

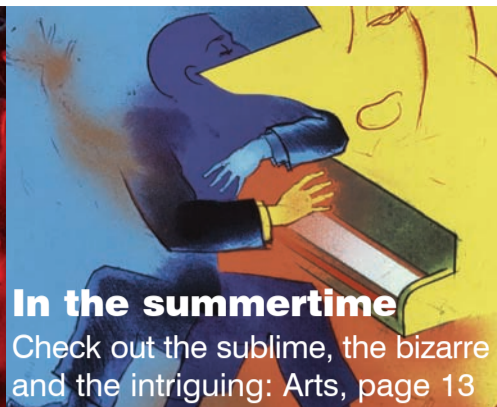
From Tampa to Trafford

Glazer's takeover plus news from the Square Mile, page 3



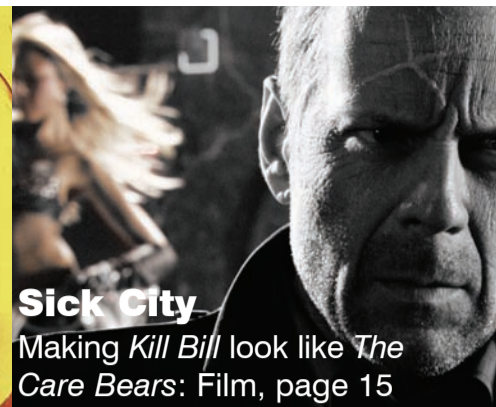
Cleaning up coal's act

Can ultra-clean coal help solve the world's energy crisis? Page 5



In the summertime

Check out the sublime, the bizarre and the intriguing: Arts, page 13



Sick City

Making *Kill Bill* look like *The Care Bears*: Film, page 15



Felix



The student newspaper of Imperial College ● Established 1949 ● Issue 1326 ● Thursday 9 June 2005 ● www.felixonline.co.uk

Appeal advice

What happens if you have a personal problem during your exams? What if your department makes a mistake? The Information and Advice Centre is here to guide you through the process of making an academic appeal.

► **COMMENT** page 6

Alternative aid

"Whilst no-one with even the slightest shred of humanity can disagree with the sentiment of the Make Poverty History campaign, its methods are verging on the ridiculous."

► **COMMENT** page 7

Green with envy

You are cordially invited to the first ever Imperial Environment Day.

► **COMMENT** page 7

Goodbye Stormy

The infamous girl about town writes her final column of the year.

► **COLUMNS** page 9

Captivating cricket

Imperial's first XI secure their first victory of the season by clinching an absolute nailbiter against the School of Pharmacy, with a winning margin of just eight runs.

► **SPORT** page 20



The cricket first team

Southside Bar acclaimed

- Bar placed second in national 'Club of the Year' competition
- Doors will close for final time on 24 June
- Over 3000 people sign petition for replacement

By **Dave Edwards**

Editor

Just weeks before it is due to close, Southside Bar has won a major national award. Meanwhile, over 3000 people have signed a petition calling for the continued existence of "a Southside Bar" on campus.

The bar was given the runner-up award in the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) 'Club of the Year' competition. CAMRA is an independent consumer organisation with over 75,000 members. Having won through the local and regional rounds, Southside was narrowly beaten at the final stage by the Hastings Club in Lytham St Anne's.

Steve Williams, CAMRA Regional Director for Greater London, told *Felix* that he believes Southside is "the greatest student bar in the country" and "a worthy winner of the award".

"I'm really disappointed that it's closing," he added. "I think Imperial College should be proud of this bar. It shouldn't be something that's just swept away."

Southside Bar manager Roger Pownall was delighted to be presented with the award and optimistic that his bar could still have some sort of future.

"We haven't given up the battle yet," he said. "There's a bit of a fight going on and we're still trying to achieve something."

The Southside building, which also contains halls of residence and the College health centre, is set for demolition in July. Its replacement, costing approximately £50m,



The second best bar in the country? Steve Williams, Regional Director of the Campaign for Real Ale, presents Southside Bar manager Roger Pownall with the 2005 national 'Club of the Year' runner-up award

will be only six storeys high instead of the current nine, for reasons linked to planning permission. It will contain 70 more beds, a new health centre and a small café, leaving no room for a bar.

Imperial College Union was given the option of using the communal space in Linstead Hall for a replacement College bar, but rejected it. "It would be unfair to leave Linstead students with no private communal space," said Union

President Mustafa Arif.

He added: "If we moved it to Linstead, it would not be the same Southside Bar anyway. It would be much smaller and it wouldn't have the same

"Imperial College should be proud of this bar. It shouldn't be something that's just swept away"

atmosphere."

Tobias Dalton, chair of the Real Ale Society, told *Felix* that he expected at least 4000 people to have signed a petition in support of the 'Save Our Southside' campaign by the end of the term.

The campaign group believes that there are other suitable locations for a bar on the South Kensington campus, and met recently with Mr Arif to state their case.

"We had a long meeting,"

said Mr Dalton. "He [Mr Arif] wasn't so much on our side but he understood us and seemed keen to do something for us. He's putting in another claim for space to the College."

The situation is set to worsen even further when the Union bars in Beit Quad are closed for refurbishment next year. There are plans to create a new bar when Linstead Hall is rebuilt, but this is unlikely to occur for several years.

THIS WEEK

News	page 2
Business	page 3
Science	page 4
Comment	page 6
Letters	page 8
Columns	page 9
What's On	page 12
Arts	page 13
Film	page 15
Puzzles	page 17
Sport	page 18

NEWS

Imperial students win national business prize



A team of five Imperial students have won the 2005 IBM Universities Business Challenge. The winners were Saurabh Pandya, Zhi Lim, Chao Yi, Wei Feng and Yi Zhang. Sir Richard Sykes, the Rector (far left), and Robert Berry from IBM (second left) presented them with the trophy and a cheque for £1000. More than 130 teams entered the competition, which was run by Learning Dynamics and sponsored by several large companies including IBM. The Imperial students acted as management consultants for a fictional brewery, wine bar and games company. Mr Pandya, the team leader, put their success down to having "a culturally diverse team from different disciplines".

"I am your father... and you will go to the ball"



The Hollywood-themed Imperial College Union summer ball was promoted around campus this week by *Star Wars* characters Darth Vader and Princess Leia (students Toby Neumaier and Holly Jones).

In next week's

Felix

Next week's *Felix* will be the last issue of the 2004-5 academic year. We'll bring you such delights as...

- Review of the year
- Giant Sudoku puzzle
- Felix Unforgettable Cryptic Crossword Awards 2005
- Coffee Break prizes for every team that entered
- Survey prize winners ('win half your weight in chocolate')
- Interview with Union President and minor College celebrity Mustafa Arif
- Anything interesting that happens between now and next week

Plus the farewell appearances of a host of our regulars, including Snufkin, Fishface and legendary mascot David Hasselhoff

College buildings up for national awards

By Rupert Neate

Two Imperial College buildings have been shortlisted for prestigious architecture awards.

The Tanaka Business School and the Faculty Building are nominated for the Royal Institute of British Architecture (RIBA) Awards, the winners of which will be announced at a gala dinner at the London Hilton Hotel on 17 June.

Both buildings were designed by Foster and Partners. Lord Foster's office also designed the Sir Alexander Fleming building, which received a similar award in 1999.

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Business

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Latest from the Square Mile

Numaan Chaudhry gives a roundup of the latest gossip to hit the markets

Glazer flexes muscles

As Malcolm Glazer takes over Manchester United, his sons, Joel, Avran and Bryan, are close by. Joel, 38, will be Glazer's main representative, while David Gill will continue as chief executive and Alex Ferguson stays on as manager.

The family's other infamous buy, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, is currently in the control of Malcolm, Joel and Bryan, all of whom have had a significant part in the running and management of the American football club. Apparently, this experience will be useful for running United.

Glazer has wasted no time in entering the transfer market, buying Edwin van der Sar, the goalkeeper, from Fulham for £2.5m.

No doubt the supporters are wondering how they'll ever be able to afford a ticket for their next match as Glazer recoups his £374m debt through sky-high admission prices. Here's one solution that could work: support a football team that has real future prospects!

Citigroup

Citigroup, the mammoth conglomerate investment bank, may have to back down in its position as lead underwriter for the Initial Public Offering (IPO) of China's Construction Bank. Citigroup's main competitors in this specific deal include Deutsche Bank, JPMorgan and HSBC, all of whom have both an investment bank and a commercial side.

Although it's still early days, it appears that China Construction Bank's decision was fuelled by Citigroup reneging on part of the deal where they agreed to buy some of the stock. Although the value of the deal is \$175m, not exactly one of the world's biggest, many banks are edging in for a piece of the action in the current tight climate. The Bank of America looks set to win this particular race.

Diageo Dies Down

Pernod Ricard's takeover of Allied Domecq is set to progress even smoother as Diageo removed itself as a potential bidder for the firm. The deal struck with Diageo means Allied's wine business will be bought by Diageo while Pernod Ricard buys the Irish whiskey brand.

However, all is not perfect as a consortium of firms led



From Tampa to Old Trafford: Malcolm Glazer believe his experience with Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the American football team (inset), will help him run Manchester United (main picture)

by Constellation Brands of the US, including the highly prestigious pure investment bank The Blackstone Group, may launch a counter-offer, thus putting the entire acquisition at risk. Talks have moved the share price of Allied up 1p to £6.99. Now the waiting game begins as we look to see if the likes of Constellation will intrude.

Songbird Makes Masses

A £100m+ offer is expected for a 200,000 sq ft building currently let to CSFB at 17 Columbus Courtyard, Canary Wharf. The owners of the building, Songbird, a consortium of firms and a certain wealthy individual, plan to sell the building to make a filthy amount of profit from the

record high property prices. As it continues in its selling rampage, Songbird will also probably put another building, 25 The North Colonnade, on the market in the very near future too.

FSA retaliates

Last month, Tony Blair made a speech in which he called the

Financial Services Authority, the authority regulating all the financial institutions in the city, "hugely inhibiting of efficient business". Of course, the FSA was going to have none of it.

Callum McCarthy, the FSA chairman, has written to the PM demanding clarification and, if necessary, retraction of his comments.

A spokesman for Gordon Brown said the Chancellor, who appointed Mr McCarthy and has been a key supporter of the FSA, is also "at one with" the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister.

Such remarks by may cause upset and damage the influence, authority and prowess of the FSA in its duty as City regulator.

Science

science.felix@ic.ac.uk

Soldier or scientist?

How is UK science and technology influenced by the military funding it receives?

Sonja van Renssen attended a discussion at the Royal Institution

Imperial College is one of 29 universities in the UK doing classified research for the Ministry of Defence (MoD). With nine such projects underway, it sits at the upper end of the scale for military collaboration. To what extent and in what direction are science, engineering and technology in the UK influenced by the military support they receive? What are the ethical issues involved? And is a weapons-based, hi-tech military agenda the best way to improve global security?

On Wednesday 11 May the Royal Institution hosted a debate that took as its starting point the fact that about a third of all public spending on UK research and development (R&D) stems from the Ministry of Defence. Dr Chris Langley, author of the report *Soldiers in the Laboratory* published by Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR) in January 2005, Malcolm Savidge, former Labour MP for Aberdeen North, and Professor Ron Smith, economist at Birkbeck College, picked apart the complex science-military relationship to consider its implications at a time when defence expenditures are creeping up to Cold War levels.

Military involvement in R&D is by no means a recent phenomenon. Nor are the moral and ethical dilemmas

that surround it. Chair David Dickson, Director of scidevnet, opened the evening with a pointed reminder of the Manhattan Project, which generated both military success and protest movements. With an election just gone and Iraq still weighing heavy on the agenda, the Trident Nuclear Programme up for discussion and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to undergo its five-year review this month, the role of science and technology in the pursuit of military objectives has risen to prominence once again.

"...a growing reliance on technology in the national security agenda favours armed intervention over diplomacy to resolve conflict"

Langley is worried. His short talk drew attention to the calls for increased spending on military technology outlined in the White Paper *Delivering Security in a Changing World*. His greatest concern is that a growing reliance on technology in the national security agenda tends to favour armed intervention over diplomacy as a means to resolve conflict. Funding and expertise are pouring into military

solutions, diverting resources away from research into the underlying causes of wars, such as poverty and climate change. The UK's pursuit of a hi-tech, weapons-based military agenda like that of the US is not making the world a safer place.

