



FELIX

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Car Park Money Spinner

John Archer, College pro-Rector, has written to College staff this week informing them of the new car park management. The new scheme is expected to generate £100,000 per annum for the College from charges on weekend and evening users. The franchise for the car park is now in the possession of IMPACT (Imperial Activities Ltd), which has a registered office on the fifth floor of the Sherfield building. Financial sources have indicated that this franchising arrangement means that the College may no longer be liable for corporation tax on income generated by the car park, and may also be able to waive VAT payments on car park related expenditure. IMPACT and Axxess Management Ltd, the company who have the tender for the car park management, will be accountable to the newly created post of Car Parking Manager.



Sports Centre Shutdown

St Mary's students are reported to be disgruntled with arrangements made by Carolyn Osner, IC Sports and Leisure Manager, to replace the facilities in the South Kensington-based College Sports Centre. The Sports Centre is being extensively renovated and will be closed until January 1993. Ms Osner was making arrangements with St Mary's, the University of London Union, and sports centres in Wandsworth, Westminster, and Kensington and Chelsea so that disruption during the renovation period would be kept to a minimum. She is on record as expressing regret at the 'unavoidable' closures. St Mary's students have expressed surprise at the demands that Ms Osner placed on their facilities, and one student said that 'she didn't get most of what she wanted.' Senior students added that they felt a duty to help the students in South Kensington, not the college. They said that they would

welcome any South Kensington students coming to Paddington. 'Students coming to Mary's is always useful,' said Simon Stockhill, St Mary's Union President. The Sports Centre renovation is being paid for by a £650,000 loan from the Harlington Trust. The trust was set up in 1989 to oversee money raised from the sale of gravel extracted from the Imperial College Union (ICU) owned Harlington playing fields. The fields were bought by ICU in 1936 using money paid to the Union in return for the War Memorial Ground in Wembley, which was bought by the Union in 1918. The War Memorial Ground was paid for by funds raised by the Union after the First World War. The War Memorial money was also used to purchase the boathouse and property in Putney. The College Executive committee is now considering plans to refurbish the boathouse. The Sports Centre

renovation will provide increased changing space room, more showers, a sauna, steam room and an eight person poolside spa (jacuzzi). There will also be a larger gymnasium and an exercise and training studio will also be provided. Speaking to yesterday's Union Annual General Meeting, Zoë Hellinger, ICU President, defended her 'about face' on the Harlington funding of the renovations. On 4th October, Ms Hellinger said that 'if the Sports Centre intends to try and dig into Harlington Trust funds, the

Union will strongly contest it'. By 5th June, she had changed her position to believing 'an improved Sports Centre would attract better students and provide improved sports facilities'. Speaking to the meeting, Ms Hellinger said that in October, she 'didn't know the facts first time'. Ms Hellinger's decision on allowing the use of Harlington money has been attacked privately by one of her fellow sabbaticals, who pointed out that the Union is losing approximately £400,000 in interest on the loan. planning permission for this, but was refused as there was insufficient access to the ground. The access to the land is owned by the College. The College is believed to be very interested in buying the land from its present owner.

Underground

On and on and on Not Apathetic

Dear Adam,

Pool old Declan, we have obviously hit a sore point for him to go on the way he does. Through your letters column, may we clarify our position regarding some of the relevant points Declan has raised.

Conservative Students have a membership of over 10,000 making us the largest voluntary student political organisation in the country; despite this, Declan's opinion that we are setting the pace in student reforms, rather overstates our influence.

Our efforts to date have been largely to press for liberation of students from compulsory membership of the NUS and Student Unions; it is not our policy to destroy the college unions and the services they provide.

As for the Students' Charter, which at time of writing, has not yet been launched, we eagerly await its

arrival; however, the party that produces a commitment promising choice for students as to which bodies they wish to join will be the party to legitimately claim to be both the defender of freedom and the voice of students. We as Conservative Students expect the Government to rise to that challenge.

I am pleased Declan has a strong sense of realism, his regarding of the '92 election as 'One to lose'. Clearly the '79, '87 and '96/7 elections may be held in similar regard.

Finally may I offer personal congratulations on the general standard of Felix under your control, I am told that its quality exceeds that of previous years.

I remain the 'Enemy Within'.

Yours,

James Baker,
Secretary ICU ConSoc.

Dear Adam,

There has been much written about the lack of attendance at UGMs in past issues. The blame has been almost exclusively laid on the lack of student interest. I would like to suggest that there lies only half of the problem.

The other half lies in the fact that most of us are completely ignorant of when and where these meetings are happening.

As a fairly serious 'Raggie' and as regular visitor to the Felix office I consider myself well acquainted with the Union. I have been to 2 UGMs this year, both of which I was directly involved with. I probably would have attended more but I only found out about them after they were long finished. Last term I proposed Rachel Mountford for the post of Rag Chair, and as such assumed that I might be required to attend her election. When I tried to find out when the relevant UGM was it took me the best part of a week. Even the usually well-informed Felix staff couldn't tell me when or where it was. Eventually I found the Hon-Sec who was full of useful information.

It is a rather sad state of affairs when people have to actively go out of their way to put forward a vote

that generally will hardly affect their lives.

Is it not part of the Hon-Sec's job description to let the student body know that there are decisions to be made?

As things stand, the majority of the people that know about and attend UGMs are friends of the people that are trying to pass motions. During the last meeting that I went to, almost half of the students there were involved with Third World First who were, once again, trying to pass a rather controversial motion. This, I am sure, is not representative of student opinion.

I hope that next year the Hon-Sec's job will be better fulfilled.

Chris Pease, Phys 1

Incredible

Dear Adam,

Re: editorial Felix 938 concerning Felix receiving coverage in the national press.

Who would have believed that a small group of students delaying the distribution of a students newspaper by three days could be newsworthy enough to reach the pages of the Independent?

Richard Harrison, ME3.

Shock Horror

Dear Adam,

Last week's front page story, with its shock horror headline, 'Furse Row as Southside faces Demolition', will have misled those of your readers who still believe that what is printed must be true. Let me tell you how I see it:

Southside is a massive concrete structure. Love it or hate it—it is here to stay. The foundations are not crumbling. It was not designed for a 25 year life. I would be ever so surprised if it were not still standing, equally solidly, at the turn of the next century—though neither of us might then find it entirely easy to communicate our feelings on the subject.

Furse House would be a marvellous addition to Imperial College. There are not many opportunities to acquire a major building quite so close to the College. I know of no one who disagrees with that judgement. How much can we afford to pay for it? Well, now you are entering an area where the number of opinions will be precisely equal to the number of those looking at the problem. That leads to debate. There has not been, is not and will not be a 'row'.

The Residence Strategy Discussion document was just that—a document for discussion. It has been widely disseminated. It presents the clearest appraisal of the College residences that we have assembled so far. It received accolades (—some from me); it received criticisms (—some from

me) partially on what was in it and partially on what was omitted. *That was the purpose of the exercise!* No, I was not 'cold with fury' on reading the letter written by the wardens. I noted a tendency to view glasses half empty, rather than half full—but that does not affect the objective nature of the comments received.

The Working Party will produce a revised version which will seek to make amendments—additions, deletions and corrections. Far from seeking to 'cancel the publication of the report' I recommend that we bring out the revised edition, in the light of all the comments received, as soon as humanly possible.

How soon is that? Well here that is a problem and it goes under the name of Universities Funding Council (UFC). The research assessment documentation has to be submitted to them by 30 June. It is a monstrous task which has burnt up a great deal of academic staff time as well as that of some key people in the administration. There have been other loads, again imposed by the UFC, on, amongst others, the Planning Department. There simply has not been time to devote to the revised version of the Residence report this month. with luck it will happen before people go on vacation. As soon as it is in hand, I will be glad to send you a copy.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Eric Ash.

Extremely Juvenile

Dear Adam,

As an observer I must comment on the infantile reply you made to Mr Proctor's letter in Felix 938 (12 June 1992). Mr Proctor's attention will obviously be brought to the anonymity issue if the letter in question attacks 'his parish' and, in some cases, him personally, but is this a reason to disregard the principle? I think not. If the individual told the president that he had written the letter, why withhold his name anyway? Is it a cheap trick by the author to gain attention in these days of his waning popularity? As for finding fault in the letter, no one who knows the author would take his opinion seriously enough to waste their time doing so. If, indeed, C&GU is so terrible, why is he so keen to be popular?

The comments in your letter have the overtones of a spoilt brat who is exploiting his control of the paper to humiliate a person who has actually got off his backside to try and do something for the hoards of apathetic students at Imperial. He is not doing it for personal gain because there is no gain from the hapless task of President. Maybe he

has made mistakes, he is human after all, but we all know how easy it is to criticise other's performance from afar. Maybe his biggest mistake was believing he could improve C&GU, it can only be as active as the students it caters for.

One thing I do agree with you on is that the President could do far more damage than you ever could. Those of us who attend Guild's events regularly can see, at a glance, that you have little idea of what you are talking about. The power has certainly gone to your head. As for snideness, I am sure it is nothing to be proud of. Maybe you should spend as much time perfecting Felix as you have practicing your juvenile behaviour. After four years at Imperial College I can honestly say that this year's Felix has been worse than other years. I hope that next year's editor is capable of taking criticism of all kinds in a more mature manner. In this case it will not be necessary for the students to resort to your tactics in order to retaliate.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel D.R. Smith, Mech Eng 3.

Fifteen major hospitals will close and 5,000 beds will be axed, according to a report issued yesterday. The report from the 'Kings Fund Acute Services Initiative' says that inner city residents have difficulty in getting standard hospital treatment because of the concentration of specialist provision in central London. Entitled 'London Health Care 2010', the report calls for a radical shift of resources to keep London as a world centre for medicine.

The King's Fund, the largest independent health research body in London, states that the general drift of people from central London has resulted in an expensive pattern of health care which is no longer sustainable. It recommends the consolidation of London's medical research and teaching capacity into four strong Faculties of Medicine within London University, and a reduction in the numbers of medical students in the capital.

The Government's Health Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, has welcomed the report. 'The Government will not shirk from making difficult decisions on the future of London's health services,' she said, repeating the message spelt out by junior minister Brian Mawhinney last month. Labour's Shadow Health Minister, Robin Cook, said that ministers were not honest about London health policies before the election. 'The new market forces in the NHS are driving London hospitals towards a cliff-face. Ministers must now accept the case for a planned strategy for London's health services'.

The report comes before the results of the government's official inquiry into London health care are published. The Tomlinson inquiry was set up in October 1991 to examine 'how London's health care, medical education and research should be planned in the 1990s.' Sir Bernard Tomlinson, a former chairman of the Northern Regional Health Authority, has been meeting with health authorities, funding bodies, the London University, medical schools and teaching hospitals, and was expected to report in November. The publication of his report may now be brought forward by the Government, in the light of the King's report.

The conventional wisdom before the King's report was that Tomlinson would recommend the closure of two hospitals and one medical school. The left wing pressure group, London Health Emergency (LHE), had said that St Thomas' Hospital and Charing Cross Hospital would close. These

reports were vigorously dismissed at the time by the hospitals. 'London Health Emergency are to health what the Socialists Workers are to politics' said a spokesman for St. Thomas's. LHE forecast that the Tomlinson inquiry would close 2,000 beds, which can be compared to the figure of 5,000 quoted by King's. LHE Campaigns Director, Geoff Martin, said yesterday that

Westminster Medical School is expected to move to the Westminster and Chelsea site.

IC has been considering a merger between St Mary's Hospital Medical School and the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School. In a paper to a recent College Executive Committee meeting, Professor Peter Richards, Dean of St Mary's, proposed the

Hospitals to Close



The new Westminster and Chelsea Hospital on the Fulham Road

the King's report was paving the way for Tomlinson. 'The Kings Fund report will give an air of academic respectability to the carnage that is being set up for health services in London.' The LHE statement was dismissed by Simon Stockhill, president of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School Students Union, who called it 'pure propaganda', adding that the King's Fund report said 'nothing new.'

Attention is now focusing on the Charing Cross and Westminster Hospital on Fulham Palace Road, and the Westminster and Chelsea Hospital, currently being built on the Fulham Road. The new hospital, described by LHE as a 'drain on resources', is expected to take over beds currently in the old Westminster and Charing Cross hospitals. The Charing Cross beds are to be taken by the Royal Marsden Hospital, the Brompton Hospital, and the Hammersmith Hospital, leading to the formation of a specialist cancer hospital on the Charing Cross site. Such a specialist hospital would be regarded as inappropriate for teaching purposes, and the Charing Cross and

establishment of an enlarged medical school spanning the Imperial College (South Kensington), St Mary's (Paddington) and Westminster and Chelsea (Fulham) sites. The proposal currently being considered is for the first two years of a medical course (the basic medical course) to be taught in the new Imperial Cancer Research building on the South Kensington site, with the course being completed either in Paddington or Fulham. It has also been suggested that the management school could be enlarged to teach health service management as part of a new medical course.

Professor Richards, currently a candidate for the post of Rector, regards the merger proposal in terms of IC taking the lead in medicine in West London, and becoming the centre of medical research and teaching in the area. He has expressed the hope that a new School of Medicine would have an annual intake of 250 undergraduate students, and that the School would attract greater funding from the Universities Funding Council for the College.

The closure of hospitals, the merger of IC and the Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School, and the Tomlinson enquiry

I do not relish causing irritation, surprising as it may sound. But this has never stopped me from doing so if there is even so much as a smidgen of a reason to, real or imagined. Hence the oft-flung vitriol contained within these pages. I hope it was of some use.

Many apologies are extended to those who have met my alter-ego, who looks exactly like me but is extremely rude and irascible. He tends to come out on Thursdays and stalk the Union, particularly the Felix Office, like a bear in pain. It's that Napoleon complex again.

The Union

It would be an overstatement to say that this has been a disaster, but it has run far from smoothly. It is run by four students with no previous experience in finance, management or diplomacy, whose only qualification is the vote of a fraction of the College's student population. It is expected that these four should stand up to the College administration, which is comprised of about twenty top people, all highly trained in their respective fields, all older and more experienced and all held together by three or four managers who have had a lifetime's experience of getting their own way. These administrators have been given a brief to make the College more cost-effective, to commercialise it, in effect. No doubt a caveat has been given that damage to student life should be minimised, but I suspect this comes quite low on the list of priorities.

The purpose of the Union should be defined, and once defined, adhered to. Is it to educate four students a year in the ways of politics, or is it to forward student welfare? The ability to decide this is yours; is the good fortune of one sabbatical candidate all you demand of your vote? Felix is here to inform you of the machinations of bodies such as the Union, but we have, on occasion, met with intransigents. For instance Dr Schroter, who is a fine Union Senior Treasurer, has told me that he does not communicate with Felix 'on principle.' Dr Schroter is not alone in this reticence, but since he does a good job, I find his view confusing.

In much the same vein, it seems likely that Mandy Hurford, the Union Manager, will attempt to bring in a staff protocol next year, which will prohibit any Union meeting or publication from mentioning Union staff. Seems innocuous? It would effectively stifle all comment on the Union. The reason given for this protocol is that staff complaints should 'go through the correct channels,'

namely the sabbaticals or the Union Manager. The former will do nothing as they are unlikely to be *au fait* with man-management and the latter will try to smooth the waves and calm things down (a much-needed talent in a student union), ie the whole issue would be fogged out. Even worse, the issue could be raised at a Union Disciplinary and lost forever in a sudden attack of forgiveness. I shudder at the thought. As do most of the oft-assaulted Union Duty Officers. This is the sort of thing the Government can point to as an example of bad student union practice. Apart from this, which is, after all, part of the job, Mandy has been a first class manager who has, by avoiding democratic processes, improved the standard of the Union immeasurably. I hope that she enjoys the rest of her time here.

The Union has its faults, but it is the one instrument that you, IC students, can use effectively if you so wish. You had better start using it more often and more sensibly because quite soon it may have the financial rug removed from under it. All these faults and many more are only there because you let them be. It is your responsibility, and you will be responsible when you are disenfranchised and bemoaning your miserable lot because you were a miserable lot.

The College

I am afraid you cannot dismiss the College administrators as satanic hell-spawn and by so doing waive all responsibility. You can affect them - it is just that it takes more time and effort. They have a job to do and they generally appear to do it well. It is unfortunate that in most cases their job descriptions run counter to the needs of student welfare, particularly accommodation. Why anybody would want to run a department which controls the single most problematic, expensive and vital piece of student life I cannot understand. I consider it obvious that to do this job would inevitably result in the reception of more than usual attention and insults. So, on a personal basis, I apologise unconditionally to Mr Marshall for the amount of grief he has had to take, and I apologise to everybody in College residences with a legitimate grievance that more has not been made of it. Such are the paradoxes of the job.

You may note the disparity in length between the Union and College sections in this editorial. Is this because I have greater sympathy with the College? No - it is because I know more about the Union. College administrators are very good at closing ranks - the

College is not democratic. The Union has managed to deal with the often bizarre attentions of its own press, and I feel credit must be given to the Union for being so democratic up until now. Likewise credit should go to College for dealing with Felix by completely ignoring it, which is far more effective but much more frustrating for both the researcher and the readership.

