowned for her taste in underwear. The new backing vocalist/dancer, in body-hugging chain mail, lived up to Melissa's crazy reputation. How can two people act like that on stage and still keep a straight face? We couldn't and it was brilliant.

The set included the favourites *Teenage Firebomb*, *Living on a Moon* and *Kiss, Kiss, Kiss* (set to be the new single). Melissa confided; 'I like this one because I get to snog lots of boys in the video'. Melissa, we love you.

SJH.

Bob Dylan

Bob Dylan, protest singer, rock poet and iconoclastic hobo, played Hammersmith Odeon on Tuesday as part of a week-long string of sold-out gigs. Along with a motley mass of young punks, reformed old hippies and respectable middle-aged ladies and gentlemen, I took my stance right at the back of the Odeon and awaited the show. I had the cheapest of tickets, a £2 can of Grolsch and the greatest of expectations. These were not let down.

Although, at 48, Dylan the enigma is fading, his

magic certainly lives on. There is nothing else quite like him on offer. Rapturous shrieking and applause greeted his entrance on stage, and continued at full intensity throughout the evening. He played a sharp, simple and well performed set, including such classics as *Memphis Blues* and a remarkable version of *All Along the Watchtower*. Perhaps the highlight of the gig was during his acoustic intermission when we were treated to a brilliant show of technical ability on the guitar; and of course *Mr Tamborine Man*, that

whining harmonica, and that gratingly familiar drawl.

After an hour and a half of steady blues and rock 'n' roll, the audience demanded an encore with howls of ecstasy. This was received in due course, with stamping, singing and general jumping up and down. (Unusual, due to the age and demeanour of some of the participants!) I left with my head spinning. Wonderful, a good time was had by all.

Dermot McKee.

Hammersmith Odeon
5/02/90

A student who studied Physics in the early 1980's tells a tale still true in the departments today...

Crapping on the face of God

I remember arriving with my parents on a warm rose-coloured afternoon. It was late September and it seemed to me that the autumnal trees in the garden were singing Mozart. This was my most glorious moment, short-lived though it was.

As I saw my parents' car pull away, I was gripped by a terrible sense of loss. 'There goes my childhood,' I thought in a moment of high melodrama as the car turned the corner. Now that I was no longer a child I reined back my tears, swallowed the lump in my throat and went downstairs to the bar to try and pick up some women.

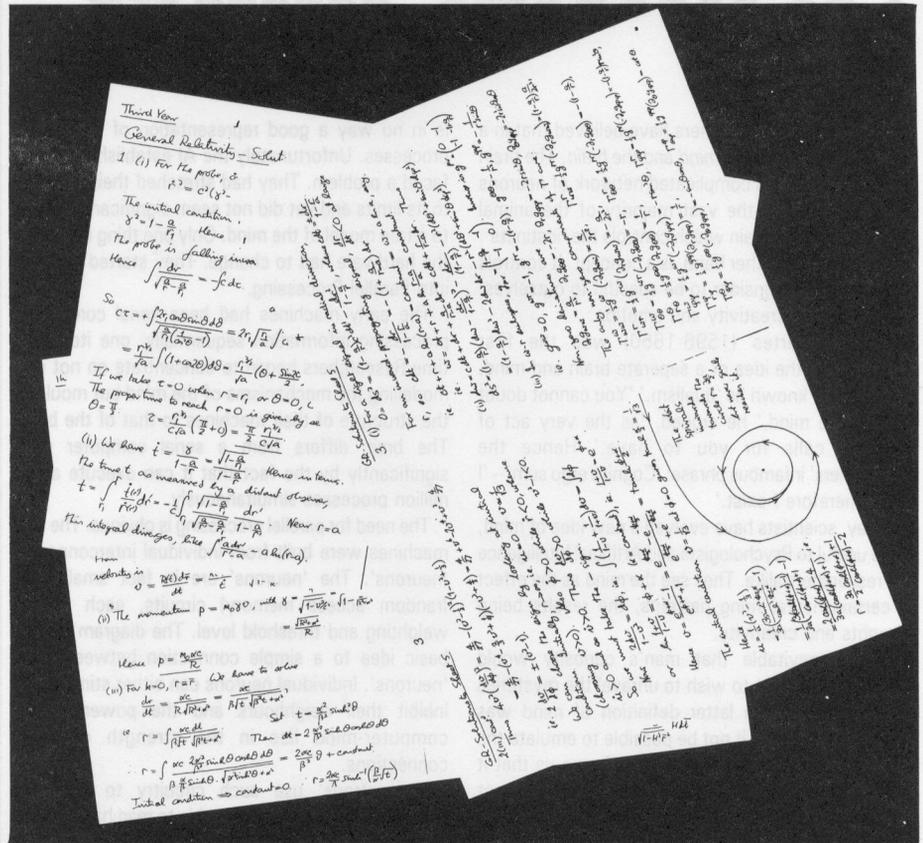
Those of you who know Imperial College, or for that matter any predominantly male institution, will know what my first great disappointment at University was. My second disappointment? It was not so much a disappointment but more of a shock. Well, to tell you the truth, it was a trauma from which I don't think I'll ever recover. In my first term at College I witnessed a mass murder.

It was truly horrible. Without exception the murderers, for there were more than one, were all gnarled old men. I can't remember exactly when or where it happened but I saw them murder at least a hundred young men and women. Their destruction was slow and deliberate. They extracted as much pain from these poor wretches as they could without actually taking their lives. You see, these men did not take their victims' lives, they did something much worse. They took their reason for living.

The gnarled old men hated the sight of these young people with Mozart in their ears. To them they were just so much meat whose rotten odour they would tolerate to justify their fat research cheques.

To be fair, there were some who tried to convey their passion for Physics. But even those who were not on some 'leading the lost tribes into the promised land' trip were of little more help than the friendly cop in the American TV shows who comforts and builds up the suspect before his partner comes along and punches them in the kidneys.

I came with high expectations to learn of a Universe of intricate symmetry and beauty, and instead tenth-rate physicists sold me their cynical 'Truths'. Tears



ran down my cheeks as I watched them tear the heart out of the subject I loved. One of the greatest masterpieces of Science (or Art for that matter) is the encapsulation of the unity of electric and magnetic phenomena in the equations of James Maxwell. I had two courses on the development of this wonderful and crucial period in the foundation of a new Physics that would show Newton as the parochial little despot that he was.

The courses should have been symphonies, yet we were subjected to confused derivations, incomprehensible diagrams, a minuet of meaningless

and unimportant detail, and all in an incomprehensible Glaswegian accent.

Being a thickie, I was warned off the advanced quantum mechanics and relativity courses. I should feel angry now that I realise what they did, but my more clever friends tell me that both courses were as enlightening as a mouthful of dust.

I could go on taking individual examples but really it was a case of some of Britain's best researchers turning beauty, elegance and simplicity into something as confused and ugly as themselves. How dare those shitheads crap on the face of God?

FELIX BUSINESS MANAGER

This year's FELIX Business Manager has been forced to resign due to illness. We need somebody to manage the accounts of FELIX and the Imperial College Union Print Unit. The job is not an easy one but can be very rewarding. No prior qualification in book keeping is required, although this would be useful. If you are interested, please contact Dave in the FELIX Office as soon as possible.

Will computers ever be able to simulate the human brain?

Artificial minds

For a long time, philosophers have believed that in a distinction between the *mind* and the *brain*. The brain is that massive and complicated network of neurons which is found in the vast majority of the animal kingdom. It is the brain which controls the 'instincts'. The mind, on the other hand, is a concept. It controls those traits we consider to be specific to ourselves: logic, thought, creativity and emotion.

René Descartes (1596-1650) was the first proponent of the idea of a separate brain and mind, a philosophy known as 'dualism.' 'You cannot doubt you have a mind,' he argued, 'as the very act of doubting calls for you to have.' Hence the philosophers' infamous phrase: 'Cognito ergo sum' — 'I think, therefore I exist.'

Today, scientists have evolved a new idea of mind, more useful to Psychologists and Artificial Intelligence (AI) researchers alike. They see the mind as the effect of certain neural firing patterns, the results being thoughts and creativity.

It was inevitable that man's curiosity would eventually lead him to wish to unravel the mysteries of the mind. If the latter definition of mind was correct, then would it not be possible to emulate the workings of the mind? Nature has shown us that it is possible to do the same 'job' using different 'machines', in the form of 'homoplastic' species. As an example, both birds and bats have wings, both can fly, but both have evolved quite separately. An analogy can be drawn between the birds and the bats, and the mind and a computer model of the mind. AI researchers began to design such models.

Alan Turing was possibly the first scientist to set standards by which a machine could be qualified as 'Intelligent'. He stated that a machine could be classified as 'Intelligent' if a human who was 'talking' to it, could not distinguish it from another human. This is the 'Turing Test'.

An early example was the computer program, ELIZA. Its inventor, Weizenbaum, allowed ELIZA to talk to a number of people and found that, even after being told the truth, many insisted that they had conversed with another person.

