



FELIX

The Students' No-news-paper at Imperial College

Issue 1098

14 November 1997

ELECTION RESULTS

The full story
pages 1 & 2

NEW SECTION

Underground
music, dance
and clubs

FEATURE

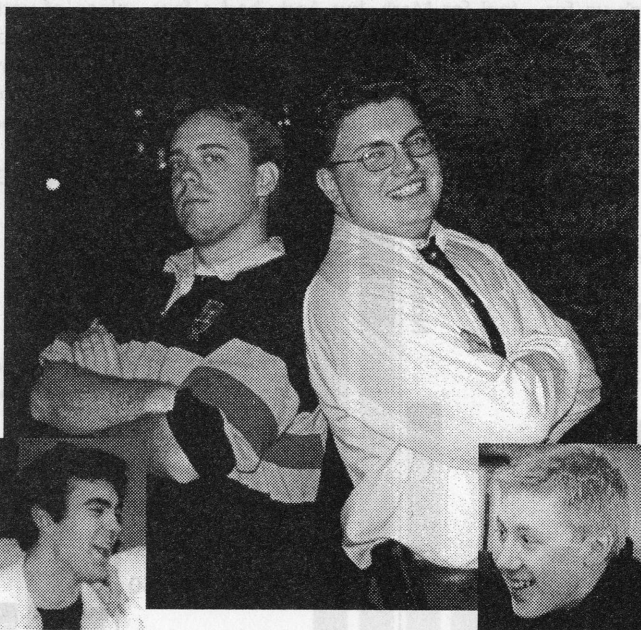
Student Radio
Network

And Then There Were Four...

Imperial College students have finally elected a president and deputy president (clubs and societies). At the fourth time of asking, Andrew Heeps was returned as president and Charlie Joynt DP(C&S) Tuesday evening. The results were dominated by a cross-campus medical block vote. Andrew Heeps, a third year medic from the Charing Cross site of ICSM, polled 57% of the overall vote, in comparison to the South Kensington based candidate Mark Baker (Computing UG4), who managed only 37.6% of the overall vote, despite managing almost 70% of the more populated but seemingly more apathetic South Kensington campus.

In the election for DP (C&S), an unchallenged Charlie Joynt was swept in by a massive 85% over new election, with solid support from all sites.

Andy Heeps was "shocked" at his 300 majority, and was "very pleased at the medical support at South Kensington". He also praised Eric Allsop for having done such a "fantastic job" over the last year, especially with the elections. Mark Baker dryly commented that the students had "voted to maintain the status quo - a fat Tory president", before more seriously congratulating Andy on getting the



Charlie Joynt, the new Deputy President (C&S) back to back with Andy Heeps, now the President of ICU. Inset: Rob Clark (DP F&S) and Jeremy Thomson (Felix Editor) elected last March. Main photo: Froggy

block vote. He expressed sadness over the South Kensington turnout, only 744 out of nearly well over 7,000 students. Charlie Joynt's only recorded comment of the evening was: "DP (C&S)? What's that?"

There were isolated cases of electoral impropriety in the Presidential election, with at least



Ballot boxes at South Kensington were not doing a roaring trade.

Photo: Froggy

six of the votes proxied from the clinical CXWMS students seemingly duplicated at the ballot box. The returning officer, the outgoing President Eric Allsop was however "satisfied that, having checked through all the proxied votes, it could have had no effect on the final outcome." He added that the people concerned would have to explain themselves to the Union disciplinary committee. Rob Clarke, ICU DP (F&S) commented that it

was unlikely that the fraud was part of any kind of organised campaign, but rather "more likely by accident than by design". The defeated candidate, Mark Baker, also said that he was satisfied that the result was reached fairly.

Several people have privately voiced concerns over the medical block vote. Whilst it was elsewhere noted that the South Kensington/medical divide was disappointing, the conclusion on who to vote for appears to have been reached by a split decision in an unofficial St.Mary's executive committee meeting.

continues on page 2

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

ELECTIONS FINALLY OVER

Success at last! Full story and voting figures. *pages 1 & 2*

NOVELTY TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

Norris McWhirter bashed by barrier. *page 3*

RAG MAG SLAGGED

ICU Rag have finally overstepped the mark with this year's publication. *page 3*

LONDON CHURCH OF CHRIST

They're after you. *page 2*

AND REALLY NOT MUCH ELSE

We're desperately seeking news writers. If you're interested, please come to the news meetings, 1pm Tuesdays or 12.30pm Fridays in the Felix Office.

Medic Heeps Misery on Baker

continued from page 1

Katie Armstrong, ICSM Union President, spoke to Felix:

"We don't force our students to vote one way or another, we just advise them; it is a democratic process. However, out here on the other side of the park a lot of students don't know what goes on in ICU, and a lot of them ask us for advice. We [unofficial St. Mary's executive] did discuss it; yes, we did talk to each other, and we decided that it was important to

have unity between Charing Cross and St. Mary's. We've been wanting a medic to get off their arse for a while now and it was great that one stood." When asked if they then voted for Heeps only on account of him being a medic, Miss Armstrong replied: "No. They were both incredible candidates, and I really feel for Mark, but Andy had a few points of policy that swung it for him." We asked which points these were, and she merely reiterated that they were "both incredible can-

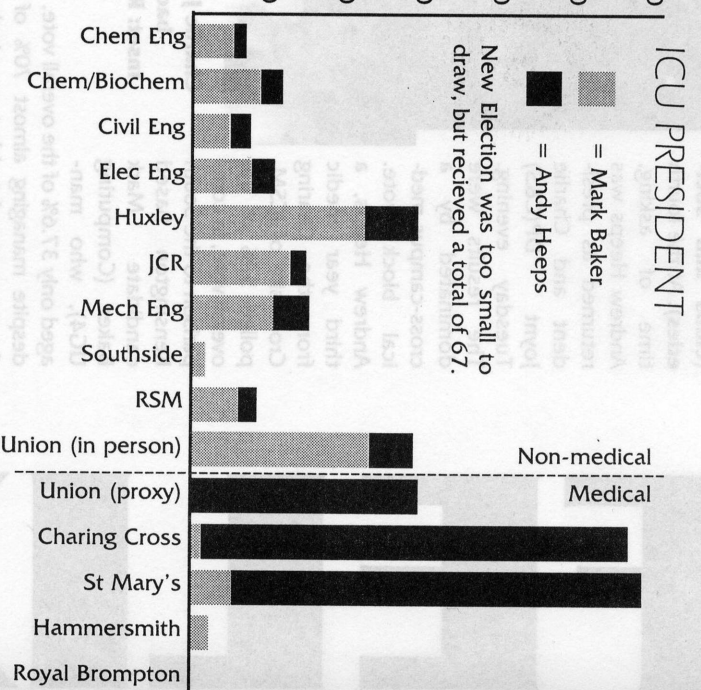
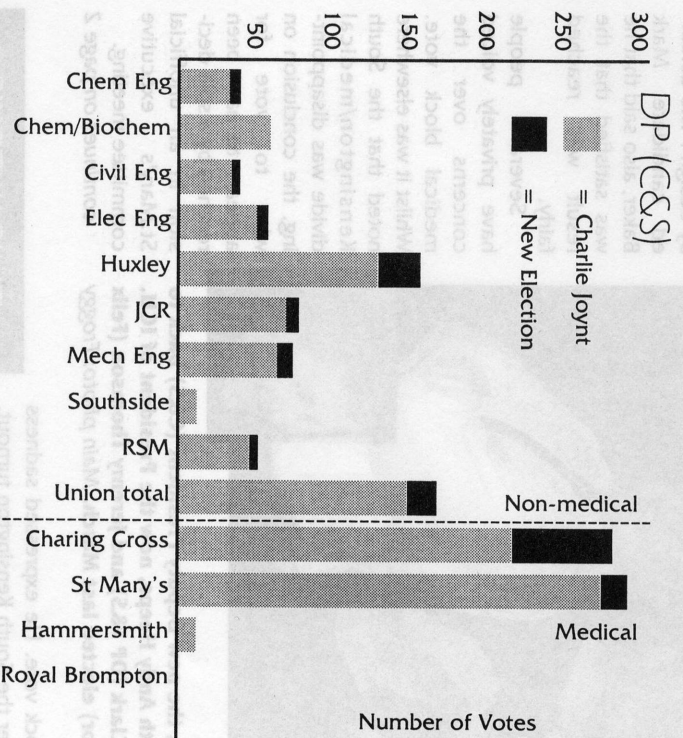
didates", and stressed that "the last thing that we [St. Mary's] want is resentment on South Kensington against the medics."

Although less expected, the Charing Cross block vote was no less powerful, with 147 proxy votes appearing at the Union foyer ballot box about ten minutes before the close of voting. It has been established that all of these votes were in the handwriting of Nick Carter, ICSM vice-president, to whom the votes had been proxied, each vot-

ing Heeps 1, New Election 2. The results at the CXWMS ballot box were just as emphatic, with 97% of the vote going with their home student.

Both Charlie Joynt and Andrew Heeps have now taken up their respective positions, and are hoping to settle into office as soon as possible.

Jon Trout



Council

ICU Council is on 18 November at 6pm in the Reynolds Building.
Charing Cross Campus, Fulham Road.

Some positions are still open - PG Group Chair, three ordinary members (two 1st years) and two ordinary members to the Retail and Services Committee.

Everybody is welcome to attend and get involved - have your say on how your union is run.

An Apology

As readers are aware, Felix is written by unpaid amateur student journalists. Although we aim high, mistakes are inevitable. Recent articles on the Conference Office, and in particular Annette de Lima, have clearly been inaccurate, unfair, poorly researched and defamatory. We hope that Ms. de Lima will

accept our profound apologies for any distress caused by the reporting of these allegations. Felix recognises the valuable contribution that the Conference Office makes to College finances (around three-quarters of a million pounds annually) and admits that this was not reflected in the articles.

Norris Borised



After unsubstantiated rumours of an 'incident' involving Guinness Book of Records supremo Norris McWhirter, Felix attempted to uncover the truth. Despite a seeming reluctance on the part of the press office to reveal details, the story was eventually tracked down to, appropriately, the 72 year old CBE who was apparently walking out of the Exhibition Road

Norris McWhirter, chairman of the Freedom Association, was struck down as he left the College.

Simon Wistow



News in Brief...

PHASERS SET TO STUN

American inventor Jan Eric Herr has developed a weapon with effects that parallel those of sci-fi laser guns. Mr. Herr's weapon works on a similar principle to tasers, hand-held 'defence' weapons that deliver a high voltage shock to the victim. It employs 2 lasers to create a 'plasma channel,' a column of ionised air which electricity can flow through. Then an electrical current, is sent through the target. This has the effect of painlessly stunning the victim – or worse – depending on the setting of the gun. Using lasers also increases the range of these weapons from five to around one hundred metres.

The one major drawback at the moment is the weapon's large size. As technology progresses however, the components are certainly going to get smaller. Prof. Anthony Bell, from Imperial's plasma physics research group, agreed that a portable weapon could not be ruled out in the near future. He added that he was distressed that plasma physics could be turned to such applications.

RAG MAG BEYOND A JOKE

Rag's annual humorous fundraising magazine, the rag mag, has this year received heavy criticism from Union officers due to several of the jokes contained being unacceptably racist or homophobic. Andy Heeps, ICU President, told Felix that it was "exceptionally inappropriate" and the magazine could not be sold unless three of the jokes were deleted. The matter will be discussed at the union executive committee on Tuesday, and no copies are allowed to be sold off campus until then, as it is possible that legal action could be taken against Rag. This has also prevented Rag from selling them in their London collection planned for Tuesday morning.

Concerns have also been voiced that the mag will fail to raise any money, as the cover price is only ten pence above the production costs, and no advertising was sought.

Due to Rag's inactivity over the summer, The Royal College of Science Union have also released a rag mag which has so far escaped the censor's pen. Both mags will be available at all rag events.

AUTUMN TIMETABLE

IMPERIAL COLLEGE SPORTS CENTRE
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EXT 48964

Swimming Pool: Monday - 7.00am - 7.30pm Tuesday - 7.00am - 7.30pm Wed - 7.00am - 7.30pm Thursday - 7.00am - 9.00pm Friday - 7.00am - 6.30pm Saturday - 8.00am - 6.00pm Sunday - 8.00am - 6.00pm	Gym: Monday - 7.00am - 10.00pm Tuesday - 7.00am - 10.00pm Wed - 7.00am - 10.00pm Thursday - 7.00am - 9.00pm Friday - 7.00am - 10.00pm Saturday - 8.00am - 6.00pm Sunday - 8.00am - 6.00pm
Squash: Mon - Fri - 7.00am - 10.00pm Sat & Sun - 8.00am - 6.00pm	Sauna & Steam: Mon - Fri - 7.00am - 10.00pm Sat & Sun - 8.00am - 6.00pm N.B Tuesday - Women only Thursday - Men only

"The best choice for Student sport"

The London Church of Christ: righteous religion or creepy congregation?

The London Church of Christ (LCC) is one of a number of groups in this country that form part of an organisation currently known as the International Churches of Christ, also referred to as the Boston Movement. This year the LCC have been trying with a new fervour to persuade IC students to join them.

The LCC considers itself a Christian church, taking the New Testament as its basis; however, some evangelical bodies have repudiated some of their doctrines. Every new member of the LCC is placed under the wing of a disciple who exercises a close degree of supervision both spiritually and socially. Although the disciples are

enthusiastic and sincere, their youth and inexperience renders some of them unqualified to help those seeking guidance.

Membership of the LCC involves a level of time commitment far in excess of that expected by most mainstream Churches, and a considerable amount of effort in recruiting new members. The leaders make it clear that no friend, parent, or job can be more important than work for the LCC. The LCC's membership (now just over 500) is predominantly young; well over half are in their 20s or late teens, and a significant proportion of the members are students.

