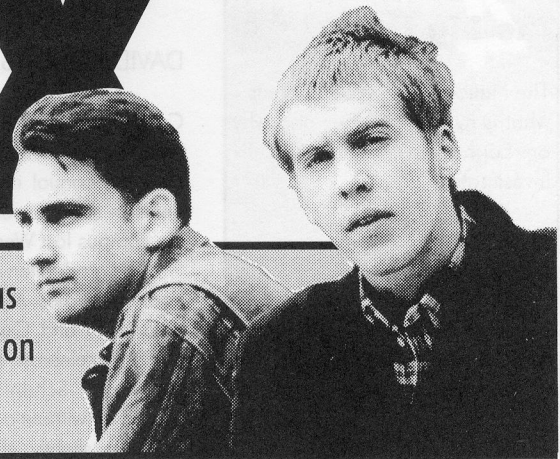


# FELIX

Buying beautiful babies  
- genes up for auction  
Page 6

Exclusive Death in Vegas  
interview and competition  
Page 17



## Fight clubs force Union shut-down

ANDREW OFORI

Students in DBs on Wednesday 20 October were subjected to particularly lively form of entertainment as a brawl on the stage closed the Union early.

A packed venue descended into anarchy as sports teams clashed. The licensees took the decision to close the Union at 12.45am as the situation became unsafe. The stewards duly restored a fragile calm and the Union was cleared.

The fight broke out when pushing and shoving between sports teams led to tempers flaring on stage. The first unfortunate was a peacemaker, who was struck as he tried to defuse the situation leading to two sportsmen tussling. Stewards split up the pair only for the fight to escalate to an altercation between rowers and footballers.

The situation erupted once again outside the Union and college security were called to deal with the incident. One sportsman

ended the night with a broken nose precluding him from all his team's matches since the event. A footballer commented "The whole thing was a disgrace."

Another sportsman added, "I didn't know what was going on, it all just blew up. All I did was try to stop my mate decking some bloke"

Mark Horne, the Ents and Marketing Manager felt the ICU stewards had followed procedure and refuted claims that some individuals had been treated harshly

"Stewards are there for people's safety and occasionally that means breaking up a fight"

He went on to say "It's a shame; because of a small group of people we had to shut the night down, but we had to give consideration to people in there. I hope it won't be repeated."

The matter is currently being dealt with by the licensees. A number of people have been temporarily banned from the Union as an investigation into the incident is carried out.

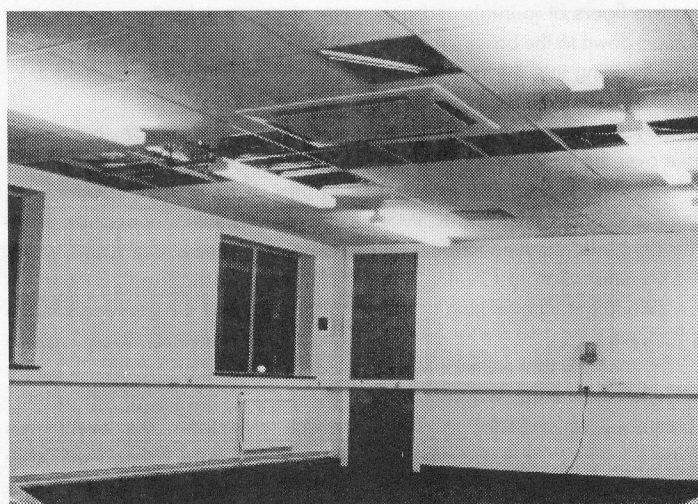
## Contractor cock-up causes costly computer chaos

GARETH MORGAN

Substantial damage was caused to the Department of Computing's new computer lab by a flood last weekend.

Builders working on the Maths library in the Huxley building needed to remove and replace a water pipe, so froze it while they worked. Unfortunately the pipe contained hot water which melted the ice, and a large volume of water escaped before it could be turned off.

Studio B, which only opened at the end of September, suffered most of the damage - "A disaster" according to Deputy Departmental Administrator Anne O'Neill, as this is DOC's main teaching lab.



Roofing looking decidedly soggy

Photo: Joel

Lab 206, another teaching laboratory, was also damaged. There

are also reports of damage to lower levels, although this had not

been confirmed as Felix went to press.

Building contractors ABB are currently assessing the damage, but Peter Schreiber, Projects Coordinator in the Estates division was unfortunately not available to comment.

Remedial action has seen a number of industrial heaters drafted in to speed up the drying process, while a number of the computers have been protected.

One bemused DOC student said "I wonder what the help desk would have said if I had rang up and complained that my motherboard was squeaking."

The extent of the damage and the possible repair bill could be huge.



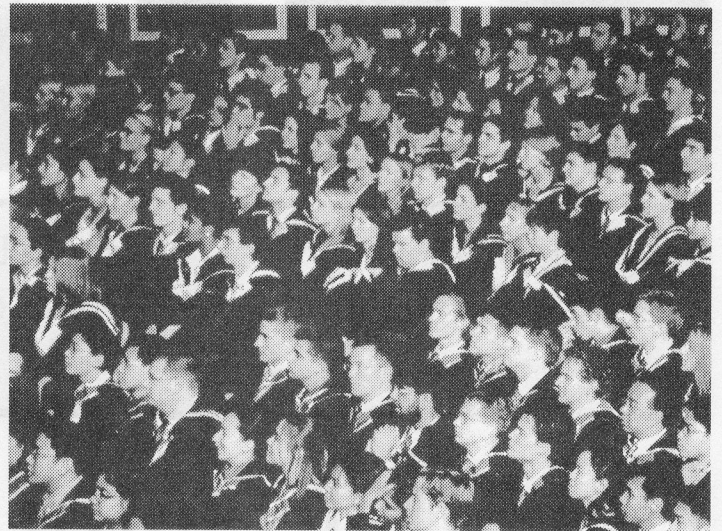
# Commemoration Day '99

DAVID ROBERTS

Commemoration Day passed off once again without any real note, save the annual invasion of ex-students in strange outfits clogging up the campus last Wednesday.

The graduation ceremony, which commemorates the visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1948 to celebrate the centenary of the Royal School of Chemistry, passed off without a hitch, and was if anything slightly shorter than last year's programme. As well as the 1300 or so graduates who were paraded in front of the Chairman of Governors, the afternoon also included the presentation of four new Honorary College Fellows, and the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the College Choir.

The day culminated with the Commemoration Ball, organised for



This year's graduate await their fifteen minutes of fame

Photo: Jonas

the graduates by the Union. Although this too passed without any notable incident it could prove memorable in future years as the last ever Ball of it's type. A thorough review is

currently underway to examine whether the Union can truly support both this event and the Summer Ball (for more details see this week's State of the Union on page 9).

## In Brief

### CHARING CROSS SALE

Rumours have been flying round the office' of Union hacks all week regarding a possible shake up at Charing Cross library.

Although nothing concrete has been said the official line is that the administration are "reviewing space" with a possible view to moving two floors of journals and periodicals down to the basement of the main building into the space that is currently occupied by the Union. Primary Care would most likely take over the space left.

Natasha Newton, Union President, and Becky England, ICSMSU President, are planning to meet with the administration at Charing X on the 29th to get a better idea of what is happening.

It is unlikely that either St Mary's or Chelsea and Westminster's libraries will be subjected to similar reviews.

### WAIVERS WAR

According to the AUT last Monday was a WOW day. It formed part of the campaign against university staff having to routinely sign away their

employment rights. The Wipe Out Waivers day coincided with the release of the Employment Relations Act 1999. The AUT have now pushed for current waivers signed by staff to be revoked. The general secretary of the Association commented "This is an issue of fairness. No staff in Higher Education should ever be obliged to sigh away their employment rights."

### C&GU NIGHT BOMBS

City & Guilds Union held their themed Star Wars night last Friday in the JCR. It was intended to replace last year's boat party which flopped in spectacular fashion. The engineers organised a casino, disco, bar and a big screen playing the entire series of Lucas' space opera. Despite an impressive poster campaign featuring Tarantino-esque misquotes the event was reported to have flopped with only 35-40 people turning up. The C&GU President, Dinesh Ganesarajah, admitted the event had made a loss of £366, and could offer no explanation for the low turnout. He did not think the £5 ticket price or the high male-female

ratio in Guilds was to blame and added that the people present seemed to have enjoyed the night.

"We may have suffered a minor setback, but it is hardly significant in view of C&GU's largest venture this term, the Freshers Dinner" commented Mr. Ganesarajah. "This event has a strong reputation and is a perfect introduction to this Union. I am confident we will not see a repeat of the Stars Wars night and the pre-sale bookings are giving early indication of yet another storming night."

### ACCESS TO WORK

The restrictions on international students working while studying in the UK have been eased. Overseas students who are not nationals of the European Economic Area are no longer required to individually obtain the permission of the Secretary of State for Education and Employment.

The assessment of students' financial means by UK immigration has also been altered. Part-time work at a higher or further education institute is not taken into consideration

## 4 The Big Issue

The National Union of Students - what is it, who are they and why on Earth aren't we in it? Felix investigates.

## 6 Feature

Buying beautiful babies - we investigate the latest internet scandal and the issues surrounding it.

## 8 Union

City & Guilds return early after a slight cock-up on the communication front.

## 10 Columns

BreakPoint returns after a week's absence, and he's hitting hard.

## 12 Feedback

Medics and the right to anonymity continue to be the biggest issues dominating the letters pages.

## 15 Reviews

Read our exclusive interview with the directors of the Blair Witch Project.

## 30 Seven Days

As ever, the entire week is distilled down into 49 tiny boxes.

## 32 Clubs & Societies

Gliding, mountaineering and IC Radio drop by to say "hi".

## 33 Crossword

Another name change, another size, another set of incomprehensible clues.

## 34 Sport

We're winning again! Hurrah!



# Nobel Peace Prizewinner launches lecture series

CARSTEN ROHR

What would you do if someone asked you to build a nuclear bomb?

This is not a question that many of us are likely to consider, but last Monday, Nobel laureate Sir Joseph Rotblat shared his thoughts, experiences and motivation for embarking and subsequently resigning from the atomic bomb project during the Second World War.

Born in 1908, Sir Joseph spent his first thirty years in Poland before moving to Liverpool to work on neutron scattering under James Chadwick. During his time at Liverpool and almost simultaneously with other groups, Sir Joseph deduced the chain-reaction for nuclear fission and became aware of the enormous quantity of energy that could be released. He spoke with Chadwick over the potential uses of such an energy source and agreed that it could become a potentially devastating weapon.

Shortly after Sir Joseph's discovery, war broke out in Europe. Atomic scientists in the USA wrote to President Roosevelt, warning of the dangers posed by a German atomic weapon and urging him to funnel research into making an allied atomic bomb. Roosevelt gave his consent to the project, code-named the "Manhattan Project", one day before the Pearl Harbour bombing. Under the direction of Robert J Oppenheimer, the project was based at Los Alamos, New Mexico and called almost every top-ranking allied scientist to its cause.

Sir Joseph agreed with the project's motivation, that it was vital that the allies develop an atomic weapon before the Nazis, to safeguard democracy against the worst kind of totalitarianism. However, when intelligence sources revealed that the German project was floundering, the motivation to build the bomb changed and Sir Joseph took the unpopular decision to resign.

His colleagues preferred to stay until the first test had been completed, yet most later voted against directing the bomb upon civilian targets. By that stage the bomb had become a political and military concern.

Sir Joseph moved into medical physics where he continued his distinguished career and spent much of his time campaigning for practical and socially responsible applications of science. He is the only surviving signatory of the Russell-Einstein manifesto, a document which led to a meeting of scientists in a small Canadian town, Pugwash, to discuss the role of science and world affairs. Since then, the "Pugwash Conferences" have become an influential body of eminent scientists that continue to voice opinions upon the application of science today. It was Sir Joseph's efforts that earned him the Nobel Peace Prize, together with the Pugwash organisation in 1995.

In the same spirit, a "Student Pugwash" group has been set up at Imperial College and Sir Joseph's lecture marked the first in a series of lectures, aimed at exploring the social responsibilities of scientists. The group will be actively involved in the forthcoming Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs held in Cambridge in August 2000, an event that draws influential scientists from around the world. The next lecture will be given by Dr. John Hassard from the Physics Department and previously of the Royal Commission on Nuclear Energy. He will speak on "Will Climate Change Drive Nuclear Proliferation?" at 1pm on Thursday 4th November in the Union Dining Hall.

Weekly meetings are on Thursdays at 1pm in the Brown committee room, and everyone is welcome! More information on the society can be found at [www.su.ic.ac.uk/pugwash](http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/pugwash).

## Overseas Societies Committee elected at last

DINESH GANESARAJAH

On the 5th attempt to hold elections for a new committee for the 1999 / 2000 Academic year, the Overseas Students Committee (OSC) seems to finally have a set of officers to represent the overseas societies of Imperial College Union. Sen Ganesh was victorious in winning the OSC Chair, with Mo gaining Vice-Chair and Sachin attaining Treasurer. The previous efforts to hold elections had been unsuccessful due to the low turnout of eligible voters (the chairs of the individual OSC societies).

With 30% of Imperial College made up foreign students, OSC is seen as playing an important role in Imperial College. The highlight of the OSC calendar has always been International Night, which in recent years has continued to consistently make heavy losses. Traditionally a food fair followed by a show and

disco, International Night is the one occasion where overseas societies are given the opportunity to reveal their culture to the rest of Imperial. However, there have even been suggestions that another disaster will spell the end of this annual event.

In this light, the new committee will have a tough task ahead. Now that the new academic year is fully under way, with the new personnel only having been elected recently, the challenge for the new committee looks to be even tougher. The challenges will include playing catch up to becoming financially trained and versed in the bureaucracy of ICU, as well as improving communication between the OSC group and its societies, the lack of which has been the very reason for the late elections. With International Night just over 3 months away, the 1999 / 2000 Academic year looks to be an interesting one for OSC.

### Undergraduate

### Research

### Opportunities

### Programme



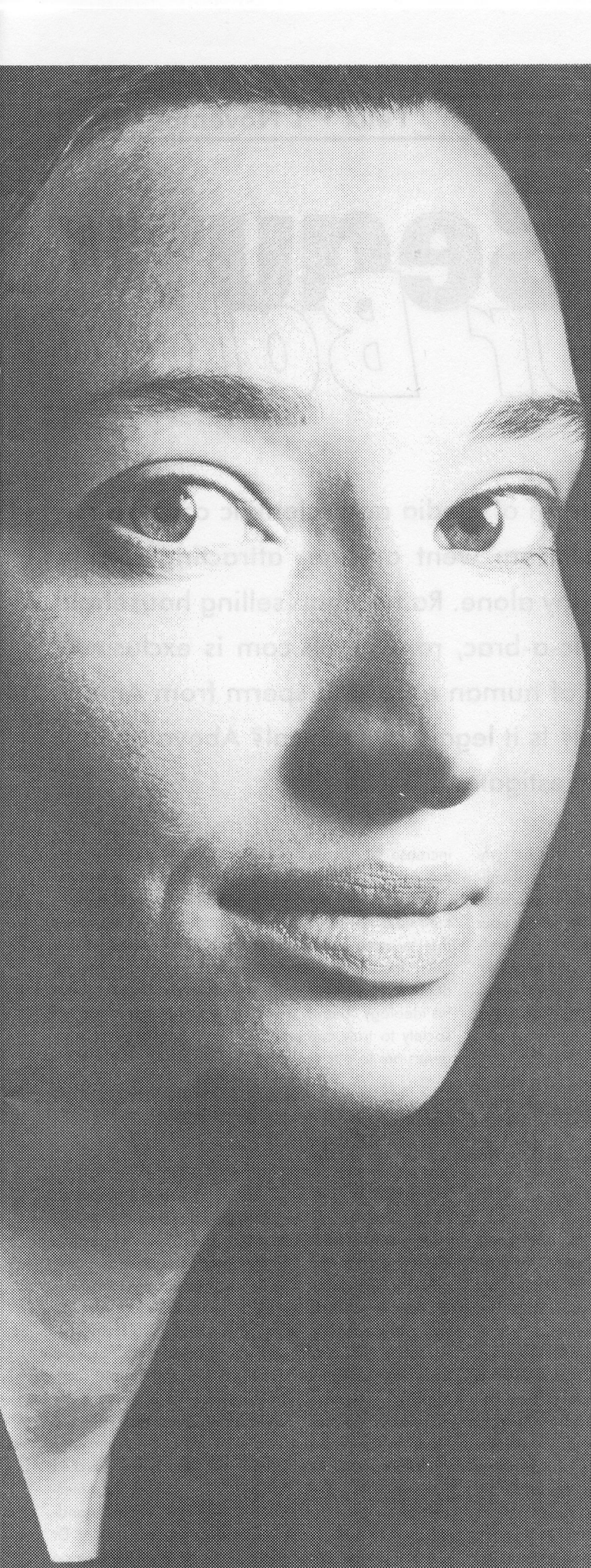
- Undergraduates assist academic staff with their researches
- Directory of 1999-2000 opportunities available from Room 313C Mechanical Engineering
- Information meeting (including Delaware, USA, exchange scheme) Wednesday, 3 November 13.15 - 14.00 Room 342 Mechanical Engineering Building
- Discover more on <http://www.hu.ic.ac.uk/urop/>

**Help academic staff and help your career:  
Join UROP now**









**I believe in opening my own doors.**

**I believe a great firm has many doors.**

**I don't believe in following a career path.**

**I believe in building my own.**

**I believe my job is an investment.**

**I work for J.P. Morgan.**

Morgan offers exciting and rewarding career opportunities in Investment Banking, Markets, Asset Management Services, and Business Infrastructure Management.

For further details of opportunities and university presentations, please visit our website.

[www.jpmorgan.com/careers](http://www.jpmorgan.com/careers)



# Buying Beauty For Your Baby

Last week, amidst a storm of media and scientific controversy, auction site [ronsangels.com](http://ronsangels.com) went on-line, attracting over a million hits in its first day alone. Rather than selling household goods, antiques or bric-a-brac, [ronsangels.com](http://ronsangels.com) is exclusively dedicated to the sale of human eggs and sperm from American models. Is it moral? Is it legal? Is it ethical? Above all, is it true? David Roberts investigates.

Thanks to reformed pornographer Ron Harris, you now have the opportunity to buy beauty for your children. Fork out enough cash (anything up to a quarter of a million dollars) and, according to Mr Harris, your children can be the supermodels of tomorrow. There's just one drawback – they won't be your children. What you're buying here isn't state-of-the-art gene therapy or the ability to predict what your kids will look like – it's the unfertilised eggs or sperm of American models. Given a gallery of "beautiful people", with pictures, ages and (of course) measurements, you can bid to, effectively, have their children. Still interested? Then visit [www.ronsangels.com](http://www.ronsangels.com).

