

Sp

FELIX



Imperial College Union
- value for money?
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Woody Allen is this week's
extremely cool classic
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Registry refuse to block bailiff threat

ANDREW OFORI

Registry bureaucracy almost had the bailiffs knocking at student's doors last week when the local Council forced students to defend themselves against erroneous tax claims.

The chaos started when Westminster Council lost some students' paperwork and demanded they pay council tax. All full-time students are exempt from the tax and only need to provide their local Council with a certificate from their Registry Office. Even though the three students who shared the accommodation had done this, the Council plagued them with monthly calls last year demanding they pay. On each occasion the individuals would explain that the neces-

sary forms had been sent. Their details would then be checked and apologies made.

As the students were not there to defend themselves over the summer, the Council became convinced they had tax dodgers on their hands and the bemused trio were summoned to court. One of them explained "We were really stunned." They reacted quickly, contacting Westminster Council and once again insisting that their details had been sent and they were told the necessary information had indeed been received and the case would be dropped.

The students were overwhelmed when they received a letter on 14 November informing them the court case had gone ahead, they had been

tried *in absentia* and the magistrate had ordered bailiffs to arrive in two weeks. The letter was dated 11 November leaving them only eleven days to save their possessions. The Council was now insisting on a new exemption certificate and the students rushed to the Registry office in hope of a saviour.

They were told they would have to wait a week and were frantic when, having explained the desperation of the situation, the reply did not change.. They brought their case to ICU President Tasha Newton, who felt the Registry's response was "totally unacceptable" and took the matter to the Deputy Academic Registrar. It was agreed the students could collect their forms that day, but on arrival they

were told they would have to wait another two days. Only after a return trip to Ms. Newton did they receive the papers.

The certificates have now been sent to the Council, who have promised to confirm that bailiffs will not be sent, and that the students' credit ratings will remain intact. Ms. Newton was dismayed by the Registry office's lack of compassion: "Their job is to help people, if they can't do their job because they can't cope then they are simply not doing their job."

One student who is looking into taking legal action against Westminster Council for harassment stated "Registry are more interested in their own standard procedure and bureaucracy than our needs."

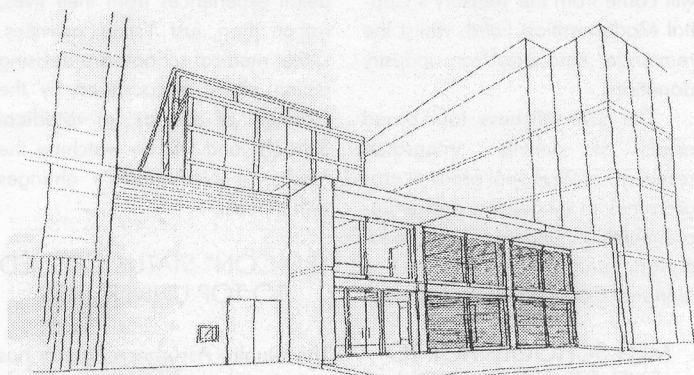
Mammoth genetics research lab unites departments

JIM GEACH & SUNIL RAO

Despite rumours to the contrary, it appears that construction of the new Multi-Disciplinary Research Building (MDRB) is well underway and, weather permitting, construction ought to be complete on schedule.

The new nine-storeyed building, located behind the Biochemistry building, is to house and encourage scientific research projects that are of a multidisciplinary nature, to try and encourage better communication between departments.

Richard Toy, Major Projects Manager in College's Estates Divi-



Artist's impression of the new project

sion, explained that construction has been put back a week due to problems with digging foundations.

Daniel Foreman of the Heery Project Management Company, who is co-ordinating the work, explained

that the Imperial site is very old, and consequently the process has been hampered by underlying debris left over from previous structures.

The building is apparently still on budget, though, and construction work is expected to finish by January or February, with the building opening for use by November 2000. A few mock-ups of the project were constructed before being rejected, but again, that is normal for projects this size.

Richard Toy and his team are confident that "the quality of the MDRB will surpass that of the award-winning Sir Alexander Fleming building."

4 The Big Issue

Exactly what does the Union do with the massive amount of money entrusted to it by the College?

6 Science

We launch a new dedicated Science section with a look at the nature of scientific study.

7 Business

Another new section, this time catering for the consultant or accountant inside you...

8 Union

The usual suspects line-up, with State of the Union, Welfare Update and the Mines Union.

10 Feedback

Two columnists, numerous letter writers and one terminally frustrated editor rant and rave in their own special way.

15 Reviews

Prince, I-War, Ed TV, Four Knights in Knaresborough, Carrie 2, Abomination...the list is endless.

28 Diary

One week. Seven days. 168 hours. Forty-eight little boxes. Cool.

30 Crossword

A real tester - can you force your mind into this twisted world?

32 Clubs & Societies

The Mountaineers and Outdoor Club have great ideas for escape.

34 Sport

Time to catch-up on IC's lower profile sports, with volleyball, netball, squash and basketball all chipping in this week.

The name's James. James@0-0-7.co.uk

ANDREW OFORI

Many will remember last year's Union President as Dave Hellard, but you would in fact be referring to james@0-0-7.co.uk.

The former ICU President, currently in his final year of Joint Maths and Computing, has formed an odd alliance with the e-mail service Funmail. His love of James Bond and his appreciation of the free web-based email service has led him to change his name by deed poll to james@0-0-7.co.uk. The move is attracting interest from national press and a photo shoot for one national paper is already being arranged. The rising star commented, "Having been President of Imperial

College there is only one thing left to do - become the coolest man in the world!"

Funmail allows users to have up to 20 personalised e-mail addresses using domain names, for example there was a popular response to their last Engalnd - Scotland releases where addresses such as name@lionheart.co.uk and name@braveheart.co.uk were available. They intend to use Mr 0-0-7.co.uk as publicity vehicle and are taking care of all his costs as well as providing him with some allowance. To coincide with the release of the new Bond film *The World Is Not Enough* on Friday, Funmail is releasing over 50 new Bond domain names including name@shaken-not-stirred.

co.uk, and they are hoping the former President will create something of a media frenzy.

Graham Goodkind of Funmail described how the company allowed users to choose a number of addresses from over 5000 domain names and link them all to one inbox suggesting "As we go forward into the future I think it's going to catch on". He felt the service, which is "particularly popular amongst students", mixed a unique stylish humour with sound technological service "The underlying system is the most robust on the market."

New releases currently being planned include those for Hanukkah, Christmas and the Millennium.

In Brief

CAMBRIDGE INITIATE NEW LINK-UP WITH MIT

A partnership agreement between Cambridge University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has been hailed by the government as a "path-breaking innovation" which will form the basis for the future of global higher education.

Details of the final project are still sketchy, as the deal has so far only received approval from both sides in terms of broad principles, but it is already known that the "CMI" will have funding of at least £84 million. Of this, £68 million will come from the Treasury's Capital Modernisation Fund, whilst the remainder emanates from industry donations.

The CMI will have four broad areas of activity: integrated research; professional practice programmes in innovation and entrepreneurship; undergraduate education; and the creation of a National Competitiveness Network.

MED SCHOOLS ACT TO END DISCRIMINATION

Medical schools across the country are acting to counter recent research which suggests that there is an unwitting bias towards women

and whites. According to the research, conducted by Nottingham's Professor David James, most of the discrimination occurs at the application stage, and consequently it's applications procedures that are under review. Although qualifications are not an issue, Prof James believes that asking people to list activities that demonstrate their good qualities (empathising, time management, teamworking, prioritising, caring etc) is the problem, as women and whites tend to get involved in more extracurricular activities.

As a result, this year Nottingham has asked its applicants to detail experiences from their lives, rather than just listing activities. Other medical schools are devising action plans, encouraged by the Council of Heads of Medical Schools, and will be watching the results of Nottingham's changes with interest.

"BEACON" STATUS OFFERED TO TOP UNIVERSITIES

The Quality Assurance Agency has redrafted it's plans for assessing universities once again. Vice Chancellors have been given just over three weeks to respond to a proposed framework that will band universities into three categories,

"excellent", "approved" and "not approved" according to the quality of their teaching. Under the government's preferred system of "name and shame", universities which receive excellence awards will be conferred "beacon" status. The paper goes on to suggest that continued excellence "could properly be regarded as a beacon that others should emulate". These plans are designed to provide a compromise between Vice Chancellors and the Government, but mixed feedback to the proposals suggests that it could be some time yet before a new quality control and audit system is finally agreed.

MASSIVE NEW FUNDING FOR BIOTECH CENTRES

The government is set to announce a programme to pump millions of pounds into biotechnology research. The funds will be available to help key institutions coordinate the growth of high-tech "clusters", as recommended in a report commissioned by science minister Lord Sainsbury. University spin-off companies could also be big winners, with hefty government backing on offer. Prime targets for initial funding would appear to be Oxford, Manchester, Surrey, Cambridge, Dundee and Cardiff.

Liberal Willis impressed by IC's apolitical stance

SUNIL RAO

Tuesday 16 November saw a visit to ICU by Phil Willis, Liberal Democrat MP for Harrogate and Knaresborough, in his capacity as the party spokesperson on Education and Employment in Parliament.

Mr Willis, who has been a professional footballer (for Burnley FC), football coach, youth worker, Council Leader and Headteacher for one of Leeds' largest comprehensive schools, before defeating Norman Lamont at the last General Election, came down for a chat with a number of members of ICU Council about how students at Imperial feel about various political issues.

Mr Willis expressed his concern that Imperial College, despite being so large, appeared to have taken little part in the various student demonstrations protesting against the introduction of tuition fees. It was put to him that ICU is

not a part of the NUS, that IC has a large proportion of overseas students and that many of the home students come from affluent backgrounds. He was interested to note how apolitical the Union is, with no particularly vociferous student political organizations under the banner of ICU. He did not seem unduly surprised to find that, unlike many student unions, ICU does not have a LibDem society under its wings.

Mr Willis was accompanied by Robert Browne, the Liberal Democrat candidate in Thursday's by-election for the Kensington and Chelsea seat, and was met by Natasha Newton (ICU President), Tim Trailor (Deputy President - Clubs & Societies), Kevin Butcher (Deputy President - Education & Welfare), David Hellard aka james@0-0-7.co.uk (ex-ICU President), Rob Haslehurst (Academic Affairs Officer - City & Guilds College Union).



Willis (2nd from right) with Sabbaticals

Photo: Gareth Morgan

Coincidentally, Michael Portillo, Tory candidate for the Kensington & Chelsea by-election, was seen campaigning around South

Kensington the same morning. Mr Portillo spoke at College last Friday, and Felix hopes to bring a report next week.

Careers Fair Flourishes

GARETH MORGAN

Last Wednesday's ICU Careers Fair was a great success, attracting almost fifty of the world's top graduate employers and around two thousand students. There was a wide range of companies, as well as the College Careers Service present.

From high-flying City jobs with the likes of Chase Manhattan Bank (winner of the 'highest quoted start-

ing salary' award at £28,000) and Deloitte Consulting, to more technical careers with Logica or Arup, there was plenty to choose from.

The only real problem with the event had been the marquee erected in the middle of Beit Quad. Combined with the building works, this had made access to the Union a problem. As Felix went to press, however, there had been no reports of Wednesday night revellers injuring themselves on the glass doors.



The Beit marquee full of prospects

Photo: Stephen Hughes

Darwin Development

SUNIL RAO

Everybody knows about the Natural History Museum - rocks, fossils, dinosaur skeletons, earthquake exhibits. A big, impressive-looking building on Cromwell Road that IC students can get into for free, though very few ever do so in the years they spend here, and a great tourist attraction.

With any museum, there's always lots of activity behind the scenes - not all related to the acquisition and maintenance of objects meant for display or to be kept in the collection - and the Natural History Museum is no exception. It should come as no surprise therefore to find that the Museum takes part in a fair amount of scientific research, mostly in the field of biodiversity. This research is to be brought to the fore, as plans for a "new science initiative" are unveiled.

The Darwin Centre, due to open to the public in the summer of 2002, will allow members of the general public unprecedented

access to its research collections, mostly relating to the fields of entomology and botany. The Museum currently employs three hundred scientists, and the new project will finally bring their work into the limelight. Plans are afoot to hold talks and demonstrations from members of the scientific staff, and for live video links into the research labs so that members of the public can actually see and hear for themselves the work being carried out.

The £100 million centre will also offer public access to the collections database the Museum maintains, which includes identification guides relating to the natural world and conservation.

Work is currently being carried out on the topics such as acid rain, parasitic wasps and on the study of diseases ranging from bilharzia (schistosomiasis) to onchocerciasis (river blindness). The Museum currently has partnerships in over sixty countries, in addition to the work it carries out here in Britain.

ICU



DAVID ROBERTS

Imperial College Union – what is it? It's that big brick building surrounded by builders, where the bar is, right? Yep, that's the one surely – couple of bars, some really cheesy music, lots of drunk footballers, occasional party, that kind of thing... Sound like your view of the Union? Probably – if it isn't then you've either been sucked into the murky world of Union politics or you're one of the few first year's who actually bothered to trek all the way through (and take in) this year's Union Handbook.

So, am I going to wheel out the standard Union advert once again? Well, actually, no. Rather than my usual stream of praise and PR, it's probably about time that we looked beneath the surface – after all, the College entrusts the residents of the Quad with £750 000 on your behalf every year, so what are they doing with it all? In simplistic terms, that amounts to £75 per student head – and that's before you take into account other income streams including an annual trading surplus in excess of £150 000. So, do you think that you're getting your 75 quids worth? Check out the opposite page for a thorough breakdown of where your money's going, and make up your own mind.

First of all, however, I'm going to look at a few of the other accusations which are frequently levelled at ICU...

[democracy vs bureaucracy]

The first impression that most newcomers to the Union (newly elected club officers and the like) get is that it's hopelessly embroiled in a level of bureaucracy and faux-democracy that would make the world of Dilbert look streamlined. Apart from really bad PR, is this view of endless committee meetings (which seem to talk around issues for hours, whilst leaving all the real decisions to be made behind the scenes) true? Well, there's certainly no end of committees attached in some way shape or form to the running of the Union, all with their own impenetrable set of acronyms, customs and rules – however, this is true of student movements as a whole. It'd be very dangerous to let students with no previous experience and very little training loose with thousands of pounds of taxpayers money or the safety of several hundred students – that's why most student unions make a big play of electing three million undergrads to important sounding positions and then let the permanent staff get on with actually running the place. In this respect, ICU is no different – they're just less proficient at hiding the particularly boring committees under the carpet (if I actually stopped to tell you what the likes of House Committee or Student Development Committee actually did, you'd be asleep before you reached the end of the

sentence). The big difference here is that, as we're a bunch of Imperial College students, we're much bigger sticklers for rules and regulations. If the letter of the law (or, from time to time, the letter of a fifteen year old book of regulations) says that you can't do something then, goddamit, we're going to go to great pains to make sure that no-one does it. Consequently, it can be painfully difficult to get certain things done, as no-one wants to tell you how to bend the rules to get around the relevant stumbling block... Oddly, it's the same problem that pervades much of the Sheffield Admin Monster (except that the Union staff, sabbaticals and staff do at least tend to smile and act in a friendly manner whilst telling you that the answer is a resounding "no"). On the other hand, however, a solid obedience to a fairly rigid set of guidelines does mean that, provided everything you want to do lies within those lines, getting things done can be a walk in the park, requiring two minutes of your time (and half a dozen signatures) – just try setting up your own club and you'll (hopefully) discover that it's not actually very difficult to get your hands on Union money.

So, questions of bureaucratic problems aside, is the Union truly democratic? Well, point one, turnout is low. Very low. Last year less than 10% of the College actually bothered to vote in the sabbatical elections, whilst some Constituent College Union and Dep Rep elections saw your representatives elected by a literal handful of people – a situation that certainly couldn't be described as democracy in action. But who's to blame? The oft quoted explanation for the ridiculously low turnout (which, in actual fact, is comparable in percentage terms with many other unions across the country) is that no-one's going to bother voting if everything seems to be going well. Maybe. More to the point, the seemingly inescapable adherence to an apolitical stance ensures that elections are never decided on policy, personal politics or affiliations. In all honesty, turnout will remain low until there genuinely looks like there's a difference between the candidates. Last year we saw fourteen candidates stand for sabbatical positions (myself included) and, apart from a couple of more "extreme" choices, there was practically nothing to choose between them apart from personality, gender, department and hair colour. And if that's the case, why bother voting at all? Until we get a decent Jeffrey Archer v Ken Livingstone battle, turnout is going to continue to crawl along the floor.

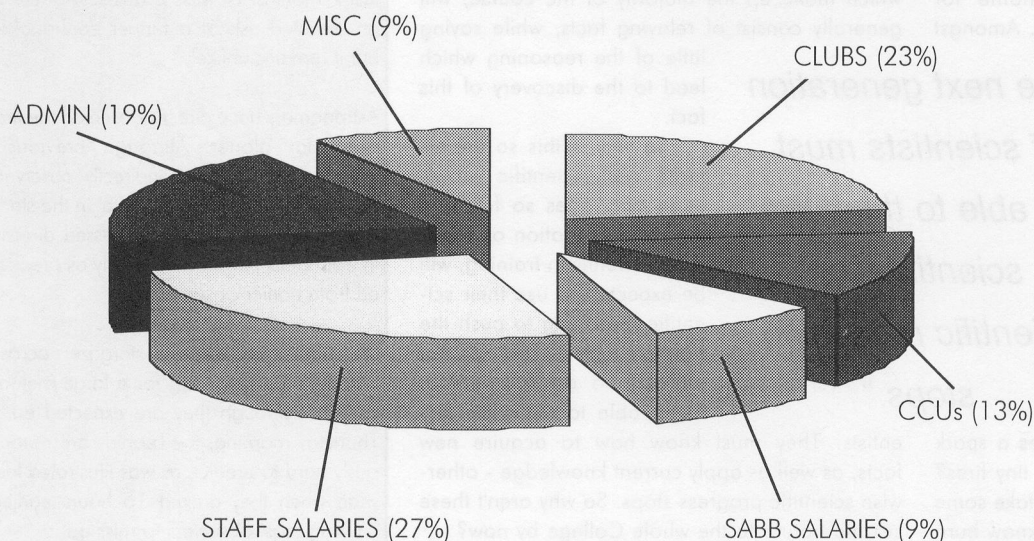
On the other side of the coin, however, once a group of officers have been elected they do tend to run things in a (more or less) democratic fashion. Whilst some may attempt to steamroller those around them in an attempt to further their CV or personal agenda, the forced adherence to that complex committee structure means that getting anything controversial done is damn hard. No-one is



really the boss (the Union President can't actually order the other sabbaticals about) and the permanent staff are strictly limited to non-policy making, Civil Service - esque roles (assuming that the Civil Service ran cheesy club nights and sold curry-like substances). most importantly, however, it's democratic because you can get involved any time you want to - just turn up to Union Council or Exec and make yourself heard.

[finance]

This year, the Union's income will total something in the region of £930 000 (not including profits from the bars, shop and catering, which are accounted for in a separate "Strategic Reserve" which funds major capital projects like the Beit basement refurb). This year, this not insignificant pile of cash will be spent approximately as follows:



Clear now? No, I thought not. Some more explanation probably wouldn't go amiss. Right, so what do the categories above mean and where does that money go?