Turing's classification of 'Intelligence' was short lived. It was pointed out that computers are 'syntactic', they take symbols and manipulate them in order to gain a result. This is the basis of a 'Turing Machine'. The mind, on the other hand, is 'semantic', for each of the symbols, events etc presented to it, it attaches some meaning, connotation or inference. In reality, psychologists had known this for years.

Bartlett (1930) asked a number of subjects to memorise a passage of text. He showed that they only recalled what they expected the passage to have said rather than what it actually said. It was concluded that man remembers abstracts of 'episodes' (known as 'episodic memory'), stored 'semantically'.

This posed problems for the AI researchers, as they now had to adapt their systems such that for any episode or event, there were now numerous such semantic references. The combination of Minsky, Rummelhart and Ortony created a new model of the mind, including elements of choice, decision and memory, known as SCHEMATA.

The limitations to this system are quite obvious, it

is in no way a good representation of the mental processes. Unfortunately the AI establishment now faced a problem. They had stretched their software to its limits and yet did not seem significantly nearer to a true model of the mind. Only one thing remained; the hardware had to change. They started research into Parallel Processing.

The early machines had been serial computers, processing information sequentially, one item at a time. Researchers began to concentrate on not only modelling the mechanisms of the mind but moulding the structure of their machines to that of the brain. The brain differs from a serial computer most significantly by the fact that it can execute a few million processes simultaneously.

The need for parallel processing is obvious. The new machines were built from individual interconnected 'neurons'. The 'neurons' are in fact small RAM (random access memory) circuits, each with a weighting and threshold level. The diagram gives a basic idea to a simple connection between three 'neurons'. Individual neurons can either stimulate or inhibit their neighbours and the power of the computer-mind lies in the strength of these connections.

'Perceptrons' use such circuitry to recognise objects. These machines are able to read handwriting, an impressive task when one thinks of the infinite variety of ways in which people write individual letters.

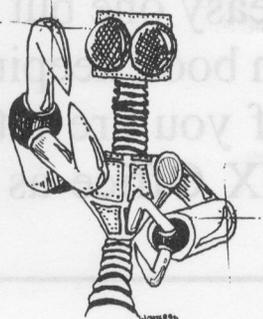
One feature of intelligence is the ability to learn from mistakes. How can a machine learn? The answer may lie in 'Backward Error Propagation'; comparing the results with the original information and adjusting the connections accordingly.

It would appear that Artificial Intelligence is, at last, heading in the right direction. The researchers are now able to model the complex visual systems, so surely a complete model cannot be far behind?

Unfortunately there is one major difference between the computer-based and human brains: the brain has no Backward Error Propagation. Once again we may find ourselves hitting the limitations of the system before coming close to a full model. Cyriacs would agree with the AI pioneer John von Neumann that 'There will be no more simpler model of the Brain than the Brain itself'.

Jason Housecroft

NO, DON'T WORRY,
IT DOESN'T HURT!



This Week

● **'Mad Cow' disease** has been shown to spread to laboratory mice through eating brain tissue from an infected cow. This has increased fears that humans may be able to contract a form of this disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), from consumption of infected beef produce. BSE is a disease which gradually destroys the cow's nervous system. Recent research has concentrated on feeding the mice with brain tissue, but further work is being performed with spleen and spinal cord material to see if these too carry the infection.

● **Debris in space** has been recognised as a serious problem. Abandoned satellites coupled with parts of spent rockets now pose a significant threat to the success of future space operations. The world's seven space agencies have so far failed to agree any policy on space litter.

NASA uses almost all of its debris clearing budget on the region of Low Earth Orbit (LEO). The European Space Agency (ESA) has a budget of just 10 per cent of this, but has a programme for Geostationary Orbit (GEO) as well as LEO clearing. A Geostationary orbit is a path on which a satellite will rotate at the same speed as the Earth, thus holding a constant position above the Earth's surface.

It is estimated that there is now in excess of three thousand tonnes of space junk orbiting the Earth with the majority of it made up of particles less than 1cm across.

Clearly the 'Star Wars' Defense Initiative tests could contribute significantly to this though the Americans have now decided to operate at low altitudes where most of the fragments from tests will rapidly fall to earth.

● **Robots may be able to operate on humans** within ten years. A surgical robot is being designed at IC for prostate surgery. The predicted time taken for a robot to perform this operation is about five minutes as opposed to the hour usually required for a surgeon.

The law as it stands does not allow a robot to carry out such tasks. Present experimental robots in some respects are not yet sophisticated enough; if they were to develop a software fault possible twitching could have potentially disastrous results. Fail-safe software, however, is not implausible.

Letter

Dear Sir,

I was fascinated by your report in last week's FELIX of a prototype electromagnetic tank gun capable of propelling a 3mm ball 'at a speed of 4.2kmh⁻¹'.

I estimate I can do about five times better than this with a peashooter. Any offers?

Yours faithfully,
Brian Barker.

Reply

Oops; it was a late night! Of course the projectile was fired at 4.2kms⁻¹.

Imperial College Union's Dramatic Society host a plethora of talent at the Edinburgh Fringe each summer. Now is the time for you to become a part of it. Adrian Pagan reports....

Fringe benefits

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is the biggest festival of its kind in Europe. Actors are supposedly 'spotted', the dedicated rustle up theatres from church halls in a matter of days and the nearest guesthouse vacancy is in Glasgow...

The Theatre West End (TWE) introductory buffet last March was about as successful as Pamela Bordes' chastity belt; the posters were put up the day before, someone accidentally wiped half the introductory video and a mere four new adherents turned up, one of whom was looking for Wargaming Society. Two months later, the auditions for Theatre West End Productions (TWEP—the acting side of the Edinburgh Tour) things weren't much better: we needed eight actors, and there were eight auditionees, one of whom was Spanish and must have had a working English vocabulary of less than 100 words.

All was not yet lost, however. By May our administrator Zoë had managed to sell all but two of the twenty-one show slots in the theatre we were going to build, to other unsuspecting drama groups.

TWE's credentials are, in fact, fairly impressive: central location on the main throbbing thoroughfare, excellent technical facilities, the largest student run venue on the Fringe, etc...etc...So we had no real problems with finances (unlike so many other companies), we just needed people to come and build the theatre that we'd already part sold to all those theatre groups.

In the last week of June our skeleton crew of actors started rehearsals for the two plays we were taking up. *Huis Clos*, or *No Way Out*, by Jean-Paul Sartre, about three dead people stuck in a psychological hell of their own making, was purportedly our 'Arty-Farty' play and *Funeral Games* by the infamous Joe Orton (sexual innuendo, adultery and religious humbug) was to be our 'bums-on-seats' play. For three evenings a week over five weeks our thespians rehearsed shows that Joe Public would be paying 'real money' to watch. Props had to be gathered, costumes found, publicity prepared, sets built and double gins bought for the directors on more than one occasion; but once we'd thrown everything into the seven tonne Ryder Truck we'd hired, there was little more we could do than pray or blackmail the critics in advance.

Everyone arrived exactly a week before the festival began. Miraculously everything went according to plan, and better. The scaffolding, extra lights and emergency lights all arrived in time and with the actors helping build the venue as well we turned a grotty church hall into a sparkling professional theatre in under three days. Meanwhile a merry band of publicists raided Edinburgh sticking woggles of leaflets and posters in every hole and orifice they could find. The day before our first show, we were paid a visit by Mid-Lothian fire and safety inspectorate who granted us a Theatre Licence, so now we could officially open our doors to the public and our subletters.

The three weeks of the Festival saw an interesting variety of actors passing through our venue ranging from the business-like 'professionals' who voice telephone weather messages for 'Weathercall' to a group of bankrupt students from Exeter whose appalling modern day version of McB (the Scottish



play) won the dubious 'best of the worst' award in one newspaper. When you're in Edinburgh during the festival, variety's the name of the game. In total, 1008 different shows were on offer over the three weeks not to mention the Festival proper, the Book Festival and the Jazz Festival.

Thirty years ago the Fringe saw the likes of Alan Bennett and Dudley Moore in their celebrated revue *Beyond the Fringe* and even Rowan Atkinson made his name there. Now you can go and see people like Julian Clary, The Doug Anthony All-Stars, Alan Bates and Jeremy Hardy for less than half the price you'd expect to pay if you were in London. Edinburgh is very compact so you can fit an astronomic amount into one day.

Edinburgh nightlife makes that centred around Imperial look like a Monday night in Vladivostok. Pubs in Scotland close no earlier than midnight and the very popular Fringe Club closes at 3am. Last year our flat was a fifteen minute stagger away from the Fringe Club and it was almost impossible to get lost. Edinburgh University Students' Union is the ideal spot as well: it's got two cheap restaurants, a cabaret bar (where you can see a goodly sample of the latest cabaret on offer for free), several other bars, games rooms and a thronging disco that plays *Tainted Love* at midnight. Newspaper vendors set up shop in the foyer flogging countless copies of *The Scotsman* to young thespians hoping to see their names in lights. This gives rise to either whoops of joy or sour faces when their acting is called 'wooden' or 'dead meat'.