## The Science

So, priority one, will it actually work? Will this small fortune actually guarantee you a child who'll be able to carve out a career in Baywatch? Who'll be the object of desire for every other sixteen year-old on the block? Who'll be working the catwalk before they sit their GCSE's? Er...no. According to practically every biologist questioned on the subject, one good-looking parent certainly won't produce a stream of beautiful children. Professor George Annas of Boston University put the matter bluntly, "It's ludicrous – no kid's going to look like the model's picture...often genes will skip a generation anyway". Besides, as any GCSE biology course will tell you, genetics is dependant on both parents and a hefty slice of probability – as Dr George Hardacre, from the Californian Institute of Genetics, was swift to point out, "Nature is not that simple".

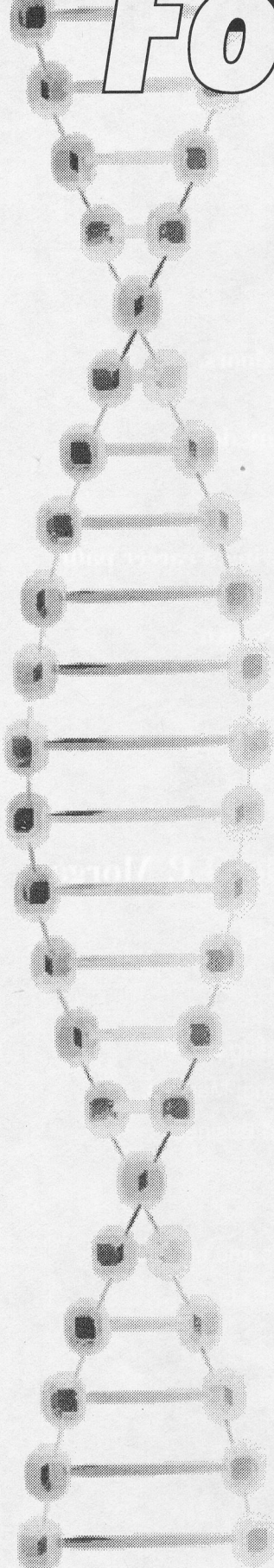
Nonetheless, Mr Harris sees the process as "Darwin's natural selection at its very best". Indeed, he's developed his own very personal view on evolution, "choosing eggs from beautiful women will profoundly

increase the success of your children for centuries to come...any gift that can be imparted, such as beauty, intelligence or social skills, will help your children in their quest for happiness and success". He's adamant that focusing entirely on looks at the expense of any other feature or human quality is not a shallow or demeaning pursuit, and is utterly unapologetic about his ideology "Beauty is its own reward - this is the first society to truly comprehend how important beautiful genes are to our evolution".

## Barely Legal

Although the site would be illegal in the UK, it's entirely permissible in most US states. However, the launch of the site has (unsurprisingly) triggered an urgent review of the standards and regulations surrounding e-commerce in the US, with questions already being asked in Congress. The leading political spokesman on the subject (and author of the only Federal regulations on the fertility industry) Ron Wyden, a Democratic Senator from Oregon, commented that "this is a troubling example of how big bucks and flat-out commercialism dominate a field where there are so many vulnerable people" before promising that he'll be "looking into this one".

Meanwhile, Ron Harris' site has been attacked from all sides - Sean Tipton, spokesman for the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, simply branded the concept "unethical and distasteful", whilst Dr Connor Reece, chair of the cross party committee on medical ethics, was truly damning, deeming the site to be "the worst possible example of the internet being used for all the wrong reasons...what should have been the greatest scientific tool of the century has become a playground for money-grabbing low-lives peddling dubious products and suspect theories".





## Bidding Wars

Despite the negative press, Ronsangels (named, according to Mr Harris, in tribute to low grade 70's cult series Charlie's Angels), has nonetheless done amazing business, registering 1.1 million hits on its first day alone. Of these, many will simply be visiting for shock value, but nevertheless enough potential parents stumped up the \$24.95 membership fee (required before you can bid, check out the donors or find out more than the bare minimum about the site) to push asking prices way above their starting levels. Indeed, even before the official launch of the "service", Mr Harris was offered \$42 000 for the eggs of one of the models by a woman simply identified as Beth. Speaking in USA Today, the 42 year old TV producer explained her reasoning, "The whole point of this is to find an egg donor who looks like me – that way I might never have to explain the fact that I used someone else's eggs".

## Man or Monster?

Ron Harris, the man responsible for the site has a past that could be described as "chequered" at best. A one-time pornographer, director, photographer and author, he's best known for his previous venture into commercial breeding - he used to raise Arabian horses before selling them on for \$20 000 a piece. As a photographer he claims to have produced cover artwork for Vogue, Elle and Cosmopolitan, and has a lengthy career with Playboy (for who he has also directed a series of "artistic specials").

Ultimately, he's a classic entrepreneur, having dabbled in every field as markets change and money shifts. A photographer in the sixties he became a purveyor of porn in the seventies, before moving into exercise programmes and videos in the health conscious eighties. A final flourish with the extreme edge of e-commerce is thus entirely in character...

## Parental Responsibility

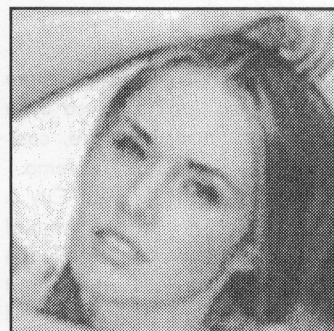
From the moment I heard about the site for the first time, two questions have flashed around my head. Firstly, what kind of people would want to effectively buy their child (or, perhaps more accurately, their child's parent) in this way. But the second, and perhaps more interesting, point is what kind of people would want to put themselves on the market in such a way? After all, it's not like trying to sell a kidney or

bone marrow to make a fast buck – we're talking about selling off the rights to a child that is, biologically speaking, 50% yours. Of course, hundreds of men donate to sperm banks every day, and egg donations are far from uncommon (although the process involves intensive gene therapy and complex surgery), but those are (usually) anonymous. As with adoption, the donor can never know the identity of their offspring – or even if their offering produced a conception – and so parenthood can remain an unknown, responsibility-free, quantity. In this case, however, the donor must meet (and agree terms with) the buyer, and will forever be aware of the existence of their child, whilst the couple concerned will live the knowledge of the identity of their child's true parentage. Will they, indeed should they, tell their child? And what happens if the child wants to get to know its biological mother? Indeed, in the litigation frenzy that continually grips the US, what happens when one of the children decides to sue that self-same mother for desertion...

But back to the first point – what kind of people put their eggs up for sale? One of the models involved in the sale, 26 year old Misty McFern (who describes herself as a struggling actress) put it simply, "I'd rather do this than do Playboy or Penthouse". Although morally dubious, it's a difficult point to argue, and, as she says "I've never even had chickenpox, mumps or measles. Don't you think those are pretty good genes to pass along?" Moreover, it certainly isn't the models who are the victims – they get to select the winner, negotiate contracts and doctors, and will keep all the money for themselves (Harris charges an additional 20% commission on top of the final fee). Indeed, the site welcomes applications from would-be donors - you just have to be "young, beautiful, healthy and intelligent" to apply.

## The Future

In all probability, the market ceiling will already have been reached by the time you read this, and both Harris and his models will have made a tidy profit for their endeavour. But whilst they begin to prepare for the harrowing process that will lead to them fulfilling their end of the bargain, he will be preparing for next months auction to go on line - this time offering the sperm of male models (at considerably lower prices). Meanwhile the US Government will begin to rush through the legislation that makes the entire concept illegal. All that remains to be seen is whether or not they can do so before someone matches model egg with model sperm and creates their own DIY catwalk child...





# Generation X

THE CITY & GUILDS COLLEGE UNION SECTION



reengineering the way you think

Following a last minute mix up with IC's Medical Union, CGCU are back after only a fortnight...

## Atlantis - C&G Freshers Dinner

Friday 19th November 1999, £15 / £17

An amazing aquatic experience with a superb three course meal followed by a fantastic Carnival of dance, casino, games, late bar and cinema.

Atlantis is the restyled City & Guilds College Union Annual Freshers event and is possibly the most prestigious Freshers event at Imperial College. The event will be hosted on 19th November and promises to be bigger and better than ever before. Much like any other dinner, the event starts with a reception where you will be given the chance to meet your peers from your own and other departments. But this is no ordinary dinner. In addition to a late bar, at extraordinarily low prices,



this year sees the introduction of the After Dinner Carnival at the Freshers Dinner.

The Atlantis Carnival includes a casino that will feature many classic games such as Blackjack and Roulette. Each guest will be given some money to gamble the

night away with. Prizes are awarded to the people with the most money at the end. But there is more - CGCU will be showing a major blockbuster film free to all guests. The movie will be run all night so that guests won't miss out on all the other attractions on

offer. If all this is not enough to entertain you there will also be table games such as pool and table football on offer.

The Carnival will start soon after the dinner and feature a disco with some of Imperial College's premier DJs. If there is one event you should attend make sure its this one! Tickets cost £15 for Freshers and £17 for all other students. Tickets are available now from Waterstones, CCS shop and your City & Guilds College Union Departmental Society.

For more information please contact the CGCU in person, via telephone extension 48073 or through the information superhighway, at [guids@ic.ac.uk](mailto:guids@ic.ac.uk).

## Networking Buzz

What is Networking? In the time that C&G College has been in existence, the students that have graduated from this section of Imperial College have gone on to take prominent positions in industry. Would it not be an exceptional advantage to the current generation of C&G College students if they could get to know the students that have gone before them? Attaining insight and contacts in your chosen engineering industry can only advance you towards your career ambitions. The City & Guilds College Association is the corporate

association of C&G College, and as such provides opportunities to link to old students. The highlight is the annual Graduating Students Networking Reception, Tuesday 16th November. Aimed at the opposite end of the C&G College student spectrum to Atlantis: The C&G Freshers Dinner, the event is the defining opportunity for graduating students to network with former students in industry and gain an advantage in the job market. More information is available from Adrian, Sheffield 301.

## Raiders Of The Lost Bus - Brighton

Imperial College getting on your nerves? The weekend holiday to a far away place looking expensive? We have just the answer. Raiders Of The Lost Bus is the fantastic day excursion to Brighton on Sunday 7th November. The trip follows round the streaming route of the Veteran Car Run, in which our

motorised mascot, Bo, participates with hundreds of other pre 1904 cars. Once there, the Brighton holiday resort offers a vast array of pubs, piers and other entertainments. The £5 bus ticket (there is no cheaper return ticket to Brighton) can be brought now from Waterstones and CCS Shop.

## The Director's Cut

By Dinesh Ganesarajah, CGCU President

Felix is franchising off a page a week to the Constituent College Unions (CCUs). Have you noticed? The idea is a fantastic one. To the reader, you now have the chance to discover a glimpse of some of the things we do. To the CCU, the strange by-product is that if the CCU is not doing anything, they are now forced to do something if they are to include anything in their page, as monthly streams of "hello - its us again!" do not bode well for the state of the CCU. Fortunately for this CCU, City & Guilds College Union, we are now doing so much that a fortnightly section in Felix would not stretch the writing capacity of the activities we are currently involved in. Unfortunately, we have not been granted this privilege.

If you have been following this section of Felix avidly, you will have opened this issue expecting

the return of the Medics to "do their stuff". Unfortunately, despite having exciting things to come from the Medics' Social Reps, it would appear some sort of miscommunication in ICSM SU, and the dynamic ability of Guildsmen to produce quality work on a 3am Thursday morning, has meant our early return.

At this instantaneous point in time, CGCU is very events orientated. The reason? Because that is all people notice on a physical level. I am not in the slightest bit worried if at this phase in the year the events are not entirely successful - it is good enough that we have events and people are noticing these events. Once CGCU is consistently demanding public attention, for good or bad, we can unravel some more exciting products, including those that are not events orientated, which are bound to bias the good...



# The State of the Union

## Aldwych

There are 19 top Universities in the country, called the Russell group. Those Universities have 19 Unions, called the Aldwych group. Aldwych was set up to fight fees. As the top Universities we are most at risk of extra charges (top up fees) because people will pay extra for a better degree. As one of the Presidents which make up the group, I am on the look up for hidden course costs. If you think that you are being charged extra come and see me or the DP E&W, Kevin Butcher. Thus far Imperial has been playing very fair, (would we expect anything different?) but Cambridge have had a 35% increase in Hall rents, some places are being charged for hand-outs or even to go to their own graduation!!

## Up for grabs

There are still a few 'elected' places open for Union committees. Have a look on the notice board outside the UDH. Most of them mean no work on your part, just a chance to see the inner workings of ICU. Summer Ball chair is as much work as you would

By Natasha Newton, Imperial College Union President



want to make it. Lots preparation has been done over the Summer and there's a team of permanent staff to help you, what we don't have is student input. If you think you know what a Summer Ball should look like, sign up!

## Final years

The commemoration day Ball has been an annual event for years and years. Recently it has been poorly attended as people chose to say bye bye to their year group at the Summer Ball rather than on graduation

day. For the last two years the numbers have gone down and down and now it looks totally unviable. BUT, I didn't think it was fair to bin it for you on the basis of what this year's guys have done...so.....this is how it works. There will be an ICU summer ball this academic year (with tickets as close to £55 as possible). Do you think there should then be a late October ball for your year? (Again around £55.)

Answers on a postcard or preferably via email to the usual address: [president@ic.ac.uk](mailto:president@ic.ac.uk).

## - This Week's Union Meetings -

### Monday 1st

- BUSA Divisional meeting

### Tuesday 2nd

- 1pm - Arts & Entertainments Board treasures meeting, Resource Centre
- 6pm - Union Finance committee, Resource Centre
- 7pm - Med School Union meeting

### Wednesday 3rd

- 2-3pm - Accommodation Committee, Clubs Committee Room

### Thursday 4th

- 12.30pm - Recreational Clubs Committee treasurers meeting, Resource Centre
- 6pm - ICU Exec, Resource Centre
- 6pm - RCC General meeting
- ULU Med group

### Friday 5th

- TBA - RAG meeting, email [farhad.cooper@ic.ac.uk](mailto:farhad.cooper@ic.ac.uk) if you are interested.

## decisions

A leading European e-commerce solutions provider



## Part-time and full-time opportunities

Founded in 1998, netdecisions has grown to over 140 people, with offices in London, Cambridge and India. netdecisions works with leading traditional companies to embrace the booming internet economy. Our aim is to integrate skills in business strategy, user interface design, technical web and database development, with complex network integration.

If you are interested in advancing technology in a young and dynamic environment we'd love to hear from you.

## Web Developers

ASPs, HTML, Perl, C++, Java or Javascript

## Database Developers and Designers

Oracle version 7-8, Microsoft SQL Server 6.5-7, Informix, SyBase and DB2

## Network Support

Unix or NT, in particular FreeBSD, Solaris and Linux

## Business Analysts

Outstanding academic record required with a passion for business and the Internet

Please send your CV and covering letter to Christine Grady at netdecisions, Elsinore House, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA or [christine.grady@netdecisions.co.uk](mailto:christine.grady@netdecisions.co.uk)



# Break Point

Some of you may have noticed that I wasn't here last week. Giving my social conscience its annual outing, I went up to Cambridge to deliver a friendly rap on the knuckles about the price of Chinese take-aways. Naturally, the local bobbies repressed me brutally and locked me in prison, evidently concerned for President Jiang's fragile mental state. Slightly peeved, I returned to London only to find that after yet another constitutional rewrite, ICU has modelled itself on the People's Republic.

Following the benign and pleasant rule of President Hel'ad, the communists have installed President Ta'sha to run the People's Union. (That's not the only coincidence: in 1997, a largely successful, yet tiny colony was consumed by its gigantic neighbour and changed to an administrative region). Now it would seem that Minister for Cul-

ture Jin Quin'tri is seeking to suppress dissenting voices in the name of 'The People', in order to establish his own succession to rule.

How very well timed this all is. Last week, the government announced a bill which will finally give you the right not to read any files that College keeps on you; last week, the Foreign Office instructed your police force to suppress peaceful democratic protest in order to protect trade; and last week, members of the Union Executive decided to use their influence to suppress opinions that differed from their own.

Let's make it clear: this column will remain anonymous in spite of pathetic bleating from unaccountable hacks. Without anonymity, it cannot be written. If people knew I wrote BreakPoint, they'd either tell me nothing, or tell me a load of trash. Many letters to Felix are

unsigned, and the opinions given are often more sensible than those of the egotists who simply wish to see their name in print. This column is subject to the approval of the Felix Editor, in exactly the same way as any letter is. The Felix Editor is, by the way, David Roberts, not our Minister of Culture, or anyone else for that matter.

For those of you unsure, BreakPoint has come about as a result of desperation at the apathy shown by your typical IC student. ICU has great powers and influence at Imperial, and it scares me to think of it being used without open debate holding our 'elected' officers to account. So BreakPoint aims to start that debate, in the lecture theatres, in Southside and the sports fields. No leader writer in Fleet Street signs their columns; if you don't agree with them, you either put up or shut up. The same applies

here.

Why is it so important to know who BreakPoint is? If you did know, doubtless the replies to my column would not tackle the substance of the debate, but merely be personal insults - and that gets us nowhere fast.

So until the editor gives me my marching orders, you'll find me here sharing this page with Kevin. I'll keep raking the lawn and revealing any hidden treasures I may find. For your part, I hope you keep reading, and aim to discover the truth for yourself.

Oh, and by the way - for those of you who said my first column (Felix 1152) was made-up nonsense, I commend you to read Tim Traylor's quote on last week's front page: "There's also a plan to rationalise the sports grounds. That suggests that they plan to sell Teddington". I thank you.

## ABSENTEE MASCOTRY

Theta, currently the only violate Constituent College Union mascot at Imperial, did not attend all of the Royal College of Science Freshers dinners. Kevin, hoping to find intriguing stories of an ingenious theft, covered up by the RCSU has been investigating. The best excuse the twenty thousand pounds worth of thermometer could come up with, was that it was away from college getting polished. Kevin sees this as about as pathetic as: "Sorry... I can't come, I'm doing my hair."

## HARD TO COMMENT

The Senior Common Room (SCR), and surrounding areas on the first floor of Sherfield are to be refurbished. Estates has expressed concern at the lack of comments on the plans that they have received from staff and students. Kevin thinks he may have an explanation, other than typical IC apathy. At the time of writing Kevin notices that e-mails to [scrcomments@ic.ac.uk](mailto:scrcomments@ic.ac.uk), the address to which comments were invited, are bouncing.

