

SP

8  
March  
1999

# FELIX

KEEP THE CAT FREE EST. 1949

Issue  
1139

The Students' Newspaper at Imperial College

## Seven Year Wait For Clayponds Over?

After a wait of over five years, it seems that the residents of Clayponds Hall may finally get a Village Hall. Currently the hall has no common social area, and the construction of a separate building to house a common room has been rejected by college in previous years. However, it seems that the hall will be built only if residents agree to a surcharge being added to their rent to cover the cost.

Clayponds is a community of over three hundred students, both undergraduates and postgraduates, consisting of flats within several houses. The entire site was a residential development that was bought by the college part way through its construction, and has since been turned into what is inappropriately called a village. Inappropriately because Clayponds has never had any social area or common room; Joanne Christer, a subwarden at Clayponds, described the TV room as "a garage with a few seats in it".

Thus in 1992 the then new warden,

By Ed Sexton

Danny Segal (who was unavailable at the time of writing), started a project to get a 'village hall' built for Clayponds. According to Jason Bain, who has lived at Clayponds for over five years, "there are many people in college, for whatever reason, don't want the common room built." Certainly little progress has been made in that time - the project has been discussed in college committees, such as the wardens' sub-committee and the Rector's Committee on Student Residences, proposals have been put forward, and the matter has then been quietly forgotten about. As current warden Mark Tyrer put it, "everybody thought it was a good idea, but nothing happened". Apparently some members of college have suggested that not all the students at Clayponds want the hall to be built, an accusation that student representatives deny. One senior student at the hall commented

"there seems to be a general feeling that the Estates people are pretty apathetic towards us, viewing us as out of sight, out of mind."

According to Ian Caldwell, the Director of Estates, the proposed building would cost no more than £75,000 - a small amount when compared to other college projects. As the building is part of a residence, however, it would have to be funded from the residences account. This is the crux of the problem - every year these funds have been allocated to projects deemed to be more important. Indeed, Mark Tyrer was told by college that "there isn't the funds available". Mr Caldwell did say, however, that he "could see the students' view", stoically stating "I build what I'm told to build".

The latest plan appears to be to add 90p onto Claypond's weekly rent for the

next five years, which would cover the cost of the hall. This proposal has had a mixed reception. According to Ms Christer the students "are perfectly willing to do it, as long as it has what they want in it." Many object to the move on principle, with one warden describing as a "rather ugly precedent". Mr Bain described the proposal as "ridiculous", stating "the residents at Clayponds should not be singled out to pay for this facility." He went on to explain that "the situation with the common room is one of many factors which has lead me to resign from the position of Assistant Warden." David Hellard has made clear his opinion is similar; "I can't believe College can be so petty". There is a glimmer of hope for Clayponds, however; Mr Caldwell cautiously stated that there "might be the potential to find some funding from somewhere else [other than students' rent]". Mark Tyrer summed up the current situation succinctly; "there is no reason why it couldn't be built this summer."

## Medics Retain Hospitals Cup

IC School of Medicine have once again confirmed their place as one of the top student rugby sides in the country, after winning the prestigious UH Cup for a second successive year.

A final scoreline of 21-12 over fellow newcomers GKT (formerly Guys, Kings and Thomas' Medical Schools; now part of Kings College) was the minimum the team deserved after a performance which, in truth, was superior to the opposition in almost every department. In particular, ICSM's set-piece play saw them pressurising GKT at every opportunity, thanks to utter domination in the line-out and fine work with the boot from Ian Macleod at full-back.

An early penalty from ICSM was followed up with fifteen minutes during which the ball never seemed to leave GKT's 22. This non-stop pressure had to pay off, and eventually a well worked back-move rolled off a lineout and saw the ball put down between the posts. The conversion, coupled with a penalty which resulted from relentless ICSM pressure put

By David Roberts



Photo: Dave

the score up to 13-0. Attempting to fight back, GKT momentarily moved out of their half, but good cover work coupled with decisive kicking saw off the threat, and another Macleod penalty on the stroke of half-time pushed the lead out to sixteen points.

After the interval, both teams came out looking to play a more expansive game, which saw the ball rush from one end of the pitch to the other. Eventually,

however, lapses in concentration coupled with a few missed tackles saw GKT charge down the field to notch up their first try and narrow the gap to eleven points. This sudden impetus produced an immediate shot of adrenaline to GKT, who came alive with a burst of powerful play. A penalty try, awarded for "repeated infringements" was their reward, and the gap became just four points. But, with the tension now running incredibly high, ICSM's superiority shone through. A brilliant period of play saw the ball pass through the hands of virtually every back, before finally being touched down in the corner. The crowd went wild and poured onto the pitch; with ICSM nine points in the lead and less than five minutes to play, the result was no longer in doubt. The game resumed, but a couple of minutes later the referee blew for time, and ICSM Captain Ben Carpenter stepped up to collect the historic trophy.

ICSM Scorers:

Tries: James Platt, Alistair Morris  
Penalties: Ian Macleod (3)  
Conversions: Ian Macleod (1)

## Inside...

Letters - More moaning	6
Editorial - Clayponds	7
Columns - 50 Years On	8
Comic Relief	12
Competition	12
Arts - Guys & Dolls	14
Books - Hot Sex	17
Film - Life is Beautiful	18
Clubscene - Gus Gus Live	20
Music - Beverly Knight	22
Games - Pool Shark	25
Sport - Inter Departmental	26
Diversions - The next 7 days	27



# Ince Inflates Food Fees

Food prices in the ICU catering outlets - Da Vinci's, dB's, the Wednesday and Friday barbecue and the Union Bar - look set to rise from today by about ten percent across the board. This will mean that curries are now £1.20, and a main meal will be around £2.50. The policy was decided on by the Union Trading Committee, and approved by Council on Tuesday.

The reasoning behind this move is that the outlets are currently running at a massive loss - expected to be around twenty thousand pounds by summer. There are several factors influencing this loss. Biology's move to the BMS (with its College-run café), and increased staffing costs due to

By Gareth Morgan

the opening of the baguette bar in dB's have had an effect. The final straw however was an EU directive entitling part-time workers to holiday benefits, or in the case of ICU staff, a six day lump sum paid every 13 weeks.

Although every effort was made to reduce the losses, the price rises were the "last resort" according to a member of the Trading Committee, who went on to add, "We really had no other option. Catering was budgeted to break even this year, but it's making a huge loss." Subsidising the

catering from other Union funds, advocated by the DP (F&S) candidates at the hustings, is "not a good idea."

The move has received a generally negative reaction from students however. Responses ranged from "fuck off" to complaints that the food was supposed to be a service for students. One Union figure questioned the marketing of the catering outlets though: if trade could be brought in from the College outlets then the problems could be solved. Better advertising on campus could help to achieve this.

On a lighter note, Council approved a pay rise of five pence per hour for Union staff, bringing their wages to £3.70 an hour.

**FELIX**  
KEEP THE CAT FREE EST. 1949

Issue 1139

8 March 1999

Editor: Ed Sexton  
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Games Editor: Gary Smith  
Clubscene: Giles Morrison,  
Gurminder Marwaha & Joel Lewis  
Sports Editor: Gus Paul

## Bike Thieves Arrested

A man has been arrested after attempting to steal a bicycle from College

By Ed Sexton

premises. Three other men were also detained at the scene. It is believed that the four may be one of the 'gangs' that has been targeting Imperial College for bike theft in recent years. Although pleased with the men's capture, Chief Security Officer Ken Weir warned cyclists to be vigilant, and outlined some ways in which students and staff can help prevent the crimes.

The incident began when security guards noticed three men acting suspiciously outside Biochemistry at around 2pm on Thursday 25 February. The men walked off campus towards Queen's Gate, and were challenged by security at the junction of Queen's Gate and Imperial College Road. The men, who all spoke with a Liverpool accent,



Photo: Rachel

refused to produce identity cards or say whether they were members of the college. Security then requested police assistance. While waiting for the police, a fourth man appeared from the campus with a mountain bike. One of the original three shouted "Run, the police are coming!" The man attempted to escape on the bike but was accosted by a security guard and a member of the Estates division. The police arrested him on arrival. As the incident is still part of a police investigation,

information concerning the men is restricted, but Ken Weir, Chief Security Officer, is hopeful that "this is one of the groups that have been targeting us", reiterating his belief that the majority of bike theft at the college is carried out by organised gangs.

Recent news stories and letters sent to Felix have reopened the bike theft debate. In response to last week's Felix, Ken Weir made several points. He agreed that cameras were not as effective as people tended to think, mainly because students and staff park their bikes wherever is convenient for them and, as he put it, "we cannot put cameras everywhere". Carol Lo's advice [see letters, Felix 1138], to use an old bike and remove the saddle when leaving it unattended, was applauded by Mr Weir.

A dying breed, thanks to security

Mr Weir stated that he would very much like to hear from any student who has any ideas on how to combat bike theft; letters should be addressed to Mr Ken Weir, Chief Security Officer, Sherfield Building. Emails can be sent to [cso.security@ic.ac.uk](mailto:cso.security@ic.ac.uk). Although he could not guarantee he would respond to every letter, he did say he was open to student opinion. In the mean time, if you suspect a theft is in progress, find an internal phone and dial 4444 (the college's emergency number).

## Connolly in Drag

By David Roberts

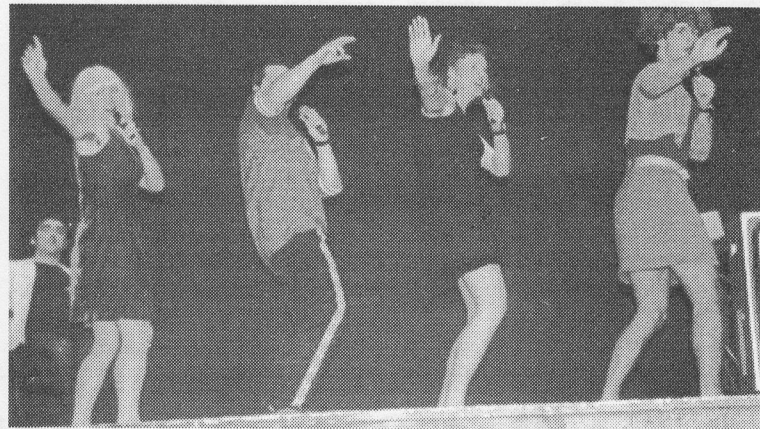


Photo: Steve

The cream of Electrical Engineering strut their funky stuff

Following up on the success of the Chemical Engineering Revue on 2 February (*Felix* 1135), the Electrical Engineering show attracted an audience of around 100 students and staff when the curtain was raised on 25 February.

The Revue, organised by the Department of Electrical Engineering Society, included a dozen or so acts covering the broad spectrum of "entertainment" - from satirical swipes at senior staff to musical numbers from Guilds President Reuben Connolly (pictured above). Also included on the bill were acts from staff, including departmental legends Bob Spence and Peter Cheung, who fortunately seemed equally happy to send themselves up.

Amongst the other highlights of the show was Gary Smith's rendition of "demonstrator training", which included classes on student confusion, avoiding the question and confabulation - and

struck true with members of all departments. Later in the first half, five intrepid students took to the stage to give a (thankfully mimed) rendition of the Spice Girls. Sadly, carefully choreographed dance routines seemed to have been forgotten, in favour of random movements across the stage. However, nothing could prepare the audience for what was to follow: after a quick change Reuben returned to the stage to perform a re-recorded version of Robbie Williams 'Millennium' - this time entitled 'Engineering'. In comparison to the painful quality of his backing singers, he looked like the embodiment of Mr Williams himself.

The first show of its kind in the department for several years, it was hailed as a triumph by coordinator Sanela Hodzic. Of course, the high attendance had nothing to do with the free beer on offer. Or the suggestion that past papers would only be on sale after the Revue...



## In brief...

### CCU Presidents To Pay Rent

CCU presidents will no longer live rent-free in Halls for the first two terms, after a motion passed by Council last Tuesday. Although they still have the option of a room in Halls, they will have to pay for it. Under the previous system, they would buy beer for barnights with the money they saved on rent - a legally dubious area since the Union cannot subsidise alcohol. The move also stands to save the Union in excess of £5000.

### Football Fracas

The IC Football Seconds face disciplinary action this week after an alleged incident on a train returning from a recent match in Plymouth, which took place on 24 February. Complaints were received by College from the train operator suggesting that a group of IC students had vandalised a train carriage, including "breakages, abusive behaviour, and vomiting". The reason for this behaviour was put down to "extreme inebriation".

According to sources close to the team, the students involved are admitting that their actions did cross the line, but will ask to be treated sympathetically as this would be their first offence.

### A Momentary Lapse of Confidence?

Royal School of Mines Union President Alistair Fox attempted to pass a motion of no confidence in DP (C&S) Marie Nicholaou at Union Council last Tuesday. This would, if passed, result in her dismissal from the post, and possibly the re-running of the sabbatical elections, as Mr Fox expressed dissatisfaction with her performance as Returning Officer. However, he did not follow the correct procedures (which require him to warn the Chair in advance, so that evidence can be gathered on both sides) and the motion was rejected. Mr Fox intends to resubmit his motion at the next Council, on 4 May, by which time the true motivations for his actions should have come to light.

### More discounts

Thanks to the continuing efforts of ICU President Dave Hellard, the number of local stores offering discounts for IC stu-

dents continues to grow. Both Tower Records and Ernest Jones on High Street Kensington now offer a 10% discount on production of a Union Card or Swipe Card. As a quick reminder, IC students are also entitled to the following discounts: **10% off at:** HiTek, Top Gun, London: Dallas Pizza and Pasta (if over £10 a head), Kensington Leather, Market Leather, Blazer, Jeans West, SON-AKensington, Blacks, YHA Adventure Shop, 1 hr Photos, Footlights (Food only). **Plus:** Tumblers (15% off food); The Studio (25% off cuts) and Hair at Fairy (£1 off a cut and 10% off anything else).

### Imperial Earns It

It's official - Imperial College is the highest-earning institution in the United Kingdom. A report in The Times Higher Education supplement reveals that the College's total income for 1998 was over £309 million, topping both Oxford and Cambridge. A complete set of figures will be published in the annual Noble's Higher Educational Financial Yearbook, to be released later this spring.

### You Must Be Joking

Imperial students coming in to classes everyday from afar on the London Underground no longer need complain of fatigue and intense boredom brought on by the blandest of carriage surroundings, or so say Nintendo, provided their plans to improve conditions on the tube go ahead.

Nintendo have delivered plans to fit the new trains to go on the Jubilee Line with Nintendo Gameboy colour consoles, a move they hope will prove beneficial to commuters who suffer from high stress levels due to their long and arduous journeys deep down in the bowels of the earth. The consoles are apparently an "experimental look into providing commuters with mentally stimulating ways to alleviate their boredom".

### University Challenge

The Imperial College trials for University Challenge will take place later this month, as previously announced. Interested students are invited to attend the trials, which will be held on Tuesday the 16th of March in room 344 of the Huxley Building at 6pm sharp. If you wish to try out, please email [quiz@ic.ac.uk](mailto:quiz@ic.ac.uk) in advance. Past trial quiz question sets can be found online at <http://www.icparc.ic.ac.uk/~cah1/UC/>

## Security Alert to New Working Week

Turbulent times lay ahead for college security as a recent European directive is set to reform their working week and consequently their contracts.

Designed to "protect the health and safety of workers" the new regulations set a maximum working week of 48 hours, placing the responsibility of compliance with the employer, irrespective of how many companies an individual may work for. The directive, which came into force on October 1 1998, goes on to describe a stringent set of working practices including regular rest periods and free health assessments for night staff. The college is currently in contravention of the legislation, with many security staff working 72 hours a week; but as Government approval came only a few weeks before implementation, employers have been given a temporary respite.

Categorised as "self-determining" academic staff are exempt from the measures as they have autonomy over their working hours. The college has been aware of the working time regulations for some time, but chose to wait for all exemptions to be finalised in the hope that security staff would be unaffected. The situation has still not been clarified, but the college must now face the task of balancing staff wages with reduced working hours. Michael Saul, security's Unison Representative, saw the benefits of the new regulations commenting "It's a good thing, it stops employers exploiting their workers", but went on to say "The problem is security are lowly paid, the only way to make the job sustainable is overtime."

1992 saw the last major upheaval in college security, where a proposal to disperse with in-house security staff and

By Andrew Ofori

put a contract out to tender was defeated by the magnitude of opposition. This lead to the introduction of shift work, and put an end to the 48 hour week college security had previously operated.

"We don't feel we should lose anything, but I should imagine we are going to" was the prediction from one security officer as he explained the apprehension of his contemporaries. Another officer warned "If they only pay 48 hours... they could end up with a mass exodus".

The Chief of Security, Ken Weir, is researching into exactly which of the regulations applied to his staff and felt officers had little to worry about at such a preliminary stage of the reforms, but conceded "The 48 hour working week is likely to adversely affect the security staff". He stated he is "currently looking at several ways in which we can overcome our legal obligations that were laid by the working time directive", explaining "We've got no legal choice, we have to make reforms." Keith Reynolds, Head of Security concurred: "Whether we like it or not, we're going to have to re-structure to some degree...we're not going to be able to please everybody all of the time", but he saw the alterations as a chance to create a better system.

Any proposals will be subject to extensive consultation with college departments as well as organisations such as the Health and Safety Executive and the final decision lies with the Management Planning Group. Security's Mr Saul was convinced "they'll [college] approach it in a sensible way" and Ken Weir assured: "The security of the college is not going to be compromised in any way".

## CCU Elections Are Go!

The dust has hardly settled from the ICU elections and already the Constituent College Union elections are upon us.

Voting for the Royal College of Science President and Vice Presidents for Finance and Clubs and Entertainments takes place today and tomorrow, with ballot boxes in all RCS departments. There are two candidates for President: Will Bently (currently VP Finance) and James Farrar (editor of Boradsheet).

Election papers have come down for both ICSM Union, and City and Guilds College Union. When Felix went to

By Gareth Morgan

press Sanela Hodzic, Mat Collins and Marie Nicholaou were standing for C&G President; a full list of candidates for ICSMU President was unavailable.

Gulix editor Dinesh Ganesarajah, who has stood for the posts of both RCSU and ICSMU President, has had his nomination for the RCSU post annulled, but his bid for the (sabbatical) ICSMU job remains real. It remains to be seen whether Dinesh (last seen in a desert, sporting sunglasses, and an Arab head-dress) will be leading the Medics into the new Millenium.



# Railcards all-round

By David Roberts

Campaigning work by London's student Unions, aimed at extending the LT discount scheme to cover all students seems to be paying off.

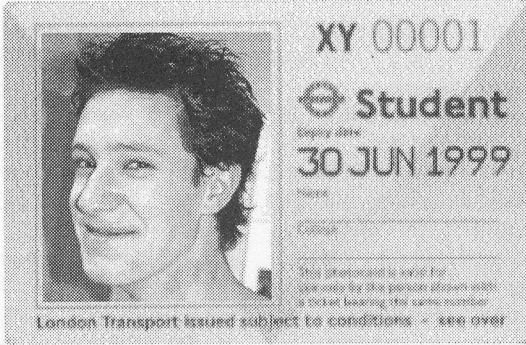
According to ICU President Dave Hellard, London Transport "have done a U-Turn in their stereotypes of what a student is". As a result, mature students will probably be added to the scheme, and the cards will become available to students whose studies continue through the summer months (at present all cards only run until 30 June). Weekly travel cards will also be added to the scheme.

