



THE MELT DOWN

DIRTY MONEY

Corruption, Oil and Your Degree

NEW BOND FILM

Read It Here First

FEATURE

Ethics and Space Travel

Chemistry Computer Meltdown

ANDREW OFORI

Sparks flew this week in the Chemistry Two building as an electrical fault resulted in a power surge throughout the first floor mains system. On Sunday 16th November at around 7pm all lights on the first floor of the building began to flicker and blow; the air conditioning system failed; dormant electrical appliances eerily switched themselves on and the culmination came with the explosion of electrical equipment.

The College's electricians carried out extensive work to restore power to the devastated first floor. The power surge caused substantial damage and in the aftermath, it became apparent there was a fundamental flaw in the mains system. It is believed there was a short in the riser that supplies the first floor and as a result 415V (compared with the 240V domestic maximum) energised the neutral wires in the mains system, rendering many areas of the floor extremely hazardous. Fortunately there were no casualties.

Dr Rzepa, the incident's sole witness, is now responsible for the complex task of replacing destroyed computer equipment. He described the current cost of the damage as "a five figure

value"; but the amount seems to be rising daily as comprehensive damage reports are submitted to the department.

The college, which is insured, is now embroiled in legal discussions

to establish responsibility, aided by a number of safety inspection reports from various parties. It is believed that the fault is likely to be due to sub-standard installation or *continued on page four*

Mine's a large one



Out with the old, in with the new: after a record seventeen months in office Eric Allsop (right) handed over the ICU Presidency to Andrew Heeps at an exclusive soiree last Friday. Photo: Seeta Rajani

The Music Newspaper at Imperial College

Issue 1101
5 December 1997

Library Annexed by SOAS Students

JEREMY THOMSON

Students at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), part of London University, have seized control of their library and are running it themselves to provide twenty-four hour access. The students, who first occupied the building on 20th November are now facing a court order to evict them.

They are protesting against the dwindling availability of the main UL library, Senate House, to SOAS stu-

dents. They see access to the Senate House collection as essential to their studies, but the college, which has to pay over £70 for each library pass, claims that they can no longer afford enough passes. The protest was launched by the SOAS student union, who have given overwhelming support to the action in two separate votes.

Around fifty protestors are living in the building and are running all the usual services, with the exception of the loan system - books cannot be removed for fear

of theft. One activist described the conditions inside: "I'm feeling as though I've slept in a hedge... It's very bright and surprisingly busy... You close your eyes for a split second and someone wakes you to tell you that it's your turn to do... horror of horrors... reshelving."

The students have been receiving support from many student unions. They are viewing the sit-in as a general protest against falling university funding, and there are rumours that they are considering occupying Senate House itself.



JCB Causes Power "Chaos"

ANDREW OFORI

After the devastating power surge of 16 November, the hapless Chemistry department has once again been afflicted with electrical problems. Before 9am on Monday the RCS1 building was suddenly cloaked in darkness. The cause was soon traced to sub-contractors on the BMS building site who had still failed to notice the fact they had grazed the electric mains feed to RCS1.

The company responsible for the BMS building venture, Schal, had informed the sub-contractors of the presence of power lines in the area they were excavating and advised them to dig to a safe level

using the JCB digger and then finish the task by hand, as is common building practice. Unfortunately the sub-contractors attempted to complete the excavation using just the JCB and consequently struck a power line. As news of the 'black-out' spread to the building site and the cause was established, the JCB driver and his guide were dismissed off site and replaced.

Chris Sousman, the building supervisor from the Chemistry department, described the situation that ensued in RCS1 as "chaos". Due to the lack of electrical equipment to control experiments as well as the loss of lighting, the building was evacuated and sealed. Morning lectures for the

chemists were moved to the Civil Engineering building. The major damage caused as a result of the incident extended to: disruptions to timetables, ruined experiments, degraded or destroyed samples and lost computer data.

London Electricity Board had repaired the damage by 4pm on Monday. Ian Gillett, IC's Safety Officer, carried out a full safety inspection before the power was eventually switched back on at 8.30am on Tuesday. He stated that disruption to the department had been kept to a minimum, but added he was unable to assess how severely safety levels were compromised until the incident's full effects had been evaluated.



Illustration: Stavros Polyviou

Labour MP Talks

PATRICK HAYES

On Tuesday 2nd December, Imperial College Labour Club played host to Tony Wright, MP for Cannock Chase, and chair of the Constitutional Affairs Select Committee.

He spoke of "the dramatic change which the Labour Party has undergone in recent years, with the party bouncing back from the election defeat of 1992". He also referred to a new, third way in politics, often called the "Radical Centre", speaking of the decline of the 1980s market doctrine and Thatcherism, and the waning of a public belief in the old left's idea that "a bigger state is a better

state" describing this as "not sustainable." He concluded saying Labour must use its huge majority to drive the country through this period of "radical uncertainty" ahead of the millennium.

He then faced stiff questioning from the audience on a range of topics including the issue of benefits for single mothers. On this point he reinforced the government's determination to end the "dependency culture," adding that additional money had been made available by Gordon Brown to help lone parents into work. Mr Wright's last point was that New Labour was built on Old Labour values but with coherent positions which people could understand.

Conservative MP Talks

VERONIQUE NEVEUX

On Wednesday, Sir George Young, shadow defence minister, addressed an audience of twenty-one people at a meeting in the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Invited by the ICU Conservative Society, Sir George spoke out against Tony Blair and his 'New Labour' party, describing the cabinet as a "Pernicious cocktail". Issues such as European Union and privatisation were also raised during the talk.

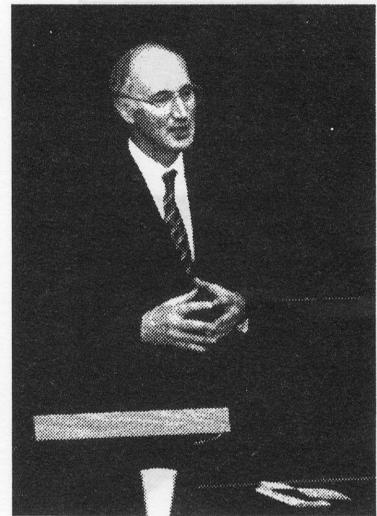


Photo: Veronique Neveux

Imperial Students Fall Victim to Conmen

FELIX NEWS TEAM

Felix has learned that professional confidence tricksters operating around London are targeting foreign students at train and bus stations. At least three IC students have been ripped off this term, and have lost up to £100 each.

The men are adopting a cunning guise, posing as professionals claiming to have been mugged and needing a loan.

One of the victims was approached whilst walking in Earl's

Court on the evening of Monday 17th November. The victim described the incident as follows:

"I was stopped by an upper middle class looking, tall, slim white man wearing a grey suit and aged between thirty-five and forty. He asked me the way to Edgware Road to get to the M1. Looking very tired, he informed me that he had been mugged in Heathrow by two black youths and he had reported it to the police and that he had been walking since 8pm. He said that they took his money, his ticket and bag so now he was going

to hitchhike from the M1. He said he was a professional golfer and played for Scotland and teaches golf in London and usually flies from London to Edinburgh. He told me that he was a devout Christian and would return the money in two days' time on Wednesday"

Convinced by the man's story and appearance the victim gave the man £100. In return he was given an address and telephone number which later proved to be false.

"I reported it to the police and they informed me that this kind of thing was common in London. I

could not believe my stupidity at being conned like this but on talking to other people I realised that this also happened to many other people when they initially came to London."

The man was described as "smartly dressed wearing a grey trousers, black shoes, a grey blazer and a pink shirt. He had brownish hair with a parting from the side. The hair was 1.5 inches long, he was not bald. He did not carry a bag or anything else and had a Scottish accent."



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Beverly Foo, Associate

Beverly joined as a financial analyst after graduating. She has worked in the Mergers and Acquisitions and Corporate Finance departments in both London and Hong Kong.



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Simon Merchant, Senior Associate

Simon's analyst years were spent in the Real Estate group and the Mergers and Acquisitions department in both London and San Francisco.



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LOCAL INSIGHT INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

Beatriz Reyero-Del-Rio, Financial Analyst

Beatriz spent her first year working in Equity Capital Markets and has now moved to the Mergers and Acquisitions department.



"In my first year I worked on the US\$4.5bn privatisation of the Spanish company, Telefonica, working out of London and Madrid. Everyday I am faced with new challenges and am rewarded with greater responsibility."

Jason Windsor, Financial Analyst

After one year based in London working with our Corporate Finance and Mergers and Acquisitions departments, Jason moved to the Singapore Office.



"In Singapore I gained diverse experience working on energy and infrastructure projects both with governments and private corporates."

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 Canary Wharf
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www.ms.com

Deadline for applications 12th December, 1997

MORGAN STANLEY





BUSA controversy

JEREMY THOMSON

Imperial College Union Council is likely to have its most lively meeting this year when it convenes on Tuesday.

The controversy has arisen over entries to BUSA (the British Universities Sports Association), the backbone of inter-university sports competition. In recent years, St Mary's Medical School has registered separately from Imperial College, but this is now in debate. Eric Allsop (ex-president of ICU) and Katie Armstrong (President of ICSMU) have submitted conflicting motions to council, with Mr Allsop recommending a

move to single entry and the medical officer hoping to field a separate ICSM team.

Captains of all sports teams have been requested to attend and a large delegation is expected from the medical campuses. Due to the expected size of the meeting and the strength of opinions involved, ICU is considering drafting in extra stewards to maintain order.

Felix has also heard that the new president of the Royal College of Science Union, Helen-Louise Windsor, will be tabling a motion to forbid smoking during the meeting.

The meeting will be held at 6pm in the Union Dining Hall and is open to all students.

Chemistry Meltdown

from front page

inadequate maintenance, but the status of talks is being kept confidential.

A number of subsequent surveys have been carried out on the whole electrical system of Chem 2, in order to reaffirm safety levels that were previously taken for granted. Thermal imaging has been employed to identify any hotspots within the system, as they signify dangerously high levels of current. The unofficial conclusion of this analysis gives the building a

clean bill of health.

Maintenance manager, Chas Guirey explained how arrangements are being made to have a full visual inspection of the system in the near future. This will involve isolating each floor and manually surveying all electrical routes. This practice usually takes place every six years, but has been moved forward by two years in order to ensure high standards of safety; it is presumed there will be no faults found as a result of this inspection.



World AIDS day was marked on Monday 1st by a now traditional red ribbon mounted on the front of the union building. The day featured information stalls and the sale of red ribbons. Photo: Ivan Chan

News in Brief

SOUTHSIDE BRAWL

A fight which broke out in Southside bar on Friday 21st has led to the bar management enforcing their rules on not allowing any outside members into the bar.

The events of the night started when the bar opened at 5pm with five or six men were waiting at the bar. The men were approached by Gareth Parry, Senior Barman, who suspected that they were outside contractors. They replied saying that they were Imperial College Gardeners, and were taken on their word when they failed to produce identification. Mr Parry was warned later that night by a drinker in the bar that the men were starting to get loud, who decided it best not to approach them at the time. The next time that Mr Parry's attention was drawn was when one of the students in the bar came out from around the pool table bleeding heavily as a result of a split nose, according to Mr Parry, after being head butted by one of the men. The bar staff then proceeded to eject the party from the bar. The student then went to the toilet with one of the bar staff and returned apparently OK, although he was taken to hospital by his worried friends.

Although the incident was isolated Mr Parry has advised all his

staff that no contractors are allowed on the premises. The incident is still under investigation by college security, but is being hindered by a veil of silence that has fallen over the incident, and also the fact that the identity of the party has not been established.

ELECTRONIC LOCKS LEAVE ROOMS INSECURE

It has emerged that a few of the new locks which were recently fitted in Beit Hall could be opened using an Imperial College Union card.

The new system uses cards that contain electronic information which then opens the lock, but due to bad fitting and the design of the locks and frames it was possible to open the locks by sliding a flexible card between the door and frame and forcing the lock to open. The fault was first discovered by one of the residents and was reported to the wardens who acted quickly to resolve the problem. All the locks have now been checked and the faults have been repaired.

The locks were put in to increase the security of the rooms as any lost keys would not result in the re-fitting of a new lock but simply reprogramming it.

Wanted

University News Researcher

Correspondent needed to investigate news stories at other universities. You would be expected to read student newspapers, both in print and on the web and regularly contact the editors of key publications, and check the national press. You would also need to attend the news meetings (12.30pm Fridays and 2pm Tuesdays). If you are interested, please contact the Felix office on (0171 59)48072 or felix@ic.ac.uk, or come and see us in the office.

Wanted

World News Researcher

Enthusiastic writer needed for a new section. The job, which would take around five hours per week, will involve researching international press for the week (written and world wide web) for stories of interest to students. The stories can then be prepared yourself or passed on to the news team for production. If you are interested, please contact the Felix office on (0171 59)48072 or felix@ic.ac.uk, or come and see us in the office.



FELIX

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Letters to Felix...

OH NO, NOT YOU AGAIN

Dear Jeremy,

I do not wish to be one of those people who writes in every week just for the sake of it. However I feel that the comments that Simon Baker made in this weeks Felix are offensive and as there is no way that people he insults can reply without going through you an uncomfortable situation arises. For the record Charing Cross had the best finals results in London and was ranked one of the top medical schools in the country before the merger. This is exactly why College wanted us to be part of Imperial in the first place.

To say that Charing Cross medics are unsophisticated and need raising to the South Kensington academic standard proves that he has not made any effort to get to know anyone at either of the medical schools and is just writing rubbish as he grinds his own peculiar and very personal axe.

What his motivation for these articles is I do not know. I have no objection to having anything said about me provided that some of what is said is true.

If Simon wants to come over to Charing Cross some time he would be very welcome and then, after that, if he still feels the same way then he is at least writing from a position of knowledge instead of the position of ignorance that he currently occupies.

Yours sincerely,
Nick Newton, ICSM

SORRY, NOT.

Dear Lads

I am writing to apologise for the appalling play and total lack of professionalism that I demonstrated last Wednesday. In particular the series of events leading up to the third and decisive goal at the end of the second half. I realise that such poor judgement and skilllessness has no place in the third team and I can make no excuses. I can only hope that you can all find it in your hearts to forgive me.

Sadly, the Dean heard about the event and explained that, as the college has no room for amateurs, I have been expelled. The

Home Office has informed me that they are considering deportation pending a "substantial and immediate increase in skill", my parents refuse to talk to me and unfortunately, the UN has since revoked my human rights.

Maybe there is some justice in the world after all.

Yours Faithfully,
Steve Cram

USS ENTERPRISE

Dear Felix,

I was sorry to read in issue 1098 that your regular columnist Simon Baker does not have much time for ethical investments. That is his business but I would like to correct him on a factual error. The USS pension scheme is guaranteed in the sense that the pension receives is a fixed proportion of salary on retirement, not simply a guaranteed minimum.

Yours, Tom Hay

PROJECTILE MOTION?

Dear Felix,

I have recently heard (through an unofficial channel) that a certain lecturer in a certain department is having trouble disciplining his first-year lecturees, to the extent that they have started throwing missiles at him.

You would think that those at university might have grown up sufficiently to avoid this sort of childish behaviour. Having seen the same sort of thing at school, I know how disheartening it would be for the individual in question.

In addition to this, those who wish to gain something positive from the lectures are unable to do so. I think that some penal system should exist whereby these jokers might be punished.

Yours faithfully
Random Second Year

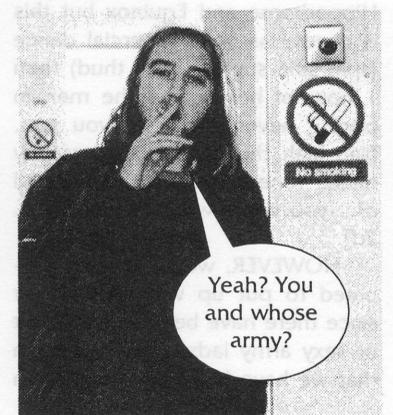
FAGS

Dear Felix,

As a non-smoker I enjoy the benefits of living longer, not having yellow teeth and nails, not suffering from bad breath and reduced chance of lung cancer and heart disease. I also do not make others

around me suffer by allowing them to inhale my smoke. The Junior Common Room is a non-smoking area in the college and there are plenty of signs that say this. However, as stupid as smokers are, they seem not to be able to read nor understand these simple symbolic messages. I would like to remind smokers that the only way they can light up in the JCR is if someone douses them with petrol and sets them on fire.

S Basith, I.S.E Year 4



A SEX-MAD RAVING LOONY WRITES...

Hellooo!

It's about bloody time there's club reviews in Felix I thought I was going to pass out from waiting soooo long but all this underground stuff!

What about commercial, commercial, COMMERCIAL? What about normal clubs like you get back home (you know £5 to get in, get pissed out of your face and pull some gorgeous bloke - well with a face like mine, who wouldn't - ha ha ha).

Whatabout cheesy chart? Like everybody... yeah yeah... rock your body... (I can just hear the music as I write ha ha and who you are... what you did... I don't care... as long as you love me... and let's go around again... [many more examples followed - Ed]

Don't get me wrong - me and my mate love clubbing too (Cream - Amnesia, Privilege, Es Paradis... yes we've been there) but ALRIGHT! We already know about the superclubs and the different



types of music - we're just getting so pissed off with house, garage, techo blah blah every weekend, it's like Strawberry Sundae? Frisky? Peach? Er I don't think! Yeah cheers thanks alot! We can't be doing with 6 hours of fucking thud thud thud every weekend - it gets sooooo fucking boring.

You may laugh but just think of those georgeous blokes in all those cheesy clubs out there. I mean people go to serious clubs to dance - we love dancing but there just ain't no chance to pull and get pissed. It's like yeah cheers thanks a lot, Move it! Ha Ha Ha.

Everyone knows about the Hippodrome and Equinox but this is cheesy as in commercial dance (spin spin sugar... thud thud) then 1 hour of here come the men in black... never gonna let you go... blah blah then 2 hours of crappy dance tunes that just ain't heard of... you know what I mean. [No. Ed]

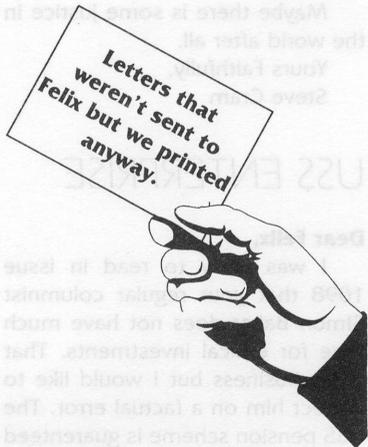
HOWEVER, we have been prepared to put up with this so far since there have been a regular lot of sexy army lads mmmmmmm that we have been aquainted with

(good word).