[clubs]

Clubs are funded through seven different groupings : sports, media, culture, overseas, social, recreational and Silwood Park. Of these, sports is far and away the biggest winner, picking up something in the region of £80 000 in Union grant, principally to subsidise travel to matches, affiliation fees and kit. However, the biggest individual winner is Felix itself, which picks up £20 000 in subsidy, plus a sabbatical editor (ie around £33 500 in total). Nice.

[ccus]

The lions share of the £120 000 or so that heads in the direction of the CCUs goes to ICSM Union (something like £80 000 this year) to fund club and society activity (which isn't included in the section above). There's also a few thousand pounds for CCU publications (ahem), mascotry and Exec expenses - note that no-one gets any money to subsidise social events, so all dinners, balls, shows and discos must break even.

[sabbatical salaries]

This year we have six sabbaticals (four Union officers, the Felix Editor and the Med School President), all receiving a salary linked to the standard PhD grant, including a free hall room as part of the deal. Each one costs approximately £13 500, so I hope you think

you're getting your money's worth...

[staff salaries]

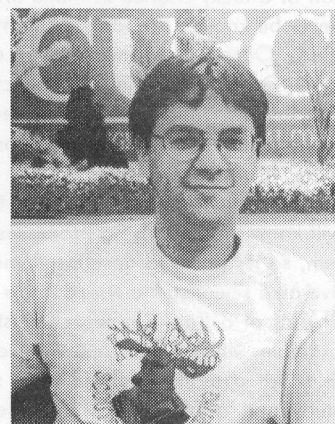
The Union wouldn't function without a backbone of continuity, based around some damn fine permanent staff. Although the staff who run and man the bars, catering and events are paid for out of trading revenue, the salaries of the remaining full-time and part-time (ie student) staff still makes up the largest portion of the funding cake, requiring nigh-on a quarter of a million pounds to keep the Union running.

[admin]

The least fun element of any organisation is administration, and as so much of what the Union does is voluntary, it probably looks like it occupies a worryingly large portion of the funds available. However, although much of this section is accounted for by the more mundane items (stationary, travel, depreciation and the like), I've also lumped things like elections, marketing and welfare provision into the "admin" bracket, so at least some of it is actually providing useful services.

[miscellaneous]

Erm...well it's the stuff left over, and to be honest I'm not quite sure what's accounted for by that innocent looking 9%. At a guess I suspect that maintaining the minibus fleet and providing for the women's minibus service are in there somewhere, along with similar fluffy stuff like the day nursery and student development. Very nice, I'm sure.



What is Science? What is logic?

Do we need them? *Science investigates*

This is Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, and all of you will have taken a science subject at some point, and maybe you're doing science right now. Or are you? Is there really a difference between studying science and carrying out science? Do we really know what science is? Over the next few months I'll be trying to find out more about the science that goes on in this place and what it is about science which makes it such a powerful form of human thought.

It's 1,500,000 BC, and what will one day become downtown Cairo is your home for tonight, a series of caves and shelters. Amongst your many natural enemies you can count cold, disease and the large animals which linger in the dark. But you know about flames. Sometimes lightning strikes or hot weather bring large fires and with them, heat and light. All the other animals fear it, and although you use it to your advantage, you are still dependent largely on when these fires come. But one day you notice that a sharp flint makes a spark almost like a tiny fire. Could these be tiny fires? Could they be used to make fires? You take some small twigs and dry leaves, things you know burn easily. You add a spark...

Of course, whether our ancestors used reason or a lucky chance to make fire will probably never be known. But look at the method you just used. Observation, hypothesis, design experiment, perform experiment, collect results, draw conclusions, learn something new. This is the fundamental scientific method, from which everything we study here comes.

It's been argued in the past that a scientist will know the underlying processes behind a system, so it's naïve to describe someone so primitive as a scientist. He would know nothing of the physics of a flame or the chemistry of iron, for example, while a true scientist would. However, think for a moment about what science is; the study and application of acquired knowledge, and the discovery of new knowledge through the scientific method. In short, scientific knowledge and scientific reasoning. So a scientist can be a person who thinks scientifically. So whilst our logically-minded caveman may not have a white coat yet, you could still consider him to be a scientist.

Unfortunately, while we may spend a great

deal of time here learning and applying scientific knowledge, it's easy to lose sight of scientific reasoning. Laboratory work will consist of an edited version of discovery - you will learn the important and correct techniques for working in a lab, but you will rarely have to come up with a hypothesis and go through the entire process for yourself. Worse still, in the first few years, entire experiments are set out in the script before you, with no requirement to follow a pattern of reasoning to reach your conclusion. Even lectures, which make up the majority of the course, will generally consist of relaying facts, while saying little of the reasoning which lead to the discovery of this fact.

So why is this so important? Well, scientific knowledge only goes so far, and the next generation of scientists, currently in training, will be expected to use their scientific reasoning to push the frontiers further. They will not be able to do this without being able to think like sci-

entists. They must know how to acquire new facts, as well as apply current knowledge - otherwise scientific progress stops. So why aren't these second nature to the whole College by now?

Probably the only answer is that there's not enough time. Imperial didn't get to where it is by turning out graduates who think by pure reason, but don't even know the basics of calculus. However, there's time in a three or four year course to teach something extra. Maybe our scientists would be able to communicate with a much larger section of the public if, instead of a language, the Humanities Department began to revive the almost forgotten ancient skills of logic and rhetoric. Imagine arguing in French without speaking it to a reasonable degree of fluency. Logic gave birth to science and is the basis of the scientific method, while rhetoric is the highly developed art of persuasion and communication. There is an option in Science Communication available, but rarely taken up, while logic is assumed knowledge. In an age where science is considered to be the most developmental force on which progress depends, yet scientists are less able to communicate with the general public world-wide, surely these should be considered as important as learning a foreign language?

JOHN CLIFFORD

"The next generation of scientists must be able to think like scientists, or scientific reasoning stops."

IN THE NEWS

The Hubble Space Telescope has shut itself down awaiting a Shuttle mission next month. A fourth gyroscope appears to have failed over the weekend, and the probe is in "safe mode", preventing any further observations until after the forthcoming upgrade.

The British Geological Survey warns that a much larger earthquake could strike Istanbul following 2 severe earthquakes in the last 2 months. Dr Russ Evans says "there is an elevated risk of a further earthquake, but it remains unlikely."

Astronomers have directly observed the first extrasolar planet. Although previously detected planets were indirectly observed through the study of a "wobble" in the star's orbit, the unnamed planet passed directly in front of its parent star, exactly as predicted from earlier observations.

As Science went to press, stargazers across Europe were preparing for a large meteor shower. Although they are expected early Thursday morning, the Leonids are notoriously hard to predict, as was illustrated last year, when they arrived 16 hours earlier, causing most observers to miss out.

Bell labs believe they have broken two world records for fibre optic data transmission. Although the claims are yet to be confirmed, they transmitted 160 gigabits using only one wavelength, and used 1022 discrete wavelengths to transmit information simultaneously - with the possible application of increasing bandwidth of existing cables.

ESA have been given the go-ahead for an experimental mission to the moon. The small craft, SMART-1, will test an ion propulsion engine and will use a largely UK designed spectrometer to test the moon's composition.

Bubble-boy, a virus e-mailed to researchers at Network Associates, appears to prove that a virus can be passed on by simply reading an e-mail. Mails often contain HTML coding, which was used to run an attached virus. The virus is a proof of concept, and was not released "into the wild."

Calling all science writers

Considering a career in scientific journalism? Need practice of writing scientifically? Or just want to write about something that interests you? Why not use the science column to address the whole of college? Either e-mail john.clifford@ic.ac.uk or drop in to the portacabins Tuesday lunchtimes.

The Times They Are A-Changin'

Come gather 'round people wherever you roam
And admit that the waters around you have grown
And accept it that soon you'll be drenched to the bone
If your time to you is worth savin'
Then you better start swimmin' or you'll sink like a stone
For the times are a-changin'.

Are you ready for the Digital Age?

What's the story...

Bob Dylan has probably caught the zeitgeist of the age better than most. His lyrics are truer now than when they were penned in 1963. What is the idea of this new business section? Simple. If you are reading this article then you are probably a student at IC, which is one of the better technical and scientific universities in the country. It has an international reputation. So what? This column proposes that of all the universities in the country, IC is best poised to take advantage of turning its intellectual capital into the basis for world class companies.

Looking across the pond

The first question that needs to be answered is can Britain compete with the 800lb gorilla of the world economy: the good ol' U S of A? Let's just list some world class American technical universities: MIT; Texas A&M; Stanford; Caltech; Berkley. Pick any one of these: Stanford say. In the past 20 years here are some companies, that you might have heard of, that had their roots in this institution: Sun; Silicon Graphics; Yahoo; Amazon; Cisco.

The list goes on. An interesting exercise to do, is to get a copy of the Financial Times, look at the Nasdaq share prices page and calculate the combined value of these companies. I challenge anyone to name a European university that has produced so many valuable companies in the past twenty years.

The twenty year test

I picked twenty years because it is a number that is easy to relate to, it's probably about the mean age of an IC undergrad. In twenty years time many of us will be in our forties, or thereabouts. How many billion dollar companies do you think will be created as a result of a direct association with IC? Feel free to email Felix with your answers.

However, if you stretch the boundaries of this little exercise it will include companies like Intel and Hewlett-Packard, and the combined value starts to look silly.

The profit motive

The historians of the age will probably focus on

the exploits of men and women of scientific genius, citing names such as Lovelace, Babbage, Turing, von Neumann, and Cray. That's probably why I am not a historian. Don't misunderstand me I respect all of the above hugely, and I'm sure there are people of their calibre amongst our generation at IC. But while science is the fuel of progress, business has and always will be, the engine of progress. Who doesn't want to make a profit? Be it an individual, company, institution or country. It is the profit motive that has driven the shift from Machine Age to Digital Age and to whatever age comes next. Maybe even Internet Age? And it has been an epic shift.

What bugs me is how little advantage IC (institution, students and lecturers) has taken of the changes in the global economy, especially the commercialisation of the internet. After all, the World Wide Web was created just down the road by a UCL lecturer. This column has a healthy scepticism about the rate at which Europe is producing world beating high tech companies. Have you heard the story of Darryl Mattocks?

Darryl who?

Six years ago two guys in their early thirties, independently had the same idea. One of them was in Seattle the other in Oxford. They both set up what each claimed to be the world's biggest on-line bookstore. Both listed around a million books, both were equally accessible from anywhere in the world, and both offered similar services for customers, such as e-mail notification when a new book by a favourite author had arrived. In theory this should have been a classic example of how the internet would make a non-sense of geography? Wrong.

You know the story about the other guy probably better than I do. Who is he? Jeff Bezos, everyone's favourite internet billionaire. What happened to Darryl you may ask? Well, he didn't do too badly I suppose: he sold out for about two million pounds.

This case study is a salutary lesson for anyone out there considering starting their own high tech business. Let's propose the following hypothesis: for any given high tech idea, with everything else being equal, it is a heck of a sight easier to turn it into a market leading business proposition in the US than outside of it. This is not to say it is impossible but for practical purposes

the distinction seems slight. This column will seek to explore the reasons this appears to be the case. The government is so concerned that it published a hefty e-commerce study this summer.

E is good

Open any newspaper, watch any TV channel, listen to any radio station and you will be bombarded about 'e-commerce'. Quite a lot of the talk is rubbish. The truth about e-commerce at the moment is that very few companies know how to make a profit using it. Hence the wealth of views, articles and opinions. It is often a case of the blind leading the blind. Here's an idea, if you want to make a lot of cash become an e-commerce consultant. At times of confusion and uncertainty people seek certainty. Hence any 'visionary' who states his case convincingly enough will be heard through the noise. Who is the Henry Ford of the Internet age? There are a few potential candidates out there and this column will seek to separate the wheat from the chaff.

It's the economics, stupid

Having a bright idea, or a killer application in the current lingo, or being the smartest person on the planet can actually count for surprisingly little. Not even the biggest country in the world can defy the laws of economics, let alone any one individual. From the business perspective, the internet has not yet destroyed distance as the bookselling example shows.

Another area that this column intends to explore is what infrastructure is required to give Imperial a competitive advantage. It boils down to why is there not an equivalent to Silicon Valley here. There have been murmurings about Silicon Fen, and it is certainly a potential competitor to any London based high tech centre. The point can be illustrated by stating an extreme example. An African teenager with the smartest internet idea is not going to get very far, if he is stuck in his village.

Kick off

This column will kick off with series of articles profiling of a former Imperial PhD student and onetime lecturer, who I like to think of as the Billion Dollar Doc. Watch this space.

Bashari Bakari

RSM Union

After a successful start to the year for the Miners, it's time for more of the same, with barnights, the Christmas Ball and the annual highlight that is Foreign Students Week all taking place over the next month.

This year has got off to a good start with barnights being well attended by the new first years, and the old alcoholics (you know who you are Jeffries), thanks to everyone for making the effort. We are especially proud of former Exec members who are trying to educate the new students in the art of stopping taxis (by lying in the middle of Queensgate). Of particular note was the Karaoke Barnight in Southside, where everyone made a fool of themselves, including the resident gangsta rappers - go Segun. As noted previously, most freshers do not remember the Freshers Dinner, but some people claim they've forgotten it (Moony). There was a high turnout, and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves at the bar later, soon to be regretted by some when the pictures come out (limpet boy, you know who you are). There were some impressive attempts to win the shark hat and beer goggles, not forgetting the chunder bib. To see who the winners are, come along to the UGM at the end of term, when all crimes can be grassed up.

Many students also attended the RSMA Annual Dinner, with all 30 students being sponsored by Association members, and had an enjoyable evening, thanks to those who organised it.

The next main event to hit the RSM is a week of high spirits, drinking and fun that is Foreign Students Week. For those of you in the dark, 2 students from each good mining college in Europe (that's you banned Cambourne) come to RSM for a week of revelry and education

in RSM traditions that culminates in the Christmas Ball (more about that later). It includes an open top bus trip around London on Monday afternoon, with beer and an RSM tour guide included. On Tuesday we travel down to sunny Cornwall for a trip to the China Clay Works, and a pub crawl around Dartmoor organised by a member of staff with intimate knowledge of the area. We return on Thursday to the RSM bar for our foreign students barnight, with free beer and yards on offer.

The weekend begins with the arrival of 40 Dutch lads from Delft under the pretence of a rugby match on Saturday 4th December. Coaches will be running out to Harlington, since it is a very social occasion, and supporters are very welcome. This match is an annual event and is usually very well supported.

christmas ball

After retiring to the bar at the end of the match, we then return to RSM for the social event of the year, the RSM Christmas Ball. This is a ball that is well run and managed, unlike other IC balls - and for the first time this year it will be a dual venue event. The reception will be held at 7.30pm in the JCR where a "free" champagne and cocktail reception is being put on to get everyone in the mood to party. The meal will be held in the SCR with a harpist to serenade any lovebirds.

The menu will be:-

- Starter: Sliced Mediterranean tomato with mozzarella and olive vinaigrette



- Main: Roast fillet of lamb with rosemary, garlic and Cumberland sauce
- Desert: Chocolate truffle torte with raspberry coulis

Followed by coffee, mints and a laugh at the Exec attempting to make their speeches (as well as a guest speaker who will be amusing!) The most important thing to note is that there will be wine and beer with the meal all included in the price of the ticket.

After the meal we will return to the JCR, where we will be joined by the Delft visitors and any others who wish to take advantage of the 3.00am bar extension, a sexy female DJ will be there for those who can still stand and I'm sure there will be some smoochy numbers on for Cockayne (the study President) to display his recently acquired pulling skills!

Tickets will be on sale ASAP with a single ticket being £42 and a double ticket at £80. This price includes a free professional photograph with your chums to remem-

ber the evening by. If you are tempted then come to the RSM Union office any lunch time after the posters have gone up - keep your eyes peeled in the department for final details and notification of when the tickets go on sale!

regalia

It has been noted that none of you freshers have been buying any RSM regalia this term. This is essential in order to state your identity to the rest of the gimps in College (C&G and RCS take note) especially as we have the best regalia at Imperial.

The following items are available for purchase :-

- Hooded sweatshirts (great for field trips and barnights) in black, blue and grey at £21
- T Shirts, also in black, grey and bottle green at £6 (as well as assorted limited edition Cambourne and foreign students week t shirts from years past)
- Rugby shirts at £20

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The State of the Union

Free Money

- The Convocation Trust

A Summer Vacation award which has to be a Summer holiday for year 2000, which has nothing to do with your course. (For individuals)

- Dunsheath Expedition awards
Open to current students and recent graduates. (For groups of two or more). Sorry, electives don't count. Application forms and further details are available from me.

- Waterstones Hardship book fund
If you struggle to afford books, come get an application form from me.

I think it's disgusting

Imagine a group of students in a flat. The Council loses their paper work and starts procedures against them for not paying Council Tax. Imagine that when they ask Registry for the certificate of exemption they have to wait a week, even though it is about to go to Court. Imagine that the Council misreads the certificates, then goes ahead to court - but doesn't tell them. After the case the Council threaten to send in the Bailiffs. The students come to see me and we phone the Council, who say they

By Natasha Newton, Imperial College Union President

need the exemption certificates again...I phone registry and they say "one week, standard procedure". The words 'no f***ing way' sprung to mind and in fact the magic one week was broken after some sharp wrangling. Surely, though, the registry could and should have jumped to attention to help these guys - it shouldn't take the Union President getting vicious to make things happen in an emergency. If the guys had not come to see me, would Registry honestly have let them loose their stuff to the Bailiffs? It appears so ...

Then imagine that when the guys go to Registry they change their tune and say two days but not today. It is the opinion of the Registry that other students, waiting for standard proof (which you have months to supply) should take precedent over those facing immediate loss of their belongings. They claim that there may be people facing Court action in the queue. For the interest of the Registry staff, most people who come to Court will speak to either me, the DPEW or the Union Advisor, and I know of

no cases as urgent as this at present - in fact cases this urgent come up once every 5 years. I asked the other Presidents of ULU, some from Colleges of twice the size of IC and they all replied emphatically that their registries would do all they could to get the certificates done in a day. All said their college would manage it and some said their forms usually only take two minutes and asked me why we have a queue anyway - good question.

Obviously, the Council is to blame for the main cock-up, and after hours of struggle we got what was needed. BUT, two years of IC UK Undergrads are now paying £1000 a year to be here, whilst other groups of students pay thousands more, so is the service you receive good enough?

Maccy D's

This week I have been mostly dealing with discounts! We wait for Warners, but the HMV cards are here and McDonald's are sending their free burger/ice cream cards to me and I hope they will be here by the time this issue is out.

- This Week's Union Meetings -

Mon 22nd November

- 13.00 Retail Committee (Clubs Committee Room)
- 17.00 IC School of Medicine Vice Principal's Question time
- 18.00 Media Group (Southside Bar)

Tue 23rd November

- 13.00 Arts & Entertainments Board Treasurers meeting (Resource Centre)
- 20.00 Community Action Group soup run

Thur 25th November

- 13.00 Rag General Meeting - all welcome (Rag Office)
- 12.30 Recreational Clubs Committee Treasurers meeting (Resource Centre)
- 13.00 House Committee (Clubs Committee Room)
- 17.00 Student Development
- 18.30 ICU Executive (Resource Centre)
- 20.00 CAG soup run

Fri 26th November

- 13.00 SCC Treasurers (Resource Centre)

Welfare Update

By Kevin Butcher, Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

and cancelling. That extra 8 weeks can be put to good use towards ICHC patients, leading to an even better service. All students and staff are potential patients so it is in all our interests.

