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close encounters of a religious kind
true life

turner prize '95
damion hirst 's
'mother and child'

freddie starr just ate
my grant:
higher education



FELIX

The student newspaper of
Imperial College

Issue 1039
November 3rd 1995

Linstead Scapegoated in Halloween Débâcle

BY JONATHAN TROUT

The most serious disturbances of the term occurred on Tuesday night, when the activities of Linstead and Southside residents resulted in the Police being called to Prince's Gardens. The complaints of local residents have further resulted in the indefinite closure of the Linstead Bar.

The annual Southside Halloween party, held on the building's upper gallery, developed into a lively occasion with a constant, but not especially high, level of noise emanating from the high rise block. This was not a particular problem until a fire alarm in Linstead Hall led to the expulsion of at least 150 students into the Prince's Gardens area.

With some of the newly arrived freshers in a fairly inebriated state, the ritual banter started up between Southside and Linstead Halls. Following the retreat of the Linstead Hall residents after the all clear, the Southside residents were then required to evacuate their halls when their fire alarms sounded. With students now in fine voice, the exchange continued between the grounded Southsiders and the Linstead revellers.



Upon the arrival of Ian Caldwell, Director of Estates, the Linstead residents gave grudging acquiescence to his requests for calm, and returned inside. At this point the incident should have ended, but for a further fire alarm in Linstead Hall. Following this evacuation the police arrived on the now charged, yet good humoured, scene. After a short chat with Earl Lancaster, the Linstead Hall Warden, the police departed.

After some coercive words

from their Warden, the Linstead residents returned inside, in most cases to their rooms. However John Hassard, Warden of Falmouth Keogh Hall, who was not present at the scene, commented: "it was like a riot, and riotous behaviour is deeply regretful."

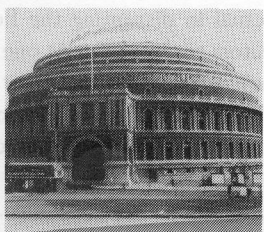
The concern of College authorities over the allegedly high level of student alcohol consumption later manifested itself with the Rector, Sir Ronald Oxburgh's instruction, to close Linstead Hall's bar. Some have raised questions as to the wisdom of this action. One of the Bar Committee members working that evening told *Felix* that most of the student drinking took place not in the Linstead bar but in the Southside Disco.

With the Director of Estates being close at hand in his 47

Prince's Gardens College flat to witness the proceedings, residents have been told officially by the Rector that the bar will not be available until students 'behave in a reasonable and responsible' manner.

With suggestions that College has been seeking to close the bar for some time, residents speculate whether the popular social amenity will ever reopen. This, together with the unfairness of not closing Southside's more profitable licensed premises were matters on which neither Sir Ronald or Mr Caldwell were available to comment. Both the ICU President, and Mr Lancaster were said to be "bewildered" by the decision. Sarah White said: "This seems like a violent, knee-jerk reaction from someone not in possession of all the facts."

in summary



Albert Hall Awaits Lottery funding

Albert Hall spokespeople have dismissed suggestions in national papers that they have already received £40m in Lottery funding

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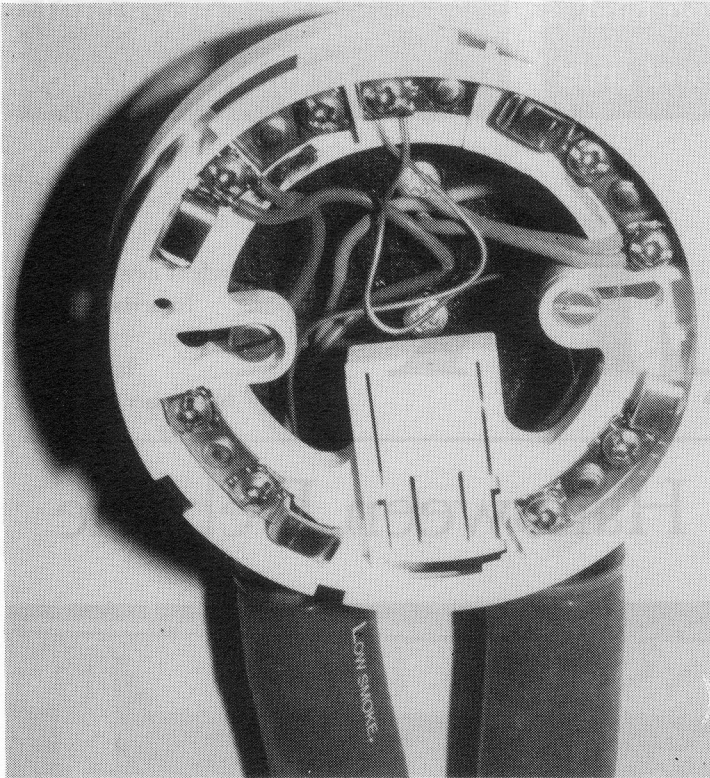


Photo: William Lorenz

Unfinished: Installation of smoke detectors has taken over a year

Fire Alarm Tests Continue

BY THE NEWS TEAM

Residents of Southside Halls are set to be subjected to daily early morning fire alarm tests for another month.

The alarms have been sounded at 9am each day since the unsuccessful fire practice on October 17th. Alarms failed to go off on staircases two and four leaving residents unaware of the warning to evacuate the building. However, Prof G New and Dr J Hassard, the hall's wardens, said they were satisfied with the turnout of the other staircases. In an open letter to the four halls, they said that there were to be no further fire practices this term, so alarms should be taken seriously.

The source of the problem is the 15 year old alarm control system, sections of which have taken to spontaneous failure. Due to the disappearance of the installation details necessary for fault location, the only means of tracing failures is trying the system and seeing if it works. Faced with concerns of student safety if the system failed between testings, Graham Cox, College Fire

Officer, said the system had overlap and that he was satisfied with the level of protection currently offered.

Although the present fire protection is perfectly legal for student residences, it is well below the standard required by the Fire Precaution Act (1972) for paying members of the public. The sole reason Southside currently holds hotel status is due to a loophole in the law. As it has applied for certification, pending a visit from the fire department, the dubious nature of the system is given the benefit of the doubt.

Similar to one in Linstead Hall, the system is currently partly installed and will be brought on line over the next few weeks. It will have the capability to pinpoint fires down to the nearest room, report disablement or breakdowns and detect cannabis smoke. Students who burn their food are still a problem that hopefully the Fire Department will solve, but the new hardware should be in place by the end of November until which time testing will continue.

News in brief

'Beit Option' Considered

An initial sounding of the 'Beit Option' has been the concern of Imperial College's Estates Division this week, as Ian Frame, Director of Planning, went on a walkabout with Union staff. The party looked at the various parts of the Union building that would be moved or altered if the proposal is taken up by the College.

Sarah White said that the College has been "fiddling around with the idea", and will be doing some rough costing over the next few weeks. She added that most of the work has been done already as the Biology part of Beit had been dissected in the original plans. However, Ian Frame commented that the idea has not yet gone to the quantity surveyors and reiterated that the costs have to balance.

Labour Whip

Stephen Byers, Labour MP for Wallsend, was a guest of Imperial College Union Labour Club on October 20th. He is seen as one of the brightest young stars in the Parliamentary Labour Party becoming party Whip recently.

He spoke to a sizeable gathering on a range of issues including sleaze and arms sales to Iran and Iraq, both topical issues subject to inquiries by Nolan and Scott. However, many members of the audience were surprised that Mr Byers described himself as a socialist while very much being a supporter of Tony Blair's style and policies.

One of the more impressive of the Labour Club's guests, he very capably fended off questions from Consoc members especially over local government. After one question he particularly emphasised that Conservative run Westminster Council is the only one in the country which has been officially found corrupt, and the council appointed solicitors who refute these allegations are hardly 'independent'.

Motor Show Protest

Traffic around Earl's Court was disrupted twice over the weekend as people demonstrated outside the London Motor Show. Security guards and Police were called in to restrain protesters as they tried to clamber over the barriers surrounding the building.

Last Friday evening saw 'Critical Mass', a cyclist pressure group, arriving at the Show for a rally after their monthly meet under Waterloo bridge. The group of about a thousand cyclists proceeded slowly to the Brompton Road entrance of the show. There they were confronted by locked gates and irate security guards. Along the route of their ride, the flow of traffic, already fairly stagnant in the rush hour, ground to a halt with motorists venting their irritation by sounding their horns.

One driver tried to force his way through the crowd of bicycles but was advised by a Police Officer to stay put, much to the delight of the assembled masses. The cyclists were keen to stress the peaceful nature of their protest, aimed at demonstrating the hypocrisy of motoring in London.

One individual expressed a desire "to spread love and peace" throughout the capital by "waving and smiling at people" as they passed.

Sunday had the 'Reclaim the Streets Action Network' out in force opposite the Warwick Road entrance to Earl's Court. It was a much smaller demonstration than Friday's but more vocal; chanting slogans and cheering each bus and booing each car that passed.

The protesters generated a lot of noise but were mainly ineffectual in disrupting the flow of visitors to the show. At one point they tried to bring their own Chinese Dragon style model London Bus on to the road, but were forcibly prevented from doing so by a ring of Police.

Albert Hall Funding Uncertain

Confusion over £40m Lottery Payout renovations

BY MARK BRIDGE

David Elliot, the Deputy Chief Executive of the Royal Albert Hall, has said that there is still no sign of whether their application for £40 million pounds of lottery funding had been successful.

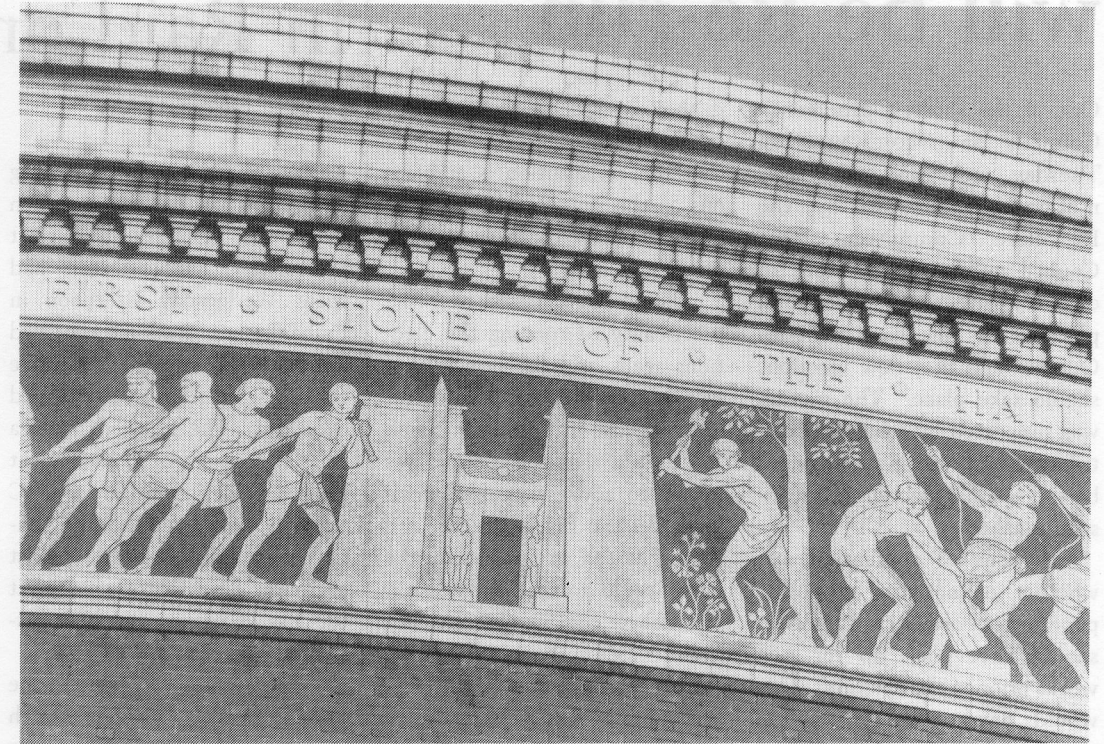
This follows recent reports which cast doubt over the success of the Albert Hall's application for Lottery funds to renovate the historic Hall's surrounding area.

In an interview with *Felix* Mr Elliot explained that any money that 'came their way' would be used to expand the nine year programme of 'reconstruction and betterment'. This plan is in trouble as it is being currently funded by internal budget surpluses. The stated goals of the ongoing scheme are to improve the atmosphere and enjoyment for patrons, performers, and promoters alike.

Part of the plan involves the restoration of the building's ancient ventilation system to its original design, which optimised natural convection effects, and removed blockages that were installed to conform to fire regulations.