On this, Malcolm Savidge seemed to agree. Although he defended Labour's track record on defence with examples such as stronger export control on UK arms sales, he traced current policy to a debatable desire to stay close to the US and erase the 'Old Labour' image. Criticising Bush for his positive stance on nuclear power, Savidge introduced the eternal problem of dual use: civil technology can be adapted to military purposes and vice versa.

Professor Ron Smith took this concept one step further. The economist argued that a distinction between science with military potential and that without is impossible. In an entertaining anecdote, he related how Louis Fry Richardson, a Quaker and meteorologist, fled to psychology when there was mention of using his work to study the diffusion of poison gas. Decades later, the mathematical models he subsequently developed are the very foundations of any War Studies course. In any case, Smith reminded listeners, the mili-



Scientist or soldier? Military spending on science is on the increase for the first time since the end of the Cold War

tary is increasingly buying commercially available technology off the shelf instead of investing in basic research.

But our inability to slot military and civilian science into separate boxes does not free scientists, universities and government from ethical

responsibility. Smith emphasised that history has delivered the scientist as patriot as well as the conscientious objector. The speakers concurred that universities' increasingly commercial outlook has facilitated military partnerships in recent years.

The MoD continues to spit out "small islands of information in a sea of blather," as Langley eloquently put it. There is a need for transparency and accountability among scientists, universities and government. It's only global security at stake.

Issue 2 available on the walkway, in the library, the Union and several postgrad common rooms...

from this Monday

I, science

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Thursday 9 June, 7pm

Can science make poverty history?

In the build-up to the UK's G8 summit next month, the Antenna science news team invites you to explore how science and technology – from renewable energy to GM crops – could alleviate poverty in developing countries.

Tuesday 14 June, 7pm

The hitchhiker's guide to artificial intelligence

Should we develop machines with human intelligence and emotion, like Marvin the paranoid android in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*? How would such machines affect human relationships? Share your views on artificial intelligence with humanoid and android experts.

Thursday 16 June, 7pm

Astro black morphologies

Join Anna Piva and Eddie George – the artist-musicians behind Astro Black Morphologies – and experts from the worlds of astrophysics, electronic music and art to participate in a dialogue about contemporary astronomy and sound art.

Leave your anti-gravity books at the door

In levitating frogs, scientists achieved both the almost impossible and the completely useless.

Tom Simonite looks at new research that may lead to a more useful applications of levitation

“What we want to do, for a number of reasons, is to make things float in mid-air,” explains Peter King, a man whose job is to defy gravity.

It sounds amazing, and he's getting better at it. This month the latest refinements to his technique were released, along with video footage of chunks of platinum, lead and pound coins floating freely in a glass jar. As a result he's been in demand – national newspapers were interested, television networks even travelled across the Atlantic.

But King thinks they missed the point: “You say you can float something using a magnetic field, and ten minutes later it's ‘scientists discover an antigravity machine’. This is not quite what we've done – we're not having free trips

to Mars tomorrow in our anti-gravity machine.”

So just what has King's research group at the University of Nottingham done? When he tells the story his way, it emerges that an elegant piece of research has largely been ignored in favour of the allure of the word ‘levitation’ and myths of antigravity skateboards.

It turns out that levitation is actually nothing new – water, strawberries and frogs have all been levitated before using a phenomenon called diamagnetism, as King explained: “Diamagnetic materials absolutely hate magnetic fields and experience a force driving them out of them.” This force can balance out gravity and make things levitate, but only up to a density like that



Levitation: no longer the stuff of magic shows

of water. This limits the usefulness of levitation, but in 2003 King's group improved on this by harnessing an opposite effect.

It is another electro-

magnetic phenomenon – paramagnetism – that is the opposite of diamagnetism. Paramagnetic materials are strongly attracted to a magnetic field, and liquid oxygen

is one example. King found that it could strongly enhance levitation – as it strives to get close to the electromagnet, the liquid gas displaces the floating material even higher. Much denser materials like diamond, platinum and lead could now be levitated.

This was a major step forward, but with a potentially dangerous catch. Liquid oxygen, rocket fuel, is massively explosive. It made levitation much more useful and dramatic, but its volatility rendered applications outside the lab unimaginable. The real story of King's recent results is that he has solved this potentially explosive problem.

The secret is using a mixture of liquid gases. Oxygen is still used, but diluted to one

part in eight by calmer nitrogen: “You can actually dilute oxygen a lot and still float things pretty well. It's clean too – nitrogen and oxygen in those proportions is just air. If we lose that back into the atmosphere, nobody shouts at us.”

Safe, clean levitation of dense objects allows more useful applications than making frogs ‘air sick’. First in line is the mining industry – levitating metals or gems offers a more efficient way of separating them from soil. This is the real tale of King's latest research. Levitation is in the end, perhaps literally, too down to earth for the media circus, but hearing the details of this story from the horse's mouth beats sci-fi speculation hands down.

The clean coal revolution

Green energy may not have to be renewable. Forget wind and solar power, ultra-clean coal may now be the future for cleaner air. **Emma-Lynn Donadieu** investigates

The UK is facing a carbon paradox. As the Government strives to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050, the demand for energy is increasing and so too is our dependence on carbon dioxide-producing power stations.

Over the next 20 years, almost all our existing nuclear power stations and most coal-fired power stations will close as they reach the end of their operating lives. Then, the UK will have to rely on imported energy such as gas and oil, often from politically unstable countries. To reduce our reliance on imports, the Government has invested in renewable energy sources such as wind power, which promise cleaner energy without the carbon emissions.

Wind farms are high on the Government's agenda. Controversial wind turbines have sprung up across Britain's countryside and there are plans for a further 2,000 by 2010 at a total cost of around £9bn. Despite being ‘green’, wind turbines have met with considerable resistance. Opponents argue they are ruining some of Britain's best-loved landscapes and are an unreliable source of energy.

One such critic, David Anderson, who chairs the energy board at the Institution of Civil Engineers, refutes the claim that wind power will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He calculates that turbines could only reduce Britain's greenhouse gas emissions by a maximum of 5%.

There are alternatives: another solution to curb

emissions and maintain a reliable energy supply would be to clean up the act of the well-established coal derived energy.

Coal-fuelled power stations currently supply 30% of the UK's electricity. Equally, they are responsible for releasing over a third of the total carbon dioxide produced in Britain. Coal is easy to store and transport, and is accessible from diverse suppliers

“Ultra-clean coals are coals with less than 1% ash and from which naturally occurring minerals have been removed”

both here and abroad. Loads in coal-fired stations can also be varied easily, so coal-fired generation is particularly useful in meeting peak demand or covering for supply intermittencies in other fuels. Developing cleaner coal that releases less carbon dioxide would therefore have huge benefits.

Various clean coal technologies already exist and aim to use coal in an environmentally friendly and economic way. Clean coal can be achieved either by targeting the pollutants that result from burning coal, or by developing more thermally efficient systems so that less coal generates the same power. There are also improved techniques for gas cleaning, effluent treatment and residue use or disposal.

A new possibility is the development of ultra-clean

coal. “Ultra-clean coal is seen as something of a Holy Grail in energy generation,” said Dr Karen Steel of the School of Chemical Environmental and Mining Engineering, University of Nottingham. “It is a very efficient way of producing electricity and it is also much less harmful for the environment.” Her team have just been awarded £120,000 to help them kick start the development of ultra-clean coal which they believe could make power generation 50% more efficient and reduce carbon dioxide release by a third.

Mined coal contains about 15% mineral matter including sulphates, oxides, clays, quartz and carbonates, which restrict its use. By definition, ultra clean coals are coals with less than 1% ash and from which naturally occurring minerals have been removed by chemical cleaning.

CSIRO (the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation) in Australia is the only other organisation looking into the manufacture of ultra-clean coal. They have invested \$15m into a pilot-scale ultra-clean coal operation that has already yielded positive results demonstrating a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

The ultra-clean coal process developed by CSIRO utilises alkali/acid digestion to dissolve the minerals out of the coal under moderate temperature and pressure conditions, without the loss of coal's properties. The dissolved minerals are then



Clean coal: a non-renewable solution to the energy crisis?

precipitated as gypsum and aluminium silicates, which are used in the building and ceramics industries, while the alkalis are regenerated for reuse.

Dr Steel and her team are hoping to develop a similar chemical leaching process that has the potential to

“Ultra-clean coal is seen as something of a Holy Grail in energy generation”

reduce the mineral content of coal to less than 0.1%. This ensures a much greater efficiency per tonne of coal and up to a third less carbon dioxide pollution.

Most conventional coal-fired power stations burn coal to produce steam, which turns turbines linked to a

generator. This process is only around 37% efficient, which means just over a third of the energy potential of the coal is converted into electricity. Unlike normal coal, ultra-clean coal can be burnt directly in gas turbines. Gas turbines are similar to aircraft jet engines and are a much more efficient way of using coal to make electricity – but normal coal cannot be used in them because their impurities damage the turbine blades. Ultra-clean coal is therefore around 50% more efficient than normal coal.

Commenting on the cost of implementing this new technology, Dr Steel said: “There has been an assumption that it would be too expensive to produce ultra-clean coal. But our aim is to do it cheap, so the coal will sell at about the usual price.”

Ultra-clean coal could also help reduce the world's dependence on oil, according to Dr Steel. There are greater untapped reserves of coal, and they are generally located away from the politically turbulent Middle East. For example, China and the USA both have large reserves of coal, but not much oil. Coal will also remain the dominant generating fuel in large parts of the developing world such as China and India for many years to come. This could be beneficial for UK industry, which could develop business initiatives to promote and install cleaner coal technologies in developing countries.

Ultra-clean coal also will be up against nuclear power. The zero carbon emissions associated with nuclear plants are proving tempting for the re-elected government. But nuclear power stations tend to generate electricity at the same rate all the time. This would provide a baseline rate of power, but would be too inflexible to deal with sharp fluctuations in consumer demand. The age-old problem of storing radioactive waste has also yet to be solved.

Every method of energy production has its pitfalls. The only way the country can keep up with the increasing energy demand is to ensure diversity in energy production, some renewable, some not. Although people were quick to reject fossil fuels as dirty fuels in favour of greener more renewable sources, ultra-clean coal could ensure that coal is back in the game.

Comment

felix@ic.ac.uk

Felix

Local community must learn from cyclists' deaths

Our thoughts go out to the friends and family of Apijak Srivannavit, the Imperial College postgraduate student who was killed in a road traffic accident in South Kensington two weeks ago. He was knocked off his bicycle by a coach at the junction of Queen's Gate and Cromwell Road [see last week's *Felix*, issue 1325].

Mr Srivannavit was not the first person from Imperial College to suffer a tragic death while cycling in the area. Less than three months ago, Thomas Sippel-Dau, an ICT manager, was knocked off his bicycle and killed by a 4x4 vehicle in a hit-and-run incident.

One death could be seen as an anomaly, but two in such a short space of time suggest that something is seriously wrong on Cromwell Road. It is a long, straight route, where drivers appear to break the speed limit very frequently, perhaps as a result of the fact that many come in from the west on the M4 and fail to realise that they need to slow down.

Imperial College and its students' union should put pressure on the local council and Transport for London in order to protect those who cycle in the area. Any number of traffic calming measures could be introduced, perhaps on a trial basis initially. These would also improve safety for drivers and pedestrians. There is no doubt that the status quo must not be allowed to continue.

The local community must learn from the deaths of Mr Srivannavit and Mr Sippel-Dau, doing all it can to prevent further tragedies. Imperial College Bicycle Users' Group has information on how you can help at www.union.ic.ac.uk/icbug/cromwell.html. The website includes tips on cycling safely and ways to influence key decision-makers.

Felix

Next week's *Felix* is the last issue of term. Send your letters, reports or other contributions to us by 5pm Monday felix@ic.ac.uk

Roads, radio and requests

Death in vain?

Yesterday was the cremation of Apijak 'Joe' Srivannavit, the Imperial post-graduate who was killed in an accident whilst cycling at the Queen's Gate junction with Cromwell Road. Coming a couple of months after the death of a long-serving staff member, Thomas Sippel-Dau, on the same road, it's a poignant time to think about road safety in the area.

There have long been concerns about the safety of Cromwell Road, for pedestrians as well as cyclists. Furthermore, there is an air quality monitoring station which shows it to be the most polluted road in London.