A recent article in staff newsletter ICDistorter also stated that details could be viewed from [www.ad.ic.ac.uk/estates](http://www.ad.ic.ac.uk/estates), yet the page is still awaiting the appropriate link.

## JACK HAMMER ATTACK

Estates have stated that they are keen to keep noise and disruption to a minimum during the SCR project, which will run from directly after Christmas, to the end of June. Those responsible are evidently aware of fears of a repeat of the debacle that accompanied the Library extension

es similar to jack hammers during the week of the tests.

# Mish Mash

**A Mostly Harmless Column by Kevin, a random entity who knows nothing about nothing**

which resulted in students taking exams in a tent outside Southside and have stated that "students should not fear noise during exams".

To ensure they have evidence to back up their statements contractors with jack hammers have been drilling into walls around Sherfield to see the effect on the Great Hall. Kevin was not encouraged by the fact lectures in the Reed and Pippard Lecture Theatres were disrupted by noise

## PRICE WAR HERE WE COME

The ICU run newsagents on the walkway will relocate to the JCR temporarily from January during the SCR works. Students and Staff will be faced with a choice between QT's, and the ICU outlet, which will be situated opposite each other. Kevin encourages students to choose ICU, as profits benefit students, rather than being swallowed by Sherfield. The Union newsagents is of course superior to QT: it will remain the only one with newspapers and magazines, and is also cheaper on standard lines such as drinks and crisps.

## THE MILLENNIUM HAMSTER

The huge Millennium Wheel on the bank of the Thames is now visible from parts of college. Kevin was disappointed to learn that Imperial Biologists are not involved in the creation of the huge Millennium Hamster that will be evidently be required to power it.

To comment or contribute:  
<http://come.to/mishmash>





# McKinsey & Company

Please join us for our

**UNDERGRADUATE AND BRITISH MASTERS CANDIDATE PRESENTATION**

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER - THE COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE, LONDON - 7 PM

[www.mckinsey.com](http://www.mckinsey.com)

[www.mckinsey.co.uk](http://www.mckinsey.co.uk)

[Lngrad\\_rec@mckinsey.com](mailto:Lngrad_rec@mckinsey.com)



# FELIX

## ISSUE 1155

### Editorial Staff

Editor.....David Roberts  
Deputy Editor...Marie Nicholaou  
Asst Ed (Reviews).....Joel Lewis  
Asst Ed (Layout).....Vacant

News.....Andrew Ofori  
Photography.....Jonas Lindsay  
Sports.....Gus Paul  
Science.....Vacant  
Music.....James Holian  
Film.....Helen Clark  
Games.....Andy Vivian, Mark  
Jelinek & Ben Roe  
Arts.....Ben Fisher  
Books.....Russell Cummer  
Diary.....Vacant

### Writers

Gareth Morgan, Marie  
Nicholaou, Andy Ofori, Dinesh  
Ganesarajah, Simon Wistow,  
Sunil Rao, Simon Hardy, Joel  
Lewis, Gus Paul, Dave Edwards,  
Ben Pickersgill, Natasha Newton  
& David Roberts

### Reviewers

Christian, Andy, Flic, Ryetar,  
Tim, Max, Boycey, Hardy, Top  
Cat, Ian, Disa, Lewis, Michael,  
Katherine, James, Simon, Mark,  
Dave, Joseph, Henry, Helen,  
Ben, Viv, Graeme, Ben & Russell

### Photographers

Jonas Lindsay

Felix, The Portacabins, Prince  
Consort Rd, London, SW7 2BB  
Internal tel: 58072  
External tel & fax: 0171 594 8072  
URL: www.su.ic.ac.uk/Felix  
E-mail: felix@ic.ac.uk

Felix is produced for and on  
behalf of Imperial College  
Union Media Group and is  
printed at MCP Litho Limited,  
Units B2 & B3, Hatton Square,  
16 - 16a Baldwins Gardens,  
London EC1N 7RJ

Felix is a registered newspaper:  
ISSN 1040 - 0711  
Copyright © Felix 1999.

# Feedback

## A RETURN FROM THE GRAVE

Dear Dave,

Having become a little fidgety in my self-imposed retirement, I felt it was time to offer my two 'penneth to the Imperial throng. Felix this year seems to have started well and will, I am confident, go from strength to strength over the year. It does seem, however, that this year's columns are generating a few problems. Of course, that's their role, but there are problems and there are problems.

Firstly, I must fully agree with John Quantrell's point about anonymity, leading, I suspect, to some confusion, in your editorial. As a columnist for the previous four years, I would never disagree with the protection of sources. Had I not protected mine, the Voice of Reason would never have lasted as it did. Despite witch-hunts of which Joe McCarthy would have been proud, they still don't know who he/she/it/they is/are, so it's not a problem if you're careful. However, that is a totally different issue to the anonymity of authors. You are, I fear, quite wrong to suggest that 'it would irrevocably damage the ability of the writers to collect information if their identity was known.' On the contrary, my experiences suggest that it is impossible to do a good job in the column game without one's identity being widely known. Over the four years I was in the chair, I must have been approached by hundreds of people, offering information, suggestions for articles etc. Without a name and that delightful photo, I would have been stuffed. There are only two scenarios in which author anonymity would be justified: if the author's life or place at College were in jeopardy, in which case write it elsewhere in Felix, or if the column were so execrably awful that the author did not have the guts to put his or her name to it. The former certainly hasn't applied at IC, and it is probably better if I reserve

judgement on the latter point, beyond saying that I always, without exception, used my column to savage the credibility of any anonymous article or letter in Felix.

Secondly, I feel it necessary, at the risk of sounding patronising (moi?), to offer a little advice to the columnists, Breakpoint in particular. You should have learnt by now that you do NOT, under any circumstances, attack ICU on specific issues unless your facts are so irrefutably watertight that Perry Mason, Rumpole and Kavanagh together would give up and go home rather than challenge you. Any less than this position makes for a very tedious letters page. A broadbrush, but factual, approach will be much more successful, concentrating on the grossly inefficient bureaucracy that chokes ICU driven by the misguided aim of 'being inclusive', which means allowing everyone to sit on one of a thousand pointless committees that only survive because of the unpaid status of most of their members. Less charitable souls than myself have suggested that our new President is not exactly a Sir John Harvey-Jones on the organisational management front, so the last thing she needs is to have write letters to Felix every week.

I would point out that there's a small department on campus that seems to generate plenty of material for columnists and problems for the rest of IC. You may have heard of it, Breakpoint? It's near the Queen's Tower and it's called the Sherfield Building. Its machinations always use to the bane of all of our lives, and I doubt they've changed much. They must be thinking it's Christmas come early, so why not, in the modified words of Harry Truman, come inside the tent and start pissing out, rather than the other way round, as you have done relentlessly to date.

All the best,  
Simon Baker

## ANONYMITY : THE DEBATE CONTINUES

Dear Felix (and Kevin),

Ok, so what exactly is the problem people have with Kevin. I've read his column since it started last term, and yes, I have to admit, it provoked emotion. Good on him say I, as to provoke any sort of response in this apathetic university must mean he is doing something right!!!

People complain that he slags off their course, but from what I remember (considering I'm an idiot, without any back issues of Felix) he has commented about many different disciplines. Also, if people are really stressed with what he has written, why don't they write directly to him? Or are they being too stupid that they don't actually read his E-mail address at the bottom of the page. Now call me foolish, but is this there so that people can contact him?

As to finding out whom Kevin is, I think will be rather difficult, as pinning him down to one place must be hard! I say this, because last term he attended some physics lectures (as I remember), and this term he is sitting in medical lectures - hmmm. This could therefore lead to the conclusion that Kevin is actually the Rector. But would I really like to join the rest of the gang and jump to conclusions, rather than take the column at face value, the way I think that its intended!

TEFFH  
(A second year entity)

Dear Dave,

We medics tend to get a bad press and I think that we are not given enough credit. Were it not for us, Felix would have a lot of empty space and a dwindling numbers of readers. After all, we tend to feature prominently in every issue and it is a lot easier to grab people's interest by laying into the medics (as we tend to arouse a lot of passion) than it is to undertake decent, investigative jour-

The deadline for letters intended for publication is Wednesday 12 noon - drop into the portacabins or email felix@ic.ac.uk. Letters may be edited for length but not grammar or spelling.



nalism in an attempt to write well-balanced informative pieces.

You refuse to name the writer of BreakPoint because "no self-respecting Editor...would deliberately reveal the identity of an anonymous source...as it would irrevocably damage the ability of the writers to collect information if their identity was known". Oh, come on. Its hardly M15. I'm sure your 'blowing their cover' will not result in them being captured and tortured with pliers until they reveal government secrets. I assure you that we won't send the heavies to do them over. We would just like to see which pathetic little creature it is that goes round peddling half-truths and propaganda.

I seem to recall that Mish-Mash was once accompanied by some weird looking kid with glasses. Who is he? I assume he is not a medic so why is he at Charing Cross for lectures? None of us bother going. I find his condescending tone to be highly irritating and his use of words such as 'rowdy wannabe doctors' annoying. The vast majority of us ARE going to be doctors. I take it that he has some future plans too, in which case he must be a snide wannabe something-or -other.

I am glad that Tim Traylor is sticking to his word in trying to keep BUSA hybrid entry and to prevent the sale of Teddington. Hybrid entry (or dual entry if it comes to that) is essential as otherwise we will end with a few elite teams playing on a Wednesday whilst those who do not make the cut kick their heels. Can I remind BUSA about "sport for all"?

Given that the proceeds of the 'secret' sale of Teddington will be insufficient to help fund the Sports Centre, can I propose an alternative. In 5 years the gravel extraction at Harlington will be complete, freeing up god knows how many lucrative acres in a perfect development spot for Heathrow Terminal Five. This will sell for many, many times what we would get for Teddington. There is room enough for all IC and ICSM sports teams at Cobham as GKT are leaving. Therefore, we should use reserves for the moment then sell Harlington, keep Teddington, get a new Sports Centre and all move to Cobham.

Everyone's a winner.

Kash Akhtar,  
4th year Medicine

WATERSTONES. AHM.

Dear Dave,

This week, I found myself in need of a textbook. Despite there being a "convenient" branch of Waterstones located on campus, I find buying textbooks a frustrating and tiresome experience. Why? Because more often than not, Waterstones do not stock the books I require - there is nothing peculiar about these books; indeed they are top on my department's list of prescribed texts and have been for many years. Moreover, ordering a book from Waterstones only adds to the frustration, and on two occasions previously, it took over a month for them to obtain a single copy of a well-known and popular textbook.

The old ICU book-shop \*guaranteed\* to stock \*every\* textbook prescribed by all academic departments at Imperial, and what do Waterstones offer? A mish-mash of "trendy" novels and "The Joint-Rolling Handbook" - a pathetic and patronising attempt to woo students, and highly inappropriate, given college's zero-tolerance policy towards drugs.

Whilst there is much scope for private enterprise on campus, many thought it crass to scrap the ICU Book-shop, which had been providing a reliable and efficient service to students for years. Two years after opening, Waterstones have still not learned from their mistakes, and continue to provide a second-rate service.

Geoff Hewick (Computing 4)

AND FINALLY...

Dear Sir,

I am disturbed to notice that, as yet, you do not seem to have published a single article promoting the legalisation of cannabis. Based on the content of previous years I had come to believe that legalisation was a key Felix policy. Have I been misinformed?

Yours,  
Anon

## Editorial

Oh dear, the Editor is highly busy at the moment, finishing this issue, which leaves me to write this highly anonymous guest editorial.

### WHAT'S AN EDITORIAL?

Normally an editorial is a chance to reflect upon those issues raised within the pages of the publication and use this position of privilege to state the editor's views. So I could talk about a variety of things: medics, sports, anonymity, College, Waterstones, drugs - just from the letters page. However I am instead going to use this august platform for the other editorial right. That of wibbling on about those things close to my own heart, cheese, Cash Converters and horror films.

### CHEESE

Watching the news on the TV last night a "typical" British shopper was asked whether they would boycott French food in response to their banning of British beef. They replied that they would - but how could they. I mean imagine a world without brie, camembert, roquefort or the multitude of other cheeses (ignore that rank goat's cheese though) that we gleefully import from our French brethren. Can you truly imagine an alternative to a brie & tomato baguette at certain times? Now, to a certain extent the soft cheese gap can be filled by Italian classics such as dolcelatte, cambazola and gorgonzola but blue cheese is not to everyone's liking. I personally will not now be shopping at Budgens or Somerfields, so we'll see how they like that!

### BARGAINS

Cash Converters - A name that brings joy to all those who have experienced the awesome delights of this chain of shops. These stores are heaven for those looking for electrical bargains. The prices for TV's, videos, Hi-Fi equipment and computers are all OK but it is in the video and CD

sections that the true bargains are to be found. You can usually pick up decent CD's for about £3 due to the blanket pricing policy. However it varies from one shop to another and I have personally picked up "The Cult of Ant and Dec" for only £1.50 - smashing. Videos are similarly priced and this is a good place to pick up all those "cult classics" you don't want to pay £12.99 for. Which brings me onto...

### HORROR

With the re-release of The Exorcist and the hype surrounding the Blair Witch Project (currently available on DVD or pirate CD/video near you) horror is once again at the cinema. Now, I can wholeheartedly recommend John Carpenter's Vampires (despite the lukewarm review elsewhere in this issue) - it isn't particularly scary, but then again few true horror films are. I haven't laughed quite as much as the first time I saw Exorcist or Texas Chainsaw Massacre (one of the most disturbing - but not scary - films of all time). What you should be watching Vampires for is the fantastic "man cut in two sequence" and James Wood's incredible "truck/stake gun". This film (at points) is on a par with the fantastic "From Dusk till Dawn" (on CH4 soon).

### THE END

Ahh, still space to write and I've finished on my three topics of choice. It has taken me longer than it should do to write this (and it's not very good) so my congratulations go to Dave and anyone else who writes stuff like this on a regular basis.

I guess I'll finish off by saying that there are probably more important things to worry about in this world than sports grounds or the anonymity of writers.

Love,

Anonymous Chris



**ICU ENTS PRESENTS... THIS WEEK**

**MONDAY**

**STANDING ROOM ONLY LIVERPOOL v BRADFORD 8pm DAVINCI'S**

**TUESDAY**

**STA QUIZ NIGHT**

**WIN £50 CASH OR A CRATE OF LAGER. 8PM**

**Da Vinci's**  
Café-bar

**WEDNESDAY**

**XS**

Classic party tunes in dBs, Cocktail Bar & Chill out Room  
9-1 (midnight bar) Free b4 11/50p after

**STANDING ROOM ONLY: CHELSEA v HERTHA BERLIN 7pm DAVINCI'S**

**THURSDAY**

**DAVINCI'S COCKTAIL NIGHT**

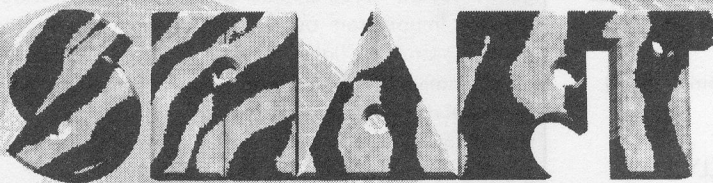
A NIGHT FOR SWINGERS. 5-11.

PLUS LIVE JAZZ FROM THE JAZZ BIG BAND DBS 8PM FREE

WORLD CUP RUGBY ON THE BIG SCREEN 3rd PLACE PLAYOFF 7pm

**FRIDAY**

**Burn Baby Burn ..it's a Disco inferno**



**FREE ENTRY TO BEST 20's GEAR**  
PLUS COCKTAIL BAR & CHILL OUT ROOM. 9-2.

£1 (ICU card holders)/£1.50 (others)/Free to entscards & b4 9

**SATURDAY**

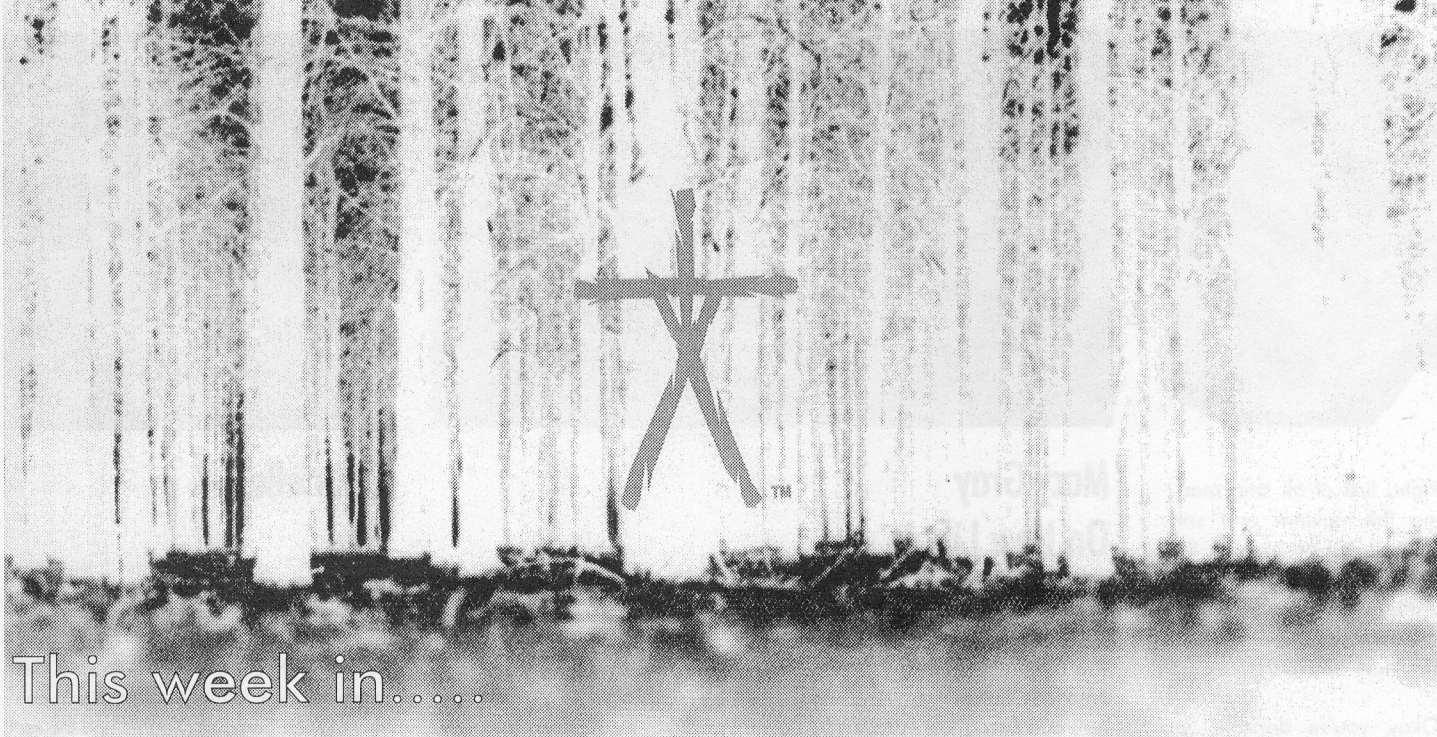
**WORLD CUP RUGBY ON THE BIG SCREEN - THE FINAL 3pm DAVINCI'S**

**iCU**  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

**IT'S YOUR UNION - BE PART OF IT**

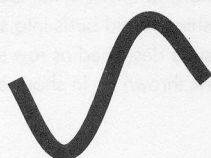


# Welcome to the reviews



This week in.....