The LCC's refusal to accept

criticism from other Christian groups and society in general has created a hostile relationship. The LCC considers its interpretation of scripture as exclusively correct, making discussions between them and evangelical bodies impossible. The authoritarian structure of the LCC and the pressure they exert on their members has led to many complaints, especially as the latter of these tends to cause students to do badly in examinations. Leaders deny that anything other than "strong advice" is given and do not believe that the pressure on members is excessive. They also maintain that it is their right to be concerned for the whole life of

their members.

LCC meetings have been banned from college premises, though it has been reported that they are still going ahead in unknown locations around campus. The college chaplaincy has expressed some concern about the LCC doctrines, the tight stronghold they have on student members, and the way they monopolise members' time.

Concerned students can contact the IC Chaplaincy on extension 49600

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Time: **6.15 - 8.00 pm**

Place: **Pippard Theatre, Level 5, Sherfield Building, Imperial College**

Both undergraduates and postgraduates are welcome. Please feel free to bring along your resumes and to join us for light refreshments after the talk.

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Letters to Felix...

FELIX

Issue 1098

14 November 1997

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Collators, the unsung heroes: Ali Campbell

RADIO FEEDBACK

Dear Felix

I was sad to read the attitudes of Jeremy Thompson and presidential candidates to the Hammersmith campus of ICSM this week. Mark Baker was asked on IC radio if he knew our address - which he didn't, and was congratulated on this.

True, Hammersmith hospital is located in the wastes of East Acton (the kind of area you only visit to make you feel smug that you live somewhere else), but this attitude is unhelpful to say the least. No candidate has sent any election material to our campus, which has as a result been only dimly aware of the IC elections. One of the potential problems of the merger which formed ICSM was the isolation of campuses like our own from the South Ken campus, which appears to be occurring and should be resisted.

I would threaten a massive block vote against Mark, but we don't have enough students to make a difference, and none of them have the faintest idea who he is anyway! I hope to see the Hammersmith treated a little better in future issues.

Yours Bill Hanage
President ICSM Hammersmith
Postgrad Association

I had no intention of congratulating Mark on his lack of knowledge of the medical campuses (Radio Interviews, Felix 1097). True, I said "Good", but this was because I'd manage to catch him out on a question. Sorry to anyone who got the wrong end of the stick. Ed.

Dear Felix,

Just a little word on a comment made by Charlie Joynt in last issue's radio interview. It concerns his either misunderstanding, or skillful dodging of the question concerning the situation of the Christian Union official status refusal by the Union. Not to be a pedant on a past issue, as a representative from the committee that applied for membership (which was about two years ago now) I would like to clarify the situation. The Christian Union, does and always will accept ANY person, whatever belief, as a member. In fact we encourage it and have discussion groups called "Discovering Christianity" specifi-

cally for those who just have an interest and just want to find out for themselves what Christians really claim.

Formerly, members had to sign a very short statement of faith, but since no membership was paid, whether they were members or was irrelevant (and still is), and no special attention was paid to members. To enter the Union the C.U. was prepared to compromise on this issue, no longer requiring this statement of faith. We were not, however, prepared to remove the requirement of our committee to sign a longer statement of faith (produced by UCCF - The Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship - an umbrella organisation which supports all the university C.U.s around the country).

Don't misunderstand that I am against the union's ruling. Formerly of this college, I was very glad to be in a union with such a strong stance on Equal Opportunities (and without being too PC also). We understood completely why the Union would not compromise, and accepted that. A warning however: need I remind you how, in this college of Equal Rights and Opportunities, the gay society prior to IQ was shut down? Or is that just a myth to frighten little societies that open their mouth too much? The reason perhaps, why IQ kept such a low profile in its first year (joined the Union beginning of 1995). For those readers who haven't heard the story: the rugby club decided to join the gay society, call an AGM, vote themselves on committee and shut the society down. With overwhelming numbers, by the Union's constitution of any person having the right to be accepted into any society AND their committee (by a majority vote), any small but outspoken group is in danger of this.

This would never happen today? So why has the Mary's block vote had such power over any election or college-wide vote? Not the same at all, you might say; but isn't that a group of determined outsiders (who have different goals, and don't understand the ethos of the Union) trying to get their own

way and often being a thorn in the side of the Union? Incidents of Mary's students overwhelming AGM's springs to mind. (Apologise for any offence taken by Mary's, the Rugby Club, or IQ).

Yours Sincerely
Smiley

P.S. May I just say what a vile colour the front of Felix has become.

FELIX CRAP

Dear Felix,

In light of last week's issue, I feel that this whole "Felix is shite" thing needs to be cleared up. I'm glad that Jeremy Thomson had both the maturity and sense to admit that things aren't going quite as smoothly as planned. I'm glad I'm not the only person who feels that the standards have slipped. Equally, though, there has been a marked difference in last week's issue (#1097). The orange tiger on the front cover looks remarkable impressive, it'd be great if that were the regular look of Felix. Dare I say it, but it almost looks professional. Things just get better though, the improvements are not restricted to aesthetics. Felix even has (gasp) a real news story on the front cover.

I feel that it is an outrage (shock; horror; someone actually voicing an opinion about something serious at Imperial!) that the tuition fees issue had been allowed to go this far. I think it's about time someone realised that apathy isn't the virtue the Union (and even the College) prescribes it to be. Obviously, this isn't the same situation, but one of the reasons for the rise of fascism in 30s Germany was basically because of apathy with no-one being prepared to do anything. Obviously, genocide is a bit more serious than a few thousand quid but the principle holds. The Union, and College in general, seem to pride themselves on being apathetic (and to a lesser degree conformist), when will they realise that these are qualities to be ashamed of? When will all the students here wake up and realise that

Deadline for letters is 6pm Tuesday. Letters may be edited for length, but will not be altered or corrected in any other way. Letters may be signed or anonymous, but please show your swipe card when submitting them.



the only reason the College shifts on us (ie the bookstore (again!) and looming tuition fees) is because we let them? Obviously, this is a wider issue than can't easily be discussed in such a short letter but I hope some people (especially Freshers - don't be shy!) realise that there is a lot more at stake here than their wallets. We all have a right to free education.

Anon

Dear Felix,

I would like to thank everyone for their interest in the article I wrote for Felix about 'Closer' at the National Theatre - I'm glad that people take the time to read the reviews. I have to admit that I am amazed by the fact that people managed to read the article, as I myself found it a particularly tedious and infuriating task (just ask the people who sat around me in the lecture while I screamed at the mistakes). How anyone managed to grasp the meaning, or point of the review is beyond me - I found it difficult and I wrote the damn thing.

Despite the fact that I am Welsh I hope that people can appreciate that the article I wrote resembled that which was published in the loosest of forms - my language and computing skills being competent enough to at least run a spell check! The reason for the number of errors has vaguely been justified to me, but it seems that the readership of the paper has been left in its ignorance making me look like some dumb, incoherent caveman who shouldn't be let near anything artistic let alone write theatre reviews. (OK I might LOOK like some dumb, incoherent caveman but that really isn't the point.)

I would therefore like to state now that I had very little to do with the review published other than giving someone else the bases to express their artistic nature with my ever-so-nicely constructed letters of the English language.

I hope, however, that people will continue to read the reviews, and pay as much attention to any future contributions. If anyone would like a copy of the original review then please just get in touch and I would be delighted to pass one on (E-mail w.williams@ic.ac.uk).

Thank you,
Matt Williams.

P.S. I hope that this letter has escaped the treatment that the review received!

Dear Jeremy

We believe that one of Felix's primary functions is to promote the activities of ICU to our students. This year we have noticed that there has been a distinct lack of reporting on the activities of non-sporting societies. In particular, both Consoc and Labour Club have gone to a great deal of trouble to organise speaker events. To date there have been two such events and neither have been reported on in your illustrious journal. We understand that Felix wishes to remain apolitical, but we feel that it would be desirable for you to promote political discussion within our apathetic student population.

We realise that you have columnists commenting on Westminster politics, however this appears distant for many students and our societies are aiming to bring politics closer to Imperial College. Surely this is a resource that could be made better use of by yourselves and unbiased reports of political societies' events would generate interest among College members. An additional point is that the more coverage Union society activities receive, the more interest students will take in their Union.

We hope to see Felix reporters at our next speaker events:

Labour Club:

- Tony Wright MP, 'The face of the Radical Centre' (December 2nd)

- Tony Benn MP, 'The one and only' (January)

Conservative Society:

- Senior Ex-Cabinet Minister (November 19th)

- Sir George Young Bt, MP, Shadow Defence Secretary (December 3rd)

Yours

James Radway (Internal Vice Chairman, Conservative society)

Ashton McGregor (Chair, ICU Labour Club)

Felix Ed

In the interview with Charlie Joint, CJ said "BUSA will not allow any medic to play for I.C...". When the medics have become fully integrated with I.C and are as much a part of I.C as any other current identifiable body, how can BUSA discriminate? If I.C really wants to compete against the likes of Loughborough in a national competition we need to pull on every sporting resource possible.

The hockey club is preparing for this as we are seeing an ever rise in the standard and number of people at trial, and so we are starting up a mens 4th team. I would hope that

other sports clubs are looking ahead too. On that note, if anyone out there would like to know anything about joining the hockey club, or if you come to trial, and have not seen your name on the hockey notice board contact me: p.bland@ic.ac.uk.

Paul Bland, Mech Eng PG2

I feel there a few points to clear up here. BUSA only allows students to play for one university (fair enough), so if ICSM register, medical students must play for the medical team and not the IC team. The problem arises when ICSM does not field a team in a particular sport (eg fencing). Strictly speaking, this means that ICSM fencers can't play in BUSA at all. Ed

Dear Sir,

I must respond to the ICURFC captain's rather bitter letter in last week's pages [Felix 1096, 31 October]. Not having seen it before Friday and having placed two rugby reports and a photo in the most prominent position on the back page I was a little taken aback. Mr Harrison seems to have an odd grasp of diplomacy. Branding me slapdash and lacking in professionalism is not the best way to gain better press and is actually quite remarkable considering the trouble I have deciphering some of the rugby reports poorly scrawled on beer-stained bit of paper. The claim that sports that do not interest me being sidelined is also quite fatuous as the issue referred to in the letter included football, basketball, cross-country, golf, hockey, canoeing and fencing. Oh, and a rugby report tacked on later (by another Felix) when an advert was pulled at the last minute.

I have appreciated the consistent reports from the rugby club, Mr Harrison, but please could you spare us your petty grievances. And regarding the number of pages in the CivEng then perhaps you would like to come into the office and collate Felix on Thursday evening?

Yours faithfully,
Si [Sports Editor]

FELIX GREAT

Dear Felix

As a long time reader, I would like to congratulate the exciting new change that the dynamic editorial team have undertaken with regards to music. I would like to comment on the innovative column for soul and hip-hop. For so long

the music pages have been hijacked by mostly obscure indie bands whilst soul and hip-hop have remained the much poorer relation. I know that independent music is predominant on campus but it is important in the days of political correctness to address other minorities seriously.

I admire the style of the columnist, Milen, who does not seem to have the artistic pretentiousness that the other writers do. His/her bold phonetic style from the ghetto blends in perfect unison with the content of the material presented and I would not be in the least bit surprised if the writer were to be of a "rude boy", hood wearing, flash car driving disposition as opposed to a respectable IC stereotype.

I hope Felix keeps up the good work for this year.

Yours faithfully

Sanjay Sikdar (Chem Eng 2)

Thanks very much, Sanjay. You are by no means the first person to complain of 'indie fascism' in the music section. Thus I hope you will not be the only one to appreciate our new 'underground' dance music and clubbing pages starting this week, page 14 & 15.

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Dear Felix

After having read this weeks letters, they all seemed to be saying how bad Felix was. I thought I would just write to say that I, at least, really enjoy reading it, misprints and all.

I particularly like Hamish Common's column, which is always worth picking up Felix for.

Hope that this isn't too positive.

Wendy Little
Maths 2nd year

PULP TOP

Dear Felix

Tuition fees? Slashed grants? World famine? No - apparently the real issues are "Disco 2000" and the campaign for "Real Dance" music.

But I suppose I should explain the ents "regime" (I've been called a lot of things, but this is the first time I've been compared to Pol Pot - cheers!). Basically, we aim for ents to reach as many people as possible, with a rolling programme of club nights catering for different musical tastes.

I accept that we can't please all the people all of the time, but I think we are pretty successful at keeping the majority happy.

Personally, I think the success of an event can be measured by the numbers on the dancefloor, and love it or hate it "Disco 2000" is a floor filler, and I'm afraid my regime doesn't extend to forcing people to dance.

Most seriously, I think suggesting ents is wracked by complacency does a major disservice to the ents staff who have worked so hard to bring ICU ents up to their current standard, and if we're being honest, it's a standard that matches any other college.

I hope you think the right person has answered this.

Cheers

Mark Horne

[Ents and Marketing Manager]

Cyclists

Bikes are still being stolen from College, residences and the surrounding area.

To avoid this happening to your bike, always lock it with a quality D-lock (not forgetting any detachable parts) and get it coded with your address. Regular coding sessions are held in the Sherfield building; watch out for posters.

THE FELIX WEEK

MONDAY

Arts Meeting - 1pm. For all interested in exhibitions and theatre.

Books Meeting - 1pm also.

Features Meeting - 1pm. If you want to write or layout features, take photographs, or just have an idea, come along.

TUESDAY

News Meeting - 1pm. For all writers, researchers and photographers.

Film Meeting - 12 noon.

THURSDAY

Madness all day 10am - 3am. Not recommended for the uninitiated.

FRIDAY

News meeting - 12.30pm.

Editorial Board - 1pm. Informal committee meeting for all major contributors. All welcome to observe and join in.

Small Ads

ICU Ski Club

Anyone interested in racing for Imperial, contact Caitlin (c.wroe@ic), to find out about the Xmas holiday, mail Gilles (g.poncin@ic), and for ski and snowboard lessons, get hold of Richard (rmt1@doc.ic.ac.uk).

ICU Hockey Team

A Men's 4th team is being launched. If interested, contact Paul Bland (p.bland@ic.ac.uk)

Born Again Virgins

Whatever your size, we need girls for the ladies' rugby club. No experience needed, just enthusiasm. Training Wed 1pm, Sun noon, Beit Quad. Contact m.bradly@ic.ac.uk.

