

Hitchhikers guide

A review of the Tertiary Phase on CD, page 22

Bands at the Union

Felix watches Boxer Rebellion take over Friday night, page 16



The tale of the tank

Coffee Break is back with a bang, page 24



Three pages of sport

Rugby, football, hockey, lacrosse, plus last week's results, page 26



Felix



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Tiddly triumph

An Imperial College lecturer became the new world singles tiddlywinks champion last Friday.

► **NEWS** page 2

Download danger

Felix investigates how and why the music industry is getting tough on those who download tracks illegally.

► **BUSINESS** page 3

Monkey magic

The soon to be notorious Science Orangutan swings onto the scene for the first time, taking an irreverent look at the subject.

► **SCIENCE** page 4

Welfare at work

"Given the kind of work students do and the attitude of employers to young or casual workers, you're more likely to need a union than most."

► **COMMENT** page 6

Fabric fever

Felix returns to the London superclub for a drum and bass set from rising star Macpherson.

► **NIGHTLIFE** page 19



The Fabric crowd

THIS WEEK

News	page 2
Business	page 3
Science	page 4
Comment	page 6
Around Campus	page 10
What's On	page 13
Music	page 16
Nightlife	page 19
Arts	page 20
Books	page 22
Film	page 23
Coffee Break	page 24
Sport	page 26

Union takes steps to avoid RON repeat

By Dave Edwards
Editor

Following last week's Imperial College Union elections, in which turnout reached a record high but only 15 of 40 posts were filled, steps are being taken to strengthen candidates' positions against 'Re-Open Nominations' (RON).

RON finished ahead of the majority of candidates after the votes were counted. 16 people were to be elected to Union Council, but only five finished ahead of RON, so there will be a new election for the remaining 11 places. There will also be new elections to the Trading and Retail, House, Services and Student Development Committees for similar reasons.

The situation may have been caused by voters' unfamiliarity with the candidates, and by the emphasis being placed on simply voting, rather than thinking about it first.

Sam Rorke, the Deputy President (Education and Welfare), told Felix that "the Union will be taking steps to make sure that students are given access to all the information they need before they make their choice".

The elections will be publicised more widely in the student media, including Felix, with more information provided about the candidates themselves. The time periods for nominations, campaigning and voting are likely to be extended in order to allow students to make "an informed choice".

Under the STV system, voters rank the candidates in order of preference. In Union elections, students are always provided with the option of voting to re-open nominations, in order to express their

dissatisfaction with the candidates and start a new election with, in theory, an improved list of people to vote for. However, the prospect of ranking 16 candidates in order of preference did not appeal to a large proportion of the electorate. It is far easier to mark a first preference and then simply choose RON.

Students were strongly encouraged to vote by the large-scale publicity campaign and by the 'doughnuts for votes' incentive introduced by the Union President, through which 25p per vote would go to a club or society of the voter's choice. However, they were not encouraged to take any more than a fleeting interest in the candidates and may not have realised the consequences of voting for new elections. Voting RON was the simple and obvious choice, a choice that Union officers will have to change if they are to fill their Committee posts in the near future.

Mustafa Arif, President of Imperial College Union, admitted that the prospect of another triumph for RON was a concern, but stressed that "if people don't have confidence in those standing for election and want to vote RON, then that's what they're entitled to do".

The last notable 'success' for RON occurred in 1997, when it defeated candidates for the post of Union President on three occasions within a period of four months.

New elections for all the unfilled posts will take place next month, with nominations due to open at 9am on Monday and close on Friday 12 November. For more information, or to stand for election, visit www.union.ic.ac.uk/elections.

Class of 2004



Imperial College students gather on the steps of the Royal Albert Hall before their graduation ceremony yesterday. A total of 1901 students were formally awarded degrees by the College this year

Felix

Issue 1303

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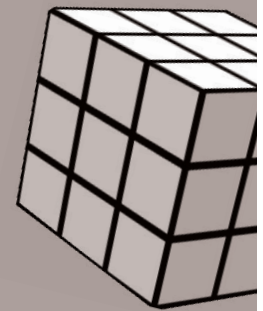
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NEWS

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Imperial lecturer wins
world tiddlywinks titleBy **Dave Edwards**
EditorImperial College lecturer Dr
Andy Purvis became the new
World Singles tiddlywinks
champion last Friday.Dr Purvis, who works
at Silwood Park in the
Department of Biological
Sciences, won the 59th World
Singles event at Queen's
College, Cambridge. He beat
the former champion, Larry
Khan of the United States, by
30.33 points to 11.67.The title of World Singles
champion is the highest
accolade in the game of tid-
dlywinks, and is played on
a challenge basis. A player
must become the National
Singles champion in order to
challenge the current world
champion to an official match,
played over seven games.Dr Purvis first became
interested in the game 20
years ago, as a student atCambridge University. He
said: "It's a brilliant game
which deserves to be taken
seriously. It is complex and
quite creative."Modern tiddlywinks was
invented in 1955, when the
Cambridge University
Tiddlywinks Club was formed.
However, it has roots in the
Victorian era.Tiddlywinks is usually a
four player game, played on a
6ft by 3ft mat with a pot in the
middle. Each player has six
small counters called 'winks',
which are manoeuvred
around the mat using a larger
disc called a 'squidger'. The
aim is to get all your winks
into the pot first, though this
is not as straightforward as
it may seem – advanced play-
ers use complex strategies
and tactics to 'squop' (block)
other players' winks.Dr Purvis also won the
National Singles title last
weekend.Tiddlywink triumph: an Imperial College lecturer has won
the world title at this famous game£1 Per Pint
Carlsberg +
Tetley
In dBs
Till the
Cellars
Run DryThe Union encourages
you to drink responsibly

Cheeky

Flirty current chart
music and party
classicsAt: dBs
Wed Nov 3
8pm > 1amImperial £2.00
Ents Card £1.50
Guests £2.50TimeOut
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Black Watch troops move to 'triangle of death'Reading the newspapers so you don't have to: **Emily Gwyer** looks at what the British press
said about one of the week's biggest national news storiesThe story that most domi-
nated the news last week was
the proposed re-deployment
of 650 British Black Watch
troops from Basra to Falluja,
a much more volatile area
of Iraq currently under US
control.After the initial debate in
Parliament, interest seemed
to be dying out before a video
of hostage Margaret Hassan
was released in which she
begged Tony Blair not to
send the troops, who would
be involved in an offensive
against the city.The problems arose firstly
when the Secretary of State
for Defence, Geoff Hoon, sug-
gested that the move was still
under debate when it had, in
fact, been confirmed already.
Secondly, many MPs, includ-ing those who voted in favour
of going to war, were worried
about the chain of command
and whether it is wise to send
British troops into a very dan-
gerous area of the country at
a time when public opinion is
strongly in favour of bringing
them all home.So what did the British
newspapers think of the
story?There was widespread disa-
greement about whether the
true aim of the move was
to shore up President Bush's
position before the up-com-
ing US elections. The idea is
that the American public is
beginning to notice that the
US is suffering over 90% of
the casualties in Iraq, and so
a high-profile redeployment
of a famous regiment wouldreassure them that there
is, in fact, a coalition in
involved, rather than just US
forces.*The Observer* drew par-
allels between this week's
move and the sacrifice of
Scottish troops at Dunkirk,
pointing out that once again,
"Scottish soldiers [are] being
sent into harm's way on an
ugly suggestion of political
expediency".*The Times*, however, argued
that to assume that sending
650 soldiers into a dangerous
area when there are already
135,000 American troops will
mollify the American public
shows either "a complete
lack of understanding of
American politics or a pat-
ronising assumption that
Americans are so stupid theywill swallow anything they
are fed". They argue that the
move is about an election –
the Iraqi election due to take
place next year, which needs
a safe country and limited
resistance so that Bush and
Blair can chalk it up as a
success.*The Telegraph* added its
voice, saying it was unlikely
that Blair was allowing the
move in order to help George
Bush, because it has hardly
been reported on at all in the
American media.*The Telegraph* believes that
Blair has agreed the move
for much more dangerous
reasons – because he him-
self believes that what he is
doing is right, and that he
is doing all he can to finish
the job and secure his legacy.The paper describes him as a
"warrior-statesman, with fire
in his eyes, determined to get
his way".*The Mirror* interviewed
soldiers' parents who were
found to "distrust the motives
for sending their sons and
daughters into battle".The state of mind of the
troops was a favourite topic.
The Sun claimed that they
were proud to be involved,
quoting one who said:
"Frankly this regiment beat
Napoleon, beat the Kaiser
and it beat Hitler. For the
jocks of the Black Watch this
is just the latest chapter in
our history and just another
job to be done".They argued that all the
hype over moving to the 'tri-
angle of death' was needlesshyperbole that did nothing
except upset their families.
But then they would say
that, wouldn't they, argues
The Observer – they need
to "crush feelings of regret
because a lack of commit-
ment could be fatal".The *Observer* also made
perhaps the most telling
point about the whole
thing: regardless of wheth-
er or not Blair did make
the decision to send the troops
in order to shore up Bush's
support, what is most seri-
ous for the Prime Minister
is that everyone "immedi-
ately assumed that he had
an underhand reason". Trust
in the Prime Minister, and
in his wartime decision-
making, appears to be at its
lowest ebb.

Business

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Think thrice before you download music

The music industry has been through hell and back. **Numaan Chaudhry** investigates

So you've got yourself the latest 40Gb Apple iPod and you're pondering what exactly to saturate such a huge capacity with. With download speeds of up to 400Mb per second, it's hard to ignore the temptation to download music straight to your iPod through the internet. Looking past the iPod's own problems (www.ipodsdirtysecret.com), the risks of this much adjourned illegal practice are hardly worth taking, not least if you've made it to Imperial and can look forward to an enriched future with countless bounties.

'Twas a gloomy evening in late July 1999 when Shawn Fanning received his college results and saw all hope of an education vanish as he realises his grades weren't good enough to pass into the next year. So in turning to the internet for his newfound venture, he initiated work on a project that has revolutionized the music industry and churned the guts of even the largest of music record retailers: Napster.

Napster's instant success was due to a combination of the consumer's frustration at the rising prices of records as compared to their European counterparts, and the gradual introduction of broadband, which made downloads up to ten times faster. It attracted over 80 million users following its debut five years ago on www.download.com, where it was first uploaded to by the author, then aged 18.

Fanning had three primary purposes for developing Napster: to act as a search engine dedicated to finding MP3 files only, to develop further the ability to trade MP3 files directly between users, and to integrate into this an internet relay chat, a protocol that enables communication between the sharing parties. It wasn't long before Napster became a worldwide filesharing community, and the implications of this most innovative web application were brought to light by the Record Industry Association of America (RIAA).

2001 was the worst year for the music industry, with retailers and artists being hit especially hard. There are no prizes for guessing the root cause of this. In May 2002, after a spontaneous resignation by Napster's board of directors and CEO, the company fell and the tornado of



The third reason for not downloading music illegally: if these guys find out, they won't let you get away with their intellectual property

legislation wiped any remaining symbols of its illegitimate existence (there is now a legitimate version of Napster available at www.napster.com, but is hardly worth the download).

Now, although the number of internet music file-sharing users has drastically reduced, the number of users with illegal music on their home computers has increased at a staggering rate with internet sites and new file-sharing programs, including Kazaa and eMule, all to blame.

The consequences, to both music retailers and even some users, of leeching albums by illegal methods are stunning. Earlier this month, the British Phonographic Industry (BPI) announced it would be prosecuting

28 individuals who are accused of downloading and uploading copyright material, mainly MP3s, onto file-sharing networks. To hammer home it's no tolerance message to 'hardcore uploaders', the BPI has decided to make public the names of the individuals responsible.

Earlier this year, the RIAA filed more than 900 subpoenas, a demand to stand in court, targeted specifically at students downloading material illegally on campus. And now we hear reports of students settling with the music industry for up to \$10,000, the equivalent of buying over 500 albums from HMV! Having witnessed the success of this scheme, the BPI is pursuing similar strategies in the

UK and, apart from the 28 aforementioned individuals it is suing, it is implementing procedures to seize and remove all offending content from free MP3 sites.

As for those pirates who justify their downloading using the flawed argument that "downloading music will make otherwise unknown artists heard and hence increase their sales", much can be said. For instance, what if it is the desire of these artists to be discreet and infamous, as was the case of Pink, the 24-year old pop star, who now desires privacy over fortune and fame? And what about the effects to the 'known' artists and their record labels, who suffer massive unnecessary slumps in revenues and

hence profits.

Finally, now that the BPI has commenced a crackdown on music abusers in the UK, is it even worth sharing music online, despite the temptation and the fact that you can get the latest singles in under a minute? It depends on whether you think that putting 'yes' on an employer's form under the heading 'Have you ever been convicted in the past?' will jeopardise your future.

It's worth considering the alternatives: buying albums directly from the likes of Virgin and HMV or, if that seems a bit distasteful to your student loan, try downloading music... legally, of course. Apple iTunes, which boasts the largest legal online collection of tracks, offers MP3s for

Latest from the Square Mile

Flight fight

Icelandair, the thriving airline led by Hannes Smarason, announced its acquisition of 8.4% of easyJet, a stake second in size only to that owned by Easyjet founder Stelios. Icelandair has recently undertaken a frenzy of buying UK stocks and equity as a means of diversifying its portfolio and spreading risk.

M&S shareholders teased again

Marks and Spencer announced on Tuesday that it is buying back £2.3bn of shares at a price of 360p each, pathetically lower than the offer tendered by Philip Green earlier this year. Stuart Rose, the new CEO, will need to show marked performance in M&S since his appointment in order to prevent Green from acquiring the company at his proposed second attempt in January.

Joining Mercer?

Marsh & McLennan, the biggest US-based insurance broker in the world and the owner of Mercer Consulting, is set to launch an investigation into practices in London after Spitzer, the New York attorney, launched a probe into Marsh's US operations. It is thought that Marsh, among other insurers, is guilty of rigging fake competition bids for its clients. Beware, Marsh investors - this has an uncanny resemblance to, dare I say, Enron (see Felix 1302).

as little as 99¢ (55p) per song and £6 an album and lets you hear a preview for 30 seconds before you buy.

Despite the relatively meagre collection of Microsoft's iTunes, I prefer it to Apple's due to the fact that Microsoft has an online store feature that allows the user to see and listen to music playing on various radio stations without the ads and lame DJ entertainment. In addition, Microsoft has radically improved the mobility of songs once they are downloaded - the technology behind iTunes allows the user to easily transport songs from PC to handheld devices. Regardless of which service is used, they are both a safer alternative than file-sharing networks.

Science

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Endangered species ruling to promote hunting

Protecting endangered species is a tricky business. **Iain Taylor** reports on the most important decisions and compromises made at last week's CITES conference

The 13th Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) closed last week in Bangkok having revised trade rules on an eclectic mix of animals and plants. Issues discussed ranged from ivory to caviar, as participants from 154 governments fought for their countries' interests amongst conservation groups representing the wildlife.

The location for the convention was controversial because of Thailand's poor record on wildlife crime. Bangkok houses grotesque animal 'theme parks' and remains a hive of illegal wildlife trade with a thriving ivory market. Ironically, last week the city became the location for extensive debate on the future of legal ivory trading.

Appropriately, the symbol for CITES is an elephant. The recovery of African elephant populations over the last 10-15 years is a CITES success story. This year, the conference agreed to continue protecting elephants by cracking down on unregulated domestic ivory markets (particularly in Asia), and to strengthen law enforcement efforts to protect the species. It was also agreed that public awareness campaigns be launched in all African elephant range

countries, and that progress reports be made by the end of March 2005. In addition, Namibia, which has a large, stable elephant population, had its request to sell an annual quota of ivory rejected. As an apparent appeasement, the southern African country was authorized to sell traditional ivory carvings as tourist souvenirs.

"Trophy hunting is big business. A hunting safari can cost over \$300,000, so it is no surprise that some hunting packages are sold in Las Vegas casino halls"

Significantly, however, both Namibia and South Africa, were successful in their request to allow the return of black rhino trophy hunting. Both countries will now be able to sell hunting permits for five male rhinos per year. Having been obliterated in the 1970s and '80s by poachers, the black rhino population remains highly endangered, yet conservationists from southern Africa believe, somewhat paradoxically, that allowing the hunting of old male rhinos past breeding



The black rhino: will CITES' decision to allow limited trophy hunting of this endangered species help its survival?

condition is in the best interests of the species in the long run.

Trophy hunting (the hunting of large animals for their heads or skins) is big business. A hunting safari can cost over \$300,000, so it is no surprise that some hunting packages are sold in Las Vegas casino halls. Every year many Americans and Europeans travel to Africa specifically to shoot its wildlife, paying for permits, internal flights,

taxes and accommodation. The money that hunting generates can provide funds and an incentive for African governments to protect and manage their wildlife - if every black rhino is worth \$300,000 to Namibia, then it's likely that Namibian rhinos will be well looked after.

While last week's CITES meeting supported this view by allowing controlled rhino hunting, it is not universally popular. The Kenyan CITES

office, under pressure from a minority of lion conservation groups, had requested lions be moved to an Appendix I conservation status, thus banning any commercial trade and making lion trophy hunting illegal. On Appendix I, lions would have been assigned the same conservation status as giant pandas, with any trade in them illegal. The Kenyan lion proposal, however, was dropped on the eve of the conference and lion hunting will continue in Kenya.

Professor Craig Packer, the official delegate for Tanzania at the conference, lobbied against the Kenyan lion reclassification. He told *Felix*: "Appendix I would imply that lions suffer from significant levels of international trade. However, the primary threat to lion populations is habitat loss and problem animal control - the extent of trophy hunting is just too low to worry about".

Appendix II status requires the use of CITES export permits for any trade in that species. The great white shark, a commercially valuable species in decline, is now protected under this legislation. Other decisions made at the conference include the downlisting of the Cuban crocodile from Appendix I to II to

allow the Cuban government to supply eggs and hatchlings to crocodile ranching operations. The Irrawaddy dolphin (of little value commercially) has been moved up to Appendix I. Other species under debate were the ramin and agarwood trees, both of which are now protected under CITES. The caviar trade will now be under stricter control, recognizing the threat to the sturgeon and a sustainable caviar market.

Secretary General of CITES, Willem Wijnstekers, claimed: "The Bangkok conference has crafted solutions to meet particular needs of many wildlife species that are endangered or that could become so if traded unsustainably", and added that the solutions "...seek to conserve the Earth's rich heritage of biological diversity while supporting the sustainable development of local communities and national economies".

The next CITES meeting is likely to take place in two years' time, and it is hoped that more than just 154 of the world's governments will attend. While this figure is an improvement on the 141 represented at the previous meeting in Chile, the protection of endangered species requires global co-operation.

The Science Orangutan

In a new weekly thing, we take an irreverent humour-based look at science. This week we look at the controversial topic of science jokes:

The 'functions' joke

$f(x) = 6x + 3$ walks into a bar. "Got any sandwiches?" $f(x) = 6x + 3$ asks the barman. "Sorry," he replies, "We don't cater for functions". "Why?" asks the function. "Cos the Sin on the door says so!"

Noah's Ark

The Flood is over and the ark has landed. Noah lets all the animals out and says: "Go forth and multiply."

A few months later, Noah decides to take a stroll and see how the animals are doing. Everywhere he looks, he finds baby animals. Everyone is doing fine except for one pair of little snakes. "What's the problem?" says Noah.

"Cut down some trees and let us live there", say the

snakes.

Noah follows their advice. Several more weeks pass. Noah checks on the snakes again. Lots of little snakes, everybody is happy. Noah asks, "Want to tell me how the trees helped?"

"Certainly," say the snakes. "We're adders, so we need logs to multiply."