Surprisingly, our shows seemed to fare rather well both in 'bums-on-seats' and arty-fartyness. *Funeral Games* was two people short of a full house (120) one night and *Huis Clos* got two smashing reviews: the first in *The Scotsman* commented that 'Students from Imperial College London admirably succeeded' and the

second in *Review '89* used the words 'outstanding', 'powerful' and 'enjoyable' which were then plastered all around the outside of the venue to lure extra public in. Overall TWE made a considerable profit, whereas most groups expect to make a loss.

Darlings, MARVELLOUS just wasn't the word!

If you're at all interested in coming up to the 1990 Fringe with our jolly crew, either as a dedicated technician, an actor or just a pair of willing hands contact Zoë Hellinger or Helen Roberts c/o Dramsoc Storeroom (4th Floor, right hand staircase, Union Building) or on internal 3533.



Valentines

Sarah, I helped you with your software, so will you help me with my hardware? JR.

Schlapp, Squish, Squidge, Squelch!! Love Squidge.

Ben Gladwin, Physics 1—I'll love you forever (a while at least). Happy Valentine's Day DARLING....Love R.

Anke: Your lips are red
Your eyes aren't blue
But I'm a Bisexual
So can I sleep with you?
Love Melanie.

Snap, Crackle, Squelch! What more can I say? Love Squidge.

Jess: I see you in the swimming pool
I see you in the JCR
But when I chomp my cheese bap
I can't resist Melanie's Bra.
Edna.

Mindy—We love you. Dave the rave—how about a f***?

To the attractive male who always sits at the back left-hand corner of Maths 1 lectures, you have a secret admirer (female). Apply maths pigeonholes 'x' for further details—yours in anticipation. PS. I don't know your name!

Julie B.
You're like the wind—LP

Melanie
Let my tower of power
unite with your lotus flower
and we'll burst the cloud.
See you chuck, Katie.

Why should I care if they overheard? It was fun! Lots of love. Schlappy.

Christine, we all love you—ICDC.

Dappy Giraffe,
I will always be your Valentine. Love always—Baldy.

To Jennifer
Thank you for being there when I needed you. I will love you always. Love Ian.

To Anne, Life Sciences
You got the action
You got the style
Love on the rocks
On the rocks for a while.
Darling Anne (Darling Anne)
How come you make this pretty boy, pretty boy scream? From a shy boy.

Sarah C. T.—Keep a welcome in the valleys for me.—?

Vicky, we all love you—ICDC.

Aah Michelle, I'm growing fender of you all the time.

Dear Amanda Baker, what would I do without your smile?

To darling Michelle, from your fellow trainspotters.

To Sara Jones,
I fear thy kisses, gentle maiden,
Thou needest not fear mine;
My spirit is too deeply laden
Ever to burthen thine
I fear thy mine, thy tone, thy motion,
Thou needest not fear mine;
Innocent is the heart's devotion
With which I worship thine.
Shelly 1820.

Lovely Jen, Oh how I love you so—Ken.

To our sweetheart Michelle,
Choo Choo, we love you!

Chaz, I hope your heart is as big as your ego. Witch hazel eyes.

To Sarah Quinn and the girls next door, Happy Valentine—Your sexy neighbour, Steve.

Neil, Neil, how does it feel, Neil? Love the oral specialist.

Dearest Michelle, come and fill up my coal box.

Dear Ajay (Physics 3),
When you walk across the JCR my heart skips a beat,
The move, the pose, I just can't take the heat.
Kisses and hugs Sridevi.

To Naomi, we love it when you laugh, it makes your tits wobble—Vinne, Steve and Kristy, Physics 1.

Dave, Dave I love your lips touching me—The DP's Pot.

Michelle, I'd like to Begin with you.

Horace—get your kit off (whoever you are).

Bubu—I love every inch of you—even your hairy cheeks!

Fi, Squidgy, Squidgy, Squidgy—from the Marshmallow Man.

Michelle, I'm going to get a season ticket so that I can ride (on) with you every day.

Tom, get a hair cut then be our valentine. Love and don't forget those sexual flavours, your rampant fan club.

Mylan—you're a cream cracker—Jacobs.

Michelle, you're one of the Great Train Journeys of the World—The Siberian Railway.

Darling Dev, life would be boring without you. Love wink wink.

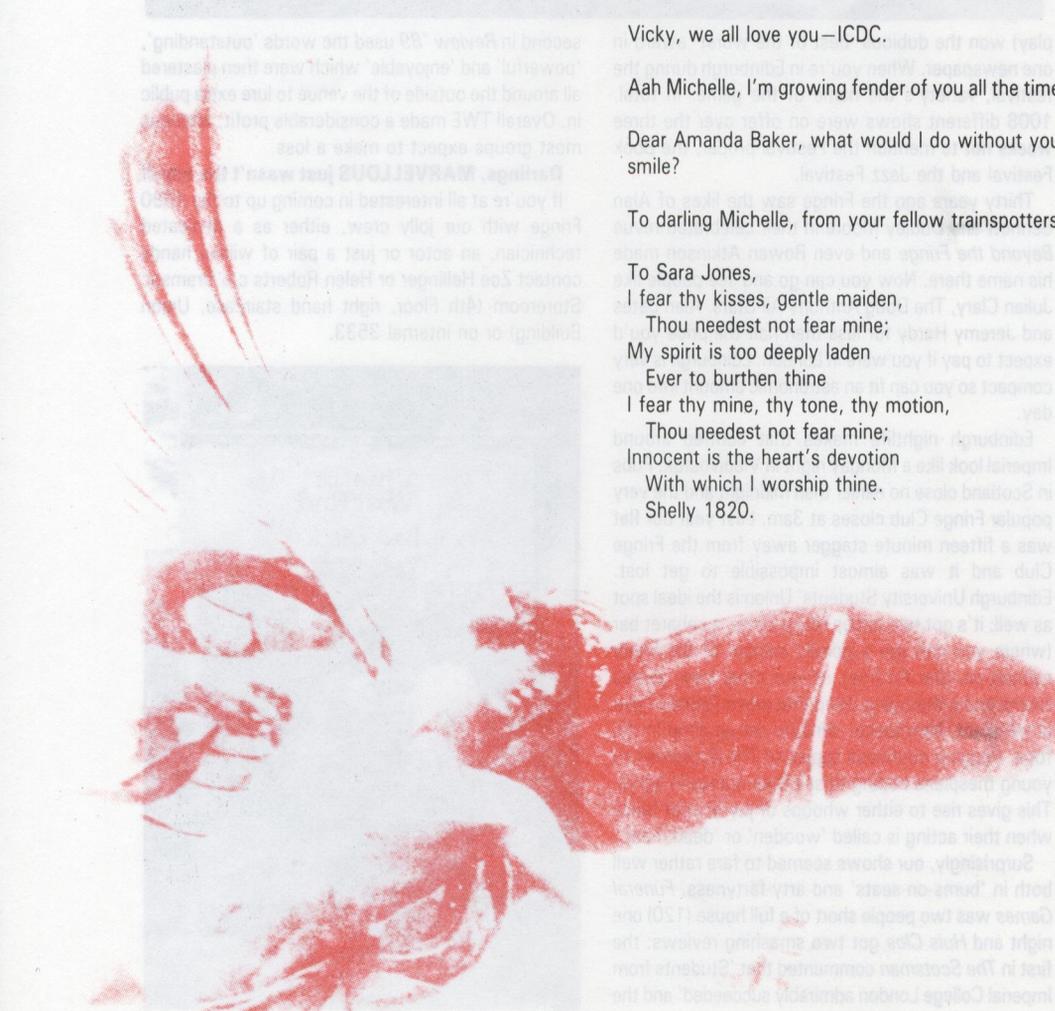
Dear Hedgehog (of Mary's), thanks for being there when I needed you. Love BM.

You've stolen my heart Michelle, it must be the Great Train Robbery.

To dearest Tim.
Pony Tail, Pony Tail,
How many are we?
Then there's you
And that makes three
Love tails (long and short of them).

Pootie Pie, I love your black silk boxer shorts. Love and yogurt, Tintin Too.

Darling Ajay (Phys 3)—your strut turns me on! Love Rekha.



Golden oldies

Jeremy Burnell



Pancake race 1969



Yes, it's almost that time of year again.