The Union is seeking to raise political awareness of the road safety and environment issues with the Cromwell Road. The issue is complicated because the main road is the responsibility of the Mayor and Transport for London whilst the adjacent roads come under the jurisdiction of the local councils. Nevertheless, the nature of recent events means that it is now a cause we must champion on behalf of the local community (of which we are a major component). Joe's family have expressed their support for our campaign. To find out more, or to help, please visit www.union.ic.ac.uk/icbug.

Radio controversy

I know there are several controversial issues bubbling up that people want to talk to me about. I get a lot of email and it can be difficult for me to reply to

STATE OF THE UNION



MUSTAFA ARIF
UNION PRESIDENT

each and every person who emails me about something. So I thought it might be worth drawing attention to the fact that you can phone in to *Fireside*, my radio show with Dave Edwards, the editor of *Felix*. We are on air every Thursday, 5-6pm on 999AM in Princes Gardens, 1134AM in Wye and at www.icradio.com.

Requests

I know that next week will be my last column after serving two years as your President. I expect to write about the future of the Union and Imperial as a whole, as well as what I have learnt in my six years as a student here. If there's anything you think I should write about, then please email me

(president@ic.ac.uk) to let me know. Alternatively email *Felix* as they are going to interview me.

Election time

Please don't forget that we have election nominations open for Union Officers as well as the new Graduate Students' Association. Nominations close on Monday 13 June and voting takes place online later that week.

ULU success

As I hope you are aware by now, Imperial students are members of the University of London Union (ULU) as well as ICU. ULU organise central campaigns and every other year or so one of them actually achieves something. This is one of those years.

From September 2005 all students will be able to use the University of London Library (ULL) in Senate House which has an extensive collection of humanities and social sciences texts. Up until now, only students from those Colleges which subscribed to the ULL could use it. That excluded Imperial as we didn't subscribe since the ULL does not maintain any specialist science collections. Nevertheless, the ULL is valuable as study space for Imperial students who live in inter-collegiate halls in the area. It is also incredibly valuable for anyone who wants access to a broader collection of humanities texts (especially those taking humanities for credit). Credit must go to ULU for this.

Academic appeals

Ever been in the position where you have exams coming up and something unexpected happens in your life? Something out of your control that take your mind off your studies? What do you do?

In some circumstances, people think that they can juggle personal problems with academic work. Some people can do this, but most can't. When a close family member or friend is ill, or perhaps even dies, it is very hard for us all to concentrate on our jobs, and we often cannot carry out our usual tasks to the best of our ability.

Sometimes departments can make mistakes in their procedures, for example the wrong revision notes may be given to you or you might be told the wrong location or time for an exam. These situations do sometimes arise and they are known as procedural irregularities.

If either of these situations, or something similar, happens to you, it is always important to talk in the first instance to your department. Sometimes a senior or personal tutor is a good start, but who else could you talk to?

The Information and Advice Centre (IAC) is here to act as an independent and impartial ear to all students who find themselves in this type of awkward situation. We are totally confidential and can give you options as to the best way forward.

ADVICE SERVICE



NIGEL COOKE
STUDENT ADVISER

In some circumstances, students carry out an exam with this sort of problem hanging over them and then afterwards realise that it affected their performance. In this situation, you may be able to launch an academic appeal on the basis of extenuating circumstances. To do this you will need good evidence, so for example if you had an illness you would need to provide doctor's notes or proof of a hospital stay. It is easier to resolve if you bring these issues up before exams or coursework has to be handed in.

With procedural irregularities, again you will have to have proof of this on paper. The IAC can help you with all these issues by ensuring that you have

enough evidence to proceed.

If you do wish to appeal when you receive your results, it is important to think about this long and hard before doing so. Consider the following:

- What basis are you appealing on?
- Have you got the evidence to support your appeal on paper?
- Will you be any better off if you win the appeal?
- What result do you want to see happen, and is it likely to be the outcome?
- Are the department willing to give you another chance anyway?

It is important to remember that you cannot appeal just because you are unhappy with the mark. Papers are often marked two or three times, so if the mark was wrong it would almost certainly have been noticed by now.

In all cases, be honest with yourself. If you honestly feel that you have a case then proceed, but if you just didn't do enough revision then your appeal will be thrown out at the first level.

The IAC is currently producing an information sheet as a guide for students on how to appeal and the possible outcomes that can occur.

If you would like more information on academic appeals, please contact the Information and Advice Centre on 020 7594 8067 or advice@ic.ac.uk.

Remember, don't let your concern turn into a crisis. Make the Information and Advice Centre your one stop shop for all your welfare issues.

Making economics history?

Bob Geldof and the Make Poverty History campaign have the best of intentions but are going about it all the wrong way, argues **Stephen McAloon**

Why has no-one thought of this before? Let's put all those hard-working economics students out of their misery and re-train them as pop stars. Why bother having LSE taking up all that prime space in central London when it could be put to better use as a recording studio? Yes it sounds risky, but only a few platinum albums later they will be instantly granted the moral authority to lecture world leaders on how to solve global poverty. Admittedly I write this article in the spirit of nimbyism* as living only a few miles from Gleneagles (the location of the G8 summit) I am not overly enamoured with the prospect of returning home at the end of term to find my local area swamped by anti-capitalist eco tree-huggers and the security services required to control them.

Saint Bob Geldof has encouraged the world to descend upon the G8 conference as the high point of the campaign to Make Poverty History. Whilst no-one with even the slightest shred of humanity can disagree with the sentiment of this noble cause, its methods are verging on the ridiculous. Whatever happened to the stoicism of giving to a cause privately? Now when we support

a charity we insist on getting a sweat-shop-produced rubber band so the whole world can see just what fantastic people we all are. We can only help Africa if we remain a well-educated, prosperous country in a position to help developing nations. Perhaps Mr Geldof could explain to us all how encouraging children to play truant from school helps to achieve this.

"Unconditional aid rewards incompetent governments who spend far too much of it on themselves"

By jumping on the A-list bandwagon, we would not be solving any problems but subsidising them. Unconditional aid rewards woefully incompetent governments who spend far too much of it on themselves and not enough on the food and healthcare it was supposed to provide for the people it was intended for. Swiss bankers will be doing a roaring trade in the weeks following Sir Bob's little sing-song. We have a duty to increase aid to

developing nations but at the same time we also have the responsibility to ensure that not a single penny is misused along the way.

Increasing aid and reducing corruption are necessary but not sufficient conditions for improving the lives of the millions who are living well below the poverty line. If the Bollinger Bolsheviks of the anti-capitalist movement stopped deriding the multinationals, perhaps they would realise that these large corporations could play a vital role in providing support to governments who are overwhelmed with the tasks facing them. Love them or loathe them, they all have ruthlessly efficient management structures and vast knowledge of the global economy. Sharing this expertise with a fledgling democracy would greatly increase its chances of developing into a stable, prosperous nation.

To further maximise the chances of this happening, we could start with the chastening of the European farmers lobby. They seem to be the only group left who have not accepted the Thatcherite consensus that unprofitable enterprises should not be propped up using taxpayers' money, as was recently demonstrat-

ed by the unfortunate demise of MG Rover. We now live in a country where farmers receive payments for the "stewardship of the countryside" – they don't actually have to produce any food. Not only are these people not letting third world producers compete on equal terms, but some are receiving money for being little more than glorified landscape gardeners. The benefit felt by

"Altruism is not a quality to be publicly flaunted, so please take those silly little bands off your wrist"

poor foreign farmers through the elimination of rural welfare will far outweigh any suffering caused to our own native producers. Perhaps Mr Geldof could sanctimoniously grandstand on their behalf. I can just see it now – Land Aid: Support the Shires' Need for Tweed.

Also ignore the mean minded dictum of the xenophobes who believe that charity begins at home. Please continue to give generously to overseas funds, but do so for their cause

and not your own. Altruism is not a quality to be publicly flaunted, so please take those silly little bands off your wrist. The world assumes you to be a kind and generous person until you show otherwise. Don't insult the intelligence of your peers by giving them the most crass of hints. There are far more effective ways of helping the third world than massaging the egos of a few has-been performers. Their celebrity and passion generates a huge amount of welcome publicity, but it is very dangerous to assume that a group of people who have spent their lives insulated from harsh reality have all the answers. Irresponsible pleas for bringing a city to a standstill are not the best way of spending the moral capital they have generated.

Finally I request you to quietly turn down Sir Bob's invitation to Edinburgh in early July. Try later on, when the festival is taking place. It is a beautiful historic city with a rich cultural heritage, with far more rewarding activities on offer than joining the malodorous masses kicking in the McDonalds on Princes Street.

[*NIMBY: Not In My Back Yard]

Turning the College green

Joseph Bull offers you an invitation to the first Imperial Environment Day

As the academic year draws inexorably to a close, anyone would be forgiven for throwing all thoughts of the next one to the wind, in grateful anticipation of the summer. However, it will probably interest some to know that a most unusual and unprecedented event is planned for the first week or so of October: the first Imperial Environment Day. Now although it might be considered too great a challenge to fit the words 'Imperial' and 'environment' into the same sentence, the day will mark at least some effort and progress on this front.

"The event will bring together the numerous and diverse strands of green within the university"

Supposedly, by the time this event occurs, the College will be busy reducing its environmental impact and trying to become a leader amongst the group of top universities that demonstrate sound environmental practise. (At present, of course, we have some way to go.) The day will look to highlight this shift and attempt to reinforce it, whilst being a huge joint venture between students, the College itself and certain others, such as Carbon Sense. It will bring together the numerous and diverse, if somewhat decentralised, strands of green within the university.

If all goes to plan then whilst Imperial academics show off their world class environmental research and famous and respected alumni hold relevant talks, Imperial students and societies will provide support in the form of music, artistic ventures, alternative sports parties, games and stalls. As we all know, there are a lot of incredible people at this university, staff and students alike, and it isn't all that often that they have the opportunity to come together in this way and create something spectacular. It would seem that this day offers just such an opportunity.

If, by October, the College has not delivered on its promises (environmentally speaking), the potentially monumental day could, alternatively, serve as a sharp reminder of the relevance and importance of these issues. The more cynical might suggest that such a big event could also offer the college a smokescreen with which to hide its true level of commitment to the environment, if indeed there is anything to hide. We can only hope that no one within the college would resort to such behaviour, and we expect this event to be only part of a larger general movement and continued visible change.

So enjoy the summer, whether you are on holiday or not. But at the same time, look forward to next year and what is to come, and look forward to the Environment Day! Any individuals, groups or societies wanting to know more or get involved at all should contact joseph.bull@ic.ac.uk, hannah.theodorou@ic.ac.uk or samantha.perera@ic.ac.uk.



Green technologies, like this solar-powered speed monitoring device, could be signs of a new commitment to the environment at Imperial College

COMMENT

felix@ic.ac.uk

Letters to the Editor

Broadband bother

Hi,

I'm here to see whether you can help. I'm in Wilson House at the moment, and like most freshers in halls, pay the college £30 a year for high speed Broadband connections. However, unlike most other halls, we don't get high speed broadband connections. We don't even get 56k connections.

The hall has approximately 270 residents, but yet has only (from what I was told when complaining) a 2 Megabit line. This, to me, is quite frankly appalling. I'm paying £30 for a high speed connection that I'm not getting, and in essence filling the college with money they haven't even bothered providing a service for.

When I rang up to complain (I was trying to get some notes online, but it was estimated to take several days) I was met with 'Well you only pay £30, it's still pretty good value.' I don't pay £30 for good value, I pay £30 for a decent service at the quality and speed that people at other halls get whilst paying the same! They have refused to give me any refund or compensation.

Thanks

Name and department supplied

Arthur Spirling, Head of ICT Services, responds:

Firstly may I apologise on behalf of ICT, if it was a member of ICT who gave you such an unacceptable reply. They should not have replied in that way. They should have given the positive news that the new 100Mb line to Wilson House has been laid and we are expecting to be able to make it a live service within the next two weeks. Since ICT took over responsibility for the Halls service, from Damovo, we have been working on improving it and specifically providing 100Mbs links to Clayponds, Pembridge and Wilson Halls in place of the original 2Mb links. Clayponds and Pembridge are done. Wilson has taken rather longer because we have had to dig up roads for the fibre and getting council permission for such digging took some time.