Editorial

Surprise, surprise, another block vote. What a complete waste of time having an election; we may as well just ask the Mary's exec who they want representing the entire college and give them the job. Sod it, they may as well run the place themselves.

But it's not the exec that really gets my goat, nor do I have anything against Andy Heeps - it's you lot, the voters who are to blame. To vote you look at the candidates available, read their manifestos, go to the hustings and decide who you want to do the job. You then find a ballot box and register your decision. You do **not** stay at home because you can't be bothered to spend thirty seconds at the polling station. You do **not** vote for New Election because you couldn't be fagged to find out about the candidates. And you do **not** go to your favourite exec member and ask "mummy, mummy, who do we vote for this year?"

Not bothering to vote damages the credibility of the system; block voting makes a total mockery of it.

It's particularly galling when you discover that the exec could not come to a decision and it was down to one person to decide, fairly arbitrarily, who would be supported. Even more galling when you discover that many of the exec felt they had to go against their own block vote to alleviate their guilt at abandoning personal preference for dogmatic medical support. I am well aware that every word I write here is another pie in my face at the next hustings, but elections are important and I have no time for anyone who consistently acts to subvert them.

The medical schools, like it or not, are now part of Imperial College, and should be cooperating with the Union. They face changes that are going to be hard to swallow and everyone involved is going to have to work hard to achieve the equanimity that should have been reached five years ago. It's time ICSMU stopped behaving like a child bitter over some imagined injustice, sat up straight and voted properly.

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E&O

A full and frank apology for inaccuracies and poor reporting of the Conference Centre stories can be found on page 2.



Doing this journalistic lark, one gets used to brickbats and bouquets, particularly the former.

So it was nice to read Robert Emerson's letter in last week's Felix. The man clearly possesses exceptional judgement and insight, but I must reassure him and others that I am not getting tame. True, it has been a while since my image has been decorated with pins in Sheffield (that has happened before), but not everyone is so enamoured with yours truly, however. News reaches me of comments by one of the dBs DJs on Friday. Strangely, I am one of the few people never to have had a dig at the music in the Union. Moreover, I was gyrating alongside the young people in that very room two days before this event. Was ever a man more misunderstood? Still, it's nice to be noticed. That doesn't mean it is open season on Baker...

Investment advice is rarely given in Felix, partly because none of you have more than the cost of 20 Marlboro in the bank, so 'winning at roulette on the Titanic'

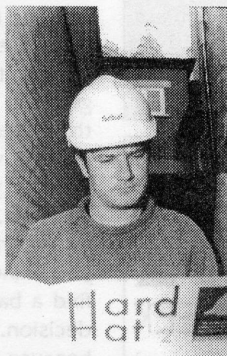
deserves a comment. Call me a hard-bitten old capitalist, but I have never had much time for ethical investment. If a company is doing something particularly dicey, even if legal, the truth will usually out, public opinion will turn against them, if they have a retail element, and the share price will fall accordingly. In general, companies that do things that will lead them to end up with egg on their face often have broader management inadequacies that go beyond ethical issues. Of course, if you as an individual do not like what an organisation is doing, you can vote with your feet and sell your shares or avoid their products. Pension funds are a different matter. Fund managers should be out to secure the highest rate of return within their given risk criteria. Anything else is unacceptable, and they

should invest accordingly. In pursuing this aim, many companies will be filtered out on the basis of financial fundamentals that may be coincident with ethics; for example, Tesco recently dropped kangaroo meat, sensing a potential backlash from its customers that would impact on it share price, before fund managers began selling their stock. If I was a member of the USS pension scheme, I would be less than happy if my fellow members voted for under-performance, as will happen if the managers' hands are tied. The Government will only guarantee a minimum pension, if things go horribly wrong, so the notion that it will have 'no impact' on pensions is plainly wrong. Deciding ethical investment guidelines is a bit like playing God - our friends in the Socialist Worker Party would argue

that all capitalism was immoral and exploitative, so where does that leave you? Still, on one point, I am full square behind Tom Hay. Avoid anything bearing Linda McCarthey's signature.

Reading IC Distorter recently, as I often do, I read something interesting. While that's news in itself, the matter in question concerned the planned refectory for the BMS. Someone implied that this would be a branch of Pret a Manger. Imagine my delight. Naturally suspicious, I phoned my friend Ian Caldwell, fresh from his holiday in South Africa, to check it out. Sadly, someone's been embroidering the facts, behaviour we deplore at Felix. It seems the design will look like a Pret a Manger branch, but no operator has yet been found. This is a golden opportunity to raise the standards of catering here. Be fearless, Ian.

Simon Baker



Digs the Dirt

the managers' hands are tied. The Government will only guarantee a minimum pension, if things go horribly wrong, so the notion that it will have 'no impact' on pensions is plainly wrong. Deciding ethical investment guidelines is a bit like playing God - our friends in the Socialist Worker Party would argue

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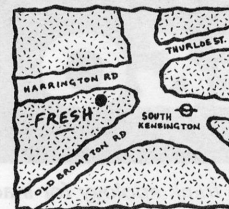
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I admit I know little about Formula One racing - and care less. But recently it has come into the public eye in a rather disturbing manner. The Government has had its first real whiff of sleaze.

The background to all of this involves tobacco sponsorship. Not, one would think, Labour's favourite form of business, indeed it made political capital out of criticising Tory links with it during their stay in power. The Government had committed itself to a blanket ban on tobacco advertising, including an unequivocal promise in their manifesto. In mid-October, a closed meeting was held in 10 Downing Street between the Prime Minister and Max Mosley, Bernie Ecclestone and the lobbyist David Ward. The former two are the head of the FIA (the governing body of Formula One) and the head of the Constructors' Association respectively. Mosley has the unfortunate family link of being the son of the late British fascist Sir Oswald Mosley. This is the meeting in which Opposition MPs say a deal was struck to extricate Formula One the blanket ban on tobacco advertising.

So what are they playing at? At first sight this seems like a fairly standard Labour sell-out. They did the same thing with hunting - supporting the idea of banning it, then deciding to kill off a bill which would do exactly that - Mike Foster's Private Members' Bill. Their

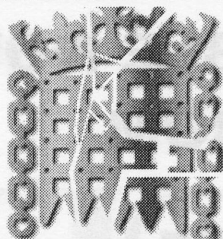
next fudge was to ban it on Ministry of Defence property (a quick fix to placate the anti-hunting lobby), resulting in the all the landowners who hunt and lease their land to the MOD promising to cancel their deals, removing vast tracts of land from Army use.

Of course suspicions were aroused that it wasn't just a simple sell-out. Most people forgive

Downing Street that I discussed before. One guest, Max Mosley, is a member of Labour's 1000 Club, (admission at least £1000) a club enabling member to 'network' with party bigwigs. Bernie Ecclestone was reputed to have given millions of pounds to the Tories during their time in Government, and switched sides to Labour before the election. If his contribution to Labour is on

new Chairman of the Standards and Privileges Committee. He decided to hand back the entire donation to Mr Ecclestone, something which must have hurt if his contribution was the size that it was reputed to be.

Naturally Bernie Ecclestone denies ever trying to influence Government policy - which puts him in a remarkably long list of people who contribute sums of money "no strings attached" but who seem to receive a kinder ministerial ear when they have problems with policy. The sinister thing about corruption is that it is never there when a new Government takes the reins, but it comes in slowly, as ministers adjust to their positions of power, and Government policy begins to become more restricted as time goes on (witness the dying days of the Conservative administration - any new policy statement would simply be a U-turn on something they did previously). Corruption thrives in secrecy, and the earlier cash donations and meetings are more publicised the better. This present case seems to represent politics and spin-doctoring, if not at its most corrupt, certainly at its most cynical. Now is the time for the Prime Minister to address these problems, before they begin to walk down the well-worn and slippery path.



Hamish Common

Westminster Eye

Governments for these, if made on occasion - the Conservatives were as capable of it as the present Government. As I had outlined before, it seems that there were more sinister developments under the surface. First of all the minister responsible for signing the Government up for the ban in Europe, Tessa Jowell - a junior health minister, had a conflict of interest. Her husband, lawyer David Mills, was a former director of Benetton Formula (an F1 company). He still works for them as a legal advisor. Opposition MPs seized on this, but it soon became clear that she was carrying the can for a decision taken far higher up - the fateful October meeting in

the same scale as to the Tories, this would extremely grave implications for a Government priding itself on its lack of sleaze.

This situation was compounded when Labour hid behind the rule-book, stating that no announcement could be made until Labour published its accounts - in a year's time. They initially refused to say how much had been given to the party, then after some pressure said it was "over £5000". When the Conservatives played this trick, Tony Blair demanded openness, with complete justification. However he has found an easier to way to extricate himself from this entanglement in a move made on the advice of Sir Patrick Neill, the

Burning Water

I made my first ever stew this weekend and it was remarkably tasty so I thought I'd share the experience with you.

First of all I walked, not rocked, down Electric Avenue (aka Brixton market) and bought 1lb of stewing beef for £1.20 as well as a vast quantity of vegetables. Back in the kitchen I cut the beef into bite sized cubes and put them in a bowl to marinade in a pint of cheap bitter (stout is probably even better). This tenderizes the meat and gives you time to get on with chopping the vegetables. If I remember rightly I used a carrot, half a swede, a turnip, a stick of celery, an onion half an aubergine (salted, left to bleed and then rinsed. This removes the astringent taste) and about 1/2lb of mushrooms. Once everything was roughly chopped I put everything apart from the onion in an oven

proof dish together with a large pinch of salt, half a tablespoon of flour, a few bay leaves, some rosemary and the beer from the beef marinade. I then fried the onion and the beef in some olive oil in a very hot pan just to seal the meat and produce lots of lovely caramel. It's always a good idea to heat you spices so near the end of the frying extravaganza I added about a tsp of pepper, a pinch of nutmeg, a small pinch of ground cloves and a heaped tablespoon of paprika to the pan. Gorgeous aromas! Then plonk, into the dish with the vegetables, rinse the pan out with a little water and add that too and hey presto, it was ready for the oven.

I cooked my stew in a medium oven, call it 375°F, 190°C, gas mark 5 for about 2 hours with the lid on and then 1 hour with the lid off to get a nice thick sauce.

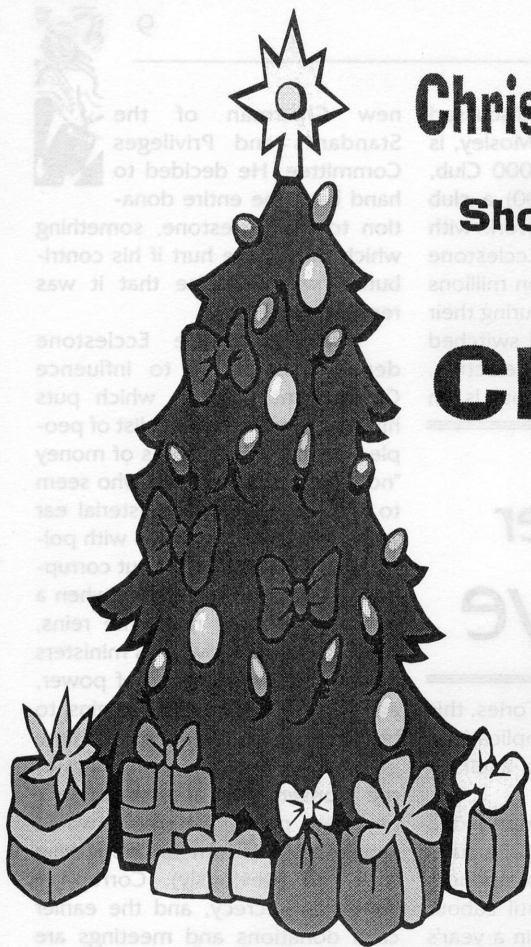
Mmmm, it was beautifully warm in my caravan.

I served my stew with some boiled new potatoes but it would have been an ideal opportunity to make some dumplings. For these you need one part suet and two parts self raising flour and the usual pinch of salt. Mash these all up and add just enough water to bind. Divide the dough into kingy-marble sized balls, roll these around in some flour, place them on top of the stew as far apart as possible and put the stew back in the oven with the lid on for another 1/2 hour and there you go.

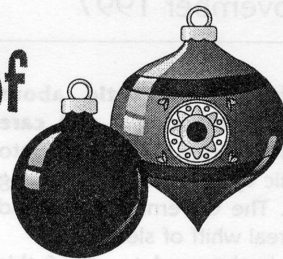
Although mine was a beef stew made with beer I reckon you could make something equally wholesome with pork and some cider or lamb (even better, mutton) and loads of rosemary. As usual, it's personal preference and availability that matter, not following recipes to the letter which inevitably turns you into a Delia Smith.

Antoine





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SRN - THE STUDENT RADIO NETWORK

The Student Radio Network

This year a new Student Radio station has been taking the airwaves by storm. Our man Ed Sexton finds out more...

In a small road called Windmill Street, off the Tottenham Court Road, lies the Student Radio Network's studio. The SRN is a national sustaining service, providing many student radio stations with a 24hour music and news service (provided by Independent Radio News - IRN) for when their own stations are off-air. This is especially useful for stations with a restricted service licence, as it allows them to broadcast when they would otherwise be quiet. Our own IC Radio uses the SRN at night and for hourly news bulletins, and Kenny Green, IC Radio's station manager, is assistant station controller for SRN.

The Student Radio Network was started about a year and half ago by Chris Gregg and other former student radio controllers. Its aim was, and is, to unite student radio stations throughout the country. However the project failed after 3 months, due to lack of financing. Unperturbed, the founders teamed up with private to provide a workable business plan. SRN is now entirely financed through advertising and sponsorship.

Its controller is Roger Hall, formerly head of B1000, Brunel's student radio station. Although much of the programming is managed by computer (the CD player at the studio holds some 600 CDs), some live shows are provided; for example, Fraser Thompson from Fresh FM (Edinburgh's station) provides a music show every evening from 11pm to 2am. Session guests on SRN have included Rolf Harris and Space. The majority of shows, however, are prerecorded and sent to SRN on minidisc. SRN hopes to provide more live programs in the future, by ISDN links.