Moreover, LT are looking to give Union's permission to issue and administer the cards - which should put an end to the incredible delays currently experienced by many students. Similarly, for those students at smaller

institutions (who do not have the capacity to administer the scheme), the process will be speeded up by utilising one clearing house (rather than sending all the

info to one place, where it is opened, and stamped, before being sent on to the next stage, as at present). In return, however, the cost of the card will rise to £3.

This series of breakthroughs has come as a surprise to many leading the campaign - until recently LT had seemed entrenched in their position, refusing to accept that mature and post-grad students need help. However, a massive influx of letters of complaint, coupled with the support of the University Vice Chancellor seems to have tipped the scales. As Dave Hellard says, "It's looking very promising".



# Iraqis Out In Force

By Brett Donovan

A strange sight confronted those of us wanting to access Prince Consort Road on Saturday afternoon. Several hundred Iraqi protestors enveloped the area to express their grievances regarding the assassination of Ayatollah Mohammed Al-Sadr at the hands of Saddam Hussain. The Physics department being nearer the Iraqi embassy, proved to be the most popular site for the protesters. Al-Sadr was

regime of human rights violations including the Iran-Iraq war and the invasion of Kuwait.

Actions included the burning of pictures of Hussain and demonstrators chanting their support for speakers. Some campaigners arrived and departed by coach to continue their demonstration at Trafalgar Square. Apart from the obvious

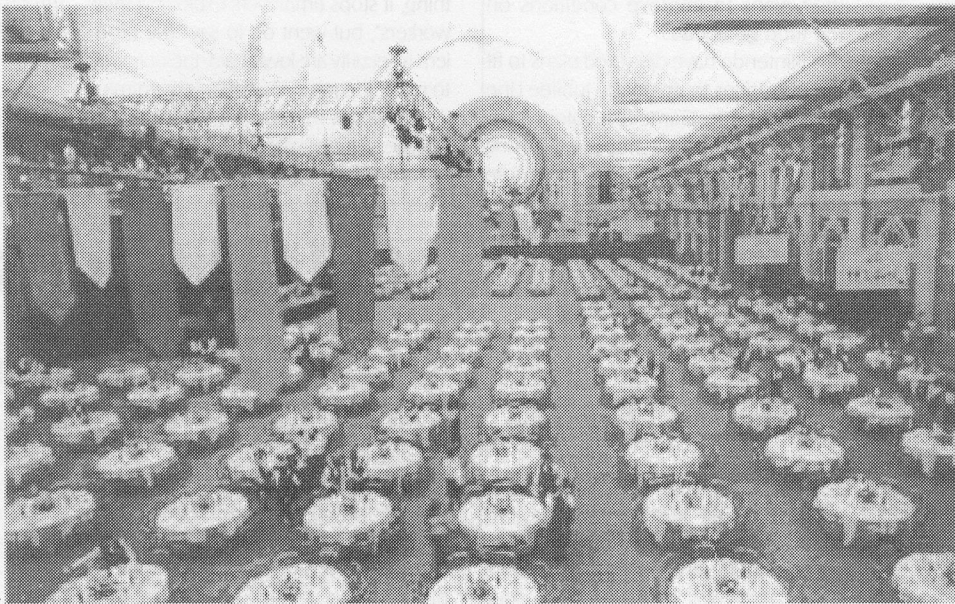


the Grand Ayatollah, the religious leader of Shia Muslims and was murdered whilst giving a sermon. The protestors campaigned against Hussain's

disruptions to the traffic, Imperial was only slightly inconvenienced as one of the entrances to the car-park was blocked.



## ALEXANDRA PALACE



[www.su.ic.ac.uk/summerball](http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/summerball)

# Room to Party!

# WHERE WILL YOU BE LIVING IN 1999/2000?

## *YOUR ACCOMMODATION QUESTIONS ANSWERED!*

Where to live

Where to look

Paying the Rent

Inventories

Deposits

Who to live with

Contracts

**A talk given by ULAO staff in association with the  
Private Housing Office**

Date: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Time: 5pm

Place: Room 220, Mechanical Engineering



## Camborne Coverage

Dear Felix,

I am writing to comment on the space allocation in Felix. On the 20th February, the Royal School of Mines played Camborne (note the spelling). One would expect this event to be well covered, since it is a major sporting event. In fact, I was under the illusion that this was the case, with the new Felix Editor, Dave Roberts covering the matches for us. Imagine the surprise in the RSM then, when expecting a decent spread, there was a brief report on the front page. On turning to the sports pages at the back, expecting further coverage I was shocked to see that Fellwalking had a whole half page. I would have thought that the remarkable achievement of completing a whitewash for the first time ever over CSM would merit a proper report, not a paragraph for each of the sports. I did not bother writing a rugby report, we won for the third consecutive year by the way, since one presumes that the presence of a Felix reporter on the touchline negates such things. It was great to have so many supporters present (perhaps the DP(C&S) missed the bus) and I hope you enjoyed yourselves.

Yours truly,

Matthew Cockayne  
RSMRFC Captain

**I am very sorry you feel this way - I had hoped that a front page mention would please the ACC and other sports clubs, as I suspect many of you consider me to be bias against your activities. Still, I'm sure Dave will cover it fully when you win next year.** - Ed

## Welfare Out of Touch

Dear Felix Editor,

I would like to complain about the ICU Welfare Newsletter in last week's issue of Felix which focuses on the use of ecstasy and cannabis. It seems that instead of impartially providing the facts needed for people to make informed lifestyle choices, this article has used the usual scaremongering techniques to scare people away from drugs. I consider this irresponsible and unnecessary.

Firstly I question the statistic of 1 in 12 having tried ecstasy in the UK, is this based on the entire population (including, say, the elderly), or perhaps more realistically on a 'young' age range of maybe 15-25 year olds?

And secondly, why is cannabis described as being relatively harmless compared only to heroin? There is a lot

of scientific research which shows that cannabis is also relatively harmless compared to the more socially acceptable drugs alcohol and tobacco, and that's in terms of its addictive properties, adverse psychological and physiological effects, and also general social problems (e.g. violence).

The apparently harmful effects of cannabis are listed as though they are facts, although the only reliable evidence currently available suggests that cannabis may only slightly impair certain cognitive functions after long term use, and may also slightly increase the incidence of mouth cancer. These adverse effects seem small to those accepted to be caused by alcohol use, and certainly for tobacco use.

And so what if 2 out of 5 people who have used cannabis in the last year will have also tried another type of illegal drug? This is hardly surprising considering that anybody who wishes to use cannabis is forced to come into contact with harder substances via their dealers. This seems to be the only gateway effect of soft drugs leading to harder drugs, and this effect would be eliminated if cannabis was decriminalised. The respect for the illegal status of harder drugs would also be restored if decriminalisation of cannabis occurred.

I'm not saying cannabis is wonderful and everyone should smoke it, its not a drug that suits everyone and like all recreational activities (e.g. drinking or gambling) its use requires a certain amount of self-discipline and sensibility.

It's about time drug issues were treated realistically, and drug users given a little more respect and credibility. After all there is a difference between responsible drug use, and drug abuse - believe it or not.

Undergraduate Chemist

**I would like to say that I agree (almost) entirely with this letter. I didn't say anything last week about the Welfare Newsletter, as I felt it was wrong to comment, but since someone else has brought it up...** - Ed

## Gnat Chum Comes Out

Dear crossword doers

I feel obliged to hold up my hand and admit that I have not been thorough enough when checking my crosswords for spelling and content. Please believe me when I say that there is no one more disappointed that I when a mistake is printed on a Monday morning. At the moment I am the sole contributor of crosswords to Felix. I try to get a crossword out every week but this will

become increasingly difficult as the exam season approaches. Anyone who thinks they could compose a puzzle (it's not that hard) or would just like to help out please walk into the Felix office any time or e-mail.

However, I make no apology for making clues ridiculously obscure from time to time.

Yours

Nice thin and amusing  
(aka Gnat Chum)

**Gnat Chum would also like to apologise for not producing a crossword this week, wouldn't he?** - Ed

## The Origins of Felix

Dear Ed Sexton

May I reminisce?

The familiar name used by the intimates in the Links Club of the Founding Father of Felix, that is to say Ted (EH) Hughes, was "Felix" - where that came from no one knew, from his schooldays perhaps. Felix Hughes, debonair, with a dry wit and a satirical cast of mind, was a Guildsman and a Mechanical Engineer. He would not have applied his own name to the College Newspaper he founded in 1949, but F C Ewels (whom I do not recall) urged its adoption as a memorial to its founder and as an assonant genuflexion to its ancient cousin Phoenix.

Felix and Phoenix were rivals only for the services of the college literati. Phoenix appeared once a term; it was and still is the IC literary magazine, an outlet for essayists, poets, critics and artists. Felix was and still is a weekly newspaper of record with topical news and views about events, societies and clubs. It was also dammed hard work and no doubt still is.

Those who fancied writing in those days tended to be members of IC Scriblerus Club (now defunct) named after the eighteenth century literary society of Pope, Swift and Addison. It was dedicated to satirising crimes and follies in the use and abuse of science, medicine and technology; its tie bore a silver quill on a blue background (I still have mine).

We all collaborated with Ted Hughes to keep Felix supplied with copy and came to wield considerable political influence in the College - over refectory prices, for example, or the election of society officers. We all mucked in and found the pace very different in Felix from Phoenix; the experience of both stood me in good stead when I later went to edit Nature.

H G Wells founded Phoenix as the 'normal schools journal', and published in it the first draft of his novel 'The Time Machine'. E H Hughes founded Felix and it is his name that is remembered in the title of the newspaper.

Salutations to you,

Yours sincerely,

Tony de Reuck  
One time Editor of Phoenix  
Copy writer for Felix  
RCS Physics 1947-51

**Thank you kindly, sir, for solving the enigma of the cat's origins, and giving us an insight into those early days. I suppose I should reward you with a saucer of milk... or perhaps something stronger?** - Ed

**Deadline for letters is 12noon Wednesday.**  
Letters may be edited for length, but will not be altered in any other way. Letters need not be signed, but a swipe card must be shown when submitting anonymous letters.

**FELIX**  
KEEP THE CAT FREE EST. 1949

## The Week Ahead

### Monday

Games Meeting	12.30pm
Film Meeting	1pm
News & Photography Meeting	1.30pm

### Tuesday

News Meeting	12pm
Clubscene	12pm

### Thursday

Phoenix Meeting	12pm
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### Friday

News Meeting	1.20pm
Music Meeting	1.30pm



## Clayponds' Village Hall

This week, I have only one thing to say to Sheffield - take Simon Baker's advice, and stop rejecting small and unfashionable projects on the grounds of saving funds. Build the Clayponds Village Hall this summer.

"Ah-ha!" I hear you smug College Committee goers say, "It doesn't work like that! Every year we spend all the residences' money on more important projects, such as making sure current halls are safe, pleasant, and not about to fall down. You wouldn't want us to neglect student safety for the sake of a common room, would you?" Of course not. The answer is simple - give the residences pot some more cash. We are talking 3% of the boat house's cost; less than half a percent of the BMS' bill. Sell off some of the excess granite from the flowerbeds, reduce some of the six figure salaries in Sheffield by a few percent, and you're half way there. Don't like that idea? Oh, I am surprised...

At the end of the day the problem is Clayponds' location. It isn't a fashionable project, it isn't extravagant or likely to be recognised as a great construction achievement. When the man or woman who has blocked the hall's erection looks out of their Level 5 window in Sheffield, they will not see a great glass tower gleaming in the sunlight. I don't know who that man or woman is, or possibly men or women, but I think the residents

of Clayponds would like to know. Anyone who wants to tell me who the culprits are over a quiet pint, I'm buying.

As for the suggestion of paying for it with increased rent... I'm not sure. 90p a week is, what, about £30 a year? It isn't a lot of money, and if the students are happy to pay it, then I say go ahead and let's get the damn thing built. We can argue about the ethics afterwards. And argument there should be; charging residents for new hall facilities sets a dangerous precedent. How long before such a move leads to students being charged for essential but unexpected work, rather than 'non-vital' projects such as that at Clayponds?

## A Nice Word for Mr Caldwell

Have I lost my journalistic cynicism, I hear you cry? No, in fact it increases with every issue, but I am a reasonable man. Mr Caldwell emailed me a letter late last Wednesday, which I assumed was not for publication given its informal tone.

Mr Caldwell would like to point out that it is not Estates' fault that the college has difficulty getting planning permission for projects. He would like to remind students that activities that piss off our neighbours, many of whom are influential on the local council, are likely to jeopardise future college building plans, and thus waste college money. Mr Caldwell

describes himself as "young at heart", and states that he "supports students enjoying themselves", but also believes several hundred thousand pounds of planning fees have been lost due to antisocial behaviour from IC (or other) students. I would like to add that Ian Caldwell was very helpful when questioned about the Clayponds Village Hall. There you go, Ian - what other editor, apart from maybe Joanna Lilley, would devote so much space in an editorial to you? Maybe I am losing my cynicism...

## You Are All Drug Addicts!

...I'll tell you a thought I had during a particularly exciting neurology lecture last year. People argue endlessly about whether certain drugs are harmless, whether they affect your cognition, etc etc. Well, excuse me, but the hormones and neurotransmitters that alter and, yes, occasionally harm your mental make-up are just as powerful as any 'artificial' drug. Like it or not, you see the world through an ocean of powerful chemicals that constantly change how you perceive and respond to the outside world.

As for the drugs argument? I'm rapidly coming to the conclusion that people who have not taken a certain drug can never argue effectively with those who have experienced it, simply because the two groups start from different premises,

reflecting the change in attitude that inevitably results from drug use.

Anyway, there's a pro-legalisation march in London on May 1 (assuming the organisers aren't too stoned to hold it), and I daresay I'll see a good few of you there.

## A Word of Warning

There was a time, not much more than a decade ago, when Union hacks of any description were not allowed in the Felix Office, and Felix club members were viewed with suspicion in the confines of the Union. In recent years this dividing line has withered away, and many of you have probably noticed that I am more 'pro Union' than my predecessor. I have even been called Dave Hellard's lap-dog, and the voice of the Union, by some students.

Well, it may not last. The Union has been good this year, with a good sabb team, and has generally acted in a way that I feel has directly benefited the students of this college (which is my overriding concern). There are things in the pipeline, however...

So, master Hellard and others, I'm sorry if I offend any of you in the next four months - please remember to separate professional criticism from personal prejudices. And if anyone feels they have been treated badly by ICU or college; Felix is your independent voice. - Ed

## Programming Tuition

Having trouble with your computing course? For private tuition by first class IC computing graduate, call James on 0181 378 5442 or email [JRR1@doc.ic.ac.uk](mailto:JRR1@doc.ic.ac.uk)

## Engineering Info Resources

9 March, 1-2pm NTIS  
11 March, 1-2pm ANTE  
16 March, 1-2pm INSPEC  
18 March, 1-2pm Metadex  
All take place in Central Library Level 5

## Bicycle Hospital

Low cost bicycle repairs, spares and sales on campus.  
Call James on 0181 378 5442 or email [JRR1@doc.ic.ac.uk](mailto:JRR1@doc.ic.ac.uk)

## City & Guilds Meeting

Officers and members committee meeting.  
Thursday 11th March, 5.30pm, Guilds Office (Mech Eng Room 340)  
Papers to be submitted by 5pm Thurs

## Modem for Sale

PCMCIA modem by Digicorp,  
28.8kB/s speed, brand new  
and boxed

comes with all hard and software (sealed), includes some internet/mail software, £30.

Call 0171 244 8060 or email [dc197@ic.ac.uk](mailto:dc197@ic.ac.uk)

## Volunteers Wanted!

Do you think your periods are heavy, and want to know more?

We are doing a study looking at why some women have heavier periods than others. The study involves a MRI of the uterus.

If you would like find out more about helping us with our study, then please call:

James on 07957 667889  
or  
Anne on 0171 886 1461

# Assistant Warden Clayponds Village

Enthusiastic applicants are sought for the post of Assistant Warden at Clayponds Village, from 1st April 1999. Clayponds is a community of 300+ students (PG&UG) living in self-catering flats and houses and is situated in Ealing. Duties will include assisting the Warden in the pastoral care of students, promoting social life and good order in the village and some general administration. The successful applicant will live in a rent-free flat in the village and will normally be resident in Clayponds throughout the year. Applicants must be full time members of College but the post would especially suit someone with experience of pastoral care and a desire to live in a student community.

For further information and an application form, contact Cathy Cumberland, Rector's Suite, Sheffield Building, e-mail to: [c.cumberland@ic.ac.uk](mailto:c.cumberland@ic.ac.uk)

Closing date for applications is **Friday, 12th March 1999**

Informal inquiries to Dr M Tyrer (Warden)  
Dept Materials, ext 46800 e-mail [m.tyrer@ic.ac.uk](mailto:m.tyrer@ic.ac.uk)



# Right Angles To Reality

The Truth, the Whole Truth and Nothing But the Truth

The truth, as they say, is only half the story. As a tender young innocent, off school with 'flu and relishing the illicit pleasure of eating Shippam's pilchard and tomato paste sandwiches and watching daytime TV, I was often confused as to why the witnesses appearing on 'Crown Court' were asked to swear that the evidence they were about to give was the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help them God. To my at the time unsullied mind (I had yet to twig the hidden meanings of the names of the characters in Captain Pugwash) this didn't make sense - why the need for such a distinction; the truth is the truth, isn't it? It is no secret that I was a late developer in more ways than one (I still had Camberwick Green wallpaper in my bedroom right up until the summer before my 'O'-levels which I'm sure was instrumental in me only getting an 'E' in Media Studies, and which probably had more than a little to do with my humiliating failure to cop off with Emma 'bury me in a Y-shaped coffin' Slattery with whom, I was reliably informed, I was on a promise). At the time the twin concepts of the half-truth and the white lie had still not occurred to me.

However, as Peter, Paul and Mary noted: "dragons live forever, but not so little boys" and when this little Jackie Paper started at Big School he had to grow up quickly. One of the first of many rude awakenings which awaited me when I and a couple of hundred other clammy-palmed conscripts pitched up for Basic Training on the first day of term, was the idea that truth was not a black and white issue but was actually a continuum of an infinite variety of shades of grey. As rude awakenings go, it could have been a lot worse - I went to the local comprehensive where public-school entertainments such as the Biscuit Game and the Daisy Chain were thankfully unheard of - but it was still a bit of a shock I can tell you. However, I adapted to this new environment with depressing ease and within a couple of weeks I was half-truthing with the best of them.

Viewed from my current perspective, desperately treading wafer in a world of Arms-to-Iran, Cash-for-Questions and Homes-for-Votes, the fact that I was once capable of such inno-

cent thought strikes me as incredible. However, if social commentators are to be believed, only a generation ago the whole world was a much more moral, truthful and trusting place. Back when maps of the globe contained more pink than any other colour, a politician could refer to "polling the electorate" without raising a smile, and scoutmasters were upright members of society. A lot has happened since then, though. Richard Nixon's Watergate, Ronald Reagan's Irangate and Peter Mandelson's Notting Hill Gate have shattered the image of our elected representatives as dashed good chaps in it for the satisfaction of serving the public, and nowadays a crusty ex-army type would never be able to get away with taking a group of teenage lads off to Brownsea Island without the involvement of Social Services. But there you have it: 'fings ain't what they used to be.'