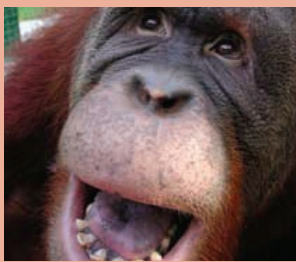
Wife or mistress?

A doctor, a lawyer and a mathematician were discussing the relative merits of having a wife or a mistress.

The lawyer says: "For sure a mistress is better. If you have a wife and want a divorce, it causes all sorts of legal problems."

The doctor says: "It's better to have a wife because the sense of security lowers your stress and is good for your health."

The mathematician says: "You're both wrong. It's best to have both so that when the wife thinks you're with the mistress and the mistress thinks you're with



your wife - you can do some mathematics."

Hallowe'en and Christmas

Why do Computer Scientists get Halloween and Christmas mixed up?

Because Oct 31 = Dec 25

There are...

There are three kinds of mathematicians: those who can count and those who can't.

There are only 10 types of people in the world: those who understand binary and those who don't.

● Do you have an Orangutan in you? Then contact science.felix@ic.ac.uk with your monkey.

YOUR SCIENCE VIEWS

tell *Felix* what you think

science.felix@ic.ac.uk

"I read with interest James Berry's article on organic farming in issue 1302. Many interesting points were raised about the environmental benefits of organic farming, for example the increased biodiversity on organic farms. However, I felt that the key issue was not discussed: is organic farming a sustainable solution for use worldwide in helping to feed the starving millions?"

I remember reading once that to sustain a world population of 6 billion using organic farming would require virtually all of the earth's surface to be cultivated. Therefore, whether we like it or not, we are going to have to investigate alternative methods. If we do not want to wash the world with pesticides then perhaps GM crops really are the only way forward..."

Rosie Chandler
Physics Department

"I appreciate your concerns regarding the Earth's food production capacity to sustain our ever-increasing global population. However, the worldwide situation was a little bit beyond the article's scope... Also I think it's worth remembering that organic farming explicitly bans the use of chemical sprays, and that the most economically important GM crops currently used confer resistance to non-specific pesticides, such as glyphosate. So a GM future for agriculture will almost certainly be associated with pesticides."

James Berry
Biochemistry Department

Novel malaria vaccine now in sight

As research closes in on a malaria vaccine, **Emma Williams** reports on this and another preventative method being developed at Imperial

For many people, going on an exotic holiday generally means taking medicines or having vaccines against infectious diseases. Nowadays they are easily available and affordable. However, the people who live in these countries face the ongoing struggle of trying to reduce the incidence of such diseases like malaria.

For these people the loss of a few days' work through illness is devastating. However,

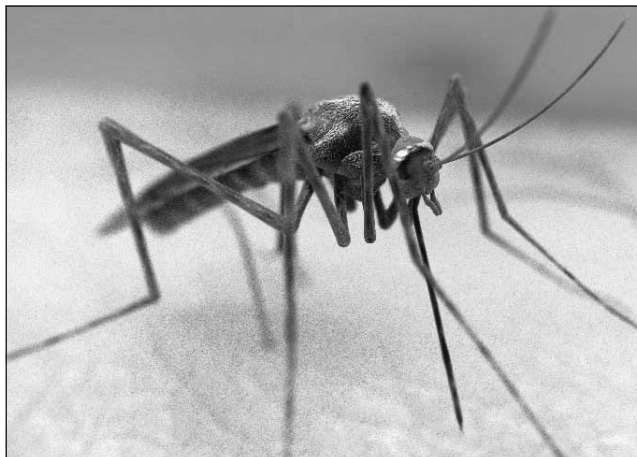
"...times may be changing, as it was reported this week that there are hopes of finding a malaria vaccine by 2010."

times may be changing, as it was reported this week that there are hopes of finding a malaria vaccine by 2010. Such a vaccine would offer hope to many people who suffer both physically and financially from attacks of malaria.

The RTS,S/AS02A vaccine was given to children between the ages of one and four living in Mozambique. The vaccine attacks what is known as the

sporozoite stage of development of the parasite. The sporozoites are injected by the mosquito into the blood of the human host. Prior immunisation initiates the production of antibodies and white blood cells that lock onto the parasite in the blood, reducing its survival and further development. The project was funded by GlaxoSmithKline biologicals (GSK) and through a global project called the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Malaria kills over one million people every year and its impact on world health is second only to tuberculosis. The parasitic disease is prevalent in 90 countries and affects one in ten of the world's population. Malaria is caused by the parasite plasmodium and is transmitted via the mosquito. There are many life cycle stages of the parasite, completed both in the mosquito and human hosts. These stages can cause cyclic bouts of fever and chills. Severe forms of the infection can lead to kidney and brain damage, anaemia, coma and eventually death.



Research at Imperial may one day prevent transmission of malaria by halting parasites developing in mosquitos

Finding new ways to prevent malarial transmission is becoming increasingly important due to the high levels of resistance to traditional drugs and insecticides. Political and social upheaval has led to large numbers of people relocating to new areas where the disease can be spread more easily. Additionally, changes in the environment such as road building, mining and irrigation have produced new breeding grounds for mosquitos.

Closer to home, Imperial College PhD students and post-doctoral researchers are working on similar ways to prevent malaria transmission. One candidate currently being tested in Thailand is a transmission blocking vaccine. While the GSK vaccine prevents the infection of the human host, this transmission blocking vaccine prevents parasitic agents taken from human host blood from developing in the mosquito and therefore precludes their

further transmission.

One current PhD project is examining methods to evaluate the efficacy of malaria vaccines. Current so-called 'gold standard' tests take 10 days to complete. New techniques are being developed that are quicker and more robust to observe whether the vaccine is working and to monitor if the parasite count is lowered. Serum from blood samples taken from immunised patients is used to culture the parasite in vitro (ie outside the host).

PhD student, Souraya Ramjaneer told *Felix*: "It is hoped that the development of new techniques will reduce time and labour input and will in the long term lower costs associated with the development of new malaria vaccines, funding for which can be very difficult to obtain."

In the future it is hoped that by using a combination of preventative methods, the incidence of malaria infections will decrease. These measures will include not only the use of vaccines, but also insecticide impregnated bed nets and environmental control.

News in brief

By Alex Antonov
Mathematics department

Duma ratifies Kyoto

Russia's lower house of parliament ratified the Kyoto Protocol last Friday, making the pact internationally binding at last. To come into force, the protocol had to be ratified by countries accounting for at least half of the developed nations' greenhouse emissions. This was much-needed support after the US, the world's biggest polluter, pulled out in 2001.

UN cloning treaty on hold

Despite renewed pressure from the Bush administration to sign a global treaty banning all forms of human cloning, nothing will be decided before the US elections next week. The UN's 191 member nations remain divided on the issue of cloning human embryos for stem cell research, with a group of 63 – led by the US – opposing such "therapeutic" uses.

One-atom-thick material discovered

The new material, called graphene, part of the fullerene molecule family, is a two-dimensional flat molecule with remarkable electronic, mechanical and chemical properties. Its applications include the production of ultra-fast and stable transistors. The discovery brings the idea of ballistic transistors – where electrons can travel without collisions – closer.

Satellites prove space-time twists

Scientists have made direct measurements that show the Earth is twisting the fabric of space-time as it rotates, also known as frame-dragging. These results are reported as the first to prove an important aspect of the General Theory of Relativity. The measurements show that the satellites' orbits warped in a manner consistent with Einstein's predictions.

Court rules that whales and dolphins cannot sue Bush

A three-judge panel of the US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, widely considered one of the most liberal and activist in the country, said it saw no reason why animals should not be allowed to sue but said they had not yet been granted that right. The lawsuit claimed that the US Navy's use of sonar equipment harms marine mammals.

Keeping your computer cyberspatially safe

...or how to stop computer crackers from breaking into your computer

By Amadeus Stevenson
Physics department

Hacking is a widely misunderstood term used by the media to refer to the act of breaking into other people's systems and generally doing stuff you should not. Hacking is in fact the art of skilful programming. *Cracking* is the profane act of breaking into computer systems. We are going to look at the most common methods to break into a system, and what you can do to prevent it from happening to you.

The most easily preventable approach to gaining access

"...the program tries every possible combination of characters, like turning the wheel of a safe and trying every combination"

to a system involves cracking your passwords, whether done manually with a "dictionary attack" which tries a long list of possible passwords (like your favourite pastime, girlfriend's birthday etc) or a 'brute force attack' where the program tries every possible combination of characters, like turning the wheel of a safe and trying every number combination until it opens. With the wonders of modern com-

puting, however, your average cracker could write a small program or script to do this while he or she is watching a week's worth of *Eastenders* episodes.

More advanced crackers could use a technique called *packet sniffing* (electronic eavesdropping) to ascertain your passwords and personal information while you are using the internet via compromised systems. Then there are so-called 'script kiddies', untalented malicious individuals who would readily install a small program such as a Trojan horse or a key-logger onto your computer, to capture your passwords as you enter them, or apply an exploit to a bug in your computer's software. These are all things you should be aware of, without needing to have a complete mastery of them. Sometimes these techniques can come in useful for legitimate purposes, ie on your own systems if you forget a password.

So, what can you do to protect your computer from crackers?

1. Use a password. It is amazing that so many people are capable of pressing the "on" button on your laptop to gain miraculous access to your entire collection of *Friends* episodes, or more seriously, your emails or college papers. If you have a laptop or a desk-



Cybersecurity is a massive industry, not surprising in view of the increasing danger of computer crackers

top, you can set a BIOS password on top of your operating system password, which is required to simply boot the machine, so attempts to crack your operating system password would first need to get past your BIOS password. The administrative password on a Windows XP machine is weak for the determined cracker: it can be easily reset as long as the machine has a floppy drive and an on/off button. A BIOS password is far less straightforward to bypass, and you need that to start the machine up in the first place. Just make sure you do not forget it. And as we have seen from

the different password cracking methods above, choose a good password that's not easily guessable! Some simple maths will show that:

A lowercase password of 6 letters gives $26^6 = 3.09 \times 10^8$ possibilities, but a mixed (lowercase, uppercase, numbers) password of 8 characters gives $62^8 = 2.18 \times 10^{14}$ possibilities – so if you use upper/lower cases and numbers you stand a 7000% better chance of protecting your computer.

If you are the only one using your computer, try not to use the default administrator account to log in. Your safest bet is to set an administrator

password, then add a normal user account (with a password) which you would use for writing documents, emails etc. This would limit the damage possible from a program being run without your knowledge as, without the administrative access, it would not be able to do much harm.

2. Lock your post when you are away from the computer for five minutes and there are other people in the room. In Windows XP, you can press ctrl-alt-del and "Lock computer" to do this. This has the effect of stopping potential misfits using the machine until they or you type your password in to 'unlock' it. If you don't have this option you will need to enable the "secure logon" feature (Control Panel -> Users).

3. Keep your operating system updated. If you are a Microsoft Windows user, you can easily update your computer (visit <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>) to make sure your computer isn't riddled with security holes which appear over time. Automatic updates are a good idea. The same applies for other operating systems.

As we will see next week, these holes are easily exploitable and pose a significant risk for your computer to get infected with spyware, adware, viruses and Trojans.

Comment

felix@ic.ac.uk

The joy of... postgraduates

Imperial College is often referred to as a "research-led" university. Undergraduates are told in lengthy sermons (which usually also remind us that Imperial is a "world-class institution") that this has a direct, beneficial effect on the quality of our teaching, and that we should be eternally grateful. But has anyone stopped to think about what this means?

Essentially, the people who teach us are primarily here to research, and, from the benefit of their accrued wisdom in their chosen field, they lecture us. They don't, of course, undertake this sterling work by themselves – they are assisted by over 2,000 PhD students. This is one type of postgraduate study; the other is the taught Masters and there are slightly more of these. Between them, they make up over a third of our student body.

One of the Union's primary aims is to represent our students to the College and to external bodies. Currently, I believe we are doing that pretty well in the undergraduate world. We have a well-established system of representatives at year, department, Faculty Union

and Imperial College Union levels, with clearly defined formal reporting structures to ensure the effective flow of communication. OK, it isn't perfect, but it works. However, in the postgraduate world, things don't always work so well. It appears that, whilst representation is working well at a local level, the networks are not in place in the same way as they are for undergraduate reps. What this means in effect is that the Union is being asked to represent the views of certain groups of students to important College meetings, where decisions concerning the future of courses are taken, and we are not always able to do that effectively. I am going to change that.

Firstly, though, let's have a look at life as a postgrad at Imperial College. It can be (I am told) quite a lonely existence, particularly for those students who have not been here before, and who therefore do not know how to access the lively social life we can enjoy. Research students do not always start in October and will therefore not get a proper induction; postgrads are often neglected by their departmen-

UNCLE SAM



SAM RORKE
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
(EDUCATION & WELFARE)

tal societies and Faculty Unions, which tend to be mostly run by undergrads. For Masters students, at least they attend lectures (sometimes at the same time as undergrads), whereas research students can sometimes feel quite isolated, spending most of their lives in their labs then going home at the end of the day. They are not always aware, for example, of the huge range of clubs and societies that the Union

offers to make life more interesting, or about the range of bars and meeting places around College. At the end of the day, it takes two to tango and, whilst we are trying to reach out to all our students, you can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink.

So, what is my point? Well, I believe that if we engaged more postgraduates in student activities, they may begin to get more involved with the whole issue of representation, which, as I have pointed out, I am most keen to address.

But perhaps I am being naïve. Maybe postgrads think of representation in terms of complaining about lecturers' poor handwriting or incomprehensible accent, as is often the case for undergrads. Well, postgraduate representation could be more than that – maybe you would like more input into the sorts of training and personal development you are offered, perhaps to better prepare you for conferences? Perhaps you see the job of the rep as a conduit of information between you and the College, letting you know about interesting events, important facts, or exciting oppor-

tunities? Well, either way, if you feel underrepresented at the moment, then say something! If you have a rep, let them know! If you don't, tell me!

There are many challenges that we are going to have to address, but I need your help – I have not been a postgraduate at Imperial, so I need all the insight I can get into how to solve the question of postgraduate involvement with the Union. To this end, I shall be gathering together people with experience in representation, so that we can find the way forward. If you have any suggestions, please get in touch.

● Sam Rorke is the Deputy President (Education and Welfare) of Imperial College Union. His remit is to oversee academic affairs, welfare, accommodation and student development, and ensure that students' views on these issues are effectively communicated to the College. If you have any comments or questions, please contact him on dpew@ic.ac.uk.

● 'State of the Union' will return next week

ACQUIRE new skills in November

November is training month! Imperial College Union training offers you the opportunity to learn new skills, improve upon those that you already have and gain knowledge in new areas. For this reason we have designated November as the month to "ACQUIRE" new skills by offering a variety of training sessions free to all Imperial students.

Previously, although the Union offered training, it has not been widely taken up, despite being a development opportunity that we are able to offer students. This year, a full list of training sessions is available on noticeboards in the Union building and in the East Wing basement of Beit Quad. To book a place, you will need to come to the Student Activities Centre in the East Wing basement.

If places run out then we will have

a waiting list system and possibly put on extra sessions if there sufficient demand. Although the sessions are free, we do require you to give a £10 deposit which will be refunded to you on the day of the session. As spaces are limited, this is to ensure that those signed up do take their places. Training sessions are either in the evening, on Wednesday afternoons or during lunchtimes (please see timetable for further details), which we hope will fit in with your College day.

The training sessions include those by the Imperial Volunteer Centre, sessions specifically geared to academic representatives, and a variety of personal advice, training and club and society opportunities.

Included in club and society training (more information on which can be sought from your CSC chair or



SAMEENA MISBAHUDDIN
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
(FINANCE & SERVICES)
& **RICHARD WALKER**
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
(CLUBS & SOCIETIES)

Faculty Union president), we will be running sessions about organising events. This will cover budgeting and other financial issues through to advice about planning and prepa-

ration and how the Union can assist with such events. We hope that this will be particularly good both for those who have had little experience in organising events for their clubs as well as those who wish to improve on previous years.

Another key session for clubs and societies is sponsorship, where clubs will be given advice about the best ways to gain support for their activities, how to go about doing this, which organisations to target and how it can benefit them. During the session, clubs will meet the Union's marketing manager who, with her knowledge of the area, is going to be increasingly available to assist clubs and societies in all aspects of sponsorship and marketing.

There will also be a variety of personal development sessions covering public speaking, stress man-

agement, assertiveness and time management. These are all important areas and perfect opportunities to develop yourself and learn new skills.

The Union Advice Service will be offering advice sessions such as coping with debt – regrettably an essential one for students!

So do take the opportunity to take advantage of the training sessions available, and ACQUIRE some new skills.

● Sameena Misbahuddin's remit is to oversee the financial aspects of the Union, including club and society finance, as well as the Union's services. Contact dpfs@ic.ac.uk.

● Richard Walker is responsible for Imperial College Union's clubs and societies, as well as all student activities. Contact dpcs@ic.ac.uk.

Your rights at work

At the moment, if you're a fresher, I bet you're enjoying yourself. You've got your student loan cheque, you've just bought some new clothes and you're feeling great. You've had a few nights out and paid to join a society, everything is new and you are enjoying your experience.

Fast forward a few weeks and it is a whole different picture: you've had too many nights out, your landlord is expecting his/her first rent cheque and you've spent way too much of your loan on luxury items.

If this turns out to be you, you may well need to supplement your student loan with a part-time job, and

so the following information might be useful.

If you're a working student, chances are you're:

- desperate for cash
- working long, probably anti-social hours for low pay
- stressed and tired through juggling work and studies
- being exploited by your boss just because you're a student
- worried about bullying and harassment in your workplace
- not clear about your rights at work and may even think you can't join a union.

All of this means work is bad for you, your studies and your health.

ADVICE SERVICE



NIGEL COOKE
STUDENT ADVISER

But it doesn't have to be. Three quarters of students now work to try to make ends meet. Working students experience similar problems and organisations such as the TUC are campaigning for a better deal.

You have rights which can help improve your working conditions and protect you from danger and discrimination whatever your boss says. In fact, new laws mean that in addition to your basic rights, things have just got better for all working people, including part-timers, temps and casuals.

You can join a union to get advice and support at work when you need it and to win a better deal

in your workplace. The majority of students are not in unionised workplaces and are not members of unions. This means you're likely to be worse off than most other workers and more open to exploitation. But you have just as much right to join a union as everyone else, whatever your job. In fact, given the kind of work you do and the attitude of employers to young/casual workers, you're more likely to need a union than most.

If you have any queries relating to this article or would like information on your rights at work please contact Nigel Cooke, the Student Adviser, on 020 7594 8060 or advice@ic.ac.uk.

Careers Fair 2004

November 3rd & 4th
11am–4pm
Imperial College Union Building & Beit Quad Marquee

Nearly 100 companies are booked into Imperial College Union's Careers Fair, wanting to see **you**, an Imperial student. Print out your CV, brush up your interview technique and visit on both days to meet all the employers. The Careers Fair brochure with company and career position descriptions will be available from the Union Reception from noon on Monday, November 1.