Many thanks are due to the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, for providing the Felix Office with two distribution trolleys at the beginning of the year. I hear that one or two members of the administration have said that this year's Felix was rather good. What a terrible indictment. I shall throw myself upon a scalpel at once.

The CCUs

The phrase 'banana republic' springs to mind when referring to these wasteful anachronisms. Rather like the monarchy, there is no reason why they should not exist if people want them, but I fail to see why they are given any sort of say in how the total organisation runs. The only useful purpose they could serve would be through departmental representatives, which is excellent as far as it goes, but tends to be as erratic as you would expect from a voluntary service.

What other purpose do they serve? Surely all the clubs and societies could be financed as well, if not better, by ICU? They only exist because of the ancient origins of the College and they still uphold the nineteenth century ideal and the Jingoism of gentlemen's exclusive clubs, run by a few for the purposes of that same few. The playground of the socially inept and emotionally immature, it is almost beyond belief that elitist squads of MI5 rejects can gather ranks in the name of their bit of metal in order to steal someone else's bit of metal. This pathetic tribalism seems to form the powerbase for juvenile politicking. This is fine if you want it, and I am certainly guilty of some such, but I am not entirely sure that this is what taxpayers think they are paying for, bearing in mind the present Government's attitude, all of us (including Felix) ought to start looking towards greater efficiency. **St Mary's.**

The majority of St Mary's students are extremely anti-Imperial and especially anti-ICU. Three years ago I started to regularly attempt to research news stories relevant to St Mary's. I noticed at the time that very little was forthcoming - and this disinterest has slowly grown into contempt and aggression over the intervening years. This has left me with the conclusion that they

wish to be left alone and out of Imperial College as a whole. I see no reason why this wish should not be granted. St Mary's Student Union were forced to join with ICU because the two college administrations wished to merge the two colleges for financial reasons - there is no commonality between the student populations. I hope that Jonty will do better, but I am afraid I have totally given up on them, and this saddens me as they could add so much more to IC life.

And so to the future.

I don't know next year's Union Office Sabbaticals very well, so I my comments are based on very little. Chris Davidson - next year's President - has been showing great interest in Union affairs this term. This is a very good sign and my instincts tell me that he will be able to deal with the College - and Felix - in a more mature manner. This will probably not be good news for Felix as we thrive on presidential juvenilia. Rick Bilby - next year's Deputy President - has not been seen in weeks. Dom Wilkinson - Hon Sec (Events) - is still heavily involved in Ents and so should know what that side of his job is all about. My only concern is that as he stood only on the second election he may have doubts about wanting to do the job. Jonty Beavan - Felix Editor - has got a lot to learn about more-or-less everything very quickly. But being intelligent and usually hard-working, I think he will be able to do it.

The College will get a new Rector, appointed not elected, who will most likely be an opinionated authoritarian carefully selected so as to minimise obstruction to the ongoing costcutting. The government will institute a 'students charter' which will contain the key words 'democratise' and 'choice,' and will offer nothing but words and threats to paralyse most student unions. Polytechnics will become universities and increase competition for research and government money.

The College will grind slowly closer towards being a commercial operation, the students will still not care a jot, remain wilfully ignorant of everything except their course and whinge about things they could do something about. In the words of Ford Prefect to the Golgafrinchans, 'you're going to go extinct. You know that don't you.' How can I be so sure? Why because the only people who will complain about the negativity of this editorial - if anyone does - will be a few self-important hacks. The rest will not think it applies to them. Quod erat demonstrandum.

'And it's me, Frenzied Chatter, here at the thunderball arena with a simply GI-NOR-MOUS event on this evening!' Yes, the sector one werewolves are played the sector nine neanderthals and it looks to be a BRUTAL game in store for us tonight!

An unbelievably tanned face split apart to reveal ivory white teeth glowing in the UV light, behind Frenzied flags and banners were being waved in the massive arena by an ecstatic audience.

'Yes, we've got an EC-STAT-IC audience here waiting for their teams to emerge from their pens on to the pitch. Rumour has it that the neanderthal team have attempted regressing back to dinosaurs. Is there much truth to this Rumour?'

The camera swivelled to where Rumour Monger sat in a helpfully expansive chair.

'Well, Frenzied, you can see the benefits they would have if they succeeded. A team always hopes to be able to walk over their opponents but if they could physically do it! Well, they'd win the league for sure.'

'So will we be seeing thirty foot high lizards on the pitch then this evening?'

'Well, I don't think so. You see, Frenzied, meat eating dinosaurs have vestigial arms so even though they'd be able to eat the entire opposing team they wouldn't be able to move the ball off the centre spot. Senior tacticians in the neanderthal camp, known as the shamen in the big tent, put forward several ways of overcoming this but then realised that their team wouldn't be able to get through the player's tunnel and so gave up.'

'And the werewolves, any interesting news?'

'Yes, the sector one werewolves are known as the thinking man's thunderball team. One of the reasons for this being their introduction of the then unknown tactic of protecting the man with the ball and staying with him when he's running. This was unheard of in a game where coaches spent most of their time training the team not to fight over the ball. But the tactic worked and the pack system is a major in today's game.'

'And the news?'

'Well, Frenzied, this use of tactics was a major strain on the minds of the team and the news is that the recent attempt by their coach to get them to pass the ball resulted in him being slowly eaten by the front row.'

'A-MAY-ZING! That's GREAT, Rumour. There's still a few minutes folks before the teams come on so we're going to show some clips of previous games, STAAAAAY TUNED!'

'Okay Stress.'

The assistant talked to him while he fed the contents of the wolf suit some more pills.

'You know you need to take these red pills to boost your military chemicals otherwise you'll be killed before you even reach the pedestal. Now these blue pills are to help the red pills if they get into any problems. The green pills are to watch out for any trouble and the yellow pills are along for moral support.'

'Are all these necessary? I've had enough stuck in me as it is. The lepton's probably doing this just to have his fun.'

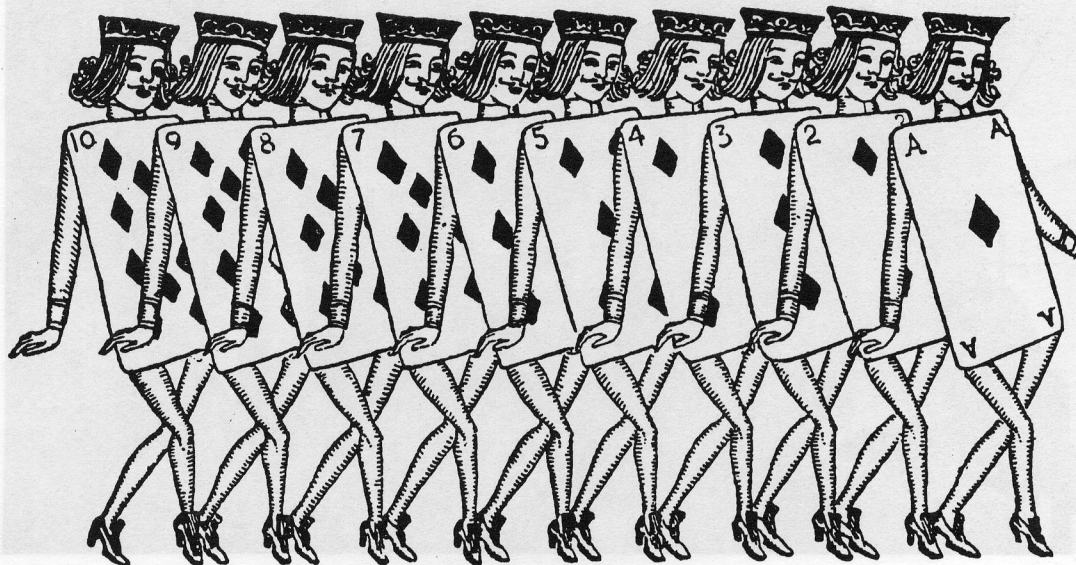
'Don't be paranoid and drink up.' In vital parts of Stress's internal

parallel. And the teams are coming on to the pitch!!!'

'Thank you, Frenzied. The teams are coming on to the pitch now and the neanderthals are showing no signs of nerves, in fact no indication of mental activity at all! At the other end the captain of the werewolves, Bloodfang, has been thrown a piece of Sirloin steak by a very attractive female fan. The rest of the team are howling and whistling while their captain eats the token of admiration. And the horn has gone signalling the fifteen second countdown to fence raise.'

Pulling his helmet on over his wolf mask Stress positioned himself at the back of the pack.

The Inner System



metabolism antibodies were fighting a losing battle trying to evict molecule squatters from a drug ridden flat. Unknown to them an even bigger gang of no goods were arriving for an unofficial party and were notorious for smashing up the place as part of the fun.

Stress began to walk away.

'Wait'.

The assistant sprayed him with a foul smell.

'Got to smell right, that's the only way the wolves recognise each other.'

Pilled up and stinking Stress slipped in behind the rest of the werewolf team as they walked to the pitch.

'And the atmosphere in the stadium is A-MAY-ZING! The crowd is wild with anticipation waiting for their teams who have gone wild with chemicals. The hollowglam cheerleaders are executing their dances in perfect precision thanks to their 3D projectors being wired up in

'The teams are assembling in front of the fence. The neanderthals are hopping down in expectation except one who is urinating by the wall, the clock reaches zero and the fence is up!!'

Bloodfang grabbed for the ball too soon, grazed the fence and jumped back with an electric shock. The neanderthal grabbed the club, rattling the skulls around his neck as he held it aloft in triumph. Stress, suffering the beginning of another metabolic change, watched the tribal leader knock an approaching werewolf to the ground and run straight at Stress.

'Grog has the ball and is heading for goal, the only werewolf between him and a point is a mangey half-back.'

Unable to move his muscles as they were being restructured Stress watched helplessly as the neanderthal approached, screaming his battlecry. Swinging the club behind he brought it down towards Stress's head.

*Chapter 19:
Competition.
The penultimate
episode by Troy
Tempest*

This summer will see the departure of yet another group of lucky graduates, with souls intact and bank balances in tatters. To add penury to poverty, they will probably be sent a leaflet advertising the wonders of Imperial College Alumni, entitled 'Imperial College and you'. A copy of this useful document has reached Felix with the title altered by some wit to read 'Imperial College and your Money'. One could be forgiven for thinking that this comment sums up the way Imperial has been run this past year.

Manager, called the Halls 'generally shabby'. One resident called it 'living like squatters'; Mr Daniels responded with 'faults cannot be rectified overnight'. Or indeed annually. Read next year's Felix for news of sudden developments.

More sinister events occurred later in the first term in Southside Hall, home to 374 students and commonly called a 'fire hazard' by polite members of the College, a 'death trap' by those that live there. A lift in the Hall was set alight by a 'socially challenged' (moronic)

irritation was the increase in food charges in Linstead Hall. The cost of living there is so great that the rent of a single room would leave you with £100 change from your grant cheque. Our advice is to eat the cheque. It's cheaper and more nutritious.

Students were stung into action in the Spring Term after Felix reported that students staying in Southside Halls could have to pay £18 a night to stay over the Easter Vacation. A petition circulating around Southside gathered over 100 signatures in a few hours. The contents of the petition was a description of the state of accommodation at Imperial. This description did not worry those in high places at Imperial. What worried our Lords and Masters was the threat to send the letter to all schools and Sixth-Form colleges which may send students here. Angus Fraser, Managing Director, and the elusive Gordon Marshall got onto the case immediately; meeting the students who had gathered the petition. They listened, spoke, but said nothing. The delegation of students left, satisfied only by winding up the Director of Estates until he had to be pacified by the Managing Director. How soothing.

Things improved for some. Those students who had exams in the first week of the summer term were to be allowed to return to a room in Hall so long as it wasn't being used for those all-important conferences. There was a warm welcome back for the residents in Tizard Hall. Some found that their room had been flooded by sewage, compliments of the Estates division. The advice from the College was 'to keep an eye on your health', presumably after signing a little form absolving Imperial from any responsibility if harm were to result.

The news that Gardens restaurant is to close came as a surprise to many, if only because very few people actually know where it is. That Southside Bar is to go on tour proved an altogether greater shock. Southside's very own den of iniquity will now move to the Sheffield building. What would happen if the whole of Southside was to close became a very real question, as it was reported that the Hall was near the end of its expected lifetime. Replacing the student beds with rooms in Furze House on Queen's Gate Terrace has been on the Rector's agenda for some time. Whether the Imperial College Residence account could afford this £5 million purchase was to be contained in Report of the

News Review of the Year



*Jonty Beavan
and Declan
Curry of the
Imperial College
News Network
(iCNN), review
this year's news*

The new intake arrived at the end of September to take their places in Hall. First years who had not brought any linen with them found that they had to pay for bed covers and pillow cases that, in the past, had been provided free. Paying for using College Linen seems reasonable, until you discover that new first years had been assured by their departments that bedclothes would be provided free. As ever, the departments found that they were one of the last groups in college to be informed of anything. This was one of the repetitive themes of the year.

It was not long after that the overall state of College accommodation was also being called into question. Letters of protest were received in Felix about Southwell and Holbein halls in Evelyn Gardens. Leaks in roofs, lack of stable desks and cupboards and inadequate cooking facilities among the more minor complaints. Graham Daniels, Residence Area

member of the student body. Luckily, the blaze did not spread, but due to the frequency of false alarms in Southside no one bothered to answer the alert. The Police verdict was 'lucky to escape without some people dead'. This was followed by a false alarm in the Mechanical Engineering building, where the departmental superintendent only found out about the emergency when the Fire Engines arrived. You could be forgiven for asking what would happen if there was a real fire at Imperial. Answers on the back of a firefighter.

The state of University buildings all over the country was condemned in a working party report of the University Funding Council in mid-November. In a unique and never to be repeated interview with student media, Gordon Marshall, Director of Imperial College Estates, said that buildings in the College were 'getting tired'. As is he. Another source of student

Working party on Residences. 'Embarrassing' was one response to this report. 'A load of crap' was another. Apparently, the draft copy of the document contained 8 pages of errors concerning the residence situation.

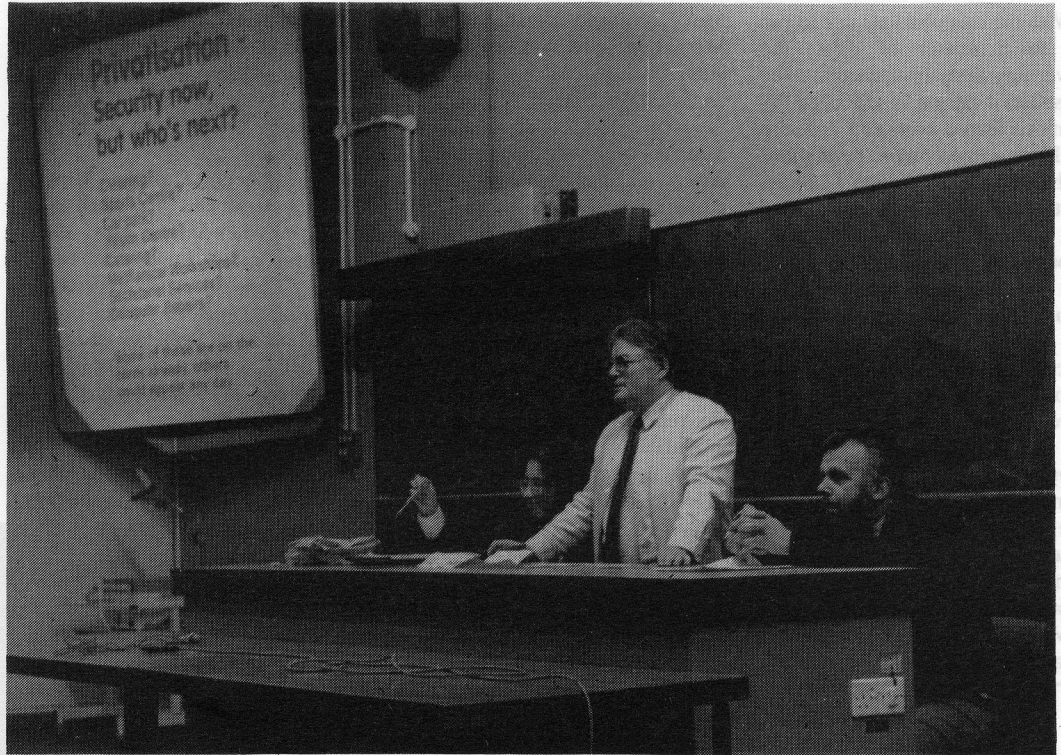
Felix ran a lead story on the apparent disagreements in the Sherfield building about the cost of Furse House. Unfortunately, the only sentence in the entire piece that did not contain a qualifying word meant that Professor Geoff New was dragged to the Managing Director's Office like an insolent schoolboy. It is not for us to suggest that Mr Fraser is an intolerant bully. What was Professor New's crime? He had refused to comment on a rumour contained in the story. Clearly Professor New is in the wrong job; if he were a Civil Servant this behaviour would surely be rewarded by a Knighthood.

Estates is now on the job, and is considering a suitable replacement for Southside. A feasibility study is now being conducted into the placing of cardboard boxes on the Strand. Tenders from Thames or London Weekend Television are especially welcome.