As you'd expect for an essential skill for anyone wanting to survive in the modern world, lying comes in many forms and degrees of seriousness. In my experience, the porky pie spectrum runs from the socially acceptable and expeditious dishonestly-it-looks-fine-on-you-darling white lie to out and out just-let-me-have-Czechoslovakia-and-Poland-and-we'll-call-it-quits premeditated deceit. Somewhere in the middle there is the loosely defined category of the half-truth, a phenomenon dubbed by Alan Clark, the well known man-about-just-about-everytown, occasional MP and erstwhile inventor of a highly idiosyncratic version of the Generation Game, as being "economical with the actualité". But whether you are simply Joe Average trying not to get on the wrong side of your missus, a monotestate megalomaniac or a lecherous Thatcherite has been, one sad fact stands out: honesty is not necessarily the best policy. There can be times when telling the whole unvarnished truth can leave you worse off than if you'd simply kept your gob shut. A case in point is my mate Terry. If I tell you that he has bacon sandwiches for breakfast, likes his tea white with twelve sugars and smokes Benson

Matt Salter

"...as rude awakenings go, it could have been a lot worse..."

"...the fact that I was once capable of such innocent thought strikes me as incredible..."

"...as you'd expect for an essential skill, lying comes in many forms and degrees of seriousness..."

and Hedges, you might hazard a guess that Terry is a builder. Spot on. I met him when he came to repair the house next door after a particularly raucous Tupperware party in 1997, and we instantly became friends. I hadn't seen him since then until I bumped into him quite by chance in our local, the Sheep and Speculum, the other Thursday night. After much back-slapping and many a "ow've-yoo-bin-my-san" we settled down at a corner table with a pint of hideously expensive fizzy lager each (Terry was buying) and I asked him what he'd been up to for the last year or so. It turned out that he'd only just got back from Stavanger in south-west Norway where he'd been working for the last eight months as site foreman on a job building sheltered accommodation for blind and sight-impaired Norwegian pensioners. Apparently the national and regional governments had stumped up the cash for the state-of-the-art facility and Terry's firm had bid for, and won, the contract. "I weren't too keen on goin' to start 'wiv", Terry informed me, "but the money was owright and I've always wanted to try a bit of the old Scandinavian, 'natta meen? Hurgh, hurgh, hurgh". I asked him what the work had been like. It was "fackin' laverly" by all accounts, 56 single and 30 double bedrooms each with en suite bathrooms, specially designed with the sight impaired person in mind. Terry burred on about the landscaped gardens, the kitchens, the dining areas and the common rooms and in a fit of excitement he gripped my arm and told me that "all them corridors right, they was made 'wiv all stripped pine floorboards". "Norwegian Wood?" I asked him in a weak attempt at humour, but he just looked at me blankly.

When Terry told me about the kind of money he'd been on, I was tempted to go straight round to B&Q, arm myself with a bag of tools and Black and Decker workmate and get on the next plane to Oslo myself. Better than that, enthused Terry, the whole construction team had been promised a sizeable production bonus payable on completion of the project by the stip-

ulated date. According to Terry, it was going to be a bit tight timewise but it was by no means impossible. Thus, spurred on by the thought of non-sneeze-atable financial gain, brickees, chippies and plumbers had buried their professional differences and toiled away like mad things to make sure that they got finished on time. The superstructure of the building was soon up and the fittings and fixtures were well under way. As I have already mentioned, each room in the facility was to have an en suite bathroom comprising bath/shower, toilet and sink unit, all specially designed to meet the needs of the sight-impaired. This, apparently, was where the problem started. The supply of bathroom furniture was brought in from Oslo by ship, a journey of some 500 miles requiring around two days. At the start of the job, all the required baths, toilets etc. had been brought in, but over the course of the journey and during several months lying around the site, a number of the units had got broken so that when the plumbers came to install the last bathroom suite, they found that they were exactly one sink short. What were they to do? The work wasn't finished, the deadline was set for the following day and a replacement part would never make it from Oslo in time. For the want of one measly piece of porcelain, each member of the team stood to lose their bonus. As foreman, responsibility fell on Terry's shoulders. He had two options: admit that they'd missed the target, and lose all that filthy lucre, or lie and cheat his way out of it. No choice really. In a fit of inspiration, he took one of the hods used by the bricklayers, welded a metal plate on the open side, cut a hole in the bottom and plumbed it in, before ringing the customer and telling him that everything was in order. Not quite a lie, but not exactly the truth. "Weren't you worried you'd get found out? I mean, when some old codger goes to use that particular washbasin he'll tumble it straight away, surely" I suggested. Terry smiled and lit another fag. "No chance mate - they'll never know the difference." "Don't be silly, of course they will." "Nah they won't" he laughed, "don'tcha know the old saying - 'A hod's as good as a sink to a blind Norse?'"



## Presidential Talk-Back

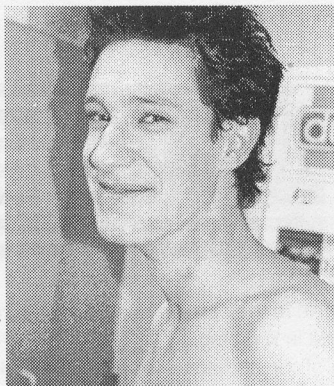
The London Transport scheme is gradually picking up steam, just one more thing to do though. There is a petition going around stating "We the undersigned believe that the London Transport student discount card is an important scheme to help alleviate student hardship, but that it should not discriminate against mature students and should be available to all students of all ages." If you agree with the above statement, could you please sign the petition. Each year rep should have one, if not get them to chase up their departmental reps, or sign the one on the front desk of the Union.

College Catering is often criticised for cost, but for such an international College as Imperial it is also discriminatory. Currently Muslims can not eat

most of the meat dishes provided, as the meat is not hallal food (it has to be killed in a certain way.) As a consequence they have to eat fish sticks if they use College catering and want a meat dish. It is understandable that the catering department can not cater for everyone due to cost and demand for products, but with

such a large Muslim community in the College, who are prepared to pay a little more for food they can eat, it is not

David Hellard, ICU President



unreasonable that one dish a day is Halal.

This week in Felix, I'm sure there is going to be an article about price increases in the Union. Currently we are heading for a massive loss on the outlet and even with the increase will be losing substantial money. Although money isn't everything, it is money that goes towards your clubs and societies. It is perhaps worrying that even with this large price increase, we are still

far cheaper than any of our College competitors. College catering this year has budgeted enough to buy the equivalent of nine minibuses or 1000 return trips to Harlington (I think that would cover training) in profit. It comes down to ethics. Are our outlets here to take money out of our students or to offer them a genuine service? Compare anything the College can put out for £1.20 to one of our curries and I think it's quite clear which policy the Union and the College are employing. It's time the College realised why they are here; the students. (Emergency services please be on standby, I think some of the College have just had heart attacks.)

As ever any thoughts should be emailed to [president@ic.ac.uk](mailto:president@ic.ac.uk).

## Fifty Years On

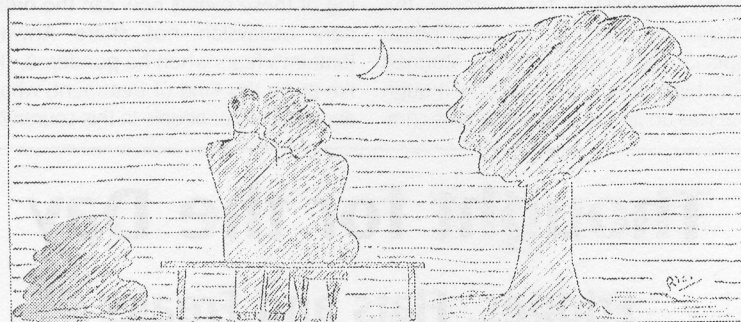
### A Gentleman's Newspaper?

Despite only producing nine issues between December 1949 and the end of the 49/50 academic year, by the time summer approached Mr E M Hughes had managed to carve a definite character for Felix, and turn it into an institution.

Felix in those early years was more of a gentleman's club than a newspaper - a literary outlet for ex-public school friends who more commonly met through the drinking clubs. That Felix was a private club, open to contribution but wary of new members, is obvious from a flick through of those early issues. The 'Felix Board' was an internally elected team of writers and sub-editors, electing the following year's editor at the end of the summer term.

Felix's traditional independence and occasional opposition to Imperial College Union also began in the first year. The fourth issue saw an irate Paul Cumming, then Union President, writing a letter of complaint concerning the previous week's editorial concerning Rag fines. The basic argument was that the Union had agreed to pay fines incurred by students breaking the law during the November 5th Rag activities, but then had apparently changed its mind, feeling that "for the Union to pay the fines would appear as a condonation of the offence, would act as an incentive to students to break the law in future." Mr Hughes suggested that a general meeting be called to debate the issue.

Two columns appeared in the second issue. 'Profile' was intended to focus on an individual or institution connected to the college, or otherwise of interest to



*And just to think Darling, all this time the entropy of the universe is tending towards a maximum*

readers. The first profile, unsurprisingly, looked at the history of the Union Bar. Apparently the first College Bar in the country, the first barman was Jim Peacock, although he denies this in a letter published later that year, claiming the privilege to belong to a mysterious woman called Auntie. Apparently when the Union Building was built, the bar area was intended as a secretary's office. The first Union Secretary, a Mr Houghton, demanded that it be turned into a bar, and the Union Committee eventually agreed. Other profiles of the first year included the Rector, Sir Roderic Hill; Paul Cumming, the Union President; some local shopkeeper who was blonde, 6 foot tall, and apparently rather good looking; and the Imperial College Women's Association, who at the time had just over fifty

members. The column continued very successfully for Felix's first five years, before becoming somewhat more sporadic in appearance.

The second column on its first appearance also dealt with beer but, unlike Profile, alcohol was to be the subject matter for all of its issues. 'The Drinking Man's Guide to London' was exactly what you would expect; a pub was reviewed every week where a young man may mop his fevered brow and rest his tired feet, relaxing over a pint of ale. And how much did it cost? Well, the first pub included was 'The Windsor Castle' (off Kensington Church Street), where one could purchase a pint of Cherringtons IPA for one eighth of a pence or, for those who want to go a bit more upmarket, the mild and bitter for one quarter of a

pence.

The rest of Felix was made up of sports and club reports, occasional news articles, and literary writing, mostly witty poetry. The editorials always made it quite clear that Felix would not answer to anyone and would voice its opinion loudly. The insular nature of the Felix Editorial team made it easy to maintain editorial control and political direction, something that the advent of Union subsidies and ICU Club regulations were to erode. At the same time it was unmistakably, unashamedly and appallingly an extension of the '21', '22', 'Chaps' and 'Links' Drinking Clubs into journalism. Still, good things come from small beginnings...

### From Beer to Broadsheet

We have had some feedback from the previous 'Fifty Years On' column, including input on the origin of the name Felix. Allow me to quote extracts of a letter I recently received from Anthony de Reuck, a Physics student from 1947-51, who was an editor of Phoenix and writer for Felix.

"The familiar name used by the intimates in the Links Club of the Founding Father of Felix, that is to say Ted Hughes, was 'Felix'. Felix Hughes, debonair, with a dry wit and a satirical cast of mind, was a Guildsman and a Mechanical Engineer. He would not have applied his own name to the College Newspaper he founded in 1949, but F C Ewels (whom I do not recall) urged its adoption as a memorial to its Founder and as an assiduous genuflection to its ancient cousin Phoenix." (full letter on letters page 6).

50



## Malaysian Focus

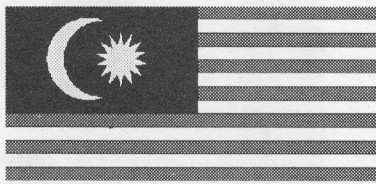
### Black Eye Inquiry Revealed Shocking Ordeal of Former DPM

Two trials of different natures but of equal importance are in session right now in Kuala Lumpur. One has been proceeding since last November while the other only began a fortnight ago. The former is a normal High Court trial with the sole purpose of determining one person's guilt or innocence, while the latter is a Royal Commission of Inquiry, not unlike the MacPherson Commission that investigated the Stephen Lawrence's murder case. However, the contrast basically ends there. The same man, Mr Anwar Ibrahim, inevitably, is the focus of both cases. In an almost unprecedented phenomenal manner, unmatched by anyone in the short history of the country, one man has caused severe damage to the government's credibility in the eyes of the general public. His 'power corruption trial', dubbed as Malaysia's Trial of the Century, has resulted in the people questioning the establishment over fundamental issues such as justice and human rights. In addition to that, worries have been raised over the professionalism of the

police and independence of the judicial system.

The Royal commission or Black Eye Inquiry was formed in the wake of the findings of a police investigation body that concluded Anwar Ibrahim was beaten while in their custody, following his arrest in September last year. The purpose of the commission is to name the individuals that assaulted the former deputy PM. Early statements by some police officers during the investigation suggested that the ex-police chief, Rahim Noor, who resigned in January, might have been directly involved as one of the assailants. However, it was the startling and shocking account of the victim himself that must have astounded many Malaysians: for example, the manner in which hundreds of police special force unit members stormed into his house to arrest him, as though he was an armed and dangerous crim-

Nik B Hafiz



inal. Then, at the police headquarters later on, while blindfolded and handcuffed, Anwar claimed that he was brutally beaten up, leaving him

bloodied, bruised and with the famous left black eye which has caused strong public uproar. His ordeal didn't end there, as he recalled that he was then transferred to a secret hideout, stripped naked, dumped in a dungeon and for four days denied medical care. A medical doctor who eventually examined Anwar confirmed in front of the members of the commission that the injuries were the result of him being beaten, refuting suggestions by some quarters that they were self-inflicted. After learning of these events how can the ordinary Malaysian not share Anwar Ibrahim's fears when he pondered, "If I'm given this kind of treatment, what about the other people in this country?"

At the time this column was written, the latest findings from the royal commission were that the former Inspector-General of Police, Rahim Noor, through his attorney, has finally admitted to assaulting Anwar after apparently being verbally provoked by the ex-DPM and "losing his cool".

Meanwhile, with the upcoming state elections in the eastern Malaysian state of Sabah on 12 and 13 March, the ruling coalition party, National Front is encountering its first litmus test ahead of the general election, which has to be held by early 2000. Even though the Dr Mahathir-led party has, for the time being, managed to stabilise the political scene and turn around the economy towards recovery, it still faces an uphill battle to retain power in Sabah. All eyes are definitely on this politically volatile state during the next week, to observe if the present government can be returned to power in view of the strong emergence of two opposition parties, the United Sabah Party (PBS) and the Federation of Sabah People's Front Party (Bersekutu).

## Thought for the Day

### Fridges, Flats and Freaks

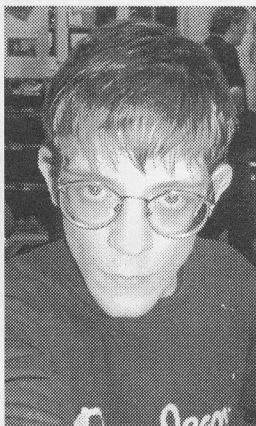
Block vote. Wait, no. Chinese granite. No, that's wrong. My apologies. It seems I've forgotten how to write this column. Women. Yes, I think it's coming back to me. Misery. Despair. By Jove. Got it.

Hello to one and all. I'm sure you won't be wondering why I haven't graced these pages for a while. Why the miraculous return? Study this question further, and ask, why did I write the article at the beginning of term? Am I really that good? No. Shucks. It was because our editor, Ed "Nicholson" Sexton (nice one, Gulix) has begun to think along similar lines to the previous editor, one Jeremy "WinNuke" Thomson, in realising the following, very important premise: this column never, ever needs proofreading. [Smug noises] Seriously, though, you will have noticed that a couple of last term's columnists have bailed out of the old writing lark, at least temporarily. It just goes to show that this job is not as easy as you might think. It's not all smoked salmon and champagne with Mr Caldwell, you know. It's staying up until six in the morning doing yet another frigging election special. (There's also quite

a bit of lugging fridges about, for some reason.) So before you write in with your gripes and moans, consider that the cat is only human. I would also like you to bear this in mind next time I write something crap. Or make a spelling mistake.

I was looking through old Felixes, and, boy, did I write some drivel sometimes. This time last year I wrote something about flat hunting. (I remember someone in my department complementing me on the piece. Believe me, I was as surprised as you are now. I wrote it in twenty minutes. It was shambolic.) I was sitting in the computer room, thinking about this, and listening to two first-years discussing living plans for next year, when I realised something that I didn't know when I wrote the original article. Not all first-years are going to get re-app places. Not all will get con-

Ali Campbell



No smile, no fag, no phone; just you and me

venient (but very cold) flats in South Kensington. Some, maybe even most, will be stuck in cheaper residences; houses further out. Here's the point: don't be disconcerted if your living plans culminate in long and expensive treks across London. Picking a cheap flat can mean getting a lounge, and getting single rooms. Best of all, you're no longer a student; you're an inhabitant of London. Exposing yourself to a different cross-section of society is refreshing after being stuck in the room next to the Resident Linstead Acid Techno Freak. Plus you can have parties.

We had some sabbatical elections, didn't we? What do you mean, you don't know? I spent a good hour laying out those interviews so you lot could be well-informed. Pah. Don't want to dwell on it, dear boy, you know, but it was

truly *delightful* to see so many candidates standing. Lovely. Bit more competition for the old Felix would have been nice, you know, old fellow, but never mind. Oh, that was *ghastly* battling... Hick is bowled by a frightful googly; I can't believe they didn't pick Hussain... it's absolutely *atrocious*... No, wait. Sorry.

Actually, staying up until some ungodly hour to wait for the election results wasn't so bad - bored with arranging barber-shop harmonies of "Why Are We Waiting?", myself and Dennis "drum fill" Patrickson did a cracking drunken rendition of Oasis' *Supersonic*. All together now: "...*make me laugh*..." When it's all said and done, though, the election has given birth to interesting sweepstake opportunities. Will Tasha go the Andy Heeps route? [20-1] Will half the sabbs elect fail their years? [6-1] Will DP E&W, the newest sabb, be given the smallest office? [2-1]. Will the portakabins containing the Felix office next year be very cruddy indeed? [Yes.]

It pains me to do it, but I'm going to have to leave you now. For some reason, the editor wants me to move his fridges around again.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION MALAYSIAN SOCIETY

presents....

MALAYSIAN NITE '99

# Music Dance & Magic...

.....the Malaysian 'Gadis Sarawak' Dance was one of the show's more sophisticated performances..... 'International Night Review, FELIX 1137'

'YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET!'

Date : 21st March 1999

Venue : Great Hall, Imperial College

Time : 4.00 pm

Admission : £ 5.50

Also performing : NIKOTIN

At : 7.30 pm

Contact : isk97@ic.ac.uk  
or icms@ic.ac.uk.

-An endearing story with song and traditional dances-

**PLUS.....LUCKY DRAW GALORE!**

tickets available in the JCR: 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March 12:00 to 2:00p.m.

~ GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ~



# More Rag: Comic Relief

As you probably know Rag Week has now been and gone, we raised in the region of £4500 - £5000. My thanks to everybody who took part in an event or gave money in anyway. Just because Rag week is over doesn't mean we don't do anything for the rest of the year.

The next event is Red Nose Day on Friday 12th March. Three things are happening this year. The first is actually on the Tuesday before, (9th March) and that is the Comic Relief Quiz will be taking place in Da Vinci's from 8pm. There will be, as always, the grand prize of a crate of Lager and entry is merely a donation to comic relief. The second both take place on Red Nose Day itself. The staff in the Union office will be sporting an article of red clothing, all sponsors welcome. During lunchtime (12 - 2), in the Great Hall we are holding a paper aeroplane competition. It costs £1, and 50p for a competitive throw, all money will go directly to Comic Relief. There will be prizes for the longest flight, target hitting, and the best aeroplane design. Andy Chipling, the Guinness Record Adjudicator, will be there to oversee everything. So why not come along and show off your aeroplane prowess!

I'm also in the process of organising a series of talks for the end of this term and the beginning of next. These will take place in the Union Dining Hall, and will be given by representatives of various charities. The first will be by Patrick Bulger from the charity Lepira, and will be in the last week of term. This is to, hopefully, recruit support for a street collection on 27th April during lunchtime also in aid of Lepira. The date of the talk is yet to be finalised but please email me if you are interested.

Thanks must also go to everybody that has helped out with the cloakroom and to everyone who has given us their coat. Without you the cloakroom would not have raised the £800 it has. All this money goes straight to the charities. However, cloakroom cannot operate without staff, this is especially relevant with the Easter Carnival just around the corner. So if you would like a subsidised ticket to the carnival and don't mind giving up an hour of partying, let us know.

Next term Rag is going to have to elect a new committee, so if you think that we have been crap, and that you could do better now is your chance! If you've read this years Rag mag and think you could do a better job, why not create your own? We are looking for an editor for next years Rag Mag, to start as soon as possible, in order to get free printing. If you would like to find out more or get involved, just drop us a line or give us a ring. Email: sarah.coburn@ic.ac.uk, rag@ic.ac.uk, or ring on ext.58099.

## Red Nose Day 1999

### Super White Sale and Raffle

12<sup>th</sup> March 1999

Outside Biomedical Building

Indulge in some Belgian Waffles or participate in a super Raffle to win the video :

Austin Powers  
International Man of  
Mystery

It's groovy, dead cheap  
and every penny goes to  
Comic Relief 1999

## Win Young Persons Railcards!

Anyone aged between 16 and 25 can now get fifteen months of discounted travel for the cost of twelve in the latest promotion with Young Persons Railcard. The promotion, which runs until the end of April, means that students not yet holding a Young Persons Railcard are guaranteed to save money when they access this top offer! The promotion will be run in ten top lifestyle magazines, including *FHM*, *NME*, *Loaded* and *Company*.

The Young Persons Railcard offers one third off all standard rail fares in Great Britain, but also offers saving money on the other essentials of a student lifestyle. Current offers include 3 pints for the price of 2 at Firkin pubs, reductions at McDonalds, discounts off Sony CDs and a load of gadgets.

To buy a Young Persons Railcard and take advantage of all these amazing offers, all you need to do is go down to

your local Student Travel Office or BR station with a passport photo, an application form with £18 and proof that you are aged under 26 or a full time student.



I'm not entirely sure why we were sent a picture of a stuffed sheep, but I believe it is meant to imply that one gets out more when one has a railcard. Yours pretentiously - Ed

### Competition

There is no need, however, to pay your £18! Powerhouse have got five railcards to give away to Felix readers - all you have to do is answer the following question:

What London rail station claims to be Britain's busiest?

Send answers to [felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk) with the subject header 'Railcard Comp' before Wednesday evening, along with contact details, as we may not be publishing the winners' names in next week's issue.

The first five names out of the virtual hat, as our esteemed film editor calls it, will win themselves a railcard, and the love and adoration of all. In case you are wondering, yes I am waffling to fill space. Good, I've done it now. - Ed

Tues 9th

ICU presents....

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# BAR TRIVIA

Da Vinci's  
Cafe-bar

TUESDAY 9th  
8PM

WIN £50  
OR A  
CRATE OF  
LAGER  
ENTRY BY  
DONATION

## COMIC RELIEF

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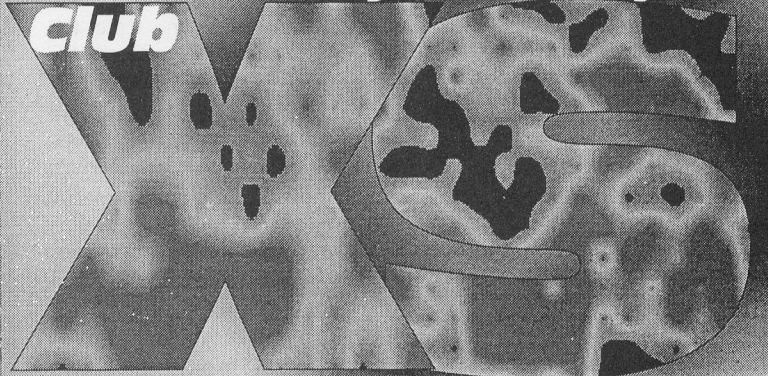
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Weds 10th

ICU ents presents

Every Wednesday 9-1

### Club



Party tunes, chill out room & cocktail bar. Free b4 11/with entscard 50p after 11.

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Fri 12th

ICU ents.. Zipping up our boots

## Friday 12th March 9-2



Plus  
cocktail bar  
and chillout room

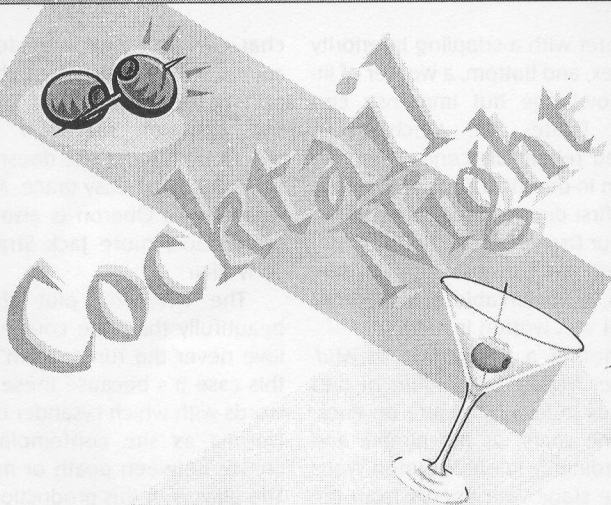
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PROMO NIGHT  
Tons of freebies  
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Thurs 11th

Glamour, sophistication *Da Vinci's* and Cocktails after dark



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IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

## Your Union - Run for You



## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Pacific Northwest Ballet at Sadler's Wells



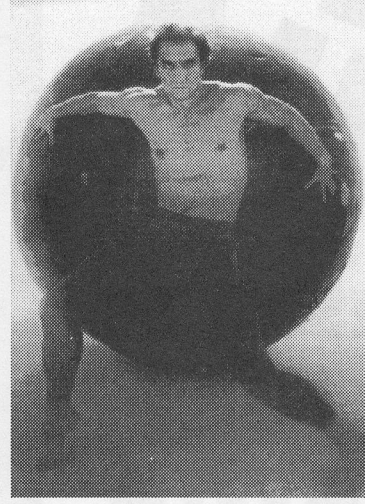
PNB's portrayal of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was flamboyant, with imaginative sets and costumes created by Martin Pakledinaz, inspired by floral Renaissance motifs. Combined with Felix Mendelssohn's enchanting score, this imaginative performance captured the magic and adventure of fairyland. Principal star, Patricia Barker (pictured left in full flight) excels as the graceful Queen Titania, in a plot described by Balanchine as "the resolution of the confusion and problems of loving and being loved".

As an eight year old boy, Balanchine played the part of an elf in a Saint Petersburg theatre production of the Bard's fantasy comedy, which probably was his initial introduction to the piece. It therefore seemed rather appropriate to have a crowd of young students from the company's own school dancing as delightful bugs in the ballet.

As one of the leading regional dance companies in America, this Seattle-based troupe has displayed outstanding talent and superlative finish. Literally, a stunning spellbinding show.

Tanya

## THE RETURN OF DON JUAN Arc Dance Company at Sadler's Wells



20th century to accomplish his mission. The potent themes of sexual manipulation and temptation explored by the ballet are then blurred by the superfluous and convoluted twists of the plot. In short, the innocent victim works as an actress and the film director casts Don Juan as her partner.

Danish composer Kim Helweg blends an extensive variety of musical styles ranging from jazz and pop to baroque, creating an admittedly haphazard, yet innovative and energetic score with dominant percussion.

This dramatic comedy is basically a showcase for the talents of Kazan born dancer Irek Mukhamedov (pictured left), principal dancer at the Moscow Bolshoi Theatre until his departure in 1990, with the deterioration of the Soviet cultural infrastructure. However this modern production, choreographed by Kim Brandstrup (who also founded the fledgling Arc Dance Company in 1985), unfortunately fails to fully challenge his classical training or highlight his acclaimed technical potential.

Helena

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Rose Bruford College at the ICA

Helena loves Demetrius. Demetrius loves Hermia. Hermia loves Lysander. Shakespeare invented neither the tragedy nor the comedy - the Greeks took care of both - but by setting his story in ancient Athens, he gives the audience an instant reference point. Frustrated lovers and harsh parents offering their daughters a simple choice between marriage to a villain or death on an altar. The Gods are often thrown in to complete the standard formula. Peering down from Mount Olympus in a slack hour, they always seem interested in the love affairs of mortals, so it's reasonable to assume that they must be jumping in to spread a bit of confusion and tragedy.

Not quite. Shakespeare knew his audience, and while the middle-aged Englishmen and women of the middle ages might enjoy a romance in foreign climes, they weren't the sort to tolerate meddling Greek deities. They wanted something a little closer to home, something with a hint of ambiguity and mixed motives. They wanted Fairies. No moss-covered churchyard is truly complete without a hideous goblin and a detachment

of spirits. No English forest should be without its whispering nymphs, ready to trick and confuse mortal travellers. Spill the milk? The flighty Puck must have jogged your arm.

Oberon and Titania, the Fairy King and Queen, enjoy what might be termed an open relationship. Titania has acquired an Indian boy, of whom she is quite fond and Oberon is not. The jealous King sends Puck to pluck a unique flower, struck many years before by an arrow from Cupid's bow. "The juice of it on sleeping eyelids laid will make a man or woman madly dote upon the next live creature that it sees". Flower procured, Puck dabs it on the eyelids of Titania as she sleeps. Hilarity ensues.

Towards the start of the recently released film *Shakespeare in Love*, Henslow advises Shakespeare that people who go to plays really want to see "a kiss, a fight and a bit with a small dog". There aren't any small dogs here, but there are the Rude Mechanicals, tradesmen commissioned to perform the tragedy of *Pyramus and Thisby* for the Duke of Athens' wedding feast. The only mechanicals of note are the remarkably tall Peter Quince, a repressed

carpenter with a crippling inferiority complex, and Bottom, a weaver of little knowledge but immense certainty. [Note: The Mechanicals' tortured rehearsal scene, complete with an in-depth analysis of the play, is the first documented satire of the Amateur Dramatic societies that proliferated throughout 20th century Britain, a remarkable achievement since it was written in 1596.]

Whether a production of *Midsummer Night's Dream* flies or dies depends in large measure on Puck. This one soars, as the nimble and extraordinarily talented Simon Watts fills the stage with energy from the moment he swings down from the ceiling to deliver the prologue. On the way to the ICA, I had wondered idly why Puck enjoys making mischief for others. Did he have an unhappy childhood? Simon Watts makes it plain that Puck is a child, and will remain so for ever. Whereas Peter Pan is the child who plays happily in the park with his friends, Puck is the infant who can't resist ducking the girls in the water and tying together the shoelaces of dozing adults.

Fairy queens are a hard bunch to

characterise, and the definition comes with the role. Many choose to portray a Princess Diana character, but although Meredith Bellamy shares the figure, she doesn't really have the same easy grace. Matthew Duquenoy's Oberon is also slightly ponderous, more Jack Straw than Tony Blair.

The wheeling plot illustrates beautifully that "the course of true love never did run smooth", but in this case it's because these are the words with which Lysander comforts Hermia as she contemplates her choice between death or marriage. The players in this production are all final year students of the Rose Bruford College, and their performances did full justice to Shakespeare's tragicomic gem.

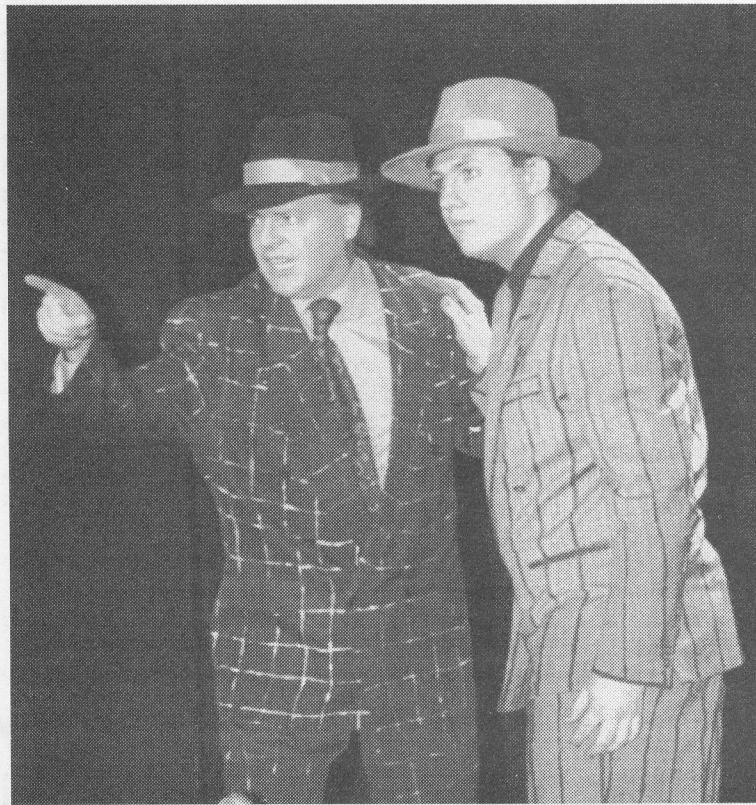
*A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be over by the time you read the review, but the Rose Bruford students are performing again at 7.30pm on the 9th, 10th and 11th March. The play is *Widows*, by Ariel Dorfman, and it's being shown at the ICA (top end of the Mall, 5 minutes from Piccadilly Circus).

Etienne Pollard



# GUYS AND DOLLS

## Union Concert Hall



Billed as a 'musical fable of Broadway', Operatic Society's latest theatrical extravaganza, performed throughout last week at the Union, was a distinctly classy affair. Frank Loesser's quintessential *Guys and Dolls*, set in New York during the late 1940s, captures the glamour of show business and the excitement of the gangster genre.

The story follows the parallel relationships of two couples; the delinquent crapshooting gambler Nathan

Detroit (John Franks) and the brassy showgirl Miss Adelaide (Julia Addison), the reformed sinner Sky Masterson (John Lofthouse) and the idealistic missionary Sarah Brown (Faye Austin) - proof indeed that opposites attract. Overall, the standard of the singing - chorus and leads alike - was extremely impressive; each memorable, catchy tune was delivered with skill and gusto, the dozen strong band conducted by Paul Jeanes providing the jazzy accompaniment.

A sparkling and inspirational fairytale at heart, this classic musical is essentially about taking chances in life. Under the guidance of director Phil Hollman, the expressive acting was perfectly paced and balanced. The dynamic and light-hearted dance routines were interspersed with moments of genuine humour and touching romance.

The attention to detail, from the kitschy and often risqué kaleidoscopic costumes to the perfection of an

embellished Brooklyn twang, demonstrated the dedication and enthusiasm of the company.

On stage, the chemistry between the characters was tangible - it appeared that the OpSoc cast enjoyed performing just as much as the audience appreciated the show. Our compliments to all involved on such an entertaining, satisfying and polished production.

*Helena and Elisa*





## A LITTLE HOTEL ON THE SIDE Rose Bruford College at the ICA

The Institute of Contemporary Arts has surely one of the most trendy bars in London on its premises. How out of place I was in jeans, pullover and having no body piercings. Leather trousers, hippie chic and *crème de menthe* were *de rigueur*, it seemed. The assembled luvvies stared at my chum's C&G rugby shirt, clearly trying to decide if it was Baradi or McQueen. Are stripes in this year? Oblivious, we bought two pints of bitter. Minutes later the last call for the play rang out, so we downed our ale and went to our seats in the auditorium.

I had no idea what to expect having never heard of the title or the playwright Georges Feydeau before and was pleasantly surprised to find myself laughing heartily at some excellent stage slapstick. Nineteenth century French farce, it seems, is obsessed with ridiculing bourgeois society. It

sets up respectable characters to drag their reputations through the mud, only to end up setting all to rights in the denouement.

A truly classy performance was given by Matthew Bunting, playing the lead, Pinglet - a hen-pecked husband seeking to seduce his straight-laced neighbour's young wife. He held the stage like a West End pro and had the timing to match. He was admirably supported by a typically hypocritical range of characters - a saucy maid, the 'inspector of public morality', four giggling schoolgirls and their adoptive father. Throw them all together for a night in a dodgy Paris hotel and the Carry-On style capers start apace. The company brought off the set piece gags brilliantly. The audience split their sides when a voyeuristic porter drilled a peep hole in a door to watch the cavorting hotel guests, but instead ended up puncturing Pinglet's back-

side. The influence of the *Fast Show* (and possibly *Shakespeare In Love*) was clearly apparent in Mathieu the barrister's (Rowan Talbot) stutter. When wanting to say '...very kind of madame to ask me to stay...' it came out 'very kind of madame to arse... arse... arSE... ARSE... <kick/stamp/convulse> ASK me...' Some might say that this style of comedy is juvenile or unsophisticated, but that doesn't stop it being funny.