So before this turns into an essay, give us cheesy now! ha ha ha ha ha ha Hang on a minute , some sexy bloke has just walked in..... mmm yeah cheers thanks a lot!

Er, I think I'll be ANON ha ha ha.

PS. This is a serious letter so you'd better print it!



Dear Felix,

In lieu of the recent ICU Presidential election we at MS thought that a few facts should be put Into perspective. Combined as

we now are St Mary's and Charing Cross and Westminster Medical schools have approximately 1100 students and taking into account the number of people on elective or residency it is closer to 1000. Out of these 1000 people, there were more than 700 votes cast and even us inumerate medical students can work out that this equates to a 70% turn out. IC non-medics however, of which there about 7000, still only managed to equal the medics with about 700 votes also, again with these easy numbers it is clear to see that there was only a 10% turn out. Now there is only one way to say this to you guys (and girls) over there... you are pants!

So, does this mean the beginning of the end for IC? If this result means that we as medics are 7 times more motivated than non-medics on issues such as Student Union affairs can this be extrapolated into other areas of IC? An

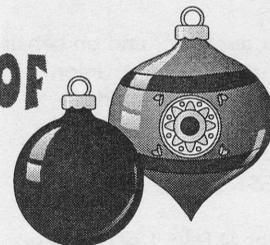
Interesting fact that you might not be aware of is that the average annual intake into any single academic course at IC is around 30 students on the other hand next year the intake into ICSM will be just over 300 which means that by the year 2002 there will be nearly 2000 medics at IC. With this number of students each with 7 times the motivation than their non-medic counter parts is there any hope left for IC? Well I'll leave this tricky one up to your imagination but what I will say to you is don't worry about being swallowed up by IC.

P.S. Enjoy the rest of your education at Imperial College of Medicine, Science and Technology.

Tom
Editor, Marmalade Sandwich

Deadline for letters is 6pm Tuesday. Letters may be edited for length and insulting bylines added, 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.

CHRISTMAS IS MORE THAN A LOAD OF SHOW SOMEONE YOU CARE.....

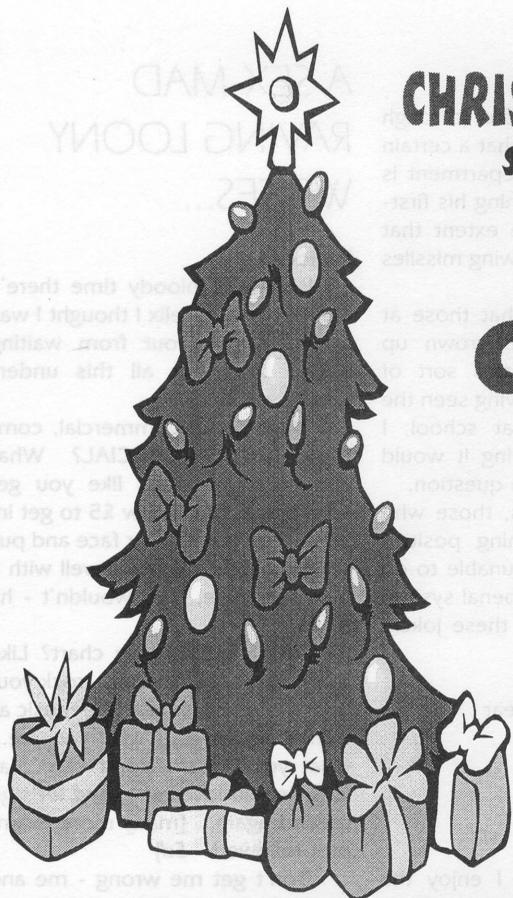


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To book your free place, call Liliane on (0171 59)49381

SEE FRANK SKINNER LIVE

Totally

free!

Midland Bank are giving away 100 double tickets for his Battersea show on Monday 8 December.

The first hundred people to visit the union lobby at 1pm today, with a carnival ticket, union curry, or union receipt will get these free tickets. Get a move on!

Editorial

There's more at stake than the BUSA entry at this Tuesday's council. It is the first real test of whether medical students can get what they want from ICU on its own terms. There's no question this time of any kind of block voting or subversive tactics; the vote will ultimately be decided by council members, many of whom are medical students who got their positions fair and square at the beginning of the year.

The result will be even more decisive because the conflicting motions both have a lot of weight behind them - one written by the president of ICSM and the other by the ex-president of ICU. Ultimately, though, it is the motion that is tabled first that stands the most chance of success, as a decision on the first motion renders the second obsolete. As it stands, Katie Armstrong has got her proposal submitted well ahead of Eric Allsop, so unless Eric can employ some arcane procedure to rearrange the order, a moral victory has already been won by the medics.

The downside of these more esoteric victories is the loss of focus on the real issue; what happens to the sports clubs. Should a double entry be approved, some clubs would be forced to split their teams, which could dramatically affect their performance. So what? Well, I certainly have a lot of sympathy for the unfortunate who has to explain to the Rector why his beloved boat club is suddenly left nowhere in the league.

In the end, it is the medical clubs that have the most to gain if they win - and I rather hope they do.

Felix, with its keen sense of smell, has detected a faint whiff of dissent drifting over from Suite five. Certain new puppies seem to be suggesting a de-clawing for the honourable cat. I might take the chance to remind them that the old moggy may react very badly to cages and visits to the vet. You don't survive as a street cat for 48 years without learning a trick or two.

College Christmas Carol Service

A candle-lit service will take place in the Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road (next to the Union) at 6pm.

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served afterwards.

HAIR NEWS HAIR NEWS HAIR NEWS

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Small Ads

Be on Television!

New Channel 4 show 'The Sundays' requires a small but select audience. The live broadcast, hosted by Melvin Bragg, will examine the Sunday newspapers. Starts 10.30pm, Saturday 13 December. Contact Paul Marinko on 0171 261 3040.

Wanted - Blankets

Community Action Group are collection blankets for distribution to London's homeless. If you have any to donate, contact CAG at community.action@ic.ac.uk

Mr or Miss X Needed

To join a five-person seven-week mountaineering expedition to the Rolwaling Himalaya in Nepal next October. Experience (eg a handful of alpine 4000ers under your belt) is essential, as is a laid-back attitude and access to around £1500. Contact Alan Geer on 47517 or a.geer@ic.ac.uk.

Brand New Oasis 'Be Here Now' CD for Sale £7 Pounds
Contact: olivier.pagni@ic.ac.uk

THE FELIX WEEK

MONDAY

Arts Meeting - 1pm. For all interested in exhibitions and theatre
Features Meeting - 1pm. If you want to write or layout features, take photographs, or just have an idea, come along. For all types.
Books - 1pm.

TUESDAY

Film Meeting - 12 noon.
News Meeting - 1pm. For all writers and researchers
Photography Meeting - 5pm
All photographers please attend

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Madness all day 9am - 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.
Music Meeting - 1.30pm. For all music reviewers.



You have escaped politics for a couple of weeks, so I'm afraid you'll have to indulge an old man for a few minutes. Is it me, or has young Mr Mandelson disappeared? A short time ago, the king of spin was omnipresent, but of late He seems to have vanished up his own rebuttal. By pure coincidence, wheels are falling off the New Labour bandwagon with all the drama of Nigel Mansell's Williams, an unfortunate analogy in the current circumstances. Mandelson is in the unfortunate position of being both invaluable and politically unacceptable. Such is the mastery of His brief (subverting the democratic process/running Britain), He has been a victim of His own success. Surely Mandy would have spotted Tobaccogate before it got messy. No doubt He would have known that cutting benefits to single mothers would enrage His back-benchers. At this rate, the growing signs of political arrogance should be reigned in by public disgruntlement. One can but hope.

I shall now do something that I rarely, if ever, do in this august journal. I shall say something nice about College Catering. I had the occasion to be at the 75th Anniversary Dinner of The '22 Club on Saturday. I must say that, save for a couple of minor glitches, Catering did a very good job. The food was good, as was the wine and the service. It just goes to show that this department can perform when it gets its act together. Many of the Catering staff moan that I always accentuate the bad points and ignore the achievements, but until you pay me a small retainer, I shall not act as your PR agent. However, when I eat a good meal cooked by you, I shall say so. As I just have.

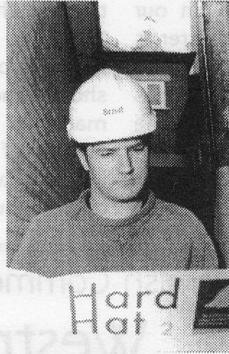
Being in the MDH, I could not

avoid the Ante Room, currently housing an 'exhibition' by two 'artists.' Though so much has already been said about this, I feel I should have my two 'penneth.

While I have no desire to meet the two talentless cretins responsible for this -inevitably at some point in its conception- utter waste of taxpayers' money, I would dearly love to meet the person that wrote the biographical sketches of these creative non-entities. To describe a video of a few peas and model sheep vibrating on a washing machine as 'immensely funny' indicates that he or she is peerlessly ironic or deeply disturbed (or the recipient of a back-hander). The Ante Room, after its recent refurbishment, has been raised from the status of a hovel to a fine venue. For it to be

used to accommodate such rubbish, bereft of any talent, is verging on the criminal. I am, as you all know, very broad-minded, ever-willing to embrace new ideas or thinking, but this is too much. A much better idea would be to obtain works of art from other collections. The Rector, for instance, could surely negotiate the loan of pieces from the vast MOD collection, given his long-standing association. While I am certainly keen on eighteenth century water-colours, Britain does have some very good contemporary artists. These muppets sadly are not in that category. As they say in Barnsley, I don't much about art, but I know what I like.

Simon Baker



Digs the Dirt



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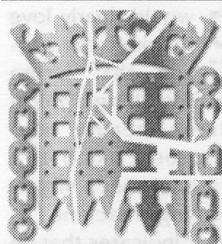
On Monday a new Electoral Reform Commission was appointed by Tony Blair. In the chair was Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, veteran Liberal and Chancellor of Oxford. The idea of reforming our electoral system seems good - it is surely ripe for improvement, the previous Government have sat on it during their lengthy reign. The 'first past the post' system whereby Members of Parliament are chosen from constituencies, each one electing the person who received most votes, causes many electoral reformers to wince. Our beloved Union even elects its officers by the Single Transferable Vote (if you want an explanation of that then ask at the Union). Public opinion is warming to the idea of change.

The only problem, in fact, with PR is a simple one. It doesn't work. It's not a new idea, despite what its proponents may say. It was mooted during the 1832 Reform Bill, and enacted in the 1867 Reform Act. Three member constituencies existed, with each elector having two votes, so the third seat could go to a minor party. In reality the dominant party instructed its supporters to spread their votes so it could grab all three seats. It caused such a political upset in the Commons that it was discarded. Purer forms of PR exist today, notably in New Zealand, Ireland, Israel, France and Germany. All have had their successes, but the failures are grave. Italy has just reformed its system to something

remarkably like the 'first past the post system', having had more governments in the last decade than we have had this century. The reason for this is the coalition problem, something that we don't have, due to the two party tradition and our particular constitution. In our government, the Prime Minister is in effect a temporary dictator, whose word becomes law. He is under continuous scrutiny, and the public can kick him and his government out after five years. This creates a 'strong executive' which

deserved, since the government obviously didn't get the mandate it required. However, small parties can exact a greater price. If they are big enough, or can band together to become big enough, their continued support may become essential for the government to rule. Take the 1977-79 Lib-Lab pact, where Scots and Welsh called the shots, and the Ulster Unionists managed even to increase the number of MPs they had representing the area. Governments that depend on coalition support have

who dissent against the party line may find themselves lower down the list next time - in some countries, being moved a place down the list is the standard punishment for MPs' 'misdemeanours'. This power will be retained from the smallest party to the largest. Under this system, MPs in the party's good books may not worry so much come election time. If high up on the list, they are almost guaranteed a seat. In the 'first past the post' system, because the swing in the chamber is far more pronounced than the swing in public opinion, you may find yourself out on your ear, as many Tories in former safe seats are adjusting to. Parties that take a mauling in this system, with no hope of power for a number of years, are more likely to critically examine themselves and try to change for the better than they would under a system that simply slapped them on the wrist (or the party could simply self-destruct, which not unknown). The other reason suggested for Labour's and the Lib Dem's PR idea is that there is a permanent left-of-centre consensus, which many believe would rule for ever if in power. PR would help this. The Tories said the same thing in the early eighties - look what happened to them. In reality, if the voter wants you out, there is no genuine electoral system on earth that will stop them.



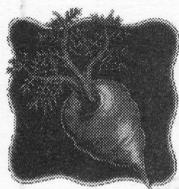
Hamish Common

Westminster Eye

means the PM and Cabinet can determine policy with only advice, their own conscience and public opinion determining it. In a coalition, minor parties lend their support in all government bills whether they like them or not, in order for a number of concessions. The concessions they exact would presume to be in proportion to the votes they receive. They may also demand ministerial positions. This would tie the hands of the government to particular policies, and cause any ministerial reshuffle to consider party affiliations over other considerations. This may be

historically shown to be unstable and unable to rule in the public interest, simply ruling to serve its own coalition partners - thereby betraying the very people who elected it.

The other, and perhaps more insidious problem with PR is the growth of the power of the Party. PR has become known as "Party Rules". Once you have some PR system, lists are required of candidates to fill seats, so when the seats are allocated, the party can take the top however-many people and 'issue' them with a seat. This creates a tremendous power. MPs



Burning Water

CARROT CAKE

This week's insight into culinary fantasia is really easy, really cheap, really healthy and really really tasty.

You will need:

- 6 oz (150 g) carrots
- 2 medium eggs
- 4 oz (100 g) demerara sugar
- 3 fl oz (80 ml) sunflower oil
- 4 oz (100 g) wholemeal self-raising flour

- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- or any multiple thereof.

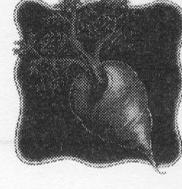
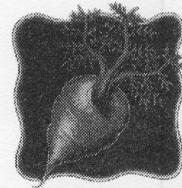
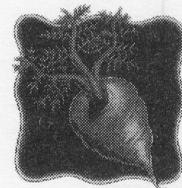
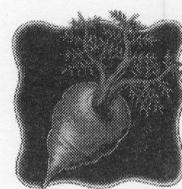
Grate the carrots using the prickly side of a cheese grater. Try not to grate the end of your fin-

gers as well but if you do, don't worry the blood won't spoil the flavour. In a large bowl mix the eggs and the sugar and whisk together with a fork until all the sugar has dissolved and the mixture has become slightly fluffy. Try to get as much air into it as possible by lifting the fork out of the liquid at each revolution. Now add the oil by pouring it into the bowl as a very thin trickle and whisking away vigorously at the same time. An extra pair of hands can be very useful at this stage. Once the oil is in, add the grated carrots and any juice they've produced and give it a quick stir. Finally, gently fold in the flour and spices. By folding, I mean deli-

cately scooping some mixture up from the bottom of the bowl and plonking it back on top until all the flour is just absorbed. The aim here is to keep as many air bubbles in the paste as possible which makes for a lovely light cake.

Now heavily grease and flour your favourite cake tin, pour in the slop and put in the oven, preheated to 375°F, 190°C, gas mark 5. The cake should take 20-25 minutes to cook. To check whether it's ready or not, poke a knife in the cake and pull it out. If the knife comes out clean, the cake is ready, if it comes out with bits attached, the cake is not. Sorted?

Antoine



**Sagittarius** (23/11 - 23/12)

The transitional Chariot suggests that you are about to embark on a physically challenging journey. The first step is always the hardest obstacle so be prepared to navigate against the flow in order to reach your point of destination. Be sure to act decisively as unproductive drifting only delays your progress.

Capricorn (24/12 - 20/1)

Following your impulsive instincts can often lead you into uncharted troubled waters. However, the presence of the illuminating Star throughout this week guides you towards reassuringly stable and comforting territories, allowing you to recuperate..

Aquarius (21/1 - 18/2)

A recent challenge facing your ruler Saturn is symbolised by the ambiguous Two of Pentacles. You have now reached a fundamental crossing in your perception of life, bearing significant consequences on your aura. There are always two sides to every coin, so reflect wisely upon your possibilities..

Pisces (19/2 - 20/3)

Whatever frustrates or disappoints you this week, there are no victims, only volunteers. The epicurean nature of your sign, highlighted by the rebellious Knight of Cups is endangering more subtle and sensitive aspects of your emotional life. Search for a natural balance by implementing moderate measures of discipline.

Aries (21/3 - 20/4)

Under the influence of the mysterious Queen of Wands, you discover that sometimes even incredible situations prove to be true. In general, life can be understood through the analysis of past events, but you must look towards the future to ascertain your true potential.

Horoscopes with Nana

Taurus (21/4 - 21/5)

The initiation of romantic liaisons and friendships during this week is revealed by the symbolic presence of the Lovers in your Earth sign. The sincere passion or sense of fulfilment in other domains intensifies your energy levels and restores failing health, contributing to an excited state of mind.

Gemini (22/5 - 21/6)

Constructive solitude, indicated by the lone Hermit, has a healing effect on your vulnerable and sensitive mood. Profound contemplation and the appreciation of soulful silences enables you to put your life into perspective by definitively marking the end of a recent disturbing chapter.

Cancer (22/6 - 22/7)

Jealousy is the sister of Love, just as the Devil was the brother of the Angels. The overpowering Three of Swords highlights a troubled period

of envy in your cycle. Without the clouds you fail to appreciate the radiant and uplifting sun, so have faith in the subsequent brightening of horizons.

Leo (23/7 - 23/8)

Wisdom is the governing force determining your pathway through life, however lately the ephemeral Wheel of Fortune has been bountiful with regard to your luck. Remain on your guard against the misleading thrills of hazard and risk.

Virgo (24/8 - 22/9)

Although commendable, excessive charity and generosity is detrimental to your person as caring for others distracts you from concentrating on private needs. The influence of the servile Page of Pentacles should be maintained yet somehow limited as the battles for noble issues monopolises your time.