Blatant fraud occurred in the Imperial College Union (ICU) building in the first term, and not in the first floor office. Several bank notes with the words 'forgery' in large red letters stamped on them were taken in the Union Bar. Innocent students were said to be using them unaware of what they were. This is not surprising. Students do not have money for long enough to remember what it is. If you do have some, then hide it, as you will not see it again for some time.

Blatant fraud occurred in Imperial College Union

Christmas came late to Imperial College. In February, the Universities Funding Council (UFC) awarded a 19.7% increase in the research money the College receives, this being the largest amount to any single University. In May this award was cut to just 14.6% due to funding error by the UFC. The ever modest Rodney



Eastwood, Director of Planning, so eloquent in his praise of Imperial in February, made himself unavailable for comment to the *Times Higher Educational Supplement* when this news broke. To get round this, the *Higher* came to Felix for information, and in return they publicised the great Felix jumble sale, still running at a Felix office near you.

Ailing research funding was given another knock when Her Majesty's government suggested that charities should be charged up to 40% extra for work done in University labs. This increase was supposedly to cover administration costs, and it was suggested that it would lead to more money for research institutes. The charities didn't see the increase with such clarity, and raised trite points such as 'we are not going to pay more for the same research'. Indeed, they suggested that the measure would lead to 40% being cut from funding budgets. Developments are awaited.

The most subtle cost-cutting move came on 7th November when all Messenger, Security and Car Park (MSCP) staff received a letter from Gordon Marshall, Director of Estates, informing them that the College would no longer be requiring their services. Mr Marshall told them that their jobs would be contracted out to private companies, and that consultations on 'staffing reductions' would begin the next morning. Of course, the staff were not being issued with redundancy notices. They were just

told that 'a period of 90 days will elapse from the start of consultations before the first dismissals take place'.

The plans for contracting out or 'outsourcing' of MSCP services were drawn up in a paper submitted by Val Straw to the College Management Planning Group (MPG) on 19 April 1991. This paper was revised by Gordon Marshall, and resubmitted to MPG on 27 September. The anticipated negotiations with the unions and notifications of redundancies were discussed by Caroline Fox, John Payne and Val Straw on 1st November. Marshall told the staff on 7th November.

Those unions affected, the Manufacturing Science and Finance Union (MSF) and the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE), immediately called strike action. An unofficial lightning strike was held on 8th November, and this was followed by a 24 hour stoppage on 4th December. College entrances were picketed, and Imperial was described by the Unions as 'quieter than Christmas Day'. The strike was timed to coincide with a meeting of the Governing Body, and the MSCP dispute was discussed at length by the Governors Body. The meeting was attended by only one Imperial College Union (ICU) sabbatical officer, Jonathan Griffiths, the Deputy President. Both Zoë Hellinger, ICU President, and Steve Farrant, ICU Hon Sec (Ents), refused to cross the picket line outside the Rector's residence.

Sir Eric Ash, the Rector, and Sir Frank Cooper, the Chairman of the Governing Body, went outside to talk to the pickets, and were presented with a petition. Inside, Angus Fraser, College Managing Director, set out what he saw as the background to the dispute, and said that trade unions had been supplied with all the information they had requested to make an in-house bid. He added that a union in-house bid had been rejected by the college before the meeting of the Governing Body.

Alan Taylor-Russell, of the Association of University Teachers (AUT) said that the MSCP dispute was 'no ordinary trade dispute', and that it was 'a culmination of a number of events which had led to a rift between senior management and the rest of the College'. This had been evident for some time. Professor Bruce Sayers, the Dean of City and Guilds, had written to Mr Fraser in November drawing his attention to the 'brutality' and 'impertinence of Gordon Marshall', and deploring 'functionaries who have nothing but rote learned skills to offer'. This letter mysteriously made its way to the front page of the *Guardian*. What particularly incensed Professor Sayers was Gordon Marshall's opinion that the newly recruited officers would be 'appropriately trained and loyal to Imperial College', which was regarded as an implicit questioning of the loyalty of 'long serving and dedicated' staff. 'These factory floor manoeuvres are wholly unworthy,' he wrote.

With the consultations due to run out in a matter of days, the Governing Body instructed that the consultation period be extended 'by no more than a month in order to facilitate an acceptable resolution' of the dispute. To further facilitate a settlement, the Governors decided that the Messenger and Security dispute should be resolved first, and that the future of the Car Park would be decided at a later stage. An agreement in principle was reached, between management and unions, and protracted negotiations were concluded in February, with the Rector announcing a compromise, and the unions claiming to have won the argument. The results of the new security system are clearly visible, with new Prime Ministerial costumes, and plastic identity cards.

Whither the car park? The unions became restless in April and May,

*Never has so
much been
written about so
little*

but the College was keeping mum. They certainly weren't revealing that the future of the car park had effectively been decided on 11 July 1991, that tenders were being accepted around the time of the MPG meeting on 9 April 1992, and that by the MPG meeting on 14 May, a tender from Axess Management Ltd had been accepted. The story of the concealed tender only became public when Felix broke the story on 5 June. Again this happened without consultation with any of the unions, but it apparently has the Rector's tacit approval, so expect changes soon.

The entire story behind the proposals is enmeshed in layers of contradiction, subterfuge and ignorance. John Payne was involved in the 1st November discussion which drew up the 'redundancy' announcements. John Payne wrote to Mick Saul of NUPE on 14 June, with the phrase 'it is not Management's intention to fill vacancies with Contract staff'.

Steve Newbold, the College Marketing Director, said that the letter issued to staff detailing the consultation timetable was not a redundancy notice, despite Gordon Marshall saying that 'a period of 90 days will elapse from the start of consultations before the first dismissals take place'. Staff were told that the car park was to be sold off on the recommendation of a consultant's report, even though the report never being openly circulated. All that was published was Val Straw's interpretation of the report, which may have been coloured by her job description. More sinister is the fact that the brief or instructions given to the

with his arrest, and was described by another student newspaper as a 'militant atheist'. His latest project is to condemn the Education Secretary, John Patten, to eternal damnation.

In Imperial College Union, disagreement was just starting to boil over when Dan Shields, Social Cultural and Amusements Board (SCAB) Treasurer, discovered he could be financially liable for any losses made by societies under his control. After several heated exchanges, Mr Jonathan Griffiths, ICU Deputy President, said, 'I was about to hit the little shit'. The matter was later resolved amicably.

The position of Honorary

a review that was critical of a Dramatical Society - Operatic Society co-production of Grease, she helped remove 3500 copies of Felix. She was then one of a group which replaced it after the show had finished its run (See letters page). Although Ms Hellinger later apologised for her actions, she did manage her first appearance in national media, when *The Independent* covered the story in its Diary column.

The disappearance of Felix triggered a number of events: Richard Eyers, Publications Board Chairman, resigned in protest. His successor, David Henderson-Begg, also resigned later in the year,



consultants remain classified. After all, they could have been told to recommend the sale of the car park, and ignore any evidence to the contrary.

The full story may never be known, as freedom of speech was one of the first casualties of the security dispute. Bruce Sayers and other academics were criticised by the Rector for speaking out, and at one stage the Rector imposed a 'discipline of silence' on management and unions. Freedom of speech was also attacked in the other example of the role of the censor this year. A former IC student Michael Newman was arrested for trying to sell a blasphemous video to a member of the Police force. Mr Newman told Felix that he was extremely satisfied

Secretary (Events) has been held by many esteemed and reasonable people. But Mr Steve Farrant, this year's holder, has brought more publicity to the post than any other occupant. Mr Farrant managed to get a warning from the Police after walking naked, tied to another man, between Harrods and Imperial College during the Nude Kamikaze Parachute Jump for Rag. An innocent piano became the object of Mr Farrant's affections in the spring term. While relaxing in the Union Building Mr Farrant made a throwaway comment about the state of the piano which resulted in an, as yet, unidentified group of people destroying the instrument.

But Mr Farrant's excesses were outdone a week later by his fellow Sabbatical Zoë Hellinger. Upset by

quoting 'immature behaviour' in the Union Office as the source of his frustrations. The only candidate to fill this gap is Hugh Eland; Mr Eland did not care to comment on when he would resign if elected to the post.

The other Grease-related event was the Trappist Monk syndrome, to wit, the mysterious silence of the notorious Gavin Pearson during the theft of Felix. Mr Pearson arrived in the Felix Office after the theft, stating he had been threatened by Tim Proctor, President Of City and Guilds Constituent College Union. Later that week he denied all knowledge of the allegations. Mr Proctor, whose constituent college union (CCU), along with the Royal School of Mines Union had financially underwritten part of the

production of 'Grease', began a war of words (short and unintelligible - mostly grunts) with Felix, and particularly the Felix editor, Adam Harrington.

The CCUs had a bit more to worry them when it became clear that the College Union Office was about to start investigating *ultra vires* (literally, out of rules) payments, otherwise known as the illegal use of union (taxpayers) money. It was revealed that CCU balls had between them spent a total of a few thousand pounds on complementary tickets. In a separate incident, the Royal College of Science Union found that its finances were in such disarray that its senior treasurer considered not signing any more cheques. The upset this caused among the CCUs was nothing compared to the chaos and confusion in other places. *Ultra vires* payments are defined by a letter from the Attorney General's office, issued in 1983, with the only problem being that even the Attorney General's office has difficulty interpreting the rules. The losers in the whole affair are the Imperial College Day Nursery, which had its ICU payments stopped several years ago, and the Silwood Park Day Nursery, which was threatened with similar financial starvation. The payments were stopped because it was felt



General Meeting (AGM), and a copy of the document can be inspected at the ICU office. The policy will become official policy if it is ratified at a further general union meeting.

Other peculiar practices (apart from rugby) this year include mascotry, which was described as 'the sport of Gentlemen' in a letter to Felix by Paul Kendall, putting it along side Bear-Baiting, Dog Fighting and Fox Hunting. Constructive things mascotry has achieved this year include breaking the leg of Stephen Dorman, a first year chemistry student; destroying the door of the Mines' Union office; and encouraging tired, long departed, old hacks who should have more sense, to play 'James Bond' across the College in pursuit of large chunks of metal. Gold? Nothing so useful.

Money was dealt with in better ways by Imperial College Rag, despite having several internal wrangles. Rag Chair Penguin, occasionally known as Marc Ellis, threatened to resign more times than he has flippers. When Mr Ellis actually did resign he was almost immediately re-elected with only a weak challenge from Aled Fenner, who was also to mount a weak contest for the Hon Sec elections, but more later. How many millions Rag has collected has yet to be discovered, but contributions to the Maxwell pension fund are not being ruled out.

St Mary's also had a successful Rag week this year. Unfortunately this coincided with the hustings for Sabbatical Elections. This brought back memories of last year's hustings in which Jonathan Griffiths (then a sprightly 29) had his shirt burned. Apart from the exchange of large quantities of shaving foam and

rules for election were ignored by many candidates and one managed to get elected after going over budget. This flaunting of the rules was matched by the contempt with which the media regarded them. Indeed, the novel step was taken of covering the elections according to news values. This proved to be too much for some. Nick Allen complained strongly about bias after he was interviewed on IC Radio, and Aled Fenner was not much happier. Chris Davidson, apparently, thrived on his interview, while Angelo Gardini overslept, and so missed his 8pm slot. Phil Sharpe went one better. While he couldn't make his interview, he did know one St Mary's student who could fill in for him, even though he was considerably under the influence. In fact, not only was he 'on the piss', he decided to take it as well, live and on air.

Chris Davidson was elected as President, defeating Anthony Baldwin, New Election and Angelo Gardini. Rick Bilby was elected as Deputy President, in preference to New Election and Phil Sharpe. Jonty Beavan was elected Felix Editor, defeating New Election and Toby Jones. After a win by New Election over Nick Allen and Aled Fenner, and the subsequent re-election, Dominic Wilkinson was elected Honorary Secretary (Events), over Toby Jones and New Election.

Jonathan Griffiths, then a sprightly 29

they were *ultra vires*. As it turns out, they may not be. To raise their profile, the Imperial College Day Nursery held a 'Nursery Awareness Day', involving stalls, fun, and lots of little children striking terror in the hearts of those timid Southside residents.

ICU Rugby Club members have also been showing us all they've got this year, in some cases far too literally. Their dinner was the scene of 'outrageous and obscene behaviour' (an ICU sabbatical). 'It got a bit out of hand' (ICU Rugby Club Captain). Indeed. The affair provoked a certain element of navel gazing in ICU, the end result being a new draft policy on sexual harassment. The policy was discussed at Tuesday's Annual

bribery by one of the Felix editor candidates

bribery by one of the Felix editor candidates (*I wonder which one - Ed*), the Hustings came to a peaceful conclusion. All the candidates emerged alive but mauled. The IC (South Kensington) Hustings were a more sedate affair. Zzzzz.

Sabbatical Elections are usually harshly fought because candidates really have something to lose at the ballot box, apart from some face. 1992 was no exception and with a large media coverage (Felix, STOIC and IC Radio) the stakes were raised even higher. Publicity

Another contest was announced during the sabbatical elections. Time is running out for Sir Eric Ash, who will step down as Rector in the next twelve months. The egg-and-spoon race to succeed him is now drawing to a close. The decision will be made by a sub-committee of the Governing Body, with the result due on the 26th June. The committee normally contains all Deans of the constituent colleges of Imperial. Interesting to note that one PR man and notorious self-publicist has asked not to be included on the panel. Whatever reason could be given for refusing such an influential position?

Professor Peter Richards has been making a name for himself recently, with a controversial statement on how Junior Doctors should be treated, and a rejection from the Junior Doctors' Committee of the British Medical Association (BMA). Professor Richards is also launching a survey to coincide with the Patients'

Radio's most ambitious venture: live results and analysis, music, and coverage of reaction in live reports from all the major party headquarters, and the local count. Although the programme was a runaway success the result did not please the producer of the Election extravaganza, who claimed that Britain had become Europe's only one party state.

Student issues, though wilfully neglected in the General Election, have made a strong showing in the news output of Felix and IC Radio.

Archer. Professor Archer is the pro-Rector responsible for industrial contacts, and in an earlier life was the scientific advisor to the committee.

After lunch with the Governing Body, the committee granted an audience to an ICU delegation. The committee members were presented with a 'financial hardship' poll representing about 5% of Imperial College students, and Zoë Hellinger made clear that the committee 'had come to the wrong college'. The report from the committee was due

much been written about so little so frequently. Hypothetical conjecture is all very well, but a major part of the scheme could be voluntary membership to college Student Unions. Indeed, the matter has shot up the political agenda, being the subject of an adjournment debate in the Commons, and featuring in Prime Minister's Questions last week.

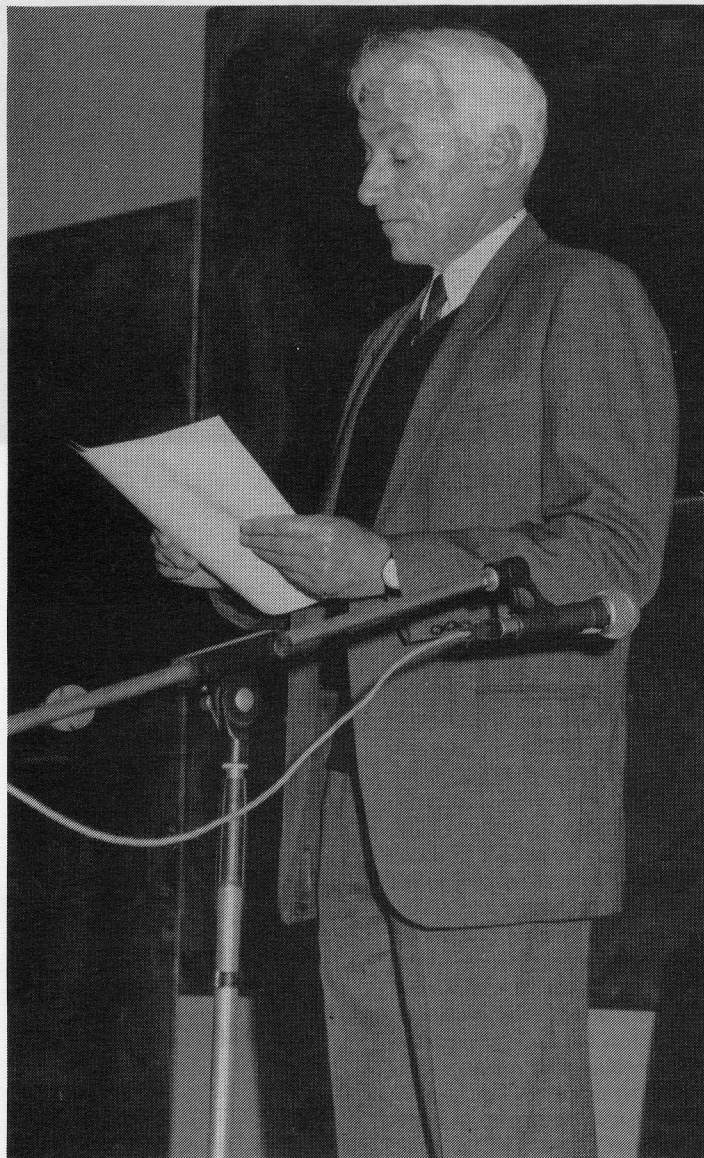
What does voluntary membership mean? Effectively, the money from college that pays for student unions will instead go to students directly, and they will then be billed for affiliation to the union should they so wish. The catch? Given the choice between roughly one hundred quid or the odd bar extension, which would you choose? This has raised the blood pressure of many ICU Officers, so expect some campaigns next year to promote 'how wonderful your Union really is'. This will make the student feel that it really should invest in a Students' Union.