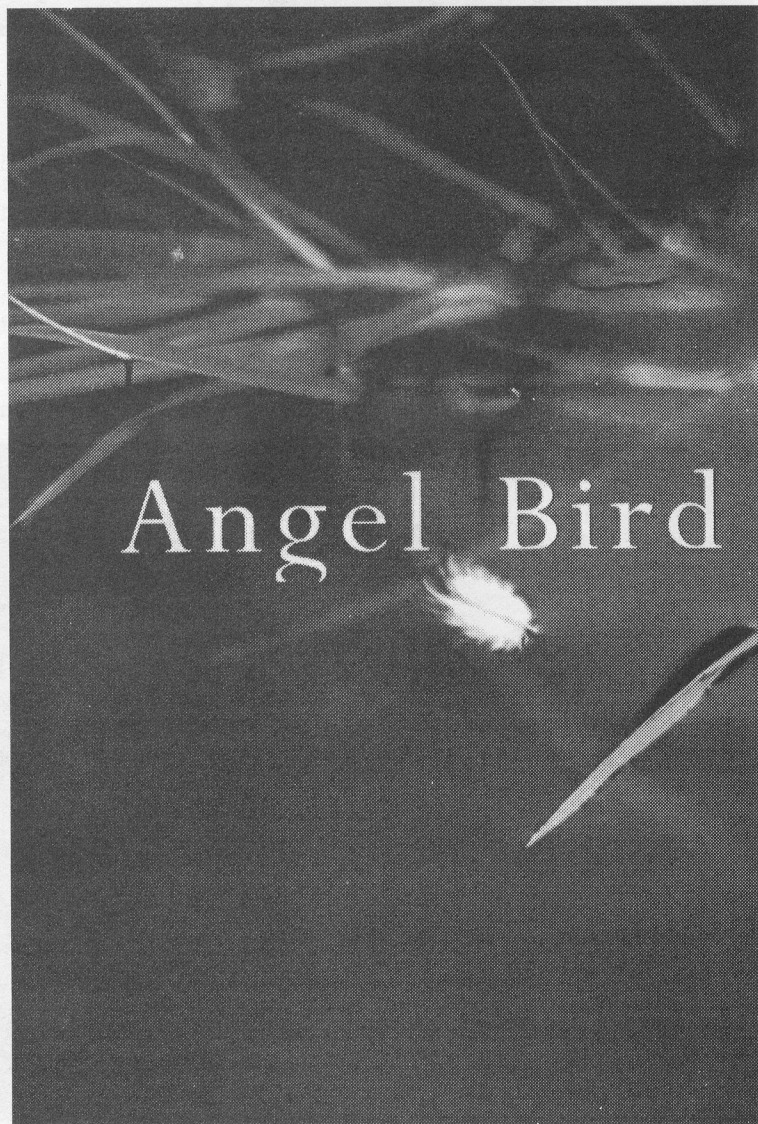
When you turn up to a play with your spirits doused by a day in front of a beige glowing box and leave clicking your heels in the air and whistling a merry tune on your way to the tube, you know something is right. I had that light-hearted, lungs hurting feeling as I wound my way home on the Bakerloo line. I haven't felt the as thoroughly entertained since I went to a seriously good night of stand up comedy at LSE more than a year ago. The thing is that a farce is more than a set

of jokes; the ironies and savage parodies of the self-assured snobishness of the middle classes of the time, even though they are not so relevant today, add the extra dimension which makes the whole affair slightly more cerebral.

This season of plays is a showcase for the graduates of Rose Bruford, many of whom can be sure of employment if their professional work is up to the quality of this performance. I used to have a poor view of drama students, but if they can learn to entertain this well I say keep up the good work. Unfortunately, this play will have run its course by the time this review gets printed. If what I saw is anything to go by, though, I would recommend going to see the last play in the season - *Widows*, which runs from March 9 to March 11.

Iain

## ANGEL BIRD by Sanjida O'Connell



Sanjida O'Connell, a television producer and director who has also written for *New Scientist*, happens to be a trained zoologist - and this fact is reflected quite clearly throughout much of *Angel Bird*. The first thing you notice about the book (when reading it, of course!) is the attention to detail regarding the behaviour of magpies!

Niall - we never learn his surname - is a zoologist from Cambridge studying (what else?) magpies in Northern Ireland. Niall has previously studied dunlocks and his father is an authority on orchids. Fair enough. Niall's study of magpies involves him rearing five of the birds. He even gives them all names - Rinky, Rannee, Rena, Ron and Riordan. But this is all irrelevant detail.

Niall just happens to be one of those men who's handsome, clever and smart, as well as being somewhat messed-up. He lands up with two lovers - Eddie, an ambitious and (obviously) beautiful chef, and Nadia Ismail, daughter in the "first Asian family to move to Northern Ireland". Eddie, of course, knows nothing about Nadia and only discovers by what, I'm sorry, has to be one of the most contrived twists of plot I've ever read in what purports to be a work of serious, quality fiction. The repeated references to the violence and confused personal lives of the magpies are naturally metaphorical - perhaps laid on too thickly. Some descriptions of violent attacks between magpies, and 'the war of the crows', are excessively graphic but lack any real sense of terror. The reader is left far too detached from the action.

On the whole, Niall is the kind of person one tends to leave at an arm's length after a bit because he grows steadily annoying - I was certainly tempted to shut the book about three-quarters of the way through and just give up, although I'm glad I didn't do so. None of the other characters is built up sufficiently convincingly, however, and that has to be one of the biggest weaknesses of the book. Otherwise, the depiction of life in a little Irish village is certainly worth reading; pity that the zoology sometimes gets in the way. We don't really want to know every last detail regarding the sex life of a magpie, not in a work of fiction at least! Niall becomes increasingly obsessed with his birds and the realisation of his lost past - his lost childhood - comes as he is on the brink of making a major scientific discovery - he essentially loses all grip on reality only to be "rescued" by Eddie.

The author's first work of fiction, *Theory of Mind*, was written to much acclaim, winning a number of awards. While *Angel Bird* is certainly entertaining and readable, it's a real pity that there are so many scattered hints about the ending. Ultimately then, this is a creditable second effort without a stifling sense of pretentiousness - not particularly brilliant, but a very good read nonetheless, with some definite signs of originality. I know that I'll look out for other works from this author!

Sunil Rao

£6.99 from Black Swan Publishing



## HOT SEX by Tracey Cox

As part from perhaps *God: The Truth*, it is difficult to think of a more alluring title than *Hot Sex, How To Do It*. So when I was asked to review this book, written by Miss Tracey Cox, I was intrigued as to the angle that the author would take on this fascinating subject, and hopeful that I might find some effective metaphysical imagery. OK, so really I thought I might learn something, and there was certainly a great deal of information on all facets of sexual relations (as Bill Clinton would have it). Although there is a great deal on sex, how to do it, and why you should even bother in the first place, all that I read was not particularly new, or interesting.

The style is very friendly and informal, and you can see the author's skill as an agony aunt for a popular women's magazine has come in useful in her writing career. However this could also be her downfall - this book is definitely not aimed at our age group. *Hot Sex* seems really to be a compendium of all her 'greatest hits', which begins to get quite irritating by the end. I don't mean that in a patronising way: I am referring to the fact that a large proportion of the book is dedicated to subjects such as dealing with divorce, what to do if you suspect your 'partner' is having an affair, and a huge 30% of the 350 pages is on the subject of contraception, STDs, impotence (male and female), and other 'Serious

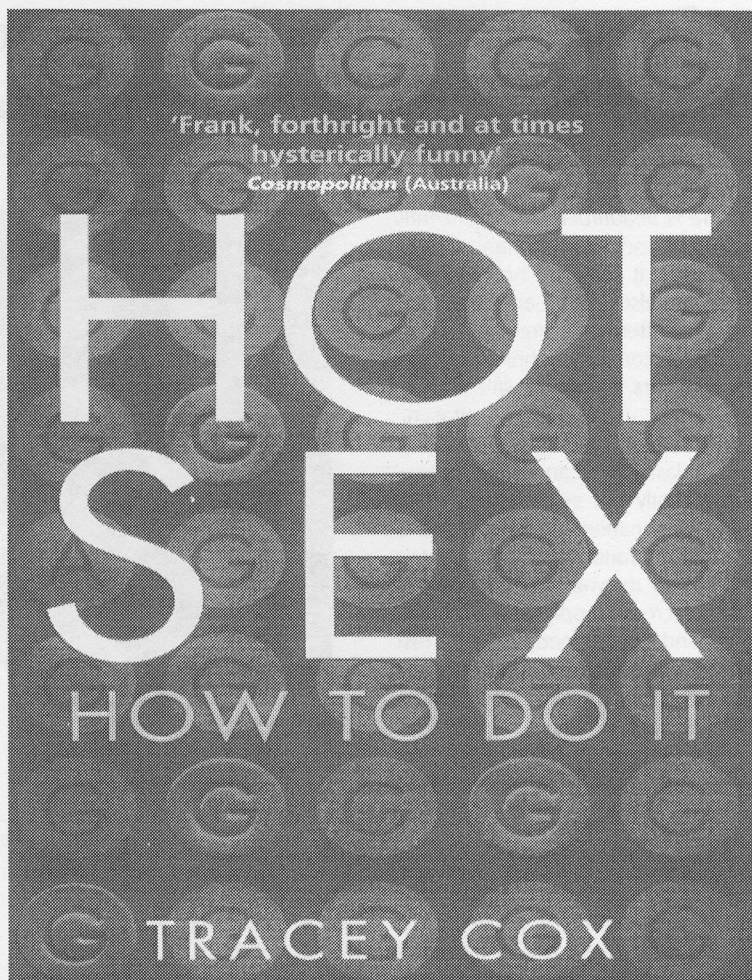
Sexual Problems', like abortion and rape. I would like to stress that I don't think these things are unimportant, and they are definitely not irrelevant, but it is quite obvious that this book is not meant to be all fun and games in the bedroom. In fact, in these more delicate areas the author manages to be very sensitive while remaining informative, although nothing beats a good counsellor.

The book is also quite clearly written for women, and all 'hints' are written as if to a woman so that she could pass it on to her (and you definitely get the feeling he's unwilling) male partner. In more than one instance while describing how to give a woman excellent oral sex (just for example...), the instructions run along the lines of, '...then get him to run his tongue along the length of your...', and so on.

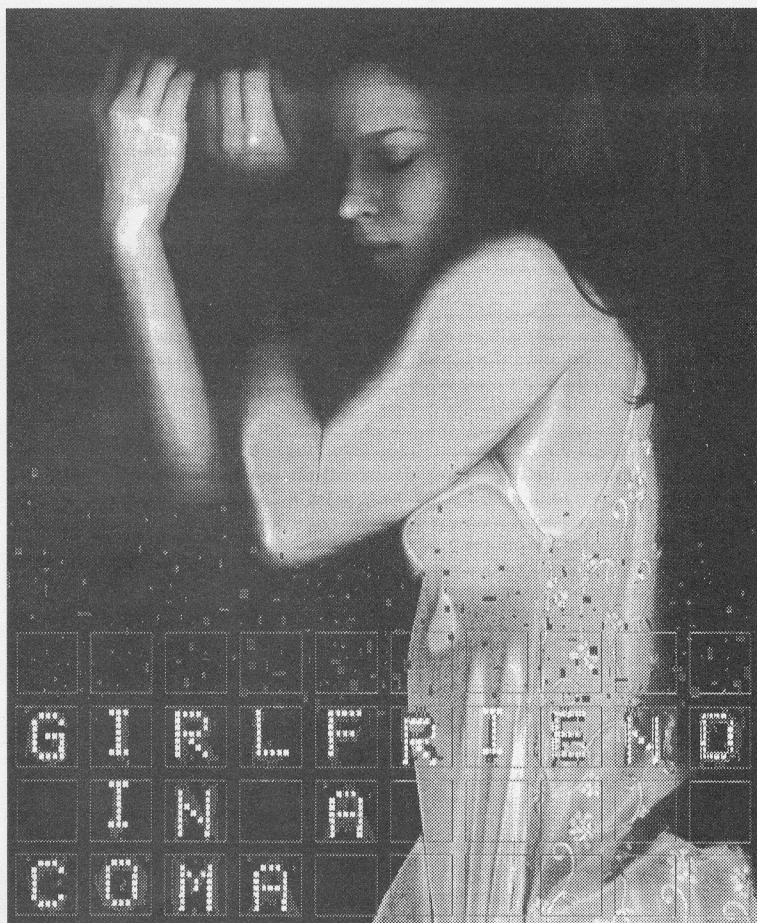
However there is some useful sexual information, and the first word of the book is masturbation, so it can't be all bad, but unless you're planning to settle down to some serious monogamy, I would strongly advise giving this a miss. Just settle down with the good-old-fashioned *Kama Sutra*, and try to work out which bit goes where on your own. Well...not on your own, obviously.

Will

£7.99 from Corgi Books



## GIRLFRIEND IN A COMA by Douglas Coupland



In his sixth published offering, Douglas Coupland seems to have come into his own. *Girlfriend in a Coma* has proved his most critically acclaimed work, not for its use of brand humour or because it fits nicely into a current sociological trend (*Generation X* and *Microserfs*), but simply because it is a good piece of writing. Chronicling the lives of six friends from their last drug-filled days of high school to the uncertainty and regret of middle age, the book is a beautiful example of the modern allegory - the urban myth.

The first sentence, 'I'm Jared and I'm a ghost.', and the first chapter title, 'All ideas are true', set the tone for the rest of the book. Narrated at first by the dead Jared and then by others, we see the final carefree days of the characters in high school, full of promise and hubris. Richard loses his virginity on a ski slope with his strangely distant girlfriend and within the hour she is in a coma where she stays for 6,719 days and 83 pages.

During this time Richard and the rest of the gang have the chance to lose any existing direction in their lives. After moving away to seemingly better things, they all gravitate back to their old street in Vancouver, now as burned out, uncertain middle-aged adults.

The characters worry and obses-

sively self-analyse as they each attempt to reconcile their pasts, allowing Coupland to explore the theme of the book - the search for truth. Whether or not science students need to be convinced of the value of questioning instead of blindly accepting remains to be seen, but still a reminder is not a bad thing. Chapter titles play a very large role in developing the moral of the story, progressing from 'All ideas are true' to 'Reject every idea', 'Progress is over' and finally 'The End' with comments about contemporary society and consumerism.

Following the reunion of the friends and the awakening of Karen (the girlfriend), Coupland moves on to his vision of the end of the world, allowing further development of the plot. It is not the most chilling end of the world scenario (any nuclear physicists or epidemiologists care to comment?) but it does have an interesting twist.

All in all, a really interesting and multi-levelled read, to which this review doesn't do justice, but not one that has caused a long term alteration in my perspective, although it really has the potential. I'll just have to read it again.

Russell

£6.99 from Flamingo Publishing



## Reviews

## Life Is Beautiful ★★★★★

**Starring :** Roberto Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi, Giorgio Cantarini, Giustino Durano  
**Director :** Roberto Benigni

**L**ife is Beautiful is a magnificently shot and very humane Italian film. It is very charming and funny but also painful and very moving. Co-written and directed by that master of comedy, Roberto Benigni, the film stars him along with his real-life wife Nicoletta Braschi. Significantly, it won the Grand Jury prize at last year's Cannes film festival and recently got seven foreign film Oscar nominations. The story starts just before World War II in Fascist Italy and ends at the war's end. During this period, across Europe, Jews, Gypsies, and handicapped people were first persecuted and then later detained and killed under Nazi/Fascist 'master race' theories.

The first part of the film is a love story. Roberto Benigni arrives from the countryside to work as a waiter in a lavish restaurant owned by his uncle, in the hope of realising his dream of opening a bookshop. In scene after scene, reminiscent of great Charlie Chaplin works, we learn of this man's approach to life; sharp, humorous, and charming. Through a series of



*Italy's answer to Woody Allen and Jim Carrey? Poor bloke.*

serendipitous events he manages to seduce rich young Nicoletta Braschi (who is engaged to another man, a part of the Fascist hierarchy, who she doesn't like much). The first signs of the

forthcoming discomfort are felt when Benigni's uncle gets his horse painted with racist slogans. It is only then that we know that Benigni is a Jew. Before we know it, the couple are married, he

has opened a bookshop, and they have a smart lovely child.

The remaining part of the film will, naturally, make you feel uncomfortable. It is about the experience of father, son, and, on the other side of the camp, mother (who demands to join them even though she's not a Jew) in a concentration camp run mainly by Germans. There cannot possibly be anything to excuse the concept of a concentration camp, but Benigni for the sake of his child keeps his sense of humour. By focusing on the young boy's story, the film is in the end an optimistic one - but watch out for the moving end!

By all means go and watch this film, not to learn what *Schindler's List* has already told you before, but to learn about the essence of life; man's quest for peace, enjoyment and, ultimately, survival. This film should make you think about the unacceptable forms of hatred and persecution that exist today in many parts of the world, and hopefully move you to do something about it. **F**

Ahmed

## You've Got Mail ★★★★★

**Starring :** Meg Ryan, Tom Hanks, Parker Posey, Greg Kinnear  
**Director :** Nora Ephron

**S**lushy this film may be but *Sleepless in Seattle* it is not. *You've Got Mail* is an up-to-date reworking of the 1940 classic *The Shop Around The Corner* by Ernst Lubitsch. This time around, however, rather than being anonymous pen pals, our two central characters are falling in love over the Internet.

Meg Ryan is Kathleen Kelly who runs a children's bookstore, 'Shop Around The Corner' in New York. Although butter wouldn't melt in her mouth, she is having an on-line affair with NY512 under the pseudonym of Shopgirl. This is no seedy or sordid affair - just a simple, innocent conversation of life, love and dreams carried out across their email.

Of course, NY512 is Hanks (stepping into the shoes of James Stewart, who played the character in the original), a member of the family that has just opened a huge department bookstore almost on Ryan's door step. Busi-



*[Deep sigh of contentment].*

ness begins to diminish in her small shop and so she starts to despise Hanks and everything he stands for. Moreover, she also takes pleasure in telling him

what she thinks of him every time they meet. However, when they are not working they log on and wait for those three magic words - you've got mail -

with (of course) no idea that their anonymous love is their bitterest enemy.

The plot is extremely simple and the dialogue flows so realistically that you believe Ryan and Hanks could really be destined for each other. These two possess a kind of magic rarely seen between two people in real life, never-mind on the big screen, and director Ephron (who also directed *Sleepless*) is careful not to interfere. It's so obvious why they paired these two together again.

Eventually, however, this becomes the film's downfall - the last twenty minutes are painstakingly boring as you wait to see the inevitable. The film is long enough without this extra padding. You know what is going to happen so this makes the film a little predictable. That said, however, the loose ends eventually tie to give you one of the best romances to hit the big screen in quite a few years. **F**

Helen

## Reviews &amp; Competition

## Painted Angels ★★

Starring : Brenda Fricker, Meret Becker, Lisa Jakub, Kelly McGillis, Bronagh Gallagher

Director : Jon Sanders

This is certainly not a conventional western. The setting is familiar enough - a two horse town interrupting featureless prairie and reeking of the desolation which permeates the genre. However, the traditional male heroes whose turbulent displaced lives generally provide the subject of such films are relegated to the background. Instead, taking centre stage are some of the western's most underdeveloped characters. The women who work as prostitutes in the saloons and brothels are released from their usual roles of cowering in the corner while a taciturn wanderer dispatches a barful of drunken cowpokes to Boot Hill, and are allowed to tell their own story.

An eclectic cast plays a group of women who have the dubious privilege of working for Brenda Fricker's madam. No matter how tough life in the brothel gets, we are reminded that a rootless existence in the outside world would be more difficult for each of them. Kelly McGillis (of *Top Gun* fame) turns in an assured performance as the stoical Nettie, working to support her son and alcoholic husband. Her circumspect attitude,



Westerns. The last bastion of sexist misogyny (not counting RSM).

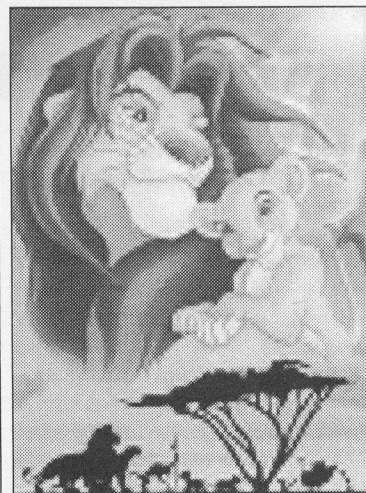
and that of Mottram, an older woman who fears that her working life may soon be over, contrast with those of the younger girls. The hardship which has driven Irish immigrant (Gallagher) and German dancer (Becker) into prostitution lurks behind the warmth of their fragile friendship, while the youngest, Jakub, entertains ambitious hopes of employment in a city bordello.