Permission has also been obtained for the rebuilding of a conservatory on the south side of the Hall, rehusing restaurants, cloakrooms, and other amenities that were moved into the main body of the building when the original was destroyed earlier this century.

Part of the strategy involves the creation of a level under the building extending through to Prince Consort Road. Access



would be via the sliproads either side of the main stairway opposite the Royal School of Music. These roads currently lead to underground parking for residents.

The extra space generated by the changes will become a service yard allowing rigging to be carried under the building and lifted onto the stage. Further dressing room space will also be created.

Another major alteration will be the pedestrianisation of the road that encircles the Albert Hall, "to create something like Covent Garden, with cars able to go in and out". Over 1,600 of the Hall's seats are scheduled to be modernised, and permission has also been granted for the side entrances to be glazed so as to create more foyer space.

The refurbishments have an estimated cost of £57m. If the £40m application to the Lottery fund is accepted, the project is scheduled to begin within a year.

The media may have influenced the application's outcome, as they appear to have induced political controversy over allocation of grants to 'highbrow' arts venues.

Media Criticism of Heritage Commission

National media have extensively covered the heritage commission decision, but some of the journalism seems as biased as the claims of money mis-distribution itself.

The Sunday Times purported that the Albert Hall will be allocated £40m of lottery funds for major works on the building, though they quoted the Chief Executive as saying he had yet to hear of any such decision. This appears to be born out by a statement issued to Hall employees saying "Despite the story in the Sunday Times ... subsequently repeated in other newspapers; the Hall has received no indication yet as to whether our application has been successful..." There were also reports of complaints by Midlands MPs that too much money had already been invested in the South.

On Monday October 23rd The Daily Telegraph wrote of how big charities had a drop of 14% in donations. The Independent carried a story on how smaller organisations, such

as one for Eritrean Refugees, were considered for lottery money. Richard Branson [who bid unsuccessfully against Camelot] said that the Lottery was being driven by greed that might lead to the same disrepute as the 'fat cat' bosses of the privatised utilities.

Wednesday's Times and Daily Telegraph explained the Church of England's view that the Lottery "Exploits the vulnerable and undermines the public good". Both then pointed out that the Church had made applications for £19m and had already received £1m. Staying with Church issues on Thursday, The Daily Telegraph said the Church of Scotland would not be making any applications. The British Medical Journal reported a 17% increase in the number of calls to Gamblers Anonymous and blamed the BBC for over-publicity. They claimed that right wing Tories were pressing Kenneth Clarke to disregard plans to raise taxes on lottery takings.

Council Elections will be Re-run

One of the shortest Emergency Councils on record met on Tuesday night to consider a motion put forward by the Executive Committee "that Council nullify the elections of ordinary members that took place at its meeting on 10th October and that new elections should take place." The motion was supported by a handout distributed by those most incensed by the original election's 'unconstitutionality'.

A bone of contention was whether or not the proposing papers for ordinary members should have gone up for two weeks prior to the elections. This would have made all Union members aware of the forthcoming elections, so they could stand

if they so wished. However, it was established at the meeting that the constitution is ambiguous on this point, and that many interpretations could have been made.

Points were raised over the practicality of running the elections again, and the principle of having open elections not exclusive to those in the know. Sarah White said that the motion was meant to address peoples' feelings over the first elections, and that, if passed, the papers for the posts would go up the day after. The debate continued for twenty minutes before being called to a vote by the Council Chair, and the motion was passed by 12 votes to 9, there being 31 voting members present.

Oxfam Cash Stolen in Raid on Rag

BY THE NEWS TEAM

An estimated £300 of rag fundraising for Oxfam was stolen from the ICU building last Wednesday. Rag collectors had spent Wednesday afternoon in Embankment station, and had left the profits in the rag office on the west side of Beit Quad overnight. The proceeds from a collection in aid of Oxfam went missing sometime after 7pm. IC Security discovered that the window had been removed whilst patrolling later that evening, but the loss of money was only discovered the next morning.

Speaking on behalf of the Rag committee, Eleanor Tench speculated that the perpetrators were IC students with some

knowledge of the union building as the charity collection buckets were later found in the union changing rooms. "I don't understand the mentality of someone who would steal from charity" she said. "Freshers have got up at six o'clock in the morning to collect, and some bastard's got the proceeds in their pocket... we're very very angry."

John Lambert, currently Rag treasurer, is temporarily overseeing the Rag committee in the absence of an elected chair. The previous incumbent, Richard Willis, resigned last month after being criticised when a first year student was found drunk on the walkway after the rag fresher's event.

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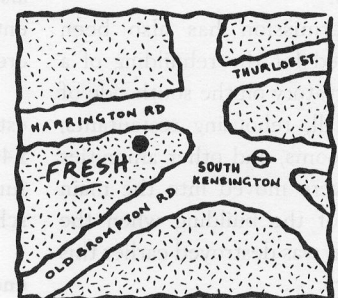
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"Freddie Starr ate my grant!"

Perhaps not, but Nooman Haque explains who might soon.

The political consensus regarding the future of higher education is at first sight seamless, differing only in the choice of buzzwords. All parties propose passing on some of the cost of higher education to the students – an acknowledgement at last that the tax system cannot entirely support a mass higher education system.

The Conservative National Policy Group on HE, along with Labour and the Lib Dem's would like to see HE expansion continued and sincerely believe that they can do this without raising doubts about quality.

The actual outcome will of course depend on the result of the next election, but also on the contribution that the student movement makes to this discussion. And this is where the problems begin.

Earlier this year the NUS confirmed its anachronistic and utopian posture by refusing to support a call for ruthless reform of HE funding. Instead it grasped on to the ephemeral tenet on which its existence depends – a restoration of grants to 1979 levels and reinstatement of benefits.

The NUS finances depend on student acceptance of credulous platitudes which are wheeled out to every dewy eyed and shivering fresher counting pennies at Christmas. Any helpful idea has to combat student poverty, explode the myth of 'free education' and reject the

patronising doctrine that society is in debt to students.

'New Solutions' is an assemblage of 100 student unions who are encouraging students to partake in the debate. The group is led by Ghassan Karrian, President of ULU and supported by Sarah White, President of Imperial.

I do not doubt the sincerity of this movement but I do question the motives of Mr Karrian. The clue which gives the game away is the adjunctive 'New' – the Blair hallmark to describe rehashed Tory policies.

The incumbent Baron of Castle Malet will be only too pleased to show you around his Kingdom, and in particular show off his treasure trove of prominent Labour front benchers. Mr. Karrian (a Labour councillor) appears to be destined for the Commons and in this respect his actions could be interpreted as part of his career drive (though stories of students slipping up on the road from Bloomsbury to Whitehall as a result of his oily progress are unsubstantiated).

One could also assume that he is testing Labour policy amongst the students and thus working more for them than for those that was elected to serve. The issue is a serious one and remains to be resolved. Mr

Karrian is paid by ULU and should act and think in accordance with the needs of his constituents, not those of his Labour friends.

The effects that a politically biased national student organisation have been devastating to the student movement in the past. In 1992 the NUS encouraged students to vote Labour in marginal constituencies. This high profile campaign only encouraged the Conservative government to speed up its Voluntary Membership Bill – designed to curb student union power and remove government funding for student sports, societies and entertainments. The actions of the NUS nearly killed off the SU's that pay a premium for its rather shoddy service. This greedy cabal of Leftists should be dismantled

and the (comparatively) efficient services (NUS Legal and NUS Ents) should go their separate ways, allowing subscribing SU's to pay according to their specific needs

I wonder too if the other student unions involved in 'New' Solutions are aware of Mr. Karrian's left leaning tendency, particularly our own Ms. White, who has offered her e-mail address to field enquiries about the group.

Perhaps Miss White is aware but fears the charismatic Mr Karrian, or perhaps she too has ambitions Westminster way (it is more likely however that she skips happily through the blossoming meadows of ignorance and innocence and to credit her with being so shrewd as Mr. Karrian is a generous and purely hypothetical extension of her abilities).

Either way, the lack of a clear statement declaring political impartiality clouds the important debate which Mr Karrian and Miss White have entrusted themselves to lead. Their desire to encourage student wide debate is welcome but with the cloud of uncertainty over their motives is rather hard to lift. If we are to provide input into the debate, Mr. Karrian, we must know what and for whom you stand.

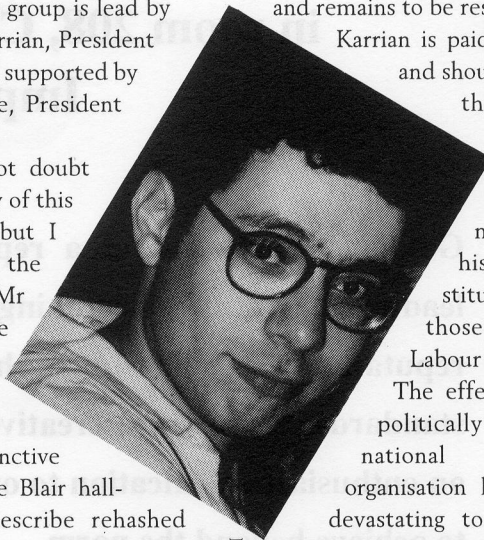


PHOTO: GHASSAN KARRIAN, ULU PRESIDENT

OPTIONS: The major parties' views on higher education funding.

Conservative Party

Keep lid on growth of HE and develop more lower level courses. Eventual elimination of grant and introduction of comprehensive loan system to cover maintenance. Radical Tories want vouchers for fees payment.

Labour Party

Continued expansion of HE, creating "Seamless robes of learning", "University for Industry". "learning accounts" and "learning bank" i.e students, state and employers contribute to a reservoir of cash. Don't like fees vouchers but favour "learning entitlements".

Liberal Democrats

Continued expansion of HE. Also favour "learning accounts". Maintenance paid for by state and fees paid back after second year.

NUS

Reinstatement of housing benefit and income support. Return to 1979 level of student grant (approx cost at least 7p on income tax).

New Solutions

Loan system for maintenance grants. Employer contributions for tuition.

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A close encounter of the religious kind.

It was a nice, bright morning near the end of the Easter Holidays in April 1995.

Two things crept into my mind as I woke up that morning; Cornflakes and differential equations. The former because I was hungry and needed some breakfast, the latter because I couldn't do them and needed to know how to in order to prevent my first year exams from descending into farce.

Breakfast and mathematics had been uppermost in my mind for at least the last few mornings, but something else was to happen that same day which was to change my life for the next fifty, well, twenty, no, say ten, well, alright, three, days. But the odd thing wasn't so much that I felt my life had changed, but the fact that it should have been affected at all. Or this life, at any rate...

"This is Peter," my mother said, gesturing to the large, middle-aged genial man who was at our breakfast table talking to my father. By this time, I'd decided that cornflakes were a far higher priority than differential equations. She ushered me into a chair, adding, "He's a spiritualist."

An alarm bell in the back of my mind started ringing. For me, spiritualism and science went together nowhere near as well as, say, union ents managers and strange trousers. I was an engineering student. At Imperial College. I had no time for Russell Grant wannabees peddling pseudoscience. Differential equations suddenly seemed like far more reassuring territory. So what did I do?

"Erm, hello, Peter, how do

you do?" I mumbled cautiously, shaking the proffered hand. I sat down, feeling as though I'd crossed some point of no return in etiquette terms. But there was a way out. I'd have my cornflakes, exchange a few pleasantries, talk about the weather, gasp in horror at my watch and say I'd need to do some exam revision, escaping to the comparative freedom of differential equations. Easy...

He chatted to my parents and sister for a while, talking about spirits, etheric bodies, astral projection and the like, while I crunched through my cornflakes. I listened, geniuely interested. And then I was surprised at being interested. This wasn't right. It wasn't what any self-respecting engineering pupil would be seen dead doing, talking to a spiritualist, if that's what he was. But the real shock had yet to come.

Apparently completely off the cuff, he asked, "We've met before, haven't we?"

"Erm, have we?" it was certainly news to me if we had.

"We were both priests in a temple. This wasn't a few years ago, or hundreds of years ago, we're talking tens of thousands of years ago -"

I gaped.

"- and," he paused dramatically, "You were just as stubborn and irksome then as you are now!" He laughed.

I gaped some more. What did he mean, "stubborn and irksome"? More to the point, what was all that about priests and temples and thousands of years? I asked him, and he told me. Not this life but another, one of thousands that each one us lived. I was more than just a mere IC

engineer, though that was what I was now. He told me about eternal souls, about reincarnation, about my aura and the colours that it was showing, that the fact that Buddhists got it right and everyone else was wrong, man, just wrong.