**frequency**



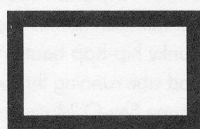
Beer  
Jazz  
Poetry

**books**



Cool classics  
Fugitive pieces  
Discounts

**screen**



Blair Witch  
Vampires  
Pushing Tin

**method**



Ali  
Kronos Quartet  
Last Chance

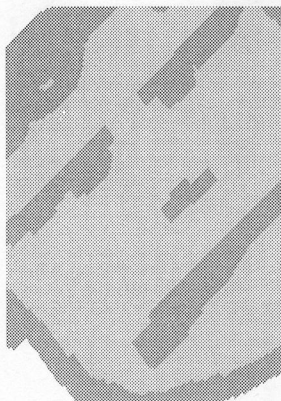
**react**



Carmageddon  
RC Stunt Copter  
Steering Wheel



# frequency



Right, first of all stop reading this column and sort yourself out an entry in the Death in Vegas competition detailed in the column opposite. And do it now. Yes, now. NOW.

Okay, you've done it, so now let's chat about tunes. Starting this week's music is a duo of wonderful divas, Gabrielle and Macy Gray. Then after some Charlatans action, we have a chat to Tim from Death in Vegas and there's that competition (you have entered haven't you?)

## ... frequency ... ... music for you ...

After the adverts we're back with a splash of singles, a quick EP and then there's the first installment of Jazz in frequency - and about time too (blame me for this). Anyway, following this column we'll hopefully be sorting out some other specialised music columns for your reading pleasure in the not too distant future. By the way, does anyone want to write about indie metal or maybe even folk music?

As well as our big Death in Vegas blag, the other great event in this week's frequency is a poem in our clubbing section. A sceptic doubted its origin, but hey I'm a believer so never mind any of that and read on...



## Macy Gray On How Life Is (Epic)

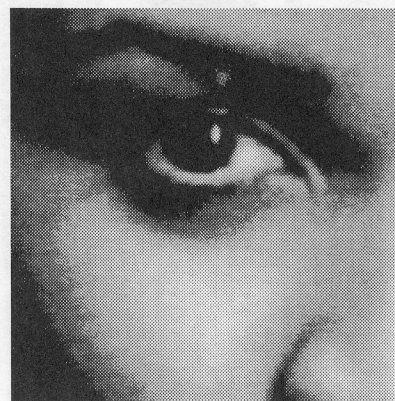
This is the debut album from 29-year-old soul singer Macy Gray, currently America's "hottest sensation", who's beginning to replicate the attention over here and throughout Europe. Her unusual voice has mostly been compared to Billie Holiday, but that implies it to be rather old-fashioned. In truth, there is also the sound of someone like Tina Turner in her '60's heyday. Gray refuses to be pigeonholed but if pushing stupid birds into small openings is your thing then her music would best be described as raw soul with large chunks of hip-hop, rock, r'n'b and funk thrown in. In short, an eclectic concoction of beats and melodies.

Born with a voice that suggested she was the offspring of Tricky and Marge Simpson, she rarely spoke for fear of being teased. It was only after moving to Los Angeles to join a film school that she began songwriting with friends. When singers for her songs didn't appear she was reluctantly roped in.. Musicians hearing the tape were taken by her unique singing voice: equal parts scat, rap and sweet soul. She was snapped up by Epic early last year and was given the unique opportunity of going on nationwide tours before the release of any recordings.

Well, that's a nice fairy tale story following the usual rags-to-riches mould, but is her album much cop? First track Why Didn't You Call Me sets the scene nicely - a pleading soul/rock vocal with lush harmonies in the backing vocals (provided by Gray herself) over funky hip-hop beats. Whilst the lyrics hint at desperation, there's a general good vibe running through this song. She turns as funky as James Brown on the huge Sex-O-Matic Venus Freak, spitting out her lustful words like a disgruntled Shirley Bassey. Given that she claims all her lyrics are based on personal experiences, the track I've Committed Murder - about killing her boyfriend's boss as revenge for firing him - is more than a bit worrying. Undoubtedly the album's highlight, however, is her breakthrough single I Try. Its steady climb into the UK Top Ten proves the song's lasting appeal. Its style is rather different to other tracks on On How Life Is, perhaps because it is one of the few songs where Gray wrote the music as well as the lyrics. Performed in the manner of a '70's starlet, I Try swells and scrambles its way to a rip-roaring chorus, Gray battling between her two vocal tracks as if the good and evil in her mind are both trying to make themselves heard.

If the album had a bad point it would be that, while each track combines a variety of styles there is not enough difference between the actual songs. But as a debut album, it is more than sufficient and hints at a bright future.

Ryetar



## Gabrielle Rise (WEA)

This is Gabrielle's third album and definitely her best. Whilst the first album contained such 'gems' as *Dreams* and the second contained nothing memorable at all, it could never be said that her voice was anything less than excellent. The third album finally sees her mature into the style that suits her voice best. That style is a voice-driven crossover between soul and pop and works well for most of the tracks on this record. Along with these three albums Gabrielle seems to have undergone three image changes to suit the change in style of each. She has moved from the eyepatched record company driven hard woman needing gimmicks, through relative 'normality' (= uninspiring) to where she is now. That place is the very big haired soul queen look that looks as if it's modelled on Diana Ross

One of the main problems with this album is that there is nothing to pick out lyrically between the tracks - the two variations seem to be 'we're in love, it's perfect' and 'we were in love but now we're not and it's your fault'. While these may have their place in the song-writing world they can be, and many times have been, much more inspiring than the lyrics found here. However, Gabrielle's voice manages to drag them from awfulness and propel them towards a height where you can just about let their crassness slide.

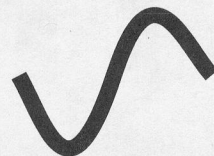
While there is nothing really outstanding on this album the overall quality is good. Unfortunately when compared to other records such as that from Macy Gray it just can't hold its appeal and is easily eclipsed.

Tim





## frequency



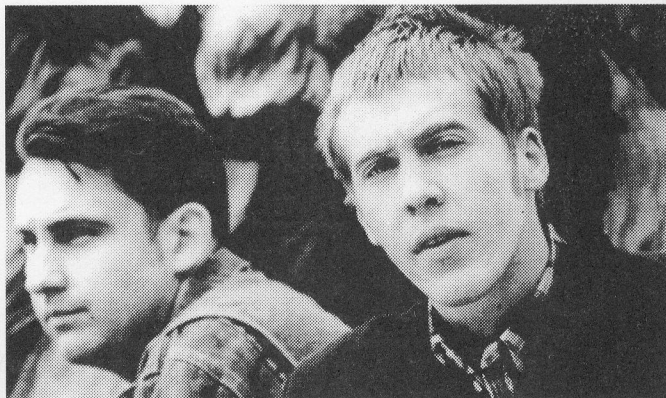
## The Charlatans Us and Us Only (Universal)

*Us and Us Only* is the follow up to the excellent *Tellin' Stories* album. The Charlatans are surprisingly the only real survivors of the Manchester scene (which included the Stone Roses and the Happy Mondays), something that is reflected in the confidence of the album's title.

While a number of the songs, like *A House Is Not A Home* quite strongly recall their earlier material (in this case the country rock of *North Country Boy*), this is not necessarily such a bad thing. Indeed, there are also more bold, experimental tracks not least the mightily impressive single, *Forever*. Building slowly from a bass-led intro into a great universal love song, it is one of the best songs they have recorded. It brings to mind the Stones and Primal Scream, yet still maintains their fairly unique sound of guitars blending seamlessly with Hammond grooves.

One grumble is perhaps that the majority of the songs are a little too down tempo. There also aren't really any obvious singles in the vein of say *One To Another*. Yet, while many of their more illustrious peers have either faded or are stumbling (e.g. the Roses and Oasis), the Charlatans continue to consistently produce good albums.

Max



## Death in Vegas Interview - A Chat With Tim

Death in Vegas's recent album, *The Contino Sessions*, was a delicious mixed bag of surprises. Their association with the Heavenly label and club nights would probably lead one to expect a nice poppy album full of dancey tracks and a real feel good factor. On listening though, *The Contino Sessions* is far from a pop record, Tim from the band explained when Felix writer Boycey had a quick chat with him last week...

**Boycey:** So what's all this Heaveanly Social, big beat stuff about? It seems to me that you boys have more than just a few musical sounds influencing your beats. Please explain.

**Tim:** The Heavenly Social was never about big beat music. The music policy was to play good music of any genre as long as it was good. There was house, rap, soul, indie, absolutely anything. Those club nights were brilliant. Some of the DJs at the Big Beat Boutique club in Brighton had a similar policy so I suppose that was where the association started. Big beat music is music by numbers though. Pretty much in one ear and out the other. Anyone could make an okay big beat track with a few hours on a good computer. With Death in Vegas, myself and Richard try to do quite a bit more. We're trying to make music that pushes back barriers. I'm thirty eight and Richard is late twenties so we've been around for a while

**Boycey:** Thirty-eight? That's quite old for a pop star.

**Tim:** I've done a lot of different things in my time, and my experiences have changed me a lot. I used to want to be a fish farmer, and then some work experience showed me that fish farmers were all Barbour wearing upper class tossers. I've also lived a few years of hedonism and bedlam. I used to make regular trips to Amsterdam, and although I've calmed down a lot, I still think the place is great. I love little picturesque European cities.

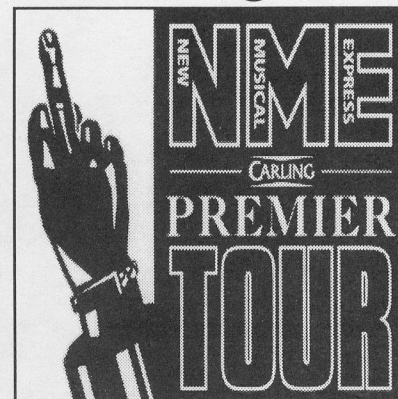
**Boycey:** So will one of these cities be your choice for your mad millennium party, or will you be DJing around the world?

**Tim:** There's this little island just off the west coast of Scotland called Beut, and I think I'll be there with a few close friends. I can't be arsed with making a big deal of it so I'm opting out. I suppose it's my age again. I'm not boring really! It's also just after the tour we're doing so it will be good to be able to relax

**Boycey:** And finally before we run out of space, it's Felix cheesy question time. We all know that there ain't no party like an S-Club Party, so who would it be Rachel, Hannah, Jo or the other one?

**Tim:** Sorry mate, I haven't got a clue what you're on about.

Boycey spoke to Tim from Death in Vegas courtesy of Carling. Death in Vegas's second album *The Contino Sessions* is out now



## Massive Competition ! 10 tickets, 10 t-shirts, beer + a whole lot more

Quite how this has happened no one is sure, but somehow this week we've managed our biggest blag ever at Felix Music. I suppose some might call it luck, some might call it fate and some may even suggest that it's a lie. But it's not and it's great.

The winner gets 10 free tickets to see Death in Vegas on the 7th November at Shepherd's Bush Empire, ten free T-shirts and a big crate of lager.

Phew! That's enough stuff for even the saddest fool to make some friends - or perfect if you're the most popular boy or girl on the block. Runners up prizes range from more beer to t-shirts to bags, and there's tonnes so everyone should enter.

What's more is that the question is easy (the answer is in the article to the left and is picked out in bold), so you've no excuse whatsoever for missing out.

To enter simply answer the question below and get your answers to [felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk) or pop into the office with your answer on a free postcard from the Union and pop it in the box with your name on it. More than nice!

**What is the name of  
Death in Vegas's new album?**

... and don't forget to enter! However, just in case your entry doesn't win you a MASSIVE night out on the Carling Premier tour, you could always pay for yourself, but that wouldn't be as much fun. Would it?



# THE C&G FRESHERS DINNER

*An amazing aquatic experience with  
a superb three course meal followed by  
a fantastic Carnival of dance, casino, games,  
late bar and cinema featuring The Matrix*

## Atlantis

### THE C&G FRESHERS DINNER

*Sherfield - Friday 19th November*

*Reception: 7pm for 7:30pm*

*Bar: 7pm to 1am - Dress: Smart Suit*

**CITY & GUILDS COLLEGE UNION**

**AeroSoc · BAMS · ChemEngSoc · CivSoc · DoCSoc · EESoc · Management · MechSoc**

**FRESHERS £15 - CONTINUING STUDENTS £17**

*tickets available now in*

**WATERSTONES & CCS SHOP**



reengineering the  
way you think



# frequency

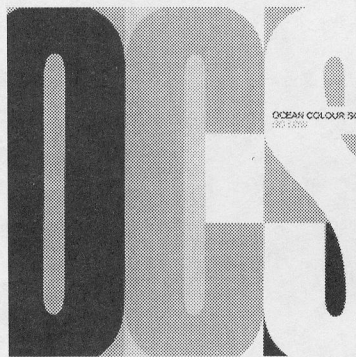
**Robbie Williams**  
**She's The One / It's Only Us**

Recently Robbie has mostly been headlining stadiums - how did that happen? Of this double A side, *It's Only Us* is just average, but *She's The One* is an infectious, piano-led love song in the Angels vein, which, while hardly essential listening, will please his fans even more than a cancelled lecture would your average IC student.



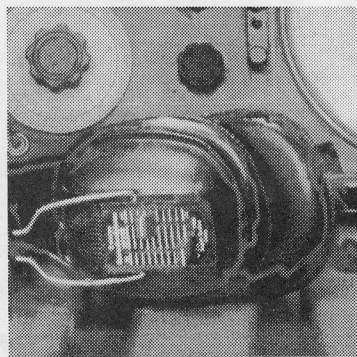
**Ocean Colour Scene**  
**So Low**  
(Island)

*So Low* finds the Ocean Colour Scene boys clearly in ballad mode. While personally I prefer them when they cut loose, like on *Hundred Mile High City*, this is a well written song with nice vocal harmonies and understated guitars. They've shown in the past though that they're capable of doing this type of song far better than this, so a bit of a disappointment all told.



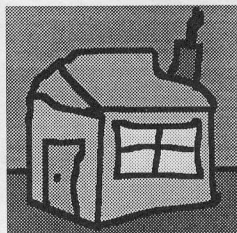
**Geneva**  
**Dollars in the heavens**  
(Nude)

Geneva return after a two year hiatus with another trademark soaring epic. The familiar ingredients of choral vocals, high production values, and shimmering celestial guitars combine to create a moving and thoughtful racket. Musically *Dollars In The Heavens* is not a million miles from early Suede, but whilst their label mates peddle the sound of the gutter, Geneva bring us something a bit more stellar.



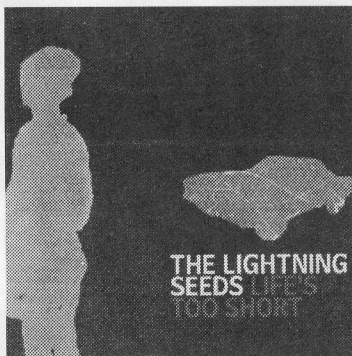
**Shack**  
**Pull Together**  
(Destiny)

A clear single of the week for me. Taken from the rather wonderful *HMS Fable*, *Pull Together* is a stirring, anthemic song with a great sentiment of taking on the world together. It's the kind of song that bands like OCS, who they are supporting, would kill to write and genuinely deserves to be huge.



**Inhale Feed**  
(Jam Inc)

From the moment you hear the opening riff you know what you're in for with this - angst rock. While they may add some keyboards to the mix, there's no denying that Inhale basically try poorly to replicate the likes of Nirvana and Radiohead but without adding anything of their own. Uninspiring.



**The Lightning Seeds**  
**Life's Too Short**  
(Epic)

A deeply unethical experiment by Mr Broudie, in which he sees fit to infect one of his infamous pop choons with the virus of disco. The result is a predictably slick and soulless product in which the great sage opens our minds to his take on life the universe and everything. Warning: those possessing a conventional moral outlook may be offended by the unsettling subtext of incestuous buggery.



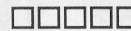
**Morgan**  
**Miss Parker**  
(Source)

In which Morgan manages to stuff a fair plethora of ideas into less than three minutes. Strange Caribbean flavoured organ work underpinned by some suitably laid-back beats - on top we get the musings of little Morgan junior. Morgan sees fit to throw in bits of brass, strings, stuttering guitar, and unidentifiable electronic noise when appropriate. Most pleasingly of all, he finds room for pseudo-theremin meanderings and a worthy bassline.



**Stereosister**  
**Shamefaced**  
(Freakout records)

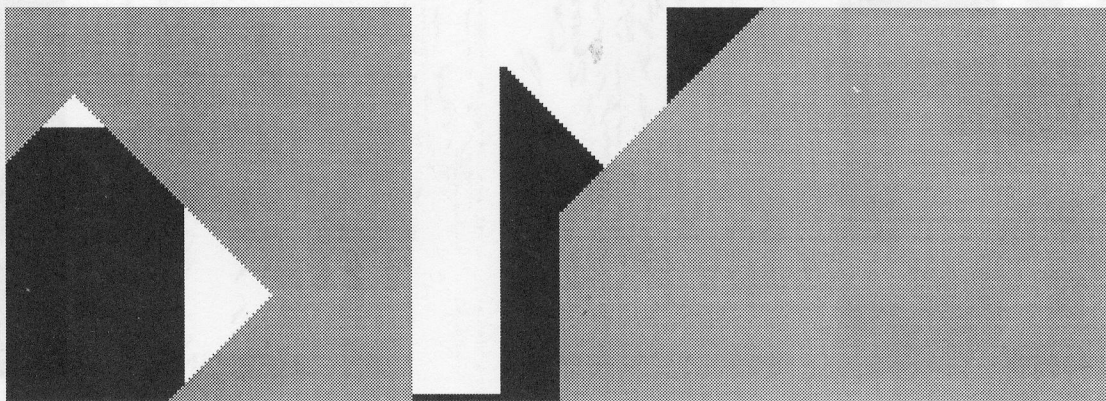
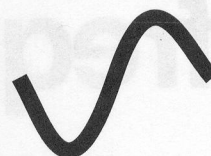
If this band were playing in a pub they could be forgiven as a bunch of blokes having a laugh. Unfortunately, as some coked-up record executive has decided to unleash their artistic output on a weary public I feel it my duty to provide a warning. Do not under any circumstances buy this insipid, moronic, derivative wank. Like the Seahorses covering the Wonderstuff.