Listening about libraries

Dear Editor,

Helen Dawson (Letters, *Felix* 2 June) comments that the informal meeting held with the student reps recently was 'an incredibly useful discussion'. I would like to echo this view. The students who came to talk to us were constructive, positive, articulate, full of good ideas, and willing to listen – and this is exactly the kind of relationship we need, to help us develop and improve our library services.

We already have regular termly meetings with the Union President and the Deputy President (Education and Welfare) but last week's meeting was so useful that we have now agreed that we will also hold termly meetings with the student reps as well, so we can get a richer picture of students' views, to supplement the feedback we get in other ways.

Helen also referred to the Library's 10 year 'plan' and 'closure' of departmental libraries. At this stage it is probably more accurately described as our 10 year vision, based on observed trends, here at Imperial, and at other research-led universities both in the UK and elsewhere, and on the local context in which we are operating. We all know how much pressure there is on space on the SK campus, and this, coupled with the changing way in which information is delivered and used, and the students' need for longer library opening hours, has been a major driver in decisions by some departments to ask us to integrate their departmental library into the Central Library.

Our professional view is that this trend is likely to continue over the next 5-10 years, and that it would therefore be better for the issues to be acknowledged and openly discussed, and for a more coherent long-term strategy to be developed. This would help to ensure that everyone had adequate lead times to plan such moves, that the students' interests were understood and

taken into account, and that there were clear policies about things like appropriate provision of study space – both in departments and in the library. I hope that the proposed new schedule of regular library meetings with the student reps will help to provide a forum for more discussion about these and other library-related issues.

Clare Jenkins
Director of Library Services
Imperial College London

More Wye worry

Dear Felix,

We in Wye eagerly awaited the arrival of Felix last Friday, in the hope that your interview with the Deputy Rector might give some of the answers that College still seem unwilling to give us directly. However, what we found was the same old excuses, with a few extra examples of contradictory statements and College management going back on their word on different days and to different audiences howsoever suits their latest purpose.

You were right to draw attention to discrepancies between the guarantees made in the initial press releases, and the subsequent withdrawal both of the 2005 intake in the affected courses and of earlier guarantees that provision for current students would not be affected (suggestions for their course provision include buying in block teaching, whereby each module is taught intensively over a couple of weeks and immediately followed by that examination, as well as now refusing to rule out the possibility that some teaching will not take place on our campus; neither option represents students being "completely unaffected").

Indeed, at the Deputy Rector's face-to-face event in Wye, a student highlighted such inconsistencies, to put into context students' cynicism towards the remaining promises. The Deputy Rector was very quick to deny any "bad faith", with his argument resting upon the premise that the College never made such initial guarantees and these were a product of being "misquoted by the student media" (in fact the statement was in Reporter and on Spectrum!); he thereby answered the question of "bad faith" beyond all reasonable doubt, but not in the way he had intended.

That academic activity at Wye makes a loss is undeniable, although as your article shows, 60% of the deficit in Life Sciences is from non-Wye-based departments. The figures for this deficit vary every time they are quoted, and have never been put into the context of the Faculty-wide picture, longer-term trends, income from other activities on the campus or indeed the initial financial plan agreed at the time of the merger, which, rumour has it, gave Wye until 2009 to break even.

A statement in your interview which Wye students definitely still do not buy is that they have been consulted and informed to an acceptable extent. As evidence for this, the

Deputy Rector cites monthly meetings with the Faculty and Campus Union Presidents, which sounds like a reasonable degree of communication. However, the current Life Sciences President has yet to visit Wye, and the frequency of meetings with the Wye President is exaggerated and neglects to mention that no such meetings took place until January, more than five months after the initial announcement of course closures. Furthermore, such meetings have focussed entirely on changes to the Faculty academic structure, with a flat refusal to discuss options for the future of the campus, presumably until such a time as all such plans are finalised and beyond debate.

However, the inconsistencies in the College's statements that we, as students, find most worrying or even appalling are those relating to academic standards. At the time at which the closures were first announced, various responses, both public and private, suggested that academic standards were a part of the decision, referring to "research ratings" (College Press release), and "duplication" of London-based courses "to a less rigorous standard" (the Deputy Rector quoted in reports by the ICU President). When the Deputy Rector visited Wye, he was extremely emphatic in assuring students that academically speaking they had as much right to their place at Imperial as the London-based students, and the course closures were not a slight against them or the academic rigour of their degree programmes, and this was certainly reassuring to those students.

And yet now, when final year students are within three weeks of graduating, academic standards are once again called into question, at a time when we have just worked our socks off through examinations and are about to attempt to use our degrees in seeking employment and further study. Perhaps the comments refer only to research ratings; perhaps any lower standards among undergraduates are reflected in lower numbers of higher degree classes being awarded rather than lower standards being required to gain those degrees; but this is not clarified in the article, and with such disparaging comments passed so freely whenever it suits College management to do so, we are left wondering whether the certificates we hope to gain in three weeks' time will be worth the paper on which they are written, and are left with little doubt that student well-being is worth far less to the powers-that-be than the College's wider reputation.

When Wye students pointed out that national press carried stories about the course closures before students had heard about them, the Deputy Rector was quick to dismiss the national media coverage as "rubbish". I shall interpret that as meaning that such media coverage quoted our honourable College management to the letter.

Yours sincerely,

A Wye student
Name and department supplied

Imperial College
London

Fancy doing some volunteering?

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

Send your letters to felix@ic.ac.uk. Letters may be edited for length but not for spelling or grammar, and are printed at the Editor's discretion

Columns

felix@ic.ac.uk

The Neighbours generation



Self-love has gone mainstream

Pornography is a multi-billion pound industry and increasing rapidly – some 1000 new porn sites are created daily. Despite porn being so omnipresent in our lives and on our computer screens, porn comes up very rarely in conversation. I guess you'd have to be pretty good friends with someone to say, "I found this great new porn site the other day,

it's got everything..."

Porn is defiantly losing the stigma that has been associated with it in the past. Its stars are now rightly proud of their assets and achievements. In the past, some famous actors have had to dabble in the porn world to keep their finances in the black. Once they become mainstream movie stars, the threat of 'revelations' hangs over their heads. But exposure through porn can give porn actors celebrity status in their own right – see Jemma Jameson and John Holmes, for example. The porn world also has its own version of the Oscars, the AVN awards, which are held at some of the plushest hotels in Las Vegas and San Francisco.

Strictly for research purposes, I had a quick look at the myriad of different types of porn that are available on the internet. There is a whole plethora of different types of porn available. You would have to have some truly bizarre interests

to not find your niche somewhere. Unfortunately, no matter how hard I tried, I couldn't find any true scientist porn. There were lots of nurses, firemen, nuns and teachers, but absolutely no lab coat related stimulation.

The nice thing about porn is that you can be as specific as you like. For instance, you don't have to wade through a sea of ginger people if you like 'em blonde. If you have a fetish for golden showers or S&M there are multiple sites that will give you exactly what you want without you having to ask.

I don't think it would be appropriate for me to list all the types of truly depraved porn in the hallowed pages of *Felix*. Suffice to say, you can get some truly weird and 'I'm surprised that's physically possible' stuff. This got me wondering whether these niche activities existed before the internet revolution. I know there are sex shops and stuff, but I can't see how there

can possibly be enough demand for some of the truly bizarre. So, have people always been turned on by these 'activities' or has the internet caused the creation of scores of new crazes?

The internet must have increased porn usage by several orders of magnitude. According to *Men's Health* magazine, roughly one quarter of all web searches are porn-related. I imagine most of the population has a bit of a dabble in porn, but aren't so into it that they go out actively seeking it. The internet serves these people excellently – if you're a bit bored or horny you can have a Google and sort yourself out without heading down to Soho, where you have to quell those nerves and ask the motherly-looking woman for a magazine, the title of which you hope your mum has never heard of.

Internet porn does, obviously, have its down sides, child porn being the major one and far too serious an

issue for discussion here. Addiction is another – I've got a friend (this isn't a friend who is actually me) who was seriously worried internet porn had caused him to fail his exams. His explanation? "Revision is boring, porn isn't." However funny it may sound, porn addiction can become a serious problem, with men spending countless hours online to the detriment of their families and jobs.

Porn itself is but a tool and tools are completely neutral – it's their application that renders them good or bad.

4th floor library dude

I would like to apologise for any distress that may have been caused by my previous column, '4th floor library dude'. The column was written as a light hearted joke, and I am disappointed that others seem to have used it as a pretext for personal attacks.

The girl about town



Dear readers,

Barely a day passes when my friends at South Kensington do not hear your much-appreciated opinions on the adventures described in this column. I am touched to hear – from our esteemed editor, no less – that several of you pick up our little paper of joy on any given Thursday and turn straight here to get your disposable piece of me!

'Disposable piece of me' – onomatopoeia for an emocore band name,

don't you think? I should really pass that on to Greasy, who has been emailing me non-stop this week about his 'clart' posse.

I would also like to thank the lovely Diogo for keeping me a secret, and the inimitable Aaron S for taking the time out to answer my lovingly thought-out questions – I enjoyed his 'String Theory' column immensely!

Moving on. What else have I been up to? Running into a variety of hideosities with my partner in crime, Brownian motion, I do believe! A hideosity is cross between something hideous and a monstrosity. In keeping with this theme, I've decided to compile a list of the most hideous people in college, to keep you all guessing during those dreaded maths methods lectures! Short of naming and shaming them, we're going to leave you with a treasure hunt... the prize being a cold beverage shared in the presence of the most excellent yours truly. Here are

six of the 'best'...

We begin with a four foot tall, Huxley-based case of short-man syndrome. He's also homophobic, well versed in text harrassment and unbelievably inarticulate. Without the requisite anger management classes, he would have been better suited to a career in suicide bombing. His brother, the curry breath greaseball from EEE, also gets a mention. We finally met up with him after months of painstaking emails saying, "please meet me, you won't know if you hate me 'til you try".

So we did. We took him to the Science Museum, since no-one we knew would be hanging out there at 2pm on a Thursday. Believe me, he was highly embarrassing to be seen with – a two-foot tall, fully-bearded old-school hair metallor does nobody any social favours! His attempts to claim the Lostprophets as Britain's biggest rock band fell flat on our unreceptive ears.

Our next hideosity is more refined.

This ICT worker actually pronounced his occupation as a 'per-gammer' (programmer). Spitting relentlessly as he talked, we lasted 45 minutes before giving up on this absolute gem.

Next up is another Mech Enger. Of Asian origin, he has taken a leaf from the books of the sleazes most commonly found in Shepherd's Bush market. I'm sorry, but just because I'm brown does not mean I'm from your country of origin. It also does not mean that I'll automatically love you. Setting foot in Chelsea does not suddenly make you rich. Even if it did, you'd still not be desirable. Believe me, if I was going to marry for money, it certainly wouldn't be to a man whose hobbies include chirpsing brown females and getting sweaty patches in the middle of his pink Ralph Lauren polo shirts...

Number two in our 'chart' is the infamous Erection Man, famous for grinding against unsuspecting females in the union. Not only does

he gyrate, but he gets full blown erections from it. Many of us have been unfortunate enough to be dancing merrily before turning around on feeling something small and hard on our bums. Nasty.

So who is the number one hideosity?

Clap your hands for the Huxley's finest son – the barometer of all physical ugliness, Mr Pain Fetish. So small and spindly, you could break him in two within seconds, this chap of primarily caucasian origin has got it going on. He resembles a human pug. Since ugly guys do it best, and his personality is most pleasing, we've decided to keep him sweet, since he could be keeping a few treats up his sleeve for when he splits up with Elektra.

I'm off to the Big Apple for the rest of the month. Have a wicked summer, and don't do anything I wouldn't (which is not a lot, admittedly, but still).

I'll be watching you!

Party like there's no tomorrow! Wye Cricket Week

As the end of term approaches, this means one thing in Wye: Cricket Week. This tradition goes back as long as any records show and is not ready to stop yet.

While the week does include some cricket, the main aim of the week is just to have fun and relax in the sunshine, in the picturesque settings To facilitate this, a beer tent is set up, and is open from 11am daily with some late licenses.

Sports events, during the daytimes, include an all-girls match where the ULU Cup-Winning Rugby Girls are challenged by the Netball girls in both games.

The evening entertainment programme is as follows:

Fri 17th - Band Night. The bar opens and the week kicks off with some great live music.