But that was the scary part. Peter wasn't talking like some washed-up sixties druggie. He was terrifyingly ordinary, a man with a family who wouldn't have looked out of place dishing out financial advice in Barclay's. He spoke with a conviction borne of experience, a man who claimed that he'd had the ability to read auras - a person's spiritual barcode, of you like - since the age of nine. Either that, or he was lying.

I felt good. I'd found out something interesting about myself and about life. But then I felt bad about feeling good. I wasn't meant to be interested. I was a man of engineering, a student of the sciences, and profound sceptic of all things non-scientific. Where were his equations, his graphs, his tables, his references to papers in Nature magazine? And I began to feel good about feeling bad about feeling good. At last, scientific objectivity and watertightness had prevailed over metaphysical wooliness. But then I began to feel bad about feeling good about feeling bad about feeling good. Was a science-based education closing my mind to concepts that science was too arrogant to admit that it couldn't explain?

Peter took leave of us later that morning, vanishing out of my life as abruptly as he had entered it. Well, this life, at least. I thought that making a joke about seeing him again in

another few thousand years would have been a bit tactless, so I left it at that.

Holidays ended, and exams loomed. Mad weeks of overworking, undersleeping, under-eating and undersharing ensued. Exams, a bit of Felix hackery, and foreign holidays passed by, and mornings where I'd get up thinking of cornflakes but not, mercifully, differential equations. But for a while afterwards, I couldn't help viewing people differently. My family, all my friends, everybody it seemed, had been roaming the planet for millenia, jumping from life to life, person to person, country to country, inhabiting one mass of organic machinery for a few fleeting decades before moving onto another, and having no recollection of the previous one.

I had conversations with a longtime friend of my parents, who really did dish out financial advice in Barclay's, talking about the Theosophical Society, about Blavatski, and even Albert Einstein, and Richard Feynman. Men who were not merely accepted by the establishment but had actually come to personify it, yet once their plaudits and Nobel Prizes had been safely pocketed they turned some of their attention to matters of the mind, of life, death, birth, rebirth. Matters which that same establishment has steered well clear of, dismissing it as the realm of cranks and fortune-tellers. Not that it's easily understood, though.

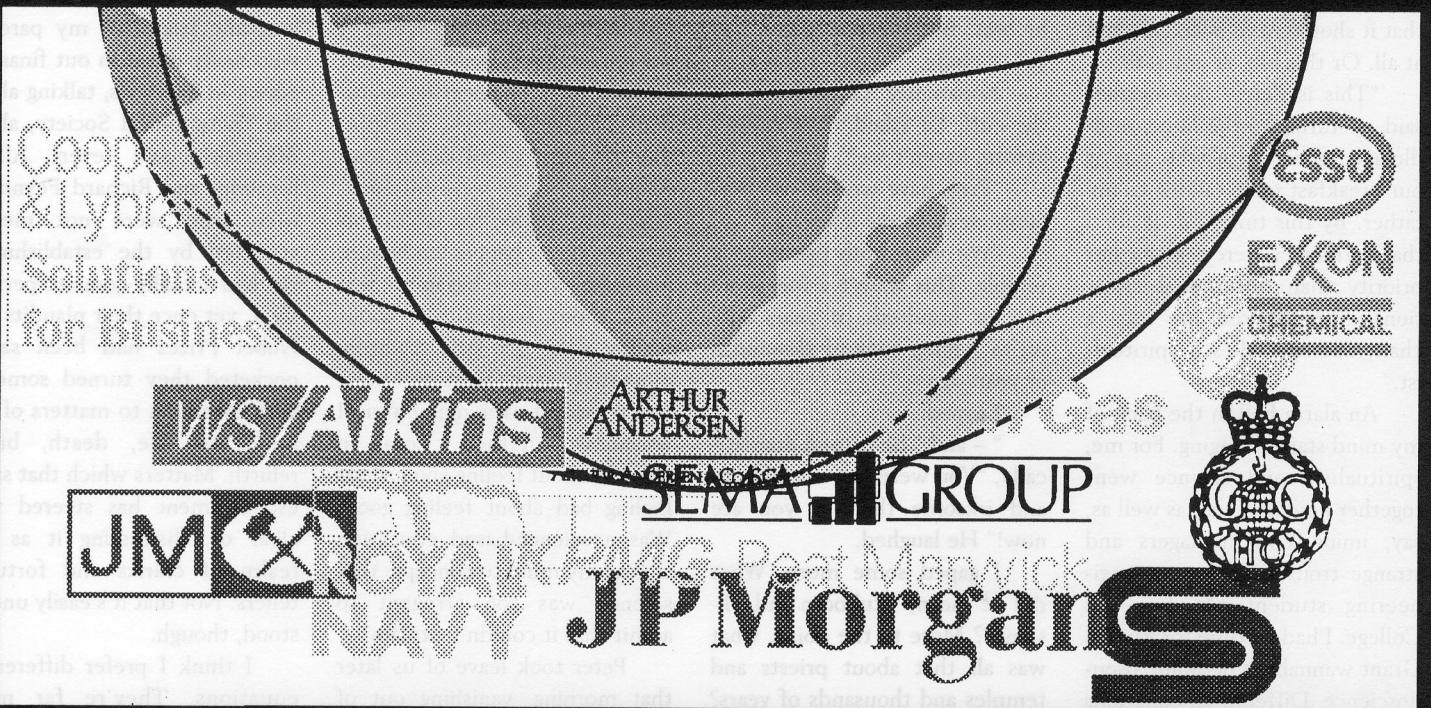
I think I prefer differential equations. They're far more respectable.

Andy Sinharay

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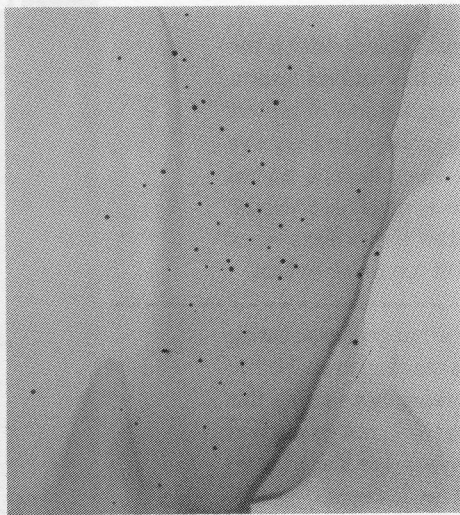
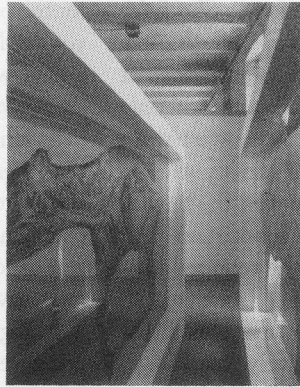
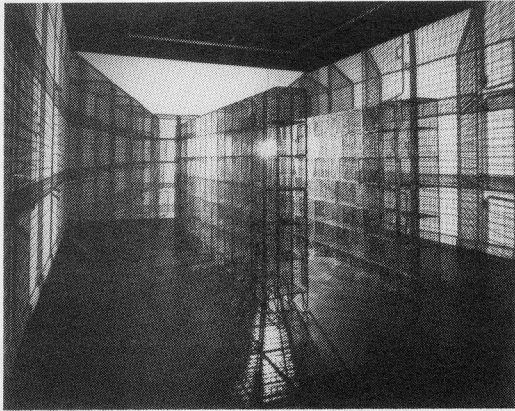
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the **turner prize exhibition** is at the **tate** until 3rd december. sponsored by **groovy channel 4** so entry is free. pictured below are works by (clockwise) **mona hartoum**, **damien hurst**, **mark wallinger** and **calumn innes**. more info: tv – without walls, c4, tue 28 nov 9-10pm. net – <http://www.illum.co.uk/turner/>

turner prize



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simon baker

Firstly, let me assure you this is me, honest, not some dodgy Canadian DJ trying to dupe you. It's good to talk, but there are limits. Since Her Majesty could hardly accuse someone of being an impostor just in case, surely calls are checked to see that they are from who they should be. I suspect that some switchboard operator may receive a job transfer to the Tower of London.

The Beit Quad refurbishment fiasco rumbles on with the news that, shock horror, it would be very expensive to move the Union to Sheffield. Now the fact that everyone else in College knew this from day one inevitably leads one to ask what the hell College Estates are playing at. God only knows how much money has been wasted on architect's fees and misguided feasibility studies. The obvious way forward is to convert the Biology department to provide accommodation and refurbish Beit Hall thus giving the required conference facilities next to existing amenities. To move all the administration and the Union was clearly going to be prohibitively expensive. However, the motives for wanting this are completely understandable. For the first time, senior people in College have asked what actually gets done in Sheffield. Why do we need such a large department to manage an organisation the size of Imperial, where a lot of decisions are taken by individual departments anyway? By moving them into a smaller building, this bureaucratic monster could be reduced in size and made more efficient. Nobody can dispute the chronic overmanning in Sheffield, where the various departments have

expanded unnecessarily to fill the available space. To solve this, how about, for example, cutting the fat from departments such as the enormous Registry that seems to do little apart from issue Council Tax exemption forms and add up our exam marks. Better still, why not put the whole of Sheffield administration out to competitive tender as has been done in the Civil Service. Earlier in the week, I read an article in the Daily Telegraph suggesting that in deprived inner city areas, teachers rather than parents are to blame for the poor performance of children. Fair enough you say. Must be written by some smart arse from a right wing think tank who went to Eton. This article was in fact written by a teacher who works in an inner city comprehensive which until about three years ago was one of the worst performers in the country. By changing headteacher, scrapping lunatic progressive teaching methods and getting, dare I say it, back to basics, GCSE pass rates have more than quadrupled in three years. Teaching unions are constantly moaning about not being treated as a professional body of people, but it is hardly surprising that the vocal minority of bad teachers that cling to failed practices harm the whole profession.

As regular as the National Lottery draw is the griping and whingeing about this national institution. Recently there has been a storm of protest over the allocation of money. Too right I say. I've been buying tickets every week since it started and they haven't given me as much as a tenner. Being forced to watch Anthea Turner every week to check I have lost is almost too much to bear.

michael ludlam

This is my third year at Imperial. The last two went quite well. Exams were passed and course work was relatively simple. I was enjoying myself, had good friends. I was partaking in that getting older bit, the whole learning experience. I came back ready to start my third year at the beginning of this month expecting more of the same.

I got it wrong. Pretty much everything has changed. It is as if everyone I know who is in their final year has been dipped in a whopping great vat of sincerity. As if someone somewhere is desperately trying to take out all the fun of being at college. The word on the street, in the lecture theatre, in the bars has changed to "jobs jobs jobs" followed closely behind by "marriage, mortgage and kids." It's getting kinda depressing. Suddenly I have all this work that needs doing today, not in May like I was used to. Ok so maybe I was hugely naive, I didn't really listen to all those warnings about this place. I discovered my worse fear – Imperial College means degree machine.

Those who did not reach the hurdle of second year exams have been discarded by the way side. No more friendly resits, fall below and you're out. Even those who failed just one exam are no longer welcome. It is hardly the friendly little sweet college I thought it was. It's like that pit monster in one of the Star Wars films, it's gotta have those sacrifices. All those course work assignments and

problem sheets to satisfy the hungry beast. Eating up all our free time. It is starting to make me worry, oh I should be working, not writing this column. I should stay in to work, not go out and meet people and enjoy myself. It's like they no longer want me to expand my horizons.

It is cyclic problem, the more one person worries about their mark it makes everyone else worry and so on. People are frightened of not keeping up. We are all beavering away becoming excellent scientists, engineers and medics but not very good people. If you weren't a geek when you arrived they are trying hard to turn you into one.

So when it comes time to play, we play far too hard. How can the Rector be surprised that there is a big drink and drug problem here. What better way to forget all the stress than get completely off your face so you remember none of it. We've all done it haven't we? I have seen perfectly normal good healthy people turn into nervous wrecks, through an excessively large work load.

My reckoning goes that college should be about an experience, about joining the ride and enjoying yourself, enjoying your course and the rest of your life. Dare I say it, there is more to the ride than your course. The pressures of the our course are immense. Does college really believe that they only want good academics and not well balanced individuals? However we do not have much choice, we have to play the game. What else we do?

“God only knows how much money has been wasted on architect's fees and misguided feasibility studies.”

“...it's like that pit monster in one of the Star Wars films, it's gotta have those sacrifices.”

It's all in the mind

Sarah Tomlin grapples with consciousness

Okay, I know many of you spend Friday morning in various states of consciousness at the back of the lecture theatre. But have you ever wondered how much conscious control you have over your own thoughts and actions? This month at the Royal Society, Jeffrey Gray, a professor of psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry, discussed the problem of consciousness and who should solve it.