Any student radio station involved with SRN can, in principle, provide a show for the service - either the show is sent to SRN's studio via ISDN, or SRN pays for the show's presenters to come to London. The signal is sent to Winchester via ISDN, and from there to Luxembourg, where it is transmitted to the Astra 1D satellite: The station can be picked up over most of Northern Europe. No stations outside the UK, however are as yet involved in SRN. The station's controllers hopes to involve more of Europe through IASTAR, the International Association of Student TV and Radio (similar to Britain's Student Radio Association). At present, 30 stations receive SRN, providing it with an audience of about 500,000.

SRN is principally a music station (Alistair Walker, from Fresh FM, is head of music) - it plays a music chart every night, compiled from playlists from all the subscribing stations. Subscription for stations is free, and SRN hopes to provide each station with some money back at the end of each year, although many stations choose to receive new equipment instead. In the future, SRN hopes to help unions that do not have radio stations subscribe to the service by providing the necessary equipment.

To get involved with SRN you need to be involved with your own university's station first, but they do need people to help with administration. - the station coordinator is Dave Rollinson (from B1000). Any queries? See Kenny Green @ IC Radio



MUSIC - 12

Battle of the Bands were you there? **The Jam**, **Echobelly** under the microscope, and more **Singles** than ever.

CLUBBING - 14

A brand new section on underground music and dance with a look at **Speed Garage**.

FILM - 16

Will it Snow for Christmas?
London Film Festival Update and a chance to win **GI Jane** tickets.

17 - GAMES

Lucas Arts strike gold again with **Dig**, and **magpie** gets all nostalgic over **WipEout 2097**

18 - BOOKS

Terry Pratchett's latest novel - **The Hogfather**.

26 - FICTION

Don't miss the final part of **Buz'** **The Man With the Ten**
Bob Note.

All reviews are given a mark out of five as follows...



The Observer



The Independent



The Sun



The Times



The Daily Mirror

No Stars

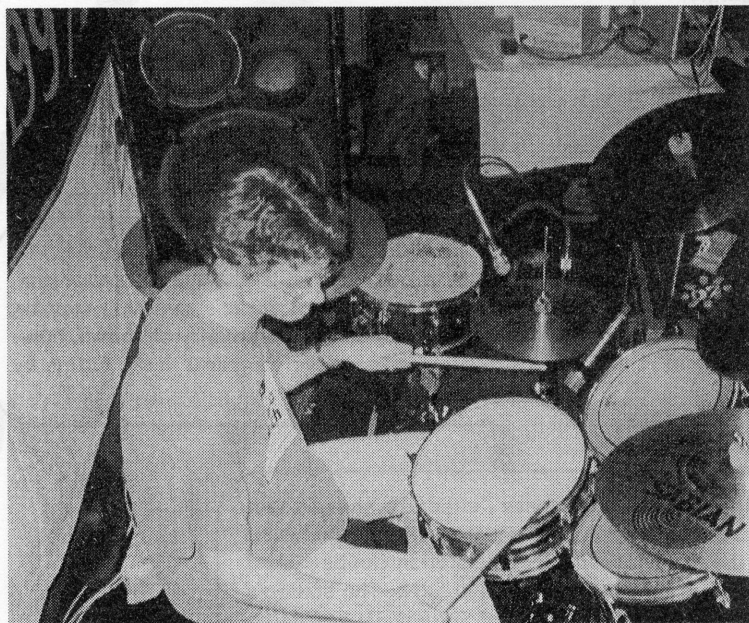
The Daily Sport



LIVE

FOLD + REKLESS KARNAGE+ FUNK 'N' DISORDERLY + DUST

Southern Comfort Battle of the Bands, dB's.



One of the many musicians taking part in Friday's competition.

Last Friday night saw the long-awaited (at least for the participants) Southern Comfort Battle of the Bands. This was just one of the southern regional heats that could lead ultimately to a place in the final and so to a £1,000 prize. Participating were four examples of Imperial's fine talent: **Fold**, **Rekless Karnage**, **Funk 'n' Disorderly** and **Dust** (performing in that order due to a draw held earlier).

As is customary, the gig started late with **Fold's** four members kicking off proceedings with their stylish punk/indie sounds. With music that seems to be influenced by anything from 70's funk to Sonic Youth (due largely to the vocalist Jocelyn's voice), Fold are definitely a band to watch. Always willing to experiment, their use of backing tracks to provide some great sound effects and twisted samples combined, at times, to create an energetic and original set. However,

the band were clearly nervous at the beginning which was not helped by the annoying amount of mic feedback initially present. This soon dissipated, though, and towards the end, the real Fold emerged, pogoing and calling on the crowd to 'funk'. The one thing that I missed was their sublime interpretation of *Walk Like An Egyptian* that they performed at some of their previous gigs. All in all a competent and tight set.

Next on was **Rekless Karnage**, not so much a band as one man and a computer. Some might say that trance has no place in what could be seen as a guitar-based competition, but I would have to disagree. Music is music, however you play it. Although the tracks were interesting and easy to dance to (after slight problems with the sequencer were overcome) they lacked the subtlety that is required for really good trance. They never

really created a mood in a way that, for example, FSOL managed in their early days (as Amorphous Androgynous on the Tales of Ephidrina album) or reached the heights created by the harder trance/techno of the likes of Thomas Heckman (DRAX). This was also rather compounded by the fact that there was a pause between each track and not a continual flow of ideas one into another, as is usual in clubs.

After the small body count of the previous act, Funk 'n' Disorderly's seven members (consisting of a saxophonist, trumpeter, keyboardist, bassist, guitarist, drummer and vocalist) seemed like an overkill. Fortunately this did not detract from the excellence of their set. From start to finish, it was almost professionally polished, with all the musicians displaying obvious talent for their chosen instruments. Playing music by the

likes of Jamiroquai and Incognito, they got the crowd up and dancing, and I was surprised when their thirty minutes were up that they had actually been on for that long. The only thing that let them down slightly, in my view, was their lack of any original material.

Last, but not least, came **Dust** - possibly the only true 'guitar group' of the night. Their pleasant vocal tunes (occasionally sung out of tune) and strummed rhythm guitar parts being enhanced by some excellent choices of effects from their lead guitarist, Alok. Although fairly tight and pleasing to the ear, their songs did lack some of the originality of Fold's and they also suffered in comparison to the musical skills of Funk 'n' Disorderly. However, in terms of original material, they displayed a lot of song-writing potential.

So, by the end all that was left was for the crowd to vote, the judges to tally up their score (which must have been done half way through Dust's set as this is when they left) and the winner to be announced. The judging was based on three categories: musical content, stage presence, and perceived potential. When quizzed about originality, one of the judges replied (sic), "I prefer a band to do other people's stuff well than to play their own stuff crap." Now you know that and if you didn't know already, the winners were Funk 'n' Disorderly.

It just remains for me to say well done to them and well done to all the other acts. Oh, and to thanks Southern Comfort and ICU Ents and its manager and my family... **M**

Mark Elliot (J+R Society Chair)

ALBUMS

ECHOBELLY

Lustra ★★★★★



I may as well get the formalities out of the way first. This album is an absolute stormer! - and I really wasn't expecting it to be. Lustra doesn't have any energy veined tracks that a Brit-Pop fan may want to request at a nightclub, but it will be happily playing in my room for quite some time.

Immediately, I was pleasantly surprised by the freshness of this album. Maybe the long break since the last release from Echobelly has allowed them to come back sounding considerably less tired than what they may have been expected to in these Indie-band governed days of British music. And when exactly did Echobelly adopt such a varied slant within this genre? - a trait that is sadly lacking in so many

second rate bands flooding the local HMV with their second rate tunes.

Pretty soon into Lustra - in fact track two, *I'm Not A Saint* - the memories of Echobelly come flooding back. Strong guitars, synthetically warped vocals, and their uncanny ability to sound just like Sleeper.

There are a couple of tracks that you could pick out as future chart toppers - well, maybe not toppers, but definitely top-tenners. *Bleed* is a brilliant acoustic, and *Everyone Knows Better* is definitive foot-tappin' music. In fact it's likely to induce foot-tapping in the most hardened of anti-foot-tappers.

Every now and again you do have to keep reminding yourself that you aren't listening to Sleeper, and whether this is a good or a bad thing is subject to opinion. Why no fifth star? Unfortunately the title track started to remind me of Bis. And I'd love to tell that sugar sugar candy pop exactly where she could push it down and pull it up. **M**

Derek

THE JAM

The Very Best Of The Jam ★★★★★

This album begins with the fierce debut cry of *In The City* - the template for the singles that would immediately follow. Straight away we are given an insight into Weller's anti-authoritarian lyrics and the driving rhythm section from Bruce Foxton and Rick Buckler. Songs such as *The Modern World*, *David Watts*, *A Bomb In Wardour Street* and *Down In The Tube Station At Midnight* show great diversity yet are all contained within the classic sound of pounding bass and drums, and detached, melodic guitar playing.

Interestingly, none of these songs reached the top 10 in the UK. However, lack of singles chart success did not stop them from being the best band, according to NME readers, as they entered the 80's. This is where we are given the real gems.

Going Underground sounds as contemporary today as it did when it gave them their first number one. *Start!* is a great musical leap despite shamelessly nicking its riff from The Beatles. And *That's Entertainment* is just sheer class.

However, their singles soon took a jump the wrong way. Even though still capable of number ones, The Jam's singles became more inspired by the dance side of rock so favoured by the growing numbers of New Romantics, paving the way for Weller's ill-fated outfit The Style Council. Combining this sound with their Motown influences their last few singles sound eerily similar to Phil Collins' songs of the time.

There are still magical moments to be found on their last two singles (and hence the last two singles on the album). *The Bitterest Pill (I Ever Had To Swallow)* is a ballad as moving as The Style Council's *You're The Best Thing*. And *Beat Surrender* is probably the best song with which to end a career of such dynamism and versatility.

Fans of Weller's recent solo work will be surprised by how different his work is to that of The Jam. Give it a few listens, though, and I'm sure you will be pleased with the result. **M**

Ed

SOUL, HIP-HOP AND NO STOP

What up to all IC!! I got much love for all of y'all, its that time again where I break it all down for y'all. Straight of the bat, Mary J is playing at Wembley arena tomorrow tonight, support from Chico DeBarge and the original ladies man Joe. All three are dropping new joints to coincide with the concert dates, Chico's new album has just been released *Long Time No See*, while Joe will drop his new single *Good Girls* soon in the future. Mary is releasing the fourth cut from her album, the tracks' called *Missing You* and for once the record company has decided that they will include more than just the album version of the track, in this case the So So Def and Rodney Jenkins mixes both included. With Mary's last offering *Everything* the single just contained the album version (with instrumental), then two weeks later out comes the remixes with the awesome So So Def mix blowing up all over, so a message to record companies - sort it out. If your thinkin' about the Mary J concert and you don't have tickets then forget 'bout it; the news is that almost all the tickets are sold and those remaining are so far back you'll see more by going to see a flea circus; my advice is you save your money and get tickets for En Vogue. The three funky divas will be playing Wembley arena on Thursday 4th December and they should be just as good, personally I rated their album *EV3* better than Mary's LP.

Puffy this and Puffy tat - The Puff daddy is everywhere, this is a long running saga probably doesn't deserve any coverage but with the lack of any real news I am going to attempt to relate my judgement on the Puff Daddy. Personally I'm a West Coast boy; I love the laid back g-funk driven tracks that come out of the west, so my view of the situation might have been a little biased, except that I think Puffy is one of the dopest producers on the block at that the minute. Now Puffy ain't just a very talent producer but also a very clever businessman (please note I left out any mention of his rapping ability 'cause it just don't exist), have you noticed that since the death of Biggie (may his soul rest in peace) the Bay Boy Family ain't been out of the charts. Puffy may have been sorry to see his boy go out, but he used it to his advantage, to launch an assault on the charts releasing tune after tune. Even now the Mase album be blowin' up all over tha fucking universe, it isn't in the same class as Biggie, but hey its party tunes that will party so acquire. Major tracks off the LP which are definitely worth a listen include *What You Want* with Total, *Will They Die 4 You* a fast little number with Puffy & Li' Kim and *Love U So* featuring wicked vocals from Billy Lawrence (dis girl is goin' blow up!!). A quick note on the new Puffy single *Been Around the World* a cover of our very own Lisa, you know this is going to

be having some serious playtime - a hit ? no fucking doubt.

I know y'all all want to hear what phat little singles are out at the minute, but for this week I've got a guest reviewer in, she's just back from the US and is here to tell us what's goin' be hot over here soon. IC radio's queen of tha mic GLORIA:

"Sup y'all! Just a footnote giving you the 411 on what's hot. A joint worth checkin' out: the Face-produced *Soul Food* soundtrack, more satisfying than mama's fried chicken and sweeter than any home-made peach cobbler. Two real gems : Atlanta's finest Jagged Edge (of the So So Def camp, big props to my man, Jermaine Dupri) hit you with *The Way That You Talk* and if you though *Up Jumps Da Boogie* was da' bomb, then check out Magoo & Timalands *Welcome To Our World* which is sure to give Puffy a run for his money. For those into slow jams, 'Butta Love' by Next be your track, four bruthas croonin' their way into every ladies heart, hold up isn't that a bit like Dru Hill, Jodeci, 112,..... Dats the DL for the mo' Keepin' it tight and a'light, til next week." Gloria.

Seem that she picked up more than just some phat tracks, anyway that's nuff from her and enough of me, I'll be seeing ya round.

Peace and love,

Milen

SINGLES

Prodigy - Smack My Bitch Up EP

The opening track off *The Fat of the Land* doesn't fail to impress. The radio edit version isn't quite as good as the album track, but the drum and bass mix at the end makes up for any evils.

Kill Laura - We Are Modern

The opener is quite a nice keyboard laced indie number, followed by a fast song called *Fast Song* and a slower one called *Slow song*. All very nice, melodic and obvious but pretty good.