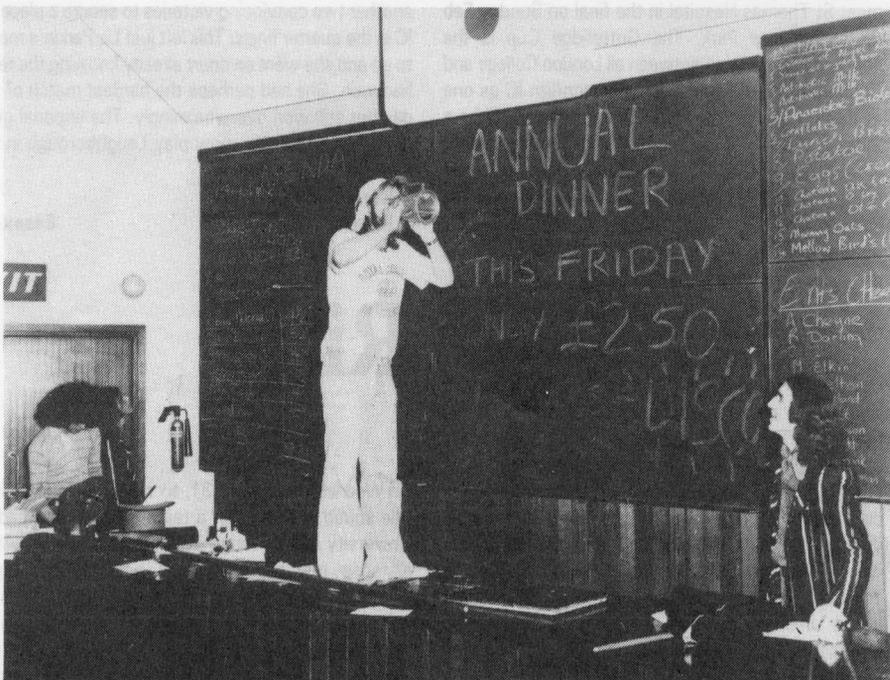
On February 27th, it's pancake day; and about time we went back to the good old College traditions. FELIX is to restart the pancake race, which, until 1981 was an annual event. But this is no ordinary pancake race—this will be a three-legged pancake race, with a fantastic prize! Good for a laugh, but tradition says you'll get very wet as well.

This will be a good way to obtain a broken leg and also a way in which election candidates can get free publicity, so make sure you come along. Everybody is more than welcome to enter. See next issue for more details.

Annual General Meetings

One tradition that is not going to be lost, is that of the Unions' Annual General Meetings. The one seen above carries an advertisement for the 1976 RCS Annual Dinner. This year RCS have sold 180 tickets for their Kensington Hilton dinner at £25. City & Guilds have sold 200 double tickets for their Ball at the Waldorf Hotel at £75 per pair. The RCS have Terry Jones and Michael Palin from Monty Python, and both evenings end with a disco.

Enjoy the Saturday morning hangover!



Hockey

IC 1st XI—9

QMC 1st XI—0

After much confusion about the 3rd's UAU match with Sheffield, the men's 1st team finally set about their task of defeating QMC, normally one of our closest rivals in the league. The game was very even in the first half until Hari Vamadevan broke through in the last minute to set up Mark Landon for his first of the game. Literally seconds later IC scored again to make it 2-0 at half time.

In the second half IC started to play the kind of hockey it has only shown in bursts, completely dominating a lacklustre QMC side.

Mark Landon added 3 more to his first half tally and Colin Wright blasted in 2 from the left wing. The midfield supremo Phil Studds scored his first goal for the club after good work from Mike Marshall.

Rounding off IC's best performance to date was our final goal of the 9 from Gary Knaresborough, who was very pleased with an excellent team performance.

Football

IC 6ths—2

St Thomas' 2nds—1

After striding onto the pitch twice and finding no valid opposition (rain and wind permitting), the gallant IC 6ths emerged from the dressing room to dispatch the opposition in style.

The first half saw some amazing skills, but the forwards managed to continue their glorious run of squandered chances. The defence was rarely troubled, and starting the second half, IC's left back Robbie Rocket powered a shot just wide to shock us all. Keeping cool, the 6ths continuously attacked down the left, and with ten minutes to go, Lilo Lally latched on to a great pass to slide the ball home for the deserved lead.

With the opposition still recouping, Phil superbly rounded their goalie, and surprisingly decided not to miss the open goal, putting IC in a commanding position. Gigolo Jon, dreaming of pacific beauties, gave away a corner from which they scored a worthless goal as the final whistle blew not a minute later. We then snuffed out our Davey lamps and danced the merry dance of merrymen victorious.

IC II—(0) 0

New II—(0) 0

New II won 4-2 on penalties

The victory champagne turned sour for IC on Wednesday after an unexpected defeat in the semi-final of the cup. Having beaten New College three times already this season, including a 3-2 win with nine men and a 6-1 win the previous Saturday, IC were perhaps a bit over-confident.

On a cold and wet day, and small and heavy pitch the teams set to their task. For a moment IC thought they were in the wrong game with many of the New players looking very unfamiliar! (Could there be ringers; I'll let you decide.)

The game itself was hard fought. IC had more of the game and the better chances, with clear efforts falling to G Phiri and A Jalan. But it was not IC's day and we were rather unkindly sent out of the competition on two penalties after half an hour of gruelling extra time.

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UAU quarter final



IC 3rds—5

Sheffield 3rds—0

At the second attempt amidst the howling gales and falling masonry, IC 3rds came face to face with Sheffield University 3rds in the UAU quarter final. The first ever IC team to progress this far started the match with skill and flair which belied their 3rd team status.

A dream start saw captain, Kevin Hill, calmly plot the ball past the stranded Sheffield keeper to the obvious delight of the large crowd. With the home supporters cheering there was no looking back and the second and third goals shortly followed courtesy

of Jon Briggs and then the well drilled short corner routine of Justin Holdsworth pushing, Iain McGovern stopping and Kevin striking. At this point IC relaxed into their normal style of good clean astro hockey with Scott Hipkins reeking havoc on the left wing and Matt Wong, Chris Maury and Jason Curry stifling any Sheffield attacks.

Two further goals by Scott Hipkins sealed Sheffield's fate and a place in the semi-finals for the 3rds next Wednesday. All supporters are welcomed for the match against Bristol University on February 14, at Paddington astro turf at 3.30pm.

Support Rugby

In last Sunday's semi final of the Gutteridge Cup, IC's 1st XV rugby side won easily against a KCH team that failed to make use of a gale blowing in their favour in the first half. At half-time with the score level at 6-6, it was obvious that IC would take control, which they did and scored a further five tries. They will now meet St Thomas Hospital in the final on Sunday Feb 25 at Motspur Park. The Gutteridge Cup is the knockout competition between all London College and Hospital sides. To win this would confirm IC as one of the top college teams in London, and would be a fair reflection of the standard of the game played here.

Like many other sports at IC, however, the commitment from players is seldom reflected in the support from other members of College, with the notable exception of the RSM bottle match. This is not surprising since going to watch one of the teams, involves a five hour round trip to Harlington and a lot of wasted time.

We hope the Gutteridge Cup final will be an opportunity to change this and for any interested parties to come along and support the team, and join the (victory) celebrations afterwards. Support is always appreciated but never more so than for an important match like this. It may also be a chance to discover that the players are not the stereotypical drunken louts that are sometimes seen around College bars. Alternatively it may well confirm it, but come anyway. Lists will be put up on the sports noticeboard in the Union so that you can sign up and we can arrange transport.

We look forward to seeing you.

Squash

The Ladies Squash Team played their last sixteen match in the UAU Championships this Wednesday against Essex who had come through the challenge rounds. After a slight hic-up in locating the whereabouts of the visiting team and then in locating the squash courts, due to some stair repairs going on in the Sports Centre, the match started with the fourth and fifth ranked matches. Both Han-Bing Choong and Jenny Jolliffe won very easily as they have done throughout the championships. The second and third players, Alison Smith and Toni Perrot followed up with another two convincing victories to secure a place for IC in the quarter finals. This left just Liz Parkin's match to go and she went on court already knowing the team had won. She had perhaps the hardest match of the day but still won overwhelmingly. The Imperial girls, rather unfortunately, now play Loughborough in the last eight.

Result

Imperial—5

Essex—0

Rifle

On Wednesday January 31, six members of Imperial's rifle squad shot against a team of six from Reading University at IC's range in the Sports Centre. After a tense match lasting two hours, IC emerged victorious with a score of 570 against Reading's 538. J Primrose, IC's team captain didn't help much by shooting a spectacularly bad score of 92. Hopefully there will be a rematch in the not so distant future.

Amnesty letters

Phoenix

In 1961 the British lawyer Peter Benenson published an article denouncing the imprisonment of thousands of men and women everywhere for expressing their opinions, and urged people to react. The cold war was at its height, and the gloom of nuclear war hung in the skies. The barely disguised conflicts between the superpowers provoked and inflamed regional conflicts world-wide. Reports of human rights violations in countries of all political colours were heard everywhere, and in the circumstances it is not surprising that Peter Benenson's article set off a powerful reaction. Amnesty International was founded, and people were presented with constructive action they could follow to relieve the human rights situation.