Britain had become Europe's only one party state

Charter, and a proposal to save Charing Cross Medical School, if not the entirety of London University, by merging it with Imperial College. He also has a formidable reputation for his crime-beating rugby tackle.

One merger that will definitely take place this summer is the joining of the Science Museum Library with the Imperial College Central libraries. The joint building should only be closed for a few days over the long vacation, but because of the nature of the necessary excavation, the Haldane Library will not be moved to the ground floor until during the Christmas vacation.

1992 was also the year of the long awaited General Election, which successfully avoided student issues altogether, by holding the election during the vacation. This played absolute havoc with the National Union of Students (NUS) 'Target 70' campaign, an ill disguised scam for the election of Labour candidates. April 9th brought IC



In January, the House of Commons Select Committee into Education, Science, and Arts came on tour to Imperial, to help them draw up their report into levels of student hardship. This was their idea of meeting the students of the country, and assessing the situation on the ground. Surely not? After all, Imperial was the only higher education establishment that the committee visited, though it is just up the road from Westminster, and the committee does have excellent contacts with Professor John

to be published in April, but the election disturbed things a bit. This has caused a ripple of protest, with Lorna Fitzsimons, NUS President-elect, calling for its immediate publication, to avoid another 'summer of discontent'.

The other strong student story was the idea of a students' charter. The idea was first leaked last February by the Cabinet Office to David Henke, *The Guardian's* Westminster Correspondent. The story has caused more than a little interest in iCNN, and never has so

'Students may think they're poor'

Crime has been on the increase all year at Imperial. As one well-placed Security source put it, 'Students may think they're poor, but every thug from Paddington to Brixton knows that mummy and daddy gave you a stereo as a going away present'. The amount of crime, both reported and unreported, in the College is huge. The Dramatic Society lost £10,000 worth of equipment in the first week of the first term. An ex-student got security men to help him load a van with computer equipment. £950 in cash was stolen from a room in a Hall of Residence. These are just the major thefts this year. There are many others. To try and reduce these losses, security was revamped (above), and a swipe card system was introduced to the College over Easter. It required all students to carry an identity card with them at all times. After initial problems, the system is now reported to be working smoothly. Like chocolate peanut butter.

In tandem with Security cards, ICU has introduced ICU Card checks on most Wednesday and Friday nights to try and reduce crime and preserve its licence. One place that might not retain a licence is Southside Bar. Residents have taken up games of target practice, aiming beer glasses at passing police cars. No one has been hurt so far, but expect serious investigations in the near future. The fuzz, as Queen Victoria said, were not amused.

Some crimes cannot be stopped by security cards. After a long surveillance operation, Wing Chun instructor Master Sid Sofos was caught by Police exposing himself to members of Alexander Hall on Kensington Gore. Bernard Sunley House was the scene of a major undercover drugs operation. One member of staff was involved along with several students, all of whom were gently asked to leave College. Not leaving the College is Richard Macrory, recently promoted to Professor of Environmental Law at the Centre for Environmental Law in Prince's Gardens, and appointed a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. Professor Macrory was once a lawyer for Friends of the Earth, and his chair is being sponsored by Denton Hall Burgin & Warren, the law firm employed by Friends of the Earth during the public enquiry into the building of a reprocessing plant at Sellafield. Carlyne Osner was appointed as Sports and Leisure Manager, after a career as acting Head of Recreation at the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Dr John Hardy, formerly of St Mary's, was awarded the IPSEN Prize for Research into Alzheimers Disease in November 1991. By January 1992, Dr Hardy and four other members of his team had left for the United States, in search of better pay, conditions and job security. In April, the last senior members of the old team left in the shape of Dr Alison Goethe and her husband. Professor Peter Richards, Dean of St Mary's, now hopes to build a new team to continue the trailblazing research of Dr Hardy's team, or to expand out into new areas.

Professor Tim Shaw, Chairman of the Academic Staff Assembly, was re-elected to the post of Dean of the Royal School of Mines for a further three years. Professor David Phillips was appointed Head of Chemistry, in succession to Professor Steven Ley, who was head hunted by Cambridge. Professor Mike Mingos, who arrived as the Sir Edward Franklin

BP Chair of Inorganic Chemistry just before Christmas, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in April. Professor Bruce Sayers, that wonderful letter writer, was re-appointed to the Global Advisory Committee on Health Research of the World Health Organisation. Professor Sayers is Dean of City and Guilds College.

What changes will be seen in 1992/3? The Rector leaves us in July 1993; Gordon Marshall is expected to leave not long after, and possibly before. It's all change in the ICU office, with new faces, new ideas and even a new approach promised. As for the current sabbaticals, Zoë goes off to start

research into AIDS, with Biology's Professor Roy Anderson becoming more publicly identified with treatment of the disease. Other medical developments will come in the shape of the much deferred Tomlinson report. Sir Bernard Tomlinson is currently looking at the rationalisation of London health care. The only questions being asked are which hospitals will he close and which teaching hospital will go.

Furse House will probably be bought, causing glimmers in the eyes of receivers and liquidators everywhere. The poll tax will finally die in 1993, sometime, allowing the re-enfranchisement of



doing a day's work (with BT?), and Jonathan and Steve become students again. Adam is expected to do a bit of travelling, around Poland, Czechoslovakia and such like. Anything to escape the retribution he expects. He will be sorely missed by Whiskers, the new Felix mouse, which will probably die next year anyway. When he does, we're buying a cat.

The possibility of a staff protocol looms ominously, as does the threat of voluntary membership. Reform of college unions looks like causing further major reforms in the National Union of Students. They are seriously considering an opt out clause for students of affiliated colleges.

Research into Alzheimers continues under the direction of the new, post-Hardy team, as does

the disenfranchised. Tube fares will probably go up. Alan Bailey threatens to come back to do a PhD. The Management School will probably continue to give away scholarships to the chosen few. FBI becomes the Finance Society. Our very own one parent family, the duck, will return to Beit Quad and produce yet another brood.

Finally, in October, the new fellows and associates of the college will be inaugurated. Step forward, Sir Roger Bannister, Professor Sir John Cadogan, Doctor Anthony King, John Smith (not the next Labour leader, but the former College Secretary), and Robert Wilkins. The inauguration will be in the Royal Albert Hall on Commemoration Day, and they will be beside those lucky graduates.

The Synopsis

The world moves on, and so do Rectors. Sir Eric Ash will cultivate a taste for chrysanthemums and retire in July 1993. Who will succeed him? The Governing Body is currently considering a short list of candidates ... in total secrecy.

Felix has investigated the procedure whereby a new Rector is selected. Tenacious investigations show that the entire process begins with the current Rector retiring. After the role of the Rector is reviewed, and the conclusions ignored, the post is then advertised in places of academic patronage. A list of candidates is then drawn up by greater minds, or in our case the Governing Body. In rare cases, some candidates decide to raise their profile, especially if from St Mary's. Interviews may be conducted in a rarefied atmosphere (The Holland Club). Following the consideration of all the relevant factors such as fundraising ability, bank balance, fundraising ability, political affiliations, fundraising ability, spouse, wealth of spouse, fundraising ability of spouse, country of origin of spouse, width of spouse, beauty of spouse, lack of academic standing, talent for sleep, resistance to charisma except for fundraising, etcetera, the least likely candidate is selected. Arise the new Rector, OBN.

Should the new Rector wish, an entirely new management team can be imposed, selected, patronised or shagged. As the last one did this, it is entirely possible the new one will. In fact, considering the calibre of the imposters, it is entirely likely they will get the heave. So we tack the new team on to the end, a fate entirely fitting.

1

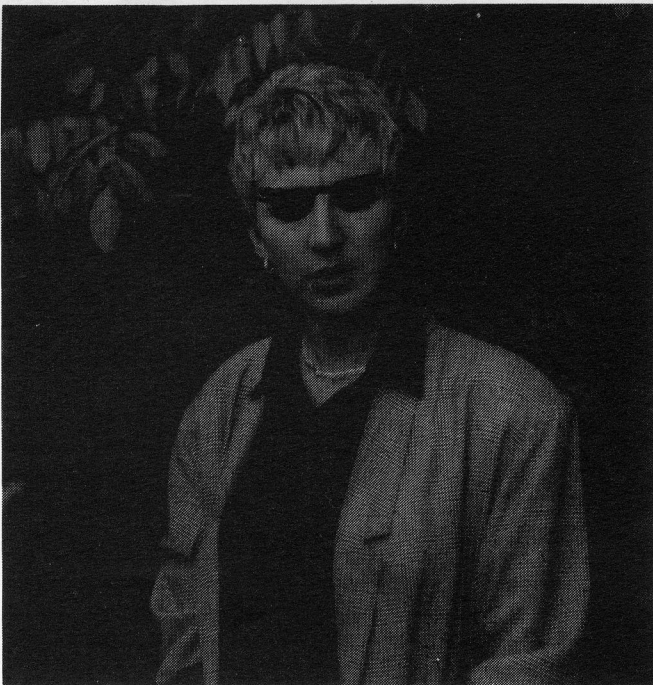
*Once so popular, now reviled,
'Are you out too?' she sadly smiled.*



Once in the midsts of time, and in the mists from the toxic waste centre, a group of parasites clustered. It was then that Sir Eric knew his time was up. 'Neff orff,' said Anne.

4

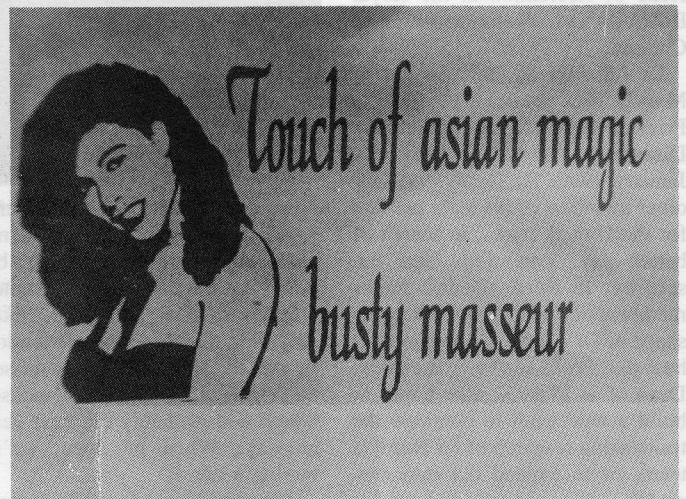
*Some held their heads, maintained their pride,
And would not stoop to lashing hides.*



Even in this place, some maintained their standards, even if they did come from Middlesex. And while there was a vacancy at the top, as opposed to a vacuum, all authority passed to the real power brokers, and not the Sheffield pawn brokers.

5

*Adverts clean and adverts tacky
Try to sell us a government lackey.*



The first wave of advertising was not a complete success, though this never stopped them before. The agency, anxious to earn their stipend, decided to exploit the foreign travel element, even without the BT subsidy. They promised miracles, and they would need to get them. Where else would the money come from?

2

*Before, they chose Sir Eric Ash
To come and run this heap of trash*



As there had been change in recent times, and still more short changing, our lords and mistresses decided to widen the duties. In future, all Rectors will have to do work experience with Kensington Council (director of homosexual studies, Bryan Levitt). This will give them a greater appreciation for what passes as decision making.

3

*This time they thought they'd get it right,
By promising it three times a night.*



Of course, as Angus Fraser found, all top flight recruits are recruited by an outside agency, completely ignoring the internal personnel sector. The calibre of the recruit is proportional to the fee levied. Prime examples of the rigidly run advertising campaign could be seen around London.

6

*Come in, I'm friendly, nice and keen.
I won't put a spanner in the machine.*



In most organisations, the job would pass to the number two. The reason why it didn't happen here is shown in the photograph. Enough said.

7

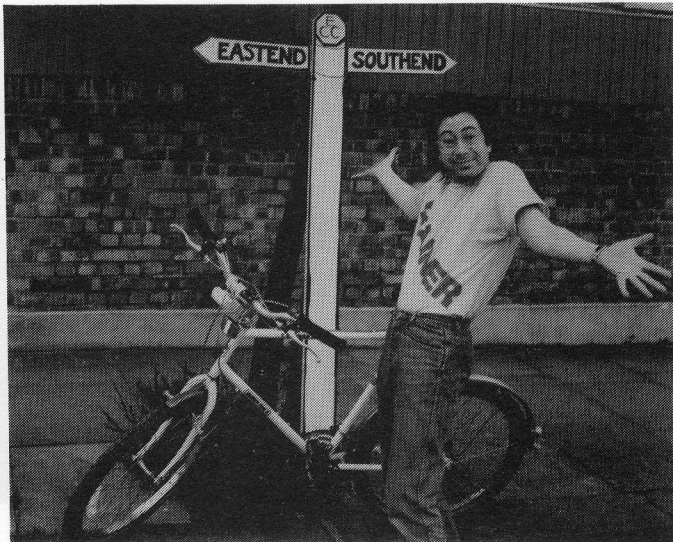
*And on his behalf, his latest appliance,
A campaign to run like Ashdown's alliance.*



Not that he would give up without a fight. Following the lurid standards shown in sabbatical elections, and indeed afterwards, he decided to use the Stapleton/Beavan approach, and flaunt not himself but a seemingly brainless bimbo. A free lash to anyone who spots the difference?

8

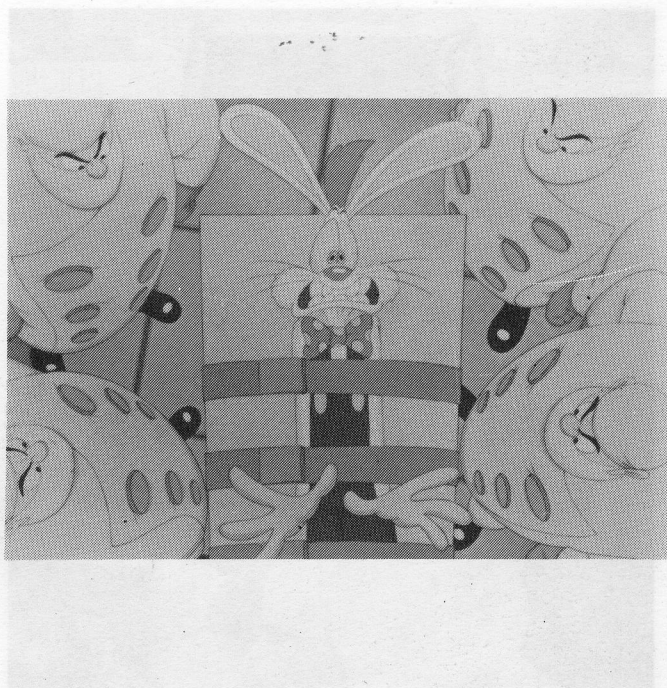
*I'm not funny, I'm not left wing
Farty issues are just my thing.*



One by one, the candidates began to emerge, most from the closet. The college had planned to raise its public profile, and not as the Robert Maxwell Home for Financial Recluses. They wanted an endearing personality and easy public manner. So why is Ben Elton standing?

9

*I'm up for the Rectorship? Holy Moses!
I'd sooner go down with myxomatosis.*



This candidate was a hot runner, especially away from the end of a shotgun. This would make him ideal for dealing with the Inland Revenue, but unfortunately we will never find out how good he would have been on the job. Simon Westerman got to him first. Truly a rogered rabbit.

12

*Selection procedures are far reaching
I'll like to know what he's been teaching.*



The rigor mortis induced by previous methods were discarded this time. Not that this solved that problem. The Governing Body, the old academic graveyard, instituted new challenging procedures. Apart from abseiling down the tower, candidates had to rename as many job titles as possible in sixty seconds. Conversing in fluent American was also a new requirement.