British director Jon Sanders has a background in documentary making, and, from the graphic depiction of the

women's work down to their white powder make up, he seems to have spared no effort in achieving the authentic appearance of *Painted Angels*. The relationships between the women are well conceived and neatly presented, but there is not much development of each character as the film progresses. This unusual portrayal of a brutal way of life is admirable, but the melancholic monotony of the film makes for fairly uninviting viewing. **F**

Simon

## The Lion King Soundtrack Collection



New video: same picture. Shameless cash in? You decide.

Critics may argue that it's not necessarily the best animated movie ever made, but *The Lion King* is undeniably the most successful - with UK box office sales of 23.1 million, video sales of 3.6 million, and soundtrack sales of over 1/2 million. Now comes the release of the (straight to video) sequel - *Lion King II: Simba's Pride* - and, of course, a new soundtrack: *The Lion King Collection*.

This superb sound track brings together the best from the original movie, including the hits *Can You Feel the Love Tonight* and *Circle of Life* by Elton John, and a whole range of new songs featuring artists such as Tina Turner and Lebo M.

The story of the *Lion King* continues with the release of *Simba's Pride* which plots the adventures of Simba and Nala's daughter Kiara and a member of Scar's pride Kovu; meanwhile the soundtrack endeavours to take you into the world of Simba and Co. Lebo M provides the African sounds along with Ladysmith Black Mambazo, an R&B duet sung by Kenny Lattimore and Heather Headley, and a rousing rendition of *We Are One* performed by World Beat artist Angelique Kidjo. The haunting but excellent first end title of the movie *He Lives in You* is performed by Tina Turner.

This is a great soundtrack which transports you into the world of *The Lion King* and brings out the kid in you. A must for all Disney fans, *The Lion King Collection* is out on Edel records on March 8th. **F**

Gurminder

## Win tickets and prizes galore with the

# ODEON

## KENSINGTON

It's Spring cleaning week here in the *Felix* film department, so there's a plethora of tickets and merchandise on offer. We've got gimmicky stuff galore - fancy *Meet Joe Black* pajamas, *You've Got Mail* CD's, *A Bug's Life* hats or *Phantom Menace* posters? Or tickets to a varied (and, admittedly, fairly obscure) set of films? Or T-shirts from practically every film released in the last six months? Well, thanks to my friends (and yours) at the Odeon Kensington, plus some surprisingly kind PR people, the whole lot is yours for the winning. All you have to do is answer the following question:

What movie links the stars of *Batman*, *Waterworld* and *Escape from LA*?

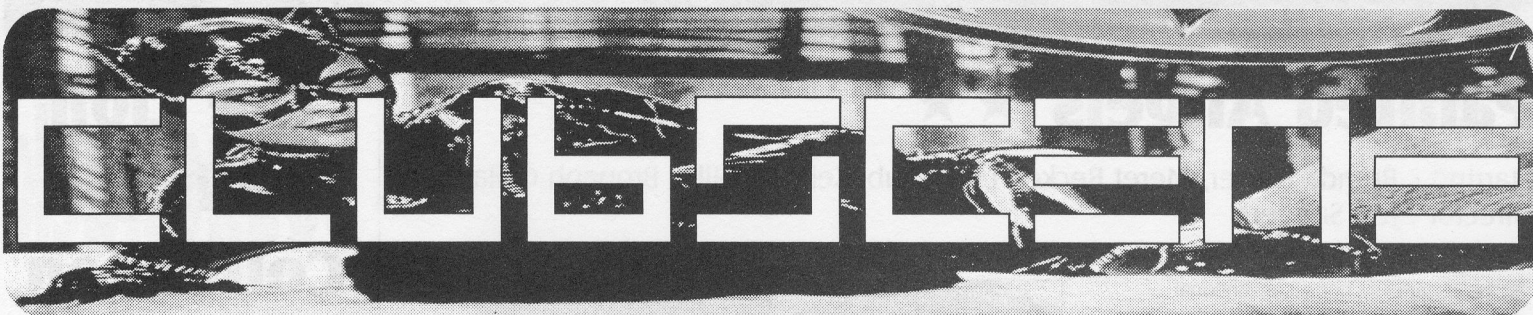


If you know, then email your answers to [film.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:film.felix@ic.ac.uk) before Wednesday evening. The first five names out of the virtual hat will win a mystery prize(s).

The winners of last week's *You've Got Mail* competition, were:

Nazlina Othman  
Kasim Rehman  
Marie Nicholaou  
Stephen Whittaker  
David Saunders

They (along with about 150 others) correctly identified that *You've Got Mail* stars Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks first worked together on the long-forgotten romantic comedy *Joe Versus the Volcano*. Please drop into the *Felix* office (in the Beit archway) to pick up your prizes.



## Shine @ The Fridge

Brixton, SW2, Saturdays, 10pm-6am.  
£8/£10/£12. Capacity = 1,000. Dress code  
= none.

One of London's newest house nights this south of the river jaunt only began two weeks ago, and quite frankly it shows. Despite the promises of glitter cannons, balloon drops, and the most stylish night that the capital has seen in a while, Shine just doesn't deliver. But it is not a complete disaster area either. It is merely a fledgling night trying to learn to fly in a city full of big players.

The first thing that you notice is the clientele in the club. Shine replaced the gay night Love Muscle, and there appears to be a bit of a hangover from this amusingly-named past incarnation. I certainly don't have anything against gay nights or indeed against there being a mixed crowd at Shine. Indeed, some of the best nights around are mixed, because you feel as if you can relax more in the anything goes atmospheres. However, that's not what Shine is trying to do. It is trying to be a glam house night which appeals to, and I quote "more experimental of the capital's clubbers." To

do this it must try and up the proportion of female punters who go along - it was just too packed full of blokes. Now I know that I didn't help by not taking any girlfriends along this time, but it's not all my job, now is it?

The music also needs to get a serious injection of melody and energy. The tempo may have been just about right but the tracks played by the majority of the DJs were just plain boring. I seriously can't remember a single tune, and none of them even came close to giving me that usual rush that you get when you really enjoy a track. Despite the calibre of the talent on show, such as Roy the Roach and DJ Dimitri from Paris, the sets were just mindless, amorphous blobs of depressingly tedious music. And the crowd knew it too despite their attempts to look happy. You just sensed everyone was going through the motions, wishing they were somewhere else.

But maybe this wasn't the case, 'cos if you are going to go to any club in London, then make it The Fridge. This is a stunning venue. The main dancefloor is huge, as is the stage area at the back, so there is plenty of space to go and show

off your moves. At the same time, if you feel more like hiding away your talents, or getting up to no good, then there are plenty of little out-of-the-way sections to explore. It may be confusing to get around this place when you are not thinking too clearly, but it's worth the expedition - every part of it is great. Just wish the night had been as good as the club. Still, not to worry - look out for my review of the legendary Escape From Samsara (Fridays at The Fridge) in the next issue of Clubscene.

As for Shine, don't just take my word for it - it isn't all that bad really. And it will get better as they manage to carve out an identity for themselves. Just give them a little more time to live up to their name. **Shiny or just Dull?**



Roobarb

## Have a Nymphastic Night for Cheaper

Thanks to your lovely friends here at Clubscene, you can now get into the splendid Nymph night (reviewed right here.....twice!) at Mass, in Brixton, for just £7. Their next jaunt is on March 13th and stars the huge Justin Robertson and the funky Farley Jackmaster Funk. To get your special concession just take along a copy of Felix (and then throw it in the bin so as not to appear very sad indeed), or simply mention Felix magazine at the door and show your student card. What could be easier? Well not very much, so go and do it.



Roobarb

## Singles

K90  
'Species'  
(Boscaland)

Another thumping piece of softish techno to come out of the Truelove Label Collective camp, this track is an interesting piece of vinyl to get your hands on. That's 'cos unlike many other 12" there is a great contrast between the two mixes that you get. The Original Mix is more conventional with a user-friendly melody, and a couple of nice breakdowns. But it's the Trash Compactor Remix which really does the business. It's a dark and funky piece, which manages to work well despite being quite a bare track.

Out April 5th

★★★★

Incognito  
'Nights Over Egypt'  
(Talking Loud)

A nice laid-back number from the Incognito people. Once you get past the fact that they are singing one of the silliest (but at the same time original) choruses ever to hit clubland then this record can really grow on you. A soulful, uplifting track that would sit well in any garage/soft house set, this track, (and all the mixes in the double vinyl pack) brims full of slick production. Although (quite expectedly) it's the Masters at Work Main Mix that is being plugged, try out the Maw Mix on the B-side. It's less jazzy and cuts straight to the point. Also look out for some useful bonus beats and acapellas for all you aspiring chilled-out DJs out there.

★★★★

Heaven's Children  
'Bam Bam'  
(TEC)

A catchy tune in all its guises on this 12". This is what I like about records like this - you're getting your money's worth and they'll help you build up that eclectic record collection that you've always dreamt of. The offspring of a couple of the (ex?) resident DJs from Heaven, this track would cut it on the dancefloor in any of its three incarnations. The A-side gives us a mad and fruity "Saturday Night at Heaven" mix - a good idea of what it's like at the legendary venue these days, whilst the D.A.V.E. the Drummer remix is a bit tougher and, of course, more drum-based. But, as is often the case, check out the Original Mix for a more well-rounded performance - this one's a nice hard houser.

Out March 29th

★★★★

Phats and Small  
'Turn Around'  
(Multiply)

This is going to be one hell of a tune. Produced by a couple of likely lads from Brighton (and yes they are mates of Fatboy Slim), this tune is one of those catchy, happy, dance tunes you'll either love or hate but will still end up dancing to - and if you're not dancing to it you'll be singing along to it. Causing a huge storm on the nation's dancefloors, it comes with a few mixes, the best being the Original 12". Great dance music (getting the blessing of the Radio 1 jocks).

Out this month



Reviews by Roobarb and Gurm

# Albums

Album of the Week  
Sasha and John Digweed  
Northern Exposure 3  
'Expeditions'

John Digweed and Sasha are the most celebrated members of their profession, being both innovative and entertaining. They have the ability to create a great atmosphere using breathtaking tunes, and in recent years they have enjoyed huge success with the superb Northern Exposure series (and before that the incredible Renaissance projects). The collaboration between the two masters continues with the new Northern Exposure album entitled 'Expeditions.' This is an album which is simply brilliant. Digweed and Sasha have always seen themselves as different to all the other DJs, and this album takes them back to the formidable style that helped them make their names - good quality, deep progressive house music. The track listing uses the full spectrum of old and new spiritual progressive music, across two CDs. Tracks include Digweed's remix of Danny Tenaglia's 'Turn Me On' and

Sasha's own 'Belfunk'. The album has been compiled behind the decks before refining work in the studio to create additional effects. This is a great album, and if you like the deep music of Digweed and Sasha you'd be a fool not to buy it.

★★★★★

Morcean Worker  
'Mixed Emotional Features LP'

This album, produced by Adam Dorn (Morcean Worker) has to be one of the best D&B albums that has ever been created. It's so good that had it not been for Sasha and Digweed, this would have been album of the week. 'Mixed Emotional Features LP' is a ten track album that uses many different types of music, which are then expertly fused with D&B. The best thing about the album is that there are no MCs at all, so there's no irritating vocals. The tracks feature music such as house, funk, jazz, progressive and some good old "normal" D&B; each tune slowly builds up, starting gently before hitting you with D&B sounds which then gradually fade into the calm finale. This is an album that is meant for

people who like all kinds of music - a superb collection of tunes.

★★★★★

Astral Projection  
'Another World'  
(Transient)

This is the sixth album from the finest Israeli trance act ever (personally I know of no other Israeli trance acts but who's counting?). A nine-track album, 'Another World' is trance music at its best - so much so that DJs such as Danny Rampling have given the tracks glowing reports. The music is very much like that released on the Perfecto label - fast beats, hard bass lines, lots of pianos/synths and, of course, plenty of breakdowns. And because it's good quality fast trance it's great to dance to. Astral Projection, the true originators of psytrance, will soon be touring in London to help promote the album and if you want more info, then pop into the Felix office.

Out in March

★★★★★

Niko Marks & City Boy Players  
'City Boy Players'

This is one hell of an album - a lot of variety and great tunes, the only problem is the album is not long enough!! This is a CD which joins together house, soul, disco, R&B, gospel, jazz and electronica to form a collage of wiggled-out, funk grooves and Afro-American musical fusion. The album has 15 tracks and takes you on a journey through all the previous mentioned styles whilst featuring the vocal talents and brilliant jazz piano of Niko Marks. Coming from Detroit, you would have expected it to be more techno-sounding than it actually is, but the album shows how fusing different sounds together can make a great sounding album simply because of the variety on offer.

Out at the end of March

★★★★★



Gurm

## Gus Gus @ ULU

Last Friday, Joel and I (and my flat mate who randomly turned up) braved the pissing rain to go and see Iceland's finest (but most under-rated) band Gus Gus at ULU. Having never been to ULU before I was surprised at how small the venue was, but within an hour the place was packed and I was glad I had left my crutches at home (after last week's farce at Turnmills there was no way I was bringing them). For the first hour and a half we were treated to a warm-up jock who played great house music - both progressive and hard, but I felt a bit sorry for him as no-one seemed to notice him. Gradually the clock approached 9:30pm and the atmosphere built up in anticipation of Gus Gus. And then they came on stage to a standing ovation (okay I'll admit there weren't any seats), and immediately Gus Gus (six guys and a girl) took us through a trip of great music. It's hard to define the music they produce since it encompasses techno, dance, indie, house - all sorts, the crowd was treated to a great mix of tunes.

The tunes were mostly recent stuff but there were a few classics dropped in there, including the fabulous 'Believe' which went down a storm. The atmosphere was intense and Gus Gus, playing their first UK gig for over a year, joined the crowd in jumping up and down, and madly waving their hands in the air during the harder tracks, whilst the couple

of soft songs saw the crowd swaying gently as the lights dimmed.

Tosser of the night had to go to the bloke dancing in front of poor old Joel.

Having only grabbed a few hours sleep in the last thirty hours or so, Joel (who could barely stay awake) spent the gig dancing behind a bloke who not only



Gus Gus - Scandinavian and Strange, now there's a surprise!

had the worst haircut in the world, but who also took great pleasure in shoving the frizzy mass into Joel's face - until Joel kicked up a fuss, when he promptly tied up his hair using his girlfriend's bobble. Still, that didn't stop us from shoving him in the back everytime he stepped backwards.

Back on stage, and Gus Gus were screaming out the lyrics over the thumping bass lines, and when one of the guys started singing in a Maurice Gibb voice we started wondering if this was a tribute to the Bee Gees. The show culminated when the lead singer asked "Do you wanna hear techno?" to the crowd. Naturally we shouted that we would and Gus Gus promptly blared out a fabulous techno track with hard bass lines and minimal vocals before launching into 'Ladyshave', their latest single. All throughout the gig, weird images and messages were projected onto a screen behind the stage adding to an already electric atmosphere.

An hour and half later it sadly finished - Gus Gus came on for an encore and then left the crowd to mull about until the lead singer came out and said "No guys, it's finished....cheers". This was a great gig and Felix has to thank Justin at 4AD records for letting us come and review a fabulous night.



Gurm



## Singles

Lamb - *B-Line*

The female lead on this sounds like Björk on a bad day at the best of times. If the 'B' in the title is meant to signify bass then I am terribly disappointed, but more importantly, what the hell does 'Lamb' signify? Oops, I appear to have spoken too soon. Just as I write this the Lounge Mix comes on; drums and much bass indeed - I apologise Lamb.

Radar - *Less And Less*

Chilled-out guitar strings. These guys also produce a lot of their tracks so talented they are, but the sound is too much like what's already available, so nothing refreshing. The b-side boasts two extra tracks - one of them is very slow and down, but *Just Desserts* is the guys on a high.

Pist-On - *Wee E.P.*

Once you get over the title, you soon get into the heavy rock, almost metal. The lead is unmistakably metallic but, surprisingly, you can make out most of the lyrics. They are sung well too. A funny thing about this single is that there isn't a track called Wee on It - as you would expect from the title - just *Rest* and *31 Degrees*. *Rest* is as above, and *31 Degrees* is nothing special and definitely not metal.

Somatic - *Rocking Chair*

The verses are sung quietly by the child-like voice of Fleur Davies but the chorus gets the full guitars and drums backing. The Diamond Cut remix is damn good - bigger bass and some nice scratch-work on the decks. By the way, would 'be my rocking chair' be some kind of sexual innuendo?

Whale - *Deliver The Juice*

I never did like any of their previous works but this one is different. I got into it quite quickly. Everybody seems to be doing it - the recently popularised 'throat-music' by The Offspring. It's not as overpowering here but the compliment is evident. More sexual innuendo with 'I've got the juice... I'm gonna deliver the juice' perhaps?

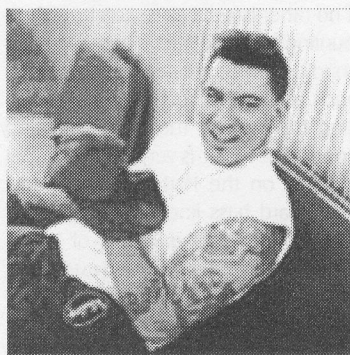
Crest / Fleece - *Split Single*

The world is obviously running short of CD supplies - two bands releasing singles on the same CD. Okay, Crest first. They have two tracks and the first, *The Small Details*, was so small that it passed me straight by. The vocalist on *Fret* sounds shy and nervous but the beats build and fall nicely, almost drowning the vocals. Onto Fleece, who feature three songs. Their sound is very different to that of Crest - very laid-back. The vocals are given so much emphasis that you're trying hard to make out the backing beats - does nothing for me.

## Albums

## EVERLAST

## Whitey Ford Sings The Blues ★★★



Everlast - he sings the blues and polishes your shoes!

Whitey Ford Sings the Blues is the new album from ex-House of Painer, Erik Schorody a.k.a. Everlast. He says 'I'm a little older and the music is more mature', and that he has moved on from 'drinking beers and slamdancing'. But contrary to his word, the album starts with a hilarious 80s school-keyboard style track - *The White Boy is Back*. It all gets a lot more serious after that, as Everlast sees this as his chance to right all the wrongs he sees in the world today, including the material obsessed society of the US.

He's moved a lot of acoustic guitar and actual singing into this album - rather than the beats and the loudmouth rant style House of Pain were so famous for. Saying that, heavy beats are still occasionally in evidence - it's just that they're now tempered by more rocky elements.

It also seems that Everlast has got a lot more philosophical in his old age. With lyrics such as 'I see everybody rocking the same old style, and everyone sporting the same pro-file' it appears as if Everlast is more than a little angry with the sterile-corporate spin that is being currently put out by rap artists. While a lot of people would agree with this point of view, isn't his pseudo-rap-rock style the

ultimate in making rap more palatable for the guitar obsessed world of the US mainstream?