Wildhearts - Endless/Nameless

After an unimpressive/badly recorded, crackly opening track, this sampler grovels to the lowest depths of keyboard driven, overdubbed crap that I've heard for a while.

Ultraliving - Sweetest Pleasure

Hmmm. An acid jazz line backed by a drum bass beat. With a piano. And a woman singing. We decide on jazz and bass or drum and acid, or something along those lines. Quite good though anyway. Strange at least.

Sleeper - Romeo Me

Thank god for that, this single so far outshines the last, that it's impressive. In other words, this is an alright rehash of Sleeper's more successful songs. Lacklustre, girly fronted, britpop boredom.

Mo'Nique - Desire

A surprising song, as it jumps from a quiet intro, into a loud thumping chrous. And it's got a

slidey guitary sound. And its got backing singers singing a melody. It's really rather good.

Rare - Killer

This sounds a bit like Portishead, actually a lot like them, but doesn't pull it off quite as well. They have all the trademarks, from bongy noise in a metal room, to whiney violin, but all in all its just a fairly boring copy.

THE ESSENTIAL CHOON

Lambchop - Your Sucking Funny Day

It's bands like this that keep sixty's cop shows in business. This sounds as if it could be the theme to Columbo without breaking into a sweat. Then they had to change it all by singing over it, changing it into background music during a Baywatch running sequence. Anyway, it's still a damn good song.

Cast - I'm So Lonely

I'm so lonely - I'm so bored more like. The title track just mumbles along, saying 'I've got to let you know for a bit' and that's about it. The B-sides, are just trashy offcuts, that the would never get away with playing anywhere. All in all, no change since their last single.

Dust Junkys - Nonstopoperation

Quite a funky little number this. A good beat in the background, along with some good jazzy guitar, make this a bit of a 'kicking' song. It's not quite Reef, but it's not quite Corduroy, if that makes any sense. However, it is very good.

Teenage Fanclub - Start Again

A song with guitars in it. And unfortunately that's the most interesting thing about it. It goes on in a 'dum dee dum dee dum' fashion, for all 3 minutes of its length. They should stop right now, as they most definitely do not have 'enough time to start again', in my opinion.

High Coin - Sun Set Eyes/Orange Glow (double a side)

Sunset eyes is a laid back lo-fi number, perfect for going to sleep to, apart from when the synth horns kick in. Orange glow glows a bit more than its predecessor, with some impressive slide guitar on the intro, but falls down from the moment the monotonic singers start.

Portishead - Over

A rather long and dull intro leads into an over the top affected bassy thing, and some totally unnecessary and fairly arhythmic scratching, which quite ruins a nice song. Not the best off the new album, and not a good choice for a single.

Tony Hadley - First of May

Any song which starts with 'When I was small and christmas trees were tall' can't be all that bad in my opinion, but this time I have to give in. The sleeve gives the address of the European fan club, probably containing all of two people, both of whom are obsessed by his grimacing expressions are as he pouts about a stage. Unadulterated rubbish. **M**

Billy

CLUBSCENE - THE UNDERGROUND MUSIC GUIDE

FOCUS ON...

Speed Garage

Speed garage, typically 130 beats per minute, has evolved from US garage, with a notable crossover also from Old Skool (1990 - 92 era) and a larger than life drum 'n' bass influence.

It has emerged in the past two years or so, when US garage was being played out to various crowds in the London area. The US style was seen not too have enough "oomph" for the British, with DJs often pitching up to +8 before producers started to make it faster. However, it is really only in the last nine months that speed, or underground, garage has "gone mental".

The clubbers in London have been seemingly growing apart from other forms of dance music, which may be why this new 'underground' formed. It has led to those in the Midlands and Bristol also changing their tastes, wanting something new, hence the spread of speed garage around the country.

Promoters in London putting on

events in places such as the Leisure Lounge, Power house, Bagleys and Camden Palace have finally realised that the clubbers' tastes have changed, and the nights being held in such places are diversifying from hard house to speed garage.

The crowd itself have come from both the hard house and drum 'n' bass scenes. Those listening to and attending the occasional drum 'n' bass events had noticed a moody atmosphere beginning to emerge into the scene - speed garage seems to offer both safe clubbing and a new style of music. Those into hard house were tired of the ever increasing commerciality, and wanted something new.

The clubbers are renowned for their smart appearance, and this particular music does not suffer from the pill problems that others do - indeed, champagne drinking is more commonplace!! The most common misconception with speed garage is that of it being

"Gangster" garage. While I would not choose to mess with anyone at these events, there is no sign of threatening behaviour what so ever.

There are two main sides to underground garage. There is a soulful part - Gabrielle's *Roy Davis Jr* is a good example - and a massive bassline influence.

The biggest worry at the moment within the scene is that of commerciality. With major labels categorising too much, splits within the different genres is inevitable. Nowadays, music is seen as a lot more rigid - and those wanting a slice of the action on labels are able to react a lot quicker to new scenes. Already, XL, Perfecto and Deconstruction are in the process of setting up speed garage sections. This commercial side helps to make the music more accessible, but there is more to worry about. People are latching onto remixes, and these become domi-

nant, leading to the possibility of people getting bored of the sound earlier than is usually the case.

With the scene becoming more popular, DJs are also able to demand more money for sets, and this maybe a factor for future splits, as many of those who are in it for the music begrudge those reportedly getting as much as £6000 for a set on new year's eve.

All in all, the speed garage scene is still a relatively new one, and while commerciality can help, it is hoped that it grows constructively as opposed to fragmenting and splitting up into many other new forms like other underground scenes have done before.

Next week, there will be reviews from a speed garage club, along with a compilation, 101% speed garage. **G** **Chris**

CLUBSCENE - COMPILATIONS

BEATS BY DOPE DEMAND

Vol. 4 ★★★★★



Beats by Dope Demand have been going for a while now, and this their latest offering is no disappointment. If you liked the first three in this series you'll love this one. This compilation is packed full of quality tunes, ranging from laid back downbeat tracks like Tim Love Lee's *Starplay 69*, with its strong use of atmosphericals and a more musical feel to it, to big-beat bass-line stompers like Fatboy Slim Vs Bassbin Twins, *Aaaw Shut up*, this gradually builds up to a rocking big-beat style then suddenly it's all striped away and a massive BASS-line takes-over, oh yes. This track definitely means business, it just gets fatter and fatter as it goes on. One of my favourite tunes on this compilation is Environmental Science's, *Nonsense Pt.3*. This starts off with some spacey sounds, then comes in a slow downbeat break. When you least expect it, it picks up to a drum & bass speed, with firing high hats, snares and bass-drums. Cleverly done and very useful in the bridging the gap between break-beat and drum & bass, for those of

you who like to play a more diverse set. Another track that crosses boarders nicely is Mr Dan's *Snorkel*. Starting off with some nice Electro sounds and a slow downbeat break, then drops the fat chopping beats and breaks. This one will have your head nodding along before you know it. There's also crazy break-beat action with the likes of Terminal Head's *Coma Nova*, and for those of you who like it a bit darker and deeper there Dust Devil's *Hooligan*. Elite Force's *Cool Like the Man* has a definite Hip-Hop crossed with Electro feel to it, with good depth of sounds, this tune certainly is cool like the man. Jep Beat Collective's *Attack of the Wildstyle Beatfreak*, lives up to its name, again a nice mix of Electro beats with those freaky beats. I particular liked the scratching on this one, nicely done, with the memorable *Back By Dope Demand* sample, this is another top-quality track.

So all in all this is very strong compilation, I didn't find a weak track on it. The first time I listened to this compilation I thought it was

good, but after a couple more listens I realised I had been wrong: it's fucking excellent. Each track can easily stand alone on its own merits, there are no cheesy fillers on this compilation. *Beats By Dope Demand vol.4* is a very useful set of tracks that all big-beat, downbeat and break-beat lovers/DJ's should have in their record box.

This compilation is available in a DJ-friendly triple vinyl or for those of you who prefer CDs, it's excellently mixed by Slinky Merlinky, who incidentally compiled the track for this compilation. No wonder there so many storming tracks on this one really, with the wealth of knowledge and taste that Slinky clearly has. Slinky is the label manager at SRD covering funnily enough big-beat, downbeat and break-beat, I can see why. To check the man live and direct get yourselves down 'MARS' W1 nearest tube Tottenham Court Rd, where he co-promotes 'Underclass' every Thursday. **G**

MP

CLUBSCENE - SINGLES

DRUM 'N' BASS

Freebass - Oxygen ★★
(Freeflow records)

This first release from the new Free Flow label has strong musical atmosphericals behind a more breakbeat-driven track. This is a nice break from the big bassline jump-up style that is mainly around at the moment. Both this and the flipside have a definite old school feel to them. For those of you who like something a bit different this is a must-have track. Out 10th Nov.

Eskovah - Night & Day/ Tramp ★★★★★
(Colour Stone Records)

This is one of those tracks that seems to work its way back onto your decks every time you go on them. *Night & Day* starts off with metallic-sounding beats and an excellent large female vocal 'I coming home now baby', that doesn't sound out of place at all, in this dark grinding stepper. This is drum & bass at its innovative best. The flip-side has a slightly darker feel and no major lyric and overall this single breaks the mould and re-sets it in its own form. Out now.

The Prisoners of Technology - The Trick of Technology ★★★★★
(Fresh Kutts Records)

This is a truly massive tune, every-time I have heard this played out, the place blows up and goes crazy. This is by no means just another jump up bassline monster. It is full of fresh beats and nice twists here and there, more than enough to keep you interested. Then comes the breakdown with an excellent big sample. Then it comes back at you with that funky fresh bassline. If this doesn't get you brocking out nothing will. Out now.

Mulder - Don't Believe The Hype ★★★★★
(Urban Takeover)

This one seems to have been around for ages blowing up clubs up and down the country for what seems like years, and final it's been released. With its unforgettable 'Don't believe the hype' sample and time stretched like nobody's business and fat beats and bassline this is a must have for all junglists. Out now.

HOUSE & GARAGE

Ruff Driverz ★★★★★
(Undisputed Records)

This debut release from the Essex based label is a real stormer. It starts off with the time stretched *Don't Stop* vocal, then comes the driving bass drum. I can see why this tune is being described in some circles as speed house, due to the similar use of the bassline. I think this could be the start of a new subsection of dance music, with Ruff Driverz leading the way. Out now.

Tailspin - All Massive ★★★★★
(Speedfreak Records)

The first offering from this label starts off with that typical 'Speed Garage' style (to coin a phrase). With fat beats and *All Massive* vocal, then it drops into a lush breakdown, and a quite superb male vocal 'when your feeling lonely and you need a friend, reach out for my love, on it you can depend' gradually building to a absolutely wicked echoing bassline. The more I hear this track the more I like it. Out 17th Nov.

N19 Recordings - Ganjaman ★★★★★
(Stone City)

This wicked tune from the newly established N19 label is again pushing the boundaries of house/garage music one step further. With the excellent use of time stretches and reverse beats, with a fat, fat stomping bassline. With a strong breakdown and 'Ganjaman' sample this is a must have floor filler. Out now.

Way Out West - Ajare ★★★★★
(Deconstruction Records)

This track has been re-released after three years, and has some new mixes to bring it up to date, my favourite being the Way Out West mix. This one gets straight down to business with a driven beats and eerie lyrics, with a nice use of scratching. This will be big on the trancey house scene, no doubt about it. With stabblings of break-beat to keep you interested. A nice and diverse track well worth a listen. Out 17th Nov. Also look out for their album out now. **MC**

MP

REVIEW

WILL IT SNOW FOR CHRISTMAS?

Starring: Dominique Reymond, Daniel Duval

Director: Sandrine Veysset

William Hill will not let me place a bet on a white Christmas, nor will they offer me any odds on the holiday box office chart. Nevertheless, I shall put my mouth where my money isn't and predict that we shan't see snow and *Will It Snow For Christmas?* won't threaten the success of big Hollywood movies. This is for several reasons; partly because it is a subtitled French film, partly because it has such a feeble storyline (attempting a forecast to answer the question in the title did not keep me on the edge of my seat for an hour and a half), but also because the characters are only mildly engaging. This is a critical failure for a film that relies on our understanding of screen relationships to explore a family's mutual love.

Specifically, the film deals with maternal love in a situation where a single mother lives with her seven illegitimate children. Writer-Director Sandrine Veysset evidently has a great deal of respect for women who go through the trial of motherhood, and even dedicated

the work to her own mother. This admiration has, however, blinkered her own perception of the subject.

The main problem with the film is that all the characters are caricatures, so it is difficult to take them seriously. The children are too clever, too unrealistically obedient; the mother so loving that she incessantly mollycoddles and holds them. The entire film lacks subtlety and Veysset often resorts to straightforward repetition to ensure her message gets across.

Perhaps these mistakes are understandable when we realise that this is the director's debut. Dismissing the film outright would be unreasonable, since Veysset has accomplished a lot. It is never easy to get children to act convincingly, yet seemingly natural performances have been extracted from them. In certain scenes, one even wonders whether a script was ever written. But, ultimately, the fact remains that organising seven children for school in the morning is my idea of a nightmare, not entertainment. **F**

Tom



Dominique Reymond
with one of her seven
illegitimate kids

LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

41st LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

The 41st London Film Festival is now well and truly under way. If you haven't yet bought your tickets for the various premieres and gala screenings then you'd better act quickly as seats are going quickly.

For a chance to see a big Hollywood film months before its release you could do far worse than try *The End of Violence*. It stars Bill Pullman, Andie MacDowell and Gabriel Byrne and is an intelligent look at the issues of power and violence in the not too distant future. It is not released until January 9 but is showing twice on Thursday at the Odeon West End. Ticket prices start at £6.75 and can be bought by phoning the Festival Hotline on **0171 4201122**.