13

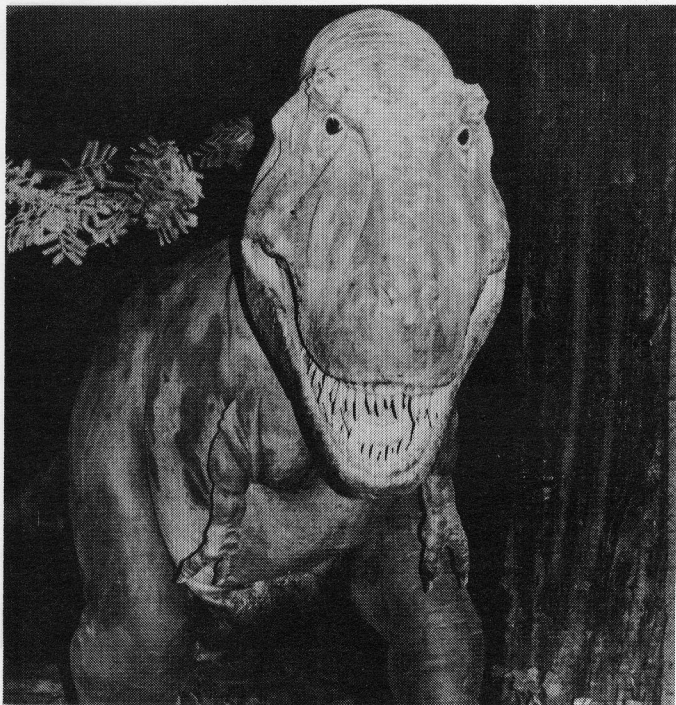
*Water, water, everywhere.
Has no-one thought of this for Clare?*



The exercise went on long into the day. Some children came to watch, confusing the procedure with the HUB Christmas Caper. The Governing Body, that new collection of Father Christmases, or indeed Scrooges, considered the children as the more appropriate candidates. More appropriate, that is, to that who they chose before.

10

*Something younger than before
A bureaucratic dinosaur*



This old brute came from the Transport and General Union, and answers to the name of Todd, or could that be Dodd? He is the only candidate whose constitution could cope with college catering. Scientific name, Stalinistis Dimwitticus, commonly known as dictatorial old fool. It evolved into a chocolate moose.

11

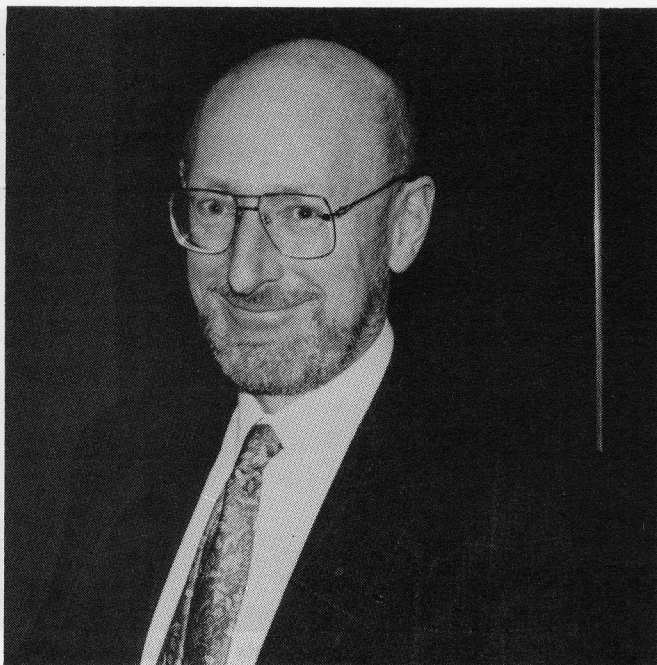
*The unemployed were turned out fine
Being soundly thrashed on April Nine*



Lord Flannelli, recently ennobled for services to the Conservative Party, was to be as successful in this sphere of public life as he was in others. His plans to replace the Queens' Tower with an enormous rose bush were not entirely convincing. Emerging from 170, looking the part, he was uncovered as a common con-man. Exactly the part.

14

*I was just too late, said saddened Clive,
Can someone recharge a Sinclair C5?*



It was thought that the job could be used to extend links with industry. So as not to frighten the administrators, a loss making industry was selected. Unfortunately, British Leyland was too successful on this one, and Philips declined, as they had already provided a Director of Marketing. Sir Clive was having none of it. He was too intelligent, barring him completely.

15

*Sticky moments there could be
Let's keep these hustings trouble free*



Not quite Joe Fernley, but this person was acceptable to the Governing Body as he was previously a permanent secretary in the Ministry of Defence. His succinct body language, and ability to deal with moles, should stir a few of the Governors into making a firm decision.

16 *I think your choice of Rector should be Someone who has woodwork CSE.*



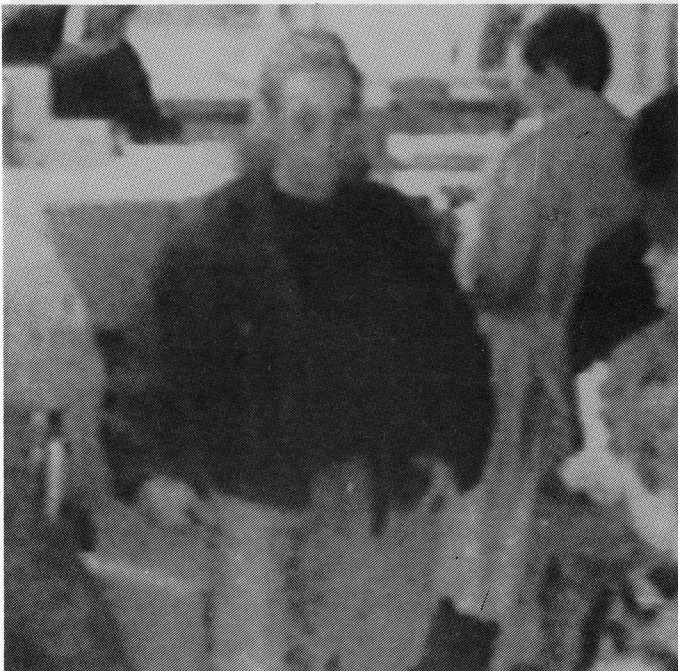
Both Todd and Flannelli shook slightly when this elder statesman appeared to pass judgement. For this man to impart words of wisdom took no time whatsoever, but several mugs of tea. He is apparently barred from the Felix office because of this, despite his musical talent. Well, at least Arthur listens to him.

17 *It's those friendly girls from HUB What do they do? Now there's the rub.*



The qualities and indeed texture of the applicants' spouse are to be actively considered. The last spouse bequeathed the HUB office to the college by poisoned chalice. The poison probably came from some amphibious creature, such as a toad. It serves to coordinate the air flow, and recycle the hot air. It is currently involved in an accounting exercise. A rather creative exercise.

20 *Head of Security, an instant hit they chose him by a video fit.*



John Poindexter was indeed an ideal choice for head of security. His experience includes gate watching, paper shredding, bananas; he was also chosen for his ability to organise Semtex and Tupperware parties. His middle name, not to say his bank balance, is Kalaschnikow.

21 *She laughed, I'm Conferences, I'm impartial, Check it up with Gordon Marshall.*



Oliver North knew the ins and outs of halls, especially Fawn Hall, his former secretary. He was the model appointment to the Conference Office, affairs being all the rage. According to his wife, who is also his best friend, he is a bit of an action man. This should help immeasurably with the maintenance. A stickler for Iranian roulette, he easily sheds waite from his shoulders.

18

*Impartial as ever, this huge trailblazer,
Was here to sing for Angus Fraser.*



The all singing, all dancing Union Dramatic Society, were meanwhile staging their latest production in the Great Hall. This explains the great turnout for the election, or does the election explain these audience figures for a DramSoc production? All credit to their improvisation; someone had stolen their scripts.

19

*Here are the results, just apply season,
What's that, Olly? They've charged me with treason?*



The loud noises that had disrupted the convocation earlier were soon traced. Not to the person, but the rug on his lap, fearing that senility was contagious. And, frankly, while one old fool was appointing another, this one was announcing the names of the new Sherfield set ... Poindexter, North, Bush; who may quail at this?

22

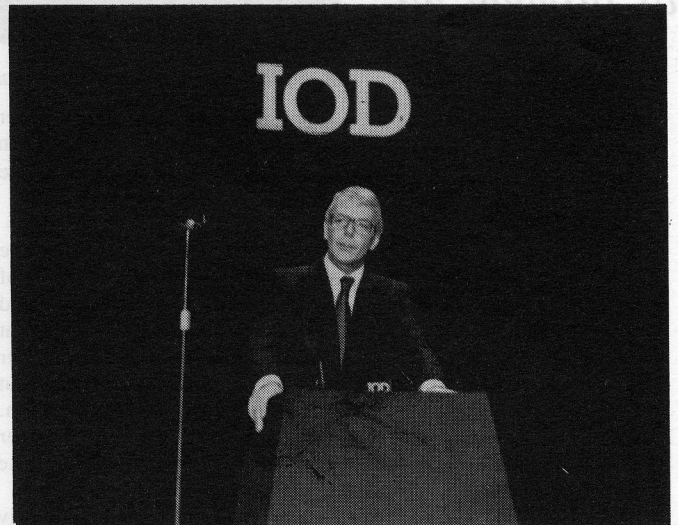
*Director of Estates, the lucky scamp,
Brought in to deal with Rising Damp.*



George Bush had an uncanny likeness to Leonard Rossiter, but not in appearance. His management of the nation's finances resembled the financial practices of the Grot Shop, and indeed the United States current account deficit is dwarfed only by the overdraft on the Estates account, post Montpelier/Clayponds. The rise in the number of homeless in the United States under Bush formed the basis of the IC Accommodation policy, 'Homelessness in the 90s'. Marshall is reported to have said, 'there's nowhere near 90 people homeless'. Indeed, but that was before Southside was abolished.

23

*In charge of finances, that's really funny,
If only I could find some money.*



The replacement to Angus Fraser is 'Charlie Cairrolli-Ball', the famous clown and juggler. He has a long track record in sound political judgement. He joined the Conservative Party. His air of calm diplomacy ensures we need never worry about him being dictated to by those with more than six 'O' levels; he always will be. He will have responsibility for the finances of the kingdom, this being a step up from *Standard Charter*, and indeed the Chancellorship. The new post offers new scope for embarrassment and failure, quite apart from those avenues that have already been exploited in the quest for bungling, bankruptcy and bouncing Czechs. We wish him well.

Despite heroic efforts, Imperial College Union (ICU) meetings have a bit of a reputation for bureaucracy and officiousness. Yet all this is forgiven, as it pales into insignificance when compared with the antics at the University of London Union (ULU) General Union Council (GUC). GUC meetings are horrific, and I am told they always have been. At one

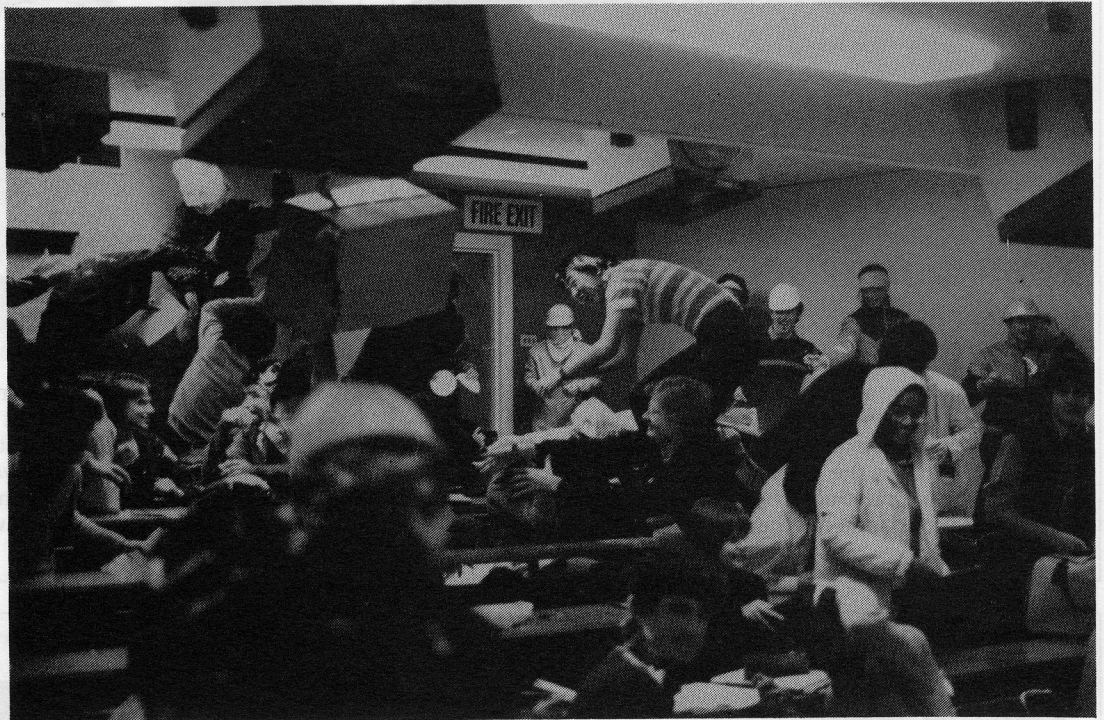
there were ULU card checkers when we tried to register, but none a few minutes later. Curious.

Was the chairman of this meeting really as irritating as I remember? He pleaded for easy treatment, excusing himself by saying that it was his first meeting. Unfortunately it won't be his last, as he will be next year's GUC chairman as well. Minutes and announcements were

procedural motion to move past the elections and reports to the first motion. This was an anti-Fascism motion, heavily amended by the Union of Jewish Students (UJS). This procedural motion was defeated. There were then nominations for three posts of GUC representative to the ULU management committee. Smita Biswas from the London School of

A Question of Race

*Viqar Ahmad
and Declan
Curry were at
the University of
London Union
General Council
at which the
issue of racism
was brought up*



Fun and games at a completely unconnected Union meeting.

stage, we were discussing whether to vote on allowing a vote on an amendment to an amendment to the motion. I kid you not.

This advanced form of torture was convened to elect a fistful of officers, hear four reports and debate seven ordinary motions. Fat chance. Three and a half hours later we had got as far as debating, but not voting on, the first motion. Well, not exactly on the motion *per se*, but eight times on the amendments to it.

The meeting began innocently enough with opening remarks from the ULU President. She should have saved her breath - most delegates were massing towards the bar or coffee machine in preparation for the long night ahead. A swift perusal of the minutes showed that IC had skipped the last meeting. Such a vast number of IC delegates mobbed the entrance - four in all - that there was a danger of us being turned away from this meeting. Apparently I was Angie Creissen and rather strangely

dispensed with, and on to the elections we went. Not quite. First a frustratingly futile discussion on who should be allowed into the meeting to observe. Given that this is the General Union Council of the University of London Union, one may have assumed that any student in the University of London would be allowed to watch what was being perpetrated in his or her name. One is naïve. A list of all the observers demanding death by boredom was read out. No names were immediately recognisable, though our very own Louise van der Straeten, the IC Union Finance Officer, turned up later. The Chairman then barred the observers from entry, a decision which was challenged from the floor. The Chairman refused to accept the challenge because the challenger couldn't quote chapter and verse from the constitution. Copy of constitution passed round. Chairman rechallenged. Observers allowed in at last. Roll on voluntary membership.

Immediately there was a

Economics, David Lee Peller of King's College, and Mark Richer of the Royal Veterinary College were elected unopposed. Smita Biswas was also elected unopposed as GUC representative to the Committee on Student Activities and Management. Mark Richer defeated Re-Open Nominations for the post of Access Officer. Nazmin Hussain was defeated by Re-Open Nominations for the post of Postgraduate Officer. Richer was the only candidate to circulate a manifesto before the meeting, and the only candidate to speak.

After the elections came a repeat of the procedural motion to move straight on to the anti-fascism motion. This caused considerable annoyance and it was defeated even more heavily than before. Oh, the futility of it all. Had the meeting continued without these interruptions the anti-fascism motion may well have been reached by this point.

The report from the ULU President concentrated on proposed cuts at the School of Oriental and

African Studies (SOAS) and the University of London Library, as well as proposals for a new staff protocol at ULU. The University Funding Council's announcement of a 3% cut in the SOAS budget led to fears that their Phonetics and Linguistics Department would be closed. Although this did not happen, there was less success in resisting the cuts at the University of London Library. All that could be reported was that ULU had done what it could and there was still a real danger that there could be a cap on registration. Ms Win said that the staff protocol was necessary to 'safeguard sound industrial relations.'