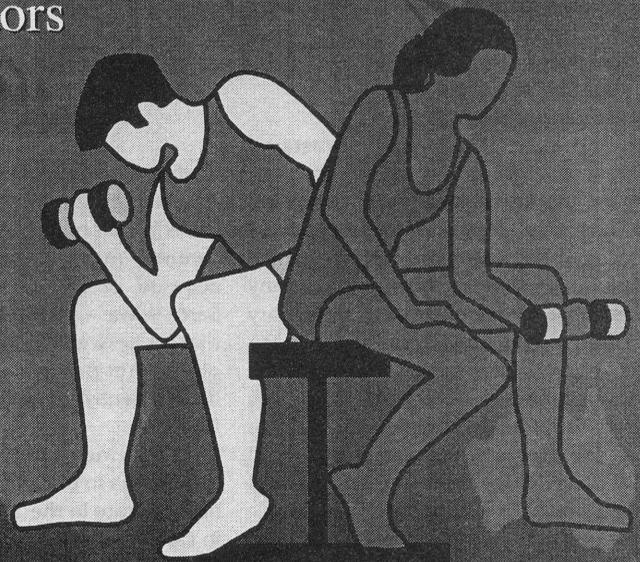
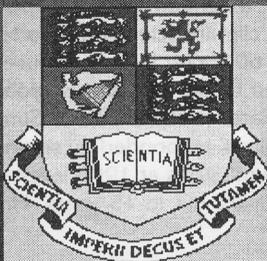
Libra (23/9 - 23/10)

Your blossoming lifestyle in conjunction with the growing phases of the moon appears overwhelmed by the rush of festive activity. The creative Ace of Wands grants you entertaining artistic powers, allowing you to express and comprehend your deepest sensations.

Scorpio (24/10 - 22/11)

Confrontation brewing between friends, signalled by the belligerent King of Swords, reflects looming shadows. Enforce diplomatic tactics to avoid dangerous aggravation of the situation. Remember that it's never later than midnight, so be prepared to swallow your pride and forgive or apologize.

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Crude on Campus

Roger Geffen reports on how IC is linked to Oil Companies, and why we should be worried about it.

This week in Kyoto, Governments from around the world are meeting to discuss climate change. They are taking part in the Third Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change. They have a mandate to set targets and timetables for limiting the emissions of greenhouse gases, as we enter the 21st century. Yet the prospects do not look good. The oil companies have waged a highly effective campaign to block effective political action. The industry is addicted to its enormous profits, and carries on regardless of the devastation it causes to the environment and to people, particularly in the Third World.

A week ago, a Nigerian dissident named Oronto Douglas visited Imperial College to give a talk about the oil industry. He was here to tell students what they – and Shell Oil in particular – are doing to his country. Oronto is a voice who Shell and the Nigerian dictatorship would dearly love to silence, as they silenced Ken Saro-Wiwa before him. That is why it was important to hear what Oronto had to say.

Nigeria is ruled by a military dictatorship, propped up by the oil money which forms 90% of its revenue – Shell accounts for nearly a half of this. For 30 years Shell has relentlessly polluted the Niger Delta and profited from its rich resources at the expense of local people. The tribes of the Delta once lived by farming and fishing. Then the oil companies came and laid high-pressure pipelines through their villages and across their fields. For fifteen years the Delta region suffered an average of four oil spills every week. Agricultural land is now contaminated and the rivers polluted with petroleum and oil. Fish stocks have been decimated and cholera is rife.

Exploratory and other work has devastated more rainforest, mangrove and wetland habitat, threatening the biodiversity of the Niger Delta. Shell operations have killed endangered species such as fishing owls, chimpanzees, manatees and pigmy hippos. Unsurprisingly, the company has found itself the target of protest. In January 1993, 300,000 Ogoni people (one of the many tribes of the Niger Delta) rallied against Shell. The company responded with frequent appeals to the country's notorious Mobile Police Force to stamp out the protests, but was soon forced to withdraw from Ogoniland. When General Abacha seized power in a coup later that year – annulling the results of recent elections and imprisoning the winner Chief Abiola – he set up a new Internal Security Task Force to carry out "ruthless military operations" against the Ogoni to reinstate "smooth economic activities" in the

region. The military began a campaign of terror against the Ogoni., including mutilations, gang-rapes and an estimated 1800 murders.

At about this time, four Ogoni elders were killed by security agents. Nine other Ogoni leaders, including the renowned writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, were subsequently arrested and charged with murdering the elders. The Ogoni Nine were imprisoned and tortured for nine months before being brought to trial before a kangaroo court in January 1995. They were hanged amid international condemnation on November 10th.

Shell claims to have no influence on Nigerian politics. Yet at one point the company sought to bribe Saro-Wiwa's brother with an offer to release Ken if MOSOP (the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People) called off its protests and declared that there was no environmental damage in Ogoniland. Moreover,

suddenly find their lands have been taken, the habitats on which they depend for food and sustenance are cut down, and their people are infected with diseases against which they have no immunity. The population of the Cofan peoples has been reduced from 70,000 to 30,000 in thirty years. Meanwhile the U'wa people in Columbia are threatening to commit mass suicide rather than allow Shell and Occidental to plunder their lands.

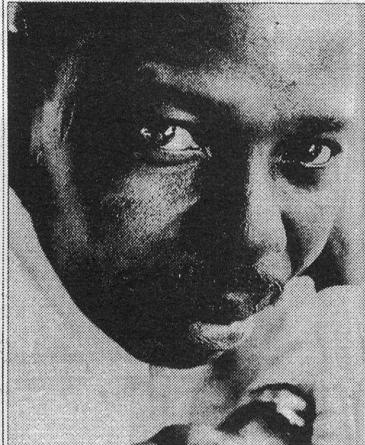
But even when operating in Western countries, the oil industry still causes a litany of destructive environmental impacts at every stage of the process. Exploration for oil involves seismic testing using vibrations and explosions, which drive whales from their feeding grounds and have been known to kill turtles in the Gulf of Suez. Marine extraction involves the release of 55,000 tonnes of oil into drill cuttings and muds, poisoning sea-bed ecosystems with arsenic, cadmium and mercury. Oil spillages during transport at sea are a routine occurrence.

Occasionally these hit the news when they occur close to environmentally sensitive coastlines. Oil refineries are major sources of air and water pollution. The city of Whiting in Indiana has a permanent layer of oil floating above its groundwater, thanks to the Amoco oil refinery there. Yet more problems arise from the disposal of redundant oil infrastructure – the case of Shell's Brent Spar oil platform epitomised the industry's lack of concern about where it dumps its rubbish.

Arguably, the most significant environmental impacts come from consumption of the industry's core products – fuel oil and petroleum. This produces a host of pollutant emissions, notably the toxic cocktail which spews out of the world's 500 million exhaust pipes. These cause a range of impacts on natural and built environments and on human health. The most worrying pollutant emission however is the one which causes no immediate damage whatsoever – carbon dioxide. Since pre-industrial times, concentrations of this greenhouse gas have increased from 280 to 350 parts per billion. This is almost certainly linked to the rise in average global temperatures which has taken place over the same period. In 1990, a United Nations-appointed panel of 2,500 climate scientists reported that an immediate 60% cut in greenhouse emissions was needed to prevent further global warming. Two years later at the Rio Earth Summit, the world's politicians' responded by setting a target to stabilise emissions at 1990 levels by 2005 – effectively a 0% cut in 15 years. However, very few

World fury as Nigeria sends writer to gallows

Ken Saro-Wiwa among nine hanged by military junta



STEVE CRAWSHAW
ACKNOWLEDGE
and KARL MAIER

Following appeals from around the world, Nigeria's military rulers yesterday hanged Ken Saro-Wiwa, the author and playwright, and eight other activists in the north-western state of Delta.

The state-owned News Agency of Nigeria reported all nine men were executed at around 10.30am local time. "It is all over," said Saro-Wiwa's wife, Hilda. Hundreds of people lined the streets in anticipation of the execution and wept uncontrollably when news officials came out with the news of the men's fate. They were hanged at the city cemetery.

The seven men heavily guarded by soldiers were hanged by trucks. Soldiers were also posted throughout the cemetery. Delta and Rivers states, and all major oil refineries around Nigeria.

The "Heritage Office" occupied the one known saying: "We are opposed to the execution of the nine men." The Prime Minister is at odds with his Commonwealth colleagues in demanding what further steps should be taken.

Execution was a fate that Saro-Wiwa repeatedly declined



Dictator: Gen Abacha has gone against world opinion

Message with the late Chief Kofor, then vice president, and Dr. Gbajelade, who quit the government because of what they regarded as Mr Saro-Wiwa's harsh tactics. Shell halted production saving its personnel were threatened.

At the same time, Nigerian security forces launched an operation designed to prevent strikes between the Ogoni and their neighbours. After the murder of the four chiefs in the village of Okrika by a mob of 400 men, the army attacked at least 40 villages.

Mr Saro-Wiwa, like many other pro-democracy campaigners, always opposed oil help from abroad. "I believe that money from the West, because after all they are the ones taking the oil, is their technology that brings the oil out of the ground, they will have to answer and we took the thing most easy," he said in a July 1995 interview from his hospital bed in their hometown.

The West reacts about elephants, they are the ones of their horns, and we they cannot we're they have to be doing."

Ken Saro-Wiwa was not to see such action in his lifetime. The West sponsored calls for economic sanctions, and the European Union's trade ban on military sales has had little effect.

The Independent front page, 11/11/95

Shell was recently forced to admit that it has provided both logistical and financial support to the Nigerian military, after years of denying this. Twenty more Ogoni prisoners await trial accused of the same murder charge as Ken Saro-Wiwa – 19 have been imprisoned without trial for between 2 and 3 years, in appalling conditions. Yet protests continue in Ogoniland, and have recently spread to other parts of the Niger Delta.

The same contempt for people and the environment is in evidence wherever the oil companies operate in the Third World. Whether it is BP in Columbia, Texaco in Ecuador, total in Burma, Mobil in Brazil – the details may vary but the basic picture is the same. Previously uncontacted indigenous peoples, who have lived in harmony with their jungle environments for genera-



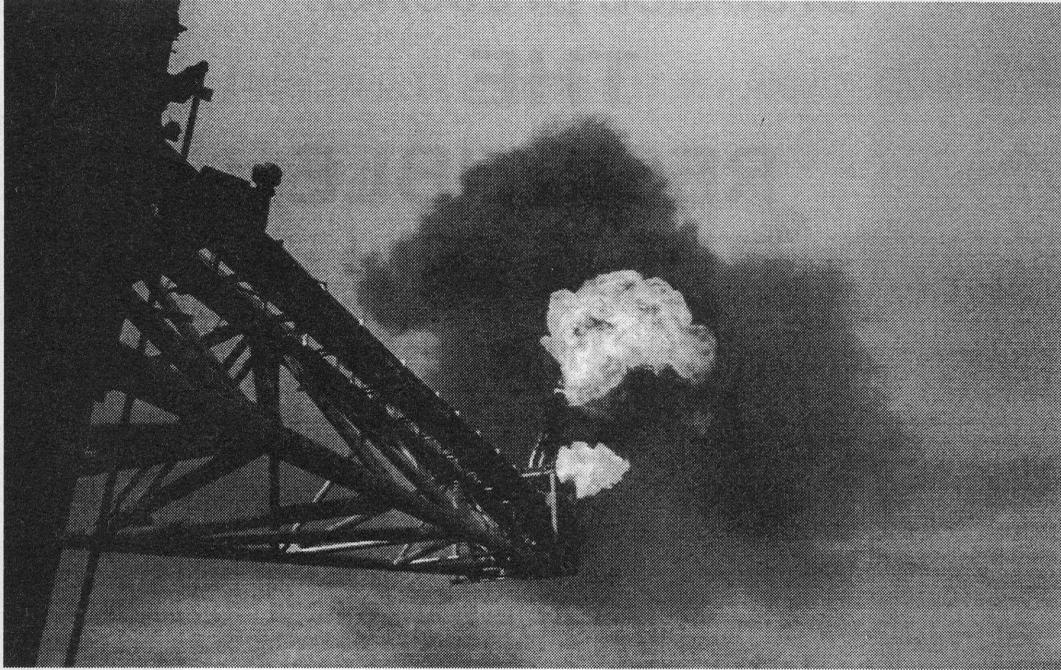
industrialised countries are likely to hit this target. Meanwhile the US Government look set to undermine even the limited progress made to date at the forthcoming Kyoto summit, following a massive lobbying campaign by oil-dominated industry PR groups. The best known of these – the terribly green-sounding “Global Climate Coalition” (GCC) – has spent \$60 million in the run-up to the climate summit.

Exxon, Chevron, Mobil, Texaco and Shell are all members, as are Ford, General Motors, the American Automobile Manufacturers' Association, Dow Chemicals and Union Carbide.

The methods used by groups like the GCC are: exploiting the uncertainties in the scientific debate on climate change, frightening the politicians with dire predictions about the costs of limiting greenhouse emissions and insist that the burden of responsibility for averting the problem lies with the third world – where most of the growth in future fuel consumption is expected – and not the industrialised world – which created problem in the first place.

This strategy is almost beneath contempt. But the confusion surrounding the scientific evidence probably does merit a few words. We know with certainty that our rate of greenhouse emissions far exceeds what our planet can absorb. Atmospheric greenhouse concentrations and hence global temperatures are therefore bound to rise – indeed, they would continue to do so for another 60 years even if we made that 60% cut tomorrow. And it is now pretty clearly established that man-made global warming has already started; the IPCC recently stated that “the balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on global climate.”

What we do not know for certain is how much or how quickly temperatures would rise in response to a given level of greenhouse emissions; nor what the effects these temperature rises would have on our climate systems. However, the best estimates from the IPCC and others predict average rises of 1.5 – 4.5 C if we continue with “business as usual”. This would increase the incidence of extreme weather events; ecosystems would collapse under the pace of change; tropical diseases would spread to traditionally cooler climates; millions would be displaced as environmental refugees due to



Unwanted gas from oil wells is ‘flared’, resulting in respiratory difficulties for locals and contributing to global warming.

famine, flooding and other disasters; wars over water would replace wars over oil.

The irony is that, as sea levels start to rise, the countries which have profited from causing the problem will be able to afford flood defences etc, whilst third world societies who still lead low-impact lifestyles will be least able to fend for themselves.

So what does the rector of Imperial College have to do with all this? Imperial College probably has closer links with the oil industry than any other higher education establishment in Great

The Rector of IC, Sir Ronald Oxburgh, is a non-executive director of Shell Transport and Trading.

Britain.

- IC is believed to carry out more than twice as many research projects for the oil industry as any other college;
- IC provides more recruits for the oil industry than any other college in Britain apart from Aberdeen and Robert Gordon Universities – both local to the North Sea oil fields;
- The Rector of IC, Sir Ronald Oxburgh, is a non-executive director of Shell Transport and Trading.

So when Oronto Douglas spoke to us last week, he was in effect telling us what our Rector's company is doing to his country.

Oil is an inherently destructive business. By accepting oil money, we as students become part of the problem. Our education and research is no longer a pure, value-free quest for knowledge. It is about serving the needs of an industry whose core activity involves claiming

ownership of a substance which has resided inside our planet for millions of millennia, extracting it, turning it into money and releasing it as pollution. Selling the free goods of the earth is bound to be enormously lucrative. And the lure of petro-dollars drives people to kill.

We should be researching the alternatives – wind, wave, biomass and particularly solar energy. Some will argue that renewables will never be

able to meet the growing demand from developing countries if they are to achieve their legitimate aspirations

to western standards of living. All the more reason to devote further research into methods of energy conservation, and on economic activities which are less demanding on energy.

The oil companies are exploiting the financial dependence of educational establishments resulting from the funding gap left by central government. Yet if Imperial College is to get out of its Faustian contract with the oil industry, we will undoubtedly need to ask how to replace the funding – just as many sporting bodies are having to do in the absence of tobacco sponsorship. There are several possible answers. We should use our influence with the oil companies to persuade them that there is no future in ever-increasing oil consumption, neither for them as businesses, nor for life on earth as we know it. We can make it clear that we will have no part in their plans for continued

growth into the 21st century; we can point out that future graduates will no longer be attracted to work for companies whose reputation is rapidly sinking to that of the once prestigious nuclear industry. On a more positive note, we could offer our expertise in helping them to research the renewable energy sources which have got to turn to in the future.

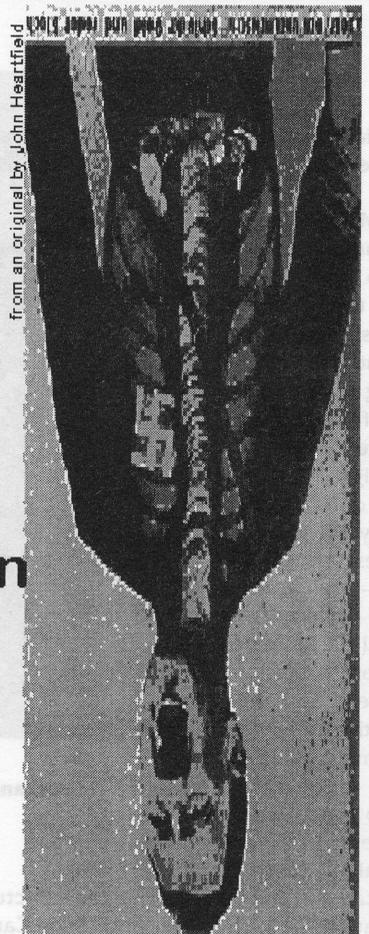
But continuing with the status quo is not an option. It is sometimes claimed that an oil-free future is “unrealistic”; the opposite is in fact the case. Continuing oil-exploitation is not only immoral from the point of view of the Third World; it is also an environmental impossibility. The future lies in a different direction, and we must choose it however much it may cost us in the short term.



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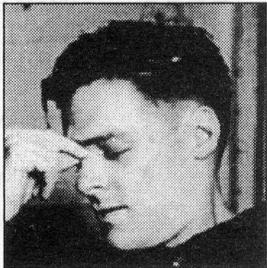
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Drink and sing (badly?!) to the sounds
of Jamie and his piano.*



ALBUMS

BRYAN ADAMS

Bryan Adams Unplugged ★★



Bryan Adams:
time for a
rest?

Bryan Adams; no introduction needed. If you haven't heard of him before, you're either pre-teen, foreign, or were living in some back-water village as *Everything I Do...* blasted record books left, right and centre. So, you will no doubt already have your own views as to his pros and cons. The question is whether or not this album is going to change any opinions.