Groups operating on campuses.

University can be a trying time. Every year groups and organisations target campuses across the country, playing on student's weaknesses to encourage them to join in with their activities. IC usually suffers less than other colleges in London. However students need to be vigilant and aware. If a stranger approaches you on campus offering friendship, support and help as long as you attend a meeting of their group - DO NOT ACCEPT. One meeting may lead to another, pressure may be applied, leading to sustained attendance. Their offers are hollow and sustained

attendance can be damaging to your health and your finances. They offer help under two guises: as self-help groups or under the false banner of "religion". This is not true. Many religions are genuinely represented at IC, via ICU clubs (for example Cath Soc or Islamic Society) or non-union IC aligned groups (such as Christian Union). The groups you should be wary of clearly do not include these or any of the other faiths which are genuinely represented.

It is necessary to be very general in describing such dangerous groups. That sounds a bit heavy. Don't worry, these groups are few and far between and it is rare that you will be stopped on campus. However, please be aware that there are unscrupulous people about; here, at other universities and around ULU and Bloomsbury (a big target due to the high density of students at

several Colleges and Universities). Be safe and be aware. If you have any questions, worries or have been approached on campus, please contact myself, Martin Thomson or Tasha Newton (ICU President); details below.

Contacts

- Kevin Butcher [Deputy President]; internal extension: 58064; email: dpew@ic.ac.uk
- Tasha Newton [ICU President]; 58061; president@ic.ac.uk
- Martin Thomson [Union Adviser]; 48067; m.m.thomson@ic.ac.uk

Bit at the end

Please feel free to contact Martin or me with any questions or queries. If you have questions or answers to problems you feel other students could benefit from, please get in touch and the problem and solution may well appear here in future editions.

IC Health Centre

With things settling in this term and the end fast approaching, just a few words about the Imperial College Health Centre in Southside, South Kensington. Check out the web site for information on the services provided - www.ad.ic.ac.uk/healthcentre. A recurrent problem is the surprisingly high number of appointments made by patients who then choose, for whatever reason, not to attend those appointments - a "no-show". Current figures from the Health Centre suggest that since December 1998 the amount of time lost through "did not attend" appointments is approximately equivalent to a full-time doctor working for eight weeks at the Health Centre. This is quite a significant amount of time. If you have an appointment and cannot make it, cancelling it frees that time up for other patients. There is no cancellation fee, there is no recrimination for calling or emailing them

Break Point

As I have said before, sport is extremely important to students. And rightly so, since it allows the participant to develop both physically and mentally during their time here. It fosters community spirit ("the ability to work in a team" is something which prospective employers increasingly look for in applicants CVs) and it's a great excuse to keep the bar profits rolling.

So, given the importance of such activities, can we at IC claim to provide an environment under which sporting excellence is allowed to flourish? Well, in one area at least. The IC Boat Club repeatedly proves itself the better of both Oxford and Cambridge (and, by the way, we don't have to bribe steroid-filled Americans to come

here and row for us). Our rowers gain gold on the water - and in the exam hall - on their own merits.

Don't get me wrong, our other sports clubs do well enough within UL leagues, but that Boat Club "edge" just isn't there. But wait - I hear you cry - our other sports clubs don't have the benefit of professional training facilities such as the Putney Boat House, nor Olympic-standard coaches such as Bill Mason. Exactly. Which is why I am surprised that nobody has ever asked "why not?".

I'll tell you why not. The true picture is that ICU, in reality, has very little control over the Boat Club. In fact, it only provides roughly 50% of its funding. The real force driving up standards on the river is Frank Murray, IC's pro-

fessional Sport & Leisure Manager. Since his arrival at IC five-odd years ago, Frank has revolutionised the boat club, spearheaded major projects and set about upgrading sports facilities generally. The boat club's poorer relatives at ICU, whilst not getting a bad deal by anyone's measure, simply do not have this powerful resource at their fingertips.

Which is why I'm about to suggest something a bit radical.

Loughborough University is renowned for the excellence of its sports teams. This is made possible by the university's direct funding of an Athletics Union, distinct from the Students Union: a similar position to the one enjoyed by IC boat club. Free from the shackles of petty student politics, teams can

get on and train with top-class facilities and top-class resources. Surprise surprise, they win. Habitually.

In a world where more and more new universities are tempting students to their hallowed portals with bigger and better facilities, IC needs to recognise that more and more people will expect similar juicy morsels for their £1000 p.a. membership fee.

Perhaps it's time for ICU to admit defeat. For years it has known that Frank Murray has the means to make sport better for all at Imperial. In short, it is time to let the professionals do their job, and establish an Athletics Union, with an elected student as its president (and Frank as its manager) to rehabilitate sporting life here at IC.

PRESIDENT PREPARED

As reported on last week's front page of Felix, the C&G "Raiders of the Lost Bus" trip to Brighton and its associated antics did not go exactly to plan. Unfortunately, too many people knew about the plot to kidnap ULU President Matt Butt, and the team's attempts were foiled. One of those who thought she was in the know was our very own supremo, Natasha. However by the time news of the plot had reached her presidential suite, details of the scam had become rather sketchy. On hearing that a squad was going to attempt to kidnap 'the president' and take them to Brighton, Natasha jumped to the erroneous conclusion she was the target. Kevin can confirm that to avoid being caught unprepared, on the morning of the Brighton Run she was up, dressed, and ready to be snatched before 6 am. Kevin hears Natasha was actually looking forward to a nice relaxing day at the seaside, and was thoroughly disappointed when the squad failed to turn up.

MONEY MONEY MONEY

At the latest ICU Council there was a lot of talk on the subject of fines, bans, and other punitive penalties that could really get on your nerves should you or your club find themselves on the receiving end of them.

Clubs can now be fined or banned from Union Facilities if their paperwork is not up to scratch. In addition the maximum fine and charge that can be imposed on a student by the disciplinary com-

mittee has been reviewed and increased: the fine has gone from £100 to £200 and the charge from £100 to £500. Still on the topic of fines, the question of where money raised by fines should go was discussed. It was asked if this was a particularly important point to consider, as surely the amount of money raised by fines should be very low, as it has been in previous years. Natasha immediately enthusiastically responded: "Say if a

Mish Mash

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

whole rugby team came in ... and they were fined fifty quid a head, you could make a fortune."

ERICSSON EXCUSES

Kevin is not happy with the present state of the Ericsson deal. When Kevin first heard of the deal, he saw it as a fantastic opportunity to get brilliant, affordable communications for IC students. As a non-apathetic student, Kevin made his opinions

known to the student representative dealing with Ericsson, as well as writing them in his column (come.to/mishmash to read all Kevin's previous columns). It is still not too late to resolve the situation. Ericsson stand to make a huge amount of money from IC in the long term, and will not be put off by a few reasonable requests from students. Kevin hopes that ICU will not support a proposal which is significantly less impressive than that which we should be able to demand. The latest is that although "Internal calls will be free, short codes will not be in the same way they are not at the moment". Kevin had assumed that things could only get better, even he will be amazed if Ericsson proves to be worse than ACC.

WOW

The new Rector, who is presently remaining innominate, has been selected. Kevin can confirm that when their name is announced, reaction will be one of: "Wow". Kevin has also learnt that the new Rector's wife has already been shown round the magnificent rectorial residence at 170 Queens Gate, and has said she: "Quite likes it." The Director of Estates was rather disappointed at this comment. Any plans he may have had to sell the architecturally outstanding house he has recently described as "a nice piece of real estate" will almost certainly have to be put on hold.

To comment or contribute:
<http://come.to/mishmash>
 or email mishmash@ic.ac.uk



ICU

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*The **Carnival** Is Not **Enough***

FELIX

ISSUE 1158

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Feedback

DEMO OR DEMOCRACY?

Dear Felix,

As the proposer of the "NUS Demo" resolution passed by iCU council, I'm pleased to see it stimulating some debate (Breakpoint, Felix 1157). I'm a strong believer in democracy and believe that such debate is its backbone. Can I therefore suggest to Mr. (Ms?) "Breakpoint" that (s)he submits a paper to the next union council, allowing these concerns to be openly debated in a democratic forum?

George Constantinides
 ICU Equal Opportunities Officer

Dear Felix,

I feel I must reply to the points made in BreakPoint in last weeks issue. Whilst broadly supporting Mr or Ms Point's right to remain anonymous, to use this anonymity as a cloak to hide behind, then level a series of inaccurate criticisms and veiled insults, seems unfair and cowardly.

....The ICU holy grail is to be apolitical and proud of it. I see nothing to be proud of in standing back and doing nothing while student hardship is worsening. I see nothing to be proud of in apathy and ignorance of the wider situation. Most of all, I see nothing to be proud of in taking cynical sideswipes while a hard-working few in the national student movement do their level best to change things for the better. The motion to Council, if BreakPoint had bothered to check out his or her facts, included a clause which deplored "the careerism rife within the NUS"; precisely the problem to which he or she refers.

Incidentally, one might ask why supporting a demonstration is regarded as "playing in the murky world of politics" but opposing one, criticising various MPs and government proposals for the Lords isn't? I don't think this is a coherent position; it smacks of double standards, but then apathy in the face of cut-backs and other denigrations has always

suitied the right wing.

....BreakPoint's sniffiness about "new" members of council are tantamount to an argument for ensuring the Union is always run by the same old tried and tested hacks...If BreakPoint is unhappy with the democratic processes of the Union, any suggestions for improvement would be welcome. Life-long elective dictatorship for presidents perhaps?

Finally, I'll leave you - and BreakPoint - with this thought: the amount spent on advertising the demonstration is a tiny fraction of the annual pewter tankard budget.

Paddy Hayes

RIVALRY RELIGHTS

Dear Felix,

I would like to raise a couple of issues about Mr. Ganesarajah's column in Felix last week. Firstly, how does the statement that C&G freshers have an A-level points average of 29, which obviously makes them superior to all the other freshers at Imperial, have any relevance to the "big question" of what C&GU can do for them? To imply that C&G graduates earn more than other IC graduates purely because of the fact they have an "industry orientated" degree is nonsense. I think that the medics may claim quite rightly that their degree's are actually rather more "industry related" than those of C&G, since the vast majority of ICSM graduates are actually going to use their qualification for their job, rather than taking the highly original choice of management consultancy. Also, I don't remember junior doctors having a huge choice in starting salary! The fact that the courses in RSM are actually designed with industry help is obviously not an example of having a lucrative "industry orientated" degree, since ARSM is the acknowledged benchmark for excellence around the world in the mining and petroleum industries. I would also like to ask; who is the more rounded graduate? Someone from RSM or ICSM who graduates having learnt

social and interpersonal skills by going to social events whilst studying, or the C&G star who has 29 UCAS points but has never gone out.

Surely, the "big question" that C&G students should be asking is how their exec is still organizing events that fail to improve their social and recreational skills, since no one turns up to them, hence the heavy losses. For the President of C&GU to say that he doesn't mind if they waste their Union resources is inappropriate and not helping his students. If he want's to see a well run event, that appeals to students, he could do worse than attend the RSM Christmas Ball. Our Freshers Dinner had nearly 50% of the freshers attending. The day C&GU manage 25%, I'll take my hat off and say well done.

Yours faithfully,
 Matt Cockayne,
 RSMU President

MEDICAL DEFENCE

Dear Felix,

I agree with Ben Jones (not my real name) Medicine4 on the subject that Felix has improved vastly, but the idea of Prince Albert is to not be a Felix clone. It is to give the medics across the campuses some light-hearted humour and something alternative to read. You won't find the latest cinema/music/sports reviews as in the more formal production of Felix; rather a light-hearted and humorous look at life on the various medical campuses, various amusing, random articles (Do you, Ben Jones, own a llama ??) and the jolly capers of some of those in the med schools (activities of which often do involve rude words) !! Whilst Prince Albert does go over the top sometimes, who cares ?? If you are so sensitive as to be insulted by the material in Prince Albert, perhaps you should leave your copy unopened and give it to someone who will appreciate it for what it is (i.e. most of the population of the Med Schools !!).

James (my real name)

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.

Dear Felix,

I have just read your Issue 1157 and agree whole heartedly with "Ben Jones (not my real name)"'s feedback letter. Felix is read by a lot of the Medics not based at the South Ken. Campus, as it gives us all a link with what is going on at South Ken. Felix is entertaining, informative and readable. However, concerning the comments made about Prince Albert, I was shocked. Prince Albert, and the previous magazines for the Medics, are not meant to insult, offend or disgust any reader. They are witty, silly and, alright, sometimes puerile but everyone loves them! They are a tradition of the Medical Schools and are a light relief from everyday work and toil. The people that write for the magazines are many and unprejudiced. I am sure that the Physics department have funny jokes about the Mech Eng. department and vice versa. The medics have funny digs at non-medics just as the non-medics have funny digs at them, they are not meant personally nor to offend and most medics are good friends with the other non-medical students at IC.

Your Faithfully
Kat
3rd Year Medic

Dear Sir,

There has recently been an increasing number of letters to Felix regarding the treatment of Medics by Felix itself. This must surely be welcomed, as any debate regarding the publication is beneficial to its development. I have but a few points I wish to make:

Every newspaper asserts its own individuality and style, this appeals to certain segments in society and allows a niche to develop. However, Felix is supposed to be the newspaper of all of Imperial College, therefore it has the responsibility of representing the views of all students in all departments. As such, when inflammatory articles are repeatedly printed about Medics (part of IC, whether anyone likes it or not) it is irresponsible of the Felix staff to provide unbalanced opinions, and state 'facts' that are regularly dubious in their nature. I presume that the students write these

articles do so because they have at least some interest in reporting, so it makes sense to encourage journalistic integrity by confirming facts and writing unbiased pieces.

The silliest thing I have read in Felix is the editor attempting to defend anonymity of 'Mish Mash'. He has passed responsibility of this column on to its writer, who has shirked responsibility by not giving his/her own name. You are all passing the buck without any of you having the guts to stand by your opinions. You do not represent Imperial College, you represent a bunch of amateur hacks who write badly.

Yours sincerely,
Bill McClatchie
2nd Medicine

AND FINALLY...

Dear Editor,

Reading your letters page, two or three things jumped out at me, and urged me to put finger to keyboard:

Firstly, Tasha's discussion viz a viz Waterstone's; perhaps I can inform the debate a little by revealing that College awarded the book store contract to the company (and not to ICU, who had reliably been running the bookstore for years) because they promised that "The IC Waterstone's will be our Flagship Academic Store". Yeah, and the Titanic was unsinkable.

Secondly, I am sure you have heard of couples using College facilities for uses other than those intended, as RSMII suggested? I refer of course to John Foster and Annette de Lima, using our prized academic centres as conference facilities above all. I was so honoured to receive my fees invoice from IC last year in an envelope franked "CHOOSE IMPERIAL COLLEGE FOR YOUR CONFERENCE".

I also support Tasha Newton 110% in her bid to establish an alternative to the NUS. It's about time an Imperial Sabbatical got on with this - lazy slackers each and every one of her predecessors.

With kind regards,
Andy Heeps
ICSM III

Editorial

Having received surprisingly little response for my last two editorials, which slated Waterstones and careers in Management Consultancy respectively, I thought I'd take a different tack this week...

NATIONAL PASTIMES

As I write this, it's Wednesday evening and England have just qualified for next summer's European Championships with a thoroughly unimpressive performance. Great. We (sorry to all the Scots out there if I use that term) have scraped past one of the weaker sides in European football by a slim one goal margin, and now, to be honest, the odds of the side making it past the first round of Euro 2000 are entirely dependant on getting drawn in a group with Turkey, Latvia and Portugal. Pitch that same starting eleven against Italy or France tomorrow and the resulting match would be painful to watch.

So, what's the solution? For starters, Keegan has to have the importance of playing in position drummed into him - Rednapp and Campbell are quality players if you let them play in the right spot, but if he really wants to play a 4-4-2 then he's going to have to pick a different squad. Secondly, there's a strange reliance on a batch of older established players - Ince, Adams, Seaman and Shearer are apparently the "backbone of the team", and consequently are deemed undroppable, despite an obvious lack of pace or long-term credibility.

The same problem pervades much of the rest of British sport - this week sees England's first test against South Africa kick-off, with the team management once again promising a fresh start. Yet who do we find in the squad? Stewart, Atherton, Butcher, Cadick, Gough and Tufnell are undoubtedly representative of the "must be picked" old guard, and whilst some do deserve their place (Atherton in particular), some definitely do not (most notably the 38 year old Stewart).

Sadly, however, in this case the future looks even less bright, with the new recruits either already past-it (Adams) or simply not up to scratch (Flintoff). A winter whitewash (and subsequent lambasting from the press) certainly wouldn't be a surprise (although my Sports Editor assures me that a 3-1 scoreline is the most likely outcome).

This time, however, the solution is less obvious. A simple lack of talent would seem to be the root of the problem, coupled with an incredibly top-heavy bureaucracy and a plethora of complacent county pros. Above all, however, it's a simple lack of cash that fuels the England team's ineffectual performances. Unlike football there's no cut-throat scrambling for the million pound contract or pressure to produce consistently high-class performances to avoid the sack. Gates are small (sell out county games are practically unheard of) and salaries are low - and unless this problem is addressed (as it has been in rugby) courtesy of Sky Sports, we're going to have to come to terms with being second-rate on a good day.

Our proud sporting traditions have been sliding away for the last twenty years, to the extent that only in the fields of Formula One, Snooker, Darts, Tiddlywinks and Bowls can we lay any claim to being the best in the world (and even those few are slowly evaporating). We should be happy to make it to the last eight or the last sixteen (or whatever) of competitions, not treat it as our right. Sure, we have some of the best club sides in the world in a variety of sports, but that has far more to do with the impact of that nice Mr Murdoch than it does with the quality of our players and coaches. All that remains is for the British sporting press to catch on, realise that we're only a small country with limited resources (both financial and demographically) and dole out criticism a little more cautiously.