The organisation has grown and now encompasses 700,000 members in 150 countries, represented by an elected governing body, the International Council. Amnesty International's original statute sets out its objectives which are 'to secure throughout the world the observance of the provisions for prompt and just trials, for the release of prisoners of conscience, and for an end to the death sentence and the practice of torture world-wide'. 'Prisoners of conscience' are defined as those imprisoned solely for their beliefs.

When Amnesty is told of an arrest, the first step is to investigate the case to make sure there are no reasonable grounds for detention, as in the case of a detainee who advocates violence. The staff of 240 in the London-based research department sift through information relevant to the case such as press reports, trial transcripts and statements from witnesses. Missions are occasionally sent to find facts directly. If no case for detention can be made, the prisoner is 'adopted' as a prisoner of conscience, and put on Amnesty's campaign list. The last and greatest obstacle to getting someone released is persuading the gaolers that they were wrong to lock up the prisoner in the first place, or to make them so uncomfortable as to force them to open the prison gates.

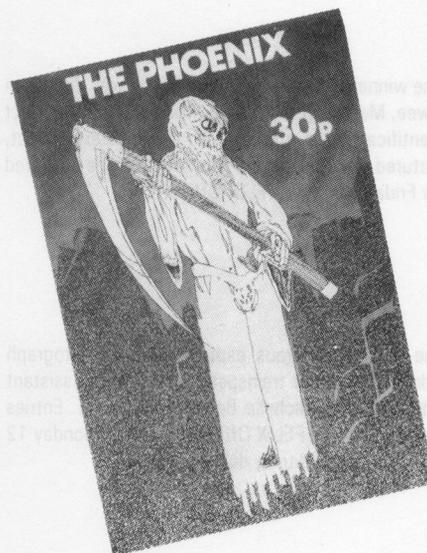
Several methods have proved their worth over the years. The most famous involves the letter writing campaigns which submerge government ministries and embassies with floods of letters from individuals giving reasoned demands for the release of a particular prisoner. All other actions publicising cases, such as vigils at embassies, are used.

An example is the campaign launched last week by Imperial College's own Amnesty group. It is one of only two student groups in the UK to be allocated its own prisoner of conscience, and has been campaigning on his behalf for a year now. The prisoner is Alaattin Sahin, a Turkish chemical engineer incarcerated for journalistic activities in various small publications. Shortly after the September 1980 military coup, he was sentenced to life imprisonment (reduced to 38 years on appeal) for distributing communist propaganda and inciting crime. Amnesty's subsequent enquiry found no evidence to justify the arrest and the Imperial College Amnesty group will be holding a letter writing stall every Thursday lunchtime in the JCR. Written letters are provided, and passers-by can read and sign them. The group then sends the signed letters to the relevant authorities, ministers or presidents. The Turkish government is particularly sensitive to criticism since it would like to join the EEC, but has been rejected, partly because of its dubious human rights record.

The Imperial group is a good example of how the 3,800 local groups world-wide operate. It meets every Tuesday to inform members on details of any urgent action the central British Section may have sent information about, and which may need immediate attention. Letters are written, coffee drunk and strategies thought up.

The group has just brought a death penalty campaign to a close. This concentrated on the seven countries who carry out the greatest number of executions every year, and again involved a lot of postage. The end of January saw a debate between the Amnesty chairwoman and the Tory MP Tim Janman, with a motion in support of the death penalty. This was defeated by an overwhelming majority of the order of ninety per cent, after an animated discussion.

The coming months will see a 'sponsored concentration camp' for which sponsored individuals will stay confined in a small corner of the JCR surrounded by barbed wire for a day, with sponsors' money going mainly to the Post Office via Amnesty International. On a lighter note, there will be an entertainments evening with an African band and a speaker. Anyone interested should go to the top floor of the Union Building on Tuesday at 5.30pm



Phoenix is the literary magazine of Imperial College. Founded in 1886 by H G Wells under the title *The Normal Schools Science Journal* it is now in its 103rd year after numerous changes to style and format. This year, as last year, it will be published in a slim glossy book format. As regards the contents, those will be entirely up to you.

I will be grateful for anything vaguely artistic or literary in nature, particularly short stories, poetry, photographs and artwork, preferably as soon as possible.

Anyone wishing to contribute, help in the production of Phoenix or discuss anything with me can do so via the Phoenix pigeonhole in the FELIX Office or the Physics pigeonholes. If you want to see what Phoenix is about pop into the FELIX Office where you can get some back copies.

Chris T, Phoenix Editor 1990.

Wellsoc

The H.G. Wells Society (or WellSoc) is one of the largest societies in College. As you probably know, H.G. Wells was himself at, what was to become, Imperial College in the 1880s. Through failing his final year he went into writing.

The Time Machine, The Invisible Man and War of the Worlds are among the many books he wrote. Because of his interest in both science and literature, our society is very general and we organise talks by guest speakers on almost any subject that interests them. They are not all of a scientific nature. This year for example, out of our nine talks so far, we have had a talk by the author Terry Pratchett, talks on flying saucers, the history of alchemy, parascience, science journalism and on the relationship between religion and science.

We are currently showing the TV series *The Prisoner* and will be organising our annual Skirmish trip later this term.

If any member would like to become more involved, come along to our AGM which will be held on Monday February 12, at 7.30pm in Physics LT1.

THE IC ARTS MAGAZINE

PHOENIX

1990

NEEDS CONTRIBUTIONS!

All forms of poetry, prose, artwork, photographs, drawings and any other bits and pieces welcome.

All contributions to the Phoenix Editor, FELIX Office.

Competition winner

The winner of last week's competition was Yeoh Lam Swee, Mech Eng 1. Mr Swee wins £5 for his correct identification of the use of the mystery object, pictured in use opposite. The prize can be collected on Friday from the FELIX Office.

The most humorous caption for the photograph below of amateur trainspotter and Union Assistant Administrator, Michelle Began will win £5. Entries should reach the FELIX Office by 5.30pm Monday 12 February. The Editor's decision is final.



This week's competition



Burnt offering Why oh why? Nasty cult in Evelyn

Dear Mr Smedley,

As my name was, without provocation, mentioned twice in last week's FELIX, I feel compelled to answer. First, the religious bit: we are in a scientific College, a fortress of rationalism. That is why (whatever you might think) we are more aware than others of our need for religion, since other 'substitutes' (mere utopias) have no appeal on us (or is the answer to life, the Universe and everything still 42?).

The Scorceses (illegible—TS), the Godless (illegible—TS), the National Abortion Campaign, these representatives of a new obscurantism, have spoken loudly, unashamedly, they have swamped Europe. They worship anarchy, greed, lust, they destroy peoples' vision to proclaim themselves sole guide.

You took their side! Our Lord Jesus Christ will plead for you, though: you've got plenty of time to change your mind and save your soul. Who, in the meantime will let us speak loudly? If you, an elected student paper editor, refuse to convey the views of the majority of students in here, how can anyone accuse people who have interests in promoting ignorance and greed, for the sinking of our Western European society?

Now for the 'Praise' but: I would like to thank Chris Browne for promoting me thus.

I wish to answer that, first of all I have given Speakers' Corner a thought; but then I said: having the privilege to speak to an enlightened audience like IC students is surely more worthwhile: was I wrong?

I don't plan to stand as a sabbatical since, being a foreigner, I cannot afford it. There exists another reason though: on some issues I do not have the same opinions as the majority and my opinions are not 'for sale'.

Yours most faithfully,
Emmanuel Saradakis, Physics 2.

**Dear Mr Two slices short of a sandwich,
I have burnt your letter, as a sacrifice to Beelzebub. Its amusing content is printed for the adoration of the masses.
Ed.**



Dear Editor,

RE: 'No more please' 2.2.90

I was saddened to read your comment on 'God Squad propoganda' as you understandably see it, and I would agree with you that the pages of FELIX are not the place for 'spreading the word'. Surprised?

However, the many Christians in College feel strongly about 'normal' College issues and obviously God comes into their point of view. Perhaps it would be beneficial to allow a Christian viewpoint on certain issues. 'This is a newspaper for everyone after all'.

Maybe the 'cloud of despair' which hangs over College and '...nobody can ever identify what the problem is. But it will not go away.' (See 'Imperial is a con' 2.2.90) and the rejection of anything remotely Christian are not entirely unconnected?

Well, I don't know if this letter constitutes stuffing religion down peoples' throats. If it does, I'll await my invitation to the sacrificial burning. I prefer to see it as the concerned opinion of a fellow student.

Yours sincerely,
Dave Kirk, Aero 3 (President Christian Union).

Why oh why oh why?

Dear Dave,

I am writing to complain about the letters page of last week's FELIX. In the past, you have printed letters from many viewpoints, explaining why people should think in a certain way. Last week, however, you effectively refused to print any more letters from Christians.

There are Christians at IC, and FELIX should represent us as well as any other group in College. For you to decide that the Christian viewpoint is not a valid one is blatantly usurping your position as editor. I appreciate that you may be unable to print all the letters you receive, but you cannot just exclude a point of view because you yourself disagree with it.