...Singles reviews  
by Max and  
Michael...



## frequency



Urusei Yatsura  
Yon Kyoku Iri EP  
(limit break)

Urusei Yatsura are one of those bands who should be amazingly popular, but no-one's ever heard of them. Imagine, if you will, the atmosphere in an intimate venue when this band, the superb Scottish successor to the Pixies, hits the stage letting fly with viciously good alternative rock. The songs Kewpies Like Watermelon and Slain By Elf have a lyrical silliness not seen since Terrorvision's Dog Chewed The Handle, belying the emotional message beneath.

This latest EP is all that, yet a little more - dare I say - mature? It takes a new direction like the proverbial fresh new pair of pants; strange at first, then just becomes a part of you. Kaytronica is the first track and the most traditionally Yatsura with some familiar high pitch twanging. Still Exploding eases us into new unexplored territory and sounds suspiciously like their fellow Scots, Idlewild. Next up, the acoustic, Nobody knows we're Stars is sensitive and mellow, if a little frustrated. We finish on Mother of the MBK, a very unusual song which can only be described as being like a superposition (please don't hit me, please) of the other three songs.

Hardy

## Talking All That Jazz London Jazz Festival - 12 to 21 November

You have to admit that jazz is best enjoyed when listened to in a small, noisy, smoky club, overcrowded by sexy and classy couples. However, some artists' international success means they can only perform in big concert halls on their world tours; and that means no atmosphere, lack of style etc... doesn't it? Well, maybe not: there was a Cuban Bonanza at the Barbican Hall on Friday 15th with the bands responsible for the sound track of the highly successful film 'Buena Vista Social Club'.

They may have been around 50 years old on average, but the music was fabulous. The rhythms were irresistible and most of the crowd progressively started dancing in the aisles! Furthermore, at the end of the 'fiesta', the band invited some of the crowd to dance on stage. The Cuban fire had sent the Barbican hall on a one way trip to Santiago!

This proves that jazz concerts don't have to be repentance, and more importantly, they're the only way to listen to the best musicians alive! And that's not exaggerating.

That's why you should try and get tickets to some of the acts on offer at the London Jazz Festival in November. The Zawinul Syndicate, Brandford Marsalis, Dianne Reeves and Taj Mahal are some of the jazz legends coming to London, and they will assist British front scene artists like Courtney Pine and Andy Sheppard in offering simply the best jazz concerts you can get.

The two acts that will steal the show, are: Dianne Reeves and Joe Zawinul. Dianne Reeves is another one of these artists who can set any concert hall on fire; and so she did a year ago at the Royal Festival Hall, packed with young black women who couldn't stop expressing their love for the music. Her voice is irresistible, her scat improvisations would make a paralyzed 90-year-old stand up and dance, and her songs about fighting for survival and being strong make her show unmissable both for the music and for the ideas conveyed. Joe Zawinul, keyboardist founder of the groundbreaking group 'Weather Report', mixes funk, rock, samples and jazz to revive Mile Davis' electric period. His music is very upbeat, and I promise you, you won't sleep through that one!

These concerts aren't exactly cheap, and you have to book in advance to get the best seats for the lowest prices; but no jazz-fan should miss them. Nice.

Here's a list of the choicest cuts from the London Jazz Festival. Hopefully I'll be making it to more than just a few of these so maybe I'll see you there? Great!

14th November

Courtney Pine @ Hammersmith Apollo

The torchbearer of British Jazz in recent years. Guests will bring jazz and hip-hop from both sides of the Atlantic.

14th November

Khaled @ Royal Festival Hall

The towering figure of rai. A promising bluesy night with exotic flavors.

15th November

Brandford Marsalis @ Royal Festival Hall

A rare London appearance for the young sax legend, promoting his phenomenal last release: 'Requiem'.

16th November

The Zawinul Syndicate @ Barbican Centre  
See article

16th November

Taj Mahal @ Royal Festival Hall

The American blues legend in a fascinating adventure between blues and his African roots.

20th November

Andy Sheppard @ Royal Festival Hall

Carla Bley and Steve Swallow will accompany the superb sax player. Three musicians at the top of their art.

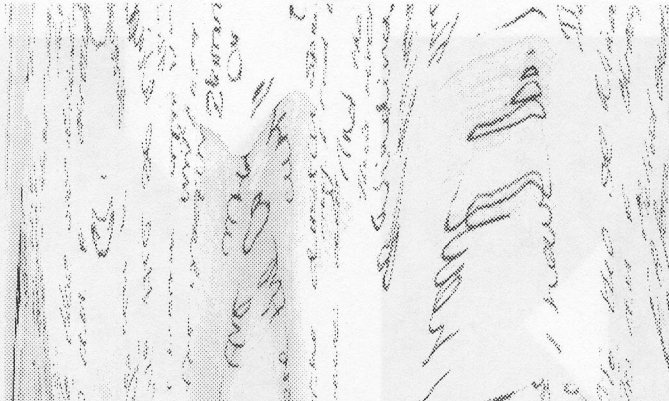
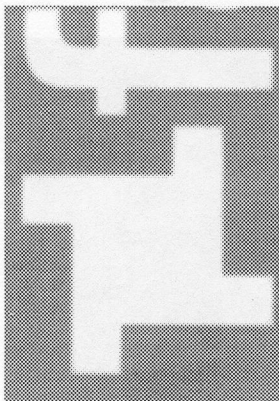
21st November

Dianne Reeves @ Royal festival Hall

See article.



# frequency



## Planet V @ Fabric

The opening night at one of London's newly billed 'super-clubs' was a drum-n-bass special, with possibly the largest number of DJ's on any line up this year. First up was Optical, who played his customary hard basslines. It was obvious that there was no such thing as a warm up here: the crowd was having it from the start.

The club was split into three rooms. Two were playing drum-n-bass, with the third room playing host to some of the finest hip-hop and garage DJ's around. The second room has without doubt already become one of the largest attractions of Fabric: underneath the floor is a set of spring loaded sub-woofers, which make the floor vibrate with the bass. This thing was on another level, and when Roni Size dropped the beats the floor went mad.

Top performers of the night were Adam F and J. Majik, who played to a packed main room. Fabio took on another level and jazzed things up with a laid back set. However, it was Andy C who really ripped the place up, dropping non-stop rolling b-lines. Top venue, top night, top time all round.

Gav

## Tchtonics @ The Pleasure Rooms .. River Journey ...

Club experiences never fail to amaze me. From never heard before mad tunes, to the people you meet - it's always a laugh. That's what makes writing articles about them so much fun. This week however sees a remarkable first for the club page in Felix. Yes, somehow I've got a poem for you! Last Friday night was spent in The Pleasure Rooms for their mash up Tchtonics club, and it was definitely a good night - perhaps too good for me to put into words. So I won't. Instead I'll pass on this poem, which was given to me on the night. Although it's not much to do with clubbing it provides better reading than the mash that I normally come out with so again I'll shut up and let you read the good stuff...

James

### River Journey by Roslyn Taylor

"O Captain of my ship, where does the river lead?"  
 "To the sea! To the sea! On a journey to the sea!"  
 Sprung from the bedrock of my heart  
 Fed by the wellspring of my youth  
 And the tenderest of tears  
 This river of love in me  
 Winding its wilful way through the seasons of my soul  
 Melted emotion in full flood  
 A force too powerful to dam  
 A current too swift to resist  
 I am swept away to against all better judgement  
 Without control in these rapids of the soul  
 My heart, too flimsy a craft to sail in these waters  
 Is shipwrecked on the gagged rocks of reason  
 Broken and discarded by the flood of first love  
 No longer a sea worthy vessel  
 "Abandon ship!" the captain cries  
 Though he has struggled manfully  
 To steer us from this fateful course  
 The cry comes too late for me  
 I am taken away with her to a watery grave  
 Where the calmer currents dwell  
 To the destination of my heart  
 I have always known to be  
 "To the sea! To the sea! To and ending in the sea."

## Recommended Clubbing

If you like a lot of chocolate on your biscuit, join our club. Or go to one of the following.

### Monday 1st November

#### Skin Two Rubber Ball @ Fabric; £38

With a strict rubber and PVC dress code this is the annual bash for the best of the fetish clubs. I suppose it's not for the narrow minded or those short of cash, but if you're up for it you can't fail to have a good time. I'm afraid I'm just a bit too timid for this one though.

#### THIS! 6th Birthday @ Bar Rhumba; £4

And then they were six! Yes, Gilles Peterson and co get another mention here, but it really is an excellent night and for this party they'll be joined by original resident James Lavelle. Get down.

### Tuesday 2nd November

#### Bullit @ The Dogstar; FREE!

Shit hot hip hop means plenty of opportunities for bopping at this Brixton venue. It's also free and open till two. You'd have to miss your night at La Scandale though! Dilemmas, dilemmas!

### Wednesday 3rd November

#### Cafe Noir @ Cafe de Paris; £12

Hosted by the Carwarsh team, this night is becoming one of the wildest nights on the club circuit. Apparently there are women dressed in fresh fruit and whipped cream lying on tables in the place. Need I say more?

#### Swerve @ The Velvet Rooms; £5

Future funk and fun, fun, fun from master DJ Fabio and his pals. Always fun.

To have your club added to this list just invite us along, we'll check it out and if we like it we'll put it down

e-mail: felix@ic.ac.uk

phone: 020 7594 8072 ask for James



# SIS - THE BUSINESS SOCIETY

Imperial College, London

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

## HOW TO CLOSE THE £50M DEAL

### THE NEGOTIATOR

**Business Negotiation Skills**

**Training with Barclays**

**Wednesday November 3rd, 6:30pm**

**Room 508, Elec Eng Building**

**Max. 30 People: Please email [andre.parrie@ic.ac.uk](mailto:andre.parrie@ic.ac.uk) to confirm your place**

**Register for Event Updates at [www.su.ic.ac.uk/sis](http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/sis)**

## KPMG

### How to become a partner in a big consultancy

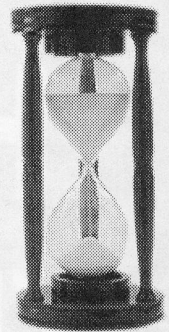
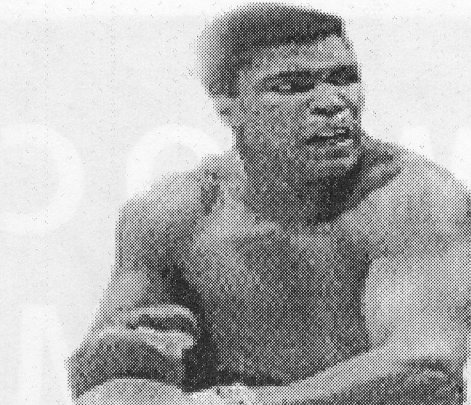
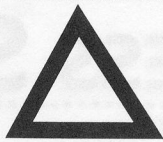
**Tuesday November 2nd, 6pm**

**Meeting outside the mech. eng building at 5:20pm to travel to the KPMG offices at Temple. The Business Society will refund your travel expense**

**Please email [andre.parrie@ic.ac.uk](mailto:andre.parrie@ic.ac.uk) to confirm your place**



# method



## Kronos Quartet o Philip Glass

Video complete with soundtrack and CD available

Bela Lugosi's suave performance in the 1931 film of *Dracula* is widely considered to be the classic interpretation of Bram Stoker's bloodsucker Count. Technical limitations of the time meant that this early 'talkie' lacked a score. Now, two of the leading figures in contemporary music, the Kronos Quartet and composer Philip Glass, have joined forces to rectify this anomaly.

Reviews of the CD of this new soundtrack have been somewhat lukewarm; the music suffers from Glass' tendency to re-use and recycle themes from earlier works - in this case, his previous string quartets. This isn't entirely a bad thing, as his string quartets are exceedingly fine pieces of music: new listeners certainly won't suffer. For those with previous experience of Glass' music, however, the soundtrack alone may be a disappointment.

The live performance is a different matter. The Kronos Quartet - joined by the composer on keyboards - perform behind a semi-translucent screen, onto which the film is projected. As the lighting that falls on them changes, so they fade in and out of visibility, like ghosts in the background of the film. It's a stunningly atmospheric effect that never intrudes upon the film, only adds to it.

It's in this context that the music comes into its own. Superbly performed, it goes a long way to restoring some of the atmosphere of darkness the film must have had for 1931 audiences. If some aspects of the film are more amusing than 'horrific' for a modern audience, Glass' score provides a deliciously spooky background that lets us laugh with, and not at, this most celebrated of horror flicks. Although your reviewer is not aware of any future UK performances of *'Dracula'*, a video of the film, complete with the new soundtrack, has been released by Universal Studios.



Joseph

## Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. . .

Proud Galleries  
Buckingham Street. Nearest Tube Charring Cross

Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee....25 serene photographs show Ali in training before humiliating the fearsome George Foreman

Think of Muhammad Ali, think of the greatest boxing legend that ever reigned in the seventies. A man full of 'cocksure arrogance' but 'heartening humility', he often predicted which rounds he was going to win his fights. His fights were not only entertaining but also resourceful to the young boxing generation of that time. Then, every kid in the block wanted to box like Ali. They bought every souvenir of him and a lot of them even signed up for amateur boxing, but unfortunately never made it pro.

Every one of his fights was often preceded by a great deal of showmanship and Ali was always at the centre of it all. This influence alone made his fights more captivating as millions worldwide turn on their screens to see Ali live up to his promise. He rarely disappointed, often winning in a unique fashion. This could never have been truer than in Zaire in October 1974 when Ali fought and beat George Foreman with a technical knockout in round eight. After watching a replay of that fight on the 'big' screens of Proud Galleries, to say that I was flabbergasted would be an understatement. When he claimed to 'float like a butterfly, sting like a bee' few could argue.

That was the legendary Rumble in the Jungle. I have never seen a pro box with so much skill, speed and power, but more importantly, with intelligence against a more daunting opponent. A fact that would make Mike Tyson quite jealous.

Many who know him well commended his 'heartening humility', his 'amazing sense of humour' and his 'artistic ability'. A great inspiration to many, of whom was photographer David King. 'Let's get this straight (folks),' said King in a recent interview, 'I was not interested in boxing. I was interested in Ali. His ability transcended boxing.' King's 25 black and white photographs captured Ali in training in the Pennsylvania mountains before that legendary fight that many critics regard as the most crucial fight of his career. All the pictures are signed, dated and numbered on the reverse side.



Henry Odil

## Time's running out to see . . . . .

At the River Side studios - nearest tube Hammersmith. *Romeo e Giulietta*. Here it is again, the classic love story. The original language of Shakespeare set to the music of Bellini. Combined with elements of puppetry and *Com-media dell'arte*.

**Finishes 7th November**

The SLG (South London Gallery) is original and experimental with its displays. Two of them are finishing this week and look well worth the trip; Intimate House and Francesca Vilalta - Olle.

Intimate House uses the stage and whole space to create an "Intimate Space with the audience" This seems to me to be either highly original or highly embarrassing.

**Finishes 6th November**

Francesca Vilalta - Olle attempts to redefine women as constructed identities. She does this through the exploration of themes such as subjectivity, sexuality, language and desire.

**Finishes 2nd November**

Ben



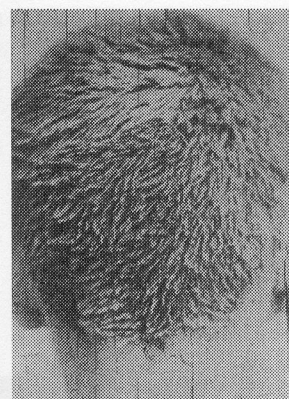
## books



## Cool Classics and Books You Should Have Read

Timeless! Groundbreaking! Inspirational! A work of profound cultural importance! A damned good read! Cool Classics and Books YSHR, the Felix feature where you get to learn about old books that make you seem more culturally aware than you really are, and maybe even read one.

T. H. WHITE  
THE ONCE & FUTURE KING



Arthurian legend has recently fallen into disrepute. As perhaps one of the more easily accessed stories of English/Celtic myth it has in turns been romanticised, demythicised, oversimplified and used as fodder for Saturday afternoon television. And on a less innocent note I can say that the name Lancelot has become synonymous with television programmes involving a cringeworthy plot and ladies of a dubious nature.

Yet I have placed myself in the uncertain position of trying to persuade other people to read *The Once and Future King* which is undeniably a classic novel dealing with the Arthurian cycle, 'King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table' for those less enthusiastic than me.

It is essentially a quartet of books of which the first, *The Sword in the Stone* is probably the best known - perhaps through the animated version released several years ago if not in the written form. *The Sword in the Stone* is a beautiful tale. The characters are defined and described in almost completely humorous terms and that humour is wonderfully English. Of the whole quartet this section is the lightest in tone and cheerfulness in subject matter; the tale of a small boy, affectionately known as the Wart, growing up in a fantastic environment unaware that he is one day to be the King. It may sound simple, it may even sound pretentious, but the writing is so detailed and so entertaining that an older reader can find immense satisfaction in it.

It is not a realistic tale in any sense of the word; situations are fanciful and imaginative in the extreme, except perhaps for the random 'lectures' on how heavy armour really was in the old days and how that restricted the pace of a duel. The problems that the Wart encounters as he grows up tend to be of the philosophical and theoretical kind rather than rude and damaging encounters with the harshness of life.

But this makes for an innocent, light, wonderfully sentimental, sit-by-the-fire-and-munch-Christmas pud type read. Which is never a bad thing, no matter what the literary types say.