Dave

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Weds 24th

Chelsea v Feyenord 7.30 DaVinci's

Thurs 25th

Arsenal v Nantes or
Newcastle v Roma, DaVinci's 7.30

Fri 26th

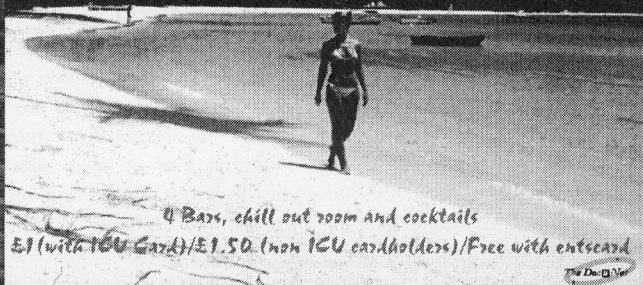
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Rob Rouse

Paul Sinha & Alfie Joey
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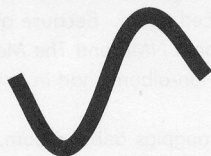
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

Your Union - Run for You

Welcome to the reviews

This week in.....

frequency



Prince
Jazz
The End

method



Aliens
Knights
Hymns

books



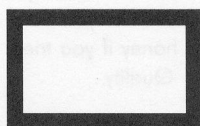
Dating
Woody
Waterstones

react



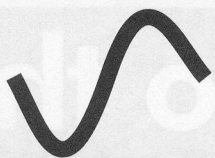
Abomination
I-War
Monster Trucks

screen



Ed TV
Carrie 2
Competition

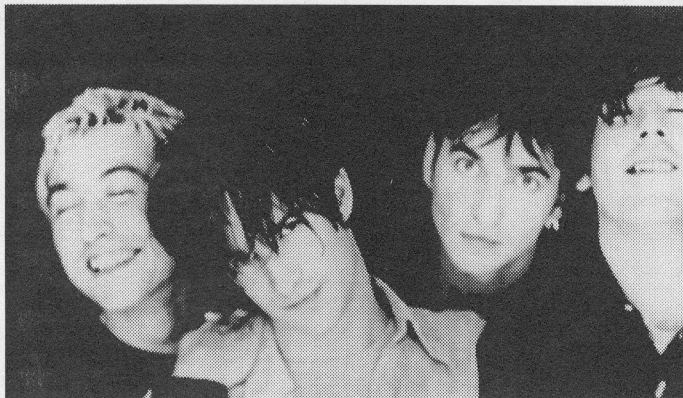
frequency



Okay, so it's time for me again. As this short piece seems to be slowly moving from an introduction to Frequency to a full-on column I'd like to take the opportunity to continue this progression. I moaned last week about people complaining about the music and club sections, and as I found putting my opinion across was so much fun, I'd like to do the same again...

... frequency ... it's weekly

Alright then - the Millennium, and as the KLF famously said - 'What the Fuck is Goin' On?' Well I'm still undecided myself, but when I looked at the date the other day I felt my first worry that I was leaving the decision too late. So what are the options? First of all I suppose I could spend the time in a nightclub. Well that's going to be expensive. It's also going to be a nightmare organising my mates to buy some tickets. Another option is just hanging around the London, but if you've ever hit Trafalgar Square before you'll know that this is a nightmare of an idea. So what's left? At the moment I'm trying to decide between finding a messy house party and working and then spending the money earned on a trip to Amsterdam. However if anyone has any better ideas, I'd love to hear them. Thanks then, and goodbye.



The Longpigs Mobile Home (Epic)

After three years, The Longpigs have finally returned, but the few fans that they once had are now running even thinner. So The Longpigs face the impossible task of trying to sell a great album, with very few head-turning singles, to the masses, without the support of a fan base that similarly-sized bands (the Bluetones, Dodgy and the like) rely upon to boost their sales and get themselves noticed again. Because of this, *Mobile Home*, an album rated as 8/10 by both NME and *The Melody Maker* has not even made a dent on the top ten-album chart in its first week of release.

The Sun Is Often Out, The Longpigs debut album, gave us such near classics as *She Said*, *Last Myself* and the souring *On and On*, but since then, while touring in the US and battling that second album wall, all contact with them has evaporated. No public attacks on other bands or the government, no outrageous rock and roll incidents, no charity gigs or even a CD: the lack of a UK appearance has erased the name of the Longpigs from the public's memory. Even when lead singer Crispin Hunt was bottled recently in a gig by his former drummer, they received less space in the NME than the important news that the Dawn of the Repliants were releasing another EP. Just writing good music sadly isn't enough anymore.

With a singer as distinctive as Crispin Hunt, it's very hard for an album by the Longpigs not to sound 'longpiggy'; *Mobile Homes* certainly does. You can really tell from the album that their time away has been hard; the music is very moody. Not a *No Surprises* moody, that makes you want to slam your head in the oven and dream of glue sticks, he's got too much of a point to prove, he's pissed off. Each song has been soaked in the gut-wrenching passion Hunt displays in the debut album, with lyrics to match. *The Frank Sonata*, the first from the album and the most likely follow up single to *Blue Skies* is far and away the best song from the album and sees the only true return to a guitar-pop tune. They still have the slow love songs in *Baby Blue*, their screeching rage in *Blue Skies*; it is indeed a well-rounded album. However, like many before the wait has been too long and any hope of a successful return has long been buried.

So here's to The Longpigs, may they rest in peace. In their memory, here's some classic lyrics from the new album: 'love like you've never been burnt, kiss like your tongue is on fire, suck like you don't need the money, sin like there's nobody judging, cos honey if you tried, I'd come running to you child, like lassies final mile.' Quality.



Dave



Various Major Force West 93-97 (Mo Wax)

This isn't your standard 'grab a bunch of obscure records, and dump them on a CD' kind of compilation. While many of the tracks are doubtless almost impossible to obtain through normal channels in the UK, they are all here on merit, rather than obscurity. Its difficult to categorise most of the music on this album. Perhaps it's just enough to say that it's good. At a push I would say that most of the tracks could be described at heavily rewired, beat-led aural experimentation. Which doesn't really mean anything. It's all got a jazzy feel - pushing back boundaries with fearsome building beasts and moogish weirdness. That there is a track with the moniker "Here comes the Funky Monkey" should be enough for any Thomas's out there.

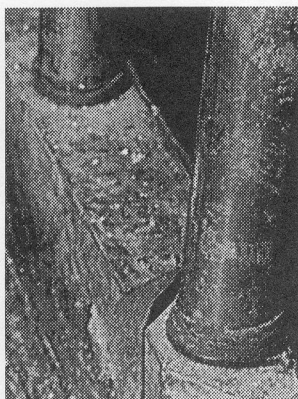
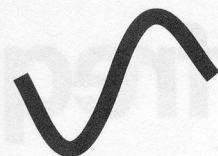
This isn't mainstream music. It doesn't really have lyrics per se, apart from a few scratched out samples and yelps. The tunes don't really work as background music - if you have it on, you listen. There is a chilled vibe about this collection, none of the artists featured are in any hurry to build to a crescendo of noise. Most favour the approach which sneaks up on you in its complexity rather than shocking you outright with chaos and confusion.

The most enjoyable thing about listening to this compilation is the way the music takes you on a journey. When those instrumentals have you in their grip, your mind wanders pleasantly, I often found myself visualising things to accompany the music, which is often like a film score in its style. Let yourself ease in, and go on a journey to the West.



Joel

frequency



Various Brokedown Palace (Mercury)

A soundtrack album from a Hollywood blockbuster can be an exercise in mediocrity. However this effort, from a film starring Kate Beckinsale and Claire Danes, strives to go a bit further. The film is about two girls who, whilst on holiday in Thailand, get falsely accused of drug smuggling - a crime that can deserve the death penalty in Bangkok. As such the album is filled with a lot of female vocalists getting emotional over rolling, 'ethnic' beats. These songs mostly annoy with their sameness and lack of any new ideas. A few tracks do stand out though: Sarah Brightman adds a gospel twist whilst PJ Harvey gives us a more quirky sound.

Thankfully, the male contingent make up for the rather ordinary tunes supplied by the girls. Two excellent, more upbeat tracks by Audioweb and Asian Dub Foundation make the album more bearable. Tricky does his mumbling stuff with DJ Muggs but still fails to disappoint. Had a member of the opposite sex written this it would have performed better.

Not staple listening by any means but it contains enough tasty morsels to make me come back for seconds.



Thom



The Artist ... Rave Un2 The Joy Fantastic (Arista)

When an album by an ageing artist is full of guest appearances including Chuck D, Sheryl Crow, Ani DiFranco and Gwen Stefani (of No Doubt), it's almost certainly down to a lack of original material and a need to add 'designer names' to a poor product to increase sales (please refer to Tom Jones). He's appeared in both the American Billboard pop and R&B chart every year since 1978 and no doubt this impressive record will continue with the singles to be taken from this album.

The Press Release states that The Artist 'breaks new ground every time he releases music. Not only as a visionary trailblazer with his constant exploration, but as an innovative trailblazer', but if you'd fallen into a coma for fifteen years and woken up to hear his new album, you could be forgiven for thinking that you'd just been in a prolonged sleep. This is a long way from the coolness and sophistication of *Get Off* and *Cream*. Instead Prince has managed to recreate the type of sound that he needed the New Power Generation for.

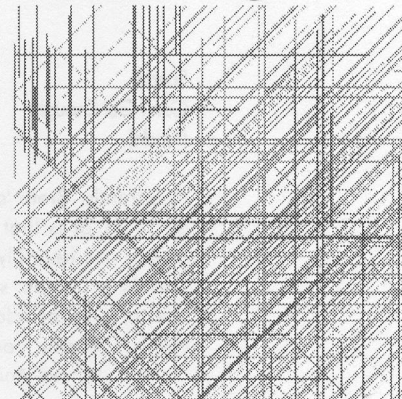
Rave Un2 The Joy Fantastic is classic Prince. He composed, arranged and produced the album and in anticipation of its release George Michael wrote the song *Too Funky* as a summation of its sound. The Artist combines rock guitar with nu-funk giving the listener more twangs than a corduroy concert and Phil's seventies d'jing put together.

From the first song (that takes the same title as the album) *Rave Un2 the Joy Fantastic* The Artist hits you with a wall of sound, his voice as powerful and distinctive as ever. His collaborations are often barely noticeable, relying on his famous cast as backing singers and musicians. An exception to this is his cover of *Every Day Is A Winding Road* with Sheryl Crow which is nothing short of brilliant. Most modern day covers are merely the same song with a different voice (see Placebo's *20th Century Boy*). The Artist puts a completely different interpretation on the song though, I didn't even realise it was a cover until he hit the chorus.

If you're a Prince fan then this album won't disappoint. For those of you expecting something new though, you'll find a return to the roots never did anyone harm and it has worked in giving The Artist a much needed resurgence of life.



Dave



Various Bossa Très... Jazz (Warner)

This CD is the result of a Japanese-French collaboration producing a fusion of Jazz, Latino and Dance. It is over 110 minutes of, apparently, "pure, deep, jazzy grooves". It is claimed that this project "is an ode to ecstatic diversity, richness and open-minded values, a soothing and serene pathway into the new millennium". This is a mighty big claim to live up to.

One would expect that with the mish-mash of national cultures and musical styles involved, an exciting, interesting and original sound would result. *FAT CHANCE*. It so lacks originality that it could have been produced by any of the weaker members of the early nineties acid jazz scene. The majority of the tracks are just so lifeless and boring: they just don't go anywhere. Now this might be bearable if the tracks were short but these "jazz entrepreneurs" have deemed it necessary for the listening public to endure at least six minutes of repetitive jam before a break. To make matters worse, the beats are uninteresting in the extreme.

Now this is not to say that this CD is totally terrible but if you want something that is interesting and listenable then the majority of the tunes just don't cut it. The exceptions to this are *Gilberto* and *Candoblé*, which blends a great eastern guitar riff with experimental dithering keyboard.

In conclusion, this project provides an endless stream of musical meanderings that are pleasant enough to the ear but after a few tracks tends to bore.

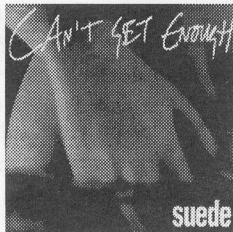


Dan B

frequency

Suede
Can't Get Enough
(Nude)

Apparently Brett 'can't get it up' or is that just a witty, mis-heard lyric? This is a Suede song like any other 'clang, clang, oooh, oooh clang'. It's no *Animal Nitrate* or *Stay Together* but still it's better than most of today's so-called 'music' (did I say Eiffel 65?). An average indie tune from a now (unfortunately) average indie band.



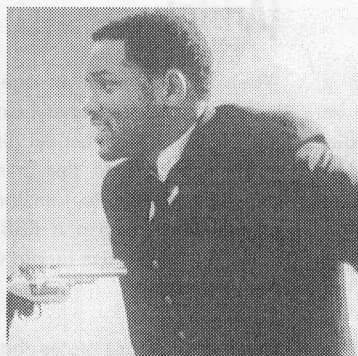
Les Rythmes Digitales
Jacques your Body (make me Sweat)
(Wall of Sound)

'Viva le 80s' screams someone who didn't actually have the (unfortunate) experience of actually having the bleach drenched denim and truly bizarre hair, but I love it all the same. Jacques Le Cont is usually on top form in the 80s/dance fusion stakes but the fact that 'Jacques your body' can be heard blaring from a Sunny Delight advert may just tell you more than I ever could.



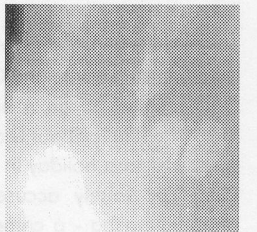
Will Smith
Will 2K
(Columbia)

Will Smith always manages to create an anthem for a moment (against the iron wills of even the greatest of opponents). *Summer-time* has rung from radios everywhere since '93 and now he's trying to seize the millennium too. *Will2K* samples *1999* and *Rock the Casbah* among others but still doesn't quite cut it for me. The term we find out is *Willenium*. What? Up, disappear, arse, own. I think so.



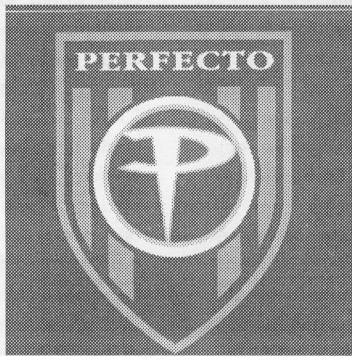
Plexiq
Colour My Day
(Whoknows)

A rather refreshing indie/dance cross-over from some friends on the continent. Sci-Fi instrumentals loop in the background whilst trance beats and distorted vocals compliment the overall feel and make for a great atmosphere and one top song.



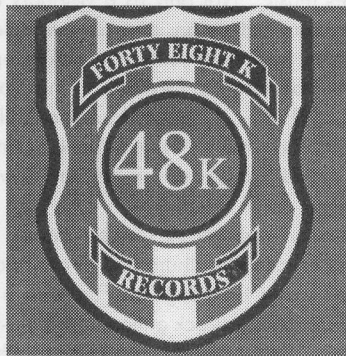
Knee High
Introducing Elvis
(Mercury)

This song is poor, not appalling but poor. The lyrics are cheesy, 'you put the same old records on, and you sing along, yeah you sing along'. The guitar work is only just up to my own low standard. The bass and drums are just so-so but this mediocrity outshines the rest of the band. Still its better than damn Puff Daddy so it has to get one.



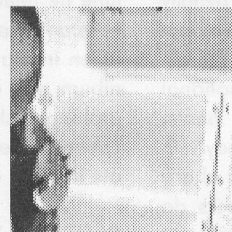
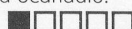
Skip Raiders
Another Day
(Perfecto)

Repeat after me, 'There is no such thing as trance, it is all media concocted spin to sell magazines and CDs. I will spend my money going clubbing and getting drunk instead.' If you say this 5 times a day your life will be better. Oakenfold has played this stuff for years long before it was ever called trance and as this is released on his Perfecto label it should be up to scratch. *Another Day* does not disappoint, and that's why this is my single of the week.



D'ception
On The Dancefloor
(48K Records)

This is released on 48k records, an offshoot of Paul Oakenfold's Perfecto label. It is easy to see why this hasn't been released on Perfecto as it's only one step away from 2-Unlimited and Venga Boys style cheese. It has all the ingredients of a shit dance record: cheesy lyrics, a rap and slick production. Luckily it's not at all catchy so you won't have it playing in your head over and over, but by the same token you won't be able to sing along while drunk in La Scandale.

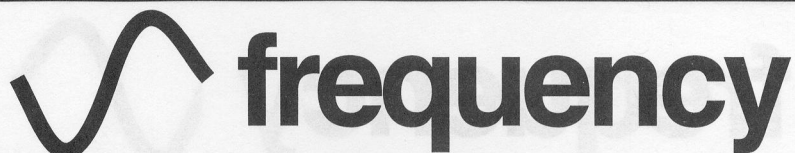


Countermine
Open Your Eyes
(Columbia)

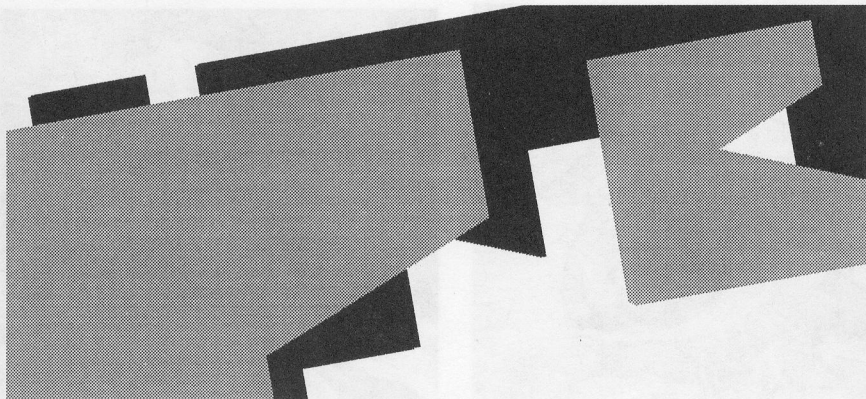
Open Your Eyes is a reasonable, New-Order-style-rock-instruments-meets-keyboard-kind-of-pop. Countermine have a reasonable stab at this with a good musical style, but the result is far from interesting. This theme of dullness but wholly competent musicianship continues through the rest of the EP. It's okay, but not really my kind of thing.



...Singles reviews by Louise & Alex...



frequency



Talking All That Jazz! Bemsha @ Notting Hill Arts Club

All the jazz fans will understand when I say that we're quite a rare breed. That's why I'm always trying to get others involved and interested. You wouldn't believe how many people can tell you they hate jazz without having listened to any real jazzman. I'm going to tell you about a club in Notting Hill which will interest anyone. Go there, and then you'll be able to have your own opinion on jazz.

The Notting Hill Arts Club isn't only a jazz club; in fact, it's only home to jazz musicians on Tuesday nights, but maybe that's why you should try and give it a go. The atmosphere is exactly what you would expect: noisy, lots of drinking, everybody having fun chatting up the women whilst listening to some really groovy improvised music; the entry price is ridiculous (£5 after 8pm, free before), although the drinks inside aren't cheap; but most importantly, the music is great. This club is known as Nathan Haines' kingdom, because it's this very talented (and very young!) saxophonist/singer and his band who pack the club every Tuesday night. Along with his usual band, he invites DJ's and other musicians to bring you every kind of improvised music from Latin jazz to heavy funk through hip-hop, and it always works perfectly.

There is another reason why this club is irresistible. It was created to enable young artists to bring their talent to the stage, and therefore its regular clients are would-be photographers, designers and... models. Yes, I knew this might just be the best argument to check out the club. The details are below and if you've got a Tuesday night free soon make sure you get down.

Notting Hill Arts Club
21 Notting Hill Gate W11
Tuesdays 8pm-1am
Free before 8pm, £5 after.

As well as tunes being spun on the decks, I'd also like to mention a couple of live gigs coming up soon. These kind of gigs are more than worth the entrance fee.

25th November

Scott Hamilton @ Shepperton Jazz Club

This American saxophonist has been around for a very long time, and is a regular at the Pizza Express Jazz club. It's the first time I've see him elsewhere in London. He always delivers superb ballads rather than upbeat music, but that's good from time to time. This one depends on your mood.