Another film examining the motives behind violence is *Resurrection Man*. In this case, however, the film revolves around the real subject of the Shankhill Butchers, a Northern Ireland gang

who murdered 19 people in the late seventies. They claimed to be Loyalist, yet their victims included five Protestants demonstrating the purely psychotic nature of their enterprise. Directed by Marc Evans, who was recently interviewed by Felix, the film plays at the Odeon West End twice on Friday 21 November and tickets are available from the phone number above.

Twentyfour Seven is another British film receiving its premiere at the festival. Directed and written by Shane Meadows, this sees Bob Hoskins setting up a boxing club in an attempt to restore dignity to his town's dissolute youth. We follow his unwilling recruits battle through various trials, egged on by Hoskins in excellent form. It shows at the Odeon West End on Wednesday.

For a more international flavour you could try a sample from the "French Revolution" or "Facing East" strands. These are programmes featuring a variety of films from debut and established directors from various countries. More information can be found in the festival brochure available from the Evening Standard Film on the Square ticket booth in Leicester Square. **F**

OUT NOW

If you haven't been reading Felix over the last couple of weeks, here is the best of what's showing now:

Face/Off

John Travolta and Nicolas Cage send each other up in this face-swapping thriller. Unmissable if you're after a superior action film.

LA Confidential

This take on '50s cinema goes behind the city's glossy image and uncovers a corrupt police force, powerful gangsters and rife prostitution.

A Life Less Ordinary

If you can find Ewan McGregor's new film still showing then go and see it. Cameron Diaz co-stars in this brilliant offbeat romance.

FILM COMPETITION

with our
friends at the

ODEON

KENSINGTON

GI Jane is released today. It stars Demi Moore as a US Navy officer determined to become the first female to break into the elite Navy Seals. Reviewed last week, this is a film aimed at all those women who have always wanted to give the male establishment a good kicking.

As ever, the Odeon Kensington have kindly donated some great prizes related to the film. We have a pair of tickets for the film and a *GI Jane* army cap and dog-tag to give to the first three people picked out of the proverbial hat who know the answer to the following question. Answers to the

office or by e-mail to felix@ic.ac.uk.

Who plays Demi's evil Navy chief in this film?

Dig out last week's Felix review for a more-than-helpful hint!

The winners of the last competition who correctly stated that John Travolta starred in John Woo's *Broken Arrow* are:

Ketan Gudka
Richard Apoolingum

Eirian David
Patty Liao




G.I. JANE

BUBBLE GUM



THE DIG

LucasArts ★★★★★

 This is another older game (I think about 2 years now) which has been re-released in budget format. It is a Lucas Arts 'White Label' release and so should cost you around ten quid. The main selling point, from reading the box and credits, is that the idea for the story was from Steven Spielberg. He originally wanted to make it into a film but could not get the money. Instead it got made into this very competent adventure game.

I am the first to admit that I'm not terribly good at these puzzle-solving, walk around and work it out yourself games. So I got a little help from some friends and managed to finish the game within the review time. The game itself is excellent, obviously the story line was good enough for the film that never was. The puzzles are pretty cunning and devious, which I am informed is good in an adventure game. With the exception of one or two puzzles they were the sort

where you kicked yourself when you saw how they were done. The however exceptions were where you did actually do the required action but not quite in the correct way and this was frustrating.

Aside from that minor quibble the graphics are not up to today's

standard but then the game is old. They are perfectly adequate though, with smooth animation and glorious animated cut scenes. The sound is also excellent, which includes a changing atmospheric score, while the fully digitised speech of all the characters,

includes the 'other' actor from Terminator 2. So technically as adventure games go it is on the very good side so far.

The story briefly, is that an army/NASA space bloke (you) goes up in a shuttle to save the entire world (wonderful America!). Help comes in the form of other characters in the game, one being a German scientist and a women journalist. Since when have Americans ever used German scientists (Dr Strangelove?). Well in the end you arrive on a strange alien planet and the object of the game is to get back home. You don't meet many people, in fact the number of characters is quite low for a game like this, comparing it to Day of the Tentacle for example. The good thing about this is that you get to know the characters much more. There is even an implied moral about drug addiction! Most enjoyable. **G**

David Morris

BEST OF THE OLDIES

WIPEOUT 2097

Psygnosis ★★★★★



Half the games out on the market these days are just sequels, it is by no means a bad thing. The publishing company doesn't have to think up original names and game plot, while the programmers have an established game engine that does not really require too much rework-

and easier to control anti-gravity vehicles, Wipeout 2097 is an improvement and an upgrade on the older model. Wipeout is essentially a racing game, and the rules are simple, slam on the accelerator, battle against other drivers and head for the finish.

The game is not limited to driving around the circuit and avoiding your opponents, as an assortment of power ups and weapons are available to experiment on your opponents. Some of these include a temporary autopilot which helps for those tricky twists and turns and quake, which tears up race way and sends it down the tack as a tidal wave down towards the other contestants. With 14 other drivers to contend with it becomes a bit of struggle but the added weaponry evens the odds of winning. Each level needs a lot of practice but players of the original game will find that they are familiar territory.

The first six tracks need to be completed before proceeding to the other hidden levels, and there is an addictive quality about Wipeout 2097 that makes play and play until you have gained these 2

extra levels. 2097 reaches out to those who like serious game play and to those who like a thumping soundtrack. It becomes a true enlightening experience when the fast moving objects and vibrant colours blur into one another, while the stereo sound finally locks you into a second reality.

There are four different vehicles to choose from varying from the easy but slow vehicle to the fast but impossible to control. Choose and take control!

As with the original, the sound tracks include some major club names Prodigy, Chemical Brothers and Future Sounds of London. Unfortunately the PC version of this game (Wipeout XL) lacks these music tracks but with hardware acceleration the graphics is one up on the Sony Playstation.

Like its predecessor this is an excellent game for all you speed freaks out there. The current cost of Wipeout 2097 may discourage most buyers but search around and you may be lucky enough to find it second hand. **G**

Magpie



ing, and finally the players get more from an enjoyable game.

Is Wipeout 2097 just another driving game rehashed from the original? Yes, but with new levels



BOOKS

THE HOGFATHER

Terry Pratchett ★★ ★



Publisher: Corgi
Price: £5.99
Available now

Hogfather is the 20th Discworld novel by Terry Pratchett, of whom, I should state at the outset, I've never been a fan. As far as I can remember, the Discworld floats upon the back of a massive turtle. It's a world at the core of which relatively sane, normal people co-exist with the wacky wizards of Unseen University; and this core is cocooned within a world of magic that only the 'dead and magic' and credulous young children can see. This fantastical world bears an uncanny parallel to our own childhood dimensions. Well-known and comforting characters tumble through its pages: bogeymen, the skeletal figure of Death, Jack Frost, the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny and tubby old Father Christmas - except that the latter two have been incarnated as the Soul Cake Duck and the Hogfather.

Now there exists a bunch of disagreeable people called the Auditors who hate life. They feel that it's disorderly and, quite frankly, just too untidy to put up with. So they hatch a cunning plot:

to kill the Hogfather. To this end they engage the villainous Teatime ("Teh-a-tim-eh',sir... Everyone gets it wrong"), who happens to be a completely certifiable member of the Guild of Assassins. With the Hogfather temporarily out of the way, it seems only natural - by a delightful quirk of logic - that Death himself, with a series of rather lame HO.HO.HO.s, should step heroically into the breach... You see, the Hogfather's elimination is not just a commercial pity: it signals the end of the world as we know it, for obscure reasons that are eventually explained. Mixed up in this battle for the soul of humanity are the air-headed wizards, the wonderfully practical Susan, who is Death's granddaughter by adoption, an oh-god of Hangovers, a wizard-invented AI machine named Hex which throws a tantrum when it's refused its FTB (Fluffy Toy Bunny), a group of dopey beggars who live on the haute cuisine of mud-and-old-boots and a million more sporadic and delightful characters.

The book is brilliantly inventive and has a wonderful feel-good fac-

tor for all those inner children out there. It's also whimsical, idiosyncratic, quixotic, excitable and confused: there are repeated jumps between scenes and much sporadically obscure reasoning. In particular, the long-awaited elucidation of the plot ultimately proves to be embarrassingly incoherent. Even Death eventually metamorphoses into a talkative New-Age-Bloke with a conscience and a dreadful sense of humour. Well, I ask you...!

I have to insist that my opinions on Pratchett remain valid. His novels are insubstantial, frothy pieces of wildly invented fantasy with sprawling plots so fantastically riddled with holes that they wouldn't sieve rocks. Nevertheless, this book is a bubbly, beguiling concoction that sparkles and wriggles incessantly with a sort of frenetic enthusiasm. Prejudices aside, the author's obviously having so much fun making fun of the world and of his world that it would be churlish to refuse to even smile back... and once you start smiling it's impossible to stop. **B**

Min

Thought for the day

No.5: That curry bill

I wish to avoid becoming a second Simon Baker (and after his face-meltingly dull article on EMU, none of us would want that). Hence, I am going to avoid snidey but very poignant comments about the farcically rigged election of the new ICU President, at least for the moment. This week we concern ourselves with matters arising just after the dramatic results' release (it's just a shame that only about ten per cent of the South Kensington posse could be bothered contributing to them).

Anyway, those of you who are still reading after that rather tiresome tirade might like to know that the Felix editor, the Features Editor, myself and a certain Mr. Jon Walmsley (an esteemed denizen of the nether regions of Southside Bar) went for a curry after the election result. (Felix recommend Kwality Tandoori, down by the tube station for the creamiest Tikka Masala in town. Oh, do say hello to

Mr. Khan for me.) The usual conversation flow resulted; moving from angry screeched speeches about the treachery of the Mary's block vote; onto food (did I mention how hungry we were?), favourite beers of the assembled dining foursome; the upcoming IC Rag beer festival (which, by the time you read this, will be a dim and distant hangover memory), back to food (yes, we were starving) and so on. Poppadoms, nan bread? Korma or madras? Chutney or that weird orange minty stuff? (Forgive my ignorance). Anyway, you know the score.

Eventually the meal came to an end. Much lager had been consumed; we could almost forget the election; everyone was stuffed. Jon Walmsley was falling asleep; Jon Trout was breaking wind; Jeremy was trying to convince me not to stand for Felix editor. Then the problems began.

Yes, the bill arrived. It is practi-

cally inconceivable that just one piece of paper could cause such widespread controversy. No formulation since those of Adam Smith, Albert Einstein and Charles Darwin has enjoyed a greater vogue. At this juncture I must point something out. According to UCAS rules, the four of us had a combined A-level points score of 118. (Eleven As and a B). Yet we were still completely unable to decide who owed how much of the bill.

The problems were caused by two people having insufficient reading; a trip to the cash machine solved the immediate problem, but not the prevailing one. Why did four young men with a reasonable dose of common sense find themselves having the following conversation? "Right, I've put in twenty-five quid, and the bill was sixty quid, so somebody owes me ten quid."

(Nothing is ever that simple.) "Hang on though, because Jeremy didn't have rice, so he should have

two quid off."

"Fair enough then, you put in eleven quid, I put in eight quid, us two both put in twenty-five quid. Somebody owes us money."

"I'll take some off next month's rent."

"Yeah, but how much?"

"Wait. You and Jon owe me money for the bet on the election result."

"Look at it this way... erm... no... wait... that's not right..."

"Look, lads, let's start again."

Calling all mathematics professors and postgraduates. Is there any way this problem can be solved? Eight-dimensional matrices? Line integrals? Vector calculus? Perhaps an analytical solution is impossible. Could we try a numerical method? We certainly couldn't find one, and I don't think I'll ever get my ten quid back.

Did I mention the election yet...?

Ali Campbell

Fri 14th

BUST-A-GUT
comedy club

WITH ADAM BLOOM & JO ENRIGHT
8PM. DBS. £2.50/£2

HEDONIZM

PLUS COCKTAIL BAR & CHILL OUT ROOM
9-2. 1AM BAR. £1/FREE B4 9PM

Sun 16th

Standing Room Only

Tues 18th

STA BAR TRIVIA

DaVinci's from 8.00
Win £50 or a crate of lager

Weds 19th

X\$

Room one - party tunes for a mad for it crowd
9-1. Midnight Bar. FREE B4 11/50p after.

Thurs 20th

Cocktail Night

DaVinci's from 5.00



DIVERSIONS FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

at home

in town

events

club & soc
eventsclub & soc
regularsradio
& TV

music

fri 14

Bust-A-Gut Comedy Club
Two top acts - Adam Bloom and Jo Enright, plus Open Mic slot. £2.50 or £2 with entscard. Doors 8pm, 1st act 8.30 - free t-shirts to 1st 10 in! Hedonizm
Massive club sounds in dBs and chill out room and cocktail bar in UDH. £1/free B4 9.

Parachute Club
Meeting, noon, Southside
Islam Soc
Friday prayers, 1pm, Southside gym.
Labour Club
Meeting, 1pm, Southside

The Simpsons 6pm BBC2
Shooting Stars 9pm BBC2
Friends 9pm C4
The Fast Show 9.30pm BBC2
Have I got News for You 10pm BBC2
Rory Bremner 10.30 C4
Full Circle with Micheal Palin 11pm BBC1
Crapston Villas 11.10pm C4
TFI Friday 11.25pm C4

Terry Hall
Shepherds Bush Empire, £11.

Julian Joseph
Blackheath Concert Halls, £10.

sat 15

ICU Rag
London collection
Karate Club
Open course for all given by Sensei Gautier, 9.45am, Southside gym

Rifle and Pistol Club
Join and shoot, 11am, rifle range, sports centre
Kung Fu Club
Training 4.30pm, Southside gym. All welcome.

International Rugby Union
4.15pm ITV
Scrooged
9pm BBC1. Acceptable film
It'll be alright on the night 9pm ITV
ER 9.45pm C4
They Think it's all Over 11.50pm BBC1
Later with Jools Holland 11.55pm BBC2. W. Aerosmith

Texas, Wembley Arena, £15.

Wildhearts
Brixton Academy, adv £10. CANCELLED

sun 16

Standing Room only
Live premiership footie. Da Vinci's bar from 12.30pm.