Any Discipline

ACCA
Aldi Stores Limited
Atos Origin
BDO Stoy Hayward
Bristows
BT
Charles River Associates
CIMA
Citigroup
CORUS
Deloitte
Deutsche Bank
Eli Lilly and Company Ltd
ExxonMobil
Factset Ltd
Gifford
GlaxoSmithKline
H.M. Forces/Army
ICI PLC
Imperial College Careers Service
Inland Revenue
Johnson Matthey
KPMG
L.E.K. Consulting LLP
McKinsey and Company
Milkround Online
Morgan Stanley and Co International
MX Telecom
NHS Leadership Centre
Owen Williams
Police High Potential Development Scheme
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Procter & Gamble
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QS Top Graduate
Rolls-Royce plc
Royal Air Force
Sapient Limited
Schlumberger
Shell
Symbian Software Ltd
Teach First
Teacher Training Agency
The College of Law
UBS

Aeronautical Engineering

Altran UK & Ireland
Arthur D Little
Arup
Bird & Bird
Caterpillar
Dstl
FaberMaunsell
GKN plc
Matchtech Group plc
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
Royal Air Force
Agriculture/Horticulture
FaberMaunsell
Jacobs Bابتie Group

Biochemistry/Biotechnology

Arthur D Little
Bird & Bird
Dstl
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc

Biology

Arthur D Little
Bird & Bird
Dstl
FaberMaunsell
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc

Chemical Engineering

AMEC
Apache North Sea Ltd
Arthur D Little
BG Group

Bird & Bird
BT
CB & I John Brown
CORUS
DML
Dstl
European Patent Office
FaberMaunsell
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Johnson Matthey
Matchtech Group plc
MW Kellogg Ltd
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ

Chemistry

Arthur D Little
Bird & Bird
Capita Symonds
CORUS
Dstl
European Patent Office
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Johnson Matthey
Matchtech Group plc
PSA Peugeot Citroën

Civil Engineering

AMEC
Apache North Sea Ltd
Arup
Ballfour Beatty
Buro Happold
Capita Symonds
CB & I John Brown
CORUS
FaberMaunsell
Hilti GB Ltd
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald
Mouchel Parkman
MW Kellogg Ltd
Network Rail
PSA Peugeot Citroën
WSP Group

Computing

Altran UK & Ireland
AMADEUS Services Ltd
BDO Stoy Hayward
BT
Caterpillar
Credit Suisse
Dstl
Factset Ltd
Goldman Sachs International
HM Government Comm Centre
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc
Philips Research & Development
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
Sapient Limited
WSP Group

Ecology/Environment

Arthur D Little
Capita Symonds
CORUS
Dstl
FaberMaunsell
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald
WSP Group

Electrical Engineering

Altran UK & Ireland
AMEC
Arthur D Little
Arup
Bird & Bird
BT

Buro Happold
Capita Symonds
Caterpillar
CB & I John Brown
CORUS
DML
Dstl
European Patent Office
FaberMaunsell
Goldman Sachs International
Hilti GB Ltd
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Lutron EA Ltd
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald
Mouchel Parkman
MW Kellogg Ltd
Network Rail
Philips Research & Development
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
Royal Air Force
WSP Group
Xyratex

Electronic Engineering

Altran UK & Ireland
Arup
Bird & Bird
BT
Caterpillar
CB & I John Brown
Credit Suisse
Dstl
European Patent Office
FaberMaunsell
Factset Ltd
Goldman Sachs International
HM Government Comm Centre
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald
Network Rail
Philips Research & Development
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
Xyratex

Forensic Computing

Credit Suisse
Geology
Arthur D Little
BG Group
Buro Happold
Capita Symonds
FaberMaunsell
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald

Instruments & Control Engineering

MW Kellogg Ltd

Management

BT
Caterpillar
Hilti GB Ltd
PSA Peugeot Citroën
Royal Air Force
Sapient Limited
Marine Engineering
Arthur D Little

Materials Science

Arthur D Little
CB & I John Brown
CORUS
Dstl
European Patent Office
Mott MacDonald
QinetiQ

Mathematics

Arthur D Little
BT
CORUS
Credit Suisse
Dstl
FaberMaunsell
Goldman Sachs International
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Lutron EA Ltd
Mercer Human Resource Consulting
Mott MacDonald
QinetiQ
Royal Air Force

Mechanical Engineering

Altran UK & Ireland
AMEC
Apache North Sea Ltd
Arthur D Little
Arup
BG Group
BT
Buro Happold
Capita Symonds
Caterpillar
CB & I John Brown
CORUS
Credit Suisse
DML
Dstl
FaberMaunsell
GKN plc
Goldman Sachs International
Hilti GB Ltd
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Matchtech Group plc
Mott MacDonald
Mouchel Parkman
MW Kellogg Ltd
Network Rail
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
WSP Group
Xyratex

Medicine

Royal Air Force

Mining

Jacobs Bابتie Group

Numerate

Detica Ltd

Physics

Arthur D Little
Bird & Bird
Capita Symonds
CORUS
Dstl
European Patent Office
FaberMaunsell
Goldman Sachs International
HM Government Comm Centre
Jacobs Bابتie Group
Lutron EA Ltd
Mercer Human Resource Consulting
PSA Peugeot Citroën
QinetiQ
Royal Air Force

Structural Engineering

Jacobs Bابتie Group

Technology Risk Assurance

Altran UK & Ireland
Credit Suisse

Get Out of Bed and Get Ahead

Whether you pull pints in your local bar, stack shelves at night or sell your body for medical research, there is an increasing demand for students to gain work experience and pay off escalating debts. This has been taken to the extreme in some cases.

In February this year, a Bristol student offered to sell her virginity on the Internet and sold her story to the press for £15,000. This would pay off the average student loan, tuition fees for a couple of years and maybe a bit extra.

“Bristol student offered to sell her virginity on the Internet”

In a recent study The Guardian found that having a normal job when studying, with a regular weekly timetable, can negatively affect your degree prospects. So before you run to the

first supermarket, shop or nightclub looking for part time slave labour give ample thought to your future.

A growing tendency is to work during term time, not as a greasy fast food attendant, but as a student brand manager or company marketer. These types of jobs offer enjoyable and beneficial work experience, financial incentives, and a chance to make an impact on your C.V.

“A growing tendency is to work during term time”

Students are starting to realise how important it is to have a competitive edge when entering the job market. The days when students spent their spare time demonstrating or arguing about philosophical issues over cold coffee are long gone. If you know where to look you might just be able to score yourself a prized position, which can

actually enhance your degree development whilst studying at university. Some companies with this foresight include Virgin, The Guardian and Red Bull. They use students' potential effectively to enhance brand awareness on campus, create possible future employees and gain effective feedback for the students' efforts.

Emily Kortlang a 3rd year student who works for the 'Red Bull' student marketing program comments: “You can make the most out of student life with a fun and challenging job, as well as gaining exceptional marketing experience along the way... we communicate the benefits and effects of Red Bull directly to our consumers, whether that's through an event, PR or energizing. It is the greatest opportunity

to exploit my interests and creativity as one day is never the same as the next!”

This type of program has been running for many years in the United States, ranging from 'Playboy' campus reps to 'Saturn' car reps. Only in recent years have UK brands begun to employ students - 'Red Bull' being the pioneer of the Youth Marketing Programme.

“Ranging from 'Playboy' campus reps to 'Saturn' car reps”

You are not expected to

come out of university with copious part-time qualifications, but to have gained experience through a part time rewarding job as a brand ambassador can prove invaluable when stepping out in the 'real world'.

The motivation towards working part time lies in several differ

ent areas; quick easy cash, work experience or a little pocket money to help buy that extra pint of lager.

I spoke to a number of students who explained why their choice of work suited their university career.....



Natalie Andrews

Degree Business and Property (UWE Bristol)
Job New Development Sales Consultant - Knight Frank
Pay £9 per hour / 24-32 hours per week



Application Knight Frank CV and covering letter

Skills / Development Cons Customer service skills / communication / negotiation
“Working interferes with my study and weekend work limits my social life and makes it difficult to visit my family”

Pros “Knight Frank have got a great graduate scheme which I should have a higher chance of getting onto”

Emily Kortlang

Degree Marketing and management (Loughborough Uni)
Job Red Bull Student Marketeer
Pay £8 per hour / 12 hpw in term time / 35 hpw in summer



Application Creative Application / CV
Skills / Development Building relationships, Sampling, PR experience, Event and Project Management, CIM Career Development Award

Cons “It is not a 9-5 job and you have to be a motivated self starter”

Pros “It's the best student job, the hours are flexible, it's a real life experience and it means I can work full time in the summer”

Shofiquul Uddin

Degree Graphic Design Cardiff university
Job Medical Research
Pay £3,800



Application Simbec, there are many different tests you can do but those that pay more are for longer periods of time and harder to come by.

Skills / Development Cons Mixing / living with strangers

Cons “You have to live a squeaky clean life for 3 months before testing! You are very closely monitored, live on site and you can't drink or do any exercise during the testing period”.

Pros “I would definitely recommend it to other students as you get accommodation, food, access to pool table, loads of time to read etc. It's the best substitute for part time work I have ever done”.

Imperial students work with solar power in Nepal

By Paul Sutton, Alex McCredie and Jignesh Parekh

Two Imperial College Engineers Without Borders (EWB) students, Paul Sutton and Jignesh Parekh, have spent their summer working with a local non-governmental organization called the Himalayan Light Foundation in Nepal this year.

The organization endeavours to make solar technologies accessible to the poorest members of rural communities using unique micro credit loan systems in a program called 'HELP'. The students were providing technical assistance in the installation of solar power systems in schools and community centers in the regions of Gorkha and Baglung, in central Nepal.

Engineers Without Borders is a student organisation,

founded to "help people in developing communities gain access to the technology and engineering knowledge they need to improve their lives". EWB sees its role as offering developed world engineers – particularly students – a comprehensive vehicle to supply technical and human resources to local non-governmental organizations, to help research, design and implement technology that is appropriate. Secondly, EWB are seeking to raise awareness and satiate curiosity about international development within universities. Finally, the organization encourages students to partake in research projects to develop appropriate engineering solutions to developing world problems.

The geographical nature of Nepal and long-standing political turmoil have led to the creation of several infra-

structural deficiencies and challenges, one of which is the distribution of electricity. Due to the mountainous terrain and dispersed villages, it has not been economically feasible for the grid to expand much further beyond the cities of Kathmandu and Pokhara, nor is any serious expansion planned for the next ten years. This has meant that the majority of Nepalese rural communities does not and will not have any access to electricity. However, people have begun to respond to this problem by adopting decentralized micro-solar power systems. Over the course of five years, Nepal has seen approximately 50,000 solar systems being installed throughout the country, and this trend continues to gain popularity.

The Himalayan Light Foundation has been at the forefront of the rapid growth

of this alternative energy source, and continues to develop the technology to meet the needs of Nepali communities. In co-ordination with this organisation, the Engineers Without Borders students were able to pioneer computer classes in village schools and the use of solar power in community factories in Baglung and Gorkha.

You can hear more about these students and their work in Nepal in a talk to be given tonight by EWB Imperial students who have spent their summers in different parts of the world participating in several development-related projects.

● **The EWB talk takes place tonight from 6pm in room 208 of the Civil Engineering building. For more information, visit www.ewb-uk.org**

One day you'll need more than a degree

The Entrepreneurs' Challenge is launched

By Beccy Knights
Entrepreneurs' Challenge
Manager

The launch party for one of the world's biggest business plan competitions, the Entrepreneurs' Challenge, now in its fifth year, was a great success. Over 350 students came along to learn how they could get involved.

Piers Robinson, Student Business Mentor, explained the format of the competition. The Challenge is open to all Imperial College students, undergraduate and post-graduate, and is run by the Entrepreneurship Centre in the Tanaka Business School. Students do not need to have prior business or commercial experience to enter. Previous winners have come from a variety of departments.

The 'Ideas Challenge', the first part of the competition, runs this term and asks for a 2-3 page summary of a business idea. Ten £1,000 prizes and ten £250 prizes are awarded to the winners at this stage. In the Spring term, the 'New Business Challenge' offers students the opportunity to present a full business plan for a chance to win the first prize of £25,000 in cash and services, one of two runners up prizes of £5,000 in cash and services, or a finalist cash prize of £1,000.

Kindle Solutions – better known as James Barclay, James Arnold and Paul Andrew, three final year mechanical engineering students – shared their experiences of entering the Challenge last year. LagerServ, with their idea of a time-saving device for pouring beer, proved to be a very popular choice with the students!

Successful entrepreneur Dan Germain, one of the founders of Innocent drinks, provided the inspiration for the evening. The creators of

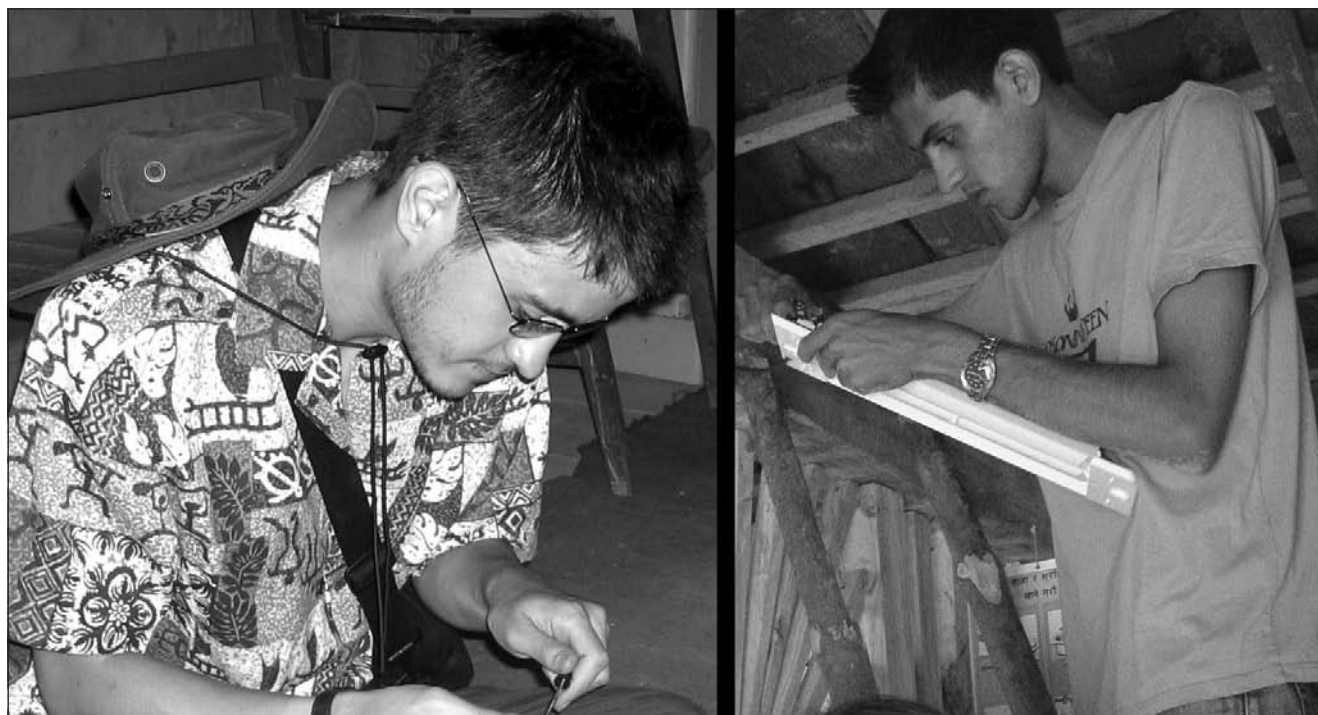
Innocent were three city workers who left their jobs in 1998 to start up a company selling health drinks. They bought £500 worth of fruit, turned it into smoothies and sold them at a music festival in London from a stall with a big sign above saying 'Do you think we should give up our jobs to make these smoothies?' They put out a bin saying 'YES' and a bin saying 'NO', and asked people to put the empty bottle in the right bin. At the end of the weekend, the 'YES' bin was full and Innocent, now a company with an £18m revenue, was born.

Teams who have taken part in the Entrepreneurs' Challenge have been successful London-wide as well as in international business plan competitions, proving Imperial's students to be among the best at developing and presenting ideas. Some have also gone on to raise investment capital to make their businesses a reality.

The competition attracts companies such as McKinsey, IBM, Psion, Shell, HP, HSBC, Barclays Capital, Amadeus Capital and Innocent Drinks to sponsor or pass on their expertise to our students, meaning that entrants have a wealth of experience available to them as they put their business plans together.

Weekly presentations take place every Thursday 6-7pm in LT1 of the Tanaka Business School to support those entering the competition. These include talks from industry professionals on how to generate ideas, how to protect your ideas, marketing and developing your product, financing your business and how to write a business plan.

If you would like get involved or would like to learn more, please contact the Challenge team on challenge@imperial.ac.uk or visit www.imperial.ac.uk/business/challenge.



Imperial College students working on a solar power installation in Nepal

The Samaritans: here to listen and support

It's a cold, wet Friday night. You've been dumped the previous evening. You're struggling to meet an essay deadline. And your flatmates are asking for rent money you haven't got. You feel desperate, almost overwhelmed. You're having despairing feelings you've never experienced before...

If you found yourself in this situation, who could you turn to at 3am? Who would be available for you to talk to? Where would you find a caring listener in the middle of the night with whom to share your feelings? Who would want to even listen to your problems?

There are places to go for

this kind of help, but not all of them are available whenever you might need them. The Student Advice Service, the Student Counselling Service and Nightline all offer support, but what happens if they are busy, or you have to make an appointment, or it's during the College holidays? Who would you turn to then?

The answer is to call Samaritans. The local number is 020 7734 2800, or you can ring the national number, 08457 90 90 90.

Samaritans provide a confidential helpline that operates 24/7/365. They are there for people in distress, going through a crisis and thinking of harming themselves

or possibly taking their own lives. But we also hope to hear from people before they feel close to the edge – when they feel distressed, confused, isolated, misunderstood. As one Samaritan put it: "Our role is to respond to anyone going through a difficult time, feeling depressed, or just struggling to cope."

What Samaritans offer is someone to talk to, someone who will share the burden, someone who will listen without judging. They are not counsellors, therapists, or advisors, just ordinary people offering empathy and human understanding.

"Samaritans work on the principle that talking things

through can make it easier to find a way out of distress. We do not judge or give advice, we allow people to work out their own way forward."

Samaritans recognise that it is often difficult to talk about sensitive issues or personal traumas, and they know that telephoning can be painfully hard for some callers. However, if you wish, you don't even have to make verbal contact, as Samaritans also have a confidential email service offering support. You can email jo@samaritans.org and someone will respond within 24 hours.

For students with access to central London, there is also a drop-in service that

operates from 9am to 9pm at 46 Marshall Street, in Soho. This provides the opportunity of talking to a Samaritan volunteer face-to-face. Central London Samaritans also has volunteers who speak many different languages, and there is a line dedicated for Japanese speakers on 020 7287 5493.

But, as one Samaritan explains, "It may not be you that is experiencing distress or facing a crisis. It may be a fellow student. What we hope is that friends will pick up signs of distress – such as changes in patterns of behaviour – and let them know about the Samaritans. That they can call us; that we are

here to listen."

● In Britain, more people die every year by suicide than in road accidents.

● Every two hours someone in the UK succeeds in taking his/her life.

● Two people under 25 die by suicide every day.

● Every hour three young people self harm.

● Many of these people are students, struggling to cope with the pressures of being at college or university.

Samaritans can be contacted 24 hours a day by telephone and email. You can contact the nearest branch to the South Kensington campus on 020 7734 2800 or jo@samaritans.org.

Around Campus

felix@ic.ac.uk

Silwood Freshers Fortnight: part two

By **Andy Brown**
Silwood Park Correspondant

Yes that's right, 'part two'. Despite not having any freshers here at Silwood Park, we still celebrate the start of a new year and a new intake. Following on from the first week, the second had a lot to live up to, and proved itself to be no less entertaining for both those partaking and those who got to hear the stories and gossip which will no doubt be engraved into Silwood legend.