This new sound swings between Busta Rhyme's style machine gun lyrics, and Soundgarden rock earnestness. Some of his new-found solo success has gone to Everlast's head with a good example being on the track *Today* - 'the world is mine today - watch me shine', and this theme is repeated throughout.

The rap mainstream will doubtless label this album as a pure unadulterated sell out, but I can see this album being very successful in the 'crossover' market as Puff Daddy/Jimmy Paige have previously demonstrated.

The lyrics are where this album comes into its own and ultimately pulled me back into liking the sounds emanating from my stereo. Everlast really does have the touch when it comes to writing lyrics that make you stand up and listen. It's a refreshing change indeed to hear a rapper talking about real world issues rather than 'Ho's', guns and gangs.

If you are into hard rap and beats this isn't the album for you - if, however, you are prepared to be a bit more open-minded and listen to some interesting lyrics you could do a lot worse than this.

M

Joel

## LIZ PHAIR

## Whitechocolatespaceegg ★★★



Liz Phair - I wonder what she wants for Easter?

Liz Phair talks about platonic relationships, Liz Phair talks about casual lust, Liz Phair talks about marriage, Liz Phair talks about childcare. The smarter amongst you might have begun to see the pattern. Not quite what you'd expect from the girl whose critically acclaimed 1993 debut album *Exile in Guyville* showed it was all right for the girl next door to sing about dicks and fannies using words of only one syllable.

*Whitechocolatespaceegg* is her third offering and is not so much an album as a collection of diatribes about domesticity and the married state. Surprise, surprise, Phair just got hitched and now she wants to tell us all about it. Mistaking poetic pretentiousness for lyrical profundity, she takes us on a touchy-feely trip through the worlds of wedded bliss and maternal ecstasy, passing through mother-child angst (*Only Son*), marital strife (*Go On Ahead*), the beauty of permanence (*Love Is Nothing*) and post knot-tying male-female relationships (*Fantasize*) en route. If this is what a

ring and a couple of 'I do's' does to you, cancel my subscription to Dateline.

Liz Phair treats *Whitechocolatespaceegg* as her confessional and although I like the Suzanne Vega-soundalike, wrap-around stream-of-consciousness vocals, the lyrical tone is one of a whinging West Coaster, convinced of her importance and with an unhealthy fondness for her own naval. Phair's musical sensibilities are still very much pop, and the melodies on the album, though rather *Tune-a-Day for Guitar*, are pleasant enough if a little samey with the odd diversion into other genres (*Perfect World*, *Baby Got Going*, *Headache*) failing to compensate. If you don't like it, give it to your girlfriend. I might be missing something that those of you with two X chromosomes would find to love about this album, but to my ears "whitechocolatespaceegg" is just that: anaemic, sugary and with nothing substantial inside.

M

Matt



## Albums

## VARIOUS ARTISTS

Little Voice - OST ★★★



Surprisingly enough Jane Horrocks has more than just a little voice.

Little Voice, played by Jane Horrocks (best known for her role as Bubbles in *Absolutely Fabulous*), is the story of a young girl who, in overcoming her shyness, has learnt to imitate various artists from her record collection. The film follows her discovery, rise and consequent exploitation. The film features well known songs by legendary actresses and singers such as Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe and Shirley Bassey, alongside those sung by Horrocks as Little Voice.

Horrocks' mimicry of the Monroe sound and style is extremely realistic and at times, a touch uncanny while pouting her way through *I Wanna Be Loved By You*. However, when compared to the real thing, her voice lacks the depth and power of the others, but the similarities mean that her songs do not sound too out of place. Tom Jones is the token male artist featured with *It's Not Unusual*, which although cheesy and classy in its own right, does sound inferior on a soundtrack of this calibre.

The purpose of a soundtrack is to compliment the film, but due to the exclusion of the instrumental background bits, which are the usual soundtrack fodder, this soundtrack also stands alone as a collection of some really good music. However, as with all films when music from the soundtrack is featured, it tends to be in snippets and/or pushed very much to the background - I hope that this film does the music justice. In conclusion, it's not your average student buy, more that of an older relative-but nevertheless very good indeed.

M

Katherine

## JIM O'ROURKE

Eureka ★★★



Jim O'Rourke, or Pacey from *Dawson's Creek*, or even Jarvis Cocker?

If your idea of heaven is loud and nasty thrash metal, look away now. If, on the other hand you have an ear for the more refined, read on. It seems a stupid thing to say, but if you like this kind of stuff then you're going to love this kind of stuff. *Eureka* is not only an acoustic guitarist's copybook - and a lazy, dreamy, if-it-were-any-more-laid-back-it'd-fall-over one at that - it's a collection of aural watercolours, a sound collage of Chicago, the West Coast, Cuba and the Caribbean that couldn't hurry if it tried. Listening to Jim O'Rourke's latest release is the musical

equivalent of eating Cadbury's Caramel, it's an aural representation of how Guinness should be poured, it's a Radox bath for the brain. Gloriously melodious, crisp and assured finger-picked guitar, shimmering piano and more different kinds of percussion and brass than you can shake a stick at. Crosby, Stills and Nash fans will recognise the light, airy, beautifully harmonised vocals that sparingly grace the album, at a hundred yards and smile with the pleasure of reacquainting oneself with an old friend. Fans of laid back Latin rhythms will nod in approval at the subtle percussion and brass on *Please Patronise Our Sponsors* and the I'm-so-relaxed-I-could-just-shit horns on *Movie On The Way Down* and *Something Big*, whilst the Jamaicans in the audience will break into a broad grin on hearing the sax/steel drum combination that lends originality to *Through The Night Slowly*. And that's the only way to take *Eureka* - slowly and in small savouring sips just like that third glass of Remy Martin VSOP that you know you shouldn't have but that makes you so mellow that frankly my dear you couldn't give a damn. M

Matt

## TRASHMONK

Mona Lisa ★★★

Trashmonk is Nick Laird-Clowes. A collaborator with numerous respected artists; he had an affair with Kelly Le Brock; lost his virginity at 14 to a 27 year old model at John Lennon's house; and he has that all important popstar knowledge of speed, coke, ecstasy, ketamine and cuttlefish, and to top it all off he had a non-too-pleasant experience in a Middle East prison.

Thus, by my reckoning all this puts Trashmonk in his late 30's/early 40's, but fear not this is not an exercise in Dadrock. He describes himself as Bob Dylan with samplers or Elliot Smith produced by the Beastie Boys. And indeed *Mona Lisa Overdrive* is more akin to Beck than the bland offerings of the Wellers of this world. That isn't to say there are no echoes of yesteryear; *Sapphire* and *Dying Day* have the poignant delicacy of Nick Drake and *All Change* is Alex Chilton with tabla.

Loss of the self and of other selves are common themes but the message is positive. It's been a rocky ride but worth it nonetheless when the destination sounds this good. M Chris

## CHUMBAWUMBA

Uneasy Listening ★

A collection of old single and album material from Chumbawamba. You have to question the merits of this collection, but I guess it's an act of desperation. And desperate this album is!

I tried very hard to listen to this all the way, but I have to admit that I failed. It is truly terrible, and as for their musical abilities, see the first paragraph.

Take for example, *Morality Play In Three Acts*, where the guy is singing some crap lyrics. No, I take that back, singing is too good a word to describe his incoherent talk. The music, also, has been very cunningly disguised as crappy noise. *Hanging On The Old Barbed Wire* is worse. For crying out loud, an acappella should only be done by people with good voices.

I was really hoping to be able to say that the album is not all that bad, but I would have to lie. I would have loved to offer money to someone to take this off me, but I had to destroy it - I wouldn't be able to live with the guilt of corrupting healthy ears. For those who still feel the need to hear this for themselves I wouldn't suggest you try in any reputable music store such as HMV or Tower - they know better. M Asad

## Singles

Pras - *What'cha Wanna Do*

As typical with Pras, there are many guest artists on this, together creating a very soulful sound. This is also taken from the *Ghetto Supastar* album and makes you wonder really - how many tracks are left on the album? - I don't know, it just seems like so many from the one album.

GusGus - *Album Sampler*

Not a single, this is a four-track album sampler. Starting with *Ladyshave*; this is very smooth indeed. The sound is fresh and the vocals are charming. We move into *Very Important People*, which displays funky loops and solid beats. The difference is astoundingly good. The remaining two tracks are just as fresh, so be sure to look out for the album *This Is Normal* sometime in April/May. It's obviously not fair to award this with The Essential Choon, but it certainly deserves an accolade. How about The Essential Album Sampler?

## ESSENTIAL CHOON

Moloko - *Sing It Back*

What I really like about this tracks is its simplicity. A simple bass-line and instruments played distinctly along with sweet vocals on a simple melody. It's only the chorus that is more upbeat and it works. I can imagine this getting a speed garage remix - it would absolutely kick-ass.

Witness - *Scars*

The guitars on this are very seductive and the you can almost feel the vocals. It is a bit too slow sometimes though - almost makes it dull at times. I really don't like the way it comes to an abrupt end, and the b-side doesn't even make up for that.

Beth Orton - *Stolen Car*

Taken from the forthcoming album *Central Reservation*, all I can say about this is: nice. The fact that it also contains two exclusive non-album tracks: very nice.

Eagle-Eye Cherry - *Permanent Tears*

Much slower than his previous releases and with less of a reggae beat as well. This song is very moody and you feel as though you really need to be walking along a long, dark road. This can't be good for you, but it's a decent track. M

Asad



# THE BOMB

## Beverley Knight Interview

This week we meet up with the original British Soul Sista, the R&B Queen of England!

Beverley Knight is one of the friendliest people I have ever had the fortune to talk to, she's a lovely girl who made me feel like I've been talking to her for years. With a new remix of 'Made it Back' blowing up all over again and her album getting a re-release I wondered how someone with so much going for them could have their feet planted so firmly on the ground. Probably something to do with her up bringing, she was a gospel singer and had never sung outside of church until she left home for college. Once she started singing in clubs, as the support for others, there was no looking back, she was spotted soon and didn't look back.

Beverley first blew up way back in 1995 when she released a record that has gone on to become one of the hottest British R&B tunes of all time 'Flavour of the Old School'. It was massive in the clubs and was quickly followed by her debut album 'The B-Funk', this earned praise from all quarters, but especially from the R&B heads. Beverley Knight had arrived and was getting recognition as the best British soul prospect for years, follow up singles 'Down for the One' and the

wicked 'Movin' On Up On The Right Side' did nothing but increase the respect for her. In 1996 she won the prestigious Black Music Award for best R&B artist and was well on her way to dominating the R&B charts, but she didn't! Beverley just disappeared and for two years

nothing was heard from her, until the summer of 1998 when she released the stupendous 'Made it Back' as the lead single of her second set 'Prodigal Sista', Bev was back and back exactly where she left of.

Beverley's 'Prodigal Sista' album got great reviews on its initial release in the summer (we called it the best British album of the year), but is now getting a re-packaging and a re-release, I when over and asked the diva why?

**Milen** : When 'Prodigal Sista' was first released it got great reviews, so why are you re-releasing it? Were you unhappy with it first time round?

**Beverley Knight** : No, not at all, the first time the album was how I want it, it was my album, its contents were perfect.

**M** : That's my point, to us and to nuff people who bought it, it was perfect.....so why the re-release?

**BK** : The album sold well, it sold to people who buy R&B and basically what we want to do with the re-release is to make more people more aware of Beverley Knight, use it as a way of getting me into the minds of the public of large.

**M** : So what is the new album gonna have on it that the old one didn't?

**BK** : Its basically the same, the new set has a few remixes and re-workings on it and is more of a vehicle to get on to radio and get a large share of the market, while maintaining my sound.

**M** : The new 'Made It Back' remix, where did that come from? There's this story that someone did it, pressed it to white label, you heard it and liked it.

**BK**: Something like that, but not quite. A DJ messed about with the original, like they do, and came up with this mix, he sent a tape to the record company and it landed on my A&R man's desk, he played for me and yeah I liked it. The

company decided it would be good idea to release the single and go for a wider audience, and from there we decided on the re-release of the whole album.

**M** : What happened in those years between the first and second albums, I



know you changed record company, but why such long gap?

**BK** : Well, it was changing company that took so long, I was signed to a contract with Dome Records and I wanted out, things dragged out, but once finished I looked at record companies to sign for and eventually signed for EMI. Things take as long as they take.

**M** : Why did you split with Dome?

**BK** : For legal reasons I can't go into details, but they had one opinion of where my career should be at and I had a totally different opinion. It was all about the direction of my sound and Dome weren't on the same wavelength as me.

**M** : What did they want?

**BK** : Well, they were looking to make a sort of manufactured sound that wasn't what I wanted.

**M** : Why did you choose EMI?

**BK** : I looked hard at all the companies and EMI were the most attractive for me. I know they have a bit of a rep for being an indie label, but they are an artist driven label. They have real artists, they were willing to give me the

control over my own music and my career.

**M** : Its well known that as a kid you sang gospel, why didn't you go into that?

**BK** : My parents wanted me to sing gospel, but there came a point where I had to decide which way I wanted to go and I decided upon the big wide world of R&B.

**M** : Were your parents disappointed?

**BK** : Of course they were, but they didn't stop me, they supported my decision and let me get on with it.

At the end of the day Beverley Knight is a classy independent lady who has massive amounts of talent. She has always moved in a direction that she wants to go in, and that has always been one that the rest of us have loved. 'Prodigal Sista' is re-released in April and the remix of 'Made it Back' is out on March 22. This girl deserves huge success and hopefully she will get it.

### What Beverley Been Checking

#### Ex-Factor by Lauryn Hill

I'm feeln the whole album, but when I heard this I just loved it!

#### Devil's Pie by D'Angelo

"This is so good. Premier lays down some awesome beats and D'Angelo is just D'Angelo, brilliant!"

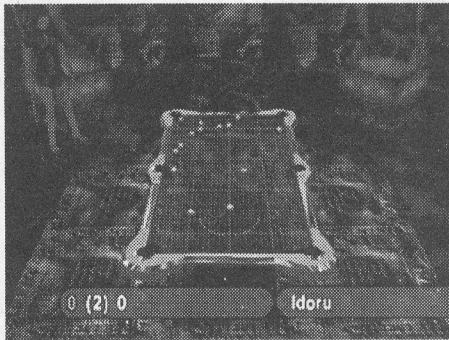


## Pool:Shark (PC)

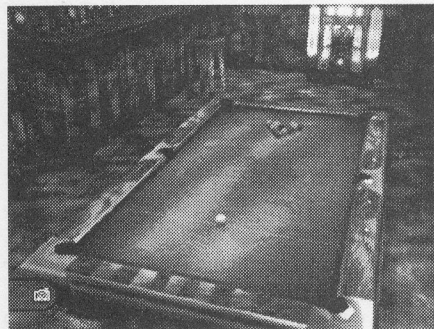
Gremlin

★★★★

When this dropped on the desk a sudden sense of déjà vu echoed through the office. Didn't this get reviewed last month on the Playstation? Yes it is the same title, the same set of weird tables, the same large number of different types of games can be played and all using the long stick to knock the round things into the pockets. (A cheat here is not all the balls have to be pocketed. Only about half of them are needed in order to win - the computer opponent cheated in this underhand manner every time). So it is the same game, but not necessarily played in the same way.



Firstly the graphics. PCs with 3-D acceleration cards would be expected to have better graphics, and they do. The shading of the tables is much more detailed than the PSX. The transparent techno table looks superb. The control method is also different. Instead of the simplistic power bar there is a slightly more complex mouse control method using the swing of the mouse to actually control the force of the stroke. It does take a bit of time to practice it, but within a couple of minutes gentle close shots don't end up with the cue ball in the pocket. The control method was the bane of the Playstation version and with a simple bit of tweaking it plays a lot more like a game of pool. Finally I can recommend it - very good work fellas.



Gary S.

## Premier Manager '99 (PC)

Gremlin

★★★★



When this dropped on the desk a sudden sense of déjà vu echoed through the office. Didn't this get reviewed last month on the Playstation?

Wait a minute didn't I just get a sense of déjà vu a minute ago. Déjà vu of déjà vu - now that's odd. Anyway Premier Manager 99 on the PC is still all about managing your favourite team to the top of the league and as much sil-

verware as the cupboard can hold - or if you are feeling perverse taking your hated premier team down to the third division before being sacked.

With the memory and disk space of the PC you would expect some improvement over the Playstation version. The players actually come with mini photos so you can scare children off by playing the game using the images of Tony Adams and Paul Merson. There is also a lot more detail, with the inclusion of such important details as youth programmes and scouts for the youth teams. The third improvement has got to be the ability to use the mouse and keyboard. Rather than cycling through millions of different screens to get to the screen you want you can use the mouse to get there.

Another improvement over the PSX version (this is spookily like PC Pool:Shark), but it is enough. It is the best football management game currently out, but look out because championship manager is about to come into play.



Gary S.

## Gremlin Giveaway - PC Pool:Shark and PM99

Wanna shoot some pool? Thanks to Gremlin there is a copy of Pool:Shark to pass on to the first person picked out of the hat who answers the follow question:

Which two films featuring Paul Newman have quite a lot to do with pool ?

Send your answers into Felix marked 'Pool Potty' by email [felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk) or in paper form before noon this Wednesday. I'll announce the winner next week.

Football mad, Football crazy, have problems waiting until next Saturday? Gremlin has given a copy of Premier Manager 99 to us to give to the lucky student who is first out of the hat with the answer to the following question:

Which British club team was the first to win the European Cup and in what year?

Send your answers into Felix marked 'Bigger balls (than pool)' by email [felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk) or in paper form before noon this Wednesday. I'll announce the winner next week.

## News

### Emotionally Challenged

So, Sony have started releasing details of their next generation time wasting device (otherwise known as games machine). It has fairly impressive stats - getting near the theoretical maximum number of polygons displayable on a conventional TV, and a launch date this winter. Knowing the Japanese, the US market gets first pick - expect a realistic UK launch sometime in Autumn 2000.

At its heart it has the emotion engine - a chip that Sony and Toshiba claim is more powerful than the current Pentium III. Hopefully, if the games are as good as the released screenshots we might just be able to put up with it being called something like the emotion machine.

### Free ISP for you and me

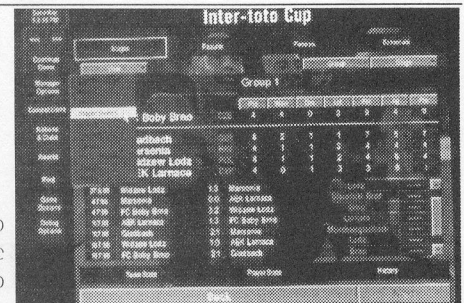
Free ISP's (Internet Service Providers) are flooding the market. First was Freeserve, then Virgin. Now Eidos and Easynet have got into bed to announce a new free ISP service that is aimed at the internet gamer.

Launched very quietly on Feb 23, it supports both V.90 and ISDN connections: The ISDN connection for both single and dual channel. You get the usual bundle of multiple mail addresses, 20 Meg of personal WWW space, and access to news. To subscribe you can either find the software on any of the latest Eidos games, or go to the WWW site [www.eidos.co.uk](http://www.eidos.co.uk) and sign up directly. So now, we can all run our own Lara sites.