ICU Cinema
Mrs Brown, 8pm, Union Concert Hall, £2

Kung Fu Club
Training 4.30pm, Union gym. All welcome.

The Natural World 6.10 BBC2
Star Trek Voyager 7pm BBC2
You've Been Framed 7pm ITV
The Shawshank Redemption 9pm C4. Superb film.
Dispatches 12.10am C4
A Chorus of Disapproval 12.20am ITV.

Andy Sheppard's Moving Image
Blackheath Concert Halls, £10.

Vivienne McKone
Ronnie Scotts, £8.

mon 17

Islamic Soc
Freshers' dinner, 6pm, main dining hall. £3.50. With guest speakers.

Cathsoc Mass
Noon, Leon Bagrit Centre
ICSF (Science Fiction Soc)
Babylon 5, 12.15 & 6pm, library.
Islam Soc
Islamic circle, 1pm, prayer rm
Community Action Group
Tools for Self Reliance, 6pm, Old dark room, Beit basement

Just watch BBC2: The Simpsons 6pm, **Battlestar Galactica** 6.20pm, **The Land of the Tiger** 8.30pm, **Trade Secrets** 9.20pm, **Never Mind the Buzzcocks** 9.30pm, **Alan Partridge** 10pm, **Newsnight** 10.30pm.
Film 97 11.30pm BBC1
Prisoner Cell Block H 11.40 ITV

Le Mystere Des Voix Bulgares, Barbican, £17.50-£10.

tue 18

ICU Council
6pm, Renold's Building, Charing Cross Campus, Fulham Palace Road.
STA Bar Trivia
Your chance to win £50, or a crate of lager - free entry. Da Vinci's, 8pm.

Publicise you're club's events here - drop us a note or email us (felix@ic.ac.uk) by Tuesday 6pm for inclusion.

Audio Society
Meeting, 1pm, Brown Committee Room.
S&G Outdoor Club
Meeting, Southside 1pm.
Circus Skills
6-9pm, table tennis room
Community Action Group
Soup run, 8.15pm, Weeks Hall basement kitchen.

Moviewatch 6pm C4
Mysteries with Carol Vorderman 8pm BBC1
University Challenge 8pm BBC2
Rory McGrath's Commercial Breakdown 9.30pm BBC1
Auntie 10.30pm BBC1

Fetch
ICU's own printer-musician in a rare appearance at the Atlas Pub, Seagrave Road, Earls Court. Doors 8pm, £2.

Superglass
Shepherds Bush Empire, £12.

wed 19

XS
You've just got to say "Yes!" Pop & mainstream dance. Free before 11/50p after. dBs.

ConSoc
Talk from a senior ex-cabinet minister. 1pm, Mech Eng room 342.

Rifle and Pistol Club
Join and shoot, 1pm, rifle range, sports centre
Orienteering Club
Training, all welcome, 6pm Union gym.
Chess Club
Meeting 7pm, Brown Committee Room.

Star Trek Next Generation 6pm BBC2
Gamesmaster 6pm C4
Tomorrow's World 7.30pm BBC1
K2 9pm C5. Mountainous film.
Ab Fab 9.30pm BBC1
X Files 10pm BBC1
Newsnight 10.35pm BBC2

Ultrasound
+ Proiapse
+ Six by Seven
Garage, £6

thr 20

DaVinci's Cocktail Night
Fun with plastic fruit. The best value cocktails in Kensington. Bar from 5pm.

Exploration Board
Canoeing down the Zambezi. Rupert Fitzmaurice gives a lecture, 12.30pm, bio W2/3 (under Beit Arch) 50p.

Fellwanderers
Meeting, 1pm, Southside.
Islamic Soc
'Tajweed & talaffuz' lessons, 1pm, prayer room
Christian Union
Meeting, 6.30pm, bio W2/3
Community Action Group
Soup run, 8.15pm, Weeks Hall basement kitchen.

Don't like my selection? Come and do it yourself! Person needed to edit this guide each week - a couple of hours on Wednesday mornings. Come on! I don't even have a television!

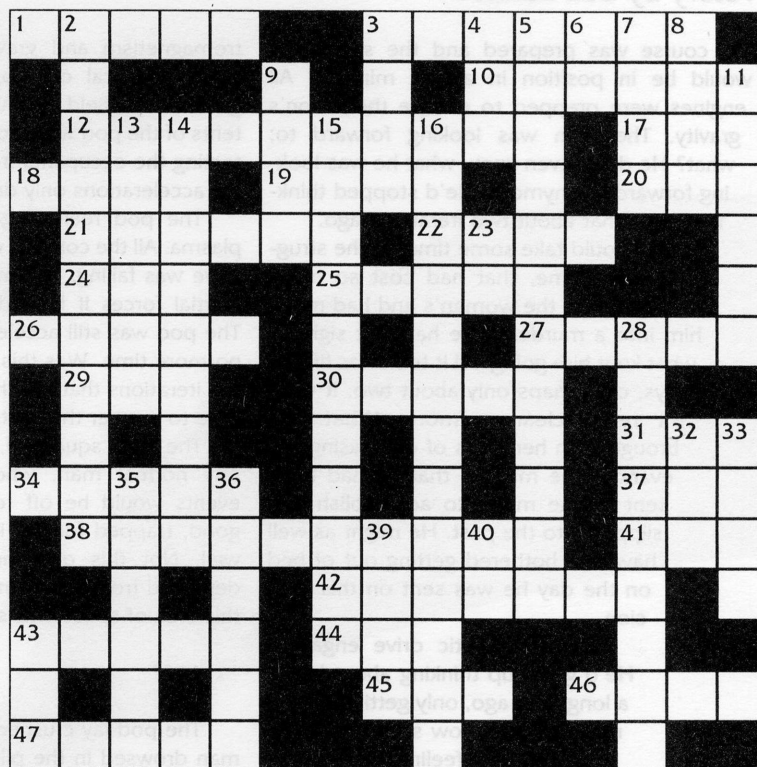
Robyn Hitchcock
Jazz Café, Etc.



CROSSWORD

EASY CROSSWORD

by Matt



film

arts

clubbing

Face/Off

UCI Whiteleys
[£6.60, £4.00 <5pm M-F,
£4.00 <3pm Sa&Su]
12.10, 3.06, 6.00, 9.00
Odeon Kensington
12.00, 3.00, 6.05, 9.10
(Late Fri, Sat 12.15)
Odeon Marble Arch
1.45, 5.15, 8.45

The Quick and the Dead

A look at art and anatomy -
interesting and gorey.
Royal College of Art,
Kensington Gore (just behind
ICU). Open 10am to 6pm
daily. Admission free, we
think.

Starting next week:

Clubbers'
Guide

Watch this space.

Maximum Risk

Virgin Trocadero
[£5.00 sdt]
12.00, 2.10, 4.25, 6.40, 9.15
(Late Fri, Sat 11.40)

Mondrain: Nature to
Abstraction.

Tate Gallery.
£5, £3 students (main collec-
tion free and well worth see-
ing). Open daily 10am -
5.50pm until 30 November.
Tube: Westminster. Also
Turner Prize Entries £1.50

The Full Monty

Odeon Kensington
[£6.30, £3.70 <5pm M-F,
£5.00 <5pm Sa&S]
12.20, 2.40, 5.00, 7.20, 9.45
(Late Fri, Sat 12.05)
Odeon Marble Arch
[£6.50, £4 <3pm Sa&S, £4
<5pm M-F]
2.05, 4.25, 6.45, 9.10

John Isaacs - The Matrix of
Amnesia

Art's coming home - the
newly refurbished gallery in
the Sheffield building opens
today with this new show.
Open daily 10am - 6pm.

Deadline for entries to the
extremely easy question on
page 20. There are tickets for
GI Jane to be won and you
can enter by e-mailing the
answer to felix@ic.ac.uk,
dropping your entry into the
office or sending it in internal
mail.

BG Wildlife Photographer of
the Year

Hundreds of stunning por-
traits of nature. See page 20.
Natural History Museum.
£6, £3.20 students.
Open 10am - 5.50pm Mon -
Sat, 11am - 5.50pm Sunday.
Tube: South Kensington

A Life Less Ordinary

Odeon Kensington
7.05, 9.35 (Late Fri, Sat 12.05)
Virgin Fulham Rd
[£6.20, £4 sdt Mo-Th]
6.40, 9.20
Virgin Trocadero
12.00, 2.20, 4.40, 7.00, 9.20
(Late Fri, Sat 12.00)

Sensation

Royal Academy
Piccadilly, W1
You must have heard of this
show! Well worth a visit. £7 /
£4.70.

Prince Charles Cinema

[All £2]
Sat 8 Con Air 4.00
Sun 9 Kolya 4.00
Tue 11 Spawn 9.00
Wed 12 Goodfellas 5.45
Thu 13 Lost Highway 1.30

Art Reviewers Needed!

If you're interested in exhibi-
tions, photography, theatre,
shows or any other art-relat-
ed stuff, come to the Felix
office, 1pm Monday.

BIGGER,
BETTER,
HAPPY?

Due to the huge
number of entries
that have been
flooding in for the
clubs and societies
column, we have
more than doubled
the space given to
them. They are now
divided into events
and regular meet-
ings. Please give us
as much notice of
your events as pos-
sible. New entries
for the regular sec-
tion will have priori-
ty, with the others
following a rota sys-
tem. I hope that
keeps everyone
happy.

ACROSS

- 1 A shepherd's stick (5)
- 3 Set of scales (7)
- 10 Sufficient (6)
- 12 Transfer of heat by circulation (10)
- 17 Woodland bird (3)
- 18 Indian cow (4)
- 19 Brown sprinkled with gray and white (4)
- 20 Poem (3)
- 21 Soft, white, downy substance (6)
- 22 Hooligan (4)
- 24 Old Irish (3)
- 25 Made of wood (5)
- 26 Singing, instrument playing, etc. (5)
- 27 Freshwater fish (5)
- 29 Irish media (3)
- 30 Present (5)
- 31 Strive against (3)
- 34 English poet (5)
- 37 Make a mistake (3)
- 38 Attachment (10)
- 41 An object in law (3)
- 42 Laugh (7)
- 43 Circular (5)
- 44 Period of time (3)
- 45 Quercus et. al. (3)
- 46 Scheme (4)
- 47 Unit of measure (5)

DOWN

- 2 Ascot and Churchill Downs (11)
- 3 Greek letter (4)
- 4 Zodiac sign (3)
- 5 Public notice (12)
- 6 Negative (2)
- 7 Killer St. Bernard (4)
- 8 Ah ha! (4)
- 9 Nothing (American) (4)
- 11 Spotted scavengers (6)
- 13 Player of hautboy (6)
- 14 Nitrates, phosphates, etc. (9)
- 15 Remaining in the same place (11)
- 16 Between lands (13)
- 23 Masculine-third person (2)
- 28 Respect (9)
- 32 Anger (3)
- 33 Formerly (4)
- 35 Month (6)
- 36 Arachnid (6)
- 39 Go away! (4)
- 40 Alternatively (2)
- 43 Male sheep (3)

Father Ted videos to be won

First correct entry drawn out of the box on Thursday morning wins episodes one to six of this fine series. Drop entries into the office or send them in internal mail.



The Man With The Ten Bob Note - Part III

A story by Buz Barstow

The course was prepared and the spacecraft would be in position in a few minutes. All engines were prepped to escape the moon's gravity. The man was looking forward to; what? He didn't even know what he was looking forward to anymore. He'd stopped thinking about that about two iterations ago.

This would take some time, in the struggle to get home, that had cost so many lives, his own, the woman's and had made him into a murderer, he had lost sight of what kept him going. All it took was fifteen days, or perhaps only about two. It wasn't really clear anymore. What had brought him here was of decreasing relevance. The mission that he had been sent to the moon to accomplish had slipped into the past. He might as well have not bothered getting out of bed on the day he was sent on this mission.

The asymptotic drive engaged. He'd given up thinking about home a long time ago, only getting off the rock that was now spiralling away. Even the odd feeling that always accompanied using the inertialess drive escaped him.

The man reclined in the cockpit seat. Out of a sense of duty, and of morbid fascination, he surveyed the death throes of the moon through the optical telescopes at the rear of the pod. With considerable enhancement by the computer, he could see the moon beginning to crumble, like a piece of over dry dough being needed by baker, and the flakes spinning off to form the platter that surrounded the black hole. It would be quite a sight to see if you hadn't experienced it first hand.

The pod was navigating an area of space swarming with violently energetic ionized particles. Any electrical system, especially the pod's inertialess drive unit would be vulnerable to this hazard. Put simply, the inertialess drive relied on a consequence of the unified field theory, that allowed the unification of elec-

tromagnetism and gravity, whereby the drive, using electrical components could generate a gravitational field to ensure that all of the contents of the pod were accelerated uniformly, protecting the occupants from inertial forces, allowing accelerations only dreamt of before.

The pod reeled against a shower of stray plasma. All the controls were fried. The inertialess drive was failing. The man would be crushed by inertial forces if he didn't do something soon. The pod was still accelerating. No time to think, no more time. Was this the fate that befell all of the iterations that left the moon? He didn't have time to answer that last point.

The pod squashed, the man was crushed. Any normal man, who'd experienced normal events would be off to leave the universe for good, trapped forever in the black holes gravity well. Not this one though. He was uniquely detached from the normal stream of things, and this area of space was similarly touched.

The pod lay crushed in a body of water. The man drowned in the pilot's seat, as if he hadn't quite realised he was alive. He stirred, and the what remained of the playback display came on. His commander appeared on screen. "Now you've landed I can tell you the purpose behind your mission. It is to retrieve an artifact left behind on the moon by the survey team. This artifact is believed to be of alien origin. Its purpose is unknown to us, but you are to make all efforts to retrieve it. Good luck."

After that a series of displays detailing the artifact appeared on screen, and the playback ended. The man hadn't had the time or the inclination to wonder where he was.