The ever-popular Silwood pub quiz got the week rolling. Arranged by the event team, it was left a tad late to structure and come up with some half descent questions, but we ploughed through and despite having to rely on a few donations from our tutees, who we were teaching earlier that day, we managed to plug the gaps in the evening's plan. Taken seriously by some, but more often not by most, it was a chance to show off all that random information stored in your head that you thought would never come in use again, we have all been there. With questions ranging from the rather distastefully answered "according to Michael Jackson, it doesn't



A typical Silwood resident: Wye has sheep, Silwood has rabbits

matter if... what" (the answer was 'black or White') to the surprisingly heated discussions over naming the seven dwarfs, it was a night enjoyed by all.

Following on from this, the international food night proved to supply more dishes than I think I ate in my first year here let alone in one night. With mountains remaining, it was to supply many a kitchen for the remainder of the week.

With the beerentering cancelled on the Thursday due to appalling weather (welcome to the UK, for those on their first trip), it was Wednesday which provided the memorable night of the week. What in theory was a fairly quiet night into Bracknell to the bowlingplex turned out to be a night of yet more alcohol-induced (at least I hope it was) re-writing of Silwood legend. The final result was us being asked to leave, and we may not return for a while.

It all came about due to us not being able to find balls of the correct weight and so having to resort to human bowling. This proved to be more accurate than using the balls, as apparently you are allowed to knock down as many balls as you wish when you reach the other end and so this had exponential effects on the scores of these participating lanes. I would like to point out here that I do not endorse this behaviour, however I can understand that from the point of view of a technically challenged bowler, ie someone rubbish (which I admit to be), it is very easy to give in to temptation in order to improve your score.

The week was rounded off by a typical Silwood party,



Autumn comes to Silwood: the beautiful manor house

with the return of last years two resident DJs, as we crammed the entire population into a tiny room and then

bounced around until around 4.30am (although if Silwood security are reading, it was 2am as we agreed, honest).

A fantastic finale to a fortnight enjoyed by all, new and old, at campuses all over the Imperial world.

Congratulations to all those involved.

● Photos by Tom Jones

New Wye executive take up the reins

By **Nichola Hawkins**
at the Wye campus

Friday night saw the annual 'Olantigh Road' event in Wye. This is the Union Executive Committee's handover event, Olantigh Road being the Road to the Wye Union building.

Tradition dictates that as the old executive decorate the hall, knowing that the new exec will have to clear it away, they take full advantage of this arrangement, and this year was no exception.

The chosen theme was 'The Grand National', complete with a miniature race course in the sports hall. According to a blackboard

in the entrance, the building contained 20 tons of bark chippings, four tons of sand, 10 bails of straw, four bags of sawdust, 32 square metres of turf and various other items including 10 tyres and three trees. Those who spent the weekend with shovels and wheelbarrows gradually started to believe those figures, although fortunately (being in Wye) one of the new exec was able to bring his tractor.

Following the handover, the first major event to be organised by the new Wye College Union Society (WCUS) officers is Wye's annual Charity Week, for which a shameless plug now follows:

The week kicks off on Sunday 31 October, with a Hallowe'en party.

Monday sees a new addition to the traditional events, in the form of an international culture night hosted by Wye's Overseas Students Organisation, with international music (including live music), food and films.

Tuesday returns to the traditional calendar, with the infamous champagne breakfast. Guests turn up at the crack of dawn, with black tie dress code, for a breakfast that includes a whole bottle of bubbly at a mystery location. Only two people in Wye, myself not included, know the location in advance, but

recent locations have included a racecourse, a submarine (in dry dock), a dry sledging run and a "diggerland" theme park.

In the evening, there is another new addition to the week. DJ Benjy presents 'The Shake Down', the event formerly known as Urban Night, with R'n'B, hip-hop, garage and dancehall tracks, and a chance for budding vocal artists to do their thing with an open mic session.

Wednesday sees another old favourite, with a disco hosted by the Meteorological Society, also known as the Druids, at an undisclosed location which has previously included a barn and a

disused chalk quarry. This is followed on Thursday by the slave auction, a chance to buy yourself a fresher or two, as well being the only chance to buy back any property that may have mysteriously vanished from students' bedrooms earlier in the week.

Friday sees the Charity Ball. The theme is 007, with costumes (agents, bond girls or villains) encouraged, but black tie dress is also acceptable. The location will be announced soon, but it certainly promises to be a grander occasion than this year's Freshers' Ball.

The week culminates with the Bonfire Party on Saturday, where students

and villagers join together in a torch-lit procession up to the Crown (the highest field on the Wye College Estate) for Guy Fawkes celebrations.

The week reflects incoming WCUS President Dawinder Sahota's election pledge to "combine the traditional Wye College events in the Union with events that reflect the more diverse and international nature of some of the students here."

Last Monday, the Wye Postgraduate Association elected their new President, completing the new set of officers, so students can expect new plans to be underway soon. Watch this space...

Clubs & Societies

felix@ic.ac.uk

17 ways up a mountain

FELLWANDERERS

By Tristan Horner

The Fellwanderers walking club had another successful excursion this month to Snowdonia, where we managed to navigate our way up both Snowdon and Cnicht. Amongst some of the finest scenery in the UK, we

“There were fantastic views and good weather aplenty”

enjoyed our cheese and pickle sandwiches at over 2000 feet despite the typical hailstorm on the mountainside.

After successfully avoiding the motorway for several hours (taking instead every side road and narrow lane in north Wales), we arrived at our hut. Taking only our

lunch and waterproofs the next day, the team hiked up Snowdon taking in some of the most breathtaking scenery the area has to offer before retreating to the hut in the hills. The evenings were equally enjoyable, with our resident chef cooking the group dinner ahead of soaking up some Tesco wine and relaxing in front of the fire.

Sunday saw the group up Cnicht, bearing the exclusive Fellwanderers banner over the hilltops after what was an exciting scramble up the mountain. There were fantastic views and good weather aplenty, regardless of the choice made by our navigator to take us through muddy bog after hidden stream after muddy bog...

Overall, the weekend was a great success with the whole group coming back tired but satisfied after seeing some spectacular views (including Sarah falling over, twice) and enjoying each other's company.



Enjoying the Snowdonia scenery: the Imperial Fellwanderers

How do you take your career forward and give something back?

Graduate Careers Presentation: Accenture

Location: Lecture Theatre 2, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

Date: Tuesday 16th November 2004 Time: 7pm

If you would like to attend, please sign up via the Careers Service

Few career options offer you a better platform for success than consulting at Accenture. As one of the world's leading management consulting, technology services and outsourcing companies, we help our clients become high-performance businesses by delivering innovation.

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In fact, our people contribute to the wider community in lots of different ways. In their spare time. From their pay packets. Using their business and technical skills or through

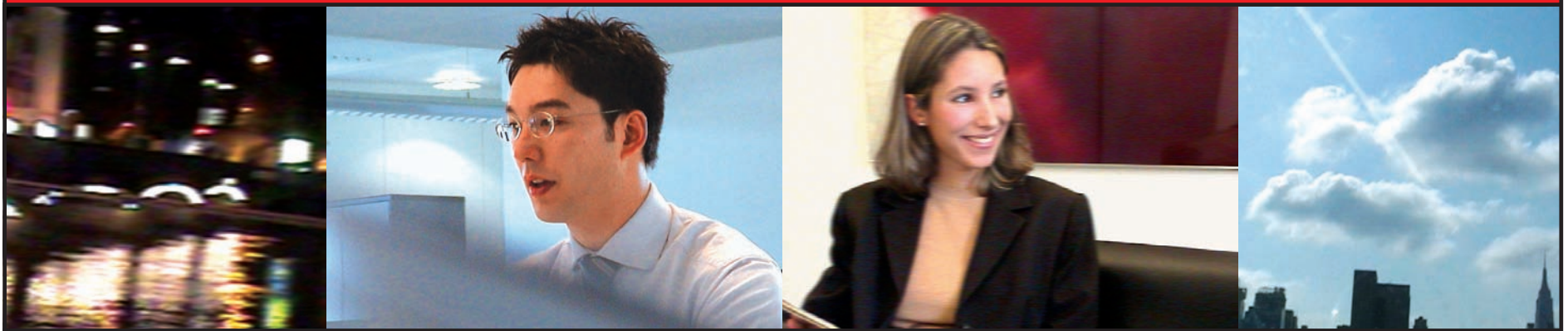
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UBS has a market-leading equity business, not just in terms of market share, but with respect to client rankings and profitability as well. Our trading activities provide our clients with liquidity and efficient execution of large orders in all major markets.

The FIRC business provides a broad spectrum of products and innovative solutions to corporate, institutional and retail clients in all major markets. With over 2,200 professionals employed around the world, we offer our clients a seamless global service.

Our intention is to extend and enhance our position in these demanding fields, which translates into exciting career opportunities.

The closing date for full-time graduate application is:
12 November 2004

To apply for an internship with us, the closing date is:
21 January 2005

To learn more about us and to apply for a position, visit our website: www.ubs.com/graduates

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What's on

felix@ic.ac.uk

THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER

UNION EVENTS ARTS FESTIVAL 2005 LAUNCH MEETING

5-6pm
Seminar Room 1, Beit Quad
The Arts Festival, held in February, is a chance to show the rest of the world how big arts really is at Imperial College Union. Everyone with even the slightest potential interest should come along to this meeting.

Contact: arts@ic.ac.uk

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES HIS PEOPLE: 'POTHEAD, PHYSICIST, PROPHET'

6-7pm
BMS
FREE
Come and hear the story of a pothead physicist who became a prophet, then meet the man himself.

Contact: john.hermes@ic.ac.uk

FILMS THE VILLAGE (12A)

6pm
Union Concert Hall
£3
The thrilling tale of an isolated town confronting the astonishing truth that lies just outside its borders. Showing at the Union's own cinema
Contact: cinema@ic.ac.uk

RADIO FIRESIDE

6-7pm
IC Radio
www.icradio.com
Join the Union President and the Felix editor for a discussion of the week's news. Call the studio to ask your questions.
Contact: info@icradio.com

RADIO UNDEFINED

7-8pm
IC Radio
www.icradio.com
Felix Music and Nightlife editors Simon and Andy bring you music sans frontières.
Contact: info@icradio.com

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES URBAN MUSIC: HEAVY ELEMENTS V

8pm
Southside Bar
FREE
A night of hip-hop, drum 'n' bass, breakdancers and MC Unreal, the human beatbox.
Contact: urbanmusic1@hotmail.com

FILMS DODGEBALL: A TRUE UNDERDOG STORY (12A)

8.30pm
Union Concert Hall
£3
A group of misfits enter a Las Vegas dodgeball tournament in order to save their cherished local gym from the onslaught of a corporate health fitness chain.
Contact: cinema@ic.ac.uk

FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER

UNION EVENTS GORE FEST

8pm-1am
Beit Quad
£3 or £1.50 in fancy dress
The Union's Hallowe'en celebration. Vodka and draft mixer £1 while stocks last.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

CLUBBING HARLEM NIGHTS

The End
Steve Lawler plays a five hour set that promises to have the place packed and pumping.

SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER

CLUBBING FESH MONSTER HALLOWE'EN SPECIAL

333, Old Street
DJ Hell makes a special appearance at this East End bar/basement club.

CLUBBING RENAISSANCE

The Cross
South American progressive master Hernan Cattaneo is playing. Don't miss out.

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER

CLUBBING INSEKT PRESENTS BYTE

The Purple Turtle
A FREE night of hard house, trance, nu-NRG and techno at one of London's coolest venues.

MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER

RADIO TBR

6-8pm
IC Radio
www.icradio.com
The latest and greatest in pop and urban music as well as some up and coming new styles.

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER

UNION EVENTS STA TRAVEL QUIZ NIGHT

8-10.30pm
Beit Quad
FREE
The quiz is a bit of a tradition at the Union, with cash and beer prizes on offer.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER

UNION EVENTS CAREERS FAIR

11am-4pm
Beit Quad
FREE
Nearly 100 companies will be present at Imperial College Union's careers fair. They want to see Imperial students like you! Print out your CV, visit the employers and ask questions.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

UNION EVENTS CHEEKY

8pm-1am
Beit Quad
£2

Flirty current chart music and party classics.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER

VERY IMPORTANT FELIX PUBLISHED

10am onwards
Pick up the next issue from our shiny new distribution bins in your department or the Union building.
Contact: felix@ic.ac.uk

UNION EVENTS CAREERS FAIR

11am-4pm
Beit Quad
FREE
See Wednesday.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

UNION EVENTS RED HOT SALSA

dBs, Beit Quad
A night of salsa from the Imperial College Union Dance Club. Join in and pick up some tips from their professional instructors.
Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

ALL WEEK

ARTS NATIONAL GALLERY Raphael

ARTS TATE BRITAIN Turner Prize

ARTS BRITISH MUSEUM Sudan: Past and present

**FILMS
ALFIE (15)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm. Fri and Sat only: 11.25pm.

**FILMS
ALIEN VS PREDATOR (15)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 3.40pm, 8.20pm. Fri and Sat only: 10.45pm.

**FILMS
BRIDE AND PREJUDICE (12A)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm.

**FILMS
COLLATERAL (15)**

Odeon Kensington
Fri and Sat only: 10.25pm.

**FILMS
EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING (15)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6.00pm, 8.45pm.

**FILMS
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 12.55pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm.

**FILMS
HERO (12A)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 1.20pm, 6.05pm.

**FILMS
LAYER CAKE (15)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri and Sat only: 10.40pm.

**FILMS
SAW (18)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri and Sat only: 11.20pm.

**FILMS
SHARK TALE (U)**
Odeon Kensington
Fri to Thurs: 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.10pm. Fri to Sun only: 12.05pm.

Running an event? Want people to know? Tell us about it!

Felix will print your listings free of charge. Just email felix@ic.ac.uk and tell us:

- the name of the event
- who is running it
- the time
- the location
- the cost (if any)
- a brief description of the event
- a contact email address



An evening of Red Hot Salsa from our national champions, the Imperial Dance Club, and the Union.

Try out some sexy salsa steps with guidance from our upfront teachers.

imperial college union

At: dBs
Thurs Nov 4
7.30pm > 11pm
(Food only till 8.45pm)

Cost: FREE

Free Salsa Class

red hot salsa

Imperial College Union, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB

My London

felix@ic.ac.uk



Name: **Adam Langley**
 Department: **Joint Maths and Computing**
 Year: **3**
 Living in: **Fulham**

My... places to eat

Giraffe, High Street Kensington – Toblerone cheesecake and great smoothies. Life is complete.
Cafe Forum, Gloucester Road – Great for mass orders of pizza because they give you little bits of paper from which you choose your toppings for each pizza. Also there's a cool little machine that cuts up oranges and squeezes them to make fresh orange juice.
Any Heathrow Arrivals Terminal – I really hate aircraft food.

My... places to drink

Reynolds Bar – Because medics are people too! (And it's close by.)
Coffee Republic, Gloucester Road – Because I have to be feeling pretty lazy to put up with Starbucks and I've been converted from coffee to hot chocolate.
The Union Bar – Where else can you find such a wonderful, smart, good looking group as people such as Dramsoc?

My... buildings

The Empress State – Can be very pretty in a good light.
The church in the middle of Hammersmith – Nicely lit at night and an island of history in amongst the all modern chaos.
Natural History Museum – Just huge and beautiful.

My... buildings to bomb

That one in Notting Hill – I think you know which I mean. Though I understand it's actually a listed building.
The silly-egg shaped one in Hammersmith – Though if London is ever flooded I know which building is most likely to float (or we could all pile into the 'gherkin' and blast off)
The Home Office – Just kidding Mr Blunkett.

My... tube stations

Mornington Crescent – Because I always win at Ambridge Hold'em.
Earl's Court – Because it's home.
Westminster – It has really great architecture. I'll usually plan tube trips to change at Westminster because I like walking though it so much. The 'moon base' feel mightn't be to everyone's tastes, however.

My... wastes of time

Skipping – Usually to the great embarrassment of poor Sara.
'Working' – Setting up and striking a never-ending series of events around College for Dramsoc.
Heckling at Speaker's Corner on a Sunday afternoon – don't bother with the religious ones because they're preaching, not speaking. Find the weirdos and demolish their arguments in front of all everyone else. Repeat.

Tell us about your London. Email felix@ic.ac.uk

Imperial College
London

Sign up now!

Why not get active in the community whilst you're at Imperial College London? It doesn't matter if you work or study in Imperial – volunteering will have always something to offer you! We have over 250 volunteering opportunities in our database, so there should be a project for you.

The easiest way to get regular updates about volunteering is by signing up to our mailing list. You will receive all the latest opportunities on a weekly basis, directly to your email inbox. Simply send us an email to volunteering@imperial.ac.uk, clearly stating that you want to receive the weekly news bulletin and we will do the rest!

Imperial Volunteer Centre



Linking opportunities

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

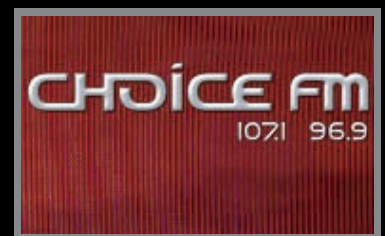
Imperial Volunteer Centre
South Kensington campus
Union Building
Beit Quadrangle East Basement
Prince Consort Road
London SW7 2BB

FASTER PUSSYCATS
RnB / Hip Hop

£1 Vodka + Draught
Mixer in dBs

At: **dBs**
Fri Nov 5
8pm > 2am

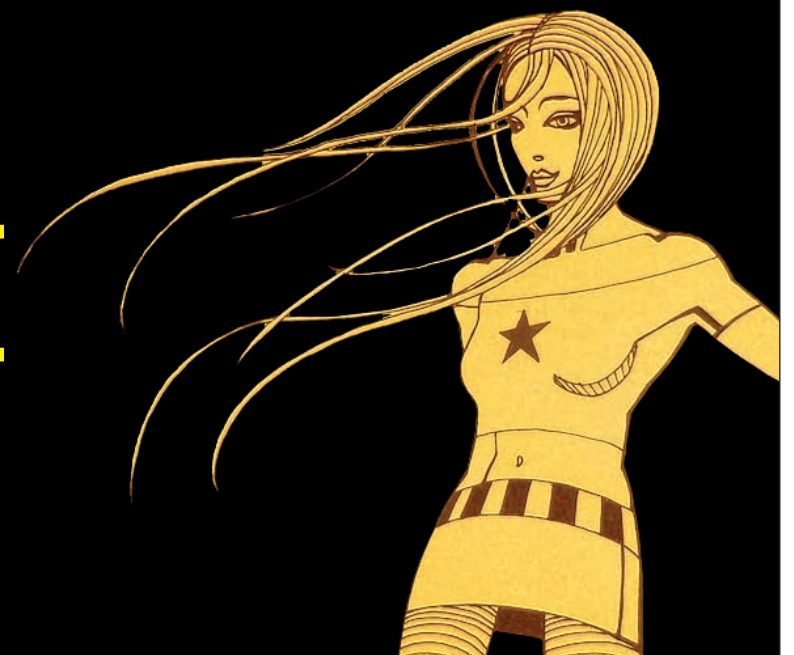
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Guests £3.50



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Music

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All singles together

Since singles have been conspicuous by their absence in recent weeks, here's a big round-up of things you've heard and possibly hated on the radio

SINGLE REVIEWS

The Streets

Blinded By The Lights
(679 Recordings)

★★★★☆

You would think *Blinded By The Lights* would be like a really dull anecdote. So, Mike Skinner has gone to a club. Initially he can't find his friends. He indulges in some recreational drugs. He wanders to the foyer in an attempt to get a signal on his mobile (most probably on T-Mobile then).

And so his evening continues, although alas we are not treated to his night bus antics or indeed the journey from his front door to his bed. But there's something about it. There's a tune not unlike the intro to *Never Tear Us Apart* by the late INXS. There's a slow, tinny beat, plodding along in the darkness. There are the hollow voices whispering retorts to the continual train of thought running through the song. There's a definite sense that we've all been here, and while it makes you a little tired just listening to it, it's okay, because it's just a song.