There is very little agreement on what the problem with consciousness is. Some people will always argue that consciousness is a mystery of life that can never be explained. However, most scientists now agree that consciousness is somehow linked to brain activity. Have you ever had too many beers and noticed the pub spinning around you? If so you will realise that substances like alcohol, which alter brain chemistry, also alter consciousness. Perhaps then, a good place to begin understanding consciousness is to look at what makes the brain special. The trouble is, of course, that scientists are still arguing about the best way to do this.

Historically, neuroscientists have gained a lot of insight into the workings of the brain by studying patients with brain damage. Occasionally we get a glimpse into another person's consciousness: for example, patients who behave as if the left side of space, and even their own bodies, had ceased to exist. Dr. Oliver Sacks, author of *Awakenings* and *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat* has written some of the most sympathetic and wonderful tales I have ever read about people suffering from these unimaginable mental conditions.

Many neuroscientists believe that consciousness will ultimately be explained in terms of brain structure and the firing of groups of neu-

rons. But another alternative is a kind of pansychism (unfortunately nothing to do with a small guy with a goatee and pointy ears playing the pipes) in which *all matter shares in consciousness*. This view has recently been expressed by the mathematician Roger Penrose in his book *The Emperor's New Mind: concerning computers, minds and the laws of physics*. He suggests that the secret of consciousness may have something to do with the mysteries of quantum mechanics, since science has so far failed to explain either properly.

As a psychologist, Jeffrey Gray believes that a satisfactory theory of consciousness should try to explain as many aspects of it as possible and should be able to answer some key questions. How did conscious experience evolve and how does it help an animal survive? How are conscious experiences linked to brain events and how do they alter behaviour? The problem with such an ambitious, all-embracing approach, is that the concept of consciousness is so rich and complex that Professor Gray admits he has not yet come up with a simple definition of it. He is not alone in this: Francis Crick has written "we did not attempt to define consciousness itself because of the dangers of premature definition." (If this seems like a cop-out, try defining the word "gene" - you will not find it easy).

Sometimes it is easier to begin defining something by what it is not, and it is astonishing how much subconscious activity takes place in our brains. There is a lot of experimental evidence to show that consciousness always comes *after* the brain processes to which it is linked and more importantly, *it comes too late to affect them*. This agrees with the observation that conscious events occur serially while neural processing operates in parallel. During the few seconds or so that it takes you to read

this sentence, your eyes are following the words, your brain is mentally processing their shape and meaning, but how much of this activity are you actually aware of?

This raises the question that if so much brain activity and subsequent behaviour is subconscious (including reflex actions, such as removing your hand from a hot stove) then what does conscious experience add to our behaviour that the subconscious cannot do by itself? Jeffrey Gray explains that, "This, by the way, is not Freudian subconsciousness. Along with everything else

"Along with everything else that Freud got wrong, he also wrongly treated the subconscious as a mystery."

that Freud got wrong, he also wrongly treated the subconscious as a mystery. It is not." Increasingly, scientists understand in more and more detail how the firing of neurons is linked to subconscious behaviour. It is the fact that some of this mental activity becomes *conscious* that is the real mystery.

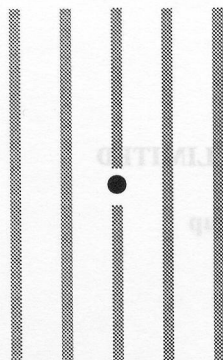
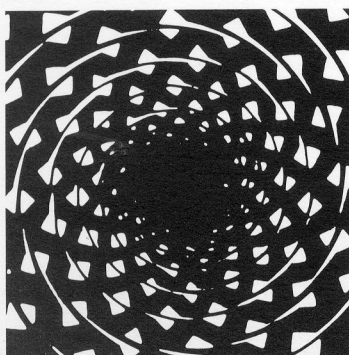
Can You Believe Your Brain?



The Margaret Thatcher Illusion

Filling in the gap: Cover one eye, stare at the dot on the right—the lines on the left should join up.

Is This a Spiral?



Look before you think

Researchers in California have recently demonstrated vision without awareness (also called 'blindsight') in normal sighted volunteers. Blindsight has previously been described in some patients with brain damage who claim they cannot see anything, but when forced to guess the location of objects near them, they perform well above the level of pure chance. The novel approach in this latest study was to create the same effect in sighted observers by presenting them with patterns of moving dots. One display, of unpaired dots, had an identifiable 'target area' which the observers were asked to locate. The other pattern was similar, except that the dots were in pairs, and the observers claimed they could not distinguish the 'target area' from the flickering background. But surprisingly, when forced to make a guess about the position of the target, the observers were just as successful (70-80% correct answers) as they were when they could see the target area. This is one example of how much processing may be going on in our brains without us being consciously aware of it.

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theatre: this week

national
0171 928 2252
south bank, embankment tube
volpone by ben jonson - rep
until january £9.50- £22.50

warehouse theatre
0181 680 4060
62 dingwall road croydon -
east croydon BR
trouble sleeping by nick ward-
tue 6.30pm wed to sat 8pm
£6.95 tue, wed & sun, concs
£5, thur £4.50, fri & sat £6.95 concs
£6 until 12 november

almeida 0171 359 4404
almeida st NI - angel tube
venice preserved by thomas
otway - mon to fri 8pm sat
matinee 4pm £6.50 to £16.50,
concs £6.50. until 2 decem-
ber.

albery theatre 0171 369
1730
st. martin's lane; leicester sq.
tube
five guys named moe
jazz musical by clarke peters -
mon-thurs 8pm, fri & sat 6pm
& 8.45pm.
Tickets £5-£28. booking until
jan 13.

hammersmith apollo
0171 416 6022
queen caroline st; hammersmith
tube
riverdance: the show by bill whe-
lan. mon- sat 8pm, sat mat
2.30pm. £18.50-£27.50 plus £1.75
booking fee. booking until feb 10.

queen's theatre 0171 494 5040
shaftsbury avenue; leicester sq.
tube
prisoner cell block h by david
mccar; can fragile english flower
lily savage survive the perils of
wentworth detention centre? musi-
cal spin-off from the cult tv prison
saga. mon-thurs 8pm, fri & sat
6pm & 8.45pm. £7.50-£24. book-
ing until jan 13.

theatre: **volpone** mark summers

There are none more spectacular than the National's recreations of the classics at the Olivier. So much so in this case that the design and direction outshines what is a very creditable performance by a largely well-known cast. The production as a whole is an outstanding success for Matthew Warchus in his debut as a professional director on the London stage. Jonson is considered by many to be the English Molière, a theory successfully borne out by Warchus in this production.

Jonson's black comedy revolves around the Venetian miser Volpone who feigns sickness in order to trick the wealthy of Venice into bestowing gifts on him. For these acts, they believe they

shall be the sole benefactor of his will, beliefs reinforced by Volpone's parasite and trickster, Mosca. Following his performance in the BBC's *The Singing Detective*, Michael Gambon is a natural Volpone, although it would be nice to see him play something other than a sick man and a grumpy bachelor.

Simon Russell Beale had little difficulty in stealing the audience's affections as the intriguing yet loathsome Mosca. But the star of the show was Robin Soan's Corvino, the foolish Venetian merchant who even tries to get Volpone to sleep with his wife in order to claim his fortune. He had the audience completely convinced, and the two faced nature of his character was captured perfectly.

Overall it is a superb production.

theatre: **trouble sleeping**

grasshopper

Some 10 minutes after leaving Victoria we pulled into a station that looked like it had been pulled out of an inter-galactic airport. "Canary Wharf?" I mused. The huge, towering, grey-white office block glistening in the lights in front of me would have been enough to fool the keanest Fleet Street Editor. But no, sure as I had expected I was in... wait for it... East Croydon!

You may have thought that Croydon is nothing but a dull, leafy suburb. But tucked away just behind the railway station in the upstairs floor of a like-named pub (as fringe theatres always are) lies "The Warehouse". With a minute to spare I hurried into the darkened theatre, the audience looked at me expectantly, I bowed... and took my seat.

An established focus of local thespian enthusiasm, the Warehouse was preparing to be graced by a production of the prodigal Aussie, Nick Ward. *Trouble Sleeping* is his seventh production (not including his 3 prize-winning films), which at the age of 33, is a lengthy repertoire.

The play opens with Rosemary Daley (Sandra Voe) watching an egg boil - for the full three minutes. Perhaps it's a device to paint a picture that is as simple as can be of Rosemary and her son Terry (Peter-Hugo Daly) but it is also a metaphor for the shell that is their life which - under a little pressure - can so easily crack.

Terry is a BR worker who harbours an obsession with fire-arms which takes shape in his predilection for clay-pigeon shooting. However, things take a sharp change in direction when Rosemary finds out that her well married sister, Ursula (Eve Pearce), is ill and will be coming to live in her old home once more. As if this weren't a bad enough upset for poor Terry, Ursula invites Angela (Miranda Pleasance), an attractive run-

away, to live in the Daley house-hold. This all proves too much for Terry when his secret porn videos are discovered - the only release for his sexual frustrations. He is torn between loyalty and love for his mother and the sorry state of denial he suffers through his attraction to Angela which finally cracks his manly shell.



It's not that Nick Ward doesn't manage to invoke feelings of sympathy in his audience, it's just that these are due to the pathetic characters rather than the accomplished performances. He himself says that some actors have trouble adapting from screen to stage and Miranda Pleasance (a familiar "The Bill"/"Casualty" face) is an unfortunate victim of this syndrome. Ward can conjure a promising scene, but like Croydon's "fools-wharf" appearance, he does not produce the feelings, only simple imitations.

gig/interview: trans-global underground_{pixel}

After an excellent set from Tribal Drift, some funky hip-hop from Eusebe and admirable mixing from Coldcut, we were finally treated to Transglobal Underground. So was it worth the wait?

Well, quite a few of the crowd failed to take the pace when confronted with an extended 90 minute set and encore. The music was never frantic but the beats grabbed you by the scruff of the neck and forced you to dance. I was surprised by the breadth of the set, which had everything from crashing guitar riffs and rapping to extensive bongo and drum workouts.

and is the driving force that holds their diverse sound together.

The band hopes to find time in the New Year to take a month of gigging to record a new album, from which they should get an entirely new live set. If the material they played tonight is anything to go by, then this will be well worth checking out.

Asked if they have any message to get across, Dubla said that they want to try and break down barriers in music, building on the start they've already made. Apparently, Natacha wants to see multi-ethnic music raised to the same level of prominence that it has in France, Belgium and the Netherlands, where it receives regular radio play.



Before the gig, I chatted to the band's bassist, Dubla, who promised that they would play four or five new songs. They didn't disappoint and although the fans cheered the fami liar 'na-na, na-na-ner' of old favourite 'Temple Head', I couldn't help thinking that it was overshadowed by the newer material.

It's easy to see how vocalist Natacha Atlas maintains a solo career in addition to her work with the band. Her mix of singing and Indian style chants underpins all of Transglobal's music

If there is one thing the band hates, it's pigeon-holing. Dubla tells me half-jokingly that if they ever manage to completely categorise Transglobal then he'll move on. He talks at length on the stupidity of the system and decides that he wants Transglobal to be the next Britpop band. True to his word the band announced, "Well, well, Britpop goes multiracial" over the PA at the end of the gig. Looking at the smiles on people's faces after the gig, I can only hope so.

album: superchunk - here's where the strings come in_{nick}

It's all in a name. Unfortunately for Superchunk, the reference to 'large vomit' in their name is true. The band appear to be Bob Mould wannabees who have veered towards Madder Rose but lost the whole plot along the way, while 'Here's where the strings come in' sounds as though it was recorded in someone's garage on a DAT machine.

Recent single, 'Hyper Enough' is the highest quality fare on offer. But, it's the first song and from here on the album gets progressively worse. From 'Iron On' onwards there is a deep gorge of songs that all sound the same so it's not a case of the best being save until last.

I had great hopes for this album since Superchunk had supported the great Teenage Fanclub. Alas, this time the Fannies' judgement proved to be just about as good as Jacques Chirac's nuclear policy. Oh well, we all make mistakes. (3)

album: asian dub foundation - facts and fictions_{paul shore}

I didn't know what to expect but I was impressed right from the start of this album with the fusion of Eastern rhythms and Western beats.

The album contains a unique blend of musical genres, with tracks ranging from the incredibly mellow 'Journey' to some very hard edged rap tunes towards the end of the album. They even lay a strong, funky electric guitar sound over a jungle beat on 'TH9', while 'Thacid' could have been written by Josh Wink.

As their name would suggest, there are a lot of Asian style melodies. However, these are not so much emphasised as blended in with the varied collection of instrumental and sampled sounds and this mixture of styles compensates for the lyrics, which sound a little harsh at times.