After this and other reports, the meeting lurched towards the anti-fascism motion. The original (substantive) motion was proposed

Oh, the futility of it all

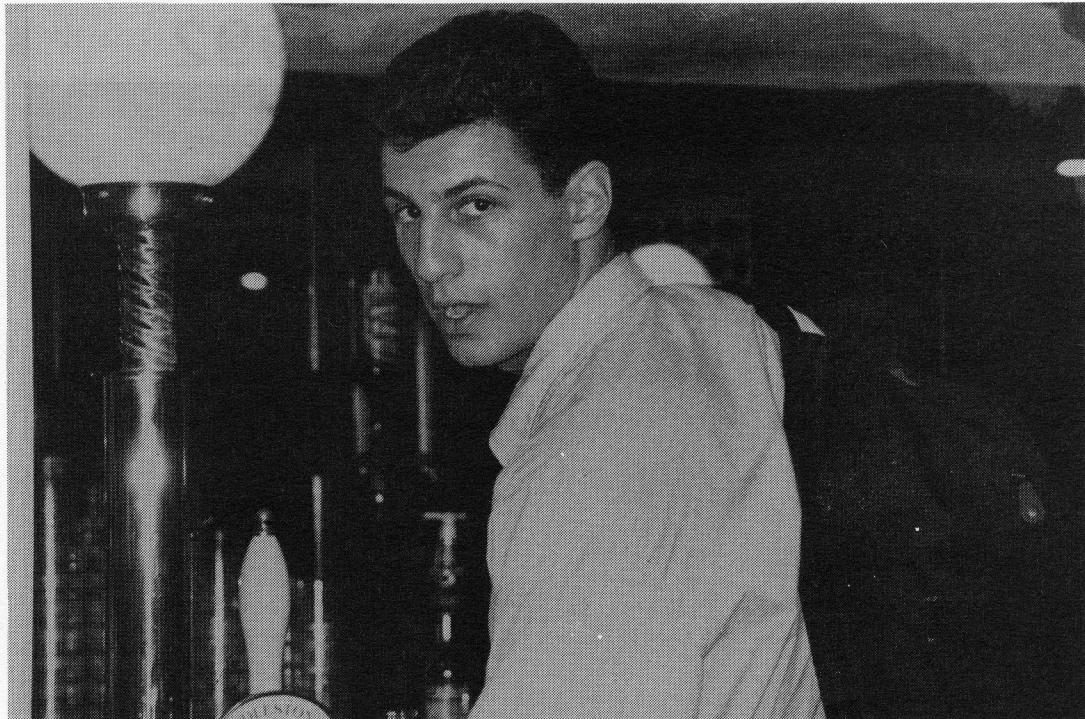
by Tarn Lamb, ULU's Vice President of Welfare, and proposed the setting up of caucuses - or talking shops - for groups or individuals that are prone to racial harassment. In an ugly and unseemly attempt to hijack the caucuses, this motion was heavily amended by the Union of Jewish Students (UJS), with 14 separate amendments tabled. Seven of these were accepted by the proposer, so that the original motion now supported political lobbying which urged the suppression of 'holocaust revisionist' (effectively pro-Nazi) material. This together with the opposition to the Asylum Bill leaves all expenditure on the motion open to question on the grounds of legality.

Amendments recognising the UJS as the representative body of Jewish students were defeated after a revote called in controversial circumstances. The cause of the UJS was dealt a blow by a speech from Mark Samuels, next year's ULU President. Mr Samuels, who pointed out that he was Jewish, said that the UJS was not representative; he was not a member of UJS. He also made a veiled allegation that the UJS was blatantly sectarian in its approach to the motion by claiming a monopoly on racial

abuse. 'The UJS have jumped the gun on the motion,' he added. Jeremy Neumark, of the UJS, said that even the National Union of Students (NUS) regarded the UJS as the representative body. He omitted to mention that this was possibly due to the deal stitched up between the UJS and the National Organisation of Labour Students (NOLS) at a recent NUS conference which allowed NOLS to overturn a vote they had earlier lost.

With the discussion on six amendments taking close to two

Council meeting of the year, at the University of London Union. The attempts made by Tarn Lamb (the VP Services and Welfare) at ULU to propose some kind of motion regarding the fight against fascism were 'joked' by one small group of students. The motion was designed as a commencure to fight the rise of an abhorrent form of mutilation of Human Rights. However, the Union of Jewish Students felt that they were the only people who were affected by this, to the exclusion of all other white and black students.



Mark Samuels, next year's ULU President.

hours, the council was getting restless and quorum was called - and defeated - several times. At this point, a procedural motion was moved to end the meeting, with all passed amendments being written into the motion. This included a motion calling on council to support the work of Searchlight magazine. The IC delegation's suggestion that this could be construed as an illegal (*ultra vires*) payment because there was no direct educational benefit to students was rejected by Tarn Lamb, ULU Vice President (Welfare). Jeremy Neumark of UJS then dug the grave further by revealing that Searchlight also ran a monitoring programme, the results of which were used for party political purposes, and that Searchlight had refused to condemn acts of violence against fascists. This clause will now be discussed along with the rest of the motion at a later date.

Viqar Ahmad, Publication Sabbatical at King's College London, adds:

I attended the last General Union

I praise their vociferous and active fight against those who feel a necessity to deny the citizens of our community and equal opportunity in society today - all our parents and grandparents remember only too well the atrocities committed against their people. But this must be one of unity and those that oppose the UJS in turning this fight into a zionist crusade may be wrongly branded as either anti-semitic, or worse still as fascist. We are neither anti-semitic nor are we fascist.

The targets of fascism are of all colours, creeds and races, and not Jews alone. May I point out that France has the strongest support for fascism in Europe today and it is the severely impoverished black Algerian population that is the target of their hatred. In this country, the four million people of Asian descent have been, for years, targets for such abuse.

I live in fear of our own future if we are unable to unite here, to treat each other with adequate respect.

*The targets of
fascism are of
all colours,
creeds and
races and not
just jews alone.*

Well, with two days to go before the end of term, now seems a good time as any to reflect upon the happenings of the year pertaining to the clubs and societies pages of FELIX.

The year started with a bang as usual with the Freshers' Fair. This is the annual event in which naive new students came along in their masses, wondering what the hell college life was all about. However, they only found slightly older and wiser students ready to take their

Nonetheless, you tried your best Ben, which is a darn sight more than what other people mustered during the rest of the time.

Throughout the year, Film Soc and ICSF provided us with regular bits of news concerning their latest showings. So a round of applause to them for being so well organised, and for fully utilising the advertising power of FELIX for their members. However, these plaudits are not meant for Alex McLintock, who in rather mitigating circumstances,

photos taken. What will all this vanity come to!

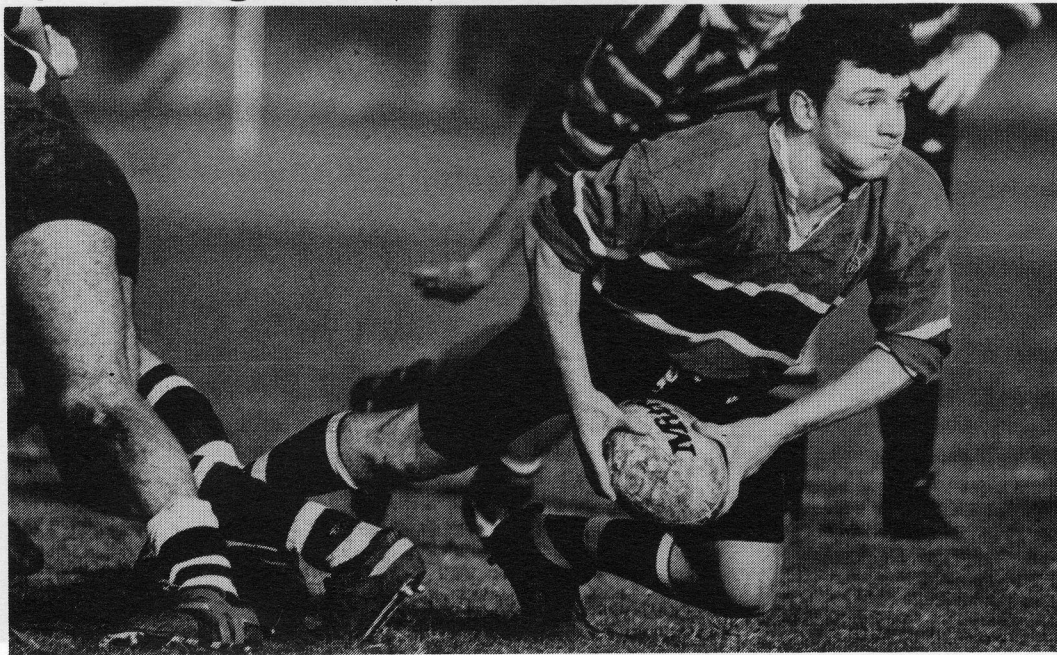
Together with this increased awareness amongst the clubs, the results table (a regular feature in the good old days) made a jubilant come-back. This enabled clubs to let the rest of IC know about the progress in their respective activities rather than having to write tedious reports, which as we all know, are very hard to come by, especially those that actually tell us what really happened during a game.

The less well known clubs also had their moments in the year. The TH Huxley (come Humanist) Society mourned the death of Gene Rodenbury, the creator of Star Trek, (yes, he's dead Jim), while the Chess Club organised The Mestel Challenge: 16 simultaneous games of chess against the former British champion, of which he lost only one. IC SEDS also played their part by inviting leading names in the space world to give talks on the space shuttle and the Apollo missions. And what about the canoe water-poloists who gamely conceded a match against Bath, all in the name of sport! However, later on in January, they did manage a win or two, but as with all good things, this is when I lost touch with them and can't honestly say what became of them.

So, what major award winning achievements did IC clubs attain during the year? Well, the Dance Club won the annual Intervarsity Dancing Competition, held in the Sheffield Octagon, by beating their old rivals Cambridge in the final. This was a tense affair, with both colleges producing fine performances, but the exceptional dancing of the Waltz and Quickstep pairs, in the final, managed to edge the result in IC's favour. Further afield, the IC First Eight Boat Crew travelled to Japan to compete in their version of the Henley Regatta. Having won their heat, by beating a very strong American crew (five of the oarsmen being internationals), they faced Bristol University in the final together with two Japanese teams. The final took place in terrible conditions, but with true gritty determination, the IC crew beat the opposition to clinch victory and retain their title. With the entire race screened live on Japanese television, the Boat Club must truly now have an international reputation!

In our domestic scene, St Mary's Rugby XV emphatically won the Hospitals Cup (the oldest rugby competition in the world) by beating University College 49-0 in the final. In the process Mary's created three

Sporting Review 1991-1992



Probably the best photograph ever taken by our intrepid photographer, Simon Govier.

*Khurram Sair,
the Felix Clubs
Societies and
Sports editor
reflects on
this year's
achievements*

hard earned money (in the name of memberships) in exchange for promises of activities and events as suitable alternatives to the monotony of lectures and practicals. On reflection, it may be said that some of these promises may have been fulfilled, but it is a sad fact that very few clubs actually met the high expectations placed in the minds of members whilst enlisting. I bet many of you are still wondering why the hell you joined a particular society, especially one that hasn't even bothered to contact you throughout the year. Well now you're all a bit wiser and will know better next year.

Once the hustle and bustle of the first week died away, clubs started to use FELIX as a medium in which to lure more unsuspecting students into their grasp. A good example of this was a series of articles by Ben Quant on behalf of ICU Christian Outreach. These were by all accounts very long and well reasoned arguments, but to the majority of us they were, and let's be frank about this, rather pointless.

was appointed Typographical Error Editor by Adam (we've made up now - Ed). Since he failed miserably in fulfilling this post, the editor is still accepting applications for this vacancy. So if anyone is interested, please come into the FELIX office for an application form.

As the novelty of being at IC wore off, November saw the first photos of one of the IC's clubs in action. Yes, our intrepid FELIX photographer had taken on mission impossible, and travelled with the RCS Mens 1st XV rugby team to Chiswick. (Not bad, since I had sent him to Harlington!). The team, somewhat chuffed at having its picture taken, produced a performance which was sufficient to beat Goldsmith College 7-6, and for them to appear on the front page of issue 915.

With this apparent willingness of FELIX to provide a photographer, other clubs decided to get in on the act. And thus the Hockey Club, the Mens Basketball team and even the Dribblers wanted to have their

new records: six consecutive triumphs, a records point margin, and the most successful hospital of all time by overtaking Guy's record of thirty win in the competition. The game itself will be remembered for two glorious tries involving the whole team and finished under the posts by the second row. Later on in March, Mary's went on to win the National Medical Schools Sevens competition for a third consecutive time. During the tournament, the team received raving reviews by all who saw them in action. However, Cardiff took Mary's into sudden death extra time in the final, but they held their nerve to win 21-18. The IC 1st XV also had their finest season to date. Having won the South-East title for the fifth consecutive time, they beat Charing Cross and Westminster Hospital 31-0 to win the Gutteridge Cup, in a one sided contest. However, three days later, they were beaten in the semi-final of the UAU championship by Durham. This was the first time an IC rugby team had ever ventured beyond the quarter-finals of the UAU - a very distinguished performance.

The IC women football team, aka The Dribblers, also had a very successful season. Having been depleted of a few players (notably Captain Permi) they were beaten in the semi-final of the UL Cup by Kings College. However, at full strength, the Dribblers were a rampant team, over-running all in their path. In the end, the University League title rested on the final game of the season, against KCH. Victory for either team would ensure them claiming the championship. With the defence working overtime, the Dribblers managed to fight off an early surge by KCH to take a 2-0 lead at half time. The second half produced some good skill by both teams, but the Dribbler increased their lead and finally ran out winners 4-1. Together with the league title, the Dribblers also secured their title as top boat racers in London, with a fine display after the game!

On a little reporting note, the Dribblers were the only ACC club to provide regular match reports of their games throughout the year. Their attitude was nothing less than exemplary. Since these pages are the sports pages of the IC, it would help if the ACC clubs got their act together and actually contributed on a more frequent basis. My job description does not entail me chasing up captains in the vain hope that they may put pen to paper. If nothing else, the members of these clubs should expect results and reports to appear in FELIX. After

all, if a team or person has played exceptionally well during a game, I think it is worth a mention in a magazine which is supposedly meant to represent them.

The fortunes of the womens team compared favourably with those of the six mens teams. The 1st team remained unbeaten whilst fielding their strongest team. But as is the case with a long season, injuries put paid to any hopes they may have had of gaining trophies. Of the other teams, the 4ths managed an excellent achievement by winning promotion to Division 3, while the 2nds and 3rds finished fourth and third in their respective divisions.

winning medals stakes, the womens running team are the champs by far. The team, consisting of Edwidge Patel, Kristina Semple, Kate !!! and Maria Raimondi, managed to win no less than fifteen medals in the UL championships, held at the Tooting Bec track. Well done girls! After not fielding a team in the UL championships for ages, the swimming club not only entered a team, but won the tournament team trophy convincingly. I think they should enter a team on a more regular basis!

I would like to thank Simon for the photographs, Gunny for support and Rose for typesetting.



An IC canoe water-poloist trying to lose sportingly.

Of other clubs performing well, the Ten Pin Bowling Team reached the quarter-finals of the UAU championship. They also ran a 14 hour sponsored bowl, raising £821.26 for the Sportsman Aid Ward at Middlesex Hospital. The ladies badminton team reached the UAU semi-finals before being overwhelmed by Exeter ladies whereas the men faired less favourably, being knocked out in the early rounds of the UAU. In the British Universities Judo Championship in Glasgow, IC took six medals in total. Kev Brooks, Reg Cook and Hermann Gottschalk each won silver in the ten-man team event, whilst Kev also won silver in the five-man team event. However, the best performance came from Reg who won silver medals in the individual U60 kg event as well as the combined British Universities and Polytechnics competition. In the

FilmSoc and ICSF

Lethal Weapon 3, Batman Returns, Basic Instinct, Alien 3, The Player and Wayne's World... some of the blockbusters showing at Imperial College Union very soon. The all-new FilmSoc and ICSF cinema will be opening its doors straight after Freshers' Week and these are just a handful of the films on offer next term.

Brand new 35mm projection equipment is to be installed over the summer for better picture quality and improved film availability. There is a change of venue; if everything goes to plan, new seating is planned for the Union Concert Hall, and a new, bigger screen will be fitted. Films will be shown in Dolby Stereo, hopefully on a full surround sound system. To

start off with, FilmSoc will present a hit movie every Thursday evening and there will be Science Fiction goodies from ICSF every Tuesday, with as many films as possible in 70mm cinemascope.

Admission prices have not been fixed yet but should not exceed £2, very reasonable for an evening showing in London. You can even get in for free—in return for doing a bit of projecting, or helping with publicity. There are some ambitious plans for the future—multiple showings, double bills, weekend all-day marathons...the possibilities are endless. So, next term, see films as they were meant to be seen—on FilmSoc's big screen.

**Ian Nichol, Civ Eng 1,
FilmSoc Chairman 92/93.**

Well it's been a storming year for Rag with over a hundred people benefitting from our wonderful incentive scheme. For anyone who doesn't know, raising £50 gets you a Rag mug, £150 for a Rag collector's T-shirt and if you've raised the amazing sum of £300 you become the proud owner of a 300 club sweatshirt. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who's collected for Rag this year and record here for posterity those people who've collected enough for an incentive (or three!)

Anyone who hasn't yet picked up their mug can collect it from the Rag office (second floor, east

staircase of Union Building). If you've already got your mug and fancy getting another we'll be selling spare ones off while stocks last for £2.00.

In Case you feel you've missed out on all these goodies let me assure you that the Rag year isn't over yet! We still have collections at the Proms Concerts in the Albert Hall and the Royal Tournament. If you're going to be in London at anytime during the summer and want to do a spot of collecting come up to the Rag office before the end of term to find out more. Remember, you too could get some of these lovely goodies.

Rag's Bounty



Midsummer '92

It's the end of term and we're organising a party for **everyone**. You may have been so emersed in exams that you couldn't think beyond the day—so open up your diaries now and make a date for **Midsummer 92** on 26 June at Sherfield—no one need celebrate the end of term alone. Relax in the festive summer spirit of the occasion, put your troubles behind you, come and join us at Sherfield for a fun packed evening.