I find your attitude towards Christianity in general offensive. You have stated in the past that you appreciate all viewpoints on an issue except for the Christian one; you have continually made fun of any Christian content in FELIX; and finally last week you openly insulted all Christians and threatened to ban them from your paper entirely. Surely you can see that this bigotry is out of place.

Tom Di Giovanni, a Christian in Maths 1.

I have not banned Christians from writing to FELIX. This week, I have printed your letter and others. What I have bemoaned is the evangelical spreading of the word which has littered the letters pages of late Ed.

Dear FELIX,

We are very worried about the presence of CLCC in Imperial College. The Central London Church of Christ are a cult formed in Boston USA and are distinguished by having had their leaders thrown off the University campus there. They came to London six years ago and now have over 5,000 members, many of whom are students.

They attract individuals to their bible studies, often not mentioning who they represent, at which there are generally two members to each non-member. They are determined in keeping non-members going to the bible studies or church and have no qualms about using high pressure tactics, such as persistently phoning.

Each new members is tutored by two members of the cult. They are persuaded to devote themselves and their money to 'church' work to the detriment of College work and any outside interests or friends. If a member tries to leave the cult then they are threatened by several means. One is to tell family and friends the very personal details that the member was persuaded to reveal to their tutor. Another being to drain their bank account using blank cheques.

Needless to say the leaders of the cult are very rich. Like the Moonies they have twisted the Bible to suit their own means. We would strongly recommend that all and sundry avoid their bible studies in Evelyn Gardens.

Claire Millar, Aero Eng 2,
Steve King, Civ Eng 3.

Ashtray Office

Dear Dave,

I can't let Roy Adam's letter of last week go by unchecked. I dispute the inference made by Mr Adams that his opinion is widely shared.

Ever since HUB started, it has been the source of much mystery to staff and students alike. Perhaps Mr Adams could list the 'many and diverse roles the HUB Office plays in College life'. I can think of very few. The fact that any spring to mind is only because I spent eighteen months working a few offices down from Clare Ash.

Clearly, the point of my original letter has been missed. Whatever one's perspective of HUB, good or bad, it must be considered as a luxury. Our careers service is not a luxury it is a basic necessity.

As Mr Adams states, 'The College....benefits by the activities of the HUB Office'. The College may well do, but students do not. I have long held the belief that Imperial exists to provide for its student body. Perhaps that's just a juvenile attitude.

Cheers,
Paul Shanley.

Abridged letter

Dear Dave,

I felt I had to write, after reading Mr Shanley's Delator Column in last week's FELIX (what a load of self-opinionated rubbish!). Some may remember Mr Shanley's Blackmail column of two years ago, which recklessly placed FELIX under the threat of legal action. This same Mr Shanley is now writing a series of idealistic, ill-informed articles in an offensively arrogant style.

Last term we were given Shan's answer to all of London Regional Transport's problems. Under his new efficient system, Mr Shanley would close all the stations with faulty lifts. This would save 80 year-olds being forced to use the stairs. (Stairs which, in the event of a fire, they would be forced to use anyway!). The stations would not be reopened until 100% reliable lifts had been installed!

Last week we were treated to Shan's answer to Britain's football problems. In this article Mr Shanley came up with such ridiculous proposals as reintroducing plastic pitches. If Mr Shanley knew anything about football or plastic pitches, he would know that all the Clubs that have experimented with synthetic pitches have now reverted to using grass!

His next outrageous suggestion was to change the rules on a National level to make football more exciting. (Quite how he would solve the problems that

this would cause British teams competing in International competitions he did not deign to inform us!) The present rules have worked well for many years, and continue to do so practically everywhere in the world that football is played. Violence therefore would appear to be Britain's problem, not football's. It would also interest me to know quite what rule changes Mr Shanley would suggest. How would we make football so much more interesting? Perhaps the shape of the ball should be changed, the players might pick it up and run with it or would even shrink it and hit it with a stick...after all, synthetic pitches are perfect for hockey!

Mr Shanley may be sure that he has the answer to all the world's problems, but I am not. Furthermore I am tired of reading his opinions in FELIX.

Election rules prevent me from concluding as I would have liked. Suffice it to say, that Mr Shanley's ill-informed and ill-thought out Delator column, is merely an attempt to gain himself College-wide publicity, to satiate his outsized ego, and to present himself as a well-balanced individual. He has certainly failed with me, and probably with a large proportion of your readership as well.

Yours sincerely,

J M Scott, ICU Welfare Officer 1989/90.

Train of thought

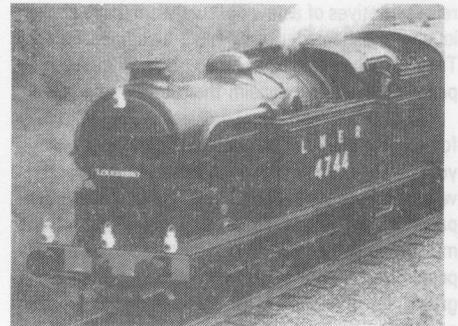
Dear FELIX,

RE P*ic*ocon 8

What manner of shite is this. That was totally uncalled for. I can understand the orange cover edition created a lot of debate but this does nothing but offend a lot of people in one of IC's largest societies (if not the largest). Whoever is responsible (Dave?) please resign.

Alex McLintock, DoC 1,
Assistant Publicity Officer ICSF

PS. I don't like trains.



Brothel revisited

Dear Dave,

Although I'm not a regular customer of the 'metaphorical brothel around the corner', highlighted in last week's letters, I would like to give an alternate view to the bleak description presented.

Most of us are in the same boat—behind with problem sheets and finding the workload high: but Imperial is well known for working its students hard. Imperial degrees also carry an enviable reputation. Are people naïve enough to believe that these two facts are unrelated?

As for College life, I think last week's writer needs to get out more. I too have friends in universities around the country—not one had a Rag Week which was a patch on ours. If some students don't appreciate what goes on here, at least other people do: functions at IC seem to have an increasing, and welcome, proportion of outsiders—going down to Southside for a whiskey and American has taken on a whole new meaning!

Certainly there are problems with the courses as they stand, and student criticism should be wielded to correct them—but the sort of sweeping generalisations being made are, to say the least, unproductive.

It's far easier to criticise College life than it is to get out and get involved. If the alleged hoardes of disillusioned undergraduates put more effort into the latter, they might find this place isn't so terrible after all.

Yours,

J Tennant-Smith, EE1.

Page 16

Not really a prick

Dear Mr Smedley,

I am writing to register my protest about your treatment of the Imperial College Science Fiction Society in the last issue of FELIX (No 857).

In recent issues you have repeatedly asked clubs and societies to advertise events in FELIX. Then, when ICSF Society provide you with a half page piece advertising their annual one day convention you retitled it 'Prickocon' and label Simon Bradshaw as 'Train Spotting Club Hon Sec'.

Both of these statements are in fact untrue. If this was an attempt at humour I feel it was sadly misplaced as it could cause a loss of membership at a normally well attended event.

If it was not an attempt at humour it is very bad journalism. To edit an article due to lack of space or to stop offense being caused is one thing. To add a title which could offend and represents the views of the editor and a number of his friends is quite another.

FELIX is the Magazine of Imperial College Union. The editor's opinions should be confined to the editorial. Other pieces should be accepted or rejected on their merits and not altered by these opinions.

Yours,

David Bate.

Oops! I nearly rejected your letter on its merits. Ho, hum, as a budding journalist, I'm sure you know what's best. I enclose your NUJ application form forthwith.

Ed.

Does it on his own

Dear Dave,

As a regular reader of your magazine I would like to register my delight at the superb standard of news reporting you display.

Such a handsome cover, such comprehensive, hard-hitting and detailed stories relevant to all students at IC. Your News Editor and his happy band of reporters must live contentedly in the knowledge that they once again have done their best as foot soldiers of democracy.

What's this I hear? Your News Editor *does it on his own*? Oh, the poor lamb—where's his degree going? Is he being paid?

I'm sure that there are other enquiring individuals in the College who would be able to corner rampant bureaucracy cringing in dark corners of the College.

I'm sure that there would be people who'd love to cover such stories as naked schizophrenic women lurking about in the Sports Centre, ceilings collapsing on unsuspecting students, thefts in the Union Building, malaria outbreaks in Southside Halls, bureaucracy gone mad in Sherfield, Westminster and the room halls, more thefts in the Union Building, giant mutant amoebae from the Biology Department eating old cars in Prince's Gardens, thefts in the Union Building, chair crashing fights in the College bars, administration casually stamping on students, flying televisions, thefts in the Union Building, and, of course, the continuing Student Loan saga.

Such reporters speak directly to the six thousand inmates of Imperial informing them and resulting in decisions.

I must immediately go to the FELIX Office and find out more.

Yours,

Adam Harrington, FELIX News Editor.