This is an 'Unplugged' and generally this means an acoustic 'best of', but this is debatable. The name Bryan Adams goes hand in hand with songs like *Run to You* and the aforementioned *Everything I Do...*,

but unfortunately neither of these made it into the Unplugged session. However, *Summer of '69* did make it in, and what a rendition it was. Then things start becoming a little strange. Following rousing performances of *I'm Ready*, *Cuts Like a Knife*, and *Back to You*, comes *18 Til I Die* - but this one's dead on arrival. Over fancified by more strings than you can shake a stick at, it really wasn't written with violins and cellos in mind. Then, things get stranger still; Bryan Adams - country & western musician extraordinaire. What he's doing with *I Think About You* doesn't bear thinking about.

The characteristic guitar wielding Adams does come back for the final act, which includes the classic ballad *Heaven*.

Adams knows his fan base is pretty much carved in stone and with this he only seems to want to steal a few Michael Bolton followers. If you like Bryan Adams, you'll like this. If you're undecided, remember that this is really a 'best of' that doesn't contain all of his best. **M**

Derek

ADEVA

New Direction ★★

Adeva, the queen bee diva is back in town ready to sting a few souls with her latest album *New Direction*. She first appeared on the charts with her soulful presence with her single *Respect* and followed that up with her debut album *Adeva* which gave her platinum status in the U.K. That is all very interesting but what does her album sound like?

New Direction starts with the feel good factor of some commercial house tunes. There are a few boppin', movin', groovin' tracks but overall they all sound similar and lack musical variety. The whole tempo of the album then hits the brakes and switches on to the Soul Train sounds with the funky track *Don't Think About It*. This is a groovy laid back chilled track produced by the UK soul stars, D-Influence whose musical skills we're definitely feelin'. I was pleasantly surprised by this number but there was more to come with *Friday Night, Saturday Mourning* another tune to look out for. This is joint hip hop effort produced by Karl Gordon who comes out with a wicked boombastic classic track sounding similar to the sounds of Yvette Michelle and Funk Master

Flex. This definitely boosts the respectability of this album, showing how impressive Adeva's voice is with an R'n B flava. The album disappointingly finishes with yet another deflated garage tune, Nu Birth remix of *Don't Think About It*, lackin' severe inspiration. Adeva has got some appealing, funky sounds which are just raped by the majority of howling house tunes on this album. Looks like Queen Bee Adeva has just stung herself! **M**

Nim

COMPETITION WINNERS

The lucky winners of the Moby and Wildhearts T-shirt compos we ran a couple of weeks ago are,

Paris Deligiannakis (Comp 1)
Will Smith (ISE 3)

who knew that Richard hall is Moby's real name.

And the following win Wildhearts T-shirts for knowing that Honeycrack is an off-shoot of the Wildhearts.

N. Kent (Maths 2)
V. Bansal (Chem Eng PG2)
Paris Deligiannakis (Comp 1)

THA BOMBI - SOUL, HIP HOP AND R'N'B

Hey, how ya doin! Hope everyone feels good. Its that time of the week again, that Friday feeling. (A quick shout out to all the West Coast G's and now back to the column.) Last week I was feeling lazy and so you only got my top ten, this time round normal service has been resumed and you get the old style back and in full effect.

Going straight in to the news and happenings. I got some news that is gonna break some boys' hearts, the big bad mama Foxy Brown is officially engaged to be married to Dogg Pound member Kurupt. Foxy is currently touring stateside with The Firm as part of the Bad Boy tour, while Kurupt is in the studio, his last project was over seeing the highly successful *Gang Related Soundtrack*, which by the way is the bomb. Just released on the big screen is 'Nothing To Lose' starring Martin Lawrence & Tim Robins from what I been told this is funny but ain't nothing to write home about. In addition we also have 'Def Jams How To Be A Player' starring Bill Bellamy, this is pure crap, Bill Bellamy can't act for shit so save ya money and wait for the release of 'Soul Food', which is meant to be blow those two out of the water.

Back to the music and released this week is the new Salt'N'Pepe album *Brand New*. There's been a gap of about two/three years

since their last album *Very Necessary* and they have picked up where they left of, this LP is full of some first class stuff, and will undoubtedly spawn many successful singles. Next up is compilation tribute album *In Tha Beginning*, the album is described as a tribute to rap and is made up of covers of old rap classics. Featuring the likes of The Wu-Tang Clan, Snoop, Puffy, Cypress Hill, Bone Thugs, and more, just looking at the line up this is sure to be a success on some level. For all the soul men (and ladies) the essential buy for this week is the new Babyface joint, entitled *Face Unplugged*, just as it sounds this is the MTV unplugged gig he did in September. For those who don't know Babyface is Mr Soul himself, he has written for nearly every major soul/R&B artist, and it was he who penned the Boyz II Men hit 'I'll Make Love To You', which stayed at number one in the US for a record 17 weeks. On this Mister Babyface gets together with his friends and does the acoustic thing on all of his own classics and the classics he wrote. This is a must.

Time to move into singles territory. First up we got those Motown men, Boyz II Men, with *A Song For Mama* this is just as you would expect, the boys are masters on the vocals and the production is tight, but this wouldn't be my choice for the second single.

It's lifted from their album *Evolution* and for those trainspotters it was also showcased on the Soul Food Soundtrack. Dru Hill release their third single *5 Steps*; now I don't like Dru Hill and I don't like this, but I would advise buying it for the So So Def mix of *In My Bed*, this was a monster over the summer. Busta follows up the successful *Put Your Hands...* with a favourite of mine *Dangerous*. Some people been telling me that Busta has lost his raw energy, but you know what I don't give a fuck tha boy got it and *When Disaster Strikes* is a must have. BLACKstreet still doin' it, these boys are the definition of the bomb, vocals are of the highest class, the production is out of this world, for me they're the greatest R&B band in the world at the minute. Their first album was a classic; this second one has brought them more mainstream success and is rated as one of the best albums of the year. As we draw to the close of the year they have release of their cover of the Bealtes classic *Money Can't Buy Me Love*, this ain't bad and should do well in the charts, especially now at Christmas.

Its the 5th December, only twenty days till Christmas Day and only two weeks of term left, nice! That's me finished, see you around,

Milan



SINGLES

Blue Seed - The Only Ones

Quiet verses, then a loud chorus. It's been done before. Bush have done it and look where it got them. The verses are alright but only in that I have no particular opinion of them. However, the chorus is drowned out by a mass of distortion making whatever else that might be present inaudible. Why does the guitar player always insist that he has to have his amplifier louder than everything else? Blue Seed do not rock. They suck.

Elliot Green - Come On

This is bog standard stuff. A whining string-bending riff accompanies the verse and the chorus tries hard to be uplifting. However, I don't think Elliot Green's delivery of 'So, come on, get with what you want!' is going to get teenagers jumping up and down. Mind you, some bloke once said, 'You gotta roll with it', and got away with it.

Lightning Seeds - What You Say

Shrewdly placed as track one on their current Best Of... Album, *Like You Do*, you'll only have to listen to this a few times before you find the tune banging around in your head. Not in the same vein as their usual happy-go-lucky singles but a quality Seeds tune nonetheless. However, forget about this single. Do yourself a favour and buy the album.

Peach - On My Own

This is number one in Israel It's currently the fastest rising single in the US chart and gets more airplay than any other British band. Impressed? No? Neither am I. It was released over here a while ago but the UK ignored it. That's because we're not fooled into buying commercial drivel just because it's got a sexy

lead singer, an easily hummable tune and some stupid lyrics. On no, not us!

Monk and Canatella - Who's Who?

I'm a firm believer that you can judge some CDs by their cover. I saw this and thought it'd be some sort of quirky song with samples from Horror B-Movies and spooky noises all thrown together and then completed by a gothic voice-over from the singer. I was right. I'm actually a powerful psychic in disguise, you know. Give me another cover!

THE ESSENTIAL CHOON

Naomi - Personal Touch

Oh dear! I can tell what this sounds like just by the name alone. This is some poncey manufactured woman singer, probably kicked off some soap opera, telling us she's happy, free and loves her man. Wrong! This is, in fact, a cracking little stomper of a track. Naomi is only 19 years old and could show some of the recent female angst fakers how to do it properly. 'I don't need your personal touch!' she screams. Oh, hit me, Naomi, let me be your slave, hit me,.... Er, sorry about that.

The Saw Doctors - Simple Things

'It's the simple things that make it all worthwhile.' The familiarity of the Irish accent makes sure that this song comes across as genuine. Take note, people. A softly sung little ditty with just a light drum beat, an acoustic guitar and a gushy theme. It works, you know.

Sheryl Crow - Tomorrow Never Dies

I can't tell you why but this is definitely a James Bond song. Maybe it's because she sounds like some classy under-rated singer in some late night smoky bar. Maybe it's because of the seductive guitar sound. Maybe it's because of the dramatic violin break. Or maybe it's just because I actually knew it was the latest James Bond song. Who knows?

Sparks vs. Faith No More - This Town Ain't Big Enough for the Both of Us

Stupid! Stupid! Stupid! This track is ridiculous. It sounds like an attempt at mock-rock-opera or something. I cannot stress how annoying this track is. Initially, you appreciate its comedy value but then you come to realise that at the end of the day it's just a huge pile of horseshit.

U2 - If God Will Send His Angels

I feel that I should like this song. There's not really that much to have a go at. I mean, at least I'm not listening to some third-rate indie band trying to do a cover of *Pretty Vacant*. Well, actually, maybe that'd be better. It'd be interesting. I wouldn't fall asleep during it. There's only one real reason why I don't like this song: It's boring.

Robbie Williams - Angels

'Tonight we have a young man by the name of Robert Williams. He is currently working as a professional entertainer. He has sung before in a 5-piece dance act. However, this didn't work out and tonight he's hoping that this could be his next big break. So, Robert, tell them who you're going to be.' 'Well, tonight Matthew, I'm going to be Elton John.' No, but seriously, this is a half-decent effort from the former blobster. **M**

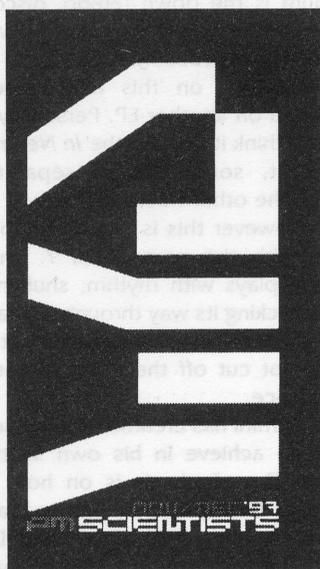
Dennis



CLUBSCENE - CLUB REVIEW

PM SCIENTISTS

WEDNESDAYS @ SMITHFIELDS EC1



The people responsible for this night had clearly put a considerable degree of effort into providing the discerning club-goer with a quality night out. For my money, there cannot realistically be a better musical combination in a club than the darkest jungle to get hot and sweaty to, coupled with an eclectic spectrum ranging from the abstract to the just plain phat for you to chill out to.

The problem was that it was all just too ambitious. I cannot see how this basic blueprint would work in a club with a capacity below 500, and squeezing half this number into Smithfields would certainly not have been comfortable. The likelihood of this scenario, however was only slightly greater than that of a syndicate of flying pigs winning the Lottery. Let's face

it, how many out there can afford to throw caution to the wind, go out on a Wednesday night and give it all they've got, without the prospect of getting up on a Thursday morning hanging high above their heads? On the evidence of this night, not many. I left this club feeling a tad depressed and disillusioned.

Despite everything, the music WAS good (playing Gary Numan's *Cars* gets a pat on the back from me for sheer audacity), and once on the jungle dancefloor it went beyond being merely a minute patch of desolation and I finally stepped on it. I quickly got very into it and found myself being taken to that plateau that all clubbers know and love. And although they quite severely lacked quantity, the heads that were there went part of

the way towards making up for this in quality.

It's just a crying shame that excessive ambition on behalf of the promoters led to blatant oversights which quite simply ruined the experience for me. I feel I can, however, recommend this night to you if you are part of a group of like-minded individuals with a love for the music and a complete disregard for Thursday morning lectures. If you fit this bill then you will definitely have a wicked night, just be sure to invite me along.. **MCD**

Matt

CLUBSCENE

the electric café

About three weeks ago, I accepted an invitation to travel out to Munich in Southern Germany and take part in an experimental radio show called Brainput. I decided to stay in Munich for a week, and during this time was able to check out the music and the party scene of this city.

This week I want to talk to you about some of the electronic music that you can find coming out of this region. Munich is a small, compact city and its scene is often referred to as "the family". This has nothing to do with the mafia, but is an affectionate way of describing the closeness between the different branches of music. Everyone seems to support everyone else and homegrown talent is valued and nurtured.

From relative obscurity, Munich has grown to a major force in European electronic music; gaining respect from the international techno community. For all its presence, only a handful of underground labels are producing music out of the city. Each label has such a varied and diverse sound that you feel the whole electronic spectrum is represented.

Disko B has been putting out music for nearly as long as there was techno. Early releases on the label were all cutting-edge hard club techno. Artists such as DJ Hell made sure that Disko B would always be remembered as one of the top international labels. As one of the world's leading techno DJs he was also crucial in spreading the Disko B sound on a global scale. Musical highlights from his career include the album Geteert und Gefedert and the anthemic Jeff Mills remix of *Allersehen*.

Disko B cannot be accused of staying with its winning club-techno formula in order to play it safe and sell more records. The philosophy behind the label is not merely to move with the times, but to create tomorrow's sounds. Recent releases have seen a very experimental edge appearing. Check out the haunting and unnerving sounds of Susanne Brokesch (*Sharing the Sunhat LP*), an artist who twists and cuts up rhythms and melodies to create different ambient moods. Hans Platzgumer is another in-house artist (*Der Separator LP*) who is playing with snippets of electro, trip-hop, jazz and pop and creating a unique, experimental sound.

With new releases from established US artists such as Gemini, Blake Baxter and a well-anticipated forthcoming release from Kirlian (aka Abe Duque; *Pleasure Yourself LP*), this a label not to be ignored.

Compost Records is one of the revelations of recent times. Michael Reinboth, a successful DJ, producer (Beanfield and other projects) and promoter is the brains behind the label. In his own words, "Compost is a biochemical cell of international jazz, brazil, eclectic-jazz, down-beat and drum'n'bass. Compost is chemically hyperactive!" The British music press have named Compost as the German equivalent of Mo-Wax, pushing musical boundaries in all directions.

The Fauna-Flash project, who produce drum'n'bass on Compost have been recognised by Goldie's Metalheadz outfit, and are set for great things. If you are interested in a variety of jazzed-up, funky sounds with emphasis on the word eclectic then do check

out the Future Sound of Jazz compilation albums. Volume 4 is available now, and is a truly amazing collection of open-minded, progressive music. Each volume would make a good starting point from which to discover Compost!

Some smaller labels are also starting to emerge from Munich. Musik Aus Strom is not content with pushing boundaries, but prefers to knock them over and then stamp all over them! The music can best be described as Autechre meets Plaid. In fact label founder Chris De Luca cites these two acts amongst his role-models. In Musik Aus Strom, unconventional drum'n'bass rhythms collide with synthetic melodies. There is no way I can accurately describe this music, because I have never heard anything like it. I can tell you that the EPs I have listened to just blew me away!

All in all, the times I spent in Munich were very useful and informative. The party-scene over there is thriving and developing quickly. Things are looking good for the future of German music!

This Sunday (midnight - 2am; IC Radio), the Electric Cafe will be playing a special show devoted to the Munich scene. You can hear all of the music above plus many more Bavarian delights!

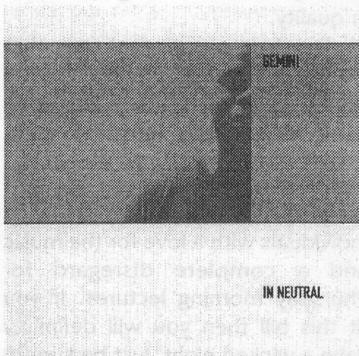
Many thanks to Barbara @ Disko B, Michael and Elisha @ Compost and Chris @ Delirium for invaluable help in compiling this feature and the forthcoming show!

al;ck

CLUBSCENE - ALBUMS

GEMINI

In Neutral ★★★★★



Last week on the Electric Cafe Spencer Kinsey (aka Gemini) revealed his desire to have the freedom to reach as many people as possible with his music. He claimed that five years with Relief Records became claustrophobic and perhaps hindered his ability to do this. So what did he do to put himself back on track? He recorded three albums and released them all within three months of each other! All three are in the typically quirky but catchy house/techno style of Gemini, but each captures a different period and mood in his career.

Following the heavy, frustrated sounds of *Imagine a Nation (Relief)* and the freer melodies of *In and Out of Fog and Lights (Peacefrog)*, *In Neutral* is the third in the series. It deals with the theme of relaxation and introspection as a means of finding the energy and motives to move forward once more.

We begin with *Campanula* and

Lifted Life both of which are a subtle blend of house rhythms and jazzy melodies. Although not the best tracks by far, they provide a solid start and an indication of great things to come.

Great things come very soon. *Memory* is the work of a vivid imagination. Waves of sound wash over a punchy beat and as this track unfolds, stories are told and sceneries painted. The effect is awesome; when the volume is low this is ideal listening music, but it also makes for good dancefloor material.

Gemini expounds his philosophies and creates a very quirky track with *On This Planet*. It is unique to the Gemini sound; more experimental than house, less abrasive and slower than techno.

Ahi has a very trippy, happy-go-lucky rhythm section, and is a fresh change to some of the more contemplative tracks on offer. This

is definitely for relaxation.

The disappointment of this album is the down tempo, disco-influenced title track *In Neutral*. This would probably sound good if it was not on this album, but instead on another EP. Personally I don't think it fits into the *In Neutral* project, sounding too separate from the other tracks on offer.

However this is quickly forgotten with the next track, ?. This piece plays with rhythm, shuffling and clicking its way through. It is an example of how to be experimental and not cut off the mass of your audience.

Gemini has created what he set out to achieve in his own subtle way. The emphasis is on how it should be listened to rather than where it should be played in a DJ set. The end result is an album that begs the attention of your ears...and your mind! **MC**

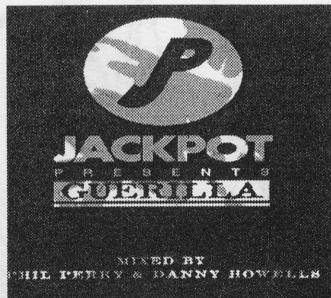
al;ck



CLUBSCENE - COMPILATIONS

JACKPOT Presents 'GUERRILLA'

Mixed by Phil Perry & Danny Howells. ★★★★★



J.J. DANNY HOWELLS (SQUELCH)

This double CD has been put together by one of the leading lights in the underground electronic music scene. One of the original purveyors of progressive house music in the early 90's.