Giulia Clark

Goldie Lookin' Chain

Your Mother's Got A Penis
(Atlantic)

★★★★☆

In a startling departure from their previous spoof-rap japery, surprise success Goldie Lookin' Chain have produced a serious song, a heart-breaking post-modern tear-jerker about the emotional pain and confusion experienced by all concerned when a middle-aged

parent is revealed to be transgendered. Typified by a subtle blend of thoughtful melody and toe-tapping beats, *Your Mother's Got A Penis* is wistful and inspiring by turns, running the gamut of human sentiments in a roller-coaster ride that will leave you breathless, energised and begging for more. Awards and critical plaudits are ensured.

Nah, I'm just yanking your chain. *Your Mother's Got A Penis* is predictably silly, poppy and puerile from beginning to end. But it's laugh-out-loud funny and insanely catchy, and therefore does its intended job admirably. Everyone'll love it. Go on, sing it at the next huge, bald, scary-looking fucker you see in the pub. I dares you. He'll love it too, I swear. Safe.

Anna Novitzky

Electric Six

Vibrator
(XL Recordings)

★★★★☆

Well, no hidden meanings here, but we wouldn't expect anything less from those crazy Detroit discopunks. Nice guitar lead with a thread of the synthetic, a racy beat, and vocals deep and dirty as per usual.

It's easy to imagine a crowd jumping to this one, especially with the odd finger pointing 'hey' or 'yeah' added for good measure. It's less easy to imagine singing along with a serious look on your face, but then I guess that's the idea. It's not going to win any awards for innovation, but I have no doubt it will become an anthem in student unions across the land. Plus, as an added bonus, the band have made it available as a free download at electric6.com, so what are you waiting for? Get bopping.

Giulia Clark

Six Foot Under

Traveller
(Beyond Reality)

★★★★☆

A little background on this unholy offering is required. Firstly, you need to know it is nine minutes 22 seconds long, yes I said long. Secondly, it is wholly instrumental, apparently 'music in the best sense' which will 'take hold of you', if the press release has anything to say about it. Thirdly, it will be priced at a shocking £2.50 because, in the band's eyes, it is worth 51 pence more than everything else. Lastly it is inspired by the death of founder member Jeremy Holtom's wife, and if that's not emotional blackmail, I don't know what is.

To prepare for the Traveller experience I would advise you to firstly find a time machine and transport



Proof that Zane Lowe is, in reality, a member of Goldie Lookin' Chain, which explains their mysterious fame

yourself back to the 1980s. Next you will need to find a lonely field and get naked (with the exception a few spuriously placed daisy chains). And finally have a 'feel the music, man' moment, accompanied by some closed-eyed dancing and possibly a smattering of intense head nodding. Then if you're lucky, beings from another planet will abduct you and erase any trace of this odd, new-age-but-not, hippy nonsense from your brain. As you may have guessed, not my bag.

Giulia Clark

Fleeing New York

Hollywood Bowl
(Stuckupmusic)

★★★★☆

Others may embrace the similarity between FNY and certain Detroit based bands (you know the one I mean, the one with only two members where incest is most definitely best); I, however do not.

The main problem with this first outing into the big wide world of 'singles' is that *Hollywood Bowl* can't really decide what it wants to be. Stomping, yes. Chugging guitars, yes. Emphatic yelling of the word 'hey', yes. And yet, a 1950s style Hawaiian Beach Boys effort actually provides the most promising moment of the track, only to be swiftly replaced by a section of non-committal da-da-das.

Admittedly there is something very smooth about bassist Emma Richardson's vocals, but out of the live setting they, and many other catchy elements, are drowned out by the unremarkableness of it all.

Giulia Clark

Rest In Peace

Martin Grech
(Record Label)

★★★★☆

I would imagine that singer-song-

writer Martin Grech is widely unknown to most people. If you have heard of him, it's probably due to his single *Open Heart Zoo* that was used on a Lexus car advert – a spine-tingling waltz with Martin's ethereal swooping falsetto. His debut album was a strange mish-mash of Radiohead-like indie anthems, darkly introverted ballads, and frankly bizarre progressive nu-metal.

His voice is an acquired taste. Not as powerful as, say, Matt Bellamy's glass-shattering yell, it's a bit whiney. On this collection of acoustic guitar songs, as a stop-gap before his new album, his singing becomes emotive and touchingly fragile.

Mighty Hands starts with gently strummed and very melodic guitar, developing with interesting cordiality. Mr Grech bemoans the fact that he "trusted in liars, bent down for them" before having his cloud-scraping "oohs" superimpose over an otherwise restrained chorus.

Gratefully Punished is discordant and doesn't make for easy listening, with his moans a bit over-the-top and grating. The EP gets back on track with *Father and Mother Figure*, a much more lush and harmonious song, with some pretty finger-picking and the help of a choir. There's also some instrumentation, in the form of a tambourine, cowbell and hand-claps.

Martin saves the best 'til last with the hair-raisingly delicate *Freedom, Warmth And Sincerity*. A strangely distorted piano plays in the background as he stretches his voice to quietly sing a melody so tender it could almost be a lullaby. The middle of the track features him sighing smoothly as a choir hums gently below, and it ends with him imploring: "Now guilt is dead, and all is said, you are forgiven. Now it's a case, of sit and wait, for the saints to come for me".

A beautiful collection of music overall, and obvious proof that sometimes less is more.

James Millen



Electric Six: basically, the worst fashions of the last 30 years compressed into one band. Great!

MUSIC

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Noughties beats and eighties pop

RJD2 has been hailed as yet another sample maestro in the vein of DJ Shadow, but his sophomore record seems to be stuck in around 1984

ALBUM REVIEW

RJD2

Since We Last Spoke
Definitive

★★★★☆

With his commercial debut *Deadringer*, RJD2 (real name R J Krohn) caused a stir among hipsters and critics alike as they fell over themselves to try to pin the "new DJ Shadow" label on him. His weighty beats and seriously efficient sampling toyed with both commercial hip-hop and Cut Chemist-style underground.

The follow-up, the nostalgically titled *Since We Last Spoke*, is a somewhat confusing affair. RJD leaps around genres, styles and formats endlessly, often within the space of a single four-minute track, giving the record an air of uneasiness and disquiet. The title track is full of halting, stuttering silences between gritty guitars and a glorious, harmonising vocal; this conjures up images of modern urban decay – boarded up buildings and flyposting.

Whereas *Deadringer* could feel impersonal, almost robotic at times,

Since We Last Spoke is warm, welcoming, and at times, touching. *Someone's Second Kiss* opens with menacing, crackly piano over skittering, broken beats; the lush-sounding disco vocal slides in almost unnoticed before the track dissolves into analogue, Moog bleeping. It's an awe-inspiring piece of downbeat hip-hop. *Clean Living* is mellowed out seventies disco, with yet another perfect vocal sample: "Everybody's life goes on / like a melancholy song". RJD allows the piano sound from the original track to bleed through, before surprising you with steel drums and wah-wah guitar; again, the inventiveness and sheer playfulness shines through.

The nostalgic feeling of the name extends itself into the record, most of which seems to be stuck in the early eighties or late seventies, an era of hair-metal guitar solos, expensive analogue synthesisers and gloriously over the top disco funk. Listen to 1976 and you're listening to the best cop-show theme tune that was never screened. Scratchy guitars, motown horns and a stupidly funky bassline make me think of police helicopters over LA, or cop chases down alleys full of boxes. *To All Of*



RJD2: "Ah crap, I've written another 70s cop-show theme tune."

You wouldn't seem out of place on a compilation between Isaac Hayes and the late, great, Barry White, so authentic is its sampling of black soul love themes.

Occasionally RJD seems to misjudge the level of cheesiness that's

tolerable. *Through The Walls* pilfers every dreadful eighties guitar band for its palm-muted riff and awful, breathy vocal; it almost sounds like it should be on the soundtrack to *The Wedding Singer*. However, these moments are few and far between.

For the most part, *Since We Last Spoke* is a triumph – an ambitious blend of hip-hop, IDM, funk, soul and just about every other genre you care to name.

Andrew Sykes
Music Editor

Bands! At the Union!

With very little or no advertising, Boxer Rebellion and Headway manage to take over Friday night in dBs with their sweeping, anthemic songs

LIVE REVIEW

Boxer Rebellion

dBs

★★★★☆

Decent bands? At the Union? Surprising, I know.

This gig gained so little publicity, it was a miracle that anyone showed up at all. Boxer Rebellion alone are capable of drawing a big enough crowd to fill the Water Rats, and even NME was all over their single *Watermelon*. For Christ's sake,

they're signed to Alan McGee's Poptones label. Since this was an "events" night at the Union, the not-too-friendly bouncers were out in force to make sure those scum of the earth, non-Imperial types, were kept out. A couple of our friends showed up after I had already entered the Union and, being fairly big Boxer Rebellion fans, I went out to try and sign them in as my 'guests'. I was treated as if I was trying to get a pair of known criminals into the premises.

That's enough ranting about the Union for this review. It's actually

a great place to watch bands: the stage is huge, the beer is cheap, and the soundsystem is very respectable.

Unfortunately, we managed to miss the first band on the bill, but headed into dBs to watch *Headway*. Looking like the generic, straight outta Camden indie band, I was expecting a set of mid-paced, melodic pop. What we got instead was huge choruses, guitar wigouts and some seriously meaty tunes – imagine, if you will, the hugely underrated *Easyworld* jamming with *Doves*. Although the crowd was typically stoic, towards the end of the set I glanced around to see heads nodding and feet tapping. *Under Control*, despite its *Strokes* aping title, was a blast of searing, driving pop, the singer's vocals soaring over a suitably large hook.

Headway did the rock finish, then took their gear apart themselves and lifted it offstage. This band should not have to hump their own amps out of the back door – while bands like *Razorlight* and the awful *Jet* have line after line of column inches praising them, gems like *Headway* get two lines in the back of the *Metro* in the listings section. Sadly, this is what happens when the mainstream music press focuses more on image than actual ability.

Boxer Rebellion certainly had a lot to live up to. Having only one guitarist compared to *Headway's* two, I wondered how much variety there would be in the set. Thankfully, any preconceptions I had were completely destroyed within about 30 seconds



Boxer Rebellion: powerful, swirling, and scarf-wearing

of the opening song. Their sound is based on swirling, feedbacking guitar lines, somewhat reminiscent of *Radiohead*. Where *Radiohead* would insert a lengthy verse, *Boxer Rebellion* insert lots and lots of noise. Walls of noise, indeed, seem to be their speciality. At some points, the drummer was allowed to let rip with some of the best drumming I've heard since *Oceansize* – thundering snares and tons of cymbals, sending the songs into the same post-rock

territory.

Finishing with the utterly destructive *Watermelon*, which is basically built around a two-note guitar harmonic and evolves into a rage-filled maelstrom, *Boxer Rebellion* left me shouting for more. I can understand why Alan McGee signed them on sight – they have an incredibly enthralling sound that draws you in and spits you out feeling exhausted and sweaty.

Andrew Sykes



Boxer Rebellion's guitarist demonstrates his magical fringe



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Macpherson makes good

He's the man in charge of all the entertainments at the Union, but he's also a rising star in the drum and bass world. Last weekend, *Felix* went to see Macpherson play at Fabric

CLUB REVIEW

FabricLive

Fabric, Charterhouse Street
£10-12

★★★★☆

If you caught last week's feature on Fabric's birthday, you'll have an idea of how vast the place is. Last weekend I experienced this in a whole new light, as when I arrived the place was mostly empty. It hadn't opened yet, and the place looked even more vast than when it's jam-packed with sweaty clubbers. Floodlights were on; people were scurrying around and soundchecking the lovely big sound system. Normally I wouldn't have arrived until about midnight, but tonight I'd come early to catch the first DJ of the night, Macpherson.

It might not sound particularly impressive to have a warm-up set, but you have to realise that this is actually quite a big achievement. Firstly, consider that Fabric really is a very good, very popular and very big club. They really can pick and choose where artists are concerned. Also, it's becoming more and more the case these days that 'everyone's a DJ'. As club culture grows and equipment becomes cheaper, there's no shortage of DJs around, especially in the world of drum and bass.

When Macpherson started his set at 9.30pm there was literally a handful of people in the vast open

expanse of Room Two, but that didn't mean there was no-one dancing. Macpherson's style is fast, switching beats between tracks so quickly that he easily gets through 25 records for every hour he plays. This is great with drum and bass – the drums never stay the same for long, and each rolling, bouncing bassline is quickly superseded by the next.

Playing for only the first couple of hours, Macpherson's crowd was never going to be massive – the pubs hadn't even chucked out yet – but as his set progressed the club gradually filled up. I have to confess that I'm not a real drum and bass head like some, but it was easy to tell he was hitting the spot. Hoody-and-cap-adorned ravers were bouncing and jiggling, and the screams and shouts in the breakdowns and at the end of his set said it all. When he left the booth, as Teebee came on, the room was more or less full (if not totally rammed) and the crowd was more than just warmed up.

I hung around in Room Two for a while and had a drink with Macpherson to congratulate him on his set. Teebee's set was a fair amount heavier than the music before, and the MC was getting a lot more involved. The big fat laser was on, and the crowd was getting more packed and more sweaty. As I said, drum and bass isn't my first passion in dance music, so I went off to check out the other rooms.

FabricLive is generally home to beat-led music, and tonight Room

One was host to hip-hop, with the stage occupied by an MC working the crowd. Having spent the past few hours getting shaken up by some breakneck drum and bass, it was a bit to slow for me so I headed up to Room Three, in time for Bedrock Breaks DJ Meat Katie. I don't know where the Katie part of the name comes from, since Meat Katie is actually a bloke, but I can tell you all about the meat. This guy has some immense records, and the place was positively jumping. His sound is chunky, funky but tough breaks, and

relatively housey. It's almost like the best of both worlds, with breakbeats leading the swelling. This was really my thing, and I spent a large part of the night here.

Stopping back into Room Two later, I was greeted by the sounds of The DJ & The Drummer. This is exactly what it says on the tin, and it makes for a striking performance. With the crazy sampled and sped up drums usually found in drum and bass, I wouldn't expect many drummers could come close to imitating some of the beats, but this guy rat-

tled through the maddest of breaks with ease.

Overall this was another cracking night out, and I have to congratulate Macpherson not just for getting a set at Fabric, but for pulling it off so well. Keep your eyes out for him in the future (he's also bar resident at Movement), and remember where you heard it first!

Simon Clark

● Catch Macpherson at FabricLive on Friday 19 November 2004



Arms flailing, bodies twisting, people screaming: the hallmarks of a good DJ

Anything you can do, Rahzel can do better

CLUB REVIEW

Rahzel

Cargo, Rivington Street
£12

★★★★☆

Cargo is possibly a club that has escaped your attention thus far. Tucked away in the depths of Shoreditch, on the opposite side of town to Imperial, it is a bit of a mission to get to, but it's only a five minute walk once you get to Liverpool Street. Just off Shoreditch High Street and under the arches, you might at first get the impression that this is going to be one of those dingy squat-type places, where décor and style are sacrificed for sub-culture and sweat. Not so here, though – the entrance has a nice glass door, the security are civil, and the queuing clubbers are stylishly attired.

These days, the East End is home to a plethora of upmarket bars and clubs, and Cargo is one of the mainstays of this scene. Inside, rather than bare walls and a large stack of speakers in the corner, you'll find bars selling double-sized bottles of

Budvar, tables, seating, and handy shelves to put your empties on. Whilst not huge, Cargo holds several hundred. Like many clubs, the place has expanded on the club/bar format and now has a restaurant too.

When we arrived, the DJ on stage was spinning a nice enough, but not captivating, selection of hip-hop. As the night moved on, he picked up the pace a bit with some pretty impressive scratching over a few tracks, plus some very cool beat juggling, which always fascinates me (mixing two identical records, alternately pulling each one back to repeat and remix the track and create some unique beats).

The headliner tonight was Rahzel, 'the undisputed beatbox champion of the world'. For those of you that don't know, beatboxing is the art of making (hip-hop) music with your mouth. This might make you think of your mates in primary school making drum noises in a kind of 'pht, ch, pht pht, ch' fashion, but Rahzel is leagues ahead of this. By the time he arrived, the place was pretty packed, and quite rightly so. Appearing on stage with DJ JS1, he started the show with a track he's made with Roni Size, *Out Of Breath*. Now, to

hear someone make a drum and bass beat with his mouth is remarkable. To hear someone reproduce an entire track is astounding. Rahzel's vocal ability means he can create beats, bass, plus vocals, scratches and other sounds, all at the same time, and make them sound better than the original. He can hum a resounding bassline, penetrating drums, and it's little wonder that some people think he cheats by using sound samples.

Further into the show, Rahzel showcased his talent even more with a battle against JS1. The DJ played a recent, big hip hop tune, then Rahzel gave it some pantomime style audience participation: "Anything JS can do, I can do better;" "No you can't" "Yes I can..." Ahem.

An artist this big can get away with stuff like that though, and the crowd were more than willing to join in. How right he was – every track the DJ laid down, Rahzel would take and reproduce in his own style – this means a more bumping beat, fatter bass-line, and whatever interpretation of the vocals and melody he could incorporate.

This really is an aural marvel. Whilst there are, no doubt, others



Beatbox Champ Rahzel alongside his man JS1

that do a similar thing, this guy really is the champ. I have a feeling that part of the sound is to do with having his mic whacked up as high as it'll go – if you listen to him on record there's no comparison. This is definitely something you should experience live, if for nothing else then just the spectacle of his mouth. The night was a pleasure, with only a few negatives. Firstly, the entrance fee is a lot of money for one main act that you only see for a couple of hours, especially on a Thursday night. The camp audience partici-

pation did make me cringe a little, though it's not really a big issue as it was part of the show. Lastly, whilst having big bottles of beer is a nice (if pocket emptying) change, it's not so nice when the bottles end up shattered all over the floor. By the end of the night I had shards stuck in the soles of my shoes – not a pleasant feeling.

These issues aside, Cargo is a very cool venue, and Rahzel is definitely at the top of his game – well worth the expedition across London.

Simon Clark

Arts

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Best of British

It's Turner Prize time again! **Moazzam Ishaque** has been to see what all the fuss is about this year and, of course, whether any of it is 'art'

Turner Prize Exhibition

Tate Britain

Tickets: £6.50 students

The exhibition showcasing works by this year's Turner Prize finalists is now open at the Tate Britain.

The Turner Prize honours the achievements of an outstanding artist, living and working in Britain, who is under the age of 50. Each year, nominations for the prize are invited from the public, based on artists' work exhibited during the preceding year. The shortlist (which, since 1991, has consisted of four artists) is announced by a jury a few months before the prize.

The prize is organized by the Tate, and since its inception in 1984 by a group called Patrons of the New Art, it has become the United Kingdom's most publicised art award. The prize money this year is £25,000 for the winner and £5,000 each for the three runners-up. The prize is named after the nineteenth century landscape artist JW Turner. It is not clear what was the motivation for naming the prize after Turner, but the artist did leave a large fortune for the support of what he called 'decaying artists'. The will was never honoured.

The build-up to the announcement of the winner receives intense attention from many branches of the media each year, much of it critical, addressing the questions "what is art?" and "is this really art?". The artists themselves usually work in modern forms, including unconventional sculpture and audiovisual media, though painters have also won. The exhibition and prize rely on commercial sponsorship. From 1987 this was provided by the company Drexel Burnham Lambert, whose withdrawal led to the 1990 prize being cancelled. Channel 4 stepped in for 1991, doubled the prize money and supported the event with documentaries and live broadcasts of the prize-giving. This year, the sponsorship has been taken over by Gordon's gin with an increase in total prize money from £20,000 to £40,000.