Sat 18th - Scavenger Hunt. Competitors in cars will be set various points-winning tasks, hopefully staying within the law this time: no more fire engines!

Sun 19th - WyePAS Pantomime. This year it's Dick Whittington, the story of a country boy who discovers that the streets of London are not necessarily paved with gold; complete with Pantomime Cow, and a Pantomime Dame from the JSF!

Mon 20th - Karaoke. in Wye's unique style (ask ICU Choir about their Weekend Away!)

Tue 21st - Comedy Hypnotist Show

Wed 22nd - The Meteorological Society (who are not actually passionate amateur weather forecasters) hold their annual disco, at a location to be announced

Thurs 23rd - Silly Hat Day (work gets marked quickly here), followed by Graduation Disco

The week ends on Friday 24th June, with the **Commemeration Ball**, the biggest party of the year, lasting 12 hours solid: more on that from the organisers.

So if you want a break in the country, for a quiet drink or some serious partying, get in touch or just drop by: it's your last chance to party with Imperial College Agricultural and Equine Freshers.

Imperial College Union Presents Summer Ball 2005

HOLLYWOOD

Sat 18th June

10096 →
SUNSET BLVD.

(MTV, Radio One)

TREVOR NELSON

JOE RANSOM (Fabric Live)

16900 →
MULHOLLAND DR.

(Radio One)

COLIN MURRAY

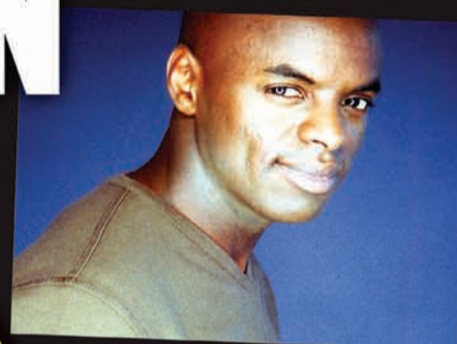
6700 →
HOLLYWOOD BLVD.

CASINO

£25 Ents ticket
£45 Dinner ticket

Over 18's only
Student ID required
R.O.A.R
The Union advises you to drink sensibly

Jazz Big Band, Fireworks,
Funfair, Formal dinner
(halal and vegetarian option)
Sparkling wine / Pimms reception
and breakfast in the morning
for every ticket holder!



Deadline for dinner tickets: Monday 13 June
Bulk ticket offers for clubs,
halls, societies and
departments:
union.ic.ac.uk/summerball

Deloitte.

ZEN
MICRO



imperial
college
union

Imperial College Union Beit Quadrangle Prince Consort Rd London SW7 2BB



OUT THIS WEEK

Two new Imperial College magazines produced in association with *Felix*

Phoenix ▲

The arts magazine of Imperial College. Released TODAY at selected *Felix* distribution points and other locations

I, Science ►

A science magazine for Imperial College. Issue 2 released ON MONDAY in the SCR, departmental common rooms and selected *Felix* distribution points



What's on

felix@ic.ac.uk

THURSDAY 9 JUNE

MAGAZINE RELEASE PHOENIX PUBLISHED

10am onwards
Pick up your copy of Imperial's arts magazine. *Phoenix* used to be an annual publication and has been revived this year. It includes poetry, photography, painting, short stories and other forms of art, all courtesy of talented Imperial students.

Contact: phoenix@ic.ac.uk

FRIDAY 10 JUNE

SPORT ULTIMATE FRISBEE: ENGINEERS v SCIENTISTS

6.30pm
Rotton Row, Hyde Park [Go into Hyde Park from Exhibition road, take your first right, and walk for two or three minutes] "Experienced" Ultimate players are wanted for the first ever Engineers v Scientists ultimate frisbee match.

Spectators, whether they have come to learn about the sport, waste some time before exams, or just laugh, are very welcome.

Engineers, contact Stylish at alexander.dunnett@ic.ac.uk. Scientists, contact Magic at christopher.rowlands@ic.ac.uk.

UNION EVENTS CHAV NIGHT

8pm-2am
Beit Quad
£3

Come dressed in your best chav clothing to get in half price! Carlsberg and Tetley £1 a pint.

Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

MONDAY 13 JUNE

MAGAZINE RELEASE I, SCIENCE PUBLISHED

10am onwards
Pick up your copy of the second issue of our new science magazine. Written by students, *I, Science* finds itself on the boundary between Imperial and the outside world, reflecting the interdis-

ciplinary nature of much of today's research and the multifaceted nature of modern culture.

Contact: science.felix@ic.ac.uk

TUESDAY 14 JUNE

UNION EVENTS STA TRAVEL QUIZ NIGHT

8-10.30pm
Beit Quad
FREE

Cash and beer prizes on offer. Get a team together and see how much you really know.

Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE

BOOK LAUNCH THE WORLD IN MY MIND, MY MIND IN THE WORLD

5.30pm
Waterstone's, Central Library
Professor Igor Aleksander, one of Imperial's most exciting authors, will be talking about and signing copies of

his new book, *The World In My Mind, My Mind In The World*. He will also answer questions at the end of the talk.

Contact: manager@imperial-college.waterstones.co.uk

UNION EVENTS SPORTS NIGHT

8pm-12midnight
Beit Quad

Free entry before 9pm

Current and classic chart music. Carlsberg and Tetley £1 a pint in all bars all night. With Bar Shisha in the UDH. Free cloakroom for sports bags. Now with summer barbecue.

Contact: union@ic.ac.uk

THURSDAY 16 JUNE

VERY IMPORTANT FELIX PUBLISHED

10am onwards

It's that time of year already - pick up our last issue from your department or the Union building.

Contact: felix@ic.ac.uk

ALL WEEK

FILMS: VUE CINEMA, FULHAM BROADWAY

Student discount ALL WEEK

MR & MRS SMITH (15)

Daily: 10.45am, 12noon, 1.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.15pm, 5.30pm, 7pm, 8.15pm, 9.45pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.20pm.

LEAGUE OF GENTLEMEN'S APOCALYPSE (15)

Daily: 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.50pm.

SIN CITY (18)

Daily: 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.35pm.

HOUSE OF WAX (15)

Daily: 9pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.40pm.

THE PACIFIER (PG)

Daily: 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm (not Tues). Sat-Sun n only: 11.30am.

STAR WARS: REVENGE OF THE SITH (12A)

Daily: 11am, 1.20pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm. Sat-Sun only: 10am.

MILLIONS (12A)

Sat-Sun only: 12.05pm, 2.25pm.

MONSTER IN LAW (12A)

Daily: 1pm (not Sat/Sun), 3.20pm (not Sat/Sun), 5.40pm (not Tues/Thurs), 8pm (not Tues/Thurs). Tues only: 8.50pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.30pm.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (15)

Daily, not Thurs: 4.45pm, 7.45pm. Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri only: 1.35pm. Fri-Sat only: 11.15pm.

HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY (PG)

Sat-Sun only: 10.10am, 12.40pm, 3.10pm.

VALIANT (U)

Fri-Sun only: 11.40am.

Felix will print your listings free of charge. Just email felix@ic.ac.uk with LISTINGS in the subject field, 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

Commemoration Day 2005

The 2005 Undergraduate Graduation Ceremonies will be taking place on **Wednesday 26 October**.

If you are eligible to graduate, you will receive an invitation by post in early August. Please ensure your address details are up to date with Student Records by emailing studentrecords@imperial.ac.uk

In order to attend the ceremony you must book your place by Monday 5 September 2005. Further details regarding graduation can be found at www.imperial.ac.uk/graduation

We hope you enjoy your graduation

The Events Team
graduation@imperial.ac.uk

ROCK CITY

PLAYING THE BEST ROCK PARTY TUNES

Friday 17th June

8.00pm - 2.00am



£3 Union & Guest
£2.50 Ents card



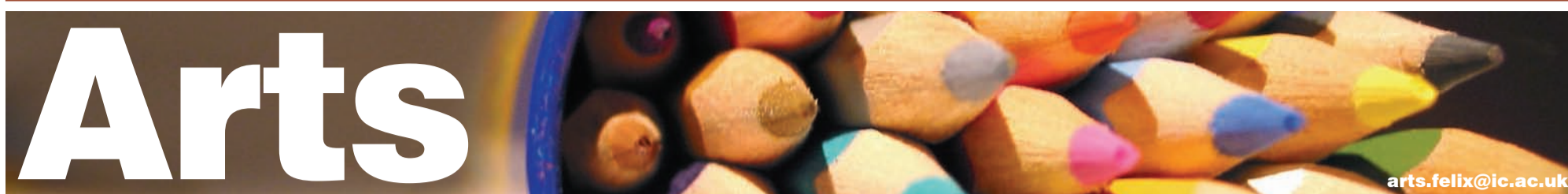
**Snake bite
and black
£1 a pint**

The Union advises you
to drink responsibly





Over 18s only
Student ID required
R.O.A.R



arts.felix@ic.ac.uk

That seventies show

Angela Lee digs beyond the off-putting title for some contemporary art

EXHIBITION

Open Systems: Rethinking Art c.1970

Level 4
Tate Modern
Bankside, SE1
Ends 18 September
Tickets: £5.50 students, £7 full price

The sixties and seventies formed a period of renaissance. It was an era of change, engraved onto modern culture forever because of its trademark 'hippy' culture. Therefore, art, being a form of expression of society, underwent some changes as well.

The common perception of art is restricted to those of oil paintings, sculptures and sketches. However, in the seventies, artists rebelled against those traditional views and ventured into different forms of media such as installations, photography, performance, film and video to express their ideas about the changes in their world.

With the emergence of computers and binary code systems, the world seemed to have evolved into a simple and organised system governed by mathematical principles. And so this exhibition opens with a look at the cube as a form of art. A cube is basically perfect by geometric laws; the world simplified by scien-

tific discoveries and technological progress could be seen as a cube.

Artists rebelled against this idea. A striking example of the rebellion would be *Measurement: Room* (1969) by American artist Mel Bochner. A room is mapped out by black tape and the height and width of the room are indicated. However, the values given for the height, length and width are nonsensical; the piece challenges viewers to think out of the box. It makes the viewers rethink the real meaning behind man-made measurements and leads them to reconsider the efficacy of efforts to understand the universe through science and mathematics.

"He recorded systematic acts of failure such as falling into a canal repeatedly..."

Newspapers, magazines, television and encyclopaedias have always been relied upon as sources of information. This exhibition includes a piece by Andy Warhol called *Mao Tse Tung* (1972). In this creation, the picture of the late Communist leader is repeated in various garish shades. This picture is a common poster picture placed all over

China at the time to inspire people to conform to the rules of communism. However, it is infamous because of the attacks communism received from the international media. The artist is challenging its credibility and our dependence on these sources of information.

Perhaps the most melancholic piece in this exhibition is a video recorded by the Dutch-born artist Bas Jan Ader. He recorded systematic acts of failure such as falling out of a tree into a canal repeatedly. What is strikingly highlighted in this work is the inevitable tragedy that all man-made systems are imperfect and fallible. It also serves as a reminder, that in our search for control over different aspect of our lives, we will always be powerless to some force or fate or chaos that will always have the upper hand in our destinies.

Contemporary art has always been a challenging field. However, this exhibition is a worthwhile visit. Not only does it amaze you with the creativity these artists have employed to express their ideas, but it also challenges you and makes you reconsider truths you have always taken for granted. Considering the summer holidays are starting soon, art aficionados and newbies alike should consider popping in to the Tate Modern for a little life-changing experience!



Condensation Cube, Hans Haacker (1963)

● If contemporary art really isn't your thing, and neither is modern art, we would suggest the new Joshua Reynolds exhibition at the Tate Britain: *Joshua Reynolds: The Creation of Celebrity*. This Exhibition also runs until 18 September and explores the art of Reynolds, one of the Royal Academy's founding fathers, and his impact on the birth of the cult of the celebrity. Tickets for the exhibition are priced £5.50 for students and £7

for those unfortunate enough to be paying full price. Evidently, the Tate galleries all employ a standardised charging scheme.

Heading back east down the river, there is also now a new installation in the Turbine Hall to be experienced, the work of the architects Herzog and de Meuron. This exhibition is definitely a little less infuriating than the last that graced the Turbine Hall and should appeal to all artistic tastes and preferences.