No news blues

Dear Dave,

'The respective news pages are accurate but unexciting, the features well written but uncompromisingly uncontroversial and the columnists far too well informed to say anything remotely silly.' This quote last week in FELIX was attributed to the *Independent on Sunday*. However, it equally well describes last week's edition of FELIX.

News coverage in FELIX now accounts for less than 10% of the paper's content. (Last week 2 pages of news out of a total of 22 pages.) Even my local free advertising sheet manages to report more news, when this is not its main objective. This begs the question of what is FELIX's main objective? Do you wish to be a remote feature and artistic review magazine, or do you wish to address issues that are relevant to students at IC? I can appreciate the need for some advertising to generate revenue, but is all this other waffle that bears no relationship to the student readership really necessary?

I look forward to this year's sabbatical elections, and the prospects for an improved FELIX next year.

Yours

Rachel Stone, *Min Res Eng 2*.

If there is one regret I have this year it is our reduced news coverage. The problem is a shortage of staff on the news section of FELIX. Since you seem so concerned, I suggest you do something more constructive than wait for the sabbatical elections and come in to FELIX to help on the news team. A new editor will almost certainly change the direction of FELIX but the shortage of news staff is not something that can be solved just by putting a piece of paper in a ballot box.

For your information, I was news editor last year. I do have a keen interest in news and would welcome any help in this area. Our current news editor, Adam, is working as hard as he can. I am sure he will join me in looking forward to your assistance on the news pages of FELIX.

Ed.

African beat

Dear Dave,

I'm writing to protest about the 'Chase the Base' event on February 2 1990 in the Sheffield JCR. During this event people were admitted without verification of Imperial College Students' Union membership. The result was that a friend of mine was accosted by four 'gentlemen' who demanded the sum of five pounds, on pain of death. These so-called gentlemen threatened to get their colleagues to stab him if he didn't pay up. Following this, another friend of mine stood in to help his friend as they attempted to remove his watch; he got a bloody nose for his efforts. Prior to this a friend of theirs had handed over a sum of money in response to a similar threat.

As we are all aware, Union cards must be presented at every social event on College grounds. This rule was certainly not enforced on the evening in question. I can find no explanation for this and would also like to know the reason for the lack of security at this event. A repetition of this is bound to happen at future events unless security arrangements are improved.

To my knowledge no one has been 'stabbed' at a Union event before, and I would like to keep it that way.

Ali Mobasher (Life Sci Dep Rep),

(Writing on behalf of two students who would prefer to remain anonymous).

Motion on motion

Dear Dave,

The motion on increased travel subsidy for students representing the College in competition is not an ACC motion although it has been discussed at an ACC meeting. The word 'discussed' should be emphasised as this is the second stage in the decision making process, the first stage is to establish the facts pertaining to the subject under discussion (simple so far, and not at all patronising). The facts are, as a College we are very poor in sports and recreational facilities, embarrassingly poor, in fact, although you'd never know it from the prospecti and brochures. What is not an established fact, but we wish to demonstrate it as such, is that the cost of competing in our chosen sport is becoming prohibitive. This is due to increases in travel costs (as of 3.2.90), a decrease in students' disposable income etc, we won't go on since we feel others, notably Mr Wyatt, do it so much better than us.

Returning to the informative angle of our letter where are our facilities. The field sports were based at Harlington until College dug a very large hole. Where we used to have 'one of the finest areas of grass in central London' (quote SHB 1989), we now have a pleasant cabbage patch. Those who pursue indoor sports at IC are an essentially nomadic breed who travel where and when they have to to find an area large enough to use. A fact is that the largest indoor facility in the College is an old gym in the Old Chemistry Building which has been due for demolition for a very long time. Two final facts; the students of this College receive no money from the South Kensington Sports Centre, since like Southside, it is owned and run by College, although not at a profit, unlike Southside. Secondly, nearly one in four members of this College has joined an ACC Club, which makes them members of a minority, about the same proportion as those who voted for the present Government at the last general election. So here's to democracy in action, if we manage to harness our collective apathy, at least if we get to a debate, we may be better informed—a whole new experience for most Union meetings.

Yours,

M Rayfield,

J F Lucas.

To all students and staff in City & Guilds College. Have you signed the petition protecting the ACGI yet? There are copies in your department or the C&G Office Sign today...!

C&G Dinner & Dance Ticketholders—Please retain ticket or bring Union card for disco. Thanks, Rachel.

Small Ads

ADVERTISE IN THE FELIX SMALL ADS SECTION FREE IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Cycling Club:** Road racing, time trials, cyclocross, ATB or touring. New members welcome. Contact Cycling Club Secretary via Union pigeonholes.
- **Imperial College Operatic Society** presents Utopia Limited by Gilbert and Sullivan, 20-24 Feb. Tickets available at lunchtimes from the Sheffield Building (outside SCR, first floor) and from Haldane Library.
- **Jewish Society** will be meeting on Tuesday 13 Feb from 1.30pm in the UDH (1st floor Union Building). The speaker will be from UJS London. Everyone welcome, contact Andrew Preston, Chairperson (Maths 1) for further details.
- **Tuesday 13th February—City and Guilds Union Field Cup 1990.** Marshals and teams please meet at 5.30pm in the Union Snack Bar.
- **The Annual General meeting** of the newly formed Trainspotting society will be held on February 15th. Anyone interested in becoming Chairman of the society should talk to the current holder of the post, Michelle Bigun, as soon as possible. Michelle is 63 and can be contacted on X3500.

FOR SALE

- **Gents bike, 23" frame.** Nice condition £60 ono. See Nick F, Mech Eng UG.
- **Quick sale Vauxhall Cavalier L, S reg, MOT 'till Sept 1990.** Good condition. £200. Hamid ext 6290.
- **Complete Mobile disco,** includes Citronic twin mixing desk (containing Garrard SP25 Mark IV decks) H+H 100 slave amp, 2,100 watt speakers, 4 light boxes each containing 20 bulbs in a pattern, 3 spot banks containing 3,100 watt coloured bulbs Pulsar SL Supper MK II sound to light each light unit, Sequencer light unit, 2 Pluto oil wheel projectors and more. £600 ono, ring John on 01-735 4060 after 6pm or int 4622. Consider splitting.
- **Beautiful** cheese plant, 6 foot high, £25. ring John 01-735 4060, after 6pm or int 4622.
- **Learn, improve** or perfect your French with a recently graduated French University Student. Phone 01-589 8433. Sylvie Dupont, 53 Cromwell Road. £6/hour.
- **English-German dictionary,** secondhand wanted ring John 01-735 4060 after 6pm or int 4622.

LOST & FOUND

- **Lost** set of hall keys on Wednesday 31 Jan in Union Snack Bar. Please return via FELIX Office.

ACCOMMODATION

- **Large single—£51 pw excl.** Normal double £35 per person excl. Good roomy flat in Willesden—Jubilee line/52 bus or about 30 mins by bike. Contact PG x6882 or 451 7268. Rent will come down with start of Poll Tax.

PERSONAL

- **Did anyone** record the Eric Clapton concert on Radio 1 FM last Saturday night? If so, can I borrow the tape for a night please. Ralph Greenwell EE4.
- **The Asian Society** disco is going to be really groovy. Please go along and support this worthwhile event. From the people who Asian Society still owe money to, including FELIX.



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Afro-Caribbean Society Disco

I was disgusted to hear of what had happened at this event. In honesty, the drugs problem is not one which I see as crucial. A lot of people at IC smoke a little cannabis from time to time. It is a petty offence compared to the robberies and hold-ups which took place at last Friday's disco. This is the first time that IC has experienced this sort of behaviour and I hope it will be the last. Afro-caribbean Society are responsible for the event and have proven themselves sadly lacking. They have been banned from using Union rooms and they ought to have their income from the Union reduced to zero for next year. IC Union should not condone this sort of affair by helping in its funding.

On a similar note, I was sorry to hear of an attack on Union Manager Dave Peacock at the weekend. It seems London is full of thugs who take pleasure in violence. This is the second time he has been mugged. This time his attackers wanted his Vodafone which

he surrendered, only to be beaten up for his assailants' sick pleasure. Maybe this has clouded my feelings on last Friday's incidents. My only printable feelings on the entire matter are, get well soon Dave.

On the question of violence at Imperial College, I have to query the judgement of last week's disciplinary hearing. To hand out paucity sentences of bans from Union and College facilities is sheer folly. The offenders fought in the Union Bar with bar stools. In the real world, they would have received a fine and a suspended sentence for such behaviour. To let people off so lightly is to encourage such immature loutishness.

I have heard that the College's disciplinary board does not hand out fines since students cannot afford to pay them. They feel that the police should not be called since students are only growing up. It is about time some people learnt how to grow up the hard way; the way similar aged people learn in the outside world. Security Officer, Terry Briley, has told me that policy is now to call the police in connection with violent offences. It is sad that this farce has had to occur to highlight the problem of discipline at IC in this way.