Although all works of art attract critical commentaries from the experts, the Turner Prize has earned a reputation for some less formal attacks that have, in part, contributed to the wide coverage the prize receives. In 1993, an organization called the K Foundation received media attention for awarding the Anti-Turner Prize, £40,000 to be given to the 'worst artist in Britain', voted from the real Turner Prize's shortlist. Rachel Whiteread, who won the real prize, also won the anti-Turner Prize. She refused to accept the money at first, but changed her mind when she heard the cash was to be burned instead, and gave £30,000 of it to artists in financial need and the other £10,000 to the housing charity Shelter.

In 1999 two artists, Jian Jun Xi and Yuan Cai, jumped onto Tracey

Emin's work, *My Bed*, stripped to their underwear, and had a pillow fight. Police detained the two, who called their performance *Two Naked Men Jump into Tracey's Bed*.

In 1999, a pro-painting group of artists known as the Stuckists was formed. They show particular antipathy towards the Turner Prize, describing it as an "ongoing national joke" and "a state-funded advertising agency for Charles Saatchi". They maintained that "the only artist who wouldn't be in danger of winning the Turner Prize is Turner", concluding that it "should be renamed The Duchamp Award for the destruction of artistic integrity". In 2002, Culture Minister Kim Howells pinned the following statement to a board in a room specially designated for visitor's comments: "If this is the best British artists can produce then British art is lost. It is cold mechanical, conceptual bullshit".

This year's finalists are Kutlug Ataman, Jeremy Deller, Langlands & Bell and Yinka Shonibare. Although the works exhibited at the Tate Britain are only a small representation of those on which jury's decision is made, they are a good reflection on the conceptual style of the artists.

Ataman's work entitled *Twelve* is comprised of films in which six people describe their previous life, death and rebirth in minute detail. Filmed in an Arab community in southern Turkey that believes in reincarnation, the films are a modern form of the ancient Arabic art of storytelling immortalized in the *Arabian Nights*. The title comes from the fact that six people are narrating about six other people, their previous incarnations, although to a causal observer the reason for the name *Twelve* may seem to arise more from the fact that the screens on which the films are projected are viewable from both front and rear and so look like 12 films. The films are long, almost one hour each, and it's impossible to enjoy this piece of work with a limited supply of time. Although the motivation for the work comes from the artist's background in film-making, the films themselves are probably made with a hand-held camera in one take each and not extensively edited. To those who have not previously read or had explained to them what the people are talking about, it only looks like a jumble of home videos with one person talking non-stop.

Deller's work at the exhibition consists of a series of ten photographs titled *Five Memorials*, a 23 minute video based on his time spent in Texas called *Memory Bucket*, a wall painting detailing a complex relationship between *Acid House* and traditional *Brass Band* in a flow chart form titled *The History of the World*, and a 13 minute film *A Social Parade* of a pageant the artist organized in San Sebastian. *Five Memorials* is a photographic tribute



Boneyard, 2004, by Langlands and Bell

to various events and persons that are related to present and near past British life. The photographs capture simple memorials but being so simple their effect is striking. A simple little cycle shape, with no label, hung over a pole at the spot where a cyclist was killed last year. A bench placed in a park in memory of Brian Epstein, the manager of The Beatles, a plaque marking the site of riots between police and striking minors of 1984, another plaque marking the death of one of the demonstrators

"If this is the best British artists can produce then British art is lost. It is cold, mechanical, conceptual bullshit"

KIM HOWELLS,
Culture Minister, 2002

in the strike and one memorial to remember the arrival of first ship to bring Caribbean immigrants under a state sponsored initiative. With the exception of *Five Memorials*, Deller's other works are difficult to comprehend and it's even more difficult to figure out what is artistic about them.

Langlands and Bell's works are a result of their two weeks' visit to Afghanistan on commission for the Imperial War Museum. Their works on display include *Frozen Sky*, a slide show of abbreviated names of the

huge number of Non Governmental Organisations that they found based in Kabul; *United Nations*, an earlier neon work listing the airport abbreviations for various world cities; and *House of Osama Bin Laden* which is a computer generated animation of an isolated and impoverished house which Bin Laden used for a few months. The animation is navigable using a joystick just as in computer games. However this house could be any house in Afghanistan and irrespective of the fact that Bin Laden used it or not the only significant thing about this piece of art is that it's a video game without any players (and anything to play with).

The works on display by Yinka Shonibare include *Maxa*, a collection of various motifs on a common African cloth; *The Swing*, a headless sculpture representing a celebrated eighteenth-century painting of a young woman kicking out her legs; and *Un Ballo in Maschera*, (a Masked Ball), a film depicting the assassination of King Gustav III of Sweden in 1792 through the medium of dance. There is no doubt that choreographic work in this film is excellent still one wonders if the work needed to be awarded in a dance competition rather than as a work of contemporary visual art.

Although all these works have their own strengths and weaknesses, there are two things that are difficult to miss. First is that although the criteria to be considered for the prize demand strong connections to Britain, the works selected hardly relate to modern British life. Except for *Five Memorials*, all works draw

their inspiration from events that are either of international concern or utterly foreign to Britain. The second is the over whelming use of film media which is making it difficult to figure out if the work is good for a film award, a documentary award or a visual arts award. Arising from this fact is the question of the definition of art in itself.

The prize winner is to be announced on December 9 and the exhibition will continue until Christmas.

So, the Turner Prize: is it any good? Does it serve any purpose whatsoever? Does anyone like the art that is shortlisted for the prize? What section of the public actually submits nominations for the silly thing, and does it make any difference to the judges' decisions what the public thinks?

A lot of questions, but unfortunately this is mostly what the Turner Prize inspires in people. After all, when was the last time you ever heard anyone say anything in praise of the art on show? In fact, every year all we ever hear is the eternal question of "is this art?!" Well, is it? Anyone care to hazard a guess?

Of course, the definition of art can be stretched to be as long as the proverbial piece of string. Freedom of expression in the name of art is all fine and well, but are there limits? Should there be limits and should there be a designated body to set out and enforce these limits?

● **Your comments and views on the Turner Prize and all other attempts at art are always welcome**

Heard and not seen?

We all know that children should be seen and not heard, but should the same apply to art?

Diana Beverly braves the Turbine Hall

**Bruce Nauman:
Raw Materials**
Tate Modern
FREE

He is a nuisance, his work is deliberately off-putting, and as he says himself, he can hardly stand to be around it for long, but Bruce Nauman has become the most influential American artist of his generation. And it is now for you to judge at the Tate Modern.

Raw Materials, by Nauman, is Unilever's fifth Turbine Hall project and is a sound piece. And indeed how better to fill that vast cavernous space than with sounds and noise that are bound to take on a whole new meaning as they reverberate around the emptiness of the hall. Let us give you a taste of it:

"Thank you thank you thank you thank you...", "Think think think think think...", "Live and die, die and die; shit and die, piss and die... fail and live, smile and live, think and live, pay and live..." and as another phrase goes: "You may not want to be here, you may not want to be here..."

If you haven't gone crazy yet, and you do actually want to be here, then read on.

Born in Indiana, USA, in 1941, Bruce Nauman studied mathematics, and soon after graduating had a major profound realization that "if I was an artist and I was in the studio, then whatever I was doing in the studio must be art. At this point, art became more of an activity and less of a product". Hmm...

From this point, Nauman concentrated less on the development of a characteristic style and more on the way in which a process or activity can transform or become a work of art. A survey of his output demonstrates the alternately political, prosaic, spiritual and crass methods

by which Nauman examines life in all its gory details, mapping the human arc between life and death.

Language has always been central to Nauman's work, as he probed how human beings use it to exist in the world, to communicate or fail to communicate. For *Raw Materials*, he recycled 22 texts from previous works and plays them on parallel speakers in the great hall to create an aural collage. Some are audio components from videos or architectural installations; others are written texts from his sculptures, prints or drawings. Nauman uses the diverse

"Language has always been central to Nauman's work, how humans use it to exist in the world, communicate or fail to communicate"

origins of the texts to increase the richness and density of the experience. Out of context, they become a whole new experience, a real orchestral work, indeed arranged in the space not by content but by intensity and rhythmic connection between them. The unique acoustics of the Turbine Hall inspired Nauman with this work, especially the low-level hum or "drone" of the generators which can still be heard, a reminder of the building's previous life.

The work also represents Nauman's fascination of space, and the way it can alter our behaviour and self-awareness. You do truly get confused if you do the experience for yourself, as the hall is empty and yet filled with nearly palpable sound sculptures based on the



"What's all this about then?" People unsure whether they want to be in the Turbine Hall

written word.

The arrangement is more intuitive than thematic, but the last piece in the room, entitled *World Peace*, provides a resting place and is also one of the more interesting works. A man and a woman recite a series of simple phrases around the verbs "talk" and "listen", such as "I'll talk/they'll listen", and "you'll listen to us/we'll talk to you". In each instance, the statement is reversed in the following line before moving on to the next sequence. The title can be taken as a wry comment on global political misunderstanding. With an economy

of means, Nauman simultaneously represents the simplicity and complexity of communication.

The end result is not too different to some of John Cage's compositions, an early inspiration of Nauman, who held that chance occurrences and ambient sound can hold equal status to intentional compositions. Some of the recordings include loops where single words are repeated over and over, with percussive polyrhythms emerging. Another audio follows a pattern in which different words or phrases are conjugated like verbs, repeated in different voices to extract

a variety of meanings. *100 Live and Die* is a particularly musical work that created rhythm by attaching a word like "scream" or "fail" to the alternating endings "and live" or "and die". "Music plays a role in my work," Nauman has said, "even when there is no music".

So, it is for you to judge if one of America's most innovative artists, who focuses much of his material on things that do not provide pleasure to others, pleases you. And it is for you to judge whether art should be seen and not heard... or heard and not seen.

You are what you wear... or is that making too much of an effort?

STYLE NOTES

Walking around Imperial, I see a sort of uniform of plain-ness: plain shoes, trousers jeans, t-shirts, jumpers, coats. It's like there's some kind of unwritten code of what to wear. We seem to want to blend in to the crowd, to avoid any kind of statement at all, even if that is at the expense of looking nice. Obviously there are many exceptions to this trend, but it certainly seems to be the overwhelming apparent inclination of my fellow students.

I recently trekked down to Goldsmiths Student Union to see a band night. Thanks to various factors, including the drunken wanderings of several of my housemates, I only managed to see the *Electric Soft Parade*, who were headlining, but the evening was still worthwhile, partly because *ESP* were fantastic, and partly because it gave me interesting insight into a university which is the complete antithesis of Imperial.

For those of you who don't know, just as Imperial is a science-only university, Goldsmiths is an arts-only university. So, without wanting to stereotype, I was expecting a different type of student and a different kind of union. I wasn't disappointed. If Imperial students tend not to pay any attention at all to what they wear, Goldsmiths students seem to pay attention to everything about their style.

Walking into the venue was like walking into a sea of ra-ra skirts, mullets, cowboy boots, charity-shop dresses, logo t-shirts and army jackets. If you've ever been to *The End* on a Monday night you'll know what I'm talking about. If you don't, think Alison Goldfrapp, the Scissor Sisters and Portobello Market all mixed together.

So did they dress better than us? As far as fashion goes, yes, and there were certainly some people who did look amazing. But the prevailing impression was of a lot of people who tried too hard, and all

ended up looking the same. If we don't try at all to stand out, they tried so hard that they came full-circle and all ended up looking the same anyway.

The experience made me wonder what is it about studying science that makes us so complacent about our appearance? Maybe it's because we like to differentiate between ourselves and the rest of the world. Maybe we think, because we're studying things that are so much more important, that thinking about style would be an insult to our intellect.

But who doesn't judge people on how they look? Clearly, some people judge in more detail than others, but all clothes say something about the person who's wearing them. Clothes are not just for comfort or practicality, they tell the world about you. So maybe it's a good idea to have them say something different from the person sitting next to you.

Emily Lines

Some ramblings and the British Museum



PAOLA SMITH
ARTS EDITOR

First of all, apologies for last week. I'm sure everyone was stupendously disappointed due to the lack of an Arts section and so at a complete loss as to how to while away their weekends and possibly the odd weekday afternoon in a culturally enriching way. What can I say? 'Technical difficulties' springs to mind, but all that is in the past now, and we have huge two page spread this week to

make up for it.

And now on to the ramblings. I think I shall continue on the theme of architecture, which brings me to the British Museum.

Not only is the British Museum blessed with a fabulous collection of antiquities including the ever controversial Elgin Marbles, some really good mummies, and the Rosetta Stone, it also has its Great Court.

The creation of what we now experience as the Great Court is quite possibly the most significant event in the museum's recent history. It has completely revitalised what was beginning to become a tired, stuffy old museum. Now we can loiter in peace, in a beautiful, light space while taking a break from the galleries.

I remember the first time I went to the Museum once the Great Court had been complete - I don't think I've ever spent so long just looking up in awe. I still do, and it amazes me every time I go (and I go quite often!)



Just killing time

Revenge, murder and eighties pop music can only mean one thing. Ben Elton emerges red handed from another foray into crime writing, but **Martin Smith**, Books Editor, is hot on his trail

Past Mortem

by Ben Elton
(Bantam Press)
£17.99, 372 pages
★★★★☆

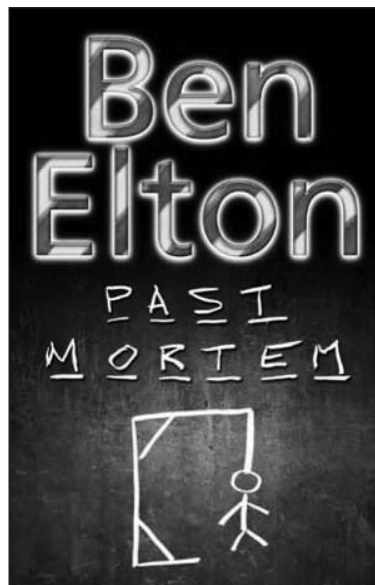
Detective Inspector Edward Newson, or 'Spewsome Newson' as the class of '88 would have known him, was not very big for a policeman. However, he has a big problem in the shape of a series of bizarre murders that no-one else believes are related.

Unfortunately, the size of this problem is insignificant compared to his feelings of sexual dysfunction and his longing for the return of that golden decade of 1980 when, for a fleeting week or so, he had the attention of the most attractive girl in the school, Christine Copperfield. While Newson was tortured for both his height and red hair during the 'best days of his life' by his peers, the Christmas dance of that year is one of the few

comforting memories that can distract him from his recent divorce and his unrequited love for his sergeant. And of course the killer who leaves no clues aside from a love of pop music seems to be laughing at him too. Could his school day reminiscing give some link to these strange killings?

Past Mortem rollercoasters in quality somewhat, but the overriding theme here is the way in which it's written. It's trash. The vertically challenged need not despair: the plot twists aren't tight enough to cause a height restriction on this ride. However, the first sex scene may frighten some readers back to the Disney-themed merry-go-round.

Elton seems to think he's keeping us all in suspense by holding out the plotline until the second half of the book. Some people would call this pacing, and they'd be right when referring to the final chapters which really are page-turners, but I quickly became tired



of Newson's incessant pining for Sergeant Natasha Wilkie at the end of every chapter.

In order to make up for the apparent lack of direction in the first 150

pages or so, we are treated to the product of the writer's brainstorm of 'How many different ways can someone feasibly die?' The first victim literally leaks to death from over three hundred tiny punctures in his body, and another is flicked to death by being very lightly bludgeoned hundreds of times, possibly with a copy of the yellow pages. This aspect should be enough to keep most people reading, if only out of 'car crash curiosity'.

However, I'm sorry to say that I was able to guess the identity of the killer well before the end, as the traditional series of herrings would be more accurately described as pastel fuchsia rather than bright red. Unfortunately this leaves a black comedy crime thriller that made me neither laugh nor have to think too hard about what was coming next. Although the climax of the book is much better than the rest and perhaps even worth the journey to get there, the overall trash literature theme doesn't

make you too concerned for any major character's safety. But then, you weren't actually expecting an unhappy ending from Ben Elton, were you?

In short, this book really is exactly what it seems, and would make perfect holiday reading for those of

"...the product of the writer's brainstorm: 'How many different ways can someone feasibly die?'"

you who loved *Popcorn*, which won the Crime Writer's Association Gold Dagger Award. While the idea for the plot is really quite a good one, and the book is well written for deck chair purposes, I'm not sure this one will be winning any prizes. It's sure to be a hit with Elton's fans though.

It's cricket Jim, but not as we know it

Ladies and gentleman, Alpha Centaurians and Betelgeusians, please have your thumbs ready for the long awaited Tertiary Phase. Who else to review it but bloody **Martin Smith** from Croydon?

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy: The Tertiary Phase

(BBC Audio)
£15.99, 3xCD
★★★★☆

For the benefit of the three or four students at Imperial who somehow aren't already familiar with *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, allow me to introduce you to the latest, and unfortunately one of the last, contributions of Douglas Adams to human civilization.

Arthur Dent is one of only two human survivors of the destruction of planet Earth, and equipped only with this guide book to hitchhiking through the cosmos and few odd companions he's accumulated on the way, is reluctantly cajoled into saving the universe once again from a fate worse than Marvin the paranoid android's existence. All this without the aid of a decent cup of tea.

Cricket could only have been invented by the English. Not only is it mind-numbingly dull, but to most of the rest of the galaxy it's actually a rather offensive reminder of a terrible and bloody war. So when Arthur jumps backwards in time on a Chesterfield sofa to find The Ashes

being stolen by a team of robots dressed in cricket whites, his dismay is insignificant compared to the rest of the sentient universe's horror. Together with Slartibartfast's Italian restaurant powered ship, a couple of pan-galactic Gargleblasters and the voice of William Franklyn as the voice of the late Mr Adams.

Returning to radio once again, *The Tertiary Phase* follows the third book of the series, *Life the Universe and Everything*, and in a dramatic break with tradition actually follows it fairly closely. Whilst the series first appeared on the radio and then was adapted for the book, this phase has come into being in exactly the opposite way, and unfortunately in places this still shows a little. There's no way you can squeeze all of the detail and little jokes of the book into just over three hours of radio time. Purists will be pleased to find a lot of the content, but those whose familiarity with the books has sadly lapsed recently due to college work may feel it's all a bit rushed.

The other major point of note here is the unavoidable absence of Peter Jones. Nearly all the familiar voices of the first series are here though, and the narration handover is done amusingly at the beginning



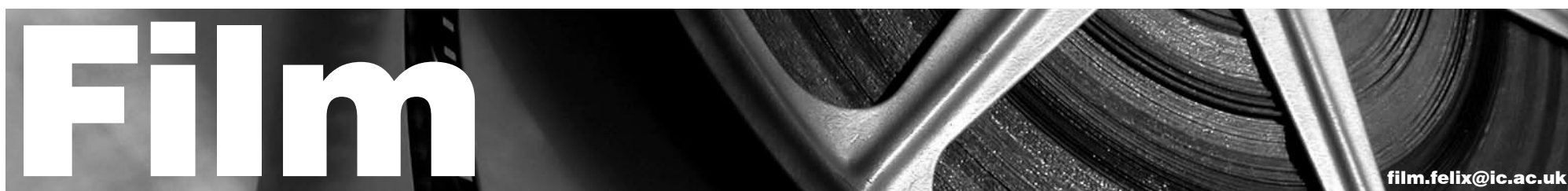
of the first episode in a fitting tribute for the benefit of the pedantic. Throughout, the charming 'dead-

line induced rambling' style of the original radio episodes is well recreated. Douglas Adams even appears

in it himself, along with entertaining cameos from Fred Trueman and Henry Blofeld for those of you who don't shudder at the thought of cricket. You can also hear that they've put in a lot of over time at the lab to get the sound just right, using some of the original music and sounds effects, and some original music for Marvin and the masters of planet Krikket.