Summertime

The sublime, the bizarre, the curious and the intriguing all on show at the Royal Academy



One Night Only, Allen Jones (2003). This is a sparkling example of a piece that makes people question the sanity of the exhibition's judges

EXHIBITION

Summer Exhibition 2005

Royal Academy
Piccadilly, W1
Ends 15 August
Tickets: £5 students, £7 full price

NOT The Royal Academy

Llewellyn Alexander Gallery
The Cut, SE1
Ends 27 August

Despite the rather tragically cold start to June, there is some sign that summer is indeed on its way, albeit very slowly. Every year, the beginning of June brings the opening of the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, which, predictably, lasts for the summer period, closing in mid-August. This instalment is the 237th in a tradition that began in the year of the Academy's foundation, 1768.

The exhibition is the world's largest where anyone can submit work for inclusion. Vast volumes of work are submitted every year, and only a fraction of it makes the cut. Pieces by established artists and members of the academy are displayed alongside the efforts of much

lesser known or even completely unknown artists. The best of the art that does not make the cut at the Royal Academy is on show at the Llewellyn Alexander Gallery in Waterloo. These are the 1200 best of the 8000 refused by the Royal Academy on display and for sale at the creatively titled 'NOT The Royal Academy: A Salon des Refusés' running until the end of August.

The theme for this year's Summer Exhibition is 'Multiples', referring to printmaking and related art forms. Fortunately, this year's theme has led to a somewhat more satisfying collection of art than last year's rather underperforming 'Drawing' theme. Despite the allocation of a theme to every exhibition, there will always be the full range of media on show. Paintings, sculpture, drawings, etchings, prints and architectural drawings and models of a wide variety of sizes are all there to be seen.

What the addition of the 'theme' aspect of the exhibition allows the curators to do is to showcase some of the best of one particular form of artistic expression. This year, one was expecting some striking and intriguing images, which are after all what one would expect from a medium that has so recently

received its revival, and this was indeed delivered. The exhibition's first room was dedicated to prints principally by artists from the US. The Weston Rooms are traditionally given over to prints, and here too some interesting works were on display.

However, after the first few rooms of the exhibition, the 'Multiples' theme had pretty much flown out of the proverbial window, which does beg the question, why bother with the theme at all? However, this departure was not unappreciated, particularly as I happen to like sculpture and large canvases coated in completely abstract splodges of colour, which the Royal Academy very obligingly provides every year.

Unfortunately, while this year's offerings are much more substantial than last year's drivel, the question of how on earth the judges select the contents of the exhibition does always raise its ugly head. There are always strong pieces on show that may not be to everyone's taste but clearly show passion, creativity or a powerful statement and comment on life and society if not all of the above, but there also some things that do make you wonder about the selection criteria.

Paola Smith
Arts Editor

Part-time Work on Campus

Are you confident, reliable, trustworthy, honest, hard-working, pro-active, flexible & fun? Do you have good communication skills and like speaking to people?

We are looking for part-time reception staff for the next academic year (05/06) for the front desk in the Union Offices, Beit Quad, South Kensington. Lunch-time (12-2pm) and evening (5-6pm) shifts are available. Training will take place during this term but weekly shifts will be available from October. You may be required to work during the summer break.

If you are the right person for the job please email your CV and covering letter to union@imperial.ac.uk by Wednesday 15th June.



Imperial College
London

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

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

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CHECKING YOUR LUNGS ?

We are looking for people willing to take part in clinical studies in respiratory medicine

We need healthy volunteers, mild asthmatics and smokers.

You will be compensated for the time spent and travelling expenses.

Patients will be also benefit from a comprehensive review of their lungs.

INTERESTED?

If you are interested or require further information, please contact:

Dr Alfonso Torrego
Mrs Sally Meah / Ms Mun Lim
Asthma lab: 0207-3518051
a.torrego@imperial.ac.uk

Imperial College & Royal Brompton Hospital

All studies have received ethical approval

Film

vue
cinemas
www.myvue.com/students

film.felix@ic.ac.uk

Listings: page 12

Sick City

Darius Nikbin finds this violent thriller disappointing, despite its all-star cast

Sin City

Directors: Frank Miller,
Robert Rodriguez

Starring: Bruce Willis, Mickey Rourke,
Jessica Alba, Clive Owen

Length: 124 minutes

Certificate: 18

★☆☆☆☆

"Walk down the right back alley in *Sin City* and you will find anything", says one of the film's gruff-voiced narrators. Anything, that is, including gratuitous hyper-violence, shoddy acting, dialogue that's cheesier than fondue, and plot lines that are about as plausible as London's Olympic bid.

Sin City tracks three separate stories that take place on the decadent and depraved streets of Basin City. The streets are lined with pimps, prostitutes, and drug dealers – think eighties Manchester and you're getting there. In the central plot, Marv (Mickey Rourke) is out for revenge for the murder of his lover, Goldie. In a separate story-line, Hartigan (Bruce Willis) is a policeman who is framed and imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit (a bit like *The A Team*). In the third story, Dwight (Clive Owen) finds himself in the middle of a gang war after getting embroiled in a murder.

The disparate quality of the acting and direction within the three plot-lines damages the overall product. For example, in the third story, about Dwight, Clive Owen mumbles

his lines in an inscrutable monotone. Whereas the likes of Mickey Rourke, Bruce Willis, and Jessica Alba seem to adapt well to *Sin City's* unconventional comic-book medium, some of the other less prominent actors in the movie flap around like fish out of water, completely out of place in Frank Miller's film neo-noir.

Sin City is also the most violent film that's spattered the cinema screens for some time. It makes *Kill Bill* look like *The Care Bears*. Mutilation, decapitation, castration, amputation – it's like a fight between *Black and Decker* and *Bosch* in a

"It makes *Kill Bill* look like *The Care Bears*"

crack lounge. But given that the violence is highly stylised and that the film is shot almost entirely in black and white, we are spared the realism that would leave any permanent disturbing effect – although a particularly impressionable friend admitted he was 'baying for blood' on the way back (to the shock of our fellow passengers).

The trouble is that Robert Rodriguez (like his mentor Tarantino) sees violence as an end in itself. This is something that will put the more discerning viewers – the ones who look for suspense in movies – off watching *Sin City*.



Bruce Willis as Hartigan and Jessica Alba as Nancy

The violence is not suspenseful, it's predictable and it contributes nothing of any substance to the story. If it wasn't for the dazzling cinematog-

raphy, Jessica Alba and the fact that I had to write this review, I would probably have left halfway through. In summary, you shouldn't go into

the cinema with high hopes. Visually it's a stunning achievement, but overall it's not exactly *Citizen Kane* is it?

Mr & Mrs Smith competition



As part of the release of *Mr & Mrs Smith*, 20th Century Fox have generously provided you with the opportunity to win anything from a PDA, key chain, mobile tag, towel set or a set of male and female T-shirts (two sets available to win). To win, just answer this:

Who did Brad famously split up with:

(a) Jennifer Aniston

(b) Angelina Jolie

(c) Nicole Kidman

Email your answer to film.felix@ic.ac.uk. Usual *Felix* rules apply.

Alan Ng
Film Editor



Is that a pistol, or are you just pleased to see me?

OUT THIS WEEK

Released on Friday 10 June at Vue Fulham Broadway:

● Mr & Mrs Smith

Booking for Thursday 16 June at Vue Fulham Broadway:

● Batman Begins



Visit www.myvue.com/student for more details.

Vue Fulham Broadway are giving you the opportunity to win a *Sin City* or *League of Gentlemen's Apocalypse* poster. Just answer this question: What comic is *Sin City* based on?

Email your answer and which merchandise you would like to win to film.felix@ic.ac.uk. Usual *Felix* competition rules apply.

Last weeks winner: Thomas Sibley.
Alan Ng
Film Editor

Spice Girl or Turtle?

Ladies and gents, a little quiz to entertain you whilst you are busy revising, finishing off those projects or like us doing bugger all! Don't take it too seriously, its all light-hearted fun. So... to find out your Imperial personality, take the following test. By the way, there are two: one for the ladies and one for the men

For the ladies at Imperial... which Spicy Chick are you?

- How do you spend your Wednesday nights?
a) Sitting at home watching the omnibus of *Stargate*
b) Having a girly night in watching *Legally Blonde* and eating Ben and Jerry's
c) Getting lashed with your mates in Southside then the Union
d) Going to China Whites to pull an investment banker
e) Getting pissed at the Reynolds, then Fez Club
- What's your favourite pastime?
a) Chess
b) Cooking
c) Playing sports
d) Shopping
e) Cutting up dead people
- What's your favourite TV programme?
a) *Stargate*
b) *The OC*
c) *The Simpsons*
d) *Desperate Housewives*
e) *ER*
- What music do you listen to?
a) Beethoven
b) Nickleback
c) Gwen Stefani
d) Destiny's Child
e) The Killers
- What's your favourite source of caffeine?
a) Pro-plus
b) Nescafe
c) Mocha
d) Starbucks caramel macchiato with soya milk and no cream
e) Double espresso – gotta keep moving!
- What do you want to be when you grow up?
a) A scientist
b) A mum
c) A PR chick
d) A lady of leisure
e) A doctor's wife
- What's your ideal holiday?
a) Hill walking in Snowdonia
b) Camping in France with my family
c) Skiing with après-ski
d) A world cruise
e) Don't have holidays – I'm a medic!
- How do you see your dad?
a) Someone to have an intellectual conversation with
b) Someone I look up to
c) A mate
d) A credit card
e) He's a doctor
- How do you see your mum?
a) The woman who wouldn't let you stay up past 12
b) The voice of experience
c) Your best friend
d) Someone to take you shopping
e) She's a nurse
- What's your favourite meal?
a) A vegetarian tofu dish
b) A home made lasagne
c) A kebab
d) Sushi
e) Canteen food at Charing Cross
- What's your favourite drink?
a) OJ
b) White wine spritzer
c) Snakey-B
d) Cosmopolitan
e) Brain haemorrhage
- What is your ideal man?
a) Someone who makes you feel special
b) A guy who indulges you in a romantic meal
c) Tall, dark and handsome with tree-crushing thighs
d) As long as they're rich it doesn't matter
e) A surgeon
- Who would be your preferred date?
a) Chewbacca
b) Ashton Kutcher
c) Wendell Sailor
d) Richard Branson
e) Christian from *Nip/Tuck*
- What's your favourite sexual position?
a) Don't have one as I'm a virgin(b) Missionary
c) Pterodactyl (urbandictionary.com)
d) Anything mile high
e) On top of a cadaver
- What are you doing on Saturday 18 June?
a) Revision before you go to the Summer Ball (library closes at 5.30pm)
b) Getting ready for the Summer Ball with your friends
c) Getting pissed before you go to the Summer Ball
d) Getting hair and nails done professionally before the Summer Ball
e) Pulling a "sickie" off firms to go to the Summer Ball

Mostly A's - GIMPERIAL SPICE

Your time at Imperial is spent broadening your mind. You have worked hard to attain your goal of intellectual superiority. But wait – you are only young and at university once! You must add balance to the force and let your buns down, if only for one day of the war between the rebels and the republic. Let that day be 18 June, the date of the Hollywood Summer Ball! May the force be with you!

Mostly B's - BABY SPICE

You have found a remarkable balance between work and play, something that not many people can do, especially at Imperial, well done! Everyone likes you and thinks you're good company, which is why you have so many friends. The only place to say goodbye this year is in style at the Summer Ball, with all your friends around you, hanging off the arm of your hunk of a boyfriend!

Mostly C's - SPORTY SPICE

You're an amazing chick; fun, flirtatious and fantastic in bed. You don't care what people say about you as you're so confident. Your charisma and enthusiasm infects all around you. Wherever you go, you're loved. You're the trendsetter, and a brilliant friend, although sometimes your truthful side may get the better of you! We'll be seeing you at the Ball no matter what!

Mostly D's - POSH SPICE

We'd like to tell you how amazing you are, but you probably already know! Sophistication is your forte. You glide through life without a care in the world as you know that there'll always be someone to look after you. You take pride in your appearance. Take the Hollywood Summer Ball as another opportunity to look fantastic, as you always do with your impeccable style and glamour.

Mostly E's - DOCTOR SPICE

So, you're obviously a medic – good for you. With all those long hours in firms and other such things, it's about time that you set yourself free from the ailments of life and joined the rest of Imperial for the biggest and best Summer Ball yet. Held at the South Ken campus with a gourmet dinner and plenty of entertainments, all for the bargain price of £45, what more could you ask for?