The other three books contained within *The Once and Future King* deal with the main characters and the events leading up to the destruction of the Round Table and the death of Arthur. Consequently these books do not have the bright cheerfulness that is inherent in *The Sword in the Stone*. As adults the characters are allowed to have more complex emotions and to therefore exist in a much more complicated world. All except for Arthur that is, who retains the simple emotions and idealisations of his childhood. This is where the novel as a whole develops its pathos. The central character has the innocence of a stereotypical child whilst all the characters surrounding him are involved in some scheme or plot. What I love about these three books is that the author does not deal too harshly with the 'bad' characters; he shows them to be human, that anyone could make the mistakes that these characters make.

I recommend this to those who love reading about different people, to those who love myths, to those who want to lose themselves for a little while in a world that is nicer than IC, and to those with lots of work to do.

Flic

## Felix Recommends

Each of the books which is reviewed in Felix can be purchased from the Waterstone's book store on campus, next to the main library, at a discount of 20% during the week of the review. Waterstone's aim is to promote reading in general, by improving the availability of titles recommended and by offering them to Felix readers at a reduced price. Be sure to stop by the store and see if you agree with our reviews.

## Fugitive Pieces, Anne Michaels

Written as a memoir, starting with youth against the back-drop of the Second World War and the Holocaust, *Fugitive Pieces* is a novel of singularly beautiful prose and powerful imagery.

The first novel by Michaels, who prior to *Pieces* was known for her skills as a poet, FP deals with history, memory, love, cruelty and the capricious nature of time.

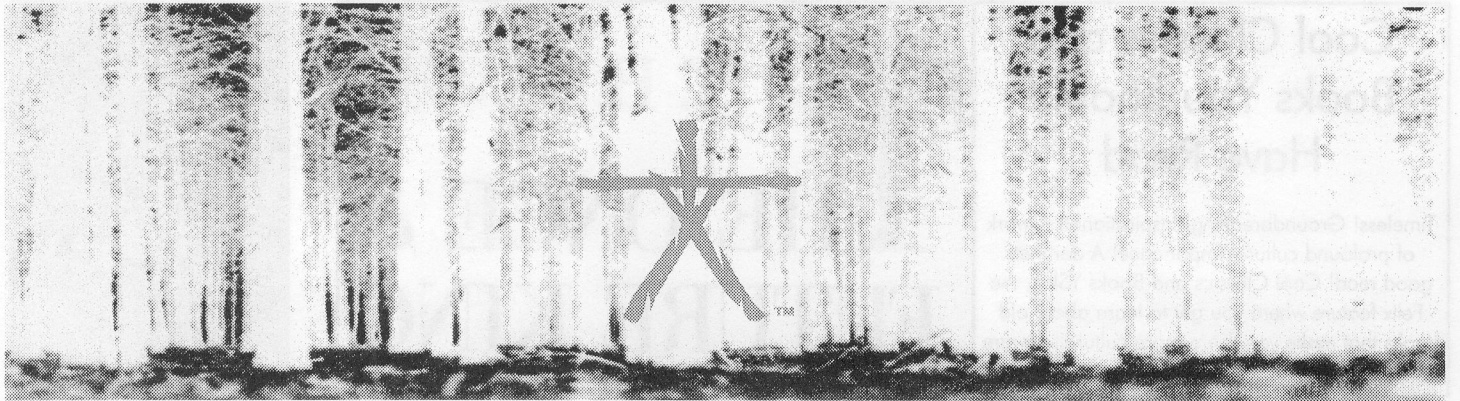
A review cannot do justice to the task of explaining what makes this book so special. It is filled with short sensual episodes through which the recollections of Jakob Beer become his story. For example, the murder of his parents while Jakob hides:

'Noises never heard before torn from my father's mouth. Then silence. My mother had been sewing a button on my shirt. She kept her buttons in a chipped saucer. I heard the rim of the saucer in circles on the floor. I heard the spray of buttons, little white teeth.'

Read it.



# screen



## THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT™

Having seen their debut project *The Blair Witch Project* storm to massive financial and critical success across the world, directors Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez are now two of the hottest properties in Hollywood. So are they really a couple of talented young hopefuls or a pair of movie brats? Well, here's your chance to find out, with our very own interview.

**Are you planning to do any sequels or prequels to *The Blair Witch Project*?**

**ED:** We're talking to Artisan about doing another Blair film. It's not going to be a sequel but we have an idea for a prequel that is pretty cool but we're going to have to see if they're gonna let us do it or not. It's really up to them. They own the film now; they own Blair Witch. It looks like they might let us do it but it has to be the right time for us and the right time for them.

**What were Heather, Josh and Michael like after the film shoot?**

**DAN:** What you guys watch is 82 minutes of about twenty hours of raw footage. They knew it was us running around the tent 'cos we shot the film in this whole real-time format where we had the actors go out there and run this improvisation situation. The whole process was an experiment. It was tough on everybody. We had a 24/7 shoot on our side as well. On one side, it was very tough and very draining but as an actor, they had the opportunity to do an eight-day play 24 hours a day in character with total creative freedom. They're probably never gonna get that opportunity again. As tiring as it was at the end, it was really rewarding for everybody.

**Do you know of anyone who saw the film and thought it was real?**

**ED:** A friend of ours took the movie when we had just finished editing it and popped it into his VCR at home and his mom ended up watching it and he didn't tell her it wasn't real. Everybody has a camcorder and as soon as a friend pops in a vacation video you're convinced it's real because there's shaky camera and the same thing works for Blair.

Your brain is telling you it's real and you're trying to tell yourself it's not so it's easy to think it's real.

**Is it true that Heather Donahue carried a knife with her during the shooting of the film?**

**DAN:** Yeah, it was a pretty big knife. Her mom didn't want her to do the film with a bunch of strangers in a wood so she bought this big knife. Just in case.

**Was there any inspiration from films like *Man Bites Dog* and *Cannibal Holocaust*?**

**ED:** I've never actually seen 'Man Bites Dog', it's one that's on a long list of films to see when we get home. As for *Cannibal Holocaust* we didn't find out that film existed until someone at Sundance told us that it had the same premise as Blair Witch. So we went home and went to a video store that rent really obscure bootleg type films and we checked it out. It's the exact same premise as Blair. This documentary crew goes to Peru or South America in search of a cannibal tribe and they find it and never get out. I guess they are eaten. We didn't even finish it. It's pretty brutal. They kill animals on screen and that's their gore. There's one scene where we're sure they use a human corpse for one of the effects. What really inspired Blair were those old documentaries. In the states they had these pseudo-documentaries with Leonard Nimoy narrating about UFO's, Bigfoot and stuff like that and as kids Ed and I were terrified by those things so that was really the inspiration behind Blair.

**Do you think the film works better on the big screen or will it be better on video?**

**ED:** I think it works well on the big screen but I think it does work better on video. A lot of people who go to the movie say that film didn't scare them and I always write to them and say "When the movie comes out on video, rent it, go to your house alone at 1am and pop it in and tell me if it scared you." I think it works better that way.

**Did you find it easy to finance the film?**

**DAN:** No, most of the financing was out of our own credit cards, savings, friends, and family. We were

really fortunate with an eight minute trailer we produced, as John Pearson had a show called 'Split Screen' in New York City and wanted to air our trailer on that show so he paid us some money for the rights to that and it helped us out. We didn't have to raise a lot, but \$30,000 when you're broke might as well be \$30 million - but we managed to scrape it together.

**Did you actually attempt to show what was harassing the actors in the film?**

**DAN:** Back to the documentaries of the seventies - there's really nothing conclusive about them. You see a grainy photo of a UFO or Bigfoot running through the woods. It was the realism about those things at the time that got to us. Our prime directive was to keep everything real. We didn't have the budget or technical know-how to show something that was convincingly real. Almost out of necessity, we followed this line of keeping it real. Anything in the raw footage that looked contrived; we got rid of it.

**Do you think you are marketing a myth or concept rather than just a film?**

**DAN:** Exactly, yes. I think that's what's unique about Blair Witch. That it is a whole world that it is a whole mythology and the film you see is really just a part of it. It didn't start out that way but it certainly evolved over time. That's what I loved about Star Wars or Star Trek. They had a whole world created around those films and on a small level that's what we did with Blair Witch. The web site has enabled us to have this complementary experience that showed the mythology about the movie and it was definitely this component thing of this bigger thing.

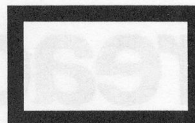
**Is the film called *The Blair Witch Project* after Linda Blair in *The Exorcist*?**

**DAN:** it was named after Blair high school in Maryland and it's a good generic name that sound like a bunch of other mythology in that area so it just blended in with truth. There's no reference to The Exorcist in any way; it's just coincidence.

Helen



## screen



# iCU CINEMA



## What's on at ICU Cinema

At last, I have witnessed the new look ICU cinema for myself. Gone are the days when you could only hear the film if you borrowed your granny's hearing aid. Thanks to the marvellous new Dolby Digital sound, you don't have to lip-read anymore. You don't even have to squint anymore when the focus goes as they've finally sorted that out. So, hey presto, we now have a massive screen that gets used to its full potential and is a credit to our Union.

This week ICU cinema is showing the clever and funny *Go!* along side the all-action *Thomas Crown Affair*. Both films are being shown on Monday and Tuesday evening.

*Go!* is a story told from three perspectives. It's about a bunch of young Californians trying to get some cash, do and deal some drugs, and acquire sex in Las Vegas. They all just want to experience the rush of life. *Go!* is sort of a teen flick but don't be put off as it is definitely worth watching.

The *Thomas Crown Affair* stars Pierce Brosnan and Rene Russo in a remake of this film about a bored millionaire who likes to steal art. It turns into a comedy when the leading characters fall in love and Russo's character finds herself making a tough decision.

In case you haven't found the cinema yet it is located in the concert hall in the union building and is probably the only cinema that you can take your beer in to sup on while watching a good film.

Also, don't forget to look at the posters on the walkway for the times and details of the showings.

## Vampires



A horror movie by John Carpenter, director of such cult flicks as *The Thing*, *Village of the Damned* and *Halloween*, should be an event not to miss. The sad truth is that his latest film, *Vampires*, will probably pass by without much acclaim.

The story follows Jack Crow (James Woods) as leader of 'Team Crow', a group of Mercenary Vampire slayers funded by the Catholic Church. By 'cleaning out a nest' somewhere in Mexico - enter over use of amigo and padre - they incur the wrath of a powerful master vampire named Valek who decimates the entire team except Crow and Montoya (Daniel Baldwin, another of the Baldwin brothers). It is left to them to prevent Valek from finding the Berziers Cross. This cross would allow him and all vampires to walk by day, making them impossible to kill.

This story is a good idea; it has so much promise but is somehow left a little thin. The film is slow-paced and deliberated. It is somewhere between a spaghetti western (over long shots of tough men in a desert background) and a hammer horror (latex body parts and plenty of blood). Still the production qualities are high, especially considering the modest budget of \$20 million. For a horror it is rarely scary, leaving you firmly rooted at the back of your seat. This is probably because you feel little empathy with any of the characters, particularly Woods, who seems determined to do things the hard way.

It would be unfair to say that once the film had started I wasn't interested in the end, and the cinematography is certainly good; but somewhere along the line, it just fails to capture the imagination. Perhaps this is because it treads an uneasy line between trying to be ground breaking while still keeping to the vampire ethos. The vampires may be immune to garlic but they still wear gothic eveningwear.

For a Friday night out this film is hardly recommendable, but for a change from the usual Hollywood blockbuster it may be worth a look.

Katherine and Dave

## Pushing Tin Competition

This week the Odeon Kensington have benevolently donated five pairs of tickets to see '*Pushing Tin*' starring John Cusack (*Grosse Pointe Blank*) and Billy Bob Thornton (*Armageddon*).

*Pushing Tin* is a comedy and drama about life, love, aeroplanes and other bumpy rides. Set in the high-tension atmosphere of the chaotic air traffic control centre for New York's three major airports this film is about territorial feelings between men and how they deal with them.

As always all you have to do is answer a simple question, This week the question is

### Who connects *Pushing Tin* and *Four Weddings And A Funeral*?

Answers on a virtual postcard to

[film.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:film.felix@ic.ac.uk)

before Wednesday 3 November.

The winner of last weeks *Blair Witch* competition has won the fantastically amazing *Blair Witch* goody bag, and that person is

Jennifer Edwards

And the runners up who all got the question right, get a pair of tickets to see this most terrifying film. They are

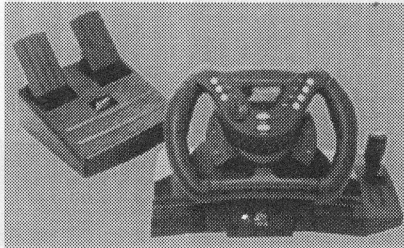
S Comber  
E Mavrikas  
N Balakumaran  
C Gamonpilas  
J Williams

Please call by the Felix office to collect your tickets.



# react

**"....IT'S BIG,  
BLACK AND  
LOOKS  
IMPRESSIVE..."  
(SHE SIGHED)**



## Joy Tech Jordan Grand Prix Steering Wheel

**Viv:** It was with great anticipation that I first laid my hands on Joy Tech's PSX wheel. Endorsed by Jordan Grand Prix I had visions of mimicking the Damon Hill of old... Boasting a F1 car style wheel, gear change and built in force feedback this piece of hardware certainly comes well-equipped. However, all this promise turned to dust when I eventually jumped in the driver's seat and found that steering was rather more difficult than first hoped. Adjusting sensitivity made little difference, the car either wouldn't turn at all or instead went into an uncontrollable swerving motion, ending up with an artistic spin. As frustration and rough handling increased, the force feedback vibrations became barely noticeable. Another problem common to most wheel controllers is that an aggressive turn when you're trying to beat a sharp corner usually results in your lifting the wheel in the air, - wheels are simply not heavy enough for serious driving. At the end of the day you've got to ask yourself whether its worth having such a bulky accessory - personally I don't believe any of them are worth the desk space.

**Ben's View:** My view of the Joytech wheel can be summed up in one word - disappointing. While the wheel gives a much better feeling of actually driving a car, what it doesn't give you is any sort of control over the game. I found myself constantly weaving from left to right and spinning off the track in every racing game I played. The whole point of a specialised driving wheel is that it makes it easier to drive, not harder. If I'd paid money for this thing I'd be back at the shop by now demanding a refund.



**Mark's View:** It's big, black and looks impressive (not that thing, the other thing). I'm talking about the Joytech steering wheel. It does look good and one would have thought would be the ideal answer to all those hard-to-control driving games (Grand Turismo anyone?). Surely a joypad shaped like a wheel is going to be the closest we come to the real thing. It is a good idea but sadly the wheel is just a tad too sensitive and turns hard games into impossible ones. A slight nudge of the wheel does nothing but an extra micron of pressure and you are doing 360's all over the shop. It takes a bit of perseverance to master. Once mastered it is good fun but I think it still needs some fine-tuning. Once this is done I'm sure it will be a sure-fire hit. It will give a higher playability and pleasure to all racing games. 2 out of 5 but with tuning an easy 4 out of 5.



## Carmageddon (PSX)

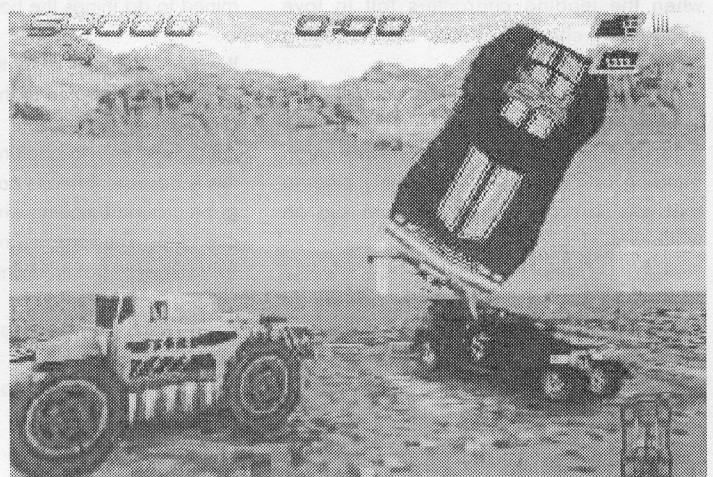
Partially banned for its violent nature, Carmageddon is a wild racing game. Set in the year 2028, a new sport has been born to control a catastrophic accident that transformed part of the human race into zombies (could happen).

There are several ways in which you can play this game. Firstly you can treat it as a standard racing game and complete the allotted amount of laps faster than anybody else. This, however, is dull and something you can do with any other driving game. Alternatively you can waste anything that moves. This involves mowing down the zombies in a gratuitous fashion or kicking the \*\*\*\* out of the other cars by ramming them to bits but preferably both. It's the way that you can perform these actions that make it all worthwhile though. For instance, ramping off a 100-storey building while performing a triple somersault to land on a police car scores highly, as does a handbrake turn at 100 mph into a group of zombies. That earns you a "combo bonus". Squash

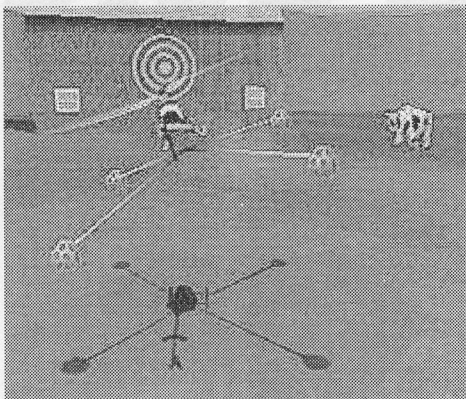
the dead men walking into a wall for a "piledriver bonus" and you might even earn applause for "artistic impression". There are also lots of wacky power-ups that aid you in the quest of caning your opponents, such as the hot rod and opponent freeze, but there are others that can somewhat hinder your progress, such as jelly suspension and lunar gravity. You must not forget that during your zealous carnage your own car will be getting pummelled so you must collect credits so you can repair your car in order for you to continue the rampage.

I loved this game because it was original and the gameplay is highly addictive. There isn't any arsing around with careful driving; you're not trying to win the grand prix or anything. It is pure pleasure, just like being in a crockery shop and being able to go completely ape and being rewarded for your trouble in doing so. Fantastic.

Mark







## R/C Stunt Copter (PSX)

An airborne radio-controlled vehicle is often the dream present for many kids. Unfortunately however it's usually only the pretentious little rich kids that ever get hold of one. R/C Stunt Copter from Interplay allows everyone to sample the flavour of flying a r/c helicopter, without the fear of having to fork out hundreds if you crash the damn thing...