The first CD is full of original classics from the Guerrilla label, taking us back to tunes that have heavily influenced today's dance scene. Using only tracks from one label I thought there were bound to be some weak tracks. But I'm glad to say I was wrong and was reminded how many classics Guerrilla have notched up over the years. It makes you wonder why the label closed down with tracks like Fuzzy Logic's *Obsessions*, React 2 Rhythm's *Whatever You Dream* and Dr Atomic's *Schudelfloss*.

A high standard of mixing by Phil

Perry is maintained throughout the CD which is worth the money alone, but amazingly you get another quality CD for the same price. And this really is a bargain.

The second CD is made up of remixes of Guerrilla tunes, many from the first CD, but you'd be mistaken to think that this one sounded similar to the first. It has a totally different feel; still in the realms of progressive house this but this time it's right up to date.

Starting off on the break-beat side of house music, again with some superb mixing by the up & coming Danny Howells, you take a hypnotic journey through all areas of house music, the pace gradually building throughout the CD and climaxing in excellent hard house/techno with remixes from the likes

of Digweed, Carl Cox & Van Dyke.

All in all, this is one of the very best mixed compilations around at the moment. No cheesy fillers, no lame un-involved mixing and no hint of commerciality - it is well worth checking, a nugget of gold in the mountain of commercial compilation rubbish being put out for the Christmas rush. This is one out of the many mixed CDs I've received over the past month that I will actually listen to again and again. It's nice to see Jackpot keeping the vibe alive.

To see the Jackpot crew in action you can catch them at their weekly outings to Subterranea, 12 Acklam Rd, Ladbrooke Grove, London. 10pm-3am. **MC**

Jo Public

CLUBSCENE - SINGLES

DRUM 'N' BASS

Prisoners of Technology (P.O.T) ★★★★★
Delicate Beats/ What does it All Mean
(Fresh Kutts)

Release Date: Out Now

P.O.T have come up with another two absolutely storming tracks. *Delicate Beats* is on that jump up tip again, but with fresh arrangements and another funky fresh original b-line, it's gonna' be massive. *What does it all Mean*, has a more stepping feel to it, and that b-line that can't help but get all twisted out of shape & get you jumping all over the place. Wicked.

USA. West Coast/East Coast
(Formation) ★★★★★1/2

Release date: Early Dec.

USA, a subsidiary of Formation, has finally released *West Coast/ East Coast* a absolutely massive tune that I've heard the likes of Fabio dropping for the past year or so. This dark stepper cuts back & forth between amen breaks, squelchey bass tones and spin backs. Guaranteed to send any crowd crazy, sounds quite superb in the mix. Well worth checking.

John B. Jazz Sessions EP
(Formation Records) ★★★★★

Release date: Early Dec.

This 3-track EP is designed to give us a taste of John B's forthcoming album. *VCS* is a very synthetic piece; acid-washed and stained with sprinklings of a distorted bassline, this is techno translated into breakbeat language! *Jazz Sessions* combines both the synthetic and organic elements, with crazy bassline madness and an excellent breakbeat fighting for attention over some punchy samples. And that's just the beginning. Once this track actually kicks off, there's no stopping it!

TECHNO

Intermolecular Forces. 10*1/ 10*2
(Molecular Rec.) ★★★★★

Track *10*1* is very minimal and very hypnotic, with the barest of back beat and not much else. This one is strictly for the head strong. *10*2* is a bit more easy going, if you can say that about a techno track, with fast driven beats and off-key strings a must for all techno heads.

Punk Floyd. Piper At New Cross
(Euktech) ★★★★★1/2

I liked this one, hard 'n' fast beats, cool bendy sounds setting a nice hard house / techno thing going on. A track that stands out from many more plain techno tracks I've heard. This will definitely keep an up-for-it crowd going mental on the dance floor.

Techno/House

Random 2 - The Gary Numan Remixes
(Beggars Banquet) ★★★★★

This is the second EP of remixes of the 80's pop maestro's work. The B-side contains two brilliant remixes of *Cars*. Mike Dearborn completely mashes up this old hit and gives it a dark and sinister 4/4 edge. Meanwhile Dave Clarke leaves the basic structure of the track more or less intact, but spices up the funk factor!

Dale Lawrence - Theorem (+8) ★★★★★

Richie Hawtin's Canadian label serves up this offering of deep and mystical vibes to continue its abstract musical journey. *Mantra One* is a minimal yet very rhythmic track. *Os* can best be described as aural beauty; gentle and alluring. Think of the most beautiful sunset you've seen and imagine it as a piece of music. *Clone* is a serving of more minimal beats with a funky twist that surprisingly works very well.

HOUSE & GARAGE

Sima. Give You Myself.
(Mo's Music) ★★★★★

This track is too strongly in the song style for me, but the Skunk Dub mix saves the day. Stripping away those over-used lyrics and replacing them with a looped sample of the vocal and adding fatter beats makes sure that it works out alright in the end.

S-J. I Feel Divine
(React Rec.) ★★★★★1/2

You've a host of mixes to choose from on these two 12". Either a Hard house/Trancey 12" or a Garage/ House 12". My favourite is the Baby Doc mix in a hard house style which works well with S-J's lyrics. The best of the other 12" is Tall Paul's reworking. The Dem 2 garage mix is just too weak 'n slow with no punch and not enough to keep the floor moving.

Hi-Life Feat. Da Scat Cat. Crosswordz/ Believe Me. (Boom Dynamite) ★★★★★

This is one of the best garage tunes I've heard in a while, fat 'n' funky. Clean crisp beats and nice vocals. With two mixes of each you can't go wrong. These tunes have got some seriously fat 'n' fresh b-line business going on *Believe Me*.

Slam Mode. The Pink Horizon EP
(Deep Worldwide Music) ★★★★★

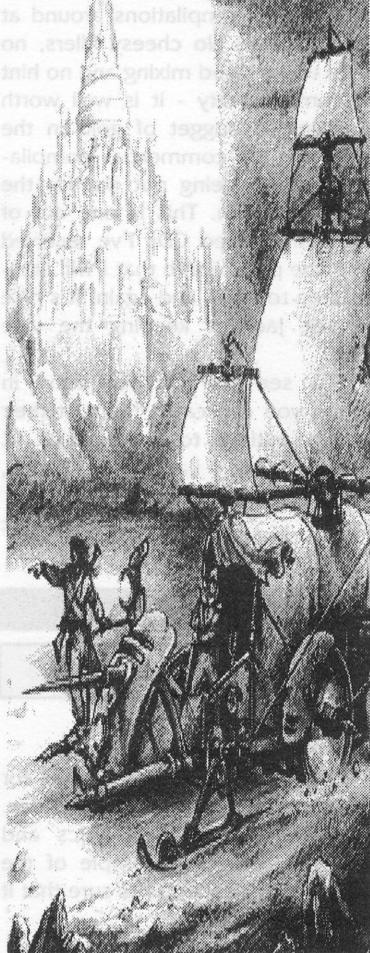
All the tracks here are soulful and groovy 6am house music designed to bring you back down to earth rather than take you higher! *Ceres Aquatica* is a light and stylish little number with seductive strings. *Anemone Blanda* is a delicately produced track, definitely designed to soothe and chill out the listener. *Space* lets the side down in my opinion, sounding as if it is trying to be a "trancey" house track, but failing to sound convincing. That aside, this EP should not be ignored. **MC** JP & al;ck

BUBBLE GUM



DARK EARTH

Kalisto★★★★



Three hundred years into the future and the world has become a desolate place. An asteroid at the millennium has brought about the collapse of civilisation and only now are the survivors of the cataclysm able to rebuild their society.

You play Arkhan, a Guardian of Fire in the city of Sparta, a sort of army lieutenant in a bustling outpost offering salvation and shelter. After being disfigured by a deadly poison your task, as Arkhan, is to go in search of a cure. However the city is full of treachery and where those at the echelons of power are forging ahead with their own agendas, Arkhan will undoubtedly cross their paths.

Dark Earth is a 3rd person adventure game, with you in complete control of the 3d character of Arkhan. Controlling the character around the beautifully pre-rendered screens is a treat, the animated characters are fluid (166MHz PC is recommended) and the in game speech is varied and unobtrusive, since you can read the text and then skip the speech which runs concurrently. The game play is not limited to picking up objects and to talking to other characters, a combat mode allows Arkhan to fight in full 3d, and with a huge assortment weapons, from axes to rifles.

The story line is incredibly tight

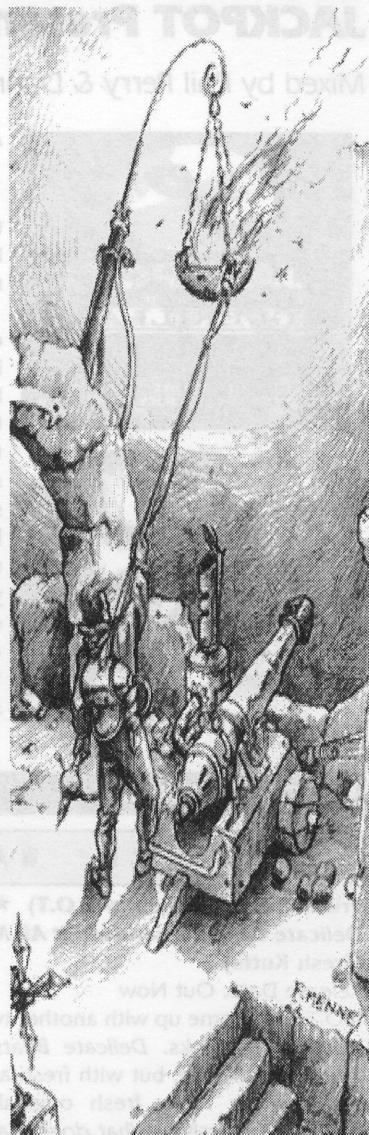
and you find yourself going from one place to another because you simply have no other options. At times Dark Earth is frustrating when you get stuck but this is the same with all role playing games but the simplistic keyboard control, the medieval look of the game and the real time 3d graphics, makes you persevere.

There are quite a few adventure games out at the moment, so compared with other adventure games such as Blade Runner reviewed last week, which one should you go for? Personally I found Blade Runner's plot far too complicated with too many threads happening all at the same time. Its four CDs are quite a bit daunting, but the game wraps you totally in its Blade Runner atmosphere and this is what makes it an excellent game. Dark Earth on the other hand has a greater pace and you will find yourself moving swiftly between screens but there are enough stumbling blocks to keep the game challenging. So you could play a game with a 20 year old history and that has been rehashed in every single science fiction film or you could go for something that has an original theme with equally excellent graphics and game play. **G**

Magpie

Price: £34.99

Format: PC CD-ROM



BEST OF THE OLDIES

TEKKEN I & II

Namco★★★★★



Early this century, Maxwell stated that man knew all there was to know about physics, we just had to fill in a few details.

In Early 1996, I stated that Tekken was the best combat game there was. Maxwell was soon proved wrong with the development of atomic physics, and I was soon proved wrong when Namco released Tekken2.

When Tekken 1 was released, along with the playstation, it was a truly ground-breaking game, but

did not achieve wide recognition due to the large number of combat games on the market. Tekken was, and is, a superb game combining speed, fine graphics and a wide array of characters with plenty of humour and a hundreds of slick moves to give a game that never gets boring. Better still, smashing the shit out of your flatmates/enemies using a heavily armoured tiger, with all the sound and gory graphics to boot, certainly helped to preserve my sanity during my degree. The number of websites that can be found, created by fanatic devotees of the game and intent on documenting every one of the moves, features and tricks bears testimony to the excellence of Tekken.

So when my flatmate, in one of his more god-like manoeuvres, returned to the nest with a copy of

the newly released Tekken 2, I didn't see how much it could have improved over its predecessor. The answer is; a great deal. The game had improved so much, in fact, that leaving the flat for lectures was out of the question. Tekken had given me an aim in life - something tangible I could actually achieve - to beat up the world and its mother using my very own digital super-hero.

Namco had added another bunch of characters, improved the speed, graphics and playability, overhauled the menu system and included two new modes - a practice mode and a team battle mode. Oh, and did I mention shed loads more moves? All these changes made it easier to get sucked deeper into the game, and I was.

So this time, unlike Maxwell, I'm going to get this right; Tekken2

is the *second* best combat game. Make way, mortals, for **TEKKEN3**

Jeremy

Tekken2 costs around £35 from the usual outlets. Tekken can be picked up second hand for £10 - £15. Computer Exchange on Rathbone St, off Oxford St is particularly recommended.

Everything you need to know about Tekken is at: <http://metro.net/slikatel/tekken3>





TRASH, BASICALLY

THE BLACK BOOK

Sara Keays

I was bitterly disappointed by this book. Instead of the sizzling bonkbuster about a beautiful female Parliamentary secretary who gets seduced by the evil politician-on-the-rise, culminating in his sacking from the Cabinet, and reneging on a promise to marry her even though she is pregnant with his child, it's a rather tame thriller about a book containing scandalous stories about the dealings of MPs and the impact that these stories might have on the country. In view of Ms Keays being the former mistress of the now Lord Parkinson, I was expecting far, far more than this. According to the Electronic Telegraph, many Conservative MPs were to read the book avidly in fear of recognising themselves. Ms Keays's novel, which she has said is based on her "life and times", avoids parallels with her affair, which is a shame, since all the scandals under this government have been very dull, and probably hushed up by the spindoctors.

The book paints a picture of corrupt and hypocritical MPs

whose misdemeanours are noted in a "Black Book" guarded by the Chief Whip, Harry Hunter. Jo, a beautiful, tall, slender widow, with pensive blue eyes, and a thoughtful mouth, the usual type of high powered secretary, is temporarily working for this unpleasant, adulterous man, whilst his permanent secretary is on sick leave. She is asked by his wife to visit his London Flat, and whilst there, finds the "Black Book", and is scandalised by what she reads. In doing this, she's spotted by a member of the CIA, who is watching the flat, apparently as a matter of routine. I'd like to say that about five car chases and six reverberating scandals later, she is gunned down by the combined forces of the British and American secret services, but sadly, she isn't. Instead, she hides the book, and investigates. The ruling party, which is assumed to be the Tories, tries to discredit her allegations as the "fantastical ravings of a deranged female"; none the less she succeeds in jailing several MPs and bringing down the Government.

Jo, a woman of principles, is

disillusioned to discover the Houses of Parliament, and in particular the Commons, to be an institution full of "oddballs and misfits", many of them "arrogant little shits". This will not come as much of a surprise to anyone who has ever read a newspaper or watched the news. Most are "much more interested in fame than sex" and would prefer to be "on television than in bed with a gorgeous girl". However, I'm sure Messieurs Merchant, Yeo, Parkinson, Mellor, Spring, who allegedly prefers three-in-a-bed, Booth and Hughes, all of whom became famous due to their habit of going to bed with gorgeous girls, would disagree with that statement. She is also horrified to learn that many MPs are "too busy earning fat fees from outside interests" to do their own work or to listen to their constituents. I could reel off another list of corrupt and hypocritical MPs, but I feel that their names are already far, far too familiar to most of us. The book is full of praise for Commons secretaries, hmm, I wonder why, who are treated "like battery hens"

whilst practically giving blood "for some ambitious creep who takes you for granted and gets all the credit". Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.....

In a way, I liked this book even though it is not at all as exciting as it could have been. It's interesting enough to read on a tube or bus, or if you really have nothing better to do. It strikes me as a bit of a revenge fantasy, and maybe Ms Keays would like to have seen the entire Conservative party discredited by her actions, as opposed to being their own. It's not as irritatingly unput-downable as the last book I reviewed, in fact I really can't remember any point of distinction in it at all. May I take this opportunity to recommend the Telegraph web page (www.telegraph.co.uk), and to encourage people to search for "sex scandals and Tories". There are over 1000 entries.

Julia H

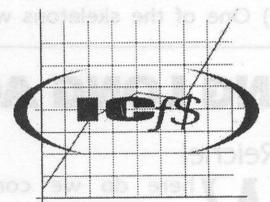
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IN THE GALLERIES

TURNER PRIZE EXHIBITION

Tate Gallery

The Turner Prize is (according to my sources) awarded each year to a British artist under the age of fifty (blatant ageism?) for an outstanding exhibition or other presentation of their work in the twelve months preceding the 31 May of that year. Last years winner was Damien Hirst with his famous cow in formaldehyde and I was curious to see what this years entrants could offer. So with the aim of delaying my biochemistry work for as long as possible, I set off for the Tate with my friend Lizzy in tow. This year the shortlisted candidates are all women which has brought a few accusations of overt political correctness on the judges' behalf after last years all male shortlist brought accusations of sexism. It seems as if they can't win either way. The first exhibition was that of Christine Borland whose "exploration of language of forensic science and themes of mortality, explore the ways in which institutions exploit and devalue life"...mmm. Her exhibits included two skeletal images reflected onto the wall after being drawn in glittery dust on panes of glass. (I could even identify the femur!) One of the skeletons was

very small and the other very tall, the exhibit inspired by a book of fairy tales. The book is on display too so even the non-arty types like myself can pretend we know what it is all about.

Sasha and Mum was a black and white video piece by Gillian Wearing, the second of the four shortlisted candidates. It seemed to consist of a grown woman thrashing about in her underwear whilst making lots of weird grunting noises and pulling a blanket over her head with another older woman next to her (presumably the mum) hugging her then pulling her hair about and pushing her to the floor. I won't pretend to know what all this was about but as the most disturbing exhibit, it will probably win.

Cornelia Parker had numerous smaller exhibits on show including "Wedding ring drawing" which was in fact a series of diamond scratched lines on the outside of a glass display case. I was on the verge of complaining about the dust in the display case when I realised that the two furry balls of fluff were part of the exhibition entitled "The Negative of Sound". They were earplugs made from dust collected at the Whispering Gallery of St Pauls Cathedral. *Inhaled Cliffs* looked suspiciously like a folded sheet but I was assured that the sheet had been starched with chalk from the white cliffs of Dover which defined it as artwork.