29th and 30th November

Ian Shaw & Claire Martin @ Pizza Express Jazz Club

They're performing a brand new show called *If It's Magic*, supposed to be a celebration of the work of Stevie Wonder. This'll be more than great, whether you're a fan of Shaw & Martin or not. The other great thing is that it's at Pizza Express so the food will be pretty good too.



Death in Vegas @ Shepherds Bush Empire

Death in Vegas. Three words, or two really as 'in' doesn't count. Okay then 'Death' and 'Vegas'; two very different words that both conjure up very different things in my mind. 'Death' makes me think of people dying and how bad it must be, and then for some reason I think about suicide and how stupid it is. Vegas on the other hand allows me to think on a much more fun level. I think of gambling, drink, sex, drugs and all the hedonism that goes with the city that is Las Vegas.

This is what I was thinking about just before Death in Vegas played at Shepherd's Bush Empire last week. Maybe strange, or maybe not. But as soon as the band graced the stage with Dot Allison, their mesmerising first guest of the night, all this disappeared as I let the music take over.

If you've heard Death in Vegas's recent *Contino Sessions* you'll know that their music is quite unique. Lying in a trippy no-mans-land between the rock, dance and electronica genres, they possess a style that is perfect for sitting around and having a think to. On the other hand it's also perfect music for sitting down, emptying your head of all your worries and just letting the music wash through you as you listen to the many intricacies of the tunes. Death in Vegas seem to employ more musicians than a small classical orchestra and this gives them a meaty stage presence that smaller bands can only dream of. Further, the light and graphics show is a feast of a delicious multitude of flavours, which when summed with the music make one of the best live packages of any of the UK bands of the late nineties.

All in all, this was a tremendous night. Three of the four guest singers on *The Contino Sessions* turned up to add to the delight of the packed audience, with Bobby Gillespe giving perhaps the most memorable performance with his wavy dancing and his fresh new schoolboy haircut. If you get the chance to go, a Death in Vegas gig is hard to beat, and much better than a night with some of the more famous acts out there. Have a think about it.

frequency



Bedrock @ Heaven

Do I always get this excited when I go clubbing? Only when the clubnight is as good as this one. Not that I have many less than brilliant nights at clubs. Thinking about it though, there is good reason for this...

The clubs I usually go to are ones that make an effort to impress the clubbers, rather than those strange clubs that seem to just want to be cool. And those clubs usually fail anyway. Knowing Bedrock well then, after having been a number of times, I knew before the night even started that it was going to be more than brilliant. Every detail of the night was perfect - the beer, the vodka, the venue, the tunes, the dancing...

Dancing at Bedrock is perhaps one of the most easily accessible dances for anyone. Rather than having to try to dance all you have to do is turn up and let the music take over. Uplifting tunes are aplenty at this venue and that's why this is perhaps the best clubnight I've ever been to. Going back next month is therefore something I have to do and although the experience has given me a block on my writing style, this will never stop me going. Super venue, super club; Bedrock kicks arse.

Get you the message? You should do, so don't mess up!

James

Hippies Use Side Door @ The End all this scratching is making me itch!

Friday night saw me (Tom) and Dave heading to that prestigious venue, The End. Normally, the high price and long queues would put us off, but not tonight, oh no, for we were on The Guest List. Not that would apply to most of you reading this, but it makes things that much sweeter to be ushered in like a VIP.

Wall of Sound rarely fails to impress and tonight was no exception. In The Bad Magic bar DJ Mighty Mi couldn't make it, so was replaced by Prime Cuts from the Scratch Perverts. This man does wonders with two turntables, and his mixing and scratching were textbook. The choice of tracks was a little bit lacking however, and it left me thirsting for something a bit more.

In the Main Room, DJ Touché from the Wiseguys delivered that bit more... and even more and more! Flawless mixing of choice big beat whipped the crowd into a frenzy. He even dropped in some of his own tracks. When *Ooh La La* came on as the penultimate track, faces all around lit up. I thought I'd hear that song to death, but hearing it echo around the basement caverns with a beat so thunderous even Thor would be jealous, I couldn't help losing it. If The End was a rocket, then DJ Touché put it into space. The sound system at The End is great. It really knocks you off your feet without making your ears bleed too much.

Unfortunately, the star of the show, Dimitri from Paris wasn't there. I haven't got a clue who his replacement was, but he was pretty poor, sticking to generic deep house with not much to keep you interested. If we want that, we'll go to the Ministry!

Back in the Bad Magic bar, DJ Greenpeace was spinning the greatest breaks around. This man knows his soul, and there was a never a lack of inspiration from his voluminous record box. This was the perfect up-tempo but chilled end to the evening. Our rocket is now orbiting round Mars, and I think it's going to stay there. Until next Friday, of course.

This night confirmed my opinion that The End is one of the best clubs in London. Getting Prime Cuts as a replacement just shows the sort of power they have. The place is open until 5am as well, making sure that you always get your money's worth, even for the £10 it normally costs to get in. Recommended!

Tom

Recommended Clubbing

Clubs, Trios, Taxi bars and those funny Munch-mallow things. We all know that a Club is the best option, so if you can - get down.

Monday 22th November; £8

Free Saptal Ram Benefit @ The Scala; £8

Loads of names of the bill here to try and raise awareness of the 'Free Saptal Ram' issue. There's DJs from Asian Dub Foundation, Primal Scream and Massive Attack to name but a few, and on top of this we'll get Irvine Welsh and Howard Marks on the mic. This has got to be more than good.

Tuesday 23th November

Tuesdays @ Le Scandale; £5

Yes, it's Tuesday again and time to convert an unsuspecting club just off Oxford Street into an extension of the union.

Thursday 25th November

Highrise @ Home; £5

Highrise is slowly becoming the night home is known for. This may have something to do with Friday and Saturday nights at the venue getting a cheesy and expensive badge compared with Highrise's bargain £5 entrance fee.

Friday 26th November

Move @ The Ministry; £10

The Ministry dishes up its usual Friday night selection of techno and hard house. To be experienced at least once.

Saturday 27th November

Freedom @ Bagleys; £12

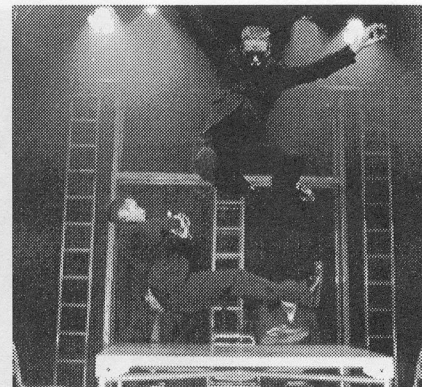
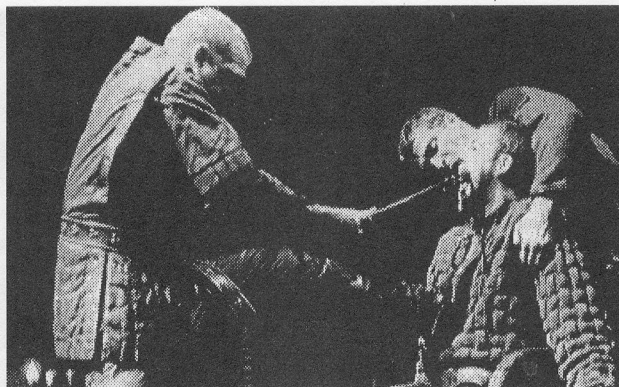
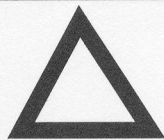
This week Freedom celebrates the launch of 'Human Traffic'. Four rooms cater for a wide range of musical tastes. For DJs we have Ariel undertaking his regular eight hour journey along with a host of others. The cast of the film will be there as should you.

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

method



Resident Alien

Bush Theatre - Shepherds Bush Tube
£7.00 Conc.

This is, without doubt, one of the most mind numbingly tedious pieces of theatre I have ever had the misfortune to see. Tim Fountain's new play unsuccessfully attempts to bring together the writings of Quentin Crisp in a disastrous monologue - reminiscent of a nursing home inmate with verbal diarrhoea. This play murders Crisp's work and induces even the most sedate theatre goer to contemplate homicide.

The theatre itself, to say the least, is less than ergonomic - with its cramped uncomfortable seating you soon find the back of your head nestled nicely in the crotch of the person behind you.

Bette Bourne plays the 91 year old Crisp and appears himself to be a budding case for the pro euthanasia campaign. This man shouldn't be let out on the street without a psychiatric nurse escort, let alone on the stage. The most exciting part of the play was when his wig nearly fell off: riveting.

The monotonous drivel was punctuated with occasional epigrams made completely nonsensical by Bourne's reliance on the Prompt - poor girl, I doubt she has ever worked so hard in her life. If you are tempted to see this play then retire to a darkened room and shoot yourself. Marks out of five - don't make me laugh.



Allypally

Four Knights in Knaresborough

Tricycle Theatre - Kilburn Tube
£9.50 Conc.

"Who will rid me off this turbulent Priest?" - said the King; meet the men who did - they hacked the Arch Bishop to pieces on the altar of his cathedral.

Thomas a Becket was the Priest, Henry II the King, the four knights the murderers. The people loved Becket and so the Knights had to keep a low profile, very low. They lived short of food and heat in a castle in Knaresborough so the enraged Becket supporters did not lynch them. I guessed that this story had been given a more modern edge when the Knights called Becket a "complete and utter fuck wit" and described his murder as "the worst career move in history"

The play explores the effect of such a terrible deed and subsequent isolation. The knights cherish "Loyalty above all, loyalty" to the King and to each other - but can it stop them from destroying each whilst under the strain of being locked in the castle?

We see the degeneration of the knights together and alone for such a time. They get drunk all the time on bad wine and are subject to great bouts of sexual frustration - one of them loves the house maid, who is in love with one of the other knights, who, in turn, has turned into a mad drunken recluse... Meanwhile, the other two knights used to love each other - very confusing!

At one point they become so bored with such utter isolation - and as their place within the local community had reached legendary status - that they open the castle to the public and pretend that they are praying all day, only eating bread before bed time.

If there is a star in this strong cast it is Johnny Lee Miller, of *Trainspotting* fame, bringing that extra kick that made the play really come to life. Richard Wilson shows what an accomplished theatre man he is as director of this fast moving witty, sharp and daring play. A joy to watch; the Tricycle theatre has done it again.



Ben

Hymns

Lyric Theatre - Hammersmith Tube
£5 -12 Conc.

Your four best friends - the lads together; then one of them hangs himself.

Four characters, using dance, joke telling and acting, portray the difficulties facing the four men dealing with this death and its effect on their relationships with each other.

The performance style is set somewhere between contemporary dance and more traditional acting. This perhaps means that to truly appreciate the show you need a certain knowledge and appreciation of the use of motion and dance in theatre.

The production is brave and Frantic Assembly (the production company) has had a string of successes and a West End tour since it formed in 1994 using this blend of the two arts. The overall effect in *hymns* produces some very entertaining scenes when motion and speech are used effectively.

The acting, however, badly let down the main story, with the portrayal of the main characters as "lads" falling flat. Two of the actors were just far too camp to effectively pull off ladism - maybe that's all you can expect from such good dancers!

The characters individual mental struggles dealing with the loss of one of their crew lacked punch. Some of the physicality of the dance went some way to touch the audience but otherwise we were not emotionally involved. An entertaining show that in its 60 minute performance produces funny scenes using both motion and space, but with no real drama.



Mo

books




The Dating Game, Davina McCall

Expect no great revelations. Davina McCall's book is light, entertaining and completely unoriginal. There is nothing here that a couple of good mates couldn't have told you. This is a book for the tube. Light enough to carry around with you all day, interesting enough that you can ignore your fellow passengers, but not so enthralling that you'll miss your stop.

However, McCall is nothing if not thorough. She divides dating into six sections, beginning with 'the dilemma', passes through 'how to meet a mate', 'first date protocol', 'sex' and 'coupledom' to end with 'splitting up'. Her knowledge is carefully divided into heart-shaped bullet points (except in 'splitting up' where they're broken hearts) and the example stories are enclosed in boxes; presumably this is so you don't confuse them with the rest of the text (heaven forbid).

To be fair to McCall she does state at the beginning of the book that her advice is heeded at your own peril. This is a good point. While much of the book states the blindingly obvious - 'You'll meet someone when you least expect it' and places to go on a first date (restaurant, cinema, concert) - other pieces of information are perhaps a little more personal to McCall. I'm quite sure she is alone in using such phrases as 'Tommy todger still in the toy shop'.

One of the earliest points is that when you meet someone you should be yourself, not someone you're not. Fair enough. Although it does somehow make the rest of the book a little pointless. I mean if you're a paranoid xenophobe perhaps rules on how long you should wait before phoning your beloved are not for you. On the plus side, this book doesn't offer any euphemism drenched meaning of life, nor does it present single life after thirty as a love desert.

In short almost anyone could have written this book (assuming they'd dated a few times and weren't a complete stranger to literacy). The simple fact is most of us just didn't. We have other things to do.



Katherine



Complete Prose, Woody Allen

For fans of Woody Allen this is a must have. A collection of fifty-two pieces of writing which is full of Allen's wit and idiosyncratic worldview.

Not so much a book for reading straight out as for dipping into from time to time. *Complete Prose* contains some truly laugh out loud moments and all of the stories and plays encompass Allen's particular view of life, society and relationships. For example 'Selections from the Allen Notebooks' which are to be published 'posthumously or after his death, which ever comes first':

Getting through the night is becoming harder and harder. Last evening, I had the uneasy feeling that some men were trying to break into my room to shampoo me. But why? I kept imagining I saw shadowy forms, and at 3 A.M. the underwear I had draped over a chair resembled the Kaiser on roller skates. When I finally did fall asleep, I had that same hideous nightmare in which a woodchuck is trying to claim my prize at a raffle. Despair.

A classic Woody Allen blend of comedic surrealism and paranoia which runs more or less through all of the pieces in the books. This does make for a truly Woody experience in each piece, but means that reading many at a single sitting can reduce the effect and even start to grate on your nerves somewhat. It is impossible to read these stories without hearing Allen's voice and delivery in your head, and it would be a very different and perhaps diminished experience for someone unfamiliar with Allen's film work.

Woody takes aim at his standard targets of love, sex, marriage and fidelity, and also looks at western thought and philosophy as seen by a neurotic New York Jew. Rife with literary references, familiarity with Faust and the works of Franz Kafka is advisable, although by no means necessary.

Really a pleasure to read - and your parents will appreciate it too.



Russell

Felix Recommends

Remember that the two reviewed titles are available from the Waterstone's on campus at a discount of 20%. Take advantage of this offer Monday to Friday 9:00am to 7:00pm and Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm. Go on.

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Imperial College, London

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25 NOVEMBER 1999

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THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP

All events are open to members of The Business Society
Annual membership is available for £1 at the door
The Business Society is a member of the Imperial College Union

screen

iCU CINEMA



What's on at ICU Cinema

This week our very own cinema is showing *The General's Daughter*, *Entrapment* and *Eyes Wide Shut* on Tuesday and Thursday.

The General's Daughter starring John Travolta, Madeleine Stowe, and James Cromwell is about when warrant officer Paul Brenner (John Travolta), a top investigator from the Army's Criminal Investigation Division, is assigned to look into the murder of Captain Elisabeth Campbell. Armed with the power to arrest any military person - whatever the rank - anywhere in the world, Brenner is determined to solve the crime, no matter where his pursuit leads, even if the clues point to his hero, General "Fighting Joe" Campbell (James Campbell). Campbell's daughter was the pride of Fort MacCallum, a poster girl for the military - beautiful, smart, a superior officer. When she is found bound and dead in the middle of a training field, the authorities fear the worst and team Brenner with another CID veteran, Sara Sunhill (Madeline Stowe).

Entrapment is about 'Mac' MacDougal (Sean Connery), who has an untarnished reputation as the world's greatest art thief. So when a priceless Rembrandt is stolen in New York, the evidence points to Mac. Insurance investigator Virginia (Gin) Baker (Catherine Zeta-Jones) persuades her boss, whose company will lose \$24 million on the theft, to let her go after the master criminal. Gin gets more than she bargained for when she meets Mac.

Eyes Wide Shut is the last work by Stanley Kubrick and stars Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. If you haven't heard the hype about this film already then what planet are you on! The stars play man and wife and the film is about their marriage. Definately worth watching.

The cinema will be having their Christmas party during the last week of term. Watch this space for more info!

Video Releases

The Prince of Egypt: Out to Rent or Buy 22/11/99

Based on the Biblical story of Moses, *The Prince of Egypt* is an animated caper by Steven Spielberg's Dreamworks Pictures in their latest attempt to dethrone Disney. By targeting adults as well as children the material is both serious and fun; and also offers great attention to detail. With a cast including Ralph Fiennes, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Jeff Goldblum, it just can't be missed. The animation is brilliant, particularly the unleashing of the ten plagues. The only weakness is the soundtrack. The songs just don't click in the same way as Disney's. This video release loses some if it's cinematic awe but is still worthwhile viewing. (4/5)

Dave

Life is Beautiful (La Vita E Bella): Out to Rent 22/11/99

This is the story of an Italian Jewish family in the years leading up to and including the Second World War. The film is split into two juxtaposed halves. The beginning is a light slapstick, which covers the happy times when waiter Guido (Roberto Benigni, who also directs) courts school-teacher Dora (Nicoletta Braschi). In comparison the second half is shocking as Guido, Dora and their young son Joshua (Giorgio Cantarini) are taken to prison camps. Guido now uses his tomfoolery to protect his son. It is this that gives it a different perspective to previous holocaust films. (4/5)

Katherine

She's All That: Out to Rent 22/11/99

This is yet another teen movie churned out from Hollywood's production line. What does it offer beyond what's come before? Very little I'm afraid. The most popular guy on campus, Zack Siler (Freddie Prinze Jr.), bets a mate he can turn the school geek, Laney Bogs (Rachel Leigh Cook), complete with her big boffin glasses, into the Prom Queen. The rest is obvious. Bogs loses the glasses, is suddenly beautiful and Siler falls in love. The problem is you just can't help but get involved although most of the jokes fall flat. In the end, it is just an average teen flick with a hip soundtrack and a happy ending. (3/5)

Dave

Competition Time

This week Screen has EdTv goodie bags to give away containing all the usual stuff. To get your hands on one of these bags e-mail film.felix@ic.ac.uk with the answer to this question:

Which film connects Dennis Hooper to Kevin Costner?

Screen also has a *Fight Club* goodie bag to give away. To get your hands on that, e-mail Screen at the above e-mail address with the answer to this:

What is the name of Brad Pitt's character in *Fight Club*?

Screen has tickets to a special preview of *American Beauty* on 1 December. It stars Kevin Spacey, who goes through a mid-life crisis and Annette Bening as his wife who decides to get revenge. To win these tickets, e-mail Screen with the answer to

When is *American Beauty* released in the UK?

To make life easier please put the name of the film corresponding to the competition you are entering in the subject of your e-mail.