Midsummer 92 gets off to a sporting start at 6.00pm when croquet makes a welcome comeback on the Queens Law. The Imperial College Orchestra

conducted by Richard Dickens play Richard Strauss Serenades at 6.30 and delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served by some of the 22 overseas societies represented at IC. Other entertainments before a fantastic dinner at 8.30 include jugglers, wandering musicians, fortune telling and portraiture. And to round off this fabulous summer evening? Toe tapping jazz from our favourite jazz band—the perfect end to a hectic term!

Tickets at £9.50 include all musical entertainments and dinner and are available from HUB, Room 355 Sherfield extensions 3021/3405.

Mugs

- Sonia Abubacker
- Chris Allen
- Nick Allen
- Nick Andell
- Tim Atkinson
- Matthew Balchin
- Nainish Bapna
- Adrian Barret
- Jayne Batt
- Tim Bavister
- Michelle Began
- Alex Bell
- Paula Bhattacharyya
- Julie Bieles
- James Bourne
- Pete Bowen
- Tamsin Braisher
- Peter Brent
- Craig Brierley
- Mark Bunyan
- Kathleen Burrell
- Simon Burton
- Lorrie Butler
- Sophie Carnaby
- Clare Caulfield
- Michael Chamberlain
- Christina Chan
- Pete Charters
- Louise Collison
- Adrian Cooke
- Alison Couchman
- Sam Cox
- Scott Creed
- Rachel Curran
- Declan Curry
- Jean-Paul Delahaye
- Paul Dias
- Stephen Dorman
- Keith Dowling
- James Duckenfield
- Jonathon Edwards
- Penguin
- Duncan Emery
- Rokiah Esa
- Aled Fenner
- Naomi Finn
- Zara Flynn
- Richard Froggett
- Dave Goddard
- Maxine Goldsworth
- Edwin Griffiths
- Paul Griffiths
- Bruce Hall
- Massie Harper
- Martin Heighway
- Flemming Heino
- Dave Henderson-Begg
- Sarah Hortop
- Alex Howard
- Norman Hui
- Nick Hutter
- Jason Ing
- Samin Ishtiaq
- Maxim Jalil
- Demi Jones
- Toby Jones
- Horst Kausch
- Cathy Kenny
- Charles Kirk
- Daniel Kitcher
- Beccy Land
- Catherine Low
- Fai Mak
- Barry Mallon
- James Madden
- Ben Mars
- Joanne Martin

- R. Matthews
- Andrew McCall
- Laurie McNamee
- Phil McWalker
- Sandip Mehta
- Lorna Mountford
- Rachel Mountford
- Richard Murray
- Steve Newhouse
- Chris Pease
- Juliet Pickering
- Rhian Picton
- Mattieu Pinel
- Kate Pope
- Pete Purdie
- Jose Ramos
- Mark Richardson
- Stuart Rison
- Helen Samuels
- Marion Satgunan
- Phil Sharp
- Vikram Singh
- Deepti de Soya
- Stef Smith
- Will Stallard
- Russell Stephenson
- John St.Hill
- Phil Strother
- Jim Sullivan
- Kate Syred
- Alex Tavener
- Paul Thomas
- Adrian Treverton
- Jan Troska
- Betty Tsang
- Steffan Tudor
- Clare Vine
- Joanne Wade
- Sarah Welsh
- Dave Woodcock
- T-Shirts**
- Nick Allen
- Tim Atkinson
- Jayne Batt
- Michelle Began
- Pete Bowen
- Tamsin Braisher
- Mark Bunyan
- Sophie Carnaby
- Michael Chamberlain
- Sam Cox
- Scott Creed
- Bruce Hall
- Cathy Kenny
- Fai Mak
- Lorna Mountford
- Rachel Mountford
- Chris Pease
- Stuart Rison
- Will Stallard
- John St.Hill
- Phil Strother
- Adrian Treverton
- Dave Woodcock
- Sweatshirts**
- Nick Allen
- Tim Atkinson
- Pete Bowen
- Tamsin Braisher
- Mark Bunyan
- Micheal Chamberlain
- Bruce Hall
- Rachel Mountford
- Stuart Rison
- Dave Woodcock

The Pimlico Connection, a tutoring scheme run at Imperial College, published its 17th Annual Report last Friday. The report shows a 30% increase in the number of Imperial College students taking part in the scheme, which involves them acting as volunteer tutors in local primary and secondary schools. John Hughes, BP Fellow for Student Tutoring, has expressed his thanks to the 130 Imperial students 'who have given up nearly six thousand hours during the course of this year to assist local teachers and pupils'.

The scheme has been widely hailed by educationalists and the educational press. Imperial's tutors have been called 'pioneers in the appliance of science' by the *Guardian*, and 'role model students' by the *Times Educational Supplement*. After an afternoon's training, students volunteer to go out on a Wednesday afternoon to tutor in maths, science or technology. The tutors work individually or in small teams under the direction of the teacher. The tutors mainly help with practical work, where an extra set of hands and a fresh approach proves useful. The work involves a partnership not only with the teacher, but also with the pupils.

Pupils say that the tutors are 'easier to relate to'. 'They were not like teachers, they were like friends,' said one. Teachers are also appreciative of the tutors' work. Stephanie Pojak, a link teacher at St Clements and St James Primary School said, 'Wednesday afternoons with the students are a gift. You have an intelligent, scientifically minded young adult able to help. The greatest reward is knowing that the children are getting immediate and constant contact and supervision.'

Of the Imperial students, 95% felt they were getting practice in simple

scientific communication skills; 85% felt their self confidence increased; and 95% felt that they were doing something useful with what they had learned. Only 3% thought the tutoring scheme greatly interfered with their college studies. One tutor said, 'tutoring has given me some of my happiest moments at Imperial. The children told me

organised several dinners in Chinese and Indian restaurants, to celebrate Christmas and half term and such like. Tutors from across London were invited to a free Carvery Pre-Christmas dinner at the Cumberland Hotel. The society organised an Open Day for Pimlico children in March. Nearly 150 children came to Imperial College,

The Pimlico Connection



and showed me how much they enjoy us being there. We, as well as the kids, benefitted from each other.'

The tutoring is complemented by social activities, organised by the Pimlico Connection Student Society, part of the Social Clubs Committee (SCC) of Imperial College Union. The society has

and took part in various activities, such as climbing Queen's Tower. The Open Day followed on from the success of the Annual Christmas Caper, organised jointly by the Pimlico Society and the HUB Office.

Imperial's experience of student tutoring will be one of the schemes to be discussed at a London Teachers' Workshop on Student Tutoring this Thursday. The workshop, which is jointly sponsored by BP and Imperial College, will study the development of tutoring schemes, with a view to further expansion. This expansion is being aided by Community Service Volunteers (CSV), whose 'Learning Together' programme is being funded by the City of London's Lord Mayor's National Appeal. CSV's Education Manager, John Potter, aims to develop the scheme in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and there are plans to extend tutoring into arts and languages. At Imperial, John Hughes hopes that the new academic year will see yet more tutors involved with the Pimlico Connection, when it restarts in October.

'They were not like teachers, they were like friends.'

Careers Information

●WHAT next after the Milkround: Further seminars will be held in the Summer vacation if there is sufficient demand.

Penultimate years: Start thinking about your future now, especially if you have no idea what you want to do. The Careers Service is well equipped to help you with information and advice. Drop in and speak to a Careers Adviser between 1.30 and 2.30pm or phone 3251 for advice or an appointment. Look out for our mailshot to you at the start of next term with details of the Milkround, Presentations, Talks Programme and Seminars.

Finalists: Start job hunting now, there are still some vacancies around, but these may be filled by the end of July. Don't rely on the Summer Fairs. Make speculative but well targeted applications. Come to the Careers Service for advice.

Postgraduates: You should make good use of the Careers Service during the summer vacation and book an appointment with a Careers Adviser at a time to suit yourself.

For further information come to the Careers Service, Room 310 Sheffield—open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

This year has seen the development of one of IC Union's mSCs (minor subcommittees) to heights previously undreamed of. The subject in question being Rag, Imperial's excuse for doing loads of silly things in the name of charity. To celebrate our rise to fame, here is a look back, in words and pictures, over the last year.

Bug-A-Ewe '92 kicked off in style with the infamous Tiddlywinking down Oxford

refers to a pile of cannonballs—humm), eighty of IC's bravest lunatics leapfrogged over Camden Lock, danced on bus shelters outside BBC TV Centre and searched frantically for pieces of ladies underwear outside the Cutty Sark. Not a day to be forgotten in a hurry!

Three weeks into term and with the fun only just beginning, Rag had already raised a staggering £12,500. And that was

inventive use of a blunt piece of piping and a piece of candlewax (!), as an atmosphere of murder, mystery and suspense pervaded College in the run-up to the second outside boardgame of the year, Cluedo.

Accusations and hypotheses filled the air as teams tried to discover who killed Penguin, by visiting the board locations and bribing the marshalls to tell them the identity of the murderer. Many people were none the wiser when the dirty deed turned out to have been done by Mrs Peacock, a sabbatical at Keele University, but this did not detract from the general fun and frolics at the massive party afterwards.

Shock, horror, oh my God! No one quite realised how far Rag was (still is) prepared to go in the name of charity...jumping off a 180 foot crane with only a piece of elastic attached and actually *enjoying* it? But then, the experience has been compared favourably to sex, and at four seconds is reputed to last longer! No comment, but if there's enough public demand, Rag could be persuaded to try it again...!

May 16th saw the long-awaited Rag Fête, complete with coconut shy, balloon race and the major attraction, Gunge Wrestling. Slimy, slippery and indisputably green—what better to cover yourself with on a sunny Saturday afternoon? With the opportunity to throw nasty, cold, wet sponges at the Union sabs, and the return of the Hit Squad and their speciality flans, those people that turned up had a much better and messier time than those that stayed and revised in their rooms.

One of the attractions of Rag events is the chance to do not only things that are not normally morally expected, but also to go to things you couldn't normally afford. For instance, a group of dedicated collectors turned up to six nights of Sinatra concerts at the Royal Albert Hall. Not only did everyone amass loads of dosh for Leukaemia Research, but they also got the chance to see Cleo Lane and Johnnie Dankworth (naff jazz singer and better saxophonist), not to mention the great, the amazing 'Frankie Boy' himself singing *My Way* and *New York New York*. Just goes to show that collecting has its perks.

Well, so much for the quick run-down to this year's events. Hopefully those of you that were 'Mad, Silly and Part of It' have had a laugh remembering some of the stupid things you got involved in, and those that didn't now have more idea of what to expect next year. Last year Rag was discreet, but next year we're gonna be unavoidable.

Rag's Rise to Fame



*Tamsin
Braisher,
ragette
extraordinaire,
reviews the past
year's
behaviour. Such
a waste of an
education...*

Street—tough on the hands and knees, not to mention the poor shoppers. Consolation for the 220 still enthusiastic students involved came in the form of the even more infamous Drink-A-Pub-Dry, a small, sober pat-on-the-back for those that helped raise over £2,800 for Action aid in just one morning.

Tiddlywinking and tiddlydrinking were closely followed by Rag's second event of the year, the hugely successful Live Monopoly, which incorporated a crazy 18-hour, non-stop, overnight collection. Fancy dress was the order of the day with outfits ranging from plain silly to the downright absurd—and moods to match.

Having rampaged through London collecting bits of Old Kent Road and desperately trying to avoid the roving jail van, the surviving, and as yet undaunted, collectors passed on to the next event—The Great Sightseeing Challenge. In weather that would have frozen the balls off a brass monkey (I'm told that actually

before...wait for it...da da dum...Rag Week.

A whole nine days of sheer stupidity and total disruption that many people still recall with horror...What but Rag can explain why 38 otherwise normal, sane (in most cases anyway) students stood up in their underwear in front of a television camera and huge slaving audience to auction off 24 hours of their time;

Why else would two people stroll naked and 3-legged through Knightsbridge on a busy Saturday morning in November getting stopped by the police on the way, if not for the Sponsored Nude Kamikaze Parachute Jump? (OK, OK, so they were actually wearing bow ties around their necks.)

And as for the RCS Beer Festival—what more an excuse do 1,200 people need to spend 11 hours celebrating the ancient art of drinking than that of raising over £3,000 for charity at the same time?

The second term began with a bang...or a stabbing...or the

Poets' Licence

First published in Phoenix, 1932

It is proposed that in future all poets should be licensed. Hereunder is appended the official form on which all applications are to be made.
Form 64 P.L. 85 C.&G.

BOARD OF FISHERIES

P.T.O

Tel. Victoria 6800.

POETS (LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF) ACT, 1932
99 Geo. V. Cap. 7. Boots 6½

Paragraph 1. Application for Form for Registration

To apply for an application form, fill in form 264 P.L. 92 R.C.S. (obtainable at any Post Office, Labour Exchange or Woolworth Stores (nothing over 6d.) or an application at the above address (see below)).

Section B. Form for Application. ★

Name of applicant.....

(Write surname first in block letters and any other names in order of occurrence)

Name of Applicant's Father.....

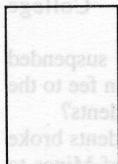
(State whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Name of Applicant's Mother.....

(Penalty for filling in 'Ma' here, is 40/- or 7 days)

Do you consider your style ?

- (1) Romantic
- (3) Aliphatic
- (2) Byzantine
- (7) Mezzanine
- (11) Asinine



Affix 6d. stamp
here
for entertainment
tax

Section 7. Read this aloud. Any person found guilty of supplying details known to be false will be charged with larceny, felony and antimony and will be discharged on December 5th.

	WE	THEY
Honours		
Tricks		

For Office Use Only

Write a limerick beginning:

There was a young fellow of the Imperial College of Science and Technology,
.....
.....
.....

Have you written a lyric about increasing the height of a chimney ?

Section 2 (Schedule M.5)
Are you a bon fide poet, or merely mortified? ...
Wouldn't you rather be—
Answer yes
(a) a Bookmaker..... in
(b) a Victualler..... each case
(c) a Broadcast receiver.....
Don't you think after all you'd rather be a dog?
Then why the * are you filling in
an application to be a poet?.....
* Penalty for obscene language is £5

Schedule H2S. Intelligence Test.
In the following sentence underline the least inappropriate adjective. A Hostel kipper is fundamental, empirical, exponential, irrational, indeterminate.

Affix Coupons Here.

The above questions are liable to change without notice

VERY IMPORTANT
This form is to be filled in
in ink and then sent in an
addressed envelope to
The Governor,
Pentonville Scrubs,
W.E.2

Please mention the weather in replying to advertisers

R.S.V.P. 7692/R.S.M./831

★ To be used in emergency only.

R. Cross all this out.

X. Change at Earl's Court.

P.T.O.
(OVER)

To simplify work in connection with applications the following reply has been standardized:—

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your application received on the . . . of the month before last has been handed over to the Lunacy Commissioners to whom all further communications should be addressed.

Yours indulgently,

This quiz covers news stories reported within Felix over the past year. All the answers can be found within issues 909 to 939. Please hand in your answers together with a caption for the photograph, marked 'Felix 91/92 News Quiz' to the Felix office by 12.30pm by Friday 9th October 1992.

A bottle of 'Jim Beam' bourbon whiskey will be given to the person who, in the opinion of the editor, gives the most correct and/or witty answers. In the event of a tie (assuming we get enough entries to even allow a tie), the caption for the photograph will be used as a tie breaker. Staff of Felix, and their immediate relatives, need not apply. The Editor's decision is final, and no correspondence can be entered into. So there!

News Quiz 1991-1992

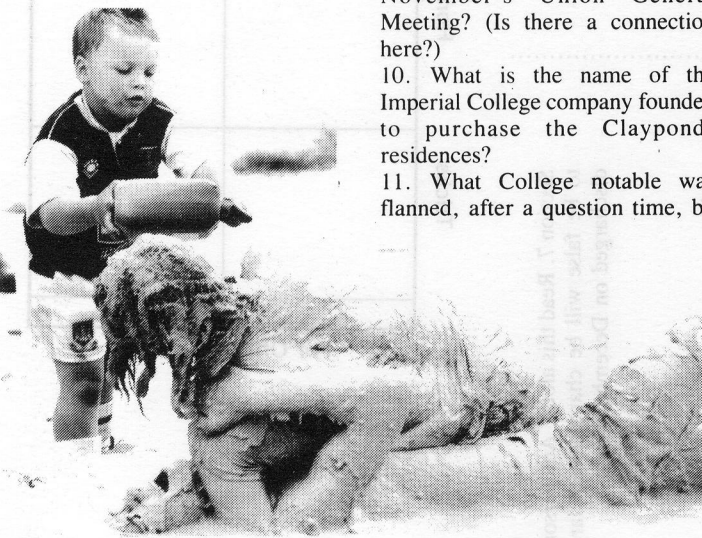
Part 1

1. What centres did HRH Princess Anne open last year?
2. What was the estimated total cost of last year's Union Building refurbishment?
3. What value forged notes were detected by the bar?
4. What band was due to play in the Union building last October?