Something for the gents... which Turtle are you?

- How do you spend your Wednesday nights?
a) Sitting at home watching downloads of *Transformers*
b) Having a guys night in with the X-Box and tonnes of Pot Noodles
c) Southside after a match and then the Union
d) Splashing the cash in Purple, guest list girlies and champagne
e) Reynolds and then Fez Club
- What's your favourite pastime?
a) Counterstrike
b) Cinema
c) Playing sport
d) Polo
e) Gynaecology
- What's your favourite film?
a) *Star Wars*
b) *American Pie*
c) *Any Given Sunday*
d) *Gosford Park*
e) *The English Patient*
- What music do you listen to?
a) Iron Maiden
b) Dido
c) Basement Jaxx
d) Black Eyed Peas
e) Placebo
- What's your favourite murder mystery program?
a) *CSI*
b) *Rosemary and Thyme*
c) *Midsomer Murders*
d) *Inspector Morse*
e) *Diagnosis Murder*
- What do you want to be when you grow up?
a) A scientist
b) An engineer
c) An investment banker
d) MD of Daddy's company
e) A surgeon
- What's your ideal holiday?
a) A trip to Roswell
b) Villa in Spain
c) On tour with the lads
d) Off-piste skiing in Aspen
e) Playing golf at the weekend
- How do you spend the most time with your Dad?
a) By webcam
b) When you go home for Christmas
c) Watching a match
d) When playing golf
e) When your shifts coincide at Charing Cross
- How do you see your Mum?
a) She nags at me to have a shower
b) She makes the most amazing food
c) She comes to watch me play cricket
d) All my friends think she's hot
e) She helps me out with difficult diagnoses
- What's your favourite meal?
a) I'm hungry
b) Mum's roast dinner
c) Curry
d) Dim sum
e) Canteen at Charing Cross
- What's your favourite drink?
a) Sunny Delight
b) A good real ale
c) Snakey-B
d) Cognac
e) Flatliner
- What is your ideal woman?
a) Someone, anyone!
b) Someone who is kind and cooks for me
c) Someone who makes me laugh
d) It doesn't matter as long as they fit in to their size six Miss Sixty's
e) Someone who looks hot in scrubs
- Who's your ideal date?
a) Princess Leia
b) Keira Knightley
c) Anna Kournikova
d) Paris Hilton
e) Elliot from *Scrubs*
- What's your favourite sexual position?
a) My right hand
b) Girl on top
c) Spitroast
d) From behind
e) On the operating table
- What are you doing on Saturday 18 June?
a) Finding *Star Wars* fancy dress to wear to the Summer Ball
b) Getting final year project finished in time for the Summer Ball
c) Watching the US Open all day before going to the Summer Ball
d) Buying a new tux at Dehavilland for the Summer Ball
e) Sleeping off the night shift before going to the Summer Ball

Mostly A's - DONATELLO

Imperial's finest, keeping up the high calibre reputation of the College, we salute you! You're intelligent and inventive. After spending the year working towards getting that well-earned degree, you need to peel yourself away from the tools of your trade and make 18 June a night to remember by going to the Summer Ball. Come and buy your tickets from Union reception or Southside Bar.

Mostly B's - LEONARDO

Your extraordinary abilities to live life to the full by achieving high academic goals and having a fantastic social life tend to amaze the majority. Reward yourself by having a big bash at the Hollywood Summer Ball on 18 June. Clubs and societies get £22.50 of every group of ten tickets that they buy, so rush down to the Union reception and buy yours NOW!

Mostly C's - RAPHAEL

You're a fine specimen of a man! You've managed to use the eye of the tiger to represent Imperial at sport. On top of that, your ability to imbibe vast quantities impresses the ladies no end. Keep up the steam, choo choo! You're bound to get a beautiful lady to escort you to the ball; if not, you can go with your buddies and have a fantastic time keeping down the night's beverages whilst on the Waltzer!

Mostly D's - MICHAELANGELO

Looking dapper throughout College, with your perfectly gelled hair and clean-shaven look that we all love, you are going to be the Darcy of the ball. Currently you're cutting a dash in the London social scene but perhaps a funky evening with your uni friends is what you need to warm up for the long summer parties ahead of you. Join us at the Hollywood Summer Ball on 18 June!

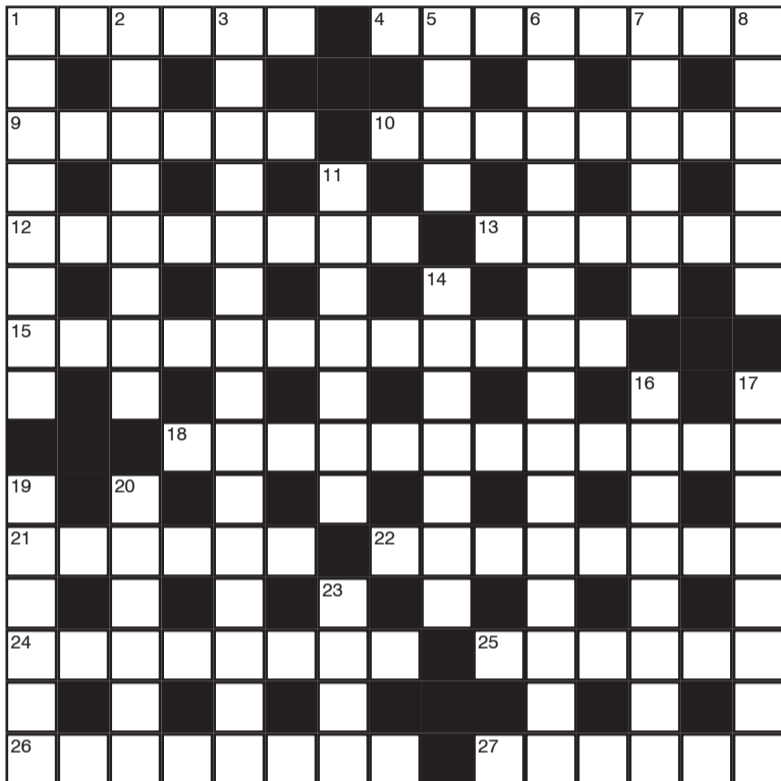
Mostly E's - SPLINTER

You might feel that you're different but you're still part of the Imperial family that we have all become so fond of. Get out of your scrubs and into some attractive attire to join us in the biggest party of the year. For a mere £25 (ents only) or £45 (dinner and ents) you can dance the night away and with so much to entertain you, how could you refuse? Grab your tickets before 13 June to enjoy to fun!

Puzzles

coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk

Felix Crossword 1326 by Jabberwock



Across

1. Charge for excerpts from Mandarin dictionary (6)
4. Rewrite happiest tomb inscriptions (8)
9. Still at home, perhaps, like batsman that hasn't been dismissed yet (3-3)
10. Vera and I, our elusive parting in French (2,6)
12. Wipes out hospital inside eastern parts of church (8)
13. Open my copy of Little Dorrit, for example (6)
14. Being like 23-5, oddly, isn't uncommon (3-9)
18. Breathe fresh life into confused Nigerian voter, having lost direction (12)
21. Immerse student in sarcastic books, disappearing (6)
22. Pope's initial excitement if Bacon is rewritten (8)
24. Instigator gets silver - traitor upset (8)
25. Repeatedly affirms following, like Saint Francis (6)
26. Citizen that does not migrate (8)
27. New mitre requested by high priest? Not priest but ascetic (6)

Down

1. Harmless pope (8)
2. Alights and arrests entertaining Russian leader (8)
3. Anglo-French duchy almost completely decimated as a result of fallout with 6 (6,2,7)
5. See 23
6. Unorthodox apotheosis? Stormily elect to papal office (3,9,3)
7. Mythical murderess liable to catch cold (6)
8. Economise on seafood that's (partly) gone cold (6)
11. Unite around liberal pope (7)
14. At home, big object, we hear, adapted for cutting perhaps (7)
16. Portray man as pig in primitive religion (8)
17. Pope displayed Benn's unfinished decree (6)
19. Sacrificial part of church built around Ionic capital found in the Summer Triangle (6)
20. Caesar as pope (6)
- 23 & 5. Two popes join 6's last incumbent (4,4)

Greetings, cruciverbovoracists!

After a lengthy absence, having survived my encounters with certain overzealous characters with vorpal swords, I'm back to set my final crossword for this year. It has something of a theme which should hopefully make it more interesting. Enjoy it and good luck!

Jabberwock

Issue 1325 solution



Last week's winner is Matthew Hartfield, Maths II

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.

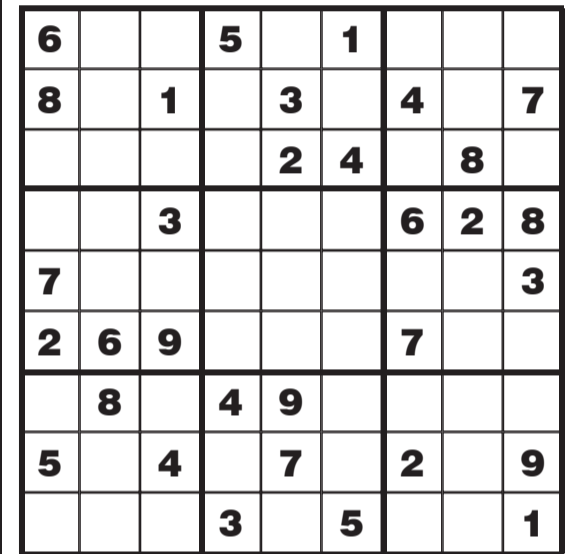
Each week, we'll choose a winner and print their name, thus providing them with almost unlimited kudos and self-satisfaction. Everyone who provides us with a correct solution will get an entry into our prize draw at the end of the year

Sudoku

SET BY FISHFACE

Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 square (bounded by bold lines) contains the digits 1 to 9.

Email your solution to coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk by Tuesday 14 June. No attachments please. The first correct solution randomly drawn wins your choice of a 128MB USB storage device or a crate of beer.

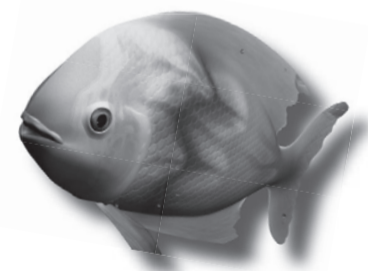
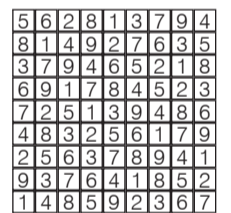


Issue 1325 solution

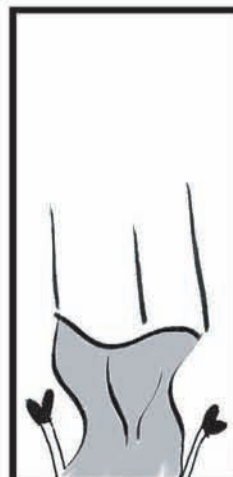
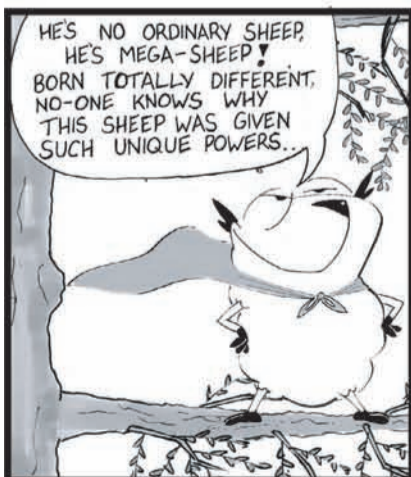
Thanks to everyone who entered. The winner is mechanical engineering postgraduate

Chi-Na Benyajati.

Next week: special giant Sudoku!



A SMALL PLOT



SPORT

sport.felix@ic.ac.uk

Virgins trounced

RUGBY

Women's Sevens

Imperial 0-35 Brunel II
Imperial 0-35 UCL
Imperial 0-55 Brunel I
Imperial 0-45 Wye

By Wonkey

One groggy Sunday morning, six die-hard (or perhaps foolish) Virgins were to be found outside Beit Quad at 9am. Dappy wins the Random Award for coming back all the way from Cardiff, only to decide she didn't want to come with us on our lovely day out in the country after all.