He did make the effort to look to the passenger seat though, where the woman, whose dead form he'd left in waste recycling on the moon, sat. She had the same calm about her that she had when she lay on the floor, but was unusually conscious. She stared at him and slipped away from his view. He might as well have been back in the primordial soup on the moon. He wasn't though. The pod window was surrounded by muddied water. The man climbed out through the dorsal hatch. He'd given up caring about the presence of sufficient oxygen, dangerous organisms or toxic chemicals.

The world outside was like his home. There were trees, grass, a blue sky, rain clouds, everything. He'd been given a second chance at life, he assumed by the woman, whose identity he was now having serious doubts about.

He was free to do as he pleased. Make all he could of his new lease of life. Make what of what life? He'd left that on the moon with the man he killed.

He'd have to time to mull. On where he did land. It wasn't as clear as before that he had landed on a moon. At least not the moon he'd been sent to investigate. It most certainly resembled it, but the computer didn't seem to agree with that observation. He'd been detached from

the normal stream of events, and placed elsewhere, either for observation, or manipulation.

He'd have a long time to think about the answers to those questions.

So, the tramp's ring says something. The skin though, beneath the dirt there's a once healthy tan. Almost like the colour the hills that surround Bogota seem to go on one of its worse days. Not a flattering metaphor, but there wasn't much flattering about the man.

The man took a look at the hills. Shit, that city stunk. Worse place he'd ever worked. Not that the environment mattered much to the man, he could afford air con. He could afford a lot of things. He couldn't buy god damn loyalty though.

Make one small mistake, and they take it out of your hide. Your reputation stands for nothing. You might as well be a rookie, a punk with no style and a passion for crudity. Just one kidnapping goes wrong.

Fuck 'em. This one would go right. At least reputation had bought him a chance to do his bosses a freebie. He looked over the dossier. John Forbes, Englishman, geologist in Columbia prospecting for oil for BP. Packed 4 bodyguards. Tough freebie. No wonder they'd given him a chance to redeem himself. No fool would take this kind of job.

THE END

Next week: Bus Stop Blues; a short tale of coincidence, matches and not having the right change. By Dennis.



Canoe Polo?

Continuing our recent series of spectacular defeats, IC Canoe Polo Team were invited to play ULU, presumably their chance for revenge for only beating us 2-0 in our last meeting. The ULU team have always considered themselves superior to the IC shambles, mainly since we never train, don't take ourselves seriously and devote our time to fooling about on rivers, drinking, and having a good time.

We have always considered ourselves the better club, for precisely the same reasons.

From the first whistle, the ULU offence were obviously put off by Simon's magnificent girth, as he overcame a significant weight disadvantage to beat them to the ball, despite their spangly new carbon-fibre boats. However, despite demonstrations of stamina and length by our attacking paddlers, ULU persisted in dribbling all over our backs. Our goalkeeper, Solid Grade 5" Adam, did an admirable

job of defending the delicate wooden frame of our goal from the nasty hard ball, unfortunately this skill didn't extend to also protecting the net as ULU kept on poking it in.

The game was refereed with ULU's characteristic lack of bonhomie. However, in fairness to them we should perhaps have realised that there were some rules to the game, and perhaps even had a go at learning some of them. Even so, a yellow card for Old Man Colin was perhaps a little harsh, since he was still feeling delicate after the previous day's pub crawl around the monopoly board. This state of health was little improved by the ULU paddlers' repeated attempts to roll him over and force him to submit.

ULU came up front, over and over again; we were buggered if we could stop them. We were truly stuffed.

ULU 15 - IC 2

QMW v ICWAF

Walthamstow was our destination, but the tube station was shut and just to further inconvenience us, no buses were running either. So six birds minus kit arrived two hours late, with the kit and super-woman Freud later. Feeling sorry for us, the opposition lent us two (shit) players.

Everyone worked hard in the first half, Captain "Pisshead-animal" commanded with her usual style, despite reeling from a head injury and inability to see due to the previous night's shenanigans. Helen proved to be a bit "shit-hot" in goal, Hacker Lyle was racing all over the place, Super-woman Freud fought in her usual dynamic style, and Vasso stuck like Vasso-line to any attackers - taking a few bitches out in the process.

The second half and we were knackered. Young Scrubber kept missing chances but then she did have a dodgy ankle. Wee Marisa shouted and shouted (but nobody heard - a bit of a throat problem I feel) and ran and ran. The full-time whistle and tea were nice.

P.S. Can I awaken the Duke of Prague's manhood. [Are you sure you know what you're saying? - Si]

QMW 5 - 0 ICWAF

RSMHC v St BART's III

After nearly upsetting the premier-ship champions in a close game on Sunday, RSM came out to beat St Barts III in a convincing 4 - 0 victory. Faisal scored first from a short corner; Dav converted a second from an accurate pass by captain Maruf, who later went on to score the fourth; Henry scored the third with a deft touch.

Alas, Tim failed to score on the pitch although he later made up for this with his "friend" behind a tree in Battersea park. Nick (goalkeeper) won man of the match after a vital save late in the second half. However, Ashraf was a superior man of the match on Sunday!

RSMHC 4 - 0 St Bart's III

IC SNOOKER v BRISTOL

Last Saturday saw the first friendly match of the new year for Imperials Snooker Club, the reigning National Champions. A depleted A-team gave debuts to Alan and Greg who performed admirably but could not help the team to victory. The B-team, giving debuts to Richard, Ketel and John, fared far better and with a captain's lead from Aki

IC GOLF v ROYAL HOLLOWAY

The grudge match got off to a poor start when the home team (that's us) couldn't find their own course. Unfortunately Holloway possessed advanced navigational equipment (ie a map) and actually turned up. The top order managed to produce two points with Marx coming back strongly in the first match and The Stalker resisting his deer fetish to concentrate on his game.

Sadly the rest of the team only managed to produce a pair of antlers courtesy of a stag and a five iron at the fifteen hole (and point blank range). Chief of the culprits was The Mower who together with Hurricane "played like a wanker". Other excuses from the rest of the team included the shit weather, stampeding deer, the night before and a complete lack of hand-eye co-ordination. Success beckons in the nationals.

IC Golf 2 - 4 Royal Holloway

ICAFC IV v RSM I

RSM were defeated in this "friendly match," by a team of randoms representing IC fourths. We had a hockey player, a fifth teamer, two third teamers, two members of last year's 4th team, one random, but only four current fourth teamers. We dominated the first half and deservedly took a two goal lead - we could have had more.

In the second half we relaxed, but we were always sure of our win. The previous Saturday IC fourths were soundly beaten by a team in division one - the same division as RSM and it is without question that RSM will struggle, and they will probably get relegated, what a shame! RSM should disband and stick to what they do best as is epitomised by the song about their picks and shovels. All good fun though!

For the record David and Adam scored quality goals. Good luck RSM and see you in division two next year.

ICFC IV Select XI 2 - 1 RSM I

eventually triumphed 12-8. With the number of new players available this year the future looks bright for the two teams.

IC A-team 6 - Bristol A-team 14

IC B-team 12 - Bristol B-team 8

ICHC I v RFH I

The game started in high spirits after our resounding victory against Kings, however the medics proved a little more of a handful. Hindered by injuries, the B-team turned out for a ruff-in-the-jungle puntang pounding. Lucky for us Rentboy was back from his horrendous dance injury and in top form as he led as mid-field general, until he was mortally wounded and came off. Scoring was again opened by inspirational captain Chicken bol, to be followed up by a solo run by 2.4 inches, deftly placed into the bottom left hand of the net after a one-on-one with the keeper. A small defensive error led to two goals being conceded.

ICHC 2 - 2 Royal Free Hospital

QMW I v ICFC I

Superstar Amo, subject of a \$300 bid from Bury, and Steve Fleming were missing but it was a game we should have won. Alex Marcos and Warren Tube wasted several chances before QMW scored. Nak Tipp - who had a decent 2nd half for Imperial - was booked, while QMW should have had both their strikers sent off. In the 2nd half IC pushed forward for an equaliser after Mikael Askerdal replaced Adam Butcher, and Psycho, the hero from the UCL Cup game, somehow managed not to score from 3 yards out in the final minute.

QMW I 1 - 0 ICAFC I

Results

Hockey

IC Ladies' 2 vs 4 St Mary's

Rugby

IC 1st 18 vs 18 UCH 1st

IC 2nd 5 vs 19 UCH 2nd

IC 3rd 0 vs 32 SOAS

Football

IC 1st 1 vs 1 LSE 1st

IC 2nd 3 vs 1 LSE 2nd

IC 3rd 4 vs 1 LSE 3rd

IC 4th 0 vs 2 LSE 4th

IC 5th 3 vs 2 LSE 5th

Canoe Polo

IC 2 vs 15 ULU

Snooker

IC A-team 6 vs Bristol A-team 14

IC B-team 12 vs Bristol B-team 8

Golf

IC 2 - 4 Royal Holloway



More hospitalization for footballers

ICFC II St GEORGE'S

We had it all planned before the game: let them take the lead to tempt them into a false sense of security, and then wipe the floor with them. Things went even better than we had planned – we appeared flaccid in all departments, and gave them a commanding lead of two-nil. Dan helped one of their midfielders to the ground after being tackled nastily from behind, but James the ref let them both off with yellow cards. We appeared incompetent and frustrated, with an inability to finish anything off up front: they had fallen perfectly into our trap.

Within five minutes of the start of the second half, the worm turned. Felix slammed home a tantalising cross from Pete, and the floodgates opened. Our midfield came alive and ran rings around George's, sweeping forward and giving the George's keeper the heebie-jeebies. Penetrating runs from the centre of the pitch gave Steve his chance to put one away from the edge of the box, which he did with aplomb. Tony followed suit, leaving their keeper floundering as the ball rippled the side-netting. Our destruction of the enemy was complete when Steve struck again from just inside the area. An attack of nerves struck our forwards, neither of whom managed to score. If Martin's goal drought doesn't end soon, we may have to hire a psychotherapist....

A commanding second half performance, despite five regulars being absent, shows that Dan's army continues to march forward, taking no prisoners.

Tragically, captain Dan was taken to hospital during training with suspected ankle ligament damage. Get well soon, Dan.

ICFC II 4 - 2 St George's I

St BART'S III v ICFC VI

Following an (unpublicised) 12 - 0 victory over St George's III, the team went into this match brimming with confidence. Starting the match off with our usual long ball tactics (well, we are the 6th team), resulted in a superbly executed run-away goal from Banksy. Voices

ICFC V v St BART'S II

12:30 on Saturday and IC fifths had a rather pathetic turnout of six players and Jimmy (captain) was looking concerned. But by one o'clock we had 10 fifth team players and a random borrowed from the sixths squad. IC started badly and rapidly conceded two goals, blaming them on the wind, bright sun and general bad luck. But the fifths' fighting spirit showed through and the tide started to turn our way. With half time looming Kublai was put through on the left. Fighting off a challenge from a defender and with the keeper running out to dive at his feet Kublai struck the ball over the keeper and just inside the left post to put IC back in the match.

In the second half Barts were beginning to get frustrated and playing dirty, but the fifths' gave as good as they got and play raged from one end to the other.

Staunch defending from Nick, Mark, Dan and especially Malcolm, aided by a hard working defence kept Barts from scoring and before long Kublai got the equaliser in a goal mouth scramble. Both teams were now getting closer and closer to scoring a winner with only lightning fast reflexes of the keepers and defenders clearing the ball off the line keeping the score level. Neil could have scored but for an unbelievable save from their keeper and Jimmy managed to stop two Barts shots that looked certain to score. The fast pace was upheld right up to the end of the match but at the whistle the result was a draw, testimony to a very closely balanced, exciting match.

The fifths showed their excellent character and spirit in coming back for a draw, and are now doing well in their league.

ICFC V 2 - 2 SBLH II

were heard in the IC team suggesting a possible 13-0 win. These comments proved a bit optimistic.

In spite of our technical superiority, St Bart's tactics of fouls, intimidation and violence 'earned' them a 2-1 victory. Training this week will be three hours of unarmed combat techniques (taken by Chirag).

St Bart's III 2 - 1 ICFC VI

Shooting stars

On Saturday, 8 November, ICRPC's first clay pigeon shooting expedition of the year took place. Nineteen members, many of whom had never before shot clays

the coveted ICRPC wooden spoon for the second year running, thanks to his special TATACEAP (Throw A Tantrum And Call Everyone A P**f) training programme. Anonymous



IC shooters display their limp weapons just after shooting their load

travelled to Hawley to enjoy a full day's shooting. Scores varied from embarrassingly low to infuriatingly good, with particularly good shooting from Ed and Rupert (bit of a surprise there). Rupert had the opportunity to use his new Merkel shotgun. It performed remarkably well. Especially considering that he got it for £15 from some bloke he met down the pub and it only has a three inch, sawn off barrel. Markos Dakalakalakapopoudopoulos won

quote of the trip: "The trouble with M----- is that he's simply not British". All participants had a splendid time, despite the odd bruised shoulder. Ask them if you don't believe me. Anyone wanting to join the next trip on Saturday 18 November should come and see us at the Shooting Range in the IC Sports Centre on Wednesday afternoon or Saturday from 11 in the morning. Everyone is welcome, regardless of previous experience.

It's grim up North for hardy cyclists

On Saturday 25th October, 3 members of the cycling club left the smoggy air of London and headed for Derbyshire to take part in the BUSA hill climb tree trial champs. Arriving early, Kimbal, Tarik and Rob drove up the course. As the car struggled up the gradient, the trio were struck by a sudden feeling of terror and a realization that their bikes were overgeared. The climb was well over a mile long and rose over 200m. Kimbal was the first off and despite pulling his foot out of the pedal half way up, set a competitive time. Rob was next to go and was thankful for a light bike as

being one of the heaviest of the field put him at a disadvantage. A valiant effort saw Rob complete the climb in a respectable time. Last off was Tarik. His tactic of taking the first half steadily and sprinting the second soon went out of the window as he discovered that the climb was a real challenge from the word go. Tarik crossed the finish in 7:00 minutes, 15 seconds slower than Kimbal whose time placed him in the top third of the field. After a complimentary pint in the pub, the three headed for home. Anyone interested in training and competing for the club, contact t.djed-dour@ic.ac.uk.