Leading into the next room we were greeted by the sight of a

rather comfy looking, brightly coloured beanbag/sofa object which you could actually sit down on. The piece called "Untitled" (seems like she wasn't too sure what it was either) was by Angela Bulloch and was described as a superstructure with satellites. Electrical impulses triggered by people sitting on the flat cushions produced sounds around the room. Her "Blip Drawing Machine" drew a series of lines as you watched, producing an image that looked uncannily like an ECG, although we decided that the patient would almost certainly be dead after two blipless lines were drawn.

The Turner Exhibition is open every day at the Tate Gallery until 18 January. The winner will be decided on 2 December when you can catch live coverage of the exhibition on C4. You can also check out the exhibition details on the web at www.channel4.com. Entry to the Tate is free but this special exhibition costs £3.50. Love it or hate it, it is definitely worth making the effort to see. Decide for yourself where modern British art stands at the moment.

Clare Ashwin



Clockwise from top left: Angela Bulloch, Christine Borland, Cornelia Parker, Gillian Wearing, *Inhaled Cliffs*

LONG LONG AGO

Ilan Reichel

"Where do we come from?", "Why are we here?" - questions which have intrigued and baffled the human race since the beginning of time. For several years director Ilan Reichel has been fascinated by the idea of exploring the human perception of the creation of the world and its connection with human creativity. Reichel began by researching countless creation myths and stories from throughout the world, struck by the challenge of lifting these legends off the page and bringing them to life as a piece of theatre. A little over two months ago, Reichel, along with a cast drawn from the Court Theatre Training Company, began the process of discussions, workshops and improvisations which culminated in the production of "Long, Long, Long Ago....."

On entering the small, cosy theatre, with its simple, bare acting space, devoid of set but for the wide steps rising to the backdrop,

there is an immediate sense of expectation, of wonders about to come to pass. At the sound of a gong we are plunged into darkness, and the stage is suddenly peopled by barely visible watchers and listeners. Only one man speaks, holding aloft a single torch, of the creation of the Sun, the Earth and the Solar System.

Then follows a presentation of the Polynesian creation chant, Kumulipo, which describes the transformation of the earth from a dark world of water and silence into one teeming with life of all kinds. This involves the entire cast chanting in unison, and bringing to the chant the most wonderful physical portrayals of creation and birth. During descriptions of the forming of the creatures in the "pregnant night" a mass of inert bodies becomes a crawling, writhing tumult of emergent life, when the cast move almost as one single entity.

The dreaming people, a

Malaysian story, begins with a universe inhabited only by two wise beings, at the time when the sun is created by the giant dung beetle, (this very cleverly played by three actors assuming some of the strangest postions.) The woman, perhaps more a goddess, dreams of the birth of a son, and begs her husband for the child. He spreads a cloth beneath a fruit bearing tree, and the fruit which he catches is transformed into the wished-for child. The fruit is played by actors, whose metamorphosis into human form is perfectly in keeping with the beautifully fluid physical work throughout the tale, which was flawlessly interwoven with the narrative.

As the play progresses, a sense of magic gradually develops, permeating both movement and speech, completely enthralling, and giving the feeling that one could step in and become part of the stories being told. The final piece, "The Land of the Gods Floats on the

Sea," tells of the time before the islands of Indonesia were formed, when only the home of the gods floated upon the water. The people of Indonesia attempt to paddle toward this promised land, but it is forever sinking below the horizon, "at the point of sunrise." Here comes a wonderful portrayal of the travel by boat; paddles in slow, fluid motion, somehow creating a feeling of immense space, of infinite blue. As the play ends I am left with the sense that, having been taken on a long journey through the ages and through the human consciousness, I have arrived in a safe and peaceful place.

Abi Kirk.

Long, Long, Long Ago...

The Court Theatre Training Company, Directed by Ilan Reichel. The Courtyard Theatre, 10 York Way, King's Cross, London N1. Tues 18th Nov - Sun 7 Dec, 8pm. Prices: £7.50 (£5.50)



IN THE PLAYHOUSES

THE JEWISH WIFE and THE JEWISH DAUGHTER

Bertolt Brecht and Sonja Linden

The New End Theatre, New End, Hampstead is a very small, intimate venue, with seventy-five seats, and a space at the front, as opposed to a stage, where all the action takes place. This increased the impact that the plays had on me, and I have a feeling that both would possibly be less effective in a larger venue. The first play, *The Jewish Wife*, opens with a woman, Judith, telephoning her friends, cancelling bridge engagements, telling them that she's going away for a few weeks, and asking them to look after her husband, Fritz. She then rehearses the things she wants to tell him, the reason for her leaving, that she's only leaving for his sake. He is, of course, German, and the play is set in 1937, when already the Jews were beginning to feel the hatred of the Nazis. The husband tries to persuade her not to leave, but they both know that she will, that it's the best thing. She, however, cannot tell him what she is really thinking and feeling. The play ends with him taking her to the station to catch her train. As the one play ends the

second begins. In this companion piece, the actress and actor playing the wife and husband turn out to be married, and the actress, Amanda, is the granddaughter of Judith. Her mother, Ruth, is in the audience, and she enters into the drama, as Amanda reveals that she is preparing to leave her husband Peter. Ruth tries to persuade her not to, and many powerful emotions are displayed.

To begin with, there is the supposed anti-Semitism of Peter, which Amanda is using as an excuse to leave him. The play moves on, examining both Ruth's relationship with Judith, and Amanda's relationship with Ruth. Both women have a lack of a father-figure in their lives, which leads to them being unable to form good, lasting relationships with men. The argument rages on, with all three hitting and hurting each other, in an almost childish way. The play ends with Peter and Amanda resolving to talk to each other, a complete contrast to Judith and Fritz, who, although they love each other, cannot talk to

each other anymore.

These plays are primarily about lack of communication, and about the way that people tend to think and rehearse things they want to say to each other, yet never manage to speak to each other, or when they do actually speak, say nothing. The first play is a political statement.

Brecht, forced into exile, wrote a series of plays called "Fear and Misery in the Third Reich" which obviously couldn't be performed in Germany. Brecht himself was number five on Hitler's death list. These series of plays were a definite attempt on Brecht's part to try and force people to understand what was really happening in Germany, and where the madness would lead them to. *The Jewish Wife* is a very clear picture of the devastating impact that the Nazis had on people's lives. The second play is also emotionally charged; set in the present day, it shows how little things have changed, and how events from our past can influence the way we live today. This play explored many themes, including

the after-effects of the war, the relationship between men and women, the relationship between mothers and daughters and the jealousy felt by mothers as their daughters become sexually active. I really enjoyed these plays, they're thoughtful, they're thought-provoking, they're tense and they're interesting. They are only showing on Sunday and Monday nights until the 15th of December, and are well worth a visit. The tickets will cost you seven pounds, and the nearest tube is Hampstead. There's also a very good pub just next door.

Julia H

The Jewish Wife with The Jewish Daughter

Directed by Emily Gottlieb and performed by Limetree Productions. Showing at the New End Theatre, 27 New End, NW3. Tube: Hampstead. Shows 8pm Sunday and Monday. £10, £7 students.

27 - A PERSONAL RETROSPECTIVE

John Keats

This play deals with the fragmented memories of a 27 year old man; a personal retrospective. It's from his point of view so you could be forgiven for expecting a boy's own adventure, but in reality it is written by a man rather than for a man. Whichever, it is an insight and it touched me; resulting in a delayed response, it triggered a backwash of memory ripples that I haven't had since God knows when.

The Fecund Theatre use (rather than abuse) their chosen tools which comprise of radio-microphones, video, cool music, narration, action, movement, suggestion, and seamless integration. The multi-media dimension doesn't detract, it abstracts compliments and provides depth and colour to the passion, conscience and humour of the performers.

The piece itself is well-balanced and accomplished, it is not so much a rites of passage production as a montage of feelings and dealings that make the man or perhaps un-make the boy. An ordinary, set-

tled childhood dappled with humour and loss begins to unravel when Paul - the focus of our attention learns - betrayal at first hand.

At the time it is the ultimate teenage nightmare. The girl he loves, his first love and the receiver of his virginity is found in bed with his best mate. Oh dear. Paul is not happy and the seed is sown. A pivotal point has been reached; until now young teen Paul was as high as he could go on his playground swing without it going loop-the-loop, experiencing the exhilaration of weightlessness that is childhood at the full extent of its swing. He may well have regained control if it hadn't been for his Uncle Dick 'beering' in with the "treat 'em mean keep 'em keen" adage.

Up to this point the professional cast had charmed us, with magical memories; Saturday grandstand, rainy Sunday boredom, the nightmare childcatcher from 'Chitty chitty bang bang' and 'Jaws'. All well observed and tightly performed. Now we see a change of focus, the camera begins to swing

around and we begin to see a decline, the degradation of a wholesome boy to half a man.

Teenage parties, student arrogance and debauchery blag and bluster their way to the very suburbs of Babylon - fully fledged 'aving it, cash splash nose-powder land. These club-drug drug-clubbed punter stunt scenes looked and sounded fantastic, but lacked the sharp focus of the first half. Excess upon excess left protagonist Paul a hollow character, not even mildly attractive to the audience. His eventual awakening in the entrails of his own hung-drawn and quartered existence, was well due.

He ended the performance with a grin, which might have provoked the untempered amongst us to loosen a couple of his teeth. However, the audience showed no signs of violence; they just clapped and whooped (in an English sort of way) because it was an excellent show. I thought that that would be that, ninety minutes of intelligent and kicking entertainment but not too much to think about. However,

within twenty-four hours I was thinking of memories, friends, experiences; a personal retrospective. Fecund seem to be searching for the ultimate definition of existence; strangely epitomised in the Schrodinger's girlfriend scene where teenage Paul puts his love on the line, presenting the question(aire) 'Will you go out with me. YES [] or NO []. An ultimate if ever I saw one.

Luis Stooles

27 - A Personal Retrospective

Presented by the Fecund Theatre and showing at the Oval House, 52-54 Kennington Oval, SE11. Tube: Oval.

Shows are 7.45pm Thursday to Sunday until 14 December. £7.50, £4.50 students.



OUR KID SPEAKS

Thought for the day

No. 7: The fall and rise of Felix

If there is such a thing as a regular reader of my self-indulgent musings (Ali Campbell? Isn't he the bloke who was in UB40?) then he or she will undoubtedly be rather miffed about the lack of any contribution in last week's Felix. I secretly suspect that our beloved Editor loathed my curry article too (it was supposed to be about the elections, all right?) but apparently he just ran out of space. (Perhaps Simon Baker had been having words...) Naturally he then had to bribe me not to reveal the incident involving the evil malfunctioning printing press, the spade and the three thousand pound repair invoice, which, it must be said, he has kept under a real shroud of secrecy. (At least, nobody has mentioned it to Andy Heeps yet).

My point, which is rapidly vanishing into the lofty green mists of time, is that, at least as far as I am concerned, Felix has turned the corner. The reason that Jeremy had no room for my shite last week is that the contributions are now coming thick and fast. Jon does not wander round the office, pale-faced, wondering where his next feature is coming from. (I'm sure he illegally wrote a lot of them himself, you know.) News meetings no

longer consist of two people standing around a depressingly white whiteboard arguing about whose turn it is to make the tea, and deciding whether the article about the broken toilet in Chemistry should go on the front page or not. Last week there were more music reviewers than records to review. We once again have a full complement of sub-editors. Plus I have not been forced to proof read anything for weeks now, so some unfortunate sucker must have been found to do that as well. Jeremy is doing more editing and less of everything else, the collating is now done by Inky and his team, rather than myself and the Editor on Thursday nights until three in the morning (Rock and roll!), the music pages have picked up; it's all going rather nicely. Oh, and Liverpool beat Arsenal at the weekend, so the God of the Print Shop, Andy "Inky" Thompson, is the only miserable bugger in the office.

I ought to say at this point that Felix appreciates all contributions, and that if you are interested, just pop in. I'm not going to, though, because some scoundrel, who can write infinitely better than I, might steal my precious hallowed column inches. *Ali Campbell*

Please Note

There will be NO Felix next Friday (12 December).

A Christmas bumper issue will be hitting the streets on 17 December.

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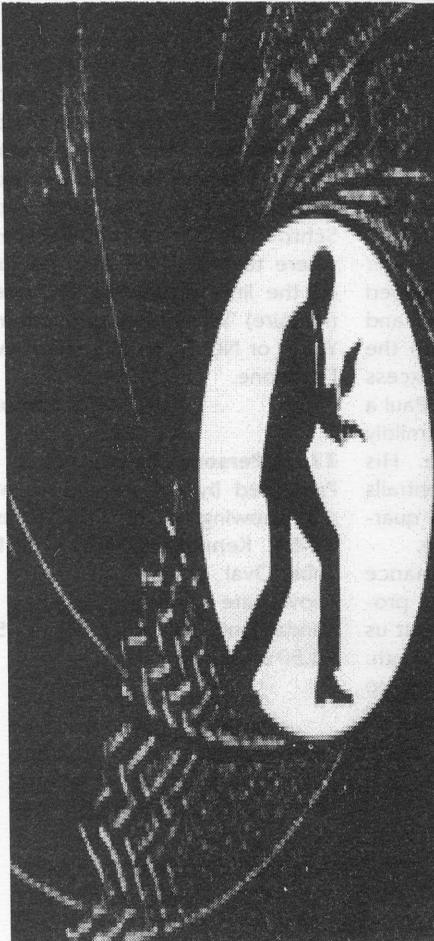
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007

007 Tomorrow Never Dies

★★★

Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Jonathan Pryce, Michelle Yeoh, Teri Hatcher
Director: Roger Spottiswoode

Beautiful women, car chases through crowded back streets, a crazy villain intent on world domination and spectacular explosions. Yep, Bond is back.

Tomorrow Never Dies is not released until December 12th but there is no Felix next week so we are reviewing it early. The hype and advertising has been intensive and the eighteenth installment is the most expensive yet so the film has much to live up to. Unfortunately, it never quite meets the audience's expectations.

All the essential elements of a Bond film are present. This time the villain is a Rupert Murdoch-esque media baron who intends to start World War III purely to increase the circulation of his global newspaper, the "Tomorrow". Bond's ubiquitous female ally appears in the form of a Chinese agent played by Michelle Yeoh, a star in Asian action cinema, and Teri Hatcher adds sex appeal to the proceedings as the media mogul's wife. The problem is that the entire film lacks much of the excitement of its predecessors and each action sequence seems too formulaic.

Tomorrow Never Dies begins

promising to be one of the Bond greats. The pre-title set-piece is laden with expensive effects and sets the scene for an intriguing story about the power of those who control the news. There are also some hilarious one-liners from Money Penny about Bond's latest fling with a Danish linguistics professor. However, after this the film descends into predictable action-packed scenes which are too long and lack pace. Johnathan Pryce's villain does not have the flamboyance of 007's

previous adversaries and there is not enough interaction between agent and nemesis.

At one point it seems as if the film may redeem itself by giving us an insight into a side of Bond's character rarely seen. The media baron's wife is a former girlfriend of his and seems to be one of the few women he misses and truly feels for. We see Brosnan's Bond drinking and appearing distressed at being reminded of his former lover. However, this is soon forgotten and replaced by explosions and fist-fights, giving the impression of an opportunity missed by the director.

It is not all bad news, however. The film boasts a great adversary for 007 in the shape of a German assassin with a penchant for torture. This sadistic nutter, who claims to specialise

in making the murder of pop stars appear to be an overdose, is far more entertaining than Pryce's character and deserves more screen-time. Pierce Brosnan is more than competent as Britain's premier secret agent and portrays a more vulnerable Bond than we have seen lately. He bleeds when punched and for once does not instantly get his own way with the females who cross his path.

All in all, this meets the standards of the last 17 Bond films but does nothing to update the series for the nineties. It is worth seeing, and not only for the blatant product placement throughout its two hours running time. It is just a pity that James Bond still hasn't really found a worthy adversary since the fall of Communism. **F** *Chris*



"Three women to one bloke.
If only Imperial..."

THE WEEKLY ODEON KENSINGTON FILM COMPETITION

WIN TICKETS TO SEE COP LAND...

Cop Land is a Western-style mob film with an all-star cast. Sylvester Stallone is a pacifist sheriff who must overcome his fear of the mob in order to clean up his town. Opposite him are Harvey Keitel, Ray Liotta, Robert de Niro and Robert Patrick to name a few. Rarely has a director been able to bring together such a talented group of individuals.

As if you hadn't guessed, the Odeon Kensington has given us five pairs of tickets to offer to the winners of this week's competition. To enter, simply e-mail the answer to the following to felix@ic.ac.uk.

In which classic gangster film did Ray Liotta and Robert de Niro star together?

Last week's *Alien Resurrection* competition was the most popular yet. We asked "Who directed the original *Alien*?" to which the answer was Ridley Scott, the genius responsible for *Gl Jane*. The winners receive a pair of tickets and a poster each and they are:

Daniel Booker
Nikoo Saber
Katherine Ruggeri
Tony Wong
Vivien Ma

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XXS

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I've Got Today

by Caspar von Wrede

The three figures stepped into the night and were immediately enveloped by the bitter cold. As the icy air washed over their faces the warmth of the dimly lit restaurant had already become nothing but a distant memory. A neon sign above them flickered sporadically and briefly illuminated the flurries and confusions of myriad snowflakes that endlessly fell from an inky sky. The smallest of the three figures gave an exclamation of childish glee at the sight of the newly fallen snow, whilst the remaining two stood hand in hand. With the child running ahead, and the parents following, they began carefully making their way over the glittering layer of white, which crunched softly under the soles of their feet.

The young mother snuggled up close to her husband for she could already feel the darkness sapping her warmth through the thin overcoat.

"Carol, stay with us", she called to her four year-old daughter whom the snow-specked darkness was threatening to swallow. Her voice was weak.

"How bad is it today?" the young man asked his wife quietly, in case the child heard him.

"It has been worse", she coughed feebly, and hoped in vain that he had not heard the wince of pain that followed. "But I think I'll need those stronger pills". The man squeezed his wife's waist with the one arm he had laid around her.

"Of course, Honey, we'll pop down to the hospital first thing tomorrow." He tried to sound casual but in reality it seemed a cord had tightened around his heart. He knew that his wife was suffering excruciating pain and that her death loomed ever closer. They both realised the futility of the medications she was taking at the moment but they were prepared to try anything that would inspire hope. The list of cures, that had been tried and failed, had grown longer ever since the cancer was diagnosed, shortly after their marriage. Now the disease had been pronounced terminal and they both found it very difficult to come to terms with the fact that, in the near future, they would be separated forever.

"We'll try and get home soon; it must be the cold that's making it so bad". His breath hung in the air like the lie he had just told.