We finally assembled an unlikely sevens line-up (there were six of us) and established that the rest of the Virgins were blind drunk, ill or otherwise in absentia (all three, in one particular case). We set off for UCL's

ground near St Albans (well, near a motorway), via a ticket munching train and a vaguely dodgy £13 taxi ride.

On arrival, captain Felix had arranged for a UCL player to join us, and we took stock of the situation. There were four other teams: Brunel Firsts (wearing their England women's rugby jackets), Brunel Seconds, UCL and our dear old friends from Wye. Our slight discomfort at the appearance of teams with substitutes and coaches was heightened further by the sight of John Sykes (the Royal School of Mines President) strolling across the pitch looking suspiciously like he was going to be referee. Sadly he declined our request for some coaching assistance, so we took it upon ourselves to try to educate Armitage in time for her first ever match.

The first match against Brunel Seconds went reasonably well. The Virgins put

up a good fight, with a lot of commitment in defence, but the attack took longer to gel. Brunel outplayed us with seven tries, although had we drawn them later when we had woken up we would have put some points on the board.

UCL were a step up from the previous game, but an improved effort from the Virgins meant the scoreline was similar. Felix changed the penalty-taking tactics from the usual tap-and-go to Wonkey kicking downfield for touch, which slowed the game down and enabled us to make more ground. Again the team showed huge commitment in defence, but couldn't break through UCL's defensive line.

Brunel Firsts were the team of the tournament, finishing a totally expected first overall. After listening to John's sage advice before kick-off, the Virgins "kept it in the forwards" with a huge team effort, and managed to

contain the Brunel girls better than any other team in the first half. This may have been helped by the intimidating nature of the Virgins' scrum, which caused a quiet expletive from the Brunel forwards when we first packed down - '6'2" locks Felix and Armitage moving to prop, budging usual loosehead Wonkey (very heavy but not as tall) to hooker - a sight that even Men's Firsts Captain Hixxy called "scary" when presented with it in Southside.

The backline also pushed up well in defence, with notable tackles from all three Imperial backs, Thumper (aka Bambi), Tumbles and Cherrypicker, who also managed a fantastic punt to clear our lines from the 22. She was so busy admiring the view that she forgot to chase it.

Sadly, the Virgins were exhausted in the second half and much scrappier in defence, enabling the classy

Brunel players to clean up by 55 points to nil.

By the final game, the Virgins were feeling the effects of playing without subs, and although they put up a good battle against Wye, including an awesome lineout steal from Felix, the game was lost 45-0.

Highlights of the day included Cherrypicker stepping up to take the drop-kicks and restarts, despite endless protestations that she couldn't do it (she could) and taking over the scrum-half job halfway through the day; Tumbles having a blinder in both attack and defence despite an early injury; Thumper making her usual fearless tackles and remaining intact after a full speed head-on collision with Wonkey; Armitage making outstanding runs and tackles in her first game (and possibly backhanding someone, but we won't mention that); Felix mauling away all day

while berating the rest of the team for standing and watching (guilty, moi?); and Wonkey catching her own stud in the other bootlace and flooring herself, totally confusing the other team and herself in the process.

In the playoff matches, Brunel Firsts beat UCL to take first place, and Wye beat Brunel Seconds to take third. Despite finishing 5th (and there wasn't even a wooden spoon for us!), the Virgins had an excellent day out and enjoyed (finally) playing some rugby again.

Our 'supporters', who never actually made it to the games, were tracked down to Southside and forced to listen to our tales of 'glory'. Felix and Tumbles shared the player of the match award (although somehow neither of them drank it), Armitage did her Virgin pint and the lovely Ben gave us nice neck massages.

Current and classic chart music

SPORTS NIGHT

in UDH

Bar Shisha

Carlsberg and Tetley's

£1 Pint

Across all bars all night



imperial college union



Every wednesday night
08.00pm - 12.00am
 Free entry before 09.00pm
 Free cloakroom for sportsbags

Curling Club created



Imperial College Union now has a Curling Club

CURLING

By David Willey

At the end of last term a suicidal leap into Union red tape was made by a couple of brave third year students - they went before the Athletics Clubs Committee and proposed the creation of a new club. With some sweet talking and support from some committee members, the idea of a Curling Club was accepted. Even more importantly, some money was prised out of the ACC's tight fists.

With the money secured, an event was scheduled, emails were sent out and on the day eight potential curlers turned

up. The Union minibus weaved its way nervously out of London and down the back lanes of Kent, using a combination of internet directions, AA roadmaps and scribbled instructions on envelopes. Our venue was located on a farm, so once we had driven through the yard, ignored the dogs and cows and avoided the barn, we arrived at the shiny new Fenton Rink.

Once at the rink, we adorned the appropriate footwear, with one Teflon sole. Then we ventured out onto the ice to discover how slippery the 'Teflon versus ice' combination was. After an hour and a half of slipping, sliding and falling, we were all able to send the stones in roughly

the right direction and at roughly the right speed. One intrepid curler soon found out (to his detriment) that standing up after releasing the stone while still sliding is a less than sensible idea.

So with the basics just about achieved, we decided to have a match. A couple of exciting ends ensued with much shouting and vigorous brushing. There was a winning team who were promised a drink from the losing team, but smiles were prevalent on the faces of all participants.

The rink has now closed for the summer but will reopen in October. Look out for our stand at next year's Freshers Fair and come join the Curling Club.

Friday 10th
June



8.00pm - 2.00am

Carlsberg and Tetley
£1 a pint

£3.00 Union
& Guest
£2.50 Ents card
(Come dressed in your
best Chav clothing to
get in half price)



Oi!... Wot u
lookin' at?



The Union advises you to drink responsibly

imperial
college
union



Student ID required
Over 18's only
R.O.A.R

Sport

sport.felix@ic.ac.uk

Imperial clinch nailbiter

PHOTO: JIBRAN AHMED

CRICKET

Imperial Men's 1st 127 all out (28.1 overs)

Khurrum Sheikh 33
Sohaib Ali 28
Ammar Akhtar 21

School of Pharmacy Men's 1st 119 all out (21.5 overs)

Brijesh Patel 4-19
Ben Evans 3-38

By Khurrum Sheikh

Imperial's first XI secured their first victory of the season by clinching an absolute nailbiter against the School of Pharmacy at Harlington, with a winning margin of just eight runs.

With many regulars unavailable, stand-in skipper Khurrum Sheikh led an inexperienced yet spirited side. The day began well, with Imperial winning the toss and electing to bat first on one of the hardest pitches that the Harlington staff have ever produced.

Ved and Sunkit opened for Imperial and had to contend with some fierce movement off the pitch from the opening bowlers. Imperial soon found themselves a wicket down in the fourth over with just four runs on the board, bringing the skipper to the crease.

After a slightly apprehensive start, both Khurrum and Ved looked comfortable and set about building a partnership, with Khurrum pouncing on the persistent short line with a few cracking pull shots and Ved offering much-needed support at the other end. However, after a somewhat dubious leave, Ved was



Imperial cricketers line up before their narrow victory over the School of Pharmacy

adjudged leg before wicket and found himself back in the pavilion.

Brijesh bought some attacking shots to the game and hit two glorious boundaries to force a bowling change. After being tempted by another loose delivery, he was unlucky to be caught at mid-off after scoring ten quick runs.

With the score now on just 34 for three after 12 overs, it was imperative that Khurrum stayed at the crease to provide some stability. He did

just that, whilst engineering the bad balls into the gaps to ensure that the scoreboard was ticking along.

However, in the 18th over, just after playing a glorious cut shot for four, Khurrum nicked a short one to the keeper for a regulation catch. Almost immediately, Imtiaz was caught at point after placing two glorious strokes to the boundary, and it looked like Imperial were heading for a total under 100.

However, Sohaib Ali and

Ammar Akhtar both came to the crease with a somewhat different view. Ali pounced on anything loose and showed the fielding side a glorious exhibition of pinch hitting. At the other end, Ammar pulled out a selection of wristy strokes and some athletic running between the wickets. Between the two, they contributed 49 runs to the Imperial total, including seven fine boundaries.

With some solid contributions down the order, Imperial

recovered from some early jitters to post a low but respectable total of 127 all out.

Imperial's fast bowlers, led by Ben Evans, then produced inspired spells of mostly accurate and consistent line and length. The School of Pharmacy (SOP) had begun brightly but soon found themselves two wickets down as Ben cleverly had both openers caught behind, with some excellent catches from Ved.

However, after losing another wicket, SOP set about

building a partnership. It was clear that if they were going to win this then they would need contributions from all the batsmen.

Ammar and Brijesh both bowled exceptional spells to support Ben, and were rewarded with wickets. Razza, batting at number three for SOP, looked in fine form but was lucky to survive a few close calls.

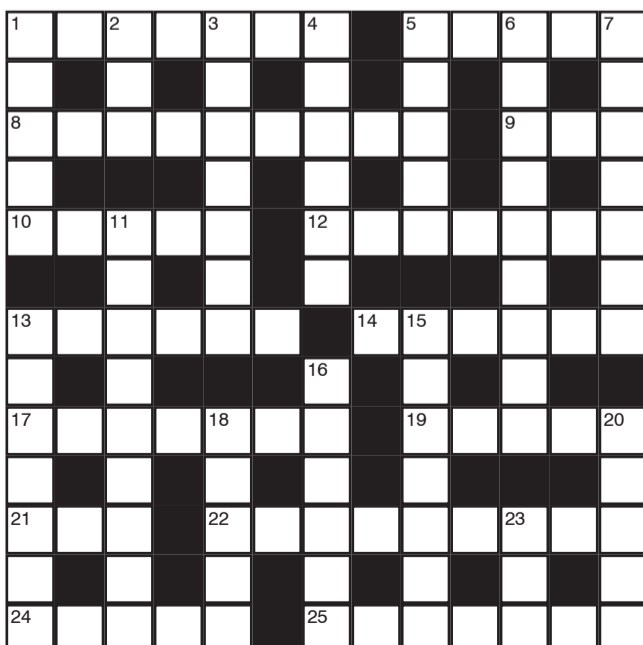
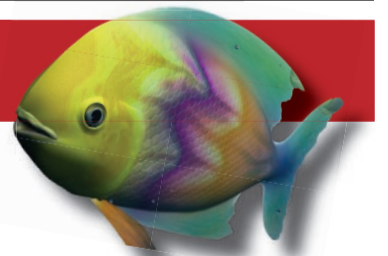
SOP were firmly on top with the score at 119 for six with 10 overs to spare, needing just nine runs for victory. It looked as if Razza had almost sealed the win for the away side as he middled one straight back at the bowler. More out of hope and desperation than anything else, Khurrum flung his hand low to his left and was amazed to see the ball stick. Suddenly, with Razza gone for a fine 46, Imperial had a glimmer of hope.

Brijesh then produced an exceptional over of full and straight deliveries which would have been difficult for the top order to contend with, let alone the tail-enders. He took the remaining wickets that Imperial so desperately wanted, and the face of the game had completely changed.

On the whole, this group of young and inexperienced cricketers produced a spirited and memorable performance for Imperial. Many of them were on their debuts and, through a bit of luck and some exceptional talent, were rewarded with the victory. This is clearly an indication of the strength and depth of ability in the Imperial squad. These players will not forget their debuts in a hurry.

Quick Crossword

by Fishface



Across

- One who is united with another (7)
- Shaped and dried dough (5)
- Different from the rest (3,3,3)
- Of the highest quality (3)
- Surname of Dallas character who was shot; basketball player Patrick ____ (5)
- Obvious (7)
- Suffering from persistent mental disorder or derangement (6)
- Relating to religious objects or practices (6)
- Sign; indication of disease (7)
- High building (5)
- & 22. Jedi character in *Star Wars* (3,3,6)
- See 21
- Distinguish oneself (5)
- Nuns (7)

Down

- Explore (5)
- Thin bar (3)
- Nine-sided figure (7)
- Take up again (6)
- ____ dish, used to culture bacteria (5)
- Image or model that frightens birds away (9)
- Warded off; turned away (7)
- One who cannot sleep (9)
- Awaiting, forthcoming (2,5)
- Female performer (7)
- Improves (6)
- Absorbent cloth (5)
- Tall grasses (5)
- Metal-bearing mineral (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 1325 solution