Elections

Those hacky racers will soon be pestering everybody for their vote. If you are not standing for a sabbatical post, please skip this bit.

Because of the large number of candidates for ICU President, which has started to emerge I shall have to restrict the amount of time each candidate will have to prepare publicity. The FELIX office will be available for candidates to prepare the artwork for their publicity on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th February. Anybody wishing to use the print unit facilities for publicity should contact me by Wednesday 14th to book a slot over this period. I estimate that each

candidate will be given a 4 hour period. Anybody asking for publicity after this weekend will not be guaranteed my help or any privacy in the office.

Publicity will be available on Friday 23rd February at 5.30pm. Material will not be released without prior payment in full, so bring your cheque book.

If anyone will require coloured paper or ink for printing they should see me by Tuesday 13th. After this date, I cannot guarantee a supply of materials. Paper and ink have to be ordered in advance. We currently have a stock of intensively coloured photocopy paper (yellow, orange, green and blue), which I am reserving for sabbatical election publicity. A price list will be available from 5.30pm today.

Credits

Many thanks to last week's collators from Christian Union and Overseas Students: Athos Ritsperis, Alistair Webber, Dylan James, Kath Goy, Ben Irons, Carrie Miller, Mark Godfrey, Si Bichara, Claire, Nomtha, Wouter, Rumit Shah, Anjali Saini, Shamil Uwais, Jim Lucy, Sydney Harbour-Bridge, Jackie Scott, Chris Stapleton and Ian Hodge.

Thanks this week to Andy Thompson who battled bravely with the litho and Phil Clapp for providing the repair kit; Toby Jones for a lot of help pasting; Jeremy Burnell for pics and the Golden Oldies; Derek Chapman, Sarah, Graham L, and Dermot for Music; Charles Tomkins, Adam Tinworth and Toby Jones for reviews; Adrian Pagan for his piece on TWE; Anke Brüning and Theatre West End for the rear cover photo; Roland Flowerdew for the cover photo; Adam Harrington and Liz Warren for news; Chris Stapleton, Richard Evers, Jeremy Burnell and Roland for photopgraphs; Rose for typesetting and coffee; all the clubs and societies who wrote articles and Janus, who has just reached his fifth level.

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What's On

AN UP-TO-THE-MINUTE GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND IMPERIAL COLLEGE

FRIDAY

- Hang Gliding**.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Come and get high.
- Rag Meeting**.....12.35pm
Union Lounge.
- Friday Prayers**.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by IC Islamic Society.
- Wing Chun Kung Fu**.....4.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- Christian Union Meeting**.....6.00pm
Room 308 Computing.
- Swimming Training**.....6.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Fencing Club Meeting**.....6.40pm
Union Gym. Every week.
- Social Dancing**.....7.00pm
Union SCR. Organised by Dance Club.
- Water Polo Session**.....7.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- IC Radio Disco**.....8.30pm
Southside.

SATURDAY

- Karate Practice**.....10.00am
Southside Gym.
- Wu Shu Kwan**.....4.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners Class.

SUNDAY

- Chaplaincy Sunday Service**.....10.00am
Sherfield Building Anteroom.
- Wargames**.....1.00pm
Senior Common Room, Union Building.
- Wu Shu Kwan**.....4.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners Class.
- RCSU Night in the Bar**.....7.00pm
Meet in the Bar. Every week.

MONDAY

- RockSoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of Rock Music? Come along and have a beer.
- Cross Country & Athletics**.....5.30pm
Union Gym. Jogging in Hyde Park and socialising later in Southside.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
Southside Gym with Vicky.
- Improver's Ballroom**.....6.00pm
JCR. Dance Club.
- Beginners Rock 'n' Roll**.....6.45pm
SCR.
- Swimming Training**.....6.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Advanced Ballroom**.....7.00pm
JCR.
- WellSoc AGM**.....7.30pm
Physics LT1.
- Karate Practice**.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
- Water Polo Session**.....7.30pm
Prince's Gardens Sports Centre. New members welcome—all levels of ability.
- Cricket Indoor Nets**.....7.45pm
Meet in Mech Eng Foyer. Bring your whites, we have three nets this term.
- Latin American Dance**.....7.45pm
SCR. Beginners.

- Latin American Advanced**.....8.15pm
SCR.
- Medals in Ballroom**.....8.00pm
JCR.

TUESDAY

- Audio Society Meeting**.....12.30pm
Union Senior Common Room. Cheap records, tapes and dirty videos. Order on Tuesday and collect on Thursday.
- Sailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge for 'Guinness and Gossip'.
- Ski Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge. Sign up for yoghurt eating race.
- ICU Radio Modellers**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
- Riding Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside stables.
- Boardsailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge to sign up for Wednesday and weekend trips.
- Ents Meeting**.....1.00pm
Union Lounge.
- Student Christian Movement**.....5.30pm
Chaplains Office, Basement Flat, 10 Prince's Gardens.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
The Looking Glass of Southside Gym with Alice.
- Amnesty Group Meeting**.....5.30pm
Brown Committee Room.
- ICU Radio Modellers**.....5.30pm
Mech Eng. Student train workshop.
- Christian Union Meeting**.....5.40pm
308 Computing.
- Canoe Club**.....6.00pm
Meet in Beit Quad or we can be found in Southside Upper Lounge from 8.30-ish. Beginners welcome.
- New Beginners Ballroom**.....6.00pm
JCR.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
- ICSF Film 'Alien Nation'**.....7.00pm
ME220. 80p/£1.50 (membership includes one free film).
- Intermediate Ballroom**.....7.00pm
JCR. Dance Club
- IC Chamber Music Concert**.....7.45pm
Read Lecture Theatre. 50p members, £1.00 non-members. Contact J Wood x 4348.
- Cole Porter Evening**.....7.45pm
Union Concert Hall. Imperial College Operatic Society presents an evening with Cole Porter (well not literally, because he's dead). Eat drink and be merry.
- Improver's Ballroom**.....8.00pm
JCR.

WEDNESDAY

- Sailing Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Outside Southside for sailing.
- Keep Fit**.....12.30pm
Southside Gym with Vicky.
- Cycling Club Training**.....1.00pm
Meet Beit Arch.
- WellSoc shows 'The Prisoner'**.....1.00pm
Union SCR.
- Wargames**.....1.00pm
Senior Common Room, Union Building.
- Midweek Service**.....1.00pm
Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road.
- Wing Chun Kung Fu**.....1.00pm
Union Gym. Beginners lessons.
- Ten Pin Bowling**.....2.00pm

- Meet at Gloucester Road tube.
- Wutan Tai Chi Chuan**.....3.00pm
Union Lounge. Instructor Hong Chun Lai. Martial art for all ages and sexes.
- Ladies Only Water Polo**.....6.30pm
IC Sports Centre. Enthusiastic new members welcome—any ability.
- The Love Bar Quiz**.....7.30pm
In the Union Snack Bar organised by IC Rag.
- Wu Shu Kwan**.....7.30pm
Union Gym. Experts class.
- FREE DISCO**.....9.00pm
In the Union Lounge Nightclub until 1am, or 11pm, or whenever.

THURSDAY

- Christian Union Meeting**.....8.15am
Chaplaincy.
- Audio Society Meeting**.....12.30pm
See Tuesday's entry.
- IC Fencing Club**.....12.30pm
Union Gym. Every week.
- Ski Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
See Tuesday's entry.
- Methodist Society Speaker Meeting**...12.30pm
Chemistry 231. Everyone welcome.
- Gliding Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
Aero 254. Come along to arrange your first flight.
- ICSF Library Meeting**.....1.00pm
ICSF Library (below Beit). Members can borrow from 1,700 books.
- YHA**.....12.30
Southside Upper Lounge. Sign up for weekend break. Everyone welcome.
- Balloon Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge. All nude-comers and hardened balloonies welcome. Sign up for weekends in the clouds.
- Keep Fit**.....5.30pm
Southside Gym with Alice.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
- Film Soc presents 'Moonstruck'**.....7.30pm
Mech Eng 220. 50p members, £1.50 others.
- Karate Practice**.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
- IC Radio Disco**.....8.30pm
Next to Southside Bar.
- ICCAG Salmon Run**.....9.00pm
Meet Week's Hall Basement Kitchen. Deliver food to London's up and comings.

NEXT FRIDAY

- Rag Meeting**.....12.35pm
Union Lounge.
- Friday Prayers**.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by IC Islamic Society.
- International Night**.....6.30pm
Sherfield Building, MDH and SCR. Will include food stalls, cultural show, Afro-Carib drug frenzy, Brazilian carnival.
- Swimming Practice**.....6.30pm
See Monday's entry.
- Hypnosis Lecture**.....7.00pm
In the Great Hall, organised by IC Rag.
- Water Polo Session**.....7.30pm
See Monday's entry.
- IC Radio Disco**.....8.30pm
Southside.