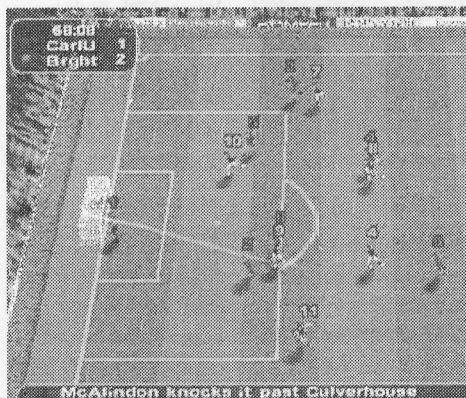
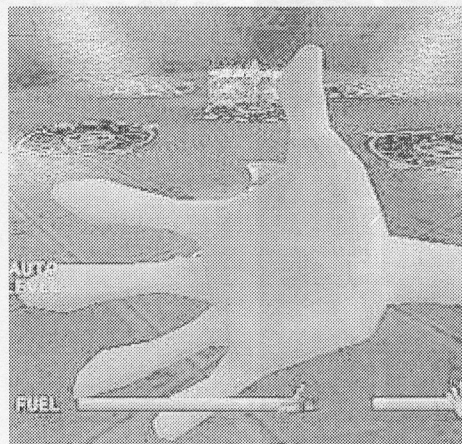
Stunt Copter was designed to work with the Playstation Dual Shock controller, enabling the

player to use one analogue stick for directional rotation and the other for thrust. If you don't have this controller the left and right control pads on the original joystick will suffice. Initially movement is extremely tricky and you'll find yourself constantly having to juggle your concentration between altitude, thrust and angle as you edge onward and upward. This can be very frustrating, especially considering the fact that it's plain obvious what you have to do, it's just difficult to execute the action. For once then the training levels are absolutely necessary and anyone who goes diving in at the deep end will get a sordid confidence bashing. Supposedly you should be able to enjoy the game more after training, having gained competency in integrating all aspects of flying without too much thought. A fine theory, but you need to be patient enough to reach that stage, and I for one certainly wasn't. Whether it be slalom courses or balloon shooting, the missions themselves are highly disappointing and rarely last longer than a couple of minutes. Even the 2-player mode is fairly poor, with each player taking their turn to complete the level objectives, rather than flying simultaneously. The most fun to be had actually comes when you're watching your opponent, as you can drive them mad by sticking a whopping great hand in front of their view (witness screenshot).

# react

The yankee commentator will also provide some light relief - that is until he gets annoying. Generally speaking the sound and graphics are quite good for this sort of game and the control is well designed, but these factors do not make up for the repetitious, difficult and boring gameplay. Stunt Copter isn't bad, it just doesn't present enough to keep all but a small group of fanatics interested for long.

Viv



## LMA manager (PSX)

Consoles are not renowned for complex, management type games, but Codemasters' LMA manager is a serious non-conformer when it comes to such stereotyping. At last there is a football management game for a console which can match the very best available for the PC - and that's without a keyboard and mouse.

As with most footy sims, the player can be assured of up-to-date stats (the current 1999-2000 season complete with its real-life fixture list is your starting point) and total control of their club - if they want it. For the less patient gamer tasks such as player training and sponsorship deals can be

assigned to assistant managers without detracting too much fun from the game. Watching your team in action is highly entertaining and recreates some of the tension you get from watching your favourite club on TV. Of course, if the game's not going so well you can alter team tactics or bring in fresh blood at any time during the match. After-match analysis and 3D highlights are similarly excellent with commentary from Ray Stubbs and the woefully good Alan Hansen.

Upgrading your stadium is a fantastic way to waste money, especially on a club like Brighton where the attendance rarely rises above the 5,000 mark. Coaxing quality players to your club is a feat to behold in the lower divisions, but this is where you should start as its far more satisfying taking a lowly Division 3 side all the way to the top, rather than starting out with a ready-made premiership member. The youth squad provides an excellent pool of potential young stars, and if you are particularly scheming then you'll promote them all to the first team and flog 'em off the next season. If the 50 year career mode does not appeal then there are a number of challenges to be tried out, and you'll be able to compare your final score with others over the Internet. Take on a flatmate in 2-player mode and prepare for some serious competition in the league. (Just for the record I landed 13th position for Brighton in the 1st season while my room-mate attained rele-

gation for Torquay... hahaha!)

LMA manager has been so magnificently engineered around the Playstation that the myriad of options available can be accessed and changed with minimum fuss, using a simple L/R button menu system. All managerial screens are clearly presented with easy to read text, and excellent mini-animations too. Deservedly so, LMA manager nestled in at the top of Playstation sales charts everywhere. Nuff said.

Viv





**FELIX** **S** **E** **V** **E** **N**  
**Monday** **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday**

**EVENTS**

**Standing Room Only**  
 Liverpool v Bradford, live from Anfield. If Liverpool want to be anything less than a laughing stock this season, they'd better win. With or without little St Michael. 8pm da Vinci's

**STA Quiz Night**  
 Win £50 cash or a crate of lager. 8pm, da Vinci's

**XS**  
 Classic party tunes for the post-match party, plus cocktail bar and chill out room. 9-1am, dBs

**Cocktail Night**  
 Relax and cool down with the cheapest cocktails in town. 5-11pm, da Vinci's

**Utopia**  
 It's Friday nights, it's cheesy, it's predictable, but it's damn good fun. 9-2am, dBs

**Standing Room Only**  
 Chelsea v Hertha Berlin, 7pm da Vinci's

**CLUBS**

**HamSoc**  
 5 - 6:30pm  
 Union Bar  
 Contact Simon Kahn (simon.kahn@ic.ac.uk) for more information

**Archery**  
 6-10pm, Projectile Jall (Sports Centre)

**Fencing Club**  
 Union Gym, 12pm

**Wine Tasting**  
 6pm, dB's

**Canoe Club**  
 Practice session, 7pm

**CAG**  
 Soup run, 8.30pm

**Shooting**  
 1 - 10pm, Projectile Hall (Sports Centre)

**Pugwash**  
 Talk from Dr John Hassard, 1pm, UDH

**C&GU**  
 O&MC, 6pm, C&G Office

**CAG**  
 Soup run, 8.30pm  
 Week's Basement

**Music**

**Stereolab @ Heaven; £10**  
 Groove along to the ever-reliable ambient posters.

**Remy Zero @ Embassy Rooms; £7**  
 Radiohead-approved emotional rock from the other side of the pond.

**Super Furry Animals @ Brixton Academy; £12.50**  
 The frazzled Welsh pop-mongers return with their twisty tunes.

**Longpigs @ Heaven; £9**  
 After shedding their Britpop shackles, this lot are showcasing their new album.

**Warp 10th Birthday @ Z Rooms; £10**  
 Warp Records continue their celebrations, with Autechre and Squarepusher.

**Film**

**Pushing Tin**  
 New romantic comedy with John Cusak. Virgin Fulham Road 3.50, 6.20, 9.00  
 Odeon Kensington 2.50, 5.40, 8.30)

**Bowfinger**  
 So-so comedy with Martin & Murphy. UCI Whiteleys 4.40, 6.40, 9.30  
 Virgin Chelsea 3.30, 6.15, 8.45

**Tarzan**  
 Off-the-scale offering from the Mouse House. Odeon Leicester Sq 3.50, 6.20, 8.40  
 Virgin Chelsea 2.30, 4.30, 6.30

**Blair Witch Project**  
 It's really rather scary apparently... ABC Tottenham Ct Rd 5.25, 7.40, 9.55  
 Odeon Kensington 4.55, 7.05, 9.15)

**Deep Blue Sea**  
 Really rather silly big killer shark flick. Virgin Fulham Road 3.50, 6.15, 8.45  
 Odeon Kensington 3.15, 5.50, 8.40

**TV**

**Hollywood Greats**  
 10.40pm, BBC1  
 The series begins by profiling one of western cinema's all time greats - Cary Grant.

**Great Expectations**  
 8.00pm, Sky Premier  
 Gwyneth Paltrow getting her kit off is definitely the highlight of this messy adaptation.

**The Big Match**  
 7.30pm, ITV  
 It's crunch time for Chelsea - win and they're through, lose and say goodbye.

**11 O'Clock Show**  
 11.05pm, C4  
 Can the satirical news show live up to its own hype machine? To be honest, I think not.

**Have I Got News...**  
 9.00pm, BBC2  
 This year, Merton & Hislop are back in quality "take-no-prisoners" mode. Class.

**Arts**

**1999 BG Photographer of the Year.**  
 Wildlife images just down the Road at the Natural History Museum.

**Moscow State Circus**  
 Traditional Circus in State of the art Big Top. Fulham Broadway £6 - £24

**Daily Mail Ski and Snowboard show.**  
 For all lovers of any extream sports. Olympia £5 for students

**Audacity**  
 Amusing Fringe production on the "sludge of mediocrity." Barons Court £5 Conc.

**The Jew of Matilda**  
 Dark comedy. Now extended to 13 Nov. Almeida (Angel) Pay what you can Friday

**D** **A** **Y**  
**Saturday** **Sunday** **Next Week**

**World Cup Rugby**  
 The Final, live from the Millennium stadium in Cardiff. My money's on New Zealand beating Australia, but whoever's playing it should be a damn entertaining match. Go Lomu go.

**Kung Fu Club**  
 (Wu Shu Kwan)  
 Southside Gym  
 4:30pm - 6:30pm

**Chess Club**  
 The British Blitz Chess Championship, SCR, 10.30am - 7.30pm.  
 Contact: Barry Gale: b.j.gale@ic.ac.uk

**Kung Fu Club**  
 (Wu Shu Kwan)  
 Union Gym  
 4:30pm - 6:30pm

**Red Hot Chili Peppers @ Wembley; £18.50**  
 Expensive, but the Chili's will make even this venue seem intimate.

**Death In Vegas @ Shepherd's Bush Empire; £10**  
 Cool sounds you can hear for free if you win our comp on p.17.

**Duke Ellington's Sound of Love @ QE Hall; £12.50**  
 12th November  
 What more do you need?

**East is East**  
 How could you possibly resist anything billed as "A comedy of families, a chip shop, and a very randy dog". Check local press for times.

**Vampires**  
 Grim offering from John Carpenter. Warner West End 4.20, 6.50, 9.40  
 Virgin Trocadero 3.40, 6.10, 8.40

**LFF**  
 The London Film Festival gets into gear, with a multitude of screenings every day at the National Film Theatre and the Odeon West End.

**Rugby World Cup**  
 2.00pm, ITV  
 The final, live from Cardiff, should see New Zealand thrashing the Aussies.

**Bremner, Bird and Fortune**  
 C4, 9pm  
 Watch the satirist's rip the piss out of Tony's People. Nice

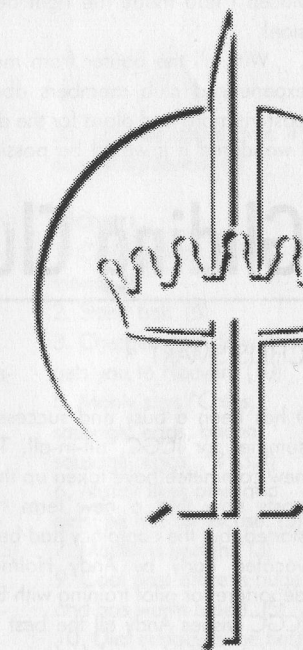
With eight weeks to go until the millennium, it's time to unveil the new schedules and break out the cash. Cool.

**Intimate House**  
 Live art. Actors create an intimate, erotic space with thier audience. Oh errrr... South London Gallery £1.50 Conc.

**Romeo e Giulietta**  
 Fresh and original adaptation of the classic Love story. River Side Studios £16 Conc.

words / meaning  
 music / life  
 worship / God

make yourself @ home  
 with others who know Him



weekly celebration

Sundays 3pm & 6pm  
 Imperial Medical Campus (Charing Cross)  
 The Drew Theatre, Reynolds Building,  
 St. Dunstons Rd, Hammersmith, W6

midweek cell

Thursdays at 7:30pm  
 Civ Eng Room 141

ardent daily prayer

Tues - Fri, 8-9am in the Chaplaincy



# Mountaineering Society

BEN PICKERSGILL

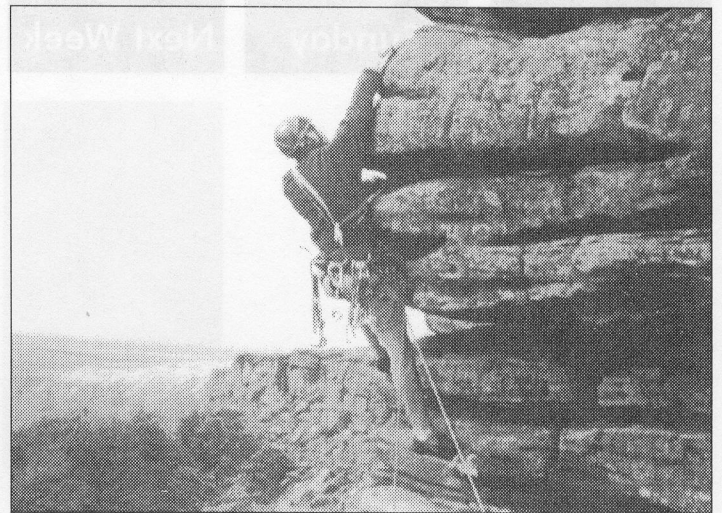
At first thought, it all seems rather mad: piling into a minibus on a cold Friday night, bombing up the M1 for a couple of hours and then wandering into a field, at midnight, with a torch as your only light source in which to pitch a tent! Okay, so it is mad, but why not? Oh, and the reason for this? To get two awesome days, climbing the gritstone crags of the Peak District. As a relative novice to the world of rock climbing, I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but just the thought of leaving London for the weekend was reason enough to go. Waking up on Saturday morning to the sound of whistling birds rather than rush-hour traffic, with the crag only a few minutes away, I was convinced I had made the right decision!

With all the banter from more experienced club members about past triumphs and plans for the day, I wondered if it would be possible

to climb anything without looking totally pathetic. The skill of these people, however, means that one is able to develop at their own pace in a relaxed and safe environment. We were very lucky as there was no rain all weekend, with the added bonus of sun on Sunday, making those first moves even more enjoyable!

Returning to London on Sunday night, I felt refreshed, albeit tired, and ready to take on those 9am lectures! It was certainly one of the best weekends I've had in two years of being at Imperial.

As well as these trips, which are run every other weekend, the club visits a London climbing wall every Wednesday. This is where I did my first climb, and although outdoor climbing is a different game to wall climbing, it is an excellent way of seeing what climbing is all about, without the commitment of a whole weekend away. Climbing walls also help you to improve your technique, whether you decide to go



outdoors or not. So, you feel like having a go? Then just turn up and come along. We meet at the college climbing wall (off the walkway, next to STA Travel) on Wednesdays at 1pm. All you need is yourself (well, and about ten quid!) By about 6pm we tend to leave the wall and head for a pub somewhere around college for an

evening of chatting and relaxation. So, my advice to anyone getting a bit fed up with daily college life: forget Southside, forget tutorial sheets. Pack your rucksack and jump in the minibus. Believe me, it's a blast!

Contact Megan  
megan.bradley@ic.ac.uk

# Gliding Club

CHRIS SMART

It has been a busy and successful summer for ICGC, all-in-all. The new committee have taken up their posts now that a new term has started, but the captaincy had been vacated early by Andy Holmes' departure for pilot training with BA. ICGC wishes Andy all the best for the future and good luck on his course.

On our own summer course (the first week of the vacation) a few hardy individuals braved the poor weather to get some solid training in late in June, and over the course summer of the summer a lot of general flying was done in our 2-seater, 496. It is good to see it in use out of term time. The culmination of this was 2 first-solos at the end of summer for Hemraj Nithianandarajah and Duncan Ashley. Well done guys, and keep it up!

We have sold our basic single seat glider, 296 to a Dutch club, and it is soon to be replaced with a

higher performance racing glider. This is part of an ongoing plan to keep the club's equipment up to date and competitive for those who are at competition standard.

On the competition front, Luke Rebeck took our ASW24, 96, out to the first World Junior Gliding Championships at Terlet, Holland. Captain Chris Smart also went out to crew for him. Highlights of the trip included getting stuck in a French traffic jam, glider in tow, with an inflatable plastic cow on the roof of the car. Not at all conspicuous then! Also we got the glider trailer flashed by a speed camera on the way home. Good job the trailer was there, or they might have been able to see the number plate and work out who I was! Luke finished 25th overall, a good result considering he was the youngest pilot there. He followed this up with a 2nd place in the British Juniors.

Contact Chris  
christopher.smart@ic.ac.uk

ICU Jazz and Rock presents....

## CALAMARI

"sensational alternative rock" - melody maker



<http://listen.to/calamari>

Debut EP "A little More" now available

Catch CALAMARI live at :

7/11/99 : The Monarch, Camden  
On stage @9.00pm  
Bar open until 1am  
£5/£4 with flyer

Flyers available from Union office



# IC Radio

- FREE BEER -
- TOP QUALITY DJs -
- CLASS SOUND SYSTEM -

IC Radio has just invested over £2000 in our cosy venue at the end of Southside Bar. You can now experience crisp treble, superb music and a thunderous bass (courtesy of two 18inch subwoofers), thanks to a brand new sound system.

To demonstrate just how good the system is, our top DJs will be playing a variety of music from the latest underground sounds, to trance, and everything in between. Also to celebrate the opening we will have a 90 pint keg of FREE Carlsberg on offer to all who come down. The all-star DJ line-up is as follows:

## The Back Room Launch Party



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 19:00-19:30 - Laurie (house)                      | 21:15-22:00 - Matt (hard house)                     |
| 19:30-20:15 - James Dynes (trance)                | 22:00-23:00 - Alick Sethi (underground electronica) |
| 20:15-21:15 - Tom G. & James [Back2Back] (trance) | 22:45-Close - DJ Lethal (drum & bass) + MC          |

**When:**

Thursday, 4th November  
19:00 - Bar Close.