All in all, the twelve tracks cover a lot of ground and this is well worth a listen. (7)

listings:_{ahead}

- capercaille 3 nov - shep bush empire - £10.50
the wildhearts 3 nov - brixton academy - £10
buffalo tom 4 nov - shep bush empire - £8.50
radiohead + strangelove - 4 nov - brixton academy - £9
oasis 5 nov - earls court - £14
black sabbath 10 nov - empire - £12.50
my life story + david devant + terry edwards - 10 nov - la2 - £6
the shamen - 10 nov - forum - £10
young gods - 11 nov - forum - £9
foo fighters - 14 & 15 nov - brixton academy - £9
human league - 14 & 15 nov - royal albert hall - £14.50, £12.50
david bowie + morrissey - 14, 15, 17 nov - wembley - £25
finn - 16 nov - union chapel - £12.50
chumbawumba 17 nov - forum - £8.50
ozzy osbourne + fear factory - 18 nov - brixton academy - £14
the beautiful south + lightning seeds - 21 nov - wembley - £15
les negresses vertes - 22 nov - shep bush empire - £10
emmylou harris and the daniel lanois band - 23 nov - shep bush empire - £tbc
runrig - 23 nov - royal albert hall - £13-£15
carter usm - 24 nov - shep bush empire - £9.50
m people - 24-26 nov - royal albert hall - £12-£17.50
candy dulfer - 25 nov - shep bush empire - £tbc
the charlatans - 25 nov - brixton academy - £10
paul weller - 27, 28 nov - brixton academy - £16.50
wet wet wet - 4, 5, 6 dec - wembley - £23
allison moyet - 6 dec - royal albert hall - £15
pulp 21 dec - brixton academy - £9.50
the stone roses + manic street preachers - 29 dec - wembley - £16.50
gary glitter + suzi quattro - 14, 15 dec - wembley - 16 dec - london arena - £17.50
handy hint - to avoid irritating £2-3 'booking fees' try to buy your tickets from the venue or ULU (malet street) in cash.

singles: max 5

oasis - wonderwall
The A-side is pretty weak but the B-sides make this a great CD single. Plenty of strings, brass and a certain Mr. Weller. Buy now.

comet gain - gettin' ready
Sounds like Shampoo but with only one girl - need I say more?

manson - take it easy
chicken
This band are not sure what they want to be - indie or heavy metal - and end up in an awful middle ground.

helium - superball
Gritty but ends up sounding like a turgid version of Sleeper. Stick to the real thing.

drugstore - injection
Not the worst single I've ever heard but this girl-fronted indie band are suffering from a severe lack of originality.

dog eat dog - no fronts (remixes)
If these are the remixes then goodness knows what the unmixed version sounds like.

tricky - pumpkin
This is smashing (ho, ho!). Trip-hop at its finest from the Trick-ster.



eric matthews - fanfare
This bloke has a voice similar to Black and he seems to play almost every instrument under the sun, so he's pretty talented. This is hard to pigeonhole but good nonetheless.

smashing pumpkins - bullet with butterfly wings
An excellent single. It's noisy with plenty of guitars, and shows the other bands who are trying to achieve this sound how to do it right.

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XV

gig: **mike peters**vik

Way back in the echelons of *Felix* history, I remember writing: "Let's get one thing straight - The Alarm were a great band (a statement which should exterminate any street cred I possess)." Well, twenty-eight issues later, and still with no street cred to my name, I'm ready to revise that opinion. Because, after seeing ex-Alarm frontman Mike Peters performing an acoustic show of songs old and new, the only conclusion I can draw is that The Alarm weren't a great band - they were a brilliant one. (But then I really knew that anyway.)



Armed with a guitar, a voice and a passionate dedication to his trade, Mike played two and a half hours of almost flawless gems spanning a fifteen year history.

The songs were interspersed with anecdotes and humour - a testament to Mike's ongoing bonhomie with his fans. On one occasion, when a large number of obscurities were being requested by fans eager to prove their die-hardi-

ness, he jovially retorted: "I think that we've got a few trainspotters in here tonight."

And yet it's remarkable that there aren't more of the same sort of 'trainspotters' around. '68 Guns', 'Where were you hiding when the storm broke?', 'Spirit of '76', 'One step closer to home' and 'No frontiers', to name but a few, are songs that take in influences as diverse as the Clash and the Stones, that had something unpretentious and important to say, and yet which lie neglected by so many.

Not that this is supposed to sound like an epitaph. Far from it. The UK and forthcoming US tours are packed to the rafters and the solo

material, mainly taken from last year's debut, 'Breathe', stands up entirely on its own merits. The new songs may not have quite managed to capture the exquisiteness of old yet but as proven tonight, they will certainly age well. And in an era of meaningless, hungover music culture, that's way more than you've reason to expect.

Like I once said - Mike Peters deserves your attention now.

album: **the smashing pumpkins - mellon collie and infinite sadness**grasshopper

To spend 24 hours with the Smashing Pumpkins would be impossible joy. To spend two hours or so with this album in their royal presence is thus but a bareable compression. Split betwixt two halves, perfectly complementary, like night and day, dawn and dusk, rest 28 new tracks. The two CDs, crammed with the same number of years worth of Billy Corgan's meticulously woven melodies, may be verging on the verbose, but then we're not being given a tour of McD's.

In contrast with most other big bands, the Pumpkins haven't "matured", "progressed", or "diversified", not because they tried not to, but because everything they do is peculiarly idiosyncratic.

Corgan's lyrics may be at times self-indulgent, not to mention inaccessible, but songs like

'Bodies', 'Thirty-three' and 'Bullet with...' redeem his stature and hark to the earlier days of 'Gish' and 'Siamese Dream'.

Though not every track is a gorging grunge landmark, to attempt superficial comparisons to 80's style revival would be totally out of place. Sweet cherishable numbers like 'Stumbleine', 'By starlight' and 'Farewell and goodnight' are evidence enough for me that Corgan's talent, relentlessly emitted from my CD player, is unique.

Incidentally, the last song calls on the hitherto unexposed voice of James Iha, making you wonder if this man could possibly attain saintly status. He also wrote "Take me down" (a sure contender for the title of best-track) not so much a love song as a ray of hope at the twilight of Corgan's bitter day. I wish it was mine.

Now you may think that this is hopeless infatuation, but you'd be wrong. There is no other reason to buy this album other than for pure musical delight. Don't pretend you need to understand it, you don't.(8)

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celluloid guide: this week

odeon kensington
0426 914666

french kiss 1.40, 4.20, 7, 9.40

pocahontas
12.30, 2.40, 4.50, 7

to die for 2, 4.35, 7.10, 9.45

the net 1.40, 4.20, 7, 9.40

nine months
12.05, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35

tube; ken high street. £6.50,
£6, £3.50 before 5pm

mgm fulham road
0171 370 2636

clueless 1.40, 4.10, 7.10, 9.40

jade 1.30, 4.05, 7.05, 9.30

the usual suspects
1.40, 4.10, 7, 9.40

farinelli 1.30, 4.10, 6.50, 9.30

apollo 13 3.20, 9.20

tube; south ken then bus
£6, £3.50 students and before 6pm

mgm chelsea
0171 325 5096

to die for 1.40, 4.10, 6.40, 9.20

french kiss 1.30, 4.15, 6.50, 9.30

nine months 1.30, 3.50, 6.40, 9.30

the net 3.40, 6.30, 9.20

tube; sloane square then bus
£6, £3.50 students and before 6

renoir 0171 837 8402

il postino
1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.35

land and freedom
1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50

tube; russell square
£6, £4 1st perf, £2.50 stu-
dents

minema 0171 369 1723

the life and extraordinary
adventures of private ivan
chonkin' 6.40, 8.45

carrington phone for details
tube; you can walk it
£6.50, £4 matinees

prince charles
0171 437 8181

plan 10 from outer space
fri 12.30am

pulp fiction
fri 3.45pm £1.50

ed wood sat 1pm

casper sat 3.40pm

chungking express
sun 6.30pm

priscilla sun 8.45pm

once were warriors
mon 4.15pm £1.50

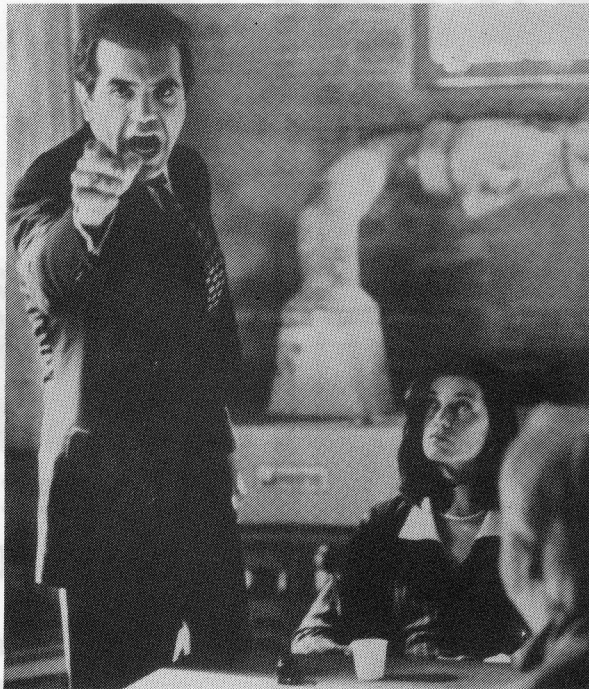
the bait tue 1.30pm £1.50

before sunrise
wed 4pm £1.50

tube; leicester square
£2 all seats

film: jade jenny ho

David Corelli is an assistant district attorney who is called to investigate the murder of a prominent millionaire. While investigating the crime, he is



confronted with the fact that Trina Gavin (Linda Fiorentino from *The Last Seduction*), the wife of his best friend and the woman he has been in

love with since college, is the prime suspect.

Clues which lead to the suspect are fingerprints on the murder weapon; sightings of Trina visiting the millionaire's beach house; and a silver box engraved with the Chinese character for Jade - the name of one of the millionaire's many lovers.

Fiorentino gives a cool, if unsurprising performance as a two-timing clinical psychologist. Mentally Trina appears to be a bit of a weirdo and sexually she is very liberated - a side of her psyche which her husband is ignorant about.

Written by Basic Instinct screenwriter Joe Eszterhas, *Jade* contains few surprises. The millionaire who is into bonking young attractive women and the attorney who is in love with the prime suspect have both featured in films of this type before. There is, of course, the obligatory car chase thrown in but this comes across as being so preposterous and clumsily filmed that it does little to raise the adrenaline levels of the audience.

For the first half hour or so, *Jade* seems unpromising although Shawn Murphy's music score does well to build up the tension in the opening scene where the murder is heard but not seen.

In the end director William Friedkin does manage to shape an entertaining film, even though it is a bit predictable and tacky at times.

film: the horseman on the roof magpie

The Horseman on the Roof, or for those endearing people taking level three French the original title is *Le Hussard sur le Toit*, will be playing at the London Film Festival on Monday.

It's 1830's France and cholera is spreading like a wild rumour through the country obliterating villages and leaving dead bodies for the scavenging crows. Angelo is a colonel of the Hussars fleeing the Austrian agents sent to track him down, for Italy has been invaded by Austria. The words 'Viva Italia' are Angelo's, and he defends them with fist and sword.

Angelo finally arrives in Manosque searching for his friend Guiseppe. The local population has been driven mad by the paranoia of the cholera epidemic. Only hysteria and chaos rule, and after being falsely accused of poisoning the local water well, Angelo is driven onto the rooftops. Above him are the crows waiting for him to die and below the mob want to hang him.

The rain comes and Angelo finds shelter in an attic where he meets Pauline, an elegant woman whose calmness and relaxed attitude is a stark contrast to the death crazed mob: a chance encounter which is lost by the morning, as she has gone. Their paths cross again and Angelo feels obliged to help Pauline on her journey to find her husband. The journey is fraught with danger, avoiding the cholera and the army, who

are enforcing quarantine, but Angelo still makes the detour.

The Horseman on the Roof is adapted from the book by Jean Giono: some adaptations seem to skim over events trying to squash everything into 100 minutes, but *The Horseman on the Roof* is the complete opposite. It is long, and each minute is saturated with events. Characters come and go but the overall feeling is everything is known about them only after a short dialogue. Each screen is complemented by the changing scenery, as Angelo and Pauline's journey takes them to a different idyllic part of France.

Director Jean-Paul Rappeneau binds the film together well as the large number of events and different backdrops would usually just create confusion. Each scene flows effortlessly into another and you slowly become amazed by Angelo's character; his resourcefulness, strength and the pity he shows to the dying, risking his own health. Pauline then strikes you as a stubborn woman, caring only for herself and her desire to find her husband. There is a love story in this film somewhere, but it doesn't surface until late in the film, since Angelo is an army officer and so hides his love behind his honour and he does it obviously a bit too well.