However, the real selling point here is the twenty minutes of deleted bits dotted around each episode that you won't have heard on Radio 4. Some of these are golden, in particular Judiciary Pagg's extended sentencing scene. These and others will make the purchase worthwhile to those who have listened to the broadcasts, especially with the added incentive of meeting some of the cast (see below). However, I'd advise others to read the book first.

● The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy: The Tertiary Phase was released on 25 October 2004. To promote its release on CD, several cast members will be attending a signing at Forbidden Planet, Shaftesbury Avenue on Saturday 30 October, 12-1pm. For further details telephone Matt Watson on 020 7803 1890



film.felix@ic.ac.uk

Alfie the great?

A philosophical womanizer is forced to question his seemingly carefree existence

Alfie

Director: Charles Shyer
Starring: Jude Law, Susan Sarandon,
Sienna Miller, Marisa Tomei
Length: 103 minutes
Certificate: 15
★★★★☆

Alfie likes to play it cool. He's a slick operator who spends his days chasing after a series of glamorous women who cross his path during his daily adventures in Manhattan. An Englishman abroad, Alfie, played by Jude Law, is a charming and affable character who manages to woo women back to his "humble digs" through his good looks, fashionable attire and cheeky smile.

The film is amusing, if somewhat shallow in terms of plot and character development, but manages to please the audience with its beautiful shots of New York, coupled with its pretty women – Sienna Miller, Marisa Tomei and Susan Sarandon amongst others. Alfie takes it upon himself to learn a new word every day, from 'ironic' to 'plethora', which does indeed describe his love life and his altogether hedonistic existence.

Alfie tells the story of a womaniser who is afraid of commitment, who unashamedly moves from one woman to another and seems to use various women for his differing needs. Nicky, played by Sienna Miller (who made her film debut

recently in *Layer Cake*) takes the role of the party-girl; Marisa Tomei plays the little wife-like girl providing the home-cooked dinners and family warmth; and Susan Sarandon, who plays a fifty-something Mrs Robinson-esque lover, combines sex appeal with humour. Indeed, one of the most amusing parts of the film is the scene where Sarandon, after giving Law a rather strong cocktail, tells him that "absinthe makes the heart grow fonder!"

Alfie is quite a little philosopher and makes clear to us his views

"...amusing, if somewhat shallow in terms of plot and character development..."

on the dangers of women, saying that "if they don't get you one way they get you another". One thinks that perhaps Alfie's word of the day should be 'philanderer', albeit in the most gentlemanly of ways.

At one point Alfie seems to have decided on changing his ways and tells us that he has made a New Year's resolution with regard to women, but then it turns out that his new resolution is simply to "aim higher", rather than anything more ethically sound. Invariably, there is a moral message at the end with Alfie's descent into misery show-



"It's you! Oh no, sorry, I mean you" – Alfie can't make up his mind

ing that there is a price to pay for such a responsibility-free, reckless lifestyle, but one wonders how much that it is to do with Hollywood's dislike of the 'bad' guy, or in this case the 'naughty' guy, getting away with it than anything else.

Alfie is a remake of the 1966 original that had Michael Caine acting as the working class tough-guy hero. The director of the remake, Charles Shyer, has decided to change Alfie's character to fit in with a more 21st century reality, with Jude Law being more home-counties than East End, more cheeky than sleazy and more like someone from *Friends* than a rough cockney biker type. However, it works well and while some points are clearly unbelievable, like Alfie's

designer wardrobe which he could ill afford on his wages as a limo-cum-taxi driver, overall the story retains a certain charm and humour.

While the film does have some serious, almost melancholy scenes, it would not be unfair to call it comic with a few real gems including the scene where Alfie gets his nether parts checked and poked at by a rather camp German doctor by the name of Miranda. The film is funny, enjoyable, stylish and worth spending your precious 103 minutes of freedom on. If nothing else, the soundtrack performed by Mick Jagger should entertain the more musically minded amongst you.

David Shalom



Party girl Sienna Miller and womanizer Jude Law in *Alfie*

Whose side will you choose?

Alien vs Predator

Director: Paul Anderson
Starring: Sanaa Lathan, Raoul Bova,
Lance Henriksen
Length: 101 minutes
Certificate: 15
★★★★☆

It has been a long time coming, but finally the film that has been nothing but an elusive dream for many a gaming, comic book and film fan has arrived. *Alien vs Predator (AVP)* is now on our screens.

At long last, the two greatest horror sci-fi titans – the acid-blooded, animalistic aliens and the brutal, merciless predators – have been brought together to battle it out for the ultimate prize: Earth.

Set in the 21st century, the story tells of the ever present Weyland Corporation and its founder Charles Weyland (Lance Henriksen) discovering an ancient pyramid below the ice of an isolated Arctic island. Wanting to discover more, Weyland takes a team of scientists out into the frozen wastes. The pyramid, however, turns out to be a battle ground where every 100 years two menacing alien races meet to wage

war. Of course, when the unsuspecting humans arrive they are caught in the middle of a deadly battle and have to pick a side knowing that victory for either could ultimately lead to the demise of the whole planet's population.

Now this film requires no prior knowledge of either the aliens or the predators, which is good in some ways because it means that it can be watched by anyone with a penchant for horror/sci-fi/fantasy/action. For those of us who would like to be reminded a little bit, here's a quick

"The special effects are more than adequate – they're actually awesome..."

history: the aliens first appeared on the big screen in *Alien* in 1979 when they battled against Ellen Ripley (Sigourney Weaver) to make it back to Earth and colonise it. Using humans as incubators for their young and/or food, they were seemingly invincible and kept coming back, appearing in subsequent

films *Aliens*, *Alien 3* and *Alien Resurrection*. With acid for blood and two heads, these aliens were the stuff nightmares.

The predators, on the other hand are a more civilised race of man hunters, killing for pleasure rather than necessity and collecting human skulls as trophies. They met their match, however, in Arnold Schwarzenegger in a South American jungle in *Predator* and were fought by a resistant Danny Glover in *Predator 2*.

So how does this film measure up to the spirit of both these well known franchises? In keeping with the *Alien* theme there is a kick-ass female, Alexa Woods (Sanaa Lathan) who leads the survivors out of danger, as well as a familiar face from three of the four previous *Alien* films, Henriksen (formerly the android Bishop) appearing as Weyland. The film also expands on the knowledge of the predator race, as we see their capabilities as the ultimate hunters tested by their hunting the ultimate prey, the aliens.

Now *AVP* is not the kind of movie that relies on its background story or its witty and intense dialogue.

Instead it's comprised of action, a bit of gore and some fluorescent blood. If that's what you're looking for, all packaged nicely into a neat hour and a half, then it's not a bad film.

Directed by Paul S Anderson, who brought us *Event Horizon*, *Soldier* and *Resident Evil*, it lacks a bit of basic credibility, but then most horror films do. The special effects are

more than adequate – they're actually awesome – and the cataclysmic battles between the aliens and the predators are definitely worth watching.

All in all, it's not going to win any Oscars but it is exactly what its says on the tin – *Alien vs Predator* – and that will definitely please a lot of people.

Mandirassa Osakonor



Alien vs Predator: whoever wins, we lose

Coffee Break

coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk

Hello and welcome to the new and slightly improved Coffee Break, bought to you by the collective genius of the infamous (or soon to be) Suzy Backhouse, Squeaky Vaughan, the Cheshire Cat and El Vino. We aim to bring a little sunshine back into your otherwise mundane Imperial existence. Enjoy...



Guest Column: Dot Cotton's Sex Tips For Girls

Dot Branning (née Cotton), Albert Square superstar, hasn't kindly agreed to write our first guest column of the year. Just lie back and think of England as we expose her many, many years of sexual wisdom. Certain words are left to your imagi-

nation... but please try not to think of her naked.

"Ooh, I say Pauline! The young ones today, they're so ill-mannered, they have no idea of how to treat a lady properly. My Jim, he may be ___1, but I'm sure the good lord would forgive him if they knew how well he ___2 my ___3. They seem to think they know everything about ___4, but the older generation could teach them a thing or two. On a Sunday, after church, there's nothing I like better than having Jim ___5 as I ___6 with a ___7. Of course, the important things in relationships are simple. You just need communication, trust and ___8. True, as you get older the body changes, and though I may not be quite as ___9 as I once was, I can still ___10 with the best the Square has to offer! After Jim popped the question, I was worried ___11 would ___12. But our relationship is far ___13 than that, and when we first ___14 I knew our marriage would last. The problem with young people is that you have no ___15, so it's no wonder you ___16. Take my advice, when you feel ___17 just think of what Jesus

said: "Come unto thee O ___18 and let me ___19. For I am ___20 and my ___21 is ___22" And everybody knows Jesus was an expert in matters of ___23. What advice can I give to Imperial students in particular? Well first of all, you all seem to be ___24, which is no bad thing, so long as you ___25. I hope that's useful, and that one day, one of you may get ___26. But this isn't UCL, so I doubt that'll happen. Enjoy your student days, and remember, ___31 isn't ___27 unless you ___28."

Did You Know...

- A person produces about half a litre of farts a day
- Termites are the largest producers of farts
- The temperature of a fart at its time of creation is 98.6 degrees fahrenheit
- Farts have been clocked at 10 feet per second
- Although they wont admit it, women fart just as much as men
- And the members of certain sports teams fart even more...

The Cheshire Cat's Cryptic Corner

Hello, and welcome to the first appearance of this corner! Characteristically grinning, the Cheshire cat invites you to try a different puzzle each week. Unless you are successful, you are likely to witness the rather unusual sight of a grin without a cat.



No.1: Not Enigma Variations

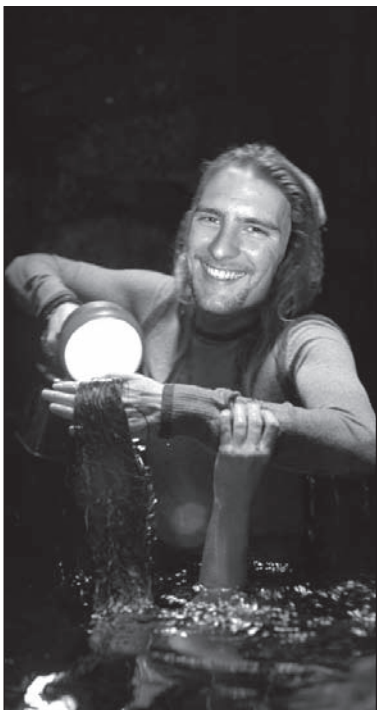
This week's puzzle is a not-so-simple cryptogram to challenge all the budding cryptanalysts out there among you. The quotation is encrypted using its author's name in a certain well-known way. As a hint, I may divulge the fact that the author of the quotation and the original inventor of the cipher were contemporaries. Good luck!

FVNMTPEIXWFAFWXTSARNGDMBVPSCXNLYVRSFRRTUKN
 WGFNPNWTGLQCCBNQUAAQVNOEWLGLQAZXNAGLWMBN
 GCQKAXSFRXKAKAXQBPXAZKGS DARGTMJMFVGAEWVVR
 UCALTPKLLMJRHFBNVRSGNGDVUGFKHUXTPOAKEHUXMA
 KYZQGVMMWXRESFRITDOPXAFHBBGVRQRSHRBNRVQZV
 XFWLBYDAVLEZGQPQVHFVIBRPWGBOVIBYXRGAIIVESBCF
 BTQUAFQSFMAJRWVTSQYOZIRVFOVGAVJGVGSGARWATLAI
 GYOZOSIHWYLBHBRRAOQFIAYVSWAMOCYOYFPLMHMPHH
 SARGTEKBYDGREVMYZEWSBYTPKZMFGUHUTJFIQAGAABO
 GMEHUXNQTBDCJGPWCRVFCQXSXOFIVRFOZZBXGFAM
 HMSGSSCBWINZUMZUFLUZRRPSEMHSFIXJRLTUWUHVYS
 EYENLHAKRGOBIBRHSEMAVJNGOCZFOLGGIFVRFRTWUHV
 MRITNBGTIUTJAABCRGMZYXVQRNRPBKMMTGMEBRBTPK
 EIHWYGOZZBVYSAMONOGWQZSUUBUAPKHUTTWAJMBPR
 GQBRWUHGAABWHEXWGRIBOFMZIFMOKNNRSSVM

Who the Rorke are you?

Before joining Imperial and becoming Deputy President of Something Not Very Important, Uncle Sam had a moderately successful Hollywood movie career.

We can't let his fine achievements go unnoticed any longer. Below is a selection of his greatest work. Being the shy and retiring type, Sam declined actually appearing in the films and was replaced. But who eventually starred in these roles, and what films are they from?



1



2



3



4



5

COFFEE BREAK

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Mission Imperial

Your mission, should you be bored enough to accept it: Follow Tank around College and just tell us where he is. Tank's mission: destroy Imperial College...



Having escaped from the *Felix* office, Tank decides to extract horrible and bloody revenge on his previous employers, Imperial College.



With his chameleon-like camouflage, Tank slipped into the college undetected. Fools.



An army marches on it's stomach, and Tank's hungry. However, living in London and being shockingly overdrawn, his tank-sized card is spat back out. It's not going well.



Desperate times, desperate measures. All's game in love and war, even stealing KitKats.



Tank's run of truly bad luck comes to an end as, defying all logic, he does what nobody at Imperial College thought was possible and meets a girl. Go tank, go. You stud you.



It wasn't meant to last. His new-found lady friend realised that actually "he's, like, a tank" and "totally dumped him" for one of the football team. Hurt and lonely, Tank does what any self-respecting, red-blooded male would do and heads out on the lash. Legend.



Worse for wear, slightly lost and without a degree in night buses, Tank attempts to crawl home. Easily distracted, and armed with technology to hit a fresher from across the room, he tries to shoot his way to lager.



Oh dear, mission aborted. Running low on batteries and morale, and with the warmth of the *Felix* office but a distant memory, Tank calls it a night, only about three hours too late. All in all, a complete and utter failure of a day. Tank, we salute you.

Return of the FUCWIT

For those who need it explaining, FUCWIT is the *Felix* Unforgettable Coffee-Break Weekly Issued Tournament, and the league of extraordinary FUCWITs is your chance to show the world (well, the college at least) just how incredibly, amazingly clever you are. First of all you, and your team, need to come up with a suitably hilarious nickname with which to be identified. It's not difficult - anything is better than El Vino. Being generous, we'll give a point to the best one.

There's four puzzles for you this week, and here's how they work:

Sex Tips: be creative and fill in the blanks with your own word(s). The best idea gets 10 points, there's five for the runner-up, and three for third place. Plus anybody who makes us laugh / is unprintable will get a point too.

Cryptic Corner: Yes, we know how hard this is, but you're at Imperial, you should be solving these things in your sleep. We're giving a suitably generous 10 points for correct answers here.

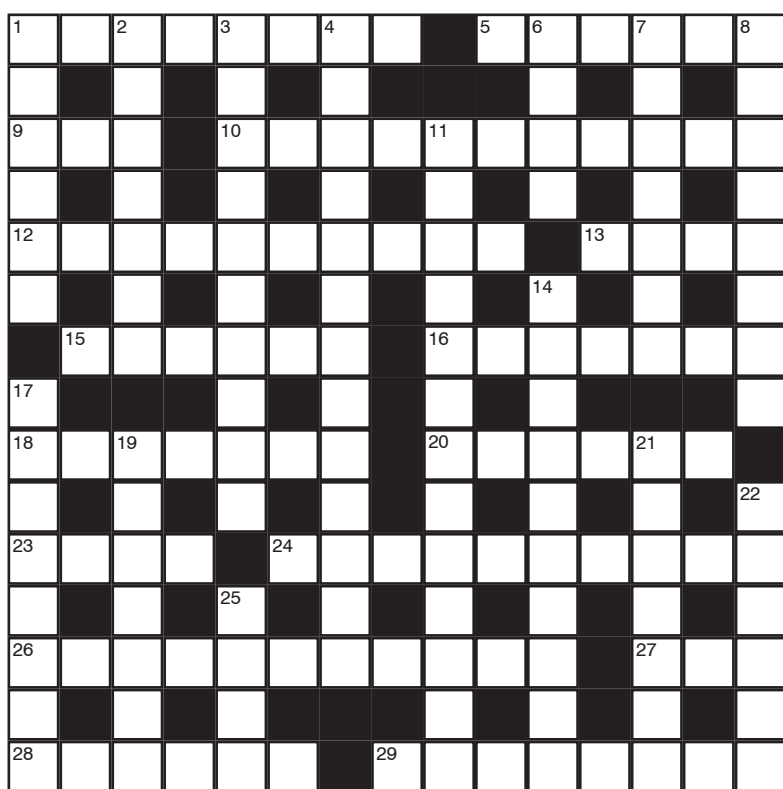
Rorke: Nice and easy, there's a point if you correctly identify the film, and another point if you can work out the name of the actor(s) that Sam is replacing.

Tank: Just tell us where each picture was taken. Don't just say Imperial College, you need to be more specific than that. There's a point for each one.

That's a grand total of 39 points up for grabs. Good luck and enjoy. This year, the editor has given his personal guarantee that we really do have money for prizes available, so get started now!

Felix Crossword 1303

by Snufkin



Across

- Queen captured by deranged maniac from the US (8)
- Venus's bottom, physically speaking (6)
- Online chat with Irish Conservative (1,1,1)
- False hour is to be beaten up - that's not just a joke! (4-7)
- Leave room for furniture that can be brought in (10)
- Computer game producing mood swing (4)
- Leading couples of captive nation annually promised land (6)
- Girl, leaning over, listened to psychologist (7)
- Believer decapitated and chopped up moderate (7)
- American actor's gap year (6)
- Morse perhaps found in unfinished manuscript (4)
- Earthenware used by Chinese underground army (10)
- Mob entirely flustered *Wuthering Heights* novelist (5,6)
- Starts to eat extra large slippery fish (3)
- Globe's orbit (6)
- Spatial maths is good, yet more confusing (8)

Down

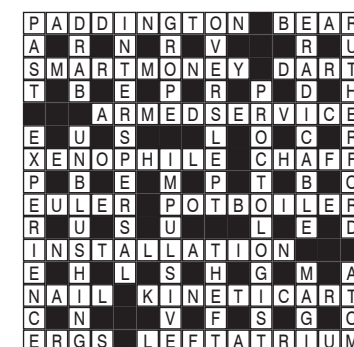
- Bony plate turning up in beast (6)
- Praises rebuilt old cinema (7)
- Having trouble in the bath? (2,3,5)
- Fear alien hare frolicking in Feydeau farce (1,4,2,3,3)
- Mark and Franc were kicked out by this small kangaroo (4)
- Might one get saucer-eyed studying this? (7)
- Greeting one of Shem's descendants in Californian park (8)
- Surf sea lanes with confidence at first, intoxicated with this? (4-9)
- A boy's penetrating cry for sauce (5,5)
- Nutty biscuits (8)
- Rumbustious young man wanting attractive woman (7)
- Hiding in centre, attack press (7)
- Percival Leyland embraces Death, for one (6)
- British philosopher for many years, on and off (4)

Last week's puzzle seems to have been a bit too hard, so here's an easier offering - and, as promised, an explanation of some more clue types.

Some clues point indirectly at the answer without giving either two definitions or any hint about the answer's letters. These 'cryptic definitions' (eg 7 down) are quite rare because they're hard to think up.