**Where:**

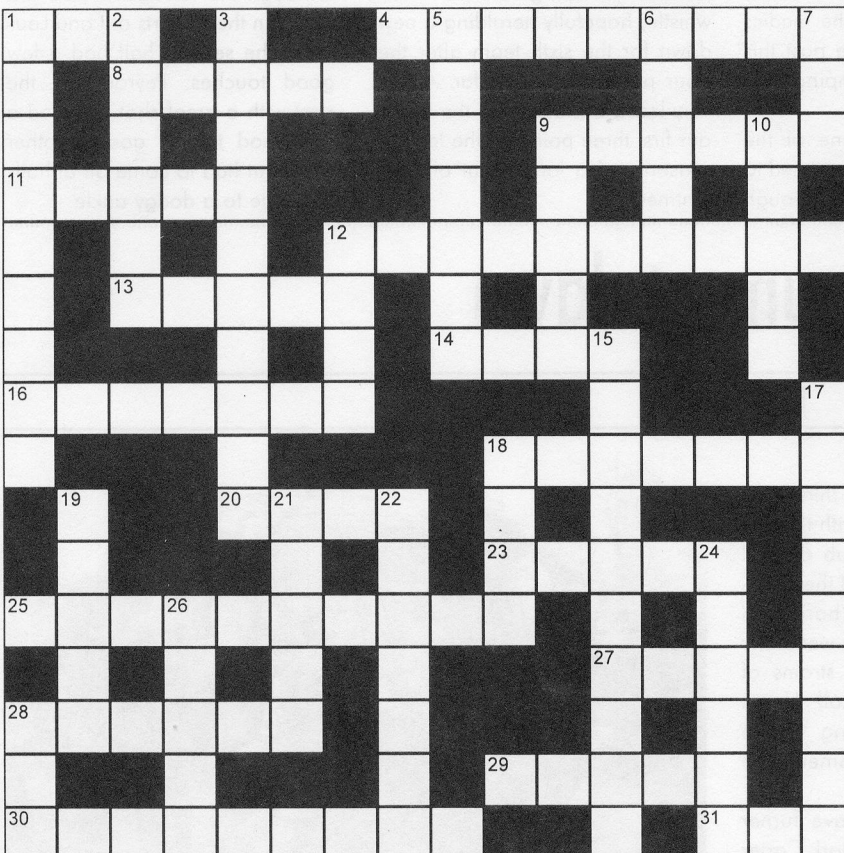
The Back Room - at the end of Southside (past the toilets, follow the music).

**How:**

If you like what you hear, we DJ in the Back Room EVERY Thursday and Friday night from 8 till late. We DJ all varieties of music from the Cheesiest 70s music all the way to the latest underground techno and drum & bass.

**Contact Dave Edwards**  
[i.cradio@ic.ac.uk](mailto:i.cradio@ic.ac.uk)

## The Felix Crossword, by Turnip Henry



**Across**

1. Glacial hollow has no vowels. (3)
4. Otis and co. like insects. (9)
8. Girl makes you slow down. (5)
9. Fire he used to make cow. (6)
11. Sherpa bloke has Picasso. (5)
12. Labium? Oh. Philip, Imperial College, has an affinity for fat. (10)
13. The Spanish Australian utility vehicle washes out. (5)
14. Go backwards after medical officer playing synthesizer. (4)
16. \* or block of stone. (7)
18. Pub profit is cheap. (7)
20. Negative pleasure for flood survivor. (4)
23. Real man keeps kingdom. (5)
25. December. In advert He-Man is multi-faceted. (10)
27. The whole orchestra likes ice-cream without fruit. (5)
28. Cooker fragment has magic ring. (6)
29. Cameron exclaims it contains divalence. (5)
30. Ministry of Defence hesitates at einsteinium: it restrains. (9)

31. Turn the barrel over: it can be tightened. (3)

**Down**

1. Coin-op man makes friend. (9)
2. Stone ball. (6)
3. Charged particle vodka gets you to Heaven. (10)
5. Monty says "Chips, sausage, eggs, bacon, sausage, eggs..."? (3,4)
6. Alistair likes boys and girls: he has an excuse. (5)
7. Master is upright. (3)
9. Cool post office is huge and has warm blood. (5)
10. Diet ecstasy is the best. (5)
12. Wet vegetable. (4)
15. Grunt! An aga is huge! (10)
17. Complicated integrals are the most twisted. (9)
18. Over heat river. (4)
19. Communist in company has a belief system. (5)
21. Oh! Trev does somersault openly. (5)
22. Lady's outfit sounds hairy. (7)
24. Dog mounts sheep. (6)
26. Electronic sheep wanders around at a walking pace. (5)
28. Onomatopoeic stench (3)

**Answer to 1154**

**Across:** Decimate, scopes, guacamole, attic, sahib, steps, stots, vial, ellipse, verdi, industrialisation, crypt, tantrum, ores, parks, cheap, thief, enate, macdonald, assisi, indecent.

**Down:** Orgasm, drake, class, moors, the seven acts of man, crabs, potpourri, chianti, cushions, pilau, mint, mince pie, daybreaks, refrain, sets, tough, spades, stews, socle, clove, exalt.

**PS.** Sorry about the name changes. This one should stay. But then, who knows? For that matter: who cares? luv Turnip.



# Bart's outplayed by skillful IC

## Football - amazingly long report for minor match

Imperial VI ..... 2  
SBLH III ..... 0

For this, our second league game of the season, the omens were bad: the kit briefly forgotten, walking through Hyde Park in the pouring rain, a severe player shortage, there were even problems locating our coach! In the end it was a pasticcio of newcomers, players looted from the sevenths (cheers, Jamil) and sixth team veterans who took the field against Barts. Even captain Mike Nikolich was unfit to play, instead taking the role of referee, thus restoring ex-captain Rob Davenport to skipper for the day.

His first decision - to kick into the wind during the opening 45 minutes - raised a few eyebrows but by the break he was fully vindicated, with Imperial coming in a goal to the good. This arrived after one of many IC breakaways during the first half, with Booth finally slotting the ball home from a narrow angle. Meanwhile, the medics contested that the ball had already run out of play. In fact,

with a couple of goals on the opening day and a hat-trick in a midweek friendly, James is already filling the void left by the departure of ULU League Golden Boot winner Tom Wilson to the fifths.

The medics themselves made little use of the windy conditions during the opening period, every unimaginative through ball being either dealt with with consummate ease by new centre-back pairing Den Braber and Head, or else skidding off the wet turf into the grateful arms of keeper Andy Pease, who didn't miss a thing all day.

With the second period hardly started, any thoughts of an SBLH onslaught were laid firmly to rest as midfield playmaker Dan Wilson followed up a string of attempts in the Barts area to fire home the loose ball: two-nil. Despite plenty of time to draw level, the medics were never in the game past this point, with Rob stamping out everything in midfield.

Towards the end one of the frustrated SBLH players resorted to some stamping of his own, though

of a different kind, and was duly warned of his conduct by the referee, who had a competent game all round. Even when Barts scrapped their five man midfield and reverted to 4-4-2 it was no use, with their attack proving just as impotent as before. Imperial looked dangerous on the counter throughout the half, with Luis Quaranta on the left-wing running the opposition a merry dance, whilst Dan Myatt and James did likewise upfront. Doug Hine supplied a string of quality crosses from the right and it is true to say that the victory would have been far more comprehensive had it not been for the heroics of the opposition no.1.

So, a great team performance buried the ghost of a few months ago. After a second half downpour, a rainbow greeted the final whistle, hopefully heralding a new dawn for the sixth team after the dour performances so far. At the very least, we take from the game our first three points of the league season and a large bout of contentment.

## Football 4ths

GKT IV ..... 0  
IC IV ..... 2

Another match day, another random team with odds and ends here and there - we should really have thrashed this team since they are a division below us, but yet another game of missed chances and dubious midfield play resulted in only two goals. The first came in the first half with Javier having a speculative shot at the awful GKT goalkeeper who let it creep past him into the net. The second came from a good move early in the first half with Bola playing it out wide to Nima who whipped a low cross into the box that was nicely slotted in by Knut for his second goal of the season.

We desperately missed Captain Aidan Banks up front with his killer instinct and great finishing, chance after chance went begging but nothing was coming although the forwards, Max and Javi, ran their hearts out and Laurie in the second half had a few good touches. Peyrouz hit the post with a great shot and had a few good trys at goal at other times but had to come off at half-time due to a dodgy ankle.

# Shotguns at dawn

## Rifle Shooting

At 9.00am the dregs of society gathered at the Sports centre, yes the RPC was going on a shotgun trip. By 10 the dregs moved to the minibus and a fairly uneventful journey to JJ's Shotgunarama Emporium ensued.

On arrival and after several cups of tea and suitable appreciation of the King Charles puppies we got on with the task of shooting. Each of the four groups performed well with little drama - shooting varied between excellent and enthusiastic. Guy performed well, winning the men's trophy with a solid 34, whilst Rachel took home the ladies trophy. And the wooden spoon was jointly shared between Jake and Adeline whose shooting could only be described as a great steaming pile of enthu-

siasm.

Once the shooting thing had been done we got on with the rest of the day, and the club divided between the drunks and the shoppers. Several hours/bargains/pints later we began to wend our merry way home. The strains of "Stayin' Alive" and Rolf Harris and the accompanying dance choreography entertained the traffic all the way.

We congratulate Dave Turner for snapping his gun, Mark Carter for once again getting his face in the way, and Ben, our driver, for his many kind toilet stops.

If you'd like to come along and try shotguns, shopping, rifles, archery or airguns come down to the Sports Centre in Princes Gardens and locate the Projectile



Join up for ICU's newest club - Military Coup Soc

Hall, where you'll find a friendly will show you how to join up.  
band of responsible people who The Rifle and Pistol Club.



# Surprise-disco boys win

## Hockey - Disco Squad

IC III ..... 4  
UCL ..... 0

Over many years of glorious hockey IC had never beaten UCL –until today that is. Under the inspired leadership of stand in Captain Casanova, The Disco Boys strolled out onto the field of dreams and gave the UCL Rabble a good whipping.

The mighty sun medallion was shinning from the off and a goal always looked inevitable. After some serious nocturnal activity at the weekend the Sundance Kid was surprisingly active and weaved some magic around the defence. While UCL stood mesmerised by Sundance's River-

dance style footwork, Haemorrhoids slipped a crafty one past the keeper.

Where one had led more would surely follow. Having polished our short corner in an intensive training session, Filtrum managed to scramble one in.

With Filtrum giving a good servicing to anyone who wanted it, Jesus slotted in a beauty from the top of the D. After inviting himself along Twat demonstrated all his skill by scoring from 2 inches.

The second half was admittedly crap with neither team scoring, but we're 29 goals up from 3 BUSA games. Nice!

# Seconds flatten Bart's

## Men's Rugby

IC II ..... 74  
St Bart's II ..... 0

Despite playing what was possibly our worst game in three years, we nonetheless destroyed another set of medics. With a side that consisted of only six of last week's starting line up we started with a fresh, if inexperienced line up. As the seconds start, it soon became clear that even the new seconds side could kick some arse even when they were playing well below par. The first try came soon after the whistle with a period of play that the all-blacks would have been proud of, being converted by Jim Sopper under the posts. More tries came eventually with the sec-

onds being about 35-0 up at half time.

After a royal roasting the seconds did not improve but still managing to put many tries down under the posts. In the end, the score did not really show the dominance of seconds with a scoreline 150-0 being much more representative. At the end, man of match Nick Parker ended with 3 tries and a total of 29 points. Tries also came from GI Tim Denyer with 3, freshers captain Tim Collins with 2 and a try each from Jim Sopper, Jeff Mace, Ugo, and Jan Stephenson.

However, we know when the hard teams start playing us in BUSA we will need to improve by 400%

Come on the seconds.

# IN BRIEF

## ICSM Hockey

ICSM I ..... 1  
RUMS I ..... 1

This fatiguing match ended both one goal apiece, and one dislocated shoulder apiece at Pad. Rec. The skill shown by both sides was of a surprising early season quality, but the finishing was at times woe-ful, culminating in a missed penalty flick by RUMS in the 65th minute.

ICSM scored first through a classic poacher's strike from Jez Boyle, after a short corner break-down, and then wasted a series of good opportunities to kill off the game. After the restart the RUMS' centre midfield began to take an ominous stranglehold on the mid-field, until fortuitously for ICSM he dislocated his shoulder, fouling in centrefield. Not to be outdone, Nick Keysell went and popped his shoulder out attempting a powerful clearance, and in the ensuing confusion Nick's opposite number scored with ICSM still in tactical disarray. A tense 15 minutes remained as both sides attempted to spurn as many chances as possible, and when the final whistle blew both teams left to lick their wounds and rebuke themselves for their own wastefulness in front of goal.

## Netball

IC I ..... 17  
St George's ..... 17

This was (yet again) a seriously close match.

Tight marking from St. George's defence (and some dubious eye shading under the pretence of marking) meant that the IC goal flow was reduced to a few outstanding shots from Rebekah and Sara in the first half. Paula "the roadrunner" did her thing, feeding the ball in and around the circle to set up the shooters, and a fired up Kirstie kept

the St George's WA well under control. At half time, the score was 9-9.

A few substitutions later and with Becky, the umpire, muttering "how does this pen work?" the second half got underway to a furious pace. Jess and Jane zoomed around the court, and the defensive combination of Alex (occasionally looking rather surprised when the ball bounced in front of her) and Kathryn in the IC circle, kept us in contention. Things were looking up with 13mins to go when the St. George's centre twisted her ankle

and the ice packs were broken open. As St George's had no substitutes, we took the opportunity to try and bury her under a pile of coats under the pretext of keeping her warm, thus reducing their team to 6 players. Unfortunately her team-mates did not forget about her, and her injury was not serious so she was able to play on. In the dying moments of the game, two quick-fire goals saw IC draw level and claim a well-deserved draw. Well played everyone! Next time we WIN!

## Men's Football (5ths)

Kings V ..... 3  
IC V ..... 4

After a poor performance in the league on Saturday, losing 2-0 to LSE VI, we needed a boost in this game against a team from the division above to kick start our league campaign. Once the opposition had managed to find their own ground, and sorted out which one of them was captain, the game got underway, with Kings looking like a bunch of thugs who might know how to play football.

We started badly, conceding

a goal early on, when their striker (the cockiest bastard ever known) collected the ball and sent a low shot into the corner. Kings looked like a team who expected to win 10-0 with ease. But IC V never lie down (except in the bar at the end of the night) and we came storming back with a great finish from Si "Mahatma" Gandy. We were now playing some great football, with even Will "GOD" (or is that "DOG") Dowbor getting into the game. The second goal came after their keeper fumbled a save, really pissing the cocky gits off.

But our football was sadly Kee-geen-esq and they managed to fluke a goal back to make it 2-2 at half time.

After the break, the second half started. This was handy, as it allowed our resident dinosaur to complete his hat trick with a neat back header into the top corner, and another fine finish after a great move down the left. Kings late consolation made it 4-3 at the end, but they knew they were well beaten, even asking the ref to call a halt early... Come on Kings, take it, take it!



# SPORT

## Football firsts double up QMW

### Men's Football

QMW I ..... 2  
 IC I ..... 3  
 (BUSA)

Wednesday saw the return of the firsts to Chislehurst, a place we are growing to love!

From the kick-off, no quarter was given in any area of the pitch. Mid-way through the first half a mesmerising run from mid-field by Steve was rewarded when he was brought down in the box: Penalty. Up stepped Foulstone who slotted the spot kick coolly into the bottom corner.

The second half saw QMW hit back when the IC defence was finally breached. Undeterred, IC dug in and earned a well-deserved second goal when a

corner from Warren was smashed into the net from the head of on-form Foulstone. QMW equalised again when a parried shot fell to the feet of their grateful striker who made no mistake. QMW wasted a few golden opportunities and they were made to pay when Dirty Warren found his scoring boots: Latching on to a header from Alex, Warren's exquisite lob left the QMW keeper stranded.

Impressive debut performances from Alistair and Dai, contributed to another well-polished display from the firsts.

QMW I ..... 0  
 IC I ..... 1  
 (ULU League)

On a windy Saturday IC faced a strong QMW squad.

We faced the wind in the first half and, as expected, were under the cosh. But, the three at the back of Chris, Jamie and particularly Dave kept out the threat.

In the second half it was a different story, we looked threatening every time we had the ball and, after Warren spurned a few chances, and Jamie had his penalty saved by the QMW keeper, we took the lead thanks to a Foulstone free-kick (crap keeper).

Scouse saved us near the death and the midfield of Steve, Juan, Dan, Phil and captain courageous Rich held out for a well-deserved victory.

## Opposition rolled over by IC virgins

### Ladies Rugby

IC Virgins ..... 20  
 King's ..... 5  
 (Wed 27th)

Although it was a hard game we triumphed and kicked King's Arse! The start was gruling but we kept it in their half and Romy broke through to score her first of 4 tries! It can not be denied that King's did get a try but they worked hard and it was their first and last, so after we scored our third try we forgave them. The scrums were nasty with us often loosing ground but Cadgy stole most of their scrums, and we made up ground in the rucks and mauls, plus some excellent sprints by the backs. This may be due to Jo with her war cry and viscous ways scaring off the King's players. It was a hard game, but the team pulled it together and we won!

IC Virgins ..... 34  
 GKT ..... 5  
 (Sat 23rd)

Having lost a large number of 1st choice players we went into the match with a little trepidation, as we beat GKT in a hard fought final last year.

None the less we fought the rain and a slippery ball, and had a promising start. An early try from Carianne set our spirits high and demoralised the already weary GKT. Romy converted to leave us feeling very confident.

From the re-start we were back into their 22. The pressure eventually told on them and excellent hands from the backs allowed Ali B to put all those pizzas to good use and power over for a 2nd try.

For the rest of the half, things tightened up and a hard fight followed. Finally the forwards sorted

the scrums out, and started rucking and mauling properly. After a long period of tight defence by GKT, and many scrums, Betsy broke through to score a try.

The second half started with even more pressure from GKT, but a well placed high kick from Romy, chased by Betsy, resulted in a run-away try.

Unfortunately, our line outs were never up to standard. They stole our ball and crashed through, putting the backs onto the wrong foot, and they scored. However, a quick start from Romy was chased down and quick handling allowed Carriane to score again.

The pressure mounted still further, but with clever work from the forwards, Ali B managed to score under the posts, taking advantage of the overlap. Romy converted.

### SCOREBOARD

HOCKEY  
 ICSM I 1 - 1 RUMS I  
 IC III 4 - 0 UCL

FOOTBALL  
 IC I 3 - 2 QMW I  
 IC IV 2 - 0 GKT  
 IC V 4 - 3 Kings 3  
 IC VI 2 - 0 SBLH III

RUGBY  
 IC I 43 - 0 SBLH I  
 IC II 74 - 0 SBLH II  
 IC Virgins 20 - 5 Kings

BADMINTON  
 IC I 6 - 3 QMW  
 IC Women 0 - 9 Kings

BASKETBALL  
 IC Men 50 - 71 GKT  
 IC Women 54 - 24 GKT

NETBALL  
 IC I 14 - 14 St Georges

SQUASH  
 IC II 2 - 3 KCL

Sports reports.

Wednesday evening.

Anytime.

And now some entertaining white space:

I think that deserves an encore

Nice.