Overall *The Horseman on the Roof* is a good film, with an authentic setting in an grim but interesting period in history. However Rappeneau never lets you forget the bitter taste when people die at random and the look of fear, death and pain in each victim's sunken eyes.

BUST-A-GUT
comedy club

fri. nov. 10th

DAN FREEDMAN

TONY BURGESS

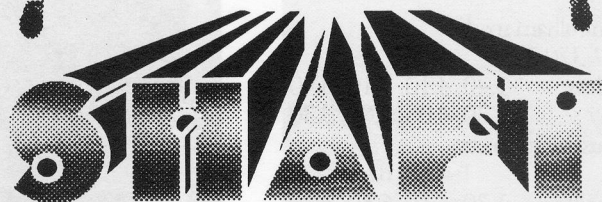
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8pm

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Mr fogg



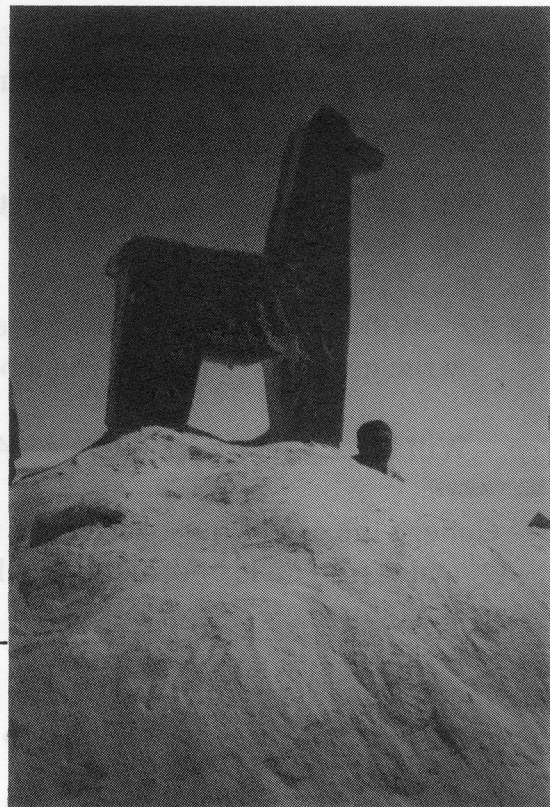
With 3 weeks remaining of our holiday we broke south from Peru and crossed the border into Bolivia at the border town of Copacabana.

£5 a day. They are doing well if they live to be 50, though many will die in cave-ins before that. They only let us 'Gringos' in because we come bearing gifts; coca leaves for their endurance, fuel for their lamps, dynamite for their mining, that sort of thing.

Bolivia is the poorest country in the western hemisphere and it certainly shows, there are only 2 paved roads in the whole of the country and luckily we travelled one of them into La Paz. La Paz is renowned as being the highest capital in the world – not true. It is not the capital of Bolivia, merely its biggest city and centre of commerce... I digress. More worrying than La Paz's lack of bona fide title is its lack of breathable air; sat in a valley below the Andean Altiplano it is at 4000m above sea level and is

South West of Potsoi in the Altiplano lies one of the world's largest salt plains, the 'Salar d'Uyuni'. 10 billion tons of virtually pure salt stretching dead flat across hundreds of square kilometres of land, broken up only by the occasional lone island of rock. Local belief is that it was formed when the seas dried up and all of the fish were turned into islands. When I asked why Bolivia's economic situation could not be improved by export of this salt, I was told of how Chile took Bolivia's one access to the ocean rendering it landlocked. This land will be returned within a decade when Chile

where Olympic athletes train before competitions. After life in London, a good 30m above sea level (50m if you're on the second floor) La Paz proved to be literally breath-taking and the slightest exertion would leave you gasping like a fish on dry land. The one advantage of all this puffing and panting is that upon return to Britain, you feel like you have super-human strength.



has exhausted the silver mines there which currently constitute 10% of its Gross Domestic Product.

From Uyuni I travelled back to La Paz on one of the world's highest railways and from La Paz back to Lima and from there to London. The sadness at leaving these places and especially the people was immense. The geography is stunning but it is the people that endear themselves to you. They're not in the rat race, they take each day as it comes and it may sound

blessedly simple but its not – its hard. Its also extremely well worth seeing with your own eyes. Contact me, James Madden, via the Felix office if you like.

“...the slightest exertion would leave you gasping like a fish on dry land.”

South East of La Paz lies the city of Potsoi. A silver town during Spanish rule, it is now mined co-

operatively by the local men. These “men” (starting at age 10) live on what silver they mine, some carry over a ton of metal ore on their backs in a day in tunnels 4ft high by candlelight and for their trouble they will earn

RCS Union General Meeting (UGM)

Friday 3rd Nov. - Ents Lounge - 1pm prompt.

The following posts are up for grabs:

Ents. Chair / Asst. Hon. Sec. / Clubs Cttee Chair

Broadsheet Asst. Ed. - (has to be a fresher) / Publicity Officer

Asst. AAO / Handbook Ed. / RCSA Rep. / Archivist.

Ents. Chair - Not really looking for a chairperson (unless they really want to) but for a solid core of motivated, serious but fun-loving people who can organise events.

Asst. Hon. Sec - If you want to know more about the union's goings on then this is an ideal position. You minute meetings and help the Hon. Secs throughout the year.

The above two posts will probably be involved in helping organise the Annual Dinner.

Clubs Cttee Chair - Will coordinate the RCS Clubs & Societies and help revive lost ones.

Broadsheet Asst. Ed. - *Has to be a fresher* - Will help write articles - although there's nothing stopping anybody else from contributing to our publication - gather articles, and help collate Broadsheet.

Asst. AAO - Will sit on Accademic affairs meetings also shadowing the AAO, and will also be the Bookshop Rep.

Handbook Ed. - With the help of the Broadsheet Team, will look for advertising sponsors and write next years Freshers' Handbook (Archivist will also help out here.)

RCSA Rep. - Will liaise with the Ex. Students Association, representing the current students.

Archivist - College life can be quite hectic and we need to keep tabs on it. Everyday becomes a new page in history and you'll have to maintain a reference/filing system for the future.

Publicity Officer - The RCS is only as good as how well events are publicised; a motivated and imaginative person is required to make sure the other students know what's going on.

Friday 3rd Nov. - Ents Lounge - 1pm prompt.

friday 3 november

Rag Meeting

1.10 pm Ents Lounge. Regular meeting.

Pakistan Society

2.00 - 4.00 pm Basketball practice in the union gym. Bring trainers! Contact Kashif, aero II, k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk

Ents

The return of the 'Pop Tarts' DJs, bringing you pure pop classics, from Abba to Wham, from 60's to 90's, with 'Shaft'. Entry is £1, or free with an ents card, or if you're suitably dressed in 70's bad taste style. *BUT*, 'cos we keep selling out, we can only guarantee admission to ents card holders before 11 pm. Be early!

f r i d a y

stoic

12.00 The Report

The news and features magazine designed to keep students informed, enlightened and entertained.

12.30 MovieZone

All the views and news from the Cinema.

12.50 Level 3

Wacky show with thrills & spills.

1.30 Shutdown to BBC1

Neighbours.

Coming Soon:

The Pub Guide

Where to go in London for a good time and a piss up.

Freshers Documentary on the life and trials of Freshers in the first few weeks of their academic year.

the
week
ahead

saturday 4 november

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield.

s a t u r d a y

Photographic Society

The photographic society has started the new year dynamically, looking for inspiration in the cinema. We visited the 'magnum cinema' exhibition at the Royal Festival Hall which commemorates the centenary of cinema, featuring two hundred dazzling photographs which capture all aspects of film-making.

We witnessed Marilyn Monroe's magical love affair with the camera, and were amused by Phillippe Halsman's successful photograph of her famous wiggle. Nicolas Tikhomiroff expressed the mood of his characters with his exceptional use of light. We were so bewitched by the brilliant show that we could not keep our hands off the merchandise; postcards, keyrings, and even toilet paper with a musical score on it. Along the way, we kept losing members as they "quickly" took photographs of the scenery along the Thames. The trip ended with a cup of coffee and a long conversation on everyone's aspirations of being famous.

The Society meets every Tuesday in Southside Lounge at 1.00 pm, so come along and find out what we get up to, or contact us via email: ka1@doc.ic.ac.uk

Jewish society

"Bruchim Haba'im" - Welcome - to Imperial College. Next Monday is our Bagel Lunch, really this time - no contradictory info we hope - and we would like you to come along, eat, chat, join up, and get involved!

The lunch will be held in the SCR in Beit Quad - facing the Union, go diagonally to the forward right-hand staircase, and up one floor - starting at 12.15pm.

For more info please contact g.moont@ic.ac.uk

sunday 5 november

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield

Contact gliding@ic.ac.uk

Come to Thursday meeting first.

Food

Sunday lunch available in Da Vinci's between 1.30 and 3 pm for £3.

Plus Everton v Blackburn on the big screen.

s u n d a y

Afro Caribbean Society

The Afro Caribbean Society is making a good comeback and is stronger than ever this year, with the full support of our numerous, dedicated freshers.

The objectives of the society is to promote and publicize the cultures of Africa and the Caribbean. This is reflected through our social and cultural events, such as dances, food nights, fashion shows, seminars, etc...

This year, everything kicks off with 'The Nubian Jam' - our party on Friday 17th November (a fortnight from now), in the Union Concert Hall. This will provide the perfect opportunity for you to join up, meet us, and get involved. We are also planning to have trips to Alton Towers, as well club nights, bowling, formal dinners, and a leavers' do at the end of the year. We go to events at other ACS in London too.

If you need more info, or want to make a suggestion or contribution, please email me or Destiny at annal@ic or deal@ic, or call Destiny's mobile (make his day!) on 0956 349 541, or - use the union pigeonholes.

icsf

This coming Tuesday sees the continuation of our X-Files season, care of STOIC. We will be showing Episodes 2 and 3, the fun and cynicism starting at 7pm.

Membership is £4 for the year. For more info; icsf@ic.ac.uk or http://www.ph.ic.ac.uk/moontg/

The Hellenic Society

The Hellenic society is a national society organised by Greek IC students, and its purpose is to cater for all those interested in Greek culture, be it in the shape of music, philosophy, dance, science, food, wine, language, literature, or whatever else.

monday 6 november

Cross Country

Regular Monday night run. Meet at 5.30 pm at bottom of Union staircase.

Concert Band

5.15 - 6.45 pm. Great Hall, Sherfield. Any ability.

Ski Club

12.30 - 1.15 pm, Southside Upper Lounge. Regular meeting.

Student Industrial Society

Meeting 12.00 - 2.00 pm. In tennis room upstairs in Union building. Regular meeting.

IC Symphony Orchestra

Great Hall, 7 - 9 pm. 2nd orchestra.

ICCAG

8.15 pm, Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. Regular meeting.

ArtSoc

9.30 pm, Union Dining Hall. Come and sign up for the many trips to musicals, plays, ballet, opera, etc.

monday

We also hope to make all these forms of Greek Culture more widely known, while at the same time educate ourselves in the cultures of other countries. In short, we want to make more friends.

The highlight of this term's events is the first 'Greek Evening' of the year which will take place in the Main Dining Hall of the Sherfield on the 1st of December with Greek food, wine and live music until the early hours. Then comes the 'Electroacoustic Acroasis', a live music event in the union lounge where student bands from IC and other universities can come and play. We hope to get a wide variety of styles from traditional greek all the way to heavy metal, via jazz and indie.

We also invite big names from the domain of science, culture, economics and politics to give lectures.

Apart from socialising, we also feel that as a large Society of IC we have the obligation to strive towards the common good. We have therefore decided to bring up an issue that we attach great importance to, namely excessive poster abuse or poster pollution, as we put it.

1. Although posters are necessary, the amount of posters that are up at the moment is excessive and very often posters are placed on no-poster areas.

2. More posters means less trees.

3. More posters means less effective posters since no-one reads them.

4. Clubs are spending a considerable amount of money on posters, which could be used more constructively.

To set an example the Hellenic Society hereby undertakes to put no more than three posters per event in the designated poster area, and to take them down properly once they expire.

Remember, you don't need to be a member to be informed of the Hellenic Society's activities. You can subscribe to our e-mail list.

Just e-mail a message to:

listserv@ic.ac.uk

Subject must be empty, and the content of the message should be: subscribe hellenic-society *Your Name*.

You can also visit our Web page at <http://daedalus.ee.ic.ac.uk:8001/>

Hope to see you in our events soon.

tuesday 7 november

IC Sailing Club

Come and see us in Southside Upper Lounge, 12.45 - 1.45 pm, to arrange a sail, have a gossip, etc. Everybody welcome! Regular meeting.