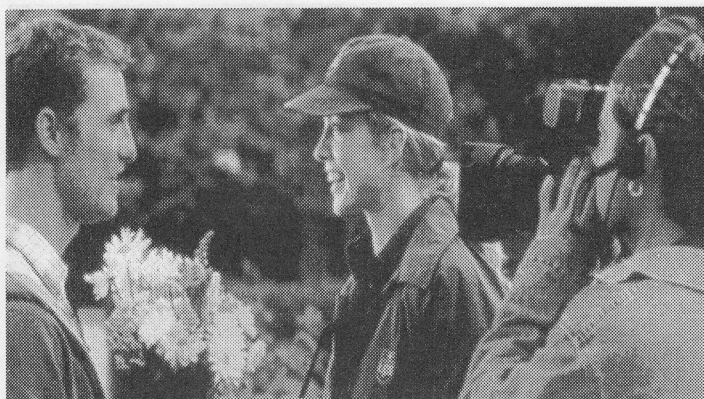
The winners of last weeks competition are:

A Shah
E Renshaw
H Van Tilborg
H Maguire
B Ooi

Please call by the Felix office for your tickets.

Thanks to everyone who corrected my mistake last week. Lonestarr does indeed have two R's. The answer to last weeks question, for those that didn't know it, is **Spaceballs**.

screen



EdTV

How much do you value your privacy? Do you have any skeletons in your closet that you don't want people to find out? How would you feel if your life was televised to over a 100 million people 24 hours a day, 7 days a week? Well, Ron Howard thrusts these questions upon Ed Pekurny in his new movie, *EDTV*.

Last year we got *The Truman Show* dealing with the crisis of a man who does not know that his life is being televised to the rest of the world. The story deals with a cable company who, in a desperate attempt to improve their ratings, employ a 31 year-old video store clerk, Ed Pekurny (Matthew McConaughey). They want Ed to allow his life and his interactions with the rest of his family and friends to be televised 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for a certain length of time. He agrees under pressure from his brother Ray (Woody Harrelson) and then, unknowingly proceeds to wreak havoc on his family and friends by attracting unwanted attention to them.

The big difference between *The Truman Show* and *EDTV* is that in *The Truman Show*, the main character was being filmed without his consent, while in *EDTV* the character is being filmed out of his own choice. Now would anyone really want to do that? To awaken in the morning to two cameras directed toward your face or to go to bathroom with a cameraman waiting outside to catch you as soon as you walk out the door. Apparently some people are willing to do this! Provided that you can believe this point, then the movie is a generally enjoyable one where you don't have to think too much. It's very obvious that Ron Howard is trying to make a point about the rapidly deteriorating American media culture (to go along with our British one), but perhaps he should first look closer at people who are willing to make a mockery of their lives and those of their friends and family in a desperate attempt to attract attention to themselves. As one character says, "People used to be considered famous for being special. Now they're just considered special for being famous."

The acting is fine by everyone in the cast. The acting by Woody Harrelson as the brother, Ray and Martin Landau as the stepfather, Al really stands out. Landau is absolutely hilarious in each scene he's in and Woody Harrelson continues to provide fine supporting comic turns. And Rob Reiner, director of films such as *A Few Good Men* and *This Is Spinal Tap*, plays the head Studio Executive.

When this movie was released in America it was unfairly compared with *The Truman Show* and consequently suffered at the box office. While they have the same basic idea, *The Truman Show* was more original and, to me, superior to *EDTV*, which seems like an extended sitcom. However, they are still different movies that should be judged separately - and the movie provides an enjoyable night out. Just as long as you're not being followed by cameramen....



Imran



Carrie 2 - The Rage

One simple word applies to this film, which can be repeated an arbitrary number of times at your leisure: "Why?" Upon hearing of *Carrie 2 - The Rage*, this is probably the same question that fans of *Carrie*, the 1976 Brian De Palma classic, may also be asking. Twenty years after the first film, we are re-introduced to high school life in the US. The first film made a huge contribution to starting audiences' obsession with adolescent issues and was seen by many to be incredibly effective, with both its emotional themes and its offbeat, slightly disturbing visuals.

The sequel, like the original, has a lead heroine armed with the power of telekinesis. In spite of her suspicious similarity to the original *Carrie* (who was wondrously acted by Oscar-nominated Sissy Spacek), there are a few differences. Her name isn't Carrie, it's Rachel, and she isn't a naïve, vulnerable pubescent unaware of her secret talents. Rachel (Emily Bergl) is an angry Goth, and she knows all too well of her ability to fling objects using the power of her mind.

The overall premise is almost identical to *Carrie*. Rachel is an outsider, different to most other school kids. Again, there is a maniacal, god-fearing mother, helping to explain to us why Rachel got into that world-hating state in the first place. However, where *Carrie*'s mother was a disturbing, ever-present force throughout the original film, adding to its imposing mood, Rachel's mother (played convincingly by J Smith Cameron) is safely locked away in Arkham Asylum. There is very little point to her character, other than to force a link between the two films. It turns out that *Carrie* and Rachel are half-sisters, related by their womanizing father. The plot flows almost identically to the former film, with similar set pieces. Eventually, towards the end of the film, we are awarded with a fantastic special effects laden finale. Combined with over the top gore, it becomes nearly impossible to care about the characters anymore. You'll have more fun sitting back and laughing at the death scenes.

The Rage is disappointing but there are some pleasing performances throughout the cast, especially from Emily Bergl in her big screen debut. Oddly, clips from the first movie are unnecessarily spliced into some of the scenes and *Carrie* fans will even recognise familiar sounds edited into the soundtrack. You can't blame anyone for comparing the two films. Unfortunately, whatever technique is employed, nothing will distract you from coming to the conclusion that *The Rage* is anything more than an updated remake. What is unacceptable is that, in the end, the story is redundant. You're probably better off renting *Carrie* on video. It is also difficult to recommend the film. The difficulty and disappointment lies in the fact that despite all the pointlessness, there is a lot of obvious talent in this movie, and whether you like it or not, the ranks of hot, young acting ability will continue to grow.



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A WHOLE NEW WORLD



Abomination (PC)

Take *Xcom*, spice up the graphics, damp down the management and make it fully real-time and what have you got? Its *Abomination*.

A mysterious plague has incapacitated the entirety of the present-day USA - millions are dead (it would never happen in a film - unless it was Europe). Responsibility seems to fall (at least in part) on a major cult known as 'The Faithful'. Its mutated followers are doing their best to either recruit (no semblance to real life there then) or kill the saner survivors of the chaos. Enter the player with his secret team of bioengineered Nemesis operatives, and its time to go practice some anti-religious butt-kicking.

Missions range from wasting all cult missionaries within a particular sector to protecting your own premises. As the game progresses and your knowledge grows new objectives will become apparent. A maximum of 4 soldiers can be taken on any mission, putting an emphasis on strategic and stealthy combat if you wish to pullout with your squad still in tact. Being outnumbered is great since it makes it all the more satisfying when you gruesomely take-out 6 cronies with a sneakily placed grenade, and then retreat before the enemies lock onto your agent. Although real-time, the action can thankfully be paused to allow you to change orders at critical moments - without this option the game would be nigh on impossible.

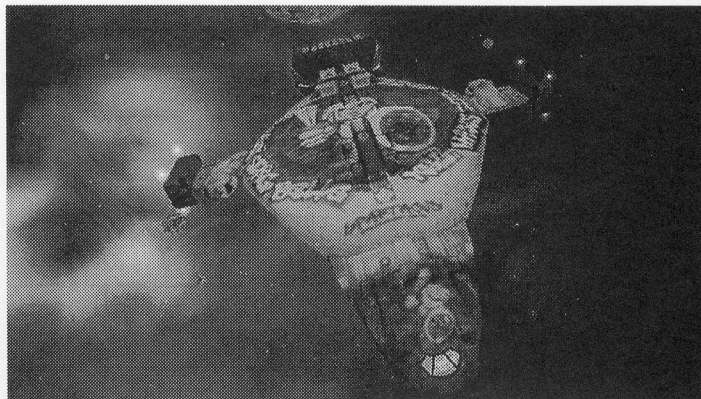
Viewed from an isometric perspective one may complain about the lack of game area you can see on the screen at any one time. However, the decent graphics pull some attention away from this grievance, as does the extensive environment interactivity with large numbers of cars and weird organic growths available for your wanton destruction. Based on a sprites/pre-rendered background graphics engine even I could be assured of smooth scrolling and animation on my lowly P166 with 2MB VRAM. Turn on the gore and watch those body parts fly! (ahem...)

Besides trigger experience, some shifting of resources, team management, and mission selection are all vital to your cause. Unfortunately however, the depth of such options is shallow compared to the *Xcom* series where the player controlled spending and research goals are as important as manufacturing criteria.

Abomination may not leave you revelling in its wake, but it is a good effort nonetheless and comes highly commended, particularly for gamers without monster PCs.



Viv



Independence War - Defiance (PC)

Independence War - Defiance is unlike most space combat simulators in that it doesn't put you in the cockpit of a dinky fighter. Instead you're in charge of a 160m long 'Dreadnaught' class corvette. The Special Edition comprises the original *I-War*, released two years ago, where you serve in the Commonwealth Navy suppressing Indie insurrection along with the new 18 mission Defiance Campaign where the table has been turned and your fight for freedom as an Indie Captain.

Kicking off a strong plot is a cracking 14 minute intro movie. Earth relies on its colonies to feed its population but the colonists aren't happy with the deal! The colonists seek justice in an independence war. In game cut scenes build this story further.

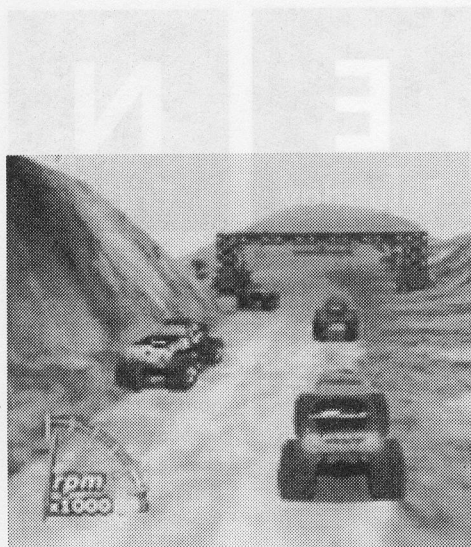
Independence War's outstanding feature is its Newtonian based flight model. Flying the Dreadnaught is a very different experience to the F-15's of other games. When the engine's turned off you just keep moving. This allows for a variety of manoeuvres unseen elsewhere, such as sideways movement and the ability to flip over 180 degrees and hammer the enemy on your tail whilst travelling in the original direction. This system is truer to life than most games making it interesting and fun to play. If this system isn't your cup of tea, an alternative arcade mode is provided.

When the game was originally released a friend of mine mistakenly believed that *I-War* used his 3Dfx card because of its speed and amazing graphics, not realising that it was unsupported. Only now are the graphics starting to show their age against the likes of *Homeworld* and *X-Beyond the Frontier* and even they aren't that much ahead. Glide support has now been added, so ships look better than ever if you own a 3Dfx card. However as most people's graphics cards only support Direct3D they won't be able to see this. The software engine is excellent (though limited to 640x480). In the Defiance campaign there are also some new additional features such as a mid-point mission save, zoom function, collision alarm and a weapon load out screen adding to the experience; unfortunately, these haven't been added to the original campaign.

Despite a lack of multi-player missions the branching mission structure, involving plot line and unusual flight model create a unique space-sim experience. If you have the original *I-War* £20 is a lot to pay for the Defiance campaign as the 3DFX upgrade is freely downloadable along with a mission editor. If you didn't get *I-War* and are into space combat games, *Independence War* sets itself apart from other titles and is well worth looking at. I keep going back to it.



Tim



Monster Truck Madness (N64)

Those big-wheeled brutes are back. Famous for crushing numerous cars on tacky late Saturday afternoon TV, they've finally made their way to the N64.

Monster Trucks, the WWF/WCW of the driving world, sure have the potential to entertain and their incarnation into *Monster Truck Madness 64* from Take 2 does not disappoint. Take to the mud tracks in one of many different trucks, each sporting original and classy names such as 'The Hitman'... Well at least you can't fault the programmers in their attempts to recreate the whole ethos of monster truck racing. As per usual there is a single player 'circuit' mode

where you compete against 3 other computer vehicles over 10 race tracks, always looking to finish in first place in order to progress.

Americans certainly love power over finesse - just look at their Nascar racing compared to our beautiful F1. In compliance with this, then, you'll find that the handling of the monster truck (although realistically modelled) isn't as easy or sensitive as you might have hoped for, but with practice the anticipation required will become second nature and you'll be able to pull off cracking manoeuvres. Besides driving competency you'll also have to engage in some aggressive tactics and the familiar action of shunting your rival drivers off the track will become routine business. Get knocked about a bit too much or attempt to climb too steep an incline and you'll find yourself rolling over. Various power-ups litter the tracks that can perform benign acts such as oil-slick deposition to the sexier missile armament or even the transformation of your vehicle into a flying machine.

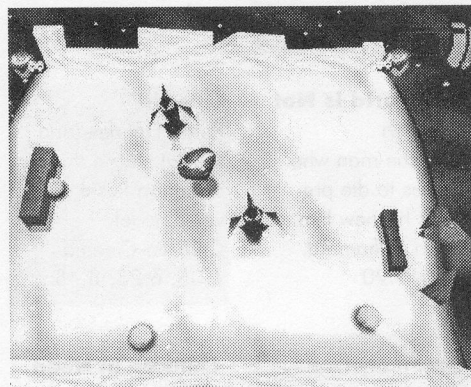
Graphics and sound have been well catered for although it would have been nice to see the trucks get bust up over time considering all the punishment they take. In exhibition mode you can also change the weather and lighting conditions. However, where *Monster Truck Madness* really sparkles is in multi-player

react

mode. Unlike many graphically demanding driving games, here up to 4 players can bustle for supremacy at once which is just sooooo much more fun than the normal 2. Include the computer if you want and race on a track, or else try out some of the sub-games such as tag, summit rumble and soccer (push giant footballs into goals - not as easy as it sounds!). If you're looking for something that doesn't take itself too seriously yet still provides endless hours of driving mayhem, this is it.



Viv



Pong (PSX)

Am I right in saying the original *Pong* was the first game to use a graphical interface? Maybe. Anyway, that game (2 paddles, 2 goals, and one bouncing ball) still forms the basis of this latest edition.

I usually approach remakes of classic games with trepidation as they rarely live up to reputation (eg *Space Invaders* and more recently *Rampage World Tour*), since the old concepts can no longer

compete in the continuously advancing (at least from a technological point of view) gaming world. This version of *Pong* however completely blasted away any such doubt. The game is fantastic - its amazing how many ways the programmers have wangled different games out of one simple concept.

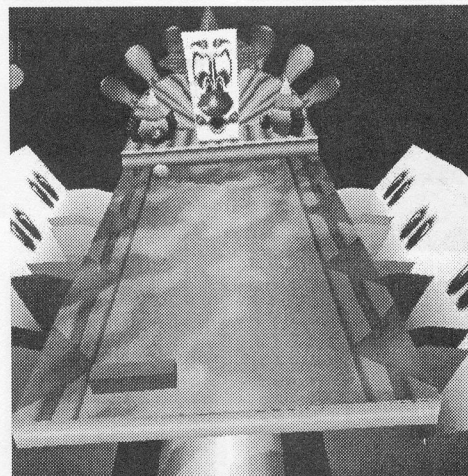
Take one snow scene and add to it penguins who, when hit, give you more balls to cope with. Win this comparatively easy level (by scoring 10 first) and you'll have to deal with intruding polar bears and shifts in wind direction. Then take football, give each player 2 paddles (one goalie and one striker) and try to score 10 goals. Beat this and you'll get molehills, tie and the game will be settled on a penalty shoot-out. The key to the success of this game is the realistic physics of the ball. It moves and responds in utter perfection, and this factor coupled with some of the best graphics I have seen for the Playstation mean that you cannot but gloat at the eye candy emanating from the screen.

Pong has much in the way of lasting appeal - games are short enough to play against the computer or a mate whenever, whatever. In single

player mode you'll need to beat certain levels to unlock others ensuring there is always reason to come back for more until every world and every gaming arena have been uncovered. All in all, *Pong* is a brilliant remake of its forefather, a winning formula which has been given a makeover with enough frilly extras to guarantee that it still works in this modernised world.



Viv



FELIX

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Monday

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Tuesday

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Wednesday

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Thursday

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Friday

D

Saturday

A

Sunday

Y

Next Week

EVENTS

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

Excess
Classic party tunes for the post-match party. 9-1am, dBs

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

Utopia
'The best Ibiza style mix of dance, trance & cheesy house & garage.' With emphasis on the cheese, I suspect. **Bust-a-Gut** Rob Rouse, Paul Sinha and Alfie Joey. 8pm, dBs, £2.50/£2

Standing Room Only
Chelsea vs Feyenord 7.30, da Vinci's

Standing Room Only
Arsenal vs Nantes or Newcastle vs Roma 7.30, da Vinci's

CLUBS

Archery
6-10pm, Projectile Hall (Sports Centre)

Fencing Club
Union Gym, 12pm

Wine Tasting
6pm, dB's

Canoe Club
Practice session, 7pm

CAG
Soup run, 8.15pm

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

CAG
Soup run, 8.15pm
Week's Basement

ICU Choir
Rehearsal, 6.15pm
Room 342, Mech Eng.

RAG Meeting
1.00pm

Astrosoc
Queen's Lawn, 7pm
Trip to Hampstead Observatory.

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

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

Music

Asian Dub Foundation @ Scala, £8
Highly acclaimed as a live act, tonight they play their home town.

Trash @ The Annex, £4
The Beastie Boys launch their new album, 'Sounds of Science', tonight.

Bullitt @ The Dogstar, Free
With the likes of Portishead's Andy Smith this hip-hop night should be excellent.

Foo Fighters @ Brixton Academy
If you wanted to see this excellent American import then too bad. Sold out.

Jools Holland @ Royal Albert Hall
The funky dwarf plays some blues with his talented orchestra.

Film

Ed TV
Ed is chosen to become the star of a 24 hour live soap. Chaos ensues. *Virgin Fulham Rd.* 3.50, 6.30, 9.10

Random Hearts
Harrison Ford tries his hand at a more romantic role with varied success. *Virgin Chelsea* 2.00, 6.00, 8.50

Brokedown Palace
Two girls are convicted of smuggling heroin in Thailand. Is one guilty? *Odeon Kensington* 4.10, 6.25, 8.40

The World Is Not Enough
007, the man who refuses to die previews his new film. *Virgin Fulham Rd.* 6.30, 9.20

Oegin
Ralph Fiennes (and family) star in this adaption Pushkin's verse novel. *Chelsea Cinema* 4.05, 6.25, 8.45

TV

The Cops
9.00pm, BBC2
The popular drama-as-a-documentary series continues tonight.

Evening Standard Theatre Awards
7.30pm, ITV
Categories include Best Actor and Milenium Newcomer.

Terminator 2
10.20pm, BBC1
Arnie battles with fellow cyborgs in this classic blockbuster.

Extremely Dangerous
9.00pm, ITV
Sean Bean is the most wanted man in Britain.

Children in Need
7.00pm, BBC1
Terry Wogan and Gaby Roslin kick off this years fundraising marathon.

Arts

Moonraker, Strangelove and other celluloid dreams: the visionary art of Ken Adams
Serpentine Gallery

Nirvana
Proud Galleries
A photographic retrospective of Nirvana with a distinctly British twist. Opens today.

Designing in the Digital Age
Victoria and Albert
This latest display chronicles three cutting-edge design teams.