5. What hours were expected for next year's College day?
6. What make of Glider was purchased for Imperial College Union Gliding Club?
7. What was the reported increased price of a meal in Linstead Hall?
8. How many people attended the stress seminar during Welfare Week?
9. How many people attended November's Union General Meeting? (Is there a connection here?)
10. What is the name of the Imperial College company founded to purchase the Clayponds residences?
11. What College notable was flanned, after a question time, by

- the Union President?
12. What was used by students of the Royal School of Mines to shatter the glass in a door to the Union Building?
13. What amount of money was available from the Access Funds?
14. What House of Commons' Select Committee visited Imperial College?
15. What fines were set by the College Library for overdue books and recordings?
16. What animal was pictured dead on the front cover?
17. What Junior transport Minister visited Imperial College Conservative Society?
18. What Polytechnic suspended payment of its affiliation fee to the National Union of Students?
19. What College's students broke into the Royal School of Mines to steal Davy, the Mines' mascot?
20. What honorary fellow of the College died in suspicious circumstances last year?
21. To what charities did the proceeds from St Mary's rag week go?
22. What percentage increase in the College's research grant was

- awarded by the University Funding Council?
23. What percentage of the electorate voted in the Imperial College Union sabbatical officer elections?
24. What amount was reported to be charged to Queen Mary and Westfield College Union by their college, for the occupation?
25. What amount of money was to be loaned from Imperial College Union's Harlington Trust fund towards the redevelopment of the College Sports Centre?
26. How many students were moved out of Beit Hall over the Easter vacation?
27. With what Medical school is the College considering merging?
28. How many scholarship places is the College Management School making available for the next academic year?
29. What College restaurant was due to close at the end of this year?
30. What number of the electorate voted in the St Mary's Hospital Medical School Student's Union elections for its executive?
31. What trust assists female scientists return to work after career breaks?
32. What is the name of the former Ministry of Defence Hostel which College is considering purchasing?



Part 2

Here are some of the longer headlines from this year's Felices. Pick and choose as you see fit, or make up your own...

1. Laughable.....
 - a. job descriptions
 - b. rent levels
 - c. loan levels
 - d. lecture times
 - e. job prospects
2. Suffer for.....
 - a. grease
 - b. sport
 - c. religion
 - d. little children
3. Union done up
 - a. manager
 - b. finances
 - c. building
 - d. shoe laces
 - e. boat shed
4. Loan applications.....
 - a. down
 - b. up
 - c. negligible
 - d. fiddled
5. New for ICU
 - a. elections
 - b. sabbaticals
 - c. acronym
 - d. glider
6. Accident prompts..... Ban
 - a. bar sales
 - b. vehicle
 - c. sex
 - d. lecture
7. Clayponds makes.....
 - a. a recession
 - b. a splash
 - c. an impression
 - d. sod all
8. Rector.....
 - a. sacked
 - b. senile
 - c. questioned
 - d. awake
9. Tale of a dead
 - a. donkey
 - b. dodo
 - c. fly on a union office wall
 - d. poet
 - e. piano
 - f. sabbatical
10. Imperial arrested
 - a. College
 - b. student
 - c. managing director
 - d. gallon
11. Drop
 - a. the dead donkey
 - b. soc
 - c. kick
 - d. in
- e. by
- f. everything and run
12. Up, up and
 - a. bankrupt
 - b. extortionate
 - c. away
 - d. sky high
13. Room with a
 - a. cockroach
 - b. queue
 - c. view
 - d. ceiling
 - e. cleaner
14. Hospitals for
 - a. axe
 - b. sale
 - c. close
 - d. ill people
 - e. nothing
15. NUS
 - a. closed
 - b. bankrupt
 - c. does some work
 - d. useless
 - e. warfare
16. Sabbs
 - a. get out of bed
 - b. do some work
 - c. in work scandal
 - d. couldn't give a toss
 - e. vegetate in their office
 - f. take stock for Rag
- g. take the money while it's still there
17. New
 - a. extortionate rent increase
 - b. hall of residence
 - c. extortionate rent increase
 - d. life for sale
 - e. director of estates
 - f. concrete, prefab, structurally unsound, 1960s monument to Thatcher
18. Putting Women
 - a. at the top
 - b. in the kitchen
 - c. back into physics
 - d. where they belong
19. Car Park privatised
 - a. so sod off
 - b. but who cares
 - c. without consultation
20. as Southside faces demolition
 - a. Architectural awards
 - b. Furse Row
 - c. Rector abroad
 - d. Rector celebrates
 - e. Students celebrate
 - f. Street party
 - g. Prince Charles dances
 - h. No loss

'NOOOOOOOWWWW!!'

Stress's body signalled it had completed the change. He reached forward, grabbed the club, leaned to the side and swung the apeman around him through the air. Totally lost for grunts the tribal leader arced around, lost his hold on the club and sailed straight into the far wall. Thirteen skulls cracked, one with a squishy sound.

Stress lifted the club high to a wave roar from the crowd and started to move forward. Unable to move his right leg he looked down to see a neanderthal wrapped around it trying to gnaw through the armoured leggings. Uttering a crazed laugh Stress threw himself forward on to his hands and flipped himself into a forward somersault sending the very disorientated apeman through the air and into the second row of the audience. Unfortunately he landed among the werewolf supporters who began barbecuing him for the victory celebrations.

An incredible move there by the half-back leaves himself room to manoeuvre though I don't see much support for him breaking through the neanderthal pack. Bloodfang looks cooked and the rest of the team, lacking a leader or at least someone who could think, have resorted to fights to the death with anyone who comes near.

The commentator paused to let the admiring screams of the crowd fill the mike.

'The half-back's off and running! He might be ragged but he sure can move! He's heading for the goal line leaving a wake of destruction behind him. The neanderthals have set up a last ditch defence. They've dug it about four feet deep. Lined it with spikes and are standing before it with weapons they've smuggled on to the pitch.'

Seeing the obstacle ahead Stress gathered pace and running at top speed dived into a series of somersaults, pulling out and up as he hit the ground before the defending neanderthals. Spinning through the air he planted his flying hands on the neanderthals heads and pushed into a final dive, landing him on the touchline beyond the barricade.

The crowds' screams of applause turned into a shocked silence as Stress pulled off the wolf mask and began walking towards the pedestal. The silence around him was soon filled with howls of anger and hatred as the crowds, unable to get beyond the fences around the pitch, spat and shouted at the pale invader.

As Stress climbed the first of the steps a commotion behind him made him turn. One of the neanderthals had clambered through

the barricade and was charging at him, spear in hand. Stress fired point blank, sending the caveman stumbling back. The neanderthal paused, looked at himself and cried out.

'What have I done to myself?!

Stress climbed two more steps.

'PREPARE TO MEET YOUR FATE, WORM!!'

Stress looked up to see the superheroes Dark Destroyer and Regenerator circling overhead like overdressed vultures. As the Dark Destroyer swooped down, mains power punching the ground around him Stress aimed and fired. The Punisher of the evil ones fell towards the ground in a smoking spiral of indecision and began collecting information for an

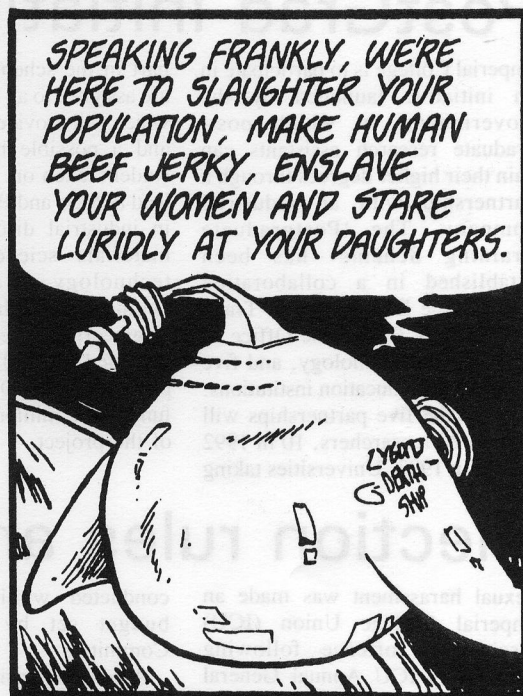
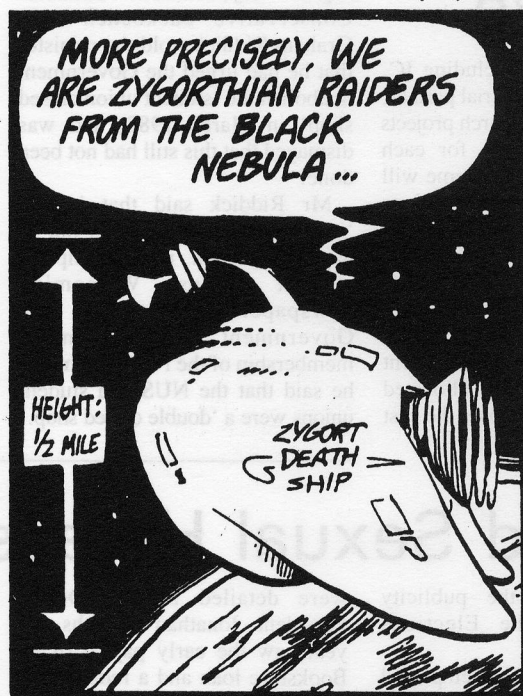
he brushed the smoke away and staggered the final feet to where the symbol of the inner system, mounted at the centre of the grand pedestal, needed only a twist to set the changes rolling. As Stress grasped the statue the contents of the truth's gun explosions had their effects. Stress felt all his single mindedness, all his anger filled drive evaporated and the weight of perception settled on him.

'NO!'

Seeing clearly the pain that he would cause, how could he do this? To tear away the cocoon around these people. He could now feel the pain that they would go through, he could now empathise. He curled up before the dias, head in his hands.

Lying there he heard the silence

The Inner System



accurate and careful judgement of the wrong-doer. A similar attempt by Regenerator left him canvassing opinion for a collective discussion on the correct rehabilitation needed.

Stress climbed some more steps.

'DIE YOU TRAITOR!'

Stress ducked as Carefree fired the futility gun, it fizzled over his head and struck the neanderthals climbing through the gap in the barricade. They dropped down in a circle and began wheedling little wooden totems while discussing firemaking. Stress fired back, leaving her to collapse in a heap and begin crying.

He climbed the final steps and was approaching the dias when smoke billowing up from his hand made him look down. The truth in his hand was glowing red, spouting black and white smoke as it overheated from excessive use. As Stress started at it in indecision it exploded.

Picking himself up from the floor

around him fall, the weak range effect of the blast stilling the anger of the audience. In this quiet the dim sound of a marching band could be heard, slowly rising. Stress lifted his head up to the far end of the stadium where, flying majestically out of the high exit, the pursuit cop appeared.

On silver wings it swooped down across the pitch and landed before the statue. To the background of pipes and drums the robot turned to the audience and spoke.

'WHEN I'M RHYMING I AIN'T LYING SAYING YOU'RE DYING IF YOU AIN'T STRIVING. WITH THIS REFRAIN I'LL MAKE THE CHANGE NO PAIN PEOPLE, NO GAIN!!'

And then he twisted the statue.

THE END.

The Inner System was written by Adrian Ellis, thank you for reading.

*Chapter 20:
Conclusion. This
is it! At last the
End is Nigh!*

Student Debt

Over a quarter of students in Great Britain have taken out a student loan, according to recent statistics from the Department of Education and Science.

More than one hundred and eighty thousand students have applied for a total of £69.9 million worth of credit. Earlier this year Tony Cullen, who co-ordinates loans applications at the College, said demand was 'greater than expected' and 1,300 IC students applied for access funds this year. These funds are available to those in financial difficulty.

The Department of Education and Science has revealed that the numbers of students in Higher Education has increased by 47% from 1980 to 1990. In 1990 there were 318,000 full time students in Britain, the total number of students in Higher Education being quoted as 1.3 million.

Commenting on the figures in a press release, Nigel Forman, Higher Education Minister, emphasised the Government's aim to put 1 in 3 young people into some form of Higher Education.

PostGrad Initiative

Imperial College is to participate in an initiative launched by the Government, in which post-graduate research assistants can gain their higher degrees through a partnership with an industrial company. The 'Postgraduate Training Scheme' has been established in a collaboration between the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Office of Science and Technology, and five major higher education institutions. Each of the five partnerships will take on 20 researchers, 10 in 1992 and 10 in 1993. Universities taking

part in the scheme, including IC, are assigned to an industrial partner, which will provide research projects and a possible bursary for each student taken on. The scheme will lead to MSc and PhD qualifications in industrial disciplines, such as materials science, information technology and process engineering. The Science and Engineering Research Council has allocated a £7000 grant per student per year. The DTI has allocated funds of £2 million to cover the cost of the project.

NUS Closed Shop

The Higher Education minister, Nigel Forman, has postponed a meeting planned for later today with the executive of the National Union of Students (NUS). The minister and the NUS were to discuss the prospect of introducing voluntary membership for student union members. The proposal to remove funding from student unions and to end compulsory student membership of student unions has been on the educational agenda since the minister met Conservative Students early in May.

The matter was discussed in the Commons last week during a late night adjournment debate. Conservative backbench MP, Graham Riddick, told the minister that he had urged the Government to abolish the 'student union closed shop' in March 1988, and was dismayed that this still had not been done.

Mr Riddick said that it was 'indefensible' for students not to have choice in membership of student unions. Welcoming newspaper reports that the Government was to make membership of the NUS voluntary, he said that the NUS and student unions were a 'double closed shop.'

He called sabbatical officers 'a taxpayer funded army of political activists, predominantly of the left,' and condemned the policy of many unions in banning Nestlé products.

Mr Forman said that there were some ways 'in which campus (*individual*) unions are a form of closed shop,' adding that 'there are differences as well. Campus unions are not pre-entry closed shops. Unlike a trade union closed shop, a campus union exercises no control over which students may join the educational institution.' He further said that the NUS 'differs from a closed shop arrangement in that campus unions vote on whether or not to affiliate.' The most surprising comment from the minister was 'the principle of freedom of association would suggest that students should have the right to join an organisation to meet their legitimate needs.'

Mr Forman's response to the debate has elated the NUS, with the executive claiming that the minister did not accept that the NUS is a closed shop. They add that the charter issued last week by the right wing Adam Smith Institute conceded the 'right of student representation.'

Election rules and Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment was made an Imperial College Union (ICU) disciplinary offence following yesterday's ICU Annual General Meeting (AGM). The policy, which was drawn up by Zoë Hellinger, Union President, was passed without objection. The existing College policy on sexual harassment only applies to assaults by staff on students. Until yesterday, there was no mechanism to deal with assaults by students on students.

The AGM also passed alterations to the rules governing Sabbatical Elections. The revised rules were drawn up by ICU Elections Committee after consultations with what Steve Farrant, ICU Returning Officer, described as 'interested parties.' The new rules are considerably looser than those previously in force, though some former rules remain in place. Poster size is still restricted to A1, and only 'Blu-Tac' may be used to affix posters to notice boards. Gum backed material may now be used for lapel stickers. The removal or sabotage of posters remains an offence, and all campaigns must be

conducted within the publicity budget set by the Elections Committee.

A new emphasis has been placed on the reporting of elections by Union media, and College and Constituent College Union media will fall under election rules for the first time. Union media must remain freely available to all candidates, and candidates must be informed in writing of Union media interviews or discussions three days before deadline or transmission.

Several appointments were made to Union posts. Simon Govier and James Grinter were ratified as Felix Business Managers, and David Goddard was elected Haldane Record Buyer after promising to buy 'more Kylie.' Marc Ellis was returned as one of the ordinary members of House Committee. The second ordinary member was opened to nominations from the floor, and Gina Mortley was elected over Jonathon Griffiths. The posts of Postgraduate Affairs officer, Haldane Book Buyer and Transport Officer will be filled in the next academic year.

Business and financial affairs

were detailed by the Deputy President, Jonathan Griffiths. His year saw the early payoff of the Bookstore loan and a reduction in the operating losses of the Snack Bar. Mr Griffith's report did not refer to plans for the refurbishment of the Union lounge bar and snack bar, which will take place over the summer. These plans were discussed by Union House Committee and Union Bar and Catering Committee. Detailed tenders from four companies are now being discussed by a seven person working party, with a member of College administrative staff on the working party. The College has been informed of the plans, which are being considered by Angus Fraser, Managing Director, and Gordon Marshall, Director of Estates. Both men are expected to approve the plans before the end of the week.

Mr Griffith's was criticised for not informing an earlier general meeting of his change of telephone number. Next year's Union President and Felix editor informed the meeting that they would be living out of Halls of Residences

next year. Chris Davidson and Jonty Beavan asked the AGM to approve the payment of their expected hall bills towards the cost of their outside accommodation. After both stating that phone numbers and addresses of their outside residences would be made public knowledge, their request was allowed by the meeting.

Mr Griffiths' final comment was student unions did not need sabbaticals, and that they should be run by professional Managers. He did add that if he was asked to be a Sabbatical again, he would probably do it.

Reports were also presented by Steve Farrant, Honorary Secretary (Events); Gina Mortley, Union House Committee Chairman; and Steve Newhouse, Social Clubs and Committees Chairman. These reports were ratified. The award of Union Social Colours was also ratified. The conferring of Union General Awards will be confirmed at Thursday's ICU Council meeting. Joe Fernley, AGM Chair, said that all students could attend the Council meeting at 2.00pm, Thursday 25th June in the Union Dining Hall.