The young girl with her inexhaustible supply of youthful energy, was busy making snowballs. She was not aware of her parents' apprehensions, nor of the cold that would soon begin to bite. Her face was alight with her glowing vitality whilst the snow frosted her white blonde hair.

"Daddy, where is the car? Are we going home soon?"

"Yes, my sweet, the car park is just beyond that road". The carefree voice of his

daughter had, as always, dispersed the gloom that had settled on the young man's soul.

The three of them came to some broad stone steps that led into an empty square. A deserted road junction was just visible through the darkness and falling snow beyond the square. A rank of sodium arc lamps stretched into the gloom along with the empty roads. Their lights, high above the ground, glowed diffusely and were surrounded by a halo of falling snow. They caused the whole scene to be bathed in a supernatural orange light.

It is so silent, thought the man, as he helped first his wife and then his daughter down the treacherous steps. Not a breath of the icy cold air stirred, whilst the featureless expanse of orange-tinged snow stretched away before them. It almost looks like a vast stage, he thought, I wonder what scenes will be acted out upon it tonight.

The trio trudged silently across the seamless blanket of snow towards the deserted junction, where a single traffic light glimmered forlornly. The snow had settled on the lanes of tarmac and it was obvious that no snow plough or grit spreader would clear this road tonight.

As they reached the curb, the young woman was suddenly racked by a coughing fit and doubled over. The young man knelt before her and anxiously peered into her face which was contorted with pain.

"Julie? Are you all right?"

Neither of them could see that the young child had stepped over the curb and was crossing the road.

"Yes, it's Okay, I just need to rest"

For a brief second a car's headlights swept through the snow far ahead of them. The man looked up in their direction and they reappeared, two malevolent eyes cutting swathes into the driving snow. Soundlessly the lights glided towards him and his wife who was kneeling in the snow. For a fraction of a second he had the illusion that the car would hit them

but then he saw it would pass harmlessly by on the road. Then his eyes fell onto his daughter who was still crossing the road and the adrenaline erupted hotly into his blood.

"JESUS CHRIST! CAROL! GET OFF THE ROAD! CA-"

The car was coming too fast, the child was too far away. He stood transfixed, his last words caught in his throat. It seemed to him that the sands of time had slowed to a trickle. The car came on with an unerring slowness, yet his limbs locked solid as he tried to leap forward. The blood was pounding in his temples. He knew that what was unfolding in front of him now was being burned indelibly into his memory, to haunt him in his nightmares and every waking hour for years to come. He tried to shut his

eyes but was not surprised to find that nothing happened. The picture before him remained crisp and almost unnaturally sharp. He could see everything down to the tiniest detail. He saw that one of his daughter's shoelaces was undone and that she had a small pink plaster on her little finger. He saw the individual snowflakes as they hit the car's windscreen and exploded into tiny drops of moisture.

The car had slowed to a inexorable, maddening crawl. It seemed to him it would stop before it ever reached the child, yet he knew it to be untrue. His imagination raced and already he could see and hear what was about to happen next. In his mind he saw the car's wet bumper touch his daughter's leg and crumple the thin trousers that covered it. He imagined the cold steel on the child's thigh and the soft snaps as the delicate bones fractured. He saw the girl's foot begin to drag in the snow

as the car advanced steadily further. He heard the soft thud as the radiator grille butted into her torso. He could perfectly imagine the tiny rib cage dent and expel the last, warm breath from his daughter's mouth. He imagined the tiny heart crushed, caught in mid beat, desecrated. He could see the small head, with its wispy curls, whiplash onto the bonnet and crack. He imagined the blood burst forth, and fan out in the slipstream. He heard the patter of a million droplets and saw the crimson smear, dark on the snow.

Then, mercifully, his mind blanked, overloaded with the grotesque images that crammed into it. There was a blissful second of blackness, a mental vacuum, and then for the first time he heard the car. It exploded into his brain, a mechanical roar, the scream of thumping pistons, the whistle of hot exhaust and the muted concussions deep inside the engine block. His lungs were suddenly filled with dense, fumes and he choked and vomited into the snow.

An eternity later his wife sharply hitched in breath beside him. Now she will scream, thought the man as he slowly opened his eyes. The first thing he saw was the car that had wildly slewed into the junction. His wife did not scream, however, she only sobbed once, heart-wrenchingly, and then she stood up and ran into the road.

For there stood the girl, untouched. The mother gathered her into her shaking arms and held her close. She felt the warmth that the child radiated and the vitality that coursed through its body.

As she stood in the sifting snow, inches from the fresh tyre tracks and feeling the inextinguishable life that pulsed in her arms, the young woman felt, for the first time in years, hope.



DIVERSIONS FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

at home

in town

events

club & soc events

club & soc regulars

radio & TV

music

C fri 5

Common People
Indie noises in dB's and eclectic tunes in the cocktail bar. Plus live music from Ballroom. 9pm-2am (1am bar) £1/free B4 9pm/with entcard

Spanish and Italian Societies Sangria Party
JCR, 8.30pm - 11.30 pm
Tickets on sale at the door

Women's Minibus Service
Takes lone female students home in safety all over London. First Run - Midnight, Last Run - Closing Time. Also runs on Wednesdays.

The Simpsons
6pm, BBC2
TFI Friday
6pm, C4
Friends
9pm, C4
The Fast Show
9.30pm, BBC2
Have I Got News For You
10pm, BBC2

Such + Free Range + Amanda Ericsson + marco + William Topley + Colin Verncombe
12 Bar Club, £5
Cram yourself into one of the best live venues in London

a sat 6

Standing Room Only
Liverpool v Manchester United. Live Premiership footy on DaVinci's big screen kickoff 11.15am.

Let's face it, you won't do anything other than watch telly and sleep all day today.

Rifle & Pistol Club
Join and shoot 11am-3pm
ICU Kung Fu Club
Training, 4.30-6.30pm, Southside Gym. Beginners Welcome

The Adventures of the Garden Fairies
7.25am, BBC1
Stand by Me
9pm, C5
ER
10pm, C4
The Adam & Joe Show
11pm, C4

Chemical Brothers
Brixton Academy, £13.50
Undoubtedly the best gig this weekend...
Peter Andre
MIDLAND '97, £15.
Just kidding folks.
The Charlatans
London Arena, £15

p sun 7

Standing Room Only
Wimbledon v Southampton. Live Premiership footy on DaVinci's big screen kickoff 4pm.

Don't forget to watch 'The Sunday Show' on BBC2 - it starts at 12.15 and features 'Science with Bez'.

ICU Kung Fu Club
Training, 4.30-6.30pm, Southside Gym. All Welcome.

Teletubbies
7.30am, BBC2
Horizon: The Ice Mummies
9.25pm, BBC2
Love Bites: Bumping The Odds
10.15pm, BBC2
Arthouse: Naked and Famous
11.05pm, C4

Robbie Williams + Gary Barlow + Boyzone + Damage + Peter Andre + All Saints + more
pop yourself silly at this 'concert of hope' - already sold out.
Fear Factory + Geezer
Astoria, £12
Oh yes, you know you want to

i mon 8

Standing Room Only
Sheffield Wednesday v Barnsley. Live Premiership footy on DaVinci's big screen kickoff 8pm.

Finance Soc
Braxton Associates Case Study @ Braxton Associates. Members only

ArtSoc
Meeting, 12.30pm - 1.30pm. See walkway noticeboard for details.
IC Chaplaincy
Discussion group 6pm, Chaplaincy, 10 Prince's Gardens.
Ski Club
Meeting, 12.30pm - 1.30pm, Southside lounge.

Languages: Deutsch Plus
4am, BBC 2
Eastenders
8pm, BBC1
Land of the Tiger
8.30pm, BBC2
Never Mind the Buzzcocks
9.30pm, BBC2
Film '97 With Bary Norman
11.30pm, BBC1

Lightning Seeds + Comfort
Astoria £12.50
The LS live are somewhat more engaging than their fluffy albums. Give it a try!
Jam Night
Ain't Nothing But Blues Bar, W1, Free.
Jam Night
Peel Kingston, Free.

t tue 9

STA Bar Trivia
Win £50 or a crate of lager
DaVinci's from 8pm

Let us not forget
ICU Council
6pm, Union Dining Hall
Topics for discussion include BUSA sports team entries
All are welcome to attend!

Community Action Group
Soup run 8.15pm
Meet in basement kitchen, Weeks Hall
AudioSoc
Meeting, 1pm-2pm, Brown Committee Room, Union building, level 3.
Circus Skills Soc
Meetin, 6pm-9pm, Table Tennis Room, Union

Creative Management
5.25am, BBC2
Penis of Penelope Pitstop
7.40am, BBC2
Teletubbies
10am, BBC2
Eastenders
7.30pm, BBC1
Picture This
9.50pm, BBC2

Blur + Super Furry Animals + Warm Jets
Wembley Arena, £8.50
Wooh-hooh!
El Vez
Borderline, £8.50
Elvis impersonators don't come much better than this.
Acoustic Clubs
Chats Palace, £9, Free

a wed 10

XS
Pop & mainstream dance in dB's 9pm-1am (midnight bar) Free B4 11/50p after

Anyone? anyone?

Rifle & Pistol Club
Join and shoot 1pm-6pm
IC Chaplaincy
College communion, 12 noon
Chaplaincy, 10 Prince's Gardens.
Skate Soc
Skating, street hockey and ramp trip. Meet 12.05 Southside lounge.
Chess Club
Meeting, 7pm - 10.30 pm, Brown Committee Room, Union level 3.

Model Millie
8.30am, BBC2
The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh
3.50pm, ITV
A Date with an Artist
7.30pm, BBC2
Absolutely Fabulous
9.30pm, BBC1

Mommsy
MIDLAND '97, £16.50
Mozzai!
Sheryl Crow + Mike Scott
Cool Room Croydon, £12.50
Who Killed Bambi
Filthy MacNasty's Whiskey Cafe, Free
God knows what it is, but it sounds like fun to me.

l thr 11

Cocktail Night
DaVinci's from 5pm

I'd go to the Cockatit night. No, really...

Community Action Group
Soup run 8.15pm
Meet in basement kitchen, Weeks Hall
IC Choir
Rehearsal, MechEng room 342, New members welcome.
IC Chaplaincy
Chaplaincy lunch, 12.30pm- 2pm
Chaplaincy, 10 Prince's Gardens.

Languages: The French Experience
4am, BBC2
Mouse and Mole
8.30am, BBC2
Natural Born Healers
8pm, C4
They Think It's All Over
10pm, BBC2
It is now...

Jools Holland
Royal Albert Hall, from £15.50
Just so you know where all those people are going..
Ben Folds Five
Shepherds Bush Empire, £11
Blur
Brixton Academy (until the 13th)



film

Alien Resurrection
 UCI Whiteleys
 (£6.60, £4.00 <5pm M-F,
 £4.00 <3pm Sa&Su)
 7.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.15
 Odeon Kensington
 7.55, 4.30, 7.05, 9.40
 (Late Fr, Sat 12.20)

Cop Land
 Virgin Tricadero
 (£5.00 std)
 12.00, 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.15
 (Late Fr, Sat 11.50)
 Odeon Kensington
 2.00, 4.30, 7.15, 9.45
 (Late Fr, Sat 12.15)

The Borrowers
 Odeon Kensington
 (£6.30, £3.70 <5pm M-F,
 £5.00 <3pm Sa&S)
 12.15, 2.35, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45
 Odeon Marble Arch
 (£6.50, £4 <3pm S&S, £4
 <5pm M-F)
 1.05, 3.45, 6.45, 9.15

Deadline for entries to the competition on page 25. There are tickets for **Cop Land** to be won and you can enter by e-mailing the answer to felix@ic.ac.uk

Seven Years in Tibet
 Empire
 (£7.50, £4.00 M-F <5pm)
 12.00, 2.50, 5.45, 8.45
 (Late Fr Sat 11.45)

Tomorrow Never Dies
 Exclusive previews at the Odeon Leicester Square from today. Tickets start at £7.50 and can be bought using a credit card by phoning 0181 3154215. Screening times are 12.25, 3.05, 5.50, 8.35

Under The Skin
 Metro
 (£4 students)
 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45

arts

Turner Prize Exhibition
 Now you know who's won, you've no excuse!
 Tate Gallery, Millbank.
 Tube: Pimlico. £1.50
 Also, the Tate permanent collection; an excellent modern collection. Free.

Objects of Desire
 A roundup of the century's best still life.
 Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, Tube: Waterloo.
 Open daily 10am - 6pm
 Price: £5, £3.50 students.

Long, Long, Long Ago...
 Last showing!
 The Court Theatre Training Company, Directed by Ilan Reichel. The Courtyard Theatre, 10 York Way, King's Cross, London N1. 8pm.
 Prices: £7.50 (£5.50)

Victorian Fairy Painting
 Self-explanatory? Perhaps. Play "Who's your favourite goblin?" or just count butterfly wings to your heart's content Royal Academy, Piccadilly, daily until Feb 8
 £4.50 students.

The Jewish Wife with The Jewish Daughter
 Directed by Emily Gottlieb and performed by Limetree Productions. Showing at the New End Theatre, 27 New End, NW3. Tube: Hampstead. Shows 8pm Sunday and Monday. £10, £7 students. See page 23

27 - A Personal Retrospective
 Presented by the Fecund Theatre and showing at the Oval House, 52-54 Kennington Oval, SE11. Tube: Oval. Shows are 7.45pm Thursday to Sunday until 14 December. £7.50, £4.50 students. See page 23

Don McCullin
 If you haven't seen this definitive exhibition of McCullin's famous photography yet, get a move on; it closes on the 14 December. At the Barbican Art Gallery, EC1. Tube: Barbican. Open daily from 10am. £5, £3 students.

clubbing

Peach @ Camden Place
 House 'n' Garage from Graham Gold & crew.
 10pm-6am. £7 b4 11 £10 after. Info: 0171 387 0428
Skirt Xmas Party @ The End
 18 West Central Street, WC1
 Break-beat Action, from Fat Boy Slim, Hardnox etc.
 11pm-5am £10. Info: 0171 419 9199.

The Ends 2nd B-day Party
 Darren Emerson, Mr.C, Basement Jaxx+. 11pm-7am
 £10, £15. 0171 419 9199.
Heavenly Jukebox @ Tummills
 63b Clerkwell Rd, EC1M
 Funky beats 'n' breaks Jon Carter & Andy Weatherall
 10pm-4am £10
 0171 250 3409

Metal-Headz @ Bluenote
 Hoxton Sq, N1
 Up-front D&B from Metalheadz collective.
 0171 729 8440
Absolute Sundays @ Aquarium
 260 Old St, EC1. House 'n' Garage (pool & Jacuzzi)
 7pm-midnight £6/8
 0171 729 9779

Sultry Funk @ Fridge Bar
 1 Town Hall Parade, Brixton Hill
 Soul, Funk & House
 10pm-2am Free.
 0171 326 5100

Roots @ Fridge Bar
 1 Town Hall Parade, Brixton Hill
 Reggae.
 10pm-2am Free
 0171 326 5100

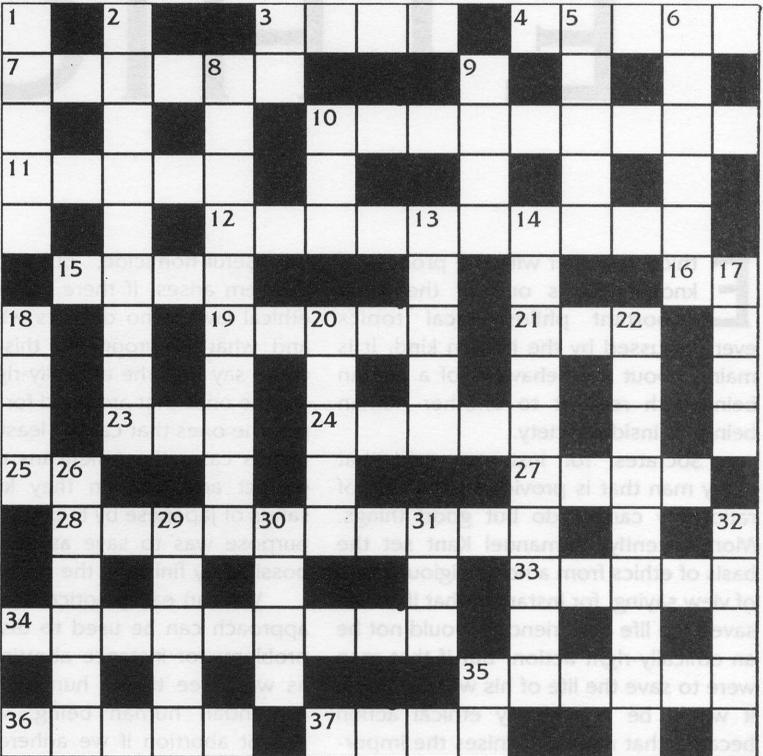
Swerve @ Velvet Rooms
 (Underground)
 Charring Cross Rd, Trend Setting Drum & Bass (look out for full review next week) Fabio & Creative Source Crew.
 10pm-3am £4nus/£6
 0171 439 4655

Lavish @ Tummills
 63b Clerkwell Rd, EC1M
 Underground House 'n' Garage.
 10pm-4am £5 b4 11 £7 after. Info: 0171 250 3409

PUZZLES

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

By Ed



ACROSS

- 3 Leave a path (4)
- 4 Child in SS slides (5)
- 7 Never show initial confusing anxiety (6)
- 10 These magicians sound like they're in pain! (9)
- 11 Nine, and you are tired?! (5)
- 12 A flashing brightness, and it is the stars (10)
- 15 Within Amy lives a chemical group (4)
- 16 Look left (2)
- 19 Man's name gets prize (5)
- 21 Trap small animals, or a spirit (3)
- 23 Fixed group (3)
- 24 Tim back about a hat! (5)
- 25 Metal's source left alternative (2)
- 27 Sit in this place (4)
- 28 Owing to the lact, Ma chains us, perhaps... (2, 8, 2)
- 33 Terry left within stable state (5)
- 34 Store sunk, perhaps, making this fever (9)
- 35 As one the United Nations left noise (6)
- 36 English language teaching that is professiona (5)
- 37 Perhaps said from platform? (4)

DOWN

- 1 Perhaps a glen hides God's servant? (5)
- 2 Sends out and allows through (9)
- 3 A small comparison? (2)
- 5 Possibly a mark of fate (5)
- 6 Ed and liar turn around to run off (6)
- 8 Two eyes get plot, perhaps, to make flap in throat (10)
- 9 Eh! See! He hurts! (4)
- 10 Not quite sick on slopes (3)
- 13 Give these 22 to art, perhaps (5)
- 14 Messy, Ros is green yet finds steps going back (10)
- 17 Oh, friend! You are a precious stone! (4)
- 18 Go and look at this sign! (4)
- 20 Cry with Greek letter in Wales (5)
- 22 Direction in which theatre loses son (9)
- 26 Put you in trial for ceremony (6)
- 29 Property in glass etching (5)
- 30 eep mud causes difficulties (4)
- 31 Eh?! Oh, a tool (3)
- 32 Repay a sound (5)
- 35 We are American (2)

Men Behaving Badly Video to be Won
 First correct entry drawn out of the box on Tuesday morning wins this great prize. Drop entries into Felix or send them in internal mail. Last week's winner was Helena Cocheme of Bio 1. Your prize awaits.