Most clues have both a definition and a recipe for the letters. This genre includes 'hidden words' where the answer is embedded within the clue (21 down), reversals (13 across) and complex clues which put some words within (14 down) or in front of (12 across) others. Look out for abbreviations, such as G for 'good' and O for 'old'. Good luck! **Snufkin**

Issue 1302 solution



Last week's winner is Karen Osmond, Computing IV. Well done! Send your answers to coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk or bring this page down to the *Felix* office in the West Wing of Beit Quad. Each week, we'll choose a winner and print their name, thus providing them with almost unlimited kudos and self-satisfaction. Everyone who provides us with a correct solution will get an entry into our prize draw at the end of the year

SPORT

Thirds thump King's

FOOTBALL

Imperial Men's 3rd 3
King's Men's 2nd 2

By Hasan Iqbal

The first ULU game of the season, and Imperial Thirds rocked up eager to get stuck in, having previously suffered a narrow defeat in the BUSA league. Aiding the cause was the fact that the opposition were Kings 2nds, whose captain sent Shatters a text message at 3am the previous day saying he only had nine players but was good for the game. They actually arrived before Imperial, but with a pathetic eleven players, including a gloveless goalkeeper. Oh yes, the signs were good.

The game kicked off at 2pm

on a perfect, slick surface, and quickly settled into a pattern of Imperial dominance. All over the pitch Imperial were first to the ball, stronger in the challenge and cultured on the ball. Five in midfield with Booth and Hideki hugging the touchlines worked a treat, and Imperial retained excellent possession. Numerous chances were created in the first half, a couple falling to John Scott, who ran onto the ball well but appeared to be missing his shooting boots as the 'keeper hung on both times. Perhaps the best effort that went begging fell to Hideki who, after some lovely slick passing, cut inside his man to leave the goal at his mercy, but again the King's keeper pulled off the save.

Frustration was starting to

set in when, just after the half hour, Imperial won a corner, which was delivered from the right by Hideki. It flashed dangerously across the goal and reached a fresh air shot from Adam before finally landing on Caruso's head. The ball hit the bar, hit the 'keeper and went in. One-nil Imperial. This remained the score at half-time.

On came Leon for the injured Adam and, ten minutes later, Perry for Scott. The second half was in general a slightly scrappier affair. While Imperial were on top, the fluency wasn't as good as the first half. However, as King's pushed forward, there were opportunities aplenty at the other end. About 15 minutes into the half, probably the best move of the game pro-

duced the second goal. Dom played a lovely chip to Leon who pulled the ball back by-passing Perry to find a free Hideki who curled the ball into the far corner. Two-nil.

Three-nil came courtesy of an own goal resulting from a Perry corner. Further chances came frequently as players tired and Perry helped himself to two goals. His first was a mazy run from the half-way line, skipping past two players and the 'keeper. His second was a great turn and shot having received the ball from Leon.

Five-nil to Imperial, and despite having almost nothing to do, Matty pulled off a couple of super saves during the game to ensure the clean sheet. Right, we're all off to Luton on the fun bus.

Fourths give medics a damn good thrashing

FOOTBALL

GKT Men's 3rd 0
Imperial Men's 4th 5

By Michael Nicholson

OK, it wasn't against our own medics, but a five-nil thrashing of the medics from GKT was still a sweet result.

There was one change from the team that drew with RVC, with Jai coming in up front in place of Dave who dropped to the bench. As usual, Imperial made a slow start and the speedy GKT striker was causing problems by hanging on the last man and outpacing the back four to balls over the top.

Vanni produced a captain's performance and made a couple of great saves to

keep things level. Imperial though began to find their feet, with Chris looking particularly dangerous down the left. Their dominance began to tell, and Jai opened his account for the season to put Imperial one up with a neat left-footed finish after great holding play from Shwin.

The second goal came from an unlikely source when Ed popped up in the box to finish well after more good work from Shwin. Chris then bagged a deserved brace.

The final touch was added by Ant, who had an outstanding game and produced a pinpoint shot which lobbed the 'keeper and dropped into the right hand corner of the goal.

That makes it four points out of six for the Fourths. Big up the boys. Well played!

Two out of two for rugby first XV

RUGBY

Sponsored by



GKT Men's 1st 14
Imperial Men's 1st 26

By Mike Hicks

For our second game of the season, Imperial College Union Rugby Club's first XV travelled away to GKT at Cobham.

Arriving in plenty of time, unlike last year, we were all feeling confident of a good performance. This showed in the first 15 minutes when we scored three tries, the best-coming from Alex 'yank tank' O'Rourke on the wing following some great hands in the backs after a well worked line-out (19-0).

Unfortunately, with the game looking like it should end in a cricket score, we took our foot off the pedal and allowed GKT to come back into the match. Following some sustained pressure on our 22, some careless penalties crept back in from last week and suddenly they had kicked themselves onto the scoreboard (19-3).

With their heads now up, GKT came at us hard and some miscommunication at a scrum on our own line allowed them to score a soft try just before half time (19-8).

After a few gentle words of encouragement during the break, most of which can't be printed here, we came out in the second half trying to recreate some of the magic of the first 15 minutes.

GKT must have had the same treatment, as they also came out fired up, leading to better rugby from both teams.

During the second half, GKT kicked another two penalties to bring them within five points (19-14). With the pressure now on, we raised our game again and after a

failed clearance from GKT's 22, Higgins fed the ball to Spencer, then Raph danced his way through the defence to score. The game was now sealed at 26-14.

Man of the match went to full back Andy Towers for his all-round presence at the back, while other notable performances came from Peddar, stepping into scrum half, and the 'yank tank' on the wing.

Next week we face league newcomers King's, and going on current form we should easily make it three out of three.

Hockey firsts face tough opposition

HOCKEY

Imperial Women's 1st 2
St Mary's Women's 1st 9

By Cindy Drinnan

The ladies' first team put in a strong effort against St Mary's and were not disappointed with this result against a team that has recently been demoted from the BUSA Premier League.

Despite losing the game, the team did not feel outplayed. St Mary's seemed to rely on a couple of strong players to dominate their game. Number 12 in particular appeared to have borrowed Marion Jones' legs for the day.

Our captain, Yoda, kept up enthusiasm with helpful coaching from the back, despite nearly being taken out by a flying ball in the first five minutes of the game! Howard and Flush were strong in defence, as was Pasty. Moonie, this time with her clothes on, worked well on the left with Womble and Spellcheck. Tandem rode, I mean ran, non-stop on the right hand side, often getting the ball out wide to Chardonnay, who used the passes well.

Goal scorers for Imperial were Embryo and Anticlimax, who on this occasion clearly chose not to live up to her name. Man of the match went to our star goalkeeper Spanner, who put in a very confident performance and successfully tried out her new diving techniques!

Stay tuned for updates on naked hockey, which will be brought to you by Moonie and Tandem as a spectacular fundraising event.

The ladies would like to wish a belated Happy 21st Birthday to Tyson, and a speedy recovery to her brother.

Threes take Essex for a joy ride

RUGBY

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Imperial Men's 3rd 15
Essex Men's 3rd 0

By Jon Freedman

So finally it was time for the

Threes to kick off their season, and their first victims were the Essex Thirds.

The day started off with the coach turning up at the Union 20 minutes late, much to Big Dan Lindsley's concern, but that was the only real mishap. After a long trek to Essex and our customary ten minute warm up/run through session we were off. It was clear from the start that those XR3i drivers needed a lesson in rugby and we were going to give

them one.

Imperial dominated and steamed straight into the Essex half, with the forwards, who had not played together before, working well. A try didn't take long to come. After some porn star handling, Seb K went over for our first score. It was an unnecessarily close first half with new centre, Luke, taking pity on the Romford rejects and consistently breaking up our own moves. However, in the sec-

ond half, his pity had gone and he put Matty Taylor in for his first try of the season.

It was quite clear that we were rusty after a long summer, but somehow Matt Bangor completely forgot that we were playing rugby and dribbled the ball up the pitch, twice! Fortunately Giles and fresher Tom hadn't forgotten how to tackle and completely munched one of the Essex players. Shrieks from the player's stiletto-wielding girlfriend

could be heard loud and clear.

Throughout the match, quality kicking from Rob Thomas kept the pressure firmly on Essex and a third try was inevitable. Finally it came, in the form of Matt Taylor again. Hat trick avoidance was clear on his part from then on. It was an excellent performance from all, especially the freshers who made an immediate impact on the quality of our game, the 15-0 scoreline not reflecting our dominance.

Tries not on Wye's side

RUGBY

RVC Women's 1st 19
Wye Women's 1st 0

By Suzanne Horn

The warriors of Wye women's rugby team marched onto the pitch on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, but the girls were not there to enjoy the sunshine - they were there to win!

Wye played a valiant first

half, with the girls called most of the shots after retaining the majority of possession. An outstanding performance by our gutsy hooker made sure that Wye kept the ball by winning opposing scrums despite the weight disadvantage. This deservedly gave our hooker 'woman of the match'.

Another forward to be mentioned must be Ninja, whose blinding tackles shook the ground and put any attack to a quick end. Even Martin Johnson would have winced

if he had been watching from the touchline!

Jackie got up close and personal with one of the Vet girls, showing them how truly tough and brutal this side can be. The score was nearly made even by a storming run from Hetts, made possible from a lineout set move on the five yard line, but unfortunately the try was disallowed. Better luck next time.

RVC's size slowly prevailed throughout the second half, as Wye's legs became

tired, leading to a couple of unlucky tries being conceded. However, this did not deter Lil, in her first match at full back, from nailing a critical try saving tackle.

In spite of this, the girls will be back here with a vengeance next year and will be sure to bring along something to threaten the seagulls in case they make a repeat appearance. The final score did not reflect the top class performance presented by the Wye team, who will be

SPORT

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Controversial draw for lacrosse ladies

LACROSSE

**Brighton Women's 1st 12
Imperial Women's 1st 12**

By Michelle Maloney

The match was held at Roedean School, on a field on a cliff overlooking the sea. Very Mallory Towers. Unfortunately the repeated lack of half time oranges slightly dulled the Blyton-esque feel of the day.

It was a really close match and so I am going to fly through the report to the start of the fourth quarter, where it got terribly exciting. Really, really, pant-wetting stuff.

The last quarter started 9-9. We had some sneaky draw tactics going on that Brighton completely failed to respond to. Lizzie would 'lose' the draw, feeding the ball directly to an Imperial player. Which was really rather handy. Tiffany and Hannah then stormed up the right wing with the ball, and the majority of play was around Brighton's goal. On her debut as an attack,

down the wrong end of pitch, Shivani managed to score a cracking goal. But Imperial then slipped a little and allowed the Brighton centre to charge straight down the pitch and score. So, 10 each.

More sneaky drawing and the ball was once again being passed around the Brighton goal. For a while, Imperial looked a little nervy with some dropped passes and frantic tackling, but we pulled ourselves together and play picked up. Ally was having a cracking game picking up loose balls behind goal and feeding them into the dream team of Caroline and Hannah. Hannah had 'umpteen' shots on goal and proved that if you bang away for long enough then something is going to happen when she scored a good 'un to bring us in front again.

Back to the draw, and an Imperial cock-up allowed the Brighton captain to get a clear run to goal. Superstar goalie Lyndsey saved the shot but then slipped and fell, leaving Brighton with an easy chance that they didn't waste.

Five minutes were left and we didn't want to be going home without the win we deserved. Caroline kept pushing and pushing through the wall of defenders in the fan and was rewarded with a goal. All we had to do was hang on. And hang on we did.

At the final whistle we were all very happy little Lacrosse players. Then it all went pear shaped. The Umpire called the final score as 12-12. None of us know how on earth this can have happened. Brighton were arses and claimed ignorance or "it's whatever the umpire says". Our appeals fell on deaf ears and it seems like we are stuck with the result. Bugger. Although, fish and chips by the sea followed with turbo shandies did help to restore our spirits a little.

Last word: in the tournament on Saturday, which is never to be mentioned again, Samantha Jayaweera gets man of the match. Truly gutsy play, young lady. Thanks to everyone who made it. Black stars to the rest of you losers.

Results

WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER

BADMINTON

Queen Mary Men's 1st 0
Imperial Men's 1st 8

UCL Men's 2nd 1
Imperial Men's 2nd 7

Imperial Women's 1st 4
Reading Women's 1st 4

BASKETBALL

Imperial Men's 1st 73
London Met Men's 2nd 94

FENCING

Imperial Men's 1st 131
Queen Mary Men's 1st 120

FOOTBALL

Imperial Men's 1st 0
Canterbury Christ Church Men's 1st 3

Imperial Men's 2nd 0
Buckinghamshire Men's 2nd 1

GKT Men's 3rd 0
Imperial Men's 4th 5

UCL Men's 7th 1
Imperial Men's 5th 0

Imperial Men's 6th 1
St Bart's Men's 3rd 1

University of the Arts London Men's 1st 4
Imperial Men's 7th 1

HOCKEY

GKT Men's 1st 6
Imperial Men's 1st 1

Imperial Men's 2nd 9
Imperial Men's 3rd 1

Brighton Men's 2nd 4
Imperial Men's 3rd 0

Imperial Women's 1st 2
St Mary's Women's 1st 9

Imperial Women's 2nd 8
Imperial Medic Women's 3rd 0

LACROSSE

Brighton Women's 1st 12
Imperial Women's 1st 12

NETBALL

Imperial Women's 1st 32
South Bank Women's 1st 9

RUGBY

GKT Men's 1st 14
Imperial Men's 1st 26

St Mary's Men's 2nd 44
Imperial Men's 2nd 0

SQUASH

Imperial Men's 1st 2
Portsmouth Men's 1st 3

Imperial Men's 2nd 2
Imperial Men's 3rd 1

Reading Women's 1st 3
Imperial Women's 1st 2

TENNIS

Imperial Men's 1st 10
Kent Men's 1st 0

Royal Free and UC Medical School Men's 1st 0
Imperial Men's 2nd 10

UCL Women's 2nd 0
Imperial Women's 1st 10

VOLLEYBALL

King's Women's 1st 3
Imperial Women's 1st 0

SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER

FOOTBALL

Imperial Medicals Men's 2nd 3
Imperial Men's 3rd 5

UCL Men's 4th 2
Imperial Men's 4th 1

NETBALL

Queen Mary Women's 3rd 7
Imperial Women's 2nd 15

GKT Women's 4th 40
Imperial Women's 3rd 10

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Virgins narrowly defeated at Reading, but future looks bright

RUGBY

**Reading Women's 1st 12
Imperial Women's 1st 10**

By Merrin Tulloch

Welcome! The Virgins are back! And we have reinforcements...

Having lost our front row to the Scottish highlands and Spain, we briefly considered disbanding and reforming as the Home Baking Society. But instead, the Virgins (Imperial's women's rugby club, just in case any freshers haven't realised yet) decided to put our talents to good use, and our Freshers Fair fairy

cakes enticed many (unsuspecting) fine freshers to sign up for some fun and rugby action.

Last Wednesday we took to the field for our first competitive match of the season, away to Reading in the BUSA (British Universities Sports Association) League. Last season we lost heavily in this fixture, so we were out for revenge. Stinky stepped up to fill the gap at prop, and off we went.

The less said about the first half the better probably, as we lost the toss and had to play literally uphill. Reading kicked the ball in behind us and kept us pinned in the bot-

tom corner of the pitch. They found a two man overlap and unleashed their rangy centre. 5-0.

Fantastic defence by the new look Virgins back line pushed Reading off of the pitch when they continued to attack down the wing. Killer had some excellent crash ball in the centre but we made life hard for ourselves by not using our width and speed on the wing, remaining in our 22. Reading used their experience in the backs and some well executed moves in the centre to go 10-0 up.

In the second half, and with the slope on our side, we fared much better. We spread

the ball wide to Whiplash, who ran us out of our 22. It took three of their players to bring down our tiny back on their 10m line. Crucially, Whiplash mullered their 13 and main strike runner - well done, pints for you! Gump took the ball from the back of the Reading scrum and went charging off down the hill into their 22. The following period of forward pressure took us over their line twice, but the ref decided we had been held up.

The Reading scrum half continually tried to kick them out of danger, but instead sent the ball straight into the arms of Tumbles, who ran it back down their throats. From a messy breakdown in front of the posts, Flipper found prop Tree Total on the wing (a breach of the trade descriptions act, surely), who was unstoppable from 5m out.

From the restart we worked our way back down to the pitch thanks to textbook forward pick and drive, and again spun the ball wide to debutant centre Udders who brushed off three tackles to crash over and score again. We then needed three points in as many minutes for victory but Reading weren't about to give up, and again their scrum half's fine boot



A Reading forward leaps highest to claim the ball at a lineout during their close victory over Imperial

sent us back into our 22 from where we couldn't recover.

Ultimately we were in fine spirits, knowing if we can produce rugby of that standard each week we will beat every other team in our league, and that all our lovely freshers are going to get even better too! How exciting! We piled back into the van (driven by our new team bitch Ed - hail to the bus driver indeed),

sang songs, and composed a nice letter to our local MP Michael Portillo, campaigning for more piss-stops between Reading (and for that matter Harlington) and South Kensington.

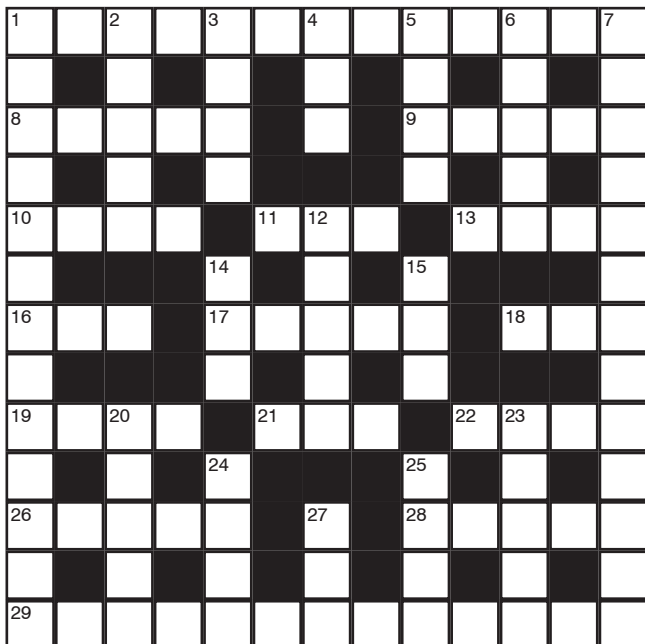
Finally, best of luck to Gump who goes for England Students trials this weekend. Here's hoping for an Imperial back row showdown when England play Scotland!



Under the posts: the Virgins before the match

If you've played a match, been on tour or entered a competition, why not write about it for Felix? Send your reports to sport.felix@ic.ac.uk. If you can include a good quality photograph, you will get a bigger article and it might even appear on the back page. Please tell us who has written the article and try to think up a headline

Quick Crossword by Cactus



Across

- 1. Living quarters (13)
- 8. Mole (5)
- 9. Garlic mayonaise (5)
- 10. Foolhardy (4)
- 11. Thickness (of rope) (3)
- 13. Legend (4)
- 16. Virtuoso (3)
- 17. Incantation; period (5)
- 18. Animal museum (3)
- 19. Motor race over 500 miles (4)
- 21. Timid (3)
- 22. Skin mark (4)
- 26. Inactive (5)
- 28. Comic (5)
- 29. Type of envelope (4-9)

Down

- 1. Oddities (13)
- 2. Game for two (5)
- 3. Principle (4)
- 4. Poem to be sung (3)
- 5. Man (4)
- 6. Elephant tusk (5)
- 7. Area (13)
- 12. Blood-sucker (5)
- 14. Cleopatra's killer? (3)
- 15. Moose (3)
- 20. Linger (5)
- 23. Vulgar (5)
- 24. Portico (4)
- 25. Skillful (4)
- 27. 0.01 gray (3)



Send your answers to coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk or bring this page to the Felix office in the West Wing of Beit Quad

Issue 1302 solution