RECIPE OF THE WEAK

chicken in mustard and honey sauce, served with crisp new potatoes and rice
(how to impress your parents when you go home)

Ok. It's very simple, and very nice. If you're out to impress that lovely lady living on your fourth floor, this is the way to do it. You'll need to hog an entire cooker to do it, but it's well worth the effort (trust me, I've not died of food-poisoning yet). You'll need (in metric student amounts):

- Enough **rice** to fill 1/2 a plate
- 200g of **chicken** (cut into cubes - Sainsburys do some nice stuff cut up for you, you lazy sod).
- 6 (small) or 5 (medium) sized new / Charlotte **potatoes**.
- 1/2 **onion** (medium)

and also...

- Some **Dijon mustard** (bottle)
- Some **honey** (jar)
- **Double cream** (small carton)
- **Tarragon** (a spice type thing)
- **Chives** (fresh or freeze dried)
- **Salt & pepper** (of course)
- **Garlic** cloves (1-2 depending on whether you fancy your chances or not)

You'll also need to locate a wok (which your parents bought you when you came here), a saucepan for the rice (ditto) and another saucepan and large frying pan / wok to do the potatoes. This is where cooking for a friend (potential or otherwise) might come in handy.

If you have no friends, you'll need to borrow (read: steal) some kit from your friendly hall kitchen, or your flatmate who doesn't cook anyway and lives out of microwave meal boxes.

1. Boil the potatoes (wash them first). They should take about 30 mins to cook (25 mins if nice and bought from North End Road Market). Add 5 mins if needed (if they are too hard), but it should be easy to push a fork through them when they are properly cooked - you want them soft but not falling to pieces.

2. While the potatoes are boiling, you might also want to boil the rice. Rinse first. How long it

takes to cook depends on the rice, but if you try some and it doesn't taste "hard" then you're there.

3. While you're boiling stuff, finely chop the onion, leaving a quarter of an onion left over.

4. Fry the onion with the wok on low heat, add the chicken, switch to frying-capable heat and cook until the chicken is cooked and looks white.

5. Add the double cream to the fried chicken. Add a table spoon of mustard and honey to the sauce per 200g of chicken. Add more to taste, sprinkle in some tarragon, and leave to simmer. You're hoping for a lot of the moisture to burn off here, and you should be left with a sauce about the consistency of a good curry (not one you bought from the Union).

6. Fry some garlic and the rest of the onion in a large frying pan, in a little butter.

7. When the potatoes are cooked, drain and add them to the frying pan. Add some more butter. You're trying to coat them so they cook better and develop a crunchy exterior.

8. Cook until the potato skin is slightly brown / golden (depending on the way you cook).

9. Remove the potatoes from the frying pan and sprinkle with salt (sea salt is best), pepper, and chopped chives.

10. Drain the rice (rinse with some boiling water if it looks a little starchy).

11. If the cream sauce hasn't boiled off well enough, add some more mustard and / or honey. You might also want to add some salt depending on how good your mustard was, and some honey depending on your taste.

12. Serve with a side salad comprising of lettuce, celery and chopped, very ripe, and avocado. If you can find a decent mustard based salad dressing then so much the better, but a nice French dressing does just as well.

13. Eat, accompany your meal with a nice white wine, and enjoy.

Steps @ Wembley Arena
Tragedy! Sold out.

The Cranberries @ Wembley Arena
After a turbulent period the irish band are again filling large venues.

The Chemical Brothers @ Brixton Academy
Tickets are still available for the December 4th show.

The Rage: Carrie 2
A very American and very 90s sequel to the classic original. Oh dear. *Virgin Trocadero* 3.30, 6.20, 8.45

The Cup
Football and Buddhism clash in this affecting debut feature. *Ritzy Cinema* 5.15, 7.15, 9.15

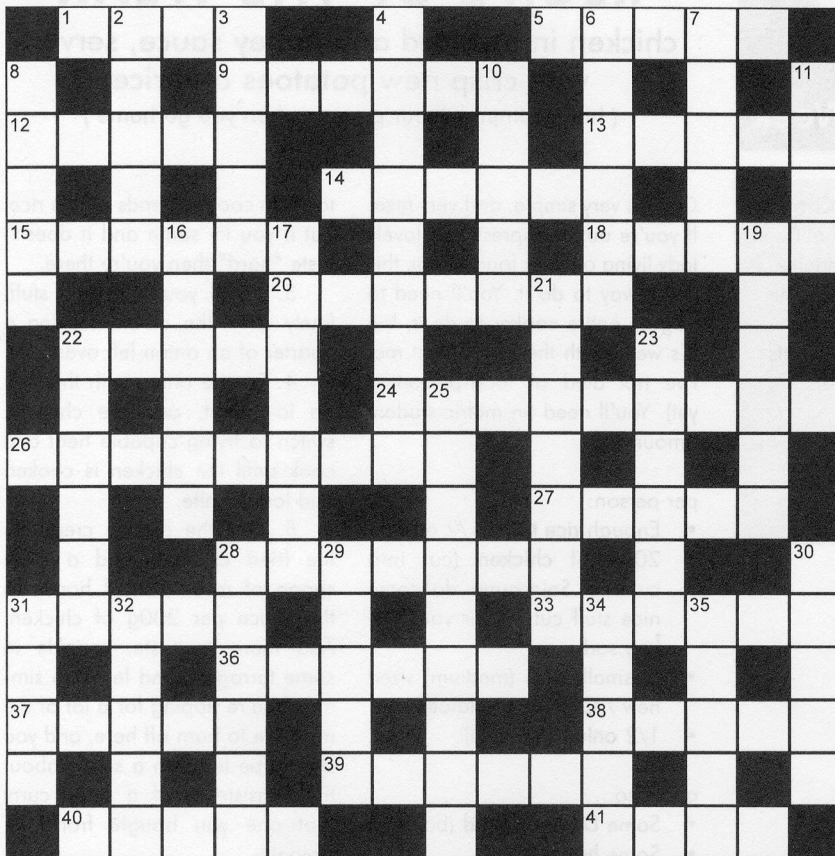
The World is Not Enough
Gadgets and guns galore lined-up alongside Pierce Brosnan. Oh, and there's Denise Richards. Mmmm.

The National Lottery
7.10pm, BBC1
Forget about a career, just win the lottery instead.

The Adventures of Captain Pugwash
10.15am, ITV
Nurse that hangover with some classic nostalgia.

new contemporaries
Various locations
A showcase for recent fine art graduates from across London. First week.

The Felix Crossword, by Turnip Henry



Across

- 1. Perform incantation for fish. (4)
- 5. Sally, in the afternoon, wrote a bit of the Bible. (5)
- 9. Italy's mythical character refers to neuter. (6)
- 12. Winged god is up in police division. (5)
- 13. Processed puree makes money. (5)
- 14. A male District Attorney, is actually a lady! (6)
- 15. Irritating point. (6)
- 18. Look after hospital worker. (5)
- 20. Worker in circle is going on. (7)
- 22. Presiding, I swim in tea. (5)
- 24. Bland and unpleasant. (9)
- 26. Deity dad is boss. (9)
- 27. Back, like king, for beer. (5)
- 28. Hug me backwards, then hold. (7)
- 31. Emotion range is choppy. (5)
- 33. Weekend treat. (6)
- 36. Richard, do prune the flower. (6)
- 37. Go round, and take brother back to it. (5)
- 38. I, sorcerer, create a picture. (5)
- 39. Tight plastics. (6)
- 40. Sit on a fish. (5)
- 41. Binty Kelly has a cheeky child. (4)

- 3. Rice washed up twice a day. (5)
- 4. Kill insect going around North America. (9)
- 6. Spaniard called, then jumped. (6)
- 7. Repel back diseased one. (5)
- 8. Scandium worker is limited. (5)
- 10. Exciting bloke sounds like toadstools. (5)
- 11. Carnival sounds like it was pre-ordained. (4)
- 16. Battle in short daffodils makes others seem small. (6)
- 17. Er... Rodent... Um... That's a mistake. (7)
- 19. Detection device puts roses back around Nigel. (6)
- 21. Stingers let nest fall over. (7)
- 22. Composer could be butcher. (6)
- 23. Standard on bottle. (6)
- 25. A creature messed up modal lair. (9)
- 28. Queen: Oh! Twitch is quite sexy. (6)
- 29. Flight company rip off meat. (5)
- 30. Stitch, er, a disposal system? (5)
- 31. A drum is very small(4)
- 32. Part of a house that's gone with the wind.(5)
- 34. Midlands University has fog after you. (1.1.1.1.1.)

Down

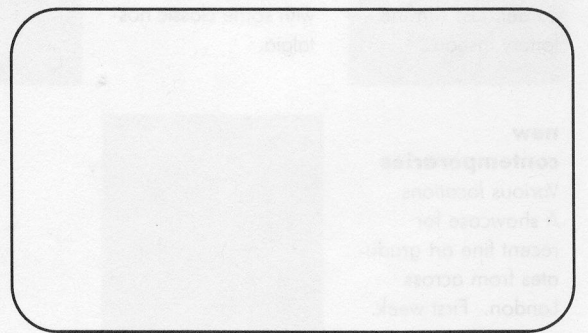
- 2. Fruit is very quietly

- 35. Imbibed old penny: disgusting! (5)

Answers to 1157:

Across: Carpets, Figaro, Carols, Ages, Elation, Apes, Trek, Failing, Beta, Doors, Tripe, Lion, Wave, Edits, Argue, Duds, Turn-ups, Yogi, Acre, Hawkers, Carp, Digest, Utopia, Evoking.

Down: Ginger, Mars, Cone, Pint, Scan, Area, Albert, Alias, Idiot, Trilled, Kidneys, Florist, Gringos, Brewery, Alveoli, Straw, Amuse, urchin, Garlic, Eden, Hate, Kink, Slug, Chop.



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Calamari

"Sensational alternative rock"
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On stage @ 9.30pm
£3.50 with this flyer

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Bust-a-Gut Comedy

This Friday, dBs plays host to the fourth show in this year's Bust-A-Gut Comedy line-up, with Rob Rouse, Paul Sinha and Alfie Joey all on the bill (in addition, of course, to the inspired, neo post-ironic, observational comedy of our very own Mark Horne).

Rob Rouse

Rob was born from a woman in Macclesfield in 1974. Just five years later he was smacking a babysitter on the bottom with a carpet-beater, oblivious to his actions due to the red mist of childish excitement. He had no recollection of the incident. Forced to apologise to the babysitter at the village fete, the confused and embarrassed lad set off to walk the world with the aim of breaking wind from

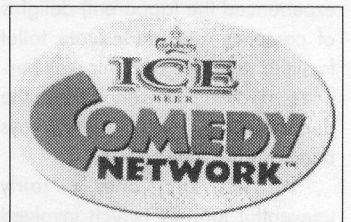
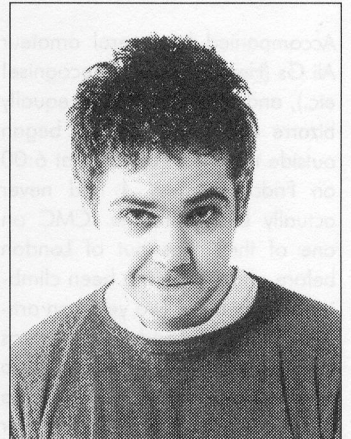
the highest point of every capital city. Getting as far as Sheffield, Rob arrived in London only last year, wearing just a pair of shoes; needing a coat, he entered a local comedy club, and finding the audience distracted by some rather mediocre nob gags and difference-between-men-and-women jokes, a flowing mink number was swiped. Rob's desire to be a comic was alight, and he could sell coats for profit.

Rob worked his knackers off, winning both the 1998 Ha Bloody Ha New Act of the Year Award and Channel Four's So You Think You're Funny competition at last year's Edinburgh Festival - an award previously won by the likes of Phil Kay, Lee Mack, Dylan Moran and Tommy Tiernan. Rob subsequently performed in The Best of So You Think You're Funny

and compared New Comedy shows at Edinburgh's Gilded Ballroom.

A rising star on the London circuit, Rob performs every Saturday at the Big & Daft Comedy Night at the Viaduct Inn, Hanwell and is simultaneously touring the country with the Comedy Network. He returned to the Edinburgh Festival this year, as part of both the 1999 Comedy Zone and The Big & Daft Comedy Show.

So what's his comedy like? He goes for "Vibrant, raw, sweaty, flatulent, snappy, twisted, off-kilter, always surprising, always up for it", whilst the BBC prefer the snappier "Excellent". See for yourself on Friday night, when £2.50 (£2 with an Entscard) gets you entrance to the best and cheapest comedy night in town. Don't miss.



CCS
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Computer Shop

Level 4

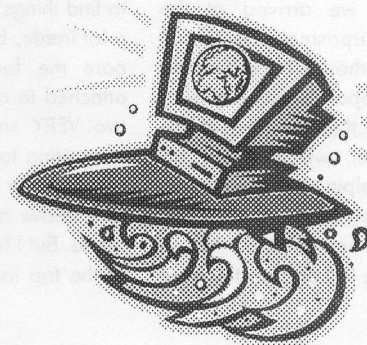
Mechanical Engineering Building

Ext. 46953

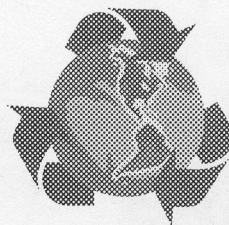
9.30am - 5.00pm

ccs-shop@ic.ac.uk

Prices @ <http://www.cc.ic.ac.uk/admin/shop/>



Recycle your empty toner and ink cartridges.



All proceeds go to CLIC - Cancer and Leukemia in Childhood

Mountaineering Society

WILL DUGDALE

Accompanied by several amateur Ali Gs (Here me now... Recognise! etc.), and a variety of other equally bizarre characters, my trip began outside the Union building at 6:00 on Friday evening. I had never actually been with the ICMC on one of their trips out of London before, despite having been climbing with them for two years on artificial walls in London, so I was unsure of how much I was going to enjoy myself. I am, I'll be the first to admit, a pansy, and have never experienced the (apparent) delights of camping and inadequate toilet facilities and I felt as if this was perhaps throwing myself in at the deep-end a touch. I've always been a hotel man myself.

We left, and after a fairly uneventful journey (which involved eating the most food I've ever eaten in my entire life in some random town), we arrived at the campsite. Surprisingly, it wasn't raining (even though I had checked the weather report: my luck is much more efficient than the Met). It was dark, however, which made my attempts at helping to put a tent up much less than useful, but eventually we were set up and, though cold, we were still dry. For the most

part, Alex, however, had decided he was going to relieve himself in the traditional male fashion. He could see the bark of the chosen tree reflecting the cool moonlight in the dark (he had no torch), and the hypnotising effect it had on him completely blinded him to the fact that it was in the middle of a stream. He changed, and we all went to our tents.

The next morning brought mostly cold, I remember, but according to the others it was quite a nice day. I was unconvinced, having always been under the impression that one needs feeling in the fingers to climb effectively. I was warned that this was pessimistic, and told to stop complaining. So off we went. We drove to The Roaches, which was where we were going to spend our weekend climbing, and after some wandering and wondering, we dumped our stuff on a big rock, paired up, and went off to find things to climb. I've climbed a lot inside, but nothing could prepare me for the fear of being attached to a wall thirty feet up by two VERY small pieces of metal, attempting to belay (hold the rope of) someone who was about twenty foot above me. I was afraid. Very afraid. But I have to say that getting to the top (and some of the inter-

vening period) was very enjoyable. Although I'll never admit that to my climbing partner (whom I hold fully responsible for the stains in my trousers). The first day went by without serious incident for us, although the Rescue Services were called for another group: one of their members had taken a fall.

That evening we drank. And I played darts (and lost).

Our second day dawned, and it was damper, but still not quite raining. By this time, however I was beginning to see the cold as my friend (though I'll probably take warmer, more waterproof clothes next time, so maybe as a friend with halitosis), and thus was in a far superior mood. We went to a local town for breakfast, and got a bit waylaid, since it now had begun to drizzle and the clouds were very low. We were there, then, at eleven o'clock, so some of us saw their Remembrance Day parade, which warmed the heart of even the coldest cynic (i.e. me). So when we left, even though the weather wasn't as good as the previous day, we were all ready to do some serious climbing, and climb we did. However, our luck wasn't as good that day, and we actually had two injuries (more than the usual bleeding hands, which I've NOW been told

is standard on grit-stone). One of these, we hope, has been walked off, but the other required more serious attention (due to it being a bump to the back...better safe than sorry), so we packed up a little early and trooped to A&E in Stoke-on-Trent. The individual in question had relatives nearby, however, so they arrived to relieve us, and we made our way back to London. We stopped again at the same town (if you ever pass through Lutterworth go to the Cottage Chinese Take-away. Mmmm) where I ate even more than the last time, and soon we were back in the sprawling metropolis of London. Using a cunning human chain we unpacked the gear from the van in record time, and were all on our way back home before you can say "How much money, like, would I need, to be a Mill-ee-on-air?"

Would I do it again? Probably. Would I recommend it to anyone else? Definitely. It gets you out of London, and in touch with your fear of mortality, and I would certainly rate it as one of the most interesting experiences I've had while at IC.

Contact Megan
megan.bradley@ic.ac.uk.

Phoenix

ANDY OFORI

The original publication of Imperial College has returned for the millennium. Phoenix is the arts publication of Imperial College and affords students a unique opportunity to share their creative talents.

Each year those brave enough to contribute never fail to impress with their skillful and emotive pieces. One of the strengths of the annual is its free and eclectic style; submissions range from poems and short stories to watercolours and photos. Phoenix is issued in the summer term allowing contributors to submit their creations at any stage in the year, whenever inspiration hits. The editorial team are hoping to start collecting work from



this term in order to develop an overall design.

There will also be an accompanying CD or tape released with the

magazine, allowing bands to showcase their best songs and providing them with valuable recording experience. Once again it is open to all-

comers and it hoped some of the more ethereal styles will make an appearance.

The production of both the magazine and the CD or tape will involve a mammoth amount of work and all volunteers are welcome. Enthusiasm is all that is required - Phoenix is an ideal opportunity to get involved in designing and editing. Its fundamental variety allows the production team to take advantage of innovative ideas without constraint.

If you would like to contribute or join the production team don't hesitate to get in contact

Contact Andy
phoenix@ic.ac.uk.

Outdoor Club

STEVE JOLLY

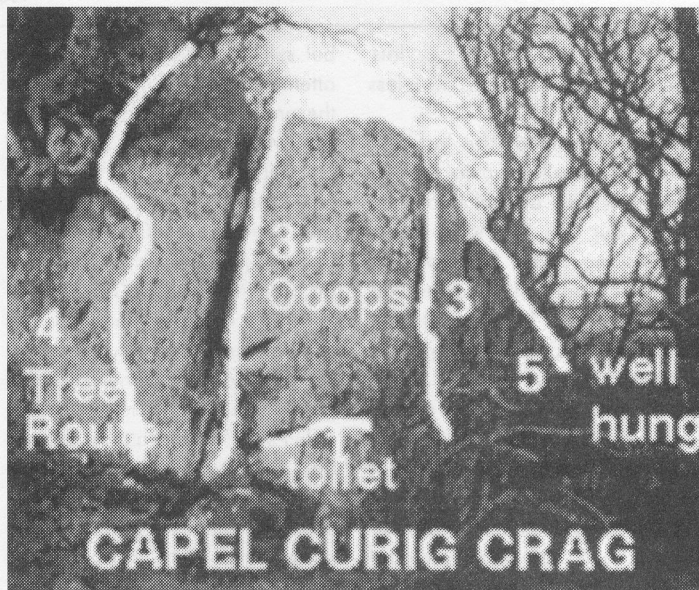
A "Wild Weekend in Wales" was promised, and exceeded all expectations. After a leisurely drive up and an unfeasibly early cooked breakfast, Tryfan (915m) was attacked from all directions except up. Various fogies led the way with some nifty climbing, Antoine giving a particularly impressive demonstration of technical skill by rolling a fag in high winds at 3000 feet. Nasty weather provided wet rocks and bonus green slime at no extra charge while preventing the (allegedly) amazing views from distracting attention from the slippery rock.