Answers to 1099: **Across:** 1 Bikini, 5 Tarmac, 10 Bangkok, 11 Readied, 12 Dispose, 13 Nailing, 14 Surreal, 16 Voyages, 17 Era, 18 Air Raid, 21 Theatre, 25 Idiomatic, 27 Rescues, 28 Gestapo, 29 Benefit, 30 Beetle, 31 Themes. **Down:** 2 Ioniser, 3 Irsome, 4 Ickle, 5 Turin, 6 Reality, 7 Abiding, 8 Abodes, 9 Adages, 15 Led, 16 Vat, 18 Axings, 19 Reissue, 20 Attract, 22 Essence, 23 Truffles, 24 Resite, 26 Clone, 27 Robot.



ETHICS:



Ethics, together with the process of knowledge, is one of the most important philosophical topics ever discussed by the human kind. It is mainly about the behaviour of a human being with respect to another human being, or inside society.

Socrates, for instance, said that every man that is provided with a bit of rationality cannot do but good things. More recently, Immanuel Kant set the basis of ethics from a non-religious point of view saying, for instance, that if a man saved the life of a friend, it would not be an ethically-right action. But if that man were to save the life of his worst enemy, it would be a perfectly ethical action because that man recognises the importance of human life above any temporary contingency.

The problem is that philosophers sometimes have quite different ideas. Niccolo Machiavelli concluded in 1500 that morality and ethics are not "absolute" values but "relative" to the temporary situation, and this is particularly true for a king or a head of a nation. That is to say that if we need to kill, say, 20 terrorists in order to save a whole city, then that will be a perfectly moral action.

Now, we have to remember that Machiavelli is considered the founder of modern politics and all nations, including the so-called democratic nations use political homicide as a means to achieve their purposes, to ensure the national safety and so on. This is the philosophical basis of many problems of our age.

What we should discuss, in order to find some solutions to these problems, is whether ethics has to be considered a "relative" science (Machiavelli's opinion) or if it has to be based on firm principles that cannot be discussed at all (Kant, Christian way of thinking). It may be very interesting to go through some examples of these different schools of thought and to see the possible consequences.

Consider respect for human life: if we think that ethics has firm principles, then on any occasion we cannot accept the deliberate killing of another man, no matter what the contingency. Then, if we had the chance to go back in time and kill Hitler, we would be unable to do that although it would prevent the second world war and millions of deaths.

If we think that ethics has a relative basis, we would be able to do this "sad-

but-useful homicide," but another huge problem arises. If there are not precise ethical laws, who decides what is right and what is wrong? In this case, we could say that the ethically-right actions are the ones that are good for most people, the ones that cause "least damage". In this case, the Americans executed a perfect action when they killed thousands of Japanese by H-bombing as their purpose was to save as many lives as possible by finishing the war in this way.

We can easily notice that the same approach can be used to discuss other problems, for instance abortion. As long as we agree that a human foetus is a (potential) human being, we cannot accept abortion if we adhere to Kant's

"Is it ethically right to explore space when three men out of five die early because they don't have enough food to keep alive?"

school of thought. According to Machiavelli, if we think that the bearing of this child will bring so many troubles for him and for other people, (for example because his mother doesn't want him or because he has an illness, that will cause him permanent pain) we can abort the birth. In recent years debates on abortion and the death penalty have become more violent.

During this century, in both science and humanities, we have seen the apology of the relativistic approach to every problem. Einstein stated that that time is not an "absolute" entity. Freud investigated the secrets of the human mind and discovered how big the influence of the environment on the development of personality is, and how little the mind knows. Still, in 1997, a lot of fundamentalist groups are flourishing, stating that their ethics and codes of laws are the right ones, and according to these statements they feel free to persecute whoever disagrees with them.

Moreover, is it ethically right to spend huge amounts of money on space exploration, when on this planet three men out of five are destined to die early because they don't have enough food to stay alive? This is not the case if human life is considered the most important value, because EVERY SINGLE LIFE is unique and after it is finished, it will never repeat. There is nothing to regret if we think that everything is relative and every one of us is lucky with respect to a Third World man, and unlucky with respect to a rich business-man. Then what are we supposed to do?

What we know for certain is that religious ethics are not a safe-harbour for most of us. Most people are unlikely to steal because it is forbidden by the law or because it is a socially reprimandable action, rather than because it is forbidden by religion. Therefore it is TOTALLY up to us. If we were a society made of gods, a society in which every single man is able to choose what is best for everybody and not just for himself, then laws wouldn't be necessary. As Socrates said, if we use a bit of rationality, only positive things would exist.

But we are here on this planet: 6 billion thinking beings. Men watch the sky and ask why they are here. They see a comet and think how similar they are to it. A sudden apparition, a wonderful show of bright colours and an equally sudden disappearance. But while we stay here, we must find the best way to interact with other beings like ourselves. We should try to respect their individuality and at the same time pursue common happiness. When we formulate laws, we have to take into account our imperfect and selfish nature, but also our natural right to freedom, since none of us were born in chains and none of us were told at birth that we were superior to others.

The problem remains unsolved now, in the same way that it was thousands of years ago. In fact, it will probably remain unsolved as long as those imperfect creatures called men are part of this universe.

Matteo Floris

OUR NEXT CHALLENGE



Results

Top Guns

B-ball

Hockey

ICHC I 1 - 2 HOLLOWAY
ICWHC 0 - 3 St BART'S I

Football

ICAFC I 1 - 1 GOLDSMITHS
ICAFC II 5 - 0 KING'S II
ICAFC III 3 - 5 ROYAL VET'S I
ICAFC III 1 - 2 HOLLOWAY IV
ICAFC III 6 - 0 St BART'S
ICAFC IV 8 - 1 St GEORGE'S II
ICAFC V 1 - 2 HOLLOWAY VI
ICAFC V 2 - 1 ROYAL FREE III-
ICWAF 1 - 1 ROYAL FREE
ICWAF 2 - 0 LSE

Volleyball

ICVC 3 - 0 WHIPPS
ICVC 3 - 0 SPIKER STUDS

Basketball

ICWBC 46-52 LSE
ICWBC 45-41 GOLDSMITHS
ICWBC 19-58 UCL
ICWBC 49-38 RH
ICWBC 58-26 GOLDSMITHS

Once again the weather was kind to us for our second trip to Hawley for some clay pigeon shooting. Nick's navigation and Jacob's driving lead to some worried faces and one case of travel sickness but we arrived on time and started the day with a 40 bird practice round. All of those who had shot before improved upon last time and the novices of the group surprised themselves by actually shooting quite well on most stands. We then went round again for the individual shoot which gave the honours to Ed Catton for being the high gun, still he is a farm boy and nothing less was expected. Rupert Ingham shot consistently for second place using his recently aquired Merkel 12 bore wire guided missile system which he bought less than a month ago from a bloke who saw him coming a mile off.

After being refreshed with copious teas and some food we set about the main business of the day,

the inter CCU skeet match. This is 25 clays shot from 2 traps at 7 stands and is one of the Olympic shooting disciplines. Due to lighting conditions scores were generally lower than anticipated but again Ed proved equal to the task. The end result was a victory to the C&G partially due to the fact they had 6 shooters to the RCS 4 and the RSM 3. The statistics can be argued for ever and the original suggestion of nominating teams alphabetically gave the closest result.

Those going full bore rifle shooting this Saturday should meet at the Sports Centre at 8am. The archery coaching of Colin Ledsome will be in a regular slot starting at 3pm on Wednesdays. We will enter a BUSA team even next term even if it does cause laughter amongst the opposition but it will be wise to field the best team we can so get on down and show us what you can do.

Three action-packed weeks for IC's ladies! If UCL had not shamelessly injured 3 of our players, 2 of when are out for a long while, we would no doubt only have victories to write about. Indeed, this charming team has succeeded in breaking an ankle, our captain's nose, and (well, nearly) our goddess shooter Pat D.'s finger. Treacherous villainy are the words.

Nevertheless, spirits remain high. As it stands, the team is currently top of the League, and has an excellent chance of reaching the top 32 in BUSA.

Claire D.'s shots deserve a special mention, together with Sandrine B.'s offensive efforts during Friday's match against Goldsmiths. We look forward to more stunning performances from our female basketballers.

Downhill All the Way for IC Skiers

HUSKI'S SERIES

The first race of the Huski's series was held on Sunday evening in Welwyn Garden-City.

Despite being short of racers (due to multiple injuries in the first race) we managed to enter a team comprising of Alex Clerdel, Alex Wright, David Wahl, Caitlin Wroe and Izabelle Kaminska.

The race consisted of two timed individual runs down a slalom course followed by a head to head dual slalom race. There were some good performances all round, especially considering that two members had never raced before. Caitlin won the Ladies slalom.

In the team dual slalom, we had rather an unlucky draw against the "plastic playthings" (who's team consists mainly of ex-England team members) in our first race so we were knocked out instantly. Despite this we gave a brave performance and didn't lose by too much of a margin!

SOMETHING ELSE?

For the first, and probably the last time this season, Imperial managed to remain unbeaten all evening. Despite winning all of our races we somehow only managed to finish in 15th place overall. How is this possible? We may be great skiers, but sadly our orienteering skills are somewhat lacking. Both cars managed to get lost, and as a result we missed the first round of races.

After sweet-talking the judges we were allowed to enter a single team in the remaining rounds. With only a few practise runs before the second round of racing, we easily managed to crush our inferior opponents in the four remaining races.

Despite missing half of the races, we finished a respectable 15th, with some awesome displays of skiing, most notable from Caitlin racing against her older brother.

Rugby

The Imperial Medicals 1st & 2nd XVs have finished with unbeaten records at the top of their respective BUSA league groups, securing promotion into the Southern Premier league, where they will hope to compete on a level footing with the likes of Brunel, Exeter & Bristol. The 1st XV took their group by storm as opposition teams struggled to contain a pack that was both powerful and mobile and the backs were allowed to display some breathtaking running and handling skills in attack, scoring a massive total of 401 points in the seven games. Fierce tackling in defence meant that the team only conceded 53 points in total in the league.

The road to the top of the league was marginally harder for the 2nd XV and the final game of the league saw them facing Portsmouth in a game they had to win. With 10 minutes remaining, the scoreline read 29-20 in the oppositions favour. However, the unyielding spirit of the medics created a breathtaking finish to the match and a try in the corner on the stroke of full time sealed the narrowest of wins and snatched the league away from the grasp of a dispirited Portsmouth side.

Hockey

Holloway I v ICHC I

The firsts set out with an air of expectancy after their Godlike triumph in the group stages (P6 W5 D1 L0). On a grey day at a pitch best described as crap, we battled out a hard fought contest on a frozen afternoon.

After an underserved goal from an underserved short corner, we piled on the pressure to equalize through top scorer and God-like captain Chicken-Bol. The first half ended in a flurry of IC efforts only to end with scores level.

The second-half started just as the first with heavy Holloway pressure. With the Storm Weather a new look team out on the road for a goal. Sadly it was not to be. Through some shocking refing, they were awarded a penalty which was missed. Another bout of IC pressure ended with a RH player catching the ball and not being sent off (as should have been his punishment), someone knee-capping Sid the Sexist (no card again) and another penalty for them for no reason (which they scored). At the end of the day, Brian, Hockey was the loser.

Holloway I 2 - 1 ICHC I



So great it's unbelievable

ICFC I v Golds I

First team captain Chris Soberg escaped with a warning following a meeting with a ULU disciplinary committee, even though the committee stressed that his offence against UMDS was "pathetically tiny" rather than "small" as reported by Felix last week. Injuries gave Tony Boyce and Felix Schroeder their first team debuts, while Jules Porreca and Phillip Siverns were recalled, the latter after a 28-year spell with the Seconds.

Goldies dominated early on, but failed to create scoring opportunities, and it wasn't surprising when Warren Brayn crossed for Boyce to score on his debut.

In the second half Goldsmiths equalised when poor marking gave Goldies' a free header from 5 yds from a corner kick. Goldsmiths then took the lead when confusion between Psycho and Steve Fleming led to Goldies' top scorer scoring his 7th goal against Imperial in 3 seasons. Brayn made it 2-2 with a clinical finish after he was put through by Porreca. Brayn then got Imperial's third with a great strike from 30 yards. Perhaps not undeservedly Goldies equalised after Siverns had left a huge gap down Imperial's left hand side.

ICAFC I 3 - 3 Goldsmiths I

ICFC IV v George's II

The herd of buffalo that are the IC Fourths continued their winning rampage up the League, with a dominating performance over the Muppets at Cobham.

We are now probably the highest placed Fourth-team in the whole of the London University Football, but better still we are placed ahead of IC Thirds in our league. As with the Georgian military coup of 1963 the victors started badly and if Georges could have shot as straight as the Soviet army they would have been three goals up. As it was, the Fourths fluked a goal against the run of play and let Georges equalise before going on to dominate the rest of the game.

Speaking words of wisdom, Andy Swift superbly marshalled the defence that was also Perez, David and Paul, a player who is surely playing the best footie of his career. But as usual the attacking players will always take the most credit; Darren 'Dazzler' Boland, (perhaps back to his best) scored a hat-trick, old bastard Morgan a brace, Serge a Zola-esque free-kick, and both Dave and Perez quality goals.

Even that half-wit with the hat played OK...

St George's II 1 - 8 ICAFC IV

ICWFC v City

It was cold, wet and miserable, but this did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of 7 IC players who left the shelter of west London to brave the 5 a side team of City university. The game started well, with IC continually taking shots. Unfortunately they had a keeper who could actually keep. But with persistence Wee Marissa actually put one in. We swapped players at 1/3 time and feeling confident started to play again. Unfortunately, Vasso of the 5-a-side rules conceded a penalty when she stepped in the circle. With the score at one all the stakes were high, and it was at this moment that the opposition's coach noticed Wee Marissa's superb ball handling skills and set two men on her. But this did leave Hacker Lyle free to play off some superb crosses from Olly and the now bleeding Medic, eventually scoring two more goals.

During the 2nd interval Amy complained about not touching the ball (she was in goal). Despite her state of mind, she occasionally put down her book long enough to save a penalty. In the final third with encouragement from Katherine, both Wee Marisa and Hacker Lyle scored making it 3 and a hat-trick for Hacker Lyle.

At the end of the evening we were jubilant at having won our first 5 a side match of the season.

ICWAF 5 - 3 City university

ICFC II v King's II

With the future of King's College football club in doubt after a £700 fine for poaching a ref, IC met the King's seconds in despondent mood. With third team ringers Jag, John and Johnno the seconds were by no means assured of victory. As the game began IC looked so good it was untrue, but as the half progressed King's became increasingly dominant and it was only superb defending from Loz, Phil The Pill, Jules and Johnno kept us in the game - allowing Martin's superb goal to separate the teams at half time. Shielding the ball, he turned and shot in one motion from the penalty spot and curled it into the top corner.

In the second half King's fell apart and we heaped on the humiliation with Jag scoring two on his debut, Jules scoring a fine goal and Martin sealing a fine performance with his third goal of the season.

Special praise must be given to Chris "Scouse" Barlow who was superb in goal as he has been all season - player of the year so far.

King's II 0 - 5 ICFC II

Stop press.

In a shock result tonight, the elite of Men's rugby were crushed by the superior drinking prowess of a ladies' hockey team in a boat race. This result highlights both the woe-ful abilities of men's rugby and the alcoholic might of ladies' hockey.

Ed's greatest hits

(and kicks)

The ULU karate squad have been involved in a few scrapes over the year. The first was in the Southern Regionals. Around seven rounds were fought before Ed Dos Santos qualified - this was gonna be tough. The fight started with both fighters testing one-another reflexively. Ed was acting the aggressor. His opponent was having none of it. Ed launched with a Tobi Uraken-Uchi flying back fist strike. However, it was anticipated; the attack was blocked and a Gyak (reverse punch) was piled to Ed's mid-section. Ed was a Half-Point down, fight re-started, this time with more movement. Ed faked and threw a Reverse punch which landed making it evens. With time clocking, the next point would

surely win. Fortunately Ed landed a solid backhand blow to the face

Ed took the Southern Regional Individual Male Kumite (Sparring) Title and won the Enoeda award for best fighting spirit that year. In the individuals, Ed had progressed well until he faced the best karateka from Cambridge. It was a close call but Donny took it on the day.

When the ULU team went back to Chesterfield in an attempt to retain the student national title, Ed was looking good. He had to face Pat, an England KUGB fighter who had beaten him in the open nationals in Summer. They knew each other and the fight saw a few exchanges. After a long and drawn out affair, Ed got caught with a blow to the body to send him out.

Grandmaster Mestel and the Furious Fifty

How would you like to take on a world-famous Grandmaster at chess? Not really up to that standard? OK, let's even it up a little - we'll give the Grandmaster 50 opponents at the same time. Interested now? On Monday 15 December Dr Jonathan Mestel of the Maths Department will be giving a simultaneous display of his chess skills. Dr Mestel is a Grandmaster twice over, having received the title for "over the board" play and for "problem solving" - the only person in the world to hold two Grandmaster titles. Given the circumstances this is probably the best chance you'll

ever get to beat a Grandmaster. If you lose you'll be in good company, and if you win (or even draw) you'll be a hero!

The Challenge will take place in Lecture Theatre 341 in Huxley (Maths), starting at 6.30pm. ALL CHESS-PLAYING MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE ARE INVITED, but places are limited and priority will be given to students. Light refreshments will be provided for those taking part. Spectators are welcome. To book your place in the Mestel Challenge, or for further information about the Chess Club, please contact Bany Gale, b.j.gale@ic.ac.uk.