### Championship Manager rides again

Take a quick peek at the photo on the right and you will realise that the all new Championship Manager 3 is going to annoy thousands of people all over the country. Championship Manager 2 was the runaway winner last time round and Premier Manager 99 on the PC is going to have some serious competition on their hands this season.

All this said, we have not yet seen the final version - and we have a gaggle of reviewers all fighting over who



has the footballing experience to review it properly - in the mean time we will be running a Championship Manager 3 competition next week.

So get your football encyclopedias out because if you like football, you are bound to love Championship Manager 3.

Gary S.



### LOTS AND LOTS OF LOVELY SPACE FILLING FOOTBALL

UCL IV.....1  
IC IV.....3

We've met UCL four times this season (IV's and V's) and we've not lost yet. Today wasn't going to be any different. Although Hurricane Horace was blowing us like a ten dollar hooker, we defended well into the first half. In fact that seemed to be all we were doing and when Ricki "Jack Duckworth" Gibson finally knocked the ball into their half, Aiden "Jorrel" Banks pounced on it and perfectly chipped the keeper. My Dad would've been proud.

After such a onslaught we did well to go in at halftime one-nil up, but knew

that the tables would turn in the second half.

Fourth team policy of "everyone gets a half" saw the removal of Richard "Lippy" Taylor and Peyrouz "Impatient" Modarres at half time, in exchange for Simon "60p" Newton and Chris "Debby Harry" Tzinieris.

At the start of the 2nd half, David "Paddy" Wishart had the fire in his belly and was fundamental in turning things around. The second goal came when the captain Elliot "Great Party" Newton read a ball well and calmly intercepted it. Turning a player with ease (can you tell I write these?) he laid off an inch perfect pass to Chris. Good control and a

"Ronaldo-like" turn allowed Chris to backheel to Aidan who again finished superbly. 4 goals in 2 games for the prospective captain next season. From then on the game was ours with the back four playing solidly. A free kick quickly taken by them caught us off guard and they snatched one back, but Chris retaliated from a 40 yard free kick which screamed past the keeper. The Klinsman style celebration capped off a quality day for the fourths.

#### INTERDEPARTMENTAL

Physics.....5  
Maths.....3

Physicists once again demonstrated their superiority over Mathematicians with an emphatic 5-3 victory in the first phase of the IC Interdepartmental Tournament.

The match, billed by some as "the match of the year" did not fail to disappoint, with lots of goal-mouth action and a feast of goals. However, the match almost didn't take place due to the late arrival of the Maths team, which resulted in a delay of over 30 minutes.

When the match finally got underway, both teams started off slowly and took a while to get into the game. Physics opened the scoring midway through the first half with a well-worked move which was coolly finished off by "Man of the Match" Jimmy, who made it 2-0 shortly before halftime with another well-taken goal.

The second half followed pretty much the same path as the first, with Physics dominating for long periods. Physics notched up a third goal early in the

second half, scored by their captain Shubeur. Both teams then had goals disallowed by the referee, (me!) who had a good game overall. By this stage, Maths were getting rather frustrated and this frustration was confounded when "the Michael Owen of Physics," Jimmy netted his hat-trick to make it 4-0. Maths finally managed to get the ball past Greek-Cypriot Marios, who had an outstanding game in goal, when creative midfielder Wing converted a chance set up by ICU first team member, Warren. Shubeur then added a fifth for Physics, which was followed by two late consolation goals by the captain of the Maths team, Dino.

At the final whistle, with most players exhausted, Maths players unapologetically didn't shake the hands of the Physicists! Overall, Physics thoroughly deserved their victory even after an under-par performance, and can only get better.

*Melvin Lewis*

If any students are interested email me at [melvin.lewis@ic.ac.uk](mailto:melvin.lewis@ic.ac.uk)

Management.....3  
Mech Eng.....3

At around 2 p. m. on Wednesday, the Management School's team played its first match against Mech Eng, a friendly, over a month after the thought of forming a team was first conceived. In all, eighteen footballers braved the rain to play for the team, made worse by the fact that we were all in trainers.

Although Management began skillfully, Mech Eng took advantage of Management's occasional open defence to score two goals in the first half. The second half saw Management equalise with two excellent goals from Robbi Malandreniotis and one from Mike, a Mech Eng member playing for us. There were also some brilliant saves, goal attempts and tackles, not to mention some interesting slides in the mud during the match and either team looked like they could win at several instances. Overall, it was an enjoyable match.

If you are interested in playing, E-mail [v.basak@ic.ac.uk](mailto:v.basak@ic.ac.uk) for Management, [a.cosby@ic.ac.uk](mailto:a.cosby@ic.ac.uk) for Mech Eng and [s.hodzic@ic.ac.uk](mailto:s.hodzic@ic.ac.uk) for other engineering departments.

*Vaskor Basak*

# BT'S Swimathon



## Come join the fun!

### 20th & 21st March

## To raise money for the NSPCC.



## Imperial College Sports Centre

Awarded Golden  
splash award 1998!

Freefone 0800 731 7316 or  
contact the Sports Centre  
direct on 0171-594-8964

**Sports reports.**

**8.30pm.**

**Wednesday.**

**'Nuff said.**

ROLLER HOCKEY

**Stormtroopers, 'B Squadron'**

The tournament started at the ungodly hour of 10:30 am, with us against Birmingham. They appeared to have picked thugs off the street at random and paid them a Fiver each to play. Their game consisted of pummelling the opposition whenever the referee wasn't watching and often when he was! Luckily, we quickly learnt to skate away from the players who had their knuckles scraping on the floor.

The Imperial plays were more mixed up than a well-shaken martini, but simply sterling goaltending from Nerissa held them at bay until the last seconds of the game when they happened into a fluke goal.

The next match was against the best Cambridge had to offer. Drew score a nifty goal late in the match but it wasn't enough as they bulldozed two past our borrowed Warwick goalie

After a beautiful two game rest we

came back strong against Warwick with our plays sorted out; Mo and Ket driving the Imperial offensive like a fine-tuned Ferrari with Narissa and Lisanne putting up a brick wall of defence. We achieved a shut out and were just getting down to some serious offense when the whistle was blown.

The closing game was with Cambridge, our team had improved about 150% since the beginning of the tournament and some very fine hockey was had by all, with splendid defence from Thor and SpeaDFreak. Unfortunately, the weak keystone was our borrowed Goalie, who let one sneak past him in the opening seconds.

A very close fourth in the end; not a bad effort for a B team that had never before played together, playing against A-teams. Massive thanks go to Nerissa and Lisanne for driving. And finally, special love to Lisanne's Mum for cooking us dinner!

INTERDEPARTMENTAL RUGBY

Civil Engineering 'Brickies' 76 - 49  
Mechanical Engineering 'Spanner Boys'  
Rugby Match / Rowing (Boat Race)

After last year's debacle when civil lost 25 - 0, the brickies were keen to set the record straight - which they did in tremendous style. A blinding start gave the hard hats an early lead. Some incisive interplay between Stricko's teeth and Gnat Chum's head soon put a stop to all this. When they had left the field, the oil monkeys clawed their way back to parity: at half time they lead by two conversions and looked like running away with it. Mech Eng's 'Orange leprechaun' Cosby and 'village' Stevens were vicious growling beasts in attack, with Sven and Phil making some storming runs. From here on in, though, Civil's Andy 'Big' Little and Brad 'The Bucket' Baskett pushed the pace up a few notches and it all came together in the last five minutes. Brad ended with six tries and 'Big Daddy'

Ramage put two over the posts. Special mention must go to Greg from Civ Eng, who learnt the rules of the game in ten minutes, then played a stormer.

Switch to the Harlington bar for the second half. Two boat race teams of eight were assembled. Unsurprisingly, Civ. Eng. took advantage of their experience and snatched the lead straight away, being one man up after a smooth four second downing from Iain. Mech Eng got off more slowly, but kept a more steady rating which averaged slightly higher. The gap was closed and there was no clear water, but the mechanics caught a crab, so the scaffolders could pull away again to victory. Including the football, that makes Civil 3 - Mechanical 0, time to pull your wrenches out of your builders' cleavage lads!

It seems that the spirit of the departments is finally growing into something tangible... keep up the good work! Anyone for cricket?

**Sport in Brief**

OSC - Basketball

The overseas societies basketball tournament was held on the 27th February. The day was won by the Afro-Caribbean Society 2nd team. After a long morning when some societies decided not to turn up, the afternoon matches started to flow more smoothly. There was some high quality basketball matches, tight defence and inspired attacks.

Fair play to the Lebanese and Malaysian societies for their sporting spirit.

Thanks to all who made the event a success, specially the referee's and team captains.

The next tournament should be football in the 3rd team. For info mail david.eahl@ic.ac.uk.

JUDO

The IC judo club attended a belt grading (to go up a belt) at the London Judo society on the 28th. Overall good performances by the people present meant that the club now boasts more rainbow colours than must really exist. Congratulations to Danuta, Chris, Nicholaides, David and Duncan.

For more info visit the judo web page on the union web site.

SKIING

Overall, the day was fairly normal with good performances by the whole team as usual (4th overall in parallel racing, 2nd overall in individual times, 3rd place snowboarding for Dave Best!).

However, the captain was noticed having very friendly discussions with the UCL club president. Rumours have it that he was asking for certain services. The captain was later beaten in the race, his excuse being that he was laughing at the UCL club president's fall. Arrogant frenchman, serves him right!

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

**IC 21 - 4 Kings**

It was no surprise when Kings turned up (late as usual) with only 5 player (at least 7 needed for a team). Fortunately, due to an unusually keen turn-out by IC (all except 'Worship me', who complained of the flu so was sent to bed with his woman), we could lend them a few of our (best) players, although this meant that Kings had to forfeit the game, making it only a friendly. This game was the last chance for a practice before the National Indoor student finals (yes, that makes IC in the top 16 student teams in the country!), so the first team were out to justify their place. As the scoreline shows, IC disposed of Kings with few casualties, but not after some defiant Kings defending. The first half was an easy walkover for IC, but come the second half Kings were keen to show IC how they could really play. In the end the score was inevitable though, another ass kicking by IC.

The game was played in great spirit (no fouls there then) and helped to build strong links between IC ultimate team and Kings ultimate team. Another victory making it 3 out of 3 wins for IC so far in the south-east outdoor league.

FOOTBALL - UH CUP FINAL

**Sunday 14th March, Motspur Park**  
12pm ICSM II v GTK II  
2pm ICSM I v GTK I

The United Hospital's cup dates from 1885 and is the second oldest cup in the world. The current holders are St. Mary's, defending under the guise of ICSM.

Coaches will be laid on for supporters in the hope that as many people as possible will come and have a brilliant day out as there will also be ICSM teams competing in hockey UL finals throughout the day at Motspur Park.

The day will be completed by the "teabagging" of Simon Thompson.

**Around IC**

Mon 8	Tues 9	Wed 10	Thurs 11	Fri 12	Sat 13	Sun 14
RCSU Elections - voting <b>Today and Tuesday</b> 10am-5pm	Comic Relief Quiz Night - DaVinci's <b>8pm</b>	Club XS, ICU, FREE <b>9pm-1am</b>	CGCU Committee meeting, all welcome - Mech Eng 340 <b>5.30pm</b>	Comic Relief Day  Life's a beach Shaft special - ICU <b>£1</b> <b>9pm-2am</b>		
CAG: Tools for Self Reliance, Basement of Beit Quad <b>6pm</b>	Free Beer! RCSU barnight and elections results - Union Bar <b>7pm</b>		CAG: Soup Run, Base- ment Kitchen, Weeks Hall <b>8pm</b>			
	CAG: Soup Run, Base- ment Kitchen, Weeks Hall <b>8pm</b>		Cocktail Night, DaVinci's <b>5-11pm</b>			
	Caving Club Meeting Southside Upper Lounge <b>9pm</b>					



## RUGBY

## Sponsored by UniLever Imperial white-wash Brunel!

IC I.....38  
Brunel III.....14

Having beaten St. Georges in the second round of the Gutteridge cup, the IC 1st XV decided to play a warm up game against Brunel 3rd XV.

The game started with Brunel pushing Imperial back to their line. A terrible line out throw from our hooker Dave Pearce put them to within scoring range. But Imperial was having none of it and held fast. The break came with Brunel conceding a penalty for dirty play in the ruck, and Dave Hogg booting the ball deep into their half.

From then, Imperial started to really put pressure on Brunel. Out rucking them in the forwards and out playing them in the backs, they really didn't see much ball. It wasn't long before Daveo Gol cut through the defence to score the first points for IC.

IC thought that Brunel, having conceded a score, would come back with all cannons firing. But they just didn't seem to compare at all with our fast paced game, and it was only a few minutes later when Matt "I'm too fat" Cockayne took the ball on himself and flopped

over the line to score a second try.

Imperial, really beginning to enjoy the game, started to let loose and spent the remainder of the first half camped near their line. More tries were scored by winger Andy Mayes and the scrum half Gabriel Odediran.

However, all was not well. Brunel, realising that the game was now in their reach, started to play dirty and took every opportunity to stamp on our boys. Injuries started to occur and early in the second half saw Kaizen going off having been knee'd in the head and generally stamped all over. In the face of this, Imperial momentarily wavered, allowing them to push over for their first points. But IC was still out playing them and Charlie "wind me up and I start to go" Cunnell paced it down the touch line to put IC further in the lead.

Brunel had by now given up any hope of winning and were concentrating their efforts on hurting our people. They even decided to be sportsmanlike and brought on half of their second team to try and force things their way.

There's only one thing left to say; we thrashed 'em!

## FOOTBALL

## 2nds 'batter' SS/S; 3rds win too

IC II.....6 UCL III.....1  
SS/S.....1 IC III.....2

In the New Year IC II have been having a nightmare. We've won only 2 out of 6 league games and been knocked out of the cup in the semi-final. However, after Wednesday's result against SS/S 1st team, things are suddenly to look a whole lot better.

This result sounds like a battering and a battering is what it was. Don't get me wrong, SS/S are a good side but this day belonged to IC. The first goal came soon, after the start of the game from a beautiful move started by Peter Campbell, continued by Amah and finished by Dave, from the most unlikely source - Inaki the superkeeper. A long goal kick (aided by the wind) bounced just inside their box and proceeded to dip over their bewildered keepers head - 2-0. The third and fourth goals came soon after from Amah and Peter Campbell.

IC battled into the wind in the second half and shocked SS/S by scoring a 5th supplied again by Mr. Campbell, super defender. The sixth came soon after supplied by Dan Waight. I would again like to stress that SS/S are a good team and are third in the league but we were just outstanding on the day. It is as simple as that.

Faced with the worrying danger of relegation, it was a resolute third team who turned up at Shenley, determined to defeat a strong UCL team, and gain 3 valuable points. Playing against a gale in the first half, IC defended like lions, Ricky, in goal, still had to produce a string of outstanding saves to leave it at 0-0 at half time. Having weathered the storm (literally), IC mistakenly thought the grave was there for the taking, and started the second half slickly. UCL are a decent, and having seen a few chances denied by the still excellent Ricky, eventually managed to score.

This set back proved a catalyst to IC, who finally started to take control. However, with just 10 minutes to go, it was still 1-0 to UCL. Then, though, the ball broke to Magic on the right, whose sweet first time cross was met by Ole. The 'keeper saved well he was there to bury the rebound. UCL again raised the pressure, but this gave Malcolm the chance to lead a devastating counter attack. Having carried the ball for 60 yards, his cross fell eventually Ole, who finished coolly. Cue ecstasy - only slightly dampened by the UCL bus sodding off without us.

## SCOREBOARD

## FOOTBALL

Wednesday 3rd March

ULU League

IC II 6 - 1 SS/S  
IC III 2 - 1 UCL III  
LSE 5 - 0 IC Ladies  
UCL IV 1 - 3 IC IV

Saturday 27th February

RHUL IV 2 - 5 IC IV  
Civ. Eng. 9 - 1 Elec. Eng.  
Physics 5 - 3 Maths  
M'ment 3 - 3 Mech. Eng.

## RUGBY

UH CUP

ICSM 21 - 12 GKT  
(+ one broken Felix office window)  
IC I 38 - 14 Brunel III  
Civ. Eng. 76 - 49 Mech. Eng.

## HOCKEY

IC I 13 - 1 RHUL  
Disco Sqd. 3 - 2 UCLMS II

## MISCELLANEOUS

Ultimate Frisbee 21 - 4 Kings

## HOCKEY

## IC give RHUL a thrashing; Disco sqd. win again

IC I.....13  
RHUL.....1

A win today practically guarantees us winning the UC premier league.

Before the game we thought that the game might actually be quite difficult but we were mistaken - it was a thrashing. The first half began without the legendary presence of Bigger Titties and Pink Gash. However, all was not lost. The passing was exceptional (occasionally), with the ball rarely returning to the IC half. Once fast break Blue Underpants rounded two plays before setting up Jumbo Bwana who took 3 attempts to put the ball past the keeper.

The second half started nervously, seeing Holloway put pressure on IC's D for 5 minutes, not helped by IC's inability to get the ball out safely.

But the defence came good, not allowing Holloway to convert any of this pressure. A demon run by 11 plus saw the ball reach Bigger Titties stick less than a foot from the goal. The third goal was a tribute to Pink Gash's speed, aggression and dedication (!). Feeling sorry for the opposition Mr. T gave the ball to their CF and let the game rest at 3 - 1.

Disco Squad.....3  
UCLMS II.....2

Yet another cliff-hanger in the saga of the disco boys. We ground out this result with blood, sweat, tears and Rezooola's Pants. Grrrr...

The match started with a bit of fire, with play flowing both ways, although not at the same time, obviously. I'm finding it hard to admit, but the medic scum did appear to have the upper hand to start with. Ten minutes into the match, Casanova briefly became lost in dreams of a lilting Welsh voice, in the throes of an orgasm, calling his name. While he stood there dazed, his man gave him the slip, and before Casanova could catch him, the medics had opened the scoring. 0-1 to the medics.

But, if our enemies strike us down, we can only get stronger. Our fires surged higher and not five minutes had passed before the Sundance Kid converted an unorthodox short corner. 1-1. The battle raged. Every tackle was hard fought; every pass had to count. 10 minutes before half-time, Fabio decapitated one of the opposition in our D, and the umpire harshly gave the medics a short corner. Despite our defences valiant

efforts, the medics made it count. 1-2

But our heads were not bowed - we cranked up the pressure, probing for chinks in their armour. It was nearly half-time when the Disco Squad broke through, and the ball fell to Indian Carpet Catalogue in the middle of the D. Time slowed. His heartbeat pounded out a frantic rhythm in his head. He dived and skimmed. Unnecessarily, because no-one was attempting to tackle him. He picked his spot and flicked the ball into the air. It seemed to hang forever, before looping back down under the bar and hitting the back of the net. 2-2, and the crowd went wild.

In the second-half we took the game to them. Our spirits always gave us the edge, and this match was no exception. Chances came again and again, but lady luck was not smiling on Filtrum, Lager Lager and Indian Carpet Catalogue. But, with less than 4 minutes to go, we won a shortie. The Sundance Kid swooped in and it was 3-2 to the Disco Boys. Come on!

And so, with this victory under our belts, promotion beckons more enticingly than Bronwyn after a brace of beverages and a hearty vomit. Disco!