Cathsoc

Sir Leon Bagritt Centre, at 12.00 pm. Level 1 Mech Eng. Regular meeting.

IC Bridge Club

6 pm in the Clubs Committee Room, Union Building. Regular meeting.

icsf

7.00 pm, STOIC. Xfiles: Files 2A, 2B

OpSoc Rehearsal

Sandy Wilson's *The BoyFriend*. 7.30 pm UCH. Regular meeting.

Ents

A relatively easy, and totally legal way to win £50, courtesy of STA Travel! Pit your wits against the ICU font of all knowledge at our bar trivia in DaVinci's. 8pm start.

tuesday

wednesday 8 november

IC Sailing Club

Meet 12.15 pm outside Southside to go sailing. Regular meeting.

Skate Society

Meet 12.15 pm Southside Lounge. Regular meeting. Trip to Brixton Skate Park after the meeting - please bring pads.

Consoc

1.00 pm, Mech Eng 748, Nigel Evans.

ICCAG

Talk by the Simon Community (a charity for the homeless) Please come along if you are interested in helping the homeless in any way.

IC Symphony Orchestra

Great Hall, 7-10 pm.

Ents

Frolik, 8 - 1am and totally free. Curries, chillis and dish of the day for only £1 at Da Vinci's.

wednesday

the
week
ahead

Indian Society

The Indian Society presents an Asian adaptation of

Cyrano

starring Bollywood's Naseeruddin Shah at the Royal National Theatre on Thursday, 9th November, 1995

Limited tickets:
£6.50 (members)
£8.50 (non-members)

Contacts:
committee members in JCR at lunchtimes.
e-mail: pp9@doc.ic.ac.uk
ar6@doc.ic.ac.uk
ss19@doc.ic.ac.uk

thursday 9 november

Blood Donating

9.00 am - 4.00 pm, Southside gym.

Yacht Club Meeting

1.00 pm, Lecture Theatre 2, Physics.
Regular meeting.

Gliding Club

1 pm. Aero 266. Regular meeting.

Christian Union

6.30 - 7.45 pm. SCR in the Union.
(Right above the bar). Regular meeting.

Consoc

Meeting at 1 pm, Southside Upper lounge.
Regular meeting.

Ents

Glamour, sophistication and plastic umbrellas, plus the cheapest cocktails in Kensington at Da Vinci's cocktail night. Starts at 5pm.

t h u r s d a y

next diary deadline: noon, November 6th

Careers Survey 1996

High Fliers Research Limited is conducting a survey, sponsored by *The Independent*, of 25 universities around the United Kingdom to evaluate the graduate recruitment programs of major companies. We are looking for a manager to organise and coordinate our activities here in Imperial College.

The position lasts until late March, and the performance of its duties should take no more than one day a week. The salary for this position is £800 (£400 in the autumn and £400 in the spring).

If interested, please send a CV and cover letter to High Fliers research Ltd, PO Box 442, Cambridge CB3 9EQ or fax them on 01233 575 431.

friday 10 november

Rag Meeting

1.10 pm Ents Lounge. Regular meeting.

Ents

More belt breaking belly laughs with the bust-a-gut comedy club. This week's top acts are Dan Freedman "one of the most exciting new talents to emerge from the new comedy generation," plus Tony Burgess, "top" Mancunian and student favourite. Doors open 8 pm, it's £2.50 or £2 with an ents card. Followed by a night of top tunes 'til 2am. Free to comedy goers, or if you are there before 8pm, or if you've got an entscard! £1 otherwise.

f r i d a y

Careers Information

There is one Careers Talk this coming week at 1 - 1.50pm.

Tuesday 9th November:

"The Actuarial Profession" by Sally Bridgeland, Senior Consultant at bacon & Woodrow, in Maths LT 140.

All students are welcome to attend. No need to book - just turn up.

"Positive Applications - a session for students from ethnic minorities" is an Interactive Workshop run on Wednesday 8th November from 2 - 4 pm in Huxley Room 344.

Sign up in the Careers Office.

For information and advice come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sherfield, which is open from 10am to 5:15pm Monday to Friday.

Subwarden Wanted For Garden Hall

Applications are invited for the position of Subwarden of Garden Hall (a hall of 85 residents situated in 10-12 Prince's Gardens) which becomes vacant at the end of this term. The subwarden assists the Warden in all aspects (pastoral, social, administrative and disciplinary) of the running of the hall. Please reply by letter, enclosing a CV and giving the names of two referees, to:

Dr SP Walker,
Warden,
Weeks Hall

Further information can be obtained from Dr Simon Walker (extension 47058) or Dr Ian Metcalfe (extension 45585).

The closing date for applications is Friday 17 November 1995.

the
week
ahead

LETTERS TO FELIX: REPLIED TO THIS WEEK BY ALEX FEAKES

Ham and eggheads

Dear Ed,
I would like to appeal to any ICU member interested in ham radio. The Union's amateur radio club, Hamsoc, is currently inactive and needs keen members (especially licence holders) to get it up and running once more.

The club owns £15,000 of equipment and has been allocated a budget for the coming academic year. If anyone is interested in either running or joining the club, could they please drop me a line via the RCC Exec. pigeon holes in the Union office.

Yours etc.

Robert Lea,
RCC Chairman.

Dear Sir or Madam,

It's all Greek to me

This is in reply to last week's letter by Mr Daniel Figueras-Niets. Since I cannot comment on anything said in council meeting that Daniel refers to (I was not present) this is aimed at anyone who thinks that overseas students are inactive in Union matters.

37% of the college's student population is of non-British origin ('overseas students'). This percentage puts Imperial among the most multicultural academic institutions in the world.

After twelve months of the work in the Union as the OSC Chairman last year, I can safely say that overseas students contribute much to the Union's life both through the overseas societies and the rest of Clubs and Societies. 'International Night' is the largest student organised event of ICU. It is not, however, the case that overseas societies organise events for the sake of overseas societies alone. Just check the article in this week's issue by the Hellenic Society and all this comes into context.

To conclude, it's the 'ancient curse' of our college that IC students don't really get involved with IC matters; but of those few that do, at least 37% are overseas.

Sincerely Yours,

Andreas Mershin.

OSC Chairman 1994/95,
Physics Ac Rep 95/96.

It is a shame that your letter quickly slides into being an advert for OSC events rather than taking the opportunity to answer the letter and the issue.

Dear Felix,

I was concerned and quite frankly amazed to read the inaccurate comments Mr. Figueras Niets attributed to me in last weeks *Felix*. Not surprisingly he seems unable to remember the half of what was said some three weeks after the event. As a result I feel obliged to explain exactly what I said and in what context.

At the council meeting in question I was outlining how

Imperial College is fundamentally different from other British Universities. At one point I explained how Imperial has; "Many foreign students as well as students on 9 to 5 courses who then don't give a shit about the Union.... They are here only to get a degree." I never once accused 'foreigners' exclusively but merely highlighted why many of Imperial's members, British or otherwise, are so apathetic towards their Union.

I find it only natural that students faced with high academic work loads are not wholly enthusiastic at the idea of working for the Union in their spare time. Indeed the demands placed upon a student studying in a language other than their own seem truly horrific. However I would like to take this opportunity to detail the reality of student representation at iCU.

There at present some 2639 foreign nationals studying at College making up 36.5 % of Imperial's student body. Out of the 52 officers involved in the running of Union activities only 5 are from overseas. In fact even the Overseas Clubs Committee Chairman is himself British! The quality of Imperial is largely due to the quality of it's overseas students but it is quite clear there is considerable shortfall in their involvement in running Non-Academic matters.

I am sorry Mr Figueras-Niets 'felt undignified' [sic], but I would appreciate it if he could in future check his facts before por-

traying me as some un-informed racial bigot. In short, I apologise to all Overseas students for Mr FN's misinterpretation of my comments but I feel I have no reason to apologise for what I actually said and what I believe.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Townend, DP(Clubs and Societies).

Thank you for allowing us a glimpse into the Union's book of records, but what was actually said or the backgrounds of the students referred to fades in importance against the perceived attitudes of the students, their Union and their Sabbaticals. Students will only get involved in activities and events that interest or cater for them, so to complain that people do not get involved is more an expression of the fact that you cannot be all things to all people. Opportunities are there for all to get involved: Imperial's multicultural nature is a strength, allowing exposure for students to other cultures.

Letters may be commented on by a guest editor whose opinions are not necessarily those of the editor.

Deadline for letters:

6pm Monday.

Please bring your union card for identification.

Hall Vacancies

Places are now available in twin and triple rooms for new or continuing undergraduate and postgraduate students in halls of residence (Evelyn Gardens and Prince's Gardens). Single rooms are available in Clayponds for postgraduate students. Please contact the Student Accommodation Office, 15 Prince's Gardens (tel: 0171 594 9444).

THE FELIX

the indispensable guide for Felix contributors and helpers

monday, high noon

clubs & societies articles deadline

monday 1.20pm

reviewers' meeting

monday 6pm

letters deadline

monday 6pm

news meeting

wednesday 1pm

features meeting

thursday night

collating

friday morning

another Felix hits the street...

W E E K

FELIX

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academic dress

I can't say I feel a great deal different now I'm editor, BSc ARCS. Commemoration Day was very definitely an inconvenience, not an excitement. It was wearing a silly garment that kept getting caught in the photocopier, and having to sit still for three hours. And I felt something of a fraud when my parents insisted on being proud and taking photographs.

I wondered if they realised just how many lectures I missed, how many problem sheets I copied, how little I appreciated the privilege of learning at an elite centre of excellence. But somehow, watching the couple of thousand of us be mis-pronounced across the stage one by one I did find my self wondering what we would all end up doing with our degrees from Imperial College of Science Technolgy and Medicine.

I am extremely grateful to all those I left behind to finish *Felix* last week, even if they phoned at 3.30am to tell me that the fuse needed to be changed in the collating machine plug.

onwards

Judging by next week's careers fair, we're all heading unavoidably towards a future in financial services. There are a great many difficult questions in this life, but at this present moment I'm really wondering if the world genuinely needs so many merchant bankers. What was the point of all those years of quantum mechanics if we're all to spend our futures talking in silly acronyms about Quality Value Customer Thresholds.

portillo

There aren't a great many perks to being *Felix* editor, but I knew it was all worthwhile when I got to spend a few short minutes with the Secretary of State for defense. I'm sorry, Ian Bayley, but it just has to be said: Michael Portillo is quite simply the person who is the most unpleasant, most comprehensively devoid of human sensitivity that I have ever met.

So there.

EDITORIAL TEAM:

NEWS: ALEX FEAKES FEATURES: MARK BAKER
fii: JEREMY MUSIC: VIK BANSAL FILM: WEI LEE
PHOTOGRAPHY: DIANA HARRISON & WILLIAM LORENZ
SPORT: JONATHAN TROUT
SCIENCE: BEN WILKINS PUZZLES: TIM ST. CLAIR
COLLATING LAST WEEK:

PRACTICALLY EVERYONE, IT SEEMS.

DELIVERING (WHEN I WAS HUNG OVER):
WEI LEE

Free Cinema Tickets

TO GO WITH THE 39TH LONDON FILM FESTIVAL, FELIX IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LONDON FILM FESTIVAL, IS GIVING AWAY 2 SETS OF TAKE 5 TICKETS.

THE TAKE 5 TICKET WILL GIVE THE LUCKY WINNER 5 ADMISSION VOUCHER TICKETS FOR ANY WEEKDAY SCREENING BEFORE 17.00.

TO WIN THESE TICKETS ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TO COME TO THE FELIX OFFICE, TODAY AT 2PM. SIMPLE.