Snowdon was just as wet, but some patient scrambling was well worth it, as once above the clouds the view was amazing; the knife edge of the horseshoe ridge sticking through the blanket of fog like something randomly poetic. The low level cloud was concentrated around the mountains, and it was possible to see for miles.

As per normal, incredible quantities of top food (and alco-

hol, for once) were provided on Saturday night by our Catering and Pudding Officers; consequently the night was punctuated by the moans, groans and stumblings of over-indulged club members, and by the explosive sound of Steve supplying his fellow-sleepers with a generous helping of chunder. (Also at no extra charge.)

Sunday saw the club's attentions shift to the Snowdon area; several members strolled round the famous Horseshoe (backwards), while others went off for some roped scrambling. The Chasm Face sounded interesting, and in fact was. After some delicate wet climbing, Andy hauled himself up to the belay to be confronted with the news that his next task was to squeeze himself into a large, dark (and doubtless moist) crack. Unsurprisingly, he did so with relish and was further delighted to be confronted with an awkward chimney to wriggle his way up in order to escape. The day also saw the introduction of a new club activity: Extreme Vomit



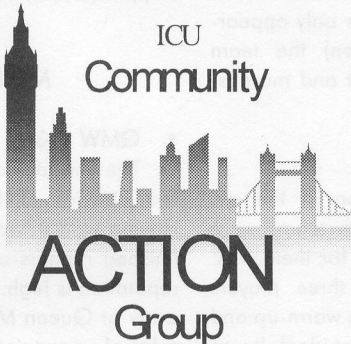
Removal.

The trip home was interrupted by the traditional club visit to our favourite transport caff: Hollies - where else can you order a bowl of soup for free, or get 3 sos, 6 bacon, fried egg, fried bread and beans (not fried) for £2.70?

If you're attracted by the idea of coming walking, climbing and scrambling, or are enticed by

rumours of our legendary puddings, come along to one of our meetings: 7pm every Thursday in Southside Upper Lounge. Or see us drink soup tomorrow (Tuesday 23/11/99) at 8:30pm on BBC2. (Yes, really...)

Contact Fred
f.maquet@ic.ac.uk



ICU
Community
ACTION
Group

ICU Community Action Group URGENTLY NEEDS MINIBUS DRIVERS for the Tuesday and Thursday night soup runs.

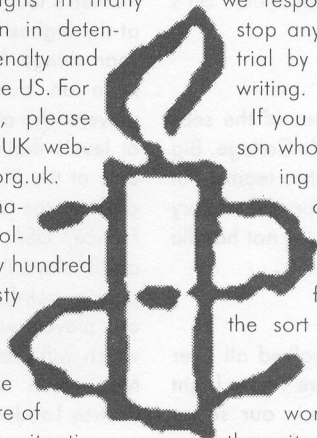
So if you're over 21, have been driving in the UK for at least 2 years, and can spare a couple of hours on Tuesday or Thursday evenings, then . . .

Contact Nada at lccag@ic.ac.uk

Amnesty International

Amnesty International UK (AIUK) is one of the largest charities in the world working world-wide for human rights. The boundary of its work is very wide - every year AIUK has campaigns in many areas like 'Women in detention', the death penalty and police brutality in the US. For more information, please visit the official AIUK website, www.amnesty.org.uk.

Amnesty International at Imperial College is one of a few hundred student Amnesty groups in the UK. The aim of our society is to make more students aware of the human rights situation around the world. Every week we get first hand inside stories from AIUK about inhumane actions; every term we invite number of



speakers to give us talks about human rights related topics; every year we run events with the other student groups around the UK. We also have Urgent Action, in which we respond immediately to stop any torture and unfair trial by e-mailing or letter writing.

If you are the sort of person who likes to go protesting outside the Houses of Parliament then we might not be the right society for you. If you are the sort of person who is interested in learning more about the world and analysing the situation in different countries, then we are certainly the right choice. And student or staff, you are more than welcome to join us.

IC Firsts demolish Wye

Netball

IC I lots
Wye I less

Having slaughtered Wye last year 70-1, we travelled up to Kent to administer their annual thrashing. Due to our late afternoon arrival (it takes two and a half hours to get there) our match time was reduced from 1 hour to 40 minutes to try and avoid playing in darkness. This meant last year's scoring rate of a goal per minute was repeated, aided by the fact that they were a player short for the first 10 minutes.

In lacking a keeper, Sarah, our shooter, had free shots on goal

but still managed to take 2 or 3 attempts to get them in. However, the presence of a keeper marking her (when she turned up) caused the ball to zip through the net first time from all angles. Combining with Shirley, our other shooter, a flood of goals completely deluged an overwhelmed Wye side.

At the defensive end there was little for Kirstie and Rachel to do - we'll overlook that one conceded goal! "We had to let have one didn't we?" - The attack cleaned up; Dorothy, Paula and Jane snuffed out any attempt at Wye offensive play before it could reach the IC circle. In fact, Paula

was so enthusiastic that at one point she knocked the ball out of Dorothy's hands. All of us overcame some extremely close marking during the match - Did the Wye players know that they had to be 3 feet away from the opposing players?

In the end, we were playing in the dark with Shirley completely disappearing due to the background of conifer hedges at the IC end of the court. All you could see was a white T-shirt leaping around.

Bad luck Wye, we hope that the merger doesn't disrupt our annual fixture.

IC II 60
LSE III 10

The IC Seconds made their spectacular debut with a blinding victory against LSE III. With the weather nearing Antarctic temperatures, catching the ball at first proved difficult. Fortunately, however, we began to thaw out once our goals started rolling in. Shooters Jess and Sara proved to be our unbeatable deadly duo, with 20 goals being scored in the last 15 minutes.

Fantastic play by the whole team and a confident start to the forthcoming season.

Volleyball in undefeated season

Volleyball

MEN

After a long summer period savouring last year's fantastic performance (BUSA national final), the time has come for IC to start it all over again. And what a daunting task in front of us - from the formidable team of last year, everybody's gone! So we just get another bunch of very good players. With the usual wide-ranging collection of foreign imports (from Taiwan, Switzerland, Germany, France and Greece), it seems that we have once again managed to put together a great team. Let's see....

• IC 3-0 KCL

In our first fixture of the season we played King's College. Big rivalry between the two teams, but in the end a comfortable victory for IC. They just could not handle it. Total superiority.

• IC 3-0 QMW

Again IC just walked all over the opponents. There was a fright at the start though - our setter, John, could not make it to the match and we had no-one that had ever played in such an important position (a bit like when goalkeepers get injured and no more

subs are allowed, for the football fans out there). So, Erwan stepped in and took the risk. He did a brilliant job, managing to improve as the game went on. But in the end, another solid performance from our boys, under the brilliant captaincy of Beat (aka Terminator), meant that another London opponent had succumbed to IC power.

WOMEN

Contrary to their male counterparts, over the past few years, the women's team has not performed at the highest level. However, this year things have changed! We have an outstanding group of players who are playing the game at levels that one expects to see only at the BUSA nationals. All 9 girls in the team (coming from France, USA, Switzerland, Spain and Malaysia) are simply top class players. Unfortunately, three of our players will leave after Xmas which will make things less easy. Meanwhile we'll go on and destroy London opposition.

• LSE 0-3 IC

For the first match of the season, the girls faced LSE. The feeling was that our team had great

potential, but being the first fixture of the year there was some nervousness in the air. IC started out in full strength and with some solid setting by Magali and Vasso (unfortunately in her only appearance of the season) the team pulled an important and moralising win over LSE.

• KCL 1-3 IC

A lot of tension in the air, that's for sure. Both teams were determined to fight for their lives. IC started bad - three players arrived late, thus the warm-up and initial line-up was not ideal. It was a nail-biting first set and KCL grabbed it by the smallest of margins, 25-23. For the second set, changes were introduced and the late arrivals went in. IC played superbly and clinched this one easily. At this time we thought KCL would have realised we were the better team and would let it go, but they dug in and fought hard. Another nail-bitter, but IC came out on top, this time by 26-24. The last set was a mere formality. IC was now in full swing, playing spectacularly and closed the match in convincing fashion. A special mention to Anisah who stayed on the bench for the vast majority of the game, but then

came in the last set and was unstoppable, spiking every single ball. And for MariaJo who got a small share of the action but never stopped supporting the team.

MIXED

• QMW 1-3 IC

The mixed team plays in the First Division of the ULU league. Having won it two years ago and finished runners-up last year, our reputation is high. First match was away at Queen Mary's. As usual, a lot of uncertainty was in the air due to the lack of team training, but confidence was high. The game started well and we clinched the first two sets comfortably. Beat, the stand-in coach, was in a social mood, giving everybody an equal chance of playing. This meant the team was changing all the time and eventually the price was the loss of a set. The opponents' captain was mesmerised with the play of our girls and at the end of match kept on asking where had we found them. They were impressive indeed! Especially Sarah, the captain, who did a magnificent job as a middle player, blocking everything they threw at her.

Seconds hit top gear

Football

IC II	4
QMW II	0

Yet another long journey to Chislehurst and yet another emphatic victory for the mighty forces of the IC II.

After a bit of a scrappy first half the score was 0-0. The geriatric referee managed to give an indirect free kick inside the box after Brad was brought down. Then when Dave was cruelly cut up and injured by a vicious QMW player, the referee failed to produce any card. The frustrated IC team had a bit of a Barney at half time to clear the air and came out for the second half raring to go.

The second half was a transformation - IC were fast on the break, and loads of chances started to appear. The first to fin-

ish was Eniola with a screamer of a shot from the edge of the box. More fluid attacking moves led to a through ball for Brad, which he clinically finished. Joe and Magic used the wings superbly and Joules' magical balls led to Warren taking the ball down on his thigh in the box and finishing with his left foot. By this time IC were in complete control, the defence and Ricky in goal were outstanding. Before the end there was time for Brad to scramble a goal.

A brilliant second half performance by IC II - come on boys, let's boost the next round of BUSA.

Random scorebox
 England 0 - Scotland 1
 Oh dear. Chances of England getting past the first round of Euro 2000? Not a lot.

ICSM edge medic derby

ICSM Hockey

ICSM I	3
RHUL I	2

The first half saw the Medics play their best hockey of the season. However, despite the fantastic open play of the ICSM midfield and attack, the deadlock was broken after 20 minutes by a slick set piece. A pacy move by Reilly was terminated illegally, and from the ensuing short-corner Fishpool finished from 6 yards, nutmegging the keeper.

However, Holloway hit back immediately. The Medics concentration lapsed, allowing Holloway to win their first short-corner of the match. It was duly dispatched.

But with both Keysell and Reilly playing so well on the left and right flanks respectively, it was only a matter of time before ICSM retook the lead. This time a break by Keysell found Meyer free on the

centre-spot, and he finished with aplomb. With half time approaching the game seemed set for Holloway to be massacred, but a freak goal on the stroke of half-time prevented that. Sanjay made a break into the D and melted a fantastic shot into the keeper. However, the rebound from the fortuitous save found a panicky Holloway defender who belted the ball clear in defensive desperation. However, the clearance travelled a full 80 yards to the opposition centre-forward, who found himself bereft of Sanjay, his marker. He finished easily past the marooned Petter.

The second half saw Holloway emerge with more rumbustious intent. But Meyer, receiving the ball in a dead position by the by-line, eluded three defenders Kanuesquely, before finding Keysell in space to score the winning goal.

IN BRIEF

Cross Country

Imperial College Cross Country Club are pleased to announce the engagement of Daisy Boy and Sticky Sarah. They celebrated their announcement with 21st and 28th place and we wish them all the best for the future.

Don't ask why, but the race at Wimbledon Common was our home match and so we had the privilege of starting the race, with UCL stuck in traffic.

The race was cold. Very cold. It was business as usual for Dorchie, winning her second successive race, and Louise, back in the top ten.

Stan-Ron left his secret lover at home and was 4th. XXX-Gaffer was 7th and the veteran of the race was next home in 12th. Frank, Stereo Dan and Daisy Boy closed the first team in 19th, 20th and 21st.

Angus "I didn't go to La Scandale last night" improved 48 places to 55th. Well done. That would have taken most of us into negative positions!

Squash

IC II	4
LSE II	1

After losing their previous two league matches the IC second team found itself under intense pressure to go to LSE and bring back a result which would keep their BUSA Cup campaign alive.

First up to play were Paul (on his debut) and Eric. Paul opened his account for the 2nds with a highly impressive 3-0 victory and gave the team a crucial head start. Whilst on the other court Eric, who held his nerve magnificently through a nail biting finish, managed to secure a 3-2 victory to extend our lead even further. The team then suffered it's only loss. Steve battled hard but was unable to avoid complete humiliation in a match that lasted just under seventeen minutes. Nonetheless, LSE's recovery proved short lived as Jeffrey promptly won the next match in three straight games, confirming victory for IC and making the last remaining match a formality.

Football

IC VII	5
SOP II	1

After a run of rather poor results, IC VII were determined to rack up a good score against SOP II. After a stirring team talk by the guv'nar, IC started very strongly and managed to trip over his bootlaces and fall into the net holding the ball! We created chance after chance, with captain Jamil rattling the post with a snap shot, but we still finished the first half only 2-0 up.

SOP II came back strongly in the 2nd half and created a couple of chances, but IC kept pushing forward, and mid-way through the half Chris scored with a cross-come-shot, and Mark finished well to make it 4-0. SOP finally managed to put one in on the scramble. The final goal was scored by substitute Pete Cheung from close range. Goalie Xau did not have much to do but was outstanding when called on. So a first win and hopefully first of many for IC VII.

Hockey

IC II	0
UCL II	1

A terrible performance on a worse pitch saw the mighty seconds lose. But having won the league we were not concerned and we're still on our mighty mission to victory - it's just this was a bit of a hiccup.

With our star player Bruce Lee confined to the goal because of the absence of the mountain that is E.Honda, we were always going to suffer. The result was a poor attempt to beat a team that should have been destroyed by the mighty seconds, but we did thrash them last time. And by the way did we mention that we've already won the league?

We'll try that again shall we. This week, Felix really WILL be at Harlington, so watch out! Sorry for everything that didn't get in (especially fencing, who I keep forgetting about), but there was no room!

SPORT

Ladies handbag UCL

Women's Football

IC Ladies 3
 UCL 2

UCL are a funny side - they don't look as male as most of the people we play against. And they can play football (apparently) since they beat us 9-0 in the league a week ago. But the IC spirit reigned supreme - it's the Wednesday feeling of no lectures, stuff the coursework, play the game and hit the bar (not the woodwork). It's in BUSA that we're invincible. Another match, another result, another 3 points well earned (if slightly on the fortunate side).

An impressive opening from the Shady Ladies resulted in early goals. Hedge, Vasso and Frenchie were impenetrable (much to their disappointment) in defence and fed midfielders Tart, Louise and Girlfriend with great balls to their hearts con-

tent. Tina showed excellent skill in her debut performance. Her long ball found Jazzy Jeff who dodged the bemused defence and her flashy cross found the boot of the talented Clark Kent. It was 1-0 to us.

IC were sharp in intercepting the wild UCL passes and were quick on the attack. A flick from The Mayor landed in Kent's way, who went on to cruise past UCL's defence and smash one past the helpless goalie.

Our 2-0 lead relaxed our team, but half-time was a long time coming (it usually is unfortunately). The break was used well by UCL to recover and think tactics. This was shortly followed by another, debatable, goal - definitely offside (we're thinking pitch length here) but the ref was too busy looking at Dumb and Dumber's legs to notice. What had been an entertaining first half quick-

ly turned into scrappy Southampton passing, hopeful Wimbledon style long balls, and the sort of finishing Newcastle would be proud to exhibit. A couple of (tactical?) substitutions later, and the ball once more found it's way into the UCL half - over and over again. Images of the first half (balls flying at us, but not being able to put them away) haunted us each time the ball flew into their penalty area. Spurred on by Mae and Hard Kaur's persistence, Kent turned on a defender and the pressure was too much. The UCL player obviously wanted to be on the winning side and aided in the 3-2 victory. An own goal, a miracle, and the sweet sound of the full-time whistle has never been so appreciated. G'n'T, once again, saved the day with superb saves. She's just too good.

Imperial find window to victory

Rugby - Sponsored by

University of East Anglia I 5
 IC I 43

Unfazed by the wind and rain we found when we arrived, we warmed up in the changing room. This was a must win game and the boys came out really fired up. The forwards in particular had a great game with Charlie Cunwell and Jon Bound leading the charge. After some great rucking Dunc Rainey crossed in the corner for the first try. We got lazy early on and they scored a dull try. This spurred the boys into action and a try from Dave Gay and two from James Philip condemned UEA to the shark tank. We hot-wired their tractors, foiled the cunning female assassins and showed them our golden-eye.

UEA II 10
 IC II 17

After a sadistically early start in South Kensington we arrived in a land of no electricity, heating or sun shine. We were quickly changed and raring to go. That was until the weather set in ...but in the true spirit of IC Rugby we braved the sleet and hail.

Although the weather was still bitterly cold at kick-off, the troops were fired up and read to go. The first quarter was highly uneventful, with the conditions hampering the efforts of both sides, but midway through the first half the IC brilliance began to shine through and, after a beautiful passage of play, a quick shimmy by Nick Parker broke the

deadlock with a try in the corner. At this point the opposition began to wise up and despite continuous hammering from the likes of Matt, Mo and Rick, play stagnated until early in the second half. The fresh pair of legs securely attached to Tim "hello boys" Denyer charged their way towards the line bringing the score up to 10-0. Spurred on, the seconds rallied and came back with the taste for blood, beating the defence into submission and leading to yet another try for the Londoners from Jim, easily converted by Tez.

IC seemed untouchable, but in the final minutes of the game the lads from Norwich managed to push through twice and score on both occasions, but it was a case of too little too late.

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL (Mens)		
IC 2nd XI	4 - 0	QMW
IC 7th XI	5 - 1	SOP
FOOTBALL (Womens)		
IC XI	3 - 2	UCL
HOCKEY (Mens)		
IC 2nd XI	0 - 1	UCL
ICSM	3 - 2	RHUL
NETBALL		
IC 1st VII	lots - less	Wye
IC 2nd VII	60 - 10	LSE
RUGBY (Mens)		
IC 1st XI	43 - 5	UEA
IC 2nd XI	17 - 10	UEA
IC 3rd XI		
SQUASH		
IC 2nd	4 - 1	LSE

SORRY - NO OTHER RESULTS AVAILABLE DUE TO TECHNICAL PROBLEMS BEYOND OUR CONTROL