LONDON 39th FILM FESTIVAL LONDON

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE
QUEEN WEST END, ICA
BOX OFFICE 0171 928 3232

2-19 NOV 95

FILM ON THE SQUARE
INFORMATION THEATRE NORTH
LEICESTER SQUARE

Crossword by Clansman

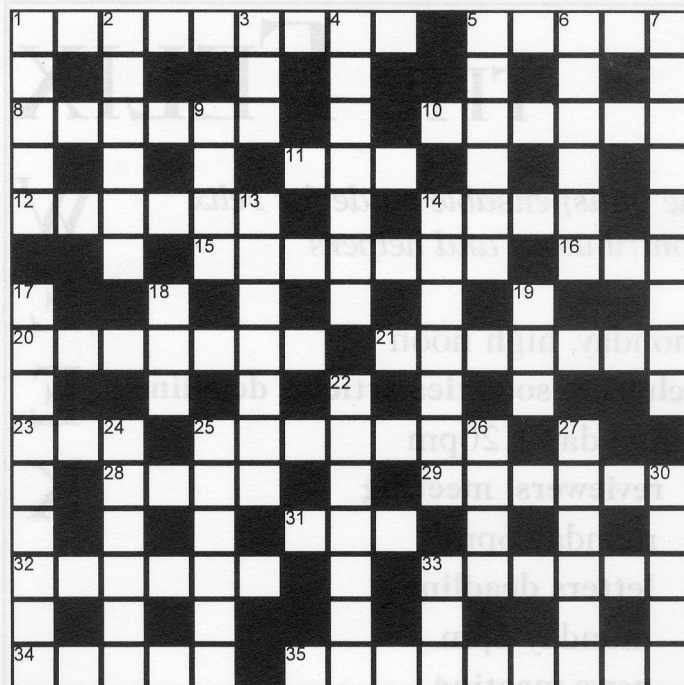
Across:

- 1. Terrain without land, and a mountainous beast made to look responsible! (9)
- 5. Wolf-pack leader emerges from a lake (5)
- 8. Ginola testimonial contains most recent development (6)
- 10. Too funny to have independent second enquiry first, when it has no relevance (6)
- 11. Song for an ordinary differential equation (3)
- 12. Place with no maid is chaotic (6)
- 14. Spotty cane (4)
- 15. On Wednesday, thick backward boy is seven days late! (7)
- 16. Has irrational fear of the master (3)
- 20. Decide, in recent times, to confuse jug with short editor (7)
- 21. I hear parrot bug is legally right! (7)
- 23. Man eats dish, perhaps, of consecutive letters (3)
- 25. Rice rate goes down by a fifth, awkwardly... (7)
- 28. ...while maize tax in Greece

- shows character (4)
- 29. Cat takes short hellish break in villa (6)
- 31. Cobra takes in vermin? (3)
- 32. Top card is almost right for acid! (6)
- 33. Connect adjective to other interesting nouns first (6)
- 34. Boat using net badly settles down (5)
- 35. Chats about Oriental tie might relate to beauty (9)

Down:

- 1. Peculiar heroes are full of substance (5)
- 2. Two states of gold in disrepair after a fall (6)
- 3. Pull up inside digester (3)
- 4. Residue is not up to politician! (7)
- 5. Charge at peculiar feline king (6)
- 6. Wears down sex god with bad press officer! (6)
- 7. First two arguers say "Yes - it doesn't roll down Uluru!" (5, 4)
- 9. Staying afloat without Flash's enemy (4)
- 13. Old horse gives a song about a waterfall (7)



- 14. Chocolate pen has to breathe! (7)
- 17. Untrue alternative staff just before sunrise
- 18. Drink a short tea? (3)
- 19. Greek pastry, perhaps? (3)
- 22. Toss it after mother turns weird (7)
- 24. Former Russians form united zoo-
- logical base and entertain Kurdish sympathisers first and foremost! (6)
- 25. This European Community - terrible morals! (6)
- 26. Nosy country (4)
- 27. No cricketers left in (3, 3)
- 30. Drink it on ice or with gin? (5)
- 33. Worker in a tantrum! (3)

Solution to last week's Crossword: Across: 1 Scapogot, 5 Akela, 8 Lotlet, 10 Orose, 11 Ode, 12 Domain, 14 Acne, 15 Midweek, 16 Sir, 20 Adjudge, 21 Politic, 23 Stu, 25 Eriote, 28 Zeit, 29 Chabel, 31 Rai, 32 Acene, 33 Adlon, 34 Nasta, 35 Aesthetic. Down: 1 Solid, 2 Autumn, 3 Gut, 4 Ashdown, 5 Attack, 6 Erodes, 7 Ayer's, 9 Swin, 10 Niagara, 11 Aerobic, 12 Faise down, 13 Pie, 14 Pie, 15 Pie, 16 Pie, 17 Pie, 18 Pie, 19 Pie, 20 Pie, 21 Pie, 22 Pie, 23 Pie, 24 Pie, 25 Pie, 26 Pie, 27 Pie, 28 Pie, 29 Pie, 30 Pie, 31 Pie, 32 Pie, 33 Pie.

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No messing about on the river at the 1995 Henley Royal Regatta

Late last June, the I.C. Boat Club put the victories of the preceding months behind them and focused their attention towards the 1995 Henley Royal Regatta and Woman's Henley.

The woman's crew entered the College Eights event with the confidence of being UAU Champions by a considerable margin. This confidence was not misplaced in the initial rounds in which they destroyed the Oxford college crews of St. John's and Wolfson. However the major threat and eventual defeat came from across the Atlantic. The mammoth Wisconsin University Eight was just too fast, in a time ten seconds quicker than the winners of the next event up.

In the college fours event, after coming through to beat Edinburgh from being a length behind at halfway, the women did not have the strength in reserve to overhaul a strong Exeter challenge. In club fours, the Imperial crew met the eventual winners in the first round and pushed them closer than any other team.

At the Henley Royal Regatta I.C.'s men again fronted strong entries in many events, and spirited performances were seen in the hotly contested Britania, Visitor's, and Temple Challenge Cups. However, most of the attention was centred on the controversial "bumping-up" of the College first eight from the "Temple" to the more prestigious Thames Challenge for Club Eights.

The Temple eight was made up of two previous Henley winners and members of the development squad. They started their campaign with a slightly shaky performance against an American college crew but with the steady influence

of the previous Club Captain, Tom Miller and 1994 winner John Moore on board, the crew successfully qualified for the next day's race against Kingston Grammar School. One of the



CREW IN PICTURE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; P. WILSON, A. WARNOCK, L. ATRILL, S. DENNIS, R. LUCAS, J. BOTTERILL, T. GALE, A. KERSHAW, J. GOODWIN (COX).

best school crews this year, they proved themselves slightly too much for the recently formed I.C. eight, who soon found the other attractions that the regatta has to offer.

The "Visitors" four, altered the previous week and containing one oarsman who was also com-

go on though to represent Imperial in Canada as part of an Alumnus weekend where they performed well.

I.C. colours were also well represented as a Queen's Tower

the Imperial boys sped up the course leaving the Cambridge Squad with no answer to finish in a whipping 6 min 06 sec, taking a full three seconds off the previous record. A difficult win over a good Notts County crew meant a final against the undefeated University of Washington Junior Varsity. The race was won within the first minute and Imperial hammered the point home in style to win by nearly four lengths to gain the club its fifth Henley event in four years.

ANY STUDENTS INTERESTED IN JOINING I.C.B.C. SHOULD CONTACT THE CAPTAIN, ANDY KERSHAW THROUGH THE UNION PIGEON HOLES.

coxless pair, racing in the Silver Goblets. This boat was stoked by Martin Kettle, now an I.C. alumni and a previous twice winner at Henley. He and his partner Dave Gillard, formerly of Cambridge, were clearly in the top two pairs at the regatta. However, when you come up against Redgrave and Pinsent, presently four times world champions and world record holders, even an I.C. rower could be forgiven for losing. Dave and Martin were knocked out in the semi-finals, where the Leander pair slashed thirteen seconds off their own course record.

The "bumped-up" College First eight looked to have a tough job on their hands in the higher event, with many American entries and some of the faster British crews, including the Goldie eight from Cambridge, who had made only one change since the Boat Race. After a confident procession to Saturday they drew the favorites, Goldie. In a race which was described by one international reporter as "the most impressive row of the day"

However, when you come up against Redgrave and Pinsent, presently four times world champions and world record holders, even an I.C. rower could be forgiven for losing.



STARTING NEXT WEEK, THIS SPOT WILL BE GIVEN OVER TO A NEW COMPETITION; THE I.C. LEAGUE.

QUITE SIMPLY THIS WILL BE THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO THE FORM OF ALL OUR REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS. IT WILL OPERATE ON A THREE POINTS FOR A WIN, ONE POINT FOR A DRAW, NO POINTS FOR A DEFEAT, AND MINUS ONE POINT FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT BOTHER THEMSELVES TO TELL THE SPORTS DESK OF THEIR RESULTS.

WITH ANY LUCK WE'LL BE ABLE TO CONVINCE SOMEONE INTO PROVIDING A TROPHY FOR THE EVENTUAL WINNERS, AT WORST WE CAN ALL HAVE A GOOD LAUGH AT THE LOSERS.

IF YOU WANT TO ENTER YOUR TEAM, GET YOUR CAPTAIN TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO FELIX BEFORE YOUR NEXT MATCH.

FELIX SPORT

Edited by Jonathan Trout

FIVE GOAL ROUT BOOST I.C.'S TROPHY CHANCES

Goals from Mark Ferguson (2), Richard Craig, Amofo Anim-Addo, and a splendid individual effort by Mike Jarvis maintained the first team's promising start to the season, and were just rewards for I.C.'s "Brazilian like" football. With two wins out of two in BUSA to date hopes are high that our men could progress well in the tournament this year.

On Saturday, I.C.'s IVth XI took a first half lead against Q.M.W. through an Ian Archer header. The result was never in any real doubt, and second-half goals from Morgan, Demitrios and a Gazza brace sealed a solid all round performance.

Due to a stunning lack of material, Miners involved in back page shock

The RSM First team enjoyed their opening win of the season over local rivals St. Mary's thanks to superb efforts from Hamish "The Silky Scotsman" MacIntyre and the underrated Simon Hiscocks(I wonder who wrote this?-Ed.). It seems that the RSM 1st's are getting their act together, which is more than can be said for the second XI. Despite last week's 9-0 destruction of the Royal Vets, Wednesday's 3-2 defeat at the hands of UMDS was a dire spectacle, and it is the general opinion that the second half was one to be forgotten, despite the obvious bitterness over the referee's more dubious decisions.

DISASTROUS HOCKEY SHOWING DOES NOT DAMPEN SPIRITS

(even though it obviously should have done)
Here, printed in full, is the men's captain's stunningly precise account of Wednesday's play.
Hockey vs. QMW

Men 1st XI: 5-1. What can you say? Ginga scored three -for them! Although Imperial scored the best of the six! Lightweight roofed a cracking cross from "Son of Satan". Quality not Quantity!!

2nd XI: Good. Draw -robbed though- Mike scored a cracker - FLIPPED it in!! 'Nuff. Winners (all races).

Ladies 1st XI: Captain played a superb game - shouted, smoked and drank. 2-0 lead. Lost 3-2. Beer Monsta did not MONSTA! Captain loves Rimmer!!

2nd XI: Grass-Nuff. Angieeee - blinding - good boat race. 1sts beaten hands down. (Quite..)

Rugby teams finally stop the rot

Wednesday afternoon and the I.C. bandwagon was put firmly back on the road with a 18-6 first team win over the previously undefeated Q.M.W. Tries by Matt Toolan, Simon Hall and the Eric Cantona of Imperial rugby Jean-Phillipe Oesterle ensured that a gritty and much improved pack performance was duly rewarded.

Men of the match were the "rampaging" John Cassidy and the "mercurial" Simon Fuller (Who really uses these adjectives? -Ed), whose huge presence capped the best team effort of the previously dreadful start to the season.

Our second string unfortunately did not fare as well, and an abysmal start led to a 38 point half time deficit. However the captain harangued the team during the break, and a score each from John Evans and James Weekes, from superbly executed forward play restored pride to the Imperial ranks. "The final score (10-52) did not really reflect the performance," said one player.

Finally, we come to the nailbiting win enjoyed by the 3rd team. In spite of going down to two pushover tries QMW did not give up, but were spurred to greater efforts, and two tries brought them perilously close to I.C.'s lead. In the end only a missed conversion separated the sides in this hugely entertaining contest.

SportsNews

Newcastle United clung to the top of the Premiership after an immensely entertaining 1-1 draw with struggling Spurs. United always had the upper hand and were full of attacking flair, but Tottenham always looked as if they might score on the break.

Australia won the Halifax Centenary Rugby League Cup Final on Saturday by emphatically beating England 16-8 at Wembley." When you make as many errors and concede as many penalties as we did you are committing suicide" said the England coach Phil Larder.

England Rugby Union selectors this week announced their continuing support of Will Carling's captaincy.

Results

FOOTBALL MEN'S	HOCKEY MEN'S
RSM I 2 - 1 ST.MARY'S	1ST XI 1 - 5 QMW
RSM II 2 - 0 UMDS	2ND XI 1 - 1 QMW
RSM II 9 - 0 ROYAL VETS	WOMEN'S
	1ST XI 2 - 3 QMW
RUGBY MEN'S	2ND XI 1 - 3 QMW
1ST XV 18 - 6 QMW	Please could all teams present their results to the sports desk before 9pm on wed for inclusion in the results column (Sports Ed)
2ND XV 10 - 52 QMW	
3RD XV 14 - 12 QMW	